

BATTLE OVER CUSD BUDGET GETS HEATED

By LILY PATTERSON

AN OTHERWISE routine financial presentation to the Carmel Unified School District Board erupted into open hostilities last week, setting the tone for the next year of negotiations between the Association of Carmel Teachers and district leadership.

Sparked by a single form included in the district’s 2025-2026 unaudited financial actuals report — a waiver which exempts a district from spending the statutory 55% minimum of its budget on classroom teachers — union members argued they are being shortchanged, firing back with impressions of overfull classrooms and an absent administration.

Officials rebutted, pointing out that one third of California public school districts took the exemption last year — including half of those in Monterey County — and arguing that Carmel is similarly reckoning with ballooning employee pension and health-care costs and the exhaustive range of student support services that schools are increasingly obligated to provide.

As established in the California Education Code in 1961, the 55% benchmark applies only to full-time classroom teacher and aide positions. Last year, CUSD missed the mark by 1.34% (\$1.14 million), but claimed the exemption by proving that its overall compensation packages rank among the highest-paying districts in the state.

Like big companies

That 55% standard has ossified over the last 75 years, according to chief financial officer Yvonne Glenn, despite radical shifts in how California’s schools are funded — not to mention the fact that the smallest districts now operate as bureaucracies with employee headcounts akin to large corporations, and amenities last century’s students wouldn’t have known to ask for.

“You didn’t hire mental health clinicians, psychologists, all the help that we know is needed for students. The kind of support schools are expected to provide — it’s quite different how we spend money nowadays,” Glenn said.

“We must take the exemption or make difficult staffing decisions. This investment in counselors is something

See **SCHOOLS** page 24A

California goes after the big, bad data centers

ONCE IN a blue moon, an issue distresses the masses so much it eclipses partisanship — and this year, that issue is the data center. These vast facilities are home to large groups of networked computer servers and information storage systems that power the state’s economy, which in turn funds California’s budget. But as the only large-scale physical manifestation of artificial intelligence, they’ve

Glittering crystals on display



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

We can’t promise a marriage proposal will break out, as it did in 2016, but wonderful things are always in the offing at Carmel’s sandcastle contest — back this year on Sept. 19. See page 7A.

Pastor offers visionary plan for Rocky Point

■ Vetting in permit process to begin

By CHRIS COUNTS

WITH HIS sights set on transforming Rocky Point Restaurant into a world-class destination, developer Patrice Pastor has unveiled a striking modern design by noted architect Renzo Piano for a building that could one day rival Big Sur’s most famous landmarks.

But first, the project faces Monterey County’s rigorous land-use vetting process, which starts Tuesday at 10 a.m. when the Big Sur Land Use Advisory Committee reviews his plans at the Big Sur Multi-Agency Facility.

‘Master of Lightness’

Pastor and his company, Esperanza Carmel, bought the iconic but rundown 2.5-acre Rocky Point Restaurant property from the Wang family for \$8 million in 2021. He wants to give it a major makeover, and he’s commissioned Piano — one of the world’s most respected architects — to design it. Pastor noted that Piano celebrated his 89th birthday this week.



RENDERING/RENZO PIANO BUILDING WORKSHOP, PARIS

With its curved glass roof, organic, understated profile, and breathtaking setting, Renzo Piano’s design for Rocky Point Restaurant seems likely to turn the neglected property into a Big Sur landmark.

Courts order deportation of hundreds of locals

■ More than 300 children face removal

By KELLY NIX

IMMIGRATION JUDGES ordered the deportation of nearly 800 undocumented Monterey County residents over the past two years, while about 3,500 others have pending cases in immigration court, according to the latest figures from a watchdog group.

The Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, which publishes immigration data and reports, said in August that immigration court judges ordered the removal of nearly 450 Monterey County residents in 2025 and 340 in 2026.

The figures show that deportation orders for county residents have increased sharply compared with previous years, following President Donald Trump’s pledge to remove millions of immigrants who are in the United States illegally. The 783 people are among 2,366 current or former Monterey County residents ordered deported from the country since 1998, the records clearinghouse said.

Many countries

Most of those with orders had been charged with entering the United States unlawfully, although federal notices to appear in court often do not include other criminal charges or convictions, according to the records group. Men and women received deportation orders in nearly equal numbers in 2025 and this year.

Residents slated for deportation include 316 children age 17 and younger, 153 adults ages 25 to 34, 30 people ages 45 to 59 and 10 people age 60 or older.

Most county residents with removal orders are Mexican nationals, but citizens of El Salvador, Guatemala,

See **DEPORTATIONS** page 16A

Fawn euthanized after dog attack, police say

By KELLY NIX

THE OWNER of a dog that chased and attacked a fawn last week near the Pacific Grove Golf Links was issued a citation, police said.

At about 9 a.m. Sept. 11, officers responded to the 700 block of Briggs Avenue, where, minutes earlier, a fawn had become stuck headfirst in a fence while a husky bit its rear.

The deer sustained significant injuries after becoming tangled in the fence and was euthanized by the SPCA, Pacific Grove Police Cmdr. Brian Anderson told The Pine Cone.

‘Prior violation’

“Mary Wholey, a Pacific Grove resident, was issued an administrative citation for having a dog at large, since there was a prior warning for the same violation,” Anderson said. “The fine for a dog-at-large violation is \$103.”

See **FAWN** page 25A

Capitol Access

By CAITLIN CONRAD

The hacking event sparked global alarm over AI’s threat to cybersecurity and national security.

If machine intelligence doesn’t have you wound up about the demise of mankind, maybe you’re worried it’s coming for your job. In February, AI entrepreneur Matt Shumer published a viral online essay predicting that large numbers of white-collar professionals

See **DATA CENTERS** page 19A

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Sandy Claws

Stage Hound

A tiny Italian greyhound-terrier mix was languishing at the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter when she got her big break at 6 months old. Recognized as a doppel-ganger for Piper, a celebrity pup renowned for her work on local stages, she was adopted and named Hazel Bark. Her person then spent two weeks training Hazel to become Piper's stunt double.

During that training, Hazel's person realized that the darling little dog, with her soft baby face, airplane ears and tender gaze, had become something more important: her beloved pet.

Hazel was the understudy for the werewolf in "Young Frankenstein" and played Mr. Willoughby in "Mary Poppins" at the Forest Theater, her person said.

"Hazel's great when we're together, but when I leave her alone, things get scary for her," her person said. "I wish I'd named her Hazel Quiet instead of Hazel Bark."

Yet while sitting safely in her stroller backstage, Hazel remains completely calm through the end of rehearsal. Afterward, she wanders the stage, pausing to check in with the director.

"When Hazel was younger, I'd take her to the Carmel River and slip her into her life vest so she could swim — until I realized she swam better without it," her person said. "She leaps into the water like a Lab to retrieve



a stick. She'd rather jump over things than go around them."

Hazel might be most comfortable at Carmel Beach. As soon as she hits the sand, she circles her person and her person's dad, then takes off down the shoreline. But she always returns to check in.

"It was Pops and the Pups until Piper died, so now it's just Hazel," her person said. "Her sister took her final bow last July, which means Hazel just might land a starring role."

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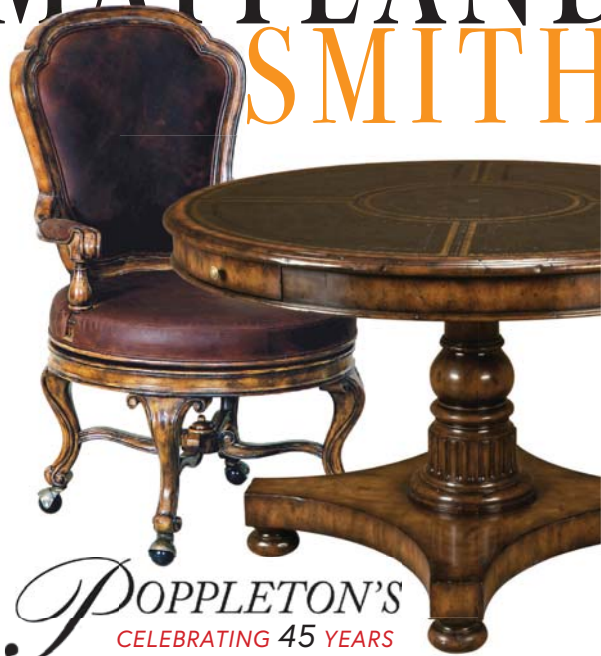
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Police & Sheriff’s Log

Semi-noncompliant driver arrested

HERE’S A look at some of the significant calls logged by the police departments of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Seaside and Marina. This week’s log was compiled by Mary Schley.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject at Lorca Lane and Junipero Street was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fall on city property at Dolores Street and Ocean Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Report of a possible suicide on 17 Mile Drive. The Monterey County Coroner responded to the scene.

Pacific Grove: A 35-year-old male on Arkwright Court was arrested for felony corporal injury on a spouse or dating partner and a restraining order violation.

Monterey: A 32-year-old woman was arrested at Del Monte Avenue and Cortes Street

for driving under the influence.

Monterey: A 32-year-old man was arrested on Sixth Street for burglary and unlawful possession of tear gas by a prohibited person.

Monterey: A 50-year-old man was arrested on Lighthouse Avenue on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Monterey: A 60-year-old man was arrested at Fisherman’s Wharf on an outstanding felony warrant and an out-of-jurisdiction warrant.

Monterey: Subject placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold on North Fremont Street.

Monterey: A 22-year-old man was arrested on Madison Street on an out-of-jurisdiction warrant.

Monterey: A 46-year-old man was arrested on East Franklin Street for disorderly conduct.

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. 28 — Judge Mark E. Hood sentenced Rafael Martinez Vargas, 45, of Salinas to six years in prison. Vargas also was ordered to register as a sex offender for life.

On July 24, a Monterey County jury found Vargas guilty of forcibly orally copulating John Doe 1, in violation of Penal Code Section 287(c)(2)(A), and committing sexual battery against John Doe 1, in violation of Penal Code Section 243.4(e)(1). The jury also found the allegation that the crime involved planning, sophistication or professionalism to be true. Forcible oral copulation is a serious and violent felony and is considered a strike under California’s three-strikes law. At sentencing, Vargas continued to show no remorse for his conduct.

Doe 1, an adult, had been a customer at Haircuts in Shape in Salinas for several years

and had received haircutting services from Vargas during that time. Vargas had never previously assaulted him, and his prior haircuts had been routine.

During what began as a routine haircut March 3, Doe 1 reported that Vargas touched his genitals without consent, then pulled down his pants and began to orally copulate him. Although Doe 1 did not strike Vargas or scream, he repeatedly and forcefully attempted to push Vargas away. Vargas did not initially stop the assault, but Doe 1 continued resisting until he was able to end it. Doe 1 later called police and never returned to Haircuts in Shape.

Two other victims testified during the jury trial. John Doe 2 testified that Vargas reached

See **GAVEL** page 23A

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FDA alert on breast scan clinic

By KELLY NIX

THE U.S. Food and Drug Administration is alerting patients who had mammograms at the Mammography Center of Monterey about possible problems with the quality of the X-rays.

The FDA said Aug. 28 that some mammograms produced by the clinic on or after Dec. 22, 2023, contained severe image-quality deficiencies. The agency recommends that patients who have not had a mammogram at a different facility since that date request copies of their medical reports from the Cass Street clinic and have the images reviewed at another mammography facility.

“As a patient, you or your representatives have the right to ask for your mammograms and copies of your medical reports,” the FDA said. Mammography is considered the safest and most effective method for detecting breast cancer.

\$1 million penalty

The caution follows a February civil complaint filed by the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office against Randeep Singh, the Mammography Center of Monterey’s owner at the time.

As of Oct. 30, 2025, the Monterey clinic “failed, with respect to at least 114 patients, to provide timely written mammography reports as required by law,” according to documents filed in Monterey County Superior Court.

For more than a month in late 2025, the clinic also operated without a physician to interpret mammograms, which the DA’s office said violated state law because

Singh is not a licensed medical doctor.

In July, after Singh failed to respond to the DA’s complaint, the court issued a default judgment in favor of prosecutors. Monterey County Superior Court Judge Susan J. Matcham ordered Singh to pay a civil penalty of more than \$1 million and to preserve all patient medical records, images and reports.

He has not paid the penalty, a spokeswoman for the DA’s office told The Pine Cone this week.

The Monterey clinic is now under different ownership.

Administrative issues

The FDA said the Monterey clinic also failed to provide written mammography reports to healthcare providers and summaries to patients within 30 days of exams, did not transfer records within 15 days of patients’ requests and failed to respond to multiple notifications from the American College of Radiology regarding the concerns. The radiology accreditation organization and the FDA received multiple consumer complaints about the Cass Street clinic, the agency said.

In December 2025, the organization notified the Monterey clinic of its intent to revoke its accreditation and gave the business an opportunity to appeal the proposed decision, but it failed to do so.

“This facility may not legally perform mammography at this time, as it does not have a certificate issued under the Mammography Quality Standards Act,” the FDA said last year.

For more information, call the Mammography Quality Standards Act hotline at (800) 838-7715.

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Carmel Beach is magnificent, but you can help make it prettier

■ Saturday features sandcastle contest, CRA cleanup

By MARY SCHLEY

“IT NEVER Gets Old: Carmel at 110” is the theme of the 63rd annual Great Sandcastle Contest set for Sept. 19, when artists and builders will descend on a two-block stretch of Carmel Beach to create their homages to the city on its 110th birthday.

That same morning, members of the Carmel Residents Association and other volunteers will set out for their monthly beach cleanup.

Castle construction can begin on the stretch of sand between 10th and 12th avenues at 7 a.m., with judging by city officials and members of the American Institute of Architects Monterey Bay starting at noon and awards presented at 1 p.m.

‘Have fun!’

The competition is free to enter and open to all ages and skill levels, but it comes with a full set of rules, the first and foremost of which is, “Have fun!” Some of the Great Sandcastle Contest rules and regulations address proper beach behavior, such as, “Always use stairways going to and from the beach. Walking on slopes and beach bluffs is prohibited.”

Following the theme is not required, but coloring outside the lines will limit the number of categories in which a castle can be judged. And while artistic expression is encouraged, creators should “keep it family-friendly.”

Using bulldozers, excavators, drills and

other power tools is not allowed, but all types of hand tools are permitted. Castles must be made of sand and other natural materials found at the beach. Paints and other artificial colorings are not permitted.

While it might be tempting, especially during an election year, political messages are forbidden, as is commercial advertising.



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

Sandcastle contest winners, like this one from 2022, are part of a long and proud Carmel tradition.

Judges have the power not only to pick their favorites but also to disqualify an entry if they feel it’s necessary. Bribery won’t be the reason, though, since bribes are “condoned and encouraged” — as long as they’re in good taste (or taste good) and are not monetary.

“The judges’ decisions are arbitrary and final,” the rules say.

See CASTLE page 23A



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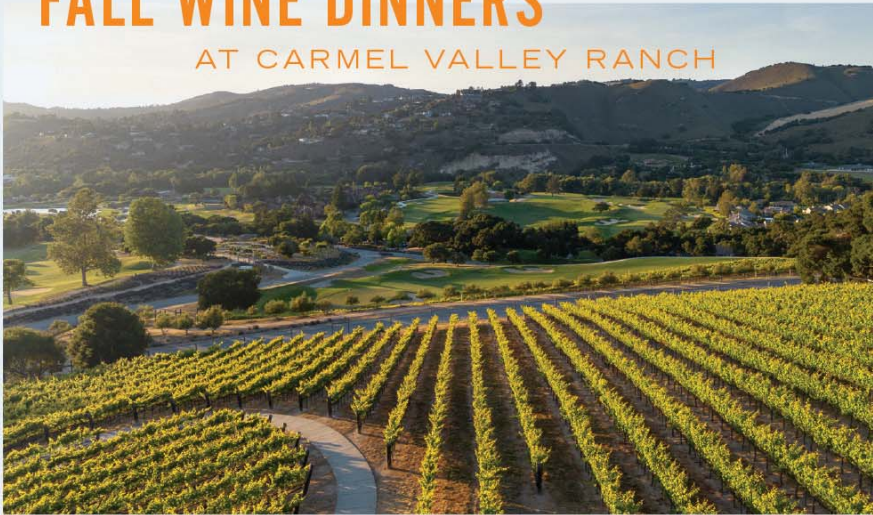
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Film fest features star-studded jury, offers free tickets for volunteers

By CHRIS COUNTS

AS THE buzz builds ahead of the latest Carmel International Film Festival, which begins Sept. 30, co-founder Lawrence Roecke told The Pine Cone that he and his partner, Annette Andersen Caton, have been busy behind the scenes creating this year’s event — and they could use a little help.

Roecke said more than 100 volunteers have signed up so far, and about 50 more are needed to handle all the necessary tasks, including selling tickets, checking people in, handing out badges, selling merchandise and serving as ushers or stagehands.

“Everybody who volunteers for a four-hour shift gets a free day pass to the festival,” said Roecke, who, along with Caton, relaunched the event in 2024. The move came 95 years after the town hosted its first film festival.

Trading day passes for volunteer hours helps make the festival “accessible to everyone,” Roecke said. He noted that many local students have signed up, including some from Monterey High School.

Star-studded jury

Besides recruiting volunteers, Roecke and Caton have been reaching out to film industry notables to assemble a “grand jury” to judge the various categories. Roecke noted that an impressive lineup of judges only enhances the festival’s credibility.

The panel of judges includes Academy Award-winning actor Timothy Hutton, award-winning writer, director and producer Stephen Gyllenhaal, the father of actors Maggie and Jake Gyllenhaal, and actress Frances Fisher, who had roles in the hit films

“Unforgiven,” “Titanic” and “The Lincoln Lawyer.”

To make films screened at the festival eligible for Oscars, Roecke said he and Caton are working to attain Academy Award-qualifying status. The designation would enhance the festival’s standing in the industry and help make it financially viable. It would also likely boost the number of submissions the festival receives from filmmakers.

The directors of the winning feature films will take home Golden Bough

See **FILM FEST** page 18A



The Carmel International Film Festival’s commemorative poster, which features the headdress Elizabeth Taylor wore in “Cleopatra,” was designed by Jason Fosler.



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FORUM REVEALS BOLAND EXISTS, EXPLORES CANDIDATE VIEWS

By MARY SCHLEY

A FEW revelations emerged from the Carmel Residents Association’s voter forum Tuesday night, including city council candidate Stefan Karapetkov’s strong desire to underground utility lines and his belief that it can be done relatively affordably, as well as the fact that David Boland, who is challenging Councilman Hans Buder for mayor, is, in fact, a real person.

“You’ve been asking yourselves what everyone else has been asking: Who’s David Boland?” he said in his introductory statement. Part of the answer is that he’s a Northern California native who works in finance for UBS and relocated here after Covid. He lives in Pescadero Canyon, and he’s running mostly because Mayor Dale Byrne convinced him to. He has no social media presence, and his campaign website consists solely of a landing page with an email link, along with links to The Carmel Pine Cone and the city government pages.

Buder is seeking the mayorship from a safe seat, meaning that if he doesn’t win, he’ll continue to serve on the council for another two years. If he does, the new council can either decide to hold a special election to fill his seat or appoint someone to the post, as has been done in the past. At the close of the forum, Boland argued that the only way to have five democratically selected members on the council is to elect him instead of Buder.

Introductions

In his introduction, Buder reiterated the mission statement he’s cultivated since announcing his decision to run, including his plans to better measure customer service at City Hall so it can be made more efficient, as well as the need for more young families to move to Carmel. He’s helped guide the city financially as a

member of a stewardship committee with Councilman Bob Delves and spearheaded other efforts, including wildfire safety.

Karapetkov, a member of the planning commission, said he grew up in Bulgarian village with a strong sense of community, like Carmel. An electrical engineer, he’s also lived in large cities, such as Munich, and appreciates being in a more intimate community. He and his wife moved to Carmel in 2014, and he said he joined the planning commission to learn how the city functions and improve its processes. He wants to be on the council to help figure out how to bring about progress.

Incumbent Alissandra Dramov, a former TV reporter who moved back to Carmel after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, said she spent her first couple of years on the council finding her stride and is running again to continue working on critical issues facing the community.

Former Councilman Bobby Richards is a known entity, having served two terms before deciding not to run again two years ago because of health issues. He pointed to his experiences as a property owner, business owner and volunteer. He said he doesn’t look at issues “through just one lens” and advocates for being out in public and talking to members of the community.

Tax increases

On several issues, the candidates were fairly like-minded. For instance, they all support the use of ad hoc committees — groups of no more than two council members who can meet to discuss an issue without violating the Brown Act — to examine certain topics. Dramov, for example, is on a committee with Councilman Jeff Baron to select yet another architect to design a new police station, and Richards participated

See CANDIDATES page 12A

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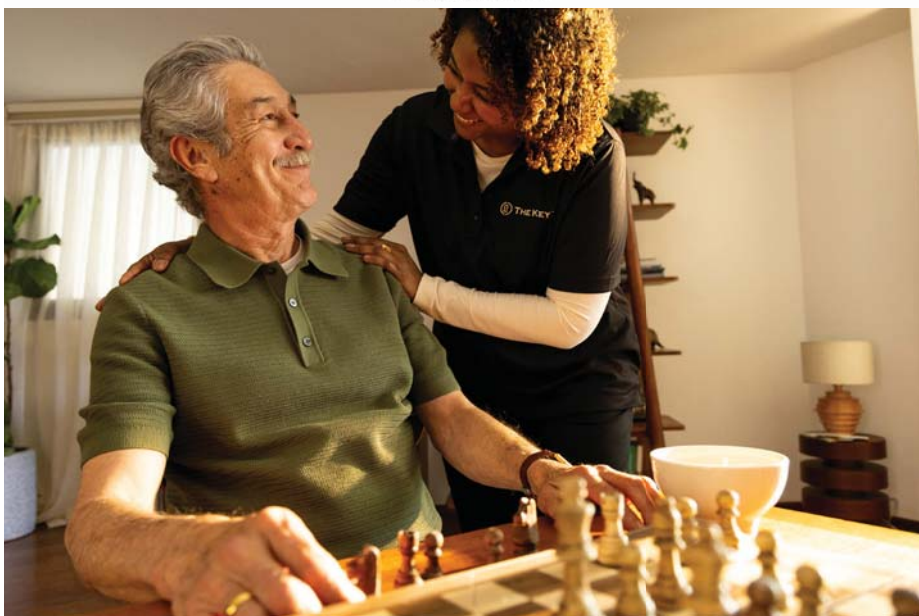
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Agency warns of ‘Super El Niño’

By CHRIS COUNTS

WITH TENS of thousands of acres burned in the ongoing Timber and Plaskett fires, Big Sur faces a potential second wave of devastation caused by mudslides—if California enters a wet climate phase known as El Niño.

