

The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 112 No. 24

<https://carmelpinecone.com>

June 12-18, 2026

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TOXIN COULD HAVE CAUSED DEATH OF P.G. WHALE

By KELLY NIX

RESEARCHERS HAVE taken numerous samples from a dead humpback whale that washed ashore next to Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove on June 3. While

they found no evidence of a boat strike, malnutrition or starvation, they are investigating a naturally occurring neurotoxin as a possible cause of death.

By Tuesday morning, the putrid, barnacle-adorned carcass of the juvenile humpback had drifted to the end of the Hopkins Marine Station beach near the recreation trail, leaving dozens of seagulls to feast on it. Despite the stench, curious locals and tourists continued to gather at the site to see the remains.

No entanglements

Robin Dunkin of the University of California Santa Cruz, and the Long Marine Lab Marine Mammal Stranding Network told The Pine Cone on Monday that researchers had measured the carcass and collected a variety of samples, including fecal, skin and blubber.

“We also examined the animal for signs of human interaction like current or previous entanglements but did not find any,” Dunkin said.

While the whale was in good nutritional condition and was not struck by a vessel, Dunkin said researchers are looking into the possibility of domoic acid toxicity as a cause of death. Domoic acid is a neurotoxin produced

See WHALE page 13A

Council OKs \$41.5M budget but excludes tourism spending

■ Too many visitors already?

By MARY SCHLEY

THE CARMEL City Council last week adopted a \$41,469,600 budget — \$292,947 less than proposed, as it does not include money for See Monterey, the countywide tourism agency that typically receives funding based on a percentage of transient occupancy taxes.

The last time the city opted not to pay the group, formerly known as the Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau, more than 20 years ago, the organization stopped promoting Carmel as a travel destination, going so far as to remove it from marketing materials — including its maps and photos of iconic places like the beach.

Council members said they intend to fund the agency at some level this year, though they are not sure by how much. At least one council member wants the total to dwindle to zero within a couple of years, citing overtourism as



Bob Delves



Alissandra Dramov

the reason.

“I do not enjoy continued support of See Monterey, but I think it’s a deeper conversation,” councilman Bob Delves said.

Bigger picture

The discussion came at the end of a presentation by finance manager Jayme Fields, who explained that the proposed budget, amended several times over the course of prior meetings, anticipates \$39,087,497 in revenues — mostly from hotel, property and sales taxes — and \$41,762,547 in expenditures. The gap will be covered by using \$2,675,050 in savings from prior years.

See TOURISM page 12A

California voters not so happy with new taxes

JUNE PRIMARY results show that California voters — even in very progressive enclaves — aren’t very enthusiastic about hiking taxes. Returns reveal several high-profile ballot measures to raise various levies in the Golden State are failing, indicating the electorate may be feeling maxed out.

In San Diego, voters shot down an “empty home tax,”

sentiments were echoed by a much larger voting bloc in Oakland, where residents vetoed a new parcel tax to fund public safety and reduce homelessness.

Across the bay in San Francisco — home of the leftest of the left — even liberal voters seem to be questioning the logic of more taxation. Despite union backing, the city failed to pass Measure D, known as the “overpaid CEO tax,” largely because voters feared it would harm San Francisco’s fragile recovery. For those reading the political tea leaves, these high-profile losses show serious anti-tax sentiment that could spell trouble for initiatives placed on ballots in November.

Bad omen for billionaires levy

San Franciscans’ refusal to raise taxes on the wealthy is probably the most worrisome sign for backers of the “Billionaire Tax.” Measure D would have imposed a tax on gross receipts of large corporations if their CEOs make 100 times the median pay of the company’s workers. Unions representing city staff championed the proposition as a way to bring as much as \$300 million to public coffers — about half the current budget shortfall the city is facing — along with increasing “social justice.”

Voters in the deep-blue city approved a similar tax in

See TAXES page 16A

Pebble Beach caddies pushing to unionize

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER DECADES as independent contractors, the caddies who work at Pebble Beach Resorts golf courses became hourly employees May 1 under the company that manages them.

While the change adds benefits like healthcare and retirement, and obligates management to pay Social Security and other government levies, it removes some freedoms. Now, the 300-plus men and women who accompany golfers at Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill and Spanish Bay are considering unionizing.

A ballot is planned for June 18, when they’ll decide whether to join Unite Here, a labor union with roughly 300,000 active members in the United States and Canada in the hotel, food service, laundry, warehouse and casino-gaming industries. Their monthly dues will be \$52 per member.

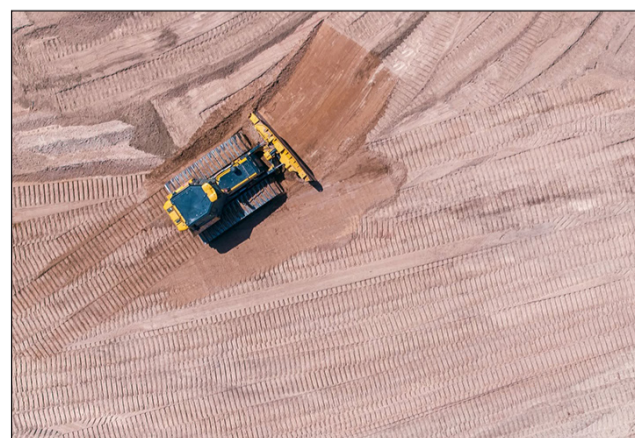
“There are 310 caddies who are able to vote in that election,” said Justin Kipina, who’s been on the job for two decades and said he reached out to Unite Here.

What’s changed

As independent contractors, caddies took home a portion of the bag fees charged to golfers and pocketed any tips. They were responsible for reporting their income, paying all their taxes and Social Security, and

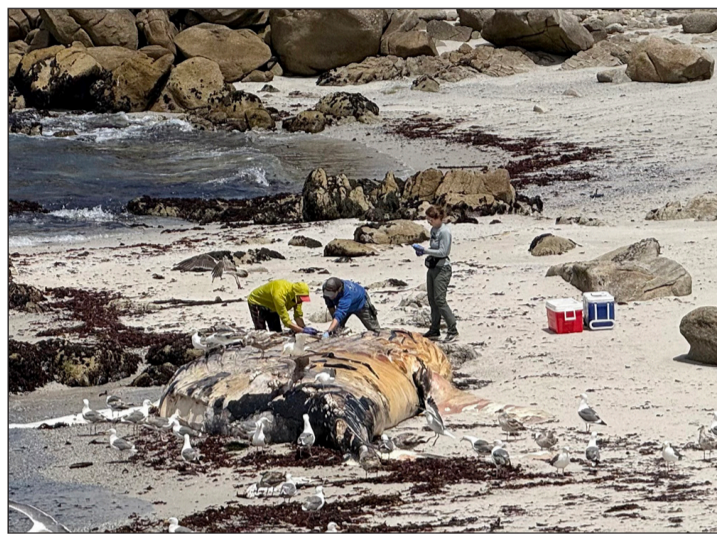
procuring their own health coverage. They also set their own schedules and would notify Caddiemaster, which Pebble Beach Co. pays to manage its caddie program, when repeat customers requested them, as often happens. They decided how many bags they would carry and how

See CADDIES page 24A



PHOTO/COURTESY PEBBLE BEACH CO.

As a bulldozer helps transform the Links at Spanish Bay, the men and women who work as caddies there and at other Pebble Beach Resorts courses are preparing to unionize.



PHOTO/PAUL MILLER

Researchers collect samples from the dead humpback whale that washed up at Hopkins Marine Station last week.

Capitol Access

By CAITLIN CONRAD

refusing to penalize people who own homes but don’t live in their city full time. Similarly, Angelenos declined to charge visitors more to stay in their city, torpedoing a 2 percentage-point increase in the transient occupancy tax ahead of the 2028 Olympics.

Even when tax campaigns argued that more revenue would help fund “essential services,” California voters in many counties and cities said, “No thanks.” Citizens in Gonzales and Soledad rejected parcel taxes that would have funded 911 and emergency response services. Their

A police goat? No, a spokesgoat.



PHOTO/PAUL FALWORTH

Sophie the Goat gets an audience with Carmel Police Sgt. Mike Bruno before her appearance at city hall on behalf of grazers everywhere. See page 9A.

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Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Courageous Cavapoo

She had always preferred bigger dogs, like her two German shorthair pointers, until she and her husband encountered the cutest little dog they'd ever seen. His owner said he was a "Cavapoo," a mix between a Cavalier King Charles spaniel and a miniature or toy poodle.

"When we went to meet the breeder in Texas, a 4-week-old pup poked his little head through the doggie door, figured out how to pop through, and ran right over to me," she said. "I'm convinced he chose me."

Yet it was her husband who named the little guy, deciding that since he would be growing up in a house-




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hold with two big dogs, he needed a substantial name. He settled on "Tank."

That was especially apt after the little guy survived an accident that could have been fatal.

It has been three years, his owner said. Funny how we mark our lives before and after significant events.

"I'll never forget the moment," she said. "Tank ran full speed after a tennis ball in our yard and went head-first into the brick steps. He dropped to the ground and started crying. His back legs didn't work. I picked him up and drove like a madwoman to the emergency vet."

The diagnosis was that little Tank had broken his back, which meant he needed to get to a neurosurgeon, stat, followed by months of rehabilitation.

Three years later, Tank still loses all sense of restraint when his owner takes him from their home near Sunset Center to Carmel Beach. She has retrieved him from the ocean time and again because he has no fear.

"Dogs teach us so much about strength, resilience and recovery," she said. "Ever since the accident, I call him my heartbeat at my feet."

The Carmel Pine Cone June 19, 2026

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Trump admin probes county schools over gender ideology

By KELLY NIX

THREE MONTEREY County school districts are being investigated by the U.S. Department of Justice over their instruction of sexual orientation and gender ideology in pre-kindergarten through high school, the federal agency announced this week.

The reviews, the DOJ said Monday, will examine whether Santa Rita Union School District, Graves Elementary School District in Salinas, and Soledad Unified School District notified parents of their right to opt their children out of such instruction.

“This Department of Justice will not tolerate local school authorities trampling on the rights of parents concerning the education of their children,” said Assistant Attorney General Harmeeet K. Dhillon of the Justice Department’s civil rights division. “The Supreme Court’s decisions in Mahmoud and Mirabelli have put school districts on notice: Policies that keep parents in the dark about sexuality and gender ideology in the classroom must end.”

One response

The investigation will analyze policies that permit access to single-sex intimate spaces — such as bathrooms and locker rooms — and participation in girls’ sports based on “gender identity” rather than biological sex, and whether the districts adhere to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex-based discrimination in any school or education program that receives federal funding.

The Pine Cone contacted the superintendents of the three districts for comment. Only Randy Bangs from Soledad Unified School District responded.

Bangs told the newspaper Tuesday that the South Monterey County school district “has consistently worked to comply

with California law and applicable federal requirements while providing students with a high-quality educational experience.”

Bangs said Soledad Unified follows California requirements regarding parent notification and opt-out provisions for comprehensive sex education.

“We believe we have been compliant in our programs and practices and welcome the opportunity to demonstrate that,” he said, adding that the district focused remains on serving students, supporting families, and providing a safe and positive learning environment for every child.

San Francisco Unified is the other California school district the DOJ said this week it is investigating.

State says

Under California law, sex education must include sexual orientation and gender ideology topics. While parental notice and opt-out provisions apply to “all or part of” sex education, San Francisco Unified, for example, had informed its teachers that “neither parental permission nor notification are required to teach or discuss sexual orientation and gender ideology topics,” the DOJ claimed.

The DOJ said it would also evaluate what actions, if any, the California school districts have taken in response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent decisions in *Mirabelli v. Bonta* and *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, which emphasized parental rights. Those included a ruling that a Maryland school district violated parents’ First Amendment rights by denying them the ability to opt their children out of reading LGBTQ-themed books in elementary classrooms.

The high court justices also blocked California policies that prevent schools from disclosing a student’s gender transition to their parents without the student’s consent.

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Police & Sheriff's Log

Drunk and a bit much to Lyft

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, MAY 25

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

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject was contacted sitting in the driver seat of his vehicle on Torres Street. The 26-year-old male was intoxicated and was unable to care for himself. Subject was arrested for public intoxication, violation of probation and DUI, and booked into Monterey County Jail on \$23,500 bail.

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violations resulting in four citations issued for feeding wildlife on Ocean View Boulevard.

Carmel area: Suspicious circumstances on Ribera Road.

Carmel area: Vandalism reported at the Crossroads shopping center.

Big Sur: Violation of a restraining order on Highway 1 by a 43-year-old female.

See **POLICE LOG** page 7RE in the Real Estate Section

SUNDAY, MAY 24

Carmel-by-the-Sea: No calls to report.

Pacific Grove: A 33-year-old female arrested after a physical domestic dispute on Crocker Avenue was booked into the Monterey County Jail on a charge of infliction of corporal injuries on a spouse or cohabitant.

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violations resulted in three citations issued for feeding wildlife on Ocean View Boulevard.

Carmel Valley: Sheriff's deputies documented a juvenile issue on East Carmel Valley Road.

Pacific Grove: Potential vandalism on a vehicle at Ridge Road and Lighthouse Avenue.



The gavel falls

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

May 22 — A Monterey County jury found Linwood Belle, 67 and a resident of Coalinga, to be a sexually violent predator as defined in California's sexually violent predator laws. Immediately following the jury's verdict, Judge Jennifer O'Keefe ordered that Belle be committed to the Department of State Hospitals for an indefinite period of time.

The Sexually Violent Predator Act, effective Jan. 1, 1996, and codified in Welfare and Institutions Code, permits civil commitment of a certain class of mentally disordered individuals. In describing the purpose of the law, the state Legislature recognized that certain sexually violent predators suffer from diagnosable mental disorders and stated that such individuals should be confined and treated until they no longer pose a threat to society.

On Dec. 11, 1987, Belle was convicted at a court trial of molesting Luisito D. and Daniel D. who were under 14 years old at the time of the crimes. Belle was also convicted of oral copulation on a victim under 18 against Joseph D. Belle was sentenced to 10 years and four months in prison for those offenses. He was released from prison in 1993. After his release from prison, he was arrested for molesting John Doe 1, who was under 14 years old, in connection with incidents that occurred in March or April 1997. Belle was released on his own recognizance in that case and days later attacked 15-year-old John Doe 2 in Laguna Grande Park and attempted to pull down Doe 2's pants. On Oct. 2, 1998, Belle was convicted, following a court trial, of

See **GAVEL** page 25A



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Additionally, she has previous training in Radiation Oncology from U. of Texas, Houston.

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Suspected DUI driver in 17 Mile Drive crash dies after weeks in hospital

By MARY SCHLEY

THE 38-YEAR-OLD Pacific Grove man who crashed his Corvette into a tour bus in Pebble Beach last month succumbed to his injuries weeks later, California Highway Patrol officer Ryan Moore said Monday.

The head-on collision occurred on 17 Mile Drive near Spanish Bay at around 3 p.m. Saturday, May 16, when Victor Smith was driving at a high rate of speed and lost control of his sports car, which crossed the double-yellow line and collided with the front of a Prevost tour bus being driven by a 61-year-old man from Hesperia, according to the CHP.

Cal Fire engines and ambulances responded along with the highway patrol and requested a medevac to pick up the badly injured driver at a landing zone on the 11th Hole

at Spanish Bay. After extricating Smith from the crushed Corvette, they canceled the rescue helicopter and instead sent him to the trauma center at Natividad Medical Center via ambulance.

At the scene, one of the CHP officers radioed to the dispatcher to send another officer to the hospital to question the driver, if possible.

At fault

“The transported party is going to be the at-fault party,” he said over the radio. He questioned whether Smith would regain consciousness but asked that someone go and “see if the party is alert enough to provide a statement” at the hospital.

The bus and the Corvette were towed.

“Weeks later, he succumbed to his injuries and was

pronounced dead at a local hospital by medical personnel,” Moore said June 8. “One passenger of the Prevost bus, a 59-year-old woman from outside the country, sustained suspected minor injuries and declined medical transportation.”

While Moore said the cause of the crash remains under investigation, he also noted that “alcohol is believed to be a factor,” and he asked anyone with information about the collision to contact the CHP Monterey Area office at (831) 770-8000.

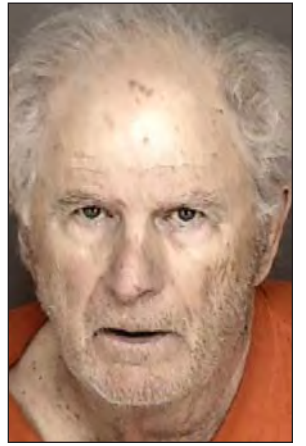
HIGH MEADOWS MURDERER GUILTY OF STABBING WIFE

By MARY SCHLEY

THE MAN who stabbed his wife to death nearly a year ago while she was in bed in their Carmel home — in a bizarre plot to leave money to their son — pleaded guilty in a Salinas courtroom Friday, according to Monterey County Deputy District Attorney Rebecca Garcia. Donel Geisen, now 80, will likely spend the rest of his life in prison.

Geisen was arrested July 24, 2025, at the couple’s home near Highway 1 and Carpenter Street after he dialed 911 at around 4:20 a.m. to report he had murdered his wife of 48 years, yoga instructor Barbara Lynn Geisen, 78. He also stabbed himself.

Deputies and medics arrived at the couple’s Raymond Way residence to find the victim and her husband in their bedroom. Barbara Geisen died at the scene from multiple stab wounds, while her confessed attacker was transported to the hospital for



Donel Geisen

See **GUILTY** page 26A

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'Emergency' parking ban at Bixby Bridge faces bureaucratic hurdles

By CHRIS COUNTS

TWO WEEKS after the Monterey County Board of Supervisors voted to enact a 12-month ban on parking near Big Sur's landmark Bixby Bridge, it appears the action won't take effect until at least late July because of bureaucratic hurdles.

The ban's potential effectiveness also depends on whether state officials will support the effort with staffing or funding. So far, supporters see some encouraging signs, but nothing certain.

Fifth District Supervisor Kate Daniels, who led the push for the ban, hoped to have it in place by Memorial Day. But now, it's likely action won't be taken until late July at the earliest, even though many public officials agree the traffic congestion and disorder at Bixby constitutes a public safety hazard.

When Daniels introduced the idea of the temporary

parking ban in April in response to gridlock at the site over spring break, she called traffic there "untenable" and said the county lacks the resources to manage it.

Even the access-hungry California Coastal Commission seems sympathetic — coastal commission spokesperson Joshua Smith told The Pine Cone his agency "understands why" supervisors passed the temporary ban, and "stands ready to collaborate on long-term solutions that can work for both nearby residents and the general public."

Also, in a March 20 letter to Daniels, coastal planner Breylen Ammen confirmed that "we have collectively seen unsafe traffic and parking behavior, unsafe pedestrian behavior and other concerning conduct."

"These are all real and serious problems," Ammen said.

Local hands are tied

To get the temporary ban approved, the county asked the coastal commission to issue an emergency permit. But

even that process involves waiting.

"What's the point of the emergency coastal development permit, and why can't action be taken immediately after it's adopted?" Daniels asked. "If you were responding to an emergency, you'd expect the county to be able to act. That doesn't seem to be the case here."

The supervisors are set to finalize the parking ban June 26, but it can't go into effect until 30 days later. The county also needs an encroachment permit from Caltrans, which, according to county official Randy Ishii, "has a backlog of permits."

Daniels also acknowledged the temporary ban won't work without someone policing it. Ishii noted that the California Highway Patrol, which has jurisdiction over all state highways, "has expressed they have limited resources, especially in Big Sur."

She conceded, "the matter is moot without enforcement." It's unclear which agency will pay for it.

Daniels said state Sen. John Laird is "looking into working with the CHP and seeing if there's some support."

But everyone agrees that traffic chaos is a safety hazard

Encouraging signs

While the effort to enact the ban faces challenges from many quarters, it appears the coastal commission will allow it to play out for a year. "I was at a coastal commission meeting when they indicated they would not be challenging the 12-month parking moratorium," Daniels said.

Though the coastal commission apparently won't be opposing the temporary ban, the agency ultimately wants to see some public access to the bridge, Ammen wrote in his letter to Daniels. He brought up ideas like trails and overlooks.

"We have begun to look at potential parking and access improvements along the highway on the north end of the bridge and along Old Coast Road and at Brazil Ranch on the south end of the bridge as potential ways to improve safety and help alleviate visitor pressures overall," he told the supervisor.

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors voted 3-0 on May 19 to approve the 12-month parking ban, with supervisors Luis Alejo and Chris Lopez abstaining. At Tuesday's meeting, Alejo expressed a willingness to support the temporary ban but echoed the coastal commission's position that public access to the site should be preserved. Lopez, who serves on the coastal commission, also supports maintaining public access.

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City gets his goat

■ Falworth takes Pescadero fire worries to council

By MARY SCHLEY

CARMEL RESIDENT Paul Falworth and a tiny goat visited the Carmel City Council last week to make a plea for using the ravenous ruminants to clear brush and other vegetation in Pescadero Canyon, one of the area's biggest fire hazards. Falworth, who established carmelfire-goats.org to back the campaign, presented a petition signed by 233 residents and 33 others calling for grazing goats to be put to work immediately.

The petition notes that the canyon — some of which is within city limits, while the rest is part of Pebble Beach — "has become dangerously overgrown with weeds, grasses and ivy over the past century, without meaningful clearance."



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

"Immediate action is necessary to reduce the risk of a devastating wildfire threatening Carmel-by-the-Sea prior to the height of this year's fire season," it says.

Larger picture

Accompanied by Sophie the Goat, Falworth went to city hall June 2 to play a video of a talking goat arguing that the city should undertake brush clearance on the six Pescadero Canyon lots in its jurisdiction now, rather than wait to collaborate with Pebble Beach and other agencies on a broader effort.

Acting city administrator Brandon Swanson acknowledged Falworth's position but pointed out "there's a much larger picture here," since the canyon is under the control of the Pebble Beach Community

Services District, the Del Monte Forest Conservancy, Cal Fire and other entities. It also contains environmentally sensitive habitat areas and a stream that require specific protections.

"We're working with those agencies to develop a robust plan for the canyon," he said, adding that they've gathered for about a half-dozen meetings on the topic and have sought quotes for the clearance work.

"We are working on this, and I think you'll see something happening relatively

Rental goats are often used to clear vegetation, including poison oak and other nasty stuff, in Pebble Beach.

soon," he said.

Swanson said he'll provide more regular updates as the plan comes together.

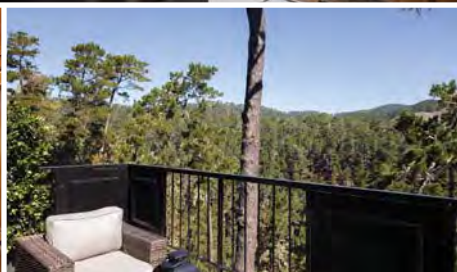
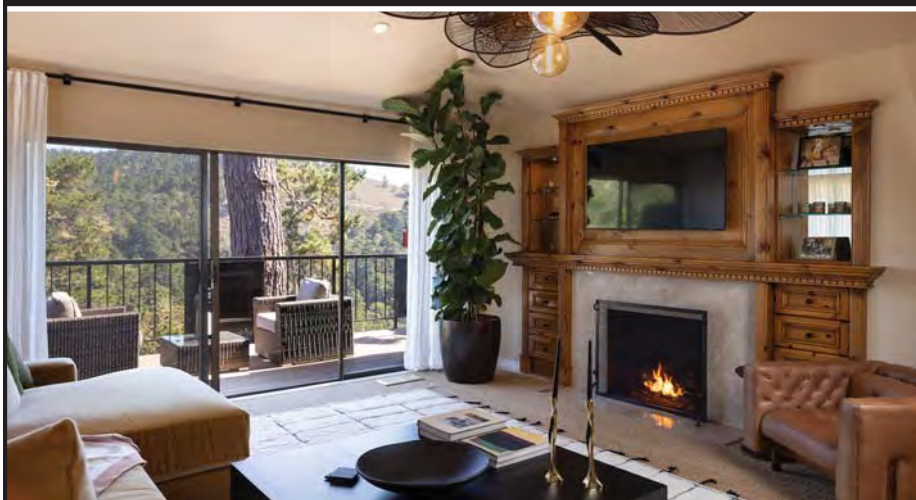
Councilman Hans Buder, who has been working on a committee focused on wildfire safety and planning, said the clearing will also require some level of environmental review.

