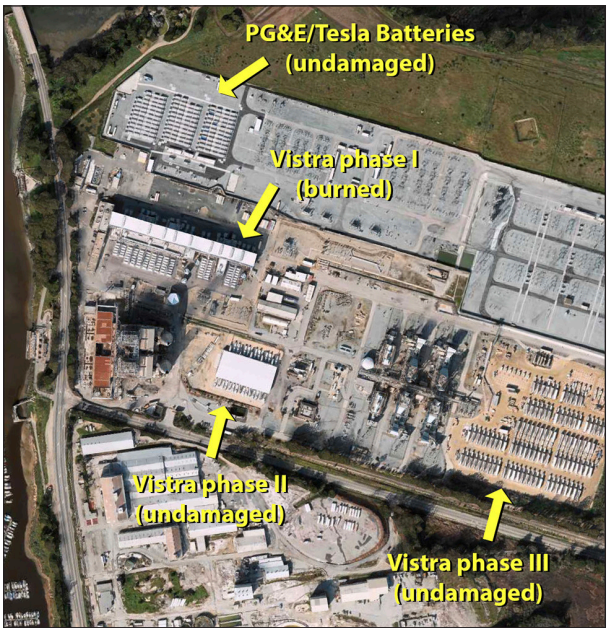


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## County opposes restart of Moss Landing batteries

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY officials are urging utility giant PG&E to halt a plan to restart its battery storage



CARMEL PINE CONE GRAPHIC

An aerial from before the Vistra fire in January shows the four energy storage facilities in Moss Landing, including the PG&E outdoor battery storage area (top) and the adjacent Vistra building that burned. Highway 1 runs along the left side of the photo.

facility in Moss Landing on June 1 — about four months after a fire broke out at the nearby Vistra storage plant.

A spokesperson said Monday that Monterey County has urged PG&E to wait to reactivate its energy storage operation at the Moss Landing Power Plant until details of an emergency response plan have been worked out. The plan, proposed by State Sen. John Laird, would in part require each battery storage facility in the state to coordinate with local fire agencies during an emergency.

### Evacuations, health concerns

The legislation was introduced after a Jan. 16 fire at the Vistra Energy plant which led to the evacuation of about 1,200 people, environmental concerns, reports of adverse health symptoms and several lawsuits.

Though its facility in Moss Landing was undamaged, PG&E voluntarily shut it down after the fire. Vistra also has undamaged batteries that could be restarted.

“We asked Vistra and PG&E to wait until the cause of the fire has been determined,” Monterey County 2nd District Supervisor Glenn Church told The Pine Cone Tuesday. “This does impact PG&E, even if it wasn’t the source of this fire.”

Unlike Vistra’s batteries, PG&E’s are outdoors, which would make a fire easier to contain. Still, Church said there’s potential for a fire to spread to PG&E’s property and the public needs to know just how the Vistra fire started.

“In addition, PG&E had a fire in one of their units in 2022 that caused Highway 1 to shut down and for

See **BATTERIES** page 164

## Monterey Fire to take over Carmel’s ambulance

By MARY SCHLEY

SKY-HIGH OVERTIME, staffing shortages and lack of management have plagued the city’s ambulance service for years. Last week, the Carmel City Council decided that the City of Monterey, which took over fire service in the city in 2012, should take over the ambulance, too.

While the deal is expected to add \$267,000 to the \$2,136,209 assistant city administrator Brandon Swanson anticipates the department will cost, as is, in the 2025-2026 fiscal year — a figure that includes salaries and benefits, supplies, repairs and administration — it will bring stronger oversight, consistent staffing and other benefits.

### Rights threatened

Police Chief Paul Tomasi has been in charge of the ambulance — which is atypical for a police chief, Swanson pointed out — and while Tomasi has developed expertise in that area, whoever succeeds him is unlikely to have it. In addition, short staffing has taken the ambulance out of service 30 days during the past 12 months, prompting a warning from Monterey County that the city could lose the right to operate it.

“Our ambulance has been out of service 30 days over the last 12 months,” he said, because there weren’t enough

employees available to work. The ambulance requires two people — an EMT and a paramedic — and the department calls for a staff of six people. But with ongoing vacancies, the inability to operate was not unusual.

### Superior service

“We received notification from the county that we are at risk of losing our 201 rights,” Swanson said, referring to a state law passed in 1980 that set standards for agencies electing to manage their own ambulance services. Monterey, Pacific Grove and all the other cities in Monterey County elected to give up their 201 rights and use the county contractor, which is American Medical Response, but Carmel preferred to continue operating its own, as it has since 1930.

Once 201 rights are relinquished, they cannot be reinstated, according to Monterey Fire Chief Andrew Miller. He said when the ambulance is operating, the city’s residents and visitors receive an unusually high level of service, with response times often under three minutes.

See **AMBULANCE** page 22A

## PASTOR BUYS BIG SUR RETAIL, RESTAURANT PROPERTY

By MARY SCHLEY

PATRICE PASTOR, who has accumulated considerable amounts of real estate in Carmel over the past decade and is working on several significant projects here, last week purchased The Village complex next to the Big Sur River Inn. In a private deal that involved no realtors, Pastor bought the property from Patrick Orosco for \$4 million, according to Monterey County property records.

The Village is Pastor’s second Big Sur holding. He acquired the 2.5-acre Rocky Point Restaurant, which includes three attached apartments, for \$8 million in November 2021.

### Reopened last summer

Orosco had owned The Village — comprising an event space and a restaurant, coffee bar, shop and yoga studio that are generally open Friday through Sunday — since May 2017, when he purchased it from Jali and Cynthia Morgenrath for \$1.65 million. Orosco is the son of the late Don Orosco, a well-known real estate investor and developer, and has been involved in numerous projects throughout the Monterey Peninsula under the auspices of The Orosco Group, of which he is a managing partner.

After remodeling The Village, Orosco reopened the complex in 2019. By then a six-year resident of Big Sur, he envisioned a community-based space that would fill

## CPUC sides with Cal Am on need for new water

### ■ Big step toward desal construction

By KELLY NIX

THE CALIFORNIA Public Utilities Commission ruled Monday that California American Water’s projections of long-term water demand for the Monterey Peninsula are largely correct — a landmark decision that adds momentum and legal justification for Cal Am to build the desal plant it has sought for more than 20 years.

A 47-page proposed decision released May 9 by PUC administrative law judges Robert Haga and Jack Chang sided with Cal Am’s projected 2050 water demand of 13,732 acre-feet per year and current water supply of 11,204 acre-feet per year.

“A total 2050 demand forecast projection of 13,732 acre-feet of water is reasonable,” according to the judges.

The PUC ruling on supply and demand was one of the conditions of the California Coastal Commission’s November 2022 approval of Cal Am’s desalination plant.

“The proposed decision is great,” Cal Am spokesman Evan Jacobs told The Pine Cone. “I wish we’d gotten it a couple of years ago, because we are ready to move forward on the desal plant. The ruling clearly demonstrates that desal will be needed by 2050.”

Cal Am’s approved estimate includes 500 acre-feet of water for tourism rebound, 1,180 acre-feet for legal lots of record and 325 acre-feet in so-called Pebble Beach entitlements, which is water the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District granted to the Pebble Beach Company for developing a \$67 million wastewater reclamation project to irrigate its golf courses.

To explain its projected water demand for tourists, Cal Am argued that Monterey hotel occupancy is expected to increase 12 to 15 percent over the next several decades. The local hospitality industry agrees that more water is necessary for “expected increases in tourism on the Peninsula,” the judges noted.

And according to the decision, legal lots of record are the “backlog of vacant commercial, industrial and residential properties that remain undeveloped and currently cannot be developed due to the existing moratorium on new

See **WATER** page 15A

## Sacramento on track to spend \$1.1 billion on Capitol Annex

By CAITLIN CONRAD

ITALIAN STONEWORK, secret hallways and a price tag rivaling a professional sports stadium. No, we’re not talking about the new police station in Carmel, we’re talking about the Capitol Annex in Sacramento.

With a budget of \$1.1 billion, the project is under construction in Capitol Park and is poised to be one of the most expensive office buildings in state history — but just how the money is being spent is shrouded in mystery.

The 500,000-square-foot project was approved by the Assembly’s Joint Committee on Rules in 2017 and was initially budgeted to cost taxpayers \$543 million — a figure that was supposed to cover the cost of an office building for lawmakers, a parking garage and a visitor center.

The approval included the demolition of the old stone

See **CAPITOL** page 18A

some notable gaps. “It has always seemed odd to me that Big Sur didn’t have a vegetarian restaurant, it didn’t have a

See **PASTOR** page 17A



PHOTO/COURTESY THE VILLAGE

The Village property includes Solstice, a restaurant that focuses on wood-fired cuisine.



# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Hamilton has heart

Cody, a Bichon Frise, was an elite therapy dog, highly celebrated for his service. Yet his deepest devotion was to his people, Skyline Forest residents whose proximity to Community Hospital made Cody's work convenient.

When Cody departed this life in 2021, his people, unable to imagine they could ever love another dog or go through the deep heartache of losing a different dog, gave all his belongings to Peace of Mind Dog Rescue in Pacific Grove.

They were, after all, done with dogs. At least in their hearts and home.

Several months had passed when Cody's breeder called with the news that she had a 10-month-old Bichon, Hamilton, the son of a Westminster champion. She said Hamilton was her dream show dog, but she had a sense it was more important for him to be with Cody's couple than to receive show accolades.

"I thought of the opening line from one of the songs in the Broadway show 'Hamilton,'" his person said. "'My name is Alexander Hamilton, and there's a million things I haven't done,' the song says. And I thought of all the things this dog wouldn't do on the show circuit and what he must be destined to do."

Since he was 17 months old, Hamilton, now 3, has



been a therapy dog, logging in more than 200 hours of service at Community Hospital. His work is supported by nine therapy certifications from Therapy Dogs International.

"At the hospital, Steve Packer, the CEO, got down on his knees and thanked Hamilton for being there," his person said. "Hamilton looked right into his eyes and let them know he understood him."

Last year, Jane Goodall reached out to him on Carmel Beach and cradled his face in her hands. His person said, "Jane, this is Hamilton, a therapy dog."

Dr. Goodall replied, "Why did I know that?"

Peninsula  
BUSINESSES  
MAY 23, 2025

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# Wastewater district gets phished

By CHRIS COUNTS

IT'S NOT just the sewage that's causing a stink at the Carmel Area Wastewater District treatment plant. In late March, the district was hit with an email phishing scam, resulting in the loss of personal and tax information for employees.

"Our human resources person received an email that purported to be from me," the district's general manager Barbara Buikema told The Pine Cone. "The email asked her to send all our W-2 forms — that started the ball rolling."

The HR employee, whose name wasn't made public, sent the W-2s for 52 employees, giving the scammer access to their personal and tax information.

The employee didn't realize the email was bogus until it was too late, Buikema said.

### Six employees targeted

Buikema said that six employees, including herself, received notices from the Franchise Tax Board that their income tax returns had been rejected — before they even filed them. When Buikema called the state tax office, she learned that someone had filed a fake tax return using her social security number.

Five other employees also had fake tax returns filed using their social security numbers. Of those, two have successfully filed their actual returns, while the other four are still working to sort things out. Thankfully, nobody was scammed out of any money. "To date, we do not know of any employee suffering a financial loss, just inconvenience," she reported.

What puzzles Buikema is how the scammer was able to get full social security numbers — the official said only four

digits were revealed in the data that was breached. "I don't know how they did it," she said, adding that the district moved quickly to lessen the impact of the breach.

"We immediately informed everyone," Buikema said. "We advised them to contact the California Franchise Tax Board and the Internal Revenue Service. We also advised them to contact the Social Security Administration and check their credit reports."

The district recommended employees freeze their credit when not using it — and it bought them software to make their data more secure.

Also contacted was the district's payroll company, which indicated it didn't experience a breach. They even contacted the Monterey County Sheriff's Office, although there was little the agency admittedly could do.

The general manager said tax agencies quickly responded to those who were impacted. "I was impressed," she said.

While Buikema said the district is "getting through this OK," she conceded it's been stressful. "I'm not going to lie and tell you everybody is happy," she said.

She said the district is taking all it can to avoid another data breach.

### 'Don't click on it'

"Six people were hit, and that's six too many," Buikema said. "We've taken some more steps to batten down the hatches. You do the best you can — we can train and train, and yet this can still happen."

The official offered a valuable piece of advice for those who encounter suspicious requests for information.

"If you don't recognize it, don't click on it," she said. "It's just the way you have to operate now."

See SCAM page 23A

'We've taken more steps to batten down the hatches.'



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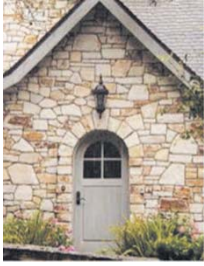
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# Police & Sheriff’s Log

## At least it wasn’t a hoverboard

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.

### MONDAY, APRIL 28

**Pacific Grove:** Vandalism to a passenger vehicle on Grand Avenue. No suspect information.

**Carmel Valley:** A female juvenile was placed on a 72-hour mental-health evaluation for suicidal ideations.

**Carmel Valley:** Investigation during a welfare check on a 73-year-old female at an East Carmel Valley Road residence revealed fraud. Incident was documented. Subject(s) still at large.

**Carmel area:** Deputies responded to a report of mail theft on Via Nona Marie.

**Pebble Beach:** Deputies responded to a report of verbal threats on Forest Lake Road

involving a 16-year-old female victim.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 29

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Suspicious broken window at Dolores and Seventh. Unfounded.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Civil dispute between store managers at Junipero and Ocean.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Stolen e-bike reported at Mission and Fifth and then cancelled after the owner located it.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Courtesy report regarding possible fraud at Junipero and Eighth.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Non-injury accident at Lincoln and Sixth.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Assault/battery report from a CHOMP nurse.

**Pacific Grove:** Report of an animal issue on Seaview Avenue.

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 18** — A jury found Tele Matangi, 37, of Pittsburg, guilty of multiple charges arising from a daylong crime spree in September 2023. Matangi was convicted of carjacking, attempted carjacking, residential burglary, first-degree robbery, shooting at an occupied motor vehicle, being a violent felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition, possession of a controlled substance with a firearm, and hit and run. The jury also found true that Matangi personally used a firearm during the commission of many of these offenses. Judge Jennifer O’Keefe also ruled that Matangi had two prior strike convictions within the meaning of California’s three strikes law.

On Sept. 18, 2023, Matangi was driving in the Gonzales High Parking lot when he crashed through a locked gate near the sta-

dium, damaging it. He abandoned his vehicle near the area of Gonzales High. Matangi then carjacked a nearby driver at gunpoint, driving the stolen vehicle northbound to Highway 156 near its intersection with Highway 101 in the Prunedale area. Approximately 40 minutes later, Matangi caused a collision by turning into oncoming traffic from Highway 101 southbound traffic’s off-ramp into the westbound lanes of Highway 156.

After crashing into a vehicle on Highway 156, Matangi exited the stolen vehicle and fired multiple shots at a good Samaritan who stopped near the collision site to help everyone involved. One of Matangi’s shots struck the good Samaritan’s car. Matangi then fled on foot to the nearby park and ride parking

See **GAVEL** page 25A

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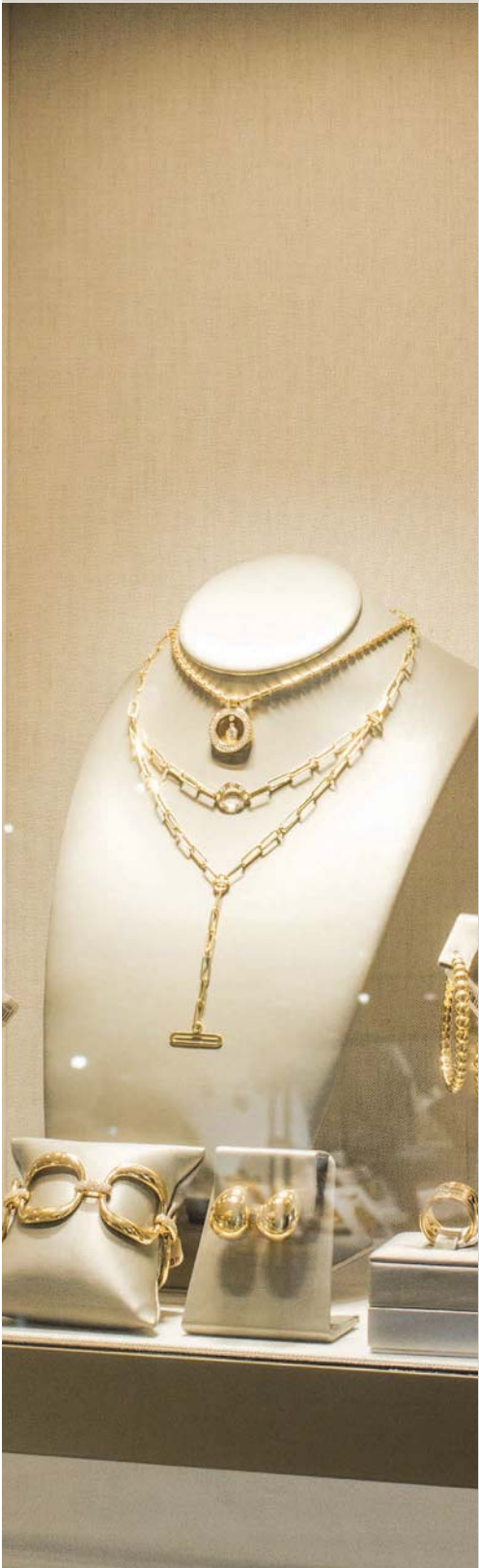
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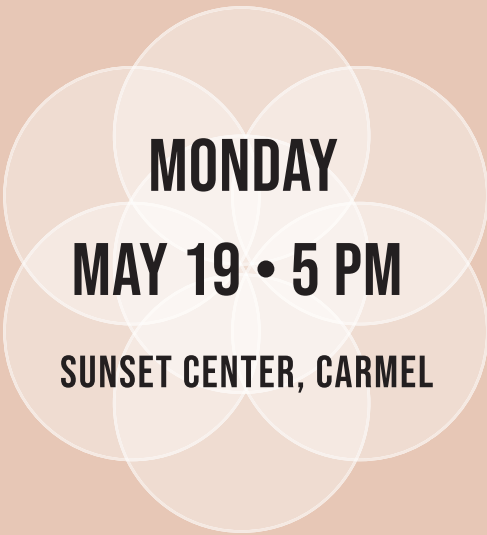
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# Newsom offers homelessness ‘model’ for cities to follow

By KELLY NIX

Gov. Gavin Newsom Monday unveiled a new plan he said would provide local governments with a framework to remove homeless encampments, which he urged be done “without delay.”

The governor’s “model ordinance” is intended to be a template for local governments to clear existing homeless campsites and prohibit them from returning.

“Encampments pose a serious public safety risk and expose the people in them to increased risk of sexual violence, criminal activity, property damage and break-ins, and unsanitary conditions,” Newsom’s office said Monday, calling his plan “ambitious.”

Provisions of the governor’s proposal include a ban on camping in one location for more than three days, camps that block free passage on sidewalks and a requirement that local authorities make every reasonable effort to offer residents shelter before clearing them.

### No more inaction

The ordinance ensures that “communities will take a balanced approach to address and prevent encampments with compassion and care” and dignity, but it also notes that it’s intended to immediately address them with “urgency.”

Newsom “is calling on every local government to adopt and implement local policies without delay,” the press release notes. The funds are made possible from

a state proposition approved by voters in March 2024, which provided for housing and treatment for the homeless. California has more homeless than any other state.

The governor said that the “time for inaction is over.”



PHOTO/KELLY NIX

This homeless encampment off Highway 1 near the Seaside and Sand City exits, was one of many on the Monterey Peninsula.

“There’s nothing compassionate about letting people die on the streets,” he said. “Local leaders asked for resources — we delivered the largest state investment in history. They asked for legal clarity — the courts delivered. Now, we’re giving them a model they can put to work immediately, with urgency and with humanity, to resolve encampments and connect people to shelter, housing, and care.”