At last week’s California Coastal Commission hearing, climatologist Michael Anderson of the California Department of Water Resources warned that a “Super El Niño” is forming in the Pacific Ocean. “We are going to have an impactful year, perhaps even a record-setting one,” Anderson told the commission.

The strength of an El Niño is deter-

“We are in uncharted territory,” he said.

While the discussion at the hearing centered on impacts to coastal communities from storm surges, there was also talk about the impacts of burn scars on the land and how they can trigger mudslides. This risk is heightened in Big Sur, where slides have closed Highway 1 on countless occasions, sometimes for weeks, months or even years at a time.

‘Historic’ impacts coming

Anderson suggested that storm weather considered extreme today could become commonplace as the Earth continues to warm, and he urged officials to start preparing immediately.

“This is our chance to see how we’re doing resilience-wise — and what can be done before these storms become more commonplace,” he added.

Coastal Commission engineer Jeremy Smith also sounded the alarm over the upcoming El Niño, warning that its impacts could be “historic.” He pointed to the risk of mudslides.

“Heavy rainfall on recent burn scars can lead to debris flows and elevated sedimentation downstream,” Smith said. “Heavy rainfall can also destabilize slopes and bluffs. As water infiltrates soils, it reduces

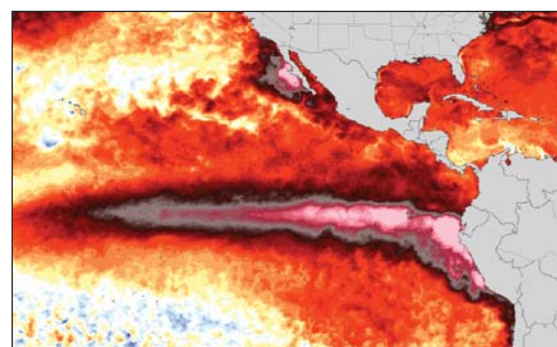
the soil’s strength and makes it heavier, causing slides and slope failure.”

Smith noted that El Niño storms frequently trigger the massive erosion events seen along the California coast in recent years.

Stark glimpse

Coastal Commission Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge said recent storm damage in coastal communities offers “a

See **EL NIÑO** page 22A



GRAPHIC/NOAA

A map based on weather data shows rising temperatures in the Pacific Ocean that suggest a strong El Niño is on the way.

mined by how much sea surface temperatures warm in the equatorial Pacific Ocean. A weak El Niño stems from an increase of less than 1 degree Celsius, while a very strong El Niño results from a rise of more than 2 degrees.

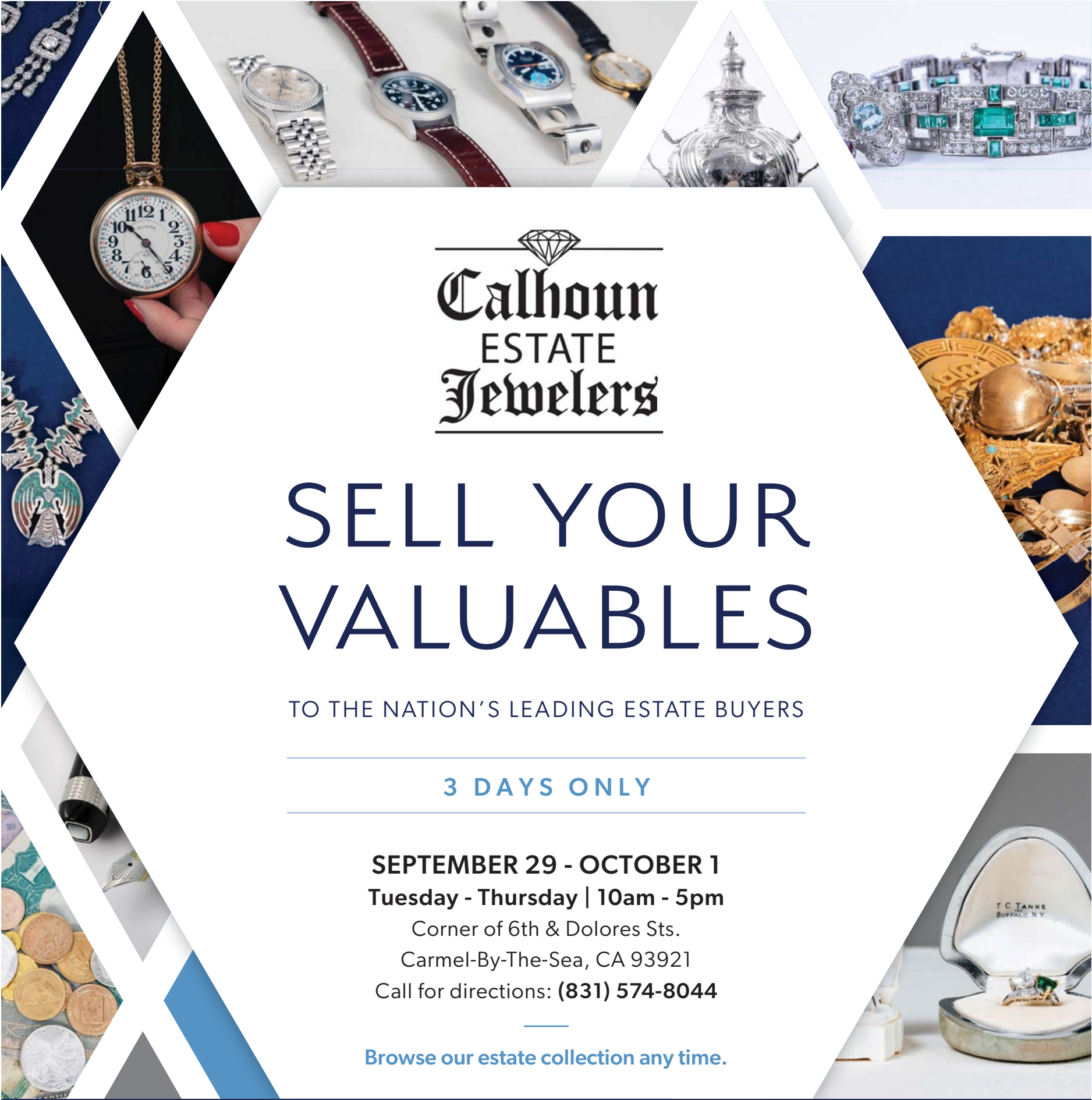
Since 1950, a 2-degree increase has been recorded seven times, most recently in 2016. An increase surpassing 2.5 degrees has occurred just once, in 1983. However, Anderson reported that water temperatures recorded in August showed increases of more than 3 degrees.



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CANDIDATES

From page 9A

on a committee that addressed ambulance staffing and overtime.

They were somewhat divided on the proposed sales and hotel tax increases that will accompany them on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Richards backs raising the sales tax, since the 0.375% could be claimed by the county through a future ballot measure if Carmel voters don't pass it. But he'd like to see the increase in hotel taxes from 10% to 12% put off for another two years, when it might be backed by hoteliers instead of opposed by them.

Dramov and Buder are part of the council that decided to put both measures

to voters, citing \$100 million in deferred maintenance. Boland focused only on the transient occupancy tax, which he supports, and Karapetkov said revenue is needed to address capital projects, including undergrounding.

To possibly fund the new police and public works complex, Richards and Buder mentioned issuing a bond, while Boland advocated for a public-private partnership in which a developer would cover the costs in exchange for the ability to construct a project elsewhere that would help fund it. Dramov pointed to the Harrison Memorial Library renovation, funded by a nonprofit, and wondered whether a similar model might work for the police station. Karapetkov said he wants to learn more about it and suggested the new complex could be built on top of the old foundation to save money. He also said some law enforcement functions could be outsourced.

Tourism

They were divided on tourism, with Buder and Dramov saying the city has been overrun with visitors — which Dramov characterized as a public safety issue — and Buder suggesting more parking should be designated for residents only.

Boland said the city doesn't have an overtourism problem; it has a parking and tourism management problem. "I absolutely do not believe we have a problem with tourism," he said. "Business is accounting for a far greater part of our tax receipts than us as residents."

With hotel occupancy rates still below

those of years past, Richards wasn't sure whether more people are visiting or it just seems that way. Karapetkov remarked that shuttles offered during Car Week "worked very well" and said businesses should be trying to figure out how to manage tourism.

State mandates

Buder and Dramov were also aligned on the recently adopted amended housing element, which removes public property from the list of potential sites for affordable housing. They said the work ahead will focus on developing policies to prepare for 349 new state-mandated housing units. Buder was a key player in the revision, which includes several programs aimed at spreading new housing throughout the city, and Dramov said the city should provide incentives. Karapetkov agreed.

Richards said people should be concerned about what the state will demand for the next plan update in several years and should be hard at work in Sacramento advocating for Carmel. Boland said the new housing element will probably prompt a lawsuit over the city's compliance with state mandates because there is "very little likelihood of these projects being built."

As for how to get more residents involved in council meetings and make the meetings shorter, the candidates agreed that lengthy sessions keep people away, and all were open to somehow curbing council members' comments. "If you can't get your point across in five minutes, I probably don't even want to hear it," Richards said.

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Cleanup keeps county offices closed

By KELLY NIX

THE MONTEREY County Government Center — closed Sept. 3 after a major sewage spill — remained off-limits to the public early this week, a spokesman said.

A significant blockage in employee bathrooms on the first floor of the government center at 168 W. Alisal St. in Salinas forced officials to temporarily close it. The building houses the Board of Supervisors’ chambers and several county offices. It was scheduled to reopen Monday, but officials notified the public Tuesday night that it would remain a no-go zone.

The reopening “is tentatively set for early to mid” next week, the county said Wednesday night.

County spokesman Nick Pasculli said work to repair the 2005 facility revealed another problem.

“The building remains closed because, in the process of doing the repairs on the original systems issue, it was discovered that there was a leak in the sprinkler

system on the first floor impacting the treasurer-tax collector’s office and the assessor-clerk-recorder’s office,” Pasculli told The Pine Cone Wednesday. “This is a safety issue that needed to be addressed, and system testing needs to be completed before we can reoccupy the building.”

More cleanup

The sewage spill was blamed on an “extensive sewer line malfunction” that caused a blockage and sent waste into areas not accessible to the public.

Workers have “another day or so” of cleanup on the first floor, Pasculli said. They also must repair and test the building’s sprinkler system.

“It is important to note that, just like any building that is 20-plus years old, things tend to happen unexpectedly,” he said. “I can tell you that the building is meticulously maintained.”

County services are available at nearby temporary locations. For more information, visit shorturl.at/QHtYr.

Monterey gets \$\$\$ to study DLI, NPS

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE CITY of Monterey announced it received a \$635,900 taxpayer-funded federal grant from the Department of Defense’s Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation to pay for an 18-month “military installation readiness review” running through January 2028.

The evaluation will examine “external infrastructure vulnerabilities in four domains: energy, water and wastewater, transportation and evacuation, and communications” specific to the Presidio of Monterey and the Naval Postgraduate School, since the installations rely on the surrounding community for power, water, road access and communications.

The city manager’s office, police and fire departments, public works and finance collaborated on the grant application, with help from the feds’ western regional office, according to the city. The Presidio of Monterey’s then-commander, Col. Daniel S. Artino, and the Navy’s local commanding officer, Capt. Ryan T. Easterday, provided letters of support.

The money will help Monterey officials “take a deep look at the infrastructure our military neighbors depend on every day,” according to city manager Dante Hall, and the findings will be useful for prioritizing investments and bolstering the city’s efforts to pursue funds “for projects that will benefit our community and military partners alike.”

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Stanton Center tribute to Jo Mora

■ Artist’s 150th birthday

By CHRIS COUNTS

TO MARK artist Jo Mora’s 150th birthday Oct. 22, the Stanton Center’s History and Art Museum in Monterey is presenting a collection of photographs that capture Mora’s life on the Monterey Peninsula during the early 20th century. The images were taken by photographer Lewis Josselyn, who chronicled Carmel’s development. The Mora and Josselyn families were close and often spent holidays together. Josselyn photographed many of those occasions and documented Mora’s artistic projects.

Arrived on horseback

A native of Uruguay who was born into a family of artists, Mora first visited the Monterey Peninsula on horseback in 1903. He returned with his wife in 1920, living first in Carmel — where he built a home on San Carlos Street just south of First Avenue — and later in Pebble Beach. Known as the “Renaissance Man of the West,” he was a cowboy, painter, sculptor, photographer and muralist. He became famous for his vibrant, colorful and detailed maps that captured the spirit of many places, including Carmel. “From whimsical characters to intricate historical scenes, each is a masterpiece of storytelling and observation,” according to the Stanton Center. The Monterey History and Art Association called Mora “a fascinating artist” who completed “a wide array of great art projects on the Monterey Peninsula and beyond.”

Mora died in 1947 at age 70, leaving behind a rich creative legacy that rivals that of any artist who ever called Monterey County home. The center, which is open Thursday through Monday from noon to 4 p.m., is at 5 Custom House Plaza in Monterey. Also celebrating Mora’s birthday are the John Steinbeck Library and the National Steinbeck Center, both in Salinas. The John Steinbeck Library is exhibiting a collection of his manuscripts and art. According to the library, the display showcases Mora’s talents as an author and illustrator. The show, curated by Susan DeLay, continues through December. Located at 350 Lincoln Ave., the library is open Tuesday through Thursday from noon to 6 p.m. and Monday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The National Steinbeck Center pays tribute to Mora with an exhibit curated



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

One of artist Jo Mora’s most famous creations is the Father Serra Cenotaph at Carmel Mission, which he spent four years making.

by Tanya von Giese and Lisa Joseph that showcases his versatility as an artist. The Steinbeck Center, 1 Main St., is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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ROCKY POINT

From page 1A

Times Building in New York City — along with many other landmarks. Called the “Master of Lightness,” the architect is said to design buildings that fuse “technical precision with human-centered elegance,” while emphasizing transparency and soft natural light. He was awarded the prestigious Pritzker Prize in 1998, with the jury comparing him to Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, and crediting him with “redefining modern and postmodern architecture.”

“Renzo Piano’s architecture reflects that rare melding of art, architecture and engineering in a truly remarkable synthesis, making his intellectual curiosity and problem-solving techniques as broad and far-ranging as those earlier masters of his native land,” the jury declared.

Plans call for the demolition of the existing restaurant, and construction of a new restaurant with 120 seats, two employee housing units and a public restroom, along with parking lot improvements that include installing eight electric vehicle charging stations.

Esperanza Carmel said it’s been “working on plans to redevelop the site with both Monterey County and the California Coastal Commission.”

Restoring public access

To clear existing land use violations left over from previous owners, Pastor agreed to a \$4 million mitigation and enhancement plan that includes restoring public access to the coast, installing ADA-compliant public restrooms, creating a picnic area and improving trails.

The land use advisory committee hearing marks just the first stop for the project in a land use process that can last years. Pastor, who also owns the Village Shops in Big Sur, said he “has his fingers crossed” that “the community will support the project.” He said, “so many months

of preparation” and “so many steps” have gone into his plans, which he conceded are “ambitious.”

While the restaurant is closed, the public can currently visit the site. “Although the restaurant is not currently operational, the property remains open to the public to enjoy the trails and spectacular views,” said Esperanza Carmel, which owns more than \$100 million worth of real estate in Carmel and Big Sur.

Located about 12 miles south of Carmel along Highway 1, the restaurant opened in 1947 and was expanded in 1951. The site “offers one of the most spectacular views in the world,” according to Esperanza Carmel’s website.

At least two hearings

People will have at least two public hearings to speak out on the project, including the first one set for Tuesday. Because the property is visible to motorists from Highway 1, it will face scrutiny from locals and the California Coastal Commission. But side-by-side photos comparing the old restaurant to renderings of the new one suggest it likely won’t add to any existing visual impacts.

“Any proposal at Rocky Point must go through Monterey County’s established review process,” said 5th District Supervisor Kate Daniels, who represents Big Sur. “The Big Sur Land Use Advisory Committee plays an important role in providing community-based feedback. We look forward to hearing its perspective. A hearing before the Monterey Planning Commission will also be an important part of the overall evaluation. As this moves forward, I’ll be looking closely for consistency with the Big Sur Land Plan, which remains the guiding framework for land use in the region.”

Plans on file with the county show a proposed complex of two main buildings, one for the restaurant, kitchens and employee housing, and another for wastewater treatment, electrical and mechanical

See LANDMARK page 17A



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DEPORTATIONS

From page 1A

India, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Romania, China, the Philippines, Afghanistan, Venezuela, Ecuador and other countries who live here are also on the list of those to be deported.

Immigration courts were established by Congress to conduct deportation proceedings and decide whether foreign-born individuals charged by the Department of Homeland Security with violating immigration laws should be removed from the country.

It's not clear how many county residents with orders have been removed, a task carried out by the Department of Homeland Security.

Pending cases

The data also show that 3,536 people in Monterey County have active cases in immigration court, including four in Carmel, nine in Carmel Valley, 569 in Monterey

and Seaside, 1,927 in Salinas, 101 in Soledad, 123 in Gonzales, 217 in King City, 271 in Greenfield and 127 in Pajaro, the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse said.

As of July, 88 new cases had been filed in the previous 90 days. Figures for Pacific Grove, Marina, Sand City and Del Rey Oaks were not included. The New York-based nonprofit's figures also show 609 pending court cases for immigrants in the "Central Coast," though the group does not define that area.

Of the 783 people ordered removed, 164 were represented by attorneys in court, the records group said.

Possible court outcomes include an order granting asylum, an order of deportation or permission to leave the United States voluntarily.

Nearly every unauthorized local immigrant slated for removal in 2025 and 2026 was given a notice to appear in court and was not detained at one of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's eight detention facilities in California, the data show.

The period between an immigrant receiving a notice to appear in court and the resolution of the case can be

lengthy.

"Those ordered removed in July, for example, had waited an average of 901 days for a decision," the group reported last week.

Murder, child cruelty

The group lists other immigration-related information for Monterey County, including crime and conviction data.

For example, from 2006 to 2023, ICE issued 12,154 detainees in Monterey County, asking local jails and prisons in Soledad to hold immigrants past their release dates for possible deportation.

Over the 17-year period, convictions of unauthorized immigrants ICE sought to take into custody included 11 homicides, nine vehicular homicides or manslaughters, 25 rapes, 157 sexual offenses or assaults, about 60 robberies, 334 "cruelty to wife" cases and 117 child cruelty cases.

County detainees peaked at about 2,900 in 2011 and 2012 under President Barack Obama. ICE succeeded in taking custody of nearly 5,000 people out of more than 12,000 requests.

State laws enacted in 2014 and 2018 generally forbid local authorities from cooperating with ICE, except in cases involving violent or serious felonies.

In 2017, Monterey County declared itself "welcoming" to immigrants and refugees.

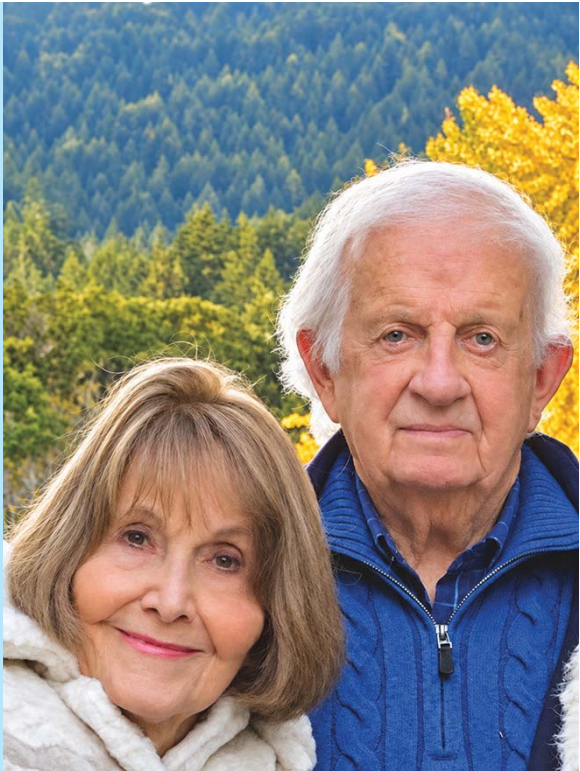
Monterey County declared itself 'welcoming' to immigrants

The removal process begins when an unauthorized immigrant receives a notice to appear in court — which lists the government's reasons for seeking deportation — from an agency within the Department of Homeland Security, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

If a judge determines an individual should be deported, the person may accept the order or request relief. Once a judge makes a final ruling, the immigrant may appeal the decision.

Most local immigrants' cases were heard at the San Francisco Immigration Court, which the Department of Justice permanently closed earlier this month. Proceedings are now held at a court in Concord.

The Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, which is run by Syracuse University and describes itself as nonpartisan, obtains its information through public records requests filed with federal agencies, including ICE, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.



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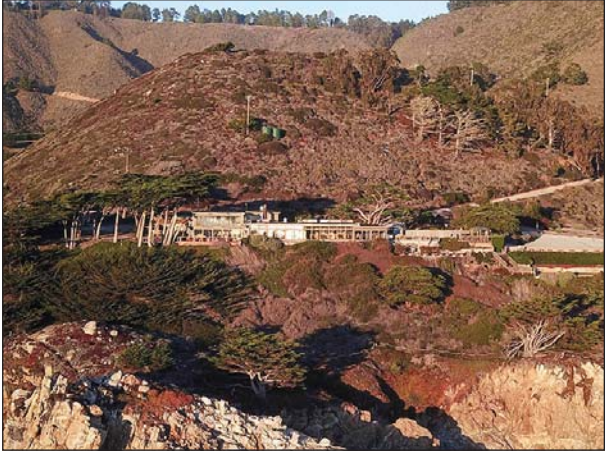
From page 15A

equipment, and trash. A third small building will provide public restrooms. There will also be 76 parking spaces, and an ADA compliant path leading to viewing areas and trails, along with a takeout window and public picnic area.

Seats for 80 diners

The main building will have a curving glass and aluminum roof to capture the property’s stunning vistas. In the middle there will be a garden and on two sides there will be viewing terraces. The 2,113-square-foot restaurant will have seats for 80 diners, along with a 236-square-foot bar. Total square footage for the restaurant, including lobbies and kitchens, is said to be 9,106 square feet, while the employee housing will encompass 1,814 square feet.