"Our fire department has sent a proposal to the Del Monte Forest Conservancy and Cal Fire for funding so we can collaborate on work in the broader canyon," he added.

Buder thanked Falworth for putting the topic on center stage in such a creative way.

"I appreciate the energy Paul is bringing to this issue," he said.

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School bond likely headed for November ballot

By LILY PATTERSON

THE DECISION whether to put a \$250 million bond on the ballot this fall was practically cemented after polling revealed that a majority of Carmel Unified School District voters are receptive to a proposed tax hike to fix up their local schools. The May survey showed a significant shift in public attitude toward the district in the aftermath of public and legal controversies that overshadowed the 2023-2024 school years.

Of 400 Carmel residents — including homeowners and renters, current and former CUSD parents, alumni and those with no ties to the district — 53% said the district is in “some” or “great need” of money to repair aging

facilities and modernize nine pre-K-12 campuses in Carmel, Carmel Valley and Big Sur. When presented with the specific terms and uses of the bond, that number jumped to 64% — well above the 55% minimum needed to pass such a measure.

Two years ago, a similar poll showed only 33% felt the district needed more money. That survey, conducted in June 2024, came as CUSD was mired in personnel and legal disputes stemming from the abrupt 2023 dismissal of a Carmel High School principal, who was said to have mishandled sexual misconduct allegations. That was followed by a drawn-out legal battle with former superintendent Ted Knight, who claimed the school board and district staff placed him on leave for investigating the claims. His lawsuit concluded in a \$770,000 separation and settlement agreement in August 2023, and an attempt to unseat several board members followed, with a vocal minority alleging “significant mishandling of taxpayer funds.”

Turning a page

Ultimately, the effort failed due to incorrect wording on the recall notices, but public opinion was a stickier matter. Supplemental polls conducted in June 2024 showed a majority of voters considered maintaining school quality “a top priority, even if it means raising taxes.” However, only 35% said they trusted CUSD to “properly manage” their tax dollars.

But the district has turned a page — literally, by redrafting the school board’s governing policies under superintendent Sharon Ofek, who took over after Knight’s departure, and finalizing a sweeping plan to address outdated and, on some campuses, dilapidated facilities.

According to the survey presented at last Wednesday’s

school board meeting by polling consultant EMC Research, “over half of Carmel Unified voters believe that school facilities have a need for funding, and two-thirds agree that maintaining the quality of schools should be a top priority.”

From May 6 to 17, the poll was conducted online and via phone by third-party interviewers, who surveyed a “randomly selected, representative sample of voters.”

‘Continuity of leadership’

“Although general tax sensitivity has increased, support for a bond measure for Carmel Unified School District is higher than in prior research, exceeding the threshold for passage in this poll,” the report said.

Following those promising results, school board members will reconvene next Wednesday and likely approve placing the measure on the November ballot.

“We are asking the community to believe in us — to take a look at the success in the classroom, the continuity of leadership we’ve had over the last two-and-a-half years under the superintendent, the adoption of a board governance handbook, a strategic plan that is being implemented across the district, and the success in our test score results,” board President Matt Glazer said last week.

“This is no small ask of our community to put faith not just in us as a board, but in each other as a community. We are committed to student outcomes and to improving the facilities that are necessary. It’s a great course correction after 21 years without passing a bond,” Glazer added, referring to the district’s last successful campaign in 2005.

While the 2024 poll was vaguer about the goal of a general obligation bond, this year’s survey benefited from a bit of of shock value. In early May, a brochure from the

See BOND page 21A

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‘It’s a great course correction,’ says school board



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PARK DISTRICT RESTARTS PROCESS TO PICK GRAZING FIRM

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE THE sight of cattle grazing at Palo Corona Regional Park is an idyllic one, there's a battle being fought behind the scenes over whose animals will graze those grasslands in the coming years.

Big Sur residents Chris and Hannah Moon say they submitted a proposal in March for their Lonely Bull Cattle Co. to graze cattle in the park, which has been done on the site for more than a century.

Five companies placed bids to use the land for their herds, with the winner set to lease the land for five years at \$1 per year. If the tenant meets certain performance benchmarks, the opportunity exists for two five-year extensions.

But the Moons learned April 15 that

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District staff were recommending that Renz Ranch, a company based in San Benito County, be awarded the lease.

In part because the selection process placed some weight on local operators, the couple asked the park district for data showing how the decision was made. After what she called "numerous requests," they received the data seven weeks later.

Who had highest score?

According to Hannah Moon, the data showed that their company's proposal had the highest score, but they lost because Allen Renz scored so well on a Zoom interview. Moon said the interview was given more weight in the process than was originally announced. She

said that without it, Lonely Bull Cattle Co. would have won the lease.

"If the process had been weighed properly, we would have been the winner," she said.

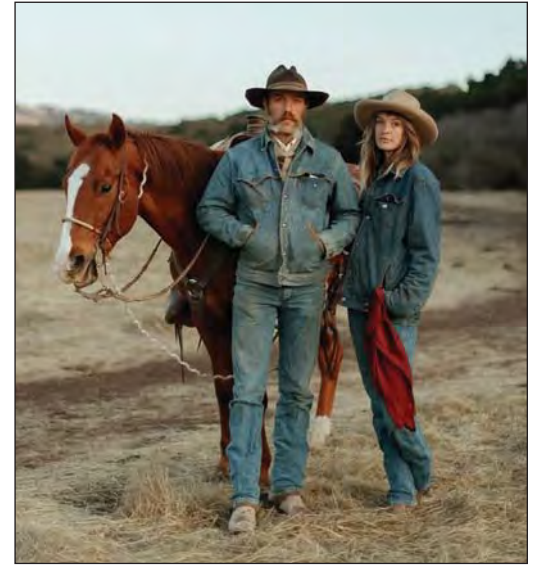
Moon made it clear she wasn't questioning Renz's qualifications. She described him as a "well-respected cattleman" who has a "massive" operation.

"I'm sure he would do a fine job," she said.

Despite Renz's reputation, Moon suggested the company she and her husband run would be the best fit. "The numbers support that," she insisted.

Renz Ranch was set to take over the lease July 1, replacing Emily and Luke Gardner of Paddock Land & Cattle,

See **GRAZED** page 20A



PHOTO/FACEBOOK

Chris and Hannah Moon operate the Lonely Bull Cattle Co. in Big Sur.

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TOURISM

From page 1A

On the spending side, salaries and benefits account for the largest share at \$14,814,197, with another \$11,989,462 going to outside services, such as fire and ambulance contracts with the City of Monterey, landscaping, and others. All told, the city uses about 120 outside contractors for a wide range of tasks, from executive training and fee studies to vehicle fuel, sidewalk cleaning and holiday tree decorating.

Broken down by department, public works tops the list at nearly \$6.2 million, followed by police at \$5.4 million. Traditionally, law enforcement was the most expensive, but it has been surpassed by public works in recent years. "Citywide" comes in next at \$5.3 million and includes costs like pension liability, mail, liability insurance and utilities, followed by fire (\$3,797,984), administration (\$3,671,312), community planning and building (\$2,474,695) and ambulance (\$2,329,489). Since fire and

ambulance services are provided by the City of Monterey, those totals include the costs of their contracts.

Subtracting and adding

When the draft budget was released in May, Fields listed potential areas for cutting costs, such as tree and landscaping maintenance, digital document scanning, tax audits, legal services, grants, holiday decorations, event advertising, office supplies, and conferences, training and education. The list cut an estimated \$928,178 in expenses, but the council subsequently restored some of that funding, such as for forestry and landscaping, conferences and trainings, digitization and holiday decorations.

The list also included reducing funding for the city's tourism-promotion agency, Visit Carmel, from \$120,000 to \$90,000, but the group's board opted to withdraw its request entirely, executive director Amy Herzog told the council.

"Two weeks ago, we had a board meeting in which there was a thoughtful conversation and a board vote to retract the traditional request for support down to zero," she said. "So I just wanted to reiterate that and convey on

behalf of our board that they want to reinforce their support for your continued partnership with See Monterey."

Councilmembers generally approved of the budget while picking out some capital projects — such as a proposal to design and build another restroom in Piccadilly Park, restoration of the beach sand ramp at Eighth Avenue, and ongoing installation of native plants in the North Dunes — for extra scrutiny. Ultimately, however, they left everything in.

"The key issue people need to understand is we have a tremendous backlog of deferred maintenance," council member Alissandra Dramov said. "We estimate it's \$100 million," which will require an investment of \$10 million annually to recover. "Obviously, the city needs new sources for revenue," she continued.

Delves, who ran for office two years ago in part on fiscal transparency and efficient delivery of city services, reiterated his "commitment to fiscal prudence." He thanked Visit Carmel for withdrawing its request, said he supports giving \$60,000 to the Carmel Chamber of Commerce as requested, and argued against paying See Monterey.

"One of the reasons to continue to fund See Monterey is because everyone else does, but I think Carmel is in a unique position, because we are a jewel in the crown and a big draw for the entire county," Delves said. Plus, restaurants and hotels tax guests and customers to help fund their marketing efforts through Visit Carmel, he added.

Councilman Jeff Baron suggested waiting to discuss specific items at a future meeting but acknowledged he was on the fence about spending on visitor marketing.

"The public is really feeling the effects of over-tourism and are saying to cut those numbers altogether," Dramov said.

"We have definitely been getting a lot of correspondence about it from people — they're angry about it," agreed councilman Hans Buder, though he worried that cutting spending on destination marketing could negatively affect hotel and sales tax revenues.

Vanishing cities

Mayor Dale Byrne favored leaving the See Monterey money intact, but the others offered compromises. Delves suggested cutting the allocation to a fixed amount of \$225,000 for 2026-2027 and then further reducing it over the next couple of years, "eventually to zero," while Baron said the council could approve the budget without the funding and then discuss adding some back in next month.

Baron made a motion to that effect, and the council unanimously agreed.

While the council could choose to restore some or all of that funding next month, the moment was reminiscent of a decision by the cities of Carmel and Pacific Grove to opt

See **BUDGET** next page



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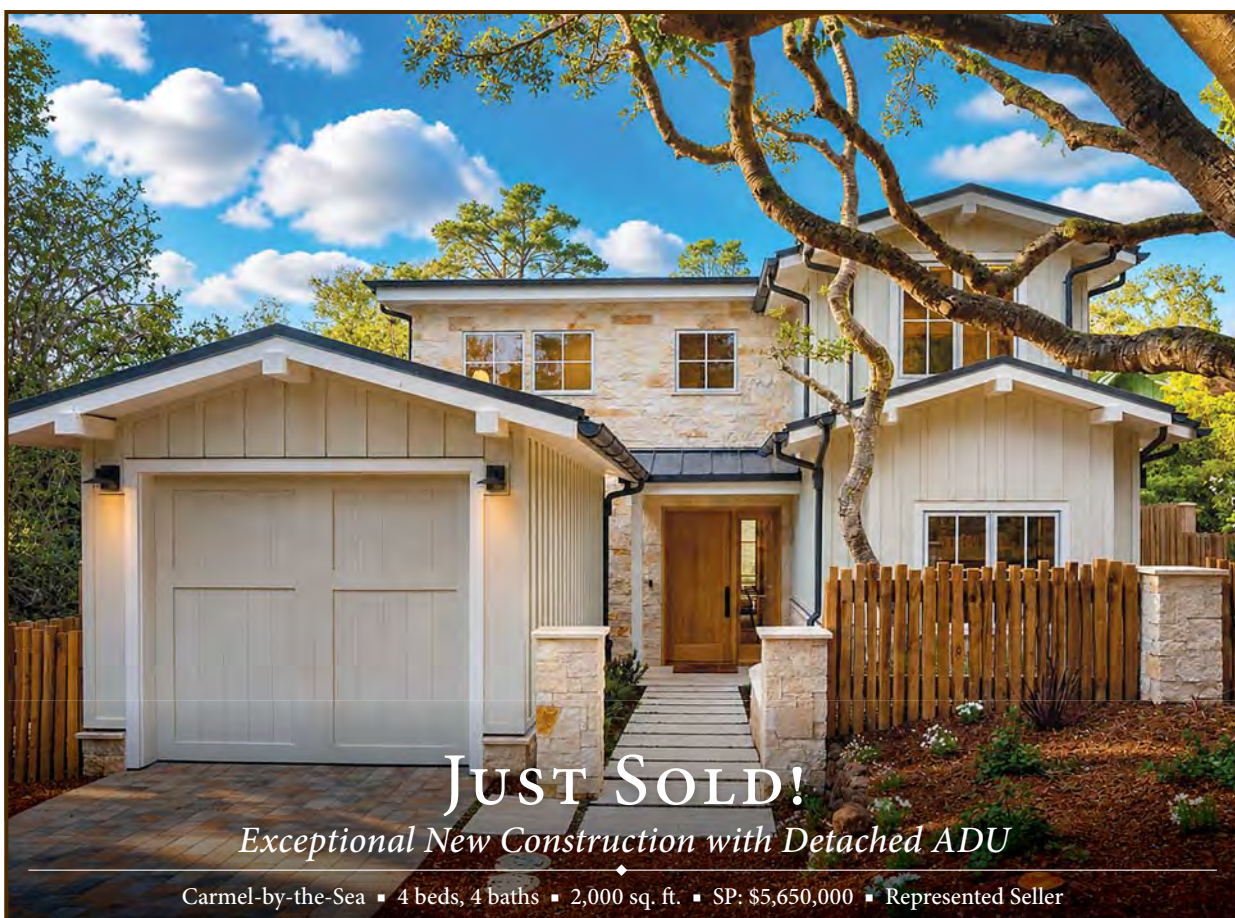
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BUDGET

From previous page

out more than 20 years ago.

When the convention and visitors bureau was formed in 1998, city and county officials decided to pay it 6.8 percent of their hostelry taxes for the 1998-1999 fiscal year, minus annual dues paid by their businesses. But Carmel and Pacific Grove never anted up, and other member cities complained, so in 2004-2005, Carmel-by-the-Sea was asked to pay \$182,301, and Pacific Grove, \$133,470.

They chose not to, and as a result, the

cover of the group's 2005 meeting and travel planner, "Monterey Land and See," which was distributed nationwide as "the official guide to Monterey County," did not list them among the Peninsula's cities. Inside, photos of Carmel Beach contained no reference to it by name, and the "partnership map" showed Monterey, Sand City, Seaside, Marina and the county areas of Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach and the Salinas Valley, but it was blank where Carmel, Pacific Grove and Salinas — which also did not pay — should have been. In addition, a national ad campaign pitched "a treasured escape to Marina and Seaside," while making no mention of its invisible neighbors.

WHALE

From page 1A

during an overgrowth, or bloom, of algae.

Preliminary findings were similar for another humpback whale that washed up June 5 on a Watsonville beach. That carcass has undergone a necropsy.

Researchers and others continue to collect biological samples from the Pacific Grove whale.

If the whale isn't carried off by a high tide, researchers will await favorable ocean conditions to allow the animal to be safely towed offshore, Dunkin said

Dunkin said additional samples from both whales may continue to be collected to "maximize the scientific value of these response efforts and contribute to ongoing marine mammal health and conservation research."

The West Coast has seen more whale

deaths than usual this year. Before these two, there had been 60 stranded along the coasts of California, Oregon and Washington. However, most of them — 52 — were gray whales, while a variety of species made up the remainder. Most gray whales, Dunkin said, have been in poor nutritional condition, which is being blamed on a lack of food in the Arctic.

Many scientists

Strandings, Dunkin said, provide opportunities to "better understand the health of whale populations and the changing conditions they face in the marine environment. Cause of death can reflect their unique life histories."

The efforts in Pacific Grove and Watsonville involve scientists and others from the Marine Mammal Stranding Networks, San Jose State's Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, the City of Pacific Grove, Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station and NOAA Fisheries.

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P.G. pot lottery to be held amid controversy

By LILY PATTERSON

A LOTTERY to determine who gets Pacific Grove's single license to operate a marijuana shop will be held June 15 amid a haze of controversy.

The luck of the draw may resolve "a very bad situation," as city councilwoman Lori McDonnell described the past six months of delays and legal confusion after the city allowed one company to submit multiple permit applications under various names. Since that company now holds an 80 percent chance of winning the lottery, it's likely the result will trigger a lawsuit against the city, as a

competing applicant has threatened.

Council members appeared at a loss during their May 20 meeting, despite reassurances from a special attorney that the city is doing nothing illegal.

"Our only other option is to withdraw altogether, rework the process and issue refunds, even though we already spent the money on vetting those applications," McDonnell said, before joining four of five council members in voting to move forward with the lottery.

The only dissenting vote came from Mayor Pro Tem Joe Amelio, while councilwoman Tina Rau — who has maintained that the city should move forward with its

obligation to establish a cannabis dispensary, four years since voters approved the measure — suggested that the luck of the draw may resolve the city's issue.

"I don't think we can answer all these hypotheticals — we have to let the process play itself out," Rau said.

Originally scheduled for late March, the drawing was postponed out of concern that the city was violating its municipal code by overlooking the connection among eight of the 10 applicants competing for the single permit.

Between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15, 2025, retailers submitted their forms to the city of Pacific Grove, which charged \$9,272 per application, allocating \$5,777 for the city and the remainder to a consultant hired to administer the process. On Jan. 5, it was announced that all 10 applications were deemed compliant with municipal code and state law and would advance to the permit lottery — even as public records revealed that eight of the applicants were associated with the same company.

"This does not seem transparent, fair, equitable, or what is considered best practice for cannabis application processes," local applicant Nico Enea told council members at the May 20 meeting.

Eight applicants, one 'entity'

The eight affiliated applications were filed by the owner and various employees of Off The Charts, a company that operates 32 marijuana stores throughout California, including one on Lighthouse Avenue in Monterey. The two other cannabis businesses vying for the permit are Embarc Dispensaries and Nug, co-founded by Enea, which manages 19 dispensaries throughout the state.

Following months of formal and informal appeals from Enea, which were batted away by city officials, councilman Chaps Poduri raised the legal issue at a March 18 meeting. A letter from Enea's attorney had pointed out that Pacific Grove's cannabis ordinance limits permit applications to one per "owner," defined as "an individual that will be participating in the direction, control or management of the person applying for the license."

"We're in a pivotal moment for the cannabis licensing process, and this is just to ensure the process is fair and legally sound," Poduri said March 18, as the council directed staff to conduct a "formal ownership and control analysis" of all applications.

As confirmed by the report, Off The Charts apparently found a loophole in city policy by using separate, single-member LLCs to file multiple applications.

On May 20, the council voted to move forward with

See LOTTERY page 20A

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TAXES

From page 1A

2020 but were unwilling to increase the tax for impacted businesses this year or to include wages for employees who don't live in San Francisco in the median pay calculations.

"If you can't do it in San Francisco, you certainly can't do it statewide," Democratic consultant Dan Newman told Politico.

Business groups and billionaires teamed up to fight the measure, spending almost \$7 million and creating a successful playbook likely to be replicated ahead of November. The campaign argued Measure D could upend San Francisco's comeback, driving more businesses to relocate

headquarters and lowering overall revenue — not to mention eliminating jobs.

San Francisco's financial district has experienced a major exodus since the pandemic, losing some of its biggest companies to more affordable areas. Charles Schwab, McKesson, CBRE, Tesla and Twitter all relocated their headquarters to Texas. Tech giants Meta, Snap, Slack and Block have also downsized their downtown footprints or relocated to other San Francisco Bay area cities.

Opponents warned things could get worse. In May, the city's chief economist, Ted Egan, released a report predicting the "overpaid CEO tax" could result in 944 fewer jobs over the next 20 years and a \$206 million reduction in the city's gross domestic product.

The opposition also had the support of two popular San Francisco politicians, Mayor Daniel Lurie and state Sen. Scott Wiener — similar to the support Gov. Gavin Newsom is promising to the anti-Billionaire Tax campaign. Wiener, an uber-progressive by any definition and a candidate to replace the retiring Nancy Pelosi in Congress, has yet to take a position on the Billionaire Tax.

High enough?

The primary showed voters are also hesitant to raise taxes on themselves.

Californians pay the highest state sales tax rate in the nation at 7.25%, and it's rare to find a city or county that hasn't tacked on its own local levy.

With cities and counties across the state facing looming deficits — exacerbated by federal funding cuts — adding another half- or quarter-cent to the sales tax seemed like a good idea this spring. But voters proved less willing to go along.

From Monterey to Lompoc, and Plumas to Contra Costa counties, voters shot down sales tax initiatives placed on their ballots.

In Los Angeles County, where a sales tax increase hasn't failed in more than a decade, Measure ER is hanging on by a thread. The initiative, which appeared on ballots with the favorable title "Essential Services Restoration Act," is scraping by with 50.6% of the vote. L.A. County's last sales tax increase in 2024 was approved with 57% of the vote.

Fernando Guerra, a political science professor at Loyola Marymount, said the shift is real.

"I am a little taken aback," he told the Long Beach Post this week. "It shows that there is something going on with very progressive voters in L.A., like, 'OK, maybe enough taxes.'"

Not only are California's sales taxes

high, they hit the state's poorest residents hardest. The California Budget and Policy Center's 2022 data showed families with the lowest incomes pay 7.4% of their total incomes in sales taxes, compared to 0.8% for the richest 1%. With gasoline prices hitting \$6 a gallon, 2026 may not be the year to stretch the budgets of California's lowest earners.

Other tax rejections show people may be unhappy with how their dollars are spent. San Diegans' rebuff of a second-home tax that sought to charge properties without full-time residents up to \$10,000 a year was largely thanks to a well-funded campaign that argued the tax would do nothing to address affordable housing. Proponents said snowbirds and similar owners would rent out their second homes when faced with huge tax bills, but the money generated from the levy would have gone straight to the city's general fund — not to build any new housing.

In Los Angeles, a push to raise the transient occupancy tax ahead of an anticipated flood of visitors for the 2028 Olympics also failed. Measure TT would have raised the tax rate for hotel rooms from 14 to 16% until the end of 2028 — as if attending the Olympics wasn't expensive enough already. After the games, the tax would have stayed at 15% permanently. In a city where officials spent \$953 million to fight homelessness in 2025, yet 43,699 people live on the streets, voters may have felt L.A. didn't need more money.

Taxes here, too

The Billionaire Tax isn't the only levy likely to be on November ballots. Statewide, voters will probably be asked to decide on extending an existing tax on high incomes to fund schools. Campaigns for both have submitted signatures to the Secretary of State, but their propositions have yet to qualify for the election.

On the Monterey Peninsula, depending on jurisdiction, you'll likely be asked to hike taxes locally, too. The Monterey County Board of Supervisors is considering a mansion tax of 1% to 3% on the sale of homes priced at \$10 million or more. In Carmel, the city council wants both sales and hotel tax increases in front of voters. And in P.G., the school district favors a parcel tax to fund salaries, despite the fact voters recently rejected Measure C, which would have increased city council pay.

General elections differ from primaries, and the priorities of wealthy voters are not the same as those of low-income residents, but the results this month are undoubtedly wind in the sails of "no on tax" campaigns across the state.



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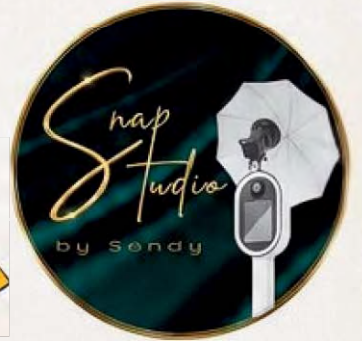


Please join us for Dr. Hasegawa's follow up lecture to his recent Joyful Noise discussion.

He will share scientific findings and applicable strategies that will help to keep your brain working. **Dr. Chris Hasegawa** is a former Dean at CSUMB. He received his first university appointment at CSU Sacramento, as an Assistant Professor in their Teacher Education department, before moving to a CSUMB. Now retired, Dr. Hasegawa serves the community as Vice President on the Board of Trustees for the Spreckels Union School District and as President of the Board of Monterey Peninsula Choral Society. Hasegawa also serves as one of the Directors for the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, ALBA (Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association) which provides educational and business opportunities for farm workers and aspiring farmers to grow and sell crops grown on two organic farms in Monterey County, California and sings with the Ukulele Songbirds, the Monterey Peninsula Voices and the MPC Jazz Choir.

