Rachel Mosolf and Evynn LeValley circulated a petition among the local population, and with “social justice” protests sweeping the California that exists today.

California Mission system in the late 18th century and opened to express themselves about the mascot, which is a caricature, but it does not include any community members without a direct connection to the school. Therefore, the survey (tinyurl.com/carmelmascoat) is their first chance to express themselves about the mascot, which is a caricature, of one of the Spanish padres who established the California Missions system in the late 18th century and opened the door to European settlement and the development of the California that exists today.

While they built churches, created towns and spread the Catholic faith, the padres also illustrated the state’s indigenous population, and with “social justice” protests sweeping the country last summer, CHS alumni Noelie Smith, Rachel Mosolf and Erynn LeValley circulated a petition calling for the removal of the Padre. Following comments at school board meetings last summer, when some said the mascot “represents the enslavement and genocide of local indigenous peoples and their cultures,” others defended its traditional place at the school, the board asked the CHS community, headed by Lyons, to decide whether the Padre icon should remain.

Last October, the school board adopted a new mascot naming policy that says all “mascots, nicknames, symbols, banners, flags, pennants, or similar identifiers used by a school’s sports teams, extracurricular clubs, curricular programs, or academic organizations calling out racism as a major problem in Monterey County.

FOLLOWING DOZENS of other cities and counties in California and the nation, members of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors this week declared racism a “public health crisis” and said discrimination and oppression are responsible for widespread “inequities” in the county.

The supervisors Tuesday unanimously OK’d a resolution calling out racism as a major problem in Monterey County. They also pledged to “promote equity, inclusion and diversity in housing, employment, economic development, health care and public safety.”

Many aspects “Racism creates disparate outcomes in many areas of life that serve as the elemental foundation of the county’s strategic initiatives, including housing, education, employment and the economy, public safety and criminal justice and physical and behavioral health,” the resolution, introduced by Monterey County Health Department director Elsa Jimenez, said.

MONTEREY COUNTY moved into the less restrictive Orange Tier Wednesday, allowing more people to dine in restaurants, go to church and taste some wine, and Gov. Gavin Newsom said Tuesday that most coronavirus restrictions on businesses and public activities would be lifted by June 15, just in time for summer.

The news comes as coronavirus cases continue to decline in Monterey County, with just 102 during the last seven days, the lowest weekly total since mid-May 2020. The county’s vaccination rate has been climbing, with about 41 percent of residents 16 and older having received at least one dose of the Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

MONTEREY COUNTY’s move into the Orange Tier allows restaurants and churches to increase capacity to 50 percent from 25 percent, and piazzas and fitness centers to be open indoors at 25 percent capacity. The Orange Tier also permits the Monterey Bay Aquarium to operate at 50 percent when it opens next month, and movie theaters to bump capacity to 50 percent.

Monterey County has been out of the highly restrictive
**Sandy Claws**

In the sunbelt, just south of Carmel High, an enchanting garden unfolds behind a vine-covered wall. The only view for passersby is through an intricate wrought-iron gate, guarded by two tiny dogs, whose faces peer through the lowest points of scrollwork. They don’t really bark. It’s a kind of chirping that sounds more like a question than a statement.

Their person, who found these little vagabonds wandering the streets of Fresno, really doesn’t know what kind of dogs they are, but he likes to guess. Skip looks like a papillon or a toy spaniel, mixed with something else. Now 8 or 9 years old, he was found trailing behind an older couple during their daily constitutional. Looking ragged and hungry, he seemed to need a home, so his person gave him one.

“Skip’s a quiet, obedient little dog who likes to follow me around the yard,” his person said. “When I first brought him home, he had a chance to wander off but didn’t. I gave him a warm bath, bed and meal, which he probably figured was a pretty good deal. He still thinks so.”

Skip’s companion, a Chihuahua-like pup, was racing across a six-lane highway when her person noticed her dashing among speeding cars. He pulled over to see if he could collect the tiny thing, which was only about 6 months old.

“I don’t know how she made it across that highway,” her person said. “She almost got hit several times. When I got out of my car, she came right to me. I took her to the vet and then home. After a couple of days, she became quite the little pep-upper.”

“Now nearly 2, Pepsi is the most lovable, enthusiastic dog I’ve ever had,” her person said. “She loves up on friends and strangers, alike; she just wants to be petted. And, when she is, she’s overcome with joy.”

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**Kera**

Hi, my name is Kera. I’m a 10½-year-old girl who needs a special person as my pet parent. I lived in a home the first half of my life then spent the last 5 years outside. Now, I’m in a foster home. That’s better, but it took me a month to come out of my shell because I was so scared and confused. Now I sit on my foster mom’s lap and purr happily. I need to be adopted into a quiet adult-only home with no other animals and a patient, gentle person. That’s you, right?

All Golden Retrievers are spayed/neutered and current on medical. If you are interested in Kera go to [www.gocatrescue.org](http://www.gocatrescue.org) and fill out an adoption application.

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**Guarding the gate**

Get your complete Pine Cone every Thursday night by email — free subscriptions at [www.carmelpinecone.com](http://www.carmelpinecone.com)
Council looking at paid parking again

By MARY SCHLEY

REMEMBER WHEN the city tried to charge for parking downtown? Yes, it made money. Yes, it got employees and business owners to stop taking up spaces on Ocean Avenue. And yes, the numerous residents and business owners who hated it voiced their objections loudly enough to convince the city to end its experiments both times.

Now, in its search for more money to possibly help pay off its looming retirement debt or fund more capital projects, with the possible added benefit of reducing traffic congestion in town, the city council wants to look into paid parking again.

At a meeting April 6, Mayor Dave Pot-ter asked the council whether it wants to open up the “wound,” or rather, “this dis-
cussion,” again, “and is it going to be worth our time and expenditure of political cap-
tal, given the failure rate that’s been out there to date?”

Planning director Brandon Swanson presented different options for paid park-
ing in the city, including charging people who leave their cars on Scenic Road, San Antonio Avenue and/or at the Del Mar parking lot at the foot of Ocean Avenue, making those who park downtown pay, or both, and he asked for a basic “yes” or “no” decision whether the council wanted to pursue it.

Day trippers

Councilwoman Carrie Theis said charging for parking would help make day trippers pay for some of the city services they use.

During the pandemic, there were a lot of people in town — many “short-term vis-
itors were using our streets, using our re-

strums, using our beach,” without paying the hotel and other taxes that make those services possible, she suggested.

She also noted that the previous paid-parking experiments worked not just because they brought in money, but be-

cause they forced employees and business owners to not take up spaces downtown and eliminated the two-hour shuffle, when people get in their cars to look for another spot — or give up and leave — to avoid getting a ticket for parking too long.

Thris said she hopes residents and busi-
ness owners will support giving paid park-
ing another go, especially since it no longer involves big ugly parking kiosks and often requires nothing more than a cell phone.

Councilwoman Karen Ferlito said she’s in favor of pursuing it. “We have so many needs and so many things that we want and residents want,” she said.

Ferlito observed that most people vis-
it city expect to pay for parking, since it’s very common in other tourist des-
tinations. She wondered how many beach towns in the state already have paid park-
ing and suggested that information could be useful when facing off with the coastal commission on the issue.

Councilman Jeff Baron said he’d prefer to charge for parking downtown and that it could also alleviate some of the traffic congestion caused by people constantly searching for spaces by letting them park for as long as they want to — and pay for it.

Mayor Dave Potter commented that money earned from paid parking at the beach could be used to improve the Scenic pathway and suggested paid parking be re-

installed in the North Lot at Sunset Center, as it was until 2014.

Potter further suggested that merchants be able to buy parking permits and said the council should look at charging construc-
tion companies for all the parking they take up during jobs. But Potter also warned that putting paid parking downtown will be “the combat zone.”

“I hope the community realizes there are revenues out there that will allow us to provide the services people want,” he said.

With the council generally supportive of the concept, Swanson will develop more refined plans for future discussion.

Pebble Beach Paradise

An exquisite oceanview estate located just a short stroll from Pebble Beach Lodge & Resort, this newly built Mediterranean masterpiece took every detail of its impeccable craftsmanship into account. The grand gated entrance leads through almost 2 acres of meticulously manicured gardens up to multiple parking areas and an oversized 3-car garage perfect for car enthusiasts. The interior of the home exudes luxurious comfort and style, with radiant heated limestone and walnut hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, and 4 luxurious suites each with direct patio access.

www.PebbleBeachParadise.com | $14,900,000

For more of Tim’s listings, view the back cover of the Real Estate section.
Here’s a look at some of the significant events 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.

Wednesday, March 24

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Citizen found a ring on Sixth West of Dolores and turned it in for safekeeping.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Person found a watch lying in the roadway at Camino Real and 10th.

Pacific Grove: Report of two locked bicycles taken from outside a residence on Central Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Non-injury collision reported on Sunset Drive.

Pacific Grove: Theft of a catalytic converter from a vehicle parked on Evergreen Road.

Pacific Grove: Damage to personal property on Monterey Avenue.

Big Sur: A deceased subject was located off Highway 1 in the Big Sur area.

Carmel area: A 19-year-old male on Highway 1 reported being a victim of extortion. Perpetrator(s) remain at large.

Thursday, March 25

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a woman crying near the beach in the area of Scenic south of Eighth at 06:49 hours after an argument. Woman was contacted but did not want to speak to law enforcement. Female made statements about scratches to her face from a female friend. No scratches were observed, and she declined medical attention. Female was picked up by her boyfriend.

Pacific Grove: Subject contacted on Ocean View Boulevard for a municipal code violation and was determined to have an out-of-state warrant as a fugitive from justice. The 26-year-old male was booked into Monterey County Jail.

Pacific Grove: A cell phone was found on Ocean View Boulevard. Owner was contacted and is aware PUPPD is housing the phone for safekeeping.

Carmel area: Child Protective Services referral at a residence on Lorca Lane.

Carmel area: A surveillance camera captured a male and a toddler walking onto a property on San Juan Road that did not belong to them.

Carmel area: A sexual battery occurred between a 15-year-old male suspect and a 16-year-old female victim on Ocean Avenue.

Friday, March 26

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Officer found an unattended cell phone on the Scenic Road pathway and brought it to the station for safekeeping.

Pacific Grove: Petty theft from a vehicle on 13th Street.

See POLICE LOG page 8RE in the Real Estate Section.

The gavel falls

Verdicts, pleas and sentences announced by Monterey County District Attorney Jeaninne Pacioni

Feb. 10 — A jury found David Michael Burge, 30, a resident of Pacific Grove, guilty of four felony charges, including inflicting corporal injury on a person with whom he had a dating relationship, two counts of assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, and communicating a criminal threat. On Oct. 5, 2020, Jane Doe and Burge, her ex-boyfriend, were staying at a local inn when he became angry because she refused to warm up a frozen blueberry muffin for him. In response, he smashed the muffin into her face and punched her in the face with a closed fist. When she called her mother after the incident, Burge told her that she called the police, he would kill her. Her mother overheard this threat. Burge made a second threat that he would get out of jail, come back, and kill her.