Three existing buildings will be demolished for the project, and there will be 7,100 cubic yards of cut and 1,800 cubic yards of fill, leaving a balance of 5,300 cubic yards to be taken elsewhere.



IMAGES/RENZO PIANO BUILDING WORKSHOP, PARIS

Existing (top) and proposed elevations of Rocky Point Restaurant, which opened on Highway 1 in Big Sur in 1947 but has been closed since 2020. Owner Patrice Pastor hired famed Italian architect Renzo Piano to redesign the restaurant — a project which is beginning its voyage through the Monterey County permit pipeline.



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FILM FEST

From page 8A

Awards, named after the Golden Bough Playhouse, where this year's films will be screened. Local sculptor Ashley Bennett Stoddard, who was recently the subject of a Pine Cone article about an art piece she made for the Burning Man celebration, created the awards, which are made of metal and Carmel stone.

Roecke said the festival will need to add another theater to accommodate all the films his team wants to screen next year. He noted that the team had too many movies to fit into this year's lineup, and some were left out.

Not surprisingly, Roecke and Caton face financial challenges in their efforts toward expansion, and Roecke said they're not being shy about seeking partners.

"It's never been about ego," he said. "Annette and I work 60 hours every week.

We have to bring on partners — this festival is sustainable at this level for just several years. We want to set it up so it will be here in 100 years, but it's going to require a massive team."

Celebrity sightings

Roecke said the event's visibility is increasing, and he anticipates that a growing number of film industry notables will attend this year's gathering, including actors Abigail Breslin, Eric Roberts and Edward Burns, and filmmakers Frank Darabont, Peter Nemeth and Tyler Shields.

The festival, which will feature 42 full-length and short films, will run through Oct. 4, with a busy slate of events and activities. A kickoff party will be held Sept. 30, 6 p.m., at Mission Bistro, 639 Mission St.

On Oct. 4 there will also be a tribute to the late actress Hayden Panettiere, with whom Roecke worked early in her career, panel discussions, and an awards ceremony. Visit ciffest.com for more details.




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DATA CENTERS

From page 1A

face imminent displacement because the technology is getting so good. Fears of a potential job market collapse didn’t ease when Goldman Sachs economists released research in April estimating that AI substitution was already eliminating 16,000 U.S. jobs a month in 2025.

With an enemy identified and fears reaching a fever pitch, the public has been looking for a way to take down the AI machine. But how do you go after something that exists in the cloud? Attack where it is stored, of course — the data center.

Enter the rise of the anti-server-farm politician. Across the country, lawmakers from both sides of the aisle have been going after the facilities. In New York, Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul signed the first statewide order placing a one-year moratorium on data centers in July. A month later, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, ordered an audit of hundreds of proposed data centers, adding regulatory delays and potential construction halts.

Now, with a Sept. 30 deadline to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature, it’s Gov. Gavin Newsom’s turn to decide how tough to be on the facilities.

Crackdown

California lawmakers have sent him several pieces of legislation aimed at cracking down on electricity and water use by data centers, and all would raise costs for the centers’ operators.

Assemblymember Diane Papan, a Democrat from San Mateo, wrote two bills this session that would increase water-use reporting requirements for the facilities. The first, AB 2469, would prohibit the expansion of an existing center or the construction of a new one unless operators provide water conservation plans for drought years. The bill also requires operators to bear the cost of any upgrades needed to local water systems to supply sites with

adequate water.

That brings us to Papan’s second bill, AB 2619, legislation designed to increase transparency about water use. It would require operators — under threat of criminal prosecution — to provide local governments with daily and annual water-use estimates when seeking permits and approvals. Newsom vetoed an almost identical bill Papan wrote last year, but 2026 feels different.

“When you’re looking down the barrel of a public that says we don’t want data centers at all, and you’ve got localities that are saying they’re going to ban them, then you know the atmosphere has changed,” Papan told CalMatters in August.

She’s not wrong. A July Public Policy Institute of California poll found 73% of respondents don’t want data centers in their communities, and 63% worried about water consumption and electricity use — but some of those concerns may be misguided.

Data centers use a lot of water — as much as a small city in some cases — but perspective is important. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found that centers used 17 billion gallons of water in 2023, up from 5.6 billion gallons in 2014 as more facilities came online.

But they use it only briefly and then return it to the hydrologic cycle, like all other water “use.” And compared with overall consumption, it’s not that much water. The latest data on water use pegs daily consumption nationwide at 322 billion gallons. All that water, too, doesn’t actually go anywhere, much less get used up.

Water technology for data centers has improved, too. New centers often use closed-loop systems that recycle water used to cool equipment with minimal loss. Still, Newsom’s signature could put Big Tech on the hook for building more water infrastructure statewide.

A separate bill from Assemblymember Rick Zbur targets data centers over electricity use. The Los Angeles Democrat’s legislation would place a tariff on data

centers’ electricity bills.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, data centers are about 2.9 times as energy intensive as other commercial floor space and are estimated to use as much as 200 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity by 2030. The high consumption rate has sparked fears about grid stress and rising electricity prices. But the normal laws of supply and demand don’t operate the same way in the electricity market, especially in California.

Decrease in rates?

One reason Golden State power rates are so high is that we’re so good at conserving electricity or generating our own through solar. In fact, electricity use hasn’t risen much since the 1970s, despite an increase in the number of customers. Meanwhile, the cost of the infrastructure utility companies use to power the grid, including electrical lines, has remained fixed and is spread across non-solar ratepayers.

Solar subsidies represented an \$8.5 billion cost shift to non-solar customers in 2024 alone, thanks to a now-reformed California law that allows some solar customers to receive bill credits at or near the full retail price for every kilowatt-hour they export.

If data centers start picking up more of the tab through large electricity bills, residential and other commercial customers

could see their bills go down, at least in the short term. An Electric Power Research Institute study found data centers caused average customer rates to decline 6% between 2015 and 2024.

Depending on how the governor wields his pen, the centers could be footing even more of the bill to power California’s grid, and it is fair to say that could drive down residential bills even further.

Newsom has made a populist pivot against AI this year as he gears up to run for president, first signing an executive order to develop a plan to combat AI’s effects on the job market and then signing a slew of bills regulating AI’s interactions with children and how outside groups evaluate AI programs for safety.

But Newsom’s decision on data centers will not affect AI alone. The facilities also power everything from the cloud storage you use every day to save photos on your cellphone to whatever show you plan to watch on Netflix tonight. Three-quarters of Californians may oppose data centers, but according to Pew Research Center, half of Americans enjoy using AI chatbots, and another 83% watch streaming services daily.

Fears about AI and all the unknowns it presents are understandable, but perspective in data center decision-making is important because raising the cost of doing business tends to affect the customer.



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Rita T.

Sept. 21, 1943 ♦ Jan. 18, 2023



JANA RUTH GILL

Jana Ruth Gill (Wood), of Carmel-by-the-Sea, passed away peacefully on Aug. 12, 2026. Jana was born Nov. 12, 1943, the beloved daughter of Bert and Joanne Wood and sister of Beverly Jean Antes (Wood).



Jana grew up in Eureka, Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, graduating from Los Altos High School, where she was a champion swimmer and cheerleader and made many lifelong friends.

She met and married the love of her life, Jim Gill, in 1971, and together they raised their combined family in Saratoga, California. Jana was a gifted photographer and built a successful, award-winning portrait business. She and her family spent precious time in South Lake Tahoe with neighbors and friends near Fallen Leaf Lake, where Jana could often be found cruising the lake in her “Tallac Tug” electric boat or the cedar canoe she built by hand. In the late 1970s,

she and Jim bought their first vacation home in Carmel-by-the-Sea and began what would become a nearly 50-year love affair with the area.

In Carmel, she flourished with a myriad of friend groups centered around coffee, dogs, 49ers football, golf, dominoes and, most recently, mah-jongg. She was involved in her All Saints church community and was proud of her work creating its memorial garden. She had a lifelong love of music, instilled by her musical parents, as well as poetry, art, gardening and interior design. She was happiest gathered with her children and grandchildren, family and dear friends. In her final years, Jana found great comfort and companionship in her close friend Lee Cox, who was a steady presence by her side.

In her younger years, Jana would walk Carmel Beach every morning looking for sea glass. An excerpt from a poem kept on her desk reads, “I want to age like sea glass. Smoothed by tides, but not broken ... I want to be picked up and held gently by those who delight in my well-earned patina and appreciate all that beauty.” In her last days, she reminded her loved ones that when they find a piece of sea glass, her spirit will be there.

Jana was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; her son, Jim Jr.; her sister, Beverly Antes; and her sister-in-law, Jenny Braz. She is survived by her daughters, Christy, Demitria and Katie; her son, Chris, and his wife, Hilary; two granddaughters, Samantha and Delaney; her brother-in-law, Keith Antes; her nephew, Todd Antes; her nieces, Megan Heiland (Antes), Liz Ramon (Braz), Judy Lindberg (Braz) and Michelle Lopes (Braz); and their families.

A celebration of Jana’s life will be held at Carmel Beach’s 13th Street entrance at 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10.

In place of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Jana’s memory to SPCA Monterey County (www.spcamc.org).

Mary Ann Ashjian

Mary Ann Ashjian, 91, of Seaside, formerly of Carmel and Pebble Beach, passed away Aug. 26 in the comfort of her own home, surrounded by family and her wonderful caretakers.

Mary Ann was born May 27, 1935, in Sanger, California, to Dr. Edward and Lucille Halley. She attended Roosevelt High School in Fresno, graduating in 1953. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Jose State University before marrying Haig Ashjian in 1958.

She enjoyed raising her family, spending hours in her multimedia art studio and gardening in the Monterey fog.

Mary Ann is survived by her two children, Pete Ashjian of Maricopa, Arizona, and Amara Lieberman (Paul) of Soquel, California; her two granddaughters, Chloe and Talia; and her niece, Candace Dekkert. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Haig; her sister, Gloria Dekkert; and her niece, Jerri Dekkert.

We had many years to enjoy Mary Ann’s sharp wit, wisdom and artistic sensibilities. She will be greatly missed.

Please visit www.scmemorial.com to light a candle or leave a message in Mary Ann’s honor.

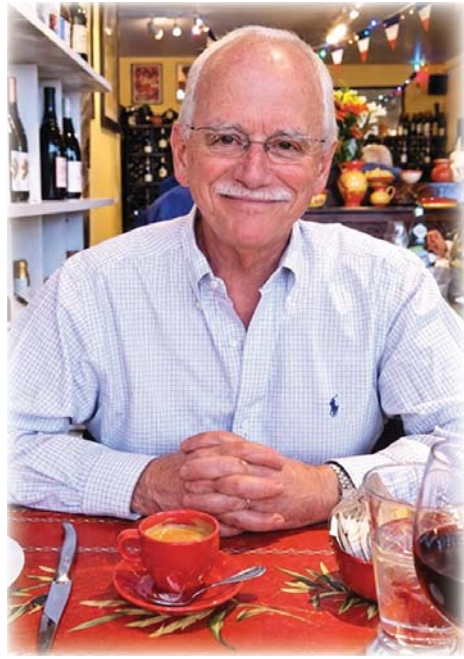
To place an obituary for your loved one, contact anne@carmelpinecone.com or (831) 274-8654

BRADLEY EATON SMITH

1946 ♦ 2026

With hearts full of love, we share that Bradley Eaton Smith, of Corral de Tierra, died June. 19. Brad lived with kindness, generosity and devotion to the people he loved. If you knew him, chances are you became his friend.

Brad was an artist. He noticed things. With an art degree, he began his career as an animator with DePatie-Freleng and Warner Bros. in Los Angeles, creating theatrical animated cartoon shorts and optical effects for movies such



as “Star Wars.” After returning to Monterey, he co-founded Smith-Bowen Advertising with his friend Craig Bowen. Through his creativity, relentless energy and deep relationships throughout the Salinas Valley, the agency became one of the Central Coast region’s leading firms, serving the agricultural, wine and hospitality industries for decades.

Brad noticed people, too. One of his favorite sayings was, “There, but for the grace of God, go I.” It wasn’t just something he said; it was how he lived. If someone needed help, he stepped in without expectation or recognition. A U.S. Army veteran, he served his country honorably

for five years and carried that commitment to service home, volunteering on his local water board, lending his talents to the Monterey Museum of Art’s outreach program and serving on the board of the Food Bank for Monterey County.

Brad’s smile was contagious. He laughed often and had a quick wit that was never far from the surface. Saturdays found him on his mountain bike, racing down hills with friends. Sundays began with music playing throughout the house and dancing with his grandchildren. He had a gift for turning ordinary things into something thoughtful, beautiful and distinctly his own. His hand-drawn birthday cards and cartoons were treasured works of art. He was resourceful and inventive and always had ideas. He could build almost anything and fix almost everything. His unrivaled mastery of the barbecue was legendary. Through years of serious illness, he met every challenge with courage, grace and perseverance that inspired everyone around him. Even in the most difficult moments, his warmth, humor and concern for others never faded.

Brad’s quick, bright smile, his nurturing and genuine care for others, his warm nature and his deep but unassuming knowledge will be deeply missed by so many: Susan, his loving wife of 45 years; his daughter, Tara, who was his pride and joy; his beloved son-in-law, Peter; his grandchildren, Cora and Penelope, who were the lights of his life; his devoted brother, Geoff, and his wife, Ginny; his sister, Kim; and his faithful friends Denny, Jay and Hugo.

If Brad left anything behind, it wasn’t just memories. It was a way of moving through the world — with an artist’s curiosity, laughter, open hands and the belief that life was better when it was shared.

At his request, no formal funeral will be held. His ashes will be spread over his favorite place: the oak-studded hills surrounding his home, where the grass is green, the sun is shining and the next family gathering is always just beginning.

LIBRARY

From page 3A

Avenue, which is often crowded with delivery trucks, but the city’s Traffic Safety Commission voted in its favor in July after requesting changes to minimize its potential impacts.

Elevator access

With the library being “essentially a two-story building that occurs on five levels,” an elevator will reach most of them, but not all, according to Hamilton.

“We very carefully located it to provide the maximum amount of accessibility,” he said. “Connecting all five was not quite possible, but we were able to locate it so it accesses four levels, and we purposely placed it in the 1940s portion of the building to minimize its visual impacts and respect the historic footprint.”

The design includes a slim railing behind the balcony’s historic wood railing, which doesn’t meet safety standards for

height and spacing. The balcony is closed to the public, but the new railing would address that problem while preserving the view of the original wooden one. In her review of the project, though, historical consultant Meg Clovis recommended removing the railing from the design and keeping the balcony closed.

Hamilton said his firm received many requests from the public to reopen it, and commenters at the meeting expressed similar sentiments.

“If you ask the librarians, there are so many people asking to step out on the balcony,” said Alexandra Fallon, executive director of the nonprofit Carmel Public Library Foundation, which is spearheading the centennial project and raising funds for it.

“I think it had Adirondack chairs, and people would watch people strolling down Ocean Avenue,” she continued, so reopening it would be practical and respect its historical use.

Resident Donna Jett, who sits on the library’s board of city-appointed trustees, argued for reopening the balcony.

“I think your charge is to find a path to let the balcony be upgraded to the standards of today,” she said. Otherwise, “I think the public would be very annoyed to have that much money spent on a building and have space you can’t use. That’s unconscionable.”

Historical architect John LoCascio said the metal railing is designed to be as unobtrusive as possible.

“Adding a second rail is the only option to keep that balcony functional,” he said. “The goal would be to have it minimally impactful, so you don’t notice it unless you’re looking for it. It would certainly be there, but it wouldn’t be the first thing your eye sees.”

‘Meant to be used’

Historic Resources Board members generally favored that option, with Erik Dyar arguing for making it “elegant, minimal and intentional,” perhaps using unpainted metal that will develop a patina.

Member Kathryn Gualtieri said she arrived at the meeting with the mindset that the balcony should be permanently

closed. “But again, buildings are meant to be used,” she conceded, saying Dyar had convinced her.

Chair Jordan Chroman agreed, and with two HRB members absent, the remaining three unanimously voted in favor of the project and found it in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Planning commissioners, minus Chair Michael LePage, discussed the railing, proposed copper gutters, structural work, garden path, window materials and required elevator “override” that will slightly alter the roofline.

Regarding the proposed north-side design, “I absolutely agree that original elevation was stunning,” Commissioner Mel Ahlborn said. “If you can’t do that, I love your analysis and the way you looked at the window to the south and used that to inform your design of the window to the north.”

Commissioners unanimously approved the design, including the installation of the metal railing to make the balcony usable again.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR SIDNEY LANE ‘SID’ WILLIAMS

OCT. 12, 1945 – AUG. 11, 2026

Command Sergeant Major Sidney Lane “Sid” Williams, U.S. Army (Ret.), a decorated Vietnam and Persian Gulf combat veteran, career Green Beret, respected community leader and tireless advocate for veterans, died peacefully in Monterey, California, on Aug. 11, 2026. He was 80.

Sid was born in Smithville, Missouri, to Sidney J. Williams and Emma Jean Williams. He was the oldest of three children, followed by his sister, Penney, and brother, Richard Craig. His father, a decorated World War II and Korean War veteran who retired as a major, instilled in Sid a deep sense of duty and service.

Because of his father’s military career, the family moved frequently before settling in Seattle in the early 1960s. Following in his father’s footsteps, Sid attended the University of Washington and participated in the ROTC program. His growing passion for service soon led him



to join the U.S. Army, beginning a distinguished military career that would span more than 26 years.

Sid served on active duty from March 29, 1966, through Aug. 31, 1992, including 18 years as a Special Forces noncommissioned officer. He completed three tours in Vietnam — one as an infantryman and two as a Special Forces medic with the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) and Detachment A-415, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne). For his valorous actions in combat on April 14, 1968, Sid was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with “V” Device.

His service continued after the Vietnam War, with assignments in the 3rd and 5th Special Forces Groups (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the

10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, and Bad Tölz, Germany. His intelligence, combat experience and exceptional skills led to Sid’s selection for covert service with the legendary Detachment “A” in occupied Berlin, Germany, from 1976 to 1980 — at the height of the Cold War — where he served as an elite unconventional warfare operator.

His military assignments carried him around the world, from the jungles and hills of Vietnam to Thailand, Japan, Korea and the mountain forests of northeastern Europe. He served undercover in German cities and in the deserts of the Middle East. Stateside, he led and served with units at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Lewis, Washington; the University of North Dakota ROTC program; the Army Enlisted Personnel Branch at the Pentagon; and Fort Ord, California.

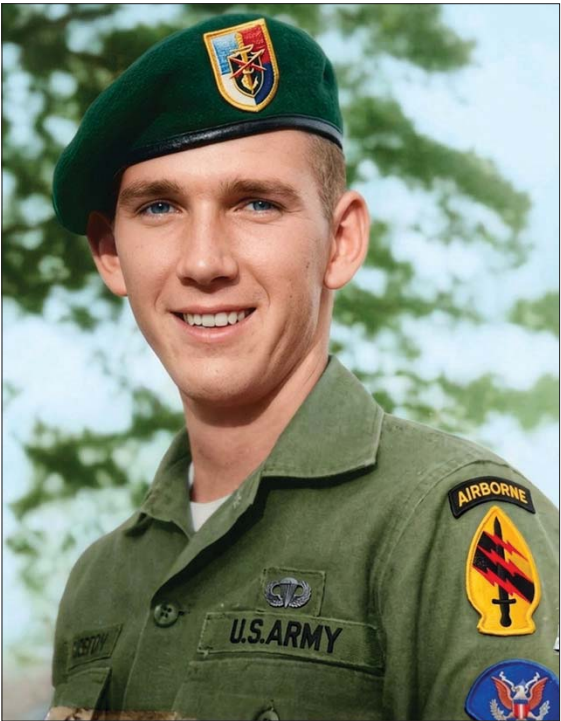
Throughout his career, Sid held leadership positions at the detachment, company, battalion and brigade levels, serving as senior medic, primary drill instructor, first sergeant and command sergeant major. His military service culminated as command sergeant major of the 8th Evacuation Hospital at Fort Ord, where he led the unit in combat during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Sid retired from the Army at Fort Ord, and he and his beloved wife, Marilyn Inez (Sylvester) Williams, made the Monterey Peninsula their permanent home. They were married for 50 years. Although they did not have children of their own, family was deeply important to Sid. He took a genuine interest in his nieces and nephews and followed their lives with pride and affection as they grew into adulthood and beyond. Marilyn’s death on New Year’s Day 2026 was a profound loss and took a great toll on Sid. Those who knew them understood how deeply connected they were after five decades of marriage.

Outside of his military service, Sid enjoyed many interests throughout his life. In his younger years, he loved photography, skiing and tennis — interests that also served him well during his military career. In later years, he developed a particular passion for golf, playing and pursuing the game avidly until his death.

Sid’s service to others did not end when his military career did. For more than 18 years, he served as chairman of the County of Monterey’s Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission. In that role, he provided steady leadership and became a determined and effective advocate for veterans, service members and their families.

Sid gave his time generously to numerous organizations throughout Monterey County, including the United Veterans Council, the Veterans Transition Center, the Fort



Ord Reuse Authority Advisory Committee, the Homeless Veterans Stand Down Committee, the local chapter of the Retired E-9 Association, the local chapter of the Special Forces Association, and the Heroes’ Open Golf Tournament and fundraiser.

His commitment to his community extended beyond veterans organizations. Sid served as a City of Marina planning commissioner and on the Marina Coast Water District Conservation Committee. He also volunteered as a Meals on Wheels delivery driver, quietly serving his neighbors in need.

Among his many accomplishments as a veterans advocate, one of his most meaningful legacies was his role as a leading champion for the creation of the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. Through his efforts, he helped ensure that veterans of the Central Coast would have a dignified final resting place close to their homes, families and communities.

From treating soldiers and civilians as a Green Beret medic in Vietnam, to serving covertly with Detachment “A” in Cold War Berlin, to leading soldiers in combat as a command sergeant major during Desert Storm, and finally to spending decades advocating for veterans in Monterey County, Sid Williams devoted his life to service and to taking care of others.

He lived by the values of duty, honor and service. His leadership strengthened the community he called home. His advocacy improved the lives of countless veterans and their families. And his example will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Sid leaves behind a legacy measured not simply by medals, ranks or assignments, but by the people he served, the lives he touched and the difference he made.

Rest in peace, Sergeant Major. Your service and your legacy will not be forgotten.