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Much ado about State Parks week

By LILY PATTERSON

CALIFORNIA IS home to the nation's largest collection of state parks, and of nearly 300 beaches, nature reserves, monuments and historic centers, more than a dozen are located within Monterey County. This weekend, visitors can choose from Asilomar, Big Sur and Old Monterey for free family activities, walking tours and more to mark California State Parks Week — including a never-before-seen exhibit on shipwrecks in Monterey Bay.

On June 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Asilomar State Beach, park staff will be on hand with coffee, cocoa and answers to your questions about the history and wildlife of Pacific Grove's coastline. The gathering will be held at the main beach entrance, a short distance down Sunset from the Fishwife restaurant.

The landscape is so iconic that it even boasts an original soundtrack — and you can catch those tunes later in the day on the social hall patio at the Asilomar Conference Center. Beginning at 3 p.m., there will be a sing-along of campfire songs written by the girls of the YWCA who summered at Asilomar between 1913 and 1935. To ensure there are enough s'mores to go around, registration is required, and you can find the link by searching "Asilomar" on castateparksweek.org.

What's old is new

In Big Sur, Andrew Molera State Park will honor its history as the ancestral land of the Esselen and Ohlone-Costanoan tribes. Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., local tribe members will share stories and personal reflections, as well as host hands-on cultural activities, organizers said. The gathering is free, open to all ages, and is a 10-minute walk from the park's main parking lot, where directional signage will be posted.

"Experiencing something new in a familiar place is a great way for folks to

fall in love with their favorite park all over again," said Richard Fletcher, interpretive coordinator for Monterey State Historic Park, which will host Community Craft Day "with a historical twist" in the Memory Garden behind the Pacific House Museum, 20 Custom House Plaza, Monterey. That's on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The park's staff will lead special tours throughout the weekend, including a "hidden gems" walk on Saturday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and an arts and literature-themed stroll on Sunday, also from 12:30 to 2 p.m. All tours begin at the Custom House, 1 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, and registration is recommended.

Volunteering, too

For those with busy weekends, "Shipwrecks: Every Broken Piece Tells a Story" is on view all summer at the Casa Gutierrez Community Art Gallery, 590 Calle Principal, Monterey. On display will be wooden pieces from the Natalia, which wrecked in December 1834, plus artifacts, paintings and photographs will explore Monterey Bay's maritime heritage.

More information and a full calendar of state parks-sponsored events can be found at castateparksweek.org.

Should this weekend inspire you to get involved, your local park is likely in need of help. On Saturday, June 13, Carmel River State Beach is recruiting volunteers from 9 a.m. to noon to help remove invasive plants from the bluffs. Tools will be provided, but bring water and snacks, dress comfortably and wear closed-toed shoes. Email samuel.winter@parks.ca.gov to sign up.

For those keen on Asilomar's native flora — including the famous "purple carpet" visible in spring — drop-ins are welcome to help with gardening tasks at various locations every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Contact joseph.leviaert@parks.ca.gov for more information.

Ribbon cutting at dental office for vets

By KELLY NIX

A UNIQUE dental clinic founded in 2018 that specializes in serving veterans has moved to Monterey.

Dr. George and Patricia Yellich established Dentistry4Vets to provide comprehensive dental care for those who served in the armed forces. The clinic relocated from Marina to 4 Harris Court, Monterey, and will host a ribbon cutting June 18.

"The new facility represents a milestone achievement and will become a hallmark of our community, which supported the development of this center," Patricia Yellich told The Pine Cone. "Dentistry4Vets is the only nonprofit center in the United States that provides dental care exclusively to military veterans and their spouses."

The clinic fills an important gap, the founders maintain, since the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs "does not provide dental care in the VA benefit program unless a veteran was a prisoner of war, is 100% disabled, or sustained dental injuries during their time of service."

"Only about 5% of veterans receive dental care from the VA," Yellich said. "Dentistry4Vets fills this gap."

Services provided at the clinic include X-rays, cleanings, fillings, crowns, implants, root canals, extractions, dentures, and bridges. Veterans must provide a DD214 card, showing they are military veterans. Dentistry4Vets provides 2,500 appointments each year, amounting to 4,500 dental procedures for vets and their spouses. Information: dentistry4vets.org.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, CALIFORNIA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
for Beach Access 12th & 10th Avenue Stairs Repair

Notice is hereby given that the City of Carmel by the Sea is requesting bids from firms interested in providing all equipment, material, and labor to complete the Beach Access 12th and 10th Avenues Stairs Repair (Carmel Beach Coastal Protection and Access Improvement). This work includes, but is not limited to, replacement and repairs of deteriorated structural components for two public access staircases located at 12th Avenue and 10th Avenue along Scenic Road providing public access to Carmel Beach. Work shall be completed in accordance with all applicable project plans, specifications, and permit requirements.

The contract and bidding documents will be made available Friday, June 12th at <http://ci.carmel.ca.us> (under the tab "I Want to Submit a Bid or Proposal").

See Appendix C: Specifications and Project drawings titled Beach Access 12th & 10th Avenue Stairs Repair. This project will be managed by Ausonio, Inc., Construction Management under contract with the City. The beach will be open to the public while construction is ongoing.

There will be a Mandatory Site Tour scheduled for 1:00 PM on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at the Del Mar Parking Lot Restroom located at the end of Ocean Avenue adjacent to Carmel Beach.

The Pre-Bid Conference will allow bidders to receive an overview of the project and ask questions. Failure to attend and arrive on time may result in your bid being deemed non-responsive resulting in rejection of your bid.

Questions regarding this solicitation are to be directed to Shari Carlet, at scarlet@ci.carmel.ca.us. **All questions must be in writing, submitted via email by July 10, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Responses will be posted by Addendum on the City website at <http://ci.carmel.ca.us> by July 16, 2026.**

Bid may be hand delivered or mailed as follows:

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Bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall Council Chambers, located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2026. Bids received after the stated deadline will be returned unopened. Bids must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) bid bond, certified check, or cashier's check payable to "City of Carmel-by-the-Sea." Bid bonds shall be in original form and executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety. At the time of the Bid opening, the successful Bidder must be legally entitled to perform Contracts requiring a California **Class A or B** Contractor's License.

Per Sections 1725.5, 1771.1, 1771.3, and 1771.4 of the Labor Code, this project is subject to prevailing hourly rate of per diem wages for this locality and project and compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. All Contractors and Subcontractors shall be listed in the bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, and shall be currently registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the Labor Code.

Publication date: June 12, 2026 (PC634)

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LOTTERY

From page 14A

the lottery with encouragement from special legal counsel Erica Vega, whom the city retained for the meeting.

“The way the city’s ordinance is set up, the question of familial or business relationships between applicants is somewhat irrelevant, because you haven’t set up criteria for there to be no relation between applicants,” Vega said. “The city’s position would be defensible, because

you have followed your adopted procedures. Or, you can cancel the lottery and provide direction to staff on modifications you would like to see to the policy and restart the process again in the future” — a suggestion the council didn’t favor.

Speaking with The Pine Cone following the council’s decision, Enea was candid about Nug’s position.

“If we lose to Off The Charts, we will file the administrative appeal built into the application process. Nothing will happen with that, because the city has clearly made up its mind. After the appeal is complete, we will sue the city,” Enea said.

GRAZED

From page 11A

who have grazed cattle on the land since the 1980s. The Gardners and their company were one of the five that bid on the new lease.

But on June 3 — in response to concerns from the Moons and others about the process — the park district board voted to restart the solicitation process and move the start date for the new lease to Nov. 1, giving Paddock Land & Cattle four more months to operate on the site if they aren’t chosen. According to the park district, the process was restarted to boost “confidence in the integrity” of it.

Park district general manager Eric Morgan told The Pine Cone that his agency is still working out the details of restarting the selection process. Morgan acknowledged that the original process had some “inconsistencies” and “conflicting language.”

“We want to make sure there’s no controversy,” he added.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF STEVEN CORDELL HUTCHINS OCT. 2, 1989 – APRIL 26, 2026

It is with profound sadness that we share our beloved Steven has passed away far too young and will be forever missed. Steven was born to Gary and Sue Hutchins on Oct. 2, 1989, in San Diego. The family moved to Carmel four years later, where Steven attended Tularcitos Elementary School, Buena Vista Middle School and Palma High School. He received his B.S. in business from San Diego State University. More recently, he completed training to become an MRI technologist and was working in that capacity until his passing.



Steven was a vivacious and loving son, brother, nephew and friend. He loved camping and hiking on many trails in Monterey County and Kings Canyon National Park, either alone or with friends. He enjoyed playing golf, tennis, bike riding, listening to podcasts and spending time with friends. Steven also volunteered at the Salinas Rodeo and local golf events. He loved taking the family dog, Piper, on walks and to play fetch.

Travel was an important part of Steven’s life. He spent a semester studying in Sweden, a semester in Hungary, and traveled and worked in Spain during the summer in between. He traveled through Europe to England, Ireland, France and Italy with his family, and also lived in Australia for three years.

Steven is survived and greatly missed by his mother, Sue Lehman; stepfather, James Lehman; father, Gary Hutchins; sister, Ashley Hutchins; uncle, David Goetz; niece, Gianna Barba; nephew, Marcello Barba; his “Aunt” Ruth and “Aunt” Barbara; and many other beloved friends, cousins and relatives.

He will be remembered by all who knew and loved him for his sense of humor, his wide-ranging interests and his exuberant personality.

**A celebration of life will be held Aug. 22 in Carmel, California.
Please contact hikersue42@gmail.com to RSVP by Aug. 1 and for additional details.**

In Memory of



CDR. FRANK REISER June 11, 1918 - Feb. 5, 2014

Happy Birthday Cdr. Reiser!
D-Day reminds us of your Navy Cross awarded for your extraordinary heroism and bravery while engaged in combat against an enemy of the United States during The Battle of Leyte Gulf. You are missed and never forgotten. A gentlemen’s gentleman if there ever was. The dice game at MPCC was legendary.

Love, the Shea Family

BETH MARIE RUSSO TARALLO

July 10, 1971 ❖ May 29, 2026

Beth (Russo) Tarallo of Monterey, California, died May 29, 2026, at age 54. Born July 10, 1971, at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. Beth was the beloved daughter of Jimmy and Angela Russo and a devoted sister to James (Kristen) Russo.



The center of her world and the joy of her life were her three children. She leaves behind Johnny, Juliana and Jenna. Since she was a child, all Beth wanted was to be a mother. She dedicated her entire life to her children, and her most important legacy is the close bond they share with one another.

Beth attended Monte Vista Elementary School, Colton Middle School and Santa Catalina Upper School. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in childhood education from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Her gift for nurturing and helping



others was evident throughout her life.

For many years, Beth worked as the office manager for the family business, Russo’s Wholesale Produce, where she brightened the workplace with her warmth, dedication and strong work ethic. The pinnacle of her professional life, however, was building her own aesthetics business over the past 15 years. Skin Care by the Bay was the culmination of years of education, certification and hands-on practice. Her clients remember her for her gentle touch and her commitment to providing the highest level of care and service.

Beth spent her final years enjoying life’s simple pleasures: listening to Taylor Swift, playing with her beloved Maltipoo, Theo, and engaging in lighthearted but spirited debates with her good friend, Shon Kanady.

She was preceded in death by her beloved child, Jesse, whose memory she carried in her heart every day.

Beth is survived by her children, Johnny, Juliana and Jenna; her parents, Jimmy and Angela Russo; her brother, James (Kristen) Russo; her nephews, Evan and Ryan; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins; and many cherished friends and extended family members.

Beth’s legacy is one of unwavering love, loyalty and devotion to family. She lived a life marked by compassion, kindness and grace. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who were fortunate enough to know and love her.

Service to be held at a later date.

BOND

From page 10A

district appeared in mailboxes throughout Carmel with information about the proposed measure, plus photos showing burst pipes, leaky roofs, trailer classrooms, and other substandard infrastructure on campuses, indicating that some of those buildings are more than 85 years old. The subsequent poll found voters aligned with the district's priority projects, with more than 70% favoring weatherproofing to prevent mold and dry rot and the replacement of failing plumbing, electrical, ventilation, water and sewage systems, as well as "improving student and school safety and accessibility" and "updating technology

infrastructure for today's learning."

The board's June 3 meeting also included a public hearing on the proposed 2026-2027 budget. The district anticipates \$92.8 million in revenue and a general reserve of \$25.1 million will fund \$93 million in expenditures. More than 80% of spending will go to salaries and benefits, while 2% is set aside for deferred maintenance and building projects — a split typical of school districts in California. As the costs of staffing continue to rise, most districts run a bond campaign every decade or so in order to fund building repairs and new construction.

The board seems in lockstep to approve the \$250 million borrowing campaign on June 17, at which point an independent volunteer committee will step in to drum up support ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

JOHN 'JACK' REYNOLDS

1924-2026

It is with great sadness that we announce John "Jack" Reynolds, known as Jack, died peacefully at his home on Feb. 21, 2026, with his family by his side. Jack was born in Pacific Grove, California, on Sept. 9, 1924, to Marian Call-Reynolds and Don Reynolds. Jack entered this world ready to work and to have a grand time in life. He was one of those lucky ones who found joy and happiness



everywhere—in his home, family life and work. His 101 years were lived with panache and laughter, and he always had a joke ready at hand.

Boyhood brought adventures in his hometown of Pacific Grove, at the family ranch in Hollister, and at his grandparents' rustic Lake County cabin. Once he could drive, he found fun adventuring across all of Monterey County. He was an enterprising youth, selling handpicked huckleberries, pine cones for decorations and pedaling his bike while slinging newspapers. Floyd Rogers, who owned a local drug store on Forest Avenue, hired him at age 7 to dust the powder bottles and sweep the sidewalks. Jack worked with such vigor that Floyd became a lifelong friend, even taking Jack on a tour of the western states—a trip he never forgot.

He relished the sound of a souped-up engine and bought his first car, a Model A Ford coupe that he and his classmates restored in auto shop at PG High. Jack was always willing to chauffeur classmates to and from school, and it was in this car that he asked his future wife if she wanted a ride. When she replied yes, he knew he had found his girl. Jill and Jack shared 71 years of wedded bliss together.



Jack entered the Navy upon graduation to fight in World War II, where he became a Navy deep-sea diver tasked with demagnetizing battleships. When the war ended, he and Jill lived in the Bay Area before moving back to Monterey, where both worked in the fish canneries. They started their family with their firstborn, Bob. Deborah was born a few years later, and they settled for good in Monterey. Paramount in his life was his devotion to family—organizing water-skiing trips, picnics at the beach to bodysurf, and journeys to Utah every summer to visit Jill's family and trips to Hawaii.

Jack worked several jobs before finding his life's calling in the Monterey Fire Department. His connection with automobiles secured him as a driver of the fire engines, and over his 35-year career he held several positions, eventually retiring as assistant chief. He also served as president of the Monterey Bay Fire Chiefs Association. Jack loved his work and proudly wore his fire department T-shirts and baseball caps throughout his life.

During his lifetime of service, he also gave back to his community. He volunteered with Kiwanis, serving as president, and drove for 50 years in the Crosby/AT&T golf tournament. He also volunteered for several fire department charities. In retirement, Jack maintained his gusto for life, becoming a regular at the Monterey Sports Center, arriving at 5:45 a.m. each morning. He made lifelong friends with the early birds and continued his morning workout until he was 95.

Jack had the rare ability to connect with anyone, allowing people to be themselves. His humor, affability, acceptance and enthusiasm brought many people into his life, and he was beloved by all. He will be remembered for the extraordinary man he was and will be deeply missed.

Jack was predeceased by his wife, Jill, and his son, Bob. He is survived by his daughter, Deborah, and her family: Walter, Taylor, Kyle and Shyamala.

Jack's family would like to thank Hospice of the Central Coast and his caregivers: Shannon, Girlie, Michelle, Lindsey, Diana, Jillian, Alice and Roberto. He will live forever in our hearts. A celebration of his life will be held at a future date. Donations in his honor may be made to your favorite charity.



MAX BRAGADO-DARMAN (1945–2026)

The international music community mourns the passing of Max Bragado-Darman, the distinguished Spanish conductor whose artistry, leadership, and dedication to orchestral music shaped generations of musicians on both sides of the Atlantic. He died on June 6, 2026, at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife and companion of 51 years, Mary Young Bragado, his son and daughter, Julio and Ilia, and his grandchildren, Max, Alejandro, and Ashton.

Born in Spain, Bragado-Darman devoted his life to the pursuit of musical excellence. A gifted pianist before turning to conducting, he developed a reputation for combining intellectual rigor with expressive warmth. Over a career spanning more than five decades, he earned admiration for his interpretations of both the classical repertoire and the music of Spanish composers, becoming a respected ambassador for Spain's musical heritage.

Among his most enduring achievements was his role as the founding Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León, which he led from 1991 to 2000. Under his guidance, the orchestra established itself as one of Spain's leading cultural institutions, setting standards of artistic excellence that continue to define the ensemble today.

Bragado-Darman also enjoyed a distinguished career in the United States. He served as Music Director of the Louisville Orchestra and later led the Monterey Symphony in California from 2004 to 2020. During his sixteen-year tenure in Monterey, he elevated the orchestra's artistic profile, expanded its repertoire, and cultivated a deep connection with audiences. In recognition of his contributions, he was named Music Director Emeritus upon his retirement.

Throughout his career, he collaborated with many of the world's most celebrated soloists and artists, earning praise for his musicianship, preparation, and unwavering commitment to the score. His recordings, including works by Joaquín Rodrigo, Joaquín Turina, and Alberto Ginastera, remain valuable contributions to the recorded classical canon.

Those who worked with Bragado-Darman remember not only his musical gifts but also his generosity, curiosity, and passion for education. He inspired young musicians, championed artistic excellence, and approached every rehearsal and performance with enthusiasm and purpose.

His legacy lives on in the orchestras he shaped, the musicians he mentored, the audiences he moved, and the recordings that preserve his artistry. He is remembered as a conductor of conviction, a devoted advocate for music, and a cultural bridge between Spain and the United States.

Max Bragado-Darman's life was defined by a profound love of music. That love resonated through every performance he led and will continue to echo long after his final curtain call.

He will be deeply missed and gratefully remembered.



Editorial

Why it's so good

WE ALL know that life in a small town — especially one as beautiful as Carmel — comes with many advantages over living in a big city: a stronger sense of community, less traffic and shorter commutes, very little crime, a slower and less stressful pace, more access to nature and fresh air, greater privacy and a family-friendly atmosphere.

But a spirited debate broke out on X (formerly Twitter) over the weekend — not just about small towns, but specifically about Carmel — when a user named Joe Cohen posted this:

“Why does Carmel-by-the-Sea seemingly have five times as many occupied storefronts and restaurants as Santa Monica, despite having a much smaller nearby population and far fewer hotel rooms?”

Some of the people who responded took the question seriously, including a user called Economy Politics, who said, “Santa Monica has a ton of new commercial space built over the last 20 years, and banks prevent owners from renting out below market rate. I’m guessing that Carmel never over-built, and their higher-end stores and restaurants have far less competition.”

EK Dagenfield made a similar point, suggesting that “commercial real estate in Carmel is owned by much smaller, local landlords who are more willing to cut deals with good tenants. Because they’re local, they also have a vested interest in keeping storefronts occupied because it improves quality of life for everyone.”

Other users blamed the Southern California city’s empty storefronts on a declining quality of life.

“Santa Monica used to have hippies yelling at people about Trump, and they were viewed by tourists as quaint and harmless, but the transients that have taken over the streets and beaches now are neither,” said Brendan Bellina.

“Santa Monica is littered with criminal vagrants, and nobody wants to be accosted or step in human excrement while out to dinner,” said Peter Cole.

But others credited Carmel’s virtues for its downtown full of stores, art galleries and restaurants.

“It’s very simple — they don’t allow much public disorder, and Carmel is far from high-density housing and public transportation,” said theunreality. “The wealthy love dogs and mind their own business,” offered Gabrielle Sanchez. “The Monterey Bay area is genuinely heaven on earth,” said RIP. “While Southern California has the best weather in the country, once you drive up Highway 1, it’s staggeringly beautiful,” added prevaricator.

“Carmel doesn’t have empty storefronts because it’s beautiful, and it’s kept beautiful,” agreed Steve Stelter. “The population in Carmel is much wealthier than Santa Monica’s. They also seem much less scared to leave the house,” offered Adamas Nemesis. “My guess is that Carmel actually enforces laws,” said Adam Deermount. “Carmel has crystal blue water. Santa Monica has caca water,” said UCLA221.

Some responses to Cohen’s question were a bit more cynical.

“The stores in Carmel are owned by the wives of the wealthy, and the economics don’t need to make sense,” claimed someone named Stefano. “Carmel is full of, ‘You are not rich until your wife has a side hustle that loses \$10,000 per month’ people,” agreed Harry Burmar.

All of the above could be true. But perhaps the most apt comment came from somebody named Butters, who said Carmel is as great as it is “because the mayor is Clint Eastwood.”

In fact, it’s been nearly 40 years since Eastwood rode into Carmel City Hall. But it turns out the secret ingredient to the town’s success is a little bit of Hollywood combined with a whole lot of Eastwood-style small-town common sense.

BEST of BATES



“Hello, sweetheart, do me a favor. Go online and see if there’s a McDonald’s in Carmel-by-the-Sea.”

Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. Letters cannot exceed 350 words, and must include the author’s name and home town. We reserve the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication and to edit for length and clarity.

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

Emergency planning

Dear Editor,

After reading the comments about the fire evacuation plan implemented by the Carmel Police Department, I got to thinking about the process of recognizing a possible problem such as a fire, studying what should be done, and the best way to accomplish the goals of evacuation.

For a town that only now is getting street numbers on homes and frequently votes “no” on most things, this fire evacuation plan was no small task. As one person wrote, during the drill where police officers were following the fire evacuation plan, the writer was inconvenienced because they couldn’t proceed the way they had decided they wanted to. I would bet this first draft will be tweaked several times until the best of all solutions to the problem is reached.

Considering the situation, the number of access points and escape routes, if you

have what you feel is a better plan than what was presented, let the decision makers know. It boils down to this: What is the emergency, how do I respond, where do I need to go, and how do I get there? You’ll get the answer.

David Byers,
San Jose

Point Lobos parking

Dear Editor,

Ruthann Donahue’s recent letter raises concerns about the proposed parking program at Point Lobos, but it also reflects a misunderstanding of the numbers being discussed.

The 900 reservations referenced are not parking spaces. They represent an estimated number of visitors who can utilize parking within Point Lobos in a day. California State Parks’ visitor use survey found that visitors arrive in groups averaging approximately three people per vehicle and stay an average of two to three hours. Because the park’s 150 parking spaces turn over throughout the day, each space accommodates multiple visitors. Visitation consistently exceeds the park’s parking capacity, resulting in miles of roadside parking, dangerous pedestrian activity and significant congestion along Highway 1.

The letter also suggests that our program, ParkIt, would eliminate spontaneous visitation. Unfortunately, spontaneous visitation is already unavailable on most days. Visitors routinely encounter full parking lots and are forced to park far from

See LETTERS page 25A

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The Carmel Pine Cone

<https://carmelpinecone.com>

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. 112 No. 24 • June 12, 2026

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A California Corporation

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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

Mom, you're embarrassing me

JULIET POOL has long been enchanted by stories — true or not true, fiction or fantasy. The idea that someone could imagine a tale and line up the words — choosing those that will paint a picture, evoke emotion, take her out of the moment and into wherever the story is going — cre-

ates moments of magic right in the middle of real life.

Great Lives

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

Pool's passion for reading and for spreading the opportunity to others eventually led her to become the executive director for Monterey County Free Libraries Foundation, which provides advocacy and financial support for the county's 17 local libraries and six bookmobiles. But that's not where her career began.

She was 15 years old when she and her mom first visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium. As they witnessed the waves rolling in from the sea, watched as aquarists fed sharks in the Kelp Forest exhibit, and reached into the shallow water of the touch pool to interact with bat rays, Pool's mother said to nearby staff, "My daughter wants to get a job here someday."

Pool recalled feeling mortified. And yet, a dozen years later, she did just that. Soon after, she participated in an internship



Juliet Pool

program through the Catalina Island Marine Institute, which brought in summer staff to put on engaging deck shows as part of its aquarium education department. "I was in my late 20s, wearing decorator crab and sea otter costumes," said Pool. "It was fun, but I was more excited by a second internship, where I got to feed turtles and bat rays as I took care of sea animals behind the scenes."

