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Navy school christens AI supercomputer

By LISA LAPIN

NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang said this week that, until a short time ago, he didn't know the U.S. military's flagship applied-research university was a short drive from Silicon Valley.

That changed when he sat next to Naval Postgraduate School President Ann Rondeau at an event last year for potential technology partners.

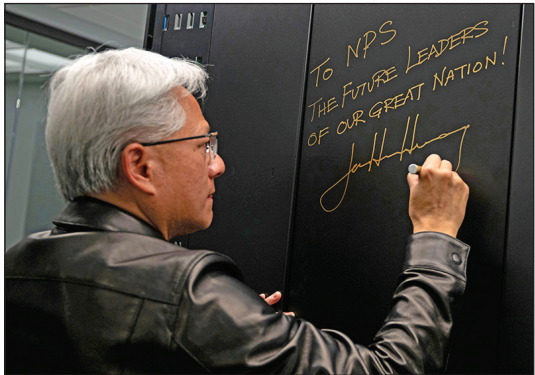
"She went on and on about NPS and how proud she was. She explained the high caliber of the people here and

how important they are to our country," Huang said. "It was clear to me we needed to partner. It's in the best interest of our nation, in service to the country we love."

Critical decisions

On Wednesday, about 18 months after that first meeting, Huang — leader of the most highly valued AI corporation in the world — joined Adm. Samuel J. Paparo, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, and Rondeau

See NPS page 14A



PHOTOS/NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Jensen Huang (right, at lectern) addresses NPS students, faculty and military leaders, and signs one of the world's most powerful AI computers (above) at a dedication ceremony Wednesday in Monterey.



DEMS PRESS REWIND ON STATE PENSION REFORM

SACRAMENTO LAWMAKERS appear eager to provide a cushier retirement for select public employees, despite the crisis it could create for future taxpayers. Two bills with bipartisan support that have sailed through the Assembly this year would undo some of Gov. Jerry Brown's milestone pension reforms, which were put in place to alleviate a fiscal disaster California found itself facing 20 years ago.

The first of the new bills, AB 1383, which received nearly unanimous support with a 70-2 vote in the Assembly,

would increase pension benefits for some highly paid state workers. The bill would expand the definition of pensionable compensation, raising the cap on earnings that count toward retirement pay from \$191,000 to \$249,000 for public safety employees and from \$159,000 to \$184,000 for other state employees. The legislation would also lower

Capitol Access

By CAITLIN CONRAD

the retirement age for public safety workers from 57 to 55 and grant them a higher level of pension benefits.

The bill is backed by police, fire, and corrections unions across the state, which argue that Brown's reforms are no longer needed. AB 1383 has the support of more than 130 local firefighter associations, including the Monterey Firefighters Association Local 3707 — and who wants to say no to firefighters? Local governments, that's who. The cities of Pacific Grove, Salinas, and Soledad are among a

See PENSIONS page 18A

Spanish Bay overhaul on track for April debut

By MARY SCHLEY

THE COMPREHENSIVE makeover of the Links at Spanish Bay, which had essentially gone untouched since the course's construction nearly four decades ago, has reached the halfway point, Pebble Beach Senior Vice President of Golf John Sawin said earlier this month.

"It's been going exactly to plan. We were very fortunate to have had supportive weather as we got started in March, and the teams were very prepared and knew exactly what we wanted," he said. "We're now three-and-a-half months into the construction window and we're exactly where we thought we'd be."

The Pebble Beach Co., which owns Spanish Bay, Spyglass Hill, the Pebble Beach Golf Links and the Del Monte

See SPANISH BAY page 24A



PHOTO/COURTESY PEBBLE BEACH CO.

Crews at the controls of bulldozers are helping to reshape Spanish Bay in a far-reaching overhaul of the 39-year-old course.

Baron won't seek another term

■ Bobby Richards to join race

By MARY SCHLEY

ALTHOUGH HE pulled papers to run for a third term on the Carmel City Council, Jeff Baron on Tuesday announced he has changed his mind. But former councilman Bobby Richards — who withdrew from the 2024 race due to health reasons — said he's throwing his hat in the ring.

Meanwhile, two candidates submitted enough valid signatures on their nomination papers to qualify for the ballot. Councilwoman Alissandra Dramov and planning commissioner Stefan Karapetkov returned their petitions and had them validated by the Monterey County Elections department this week, according to city clerk Nova Romero, who is administering the Nov. 3 election.

After eight years on the council, Baron said he was finding it difficult to summon the energy for another



Jeff Baron



Bobby Richards

campaign.

"I was having a hard time writing 200 words for the voter pamphlet," Baron acknowledged.

Feeling defeated

He announced the decision in a letter to constituents. "The demands of this position are high, and I have always taken my responsibilities seriously," he wrote. "There are many accomplishments of which I am proud, but recently, I have found that my defeats on issues that are important to me have started to stay with me for longer than had previously been the case."

The "mental load" of those 4-1 votes "has been much

See ELECTION page 15A

Tribe gets 84 acres near Monterey airport

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE MONTEREY County is home to no federally recognized Native American tribes, at least three tribes have been present here for centuries — and one of them, the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation, last month was given 84 acres that were once part of its ancestral homeland.

Before anybody gets any ideas about the property being developed commercially — more than 60 tribes, for instance, operate casinos in California — its deed limits uses to "enjoying and protecting natural and cultural resources," which includes "tribal gatherings and ceremonies."

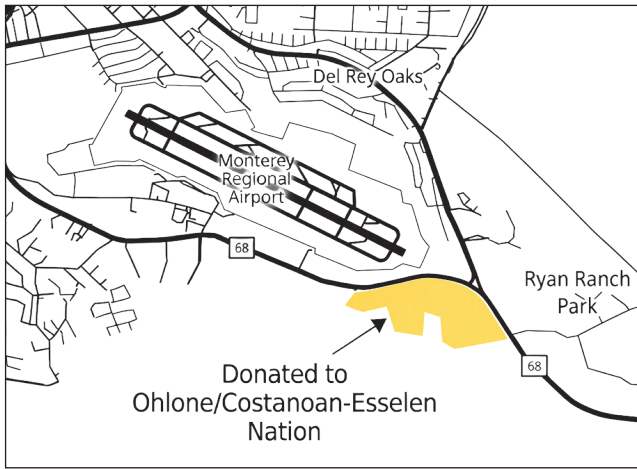
Tribal chair Louise Miranda Ramirez told The Pine Cone that her group plans to build a sacred round house on the land for gatherings, along with "organic gardens to provide food for our people." She described the land as a place where "we can teach our language and our culture" and "honor our ancestors."

Purchase for \$2.75 million

The action comes seven years after another local Native American group, the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County, took ownership of nearly 1,200 acres near the end of Palo Colorado Road in Big Sur. According to the Big Sur Land Trust — which played a key role

in completing both deals — the transfer of the land to the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation "represents a significant step toward restoring Indigenous stewardship of lands," and is "a landmark act of conservation, partnership, and restorative justice."

See TRIBES page 28A



A map shows how close the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation's land is to Monterey Airport and Ryan Ranch. The land was transferred to the Native American tribe last month.

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Sandy Claws

Personality plus

Daisy is a powderpuff Chinese crested pup — think of a hairless Chinese Crested, but with a full coat of soft, silky hair. She belongs to a Carmel Knolls family who had wanted a dog for a long time, but Dad is very allergic. It makes one wonder why he didn't opt for the hairless version of the Chinese crested.

When the family made the joint decision to bring a dog into the home during the Covid shutdown, Dad learned of a woman who had a 2-year-old powder-puff. Picturing the more common hairless version, he thought this little dog might work — except she is covered with a downy white coat.

"I was afraid, since Daisy was very fluffy," said Mom, "our daughters might fall in love with her and then not get to keep her. But Daisy hasn't been a problem."

Since her husband is a gardener, they gave their daughters flower names, and then gave their newest family member one as well.

Daisy, now 6, is a feisty little thing who can be soft and cuddly when she wants, her person said, and quite clear about what she doesn't want — like when she barks at the roar of a truck going up her street.

By Lisa Crawford Watson



She has a similar approach to watching TV, particularly when the Liberty Mutual ad comes on the screen, and she waits to bark at the seagulls.

"Daisy also recognizes and barks at dogs on the TV screen," her person said, "and she barks at other dogs running around on Carmel Beach, as her herding instinct kicks in — something she also does at home with our girls."

At night, when Daisy's person tries to pick her up and carry her to bed, she runs back and forth around the coffee table, playing "chicken" to tease her person before giving in to her cuddly self.



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Ferrari concours sees new leadership, bigger footprint

By MARY SCHLEY

THE DEMISE of a Car Week show historically held in the heart of downtown Carmel is paving the way for the significant expansion of an event that’s taken place more quietly mostly on side streets for the past few years. Featuring Ferraris, Concours Carmel will be staged on Ocean Avenue, filling the space vacated by the Prancing Ponies women’s car show that had been held in town since 2017.

Formerly headed by Tex Otto, the show has new organizers, too, and they hope to increase the involvement of downtown retailers.

“It’s more than a typical car show. We’re elevating this and making it something that reflects the spirit and the heart not only of Ferrari, but of the ambiance and expression of what the town is,” said Melissa Mulchahey, who was recently named co-chair of the Aug. 13 event, along with her husband, Jeff. “We want to make this a destination event for the day.”

Perspective

To do that, they’re drawing on what they learned hosting events alongside Doug and Genie Freedman, the founders of Concours on the Avenue, which was held in downtown Carmel for 14 years until Doug Freedman’s death in October 2021. He had an abiding passion for Ferraris and hosted many related gatherings during Car Week before launching Concours on the Avenue.

“We have over 30 years of experience putting on Ferrari concours, beginning with working with Doug Freedman in

Atlanta,” she said. “We’re really bringing that perspective to this event.”

The day’s theme is “the art of Ferrari in the heart of Carmel,” according to Mulchahey, “so we really want to tie those two together” by involving high-end retailers and creators.



PHOTO/COURTESY MELISSA MULCAHEY

Ferrari aficionados Jeff and Melissa Mulchahey have taken the reins of Concours Carmel and plan to expand the Aug. 13 event.

She said she expects an impressive field and has lined up a robust panel of judges.

“This event attracts participants from all over the country — we have people flying cars in from the East Coast,” she said. “We’re working on elevating the caliber of the judging.”

Judges must have experience with the brand and with owning the cars, “but it also takes an incredible amount of attention to detail and the ability to do the research, poring over parts books and manuals, and understanding how to look at a Ferrari and know whether it’s authentic,” she said. “It’s not just a beauty contest.”

Judges use a points system to determine

See **FERRARI** page 31A

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Police & Sheriff’s Log

They just couldn’t beat the eggs

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.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Dog-versus-dog bite at Ocean and Del Mar.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dog-versus-child bite at Mission and Sixth.

Pacific Grove: At about 8:44 p.m., crimes of public intoxication, resisting arrest, and probation violation occurred in the 600 block of Jewell Avenue. A 36-year-old male was transported and booked into Monterey County Jail.

Pacific Grove: Property found on Light-house Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Ammunition surrendered by a Lobos Avenue resident for destruction.

Pacific Grove: Domestic violence inci-
- dent in the 1600 block of Sunset Drive. A 59-year-old female was arrested.

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violation on Ocean View Boulevard resulted in a citation for illegal feeding of wildlife.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance on East Carmel Valley Road. A 35-year-old male and a 36-year-old female were both arrested. Other victims included a 17-year-old female and an 11-year-old male.

SUNDAY, JULY 5

- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report of theft at Camino Real and Eighth. A 19-year-old male was identified.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Theft from a hotel. Subjects, including a 20-year-old female, were located and cited/released in the field.

See **POLICE LOG** page 13RE in the Real Estate Section

The gavel falls

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

July 17 — Judge Jennifer O’Keefe sentenced Juan Antonio Garcia Jimenez, 42, of Greenfield, to 25 years to life in prison. In 2009, he forcibly raped a Salinas woman in her home, a case that was unsolved until a DNA match implicated him in 2023. Jimenez pled guilty and admitted a special allegation that he committed the rape during the commission of a first-degree burglary.

On Dec. 1, 2009, Salinas police officers were dispatched to Jane Doe’s residence after she reported someone was inside and said she needed help. When officers spoke to Doe, she told them she was decorating for Christmas with her 18-month-old son when Jimenez burst into her living room. Doe had never seen Jimenez before. Jimenez told Doe that if she didn’t do what he wanted, he would kill her son.

Jimenez forced her into a bedroom and began striking her in the face. He then forced her to orally copulate him. He strangled and raped Doe, but she was eventually able to fight him off and get him to stop. Jimenez fled the scene.

Doe participated in a sexual assault examination at the hospital, where DNA samples were taken from various parts of her body. These samples were tested by the Department of Justice and entered into a DNA database used by law enforcement to help identify suspects, solve crimes and link related criminal investigations. In 2023, a match identified Jimenez as the suspect in this case.

In July 2020, District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni created a cold case task force,

See **GAVEL** page 28A

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Concours for a Cause is a free community celebration where extraordinary automobiles become the backdrop for something even more meaningful: bringing cultures & people together. My name is Nile Estep, founder of Concours for a Cause, Good Roots Events & Farmers Markets, and business owner of Hacienda Hay & Feed / Hacienda Presents.

Whether it's supporting local farmers at the Carmel-by-the-Sea Farmers Market, gathering together during Third Thursday, celebrating local chefs throughout Carmel Culinary Week, line dancing with Hacienda Presents, or walking among remarkable automobiles here at Concours for a Cause, my passion has never simply been producing events. It's about creating places where neighbors, families, and visitors can connect, share experiences, and create memories that last long after the day is over.

That's exactly what Concours for a Cause represents. Yes, the automobiles are extraordinary, but that is only part of the story. What makes this event so special to me is everything that surrounds them: the music, the culture, the food, the local nonprofits, the conversations, and the unexpected moments that remind us why gathering together will always matter.

None of this would be possible without the hundreds of people who generously give their time and talent. To our nonprofits, performers, volunteers, sponsors, participants, the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea, first responders, and everyone working behind the scenes, thank you. Your dedication, generosity, and passion are what make this day possible. So come for the cars, but stay for the culture, the people, and the moments you'll remember long after the engines go quiet.

I hope to see you there.
Nile Estep

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25 TO LIFE FOR SOUTH COUNTY RAPIST

By KELLY NIX

A MAN from South Monterey County who raped a Salinas woman in her home in 2009 — and was caught 14 years later after DNA identified him — faces life in prison.

On July 16, 2026, in a Salinas courtroom, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Jennifer J. O’Keefe sentenced Juan Antonio Garcia Jimenez, 42, of Greenfield, to 25 years to life for the Dec. 1, 2009, sexual assault, which occurred while the victim was decorating her home for Christmas and her 18-month-old son was nearby.

“Jimenez told Jane Doe that if she didn’t do what he wanted, he would kill her son,” the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office said this week. “Jimenez forced her into a bedroom and began striking her in the face.”

Jimenez forced Doe to perform a sex act before he strangled and raped her, the DA’s office said, adding that the woman was eventually able to fight him off, which caused him to flee. Doe, who called Salinas

police after the attack, had never seen Jimenez before.

She underwent an examination at a hospital, where DNA samples were taken from her body. The samples were tested by the Department of Justice and logged into a DNA database used by law enforcement to identify suspects. Fourteen years later, the database got a hit that identified Jimenez as the suspect.



Juan Antonio Garcia Jimenez

Cold case

Jimenez pleaded guilty to rape and a special allegation of committing it during a first-degree burglary, which stemmed from him illegally entering the victim’s home.

Investigators with the district attorney’s Cold Case Task Force helped with the investigation, the DA’s office said. The agency, created in July 2020 by Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni, “represents the largest and most comprehensive countywide effort to investigate, solve and prosecute cold-case homicides and other violent crimes in Monterey County,” the DA’s office said.

Quick arrest for teens vandalizing ATC

By KELLY NIX

A TRIO of teenagers who spray-painted anti-police sentiments and crude images of human genitalia inside the American Tin Cannery last week were caught in the act by police and cited for burglary and vandalism, Pacific Grove police said.

On Friday, July 17, at about 1:50 p.m., P.G. police responded to a call at the former tin can factory about a possible burglary.

When officers arrived, they found the three teens on the second floor of the mostly empty building, spray-painting graffiti.

Pacific Grove Police Chief Casey Day told The Pine Cone that the graffiti included obscenities and “images depicting unmentionable parts of the human anatomy.”

Besides being in possession of spray paint, the boys caused “significant” graffiti,

See ATC page 23A

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MONTEREY  **PENINSULA**
WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Dog escapes pet sitter, owners won’t give up search

By CHRIS COUNTS

A COUPLE from San Francisco had just dropped off their mini Australian shepherd, Luca, at a pet sitter in Monterey on June 21, looking forward to a one-night stay in Carmel. But just minutes later, their perfect getaway turned into a heartbreaking search that is still ongoing.

“Less than 10 minutes later, I got a call from the pet sitter saying that Luca had run away,” Megan Kao told The Pine Cone. “The sitter’s yard was unfenced, and Luca got loose and ran off. The sitter then chased him, which only increased his fear and sent him running farther.”

The one-night stay became a month-long ordeal as the couple kept up their quest for Luca. Kao and her husband, Michael Zuccarino, looked for the dog in shifts, with one or the other returning to San Francisco for work. They’ve also worked remotely when possible, and Kao’s father has helped with the search. The couple has put untold miles on their car getting back and forth.

“Today is day 30,” she said. “We’ve been sleeping in motels and cars, running 24/7 shifts, and searching a growing radius.”

The couple has encountered unexpected help along the way.

“What’s kept us going is that this has become a community effort,” she continued. “Neighbors we’d never met before are posting fliers, walking the streets and searching Fort Ord for him, and checking in on us with updates and support.”

The couple has used Facebook, Nextdoor and other social media sites to get the word out about the missing dog. They even conducted a 24-hour stakeout at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch, where Luca was last seen. They’ve put up flyers in every Monterey Peninsula town, contacted every nearby pet shelter and veterinarian, sent microchip alerts to all shelters and vets, and walked neighborhoods in the York Hills/Pasadera area.

Reward offered

Kao and her husband are refusing to give up on finding their beloved Aussie, and they’re offering a reward for his safe return.

“We believe Luca is still alive, just scared and disoriented in unfamiliar territory,” she said.



PHOTO/MEGAN KAO

An Australian shepherd, Luca has been lost for a month, but her owners haven't given up hope of finding her.



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In retrospect, Kao admits she could have done more to keep Luca safe and secure. She also noted that an unfenced yard is a red flag for all pet owners.

“A one-night stay turned into a month-long search because a basic precaution — a fenced yard — wasn’t in place,” she added. “Luca also didn’t have GPS tracking on his collar, which is the single biggest thing we wish we’d had. It’s the kind of thing that could happen to anyone who boards a pet with someone they trust, and a simple \$30 AirTag or GPS collar attachment could be the difference between a scary hour and a month-long search.”

Anyone with information about Luca is urged to call (408) 621-2728.

CHS rummage sale set

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE CARMEL Residents Association and the Padre Parents Organization are collaborating on their annual rummage sale to raise funds for Carmel High School’s youth programs and activities, and they’re collecting donations — but no electronics, books or furniture — July 29-31 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Contributions can be delivered to the Carmel High cafeteria, where the sale will take place Aug. 1 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shoppers will be encouraged to “buy a bag or bring a bag” to fill up on gently loved treasures and will be assisted by student volunteers, who will receive community service hours.