He also pointed to last year’s U.S. Supreme Court ruling that allowed cities to outlaw camping on public property and fine and arrest people for doing so.

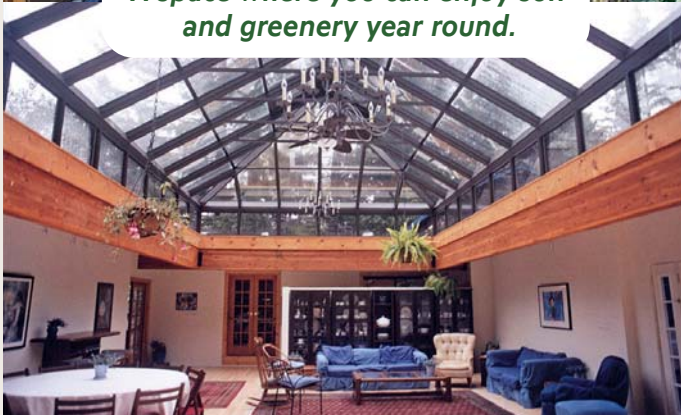
Newsom encouraged local governments

See **HOMELESS** page 29A

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# Search for Wells Fargo Bank robbers focuses on distinctive sweatshirt

By MARY SCHLEY

A YELLOW sweatshirt with “Rebel” and a graphic depicting the grim reaper on the back could be the key to finding the people who robbed Wells Fargo Bank at the Crossroads shopping center Friday afternoon, according to Monterey County Sheriff’s Cmdr. Andy Rosas. The sheriff’s office released images of the armed robbers this week and asked the public for help identifying them.

“We’ve had some people who responded with information on where someone might be able to pick up that sweatshirt, but we’re stressing to people to think beyond the Carmel area,” he said Thursday. “If you recall seeing someone wearing that sweatshirt somewhere because it stuck out to you, we can always go to those places and see if there’s surveillance video.”

### Customer injured

The crime occurred shortly before closing time May 9. At around 4:40 p.m., the sheriff’s office received a report

“that multiple suspects entered the bank believed to be armed with handguns,” stole an undisclosed amount of money and fled in a red car, according to Rosas.

“One customer sustained minor injuries during this incident and was treated at the scene by fire and ambulance personnel,” Rosas said. He did not say how the person was hurt.

The first deputy to arrive minutes after the call located a red car matching the description given by witnesses, but it was unoccupied. People also told deputies the robbers had run in the direction of Carmel Middle School, so the campus was locked down while police officers from Carmel, Seaside, California State Parks, Salinas and the California Highway Patrol combed the area. The CHP also deployed its H-70 helicopter, and the sheriff’s office used a drone.

“An extensive search was conducted at the mouth of Carmel Valley, the Carmel River bed, and areas in and around

See **ROBBERS** page 28A



PHOTOS/COURTESY MCSO

Surveillance images show at least four people took part in Friday’s armed robbery at Wells Fargo. Investigators are hoping someone can identify the one in the distinctive sweatshirt (left).



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# CITY’S \$43.2M BUDGET FORESEES CONSTRAINED REVENUES, SPENDING

By MARY SCHLEY

THE DRAFT budget presented to the Carmel City Council last week calls for less spending than the 2024-2025 plan adopted last year, but that’s due to removing wiggle room in the estimates for the sake of a more realistic picture, not actual cuts. And it’s still going to require using unspent funds from prior years to balance, finance manager Jayme Fields said at the May 6 council meeting.

The 2025-2026 plan anticipates \$34,714,265 in revenues and \$39,737,577 in spending, including \$28.6 million for general operating expenses, which include \$16.76 million for salaries and benefits. A little over \$500,000 will go for debt service, \$2.7 million for unfunded pension liability, and \$7,894,000 for new capital projects. Add to that \$3,460,000 for capital work that was budgeted in 2024-2025 but won’t be completed during this fiscal year, and estimated spending grows to \$43,197,577. Some \$9.3 million in savings would be used to cover the gap.

By comparison, the draft budget presented a year ago anticipated spending \$43,850,044 while generating \$31,431,249 in revenues and called for using unspent funds from prior years totaling \$12,418,795 to make up the difference.

### More conservative

As usual, the main sources of income are property, sales and hotel taxes, estimated at \$9,198,405, \$10,423,175 and \$9,109,116, respectively.

Fields explained some changes in budgeting strategies, including using the “estimated actual” figure for hotel taxes

available toward the end of the fiscal year as the basis for projecting revenues. Previously, the estimates were based on the number used in the prior year’s adopted budget.

Despite trending higher this year, the draft 2025-2026 budget anticipates hotel taxes will decline by 3 percent compared to the 2024-2025 estimated actual figure of \$9,295,016. Flagging consumer confidence, the ongoing closure

of Highway 1 south of Big Sur and slowing international travel informed that expectation, according to Fields and the finance team.

### Slow growth

And while past practice for estimating the coming fiscal year’s sales taxes was based on the Consumer Price Index, that’s not the case for 2025-2026. “This year, based on advice from the city’s professional sales tax consultant, our sales and use taxes are still projected to increase, but below the CPI,” Fields explained, with sales taxes set to grow by 1.8 percent.

“The reason for this adjustment is based on data showing that Carmel-by-the-Sea is one of the only cities in the region that expect to see any increase in these taxes,” she said. Most others are projecting declines.

Similarly, while property taxes have increased an average of 6 percent during the past nine years, thanks to the desirability of Carmel real estate and the city’s limited housing stock, they are only expected to come in 2.4 percent higher than the 2024-2025 fiscal year’s estimated actual figure of \$8,974,083.

Overall, the draft budget explains, “The

Too many economic unknowns to be confident

See BUDGET page 23A

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## Monterey council postpones new limits for sidewalk vendors

By MARY SCHLEY

**FOLLOWING** A decision last month to try to restrict sidewalk vendors' operations on public property — particularly in the busy area near Custom House Plaza and Old Fisherman's Wharf — the Monterey City Council last week unanimously voted to put off further consideration of the topic. As a result, no new rules will be imposed unless and until the council resurrects the issue.

"There is some additional information that we have to consider," Mayor Tyller Williamson said.

In the debate, vendors, who want to operate freely, have been at odds with the business organizations — including those representing retailers and others on the wharf and along Cannery Row — that want them hemmed in.

Conducting business on public property was generally banned in Monterey until a state law signed in September 2018 prohibited local jurisdictions from regulating sidewalk vendors, though they could impose certain restrictions based on public health, safety and welfare. SB 946 was intended to give "entrepreneurship and economic development opportunities to low-income and immigrant communities," Monterey city planner Levi Hill explained during the council's hearing in April.

### Dueling views

Under Monterey's rules, sidewalk vendors who hold permits and check several boxes, including insurance coverage, can set up almost anywhere, as long as there's space for pedestrians to pass. The law contains a few off-limits areas, including Lighthouse Avenue in New Monterey, parts of Cannery Row, the recreation trail, and in front of the Monterey Fairgrounds. The city reportedly issues an average of 33

permits annually.

Of those, some 20-30 vendors tend to crowd the area near Custom House Plaza and the wharf because, while SB 946 requires cities to accommodate street vendors, it exempts state property from the law, which means no sellers can set up in the spacious historic park that includes the old Custom House and other adjacent buildings.

The council decided to take up the issue after people spoke out during several council meetings last fall. Defenders of the sidewalk vendors extolled the economic opportunities, particularly for low-income individuals and immigrants, and their contribution to a lively community atmosphere, while others worried about negative impacts like obstructing pedestrians and cyclists on the rec trail, blocking ocean views and shutting off coastal access. Signs and other aesthetics were also cited, as was competition with storefront businesses.

### Limits

The Monterey planning department proposed an updated ordinance to regulate sidewalk vendors, including imposing restrictions on how large their sales areas could be and where they could be placed. He suggested including a buffer for the rec trail, not letting sellers set up next to or on public monuments, and requiring a certain amount of space between them.

Not surprisingly, many sidewalk vendors spoke at the meeting and sent letters objecting to the proposed revisions, while local business organizations, including the Old Monterey Business Association, the Fisherman's Wharf Association, the Cannery Row Business Association and the Monterey County Hospitality Association, expressed support.

See **SIDEWALK** page 25A

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# Soldiers, others march 250 miles to celebrate U.S. Army’s birthday

By CHRIS COUNTS

TO CELEBRATE the U.S. Army’s 250th birthday, hundreds of active-duty soldiers, along with local veterans and civilians, marched 250 miles along an assortment of roads and trails in central California last week that took them from Camp Roberts the Monterey’s southern border to Camp Parks in Dublin. Along the way, they passed through Monterey.

“We were not just walking, we were carrying history on our backs,” said Sgt. Brandon Quinones, who is stationed at Fort Hunter Liggett. “Every mile reminded us of what the Army’s built on: discipline, duty, and the soldiers who came before us.”

Another participant who is stationed at Fort Hunter Liggett, Maj. Eric Flanagan, said “every step” he took gave him a chance to reflect. “This is how we show respect for the ones who paved the way,” he said.

Quinones and Flanagan came up with the idea for the march.

### Starts at Camp Roberts

The event — which was organized by Fort Hunter Liggett — started at Camp Roberts, which is a National Guard base and was the largest basic training site on the West Coast during World War II. From there, participants headed north to Fort Hunter Liggett, the largest Army Reserve installation in California. The walk continued after sundown.

Next, they trekked toward Monterey and stopped at the Presidio of Monterey,

which is home to the Defense Language Institute. The participants held a ceremony at the Sloat Monument in Lower Presidio Historic Park.

Col. Dan Artino, commander of the U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, spoke at the event. He called the march



PHOTO/MAJ. BILL DRUFFEL

More than 400 people joined the march to celebrate the U.S. Army’s 250th birthday, which visited Monterey May 9.

“not just a physical test of endurance — it’s a powerful symbol of dedication, resilience and unity.”

“This 250th birthday is not just a celebration,” Artino said. “It’s a recommitment to our Army values, a recommitment to our shared mission, and a recommitment to each other.”

From there, it continued to Moffat Field in Mountain View, where the Army Reserve 63rd Readiness Division has its headquarters. The march ended at the Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin.

Amy Phillips of Fort Hunter Liggett told The Pine Cone that participants had the option of signing up for as many

See **MARCH** page 28A

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# DISABLED TO GET NEW HOUSING IN CITY OF MARINA

By KELLY NIX

THE DEMOLITION of a four-unit apartment building in a Marina neighborhood will clear the way for housing for nearly two dozen people with psychiatric disabilities, a state agency announced last month.

On April 30, the Department of Housing and Community Development said \$118.9 million in federal tax dollars would go toward paying for 487 affordable rental homes, supporting emergency shelters and services to help low-income, mentally ill adult residents “attain and maintain housing stability.”

The projects include the \$12.1 million, 24-unit Marina Kai Apartments at 605 Bayonet Circle in Marina, Jennifer Hanson, assistant deputy director of external

affairs for the state agency, said.

“The project will include demolition of an existing two-story building consisting of four units, and construction of a new three-story apartment building with 23 studio apartments and a one-bedroom resident manager unit,” Hanson told The Pine Cone. “Construction is estimated to begin in February 2026, with projected completion in February 2027 and move-in as early as March 2027.”

**‘Vital foundation’**

Marina Kai is a project by Interim, a Monterey-based nonprofit that provides services for those with mental disabilities.

“The project will house very low-income persons, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and who have psychiatric disabilities,” according to the nonprofit’s

website.

Interim, Inc. executive director Rhiyan Quiton said in a promotional video that the supportive housing will “create a vital foundation for stability and recovery.”

Congress in 2021 appropriated \$5 billion from the American Rescue Plan Act that was aimed at reducing homelessness.

Tens of millions of dollars went to the state’s housing and community development agency to address homelessness and other initiatives.

The Marina apartment complex is among 10 similar projects in California,



PHOTO/INTERIM

This rendering depicts new housing in Marina for people with psychiatric disabilities. It’s expected to cost more than \$12 million.

including in Merced, Mendocino, Madera and Placer counties. Two of the developments are in tribal communities.

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# Motorcycle show becomes ‘MotoFest’

By MARY SCHLEY

IT’S NOT difficult to convince people who are passionate about motorcycles to spend their money and time attending a show — especially if it’s in as gorgeous a place as Carmel Valley — and it’s not difficult to convince the vendors who sell to those people to be there, either. So, to further expand the appeal of what has been known as The Quail Motorcycle Gathering, the people behind it have rebranded the 15th annual event set for May 17 as The Quail MotoFest.

“After 15 years, it’s really clear motorcycle enthusiasts are aware of this show,” said Gordon McCall, who established the event and remains a key organizer. “We have a great core of repeat entrants and repeat vendors, and, like everything, you’ve got to grow.”



PHOTO/COURTESY PENINSULA SIGNATURE EVENTS

The most significant machines in the motorcycling world, including off-road racers, are on display during The Quail MotoFest.

At its core, MotoFest is a show of stunning two-wheeled machines spanning the decades, with 10 traditional judged classes (American, British, Italian, Other European, Japanese, Competition On Road,

Competition Off Road, Antique, Custom/Modified and Choppers) and a few featured groups, and key figures in the motorcycling world. But this new iteration brings a more family-friendly energy, too, with activities, live music, a beer garden, food trucks and lifestyle vendors.

McCall summed up the logic as, “Let’s make it an outing so you don’t have to be a full-blown motorcycle enthusiast to enjoy it.”

Plus, the crew at Quail Lodge are “really good at hospitality,” he pointed out, so guests won’t be disappointed.

### Fun and quirky

Key to the show are the 200-plus vintage and modern bikes that will be on display on the driving range at the Quail Lodge property, including those in the three featured classes: Italian Innovation by Bimota, Tribute to Yoshimura, and Celebrating 45 Years of the BMW GS.

“The features are really fun this year,” McCall said.

The BMW GS, for instance, is lauded for its durability, versatility, comfort and off-road capabilities, so much so that it’s the benchmark for “adventure bikes,” which can go pretty much anywhere. Local enthusiast and collector Robb Talbott is said to be exhibiting his zebra-striped GS that’s been around the world more than once.

“I’m a GS fan myself,”

McCall said. “We’ve got to recognize the dual-sport bike that started it all.” The manufacturer is participating by bringing

See **MOTOFEST** page 29A



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# Girl uses jujitsu skills to disable attacker during walk home

By MARY SCHLEY

A MOM and the Carmel Police Department are crediting a 13-year-old girl’s safety to her swift thinking and martial arts training after she fought off an unknown man who attacked her as she was walking home from Stevenson School, located on Dolores Street, May 6.

Meanwhile, police are still searching for the assailant and have released a sketch of his likeness.

“Had it not been for her bravery and her training, I dare not think about the outcome,” said the girl’s mother, Dr. Julie Kenner.

The teen, whose name has not been disclosed, and her twin sister attend Stevenson middle school a few blocks from their home and usually walk to and from campus together, according to Kenner. But the school had an assembly at Stevenson’s high school in Pebble Beach and one of the girls had an afterschool tutor, so she ended up heading home alone that afternoon.

At around 3:20 p.m. on First Avenue between Torres and Santa Fe, Keller said, “a man in his 30s or 40s who was just standing there came up to her as she was passing him and tried to punch her in the face.”

He wasn’t prepared for the possibility the seventh-grader, who has taken jujitsu at the Carmel Youth Center for three years, would fight back.

“When she was attacked, she went immediately into preservation mode and evaded the punch, which was aimed for her nose, put him in a twisted headlock, kicked him in the gut/groin, stepped on his foot and had him down on the ground groaning in the fetal position as she ran away as fast as she could home,” Kenner said, adding that her daughter later apologized to her for possibly breaking the man’s foot.

“My sister got to her before I could, and they went to the police station and reported it,” she said.

### ‘Super proud’

“Sometimes just the confidence of having the courage to do something like that can be the difference between getting hurt and getting away,” Cmdr. Todd Trayer said Thursday. “I’m super proud of her.”

Fortunately, the teen was not seriously injured, but unfortunately, a search for the man — described as “a tall, muscular male, possibly Hispanic, wearing light-colored pants that may have had paint on them” — failed to locate him, according to Trayer. “Extensive canvassing has been conducted, and the Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department is seeking any witnesses or video footage from before, during or after the incident,” he said.

Trayer also commissioned a talented artist, Gil Zamora, to sketch the assailant based on the girl’s recollections. Trayer described Zamora, a retired police officer, as “one of the most amazing sketch artists I have ever worked with.”

“He worked a serial sexual assault case with me where children were attacked up and down the state,” said Trayer, who was an officer with San Jose P.D. for nearly 30 years before joining Carmel P.D. this year. “His sketch was released, and I believe it

was the key to the eventual apprehension of that terrible criminal — who is in jail for the rest of his life.”

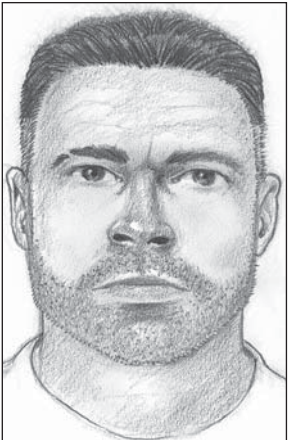
### Black belts

Trayer said officers have been out every day since the incident to canvass the neighborhood and talk to people to see if anyone has seen someone matching the man’s description. He also distributed the sketch to other law enforcement agencies. Anyone with information or surveillance footage can reach him at (831) 624-6403 or ttrayer@ci.carmel.ca.us.

Kenner encouraged others in the community to take advantage of the lessons provided by Blackburn Jujitsu at the youth center on Torres Street next to the police department. Sensei Michael Blackburn and his colleagues offer affordable classes every Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m., with instruction open to students aged 8 and older, including family members and adults.

There are also numerous other martial arts schools around the Peninsula.

“The black-belt instructors are dedicated experts, committed to helping all ages, 8 and beyond, to develop the mental and physical discipline to be alert, safe and strong,” Kenner said. “I am beyond indebted to them.”



Police sketch

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The term “national security” is used frequently, but its definition has evolved significantly since the National Security Council was created in 1947. During the Cold War, national security was defined predominantly by the diplomatic and military dimensions of the struggle against the Soviet Union, Warsaw Pact nations, and other Communist regimes. When the Cold War ended, economic and financial considerations began to play a more important role. Our guest, Ambassador Robert Kimmitt, has held a variety of positions at the intersection of international business, finance, and public policy. In his remarks he discusses how we must be versed in both traditional political-military as well as emerging financial topics and concepts to understand U.S. national security policy.

A limited number of seats for auditors will be available at no charge. Please notify the WACMB office no later than May 20 at [www.wacmb.org](http://www.wacmb.org) or call 831-643-1855. Auditors will be allowed entry at 6:35 p.m.



# WATER

From page 1A

water service connections” but that will likely be developed “once a new permanent water supply source sufficient to meet long-term demand becomes available.” Cal Am says the extra 1,180 acre-feet per year will be needed to supply these homes with water.

### Smaller desal?

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District — which contends that wastewater reclamation will provide all the water the Peninsula needs for the next several decades — put forth a much lower demand estimate of 10,599 acre-feet per year, arguing that actual water use has been below forecasted levels.

Other entities, including Marina Coast Water District and the City of Marina, also challenged Cal Am’s figures.

The water district argued that Cal Am “grossly” overstated demand due to double- or triple-counting housing growth, the Pebble Beach entitlements and tourism rebound.

Water district general manager Dave Stoldt said that even if a desalination plant is necessary, it should be much smaller than the facility the coastal commission conditionally approved in 2022.

“Generally, the CPUC decision agrees with the district on the big supply issues and agrees that there is a

significant surplus of firm water supply going forward compared to today,” he said, referring to an estimate of water that can always be available. “Further, the conclusions about supply versus demand by the year 2050 show that only a 2.0- to 2.4-million-gallon-per-day plant might be needed — not the 6.4 million gallons per day approved by the CPUC in 2018, nor the 4.8 million gallons per day proposed to the coastal commission.”

While the PUC agreed with Cal Am’s projections for lots of record and the P.B. entitlements, the PUC judges said the utility had not shown that an additional roughly 745 acre-feet of water was required for housing needs. A California program called Regional Housing Needs Allocation mandates that cities plan for housing. Carmel, for instance, has been told it needs to accommodate 349 new homes while Pacific Grove must plan for 1,125 homes.

