HARVEST SEASON
CELEBRATING FALL ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA





The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 112 No. 37 https://carmelpinecone.com September 11-17, 2026

TRUSTED BY LOCALS AND LOVED BY VISITORS SINCE 1915

New airport terminal less than a year away

By MARY SCHLEY

THE $200 million terminal at Monterey Regional Airport should be up and running by this time next year, officials said during an Aug. 29 "dusty shoes tour" of the construction site. While it's roughly the same size as what they're calling the "legacy terminal," at 62,754 square feet, the new facility will better accommodate larger commercial jets, offer faster security screening and even have a gift shop.

It's also on track for a high-level environmental certification and includes a 425,000-square-foot apron with space — and thick enough concrete — to park eight commercial aircraft. Set farther from the runway, the terminal will have five jet bridges to take passengers to their waiting planes rather than sending them out onto the tarmac and up moveable ramps, and will ensure aircraft at the gates are not obstructing those that are taxiing. After the terminal is done, the taxiway will be extended, which will mark the completion of the MRY Metamorphosis Safety Enhancement Program, according to airport board member Dino Pick.



PHOTO/MONTEREY REGIONAL AIRPORT

What Monterey Regional Airport officials have dubbed "MRY Metamorphosis" is indeed taking shape in the form of a terminal, parking lots and a roundabout.

Ribbon cutting

"Here we are in the home stretch," Pick told the public officials and others gathered for the tour after being introduced by the airport's executive director, Chris Morello. "Hopefully, we will be cutting the ribbon here in about 12 months' time."

Pick said the project will offer a lot of opportunity, including improved visitor experiences

See **AIRPORT** *page 14A*

'See you at 662 Monte Verde St.'

■ Addresses now really real

By MARY SCHLEY

IT TOOK twice as long as Carmel officials thought it would, but the city's brand-spanking-new numbered street addresses are in place — including at city hall, where its particular three digits were installed Thursday.

"It's not often you get to be part of such a significant change in a city's history," acting city administrator Brandon Swanson commented. "It's not an overstatement to say this is a momentous occasion."

Big undertaking

He also acknowledged the huge amount of effort that went into bringing about such a significant change.

"I'm so proud of the community that got involved in making this happen," Swanson said, including the council and the staff, particularly acting assistant city administrator Marisa Bermudez and administrative analyst Emily Garay, "who have put in a lot of effort and been

See **NUMBERS** *page 12A*



PHOTO/COURTESY BRANDON SWANSON

Acting city administrator Brandon Swanson hands longtime facilities maintenance supervisor Cleve Waters the final digit to install on city hall Thursday.

PG&E holds $2 billion over lawmakers' heads

PACIFIC GAS & Electric has dropped an ultimatum of sorts on California lawmakers, with plans to cut $2 billion in infrastructure spending. The announcement followed the collapse of a late-session deal to limit its liability when its equipment sparks catastrophic wildfires.

The power company plans to find the savings by delaying or deferring planned work on connections for new

Capitol Access

By CAITLIN CONRAD

housing projects and interconnections to new renewable energy projects. In other words, the utility is targeting two of Sacramento's top priorities: housing and clean energy.

In an interview with The San Jose Mercury News, PG&E CEO Patti Poppe said the projects on the chopping block are not safety-related — wildfire prevention efforts won't be cut — but pointed out the budget trimming would affect California's potential for growth, prosperity and an adequate supply of housing.

Worsen the problem

"Apartments, affordable homes, single-family homes, they all could be affected," Poppe said. "There is not a bigger problem in California than housing, and this bill failure will worsen that problem."

Poppe also told the paper funding could be restored if legislators come back to the negotiating table and vote for reforms the company finds acceptable.

It's easy to hate PG&E — utilities have long been some of the most loathed entities in California — but the liability deal's failure put it in a worse financial position than if it had never been brought up to begin with. The company's shares fell 27% between August and September, and its credit rating by S&P Global dropped to BB+, which is a

See **$2 BILLION** *page 23A*

Neighbor opposition kills ADU's deck

By MARY SCHLEY

THE OWNERS of a large historic home on Camino Real prevailed in their fight to get a rooftop deck removed from the proposed design for a house on the lot below theirs. At their Aug. 31 meeting, members of the Carmel City Council unanimously decided to forbid the landscaped deck on top of an attached accessory dwelling unit that's part of the plans

In July, the planning commission approved the design, including the deck, nearly a year-and-a-half after Scott McWhorter applied for the permits, despite ongoing protests from neighbors Bruce and Linda Taylor, who have said the deck and its use will destroy their views and quality of life.

Long road

McWhorter purchased the home 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 soon after. The plans call for replacing the residence on the 3,900-square-foot lot with a 1,628-square-foot,

See **DECK** *page 18A*

Veterans center houses dozens of sex offenders

By KELLY NIX

THE VETERANS Transition Center of California in Marina provides housing for homeless military veterans and offers counseling, food assistance, workforce development and other services. The taxpayer-funded nonprofit on the former Fort Ord also houses about 30 registered sex offenders — nearly all of whom were convicted of crimes against children.

For about three decades, the center has provided housing for thousands of homeless veterans seeking to get back on their feet.



PHOTO/KELLY NIX

A nonprofit veterans agency on the former Fort Ord provides shelter in old military housing, including for about 30 military veterans convicted of serious sex crimes such as child molestation and rape.

'More than shelter'

"Every veteran deserves a safe place to call home," the nonprofit says on its website. "At Veterans Transition Center, housing is more than shelter. It's the foundation for rebuilding stability, creating opportunity and achieving lasting independence. Our housing programs combine personalized case management with wraparound support to help veterans move forward with confidence."

But the presence of convicted sex offenders at the veterans center has raised concerns among some Marina parents and residents. The men have committed crimes including child molestation, forcible rape, sexual abuse, coercing minors to

See **OFFENDERS** *page 16A*

Attention readers: Don't forget that you can have the complete Carmel Pine Cone delivered every Thursday evening to your tablet, laptop, PC or phone — with no banner ads, popups, click bait or paywalls. We also don't harvest your data or make you create an account or password. Free and easy subscriptions at https://carmelpinecone.com/subscribe.html

J. LAWRENCE
KHAKI'S
MEN'S CLOTHIER OF CARMEL

new fall arrivals



sport coats
soft coats
outerwear
shirting
sweaters
trousers

carmel plaza
carmel-by-the-sea

Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Rescue remedy

Every morning, Zak waits by the window, thinking this is the day. And, twice a week, it is. His person found a woman — whose name Zak can't remember — who owns a "canine camp." When he sees her car pull up to the house, his heart quickens, his tail wags, and he knows she's come to collect him for an all-day play group at her home.

"Just like in the movies, I wave goodbye," his person said, "as he pokes his head out the car window, his tongue hanging and his little ears flapping, and I know he's off to live his best life for the day."

Little Zak is a rescue from a hoarding situation in Prunedale, where his elderly owners assured SPCA staff that he was 100% Chihuahua. By all appearances — and a DNA test — he's 50% Chihuahua, 20% Pomeranian and 30% miniature poodle. That tracks.

His person confirmed that he is 100% adorable.

"Even though we live just north of town and mere blocks from the shore," she said, "Zak is not a big fan of Carmel Beach culture. He likes to make his own acquaintances, not have them run up, assuming they're already friends."

After Zak cowered from a larger dog that got a little too nosy, his person started taking him to Stillwater Cove, where he runs along the Pebble Beach shoreline



with her girlfriend's beagle mix, Bella, who is older and more patient with him.

While 4-month-old Zak was waiting for his rescue into a better life, his forever friend was grieving the loss of her Havanese. Feeling devastated, she decided to visit the SPCA to see if she could heal her heart by rescuing another little pup. And there sat Zak.

"Twenty-four hours later, I brought home the answer to my prayers," she said.

RHEIM DERMATOLOGY
COSMETIC LASER CENTER™
JOSEPH R. RHEIM, M.D.

Reveal Your Radiance

Gift Certificates Available

**Botox at $10.00 per unit,
Juvederm ®XC filler 1mL syringes at $700 each.
LIMELIGHT $300.00 per treatment,
a $150 per treatment savings.**

**Sparkle with a Diamond Glow Treatment
+ complementary mask, $200.00.** *Savings of $150.00*

Vitamin B-12
Give your body the vitamins it deserves,
ask about our Vitamin B-12 series of injections.

All treatments are scheduled with our licensed RN. Please make your appointment by calling our offices today. **All offers expire 9-30-26.**

General Dermatology: 831.373.4404
Cosmetic Laser Center: 831.373.0441
757 Pacific Street, Suite A-1, Monterey

Advanced Dermatology Medical Clinic
www.rheimdermatology.com

STICKLEY
LABOR DAY SALE-LINE WIDE
Ends Sept. 14
35% OFF MSRP



POPPLETON'S
CELEBRATING 45 YEARS
16,000 SQ FT MONTEREY SHOWROOM



the raw CONNECTION
Your Local Health Food Store For Pets

ADORED BEAST
APOTHECARY

15% OFF*



Entire Line of Supplements
* While supplies last thru Sept 30th

PRIMAL
20% OFF* FREEZE DRIED & FROZEN DUCK



26200 Carmel Rancho Blvd 9-6 Daily 831.626.7555

THE ARNOLD TEAM
A Collaborative Approach to Real Estate
MARKET KNOWLEDGE | ETHICS & INTEGRITY | COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY



COMMUNICATION THROUGH EVERY STEP
We are engaged in every aspect of a transaction, staying in close communication throughout the entire process.
Have questions? We'd love to hear from you!

Arnold-Team.com
Arnold-Team@CarmelRealtyCompany.com

Geoff 831.297.3890
REALTOR® | DRE#02036451

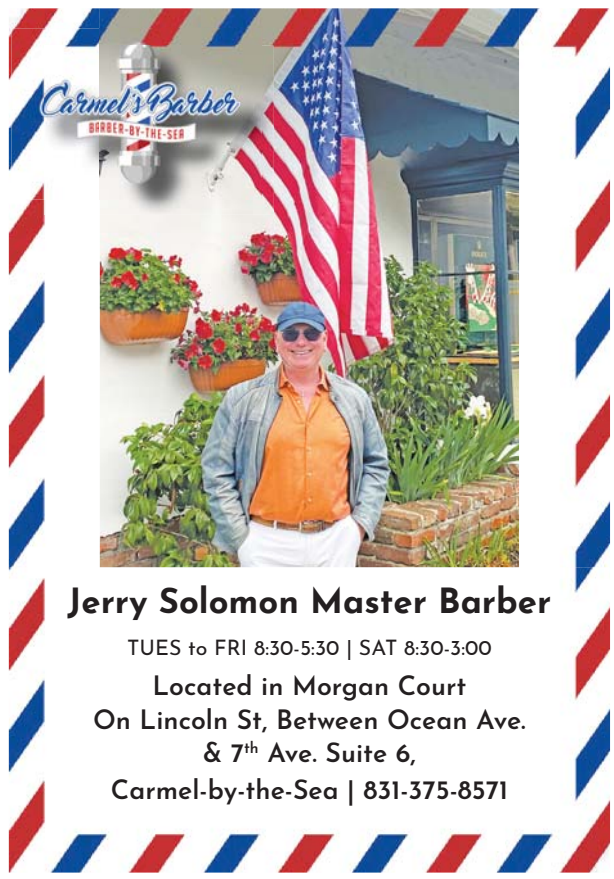
Rebecca 831.241.2600
REALTOR® | DRE#01706104

Danielle Germain
303.502.6477
REALTOR® | DRE#02154598
Monterey Coast Realty

Connor Marden
831.236.3255
REALTOR® | DRE#02245780
Monterey Coast Realty

CARMEL REALTY COMPANY
ESTABLISHED 1913
BOARD OF REGENTS

HEALTHY Lifestyles
PUBLICATION DATE: SEPTEMBER 25
Meena Lewellen - (831) 274-8655 - meena@carmelpinecone.com
Jessica Caird - (831) 274-8590 - jessica@carmelpinecone.com



Jerry Solomon Master Barber
TUES to FRI 8:30-5:30 | SAT 8:30-3:00
Located in Morgan Court
On Lincoln St, Between Ocean Ave.
& 7th Ave. Suite 6,
Carmel-by-the-Sea | 831-375-8571

Chance to add to city admin wish list ends Sept. 21

■ Practically perfect in every way?

By MARY SCHLEY

CARMEL'S NEXT top leader should be fiscally literate, thick-skinned, a motivator for staff, tough enough to stand up to Sacramento but sensitive enough to understand the city's unique character and heritage, willing to deliver hard messages to councilmembers, good at getting things done, fluent in the general plan and other governing documents, and able to seek feedback from the silent majority. Oh, and have a good sense of humor.

That was some of the input delivered at a Friday workshop hosted by recruiter Wendi Brown, who kicked off the hiring effort this week.

Meanwhile, a questionnaire is available online (surveymonkey.com/r/9MHZJVK) until Sept. 21. The council is aiming to have the replacement for former city administrator Chip Rerig, who retired at the end of last year, selected and hired in December. In the meantime, assistant city administrator Brandon Swanson is filling the role.

Based on the feedback received so far, including at the Sept. 4 session, Brown released a draft of the recruitment brochure this week, with the city council reviewing and approving it with some minor revisions at a special meeting Wednesday.

Recruitment now open for the right person to run the city

Workshop

At Friday's workshop, Brown and executive recruiter Terri Nisich posed three questions: What are we looking for in an ideal candidate? What challenges does the city face? And what's important for candidates to understand about Carmel?

Brown anticipated getting through the questions in about 25 minutes. Although it was sparsely attended, the session ended up running more than two hours as a group of mostly city hall regulars shared their views.

Resident Jim Beck was the first to chime in, saying the candidate should be "fiscally literate," while being unwilling to sacrifice quality of services for the sake of cutting costs.

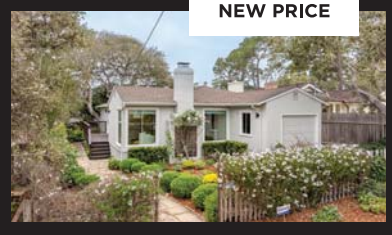
Resident and former city councilwoman Carolyn Hardy observed that Rerig was very good at building relationships and said his replacement should have a demonstrated ability to build morale, especially among employees, since the city council last week voted not to give some of them a cost of living raise even as it wrote off $100,000 in fees for Pacific Repertory Theatre's Golden Bough remodel and decided the city administrator salary range should be increased by $70,000.

Planning commissioner Mel Ahlborn said the candidate should be adept at balancing preservation and innovation, and have "the strength of character to say, 'No,'" when necessary.

Former planning commissioner Ian Martin said the ideal candidate will "understand viscerally what's so wonderful about our town," especially when it comes to fighting mandates handed down by Sacramento. He also said the city administrator "shouldn't play favorites" — a sentiment echoed by other speakers, who mentioned it in terms of councilmembers, businesses, agencies and residents.

See **FEEDBACK** *page 29A*

RM | RYAN MELCHER PROPERTIES


NEW PRICE

$2,595,000 - Classic Charm, Modern Comfort
Lobos 3 NW of 4th, Carmel
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,465 Sq. Ft.
4,700 Sq. Ft. Lot
Open House: Sat & Sun, 1-4pm


NEW LISTING

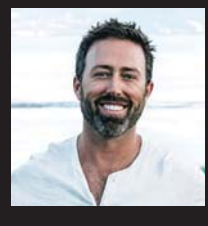
$1,395,000 - Large Lot with Big Mountain & City Views
25940 Colt Lane, Carmel Valley
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 3,597 Sq. Ft.
2.7 Acre Lot
Open House: Sat, 1-3pm


FOR SALE

$1.995,000 - Santa Barbara Style in Pebble Beach
3017 Forest Way, Pebble Beach
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 2,008 Sq. Ft.
12,500 Sq. Ft. Lot


FOR SALE

$1.995,000 - Excellent Remodel Opportunity - Premier Location
26655 Pancho Way, Carmel
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 2,305 Sq. Ft.
43,996 Sq. Ft. Lot



Representing Exceptional Properties in Carmel & Pebble Beach

#2 INDIVIDUAL AGENT ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA IN 2025

#1 SOTHEBY'S AGENT ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA IN 2025

831.521.5024 | ryan@ryanmelcher.com
RyanMelcher.com | DRE: 01897036

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**Per MLS and broker records. All materials presented herein are intended for informational purposes only and are compiled from sources deemed reliable but have not been verified. Square footage and lot sizes, amongst other qualifiers, are approximate. Rankings are based on 2025 sales data.*

Edward Jones | > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

6-month	1-year	2-year
4.00 % APY*	4.10 % APY*	4.30 % APY*



Deborah Josue
Financial Advisor
831-920-0635

2 Lower Ragsdale Dr, Suite 230, Monterey, CA 93940

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 09/09/2026. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to $250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC)

FDI-1867L-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD

Create Where *You* Belong™



CALL, VISIT A SHOWROOM, OR FIND US ONLINE TO SCHEDULE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY DESIGN CONSULTATION 408.392.0400

Los Altos 363 State St
Los Gatos 349 Santa Cruz Ave
Carmel 26366 Carmel Rancho Ln

CALIFORNIACLOSETS.COM

CALIFORNIA CLOSETS®

©2024 California Closet Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Each California Closets® franchised location is independently owned and operated. Local contractor licenses available at californiaclosets.com.

★ WE BUY GUNS AND AMMO ★
Specializing in Estate Firearms Solutions
JEFF CECILIO
831-915-3473
jcfirearmsandammo.com | JCFirearmsammo@gmail.com
2 Harris Court, Ste. A-3, Monterey
(by appointment only, no walk-ins)
FFL# 977053014E055556

HELP IS ON THE WAY!
AlphaAbacus Learning Center: Established 2003
Rachel Phillips M. A. Education
"Gracie"
YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT TUTORING CENTER
"Where Learning Is Fun"
READING - MATH - WRITING - ACADEMIC SUBJECTS
STUDY SKILLS - HOMEWORK HELP - TEST PREP
WWW.ALPHAABACUSLEARNINGCENTER.COM
831-596-9394 | 831-625-6053
200 Clock Tower Place, Suite A204, Carmel
Home Schooling Support AlphaAbacuslearningcenter@gmail.com

Welcoming New Patients
GENTRY PSYCHIATRIC
PRIVATE PSYCHIATRIC PRACTICE
Talk Therapy
Medication Management
Comprehensive Assessment
In-Person Appointments in Carmel
Telepsychiatry available throughout California
26362 Carmel Rancho Lane | Suite 204
Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93923
831-574-3020
info@GentryPsychiatric.com
www.GentryPsychiatric.com



Preston Gentry, MD
Board-Certified Psychiatrist

To place an obituary for your loved one, contact anne@carmelpinecone.com or (831) 274-8654

Police & Sheriff's Log

Video leads to capture of prowler

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.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

Monterey: Suspicious circumstances on Cannery Row.

Monterey: A 49-year-old woman was arrested on Carmelito Avenue for burglary and a probation violation.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost ring at Ocean and Scenic.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Juvenile issue reported at Junipero Street and Fourth Avenue.

Monterey: A 67-year-old man was arrested on North Fremont Street for shoplifting, possession of a narcotic controlled substance, possession of controlled substances without a prescription, possession of unlawful paraphernalia, petty theft with two or more prior convictions, committing a felony while on bail and probation violation.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Civil matter involving a vehicle repossession at Junipero and Fourth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Carmel police officers assisted the Monterey County Sheriff's Office with a male making threats on Carmel Valley Road.

Pacific Grove: Vehicles marked for 72-hour parking on Ocean View Boulevard and on Hillcrest Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Vandalism on Fountain Avenue. No perpetrator information.

Monterey: Subject on Skyline Drive was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.

See **POLICE LOG** *page 8RE in the Real Estate Section*



The gavel falls

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

Aug. 14 — Judge Carrie Panetta sentenced Jose Guadalupe Reyes, 64, to 225 years to life in state prison. On July 21, a jury found Reyes guilty of 14 counts of penal code section 288(b)(1), forcible lewd or lascivious acts on a child under 14, and two counts of penal code section 269(a)(1), aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14. The jury also found true the multiple-victim enhancement for each count of penal code section 288(b)(1). All the offenses are serious and violent felonies and are considered strikes under California's three strikes law. Reyes was also ordered to register as a sex offender.

Reyes molested Jane Does 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, all children under 14, from 1996 to 2012 in the city of Marina. Three of the victims were his nieces, one was his girlfriend's daughter and one was his granddaughter. Reyes touched all five victims inappropriately, both under and over their clothing, using force and duress to accomplish the acts. The victims waited until adulthood to report the assaults. According to research into sexual assault victim behavior, it is very common for victims to delay reporting sexual abuse, especially when the victim is a minor and has a close relationship with the perpetrator. Reyes was apprehended in 2025 in Texas and extradited to Monterey County to face prosecution for his crimes against Does 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

This case was investigated by former Marina Police Department detective Ivan Santana. District attorney investigator Isabelle Rhodes conducted follow-up investigation and assisted with the trial process. Does 1, 2,

See **GAVEL** *page 19A*

Residents of Carmel By The Sea
ARE YOU FED UP WITH CAR WEEK?
Do you feel Car Week has turned into something different than what it once was?
Do you think it has gotten out of control?
If you do, please attend this upcoming meeting and let your feelings be known!!
Car Week 2026 Listening Session
Sat., Sep 26th at 10am
Sunset Center (Carpenter room)

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR...
40TH
ANNIVERSARY
Party
DATE & PLACE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2026
@ MUM'S PLACE
FROM
5:00 - 7:00
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
5:30
40 -YEARS- ANNIVERSARY
1986-2026
mum's place
246 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove | 831-372-6250
Mon-Sat 10am-5:30pm | www.mumsfurniture.com

Firefighters get boost from therapy dogs

■ Highway 1 still closed south of Big Sur Valley

By CHRIS COUNTS

FACING DANGEROUS conditions as they battle two wildfires in Big Sur, firefighters can be extremely tired and stressed after long days on the front line. But thanks to a San Rafael-based group, they get a welcome surprise when they return to base camp: therapy dogs.

Founded five years ago by Heidi Karman, First Responder Therapy Dogs brings canine companions to wildland firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical personnel. The group, run almost entirely by volunteers and funded mostly by donations, currently works with 600 dogs and their handlers and has expanded operations to 47 states. The group does not charge for its services.

More than a wagging tail

Supporters say therapy dogs offer critical mental health benefits to personnel battling wildfires or engaged in other high-stress incidents. "These remarkable companions do more than offer a wagging tail," the group said. "They provide a lifeline to our first responders. Research shows therapy dogs can significantly reduce stress and anxiety, lower blood pressure, and elevate mood. This means our heroes can better focus on serving their communities while receiving the emotional support they deserve."

Michelle Detrick of First Responder Therapy Dogs said her group has deployed 11 dogs to five different fire camps supporting the Timber and Plaskett fires. The pets have come from as far away as Marin and Sonoma counties.

"It's so heartwarming to see the response from the firefighters," said Detrick, a retired firefighter-paramedic. "They are exhausted and away from their homes. This gives them a little relief — they can feel human again, even if it's only for a few moments."

Besides offering firefighters a chance to bond with a therapy dog, the group gives them trading cards and stickers celebrating the dogs. Detrick said that can really cheer up a weary worker. "We all turn into kids when we pet dogs and somebody hands us trading cards and stickers," she said.

Detrick said the canines enjoy their work.

"They absolutely love seeing the firefighters," said the volunteer, whose own therapy animal, Scout, is a 2-year-old Great Dane-Saint Bernard mix. "When I tell my dog we're going, she gets so excited."

The group is always recruiting therapy dogs.

"If you have a dog that's friendly, you can volunteer with us," Detrick said. "If you have a loving and affectionate pet, it probably has the right disposition to be a therapy dog. But you do have to go through a certification process."

Detrick gave a shout-out to the incident command staff working on the Timber and Plaskett fires for requesting therapy dogs for firefighters. "They can make a huge difference," she added.

To help pay for its operations, the group produces an annual fundraising calendar featuring portraits of therapy dogs. The latest fundraiser kicked off Sept. 7.

A ring around the fire

Firefighters have made steady progress expanding containment lines around the Timber and Plaskett fires in Big Sur, and they're looking forward to cooler weather this weekend after an unusually hot and dry midweek, when temperatures climbed into the 90s at higher elevations.

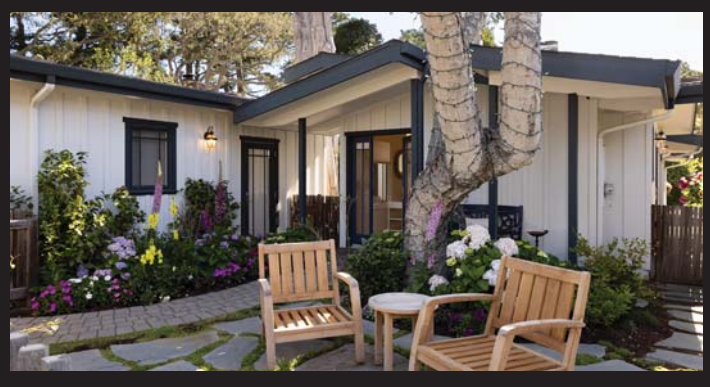
As of Thursday morning, the Plaskett Fire, which was sparked Aug. 26, has burned 29,918 acres and is 73 percent contained, while the Timber Fire, which

See **THERAPY** *page 20A*

TA

Featured Luxury Rentals

AVAILABLE NOW - INQUIRE FOR PRICING



SweetDreamsCottage.com | Monthly Rental

This Carmel Cottage is a beautifully appointed 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath retreat with a private patio set in the coveted "Golden Rectangle."



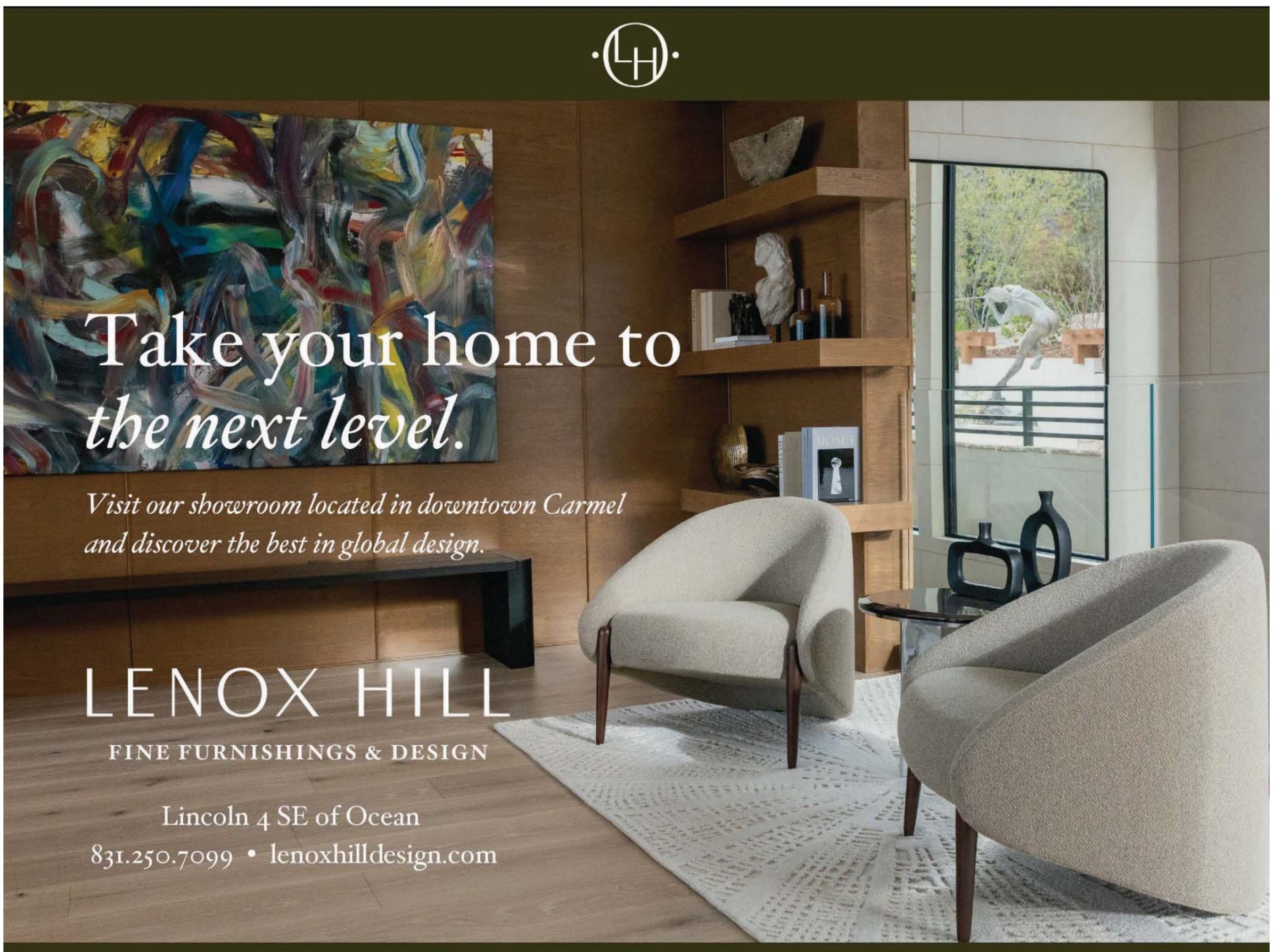
CanneryRowLuxuryRental.com | Monthly Rental

Experience Cannery Row from this single-level, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom residence with ocean views and a covered patio.