Sid Williams will be interred at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 21, 2026.

A celebration of life will immediately follow at Bayonet Black Horse Grill in Seaside, California.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the United Veterans Council of Monterey County at www.uvc-mc.com.

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Alzheimer's fundraiser at Estéban

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

IF YOU stop by Estéban Restaurant Monday, Sept. 21, for dinner — maybe a pizza topped with pork belly, a prime filet or a some paella — the eatery will donate 20% of the proceeds to the Monterey Alzheimer's Association.

The restaurant is partnering with the association and Team "Cheers to George"

— named in honor of captain Allison Balestreri's father — to raise money and awareness for Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

The full seasonal dinner menu will be served along with the restaurant's Monday night West Coast shellfish boil. Reservations are recommended. Call (831) 375-0176 or book online. Estéban is in Casa Munras Garden Hotel, 700 Munras Ave.

EL NIÑO

From page 10A

stark glimpse into the awesome force of rising seas — and how relentless that power can be."

"This is no longer a problem for the distant future," she warned.

Huckelbridge suggested that coastal communities must expand planning efforts and state officials need to allocate taxpayer funds to counter the threats of rising seas and a warming climate.

"One way we can do that is to prioritize sea-level rise adaptation planning for all coastal communities," she said. "This work needs funding and it needs focus. It

is the best path for protecting our coastal communities to ensure that there will still be beaches left to pass on to our children."

Big Sur's frequent wildfires are often followed by mudslides months later.

Post office destroyed

Perhaps the best example of a wildfire leading to mudslides triggered by El Niño storms came in November 1972, when the Big Sur Post Office was destroyed by a massive slide after heavy rain — just three months after the Molera Fire, which burned about 4,000 acres in the Big Sur Valley area and resulted in one death.

Burn-scar erosion also badly damaged Palo Colorado Road during the winter that followed the Soberanes Fire in 2016 — and roughly half of it remains closed.



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CASTLE

From page 7A

Because a runaway dog can make a mess of a half-day’s hard work in minutes, pups should be left at home, if possible, or at least kept on a short leash. Owners should also clean up after them, of course, and dispose of the waste in the appropriate receptacles.

If participants are tempted to build a fire, only propane devices are allowed.

And finally, “Be kind to one another.”

GAVEL

From page 4A

into his pants without consent and touched his groin in 2017 while he was receiving a haircut at Vargas’ barbershop. Doe 2 described freezing during the assault and being unable to physically fight off Vargas. Like Doe 1, Doe 2 never returned to Haircuts in Shape after the assault and reported it to law enforcement.

A third victim, John Doe 3, testified that he was a customer at Vargas’ barbershop in November 2019 when Vargas groped his genitals over his clothes numerous times without consent. Doe 3 explained that he froze in response to the shock and trauma of the assault. Like the other two victims, he called police after the assault and never returned to Haircuts in Shape.

Salinas Police Officer Cassandra Schmidt investigated the case. District attorney’s office investigator Joe Hernandez assisted with the trial. District attorney’s office victim advocate Mayra Sandoval assisted John Does 1, 2 and 3.

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No preregistration is required. On the day of the event, sign up at the registration tent at 11th Avenue to receive an entry number. For more information, call (831) 620-2020 or email communityactivities@ci.carmel.ca.us.

Those interested in beautifying the beach in a different way can lend a hand during the CRA’s Carmel Beach Cleanup, which has taken place on the third Saturday of the month from March through October for the past 32 years. The cleanup runs from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and no

advance signup is needed.

“Help keep our Carmel city beach clean and sparkling,” organizers said. “Visitors and residents of all ages can pitch in.”

Participants should bring gloves and hats or sunscreen, while the CRA will provide pails and other collection tools. Stop by the table on the beach next to the Del Mar parking lot at the foot of Ocean Avenue. Find more information at carmelresidents.org.

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SCHOOLS

From page 1A

that our community has rightly asked us to make and we have chosen to protect,” Superintendent Sharon Ofek echoed.

Special education costs have doubled since 2019-2020 and will account for an estimated 10% of the total budget this year. Last year, the district employed 20 learning specialists, counselors and psychologists, and “other certificated” staff.

Even as enrollment fell by roughly 250 students — attributed to declining

birth rates and the high cost of living in Carmel — CUSD’s budget has swollen by 67% since Covid, with unrestricted reserves of \$25.14 million and a steady 3% to 5% uptick in annual revenue, as the district is funded by local property taxes.

‘A non-issue’

What hasn’t changed is how the majority of those dollars are spent. Last year, 82.5% of \$86.2 million went for the salaries and benefits of approximately 400 classroom teachers, staff and administrators, who serve a student body of 2,136. CUSD also covers 85% of employee health benefits — its fastest growing expense category,

according to Glenn.

For the past four years, the district has taken the statutory 55% exemption, and the form appears in previous financial records available on CUSD’s website. Yet the Association of Carmel Teachers appeared before the board in force on Sept. 9, claiming that the district’s financial office had “buried” that decision.

In response, Glenn said, “It has always been pretty much a non-issue.” Both she and Ofek said the form had been explicitly addressed with the union during bargaining sessions, but association president Bill Schrier and others vehemently denied this.



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

The library at Carmel High School, which opened in 2009.

salary arrangement ahead of the 2026-2027 school year. Its aim was a flat dollar-amount increase in annual base pay for all members, as opposed to the typical percentage increase that benefits the upper reaches of the pay scale. Numerous veteran and soon-to-retire teachers — who are compensated in excess of \$130,000 per year — agreed to take a hit in the name of attracting new, younger teachers to the district.

The union initially asked for \$4,865,

See SPENDING next page

An unusual raise

On the first of three trips to the dais, Schrier accused Ofek of treating the union as an “adversary.” He later labeled Glenn as “known for misrepresenting what we’ve done in bargaining,” characterizing an earlier statement — that the union was aware of the waiver — as “a lie.”

Last week’s meeting was a callback to June, when the association announced that it had negotiated a highly unusual

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SPENDING

From previous page

but settled for \$4,100, reflecting a raise of 2.5% to 8.5% per employee. Yet the announcement cast a pall on the final board meeting of last school year when lead negotiator Michelle DiGirolamo said the union felt “misled and played,” and accused the district’s negotiating team of downplaying its solvency.

Big classes at CHS

That in mind, the 55% exemption appears less of an isolated bombshell than part of a larger arsenal of grievances the association will bring to the table this year.

“I have never felt as disrespected, undervalued and undersupported in my 10 years of teaching as I do now,” said Carmel High School teacher and parent Shelley Grahl, who criticized administrators for “making speeches written by AI, full of generalities and platitudes.” She said that she and her English department colleagues now use sick days and hundreds of evening hours to catch up on grading, and that her request to replace a decade-old projector in her classroom has been repeatedly denied.

A music instructor at Carmel River School, Erinn Barca-Hall, said that her outreach to Ofek to create a spending

plan for a one-time Prop 28 arts grant in 2024 was met with silence. As the funds were expiring this spring, she said, administrators asked her “to quickly spend a large amount of money on things.”

Specific to Carmel High, several teachers said they’re feeling the impact of staffing vacancies. Employment of full-time K-12 teachers decreased from 144 to 130 since Covid, a trend the district attributes to a deliberate decision to prioritize attrition (retirements, relocations) over layoffs amid declining enrollment.

“Teaching 165 students, I no longer can take the time to give personalized feedback. I have a class with 30 kids,

and half have accommodations I need to meet,” said Nora Ward, a 25-year economics and government teacher.

Board members appeared to sympathize with those grievances, but could offer only restrained responses pertaining to the financial report. They voted 5-1 to close the books on 2025-2026 — with an expected no vote from trustee Rita Patel, who said she was unaware of the waiver and compelled by what teachers said.

Perhaps most compelling was that no one had an answer to the multimillion-dollar question posed earlier by CHS teacher Stephen Mayer: “Wouldn’t it be interesting to find out how many teachers actually live in Carmel?”

FAWN

From page 1A

Carmelita Garcia, founder of the advocacy group PG Deer Awareness Resource, said a Monarch Pines resident told her the dog chased the young deer into a corner of the mobile home park. The deer tried to push through a fence but became stuck at its hips.

“The fawn was screaming,” the resident told Garcia.

The resident said a deer herd circled nearby while two golfers yelled at the husky to stop.

“One man grabbed the dog by its collar but could not pull it off,” the resident said, adding that she kicked the fence near the dog’s head, causing it to release the deer. The man then pulled the husky away from the fawn.

Garcia said she told officers the SPCA should have taken the dog and placed it in quarantine so an administrative hearing could be held to determine whether it should be declared vicious and, if so, what steps should be taken to abate it.

The City of Pacific Grove’s criteria for “vicious dogs” include dogs that attack animals “on property other than that of the owner of the attacking dog.” Wholey does not live at the mobile home park, online records indicate.

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A restaurant duo who makes everything but the Parmesan

IT’S NOT a block off the main drag in Pacific Grove, it’s had the same awning since 1994, and you won’t find a more honest plate of ravioli outside of your nonna’s kitchen — and yet, Michael and Paula

Regulars consider themselves insiders. In fact, after buying the place in 2013 from longtime proprietor Joe Rombi, the couple didn’t change a thing on the menu for the first six months, just to reassure the faithful. Thirteen years later, with a menu and wine list of their own creation, the compliment they love best is, “This tastes exactly like it did the last time.”

Like the Saturday night lasagna special, a few things won’t ever change: immaculate white tablecloths, flickering votive candles, and the fantasia of painted mimes, dancers and elves lining the walls, hawking aperitivos in vivid print. La Mia Cucina is old-school, a family-run establishment that makes Wednesday night feel like a special occasion. No surprise, the husband-and-wife duo are as Old Monterey as can be.

Black cod, spot prawns

They still live in the historic Spaghetti Hill neighborhood, in a restored Victorian across the street from Paula’s childhood home. Born in 1956, she attended Monterey schools and her first restaurant job, at age 12, was busing tables at The Cove on Old Fisherman’s Wharf. Before that, she offered tiny hands to help her father bait hooks for black cod — “he was one of the first to fish the bay for spot prawns,” she added — and ran around her maternal grandfather’s grocery, San Carlos Meat Market. Carmel Plaza has since filled its footprint, but back then, crews

See **LIVES** next page

Great Lives

By LILY PATTERSON

Scanlon’s La Mia Cucina remains the best-hidden Italian spot on the Peninsula. “Even locals don’t know we’re here. At least once a week, someone comes in and tells us so,” Michael said of the 21-table trattoria tucked away on 17th Street.



PHOTO/LILY PATTERSON

The couple behind La Mia Cucina in P.G., Michael and Paula Scanlon share deep roots in the local food (and fishing)

From the mayor’s desk — Ask the bigger questions

By DALE BYRNE

OVER THE next several weeks, city council candidates will be asked plenty of questions. Measures M and N? Paid parking? Housing? Tourism? Candidate forums will explore those issues. But I hope we ask some bigger questions, too — questions that could shape Carmel and the Peninsula for generations.

Regional public safety

Should we seriously explore more comprehensive regional fire and police services?

Regional cooperation is nothing new. We already share important services through many regional agencies. It would make little sense, for example, for every Peninsula city to operate its own landfill

and related waste management systems.

Fire service has already changed. Monterey provides fire services to Carmel, Pacific Grove, Sand City and Monterey Regional Airport through separate agreements. It works, but multiple contracts are complicated and do not provide the shared governance and transparency that a regional organization could offer.

That is why the mayors and city managers of Monterey, Pacific Grove and Carmel previously discussed creating a fire joint powers authority, or JPA, with participating cities represented on its board. The idea deserves another look.

The point is not that regionalization is automatically better. It is that the structure should match the service. A regional fire organization could create shared

See **MAYOR** page 31A

ABSTRACT COLLAGES COMBINE ODDS AND ENDS AND SHINY BITS

A PALPABLE energy permeates the studio where Karen St. James pieces together her effervescent art.

“This is my chaos. This is what it looks like most of the time,” she said, with no hint of apology. “My sister (Katie, 13 years younger) calls it my ‘crap room.’ She says, ‘What am I gonna do with it when you’re dead?’”

Little sister’s complaint is filed with a shrug under “Not my problem.” Big sister,

tassels, Christmas ornaments, decorative tissue boxes, bookmarks and whatever else leaps from the hodgepodge in the form of inspiration. “I’m all over the map,” she said.

Oddly, St. James doesn’t consider herself a multitasker, adopting a philosophy she gleaned from an uncredited quote: “Multitasking is the art of doing twice as much as you should, half as well as you could.”

“So, whatever I’m doing right now — that’s what I’m doing,” she said.

Some of her eye-mas-saging pieces suggest water, florals or fish. Others are arrangements of geometric shapes and creative formations.

“My subject matter is intentionally abstract, driven by a desire to infuse vibrancy into each piece,” St. James wrote in her artist’s statement. “I attempt to capture attention with bold colors, intricate patterns and tactile textures, often inspired by nature.”

Sometimes she approaches a blank canvas with an idea. Other times, the process is organic.

Occasionally she works into the night and is rescued from her trance at around 10:30 p.m. when her muse, Wolfie (a Yorkie-Chihuahua mix), demands his potty break. “I get lost in my art and lose all track of time,” she said.

Perennial ‘new kid’

Her mom grew up in Santa Rosa and San Luis Obispo; her dad, a San Francisco native, spent most of his professional career in the transportation industry, initially working for Thiokol, a 1950s-to-early-1980s company that designed and manufactured rocket engines. His job was to facilitate their movement from one location to the next before they flew into space.

“We moved around a lot while my dad was climbing the corporate ladder, starting in Menlo Park, then Utah, then Brunswick, Ga., near the Florida border. I was always the new kid,” said St. James, who turned her alone time into creativity. “When Dad got laid off by Thiokol, we lived up in Minnesota for a while. I graduated from high school in New York.”

Her mom, a homemaker — and later a travel agent who roamed the globe — hated cold weather and longed for California.

“So Dad got into the air-freight business, we moved

See **ARTIST** page 41A

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

73, plans to make art for a long time and figures she has earned the luxury of indulging her lifelong plan to become a full-time artist. She’s also having too much fun to stop.

St. James, an innovative abstract collage artist, will open her Seaside home at 1655 Highland St. Saturday and Sunday — the final weekend of the 2026 Open Studios Tour, the Arts Council of Monterey County’s annual multivenue exhibition featuring more than 100 artists.

All over the map

What masquerades as clutter is St. James’ treasure trove of magical ingredients, collected since ... well, forever, including handcrafted, hand-painted papers waiting to be ripped into shapes and affixed to a canvas with beads, jewelry, fabric, cracked linen, shiny or glittery objects, gold leaf and layer upon layer of acrylic paint.

In addition to her large eye-candy wall pieces, she creates picturesque cards,



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Karen St. James rediscovered her passion for creating art during the pandemic. She’s participating in the Open Studios Tour.

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From previous page

of purse-seiners would crowd in at lunch hour.

Like any Sicilian worth her salt, Paula recalls her first encounter with bottled salad dressing — at the home of an unwitting school friend — with mock-horror.

“Never dressing out of a bottle. Never frozen fish sticks,” she said.

Nor could Michael make sense of mysterious viscous substances labeled Kraft or Wish-Bone. His maternal grandfather ran the vessel City of Monterey — a photo of him and his crew hauling in a net of sardines hangs in the restaurant office — and while his mother’s Sicilian heritage had plenty of influence, Michael’s palate was shaped by the world.

He was born in Germany in 1962, where his father, originally from Chicago, worked with visas and passports for the U.S. State Department. That embassy was in Frankfurt, and though the U.S. government wouldn’t recognize

the Soviet satellite state of East Germany for another 12 years, Michael recalls time spent in Poland behind the Iron Curtain. They also lived in Australia, briefly Jamaica, and by the time Michael graduated high school, Iceland.

“Having dignitary parents, they were always entertaining, so I do remember helping out a lot with dinners and parties as a kid,” he said.

Rappa’s

With frequent visits to his mother’s family, Monterey was as close to a permanent home as he knew. Michael would go on to study agriculture at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and returned to the Peninsula after graduation, around 1985. He briefly entertained the notion of becoming a firefighter, as he had served with Cal Poly’s on-campus company. But a job at Rappa’s — at the tip of the Old Fisherman’s Wharf, a spot now occupied by Rockfish Harbor Grill — quickly changed that.

Michael became the general manager at the restaurant, which happened to be owned by Rombi’s uncle. Paula had grown up alongside the younger Rombis and, after a brief stint as an instructional assistant at a charter school, began

waitressing there in her early 20s.

By 1993, the two were married. Michael was hired as general manager at Shadowbrook, the premier destination restaurant in Capitola. He oversaw 150 employees, as well as a major renovation of its seven different dining rooms, including the maraschino-red funicular which transports guests down a wooded canyon to the eatery on the banks of Soquel Creek. For 14 years, he made the two-hour commute to work, even on holidays — Shadowbrook is open 365 days a year — because neither he nor Paula wanted to leave Monterey, especially after their daughter was born.

Before they took over Joe Rombi’s La Mia Cucina in 2013, Paula had run a catering company with a friend for nearly a decade. Michael had no formal kitchen experience, however, so reopening the beloved Italian spot would be his crash course.

Approaching 100 combined years in service, there’s a stoicism underlying all that warmth and fresh focaccia bread.

“The industry teaches a lot about playing the hand you’re dealt,” Michael mused, observing that now is about as challenging a time as any to be in the business.

They maintain that portion sizes and quality ingredients are “absolutely off-limits,” when it comes to trimming the fat. And while renegotiating insurance rates was once a solution when money was tight, premiums are climbing by more than 10% every year, Michael said, and minimum wage will increase again in January.

For now, their solution is a skeleton crew. It works for them — even through the pandemic, they said, when they neither lost nor let go of a single employee.

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Flipping a coin

A typical day starts with Michael, Paula — who tackles soups, dressings and desserts — and one prep cook, who assists with stamping raviolis and grinding out 150 lbs. of house-made sausage for the week. An hour before the restaurant opens at 5 p.m., their two cooks are on the line, joined by a small-plates chef. When someone can’t make it, be it a busser or the only dishwasher, the couple flips a coin to fill in.

Occasionally, you’ll spot their grown daughter elbows-deep in dough. A Santa Catalina School graduate who’s an occupational therapist with Salinas Valley Health, Michaela served as their pasticciera-in-residence in the early years.

“She’s an incredible baker. The Nutella bread pudding on our menu is all her,” Paula effused.

Their aim in taking over Rombi’s institution was only to make it better, they said. Gradually — careful not to scare the regulars — they changed all the pasta sauces, threw in a few Spadaro (Paula’s maiden name) staples like the crab-and-prawn cake, and added Michael’s signature lobster ravioli. Handed-down recipes come under the perfecting scrutiny of chef Jaime Perez, a veteran of Pebble Beach Company’s dining establishments.

A ‘very desirable’ wine list

They shop with as much ease and care as if it were only for two, never mind that they’re cooking for 100 to 120 guests on a busy night. Paula said she frequents farmers markets on Fridays, and Mondays and Tuesdays when the restaurant is closed. The rest, she says, she buys at Grove Market just around the corner.

“The farmers market used to be a really great deal. Even now, it’s about buying local and supporting growers trying to make a living. And we get to handpick everything,” Michael said.

Borrowing from several years as a regional manager for a wine company, the expanded selection was also his doing. “Just so I don’t go too crazy,” he limits himself to Italians and Californians in a range of varietals, appellations and price points.

“We’ve been told our wine list is ‘very desirable,’” Paula pronounced.

They said everyone from former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to the NFL’s Manning brothers have stopped in, wanting to fly under the radar without resorting to room service.

But Paula’s warmest embrace is reserved for locals, who all seem to return for the same reasons: familiar faces, tables spaced far enough apart for murmured conversation, and, most importantly, fine food.



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OCTOBER 30

LETTERS

From page 26A

council make her the perfect person to take us where we need to go.

Please join me in supporting Alissandra in her effort to remain on the Carmel City Council. I encourage you to cast your vote for somebody who can and will make us all proud of Carmel in the years to come.

Gerard Rose, Carmel

School criticisms

Dear Editor,

As a parent and community member who also serves as an elected member of the Carmel Unified School District Board of Education and was seated on the dais during our Sept. 9 meeting, I witnessed what I considered troubling attacks on the school district’s staff by Association of Carmel Teachers President Bill Schrier.

Disagreement is part of public governance. Mr. Schrier has every right to advocate vigorously for his members, criticize district decisions, question the administration and challenge the board. What concerned me was watching legitimate disagreement move away from the issues and toward attacks on the competence, honesty, motives and integrity of individual district employees.

Most notably, some of the strongest criticism that evening was directed at two women serving in senior school district leadership positions. I found it troubling when Mr. Schrier made assertions about school district leadership and then repeatedly told board members some version of, “You all know that to be true,” implying agreement.

As one of the board members he was speaking directly to, I want to be clear: No, I do not know that to be true. In fact, my experiences with school district staff have led me to very different conclusions. I suspect I was not the only board member uncomfortable with someone publicly telling us what we supposedly know or

believe, but I will leave my colleagues to speak for themselves.

The point I am trying to make is this: Criticize decisions. Question the numbers. Challenge the administration. Tell administrators when you believe they are wrong. That is part of the public process. But speak for yourself, and please do not put words in my mouth.

Jason Remynse, Carmel

Easy peasy

Dear Editor,

Mads Bjerre’s letter, “Taxing billionaires,” is misleading. If passed Nov. 3, Proposition 40 could easily apply to almost anyone, not just billionaires. Hidden in the fine print of the tax measure, Proposition 40 allows future legislatures to change billionaires to millionaires or even thousandaires with a simple roll-call vote. No new law, no new proposition. Easy peasy.

Tax proponents argue that homes and real estate are excluded, but the measure includes a mechanism to remove that exclusion without a vote of the people. Future taxes can be attached to people’s property, savings, investments and retirement accounts with a simple roll-call vote in Sacramento. This is a massive loophole to squeeze taxpayers until they end up impoverished or are forced to move to another state.

Proposition 40 is not a one-time tax; it is an assault on everyone’s property, future income and assets. Sacramento’s tax-hungry politicians can redefine who gets taxed, what assets get taxed and how far those taxes extend. The political elite simply want to circumvent Proposition 13 and take away as much money as they can in perpetuity.

The “billionaire tax” is a sophisticated Trojan horse. It is a deceptive way to heavily tax citizens in the future, no matter how little they make. If you don’t want to be taxed into the poorhouse, vote no on Proposition 40.

