Dave Jedinak retires — and he's seen it all

While THE wet and windy storm that swept through the Monterey Peninsula this week caused the familiar problems of large trees crashing to the ground and cars losing traction on the roads, something unusual happened at the Carmel River Lagoon Tuesday afternoon, when county workers used shovels instead of bull-dozers to open a channel in the sandbar — a move that allowed the rising water in the lagoon to flow to the sea and prevented the flooding of nearby homes.

“Mission accomplished,” county officials announced late Tuesday. “State and county crews collaborated to hand-dig a small channel at the Carmel River Lagoon terminal to start next year. The new airport is set to begin next month, and the cost of $50 million to $60 million, executive director Mike La Pier said Thursday. "The design work on a brand-new terminal at Monterey Regional Airport is set to begin next month, and the project’s design and construction through two years, going against the city’s forester’s recommendation that the tree be protected. Selma Pazmanovich lives on Casanova southwest of Seventh and, after years of hearing concerns and complaints from her neighbors, she noted, and that the tree was leaning in a way that’s terrified neighbors for years can be removed, the forest and beach commission decided earlier this month, going against the city’s forester’s recommendation that the tree be protected. Selma Pazmanovich lives on Casanova southwest of Seventh and, after years of hearing concerns and complaints from her neighbors, she noted, and that the top of the tree is off by about 17 feet from the base of the trunk in the direction of neighbors’ homes.

A MONTEREY pine that looks healthy on top but is leaning in a way that’s terrified neighbors for years can be removed, the forest and beach commission decided earlier this month, going against the city’s forester’s recommendation that the tree be protected. Selma Pazmanovich lives on Casanova southwest of Seventh and, after years of hearing concerns and complaints from her neighbors, she noted, and that the top of the tree is off by about 17 feet from the base of the trunk in the direction of neighbors’ homes.

Stormy Peninsula gets wet but sees little damage

By MARY SCHLEY

Paramedic’s final shift after three decades on the job
### Waiting for Wednesday

WHILE SHE was looking for a retirement house in Carmel she stayed at the Cypress Inn, where she was surprised to encounter so many dogs.

"After a staff member explained that Carmel is a very dog-friendly town," she said, "I thought, "when I move here, I’m going to have to get a dog, too.""

And after deciding on a mini goldendoodle, she worked with Almond Blossom Doodles in Modesto.

"I was attending the AT&T in Pebble Beach on the day I found out I was going to get my puppy," she said, "so I decided I’d have to name her Pebbles." Now nearly 6, Pebbles has a fluffy light-apricot coat her person is devoted to maintaining.

"I've never shaved her, so her hair is like a lion," her person said. "She’s beautiful when dry and ugly when wet. She’s super skinny, so when she’s wet, she looks like a totally different dog."

Pebbles goes to the beach regularly, but only on Wednesdays, the day before her standing appointment with the groomer. Her person made the decision ear-ly on that if she wasn’t going to shave her, she would have to commit to consistent grooming to make sure she looks great every week.

"Our trainer said that if there’s something you want your dog to do, establish the habit early. Pebbles knows the drill. She waits her turn," said her person, "and then jumps into the groomer’s arms."

Pebbles loves water but is not a fan of the waves. She typically prefers the calm stillness of a neighbor’s lagoon near her home. However, she recent-ly was introduced to Carmel River, where she jumped right in. Fortunately, it was a Wednesday.

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### Happy New Year!

As the New Year dawns, here’s to yesterday’s achievements and tomorrow’s bright future. We hope for each of you that 2023 brings gifts of prosperity, new adventures, plenty of fun and many happy times with friends and family!

Rebecca, Geoff & Danielle
City: new wireless rules on the way

By MARY SCHLEY

PLANNING DIRECTOR Brandon Swanson announced last Thursday before city offices shut down for the holiday week that his department has been revising the proposed laws that will regulate the installation of wireless facilities in residential neighborhoods and commercial areas, and should have a new version to release to the public next month.

In late August, the city distributed draft regulations outlined in three proposed ordinances, as well as a draft wireless application and several checklists, with the intention of having the planning commission discuss them in mid-September.

But after the documents generated significant amounts of feedback, the workshop was canceled, and planning staff and the city’s telecommunications lawyers went back to work to address some of those comments, principally regarding the format and structure.

