Developer pulls project after height complaints

By KELLY NIX

A 40,000-square-foot building proposed for Lighthouse Avenue that would have featured market-rate townhomes, affordable housing, a restaurant and retail shops was withdrawn last week by the developer even though city officials liked it, the Pacific Grove economic development director told The Pine Cone. And if the developer decides to submit a revised application after height complaints—"the world’s first humanoid robot that can move naturally, avoid obstacles, identify sounds, and render interpretations," the plea reads. "With natural body language and magnetism, Pepper is guaranteed to charm your customers.

SoftBank also claims Pepper "is the world’s first robot to get the robot in time for this year’s holiday season. “We would be incredibly grateful for your help in giving Pepper a new home,” they said.

See DEVELOPER page 18A

Bomb scare shuts library

By MARY SCHLEY

THE PERSON who left a well-worn leather briefcase containing self-help cassette and VHS tapes on the library’s front steps Monday morning no doubt thought he was doing a good deed, but the bag looked suspicious enough that it prompted police to shut down the library and call in the bomb squad.

The bag had been left by the front door before Harrison Memorial Library opened for the day, and when it was still there several hours later, a patron pointed it out to one of the employees, who notified police, according to Sgt. Ron Pfieger.

Pfieger and officer Mike Bruno responded to check out the large leather briefcase but decided opening it wouldn’t be worth the risk, so they evacuated the library, strung police tape along the bordering sidewalks of Lincoln Street and Ocean Avenue, and blocked off Lincoln with their patrol cars while awaiting the arrival of the Monterey County Sheriff’s Bomb Squad. While a Monterey Fire division chief suggested expanding the evacuation area to include businesses on Lincoln and part of Pacific Grove avenues.

See SCARE page 17A

Divided commission scuttles shop’s plans to rent bikes

By MARY SCHLEY

A SPLIT planning commission rejected a couple’s request Wednesday to rent bicycles at their new shop, Mad Dogs & Englishmen, located on Mission Street south of Ocean Avenue. While the bulk of their business would focus on sales of bikes and related gear, Jennifer Bleivins and Martin Watson had wanted to rent 20 conventional and electric-assist bicycles at their store, but two planning commissioners decided the city is simply too dangerous to turn tourists loose on bikes.

The bike shop is located near the city’s designated bike route on San Carlos Street, and the owners plan to carry several premium American and European brands and styles of bicycles ranging in price from $500 to $8,000. Mad Dogs would be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the summer season, with shorter hours in the winter.

Nobody else rents

While most of the business would focus on sales and service, Bleivins and Watson proposed renting out a small number of bicycles. Several other area shops, though none in Carmel-by-the-Sea, rent bikes to visitors, they noted.

Senior planner Marnie Waffie recommended commissioners approve the business, including the rentals.

“T’m Pepper. Welcome to Carmel.’

■ Chamber raising $25K for robot

By MARY SCHLEY

AMID THE pleas on GoFundMe.com for money to help families dealing with cancer and people injured in brutal accidents is a $25,000 wish by the Carmel Chamber of Commerce to buy a robot to greet people at the visitor center at Carmel Plaza.

“The Carmel Visitor Center wants to bring Pepper the Robot to Carmel to be our Official Carmel ConCierge. She’s smart, fun, and programmable for visitors of all ages and cultures,” the plea reads.

According to SoftBank Robotics, Pepper “reads your emotions by analyzing voice, facial expressions, and vocabulary,” and uses the data “to learn over time.” Pepper’s friendly personality makes it easy to love,” the company says. “With natural body language and magnetism, Pepper is guaranteed to charm your customers.

SoftBank also claims Pepper “is the world’s first humanoid robot that can move naturally, avoid obstacles, identify sounds, and render interpretations.”

Finally, the robot can take advantage of “new apps and innovations to improve the Pepper experience.”

Chamber officials want to raise enough money to get the robot in time for this year’s holiday season. “We would be incredibly grateful for your help in giving Pepper a new home,” they said.

See BIKES page 17A

Bar fight over a girl, conspiracy or both?

By MARY SCHLEY

WHEN NEWS broke last week of an investigation into an alleged conspiracy in which a Salinas man was paid $100 to start a fight with Mayor Steve Dallas at Mission Ranch so that photographers could photograph the incident to make Dallas look like a drunken brawler, Monterey Peninsula resident Kelley Taylor asked whether if city attorney Gino Mogrenzo was referring to a run-in that included her and another man.

“I can’t imagine Steve Dallas was involved in more than one bar brawl at Mission Ranch,” Taylor told The Pine Cone this week. And if it is the same incident, “there’s been some sort of weird misunderstandings,” she said.

During the AT&T Pro-Am week more than a year ago, Taylor was at Mission Ranch with a date, David Petersen, and they were dancing, she recalled. Dallas was there, too, and she said she knew he had recently broken up with his fiancée.

“When we came off the dance floor, Steve grabbed my arm, and was saying, ‘I want you to meet these guys, I want you to meet these guys,’” she said.

“Steve walked over and grabbed her by the hand and then yanked her in his direction like a drunken brawler,” said Petersen, who lives in Omaha, Neb.

“Don’t let that slide”

At that moment, a shoving match ensued between the two men. “When someone disrespects a lady, you don’t let that slide — you confront him,” Petersen said.

But when he did, Dallas “immediately turned, got me by my throat, and pushed me back up against the wall,” said Petersen to Peter- son. He said he pushed Dallas’ hands away, but the mayor again took him by the throat. Other than that, Petersen claimed he did not touch Dallas. The confrontation ended when onlookers separated them.

Petersen said he didn’t report the altercation to police, thinking that all involved were probably intoxicated and might end up in jail.

“At the time, after hearing about the alleged fight, Pine Cone reporter Kelley Nix asked Dallas what had happened at the bar, but the mayor told him “nothing,” and denied being escorted out of the bar.

Dallas also told Nix, “People like starting problems, that’s why I have security with me all the time.”

When asked about the security, Dallas said they’re “his buddies.”

On Thursday, Dallas confirmed the incident happened, and said, “I downplayed the attack against me at the time and didn’t realize the significance of it. I did not know who the assailant was. I was just lucky there was private security guy who intervened and whisked me away.”

Didn’t talk to investigator

A few months ago, after sexual-harassment allegations were made against the mayor, Petersen and Taylor could have told the investigator about the run-in, but didn’t.

“David and I both declined to talk to the investigator about this particular incident, because I didn’t feel it had to do any-...
Buddy is a first-generation goldendoodle, the product of a white standard poodle and a copper-colored golden retriever. Now 14, he’s spent his years enjoying his San Francisco and Carmel communities.

If Buddy ever got loose from his home near the Forest Theater, his family would find him at one of two places: The Cheese Shop or Carmel Beach. When his person visits Carmel Plaza with Buddy, he pulls against his leash toward the enticing aroma of cheese.

“Buddy has the food drive of a retriever,” his person said. “He’s stolen a lot of things off counters. I once made hors d’oeuvres and came downstairs to find them completely gone. My husband bought a half pound of cheese from The Cheese Shop, and Buddy ate the whole thing.”

When Buddy’s person takes him to Carmel Beach, they take a very fast walk down to the sand, and a very slow walk back up the hill.

“Buddy never wants to leave the beach,” his person said. “He loves to chase after balls, run along the shore, swim in the shallows, and explore. When he found a dead sea lion washed up on shore, he climbed all over it, fascinated. ‘That’s a real dog’s dog,’ said a man walking by with his German shepherd.”

Buddy and his person tend to head to the beach early in the morning, when people are scarce — since he’s never met a picnic to which he thought he wasn’t invited.

“Buddy’s extremely social and smart. I grew up with a standard poodle, and I think it’s the poodle in him,” his person said. “He understands a lot of words and always contributes to the conversation and the decision. He’s a fantastic presence in our lives, a really special dog and so much fun.”

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A CARMEL man who allegedly hit a pedestrian with his Porsche — twice — stuck his tongue out at the victim, and then drove away is set to be arraigned in Monterey County Superior Court March 21 on felony hit-and-run and assault-with-a-deadly-weapon charges.

But the night of the collision, the driver, Rob Budden, went to the police department to claim he, in fact, had been the victim of an assault, according to Carmel Police Cmdr. Luke Powell.

The man who reported the hit-and-run to police on Feb. 17 shortly before 6 p.m. said he had been helping his wife into their car on Mission near Ocean when he was struck by a passing car.

The man, whose identity has not been made public, then “yelled out to the driver of the Porsche, ‘Hey stop!’ and ‘What are you doing?’” Powell said. “The driver yelled out the window in response, ‘Get out of the middle of the road, asshole!’” and kept driving. The man who was struck told police it was a white Porsche with California license plate number 7CIG742.

“I’m calling police”

The driver, later identified as Budden, age 69, got slowed by traffic at the Ocean Avenue intersection, which allowed the other man, who had chased after him, to catch up to the car. The man used his cell phone to photograph the car’s rear license plate, and to video record his conversation with the driver.

“He said, ‘Hey, you just hit me, I’m calling police,’” Powell said. “The driver’s response was to stick his tongue out” before repeating that the man had been “in the middle of the street.”

The man then stood in front of the Porsche to try to stop Budden from leaving again, but Budden kept nudging the car forward, according to Powell. The man realized Budden wasn’t going to stop and had started to step out of the way when “the driver of the Porsche accelerated into the victim,” Powell said, striking his left side and “causing him to roll over the left front corner of the hood.”

In addition to obtaining the victim’s account, the photos and video, another Carmel police officer located seven witnesses and took their statements, according to Powell.

Monterey Fire and Carmel Fire Ambulance personnel treated the twice-struck man at the scene, after which he chose to have family members to take him to Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, police said.

He said, he said

From all the information, police were able to identify the car owner and possible driver as Budden, who subsequently walked into the station with his wife shortly after 7:30 p.m. to report he was the victim of an assault on Mission Street after he tried to squeeze his car past a person in the street and an oncoming vehicle, Powell said.

According to Budden’s story, the man he’d accidentally hit “screamed obscenities and acted extremely hostile,” while another man approached from the other side and yelled at him as well. He was afraid, so he tried to drive away, but one of them punched him in the mouth, giving him a bloody lip. He then got away and parked so he could tend to his injury, he reportedly told police. Budden denied hitting anyone with his car.

When asked why he waited two hours to report the altercation, Budden told police he was “pretty shaken up,” and that it took him a while to calm down, Powell said.

He and his wife had gone to dinner at a nearby restaurant before arriving at the station, according to police. Officers searched Budden’s Porsche and the area around it, and while they found no evidence of his injury, they discovered marks on the car that corroborated the other man’s account, according to Powell.

As a result, Budden was arrested for hit-and-run causing injury and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, and was booked and posted bail. The Monterey County District Attorney’s Office filed the felony case against him March 14, and he’s set to be arraigned March 21.
What was he doing on a mountain?