Former CHS parent and Carmel Residents Association board member JC Myers said the connection between the organization and the school is important.

“The CRA is a longstanding supporter of our local youth programs and is excited to partner with the Padre Parents Organization to bring the sale back to campus,” he said.

For more information, contact Myers at (831) 915-5323.

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CHP violated Pebble Beach woman’s rights, lawsuit says

By KELLY NIX

AN ELDERLY Pebble Beach woman with “serious medical conditions” is suing the California Highway Patrol for a traffic stop last year in which officers — who believed she was high on drugs — detained her in cold weather for nearly three hours, accused her of lying, and had her perform sobriety tests she was incapable of doing. The episode left her with physical injuries and emotional distress, she claims.

In a July 9 complaint, Rebecca Joanna Rousso, 76, contends that she was driving on 17 Mile Drive near Sunridge Road on May 27, 2025, at about 7:40 p.m. when she was stopped by the CHP for an expired vehicle registration.

“The initial allegation was driving under the influence of drugs,” according to Rousso’s lawsuit, which was filed in Monterey County Superior Court.

DUI tests

The woman said she informed the two male officers of her myriad ailments, including heart problems, type 2 diabetes, degenerative knee disease, respiratory disease, prior stroke, and expressive aphasia — a neurological language disorder that impairs a person’s ability to speak. Despite the disclosure, two CHP officers, identified as Babcock and Dietz, compelled Rousso to perform field sobriety tests without the use of a cane and a rescue inhaler, which she said caused her respiratory distress.

“Officer Babcock accused Rousso of lying and of drug abuse and directed condescending statements toward her,” the complaint says, adding that the officers rifled through her belongings, seized her

cell phone, and turned it off.

The officers “engaged in extreme and outrageous conduct, including the denial of necessary medical devices to an elderly woman with known serious medical conditions, the baseless accusation of lying and drug abuse, and the prolonged exposure to cold conditions,” which caused emotional distress, Rousso’s complaint alleges.

The Pine Cone contacted the CHP for comment, but it did not respond.

No drugs, alcohol

However, the results of Rousso’s preliminary breath test were 0.000%, indicating she had no alcohol in her system. Similarly, a toxicology screen, the results of which were available about a week after the traffic stop, indicated “no drugs detected” across 12 drug classes, her suit says.

Still, the Pebble Beach resident said, officers concluded the night of the traffic stop that she was under the influence of a central nervous system stimulant. She was arrested at about 8:30 p.m., issued a citation, and released at 11:20 p.m.

On Nov. 5, 2025, county prosecutors dropped the misdemeanor charge of driving under the influence. But Rousso claims the traffic stop was physically and mentally damaging.

Rousso “suffered physical injury and aggravation of preexisting conditions, including respiratory distress, exacerbation of knee pain, fatigue and tremors, severe emotional distress, including fear, humiliation, and anxiety,” economic losses and other damages, according to her complaint filed by Texas attorney Ramon Rodriguez.

See **RIGHTS** page 28A

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Public defender gets \$\$\$ for immigrants

By KELLY NIX

THE MONTEREY County public defender’s office has begun establishing a taxpayer-funded program to pay for legal advice for undocumented immigrants incarcerated at the county jail.

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors in June approved increasing the county’s 2026-27 budget by \$125,000 to provide the legal services. Last week, Chief Assistant Public Defender Tom O’Keefe gave reporters an update on the program, which his office is developing in collaboration with the county sheriff’s office.

The public defender’s office “is proud to begin implementing new immigration legal services for individuals who are detained at the Monterey County Jail,” O’Keefe said during the media briefing held by county communication officials.

The program, he explained, is aimed at ensuring due process for undocumented inmates, making sure they know their rights and can make informed decisions, “and that they have the opportunity to exercise those rights when dealing with federal immigration officers.”

“We want to provide inmates in Monterey County Jail with an opportunity to consult with a qualified immigration attorney before they’re transferred to federal immigration authorities,” O’Keefe said.

‘Meaningful advice’

Immigration law is a specialized legal field, and public defenders who specialize in criminal law do not have the training to offer advice on complex immigration issues.

The legal consultations, he added, will “give individuals an opportunity to receive

legal advice at a time when the guidance can be the most meaningful to them.”

Lawyers will also provide inmates with information on how the immigration process works and how inmates, while in custody, can communicate with family members and make arrangements for children.

“They’ll also have an opportunity to determine whether they may qualify for certain forms of immigration relief,” he said.

Fair process

O’Keefe thanked county supervisors for approving the funds for the program.

“Their support reflects a commitment to protecting the integrity of the legal process and ensuring that individuals have meaningful access to legal counsel at critical points in their cases,” O’Keefe told reporters.

O’Keefe said he couldn’t provide details on how the program will work, as they are still being finalized.

“But everyone involved shares a common goal of creating a process that will serve the public fairly and efficiently,” he said.

The Monterey County Jail in 2025 released 21 undocumented immigrants to ICE officials, including those convicted of possession of child pornography, methamphetamine sales, domestic violence, DUI causing injury, robbery, burglary, gang activity and assault with a deadly weapon.

The county limited ICE agents’ access to the jail in 2018 following the passage of a state Senate bill, which forbids law enforcement from cooperating with federal immigration authorities unless an inmate has been convicted of serious crimes.

County supervisors in 2017 and 2025 designated Monterey County as “welcoming” to undocumented immigrants.

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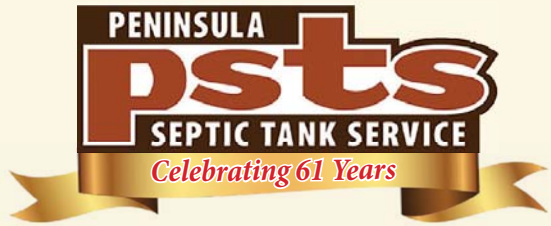
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Neighbors battle over ADU, deck

By MARY SCHLEY

THE CARMEL Planning Commission approved a new house that includes an accessory dwelling unit with a rooftop deck on Carmelo Street earlier this month, but that won't be the end of a bitter battle between property owners.

The approval came nearly a year-and-a-half after Scott McWhorter applied for the permits and despite ongoing protests from neighbors Bruce and Linda Taylor, who say the deck will destroy their views and quality of life.

McWhorter purchased the home just north of Ocean at 616 Carmelo St. in May 2024 for \$3,998,000, according to Monterey County property records. He and his wife, Jessica, hired architect Eric Miller to work on a redesign soon after.

They are proposing to replace the existing residence on the 3,900-square-foot lot with a 1,555-square-foot, two-story home, including an attached garage and a 700-square-foot accessory dwelling unit. Since the state requires local jurisdictions to approve ADUs, the unit was not the subject of the July 8 planning commission hearing.

Neighbor vs. neighbor

But the deck was, and associate planner Jake Olander said Bruce and Linda Taylor, who own the large home behind the McWhorters, want it moved farther west toward the front of the property.

Neighbors sent email in support of the Taylors, whose multibillion-dollar ag company is based in Salinas.

"New construction on neighboring properties should never

change the views of sense of privacy that a longtime owner has enjoyed," Tom and Julie Bryan wrote, while Pam and Bardin Bengard implied the ADU is being built solely to enlarge the home.

Miller told commissioners he submitted plans in January 2025 — 516 days ago — and that it took 279 days just to get concept approval from the planning commission, which OK'd the preliminary plans in November 2025 after requesting changes.

See **BATTLE** page 22A



PHOTO/MARY SCHLEY, RENDERING/ERIC MILLER ARCHITECTS

Scott and Jessica McWhorter plan to tear down their Carmelo Street house (top) and replace it with a home (above) designed by architect Eric Miller that includes a roof deck.

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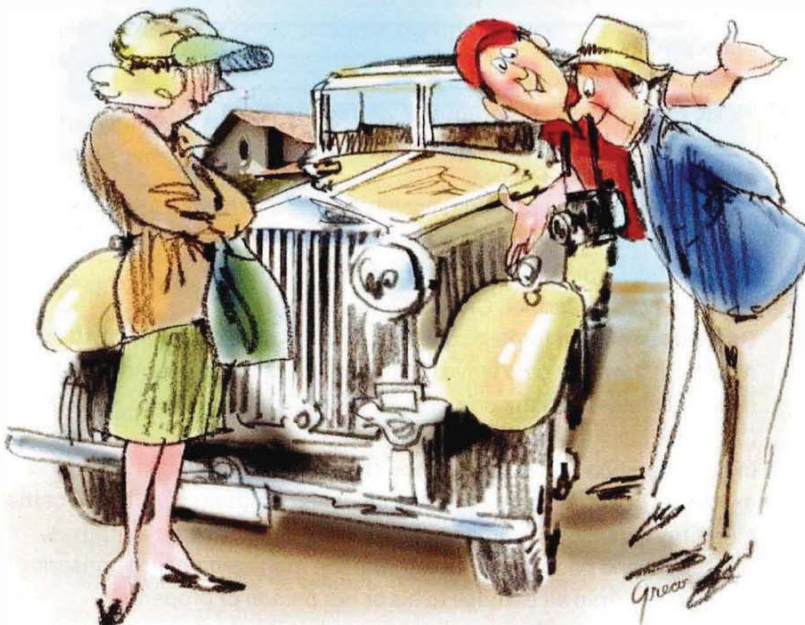
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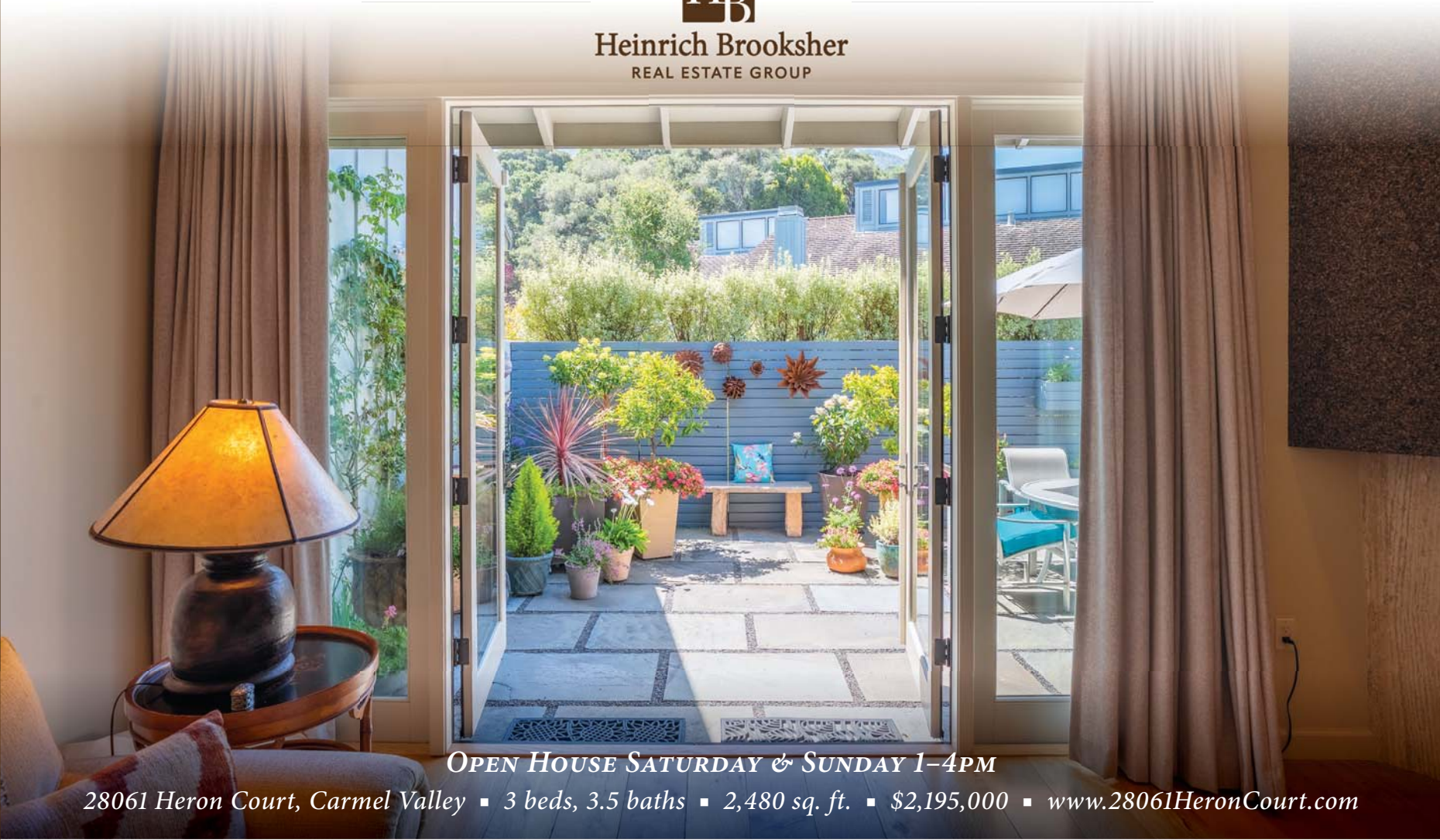


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NPS

From page 1A

on the NPS campus in Monterey for the official commissioning of one of the most powerful AI supercomputers in the world.

The NVIDIA DGX GB300 system — donated to the NPS Foundation by the computer company — is the first such AI supercomputer in the U.S. military, a grant all three leaders hailed as revolutionary for the leaders attending NPS and for the future of U.S. security.

At a ceremony attended by hundreds of NPS students and alumni, military officials, industry partners and a large NVIDIA team, Huang and Paparo emphasized the speed at which the world will be moving. They noted that American competitiveness and military success will depend on how quickly leaders can assess massive amounts of intelligence to make critical, on-the-spot decisions.

“The changing character of warfare impacts the entire spectrum of conflict,” Paparo said. “To achieve absolute decision superiority, we must leverage data, compute, and human-machine integration to observe, orient, decide, act, assess, learn and adjust faster than any adversary.”

Fast tools

Huang said the “decision-making loop” for future leaders “is going to be extraordinarily fast. You are going to be flying through information at extraordinary speed,” and fast tools to process the information are critical. He urged NPS students to dive in and begin experimenting with the fastest available technology immediately.

“The most important advice that I would give to someone is to engage the technology,” Huang said. “It’s not as hard as you think it is, and the reason for that is that, on first principles, technology is supposed to get smarter and smarter over time.”

The new NVIDIA technology is part of an ongoing emphasis on real-world AI applications on campus. It further advances

NPS’ role as the technology innovator for America’s defense, a position the university has held in Monterey for more than 75 years, Rondeau said.

Huang said the DGX GB300 supercomputer, which was installed at NPS over the last seven months, is “1 billion times more powerful” than the original supercomputer NPS installed in 1960. That early machine cemented NPS’ pioneering technology legacy, bearing serial No. 1 as Seymour Cray’s world-first all-solid-state computer.

More complexity

The DGX GB300 supercomputer and NVIDIA Mission Control software will be used by NPS’ 600 faculty members and 1,500 in-residence students — officers from all branches of the military and allied nations — to conduct large-scale AI computing for a range of applications, including weather prediction, cybersecurity, disaster resilience and response planning.

The new supercomputer processes large volumes of work simultaneously, rather than sequentially, as happens in most computer architectures. This allows it to be used for large AI applications, where the mass of data involved requires greater speed and scale. Students and faculty will be able to analyze volumes of data previously out of reach to do classified and interdisciplinary research, according to Trenton Hancock, NPS chief information officer.

“What this system really gives us is the ability to explore more complex, real-world problems, especially those our operational fleet faces every day,” Hancock said.

In addition to granting the entire supercomputer system to the university through the NPS Foundation, NVIDIA expanded its collaboration through its Deep Learning Institute, which provides toolkits to NPS faculty so that AI can be integrated into the graduate curriculum across departments.

The commissioning took place during the school’s three-day Converge@NPS industry partnership event and an annual

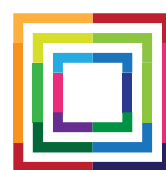
See NVIDIA next page



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NVIDIA

From previous page

symposium of international alumni, who returned to campus as high-ranking officers of allied nations.

No one at NPS or NVIDIA would attach a monetary value to the total partnership and grant, calling the enhanced educational capability simply “invaluable.”

“Many of you will command in AI-enabled environments. Information will move at lightning speeds, compressing response times,” Paparo, himself an NPS alum, told students.

“Our advantage will come from leaders, like you, who can use the technology to see, understand, decide and act faster while exercising judgment, experience and

leadership that machines cannot provide. That education is happening here at NPS.”

Rondeau, a retired vice admiral, noted parallels between NPS and Silicon Valley, as the applied research at NPS has led to innovations in autonomous devices, space operations, ocean research, weather predictions and numerous tools for decision-making.

Huang predicted that AI will very soon become the “backbone of America’s defense.”

“Our nation depends on our men and women who fight on the front lines. Nothing is more valuable to you than information and insight, and information and insight in a timely way, and to understand its impact and consequence,” Huang said at the commissioning.

“I can’t imagine anything more important.”

ELECTION

From page 1A

greater than in the past,” he said.

“It’s OK being on the outside, but you have to steel yourself for it, and I’m no longer able to do that,” he told The Pine Cone.

Baron said he doesn’t know whether he’ll return to politics, but he’ll “be watching as the issues that I care about make their way through city hall,” and will always have the community, friends and neighbors on his mind.

‘Not reactionary’

A few days before Baron made his announcement, Richards decided to enter the race. After recovering from the cancer scare that took him out of it two years ago, Richards said he’s eager to return to public office.

“I want to help guide Carmel’s future,” he said. “I’ve been around a little bit. More than ever, with this newer council, my experience is needed.”

He plans to “bring an approach that is

not reactionary and is based in data and understanding,” he said.

Richards wants to further build relationships with Carmel Unified School District and Monterey Regional Airport, which is seeing more travelers come through its doors.

“We are not an island,” he said. “Carmel depends on the success of our county and of our region, and I want to feel like we’re part of that team.”

Richards said his time away from office, including his recovery and the travel that followed, have given him broader perspective that will allow him to be “a better councilmember than I was.”

“I’m excited about that opportunity,” he said.

And with council meetings running several hours, Richards said he hopes to help the group stay better focused and more succinct in its discussions, especially since lengthy sessions discourage public participation.

Richards is in the process of gathering signatures and said former councilmembers

See **TERM** next page

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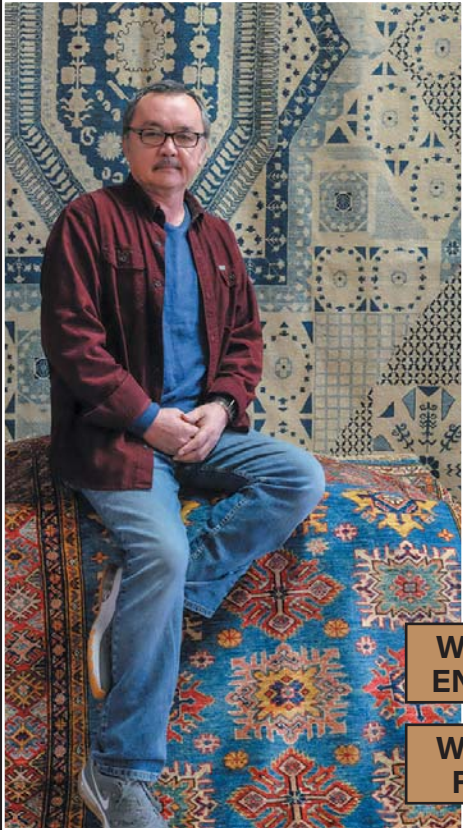
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TERM
From previous page

Carolyn Hardy and Carrie Theis are on the list, as are former mayors Dave Potter, Sue McCloud, Steve Dallas and Ken White, along with Mayor Dale Byrne. “I’m proud of that — I’m proud of those relationships,” he said, including those with whom he frequently disagreed. “I’ve always stood my ground, and I think I did it respectfully, and the fact former councilmembers can get behind me makes me feel really good.”

