FOUR DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS SOLD FOR $13.5M

The operators of Dametra Cafe can breathe a little easier after a judge last week issued an order barring the restaurant's landlord, who claims she's the rightful owner, from meddling in their business.

On May 28, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Susan J. Matcham granted Dametra founders Faisal Nimri and Bashar Sneeh a preliminary injunction giving them complete control of the restaurant, despite landlord Connie Laub's contention that she's the owner and merely manages it.

"The preliminary injunction prevents the defendants from interfering with the operation of Dametra Cafe," attorney Crystal Gaudette, who represents the restaurateurs, told The Pine Cone. "We are thrilled.

The judgment is the second victory for Nimri and Sneeh in their lawsuit against Laub. The court orders followed a May 4 lawsuit the men filed against her alleging she was trying to "abandon" the restaurant. Laub's business partner, Mark Morris, is also listed as a defendant in the suit. They have denied Nimri and Sneeh's allegations.

Laub's attorney, Susan Goldbeck, minimized the importance of the court order, saying that when the case is likely ordered to go to arbitration, "there will be no doubt" to the distance of the court order, saying that when the case is likely ordered to go to arbitration, "there will be no doubt" to the

Laub points to the Carmel business license in her name, and cites past comments by Nimri and Sneeh that Laub is the owner and they're managers. But Nimri and Sneeh contend that they're Dametra's true owners since they hire and fire employees, pay their business taxes, and make decisions about the restaurant.

The entity that took title to the impressive portfolio — two buildings on Ocean Avenue and two on Dolores Street — is called Carmel Properties LLC, but it's actually Optimus Properties, which has its offices in Century City.

The seller was Casey Silvey, according to broker Michael Schoeder, managing director of DTZ commercial real estate in Ryan Ranch.

"These properties have been in her family since the '40s and '50s," explained Schoeder, and their combined square footage totals about 23,000. Silvey took control of them in 1989.

But Silvey, who lives in Aptos, decided it was time to retire from being a commercial landlord and listed the buildings with DTZ last August.

"It was a decision to sell all the properties at once," he said.

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The Carmel Pine Cone

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FOUR DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS SOLD FOR $13.5M

By MARY SCHLEY

A Los Angeles real estate investment company "engaged in the acquisition, development, leasing and management of multi-family, retail and commercial real estate" last week purchased four downtown buildings for a combined total of $13,586,000.

‘Marshall Duncan’ rides again — but still won’t say who he is

By MARY SCHLEY

No one has come forward to say who he is, including the man himself, but at least one thing is known about Marshall Duncan: He reads The Pine Cone.

On Monday, following the paper’s front-page story about his voluminous Public Records Act requests, Duncan requested copies of "the email, text message, phone log or any other record between Mary Schley, Paul Miller or The Carmel Pine Cone organization to or from the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea and any of its officials, officers or employees discussing, requesting or regarding Marshall Duncan or any correspondence, email or Public Records Act Request from Marshall Duncan to the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

He also asked for copies of any emails between city

Cal Am worker finds baby crawling in street

By MARY SCHLEY

The baby was on a mission. That’s what California American Water service technician Victor Munguia said of the infant he happened to see crawling through a Carmel intersection last Wednesday afternoon.

Munguia had just left a service call at a residence in town and was driving down Valley Way on his way to help a coworker contend with a leak in the Rio Vista neighborhood off of Carmel Valley Road when he “glanced over to Lobos Street and happened to see a little baby crawling in the middle of the road,” he told The Pine Cone Thursday.

“As I was traveling on town, west Highway 1, I thought, ‘Oh, wait a minute, that’s not right,’ so I reversed, went to Lobos and parked the truck in the middle of the road with my hazard lights on,” he recalled.

Munguia asked a couple standing nearby if the child was theirs — they evidently hadn’t seen him, as he was blocked from their view by a parked car — when the baby’s mother rushed out into the street toward him.

DAMETRA

P.G. council nixes ‘petty’ objections to P.B. housing

By KELLY NIX

A PROPOSED affordable housing project in Pebble Beach that would provide homes for 78 people would not only create "nuisance light," it could further "deteriorate" Pacific Grove’s downtown and negatively impact the city’s parks and library, according to a letter the city’s staff has proposed sending Monterey County planners.

But at this week’s council meeting, some council members and citizens called those concerns, “petty,” and asked for the letter to be revised.

In a six-page draft letter written in response to the EIR for the Pebble Beach Co.’s proposed 24-unit inclusionary housing project off Congress Road, the city’s planning staff suggested that the town homes’ residents — even though there will be only 78 of them — could overwhelm PG. parks and its

Destruction of dam turned into a work of art

By KELLY NIX

A local plein air artist has made more than 20 trips to San Clemente Dam over the past year and produced eight paintings to chronicle its removal.

The Carmel Pine Cone

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Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Cavalier companionship

They didn’t buy her because she had been born to champions, but because she was beautiful. They also had no intention of parading her around the show circuit, but they did give her obedience training, and she was awarded a blue ribbon.

They had no idea what to name their adorable 4-month-old Cavalier King Charles spaniel. But one morning, as she scampered among the sunlit flowers in their Carmel garden, her person, called out, “Blossom” and she came running.

The Cavalier is considered an active, graceful toy spaniel, joyful and free, fearless and sporting, yet also smitten.

Yet, not unlike another Cavalier, “Lady,” the title character in Disney’s “Lady and the Tramp,” the well-bred Blossom also has an eye for the “cavalier” character.

For 10 years, she served as a therapy dog at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. Sitting on the foot of the bed, she would wait and watch a patient, seemingly able to read just what was needed.

Yet, not unlike another Cavalier, “Lady,” the title character in Disney’s “Lady and the Tramp,” the well-bred Blossom also has an eye for the ‘cavalier’ character. Which is why, when her person brought home Baxter, a bad boy who had taken to the streets after escaping a neglectful home, Blossom was secretly smitten.

Born in a puppy mill and raised someplace worse, Baxter had street smarts but no true training. Blossom found that fascinating. The pair would go to the beach every evening, where Baxter would chase the ball, and Blossom would eat seaweed. “We were just going to foster Baxter until we found a home for him,” says the pair’s person, “but Blossom made it very clear he was her man, and he needed to stay. She stood guard over him until she was confident about what I was going to do with him. Used to going for a walk in the evening, she would turn and wait to see if he were going to come, too. Now 9 and 11, they’re still very close; they sleep cuddled up together.”

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Sunset Center unveils 2015-16 schedule, tickets on sale in July

By CHRIS COUNTS

BRINGING TO town an array of acts that spans the entertainment spectrum, Sunset Center announced its 2015-16 schedule last week.

“Next year features an even wider variety of performance genres, which is a direct response to the still-growing interest in activities at Sunset Center by many different segments of the Monterey Peninsula’s population,” said Christine Sandin, Sunset Center’s executive director. “The magic that is created on stage through our world-class performing artists brings our community together for inspiration, enrichment and entertainment.”

The season opens Saturday, Sept. 25, when Emmy Award-winning actress Jane Lynch takes the stage. Best known as the cheerleading coach in the hit TV series, “Glee,” Lynch presents an evening of cabaret and comedy.

Next up are performances by The Bollywood Masala Orchestra and Dancers of India (Oct. 8), MOMIX ("Alchemia," Oct. 16), Reduced Shakespeare Company (Oct. 29), The Stunt Dog Experience (Nov. 7), The Ten Tenors (Nov. 29) and The Soweto Gospel Chorus (Dec. 17).

A Bee Gees tribute concert by Night Fever starts off the New Year Jan. 10, followed by a tribute to the Who by The Smithereens (Jan. 22), a look into “The World of Downtown Abbey” with Jessica Fellows (Jan. 23), a multimedia tribute to the late folksinger Pete Seeger (Feb. 4) and a visit by the Metropolitan Opera Rising Stars Concert Series (Feb. 5).

Also appearing at Sunset Center this season will be five-time Grammy Award-winning singer Wynonna Judd and her band, Big Noise (Feb. 24), comedians Sarah Silverman and Julie Sneider ("Binge-Worthy Journalism: Backstage with the Creators of SERIAL," March 9), a cabaret concert by Igudesman & Joo (March 10), a film screening of “The Big Noise (Feb. 1), and a visit by the Creole Carnival (March 6), ukulele player Jake Shimabukuro (April 9), Crecle Carnival (April 17), comedy troupe Capitol Steps (May 1), humor writer David Sedaris (May 6) and a tribute to Frank Sinatra by award-winning singer Alexis Zatorsky (Jan. 23), a look into "Are You Being Served?" with the Original Stunt Dog Experience (Nov. 7), a cabaret concert by The Big Noise (Feb. 1), and a tribute to the late folksinger Pete Seeger (Feb. 4) and a visit by the Metropolitan Opera Rising Stars Concert Series (Feb. 5).

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Council cleans up errors, adds money to proposed $32 million budget

By Mary Schiey

An EMBARRASSING error that cost the city time and money last year was nearly repeated when the council discussed the 2015-16 budget Monday evening. Included among the list of proposed fee changes was an increase in the business license tax from $1.03 per $1,000 gross earnings, to $1.05 per $1,000 gross earnings. But the tax actually is $1 per $1,000 — and has been since voters approved an increase from $0.88 per $1,000 in 2006.

The business license tax can only be increased again by another vote of the people, but last year, the city sent out revised tax bills at the $1.03-per-$1,000 rate based on the council’s motion calling for annual cost-of-living fee increases. Last year, after being called out on the mistake, city officials awarded refunds to 1,985 business-license holders who had already paid.

At the June 1 meeting, during public comment on the proposed $32 million spending plan for next year, Carmel Chamber of Commerce CEO Monta Potter asked about the change in business tax.

“I thought it was a different process to change the business license tax,” she observed.

Toward the end of the four-hour meeting, when council members discussed the fees — and also asked why some, like parking citations, weren’t changing, while others, like fees for false alarms and fingerprinting, weren’t, city administrator Doug Schmitz said Schmitz had suggested foregoing the increases, so city staff could “do an in-depth analysis” to determine what fees can be changed, which are accurate, and which must undergo additional processes, like parking citations and the tax.