On Oct. 7, 2020, Doe awoke and found Burge angry again because she had taken a few bits of a cheeseburger he was saving for himself. He tried to pull her out of bed and demanded that she go buy him a cheeseburger. When she got out of bed, she realized that he had taken her electronic tablet and hidden it from her. He demanded that she give him money for a cheeseburger and punched her in the face. This caused her glasses to fall off her face. While she was on the ground looking for her glasses, he knelt next to her and punched her a second time in the face.

Both punches caused visible injuries and swelling. He then threw her on the bed three times and strangled her each time. The next two times, she was unable to breathe and lost consciousness. The strangulation also left a visible injury on her neck.

Feb. 18 — Judge Pamela L. Butler sentenced Glenn Edwards, 27, a resident of Seaside, to seven years in California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Edwards pled guilty to a charge of robbery with a special enhancement for being armed with a firearm and to making criminal threats. He also admitted he suffered a prior strike conviction. He will have to serve 85 percent of his sentence before being eligible for parole.

On Nov. 9, 2015, Edwards and four juveniles went to Via Paraos Park in Monterey where they approached several victims and demanded they get out of their vehicle, move to another area, and lie down on the ground. Meanwhile, the defendants rustled through the victims’ vehicle, taking items including a purse, iPhone, wallet and mid-size Korean sedan. Edwards forced the victims to just get out of the car and demanded that they hand over money for a cheeseburger and punched her in the face. This caused her glasses to fall off her face. While she was on the ground looking for her glasses, he knelt next to her and punched her a second time in the face.

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Repairs at Rat Creek way ahead of schedule, Hwy 1 to reopen April 30

HIGHWAY 1 at Rat Creek in Big Sur wasn’t expected to reopen until early summer, but that changed Thursday when Caltrans reported that repair work is way ahead of schedule — and the scenic road will reopen between Carmel and Hearst Castle April 30.

Mostly dry weather has made it possible for the work to proceed with minimal delays.

“Reopening Highway 1 at Rat Creek just three months after a washout of this magnitude is great news for residents, recreationists, business owners, and those who move goods through this region,” Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin said. “Caltrans has focused on the emergency work needed to increase the resiliency of this highway section to weather, and the fixes made will allow for safe travel.”

Work continues at the site. “Caltrans will establish the base of a new road during the next two weeks, to be followed by paving and striping,” the agency reported.

Since Highway 1 reopened, there will still be work to do, including installing a new drainage system with a 10-foot diameter culvert to improve flow during storms, and permanent guardrails, along with landscaping. Motorists can expect intermittent traffic delays as a result.

The highway has been closed since heavy rains triggered a mudslide Jan. 28 that wiped out a 150-foot section of pavement south of Rio Road.

“The highway will establish the base of a new road during the next two weeks, to be followed by paving and striping,” the agency reported.

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District 5 Director Tim Gubbins said workers deserve some of the credit for the accelerated timetable. They’ve been on site seven days a week during daylight hours.”

“Our crews have worked to create a safe road in challenging conditions, and we are excited to reopen this lifeline earlier than expected,” Gubbins said.

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New P.G. restaurant coupon offered

The PACIFIC Grove Chamber of Commerce has distributed 5,500 discount dining coupons to nearly two dozen hotels in the city to promote the city’s restaurants ahead of the busy summer season, the chamber announced.

The $10 off coupons — given to guests who stay in 23 of the city’s hotels — count towards single orders made at 36 participating Pacific Grove restaurants. The coupons exclude alcohol, tax and gratuity and are valid through June 20.

The promotion is funded by the Pacific Grove Hospitality Improvement District, which is promotes the hotels.

Chamber president Moe Ammar credited the hotels for “stepping up” in supporting the coupon idea. The chamber in November 2020 mailed $10 off coupons and included them in advertisements in newspapers. More than 4,000 coupons were redeemed.
Wild Gray Wolf passes through county on epic journey southward

By CHRIS COUNTS

Aside from a few stragglers that have been sighted near the state’s northern border, the Gray Wolf hasn’t been seen throughout most of California in a century, but one turned up last week in Monterey County — part of a thousand-mile-plus journey that’s taken him to many parts of the state.

The wolf is now in San Luis Obispo County and continues heading south, averaging more than 16 miles a day. Experts say he left his pack “in search of a new territory and/or a mate.”

While she couldn’t say where the wolf is going, Jordan Traverso of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife said it was inevitable that wolves from Oregon would make their way into California, where they once thrived but were wiped out by the turn of the 20th century.

“They’re prolific and breeding, and they’re expanding their range,” Traverso told The Pine Cone. “We knew this was going to happen — we just didn’t know when.”

The wandering wolf is known to biologists as OR-93, a young male wolf who left what’s called the White River pack, which is based near Mt. Hood in the northern part of Oregon. They’ve been tracking his GPS collar since it was put on him last summer.

“OR-93 continues to travel farther south in California than the collared wolves that have preceded him,” Traverso reported.

According to state fish and wildlife, the wolf entered the northwest corner of California on Jan. 30. After a brief return to Oregon, he was back in the state Feb. 4 and passed through Alpine, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Amador, and Calaveras counties before entering Mono County Feb. 25.

“BY LATE March, OR-93 was in Fresno County, and then entered San Benito County after crossing Highway 99 and Interstate 5,” the agency reported. “He was in Monterey County April 1 and San Luis Obispo County April 5.”

The tracking device the wolf carries does not provide precise locations, and even if state fish and wildlife learns exactly where the wolf is, they won’t say.

“We will protect the precious location,” Traverso said.

If anyone sees OR-93, state fish and wildlife is asking them to report it here: wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Sighting-Report.

“OR-93 also has a purple collar around his neck which should make the animal identifiable,” Traverso noted.

Traverso observed that the Gray Wolf is an endangered species and is protected by state law.

Frustrating search?

She also said it’s a good thing wolves are back in the state. “We’re happy when animals that historically belong here are here,” she added. “Hopefully, it finds what it’s looking for.”

A private environmental group, the Los Padres Forest Watch, noted that state fish and wildlife has sought to identify suitable wolf habitat in California as recently as 2016, which could pave the way for the predator to be reintroduced somewhere in the state — maybe even locally.

“Most of the suitable wolf habitat along the coast is located in the Los Padres National Forest,” the nonprofit reported, adding that it looks forward to seeing more wolves in the region.

“We don’t know if OR-93’s journey will take him into the Los Padres National Forest, nor how long he may stick around,” the group added. “But his presence in our region gives us hope that this won’t be the last time we — or hear — wolves in California’s Central Coast region.”

How moving to a home on 28 acres may be good for your health

You are invited to learn about healthy aging at a free webinar Thursday, April 22nd at 1:30pm

Rattling around a big old house may not be that healthy or safe. As we age, nutrition, exercise and immediate access to health services becomes increasingly important. This informative webinar provides insights into why living in a life care community may be better than long term care insurance for those over 65.

On April 22nd at 1:30 pm Director of Health Services, Chris Regan, R.N., will share her proven techniques for healthy aging. It is a virtual presentation on Zoom. In the 60-minute webinar you’ll learn tips for how a sharp mind contributes to a fit body, and why three levels of care (independent living, assisted living and skilled nursing) in one community is a cost-effective way to prepare for later life.

RSVP by April 20th

Register online at cvmanor.org to participate. After you RSVP, you’ll receive a confirmation email with access to the event. This event is sponsored by Carmel Valley Manor, the only Life Care Community on the Monterey Peninsula. For information about Carmel Valley Manor’s spring discounts call Angie Machado at (800) 544-5546 or visit cvmanor.org

P.G. museum to reopen Saturday

Offering a multi-faceted look at the local flora and fauna, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History is set to reopen Saturday, April 9. The hours will be Friday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

According to the museum, the reopening prioritizes “protecting the health and safety of its staff and visitors,” delivering “on its public service mission and program of scientific research and education,” and contributing “to the recovery of Pacific Grove and the region by welcoming families, teachers, and learners of all ages.”

Like other museums, the local one expanded its online content during Covid, and will continue to do so. “Our digital offerings will remain accessible to serve the widest possible audience on an ongoing basis,” the museum reported. For more details, visit pgmuseum.org.

The Carmel Pine Cone 6A April 9, 2021

■ First to come here in a century

Dinner from 5pm Daily

Tango needs a Partner!

It takes two to Tango, and this sweet dog would like to become your partner for life.

Sweet, social and well-behaved, Tango gets along with other dogs, cats and even chickens! A bit shy with strangers, she warms up quickly and loves cuddling on laps and going for walks.

Chihuahua Mix • Spayed Female • 11 Pounds • 2 Years

Chihuahua Mix Spayed Female 2 Years11 Pounds

Scores of other dogs and cats are waiting for new homes.

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Dinner from 5pm Daily

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How much is $25 Bamboo Bed Sheets? One store claims $123.99, the next, $249.99, so what’s $25 Bamboo Bed Sheets worth?

844.333.0100 • 831.333.0722

About $25 Bamboo Bed Sheets

Pine Cone Staff Report

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THE BRITTON PFEIFFER TEAM is honored to have represented the sale of our multi-generational family estate at 1520 Cypress Drive on the 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links, which closed off-market for $21M. Positioned next door to The Lodge with panoramic, unobstructed ocean and golf course views spanning from Pescadero Point to Point Lobos, this 5 bedroom, 5.5 bath property with guest house was a place the late Ione and Jack Miller, the founders of San Carlos Agency, Inc., called home for decades.

A mid-century modern compound with sprawling grounds providing a backdrop for endless gatherings, the property was the ideal setting for a lifetime of cherished memories. We feel fortunate to continue our family legacy deeply rooted in honesty, integrity, and fair dealings and take great pride in working with families across generations through our work at San Carlos Agency, Inc.
County gets $28.3M to help with rent, utilities

By MARY SCHLEY

The United Way is distributing $28,296,836 in state and federal taxpayer funds to residents who are having a hard time paying their rent and utility bills due to the pandemic’s impacts on their jobs and the local economy.

“The overall goal is to prevent homelessness and address the economic impact of the pandemic,” Katy Castagna, president and CEO of United Way Monterey County, said during a call with local media last month. “We know people have been needing help paying the rent.”

The U.S. Treasury’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program allocated $25 billion for households falling behind on their rent, with the county receiving $12,905,387 to help with rent and utility bills. The county to handle applications and distribute the funds. The nonprofit is working with 13 agencies throughout the county to meet these objectives and not have the state or federal government take it back.

In March, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors voted to have the United Way administer the program, and the nonprofit is working with 13 agencies throughout the county to handle applications and distribute the funds. The program started March 23.

Who’s eligible?

To qualify, residents must be able to demonstrate they’ve lost income due to the pandemic and need help paying their rent and/or water, sewer, power and garbage bills going back as far as March 18, 2020, according to Kerry Madfis, the head of the county’s Department of Social Services. The program has some fraud-prevention aspects, too, including ensuring people can’t apply for and receive funds through the program.

