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The Hudson River, Falls Lake and the epic story of an American hero



PHOTO/KEITH BERNSTEIN, COURTESY WARNER BROS.

Tom Hanks as Sully Sullenberger and director Clint Eastwood on location during the shooting of "Sully," which will be released in September.

Parker won't be charged for falsely claiming to have a college degree

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY Supervisor Jane Parker did not violate the law when she falsely claimed to have a college degree, the District Attorney's Office announced this week, because she made the claim in campaign materials but not in her official candidacy statements.

Since at least 2004, the 4th District supervisor — who is running against former Salinas Mayor Dennis Donohue to retain her seat — has claimed on her website and in numerous other places, including her official Monterey County biography, that she held a degree in international economics from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. In February, however, after an inquiry by Donohue, a representative from MIIS told Parker it had no record of her degree, leading her to immediately rescind the claim.

But because Parker did not include the misleading informa-

See **PARKER** page 17A

By PAUL MILLER

IN APRIL 1986, when Clint Eastwood was elected mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, he was at the height of his international fame as an action-movie hero.

Even he probably had no inkling that, 30 years later, he'd have become one of Hollywood's most respected directors, known for his deft touch with films like the winner of the 2004 Academy Award for Best Picture, "Million Dollar Baby," and the 2014 box office smash, "American Sniper."

Of course, Eastwood still calls the Carmel area home, and this week, he spoke to The Pine Cone about his latest project — "Sully," which tells the hair-raising story of U.S. Air flight 1549 and its emergency landing in the Hudson River after bird strikes took out both engines shortly after takeoff from New York's LaGuardia Airport.

The pilot of the plane, Sully Sullenberger, was hailed as a hero for saving the lives of the 155 souls on board, but Eastwood says the Jan. 15, 2009, incident, which came to be known as the "Miracle on the Hudson," could easily have had a very different result.

"When you lose both engines, and you have a plane that weighs so many tons, if you're the pilot, you have to make some very quick decisions," Eastwood said. "And that's the drama in the film. Should he have tried to turn around and go back to LaGuardia? Or tried to make Teeterboro [in New Jersey]. Some people were under the

See **SULLY** page 16A

Riptide nearly drowns three women at beach

By MARY SCHLEY

'THE WORDS don't exist to adequately express my feelings of gratitude and thankfulness to you and everyone there involved in Monterey County emergency rescue who helped save the life of my daughter,' Seattle, Wash., resident Andrew Smith wrote Monday to Monterey Fire personnel who treated three women who almost drowned at Carmel Beach Saturday afternoon. "Her doctors said if it were not for the CPR she received at the scene, she would not have survived."

Thirty-seven-year-old Jillian Smith of Sacramento and two of her friends went swimming at the beach around 4:30 p.m. March 26 and got caught in a riptide, according

See **RIPTIDE** page 17A

Gunman shoots up campground

BY CHRIS COUNTS

A MAN armed with a high-powered, AR-15 rifle fired it into a busy campground alongside the Big Sur River early Saturday and was arrested after a brief standoff, according to eyewitnesses and Cmdr. Johnathan Thornburg of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

The gunman, who was identified as 29-year-old Justin Kline of Clovis, didn't hit anybody but is facing numerous charges. Just before 3 a.m., the sheriff's office received a report of gunshots in the Big Sur Valley area. According to a post on Facebook, Kline fired 12 to 14 shots before being apprehended.

"He was shooting right down into our campground," posted someone from the campground. "We could see his laser scope tracking us."

The same resident said the suspect also shot at a motorist, while another local said his shots "narrowly missed several campers."

"He shot out the tire of a car traveling down to Kirk Creek [Campground] with two young adults in it," the resident continued. "They came down our driveway thinking they had a blowout, which they did, but from a bullet."

The resident said the shots came from the east side of Highway 1 "up a dirt driveway."

When deputies finally caught up with Kline, he pointed his weapon at them. "Deputies took cover and addressed Kline," the police report indicated.

Police convinced Kline to put down his gun, and he was arrested.



Justin Kline

See **SHOTS** page 16A

Funding issue delays groundbreaking on Highway 68 roundabout

By KELLY NIX

CONSTRUCTION OF the Highway 68 roundabout has again been delayed — this time by about a month — but the project is still set to be completed by the end of the year, according to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County.

The roundabout, to be built at the intersection of Highway 68 and Highway 1 near CHOMP, has faced several delays, and the most recent setback will push the start of construction to late next month. Construction was originally supposed to begin in fall 2015.

"The start of the roundabout construction has been pushed back to late May due to the need to fill a funding gap," TAMC associate transportation planner Ariana Green told The Pine Cone.

To close that gap, the City of Pacific Grove in March provided \$100,000, Monterey contributed \$500,000, Monterey County gave \$68,168 and the Pebble Beach Co. provided \$500,000 in contingency funds.

Despite the construction delay, Green said the roundabout is set to be open for traffic next December, with final landscaping and median work to be finished by the end of February 2017.

TAMC and the City of Monterey, the agencies leading the project, will have a clearer picture of the construction schedule after the Monterey City Council reviews bids and selects

See **DELAY** page 10A

Candidates: Plant more trees, fix potholes, and put butt cans and recycling bins downtown

By MARY SCHLEY

TWO WEEKS before the election of a mayor and two city council members, the seven candidates for office weighed in on what, if anything, they would change about the commercial area of the 1-square-mile city, as well as what they would like to be different in the residential zones.

Running for mayor are councilmen Steve Dallas and Ken Talmage, while candidates for council are Richard Kreitman, David Mosley, Jack Pappadeas, Jan Reimers and Bobby Richards.

■ Steve Dallas

If he could change one aspect of the commercial area, Dallas said he would "focus on the overall beautification and cleanliness of our downtown to enhance the character of the village," by "following through with the stalled idea" of attaching cigarette-butt receptacles to trashcans,

adding more landscaping and planting more trees, and "seeing that storefronts are filled with businesses rather

See **CANDIDATES** page 12A



Ken Talmage



Steve Dallas