“Everyone’s interested in what’s going on with the wireless ordinance,” Swanson said in a video sent from city hall Dec. 22. “We’ve been doing a lot of really good work on updating those original drafts that went out and trying to be responsive to comments.”

Swanson said some of the major changes include combining the three ordinances into a single document, incorporating “more user-friendly, less technical language,” expanding the types of applications that will require planning commission review and approval, and revising the application checklists.

“New Year’s gift”

“We’re excited to have a draft out on the street sometime in January when we come back,” Swanson said. “That will be our New Year’s gift to everybody: a fresh, shiny wireless ordinance.”

He said he wants to get the draft out soon enough to ensure everyone who’s interested in reading and commenting on it before the planning commission’s mid-February workshop to do so.

“If we can’t give it enough time on the street for a February meeting, we’ll move it to March,” he said.

“We want to provide enough time for everyone to comment on it.”

Veterans Transition Center gets $5K

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE HEINRICH Team of realtors presented a $5,000 check to the Veterans Transition Center in Marina last month, “furthering its mission to serve families and the local community.”

The Carmel-based real estate company hosted an event Nov. 10 at the Twisted Roots tasting room in Carmel Valley Village to raise money for the nonprofit, which seeks to help homeless veterans and their families get back on their feet by providing food, clothing, case management, life skills, substance abuse counseling, benefit enrollment, medical referrals, employment training, and housing.

All the proceeds from the fundraiser were given to the VTC.

Ben and Carole Heinrich, who have sold real estate here for more than three decades and are ranked in the top 1 percent of Coldwell Banker agents worldwide, held a formal check presentation Nov. 30.
Masked subjects seek handouts

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a lost card holder that contained a current New York driver’s license and other identifying documents. The owner was identified by his expired license card.

Pacific Grove: Traffic stop at Ocean View and Asilomar resulted in a 20-year-old male driver being cited and released for driving on a suspended license.

Pacific Grove: Informational report regarding a child custody dispute.

Pacific Grove: Welfare check on Light house for a subject suffering with autism, ADHD and bipolar disorder. Subject was in possession of father’s collectible knives.

Carmel Valley: Report of financial exploitation at a residence on Calle de los Agineros.

Carmel Valley: Subject reported damaged to a solar panel, pole and a traffic radar device on Carmel Valley Road.

The gavel falls

Verdicts, pleas and sentencings announced by Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni

Dec. 8 — Emely Rivera Vigil, 19, of Sea side, pled no contest to one count of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and one count of driving under the combined influence of alcohol and drugs causing injury. On Sept. 19, 2021, just before 11 a.m., Vigil was traveling northbound on Highway 1 between Seaside and Marina in a 2020 Ford Fusion with two high school friends. Due to the combined effects of alcohol and marijuana, Vigil lost control of the vehicle and swerved into the freeway center divider at a high rate of speed. The vehicle flipped multiple times and the rear passenger, 16-year-old Jane Doe 1, was ejected and killed. Vigil and Jane Doe 2, the front passenger, received minor injuries.

When Vigil was contacted by California Highway Patrol officers after the collision, they observed that she appeared to be under the influence. Marijuana, marijuana pipes and open containers of alcohol were found in the vehicle.

Vigil faces up to 10 years and 4 months in state prison when she is sentenced on Jan. 26, 2023.

The case was investigated by the California Highway Patrol and prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office specialized DUI Vertical Prosecution Unit. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Dec. 13 — A $2.05 million stipulated judgment against The TJX Companies Inc. was entered by the Monterey County Superior Court in case no. 22CV001342. This sets allegations that TJX, which is based in Massachusetts and owns approximately 340 TJ Maxx, Marshalls and HomeGoods stores in California, unlawfully disposed of hazardous waste. Three TJX facilities are located in Monterey County.

Prosecutors allege that TJX improperly disposed of hazardous waste into its regular trash bins that were destined for municipal landfills, which are not authorized to accept hazardous waste. The hazardous waste at issue in this matter included items such as aerosol cans, batteries, electronic devices, cleaning agents, and non-empty drug fact containing waste items, as well as other hazardous waste items generated through the 13 WEEKS BEGINNING JANUARY 24
New state law goes after those who ‘disrupt’ public meetings

By CHRIS COUNTS

PASSED PARTLY in response to the much publicized spectacle of speakers disrupting school board meetings in recent years, a new state law is cracking down on questionable behavior at public meetings.

Signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom Aug. 22 and going into effect Jan. 1, SB 1100 amends the Brown Act to make it possible for a “presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee” to remove, or direct the removal of, “an individual for disrupting the meeting.”

The bill was introduced by two state leaders who represent Silicon Valley, Sen. Dave Cortese and Assemblymember Evan Low. “Hate speech, threats, bullying, harassment, and intimidation at public meetings are absolutely unacceptable,” Low said when the bill was signed into law. “These disruptive behaviors drive people away from civic engagement. This is an important step in maintaining public participation.”

Is civility endangered?

Outbursts by speakers at school board meetings around the country have made headlines in recent years. Also, videos of them have gone viral on the internet. The speakers under scrutiny have expressed their opposition to many things, including vaccine mandates, mask mandates or teaching critical race theory in classrooms.

Disruptions at local public meetings are nothing new — anybody who regularly attends them has witnessed the occasional time limits, or an audience that boos or cheers against the instructions of those running the meeting. A Carmel Valley Land Use Advisory Committee meeting three years ago on the Mid-Valley shopping center bordered on bedlam, as did a Carmel Unified School District board meeting last December.

The bill also indicates scofflaws won’t get a second warning. “The presiding member or their designee shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal,” the law reads.

We pay for news photos!

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Aging Casa Laiolo Has Major Structural Problems, Will Get Revamp

By MARY SCHLEY

The iconic Casa Laiolo on San Antonio at Ninth that sold in late 2020 for more than $8 million has major structural deficiencies that might cause it to collapse in an earthquake, but the home can undergo significant renovations that will save it while retaining its historical integrity, the historic resources board unanimously concluded earlier this month.

The large home, which sits on an expansive lot above Scenic Road, had been owned by a highly regarded socialite in the 1930s, the eventual founders of Nepenthe Restaurant in Big Sur in the 1940s, and former Mayor Barney Laiolo and his first wife, Frances, in the 1950s.

While historic consultant Meg Clovis concluded the house is historic because of Laiolo, its previous owners had local significance, too. In 1929, Clovis said, Vera Preck Mills had the house moved to the San Antonio property from an unknown location, and then retained architect Frederick Bigland to remodel it. Mills was the first president of the Sunset School’s PTA, a Girl Scout leader, active in the Bach Festival, and a member of All Saints Church, according to principal planner Mamie Waffle’s Dec. 19 report to the board.

“Mrs. Mills’ social activities fill the pages of The Pine Cone newspaper,” she wrote. “She hosted many community meetings and events in her rambling home. It was not unusual to read about concerts with an audience of 80 or weddings with 100 guests at Casa Querrida.”

Fassetts

William Elliott Fasset and his wife, Madalaine “Lolly” Fasset — grand daughter of Frank Powers, one of the city’s founding fathers — bought the house in 1945, according to Clovis’ report. Two years later, they purchased a three-room log cabin in Big Sur from Orson Wells and Rita Hayworth and moved their family of eight there, later opening the Log Cabin restaurant that subsequently became Nepenthe.

After purchasing the San Antonio home in late 1953, the Laiolos renamed it Casa Laiolo. He went on to serve on the planning commission and then the city’s council, which appointed him as mayor from 1968 to 1972. Laiolo

See CASA page 25A

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SUNSET PRESENTS...

75TH ANNIVERSARY Of THE FAMOUS ARETHA FRANKLIN

San Antonio Avenue residents fighting over the height of trees planted on public property might bury the hatchet now that the city has approved permits for the people contemplating about them to have them trimmed according to an arborist’s plans, rather than cutting them down.

The battle between the neighbors goes back to August 2019, when attorney Anthony Lombardo, representing two nearby homeowners, sent a letter to city administrator Chip Regin alleging that resident Kathleen Correia had planted and grown a large hedge on city property in front of her home which extends approximately 50 feet above the ground and obstructs all three of my clients’ viewsheds looking west.

Correia responded that she’d been given permission by the city to plant the cypress trees, though no permits could be found to that effect, and in March 2020, the forest and beach commission decided they couldn’t be removed.

Six months later, Philip and Anne Purcell and Michelle Tutelian — Lombardo’s clients — met onsite with their landscape architect, Joni L. Janecki, city forester Sara Davis, and Correia and Stephen Evans to discuss cutting down the four overgrown cypress trees. The removal and new landscaping would be paid for by the Purcells and Tutelian.