Lawrence Samuels, Carmel

Continues next page



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From previous page

A billionaire’s wealth

Dear Editor,

Mads Bjerre’s letter advocating a 5% tax on billionaires overlooks a fundamental distinction: Wealth and net worth are not cash.

A billionaire worth \$10 billion does not have \$10 billion sitting in a bank account. Much of that wealth may consist of ownership in public or private companies. Proposition 40 specifically includes businesses and securities among the assets subject to the tax.

That matters because the tax must be paid in dollars, not stock certificates. An owner must find liquidity through cash, dividends, borrowing, selling investments or selling part of the business interest being taxed.

The issue becomes more complicated with private companies. A founder may own shares theoretically worth billions while no public market exists for them. Determining what the company is worth on a particular assessment date is itself difficult. If an owner must monetize hundreds of millions of dollars from an illiquid business, the practical questions become obvious: Who is the buyer, and at what price?

There is another constituency that deserves consideration: employees.

Many companies use equity compensation to allow employees to participate in the value they help create. Nvidia describes stock-based compensation as a

“foundational component” of its compensation program, while IBM reported \$1.715 billion in stock-based compensation in 2025.

The economic effects of taxing ownership therefore extend beyond founders. Employees, pension funds, shareholders, vendors and contractors may all participate in the same economic ecosystem.

Companies such as Microsoft, Google, Nvidia, Tesla and IBM have created substantial wealth not only for founders but also through jobs, employee equity, purchasing, construction, research and thousands of businesses that serve them.

The plumber servicing a corporate campus is not a billionaire. Neither is the restaurant owner feeding its employees or the contractor building its facilities.

A serious tax debate should recognize this distinction: Enterprise value is not cash, and policies affecting ownership can have consequences beyond the individual being taxed.

Kern Singh, Pebble Beach

Evacuation routes

Dear Editor,

According to the plan’s environmental impact report, Monterey County planners propose to approve new housing that will add nearly 3,700 vehicles to wildfire evacuation routes on the already crowded highways 1 and 68. Notwithstanding their statutory mandate and judicial decisions requiring an evacuation safety analysis of the impact of their approvals on all surrounding affected

neighborhoods, planners ignored and continue to ignore the topic as revenue from property taxes and state housing funds takes priority over evacuation safety.

“Clearance rate” is the time it takes from receiving an evacuation notice to packing up and arriving at a safe location. Planners don’t even discuss the impacts their building approvals have on clearance rates for all affected neighborhoods. What is clear to me is that adding 3,700 vehicles to evacuation routes following a fire on Jacks Peak would create dangerous gridlock. Apparently, “burn in place” is the standard evacuation policy of the planning boards. For your own safety, evaluate your “clearance rate” and prepare for disappointment.

Geoff Smith,
Monterey

More police log, please

Dear Editor,

I saw that you’re dropping the sheriff’s office from the police log because of its incomplete reporting. I also saw that you are expanding the log to include more from Monterey, Seaside and Marina. Since we are such close communities, I applaud this step.

I noticed that you did not mention the police departments of Sand City and Del Rey Oaks. Yes, these are small cities with small departments, but they, too, are part of our community. The Del Rey Oaks Police Department also provides services to Monterey Regional Airport.

Please consider including them in your police log.

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Coming up in October, we will publish another of our colorful special sections, In Your Dreams, with a circulation of 25,000 subscribers online, plus 17,500 copies in print.

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Jessica Caird • (831) 274-8590 jessica@carmelpinecone.com

MAYOR

From page 27A

governance, clearer accountability, greater transparency and a common long-term plan rather than a collection of separate contracts.

And if we can think differently about fire, could we someday think differently about police?

In 2022, Donna Marie White completed a doctoral dissertation examining the consolidation of seven Peninsula police departments. Her research identified seven police chiefs and 11 additional command positions with combined 2020 compensation of about \$3.9 million. She also examined potential benefits involving recruitment, career opportunities, standardized practices and emergency response.

That does not mean consolidation is the answer. Local control matters. A serious study would also have to examine labor agreements, governance, dispatch, facilities, response times and how each community would preserve an appropriate local presence. Those are substantial questions. They are reasons to study the idea carefully, not reasons to refuse to study it.

Rethinking the site

That leads to an immediate Carmel question: Should we simply replace our aging police and public works buildings, or should we rethink the entire site? We have a city-owned area encompassing police, public works and, potentially, the youth center complex. Should we study a civic center that brings together city hall, police, public works and youth services, with convenient parking for employees and the public?

Could consolidating facilities also free other city-owned properties for better public use while reducing duplicated maintenance and operating costs over time? This could be a once-in-a-generation opportunity to rethink how residents interact with city government rather than simply replacing old buildings.

Could a public-private partnership involving adjacent property add public parking, housing, expanded open space and perhaps a new hotel while surrounding cities are building them? Could private investment and new revenue help finance public improvements without relying on a large taxpayer bond?

And before designing a police station intended to serve Carmel for another 50 years, should we first ask what Peninsula policing might look like 20 years from now?

The 20-year question

Perhaps these ideas will not work. A fire JPA may add complexity without enough benefit. Police consolidation may prove impractical. A civic center partnership may not pencil out. But those conclusions should come after serious analysis, not before the questions are asked.

Two years ago, much of our election conversation revolved around street addresses, sidewalk repairs and

operating expenses.

We have a handle on those now. So this year, perhaps we should ask something bigger: What is your vision for Carmel 20 years from now? And what are you willing to explore today to get us there?

To hear a podcast generated from this column, go to [cli.re/bigquestions](#).

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

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The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

Stevenson girls dive into water polo season with championship ambitions

THE GIRLS of the water polo team at Stevenson School already understand how good they are. What they need to discover is how great they can become.

With all but one starter returning from a 2025 squad that won the Central Coast Section Division II crown and reached the NorCal Division III semifinals, coach Jon Burke expects his Pirates to be placed in the CCS Open Division — the deepest water — when the postseason arrives this fall.

For a school with 500 students, that’s both a compliment and a curse, and Burke knows from experience that the only way to prepare for monsters of the deep is to face them head-on.

Stevenson’s nonleague schedule is stocked with sharp-toothed predators again this year as the Pirates pursue their seventh consecutive Pacific Coast Athletic League championship and fourth CCS title in the past five years.

Meanwhile, PCAL rival Santa Catalina will chase its fifth straight winning season and fourth consecutive CCS playoff berth

Stevenson’s thirst for elite competition began during six weeks of summer training, which included a trip to face top Southern California teams.

“We had a productive summer that gave us an opportunity to get to know our new players,” said Burke, whose Pirates are 35-0 against PCAL opponents as he begins his seventh season as head coach.

Senior leaders

Charlotte Morrow and Colette Duarte, both seniors, have been varsity players since their freshman year, experiencing three CCS tournaments, including two championships, plus the NorCal semifinals last fall and the finals as sophomores and freshmen. They were on the roster of Stevenson’s lone NorCal championship team in 2023.

Morrow, the starting center, has an NCAA Division I scholarship waiting at the University of the Pacific after leading the Pirates with 125 goals and ranking third with 46 steals.

“She is the heart and soul of our offense and also a great defender,” the coach said of the PCAL’s Offensive Player of the Year.

Duarte, a center defender, was second



PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

High-scoring junior Taylor Connolly (left) is beginning her third varsity season at Santa Catalina. Stevenson senior Charlotte Morrow (above), the team’s top scorer, was the PCAL’s Offensive Player of the Year in 2025.

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

with three returning starters and a new-look strategy.

And the Carmel Padres will build around two returning starters, with a former NCAA Division I water polo player taking over as the school’s seventh head coach in the past seven seasons.

on the team with 53 steals.

“She had a great offseason of development,” Burke said. “Her speed has really improved, and she’s a very smart player with good awareness.”

Elite talent, strong depth

Junior Kate Solomon ranked third on the team with 80 goals, and recorded 29 assists and 31 steals.

“Kate, an attacker, is really committed, a year-round player. We’re expecting great things from her,” Burke said.

Solomon and Morrow were first-team All-PCAL picks, while Duarte and teammate Anna Bates were second-team

selections.

“Anna emerged as an incredible clutch player last year as a freshman,” Burke said. “She scored our game-winning goals in the CCS final and the NorCal quarterfinal match — both in the final minute of play.”

Veterans in goal are junior Adi Smith, who had 145 saves, and senior Makayla Schnitzer, who had 86. They split time last season.

Exciting newcomers stepping into starting roles this season are freshmen Lyla Honneger, currently the team’s leading scorer, and Stella Saich.

Continues next page



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From previous page

“Both are incredibly talented players,” said Burke, who called Honneger “already one of the best players in the section.”

The Pirates' rugged non-PCAL schedule already includes an 18-15 victory at Palo Alto Senior High School, a 17-11 loss at Soquel and a home match against Aptos that was played Wednesday. The result was unavailable at press time.

Stevenson travels Friday and Saturday to compete in the Aptos Invitational, plays Sept. 25 at the Heather Carr West Memorial in Davis and competes Oct. 23 at Sacred Heart Prep's NorCal Invitational. All three tournaments are expected to attract high-level competition.

Other head-to-head challenges will come at Los Altos on Oct. 3, at Archbishop Mitty on Oct. 9, and at home against Santa Cruz on Oct. 13 and St. Ignatius on Oct. 15.

Evolving tradition at Catalina

The Santa Catalina Cougars have put together four consecutive winning seasons, beginning with a 12-2 record in 2022, followed by three straight years with at least 13 victories.

Three starters return this fall from a 2025 team that won 14 times and qualified for the Central Coast Section playoffs for the third consecutive year.

Seniors Emme Adamski and Violet Bradley and junior Taylor Connolly will step into leadership roles for a squad that is adjusting to a much different style of



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play for a logical reason.

Among the players who graduated was Pacific Coast Athletic League Player of the Year Quinn Connolly, now an NCAA Division I scholarship athlete and freshman at UC Davis.

Connolly scored 425 goals during four varsity seasons at Catalina, including 145 last fall, when she led the PCAL



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Talented, experienced senior Ava Waroff is one of three team captains bringing leadership to a young Carmel team.

in scoring and ranked among the league leaders in assists, with 32, and steals, with 55.

"We'll play more of a passing game this year, with everyone involved in the offense," said 21-year coaching veteran Kendra Klein, who is in her fourth season as Catalina's head coach and her fifth year as the school's director of athletics. "I want everybody on the team to be looking for their opportunity when we have an offensive possession."

But Taylor Connolly, Quinn's younger sister, figures to be a centerpiece of the attack after scoring 73 goals in her first two varsity seasons, including 50 last year, second-most on the team, and dishing out 77 assists. She also stole the ball 53 times last year, earning second-team All-PCAL recognition.

Adamski stars in goal

Adamski was the top goalkeeper in Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties during her junior season, amassing 275 saves — 104 more than her nearest competitor, Aptos goalie Mary Suarez-Abraham, who earned first-team All-Central Coast Section honors.

The other senior captain, Violet Bradley, also is expected to play a major role in her fourth varsity season after recording 19 goals, 15 assists and 45 steals a year ago.

Her older sister, Eva, graduated last spring after a senior season in which she recorded 26 goals and 46 assists. Their younger sister, Lilah, is a varsity starter this year as a ninth grader.

Other returning veterans expected to play much bigger roles include senior Rachel Ibrahim; juniors Reaghan Brooks, who is taking over Quinn Connolly's 2-meter offensive position, Bella Cowart-Kadleck and Fiona Payne; and sophomores Izzy Jacobsen and Julia Qin, a transfer student.

Padres are young, eager

Carmel's first-year coach, Belene Rodriguez, greeted 11 enthusiastic players — many of whom have never played water polo, with others eager to improve on last year's 2-17 record — and plans to build on the positive attitude she sees in this year's group.

See **SPORTS** page 43A




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Joining Santana in 1991 as its lead singer, Lindsay fronted the group for more than two decades. With Lindsay at the helm, the band earned 11 Grammy Awards and recorded its most successful album, “Supernatural.”

The performers also include Money

Band singer **Zoe Alexander**, jazz guitarist **Bruce Forman**, saxophonist **Andrey Chmut** and others.

“This is not a local cover band,” the

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

club announced. “It’s an accumulation of the music industry’s best — players with recording and studio careers and stages shared with some of the biggest names in music — joined by a few of the Peninsula’s finest. Expect rock and rhythm & blues at the core, with light jazz woven throughout.”

Proceeds will benefit music and art programs in Monterey public schools and research for Ménière’s disease, a severe inner-ear disorder.

Tickets are \$175. The club is located at 100 Pasadera Drive. Visit musicfestmonterey.com.

■ ‘Songs After Sunset’

Kicking off its 45th season, **I Cantori Carmel** presents a candlelit concert Saturday, 8 p.m., at the Carmel Mission.

The program, “Songs After Sunset,” features a cappella

music by Brahms, Bruckner, Barber and others — along with the performance of a new piece by contemporary composer **Christopher Anderson-Bazzoli**, “Carmel Point,” which was commissioned by the choral group and inspired by Robinson Jeffers’ poetry.

Tickets are \$65 for reserved seats, \$49 for general admission, \$21 for teachers and students, and \$10 for children 12 and under. The mission is located at 3080 Rio Road. For tickets and a complete schedule for the group’s 2026-27 season, visit icantori.org.

■ Fish, Dogstar at Golden State

A two-time Grammy Award nominee who just released her first live album — and a singer and guitarist who has helped redefine gender roles in the male-dominated realm of blues-rock — **Samantha Fish** takes the stage Wednesday, 7 p.m., at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

Fish earned Grammy nominations for Best Contemporary Blues Album in 2024 for the LP, “Death Wish Blues,” which she recorded with singer and guitarist Jesse Dayton, and in 2026 for the record, “Paper Doll.” Her new live LP, “Paper Doll Live,”



Singer Tony Lindsay, who fronted Santana for more than two decades, headlines a fundraising show Thursday at Pasadera in Monterey.

came out in June.

Also on the bill is a British blues act, **The Zac Schulze Gang**.

Tickets start at \$49.

Also at Golden State is **Dogstar**, which

See **MUSIC** page 39A



Singer and guitarist Samantha Fish takes the stage Wednesday, 7 p.m., at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.



Live Music on Fridays

5:30PM - 8:30PM

Enjoy live music on the patio featuring local favorite, the Evergreen Duo.

September 25

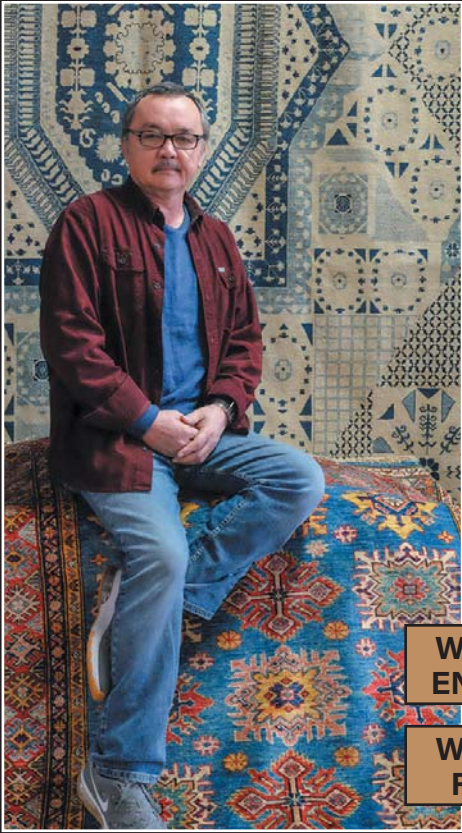


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F O O D & W I N E

The beer’s on tap, the lederhosen are out, and no links are missing

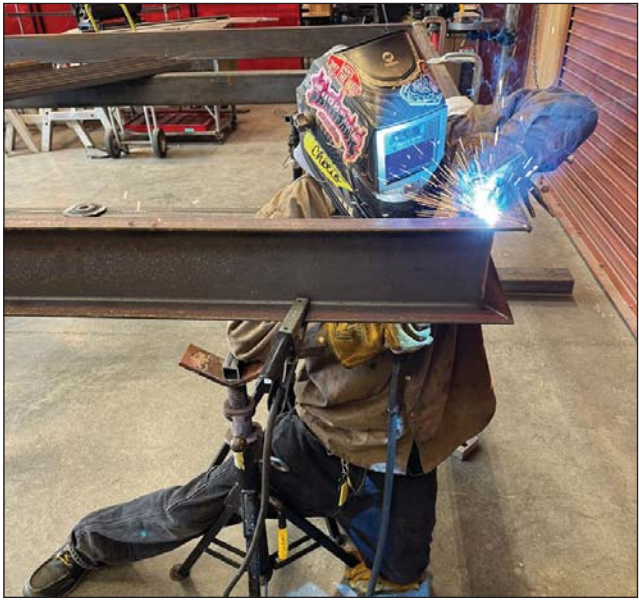
WHY DOES Oktoberfest start in September? Blame the weather, not a calendar mix-up. The original Oktoberfest was held in Munich in October 1810 to celebrate the marriage of Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese. Five days of nuptial festivities ended Oct. 12, but the party was such a hit that it became an annual tradition.

As years passed, the festival was moved earlier in the fall to take advantage of longer, warmer days. Nowadays, Oktoberfest traditionally begins in September and runs for about two weeks, ending on the first Sunday in October.

And that’s why you’ll be reading about schnitzel, wurst and, of course, beer, all to be served starting this weekend. You can raise a stein or mug and enjoy “Ein Prosit! Ein Prosit! Der Gemütlichkeit!” — “A toast, a toast to good cheer!”

■ Willkommen to all

It’s time to break out the dirndls and lederhosen as Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley Village kicks off its 12th



Supporting the efforts of Rancho Cielo students — like this one, who’s learning welding — is as easy as enjoying some Santa Maria-style tri-tip at Carmel Youth Center next month.

annual Oktoberfest celebration Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. with live music and other fun. The event offers German-inspired food and beer specials daily through Oct. 4.

Festival specials include draft beers available in 1-liter mugs for \$15, with customers invited to chip in another \$10 to keep the mug and enjoy \$10 refills throughout Oktoberfest. In addition, those who try six different drafts

Soup to Nuts

during the festival will receive a free half-liter mug. With a wide range of German and German-style beers offered on tap, there’s a good chance of hitting that goal, and several bottled beers are available as well.

Food specials include jager schnitzel (tenderized and breaded pork loin, pan-fried and served with mushroom gravy, traditional warm German potato salad and sauteed vegetables) and “The Wurst,” a Sierra Nevada/Silva Beer bratwurst and a Corralitos Cheesy Bavarian sausage served with kraut, a Bavarian-style pretzel and two mustards, for \$26. “SausageFest!” features four links — cheesy Bavarian, German, Polish and andouille — for \$29. Pretzels with house-made cheese sauce (\$14), bratwurst with sauerkraut (\$11) and, for kids, a frankfurter with fries (\$9) are available too.

The Trailside is at 3 Del Fino Place.

Meanwhile, in Monterey

Peter B’s in Monterey’s Portola Hotel is also celebrating Oktoberfest from Sept. 19 through Oct. 4. Organizers are touting unspecified “German-inspired fun” along with the brewpub’s seasonal Peterhosen lager, made just for the occasion.

Food will include Corralitos smoky beef sausage and a Bavarian pretzel with Dijon mustard and Peter B’s beer cheese sauce, grilled bratwurst with mashed potatoes, sauerkraut and mustard, and chicken schnitzel with braised red cabbage, caramelized onions and savory gravy. All three dishes are priced at \$14, and patrons who arrive in lederhosen during the event get 15% off their food.

Peter B’s is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday



If you like dining at Dametra, you should know that you can get a fast, convenient gyro, shawarma and other Middle Eastern favorites at Dametra Fresh Mediterranean in Monterey and Marina.

through Saturday from 4 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., with a weekly football breakfast offered from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The brewpub is closed Wednesdays.

Finally, although the owners decided not to repeat their party on the lawn at Colton Hall this year, Alvarado Street Brewery’s original location, 426 Alvarado St. in Monterey, is still having its annual tap takeover Sept. 19-20.

“We’ll have guest taps of some of our favorite lager brewers in the country and Bavarian-inspired food specials showcasing sausages from our good friends at The Meatery,” a restaurant representative said. If you’ve never had the delicious sausages made at the Seaside butcher shop near the corner of Fremont and Broadway, this is a great opportunity to give them a try.

A custom 2026 Oktoberfest tankard mug with a choice

Continues next page



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FOOD & WINE

From previous page

of draft lager will sell for \$10. The tap takeover will include ABGB’s Industry Pilsner, Bierstadt’s Oktoberfest, Human Robot’s Marzen and Schilling’s Jakobus, not to mention ASB’s Oktoberfest, PILS, Servus and Prince of Dunkelness.

BBQ benefit

The Carmel Youth Center and Salinas’ Rancho Cielo Youth Campus are collaborating on a community barbecue Oct. 10 from 2 to 5 p.m. The youth center, at Torres and Fourth next to the Carmel Police Department, is hosting the event, while Rancho Cielo is doing the heavy lifting. Students from its Drummond Culinary Academy will prepare Santa Maria-style tri-tip and sides. The campus, which aims to give youth useful skills that will prepare them for the world of work — and help some who have been in trouble with the law — will also bring the 1929 Model A restored by its students and shown during Car Week. The community barbecue costs \$25 and will benefit the youth center’s teen innovation lab and Rancho Cielo’s technical programs. Guests can dine in or get their food

to go. To buy tickets, go to carmelyouth.org.

Meet the Makers

Visit Carmel, the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and the Carmel Art Walk are collaborating on the 7th Annual Meet the Makers gallery tour and wine tasting Oct. 10 from 4 to 7 p.m. The event begins in Devendorf Park at 544 Sixth Ave. (across Ocean Avenue from Carmel Plaza) and takes guests on a self-guided stroll through downtown Carmel as they “meet the artists who carry on the artist colony legacy, tour their galleries, sip Monterey County wines and beer, and enjoy tasting food creations.” Artists and galleries display blue lanterns to show they are participating, and the lineup includes Aaron Chang, Austern Cohen, Bea’s Studio, Carmel Art Association, Carmel Modern, Carmel Vibes, Dan Louth, Delia Bradford, Edi Matsumoto Art & Design, Meuse, Jennifer Perlmutter, Joaquin Turner, Kathy Sharpe, Lilli-Anne Price Contemporary Fine Art, Lisa Bryan, Nicole Cromwell, Patricia Qualls and Robin Winfield. Among the featured wineries are Alba-

Continues next page



Works by more than a dozen makers and artists meet local wines and sweet and savory bites from nearby cafes and restaurants for the 7th Annual Meet the Makers gallery tour in Carmel Oct. 10.