TimAllenLuxuryRentals.com
PM@TimAllenProperties.com

TA | TIM ALLEN PROPERTIES - MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 622, Pebble Beach
DRE#02275185



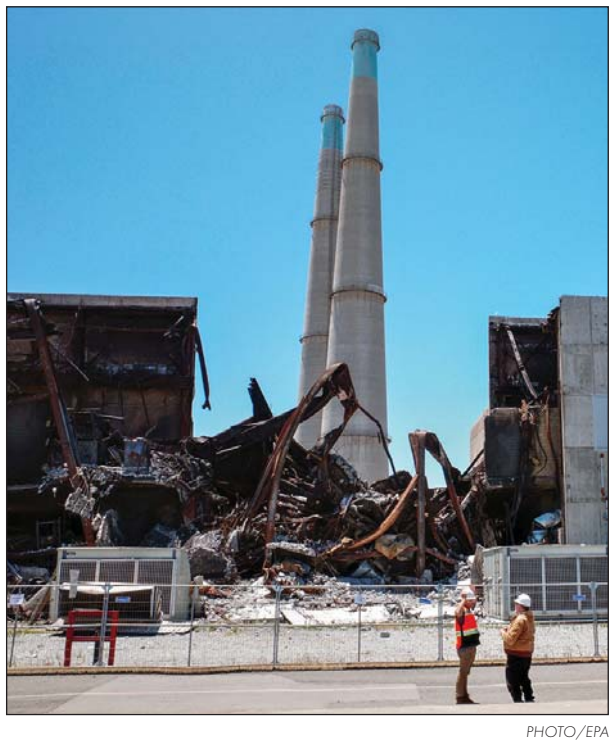
Removal of damaged batteries in Moss Landing enters final stage

By KELLY NIX

Federal officials this week announced the final phase of a massive cleanup at the Vistra Energy battery storage facility in Moss Landing, where a catastrophic fire last year heavily damaged the plant off Highway 1.

The fire broke out Jan. 16, 2025, at Vistra's 300-megawatt energy storage facility, which contained about 100,000 lithium-ion battery modules. About 55% were damaged or destroyed. The fire burned until Jan. 18 and flared up again about a month later.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which has been involved in the response since the first night of the fire, said Tuesday it will oversee the removal and processing of all remaining severely damaged lithium-ion batteries and other material before everything is hauled off site for disposal. Crews will demolish the charred remains of the storage building that housed the batteries so they can reach the remaining material. Vistra Energy is performing the work, which is expected to be completed in mid-2027.



PHOTO/EPA

EPA officials stand next to the mangled remains of a fire-ravaged building that housed batteries in Moss Landing.

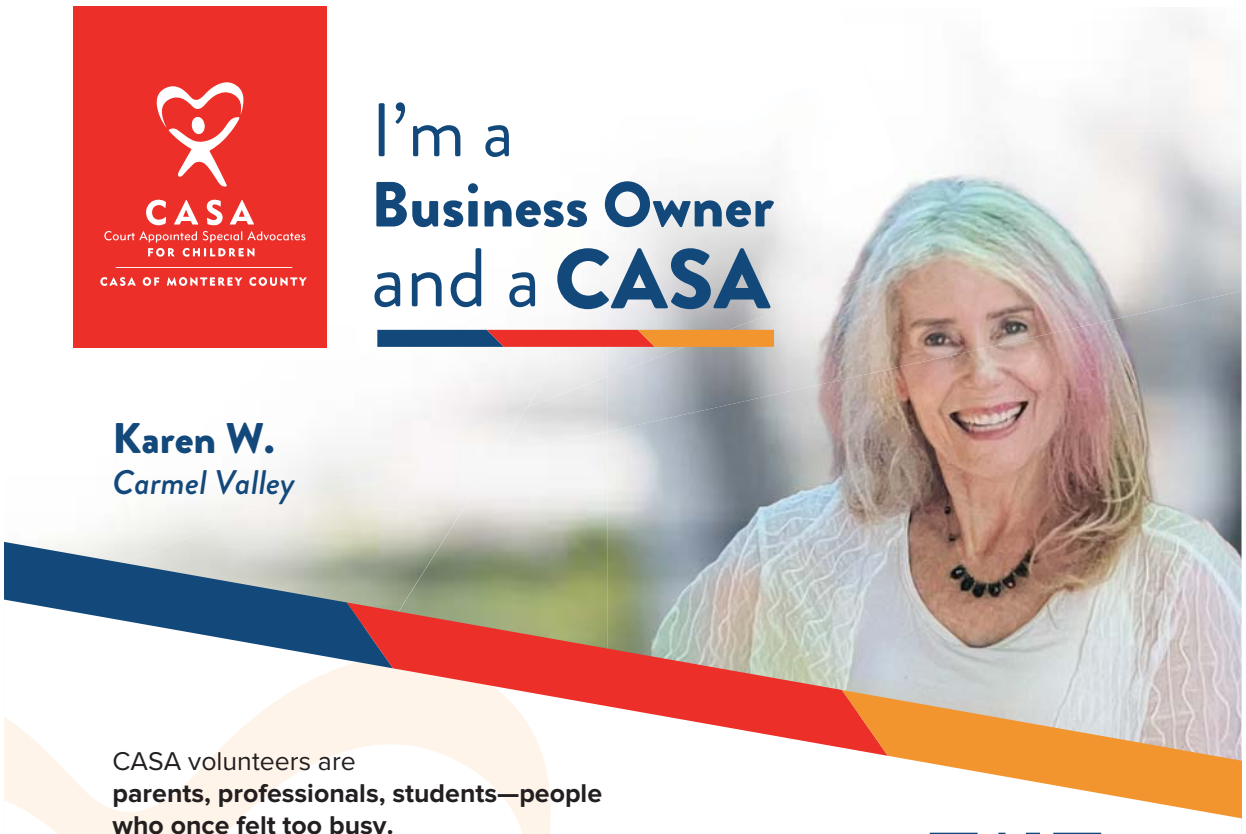
Mike Martucci, the EPA's Pacific Southwest regional administrator, called the final phase a "huge milestone" in an "unprecedented cleanup" of lithium-ion batteries.

"Thanks to our experts' coordination and close oversight, we're one step closer to safely eliminating the threat of these potentially dangerous batteries," Martucci said in the EPA statement.

See **REMOVAL** *page 19A*

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF MONTEREY COUNTY

I'm a **Business Owner** and a **CASA**



Karen W.
Carmel Valley

CASA volunteers are **parents, professionals, students—people who once felt too busy.**

CASA becomes part of your life's routine. You're more ready than you think—**become a CASA volunteer.**

Find out how you can impact the life of children and youth in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

casaofmonterey.org

(831) 222-3965



If you know Community Hospital, you know Montage Health.

The fact is, we've always been here. You've just known us by a different name.

The people at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula created Montage Health to deliver exceptional care to more people, by expanding our services beyond the hospital. Today, we're urgent care centers, wellness centers, primary care doctors, health insurance plans, and a groundbreaking mental health program for youth. Still independent, nonprofit, locally owned, and accountable only to the community we serve.

MONTAGE Health®

montagehealth.org

Messy sewage cleanup at county HQ

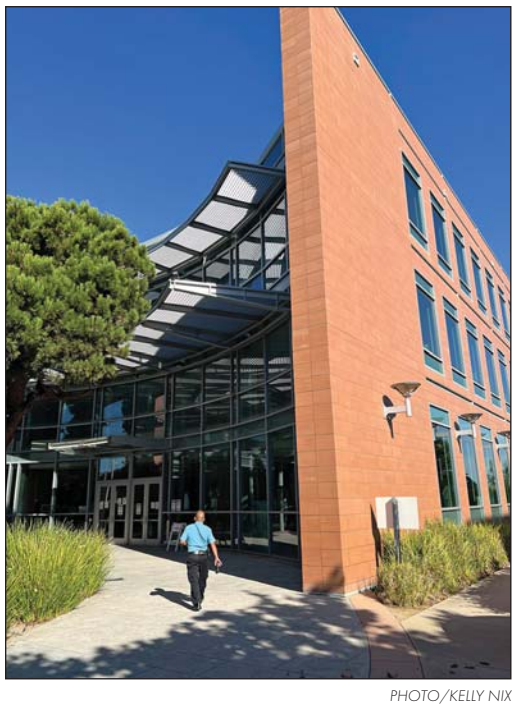
By KELLY NIX

A MAJOR sewage spill inside the Monterey County government building — where the assessor's office, tax collector and other departments are based — has forced it to close for a second straight week so crews can continue cleaning up the mess.

Around noon on Sept. 3, a significant blockage in the employee bathrooms on the first floor caused sewage to spill into adjacent work areas. While officials initially said the center would reopen Sept. 8, they announced Wednesday it will remain closed through the end of the week.

The extended closure, the county said, is necessary to allow personnel and contractors enough time to complete the cleanup and to "ensure the safety and security of county employees and members of the public."

County spokesman Nick Pasculli said sewage flowed into hallways, offices and a file room. The new reopening date is set for Monday, Sept. 14.



PHOTO/KELLY NIX

A security guard walks to the county government building in Salinas, where a sewage spill forced it to close.

Big response

"The line did back up into several offices with water from the sewer drainage systems," Pasculli told The Pine Cone, adding that it primarily affected the assessor's office. "Carpet and some sheetrock have been removed."

"At least a few dozen" people, Pasculli said, are working on the remediation effort, including a contracted disaster cleanup company, environmental and sanitation consultants, an independent lab and county personnel. Sanitation workers are providing deep cleaning of the entire first floor. The cause of the spill was described as an "extensive sewer line malfunction." The building, at 168 W. Alisal St., was completed in 2005.

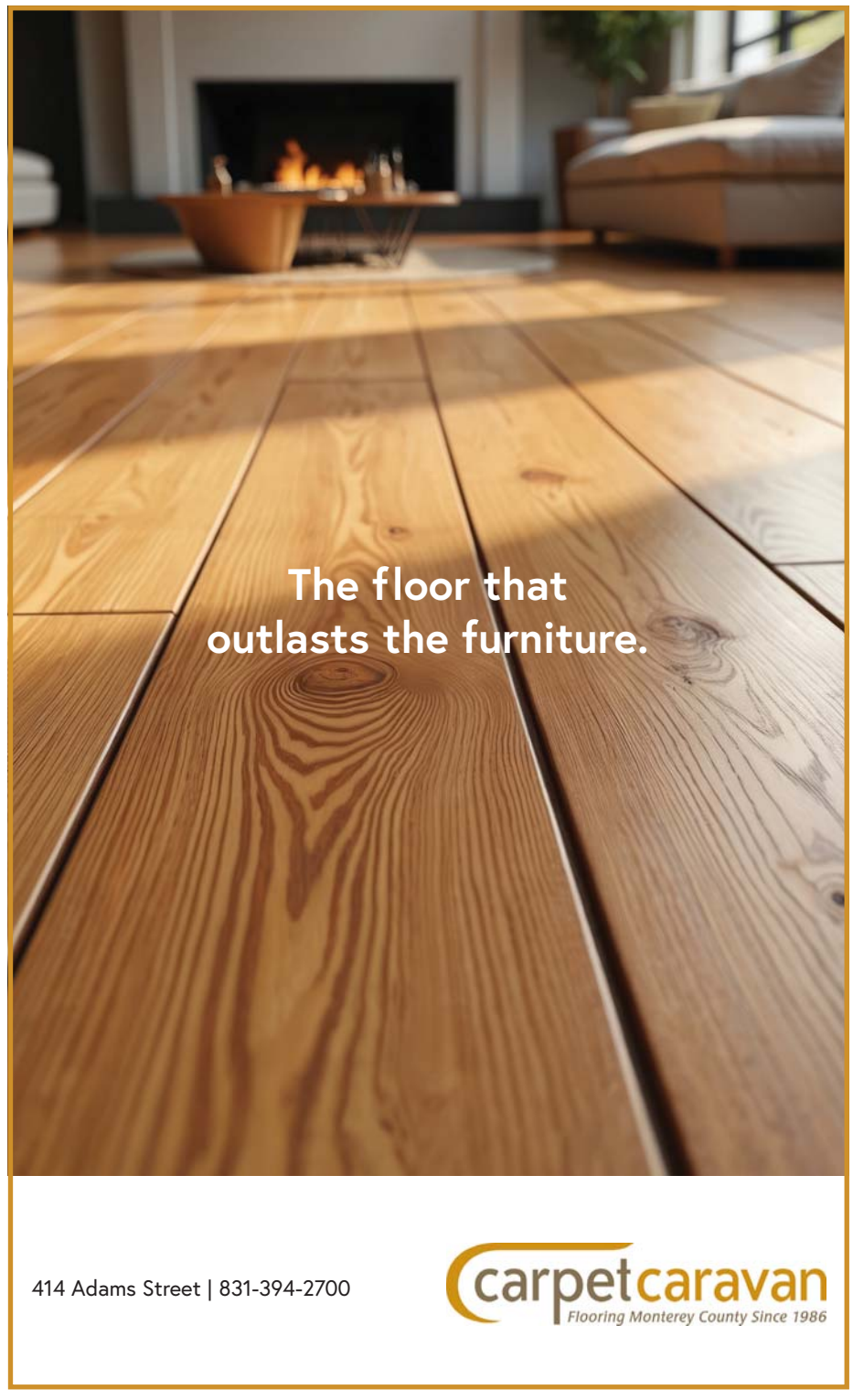
No county employees, except security personnel and those in the facilities department, are working in the center during the cleanup.

"All employees able to work remotely are doing so with little disruption," Pasculli said.

The county offices most impacted include the assessor, recorder, treasurer-tax collector, clerk of the board of supervisors, public defender's office and the office of Monterey County District 2 Supervisor Glenn Church.

"The county's goal is to provide services to the public as efficiently and seamlessly as possible while remediation work

See **CLEANUP** *page 16A*





A private Big Island residence on the sixth fairway, with the Pacific beyond.

4 Bed | 5.5 Baths | 6,198 Sqft | Offered at: $14,200,000
one-ocean-luxury-home.com

Built in 2022 with Koa, Sapele mahogany, Brazilian cherry floors, Italian Blue Louise quartzite, and Roy Lambrecht cabinetry. Pocket doors open the great room to a 52-foot saltwater infinity pool, the fairway and Mauna Kea.

Hawaii Luxury Real Estate
RB-21156
www.hawaii-luxury-realestate.com
68-1330 Mauna Lani Dr. #502, Kamuela, HI 96743

Genevieve Firestone
808-896-4842
RB-24328 | Broker in Charge
genevievefirestone@gmail.com

Student threat prompts P.G. shutdown

By KELLY NIX

TWO PACIFIC Grove schools were locked down Wednesday afternoon after someone made a "possible threat" toward an administrator at the high school, officials said.

The threat was made at about 2:15 p.m., which prompted P.G. High staff to notify the Pacific Grove Police Department, which arrived on campus to investigate.

It also led the district to lock down the high school and a nearby elementary school.

"Out of an abundance of caution, both Pacific Grove High School and Forest Grove Elementary School are on secure campus safety protocol while officers conduct their assessment," PGUSD superintendent Linda Adamson told parents in a 2:49 p.m.email message.

Adamson went on to say that "there is no imminent threat to our students or staff," and that per the district's safety protocol, all schools' exterior doors were locked, and instruction continued inside as normal. Because access to the buildings was restricted, parents were told not to pick up their children at school during that time.

At about 2:59 p.m., the superintendent informed parents that the lockdown had been lifted and that all students and staff were safe and normal school activities had resumed.

Prompt response

"Law enforcement responded promptly to the situation, conducted a thorough assessment, and has confirmed that the campus is secure and safe for normal operations," Adamson said.

The district did not say who made the threat, what it entailed, and whether it was made in person, social media or via another method. A source told The Pine Cone that the person responsible was a male student who became upset after he received a truancy notice.

JURY FINDS MAN GUILTY OF ATTACK

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A SAN Simeon man, 69-year-old David Carl Goad, was found guilty of felony assault on a California State Parks employee after a two-day jury trial, Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni reported this week.

The trial followed an incident that happened May 17 at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park in Big Sur.

Tried to strangle

"Mr. Goad began to disassemble a toilet in the restrooms [that apparently wasn't working]," according to the report. "A state parks maintenance employee asked Mr. Goad to stop what he was doing and leave the restroom to allow state parks maintenance staff to fix the problem." Mr. Goad became hostile and combative, ultimately attacking the victim from behind when he turned his back to close and lock the restroom door."

At the trial, the state parks workers testified that Goad placed his hands around the worker's neck "and applied pressure." "The victim was able to break free after a brief struggle and report the incident to state park rangers," the district attorney's office said.

The jury found Goad guilty of felony assault "by means likely to cause great bodily injury" and misdemeanor battery.

Goad will be sentenced Oct. 2 and could face up to three years in prison.

Support The Pine Cone by supporting our advertisers!

Marlow Motor-Werks
(831) 230-7822
Seaside's Premier European Auto Service Experts and Dealership Alternative
Proudly servicing Mercedes, Sprinter, BMW, Audi and Land Rover with precision and passion!
684 Ponderosa St, Seaside, CA 93955
Monday – Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm
www.MarlowMotorWerks.com

"WE BUILD IT ALL"
RHC
EST. 2013
RANCH HANDS CONSTRUCTION
REMODELING | DECKS & PATIOS | ADDITIONS | REPAIRS | FENCING
From small repairs to full remodels, we build it all with quality craftsmanship and honest, reliable service.
BUILT ON INTEGRITY. FOCUSED ON QUALITY.
REMODELING
DECKS & PATIOS
BATHROOM REMODELS
FENCING & REPAIRS
LOCAL. TRUSTED. DEPENDABLE.
WE BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AS STRONG AS WE BUILD.
831-330-3317 | ranchhandsconstruction.org
PROUDLY SERVING: CARMEL BY THE SEA • CARMEL VALLEY • MONTEREY • PEBBLE BEACH
PACIFIC GROVE • SEASIDE • AND THE ENTIRE MONTEREY PENINSULA

Three vie for mayor in booming Marina

By LILY PATTERSON

ONE IS a city councilwoman, another is a politically engaged resident who says Marina's elected officials are out of touch, and the third challenged Democratic Rep. Jimmy Panetta for his congressional seat earlier this year on a platform of affordable housing and "infrastructure resilience."

For the first time in 18 years, Marina will have a new mayor after Bruce Delgado, 64, announced his retirement in May. Formerly a botanist with the Federal Bureau of Land Management and a council member from 2000 to 2004 who advocated for the development of the former Fort Ord — but has waged a no-holds-barred fight against Cal Am's proposed desal plant — Delgado took office in December 2008. At the time, the city was deficit-spending by several million dollars and he was initially aggressive about cutting costs. Delgado has since supported sales and transient occupancy tax increases, as well as the multimillion-dollar sales of former Fort Ord parcels for new housing and commercial centers like The Dunes.

1,200 new homes

As the city undergoes major population growth — by one estimate, as many as 1,200 homes and apartments have been added in the last decade, many of them purchased by wealthy newcomers — Marina's general fund has grown from approximately $10 million in 2008-2009 to nearly $40 million.

"It has been a great experience rebuilding Fort Ord in Marina from abandoned barracks to medical facilities, a movie theater and restaurants," Delgado said. "The hotel, sales tax and developer monies have enabled a revolution in central Marina of improved streets and parks, and a strengthened fire department."

The three candidates vying for Delgado's seat agree that Marina needs new public safety facilities, housing development, and improvements to its downtown area. But they're divided on how to fund those and other capital projects, with Measure Q — a 7% utility tax proposed to generate $3.8 million in annual revenue — also set to appear on the ballot in November.

Liesbeth Visscher was elected to the Marina City Council in 2022 and appointed mayor pro tem in 2024. She supports the utility tax, saying it will bring necessary revenue to fund new city facilities and projects like landscaping along Del Monte Boulevard, "an important entrance to Marina's downtown."

"The council is aware that downtown needs help to compete with The Dunes shopping center and Promenade. I envision two vibrant town centers in Marina, with different characters," she said.

Utility tax

Visscher wants to remodel Marina's "too small" public safety building — which houses both the police and main fire station — and replace the double-wide trailers that have constituted city hall and council chambers for 50 years. With a background in architecture and building technology, she also wants to see greater investment in a long-term maintenance plan for the city.

Like Delgado, Visscher is opposed to the desal plant and claims the "environmentally irresponsible" project, which draws water from the ocean floor, will deplete Marina's water supply. Shortly after emigrating from The Netherlands to Marina — where she and her husband invested in rental properties — Visscher joined the Citizens for Just Water nonprofit and collected signatures for sales, hotel and cannabis tax increases in 2018.

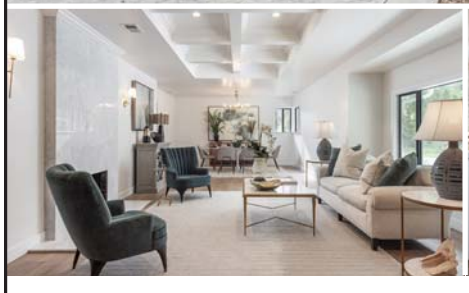
Like Measure Q, it was an initiative proposed by a small group of Marina citizens that has resulted in "better maintained streets and parks," Visscher said.

Five-year resident **Mike Moeller** is a

Continues next page

RECENTLY REMODELED IN THE CARMEL SCHOOL DISTRICT







3 Beds | 2 Baths | 2,001 SF | 1.07 Acres | $2,299,000

CanadaDriveCarmel.com



J. Profeta
Pro is in my DNA

JUDIE PROFETA 831.601.3207
Broker Associate | DRE 00703550
TheProfetaTeam.com | Judie@TheProfetaTeam.com
COMPASS

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Numbers 01527235, 01527365, 01991628. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

Growth you can see.
Progress you can measure.



STEVENSON
Carmel Campus | Pre-K–Grade 8

Inquire Today



Glass Pumpkin Patch of Carmel

MEarth | SEPTEMBER 19–20

Hand-blown glass pumpkins • Local Food
Live music • MEarth Produce Trailer

Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday: 10 AM - 4 PM



4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel CA, 93923
MEarth, adjacent to Carmel Middle School

From previous page

respiratory care practitioner with Santa Clara Valley Healthcare and serves on the citizens advisory committee that recommended Measure Q. But Moeller said he opposes the utility tax, insisting that "responsible planning, economic growth and smarter budgeting" can generate the necessary revenue "to build the facilities our firefighters, police officers, city employees and residents deserve."

He is running on a platform of public safety, building more youth sports facilities, and "transparency and responsiveness."

"I've participated in a lot of public meetings over the last few years and felt like many major projects never got past public input or went in a different direction," said Moeller, who is involved with local organizations like Repair Café Marina, the Rotary Club of Marina and the All-Inclusive Playground project.

He gave the recent example of a proposed roundabout at Reservation Road and Del Monte Boulevard as "lacking in data" and a waste of "thousands in taxpayer funds," since the city had already paid to engineer a traffic signal. Only when he and other residents appeared before the council to oppose the change did the project get pulled from the agenda for reconsideration, he said.

"I think that is probably the biggest reason I'm running — there is a serious disconnect between residents and city council. Marina needs a leader who understands that collaboration is the key," he said.

Ana Luz Acevedo-Cabrera, 38, is the youngest candidate by far. A Castroville native and former seismic engineer, she is an adjunct professor at Hartnell College who in June made an unsuccessful bid for Rep. Jimmy Panetta's seat. Cabrera is running on a platform of affordable housing, improved public safety infrastructure, and small-business development.

"What triggered me to run for Marina mayor was the 7% utility tax. In my opinion, it's really out of touch with the realities faced by our community, especially for people with a fixed income," she said.

Cabrera was the only candidate to propose concrete alternatives to a permanent tax, including a special bond measure "that raises funds only for new police and fire department buildings."

Partnering with Carmel

A board member with Salinas-based nonprofit developer CHISPA, Cabrera said she has offered feedback on the county and city of Monterey's housing elements, supporting rezoning for higher density, infill housing, transit-oriented development, densifying downtown corridors and simplifying ADU processes.

"As for being the youngest candidate in the race, I bring a fresh perspective, lots of energy and a strong background in civil engineering, which is heavily missing in our existing city council," she said.

Among other proposals to address the shortage of affordable housing in her city, Cabrera has suggested that Marina offer buildable land to Carmel-by-the-Sea and other small Peninsula cities struggling to fulfill their state-mandated quotas. It's possible, according to California's housing code, for two or more cities to form a subregion and redistribute their allocations.

Both Visscher and Cabrera noted their support for the rehabilitation of Cypress Knolls — 188 city-owned acres between Imjin and Patton parkways, on the former Fort Ord — as a viable location for housing development.

Hear from all three candidates at a forum scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, at 10:30 a.m. at Marina City Hall, 211 Hillcrest Ave.

The 2026 Golden Pine Cones — Voting starts today!

The care you need
in the place you love

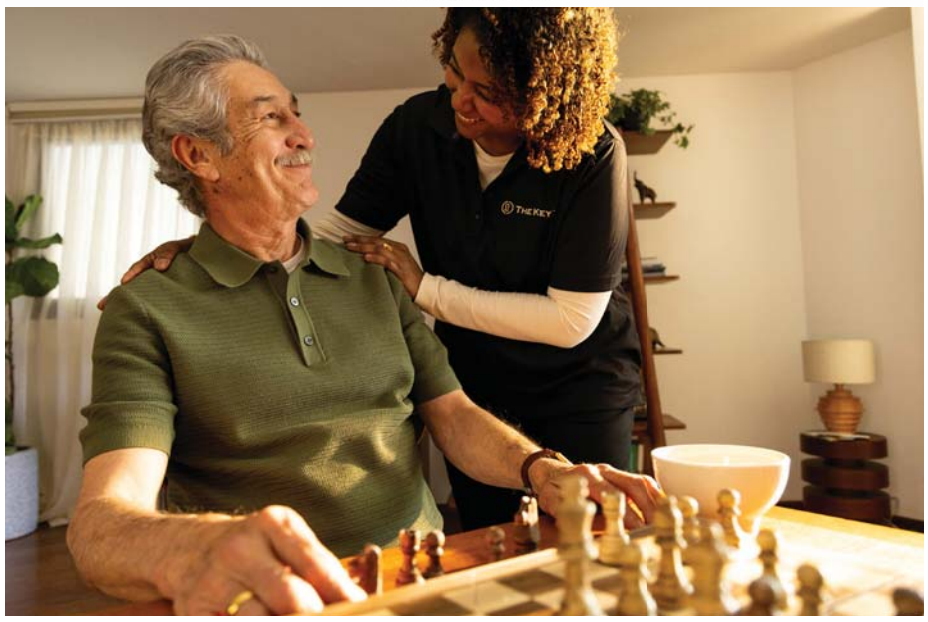
THEKEY HOME CARE

For over 25 years, TheKey Home Care has provided personalized in-home care to older adults, delivered by compassionate caregivers across the U.S. and Canada using our science-backed Balanced Care Method®.

We promote independence, dignity, and peace of mind so our clients and their families can live healthier, happier lives at home.

Speak with a care advisor today (831) 217-7911 or scan to learn more about our services:

www.TheKey.com



Attention Men:

"Men's work" is the act of choosing into change.

Change Starts Here.

For 39 years, Breakthrough has offered tools that help men create lasting change and form true friendships.

Better Fathers, Better Friends, Best Self

"Breakthrough has been the single best decision of my adult life." – Program Graduate M.C.

Workshops enrolling now!

- Fall workshops start October 2026
- Monterey, CA in person & online everywhere
- Financial aid available
- Free weekly Men's Wisdom Circle Wednesdays online

BREAKTHROUGH
MEN'S COMMUNITY
breakthroughformen.org

CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

STREET ADDRESSES *are live!*



CHECK YOUR P.O. BOX FOR A POSTCARD FROM THE CITY WITH YOUR OFFICIAL PROPERTY ADDRESS.



PLEASE WORK WITH YOUR UTILITY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS.

No home mail delivery.	No USPS delivery.	Keep your house name, just add your street number.	P.O. Box mail delivery will continue.

For more information about street addresses visit:
ci.carmel.ca.us/street-addresses

WEBSITE INCLUDES:

- Address number display guidelines with examples
- FAQ's
- Questions? Please contact Building & Planning at: 831-620-2010



JOAN (TEDFORD) CARTER

Joan (Tedford) Carter, beloved wife, mother, Noni and lifelong educator, passed away in Carmel, California, at the age of 87 on Aug. 14, 2026.

Born in Santa Monica on June 1, 1939, she resided with her parents above the merry-go-round on the Santa Monica Pier. Her family ran the Tedford Boat Service, where she spent her childhood as the adorable first mate.

At 15, Joan met her future husband, Michael Carter, at Santa Monica High School. When Mike needed a math tutor, Joan didn't waste any time volunteering for the job. They attended USC together and married on Aug. 23, 1959.

While still in school, Joan worked as a bank teller, learning much about finance — a talent she used to support her family and later passed on to her children. Joan then graduated with a degree in education and taught elementary school.

Joan and Mike moved across the country (three and a half times) as he pursued his medical career. With four children in tow, they relocated to the North Shore of Chicago, where Joan raised their family and dedicated her free time to volunteer work with the Northwestern Settlement. There, she was a leader in supporting inner-city education and led an initiative to start a charter school.

A young trailblazer, Joan devoted her life to teaching and serving others — in the classroom, in her community, through various foundations and, most importantly, in her role as Mom and Noni. She was witty, direct, supportive and inquisitive. Her infectious laughter and strong moral compass instilled confidence, respect and a thirst for knowledge in her family and loved ones. Joan's mantra that "life isn't fair" was often underappreciated in the moment, but was followed by the realization that she quietly tried to make it as fair as possible.

Joan was smart, funny and the life of the party, and her generosity was boundless. She was a wonderful hostess, warmly welcoming family and friends wherever she lived, including after she established roots in her beloved Carmel in 1999.