However, in its argument that Cal Am doesn’t need all the water it requested for the mandated housing, the water district suggested the housing won’t ever break ground.

“Dave Stoldt also states in direct testimony that the state Regional Housing Needs Allocation figures are planning forecasts and do not mean that the housing will actually be built,” the judges said.

They also adopted revised supply projections for aquifer storage and recovery — one of the Peninsula’s water supply elements. Cal Am had argued that the amount of water from the Carmel River for aquifer storage varies substantially from year to year, and the amount available will also vary substantially.

The PUC ruled the company’s estimate of water was “insufficiently justified,” and found that the reasonable amount was more than twice as much.

However, in a statement to The Pine Cone, Cal Am said the ruling on that point doesn’t address supply constraints during multiyear droughts.

“The decision predicts our aquifer storage and recovery program to provide more than 1,200 acre-feet of water per year, but in the 20 years of the program only four years have yielded that amount. Desalination is the area’s only drought-proof solution,” Cal Am said.

### ‘Water starvation’

The water company maintained that residential use would likely increase by about 10 percent after the Peninsula gets a long-term supply project, and it cited the region’s state of “water starvation,” a reference to the decades-long moratorium on new meters and household renovations due to supply constraints.

The judges referenced testimony from a Cal Am consultant, who said “an additional reliable water supply source will allow our customers to ease some conservation behaviors and enjoy a reasonable amount of additional water use. For example, some residents may wish to have a garden, add a bathroom or other uses.”

The company still must meet some other conditions before it can start construction on its desal plant, which is expected later this year.

Meanwhile, Phase 2 of the wastewater recycling project, Pure Water Monterey, is expected to go online later this year. It will produce an extra 2,250 acre-feet of potable water for the Peninsula, according to the water management district.

The ruling is final when PUC commissioners approve it. That could happen as early as June 12.

## ‘Star Party’ offers peek at the cosmos

OFFERING LOCALS an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of the sky at night and learn about the constellations, Garland Ranch Regional Park will be the site of a Star Party Saturday at 8:15 p.m.

Presented by the Monterey Institute for Research and the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club, the gathering is expected to last about two hours and will offer participants a chance to “look up at the night sky and revel in its vast and seemingly endless mysteries.” “Observe details on the moon and distant objects such as galaxies and star clusters,” organizers suggested.

Participants are encouraged to carry a flashlight, wear warm clothing, and bring along a portable chair and hot beverage. Children must be accompanied by an adult, and only service dogs are allowed. The event is free. The park is located at 700 W. Carmel Valley Road.

## HEAD AND NECK PAIN

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# Tech money for drone training

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A FOUNDATION has given a \$2 million grant to expand workforce training in aviation and drone technology, Cal State Monterey Bay announced Thursday.

The funds from the James Irvine Foundation were given to the Monterey Bay Drone, Automation and Robotics Technology initiative to address critical workforce shortages in the aviation and drone sectors.

The University Corporation at Monterey Bay will serve as the fiscal agent for the project, which the school said would ensure “strong alignment with California

State University and CSUMB educational and economic development goals. The university will receive \$351,979. The grant will support piloting of new workforce training programs for aviation maintenance technicians and unmanned aircraft systems operators, expanding equitable access to high-quality jobs in advanced air mobility industries across the region.

“Through this partnership, CSUMB students will have access to hands-on internships and work-based learning opportunities, helping them gain critical skills in emerging aviation and drone technologies,” according to a press release.

## BATTERIES

*From page 1A*

the community to shelter in place,” Church noted. “Moss Landing has experienced four serious emergencies from these battery facilities. We need answers before reopening and waiting for the next fire.”

The county has requested plans for a “catastrophic failure,” something that has not yet been addressed, the supervisor said.

“The current emergency response plan is to have a fire burn itself out,” Church said. “That is not acceptable. We need something better.”

**‘Transparency’**

Monterey County said it’s contacted the Moss Landing battery storage operators “to ensure emergency action plans adequately provide for the safety of the surrounding communities and the environment.”

The “county feels it is prudent to encourage PG&E to delay reactivation and continue to engage in

additional open, transparent dialogue with county officials, first responders, and the residents we collectively serve.”

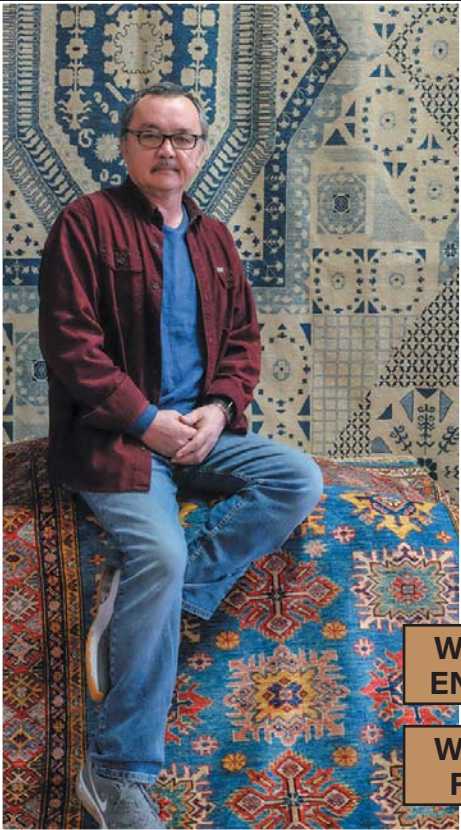
County spokesman Nick Pasculli said Wednesday afternoon that he doesn’t believe PG&E has responded to the county’s concerns. The Monterey County Board of Supervisors is expected to get an update on the Moss Landing battery storage facilities on May 20, and the issue may be addressed then.



PHOTO/ELROND LAWRENCE

Fire destroys the Vistra Phase I battery storage facility in Moss Landing on Jan. 16. Three adjacent battery facilities were undamaged and could be restarted.

  
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# PASTOR

From page 1A

juice bar, it didn't have a place with all organic offerings, it didn't have a yoga studio — some of those lifestyles that I as a visitor thought I would tap into because of Big Sur's overall identity," he told The Pine Cone in 2019.

His vision was disrupted by the pandemic, and The Village shut down for a few years before reopening last summer.

### Continuity ensured

Chris Mitchell, managing director of Pastor's local company, Esperanza Carmel, said the transaction, which closed last week, was completed on a "sale and leaseback basis, ensuring continuity and long-term stewardship of this important local asset." As a result, it will continue operating as it has been.

"We are delighted to be working alongside the current tenants, who will remain in place," he said. "Since reopening last year, they have made remarkable progress in revitalizing the property, and we are excited to support and build upon the foundation they have established."

Esperanza Carmel was "grateful for the opportunity to purchase such a meaningful property for Big Sur," Mitchell said. "The team running The Village is exceptional, and we are confident they will continue to grow and thrive in this unique and

inspiring location."

Pastor said he'd been pleased to learn of the opportunity to purchase the complex and that he already knew it well, having recently dined at its Solstice restaurant, which is helmed by chef Tim Eelman.

"I was impressed by the property and the operation, so was of course delighted our company had the opportunity to purchase the property," he said.

Orosco and his wife, Mandy, were "delighted to learn of Mr. Pastor's enthusiasm for a project that we've poured our hearts into," Orosco said in a statement provided by Mitchell.

"His appreciation of history and craft is what sparked our curiosity, but it was his sincere support for our vision and team that led to our decision to sell," he said.

Pastor's local company "is committed to thoughtful investment in landmark properties and to supporting the businesses and communities that bring them to life," and looks forward to the continued success of The Village and playing a role in its future, according to Mitchell.

### Rocky Point

While Pastor is well known to be developing a comprehensive plan for Rocky Point, Mitchell didn't provide an update on permits for the property, which had been embroiled in controversy under its previous owners.

"We said, 'We know this property is in trouble, and we will do our best and we will resolve all these problems,'" Pastor told The Pine Cone last June, after the California Coastal Commission unanimously approved what chair Caryl Hart called "a visionary plan" to undo extensive illegal work by the prior owners, vastly improve public access on the scenic and historic property, and ensure it remains open and accessible.

"Immediately we put good people around the table, and we worked closely together — it was a really good process, and really professional," he said at the time. "We're going to invest a lot of money, but I think the place deserves it, first of all, and there's no reason not to do a beautiful project."

That work, which has been estimated to cost more than \$4 million, calls for removing eucalyptus and other invasive species, restoring the entire bluff, taking out signs and

lighting along the shoreline, recording public-access easements over 80 percent of the property, establishing a conservation easement, providing two dozen public parking spaces and eight vehicle charging stations, building four permanent restrooms, creating a viewing area with five benches and 10 tables, consolidating and improving a trail system on the property, and adding trash receptacles and water-bottle filling stations.

Pastor also has plans to reopen the restaurant, but the timetable is unknown.

Hotelier and restaurateur David Fink, who has worked with Pastor on other projects, most recently held the liquor license for the property, but it was surrendered in 2023, according to the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

It was announced at the time of the Rocky Point purchase that Aubergine executive chef Justin Cogley, who works for Fink, would oversee culinary operations there.

## State launches initiative for hatcheries

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

Gov. GAVIN Newsom announced that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is upgrading 21 fish hatcheries to protect them from the impacts of climate change.

Over the past decade, state-operated hatcheries have experienced a host of climate-driven impacts, including reduced availability of cold water, increased disease outbreaks, and emergency fish evacuations due to extreme weather and wildfire threats that caused temporary facility closures, according to Newsom's office.

The upgrades will help build the California salmon and trout supply, which the

state said "are central to the health of California's biodiversity but also indigenous peoples, communities and the state's multimillion-dollar fishing industry."

An assessment was done on each hatchery's water supply, fish-rearing infrastructure and operational efficiencies. Proposed upgrades include replacing old plumbing and valve systems to help prevent emergency repairs and ensure reliable operations, energy and sustainability innovations and infrastructure upgrades designed to withstand more extreme climate events projected over the next 20 to 40 years.

The program is being funded in part with \$15 million from the state's emergency drought fund.



PHOTO/COURTESY THE VILLAGE

The Village complex includes a restaurant, coffee bar, store and event space with indoor and outdoor areas.



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Agendas will be available at: [ci.carmel.ca.us/meetings](https://ci.carmel.ca.us/meetings)  
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# CAPITOL

From page 1A

annex built in 1952 and its replacement with a modern glass and steel structure built on historic Capitol Park directly behind California’s 1860s-era Capitol. But decisions made since then have largely been done in the dark.

More than 2,000 non-disclosure agreements have been signed, and no update on the project has been made by the committee since April of 2021, keeping the public out of the loop on how money for the project is being spent.

“I sensed the Legislature did not want to be watched as they managed it,” said Dick Cowan, the founder of Save Our Capitol, which tried and failed to halt the project before it got started.

Cowan is also the former chair of the Historic State Capitol Commission and has been opposed to the modern design of the annex project since its inception. His animosity toward the project has only grown as the price tag has ballooned and legislators have quietly made decisions behind closed doors.

The Pine Cone’s multiple requests for comment from the Assembly Joint Committee on Rules have gone unanswered, including those made to the Peninsula’s state senator, John Laird, who is the

vice-chair of the committee.

What is publicly known about the project has largely come to light as a result of lawsuits filed by Save Our Capitol and tours of the project given to members of the Legislature.

In early May, Assembly-member Josh Hoover, a Folsom Republican, toured the construction site. The foundation has been poured and the steel beams for the glass-clad building are in place, but Hoover, a longtime opponent of the project, remains critical of the features he says are adding costs.

**Not public**

During his tour, the “official” answer on the cost was \$1.1 billion, an amount you can’t find on any public website.

“It’s turning out to be more expensive than the Golden One Center for the Sacramento Kings, and more expensive than Levi’s Stadium was to build for the 49ers,” said Hoover.

To be fair, Levi’s Stadium opened in 2014 and in today’s dollars would probably have cost more than \$1.1 billion to build. Still, it’s a lot for what is essentially an office building and a parking garage, because the visitor center has quietly been



In Sacramento, construction is well underway on the \$1.1 billion Capitol Annex, which is being built next to the east front of the historic State Capitol building.



PHOTO/CONTRIBUTED, GRAPHIC/CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

scrapped — something Hoover and Cowan view as a small victory, because they both hated the design and the cost it would add.

“That was something I was actually fighting for, I was very opposed to the visitor center, because of not only the cost, but how it would change the character of the west steps,” said Hoover.

The Capitol’s historic west steps are made of granite and lead to the original entrance overlooking the downtown mall with a view corridor to the city’s landmark Tower Bridge.

The annex is located behind the Capitol building, on the east side, but the visitor

center would have gone in on the west side for an originally estimated cost of \$100 million.

### Lots of

The joint committee on rules has not put the elimination of the visitor center in writing. It also has not explained if the money appropriated for the center will be returned to taxpayers.

Unsurprisingly, a \$1.1 billion office building has a lot of special features. One of the big add-ons of the new annex is a

See ANNEX next page



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# ANNEX

From previous page

series of hallways and staircases that will allow lawmakers to walk undetected from the Capitol to their offices. The addition is being defended as a safety precaution, but Hoover questioned if it will also help legislators avoid the media.

“Are we putting more in to avoid public scrutiny? To avoid the media? Those are the things that I worry about,” said Hoover.

The assemblymember said he was also told for the first time during his tour that private bathrooms for lawmakers have been added to the design. He views the private restrooms not only as an unnecessary luxury, but as another way for legislators to avoid the public.

The Legislature owns one building — the Capitol. In building an annex, it is essentially designing and approving office space for itself.

“If you have a public owner who has as much of your money as he wants to use and the architects can’t say no to that owner, then features and size and every good idea get incorporated,” said Cowan about the additions to the Capitol annex.

Cowan also questioned whether the joint committee on rules has been selecting the cheapest bids. Last fall, it came to light that granite for the building was sent to Italy for finishing work.

### Documentation unavailable

When questioned about the decision to ship California granite across the world, one of the only public updates on the project since 2021 was posted onto the annex website. The update said that the construction firm managing the project, Turner Construction, solicited bids for granite fabrication and the cheapest option was in Carrara, Italy, which almost defies common sense.

“The fabricator who could meet these requirements for the project at the least expensive price was the Santucci Group, an Italian company specializing in stone masonry,” according to an update.

The public may never know if Santucci was, in fact, the cheapest bid. Public records requests, including those from the Pine Cone, to see all bids received for the job have gone unanswered.

In addition to its release on the Italian stonework, the only other resource published since 2021 on the project

website is an explanation for the numerous non-disclosure agreements which reads in part:

“Based on the visibility of the State Capitol, security of the building and safety of visitors is of utmost importance. For this reason, confidentiality agreements were signed by all individuals who have knowledge of the design and construction of the building.”

The safety of lawmakers is understandably a top

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priority. However, these confidentiality agreements have also shielded public scrutiny of the Capitol Annex Project and the public may not know the full cost and features of the building until it’s complete. The estimated date for that is 2027.

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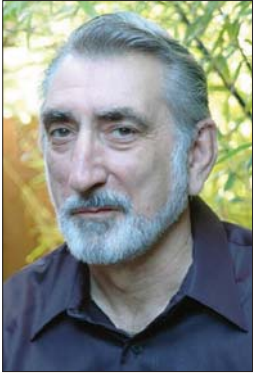
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### ROBERT ANTHONY MORELLI

July 4, 1940 – May 8, 2025

Robert A. Morelli, “Bob,” was the oldest of six children of Rudolph Morelli and Elizabeth Ravasio. He grew up in Steubenville, Ohio.

He served his country in Navy Air for 30 years. Much of his career was in surveillance, spotting submarines and dropping sonar buoys from a P-3 aircraft, among other activities. Near the end of his service, he test flew fighter jets from the Alameda base in California up the coast to Mendocino and back.



After retirement, he pursued his passion for wood turning. He was well known for his flawless turning techniques and fabricating tools to perform specific and difficult turning maneuvers. He and his wife, a fellow wood turner, gave demonstrations at national woodturning symposiums and other venues.

Bob was an extraordinarily kind man who gave generously of his time and talents to both friends and strangers. He believed in and embraced his responsibility to actively work toward tikkun olam.

He is survived by his wife, Marion; and brothers, Rudy and Amil, from Steubenville, Ohio.

## Marilyn French

Marilyn French, mother, grandmother, artist and volunteer, died peacefully on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the age of 95.

Born on Sept. 26, 1929, Marilyn Joan Bukowski spent her childhood in Chicago. As a teenager, she moved to Whittier, California, with her family. In college, she met returning WWII Navy veteran, (Everett) Lynn French. Lynn and Marilyn were married in 1949.

In addition to raising her two children, John and Karen, Marilyn leveraged her artistic talent by coloring photographs at Andy Cummings Studio and creating sculptures in the Laguna Beach art community. She was self-taught at reupholstering furniture. In 1977, she received her bachelor’s degree in fine arts from Cal State Fullerton. She was an avid painter for most of her life.

She volunteered to be a member of the Orange County Grand Jury, where she was the chairperson of social services and proudly displayed her badge. She was also on the Board of the Commissioner of the City of La Habra, overseeing several projects, including the first Children’s Museum in California, as well as a pilot child development program.

When not volunteering, Lynn and Marilyn enjoyed weekend trips to Catalina on their Grand Banks, or cruising to Hawaii on the commercial ship, the Matson Lurline. Regardless of the boat, Lynn and Marilyn enjoyed being out on the ocean!

After retirement, Lynn and Marilyn moved to Monterey. There, they were passionate volunteers. Marilyn would work tirelessly to make Christmas ornaments for the Festival of Trees, as well as volunteering at the Monterey Public Library. Together, Lynn and Marilyn would never miss the opportunity to help at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Lynn and Marilyn were also zealous golfers. While they enjoyed playing in Monterey, they embarked on a successful adventure to play golf in all 50 states!

Marilyn cherished her role as grandmother, first to John’s son, Jim, and later to Karen and Greg’s daughter, Hannah. Over the years, she would take numerous trips with the entire family to Hawaii. Holidays were always a special time, where the family came together over her famous Easter lamb cakes, or Lynn’s Christmas Glögg. Her Polish family recipe meals were always devoured!

Marilyn loved dogs and was never without one. Cinder, the cocker spaniel; Susie, the miniature poodle; Nelly, the Irish Setter; Asta, the wire haired terrier; and the smooth hair fox terriers, Kitty 1 and Kitty 2, all enjoyed being spoiled by Marilyn.

After Lynn’s passing in 2004, Marilyn moved into Carmel Valley Manor, where she continued to lead a busy life, taking frequent trips with the family. She enjoyed sharing her cabin with Hannah on cruises with Karen and Greg. She showed remarkable stamina when she accompanied Karen, Greg and Hannah to visit Cindy and John in Australia in 2011.

While Marilyn slowed down physically in the last year, she still enjoyed visits from the family in which she would reminisce about her life. She especially appreciated the daily visits from Karen and Greg, who ensured her well-being until the end.

Marilyn was a member of the Cathedral of San Carlos Borromeo, Monterey

Friends may honor Marilyn’s life by donating to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Marilyn is survived by her son, John French; her daughter, Karen Barr; her son-in-law, Greg Barr; her daughter-in-law, Cindy Scott; and her grandchildren, Hannah Barr and Jim French; and her granddaughter-in-law, Alison French.





# CHS students take council members to school

By LILY PATTERSON

A RARE Wednesday session packed council chambers late last month, as outspoken residents and city employees addressed matters of key importance to the future of Carmel. Many attributed the meeting’s record-shattering 72-minute run time to confident leadership on the part of councilmembers and a tacit agreement to keep presentations and discussions brief — some participants had athletics practice to get to, City Administrator Drew Galy reminded all in attendance.

In honor of Student Government Day at Carmel High, the April 23 meeting was the collaborative effort of the real-world Carmel City Council, with support from Carmel Residents Association president and former councilmember Graeme Robertson. In an April 18 vlog posted on the city’s YouTube page, Robertson applauded Carmel High leadership teacher Aubrey Powers for her advisory role to the mock city council team, which offers sophomores through seniors a chance to flex their governance

skills in the roles of city officials and staff. City Administrator Chip Rerig noted that 17 students had applied to various roles and were personally interviewed and selected by Byrne and Delves.