To apply, residents in need can call 211 or go online to mcrenthelp.com to undergo initial screening and referential checks. That information will be sent to United Way along with a copy of their rental lease.

To qualify, residents must be able to demonstrate they’ve lost income due to the pandemic and need help paying their rent and utility bills.

Federal assistance is available to help with rent and utility bills for up to 12 months.

Quite simply, a decision you will never regret.

Carol Crandall Broker/Owner | 831.236.2712
coral@carolcrandall.com | CalDRE#: 01049139 | Licenced 1989

The project has mostly been on the back burner for four years, but two weeks ago, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Monterey County, which is one of the agencies helping residents countywide. The Salvation Army, Goodwill Central Coast, and Central Coast Energy Services. Monterey Peninsula College students can work through the school, which has already received $560,000 from the United Way to help with rent and utility bills.

The program has some fraud-prevention aspects, too, including ensuring people can’t apply for and receive funds through the program.

We pay for news photos!

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.

Planning underway to repair Palo Colorado

By CHRIS COUNTS

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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.
Like any good musical production, it ain’t over till the octopus poops

By ELAINE HESSER

IF YOU’VE missed the aquarium during the year it’s been closed, think how depressing the shutdown has been for the people who work there. But just like Maria von Trapp and those plucky kids in “The Sound of Music,” they’ve figured out how to cheer themselves up. They think of “Aquarium Things.”

In a video that debuted on the aquarium’s website March 12, Aquarium Executive Director Julie Packard and a group of the facility’s staff members lament not only how bad the shutdown has been, but the difficulties of all those Zoom meetings everyone’s had to endure. But singing about sharks, seabirds and bat rays, it turns out, makes everything better.

Avalon Bauman, the lyricist for the project, said the video just grew out of a meeting of the aquarium’s “content team,” which is responsible for what you read on its website, or see on its social media posts and other materials the Aquarium puts out. “My favorite things” came up, and other materials the aquarium provides, says Bauman, contributed to the lyrics as well.

Unusual lyrics

The idea for the video took shape, but singers were needed. Through some personal contacts, the aquarium reached out to Sandy Rudo, a music instructor at Hartnell, who, among other things, directs the college choir. She arranged for the choir to perform the song — but only after they mastered lyrics like, “dolphinfish darting with colorful flashes,” “octopus poop that looks like one long noodle,” and “a mola mola that looks like a Frisbee, kelp forest swaying and making you dizzy.”

Once the music was completed, the video was recorded in various exhibit areas, and Bauman said that many of the employees are shown with their own favorite aquarium things. While there are the req-

See AQUARIUM page 22A
TOURISM GROUPS SAY SHOTS, TESTING KEY TO KEEPING TRAVEL OPEN, HOTELS FULL

By MARY SCHLEY

As anyone who’s been out and about on the Monterey Peninsula during the past several months knows, visitors are already flocking here. But with this week’s move to the Orange Tier and subsequent lifting of more restrictions on businesses, local tourism organizations and chambers are now free to market the area as a travel destination — and to do what they can to make sure no surges in infections occur as a result.

Amy Herzog, executive director of Visit Carmel, which is funded by fees charged to hotel guests and restaurant customers, said her group “is committed to not only promoting the destination, but also to protecting and preserving it.” That effort includes marketing that “educates and reminds our visitors to ‘Love Carmel Like a Local’ by visiting safely and responsibly.”

The Carmel Chamber of Commerce, meanwhile, has “truly advocated” for the safe reopening of businesses and is encouraged by the state’s move to lift restrictions — including the possibility of getting rid of most of them in mid-June — according to Jenny MacMurdo, president and CEO. “It is a welcome sense of progress for all, businesses and residents alike,” she said.

Stop the rollercoaster

But the past year has certainly demonstrated that progress during a pandemic is far from linear, and everyone should work hard to avoid a repeat of the rollercoaster ride of 2020 and early 2021 that had businesses reopening and then being shut down again amid surges in infections.

“I can tell you that there is a lot of optimism among our stakeholders. To be clear, it is a cautious optimism, because uncertainty is still rampant,” said Rob O’Keefe, president and CEO of the Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau. “But our hospitality industry has shown one thing that is absolutely certain: our resiliency and innovation will get us through.”

Business owners and residents are responsible for what happens next, according to MacMurdo.

“Staying open is entirely up to us,” she said. “We must remember that while we move forward, there is no guarantee that we won’t move back. As such, we ask that everyone continue to protect themselves and others from the spread of coronavirus.”

Getting people vaccinated is critical, and with more vaccine now available, many are becoming eligible for the shot even sooner than expected. Everyone 16 and over will be able to get it starting April 15, though this week, the county opened clinics to that group when officials realized they had enough vaccine to do so.

“Local business owners are optimistic currently, with vaccinations on the rise and cases on the decline, and the new CDC guidance of ‘OK to travel for those vaccinated’ has given a big bump to our area,” MacMurdo said.

Herzog said hotel bookings are nearing pre-pandemic levels.

“We are seeing hotel bookings approaching 2019 numbers, which we attribute to short-term pent-up demand to travel, as well as the increasing number of vaccinated people,” she said. “We are hopeful for a nice, even level of visitation to continue through the summer to aid in recovery.”

The right sales pitch

Visit Carmel has been marketing to upscale travelers who are more inclined to fly or drive here for longer stays, she said. O’Keefe is projecting a multiyear recovery for tourism, especially international travel, and while some forecasts don’t see the numbers reaching pre-Covid levels until 2025, aggressive marketing might speed that up.

“We couldn’t control the onset of Covid, but we certainly can affect our recovery,” he said.

The MCCVB, which the City of Carmel and other local cities pay for destination marketing, will launch a new national advertising pitch later this month. “The campaign is just the first step in a multiyear attempt to put our destination brand on the map with new travelers who might

See TOURISM page 14A

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See TOURISM page 14A

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See TOURISM page 14A
Group ranks Panetta above average

Much better than Pelosi, Schiff, Swalwell or Ocasio-Cortez

R E P . JIMMY Panetta is more successful as a lawmaker in the U.S. House of Representatives than many of his colleagues who have much more experience, according to rankings released last month by two prominent American universities.

The Center for Effective Lawmaking—a nonpartisan project between the University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University—measures the success of members in the House of Representatives by the number of bills each one sponsored, the bills that received action in a committee or on the House floor, and bills that passed the House and became law.

The center provides what it calls a Legislative Effectiveness Score for each member of the House and Senate based on 15 indicators that “collectively capture” the ability of a legislator to move items “through the legislative process and into law,” according to an explanation on the center’s website.

Panetta, a Democrat, was given a score of 1.126, which is above the 1.0 that the center considers average for federal legislators, although the researchers also said he ranked 121 out of 240 among his Democratic colleagues in the House.

Panetta told The Pine Cone Wednesday that while he appreciates the recognition, he had not heard of the group. He also said such rankings don’t take into account legislation that is included in other, much larger bills. For example, the Full Military Honors Act, which Panetta authored, was included in the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act. That bill and numerous others Panetta backed were signed into law in the 116th Congress.

“I appreciate it, and I think the study demonstrates some of my work, but it definitely doesn’t demonstrate all of my work,” Panetta said.

“The ultimate indicator” of the work he’s doing is the satisfaction from his constituents, he went on to say.

How he compares

Georgetown University last year gave Panetta high marks for his job performance, ranking him 42nd out of more than 400 Democratic and Republican lawmakers.


California Democrat Rep. Adam Schiff’s score, for instance, was just below the 1.0 average, while Rep. Eric Swalwell, also from California, was scored at an abysmal 0.270.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the socialist from New York, was among the least effective lawmakers, getting a score of only 0.209, and a ranking 230 out of 240.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi ranked near the bottom at 237 out of 240.

Panetta offered a possible reason some legislators received low marks.

“There are members of Congress who legislate, and there are members who are successful in other ways,” he said.

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HOUSE OF EIGHT MEDIA
Golden Arches in the village? No, that already never happened

By CHRIS COUNTS

A BRIGHT red and yellow sign announcing that a McDonald's restaurant is coming soon recently went up on a cherished building in Carmel Valley Village, where such a thing could be seen as a reason to start a riot. But there's nothing to be alarmed about — the sign is 30 years old.

It's actually part of an eye-catching display of old business signs from the village that recently went up on the outside of the Carmel Valley History Center.

The folks at the history center are busy behind the scenes preparing the museum's grand reopening, which is set for May 1, and the display of signs is one of its new exhibits. The museum, which contains a varied collection of photos and historical artifacts, has been closed since March 2020.

"We took advantage of the down time and we completely refreshed our exhibits and added a few new ones," Jeffrey Olsen told The Pine Cone.

The sign exhibit is certain to be popular with tourists and locals, a few of whom may recall the controversy when the McDonald's sign went up.

"In the early 90s, an old bank went out of business, and there was a lot of concern about what was going to take its place," Olsen explained. "A couple of jokers made a sign saying that McDonald's is coming soon, which got everyone up in arms. It was quickly taken down."

Signs of a time gone by

The collection of historic signs has been placed on three sides of the museum's exterior, and includes favorites from the Thunderbird Bookstore, Carmel Valley Sun, Carmel Valley Market and the Carmel Valley Airport.

Another new exhibit looks at steelhead in the Carmel River and local tributaries — not just from an environmental perspective, but an historical one, too. Old photos showing numerous anglers lining the banks of the river will no doubt surprise the locals of today.

See SIGNS page 16A
Council considers more than $3.6M in projects, doesn’t take any off list

By MARY SCHLEY

The city laid off employees last year as the pandemic severely impacted tax revenues, and an ever-growing retirement debt is a constant source of worry, but the city council is contemplating spending $3.6 million on capital projects over the next year, including studying the idea of closing Sixth Avenue behind Devendorf Park to create a “Devendorf Plaza.”

Council members are also set to spend an unasked-for $158,000 in retroactive pay for the police officers and city executives who took pay cuts to help shore up the 2020-2021 budget, according to their discussion at the April 6 meeting.

And they approved spending another $262,580 this year on a half-dozen “essential” projects, including a new fire pump at Sunset Center, a new water filtration system in the public works yard, two new police cars and a new dispatch center in the Carmel P.D. station, as well as a greenhouse gas emissions study and money to reopen a Covid-compliant city hall.

With that decided, public works director Bob Harary presented a list of 31 projects estimated to cost $3,606,565, with nearly $680,000 for roadwork, $200,000 for a new police antenna, and allocations for police radios, a new ambulance, repairs at Sunset Center, generators, various planning documents, signs for storm drains and streambed stabilization, the long-discussed Carmel P.D. renovation, renovation of the Scout House (which has been closed since 2003) and various other projects.

The list also includes a $132,500 plan to digitize more than 5,000 paper records kept in the planning and building department and make them accessible online.