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, February 26**

**Carmel Valley**

Deputies responded to a report of a burglary on Canyon Lane. A 38-year-old male was arrested. Victim was a 46-year-old male.

**Tuesday, February 27**

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**

A report was taken at Dolores and Ocean for a last driver’s license.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**

A wallet left behind at a business on Ocean west of San Carlos was turned over to the police department for safekeeping pending owner notification.

**Pacific Grove**

Evidence of a hit-and-run was found on San Carlos Street by Crocker. No suspect information.

**Pacific Grove**

Injurious accident on Sycamore. Vehicle towed from the scene.

**Pacific Grove**

Theft of boots on Central Avenue. No suspect information.

**Carmel Valley**

Unknown person(s) burglarized several vehicles and carports in the area of Calle Querida.

**Carmel Valley**

A truck on Village Drive was stripped of its rims, tires and doors while the keys were left in the ignition.

**Carmel Valley**

A 38-year-old male on Tassajara Road reported that social media accounts had been hacked. Suspect identified as a 32-year-old female.

**Carmel Valley**

Deputies conducted a welfare check on a 62-year-old male.

**Carmel Valley**

Burglary on Ryan Place.

**Wednesday, February 28**

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**

Traffic stop conducted at Pico and Santa Fe at 0008 hours for vehicle code violations. Driver, a 22-year-old female dog trainer, was arrested for DUI.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**

Dog found running in the area of Ocean Avenue and Junipero and brought to the station for safekeeping. Dog was subsequently returned to its owner.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**

A loose dog was found in the business district at San Carlos and Ocean and was brought to the station for safekeeping. The dog owner shortly after came to the station, and the dog was returned with a warning.

**Pacific Grove**

A male and a female were contacted on the beach at approximately midnight. Both were under the age of 21 and had alcohol in their possession. The male was cited for the alcohol, and both parties were picked up by sober drivers.

**Pacific Grove**

Burglary on Fountain. No leads at this time.

**Pacific Grove**

Business reported that someone passed a check which was later determined to be fraudulent and related to a previous burglary case.

**Pacific Grove**

Unknown person(s) used the citizen’s identity to open multiple bank/credit card accounts in her name. The woman, a 17 Mile Drive resident, requested a case number only for restoring credit and did not request further investigation.

See **POLICE LOG page 14RE** in the Real Estate Section.

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**The gavel falls**

Verdicts, pleas and sentencings announced by the Monterey County District Attorney

**Dec. 8** — Ernesto Hernandez, 30, of Sole-dad, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for the first degree murder of 19-year-old Abigail Gasca-Chavez, the mother of his child.

In October, a jury found Hernandez guilty of murder and residential burglary with use of a firearm. The jury also found true the special allegation that Hernandez committed the murder while lying in wait, which made him eligible for a sentence of life without the possibility of parole. Hernandez has two prior strike convictions from 2005 for attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon. The jury’s verdict followed a two-and-a-half week trial before the Honorable Pamela L. Butler.

On the afternoon of March 29, 2016, family members found Abigail Gasca-Chavez, age 19, dead in her home from seven gunshot wounds to her head and face. Evidence from home surveillance cameras throughout Greenfield showed Hernandez pursuing Gasca-Chavez by car during the morning, and then caught Hernandez confronting the victim outside her home.

Video later showed him driving past her house when Gasca-Chavez was gone and enter-

ing through an unlocked door, where he wait-

ed approximately 16 minutes until she and her 2-year-old entered the house.

Less than a minute later, he ran from the home. Family members discovered her body approximately 25 minutes later after a neighbor found her child alone and crying outside.

That same day phone call and video evidence demonstrated that Hernandez left Monterey County Courthouse and drove to a bus station in Los Ange-

les, where he left his car and bought a one-way ticket to McAllen, Texas. From there, he crossed into Mexico, where he was later arrested and de-

ported to the United States to face charges.

The case was investigated by the Greenfield Police Department, the Monterey County Dis-


tict Attorney’s Office, and the United States Marshals Gulf Coast Violent Offenders and Fu-

tigative Task Force.

**Dec. 12** — Julian Rangel Gasca, 30, a resi-

dent of Salinas, was sentenced by Judge Carrie M. Puttock to 13 years and four months for a sentence of life without the possibility of parole for a third.

On August 19, 2017, police officers set up a surveillance on an address associated with Gasca. Gasca was captured on video tape wearing dis-


crative attire, attempting to rob a third.

Finally, on August 15, 2016, Gasca attempt-

ed to rob an Alliance Gas Station located in the City of Monterey, however, he was unable to take any money from the store, because he could not get the cash register to open. Gasca was again captured on video tape wearing dis-


crative clothing that matched the previous rob-

bbery in Greenfield. Gasca again demanded mon-

ey from the clerk on duty and he took $1,400 from the store.

On August 6, 2016, Gasca turned his sights to another Valero Station located in Gonzalez. Gasca was captured on video tape wearing dis-


crative clothing that matched the previous rob-

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ey from the clerk on duty and he took $1,400 from the store.
DeepWater says study shows open ocean intake won't hurt sea life

By KELLY NIX

The company proposing to build a desalination plant in Moss Landing has released the findings of a study it says confirms that the seawater intake technology it wants to employ for the plant would have little impact on marine life.

DeepWater Desal wants to use screened seawater intakes located at a depth of 130 feet to draw in ocean water that would then be treated to drinking-water standards. The technology it wants to employ for the plant would have little impact on marine life, unlike traditional open-ocean intakes, the company says.

While the California Coastal Commission, Surfrider and other environmental groups have raised concerns about open-ocean intakes, DeepWater, the company that wants to build the plant, disagrees. The company also disagrees with a recent report by the Monterey County Coastal Riverkeeper that concludes that hunters would have difficulty finding and hunting sport fish in the water near the plant.

“We continue to believe science is the basis for an environmentally responsible project,” DeepWater general manager Kim Adamson said. “While the California Coastal Commission, Surfrider and other environmental groups don’t want to see any more intakes placed in the Pacific Ocean, DeepWater maintains its proposal is superior than intakes that have been proposed in the past. The Cal Am proposal is superior than intakes that have been proposed in the past. DeepWater hopes to produce 25,000 acre-feet of potable water per year.”

Research conducted by Tenera Environmental Group, a water testing agency, concludes that sea life wouldn’t be significantly affected by the intakes, largely because of where they’re positioned. “At 130 feet in the ocean, it’s not dark, but it’s not conducive to providing food-chain items that life depends on,” Armanasco told The Carmel Pine Cone. “That is why we have located the intake at that depth.”

The study, performed by consultant Tenera Environmental Group, is part of a much larger review that will be used to evaluate potential environmental impacts of DeepWater’s proposal, officially called the Monterey Bay Regional Water Project.

The company contracted with a firm that used a remote-control underwater vehicle to survey the habitat. The vehicle didn’t detect any rocky reef habitat that might support “diverse or abundant communities of organisms” that could be harmed by the desal technology, according to Armanasco.

“We continue to believe science is the basis for an environmentally responsible project,” DeepWater general manager Kim Adamson said.

While the California Coastal Commission, Surfrider and other environmental groups don’t want to see any more intakes placed in the Pacific Ocean, DeepWater maintains its proposal is superior than intakes that have been commonly used at power plants and other facilities up and down the coast.

DeepWater hopes to produce 25,000 acre-feet of potable water per year. Armanasco said the water would be much less expensive than other water-supply proposals, such as California American Water’s proposed desal plant in Marina, where slant wells that draw water from sand beneath the ocean floor will be utilized instead of open-ocean intakes. The Cal Am slant wells were installed at the insistence of the coastal commission and other regulatory agencies.

“We have the water down to $2,000 an acre-foot,” Armanasco said. The estimate is about $500 less than DeepWater had previously figured.

Bowl-a-thon to fight breast cancer

THE BREAST CANCER Assistance Group and Pacific Grove High School are collaborating on the 16th Annual Bowl-a-Thon to help victims of breast cancer and their families.

The event is held in memory of Isabelle McKay Giacolone, a PGHS graduate and mother of two young children when she died of breast cancer.

Bowlers can form their own teams of up to six players, or join one. The $50-per-person fee covers two games, shoe rental and lunch. Individuals, teams or businesses who would like to sponsor a lane for $250 will have a 4-foot banner displayed above the lane.

Players 18 and up will also be eligible for the Pink Pin Strike Contest, which offers a chance to win $500.

Organizers are seeking items for the silent auction and raffle, and donations are being accepted at the PGHS office, 615 Sunset Drive. The auction and raffle will include “retired” bowling pins that have been decorated by students from local high schools.

To register, visit www.bowlathon.net/event/breast-cancer-assistance-group-2018.
Council OKs $2.2 million paving contract for Ocean Ave., numerous others

By MARY SCHLEY

CITY COUNCIL members had differing opinions on how extensive a proposed city repaving project should be, but in the end voted to go for it all.

At its March 6 meeting, the council approved a $2,180,000 contract with Monterey Peninsula Engineering to repave sections of 16 streets, as well as part of Ocean Avenue.

Public works director Bob Harary presented the package of projects, explaining that contractors had been invited to submit proposals for the “base bid,” which includes the 10 streets in most dire need of repaving, as well as “additive 2,” an additional five streets in need of repair.

“We got four responsive and responsible bids,” Harary said. “That’s an awesome thing that doesn’t happen very often.”

Monterey Peninsula Engineering, Granite, Teichert Construction, and Graniterock submitted bids ranging from $1,981,820 to $2,711,295.

The first phase of repaving includes projects:

- First Avenue between Lincoln and Mission;
- Fifth between Monte Verde and Dolores;
- segments of Sixth;
- Eighth between Scenic and Carmelo, and between Forest and the city limits;
- Dolores between Santa Lucia and Francisco Way;
- Mountain View between Torres and Forest;
- Oak Knoll Way between Forest and the city limits; and
- Scenic between Eighth and 11th, and The other extreme is to reject all bids, and go for it all.

The second stage would be Ocean Avenue, followed by five additional streets, including Second between Lincoln and Mission, 12th between Monte Verde and San Carlos, 13th between Camino Real and Monte Verde, Rio between Junipero and Santa Lucia, and San Carlos between 13th and Santa Lucia.

There will also be a “safety project” in the cul-de-sac at Lincoln and Third, where residents have complained about drivers entering the dead-end street too quickly.

“Going for it”

“Staff is recommending everything,” Harary told the council. “We have some catching up to do, and this is the mechanism to do it.”

Awarding the full contract with all three components would require $865,600 from Measure D sales tax reserves, leaving a balance of $1,314,400. Voters approved Measure D, a 1 percent increase in sales tax in the city, in 2012, in large part to pay for capital projects.