Pool moved on to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, where she spent 18 years, ultimately serving as manager of the Ocean Learning Adventures Program, taking guests behind the scenes to explore elements of the sea up close. An environmental advocate and educator, she also took guests out on a sailboat to talk about ocean conservation.

She said, "We started our adventures program as a small activity that grew to bring in a million dollars in revenue. That's the way things happen for me. I discover a small niche that speaks to me and feels like it has great potential, and then I find a way to make it grow and flourish."

Finding her way

Pool, who grew up in Calistoga in the Napa Valley, was exploring international studies at World College West, a small campus in Petaluma, when she decided she needed to explore a bigger world. That meant heading overseas in search of ways

See LIVES next page

From the mayor's desk —

Same story, half a world away

By DALE BYRNE

I RECEIVED an unexpected message recently from Fuheis, a community of 22,000 people in the hills northwest of Amman, Jordan. Known for oak trees, olive groves and a deep history, they told me they are struggling to hold onto what makes their town worth living in as the modern world presses in from every direction. Sound familiar? The representatives asked how a small coastal community managed to protect its character for more than a century against the relentless pressure of tourism, development, and change.

What principles guided us? What could never be sacrificed? What advice would we offer a community fighting the same battle half a world away?

The decision that shaped everything

What I told them first was this: Carmel's character was not entirely planned. It emerged from an unlikely collision in the early 1900s between a land developer's vision and a wave of artists, writers, and bohemians who arrived looking for a place to settle. Out of that combination came a

conviction that hardened into a mantra: Protect the character above all else.

That character expanded over time to include the arts, protections for the endemic Monterey pine and cypress, cottage architecture evolving into historic treasures, curbside streets that avoided existing trees, and human-scaled buildings. Then came the absence of chain retail and fast food, strict signage ordinances and careful zoning. It required generations willing to say "no," even to things that made short-term economic sense but caused long-term cultural damage.

The pressures we are living through

But I also told them something harder. Carmel is living through a moment that tests everything we built. Street addresses after 110 years. State-mandated fire safety rules reshaping our forested neighborhoods. Housing mandates straining design standards. Deferred maintenance, pension liability, and parking pressures all demanding hard choices. With school attendance down 50 percent and roughly 60 percent

See MAYOR page 37A

'Wildflower' sees her life and work bloom over eight decades

AT 85, Monterey artist Patricia Preston is statuesque, with bright, flirty eyes, an adventurous smile and Rhonda Fleming-red hair that cascades over her shoulders. Her wardrobe reflects a creative eye for color that also defines her art.

"I've been fascinated with color all my life, and I became more enamored after I moved here," said Preston, whose medium of choice is batik, an ancient Indonesian textile art form that employs a wax-resistant technique to create intricate, luminous patterns on fabric — typically cotton or silk.

Since 2004, Preston has exhibited her expressionist-style landscapes, seascapes, florals, figures and cats (her best sellers)

became her teacher, mentor and employer.

Sexton's tutelage — "very precise and picky," she said — greatly advanced and enhanced Preston's skills as a batik artist.

"I don't know that I'd say Gabriel was famous, but she was a very popular artist, and her work sold so well that she couldn't keep up," Preston said. "So she'd actually have me create some of her art — using her designs and materials — then put her name on it."

"I really didn't mind. I was glad to do it, and I learned a lot along the way," she said.

Finding true love

In 1970, at age 30, she found love again — the real thing this time.

Stan Preston was "... the man of my dreams ... my soulmate," she said of the person she married in 1974. He became the father of her younger daughter, Amy, an edgy ceramics artist who resides in Atlanta.

During their 31-year marriage, Stan had a successful career making and selling automotive parts, while his wife ran her own catering business and experienced success with her art, winning awards in juried shows and being featured in several

Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

at Venture Gallery in Monterey's Portola Plaza.

She grew up in Chicago "like a little wildflower," she said — an athletic tomboy running free and riding her bike while her mother took care of her sickly little sister.

She graduated from high school in 1958 with two goals.

"I wanted to become a dietician, and I wanted to catch a man," she remembered, reflecting the mindset of an era when options for young females weren't quite as expansive.

"So I went off to Purdue University, studied dietetics and a bit of fashion design (her first exposure to batik techniques), and married the first man who I thought loved me," said Preston, who relocated to Europe with her first husband, a U.S. Army lieutenant who fathered the first of her two daughters, Elizabeth, a Seaside resident.

Traveling around Europe was wonderful, she remembers. But her husband? "He was never a good guy," said Preston, who divorced him after three years.

Gabriel's words

She returned to the United States as a single mom in 1968, settling in Atlanta, where she sowed a few wild oats and embraced the "hippie lifestyle" — minus the drugs.

"I tried pot and didn't like it," she said. "I remember going to some parties, and I had a lot of fun, but as a single mom, I didn't have a lot of time for that kind of thing."

Atlanta also is where she met Gabriel Sexton, a well-established batik artist who



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Patricia Preston uses an ancient technique called batik to create colorful, textile-based landscapes, seascapes, figures and florals for Venture Gallery.


Southern publications, including Atlanta Magazine.

"My parents wound up retiring in Carmel Valley — they had a home on a hill above the Village," she said. "Stan and I would come from Atlanta to visit during the summer, and we fell in love with the area."

Their move to Carmel in 2003 ignited a new artistic spark in Patricia and an all-new appreciation for color.

"I'm inspired by the scenery. I'm inspired by my moods, and I just can't get enough color," said Preston, who devotes time to her batik art almost every day in

See ARTIST page 33A



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CADDIES

From page 1A

many times a day they would do it.

For years, the caddies negotiated with Caddiemaster via a liaison board to hash out scheduling, pay, seniority and other labor issues. "That was working well, and we were able to maintain the status quo and have it be equitable for all parties," Kipina said. "On May 1, we lost all that. We have no seat at the table, no voice in salaries, no voice in scheduling, no seniority, when people have spent 20, 30, 40 years basing their lives around those things. All that's gone."

The company notified caddies in February that the transition from independent contractors to hourly employees would take effect May 1. Caddiemaster CEO Don Costello said the change "was driven by a desire to further elevate the standard of service within one of the premier caddie programs in golf," would provide "greater consistency and alignment in how those services are delivered," and would bring with it "improved workplace protections for caddies, more predictable scheduling, and access to compensation and benefits that better reflect the value caddies bring to the overall experience."

"It also enables enhanced training, clearly defined service standards and stronger operational oversight, all of which support a more consistent and elevated guest experience," he said, and noted the transition is becoming increasingly common across the industry.

Costello said it was not made in response to labor-based legal actions or changes in California law.

'A shock'

But it came as a surprise to the caddies who have accompanied players at Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill and Spanish Bay for decades. "That was a shock, because it's been an independent-contractor model for decades," said Tony Malokas, who's

worked as a caddie for 26 years. "All of us were pretty angry about that, because they didn't consult us and only gave us two months to prepare for something that would upend our lives."

Following the February notification, Costello said the company "conducted multiple meetings and communications with caddies regarding compensation, scheduling, benefits, operational procedures and workplace expectations associated with the transition."

In light of those conversations, he said, adjustments were made, including giving caddies more say in their scheduling, loosening the dress code, reducing the weight limits for double-bag push carts, adding a \$10-per-bag payment, and making caddies eligible for vendor discounts on clothing and gear. Costello said most of those changes were made before Caddiemaster learned of their intent to organize.

More or less

"As part of the recent transition from independent contractors to employees, caddies are now receiving better pay and valuable new benefits, including overtime eligibility, paid sick leave, access to vision and dental insurance, a retirement plan through a 401(k) with a company contribution, workers' compensation protections, significantly reduced wait times that are now compensated, and much more," he said. "For more than 30 years, Caddiemaster has worked to create opportunities for caddies, and we remain focused on supporting the people who are essential to the game and the experience it provides."

He said they are getting paid more, not less, as employees.

"Overall, gross pay increased by more than 12% during the initial payroll periods following the transition, with some caddies receiving increases higher than 25%," Costello noted. "Gross earnings increased for more than 90% of the caddies."

Their hourly pay is \$17.54 to \$24.98, with the lowest pay applying to about 10% of the jobs, according to Costello. Tips are not included in those rates.

Another caddie, Jeff Crawford, who's been on the job for 22 years, said he's seeing less cash.

"It was a shock to the system for a lot of people," he said. "I'm losing money. I've calculated it out."

'Better for everyone'

While he's not directly involved in the battle between Caddiemaster and the caddies, Pebble Beach Co. CEO Dave Stivers said the company's ultimate goal is to have a program "that's better for our guests and better for our caddies."

He also acknowledged it's up to them to decide whether they want to unionize, but if he were in their shoes, he would give the new arrangement a chance.

"It's early in the transition process," he said. "I would give it time to see if it all works out before making a decision to unionize."

"Caddies are an important part of delivering the special experience that defines Pebble Beach. That has been true for over a century, and it is true today," he said. "We recognize the rollout of the new program was difficult, and there were several significant issues raised."

He said the caddie management company "knows it, takes it seriously, and is working to get this right."

Kipina said he's confident the union will do a good job of representing them. He admitted he was concerned it wouldn't understand the job caddies do and how it's different from other service roles, but was pleasantly surprised.

"They've been nothing but exceptional, and I'm not exaggerating," he said. "Our concern when we were going to marry up with any union was, will they understand



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

Phil Mickelson confers with his caddie during the 2012 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

what we do for a living? They were able to get the nuances very quickly."

Malokas said most of the caddies were soon on board, with about 80% signing the petition for an election to be administered by the National Labor Relations Board. Since then, posters have gone up supporting and opposing unionization.

Assuming the initiative passes, "the employer must come to the table and bargain with us in good faith," Malokas said. "We have to work out among the caddies exactly what we want to fight for."

But he also wants people to know they are mobilizing because they love their jobs and Pebble Beach.

"I don't want people to think I'm unhappy," he said. "I've built my life on this job, because it's such a good job, and I want it to stay that way."

LIVES

From previous page

to make a difference outside her community. As an exchange student, she spent time in Israel and, through Rotary Club, a summer in Paris, teaching English to children.

"I also spent three summers in Denali National Park in Alaska waiting tables and meeting people, with plans to finish school in Petaluma. But I fell in love with Alaska first and a boy second. I decided to stay and get my degree in wildlife biology and photography at the University of Alaska Fairbanks."

During her studies, Pool imagined that she might become a park ranger, but her vision shifted when she realized how much she loves the ocean, leading to her long affiliation with related nonprofits.

But eventually, she returned to her devotion to books. Pool recalled that she walked away from her interview with the Monterey County Free Libraries Foundation unable to, as she put it, "get a read" on how it went until she got the job.

"And here I am, and I love it. I have worked in the nonprofit sector, I have been on boards," said Pool, "but I have never had a board this lovely, with the kindness,

collaboration and support of people who work together as copilots. I think it's because equitable access across Monterey County is what matters to all of us, and it begins with literacy." Libraries house plenty of other resources, as well.

"Not everyone realizes that libraries offer more than books," she said. "In addition, we host educational programming, a summer reading club, a basic language learning program in more than 110 languages, plus Lunch at the Library for children and teens, and so much more. A library is a key community resource."

Listener

Pool still loves to read, she said. "But what I really love is story. And today, I admit, I'm an audiobook listener, mostly because I also love to do art, and I often listen to stories while I cut glass or do other creative projects. And I find myself attached to the author and to the voice of the audio reader."

Today, she defines herself as an environmental advocate and educator, coach, mom, wife, artist, poet and literacy champion.

"I am motivated by where I find I'm making a difference," she said. "It started in the ocean and then went to the land. Now, I'm making a difference, via literacy initiatives, through reading and imagination."



Edgar's

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LETTERS

From page 22A

the park, sometimes walking miles along Highway 1 to reach the coast. Many families, older adults, and visitors with mobility limitations simply turn around and leave.

ParkIt is designed to make access more reliable, equitable and safe. The reservation system will include both advance reservations and day-of reservations, ensuring opportunities for local residents, spontaneous visitors and travelers planning ahead. By spreading visitation more evenly throughout the day, our program will also help reduce documented impacts to the reserve's natural resources, including trail erosion, vegetation damage, wildlife disturbance and other environmental degradation associated with peak-hours overcrowding.

Support for ParkIt extends well beyond the project's partners. Public safety agencies, including law enforcement and fire protection agencies, have expressed concerns about existing conditions along Highway 1. Organizations serving Title I students and underprivileged families have also endorsed the project because they recognize the importance of safe, reliable and equitable access to Point Lobos.

Point Lobos belongs to everyone. ParkIt's goal is simple: Preserve public access while improving safety and protecting the reserve for future generations. I welcome our community to reach out to me anytime with questions or concerns.

Steffanie Gamecho,
ParkIt project director

Fan mail

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the many insightful and compelling writings of Caitlin Conrad, whose contributions to your publication consistently enrich the discourse on local and state politics, economics and issues affecting our area.

Caitlin's articles get right to the point and stand out for their clarity, depth and intellectual honesty. Whether tackling complex issues or offering thoughtful commentary on current events, they manage to inform, challenge and inspire readers in equal measure. Their concise, elegant prose combined with rigorous analysis makes each piece a pleasure to read and a valuable addition to public conversation. In an era of hasty opinions and superficial coverage, Caitlin exemplifies the highest standards of journalistic and literary craft.

I particularly enjoyed her column on the dismal failure of California's education system — the waste and ineffective leadership that more money cannot fix. It not only provided fresh perspectives but also encouraged deeper reflection among your readership.

Thank you for featuring such exceptional talent. Writers like Caitlin are a credit to your publication and a gift to your audience. I look forward to many more thought-provoking contributions in the future.

Victor Simone,
Pebble Beach

GAVEL

From page 4A

molesting Doe 1 and sexually assaulting Doe 2 and was sentenced to 27 years in state prison.

Prior to his release from prison, Belle was evaluated by doctors from the Department of State Hospitals due to his qualifying prior sexually violent convictions and was deemed to meet the criteria for a sexually violent predator. On July 9, 2020, the DA's office filed a petition to prosecute Belle as a sexually violent predator. After serving his prison sentence, Belle was admitted to the Department of State Hospitals on Sept. 25, 2020, while awaiting jury trial.

None of Belle's victims were required to testify at his sexually violent predator jury trial.





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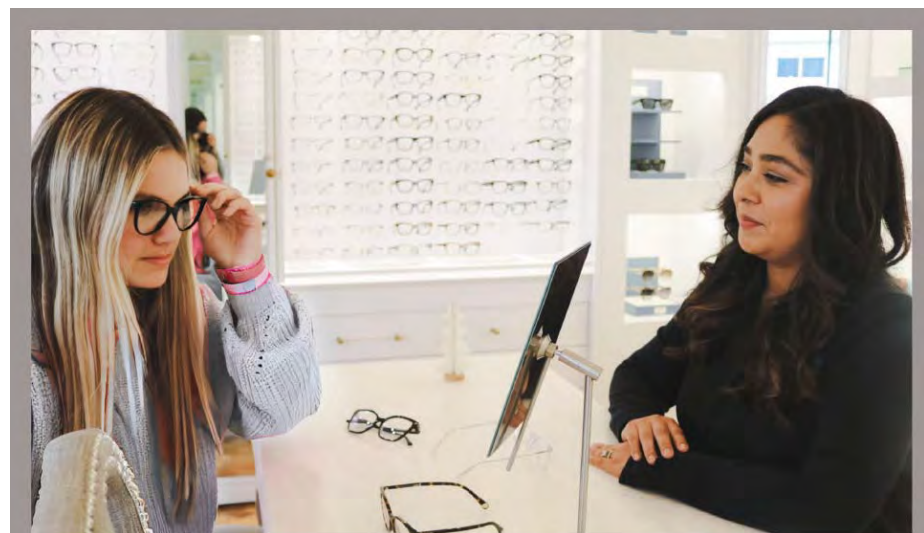
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Museum welcomes ‘Along the Pacific’s Edge’ with reception Wednesday

CAPTURING THE rich tapestry of life above and below the surf, photographer Jason Bradley unveils an exhibit of his images Wednesday at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History. The museum will host a free public reception from 5 to 7 p.m.

Bradley has been photographing California’s coastline

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

for more than three decades. Eight years ago, he opened Bradley Photographic at 566 Lighthouse Ave. in Pacific Grove.

“Working above and beneath the surface, Bradley has photographed breaching humpback whales, sea lions, coastal storms, underwater environments, and the ever-changing interaction between ocean, land, light and life,” according to the museum. “From Monterey Bay’s nutrient-rich waters to coastal cliffs, kelp forests, shifting beaches and quiet tidal textures, his work explores both the dramatic and subtle rhythms of the coast.”

“Along the Pacific’s Edge” will be on display through Sept. 14. “These photographs invite viewers to slow down, observe closely and experience California’s living coastline through the eyes of someone who has spent decades documenting it,” added the museum, which is located at Forest and Central avenues.

■ Meet Dan

Offering a peek inside more than a dozen artist-owned galleries downtown, the latest Carmel Art Walk is set for

Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Joining the walk for the first time June 13 is Dan Louth Gallery, which opened its doors in March on Mission Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

“Working primarily in acrylic and mixed media, Louth builds depth through layered pigment, gestural mark-making and textural variation,” according to the gallery. “The resulting compositions emphasize movement and luminosity, evoking the sensory experience of landscape while remaining nonrepresentational.”

The event is free and family friendly. Tour maps are available at participating galleries — look for blue lanterns hanging in their windows.

■ Youth poet laureate

Seeking to inspire the wordsmiths of tomorrow, the Arts Council for Monterey County has named Anton MacLachlan of Pacific Grove High School as the 2026-2027 Monterey County Youth Poet Laureate. The young poet’s term starts July 1.

The runners-up included Victoria Nuñez-Lazaro of Big Sur, Asia Bonney of Carmel High School and others. The judges included Monterey County Poet Laureate Marie Boucher.

MacLachlan was honored last Tuesday with a proclamation by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, along with a ceremony at the Marina Library. For his efforts, he will organize and participate in events throughout the



Photographer Jason Bradley captures an otter lounging in a kelp bed. An exhibit of Bradley’s work opens Wednesday in Pacific Grove.

county that promote poetry and literacy, and will receive a \$1,000 gift.

Arts4MC Executive Director Jacquie Atchison said it’s crucial to give young people creative ways to express themselves.

“Our youth carry powerful stories, perspectives and creativity that deserve to be heard,” Atchison said. “The Youth Poet Laureate program creates opportunities for young people to share their voices, inspire empowering conversations, and strengthen community through storytelling, creativity and connection.”

GUILTY

From page 6A

treatment of “life-threatening injuries.”

He was released from the hospital a few days later and booked into Monterey County Jail, where he has remained, on \$1,015,000 bail.

Twenty to life

In a Monterey County Superior Court hearing a month after his arrest, investigators said Geisen told them he had hit his wife in the head with a small dumbbell as she slept and then stabbed her before stabbing himself in a plan he devised to leave money to their son, Loch. The autopsy revealed 13 puncture wounds, an injury on the right side of her head, and a broken hand. The coroner concluded she died from multiple stab wounds.

Initially, Geisen opted not to waive his constitutional right to a speedy trial, and proceedings were scheduled to begin in early November 2025. But a few days before jury selection was set to get underway, Monterey County

Deputy Public Defender Jigar Patel requested that the date be vacated, citing the need to review newly received information.

Patel, who has been defending Geisen at taxpayer expense, said he also wanted Geisen “seen by a psychologist/psychiatrist to determine his mental state at the time of the alleged incident,” since the trial could hinge on issues of premeditation and deliberation. Prior to his arrest, Geisen had no criminal record or history of violence.

He was subjected to a mental health evaluation to determine his competency to stand trial. Monterey County Superior Court Judge Pam Butler subsequently deemed him mentally fit.

Following numerous delays over the intervening months, at a May 15 review hearing, trial dates were set, with jury selection expected to begin June 8. The lawyers and the judge planned to subject two panels of 80 prospective jurors each to a two-page questionnaire before calling them up for further vetting. Opening arguments were scheduled for June 15.

But at a June 5 hearing set “for change of plea or confirmation of jury trial,” Geisen opted for the former and pleaded guilty to second-degree murder with the use of a knife, and felony domestic violence. Garcia said Butler will sentence him to 20 years to life in prison on July 10.

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1. SUSAN AUGUSTITUS
2. Susan Augustitus
3. Susan Gray Augustitus
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S/Susan Gray Augustitus
Date signed: June 9, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 9, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026 (PC 633)

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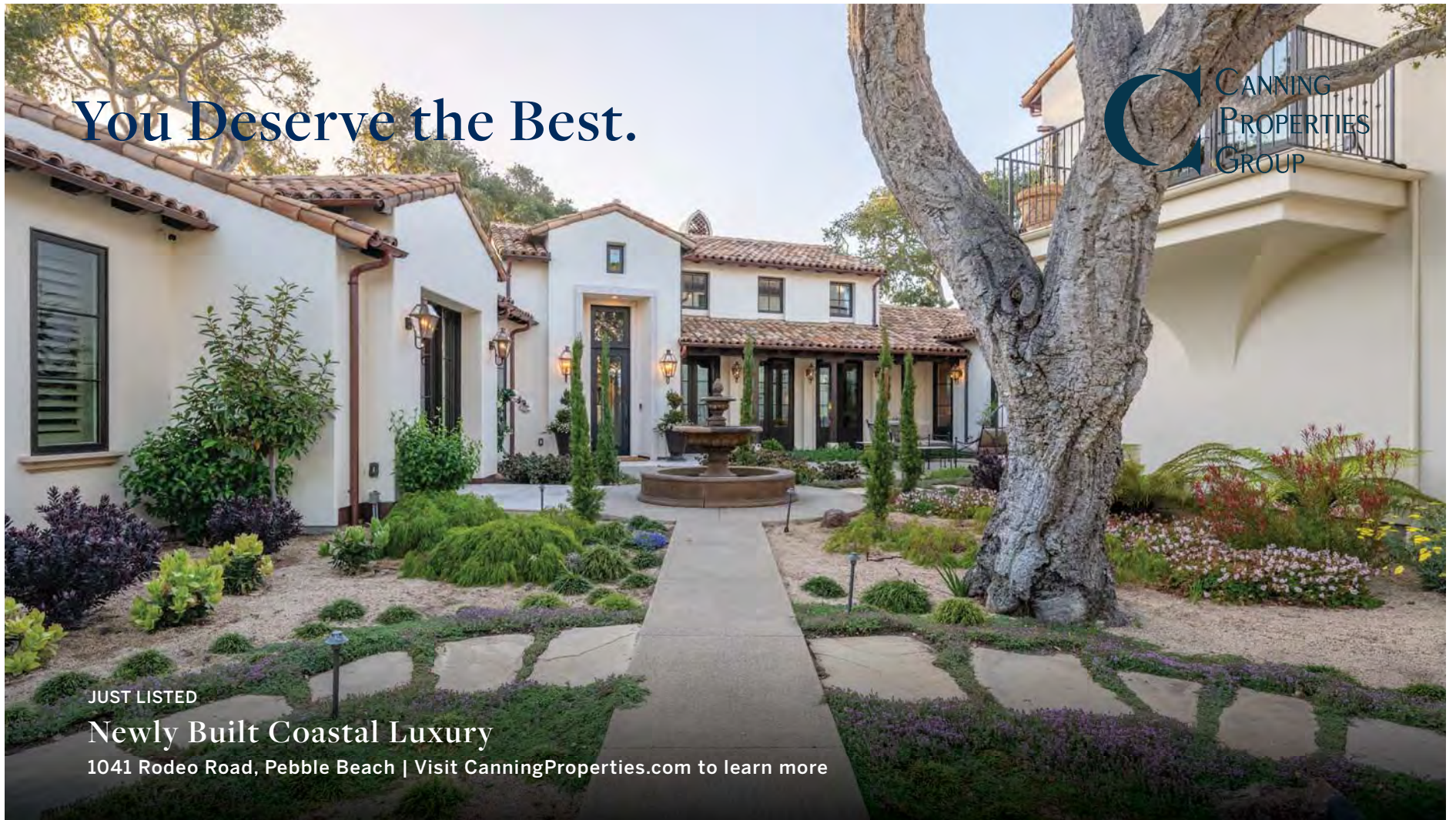
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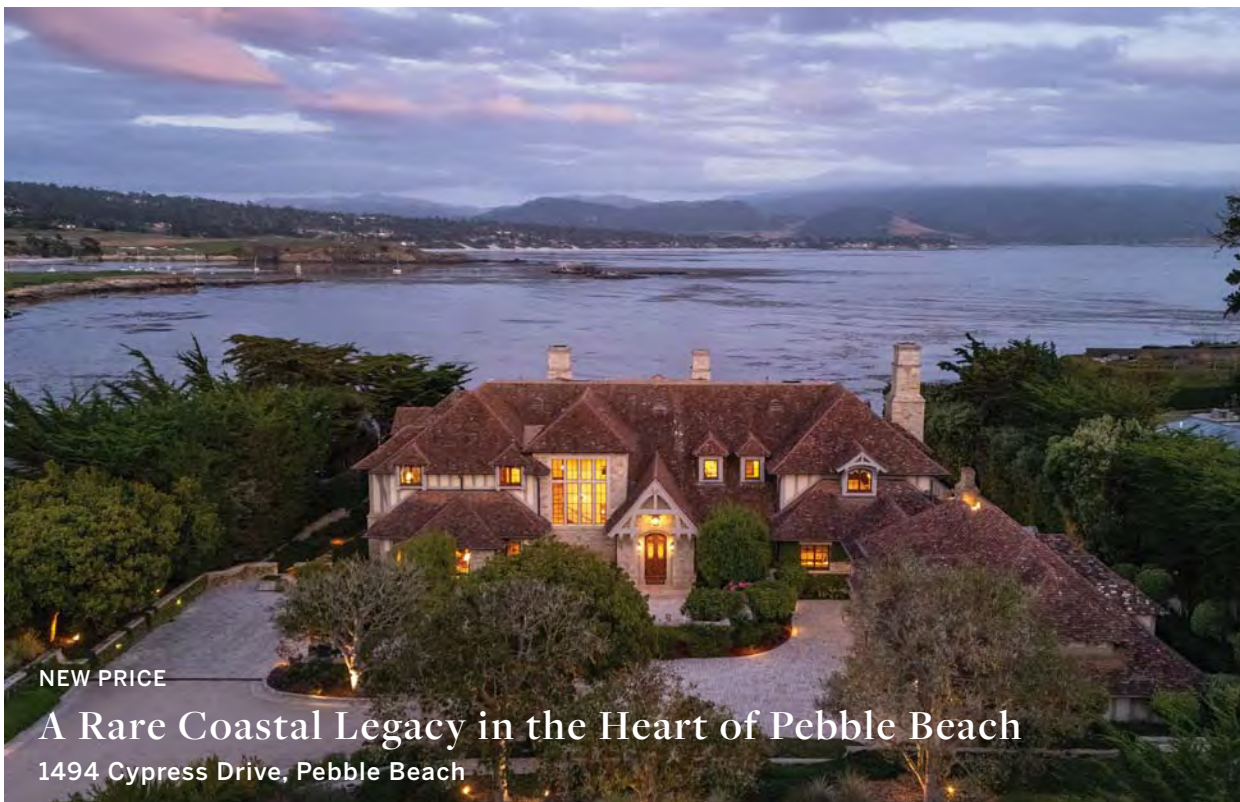