Who’s on?

Dramov was the first candidate to officially qualify for the ballot. “I am honored by the support of those who signed my nomination papers,” she said, including current and former public officials, members of the business community, longtime residents, “and other distinguished citizens who have served our village in many ways.”

White and Potter signed her papers, as did Sarah Berling, Chris Campbell, Kristi Reimers, Jim Beck, Karyl Hall, Ian Martin and Shirley Moon. Former councilmembers Mike Brown, Paula Hazdovac and Victoria Beach did, too, along with Carmel Residents Association board members Nancy and Tim Twomey, Graeme Robertson and Janine Chicourrat. Other signers include Councilman Bob Delves, forest and beach commissioners Tamara Michie and Kelly Brezoczky, and Carmel Chamber of Commerce board member Sygale Lomas.

Next to qualify was planning commissioner Stefan Karapetkov, whose signers

include many of his neighbors near the Carmel Mission, business owner Danny Hala, Berling and others. After living and working around the world as an engineer and “enterprise architect,” Karapetkov said he and his wife chose to make Carmel-by-the-Sea their home and “fell in love with its natural beauty, its architecture, its vibrant arts community, and the people who care so deeply about preserving what makes this village special.” As a planning commissioner for the past three years, Karapetkov said he’s “had the privilege of reviewing projects that will shape our community for generations.” “My approach has always been simple: Listen carefully, ask tough questions, study the facts and make balanced decisions that protect Carmel’s unique character while allowing it to evolve,” he said.

‘Preserve the village’

In his work life, Karapetkov said he’s accustomed to “solving complex problems, building consensus among diverse stakeholders and making sound decisions that balance competing priorities” — skills that are vital at the dais, as well. “I am running for city council because I want to preserve the village we all love while preparing it for the challenges ahead,” he said. “My priorities are strengthening wildfire resilience while protecting Carmel’s architectural traditions, improving critical infrastructure and emergency communications, supporting our local businesses through practical parking solutions, and protecting Carmel Beach from ongoing erosion.” Since Byrne and Baron are not running, the filing period for those offices will be open until Aug. 12.

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PENSIONS

From page 1A

among a long list of municipalities and counties that opposed the legislation. All of them are worried a benefit increase will sink their budgets, and rightfully so — they've seen this movie before.

Back in 1999, Gray Davis was governor, and under his leadership Sacramento increased pension benefits in the hopes that a dot-com boom underway at the time would provide the revenue needed to fund the raises. Fast forward to the 2008 recession, and California found itself in a world of hurt. The earnings of both the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the California State Teachers' Retirement System were wrecked, creating a massive unfunded pension debt.

\$265 billion

The original deal wasn't supposed to cost taxpayers a dime, but now the unfunded liability total is big and getting bigger, sitting at \$265 billion in 2025. The dollars represent the difference between the value of all the state's pension funds and the cost of paying all the pensions promised to current and former state employees.

The debt isn't just borne by state coffers either. Cities, counties, and school districts are all on the hook, forced to make annual contributions to state pensions behemoths CalPERS and CalSTRS to pay down the liability. Pacific Grove alone owed \$55 million to CalPERS in 2025 with plans to pay it off in 2044 — that's if no new benefits are added in the meantime. The money for debt payments comes directly from tax revenue, consuming increasingly large portions of local budgets and siphoning off dollars that could be used for infrastructure, education, and public safety.

In an effort to bring down future costs to taxpayers, then-Gov. Jerry Brown was able to overhaul the pension system in 2012, increasing employee contributions to their retirement and reducing benefits and

pension eligibility for future state hires.

The reforms don't sit well with public safety unions, which dislike the chasm in benefits between those hired before 2013 and those hired after. California Highway Patrol officers and firefighters who were brought on board in pension heydays, pre-2013, can retire at 50 with a pension formula giving them 3% of their final wages for every year on the job — which is a pretty sweet deal when you see that a CHP officer with 30 years of service can earn a pension that's 90% of their final year earnings. In 2024, the average pension for a Highway Patrol officer was \$114,147 a year, according to analysis by Transparent California. But an officer who joined after Jan. 1, 2013, will have to work seven more years to earn a fully vested pension.

Still, the benefits of retiring from state payrolls are pretty good and they cost taxpayers plenty. For every dollar a California Highway Patrol officer earns, the state pays 70 cents to CalPERS, and for firefighters, the match is 51 cents for every dollar of their salary.

The argument for providing police and firefighters with a good pension is sound — they put their lives on the line just by coming to work — but AB 1383 wouldn't just help first responders. The bill also helps other state employees making more than \$160,000 a year, and any increase to benefits, justified or otherwise, will cost taxpayers in the long run.

Long-term costs

A CalPERS analysis of AB 1383 showed increased benefits would add \$4.8 billion in long-term costs. The Reason Foundation also evaluated the bill and its modeling showed it would add \$9.3 billion in costs over the next 30 years, and up to \$14.5 billion if there is a market crash. The largest share of those costs — a whopping 86% — would come from changing the pensionable cap, not lowering the retirement age. In other words, paying for the high earners' retirements is what's really

See **BENEFITS** next page

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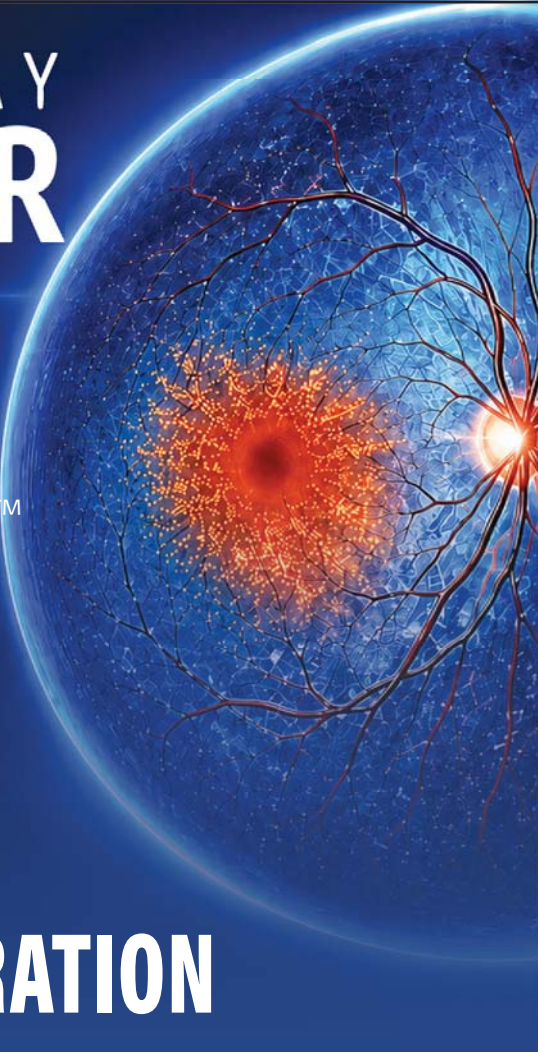
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BENEFITS

From previous page

going to cost us.

AB 1383 isn't the only benefits bill gaining traction in Sacramento. A separate piece of legislation, AB 1054, also sailed through the Assembly 68-1 this year. The bill would allow police and firefighters who've reached retirement age to retire and stay on the job, collecting a paycheck and pension payments at the same time.

Eligible employees would receive retirement payments in a separate savings account, earning interest at a guaranteed rate yet to be determined by the California Public Employees' Retirement System. They'd be allowed to do this for up to five years and receive a lump sum payout when they finally leave for good, plus their regular pension. Who says it doesn't pay to work in government?

"We are talking about people staying in government service for an additional five years, drawing a six-figure salary, then getting a lump sum payment of a million

dollars each," said San Diego Assembly-member Carl DeMaio ahead of a floor vote on the bill.

The firebrand Republican was the only lawmaker to vote against the bill, which, along with AB 1383, is awaiting its turn in the Senate.

More employees

Unions argue the Brown-era reforms have hurt recruiting, but state data show there were 30,000 more state employees in 2024 than there were in 2012 — granted, there are also a million more Californians to serve. But increasing pension benefits now not only signs up the next generation for potentially billions more in pension debt, it also could mean future cuts to services in the event of an '08-style crash. Meanwhile, local governments remain decades away from paying off existing unfunded pension liabilities.

In recent years, CalPERS and CalSTRS funds have been beating their earnings targets thanks to a stock market on a tech high, but lawmakers should remember things were looking pretty good in 1999, too.

'Les Mis' auditions start Aug. 10

AUDITIONS BEGIN Aug. 10 for parts in PacRep's musical, "Les Misérables," which runs from Feb. 18-March 27, 2027, at the Golden Bough Playhouse.

Three-minute auditions will be scheduled Aug. 10-11, from 6-10 p.m., at the Golden Bough Playhouse. If necessary, some auditions can be done Aug. 21. Call-backs are scheduled for Aug. 17-19.

"All auditioners should present one song excerpt and one monologue within a three-minute total time limit," the instructions read.

"Auditioners should provide their own electronic accompaniment, such as a cell phone or smart speaker. The song excerpt can be from this show or another show of a similar nature. Auditioners should bring a resume and a recent headshot to the

audition, if available."

Directed by Gary Bolen, "Les Misérables" is based on Victor Hugo's classic novel of the same name. PacRep describes the story as "epic, grand and uplifting," and called it a "treasured tale about the survival of the human spirit." "Hugo's characters have proved themselves timeless and contemporary in every country and society in which [the musical] plays," PacRep said.

Two roles in the musical are already set — Sean Boulware will play Jean Valjean, while Reg Huston will portray Javert.

To schedule an audition, call (831) 622-0100 Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Golden Bough Playhouse is located on Monte Verde between Eighth and Ninth.

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By LILY PATTERSON

our students' safety," reads the change.org petition titled, "Prevent a charged criminal from teaching at Tularcitos." The petition was launched in May by parent Jackie Deam, who is also a children's attorney. It has accrued nearly 500 signatures.

“First asking if they spoke English or were foreigners, DeBellis yelled at them ‘I’m going to kill you,’ as he approached. The defendant retreated to his Tesla, opened the trunk as if to retrieve something, and approached again yelling similar threats at the children,” according to court

“His decades-long career in education would be effectively ended by a felony conviction. This would be too steep a price to pay for a condition which is effectively treated by attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous meetings,

See **THREAT** page 24A



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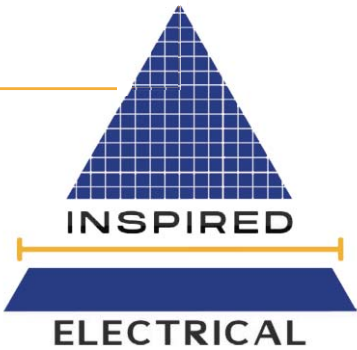
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BATTLE

From page 12A

“The Taylors have been working with us since Oct. 27, 2025, somewhere around 300 days, on this thing,” he said. “We feel like we haven’t been able to make any progress with them.”

Representing the Taylors, attorney Krista Ostoich said the McWhorters refused to consider moving the deck to the west side because “they will lose the loophole allowing it” — namely, it wasn’t included in the home’s volume calculations because it’s on the roof of an ADU.

“Yes, it has been in front of you for a long time, but this is a huge issue,” she said, alleging it will become a “party deck.”

‘Party deck’

She also acknowledged the Taylors’ home is much larger but said it was built in 1913.

“It’s hard to understand how this commission, which year after year protects the character of Carmel, is going to allow a party deck to impede on the views of a historical home,” she said.

PR firm owner David Armanasco, who described himself as “a product of Carmel,” speculated the deck’s use would seriously harm the Taylors’ enjoyment of their

home. “Imagine being in your second-floor bedroom with the windows open, listening to the ocean and enjoying the fresh air, and someone’s having a barbecue right next door,” he said. “Where’s that smoke going to go? That is an impediment on a neighbor’s privacy and on their lifestyle.”

“What kind of Carmel do we want?” asked Linda Taylor, who argued the project will take away the “last remains” of their view.

“We have enjoyed the privacy of our historical home for 25 years and dearly want to retain our privacy in the future,” she said.

Previous hearings have involved allegations and barbs, and in a letter to the commission, Scott McWhorter said that “personal character attacks, speculation about a neighbor’s honesty and commentary on an applicant’s physical appearance or perceived wealth do not belong in a zoning proceeding.”

State law does not dictate how an ADU is used, McWhorter said. “The suggestion that we are being ‘dishonest’ about this is simply not accurate.”

Shelly and Dan Lynch and south neighbor Juli Hilton sent letters urging the commission to OK the plans.

“I hope the commission will weigh the perspective of the closest neighbor and view this home as a positive contribution to our street and to Carmel more broadly,”

Hilton wrote.

“This is a very delicate balance,” commissioner Mel Ahlborn said, between the Taylors’ historic home and the McWhorters’ right to enjoy their property. She noted the design conforms with the rules and regulations and suggested the deck will offer the McWhorters the opportunity to enjoy some of the view the Taylors already have.

“We live in paradise, and views are an important part of that and an important part of our personal and private property,” she said.

She also objected to Ostoich’s characterization of it as a “party deck.” “That to me is pure speculation,” she said.

Commissioner Stephanie Locke worried a proposed rooftop hot tub would create problems for the neighbors.

“Those types of features should be private,” she said.

Commissioner Stefan Karapetkov theorized that the founders of Carmel made the lots small so residents would be motivated to go out into the community to socialize,

not stay home. “Rooftop decks go in the exactly opposite direction,” he said.

‘No impact’

Commissioner Kevin Ruess said he doesn’t like roof decks in general. “I think they almost inherently compromise privacy,” he said.

Chair Michael LePage said the commission’s job is to ensure project impacts are mitigated. “There is no substantial impact on the view here for the Taylors,” he said. “There just isn’t.”

Ultimately, regardless of any misgivings they might have had about the rooftop deck, commissioners unanimously voted to approve the project, acknowledging they had amended it in an attempt to appease the Taylors.

Over the last two years, the city has approved 13 attached ADUs, six of which have been completed.

The Taylors filed an appeal July 21 asking the city council to overturn the approval.

Point Lobos shuttle takes step forward

By CHRIS COUNTS

WITH THE traffic chaos at Point Lobos State Natural Reserve getting more concerning than ever, a California State Parks plan to establish a shuttle stop at the park along with a parking lot near the Crossroads shopping center will be vetted by the Carmel Valley Land Use Advisory Committee Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. at St. Philip’s Lutheran Church.

State Parks is seeking a permit to allow construction of a parking lot and shuttle system connecting the lot, Palo Corona Regional Park, and Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, along with “implementation of a reservation system for Point Lobos State Natural Reserve.”

The parking lot would have 100 spaces, including four “accessible” spaces and two “van accessible” spaces. There would also be room for five bicycles.

“Our goal is to design a reservation and shuttle system that allows for increased access, flexibility, and an element of ease so visitors can continue to enjoy this crown jewel of the California State Parks system in a safer, less impactful manner,” according to ParkIT, a group led by the late Ernest Chung that formed in 2018 to find solutions to the “escalating parking and traffic threat” at Point Lobos.

“The shuttle will allow visitors to be directly transported instead of the mile-plus walk from the highway that now may prove prohibitive to families and people with physical limitations,” the group said.

The group has also urged public officials to permanently ban parking along the east side of Highway 1 near the park—and they want to see limits placed on parking along the west side of the highway. A website, parkitforparks.com, offers more details about the project.

JOHN JAMES ‘JACK’ MCGOVERN

John James “Jack” McGovern passed away peacefully June 4, 2026, in Pacific Grove, California, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 82.

Jack is survived by his loving children, Maggie and Daniel McGovern; his beloved former wife and lifelong friend, Margaret McGovern, and her husband, Ken Hinshaw; bonus children Beth and Chris Ingram and Paul Hinshaw; grandchildren Odin, Juniper, Fiona and Jack Jr. McGovern; bonus grandchildren Grace and Scarlett Ingram; and his cherished siblings, Tom, Frank and Mary McGovern. He was preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Josephine McGovern, and his brothers, Mike and Terry.

Jack lived a life defined by compassion, service, curiosity and laughter. Raised in the Roman Catholic faith, he spent years preparing for the priesthood before courageously choosing a different path — one devoted to helping others in everyday life. He earned degrees in history and philosophy, became an educator and later found his calling as an addiction counselor at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, where he touched countless lives through his wisdom, empathy and unwavering belief in the human capacity for change.

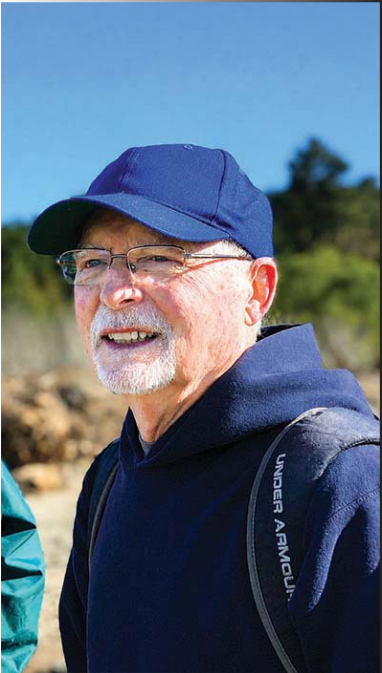
Recovery, community and lifelong learning were central to Jack’s life. Through AA, meditation and a deep commitment to self-examination, he inspired others by living with honesty, humility, kindness and levity. Even in retirement, he continued serving others. He became fluent in Spanish, taught English to adult learners and embraced cultures and friendships that enriched his life. He is remembered around the world by thousands of students.

Jack found joy in simple pleasures: cycling through Carmel Valley, hiking the trails of Big Sur and Garland Ranch Regional Park, running along the Pacific Grove shoreline, laughing with friends and family, and spending treasured time with his children and grandchildren. His warmth, humor, generosity and ability to make others feel seen and valued will remain his enduring legacy.

His family is profoundly grateful to the many relatives, friends, colleagues, students and members of the recovery community who walked beside him throughout his remarkable journey. A special thank-you goes to his sister, Mary, for her devoted friendship and the time she spent with Jack during his final years.

In lieu of flowers, Jack’s family encourages everyone to honor his memory by showing kindness, serving others, embracing lifelong learning and never forgetting to laugh — especially at yourself.

A celebration of life for family and friends is planned for 4 p.m. July 25 at the Center for Spiritual Awakening, 522 Central Ave., Pacific Grove, California.





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ATC

From page 6A

which officers photographed for evidence, police said.

The three teenagers were handcuffed and taken to the Pacific Grove Police Department on Pine Avenue, where officers cited them for burglary and vandalism. They were later released to their parents.