Harary noted some other work planned for the year will probably require reserve funds, too.

Alternatively, approving the base bid and the Ocean Avenue work would require $387,810 from reserves, and doing the base plus the additional five streets would need $99,718 from reserves. Doing just the base bid wouldn’t require any draw from savings.

“The other extreme is to reject all bids, and then I’ll cry and be very sad,” he said.

Residents Georgina Armstrong and Barbara Livingston urged the council to do the paving work, with Livingston also seeking assurance the contractor would honor Carmel’s age-old standards for “handmade roads” with berms that are “hand rolled.”

Ben Beesley from the Carmel Chamber of Commerce said the group’s new government affairs committee supports any city efforts “to identify and properly implement necessary projects that will enhance quality of life for residents who live within the city limits and will also best serve the shops, galleries, service retailers, inns and restaurants located along Ocean Avenue and throughout Carmel-by-the-Sea and all customers, locals and visitors alike, who utilize them.”

Mayor Steve Dallas said he wanted to repave the 15 street segments but delay Ocean Avenue, because that would draw less from reserves, leaving more funds for other projects like drainage repairs and the expansion of the police station. He also wasn’t sure how the new ADA-required sidewalk ramps would look.

And councilwoman Carolyn Hardy said taking $865,000 from reserves “makes me nervous.”

“I’m a little gun shy to pull the trigger on all of this,” she said, and would therefore support putting off the Ocean Avenue repairs.

But councilman Bobby Richards said he would vote for doing it all, “because it gets so much more expensive to repair” when the work is delayed. “And I don’t want to make Bob sad,” he added.

Convinced, Hardy made a motion to approve all of the work, and the council, by a vote of 6-1, approved the $2.18 million contract with Monterey Peninsula Engineering.

“You’re right: Measure D is meant for just this kind of project,” she said, and the rest of the council unanimously agreed.

- Mary Dallas

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PGPD support group offers $1,000 for info on shooting threats

March 16, 2018

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

MESSAGES SCRIBBLED in question-able English in the girls’ bathroom at Pacific Grove High School threatening a shooting on “Walkout Wednesday” were found last week, and police so far have been unable to identify the culprit.

Hoping to change that, on Friday, the Pacific Grove Police Department announced a $1,000 reward “for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for the threats terrorizing our community.”

The messages read, “Imma shoot up this school just wait on it… my shooter, he already got a plan,” and “bang bang like Florida on #walkoutday.”

While the investigation is ongoing, PGPD officials said they “continue to hear from par- ents their children are afraid to attend school due to the threats.”

“We know once the responsible person(s) are located, a sense of security and safety will be restored on the campus,” police said.

Chief Amy Christey said she is certain someone knows the identity of the writer of the threats, and is hopeful the person will come forward with the critical information.

To provide information, call (831) 648-3143, email pgpdrecords@cityofpacificgrove.org, or call the anonymous tip line at (831) 648-3159.

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City prevails in lawsuit over farmers market

By KELLY NIX

THE BAKER from Stanislaus County who sued the City of Carmel in 2014 for its rules prohibiting out-of-town business owners from selling their wares at the city’s farmers market has lost his case.

Gerit Sand, whose business, Cobblestone Bakery, is based in Stanislaus County, sued Carmel for allegedly violating an oral contract he had with the organizer of the market that he could participate, despite the city’s policy that only vendors from Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties could offer goods for sale.

But Cobblestone and Sand lost the case Feb. 23 when Monterey County Superior Court Judge Susan J. Matcham, at the request of Carmel attorney Rachel Ostrander, granted the city summary judgment — a ruling issued prior to trial.

Sand, who sold his baked goods at the market at Sixth and Mission before the city changed its policy for out-of-town vendors, claimed the city discriminated against him and his business in favor of local businesses, and he lost sales revenue as a result. He said he had a verbal agreement with the West Coast Farmers Market Association — the company that formerly contracted with Carmel to operate the market — to sell there. He paid a $50 fee to the market to rent a space each week, plus a $741 one-time fee to the Monterey County Health Department for a health permit.

However, Matcham concluded that an individual cannot make an oral contract with a municipality.

Other changes the council made to the farmers market included banning crafts and changing its operating hours, but it revised the policy a few months later to allow vendors from outside the Monterey Bay area, with the caveat that preference be given to vendors from the three nearest counties.

Sand was seeking an unspecified amount in damages exceeding $25,000 and a court order barring Carmel from excluding outside vendors at the market. His attorney, Lindsey Berg-James with Salinas law firm Noland Hamerly Etienne & Hoss, did not return a message seeking comment.

Cellist plays benefit for storm-damaged Deetjen’s

By CHRIS COUNTS

ONE YEAR after winter storms badly damaged Deetjen’s Big Sur Inn, a prize-winning cellist will perform a benefit concert to raise money for the popular getaway down the coast.

A soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and professor at the prestigious Royal Academy of the Arts in London, Colin Carr will play the music of Johann Sebastian Bach March 22 at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley.

The choice of classic music for the fundraiser is not surprising. The inn’s founder, Helmuth Deetjen, loved classical music — and in particular, Bach. As a tribute to Deetjen, the inn exclusively plays classical music for its guests.

The money raised from the event will help prepare the property for reconstruction.

Heavy rains in February 2017 triggered mudslides and downed redwoods that destroyed several of the inn’s guest cottages, and caused extensive damage to the inn’s access road.

“There’s lots of work to do,” Deetjen’s general manager Matt Glazer told The Pine Cone. “We’re still in the final stages of cleanup, and we haven’t broken ground on construction.”

The inn reopened in September, but the loss of the cottages, along with being closed for more than six months, has put a serious dent in its coffers. The inn operates as a nonprofit.

Titled “Deetjen’s Best: Bach and Buffet,” the fundraiser starts at 6 p.m. Carr will perform at 6:30 p.m., and a dinner prepared by Chef Domingo Santamaria will be served at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are $125. Hidden Valley is located at Carmel Valley Ford roads. www.brownpapertickets.com.
Unmarked intersections pose unusual hazards

By KELLY NIX

It was 1:30 a.m. in Pacific Grove, few cars were on the road, and yet drivers of two vehicles entering the intersection of Cedar and Short streets — neither of which have stop or yield signs — happened to be at same place at the same time, and boom: a Toyota pickup truck slammed hard into a Volkswagen sedan.

The pickup T-boned the side of the VW, but the young female driver’s side airbag deployed, and neither she nor her friend were injured. Police said alcohol and drugs weren’t to blame for the March 7 accident, which also left the driver of the Toyota driver uninjured.

But the collision brings up the question of what drivers should do at unmarked four-way intersections — of which there are many in Pacific Grove where two cars proceeding at the speed limit can easily find themselves in a dangerous collision.

While Pacific Grove police maintain that vehicles traveling on the city’s “larger” streets have the right of way, most residents — and certainly out-of-towners — would have no way of knowing which streets those are.

However, the Department of Motor Vehicles is clear on what drivers must do at unmarked intersections, such as Cedar and Short.

“At intersections without ‘STOP’ or ‘YIELD’ signs, slow down and be ready to stop,” the DMV states. “Yield to traffic and pedestrians already in the intersection or just entering the intersection. Also, yield to the vehicle or bicycle that arrives first, or to the vehicle or bicycle on your right if it reaches the intersection at the same time as you.”

The state agency, in its general right-of-way rules, offers another important guideline.

“Never assume other drivers will give you the right of way,” the DMV contends. “Yield your right of way when it helps to prevent collisions.”

Pacific Grove Police Cmdr. Rory Lakind agreed.

“Everyone has to be cautious whenever they’re approaching an intersection,” he said.

See HAZARD page 15A
Mobile home park residents sue Marina Coast over ‘excessive’ water fees

By KELLY NIX

A MOBILE home park at Fort Ord and three of its residents have filed a lawsuit alleging that the Marina Coast Water District for years has overcharged hundreds of water users.

In a complaint filed in Monterey County Superior Court against Marina Coast and its board of directors, Bay View Community residents Bryan Taylor, Greg Carter and Brooke Bilyeu allege that the water agency has excessively charged the park and its residents, sometimes doubling the fees. The mobile home park has 223 units and more than 500 residents.

“The Marina Coast Water District unlawfully requires Bay View and Bay View residents to overpay for water,” the lawsuit, filed by attorney Andy Swartz, alleges.

In 2001, after the U.S. Army transferred Fort Ord land to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, the agency selected Marina Coast to provide water to the mobile home park. According to the agreement, Bay View residents were to be charged the same as other users for similar services, the suit says.

However, the complaint contends that Marina Coast is unfairly charging them for “non-revenue water” — water that is naturally lost in a water system — even though the Marina water agency already recovers its losses in its rates, which amounts to double charging.

Bay View and its residents “have been financially harmed by [this] unlawful double recovery of charges,” the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit also contends that state law requires public water agencies to calculate “the actual costs of providing water service,” including tiered rates which increase with the amount of water consumed.

“While Marina Coast Water District has a three-tier rate structure, it did not even attempt to calculate the cost of providing water service at each tier level,” according to the suit.

Instead, the residents say that the Marina water agency established tiers on “predetermined usage budgets.”

The lawsuit says Marina Coast hasn’t justified its tiered rates, which Bay View says makes the rates illegal.

In September, Bay View got a tax bill from Monterey County that included a $464,824 tax lien “for being ‘delinquent’ in paying its water bills, which has damaged the mobile home park, according to the complaint.

Monterey County is also named as a defendant “because of a court of appeal decision that requires it to be a necessary party,” Swartz told The Pine Cone.

Bay View is seeking, in part, a court order directing Marina Coast to rescind the “unlawful” charges and refund water charges that Bay View paid in excess. It also wants to a judge to declare that the water agency’s tiered rates are invalid.

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City tries to discourage pedestrians from pathfinding Ocean Ave medians

By MARY SCHLEY

FOR DECADES, pedestrians have been cutting through the five little midblock pathways in Ocean Avenue’s center median, a couple of weeks ago, city officials declared that their taxes if they didn’t agree with the decisions made by those governments? If this were done there would be a total collapse. Now you know why unions are being single out!

Dear Editor,

With regard to “Panetta, Monning & Stone criticize DOJ lawsuit” (March 2). These officials are simply pandering to their constituents by demonizing the DOJ and claiming that illegal immigrants are afraid to cooperate with law enforcement — a claim that is completely unsubstantiated since the data regarding a crime-reporting person’s citizenship status is not available. But for the sake of argument, let’s assume that the claim is true — have none of these politicians ever heard of the anonymous tip line available at all law enforcement agencies for citizens and non-citizens alike? Please inform your constituents of this electronic wonder so that we may all feel safe again.

Stephen Ross, Monterey

Save the bookstore!