### Scholarships on the way

“The staff at Carmel High and the kids are really inspiring. It’s a great event that you’re having here, and I know it means a lot to their parents and the community, as well,” said Robertson, who with Rerig is a member of the Rotary Club of Carmel-by-the-Sea. He added that 32 Carmel High seniors will receive scholarships from the charitable club upon graduation.

“Mayor” Juliet Norman, Carmel High’s student body president, called the meeting to order, flanked by advisors Mayor Dale Byrne, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Delves and councilmember Hans Buder. The council then set to work on the day’s agenda: what to do with a handy \$315,000

*Continues next page*



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## YOSHINO IWASAKI COPPER

Yoshino Iwasaki Copper, of Gold Beach, Oregon died Monday April 14, 2025. She passed peacefully at home.

She was born in Fukushima, Japan, April 18, 1930, into the Iwasaki family, and was the eldest daughter of 10 brothers and sisters. She met Leo Copper, who was stationed in Japan during the Korean War, and married him after coming to the Monterey Peninsula in 1955.

Yoshi initially worked as a seamstress, but later became involved in the restaurant business and served many meals at the Shutters and Rancho Cañada Golf Course. Meanwhile, she spent time at MPC writing and exercising. She was an avid tennis player and enjoyed walking outdoors, especially down to the beach at Carmel Meadows, her home for 38 years. “The Legend of Soberanes Canyon” was recognized by many while climbing Rocky Ridge Trail in her 80s.

Yoshi outlived her husband by more than 20 years. Only two sisters remain alive of the original 10 children. She is survived by her son, Leo (wife Jolayne); her daughter, Debbie; and grandson, Desmond Connor.

Yoshi was very sociable and well loved by her friends. Together they raised children, worked, played tennis, enjoyed line dancing and walked in the neighborhood.

There will be a memorial for Yoshi at 11 a.m. on May 24, 2025. Location will be Wedding Rock, accessed at the end of Ribera Road not far from the Carmel Meadows Trailhead.



## BETTY LOU GIBLER

August 31, 1932 - April 19, 2025

Betty was a devoted mother to Patti Tai, Pam Gibler (Robin), Lisa Ganaja (Scott) and Brian Gibler (Lisa); and a proud grandmother to Kirsten Boyd (Chris), Jeremy Tai, Ava Gibler (Andrew), Megan Tai and Cosette Gibler. Her cherished extended family includes Barbara Lee, Bonnie (Larry) Lee; and brother, Bob (Gail) Huff; and many caring nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Claude “Ron”; sisters, Jeanne Kaufer and Dolores Paulson; and brothers, Dayton Huff, Tom Huff, Ralph Huff and Guy Huff.

Betty was born on August 31, 1932, in Donnybrook, North Dakota to Claude and Ruby (Bergo) Huff. She was raised on the family farm and was the sixth of 10 children.

Betty played basketball in high school and loved bike rides. She earned her degree in education from Minot State University. One of her first teaching jobs was at an elementary school in Greybull, WY. Her friends introduced her to Ron, a local pharmacist, and that was the beginning of a life-long journey together.

Shortly after Ron enlisted in the Army, Betty and Ron moved to California. They were married on June 3, 1955, at the Presbyterian Church in Monterey. After Ron’s time in the service, they moved to Pacific Grove.

Betty co-owned and operated Prim and Proper, a women’s clothing boutique, in Pacific Grove. Later, she managed the retail side of Grove Pharmacy, which Betty and Ron founded in 1958. Betty was known for her sharp business skills and hard work. Over the course of 40 years, she formed lasting friendships with many of her employees and customers.

In retirement, Betty enjoyed working in her beautiful garden and spending time with her family. Her five grandchildren, whom she saw often, brought her enormous joy. She loved her ocean-view home near Lovers Point. She was a regular fixture in her favorite chair by the front window, iPad in hand, messaging with friends and family, and then taking a break to take in the view.

With her quick wit, love of laughter, independent spirit and love of life, Betty will be dearly missed by many.

**A Celebration of Life will be held on May 24, 2025, at First United Methodist Church, 915 Sunset Drive, Pacific Grove. Service will begin at noon, followed by a reception.**



## JANE DOLORES FOLEY

April 20, 1955 - March 3, 2025

Forty-five year Pacific Grove resident Jane Dolores Foley graduated with honors from Canoga Park High School. She attended UC Berkeley, and later earned her bachelor’s at UC Santa Cruz.

She was employed 38 years at Asilomar and devoted 22 years to serving as a CASA mentor after a stint as a teacher. Jane was a member (and publisher) of the Pacific Grove Writers Group. An avid reader, artist and traveler, Jane recently went back to Italy with siblings, Pat, “Babbie,” and niece, Cathlene.

Jane was the loving daughter of Thomas Joseph and Helen Aldine Foley and longtime friend of Hal Laughlin.

She is survived by her six siblings, Louise “Wish” Helene Cohen, Barbara Eileen Tavitian, Patrick Thomas Foley, Paul Michael Foley, Carol Ann Maximoff and Kathleen Jean Simmons; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is dearly missed  
& in our hearts forever.

Her Celebration of Life is set for noon to 3 p.m. Friday, June 20, at Asilomar Chapel. All of Jane’s friends are welcome to attend.

**In lieu of flowers, donations to her favorite local organizations, CASA, Meals on Wheels and [UUCMP.org](http://UUCMP.org), are requested.**



From previous page

budget surplus.

Information technology manager Sophie Weaver first proposed a \$60,000 installation of citywide parking sensors, with two options to consider: panoramic security cameras stationed on street corners, or less expensive ground sensors installed in individual parking spots. Either would contribute real-time data to a new page on the city’s website, which tourists and locals could visit to view available parking spots.

During public comment, an unidentified resident expressed grave concern at the use of data collected by “LPRs,” or license plate readers. “I worry that all this will be doing is collecting people’s data, where you and our other city officials can use to track us,” he argued. Weaver returned to the podium to say she preferred the ground sensor option “because all they do is sense if a car is parked in the spot or not.”

Jet-skis, pickleball

One heartwarming proposal garnered a surprising amount of debate. Community planning/building director Ruby Iranmanesh (president of the class of ’27) argued for a Teen Tech Mentors program, employing computer-savvy CHS students as city interns to offer workshops and tech support to local residents. Grant funding and technology sponsorships would cover operating costs. All councilmembers were in favor of the idea, but a \$175,000 ask stirred controversy.

To Iranmanesh’s proposal for the construction of a standalone technology center in downtown Carmel, Mayor Pro Tem Sebastian Blessing (student representative to CUSD) suggested the use of an existing building, perhaps

at Carmel High. Councilmember Sophie Morgan piled on. “I’m no developer, but I can imagine that the permitting process in Carmel is pretty difficult,” she said, earning a wry grin from both councilmembers Delves and Buder.

A jet-ski consensus, meanwhile, proved a total breeze. All were in favor of equipping Carmel’s police, fire and rescue teams with new toys to enhance response times and safely execute ocean rescue. The \$45,000 proposal was brought forth by Police Chief Leah Sibley, who added that local marine organizations could advise on best practices for ’ski use in the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary.

During public comment, real-world Police Chief Paul Tomasi shared his support, while seconding administrator Galy’s feeling that Carmel Beach is due for a full-time lifeguard.

And then there was pickleball. Public Works Director Hallie Crabbe pitched a partial refurbishing of Forest Hill Park and the installation of ‘pickle glass’ — sound- and weather-resistant glass devised by a company called PickleTile — to address both growing demand for the game and complaints from nearby residents. Crabbe proposed the re-marking of the basketball courts to make room for two full-size, roofed pickleball courts. Timed locks would enforce play hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Concerns about ventilation were raised, and Crabbe quickly assured that “the doors can be open” while the mostly enclosed glass box would still dampen sound.

More concerns: won’t people get locked in?

“Well, the walls are clear, so when cops drive by they’ll notice and unlock the door to let them out,” Crabbe answered, unable to contain a laugh. She assured the council that Carmel police already conduct rounds in the area — if delinquent pickleballers get stuck, they shouldn’t have to wait long for help.



PHOTO/CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Carmel High students took City Hall by storm on April 23, marking Student Government Day with a mock city council meeting.

“With high winds and common storms, how are we going to make sure nothing breaks the glass?” Mayor Norman pressed. Apparently, pickle glass is designed to reduce noise from play by 50 percent, and keep out the elements. The \$220,000 price tag proved a sticking point — no decision was reached.

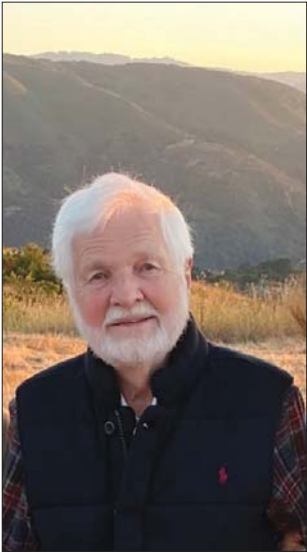
The council did, however, proceed to adopt all other measures in a show of admirable diplomacy. After councilmember Cullen Pritchard announced that only \$111,000 of the surplus was spoken for, the last to pass was the Teen Tech Mentors Program — which would be “essentially free,” between proposed grant money and a suggestion that classes take place at Carmel High.

Now, what to do with that remaining \$214,000?

DONALD ‘BUD’ EVENSON

Donald “Bud” Evenson passed away peacefully on April 16, 2025, in his home he built and loved in Carmel Valley, California. Born December 22, 1935, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Donald and Marie (Bogda) Evenson, Bud’s fondest childhood memories were of the beautiful Wisconsin lakes and reeling in muskies and bass from the shore or the side of a wooden canoe.

Bud attended both the University of Wisconsin and the University of Illinois, where he was an architecture major, winning local and national competitions for his visionary designs on energy efficiency and innovation in the evolving style of experimental modernism. As a Frank Lloyd Wright protege, Bud was part of the organic architecture movement incorporating the natural environment of a building site into the design concept.



After being awarded the Francis J. Plym Traveling Fellowship and traversing throughout Europe studying classical and contemporary designs, Bud headed west and settled in Laguna Beach, California, drawn to the surf, sand and sun. During his time there, Bud designed and built a number of hillside homes, captivated by the spectacular views of the Pacific and challenged by the sloping view lots. Some of these houses still stand today and set the tone for mid-century homes in the area, integrating the structure into the hillside rather than on top of it.

He eventually made his way north, settling in Monterey in 1965. He met the love of his life, Sanaye, on a warm summer evening at Nepenthe in Big Sur. They married in 1967 and had two girls, Jenny and Sally. He was a doting father and stepfather to Sanaye’s daughter Suzanne. During this time, he was chief designer at architectural firm Hall and Goodhue until opening his own office in Carmel-by-the-Sea, focusing on design and development. Bud’s local design work includes private residences as well as contributions to notable community projects such as the Chamisal Tennis Club, Village Green in Carmel Valley Village, and Harris Court commercial complex in Ryan Ranch.

Bud’s childhood love of fishing stayed with him all his life, drawing him to the waters of Monterey Bay where he fished for salmon and spent weekends working on his vintage boat, The Theresa C, while his daughters caught hermit crabs along the rocks. If you were lucky enough to receive one of his newspaper-wrapped packages of smoked salmon, you probably still think about it to this day.

He was an artist, a philosopher, a master grillier and a rockhound. He was an early collector, starting with rocks and stamps as a child and expanding into cars and Native American art, pianos and antiques. He was as kind and generous as he was talented and driven — a modern-day Renaissance man who understood the importance of the process but recognized the thrill of the final product. He loved his family, the land, a perfect morning of fishing and was always paying attention to the angles.

He leaves behind a legacy of structures and projects, inspiration and collections and so much love. In his last weeks he was surrounded by his devoted family, sharing stories and memories and homemade lemon meringue pie. He will be missed every single day by those who knew and loved him.

Bud is survived by his adoring daughters, Jenny (Douglas McClure) and Sally (Phillip Lopez) and stepdaughter, Suzanne (Donald Feblowitz); his sister, Ellen Anllo of Buffalo, NY; grandsons, Craig (Ben Cheung), Matthew and Ian; granddaughter, Lilly and nieces Bambi, Roxane, Lisa, Pilar and Sara. Bud was preceded in death by his beautiful wife and partner of 59 years, Sanaye.

The family has not yet determined a time or place for a memorial service, but details will be shared at a later date.



Gertrude ‘Trudy’ Bohland

Gertrude “Trudy” Bohland died peacefully May 4 at her home in Pebble Beach. She was 99.

Trudy was born to Irish immigrants Charles and Mona Loughran in Brooklyn, N.Y. on March 10, 1926, the oldest daughter of six children. A lifelong Catholic, Trudy had a strong belief in God and shared her good fortune with others throughout her life.

Her second passion also required great leaps of faith and many prayers — the Brooklyn Dodgers. An ardent fan, Trudy collected autographs from such greats as Walt Alston, Pee Wee Reese and Gil Hodges. She never quite forgave the Dodgers for moving to Los Angeles in 1958, but she remained an avid follower well into her 90s.

Trudy also loved reading, sewing, dancing and her beloved 9-holers golf group. She was an excellent cook and famously entertained friends and family with elaborate celebrations.

Trudy graduated from the Katharine Gibbs School in New York and relocated to California with her family in 1945. She met her future husband, Jerry Bohland, while working as a secretary at Owens-Illinois in San Francisco. They wed in 1952 and were married for 63 years. Jerry transferred to the O-I corporate office in Toledo, Ohio, early in their marriage. They lived and raised their family there until retiring to Pebble Beach in 1986. Jerry died in 2015.

Trudy is survived by her daughters, Cynthia Kumanchik (Brian Kumanchik), Kathleen Bohland (Mark Brown); and granddaughters, Calla and Danielle.

A memorial Mass to celebrate her life will be held in July at the Carmel Mission Basilica. Details to come.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Central Coast Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, [ccvna.com/donate](https://ccvna.com/donate) or 5 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Monterey, CA 93940. or Harmony at Home, [harmony-at-home.org/donate](https://harmony-at-home.org/donate) or 3785 Via Nona Marie, Suite 300





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## AMBULANCE

From page 1A

“It’s truly a luxury,” he said. “For all the right reasons.”

But the city could lose those rights by not providing emergency medical services 24/7 as required, Swanson warned. “It was friendly, but it was still a notification from the county saying, ‘You’ve got issues here in managing your ambulance,’” he said.

In addition, the five paramedics employed by the city in 2024 racked up a combined \$255,609 in overtime, according to the finance department. Four of them were among the top 20 income earners on the payroll, with one ranking 10th after taking home \$95,406 in OT — more overtime than any other city worker.

Swanson described the current model as “unsustainable” and said keeping the ambulance service in-house at the level Monterey Fire would provide would cost an estimated \$2.95 million.

### Five-year deal

He recommended pursuing a five-year contract with Monterey, which already provides some administrative services for the ambulance, to take over its management, staffing and operations. The city would continue to handle the billing, he said, and the ambulance, which is due to be replaced, will still be owned by the city and based at the Sixth Avenue fire station.

“We would retain our 201 rights because it’s still technically the city’s ambulance, we’re just having someone else manage it for us,” Swanson said.

Further, Carmel’s paramedics will have the opportunity to join Monterey’s payroll, just as their firefighter counterparts did when that deal was inked more than a decade ago.

Among the handful of public speakers,

no one objected to the idea, which was initially recommended by a committee that studied the issue four years ago but was sidelined by the pandemic and leadership changes.

### Union likes it

Representing the Carmel Fire Ambulance Association, paramedic Matthew Nitenson urged the council to let Monterey take over.

“We love what we do. We train hand in hand with Monterey Fire, which has allowed us to respond, assess and mitigate nearly all kinds of emergencies,” he said. “This ambulance service is a vital role in public safety for this community.”

He described merging with Monterey as “the right thing to do” and said the transition will be

“seamless.”

“We look forward to this merger with great hope and pride,” he said. “I hope you find this merger as positive as we do.”

Mayor Dale Byrne asked Miller if he could help develop more ways to monetize the ambulance service. The chief said he could, though he didn’t elaborate.

“I think there are some opportunities out there,” Miller acknowledged.

“We’re going to pay a premium to do this, but it’s a small premium,” councilman Bob Delves said before making the motion to proceed with a contract with Monterey at an estimated \$2.4 million per year. While it will cost more, it will ensure the ambulance remains in service and doesn’t continue failing to fulfill the city’s obligation to provide round-the-clock emergency medical care.

Byrne seconded the motion, and following several questions and observations from councilman Jeff Baron regarding the value of retaining the city’s ambulance service, billing, mutual-aid agreements with neighboring agencies and other issues, the council voted unanimously to proceed with negotiating a contract with Monterey Fire.

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# BUDGET

From page 9A

city remains conservative and vigilant, as we are aware that geopolitical tensions, inflation concerns and interest rates drive consumer spending patterns, even at the local level.”

### Salary numbers

In estimating expenses, some of the rules changed, too. For instance, salary costs were previously projected based on the highest level of pay for every position, even though some employees aren’t at the top step. “This assumption has been changed to project each employee at the salary step they will achieve” during the fiscal year, Fields said. “The ramification of this change is that there will not be salary savings available during the year if unexpected expenses arise.”

In the same vein, vacant positions were previously budgeted as if they would be filled on the first day of the new fiscal year, which also provided more financial wiggle room. This year, the budget assumes the 10 or so open positions won’t be filled for three or four months. “The ramification of this is that if recruitments are able to move faster, some salaries will be over the budgeted amount,” Fields said.

The changes in forecasting grew from the council’s recently formed “financial stewardship workgroup.”

“As a result of these efforts, the budgeted amounts for revenue and operating expenses have very little room for uncertainty, and any significant changes caused by unforeseen circumstances will need to be brought back to the city council,” Fields warned.

Looking at the bigger picture, the financial stewardship group devised a budgeting strategy that would set the capital projects budget at 10 percent of expected revenues

— the 90 percent/10 percent revenue split. Based on \$31,844,000 in revenues, if the 2025-2026 plan were to comply with the strategy, \$610,000 in spending would have to be cut from the operating budget, and \$4,423,000 would have to be excised from the capital improvement plan.

In addition, funds allocated to capital projects would be tied to them until they’re completed, to create better financial tracking. As a result, “the capital improvement budget will be more reflective of what new funds are actually needed to do a project.”

After the presentation, council members asked questions and provided some feedback, including complaints that too much money — \$1.2 million — is earmarked for marketing and that the \$750,000 subsidy for Sunset Center shouldn’t be included in it.

Councilman Jeff Baron argued for spending more of the cash being held in the city’s accounts to improve the town and its services. “This actually affects the quality of life of the people who live here and the people who visit here, but it’s just sitting in the bank and not being used,” he said. A couple of councilmembers also complained about spending another \$60,000 on the metal “ribbon” trashcans that have replaced the city’s traditional wooden cans over the past few years.

The council will look at the budget in detail at a special meeting May 21. Councilmembers, decision makers and members of the public are encouraged to email any questions to [budget@ci.carmel.ca.us](mailto:budget@ci.carmel.ca.us) by May 18.

## ■ Hotel occupancy, rates and taxes all up last winter

THE NUMBER of hotel rooms booked during the months of January and February, along with the prices guests paid for them, increased in comparison to the same months a year earlier, according to a recently released report from the City of Carmel’s finance department. As

a result, hotel tax revenues outpaced the same period last year, too.

Average occupancy of the city’s hotels, inns and B&Bs was 53.46 percent, which was 4.62 percent higher than in January and February 2024. Those winter months are usually the slowest of the year, according to occupancy data, while bookings are typically highest in July and August, followed by those in September and October, and then steadily decline until heading back up again in spring and early summer.

### Room rates way up

Marking the biggest increase in pricing since the July 1, 2024, start of the fiscal year, the average daily room rate in January and February climbed 11.09 percent, to \$322.05, compared with the average rate of \$289.90 a year earlier.