The city OK’d the removal in December 2020, and the trees were subsequently cut down, but the conflict didn’t end there.

Janecki then submitted plans for the replacement plantings and other changes, and following considerable back and forth between the residents and city officials, the city approved the landscape plan dated Feb. 8 for the removal of a variety of shrubs and trees, which would be replaced with 17 new ones.

Davis reviewed the plan and had no comments, and it was approved on June 7. No one appealed.

The Purcells and Tutelian signed the conditions of approval but didn’t post the notice of approval as required, and a notice of authorized work was never issued, according to the city, so they repeated the process in September, with more detail about the project and its location, and this time, Correia and Evans objected.

Specifically, they wanted the city to overturn the approval of the “removal of established, healthy, drought-resistant trees and loss of homeowner privacy protection from the public walkway and pedestrian traffic.”

In November, the planning commission considered their objections and denied their appeal, with the expectation the applicants — met onsite with their landscape architect, Joni L. Janecki, city forester Sara Davis, and Correia and Stephen Evans to discuss cutting down the four overgrown cypress trees. The removal and new landscaping would be paid for by the Purcells and Tutelian.

A dispute over cutting, and then one over replacing...
VAGNINI STEPS DOWN AFTER 35 YEARS

By CHRIS COUNTS

AFTER WORKING in the Monterey County’s assessor’s office for 35 years — including five terms as its assessor-clerk recorder — Steve Vagnini is set to officially retire Dec. 30.

Upon his retirement, Vagnini will swear in his successor, Marina Camacho. First elected in 2001, Vagnini has overseen the county’s effort to assess property values for tax purposes ever since. When he was first elected, the county’s real estate was valued at just over $30 billion, and today the number has increased to more than $79 billion, resulting in property taxes of about $870 million per year.

“The county of receives approximately 15 percent of those revenues, which account for over 70 percent of the county’s discretionary spending,” county spokesperson Maia Carroll said. “Property taxes also fund local school districts, fire districts, municipalities and various other special districts.”

Treating people fairly

While Vagnini has helped raise billions of dollars for the county, he said it’s never been his primary objective.

“It is not the function of the assessor to raise revenue but rather to ensure that all property owners are treated fairly and equitably and that we abide and enact the laws of the California Constitution and the California Revenue & Taxation Code,” said Vagnini, who has a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in religious studies.

Besides his work in the assessor’s office, Vagnini took on other roles in county government, chairing a slew of committees, including the Cost Savings Committee and the Department Head Training Advisory Committee. Aside from his work for the county, Vagnini founded Sand City’s West End Celebration, and has worked as both a music promoter and writer. He’s also director of the local chapter of Guitars Not Guns.

To mark his retirement, Vagnini was recently presented with a ceremonial resolution by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. County supervisor Wendy Root Askew said Vagnini set a “high bar” for his replacement. “Steve is one of the that I have ever encountered,” Askew said.

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bipartisan infrastructure bills.

The international design, architecture, engineering and urban planning firm, HOK Group Inc., will develop the plans and drawings, according to La Pier. While HOK is based in St. Louis, Mo., the airport district is working with the firm’s San Francisco office and is in the process of negotiating the scope and costs. Airport projects are “almost exclusively what they do,” he said.

The new terminal will be located east of the existing building and on the other side of long-term parking, where there’s space to pull it back from the taxiway. The space is occupied by numerous aircraft hangars. La Pier doesn’t have any feel yet for how the new building will look but said HOK will develop ideas for the airport district board and the public to scrutinize.

“I think the overall opinion of those of us at the airport is that it will be as sustainable as we can make it,” he said. “We’re aiming for LEED Platinum and looking for the building to improve our efficiencies.”

It might not be much larger, he said, but will have a better layout, including more space in front to avoid the traffic bottlenecks and more efficient gates. While the airport master plan approved a couple of years ago calls for razing the existing terminal building after the new one is completed, La Pier said that’s still up for debate.

“We’ll see whether it can be repurposed for anything,” he said. It could serve as a customs facility or an office complex, for instance, and he noted that it’s “in reasonably decent shape, given its age.”

“It doesn’t flow well for a terminal building, but it might for something else,” he said.

Travelers and locals eager to know the fate of Woody’s restaurant upstairs in the terminal will be happy to hear that it could stay there or move to the new building.