$12 million more

He also projected an additional $12 million worth of projects, plans and equipment between July 2022 and July 2026.

Harary acknowledged the list of projects exceeds the amount of tax dollars the city has to spend on it.

“Our needs still well exceed those funds,” he said. “We have a long-range problem with infrastructure — that shouldn’t be news to council or anyone in the audience.”

City administrator Chip Rerig reminded the council that the projected nearly $2.63 million surplus this fiscal year might be sparking a lot of confidence in the city’s cash flow, but that spending it all on capital projects wouldn’t be prudent.

“If we spend all the money on capital, then there’s no money to hire anyone back to implement the projects,” he said.

Not one dollar

What Harary’s list didn’t include was any money for the Scenic Road pathway, which upset the Carmel Cares volunteers who have been tending to the path for months. Many sent letters criticizing the city for not pitching in to help restore and maintain an important piece of real estate.

“It is critical that the city dedicate adequate resources to the Scenic pathway. This is not just some static asset,” said resident Shirley Moon, the lead Carmel Cares volunteer who spends hours working to keep it tidy. “It is a revenue-generating part of our community.”

In the eight months she’s spent working down there, Moon said she has learned even more how important the bluff pathway is to locals and visitors. She’s received thank-you notes, impromptu cash donations, support from Scenic residents — and frequent questions about why the city isn’t doing the work.

“I was surprised to see not one dollar was invested in the Scenic pathway,” said Dale Byrne, who founded Carmel Cares. “The city could stop spending money to assess the problems at the Scenic pathway and start working with Carmel Cares to get things done.”

After spending considerable time discussing the projects — though not going into great depth on the idea of creating a new Devendorf Park plaza that would incorporate the library but doesn’t indicate what would happen to Rich Pepe’s Vesuvio restaurant or the fire department’s need to use Sixth Avenue to get through town — council members did not make any decisive moves to take anything off the list.

As a result, city administrator Chip Rerig suggested sending the entire list to the planning commission to review for compliance with the general plan.

The council will take another look at the list when it gets the whole draft 2021-2022 budget at its regular meeting in May.
Pastor project pit, Carmel Lodge, WWI arch at planning commission

By MARY SCHIEY

MONACO BILLIONAIRE Patrice Pastor’s long-awaited plans for the pit at Dolores and Fifth, the proposed remodel of the Carmel Lodge following years of inactivity, and a proposal to install bol- lards and chains around the World War I Memorial Arch to keep people from climbing on it and stop cars from running into it are on the planning com- mission’s lengthy April 14 agenda.

All told, the commission is set to discuss and vote on 11 applications during the meeting, which is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

Pastor’s Ulrika Plaza project, which is replacing the defunct plans for Del Dono Court, is likely to be the most interesting. Among his many real-es- tate transactions in town over the last several years, Pastor’s purchase of the large property on the south-west corner of Dolores and Fifth from developers Bob Ledig and Michael Draper for $9 million in March 2020 drew a lot of attention, given the con- struction site had languished for more than a year after they ran out of funds. Adjacent properties consti- tute the most interesting. Among his many real-es- tate transactions in town over the last several years, Pastor’s purchase of the large property on the south-west corner of Dolores and Fifth from developers Bob Ledig and Michael Draper for $9 million in March 2020 drew a lot of attention, given the con- struction site had languished for more than a year after they ran out of funds. Adjacent properties con- tinue to suffer structural problems as a result.

Last November, Pastor and his representatives shared preliminary plans for the large corner prop- erty. Designed by architect Henry Ruhnke, the half-plex will contain a dozen apartments and 17 shops, Mediterranean, half Tudor-style, two-story com- pany. Designed by architect Henry Ruhnke, the half-plex will contain a dozen apartments and 17 shops, and underground parking. The planning commis- sion is set to get its first look at the project April 14.

The Carmel Lodge a block away at San Carlos and Fifth has been slated for a rebuild for years, but the permits expired, and nothing has happened there. Now, the commission will review new plans prepared by the Paul Davis Partnership firm.

Protect the arch

The Fountain project, which ended up undergo- ing numerous planning commission and city coun- cill meetings due to its unusual proposal of taking over the memorial, is set to be back, too. At its last public hearing in April 2019, the city council asked for more changes to plans that had already been reworked several times to address var- ious issues on the awkward lot on Eighth between Junipero and Mission.

And, in the final step of their restoration of the World War I arch, proponents are asking the city to take down the OK chains, posts and other measures to keep peo- ple off the memorial.

For detailed information about the commission’s upcoming meeting, visit ci.carmel.ca.us. Planning director Brandon Swanson said the full agenda packet should be available Friday afternoon.

Forest Theater to reopen with ‘Wizard of Oz’

By CHRIS COUNTS

CLOSER SINCE the pan- demic began, the Forest Theater will welcome back a live audience April 24 when PacRep Theatre and the Forest Theater Guild team up to present a screening of classic film, “The Wizard of Oz.” Show- time is 8 p.m.

“The better way to celebrate the reopening of Carmel’s his- toric Forest Theater, than with a cinematic treasure that is, itself, a Forest Theater favorite?” PacRep’s executive director Stephen Moor- er asked. “There’s no place like home.”

Due to Covid restrictions, the theater will be far from packed, but at least there will be an audi- ence, albeit a socially distanced local one.

“Covid restrictions will be fol- lowed, including the use of masks, socially distanced seating for individual households, and se- lected staggered arrival times be- ginning at 6:30 p.m.” PacRep an- nounced. “As of this date, tickets will only be available for regional- attended — within 120 miles — and concessions will not be available.”

But that doesn’t mean you can’t munch on something tasty while you enjoy the film, or sip on a bev- erage. “The traditional practice of ‘bringing your own picnic’ is en- couraged,” PacRep confirmed.

You can also converse with some very special guests, but don’t try give any of them a hug. “Prior to the film, as guests arrive, PacRep’s Dorothy, Scarecrow, T’In Man and Lion will be available for socially distanced ‘photo bombs,’ so audiences should bring their cameras or smart phones,” PacRep suggested.

Proceeds benefit the two local nonprofit theater groups. Every- body who attends will receive a commemorative poster.

Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for all those under 18. For tickets call (831) 622-0100 or visit pacrep.org.
It is estimated that half of those with glaucoma don’t know that they have it. Glaucoma rarely has symptoms—until it’s too late. A dilated eye exam can detect glaucoma early and save your sight. Don’t delay.

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Illustration of field of vision decrease from glaucoma

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promoting sustainable travel to ensure tourists are educat-
ed and encouraged to treat our community with respect,”
O’Dell said.

Janine Chicourrat, GM of the Portola Hotel and chair
of the Monterey County Hospitality Association’s execu-
tive committee, said she knew her
Weekends, which are already busy as it is. “We’re also

SHERILL LYNN
McLeod

Sherrill (Lynn) McLeod
Sherrill (Lynn) McLeod, 73, of Carmel, California, passed away January 25, 2021, due to a car
accident enroute from Idaho Falls, Idaho, to her home in Carmel, California.
She was born in Wheatridge, Colorado to parents Leland and Mary Elizabeth Williams. She
had one brother, Lee, who also passed away this past year.

Lynn was self-educated and scored high on all
tests and leveled up quickly in school. She
worked in upper management as a secretary
and was advised to go into the oil industry. She
became a PA to upper management. She
married her husband, Jerry, the love of her life,
in 1975. She had two stepsons, Mark and Steve. 
Jerry passed away in 2010.

Lynn lived a very interesting life. She traveled
to many different places. She took cooking
classes from top chefs, one being President
Kennedy’s personal chef. She loved to cook
and would put on grand dinners for 500 people.
She was always learning and consistently
expanded her knowledge in some way, such
as weekly memorizing new words and their
definitions. She was an interior decorator and
loved antiques. Lynn enjoyed oil painting and
at one time had an exhibit in Carmel.

She had a beautiful smile and contagious
laugh. Lynn cared for her family and friends
very much.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your
favorite charity.

Richard Fowler

Richard Fowler, long-time resident of the Monterey Peninsula, passed peacefully in Medford, Oregon on
Thursday, March 25, 2021. He was born in Goff, Kansas. When he was six years old his family moved to
Fresno, CA. He went to school in the Fresno area until the 8th grade. He then attended the Scandinavian
grammar school, a three-room school with grades 6-8 in one room and the same teacher for all three years.

He graduated from Clovis High School in 1949. His favorite subjects
were history, math, sports and wood-shop. Sports were a passion from his youth and in High School he lettered three years in football, and was
voted outstanding lineman his senior year. He also lettered two years
in baseball as a catcher. He attended Fresno City College in 1949
and lettered in football. A friend on the football team invited him to go
with him to the US Marine Reserve meeting one evening in 1949. He
later enlisted, and after boot camp served two years on active duty as a
Sergeant and five years in the reserve.

Richard married his high school sweetheart, Vernes, in 1951. They
had known each other since early childhood and began their 70 years together
in Carlisle, CA, eventually making their home in many locations of
California (Fresno, Solvang, Monterey, Corral De Tierra) and recently
in Medford, Oregon.

Richard worked for the Pacific Gas & Electric Company for over 28 years
as an electrician in Monterey Peninsula, Pacific Grove and Monterey
Shores. He was promoted to lineman, foreman and troubleshooter in Monterey, CA. In 1980 he left PG&E to enter the real estate business. He owned
and managed Harbor Realty in Monterey, CA for over 20 years as Agent and Broker. He retired at 78 years of age and after a few years moved to the retirement community of
Ridge Valley Manor, in Medford, Oregon.

He enjoyed many activities and hobbies like golf, fishing, backpacking,
woodworking, gardening and he was an avid reader. One of the joys he
found at Ridge Valley Manor was the opportunity to garden and the
beautiful veggies and flowers were shared with his friends and neighbors.
Richard also enjoyed being on the “Ice Cream Team,” delivering treats
to those who were housebound. Serving and helping others was important
and enjoyable.

Richard and Vernes have been very active in their churches throughout
their lives at Marylflower Church in Pacific Grove and Cypress Community
Church on Monterey-Salinas Hwy. They have enjoyed the fellowship of
Westminster Presbyterian Church during their time in Medford, Oregon.

He was also a member of Sunrise Rotary Club of Monterey.

Richard is survived by his loving wife Vernes; brother Boy Fowler; daughter
Sharon Smith (Ed), and son Richard Dean Fowler; granddaughter Amy
Baj (Chris) and grandchildren Peter Smith (Audrey), Jacob Fowler, and Paul
Fowler; and five great-grandchildren.

No service is planned at this time. In lieu of flowers—memorial contributions may be sent to Samaritan’s Purse at samaritanspurse.org

$1.8 billion, and job recovery is lagging but is starting to
ramp back up, with labor shortages becoming a growing concern.

Chicourrat also noted those in the hotel and restaurant
sector are well practiced in protecting people, at this
point. “When the pandemic started, we didn’t know how to pro-
tect ourselves and our employees,” she said. “Within 60
days, we figured out what we needed to do. I think people
are comfortable and prepared.”