“In addition to the increases in occupancy rates and room rates, the number of room-nights available decreased by 1 percent in the January-February period just ended compared to a year ago,” finance specialist Anna Aubuchon noted, due to sale and closure of Svendsgaard’s Inn, which is being remodeled.

She also observed that the average daily occupancy for the January-February period this year represented a 4 percent decrease from the November-December 2024 period, while the change between the same two periods a year earlier was minus 5 percent. And while the average daily room rate in January and February was \$25 lower than in November and December 2024, representing an 8 percent decrease, the change between those same periods a year earlier was minus 11 percent.

As a result of the higher prices and bookings, the city collected \$976,205 in hotel taxes for the January-February period, a 14.81 percent increase over the \$850,282 taken in for those months a year earlier. The transient occupancy tax rate is 10 percent, indicating lodging places took in \$9,762,050 in fees. Guests also pay a small tax collected by the city but passed on to Visit Carmel for tourism marketing.

# SCAM

From page 3A

Buikema noted that other government entities like CalPERS have recently been targeted by phishing schemes, and she reminded others to keep up their guard against such scammers.

“You hear about this on the news,” she added. “You never think it would hit so close to home. It’s becoming commonplace.”

The personal information of more than 200,000 Los Angeles County residents was compromised last year by a phishing scheme targeting the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.



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File No. 20250377

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:  
**SABER COMPANY, 27217 HIGHWAY 1 CARMEL,CA 93923**, County of MONTEREY  
Registered Owner(s):  
SABRINA GILL  
This business is conducted by AN INDIVIDUAL  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 09/09/2024  
S/ SABRINA GILL  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 03/25/2025  
4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16/25  
**CNS-3913559#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025. (PC 434)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250700

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SEVERUO SIGN CO., 1865 Luxton St., Seaside, CA 93955**.  
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: SEVERUO STUDIOS LLC.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*  
S/Sean Severuo, CEO  
Date: March 28, 2025  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 10, 2025.  
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name

**CYPRESS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
PRELIMINARY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2025-26**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on May 22, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. the Cypress Fire Protection District, Board of Directors will meet to consider adoption of the Preliminary Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Preliminary Budget is available for inspection at the District’s fire station located at 3775 Rio Road, Carmel, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. after May 22, 2025.

DATED: May 2, 2025  
Leslie Baek, Secretary of the Board

Publication dates:  
May 9 & 16, 2025  
(PC529)

**CARMEL HIGHLANDS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
PRELIMINARY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2025-26**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on May 21, 2025 at 12:30 p.m. the Carmel Highlands Fire Protection District, Board of Directors will meet to consider adoption of the Preliminary Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Preliminary Budget is available for inspection at the District’s fire station located at 73 Fern Canyon Road, Carmel, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. after May 21, 2025.

DATED: May 2, 2025  
Leslie Baek, Secretary of the Board

Publication dates:  
May 9 & 16, 2025  
(PC530)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on **Tuesday, June 4, 2024, on or after 4:30 p.m.**, the City Council of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea will hold a Public Hearing via teleconference and in person at the City Hall Council Chambers located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

**Subject of Public Hearings:**  
**Resolution Adopting Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriations Limit**  
Adopt a Resolution Adopting Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriations Limit  
  
**Resolution Adopting Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Operating and Capital Budget**  
Adopt a Resolution Adopting Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Operating and Capital Budget  
  
**First Reading and Introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-002 – Amending the Carmel Municipal Code Section 15.08.010 and Section 15.10.020 to Adopt the 2025 Fire Hazard Severi-**

**ty Zone map for the city as identified by the California State Fire Marshall in accordance with Government Code Section 51178**  
Conduct a first reading and introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-002  
  
**First Reading and Introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-003 - Amending the Carmel Municipal Code to add Section 2.52.686 - ‘Paid Parental Leave’, providing eligible employees with up to six weeks of paid leave to care for and bond with a newborn, newly adopted or foster child.**  
Conduct a first reading and introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-003

This meeting will be held in person and via teleconference. The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or remotely via Zoom, however, the meeting will proceed as normal even if there are technical difficulties accessing zoom. The City will do its best to resolve any technical issues as quickly as possible. To view or listen to the meeting from home, you may watch the YouTube Live Stream at: <https://www.youtube.com/CityofCarmelbytheSea/streams>, or use the link below to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom teleconference:  
  
To attend via Zoom (copy and paste the link into your browser):  
<https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/86890317537>  
Meeting ID: 868 9031 7537  
Passcode: 100836  
Dial in: (253) 215-8782

All interested persons are invited to attend in-person or via teleconference or in person at the time and place specified above to give oral or written testimony concerning this matter. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk at City Hall located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or P.O. Box CC, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or by email [cityclerk@ci.carmel.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.carmel.ca.us) prior to the meeting. Comments must be received 2 hours before the meeting in order to be provided to the legislative body. Comments received after that time and up to the beginning of the meeting will be made part of the record.

Documentation regarding the appropriation limit will be available 15 days in advance of the meeting on the City’s website at [www.ci.carmel.ca.us](http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us).  
  
Please direct questions about the budget items to: [budget@ci.carmel.ca.us](mailto:budget@ci.carmel.ca.us)  
  
Publication dates:  
May 16, 2025  
(PC550)

Judge of the Superior Court  
Date: March 22, 2025  
Publication Dates: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025. (PC 436)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250695

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
**O'REILLY AUTO PARTS #6897, 1092 NORTHRIDGE MALL, SALINAS, CA 93906** County of MONTEREY  
Registrant(s):  
O'REILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES, LLC, 233 S PATTERSON AVE, SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.  
O'REILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES, LLC  
S/ JEREMY FLETCHER, CFO  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/09/2025.  
4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16/25  
**CNS-3918000#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025. (PC 437)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250689

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:  
**TRI VALLEY HOME HEALTH, 1020 MERRILL ST, UNIT 1003, SALINAS, CA 93901**, County of MONTEREY  
Registered Owner(s):  
WELLNESS WARRIORS LLC, 3290 E HILLS DR, SAN JOSE, CA 95127  
This business is conducted by A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on NOT APPLICABLE  
S/ PAUL BRYAN ZAMORA  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/09/2025  
4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16/25  
**CNS-3918619#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025. (PC 438)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250693

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:  
**EXTREME ELECTRICAL SERVICES, 9486 COMUNIDAD WAY, CASTROVILLE, CA 95012**, County of MONTEREY  
Registered Owner(s):  
JOSE REYES, 9486 COMUNIDAD WAY, CASTROVILLE, CA 95012  
This business is conducted by AN INDIVIDUAL  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 01/17/2015  
S/ JOSE REYES  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/09/2025  
4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16/25  
**CNS-3918671#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025. (PC 439)


**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 25CV001982  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, ARSALAN ROB MIKFAIR, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
**A Present name:** ARSALAN ROB MIKFAIR  
**Proposed name:**

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF INGRID WEKERLE  
CASE NO. 23PR000192**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of INGRID WEKERLE.  
AN AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by THERESE ADAMS in the Superior Court of California, County of MONTEREY.  
THE AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that THERESE ADAMS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE AMENDED PETITION requests the decedent’s WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.  
THE AMENDED PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 07/02/25 at 9:00AM in Dept. 13 located at 1200 AGUAJITO ROAD, MONTEREY, CA 93940  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be

in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.  
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.  
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
Attorney for Petitioner  
ROBIN L. KLOMPARENS -  
SBN 127966  
JENNI L. HARMON -  
SBN 271411  
FENNEMORE WKBKY  
10640 MATHER BOULEVARD,  
SUITE 200  
MATHER CA 95655  
Telephone (916) 920-5286  
5/9, 5/16, 5/23/25  
**CNS-3921590#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication dates: May 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC510)



The Carmel Pine Cone office will be

CLOSED Memorial Day

Monday, May 26

Legals must be submitted no later than

3 P.M. Friday, May 23

(for publication May 30)

legals@carmelpinecone.com


es described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING:  
DATE: June 10, 2025  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
DEPT: 15  
The address of the court is 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.  
Date filed: April 21, 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 newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: *The Carmel Pine Cone*.  
(s) Thomas W. Willis  
Judge of the Superior Court  
Date: April 21, 2025  
Publication Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 501)

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 25CV001984  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, GIANNA ROSE MALFITANO, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
**A Present name:** GIANNA ROSE MALFITANO  
**GIANNA ROSE (AKA)**  
**Proposed name:** GIANNA ROSE  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING:  
DATE: June 17, 2025  
TIME: 11:00 a.m.  
DEPT: 13A  
The address of the court is 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.  
Date filed: April 14, 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 newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: *The Carmel Pine Cone*.  
(s) Thomas W. Willis  
Judge of the Superior Court  
Date: April 13, 2025  
Publication Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 502)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250605

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **VALLEY PRO DIESEL, 645 Cordoba St., Soledad, CA 93960**.  
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY  
Registered Owner(s):  
JULIO AARON ESTRADA.  
This business is conducted by an individual.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 4, 2019.  
**BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.** A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Julio Aaron Estrada  
Date signed: March 27, 2025  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on March 27, 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 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025 (PC 507)



Notice of Land Use Advisory Vacancies

The Carmel Unincorporated/Highlands Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC) is actively seeking new members from the Carmel Unincorporated/Highlands area. If you have a vested interest in the development and preservation of this unique community, we encourage you to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI). This SOI, along with additional details, can be found on our website under the Announcements section: [www.countyofmonterey.gov](http://www.countyofmonterey.gov).

Purpose of the LUAC  
The primary aim of the LUAC is to serve as an advisory body, providing comments and recommendations to the Appropriate Authority (the Chief of Planning, the Zoning Administrator, the Planning Commission, and/or the Board of Supervisors) regarding land use planning matters that pertain to our community. LUACs reflect the perspectives of the local community with focus on neighborhood character, unique community site and conditions and potential local effects or contributions that would likely result from the implementation of a proposed project; perform such other review of land use issues as may be requested from time to time by the Planning Commission or the Board of Supervisors; provide a venue for project neighbors to provide input on proposed projects; identify concerns in response to staff provided scope of review on neighborhood, community and site issues excluding regional impacts which are the purview of the Appropriate Authority.

The LUAC meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m., convening at the Carmel Highlands Fire Protection District. These meetings not only facilitate dialogue among committee members but also provide an opportunity for residents to stay informed and involved in community affairs.

For further inquiries or clarification regarding the LUAC, please feel free to reach out to Melissa McDougal, Administrative Secretary Confidential; County of Monterey Housing and Community Development Department; 1441 Schilling Place - South, 2nd Floor, Salinas CA, 93901; (831) 755-5146 or [mcdougalm@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:mcdougalm@countyofmonterey.gov)  
  
Publication dates: May 16, 2025 (PC551)

Be prepared for emergencies — [www.alertmontereycounty.org](http://www.alertmontereycounty.org)



# GAVEL

From page 4A

lot, where he approached a man sitting in his vehicle. Matangi pointed a firearm at the man and attempted to carjack him, but he could not get the vehicle to start.

Matangi then fled on foot across the street and broke into a home by ripping the window screen and climbing through the window. Once inside, Matangi pointed his firearm at a resident of the home and stole the resident's car keys at gunpoint. Matangi then fled with the vehicle into the San Benito County portion of Aromas.

While in Aromas, Matangi abandoned the vehicle and stole a golf cart. He then abandoned the golf cart at a nearby property and hid in a separate Aromas resident's storage unit. The homeowners found Matangi hiding in their storage unit and told him to leave. Soon after, a San Benito County Sheriff's deputy contacted Matangi while Matangi was walking southbound on Carpenteria Road. Soon after the contact, while the San Benito deputy followed Matangi on Carpenteria Road, Matangi brandished a firearm at the deputy. Monterey County Sheriff's deputies responded shortly thereafter and assisted the San Benito deputy in arresting Matangi.

At the time of his arrest, Matangi was in possession of a .40-caliber semiautomatic firearm, multiple magazines with live ammunition, a small baggie of methamphetamine, and the keys to the last stolen car. Due to prior violent felony convictions for robbery and carjacking, he was prohibited from possessing firearms.

O'Keefe will sentence Matangi on May 29. Due to his prior strike convictions, Matangi faces a possible sentence of 100 years to life in prison.

The case was primarily investigated by Monterey County Sheriff's Office detective Arras Wilson.

**March 19** — Jaime Gomez Gutierrez, 39, a resident of Salinas, was sentenced to 30 years in state prison by Judge Pamela Butler.

On Feb. 25, the brother of 17-year-old Jane Doe 3 walked in on Gutierrez engaging in sexual intercourse with Doe 3. Doe 3 had been a member of Gutierrez's household for many years and had significant developmental disabilities. The police were immediately contacted, and family members detained Gutierrez at the scene until police arrived.

When the incident with Doe 3 occurred, Gutierrez was being investigated for molesting Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2, the daughters of a friend. The sexual abuse of these girls had occurred approximately 10 years earlier, when they were much younger. The girls were prompted to disclose the abuse to their mother when Gutierrez, who they had not seen for many years, attended a family gathering, bringing back the memories of what had happened when they were younger.

Gutierrez entered pleas of no contest to two counts of forcible lewd act on a child, one count of lewd act on a child under 14, and one count of rape of a person incapable of consent. The charges constitute four strikes under California's three strikes law. Gutierrez will be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

This case was investigated by Salinas Police detective Jared Dominici and Monterey County District Attorney's Office investigator Rebecca Ayal.

# SIDEWALK

From page 10A

The council approved the draft ordinance with a few changes and was set to consider it for a final vote last week, prompting more emails in protest, as well as letters from lawyers affiliated with an organization called Public Counsel.

"Given the lack of substantiated proof of health, safety, or welfare violations, and clear economic animus from vocal opponents, the approval of the proposed amendments is unlawful under California law," attorney Ritu Mahajan wrote.

Among other things, Mahajan's letter demanded that the council "reevaluate the facts surrounding the proposed updates, as they have no legal justification," and then "reconsider its existing laws regarding prohibited areas and operational restrictions to ensure that vendors are not unjustly excluded from lucrative retail areas of the city for the purpose of prioritizing brick-and-mortar businesses." The lawyer also said the city must "end the unjust and improper forms of harassment experienced by street vendors along the wharf and compel local officials to conduct their operations in conformity with California law."

The letter did not state what those forms of harassment might be.

After one vendor commented at the meeting, the council unanimously voted to table the matter.

# SHELTER FROM THE STORMS

The barrage of disasters and ugly politics have separated us. Many of us feel small and ineffectual. We don't know where to turn and have withdrawn from the world.

Unitarian Universalists offer a safe harbor for you and your family. We believe in community. We say YES to JOY, to LOVE, to COURAGE, and to HOPE. Our Sunday service, at 10:30 a.m., and our many community activities show how to face our days with a positive spirit. We strive to do good and to improve the world a little every day—focusing on social justice, environmental, LGBTQ+, and immigration issues. We welcome everyone, and we know that it is going to take all of us to thrive!

 To learn more, come to a Sunday service, check out our website at [www.UUCMP.org](http://www.UUCMP.org), or call 831-624-7404. Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula, 490 Aguajito Road, Carmel CA 93923

# GROWING GIVING

“My giving has grown to new areas of interest and it's wonderful to see the impact.”

— Jean Duff  
Jean and Jim Duff Fund of the Community Foundation for Monterey County

Read Jean's story:  
[cfmco.org/JeanDuff](http://cfmco.org/JeanDuff)

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# Editorial

## Newsom’s dilemma

Gov. Gavin Newsom has caught many by surprise with bold policy shifts in recent weeks, notably his decision to scale back free Medi-Cal coverage for undocumented immigrants and his push for local governments to dismantle homeless encampments. These moves mark a significant departure from his earlier progressive stances, sparking debate about his motivations.

It’s important to remember that he’s making the shifts despite being governor of a state that voted 58 percent to 40 percent in favor of Kamala Harris in the 2024 election and hasn’t supported a Republican for president since George H.W. Bush in 1988. Unquestionably, California is a solid blue state, and there’s very little chance it won’t go for the Democrats’ nominee in 2028.

By turning his back on some of the most cherished positions of the left, is Newsom betraying the majority of Californians who not only made him governor, but will undoubtedly back him for president if he’s on the ballot in 2028?

Superficially, it sure seems like he is, and within the boundaries of the Golden State, it’s costing him.

According to a new poll by the L.A. Times and UC Berkeley, “California’s registered voters believe — by a margin of more than 2 to 1 — that Newsom is more focused on boosting his chances of winning the White House than fixing the multitude of problems facing him here at home,” the Times reported, adding that “a tepid 46 percent of California voters approve of Newsom’s performance in his second and final term.”

For his part, Newsom says he hasn’t made up his mind whether to run for president. “I have to have a burning ‘why,’ and I have to have a compelling vision that distinguishes myself from anybody else. Without that, without both, I don’t deserve to even be in the conversation,” the governor said in a recent interview.

Nevertheless, in assessing his swift policy changes, it’s important to remember that Newsom will never become president just by appealing to progressives in states like California, New York and Illinois who will undoubtedly support him no matter what he says. To win, he has to have the support of voters in swing states like Michigan (15 electoral votes), Pennsylvania (19), Wisconsin (10), Ohio (17) and Georgia (16) — states that were all carried by Trump last November.

Voters in those states care a lot about economic issues, such as the price of groceries, housing affordability and job security. But polls show they’re also firmly in favor of border security and don’t want the homeless camping in public. Newsom surely has these facts in mind when he talks about national controversies.

Before he can become president, though, Newsom has to win the Democratic Party nomination, and polls show that so far he’s trailing Kamala Harris by a wide margin as the party’s choice. They also show him virtually tied with arch progressives like New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and former U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg.

And therein lies Newsom’s biggest problem. To win the nomination, he may have to stay firmly on the left, but to become president, he has to move to the center.

For now, the governor seems to have decided that turning his back on his former positions on free healthcare for immigrants and letting the homeless live in public is worth whatever it may cost him within his party, because doing that is vital to his chances of carrying what are likely to be the most important states in November 2028.

## BEST of BATES



“My wife shops at Rittmaster.” “My wife shops at Wilkes Bashford.” “My wife shops at Yellow Brick Road.”

## Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone only accepts letters to the editor by email. Please submit your letters to [mail@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mail@carmelpinecone.com)

### Not ready for ‘the big one’

Dear Editor,

One night in early January, after putting the kids to bed, my wife and I were sitting on the couch watching the horrifying images coming out of Pacific Palisades, when she turned to me and asked, “Is Carmel prepared for something like this?” Barely a month into my new role as a member of the city council, it was a moment I won’t soon forget. She was asking as a wife and a mother, but also as a constituent, and I didn’t have a good answer. I stared at the screen for a long time, then shook my head. “No. I don’t think so,” I finally managed.

Nearly five months on, I still don’t believe that we’re ready for “the big one.” Even more concerning, wildfire preparedness has not been prioritized, and we’ve lacked a clear plan to grapple with the difficult questions this challenge presents — questions such as:

- What is the plan for reconciling our building code, design guidelines and forestry regulations with new state defensible-space rules and the recommendations in the city’s own Community Wildfire Protection Plan?
- How can we harden our properties

against fire while preserving Carmel’s unique ecological and architectural character?

■ What is the plan for assessing and mitigating wildfire risk in the places where a wildfire is most likely to start — i.e., Pescadero Canyon, Forest Hill Park, and Mission Trail Nature Preserve? (Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve has done yeoman’s work on ladder fuel reduction in MTNP, but more city resources are needed.)

■ Why aren’t we creating a forum to explore other ideas that could keep us safe, such as strategically located fuel breaks or the hardening of our water system to avoid a catastrophic loss in water pressure?

■ And why aren’t we considering measures such as community-wide evacuation drills, which could identify bottlenecks, test emergency communication systems, ensure the safety of mobility-impaired seniors, and build collective muscle memory?