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If you're reading the Pine Cone then you're our peeps. I get it, location is wacky but the food is solid, the parking is easy, and location, location, location. It's like coming into a friends apartment, get out of the city hustle bustle, come into a new imagined dining room.

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Through 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. 19 – Monterey Elks Lodge Rummage Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Monterey Elks Lodge located at 150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey. This event is open to the public. For more information, call (831) 373-1285.



Sept. 19 – Art showing for Brian Keeper's "Urbanscapes", 5 to 7 p.m., at Austern Cohen Gallery, Lincoln between Ocean and Seventh, Carmel-by-the-Sea. Hosted by Mitch Winick and the VETA collection. For

more information, please contact Mitch Winick, (831) 241-8999.

Sept. 19 – ICDC Unplugged: Songs After Sunset: Join us for a candlelit evening of a *cappella* music by **Reger, Rheinberger, Brahms, Hugo Wolf, Messiaen, Barber** and **Arvo Pärt** in the Carmel Mission Basilica. Program also features the world premiere of Carmel Point, a new work by Christopher Anderson-Bazzoli inspired by the poetry of Robinson Jeffers and commissioned by I Cantori for our 45th Anniversary Season. Pre-concert lecture with music historian and tenor **David Gordon** at 7:15 p.m. General concert seating opens 7:30 p.m. Purchase tickets at www.icantori.org

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. 23 – Grand Reopening event at The Paul Mortuary, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., located at 390 Lighthouse Ave. in Pacific Grove. We have made major enhancements to the mortuary and would love to share them with you! Refreshments will be provided.

Oct. 3 – Poetry Reading: Stephen Ruffus, winner of this year's **Robinson Jeffers Tor House Prize for Poetry**, will read his poetry at Tor House at 7 p.m. Reception to follow. Reservations required: \$15; \$10 students. Limited seating. Purchase tickets at torhouse.org.

Oct. 3 – Set Free Monterey Bay and event cosponsors present Walk for Freedom, 2 to 5 p.m. on Carmel Beach, bottom of 13th and Scenic. Tickets are \$100 for adults and \$50 for ages 18 and under, with proceeds to combat human trafficking. Twelve Carmel wineries, live steel drum music, light bites and more will be featured. Register at WALK-FOR-FREEDOM-CARMEL.RAISELYSITE.COM

Oct. 4 – A day of family fun celebrating the Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club's 70th anniversary, including horse activities, delicious barbecue, games, live music from Bubba Pickins band, line dancing, silent auction and more, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.! Tickets on sale now at trailandsaddle.club. Everyone welcome!

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

Fridays – Dino Vera, 6:30 to 9:30 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.

Saturdays – Soulful blues with Debbie Davis and Gennady, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at Terry's Restaurant + Lounge, inside Cypress Inn, Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel-by-the-Sea. For more information, please contact Cypress Inn, (831) 624-3871.

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

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.

Nov. 14 – The Monterey Elks Lodge, 150 Mar Vista Drive, is **seeking craft vendors to sell their creative items during our Open to the Public Holiday Craft Fair** between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Thirty indoor booth spaces (8'x8') are available for \$35 each and tables are an additional \$10 each. Set up from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Complete the online vendor application using the QR code and email to secretary1285@gmail.com



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From previous page

tross Ridge, Blair Estate Wines, Corral Wine Co., CRU Winery, Cypress Grove Wines, De Tierra Vineyards, Domaine Messier, Flywheel Wines, Folktale, I. Brand & Family Vineyard, Private Property Wines, Scheid Vineyards, Silvestri Vineyards, Tira Nanza and Windy Oaks Estate. Their offerings will be complemented by bites and treats from Cafe Carmel, Cultura, Lula's Chocolate, The Nut Hut, Flaherty's and The Pocket.

Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased at carmelcalifornia.com.

■ Dametra on the go

Do you ever find yourself running errands and hungry for something that's more than a snack but less time-consuming than a sit-down lunch? Or maybe you're just searching for a change of pace from a burrito or hamburger.

Dametra Fresh Mediterranean has two fast-casual spots run by the same folks who brought you Dametra Cafe in Carmel. One is in Monterey's Del Monte Center, and the other is near Starbucks in the Target shopping center in Marina.

You're trading the relaxed dining experience and extensive international menu at the Ocean Avenue restaurant for convenience with a more limited selection of dishes. The vibe is on the industrial side, with well-organized dining areas that emphasize efficiency over atmosphere. Everything is served in disposable containers suitable for take-out. The food is freshly made and consistently good, and service is always speedy and friendly.

After perusing the menu boards posted over the counter, you can place your order for a \$16.95 gyro, chicken gyro or falafel sandwich with a Greek side salad.

Or you can build your own meal. For \$14.95, you get a fresh lavash bread wrapping, meat or falafel, and three vegetables. Add one of those proteins to a Greek salad

instead for \$15.95 with a side of pita bread, or have it served with pita, two sides and rice for \$17.95. Options include gyros made with lamb and beef, chicken kabob, chicken shawarma, Jerusalem kafta (seasoned ground beef) kabob, or falafel.

Whichever combination you choose, you can view all the options as you move down the line with a server who will answer questions and make helpful suggestions. Pay at the cash register and eat in or take it out.



Ein Prosit (a toast) to the good times — Peter B's celebrates Oktoberfest with its popular Peterhosen lager, sausages, schnitzel and giant pretzels starting this weekend.

Every component of each meal is carefully prepared and features distinct flavors and textures enhanced by assertive — but not overwhelming — spice blends and sauces. Traditional sides like baba ghanoush, spanakopita and dolmas are available, as well as soup, a kids menu and baklava for a sweet finish. In addition to fountain and bottled beverages, you can get Moroccan mint tea and Turkish coffee.

Both locations are open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily and offer online ordering. (And, bonus, the photos at the takeout website, dametrafresh.zenfoody.com/ui/menu, actually look like what's being served.)

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



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10+ GERMAN BEERS
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MUSIC

From page 35A

will be performing Thursday at 7 p.m., featuring **Keanu Reeves** playing bass. The band, which has a melodic alt-rock sound, has released four albums since its debut in 1996, including their most recent, “All in Now,” which was released in May. Tickets start at \$53. The theater is at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit goldenstatetheatre.com.

■ Rootsy and soulful

In the latest edition of Sunset Center’s Terrace Hour concert series, **The Al James Band** plays a free outdoor show Friday at 5:30 p.m. James will be backed by guitarist **Bill Walker**, bassist **Jesse DeCarlo** and drummer **Jeff Langan**. “Al’s rootsy, soulful music is a true melting pot flavored by everything from Jimi Hendrix to Stevie Wonder,” Sunset Center said. “Both his original compositions and his renditions of songs by other artists share a unique quality all his own: innovative, reflective, and always upbeat.” People are welcome to bring their own food and non-alcoholic drinks, while wine and beer will be sold on site. Sunset Center is located at 908 San Carlos Street.

Live music, Sept. 18-24

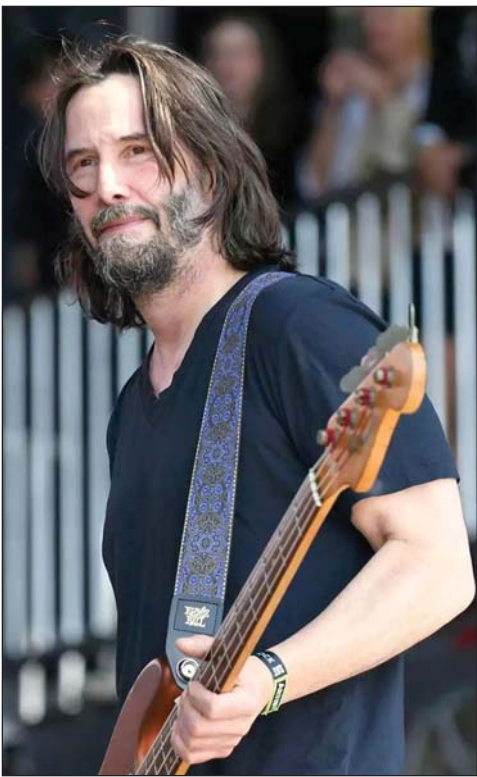
■ Big Sur

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Saturday at noon), saxophonist **Roger Eddy** (jazz, Sunday at noon). 46800 Highway 1.
Fernwood Resort — **Good Friends** (folk and Americana from Point Reyes, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

■ Carmel

Carl Cherry Center for the Arts — **Soularium** (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 729 Guadalupe Street. Tickets are \$25. carl-cherrycenter.org
Carmel Mission Inn — **Open Mic Night** (Wednesday at 5 p.m.). 3665 Rio Road.
Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist **T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer **Dino Vera** (jazz, R&B and dance, Saturday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.
La Playa Hotel — **The David Morwood Trio** (jazz, Sunday and Tuesday at 5 p.m.) in **Bud’s Bar**, 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.
■ Carmel Valley
Baja Cantina — **Touch’d Too Much** (AC/DC tribute, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 7166 Carmel Valley Road.
Bernardus Lodge — **Andrea’s Fault** (jazz and pop, Saturday at noon), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Sunday at noon). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.
Edgar’s — singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Friday at 5:30 p.m.). At **Quail Lodge**, 8205 Valley Greens Drive.
McIntyre Vineyards — mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff** (jazz, Sunday at 1 p.m.). 24 W. Carmel Valley Road.
Trailside Cafe — **Bubba Pickens** (folk and bluegrass, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.
■ Monterey
Albatross Ridge Winery — **The Landing Trio** (Americana, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.
Hyatt Regency Monterey — singer



Actor Keanu Reeves and his band Dogstar take the stage Thursday at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Peter Barnes**

See LIVE page 42A

Shearwater

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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.

Glass pumpkin patch raises \$\$\$ for environmental classes, food giveaways

SERVING UP a holiday season’s worth of creative gift ideas, MEarth hosts its 14th annual Glass Pumpkin Patch Saturday and Sunday, starting at 10 a.m. each day. The sale features more than 1,500 pumpkins made by glass artists Nick Leonoff, Nancy Francioli, Kevin Chong and Todd Moore.

Besides offering a dazzling display of glass pumpkins, the event showcases the Hilton Bialek Habitat, a 10-acre property that serves as an outdoor classroom and features a 1-acre organic garden.

“Every glass pumpkin purchased helps support MEarth’s environmental education programs and food donation initiatives throughout the year,” said MEarth, which teaches students about environmental science and gardening. “Bring your friends and family and enjoy a beautiful fall weekend at the habitat.”

MEarth is next to Carmel Middle School at 4380 Carmel Valley Road.

■ Photo Walk turns 10

Celebrating the town’s long-standing reputation for fine art photography — along with its many galleries — the 10th annual Photo Walk Carmel is set for Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The afternoon festivities will culminate with a reception and raffle at the Center for Photographic Art at 5

p.m. The event is free and family-friendly.

“Some traditions never get old,” said Ann Jastrab, executive director of the Center for Photographic Art. “Discover the beauty and rich heritage of this vibrant fine art photography community.”

Other participating venues include Weston Gallery, Photography West Gallery, Robin Winfield Gallery, Oficino Uno, Exposed and Aaron Chang Gallery. Visitors who stop at four or more of them will be eligible for the raffle.

“Each of these incredible galleries is donating a prize, such as a book or print, for our raffle,” Jastrab added.

The center is in Sunset Center at San Carlos Street and Ninth Avenue. Visit photography.org for more details.



Amir Saadiq’s “Why You Wanna Fly, Blackbird” is included in a fundraising show that opens Friday at the Center for Photographic Art.

■ 8x10 auction

Besides hosting a reception for Photo Walk Carmel this Saturday, the Center for Photographic Art welcomes its annual 8x10 Fundraising Exhibition Friday with a

“We have works by more than 150 established and emerging artists, both legendary photographers and rising stars, from California and beyond.”

The show is on display through Oct. 8.

■ It’s never too late

Painter Brian Keeper shares his art at the Austern Cohen Gallery, which is hosting a pop-up show Saturday, along with a free public reception at 5 p.m.

The fact that Keeper is even showing his paintings is something of a miracle. His home was inundated during last year’s devastating floods along the Guadalupe River in Texas, and it was feared that the artwork he had created over the past four decades was lost. But his paintings survived, inspiring him to share them publicly for the first time in decades.

Keeper uses acrylics to portray a wide range of subjects, including portraits, landscapes and urban scenes, “guided less by genre than by instinct and emotion.”

The gallery is on Lincoln Street between Ocean and Seventh avenues.

■ Hot jazz and cool art

“A Roaring ’20s Jazz Party” is the theme of the Monterey Museum of Art’s latest Art in Bloom fundraiser, set for Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. at 720 Via Mirada.

“Sip cocktails and explore art-inspired floral arrangements throughout La Mirada’s historic rooms and gardens,” the art museum suggested. “Enjoy the lively sounds of ‘hot club’ jazz in the ballroom, curated cocktails from the secret speakeasy and rose garden, delectable bites in the dining room, and mahjong or cards in beautifully staged spaces by local designers. Come in costume and capture the evening with a professional photo alongside a classic car.”

Tickets are \$200. Visit montereyart.org/event/art-in-bloom for more details.

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ARTIST

From page 27A

to L.A., and he worked at LAX for years,” said St. James, who dreamed of an art career but never enjoyed school.

“Going to college was nowhere on my agenda, so I just floated around after high school,” said St. James, who gravitated toward the hippie culture in Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach. “I just wanted to hang out, which, as my dad pointed out, wasn’t a very lucrative goal.”

Her dad — as dads often do — got her a job. It was in air-freight transportation, originally in customer service and eventually as a supervisor.

In 2000, she began a five-year stint as a vocational instructor with the California-based Center for Employment Training. “I actually taught people how to drive fork-lifts for a while, which was fun,” she said.

That led to other social service-type jobs. She assisted low-income seniors as a service coordinator. She became a direct-care counselor for kids in foster care, helped people break the cycle of homelessness as a case manager, and, as a vocational specialist, found jobs for recovering alcohol and drug abusers.

“I needed a degree in human services for that job, which is why I went back to school,” said St. James, who got her bachelor’s (with a 3.6 grade-point average) from Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont in 2013 — 36 years after high school.

From 2017 to 2021, St. James returned to Los Angeles to care for her ailing mother and helped military veterans as a case manager for U.S. Vets, a nonprofit that aims “to prevent and end veteran homelessness.” When Covid-19 struck, the organization mandated that employees 65 or older would be sent home — with full pay — for their own safety until the pandemic passed.

‘I found myself again’

“They never should have done that,” joked St. James, who was 67. “I spent the next six months discovering art again. A switch got flipped in my brain, and I realized I was having way too much fun to go back to work. I found myself again during Covid.”

Her mother passed in August 2021, leaving a house in opulent Rancho Palos Verdes to her adult children.

“When we sold the house, all three of us were able to stop working,” said St. James, who fulfilled another long-delayed dream by moving full time to the Monterey Peninsula, settling in Seaside in March 2022.

Her rapid progress as an artist has been marked by moments of affirmation.

“My first sale was during an Open Studios Tour to a

lady I’d never met,” she reflected. “She stared at the piece for a while, then told me she was going to come back, which always is the kiss of death. Nobody ever comes back.”

She did, though, and paid \$300 for the piece.

Equally exciting was a phone call from somebody at the Arts Council for Monterey County bearing news that one of her paintings had been selected for the cover of its 2023 Open Studios brochure.

Reflections Elegante

More validation arrived when she was invited to show her art at Reflections Elegante (271 Alvarado Mall, Monterey), near the Monterey Conference Center.

“And they moved my art to the middle of their main wall, front and center,” she said. “Now, if I’m working a shift there, I’ll see people stop and look, and I can say, ‘That’s mine.’”

Her brother, Mark, is a retired warehouse manager who

lives in Gilroy. Katie, a retired Montessori kindergarten teacher and talented pianist, lives on Vancouver Island in British Columbia.

See images of St. James’ art at khstjames.com and reflectionselegantegallery.com.

She’ll open her home to visitors Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and will demonstrate two of her art forms — gel-printing and collage-making — both days from 2 to 4 p.m.

St. James is one of six Seaside artists participating in the Open Studios Tour, along with Paul Richmond, Phoenix Redstone, Celeste Gitthens, Christina Beilby and Jill Casty.

Dozens of other artists will also be showing their work throughout the county. Visit arts4mc.org for additional information about the tour.

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

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

LIVE

From page 39A

Martin (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road.
InterContinental Hotel — guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.), guitarist

Terrence Farrell (Spanish, Sunday at 9 a.m.), guitarist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 750 Cannery Row.
Midici Pizza — **The Stu Reynolds Sax-tet** with guitarist **Adam Astrup**, bassist **Doug Pohorsky** and drummer **Billy Jones** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), guitarist **Tristan Norton**, bassist **Zach Westfall** and drummer **Steve Robertson** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.
Monterey Plaza Hotel — pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz, Friday and Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Michael Culver** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Meredith McHenry** (Monday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.
Pearl Hour — **The Zach Westfall Quartet** (jazz, Sunday at 8 p.m.). 214 Lighthouse Ave.
Puma Road at Portola Place — singer and guitarist **Anthony Presti** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Maya Rayburn** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Peter Barnes Martin** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.). 281 Alvarado St.
Sardine Factory — singer and guitarist **David Conley** (Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and pianist **T.J. Kuenster** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.). 701 Wave St.
Sly McFly’s — **Everyday People** (“classic Latin rock with an old-school twist,” Friday at 9 p.m.), **3-Mile Smile** (classic rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.), **The Pacific Jack Band** (classic rock, Monday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.
Stanton Center — singer **Crooner Ed** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 7:30 p.m.). 5 Custom House Plaza. Tickets are \$30. Visit montereyhistory.org/stanton-center.
Wave Street Studios — singer and guitarist **Brad Wilson** (rock and blues, Friday at 8 p.m.). Tickets are \$35. 774 Wave St.

■ 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 — **The Surf Party Band** (surf music, Friday at 4:30 p.m.), **Rabbit Truck** (rock, punk and rockabilly, Saturday at 2 p.m.), **The Pacific Jack Band** (classic rock, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave.
PG’s Meetinghouse — **The Gary Meek Band** (jazz,



One of three musical acts performing this weekend at the Puma Road wine tasting room in Monterey, singer and guitarist Anthony Presti plays Friday, 6 p.m.

Friday at 7 p.m.), singer **Julie Capili** and pianist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Saturday at 11 a.m.), **Sean & the Skinwalkers** (rock and blues, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **The Landing Trio** (Americana, 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 — singer and guitarist **Richard Tripps** and others (Saturday at 7 p.m.), **The Chuck Brewer Band** (rock and blues, Sunday at 6 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 Al James Band** (rock and R&B, Saturday at 2 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.
The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and guitarist **RJ DeMarco** (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (rock and blues, Saturday at 5 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

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



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SPORTS

From page 34A

“We’re definitely a young team in terms of experience, but I’ve really been impressed so far with how willing the girls are to learn,” said Rodriguez, a former Santa Cruz High standout who played NCAA Division I water polo at San Jose State. “This season really is about building a strong foundation and trying to get better every single time we’re in the water.”

Team leaders

Rodriguez will build around senior co-captains Ava Waroff, who scored 50 goals last year, and Charlotte Lawson, who scored 30 goals and had 11 assists. Both are returning starters with significant experience at the club level, and both are four-year high school players.

“They’re likely to be top scorers for us this season, and we’ll also benefit from their leadership,” said Rodriguez, who also has a veteran goalkeeper in Cici Saulnier, a starter last year.

“We’ve already seen some impressive saves from Cici this year,” Rodriguez said. “She’s very driven and knows the game really well because her older brothers played at Carmel High a few years back. She understands that a goalie needs to command the pool.”

Multitasking

Several juniors are multitasking. Letter winner Joy Besler is splitting the fall season among water polo, field hockey and flag football, and Calista Stiebel also plays flag football. Nicoya Ibsen and Imogen

Cook are involved in the school’s sports medicine program.

Sophomore Arwen Potter, a transfer student and first-year water polo player, is involved with the school choir and pep band. The Holz sisters — senior Annabeth and freshman Maggie — participate in musical theater. Freshman Kat Larson’s primary sport is wrestling, and freshman Mia Nordloff, a swimmer, has cracked the starting lineup.



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Colette Duarte, a fourth-year varsity player, is a stellar defender who ranked second in steals for Stevenson last fall.

Stevenson competes Friday and Saturday at the Aptos Invitational and will host Pacific Grove at 4 p.m. Wednesday. Santa Catalina is home Tuesday for a 4 p.m. game against Salinas. Carmel is idle until Sept. 29, when the Padres host Monterey at 4 p.m.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261698
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
MONTEREY COUNTY REAL ESTATE COMPANY, 344 West Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
ROBERT VELASQUEZ REYES, 344 West Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901.
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Aug. 26, 2026.
S/Robert Reyes
Date signed: Aug. 26, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 26, 2026.
Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 920)

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)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261763
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
SIR HAULS-A-LOT, 432 Corral de Tierra Rd., Unit C, Salinas, CA 93908.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s):
ANTONIO VILLAGOMEZ, 432 Corral de Tierra Rd., Unit C, Salinas, CA 93908.
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 9, 2026.
S/Antonio Villagomez
Date signed: Sept. 9, 2026
This statement was filed with the Coun-

ty Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 9, 2026.
Publication Dates: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2026 (PC 925)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. 26CV004664
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, SIMONE FRANCES HAMADE, aka GERTRUDE FRANCES SMITH, aka SIMONE F. HAMADE, aka GERTRUDE HALL, aka SIMONE FRANCES GALUPPO, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
A. Present name: SIMONE FRANCES HAMADE, aka GERTRUDE FRANCES SMITH, aka SIMONE F. HAMADE, aka GERTRUDE FRANCES HALL, aka SIMONE FRANCES GALUPPO
Proposed name: SIMONE FRANCES HAMADE
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
DATE: Oct. 20, 2026
TIME: 10:02 a.m.
DEPT: 14
The address of the court is 1200 Aquajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.
(s) Ian A. Rivamonte
Judge of the Superior Court
Date filed: Aug. 24, 2026
Publication Dates: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2026. (PC 925)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261771
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
EVEREST LIQUOR & DELI, 229 Grand Ave., Pacific Grove, California 93950.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
GOLDEN SHORE RETAIL LLC.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 10, 2026.
S/Dhan Bahadur Khadka, Managing Mem-

ber
Date: Sept. 10, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 10, 2026.
Publication Dates: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2026. (PC 927)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261661
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
STILLZY Seaside, 1440 Canyon Del Blvd., Seaside, CA 93955
County of MONTEREY
Registrant(s):
STILLZY Seaside LLC, 2001 S. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90058
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
STILLZY Seaside LLC
S/Tak Sato, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 08/20/2026.
9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9/26
CNS-4078530# CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication Dates: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2026. (PC 928)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20261741
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
PACIFIC BRAIN HEALTH & WELLNESS, 871 Cass St., Ste. 210, Monterey, CA 93940.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
PACIFIC BRAIN HEALTH & WELLNESS, INC., A CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY CORPORATION, 871 Cass St., Ste. 210, Monterey, CA 93940
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 1, 2026.
S/Larissa Del Piero, President
Date: Sept. 2, 2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 2, 2026.
Publication Dates: Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2026. (PC 929)

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SECTION RE ■ September 18-24, 2026

Open Houses on page 12RE

The Carmel Pine Cone Real Estate



KR
RANDAZZO

■ This week's cover, located in Prunedale,
is presented by Kathleen Randazzo
of Sotheby's International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

September 18-24, 2026



OPEN SUNDAY 2- 4
8607 Berta Canyon Court, Prunedale
\$1,094,000

Privacy and forever views on 1.28 acres. This updated 3-bed, single-level home features a custom eat-in kitchen with quartz island, farmhouse sink, double ovens, and pot filler. Both baths have radiant heat; the primary offers double sinks and dual showerheads. Unwind on the expansive deck or stargaze from the hot tub, with a wood-burning stove for cozy nights and a Generac generator for peace of mind. Room for an oversized vehicle, shop, or possible ADU. Country feel, minutes from Prune Tree shopping.