After Schmitz assured council members the money the fee increases would have provided in the upcoming budget year was negligible, they agreed to set aside the proposed changes, as he suggested.

Big items untouched

During the four-hour meeting, which was the precursor to a June 15 special meeting when the council is expected to adopt the budget, council members made no major changes to the spending plan, leaving the allocations for all of the departments in place. Police, always the largest consumer of cash, will receive $3,133,611, followed by $2,877,261 for the fire department (most of which is paid to the City of Monterey for its operation of the Carmel firehouse), $1,226,096 for public works, and $1,047,574 for the ambulance.

They agreed to a few additions suggested by Schmitz, including $40,000 for the centennial celebrations planned for next year, and $102,000 for the immediate hiring of a new planner and a new beach patrol officer that were included in the original budget.

Council members decided to further discuss how the money involves giving money to the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and the Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau, as well as paying a sizable chunk to Burghardt-Doo for public relations, marketing and advertising. The total budgeted for 2015-2016 is $306,528, including $160,000 that hasn’t been specifically allocated as of yet.

The chamber has requested $120,000, including $66,000 for operating the visitor center, $20,000 for research, $17,000 to target emerging markets, $8,000 for Concours Week shuttles, and $3,000 for the chamber’s centennial project.

After going back and forth over whether the chamber deserves that money, and whether to continue Burghardt’s contract or make no major changes to the immediate hiring of a new planner and a new beach patrol officer that were included in the original budget.

They decided to adopt the budget as it was presented, including $66,000 for operating the visitor center, $20,000 for research, $17,000 to target emerging markets, $8,000 for Concours Week shuttles, and $3,000 for the chamber’s centennial project.

More for F&B

At the start of the meeting, councilman Steve Dallas pointed out the buildings housing public works and the police department should be fixed, too. Part of the police station, for instance is covered in plastic sheeting, and water regularly leaks into the public works building.

He questioned the plans to spend more

June 5, 2015                        The Carmel Pine Cone                    3A

See BUDGET page 31A

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See BUDGET page 31A

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A 58-year-old male slapped a female at Torres and Dolores north of Sixth initially reported that he stated that two “no parking” signs she erected were damaged in front of her home, as well as one “no parking” sign erected by the County of Monterey.

MONDAY, MAY 18

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Private property, non-injury, traffic collision on Rio Road.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Business owner on Dolores north of Sixth initially reported that he was the victim of fraud. Business owner had hired an advertisement company to represent his gallery. After paying the company, the business owner had limited contact and no advertisement to show for it. During follow up, the issue was determined to be from within the company and the employee who brokered the deal. No fraudulent activity noted.

Pacific Grove: Man reported his vehicle on Highway 1 near mile marker 36 and pronounced deceased at the scene. The victim, a 46-year-old female, was a tourist from China. Several passersby stopped to render aid, but she was pronounced deceased at the scene. Highway 1 was closed in both directions for approximately two hours and 20 minutes.

Carmel Valley: Citizen reported that someone damaged her mailbox on Ford Road.

Carmel Valley: Citizen reported unknown person(s) had stolen medication from the interior of his unlocked truck on Paso Hondo.

Carmel Valley: Tassajara Road resident reported an unknown person dumped brush at her gate.

Pebble Beach: Someone broke into a residence on Spyglass Woods Drive and stole personal property.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Female Scenic Road resident stated that two “no parking” signs she erected were damaged in front of her home, as well as one “no parking” sign erected by the County of Monterey.

See POLICE LOG page 18A
NEW TRASH HAULER TAKES OVER JULY 1, HOPES FOR SMOOTH TRANSITION

By MARY SCHLEY

COME 12:01 A.M. July 1, residents and business owners will have a new company hauling away their garbage, recyclables and tree trimmings. But the changes will begin appearing next week, GreenWaste Recovery’s Emily Finn told the Carmel City Council Tuesday. And the more people know what to expect, the better.

“Customer communications are critical,” she said. “We’re doing our best to make sure information is available.”

Beginning Monday or Tuesday, the company will begin delivering brand-new bins to customers in town, working from the perimeter of the city inward.

Meanwhile, Waste Management, the outgoing company that has served the city for decades, is supposed to pick up and dismantle its bins beginning June 24.

“Our primary goal is to make sure nobody is without a cart,” even briefly, during the handover, she said. If Carmel were a typical town with wide streets and a proper grid of blocks, the Waste Management truck would pick up its bins, and a GreenWaste truck would follow it in a seamless process.

“Because of geographical and space constraints, it’s not possible to do removal and delivery simultaneously,” Finn explained. At the June 2 meeting.

Furthermore, hopes of a coordinated effort with the other waste hauler were dashed when Waste Management decided to use a different contractor for the removal than GreenWaste is using for dropoffs. As a result, in some of the other Monterey Peninsula cities where the company is taking over garbage service, she said, “Waste Management pulled all their carts a week before we were scheduled to replace them.”

To avoid those problems, the delivery and pickup will overlap, and some customers might find themselves temporarily with two sets of carts.

Review in late summer

In the switch from the hauler everyone is accustomed to, several additional logistical issues will probably develop, and council members said they would make note of them for discussion with GreenWaste officials later in the summer.

Finn mentioned two areas of concern: loose cardboard left on downtown sidewalks for recycling, and the fact the agreement does not allow people to not pay for garbage service while they’re on vacation.

Leaving anything in the public right of way violates the city’s municipal code, but with businesses about to be charged a separate fee for recycling services, Finn said they’ll probably be more inclined to pay for the smaller bins and stack broken-down boxes outside them.

“The moment they get their bill and are being charged for recycling, my concern is you will see more cardboard on the street,” she said.

As a possible solution, her company suggested placing eight dumpsters around the city for cardboard recycling.

As for finding the locations for the recycling dumpsters is going to be difficult, Mayor Jason Burnett noted. He said the city would work with the hauler to place them.

As for vacation holds, there weren’t figured into the franchise agreement, which calls for fees based on all residents and businesses having garbage service all year long, according to Finn. But in Carmel, two-thirds of the people who have homes here do not live in them full-time, and councilman Ken Talmage predicted some of them will ask for the holds.

“Now matter how you define the program parameters, nobody’s happy,” Finn said.

The council decided those and other issues will be addressed in August or September. In the meantime, customers can contact the hauler by emailing peninsulacies@greenwaste.com or calling (831) 920-6707 with concerns, and GreenWaste representatives will be available for questions at the downtown farmers market June 25 and the city’s July 4 party in Devendorf Park.

For more information on the services and how they work, see www.greenwaste.com/carmel-sea.
Groundbreaking condor battling lead poisoning

By CHRIS COUNTS

Researchers are hoping a California condor they’ve named Miracle has one more stroke of good fortune left in her.

Miracle, who earned her name by hatching, rearing and fledging without any help from humans — a first among local condors in the 21st century — is being treated at the Oakland Zoo for lead poisoning.

Oakland Zoo veterinarian Andrea Goodnight said she’s hopeful about the bird’s recovery. The zoo’s first victim of lead poisoning is already being treated at the Oakland Zoo for lead poisoning.

When a bird’s blood levels are high, it’s critical for us to take them in for veterinary care,” said Rachel Wolstenholme, the manager of the Pinnacles condor program.

Born in 2009, Miracle became Big Sur’s first completely wild-born chick in over a century. She celebrated her 6th birthday two weeks ago. “Back then, it was a miracle, but now we know that condors can and will survive without our help as long as lead poisoning can be significantly reduced,” said Kelly Sorenson, the executive director of the nonprofit Ventana Wildlife Society, which has led efforts to reintroduce the giant birds to Big Sur.

A year ago, a local condor named Ventana became the first patient ever at the zoo’s recovery center. She was later transferred to the Los Angeles Zoo, where she died three months later of lead poisoning. Lead poisoning is the leading cause of mortality for condors, which often feed on carrion contaminated by lead bullets. Lead ammunition is already banned in California.

In August 2013, the Los Angeles Zoo, which is the site of a condor recovery center, transferred to the Los Angeles Zoo, where she died three months later of lead poisoning. Lead poisoning is the leading cause of mortality for condors, which often feed on carrion contaminated by lead bullets. Lead ammunition is already banned in California.

Hatched and reared in the wild without any help from humans, a condor named Miracle is being treated for lead poisoning at the Oakland Zoo.
Scouting for ways to conserve water has plenty of merit

By ELAINE HESSER

OLIVER BURKE has been a Boy Scout for most of his young life. He enjoys camping and learning outdoor skills, and said he decided to seek Scouting’s highest rank — Eagle Scout — because it “seemed like fun.”

The 17-year-old earned badges in diverse areas, including first aid, citizenship, skating, carpentry, music and cinematography. Other than passing an Eagle Scout review board, all that was left was his final project. He had to help the community by providing a service to a nonprofit organization, and he had to show leadership by planning and organizing volunteers to help.

He didn’t have to look far for inspiration. A month after they moved into their new home in Carmel Valley, his family got an unusually high Cal Am bill. The Burkes requested an audit of their house to find out where they could save water.

The audit process intrigued Burke. He saw how small changes could save significant amounts of water. Over the course of the next few months, he conceived the idea of helping a nonprofit organization to conserve water — and save money in the process.

He put together a plan and approached the Carmel Mission and Junipero Serra School, as well as York School, where he’s just finishing up his junior year. His family has ties to the Mission going back three generations, and the properties were big enough to provide a sufficient challenge.

Burke also approached Cal Am about his plan. According to company spokesman Luke Gianni, “We thought it was a neat thing for a young man to want to make a difference like that. Our contribution was limited to expertise and material support.” The latter included water conservation devices like aerators that limit flow from faucets.

Gianni said that other than that, it was all Burke’s effort to plan, coordinate and complete the work.