We urgently need a project plan to work through these questions comprehensively and systematically. That’s why, in the council meeting last week, I called for the creation of a wildfire preparedness committee. I’ve asked Fire Chief Andrew Miller and the chairs of the forest and beach and planning commissions — Kelly Brezoczky and Michael LePage — to join myself and the mayor as initial members of a group that will likely need to expand to include, or at a minimum leverage, the expertise of: CalFire, the Pebble Beach Community Services District, county staff,

See **LETTERS** page 30A

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■ Office Assistant .....	Eunice Romero (274-8593)
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# The Carmel Pine Cone

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U.S. Mail: P.O. Box G-1, Carmel CA 93921

**Deliveries:** 734 Lighthouse Ave.,  
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**Telephone:** (831) 274-8593

**Email:** [mail@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mail@carmelpinecone.com)  
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**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



# HER GRANDFATHER WOULD APPROVE

‘I GREW up with cowboys. My grandfather — in my mind — was John Wayne. He just looked like him. Six-foot-two, big hands — he was a rancher,” explained Pebble Beach resident Melanie Scherer, director of SNIP, the Spay-Neuter Imperative Project.

She loved being surrounded by the dogs, horses, cattle and other animals at the ranch and couldn’t wait to get there on weekends to be with her grandparents. She spent a significant portion of her early life there, and that became the genesis of her

## Great Lives

By CARLIN JARDINE

mission to provide better lives for large numbers of dogs and cats.

Scherer, 54, was raised in Modesto by a single mom who taught her she could be anything she wanted. She has always been close to her grandparents and extended family, too. “Outdoorsy,” is how she describes herself, and she played a number of sports in school.

When it came to choosing a career, she said, “My original intention was to be a dental hygienist. Then I realized: I can’t work on people’s mouths all day, because they can’t talk to me.”

### Determination

Armed with a bachelor’s degree in science and marketing, she instead created, operated and later sold a successful executive recruitment company in the East Bay. She also traveled frequently to the desert with a man named Richard, a passionate golfer and business executive who became her husband in 2004. After that, the Scherers purchased a second home in La Quinta, about 20 miles from Palm Springs.

“I wasn’t doing the recruiting thing any longer and had to do something other than play golf,” Scherer said. She attended a fundraiser for a struggling animal rescue group and offered to help. “I was determined not to let it close,” she said. With her sales and marketing background, her gift for fundraising, and help from friends, she ensured it didn’t.

A luncheon Scherer and her colleagues created evolved into a highly acclaimed regional event raising \$200,000 annually, allowing her to help the group and similar operations in the Coachella Valley. When she visited the nearby Thousand Palms Shelter, she was horrified and saddened by the number of animals there. Shocked by the experience, she said she wondered

where they’d all come from and added, “I’m not a crier, but I went back to my car, and I cried.”

“On the ranch, my grandfather would say, ‘I hear you, I feel the problem. Give me the solution.’ That’s how I was raised.” She told her husband she was going to buy a mobile unit, put together a veterinary team and provide spay and neutering services to areas with overcrowded shelters, primarily in underserved regions of Riverside County. Her goal was to reduce the number of abandoned and neglected animals and offer services for a nominal fee for those who wanted to do the right thing but couldn’t afford what she estimated as \$350 to \$750 or more to spay or neuter their pets. (While SNIP’s published fee schedule includes comparable fees, there is a sliding scale for those who can’t pay them.)

### Plea for help

She recalled the moment things unexpectedly came together. “Truth be told, I had no idea what I was doing. God took me by the hand in 2015 and guided me to a spay/neutering mobile unit for sale by a program called SNIP.” She bought the unit, adopted the acronym, reorganized and reenergized SNIP and started up in June 2016, financing the venture with her own funds.

The Scherers eventually sold their home near San Francisco and moved here, spending half the year in La Quinta and half on the Monterey Peninsula. People in Monterey County learned of SNIP’s success in the Coachella Valley and began calling, asking for help. The Scherers purchased a second mobile unit, put together another

See LIVES page 31A



PHOTO/COURTESY MELANIE SCHERER

Melanie Scherer, whose nonprofit, SNIP, offers low-cost spay and neuter services for pets, is motivated by her love of animals.

# Photography is therapy for settling ‘big questions of aging’

THE SOMBER image that fine-art photographer Eduardo Fujii will exhibit through Aug. 31 at Monterey Museum of Art is a glimpse into the complex mind of a person reflecting on 70 years of life and seeking context for whatever might come next.

His black-and-white photo collage, “Where Shadows Hold Memory,” is one of 800 works of art, from 122 local artists for the inaugural Monterey Biennial, a showcase that opened Thursday.

An opening celebration, scheduled 11

he is a person of mixed race. His father, who passed away in 2013, was Japanese — but a native of Brazil — his mother, Italian and Austrian.

“It’s been very confusing sometimes,” said Fujii, who grew up in Brazil and speaks English and Portuguese. “I’ve realized that I use my art as a kind of therapy. I like to investigate these things and understand more about my identity through my photography. There is a part of me in every photograph I take, and I think that reflects in the dark, moody imagery that I create today.”

Fujii’s parents prepared him for a successful life. By age 5, he was learning to paint, a talent that became profitable as a high school student, when he sold an

entire wall of art to an aficionado who loved the cityscapes he was creating.

He also was enrolled at 5 in a music school, where he became enamored with the classical music he still plays on the grand piano in his living room.

### ‘Cannot live without music’

“I love music — always classical. I cannot live without it,” said Fujii, who earned a degree from a conservatory in his home city of São Paulo.

As a student at the University of São Paulo, he earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering with an emphasis on computer science. In 1992, he attended the then-Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey for two years of postgraduate work in international public administration, nonproliferation, quantitative analysis, and policy studies.

Since 1995, he has been employed full-time by MIIS as a systems analyst, computer programmer, and videographer, developing a variety of database-driven web applications for information on nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

In 2004, he devoted two months to a United Nations internship at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria.

“I didn’t even have a camera then — I was too busy with school and work — which is a regret I have today. Vienna is

See ARTIST page 31A



Pebble Beach artist Eduardo Fujii, a fine-art photographer, classical pianist, and computer scientist, will show a moody, emotional piece of his work through Aug. 31 at Monterey Museum of Art’s first Biennial Exhibition. The artists reception is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

PHOTO/COURTESY EDUARDO FUJII

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*From page 8A*

On Monday, the sheriff's office released surveillance

“We had enough cause to seize it just to process it,” Rosas said of the second car, adding that the sheriff’s

He also noted that, unlike the robbery last December at U.S. Bank on Carmel Rancho Boulevard, which involved three people, one armed with a handgun, and a similar crime at Chase Bank, also on Carmel Rancho Boulevard, in 2021, the FBI is not investigating the Wells Fargo robbery. Rosas said he does not know why the federal agency is not involved.

Rosas asked anyone who recalls seeing the yellow “Rebel” sweatshirt on anyone anywhere, as well as anyone who was in the area at the time of the robbery and might have seen something, to call detective Rodrigo Lopez at (831) 253-6050 or detective Sgt. Nicholas Kennedy at (831) 597-1228. Information can be provided anonymously and can also be shared online at [mcso.county-of-monterey.gov](http://mcso.county-of-monterey.gov) by selecting the “Submit a Tip” tab.

*From page 11A*

After the marchers arrived in Dublin, a closing ceremony recognized their efforts. Organizers gave a shout-out to everyone who participated and thanked the two soldiers who came up with the idea. “Thank you Maj. Flanagan and Sgt. Quinones for dreaming big and making it happen.” Fort Hunter Liggett posted on Facebook.

# Highway 1 closes at Rocky Creek Friday

TO MAKE it possible for workers to complete a critical step in the effort to fix Highway 1 at Rocky Creek in Big Sur, Caltrans is closing the road to all vehicles and pedestrians for 24 hours beginning at 10 p.m. May 16. The closure is necessary for the installation of six massive girders beneath the northbound lane of the highway.

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# HOMELESS

From page 6A

to apply for a portion of \$3.3 billion in taxpayer funds available to expand behavioral health services and care for homeless people and others with mental health conditions and behavioral disorders.

### County efforts

While the initiative is seen by some as a way for Newsom — who many believe will run for president in 2028 — of assuaging California voters and municipalities fed up with homelessness, it has been

criticized by some groups.

There are four large homeless encampments in unincorporated areas of the county — two in South County, one in North County, and one just outside of the City of Salinas.

The Pine Cone asked Monterey County officials if the model ordinance would be helpful in its efforts to clean up homeless camps in the unincorporated areas.

“While jurisdictions have the authority to address dangerous and unsanitary encampments — an ability affirmed by the Supreme Court — exercising this authority without providing appropriate alternative shelter options can place additional strain on public resources, including law

# MOTOFEST

From page 13A

the latest model and organizing a group ride from Los Angeles.

Italian Bimota motorcycles might be a little more obscure, but they are just as compelling, especially on a racetrack. The company is recognized for its advanced engineering, lightweight frames and “trail-blazing spirit,” and has customized top models for some of Japan’s largest manufacturers while also producing several models of its own.

“I’m always thinking a little off center, which is reflective of what the motorcycling world is,” McCall said, and Bimota embodies that in some of its wilder designs. “There are 16 of them coming,” he said. “That is a sight even for the completely uninitiated — you don’t have to know anything about motorcycles to walk up and admire them.”

And Yoshimura, founded by Hideo “Pops” Yoshimura in 1954 and now run by his grandson, is widely known among motorcyclists for its longstanding role in high-performance motorcycles and racing. Encounter a group of sportbikes anywhere,

and you’re bound to spy several with after-market Yoshimura exhausts, but the company also set the gold standard for engine tuning and parts.

“I don’t know a motorcycle enthusiast who hasn’t heard of Yoshimura,” McCall said, and The Quail MotoFest will have the honor of including Pops’ first race bike, as well as the final model raced in the MotoAmerica series last year, in its special class.

### Renowned artist

Other highlights include an appearance and fireside chat by artist Troy Lee, whose custom designs have graced helmets for decades. The Southern Californian native was an aspiring professional motocross racer but turned to design full-time in 1981 with the founding of Troy Lee Designs, which quickly grew to be one of the most recognized custom helmet paint shops in the world.

Tickets to the show, which opens at 10 a.m. and is dog-friendly, start at \$70 for adults and \$25 for kids 13-17, with the younger ones admitted for free. A VIP pass costs \$225, and a discount is available to locals. Visit [peninsula.com/en/signature-events/events/motorcycle](https://peninsula.com/en/signature-events/events/motorcycle) for more information.

enforcement, jails, and the public defender’s office,” Roxanne Wilson, the county’s homeless services director told The Pine Cone.

Wilson went on to say that such methods “fail to address the root cause of homelessness,” and that the county would “continue to exercise sound judgment and strategic planning when deciding how and when to” clear homeless campsites.

While some tents popped up again after having been cleared, Wilson said an effort between King City, the county’s housing authority, and the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers were successful in the closure of a South County encampment, which she said has not been reoccupied.

Monterey County also partnered with the City of Soledad to address a homeless community that was on city, county and state properties. The county was granted \$4 million, some of which it gave to Soledad to build a temporary living facility. When the money was awarded, there were about 40 people in the encampment.

“More than half have been relocated,

and the remaining people are slated to move into the temporary facility, which is planned to open in a few months,” Wilson explained.

**‘Inhumane’**

For years, Newsom allowed homeless communities to flourish on state property. In summer 2021, though, he directed state transportation agency Caltrans to clear the encampments, which in some cases posed public health and safety hazards and amounted to blight. While most of the larger tent areas are gone, some continue to pop up in areas along Highway 1 and elsewhere in the Peninsula.

The left-leaning Sacramento Bee blasted Newsom’s model ordinance in a Wednesday editorial, calling it inhumane.

“Sweeping encampments causes many harms,” The Bee said. “Moving people severs relationships forged with mobile health teams and other healthcare providers, which has been shown to cause higher rates of hospitalizations and death among homeless people.”

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# LETTERS

From page 26A

architects, and forestry experts with an in-depth understanding of Carmel’s unique urbanized forest.

We’re living in a new world, and the choices that we make in responding to this challenge will have profound implications for our village. By developing a methodical, community-driven process informed by subject matter expertise, I’m confident we can ensure our safety while also preserving the unique qualities that make Carmel Carmel.

**Hans Buder, Carmel City Council**

## Housing badly needed

Dear Editor,

I moved to Carmel in 1975 and founded Photography West in 1980. I’ve employed staff over more than four decades and worked in the art community so I am familiar with the personal struggles and difficulties both workers and artists encounter finding housing. One of my local mentors was beloved MPC photography instructor, Ron James. He was the photographer for the Carmel Bach Festival for many years, as well as an important artist and small business owner. Sadly, his social security did not cover his rising rent in his last years, and he died of a heart attack, probably attributable to the stress of his financial predicament. My longtime doctor was seeking housing with a budget of \$4,000 a month and still had to leave Carmel and relocate to Salinas, where he reported that the rental he ultimately secured had over 50 applicants.

The reality is that we have a severe housing crisis that impacts our downtown workers, longtime professionals, as well as artists and valuable members of our community. I was thrilled to see a report on the front page of the Carmel Pine Cone in 2023 that Patrice Pastor had offered to build nearly 30 affordable housing units along with 200 underground parking spaces and artist studios if the city would donate the Sunset Center parking lot. What Pastor proposed is not a new idea, and is one way affordable housing shortages have been successfully remedied. Pastor brings a tremendous amount of experience in designing and building superior quality housing to the table and Carmel is fortunate to have someone of his caliber willing to tackle our affordable housing problem.

I know Carmel has many restrictions to protect our beloved village ambiance, but California made a big

commitment to house the rich and the poor side by side when it overwhelmingly passed Proposition 13, which allows the aged residents to remain in their Carmel homes and stabilized our property taxes. I hope that Carmel will expedite the housing needs of seniors, artists and professionals as well as the employees of our numerous small businesses and move forward to put the dirt parking lot at Sunset Center to good use as affordable housing.

**Carol Williams, Carmel**

## Special blends

Dear Editor,

With maybe two California oil refineries set to close in 2026, California drivers face the prospect of a near-doubling of current gasoline and diesel prices. One way to avoid this budget-wrecking scenario is to qualify a voter-backed initiative that would enshrine in law that only motor fuels available in all other 49 states are legal to be sold in California. This would increase the supply of fuels available in the state and would cut the California Air Resources Board’s power off at the knees.

The argument for ever-increasing percentages of “green” fuels is dubious at best. When the oxygenated fuels (special blends) were introduced in California in the early 1990’s there was ample evidence of their necessity. There were still hundreds of thousands of vehicles from the 1960’s and 1970’s being used as daily drivers on the state’s roadways. Most of these vehicles had no smog control and could be considered ‘super polluters’.

However, over the last 30-plus years, those vehicles have largely disappeared from our roads and those that remain are in the hands of collectors and enthusiasts and are driven sparingly. In other words, the reason behind the introduction of the special blends no longer exists.

There’s no way the politicians and bureaucrats will do anything to effect any meaningful change that will spare California drivers from the financial Armageddon that awaits. It will be up to common sense voters to solve this problem. By the way, I have no doubt that signature-gatherers with their petitions at gas stations will have little trouble in securing the necessary numbers of valid signatures to get such a measure on the ballot.

**Mark Carbonaro, Monterey**

## Caring for footpath

Dear Editor,

The Scenic pathway is challenging, sacred, evolving, gorgeous, healing, forgiving and ours to care for and preserve. Those who are privileged enough to experience this cherished space should be willing to care for it.

The relationship between the pathway and the ocean cannot be disconnected. What happens on the pathway does not stay on the pathway. So, when we care for it, we are also caring for the sand bluffs, the beach, the ocean and the marine life. Since Carmel Bay is designated an

area of special biological significance, a State Marine Conservation Area, as well as part of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, our choices as a community about whether to care for or how to care for the pathway are consequential. Please choose to keep your dog leashed on the pathway, and please pick up after your dog. Please do not smoke on the pathway. Please do not leave food scraps and trash behind. Please respect the reserved parking cones on Wednesday mornings for the weekly cleaning of the pathway. Thank you for making these choices to be a part of the care that Scenic pathway deserves.

**Shirley Moon, Carmel**

## Council salaries

Dear Editor,

The people who were elected in November to the Pacific Grove City Council were out campaigning very hard at the farmers market, walking neighborhoods, speaking to people outside stores and the post office, etc. They were campaigning for these positions on the council without ever saying that they wanted to increase their \$450 monthly stipend by doubling it and including very expensive health insurance just for having two meetings a month. They said they wanted to be elected so that they could serve and do good for the community.

Nowhere was it ever disclosed that what they really were looking for was a posh, part-time job with a nice salary and healthcare benefits that the already indebted city of Pacific Grove is not in a position to afford. They must be stopped. The city’s \$55 million unfunded pension liability, commonly known as debt, is hanging over the head of every taxpayer and property owner in the city.

**Vincent Tuminello, Pacific Grove**

## Skincare shop

Dear Editor,

Regarding your recent article on Viva Carmel, I wanted to express my strong support for Dr. Julie Kenner. My experience as a patient of hers for over a decade at Skin-Happy Dermatology in Monterey has consistently demonstrated not only her exceptional medical expertise but also her profound commitment to patient well-being. Dr. Kenner’s credentials are impeccable, and her innovative approach to treating rare skin conditions is truly groundbreaking. Beyond the clinical aspects of her practice, she possesses an extraordinary ability to address the psychological impact these conditions can have on patients, offering comprehensive care that extends far beyond the typical dermatological consultation.

Viva Carmel, in my view, represents a natural progression of Dr. Kenner’s dedication to providing cutting-edge, holistic dermatological care. It’s a testament to her vision and commitment to advancing the field, and I believe it will have a significant positive impact on the community.

**Kathleen Fitzgerald, Carmel**

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*From page 27A*

## 'She thinks I'm crazy'

“We have to be there for our children, be their voice and don’t let things happen to them because they can’t protect themselves, and equally, we have to do the same for our pets,” she offered. “I don’t have children. My dogs are my children, and I love them.”

*From page 27A*

“The Uncertain Nature of Reality” is a series inspired by his fascination with quantum theory and his exploration of “the logic-defying concepts of quantum mechanics from a philosophical point of view.” The images are collages composed from photographs of ballet dancers in rehearsal.

## Roots and branches

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

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# The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

## Stevenson golfers bury competition to win third CCS championship

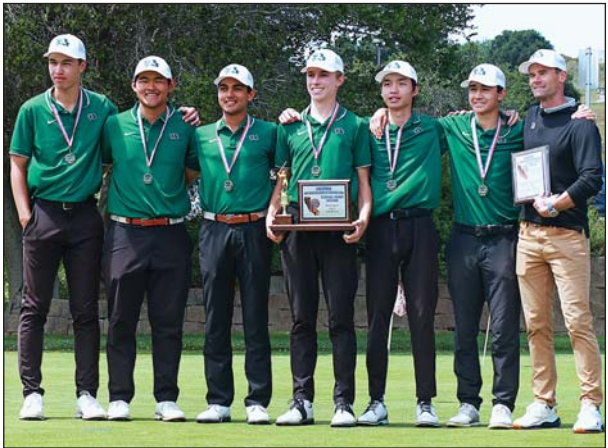
SOPHOMORE CALVIN Etcheverry shot a 3-under-par 68, tying for second overall, to lead the Stevenson Pirates to their third-consecutive Central Coast Section team golf championship at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch Tuesday.

### Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Etcheverry and Junipero Serra's Kyler Heath finished two strokes behind Jayden Jew of St. Ignatius for medalist honors.

Two Stevenson teammates, senior Luke Brandler (the 2023 and 2024 individual champion) and sophomore Zac Hawkins, shot 69, tying Carmel junior Julien Cho for



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

The Stevenson Pirates won the CCS team golf championship Tuesday for the third-consecutive year. From the left, they are Luke Brandler, Marc Sasetia, Johsh Chadha, tournament runner-up Calvin Etcheverry, Steven Lai, Zac Hawkins, and Coach Justin Bates.

fourth place in the 67-player field. Padres senior Cullen Pritchard tied for seventh with a 70.

The Pirates buried their competition in the team battle with a score of 351 strokes (5 under par) besting second-place Palo Alto by 13 strokes, thanks to depth provided by Steven Lai (72, 18th place) and Johsh Chadha (73).

Carmel tied for third place with St. Ignatius in the team standings (both with 367 strokes), but the Padres lost the opportunity to send their entire squad to NorCals on the tournament's tiebreaker criteria.

