STRANDED SEA OTTER PUP TOO SICK TO SAVE

By MARY SCHLEY

A BABY California Sea Otter spotted by people walking at the north end of Carmel Beach Wednesday morning died soon after being rescued, Monterey Bay Aquarium public relations manager Angela Haines told The Pine Cone that same evening.

“She was in really poor condition,” Haines said. The little female otter was estimated to be between 10 and 12 weeks old. “Her fur was in bad shape, she was underweight,” and she had eaten sand crabs, which carry acanthocephalan parasites that often cause death in juvenile otters.

Not for lack of effort

The death of the baby otter, which belonged to an endangered species, Enhydra lutris nereis, with an estimated population of about 3,200, came despite numerous calls from beachgoers early Wednesday who spotted the little creature and realized it needed help. Walking on the beach a little bit before 8 a.m., Karin Johnston said a jogger “came up and said her dog had found a ‘small seal’ in the rocks to the north, and that she did not have her cell phone.”

But Johnston had hers and phoned the Marine Mammal Center.

Illegal campers caught, wildfire narrowly averted

By CHRIS COUNTS

ONE YEAR after a devastating wildfire started by an illegal camper burned down 57 homes nearby, Palo Colorado residents got a big scare last week when a pair of hikers were caught trespassing inside Mill Creek Redwood Preserve. Not only were they planning to stay overnight in the park, which they did despite catching trespassing inside Mill Creek Redwood Preserve. “You can’t miss the fact that you’re not supposed to walk in.”

Camarillo credited Born’s vigilance with averting a potential wildfire.

“I want to commend Larry for doing his job, and Mid Coast, Cal Fire and the sheriff for preventing another disaster,” he told The Pine Cone. “After all we’ve been through, people continue to do dumb things.”

Camarillo said the campers will likely be fined for their audacious adventure. “One way or another, they’ll get cited.”

Cal Fire Battalion Chief Dennis King said he, too, hopes the two hikers will be penalized for their actions. He said they put a lot of people and property at risk. “We could have the Soberanes Fire all over again,” King suggested.

See CAMPSERS page 22A

See PUP page 16A

Beach fires will keep burning

By MARY SCHLEY

DO FIRES on Carmel Beach make the city a “smoke ghetto,” as some residents claim? Or is the ban on wood fires directly on the sand — while still allowing them in a handful of fire pits — a reasonable compromise?

That issue was debated once again Tuesday as the city council reviewed the success of the plan, adopted last summer, that only allows wood fires in as many as 12 metal pits along the beach south of Eighth Avenue between the hours of 4 and 10 p.m. Previously, more than 100 wood fires burning directly on the sand south of 10th Avenue could be found on a busy summer weekend, leaving the air filled with smoke and the sand peppered with charcoal and other fire debris.

While 20 people sent emails to city hall supporting the pilot program, which is supposed to last three years, and urging the council to stick with it, few got up to speak in favor of it at the Aug. 8 meeting.

On the other side, a dozen residents stood up to complain about the smoke from the nine fire pits the city has installed. Most of them called for a complete ban on wood fires, citing studies indicating that wood smoke is far more dangerous than cigarette smoke, and saying the fires disrupt their daily lives.

See FIRES page 18A

Flanders Mansion isn’t going anywhere

By MARY SCHLEY

MAYOR STEVE Dallas was barely out of nursery school when the city purchased Flanders Mansion and 15 acres of land surrounding it in 1972, he told the audience at Tuesday night’s city council meeting. Forty-five years and more than a half-dozen task forces later, public officials still don’t know what to do with the aging, empty Tudor-style mansion that has since been partitioned off from the rest of what is now Mission Trail Nature Preserve.

They can’t use it for any public purpose without upsetting the neighbors in Hatton Canyon, who have been organized since 1999 to fight any activities there. And trying to sell it would probably lead to the small activist group called the

See FLANDERS page 18A

Concours Week arrives — and so do roundabout and ‘Fairway One’

By KELLY NIX

All set for Ferraris and Bentleys

IF YOU’VE been avoiding the new roundabout at highways 1 and 68 because of construction, avoid it no more; the circular intersection is ready for you. More importantly, it’s ready for Concours Week.

Striping of the $10 million intersection was completed late last month. A new sign has been erected, and all traffic patterns have been established.

See ROUNDBOUT page 17A

Major addition to The Lodge

THE PEBBLE Beach Company is ready to unveil its Fairway One project, a luxury development that adds 38 new guest rooms, meeting facilities and other amenities at The Lodge — and it’s already booked solid for Concours Week.

See FAIRWAY page 17A

The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 103 No. 32

August 11-17, 2017

www.carmelpinecone.com
Sending in Schatzi

SCHATZI HAS the longest eyelashes she’s ever seen on a dog. But that isn’t what makes her hopelessly attached to the miniature schnauzer. It’s that her late husband sent her the dog — after he passed away.

“I spoke to a woman with psychic abilities who told me a dog was coming my way,” she recalled. She told the psychic she wasn’t sure she wanted one, but then the psychic said, “Your husband is saying, although it has a bad leg, get the dog.”

Soon after, she learned her brother’s wife was trying to find a home for her ailing aunt’s miniature schnauzer.

“She has a bad leg, which gets stiff if she sleeps too long in the same position,” said her sister-in-law, “But Schatzi just limps until she works it out.”

One of her husband’s favorite songs had been Henry Mancini’s “Dear Heart,” sung by Andy Williams. “Schatzi” means ‘sweetheart’ or ‘dear heart’ in German.

“Schatzi’s been to the beach, and she seems to like it,” her person said, “but I don’t let her off leash. We’re easing into things.”

And while Schatzi’s life has improved a lot in her new home, the same thing is true for her person. “I was barely getting up every day after I lost my husband,” her person says. “She taps the bed to get me up and, with those big eyes, says, ‘Let’s go.’ We’ve both been through changes, so we’re helping each other acclimate.”
Local group knits blankets for orphaned rhinos in Africa

By KELLY NIX

If YOU were getting a present for a baby rhinoceros, a blanket probably wouldn’t be what you’d think of. But that’s exactly what some local knitters say orphaned rhinos need.

Tami Pires of Monterey is part of a Facebook group called Blankets for Baby Rhinos, which knits and crochets blankets for rhinos in Africa that were orphaned after their mothers were killed by poachers or died for some other reason. Most of its members are women. Believe it or not, rhinos, who have thick skin even as babies, find comfort in the bedding.

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Founded by two women in November 2016 to help orphaned rhinos, Blankets for

See RHINOS page 37A

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Some people shouldn’t have roommates

HERE’S a look at some of the significant calls logged by the Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department and the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office last week. This week’s log was compiled by Mary Schley.

MONDAY, JULY 24
Carmel-by-the-Sea: A cell phone was found in the public restrooms at Scenic and Del Mar and brought to the police department for safekeeping.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Four subjects dined and.dashed at a restaurant at Dolores and Seventh at 1754 hours.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: An identification card was found on San Carlos and brought to the police station for safekeeping.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Adult female on Ladera Drive reported hearing two loud bangs that she believed were fireworks in her neighborhood the night before. The caller’s sister found the remnants of a mortar-style firework in the bushes down the street from the house.

On the following day, she provided it to police for proper destruction.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to an attempted burglary at a residence on Crocker Avenue at 0900 hours.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle on Junipero was reported as abandoned on July 24 and was marked with chalk and warning notice. Towed by USA Towing for a 72-hour violation. Neighbor claimed that the owner was deceased, and her house was sold.

Pacific Grove: Child reported missing on Central Avenue and located a short time later.

TUESDAY, JULY 25
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Roofers in the area of Casanova and 12th started work before 0800 hours.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male with a hat inside a yard at Dolores and 12th reported using a gas leak blower. Unfounded.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Civil issue at Dolores and Seventh. Friend borrowed a car the day before and didn’t return it. Owner wanted to report the vehicle as stolen.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a beach fire north of Fourth Avenue at 2100 hours. Caller advised it has been extinguished.

Pacific Grove: A 33-year-old female was cited on Pacific Avenue for 2219 hours for running a red light on a suspended license, and the vehicle was towed.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to a report of vandalism to a car parked on Sunset Drive.

Pacific Grove: Resident on Mermaid reported battery by his estranged spouse.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to a reported burglary and theft on Sunset Drive.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a stolen license plate from a motorcycle at Junipero and Eighth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male fell on city property on San Carlos north of Fourth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Person reported a phone left in the restroom at Del Mar. When they discovered it missing, the phone was gone.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A tourist came into the station to report a lost cell phone.

Carmel Valley: Stolen property reported on Schulte Road.

See POLICE LOG page 12RE in the Real Estate Section.

June 15 — Jose Alberto Velasco, age 30, and a resident of San Jose, pled guilty to false imprisonment by violence or menace against his mother and resisting arrest while disarming an officer.

On June 5, 2015, Salinas Police Department Officers Pritt and Barboza were finishing their lunch break when a nearby citizen told the officers about a male beating a woman across the street. Officers ran towards the location and observed defendant, Jose Alberto Velasco, dragging his mother by her neck through the street as she resisted. Multiple drivers and passersby called police and reported Velasco assaulting his mother.

Officer Pritt ordered Velasco to stop and get onto his stomach. Velasco began to comply but once officers attempted to handcuff him he resisted violently. Officer Pritt used Velasco in order to get him to comply but the taser had no effect. Both officers attempted to control Velasco’s arms only to have him do a push-up off the ground with both officers on his back.