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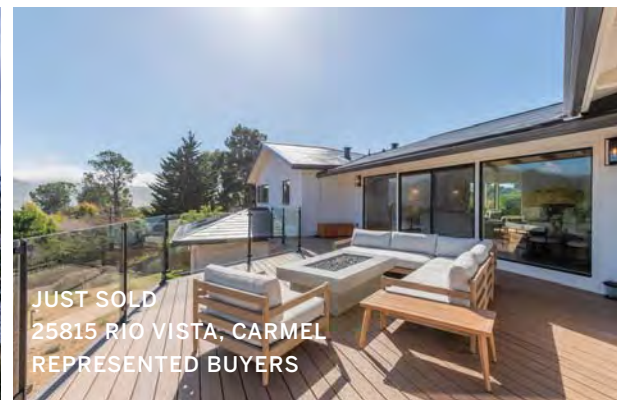
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The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

Stevenson golf team destroys competition at state championship

THE BAD news — for every other high school in the state — is that among the 130 seniors who recently collected their diplomas at Stevenson School, nary a one was on the golf team.

The good news — for Stevenson — is that all six varsity starters from a team that defied expectations on June 3 by winning the California Boys State High School Golf Championship are likely to be back next year.

Stevenson annihilated its competition at this year's state tournament, shooting 1-over-par as a team to rout runner-up De La Salle by 12 strokes at San Gabriel Country Club, a diabolically designed 6,691-yard, par-71 course in Los Angeles County.

The Pirates achieved that gobsmacking feat using a lineup that barely resembled the 2025 title team, which was led by four stellar seniors, all NCAA-level talents: Luke Brandler, a two-time Central Coast Section med-

the starting lineup, they exceeded nearly every expectation.

The freshman, Dylan Hirst, won medalist honors at the PCAL championships at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch with a 3-under-par 68, just ahead of Etcheverry (69), Will Keszler (70), Ethan Merrick (71), and Hawkins (72). The Pirates, minus-6 as a team, won the tournament by 39 strokes over runner-up Palma.

Then, they got better.

At the CCS qualifier, on the same course, they crushed second-place Gunn by 17 strokes with an ensemble effort for the ages. Hawkins won the tournament with a 4-under 67, a stroke better than second-place teammate Griffin Didier; Etcheverry and Hirst tied for third at 69.

Four Pirates with scores in the 60s in the same tournament?

"That's never happened before. It's absolutely incredible," said Justin Bates, who has coached golf at Stevenson for 19 years (seven as head coach) and has never had a deeper, more consistent team.

■ Keszler and Merrick, JV players a year ago, worked relentlessly on their golf skills during the offseason and earned starting spots this year on a roster that might've had 10 varsity-worthy players.

■ Didier transferred to Stevenson for his junior year from a tiny Colorado high school (Basalt: enrollment 424), where he placed second in the 2024 state tournament.

■ Bates has been waiting for the arrival of his star freshman since Hirst was 5 years old, keeping track of his achievements in California's junior golf world.



PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

Teammates Griffin Didier, left, and Zac Hawkins, right, led Stevenson's charge to a second-straight state championship last week, tying for third place in the 56-player field. Both shot 2-under-par 69.

■ And Hawkins (nickname, "Mr. Consistency") and Etcheverry — already committed to play Division I golf at Columbia, an Ivy League school, in 2027-28 — proved to be rock-steady veterans.

In the CCS finals — again at Laguna Seca — Stevenson crushed second-place St. Ignatius by 10 strokes, led by Hirst (6-under 65) and Etcheverry (66), who placed first and second, and Hawkins (72).

The next challenge, NorCals, is where the Pirates ran into De La Salle — an 800-pound gorilla of California high school golf (seven NorCal titles, three state championships, including 2022 and 2023) — on a cold, windy day at challenging Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore.

The Spartans, playing a familiar course, won that tournament for the fourth straight year, besting second-place Stevenson for the second year in a row, this time by 10 strokes.

See SPORTS next page

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

alist, played this spring for Princeton University, Josh Chadha competed at Lehigh, another Division I school, Marc Sasetia took a redshirt year at Bentley, and Steven Lai turned down an offer from UC Santa Barbara to study economics in Hong Kong.

Two returning players

This year's only varsity veterans, juniors Calvin Etcheverry and Zac Hawkins, almost had to step into leadership roles for an otherwise new cast of characters if the Pirates were to repeat as perennial champions of the Pacific Coast Athletic League, win the Central Coast Section crown for the fourth year in a row, contend with powerhouse De La Salle at NorCals and comfortably wear the "defending state champions" target on their backs at state.

With five juniors and a 15-year-old freshman in



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SPORTS

From previous page

“None of us were stellar that day — we all had some flaws — but it wasn’t really a blow to our confidence,” Etchevery remembered. “Winning there would’ve been amazing, but our main goal was just to get through it as a team and set ourselves up to have a good shot at state.”

But the golf course at the state tournament loomed as a wild card in the deck. The Pirates won their 2025 state championship at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Pebble Beach, which, fun fact, is 2,464 yards from Stevenson School — essentially home turf.

A punishing test

San Gabriel Country Club, which is five-and-a-half hours from home by van, is a beast, especially when the stakes are

sky-high.

“It’s an old course, built in the 1940s, which generally means tiny greens, lots of bunkers, and big trees that have been growing for 80 years,” Bates said. “You’ve got to hit fairways that are about as wide as a two-lane highway, or you’re going to be playing in the rough and trees. It’s also long (nearly 7,000 yards), so you’ve got to hit your driver on most holes.”

The entire tournament field, loaded with future NCAA Division I players, got a practice round on Tuesday that was so crowded and slow that the Pirates only played nine holes.

“At that point, I said, ‘Know what? Let’s just call it, go get some ice cream, and rest up.’ And that’s exactly what we did,” said Bates, whose team was grinding toward a six-hour round. “Then, we went to a park and threw a baseball around for a little while.”

On Wednesday morning, the Pirates

woke up feeling loose, comfortable, confident — and played lights-out golf.

“I watched Dylan play his first couple of holes and started feeling like we had a chance for something special to happen,” the coach said.

3-wood from the rough

“On the second hole, a par 5 (505 yards), he hit his drive into the rough. Then he pulled the 3-wood out of his bag — something you generally don’t want to do — and just annihilated the shot,” Bates recounted. “The ball took one hop onto the green, stopped about a foot from the cup, and he tapped in for an eagle.”

Hawkins (“probably our loudest, most fun-loving guy,” said Bates) typically is the only Pirate who dares to check his phone for the “live scoring” during a tournament. His teammates don’t want the distraction.

“They usually don’t want to know how things are going, but when our lead at state kept getting bigger, they could probably see the smile on my face from a few fairways away,” he said. “I felt like jumping up and down out there.”

Etchevery heard the news on the 12th Hole from another player in his foursome.

“It was a feeling of relief,” he said. “Deep down, I think we all felt like we had a great chance, and it was amazing to find out we had a big lead.”

Depth was the difference

Didier and Hawkins tied for third place in the 56-player field with scorecards of 2-under-par 69. Hirst was minus-1 with a 70. Etchevery birdied the 13th, 14th, and 18th holes, finishing with a 1-over-par 72. A triple bogey on 17 kept him from scoring in the 60s. Merrick (the team’s best putter) shot 76, and Keszler, after a strong first nine, carded an 82. The medalist, Drue Sanchez of De La Salle, scored a 5-under-par 66.

All six varsity Pirates and some from the talent-deep JV squad are likely to play a heavy tournament schedule this sum-

mer to improve their games and hopefully attract interest from college recruiters.

Rowing in England ...

Former Carmel Middle School student Allen Klingel, a competitive rower, is headed to England with his crewmate this summer for a month of training, with plans to compete in the Henley Royal Regatta in July.

Klingel, a Carmel resident, is a board-



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Dylan Hirst capped a stellar freshman year with a 1-under-par 70 on a punishing golf course at the San Gabriel Country Club in Los Angeles County.

ing student at Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire, where he’ll be captain of the rowing team in his senior year in hopes of attracting a scholarship to an Ivy League university.

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

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Image credit: Mary DeNeale Morgan (1868–1948), *Late Afternoon, Monterey Coast*, c. 1930–1931, oil on canvas, 39 x 35 in. Collection of Marilyn and James Hebenstreit.

Food & Wine
Galleries and Art

This Week

Live Music,
Clubs and Events

Ukulele master back at Sunset Center, Hornsby plays Golden State

BEST KNOWN as the subject of one of YouTube's first-ever videos, ukulele master **Jake Shimabukuro** takes the stage Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Sunset Center. The concert marks the instrumentalist's third visit to Sunset since 2016.

The performing arts center says Shimabukuro will deliver "a truly spectacular night of music full of aloha spirit and full-on good-time summer vibes."

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

A native of Hawaii who is celebrated for his extraordinary skill, Shimabukuro has won 16 Na Hoku Hanohano Awards — the state's equivalent of a Grammy Award.

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Best known for his 1986 pop hit, "The Way It Is," singer and pianist Bruce Hornsby plays Saturday in Monterey.

Henry Kapono, a 2007 Grammy nominee, along with singer/guitarist **Jon Yamasato** and percussionist **Lopaka Colon**, who play with Shimabukuro in the trio Pure Heart.

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Free on Friday

A day earlier, on Friday at 6 p.m., **Stonum and Drybread** present a free outdoor concert at Sunset Center. The duo — pianist and vocalist **Leah Stonum** and bassist/saxophonist **Mel Drybread** — once toured with singer Andy Williams and performed alongside rock 'n' roll legend Chuck Berry. "The duo has captivated audiences across the country with their rich musical chemistry and wide-ranging repertoire," Sunset Center added.

The show is part of the Terrace Hour series of free concerts.

People may bring their own food and nonalcoholic drinks to the show, while wine, beer and craft canned cocktails will be available onsite.

'Summerfest' continues

Sunkiss'd Mozart's third annual "Summerfest" — a series of five chamber music concerts in intimate settings across the Monterey Peninsula — wraps up this week with performances June 12 at Joaquin Turner Gallery and June 13-14 at Corral Wine Estate Vineyard in Corral de Tierra.

Founded by artistic director and violinist **Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu**, the series showcases "a cast of seasoned performing artists from around the globe," along with "promising newcomers from top conservatories."

For more details, see skmozart.com.

New album, local show

Three-time Grammy Award winner **Bruce Hornsby**,



A master at playing the ukelele, Jake Shimabukuro takes the stage Friday, 7:30 p.m., at Sunset Center.

best known for his 1986 No. 1 pop hit, "The Way It Is," plays Saturday, 7 p.m., at Golden State Theatre in Monterey. Hornsby will be accompanied by his longtime band, the Noisemakers.

He has recorded 14 albums since his debut, including his latest, "Indigo," which was released two months ago.

Besides his solo career, Hornsby joined the Grateful Dead in the early 1990s, playing more than 100 concerts with the band.

Tickets start at \$61. The theater is at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit goldenstatetheatre.com.

See MUSIC page 34A

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SUN 6/21 - 7/26 2:00P Matinees
SUN 7/12 2:00P ASL Matinee
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FOOD & WINE

A beach battle, and a good-and-fishy evening at Meals on Wheels

THE LAST sips and bites of Culinary Week are being served up, and Pebble Beach took on Pebble Beach in a bartender battle. A seafood dinner comes with a side of charity, a restaurant family welcomes

cial wine pairings and by-the-glass selections from the winery's private labels, and Alvarado Street Brewery in Carmel Plaza is serving Korean-Style Loco Moco and a four-beer flight for \$25.

which makes stops at four downtown establishments from 2:30 to 5 p.m. for \$180 per person.

And Grasing's at Mission and Sixth is serving a chef's tasting four-course prix fixe for \$125.

For details on these options, go to carmelcalifornia.com/carmel-by-the-sea-culinary-week.



Monterey Peninsula Meals on Wheels' executive chef, Chase Ewing, will be cooking up a special dinner highlighting the skills of local fishermen and the largesse of Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust.

Soup to Nuts

their son to the business and puts it up for sale, and those wild party people at the P.G. Chamber are putting on a masked gala. Grab a bowl of peanuts or popcorn and read on.

■ Culinary Week options

Carmel Culinary Week, the brainchild of the city's tourism organization, Visit Carmel, kicked off June 5 and wraps up Saturday, but there are opportunities to partake before the party ends.

Several participating restaurants have been offering weeklong specials, like Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse's Heads or Tails All Day, which offers guests the chance to flip a coin for a 25-cent drink, and its Birds & Bubbles promotion includes fried chicken and sparkling wine for two for \$185.

Vin by the Sea on Dolores north of Sixth has a three-course prix fixe available for lunch or dinner (Parisian gnocchi, main course choice of black cod or crispy Louisiana chicken, and dessert of chocolate tahini pot de creme) with a glass of Champagne for \$65 plus tax and tip.

Chez Noir on Fifth near Dolores continues its Caraccioli Cellars takeover, offering spe-

Nora's, a newer restaurant on San Carlos near Seventh, added a special lemon ricotta pasta to its menu for the week, and Toro Sushi on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth has salmon "smashburger" nigiri for \$10 and spicy tuna sliders for \$8.

Bud's at La Playa Hotel at Camino Real and Eighth is serving a \$26 tuna tostada and pouring spicy cucumber mezcal margaritas for \$18.

On June 12 at 6 p.m., The Pocket on Lincoln south of Fifth is hosting A Caribbean Table, a five-course island-inspired dinner with rum pairings, for \$130 per person, and The Art of the Plate Food Tour,

■ Halkias wins P.B. battle

It was a battle of the Hs during last week's Battle of the Bartenders, when Haley Halkias of The Bench faced off with fellow Lodge at Pebble Beach mixologist Houston Hanson of The Tap Room. April Montgomery, proprietor of the Links Club in Carmel Plaza that hosted the June 1 competition, announced Halkias won the bout to take home a trophy, \$500 in cash and the chance to compete in a final round later this year.

Montgomery said the competition unfolded across three demanding rounds.

First, the bartenders had to create sangria using SeaGlass sauvignon blanc, and the judges favored Houston's version, Par for the Pear Sangria, for its balance and technique.

Focusing on the evening's sponsoring spirit, Tres Agave Tequila, the second round had contestants create drinks that would highlight its character. Halkias won that one when the four judges voted unanimously in favor of her Thai Me Up cocktail featuring Thai basil and cucumber.

The final round featured Amador whiskey and gave Halkias and Houston each 15 minutes to come up with a judge-pleasing cocktail using the Links Club's pantry of mixers. The scales again tipped in Halkias' direction, and she was named the Pebble

Beach champion. She will advance to the Top Shelf finals in November to compete against other regional battle champions, including Carmel Valley winner Brian Martinez from Bernardus Lodge and Carmel-by-the-Sea victor Matthew Salazar of the Links Club.

■ Fisheries fundraiser

Reservations are open for a "Get Hooked" Dinner June 19 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula in Pacific Grove. It's one of eight benefit dinners and is described by organizers as "a celebration of the partnership of the Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust and

Continues next page



Owner Bill Lee has put Kona Steak and Seafood in Del Monte Center on the market and is simultaneously welcoming his son, Kai, into the restaurant world. The recent addition of an early dinner special has become quite popular.

FROM THE SANCHEZ FAMILY & STAFF

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FOOD & WINE

From previous page

Meals on Wheels through the Community Seafood Program to provide nutritious, sustainable local seafood” to those in need.

Briefly, the Fisheries Trust purchases the catch from local fishermen who then deliver it to seven local food relief partners. According to the Trust’s website, it has purchased more than 35,000 pounds of seafood for more than 131,000 meals.

Meals on Wheels chef Chase Ewing is creating a multicourse meal highlighting the local maritime harvest, including local rock cod, Santa Barbara mussels, uni (sea urchin), and wild salmon. Dessert is red velvet cake.

Tickets are \$100 per person. Purchase or learn more at montereybayfisheriestrust.org/get-hooked-events, or visit mowmp.org/gethooked.

Lee to sell Kona

Kona Steak and Seafood in Del Monte Shopping in Monterey is on the market. Owner and serial restaurateur Bill Lee — whose previous enterprises have included Bahama Billy’s, Sur restaurant and Billy Quon’s — said he wants to take a thoughtful approach to the eventual transition.

“Kona isn’t just a restaurant to me,” said Lee. “It’s people. It’s relationships. It’s years of seeing familiar faces, celebrating milestones, and being part of this community. When I think about the future, it’s about making sure all of that continues.”

Tiki-chic

The energetic 73-year-old said he started out as a waiter at Willie Lum’s, a Chinese restaurant on Cannery Row in the spot now occupied by the Chart House.

He was also general manager of the Sardine Factory and worked with Ted Balistreri and Bert Cutino for 20 years. One of Lee’s guiding restaurant principles — “You’re only as good as your last meal” — probably came from them, he said. It’s hard to be certain after 55 years of running his own businesses, though.

“I love openings,” he said, and he has 12 restaurants to his credit, plus other enterprises. The inspiration for Kona Steak and Seafood came from a trip to Hawaii for a wedding. The tiki-chic restaurant employs 80 people and seats 175.

The restaurant stopped serving lunch in October for what Lee called “a reset.” But a pleasant change to the business he

runs with his wife, Teresa, is the addition of his son, Kai Raine Lee, to the staff. Kai recently finished his bachelor’s degree in business at San Diego State and has come with “enthusiasm, ideas and education,” said Lee, who is tempering his own approach just a bit, too.

“I like to run the show,” he said, and he wants to make sure he gives Kai “some guard rails” as they look things over and decide what changes to make.

“We don’t want to throw out the baby with the bathwater,” Lee said.

One new addition, the Kona Sunset three-course dinner — orders have to be in by the end of the first hour of service, and



April Montgomery (left), proprietor of the Links Club, awards the victorious Haley Halkias a trophy after a recent round of the Battle of the Bartenders.

it’s available every day except Saturday — has been a hit.

“I get my Pebble Beach residents every night for it,” he said. For \$29, guests can choose an appetizer followed by one of eight entrees that include baby back ribs, panko-crusted or grilled sand dabs, and tempura prawns over fried rice, and end with a choice of desserts.

To see the full menu or make reservations, visit konamonterey.com.

And if you call the restaurant, there’s a fair chance Lee will answer the phone. He’s old-school that way.

P.G. Chamber awards

The Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce’s annual James R. Hughes Citizen of the Year Awards Gala is set for Thursday, June 18, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Asilomar Conference Grounds. Honorees will include Moe Ammar, Joyce Halabi, VJ Kumar,

Peggy Gibbs and Richard Stillwell. Cocktails, dinner and awards presentations will be followed by live music, dancing, roulette and blackjack. There’s a masquerade theme and tickets, which can be purchased at PacificGrove.org, are \$110 per person.

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

ARTIST

From page 23A

the 100-year-old home she owns near Cannery Row.

“I’ll usually work on my art in the afternoon, with a glass of wine, listening to music — rock and roll, country, jazz, gospel ... I just disappear into my own little world,” she said. “Batik art isn’t something you can whip out in a day — it takes time and can be tedious, but it’s very enjoyable.”

As an octogenarian, Preston struggles with a damaged retina in her left eye, insomnia and other age-related issues.

“I worry about losing my eyesight and not being able to paint anymore — I don’t know what I’d do without art in my life,” she said.

“At my age, I’m always wondering

what’s going to break next. I used to dance the tango and was very good at it. But my balance has gotten pretty bad, so I don’t do that anymore, and I miss it.”

She also misses Stan, who died of lung cancer in 2004, a year after the couple moved here and the same year she began showing her art at Venture Gallery.

“Most of my art friends are here at the gallery,” said Preston, who enjoys socializing with friends and neighbors as well as daughter Elizabeth’s family, which includes her 25-year-old grandson.

Images of her work can be viewed on Instagram @patriciaprestonart or at venturegallery.com.

See her art on exhibit, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, at Venture Gallery (260 Alvarado St., Monterey), next to the Portola Hotel.

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

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MUSIC

From page 31A

Irish music at St. Mary's

Piper and flutist **Sean Gavin** and accordion master **Colm Gannon** will play Celtic music Sunday at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's by the Sea in Pacific Grove.

Jacqueline Pierce of St. Mary's called Gavin "one of the most highly regarded Irish musicians of his generation," and described Gannon's playing as "as vibrant and beautiful as Ireland's picturesque Connemara Hills."

Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children. The church is at Central and 12th. Visit celticsociety.org.

Live music June 12-18

Big Sur

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (folk, Saturday, 12:30 p.m.), **Bubba Pickens** (bluegrass and folk, Sunday at noon), **singer and guitarist Victor Veysey** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 46800 Highway 1.

Fernwood Resort — **Sean & the Skinwalkers** (rock and blues, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

Henry Miller Library — **The Suborbitals** (rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 48603 Highway 1.

Carmel

All Saints Episcopal Church — **Madregalia** plays sacred and secular music of the Renaissance (classical, Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m.). Dolores and Ninth, tickets are \$30, visit allsaintscarmel.org.

Carmel Mission Inn — **Open Mic Night** (Wednesday at 5 p.m.) in Shearwater Tavern, 3665 Rio Road.

The Carl Cherry Center for the Arts — **singer and guitarist Dan Frechette** and **singer and violinist Laurel Thomsen** (Americana, Thursday at 7 p.m.). Fourth and Guadalupe, tickets are \$25, visit carlcherrycenter.org.