“We’re going to work hard to make sure the restaurant portion of our operation remains,” La Pier said. “We appreciate that it’s popular and don’t want to change that.”

He described having a “destination restaurant at an airport” that draws locals as well as travelers “wildly unusual.”

“I maybe can name a few others,” he said.

Community buy-in

The last major project at the airport — the runway extensions and extra touch-down space required by the Federal Aviation Administration to be completed in 2015 — garnered pushback and generated a lawsuit by opponents that ultimately required the airport to pay attorneys and consultants a $1 million settlement in August 2013. While an airport engineer said the huge retaining walls akin to a Mayan monument or a medieval castle would be planted with native seedlings, oaks and vines and eventually “look like a really nice hillside,” there’s still a long way to go before that goal is achieved.

La Pier hopes the community will back the new terminal.

“We want this to be a project in the end that the community is invested in and feels positive about,” he said.

The Monterey Peninsula Airport District will be in charge of reviewing the plans, undertaking environmental review and issuing permits under the authority granted to it by the state, according to La Pier. The costs will be covered by taxpayer-funded grants and airport revenues, not property taxes or bonds.

“We’re going to try to get the building done in four years, from design through completion for occupancy,” he said. “It’s going to be a fun few years here at the airport.”
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Celebrating over 35 years on the Peninsula
child,” he said, noting that he rarely later encounters the people he’s helped. “See-
ing that family unit intact because of the services we provided — I will never forget that.”

In another, he was called to a hotel in town for “a young lady who ‘wasn’t acting right.’”

“When my partner and I arrived on scene, we immediately recognized she was having a stroke,” he recalled. “She was eight months pregnant. She couldn’t move one side of her body.”

Springing into action, Jedinak notified the hospital they’d be bringing her in, and by the time they arrived, a full surgical team was ready and waiting to do whatever was necessary to save the mother and her baby. “There were six physicians in that room, and I had only called 15 minutes earlier,” he said. In that moment, he was struck by “what our system is capable of.”

The team got the woman stabilized and transferred her to another hospital with specialists. “I received this incredible pic-
ture a week later of her with her newborn baby lying on her chest,” he said. “Everything could have gone wrong there, but it didn’t. Our EMS system is robust and our healthcare system is top notch.”

Not long ago, Jedinak was dispatched to a scene, before the days of GPS, and posted it online, along with his con-
gratulations. “You saved many lives during your career, including both of my parents,” he wrote. “I just happened to drive down Fifth Avenue to run into maybe David’s final call.”

“I’m so elated to be able to step away after 30 years of doing what I did,” Jedinak said this week after cleaning out the space in the Carmel Fire Station. “I feel like I can continue giving back,” but first, he wants to take a breather and do away with set work hours for a while. His annual pension will be about $120,000.

During his final shift, which ended Sat-
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one he knows while responding to a call on Fifth Avenue. Ken Yoshizato snapped a photo of Jedinak next to the ambulance and posted it online, along with his con-
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“I’m so elated to be able to step away after 30 years of doing what I did,” Jedinak said this week after cleaning out the space in the Carmel Fire Station that’s been his second home all those years.

“I look at what I was able to do and how I did it, and I have no regrets. Carmel raised me, and I was able to give back for my entire career.”

Keep it separate
While consolidating fire departments and other emergency services agencies has long been a method of saving money and improving efficiency, Jedinak said he hopes the city will continue fighting to pre-
serve its ambulance service.

“When it comes to Carmel and its unique characteristics — no streetlights, no addresses, a mostly older population — you have the ability as a city to provide a higher level of service,” he said. “Carmel doesn’t fit into any normal mold of similar municipalities. It’s unique.”

When a tourist has an emergency, pa-
-

ities and can’t provide a location since there are no street addresses, for instance, local knowledge is key.

“I’ve always tried to make sure our vis-
or are getting as much support and help as our residents are,” he said. Now, at age 54, with so many years on the job and the physical and emotional tolls they have taken, Jedinak said it’s time to move on. He’ll still be found around town

and will continue working as a realtor. He might also teach EMS programs, “because I feel like I can continue giving back,” but first, he wants to take a breather and do away with set work hours for a while. His annual pension will be about $120,000.