Seeing that the tasers deployed by both officers continued to struggle with the officers by rolling, Officer Pritt ordered Velasco to stop and get onto his stomach. Velasco then tore Officer Pritt’s taser from his duty belt. Velasco continued to struggle with the officers by rolling, thrashing around and kicking at them. The struggle spanned 50 to 60 feet from the location where officers had initially contacted Velasco.

Velasco was taken into custody with the help of Salinas Police Department officers who arrived after hearing the dispatch regarding Velasco attacking his mother and police officers. During transport of Velasco in an ambulance, he continued to act out violently, including grabbing Salinas Fire Department firefighter Colin Mitchell and attempting to either bite or head butt him.

Pursuant to California Three Strikes Law due to a prior conviction for Criminal Street Gang Activity, Velasco was sentenced to 4 years in state prison. The case was presided over by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Carrie Pauza.

June 18 — Greenfield resident Jose Ochoa, 37, was sentenced to two years in prison for violating a domestic violence restraining order.

Jane Doe was married to Ochoa for approximately 18 years. After they separated, Doe was granted a criminal protective order which prevented Ochoa from contacting her. On April 19, at approximately midnight, Doe was in bed with her three young children.

In violation of the court order, Ochoa knocked on the front door and demanded entry. One evening, Ochoa accused Doe of hosting another man. When Doe told Ochoa she would call 911 if he didn’t leave, Ochoa pinned Doe to the couch and punched her in the face eight times.

At one point during the assault, Doe was able to break free from Ochoa, and saw their 9-year-old son witnessing the attack. Ochoa then punched Doe in the face five more times.

Ochoa and Monterey County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Burdison sentenced Ochoa to two years in state prison.
Short-term renters settle with city, ‘amnesty’ offered to others

By MARY SCHLEY

GUADALUPE STREET homeowners Stoffer and Anna Wagelaar, who were sued by the City of Carmel in June for continuing to use their house as an illegal short-term rental, agreed to pay $42,100 in back taxes, penalties and legal fees as part of a settlement, city attorney Glen Mozingo told the council at its Aug. 8 meeting.

In June, after repeated attempts to convince the Wagelaars to cease renting out their house near Fourth Avenue for less than 30 days at a time — and after an undercover officer succeeded in arranging short stays in the home on two occasions — the city sued them in Monterey County Superior Court to force them to stop. The suit also sought back taxes, attorney’s fees, fines and penalties.

Short-term rentals have been banned in Carmel-by-the-Sea since 1989, and, faced with the likelihood they would lose, the couple relented.

“We’ve been on the books for almost 30 years,” said Glen Mozingo.

The city’s ban has been on the books for almost 30 years

The website operators who are assisting in the violation of the law will have some culpability as well,” Mozingo said.

“The website operators who are assisting in the violation of the law will have some culpability as well,” Mozingo said. “They will quickly come around.”

Also bolstering the city in its efforts to crack down on short-term rentals is the contract with Host Compliance, the company that will comb through all the websites marketing vacation rentals to cull a list of violators.

Considering the likelihood the city’s crackdown will lead to the identification and possible prosecution of people who illegally short-term-rental website VRBO.com, but they worked with the company “to modify the website so that if someone goes on and tries to list a short-term rental in a residential area of the City of Carmel, the website will not permit it,” he said.

The companies facilitating illegal rentals are also guilty of breaking the law, he said, and while VRBO.com is the first to make the change, others will probably follow suit.

“The website operators who are assisting in the violation of the law will have some culpability as well,” Mozingo said. “They will quickly come around.”

After the meeting, Mozingo said the deal resulted from the Wagelaars “extraordinary cooperation.”

“There was little possibility that we were not going to prevail,” he added. “And I think they realized this was something they wanted to resolve without further expense.”

The couple not only provided all the information and documentation the city demanded in a legislative subpoena served on short-term-rental website VRBO.com, but they worked with the company “to modify the website so that if someone goes on and tries to list a short-term rental in a residential area of the City of Carmel, the website will not permit it,” he said.

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CEMEX LAND PURCHASE WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE SEVERAL BUYERS

By KELLY NIX

WHEN THE roughly 400 acres in Marina where Cemex operates its commercial sand mine go up for sale, the land will likely be turned into open space, and the buyer could very well be a coalition of conservation groups instead of just one buyer, according to land conservation experts.

On July 13, the California Coastal Commission voted unanimously to approve a settlement agreement between the commission, Cemex, the City of Marina and the State Lands Commission that has Cemex ceasing operations at the 110-year-old plant in three years and selling the property so it can be converted to open space. In exchange, Cemex will get an option to acquire the property.

‘Always willing to partner’

Big Sur Land Trust President Jeanette Tutele-Lewis said the group could be interested in adding the land to its portfolio of properties, but there are factors — mainly price — that will determine that. However, she said, acquisition of the Cemex land could indeed involve a coalition of groups, including government agencies, which could buy the property together.

“We can’t speak on behalf of any other organizations, but the land trust is always willing to partner, and we think that is often the best way to get a project across the finish line,” she said.

If a public agency such as the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District turns out to be one of the buyers taxpayers would be on the hook for a portion of the bill, too. While California Coastal Commission spokeswoman Noaki Schwartz told The Pine Cone that “Cemex has indicated that they are interested in selling sooner rather than later,”

See CEMEX page 27A
Pacific Grove AUTO CELEBRATIONS

CAR WEEK 2017

Classic Motorsports Magazine Monterey - Pacific Grove Kick-Off Car Show and Cruise
Tuesday August 15
3:00 - 7:00p.m., Lighthouse Avenue

Eighth Annual Little Car Show
Wednesday August 16
12:00 - 5:00p.m., Lighthouse Avenue

The Pacific Grove Auction by Worldwide Auctioneers
Thursday August 17
5:00 - 8:00p.m.
Pacific Grove Golf Links, 77 Asilomar Avenue

23rd Annual Pacific Grove Concours Auto Rally
Friday August 18
12:00 - 6:00p.m., Lighthouse Avenue

Golden Gate Austin-Healey Car Club Show
Tuesday September 12
10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m., Lighthouse Avenue

West Coast Crosley Car Club Meetup
Saturday October 14
11:00a.m. - 3:00p.m., Jewell Park

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Everyone knows that “affordable housing” on the Monterey Peninsula is an oxymoron, but the Pacific Grove City Council on Aug. 2 discussed several ideas it believes would offer at least a little such housing, including developing property owned by the city and the school district, allowing construction of “tiny houses” and prefab units, and encouraging churches to build housing for seniors.

Those were a few of the conceptual ideas that community and economic development director Mark Brodeur said could help the city reach its goal of building 18 affordable units within eight years. Many of the ideas were posed at July 6 planning commission meeting.

What constitutes affordable housing can be in the eye of the beholder, but Pacific Grove intends new housing units to be for tenants who fall within the moderate- to low-income bracket, which the city described as $57,700 gross per year for a single person, to $82,450 for a family of four.

“We are not talking about the down and destitute here,” Brodeur said of possible tenants, explaining that he envisions the housing to be for people like teachers, firemen

See HOUSING page 22A

P.G. movie theater parking lot on list of preferred areas for housing

School district properties also eyed

By KELLY NIX

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THE KIDS who dance at the nearby performing arts academy, their parents, and other residents finally got their wish Tuesday, when the city council approved a four-way stop at the intersection of Mission and Eighth. Although that spot is not particularly busy with cars and pedestrians, the presence of the dance center and the north lot at Sunset Center make it complicated and dangerous, they have said.

Last month, the traffic safety committee, which comprises Police Chief Paul Tomasi, planning director Marc Wiener and public works director Bob Harary, agreed, deciding to recommend the council OK stop signs and crosswalks on Eighth Avenue where traffic runs freely now.

Tomasi pointed out in his Aug. 8 council report that several crashes in the intersection might have not occurred had cross traffic had to stop.

“Analysis of data from November 2013 to November 2014 reveals that the study area had six total vehicle accidents, two of which resulted in injury,” he said. “A review of these accidents shows that the accidents very possibly could have been avoided had stop signs been installed.”

Furthermore, people using the pathway on the south side of Eighth between Junipero and Mission often need to cross Eighth to head into town, and a stop sign and painted crosswalk would make doing so safer.

“The committee also considered the potential for congestion due to traffic entering and leaving the north lot of the Sunset Center and potential noise impact of trucks breaking and accelerating at this intersection of the truck route,” he added. “It is anticipated the slowing of traffic at the intersection will provide a safer ingress and egress of vehicles using the north lot and that the noise impacts will not be significant.”

Without much discussion, the council agreed and approved the new stop signs and crosswalks, which will cost of $2,000.

Council OKs four-way stop on Mission

By MARY SCHLEY

The committee also considered the potential for congestion due to traffic entering and leaving the north lot of the Sunset Center and potential noise impact of trucks breaking and accelerating at this intersection of the truck route,” he added. “It is anticipated the slowing of traffic at the intersection will provide a safer ingress and egress of vehicles using the north lot and that the noise impacts will not be significant.”

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Council violated Brown Act in Sunset Center, Forest Theater negotiations

By MARY SCHIEY

By NOT including on its agendas the fact that closed-session negotiations with Sunset Cultural Center, Inc. involved both the Sunset Center and the Forest Theater, the city council violated the Brown Act, according to Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo and city attorney Glen Mozingo.

To help rectify that, the council on Tuesday again opened for discussion and subsequently approved 15-year leases for the two theaters, so they can be managed by the nonprofit SCC, rather than the city. SCC has been operating Sunset Center for more than a dozen years, but the Forest Theater is a brand-new addition that many people were unaware was even on the table when the council approved the agreements in June.