Joan was well-read and loved music, cards — bridge with her groups and hearts with her grandchildren — and travel. Together, Joan and Mike explored the world, touring many countries by bicycle and savoring fine food and wine. Joan generously shared her interests with her loved ones. She was the true matriarch of the family, showing kindness and empathy for those in need.

Joan never forgot what was important to friends and family, remembering their goals, challenges and joys with heartfelt interest. While always encouraging her loved ones, Joan balanced praise with honesty, ensuring everyone felt both her support and her expectations. Her wit was sharp, and her heart was gold. Joan will be deeply missed.

Joan is survived by her devoted husband, Dr. Michael Carter; children Cristen Forrester (Tom), Timothy (Andreana), Richard (Kathy) and Gregory; grandchildren Tom (Rosa), Ian (Cathryn), Kyle (Chelsea), Hope, Andrew (Eliza), Sarah (Nolan), Kate, Harrison (Alex), Marshall, Madeline and Cullen (Brittany); and great-grandchildren Daphne, Violet, Charlotte, Isla, Miles, Clark and Georgia.

A celebration of life will be held Oct. 13.

NUMBERS

From page 1A

thoughtfully steadfast about rolling this out. Everybody who's touched this thing should be proud."

When it was settled in the early 1900s, Carmel was sparsely populated, and poetic (and sometimes ironic) names identified many of its cottages. The quirky tradition of solely relying on directional addresses — Camino Real 3 SE of Ocean, for example — persisted as the city and its population grew, and was eventually made law, with the Carmel Municipal Code stating properties "shall be identified by a description of parcel location relative to the nearest cross-street intersection as determined by the community planning and building department."

And for decades, residents argued — often strenuously — over whether to hold onto that unique practice or change with the times, especially as demands for verification of physical addresses and the use of technology to do so increased. It didn't matter that the California Fire Code requires standardized addresses and that they be visibly displayed. Prior city councils hemmed and hawed, perhaps reluctant to make a decision that might upset half the populace, and considered putting the issue on the ballot.

History-setting vote

But by the time the council made the history-setting, unanimous vote in favor of shifting to a conventional address system last October — following six months of in-depth research by a committee of city staff, a councilman and a few residents — there was no rending of garments or gnashing of teeth, just applause and cheering.

Garay and Bermudez went to work getting addresses assigned to every building. They collaborated with the county to get the system integrated throughout its various departments, and ensured it would work for police, fire, emergency services and other public safety agencies.

They had expected the county's review to take two months, but it took twice as long, and those efforts finally wrapped up last week, Swanson said.

See **ADDRESSES** *page 30A*

In Memory of Theodore Lebedew

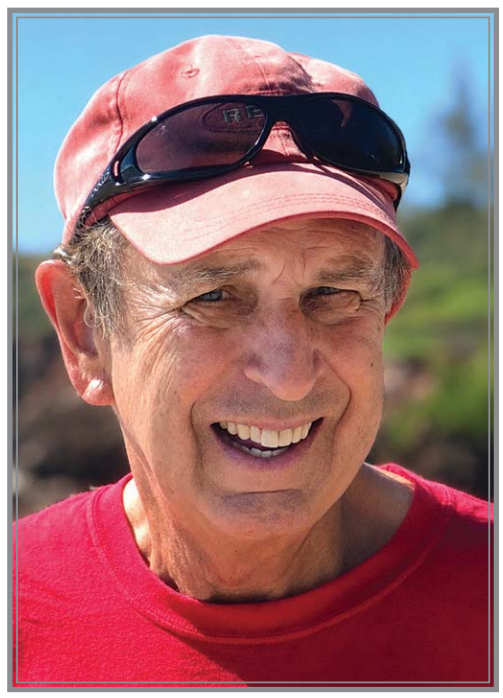
Theodore "Ted" Lebedew passed away June 30, 2026, at age 83. He was a longtime resident of Seaside, California.

Ted's military memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026, at the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, 2900 Parker Flats Road, Seaside.



Phillip Allen Bradbury

Phil stepped into heaven on May 30. He was born in Boise, Idaho, on July 7, 1945, the son of Dr. Alfred Bradbury and Elmira Belle Heitz. He graduated from Kuna High School and the University of Washington. He spent two years in New York City working for his college fraternity, Theta Delta Chi, before joining the National Guard at the height of the Vietnam War. He served at a Nike missile defense base.



He was commissioned a second lieutenant at the Washington Military Academy and later transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve.

He married Dotti Burgh in 1970, took a leave from the National Guard and spent three months traveling through Europe with her on their honeymoon.

Phil joined Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. as an agent and became the general agent in Spokane. He was later promoted to assistant regional vice president and ultimately senior vice president for the Eastern region, overseeing operations in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and other states.

He retired at age 50 and moved to Carmel, California, where he started his own executive search firm.

The business evolved in a way that allowed him to devote more time to playing tennis, managing the couple's vacation rental and volunteering for The Salvation Army.

Phil and Dotti lived in Carmel for 30 years. Phil belonged to the Pebble Beach Beach & Tennis Club, Stillwater Yacht Club and Church in the Forest. He served as chairman of the board of The Salvation Army and as a board member of the Friends of Sunset Center and the Carmel Film Festival. He reorganized The Salvation Army's advisory board in Lihue, Kauai, and participated with the organization's Eastside Corps in Bellevue, Washington, where he started the Red Kettle Kickoff holiday fundraiser.

Phil and Dotti retired in 2018, splitting their time between winters on the island of Kauai, Hawaii, and summers on Lake Sammamish in Washington.

He was a quiet man who never sought accolades. His wife and daughters were his main focus. He loved to sing and recorded a CD of his favorite songs for his family. At age 8, he won a radio singing contest with his rendition of "Ragtime Cowboy Joe." On family road trips, he entertained his daughters by whistling songs for them to identify in a game of "Name That Tune."

Phil had a passion for politics and read the newspaper daily. He captained his tennis team at a national USTA tournament in Palm Springs, California, and used his famous drop shot to help his senior team win a championship at Indian Wells, California.

Phil is survived by his wife of 56 years, Dotti; his daughters, Ann (Michael) and Karen; and his grandchildren, Ali, Nathan, Brady and Avery.

A family memorial will be held on Carmel Beach following the Christmas holidays.
Any donations in his honor can be sent
to the Salvation Army of Monterey or the Parkinson's Foundation.

Pest company fined more than $3M

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

TERMINIX PEST control will pay a $3.15 million settlement to resolve a consumer-action suit brought by Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni and 28 other DAs alleging it violated "laws regulating the disposal of pesticides, hazardous waste and customer records containing personally identifiable information."

The lawsuit alleges Terminix, which is owned by London-based Rentokil Initial plc and has more than 65 facilities in California, routinely and unlawfully sent pesticides and hazardous waste to municipal landfills and failed to shred records containing customers' personal information. The complaint was the result of a three-year DA investigation that ended in 2024.

Pacioni's office reported that when they were notified of the illegal activities, Terminix representatives were "cooperative and responsive."

They've agreed to pay $3,150,000, including $1,950,000 in civil penalties, $300,000 in supplemental environmental compliance projects and $400,000 in investigative costs. Rentokil's 2025 revenues were around $7 billion.

The 2026 Golden Pine Cones

VOTE NOW!

Sign up at: https://carmelpinecone.com
(After Sept. 11, new subscribers will receive a ballot via email within 24 hours)

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 30



LOCAL LENDING. LOCAL ROOTS.

You may have seen me driving kids around in my 1954 fire truck. We may have met walking dogs on the Carmel River Trail. Maybe my face is familiar from classes together at CVAC. If we have not connected yet, I am looking forward to meeting you.

As a locally owned private equity lender, we provide private real estate loans on properties within approximately 100 miles of our community—right here in the neighborhoods we know and love.

Our office is right here in the neighborhood—near Earthbound—and our commitment is just as close to home. We're looking for new local qualified investors who believe in keeping money working in our own community.

If you're looking for an investment opportunity with a local connection and an above average return, let's talk.

OUR COMMUNITY. LOCAL LENDING.

Justin Aldi 831-920-6600
www.HCSEquity.com | justin@justinaldi.com
CA DRE# 01241216

HCS Equity



ROSALIE FERRANTE
1945-2026
A funeral service will be held for lifelong Monterey resident Rosalie Ferrante at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 2, at St. Francis Xavier Church, 1475 La Salle Ave., Seaside, with a reception to follow.

Kindly RSVP to Victor at wdworkr@hotmail.com.

COMPASSION IN ACTION
HOME CARE



YOLANDA MOYA
Certified Nursing Assistant

Services Provided:
Transportation • Medication Reminders
Meal Preparations • Companionship
Light Housekeeping • Hospice Care
Personal Assistant Needs • and more

Over 31 Years of Experience
24/7 Care • Excellent References
831-247-9646

MONTEREY BAY
EYE CENTER

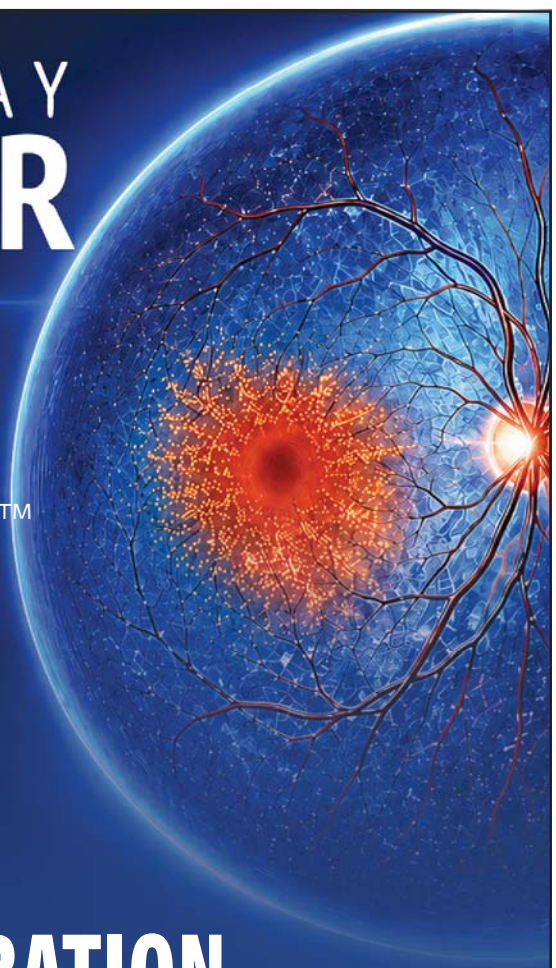
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE,
AS THE FIRST IN MONTEREY COUNTY,

VALEDA™

PHOTOBIOMODULATION

A **BREAKTHROUGH** FOR

DRY AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION



BRIGHTER VISION. BRIGHTER FUTURE.

Valeda is a non-invasive, light-based therapy designed to support the health of the retina and may help slow the progression of **dry AMD.**

- ✓ Non-invasive
- ✓ Safe & Painless
- ✓ FDA Approved

CALL TODAY
to see if treatment is an option for you.
■ Leland H. Rosenblum, M.D. ■ Anna J. Shi, M.D.

MONTEREY BAY EYE CENTER
831-372-1500
www.MontereyBayEyeCenter.com

AIRPORT

From page 1A

and a higher level of service for the carriers that offer an average of 17 daily departures and accommodate more than 650,000 passengers a year.

The airport "will be raised to a higher level of service to our airlines, which will make us attractive to our current airline customers as well as future service to different destinations," he said, as the airlines seek higher-quality, state-of-the-art facilities for their passengers.

And more people being drawn to the Peninsula means more traffic for restaurants, hotels and other businesses, he said.

"Most importantly," Pick continued, "we're going to increase the experience and quality for our residents," whether they're heading out on vacation, having loved ones come visit, or traveling for work — especially with all the new homes in Marina and Seaside broadening the local customer base.

He noted the project, which is funded by the FAA Airport Improvement Program, a low-interest federal loan, bank financing, and airport revenues and passenger user fees — but not state or local taxes — has "truly been a team effort through financing, construction, planning and collaboration with other jurisdictions."

Light and airy

Airport staff and contractors shared information with guests at eight key locations in the terminal, which has all of its basic structure in place and is seeing initial construction of interior walls. The look created by HOK Architects is light, airy and open, and is on track for platinum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification, the most widely recognized green building rating system in the world, with overhangs for passive solar lighting and temperature control, a clerestory with automatic

See **CHANGES** *next page*



PHOTO/MARY SCHLEY

With help from a colleague with an iPad, Timothy Briones of Hansel Phelps Construction uses augmented reality to show the terminal's future interior.



Today is
National Make Your
Dreams Come True Day.
We have an idea.

THE Preferred Properties GROUP

Carol Crandall Broker/Owner | 831.236.2712
carol@carolcrandall.com | CalDRE#: 01049139 | Licensed 1989



New Image by Hilary
Permanent Make-Up Artist
Need to freshen up your look?
BROWS, EYES & LIPS


Before After
If you don't look good, I don't look good

Look 10 years younger in just a couple of hours using the application of Permanent Make Up.
(831) 484-5400 | NEWIMAGEBYHILARY.COM



VOLUNTEER AT POINT SUR LIGHTHOUSE
GUIDE TOURS. PRESERVE HISTORY. INSPIRE VISITORS.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
Training for the Class of 2027 begins in January.
Interested?
Email pointsurlisa@gmail.com to learn more.

Solo Beauty
(585) 737-8600
STAY INDEPENDENT
As long as you can without asking for help
APPLYING LOTION & WASHING
HARD TO REACH SPOTS

No Twisting or bending
To Apply Lotions & Body Wash
Reaches easily over your Shoulders, Upper/Lower Back, Feet & Legs

WASH, DRY, & REUSE MITTS!
It's the **ANGLE** that people **LOVE** plus quality mitts many washings!





THINKING OF GIFT IDEAS?

Kathe D'Alfonso
Founder

GREAT FOR PEOPLE WITH:
Arthritis · MS · Parkinson's · Low Range of Motion
Recovering from Surgery · Shoulder & Back Pain
LIVING ALONE

To Order go to: SoloBeautyRoc.com
Call 855-737-8600 or scan the QR Code:
As seen in: Florida Weekly, Naples Press, Fort Lauderdale, Del Ray, Miami Living Magazine, METV, many more

Support The Pine Cone
by supporting our advertisers!



Can't Have Cats?
How about sponsoring our next ad?
Please call us at 831-200-9232 or email info@gocatrescue.org to learn more.
Adopt • Volunteer • Foster
Golden Oldies Cat Rescue
Older Cats New Beginnings
www.gocatrescue.org 831 • 200 • 9232

CHANGES

From previous page

shades and other touches.

An outdoor viewing area similar to the platform next to Woody's restaurant in the legacy terminal is being built at one end of the concourse, while a landscaped garden will be at the other. Pet-relief areas are in the works as well.

Three security lanes, up from two, will get travelers through screening more quickly, and at the other end of the journey, baggage claim will be considerably larger and will have a separate carousel for bulky items, like the many sets of golf clubs that come through the airport daily. Woody's Cockpit snack bar will move from the old building to the new one, but the Woody's adjacent to the observation deck at the old terminal will stay where it is.

More chairs

In the new building, a lounge area and the five gates will have significantly increased seating, with space for more than 400 people. A lower level includes areas for handling luggage and offices for the various airlines, airport police and others.

Long-term parking is being constructed and opened in phases, and the short-term "premium" lot is next. All told, there will be space for 440 vehicles.

Car rentals will move to a new standalone building next to the terminal and will take over what's now the upper short-term parking lot. Morello said the companies will continue using their lower parking area for washing and servicing their cars, however.

And finally, the roundabout at Olmsted and Garden roads that was required in the project's extensive environmental review is taking shape and will make arriving and departing smoother and safer.

"There is so much opportunity built into this project, including transforming travel, enhanced airline service, career development, tourism expansion and regional economic investment," Morello said.

"We look forward to seeing you all in about a year when we cut the ribbon on this thing," Pick commented.

Candidate forums set

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE RACE for Carmel's mayor and city council is pretty thin, with five candidates running, but they'll still face questions from constituents and members of the business community at two forums.

The Carmel Residents Association will hold its session Sept. 15 at the Carmel Woman's Club at 907 San Carlos St., with doors opening at 5 p.m. and the program beginning at 5:30. Pine Cone editor and publisher Paul Miller will serve as moderator.

The chamber's event will take place Sept. 22 from 6 to 9 p.m., with doors opening a half-hour prior, in the community room at the Church of the Wayfarer at 673 Lincoln St.

Viau Estate Jewelry

FINE ESTATE JEWELRY
BOUGHT AND SOLD

Serving Carmel Since 1982

831-624-5991

Mission St. Between Ocean and 7th

www.viauestatejewelry.com

HALORE

ITALIAN CRAFTSMANSHIP. TIMELESS STYLE.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S WEAR



LORO PIANA • KITON • BONTONI • CESARE ATTOLINI
KEVAN HALL • TRICOT CHIC • ARTICO • PALOMA

Carmel Plaza, Ocean Avenue & Mission Street

atkinsfineclothiers.com

CONGRATULATIONS

to Edward & Filicia Nunez, the new owners of La Piedad Tortilla Factory in Hollister!

This was a major transaction involving a successful food manufacturing business, along with the land and building — a complex deal requiring careful coordination and expertise. We worked closely with the lenders, business attorneys, escrow officers, and all parties involved to ensure a smooth and successful closing.

Complex transactions require experience.
We have the expertise to make them happen.

Whether it's a large, complex acquisition or a smaller business sale, we bring the same professionalism, attention to detail, and commitment to every transaction.

Congratulations, Edward & Filicia!

We wish you tremendous success in this exciting new chapter.



CARMEL BUSINESS SALES

OVER 45 years EXPERIENCE

DRE# 01970708

Helping Business Sellers and Buyers for over 45 years. 831-625-5581 info@CarmelBizSales.com

SPCA Monterey County
Changing Lives



Meeshka
3 years old

Greetings! I'm a beauty who loves to cuddle. You can meet me at the SPCA!

Smoke
2 years old

I'm waiting for my new family - is it yours? I can't wait to meet you. Find me at the SPCA!



SPCA for Monterey County Veterinary clinic is taking appointments for spay/neuter!

Go to www.spcamc.org to make an appointment online.

Call us at (831) 373-2631 for more information about adopting Meeshka & Smoke.

Sponsored by Friends of All Cats

www.SPCAmc.org

HAUTE SHELTER

Dream Beach House



Property Management ■ Vacation Rental Management

Small Event Properties ■ Sales

Andy Nygard | 831-915-2863
hauteshelter.com
Haute Shelter Property Management Inc.
DRE # 02065719

OFFENDERS

From page 1A

pose for pornography and other offenses.

"This is a public threat to all kids in Marina," a resident recently posted on social media. "These men should be on an island, not in any neighborhoods."

The center is about a half-mile from Marina High School.

Veterans Transition Center CEO Samuel Griffith said the organization is aware of residents' concerns and regularly meets with the Marina Police Department, city officials and others to discuss them.

"The safety of our neighbors, residents and staff is a responsibility we take seriously," Griffith told The Pine Cone.

He said the center's new leadership, which took over at the end of April, has been "working to strengthen communication with local officials and the community."

Sex offender tenants are required to wear ankle monitors that track their movements.

"Veterans Transition Center case managers check on these residents daily, and housing monitors provide additional oversight," Griffith said.

Marina Police Chief Randy Hopkins said police records showed 28 registered sex offenders at the veterans center as of Aug. 31. He said the number changes as people enter and leave the program.

Hopkins said Marina officers conduct compliance checks on offenders throughout the city, including at the transition center. They can also be subject to supervision by other law enforcement agencies.

"I want residents to know that the Marina Police Department is aware of their concerns and is actively engaged," Hopkins said Tuesday.

Molestation, rape

In addition to housing male veterans in former military residences on Hayes Circle, the transition center in November 2025 opened a 71-unit, three-story apartment complex on the same street. Called Lightfighter Village, it provides permanent homes for low-income veterans and

See **VETERANS** *next page*

MONTEREY BAY
POWER OVER PARKINSON'S
ENGAGE • MOVE • IMPROVE
Parkinson's Foundation
This program is supported by a community grant from the Parkinson's Foundation
A Knowledge is Power Presentation
What is DBS?
Join us to learn about how Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) may help manage symptoms of Parkinson's Disease, presented by Rich Bargloski, Senior Clinical Specialist with Boston Scientific.
Saturday, September 19, 2026, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
POP STUDIO
2555 Garden Road, Suite B • Monterey
Refreshments will be served.
People with Parkinson's, families, friends & care-partners are invited to join us.
poweroverparkinsonsmonterey@gmail.com
831.920.1806
Power Over Parkinson's is a 501(c)3 California nonprofit public charity, Tax ID 83-4429882
ROCK STEADY BOXING MONTEREY BAY

CLEANUP

From page 7A

continues at the government center," the county said.

On Wednesday, Pasculli announced the establishment of satellite offices for the treasurer-tax collector, clerk of the board and assessor-recorder in the east and west wings of the Monterey County District Attorney's Office building at 142 W. Alisal St.

Workers Wednesday morning continued removing items from the county building, including desk supplies, while security personnel informed people who tried to enter that it was closed and directed them to the temporary offices.

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261677

Filing type: _____
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
ST. CHARLES GUEST HOME, 707 St. Charles Way, Salinas, CA 93905.
County of Principal Place of Business: ___
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
ST. CHARLES GUEST HOME, INC, 707 St. Charles Way, Salinas, CA 93905.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corporation.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Aug. 3, 2022.
S/January Navarro, Secretary
Date: Aug. 20, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 24, 2026.
Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 923)

Sign up for your free online subscription at
HTTPS://CARMELPINECONE.COM

Floor Store USA's
FlooringAmerica®
where friends send friends™
Lic. 828211
Amanda Baker
Your Local Flooring Professional
831-583-9124 | 1666 Contra Costa St

VNA CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
flu ends with u
GET VACCINATED
FRIDAY CURBSIDE FLU CLINIC
Every Friday in October
10 AM - 2 PM
5 Lower Ragsdale, Monterey, CA
No appointment needed
Billing for:
Medicare B and Aspire members only
ccvna.com

VETERANS

From previous page

their families. The center is currently housing 167 residents.

The Megan's Law website includes the names and photographs of sex offenders living at the Marina veterans facility. All are men.

Among them is a 74-year-old who spent 14 years in prison after being convicted in 2010 of continual sexual abuse of a child and other sex crimes involving "force or fear" against a child under 14. Another is an 83-year-old who was incarcerated for 12 years for child sex crimes before being released this year.

A 40-year-old man convicted of child molestation also lives there, as does a 57-year-old man convicted of rape in 1997 and released from prison in 2025. The Megan's Law database also lists offenders' birth dates, convictions, risk assessments and other information.

Most of the ex-cons have been classified as low risk for reoffending, according to the site, a finding that appears consistent with figures from the veterans center and police.

"Following discussions with parole officials, we can confirm that none of our current residents required to register as sex offenders have been arrested for or convicted of new sexual offenses while living at the veterans center," Griffith said.

Hopkins said police data show no new criminal charges among the residents for sex offenses since at least 2023.

Outcry from the public led to policy changes at veterans center

Program discontinued

After hearing community concerns, Griffith said the Veterans Transition Center in July decided to stop admitting tenants who must register as sex offenders.

"After new leadership began, we reviewed our admissions practices, program capabilities and responsibilities to our residents and the surrounding community," he said. "We also heard and took seriously the concerns expressed by Marina residents."

Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado said transition center officials and Hopkins have informed city officials that "a lot of effort is expended to screen residents from prison before they are accepted at the transition center. They are given increased wraparound supervision and monitoring compared to other veterans living there."

In 2026, 59 veterans secured permanent housing with the center's support, Griffith said.

"Behind each of those numbers is a person moving into a home of their own and taking another step toward independence," he explained. "Our support continues beyond receiving a key, helping veterans build the skills and connections they need to maintain their housing."

Waiting list

The Marina facility has a waiting list of 49 individuals and families, which Griffith said "reflects the continued need for housing and supportive services for veterans and their families."

The veterans center is funded by federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as state taxpayers and public and private donations. In 2025, the nonprofit reported total revenue of $7.3 million and net revenue of $893,000, according to tax forms filed by the agency.

There are about 65 registered sex offenders living throughout the city of Marina, according to the Megan's Law site.

Support The Pine Cone by supporting our advertisers!

100 Years Later
Make Your Address Count.



Hardware CONCEPTS
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM IN THE HOLMAN BUILDING
542 Lighthouse Ave, Ste. 111, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831-655-8077 • www.HardwareConcepts.net

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

MONTEREY SYMPHONY

Love Letter to New York

I ♥ NY

FOREST THEATER, CARMEL
SEPTEMBER 15 and 16, 2026
6:30PM

COSTUME CONTEST AT EACH CONCERT!

Costumes strongly encouraged.
Dress as a character from one of the featured shows or a
New York landmark or icon!
Prizes for kids and adults!

BRAD HOGARTH, CONDUCTOR
TAMMY L. HALL, PIANO
MALINDA DeROUEN, VOCALS
BERNARD HOLCOMB, VOCALS

montereysymphony.org

DECK

From page 1A

with a 1,628-square-foot, two-story house, including an attached 425-square-foot garage, and adding a 750-square-foot accessory dwelling unit.

Miller submitted the design in January 2025, and the Taylors — who own a multi-billion-dollar ag company based in Salinas — got involved in the conversation that October. Planning commissioners gave their preliminary OK the following month, with some changes requested.

Between then and the commission's July hearing, McWhorter and the Taylors tried to work out their conflicts, with the Taylors going so far as to offer to buy his house for $1 million more than what he paid, just to make the project go away. McWhorter persisted, and in July, the commission OK'd the design, finding the rooftop deck, which is designed to include a hot tub, would not negatively impact the Taylors' views and privacy as much as they'd presented.

Doesn't comply

Their attorney, Krista Ostoich, filed an appeal asking the council to overturn the approval based on several allegations, including that the project doesn't qualify for an exemption to further review under the California Environmental Quality Act as replacement housing, because it could impact the Taylors' historic 113-year-old house, which belonged to Carmel's first mayor.

She also argued the design exceeds limits on square footage, site coverage and volume, and said it would violate the residential guidelines "with respect to views, air, light, privacy and flat roofs."

Councilmembers are not big fans of rooftop decks

A licensed land surveyor hired to assess the accuracy of the story poles on the McWhorter property also said the deck would obstruct their views.

"In my opinion, the impacts upon your views of Carmel Bay and Stillwater Cove will be both significant and negative," he wrote, and an appraiser who estimated the value of their home at $9.1 million said filtering or blocking views from the "main living area" on the ground floor would diminish its value by a potential $1 million to $1.25 million.

Planner Jacob Olander defended the commission's approval and recommended the council deny the Taylors' appeal.

Controlling the neighborhood

At the Aug. 31 meeting, Bruce Taylor, who bought the Camino Real residence in 2002, said he completely disagrees with the commission's conclusion that "the rooftop deck will have no impact on the neighbors."

"It changes the nature of our house and the views that we love," he said, and it's important for the community "to respect historic homes."

If people on the deck are disruptive, Miller countered, the Taylors could call the police, and he questioned the logic of letting the historicity of their home dictate development around them.

"Because their house is historic, does that mean no houses around them can change?" Miller asked. "I don't think that's correct. Just because they're there doesn't mean they can control the whole neighborhood."

He pointed out the Taylors' house looks down on the McWhorter property, not the other way around, and he said he designed the deck to afford everyone some privacy.

Former planning commissioner and Monterey County Superior Court Judge Julie Culver and her neighbor, Linda Yellich, supported the Taylors in their objections.

"The principal concern is the rooftop deck atop a state-mandated ADU — it's a substantial outdoor living area," Culver said, and it will "materially change the relationships between the subject property and the surrounding properties."

David Armanasco talked about the significance of the Taylors' home, and Kristi Reimers argued that if a project "may cause a substantial adverse impact on the historic resource," it must undergo additional environmental review — perhaps foreshadowing an argument she will make in opposition to Patrice Pastor's project next to her family's Stonehouse Terrace, which she is having added to the National Register of Historic Places.

"We have a special little city, and much of what makes it special is historic resources," she said.

Residents Ian Martin, former Mayor Ken White and Cindy Lloyd, among others, supported the appeal, while resident Graeme Robertson did so in writing.

"This decision is about more than one project. It is about protecting Carmel's identity — its privacy, scale, history and long-standing residential character," he wrote. "Rooftop entertainment decks may be common elsewhere, but they introduce elevated noise, lighting, gatherings, and activity that directly affect neighboring homes and are extremely difficult to regulate once built."

He also said the deck would "eliminate the primary beach view and substantially obstruct both primary and secondary ocean views."

No real debate

Councilmembers sympathized with the Taylors.

"I do think that the deck has adverse impacts on the neighbors," councilman Jeff Baron said, but he expressed concern about people using the California Environmental Quality Act to thwart projects.

"We have some people who talk about state overreach and then try to use CEQA to kill projects or alter projects," he said, and lowering the threshold for environmental review could "drive housing production to nothing."

Baron said views are to be shared, not preserved. "The municipal code allows

See **VIEWS** *next page*

Gentrain Society Lecture
at Monterey Peninsula College

The Violin Museum in Cremona, Italia



One of the highlights of traveling in Italia is returning to Cremona to tour the Violin Museum recognized around the world as one of the most valuable collections of violins created by the early masters of the craft, Antonio Stradivarius, and the Amati and Guarneri families. The Violin Museum has impressive displays and exhibits of the craft of violin making - selecting the right woods, carving with precision tools to make the bridge, neck, scroll, finger board, belly chin rest and ribs. There are more than thirty separate wooden parts of a violin. And then the strings. Speaker **Jack Erickson** writes international thrillers, mysteries, true crime, and romantic suspense novels. He is currently writing the Milan Thriller Series featuring the anti-terrorism police, DIGOS, at Milan's Questura (police headquarters). **Erickson** travels throughout Italia for research and sampling Italian contemporary life and culture.