A 2021 law, the Miranda Protections for Youth Act, authored by former state Sen. Steven Bradford, a Democrat, made it illegal for police in California to interrogate children under 18 without giving them the

opportunity to consult with an attorney.

Day said officers “did not conduct interviews of the teens due to the requirements of the legislation — plus, they were caught in the act.”

Monterey police also responded to the vandalism call.

In early 2022, the P.G. City Council approved a development permit for a proposed resort on the property of the mostly vacant American Tin Cannery. In April, about two years after the California Coastal Commission OK’d the resort, the agency approved a one-year extension for the partial demolition and complete redevelopment and expansion of the building. The new expiration date is April 11, 2027.

Barbara Googins Grabowski,

Barbara Googins Grabowski, 94, of Sun Valley, Idaho, passed away July 14, 2026, surrounded by family and beloved caregivers. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Grabowski.

Barbara was born Oct. 17, 1931, in Berkeley, California. She grew up in a playful and loving family with three siblings: Betty, Peter and Deborah. She attended Berkeley High School, where she was active in student politics under the slogan “Googie for Guv’nor,” and was voted president of the Girls Athletic Association. She went on to study at the University of California, Berkeley, for two years. A standout athlete in her youth, she competed in synchronized swimming and tennis.

In 1952, Barbara married Ted Hollister, supporting him through veterinary school. The couple moved to Pacific Grove, California, where they built a veterinary practice and raised their four children: Betsy, Melia, Andy and Dinah. Barbara and Ted not only developed the practice but also built the animal hospital itself — a labor of love that consumed their early years. As the grandkids will now proudly know, Betsy was quite literally kept in the kennel during those early years. While raising her family and supporting the practice, Barbara served on the Pacific Grove Planning Commission and was later elected to the Pacific Grove City Council. During this busy chapter of her life, she also returned to tennis and competed statewide in singles and doubles.

Following her divorce from Ted, Barbara was wooed by her friend and fellow tennis player Bob Grabowski, who became the love of her life. They began their life together in Ojai, California, where they opened an art gallery. Soon after, they opened a second gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In addition to their art galleries, Bob and Barbara built and managed a real estate business. Barbara handled the business side of their ventures while Bob and their partners focused on the art. Working closely with the other gallery owners, she honed her already discerning eye, helping create gallery displays and playing a key role in discovering and recruiting new artists. Although she started law school and excelled during that demanding first year, she ultimately chose to focus her sharp business acumen on building and growing their gallery and real estate businesses.

In 1987, Barbara and Bob moved to Sun Valley, Idaho, where they spent the next four decades enjoying the area’s beauty, outdoors and active lifestyle. Devoted members of the Center for Spiritual Living, they helped establish Light on the Mountains, the Sun Valley Center for Spiritual Living. Barbara was ordained as a minister at age 72 and served the community with warmth and insight.

An accomplished IFR-rated pilot, Barbara embraced adventure and independence throughout her life. She and Bob enjoyed extensive domestic and international travel, from journeys to India for spiritual exploration to trips throughout Europe, with favorite destinations including Greece and Sardinia.

Above all, Barbara was a grandmother who relished time with her grandchildren. She dove into the ocean with them, cheered loudly from the edges of skateparks, beat them relentlessly at cribbage and explored the arts alongside them, nurturing their creativity with the same curiosity and joy she brought to every part of her life.

Barbara is survived by her four children, Betsy, Melia, Andy and Dinah; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The family also honors the bond she shared with Melia, a child she welcomed into her home and heart — a testament to her courage and compassion and a reminder that family is made not only by blood but by choice.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Light on the Mountains, the ACLU or Mountain Humane.

A private celebration of life will be held for Barbara. Arrangements are under the care of Wilks Funeral Homes. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family through the funeral home’s website.



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DONNA RITA (VONDRA) DEVINCENZI-COLETTI

Nov. 18, 1931 ❖ July 15, 2026

Donna Rita (Vondra) DeVincenzi-Coletti of Pebble Beach, California, passed away July 15, 2026. She was 94. She will be remembered fondly as a loving mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, teacher and friend. Born Nov. 18, 1931, in Omaha, Nebraska, Donna was the daughter of Stanley and Alyce Vondra. She spent her childhood in Omaha and graduated from St. Mary’s High School and Creighton University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree from the College of Liberal Arts. She married in Omaha and later relocated to the Monterey Peninsula.

Music and faith were at the heart of Donna’s life. Her love of the piano came from her mother, Alyce, who taught piano in their home. Donna began teaching her mother’s overflow students when she was just 14 years old. She continued this vocation into her early 90s, teaching students in her homes in Pebble Beach and later Pacific Grove.

Donna was active in and held leadership roles in many music and community organizations, including the Music Teachers’ Association of California, the Choraleers, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Children’s Home Society, Pacific Grove’s former Singing Christmas Tree and the St. Angela Merici choir, where she served as an organist and choir member. Donna was also a piano instructor at Santa Catalina School, where she was the beloved accompanist for the annual Christmas concert.

Donna raised her seven children on the Monterey Peninsula with her first husband, Dr. Ronald DeVincenzi, and later in life was fortunate to find a second love with Paul Coletti. She supported each of her children in their many activities, and she could often be found cheering from the bleachers at swim meets and baseball, softball and volleyball games; leading the Brownie troop; or sewing costumes for dance recitals and the Butterfly Parade.

Her grandchildren enjoyed countless holidays at Grandma Donna’s home and special visits when she was able to travel to their summer lake vacations, recitals, ball games, horse shows, graduations and weddings. Her quiet love and firm faith set an example for her large and extended family, who will miss her dearly.

Donna was preceded in death by her brother, Thomas Ray Vondra; her daughter, Andrea Rita DeVincenzi; her grandson, Joshua Rourke DeVincenzi; and her husband, Paul Anthony Coletti.

Donna is survived by her six children, Mark (Piyanut), Ron (Amy), Paul (Ashlie) and Bob (Arden) DeVincenzi, Maria DeVincenzi-Novak and Diana (Jon) DeVincenzi-McClean; her sister-in-law, Carol DeVincenzi; daughters-in-law Kim DeVincenzi and Donna Corn; 14 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass, with a reception to follow, is scheduled for 10 a.m. Sept. 17, 2026, at St. Angela Merici Catholic Church, 362 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove, California. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Catholic Charities or St. Angela Merici Catholic Church in Pacific Grove.



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SWEAT IS necessary. Boredom is not. That philosophy has guided Lauri Ataide through more than 30 years of teaching and leading fitness programs at the Monterey Sports Center.

“I want people to do a variety of things. Our instructors spend hours working on

Great Lives

By LILY PATTERSON

playlists, changing up the routine every week, making fitness interesting enough that people aren’t bored,” she said.

Ataide has decades of teaching experience under her elastic waistband. She’s experienced the trends. The kettlebells, Pilates reformers and bikes hooked up to television screens are plenty effective — but what about the new mom who wants to build back strength after her first baby is born, or the 85-year-old whose only goal is to carry their groceries to the car?

Under Ataide’s direction, the Monterey Sports Center has a class for that.

100 workouts

When she was hired in 1992, one of the first fitness instructors on the city’s payroll, aerobics was basically the only option. By 2020, she and a whole team were offering more than 100 group workouts weekly. The schedule was scaled back drastically after the pandemic — it’s been a

challenge to find high-quality instructors, Ataide said — but variety is never an issue. Group fitness has evolved into forms she never anticipated, some of which have become vital to her own routine since turning 60.

“I’m Pilates-certified, but I love yoga more, so I created our Yoga Core class to get the best of both. At this point in my life, I’m most interested in mobility work,” she said.

Ataide was born in 1964 and grew up on Bainbridge Island in Washington state, the daughter of a chiropractor (Dad) and a computer engineer (Mom). She got an early start in sports and proved a standout tennis player. She guesses she was around 16 when she taught her first exercise class, after a coach

See LIVES page 29A



Lauri Ataide is the muscle behind group fitness at the Monterey Sports Center. She helped it bounce back (and better) from Covid.

From the mayor’s desk — Ordinary into remarkable

By DALE BYRNE

WHEN DAVID Marzetti invited me to join him on his Sunday KMBY radio show at Little Napoli, I thought it would be a great way to update residents on what’s happening at City Hall. I doubt either of us expected I’d still be participating at 10:30 a.m. with Frank Sinatra songs more than 50 weeks later. What I also didn’t expect was that the more I talked, the more I found myself listening.

This shift toward listening has profoundly shaped my perspective, whether I’m hosting guests on the air, drafting this column, or sitting at the council table. Each experience serves as a reminder that there is always more happening in Carmel than most of us realize.

Writing this Pine Cone column changed my perceptions in an interesting way. Instead of simply asking myself, “What happened the last two weeks?” I began asking, “What did I learn about Carmel?” Putting thoughts on paper has a way of slowing you down and helping you understand

what really matters.

Then there’s the council chamber.

At least twice a month, I have the privilege of listening to residents, commissioners, staff and my fellow council members wrestle with difficult issues. I arrive prepared but without my mind made up, since I need to run the process. I always learn from the public and my peers and, however the votes go, I’ve learned that good decisions begin with listening.

Untold stories

Those three experiences — the radio show, this column and council meetings — have changed how I see my days. They’ve taught me to keep my eyes open to find opportunities.

I’m always wondering whose story hasn’t been told. I notice the volunteer out early before anyone else arrives. I stop to ask a contractor or city worker about a project they’re working on, or an artist in a gallery about their latest painting. The

See MAYOR page 34A

DANCE MORE, DOUBT LESS, AND SEND THAT NASTY INNER CRITIC PACKING

CARRIE CLAYDEN has a way of making paint sound like a living thing. In her cozy Carmel Valley studio, where a prolific portfolio competes for space and soft-palette color seems to gather everywhere at once, she talks about painting the way others might talk about breathing. It’s something physical, immediate and inseparable from the body, mind and soul.

That same sense of aliveness runs through her work. Clayden, an expressionist/impressionist-style painter who was juried into the historic Carmel Art Association in May, has built an artistic life on motion, intuition and a willingness to trust her holistic instincts.

Her imaginative work is ethereal, expressive, soothing ... different. Horses, flowers, seascapes, landscapes and

hands — a joyful technique she embraced after taking a workshop from playful Paso Robles artist Robert Burrigge, a free spirit (now 83) who blew her mind 15 years ago in a single lesson.

“He was laughing, he was throwing paint around ... I had never seen someone having so much fun with his hands and a paper towel,” she remembered. “I left thinking, ‘I want that. I’m going to paint like that!’”

Paint all over

She immediately switched from oil paints to acrylics, cranked up the music in her studio and turned her creative process into a dance.

“I get paint all over my hands, my clothes, my hair, the floor, and that’s a match for my personality. I want to be free,” Clayden said.

Her recent acceptance into the 99-year-old Carmel Art Association marks a significant moment for Clayden, who felt uncharacteristically unnerved by the interview process — one hopeful artist facing questions and scrutiny from an eight-person panel.

“It’s very intense,” she said. “I’m not usually flustered, but I had to calm myself by thinking, ‘This is your work. If they like it, they like it. All you can do is be yourself.’”

She was surprised to be accepted, honored to be included in the association’s annual members show and thrilled when one of her paintings sold on the first day.

“It was such a fortuitous set of circumstances,” said the artist, whose journey has been anything but linear.

When she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from UC Santa Cruz in 1995, she already felt discouraged and intimidated.

“I was looking at my classmates, thinking, ‘I am not an artist ... you are the artists. I need to figure out what else I can do with my life,’” she remembered.

In love

By the time she graduated, she was four years into her marriage to Ben Clayden, an airline transport pilot flying for Monterey Airplane Company. She was also the mother of their 4-year-old son, Alex — now 35 and a Ph.D. student in London — and a year

See ARTIST page 31A

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

abstracts emerge in loose strokes and layered marks, carrying the feeling of a scene more than its exact likeness. What matters most to her is not whether every line is correct, but whether the painting feels alluring and true. “I want people to look at my work and want to be there,” she said.

Clayden experiments with multiple materials — acrylics, oils, pastels. She uses brushes, chalk, graphite pencils.

She also frequently paints with her



PHOTO/ABBY CLAYDEN GARNER

Carmel Valley’s Carrie Clayden, a new member of the Carmel Art Association, creates imaginative expressionist and impressionist acrylic paintings in a paint-splashed studio.

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TRIBES

From page 1A

The property, known as the Hiss Parcel, was bought by the land trust for \$2.75 million in 2024. The money came from taxpayers through the California State Coastal Conservancy. Funds were also provided by the Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Foundation, the Barnet J. Segal Charitable Trust, and the California Council of Land Trusts for expenses related to the land, including a stewardship plan.

Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis, president and CEO of the land trust, celebrated the news.

“This land also holds cultural values of significant importance to the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation,” Tuitele-Lewis said. “The Big Sur Land Trust looks forward to collaborating with [the tribe] on a conservation management and restoration plan for the long-term stewardship of the property.”

Located across from Monterey Regional Airport and Ryan Ranch Office Park along Highway 68, the land is described by the Big Sur Land Trust as “a rich mosaic of wetlands, riparian habitat, perennial and annual grasslands, coast live oak woodlands, maritime chaparral, and Monterey pine forest.” Deer, coyote, and even black bears have been seen there.

“It encompasses portions of Canyon Del Rey Creek and provides critical habitat connectivity within a larger

wildlife corridor that links protected lands throughout Monterey County,” the land trust said. “The property’s wetlands improve water quality, reduce downstream flooding, support biodiversity, and contribute to climate resilience through carbon sequestration and ecosystem restoration.”

Songs and stories

Ramirez told the newspaper that the land acquisition “gives us a place to be together,” while conceding there’s still a lot of work to do to realize the tribe’s vision.

“Working with Big Sur Land Trust for more than 16 years, the process has finally become a reality,” she said. “It is our intent and hope to educate our people and the community about our culture, language and history.”

As for what specifically can be done with the land, Rachel Saunders of the Big Sur Land Trust told The Pine Cone that while it was once marketed for commercial and residential development, deed restrictions strictly limit what can be done on the property today.

“The property was acquired to protect natural resources and tribal access,” Saunders said. “Any development would have to be approved by the California Coastal Conservancy.”

According to the group’s website, the tribe has about 600 members, all of whom are descended from members of various local tribes — Esselen, Salinan, Rumsen, etc. — that inhabited at least 19 villages surrounding Monterey Bay.

Like the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County, the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation has applied for federal recognition but has not received it so far, although both tribes have received recognition from California. There are 575 federally recognized tribes in the United States, including 228 in Alaska and 109 in California.

RIGHTS

From page 9A

The Pebble Beach woman, who also names the State of California and the two officers as defendants, alleges unreasonable search, seizure, detention, arrest, and denial of medical care under the Fourth Amendment; assault; false arrest and imprisonment; invasion of privacy; negligence; and battery — for compelling her to do field sobriety tests “she was incapable of performing” and for handling her person and property without her consent.

She’s seeking an unspecified amount in damages, including for past and future medical expenses, and punitive damages, which can be awarded in cases involving fraud, malice or oppression.

The case is set for a November court hearing in Monterey.

GAVEL

From page 4A

a countywide effort to solve cold-case homicides and other violent crimes in Monterey County. Investigators with the task force assisted with the renewed investigation.

In January 2022, the cold case task force received a \$535,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant, “FY 2021 Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA,” provides funding to support forensic testing and investigative activities in the prosecution of cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified.

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LIVES

From page 27A

at her tennis club asked if she would help run clinics.

A few years later, she found aerobics. Everybody wanted in on the secret to Jane Fonda’s physique — including Ataide and her sorority sisters at the University of Washington, where she was studying political science and public administration.

She moved with her then-husband from Seattle to Fresno so he could take a job while she finished her degree at Fresno State. Again, she caught the attention of an instructor at her local fitness club.

“There were no certifications back then. The conversation was basically, ‘You seem pretty fit, do you want to learn how to teach aerobics?’” she laughed.

With zero dance experience, she said, tackling choreography was a challenge, but she persevered until the four-move, eight-count sequences came naturally.

Ataide taught after delivering her first daughter in 1986, and continued on through her divorce. She took a job as a customer service representative with Cellular One, but always clocked out in time to make evening classes — where 40 legging- and leotard-clad students might show up, ready to sweat the day off.

‘A lot of yoga’

Around this time, she got together with Craig, an engineer at the same company, a former football player at Fresno State and a Peninsula native. Shortly, the new couple moved to care for his ailing father in Monterey — who put in a good word with his friend, Peter Cutino, who in 1992 was the director of the brand-new Monterey Sports Center.

A decade later, the facility underwent a 15,000-square-foot expansion. By then

raising three daughters, Ataide had long since graduated from her part-time aerobics gig. She took on responsibilities far out of her comfort zone, like supervising the martial arts program and, later, social media marketing. Her hours ticked from 20 to 30 and eventually 40. She was a supervisor who also taught as many as 12 classes per week, from cycling to high-intensity strength training.

When quarantine hit in March 2020, Ataide didn’t miss a beat. Within days, she was broadcasting exercise classes from her home in Carmel Valley. She lunged, lifted soup cans and did yoga, hopeful that members would tune in virtually and get moving at home. They did, and requested more.

“A lot of yoga, which made sense,” she said.

The sports center reopened exactly one year later. The city had laid off 25 of 28 full-time employees there, but Ataide’s job was spared — and she and part-time staff were tasked with sterilizing equipment after every sweaty contact, and policing a demoralized public fed up with masks and social distancing.

“We were the last facility in the area to lift our mask mandate. We had a lot of people saying, ‘Well, this other gym says we can take our masks off now.’ But the city had to stick with the CDC,” she recalled.

According to its charter, the municipal sports center must bring in 75% of what it spends. That was impossible in 2020. The future wasn’t certain by 2022, nor the next year, but Ataide had been promoted to fitness director and was determined to move forward.

Membership rebounded, and approximately 3,000 visitors come through the center’s doors daily. Under Ataide’s direction, the weight room has doubled in size, and a fleet of treadmills, bikes and rowing machines fill a breezy, skylit atrium. Personal trainers earn as much as \$36 hourly as Ataide pushes to attract talent and

remain competitive with boutique fitness centers. The program has become self-sustaining, with package deals, nearly 20 private coaches and a scheduling coordinator.

Wow factor

Some changes were subtler. Ataide replaced and rearranged seated weight machines — safer than free weights — in an easy-to-follow circuit. Special cardio machines to accommodate less-mobile members have a section of their own, with enough room to park a wheelchair. Some have complained of wasted floor space, but she insists on serving all exercisers.

The most striking post-pandemic upgrade was also her idea. When the city decided it was too expensive to staff the facility’s day care, Ataide suggested that a cycling studio would fit perfectly in its place.

“Some high-end spinning studios had opened nearby, and I wanted that same

wow factor. The instructor on the stage, the lighting, the sound system ... Some serious cyclists ride with us.” Ataide said.

And she’s right there with them, sweating through every offering on the schedule except Zumba, which never clicked for her. In addition to the five or six group sessions she runs weekly, Ataide often jumps in as a substitute teacher because she hates to cancel classes.

She wants to ensure the center reflects the community that uses it, she said. Her daughters, who live locally, were college athletes and can handle a heart-pounding kettlebell class. Yet the crew from Bone Builders — a strength-training session that can be done with one hand on a walker — are among her most dedicated students.