Dear Editor,

I just heard that the wonderful River House Books located in the Carmel Crossroads will be closing their doors on March 31 unless someone steps up to purchase it. Many of us in Carmel are wondering what will become of a book store that was first founded by artists, writers and poets? I’m certain that I’m not the only person hoping someone will purchase River Books and keep it thriving.

Paterson and his wife, who were hit by a sun-blinded driver, died after being struck while crossing Junipero and Ocean in October 2007.

And, of course, according to the California Vehicle Code, “When you identify a potential problem, it’s probably best if you correct the problem before someone does get hurt,” he said.

Several hit by cars

Rerig said the large potted plants — which were recycled from prior use in Piccadilly Park — “are meant to discourage pedestrians from using these passages and cross at the crosswalks located at each intersection,” though people can still easily walk around the pots.

Powell also noted that even when they have the right of way, pedestrians are responsible for looking both ways to ensure it’s safe to cross the street.

Over the years, several people have been hit by cars while using crosswalks in town, including Rebecca Tsuruamoto, who died after being struck while crossing Junipero and Ocean in October 2007, and former design review board member Keith Paterson and his wife, who were hit by a sun-blinded driver while crossing Ocean in November 2009.

Carmel Police Cmdr. Luke Powell said he’s been aware of the problem, especially when downtown’s main street is busy.

“Jaywalking is dangerous,” and installed potted plants in the city administrator Chip Rerig said.

“We, as adults, need to instill the love of reading into the younger generation. Losing our bookstore will impact so many of us. I am sometimes in there twice a week.. to browse, to buy, to look for the book I loved and want to share with a friend. Books are often my gifts of choice for friends and their children. There are many other people in there wandering the aisles, doing the same thing. We have so many wine tasting bars, art galleries and jewelry stores. Can’t we find a place for a book store in the community that was first founded by artists, writers and poets? I’m certain that I’m not the only person hoping someone will purchase River Books and keep it thriving.

Carol Dellecker, Carmel

No guns, no injuries

Dear Editor,

Earlier this week, a teacher brought a gun to Seaside High School to teach the kids about gun safety. He accidentally pulled the trigger and the bullet ricocheted off the ceiling and fragments lodged into a boy’s neck.

This teacher is also a Seaside City Council member and has been a reserve police officer for the past 11 years. I have no doubt that he is careful, caring and has more gun safety expertise than 99 percent of all teachers. Arming teachers is a bad idea. This problem needs to be solved upstream: Restrict the sale of guns, especially repeating rifles.

Terry Russy, Pebble Beach

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WHEN THE City of Pacific Grove City last fall outfitted one of its electric parking enforcement vehicles with impressive new technology that was said to make the old method of chalking tires obsolete, it expected the system would quickly be up and running.

But six months after its debut, the $60,000 license plate recognition system called AutoChalk — which uses cameras, GPS and other technology to determine how long vehicles have been in a space — isn’t working.

“The issue, Francis said, is that the system isn’t properly alerting parking enforcement officers when a vehicle has been parked in a space — isn’t working.

“Each week we talk with the vendor, they make adjustments, and we test for improvement with those adjustments,” police department administrative manager Jocelyn Francis told The Pine Cone. “We want to be confident in the system, before relying on it solely.”

“When it’s working, the system’s software is supposed to log a vehicle’s license plate number, image, location and date and time of where a car is parked. When the parking enforcement officer returns to the location, the plates are scanned again and an alarm notifies the officer of a violation. The officer reviews the image from the first pass through to confirm the vehicle’s plate number before writing a citation.

Apart from logging overtime violations, AutoChalk is also supposed to inform officers of vehicles parked in restricted areas, vehicles that have expired registration or have been reported stolen, and vehicles with five or more unpaid parking citations.

The system “will allow staff to become much more efficient in completing their routes and prevent injury caused by manual chalking,” according to a write-up about the technology on Pacific Grove’s website.

It’s O’Baum & O’Blume’s Annual St. Patrick’s Day Feast!

RUNNERS AND bikers will head for the hills Sunday, March 25, at Palo Corona Regional Park to raise money for fine art photographer and gallery owner Rachael Short, who was paralyzed in a car accident in 2010.

Presented by the Treadmill in the Crossroads shopping center, the “Fun Run for Rachael” starts at 8:30 a.m. and is free. Participants will meet at the Treadmill before the race and walk to the park’s entrance, which is located nearby.

The event also calls attention to a group of Short’s friends who run the Big Sur International Marathon as a relay team each year in her honor — and who have raised more than $100,000.

For more details, call (831) 624-4112.

Runners rally for Rachael at Palo Corona

By KELLY NIX

PRICY NEW METER MAID SYSTEM DOESN’T WORK, OFFICERS STILL USING CHALK

The system “consistently meets our standards.” The system was supposed to replace the chalk method, but PG. parking officers are still marking tires.

“We have been utilizing both the traditional chalk and AutoChalk method in order to measure accuracy between the two, as we continue testing the system,” she said of the equipment, which the city purchased from Canada-based Tannery Creek Systems.

When it’s working, the system’s software is supposed to log vehicle’s license plate number before writing a citation.

While Francis said that the city is working with the company to improve the accuracy of the equipment, it’s decided to withhold a final payment of $11,800 for the machines until the accuracy of the equipment, it’s decided to withhold a final payment of $11,800 for the machines until the accuracy of the equipment.

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Showdown on short-term rentals March 19 in C.V.

By CHRIS COUNTS

A DEBATE that has divided neighborhoods throughout the county is taking a new twist this weekend. On March 19, when the Carmel Valley Land Use Advisory Committee hosts a public hearing on short-term rentals at the St. Philipus Lutheran Church, a showdown is expected.

For the Carmel Valley Association, the hearing offers an opportunity to lobby for a more restrictive ordinance than what Monterey County officials are proposing. The county’s planning staff have crafted an ordinance that would permit such rentals with certain restrictions.

But Carmel Valley Association officials are suggesting that the county ban vacation rentals owned by those who don’t live in the area — and they point to city of Bishop in Inyo County as an example of a place that has adopted such a set of regulations.

Besides taking aim at homes rented short-term by their out-of-town landlords, the nonprofit wants all rentals under 30 days.

Long-term rentals offer ‘stability’

In an effort to show the impact of short-term rentals on Carmel Valley, the Carmel Valley Association hired a consulting firm, Host Compliance, to conduct a study. Nearly 200 in the area — and they point to city of Bishop in Inyo County as an example of a place that has adopted such a set of regulations.

One of the nonprofit land-use watchdog group’s chief targets is the industry raises $1.4 million annually, according to a recent report by the group.

Matthews also noted that short term rentals provide jobs and income and can be beneficial in cases where empty homes attract squatters or vagrants, he said.

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Do short-term rentals deter crime?

While vacation rentals are often framed as a solution for problems in neighborhoods, Matthews said they actually offer some benefits. Not only are well-maintained properties rated higher on the internet, which encourages owners to keep it in good shape — but a home that is occupied is less likely to be the target of criminal activity. And there’s no shortage of empty homes in the county — and it’s especially true in areas where empty homes attract squatters or vagrants, he said.

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Carmel High dancers to perform at L.A. Forum

By MARY SCHLEY

A MOVING and beautiful poem written by Carmel High School student Grace Hesdike about body image, “Letter to my Future Daughter,” that was choreographed by fellow student Natalie Lobo for a school dance performance last spring was so compelling that the students have been invited to perform it in front of 16,000 people at WE Day in Los Angeles next month.

The CHS dancers who will be on stage there are raising money for the trip, according to dance teacher Kristine Tarozzi. “The poem was about body image and loving yourself, as well as mental illness and lessons girls learn as they grow up,” she explained. “It was a piece not be missed at the dance show, and we are so excited to be invited to share this message to more students at WE Day.”

WE Day honors young people who have helped make the world a better place, either locally or globally, according to Tarozzi. “You can imagine how excited we were to have a group of our students selected to bring their message of positive body image and loving yourself to the WE Day stage,” she said. “We will also be volunteering at various organizations around Los Angeles while we are there,” including making 100 lunches for the homeless, sorting donations, and doing other good works.

The group has raised about $10,000 but needs at least another $2,000 to help cover lodging, transportation, and other expenses.

Donors can pitch in by going to www.youcaring.com/WEday. In addition, CHS teacher Leigh Cambra, who advises a CHS student group called This Club Saves Lives and takes kids to WE Day each year, said the school will host a “Celebration of WE” March 30 at 11:45 a.m. in the performing arts center. The event will be a dress rehearsal for the dancers, and will include speakers and other performers, all “sharing their passion for helping others.”

The original performance of “Letter to My Future Daughter” can be found on the www.carmelmusicals.org website.

Sandra Lee Swisher-Curry

Sandra Lee Swisher-Curry passed away March 10, 2018 in Pebble Beach, CA. She leaves behind her dear husband Lanny Curry of Haleiwa, HI, mother Catherine Swisher of Pebble Beach, CA, brother James Swisher of Woodstock, GA, brother David Swisher and sister-in-law Barbara of Grass Valley, CA, stepdaughter Denise Derose and step-granddaughter Taylor Rachelle of Henderson, NV, three nieces and two nephews and five grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father Oliver Lee Swisher.

She was recently retired from Hawaiian Airlines after 28 years as Flight Attendant/FIR Attendant Supervisor and trainer. She earlier worked for United Airlines and South Pacific Island Airways.

Sandra was an avid pet owner and jewelry crafts person. She enjoyed music and traveling the world by airplane and ship touring Europe, England, Asia, Middle East and the South Pacific Islands.

Coming from a military family, she was proud to lend her services to National Defense. Her involvement with troop movement led to the United States Air Force awarding her the Civilian Desert Shield and Desert Storm Medal.

No services will be held. Sandra’s final resting place will be on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Donations may be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org)

Condolences may be written to the family at www.bermudezfamilymfunerals.com

Joyce Stewart

Joyce was born July 22, 1928, in Los Angeles to Ernest James and Catherine Ursula Mulrooney; she died at home in Pismo, California, February 10, 2018, from natural causes. She attended UCSB and UCLA, and in 1949 married Robert M. Cardozo, a gifted tenor and pianist; they had 4 children. The family moved to Sacramento in 1959 where she lived for 26 years and taught elementary school for 20. They divorced in 1972, and in 1974 she married Carl F. Stewart, a Pearl Harbor survivor and Cal Trans engineer. She and Carl retired to Carmel Valley in 1985 where Joyce was a resident for 30 years before moving back to the Sacramento area in 2014.

Joyce had a beautiful, caring, and generous spirit, and a smile for all she met. She had been a member of the Carmel Valley Garden Association, a volunteer at the MPVS thrift shop in Seaside and at CHOMP, and a generous supporter of the Monterey Bay Aquarium. She was an excellent cook and gracious host for many dinner parties with friends and her beloved family, and had a passion for books, roses and native plants.