September 16, 2026 · MPC LF 103 · 1:30 - 2:30pm
Open to the public; no charge or registration is required
(Parking $3.00) - www.gentrain.org



- Injectables for Skin Rejuvenation
- Dermal Fillers
- Regenerative & Biostimulation treatments.
- Exosomes & Peptides
- Hormone Optimization
- Morpheus8
- Sciton & IPL Laser

MONTEREY MD SPA
by practicing physician: Jagroop Singh MD
(831) 200-3736
Complimentary Evaluation
MONTEREY_MD_SPA
570 Munras Ave. Suite 40, Monterey | www.MontereyMDSpa.com

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church invites you to experience

CHORAL EVENSONG

A sacred contemplative service of scripture and music at day's end



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday, September 20, 2026, 4 pm
Stay afterwards for Afternoon Tea, wine, hors d'oeuvres

28005 Robinson Canyon Road
Carmel Valley
stdcv.org

VIEWS

From previous page

some view impacts," he said. "You do not have an absolute right to the view that you had when you bought the house."

Councilwoman Alissandra Dramov said the roof deck would "negatively affect and impact the privacy, light, air and views that are enjoyed by the historic Taylor residence," and therefore violates residential design guidelines calling for sensitivity to neighboring properties.

"Certainly, a large outdoor living space will impact neighbors in the ways we heard, including sound, privacy, light and potential smoke from a barbecue," she said.

Councilman Hans Buder agreed that the guidelines require designs that "organize functions on a site to preserve reasonable privacy for adjacent properties," but, unlike Baron, he advocated for more extensive evaluation of proposed remodels and new homes for potential impacts on nearby historic properties.

"Doing this analysis ferrets all of that out, so we don't have to sit up here and guess at the answer," he said.

Mayor Dale Byrne was likeminded, and the council voted unanimously to grant the appeal "with regards to the rooftop deck," while preserving all other aspects of the McWhorters' design. Councilman Bob Delves recused himself because he owns property nearby.

REMOVAL

From page 6A

Crews have removed 40,000 intact batteries, including 5,600 in the past week. The batteries were de-energized so they could be recycled.

The EPA said severely damaged batteries will be treated on site in Moss Landing before being transported for disposal at specialized facilities. Battery material and debris will be tested to determine waste classification and sent to EPA-approved businesses.

Because of the volatility of damaged lithium-ion batteries, the EPA said air monitoring, water testing, fire and smoke watch, battery temperature monitoring and other measures will be performed throughout the final phase to "immediately detect any safety risks and protect workers and the surrounding community."

The agency said it continues to take precautions to reduce the risk of another fire and coordinate with local agencies so they are informed and prepared in an emergency.

The blaze at the Vistra Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility on Highway 1 forced the evacuation of about 1,500 people in the Moss Landing area. Dozens of residents reported health problems from smoke from the fire.

Information about the cleanup effort is available on the EPA's website at epa.gov/ca/moss-landing-vistra-battery-fire.

GAVEL

From page 4A

3, 4 and 5 were assisted by the district attorney's office victim witness program manager Alma Sanchez, as well as district attorney victim advocates Mayra Sandoval and Kristin Peterson.

Court facility support dogs Norma Jeane and Armani provided the Does with much-needed support during trial testimony and throughout the trial process.

Support Pine Cone advertisers — shop locally

axiom
AGING ADVISORS
Aging in Place & Elder Care Consultation

AGING IN PLACE & ELDER CARE CONSULTATION

Guidance for Every Stage of Aging

Helping older adults and families make confident decisions about aging in place, care planning, and long-term independence.



NATALIE HARRIS GIBSON
RN, BSN, CAPS
CA BSN 642544

831-219-2948
axiomagingadvisors.com
natalie.gibson831@gmail.com

GREAT CARE BEGINS HERE

A SPRING 2026 LEAPFROG HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADE

24/7 Pediatric Services

At Natividad, our pediatricians are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year. We're the only hospital in Monterey County to have pediatric hospitalists on staff overnight.

Natividad's pediatricians cover admissions and emergency department consults for ages 0 to 17, plus all newborns. Our pediatric nursing staff is specially trained to care for children and make sure each child and their family are as comfortable as possible.



Natividad Pediatric Chief of Service
Heloisa Junqueira, MD, MSc

Natividad®
Inspiring healthy lives

(831) 755-4111 natividad.com

THERAPY

From page 5A

started Aug. 8, has scorched 25,380 acres and is 27% contained. The fires remain the two largest in the state. Officially, the cause of each fire remains under investigation.

Cal Fire reported Thursday that firefighters had reached an important milestone in the fight against the Plaskett Fire. "Firefighters have completed a continuous system of hand lines, dozer lines, roads, and other containment features around the Plaskett Fire," the state agency said.

While circumstances look promising, fire officials are being cautious.

"Fire activity has moderated," the report noted. "However, critically dry fuels remain capable of supporting additional fire activity. Evacuation orders and warnings remain in effect."

Cleary said backfiring efforts along the north edge of the fire have been successful, giving officials confidence "that the line is going to hold."

On the east and south edges of the fire, crews using heavy equipment are repairing roads damaged by the push to stop the blaze from spreading.

Highway partly closed

Farther north, Highway 1 has reopened through Big Sur Valley, and most of its shops, galleries and resorts are now open, but the highway remains closed between Kirk Creek Campground and the Willow Springs Caltrans yard.

According to fire officials, the Timber Fire "remains active with isolated heat sources continuing to hold in steep terrain," while fire suppression efforts from the air were stalled briefly Wednesday because someone deployed a drone.

"At approximately 5 p.m., air operations were stopped on the Timber Fire due to unauthorized drone flying in the no-fly zone," said Monterey County spokesperson Nick Pasculli. "It is a federal offense to fly in a Federal Aviation Administration no-fly zone."

Fire officials said they are looking forward to cooler temperatures, which are expected Friday. Despite the progress on stopping the two fires, many neighborhoods up and down the coast remain under evacuation orders or warnings.

Meanwhile, in the Palo Colorado area, Mid-Coast Fire Chief Cheryl Goetz told The Pine Cone that her community — where 57 homes burned during the Soberanes Fire in 2016 — has never been more prepared for a fire. She gave a shout-out to Rayner Marx of the Community Association of Big Sur, who led an effort to increase brush clearance. Goetz called the effort "groundbreaking work."

CENTRAL COAST SENIOR SERVICES, INC. 30 YEARS
274700016

Your goal is to stay at home. We can help.

Turn to us for more than caregiving.

- Transportation/Shopping Services
- Meal Preparation/Light Housekeeping
- 24-Hour Care and Companionship
- Bathing/Dresssing/ Grooming Assistance
- Incontinence Care
- Assistance with Cognitive Changes
- Medication Reminders
- Concierge Care
- Community Resources Assistance
- Pet Care Assistance
- Much More!



CALL US TODAY! 831-649-3363

centralcoastseniorservices.com
@centralcoastseniorservices

FREEDOM MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

FREEDOM MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Proudly providing exceptional service to Monterey County residents for 16 years!

We Offer Our Passengers:

- Through the Door Service
- Same Day Service Availability for Last-Minute Transportation Needs
- ADA-approved vehicles equipped with state-of-the-art wheelchair lifts
- Drivers trained and certified in CPR and First-Aid
- Gurney Access Available
- Aspire Health and CCAH accepted

Prompt, Courteous and Safe Non-Emergency Medical Transportation



ASK US ABOUT OUR ROUND TRIP SPECIAL RATES TO LOCAL DOCTORS APPOINTMENTS AND TO AND FROM STANFORD AND UCSF

We Service Monterey, Santa Cruz, & San Benito Counties & also travel throughout CA, NV, AZ, and OR.

Open 24/7 • 365 days a year ***All drivers have had background checks***

(831) 920-0687 **www.freedommedicaltransportation.com**

THE BEST OF AUTO, HOME & GARDEN

AILING HOUSE PEST MANAGEMENT

Family Owned & Operated

Ask about our FREE limited Termite inspections!

Schedule Your Service Now!

- Rodent Control
- General Pest Control
- Rodent Clean Up Services
- Termite Inspections
- Fumigation
- Vapor Barrier Installation

ailinghouse.com

Call us at (831) 624-8211 or TEXT (831) 402-6113

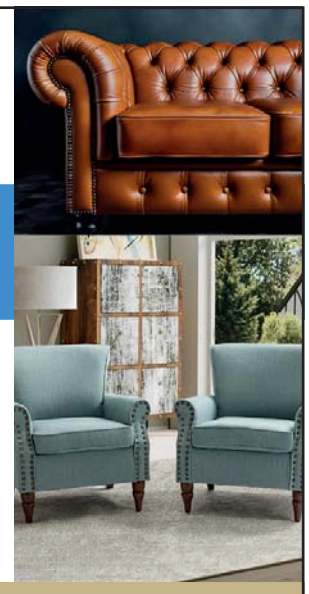
Mission St. and 8th Ave, Carmel-by-the-Sea

HENNINGSEN Machine Shop

IN NEED OF NEW UPHOLSTERY?

Is your favorite chair worn out?
Does your car seat have a rip?
Do you want to recover your family heirlooms with a material from this century?
Does your boat or motorcycle seat need to look a little better?

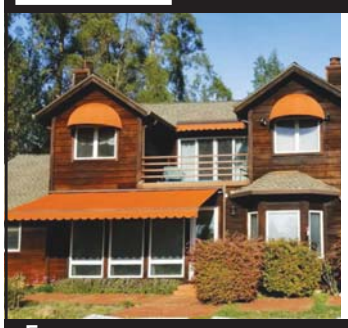
We Can Help!!



Call Scott Henningsen at 831-455-2377 • 12 Spreckels Lane, Salinas
AUTOMOBILES-TRUCKS-BOATS-CYCLES-FURNITURE

Since 1933

Acme Awning Lic. #1125642



- Awnings - Stationary/Retractable
- Recovers • Exterior Solar Screens
- Residential/Commercial
- Custom covers and shade tarps

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1933

831-372-3539
210 North Main St., Salinas www.acmeawning.us

MOUNTAIN VALLEY TREE SERVICE

EXCELLING in Tree Services

in Monterey, Salinas and the Surrounding Area

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

ISA Certified Arborist WE-15210A

831-208-2371 | www.mountainvalleytreeservice.com

Mountain Valley Tree Service | P.O. Box 3288, Salinas CA, 93912

Lic#1050857

THE BEST OF AUTO, HOME & GARDEN

Tom's SEPTIC SERVICE



WITH OVER 65 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE SEPTIC INDUSTRY

- Septic System Pumping, Maintenance, Service & Inspection
- Sewer Drain Line Clearing & Hydro-Jetting
- Grease Trap/Interceptor Service & Inspection
- Storm Drain and Culvert Hydro-Jetting & Clearing
- Fully Licensed, Bonded and Insured

We can take care of all your "dirty" work

www.tomsseptic.com

831-633-2321

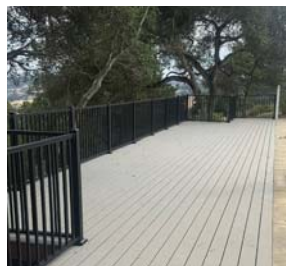
Lic.# 406512

LIC. 1058834

RIVERA & SONS

• GENERAL CONSTRUCTION •





SERVICES

- Kitchen Remodels
- Bathroom Remodels
- Additions
- ADU
- Much More.
- New Construction
- Driveways
- Fences
- Decks

Contact us at: 831-293-4446

See our work: **riveraandsonsconstruction.com**

INFO@RIVERAANDSONSCONSTRUCTION.COM

Lic. 1058834
Bonded and insured



100 Years Later
Make Your Address Count.

Hardware CONCEPTS

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM IN THE HOLMAN BUILDING

542 Lighthouse Ave, Ste. 111,
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831-655-8077
www.HardwareConcepts.net

40+ YEARS. ONE NAME. YOUR TRUST.

For over four decades, Cypress Painting & Decorating, Inc. has proudly delivered quality craftsmanship and professional service to homes and businesses throughout our community.

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL PROFESSIONAL PAINTERS

CYPRESS PAINTING & DECORATING

Proudly serving the Central Coast for 43 Years

To every customer who has supported us, trusted us, and recommended us over the years:

We Thank You.

We appreciate you and look forward to the next 40 years.

Cypress Painting & Decorating, Inc.
Quality. Craftsmanship. Trust.

CALL US FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

831-624-9018 • www.cpdpros.com

CATE ELECTRIC

License No. 218160



SERVICE • LANDSCAPE LIGHTING

REMODELS • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

ELECTRIC CAR CHARGERS

DESIGN & INSTALLATION

Michael Cate

Family owned and in Carmel since 1961

(831) 624-5361

Dolores & 7th, Carmel-by-the-Sea

2025 BEST ELECTRICIAN 17 Years!

KNOWLEDGE • SERVICE • CONVENIENCE
IS WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE MURPHY'S

Celebrating 122 Years!

Helping to Build Monterey Peninsula since 1904

STILL FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED.



Kimberly Belleci
Back Office

M.J. MURPHY LUMBER & HARDWARE

Free Delivery Anywhere in Monterey County

831-659-2291

10 West Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley Village

Mr. Sandless®

The Quick, No Sanding Solution To Beautiful Wood Floors!

Serving: Monterey Bay to Silicon Valley

- Service is Clean, Efficient and contains no harmful chemicals
- Most jobs are completed in one day
- Significant savings over traditional sanding methods
- Details and more photos at: www.MrSandless.com



Certified Green

Jim Griffith - Owner
(831) 747-7476
gmb@mrsandless.com

100% guaranteed or you don't pay

THE BEST OF AUTO, HOME & GARDEN

To advertise in this section please call

Meena Lewellen (831) 274-8655
Carmel-by-the-Sea,
Carmel Valley & Mouth of the Valley,
Pebble Beach

Jessica Caird (831) 274-8590
Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, Sand City

Jung Yi Crabbe (831) 274-8646
Real Estate, Big Sur

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Deadline: Monday, 1 p.m. • NOTICE: SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS ARE ACCEPTED ONLY BY EMAIL • Email service@carmelpinecone.com

BOAT SERVICES

USCG LICENSED CAPTAIN
Captain Services • Vessel Management • Boat Maintenance • Deliveries
Call Captain Black (808) 631-2545. TF

CASH FOR GOLD & SILVER



MONTEREY
Gold & Coin Exchange
We Buy It All!
CASH FOR GOLD & SILVER



David: (831) 521-3897
153 Country Club Gate Center
Pacific Grove | CA | 93950

COMPUTER SERVICES

OAKLEY
TECH SERVICES
Windows & Mac • Home & Office
(831) 920-7182

CONSTRUCTION/REMODEL

MONTEREY DESIGN CENTER
NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELS
FIXTURES | FINISHES | CABINETRY
Your Design + Build Team with a Showroom in the... Carmel Plaza
831.392.7788
Info@MontereyDesignCenter.com
Lic. #1076891

HENZE CONSTRUCTION
- Household Improvements
- Free Estimates & Consultations
- Family Owned Since 1994

HC
Lic./Ins. 689436 831. 330.1628

MARK PORCH CONSTRUCTION
— A True-Born Carmelite —
Design & Remodel Team
Kitchen & Bathroom Specialists
(831) 594-4137
Lic.# 704870

NICK HOVICK DESIGN
COME HOME.
Let us help re-interpret your home to welcome the person you are becoming. Design and construction sensitive to your heritage, habits & domestic hopes.
831-236-7181
Nick@HovickDesign.com
www.hovickdesign.com
Bonded and Insured. CSCL# 563787



Shop locally!

Lifestyle Enhancements By
CARIBOU CONSTRUCTION CO.
DESIGN - BUILD - REMODEL
Serving Carmel & the Entire Central Coast Since 1979
Unparalleled Customer Service - Uncommon Professional Results
A reputation built on customer satisfaction, where details matter

Custom Homes	Kitchens	Hardwood Floors	Fireplaces
Remodeling	Bathrooms	Cabinetry	Porches/Decks
Room Additions	Doors/Windows	Granite/Marble	Fences/Gates

Professional - Trustworthy - Punctual - Clean - Affordable
624-1311 FREE ESTIMATE
California State License # 385545
www.caribouconstruction.com

DRIVING SERVICE

PRIVATE DRIVER
LEXUS ES 300h SEDAN
Monterey/ Carmel/ Pebble/ Pacific Grove/Seaside
All Bay Area Airports Day or Night
SFO $185 / SJC $100 / 1 to 3 Passengers
Multiple-Hour Tours Available $50 hr.
CALL/TEXT MARK • VETERAN OWNED
(831) 200-6904

NEED A DRIVER?
I can drive for you.
Errands, appts., airports.
References available.
Laurie 831-601-4725

FENCES AND DECKS

ON-LINE FENCE
All Types & Styles
New & Repairs
Gates, Power Washing, Sealing
Call Jimmy (831) 915-3557
Lic. # 830762 **on-linefence.com**

FIREWOOD



OAK FIREWOOD
Quality, well split dry oak, delivered
831-601-9728

GARDEN • LANDSCAPE • IRRIGATION

CARMEL POINT LANDSCAPES
DESIGN, INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
Specializing in Sustainable Landscapes using Native Plants and Locally Sourced Materials
www.carmelpointlandscapes.com
Call (831) 574-9837
Contractor License #1068673 *FREE CONSULTATION*

MATIAS GARDENING
Full Tree Service • Poison Oak Removal
Garden Maintenance & Planting • Tree Pruning
Fence Construction/Repair • Hauling
20 Yrs. Experience • Excellent references
(831) 800-6520 No Lic.
OAK FIREWOOD FOR SALE • REASONABLE PRICES

ADAN'S LANDSCAPE - MAINTENANCE
Residential/Commercial
Automatic Sprinklers & Irrigation Systems
New Sod or Seed
New Fences & Repair * Retaining Walls * Hauling
Ornamental Trimming & Tree Pruning
Pavers & Stamped Concrete
General Yard Clean-up, and etc.
~ FREE ESTIMATES ~
Over 20 years exp. - References Proudly Given
Lic. # 949011 Tel: (831) 601-9225

Get your complete Pine Cone by email
Free subscriptions at www.carmelpinecone.com

GROCERY DELIVERY

BRUNO'S CARMEL MARKET & DELI
GROCERY DELIVERY MONDAY - FRIDAY
Orders taken over the phone
Call by 11am for same day delivery
Delivering to the Peninsula
831-624-3821

HANDYMAN

HONEY DO LIST?
Carpentry, Painting, Interior/Exterior, Repairs, Doors & Windows, Fences, Gates, Posts, Pavers, Retaining Walls, Siding, Shelving, Cabinets, Carpentry, Roof Debris, Plumbing/Electrical Repairs, Drywall/Paint Repairs, Gutter/Roof Cleaning. JOHN QUINN (831) 402-1638 Lic. #821763 / Bonded

HOUSE CLEANING

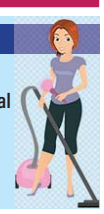
Central Coast Cleaning, LLC



Leave the details to us.
We create FREE TIME for busy people! Providing professional cleaning services for Residential, Commercial, Vacation Homes and Special Events. Proudly serving all of Monterey County for 25 years. We are Bonded and Insured.
www.centralcoastcleaning.com
FREE ESTIMATES
831.442.1965

Lily's House Cleaning
We are Ready to
Professionally Clean Your Home
Complimentary Estimates
Call the Queen of Clean
(831) 917-3937

GRACE'S CLEANING SERVICES
Excellent References
25 Years Experience • Residential-Commercial
Move In/Move Out • Organization
Email: ghernandz1975@icloud.com
831-241-4692



TWO GIRLS FROM CARMEL
SO MANY DUST BUNNIES, SO LITTLE TIME
831.626.4426
WWW.TWOGIRLSFROMCARMEL.COM

INTERIOR DESIGN

CHARLES GRUWELL DESIGN STUDIO
CHARLES GRUWELL
Design Consultant
702-524-6222
charles@cgdstudio.net
www.charlesgruwelldesign.com

LOCKSMITH

AUTO • RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
MONTEREY LOCK & KEY
LOCKSMITH • FREE ESTIMATES
Call Joe or John Cardinalli
831-375-LOCK (5625)
187 El Dorado St. - Monterey, CA

Continues on next page

Police Log: Carmel-by-the-Sea. Oct. 31



Reach the people who need your service for as little as $20 per week.
Put The Carmel Pine Cone to work for you!
DEADLINE: MONDAY 1 P.M.
Email service@carmelpinecone.com

$2 BILLION

From page 1A

a speculative or junk rating. That news is bad for everyone.

Utilities depend on borrowing to finance major projects, and higher borrowing costs are ultimately passed on to the customer. Similarly, limited borrowing power can also mean fewer capital improvements — and we want that new infrastructure.

Fewer outages

One example sits at the intersection of Del Monte Boulevard and Figueroa Street in downtown Monterey, where PG&E spent $40 million to upgrade the substation, along with other facilities around the Peninsula. The company promises the transformation will reduce power outages by 50% for more than 10,000 customers in Monterey and Pacific Grove. Anyone who ate Christmas dinner in the dark last year can attest to the importance of keeping the lights on.

PG&E and its counterparts in the state, Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric, are all government-regulated monopolies. As such, the state has a duty to make sure they remain profitable so they can provide power to Californians. But their liability after their own equipment ignites fires makes bankruptcy a real possibility.

PG&E was pushed into Chapter 11 in 2019 after its lines caused the 2018 Camp Fire, which left 85 people dead and destroyed 18,000 structures in Paradise. California established a wildfire liability fund as a result, financing the account 50-50 with funds from utility shareholders and ratepayers. But the money is expected to run out this year now that Southern California Edison's infrastructure has been named as the cause of the 2025 Eaton Fire in Los Angeles.

Wildfires are arguably the gravest threat to Californians' safety, and that includes people who live on the Monterey Peninsula. The failure on the part of Sacramento to pass a deal managing who is ultimately responsible for catastrophes left a lot of losers.

Gov. Gavin Newsom may have waited until the final months of his governorship to tackle the problem, but he still stuck out his neck and championed a very unpopular — but possibly necessary — proposal to limit utilities' liability. His plan called for prohibiting insurance companies from recouping victims' payouts from utilities and restricting financial compensation for emotional distress and smoke damage for those outside the fire lines, among other things.

'No one wants to defend a utility, but this thing won't get better on its own'

"No one wants to defend a utility, but you've got to deal with reality. This thing's not going to get better on its own," Newsom told reporters at the Capitol before the end of the session.

State lawmakers chose not to deal with it. Instead, they kicked his idea to the curb, first watering it down before killing it altogether.

There was plenty to criticize in the governor's plan, perhaps most importantly how it could impact fire insurance. California has already seen insurance companies pull out of the Golden State altogether, and as rates are also government-regulated — much like its obligation to utilities — the state is responsible for keeping insurers in business, too.

The watered-down version would have kept parts of Newsom's original proposal, specifically a portion banning Wall Street firms from trading wildfire claims. Under the state's current wildfire liability system, victims are not always first in line for the money, and they're often not paid the full claim. Those who've lost homes in fires and are desperate for cash can sell their claims to hedge funds for less than the eventual payout. Investors then reap the benefits of the difference after waiting in line for the claim to be paid in full — probably not how most ratepayers want their liability-fund dollars spent.

The governor and California's top two legislative leaders, Senate President Pro Tem Monique Limón and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, brokered the compromise, but on the final day of the session, the Assembly Democratic caucus balked, choosing instead to head home with no deal.

Special session?

Newsom has not ruled out the possibility of calling a special session, and Rivas hinted he's ready for one. Add to that PG&E holding $2 billion in cuts to infrastructure over everyone's head, and it's looking more likely lawmakers will be back in Sacramento before the start of the 2027-28 session in December.

The alternative is bracing for the loss of improvements to the grid. In addition to delaying connections to new housing, which PG&E is well within its rights to do under California Public Utilities rules, the company could also defer interconnections to other big projects. On the line are connections to wind, solar and battery projects, as well as company technology upgrades and large loads beyond 1.8 gigawatts. In plain English, this means factories, tech hubs, office buildings and data center projects could all be impacted, on top of anyone wishing to turn the lights on in a new apartment.

The next guy

Waiting until next year also leaves the problem up to the next person in the governor's mansion, something Newsom was clearly trying to avoid.

The man most likely to succeed him, Xavier Becerra, has been MIA on the issue for weeks. Consumer Watchdog President Jamie Court — who hates the power companies more than most — dubbed Becerra "the incredible missing man" in an interview with Politico about the issue.

Rather than take a stance, the former Health and Human Services secretary released a statement that says next to nothing.

"Californians deserve a system that puts victims first and delivers real support and lasting change," Becerra said. "Survivors have waited long enough — it's time to get this right."

But what is right? Becerra hasn't said, and finding the answer won't be easy. Democratic Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris, chair of the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee, has promised public hearings on the issue later this year — assuming lawmakers don't return for a special session to tackle the biggest problem they left unresolved.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Continues from previous page

MASONRY

Retaining Walls • Foundations • Fireplaces
Stone Veneer • Driveways • Patios • Pavers



MAHONEY MASONRY INC.
831.659.0363
License 493213
mahoneymasonryinc@gmail.com
www.MahoneyMasonryInc.com
www.facebook.com/MahoneyMasonryInc

MOVING

J & M MOVING AND STORAGE, INC.
We can handle all your moving and storage needs, local or nationwide. Located in new 20,000 sf Castroville warehouse. We specialize in high-value household goods. Excellent references available. MTR 0190259, MC 486132. Call Jim Stracuzzi at (831) 633-5903 or (831) 901-5867. TF

PAINTING

SURFACES
PAINTING & DECORATING, INC.
(831) 392-0441
www.surfacespainting.com
RESIDENTIAL
• Interior/Exterior Painting
• Pressure Washing
• Spray Facility
COMMERCIAL
• Waterproof Coatings
• Faux Finishes
• Venetian Plaster
LICENSE #805057

NOTICE TO READERS: In California, an unlicensed person can work on projects valued up to $1,000, provided they don't hire employees and don't require a building permit. However, any project exceeding this threshold or involving permits or the use of hired workers must be completed by a licensed contractor. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at **www2.cslb.ca.gov** or **(800) 321-CSLB (2752)** . Unlicensed individuals can advertise construction work if the total contract price is under $1,000, but the advertisement must clearly state that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board. The PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION requires household movers to include their PUC license number in their ads. Contact the PUC at **licensing@cpc.ca.gov**

PAINTING

YOUR LOCAL EXPERT FOR OVER 25 YEARS!
Brian Stock Painting
• Fast
• Professional
• Affordable
Residential • Commercial • Exteriors • Interiors
FREE ESTIMATES (831) 372-2629

PARAGON PAINTING
Quality Craftsmanship for 27 Years
Always Meticulous Preparation
Expert Interiors & Exteriors
Cabinets & Fine Finishes
Faux Finishes & Stains
Wallpaper Installation and Removal
Maintenance & Protection
Lic#1062805
831-204-8877
ParagonPainting.us FREE ESTIMATES

✓Interior/Exterior
✓Drywall Repair
✓Stain Kitchen Cabinets
✓Power Washing
✓Faux Finish
Lic. #1150319
PACIFIC WAVE PAINTING
831.915.9405
www.pacificwavepainting.com

PEST CONTROL

RUSSELL AURIA
PEST CONTROL SERVICES
831/583-9155 RAPCS@RAPCS.NET
RODENTS
Rodent Inspection - Exclusion - Trapping - Repellents
PEST CONTROL
Residential - Commercial - Industrial
Ants - Carpenter Ants - Spiders
Pantry and Fabric Pest
TREES & ORNAMENTALS
Pest & Disease Control
Foliar, Soil, Systemic & Tree Injection Treatments
PLANT & TREE HEALTH
Organic Plant & Soil Products for Your Landscape
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT
Weed & Poison Oak Control
QUALITY WORK WITH 44 PLUS YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Insured and Bonded Since 1999
Structural Licence PR 7978 DPR Reg. 41398

PLUMBING

BRETT'S PLUMBING
Service, repairs, installation
VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
Specializing in: Radiant Floor Heating
Whole House Water Filtration
Sewer Scope Inspections • Reverse Osmosis
(831) 646-2933
Lic. No. 705164

PLUMBING

PRESTON'S PLUMBING & HEATING
Lic# 710630
831-394-5122
831-402-9700
prestonsph55@gmail.com
Repair and Replacement:
Water heaters (tankless and tank type), furnaces, wall heaters, garbage disposals, faucets & more

ROOF & GUTTER CLEANING

GUTTER & ROOF CLEANING



MAKE SURE YOU CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS BEFORE THE STORM
Free estimates
CALL OR TEXT (831) 402 6729
Licensed and Insured Lic.#1013672

ROOFING

DORITY ROOFING
SOLAR
Roofing & Solar Perfected
(831) 375-8158
www.dorityroofing.com
Lic. #728609

www.carmelpinecone.com

831.394.8581
ROSS ROOFING AND SOLAR
73 YEARS SERVING YOUR ROOFING NEEDS
Roof and ground mount systems
831-394-8581
BBB ROSSROOFING1950.COM

TREE SERVICE

John Ley Tree Service, LLC
CA Lic.# 1118155
❒ Tree Trimming & Removal
❒ Stump Grinding & Removal
❒ Fire Prevention Clearing
❒ Emergency Tree Services
❒ Cabling & Bracing
CALL NOW FOR FREE ESTIMATE
(831) 373-6332
JLeyTree@gmail.com

IVERSON'S TREE SERVICE & STUMP REMOVAL
Complete Tree Service
Fully Insured
Lic. # 677370
Call (831) 625-5743

WINDOW CLEANING

CYPRESS WINDOW CLEANING
Serving Monterey County since 2010
• House washing
• Window cleaning
• Solar panel washing
• Gutter cleaning
• Pressure washing
FREE ESTIMATES. CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL
cypresswindowcleaning@yahoo.com
(831) 402-6729

WORKSHOPS

BREAKTHROUGH
MEN'S COMMUNITY
Wisdom Circle
FREE Online Men's Group every Wednesday
Welcome. Impact. Support. Witness. Connection.
This is what you'll find at the wisdom circle.
No obligation, no pressure, just listening.
Visit: breakthroughformen.org/wisdom-circle
39 years of giving men the tools and resources they need to thrive

How does a high schooler play Spyglass? Very well, thank you.





PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

Junior Candy Liu (left), a two-time All-Gabilan Division pick, is the top player on a young but veteran Santa Catalina squad. Stevenson's No. 1 player, senior Lucinda Wu (right), watches teammate Emma Mao, a junior, read a putt during a match against Pacific Grove at Spyglass Hill.

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

UNLESS YOU carry a single-digit handicap, don't expect to walk down a hallway at a local high school without passing a teenage girl who can rout you at golf.

Despite bidding farewell to Ashley Gettleman and Coco He, who left to play college golf, and losing exceptional junior-to-be Isabella Sun to a move, the Stevenson Pirates expect to compete once again with the best teams in the Central Coast Section and Northern California, hoping to qualify their entire squad for another state tournament.

Santa Catalina returns four of six starters from its strongest squad in years — fifth place at CCS and third in the Pacific Coast Athletic League's postseason Gabilan Division tournament. The Cougars, who went 9-3 in dual meets, anticipate a frenzied four-player competition for the last two varsity spots.

Carmel, traditionally the PCAL's second-best team, is renovating its lineup around three returning letterwinners after graduating four of its top five players from 2026, notably No. 1 Megan Ikemiya, now at Hawaii Pacific, and No. 2 Sydney Ozel, who plays at Chico State.

Recipes for success

There are at least two reasons for the ongoing success at local schools.

"The term I was thinking about this morning was 'homegrown talent.' Four of our top six golfers grew up on the Peninsula, with the benefit of some really good local teaching professionals and a strong junior golf program," said Catalina coach Bill Bodensteiner.

The other advantage, most evident at Stevenson, is that gifted golfers often come from faraway lands for the opportunity to play on the Monterey Peninsula's famous courses.

"At Stevenson, we naturally attract golf talent, so I typically have a lot of depth on my roster," said Pirates coach Chris Mills, whose girls squad placed third at state last fall after a fourth-place finish in 2024. "Obviously, the boys' side is pretty impressive, too."

Indeed, the Stevenson boys, coached by Justin Bates, won their second consecutive state golf championship in the spring.

Spyglass Hill, known worldwide, is Stevenson's home turf. The state tournament has often been held at Poppy Hills and Monterey Peninsula Country Club — all located in Pebble Beach and venues for the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am over the years.

Carmel plays its matches at the pristine and picturesque Quail. Catalina's home is the historic Del Monte Golf Course. Laguna Seca Golf Ranch has hosted the CCS Championships for the past several years.

The impact? Local high schools don't have to recruit golf talent — they only need to unlock the front door.

Reloading at Stevenson

Mills acknowledges the impact of losing Gettleman, who was runner-up at PCALs and CCS, 16th at NorCals, fourth at state, along with He, a varsity stalwart since her freshman year, and Sun, who was third at PCALs, 19th at CCS and 26th at state. But the coach sees a roster overflowing with promise. Gettleman plays at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, while He is on the team at Grinnell College in Iowa.

"Those are big shoes to fill, but the potential definitely is there," Mills said.

His list of stellar varsity veterans is topped by senior Lucinda Wu, who got better as the stakes got higher. Wu, the league medalist, placed 12th at CCS, eighth at NorCals and fifth at state.

"She's steady and consistent, tee to green, with an excellent short game," Mills said. "And she can putt with the best."

Allison Chan, a left-handed junior, took fourth in the league, 21st at CCS, 20th at NorCal, and 32nd at state last year, and her coach expects even more this season.

"Right now, her swing is the best I've ever seen it. She looks confident, and she's got the game to back it up," he said.

The third returning starter, Melinda Ma, was 25th at CCS as a freshman, and Mills believes her exceptional work ethic is likely to pay dividends.

"Melinda is dedicated and determined and works as hard as any athlete I've ever seen — she's in the gym every morning," the coach said. "She puts in a lot of time

See **SPORTS** *next page*

PENINSULA psts SEPTIC TANK SERVICE
Celebrating 62 Years

PUMPING AND DRAIN CLEANING SERVICES:

- SEPTIC SYSTEMS PUMPED, SERVICED, INSPECTED, REPAIRED & INSTALLED
- GREASE TRAP PUMPING & MAINTENANCE
- PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS FOR REMODELS / REAL ESTATE INSPECTIONS
- VIDEO INSPECTION OF SEWER LATERALS
- SEWER AND STORM DRAINS CLEARED
- HYDRO-JETTING SEWER, STORM & GREASE TRAP LINES
- SUMP PUMPS SERVICED AND REPAIRED
- EMERGENCY PUMPING SERVICES AVAILABLE ON SATURDAY



$25 OFF ALL SERVICES
*Cannot be combined with any other discounts
Senior, military & 1st responder discounts available
EXPIRES 9-30-26 | COUPON VALID ONE-TIME

MONTEREY COUNTY
831-659-2465
73 W. Carmel Valley Rd. Unit #28, Carmel Valley, 93924
www.psts.net
CSLB # 494738 | Commercial General Liability Ins. | Bonded

CARMEL VALLEY TRAIL & SADDLE CLUB
Est. 1956

70TH Anniversary Celebration

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

★ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026 | 8-4 ★

8–11 AM RANCHER'S CHOICE



10 AM–1:30 PM SILENT AUCTION



11–11:30 AM DRESSAGE DEMO



11 AM–1 PM DESSERT AUCTION



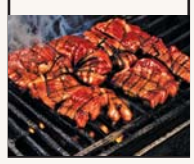
11:30 AM–12 PM DRIVING DEMO



11 AM–2 PM GAMES ON LAWN



12–2 PM BBQ LUNCH



12–2 PM BUBBA PICKENS LIVE



2–3:30 PM LINE DANCING with Michael Wong



A DAY OF HORSES AND HERITAGE

★ $70 adults / $35 kids
★ Rancher's Choice $100 / $65 youth per entry
★ Follow the QR code to purchase and register for the Rancher's Choice.
★ Tickets also available at our local Murphy's Lumber & Jerome's Market in Carmel Valley!



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • EVERYONE WELCOME!

Concessions • Beer & Wine • Vendors • Fun for All Ages

TICKETS AT TRAILANDSADDLE.CLUB OR SCAN THE QR CODE

CARMEL VALLEY TRAIL & SADDLE CLUB
85 EAST GARZAS, CARMEL VALLEY

Thank You to our members, sponsors & volunteers for a wonderful year!

SPORTS

From previous page

on the putting green and works a lot on her short game. I expect her to be solidly in the middle of our lineup."

The list of contenders for the starting lineup includes:

■ Junior Leah Homsy (a downhill skier from the Lake Tahoe/Truckee area), who opened eyes with a 1-under-par round in her team tryout at Laguna Seca,

■ Sophomore Katherine Chen, an athletic transfer who will become eligible in October,

■ Freshmen Carmel Sun and Cassie Sun (not related), sophomore Gabriella Jackson, juniors Samantha Mills, Emma Mao, Charice Thane, Shari Necherise and Queena Li, and senior Olivia Huang.

"Anybody in that group looks capable of getting into my top six for the postseason," Mills said. "I'm seeing a highly contested battle for those fifth and sixth spots."





(Far left) Allison Chan, Stevenson's No. 2 player (with cap), confers with Melinda Ma, No. 3 on a deep, competitive varsity ladder. (Left) Ellie Williams, Carmel's No. 3 player last fall, moves up to the No. 1 spot for the 2026 Padres in

PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

Catalina returns top four

Bodensteiner, Catalina's head coach, welcomes the return of his top four players from 2025, a list headed by juniors Candy Liu and Anika Minami and sophomores Helen Xiao and Allison Darmawan — all extensively battle-tested after playing in the Cougars' postseason tournaments.

Liu, a native of Beijing, earned All-Gabilan honors in each of her two seasons, placing ninth in the Gabilan Championships, fifth at CCS, 11th at NorCals, and 25th at state.

"Candy is a national tournament player, competing against some of the best young players in the world, and she's coming off an incredible high school season," Bodensteiner said. "She's a consistent ball striker who drives well, has a great short game, and putts well. She's also one of the most dedicated and disciplined players I've seen."

Minami, a second-team All-Gabilan pick twice in a row, is a homegrown talent from Corral de Tierra who plays tournaments on the Northern California junior golf circuit.

"I envision a really strong season for Anika, in part because of the maturity she's gained," her coach said. "I think that growth has changed the way she's going to play golf this season."

Bodensteiner senses greater comfort in Xiao, a second-year boarding student who has a picturesque swing and solid overall game.

Darmawan, a Carmel Valley product, got CCS tournament experience in her freshman season. She has a deft touch around the greens and putts well, said the coach.

Players likely to compete for starting-lineup status include Santa Catalina Middle School graduates Emma Trull and Neko Bernett-Jenkins, both freshmen, sophomore Helen Zhao, and Samantha Chun, the only senior on the roster.

Vets, young blood mix at CHS

Carmel coach Ross Kroeker will lean on the senior leadership of Ellie Williams, who steps into the top spot on the six-player varsity ladder after playing at No. 3 a year ago.

"Ellie is our team captain, and she really has embraced her role as our team leader," he said of Williams, who was medalist at the Padres' second dual meet of the year against Monte Vista Christian.

Varsity veterans Chloe Peelman, a senior, and Addison Mendoza, a junior, are filling the No. 2 and No. 3 spots in a lineup that features four promising freshmen in the scramble for the other three starting spots. Bella Torres fills the fourth position, with fellow ninth-graders Liah Armstrong, Samantha Fogg and Presley Sardina competing for playing time.

"All of those freshmen are really good athletes," said Kroeker, a longtime instructor at the Pebble Beach Golf Academy.

"I'm excited to help them develop their skills and improve throughout the season," he added.

Juniors Georgia Alexakos and Sophie Canan, both team managers, complete the varsity roster.

Tournament plans

In addition to their dual-meet schedules in the PCAL Gabilan Division, all three schools have 18-hole tournaments on their agendas.

Carmel and Stevenson will be part of a large, competitive field of schools entered in Wednesday's Helen Lengfeld Memorial Tournament at The Villages Golf Club in San Jose.

Catalina and Stevenson will play Sept. 28 in another high-level tournament, the Cowboy Fall Invitational at Crazy Horse Ranch Golf Course in Salinas.

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



VALLEY HILLS NURSERY

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

THE BIG ANNUAL SALE

SEPTEMBER 4TH - 20TH

20% OFF ALL PLANTS, TOOLS & DRY GOODS

50% OFF DECIDUOUS FRUIT TREES & ROSES

75% OFF SELECT PLANTS & ITEMS

7440 CARMEL VALLEY ROAD

WWW.VHNURSERY.COM

831.624.3482

Editorial

Still no traffic lights

WITH THE advent of street numbers, a remarkable tradition in Carmel comes to an end. But this town isn't the only place where modernity has taken a long time to take root, and there are good reasons. Like their counterparts in many small communities, Carmelites cherish their history, and the council's unanimous vote in October 2025 to assign house numbers simply marked the point at which convenience and safety outweighed tradition for a majority of residents and officials.

These kinds of debates tend to flare up when new technology — 911, GPS or online shopping — or a demographic shift, such as an aging population, makes the old system visibly inconvenient.

West Virginia is a prime example. According to The Guardian, until the late 1990s, most people outside West Virginia's cities had no street address. Mail went to "Rural Route 1, Box 47" or something similar. Directions were given using landmarks, such as "the white church," "the old schoolhouse," "the dumpster painted like a cow" or "the second driveway after the wide turn." A firefighter in the tiny town of Northfork described a common 911 tactic, the newspaper reported: Tell the caller to listen for the siren and say whether it was getting "hotter" or "colder" as the truck searched the hollows.

In 1999, after cellular giant Verizon agreed to contribute $15 million to a statewide mapping and addressing program as part of a regulatory settlement, the West Virginia Legislature created its Statewide Addressing and Mapping Board in 2001. The goal was to assign "city-type" addresses so 911 dispatchers could pinpoint locations instead of relying on vague rural-route numbers.

West Virginia's effort to give rural areas official street names and house numbers was one of the largest and most contentious addressing projects in the United States. It grew out of the same practical problem Carmel faced — emergency responders and delivery drivers could not reliably find houses — but it played out across an entire rural state with thousands of unnamed hollows, ridges and dirt tracks.

Many residents saw the change as unnecessary and disruptive. A common objection was that "everyone already knows where everyone lives." Others objected to changing historical or family road names, as well as the hassle and cost of reprinting checks, updating bank records, drivers licenses and notifying relatives. Still others said numbered streets would make rural life feel more urban or anonymous.

County addressing coordinators reported that public meetings often became heated. One coordinator said that when neighbors could not agree on a name, the fallback threat was "Chrysanthemum." Some communities were allowed to choose their own names, which produced colorful results such as Crunchy Granola Road. Others fought to keep traditional local names, including the notorious Booger Hollow in Clay County, a place already infamous in state folklore for a string of early 20th-century murders, according to The Atlantic.

A local West Virginia television station noted that opinions were so divided, counties used different methods. Some pulled names from local history books or even Scrabble websites. Others simply asked residents. The project eventually assigned hundreds of thousands of addresses, but progress was uneven. By 2013, many rural residents still lacked official numbers. Some counties were completing or updating their systems well into the 2020s, and some residents ignored their new addresses years after they were assigned. 911 officials continued to plead with people to use the new numbers because old addresses caused delays.

According to media reports, the resistance never fully disappeared. Even after official addresses existed, some West Virginians continued using the old landmark-style directions or former rural-route numbers. The project succeeded in putting most of the state on a map that 911 and GPS systems could use, but it never completely erased the older, more personal way of knowing a place.

One big difference between West Virginia and Carmel is that opposition to standardized addresses here has become practically nonexistent. Sure, things got heated in the past, but even the most vocal opponents came around after a citizen-led address working group spent months gathering data, holding workshops and addressing specific fears. Eventually, even the most die-hard opponents changed their minds. On top of that, the city's implementation has been flawless, which brings us to the present moment of peaceful agreement. Street numbers are here, and everybody seems happy, perhaps because many traditions — such as no traffic lights and no mail delivery — remain intact.

Farewell to the era of "Santa Lucia 3 NE of Mission." Its forwarding address is the history books.

BEST of BATES



"You're asking me how to get to Porta Bella? My memory went out when Doc Staniford's Drug Store folded."

Letters to the Editor

Taxing billionaires

Dear Editor,

Of course, Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are correct that billionaires should not exist. But since they do, they should at least pay a reasonable amount of taxes. They may or may not have earned their wealth through ingenuity and hard work, but they would not have gotten their wealth without relying on the country's infrastructure and the help of countless poorly paid workers.

Earned income bears a top tax rate of about 50% between the IRS and California. But investment appreciation, the bulk of billionaires' increase in wealth, is not taxed at all until disposition, and then at much lower capital gains rates. And billionaires often avoid even that tax by financing their living expenses by borrowing against their holdings, and by other clever planning devices that minimize their eventual estate tax.

The wealth gap is wider than at any time since the Gilded Age in the late 19th century. The top 1% of the U.S. population owns nearly 32% of all wealth, and according to one source, the top 12 billionaires had a combined wealth of $2.7 trillion as of the beginning of 2026.

A billion equals one thousand million. How can anyone suggest that a 5% one-time tax will devastate people with that kind of wealth? It is less than what they ought to be able to earn on their investments in one year.

It is possible that passage of Prop. 40 will impact future California tax revenue. Instead, Congress ought to impose a federal wealth tax, perhaps at 3% annually, which might equate to about 50% of the annual appreciation and thus equal the top rate on earned income. And the federal government should be obliged to return a hefty portion of the wealth tax to the states where the billionaires reside.

Mads Bjerre,
Carmel

The city's spending

Dear Editor,

Chuck MacKenzie's letter in a recent Pine Cone issue asserted support for addressing Carmel's deferred maintenance challenge, yet offered some good questions on upcoming tax initiatives advanced unanimously by our city council.

I thought to provide some answers gleaned from my experience working with members of the financial stewardship committee.

Chuck asked about addressing expenditures first and wondered why these two specific tax initiatives were put forth.

Regarding expenditures, the council has been aggressive in tackling the "spend." Review the budgets this council has passed. Just prior to Dale Byrne's term, the city was spending 99-plus percent of revenues on operating expenses and borrowing from reserves for infrastructure

See **LETTERS** *page 29A*

■ **Publisher** ..... Paul Miller
■ **Production/Sales Manager** ..... Jackie Miller
■ **Office Manager** ..... Irma Garcia
■ **Reporters** ..... Mary Schley, Chris Counts
..... Kelly Nix, Lily Patterson
■ **Features Editor** ..... Elaine Hesser
■ **Editorial Layout** ..... Emilie Ruiz
■ **Advertising Sales** ..... **Real Estate, Big Sur** - Jung Yi (274-8646)
Carmel-by-the-Sea, Carmel Valley, Carmel & Pebble Beach
..... Meena Lewellen (274-8655)
Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, Sand City ..... Jessica Caird (274-8590)
■ **Real estate classifieds** ..... Vanessa Jimenez (274-8652)
■ **Legal Notices** ..... Irma Garcia (274-8645)
■ **Ad Design** ..... Vanessa Jimenez (274-8652), Sharron Smith (274-2767)
■ **Ad Design & Obituaries** ..... Anne Papineau (274-8654)
■ **Office Assistant** ..... Alex Nicholson (274-8593)
■ **Circulation Manager** ..... Scott MacDonald (261-6110)
■ For complete contact info: https://carmelpinecone.com/contact.html

The Carmel Pine Cone
https://carmelpinecone.com

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. 112 No. 37 • September 11, 2026

©Copyright 2026 by Carmel Communications, Inc.
A California Corporation

Address: 734 Lighthouse Ave.,
Pacific Grove CA 93950

Telephone: (831) 274-8593

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

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

The Army's values drew him in and then became a way of life

JOE BASSANI sits at the edge of the pool at Carmel Valley Athletic Club and adjusts his goggles before slipping into the water and pulling hard into his first stroke.

The 63-year-old personal fitness trainer began doing triathlons at 59 and has completed one Ironman and eight half-Ironman races. Yet he has been through decidedly more grueling tests than the renowned swim-bike-run competition.



PHOTO/COURTESY JOE BASSANI

Triathlete and retired Army aviator Joe Bassani has run tough races, but none was as tough as getting through the Pentagon on 9/11.

The Pacific Grove resident, a native of Springfield, Mass., was 17 when he enlisted in the Army, finding an appeal in its values of teamwork and serving the American people.

He took advantage of a program that allowed active-duty enlisted soldiers to earn college degrees and become commissioned officers, but turned down a scholarship because he didn't want the additional service obligation. Bassani paid his own way and earned his bachelor's degree in English literature from Western New England College in Springfield.

Don't unpack

Commissioned in 1984 as a Distinguished Military Graduate of the ROTC program at the University of Massachusetts, he went on to spend 28 years in the Army.

"The majority of my work was in aviation," Bassani said. "An aviator in the Army is a helicopter pilot. My completion of the officer basic course was followed by flight school, and I graduated in 1985."

Bassani reported to his first duty station at Fort Hood, Texas, and was told not to unpack. He was headed to Central America.

"I became an executive officer, second in command of a flight detachment in El Salvador, one of 55 American advisors, just a month out of flight school, during the war," he said, referring to U.S. military actions in Central America during that era.

He called it a "baptism under fire," adding, "I didn't know what I didn't know. But I learned quickly that a soldier is only as strong as the weakest member of our team."

Back at Fort Hood, Bassani resumed his peacetime Army career and continued his training. "The more you sweat in training," he said, "the less you bleed in combat. I became a zealot about training and preparation for war, which meant our equipment was ready and our soldiers were training hard."

Bassani assumed command of the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade and was a senior Army aviator, rated on the UH-60 Black Hawk and AH-64 Apache, among other aircraft, becoming one of the most experienced and valuable soldiers in the Army's aviation corps.

Along the way, he had earned a master's in communication and rhetoric from the University of Oklahoma.

'A plane hit the WTC'

Nothing could have prepared him for Sept. 11, 2001. "I'd gone to the National Defense University to become a strategist and then served as aide to Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Jack Keane from 1999 to 2002. I was in the Pentagon briefing the general when one of our enlisted administrative personnel came in and said, 'Sir, you need to turn on the television.' A plane had hit the World Trade Center."

Bassani and the general were making phone calls when a plane crashed into the Pentagon 500 yards down the hallway. The walls shook, alarms went off, and the lights went out.

They threaded their way among people running to evacuate amid thick dark smoke as they made their way to the Army Operations Center in the basement.

"I haven't told this story to too many people," Bassani reflected. "It took me a long time to really talk about this. When I looked into the corridor, it was horrific. There was fire, smoke, pieces of airplane — and people. I'd been to war a couple of times, but I'd never experienced anything like this. And nobody knew what was coming next."

He stayed in the operations center for hours. "I don't remember when I was finally able to contact my family," Bassani said. "My wife went to pick up our kids, 6, 7 and 12, and had to drive by the scene. Our kids, freaking out, knew where I worked."

Bassani and Keane flew to Ground Zero, where Army personnel were engaged

See **LIVES** *next page*

Great Lives

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

The man, the mud, the mustache

ONCE UPON a time, in the 1960s, there was a muddy little boy who happily evolved into a full-grown, muddy man.

Today, he wears a big, furry handlebar mustache, a perpetual smile and a spattering of dried earth on his pants.

"There was a time when I'd be wearing a lot more clay than this, but I got better at that part," said Ray Anderson, a 70-year-old Carmel Valley resident who spends most of his spare moments inside a sun-bathed ceramics studio, surrounded by potter's wheels, glazes, an electric kiln and 25-pound bags of potential and possibilities.

When he opens one up and squeezes the contents onto his potter's wheel, magic happens.

Open Studios tour

"Centering the clay on my wheel is, for me, the most enjoyable part of ceramics, because a big part of my life revolves around centering," said Anderson, a practitioner of Zen Buddhism whose business card says "Centered in Carmel."

"When the clay becomes centered, whatever else I was thinking about suddenly is gone. From there, it's all about the feel of the clay," he said.

Anderson and fellow ceramic artist Sally Russell, a 20-year family friend, will show their wares Saturday and Sunday, and again the following weekend, Sept. 19-20, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., during the 2026 Open Studios Art Tour.

They will also demonstrate their techniques each day of the tour at the Sally Russell Studio, in Sunset Center's Studio 17, part of a cottage a few strides south of the main building. From San Carlos Street, turn east onto 10th Avenue, then left into Sunset Center's lower parking lot.

The annual self-guided exhibition, sponsored by the Arts Council for Monterey County, will feature the works of about 100 local artists at their own locations. Visit arts4mc.org/open-studios-art-tour for addresses of every venue and additional information.

Inhaling inspiration

Anderson frequently breaks up his tactile sessions with strolls along the ocean, inhaling inspiration that, in recent weeks, has seeped into the glazes he uses to create a luminous new series of bowls in varying shades of blue.

"The pigments are in the glazes," said the artist, who brushes or pours multiple layers on his pots to manipulate the hues and effects.

"I'll start with one glaze, then layer others on top, some a little thicker so I can get it to run," Anderson explained. "Glazes that flow downward were an accident at first — then the mistake became a process."

Dirty hands and muddy clothes became part of his lifestyle when he was a child in Redwood City, where he remembers getting up early to watch cartoons, then romping outdoors. His interest in ceramics wasn't far behind.

"I was about 7 when I made my first pot," he said. "Then I remember walking down Ocean Avenue in Carmel with my mom when I was 9 or 10, seeing all the shops and galleries, and saying, 'I want to be an artist and live in Carmel someday.'"

Full-time painter

"I also enjoyed going to the de Young Museum in San Francisco when I was really young, looking at all the paintings. I've always loved and respected painters but never had a talent for that kind of art," said Anderson, who makes a good living with a brush anyway as a full-time painting contractor and partner at Bay Painting Pro Finish Inc. in Carmel Valley.

As Anderson approached his teens, he would sweep the floors at his grandfather's San Francisco print shop, which occasionally became an eye-opening experience.

"My grandfather printed rock 'n' roll posters for the historic Fillmore and Avalon music venues," he recalled. "A limo would pull up, the door would open, the Grateful Dead would step out onto the sidewalk in a huge cloud

See **ARTIST** *page 30A*

Carmel's Artists

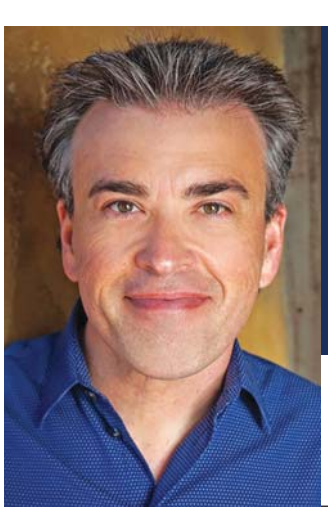
By DENNIS TAYLOR



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Carmel ceramicist Ray Anderson, part of this year's Open Studios Tour, still loves "playing in mud," his childhood passion.

Don't miss "Scenic Views" by Jerry Gervase — every week in the Real Estate Section.



ADAM MONIZ
RESULTS FOR CARMEL

Assisting Sellers
with Real Estate Sales

Adam Moniz, J.D., LL.M.
Call/Text 831.601.3320
AdamMoniz.com
Real Estate Salesperson DRE# 01885594

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY





LIVES

From previous page

in the search-and-rescue effort. Since he couldn’t attend all the funerals of the officers and civilians who were killed, Keane asked Bassani to select 10 of each and said they would attend their services and visit their homes to share what they understood about the attack and its aftermath.

“If people asked, we told them everything we knew about what had happened. It was heartbreaking to sit there with family members and their kids. A command sergeant major had just retired after 30 years of service. His wife, still working as a civilian at the Pentagon, had been incinerated. They had four kids.”

Bassani continued, “He said, ‘I always imagined this could happen to me. I never imagined it could happen to my wife.’ This broke my heart and has haunted me for years. And it’s only one of so many stories and so much I heard and saw.”

There is a reason we don’t go to war easily, Bassani noted. “Sometimes we forget the toll. You come out of this understanding that the opposite of fear is anger. It kept us upright.”

Strategic move

Ten years later, after completing a master’s degree in strategy and joint operational planning through the Joint Advanced Warfighting School at the National Defense University in Norfolk, Va., Bassani retired from military service and became a banker.

“I had done the Army my whole adult life and needed to do something different,” he said. “I was 49 and not ready to retire, but I needed to expand my mind in a different direction. I started networking and ended up meeting with the president of a commercial bank at a cigar bar in the Carnegie Club in New York. We started talking, and he asked for my resume.”

Bassani was hired as vice president of operations for the bank and sent to the DART school (the Direct Action and Research Training Center) in Virginia, which trains community leaders and professional organizers and, Bassani said, taught him everything he knows about business and banking.

After a couple of years in mergers and acquisitions, Bassani came to California to work with a consulting firm before leaving to start his own company, dedicated to coaching CEOs and senior executives of Fortune 500 companies.

Until Covid-19 shut everything down.