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — **singer and pianist T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), **singer Dino Vera** (jazz, R&B and dance music, Saturday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

La Playa Hotel — **The David Morwood Trio** (jazz, Sunday and Tuesday at 5 p.m.). In Bud's Bar, Camino Real and Eighth Avenue.

Cypress Inn — **singer Dino Vera** (jazz, R&B and dance music, Friday at 6:30 p.m.), **pianist Gennady Loktionov** and **singer Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at



Guitarist Hao Yang plays Thursday, 7 p.m., at Asilomar Conference Center. The concert is presented by the Carmel Guitar Society.

6:30 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and pop, Sunday at 11 a.m.), **The David Morwood Jazz Band** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh.

Links Club — **The Soda Crackers** (swing, Saturday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

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

Carmel Valley

Bernardus Lodge — **pianist Michael Culver** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), **singer and guitarist Jewel Arianna** (Saturday at noon), **singer and pianist T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Edgar's Restaurant — **singer and multi-instru-**

Continues next page

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261075
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
LA CHISPA DEL SABOR MICHOCANO, 1431 TETON AVE, SALINAS, CA 93906, County of MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
IRMA CASTRO ZARAGOZA, 1431 TETON AVE, SALINAS, CA 93906
This business is conducted by AN INDIVIDUAL
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on NOT APPLICABLE
S/IRMA CASTRO ZARAGOZA
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 05/18/2026
6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26/26
CNS-4048334#
CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026. (PC 608)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261085
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
The Staging Studio, 343 Rhine Ct, Salinas, CA 93906, County of Monterey
Registered Owner(s):
Las Shopaholics LLC, 343 Rhine Ct, Salinas, CA 93906, California
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 01/01/2026
S/Jacquelyne Cervantes, Managing Member
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 05/19/2026
6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26/26
CNS-4048276#
CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026. (PC 609)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261163
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
ALEX MARTIN RACING, 16610 Toro Hills Court, Salinas, CA 93908, County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
ALEX STEPHEN MARTIN, 16610 Toro Hills Court, Salinas, CA 93908.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 1, 2026.
S/Alex Stephen Martin
Date signed: May 23, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 1, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 611)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261114
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
PAJARO BEAUTY SALON, 47 Porter Dr., Watsonville, CA 95076. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
JUAN ALVARO RUIZ GOMEZ, 191 Hudson Landing Rd., Royal Oaks, CA 95076.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
S/Juan Ruiz Gomez
Date signed: May 26, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 26, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 613)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261167
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1. AXIOM AGING ADVISORS
2. DAWG WATER
3. FIRE ART PHOTOGRAPHY
10175 Sun Star Rd., Monterey, CA 93940. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
SUNSTAR COLLECTIVE, LLC, 10175 Sun Star Rd., Monterey, CA 93940.
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 June 1, 2026.
S/Natalie H. Gibson, Manager
Date: June 1, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 1, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 615)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261148
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
VNTNA SUPPLY CO., 689 Mission Street, Carmel By The Sea, CA 93921. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
VASSA LLC, 6525 Brookdale Drive, Carmel, CA 93923.
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 May 5, 2023.
S/Kevin Dorey, CEO
Date: March 16, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 29, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 618)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261162
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
FORGET-ME-NOTS, San Carlos 3 SW 5th, Carmel, CA 93921. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
SHIRLEY ELLYN JENSEN, P.O. Box 7318, Carmel, CA 93921.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 1, 1987.
S/Shirley Jensen
Date signed: June 1, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 1, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 619)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261110
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
MATTESON'S AUTO REPAIR, 234 Grand Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
MICHAEL PHILLIP BURGER
SUSAN ADDISON BLUSH
This business is conducted by a general partnership.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 2, 2017.
S/Michael Phillip Burger
Date signed: May 22, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 22, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026 (PC 622)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261191
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
GOLDEN STATE RV RENTAL, 9441 Comunidad Way, Castroville, CA 95012. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
GONZALO ORTIZ CAMARENA
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 16, 2026
S/Gonzalo Ortiz Camarena
Date signed: June 5, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 5, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026 (PC 623)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261193
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
POPPA PONCE'S WOODWORKS, 3038 King Circle, Marina, CA 93933. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
JOSE SANTANA PONCE RANGEL, 3038 King Circle, Marina, CA 93933.
This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 5, 2026
S/Jose Santana Ponce Rangel
Date signed: June 5, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on June 5, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026 (PC 625)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261112
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
LINDSEY TEACHES YOGA, 223 9th St., Marina, CA 93933. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
LINDSEY MARIE WINGATE, 223 9th Street, Marina, CA 93933.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 14, 2026
S/Lindsey Marie Wingate
Date signed: May 26, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 26, 2026.
Publication Dates: June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 2026 (PC 626)

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

From previous page

mentalist **Alison Sharino** (Friday at 5:30 p.m.) at Quail Lodge, 8205 Valley Greens Drive.

Folkale Winery — singer and guitarist **Bobcat Rob** (Friday at 4 p.m.), **Two Rivers** (pop and rock, Saturday at 4 p.m.), **The Monterey Jazz Festival Regional All-Stars** (Sunday at 11 a.m.), singer and guitarist **Trianna Feruza** (Monday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kito Rayburn** (Thursday at 4 p.m.), 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

Trailside Cafe — **Pattie Gilbert & The Wanderlust** (pop and rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.), 3 Del Fino Place.

■ Monterey

Estéban Restaurant — **The Monterey Jazz Festival Regional All-Stars** (Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.) in the Casa Munras Hotel, 700 Munras Ave.

Hyatt Regency Monterey — singer and guitarist **Zach Freitas** (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Saturday at 7 p.m.), 1 Old Golf Course Road.

InterContinental Hotel — guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.), guitarist **Terrence Farrell** (Spanish, Sunday at 9 a.m.), guitarist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.), 750 Cannery Row.

Midici Pizza — singer **Lauri Hofer-Romero**, guitarist **Sam Nilsson** and keyboardist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and keyboardist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.), 467 Alvarado St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel — pianist **Gary Meek** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz

and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Martan Mann** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Monday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **RJ DeMarco** (Tuesday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Wednesday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Thursday at 6 p.m.), 400 Cannery Row.

Pearl Hour — **The Zach Westfall Quartet** (jazz, Sunday at 8 p.m.), 214 Lighthouse Ave.

Sardine Factory — singer and guitarist **David Conley** (Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and pianist **T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), 701 Wave St.

■ Pacific Grove

Asilomar Conference Center — singer and guitarist **RJ DeMarco** (Saturday at 4 p.m.), guitarist **Hao Yang**

See LIVE page 37A



Sunkiss'd Mozart's 3rd annual "Summerfest" wraps up this weekend. For more details, visit skmozart.com.

CALENDAR

June 12 & 13 – Madregalia will present **Musica Sacra e Profana**, an exploration of sacred and secular music from some of the most celebrated composers of the Renaissance. Concert begins 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2:30 p.m. Saturday at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Dolores and Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea.



Sundays – Jazz brunch with the **Andrea Carter Trio**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Terry's Restaurant + Lounge, inside Cypress Inn, Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel-by-the-Sea. For more information, please contact Cypress Inn, (831) 624-3871.

Sundays – Live music 5 to 7 p.m. at **Woody's at Del Mesa**. Musical guests **Brice and Nina** deliver an eclectic mix of jazz, rock and reggae, 500 Del Mesa Carmel. (831) 624-1854

June 14 – Meet the **Rev. Eric Shafer of Global Refuge** to learn about the organization's work in assisting refugees since 1918. Program is set 10 a.m. to noon at St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 8065 Carmel Valley Road. To learn more, call (831) 624-6765.

June 14 – **St. Mary's by-the-Sea, Pacific Grove**: Enjoy an afternoon of traditional Irish music with master musicians **Seán Gavin** and **Colm Gannon**. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. for the 3 p.m. concert. Tickets available through the Celtic Society. Celtic Society discounts honored. Bistro snacks and beverages available. Last concert of the spring season.



June 20 – **Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve** invite you to a guided tour of the Preserve to celebrate its 50-year anniversary, 10 to 11 a.m. Meet at Rio Road Entrance in Carmel. Refreshments at 11 a.m. in the Redwood grove.

June 24 – **AMERICANA**: a free concert of American music featuring John Jensen, piano, Jody Lee, soprano, and Igor Poklad, clarinet, will be presented at 6:30 p.m. at the Canterbury Woods Auditorium, 651 Sinex, Pacific Grove. Music by **Charles Ives, Cole Porter, Carleton Macy** and others. For further information: macy@macalester.edu

June 26 – **The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB)** presents a luncheon lecture at the Hilton Garden Inn featuring **Dr. William C. Potter**, director of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at MIIS, whose topic is "Is the Non-Proliferation Treaty Still Fit for Purpose? Lessons from the 2026 NPT Review Conference." Visit www.wacmb.org for registration.

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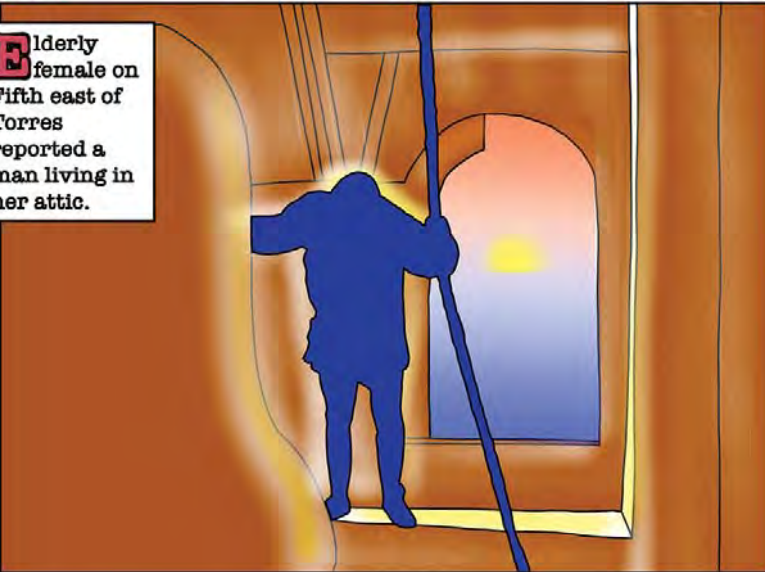
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Continues on next page

Police Log: Carmel-by-the-Sea, July 13

Elderly female on Fifth east of Torres reported a man living in her attic.



Officers completed a search of her residence, including attic,



but found nothing.

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LIVE

From page 35A

(classical, Thursday at 7 p.m., tickets are \$60, visit carmelguitarsociety.org). 800 Asilomar Ave.

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

Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant — singer and guitarist Rags Rosenberg (Friday at 7 p.m.), **singer and guitarist Kevin Smith** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea's Fault Duo** (jazz and pop, Monday at 6 p.m.), **singer and guitarist Holysa** (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.), **singer and guitarist Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave.

Lucy's on Lighthouse — Vinyl Revival (classic rock, vintage R&B and Americana, Saturday at 2 p.m.), **Evergreen** (soft rock, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave.

The PG Meetinghouse — Painguin (rock, Friday at 7 p.m.), **guitarist Bruce Forman and pianist Gary Meek** (jazz, Saturday at 11 a.m.), **singer and guitarist Kenny Chung** (Sunday at 11 a.m.), **Open**

Mic (Tuesday at 6 p.m., sign-ups start at 5 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave.

Pop 'n' Hiss — It Hurts So Good (indie psych-pop, Wednesday at 7 p.m.), **Ricketts' Folly** (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 215 Forest Ave.

Wild Fish — The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet (Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m.). 545 Lighthouse Ave.

■ Pebble Beach

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

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and guitarist Kip Allert (Friday at 5 p.m.), **singer and guitarist Sabelle** (Saturday at 5 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

■ Sand City

Courtyard by Marriott — guitarist Glenn Bell (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.). 800 Morgans Way.

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

MAYOR

From page 23A

of our residences now second homes, the community that shows up to volunteer, serve on commissions, and attend council meetings is a shrinking share of those who technically own this special place.

I told Fuheis that the sooner a community addresses its financial pressures, the more likely it is to preserve its character on its own terms. The communities that fare best have the clearest shared answer to a single question: What can never be sacrificed? Not, "what we prefer to protect." Not, "what would be nice to keep." What is absolutely nonnegotiable regardless of what the state requires, the market demands, or any individual project promises? Have that conversation now, I told them, before the real pressure arrives.

■ What their response made me see

When they wrote back, I was not prepared for how closely their story mirrored ours. Fuheis had no street addresses until

2015. In 1998 its population was around 12,000, with 98 percent of residents tracing roots there for generations. Today it is 45,000, with original natives now just 35 percent of that total. Rapid growth, outside development pressure and economic migration have rewritten the community in a single generation. It faces a national minister of municipalities who can override any local decision, regardless of what residents want, a dynamic familiar to anyone who has followed California's builder's remedy.

And there is one more parallel that struck me hardest. At the city's most recent community meeting, only one young person attended out of roughly 100 present. A youth organization called Shield of Fuheis is now working to change that.

Sometimes it takes a stranger asking why you do what you do to remind you why it matters. Fuheis is producing a documentary about communities like ours. I hope they come here.

We just have to keep earning it. To hear a podcast generated from this column, go to cli.re/onequestion.

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

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Continues from previous page

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261042
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1. VERDANT COMPLIANCE GROUP
2. AG WASH CO
738 Kilbreth Ave., Salinas, CA 93905.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260830
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1. THORNS BOOK CO
2. THORNS COFFEE & BOOK CO
3. THORNS COFFEE CO
136 Bonifacio Place, Monterey, CA 93940.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261040
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
FAT WILLY'S ANTIQUES, 581 Light-house Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260924
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
J. R. SIMPLOT COMPANY, 945 JOHN-SON AVE SALINAS, CA 93901, County of MONTEREY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261017
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
AARON OVERHEAD DOORS, 121 FAIR-GROUND RD, MONTEREY, CA 93940,

ABILITY COMPANY
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on NOT APPLICABLE
S/ DAPHNE FRONTZ, VICE PRESIDENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261039
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
COASTAL PATCH CO, 1151 Monterey Salinas, Salinas, CA 93908.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260944
Filing type: RENEWAL FILING - filed within 40 days of the expiration date and no CHANGES(S) from the previous filing

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260851
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1. EAST VILLAGE CAFE
2. MAYBE ON MONDAY
3. LA & CO

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 26CV002647
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, VERONICA FUENTE aka MARIA VERONICA DE LOS ANGELES FUENTE aka MARIA VERONICA CASADO-FUENTE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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.

NOTICE OF HEARING:
DATE: July 7, 2026
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
DEPT: 14
The address of the court is 1200 Agua-jito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 26CV002671
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, SETH AUSTIN AYALA-SANDERS, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
A Present name: SETH AUSTIN AYALA-SANDERS
Proposed name: SETH AUSTIN AYALA MORALES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261057
Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
YOU SING KARAOKE, 1484 Sonoma Ave., Seaside, CA 93955.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261090
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
MONTEREY BAY PSYCHIATRY, 126 Clock Tower Pl, Suite 104C, Carmel, CA 93923.

legals@carmelpinecone.com

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260995
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Jardines De Boronda, 15087 Canario Street, Salinas, CA 93907
County of MONTEREY

CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026. (PC 553)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261076
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
SIERRA NEVADA WINDOW CLEANING COMPANY, 26080 Carmel Rancho Blvd. 200A, Carmel, CA 93923.

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 N/A.

BE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

Register your phone number at ALERTMONTEREYCOUNTY.ORG

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Carmel Area Wastewater District will hold a public hearing to discuss and adopt the Assembly Bill recruitment - Local Public Employees Vacant Positions report at its next Regular Board meeting:
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Carmel Area Wastewater District Office
3945 Rio Road
Carmel, CA 93922

File # 15952236 T.S. No.: 24-14242-168 Loan No.: *****0001 Notice of Trustee's Sale Deed of Trust, Assignment of Rents and Fixture Filing (hereinafter referred to as 'Deed of Trust') You are in default under a deed of trust dated 2/28/2017.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Carmel Area Wastewater District will hold a public hearing to consider and adopt the Fiscal Year 2026/27 Final Budget at its next Regular Board meeting:
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Carmel Area Wastewater District Office
3945 Rio Road
Carmel, CA 93922

LEGALS DEADLINE: Tuesday 3:00 pm | Call Irma (831) 274-8645 | legals@carmelpinecone.com
Publication dates: June 5 & 12, 2026 (PC612)

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20260988
 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
POPPY HILLS GOLF COURSE, 3200 Lopez Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953.
 County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
 Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: POPPY HOLDING INC.
 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 March 18, 1992.
 S/Amanda Champion, CFO
 Date: May 5, 2026
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 5, 2026.
 Publication Dates: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026 (PC 556)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261067
 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
E.C. AIR REPAIRS AND HANDYMAN, 18892 Hoover St., Salinas, CA 93906.
 County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
 Registered Owner(s): EMILIANO CRUZ BADILLO
 This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
 S/Emiliano Cruz Badillo
 Date signed: May 18, 2026
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 18, 2026.
 Publication Dates: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026 (PC 557)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261087
 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
AUNI COOKS, 2 Santa Rita SW of 3rd Ave., Carmel, CA 93921.
 County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
 Registered Owner(s): AUNIKAH BASTIAN, P.O. Box 284, Carmel, CA 93921.
 This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 15, 2026.
 S/Aunikah Bastian
 Date signed: May 19, 2026
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 19, 2026.
 Publication Dates: May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 2026 (PC 558)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261103
 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
ADAPTHEALTH, 40 CLARK ST, STE. D SALINAS, CA 93901-4713, County of MONTEREY
 Registered Owner(s): ADAPTHEALTH WEST LLC, 555 EAST NORTH LANE, STE. 5075 CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428, DE
 This business is conducted by A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A
 S/JASON CLEMENS, CFO
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 05/21/2026 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26/26
CNS-4047644#
CARMEL PINE CONE
 Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026. (PC 603)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261070
 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
PARTNERSHIP BEHAVIOR GROUP, 288 Pearl Street, Monterey, CA 93940.
 County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
 Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: PARTNERSHIP BEHAVIOR GROUP, LLC, 288 Pearl Street, Monterey, CA 93940.
 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 16, 2026.
 S/John Yee, COO
 Date: May 18, 2026
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 18, 2026.
 Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC 605)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261083
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Valor Hospice, 306 Capitol St., Ste. 203, Salinas, CA 93901 - 2604
 County of MONTEREY
 Registrant(s): Home Connect Hospice LLC, 200 Brown Rd., Ste. 106, Fremont, CA 94539
 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.
 Home Connect Hospice LLC
 S/ David Rodriguez, Manager
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 05/19/2026. 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26/26
CNS-4048009#
CARMEL PINE CONE
 Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026. (PC 606)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20261080
 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:
Daniel Perales Audio, 182 Paddon Pl, Apt 9, Marina, CA 93933,
 County of Monterey
 Registered Owner(s): Daniel Joseph Perales, 182 Paddon Pl, Apt 9, Marina, CA 93933
 This business is conducted by an individual
 Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on not applicable
 S/ Daniel Joseph Perales
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 05/18/2026 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26/26
CNS-4048283#
CARMEL PINE CONE
 Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026. (PC 607)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 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:

6th Cycle 2023-2031 Housing Element Amendment
 Citywide

Consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation and adoption of a Resolution to amend the General Plan by adopting the 6th cycle 2023-2031 Housing Element Amendment and adopting the associated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Addendum.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: This meeting will be held via teleconference and in person ("hybrid") in the City Council Chambers at City Hall located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea. 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 participate via teleconference, click the following link to attend via Zoom (or copy and paste the link into your browser):

<https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/83138976374>

Webinar ID: 831 3897 6374
 Passcode: 862068
 Dial in: (253) 215-8782

The staff report and relevant documents will be available at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting on the City's website at <http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us>. The Council meeting will be broadcast live on the City's YouTube page, <https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofcarmelbythesea>, and archived there after the meeting. For more information regarding City Council meetings, please contact the City Clerk's office at (831) 620-2016.

All interested persons are invited to attend in person or via teleconference 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 prior to the meeting. With respect to written comments, please submit them at least 2 hours before the meeting in order to ensure they are provided to the legislative body and made part of the record. Comments received after that time and up to the end of the public hearing will be saved as part of the record but may not be provided to the legislative body prior to or during the public hearing.

If you challenge the nature of the proposed action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the city council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Nova Romero, MMC
 City Clerk
 Publication dates:
 June 12, 2026 (PC627)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 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 HEARING:

Consideration and Adoption of Fee Schedule Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Fee Schedule, including updating fees citywide, including Community Planning and Building, Public Safety, and Public Works; Discussion and Direction regarding a Fee Waiver Policy

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: This meeting will be held via teleconference and in person ("hybrid") in the City Council Chambers at City Hall located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea. 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 participate via teleconference, click the following link to attend via Zoom (or copy and paste the link into your browser):

<https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/83138976374>

Webinar ID: 831 3897 6374
 Passcode: 862068
 Dial in: (253) 215-8782

The staff report and relevant documents will be available at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting on the City's website at <http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us>. The Council meeting will be broadcast live on the City's YouTube page, <https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofcarmelbythesea>, and archived there after the meeting. For more information regarding City Council meetings, please contact the City Clerk's office at (831) 620-2016.

All interested persons are invited to attend in person or via teleconference 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 prior to the meeting. With respect to written comments, please submit them at least 2 hours before the meeting in order to ensure they are provided to the legislative body and made part of the record. Comments received after that time and up to the end of the public hearing will be saved as part of the record but may not be provided to the legislative body prior to or during the public hearing.

If you challenge the nature of the proposed action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the city council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Nova Romero, MMC
 City Clerk
 Dated: 6/9/2026
 Publish Date: 6/12/2026
 Publication dates:
 June 12, 2026 (PC628)

CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA NOTICE OF UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: In accordance with Government Code 54974, the following special vacancy notice was posted at Carmel-by-the Sea City Hall located at Monte Verde between Ocean and 7th Avenue, Harrison Memorial Library, located on the NE corner of Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Street, the Carmel-by-the-Sea Post Office, 5th Avenue between Dolores and San Carlos Street.

The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea is accepting applications to fill one (1) unscheduled vacancy on the following Board:

- Community Activities Commission - One (1) seat, term expiring 5/30/2028

Eligibility:
 Applicants may live in the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea or sphere of influence.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications are available on the City's website: <https://ci.carmel.ca.us/boards-and-commissions>
 Paper applications may be picked up at City Hall, located on the East Side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and 7th Avenues.

If you have questions, please contact:
 Nova Romero, City Clerk
 Email: cityclerk@ci.carmel.ca.us Phone: 831-620-2000

The deadline to apply is **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2026.** Applications may be emailed to the City Clerk or dropped off at City Hall by the deadline.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Applicants will be interviewed by the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem (date to be determined). The City Council is anticipated to make an appointment to the Community Activities Commission at a City Council meeting in August.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
 COUNTY OF MONTEREY } ss
 CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA }

Nova Romero, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: she is the duly appointed and qualified City Clerk for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea, and that on June 3, 2026, she caused the above Special Vacancy Notice to be posted in accordance with California State Government Code § 54974.

NOVA ROMERO
 City Clerk
 City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

Dated: 6/3/2026
 Published: 6/12/2026

Publication dates: June 12, 2026 (PC621)

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-24-984063-BF Order No.: 240046891-CA-VOO YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/10/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, or cash equivalent if deemed acceptable to the trustee, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. **BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.** Trustor(s): ROSANNE MAYHEW, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Recorded: 6/16/2005 as Instrument No. 2005060867 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of MONTEREY County, California; Date of Sale: 7/14/2026 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: **At the Main Entrance of the Monterey County Administration Building, 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas CA 93901** Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$831,995.36** The purported property address is: **109 PINE WAY, CARMEL, CA 93923-9603** Assessor's Parcel No.: **241-123-008-000** All bidders, at the date, time, and place of the scheduled sale, will be required to show satisfactory support to the auctioneer of their ability to pay the amount they intend to bid, unless arrangements have been made with the trustee prior to the scheduled sale. **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 **800-280-2832** for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-984063-BF**. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call **866-645-7711**, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-984063-BF** to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT:** Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE POST-SALE OVER BIDDERS:** For post-sale information in accordance with Section 2924m(e) of the California Civil Code, use file number CA-24-984063-BF and call (866) 645-7711 or login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com>. The above statutorily mandated notices to Tenant, Prospective Owner-Occupant, and Prospective Post-Sale Over Bidders are brief summaries of what may be required under Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. Compliance with all relevant provisions will be required. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: **QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 866-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 800-280-2832 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Post-Sale Information (CCC 2924m(e)): (866) 645-7711 Reinstatement or Payoff Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION TS No.: CA-24-984063-BF IDSPub #0315341 6/19/2026 6/26/2026 7/3/2026**

Publication dates: June 12, 19, 26, 2026 (PC624)

LUXURY FOR THE MONTEREY LIFESTYLE.