The project began with Burke and Cal Am conducting audits of both the Mission and its school, and York, and providing them with the results. In addition to the work

See EAGLE page 30A
As visitors pour down the Big Sur coast, local offers ‘travelers tips’

By CHRIS COUNTS

After listening to her friends and neighbors complain about the rising number of visitors coming to Big Sur — and the traffic they create and the trash they leave behind — Christina Marsh decided to do something about it.

In an effort to encourage visitors to become more aware of their impact on Big Sur — and the risks of traveling along a narrow and winding highway — March created a brochure of tips for travelers and began circulating it throughout the local business community.

The brochure welcomes visitors to Big Sur and, taking a friendly tone, explains how increased tourism can adversely affect the area’s human population and its environment.

“This pamphlet is made especially for you in an effort to educate you on the necessary precautions and customs of Big Sur living,” its introduction reads. “Big Sur is a beautiful place, but it is also a wild place. There have been many tragedies on this coast throughout the years.”

The brochure doesn’t mince words about the hazards Highway 1 presents. “It doesn’t matter if you’re born and raised local or just passing through. Highway 1 is very dangerous,” it continues.

Addressing a common complaint from Big Sur residents, the brochure encourages slow-moving motorists to let others pass. “If a local is patiently following behind you, please do have the courtesy to pull over at a turnout,” it reads.

Taking a tone that never feels like a lecture, the brochures also urges visitors to be careful with fire, not litter and make turns only when there is enough visibility to do so safely.

Marsh conceded she gets frustrated at times by the sheer number of visitors passing through her community. But she said she believes it’s important not to blame them for creating the challenges now facing Big Sur.

“They won’t know any better unless we tell them,” she told The Pine Cone.

Like her friends and neighbors, Marsh has lost loved ones because of the perils of driving along Highway 1, so she knows first hand how treacherous the scenic route can be.

She dedicated the brochure to two of her friends who died in accidents along Highway 1, Rachel Wiesjahn and Jennifer Liptac-Michelson.

The 19-year-old Marsh, who works at Coast Gallery, has received much positive feedback for taking the initiative and making the brochure.

“I’ve had a great response so far,” she said.

In addition to passing out brochures, Marsh has a digital copy available for viewing or printing. She can be reached at christinamush 1794@gmail.com

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Appeals court rejects claim from injured motorcyclist

By KELLY NIX

A WOMAN whose husband was killed in a motorcycle accident five years ago shortly after leaving Laguna Seca raceway has lost her appeal in a lawsuit she filed in 2011 against the nonprofit Sports Car Racing Association of the Monterey Peninsula, which operates the track.

Jeannine Kaiser filed suit against SCRAMP in May 2011 in Monterey County Superior Court claiming it was responsible for the July 25, 2010, crash that killed her husband, Keith Kaiser, as he was riding away from the Red Bull U.S. Grand Prix races at Laguna Seca.

Kaiser took her case to the Sixth District Court of Appeal after losing in Monterey but didn’t prevail there, either.

“SCRAMP is, of course, pleased that the decision of the Superior Court was upheld by the court of appeal, ending this litigation,” Andy Swartz, SCRAMP’s attorney, told The Pine Cone Monday about the May 29 decision.

Much of the case hinged upon whether SCRAMP was responsible for the traffic plan that determined how spectators exited Laguna Seca.

Kaiser was on his BMW motorcycle traveling westbound on Reservation Road when a motorcyclist going eastbound tried to make a U-turn and struck a third rider, whose motorcycle slid across the road into Kaiser’s BMW bike. Kaiser died of traumatic injuries.

Kaiser’s widow alleged SCRAMP was negligent because its traffic control plan for the MotoGP races “improperly required all motorcyclists who exited from the Watkins [Gate] exit” of Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca to “proceed exclusively onto eastbound Reservation Road, when it was “well known” by the traffic planners that most riders would be heading westbound toward San Jose and San Francisco.

That exit plan, she alleged, led a large number of motorcyclists — including the rider who caused the accident — to make U-turns from eastbound to westbound Reservation Road in front of a blind curve, making it impossible for eastbound motorcyclists to “observe and react to the traffic flow in the opposite direction.”

Kaiser also argued that the lack of “No U-turn” signs on Reservation Road, along with the absence of signs directing motorcyclists how to head back in the direction they probably wanted to go, created a dangerous situation.

However, Swartz argued that the California Highway Patrol, not SCRAMP, was in charge of traffic control the day Kaiser was killed, and therefore, SCRAMP was not negligent in his death. A former CHP officer testified at the Monterey trial about the authenticity of a letter showing the CHP was in charge of traffic control for the MotoGP.

“The letter indicates that under the agreement, the CHP would provide traffic control for the event at, among other places, Watkins Gate,” according to the appeal court decision.

The justices agreed that Kaiser had failed to prove SCRAMP was negligent.

They went on to say in their decision that “Simply put, SCRAMP had not only no duty to regulate traffic on a public roadway, but no ability to do so, either.”

Apart from SCRAMP, Kaiser also listed the County of Monterey, City of Monterey, CHP, and Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca as defendants in her lawsuit, but the lawsuit against them was dismissed. The two other motorcyclists involved in the crash were also defendants, but their insurance companies settled their cases.

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HOUSING

From page 1A

"the City of Pacific Grove contends that the project’s proposed additional 78 residents could result in impacts to the city’s recreational resources, particularly Arnett Park and the Rip Van Winkle open space, and city recreation department offerings, such as day camps,” said the letter, which was written by PG planning director Mark Brodeur.

The housing development would also create “undue influence on city infrastructure, including its roads, particularly on David and Forest avenues, with the extra traffic adding to asphalt deterioration,” the draft letter said.

And because of the lack of sidewalks in the Del Monte Park area, the residents living in the town homes would contribute to the city’s “liability burden by adding more families and other pedestrians walking in the street,” the city’s letter says.

Petty issues?

While many neighbors of the project support the letter and expressed their distaste for the project Wednesday, sever-

Councilman Alan Cohen said that a couple of years ago, “we were begging kids” to sign up for programs offered by the recreation department.

“I’m really surprised in this letter that you haven’t includ-
ed that these people are going to breathe Pacific Grove air,” Cohen said sarcastically.

Longtime Pacific Grove resident Richard Stillwell, speaking about opponents of the housing project, asked, “What’s wrong with these people?” because they think trees are more important than new houses.

Plenty of trees in the city, he said, had to be cut down to accommodate the houses in which those opponents now live.

While Councilwoman Casey Lucius credited the city’s staff for asking the county’s EIR team to analyze various aspects of the project, she said she wasn’t “a big fan of the letter ‘pettiness’ of some aspects of the letter.

In response to city’s contention that the tenants of the new housing project, many of whom would be Pebble Beach Co. employees, could also somehow impact Pacific Grove’s “well used library system,” the city said.

“Please revise the draft EIR to include an evaluation of the impacts on the city’s library system, and include required mitigation,” Brodeur wrote.

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Mayor Bill Kampe also criticized the city’s response to the draft EIR, including its “aggressive and adversarial” tone. He also wondered what the letter implied about the possibility of future development inside the city limits.

“What struck me is that when I read some of the elements of this, this says there can [hypothetically] be no further development in the city of Pacific Grove for the reasons outlined in this document,” Kampe said.

In the end, the council voted to make changes to the letter, forward them to Brodeur, then come back with the revised draft at a special meeting on June 10 to give the public a chance to review the revisions before the letter is sent to the county.

Former Pebble Beach executive Mark Stilwell, who is working as a consultant on the housing project, told the council the 24 units — ranging in size from 1,078 square feet to 1,343 square feet — would rent from $800 to $2,400, depending on the size and tenants’ income levels.

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The letter, Brodeur told The Pine Cone before Wednesday’s meeting, reflects the collective opinions of the Department of Community and Economic Development.

“My letter is aimed at the adequacy of the EIR to provide discovery,” he said. “In a nutshell, the city thinks [the EIR team] left some critical issues out of the environmental conversation, and our letter sheds light on the ones we believe might be significant.”
Painter Paola Berthoin has been charting the San Clemente Dam’s final days with her brush and easel for nearly a year. With the blessing of project contractor Granite Construction, she has made more than 20 trips to the site, which is located 18 miles upstream from the Pacific Ocean.

“From the top of the soon-to-be-demolished dam, Berthoin has accepted it. The public will have its first opportunity to see Berthoin’s dam removal paintings up close when the visitors’ center at Garland Ranch Regional Park unveils an exhibit next month.”

Still, Berthoin is feeling a little melancholy over the dam’s impending demise. “It’s a beautiful structure that was built by a lot of people by hand,” she said. “I feel a little bit of sadness that it’s coming down. But if it helps the river, that’s a good thing.”

Using oils on canvas, Berthoin has painted the project from a variety of perspectives — in fact, she has even set up her easel on top of the soon-to-be-demolished dam.

“To see this excavation up close is dramatic and mind-boggling,” said Berthoin, who’s looking forward to painting the site again once the dam is removed and the area is restored. “I consider myself very lucky to be doing this. It’s an interesting experience.”

The artist hopes her work will help the public better understand why the dam is coming down — and how its removal will benefit the environment. “It is a unique opportunity to observe and paint the changes firsthand, and use the paintings to educate people locally and beyond about the dam removal,” she added.

So far, Berthoin has completed eight pieces, including a diptych and a triptych. “I think we can make this happen.”

When Berthoin first learned about the project — and the massive impact it would have on the valley — she was wary of it. “When I read the environmental impact statement relative to the benefit to the river in the long run,” she explained, “it is restored. “I consider myself very lucky to be doing this. It’s an interesting experience.”

The public will have its first opportunity to see Berthoin’s dam removal paintings up close when the visitors’ center at Garland Ranch Regional Park unveils an exhibit next month.

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Don Elias Aids Rescue of Youthful Swimmer

Don Elias, 18-year-old natatory devotee, used his skill as a swimmer to real advantage last Saturday afternoon when, with the aid of two Piedmont youths, he saved from possible drowning a young man of about his own age.