“Four days after taking office as city attorney, I received an invitation from the district attorney for a meeting to review a complaint he’d received with respect to possible Brown Act violations,” Mozingo told the council at the Aug. 8 meeting. “The concern the district attorney had was that, during the process of negotiations with the city and Sunset Cultural Center Inc., there appeared to be an oversight that the agenda did not identify with specificity the exact properties that were to be dealt with.”

Mozingo reviewed the rules and the letter Flippo received from resident Ian Martin, who also filed a complaint with the Fair Political Practices Commission regarding the Forest Theater.

As a result, Mozingo asked the council to vote on the agreements again Tuesday night. “We have placed this item back on the agenda in cooperation with the district attorney’s office to ensure the public has an opportunity to address this issue once again,” he said. “To use the expression, ‘wear a belt and suspenders,’ we’re going to ensure the historic users of the Forest Theater, Guild — received preferential treatment in the agreement, and that it included new restrictions on noise, parking, light, and effects on the surrounding residential neighborhood.”

Mozingo said Flippo also worried the historic users of the Forest Theater — Pacific Repertory Theatre and the Forest Theater — received preferential treatment in the agreement, and that it included new restrictions on noise, parking, light, and effects on the surrounding residential neighborhood.

So Many Dustballs, So Little Time

The negotiations for the Sunset Center took approximately eight-and-a-half months, while the Forest Theater didn’t arise until sometime in late March or early April,” Mozingo observed. “And I suspect that is probably how this error occurred. It came in late in the game, and no one caught it, frankly, as we should have.”

As a result, Mozingo asked the council to vote on the agreements again Tuesday night. “We have placed this item back on the agenda in cooperation with the district attorney’s office to ensure the public has an opportunity to address this issue once again,” he said. “To use the expression, ‘wear a belt and suspenders,’ we’re going to ensure the public has a chance to address this again if it chooses to do so.”

Mozingo also promised Flippo such an error wouldn’t recur, and assured him the council would undergo additional Brown Act training.

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As a result, Mozingo asked the council to vote on the agreements again Tuesday night. “We have placed this item back on the agenda in cooperation with the district attorney’s office to ensure the public has an opportunity to address this issue once again,” he said. “To use the expression, ‘wear a belt and suspenders,’ we’re going to ensure the public has a chance to address this again if it chooses to do so.”

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Other concerns

Mozingo reviewed the rules and the letter Flippo received from resident Ian Martin, who also filed a complaint with the Fair Political Practices Commission regarding the Forest Theater.

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Wild-hatched chick from wild-hatched condors marks recovery milestone

By CHRIS COUNTS

FOR THE first time, Ventana Wildlife Society researchers have confirmed the existence of a nest — and a chick — belonging to a pair of second generation wild-hatched California condors. They say the discovery marks a major milestone in the VWS’s efforts to boost the population of the massive bird in areas where it once thrived, like Big Sur.

The chick’s parents were named Miracle and Nomad by researchers who watched them come of age in the wild.

“I watched them grow up over the years like my own kids — and I always hoped they would pair up and nest. Seeing their chick firsthand was truly an incredible sight and it was so great to see the flock come full circle.”

Researchers won’t say precisely where the nest is located, but they did say it is in the hollowed-out cavity of a large coastal redwood, about 70 feet above the ground. The cavity was created by a wildfire, and is large enough for the chick to stretch its wings. Along the coast, redwood cavities are the most common nesting sites for condors.

The chick, whose gender or name wasn’t released, is now more than three months old and weighs over 10 pounds. It is expected to leave the nest when it is six or seven months old.

Sixty condor chicks have been born in California in the wild since 2001, but none to second generation wild-hatched condors until now.

“It is exciting that the next generation of condors are beginning to nest in the wild, and even more exciting for the people who have worked so long to achieve this goal, such as my dedicated staff,” executive director Kelly Sorenson said.

According to the VWS, the last time a pair of second generation wild-hatched condors nested in the wild was in 1985.
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A potential disaster was averted when a chimney fire broke out in the kitchen at Rocky Point Restaurant. Fortunately, the flames were put out by staff before any serious damage was done.

“There was a build-up of grease,” Cal Fire battalion chief Dennis King explained. “A spark went up and caught the grease on fire.”

“Fire and the Mid Coast Volunteer Fire Department put the fire out before it could spread,” King said.

The fire was extinguished by the time Cal Fire and the Mid Coast Volunteer Fire arrived on scene, and a thermal imaging camera was used to make sure there wasn’t a buildup of heat anywhere in the surrounding area.

King said the incident is a reminder that a chimney needs to be cleaned at least once a year to assure that it is safe to use. “Much like a fireplace in a home, you want to get your flue examined by a chimney sweep,” he added.

Despite the mishap, which happened shortly before 5 p.m., the restaurant reopened the same evening.

“I don’t know if it’s alive. I don’t know whether it’s injured, or if it just can’t extract itself from the crevice,” Resident Ian Martin was also at the beach with his wife and their two Westies about an hour earlier, she said she phoned both organizations to tell them about the pup.

“There has been a mother and baby in the water for several days, so we assume this is the same baby,” she said.

Beck then recalled that another regular beach walker has a dog that chases sea otters when they get too close to shore. “His dog went out into the water yesterday when it saw the mama with baby otter. The dog chased the otter out to the kelp (a long way), and the owner swam out to save the dog when the dog began circling,” she said. “The Carmel Police were called, the owner and his dog thankfully made it back on their own, but we are now wondering if the baby was abandoned during that exchange.”

Haines said there was no sign of the mother when senior animal care specialist Sandrine Hazan arrived at the beach Wednesday morning to retrieve the pup.

“That’s the first thing we look for,” she said, because if the mother is there, it’s best to reunite the pair.

Baby otters typically remain with their mothers until they are between 7 and 9 months old, according to Haines, depending on how quickly they develop. “They learn everything from Mom,” she said. “They’re pup fur” keeps them as buoyant as corks and living off mother’s milk until they are old enough to start shedding that fur and learning to dive for food and expanding their lung capacity, she said. The pup found this week had lost her pup fur but was still far too young to be without her mother.

Unfortunately, due to her very poor condition, specialists at the aquarium determined the most humane option was to euthanize the pup, Haines explained.

“She could not swim. She probably would have ended up on the rocks because she was sick, or if she got separated from her mother and then became ill.

“We have no way of knowing,” she said.

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PUP
From page 1A

“We have no way of knowing,” she said.
**FAIRWAY**

**From page 1A**

On Friday, the company plans a private grand opening of the project, which includes 30 “oversized” rooms in three two-story hotel buildings and eight rooms in two four-bed-

room luxury cottages that front the First Fairway of the Pebble Beach Golf Links. The company kicked off construction of the project in April 2016.

“So many people have invested time and effort in creating Fairway One at the Lodge,” Pebble Beach Company executive vice president David Stivers told The Pine Cone Tuesday. “We are just thrilled it’s now done and has turned out so great.”

The development offers “an enhanced guest room experience with oversized accommodations, a greater sense of privacy and unparalleled personalized service, all featuring spectacular ocean, garden and golf course views,” according to promotional materials.

Prices per night range from $915 for a garden view room to $6,460 for a four-bedroom cottage suite. Stivers said there’s been strong interest in the new project and that it’s already sold out to Ferrari, which is hosting its 70th Anniversary Concours on the First Fairway of the Pebble Beach Golf Links there during Concours Week.

“It’s a cool way to kick off the opening of the Fairway One project,” Stivers said.

The golf cottages, a first for Pebble Beach, have 1,000-square-foot living rooms, two king bedrooms, two queen/queen bedrooms, and outdoor terraces with fire pits, and are suitably named “Eastwood” and “Palmer.”

“We are excited about that because they are two important and iconic individuals who have been involved in the Pebble Beach Company for a long time,” said Stivers about Clint Eastwood and late golf legend Arnold Palmer. Both were part of an investment group which purchased the Pebble Beach Company from its Japanese owners in 1999.

On the “arrival court” of Fairway One is the new meeting facility, which the Pebble Beach Company said can be used for everything from business events to weddings to social gatherings. The largest meeting room is 2,500 square feet and has a capacity of 225 people and unobstructed views of First Fairway.

The Pebble Beach Company is also renovating its other resorts. It will begin the third phase of the Lodge’s renovation in September, with a completion date before the June 2019 U.S. Open. A remodel at the Inn at Spanish Bay will be done early that year, too, and Casa Palmero will undergo an update as early as December, Stivers said.

**ROUNDABOUT**

**From page 1A**

Tuesday night, and construction crews were also installing signs and working on landscaping this week. But for the most part, the roundabout is good to go for the week that brings the Peninsula’s busiest tourist events.

“The roundabout is ready for Car Week,” Transportation for Monterey County spokesman Grant Leonard told The Pine Cone.

The largely completed intersection will make traffic move through Highway 68 much more easily during Concours Week, which draws tens of thousands of visitors to the Monterey Peninsula, he said.

Two lanes going straight through the intersection toward the bridge were opened Monday, which promises to ease the traffic that has backed up on Highway 68 during construction.

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Construction crews will return to work Aug. 21 — the day after Concours Week wraps up — for more landscaping and sign work. Leonard said crews are still on schedule to get the project all done by October.

Late last month, TAMC and the Monterey Fire Department demonstrated how emergency vehicles, even large ladder trucks, have no problem navigating through the roundabout. They also reminded that drivers should pull over to the right, if it’s safe, when an emergency vehicle is going through the intersection.