Testing still important
MacMurdo is convinced ongoing testing will also be
significant in the ongoing recovery.

“There’s a new movement toward routine testing and
prevention for hospitality workers,” she said. “The idea
is that moving forward, even for those vaccinated, routine
testing of employees will be helpful as prevention against spread from or to tourists.”

MacMurdo and others are working to build “a reliable,
staffed, routine local testing program for our hospitality
workers” to help identify hot spots and other problems be-
fore they get out of control. She said she hopes to get the
city on board, too.

When restrictions are finally lifted and the coronavirus is
under control, Chicourrat said, “I really do believe there
will be a return like the Roaring ’20s.”

And when that happens, MacMurdo said, “our busi-
nesses will be prepared and ready.”

SIGNS

From page 12A

A third new display looks at the history of roads and
transportation in Carmel Valley — from Native Americans
using oxen to pull wagons, to modern-day SUVs zipping
up and down Carmel Valley Road.

Besides new shows, Olsen and fellow volunteers did
lots of little things to make the museum a better place, like,
making captions on displays easier to read — an important
consideration when so many of its visitors are retirees.

Located at 77 Carmel Valley Road, the museum also has
a small bookshop, which mostly showcases local au-
thors.

PAUL KNOSTMAN

Paul Knostman, resident of Pebble Beach, passed away
Feb. 18, 2021. Paul was born in Spokane, WA and went to Whitman
College where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and graduated in 1961 with a BA in Biology.

After college he attended Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, which led to a commission in the

He earned his MS in Environmental Studies with
a subspecialty in Oceanography/Meteorology at the
Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. During his
20 years of active duty, he was involved in the Cuban missile crisis in 1961 and the landing of
the first US ground forces in Vietnam in 1965. He
was also part of the contingency operation during
the instability in Greece in 1967, in the Middle East
in 1968, and joint service with the UN Command in Seoul, Korea during the imposition of martial law in
1972.

After retiring from the Navy, he spent eight years as a Data Base Manager with the Marine Review
Committee’s San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
environmental research project. Later, he was a
consulting environmental specialist and technical
writer in oceanography, marine climatology, and marine biology.

He and Vicki retired in Pebble Beach in 2002. Paul loved
golf and was a member of The Stilledford 9-Holers.
He was a devoted volunteer at The Monterey Bay
Aquarium where he worked every Thursday afternoon
for almost 20 years. He is survived by his wife of 56
years, Vicki; their two children Greg Knostman and
Peggy McComish; and four grandchildren.

He was a loving, patient, and devoted husband,
father, and grandfather and is immensly missed.

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

From page 10A

not have considered us before,’’ he said.
Safety and responsibility will remain key, as will ef-
forts to bring travelers here off-season and midweek,
considering weekends are already busy as it is.” We’re also

TOURISM

From page 10A

Tours of
Monterey Peninsula
with
Tours of
Monterey Peninsula
with
Tours of
Monterey Peninsula
On March 20, 2021, with his loved ones beside him, Ulrich G. Peretz, lost his long and hard-fought battle with lung cancer. Uli will be remembered as a father, husband, son, brother, uncle, rock and roll tour manager, Deputy Fire Marshal, storyteller, lover of life, and a great friend.

He was born in Jerusalem, Israel on July 3, 1954, to parents Andreas (born in Berlin) and Miriam (born in Jerusalem) they soon relocated to Frankfurt, Germany where Uli grew up. At age 15, Uli started working in the music industry for Fritz Rau, the largest concert promoter in Europe. He later came to work with some of the most well known rock and roll artists of our time, he toured throughout Europe and all over the world. Many of his best stories came from this time in his life.

Uli met his first wife, Susie Moon, while traveling, which brought him to live in Carmel, California in 1982. He continued working in the music industry until the mid 1990s when his son, David, was born to his second wife, Jana Brinsmead. He then decided to change careers to remain closer to his family.

Uli began studying Fire Science while working as an EMT/volunteer firefighter for Carmel and Mid Valley Fire Departments. He was eventually hired by the Redwood City Fire Department and retired in 2016 as a Deputy Fire Marshal. In 2018, he was proud to become an official US citizen.

He leaves behind his son, David Peretz; stepdaughter, Jahre Carver; fiancée of 8 years, Julie Murray; brother, Ronny Peretz; his 101-year-old mother; and a host of dear friends around the globe.

Uli’s generous heart of gold made all those who met him feel welcome. His lively storytelling, warm smile and twinkle in his eye will remain with those who knew him forever.

Dear Uli, you are deeply loved and incredibly missed! Prost!

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Stanford Hospital for their years of amazing care. And to the staff of Hospice of the Central Coast for helping him with a peaceful transition.

Gifts for lung cancer research can be made to Dr. Joel Neal at makeagift.stanford.edu

If you have a photo or a story to share about Uli, please go to The Paul Mortuary website https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/10115794 and post on Uli’s Everlasting Memory book.

From his family and friends — Thank You!
School as family

FOR THE first few years of their children’s lives, parents pretty much have a monopoly on their emotional and intellectual development. They teach them simple tasks like how to speak, the names of shapes and objects, and how to get dressed. They also provide comfort and love and start the child on the road to emotional maturity by demonstrating when it’s OK to be upset, how people are supposed to react to each other, and the difference between right and wrong. They also spend a lot of time trying to teach their children not to do some of the antisocial things they were born wanting to do — like grabbing something they want or throwing fits when they don’t get their way.

From birth until about to about 5 years, parents are in charge of all that and — except for ideas that come from parent-selected books and TV shows — what they teach accounts for pretty much all a child knows. For young children, their parents are their whole world.

But all that changes as soon as a child starts going to school. Instead of parents, there are teachers to handle increasingly complicated academic subjects and, even more importantly, friends who become a young person’s main source of support, camaraderie and even love. Family is still very important, of course, but as a child grows, the world begins to take over, and when a young person reaches 13 or 14, parents may even find that what they say doesn’t matter much anymore. Their child’s education, they realize, is in everyone’s hands but theirs. School and friends are what matters.

It hasn’t always been this way, of course. Until the 17th century, most children never went to school at all, and illiteracy was common. Even in the United States, public schools didn’t become ubiquitous until the late 19th century. Now, of course, the idea that a child starts first grade at age 6, goes to school five days a week except for vacations, and graduates from high school at 18 is so universally accepted, it’s practically part of nature. Taking it away would be like taking away the atmosphere. At least, that’s what we thought until the coronavirus epidemic.

Suddenly, there was no school to go to, and what took its place was terrible. Online lessons turned out to be a poor substitute for in-classroom instruction in academic subjects and provided zero interaction with friends. Many students not only felt cut off from their normal daily routines and physical environment, they felt completely isolated from the social structure they relied on to be happy. Online learning also wasn’t fun.

Schools are starting to reopen now — that’s great news for society, which needs an educated populace, but it’s even better news for the children, who will now have a chance to return to the environment they love best. Sure, family can be nice, and sometimes school can be a pan. But saying hi to your bestie before the bell rings, joining them at lunch, and playing or hanging out together after school is what really makes life worth living.

With things getting back to normal, we’re happy for many people. But most of all, we’re happy for the kids.
Nature provided the setting, but these guys built the golf courses

As you watch the Masters this week-end, you may hear about its original golf course architects — Bobby Jones and Alister MacKenzie.

**History Beat**

By NEAL HOTELLING

Jones, a native of Georgia, was a successful attorney and the unquestioned greatest golfer on the planet. Building Augusta National was his dream. The year before he and MacKenzie began planning the course, Jones had done what many thought was impossible. In the single year of 1930 he won the U.S. Open, the U.S. Amateur, the British Open and the British Amateur. The feat has never been repeated.

Alister MacKenzie was a Scot, whom, after serving in the Boer Wars, returned to Scotland and took up golf architecture. To my thinking, he was the greatest golf architect of his era. He is the only architect credited with seven courses in the Top 100 in America, including two in the Top 10 — Cypress Point (No. 2) and Augusta (No. 6). He assisted on at least three others on the list, and has four others ranked among the Top 100 in the World, including Australia’s Royal Melbourne (No. 7). Despite his success and fame, there were few published photos of MacKenzie until now.

Photo curator

Barbara Briggs-Anderson, of Montecito and Carmel Valley, is the curator of the Julian P Graham photo collection at Leon Hill. Her husband, Terry, is the grandson of Graham, who was the official photographer for Pebble Beach Resorts from 1926 until his death in 1963. She has just released a new e-book titled, “Dr. Alister MacKenzie in 97 Photos 1926-1934,” an expansion of a 2015 edition. MacKenzie first came to California in January 1926 at the invitation of Pebble Beach resident Robert Hunter Hunter, who was best known for his books on socialism, had taken up golf on the advice of a doctor. He became a passionate student of the science of course development and met MacKenzie while researching course architecture in Scotland. Hunter invited him to come and review some opportunities near San Francisco.

The timing of MacKenzie’s arrival was serendipitous. S. F. Morse was preparing to open Monterey Peninsula Country Club and Marion Hollins was in the planning stage of Cypress Point Club. Architect Seth Raynor, who was working on both projects, died just days prior to MacKenzie’s arrival.

After meeting with Morse and Hollins in early February, the new partnership of MacKenzie and Hunter was retained to finish the courses. In March 1926 Charles Scribner published Hunter’s newest book, “The Links.” As the first American book on the subject of golf course architecture, it immediately enhanced the team’s credentials. MacKenzie had earlier published his first book, “Golf Architecture,” in 1920 in London.

MacKenzie and Hunter developed several courses together in California. On the Peninsula, they first completed the Dunes course in 1926. They also redesigned the 8th and 9th holes at Pebble Beach Golf Links prior to the first professional tournament held at Pebble Beach, the $5,000 Monterey Peninsula Amateur in 1926.

The woman behind the hippo with a parasol and a red-headed mermaid

**CARLAINE WILLIS**, one of the original members of the Carmel Valley Art Association, has established her brand over the years as a prolific painter, and a maker of beaded jewelry, but nowadays has affixed her fascination on making three-dimensional creatures and critters using wool, felt, and beads.

Willis’ spot in the Carmel Village gallery includes a series of small, woolly adornables — bunnies, bears, dogs, ducks, a penguin, a red-haired mermaid in a string of pearls, a cowboy astride a brown-and-white pony, and a pink princess and a hippo (both carrying parasols).

“I found it to be great fun, jabbing away at the wool,” she said.

Two tropheus, three aces

She also uses wool to create 3D pet portraits and fuzzy bracelets — a divergence from the sparkly, beaded jewelry she typically makes.

She also paints, an art form she began learning 25 years ago. Willis tried her hand at plein-air, then ventured indoors as a studio artist.

“What is the saying? ‘I’m interested in a lot of things, and I like to think I do some of them well,’” she said. “I don’t know that I get bored, but I’m always looking for something new to trigger my interest.”