Preceded in death by her two husbands, her eldest son, Timothy, and her parents; she is survived by her children Michael Cantiloso (Karen), Catherine and Peter Cardozo, and daughter-in-law Kara; 6 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren; and her brother, Keith Mulrooney, two nieces and a nephew.

A service will be held for her at St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church in Carmel Valley, 28005 Robinson Canyon Road, on April 21, 2018, at 11:00.

Rex E. Reade

Rex Reade passed away peacefully with his wife, Joan, and his son, Scott, at his side. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II as a B25 pilot flying 51 combat missions and earning the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as the Air Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Rex graduated from the University of Denver with a BS in Business Administration and earned his CPA degree from the University of Illinois. He worked for Arthur Anderson Accounting before beginning his career at Rust-Oleum Corp., where he rose to President, CEO and Chairman of the Board. After retiring in 1987, he moved to Monterey where he enjoyed playing golf, tennis and dominoes. He was a member of OCC, Monterey Peninsula Country Club, The Beach and Tennis Club and Stillwater Yacht Club, serving as Commodore in 2008.

Rex is survived by his loving wife, Joan and their little dog, Gracie; sons, Scott (Ginger) and Rex Jr. (Jennifer); grandchildren, Rex III, Matthew and Katie; his sister, Bonnie; his brothers, Radean and William and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Mass will be at Carmel Mission Basilica, 3080 Rio Road in Carmel on Friday, March 23 at 10:30 AM. The family would like to thank VNA & Hospice of the Central Coast for all their assistance, comfort and nursing skills and request any memorial gift be directed to them at PO. Box 2480, Monterey, CA, 93942.

To sign Rex’s guest book and leave messages for his family, please visit www.thepaumortuary.com.
“At ‘T’ intersections without ‘STOP’ or ‘YIELD’ signs, yield to traffic and pedestrians on the through road. They have the right-of-way,” the DMV says.

Many drivers pass through the Pacific Grove’s unmarked intersections with little regard for cross traffic, which has had serious consequences. A cyclist barreling down Short Street was struck by a motorist driving northbound on Locust Street a few years ago and was injured.

Last year, at the same intersection, a driver had to stop abruptly to avoid hitting a cyclist who was crossing Short at a high rate of speed, according to residents who live in that neighborhood.

Lukand said that the officer who responded to the March 7 crash death said that the driver of the Toyota was at fault for the accident, but “used his discretion” in deciding to not cite the man.

A police log entry for the same time and place of the March 7 crash indicates that police placed a person on a “mental health hold,” although it does not indicate if that person was the truck driver. Police would not release the names of the drivers, their ages or places of residence.

Theodore Augustin Hartman
1928 - 2018

Ted Hartman passed away at home on February 24, 2018, in the loving arms of his wife Marty.

Theodore Augustin Hartman was born in Chicago on May 26, 1928, to Theodore Augustin Hartman Senior and Mary Jean Hartman. He spent his childhood years in Elmhurst, Illinois, moving with his family to Monroe, Wisconsin, as a teenager. He was a nature lover from his earliest years, and spent as much time as possible in the woods. After a two year peace-time stint in the army, he attended Iowa State University on the GI bill where as a member of Theta Chi earned a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and met Martha Barton (Alpha Gam), the love of his life.

Upon graduation, Ted and his bride moved to Longview, Washington, where he took a position in R & D for Long Bell Lumber Company. Ted soon realized plywood composition was not his life’s purpose, and when his father, an architect weary of his own job, suggested they go in together and buy a resort in a remote coastal area of California, site unseen, he jumped at the chance. With Marty and their 6-month old daughter, Maya, they arrived at Ripplewood Resort in Big Sur on March 5, 1955, moving into a one bedroom cabin which would be their home for the next ten years. Their family was completed two years later by the birth of their second and third daughters, Leigh and Carol.

Out of necessity, Ted, a naturally talented craftsman, learned maintenance skills to keep the rustic resort in good repair. His flexible schedule allowed him plenty of time outdoors hiking, hunting, and fishing the Santa Lucia Mountains of the Big Sur Coast.

As a young social couple, Ted and Marty joined the Big Sur Grange and participated in whist parties, bingo, and square dancing. Sharing the limelight with the legendary Trotter brothers, Walter and Frank, and the lovely Eve Miller Ross, Ted delighted audiences with his hilarious comic capanne in Big Sur Pothook Revues. Ted was also a member of the first Big Sur Red Cross volunteer ambulance crew and in later years helped out with the annual Big Sur River Run.

In 1965, after ten years of resort operation, Ted and Marty leased the running of Ripplewood Resort to others, and he went to work as a carpenter for Big Sur Construction whose first major project was building a spacious new home for Ted and Marty.

Ted kept the family property in ship-shape, fixing this, painting that, planting many trees, and felling a few as well. In his fifties, he took up snow skiing and was known for his long graceful turns on black diamond runs. An avid fisherman, he tied his own flies and angled with buddies in rivers, streams, and lakes from Alaska to Chile. Ted and Marty took many road trips in their RV and traveled to other countries, often with family members or close friends. He was well read and could turn a good phrase, as Big Sur Round-Up readers of yore would attest.

Being a man of many talents, Paul enjoyed retirement to the fullest. He pursued creative endeavors including art, sports, theater and dancing with his beautiful wife. He was a dedicated volunteer working with Meals on Wheels, the Monterey Museum of Art, 30 years at the Monterey Bay Aquarium (Thursday, 1st shift) as well as several other organizations.

Family came first, never missing a game or a swim meet, Paul was our number one fan. He was compassionate, loyal, kind, loving, inquisitive, mindful, philanthropic and generous with a heart of gold. A close friend described Paul as “one of the best cadets, best officers and most outstanding person” he ever knew; an officer and a gentleman, he embodied the true spirit of the greatest generation.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Arvid and Marguerite; his daughter, Ann; brother, Turner and nephew, Michael. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Phoebe; his children, Bliss, Brookes, Paul, Kristina, Catherine; their significant others and spouses, Jim, Ashley, Gerard, and Danny and his grandchildren, Jack, Danielle (Igor), Brendan, Mike and Brad.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, April 7 at 11:00 am at St. Angela Merici Catholic Church in Pacific Grove. At Paul’s request, any memorial donations can be given to the donor’s favorite charity. Please visit www.thepaulmortuary.com to sign Paul’s guest book and leave messages for his family.

Go Army, Beat Navy!
Another pot shop at the mouth of valley?

SCUFFLE From page 1A

thing with sexual harassment,” she said. “It’s just an embarrassing, unfortunate situation.” Petersen agreed it was nothing more than “two stupid kids fighting over a girl in a bar.”

“Tn is no conspiracy theory,” he said. “And I certainly wasn’t paid.”

So far, details are sparse regarding the alleged conspiracy to set up Dallas, though it took place at Mission Ranch around the same time. At a meeting at city hall last week, city attorney Glen Mozgo said two people had come forward during the investigation into Dallas’ behavior and told him a Salinas man had been paid $100 to start a fight with the mayor so that onlookers could photograph it.

“We conclude that we have enough evidence to present to the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office, that matter will be turned over for prosecution,” Mozgo said at the March 7 meeting.

Bike shop on the move

LePage moved approval of the bike shop and rental business, but the commission, which is missing a member, split 2-2, so the permit was denied. The owners’ next recourse is to take their request to the city council, which can override the commission’s decision.

Support Pine Cone advertisers — shop locally
But the owner surprisingly withdrew the development proposal last week — less than two months after an architectural review board meeting in January where several residents complained about the building’s height, which is proposed to be taller than the 40-foot maximum in the downtown area.

However, the building must be taller to accommodate three workforce housing units that the city recommended the developer include, Pacific Grove economic and development director Mark Brodeur told The Pine Cone.

No story poles?
While the city could have granted an exception for the building’s height, the idea of an increase upset a few residents, including an attorney representing a homeowner who lives in a house to the rear of the proposed building.

The “ARB should not be considering this project when there are no story poles on the site to provide the community an opportunity to evaluate the full-size impact” of the building, resident Lisa Ciani said at the Jan. 23 ARB meeting.

Traffic, noise, air and water quality, privacy and “community character” were also cited by the few opponents as potential problems. The project is also on the city’s water waiting list.

But worries over the building’s proposed height apparently spooked the property owner into withdrawing the proposal, which had been set to go before city planning commissioners on March 22 for consideration.

“Our suspicions are that the applicant is going to go back to his original proposal” which does not contain any affordable townhomes, Brodeur said.

The developer’s decision is disappointing, said Brodeur, who, at the behest of the city’s planning commission, encouraged him to add such housing. The last affordable housing built in Pacific Grove was the Vista Point apartment complex — senior housing near Lovers Point that opened 12 years ago.

“I’m trying to get affordable housing built in this city, and the best place to provide that is close to jobs, close to transit,” Brodeur said.

Brodeur expressed some regret that the city, when it gave developers the OK to transform the historic Holman Building into luxury condominiums, didn’t insist they also include some affordable units. The Holman Building is adjacent to 522 Lighthouse.

While Pacific Grove officials and residents have said that lower income housing is high on their list of goals, little has been done in a long time. In fact, the P.G. City Council several years ago opposed a 24-unit affordable housing project in Pebble Beach that backs up to a P.G. neighborhood. The county approved the project unanimously and it’s under construction.

People who earn between $45,000 and $70,000 — depending on the size of their household — would likely qualify for the type of workforce housing proposed for the 522 Lighthouse development, Brodeur said.

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of Ocean, members of the bomb squad said that could wait until a deputy X-rayed the bag to determine its contents. The handheld scanner revealed the briefcase was filled with cassettes and VHS tapes. He opened the bag to reveal sets of tapes entitled, “How to Buy Your First Home or Investment Property with No Down Payment,” by Carleton H. Sheets.

Shortly after that revelation, the bomb squad packed up its trailer, officers removed their police tape and cones, the fire chief left, and the sidewalks and street were reopened.

Nothing blown up this time

The city has been the scene of similar scares due to suspicious bags or objects on several occasions.

In February 2016, a member of the nighttime cleaning crew at Il Fornaio restaurant left behind a homemade flashlight. The briefcase was filled with cassettes and VHS tapes. He opened the bag to reveal sets of tapes entitled, “How to Buy Your First Home or Investment Property with No Down Payment,” by Carleton H. Sheets.

In February 2015, the squad was called in after a man left his camouflage backpack in a Mission Street office. Although he’d been known to return, officers removed their police tape and cones, the fire chief left, and the sidewalks and street were reopened.

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Celebrate Easter at Fandango!