The project’s backers — TAMC, the City of Monterey, the Pebble Beach Company and others — have long had a goal of getting the roundabout fully operational before next week’s car events, despite this winter’s storms, which caused some delays in the work.

Those planning on using the roundabout can again view the live cam that was set up to see the traffic flow through the intersection, but which has been broken for months. Leonard said crews got it up and running on Aug. 4.

“It will be a good resource for folks to look at [during] car week,” he said.

The camera, pointed west, depicts traffic coming off Highway 1 south, cars traveling east and west on 68 through the intersection.

On the “arrival court” of Fairway One is the new meeting facility, which the Pebble Beach Company said can be used for everything from business events to weddings to social gatherings. The largest meeting room is 2,500 square feet and has a capacity of 225 people and unobstructed views of First Fairway.

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Fires
From page 1A

lives and prevent them from being able to go to the beach whenever they want to. (The northern half of the beach has no fires, and the entire beach is free of fires from 10 p.m. to 4 p.m. every day.)

Wayne Moon described his neighborhood south of 10th as the “smoke ghetto,” and Richard Andre said the smoke has been so bad that he and his wife suffer in their home more than a half-dozen blocks away at Dolores and 12th.

“We had a darned good air purifier — it could not cut it. All the windows were closed,” he said, referring to the early morning when the smoke seemed particularly bad. “There’s a real problem.”

Cheryl Hollenbeck compared the council’s continuing to allow fires to the centuries-old annual Chinese tradition in the “smoke ghetto,” and Richard Andre said the smoke has made the property owners afraid to keep their homes.

“Beating the dead horse”

At the meeting, council members heard from Les Albild, a resident who was a curator in a historic house in Maryland and who has proposed a similar program at Flanders, and from Melanie Billings, who has led the effort to prevent the city from selling the mansion. She said she and the Flanders Foundation would “be happy to work with the city on whatever option you want to use.”

“I thought the council shouldn’t rule out selling it — even if it keeps the house,” she said. “I’m asking to have a legal review of the possibilities.”

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Fresh starts from the stories / A sermon series on Genesis

After the city installed metal pits on the beach last summer, public officials and others got together to celebrate — with a fire.

Councilwoman Carolyn Hardy wondered if moving the pits to the north end of the beach — the city’s share ends at Second Avenue — would require review by the California Coastal Commission. She also suggested the city do a better job of promoting propane as an alternative to wood fires.

While the program is meeting its goals of reducing fire debris on the beach and bringing down the amount of smoke in the air, council members noted that it hasn’t even been through a full year of testing, because the Soberanes Fire led to the ban of all wood fires on beaches in the county from late July through the first week in September.

Councilwoman Carrie Tiesh said she often smells smoke when she’s walking on the beach early in the morning, “and it’s not from beach fires.” She noted that beach fires only burn during six hours of the day, providing plenty of smoke-free time for people who are sensitive to it.

While improvements could be made, like spreading the pits out more along the beach, she said, the program is generally accomplishing its goals. “The sand is cleaner,” she said. “Even the people against beach fires have said that.”

“We sure have come a long way, from 120 fires on the Fourth of July, to nine,” Hardy added.

Mayor Steve Dallas suggested raising the topic again in February, after the end of this year’s summer beach season, with the idea of making changes for next summer, if needed.

“I concur with Carrie: At 5:30 a.m. when I walk my dog, I can smell smoke,” he said. “And I can tell you which houses are burning in the morning.”

Reiring said changes like improving signs and outreach efforts, promoting propane, picking up driftwood, and using the new smoke-reducing devices could be implemented with no out much trouble, but that putting the pits north of Eighth could require approval from the coastal commission. He said he heard from city administrator Mark Mansell and planning director Marc Wiener and get back to the council.

Flanders Foundation using the city and its taxing property hundreds of thousands of dollars — for the third time. The group already sued the city twice over its efforts to divest itself of the mansion, over a 2009 election in which voters in the city favored sale by a 2-to-1 margin, and requiring the drafting and rewriting of extensive environmental reviews. The legal battles cost taxpayers $1.5 million, councilman Casey Castle said Aug. 1.

That leaves either finding someone to lease the mansion as a single-family home and make the necessary estimated $1.5 million investment in repairs, or selling it.

There were calls Friday for the city to consider installation of a curbing to cap the city hall entrance and use the street as a park to save the city millions. City and county officials are “asking too much,” while Councilwoman Carrie Hardy said the city should consider lowering the rent or focusing on the mansion, overturning a 2009 election in which voters in the city favored sale by a 2-to-1 margin, and requiring the drafting and rewriting of extensive environmental reviews. The legal battles cost taxpayers $1.5 million, councilman Casey Castle said Aug. 1.

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An Oct. 21, 2016, civil complaint filed by Gary and Susan Wasserman alleged that Eric and Patricia Sand had ruined the panoramic views from their Via Las Rosas house by refusing to trim the pine trees, even after agreeing to do so. When the Sands finally cut the trees, the Wassermans said they did so cruelly because of “spite,” making the trees visually “unappealing.”

The Wassermans contended in the lawsuit that their $1.5 million home had been devalued from as much as $125,000 because of the tree issue.

But according to a notice of settlement filed at the Monterey County Courthouse on July 25, the Sands agreed to pay the Wassermans $15,000 in damages, remove the pine trees in question, and replant trees and privacy hedges.

The growth of [the Sands’] hedges/trees shall not exceed 25 feet in height to be measured from the Wassermans’ lower driveway, and shall be subject to measurement by the board, at the Wassermans’ or their successors, no more than two times per year,” the agreement says.

The number of hedges and tree “shall be enough to be sufficient for privacy purposes,” and must be maintained by the Sands, the agreement also states.

Eric Sand, a realtor and vice president of the Carmel Valley Association, has denied pruning the trees in a spiteful manner.

The Wassermans’ lawsuit also named the Los Tulares Homeowner Association as a defendant, contending that it didn’t address the Sands’ knots to their trees.

In turn, the settlement — which was agreed to after both parties met with mediator Ralph Thompson — says the Wassermans are to remove a eucalyptus tree from their property line. Both parties also agreed to “fully and forever” release all legal claims related to the property dispute.

**GERALDINE (GERRY) LLOYD HICKS**

_January 23, 1924 – July 15, 2017_

Geraldine (Gerry) Lloyd Hicks passed away at the age of 93 at the Carmel Valley Manor where she shared her home with her husband, Robert (Bob) for the last nine years. While listening to her favorite hymn, “The Lord is My Shepherd (23rd Psalm),” surrounded by nine family members, she drew her final breath at 3:05 p.m. on Monday July 15, 2017. Gerry was born in San Jose, California January 23, 1924. She was the daughter of Dorothy and William N. Lloyd, and granddaughter of John Colpitts and Alberta and Henry, William Henry and Grace (Mann) Lloyd, and the sister of Georgene Lloyd Bowen. Gerry is survived by Bob, her husband of 72 years, son Robin Jeffery Hicks, her wife Deborah, son Alan Hicks, daughter Alcinda Pearlman; four grandchildren — Winslow, Skyler, Marissa, Brisia Hicks, and Jessica Pearlman Oliver; and four great-grandchildren.

Gerry grew up on the family orchard in San Jose. One of her favorite memories as a child was riding her pony, Pal, through the orchard. She first attended Campbell High school but graduated from the Castilleja school in Palo Alto in 1941. She attended Stanford majoring in history and graduating in 1945. She married Bob then a pilot for Pan American Airways, in June 1945 on the lawn of her family’s home by her grandfather, Lloyd, a Methodist minister.

After a honeymoon in Acapulco, their first home was in Miami, then Los Angeles, followed by San Marino, Laguna Beach, Pasadena, Campbell, and Pebble Beach.

Gerry was active in several women’s clubs and charities. In 1947, she was honored as Campbell Citizen of the Year. She had a lifelong love of spending time with family, reading, deer-watching at home and watching classic movies. Her travels with Bob were mostly to Europe, especially to England, where she had numerous relatives. Other favorites were the Caribbean, Latin America, and Hawaii. Her closest friends throughout her life were her sorority sisters in Alpha Omicron Pi (AOPi). Gerry is remembered by all her family and friends for her graciousness, sweetness of character, and innate good taste and style. She and Bob attended the Church of the Forest for as long as she was able to do so.

Her family is grateful for the excellent care provided by the staff in her final years at the Carmel Valley Manor, especially by her caretakers, Zolla, Juana, and Ariana. She wish was for a private memorial service for immediate family members. Instead of flowers any donations in her memory would be welcome for the Armenta Family Foundation 51 N. Central Ave, Campbell, CA 95008.
Cachagua church gets OK to open, but permit will be reviewed in two years

By CHRIS COUNTS

AFTER a group of neighbors pleaded with them to deny it, the Monterey County Planning Commission voted 9 to 1 to let a church open in a residential neighborhood in Cachagua — but with a condition that the permit will expire in two years, and the planning commission will have a chance to review it before granting an extension.

According to backers, the church now, it will be located at 19345 Cachagua Road, where there are currently about 25 members, and fill a need in a community that doesn’t have a church now. It will be located at 19345 Cachagua Road, where there are currently about 25 members, and fill a need in a community that doesn’t have a church now.

“Having a church in the community would have caused a tremendous amount of disruption across the valley,” said planning commissioner Keith Vandevere, who called the water quality on site “unacceptable,” and said the property’s review would be expensive, and the church would have to pay for it.

Several residents and they are worried about drivers from outside the area coming to the church. “Drivers unfamiliar with the road put us all at risk,” Greg Martin insisted.