8607BertaCanyon.com



Kathleen Randazzo, Realtor®
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DRE# 01507458



31499 Via Las Rosas, Carmel Valley

Offered at
\$2,890,000

4 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 2,826 SF | 2.61 ACRE LOT

Your search ends here. This spectacular property, set on 2.61 private acres in the hills above Carmel Valley is an updated modern contemporary home that delivers space, style, and is positioned to capture the valley's signature sunshine and views.

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2RE The Carmel Pine Cone September 18, 2026

Real Estate Sales Sept. 6 - 12

Escrows closed: 31
Total value: \$68,933,500

Carmel

3600 Via Mar Monte — \$2,550,000
Charles Barth to Mohan Harihara and Chithra Rajagopalan
APN: 103-122-001

26334 River Park Place — \$4,449,500
26334 River Park Place LLC to Steven and Jesus Snyder
APN: 009-502-003

See **HOME SALES** page 4RE

3159 STEVENSON DRIVE, PEBBLE BEACH

MODERN RETREAT OVERLOOKING SPYGLASS HILL'S 11TH FAIRWAY

OPEN SAT 2:30PM-4PM & SUN 1PM-3PM

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NEW ON MARKET!

22305 Davenrich St, Salinas
Open Houses this Weekend 9/18 - 9/20
FRI 11:00-1:00 SAT 1:00-3:00 SUN 11:00-1:00

Vista of the Pastures of Heaven!

Tucked well away from Highway 68, this Toro Park home enjoys a peaceful setting & spectacular, unobstructed views of the surrounding hills. This 4-bedroom, 2-bath home seamlessly connects with its outdoor surroundings. Owned solar adds a big benefit with reported electric bills of less than \$30/month.

Listed at \$1,575,000



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3 Littlefield Rd, Monterey
Open SAT 9/19 12:00 - 2:00

Oasis in Aguajito Oaks

Thoughtfully designed 1,976 SF single-level, 3bed/2.5bath residence showcases a timeless blend of California-inspired architecture w/ clean lines, abundant natural light & materials. Comfortable living & entertaining spaces (including 2 fireplaces!) are adjacent to the light-filled kitchen. Outdoor living is equally compelling on this 11,000+ SF lot - a sunny patio garden w/ mature lemon & fig trees and a spacious private back deck for entertaining.

Listed at \$1,790,000



859 Balboa Ave, PG	\$3,255,000	432 River Rd, SAL	\$2,650,000	129 15th St, PG	\$2,240,000
890 Bayview Ave, PG	\$2,850,000	9 Deer Stalker Path, MTY	\$1,780,000	302 Park St, PG	\$1,950,000
610 Forest Ave, PG	\$1,548,000	955 Egan Ave, PG	\$1,460,000	142 11th St, PG	\$1,570,000
311 Cedar St, PG	\$1,275,000	2757 Sea Glass Ave, MA	\$1,189,000	1128 3rd St, MO	\$1,214,100
361 Hannon Ave, MTY	\$1,073,100	132 6th St, PG	\$995,000	459 English Ave, MTY	\$1,135,000
232 Congress Ave, PG	\$1,027,500	1140 Kimberly Ct, SEA	\$904,000	1109 Heather Ln, PG	\$950,000
1556 Hilby St, SEA	\$886,000	1232 Vallejo St, SEA	\$897,500	401 Sequoia St, MTY	\$829,000
17 Saucito Ave, DRO	\$882,000	1713 Goodwin St, SEA	\$765,000	13750 Center St, CV	\$630,000
3210 Golden Oaks Ln, MTY	\$499,000				

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Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$4,495,000 ■ www.PacificTidesCarmel.com



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$2,695,000 ■ www.24571PortolaAve.com



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$1,999,000 ■ www.28088BarnCourt.com



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



Pebble Beach ■ 3 beds, 3 baths ■ \$1,595,000 ■ www.41ShepherdsKnoll.com



Carmel Valley ■ 2 beds, 2 baths ■ \$1,475,000 ■ www.26755LaurelesGrade.com



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HOME SALES

From page 2RE

Carmel Highlands

72 Fern Canyon Road — \$11,500,000
Alan and Sandra Silvestri to Mitchell Milstein and Rezia Roston
APN: 241-081-003

Carmel Valley

25655 Ryan Place — \$1,435,000
Jeffrey and Kathy Ray to Boomerang Investments LLC
APN: 015-312-011

82 Chamisal Pass — \$4,200,000
Jeffrey and Katharine Wilson to Bella Vista LLC
APN: 239-101-018



7092 Valley Greens Circle, Carmel Valley — \$4,950,000

7092 Valley Greens Circle — \$4,950,000
John and Susan Paul to Jeannette Witten
APN: 157-052-002

Highway 68

2969 Highway 68 unit DR — \$525,000
Leslie and Heather Stretch to Zeledon Properties
APN: 259-022-065

2969 Highway 68 unit B9 — \$762,500
Leslie and Heather Stretch to Gerald Quinnell
APN: 259-022-020

24551 Silver Cloud Court — \$2,900,000
Megastar Holdings Services LLC to Five Cedars Holdings LLC
APN: 173-121-014

Marina

603 Santa Ynez Way unit A — \$379,000
The Sea Haven LLC to Maurice Foden
APN: 031-295-022

See ESCROWS page 18RE

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The mirrors I never expected reflect a lot of laughter and love

SOMETIMES FACEBOOK is a mindless waste of time. My feed is a river of ads for Vitamin Illuminating Serum and clothes that only look good on guys 100 years younger than I am. I scroll and scroll, and afterward I couldn't tell you what I saw — only that 20 minutes are gone.

Every so often, though, something evocative lands. "I never appreciated my facial features until I saw them in my children," somebody wrote. Twelve words. I sat there with my coffee going cold, turning the thought over the way you'd turn a walnut in your palm, trying to figure out where to crack it.

I've never much cared for the face in the bathroom mirror. Part of it, I think, is that I was born the same year as Robert Redford, Alan Alda, Burt Reynolds and Albert Finney. Bad luck, calendar-wise. Redford had that jaw you could set a bubble level to. Reynolds had the mustache, with its own fan club. Alda had those kind, trustworthy eyes, the kind that make you want to hand him your car keys and tell him your problems. Finney looked like he'd write you a poem and then read it back better than you could. And there I was — with Jimmy Durante's nose, a

landmark so bold it appears on Google Earth.

I used to stand in front of the mirror in my 20s, doing that thing everybody does. Tilting your chin, finding the angle, trying to catch yourself looking like somebody. It never worked. There was no angle. I just looked like whatever I looked like, which is a strange thing to have to accept about your own face when you're 26 and sure you're due for a miraculous improvement any day.

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

So, I settled into being the second banana — not the leading man, but the friend of the leading man, the one who holds the horse's reins while somebody else kisses the girl. I made my peace with that a long time ago. Second bananas are the ones people remember. Nobody names their dog after the leading man. And being the funny-looking one teaches you a few things — mostly how to

get your laugh in early, before anyone has time to notice you're not Robert Redford.

Which brings me back to that quote.

Lopsided grin

I've spent most of my adult life measuring my face against people who were never a fair comparison to begin with — actors on a screen or whatever the algorithm has decided a face should look like this week to sell more serum. Then, a few weeks ago, all three of my kids were together in one place, which doesn't happen often, and I actually got to look at them. Not the way you look at people you see all the time, when your eyes just skim past, but really look, the way you'd study a photograph.

My son laughed at something — really laughed, with his head back — and there it was, my own mouth, that same slightly lopsided grin I've been apologizing for in photographs since the Truman administration. I don't know why I never noticed it on him before. Maybe you have to see something on somebody else's face before you

See GERVASE page 8RE



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The Carmel Pine Cone

October 9, 2026

In Your

Dreams

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The Monterey Peninsula has some of the most compelling scenery in the world. Combine that with beautiful weather and a fascinating cultural heritage, and you have a real estate market that is always attracting upscale buyers, no matter the economic headwinds. And when they buy their dream homes, many of these people immediately start looking for ways to enhance their homes' comfort, beauty and convenience. Same thing with people who already live here, because Carmel, Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach and neighboring communities are still the best places to live.

Coming up in October, we will publish another of our colorful special sections, In Your Dreams, with a circulation of 25,000 subscribers online, plus 17,500 copies in print.

If you know of an interesting or historic house that would be interesting to our readers, please contact Elaine Hesser, elaine@carmelpinecone.com.

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POLICE LOG

From page 4A

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found wallet at Ocean Avenue and San Carlos Street.
Pacific Grove: Report of possible posses-

sion and distribution of child sexual assault material on Benito Avenue. Investigation ongoing.
Pacific Grove: At approximately 1956 hours, a male soliciting on Spruce Street for a company was called in. He was located and cited for soliciting without a permit.
Pacific Grove: At approximately 2336 hours, a verbal disturbance in the area of the 100 block of Glen Lake Drive was reported.

One party was ordered to leave the property.
Monterey: Subject on Van Buren Street was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.
Monterey: Subject on Dela Vina Avenue was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.
Monterey: An 80-year-old woman was

arrested in the East Franklin Street area for battery.
Marina: At approximately 2036 hours, officers attempted to stop a silver Audi sedan for speeding on Highway 1 near Nashua Road. Officers attempted a traffic stop on the

See LOG next page

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GERVASE

From page 6RE

recognize that it belongs to you.
My oldest daughter flashes my identical eye roll when she is exasperated. Later, my youngest was frowning over something on her phone, her eyebrows knitted together in concentration, and I realized that wasn't just her mother's frown. It was both of ours. It took two of us to produce those kids, and their faces hold pieces of someone who left us too soon. Her face stopped evolving.
In that moment, it struck me. Her face, frozen in time, lives on in theirs. It's not just my features they carry. It's hers, too — a legacy stitched into their expressions, a quiet reminder that I am them and they are me, joined in some eternal we. Love doesn't fade, it just changes form.

Maybe that's why it took me so long to see my own face clearly. I was too busy looking for what wasn't there instead of what was right in front of me.
I don't know why it took me this long to work it out. All those years feeling I'd missed out on the Redford part, when the part I had was better — and it had been playing in three other theaters for an extended run.
I still scroll past the Vitamin Illuminating Serum ads, but I scroll past a little differently now, because it turns out my face is doing just fine, living in three people who never asked for it but seem to be doing quite well with it.
And these days, there's a new face I see every morning — one the good Lord sent my way, warm and steady, a quiet reminder that life keeps moving forward, even when part of it stays behind.
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LOG

From previous page

Mbest Drive and Reservation Road. The driver was semi-non-compliant upon contact, and he was taken into custody by a sheriff’s deputy after a brief struggle. The woman was located inside the vehicle and was provided with assistance.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found wallet at Sixth Avenue and Mission Street.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Trespass advisement issued following a peace disturbance at San Carlos Street and Ocean Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Officers responded to a report of trespassing on Glen Lake Drive. The subject was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury traffic collision at Mission Street and Third Avenue. Information was exchanged. One party was cited for driving without a license after backing into a stopped vehicle.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Civil matter at Junipero and Fourth. Reporting party was assisted with a restraining order.

Pacific Grove: Report of a dog at large at Pine Avenue and 14th Street. The dog was released to its owner, who was issued a municipal code citation.

Pacific Grove: Animal bite on Lighthouse Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Vandalism to an apartment complex clothes dryer on Monarch Lane. It was unknown at the time of the report whether any money had been stolen.

Pacific Grove: A 55-year-old male on Ocean View Boulevard was cited and released on outstanding felony and misdemeanor warrants.

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

Pacific Grove: A vehicle stop was conducted in the 600 block of Sunset Drive for a vehicle code violation. A search of the 43-year-old female driver revealed she was in possession of suspected heroin and drug paraphernalia, which was a violation of her court terms. She was cited and released for possession of suspected heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia and contempt of court.

Monterey: Report of a fight in a public place on Lighthouse Avenue.

Monterey: A 23-year-old male was arrested at Tyler and Pearl for DUI.

Monterey: A 28-year-old female was arrested at Washington and East Franklin for driving under the influence.

Monterey: Report of petty theft, vandalism and tampering on Jefferson Street.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject reported misplacing a bag containing jewelry. He believed it was stolen from his vehicle. The bag was later found inside the vehicle with nothing missing.

Pacific Grove: Officers responded to the 300 block of Grove Acre Avenue for a welfare check on a female who had not been home for more than two hours. The subject was located, determined to be a danger to herself due to her mental

health, placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold and transported to CHOMP.

Monterey: A 22-year-old woman was arrested on Lighthouse Avenue for disorderly conduct.

Monterey: A 42-year-old man was arrested on Abrego Street on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Monterey: Battery reported on North Fremont Street.

Monterey: A 24-year-old man was arrested in the Camino

See CALLS page 17RE

AB



3978 RONDA ROAD
PEBBLE BEACH
4 BD | 4 BA | \$7,920,000



7 SAN CLEMENTE DRIVE
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1651 CRESPI LANE
PEBBLE BEACH
3 BD | 3 BA | \$8,275,000



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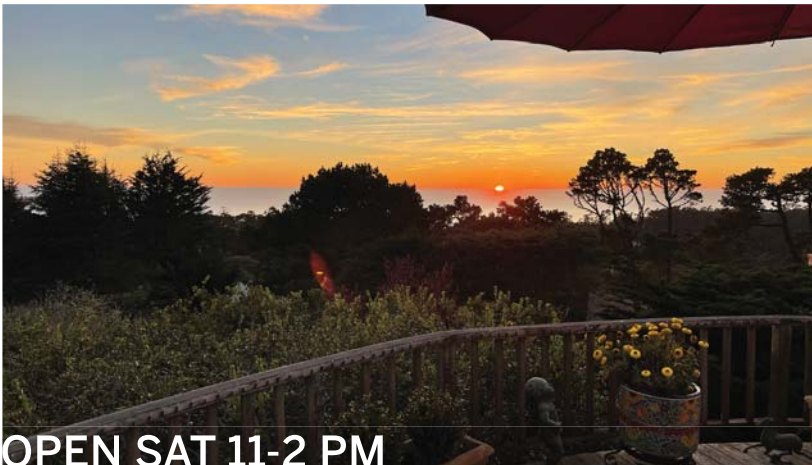
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981 Pioneer Road, Pebble Beach

3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,258± SQ. FT. | 10,300± SQ. FT. LOT
\$3,100,000

981pioneerroad.com

Rhonda Mohr 831.293.4935
License# 02120365



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3 PM

2110 Messina Place, Monterey

3 BD | 3.5 BA | 3,229± SQ. FT. | 10,454± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,950,000

2110messinaplace.com

Renee Catania 831.293.3668
License# 01954589

917 Fountain Avenue, Pacific Grove

3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,282± SQ. FT. | 5,715± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,850,000

fountainave917.com

J.R. Rouse Properties Group 831.218.5738
License# 01299649



OPEN SUN 1-3 PM



OPEN SUN 2-4 PM

24875 North Carmel Hills Drive, Carmel

2 BD | 3 BA | 1,904± SQ. FT. | 0.69± ACRE LOT
\$1,800,000

24875carmelhillsdr.com

J.R. Rouse Properties Group 831.218.5738
License# 01299649

835 Pine Street, Monterey

4 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,647± SQ. FT. | 5,850± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,050,000

835pinestreet.com

Arleen Hardenstein 831.915.8989
License# 01710953



OPEN SAT 12-2 PM & SUN 1-4 PM



Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



PRICE IMPROVEMENT

3360 Kingsley Court, Pebble Beach

7 BD | 8/2 BA | 11,785± SQ. FT. | 10.82± ACRE LOT
\$9,995,000

3360kingsleycourtPB.com
Vilia Kakis Gilles 831.760.7091
License# 00883948

23715 Determine Lane, Monterey

3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,513± SQ. FT. | 2.89± ACRE LOT
\$2,449,000

23715determinelane.com
Greg Albertson 831.840.5582
License# 01435082



OPEN SAT 11-4



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3

212 1st Street, Pacific Grove

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,326± SQ. FT. | 4,792± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,549,000

212-1stSt.com
Capito & Sullivan Team 831.887.8022
License# 00797423



870 Doud Street, Monterey

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,318± SQ. FT. | 8,000± SQ. FT. LOT
\$1,450,000

870doudstreet.com
Dean Provence 831.277.8622
License# 00833476

25940 Colt Lane, Carmel Valley

4 BD | 2.5 BA | 3,597± SQ. FT. | 2.78± ACRE LOT
\$1,395,000

25940colt-lane.com
Ryan Melcher 831.521.5024
License# 01897036



2 Penon Peak Trail, Carmel

41.38± ACRE LOT
\$1,295,000

2penonpeaktrail.com
Keck Properties Team 831.238.8730
License# 02168140



183 Del Mesa Carmel, Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,363± SQ. FT.
\$999,000

claudiamccotter.com
Claudia McCotter 831.293.3391
License# 01982938

250 Forest Ridge Road, #42, Monterey

2 BD | 2 BA | 1,193± SQ. FT.
\$725,000

250forestridgeroad-42.com
Jane Sotanski 831.596.4830
License# 01207772



36 Arroyo Sequoia, Carmel

35.14± ACRE LOT
\$395,000

36arroyosequoia.com
Keck Properties Team 831.238.8730
License# 02168140

CARMEL		
\$695,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12-2
45 Hacienda Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$899,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12:30-2
20 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,050,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 10-12
139 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,249,000	2bd 2ba	Su 2-4
3599 Eastfield Ct Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,495,000	2bd 3ba	Su 2-4
9903 Club Place Lane, Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE		



\$1,699,000	2bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
3rd Avenue 2 NE Mission Street Carmel Realty		
\$1,797,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3
25349 Flanders Drive Compass		
\$1,800,000	2bd 3ba	Su 2-4
24875 N. Carmel Hills Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,999,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 10:30-12:30
28088 Barn Ct Carmel Realty		
\$2,195,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 1-3
28061 Heron Ct Carmel Realty		
\$2,195,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 1-3
10172 Oakwood Cir Coldwell Banker Realty		
\$2,595,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 12-3 Su 1-4
Lobos 3 NW of 4th Sotheby's Int'l RE		



\$3,150,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa 12-4
6965 Carmel Valley Road Carmel Realty		
\$3,700,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 12-2
26305 Camino Real Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$3,850,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-2
24400 S. San Luis Ave. Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$4,475,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-4 Su 11-3
23 Mentone Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$5,195,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 11-3
231 Spindrift Road Monterey Coast Realty		
\$6,495,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 12-2 Su 1-3
San Carlos 2 SW of 1st Avenue Carmel Realty		

This Weekend's

OPEN HOUSES

September 18 - 20



\$3,495,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 12-4
568 Aguajito Road Carmel Realty		
\$6,495,000	4bd 4.5ba	Sa 11-2
228 Lower Walden Rd Coldwell Banker Realty		
\$7,450,000	3bd 3ba	Fr 4-6 Sa 1-4
2385 Bay View Ave Coldwell Banker Realty		
\$9,850,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-4
26378 Isabella Ave Coldwell Banker Realty		

CARMEL VALLEY		
\$1,298,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 10:30-1:30
18 Middle Canyon Way B Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,360,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 12:30-3
471 Country Club Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,699,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 2-4 Su 1-3
760 Country Club Dr Compass		
\$1,749,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 12-2
4 Paso Del Rio Monterey Coast Realty		
\$2,195,000	5bd 4ba	Sa 12-3 Su 1:30-3:30
160 E. Carmel Valley Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$2,200,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 11-1 Su 2-4
26245 Rinconada Compass		
\$2,275,000	4bd 4ba	Sa 12-2
15286 Via La Gitana Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$2,695,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-3
36 Miramonte Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		



\$2,800,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
224 Vista Verde Carmel Realty		
\$4,230,000	5bd 5ba	Sa 2-4 Su 11-1
7 San Clemente Compass		

CORRAL DE TIERRA		
\$2,495,000	4bd 3ba	Su 1-3
28951 Falcon Ridge Sotheby's Int'l RE		



\$499,000	1bd 1ba	Sa Su 1-4
522 Pheasant Ridge Road Monterey Coast Realty		
\$1,180,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3
29 Los Encinos Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		

HOLLISTER		
\$710,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 12-2
1370 Matador Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		

MARINA		
\$575,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
3095 Marina Drive 49 Monterey Coast Realty		
\$805,000	3bd 1.5ba	Ssu 1-3
3080 Crompton Lane #21 Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$825,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-4
14347 Sherman Blvd The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$1,198,000	5bd 3ba	Sa 11-1
3026 Independence Ave The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$1,525,000	3bd 3ba	Su 11:30-1:30
478 McKinley Dr Compass		
\$960,000	3bd 2ba	Su 11-1
18015 McDowell Street Monterey Coast Realty		
\$1,124,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 12-3
16406 E. Garrison Dr Compass		