**Easter Sunday Brunch**
April 1, 2018 ~ 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Veloute De Champignons Du Chef**

Lamb Tenderloin  
Huckleberries and port wine reduction

Honey Glazed Baked Ham  
Hawaiian Sauce

Eggs Benedict Florentine  
Poached eggs, Canadian bacon, Spinach, English muffin, Hollandaise sauce

Grilled Fresh Salmon  
Hollandaise sauce

Tricolor Baby Beet and Toasted Goat Cheese Salad  
Served over spring mix with champagne vinaigrette

Caramelized Smith Apple Calvados & Semolina Cake  
French Vanilla Crème Anglaise

Or  
Profiteroles au Chocolat  
Small cream puffs, filled with cappuccino ice cream, Whipped cream & hot chocolate sauce

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**Easter Brunch** $42.75 plus tax and tip for adults  
Children 12 and under for $18.75

*Please Call for Reservations*

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Symphony celebrates Mozart, welcomes youthful conductor and pianist

WHEN THE Monterey Symphony presents its fourth concert of the season Saturday and Sunday, March 17-18, at Sunset Center, the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart will take center stage — along with two young men with bright futures in classical music.

**Celebrate Easter at Edgar’s with our delicious Sunday Brunch. An extensive buffet will feature a Seafood Display, Ham, Leg of Lamb, and NY Striplion Carving Station, Assorted Pastries and Breads, French Toast, an Omelette Station, Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Salads, Pan Seared Salmon, Chicken Marsala, Macaroni & Cheese, Assorted Homemade Pies, Cookies, Petit Fours, and more!**

The Easter Bunny will make a special appearance at our annual Egg Hunt! Register your child(ren) upon making your brunch reservation.

The concert also showcases the talents of guest conductor Conner Gray Covington, 29, and pianist Michael Davidson, 20.

Commenting on Covington, Samra noted that leading an orchestra “while still in your twenties is no easy feat.” As for Davidson, he called the young pianist’s talent “something very special.”

Besides performing at Sunset Center Saturday and Sunday, the symphony — along with its two guests — will play two concerts at Sunset Center March 19 for more than 1,400 Monterey County students.

“Kids and Mozart are a really good fit,” Samra added. “The music is light, it’s fun, and it holds their attention.”

Saturday’s concert starts at 8 p.m., while Sunday’s matinee begins at 3 p.m. Tickets are $31 to $81. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 646-8511 or visit www.montereysymphony.org.

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Deadheads rejoice

The Grateful Dead never played in Carmel, but the news that The Dark Star Orchestra will perform at Sunset Center June 24 is the next best thing.

Of the hundreds of musical acts around the globe that pay tribute to the band, none do it better. The Dark Star Orchestra pays tribute to the Dead in its entirety, just as the Dead themselves did in their heyday.

The group creates a musical time capsule, giving fans and novice listeners alike the thrill of experiencing the Dead for the first time.

**Celebrate Easter at Fandango!**

Easter Sunday Brunch  
April 1, 2018 ~ 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Veloute De Champignons Du Chef**

Lamb Tenderloin  
Huckleberries and port wine reduction

Honey Glazed Baked Ham  
Hawaiian Sauce

Eggs Benedict Florentine  
Poached eggs, Canadian bacon, Spinach, English muffin, Hollandaise sauce

Grilled Fresh Salmon  
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Tricolor Baby Beet and Toasted Goat Cheese Salad  
Served over spring mix with champagne vinaigrette

Caramelized Smith Apple Calvados & Semolina Cake  
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Or  
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Small cream puffs, filled with cappuccino ice cream, Whipped cream & hot chocolate sauce

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From left: James Garner covers Johnny Cash March 17 at CSUMB; The Glenn Miller Orchestra visits Pacific Grove the same day; The Nell and Jim Band performs March 18 at the Lab; and trumpeter and keyboardist Akili Bradley plays jazz March 16 in Monterey.

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Dedicated exclusively to the music of Mozart, the program will start off with the overture from perhaps his most famous opera, Don Giovanni. Also included will be the first symphony Mozart composed, when he was a mere 8 years old, Symphony No. 1, KV 16, and his last, Symphony No. 41, KV 551.

“It’s going to be a fantastic show,” Musicologist Todd Samra told The Pine Cone. Samra presents a free talk before each symphony concert. “It will knock you out of your seat when you hear what an 8-year-old wrote.”

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**Celebrate Easter!**

*WWW.MONTEREYSYMPHONY.ORG*
Spanish chorizo frittata with Southwest ratatouille combines hearty eggs and chewy bits of spicy sausage with a Mexican-style ratatouille of black beans, grilled corn, squash, mushrooms, poblano chili and bell peppers that he slow-roasts in the oven. And for those with a sweet tooth, brioche French toast is kicked up with blueberry compote, whipped cream, candied pecans, maple syrup and a brûléed half a banana.

Bar manager Kasey Shirk developed a trio of daytime cocktails to complement the new dishes. Lime in the Coconut includes a balance of fresh lime juice, sparkling water and a hint of coconut and vanilla. Drinks specials will be $6 Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, $8 sparkling brut, $8 Tito’s vodka “your way,” and a signature Tito’s cocktail, also for $8. While he’ll be drawing from Folktale Winery’s portfolio, as Folktale is the operator of the restaurant, Valencia said he may feature some other wines by glass.

Opened last summer in a former bank building, Seventh & Dolores, also known as 7D, features dry-aged beef cuts, top-notch steak tartare and other dishes, some classic, and some with a twist, as well as high-end cocktails. Tydeman runs the kitchen, while Folktale culinary director Todd Fisher is executive chef and provides creative input. Visit www.7dsteakhouse.com.

Rio’s new brunch lineup

Executive chef Eduardo Coronel unveiled a five brunch items this week, offering new reasons to drop in at the Rio Grill on a weekend for some late-morning indulgence. “I wanted to have something for everyone,” he said Tuesday. The cleverly named What Came First sandwich, for instance, features fried chicken and a sunny-side-up egg with bacon jam, arugula, tomato and chipotle aioli. Served on a brioche bun, the sandwich is best eaten with a knife and fork, unless you have a wet towel handy, because it’s messy. The traditional steak-and-egg combo is kicked up with spicy (mild to medium) green chilaquiles, a traditional Mexican breakfast or brunch dish made with corn tortillas simmered with salsa, topped with two fried eggs and lime sour cream.

Continues next page
Bach and Buffet fundraiser

Deetjen’s Big Sur Inn, devastated by last year’s fierce storms, will benefit from a fundraiser at Hidden Valley in Carmel Valley Village March 22. The event will begin with wine and hors d’oeuvres at 6 p.m., followed by a classical concert at 6:30, and dinner at 7:15. “Deetjen’s Best: Bach and Buffet” will help raise money for the ongoing rehabilitation of the inn, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and was damaged by mudslides and falling trees during the storms that also destroyed the Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge, shutting off the inn from travelers to the north. The inn reopened shortly after the bridge did last fall, but repairs, estimated at $1 million, are ongoing.

The event is inspired by “Grandpa” Helmut Deetjen’s two great loves: classical music and great food. Deetjen’s chef Domingo Santamaria will prepare a buffet of the restaurant’s classics, while award-winning British Bach cellist Colin Carr will perform two “sublime suites for solo cello.” Hidden Valley is donating the venue. Tickets are $125 per person, and guests must be 21 or older. For reservations, visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3323093. RSVP by March 17. Hidden Valley is located near the intersection of Carmel Valley and Ford roads.

Irish Pub Pop-Up

The Covey restaurant, located at Quail Lodge next to the Waypoint Bar, will be the place to go for a full Irish pub experience on St. Patrick’s Day Saturday. The Irish Pub Pop-Up Dinner is inspired by executive chef Brian Kearns’ travels to Emerald Isle, and he plans on cooking up all kinds of tasty items, like Irish potato soup, steamed mussels, braised cabbage, Irish bacon and potato purée in a parsely cream sauce, Guinness and beef stew, rainbow trout with sautéed broccoli and roast potatoes, and sweet apple pie with fresh whipped cream for dessert.

Dinner will start at 6 p.m., and costs $45 per person ($35 per Quail Lodge member) plus tax and tip. The lodge is located at 8205 Valley Greens Drive. For reservations, call (831) 620-8910.
MUSIC
From page 21A
tribute to the Grateful Dead, few are more popular or respected than the Dark Star Or-
chestra. Over the years, the band has played thousands of shows, including many that fea-
tured guest appearances by former members of the Grateful Dead, which stopped touring and recording after guitarist and leader Jerry Garcia died in 1995.

Tickets for the concert go on sale at the Sunset Center box office Friday, March 16, at 9:30 a.m. Call (831) 620-2048 or visit www.sunsetcenter.org.

24A
The Carmel Pine Cone  March 16, 2018

Celebrating National Women's History Month

Mary Baker Eddy: The Chestnut Hill Years

You are cordially invited to attend a screening of the film at First Church of Christ, Scientist 780 Abrego Street, Monterey Sunday, March 18th at 1:00 pm

Film presentation is 90 minutes with an intermission. Refreshments will be offered.

A historical documentary film by Longyear Museum “FOLLOW AND REJOICE” is a documentary film about the years Mary Baker Eddy spent in her last home at 400 Beacon Street, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts (1908–1910).
The Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science achieved in those three years what many would be proud to have accomplished in a lifetime. The product of extensive research, this two-part documentary offers an inside look at Mrs. Eddy’s active leadership at Chestnut Hill and in the two years leading up to her move there in 1908.

For more information call 831-372-5076 www.christiansciencemonterey.org

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Celebrate California Wildlife Day!

FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

Sat. March 24, 2018 • 10am to 3pm
Garland Ranch Regional Park
700 W. Carmel Valley Road

We will have live demonstrations of wildlife, student presentations of their wildlife projects and poems, exhibits by wildlife-related agencies, wildlife and wildflower walks and talks, and free food and drinks! Bring your whole family!
A year after artist studios in mall, arts council seeks to expand

HOME TO the studios of nearly two dozen local artists, Artworks in Pacific Grove celebrates its first anniversary, Friday, March 16, with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m.

Supported by the Arts Council for Monterey County and located in the American Tin Cannery, Artworks offers budget-priced studio space for artists—something that’s very difficult to find on the Monterey Peninsula. And if all goes according to plan, venues will soon have company.

“We know that many talented artists struggle to find an affordable place to work, and so many buildings are vacant and in danger of deteriorating,” said Paullette Lynch, executive director for the nonprofit arts council. “We find over and over that the arts are the answer—this project is a powerful example. We are eager to find more opportunities throughout the county.”

The studio artists include painters, sculptors, photographers, mixed media artists and jewelers. They pay as little as 50 cents per square foot, which is made possible by the generosity of the owners of the American Tin Cannery. The studios are open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Johnny Tsunami and the Shoulder Hopper will perform March 16, while the Bulldog British Pub will serve refreshments.

Artworks is located at the American Tin Cannery shopping center. www.arts4mc.org.