Resident Don Bonser took issue with the property’s review, which “was not able to handle the needs of the church. He called the water quality on site “unacceptable,” and he described the septic system as “equally challenged.”

More than one resident complained the church’s activities to special events at Hilltop Ranch, which according to one man, “have caused a tremendous amount of disruption across the valley.”

Lombardo disagreed, and noted that the church’s permit would “have a low traffic impact,” and its water demands would be “slightly less than a normal family home.”

But neighbors warned the planning commission that the project would make driving in the neighborhood less safe because Cachagua Road is narrow, and has many twists and turns.

“I’m concerned about an increase in traffic and accidents,” resident Derek Bonser said. “Our roads are in terrible condition.”

Bonser said he is also worried about how the church’s activities would impact nearby Cachagua Creek, and he suggested that an environmental impact report be done. If required, the report would be expensive, and the church would have to pay for it.

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and policemen, many of whom work in P.G. but don’t live there because it’s too expensive.

Building affordable housing in downtown Pacific Grove, and specifically on the city-owned parking lot to the rear of Lighthouse Cinema at 525 Lighthouse Ave., drew the most support from council members. The lot has more than 125 parking spaces.

“Downtown is the best opportunity for future development,” councilman Robert Huitt said. “I like the parking lot as a starting point for affordable housing, such as eliminating parking requirements for projects close to public transportation, allowing the use of hybrid, prefabricated and modular building materials for such units, and eliminating architectural review board reviews for projects of seven or fewer affordable units."

**Desperately needed**

The city could also identify businesses and parcels that have excess water credits — mainly businesses on Forest Hill — and “encourage and incentivize development of mixed-use residential” buildings with affordable units. The city could also partner with churches with large parcels to encourage senior housing, he said.

Pacific Grove has 68 affordable housing units, the second fewest in Monterey County, according to data released in May by LandWatch Monterey County.

Council members were receptive to the ideas. In 2013, though, the council sided with residents of the Del Monte Park neighborhood area of the city who complained about a Pebble Beach Company-funded affordable housing project near them. Despite the city’s opposition, Monterey County approved the Pebble Beach project.

Rental officers warn about Concours traffic

_The city_ will host two major car events, as well as a new, smaller show, during Concours Week, so public officials are warning people driving into and out of town during the week of Aug. 14-20 to be patient and follow the rules.

The heaviest traffic and most street closures in the center of town will occur Tuesday, Aug. 15, during Concours on the Avenue, and on Thursday, Aug. 17, for the Pebble Beach Tour d’Elegance. During both events, drivers are encouraged to use Carpenter Street and Rio Road to enter and exit town.

The new event, the Prancing Ponies show on Dolores Street north of Ocean, will be held on Wednesday.

Free parking will be available at Larson Field near the Carmel Mission on Rio Road, with shuttles to Sunset Center running on Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Free parking is also available every day in the public lots at Forbes and Third, and at Mission and Eighth next to Sunset Center.

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Pac Rep pays tribute to the music of the movies at Golden Bough

A SONG and dance revue that takes the audience on a musical journey spanning nearly a century, PacRep’s “Hooray for Hollywood — A Musical Tribute to the Silver Screen” opened Aug. 5 at the Golden Bough Theatre.

The revue will feature more than 40 songs — from ballads to boogie-woogie, and Walt Disney classics to James Bond themes. The list of songs includes “Someday My Prince Will Come,” “When You Wish Upon a Star,” “From talkies to technicolor, ‘Hooray for Hollywood’ stars four of PacRep’s most well-known performers,” reads an invitation to the revue. “With a little bit of film nostalgia, and a whole lot of laughs, it’s a musical treat for the whole family.” Tickets are $8 to $44 with discounts available on Thursdays. “Hooray for Hollywood” continues Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 3.

The revue will feature more than 40 songs — from ballads to boogie-woogie, and Walt Disney classics to James Bond themes. The list of songs includes “Someday My Prince Will Come,” “When You Wish Upon a Star,” “Staying Alive” and many more.

Directed and choreographed by Maryanne Rousseau, the revue stars four veteran PacRep performers, Malinda DeKouen, Lydia Lyons, Scott McQuiston and John Newkirk. Desma Johnson serves as musical director.

“From talkies to technicolor, ‘Hooray for Hollywood’ stars four of PacRep’s most well-known performers,” reads an invitation to the revue. “With a little bit of film nostalgia, and a whole lot of laughs, it’s a musical treat for the whole family.” Tickets are $8 to $44 with discounts available for students, teachers, seniors and active military. All shows start at 7:30 p.m. Two-for-the price of one tickets are available on Thursdays. “Hooray for Hollywood” continues Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 3. The Golden Bough Theatre is located on Monte Verde between Eight and Ninth. Call (831) 622-0100 or visit www.pacrep.org.

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Howdy, Stranger

THIS WEEK, the Monterey Peninsula will be crawling with visitors, and it’s a good bet many of them will think this looks like a pretty good place to live, which it certainly is. If you like cool weather, in fact, it’s paradise. But when these hope-to-be residents of Carmel and Pebble Beach, not to mention Carmel Valley, Monterey and Pacific Grove, start looking at home prices, they’ll be in for a shock. Even modest homes near the beach go for $2 million and up, and a couple of miles away, it’s common for things that would sell for $150,000 in Omaha or Orlando to go for more than $1 million.

Our very high — and steadily escalating — prices for real estate are due in large part to demand, of course, since so many people would like to be a short walk or a quick bike ride from the Lone Cypress, Carmel Beach or Lovers Point. In such a state of affluence, as in so many things, when something is very desirable, it’s the rich ones who get it. Even here in the Peoples Republic of California, nobody has called for an end to free-market pricing of real estate. Plus, the state is minting new billionaires almost as fast as you can say, “the Dow Jones Industrial Average is at another all-time high.”

Meanwhile, the other side of the supply-and-demand coin is also a major factor. Homes in this little corner of the world are in very short supply, and almost none are being built. Why? Glad you asked.

First, the state’s strict environmental protection laws have been embraced here to an extent that prohibits almost all new subdivisions. Sure, on the outskirts of Fresno, you can still buy 100 acres and divide it up into several hundred homesteads, but here you can’t even divide 100 acres in two — the various general plans don’t allow it, and if you try, the guy who lives next door will tie you up in court for decades claiming you’re going to ruin the neighborhood with traffic, increase noise and air pollution, damage historical and archeological resources, ruin views, cause erosion, contribute to global warming, and make six or seven species nobody ever heard of go extinct. That’s just for starters — and the law will probably be on his side.

To make things worse, even if you think you can pass all those tests, the ultimate Catch-22 is waiting for you at the end: There’s no water.

That’s right. Even if you have the world’s most ideal building site and the most environmentally responsible building plan in history, and all your neighbors love you, in many parts of the Monterey Peninsula, you’ll be allowed to connect to the water main running past your property, drill a well, or do anything else that would let you build your house and then take a shower in it. File that one under, “Weird but True.”

You see, starting 30 years ago, the local environmentalists conspired to have state regulators declare our water supply (the Carmel River) off-limits, even as they piled on rules and regulations that would make it next-to-impossible to get water anywhere else. Those of us who already lived here were allowed to keep using as much water as we wanted, but nobody could have any more — especially not the suckers who showed up late for the party.

You may hear local residents complain about the high price they have to pay for tap water — as much as 5 cents a gallon, a number that’s unheard of in the rest of the country. They can blame their government for those prices.

But at the same time, they should probably be thanking the water overlords in San Francisco and Sacramento, because the water shortage is a major contributor to the shortage of housing hereabouts. Which is to say that every time a local home site gets more valuable, it’s the rich ones who get it. Even here in the Peoples Republic of California, nobody has called for an end to free-market pricing of real estate. Plus, the state is minting new billionaires almost as fast as you can say, “the Dow Jones Industrial Average is at another all-time high.”

Letters to the Editor

Why some people make more money

Dear Editor,

After seeing the Aug. 4 article about adding a 2 percent extra charge on restaurant bills to provide a pay increase to the non-service staff, I’m reminded of my days as a waiter between 1978 and 1992.

First, I never thought of minimum wage as an ending place; it was a starting place. As I did improve and earn more money, I felt like I earned every penny.

Of the three groups of staff in a restaurant (food, service, and clerical/support), the servers earned 3 to 4 times as much as the others.

We servers did hear similar complaints about the difference in everyone’s income. Which leads to the second point, “Why does one person earn $15 per hour, and the other earn $40 per hour?” The answer is: That’s what they are worth in the marketplace.

I did think it was funny that the restaurant staff only complained about the servers’ income, but not about some of our customers (like doctors and lawyers) who earned not just three or four times as much, but ten times as much.

If people are “paid more” for not being more productive, then they are not likely to be inspired to better themselves.

After changing careers and now owning a small business, here’s what I tell people. Ask your boss this question, “What can I do to earn more money?” Your boss will LOVE to hear you say that, especially if you do it.

P.S.: Every time we walk down Carmel beach, I turn to my wife and say, “This is why we work so hard.”

John Rodriguez, Houston, Texas

Restaurant workers’ pay

Dear Editor,

If a job is well done, it is worth being paid enough to live, and if a business cannot afford to pay a living wage, it cannot afford to be in business.

Asking people to work below poverty wages so one can own a business is entitlement at its finest. Asking workers to use their lives to subsidize an owner’s desire to own a business is just plain unethical.

It’s the owner’s responsibility, not the customer’s, to right the pay gap between servers and kitchen workers.