Willis also enjoys playing bridge. She bowls, works at a fitness center at least twice a week, and she’s an avid golfer.

The Quail Lodge resident needs only to step outside her back door to find the course where she still plays regularly at age 78.

Willis, in fact, is a two-time club champion at Quail, and also has scored three holes-in-one — probably due to the passion she showed one day when she got an opportunity to play Pebble Beach for $100.

“We were loading our clubs into the trunk of my friend’s car, she accidentally slammed the lid shut on my fingertips, and I started bleeding profusely,” Willis remembered. “My friend said, ‘Well, we certainly can’t go now,’” and I said, “Are you kidding? When will I ever get the chance to play Pebble Beach for $100?”

Willis recalls bleeding all over the first four holes of the world’s most beautiful golf course that day, but she finished the round.

“Did groundkeepers wonder if they had stumbled upon a crime scene? We’ll never know.”

Willis was a war baby, born in 1942 in St. Mary’s, Idaho, her mother’s hometown.

Her father was a World War II bomber pilot in North Africa and Europe, and her “Air Force beat” upbringing included postwar tours in Ohio, Louisiana, and Japan.

“I actually think it was helpful that we were moving around, having to make new friends. I was an outgoing kid, never shy,” she said.

In 1961, Carlaine moved into an apartment complex in Menlo Park with a car full of belongings that needed to go into her new, second-floor dwelling. Stanford grad Nick Willis, a Navy veteran, gallantly helped her get settled.

The next day, Nick saw Carlaine lounging beside the pool in her swimsuit. He watched her undress, shake out her hair, and dive into the water. They’ve been married 59 years.

Nick, a research engineer, joined the Defense Advanced Research Products Agency in 1977, a job that took his family of four to Wadington, Idaho, where he helped develop stealth radar aircraft. “I used to tell everybody, ‘My husband does dirty war-related research,’” she joked. “Virtually all of it was classified.”

The torpedo factory

While living on the East Coast, 53-year-old Carlaine discovered the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Va., which, during both world wars, was exactly what the name suggests.

The factory was converted into a federal records center in 1969. In 1973, the city and the local art league acquired the site, hauled away 40 dump trucks full of debris, power-washed the interior with fire hoses, and renovated the building to create Torpedo Factory Art Center. It became a three-level studio and gallery for 225 artists, including a housewright, maker, and the final resting place of a 21-foot-long, 3,000-pound, Mark IV torpedo case — a housewarming present from the Navy Seabees.

The Torpedo Factory was awesome — a lot of working artists, and a lot of foot traffic because it’s right on the waterfront in Old Town Alexandria, a cute little area with a lot of restaurants,” she said. “It was only there for a year, but I learned to work with pastels. That’s where I became enamored with painting art. It was a great place to start.”

In 1994, her husband accepted a job in Santa Barbara.

See ARTIST page 31A

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This will happen at the beginning of the service and at the end when the vehicle is parked. Along with good hygiene, we are doing our best to serve our customers and protect them from getting sick. It is mandatory for our employees to stay home if they are sick. In addition, we have installed hand sanitizer dispensers in the shop and in the lobby for both customers and employees to use.

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A day, the appointments were filled. 

"Unlike when the restrictions were lifted before, there are people who are vaccinated now," said Monterey County Health Department spokeswoman Karen Smith.

While the Orange Tier allows for more freedom, she warned county residents to remain cautious.

"The public health practices of wearing a mask, staying home when you are sick, washing your hands frequently, watching your distance and getting tested when needed are still important to keep the numbers low," Smith said. "Get vaccinated when it is your turn."

Many Monterey County public schools are reopening for in-class instruction this week and next week, which is great news for parents and students. Health officials say the likelihood of coronavirus transmission in a school setting is low.

"So much vaccine has become available in the county," Smith said Wednesday that it had several hundred vaccine openings this weekend for county residents ages 16 and older, even though eligibility for that group doesn’t start until next week. By 9 p.m. Wednesday, the appointments were filled.

Fewer vaccines

However, just as anyone 16 and older will be able to get the jab starting April 15, a county employee warned of a vaccine deficit in Monterey County. Health department epidemiologist Kirsty Michie said Wednesday that the state Department of Public Health informed California counties that the state would receive 400,000 fewer vaccine doses next week.

"That is really unfortunate," Michie told the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. "Counties across California will see a decrease in their allocation next week."

It’s not known yet how many fewer vaccine doses Monterey County will receive, however.

Smith told The Pine Cone the reduction in vaccine allocations for the week of April 12 is related to manufacturing issues by vaccine provider Johnson & Johnson. The company announced last week that it had to discard a batch of vaccines.

Meanwhile, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula is seeking volunteers for its vaccination efforts. The hospital already relies on dozens of volunteers for Covid-19 inoculation support.

"We need people who are qualified to administer vaccines, as well as non-clinical people who can handle the very active roles needed in other parts of the clinic operation," hospital spokeswoman Brenda Moore said. "As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to operate more often and therefore need more volunteers."

Restrictions lifted

State Health and Human Services Agency Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly told news reporters Tuesday that because vaccination rates are steady and infection rates and hospitalization rates are much lower, he expects most Covid restrictions on businesses to end by June 15. Newsom reiterated the statement in a news conference.

"The color-coded system as it’s devised now will no longer be in effect after June 15, provided all Californians over 16 who want to get vaccinated can get vaccinated," Ghaly said.

He also said for the "Green Tier" to take effect, the low levels of disease and hospitalizations must continue. Before the June target date, Ghaly said the state would continue to urge residents to get vaccinated.

"If we see any concerning rise in our hospitalizations, we will take the necessary precautions," he said. "But right now, we are hopeful from what we have seen."

While Ghaly said there are “current-ly no plans by the state to have a vaccine passport system,” some businesses will likely require proof of vaccination.

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Together we are

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Motorports Gathering. “The Peninsula can’t contend with two years of no Car Week. Yes, we’re going to do it, and we’re looking forward to doing it the safest way we can and all the positive economic impacts that will have on the Peninsula.”

“Certainly we’ve had the surge in coronavirus cases, along with European lockdowns amidst another pent-up enthusiasm from spectators, people showing their cars, and sponsors — including auto manufacturers who enjoyed surprising good sales last year. Everyone ‘can’t wait to be back on the Monterey Peninsula,’ she said.

In addition to the Sunday event, Concours organizers are planning on holding the Tour d’Elegance Aug. 12, though without its traditional lunch stop in downtown Carmel. The Classic Car Forever, Retro Auto memorabilia sale and Gooding & Company’s Pebble Beach Auctions will happen, too.

At the track

At Laguna Seca, Barry Toepke said he and other race organizers are working out their protocols for all of their events, including July’s MotoAmerica motorcycle races and August’s Pre-Reunion and Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion.

“Some of the events are saying you have to have a negative test 72 hours before arriving or a vaccination card,” he said. “We believe we’ll be able to present all of that is to be determined, but it’s stuff we’re working on.”

Toepke is planning for capacity restrictions of 25 percent to 50 percent, though Laguna Seca is large enough to accommodate a lot of people.

“We’re planning on the worst-case scenario of restrictions, and if mid-June comes and they lift everything, then hooray!” he said. “We have people chomping at the bit to come, and we are certainly high on the fact that August Car Week is going to happen.”

Fewer restrictions

Gordon and Molly McCaill visited the garage-parties-lined car auctions in Zona last month just to see how such events are being held in a state with far fewer restrictions than California, said Assistant Attorney General Doug Ducey announced at the auction that he was lifting the state’s mask mandate.

“It was so nice to see car people getting together and not doing it virtually,” Gordon McCaill said. “We weren’t really looking for ideas, we just wanted to get a sense of what it felt like to be at a car event again.”

McCaill said people are definitely interested in spending money on collector cars, which “was a good thing to see,” given the number of auctions held on the Peninsula during the week.

Back home, he and representatives of the Concours, the track and the Quail have been holding weekly Zoom calls to discuss the best and safest way to go forward this year — a collaborative spirit that hasn’t been seen in the past.

Rudolph said, “it’s a blend of fresh air — just the idea that we’re all talking about what’s best for the community, for the locals, for the charities, for the people — that enthusiasm for making Car Week happen, and for the people who attend: the car owners and ticket holders,” he said.

For their event at the Monterey Jet Cen ter Aug. 11, the McCall’s plan to lay out all the cars, aircraft, food, wine, music on the tarmac, and guests can be outdoors as much as possible, rather than in the hangars. “We have no idea what people are going to be telling us to do,” he said. “You play by the rules of today.”

Meanwhile, in the City of Carmel, community- activity director Audelle Wright said she’s not clear what the loosening of restrictions means for the city’s events, including Concours on the Avenue.

“If the tiers all go away, then it is a go for gatherings?” she asked. “I’m not sure if we’ll be able to move forward.”

Because events like Concours on the Avenue take place on downtown streets and in the park, she said, “it makes en sureing people are wearing masks and social distancing much more challenging.”

Wright said she and the community activities commission, which oversees events and which meets twice a month rather than the usual once, are trying to be flexible.

“We want to be as nimble as we can,” she said. “It’s a transition year.”

She also said she’s talking to Genie and Doug Freedman weekly to discuss what their event might look like in “this odd year of Covid.”

AQUARIUM

From page 9A

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Dear Larry,

Have you considered the pandemic affected the auction business? - Brenda Freedman

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Sincerely,

Larry Mesler

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HISTORY
From page 19A

Open, played in December 1926. They then revamped the Claremont course and began work on the Meadow Club in Marin County. In October 1927, their focus returned to the Monterey Peninsula as they broke ground at Cypress Point. Hunter was the on-site manager, while MacKenzie traveled the world, providing vision for many other course designs with other partners. Shipping magnate Roger Lapham, a founding member of Cypress Point (and future mayor of San Francisco) declared “MacKenzie seems to have mastered the art of making everything look natural.”

In December 1927, the United States Golf Association selected Pebble Beach for the 1929 U.S. Amateur. Lapham, as the western vice president of the association, chose the team to prepare Pebble Beach for the national championship. He selected Hunter and H. Chandler Egan to lead the job. So, Hunter was working on rebuilding several holes on the Pebble Beach Golf Links at the same time he was finishing work on Cypress Point. Egan, a former U.S. Amateur champion, had designed several courses in the Pacific Northwest, where he had a primary residence. He built a second home in Pebble Beach in the 1920s.

Heroic shots
While there is no specific evidence, MacKenzie likely collaborated on the Pebble Beach work in 1928. The forward bunker on the par-3 12th is a good example of MacKenzie's work. He was brilliant at camouflage, and the only real purpose of the bunker is to fool the eye from the tee.

Jones came to Pebble Beach in 1929, aiming for a three-peat as the defending champion of the U.S. Amateur, an event he won in 1924, 1925, and 1927. He was also the reigning U.S. Open champion, having won in July 1929 (as well as 1923 and 1926). Everyone was sure Jones would win at Pebble Beach, and fans were stunned when he lost his first 18-hole match and was out of the competition. Jones took advantage of the opportunity and played Cypress Point, open for barely a year. Asked afterward which was his favorite, he artfully commented, “Pebble Beach is probably the better championship course, but Cypress Point is the one I'd rather have in my backyard.”