March 21 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Medical Options Simplified

Join our health plan advisor, and Montage Medical Group’s Dr. David Stratford to discuss your Medicare options. Plus hear healthy tips about retiring into Medicare. Attend this free seminar to get the answers you need. This event is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monterey Wellness Center, 2920 2nd Ave., Marina.

March 22 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Making Life and Other Stuff

Get tips on memory improvement and stress management; live smart and stay sharp at any age. This event is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monterey Wellness Center, 1910 North Davis Road, Salinas.


Every day is a different story: from the simple to the sophisticated, from the historical to the paranormal. This seminar will cover all aspects of writing: brainstorming ideas, writing a draft, editing and revising. This 6-week seminar will give you a creative escape. (831) 346-4662 or ask@l5223a.mypack.net.

March 22 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Medicare Options Simplified

Join our health plan advisor, and Montage Medical Group’s Dr. David Stratford to discuss your Medicare options. Plus hear healthy tips about retiring into Medicare. Attend this free seminar to get the answers you need. This event is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 273-1606, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., Montage Wellness Center, 2500 Lighthouse Ave., Carmel by the Sea.

March 23 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Arthritis — Myths & Truths

Come learn about the effects of arthritis, and how you can minimize the pain and disability it can cause. This seminar is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., Monterey Wellness Center, 2920 2nd Ave., Marina.

March 24 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Yoga — Myths & Truths

Come learn about the effects of yoga, and how you can maximize its potential for healing and self-discovery. This seminar is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., Monterey Wellness Center, 2920 2nd Ave., Marina.

March 25 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Getting Things Done

Learn tips and tricks from productivity expert from 2 to 6 p.m. California State University Monterey Bay.

March 25 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: Senior Health Prescription

Learn about your Medicare options. Plus hear tips about staying healthy. This event is free, and we ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections. 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monterey Wellness Center, 2920 2nd Ave., Marina.

March 27 — Carmel Jewish Film Festival, 3rd Annual

This year, the Carmel Jewish Film Festival, 3rd Annual, continues to bring the best in Jewish films from around the world. We are proud to present... www.carmeljewishfilmfestival.org.

Women's Fund Luncheon

Friday, March 23rd, 2018

Join us as we celebrate Women’s Equality Day. Celebrate the accomplishments of our local women as we honor the equality that has been gained by our struggles and the road that lies ahead. This is a celebration of our past, our present and our future.

Come join us as we celebrate the women in our community. Whether you have been an inspiration, a role model, or a mentor, we want to hear your story. And if you have been inspired by a woman in your life, we want to hear your story as well.

Women’s Equality Day is a celebration of the 19th Amendment, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote.

Women’s Equality Day was first observed on August 26, 1920, to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment.

Women’s Equality Day is observed each year on the 26th of August.

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Teptizky from Wild Thyme Deli & Café, along with Artemis restaurant, Carmel Honey Co., and Lula’s Chocolates. Carmel Road will provide wine, and Mad Otter Ale will bring the beer. Terrence Ferrell will play guitar. The event will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m., and costs $265 per person, with all proceeds going to the food bank. Call (831) 624-2745 to reserve.

**A Gem of an Evening**

Access Monterey Peninsula, the local nonprofit television station that operates five channels — including the ones showing government meetings — will hold a fundraiser, A Gem of an Evening, in the restaurant at Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Course in Seaside March 22 from 6 to 9 p.m. The evening will include dinner and wine, live music, dancing, and a no-host bar. In an interesting fundraising twist, risk takers will be invited to pick from 100 “mystery boxes,” half of which will contain prizes valued from $50 to $1,800. From page 23A

**The Carmel Pine Cone** will pay up to $50 for photos of newsworthy events around the Monterey Peninsula. Submit yours to news@carmelpinecone.com. Payment made for photos accepted for publication.

**FOOD**

**From page 23A**

Annelise Wilford has been involved in the business from the outset and is well equipped to take the helm.

“His vision for Quail & Olive was the culmination of his many years as a physician, during which he was known for his exceptional dedication to the holistic health of his patients,” his family explained, though they declined to discuss the circumstances of his death. “He wanted to parlay the skills which he had developed during 40 years of medical practice into a service which would introduce community members to the benefits which he knew they would derive from heart-healthy food preparation ingredients and techniques at affordable prices.


**Taste of Spain**

Esteban Restaurant’s occasional Taste of Spain, in which executive chef Tom Snyder makes a big batch of paella on the patio and shares loads of other delicious small bites with Spanish flavors and flair, is set to take place again March 22 from 6 to 9 p.m. Madeleine Wines, made by Damien Georis, will be poured alongside Spanish offerings and a variety of North Coast beers, all complemented by house-made red and white sangrias, and Esteban’s famous boss Anna Margarita. Local classical Spanish guitarist Catherine Brea will perform, and Azahar Flamenco will dance — and instruct anyone interested in learning a few steps — all evening.

Tickets are $65 per person, plus tax and tip, and can be purchased by calling (831) 324-6773. Since the restaurant is located in Casa Munras Garden Hotel & Spa, dinners are also invited to take advantage of the Taste of Spain dinner package, with rooms starting at $276, by calling (800) 222-2246. Esteban is located at 700 Munras Ave. in Monterey.

**Quail & Olive lives on**

Dr. Stephen Brabeck, founder and owner of the Quail & Olive, died recently, but he left the business he founded after retiring from cardiology in 2012 in good hands. Daughter Nicky Hahn, founder of Hahn Family Wines and the driving force behind the formation of the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA in 1991, died March 2 at his home in Switzerland at the age of 81.

Before venturing into the world of winemaking and grape growing after arriving in Monterey County in the 1970s, Hahn was a successful businessman in Paris, New York, and London. In 1979, he purchased the Smith and Hook vineyards, planted with Cabernet Sauvignon at the time.

He went on to spend the next four decades working to build the reputation of the region, which he recognized as a unique winemaking area. In 1988, he rallied neighboring grape growers on the eastern slopes of the Santa Lucia Mountains to create the American Viticultural Area that’s now recognized nationally, especially for its fine Pinot Noir grapes. Hahn converted his own vineyards from Cabernet to Pinot Noir in the early 2000s. Hahn was named Wine Enthusiast magazine American Wine Pioneer.

“My father left me with one inedible lesson: There are many dreamers, but it is not enough to dream,” his son, Philip, said in a statement. “We must also do, and that is exactly what he did.”

**ART**

**From previous page**

birds, a show opening March 17 at the Chesebro Winery Tasting Room in Carmel Valley showscases the creative talent of printmaker Pamela Takigawa. A member of the Carmel Art Association, Takigawa has long been fascinated with birds of all shapes and sizes. When she’s not incorporating them into her art, she works with them as a volunteer for the Monterey County SPCA’s Wildlife Center.

Titled “Year of the Bird” because this year is the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, the exhibit will be on display through April 14. The tasting room, which will be the site of a reception Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m., is located at 19 East Carmel Valley Road. Call (831) 659-2125.

**Women shine at art museum**

Closed for six weeks during a $100,000 makeover, the Monterey Museum of Art is open again, and this week, four exhibits opened — each calling attention to the creative talents of women. The shows are tied to a “Year of the Woman” celebration at the museum.

Included is a show of early mid-century abstract works by the late Joan Saxe; a display of still life paintings by the late Beth Van Hosken; a collection of images by pioneering female photographers; and an exhibit of paintings by some of California’s most important female artists.

The museum is located at 559 Pacific St. www.montereyart.org.

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**TWO GIRLS FROM CARMEL**

**With Distinction**

“The Carmel Pine Cone will pay up to $50 for photos of newsworthy events around the Monterey Peninsula. Submit yours to news@carmelpinecone.com. Payment made for photos accepted for publication.
Bitter defeat in 2017 gives way to plenty of optimism this time around.

All-MTAL centerfielder Kristin Cardinalli (right) batted .484 and lead the Padres in hits last season. Jessica Pavloff (left), a junior this year, shared the MTAL's Pitcher of the Year honor with teammate Jaclyn Hyles, who returns as a sophomore.

Jessica Pavloff, who was a sophomore, was regarded as Carmel's No. 1 hurler and faced most of the toughest opponents while compiling an 11-6 record, with a microscopic 1.20 earned-run average. In 93.1 innings, she allowed just 66 hits, struck out 78, and walked 22.

Jaclyn Hyles, a freshmen, had even better numbers. She was 11-0, with a 0.60 ERA, surrendering just six earned runs in 69.2 innings. She struck out 105 and walked 18.

"I think they're both of the best pitchers in the county, and that's where it all starts for us," Pingree said. "Their styles are actually pretty similar: Both throw hard, both have a lot of movement on their pitches, and both really compete hard. Deciding which one to pitch against any specific opponent is a nice problem to have." The two underclassmen also are already attracting attention from college softball scouts, along with three other Padres, seniors Jocelyn Bruno and Rachael Carroll, and junior Kristin Cardinalli.

Bruno, who moves from catcher to shortstop this season, and hits third in the batting order, opened the season with eight hits and two walks in their first 13 plate appearances — a .727 batting average and .769 on-base percentage. A year ago she batted .483, with 10 doubles, 5 triples, a home run, and 33 RBI in 30 games.

Carroll, the second baseman and lead-off hitter, batted .449, with 44 hits tied for second on the team, including 8 doubles, 2 triples, and 25 RBI. She also was 9-for-9 in stolen base attempts.

Cardinalli, the centerfielder, had a .484 batting average (second on the team), with a team-best 45 hits, including three doubles, four triples, and a home run.

Even more hitting

All first-team All-MTAL selections, as was power hitting Anna Buzan, who returns at third base after a junior year in which she batted .411, with three doubles, five triples, and a team-high three home runs. Left fielder Dillon Chiwespana, a second-team all-leaguer in 2017, made a splash this year by slugging two home runs against San Benito on March 6 — the second game of the season — lifting the Padres to a 4-2 victory. Last year, as a sophomore, she batted .391, with eight doubles and a homer. The truth is that it's hard to find a player who didn't excel at the plate a year ago. Pavlov, the pitcher, hit .394. Kendra Hyles, Jaclyn's twin sister, is a first baseman/outfielder who figures to be a power hitter this year after batting .391 as a freshman. Quincy Cox, a sophomore right fielder, batted .500 in limited action in her first varsity season. Senior Dani Benak, who takes over for Bruno as the starting catcher, was a .283 hitter, and three varsity newcomers — junior outfielder Madi DiGirolamo, sophomore catcher Kristen Anderson, and senior utility player Bibiana Silva-Cardenas — will be looking to make their mark.

Perhaps the most remarkable numbers of all are that the 2017 Padres batted .425 as a team and outscored the opposition 320-59. And, according to Pingree, offense is not the strength of the 2018 unit.