Elias said that he did not learn the rescued swimmer’s name, but that about 40 minutes elapsed between the time the swimmer’s mother noticed him in distress beyond the breakers opposite the foot of Ocean Avenue, and the time the rescuing trio were able to bring him through the breakers and ashore with the help of a “human chain” formed by watchers on the beach.

Pt. Lobos Rocks are Surveyed

Excelsior! A banner with a strange device flies from a rude pole on Robinson’s Jetties, and a rusty headland, Carmel Point. Other survey stations are located on Mt. Devendorf and south of Point Lobos. In the sands at the beach at San Jose creek an encampment of Department of the Interior surveyors is located. Why? Nothing to do with national defense at all — just to “tie in” the rocky islands off Point Lobos State Park which now are legally under the jurisdiction of the federal government but which will, when the survey is completed, become a part of the 366-acre state reserve.

50 Years Ago — June 10, 1965

Library in Litigation over Scout House

The city council last night authorized City Attorney John Morse to take any action he sees fit in litigation involving the Harrison Memorial Library over the Carmel Girl Scout Council's house.

Fred Duhring, president of the library board, says he has a facsimile of the original deed that shows “Carmel Library Association, also called Carmel Library,” in 1928, decided to “the trustees of the Carmel Branch of the Girl Scouts of America, the lot caretaker from the present library on which the burned ruins of the Girl Scout House now stand.” (Last night Mr. Morse said these will be leveled next week.)

The title to the land is not clear so the attorney for the Monterey Bay Area Girl Scout Council has asked any group which thinks it has a claim to the property to state its claim within the next two weeks before the sale of the property to “a church” for $42,000 is confirmed. This involves the present library board.

The Carmel Girl Scouts became affiliated with the Monterey Bay Area council prior to the fire which destroyed the facility. Present Carmel Girl Scout trustees maintain they did not relinquish ownership of the property with this affiliation. The council contends they did. Now, maybe, it will be proven that the library, too, has a claim on the property.

25 Years Ago — June 7, 1990

Point Lobos Hides Rich History

There is a weathered cabin at Whalers Cove, Point Lobos, a simple structure, picturesque, eminently humble and steeped in more history than many a stately building. Even the debris found in its original dirt floor can serve as a virtual guidebook of the past 140 years on Point Lobos.

After almost a century and a half, the handwoven redwood and pine plank cabin with whalebone vertebrae floor joists looks in such good condition that it could be the envy of new structures; an enduring gift from the past and of the immigrant Chinese fishing families that built it as a part of their settlement. Now a museum, the displays in the structure track the history of the preserve from when it was home to a large Ohlone village to its present use as a state park.

The hardy Chinese immigrants, who sailed in “junks” on the Japanese current to cross the Pacific Ocean, were only one part of a wave of human activity Point Lobos would play host to. Their history was joined by whalers who gave the cove its name, quarrymen, land speculators, a Japanese marine biologist and his abalone divers, a restaurateur, dairies, filmmakers and almost any other activity found near the sea.

At Point Lobos these days the cabin and artifacts are all that are left of the Chinese, and giant bones and giant pots are all that are left of the Portuguese whalers. “People are amazed when they come to the cabin and see all the activity that used to be here,” Whalers Cove docent Kurt Loesch said.

“What this cabin has done is that it has given the visitor a chance to understand (Point Lobos) is more than a primeval preserve. No way. This was a busy place.”

—Compiled by Christopher Good

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We hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend. This is traditionally the start of the summer season and we wish you all a prosperous summer. We celebrate the graduation of the senior class at Carmel High School and Stevenson School. Congratulations to all the students on achieving a significant milestone. We wish you, our future leaders of our community, much success in the future. In addition, we recognize the many achievements of Marvin Bisasioli at Carmel Unified School District and Joe Wandle of Stevenson School, who are both retiring after over 30 years of service. We wish you both a long and happy retirement.

There are many traditions that we all cherish and feel passionate about in Carmel-by-the-Sea. However, in this ever-changing world, we need to continue to reflect/build on the foundation of those traditions while reinventing ourselves for future generations. We have a very high level of respect and admiration for all the business owners and residents in Carmel. I know from personal experience in my 50 years in this community that this is a tight-knit area that enjoys a "locals supporting locals" attitude while welcoming our visitors from all over the world to this special place on the planet. The landscape/demographics of the area are changing and we are hopeful that the leadership at City Hall will continue to be responsive to the business community and residents in this ever-changing environment.

There have been several VERY successful events in the last few weeks. The Big Sur Marathon, the Surfabout, the Winemakers Celebration on Dolores Street and the Carmel Foundation Annual Gala were all well attended with participation at record levels. Congratulations one and all.

Looking forward to seeing you around town or at one of the upcoming mixers/ribbon cuttings.

Graeme Robertson
Board Chair, Carmel Chamber of Commerce

JUNE CALENDAR

For a comprehensive list of local events visit: www.carmelcalifornia.org

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Fake lawns, winetasting and a big beach party on planning commission agenda

AUTHORS & Ideas festival founder Jim McGilfen wants to hold dinner on Carmel Beach for 100 people as part of his annual event — so he needs a Coastal Development Permit. Forge in the Forest Owner Robert Profeta wants new signs for the restaurant — so he needs city approval. And Ray Francioni wants to open a new wine shop and tasting room on San Carlos Street north of city approval. And Ray Franscioni wants to open a new winetasting and a big beach party on planning commission agenda.

All of them, and others, will take their cases to the Carmel Planning Commission during its regular meeting Wednesday, June 10. The commission is set to consider their requests, as well as a new bench plaque on Scenic Road, a home remodel and a new house.

Finally, commissioners will discuss “the review process for proposals to install natural and artificial “laws” on residential properties.

The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. in city hall on Monte Verde Street south of Ocean Avenue. For more information and a complete agenda, visit www.ci.carmel.ca.us.
The taxpayers group that lost its lawsuit over a contested “water supply charge” has filed an appeal of the ruling, it announced this week.

Monterey County Superior Court Judge Efren N. Iglehart in March ruled against the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Association, which sued the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District after the agency proposed a new rate for those who use water from the Carmel River. The proposal was announced in 2012 that would have allowed voters to decide on whether a charge added to their water bill would be collected.

“MPTA believes that the decision was made in error on multiple fronts,” according to an MPTA press release, “including that the agency did not have the right of referendum, that local voters were promised in 1978 that they would have a voice in whether local projects to manage the Carmel River district could proceed with them, and that government agencies must justify their costs before charging the public.

The group says its a tax, raises more than $3 million per year for a variety of water district activities, including groundwater projects that the county also reimbursed by California American Water.

In response to the appeal, water district general Dave Stoldt told The Pine Cone Wednesday, “We feel Judge Iglehart delivered a thorough and thoughtful decision in the Superior Court case. It is unclear why MPTA would continue to squander financial resources of water users and taxpayers when they properly answered to their claim that the group has already been clearly and concisely presented.”

By Kelly Nk

Group files appeal after losing water charge lawsuit
American Cancer Society’s store celebrates its 50th anniversary

THE AMERICAN Cancer Society’s Discovery Shop in Pacific Grove has an impressive birthday coming up soon.

The shop, tucked in the corner of the Country Club Gate Shopping Center, will celebrate its 50th anniversary Friday, June 12, at 11 a.m. At the celebration, the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce will congratulate shop manager Jeannie Gould and her team of volunteers.

On the day of the anniversary party, all Discovery Shop purchases will be 50 percent off. For more information, call (831) 373-3304 or visit www.pacificgrove.org.

Smuin Ballet celebrates spring with its season finale at Sunset

CLOSING ITS 2015-16 season at Sunset Center with a tribute to spring, Smuin Ballet presents “Unlaced” Friday and Saturday, June 5-6, at Sunset Center.

The program features two pieces by the ballet company’s late founder Michael Smuin — the balcony pas de deux from his “Romeo and Juliet” and vignettes from his “Hearts Suite.”

The former was created in 1976 while Smuin was co-artistic director at San Francisco Ballet, while the latter “is a gem of a ballet that takes audiences to the 1840’s Parisian theatrical world, where a man loses his heart to a mysterious woman,” said Celia Fushille, Smuin Ballet’s artistic director.

Marking the centennial this year of Edith Piaf’s birth, “Hearts Suite” will be set to music by the famous French singer.

Also on the program is Helen Pickett’s “Petit” and the world premiere of Adam Hougland’s “Ask Me.”

The latter showcases the music of singer-songwriter Joan Wasser.

Friday’s show starts at 8 p.m., while Saturday’s matinee begins at 2 p.m. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Tickets are $56 to $73. Call (831) 620-2048.

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The same lecture will be given in Spanish the next day Sunday, June 7, at 4:00 p.m. at La Villa Restaurant located at 766 Broadway Avenue, Seaside. Families are welcome.

Jose de Dios Mata is originally from Spain, but has been living in the United States for a number of years. In 1986 he decided to move to the United States to enter the public practice of Christian Science.

Jose de Dios Mata is a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

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POLICE LOG
From page 4A

department lifted the subject off of the rocks. Bicycle collected and left at the station for safekeeping along with a friend, who rode to the hospital. No witnesses.

Pacific Grove: Theft of items from an unlocked vehicle on 16th Street. No suspects at this time.

Carmel area: Report of found property at the Crossroads in the Cal area at 10000 Del Monte. Owner requested assistance when the dog was at large. Owner also showed up and claimed the dog.

Pacific Grove: Disputch to reported theft of items from the exterior of a residence on Del Monte. The residence was not certain when the items were taken, but gave a three-day window. Resident spoke to neighbors, who had no suspect information. Resident wanted the incident documented.

Big Sur: Unknown suspect(s) burglarized an unoccupied vehicle parked along Highway 1 at Soberanes Point. The stereo and purse were taken from vehicle.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded for a suicide threat on Hitchcock Canyon Road.

FRIDAY, MAY 22

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Suspicious death on Dolores north of Fifth Avenue. Death investigation [Aggravated suicide].