“We have members who are 13 years old and 100 years old. I’m so lucky to do what I do, to serve all these people and to see how they change over the years,” Ataide said.



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LETTERS

From page 26A

Highway 1 occurred when Hearst Castle was opened to the public.

Howard Strohn, former Big Sur resident

‘True leadership’

Dear Editor,

In following the Carmel City Council’s financial stewardship over the past few years, I would like to commend the efforts of the current council to embark on a path of increased fiscal responsibility, defining both operating and capital needs and their funding requirements. It wasn’t long ago that the city was spending more than the revenues received annually on operating costs alone, drawing down on savings while deferred maintenance went largely unaddressed.

However, due to multiple factors — including forming a financial stewardship committee, working closely with acting city administrator Brandon Swanson to curb inflationary spending, identifying and prioritizing deferred maintenance needs, promoting potential new capital investments, developing policy on the extent and burden of operating expenses, and challenging the value of investments in outsourced marketing for tourism — our city council, with a 5-0 approval of next year’s budget and the launch of new revenue initiatives for citizen consideration, has laid the groundwork for Carmel’s fiscal future.

It’s easy to see evidence of the capital project work being accomplished, such as roads and sidewalks under repair. It’s harder to grasp the depth and diligence being applied to improving services while holding costs in line and undertaking initiatives to fund future requirements. However, this council is showing true leadership in addressing the city’s fiscal responsibilities.

Jim Beck, Carmel

‘Ignorance’

Dear Editor,

Last week’s Pine Cone editorial demonstrated a considerable degree of ignorance regarding the dangers posed by the construction of data centers. If not ignorance, then it was misinformation intended to mislead those who don’t have a studied understanding of the issue. The attempt to equate those who do with Luddites is a clever red herring.

This letter won’t be able to address every one of the logical fallacies of the longer editorial — though I’d welcome the opportunity to publicly debate its author — it’s merely intended to encourage everyone to educate themselves on what data centers are. Don’t be fooled by straw man arguments; this is not about opposing “advancements in technology.” It’s not about a “fear of progress.” And

it’s certainly not about “left wing” politics, as the author claimed in an attempt to equate this with political ideology using ad hominem attacks. Honestly, those who support the unregulated growth of data centers are more deserving of being called “crazy.”

We’re not talking textile looms and steam engines here. Nor is it about the loss of jobs. I have yet to meet any educated person who opposes technological advancement of any sort, let alone that which improves the human condition. But we’re in the midst of a transitional moment in human history on a completely different and unprecedented scale. The inventions of just the last 35 years have altered society in a way that’s outpaced our ability to control the consequences. Social media alone has changed the very chemistry of our brains. Our children have lost the ability to think without internet assistance; critical reasoning has been outsourced to machines; addiction to our screens is impacting our posture and ruining our sleep; AI is leading us toward an anti-human future coming at us like a bullet train; and now a handful of dysfunctional trillionaires are insisting they need to build massive, resource-gobbling data centers in our communities.

Don’t listen to snake oil salesmen; there’s nothing benign about these consequences. Opposing this madness doesn’t make you a Luddite. Opposing this makes you a well-informed member of the human race.

Raffi Sulahian, Carmel Valley

More Luddites?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the sharp and timely editorial “Those crazy Luddites.” Your parallel between the 19th-century opponents of power looms and today’s resistance to data centers is exactly right.

History shows that innovations like mechanized textiles ultimately slashed costs, boosted productivity and raised living standards for everyone — even those who initially feared them. The same will prove true for data centers powering AI and the digital economy. Short-term engineering challenges deserve attention, but blocking progress risks repeating the Luddites’ mistake.

Appreciate you pushing back against obstruction and championing long-term human progress.

Are they increasing in numbers, or is it just me?

John Koontz, Albuquerque, N.M.

Understated elegance

Dear Editor,

Now that Carmel has finally joined the rest of the country and given us all street addresses, the city has issued guidelines suggesting that the numbers be displayed tastefully and in keeping with our village character.

Naturally, we at the Golden Bough Playhouse want to do our part.

Below is our proposed new address sign for 851 Monte

Verde St. We think it is subtle, tasteful and just large enough to help emergency responders find us without destroying Carmel’s traditional charm.

There may be a few minor details still to work out with the planning department. And PG&E.

But after 110 years without addresses, it seemed a shame to introduce ours without a little theatrical flair.

All in good taste. Or at least in jest.

Stephen Moorer, Pacific Repertory Theatre



Bill to defund Peace Corps

Dear Editor,

The Peace Corps just celebrated its 65th anniversary since it was founded by President John F. Kennedy. Since then, more than 250,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers. Currently, 3,100 Peace Corps volunteers serve in 61 nations across the world.

Unfortunately, the organization’s future is under serious threat. Budget Amendment 137 was added by Rep. Scott Perry, a Republican from Pennsylvania, to House Resolution 8595 (the funding bill for national security). It proposes to eliminate support for the Peace Corps entirely.

The Peace Corps provides great value internationally and domestically. The impact returned Peace Corps volunteers provide to the U.S. economy is significant. Twenty-five percent start successful businesses, 86% remain active volunteers in their communities, and the annual impact of their efforts on the economy is between \$752 million and \$1.1 billion, according to the National Peace Corps Association.

Please help save the U.S. Peace Corps. Contact a Northern California Republican or independent member of Congress and urge a no vote on Amendment 137 to HR 8595.

Jacob Shafer, Returned Peace Corps Volunteer

Misses the feast

Dear Editor,

This is Feast of Lanterns month in Pacific Grove. Except a small handful of people were able to eliminate a 100-year-old tradition, and Pacific Grove let it be eliminated. With it, we lost the fireworks that had been grandfathered in over the Monterey Bay Sanctuary. This has been such a loss for the community. But it’s nice to see that some residents still put lanterns up outside their homes during this month, remembering the fun times we had with this event.

Steven MacDonald, Pacific Grove

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FERRARI

From page 3A

how close an entry is in authenticity to the day it was delivered from the factory in Maranello, Italy, though modern safety-related updates, like seat belts and tires, are allowed.

All the judges have received extensive training from an international organization that sets the standards for judging around the world, Mulchahey said.

Part of the event’s mission is supporting local charities, and beneficiaries include the American Legion, First Tee Monterey County and Rancho Cielo Youth Campus.

“We’re going to pick two kids from the Rancho Cielo auto restoration division,

and they will be assistant judges,” she said. “We’re starting them with the cars that are the most contemporary to them. It’s the first time, we think, that anything like this has been offered, and we want to start training the future generation of judges.”

Concours Carmel is expected to field at least 120 notable Ferraris, ranging from early years to modern specimens, and will fill the space vacated by the Prancing Ponies car show, which for the last few years occupied Ocean Avenue in the central commercial district.

“We’re very happy to have all of that space, and the response from the community has been very positive,” Mulchahey said. “We have met with shop owners and managers along Ocean.”

The show will kick off at 9 a.m. and wrap up around 4 p.m.

ARTIST

From page 27A

away from giving birth to daughter Abby, now a professional photographer in Santa Cruz.

The family settled in Carmel Valley and fell in love with the community. Clayden dedicated herself to motherhood, and the kids happily attended Tularcitos Elementary School.

But a job change required Ben to start flying out of Oakland — a 117-mile, two-hour-plus commute — so the Claydens eventually moved to Danville.

That’s where the art bug began to gnaw again. She found a \$200-a-month studio space in Benicia (20 minutes from Danville), moved in with an easel and a chair and started to paint.

“Then I started wondering, ‘What if I open the door, so people can wander in? Maybe somebody will buy something.’”

Monday Funday

She did. Sales followed. Clayden’s confidence improved. Within a year, she was giving art lessons there. In 2007, she converted the space into Hip Chick Designs, a business she owned until 2014, when the family moved to the Monterey Bay.

The Claydens lived for 11 years in Santa Cruz, where she taught art for the Santa Cruz Art League from 2015-2020, when the Covid pandemic moved her classes online. Clayden still teaches Zoom lessons from Carmel Valley to about 10 continuing students from her original art league group — a class she calls “Monday Funday.”

Her workshop with Burridge was a

moment of artistic growth, but another, said Clayden, came from Julia Cameron’s 1992 self-help book, “The Artist’s Way.”

“She identifies ‘the critic’ that’s inside everybody — especially artists — and how that critic bullies all of us,” Clayden remembered. “And I said, ‘That’s it — she just nailed it for me!’”

Cameron’s book taught Clayden how to recognize her “inner critic,” dismiss it, and grant herself liberating permission to blossom gradually as an artist.

“That was a turning point for me: ‘Maybe I’ll eventually get good at this if I stop expecting to be great right away,’” she said of an epiphany that eased the pressure.

Inviting interpretation

Being added to the roster of the Carmel Art Association was a significant moment of validation for Clayden, whose paintings are wistful, serene and mysterious, inviting endless interpretation from the beholder.

Her new habitat near Carmel Valley Village is “my dream home — just so cute,” said Clayden. “And, for me, it feels very full-circle to come back.”

Clayden is also represented by MK Contemporary in Santa Cruz, Sedona Arts in Arizona, and Cotswold Contemporary in the United Kingdom.

For additional information and to view images of her work, carrieclayden.com or her page on the Carmel Art Association website: carmelart.org/artist/carrie-clayden. Visit the Carmel Art Association gallery on Dolores Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily to see her art on exhibit.

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

Blind kitty gets help from friend

By KELLY NIX

TWO SWEET male kittens — both of which had to have eyes removed due to a painful ocular condition — are still seeking adoptive homes, an SPCA Monterey County spokeswoman said this week.

Gordon and Steven, both about 3 months old, were only 2 weeks old when they arrived at the SPCA with phthisis bulbi, a condition that required both of Steven’s eyes to be removed and one of Gordon’s. The kittens have been at the SPCA’s facility off Highway 68 since May.

Beth Brookhouser, SPCA Monterey County spokesperson, said that despite their vision issues, both the kittens have no problem getting around indoors.

“Even though Gordon can’t see well, Steven uses Gordon as his seeing-eye kitty and sort of leans on him and follows him around,” Brookhouser told The Pine Cone, adding that the cats are otherwise perfectly healthy.

While Gordon and Steven are looking for a forever home, Brookhouser said, they are bonded, which means they come as a pair. They also cannot go

outside because they would be too vulnerable with their vision issues.

“They absolutely need to be indoor cats,” she said.

For information on adoption, go to spcamc.org or call (831) 373-2631.



PHOTO/SPCAMC

Gordon, left, has one eye, while his buddy, Steven, who lost both eyes, gets his help to navigate around the house.



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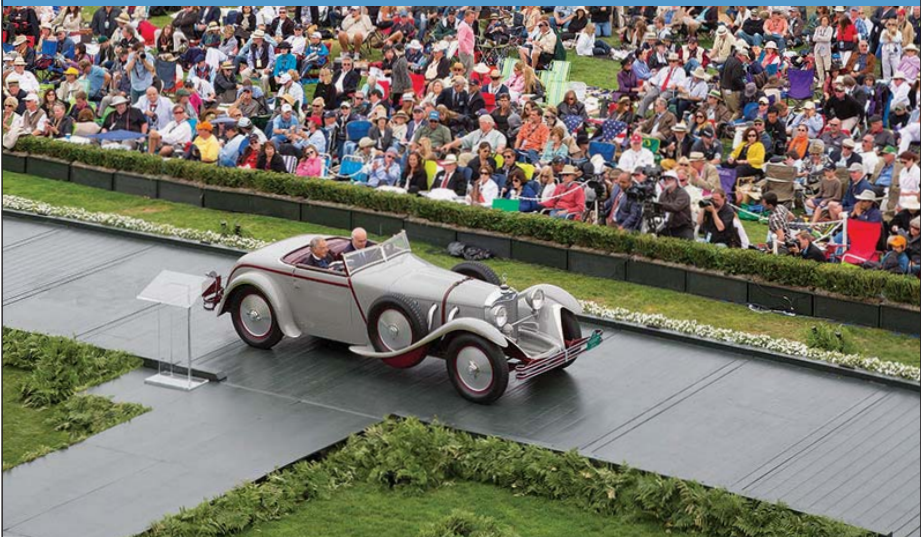


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2Q2026 MARKET UPDATE

Carmel Highlands

The Carmel Highlands market remained steady in the second quarter, with four sales totaling \$11.5M, compared to five sales and \$14.47M last quarter. While activity was below the unusually strong second quarter of '25, that period was an exception rather than the norm. Today's market feels more normalized than retrenched, with limited transaction volume driven primarily by the scarcity of quality inventory — not a lack of buyer demand. All four sales featured ocean views, including one off-market transaction.

The median sales price increased to \$3.31M, largely reflecting the mix of homes that closed, while average days on market improved slightly to 50. Inventory held steady at 11 active listings, though only one oceanfront property is currently available, highlighting the continued shortage of premier coastal homes. Two significant properties are under contract heading into the 3rd quarter — an oceanfront residence listed at \$10.9M and an expansive view compound on acreage listed at \$13.75M — reinforcing demand for exceptional offerings. Looking ahead, I anticipate a modest increase in oceanfront inventory during the third quarter, including several outstanding properties that have yet to reach the public market, creating compelling opportunities for buyers seeking the Highlands' unmatched coastal lifestyle.

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The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

Stevenson alum learns that humility leads to success in the pool

THE EDUCATION of Sofia Bozzo as an NCAA Division I student-athlete began the day she arrived for her very first water polo practice at Schaal Aquatics Center, home of the UC Davis Aggies.

The first lesson — tough love for every freshman — was to check her credentials at the door.

For the Stevenson School alumna (Class of 2023), that was a lot of fancy luggage:

■ As a high school freshman and junior, she was named Offensive Player of the Year in the Pacific Coast Athletic League’s Gabilan Division (her sophomore season was canceled by Covid). In her senior year, she was the league’s Most Valuable Player, a second-team All-Central Coast Conference selection, and earned honorable mention on the KAI Sports All-America Team.

serious business — you feel that intensity immediately.”

Full-time training and school

The three-alarm fire becomes a five-alarm fire when the freshman discovers the relentless, sink-or-swim training schedule.

“You’re in the water 25 hours a week, plus weight training three times a week. That hits you in the face on day one. Between polo and school, you don’t have time for anything else,” she said. “There’s literally no time for adjustment, and the learning curve is really steep.”

The “learning curve,” for Bozzo, intensified when her coaches decided she was best suited to play the utility position, a spot that requires a player to use both offensive and defensive skills.

“The utility player is basically a jack of all trades — you have to know the basics of everything in the pool,” said Bozzo, whose versatility and creativity gave her the same liberties in high school and club water polo. “At Davis, I’m more of an offensive utility, trying to attack in a myriad of ways. I’m not as focused on guarding on defense.”

The redshirt season

For Bozzo, a high school megastar who, since age 11, has also spent every summer playing in Europe, humility arrived in a hurry.

Coach Kandace Waldthaler and her staff almost immediately began urging her to spend her first year at Davis as a redshirt athlete — a non-roster player who practices, drills, lifts, studies, and attends every meeting, but doesn’t travel with the team or see action in a game.

The benefit was 12 months of physical, mental, emotional and tactical development without losing a year of NCAA eligibility.

Bozzo endured that rite of passage, biding her time, then made the traveling squad — a proud moment — appearing in 25 of the Aggies’ 28 games as a second-year player, though she played sparingly, scoring four goals and recording four assists.



PHOTO/COURTESY SOFIA BOZZO

Sofia Bozzo enjoyed a breakthrough season, scoring 20 goals last year at UC Davis, but hopes to achieve even more in 2027.

“The speed of the game was insane. Nothing can prepare you for the speed, and it’s just as much of a mental battle as a physical one,” she said. “I just had no idea what was coming at me. I was in the pool with All-Americans, girls who had been on Olympic rosters, and when I was 17, I was in the pool with girls who were 23 years old, in their final year of college ... players from USC, UCLA, and Cal who are like icons to me.”

See **SPORTS** next page



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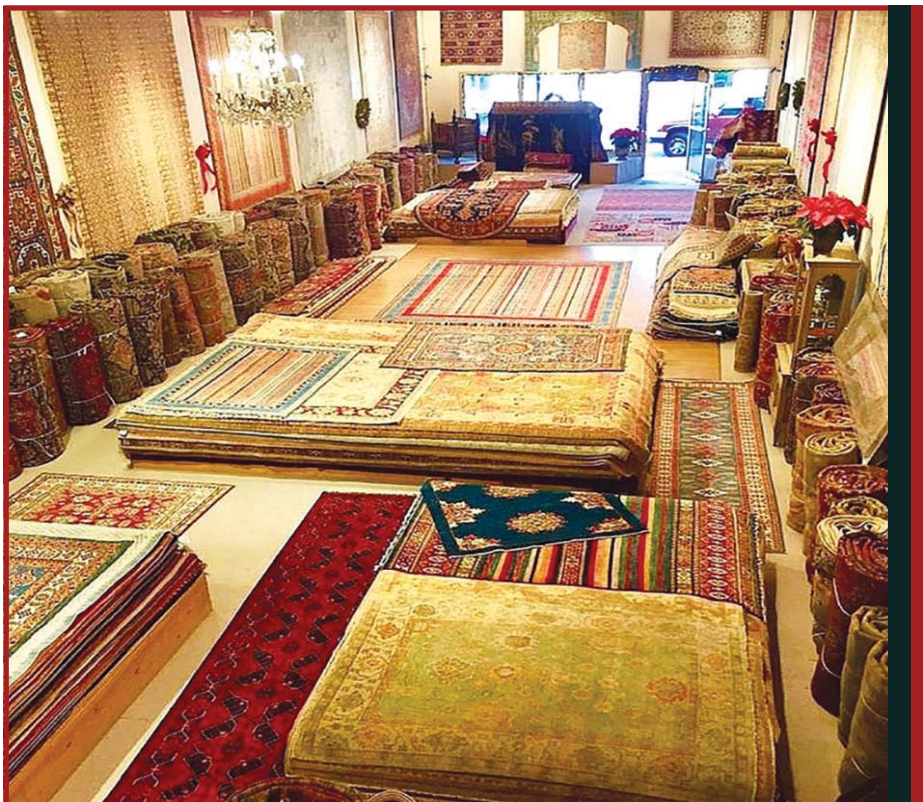
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SPORTS

From previous page

The West Coast is the undisputed power center of women’s water polo at the NCAA level, where, since the first national tournament in 2001, all 25 champions and all 25 runners-up have been California universities. The list of national champions is topped by Stanford (10), UCLA (8), and USC (7) — all perennial opponents of UC Davis.

The physicality of the college game also was an awakening, although less jolting for Bozzo, who has experienced even rougher play in Europe. But it’s a surreptitiously mean game on either side of the pond.

“So much happens under the water that the refs don’t see — it’s kind of like a battle of who’s sneakier,” she said. “It really comes down to who can do it in the slickest way. The name of the game is, ‘Do whatever you can do, but don’t get caught.’”

To contend with the rough nature of the college game, she’s become addicted to the weight room.

A physical transformation

“My body has changed over the past two years,” Bozzo said. “In high school, I never had an ab, but I train my core so much that my stomach is flat. My legs are so much stronger, my shoulders are broader, and my endurance is crazy now.”

But she says she’s also tired all the time.

“My knees are creaking, my hips are popping, I feel terrible in the morning, but weight training has become a really regular part of my life. I lift five times a week — sometimes six.”

She also has become a more explosive swimmer and a better shooter.