Carmel was bolstered by Jonathan Chen (72, tied for 18th), Carson Varney (77, tied for 40th), and Colin Dean (79, tied for 53rd).

Stevenson, Palo Alto and St. Ignatius qualified their full teams, and Carmel's Cho qualified as an individual, for the NorCal Regional Championships, which will be played May 27 at Berkeley Country Club in El Cerrito.

The state tournament will be played June 3 at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Pebble Beach.

### Boys volleyball

Carmel defeated PCAL Gabilan Division rival Palma 25-22, 25-17, 30-32, 23-25, 15-7 in Monday's opening round of the CCS Division 2 tournament at Carmel High.

The victory moved the Padres into Tuesday's quarterfinals game against their PCAL Gabilan Division co-champion, Monterey, which was won by the Toreadores 24-26, 25-20, 25-23, 25-18 at Monterey High.

The Padres won Monday's match without standout middle-blocker Nate Campbell, who was sidelined with illness, while starters Zack Speaker and Nico Vitiello played through sickness.

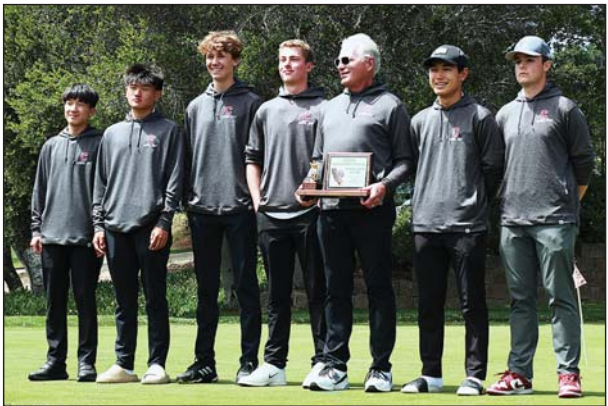
"It was a bumpy-ugly win, but Zack and Nico led the offense and defense, and Jonas Buran stepped in at the last minute for Nate at middle blocker and did a great job," said Coach Leslie Vitiello said.

Carmel won seven of its final eight games this year to finish the season with a 20-12 overall record.

### Swimming and diving

Three-time PCAL champion Beckett Heywood of Stevenson placed 11th and Carmel's Dean Bullas was 15th at the CCS Diving Championships on May 6 at DeAnza College. Both are seniors.

Heywood's point total for three dives was 344.90, with



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel's golf team tied for third at CCS but missed qualifying for NorCals. The Padres, left to right, are Colin Dean, Jonathan Chen, Cullen Pritchard, Ethan Haas, Coach Ross Kroeker, individual CCS qualifier Julien Cho and Carson Varney.

a Degree of Difficulty of 23.1, while Bullas scored 278.30 with a DD of 21.7.

The highlight of the swim meet for Stevenson's boys was a school record in the 400-yard freestyle relay (3:15.01) by a team composed of Chris Yang, Alan Qian, Will Maiorana, and Andy Wu, who finished 12th against a deeply competitive lineup of schools.

The previous record was set in 2021 by a team anchored by All-American Patrick Powers.

See SPORTS next page

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## SPORTS

*From previous page*

"The CCS Championships are known as one of the most competitive high school swim meets in the country. California leads the nation in swimming depth, and CCS is widely recognized as one of its premier sections," said Stevenson head coach Franco Pacheco.

"Each year, the meet features dozens of future NCAA Division I athletes, national finalists, and Olympic hopefuls. To reach the finals at CCS often requires times that would win state championships in most other states, making Stevenson's presence in the top 12 relay teams a significant achievement," he said.

The Pirates' 28th-place finish in the team standings was the highest in school history, excluding their 11th-place finish during the truncated Covid season.

Stevenson girls capped their winningest season in more than a decade with a school-record time — 3:46.85, which bested a 2023 mark of 3:48.08 — by the 400 freestyle relay team of Jacqui Powers, Emily Lee, Sienna Cimoli, and Emmerson

Ferreira for a 19th-place finish in the race.

Lee, Franki Derby Brown, Cimoli and Ferreira placed 26th overall in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:44.57, 0.2 seconds off the school record of 1:44.30 set at last year's PCAL Championships.

Carmel boys achieved season-best times at the finals in several events. Jack Balas, Holden Larsen, Ryan Lin, Landon Onitsuka turned in a time of 3:21.5 in the 400 freestyle relay, good for 19th place, and the same four swimmers finished the 200 freestyle relay in 1:31.59, good for 25th place. In the 50 freestyle, Balas swam a 21.62, finishing in 22nd place, and the 100 butterfly, Onitsuka was timed at 53.86, good for 30th place.

Carmel girls competed in the preliminaries in the 200 freestyle relay with a team of Layla Viel, Anabeth Holz, Macie Hill, and Riley Nothhelfer. They didn't qualify for the finals, but their future is glowing: Holz is a sophomore, and all three of her teammates are freshmen.

### Boys team tennis

PCAL champion Stevenson lost 4-3 to Los Gatos, and league runner-up Carmel fell 5-2 to Cupertino, in the opening round of the CCS Team Tennis Championships on May 7.

All three Stevenson victories came in singles play from No. 2 Lyke Yoon, No. 3 Ben Smith, and No. 4 Daniyal Alvi.

Carmel's victories were posted by Riley Kirsch at No. 1 singles, and the No. 2 doubles tandem of Grayson Walton and Georges Guerree.

The singles tournament will be played May 20 and May 22 at Imperial Courts Tennis Club in Aptos. Stevenson's Smith will play No. 3 seed Shiven Mehta of Saint Francis in the opening round, while Yoon will face Sequoia's Ethan Khan, an

See **MORE SPORTS** page 38A



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Short-handed Carmel won a 5-set CCS volleyball thriller over Palma on Monday. Pictured from left are Zack Speakman, Nicholas Tonini and Nico Vitiello.



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# This Week

Live Music,  
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## Rock and blues at Forest Theater, ‘Wicked Game’ at Golden State

A HARD-WORKING blues-rocker with California roots, **Shane Dwight** takes the stage Saturday, 5 p.m., at Forest Theater. Opening the show will be local singer and guitarist **Al James**.

Dwight has released nine albums since he burst on to the scene in 2002. He’s also played more than 2,000 shows, sharing the stage with Etta James, B.B. King, Los Lobos and many others. “Shane brings both heart and grit to the stage,” Vagnini said.

A Seaside native, James “blends originality, soul and groove” and his “dynamic presence and heartfelt performances make every set something special,” he added.

Attendees are allowed to bring food and drink — including alcohol — into the venue. Tickets are \$30. Forest Theater is located at Santa Rita and Mountain View. For tickets, call (831) 622-0100 or visit [pacrep.org](http://pacrep.org).

Tchaikovsky’s *Melodie*, Ogren’s *Intertidal*, and early 20th century Italian composer Ottorino Respighi’s *The Fountains of Rome* and *The Pines of Rome*. The symphony’s president and CEO, **Nicola Reilly**, will be featured as a violin soloist when the orchestra plays the piece by Tchaikovsky.

Symphony concertmaster **Christina Mok** and cellist **Saul Richmond-Rackerd** will play in the lobby before each concert.

Tickets for general admission start at \$45, while tickets for students, teachers and active military are \$12. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 646-8511 or visit [monterey-symphony.org](http://monterey-symphony.org).



Pianist Joyce Yang joins Monterey Symphony when it performs Saturday and Sunday at Sunset Center.

### ■ Isaak visits Monterey

Celebrated for his deep and haunting voice — along with his 1991 megahit, “Wicked Game” — singer **Chris Isaak** returns Tuesday, 7 p.m., to the Golden State Theatre in Monterey. The singer, who lives in San Francisco, frequently performs here.

Isaak has recorded 13 studio albums, along with six live discs, since his first LP, “Silvertone,” came out in 1985. He was nominated for Grammy Awards in 1996 for Best Male Rock Vocal (“Somebody’s Crying”) and Best Rock Album (“Forever Blue”).

Singer and guitarist **Nicole Atkins**, a New Jersey native with a soulful voice, opens the show.

Tickets start at \$91. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit [goldenstatetheatre.com](http://goldenstatetheatre.com).

See MUSIC page 39A

## On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

The concert promises an “unforgettable evening of blues, soul and rock under the pine trees,” according to promoter **Steve Vagnini**.



Singer and guitarist Shane Dwight rocks the landmark Forest Theater Saturday at 5 p.m.

### ■ Symphony’s finale

Monterey Symphony wraps up its 79th season Saturday, 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 2 p.m., at Sunset Center with Rachmaninoff’s enduring *Piano Concerto No. 2*.

“We close our season with one of the most beloved and powerful pieces of classical music, featuring the Monterey Symphony debut of star pianist **Joyce Yang**,” music director and conductor **Jayce Ogren** said.

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FOOD & WINE

# Brunch at a winery, colorful cocktails and the end of an historic festival

AH YES, that nip in the air, firepits aflame in restaurant courtyards and eateries offering blankets to keep outdoor diners cozy — it must be summer in Carmel.

No matter how chilly it is on the coast, though, it’s reliably warm inland, and Twisted Roots Winery is inviting locals and visitors to experience its Sunday brunch series and Summer Fridays at 12 Del Fino Place in sunny Carmel Valley.

The brunches are inspired by the vineyards of France and will go from 10 a.m. to noon on June 1 and July 13, with a “chef-curated, French-inspired menu,” according to a spokesperson for the winery. And of course, the meals will be paired with Twisted Roots wines.

“Guests can expect refined flavors, a relaxed setting, and thoughtful wine pairings set against the beauty of Carmel Valley,” said the winery.

## Bruch with a twist

Some menu highlights include pain au chocolat — the classic chocolate-filled croissant — along with mascarpone-stuffed French toast casserole with cinnamon maple syrup and strawberries, quiche Lorraine with bacon, gruyère cheese and leeks, a goat-cheese and fresh tomato sandwich, potatoes Lyonnaise with caramelized onions, and a salad tossed with mustard-tarragon vinaigrette.

Brunch and a glass of wine is \$100 per person or \$85 for wine club members, and brunch with a bottle of sparkling wine is \$120 per person and \$100 for wine club members.

Reservations are required and can be made at the winery’s website, [twistedrootsvineyard.com/events](http://twistedrootsvineyard.com/events).

## Soup to Nuts

Beginning June 6, Twisted Roots launches its Summer Fridays series, which the winery is calling “an after-work celebration featuring wine by the glass or bottle, rotating food vendors, and live entertainment.” Cruise in between 3 and 6 p.m. to relax on the patio, have a snack and sip some wine.

The June 6 event will feature What’s Popp’n Popcorn, a local family-owned company that’s been selling its pop-



Mezzaluna Pasteria and Mozzarella Bar at the top of Forest Avenue in Pacific Grove has introduced fresh spring appetizers and entrées to celebrate the abundance of fresh, local food. Diners can enjoy wine by the glass with ravioli (left) or house-made cheese served with roasted beets and blood oranges (above).

ular gourmet twist on movie snacks for several years at local farmers markets and events, including last year’s Taste of Carmel.

Subsequent events are scheduled for July 11, Aug. 1 and Sept. 5. There’s no charge to attend, and no reservations are necessary. Food will be available for purchase from various vendors throughout the season.

## ■ Taste the rainbow

Inspired by the vibrant colors of spring — and tapping into the flavors to match — Cella Restaurant bartender Josh Perry has launched his latest lineup of seasonal cocktails.

“The names come from paint shades and nail polish colors,” Perry, who is arguably among the best bartenders on the Monterey Peninsula, explained.

The spring drinks menu covers the colors of the rainbow:

Red, “Gypsy Heartthrob,” calls for apple brandy, strawberry, grapefruit and lemon, while orange, “Exuber-

ant Tango,” contains corn whiskey, carrot, fennel, lemon and egg white.

Yellow, represented by a drink called “Ugh... As If!!!” is made with turmeric, pineapple, coriander, agave and calamansi, a hybrid between a kumquat and a mandarin orange also known as Philippine lime.

His green drink, Money in the Banksy, contains “Cryo-Midori,” aquavit, orange, pineapple and pistachio, and the blue one, “Cerulean Sweater,” calls for gin, sherry, curacao, spirulina and cherry blossom tonic.

Finally, the purple cocktail, a low-ABV offering, is called “Anime-zing Samurai,” a concoction containing coconut water infused with lemongrass, lime cordial, non-alcoholic vermouth and ube foam, which gives the drink its purple cap. (Ube is a purple yam.)

To explore these latest offerings, or anything else at Cella, visit the restaurant at 525 Polk St. in Monterey. For more information and reservations, visit [cellarestaurant.com](http://cellarestaurant.com) or call (831) 920-1046.

See **FOOD** next page



Executive Chef Goran Basarov presents carefully prepared, seasonally inspired, bespoke menu selections offered on Wednesdays.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 21 | \$59\*\* PER PERSON**

**THREE - COURSE PRIX FIXE MENU**

**Reservations Recommended**

APPETIZER	ENTRÉE	DESSERT
Burrata & Strawberries brokaw avocado, brioche	Flannery Dry Aged Flatiron enoki mushroom, sugar snaps	Lemon Tart meringue, basil, mint sorbet
Ahi Tuna shiso tempura, roe, creme fraiche	Grilled Trout celeriac, edamame, peas	Madeleines strawberries, ricotta, balsamic
Beef & Pork Belly Skewers romesco, pumpkin seeds, fennel	Tortelloni ricotta, spring onions, artichoke	

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FOOD & WINE

FOOD

From previous page

■ Shearwater happenings

Can't wait for Friday to chill out? Shearwater Tavern in the Carmel Mission Inn at 3665 Rio Road has Wine Wednesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. weekly, featuring complimentary tastings of regional and local wines. Curated by Lady Somm, the wine education and tasting spot in the Barnyard, past wines have included some from Rustique and Silvestri, and the offerings for May 21 include George Duboeuf-Domaine les Chenevières Mâcon Blanc Villages White Burgundy and Chateau Moncassin Bordeaux blend from Buzet Bordeaux, France.

Carmel Mission Inn is at 3665 Rio Road. Call (831) 624-1841 for more info, or visit [shearwatertavern.com](http://shearwatertavern.com), where you can learn about other fun events, including outdoor "Dive In" movie nights at the pool and "Dog Bar" evenings with hot dogs and canine bonding. The restaurant is also offering a free happy hour nosh-with-purchase deal Tuesdays through Saturdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

■ All choked up

Say it isn't true! The board of directors of the Artichoke Festival announced the official closure of the annual event, which has roots in Castroville — the "Artichoke Capital of the World" — and Salinas, the nation's salad bowl, with a decades-long history that includes Marilyn Monroe becoming the first "Artichoke Queen."

"After 65 unforgettable years celebrating the region's agricultural heritage, artichoke royalty, and community spirit, the Artichoke Festival will not return in 2025," the board wrote in an announcement.

It cited a "growing financial strain caused by increasing event production costs, insurance premiums, permitting requirements, and operational challenges that have made it no longer feasible to continue."

Since 1959, the festival has moved a few times — including from Castroville to the Monterey Fairgrounds — while bringing together chefs who demonstrated prepping and cooking the thistle, artists who depicted the prickly globe in a variety of mediums, farmers who sold their produce to fairgoers, and all the volunteers and

staff who helped educate people about one of the quirkiest vegetables consumed by humans.

"Ending the festival is one of the most difficult decisions we've ever had to make," the board commented, thanking sponsors, volunteers, vendors, growers, and guests whose "support sustained us for more than six decades."

Linda Scherer, the event's executive director, added: "This festival has been a labor of love for so many of us. Watching it grow from a hometown celebration to a regional highlight has been one of the greatest honors of my life. Thank you for



Bartender Josh Perry at Cella Restaurant in Monterey has created rainbow-colored cocktails, including the blue "Cerulean Sweater," bright red "Gypsy Heartthrob" and "Anime-zing Samurai," a purple concoction featuring yam foam.

letting us be part of your family traditions." For more information and final updates, visit [artichokefestival.org](http://artichokefestival.org).

■ The other Spaghetti Hill

Sure, Monterey's Sicilian fisherman lay claim to the Spaghetti Hill neighborhood, which reaches roughly from Pacific Street to Veterans Park and the Presidio, but P.G. has its own bit of Italy at the top of Forest Avenue.

The unassuming-looking Mezzaluna Pasteria and Mozzarella Bar at 1188 Forest Ave. has a menu that's in full bloom for spring, with what it calls "seasonal additions that celebrate the best of the Central Coast's harvest."

Since its opening, the restaurant, founded by chef Soerke Peters and Amy

See **WINE** next page



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Nightly Sips & Sunsets at The Patio at Lucia

Join us for a twist on the traditional cocktail hour.

Live music featured Tuesday and Wednesday from 6pm to 9pm.

Sunday Brunch | 11am-2:30pm

Chef Christian's brunch menu features classic eggs benedict, huevos rancheros, brick oven pizzas & beyond. Enjoy live music and 15% off all bottles of champagne make the weekend worthy of a toast!

Brunch menu is available on Saturday, too.

Mahjong Monday | 3pm-8pm

Join us Monday afternoons for community, connection, and celebration around the Mahjong tables on the Lucia patio.

Burgers & Bubbles Tuesday | 5pm-9pm

Enjoy a Bernardus Burger and a glass of Champagne on the patio.

Wine Country Wednesday | All Day

Explore the amazing wine from our cellar with 15% off all 750ml bottles and an opportunity to uncover something new.

As an extra, between 5pm - 7pm Chef Christian & team offer oyster shucking on the patio, beginning \$20 for a half-dozen.



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FOOD & WINE

WINE

From previous page

Stouffer, has focused on sustainability and fresh, local ingredients without sacrificing flavor or service.

There’s a mozzarella bar where the cheese is made fresh, along with its richer cousin, soft burrata, and shares plates with co-stars like asparagus, salt-baked beets with blood orange, and eggplant for appe-

tizers. At the other end of the menu, the dessert selection always includes assorted house-made gelatos. The pasta is made fresh and can be purchased to take back to your home kitchen, along with sauces, crostini, pate and the gelato.

It’s worth mentioning that there are several wines available by the glass, with options for 6- or 10-ounce pours.

The seasonal additions include insalata di primavera with butter lettuce, Belgian endive, speck, English peas, fava beans, parmesan, and pine nuts. Burrata con

piselli pairs the luxe cheese with English pea pesto and pea tendrils on country toast. The restaurant gives the classic prosciutto-and-asparagus appetizer a boost by grilling the green spears and adding wild arugula, fresh mozzarella and toasted pine nuts to the plate.

Saffron, truffles

For entrées, there’s the Dungeness-crab-based cappellacci di granchio with ricotta, lemon-butter sauce, favas, parmesan and crispy sweet potatoes, and the

pasta course features whole wheat linguine with mushroom-tomato sauce and black truffle oil. There’s also a “Blue Zones-approved” (meaning it falls within certain dietary guidelines for healthy eating) saffron ravioli with asparagus, English peas and ricotta.

Mezzaluna is open Wednesday through Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m. To reserve a table (the place gets pretty busy), visit [mezzalunapasteria.com/reservations](http://mezzalunapasteria.com/reservations).

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



Twisted Roots Winery in Carmel Valley Village is offering two Sunday brunches and several community observances of the sacred Friday end-of-the-workweek mix-and-mingle, with wine, snacks and good company.

MORE SPORTS

From page 34A

unseeded player.

Carmel has no players in the CCS singles bracket.

The CCS doubles tourney is May 21 and 22 — also at Imperial Courts, where Carmel’s Walton and Guerree have an opening-round showdown with Brahnham’s Ian Kwon and Brian Liu.

Stevenson will be represented there by Alvi and Cameron Page, whose first-round opponents will be Harker’s Rithvik Navad and Vyon Vidyarthi.

track events, at Gilroy High.

Finals are scheduled May 24 at 3 p.m., field, and 4:40, track.

Baseball and softball

All divisions for both sports are scheduled May 24 (quarterfinals at the home field of the higher seed), May 27-29 (semifinals at neutral sites), and May 31 (finals at San Jose City College and West Valley College). Game times and brackets will be announced after the seeding meeting on May 19.