"We take a lot of pride in our pitching and defense — I've always believed that's what wins games — and I think they are really our strongest assets," said Pingree, a Monterey High product who went on to play catcher at Fresno State and CSU Hayward. "Our batting averages are high because our league wasn't all that strong last year, and we played some teams that were pretty good stat builders for us."

See SPORTS page 36A

The SPCA for Monterey County

**Kitties of the Week**

**Ranger**

9 years old

Ranger and Scout are a very affectionate pair of kittens! They were brought to the SPCA when their owner could no longer care for them due to health concerns. They are a bonded pair and must be adopted together, so double your love today!

**Scout**

9 years old

Ranger and Scout are a very affectionate pair of kittens! They were brought to the SPCA when their owner could no longer care for them due to health concerns. They are a bonded pair and must be adopted together, so double your love today!

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**The SPCA for Monterey County**
Martins Beach case means something to everyone

The United States Supreme Court is considering whether to take a case that could profoundly impact property rights — and even the very meaning of “private property” — not only here in California, but across the country.

The case is Martins Beach vs. Surfrider, and on the surface, it seems to just be about a billionaire trying to keep the public off of 89 acres of highly scenic beachfront property he owns a few miles south of Half Moon Bay.

But if the billionaire — Silicon Valley investor Vinod Khosla — loses the case, it will not only affect his exclusive property, but everybody else whose property is scenic, contains valuable resources, or is frequently visited by the public.

It would also mean that any business might one day be required to get a permit from the government to shut down, or even to scale back its operations.

Come again?

Khosla’s property is being contested for the simple reason that the land is very pretty and includes a gorgeous, isolated beach — and those are things that many people like to visit. It’s also being fought over in the courts because the property was operated as a beach-access business for many years, until Khosla decided to shut it down.

It might surprise you to hear that some people think Mr. Khosla was prohibited from going out of business and must keep his beach open — but that’s exactly the position the California Coastal Commission and San Mateo County took when he announced in 2009 that the beach would no longer be open to paying customers. And why couldn’t he stop operating the beach-access business? Because beaches are really important, the commission and the county said.

There’s no doubt that Khosla owns the property and the beach (everything above the mean high tide line). Nevertheless, he was told, he needed permission to declare it off-limits to the public.

Of course, the coastal commission and the county are correct that beaches are very popular. But there are a lot of other things that are on private property but are open to the public, including stadiums, museums, shopping centers, golf courses, tennis clubs, schools, theaters and all sorts of private amenities such as landmark trees, works of art, hot springs, restaurants and even retail stores. If Vinod Khosla is forced to keep his beach open, why not the Pebble Beach Golf Links and Davenport restaurant?

The very idea sounds like a wild exaggeration. But it’s not — not in 21st-century California, where left-wing politics become more predominant and more extreme every day. And the left, my friends, is hostile to the very idea of “private property.”

The property rights provisions of the Fifth Amendment were added to the U.S. Constitution to prevent precisely the kind of seizure California and San Mateo County are trying to carry out in the Khosla case. California has already declared itself a “sanctuary” from federal immigration laws. If the Supreme Court doesn’t want the state to be a sanctuary from the Constitution, too, it should take the Khosla case, and then rule in Mr. Khosla’s favor.
A free-spirited childhood, a successful career, and a sword

He’s a native New Yorker, a seamless and relentless East Coast talker who, when discussing his favorite topic — Samurai swords — rarely comes up for air.

“The most important thing in my life is to get into it and out of it,” he said. “I have a root in the Monterey Peninsula and a root in New York. I have two homes and I switch between them.”

Dell’Armo’s interest in samurai swords began at a young age. As a child, he would watch samurai movies and dream of being a samurai himself. This fascination continued through his early years, and he eventually decided to pursue a career in the field.

“I’ve been kicked out of a few coffee shops. People could hear me two blocks away,” said Dell’Armo, whose daily routine, dating back several years, is to stake out a spot in a cozy eatery, sip coffee, socialize, and sketch life as it passes by.

Problems at work, home

Ball was an electrician by trade until the day in 2001 when a co-worker pinned him against a wall by his throat and shouted, “You’ve been fucking me for a whole year! You’re too damn happy all the time!”

Weird? Perhaps. But it wasn’t the first time he had been assaulted on the job by colleagues who were annoyed by his personality. The problem also affected his personal life, including two marriages.

First, from 1988-95, was to a Carmel woman — the mother of his two adult children (Marc, 27, and Sara, 24) — whom he had met playing chess online and joined her in Nebraska. She eventually roiled a local gallery owner, who complained to the police.

Second, from 1995-2011, was to a woman — the mother of his two adult children — whom he had met in New York and who specialized in monitoring her husband’s daily battle with bipolar disorder.

Then I got diagnosed, and I suddenly realized, “Oh, my god … it’s me!”

What saved his life in the interim, he said, was his work. Ball said he got a new job and started working with a new boss who had taken decades to surface: Ball had stuffing natural talent as an artist — a gift he discovered in 2001, at age 41.

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As a sixth-grader, he read a bestselling book, David Ogilvy’s “Confessions of an Advertising Man,” and decided he wanted someday to work for Ogilvy in advertising. At 18 he scored high enough on his SATs to get into City College of New York, the top-ranked advertising school in America. He wanted someday to work for Ogilvy in advertising. At 18 years old by then, and I spent the first three days there sleeping in my van outside the men’s dorm at UCLA.”

From previous page

But Dell’Armo quickly fell in with the Bel Air and Beverly Hills crowd and spent the next three years teaching tennis to movie stars. He eventually found work with Simon Marketing, where he became executive vice president. Then he got the job offer he’d been craving since childhood — from Ogilvy Advertising. They named him senior VP of their West Coast division.

Dell’Armo later ran his own consulting agency, The Madison Group, before retiring from advertising at age 45. He moved from Los Angeles to San Francisco with his two sons: John is a high school teacher today, and Taum Joe is a writer.

Dell’Armo lives today near Quail Lodge with his wife, Diane (retired from a 30-year career in the biopharmaceutical industry), who married him 26 years ago after he proposed on Carmel Beach.

The Dell’Armos have become heavily involved with local nonprofits, including the Monterey Bay chapter of the American Red Cross, for which Taum has served as chairman of the board.

In addition to practicing “the way of the Samurai” on a daily basis, Dell’Armo is in the process of commissioning the eight most-celebrated master swordsmiths in Japan to create swords for a one-of-a-kind art series he intends to market as “The 8 Samurai.”

“I imagine if I had convinced the eight greatest living artists of a generation to create one painting each to be part of a specific series with the seven other great artists,” he said. “A hundred years later, out of all the thousands of paintings those artists had produced during their lifetimes, only one of those paintings would be part of that series. I’m bringing a little bit of Western advertising culture to the East.”

Each sword will be registered with the Japanese government, signed by the master who created it, and its history will be traceable back to its original owner, he said.

More information about Dell’Armo’s presentation on Tuesday can be found online at carmelmansclub.org.

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

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**SPORTS**

From page 27A

Three of the league’s weaker teams — Greenfield (4-11), King City (5-15) and Gonzales (0-17) — were moved to a lower division of the MTAL this year, and Marina (17-3 in the Coastal Athletic League in 2017) has been added.

With two fewer teams in the league, Carmel will play Marina, Santa Catalina (17-8, 12-2 in the MTAL), Pacific Grove (18-8, 10-4), Soledad (17-10, 8-6) and Stevenson (4-12, 4-9) three times each this year.

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**Looking ahead (March 16-22)**

**Baseball** — Friday: Greenfield at Carmel, 4 p.m.; Tuesday: Anzar at Carmel, 4 p.m.; Thursday: Carmel at Anzar, 4 p.m.

**Boys golf** — Tuesday: Carmel vs. York at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch, 3:30 p.m.; Thursday: MTAL league meet at Laguna Seca, 3:30 p.m.

**Boys lacrosse** — Monday: Carmel vs. Pacific Grove at Stevenson, 3:15 p.m.; Tuesday: Carmel at Aptos, 7:15 p.m.

**Girls lacrosse** — Tuesday: Salinas at Carmel, 5:30 p.m.; Thursday: Santa Catalina at Carmel, 5:30 p.m.

**Softball** — Friday: Marina at Carmel, 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday: Santa Catalina at Carmel, 4:30 p.m.

**Swimming** — No events scheduled.

**Boys tennis** — Tuesday: Alvarez at Carmel, 4 p.m.; Thursday: Monterey at Carmel, 4 p.m.

**Track and field** — Saturday: Carmel at Garlic Classic, Christopher High School, 9 a.m.; Thursday: Gonzales and Soledad at Carmel, 3:30 p.m.

**Boys volleyball** — Tuesday: Monterey at Carmel, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday: Carmel at Palma, 6:30 p.m.

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In 2008, Ball’s father took an interest in his son’s work and subsidized the rental of a tiny gallery/studio space in a courtyard on Mission Street, between Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

“It was just a tiny hole-in-the-wall that nobody could find unless they already knew where it was, so there was basically zero foot traffic,” he said. “Every morning, I’d go to Carmel Coffee in the Plaza and sketch until somebody noticed. Then I’d use my iPad to show them my art, and I’d lead them down to my gallery. That’s the only way I could get any business.”

In 2009, after the gallery closed, Ball contacted Interim Inc. in Marina, the private, nonprofit, public-benefit agency that is Monterey County’s only provider of affordable supportive housing for adults with mental and emotional illnesses. The phone call changed his life.

“I basically took over as their art director and made mosaics with people in their program who were struggling with drugs and other issues, helping them do something positive with their lives,” he said. “It was a very positive thing — a high-five at the end of every day, when we’d get to hang a piece of art that we had created together.”

Under Ball’s direction, the program also began creating larger mosaics, including one for Monterey-Salinas Transit Center, and another at Dorothy’s Kitchen in Salinas. Ball’s plan is to purchase a van, rebuild it into a mobile home, and use it this summer to paint the scenery from Portland (where his son and daughter live) to Monterey. Inquiries about Mike Ball’s artwork can be made by contacting him via email at mikeballartist@yahoo.com.

Ball, who previously had slept in Carmel’s alleys and parks, also put a cot and a shower in the back of his gallery and lived there illegally until it closed on Jan. 1, 2009.

“It was always a struggle, financially, but the whole town seemed to be rooting for me. People were very kind,” he said. “People would come to the coffee shop to buy my work. Mira [Shumacher], who owned Carmel Coffee, actually co-signed to help me open my gallery. Another friend, John Tarantino, basically acted as my manager for a while and helped me sell my art. People in Carmel were very supportive.”

In 2009, after the gallery closed, Ball contacted Interim today. Interim helped diagnose Ball’s bipolar disorder and arranged through Social Security to cover the $1,600-a-month cost for his medication.

The agency also placed him with its Shelter Cover Transitional Housing Community, providing him with affordable housing in Marina, an arrangement he’ll keep for a few more months.

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