Experience the 2026 Volvo XC60 Core AWD- where premium comfort, advanced safety, and modern design come together in a luxury SUV built for every journey.

From coastal drives through Carmel to everyday adventures, the XC60 delivers intuitive technology, confident performance, and the versatility to keep up with your lifestyle.



2026 Volvo
XC60
Core AWD

Lease for \$499/mo. for 36 months

Luxury is closer than you think at **Volvo Cars Monterey.**

\$4,829 due at signing. Excludes taxes, title, registration, license, insurance, maintenance, and dealer fees. 10,000 miles/year. Offer expires 6/30/2026.

V O L V O

Volvo Cars
Monterey

CALL. 831-230-5869 **TEXT.** 831-777-3407

CLICK. [VolvoCarsMonterey.com](https://www.VolvoCarsMonterey.com)

COME ON BY. 1711 Del Monte Boulevard
Seaside, CA 93955

SECTION RE ■ June 12-18, 2026

Open Houses on page 10RE

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate



■ This week's cover, located in Pacific Grove, is presented by Stuart and Dee Shankle of Sotheby's International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

June 12-18, 2026



OPEN SAT 11-2 & SUN 1-3
135 5th Street, Pacific Grove
135-5thStreet.com | \$2,495,000

Built in 1918, this Pacific Grove Craftsman is full of charm, character, and vintage details that make a home feel truly special. Set on a 3,955-square-foot lot, there are 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, and approximately 2,159 square feet of living space with a primary bedroom with an ensuite on each floor. Natural light fills the interior, and you will absolutely love the vibe in the living room with the fireplace and peeks of the ocean. Brand new Quartzite countertops in the kitchen and updated bathrooms finish off this home, allowing you to move right in and enjoy. An ultra-modern boiler system allows individual climate control for each room. The garage space has been used as a workshop but could also serve as a gym or art studio. Located just a short distance from downtown Pacific Grove, the beach, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and local restaurants and shops, this is a rare opportunity to own a classic Craftsman with history, personality, and timeless appeal.



Shankle Real Estate Team

Stuart Shankle | 831.915.2800
 stuart.shankle@sothebys.realty

Dee Shankle | 831.601.6453
 dee.shankle@sothebys.realty

ShankleRealEstate.com
 RE# 01308343 & 02212067

Sotheby's
 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

OPEN SATURDAY 1-3

San Carlos, 2SW of 12th, Carmel

FIRST TIME ON MARKET



3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 2,026 SQFT | 5,300 SQFT LOT
\$3,595,000



Jim Lowell

Jim.Lowell@TheAgencyRE.com
 831.902.0777 | LIC. #00883474



TheAgencyRE.com

Real Estate Sales May 31 - June 6

Escrows closed: 35
 Total value: \$77,243,500

Carmel

1222 Monte Verde Street — \$3,500,000

Daniel and Jessie Dugan to Christine Papera
 APN: 010-174-017

279 Guadalupe Street — \$3,550,000

Estate of Russell Perry to Guadalupe & 3rd LLC
 APN: 010-025-008

See HOME SALES page 4RE

New Price! | MODERN & TIMELESS SANCTUARY

SAN CARLOS 2 SW OF 1ST, CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA



4 Beds, 3 Baths ♦ 2,400 Sq. Ft. ♦ \$6,750,000 ♦ Ikeniwa.com



The Definitive Expert in Carmel Real Estate

LISA TALLEY DEAN

831.521.4855

LISATALLEYDEANPROPERTIES.COM

Broker Associate | DRE#01401218



CARMEL REALTY COMPANY
 ESTABLISHED 1913



#1 SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY
 SALES ASSOCIATE IN MONTEREY COUNTY
 FOR CLOSED UNITS IN 2025

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY

A LIFE THAT INSPIRES YOU



OPEN SATURDAY 1-3
 CARMEL | 26140 MESA DRIVE
 26140MESADRIIVE.COM
 OFFERED AT \$3,395,000



OPEN SATURDAY 12-4 & SUNDAY 11-1
 CARMEL VALLEY | 297 EL CAMINITO RD
 297ELCAMINITOROAD.COM
 OFFERED AT \$2,195,000



OPEN SATURDAY 12-2
 CARMEL VALLEY | 46 MIDDLE CANYON
 46MIDDLECANYON.COM
 OFFERED AT \$2,695,000



OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-3
 CARMEL | 9903 CLUB PLACE
 9903CLUBPLACE.COM
 OFFERED AT \$1,595,000



STEINY FAMILY PROPERTIES

Doug 831.236.7363

doug@dougsteiny.com

Lisa 831.277.2070

lisa@dougsteiny.com

dougsteiny.com

DRE: 00681652 & 02009666



CARMEL REALTY COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1913

MONTEREY PENINSULA LUXURY PROPERTIES



Carmel ■ 5 beds, 5+ baths ■ \$9,950,000 ■ www.5466QuailWay.com



Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 4.5 baths ■ \$6,780,000 ■ www.3937RondaRoad.com



Monterey ■ 4 beds, 4+ baths ■ \$5,900,000 ■ www.24275ViaMalpaso.com



Corral de Tierra ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$3,975,000 ■ www.28000UnderwoodRoad.com



Carmel Valley ■ 4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,950,000 ■ www.62ACarmelValleyRoad.com



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$2,895,000 ■ www.8022RiverPlace.com



Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,250,000 ■ www.2962ClubRoad.com



Carmel Valley ■ 4 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$2,195,000 ■ www.929WCarmelValleyRoad.com



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HOME SALES

From page 2RE

Carmel (cont'd)

735 Santa Fe Street — \$5,650,000

The Golden Mean LLC to Kevin Salvadori and Juliana Sonneveld
APN: 010-082-021

Carmel Highlands

Yankee Point Drive — \$450,000

James Batto to P&T 2024 LLC
APN: 243-131-006

Carmel Valley

58 Del Mesa Carmel — \$887,000

Ken and Karen Harms to Mark and Stephanie Zalin
APN: 015-445-013



471 Eldorado Street, Monterey — \$1,900,000

27165 Prado del Sol — \$3,975,000

Terri and April Brazinsky to Maxime and Nicole Prades
APN: 169-211-021

Castroville

Benson Road — \$15,100,000

The Conservation Fund to Sella Ranch LLC
APN: 133-081-009

Highway 68

25339 Camino de Chamisal — \$2,170,000

John and Louise Filighera to Johnathan Farahmand
APN: 416-321-016

Marina

622 Santa Lucia Way unit A — \$380,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Jennifer Silva
APN: 031-295-001

622 Santa Lucia Way unit B — \$380,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Jose Bedolla and Yajaira Escalera
APN: 031-295-002

See ESCROWS page 13RE

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AISHA KRECHUNIAK
831.595.9291

DRE# 01186400

SAM PIFFERO
831.236.5389

DRE# 00690879

12-ACRE HORSE PROPERTY WITH 2 RESIDENCES!

28837 UNDERWOOD ROAD, CORRAL DE TIERRA
4 BD | 3 BA & 2 BD | 1 BA | \$2,495,000
28837underwoodroad.com

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Just Sold

831 Arlington Place | Del Rey Oaks

831arlington.com | \$1,088,000

Welcome to this warm and inviting coastal retreat where natural light, architectural character, and everyday comfort come together. Exposed wood beam ceilings and expansive windows create a bright, airy atmosphere with peaceful views of surrounding greenery. The open-concept living, dining, and kitchen areas offer a seamless flow for relaxing or entertaining, while custom built-ins provide both style and functionality. Unique stained-glass accents add a touch of artistic charm and personality. Move-in ready and full of Mid-Century appeal, this Monterey Peninsula home offers the ideal coastal lifestyle just minutes from beaches, golf, dining, and recreation.



JEANNIE FROMM
DRE 01348162
831-277-3371

jeannie.fromm@sir.com
Yourhomebythebay.com

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

228 PINE CANYON ROAD, SALINAS 93908



Where can you find brand-new construction in the Salinas Valley on nearly 2 acres for just \$1,499,000? Perched atop a scenic knoll off Pine Canyon Road, just minutes from the renowned River Road wine corridor, this stunning custom home offers breathtaking panoramic views stretching across the Salinas Valley.

Featuring 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and approximately 2,544 square feet of thoughtfully designed living space, the home showcases an open-concept floor plan ideal for modern living. The gorgeous kitchen is the heart of the home, complete with quartz countertops, double ovens, and expansive windows that frame the spectacular valley views while you cook and entertain.

Designed for gathering, the home offers two spacious living areas for family and friends to enjoy. Step outside onto private balconies off both the kitchen and primary suite, perfect for relaxing and taking in beautiful Salinas Valley sunsets and evening skies.

The luxurious primary suite features soaring ceilings, generous proportions, and a spa-inspired bath with a separate soaking tub and walk-in shower. Looking for ADU possibilities? A large, finished area with its own bathroom is already in place and offers excellent potential for conversion to separate living quarters.

Additional features include a propane system and a 5,000-gallon water storage tank to assist with fire prevention and preparedness. This is a rare opportunity to own a new custom home in a spectacular country setting with unmatched views, privacy, and versatility.



Susan Brownlie
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DRE 01069736

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Mid-Century Coastal Home with Stillwater Cove & Lodge Views

Pebble Beach ♦ \$9,995,000 ♦ 1651CrespiLane.com



Tuscan-Inspired Home with Ocean & Golf Link Views

Pacific Grove ♦ \$5,999,000 ♦ 1273SurfAvenue.com

Co-Listed with Sharmaine Torrey | Monterey Coast Realty DRE#02071666



Panoramic Ocean View Home with Exceptional Location

Pebble Beach ♦ \$3,100,000 ♦ 4017LosAltos.com



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JAMAL NOORZOY 831.277.5544

REALTOR® | DRE#01119622

KIM BARTHOLOMAY
REALTOR® & Partner to JNR Group
Carmel Realty Company | DRE#02145274

ROBERT NOORZOY
Team Member

SHARMAINE TORREY
Broker Associate
Monterey Coast Realty | DRE#02071666



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WHO'S WHO IN LUXURY REAL ESTATE

Mama's bread and the mummy have more in common than you'd think.

I NEVER had sourdough bread until arriving in California. It was as foreign to our Italian neighborhoods in Buffalo as cable cars climbing halfway to the stars. If my mother didn't bake bread, my father stopped at Costanzo's Bakery on his way home from work so we could have a fresh loaf on the dinner table.

Bread is mentioned in the Bible 379 times, give or take a slice or two. Among the better-known verses is, "Give us this day our daily bread." Sourdough bread is not mentioned by name, but "yeast" or "leaven" was probably a kind of sourdough starter, a mix of flour and water the household would tend for at least a week before it could

be used. Acetic acid gives the bread a vinegary taste.

Now I've learned of another ancient source for yeast used in bread making. Otzi the Iceman, a 5,300-year-old naturally preserved mummy found in the Austrian Alps, had yeast within his remains. Scientists identified cold-adapted yeasts in his stomach and on his skin that likely colonized his body shortly after death. To test whether the ancient yeast was still active, one strain was successfully used to ferment and bake sourdough. Researchers described the resulting bread as "very, very good."

You know something? Here's where I draw the line between science and reality. Not that science isn't real —

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

I'm talking about my reality. The key phrase in Otzi being an ancient doughboy is, "yeast living on and within his remains." Sorry, scientists, I just can't see myself running my finger over any of Mr. Mummy's yeasty parts when I need a sourdough starter.

Dear Mr. the Iceman, I want to be respectful of your contributions to the culinary world, but I have some questions about your hygiene.

I know what my mother would have said if someone handed her a jar of "artisanal mummy starter." Two words, neither of them printable. Once in a while, I buy a loaf of day-old bread, but a 5,300-year-old loaf of Otzi is not on my grocery list.

Gourmet experiment

I don't think my father would continue as a Costanzo's customer if the bakery sold and marketed its prehistoric bread: Otzi Sourdough. Four stars. Each slice has a light, airy interior with evenly distributed, well-defined gas pockets, rather than dense or gummy areas. Hints of glacier. Slight aftertaste of circa 3300 B.C. Great for woolly mammoth-and-mozzarella sandwiches.

To be honest, we've been eating science experiments since the Mesopotamians. Otzi is just the one with a Wikipedia page. The entire history of "gourmet food" is just humanity finding increasingly elegant ways to eat things

See GERVASE page 12RE



Just Listed: Steps to Downtown Pacific Grove

3 BD 2 BA MAIN 1,026 SF | 1 BD 1 BA GUEST/ADU 454 SF

\$1,595,000

Bambace Peterson Team

bambacepeterson.com | @bambacepeterson

DRE 01731448 | DRE 01977162

831.200.3178



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COMPASS

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JUST SOLD



RANCHO NEIGHBORHOOD

3 BEDS, 2.5 BATHS

CARMEL

JUST SOLD



CALIFORNIA MISSION STYLE

3 BEDS, 2.5 BATHS

CARMEL VALLEY LAND



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1.6 ACRES IN THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE

\$1,295,000

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7158 Carmel Valley Road Carmel, CA 93923

Dre 00591121

CARMEL



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Views, privacy, minutes to beach and shopping!

3 OR 4 BEDS, 3.5 BATHS, 2,500 SQ FT

\$2,980,000

**Bramin
Atler**

POLICE LOG

From page 4A

TUESDAY, MAY 26

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fall on city property on Sixth Avenue.

Pacific Grove: A juvenile was bitten by a dog in the 700 block of Junipero Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Ammunition surrendered for destruction.

Pacific Grove: At about 1240 hours, officers were dispatched to a firearms surrender on Presidio Boulevard. Firearms were collected and booked at the police department.

Pacific Grove: Animal bite report received from the Monterey County Health Department regarding an incident on 17 Mile Drive.

Pacific Grove: Report of a dog at large at Montecito and Shafter avenues.

Pacific Grove: Found property on Light-house Avenue and Forest Avenue turned in to the police department.

Carmel Valley: Business on Carmel Valley Road reported a theft. Unknown perpetrator.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a suspicious circumstance on Ocean Avenue.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Seaside: The police department received a concerning report regarding a suspicious incident near San Lucas Street and Olympia Avenue. An adult male was reported following a young female and instructing her to get

inside his truck, stating that "nothing bad would happen to her." With cooperation from the neighborhood, investigators successfully retrieved area video footage and identified the suspect as a 37-year-old male, who has been arrested.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury hit-and-run on San Carlos Street. Driver cited.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop at Monte Verde and Santa Lucia Avenue for vehicle code violations led to a vehicle tow.

See **SHERIFF** page 11RE

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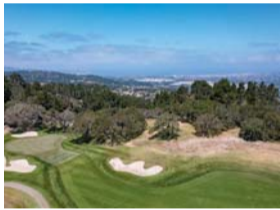
OPEN SUN 2-4PM



28088 Barn Court, Carmel Valley Ranch ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$2,199,000



8225 Carina, Carmel
14 acres ■ \$4,500,000



25520 Via Malpaso, Carmel
5.45 acres ■ \$2,995,000



585 Santa Lucia Way, Marina*
4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$1,795,000

*Co-listed with Gabriel Arcoletto, Monterey Coast Realty DRE#02070161



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REALTOR® | DRE#01967810



JUST SOLD IN PEBBLE BEACH!

Buyer Representation by The Arnold Team



2911 COLTON ROAD, PEBBLE BEACH
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths ■ 2,500 Sq. Ft. ■ SP: \$2,910,000

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Gran Torino

San Carlos between 7th & 8th



Ground Floor Commercial
323 square feet
\$1,500 per month + NNN

Gran Torino

San Carlos between 7th & 8th



3 bed, 2.5 bath duplex
1,895 square feet
\$8,200 per month

Gran Torino

San Carlos between 7th & 8th



2 bed, 2.5 bath apartment
1,847 square feet
\$8,000 per month

For further information or to arrange a viewing please contact:

Chris Mitchell
831-250-7669
chris.mitchell@esperanzacarmel.com
www.esperanzacarmel.com



Katie McAlister
831-622-1000
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www.carmelrealtycompany.com
DRE #01297518





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OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4 PM

3113 Sloat Road, Pebble Beach

4 BD | 2 BA | 2,362± SQ. FT. | 0.24± ACRE LOT

\$2,495,000

3113sloatroad.com

Arleen Hardenstein 831.915.8989

License# 01710953

114 Carmel Ave, Pacific Grove

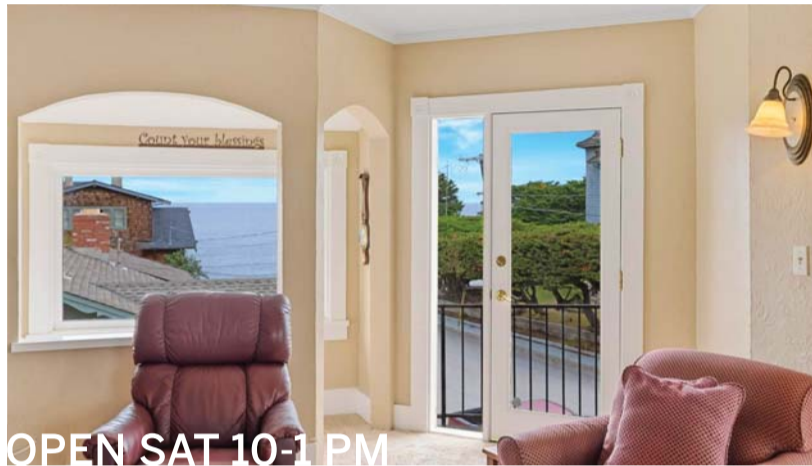
5 BD | 4 BA | 2,452± SQ. FT. | 2,700± SQ. FT. LOT

\$2,195,000

114carmelavenue.com

Joe Gallagher 831.917.1631

License# 01962982



OPEN SAT 10-1 PM



OPEN SUN 12-3 PM

691 Fernwood Avenue, Monterey

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,525± SQ. FT. | 0.23± ACRE LOT

\$1,350,000

691fernwood.com

Denise Miotke 425.443.7499

License# 01969480

262 Hacienda Carmel, Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | 910± SQ. FT.

\$810,000

262haciendacarmel.com

Blake Russell 831.917.9886

License# 02188622



OPEN SAT 12-2 PM & SUN 2-4 PM



OPEN SAT 3-5 PM

121 Quail Run Court, Del Rey Oaks

1 BD | 1 BA | 696± SQ. FT.

\$548,000

121quailruncourt.com

Joe Gallagher 831.917.1631

License# 01962982

607 Congress Avenue, Pacific Grove

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,534± SQ. FT. | 5,311± SQ. FT. LOT

\$2,198,000

607congressavenue.com

Arleen Hardenstein 831.915.8989

License# 01710953



OPEN SAT 1:30-4 PM & SUN 1-3 PM

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



3360 Kingsley Court, Pebble Beach

7 BD | 8/2 BA | 11,785± SQ. FT. | 10± ACRE LOT
\$10,500,000

3360kingsleycourtpb.com

Vilia Kakis Gilles 831.760.7091

License# 00883948

275 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley

4 BD | 3 BA | 3,500± SQ. FT. | 5.13± ACRE LOT
\$4,350,000

cieloparados.com

Laura Ciucci 831.236.8571

License# 01135238



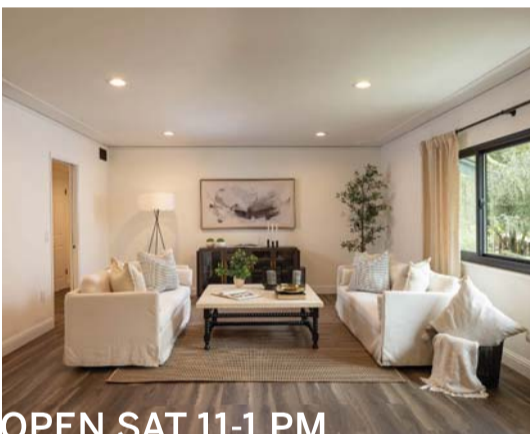
Santa Fe 4 SE of Ocean Avenue, Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,214± SQ. FT. | 0.09± ACRE LOT
\$2,895,000

ryanmelcher.com

Ryan Melcher 831.521.5024

License# 01897036



OPEN SAT 11-1 PM

25315 Flanders Drive, Carmel

3 BD | 2/2 BA | 1,720± SQ. FT. | 0.32± ACRE LOT
\$1,850,000

25315flandersdrive.com

Natalie Britton 831.521.7363

License# 02041776

26135 Laureles Grade, Carmel Valley

3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,344± SQ. FT. | 1.02± ACRE LOT
\$1,600,000

26135laurelesgrade.com

Rose Evers 831.521.5682

License# 01368076



OPEN SUN 12-2 PM



3850 Rio Road, #42, Carmel

2 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,520± SQ. FT.
\$1,199,000

3850rioroad42.com

Connie Snowdon 831.920.7023

License# 00542946



6 Rancho San Carlos, Carmel

25.97± ACRE LOT
\$1,195,000

6ranchosancarlosrd.com

Keck Properties Team 831.238.8730

License# 02070480

21012 Country Park Road, Salinas

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,372± SQ. FT. | 4,356± SQ. FT. LOT
\$835,000

21012countryparkroad.com

Trish Sohle 831.293.4190

License# 01134431



OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 PM



0 Cachagua Road, Carmel Valley

11.0± ACRE LOT
\$210,000

homerunranches.com

Aisha Krechuniak 831.595.9291

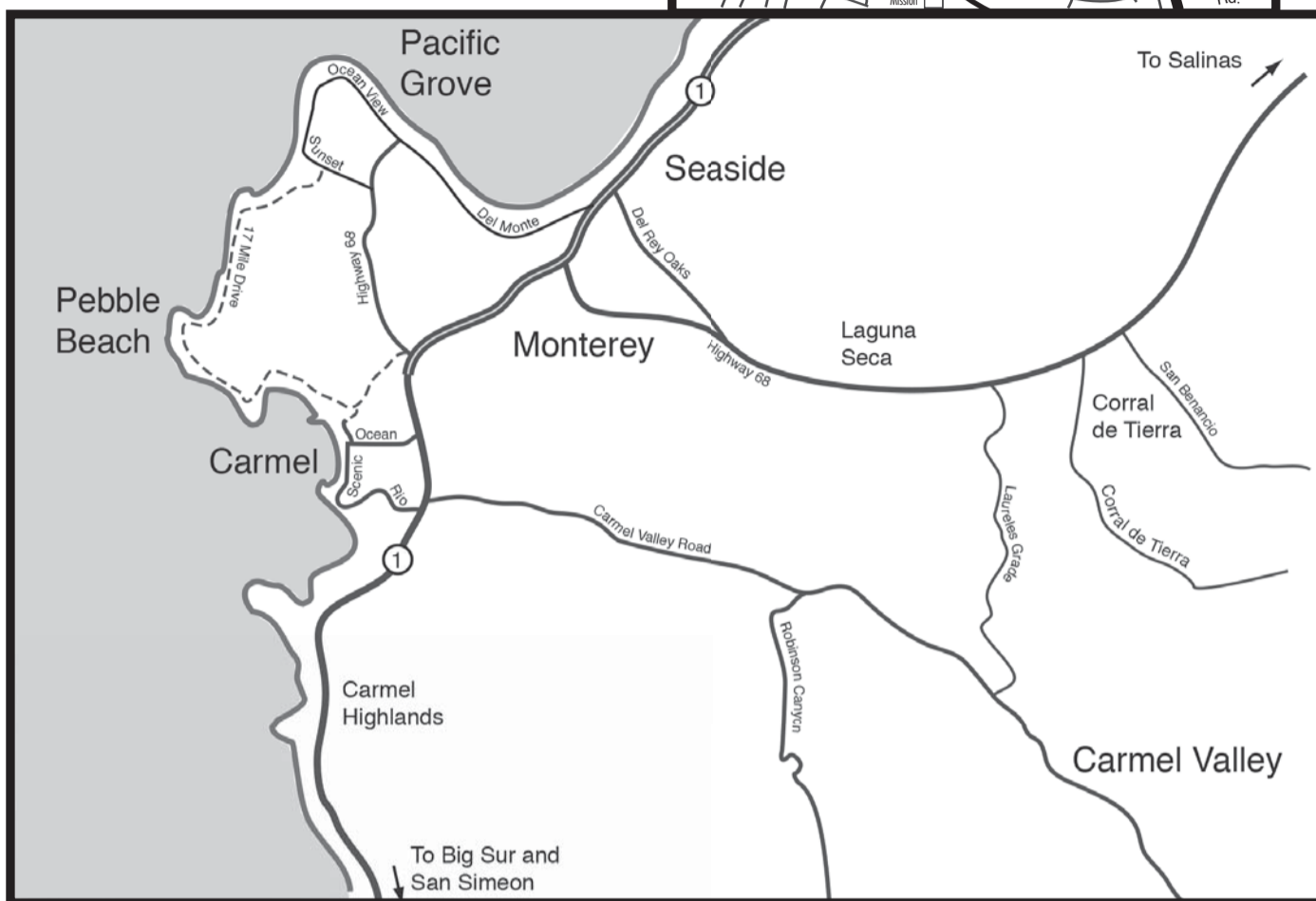
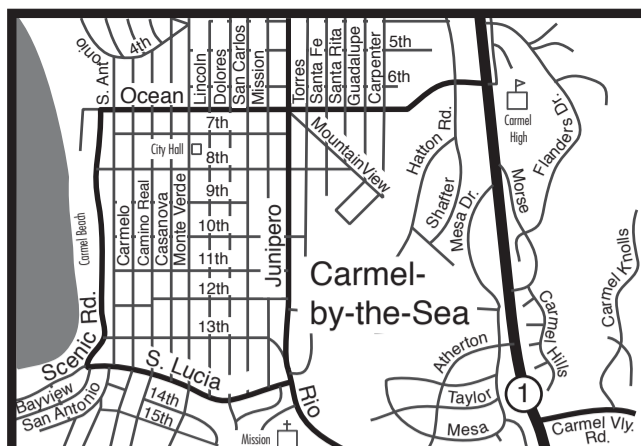
License# 01186400