Maybe tourists will pay the 2 percent surcharge, but not this local.

Lindamarie Rosier, Carmel

Editorial

The Carmel Pine Cone's Editorial page

The Carmel Pine Cone is a weekly newspaper serving Carmel-by-the-Sea, Carmel Valley, Carmel & Pebble Beach, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, Sand City, Monterey, Pacific Grove, California 93950. Mail: P.O. Box G-1, Carmel CA 93921. Email: mail@carmelpinecone.com or firstname@carmelpinecone.com. Telephone: (831) 274-8593. Fax: (831) 375-5018.

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Turkey was no longer his country, but Carmel is definitely home.

Nearly 20 years ago, a woman walked into Kocek Jewelers and presented owner Kirkor Kocek with a ring she wanted to sell. As he studied the handcrafted white-gold ring, admiring the intricate work and large oval opal, surrounded by 24 diamonds, his mind wandered back almost three decades before, when, at 23, he set those diamonds, one by one.

**Great Lives**

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

“I know this ring,” he said. “It enabled me to stay in the United States.”

“Then I can’t possibly sell this ring,” she said. “It has a story.”

Born Kirkor Kocekian in Istanbul, he is alive today only because of the fortitude of his parents and their family before them during a devastating era in Turkey. In 1915, his grandmother had handed all of her children but one to French soldiers, to save them during the Armenian genocide, while she escaped more easily with just her 2-year-old, Kocek’s mother.

Her father, after seeing his own parents slaughtered, had also escaped. Although shot during a devastating era in Turkey. In 1915, her mother explained the different brush strokes. She spent many after-school hours watching her mother paint as a teenager, and remember sitting in on lessons her mom gave to a cousin, but never really solicited instruction or advice for her own dabblings.

When she was 27, Gael and her mother went back to Japan for two weeks of tutoring from a master-screen-maker, and when she returned she began working at the Carmel Art Association. For some, it was more distracting than inspiring.”

Happy globetrotters

Linford Donovan had her own sense of adventure. When Gael was 8, she and her mother went to San Francisco and boarded a Norwegian freighter that took them to the South Seas. Gael remembers sleeping in a tiny bed the crew had constructed for her inside the ship’s cabin, and staring wide-eyed at the exotic places they visited: Tahiti, Tonga, Fiji, Western and Eastern Samoa, New Caledonia, and New Guinea.

John Donovan died young, but his wife’s philosophy, to anthropology, to languages.”

“I was into weaving, doll making, sculpture, photography, to anthropology, to languages,” she said. “I was into weaving, doll making, jewelry making … those kinds of things.”

She returned to their Carmel home off Rodeo Drive, graduated from Santa Catalina School in 1967, and enrolled at Willamette University in Salem, Ore., where she studied history and languages — not art.

“I loved history, and it also seemed to be the major that offered the widest variety of auxiliary courses — everything from philosophy, to anthropology, to languages,” she said. “I graduated in 1971, but I can’t really say I ever had a plan. I think people today are a lot more focused. My era was more … driftly.”

She evolved into an artist, she says, because that’s what the people she knew did. She spent many after-school hours watching her mother paint as a teenager, and remembers sitting in on lessons her mom gave to a cousin, but never really solicited instruction or advice for her own dabblings.

When she was 27, Gael and her mother went back to Japan for two weeks of tutoring from a master-screen-maker, and when she returned she began working at the Carmel Art Association. “I had been in and out of that place all through my childhood. They had a shortage of staff at the time, and I knew how to type, so that’s how it started,” she said. “It was 1978, and I had just started to think about painting, but I found it hard to focus on my own ideas while I was surrounded by everybody else’s work at the Art Association. For me, it was more distracting than inspiring.”

Donovan worked for Carmel Art Association herself in 2005 at age 56. “I juried into the Carmel Art Association until she died in 2003, just three days shy of her 97th birthday.”

Realistically, what chance did Gael Donovan have except to become an artist?”

Her mother, Linford Donovan, was a celebrated portrait painter, and a member of the Carmel Art Association until she died in 2003, just three days shy of her 97th birthday.

Linford and her husband, John, Gael’s father, had an eclectic and eccentric circle of friends — free-spirited folks — including well-known people from the art community like John Cunningham, Sam Colburn, Gerald Wasserman and Paul Mays. Another family friend, Gib Popov, had guarded the czar of Russia when he was 17. He fled during the revolution, and made his way to Alaska, where he survived by reciting poetry in bars for money.

“I think those kinds of people had a major influence on me as a child. I just thought they represented the normal world,” said Gael, who was juriied into the Carmel Art Association herself in 2005 at age 56. “I never even wondered about their eccentricities until I saw my friends’ families, who were more in the Ozzie and Harriett mold. I was more in the Ozzie and Harriet mold. And I remember thinking it was kind of odd that some people got in their cars in the morning and went to work. That seemed strange to me.”

**Following in her mother’s footsteps, if a bit reluctantly**

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KOCEK
From previous page

tered the late Ron Hentges, master jeweler and owner of the Gold Crucible, who was looking for an assistant. Kocek, who had no car, no place to stay and no English, offered his services.

Hentges said, "I'll find you an apartment, get you a car, and sign your immigration papers. Don't worry about your English. As long as we're in the jewelry business, we can communicate."

During his one-week trial, Kocek, who is known to friends as Kay and is much admired for his ebullient personality, opened his own jewelry store, Kocek Jewelers, which has become a landmark in Carmel. The store is located on San Carlos between Ocean and Seventh avenues.

"The more I worked, the better I got," he said. "Yet people would look at this young guy and ask for my boss. So, I grew a beard and became Mr. Kocek."

People introduced Kocek to their clients and friends. His reputation grew and, with it, his business.

Recognizing this, Kocek became determined to make a piece of significance, and in 1987 when Pope John Paul II visited Carmel to pay tribute to Junipero Serra, he got his chance. "My goal, in my lifetime," he said, "was to leave a museum piece, a legacy, an exceptional piece of significance. I took advantage of my opportunity and had three months to do it."

Kocek's tribute to the Pope was an 18k gold-and-silver cross in the pattern of the one on St. Serra's cenotaph at the mission, which he intended to present to His Holiness.

But church officials didn't let Kocek to approach the Pope when he visited the Carmel Mission, so Kocek offered to go to Rome. Following Mass at the Vatican, Kocek got his audience with Pope John Paul II, who placed his hand upon Kocek's.

"This moment will stay with me for the rest of my life," he said. "I was excited to be in his presence but also very comfortable. He knew I was Armenian, and he knew I was from Carmel. Later that evening, I was given five photographs depicting the moment."

The pictures hang on a wall inside his jewelry shop where, within days of his audience with the Pope, people began coming in, asking to touch his hand.

Kocek continued to make pieces of significance, including a replacement cufflink of the California Golden Bear to replace the one lost when President Reagan was shot. Kocek went on to make a pair for Governors George Deukmejian and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

During nearly 45 years in business, the former Rotary Club president and devoted philanthropist has created many exceptional pieces for many exceptional people. Yet he considers everyone who walks through his door exceptional.

"The minute you come in, I know who you are by the way you treat the people you're with," he said. "Despite the history of my family and what they went through, I believe life is beautiful."

Twenty years ago, a week after the woman who'd planned to sell her ring learned Kocek's story about her treasure, she returned to give Kocek the ring. "I haven't slept in a week," she said. "You should have it."

Kocek wasn't willing to accept the ring as a gift, but he did buy it from her. "I gave it to my young daughter and said, "This doesn't mean anything to you now, but it will.'"

Now, that ring surely does. To suggest someone for this column, email elaine@carmelpinecone.com.
Cemex expects to seamlessly continue to supply our customers with Marina site. The settlement establishes a maximum amount of sand that Cemex can remove during the three-year cessation period. It also gives Cemex another three years, without any sand extraction, so it can wind down all operations and allow for employee transitions, and perform restoration and reclamation activities to encourage wildlife habitat recovery.

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**Art Roundup**

By CHRIS COUNTS

**‘Greatest photographer of the nude’ gets show**

AN INFLUENTIAL San Francisco photographer who passed away a decade ago, Ruth Bernhard will be honored at a fundraising event Friday, Aug. 11, at the Center for Photographic Art.

“She was good friends with Edward Weston and Ansel Adams,” executive director Brian Taylor explained. “She had a very classical style and was most famous for her nudes and still lifes.”

Bernhard began photographing women in the nude in 1934, and the following year, she met Weston, who profoundly influenced her work. The couple created a bond that was easy to dance to and popular in both big cities and small towns.

“Her birthday parties were major social events in the San Francisco art scene, and since she lived to 101, there were many,” Taylor said. “Her birthday parties were major social events in the San Francisco art scene, and since she lived to 101, there were many.”

Founded in 1970 by a trio of musicians that included present-day frontman Ray Benson, Asleep at the Wheel has had 20 singles make the Billboard country charts over its 47-year career, including its biggest hit, “The Letter That Johnny Walker Read,” which peaked at No. 10 in 1975.

Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are $30 to $50. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 620-2048 or visit www.sunsetcenter.org.

**Ranch welcomes country duo**

Asleep at the Wheel isn’t the only country artist in town this week. The same evening, Aug. 12, singer-songwriters Jason Eady and Courtney Patton will perform at Carmel Valley Ranch in hands created a sound that was easy to dance to and popular.

Besides wine, food and Bernhard’s artwork, Saturday’s event will feature the screening of a documentary film about the FAMOUS FOR breathing new life into Western swing.

**Asleep swings at Sunset, music dinner debuts**

Asleep at the Wheel plays Aug. 12 at Sunset Center.