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dog running at large at Junipero and 11th. Captured and taken to station for safekeeping for return to owner. Owner notified and picked up the dog.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Backpack and laptop found in the bushes at Del Mar. Owner contacted and will pick them up at the station.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject reported the loss of a plastic case containing an MST pass, credit card, postage stamps and miscellaneous papers. Exact location of loss is unknown.

Pacific Grove: Traffic stop was conducted for vehicle code violations on Forest Avenue at 0349 hours. One passenger in the vehicle was determined to be under a restraining order and was not allowed to contact the other passenger. Male arrested, booked, and lodged at county jail.

See LOG page 12RE in the Real Estate Section

After 47 years practicing medicine, Dr. Walter Holz announces his retirement as of June 30, 2015

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Innovative Christian rockers bring back beloved record

Twenty-five years after its album, “Circle Slide,” broke new ground in Christian alternative rock and attracted fans outside the genre, The Choir will perform the record live Thursday, June 11, at Carmel Visual Arts — a combination gallery and workshop space at The Barnyard shopping center.

Founded in 1983, the Choir has long straddled the fine line between Christian music and secular rock. With its catchy hooks and moody, dream-like sound, “Circle Slide” was a critical favorite and a crossover success.

“I’ve known them since I started,” said Rich Brimer, who owns Carmel Visual Arts. “I’ve been a fan for a long time. They were part of the new wave-punk scene, but they had a dream pop twist. They’re awesome.”

When the Choir visits Carmel, its two key founding members, singer, songwriter and guitarist Derry Daughtery, and drummer and songwriter Steve Hindalong, will be in the lineup.

While Carmel Visual Arts is best known for its arts classes and exhibits, it doubles as an intimate space for musical events.

“It’s big enough for about 50 people,” Brimer added. “It’s a fantastic venue.”

The music begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $20. Carmel Visual Arts is located above Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting in The Barnyard shopping center. Call (831) 620-2955.

Oboist opens concert series

The principal oboist of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Elaine Duvas will play Monday, June 8, at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley.

Before he passed away in 2006, John Mack — who was considered by many at the time to be America’s preeminent oboist — chose Duvas as the successor of a class he had taught each year at Hidden Valley for nearly three decades.

“She is a great teacher and a wonderful performer,” said Peter Meckel, executive director of Hidden Valley. “We’re honored to have her here.”

The program includes Chopin’s Introduction and Polonaise Brillante, opus 3; Rubbra’s Sonata in C for Oboe and Piano, opus 100; de Grandval’s Trio de Salon, opus 8; Godard’s Legende, from Scottish Scenes, opus 138; Rachmaninoff’s Prelude, opus 23, #4; and Hummel’s Trio for 2 Oboes and Bassoon (arranged from the Partita, S. 48). Duvas will be joined on stage by pianist See MUSIC page 25A

On A High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Hidden Valley is located at Carmel Valley and Ford roads. Call (831) 659-3115.

Live Music June 5-June 11

Terry’s Lounge at Cypress Inn — pianist Gennady Loktionov and singer Debbie See MUSIC page 25A

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Drink pink, order in and cook quickly, and join a food fight

PINK WINES get a bad rap. People think they're sweet. People think they're for neophytes. People think they are cheap. People think they are not wines consumed by true connoisseurs of either gender — especially not men.

But those people are wrong. Rosés have a long history in winemaking (the first Champagnes were pink), and, with their diversity in acidity, body and composition, they are almost as varied as wine grapes themselves. Rosés are not the sticky sweet white Zinfandel of yesteryear in America. Imported from France, Spain, Italy, Germany and many other parts of the world, as well as made more and more frequently in wineries across the country, some are delicate and floral, the palest of pale pinks, while others are deeper in hue, verging on full red. They are usually dry, with no residual sugar.

Pink wines can be made with any variety of red grapes, or a blend of different types. Rosés boast characteristics of both white and red wines: the crisp, bright acidity of whites, and the soft tannins, berry notes and body of reds. They pair well with a wide variety of foods, from fruits, cheeses and cured meats, and the soft tannins, berry notes and body of red grapes, or a blend of different types.

The 2014 vintage provided us the opportunity to showcase our estate vineyard, Escolle, a few short months after harvesting. After trial and error experimentation with the rosé, he said, “We ended up adding about 10 percent pinot noir into the blend from our sparkling program to add length and subtle acidity structure, and the wine is made from grapes picked when they are less ripe, which produces more acidity and structure. It’s the wine that becomes Champagne.”

Caraccioli said he especially enjoys drinking dry rosé on a warm day. “It’s the perfect substitute for a lager or pilsner, which is an ideal swap if you plan on drinking more wine later. Although it pairs well with food and showcases a lot of versatility, I find that bottles generally don’t make it to the entrée. It’s that wine you drink while cooking.”

Steve McElvane, whose winery is also in the Santa Lucia Highlands, said he makes Pinot Noir rosé, “because it is the perfect wine to sip outdoors in late afternoon with friends or family, as it appeals to just about everyone, as opposed to other types of wine that are either too heavy or too sweet for some folks.”

Rather than taking the technical route, he was more poetic, “The refreshing nature of rosé’s appeal has everything to do with making memories with others in a special place and time, which for me is outdoors amongst natural stimuli.”

Mark Chesbro, whose namesake winery is located in Cachagua, makes his rosé from Grenache grown in the Cedar Lane Vineyards in Arroyo Seco, and said it’s “perfect for those warm days of summer, with aromas of crushed wild strawberries and white pepper on the finish with refreshing acidity.” His 2013 vintage won double gold at the Affairs of the Vine Rhone Shootout, which means it’s pretty tasty.

“We have found that rosé is very popular year-round. More people discover the versatility of these food-friendly wines. It definitely shouts out Summer to us, with great fruit and acid profile,” he said. “However, one of our biggest sales seasons for rosé is before Thanksgiving.” The wine manages to be crisp as well as fully bodied, making it the perfect match for a meal that contains both sweet and savory elements.

Dean De Korth, winemaker for Bernardus in Jamesburg, makes Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir rosé as well. “Bernardus strives to produce wines that are delicious, balanced and food friendly,” he said. “For many years, I’ve appreciated dry rosés made from Pinot Noir, a result of my tenure in Burgundy.” While Bernardus had been labeling its pink wine as saignée, beginning with the just-released 2014 vintage, the label simply says it’s a rosé, though De Korth has not deviated from the method in making it. “We hope more Americans will realize what a perfectly refreshing accompanying it can be to a variety of foods,” he said.

“God, as the Europeans have known for ages, it’s a wonderful wine for summer fare. It is unfortunate that many Americans associate it with sweet versions such as white Zinfandel, which has hurt its reputation among wine drinkers.

“Happily,” he noted, “that seems to be changing, thanks to the many-excellent dry versions being produced by small artisanal wineries in recent years.”

Terra’s Kitchen

It’s not delivery, it’s not takeout, and it’s not going to the grocery store and picking up ingredients to cook at home. Terra’s Kitchen — which delivers prepped veggies and meats to cook at home — was launched on the West Coast last week and is available almost everywhere on the Monterey Peninsula, with Carmel being a noteworthy exception, since it lacks house numbers.

“We have all the intentions in the world of being able to deliver to every household in Carmel-by-the-Sea,” Michael Terrien, CEO of Terra’s Kitchen, told The Pine Cone this week. “We’re crunching the numbers to figure out how.”

Through Terra’s website, customers select

Continues next page
recipes they’d like to cook, and each week, the company will deliver “perfectly ripe and fresh, pre-prepped ingredients that are ready for the skillet, as well as easy-to-follow, step-by-step recipe cards with pictures” to help make it happen.

Ingredients for 10 dinner servings from up to five different recipes go for $160 and come in a special cooler that keeps them fresh for up to seven days.

From a base in Sacramento, Terra’s Kitchen works with farmers and ranchers throughout the West to procure organic veggies and proteins for its meals, which are meant to be healthful as well as expedientous.

“We’re able to cut out the middle man,” which helps control costs, he explained. Plus, when it’s easy to eat healthy, more people will do it, the company believes. “Convenience is a huge factor,” he said.

He noted that fresh prepared vegetables, ready for cooking, are a quickly growing segment in markets. But their shelf life is short. That’s not a problem for Terra, according to McDevitt, thanks to its special cooler, which is later picked up and replaced with a new one full of food, depending on the ordering habits of the customer.

“Anything we can do to reduce prep and cook time, the more time there is for people to sit around the table,” McDevitt said. “We’ve got the goal of bringing back the family dinner. I sat down with my family every night, and I truly believe that’s part of why I am who I am today.”

McDevitt said his company uses local suppliers whenever possible.

“We are working with the local farms to help them get the certifications so they can become one of our suppliers,” he said.

For more information, visit www.terraskitchen.com.

■ Food Fight philanthropy

In support of Cherish Receiving Center, a
From previous page

safe haven for local children, the Portola Hotel and Jacks Restaurant will be hosting Food Fight, a kids’ culinary challenge. Sunday, June 14, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. The event will challenge junior chefs and their professional mentors in a test of their culinary skills, while guests will get their fill of food, wine and beer, even as they are entertained by the contestants’ efforts.

Tickets for the event, which will take place in the hotel’s De Anza Ballroom, are $50 each, or $450 for a table of 10. Go to www.aspiranet.org/foodfight for tickets and additional details.

The hotel is located at the food of Alvarado Street in Monterey.

■ Pig hunting the wrong way

Pigs are tasty, and grape vines do better without them rooting around among them, but a Lockwood woman learned the hard way that specific rules for hunting wild boar must be followed.

On Friday, a jury found Blanca Andrade, 42, guilty of hunting with lead ammunition and not having a permit on her. According to the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office, on Aug. 31, 2014, around 3:30 a.m., state fish and wildlife ward- en Matt Gil saw a light moving around in a vineyard where he had issued a permit allowing the owner to hunt the wild pigs that were destroying the vines.

But no one had told him someone would be hunting at night, which requires a heads up to state officials, and he found the woman in the passenger seat of a vehicle with a loaded rifle, lead ammunition and a flashlight, but no permit.