At the end of the 1929 U.S. Amateur, Jones joined Hollins at Pasatiempo for the grand opening of that course. After experiencing yet another wonderful MacKenzie design, he arranged for MacKenzie to help him build Augusta National. MacKenzie made Pasatiempo his home during his last few years. With the onset of the Depression, new design opportunities became harder to find. So, Hunter built a few holes for the Shore Course at MPCC, including yet another wonderful MacKenzie design, he arranged for MacKenzie to help him build Augusta National.

MacKenzie wrote another book in 1929, a few holes for the Shore Course at MPCC, which he laid out his complete philosophy of golf course design, construction and play, but it was not published. Just a few months before Jones hosted the first Masters championship, MacKenzie died at Pasatiempo on Jan. 9, 1934.
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Sadness and sorrow: Victory for Padres brings two-game season to close

CARME HIGH football players found a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow last week, and it was either half-empty or half-full, depending on your perspective in the year of the pandemic, when interscholastic high school sports have been all but nonexistent.

Peninsula Sports
By DENNIS TAYLOR

One thing is certain, though: It was a whole lot better than nothing.

The Padres beat Pacific Grove 43-12 in 75-degree heat to hang onto that treasured traveling trophy known as The Shoe, a game played at Carmel High in front of an audience that was meager by design. The public wasn’t invited. Every player on each team was allowed just three tickets for family members. There was no marching band. The Breakers brought cheerleaders, Carmel didn’t. Coaches, game officials, athletic trainers, spectators, and the media wore masks. There were no handshakes among opposing co-captains and officials at the pregame coin flip, and only fist-bumps when the two teams filed past each other in a showing of postgame sportsmanship.

Two-game season

The game ended a two-game football season for Carmel, which lost at home the previous Saturday to King City, 58-28, after three weeks of practice. The visiting Breakers, meanwhile, were making their season debut after just two weeks of preparation. They played their second game — their season finale — on Wednesday against Greenfield.

The 73rd edition of The Shoe was predictably ragged — penalties, blown coverages, missed tackles, fumbles, and other mistakes characteristic of an early-season game — but the teams played with a passion befitting arch rivals who traditionally don’t like each other all that much — at least not while there’s still time left on the scoreboard clock.

But the fact that a football game was being played at all was a triumph in itself.

“Right now, I’m just thinking about our principal, Jon Lyons, and some of the other administrators who made this happen. They found a way to say, ‘Yes,’ when the rules of the shutdown have said, ‘No,’ for so long,” said Padres head coach Golden Anderson, who is also the athletic director at Carmel High. “We all wanted to make something happen for these kids and our community that other communities could not. That’s what I’m most proud of today.”

‘Emotional’
The bittersweet aspect of a two-game football season was palpable for the players — especially Carmel High’s seniors, who were wearing helmets and pads for the final time as Padres.

“This is definitely emotional for me, especially standing here right now, looking out over the hills and everything, realizing this is the last time I’ll wear this uniform,” said 6-foot-4 wide receiver Antonio Posadas, a four-year varsity player who caught three passes for 79 yards — all for touchdowns. “Obviously I was hoping to have a full senior season, and maybe attract the attention of some college scouts, you know? But it’s all right. I can walk away knowing I played as hard as I could as a senior, even though we only had a few weeks.”

The pandemic has likely robbed the vast majority of senior athletes — Posadas included — of their chance to play collegiate sports next season on an athletic scholarship. He’s applied and been accepted to some universities, but probably will have to try out for football at the school of his choice as a walk-on (a non-scholarship athlete), lengthening the odds that he’ll make the roster.

“I don’t want to step off this field right now, but I just can’t express how thankful I am that these guys — my Senior center Justus Rees, 50, hoists The Shoe trophy with teammates after Carmel’s 43-12 romp over Pacific Grove on April 1 at Carmel High.
coaches and teammates — helped me in a position to hopefully succeed at the next level,” said J.T. Byrne, who played well enough last year, as a junior, to earn a scholar-
ship from Oregon State University, where he’ll play tight end in the fall.

“This was definitely a surreal experience, playing in front of a small crowd, everybody showing up wearing masks, and all of that,” added Byrne, a co-captain who made four catches for 83 yards as a receiver, and also threw a 41-yard TD strike from Byrne.

Carlos Zarazua (who ran for a 17-yard TD in the second quarter)

Yangmin Chee (whose crunching block helped Posada score a second-quarter TD)

Chris Sanchez (who played bone-rattling defense at linebacker, and ran seven times for 65 yards — all but one play of a third-quarter series — including a 1-yard TD plunge, and also ran for the 2-point conversion)

Koman Lobreg (the starting right tackle)

Justus Rees (the starting center)

Louis Verdugo (who sacked PG’s quarterback on the second play of the game)

Jaydee Hoover (a two-year starter on the defensive line)

Nick Yerace (a two-year starter at corner back and special teams)

Caleb Jara (a defensive lineman who had a tackle

That list also includes

- Co-captain Benicio Cristofalo (an all-league receiv-
er last year, injured in practice this season)

- Guenther (2 receptions, 51 yards, including the 41-

- Carlos Zarazua (who ran for a 17-yard TD in the

- second quarter

- Yangmin Chee (whose crunching block helped

- Posada score a second-quarter TD)

- Chris Sanchez (who played bone-rattling defense at

- linebacker, and ran seven times for 65 yards — all but

- one play of a third-quarter series — including a 1-yard

- TD plunge, and also ran for the 2-point conversion)

- Koman Lobreg (the starting right tackle)

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- second play of the game)

- Jaydee Hoover (a two-year starter on the defensive

- line)

- Nick Yerace (a two-year starter at corner back and

- special teams)

- Caleb Jara (a defensive lineman who had a tackle

See MORE SPORTS page 32A
On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

“The series is running through September,” said Barnyard general manager Marilyn Schultz. “John Kelly Productions is putting together a lineup for us.”

This Saturday (April 10), guitarist John Kelly will work his fingerpicking magic in The Barnyard’s garden-like setting, which keeps me interested and growing as an artist,” Sherry explains on his website.

Upcoming shows include singer and guitarist Kip Alpert, who plays April 17, and pianist Michael Martinez, who performs April 24.

The Barnyard is located just off Highway 1 between Carmel Valley Road and Rio Road. “Just look for the windmill,” Schultz said.

Live music April 9-15

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (folk, Saturday at 1 p.m.) On Highway 1 24 miles south of Rio Road, (831) 667-2700.

Bon Ton LeRoy’s Lighthouse Smokehouse in Monterey — singer and guitarist Alligator (zydeco, Saturday at 7 p.m.) 794 Lighthouse Ave., (831) 375-6958.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer-songwriter Alex Lucero (Friday at 3 p.m.), The Al James Duo (Saturday at 3 p.m.), singer-songwriter John Paul Hodge (Sunday at noon) and singer-songwriter Matt Masih (Thursday at 3 p.m.) 8940 Carmel Valley Road, (831) 297-7500.

Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant in Pacific Grove — singer-songwriter Zack Freitas (Monday at 6 p.m.), singer-songwriter Talaun Owens (Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (folk, Thursday at 6 a.m.) — 1180 Forest Ave., (831) 656-9533.


Midici Pizza in Monterey — singer Pamela Forman and guitarist Bruce Forman (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.) 467 Alvarado St., (831) 264-7013.

Rio Grill — singer-songwriter Adrea Castiano (Friday at 4 p.m.), singer-songwriter Joha N Solto (Saturday at 1 p.m.) and singer-songwriter and violinist Razzvoo (Sunday at 1 p.m.) in the Crossroads shopping center, (831) 625-5436.

Tarpy’s in Monterey — singer-songwriter and violinist Razzvoo (Friday at 4 p.m.) singer and guitarist Mark Creech (Saturday at 1 p.m.) singer-songwriter Casey Wickstrom (Sunday at 1 p.m.) 2999 Highway 68, (831) 647-1444.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — Bocce’s Brood (folk and rock, Friday at 6 p.m.) and Shilstone & Wilson (rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.) 3 Del Fino Place, (831) 296-7453.

The Whaling Station in Monterey — singer-songwriter Matt Masih (Friday at 6 p.m.) and singer-songwriter Linda Arceo (Saturday at 6 p.m.) 763 Wave St., (831) 373-1778.

As new members pour in, photo center unveils new show

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

“Our membership has almost quadrupled since the pandemic hit,” said Ann Jastrub, executive director of center. “Our membership has gone from being fairly regional to international. The majority of our programming is free for members, so there were a lot perks to become a member during the pandemic.”

The group’s growing membership will be on display when the center unveils its annual Members Show. The center received 2,100 entries from as far away as New Zealand and Australia. Out of those entries, juror Susan Burnt whittled the field down to 95 finalists. Forty-five of these entries will be on display.

See ART page 33A

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Photo Credit: Steve Robbins’ “Sunrise Study” is included in a new show at the Carmel Art Association.
Golf without going anywhere, a fun new shop, and a chance to win a Jeep

When was the last time you did something new? With pandemic-related lockdowns restricting people’s activities and stifling business, it’s probably been awhile. But now that the Links Club has finally opened in Carmel Plaza, you have the chance.

Owned and operated by April Montgomery, the project has been three years in the making, due to setbacks from the virus and other gremlins, and the business opened fittingly, she said, on April 1, with games, beer, wine and food.

The Links Club features the Monterey Peninsula’s first golf simulators allowing golfers, would-be golfers and those who just want to have some fun trying to hit a little white ball with a stick to “play” any of more than 100 of the world’s most notable golf courses, as well as try their hand at competitions like longest ball, closest to the pin, and bullseye. And for some of those games, those who don’t want to look at the simulated green beauty of a golf course can pick an Old West town, a cityscape, and even Jurassic, complete with dinosaurs, fighting dinosaurs and flowing lava. (Hint: Hit your ball in the lava, and your turn is over.)

“A cool deal!”

The new spot, which was built in the former Coldwater Creek clothing store location, is equipped with a half-dozen bays, each of which can accommodate up to six people who take turns hitting the ball. Montgomery chose the Trackman system for the simulators, and a special camera tracks the trajectory of each hit, with the graphics on the large fabric screen at the back of the bay showing the ball’s simulated path as it flies and lands — whether on the fairway, in the rough, or on top of a skyscraper. A private room at the back can be used for groups of up to 25 people.

On Monday night, most of the six bays were filled with local caddies whom Montgomery invited to give the place a go. Among them was longtime Pebble Beach caddie Josh Fisher, who said afterward that he’s sure he’ll go back. “For a golfer, it’s a really cool deal,” he said. “Using Trackman is a great call. If one wanted to go spend an hour in there just to figure out stuff like clubhead speed and all that technical stuff, you can do that, not to mention that you can play almost any course you want.”