Defining success

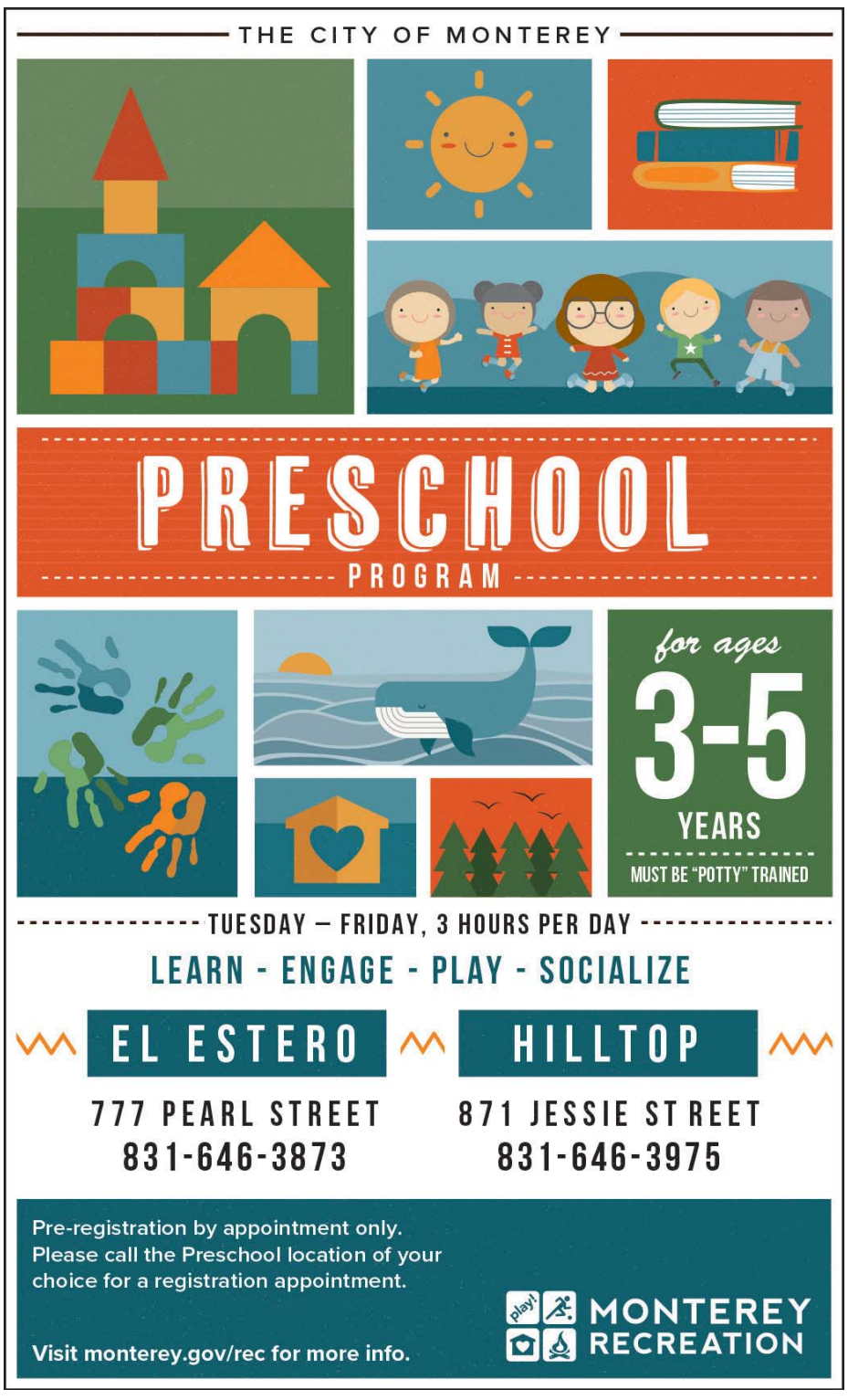
Bassani used that time to earn his 100-ton master ship captain’s license, take his 50-footer to the Caribbean and teach sailing. Ultimately, he donated his boat to a nonprofit that takes wounded veterans out sailing. Sometimes he still captains for them.

Bassani continued to work on his own healing by focusing on his health and fitness. He quit smoking, drinking and working. He started studying the Stoics and became a Buddhist. He got certified by the National Academy of Sports Medicine as a fitness trainer and nutritionist and turned his attention to coaching others on mobility and wellness. He also began his triathlon career.

“I completed the Harvard Medical School certificate program in nutrition and wellness coaching and started working at the Monterey Sports Center as a fitness trainer. I have transformed my life with the benefits of health and fitness.

“You never want to get scared of life, but you don’t want to die sitting on the couch. If I die running, that will be a success story,” he said.

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





FEEDBACK

From page 3A

Carmel Residents Association board member Nancy Twomey wants someone who is good at overseeing necessary change, and lifelong resident Cindy Lloyd said the person should be "open and receptive" and endowed with a good sense of humor.

"Because you really need one around here," she said.

And patience. Ahlborn remarked that Carmelites are "very good at talking about what we need — extensively, over long periods," so they need a city administrator who has demonstrated experience in setting benchmarks and hitting them.

That skill is critical for dealing with the large worklist handed down by the council, too. With the goal of addressing $100 million worth of deferred maintenance over a 10-year period, and a chronic tendency to adopt yearly capital improvement plans that contain more projects than can be accomplished, managing workload and expectations can be particularly challenging.

"We need to start coming up with actual solutions," said resident Tasha Witt, after ticking off a list of issues that included parking, traffic, road conditions and other problems.

Strong personalities

"Another challenge is the town's strong personalities. Since we have a lot of people who are passionate about Carmel, we also get a lot of passionate arguments," commented resident and business owner Kristi Reimers, who said she'd like the top manager to address them by citing the general plan, not taking sides.

And while a few are quite vocal, "the majority of stakeholders in Carmel will wind up being fairly silent," Ahlborn said, so it's important to keep in mind that the minority doesn't necessarily represent the views of the many.

"It's important to get the person who can develop the team and lead the team," CRA board member Tim Twomey said, while being efficient, since projects tend to "get stalled on the implementation side." He'd also like to see the city administrator live in the city, especially since most employees do not.

Hardy recommended warning the candidates about expectations. "We have high expectations," she said. "It can be pretty overwhelming when you hear all the things we expect of a city administrator."

Brown said much of the feedback delivered at the session coincides with what she's heard from councilmembers, and she wrapped up by sharing a bit about the process and timeline, including plans to conduct the first round of interviews via Zoom, which makes participating easier for candidates, and the goal of having someone in place before the end of the year.

She reiterated her guarantees, which include undertaking a new recruitment effort if the winning candidate does not work out.

"We are very actively involved all the way through the acquisition process," she said.

With the council's approval of the brochure, Brown said she was planning to kick off the recruitment effort Wednesday afternoon or Thursday. The job posting will close Oct. 12, with a closed-session discussion of the short-listers Oct. 27. Interviews will follow in November.

LETTERS

From page 26A

needs. Over the past two years, the current city council has reduced operating expenses as a percent of the total budget down to 92% (2025-26) and 85% (2026-27).

The hard work Carmel's City Council has done to reduce operating expenses in the past two years frees up $6 million annually that can now be directed toward infrastructure needs and capital requirements. Yet, the city still needs an additional $4 million annually to reach the estimated $10 million a year required to address the backlog of deferred maintenance in our city.

As to those revenue initiatives, the most important "why" is that Carmel simply can't fund the deferred maintenance we need without them. Each measure contributes approximately $2 million to address the extensive deferred maintenance challenge, and together they close the gap in funding required.

An important "why" on the sales tax initiative, which amounts to an incremental 18 cents on a $50 spend, is that Carmel retains all the revenue. If this initiative doesn't pass in November, another taxing authority like Monterey County could co-opt the allowance in the future. If I'm going to end up paying the amount someday anyhow, I'd like Carmel to benefit.

As to the TOT, collecting from visiting tourists who benefit from enhanced infrastructure along with the residents is a better alternative than other resident-burdened solutions that were considered by the council but dropped in favor of the TOT.

Please join me in supporting Carmel's City Council's unanimity in reining in operating expenses the past two years and in identifying the revenue enhancements that benefit all of us residing in Carmel.

Jim Beck, *Carmel*

BEST House Cleaning 6 Years!

TWO GIRLS FROM CARMEL

TWO GIRLS FROM CARMEL
SO MANY DUST BUNNIES, SO LITTLE TIME

- Experienced
- Professional

Offering a personal and friendly touch for 30 years

BONDED HOUSECLEANING SPECIALISTS

So Many Dust Bunnies, So Little Time

831-626-4426
TwoGirlsFromCarmel.com

SPOTLESS BAY
CLEANING SERVICES

COMMERCIAL CLEANING SERVICES

OFFICES & WORKSPACES • RETAIL & STORES
MEDICAL & HEALTH FACILITIES • PROPERTY & REAL ESTATE
GYM & FITNESS STUDIOS • AIRBNB • CHURCH
SMALL SCHOOLS • FINISH CONSTRUCTION
WAREHOUSES & SMALL INDUSTRIAL SPACES

10 years of experience • Eco-Friendly Chemicals
Best Customer Service • Fast Response

call or text (831) 330-3484
spotlessbaycleaningservices@gmail.com

Policy Number #57SBMCCOGJ5 • WC #QMWC0745300

Worship
CARMEL ~ CARMEL VALLEY ~ MONTEREY
PACIFIC GROVE ~ PEBBLE BEACH ~ SEASIDE

Journey to the heart of Carmel ...
where it all began
CARMEL MISSION BASILICA
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS
5:30 p.m.
SUNDAY MASSES
9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Our streamed Mass is also available.
www.carmelmission.org

Church in the Forest
on the Stevenson School Campus
Preaching this Sunday
The Rev. Dr. Laura Harbert
"The Work and the Gift of Forgiveness"
Special Music 9:45 am
Worship Service 10:00 am
Complimentary Pebble Beach Gate Entrance
3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach
churchintheforest.org

Church of the Wayfarer
United Methodist
Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
Sunday Worship
10 a.m.
ALL are WELCOME
Lincoln Street and 7th Avenue • Carmel-by-the-Sea
churchofthewayfarer.com • 831-624-3550

All Saints' Episcopal Church
SUNDAYS 10 A.M.
SW Corner of Dolores & 9th
Carmel-by-the-Sea
Centering Prayer - Thursdays at 5:30 p.m
(In-Person and Online)
831.624.3883
info@allsaintscarmel.org

TO THOSE LEANING ON THE SUSTAINING INFINITE, TODAY IS BIG WITH BLESSINGS
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
SUNDAY 10 AM
WEDNESDAY 7 PM
LINCOLN BET 5TH & 6TH
CHRISTIANSCIENCECARMEL.ORG

Carmel PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
9:30am TRADITIONAL
11:00am CONTEMPORARY
Corner of Ocean & Junipero
and carmelpres.org

CHURCH OF THE OAKS
AWAKE, BUT NOT "WOKE"
The BIBLE is our alarm clock
JOIN US ON SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M.
841 Rosita Road, Del Rey Oaks
(831) 394-8000
www.churchoftheoaks.com

St. John's Chapel Del Monte
Established 1891
1490 Mark Thomas Drive, Monterey, CA 93940
831-375-4463 • stjohnschapel.com
The Rev. Dr. Richard Miles 1928 Book of Common Prayer
HOLY COMMUNION AT 10 A.M. SUNDAYS

Email Anne@carmelpinecone.com
to be included in this directory

ARTIST

From page 27A

of smoke. They'd come inside, talk to my grandfather's artists and watch their posters come off the press. Same thing with Grace Slick and Jefferson Airplane."

At age 12, Anderson aspired to become a hippie, and his love for music lives on.

"I've seen Neil Young perform at least 50 times. I saw him last year, and he was as good as ever," he said.

Anderson majored in art during a brief stint at UC Santa Cruz in 1977, then discovered a strong ceramics program at Cabrillo College, where his craft evolved.

He made and sold blown-glass art for 20 years with Santa Cruz glass artist David Salazar, then owned and operated Sun Country, a ceramics and glass shop in Carmel's Doud Arcade, for 18 years.

42 years as husband and dad

He married Diane 42 years ago, and they became parents that same year to their only child, Andria, part of the Carmel High School Class of 2003.

"She's very artistic, too," he said of his daughter, who was a student at Carmel Ballet Academy and danced at Sunset Center.

Anderson's knowledge grew last year — as a potter and as a Buddhist — when he traveled to Japan and spent time in the ceramics mecca of Kyoto.

"The cherry blossoms were in bloom … we visited the temples … I stayed a few extra days to go to a ceramic kiln site and watch them firing their pots … it was an amazing experience," he said.

His luggage on that trip included the pieces of a Native American pot he bought from a roadside stand 42 years ago on his honeymoon.

"It was just a small piece, but it was $400. I looked at Diane and said, 'I'm buying it.' And she said, 'Of course you are,'" he reminisced.

Decades after that, in Kyoto, Anderson watched as it was repaired with adhesive, lacquer and powdered gold through a process known as kintsugi. "Now, it's better than new," he said of the sentimental treasure.

After 54 years as a ceramicist — the last two as a grateful co-occupant at Sally Russell's studio — Anderson is still as happy as a little boy in a mud puddle. When Diane called him at the studio in late August and asked what he was doing, his answer was unsurprising:

"I'm just glazing and smiling," he told her. "Glazing and smiling."

View images of his art at instagram.com/ray.anderson.design.

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

ADDRESSES

From page 12A

"The process did take longer than we had expected. That was attributed to all of the different agencies and partners that were involved in the rollout, and they all wanted to make sure their systems were in place, because it was a big lift for everyone," Swanson said. "I don't know if we could have done anything differently."

Part of the delay was due to their wanting to "make double-triple sure" the switch would not cause any problems during emergencies. He learned that if a person calling 911 can only remember he lives on San Carlos two houses south of Eighth, but not that his address is 817 San Carlos St., the dispatcher will still know where he is.

The data were then delivered to the U.S. Postal Service for integration into its address management system, which is used to verify addresses for various purposes.

It will not, however, lead to mail delivery. People who live in Carmel will continue going to the post office.

Getting the word out

The city is doing its best to let everyone know what their new addresses are. "We're sending out postcards to every resident in the city," as well as property owners, Swanson said. The cards will contain their official addresses, along with display guidelines and other information.

"And a second postcard will be sent out in another week or so, to make sure nobody misses it," he said.

There will even be a booth at the Thursday farmers market for at least a few weeks, where city staff "will have iPads and can answer questions for everybody."

To assist residents with getting their information updated with Cal Am, PG&E and other utilities, the city will host a day-long drop-in session sometime in the next couple of weeks where they can get it done in person "if they don't want to go through the process of calling and that whole hassle," he said.

He doesn't know when and where the "service providers information day" will be, yet. But if it's at city hall, he said, "We'll see you at 662 Monte Verde Street."

There will be a quiz later

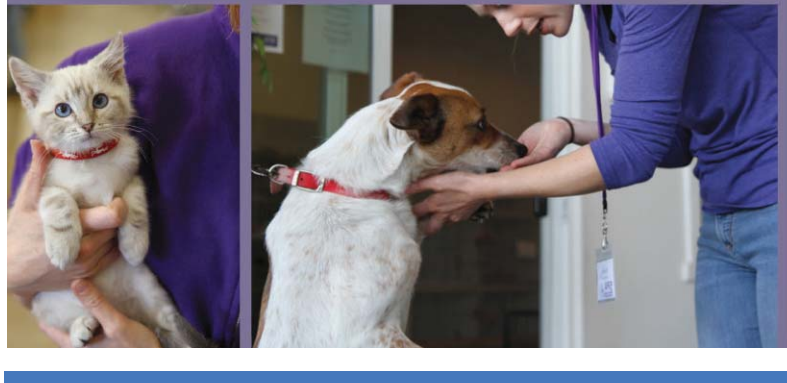
A sample of addresses you need to know:

Carmel City Hall	662 Monte Verde Street
Carmel Police Dept.	412 Junipero Avenue
Carmel Fire Dept.	464 Sixth Avenue
Carmel Post Office	422 Fifth Avenue
Harrison Library	325 Ocean Avenue
Sunset Center	908 San Carlos Street
Forest Theater	707 Mountain View
Carmel Art Ass'n.	555 Dolores Street
Devendorf Park	544 Sixth Avenue
Carmel Plaza	526 Ocean Avenue
Pine Inn	611 Monte Verde
La Playa Hotel	827 Camino Real
Hofsas House	337 San Carlos Street





AFRP
ANIMAL FRIENDS RESCUE PROJECT
VOLUNTEER WITH US!
Join our cause and help save the lives of companion animals in Monterey County
Learn more at animalfriendsrescue.org



AFRP TREASURE SHOP



RECYCLED TREASURES TO BENEFIT RESCUE PETS
All donations support Animal Friends Rescue Project's adoption and rescue programs. Donate gently used items today to support our lifesaving mission!
DONATE. SHOP. HELP ANIMALS
Open Monday-Sunday 10am- 5:00pm
221 Grand Ave, Pacific Grove
(831) 333-0491
Learn More!

Your Local BERNINA Dealer
THE SEWING CORNER
OUR FIRST Anniversary BERNINA EVENT
All BERNINA models in stock
IT'S TRADE IN MONTH
25% OFF WITH YOUR OLD MACHINE
THROUGH SEPTEMBER
BERNINA FINANCING AVAILABLE
We Have Irons: Laurastar, Panosonic & Oliso...
A Place for Creative Empowerment Through the Eye of the Needle.
620 Lighthouse Avenue #200
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Open 10-4 Mon-Sat | 831-877-1155
sewingcornerpacificgrove@gmail.com
www.thesewingcornerpacificgrove.com





PACIFIC GROVE TRAVEL PRESENTS
SIERRA GETAWAY TRAIN TRIP
FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 2, 2027

Hosted by Joe Shammas Owner of Pacific Grove Travel

Join us for this wonderful, fun trip through the historic and scenic Donner Pass. It is spectacular! On board the California Zephyr we will have our own private railcar to enjoy the scenery. Food and drinks are available for purchase or you may bring your own. Spend two nights at the beautiful El Dorado Hotel in Reno and return home on the train. Come join the fun!

This will sell out, so sign up today!

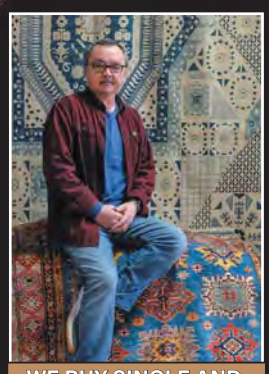
Only 50 guests can be accommodated!
$699.00 per person (based on double occupancy)
$789.00 for single room

PACIFIC GROVE TRAVEL
CST# 1003488-10

831-373-0631 | joe@pgtravel.com

Fares are per person based on double occupancy unless otherwise noted and are subject to change.

HAZARA
RUG CLEANING & REPAIR



THE MOST PROFESSIONAL AREA RUG CLEANER ON THE CENTRAL COAST

RUG PAD, RUG APPRAISAL, RUG REPAIR

FREE PICKUP AND DELIVERY

WE BUY SINGLE AND ENTIRE ESTATE RUGS WE PAY TOP DOLLAR FOR NAVAJO RUGS

Monday to Saturday 10 to 4
831-324-0706
hazararugcleaning.com
214 Fountain Ave • Pacific Grove



VICTORIUS
STYLE • CREATIVITY • COMMUNITY

Nic + Zoe	Habitat
MARBLE	JAG
HOBO	Lysse
INSIGHT	NYDJ

Jewelry, accessories, local artisans and more!

VICTORIUS offers a thoughtful, diverse selection of leading ladies fashions and accessories to enhance a woman's unique style in a friendly, comfortable environment.
Come in and be delightfully surprised and receive 10% OFF your purchase by mentioning this ad!

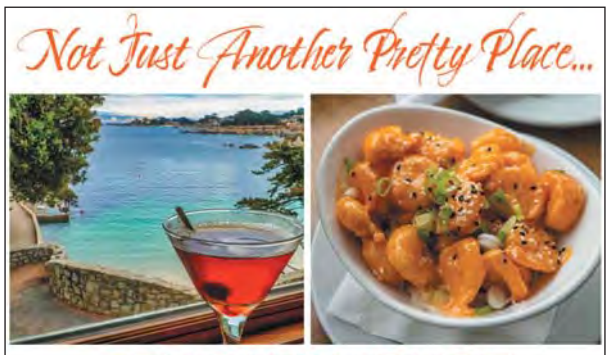


211 Forest Ave. | Pacific Grove, CA 93950 | (831) 655-2422
www.victoriuspacificgrove.com



ELEVATE YOUR LOOK WITH EXPERT CARE.
Schedule your appointment today.
715 Lighthouse Ave, Pacific Grove
www.positiveparlor.com | 831-717-7939

Not Just Another Pretty Place...



BEACH HOUSE
RESTAURANT + BAR @ LOVERS POINT
Dinner and Cocktails from 4:30pm Daily!



Enjoy Beach House's alluring coastal views and culinary delights.
Dine outside on our heated patio.

Lovers Point Beach
620 Ocean View Blvd, Pacific Grove
831.375.2345 • www.BeachHousePG.com

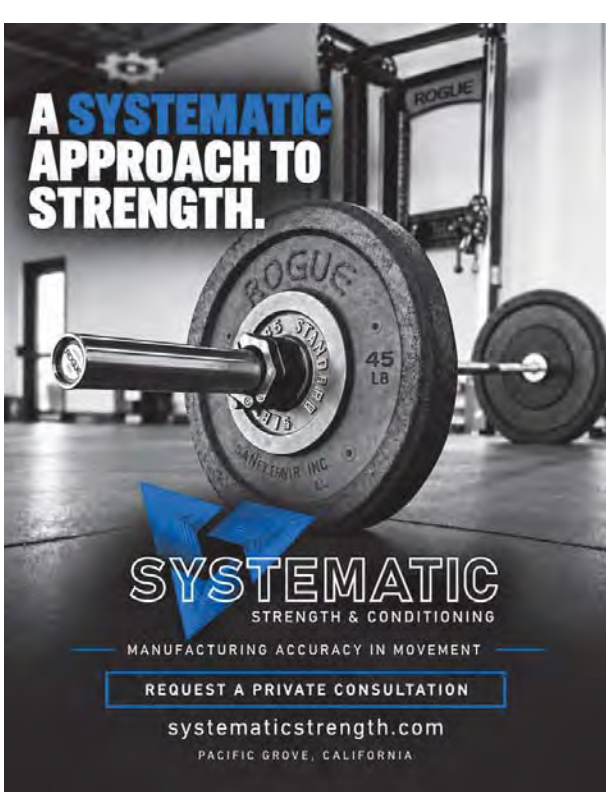


LOVERS POINT BEACH CAFE
Breakfast and Lunch Daily from 9am - 4pm

THE QUILL
VOTED BEST GIFT STORE!
Curated Coastal Decor & Gifts



553 LIGHTHOUSE AVENUE · PACIFIC GROVE
831.373.8189 · WWW.THEQUILL.COM
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
THEQUILL · THEQUILLPG



VIVOLO'S PACIFIC GROVE CHOWDER HOUSE

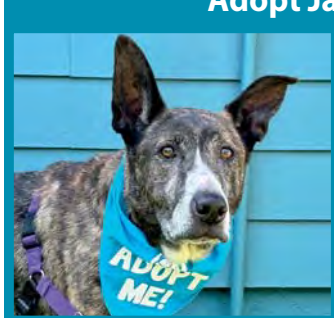
Local favorite for fresh, delicious seafood, salads, sandwiches and more

Award-Winning Chowder!



— CHILDREN'S MENU —
Indoor & Outdoor Dining + Take-Out available
Reservations are recommended and available online at
vivoloschowderhouse.com
(831) 372-5414 | 127 Central Ave., Pacific Grove
(2 blocks up from the Monterey Aquarium) Like us on

Adopt Jackie



- 10 years old
- Female
- Shepherd, Pit Bull mix
- 70 lbs

Jackie is a spirited senior girl with plenty of pep still in her step. She's up for a twenty-minute sniff around the block or a three-mile hike, and she's great on leash. She gets zoomies and loves a good game of tug. She's housetrained and fine home alone. She prefers small dogs to big ones.

Want to meet Jackie?
Please fill out our online adoption questionnaire.

Ad Sponsored by
Monterey Bay Whale Watch
www.gowhales.com
(If you'd like to sponsor our next ad, please give us a call.)

Peace of Mind DOG RESCUE

831-718-9122
www.POMDR.org
P.O. Box 51554, Pacific Grove, CA 93950









Access the Unlisted

Some of the Peninsula's finest homes never hit the open market

Scan the QR code to sign up for access to upcoming and off-market listings

- 1 LISTING IN **PEBBLE BEACH**
- 13 LISTINGS IN **CARMEL**
- 5 LISTINGS IN **CARMEL VALLEY**
- 4 LISTINGS IN **PACIFIC GROVE**
- 6 LISTINGS IN **MONTEREY**





The **#1 TEAM** in 2020, 2021, and 2022

TOP 10 TEAM for Sotheby's nationwide for 10 years

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Mike Canning | Jessica Canning | Nic Canning | Ellen Armstrong | Anita Jones | Caroline Garcia

team@canningproperties.com | 831.238.9718 | CanningProperties.com

© 2026 Sotheby's International Realty. All Rights Reserved. Sotheby's International Realty® is a registered trademark and used with permission. Each Sotheby's International Realty office is independently owned and operated, except those operated by Sotheby's International Realty, Inc. All offerings are subject to errors, omissions, changes including price or withdrawal without notice. Equal Housing Opportunity. Mike Canning DRE: 01004964, Jessica Canning DRE: 01920034, Nic Canning DRE: 01959355, Ellen Armstrong DRE:02046046, Anita Jones DRE: 01926760. Unlicensed Assistant: Caroline Garcia.

HARVEST SEASON

CELEBRATING FALL ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

You won't see these gourds rolling down Ocean Avenue

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

CINDERELLA WAS swept out of servitude by a gilded pumpkin and a glass slipper. Ever since Charles Perrault published the tale in 1697 — followed by centuries of retellings on the page and on screens large and small — audiences have been enchanted by the magical potential of a pumpkin. Particularly when it's made of glass.

Carmel Valley fine art glassblower Nick Leonoff is keenly aware of the allure of a glass pumpkin, which has led him to create thousands of the fluted orbs with his signature curled stem.

"I can tell it's an original Nick Leonoff pumpkin by the curve of the stem and his keen understanding of how color and particular finishes respond to light," said Lauren Cesare, who comes to her second home just south of Ocean Avenue every fall to wander Leonoff's Glass Pumpkin Patch at MEarth, basket in hand, looking to add to her collection. "Even when I attend a glass pumpkin patch that features more than one artist, I head right over to Nick's tables."

After success presenting his gourds at the Palo Alto Art Center's annual fall festival, Leonoff felt confident he could create a successful event among Carmel-area supporters. Guests from outside the area would be welcome, of course.

To make that happen, Leonoff sought out Tanya Roos, who served MEarth for seven years, ultimately as executive director. Established in 1995 on a former Christmas tree farm adjacent to Carmel Middle School, the nonprofit aims to educate and inspire local students through environmental stewardship. Leonoff and Roos discussed establishing a pumpkin patch on the property as a fundraiser. They thought it might even become an annual event, if people responded well.

Fourteen years later, they're still coming.

"Oh, goodness, I probably have 50 of Nick's pumpkins," said Mid Valley's Michelle Wouden. "There's something irresistible about glass pumpkins, particularly their individuality, as each one is unique, beautiful and intricate in design. The way they catch the light is magical. Plus, there's always room for one more."



You know it's fall when Nick Leonoff's glass pumpkins are ready for harvest.

Pumpkins for all

Although the artist established Leonoff Art Glass in Carmel Valley in 2005, his journey began seven years earlier as an apprentice to renowned local stained-glass artist Alan Masaoka. After graduating from Pepperdine University with a degree in business administration — a wise complement to a career in fine art — Leonoff leaned into his passion for glassblowing. He has since studied at numerous craft schools, including the Pilchuck Glass School, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, the Pittsburgh Glass Center and The Studio at the Corning Museum of Glass.

"Compared to my fine art glass sculpture, the pumpkin is an approachable shape and product that enables me to connect with more people," he said. "This is the other side of atelier or studio art, which is its own special niche. The glass pumpkin is an accessible form for me to connect with a lot of people and broaden audience appeal, which balances out my career in fine art."

Blowing glass pumpkins, Leonoff said, is also a way to experiment and take risks without pressure.

Recently he began making them with a new blue glass and experimenting with de-

PUMPKINS *cont. page 37A*

CARMELCALIFORNIA.COM/MEETTHEMAKERS FOR TICKETS

$50 TICKETS
for Wine & Food Tasting
ART WALK IS FREE

MEET LOCAL ARTISTS & TOUR THEIR GALLERIES
SIP MONTEREY COUNTY WINES
TASTE ARTISAN FOOD CREATIONS
ENJOY LIVE MUSIC!

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY
CARMEL ART WALK
ARTIST OWNED GALLERIES
Visit CARMEL BY-THE-SEA
CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA WINE WALK
SIP SAVOR AND DISCOVER

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
MEET THE MAKERS
Art & Wine Walk
SATURDAY OCTOBER 10 4:00-7:00PM

BEGIN AT
DEVENDORF PARK
Ocean Avenue & Junipero

PICK UP YOUR WINE GLASS & WRISTBAND

SCAN FOR EVENT DETAILS
& TO PURCHASE TICKETS

HARVEST SEASON

Never underestimate the value of staying in the race

By LILY PATTERSON

THE COMEDIENNE Joan Rivers once remarked, "The first time I see a jogger smiling, I'll consider it."

It's a shame she never met them, because she would've gotten a kick out of the Carmel Valley Manor posse. They joke about the steel rods in their legs, then head out for a trot.

Come the first weekend of November, 20 residents from the retirement community will join in the festivities surrounding the 21st annual Monterey Bay Half Marathon. Most will stroll, though a few will jog the By-the-Bay 3K and Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K on a course from Lovers Point Park to Point Pinos. And a two-time champion will be racing the 13.1-miler, gunning for his third win in the 80-and-up bracket.

With the bay as its backdrop, the race established in 2003 — formerly known as the Big Sur Half Marathon — channels runners from downtown Monterey to Spanish Bay, where they turn and trace the same route back along the coast.

The retirees are also crowd favorites at the Big Sur Marathon, featured in highlight reels posted to the race's Instagram account in years past. Several said they've already committed to taking on the 3K and 5K portions of the famed course next spring. In 2022, the gang made its first appearance at the 3K/5K "fun" runs held the day before the Monterey Bay Half. They'll be fairly easy to spot on the morning of Nov. 7, congregating at the starting line near Lovers Point in custom-embroidered caps, representing their Carmel Valley Manor home.

It's just another busy Saturday for the residents of the active 65-and-up community, located just past All Saints Day School on Carmel Valley Road. Daily movement is all but mandatory and, according to residents, friendships spring from those activities, whether they prefer instructor-led fitness or aquatics classes, tending to their personal plot in a community garden or traversing the network of walking trails around the spectacular property.

"Most of us prepare by walking around the area — a whole group of us — the month before the race. It's exercise, but it's a lot of fun," said Jerry Flanzer.

He recalls doing a few 20K races in his 30s, but he'd never won a thing until last year, when he and his wife swept their 80-plus age group in the 5K. Come race day, they pick up their pace to "more of a trot."

"The fact that I can still do it, that's the celebration. Some of our neighbors cannot," Flanzer said.



Carmel Valley Manor resident Fred Glasser started jogging decades ago when he joined an international run club in East Asia. At 82, he's running 11-minute miles in the Monterey Bay Half Marathon.