The use of lead ammunition has been illegal since 2007 in most counties in California when hunting big game, in hopes of reducing death among California condors.

Andrade faces up to six months in jail and a $1,000 fine, and is set to be sentenced June 5 by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Stephanie Hulsey.

See Jane Sing! with Jane Lynch
Saturday, September 26 at 8PM

Bollywood Masala Orchestra and Dancers of India
Thursday, October 8 at 8PM

MOMIX: Alchemia
Friday, October 16 at 8PM

Reduced Shakespeare Company
Thursday, October 29 at 8PM

Stunt Dog Experience
Saturday, November 7 at 3PM and 7PM

The TEN Tenors: Home for the Holidays
Sunday, November 29 at 7PM

Soweto Gospel Choir
Thursday, December 17 at 8PM

Night Fever: The Bee Gees Tribute
Sunday, January 10 at 7PM

The Smithereens: Songs From The Who and More
Friday, January 22 at 8PM

Jessica Fellowes: The World of Downton Abbey
Saturday, January 23 at 8PM

Pete Seeger: The Storm King
Thursday, February 4 at 8PM

Metropolitan Opera Rising Stars
Friday, February 5 at 8PM

Wynonna & The Big Noise
Thursday, February 10 at 8PM

Hooking Up with The Second City
Wednesday, February 24 at 8PM

Binge-Worthy Journalism: Backstage with the Creators of SERIAL
Wednesday, March 9 at 8PM

Igudesman & Joo
Thursday, March 10 at 8PM

Altan
Friday, March 18 at 8PM

Jake Shimabukuro
Saturday, April 9 at 8PM

globalFEST On the Road: Creole Carnival
Sunday, April 17 at 7PM

Capitol Steps
Sunday, May 1 at 7PM

David Sedaris
Friday, May 6 at 8PM

Michael Feinstein: Sinatra Centennial Celebration
ANNUAL GALA EVENT!
Saturday, May 14 at 8PM

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Buffet Menu: 11:00am-2:30pm
Edgar’s Full Menu: 3:00pm-8:00pm

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Through June 20, 2015, each time you play Quail’s newly refined 18 holes, you are automatically entered for a chance to win a complimentary foursome of golf at Chambers Bay, site of the 2015 U.S. Open Championship, in University Place, WA! The Winner will be announced on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 21, at Quail Lodge & Golf Club. Contact the Golf Shop to make a tee time: 1.831.620.8808.

Price does not include CART, hotel or other travel expenses.
Other restrictions may apply. Price is valued up to $100.
Women Federated will be held on Thursday, June 11, at Rancho Canada Golf Club, 4860 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley. The Speaker will be Larry Greenfield, who served as Founding Executive Director of the Reagan Legacy Foundation, California Director of the Republican Jewish Coalition and Publisher of the Journal of International Security Affairs. He continues to advise elected officials on foreign policy. He will be speaking on America and Israel. Social is at 11:30 a.m., Lunch is at noon. $22 for members, $25 for non-members. Men are always welcome to attend. RSVP by June 8, Sylvia at (831) 484-1104 or Cindy at mrp.cindy@gmail.com.

June 14 – Monterey County Club 52nd Annual Show, Free admission. Door prizes. Sunday, June 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Demonstration by K. Kinoshita at 1:30 p.m. Monterey Buddhist Church, 1155 Nolcha Buena, Seaside.

June 19 & 20 - Inaugural Juried Art Auction, at Sunset Center. 160 works of art, many by renown artists, auctioned at Gala live and silent auctions on Friday, from 6 to 9 p.m. and at Saturday silent auction, 3 to 6 p.m. Appetizers, fine wines, live music. Artists receive 50% of sale price, proceeds benefit Carmel Art Association, Arts Council and Arts Habitat. Preview auction items and purchase tickets at www.BiddingforGood.com/JuriedArtAuction or call (831) 644-4111.

June 20 – Carmel Heritage House and Garden Tour, Saturday, 1:20 p.m. Tickets: $25 advance members, $30 advance non-members, $35 tour day. Tickets available at First Murphy House, Lincoln 6, 6th, (831) 624-4447 or Carmel Chamber of Commerce, San Carlos, between 6th & 6th. Also available online at www.CarmelHeritage.org.

REMEMBERING A woman who was once known as “America’s First Flapper,” Tom Parks presents a new play, “Zelda — Save Me A Waltz,” at the Cherry Center for the Arts. The play opens Friday, June 5. The play explores the life of Zelda Fitzgerald, the flamboyant wife of novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald. “She turned fashion into a cult of the young. She became the darling of New York and Paris society,” Parks explained. “She published countless short stories and a novel. And she spent her final 20 years in asylums around the world.”

“Zelda” stars Rosemary Luke and Garland Thompson, and continues Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through the end of June. Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m., while Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are $25. Call (831) 717-7373 or visit www.ticketguys.com.

DANCE THEMES: CHARD & CORNMEAL CRUSHED IDAHO TROUT • SOFT SHELF CRAB • GRAPE-TINI • JENNYS • PAUL GOODWIN
Life-like sculptures startle guests at Winfield Gallery

By CHRIS COUNTS

While nobody at Winfield Gallery has tried to strike up a conversation with one of John DeAndrea’s sculptures, it wouldn’t come as a surprise if they did. “They are amazingly life-like,” said gallery owner Chris Winfield, who is hosting a reception for DeAndrea Friday, June 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. “They are cast in bronze and painted in a photorealistic way. You can see all the pores in their skin, the dimples and their faces and folds in their clothes. People walk in the room and they are startled by them.”

Two of DeAndrea’s pieces are on display at the gallery — one is a nude covered by a drape and the other is a ballet dancer. A recent visitor to the gallery told Winfield she took one look at the dancer and knew who the model for the sculpture was — a testament to the sculptor’s skill.

Both pieces display DeAndrea’s fascination with the female form and his careful attention to detail. “He’s a major sculptor in this country,” Winfield added. “His work is very different from anything else in the gallery.”

The gallery is located on Dolores between Ocean and Seventh. Call (831) 624-3369.

■ New CAA exhibits

Four artists display new work this month at the Carmel Art Association. The shows open Saturday, June 6.

In “Ink and Oil,” printmaker and oil painter Justin Ward explores the quieter side of Monterey County. “I’ve spent much of my life wandering the hills, beaches and back roads in search of artistic inspiration here,” Ward explained.

Drawing and painting come together in Howard R. Perkins’ “American Icons & Landmarks.”

Also featured this month are exhibits by new members, printmakers Jennifer Anderson and Noro Partido. Anderson employs dry-point and woodcutting techniques in her work, and Partido uses monotype, collagraph, dry-point and relief printmaking processes to create her art.

A reception starts at 5 p.m. The shows continue through June 30. The gallery is located on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth. Call (831) 624-6176 or visit www.carmelart.org.

■ For $3, you could win big

To help raise money for the nonprofit Pacific Grove Art Center, painter Mark Farina will raffle one of his paintings, Friday, June 5. The center will stay open until 9 p.m. for PG’s monthly First Fridays celebration.

Farina’s painting, “Toro Café — Salinas-Monterey Highway,” pays tribute to a local landmark that once served as a stagecoach stop. “For the price of a $3 ticket, you could walk home with a painting under your arm,” Marjorie McCurry of the art center suggested. “Those who join art center as new members will get five free raffle tickets.”

The art center is located at 568 Lighthouse Ave. Call (831) 375-2208 or visit www.pgartscenter.org.

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MUSIC
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Davis (cabaret, Friday at 7 p.m.; singer and guitarist Mark Banks (rock and soul, Saturday at 7 p.m.); singer Andrea Carter (“folksy jazz and jazzy folk,” Sunday at 11 a.m.); guitarist Richard Devine (“classical, Sunday at 5 p.m.”); flatfoot Kenny Stahl (jazz, Tuesday at 6 p.m.); and singer Lee Durely & pianist Joe Indence (jazz & pop, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, (831) 624-3871.

Mission Ranch — singer and pianist Maddaline Edstrom (pop and jazz, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.), and pianist Gennady Loktionov (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 7 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St., (831) 625-9040.

Jack London’s Bar & Grill — singer-songwriter Casey Frazier (“eclectic Americana with roots in country and ‘70s rock,” Friday at 7:30 p.m.); and singer-songwriter Johan Soeto (Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). Dolores between Fifth and Sixth, (831) 624-2336.

Barmel — singer-songwriter Nick Campbell, singer-songwriter Melissa Underwood (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and violinist Razz (rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.). San Carlos and Seventh, (831) 626-3400.

The Fuse Lounge at Carmel Mission Inn — The Rio Road Rockets featuring singer and guitarist Terry Shehorn, bassist Bob Langford and drummer Gary Machado (classic rock, Friday and Saturday at 9 p.m.). 3665 Rio Road, (831) 624-6630.

Byatt Carmel Highlands — singer Neal Banks and guitarist Steve Ezno (pop and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.); and singer Lee Durely and pianist Joe Indence (jazz and pop, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive, (831) 620-1234.

Lucia Restaurant + Bar at Bernardus Lodge in Carmel Valley — pianist Martin Headman (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.). 415 Carmel Valley Road, (831) 658-3400.

Bernardus Winery — singer-songwriter Bryan Diamond (Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.). 5 St. Carmel Valley Road, (831) 298-8821.

Julia’s restaurant in Pacific Grove — The Generation Gap featuring guitarist Rick Cheliew and accordionist Elise Leary (Thursday at 5:30 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave., (831) 656-9533.

Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove — singer-songwriter Bryan Diamond (Friday at 6 p.m.). 800 Asilomar Ave., (800) 635-5310.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — The Dottie Dodgiong Trio (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.); The Jazz Trio with pianist Bob Phillips (Friday at 7 p.m.); The Jazz Trio with pianist Jan Deneau (Saturday at 7 p.m.); and singer-songwriter Bryan Diamond (Friday and Saturday at 9 p.m.). Also, a big band plays every evening at 5:45 p.m. 2700 17 Mile Drive, (831) 647-7500.