Ten-time Grammy Award winners, Asleep at the Wheel is credited with reviving Western swing, which had its heyday in California and Texas in the 1930s and 1940s. By combining elements of hillbilly music with jazz, swing and the following year, she met Weston, who profoundly influenced her work and convinced her that art and photography could be one and the same.

“I was unprepared for the experience of seeing his pictures for the first time,” Bernhard later recalled. “It was overwhelm-
From previous page
country,” Saturday at 7 p.m.); and C the Circus (alternative rock, Thursday at 7 p.m.). San Carlos and Seventh, (831) 626-3400.

Big Sur River Inn — Ton Faia and the Juice (rock, Sunday at 1 p.m.). On Highway 1 24 miles south of Carmel, (831) 667-2700.

Cafe Trieste in Monterey — Boscoe’s Brood (pop and rock, Friday at 6:30 p.m.); and singer-songwriter Lily Wilson (Saturday at 6:30 p.m.). 409 Alvarado St., (831) 372-6064.

Cannery Row Brewing Co. in Monterey — Two Peace (reggae and hip-hop, Saturday at 9 p.m.); and singer-songwriter Moshe Vliznky (Sunday at 4:30 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road, (831) 293-7500.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — singer Mayumi Abe, guitarist Bob Basa, bassist Joe Dolister and drummer David Morrow (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.); and The Steve Ezzo Band with saxophonist Paul Tarrantino, bassist Peter Lips and drummer David Morrow (Saturday at 7 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road, (831) 372-1234.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — The Jazz Trio featuring pianists Bob Phillips or Bill Spencer (jazz, in the lobby, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.); and The Dottie Dodgion Trio (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.); also, a bagpiper plays every evening at 5:45 p.m. 2700 17 Mile Drive, (831) 647-7500.

Julia’s vegetarian restaurant in Pacific Grove — singer-songwriter Buddy Comfort (Friday at 6:30 p.m.); and singer and guitarist Rick Chelow (Thursday at 6:30 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave., (831) 656-9533.

Mission Ranch — pianist Tom Gasineau (jazz, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m.); and singer and pianist Maddaline Edstrom (jazz and pop, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.); pianist David Kempton (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m.); and pianist Gennady Loktionov (jazz, Sunday at 10 a.m., Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St., (831) 625-9040.

Pierce Ranch Vineyards in Monterey — The Billy Jones Group (jazz, Sunday at 7 p.m.). 499 Wave St., (831) 372-8900.

The Sunset Lounge at Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer Neal Banks and guitarist Steve Ezzo (pop and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.); and singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive, (831) 620-1234.

Terry’s Lounge at Cypress Inn — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.); pianist Gennady Loktionov and singer Debbie Davis (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.); Andrea’s Fault (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.); pianist Gennady Loktionov (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.); singer Lee Durley and pianist Joe Indence (jazz and swing, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, (831) 624-3871.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — singer-songwriter Rose Merrill (Friday at 6 p.m.), and Grove Acre (rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place, (831) 298-7453.
WHILE THERE is no shortage of tantalizing automotive events throughout the Monterey Peninsula during Concours Week, and certainly no shortage of wonderful restaurants in the communities that host them, car fans seeking fine food and drink to go with their car ogling don’t actually have that many options at the venues. The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering has great food — but it’s practically impossible to get into at this late date. So if you’re a gourmet who’s also an expert on gearboxes, McCall’s Motorworks Revival could be your best bet — and it still has tickets available.

Held at the Monterey Jet Center Wednesday, Aug. 16, from 5 to 10 p.m., the party founded and organized by Gordon and Molly McCall showcases plenty of automotive finery, aircraft and jewelry — and draws a jet set that makes the people-watching top shelf. But the food and drink are among the best, too, and are included in the $395 ticket price.

“It’s going to be another wonderful, crazy night!” Gordon McCall said this week, adding that his 26th annual event promises “great cars, great food, and great entertainment.”

Running the show on the culinary side are Carmel Valley Ranch executive chef Tim Wood and Carmel Valley Market chef/owner Jerome Viel. Wood and Viel are McCall Motorworks Revival veterans used to preparing enough food to keep the event’s 3,000 or so guests happy. People can expect Wood’s cooking to take advantage of the area’s fresh seafood and seasonal produce, much of which is grown at the ranch. Viel offered a sneak peek at his ambitions plans for the night: California Caviar on blinis with creme fraiche and a shot of Absolut Elyx vodka, deviled eggs with roc and seaweed salad, shrimp and crab Louie salad on mini brioche, turmeric ginger melon soup, lamb and date meatball lollipops, coq au vin, and paella, which he’ll prepare in a huge pan over a burner.

“We will have a lot of other food — that was just a teaser!” Viel added.

And now this year, the crew from Affina restaurant in Carmel will provide some “late-night bites.” Bernardus Winery, a Revival mainstay from Carmel Valley, will be pouring again this year, as will boutique producers Ram’s Gate, Altamura and The Mascot, the creation of Will Harlan, son of Napa wine luminary Bill Harlan. The Harlans are avid motorcycle and car collectors, and plan to bring a piece from their collection, too. And Roederer Estate will provide bubbly for all. “Also, California Caviar is back, and we will be pouring copious amounts of El Jefe tequila, Warsteiner beers (famed for their support of international motorports racing), Suntory Whisky, and Golden Bear Bitters, along with lots of nonalcoholic choices as well,” McCall said.

He strives whenever possible to include local chefs and producers. El Jefe belongs to Surf N’ Sand owner Ryan Sanchez, and Golden Bear Bitters is the creation of Cachagua resident Katie Shea, who will make her Motorworks debut this year.

“There may be more, but this is what I know for now” McCall said Monday. For tickets and other event information, visit www.mccallevents.com.

■ Wines of summer

Chesebro Wines in Carmel Valley Village will hold a party Sunday, Aug. 13, to celebrate the arrival of several new releases — and to raise a toast to summer in general.

Three new wines and a new vintage of cider will be poured during the celebration, set for 4 to 6 p.m. in the tasting room at 19 E. Carmel Valley Road: the “brand-new, super-fresh” 2016 Grenache Rosé, the “one-of-a-kind” 2015 Grenache Blanc, and the 2015 Sauvignon Blanc. The highly anticipated 2016 Chesebro Cider is the latest vintage of dry, crisp, effervescent hard cider created and cultivated in the Basque tradition by Will Chesebro. (Mark Chesebro, a longtime grape grower and winemaker, is his dad, and the two collaborate on many of the wines.) The crew at Chesebro describes these four new releases as “absolutely perfect” for “days by the pool, at the beach or on the patio.”

Small bites will be served, too, and special pricing will be offered on the remaining 2015 Grenache Rosé and 2015 Albariño. www.chesebrowines.com.

Continues next page
From previous page

Happiness hour

Tony Tolley’s trio of restaurants — the Rio Grill at the Crossroads shopping center, Montrio in downtown Monterey, and Tarpy’s Roadhouse on Highway 68 at Canyon del Rey — has Happy Hour figured out. Each offers something different, but all three are generous with drinks and appetizers priced as well as they’re made.

At the Rio, Happy Hour takes place from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday through Friday, when all well liquors, Sangria, house wines and beers are $5, a few cocktails and margaritas are $6, and small plates run from $5 to $7. www.riotogrill.com

Montrio hosts Happy Hour seven days a week from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Well drinks, house wines and beers on tap are $5, High Spirits cocktails and Montrio margaritas are $6.50, and snacks are $4 to $6. Montrio’s lineup of Happy Hour cocktails is diverse and plentiful, as are the small bites. www.montrio.com.

Tarpy’s, meanwhile, has Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m., with $5 draft beers, well drinks and house wines, and bar bites priced at $5 to $9. www.tarpy’s.com.

Driver reception Friday

The folks at Cibo Ristorante Italiano at the foot of Alvarado Street in downtown Monterey have big plans to mark the arrival of a several dozen racecars on their front step Aug. 11, when the city hosts cars and drivers of a several dozen racecars on their front step. The cars will be there alongside Jon Kasky and Nancy Hammond is scheduled to present the wines, while the chef will prepare a five-course dinner that includes baked mussels, crostini with smoked salmon and goat cheese, and deep-fried vegetables (paired with Barrymore Pinot Grigio), lightly grilled romaine hearts with house dressing (Barrymore Rosé), gnocchi with cheese and tomato sauce (Unoaked Chardonnay), choice of sautéed prawns with pink sauce and spaghetti or mixed grilled meats with vegetables and potatoes (Pinot Noir), and almond hazelnut cake with sea salt caramel gelato (Panorama Vineyard Pinot Noir). The cost is $80 per person. To reserve, call (831) 622-5100.

Covey hosts Thai chef

The Covey Restaurant at Quail Lodge will welcome The Peninsula Chicago hotel’s executive sous chef, Anuwat Morakotjantachote (everyone calls him Chef Nu) for a special dinner Aug. 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. Chef Nu, who joined The Peninsula Chicago in 2004 and worked his way up the culinary ladder, specializes in Thai cuisine, and he plans to prepare a three-course menu for guests that evening.

After tucking into a Floating Market Sampler of green papaya salad, crispy noodles with spicy tamarind sauce, and pork satay with peanut sauce, guests will have a choice of deep fried sea bass with “sweet, spice and sour sauce,” chicken in green curry, or massaman curry: braised beef short rib in spice and sour sauce,” chicken in green curry, or massaman curry: braised beef short rib in

for our Wine & Cheese Pairing party

Rohan of Paradise Catering, also located in the Village and longtime participants in the fiesta. Plenty of Holman Ranch wine will be poured, of course, and guests will also get to dress up and mug it up in the photo booth, play games in the bar, have their palms and tarot cards read, and partake of other fun.