A comeback

Three years ago, when resident Sidney Slade tripped over her cat, she broke so many bones that her knee, leg and hip required scaffolding with steel rods. Not yet 80, she believed she would spend the rest of her life with her walker in a death grip.

Nevertheless, Slade performed her physical therapy exercises and rehabbed in the pool.

She eventually ramped up her aquatics schedule to three times weekly, each session an exhausting 45 minutes.

"I did everything I was supposed to do to recover. I attribute not being disabled to my doctor who did the surgery, and to water aerobics," she shared.

Then, she was told she needed a hip replacement to deal with her persistent osteoarthritis. The procedure took place last September — but, by that point, she knew the drill.

One year later, Slade is walking 3 to 4 miles per day — unassisted — gazing out on the Santa Lucia range she and her husband hiked for many years. A longtime Carmel Valley resident, Slade was never a marathoner, though she did have several backpacking expeditions and a few half-marathons under her belt.

"I know my recovery inspired more people to get active, and I'm so grateful the manor encourages us. This place is thought of as an old persons' home, but it's really not. It's full of vibrant, interesting people," Slade said.

That means staff, too.

"We're doing this with the waiters, the gardeners, the nurses — it's a hysterical time, and we get to know them. The social fabric here is wonderful," Flanzer said.

At last count, 30 staff members will be bibbed and ready on race weekend, according to chief operating officer Christine Regan. A registered nurse, she ran competitively in years past, but now "I usually do the sweep and hang out at the back to make sure we're all together."

Pacesetters

Regan leads programming, from BBQ and field game days, to off-campus volunteer opportunities. That includes the brunch-and-prizes event back at the man-

RUNNERS *cont. page 36A*

Limited Tickets Available
VINES, VIEWS & VINTAGES
The Albatross Experience
BIKES & ATVs THROUGH THE VINEYARD • LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
CURATED WINE PAIRINGS • SUNSET DINNER • UNFORGETTABLE VIEWS
October 4, 2006 | 4-7 PM
ALBATROSS RIDGE
$225
PER GUEST
RESERVE NOW
PacRep.org 831.622.0100

YELLOW BRICK ROAD
BENEFIT SHOP
FALL Festival
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 • 10AM-4PM
Shop for Fall inspired
clothing and decor, coats, sweaters,
scarves, boots, hats & more.
*We will close early on Friday, September 11th at 1pm to decorate.
26388A CARMEL RANCHO LANE, CARMEL
WWW.YELLOWBRICKROADBENEFITSHOP.ORG | (831) 626-8480

HARVEST

Local color on the big screen

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

WE THINK we know all about the history of Carmel-by-the-Sea. After all, much has been written about — and continues to be captured by — a cadre of exceptional creative folks. Check out the local roster of fine art galleries, not to mention a century of essays and articles, columns and books about what brought an array of artists into town to create their enclave by the sea. And yet, there is always more to uncover about the culture of Carmel.

The 1906 San Francisco earthquake sent painters and photographers, poets and authors to Carmel, and the burgeoning town was incorporated 10 years later. In 1924, San Francisco's Mildred Taylor and her husband, renowned artist James Blanding Sloan, established a second residence here. The couple had just adopted Wah Ming Chang, a 7-year-old art prodigy who had been orphaned by the death of his mother and the grief of his father.



Oscar winner Wah Ming Chang of Carmel.

Deep appreciation

It was the avant-garde Taylor who, in 1929, conceived of and hosted the first international film festival in Carmel with a screening of two silent films considered controversial then and, perhaps, now. "The Light of Asia" shared an interpretation of Buddha's life, and "The Life and Death of 9413: A Hollywood Extra" was a psychological drama produced by abstract painter Slavko Vorkapich.

Nearly a century later, Carmelites Lawrence Roeck and Annette Andersen are producing their third event in the long-running Carmel International Film Festival.

"I became a Carmel kid when I was a year old," said Roeck. "That enabled me to grow up with a deep sense of love and appreciation for our artist community and how it has shaped the aesthetic of Carmel. It is deeply personal to me that our community retains its character, which we can achieve by understanding where it came from."

Chang (1917-2003) is being celebrated on this year's event poster, created by Carmel artist Jason Fosler. It portrays the elaborate headdress Chang designed and Elizabeth Taylor wore in Joseph L. Mankiewicz's 1963 film, "Cleopatra."

While movie buffs perk up at the mention of Chang's name, it doesn't even register with most others. Those behind-the-scenes geniuses — whose imagination and artistry bring to life the drama we applaud — are often perfectly happy outside of the spotlight. Although you may not recognize

CINEMA *cont. page 37A*



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
2 TO 5PM
CARMEL BEACH, AT THE BOTTOM OF 13TH & SCENIC

Adults $100pp,
18 & Under $50pp
Limited to 300 participants
Scan to Register!

All Net Proceeds Benefit
SET FREE MONTEREY BAY
and its mission to combat human trafficking and support survivors.

Come for the walk. Stay for the Wine. Support the Mission.

FEATURING 12 CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA WINERIES

BLAIR · CYPRESS GROVE · GALANTE VINEYARDS · DAWN'S DREAM WINERY · De Tierra VINEYARDS · Silvestri · domaine messier · SCHEID VINEYARDS · Wrath · Shale Canyon Wines · TIRA NANZA · WINDY OAKS

REGISTER TODAY: WALK-FOR-FREEDOM-CARMEL.RAISELYSITE.COM





At Monterey Farms, locally grown artichokes that don't reach the fresh market are given new life. Each one is hand-trimmed, lightly steamed and perfectly seasoned to create our garden fresh, refrigerated artichoke hearts" —never packed in heavy oils or brine. Nothing goes to waste. Artichoke trimmings are donated to nearby ranchers for cattle feed, creating a full-circle connection between central coast growers, local ranchers and the environment.

Discover our fresh ArtiHearts, perfectly steamed Arti-Qs and flavorful Chef Butters—Fresh ingredient compound butters created by our French-trained Cordon Bleu chef to bring effortless culinary excellence to your table.

FRESH. FLAVORFUL. FULL CIRCLE.
Made in Monterey County, California
montereyfarms.net | 831-757-7297



HARVEST SEASON

RUNNERS *from page 34A*

or following the runs on Nov. 7. She also took care of the registration, coordinated a shuttle ride to P.G., and commissioned the special hats — but she gives the credit to residents for their initiative.

"Residents were the ones doing this, and a few staff members joined when they heard what they were up to. We became intentional about it after we became a Blue Zones-approved work site in 2021," Regan said, referring to the nonprofit that partners with various businesses to help them implement wellness programs for employees.

"It's all about making residents and staff happier, seeing them thrive, and their families thrive, too," Regan explained.

In 2022, the manor reserved 30 spots in the 3K/5K, and this year held enough spots to accommodate the 50 staff and residents who signed up — minus two, who will conserve their energy for Sunday's race.

One is the manor's chief financial officer. The other is two-time champion of the Monterey Bay Half Marathon's octogenarian bracket, Fred Glasser.

Overseas habit

"I started running when I was living overseas, working as a banker, and the job involved going to lots of dinners and parties. I thought 'I can't keep doing this if I don't start exercising,'" the 82-year-old recalled.

Living variously in Manila, Hong Kong and Seoul, Glasser was introduced to an international running group called the Hash House Harriers, by then one of hundreds of chapters across several continents. The club was initiated in 1938 by British expats in Malaysia, who found motivation in a game called hash, involving one "hare" that spontaneously chose the route and "hounds" that followed. The runs were interrupted by World War II, then restarted in the late 1940s under a proper constitution. Founding articles include "To get rid of weekend hangovers" and "To persuade the older members that they are not as old as they feel."

The ultimate training guide is pals to pace you, but Glasser has had no such luck, even at the manor. Instead, he turns to gadgets for advice.

"I looked at different guides online — Garmin, Runner's World — but now I'm using artificial intelligence to summarize my runs. It's very easy for AI to compare things and give you insights to improve your speed or whatever," he said.

The odds are favorable that he'll make the podium. Admittedly, it's a thin field, but last year the 82-year-old swept his age group with a solid 2:25:19. You may have to jostle with Glasser's neighbors for viewing room, but don't worry about cross words.

"We're a congenial group!" Slade said.

All three races are sold out, but there's room at the after parties. The official start time for the By-the-Bay 3K and Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K is 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Lovers Point Park, where the Kiwanis Club will host a $10 pancake breakfast after the races. On Sunday, the official Finish Festival for the Monterey Bay Half Marathon hosts food, live music and family activities across the Custom House Plaza starting at 7:30 a.m.





Live together, work together, run together: Carmel Valley Manor takes care of transportation and entry fees for residents like Jerry Flanzer (left photo), as well as staff members who want to get in on the action.



Glass Pumpkin Patch of Carmel
MEarth | SEPTEMBER 19–20

Hand-blown glass pumpkins • Local Food
Live music • MEarth Produce Trailer

Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday: 10 AM - 4 PM



4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel CA, 93923
MEarth, adjacent to Carmel Middle School



PACIFIC GROVE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Thank You So Much for Voting Us
BEST VETERINARIAN
Dr. Brynie Kaplan Dau, MS, DVM

- SURGERY • DERMATOLOGY
- FELINE AND CANINE MEDICINE
- PREVENTATIVE CARE
- REGENERATIVE MEDICINE, PRP (PLATELET-RICH PLASMA)
- LASER THERAPY • EXOTICS AND MUCH MORE

– CONTINUITY OF CARE –

'25 Five years in a row!



We are honored and look forward to working with you to support your pets best health and quality of life.

NOW SEEING URGENT CARE CASES

AAHA ACCREDITED '21 '22 '23 '24

PACIFIC GROVE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

A Gold Certified Cat Friendly Practice

1023 Austin Avenue, Pacific Grove • 831-318-0306 • www.pacificgroveanimalhospital.com

HARVEST SEASON

CINEMA *from page 34A*

his name, surely you've enjoyed his work, which spans more than seven decades.

Said Andersen, "This tribute to Wah Ming Chang is so fitting. His artistic contributions to cinematic arts are legendary — think 'Jack the Giant Killer,' 'Atlantis,' 'The King and I,' 'Pinocchio,' 'Fantasia,' 'Bambi,' 'Spartacus' and 'The Time Machine,' for which he won an Academy Award for special effects."

Festival preview

The contemporary world of film rests on its historical roots. Yet contemporary artists' innovations are also something to be celebrated. That's exactly what the 2026 Carmel International Film Festival is designed to do.

"I didn't think we could improve upon the films we have featured in previous years, but we have," said Andersen, pausing to sip her first cup of coffee after a long night of screening film submissions.

She continued, "We're excited to screen a feature-length film with actress Frances Fisher and actress, author and activist Mimi Kennedy, a guest last year. Photographer and screenwriter Tyler Shields is coming, with actress Abigail Breslin. They did the film 'Chapter 51,' which is unique in that it uses every film camera known to the industry, every format."

Andersen also is excited to have Academy Award nominee Eric Roberts coming with "Man's Best," a feature-length film co-starring his wife, Eliza Roberts, and directed by Seth McTigue, about a man who will do anything to save his dying dog. That should catch a lot of attention in this "canine capital of the country."

Nominated for three Academy Awards and one Golden Globe Award, screenwriter and director Frank Darabont — renowned for many films, among them "The Shawshank Redemption" and "The Green Mile" — will be honored with a retrospective presentation and screening of "Shawshank."

"A very civic-minded member of the community, Frank is deeply interested in what we are trying to do to support local filmmakers through this festival by bringing professionals to this area and having them work with and encourage local filmmakers and make sure their work continues," said Andersen.

There's a wide array of exceptional films to screen and recognize during the festival. Andersen is particularly engaged by "Yo (Love Is a Rebellious Bird)." A 2026 American film directed by husband-and-wife duo Banker White and Anna Fitch, it premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival in February, when it won the Silver Bear for outstanding artistic contribution.



Lawrence Roeck



Annette Andersen

"This film is absolutely magical," Andersen said. She explained that the story follows the aftermath of the death of Fitch's close friend, Yolanda Shea, also known as Yo. Fitch spent 10 years creating a one-third-scale model of her house and placed a puppet of Yo inside. "This is a film about female friendship, grieving, and the sense of family we can get from friends," said Andersen.

Andersen's investment in viewing each film submission has enabled her to speak with a depth of perspective, promising a dynamic and entertaining festival in what she called one of the most creative communities on the planet.

Roeck said, "And we have a grand jury of Academy Award nominees and some of the finest filmmakers joining us, creating a metamorphosis from a regional small-town festival to one that can turn Carmel into a film festival for the world."

PUMPKINS *from page 33A*

signs that use recycled glass. The results, he said, are beautiful.

"It's also a way to reduce waste, which is the way we work — always seeking to minimize risk and maximize reward."

One of Leonoff's most popular pumpkins is seafoam-colored, coated with white powder and amber that look like waves crashing against the shore. Wildly popular in this coastal setting, it has become a signature design.



Pumpkins by Nick Leonoff (right) make everyone smile.

After 26 years, he still works at remaining open to the magic.

"As an artist working with this mysterious material, both strong and incredibly fragile, which becomes progressively softer and more willing to be shaped as it heats, I am still learning new things," he said. "Which means, when trying something new, I still find it exciting."

Anticipating the Glass Pumpkin Patch, Leonoff said, is like waiting for Santa to come to town. People put it on their calendars in anticipation of adorning their homes with seasonal decorations.

Fall harbinger

"We make such a variety," he said. "While the pumpkin is the constant we're working with, we want to keep exploring, discovering how to continue to innovate, to develop new looks, new styles. The most popular style, originally, was the crackle finish, followed by the fantasy crackles with pinks and purples, a surreal style my mom said reminded her of artist Joan Miró."

As Leonoff prepares to bring in his gleaming harvest, he recognizes that the craft is also about creating community. He looks forward to welcoming back Kevin Chong, an artist he met in the San Francisco Bay area who continues to show his work with Leonoff at MEarth.

"The beautiful space, the food, the music, the setting — the atmosphere that MEarth brings to this event — create an inspired venue for thousands of glass pumpkins whose artistry is elevated as they catch the light. Table after table, they will be displayed in color families and themes, each bale arrangement presenting a different effect than the next," Leonoff said.

The 14th annual Glass Pumpkin Patch will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 19 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 20 at MEarth, 4380 Carmel Valley Road.



OPEN STUDIOS
Art Tour
A program of Arts Council for Monterey County
FREE TO THE COMMUNITY!
TWO WEEKENDS IN
SEPTEMBER
12-13 & 19-20
11AM - 5PM



Plus Special Exhibition
NOW - OCT. 1ST
Oldemeyer Center, Seaside
For details, scan or visit
ARTS4MC.ORG
Download on the App Store
Get it on Google Play
Download Mobile App: Art Tours Monterey County

Food & Wine
Galleries and Art

This Week

Live Music,
Clubs and Events

Blues artist opens Sunset's season, celebrates debut record three decades later

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

SIX-TIME Grammy Award nominee **Kenny Wayne Shepherd** kicks off Sunset Center's 2026-27 season Friday at 7:30 p.m., celebrating the 30th anniversary of his debut album.

The album, "Ledbetter Heights," topped Billboard's Blues Charts for 20 weeks, and established Shepherd as an artist who could breathe new life into the blues genre. "With fiery guitar work, rock-driven hooks and deep respect for blues tradition, the Louisiana native quickly rose from small clubs to international stages," Sunset Center said.

Shepherd plans to play the album — which he recorded when he was just 18 and recently re-recorded — in its entirety.

Tickets start at $96. Sunset Center is at 908 San Carlos Street. Call (831) 620-2048 or visit sunsetcenter.org.



Cellist Ani Aznavoorian in part of a duo that plays Thursday at Carmel Modern gallery.

■ Loving New York

Performing a musical tribute to the Big Apple, Monterey Symphony presents "Love Letter to New York" Tuesday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., at the Forest Theater.

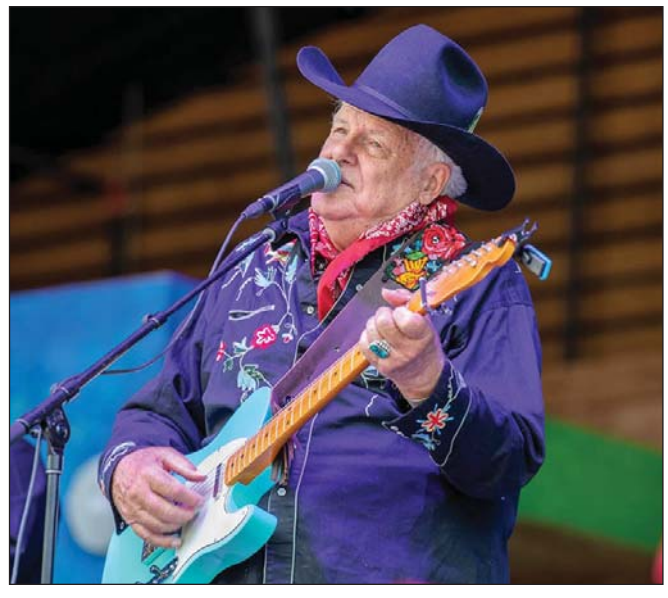
"Join the symphony for a vibrant celebration of New York through Broadway, jazz, film and the American songbook," the symphony announced.

The symphony is led by conductor **Brad Hogarth**. The cast includes Grammy Award-winning singer and pianist **Tammy L. Hall**, singer and actress **Malinda DeRouen** and singer **Bernard Holcomb**.

Tickets are $57 for general admission and $12 for students, active-duty military and seniors. The theater is located at Santa Rita and Mountain View. Call (831) 646-8511 or visit montereysymphony.org.

■ Bluegrass at Golden State

A direct link to the origins of bluegrass music — and an innovator who pushed its boundaries — Grammy Award-winning singer and multi-instrumentalist **Peter Rowan** plays Saturday, 7 p.m., at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.



Grammy Award-winning singer and multi-instrumentalist Peter Rowan takes the stage Saturday at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

Rowan, a member of the Bluegrass Hall of Fame, recorded and toured with bluegrass legend Bill Monroe as a young man. He earned a Grammy for his contributions to a 1997 Monroe tribute album.

Tickets are $43. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit goldenstatetheatre.com.

■ Art, music and water

Complementing a new art exhibit, violinist **Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu** and cellist **Ani Aznavoorian** perform concerts Thursday — at both 3 and 6 p.m. — in Carmel Modern gallery.

"In harmony with Carmel Modern's fall exhibition 'Water Music,' Wu leads a musical program of Zen, vastness and resilience, intended to capture the many moods of moving water," according to Sunkiss'd Mozart, which is presenting the event.

Tickets for general admission start at $50, while tickets for those under 18 are $15. The gallery is located on Sixth between Dolores and Lincoln. Visit skmozart.com.

See **MUSIC** *page 41A*

Festa 2026 Italia

CELEBRATE Monterey's Sicilian Italian Heritage

FESTA ITALIA · MONTEREY CALIFORNIA

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
September 11-13, 2026
Custom House Plaza FREE ADMISSION!

JOIN US for the 93rd **Santa Rosalia Fisherman's Festival** honoring Monterey's fishermen, past and present. Festa is a family friendly, FREE event that shares the sights, sounds, food and culture that make the Italian experience so special. MARK your calendars now to attend this year's gathering for three days of Italian cuisine, bocce, music and fun.



CELEBRATE Monterey's Sicilian Italian Heritage with 3 Days of Great Entertainment, Bocce Tournament, Fun, Food and Drink at Custom House Plaza, Monterey State Historic Park!



FEATURING
Pasquale Esposito
The Money Band
Anthony Lane Band
Tarantella Dancers
Lost and Found
Mike Marotta Italian All-Stars
Jimmy Rossi and Luca
SINGERS Erasmo Aiello, Dave Marzetti, Rachel Marotta Halim & Anna Marotta Halim, accompanied by Mike Marotta Jr., Dennis Murphy, Paul Tarantino and John Beron

VISIT US AT
FestaItaliaMonterey.org
for more information on our Bocce Tournament, schedule of events, and the history of this great annual event.

THREE DAYS
Friday: 3:00pm–9:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am–6:00pm

PRESENTED BY FESTA ITALIA FOUNDATION

SAVE THE DATE

FOR
MONTEREY MUSEUM OF ART'S

ART IN BLOOM

BENEFITING MMA LA MIRADA

A WEEKEND OF ART AND DESIGN

SEPTEMBER 19 & 20

HOT CLUB JAZZ,
ROARING 20s SPEAKEASY,
ART IN BLOOM VIEWING

EVENT SPONSORS
Elizabeth Barlow & Stephen McClellan and Chris & Craig Johnson

Purchase your tickets now!
MMA Members receive a 2-for-1 discount for Sunday admission

Make it yourself, let a Sicilian mom do it, or leave it to the pros

WHEN IT rains, it pours. Not that it's been doing much of that around here lately, but the fall food season is taking off, with wine dinners, a bartender's birthday party, a Sicilian feast with a side of dancing and music, and a new cookbook — not to mention a few dates you'll want to put on your calendar. Pull up a chair and read on!

Soup to Nuts

■ Cella after dark

In celebration of head bartender and cocktail king Joshua Perry's birthday Wednesday — and to mark his three decades in the business of making people happy — Cella restaurant in downtown Monterey has been partying all week. To put a punctuation mark on the occasion, Cella: After Dark will have the popular spot rocking and rolling into the evening hours Sept. 11-12.



Pelio Estate Wines from Carmel Valley will be featured in a five-course wine dinner scheduled for Nov. 7 at Carmel Valley Ranch.

A San Francisco native, Perry cut his teeth in his hometown and beyond before moving to Monterey 10 years ago to run the bar at the since-closed Restaurant 1833 a block away from his current domain. He moved on to be the beverage boss at Cultura in downtown Carmel, did a brief stint at Carmel Valley Ranch and then joined Cella in February 2022, a month after it opened. There, he has enjoyed carte blanche as the chief creator of cocktails, and his menu changes every three months in step with the restaurant's farm-to-table ethos. He strives to concoct drinks that complement the menu but stand well on their own, too.

In light of all that accomplishment, from 8 p.m. onward, guests will be invited to raise a glass to Perry by enjoying the special '90s-inspired cocktail menu featuring Cella's take on "era-defining favorites like Appletinis and Surfer on Acids."

But it's not just the drinks that will focus on the decade, as people will be encouraged to don their plaid, flannels, jelly sandals and other questionable 1990s "fashion."

"Our team will be keeping an eye out for the best-dressed — or worst-dressed — guests to be entered in a raffle to win prizes," the restaurant announced.

The bar will be open until 10 p.m. both evenings. Cella is located at 525 Polk St. in Monterey. Visit cellarestaurant.com for more information.





Caroline Chambers of Carmel Valley has just released her third cookbook, with meals home chefs can make in minutes — not hours.

■ Wine at CV Ranch

Carmel Valley Ranch recently announced two upcoming wine dinners. Cypress Grove Winery will be featured Sept. 30, and Pelio Estate Wines is on the calendar for Nov. 7. Both events start at 6 p.m.

Cypress Grove is the former Manzoni Cellars and has a tasting room at Seventh and San Carlos. It's owned and operated by Doree and Daniel Troyan, and the estate vineyard is in the vaunted Santa Lucia Highlands, producing the chardonnays, pinot noirs and syrahs for which the region is renowned. The company also produces a sauvignon blanc from Arroyo Seco, a Monterey County zinfandel — a relatively rare varietal in these parts — and Bordeaux blends from San Benito County. Learn more about Cypress Grove at cypressgrovewinery.com.

Pelio Estates is owned by sisters Lindsey and Shelby Pelio, and the winemakers — Greg and Chris Vita — are father and son. The Vitas' client list has included Galante, Dawn's Dream, Holman Ranch and Caraccioli Cellars. The winery's tasting room is at 25 Pilot Road and the website is pelioestatewines.com.

Each event will feature a five-course tasting menu specially designed to complement the pours. Tickets for both events are $190, or $150 for Carmel Valley Ranch

See **FOOD** *next page*

VOTED BEST LOCALS MENU



3 COURSE MEALS STARTING AT $19.95

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE, CLAM CHOWDER OR SALAD & CHEF'S DESSERT

~ FISH & CHIPS $19.95
~ SEAFOOD PASTA MONTEREY $24.95
~ BUTTERNUT SQUASH RAVIOLI $19.95
~ PRAWNS SCAMPI MONTEREY $23.95
~ SKIRT STEAK $29.95
~ PARMESAN CRUSTED CHICKEN $24.95
~ BROILED SALMON $24.95
~ GRILLED SANDDABS $24.95
~ ASIAN STYLE BABY BACK RIBS $24.95
~ MONTEREY BAY CIOPPINO $26.95

~ MONDAYS-THURSDAYS ~
FOR MONTEREY COUNTY LOCALS & MILITARY

Must present Monterey County or Military ID.
Parties of 8 or less. Not valid holidays or during holiday periods.
Menu items and prices subject to change.

THE FISH HOPPER SEAFOOD & STEAKS
Proprietors Chris Shake and Sabu JR Shake

OPEN DAILY AT 10:30AM
Reservations:
FishHopper.com or
831 372-8543
700 Cannery Row

MADDEN IS READY FOR FOOTBALL, ARE YOU?

BRUNO'S MARKET & DELI
at The Best Corner in Carmel
across from Devendorf Park



Do not pass this place up. The Tri-Tip sandwich will not disappoint. Turkey sandwich was delicious as well. Staff were kind and friendly. Had to take a photo of Legendary J. Madden.
— **Adrian R.,**
Sunnyvale, CA

SAVE TIME
BRUNOSMARKET.COM
ORDER ONLINE!

AWARD WINNING MARKET & DELI
FULL SERVICE GOURMET DELI • FRESH SQUEEZED ORGANIC OJ
HUGE CUSTOM SANDWICHES • READY MADE ENTREES • ORGANIC PRODUCE
COLD CRAFT BEER • LOCAL WINES • TOP SHELF LIQUOR • AND MORE!

Famous Prime Rib Carving Station with
THUR, STUFFED PORK ROAST • FRI, POACHED SALMON • SAT, CHICKEN MARSALA
WITH SCALLOPED POTATOES, VEGETABLE MEDLEY, GARLIC BREAD 4PM - TIL SOLD OUT

BRUNO'S MARKET & DELI
PRIME & USDA CHOICE MEATS
GOURMET DELI
FARM FRESH PRODUCE

Carmel's Largest Independent Liquor Store Since 1953

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA EST 2003 SURF N SAND LIQUORS WINE SPIRITS BEER CIGARS

831-624-3821 Ample Free Parking 831-624-1805
6th & Junipero, Carmel • Open Daily 6am - 8pm • Local Home & Hotel Delivery

FOOD

From previous page

members. You can find them at OpenTable.com.

The Sicilians are cooking

Sicilians are a different breed — just ask them. Generations of the fishing families who came to the Monterey Peninsula after the turn of the 20th century still live, work, play, fish and — most relevant to this story — cook here.

This weekend marks the 93rd Annual Festa Italia in Monterey's Custom House Plaza, right next door to Old Fisherman's Wharf. Monterey's festival began as a tribute to Santa Rosalia, the patron saint of Palermo, Sicily. Its oldest traditions include the blessing of the fishing fleet and a procession with a colorful likeness of the beloved saint.

There's a bocce tournament, live music from Pasquale Esposito, Mike Marotta and the Italian Allstars, The Money Band, and others. The tarantella dance will be performed — and taught to those wishing to learn — and low-cost kid-friendly activities like an inflatable slide will be available.

But let's face it, most people come for the food. You can smell the Festa before you see it. Calamari, steak and sausage sandwiches, pasta, several types of pizza, cannoli, and vegetarian eggplant parmesan sandwiches will be sold. If you want arancini — those amazing deep-fried rice balls with cheese filling — come early. We're told they sell out almost as soon as they're cooked.

In addition to Italian ice in lemon, watermelon and strawberry, there will be a dessert court on the upper level of the plaza (behind the Custom House), with Italian cookies and coffee. Beer, wine and soft drinks will also be on sale.

Admission is free. The Festa goes from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. The bocce tournament is scheduled for Saturday and on Sunday, the tarantella lesson runs from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Local chef and real estate agent Tene Shake will offer a calamari cooking demo at 1 p.m. Saturday. For more information and a complete schedule, visit festaitaliamonterey.org.



Cypress Grove's tasting room in downtown Carmel offers visitors a selection of locally produced wines, which will also be featured in a special dinner at Carmel Valley Ranch on Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. The event will feature a five-course tasting menu.

Make it yourself

Carmel Valley's own Caroline Chambers just released her third cookbook, "What to Cook When You Don't Feel Like Cooking: Make It Fast." Chambers built a massive following one recipe at a time. She released them every Saturday via her Substack, "What to Cook When You Don't Feel Like Cooking," with more than 500,000 subscribers.

Chambers has built a community of home cooks who already like making meals. "It's all of the other stuff that they don't feel like doing — picking the recipe, writing the grocery list, looking through the freezer to see what meat they already have. The decision fatigue that we have with having to cook dinner for our family every single night is tremendous," she said. She also emphasizes using fewer dishes.

Every recipe in her latest work features her "signature swaps," riffs, tips and shortcuts to empower the home chef. One of her favorite recipes from the book is the Toasty Pistachio Salmon Salad, "because it's really light but still so filling. And we have this big apple tree at our house in Carmel Valley with really delicious apples, so we've been pulling those off and making this recipe," she said.

Other recipes include Southwestern Chicken and Veggie Chowder, Ramen Vongole (a Korean-Italian fusion dish of ramen noodles and clams) and The Only Egg Salad You'll Ever Need.