Courtside Bistro at Chaminade Tennis and Fitness Club in Corral de Tierra — Kiki Wow & Friends (pop and rock, Friday at 6 p.m.); singer-songwriter Bryan Diamond (Sunday at 6 p.m.). 185 Robley Road, (831) 484-6000.

Big Sur River Inn — Kenny Stahl & Friends (jazz, Sunday at 1 p.m.). On Highway 1 24 miles south of Carmel, (831) 667-2700.


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Empowering the nobodys

BACK IN the 1960s, small groups of activists and protesters moved this country in directions it badly needed to go. Attaining civil rights for blacks, ending the war in Vietnam and protecting the environment were all causes that were initially advanced by groups outside the mainstream.

Those causes were eventually embraced by the country, of course — a political achievement that today is regarded by most Americans as a national success story.

Unfortunately, the triumph of the protest movements of the ’60s has been taken too much to heart by some — to the extent that they think no activist is ever wrong about anything.

Nowhere is that more true than here in California, where a host of laws are designed to ensure that tiny groups of activists, and even lone individuals, can have their way in the political arena, no matter how looney their cause or how much the majority disagrees with them.

We have cited quite a few of these laws in the past, and it’s worth taking note of some of them again today:

■ State law requires every local government meeting to begin with a period for “public comment,” during which anybody can speak their mind about anything. That sounds nice, except that most of the time, all it does give wackos a chance to waste everybody’s time, while also giving the impression that they actually represent the public.

■ CEQA not only requires the tiniest environmental impacts to be analyzed in great detail, it also requires judges to overturn the permit and planning decisions of local governments if the slightest flaw can be found in those decisions or the evidence that supported them. The result? Special interests, advocacy groups, and even professional malcontents are easily able to invalidate community decisions supported by everybody else.

Which brings us to the Public Records Act — a law that basically requires local government to give every document it has to anybody who asks for it.

Of course, this law can be very beneficial for the public, because it makes it difficult for local government to keep secrets.

Unfortunately, as we are now learning, the law is also subject to abuse, because the “person” asking for documents from City X doesn’t have to live in that city, has anything to do with that city, or have any valid motive for asking for the documents — and he doesn’t even have to be a real person.

“Marshall Duncan,” as we have been reporting, has inundated Carmel City Hall with demands for public records on many subjects. But who is this person? Nobody knows, and “he” is not saying.

All he does is email his requests (which the city is obligated to meet), without providing the slightest evidence that he is using his real name, or that he is even a human being.

He could be a group of people committing a practical joke or vandalism. He could be someone whose sole motive is to take up everybody’s time and make the city spend money. Or he could be a computer program launched by a hacker to demonstrate his prowess with a keyboard and mouse.

We think all laws should be enacted, and actually function, to benefit the people. Unfortunately, many laws in California have the opposite effect, and just end up empowering a few individuals at everybody else’s expense.

Those laws should be changed to limit the influence of disgruntled individuals and activists, but they won’t be — because too many people in the state Legislature are still in love with the 1960s.

“Relax ... I’m not taking a bath today.”
Everybody enjoys a good Act 2

By ELAINE HESSER

CURTIS, who was then district attorney, but the big, bushy mustache Herro sported at the time ended his prosecutorial career before it began. "Curtis looked at me and said, 'Do you have to have that mustache?' I said I guessed not, but he did me a big favor and didn't offer me the job," Herro laughed as he related the story. Although Herro ended up on the opposite side of the courtroom, he and Curtis became friends, and Herro said he wouldn't change a thing about his career or his life. After leaving the public defender's office, he practiced privately for 10 years. He's a past president of the Monterey County Bar Association and the California Public Defenders Association. He taught at Monterey College of Law for three decades and was academic dean for six years. For more than 40 years, of course, his life in the theater went dark.

But after retiring in 1999, he started acting with Carmel Valley's Magic Castle theatre, and later at The Western Stage at Hartnell College. Of the latter, he said he likened being with "the kids" there. "They keep me young," he said, with a big smile and a twinkle in his eye.

The innkeeper he played at 13 turned out to be the first in a long line of grumpy old men. Recounting some of his roles, he said he played a "stuffy old guy" in "The Time of Our Life," a "stuffy old banker" in "Mame," and a "stuffy old base commander," in "South Pacific."

He added that he's currently playing a "stuffy Wall Street banker" in "You Can't Take It With You." The role he most enjoyed — one he said really let him stretch — was Grandpa Joe in "The Grapes of Wrath.

You gotta think winter when dressing for summer. Here we never use the phrase, "It'll be a cold day in July," because that's a given. I've got a big open parka with turtleneck from summer bonfires on Carmel Beach. It's part of my outdoor cooking wardrobe, along with a flame-proof apron, shearing barbecue mits, wool chef's toque with earflaps, ski goggles, sneaker shorts over long-handled underwear, and mukluk.

Despite the professional chef's attire, I'm no grill meister. I know guys who are. A couple of pals just love building a fire, throwing on a few steaks, flipping and prodding the meat until it's burned to perfection. My pal Morris (last name withheld for obvious reasons) was turning out charred steaks long before blackened food was trendy. I once asked him why every steak he cooked was the same. "It's part of my outdoor cooking wardrobe, along with a flame-proof apron, shearing barbecue mits, wool chef's toque with earflaps, ski goggles, sneaker shorts over long-handled underwear, and mukluk.

Despite the professional chef's attire, I'm no grill meister. I know guys who are. A couple of pals just love building a fire, throwing on a few steaks, flipping and prodding the meat until it's burned to perfection. My pal Morris (last name withheld for obvious reasons) was turning out charred steaks long before blackened food was trendy. I once asked him why every steak he cooked was totally black. He said, "Because my wife is making me cut back on red meat."

I really much gave up barbecuing after trying to make Beer Can Chicken. I jimmied a whole bird down over a can of beer and put it on the grill to self-baste like the recipe said. Apparently I missed the part where you're supposed to open the can of beer first. That bird had one last moan not left in him. At least one guest at our backyard barbecue was delighted: A 4-year-old who said, "Mummy, look, Larry made it rain Chicken McNuggets!!!"

Now whenever I get near the Weber, my wife hangs up a sign: WATCH OUT FOR FALLING FOWL.

My brother-in-law is a professional grill chef. He cooks countless steaks, burgers and brats every year. I asked him for some tips. "The first rule," he said, "is to prepare your grill properly. It must be really clean." He said to scrape off all the charred gunk using a wa of aluminum foil, a wire brush or a metal scraper.

Then came this: Plus a hammer and chisel, a gallon of toxi goop and a high-powered steamer. But my outdoor cooker was still funky. Then I found the single best way to obtain a really clean grill — go out and buy a new one. I call this the Wilde Rule of Hibachi Hygiene.

My brother-in-law also stressed the importance of safety. Proper equipment should include long-handled tongs, flame-proof mitts and a spray water bottle for flare-ups. My flare-ups tend to be bonfires, so I also keep a fire extinguisher at hand. One tip: foam is good on beer, but not so much on burgers. And if things go way out of hand, have 911 on speed dial.

Another tip: never EVER pour flammible liquid directly on burning coals. Thousands of backyard chefs ignore this rule each year, according to emergency room records. My buddy Morris got lucky. Instead of pouring lighter fluid directly onto the fire, he placed the entire plastic bottle on the hot coals. Nobody got hurt, but since melted plastic is the mother of all barbecue cleanups, he had to follow the Wilde Rule of Hibachi Hygiene — buy a new grill.

Besides flammable propane tanks and petroleum starters, the single most dangerous liquid at a barbecue is alcohol. Too much beer has ruined more cookouts than swarms of hornets.

These days, it's popular to throw vegeta-bles on the barbie. Mary makes great grilled corn. I mentioned this to Morris. He phoned the next week to say he tried it, but he had a hell of a time keeping the little kernels from falling through the grate.

May-Be it's the caveman in male DNA, but guys have an affinity for outdoor cooking. Even men who can't boil water indoors become master chefs over a grill.

A woman's job is minimal in this produc-tion. All women have to do is organize the menu, shop for the food, prepare all the side dishes, set the tables, lay out the supplies, organize the plates, platters, cups, glasses, flatware, napkins and condiments, make the desserts, chill and serve the beverages, schlep the food outside, see to it that everyone gets served, and take care of the minor tasks of cleaning.

Men do all the really important stuff. They must bear the crushing responsibility of keeping the flames under control and then they have to shoulder all the praise.

What would women do without us? If you're a woman at a formal standup comed-ian and author of 53 humor books with sales of over 12 million copies. The New York Times has dubbed him "America's Best-Selling Humorist." E-mail larry@larry-wilde.com.

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Wilde Times

By LARRY WILDE

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30A

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employee wages, came up with the restaurant's name, use their own recipes and recently paid big bucks to remodel it.
The dispute over Dametra led Nimri and Sneeh to hire 24-hour security guards to make sure, the lawsuit said, that Laub didn’t enter the restaurant and change the locks and take possession of the property.
The men also allege that Laub and Morris threatened to replace Dametra with another tenant if they didn’t match the terms of an outside offer to pay $45,000 per month rent and fork, over about 70 percent of the restaurant’s profits.

Though the deadline for Nimri and Sneeh to meet Laub’s offer was June 1, the injunction likely ensures that they will be able to stay in the building for at least several more months. The next court hearing is in July.

EAGLE
From page 7A
Burke would do with the aerators, Cal Am recommended replacing some toilets and other fixtures.
Burke assembled a team of 15 volunteers, and got some help from A&R Plumbing, which sent plumber Efrain Tevez to provide safety precautions and tips for completing the work efficiently. He also certified the quality of the finished work.

In all, nearly 50 aerators were replaced. Each faucet that was retrofitted went from dispensing anywhere from 1 to 3 gallons per minute, to a half-gallon per minute. Burke said the project took about five hours altogether, thanks to his team of volunteers.