“I used to shoot like a pitcher — drop my elbow and sling it around — but I learned in Europe to turn my hips and use muscles in my whole body,” she said.

Her hard work is paying dividends. In the winter and spring of 2026 — her second competitive season at Davis — Bozzo

appeared in all 28 games and became an important part of the Aggies’ offense, scoring 20 goals in 28 games, with five assists.

Her goals this season are multiple, but not necessarily numerical, she said.

“I want to be a more confident player. I want to focus on enjoying the game, the way I did when I was young; I want to get back to doing the things I do best,” said Bozzo, who hopes to blend more of her natural creativity into a rigid system.

Bozzo has played multiple European seasons through the years in Italy and Spain and will play in Greece for the first time in late August, during a 10-day trip with her UC Davis teammates.

Back to work in September

Although collegiate water polo is technically a spring sport, scrimmages will begin in November, and matches will commence in January. The college grind will resume almost immediately after the Aggies return from Greece.

Balancing academics and athletics is yet another conquest for Bozzo, who made the Big West Conference All-Academic Team in 2025-26 — a proud accomplishment for a student-athlete who has battled dyslexia and ADHD throughout her school years.

“My parents (Molly and Andy) were always compassionate, but didn’t have a lot of patience for quitting,” said Bozzo, who is majoring in pre-law in the history department, with a second major in Spanish. “If I ever said, ‘I don’t want to do this anymore,’ or ‘I can’t solve this math problem,’ or ‘I’m too tired to go to practice,’ they’d say, ‘You committed to this, and you’re going to finish it.’”

Molly Bozzo (former head of school at Stevenson’s Carmel campus, now head of Marin Country Day School in Tiburon) and Andy (a Contra Costa County firefighter) set examples for their children as



As a utility player at UC Davis, Bozzo is expected to have diverse skills and be effective at both ends of the pool.

PHOTO/COURTESY
SOFIA BOZZO

hard workers, their daughter said.

Both parents, and her older brother, Luca (All-Gabilan water polo, Stevenson ’20), also were college athletes. Mom played soccer at Lewis & Clark College, Dad was a swimmer and lacrosse player at Middlebury College, and Luca played water polo at Pomona Pitzer College.

Bozzo also feels fortunate to have played high school water polo under legendary coach Jon Burke, winner of 13 CCS championships — three at Steven-

son, where his 2023 team won the NorCal crown.

“He’s a great coach,” she said. “He’s intense when he needs to be, knows the game better than anybody, and knows how to teach it effectively and holistically, without a one-size-fits-all approach. He teaches everybody on an individual level in a way that makes sense to them.”

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

MAYOR

From page 27A

best stories, I’ve learned, rarely begin in the spotlight.

Over the past year, these conversations introduced me to Volunteers in Policing watching over our village, a Carmel Cares graffiti removal volunteer who founded Carmel Owls, an artist who spent 21 years as a critical care nurse before finding healing through creativity, and the nonprofit leaders and entrepreneurs who simply saw a problem or an opportunity.

Stepping forward

At first glance, they don’t have much in common. But after 50 weeks, one thing about all of them became obvious: None waited for someone else. They simply stepped forward.

That quiet habit runs through Carmel like the underground streams beneath our village — mostly unseen, but giving life to everything above. One guest said something I’ll never forget. I asked why they devoted so much time to work that most people would never notice.

They smiled and said, “Because some-

one did it for me before I got here.”

I’ve thought about that answer often. Every generation inherits a Carmel shaped by people they’ll never meet. Trees were planted long before we enjoyed their shade. Trails were maintained by volunteers we’ll never know. Traditions were started by people who believed they should leave things a little better than they found them. Now, it’s our turn.

What began as a broadcast update has evolved into a lesson in understanding. Combining those Sunday conversations with writing this column and listening around the council table, something shifts. You begin to see Carmel differently. You notice the people who quietly repair, encourage and serve, and you realize communities aren’t shaped only by big decisions.

They’re shaped every day by small acts that almost no one notices.

Perhaps the most enduring truth I’ve found is that extraordinary people come to Carmel and then commit themselves to quietly doing the ordinary things that make this place remarkable.

To hear a podcast generated from this column, visit cli.re/remarkable.

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

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SINGER IN TOWN FOR FILM THAT TRACES HIS PATH FROM SURFER TO HITMAKER

CHARTING HIS path to becoming a hit-making recording artist and Grammy Award nominee, singer and guitarist **Jack Johnson** is the subject of a documentary film that screens Saturday at 7 p.m. at the **Golden State**

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Theatre in Monterey — and he plans to be there for a Q&A afterward.

Titled “Surfilmusic,” the film “traces how Jack’s early years making surf films with close friends became the



In a show presented by the Carmel Guitar Society, guitarist Emilia Díaz-Delgado plays Saturday, 7 p.m., at Pacific Grove Art Center.

foundation for a much broader creative life, capturing moments in and out of the water that later surfaced in his songwriting,” according to Johnson’s website. “Blending rare footage from those formative surf films and personal archives with present-day reflections, the film weaves together how lived experience, friendship and exploration shaped the sound and stories behind the music.”

Best known for hits like “Better Together,” “Upside Down” and “Good People,” Johnson has released eight albums since his debut in 2001 — including six that have reached Billboard’s Top 10. He earned two Grammy Award nominations in 2006.

Tickets start at \$20. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit golden-statetheatre.com.

■ Free on Friday

Carmel Plaza’s Summer Live music series continues this Friday at 5 p.m. with a free show by **Everyday People**. Founded 11 years ago in Salinas by timbalero **Andy Sierra**, the 10-piece band plays a potent mix of Latin rock, Latin jazz, R&B and funk.

Besides live music, the gathering features small bites from **Rio Grill** and wine from **Blair Estate**. It also showcases two nonprofits, **Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula** and the **Birchbark Foundation**. Food and drink tickets are \$25, with \$5 from each ticket benefiting the groups. **Carmel Plaza** is located at Ocean and Junipero.

■ Finding a home

After a lengthy stint at the **Bulldog Sports Pub** in Monterey, **Tribe in the Sky** has found a new home at the **P.G.**



Singer and guitarist Jack Johnson will be at Golden State Theatre Saturday for the screening of a documentary about his life.

Meetinghouse on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. “Huge thanks to P.G. Meetinghouse owner Scott Soifer for creating the perfect space to keep our Tuesday night jams going,” said founder Jacqueline Kabat.

Describing itself as a “musical collective featuring some of the Monterey Peninsula’s top talent,” Tribe in the Sky hosts weekly gatherings “that bring people together through music, stories and community.”

■ Guitar showcase

In the latest of a series of concerts highlighting guitar-

See **MUSIC** page 38A

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A whole lot of pastrami, a little pink wine and a big-hearted gift

IN ADDITION to stunning scenery and pristine beaches, the Monterey Peninsula is home to a wildly eclectic assortment of restaurants.

Try hitting some other coastal vacation spots, and you might quickly find that burgers and frozen and deep-fried seafood are a lot easier to come by than a dozen raw oysters, some decent French pastries, or even a non-corporate cappuccino.

Here, though, tourists and locals alike have a choice of cuisines and price ranges. You can find Michelin-starred restaurants, old-school continental cookery, creative fusion dishes, Tex-Mex, a Filipino break-

fast joint, and food from recipes handed down by families of Sicilian fishermen.

This is a great time to drop in and dine at some of them before the car fans start showing up. Oystertown in Monterey is

Soup to Nuts

innovating with an espresso bar and some midweek music, while The Caledonian is taking reservations for a fancy wine dinner.

Meanwhile, wineries and tasting rooms dot downtown Carmel, sit side by side in Carmel Valley, and tempt ambitious oenophiles to discover Salinas Valley’s River Road corridor. If you’re looking for something light and friendly to pour at your cookout, we’ve got a few rosés you might want to try.

Oh, and the Donkersloots are out there doing good again. Read on to learn more.

■ Rosés for everyone

No serious wine drinker of the 1980s would have been caught dead with a bottle of anything domestic and pink. Sweet white zinfandel and cloying “blush” wines were basically the disco of fermented grape juice — trendy and sometimes fun, but ultimately uninteresting.

In the 1990s, that began to change. The 1989 bestseller, “A Year in Provence,” drove tourists to that region, where they tried the drier rosés mentioned throughout the book and liked them. California winemakers also

began producing drier pinks, coinciding with the popularity of the “Mediterranean diet,” for which they were an excellent complement.

Its resurgence intensified, with Forbes reporting that U.S. sales increased a whopping 1,400% between 2010 and 2020. Unsurprisingly, California is the largest producer of rosé in the United States.

Local wineries produce some wonderful examples, great for sipping by themselves or pairing with seafood or grilled chicken. I. Brand’s Rhone-style Paysan Rosé combines mourvèdre, grenache and cinsault grapes with “0% pool-float nonsense,” according to the vintner’s website. Further described as “dry, bright and built for sunshine without acting cute,” it retails for \$19 (ibrandwinery.com).

Dawn’s Dream — consistently chosen by our readers as a Golden Pine Cone winner in this category — is known for its Clone 236 Rosé. It doesn’t exactly trip off the tongue, but it sure is nice on the palate. Frequently referred to as “elegant” and “clean” with light fruit and a touch of minerality, it’s \$36 for a bottle or \$88 for a magnum. (dawnsdreamwinery.com).

The 2025 Arroyo Seco grenache rosé at Chesebro (chesebrowines.com) is made in the Provençal style and billed as having “aromas of fresh-picked strawberry, grapefruit skin and raspberry essence.” At \$25 a bottle, the winery’s website says it’s “perfect for everyday (especially warm ones).”

Great reviews

Finally, Caraccioli Cellars (caracciolicellars.com) makes a rosé of pinot noir that the November 2025 issue of Wine Enthusiast called “Quite possibly the tastiest rosé of the vintage from the broader Central Coast.” The small-production wine is made with grapes from the winery’s prized Escolle vineyard and sells for \$40 a bottle. If you’re stopping into the tasting room, though, you should also try the sparkling brut rosé. After all, Caraccioli is known for its bubbles.



A perennial Pine Cone readers’ favorite, Dawn’s Dream rosé is one of many made locally. Its pale pink color and crisp taste make it a beautiful fit for a summer afternoon.

■ Bring on the egg cream

Congregation Beth Israel will be serving up some of the greatest hits of Jewish cuisine Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 5716 Carmel Valley Road. In addition to babka (cake), knishes (carbs filled with more carbs), pastrami and many other favorites, there will be opportunities to learn more about Jewish culture and community through storytelling, music, dancing and a tour of the congregation’s sanctuary.

Organizers add that, in “keeping with the festival’s spirit of community, a portion of proceeds will benefit JCM United and World Central Kitchen, supporting hunger-relief efforts locally and around the world.”

Admission is free. Complimentary parking — which the congregation strongly urges people to check out before staking out a spot along Carmel Valley Road — is available in the lower lot behind the synagogue. Golf carts can ferry

See FOOD next page

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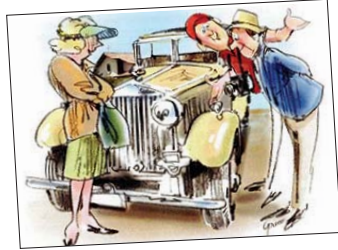
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CALENDAR

July 25 – Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula hosts the Carmel Valley Classic Car Show and Blessing of the Automobiles, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 4590 Carmel Valley Road. Display, barbecue, awards, music, games and other activities featured. The \$50-per-car entry fee benefits the church and IHLP. Gates open at 8 a.m. for registration, with the event opening to the public at 10. Awards will be given at 2 p.m. For details or to register a vehicle, email cm_gray@msn.com.



Through July 26 – Peninsula Potters is at it again! Our 20% Off Sale is celebrating its 59th year. With 15 remarkably talented potters, we've got a stunning collection of ceramics, both functional and works of art. We're open daily from noon to 4 p.m., 2078 Sunset Drive, Pacific Grove. See you soon!



July 26 – 75th Anniversary Jubilee – All Saints' Church, 4 p.m. Dolores and Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea. Dedication celebration, unveiling of painting by Elizabeth Barlow, Music, fellowship, and refreshments. It's a community event. Please RSVP and/or share a favorite memory of a time there at www.allsaintscarmel.org

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

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.

July 31 – Carmel Plaza's Summer Live Music with The Chicano All Stars. Food & drink packages available for \$25 while you enjoy 2 hours of free music, 5 to 7 p.m., Ocean Avenue and Mission Street, CarmelPlaza.com/happenings

July 31 – The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) will present a dinner lecture at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey. Dr. Richard Feinberg, Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego will present "The Cuban Tragedy: whither Washington and Havana?" Visit http://www.wacmb.org for event registration and information.

July 31 to Aug. 2 – Carmel Valley Kiwanis Fiesta Weekend begins with the Hoopla BBQ Friday evening, followed by free family festivities Saturday and Sunday at Carmel Valley Community Park. Benefits local scholarships and youth programs. CVKiwanis.org.

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MUSIC

From page 35A

ists, **Emilia Díaz-Delgado** performs Saturday at 7 p.m. at the **Pacific Grove Art Center**. Díaz-Delgado is a classical guitarist who currently studies at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Celebrating “emerging talent, youth artistry and the future of classical guitar” in an “intimate setting,” the series is presented by the Carmel Guitar Society. Tickets are \$40. The art center is located at 568 Lighthouse Ave. For more details, visit carmelguitarsociety.org.

Live music July 24-30

■ Big Sur

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Saturday at noon), **Campfire Soul** (folk and blues, Sunday at noon), singer and guitarist **Victor Veysey** (Thursday at 6 p.m.), 46800 Highway 1.
Henry Miller Library — guitarist **Philip deGruy** (jazz, Sunday at 1 p.m.), 48603 Highway 1.

■ Carmel

Carmel Mission Inn — **Open Mic Night** (Wednesday at 5 p.m.) in **Shearwater Tavern**, 3665 Rio Road.
Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist **T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer **Dino Vera** (jazz, R&B and dance, 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, Friday at 6:30 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov**



Singer and keyboardist Taylor Safina and guitarist Jesse DeCarlo play Tuesday, 4 p.m., at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley.

and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 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 — **Bubba Pickens** (bluegrass and Americana, Saturday at 6 p.m.), **Carmel Plaza**, Mission and Ocean.
Mission Ranch — singer and pianist **Maddalaine Edstrom** (jazz, Friday through Sunday at 5 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m.), 26270 Dolores St.
Taste Morgan — singer and guitarist **Sabelle** (Saturday at 3 p.m.), 204 Crossroads Blvd.

■ Carmel Valley

Baja Cantina — **The Money Band** (pop and rock, Thursday at 6 p.m.), 7166 Carmel Valley Road.
Bernardus Lodge — **Andrea's Fault** (jazz and pop, Saturday at noon), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Sunday at noon), 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.
Edgar's — singer and guitarist **Sabelle** (Friday at 5:30 p.m.), at **Quail Lodge**, 8205 Valley Greens Drive.
Folktale Winery — singer and guitarist **RJ DeMarco** (Friday at 4 p.m.), **Two Rivers** (pop and rock, Saturday and Thursday at 4 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Monday at 4 p.m.), singer and keyboardist **Taylor Safina** and guitarist **Jesse DeCarlo** (funk, soul and rock, Tuesday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Moshe Vilozny** (Wednesday at 4 p.m.), 8940 Carmel Valley Road.
McIntyre Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Sunday at 1 p.m.), 24 W. Carmel Valley Road.

■ Monterey

Estéban Restaurant — **The Monterey Jazz All Star Ensemble** (Tuesday at 5 p.m.), in the **Casa Munras Hotel**, 700 Munras Ave.
Hyatt Regency Monterey — singer and guitarist **Zack Freitas** (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Sabelle** (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 — **The Steve Robertson Trio** (jazz,

See **LIVE** page 41A

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Continues on next page

Police Log: July 15, 17

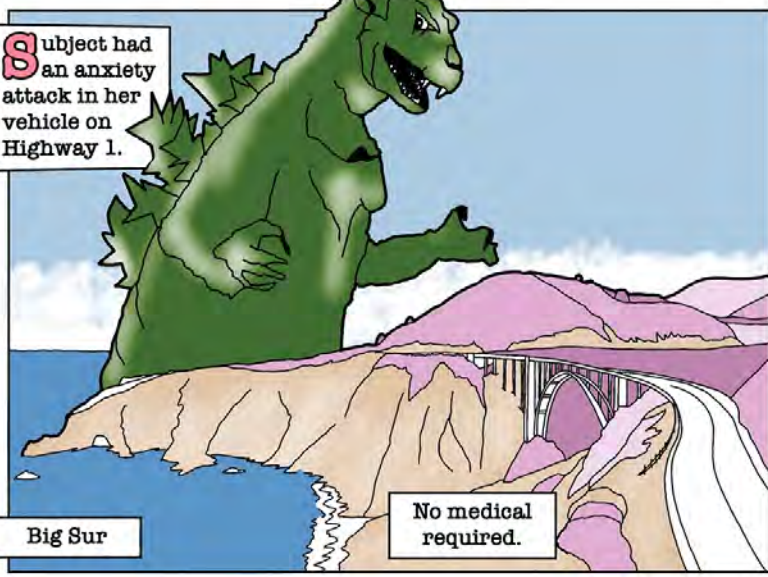
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Pacific Grove

Subject had an anxiety attack in her vehicle on Highway 1.



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Big Sur

Domeniconi

The fresh, new creations of the young and the long-cherished works of the past

MENTORING THE next generation of local artists and offering them space to create, the Youth Arts Collective welcomes its Summer Art Show on Friday with a free public reception at 6 p.m.

“Join us as we showcase over 100 original new pieces created by YAC’s talented young artists and mentors,” announced the group, located at 472 Calle Principal in

dose of self-esteem and gratitude along the way,” according to the group. “YACsters learn to believe in themselves, take creative risks, and give back.” The show will be on display through Aug. 15.

■ More art than space

Like their counterparts in other senior communities, the residents of Del Mesa Carmel often find themselves with more belongings than space — including art. Inspired by this age-old dilemma, the Gallery at Del Mesa is offering a sale of “Excess Art” through Aug. 31. According to the senior community, the

sale “provides an opportunity for residents to pass along cherished pieces of artwork to others who may appreciate them. Many residents find themselves downsizing from larger homes or are simply ready to part with artwork that has been enjoyed over the years, giving these pieces a chance to find new homes.”

The works come in a variety of sizes, mediums and styles. “You may be surprised by the unique and remarkable pieces waiting to be discovered,” added Del Mesa, which is located at 500 Del Mesa Drive in Carmel Valley. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

Monterey. “Experience their newest works up close at our opening and learn the stories that inspired these pieces from our artists themselves.”

You can also view their works online — and get to know the people behind them.

“This year’s online exhibit includes delightful ‘meet the artist’ videos, each one offering a glimpse into the unique personalities and creative processes behind our YACsters’ work,” the group said.

Founded in 2000 by artists Marcia Perry and Meg Biddle, the group has mentored more than 1,000 young artists.

“They learn art, job and life skills, and gain a healthy



Painter Ava Cassady’s “Palhaça” is included the Youth Arts Collective’s Summer Art Show.

LIVE

From page 38A

Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **Janice Perl**, keyboardist **Bill Spencer** and bassist **Dennis Murphy** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.), 467 Alvarado St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel — pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz, Friday and Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Bray** (Monday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Tamas Marius** (jazz, 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.