Chambers' last book, "What to Cook

See **WINE** *next page*





Shearwater
EST TAVERN 2021

and Carmel Mission Inn present

OYSTER JAMS

Thursday, September 17th • 5-8pm
Live Music

Indulge in fresh oysters and enjoy Live Music with **AL JAMES BAND**.

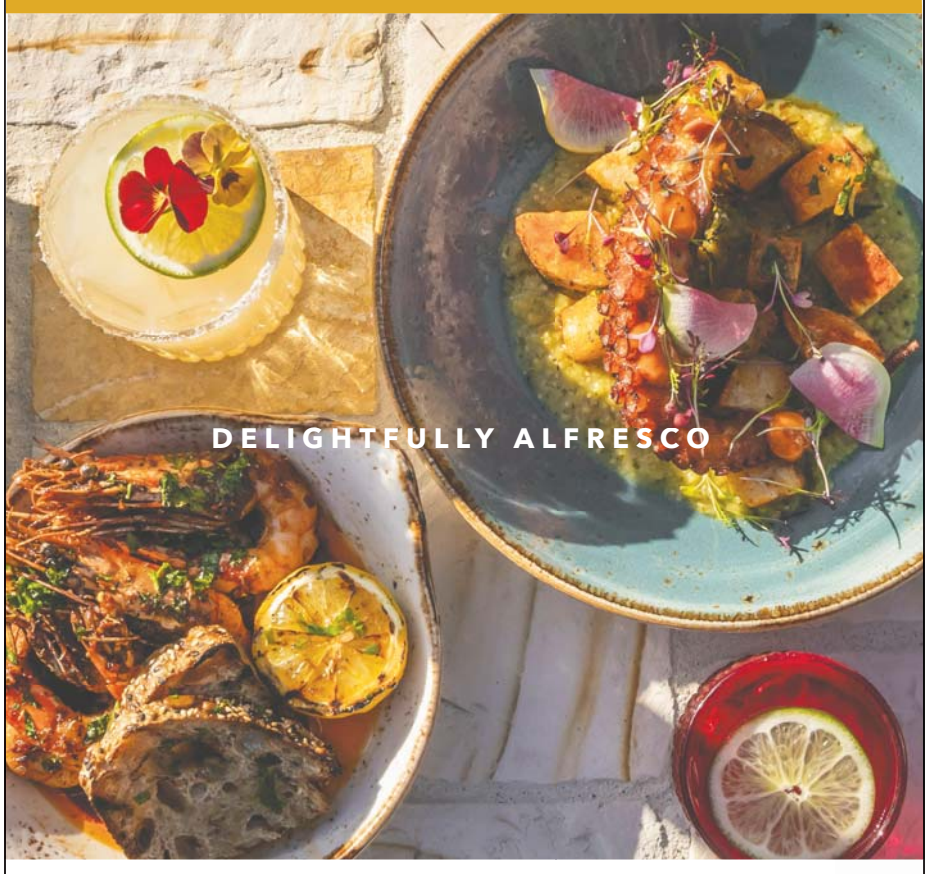
Full Shearwater Tavern menu also available.

Pay as you go for oysters, beer, wine or full bar. Outside event around our beautiful open fire pits, dress accordingly. Children & dog friendly event and encouraged.

3665 RIO ROAD, CARMEL • SHEARWATERTAVERN.COM

ESTÉBAN RESTAURANT
Sip.Savor.Share.

#Tapas!
A Happy Hour Beyond Compare.



TRY OUR **NEW**
Tapas Happy Hour &
Mid-Week Specials
4:30 - 6:00pm daily

Adjacent to the Casa Munras Garden Hotel & Spa | 700 Munras Avenue, Monterey
Reservations Recommended | 831-375-0176 | *estebanrestaurant.com*

Edgar's

Live Music on Fridays
5:30PM - 8:30PM
Enjoy live music on the patio featuring vocalist and guitarist Casey Frazier.

DINNER: FRIDAY - SUNDAY | 5:00PM - 9:00PM
831.620.8910 | 8000 VALLEY GREENS DR, CARMEL

MUSIC

From page 38A

■ Impressing Clapton

Called the greatest guitarist by none other than Eric Clapton, singer and guitarist **Albert Lee** plays at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, at the Golden Bough Playhouse.

Besides Clapton, Lee has shared the stage with many luminaries, including Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Eddie Van Halen and the Everly Brothers. He has also recorded 17 solo albums, including his most recent, "Lay it Down," which came out two years ago.

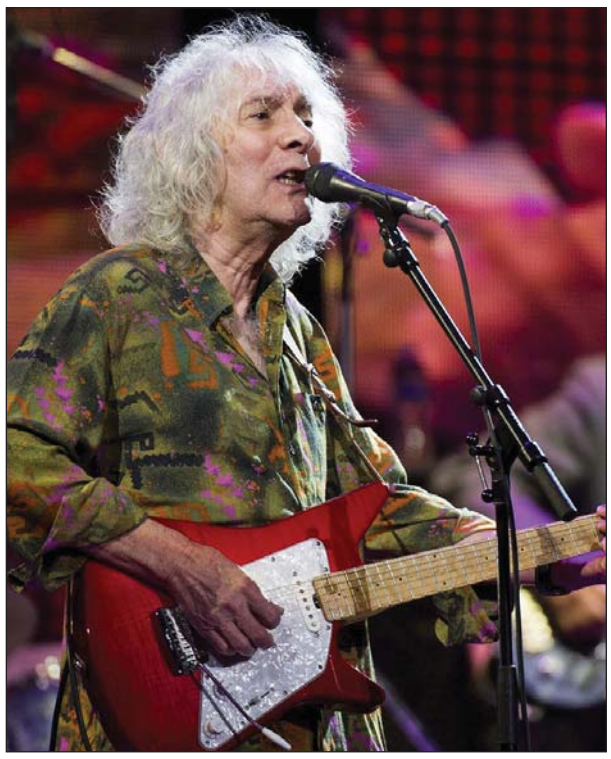
Tickets start at $91. Call (831) 622-0100 or visit pacrep.org for tickets.

■ Defying categories

Taking the traditional music of the Atlas Mountains of Morocco and bringing it into the 21st century, **AZA** plays Saturday, 7:30 p.m., at Palenke Arts in Seaside.

"AZA is evocative of Saharan-African blues, yet with an original style that truly defies categorization," said the teen arts center, which is located at 530 Elm Ave. "AZA's performances feature deep, danceable rhythms, intricate string melodies, and soaring, soulful vocals."

Tickets are $30. Go to palenkearts.org



Called the greatest guitarist in the world by Eric Clapton, Albert Lee takes the stage Wednesday at the Golden Bough Playhouse.

Live music, Sept. 11-17

■ Big Sur

Big Sur River Inn — **Sean & the Skinwalkers** (rock and blues, Sunday at noon). 46800 Highway 1.

Fernwood Resort — singers and guitarists **Sharon Silva & Erisy Watt** (folk and Americana, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

■ Carmel

Carmel Mission Inn — **Scarlet** (pop and rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **Open Mic Night** (Wednesday at 5 p.m.). 3665 Rio Road.

Devendorf Park — **Red Beans & Rice** plays a free show as part of the Carmel-by-the-Sea Farmers Market (rock and blues, Thursday at 4 p.m.). 544 Sixth Avenue.

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**, 827 Camino Real.

Cypress Inn — singer **Dino Vera** (jazz, R&B and dance, Friday at 6:30 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and pop, Sunday at 11 a.m.), **The David Morwood Jazz Band** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 684 Lincoln St.

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



Sharon Silva and Erisy Watt play folk music Saturday, 10 p.m., at Fernwood Resort in Big Sur

■ Carmel Valley

Baja Cantina — singer and guitarist **Matt Masih** (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.

Carmel Valley Community Youth Center — The **B-Keepers** plays at a fundraising dinner for the youth center (Americana, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 25 Ford Road.

Edgar's — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Alison Sharino** (Friday at 5:30 p.m.). At **Quail Lodge**, 8205 Valley Greens Drive.

McIntyre Vineyards — singer and guitarist **Sabelle** (Sunday at 1 p.m.). 24 W. Carmel Valley Road.

See **LIVE** *next page*

WINE

From previous page

When You Don't Feel Like Cooking," published in 2024, was organized by how much time each recipe took — 15-minutes, 30-minutes, 45-minutes, and an hour.

"After watching my newsletter and cookbook readers cook through my recipes over the last six years, I kept noticing one thing. The recipes they return to over and over again are the ones that take under 30 minutes. Sure, they'll try the hour-long recipes, maybe they'll cook them on a special occasion, but they're not the recipes they cook when they do not feel like cooking," she said.

Chambers sometimes hangs up her apron for a meal at Stationaery (San Carlos near Sixth) where she loves the farmer's salad.

She also enjoys a popular locals' spot at 1 Esquiline Road in Carmel Valley.

"You can find me at the Creamery pretty much every single morning. It perfectly embodies what I love so much about living in the Valley — the focus on local ingredients, cool, kind people doing new and interesting things — and it's really community-focused on what is going to bring value to the patrons, like their regular programming for kids," she said. You can buy her book on her website, carolinechambers.com/make-it-fast.

■ Odds and ends

Taste of Carmel returns to the Carmel Mission Oct. 1. Discounted tickets are on sale now through Sept. 13, and prices go up on Sept. 14. The event brings together more than 70 local restaurants, wineries and craft beverage makers and has sold out for the last two years. Early bird pricing, representing savings of $25 per person, is $175, or $150 for Chamber members. Tickets with VIP perks like early entry and valet parking are $250 now and $300 starting Sept. 14. Visit tasteofcarmel.org for more or to order.

On Oct. 3, the festivities move inland for the annual Party in the Village at Hidden Valley in Carmel Valley. Featuring a BBQ dinner, dancing and more, the event goes for $65 per person and tickets are available at Kasey's, Carmel Valley Business Center, Running Iron, and UPS Mid-Valley, or can be purchased at cvvic.org/piv, where you'll also find more information.

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

SUMMER TRAVEL MUST-HAVES
at Baum & Blume's Unique Boutique!
Flirty Lace Skirts to Keep You Cool & Stylish!
Wrinkle-free Crop Pants for Comfy Traveling!
Great Selection of Tops, Blouses & Scarves!
"Shady Lady" Sun Hats, Fedoras & Totes!
Island Tribe® Knit Ponchos & Camisoles!
Colorful Earrings, Pendants & Anklets!
Cotton Kimonos & Palazzo Pants!
Soruka Leather Handbags!
BAUM & BLUME
THE CARRIAGE HOUSE
4 EL CAMINITO RD
CARMEL VALLEY VILLAGE
JOIN US FOR LUNCH ON THE PATIO!
THURS-SAT 12-3pm
OR
CHECK OUT OUR DELICIOUS TAKE-HOME DINNER OPTIONS!

Kona Steak & Seafood
Served the 1st Hour Sunday - Friday
KONA SUNSET
3-COURSE DINNER – $29
MON–THU 4–5PM • FRI & SUN 3–4PM
(Excludes Saturdays, holidays & parties over 8)
Start your dinner in the 1st hour with **Chicken Coconut Curry Soup** or **Kona House Salad**, choose from favorites like **Walnut Shrimp, Sanddabs, Teriyaki Chicken, Salmon, Tempura Prawns, Fish & Chips, Kona Cheeseburger** or **BBQ Ribs**, and finish with **Lilikoi Pie** or **Marianne's Macadamia Nut Ice Cream**.
Reserve your table at konamonterey.com or call 831-920-2911 today!
Locals best kept secret. Just ask for it when reserving.
Kona Steak & Seafood
1200 Del Monte Center • Monterey
831-920-2911 • konamonterey.com

MIKA SUSHI
Serving Japanese and Korean Dinners



SAT & SUN 1:00pm-8:30pm | MON, WED-FRI 4:30pm-8:30pm
Online orders:
mikasushi.menu11.com
831-652-3069
9 Del Fino Place, Carmel Valley Village



Countywide studio tour kicks off Saturday

■ More than 250 artists participate

Offering A fresh perspective on the creative process — and a peek at where art takes shape — the annual Monterey County Open Studios Tour kicks off Saturday and Sunday and returns Sept. 19-20 for a second weekend. The county's largest free, self-guided art event, it runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

"This year's tour offers a unique opportunity to go behind the scenes into the working studios, galleries and creative spaces of more than 250 local artists," said the Arts Council for Monterey County, which presents the tour. "Spanning from the Monterey Peninsula to King City, it's an unforgettable way to connect directly with the vibrant creators who make our community so special."

Jacquie Atchison, executive director for the arts council, said the tour showcases the "incredible talent" in the local art scene. While most of the artists live on the Monterey Peninsula, some come from as far away as King City.

"Open Studios is more than an art tour — it's an invitation to connect," she said. "There is something truly special about stepping into an artist's creative space and hearing the stories behind the work."

The Oldemeyer Center at 986 Hilby Ave. is also hosting an exhibit of work by all participating studio artists through Oct. 1. It's open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

■ Outside the box

Three shows open Saturday at the Carmel Art Association, including "Raw" by painters Ann Artz and Jessica Bovert.

"For Artz, the exhibit offers her chance to step away from her typically vibrant paintings to make limited-palette drawings on paper," the gallery's Hayden Concepcion-Deyo said. "Bovert, known for her carefully structured weavings, turns instead to painting on silk with natural dyes, allowing the material to move, bleed and resist complete control."

Also opening Saturday are displays by painters Cyndra Bradford and Lilli-anne Price ("Joy of Paint") and painter Dennis Stanford ("In Plain Sight").

The shows continue through Oct. 5. The gallery, which will host a free public reception at 4 p.m. Saturday, is at 555 Dolores Street.



Painter Cyndra Bradford's "Point Lobos Morning Light" is featured in a new show at the Carmel Art Association.

■ Look for blue lanterns

Highlighting 19 artist-owned galleries, the latest Carmel Art Walk is set for Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. Participants include Joaquin Turner Gallery, Carmel Art Association, Patricia Qualls Gallery and many others. The event is free and family-friendly.

"Maps are available at the participating galleries, which will have blue lanterns out front to help with the self-guided tours," said Turner, who owns a gallery on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth. Go to carmelcalifornia.com/carmel-art-walk for more details.

■ 'The Quiet Hours'

Presenting subjects and scenes captured "before sunrise or at dusk when light is low," painter David Stanger shares his latest work in the exhibit "The Quiet Hours," on display at Winfield Gallery through Oct. 5.

"Although grounded in realism, David's paintings evoke the visual world as a vehicle for the contemplation of something beyond it," curator Helaine Glick said. "They are works that arise from a slow and thoughtful engagement with meaning and uncertainty, using inspired handling of light and color to conjure an almost otherworldly atmosphere redolent of presence — they give us much to ponder and much to revere."

Winfield Gallery is at 656 Dolores Street. For more, visit winfieldgallery.com.

■ Treasure trove

California's otherworldly Salton Sea provides the inspiration for a photo exhibit at the Gallery at Del Mesa through Nov. 1. The gallery hosts a free public reception Saturday at 4 p.m.

"Salton Sea Odyssey: A Desert Adventure" features images captured in March 2025 during a workshop led by photographers Ted Orland and Brian Taylor. Contributing photographers include Janet Beaty, Celia Lara, Maria Isabel Leblanc, Richard Murai and eight others.

"The area is a photographic treasure trove that reveals the remarkable diversity of the desert — from its stark beauty and expansive horizons, to remnants of human dreams and the unexpected poetry found in places often overlooked," according to a description of the exhibit.

The gallery, which is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., is at 500 Del Mesa Drive in Carmel Valley.

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

CALENDAR

Sept. 10-Jan. 28 – Women in the Word is conducting a **Christian Bible study on Revelation**, 9:15 to 11 a.m. Thursdays. Women of ALL ages and denominations, from any town or church, with any level of biblical knowledge are invited! Contact Sarah Myers at sarahwmyers@gmail.com or (831) 238-7559. Childcare provided with advance notice.

Sept. 11-13 – Experience the excitement of the 93rd Annual Festa Italia at Custom House Plaza in Monterey. This free, family-friendly celebration welcomes visitors of all ages for three unforgettable days of authentic Italian food, live music, dancing, a bocce tournament, a calamari cooking demonstration, artisan vendors, Italian-themed merchandise, and plenty of fun, friendship, and festive Italian spirit! www.festaitaliamonterey.org

Sept. 15 – Ikebana demonstration will begin at 12:30 p.m. at the Pebble Beach Community Services District at 3101 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach. Guest fee $5. Light refreshments will be served.Gate fee will be waived by mentioning "Ikebana Meeting at the PBCSD."

Sept. 18 – International blues-rock guitarist and recording artist Brad "Guitar" Wilson brings his powerful live band to Wave Street Studios, 774 Wave. St., Monterey. Featuring music from his latest album BOUNDLESS plus blues-rock favorites. Doors 6:30 p.m.; show 8 p.m.. Tickets $30 advance/$35 door. Tickets: https://www.wavestreetlive774.com/shows

Sept. 20 – Choral Evensong at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church. The community is invited at 4 p.m. to a soothing service of music and voices. Afternoon Tea, wine, hors d'oeuvres follow. 28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel.

Sept. 24 – The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) will present a luncheon lecture at the Monterey Marriott, 350 Calle Principal, Monterey. **Peter Bergen, CNN National Security analyst and professor, Arizona State University**, will present **"All The Presidents' Wars: Twenty-Five years of America's War on Terror."** Visit http://www.wacmb.org for event registration and information.

Oct. 11 – Don't miss the free fun 181st Wharf Birthday Party at Old Fisherman's Wharf from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy a great performance by The Money Band, free birthday cake, face painting, Wharf Walks, meet Monterey Fire and Police representatives, tour and view the historic General Pershing boat, take photos with costumed strolling sea creatures, and much more! www.montereywharf.com

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

Thursdays - Live jazz with The David Morwood Jazz Band, 6 to 9 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.

September-October – Discover Baum & Blume & The Carriage House...Carmel Valley's Hidden Gem! Enjoy lunch on the charming patio noon to 3 p.m Thursday-Saturday. (Reservations suggested.) Plus: gourmet to-go dinners + fun summer shopping in the Carriage House boutique! Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley (831) 659-0400.

To advertise, email anne@carmelpinecone.com
$0.50 per word ($35 min. charge)
• Add a photo for your event for only $25 •

LIVE

From previous page

Trailside Cafe — **Boscoe's Brood** (folk and rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

■ Monterey

Albatross Ridge Winery — singer and guitarist **Ryan Sesma** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Maya Rayburn** (Saturday at 6 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.

Custom House Plaza — Festa Italia Monterey 2026 features live music, including **The Lost & Found Band** (pop and rock, Friday at 5 p.m.), **Anthony Lane Band** (Italian music, Saturday at noon and 4 p.m.), singer **Pasquale Esposito** (Saturday at 1:30 and 5:15 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Jimmy Rossi** and accordionist **Luca DePaolis** (Saturday at 2:30 and 6:15 p.m.), **Mike Marotta & The Italian All Stars** (Saturday at 2:30 p.m.), and **The Money Band** (pop and rock, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.).

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

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

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

Monterey Plaza Hotel — pianist **Gary Meek** (jazz, Friday and Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

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

Peter B's — singer and guitarist **Ryan Sesma** (Tues-

Continues next page

Open to the Public | Free Admission
ARC Talks PRESENTS
ARTHRITIS 101
A Review of the Four Most Common Forms of Arthritis and Their Treatments
Presented by the Arthritis Research Coalition and Speaker Lester Miller, M.D.
Do you think you know everything you need to know about arthritis?
WHEN: Thursday, September 24th 10:30
WHERE: Meals On Wheels 700 Jewell Ave, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Lester D. Miller, M.D., a rheumatologist with nearly 40 years of practice in Santa Cruz, California, is now a Clinical Professor at UCSF, teaching rheumatology fellows. He has been active in arthritis research fundraising and will continue his efforts on the Arthritis Research Coalition Board.
Scan for more information on ARC Talks or leave a message at (831) 887-0278 for a call back and to reserve a spot!
MEALS ON WHEELS OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA
Visit our website at: https://arthritisresearchcoalition.org
Email us at: Info@arthritisresearchcoalition.org
ARTHRITIS research coalition

Looking for Some Sun & Fun ?
Then head on out to Baum & Blume for Lunch & Shopping! ~ Thurs-Sat 12-3
Lunch Menu Highlights
Tasty Appetizers, Soup, Salad & Popovers
Reuben Quesadilla, Fried Chicken Salad, Farm-to-Table Sandos, Artichoke Raviolis w/Herb Butter, Chinois Salmon Burger,
Curated Wine & Beer Menu...Plus: Chef Diane's Fabulous Desserts!
Baum & Blume and The Carriage House
4 El Caminito Rd, CV
Reservations: 659-0400
Need a special birthday gift? Order one of Deb's Celebration Gift Baskets!

From previous page

day at 6 p.m.). 2 Portola Plaza.

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 — **The New Wave Band** (rock, Saturday at 9 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.). 1180 Forest Ave.

Lucy's on Lighthouse — **Sean & the Skinwalkers** (rock and blues, Saturday at 2 p.m.), **The Chuck Brewer Band** (rock and blues, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave.

PG's Meetinghouse — **Victory Lane** (classic rock, Friday at 7 p.m.), guitarist **Bruce Forman** and multi-instrumentalist **Paul Contos** (jazz, Saturday at 11 a.m.), **West Coast Cure** (pop and rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.), saxophonist **Arman Sangalang** (Sunday at 11 a.m.), **Open Mic** (Monday at 6 p.m., signups start at 5:30 p.m.), **Tribe in the Sky** ("sign up to play or simply enjoy amazing musicians jam," Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave.

Pop & Hiss — **Organism** (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **Ricketts Folly** (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 215 Forest Ave.

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

■ Pebble Beach

The Inn at Spanish Bay — **The Andy Weis Trio** (jazz, Friday, Saturday and Thursday at 7 p.m.), **The Broken Shades Duo** (blues, Saturday at 2 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Meredith McHenry** (Friday at 5 p.m.), mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff** (jazz, Saturday at 5 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

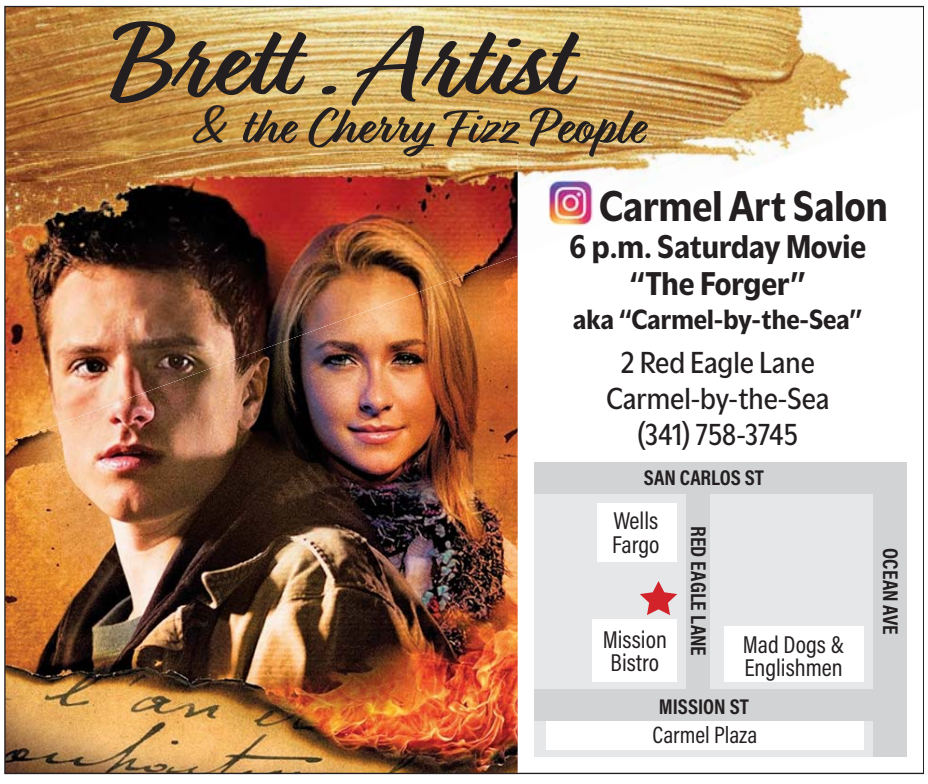
■ Seaside

Deja Blue — **The Al James Band** (rock and blues, Saturday at 3 p.m.), **Wrockinfoose** (r&b and funk, Wednesday at 9 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

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



Tenor Pasqual Esposito performs Saturday and Sunday at Monterey's 93rd annual Festa Italia at Custom House Plaza. Visit festaitaliamonterey.org for a complete music schedule.







September 18 • 7:00pm

CARMEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join us for delectable desserts & great jazz with saxophonist

TONY BOLIVAR
and friends

FREE concert to benefit the *Youth Music Monterey*.
Donations welcome. Doors open at 6:30pm.

More information about Carmel Presbyterian Church at *www.carmelpres.org*.

CARMEL VALLEY RANCH

FALL WINE DINNERS
AT CARMEL VALLEY RANCH



CYPRESS GROVE WINERY | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
PELIO ESTATE WINES | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Celebrate the flavors of the season as we honor creativity and craftsmanship.

PRE-DINNER RECEPTION
Featuring sparkling wine and music *6:00 P.M.*

FIVE-COURSE DINNER
Fresh, local cuisine from The Ranch culinary team *6:30 P.M.*

CURATED PAIRINGS
Small-batch Carmel Valley wines expertly paired with each dish

$190 ADULTS
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
ATTENDEES MUST BE 21+

RESERVE NOW

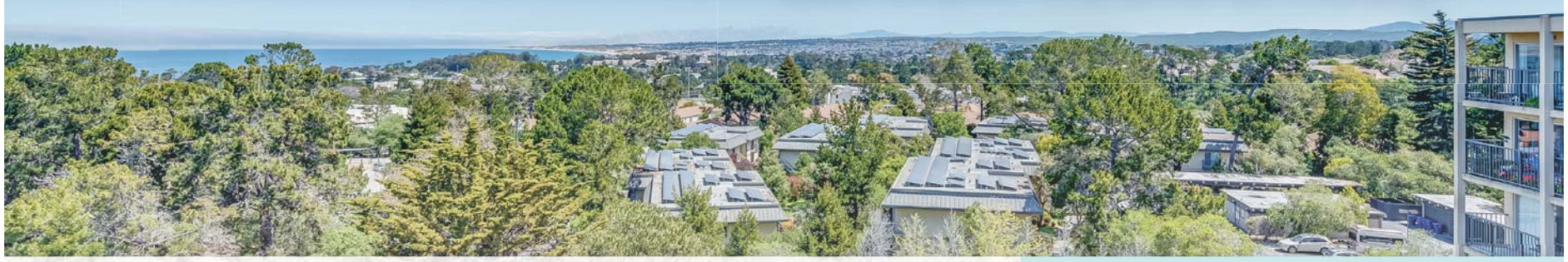
One Old Ranch Road · Carmel, CA 93923
TEL 831.275.1532 · WEB carmelvalleyranch.com

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

LIVE THE LIFE AT

COASTAL

SENIOR RESIDENCES

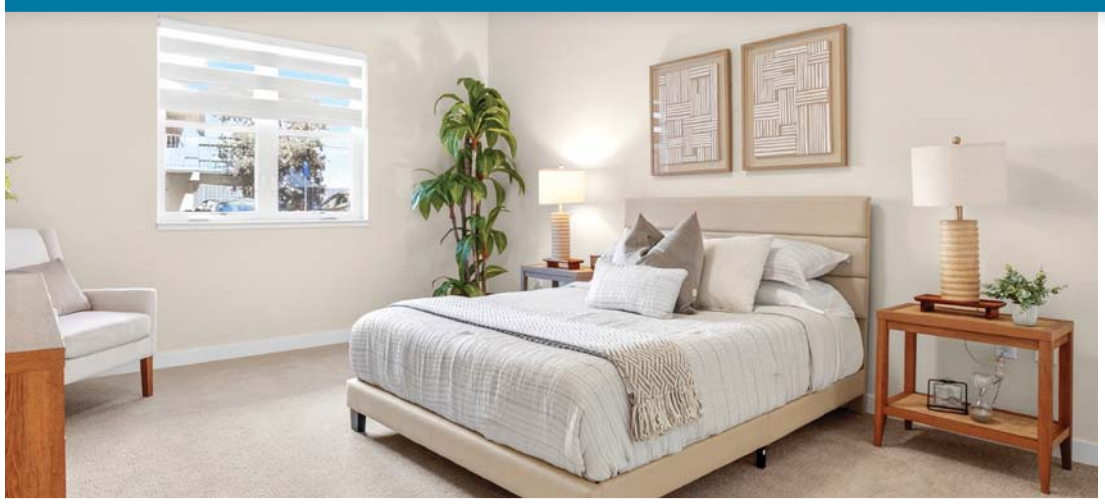


Retire Into the Life You've Always Deserved.

Coastal Senior Residences at The Park Lane is Monterey's newest address for those who want something extraordinary. Choose from beautifully appointed one and two bedroom apartments with sky-high ceilings, premium finishes, and sweeping natural light. This isn't just a retirement community. This is your next great chapter.

- Full Kitchen
- In-Unit Laundry
- Premium Amenities
- Central A/C
- Premier Location
- Parking Garage

Ask Us How You Can Save Up to $2,400!*







*Terms & Conditions apply. Please contact our sales office for more details.

Cozy One Bedrooms. Limited Availability.

Don't miss out on your chance to experience the joy of coastal living.

Schedule your tour today!

Call (831) 900-4988

NOW LEASING – Select units going fast. Reserve your home today!

(831) 900-4988 | CoastalSeniorResidences.com

100 Glenwood Cir, Monterey, CA 93940

COASTAL
Senior Residences
at The Park Lane