Richard Pierini, general manager of Carmel Mission, said that he had already been thinking about replacing fixtures during the second phase of their restoration project. “Oliver’s project made us even more aware of the steps we needed to take,” he said.
The Mission wants to reduce water use by 20 percent overall, but it’s too soon to tell how much impact Burke’s project made. Pierini said it’s only been about a month since the work was completed, and there’s a lot of day-to-day fluctuation in use depending on the number of visitors.

Fana Oldfield, York School’s director of finance and operations, said they decided to get involved because the school is a certified green business, and it encourages its students to be involved in service learning.

“It was wonderful to watch Oliver’s progress, and I appreciated his open and direct communication with me about his plan, the progress and his timely follow through,” Oldfield said.

“Moreover, Oliver’s ideas and initiative serve as reminders of how we all need to be thinking about how to conserve water in our day-to-day lives,” she added.

Burke didn’t want to stop at simply upgrading fixtures. “I didn’t feel that my project went far enough if it just saved water,” he said. He decided to seize the opportunity to inform the kids who saw the new fixtures every day about their value through presentations at York and Serra School.

He used gallon and half-gallon jugs of water to illustrate the difference in water use to students at Serra School. He had to put York’s presentations on hold temporarily while he prepared for the SAT and Advanced Placement exams, but he’s determined to get them done.

Burke’s future plans include going to college and majoring in psychology. He also wants to continue serving his community and working to preserve the environment.

As an avid outdoorsman, he wants to contribute more than just a drop in the bucket — and he’s off to a great start.

HERRO
From previous page

Wrath: “It also involved a burial scene that almost went very wrong. Readers familiar with the story know Grandpa Joe dies not long after the family hits the road for California. In rehearsals, they used a plastic tarp to lower Herro into a “grave” beneath the stage. On opening night, the plastic tarp was ruled anachronistic and an army blanket was substituted.

Herro found himself thoroughly encased in wool and his nose began to twitch. “You just don’t expect a corpse to have any sense of humor,” Herro said. He toughed it out and managed to go quietly into his good night.

As for roles he’d still like to play, Herro said, “Every guy my age wants to play Willie Loman.”

In addition to his life in the theater, Herro is active in Carmel Valley’s Rotary Club, where he is just finishing his term as president. He also volunteers in local schools with Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula, leading eighth graders in a two-day program called Choices. He’s on a mission to keep them from ever needing the services of a public defender.

Finally, Herro and his wife — who celebrate their 48th anniversary this year — are grandparents to eight children, all of whom live nearby. Judging from his smile when he talked about them, that may just be his favorite role of all.

To suggest someone for this column, email elaine@carmelpinecone.com.
DUNCAN
From page 1A

administrator Doug Schmitz (which he again misspelled, “Schmidt”) and Pine publisher Paul Miller on May 27, 28, 29 and 30, with identical requests for communications between Miller and Mayor Jason Burnett, between Schmitz and reporter Mary Schley, and between Burnett and Schley.

Last week, The Pine Cone ran a story about Duncan’s extensive records requests, which were occupying hours of work for city staff working to compile and scan the documents, including all the paperwork involved with attorney Stephanie Alighi’s investigation of several projects initiated under former city administrator Jason Stitwell, communications between several public officials, and various policies.

Attempts to flush out his identity continued to be unsuccessful this week. None of the Marshall Dunics that The Pine Cone contacted responded to inquiries about whether they had inundated Carmel City Hall with requests for public records. Stokzo identifies 34 Marshall Dunics living in California, but none of them has a Monterey Peninsula address.

And for one named Marshall Duncan is registered to vote in the County of Monterey, according to the registrar’s office.

One astute reader pointed out the mysterious requestor has his name with a character in Clint Eastwood’s 1973 film, “High Plains Drifter.”

But, since that story is fictional, it took place in the 1800s, and Marshall Jim Duncan is dead, he’s probably not requesting records from the City of Carmel.

BUDGET
From page 1A

than $1 million on road and sidewalk repairs, and suggested some of that money could be used for those buildings.

“Our public safety comes first — we have to make sure that the buildings where our workers are safe, he said.”

Who gets gifts?

When debating the budget each year, the council fields requests from various nonprofits seeking a share of the tax dollars. Council members mentioned some of those demands and asked for more information, including why the Carmel Youth Center wants another $20,000 on top of the $10,000 it’s already slated to get, and how the MEarth habitat project can justifiably request $12,000 for its projects restoring vegetation and planting seedlings in the city’s forest and beach. The United Way asked for $5,000, and the Monterey County Film Commission requested “at least $500.”

Talmage wanted to know how much money the youth center raises on its own, how many kids use it, and how many of them in Carmel-by-the-Sea. Without knowing those, he said, he didn’t have any context in which to consider the request.

Councilwoman Victoria Beach said she’d prefer to support charitable organizations that are local, like the youth center, or that involve projects in Carmel, like MEarth’s.

“If we have to do tradeoffs, those are the sort of things I’d put the money toward,” she said.

“We have a clear policy in place for how groups apply and what groups qualify for them?” Burnett asked. He suggested approving the grant requests this year but revisiting the process before next time around.

The council is set to vote on the budget at a special meeting Monday, June 15, at 4:30 p.m. in city hall on Monte Verde Street south of Ocean Avenue.

SALE
From page 1A

ing and car washing with a hose without a quick acting positive action shut-off nozzle, and hoisting off driveways. More significantly, for two decades, residents have been prohibited from adding water fixtures to their homes, businesses haven’t been able to expand if doing so would increase water use, and vacant lots have been unable to get water meters.

The only new rules on the Monterey Peninsula, Stoldt said, are bans on watering during or for 48 hours after measurable rainfall, and the watering of turf in road medians.

Residential and commercial water users who violate the rules (new or old) will be subject to fines starting at $100, and could even face orders to stop wasting water. An average home on the Peninsula uses roughly 160,000 gallons of water per year.

Fines increase

“Our first ticket is a fix-it ticket,” Stoldt said. “The second offense is $100, the third is $250 and fourth and recurring are $500 each. And for larger water users (more than 1 million gallons per year), we can triple those fines.”

Three users have already been penalized, including a residence and commercial business in Monterey, and single-family home with out-of-town owners in Carmel, Stoldt said.

Judicial penalties can also be imposed. If a flagrant water user doesn’t pay his fines, the water district can order that person, without a hearing, to stop watering. Other judicial remedies are available, including a bill and delist orders, which can bring fines of $10,000 per day.

The water district is also asking residents to report water waste by calling the district (831) 658-5653 or going to www.mpwd.net/waterwaste, where observers can anonymously report frivolous use by reporting the type of water waste, location and time. They can even upload a photo of someone wasting water.

BABY
From page 1A

“When 30 seconds or a minute, the mom came out, and she was paniciting,” he said. “I asked if she was OK. You could tell she was really worried.”

Evidently, the baby, whom Munigua estimated is about 8 or 9 months old, had crawled through the front of the house, out a side gate that had been left open, down the driveway and into the street. “For a baby, that was a few miles! He was on a mission,” Munigua mused. “For a little one that, you have to monitor them 24 hours a day.”

The woman, whose name Munigua never got, thanked him, and he continued on his way to deal with the leak on Tarpley Avenue.

It wasn’t until his coworker pointed it out that he realized the significance of what he’d just done. “He said, ‘Whoa, Victor, you just saved a baby’s life!’”

When Munigua went to work the next morning, he mentioned the incident to his supervisor, who put him up for a company award and recognition.

Munigua, who has worked for Cal Am for 14 years, lives in Marina. He has kids of his own, albeit a little older: a 17-year-old and a 21-year-old.

“I’m a grandparent — my older son has two babies,” he said.

So not only does he know much how attention toddlers require, who has an idea of what that mother must have gone through when she realized her baby was missing.

“The good thing was that she got the little one,” he said. “I just went by. But I wanted to take all the credit.

“My mom just passed away in January, and I was thinking — because someone mentioned there must have been angel out there, somewhere — that it was her,” he said.

SAGE
From page 1A

“Saving our near retirement age and wanted the financial freedom to enjoy life more.”

Schoeder put together a 47-page marketing packet extolling the virtues of the Carmel district — which are to home businesses such as Jewelry Atelier, B&G Estate Jewelers, Wyland Gallery, Gallery Apodaca, Hedi’s Shoes, Mail Mart and Galletta Plaza Cafe — and invited potential buyers to submit offers, of which he received a dozen by the deadline last December.

“We then interviewed five prospective buyers,” he said. “Optimus Properties owns several other assets in markets similar to Carmel, so they’re experienced with understanding markets like Carmel. They certainly had the financial capabilities.”

And the company’s purchasing history indicates it closes escrow once it’s in a contract with a seller, according to Schoeder.

After the sale was completed, Optimus Properties, a real estate investment company founded by Housang Shaban in 1976 and now run by his sons, Kamary and Joseph, advised its tenants of the change.

“The buyer plans on improving the properties to better position them in the marketplace,” Schoeder said. “There will be dollars spent on certain cosmetic improvements to upgrade the properties.

The company also wants to get its vacant spaces, including the former Zantman Art Galleries on Sixth Avenue, the former Hildegund Hawley Antiques location on Dolores, and the former Del Monte Fine Art, also on Sixth Avenue, leased as soon as possible. Schoeder said prospective tenants have already expressed interest.

“The Carmel market’s very tight right now, both from a leasing and sales perspective,” Schoeder said.

“I am sure we will find suitable tenants that will complement the area very quickly,” predicted Joseph Shaban, who said he’d already received eight offers on one of the spaces at very competitive rents.

“Ownership one property in Carmel is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, let alone owning four properties there,” Kamary Shaban said. “This was a unique opportunity we didn’t want to pass up.”

Schoeder said the sale is significant. Research through a title company indicated that at least in the last two or three decades, “other than Carmel Plaza, this is the largest sale of buildings in Carmel,” he said. “For Carmel, it’s a very big sale.”

Wendy Greaves/Pine Cone

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