CARMEL

\$828,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12-2 Su 2-4
262 Hacienda Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 917-9886		
\$832,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12-2
101 Hacienda Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 277-6020		
\$1,095,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12:30-3
183 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 293-3391		
\$1,150,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
3850 Rio Road #63 Coldwell Banker Realty 917-7029		
\$1,195,000	2bd 2ba	Su 1-4
249 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 601-9038		
\$1,529,000	4bd 2ba	Sa Su 12-2
25950 Via Margarita Sotheby's Int'l RE 277-0689		
\$1,595,000	2bd 3ba	Sa Su 1-3
9903 Club Place Lane, Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 238-7559		
\$1,690,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 10-1
9542 Maple Court Compass 236-5290		
\$1,750,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
25636 Morse Dr Compass 915-8010		
\$1,850,000	3bd 2.5+ba	Sa 11-1
25315 Flanders Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE 521-7363		
\$2,099,000	3bd 3ba	Su 2-4:30
28015 Quail Ct Carmel Realty 277-1040		
\$2,199,000	3bd 3.5ba	Su 2-4
28088 Barn Ct Carmel Realty 595-0676		
\$2,495,000	5bd 3ba	Sa Su 12-2
25355 Outlook Drive Compass 915-0653		
\$2,895,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
24785 Santa Rita Street Sotheby's Int'l RE 760-5126		
\$2,895,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
8022 River Place Carmel Realty 717-7156		
\$2,980,000	3-4bd 3.5ba	Su 1-3
24694 Dolores St Cheryl Heyermann 595-5045		
\$3,395,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
26140 Mesa Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE 277-3371		
\$3,479,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 1-3
Crespi 2 NW Flanders Compass 915-6187		
\$3,595,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
San Carlos St., 2 SW of 12th The Agency 902-0777		
\$5,195,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 12-3
Dolores 4 SE of 13th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE 224-6891		
\$10,999,000	3bd 4ba	Sa 1-4
104 Yankee Point Dr Coldwell Banker Realty 206-0129		

This Weekend's OPEN HOUSES

June 12 - 14



CARMEL VALLEY

\$1,380,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
471 Country Club Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 214-2250		
\$1,600,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 12-2
26135 Laureles Grade Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 521-5682		
\$2,195,000	4bd 2ba	Sa 12-4 Su 11-1
297 El Caminito Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 915-0265 / 917-9886		
\$2,440,000	4bd 4ba	Su 12-4
26245 Rinconada Dr Compass Carmel Valley 236-5290		
\$2,890,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 12-3
31499 Via Las Rosas The Agency Carmel Valley 293-4878		

CORRAL DE TIERRA

\$1,400,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 12-3
25405 Markham Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE Corral de Tierra 760-7091		
\$3,750,000	5bd 5ba	Sa 12-3
75 Robley Road Agency One Corral de Tierra 206-6310		

DEL REY OAKS

\$548,000	1bd 1ba	Sa 3-5
121 Quail Run Court Sotheby's Int'l RE Del Rey Oaks 917-1631		

MARINA

\$1,199,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
16406 E. Garrison Dr. Compass Marina, East Garrison 238-2022		

MONTEREY

\$535,000	2bd 1ba	Fr Sa Su 1-3
820 Casanova Avenue 69 Monterey Coast Realty Monterey 915-9726		
\$849,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
1360 Josselyn Canyon Road 40 Monterey Coast Realty Monterey 717-7959		

\$929,000	2bd 1ba	Su 2-4
515 Dickman Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 277-0971		
\$1,350,000	2bd 2ba	Su 12-3
691 Fernwood Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 297-9805		
\$1,739,900	3bd 2.5ba	Su 1-4
791 Toyon Dr. Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 238-4462		
\$1,825,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-4
113 Littlefield Rd The Jones Group Monterey 917-4534		
\$2,125,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 12-2 Su 11-1
6 Wyndemere Vale Compass Monterey 236-5290		

PACIFIC GROVE

\$1,249,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
665 Pine Ave Coldwell Banker Realty Pacific Grove 717-7815		
\$1,400,000	2bd 1ba	Sa Su 1-3
215 Lobos Ave Coldwell Banker Realty Pacific Grove 596-6118		
\$1,485,000	2bd 2ba	Su 2-4
311 Lobos Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 261-3802		
\$1,595,000	4bd 3ba	Sa Su 1-3
219 Willow St Compass Pacific Grove 238-1380		
\$1,750,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-1
512 12th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 915-8989		
\$2,195,000	5bd 4ba	Sa 10-1
114 Carmel Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 917-1631		
\$2,198,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1:30-4 Su 1-3
607 Congress Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 915-8989 / 238-8688		
\$2,495,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 11-2 Su 1-3
135 5th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 415-810-8810 / 915-2800		
\$3,199,000	3bd 4ba	Sa 12-2 Su 2-4
111 12th St Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 333-6995 / 521-3131		

\$7,495,000	7bd 4ba	Sa 12-3
888 Del Monte Blvd Coldwell Banker Realty Pacific Grove 277-3914		

PEBBLE BEACH

\$899,000	2bd 2ba	Su 1-4
17 Shepherd's Knoll Carmel Realty Pebble Beach 320-6801		
\$900,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 11-1
21 Shepherds Knoll Compass Pebble Beach 236-5290		
\$949,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 11-1
68 Ocean Pines Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 869-6117		
\$1,299,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
4 Ocean Pines Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 869-6117		
\$2,495,000	4bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-4
3113 Sloat Rd Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 238-4462 / 333-6060		
\$2,695,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
1091 Laurel Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 620-2936 / 277-3371		



\$4,999,999	4bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 11-3
1633 Sonado Road Monterey Coast Realty Pebble Beach 460-6864		

\$9,500,000	5bd 5.5ba	Sa 11:30-1:30 Su 2-4
3159 Stevenson Dr Coldwell Banker Realty Pebble Beach 356-8123		
\$10,900,000	4bd 5.5ba	Sa 2-4 Su 1-4
31 Poppy Ln Coldwell Banker Realty Pebble Beach 356-8123 / 206-0129		

SALINAS

\$998,000	5bd 2.5ba	Sa 12-3
17554 Sugarmill Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Salinas 236-7251		
\$2,000,000	4bd 3.5ba	Su 1-4
9020 Hidden Canyon Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Salinas 840-5582		

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

SEASIDE

\$765,000	3bd 2ba	Su 11-1
1313 Harding St Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 277-0971		
\$799,000	3bd 1.5ba	Su 2-4
1233 Hilby Avenue Monterey Coast Realty Seaside 277-5256		
\$849,000	3bd 1ba	Sa Su 1-3
1072 Carson Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 277-5971		
\$938,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-4
1140 Kimberly Ct. Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 601-9038		
\$1,438,200	4bd 3.5ba	Sa 11-3 Su 1-3
4890 Peninsula Point Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 318-3808 / 402-2017		
\$2,330,000	4bd 4.5ba	Su 2-4
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SHERIFF

From page 7RE

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violation at Ocean View Boulevard and Asilomar Avenue resulted in a citation for feeding wildlife.

Carmel Valley: Report of lost property on Hidden Valley Road.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop conducted for observed reckless driving at Highway 1 and Aguajito Road at 0337 hours. The 23-year-old male driver from Salinas was arrested for DUI and reckless driving.

Pacific Grove: Subject at Country Club Gate Center placed on a mental health hold.

Pacific Grove: At approximately 1600 hours, a vandalism occurred at the 100 block of Caledonia Avenue resulting in approximately \$1,000 in damages to public property. No subject information was obtained.

Pacific Grove: At approximately 0700 hours, an officer was dispatched to the 10 block of Arkwright Court for a report of a possible sexual assault. There are no suspects in this case at this time. This report is for information only.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a report of a deceased person on San Luis Avenue.

Carmel Valley: Welfare check on Schulte Road.

FRIDAY, MAY 29

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dog at Alta and Mission bit a family member, resulting in an injury. Dog placed on quarantine for observation.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Domestic violence call at Junipero and 11th. The dominant aggressor was identified as a 52-year-old female and arrested for domestic violence and probation violation related to a 2024 misdemeanor case.

Pacific Grove: Traffic stop at David and Forest resulted

in the 48-year-old male driver being cited for driving on a suspended license.

Pacific Grove: At approximately 1400 hours on the rec trail near the 200 block of Ocean View Boulevard, officers were dispatched to a pedestrian who fell. The pedestrian sustained moderate injuries and was transported by ambulance.

Pacific Grove: At approximately 1030 hours, officers were dispatched to the 500 block of Gibson Boulevard for a report of a non-injury collision. Both parties exchanged information. A re-evaluation form was completed for one of the drivers.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a civil dispute on 15th Avenue.

Carmel Valley: Via Mariquita resident turned in property for destruction.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vandalism to a vehicle on Vizcaino.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Hit-and-run at Monte Verde and Fifth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a physical altercation involving a Lyft driver and intoxicated subjects. One subject, a 53-year-old male from Saskatoon, was arrested for battery, threats and public intoxication.

Pacific Grove: Reported battery on Fountain Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Property was found near the 100 block of Caledonia Avenue.

Pacific Grove: A female on Granite Street was placed on a 5150 W&I detention hold [danger to self or others].

Pacific Grove: On 05/30/2026, at approximately 0230 hours, a domestic violence incident outside Monterey County was reported to the Pacific Grove Police Department. This investigation is being transferred to the proper department.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a battery at the Crossroads shopping center involving an unknown perpetrator and a 74-year-old female victim.

SUNDAY, MAY 31

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for a found cell phone at Scenic and Ocean.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a possible prowler/trespasser on a hotel property on San Carlos Street.

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violations on Ocean View Boulevard for feeding wildlife resulted in two citations.

Pacific Grove: Welfare check on Surf Avenue. Subjects found to be in good health.

Carmel Valley: Physical domestic dispute on Southbank Road. A 45-year-old male was arrested.

Carmel area: A female on Rio Road was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation for wanting to hurt herself.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BID NO. 26-01

The Santa Lucia Preserve

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District ("District") hereby calls for sealed bid proposals to be received by the Executive Assistant of the District, at the Gate House, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93923 on or before **Tuesday, July 7, 2026** at 4:00 pm U.S. Pacific Time Zone, verified at www.time.gov.

All bids will include delivery to above address and all appropriate sales tax etc. for Monterey Co.

One (1) New 2026 Model AWD pickup truck, 2.5L Hybrid engine, Exterior Color: Carbonized Gray, Interior Color: Navy Pier, Bucket Seats, Spray in Bedliner.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and any or all items of such bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid but if the bids are accepted, the contract for the equipment will be let to the lowest responsible bidder.

At 4:00 pm July 7, 2026, the Bid Proposals will be taken by the Executive Assistant of the District and opened and publicly read by her or her authorized representative. All bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The bids, together with a report of the bidders and the respective amounts of the bids, will be presented to the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

Please direct any questions to:

Executive Assistant Aimee Dahle
Santa Lucia Community Service District
One Rancho San Carlos Road
Carmel, CA 93923
831-620-6780
adahle@santaluciapreserve.com

Date of Publication: June 12th, 19th & 26th, 2026

By order of the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Service District.
State of California
Shaw Pick General Manager

Publication dates:
June 12, 19, 26, 2026
(PC629)

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GERVASE

From page 6RE

that have gone wrong. Prosciutto? That's a pig's leg that's been hanging in an Italian man's garage since "Goodfellas" premiered at the 47th Venice International

Film Festival in 1990.

And have you ever really looked at blue cheese? It should come wrapped in yellow crime-scene tape. A very persuasive Frenchman convinced the entire Western world to eat something that, if it appeared in your refrigerator uninvited, you would call Hercule Poirot to identify. (He's Belgian, not French, and if you call him French he'll

be even more insufferable about it than the cheese.) My mother would have thrown the blue cheese out the window and then thrown the window out, too, just to be safe. Yet there I am at a dinner party, spreading it on a cracker like a civilized person.

Glacier yeast

And here's what nobody wants to admit, least of all me. Before commercial yeast existed, every bread was essentially sourdough. My grandmother's mother kept a starter on the counter — a live culture of wild yeast and bacteria, bubbling away, fed daily, smelling of something ancient and alive. She got it from her mother. Who got it from hers.

Fleischmann's commercial yeast didn't exist until the late 1800s. Which means if you pull the thread far enough back, past Mama's kitchen in Buffalo, past her mother's kitchen in Italy, past some

great-great-grandmother standing over a clay pot in a village outside Naples, the thread leads all the way to a guy in the Alps.

Otzi, it turns out, is a very distant relative of Mama's bread. Neither of them would be happy about it.

Nor am I — not because my mother's yeast was purer or more sophisticated, but because I watched her make it. I can still see her in her house dress, standing in her kitchen in Buffalo with flour on her hands, and I am certain she never once thought to herself, "You know, what this dough needs is a dead guy."

She just made bread. It was perfect without a starter that predated the Roman Empire. She didn't need a mummy with a résumé. And I prefer my sandwich without a toe tag.

Contact Jerry at jerrygervase@yahoo.com.

31499 Via Las Rosas, Carmel Valley

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Carmel-by-the-Sea Real Estate Activity This Week:

Status	Address	List Price	Sale Price	DOM
List Price Decreased	San Carlos 2 SW of 1st	\$6,750,000	---	40
Sold	Monte Verde 3 SE of 12th	\$3,595,000	\$3,500,000	14
Sold	Santa Fe 3 SW of Mountain View	\$5,900,000	\$5,650,000	33
Sold	Monte Verde 2 SW of 2nd	\$3,490,000	\$3,690,000	6

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Norm Yop
Broker Associate
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DRE #00407139



ESCROWS

From page 4RE

Marina (cont'd)

622 Santa Lucia Way unit E — \$380,000

The Sea Haven to Charles Day and Nina Martinez
APN: 031-295-005

622 Santa Lucia Way unit F — \$380,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Guadalupe Diaz
APN: 031-295-006



830 Parcel Street, Monterey — \$1,580,000

3065 Abrams Drive — \$644,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Daniel and Cintia Pulliam
APN: 031-312-004

1714 Eichelberger Court — \$654,500

Andrew Lawson to University Corporation at Monterey Bay
APN: 031-171-021

3009 Jean Street — \$775,000

Daniel and Shane Forster to Patricia Kintz
APN: 032-371-019

14406 Lee Avenue — \$837,000

Robert Sanders to Isaac Magana and Ramon Avila
APN: 031-165-003

425 Exeter Place — \$899,000

Robert and Kelly Blade to Wilfredo and Maria Olalia
APN: 032-152-036

3068 El Capitan Drive — \$1,197,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Andy Tu and Lily Miao
APN: 031-313-009

615 Santa Lucia Way — \$1,296,000

The Sea Haven LLC to Robyn Ashley
APN: 031-312-055

Monterey

217 Edinburgh Avenue — \$900,000

Duane Dykema to Mark Sarto
APN: 013-241-030

830 Parcel Street — \$1,580,000

Dennis and Natalie Griffin to Justin Chung and Jane Kim
APN: 001-179-035

16 La Playa Street — \$1,750,000

Mark Sarto to Stephen Meyer and Olive Trust
APN: 001-811-016

See DEEDS next page

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BID NO. 26-02

The Santa Lucia Preserve

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District ("District") invites sealed bids to be received by the Director of Public Works at the Gate House, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93923, no later than **4:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Tuesday, July 7, 2026**, as verified by www.time.gov.

The Santa Lucia Community Services District is soliciting bids from qualified vendors for the purchase and delivery of one (1) new or qualifying used wheeled excavator/tool carrier and associated attachment package designed to support municipal road maintenance, roadside vegetation management, wildfire fuel reduction, storm response, drainage maintenance, excavation, material handling, and related public works operations.

Equipment Specifications

One (1) Wheeled Excavator / Tool Carrier Package, model year 2022 or newer.

Qualifying used equipment shall:

- Be model year 2022 or newer;
- Have no more than 250 documented operating hours; and
- Be eligible for manufacturer and/or dealer-supported warranty coverage.

Additional specifications and requirements are contained in the Bid Package.

All bids shall include delivery to the District's facility at One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93923, together with all applicable taxes, fees, freight, and delivery charges for Monterey County, California.

The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any informalities or irregularities in any bid received, and make an award in the best interests of the District. If a contract is awarded, it shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder whose bid complies with the requirements of the Bid Package.

At **4:00 p.m. on July 7, 2026**, bid proposals will be received by the Director of Public Works and thereafter publicly opened and read aloud by the Director of Public Works or an authorized representative. Any bids received after the stated deadline will be returned unopened.

The bids received, together with a report identifying the bidders and the amounts bid, will be presented to the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District at its regular meeting on **Wednesday, July 22, 2026**.

To obtain a Bid Package or for additional information, please contact:

Aaron Dula
Director of Public Works
Santa Lucia Community Services District
One Rancho San Carlos Road
Carmel, CA 93923
(831) 620-6783
adula@santaluciapreserve.com

Date of Publication: June 12th, 19th & 26th, 2026

By order of the Board of Directors of the
Santa Lucia Community Services District.
State of California
Shaw Pick General Manager

Publication dates:
June 12, 19, 26, 2026
(PC630)

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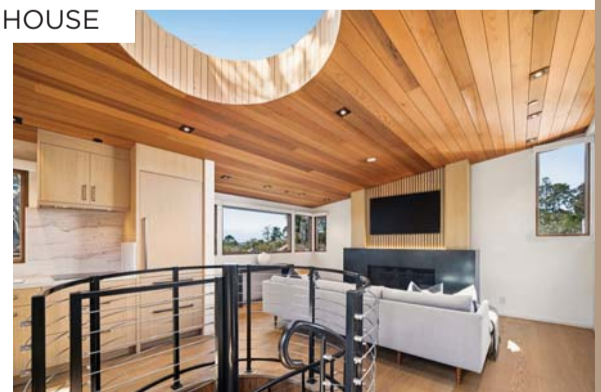
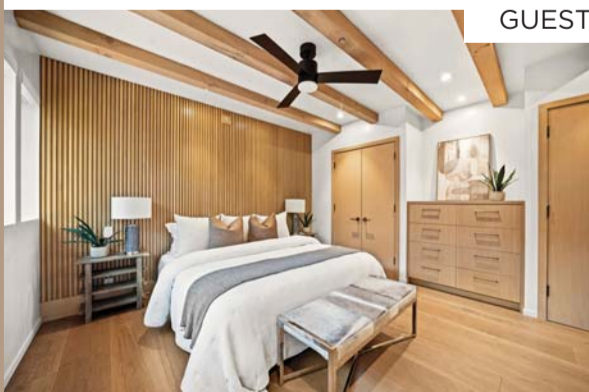
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DEEDS

From previous page

APN: 007-211-015

2911 Colton Road — \$2,910,000

Ned and Eleanor Van Roekel to India Batchelder
 APN: 007-543-001

Monterey (con't)

471 Eldorado Street — \$1,900,000

Jean Dimanto to Salvador and Brendaly Navarrete
 APN: 001-741-029

Pacific Grove

1216 Funston Avenue — \$720,000

Jane Permaul and Gloria Lee to Andrew Sellars
 APN: 007-563-025

136 2nd Street — \$1,012,000

Mark Cruikshank to Freshta Ramich
 APN: 006-227-006

315 Willow Street — \$1,440,000

Lauren Barley to Jayne Moore
 APN: 006-326-006

25 Coral Street — \$3,000,000

Mary and Emil Font to David and Katina Blasingame
 APN: 006-022-012

Pebble Beach

1043 Mission Road — \$2,250,000

Matthew Marnell and Alison Hunter to John Seubert and Nina Kooroshfar



315 Willow Street, Pacific Grove — \$1,440,000



3009 Jean Street, Marina — \$775,000



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Sandy Yagyu

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Call/Text: 831.277.8217

SOLD IN 2025-26 (SO FAR!)

859 Balboa Ave, PG \$3,255,000	9 Deer Stalker Path, MTY \$1,780,000	142 11th St, PG \$1,570,000
610 Forest Ave, PG \$1,548,000	955 Egan Ave, PG \$1,460,000	1128 3rd St, MO \$1,214,100
311 Cedar St, PG \$1,275,000	2757 Sea Glass Ave, MA \$1,189,000	459 English Ave, MTY \$1,135,000
361 Hannon Ave, MTY \$1,073,100	132 6th St, PG \$995,000	1109 Heather Ln, PG \$950,000
1556 Hilby St, SEA \$886,000	1232 Vallejo St, SEA \$897,500	401 Sequoia St, MTY \$829,000
17 Saucito Ave, DRO \$882,000	1713 Goodwin St, SEA \$765,000	13750 Center St, CV \$630,000

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MORE SALES

From previous page

Pebble Beach (con't.)

1063 Rodeo Road — \$3,850,000

Judd and Catherine Heape to Brian and Christian Rhodes
APN: 007-321-007

1021 Ocean Road — \$5,050,000

Christopher Stephens to Tricia Colella
APN: 007-293-008

28 Spanish Bay Circle — \$5,500,000

Fred and Maria Smith to Patricia Hauser
APN: 007-092-028



1063 Rodeo Road, Pebble Beach — \$3,850,000



1021 Ocean Road, Pebble Beach — \$5,050,000

Seaside

1714 Waring Street — \$725,000

Estate of Irene Wyatt to Janine Fetters
APN: 012-764-007

1153 Mono Court — \$750,000

Doris Canepa and Lillian Menezes to Douglas and John Alexander
APN: 012-391-073

1140 Palm Avenue — \$802,000

William and Regina Welch to Anna Hernandez and

Justin Pierce
APN: 012-195-041

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185 Monte Vista Drive, Aptos
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1226 Trinity Avenue, Seaside
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200 acres in Moss Landing with leased industrial buildings, steady income, and future upside. Featuring seawater pipelines, flexible use potential, and prime coastal access, ideal for investors seeking scale, stability, and long-term opportunity. *Co-listed with Marshall Hydorn - DRE #00960660.*

4 (four) APN's are incorporated into the listing: Ownership is creating a 5+ acre site to process the on-site magnesium and a lot-line adjustment resulting in 45 acres bound within lot, and the remaining +/-173 acres represent the parcels to be sold. An agreement is in progress with the MLHD to reestablish the use of the seawater collection pipelines.



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www.TehamaPrivateEstate.com

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www.PacificGroveEstate.com

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www.CVMountainViews.com

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www.AptosOceanViews.com

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