Puma Road at Portola Plaza — singer and guitarist **Matt Masih** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Blaise DiGrolama** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), **The Smoky Vegas Project** (“jazzy pop,” Sunday at 5

p.m.), 281 Alvarado St.

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.

Sly McFly’s — **Bazooka Jones** (classic rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), **Bobby and Friends** (funk, soul and R&B, Saturday and Thursday at 9 p.m.), **The Pacific Jack Band** (classic rock, Monday at 8:30 p.m.), **DC & the Jokers** (rock and blues, Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.), **5 Star** (rock and soul, Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.), **Bazooka Jones** (classic rock, Thursday at 8:30 p.m.), 700 Cannery Row.

■ Pacific Grove

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

See TUNES page 43A

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Continues from previous page

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SECTION RE ■ July 24 - 30, 2026

Open Houses on page 10RE

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate



■ This week's cover, located in Pebble Beach, is presented by
Canning Properties Group of Sotheby's International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)



About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

July 24-30, 2026



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6,270± sq.ft. | 1.090± acre lot

Superior panoramic ocean views set the stage for this exceptional property ideally located by The Lodge and Pebble Beach golf links. Encompassing over 6,200 square feet of living space on a beautifully landscaped parcel, this classic residence offers an effortless blend of grand scale and relaxed coastal elegance - equally suited for comfortable everyday living or hosting weekend guests or golf foursomes.

Offered at \$9,995,000

Canning Properties Group

831.238.5535 | team@canningproperties.com

CanningProperties.com | DRE 01920034



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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

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San Carlos, 2SW of 12th, Carmel



3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 2,026 SQFT | 5,300 SQFT LOT
\$3,295,000



Katherine Hudson

Broker Associate
831 293 4878 | LIC. #01363054



TheAgencyRE.com

2RE The Carmel Pine Cone July 24, 2026

Real Estate Sales July 12 - 18

Escrows closed: 32
Total value: \$60,364,000

Carmel

2997 Lasuen Drive — \$1,774,500
Linda Radley to Nicole Truszkowski
APN: 009-371-016

Carmel Valley

25950 Via Margarita — \$1,380,000
Bradford and Mary Carl to Florence and Laurence Ma
APN: 015-142-013

See **HOME SALES** page 4RE

26346 RIVER PARK PLACE, CARMEL

CHARMING SINGLE-LEVEL CARMEL COTTAGE



OPEN SAT 11:30AM-1:30PM & SUN 1PM-4PM

3 Beds, 2.5 Baths ♦ \$2,995,000 ♦ 26346RiverParkPlace.com



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OPEN SATURDAY!



129 15th St, Pacific Grove
Open SAT 1:00 -3:00

Heart of Pacific Grove!

Spacious 3bd/2ba reverse floorplan unit + attached finished garage open concept living rm, dining, kitchen + 2 decks, offering glimpses of the bay and fenced backyard garden. Unit 2 is 1bd/1bath + private deck, cozy fireplace and access to a ground-level patio + carport TOTAL of 2,224SF of living space Listed at \$2,297,000



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JonesGroupRealEstate.com

MUST SEE!



113 Littlefield Rd, Monterey
Open SUN 1:00 - 4:00

Oasis in Aguajito Oaks

Thoughtfully designed 1,976 SF single-level, 3bed/2.5bath residence showcases a timeless blend of California-inspired architecture w/ clean lines, abundant natural light & materials. Comfortable living & entertaining spaces (including 2 fireplaces!) are adjacent to the light-filled kitchen. Outdoor living is equally compelling on this 11.000+ SF lot - a sunny patio garden w/ mature lemon & fig trees and a spacious private back deck for entertaining. Listed at \$1,790,000



232 Congress Ave, Pacific Grove
Call for a showing

Charming Cottage in Pacific Grove

Fall in love with this 2 bd, 1 bath cottage, 787SF +/-, a comfortable coastal getaway - offering cozy living spaces filled with natural light...just a stone's throw to Downtown PG for dining & shopping Listed at \$992,500

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LUXURY PROPERTIES



Pacific Grove ■ 4 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$5,799,000 ■ www.1273SurfAvenue.com



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$2,995,000 ■ www.26346RiverParkPlace.com



Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 2 beds, 2 baths ■ \$2,949,000 ■ www.CarmelPiedATerre.com



Corral de Tierra ■ 4 beds, 3+ baths ■ \$2,695,000 ■ www.13101CorteDeEncanto.com



OPEN SAT & SUN 1PM-4PM
28061 Heron Court

Carmel ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$2,195,000 ■ www.28061HeronCourt.com



Monterey ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$1,850,000 ■ www.575FoamStreetUnitD.com



Salinas ■ 4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$1,499,000 ■ www.77LaurelesGrade.com



Carmel Valley ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$1,195,000 ■ www.11675McCarthyRd.com



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HOME SALES

From page 2RE

Carmel Valley (con't)

9502 Alder Court — \$2,500,000
Frank and Judith Marshall to Kerry Holden
APN: 416-531-007

3 Refugio Trace — \$3,650,000
Barbara Santry and McCord Trust to Ellen Whittier
APN: 239-091-080

27250 Upper Forty Drive — \$3,998,000
Scott and Jaclyn Fujita to Gary Wimmer
APN: 416-082-039

6 San Clemente Trail — \$4,750,000
Expert Green LLC to Amy and William Reller
APN: 239-091-011



3053 Cormorant Road, Pebble Beach — \$3,995,000

27350 Upper Forty Drive — \$5,997,000
Scott and Jaclyn Fujita to Gary Wimmer
APN: 416-082-045

Highway 68

70 Corral de Tierra Road — \$1,499,000
Anne Jonsson to Margaret Heneks and Jared Seeders
APN: 161-161-016

Marina

3070 Helena Way — \$625,000
Maria Thompson to Mark and Kimberly Russo
APN: 032-261-027

128 Brookside Place — \$860,000
Tawatchai, Chatchal and Alicera Vaewsorn to Fred, Daniel and Kristin Dotterrer
APN: 033-031-064

3115 Flower Circle — \$925,000
Olea Investments Inc. to Denise Vu
APN: 032-231-011

See **ESCROWS** page 7RE

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0EastCarmelValleyRoad.com

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DRE# 00690879



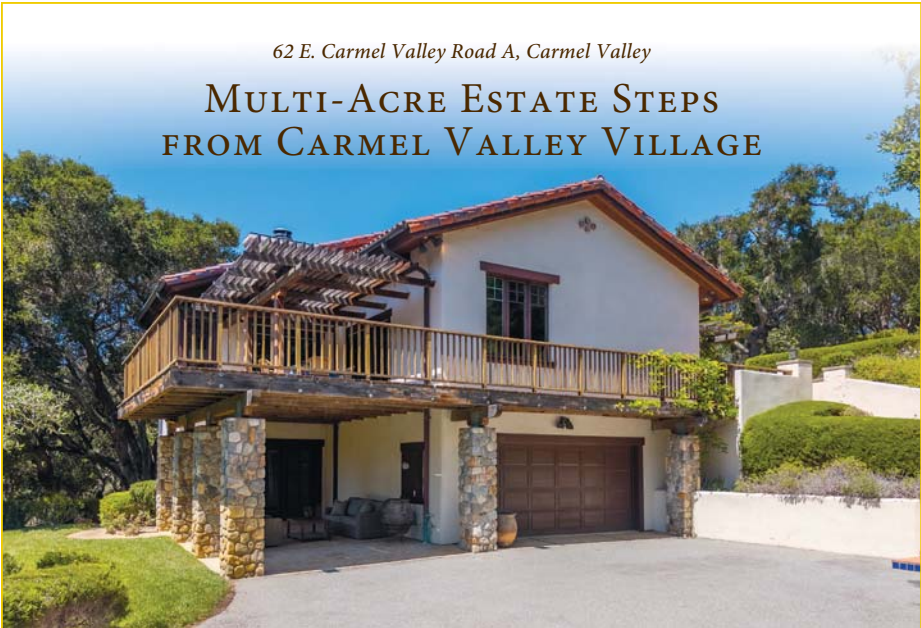
Open House Sunday 1-3pm
Carmel | 3369 Trevis Way
3369trevis.com | \$4,495,000

Timeless mid-century design meets the natural beauty of Carmel in this classic 1952 post-adobe residence, beautifully sited on nearly one acre of park-like grounds backing directly to Mission Trail. Designed to embrace its surroundings, the home features striking walls of glass that fill the interior with natural light and create a seamless connection to the outdoors. The dining area flows effortlessly from the living room, ideal for entertaining.



JEANNIE FROMM
DRE 01348162
831.277.3371
jeannie.fromm@sir.com
YourHomebytheBay.com

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62 E. Carmel Valley Road A, Carmel Valley
MULTI-ACRE ESTATE STEPS FROM CARMEL VALLEY VILLAGE
4 Beds, 3 Baths ■ \$2,495,000 ■ 4,151 Sq. Ft. ■ 4.03 Acre Lot
Rich in history and known as California's first "Dude Ranch," this 4.03-acre estate was originally the main house for the ranch, which has since been thoughtfully subdivided into separate parcels. Today, it remains one of Carmel Valley's most special and significant properties.
Visit www.62ACarmelValleyRoad.com to learn more.

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217 Park Street ■ 2 beds, 1 bath ■ SP: \$1,205,000 ■ Represented Seller



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“Casa La Dona”: An Incredible, Hard-to-Find Combination of Land, Home & History
Pebble Beach ♦ \$11,995,000 ♦ 1031TheOldDrive.com



Stillwater Cove & Lodge Views, Plus Approved Plans
Pebble Beach ♦ \$8,995,000 ♦ 1651CrespiLane.com



English Manor Inspired Estate with Modern Amenities
Pebble Beach ♦ \$6,780,000 ♦ 3937RondaRoad.com



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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



CARMEL REALTY COMPANY
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Oh, Jerry — you’re still the apple of this piney village’s eye

ON TURNING 90, I’m officially an antique, but past being collectible. This isn’t going to be a long list of all the technological advances I’ve witnessed. I’d rather concentrate on what I’ve learned.

I’ve learned to be less reactive, because things can change with astonishing speed. I’m slower to judge, trying to gather all the facts before forming an opinion. From here to eternity is not very far. Living in the moment isn’t just good advice — it’s necessary for maintaining stability in an often chaotic world.

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself,” says the book of Matthew. “Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Seneca’s “We suffer more in our imaginations than we do in reality” could be updated to: “Don’t sweat the small stuff.”

I’ve learned that my world is becoming smaller by my own making. It has shrunk like the waterlogged witch in “The Wizard of Oz.” That may come from a reluctance to travel beyond my comfort zone, bordered by the Pacific Ocean on one side and Laureles Grade on the other. Go north beyond Carpenter? Gracious, no! There be lions and tigers and big-box stores — oh, my! Food, fuel, housing

and fine dining are minutes away. Carmel is a destination. Why not stay here? You might say this limits my horizons. This contraction of the outer world has given rise to a rich expansion of my inner life — a profound shift from doing to being. This is where the quiet corners are, where beauty can sink in and I can forget the frenetic multitasking pace of life. As for horizons, sunrises and sunsets are just outside my window.

Physical limitations curtail my once-cherished activ-

ones pass away, making it natural for me to feel a little less connected to the world. Which leads me to relearn and appreciate the fragility of life, and that none of it can be replaced.

Galumphing geezer

I’ve learned that more isn’t better. I understand that meaning resides in simplicity. I cherish quiet moments — a conversation with a loved one, the warmth of sunlight on my skin, the pages of a well-worn book. I appreciate technological advances. Images from the James Webb Space Telescope have shown me the range of God’s dominion.

The incredible breakthroughs in medicine have given me a life my parents never had, even when they were much younger than I am now. Meds let my gouty fingers skim across a keyboard that allows me to change my mind about a word or sentence and display them legibly on a bright screen. I have metallic joints that allow me to move about — perhaps without the speed of a graceful gazelle, but not too bad for a galumphing geezer.

See **GERVASE** page 12RE

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

ities. Aging, for me, is not merely the process of accumulating years, it is the art of distilling life’s essence. I have fewer responsibilities since jettisoning demanding careers. Those sales that weren’t made, those reports that didn’t get written? As relevant now as yesteryear’s Yugo. My social circle has grown smaller as friends and loved



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Katie McAlister
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rentals@carmelrealtycompany.com
www.carmelrealtycompany.com
DRE #01297518



ESCROWS

From page 4RE

Marina (con't)

105 10th Street — \$999,000
Shea Homes LP to Scott and Angelique Mittan
APN: 031-296-002

Catamaran Avenue — \$1,013,000
Shea Homes LP to Vijay and Kamaljit Singh
APN: 031-223-012

2314 Bayside Avenue — \$1,133,000
Shea Homes LP to Pamandeep Gujral and Avneet Saur
APN: 031-223-054

610 Santa Lucia Way — \$1,192,000
The Sea Haven LLC to Miguel Humara and Kimberly Evans
APN: 031-312-049

135 8th Street — \$1,215,000
Michael and Wendy Nilsson to Morgan Lin
APN: 031-286-001

482 Lassen Way — \$1,230,000
Enrique and Alejandro Tuesta to Matthew Crugnale and

Elisabeth Blaettermann
APN: 031-279-017

2317 Bayside Avenue — \$1,487,000
Shea Homes LP to Guojun Ren and Xiaojing Cheng
APN: 031-223-061

2326 Sand Dune Avenue — \$1,713,000

Shea Homes LP to John Mattina and Kimberly Pham
APN: 031-223-066

Monterey

461 Dela Vina unit 205 — \$550,000
Thorsten and Simone Kril to Giorgio Favia
APN: 013-122-005

See **DEEDS** page 15RE

Just Listed | Open Sat & Sun 1-3 PM
Hatton Fields Midcentury Modern



26074 Mesa Drive, Carmel
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,625± Sq.Ft. | 9,400± Sq.Ft. Lot
Offered at \$2,095,000

Just Listed | Call Us for a Showing
Ocean Views from Pt Lobos to Pebble Beach



24489 San Mateo Avenue, Carmel
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,305± Sq.Ft. | 7,102± Sq.Ft. Lot
Offered at \$2,200,000



27350 Upper Forty Drive, Highway 68 — \$5,997,000



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DRE: 01233599

ROBIN ANDERSON
831.601.6271
DRE: 01518311

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26140MESADRIVE.COM
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OPEN SAT 11-3 PM & SUN 11-1 PM
CARMEL VALLEY | 39 LILAC LANE
39LILACLANE.COM
OFFERED AT \$1,679,000



OPEN SATURDAY 11 AM TO 1 PM
CARMEL VALLEY | 297 EL CAMINITO RD
297ELCAMINITOROAD.COM
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Lisa 831.277.2070
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DRE: 00681652 & 02009666



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114 Carmel Avenue, 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

24875 North Carmel Hills Drive, Carmel

2 BD | 3 BA | 1,904± SQ. FT. | 0.69± ACRE LOT
\$2,149,000

24875carmelhillsdr.com
J.R. Rouse Properties Group 831.218.5738
License# 01299649



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3 PM



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3 PM

4890 Peninsula Point Drive, Seaside

5 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,841± SQ. FT. | 4,572± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,428,300

4890peninsulapointdr.com
J.R. Rouse Properties Group 831.218.5738
License# 01299649

183 Del Mesa Carmel, Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,363± SQ. FT.
\$1,050,000

183delmesacarmel.com
Claudia McCotter 831.293.3391
License# 01982938



OPEN SAT & SUN 11-1 PM

17755 Riverbend Road, Los Palmas

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,786± SQ. FT. | 5,017± SQ. FT. LOT
\$915,000

17755riverbend.com
Arleen Hardenstein 831.915.8989
License# 01710953

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



OPEN SAT 11-1 PM



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9 Story Road, Carmel Valley
2 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,560± SQ. FT. | 1.02± ACRE LOT
\$1,995,000
9storyroad.com
Laura Ciucci 831.236.8571
License# 01135238

315 Cypress Avenue, Pacific Grove
2 BD | 1 BA | 1,095± SQ. FT. | 2,700± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,375,000
315cypressavenue.com
TJ Bristol 831.521.3131
License# 01447566



OPEN SAT 1-3 & SUN 1-4 PM



OPEN SUN 11-1 PM
14390 Mountain Quail Road, Salinas
4 BD | 3 BA | 2,867± SQ. FT. | 5,564± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,299,000
14390mountainquail.com
Terry McGowan 831.236.7251
License# 01126129



249 Del Mesa Carmel, Carmel
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,469± SQ. FT.
\$1,195,000
249delmesacarmel.com
Doug Steiny 831.236.7363
License# 00681652

4 Ocean Pines Lane, Pebble Beach
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,693± SQ. FT.
\$1,099,000
randallrealty.com
Nate Randall 831.869.6117
License# 02033961



OPEN SUN 1-3 PM



2 Corral Run, Carmel
22± ACRE LOT
\$995,000
2corralruncarmel.com
Keck Properties Team 831.238.8730
License# 02168140



OPEN FRI 2-4 & SAT 11-1 PM
1394 David Avenue, Monterey
2 BD | 1 BA | 1,116± SQ. FT. | 2,975± SQ. FT. LOT
\$925,000
1394davidavenue.com
Nate Randall 831.869.6117
License# 02033961

20 Del Mesa Carmel, Carmel
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,347± SQ. FT.
\$899,000
claudiamccotter.com
Claudia McCotter 831.293.3391
License# 01982938



OPEN SAT 1-3 PM



OPEN SAT 2-4 PM
418 Fountain Avenue, Pacific Grove
1 BD | 1 BA | 740± SQ. FT. | 1,900± SQ. FT. LOT
\$875,000
randallrealty.com
Nate Randall 831.869.6117
License# 02033961

\$1,750,000	3bd 2.5+ba	Sa 11-1
25315 Flanders Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 521-7363
\$1,792,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 1-3
27460 Loma Del Rey The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		Carmel 241-1598
\$2,095,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
26074 Mesa Dr Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 238-7559
\$2,099,000	3bd 3.5ba	Su 11-1
28088 Barn Court Carmel Realty		Carmel 595-0676
\$2,149,000	2bd 3ba	Sa Su 1-3
24875 N. Carmel Hills Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 318-3808
\$2,445,000	3bd 3ba	Su 3-5
25195 Stewart Pl Coldwell Banker Realty		Carmel 917-3966
\$2,695,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
Lobos 3 NW of 4th Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 760-5126 / 224-6891
\$2,800,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 Su 1-4
Lobos SE Corner Valley Way Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 204-2204 / 333-6060
\$2,995,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 11:30-1:30 Su 1-4
26346 River Park Place Carmel Realty		Carmel 521-4855 / 884-3868
\$3,195,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 2-4
1st Ave 2 NE of Carpenter Coldwell Banker Realty		Carmel 747-5688 / 917-7029
\$3,295,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
San Carlos 2 SW of 12th The Agency		Carmel 293-4878
\$3,300,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
140 San Remo Rd Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 238-5535
\$3,479,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 1-3
Crespi 2 NW Flanders Compass		Carmel 915-6187
\$4,350,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 1-3
26047 Atherton Dr Coldwell Banker Realty		Carmel 917-7029
\$4,350,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 1-3
26047 Atherton DR Coldwell Banker Realty		Carmel 917-7029
\$4,495,000	4bd 4ba	Su 1-3
3369 Trevis Way Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 277-3371
\$4,700,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 1-3
23 Mentone Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		Carmel 277-3371 / 238-2101
\$9,798,000	4bd 4ba	Fr 3-5 Sa Su 1-4
26308 Isabella Avenue Carmel Realty		Carmel 884-3868 / 320-6801

\$1,679,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 11-3 Su 11-1
39 Lilac Lane		Carmel Valley
Sotheby's Int'l RE		277-2070 / 915-0265
\$1,749,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
4 Paso Del Rio		Carmel Valley
Monterey Coast Realty		277-5821
\$1,895,000	4bd 3ba	Su 1-3
760 Country Club Dr		Carmel Valley
Compass		262-7768
\$2,195,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 11-1
297 El Caminito Road		Carmel Valley
Sotheby's Int'l RE		236-7363
\$2,195,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-4
28061 Heron Ct		Carmel Valley
Carmel Realty		915-7415
\$2,395,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 12-2
15286 Via La Gitana		Carmel Valley
Sotheby's Int'l RE		601-4934
\$2,395,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
46 Middle Canyon Road		Carmel Valley
Sotheby's Int'l RE		404-401-8647
\$2,440,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 10-1
26245 Rinconada Dr		Carmel Valley
Compass		236-5290

The map illustrates the Monterey Peninsula and its surrounding regions. Key features include:

- Coastal Areas:** Pebble Beach, Carmel, Carmel Highlands, Carmel Valley, and Pacific Grove.
- Major Roads:** Highway 1 (Carmel Highway), Highway 68 (Highway 68), and Carmel Valley Road.
- Geographical Features:** Carmel River, Del Rey Oaks, Robinson Canyon, Laureles Grade, and Laguna Seca.
- Other Locations:** Seaside, Monterey, Corral de Tierra, and Carmel Vly. Rd.
- Inset Map:** A small map in the top right corner shows the location of the Monterey Peninsula within the larger context of the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area.