And, of course, the Links Club has food and drink to make it all more fun. A bar at the back features 10 good local beers on draft, a couple more in bottle and a few ciders, as well as wine by the glass and bottle. It doesn’t have a full liquor license, so the cocktails are made with Soju spirits, which are distilled from rice and barley, and often enjoyed with meals in Asian countries the way wine and beer are here. State liquor laws expressly allow restaurants that only have beer-and-wine licenses to serve it.

The storefront couldn’t accommodate a full kitchen, so Montgomery had to hire a chef and develop a menu that doesn’t require a large fryer or grill, since the cooking area doesn’t have the exhaust hood required for most hot cooking. Cheese and charcuterie plates are logical, of course, and so is a daily soup. She and the chef added to that a trifled deviled eggs, flatbread, buffalo chicken and vegetarian lettuce cups that are served cold, and — in celebration of this week’s beloved Masters golf tournament at Augusta National in Georgia — pimento cheese sandwiches three ways. The menu also offers several tasty desserts.

Considering it just opened, the Links Club’s food was decent, with the deviled eggs ($18 for four pieces) and the pimento cheese sandwiches ($14) topping the list. For snacks to enjoy while playing, it’s not inexpensive, ranging from $9 for the soup to $35 for the “Over the Top” charcuterie and cheese board. Beers on tap are available for $8 for 16 ounces, nearly a dozen.

Continues next page

Continues next page
wines by the glass $12 to $15, and wines by the bottle cost $39 to $169. Cocktails are $12.

Montgomery said she also created the place to be a fun hangout for golfers and nongolfers alike, and there’s plenty of space for people who are not playing. A ping-pong table and numerous TVs offer additional entertainment — but grabbing a beer and watching people play fake golf is great, too.

Fisher said he’s sure that, if properly run, the new Links Club will “make a mint,” and he said he found the staff “very friendly and knowledgeable.”

For more information and reservations — which run from $65 for one up to $170 for six people for an hour — visit linkscubogolf.com. Club fittings, golf lessons and clinics with a PGA pro, apparel and other services are also available, and for those who know they’ll be there a lot, charter memberships offer discounts and other bonuses.

Social Hour

A store “focused on the art of home entertaining, with an emphasis on the essentials for a classic cocktail hour,” is set to open in the former Jones & Trweligger Galleries space in Jody LeToux’s building on the north side of Sixth Avenue between Dolores and San Carlos. (The gallery is now next door.) The planning department approved Karen and Eric Baymiller’s business license, and according to their paperwork filed with the city, they hope to open Social Hour next month.

In the description of their new store, which will also have a presence online at socialhourcarmel.com once it’s up and running, the Baymillers said they will carry barware such as shakers, jiggers, mixing glasses and other “tools, toys and accessories,” as well as “every type of glass for any type of drink.” In addition, Social Hour will sell “hostware” like coasters, napkins and other “entertaining essentials for your social hour,” and non-alcoholic cocktail-making essentials such as bitters, syrups and garnishes.

The pair said they plan to stock their store with products that meet one or more of the following criteria: locally made, not imported, organic/sustainable, high-quality design, fair trade, and limited production.

“We are local residents who are passionate about our Carmel-by-the-Sea community,” they said in their application. “After successful careers in business finance and entrepreneurial endeavors, we are excited to share Social Hour with locals and visitors alike.”

Rancho Cielo raffles Jeep

Due to the pandemic, the nonprofit Salinas-based Rancho Cielo Youth Campus didn’t have its annual Culinary Roundup fundraiser this year. Instead, it’s offering raffle tickets for the chance to win a new Jeep Wrangler, which includes a lap at Laguna Seca, dinner at Anton’s & Michel, and a pair of gold earrings made by jeweler K Koeck. Runner-up prizes are cooking demos with various notable local chefs, like Colin Moody, Cal Starnes and Swoeke Peters, and a two-night stay at the Aria Las Vegas resort, with dinner for two.

Raffle tickets are $150 apiece or four for $500, and the drawing will be done during a virtual event scheduled for May 16 at 5 p.m. KSBW anchor Dan Green will serve as the host, with appearances from Rancho Cielo founder and retired judge John Phillips, and students. Cardinal Automotive Group is donating the Jeep. For more information and to register, visit ranchocieloyc.org.

Tinies Treasures — Please submit your miniature art works! Support the nonprofit Pacific Grove Art Center by donating a beautiful miniature work of art to our Tiny Treasures show. We accept donations April 14 through June 24, 568 Lighthouse, PG, noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. (831) 375-2280, Figure4art.org

April 22 — Healthy Aging Webinar, 1:30 p.m. Register for this free webinar at OVMon.com. Carmel Valley Manor Director of Health Service Chris Regan, R.N., will share tips and techniques for how a sharp mind contributes to a fit body. Call (800) 544-5546 or email ndrshahnavaz.com

April 26 — Aspire Health Plan Presents: How to Grow a Great Tomato, a Virtual Community Connections Class, 2 to 3 p.m. Learn all you need to know about growing a great tomato, and plenty of other gardening tips. Presented by Monterey County Master Gardener Carole King. Event free. We ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or www.aspirehealthplan.org/networks2021. Call or email to receive participation details.

For more information and to register, visit ranchocieloyc.org.

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De Tierra wins in competition

De Tierra Vineyards’ 2016 syrah won the Monterey International Wine Competition’s Best of Monterey award last month. The competition held in King City in mid-March saw a field of thousands of wines from hundreds of

Continues next page
From previous page

wineries from throughout the state and across the globe, with 18 judges tasked with analyzing all of them.

Director Rich Cook said the De Tierra syrah shone as the best of the 69 wines from Monterey County that were entered in the competition, including a few from the Santa Lucia Highlands, Arroyo Seco and Carmel Valley.

“The wine that wins the Best of Monterey is the top scoring wine from grapes sourced from Monterey County,” Cook explained. “In the event of a tie for the high score, the tied wines are ‘tasted off’ side by side, and a winner is declared.”

The competition’s Wine of the Year was Thomas T Thomas Vineyards 2017 reserve pinot noir from the Anderson Valley, and its Winery of the Year was V. Sattui in Napa. The Spirit of the Year, meanwhile, was William Rose Indiana Bourbon Whiskey Batch No. 1.

Other top awards included Breathless nonvintage Blanc de Blancs Sonoma County for Best of Show Sparkling Wine, Scagliss 2019 rosé and Oak Farms Vineyards 2020 rosé for Best of Show Rosé, Grape Creek Vineyards 2020 pinot grigio (Texas) and McBride Sisters Collection 2020 sauvignon blanc (New Zealand) for Best of Show White Wine, and Navarro Vineyards 2019 late harvest riesling as Best of Show Dessert Wine.

For a complete list of all the winners, go to montereywinecompetition.com.

A little more help

To help restaurants, most wineries and other liquor purveyors save a little cash, a state relief package signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom waives renewal fees for most Alcoholic Beverage Control licensees, as long as they were in business from at least March 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2020, and their “primary operation was disrupted by health and safety restrictions imposed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.”

Businesses can request a one-year fee waiver annually through Feb. 28, 2023, by filing the appropriate ABC form before their current licenses expire. Owners can verify whether or not they’re eligible by visiting abc.ca.gov/law-and-policy/coronavirus19/renewal-fee-waiver/verify-eligibility.
ARTIST

From page 19A

where Carlaine furthered her education at the Brentwood Art Center. They retired to Carmel Valley in late 1997.

“When we got here, I couldn’t find a pastels teacher, and wound up taking lessons from (Carmel Art Association painters) Dick Crispo and Mark Farina, who introduced me to oils,” she said.

With the picturesque Monterey Peninsula as her muse, Willis became a plein-air landscape artist, joining the Art Center. They retired to Carmel Valley in late 1997.

Carlaine and Nick have two children, Sherene Gravette and Gregory Willis, and five grandchildren, ages 18-23.

In 2011, Aliotti and her husband, John, moved a few doors away to a much larger space in the same shopping center, opened the Carmel Valley Art Association, and took the Valley Girls artists with them. The CVAA now showcases the work of almost 40 artists, according to its website.

Current-day artists, including Willis, take turns greeting visitors at the gallery every day (some make their art onsite), and enjoy festive get-togethers in non-Covid times, creating an unusually warm camaraderie among the group’s members.

“I have very much enjoyed being part of the gallery, especially with Shelley and John, and the other artists. I enjoy the other artists, and I’ve really missed our gatherings for potlucks and open-house events,” Willis said. “I’m hopeful all of that is going to start up again very soon.”

Carlaine and Nick have two children, Sherene Gravette and Gregory Willis, and five grandchildren, ages 18-23.

“They’re all on the East Coast, and visits have been greatly missed this past year-and-a-half due to the Covid situation,” she said.

Visit the Carmel Valley Art Association (open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily) at 2 Chambers Lane in Carmel Valley Village to see Willis’ work.

Images of her art can be viewed on the gallery’s Facebook page.
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“It is good for me to draw near to God.”

— THE BIBLE

MORE SPORTS

From page 26A

for a loss, plus several quarterback pressures)

Carmel’s Junior quarterback Tristan Stachle, a first-year

quarterback, completed 10 of 14 passes for 169 yards and

three touchdowns. He was intercepted once.

Also notable is that junior placekicker Elle Bohlman

became the first female in school history to start a Shoe

game. Bohlman kicked off seven times — once to the end

zone for a touchback and successfully booted five conver-

sions, a county record for a female kicker.

The Padres’ roster included 28 freshmen and 15 oth-

er first-year football players, most of whom got into the

game.

Although the Breakers scored first, and their sopho-

more quarterback, Cameron Johnson, ran brilliantly at

times, Carmel led 35-6 by halftime, and the game ended

early by mutual consent. The victory was Carmel’s sixth in

a row (and 11th in 12 years) in The Shoe game. The Padres

lead the series 38-33-2.

Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County.

Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.com.

"It is good for me to draw near to God.”

— The Bible

“SPIRIT AND ALL THINGS SPIRITUAL
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"Everywhere we look in this world we receive messages in the shapes, colors, textures, scents, sounds, and memories of the places we inhabit," Tsouris explained. "The world is alive and in conversation with us. Every place I visit and each landscape I view reminds me of this connection."

Printmaker Susan Giacometti has long been drawn to water, as her new display, "Along the Waterfront," attests. "I am awed by the ocean," she said. "I love boats and harbors, and industries that require boats. Likewise, Monterey's Cannery Row has always fascinated me, both as a place and as an era. I am particularly fond of the women who worked the canning line, standing tirelessly in their gloves and boots with that awful smell until every sardine was good."

Also new at the downtown gallery is "Flowers and Life," with Helene delivers large, stylized florals, while Michie adds. "The common thread between their two stories of the places we inhabit," Tsouris explained. "The rooftops and small yards where we live are also a part of our environment. They are not just places to live, but places to experience life."

April 9, 2021 The Carmel Pine Cone                         35A
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