The cost is $60 per person ($70 per person the day of the party, if tickets are still available.

See FOOD next page
Pine Cone publisher talks newspaper survival at Henry Miller Library

With newspapers around the globe struggling to stay in business, Pine Cone publisher Paul Miller will present a talk about competing in the Internet Age Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Henry Miller Library in The Barnyard.

Titled “Newspapers: The Internet is Still Here, But So Are We,” Miller will discuss the Pine Cone’s strategy for fending off the media domination of companies like Facebook and Google.

Miller’s journalism career began with CBS News in the late 1970s. He bought The Pine Cone in 1997 and has been what he calls, “editor, publisher and chief lightbulb changer” ever since.

Two years ago, the newspaper celebrated its 100th anniversary.

The talk is free, and it starts at 5 p.m. The library is located above the Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Co. www.henrymiller.org.

The library recently opened in the Barnyard after being displaced from its Big Sur home by the closing of Highway 1.

“Fair Fun in the Summer of Love,” a kick-off barbecue will be held on the Payton Stage Lawn at the Monterey Fairgrounds Aug. 26 at 5 p.m.

The ‘60s Summer of Love Band will provide the tunes that serve as the backdrop for the event, which will include barbecue and passed appetizers, a no-host bar, and live, silent and dessert auctions.

Tickets are $30 each for adults, and $10 for kids 12 and under. The lawn can be reached by entering through Gate 5 on Fairground Road in Monterey. To purchase, visit montereycountyfair.com.
ART
From page 29A

artist, “Illuminations.” Photographer Michael Kenna will introduce the film.

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is $40 and includes a book about her work, “Gift of the Commonplace.”

The Center for Photographic Art is located in Sunset Center at San Carlos and Ninth. www.photography.org

The following day — Aug. 12 — Kenna will sign copies of his books and unveil a display of his images at Weston Gallery.

A native of England who is best known for his lengthy exposures of up to 10 hours, Kenna is the author or main subject of more than 20 books, and his work is featured in many of the world’s important collections — we’re excited to be able to introduce the film.

From page 29A

■ The fine art of racing helmets

With Car Week just days away, four artists — Bill Patterson, Truman Pollard, Patrick McDonnell and Chris Galligan — have turned racing helmets into canvases to benefit the SPCA for Monterey County.

Each one-of-a-kind work of art, the helmets will be auctioned online Aug. 17-24 at www.spmec.org/helmets. Patterson is the resident artist for Mazda Raceway, while Pollard is an art teacher in Orange County; McDonnell is the creator of the MUTTS comic strip, and Galligan has attained considerable success as a pet portrait artist.

The fundraiser marks a collaboration between the local SPCA, Mazda Motorsports and Sparco USA, a company that specializes in motor sport safety equipment and accessories.

“We’ve had so much fun working with the Mazda racing community for almost a decade now,” said SPCA spokesperson Beth Brookhouse. “Thanks to Sparco USA for donating the helmets and the four artists who donated their considerable talents. One hundred percent of the proceeds raised will benefit the ongoing work of the SPCA for Monterey County.”

■ New show at Pegasus, art walk returns

Painter Scott Jacobs unveils a new show in his Pegasus Collection gallery at Ocean and Lincoln.

Titled “The Start,” the display opens Thursday, Aug. 17. The exhibit features a mix of new and old pieces, including three recent paintings offering three different perspectives of Abraham Lincoln.

The gallery will be the site of a reception at 4 p.m. www.thepegasuscollection.com

Also this week, more than a dozen downtown artist-owned galleries — including Jacob’s — will stay open until 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, for this month’s Carmel Art Walk. The free event features artist demonstrations, live music, receptions and more. Maps are available at participating galleries. For more details, visit www.carmelartwalk.com.

■ Artists aid effort to empower girls

A Michigan painter with a lifelong affection for anything “that has wheels attached,” painter Thierry Thompson will be the subject of a month-long show at Light + Shadow Fine Art. The exhibits opens with a reception featuring wine and chocolates Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 5 p.m.

A fundraising auction will feature art by Thompson and jewelry by Anne Shull Fine Art Designs. Proceeds will benefit The Prancing Ponies Foundation, which seeks to empower young women by teaching them leadership skills.

The gallery is located on Sixth between Dolores and Lincoln. Call (831) 624-2090 or visit www.prancingponies.com.

■ Automotive photographer gets show

Also opening this week is weeklong show by photographer John Straub at Gallery by-the-Sea Carmel. Straub’s favorite subject, like so many who are in town this week, is cars.

The gallery will be the site of a reception Thursday, Aug. 1, at 1 p.m. The display continues through Aug. 24. The gallery is located on San Carlos between Fifth and Sixth. www.gallerybytheseacarmel.com
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Baby Rhinos started on Facebook and now has volunteers around the world, including the local chapter. Pires followed the group on the social media site before deciding she wanted an active role, except she had no idea how to make a blanket. Not a problem, she explains.

“After being part of their group for a month or two, I said ‘I guess I need to learn to knit,’” she said. “I probably started knitting in March, and to date have sent four of my completed blankets.”

The local group is composed of about 20 women, including Donna Lawson from Carmel Valley, who said members share their work and “inspire each other to continue knitting and crocheting.”

“As an animal lover, and a long time dedicated volunteer at the [Monterey County] SPCA Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, I am glad that I can do something creative that can help with the efforts to save baby rhinos,” said Lawson, who has hosted group meetings at her house.

Pires said the Shamwari Game Reserve in South Africa and the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya are two of the world’s 20 rhinos,” said Lawson, who has hosted group meetings at her house.

Pires said the Shamwari Game Reserve in South Africa and the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya are two of the world’s rhino populations. The blankets range in size from 24 inches squared to 46 by 60 inches for rhinos and 36 by 60 inches for elephants.

“Those are baby rhinos, and they sometimes make blankets for elephants and primates. The blankets are made from acrylic yarn because the material is easy to wash — go to southern white rhinoceroses. Pires’ involvement in the group has led her to plan a four-month trip to Africa in 2018 that includes a veterinary course in the bush and a stint with an anti-poaching unit.

The Facebook group’s work has expanded to other animals, and they sometimes make blankets for elephants and primates. The blankets range in size from 24 inches squared to 46 by 60 inches for rhinos and 36 by 60 inches for elephants.

“The smallest one is for baby chimp monkeys,” she said. “There was a call for that for a short time.”

The knitters have creative license to use whatever color yarn they like, which likely doesn’t matter to rhinos, who have notoriously poor eyesight. Most the blankets — which are made from acrylic yarn because the material is easy to wash — go to southern white rhinoceroses.

Pires’ involvement in the group has led her to plan a four-month trip to Africa in 2018 that includes a veterinary course in the bush and a stint with an anti-poaching unit.

These colorful blankets—to be given to orphaned rhinos in Africa—were made by a Monterey woman who didn’t even know how to knit a few months ago.
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Ferrari books all rooms in Pebble Beach’s new hotel, cottage project

By KELLY NIX

THE PEBBLE Beach Company will officially unveil its Fairway One project, a luxury development that adds 38 new guest rooms, meeting facilities and other amenities at The Lodge — and it’s already booked solid for Concours Week.

On Friday, the company plans a private grand opening of the project, which includes 30 “oversized” rooms in three two-story hotel buildings and eight rooms in two four-bedroom luxury cottages that front the First Fairway of the Pebble Beach Golf Links. The company kicked off construction of the project in April 2016.

“So many people have invested time and effort in creating Fairway One at the Lodge,” Pebble Beach Company executive vice president David Stivers told The Pine Cone Tuesday. “We are just thrilled it’s now done and has turned out so great.”

The development offers “an enhanced guest room experience with oversized accommodations, a greater sense of privacy and unparalleled personalized service, all featuring spectacular ocean, garden and golf course views,” according to promotional materials.

Prices per night range from $915 for a garden view room to $6,460 for a four-bedroom cottage suite. Stivers said there’s been strong interest in the new project and that it’s already sold out to Ferrari, which is hosting its 70th Anniversary Concours on the First Fairway of the Pebble Beach Golf Links during Concours Week.

“It’s a cool way to kick off the Fairway One project,” Stivers said.

The golf cottages, a first for Pebble Beach, have 1,000-square-foot living rooms, two king bedrooms, two queen/queen bedrooms, outdoor terraces with fire pits, HDTVs, wet bars, and “furniture in groupings that encourage a communal experience.”

The cottages are suitably named “Eastwood” and “Palmer.”

“We are excited about that because they are two important and iconic individuals who have been involved in the Pebble Beach Company for a long time,” said Stivers about Clint Eastwood and late golf legend Arnold Palmer. Both were part of the investment group which purchased the Pebble Beach Company from its Japanese owners in 1999.

On the “arrival court” of Fairway One is the new meeting facility, which the Pebble Beach Company said can be used for events from business gatherings to weddings to social get-togethers. The largest meeting room is 2,500 square feet and has a capacity of 225 people and unobstructed views of the First Fairway. There are several other meeting rooms, with capacities from 26 to 250.

The Pebble Beach Company is also renovating its other resorts. It will begin the third phase of The Lodge’s renovation in September, with a completion date before the June 2019 U.S. Open.

A remodel at the Inn at Spanish Bay will be done early that year, too, and Casa Palmero will undergo an update as early as December, Stivers said.
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