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



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Lacrosse

Stevenson’s boys, seeded seventh in the eight-team bracket, were eliminated Monday in the quarterfinal round of the CCS Division 1 tournament after a 13-4 loss at Sacred Heart Prep, the No. 2 seed. Both teams came into the game with 14-7 overall records.

The Pirates were regular-season champions of the PCAL’s Gabilan Division with a 9-0 record.

Track and field

The CCS track and field semifinals are Saturday, beginning at 9:30, field events, and 10 a.m.,

Carmel’s Julien Cho qualified as an individual for the May 27 NorCal Regional with a 2-under-par 69 on Tuesday, good for a fourth-place tie at CCS with Stevenson’s Luke Brandler and Zac Hawkins.

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Sunday, April 25th, 3:00PM

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# MUSIC

From page 35A

## Live Music May 16-22

### ■ Big Sur

**Big Sur River Inn** — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (folk, Saturday at 12:30 p.m.), flutist **Kenny Stahl** (jazz, Sunday at 1 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Victor Veysey** and bassist **Kemen Waddell** (Thursday at 6 p.m., funk, jazz and country). 46800 Highway 1.

### ■ Carmel

**Barmel** — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Ryan Sesma** (Thursday at 7 p.m.). In Carmel Square on San Carlos north of Seventh.

**Cypress Inn** — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and 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.), singer and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Thursday at 5 p.m.). Camino Real and Eighth.

**The Links Club** — **The Katherine Lavin Band** (pop and rock, Friday at 7:30 p.m.), **Octane** (rock, Saturday at 7:30 p.m.), Songwriters Showcase (Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., sign-ups start at 6:30 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

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

### ■ Carmel Valley

**Bernardus Lodge** — pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (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.

**Blue Fox Cellars** — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday at 6 p.m.). 25 Pilot Road.

**Edgar’s Restaurant** — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Alison Sharino** (pop and folk, Friday at 5 p.m.). 8205 Valley Greens Drive.

**Folktale Winery** — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Saturday at 2 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Peter Martin Barnes** (jazz, Sunday at 11 a.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Rd.

**Trailside Cafe** — saxophonist **Roger Eddy** (jazz, 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.

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

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

Alvarado St.  
**Hyatt Regency Monterey** — **Andrea’s Fault** (jazz and pop, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kip Allert** (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 **Janice Perl**, keyboardist **TJ Kuenster** and bassist **Joe Dolister** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), saxophonist **Paul Contos** and keyboardist **Evan Wiederanders** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.

**The Monterey Peninsula College Theatre** — **The Monterey Peninsula College Orchestra** plays music by Mozart, Schubert and Prokofiev (classical, Monday at 7:30 p.m.). Available at the door, tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for students. 780 Fremont 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**



Best known for his 1991 hit single, “Wicked Game,” singer Chris Isaak plays Tuesday at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

**Mann** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Monday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Paul Behan** (Tuesday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Tom Gastineau** (jazz, Wednesday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

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

**Puma Road** tasting room — singer and guitarist **Kris Angelis** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kristin Gradwohl** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Peter Martin Barnes** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.). 281 Alvarado St.

**Recycled Records** — **Turista, Morticai** (“alt-rock with a touch of psychedelic and shoegaze,” Saturday at 6 p.m.). 604 Lighthouse Ave.

**Salty Seal Pub** — **The Rogue Roosters** (rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), **Rachel Sprung and the Soul Service** (r&b, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **The Chuck Brewer Band** (rock and blues, Sunday at 4 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

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

**Sly McFly’s** — **Everyday People** (“classic Latin rock

See **LIVE** page 41A



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CALENDAR

**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-by-the-Sea. Open to the public. Guests \$10/members free.

**May 19 – The Monterey Peninsula College Orchestra, directed by David Dally**, presents a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Monterey Peninsula College Theatre. 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 20 – Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) demonstration** will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Pebble Beach Community Services District at 3101 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953. Light refreshments will be served. Guest fee \$5. Gate fee will be waived by mentioning “Ikebana Meeting at PBCSD” at the gate.

**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](http://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](http://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](http://Eventbrite.com) or call (831) 659-4288

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250674

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CAFFÉ BY ROSINE'S, 2160 California Avenue, Suite A, Sand City, CA 93955.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: DOWNTOWN DESSERT COMPANY, INC., 434 Alvarado Street, Monterey, CA 93940.

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

This business is conducted by a corporation.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 17, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*

S/James V. Culcasi, President

Date: March 21, 2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 7, 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 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 508)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20250763

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

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

**1. JHW**

**2. JACOBOWSKY HAWKINS WALKER ARCHITECTS**

**299 Cannery Row, Suite H, Monterey, CA 93940.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: JHW ARCHITECTS, INC., 299 Cannery Row, Suite H, Monterey, CA 93940.

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

This business is conducted by a corporation.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on May 1, 2015.

**BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.** A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*

S/Douglas G. Roberts, President

Date: April 18, 2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 21, 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 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 509)

CASE NUMBER 25CV000394 SUMMONS (CIVIL HARASSMENT RESTRAINING ORDER)

**1. Person asking for protection:** SILVESTRE MONTEJANO-VILLA.

**2. Notice to:** JOSE ALVARADO TAPIA.

The person in "1" is asking for a Civil Harassment Restraining Order against you.

**3. You have a court date**

Date: June 3, 2025

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Dept. 16A

Room:

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

**What if I don't go to my court date?**

If you do not go to your court date, the judge can grant a restraining order that limits your contact with the person in "1". Having a restraining order against you may impact your life in other ways, including preventing you from having guns and ammunition. If you do not go to your court date, the judge could grant everything that the person in "1" asked the judge to order.

This statement was filed by Superior Court of California, County of Monterey on April 23, 2025.

Publication Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 513)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250800

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **COASTAL ROUTE HOME WATCH, 649 Jewell Ave, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.**

Registered Owner(s): MARILYN JEAN SCHULTZ, 649 Jewell Ave, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

This business is conducted by an individ-

ual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 17, 2015

**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/Marilyn J. Schultz

Date signed: April 29, 2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 29, 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 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025 (PC 514)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250731

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **REDWOOD GOODS CO., 679 Redwood Ave, Suite F, Sand City, CA 93955.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: BELLECI MEDIA PRODUCTIONS LLC, 679 Redwood Ave., Suite F, Sand City, CA 93955.

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

This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 8, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*

S/Salvatore Belleci, Member

Date: April 16, 2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 16, 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 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025. (PC 515)

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 93906.**

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 corporation.

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

S/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 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 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

This business is conducted by a

T.S. No. 130833-CA APN: 418-251-028-000

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE** IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 5/12/2023. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 6/3/2025 at 10:00 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 5/15/2023 as Instrument No. 2023014604 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Monterey County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: DUSTIN EUGENE EARL FADDIS AND STEPHANIE DUEKOPFF FADDIS, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS COMMUNITY PROPERTY WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; MAIN ENTRANCE, MONTEREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 168 W. AISAL STREET, SALINAS, CA 93901 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 21032 CACHAGUA RD, CARMEL VALLEY, CA 93924 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$893,420.83 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website [www.clearreconcorp.com](http://www.clearreconcorp.com), using the file number assigned to this case 130833-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website [www.clearreconcorp.com](http://www.clearreconcorp.com), using the file number assigned to this case 130833-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-3319 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108

Publication dates: May 9, 16, 23, 2025 (PC505)

Loan No.: EWL6927 - Bassett TS no. 2025-11319 APN: 012-423-020-000

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST**

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 6/14/2023, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on 6/3/2025, at 10:00 AM of said day, At the main entrance to the County Administration Building at 168 Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901, Ashwood TD Services LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Pete Bassett, an unmarried man recorded on 6/21/2023 in Book n/a of Official Records of MONTEREY County, at page n/a, Recorder's Instrument No. 2023018916, by reason of a breach or default in payment or performance of the obligations secured thereby, including that breach or default, Notice of which was recorded 1/3/2025 as Recorder's Instrument No. 2025000254, in Book n/a, at page n/a, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, lawful money of the United States, evidenced by a Cashier's Check drawn on a state or national bank, or the equivalent thereof drawn on any other financial institution specified in section 5102 of the California Financial Code, authorized to do business in the State of California, ALL PAYABLE AT THE TIME OF SALE, all right, title and interest held by it as Trustee, in that real property situated in said County and State, described as follows: Lot 20, per Map entitled Tract No. 835, Del Rey Chateaux filed August 28, 1978, Volume 13 of "Cities and Towns", Page 86. The street address or other common designation of the real property hereinabove described is purported to be: 1037 Highland Street, Unit A, Seaside, CA 93955-6120. The undersigned disclaims all liability for any incorrectness in said street address or other common designation. Said sale will be made without warranty, express or implied regarding title, possession, or other encumbrances, to satisfy the unpaid obligations secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest and other sums as provided therein; plus advances, if any, thereunder and interest thereon; and plus fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of said obligations at the time of initial publication of this Notice is \$388,472.95. In the event that the deed of trust described in this Notice of Trustee's Sale is secured by real property containing from one to four single-family residences, the following notices are provided pursuant to the provisions of Civil Code section 2924f: NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee's sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 or visit this internet website [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com), using the file number assigned to this case 2025-11319. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not be immediately reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com), using the file number assigned to this case 2025-11319 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit or declaration described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Dated: May 5, 2025 Ashwood TD Services LLC, a California Limited Liability Company Christopher Loria, Trustee's Sale Officer 231 E. Alessandro Blvd., Ste. 6A-693, Riverside, CA 92508 Tel.: (951) 215-0069 Fax: (805) 323-9054 Trustee's Sale Information: (916) 939-0772 or [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com) NPP0474162 To: CARMEL PINE CONE 05/09/2025, 05/16/2025, 05/23/2025

Publication dates: May 9, 16, 23, 2025 (PC533)

T.S. No.: 2025-04957 APN: 009-351-001-000/012-682-035-000 TRA No.: 001000 and 010003

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 9/24/2024. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: WILL RAY, JR., AS TRUSTEE OF THE WILL RAY JR. LIVING TRUST DATED JULY 11, 2017 AS TO PARCEL 1 AND WILL RAY, JR., AS TRUSTEE OF THE WILL RAY JR. LIVING TRUST DATED JULY 11, 2017 AS TO PARCEL 2 Beneficiary Name: ELIE HUANG, SHARING \$770,000.00 AS TO 32.08% INTEREST, LIPSON HUANG, SHARING \$400,000.00 AS TO 16.67% INTEREST, DINY CHEN, SHARING \$500,000.00 AS TO 20.83% INTEREST, FENPING WANG, SHARING \$510,000.00 AS TO 21.25% INTEREST, JULIANNE CHEN, SHARING \$220,000.00 AS TO 9.17% INTEREST Duly Appointed Trustee: INTEGRATED LENDER SERVICES INC., A DELAWARE CORPORATION and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 9/30/2024 as Instrument No. 2024034781 in book ---, page --- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Monterey County, California, Date of Sale: 6/10/2025 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: Outside the Main entrance of the Monterey County Administration building located at 168 West Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$2,582,378.82 The property heretofore is being sold "as is." The street address or other common designation of real property is purported to be: 12 VALENCIA CT., SEASIDE, CA 93955, 25905 JUNIPERO AVE, CARMEL, CA 93923 Legal Description: As more fully described on said Deed of Trust. A.P.N.: 009-351-001-000/012-682-035-000 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 1-844-477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site <http://www.stoxposting.com/sales-calendar>, using the file number assigned to this case 2025-04957. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer" you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 1-844-477-7869 or visit this internet website <http://www.stoxposting.com/sales-calendar>, using the file number assigned to this case 2025-04957 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. "NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: WE REQUIRE CERTIFIED FUNDS AT SALE BY CASHIER'S CHECK(S) PAYABLE DIRECTLY TO "INTEGRATED LENDER SERVICES, INC." TO AVOID DELAYS IN ISSUING THE FINAL DEED". THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Date: 5/7/2025 INTEGRATED LENDER SERVICES INC., A DELAWARE CORPORATION, as Trustee 1551 N. Tusin Avenue, Suite 840 Santa Ana, California 92705 (800) 232-8787 For Sale Information please call: 1-844-477-7869 MICHAEL REAGAN, TRUSTEE SALES OFFICER

Publication dates: May 16, 23, 30, 2025 (PC538)

**LEGALS DEADLINE: TUESDAY 3:00 PM**

**Call Irma (831) 274-8645**

**legals@carmelpinecone.com**



# Carmel Art Fest returns with three days of creativity, food and fun

SAN JUAN Capistrano may have swallows, but Carmel has the yearly return of painters for its plein air contest. The event kicks off the 32nd annual Carmel Art Festival, which is set for May 16-18.

## Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

Outdoor artists began arriving Wednesday, when they could be seen in turnouts from Lovers Point to Garrapata Beach, holding their easels steady against the sea breeze. The judging of entries starts Friday, 4 p.m., in Deven-dorf Park, along with a sale of the paintings. Awards will be handed out at 5:30 p.m., and you'll get a chance to meet the artists.

## LIVE

From page 39A

with an old-school Funk twist," Friday at 9 p.m.), **The Speakeasy Band** (pop and rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

### ■ Pacific Grove

**Il Vecchio Restaurant — The Cena Jazz Trio** (Thurs-day at 6 p.m.). 110 Central Ave.  
**Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant** — singer and guitarist **Rags Rosenberg** (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Smith** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea's Fault Duo** ("folky stuff mixed with surprises," Monday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Holysea** (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 For-est Ave.  
**PG's Meetinghouse** — singer and guitarist **Dan Cioper** (Friday at 6:30 p.m.), **The Arman Sangalang Trio** (jazz, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), **The Chuck Brewer Trio** (rock and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), **Open Mic** (Tuesday at 6 p.m., sign up by 5 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave.

### ■ Seaside

**Deja Blue** — **The Joint Chiefs** (r&b and blues, Satur-day at 5 p.m.), **Wrockinfoose** (r&b, soul and pop, Sunday at 4 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

To update these listings, email [chris@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:chris@carmelpinecone.com).



Singer and guitarist Peter Barnes Martin plays jazz Sunday morning in Carmel Valley and Sunday afternoon in Monterey.

From 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, the park will be the setting for a VIP Gala Party with food and wine from local makers and live music — tickets are \$75, or free, if you buy a painting. The park will also host a wide array of activ-ities throughout the weekend, including a Quick Draw contest Saturday, along with another auc-tion and awards ceremony, live music and fam-ily-friendly activities for all ages. And just as he has done many times before, noted local artist Steven Whyte will create a sculpture in the park of somebody famous — and you can watch the piece take shape through-out the weekend. The event is free. For more details, visit [carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com](http://carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com).

### ■ Museum launches ‘Biennial’

An ambitious exhibit showcasing 122 con-temporary artists who live in Central California, the Monterey Museum of Art's first-ever "Monterey Bien-nial" opens Saturday with a day-long reception. More than 800 pieces are in the show — all produced by working artists who are residents of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo counties. The museum calls the display "a groundbreaking exhibition celebrating Central California's diverse and dynamic talent." Guitarist Glenn Bell will play jazz from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., while Kelsey McFalls and Maxwell Simoes of Bal-lare Carmel present a dance performance at 3 p.m. The museum is located at 559 Pacific St. Visit [montere-yart.org](http://montere-yart.org).

### ■ Turning trash into art

And now for something a little out of the ordinary — artists-in-residence for Monterey Regional Waste Man-agement District, Ashley Brunetti and Melanie Gatica have literally taken trash and turned it into art. The artists, students at Cal State Monterey Bay, are displaying their creations at the Last Chance Mercantile in Marina through May 24. "Our program offers emerging student-artists a profes-sional platform while inspiring the public about the impor-tance of repurposing, recycling and reusing discarded materials," general manager Felipe Melchor said. "We



Painters from near and far are in town this weekend for the Carmel Art Festival and its popular plein air contest. The winners will be named Friday.

can't wait for the community to see their colorful, creative and eclectic exhibit." Last Chance Mercantile is located at 14201 Del Monte Blvd. in Marina.

### ■ ‘Master of composition, color’

The Gallery at Del Mesa in Carmel Valley hosts a reception Saturday at 4 p.m. for painter Tehila Eisenstat, who unveils a display of three dozen paintings. The gallery describes Eisenstat, who lives at Del Mesa, as "a master of composition and color." She has also taught art extensively. "Her landscapes, still lifes and fig-ures capture the light, colors and mood of her subjects," an invitation to the reception reads. The show continues through the end of June. The gal-leries is located at 500 Del Mesa Drive.

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Continues on next page

**Police Log: June 21, 24**

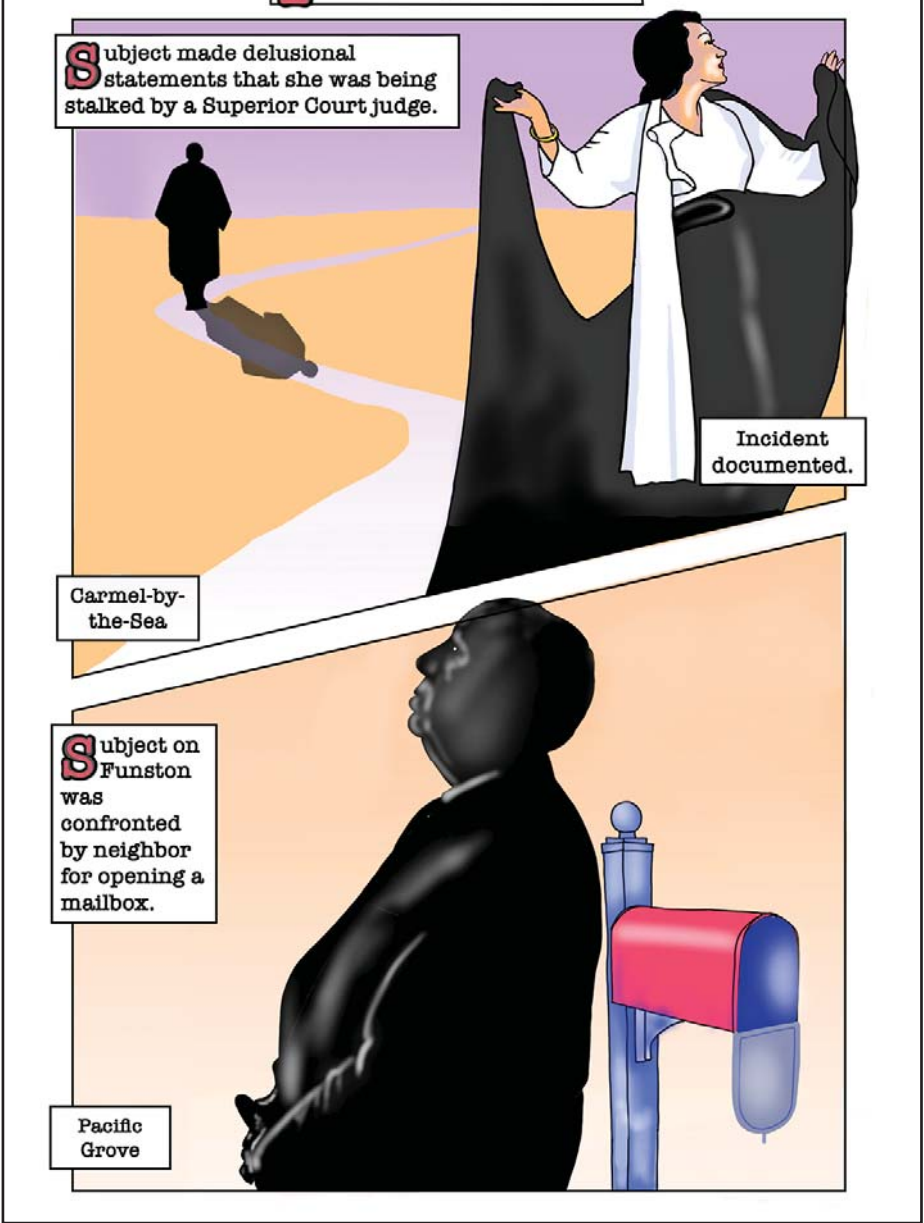
**S**ubject made delusional statements that she was being stalked by a Superior Court judge.

**Incident documented.**

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**S**ubject on Funston was confronted by neighbor for opening a mailbox.

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Continues from previous page

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