MONTEREY		
\$470,000	1bd 1ba	Su 1-3
820 Casanova Avenue #108 Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$549,000	1bd 1ba	Sa 11-1
300 Glenwood Circle, #258 Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$849,000	2bd 1ba	Sa Su 12-3
642 Cypress Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,050,000	4bd 2.5ba	Fr 3-5 Sa 12-2 Su 1-4
835 Pine Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,242,700	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 Su 12-2:30
537 Larkin Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,399,000	4bd 3ba	Su 2-4
25 Cielo Vista Dr Compass		
\$1,675,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 12-2
129 Littlefield Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,755,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 12-2
113 Littlefield Rd The Jones Group		
\$1,950,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-3
2110 Messina Place Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$2,449,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-4
23715 Determine Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE		

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

PACIFIC GROVE		
\$1,029,000	2bd 1ba	Sa 1-4 Su 12-3
306 9th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,100,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
226 Walnut Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,450,000	4bd 2ba	Sa 12-2
514 7th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,549,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 12:30-3 Su 1-3
212 1st Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,850,000	3bd 3.5ba	Su 1-3
917 Fountain Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$2,998,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 12-2
542 Lighthouse Ave Unit 210 The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$6,995,000	7bd 4ba	Sa 12-2
888 Del Monte Blvd Coldwell Banker Realty		

PASADERA		
\$2,795,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-3:30
405 Estrella D'Oro The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		

PEBBLE BEACH		
\$849,000	2bd 2ba	Su 1-3
17 Shepherd's Knoll Carmel Realty		
\$879,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
80 Ocean Pines Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$900,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 11-1
21 Shepherds Knoll Compass		
\$925,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
75 Ocean Pines Lane Monterey Coast Realty		
\$1,595,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 12-3
41 Shepherd's Knoll Carmel Realty		
\$7,920,000	4bd 4ba	Su 11-1
3978 Ronda Road Compass		
\$8,275,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-3 Su 1:30-3:30
1651 Crespi Lane Compass		
\$8,995,000	5bd 5.5ba	Sa 2:30-4 Su 1-3
3159 Stevenson Carmel Realty		
\$9,995,000	5bd 6.5ba	Sa 11-1
21 Poppy Ln Coldwell Banker Realty		

SALINAS		
\$645,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 12-2
12805 Rogge Village Loop Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$809,000	4bd 2ba	Fr 4-6 Sa 10-12
69 Geil St The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$869,000	3bd 1.5ba	Sa Su 1-3
73 Echo Valley Road The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$1,094,000	3bd 2ba	Su 2-4
8607 Berta Canyon Ct Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,200,000	4bd 3ba	Su 10-12
14390 Mountain Quail Road Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$1,575,000	4bd 2ba	Fr 11-1 Sa 1-3 Su 11-1
22305 Davenrich Street The Jones Group		

SAN JOSE		
\$995,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3
1121 Cooper River Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		

SEASIDE		
\$776,000	3bd 1.5ba	Sa 1-4
1233 Hilby Avenue Monterey Coast Realty		
\$849,000	2bd 1ba	Sa 12-3 Su 1-4
1494 Darwin Street Sotheby's Int'l RE		
\$998,000	3bd 2ba	Fr 5:30-7:30 Sa Su 11-1
1184 Barbara Ct The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams		
\$1,399,995	5bd 3.5ba	Sa 1-3
4890 Peninsula Point Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		

WATSONVILLE		
\$1,849,000	3bd 3ba	Su 1-3
141 Cutter Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE		

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



OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 09.19 | 12-3 PM

Just Listed **24950 Outlook Drive, Carmel** 4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 3,193 Sq Ft | .66 Acres | \$2,475,000 | 24950OutlookDrive.com



31453 Highway 1, Carmel Highlands

5 Bed | 6 Bath | 8,855 Sq Ft
Set on 6.5 Acres
Offered at \$13,500,000
31453HighwayOne.com



53 Riley Ranch Road, Carmel

Main House: 4 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 3,435 Sq Ft
2 Guest Houses, 10-Stall Barn
Set on 8.5 Acres
Offered at \$11,500,000
53RileyRanchRoad.com



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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261649 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SCM, 344 Salinas Street, Suite 105 E, Salinas, CA 93901. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: SCHEEL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CORPORATION, P.O. Box 697, Salinas, CA 93902. 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. 18, 2026. S/Thomas Scheel Date: Aug. 19, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 19, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 847)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261655 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE GRILL ON OCEAN AVE, 3 SW Corner of Ocean Avenue, Carmel, CA 93923. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: CARMEL FUTURE INC., 832 West Franklin St., Apt. C, Monterey, CA 93940. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Hussein Karaki, President Date: Aug. 20, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 20, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 851)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261632 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DAWN AND EVE SKINCARE, 26344 Carmel Rancho Lane, Ste 1U, Carmel, Ca 93923. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): JENNIFER DAWN MARLER, 3530 Oak Pl, Carmel, CA 93923. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Jennifer Marler Date signed: Aug. 14, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 18, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 855)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261571 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MONTEREY PAINT TONES, 1356 Elm Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): PEDRO PEREZ RODRIGUEZ, 1356 Elm Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Oct. 10, 2019. S/Pedro Perez Rodriguez Date signed: Aug. 7, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 7, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 849)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261630 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PILLAR TO POST HOME INSPECTORS, 359 Casanova Ave., Monterey, CA 93940. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: PAC INSPECTIONS INC, 1093 Broadway Ave. #182, Seaside, CA 93955. 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. 12, 2020. S/Paige Bohrer, President Date: Aug. 18, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 18, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 852)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261693 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GOODIES DELICATESSEN, 510 Light-house Ave., Suite #2, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: 5 & 2 DINING, 510 Lighthouse Ave., Suite #2, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. 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. 26, 2026. S/George Sarkis, President Date: Aug. 26, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 26, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026. (PC 858)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261665 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MEMORIES IN A SNAP PHOTO BOOTH, 456 Seminole Way, Salinas, CA 93906. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): JESSICA ANN MACIAS, 456 Seminole Way, Salinas, CA 93906. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Jessica Macias Date signed: Aug. 21, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 21, 2026. Publication Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 2026 (PC 850)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261669 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MAZY AMY CURIO COLLECTIONS, 3127 Crescent Avenue #D3, Marina, CA 93933. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: MAZY AMY COLLECTIONS LLC, 3127 Crescent Avenue #D3, Marina, CA 93933. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Amy Copeland Johnson, Member Date: Aug. 21, 2026 This statement was filed with the County	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261609 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: Carte Mane Salon, 201 W Franklin St, Monterey, CA 93940, County of Monterey Registered Owner(s): Franklin Street Collaborative Inc., 201 W. Franklin Street, Monterey, CA 93940, CA This business is conducted by a corporation Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 12/07/2025 S/ Stacia Sundahl, Managing Member This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 08/14/2026 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25/26 CNS-4074125#
HTTPS://CARMELPINECONE.COM		

CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026. (PC 904)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261733 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DR. LAURIE BLOOM SWEENEY, EDU. CONSULTANT AND LEADERSHIP COACH, 170 Barrett Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076. County of Principal Place of Business: SANTA CRUZ Registered Owner(s): LAURIE BLOOM SWEENEY. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 1, 2026. S/Dr. Laurie Bloom Sweeney Date signed: Sept. 1, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 1, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026 (PC 909)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261722 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SALT & CYPRESS STAGING, 25193 Hat-ton Road, Carmel, CA 93923. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: BIG COUNTRY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC, P.O. Box 3945, Carmel by the Sea, CA 93921. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: NV This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Dany Langham, Managing Member Date: Aug. 31, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 31, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026 (PC 910)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261707 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. KIMERA'S CREATIONS 2. SISTER SUSHI 11 Alvin Circle, Salinas, CA 93906. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): KIMERA WALKER CAGUIMBAL, 11 Alvin Circle, Salinas, CA 93906. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Kimera Walker Caguimbal Date signed: Aug. 28, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 28, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026 (PC 907)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261579 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. INKED OCTOPUS BOOKS 2. INKED OCTOPUS BOOKS AND DOODLES 3. OCTOPUS DOODLE CRAFTS 4. INKED OCTOPUS BOOKSTORE 5. INKED OCTOPUS BOOKSTORE AND DOODLES 6. INKED OCTOPUS BOOKSTORE AND COFFEEHOUSE 7. THE INKED OCTOPUS BOOKSTORE 8. THE INKED OCTOPUS BOOKSTORE AND COFFEEHOUSE 1141 Wanda Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): KAREN MCDONALD, 1141 Wanda Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business	under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Karen McDonald Date signed: Aug. 10, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 10, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026 (PC 911)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261705 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: Lasa, 1665 Piazza Dr, Salinas, CA 93905, County of Monterey Registered Owner(s): Bayonito Culinary Holdings LLC; CA This business is conducted by a limited liability company Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on Not Applicable S/ Richard Bayonito, Managing Member This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 08/28/2026 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2/26 CNS-4076639# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 913)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261626 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JDL Electric, 449 Chaparral St, Salinas, CA 93906 County of MONTEREY Registrant(s): Jose Noe Cruz Ramirez, 449 Chaparral St, Salinas, CA 93906 This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/07/2026. S/ Jose Noe Cruz Ramirez, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 08/17/2026. 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2/26 CNS-4075786# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 914)	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261732 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BEACH DOG PRINTS, 660 Pine Ave., Apt. 1, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): CAMERON ANDREW CLARKE ROBBIN ANN STAMENOV This business is conducted by a general partnership. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Cameron Clarke Date signed: Aug. 31, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 31, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 916)
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20261645 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: Hana Brands, 800 Del Monte Center, Monterey, CA 93940, County of Monterey Registered Owner(s): Hana Group Ops, LLC, 6565 N MACARTHUR BLVD #330, IRVING, TX 75039; DELAWARE This business is conducted by a limited liability company Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on Not Applicable S/ Michael C. Archer, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 08/19/2026 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2/26 CNS-4077240# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026 (PC 917)	STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File No. 20261743 Filing type: ABANDONMENT County of Filing: Monterey Date of Original Filing: Nov. 15, 2023 File No.: 20232087 The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: CYPRESS COAST LINCOLN, 4 Geary Plaza, Seaside, CA 93955. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY State of Inc./Org./Reg.: NV Registered Owner(s): AUGARTEN, LTD, P.O. Box 70, Seaside, CA 93955. S/Shirley Estrada, Secretary Aug. 25, 2026 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 2, 2026. Publication Dates: Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 2026. (PC918).	
CARMEL WOODS & PESCADERO ROAD SEWER MAIN REHABILITATION PROJECT Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the District Board, Carmel Area Wastewater District, at the District office, 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, CA. 93923, until 10:00 A.M., October 23, 2026 at which time they will be publicly opened and read for performing the work as follows: The results of the bidding will be reported to the District Board within thirty (30) days of the date of the bid opening at which time if bids are found to be acceptable by the District Board, written notice of award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder. However, said District Board reserves its right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities of any bids or to re-advertise for all or any part of the work contemplated. No bidder shall withdraw his bid for a period of thirty (30) calendar days after the date set by the Board for the opening thereof. Specifications and proposal forms may be secured at no charge by emailing the Principal Engineer at bandy@cawd.org and requesting the documents. Posted on two dates: September 18th, 2026 and September 25th, 2026 (PC906)		



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.**, the City Council of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea will hold a Public Hearing via teleconference and in person at the City Hall Council Chambers located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

SUBJECT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Carmel Municipal Code Amendments
Citywide

Consideration of a first reading of an Ordinance amending Carmel Municipal Code Chapters 17.08, 17.14, 17.18, 17.38, 17.48, 17.64, 17.68, and 17.70 to implement specific General Plan Housing Element (6th cycle) programs to remove constraints to the development of housing and comply with State housing law.

Proposed CEQA Action: Find the Ordinance exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Public Resources Code Section 21080.085 and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b) (3) and 15378 because the Ordinance implements adopted Housing Element programs and does not present any unusual circumstances that would result in a potentially significant environmental impact, it can be seen with certainty that the Ordinance has no potential for resulting in a physical change in the environment, directly or indirectly, and no exceptions to the exemption exist pursuant to section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed Ordinance does not authorize any specific development on any specific piece of property within the City’s boundaries.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: This meeting will be held via teleconference and in person (“hybrid”) in the City Council Chambers at City Hall located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea. The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or remotely via Zoom, however, the meeting will proceed as normal even if there are technical difficulties accessing Zoom. The City will do its best to resolve any technical issues as quickly as possible. To participate via teleconference, click the following link to attend via Zoom (or copy and paste the link into your browser):

<https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/83138976374>
Webinar ID: 831 3897 6374
Passcode: 862068
Dial in: (253) 215-8782

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

All interested persons are invited to attend in person or via teleconference at the time and place specified above to give oral or written testimony concerning this matter. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk at City Hall located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or P.O. Box CC, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or by email cityclerk@ci-carmel.ca.us prior to the meeting. With respect to written comments, please submit them at least 2 hours before the meeting in order to ensure they are provided to the legislative body and made part of the record. Comments received after that time and up to the end of the public hearing will be saved as part of the record but may not be provided to the legislative body prior to or during the public hearing.

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

REQUEST FOR BID

The Carmel Valley Recreation & Park District (CVRPD) is soliciting bids for improvements to a park picnic site. The park is located in Carmel Valley Village. The project includes minor grading of the site, new concrete curbs, and construction of a large shade pergola structure. A bid package may be obtained by emailing CVRPD at cvrpd.main@gmail.com or by calling **831-659-7275** (leave message). Bidding closes October 9, 2026.

Publication dates: Sept. 18, 2026 (PC926)

**CYPRESS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
FINAL BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2026-27**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. the Cypress Fire Protection District, Board of Directors will meet at the Carmel Mission Inn located at 3665 Rio Road, Carmel to consider adoption of the final budget for fiscal year 2026-27 that ends on June 30, 2027.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the preliminary budget was adopted May 28, 2026, and is available for inspection at the district’s fire station located at 3775 Rio Road, Carmel between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any district resident may appear and be heard regarding the increase, decrease, or omission of any item on the budget or for the inclusion of any additional items.

DATED: August 17, 2026
Leslie Baek, Secretary of the Board

Publication dates:
Sept. 11 & 18, 2026
(PC901)



CARMEL WOODS & PESCADERO ROAD SEWER MAIN REHABILITATION PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the District Board, Carmel Area Wastewater District, at the District office, 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, CA. 93923, until
10:00 A.M., October 23, 2026
at which time they will be publicly opened and read for performing the work as follows:
The results of the bidding will be reported to the District Board within thirty (30) days of the date of the bid opening at which time if bids are found to be acceptable by the District Board, written notice of award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder. However, said District Board reserves its right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities of any bids or to re-advertise for all or any part of the work contemplated.
No bidder shall withdraw his bid for a period of thirty (30) calendar days after the date set by the Board for the opening thereof.
Specifications and proposal forms may be secured at no charge by emailing the Principal Engineer at bandy@cawd.org and requesting the documents.
Posted on two dates:
September 18th, 2026 and September 25th, 2026
(PC906)



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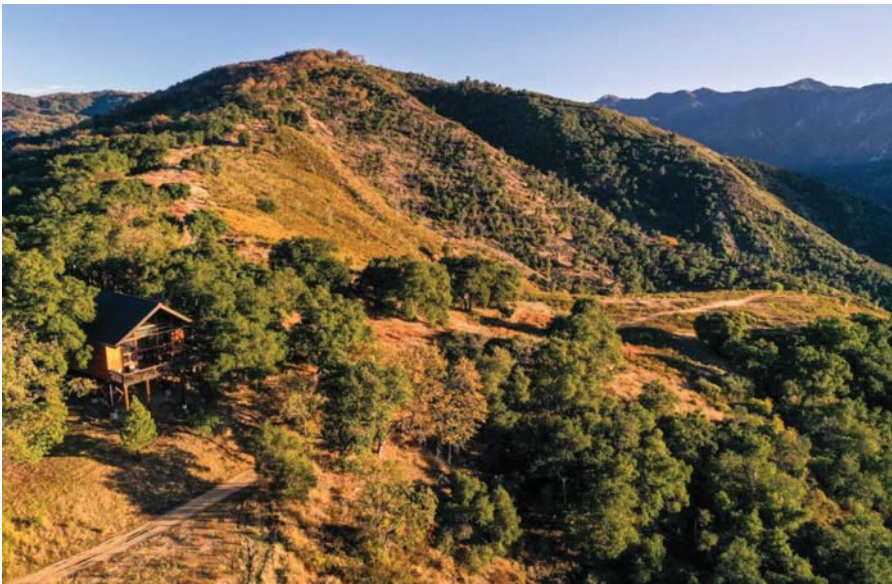
43 Rancho San Carlos Road - Santa Lucia Preserve, Carmel
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22 Arroyo Sequoia - Santa Lucia Preserve, Carmel
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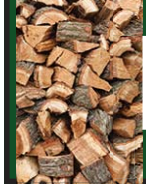
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Continues on next page

Police Log: Carmel-by-the-Sea, July 5

Manager of a Dolores St. inn called to report



a suspicious person in one of her rooms.

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and told her the senior maid was "wanting to murder him."

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CALLS

From page 9RE

possession of suspected heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia and contempt of court.

Monterey: Report of a fight in a public place on Light-house Avenue.

Monterey: A 23-year-old male was arrested at Tyler and Pearl for DUI.

Monterey: A 28-year-old female was arrested at Wash-ington and East Franklin for driving under the influence.

Monterey: Report of petty theft, vandalism and tamper-ing on Jefferson Street.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject reported misplacing a bag containing jewelry. He believed it was stolen from his vehi-cle. The bag was later found inside the vehicle with nothing missing.

Pacific Grove: Officers responded to the 300 block of Grove Acre Avenue for a welfare check on a female who had not been home for more than two hours. The subject was lo-cated, determined to be a danger to herself due to her mental health, placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold and transported to CHOMP.

Monterey: A 22-year-old woman was arrested on Light-house Avenue for disorderly conduct.

Monterey: A 42-year-old man was arrested on Abrego Street on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Monterey: Battery reported on North Fremont Street.

Monterey: A 24-year-old man was arrested in the Camino Agujito area for being under the influence of a controlled substance, resisting a peace officer and a probation violation.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

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

Pacific Grove: A female was placed on a 72-hour mental health evaluation hold on Sunset Drive.

Pacific Grove: Battery reported on Lighthouse Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle on Monarch Lane marked for 72-hour parking.



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Continues from previous page

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ESCROWS

From page 4RE

Marina (cont'd)

603 Santa Ynez Way unit C — \$380,000
The Sea Haven LLC to Kristoffer and Heidi Peralta
APN: 031-295-024

620 Carmel Avenue — \$507,000
The Sea Haven LLC to Luis Moreno and Heidi Menjivar
APN: 031-314-009

626 Carmel Avenue — \$507,000
The Sea Haven LLC to Jing Zhou
APN: 031-314-012

139 10th Street — \$845,500
Shea Homes LP to Elisabeth Sussex
APN: 031-296-022

18470 McClellan Circle — \$875,000
Sarah Solano, Public Guardian, and Susan Spence Trust to Susan and Brian Buchanan
APN: 031-162-083

2975 Denali Drive — \$970,000
Susan and Gregory Courtney to Wei Gu and Lichen Zhao
APN: 031-276-052

266 Sandy Gulch Drive — \$1,287,500



26334 River Park Place, Carmel — \$4,449,500

William Whelan to Brandon Walker
APN: 031-257-026

3048 Arroyo Drive — \$1,505,500
The Sea Haven LLC to James and Laura MacIntyre
APN: 031-311-038

2318 Sand Dune Avenue — \$1,646,000
Shea Homes LP to Roberto and Sandra Adams
APN: 031-223-067

2303 Sanderling Avenue — \$2,348,500
Shea Homes LP to Michael Douglass
APN: 031-222-049



1027 Vaquero Road, Pebble Beach — \$2,550,000

Monterey

25 Linda Vista Drive — \$1,000,000
Robert Debare and Esther Rogers to Donald, Terri and Dru Milligan
APN: 001-932-006

51 Cielo Vista Drive — \$1,245,000
Mary Buscaglia, Ada Lucido and Edith Law to James and Tatyana Corn
APN: 001-91 1-020

Continues next page

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Carmel-by-the-Sea Real Estate Activity This Week:

Status	Address	List Price	Sale Price	DOM
New Listing	Santa Rita 2 NW of 1st	\$1,025,000	---	1
New Listing	Carmelo 4 SE of Ocean	\$10,995,000	---	3
List Price Decreased	Ocean 2 NW of Guadalupe	\$4,495,000	---	89
List Price Decreased	3rd 2 NE of Mission	\$1,699,000	---	18
Contingent	Carmelo 4 SE of Ocean	\$10,995,000	---	3
Contingent	Santa Lucia 2 NE Casanova	\$3,200,000	---	14
Contingent	3rd 2 NE of Mission	\$1,699,000	---	18
Pending	13th 2 NE of San Antonio	\$7,950,000	---	106
Pending	Santa Rita 2 NW of 1st	\$1,025,000	---	1
Listing Expired	Scenic 4 NE of 13th	\$18,980,000	---	47

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(Data from MLSListings Inc)

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From previous page

712 Hawthorne Street — \$1,550,000
David Compton to 712 Hawthorne Street LLC
APN: 001-073-009

7 Stratford Place — \$1,949,000
Callie Chandler to John and Janice Unger
APN: 014-111-008

Pacific Grove

304 Stuart Avenue — \$1,204,500
Lisa and Lawrence Henderson to Ken Lin
APN: 006-722-006

709 Lobos Avenue — \$1,559,000
James Hollenbach and Stephanie Sallum to
Jill Christofferson
APN: 006-556-016

Pebble Beach

1027 Vaquero Road — \$2,550,000
Kimberly Short and Randall Bowen to Vaquero Road Realty LLC
APN: 007-311-010



3600 Via Mar Monte, Carmel — \$2,550,000

Sand City

2080 California Avenue — \$9,450,000
Windsong Medical Park LLC to Sand City Holdings LLC
APN: 011-011-039

Seaside

1801 Laguna Street — \$370,000
Sydney Olden to John Flaniken
APN: 012-823-011



72 Fern Canyon Road, Carmel Highlands — \$11,500,000

1675 Luxton Street — \$735,000
James White to Amy and Tee Anderson
APN: 012-744-007

2855 Bay View Loop — \$2,798,000
Shea Homes LP to Eldridge and Richelle Bell
APN: 031-055-023

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