\$2,695,000 4bd 3+ba Sa 2-4 Su 1-3
 13101 Corte De Encanto Corral De Tierra
 Carmel Realty 521-4855

\$548,000	1bd 1ba	Sa 11-1
121 Quail Run Court		Del Rey Oaks
Sotheby's Int'l RE		917-1631
\$1,250,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
29 Los Encinos Dr		Del Rey Oaks
Sotheby's Int'l RE		214-2545

\$845,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 1-3
5003 3rd Avenue		Marina
Sotheby's Int'l RE		277-8622
\$1,795,000	4bd 3ba	Su 11-1
585 Santa Lucia Way		Marina
Monterey Coast Realty		206-9969

\$475,000	1bd 1ba		Sa 1-3
820 Casanova Avenue #108		Monterey	
Sotheby's Int'l RE		277-8622	
\$549,000	1bd 1ba		Sa 11-1
300 Glenwood Circle, #258		Monterey	
Sotheby's Int'l RE		915-0265	
\$749,000	2bd 1ba	Fr 11-6 Sa 11-3 Su 11-5	Mo 11-5
229 Littleness Ave		Monterey	
The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		595-9242	
\$825,000	3bd 2.5ba		Sa 1-3
1360 Josselyn Canyon Road #40		Monterey	
Monterey Coast Realty		717-7959	
\$925,000	2bd 1ba	Fr 2-4 Sa 11-1	Su 11-5
1394 David Ave		Monterey	
Sotheby's Int'l RE		869-6117	
\$1,125,000	3bd 1.5ba		Sa Su 2-4
814 Parcel St		Monterey	
Coldwell Banker Realty		717-7815	
\$1,248,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 12-2:30 Su 1:30-3:30	
1180 Salinas Highway		Monterey	
The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		241-1598	
\$1,295,000	2bd 2ba	Fr 10-12 Sa Su 1:30-3	
1199 Harrison St		Monterey	
The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		277-8712	

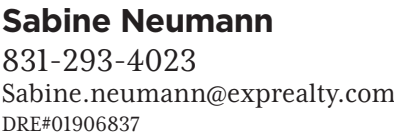
\$1,349,000	2bd 2ba	Fr 4-7 Sa 10:30-1:30	Su 11-2
1122 Harrison St Coldwell Banker Realty		Monterey 884-3919	
\$1,399,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 1-3	
668 Alice St The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		Monterey 224-0020	
\$1,749,000	4bd 2ba	Fr 12-6 Sa 10:30-3	Su 11-6
3 White Tail Lane The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		Monterey 241-1598	
\$1,790,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 1-4	
113 Littlefield Road The Jones Group		Monterey 917-4534	
\$1,799,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 11-1	
11827 Saddle Rd Coldwell Banker Realty		Monterey 277-3914	
\$2,295,000	3bd 3ba	Su 1:30-3:30	Monterey
10590 Hidden Mesa Pl Coldwell Banker Realty		277-3914	
\$2,399,000	4bd 2.5ba	Fr 10-1	Monterey
1125 Alta Mesa eXp Realty		293-4023	
\$2,450,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 1-4	
150 Littlefield Road Sotbey's Int'l RE		Monterey 877-0389	
\$3,895,000	4bd 3.5+ba	Sa 1-3 Su 12:30-3	Monterey
500 Belavida Road Sotbey's Int'l RE		915-1004 / 915-6391	

See **OPEN HOUSES** *page 14RE*

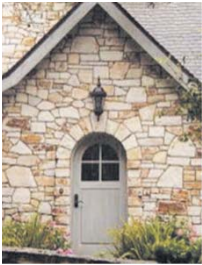
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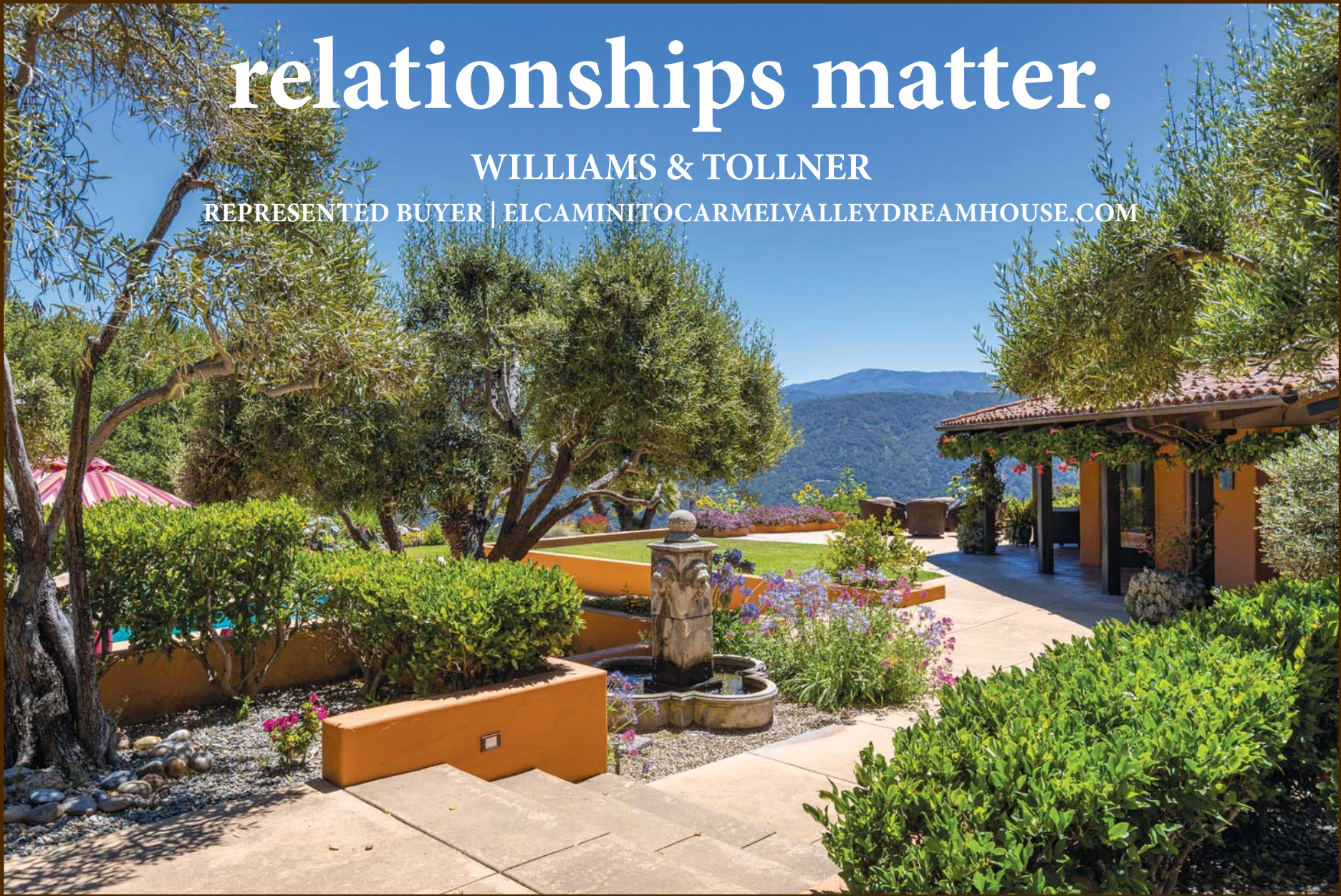
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WE HAVE ENJOYED WORKING WITH the wonderful team of Judy and Rhonda. Having met them a few years ago and worked through one previous house purchase, we have come to realize just how much work they do to make sure all the bases are covered and all the potential issues are addressed. It makes a great difference when you develop a relationship that you can trust to be your extra eyes and ears. Signing all those documents is made all the easier knowing they have covered the fine print. This, together with their long association in the Carmel/ Monterey area and their deep knowledge of the real estate, service providers and contractors, we would highly recommend Judy and Rhonda.

—Buyers of El Caminito Dream House, July 2026



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18 Yankee Point Drive
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Monterey Coast Realty


GERVASE

From page 6RE

A sense of humility is the secret ingredient to a good life. The feedback I receive from writing this column humbles me, making me realize I don’t know everything and there’s always more to learn. I connect with others as they express their thoughts and feelings with equanimity, in agreement or disagreement, keeping me open to new ideas.

I’ve learned how much I miss my parents. I’m no longer the apple of anyone’s eye, no mama’s boy with cheeks pinched pink. And I’m no longer the joy of anyone’s old age — except my own.

Honorable mention

Peace on Earth may always be a wish on a star, but, blessedly, there are still wise men and women who seek that elusive goal. Being blessed with a gold medal family and having love in my life are the truest things I can imagine. They’re what make me human.

I understand love, loss and the quiet beauty of a sunset. Special moments of peace and reflection — when I feel connected to myself and the world — are things I experience but cannot see with the naked eye.

The breadth of my earlier accomplishments narrowed considerably when I learned perspective in an unusual way. Years ago, I entered a poem in a county

fair fine arts contest. I did not win, but every entry received an honorable mention. Being a fair, the prizes were ribbons. When I went to collect mine, I was surprised at how large it was. I asked the presenter how big the ribbon was for a pig that won honorable mention. She said it was the same size. So anytime I become too impressed with myself, I remember that somewhere there’s a pig doing as well as I am.

Contact Jerry at jerrygervase@yahoo.com.



For his 90th birthday, Jerry raised a toast to himself and to the life lessons he’s learned along the way.

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Monterey Coast Realty

POLICE LOG

From page 4A

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

Carmel Valley: Social services issue at a residence on Saddle Road.

MONDAY, JULY 6

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Prowler at San Antonio and Ninth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Backpack found at Ocean and Monte Verde was located and shipped to the owner.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Wallet found on Highway 1.

Pacific Grove: Subject on Lighthouse Avenue was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.

Pacific Grove: While responding to an unrelated call on Short Road, an officer observed a vehicle driving recklessly. The 21-year-old male driver was cited and released.

Pacific Grove: Officers responded to the 700 block of Jewell Avenue for a report of distribution of food items containing cannabis.

Pacific Grove: Assisted the Monterey Fire Department with a residential structure fire on Hillcrest Avenue.

TUESDAY, JULY 7

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 30-year-old male at Carpenter and Fifth was cited and released in the field for probation violation.

Pacific Grove: A male was warned about

trespassing at a private business on Pine Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Missing jewelry on Lighthouse Avenue.

Pacific Grove: A revolver, stun gun and ammunition were turned in to the PGPD for destruction.

Pacific Grove: Municipal code violation resulted in a citation on Ocean View Boulevard for public urination/defecation.

Pacific Grove: A protective order violation was reported on Sunset Drive.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Person at Monte Verde and Ocean was egged by two unknown subjects riding electric bikes at 0158 hours. The person and the vehicle were hit by eggs. Investigation continues.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop at Scenic and Martin for false registration. The 31-year-old male driver was cited and released. Vehicle towed.

Pacific Grove: At approximately 2000 hours, a dog bite to a toddler occurred near the 1000 block of Forest Avenue. The dog owner was contacted, and the dog was placed in a 10-day quarantine. The juvenile was transported to the hospital with minor wounds. No arrests were made

Pebble Beach: Suspicious circumstances on Broncho Road.

THURSDAY, JULY 9

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Harassment at Junipero and Sixth.

Pacific Grove: Vandalism on David Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Dog at large at Lighthouse and Del Monte.

Santa Fe 3 SW of Mountain View

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\$1,450,000

SOLD



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3 BD • 2 BA • 2,000 SF • 11,200 SF LOT
\$1,240,000

SOLD



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Buyer Represented

SOLD



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3 BD • 4 BA • 2,750 SF • 1.51 ACRE LOT
\$6,789,000



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OPEN HOUSES

From page 10RE

PACIFIC GROVE

\$875,0001bd 1ba418 Fountain AvenueSotheby's Int'l RE

Sa 2-4Pacific Grove869-6117

\$1,095,0003bd 2ba1103 Kenet PLColdwell Banker Realty

Sa 11-1Pacific Grove277-3914

Pacific Grove reads The Pine Cone

\$1,375,000 2bd 1ba315 Cypress AvenueSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 1-3 Su 1-4 Pacific Grove333-6995 / 402-4394
\$1,400,000 2bd 1ba215 Lobos AveColdwell Banker Realty	Sa 11-1 Su 1-3 Pacific Grove717-7815 / 596-6118
\$1,595,000 4bd 3ba219 Willow StreetCompass	Sa 12-2 Pacific Grove238-1380
\$1,595,000 4bd 2ba514 7th StreetSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 12-2 Su 1-3 Pacific Grove277-2782 / 521-4118
\$1,595,000 2bd 2ba801 Junipero AvenueSotheby's Int'l RE	Fr 11-1 Pacific Grove869-6117
\$1,595,000 3bd 2ba709 Lobos AveColdwell Banker Realty	Sa Su 12-2 Pacific Grove884-3919

\$1,649,000 4bd 3ba515 Fountain AveColdwell Banker Realty	Sa 1-3 Pacific Grove596-6118
\$2,195,000 5bd 4ba114 Carmel AvenueSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 12-4 Pacific Grove521-0680 / 917-1631
\$2,297,000 4bd 3ba129 15th StreetThe Jones Group	Sa 1-3 Pacific Grove917-4534
\$2,395,000 4bd 4ba135 5th StreetSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 1-4 Pacific Grove510-589-6892
\$7,200,000 4bd 4.5ba1051 Ocean View BlvdColdwell Banker Realty	Su 1-3 Pacific Grove220-9817

\$924,000 2bd 2ba68 Ocean PinesSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 11-1 Pebble Beach869-6117
\$975,000 2bd 2ba75 Ocean Pines LaneMonterey Coast Realty	Sa 11-1 Pebble Beach317-6336
\$1,099,000 2bd 2ba4 Ocean Pines LaneSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 1-3 Pebble Beach869-6117
\$2,398,000 4bd 2ba3113 Sloat RoadSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 12-3 Su 12-2 Pebble Beach917-9886
\$3,098,000 4bd 3.5ba2905 Bird Rock RdCompass	Sa 2:30-4 Pebble Beach238-1380
\$11,995,000 4bd 4ba1031 The Old DriveCarmel Realty	Sa 1-3 Su 1-4 Pebble Beach333-6325 / 460-6864

\$2,595,000 3bd 4ba67 Tucker RoadSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 1-3 Royal Oaks710-1655
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\$829,000 3bd 3ba21091 Old Ranch CourtThe Ruiz Group, Keller Williams	Sa 12-2 Su 1-3 Salinas241-1598
\$889,000 3bd 2.5ba25658 Wisteria CtThe Ruiz Group, Keller Williams	Sa 10-12 Salinas224-6759

\$915,000 3bd 2ba17755 Riverbend RdSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 11-1 Su 12-3 Salinas238-8688 / 915-8989
\$970,000 5bd 2.5ba17554 Sugarmill RoadSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 1:30-3:30 Salinas236-7251
\$998,000 3bd 2.5ba17506 Sugarmill RoadCarmel Realty	Su 1:30-3:30 Salinas915-8153
\$999,000 5bd 3ba628 Alameda AvenueSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 1-3 Salinas261-1120
\$1,299,000 4bd 3ba14390 Mountain Quail RoadSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 11-1 Salinas236-7251

\$1,150,000 3bd 2ba1328 Mission StreetSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 12-3 Santa Cruz252-0504
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\$760,000 3bd 2ba1313 Harding StSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 10-12 Seaside277-0971
\$799,000 3bd 1.5ba1233 Hilby AvenueMonterey Coast Realty	Su 1-3 Seaside277-5256
\$849,000 3bd 1ba1072 Carson StreetSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa 1-3 Seaside200-5007
\$1,428,300 5bd 3.5ba4890 Peninsula Point DriveSotheby's Int'l RE	Sa Su 1-3 Seaside402-2017 / 318-3808
\$1,592,000 6bd 3ba4120 Peninsula Point DrColdwell Banker Realty	Sa 11-1 Seaside747-5688

\$799,000 4bd 3ba526 Calle ValverdeMonterey Coast Realty	Sa 11-1 Soledad206-9969
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\$1,900,000 3bd 3ba141 Cutter DrSotheby's Int'l RE	Su 1-3 Watsonville682-0126
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From page 7RE

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447 Figueroa Street — \$1,095,000
Cox & Young Holding Co. LLC to Linda Scott and Terryl Tagg
APN: 001-712-013

700 David Avenue — \$1,550,000
Castanos Family to Nemowest LLC
APN: 001-087-005

928 Hellam Street — \$1,755,000
James and Susan Lewis to Brent Harkness and Tammy Bishop
APN: 001-352-033

Pebble Beach

3053 Cormorant Road — \$3,995,000
Marcus Lo to Revive Offers LLC



482 Lassen Way, Marina — \$1,230,000

APN: 007-302-016

3245 17 Mile Drive — \$6,789,000
Gregory Turnbull and Cranston Trust to Edward and Julie Divita
APN: 008-461-019

Seaside

1248 Harding Street — \$675,000

Gabriel Wood to Tiffinie Meyer
APN: 012-321-029

1855 Andrew Court — \$800,000
Walter Broda to Elvin Ibarra
APN: 011-482-022

1175 Kimball Avenue — \$860,000
Dennis Alexander to Marissa Aquino
APN: 012-394-007

13301 Warren Avenue — \$939,500
Shannon Rose to Quyen Nguyen
APN: 031-163-053

1460 Mescal Street — \$1,050,000
Jose Andrade to Ryan Smith
APN: 012-641-015

4150 Peninsula Point Drive — \$1,600,000
Mark Sears to Dennis Durr
APN: 031-241-015

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