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**Cheers TO THE NEW YEAR WITH LOWEST PRICES**


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“I would recommend its removal in the immediate future,” Bradford concluded. He estimated the top of the pine weighs about 20,000 pounds. But it’s just as dangerous to be healthy and has established roots “for many years, despite being confined in a relatively small area, and is similar to the condition of other large pines in the neighborhood.” She said the commission should deny Paznanovich’s request to cut it down.

At the meeting, Bradford reiterated his concerns, concluding, “This is a real bad event waiting to happen, and it will happen without warning.” He estimated the pine is between 85 and 95 years old.

Paznanovich told commissioners the pine’s roots have created a trip hazard in her backyard that caused injuries to her mother and have wrecked her deck, and we’ve had to have that cleaned up and repaired,” she said. “It’s very dangerous, and I’ve been fearful for a number of years.”

She doesn’t want her neighbors to sue her, she told commissioners, so she’d be OK with letting the tree be if the city would establish roots “for many years, despite being confined,” she continued. “But what I can’t live with is my neighbors constantly telling me they’re fearing the tree is going to come down on their house and kill them or damage their property. That to me is the biggest liability, and that is what I’m losing sleep over.”

She also said pruning its canopy wouldn’t mitigate the risk and could damage the tree if done in excess. “Aggressive pruning would probably do more harm than good,” she noted.

Going against Davis’ advice to deny the request, commissioner Sarah Berling made a motion to allow Paznanovich to remove the tree and plant a replacement, which was seconded by commissioner Kelly Brezoczky. After Davis commented there isn’t enough room on the property for a new tree, board chair JC Myers said the resident could pay $800 to the city for tree planting elsewhere instead, and the rest of the commission agreed.

***

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**Shaking the family tree to see what falls out**

By ELAINE HESSER

WHILE PESKY trees are often the subject of neighborhood concerns around here, they’re usually not the kind that will be considered at next month’s Ancestor Roundup at Seaside’s Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Sponsored by the Commodore Sloat chapter of the National Daughters of the American Revolution, the 42nd annual genealogy conference will help people delve into their family trees.

The event runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, and will open with speaker Karen Clifford, who will present “Tools at Family Search for Successful Research” as her keynote address.

Her classes will be among the 25 scheduled offerings by more than a dozen speakers, who organizers say will provide “tips to help you find your Revolutionary War ancestors, Swiss ancestors, Mayflower and Quaker ancestors; newspaper research, genealogy software for the Mac, and how to break down those genealogy brick walls.”

The DAR, and its brother organization, the Sons of the American Revolution, are organizations whose members can document “lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence,” so it’s long been in the genealogy business.

According to its website, the Latter-Day Saints believe families can be united with their ancestors in the after-life and perform special rituals to help ensure that will happen, so since 1894, the denomination “has dedicated time and resources to collecting and sharing records of genealogical importance.”

The church is located at 1024 Noche Buena St. Registration fees start at $30, and attendees should bring a brown-bag lunch. For more information and to register, send email to DAR.AncestorRoundup@gmail.com or call (831) 915-1096.

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**Visiting the family tree**

Even though we don’t like to think about it, most of us can document our descent from a grandparent, a great-grandparent, perhaps even a great-great-grandparent. It’s hard to think that 100 years from now, the tree that now towers over the driveway could be theopencv.

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STORM
From page 1A

department of fish and wildlife, and a mon-
toring biologist from Denise Duffy and
Associates were onsite.
Unfortunately, Mother Nature wasn’t
cooperating.
At approximately 8:45 a.m., state
park rangers and Cal Fire rescue swim-
ners, as well as county staff, determined
that the sandbar was no longer safe to be
on due to the rising tide and large waves,”
Carroll said. “All staff were pulled back
coming from the Carmel River State Beach.
Signs warning of potential water contamina-
tion were posted. State parks has closed the
parking lot to public access.
Although it was feared that a high tide
that peaked at 12:43 p.m. would keep
crews off the beach until the sun went
down, workers were able to get back onto
the sand late in the afternoon and complete
the job. They did it with shovels, in con-
trast to past years when bulldozers were
used, often to the dismay of regulatory
agencies and environmental groups.
The work prevented possible “major
flooding,” according to the county, and was
done under somewhat dicey conditions —
rescue divers were on scene as “a precau-
tion to safeguard workers.”
By Wednesday morning, the river was
flowing swiftly to the sea.

Neighbors want quicker response
Those who live near the lagoon have
long argued that state and federal officials
should let county workers do everything
possible to protect homes when there is
an imminent flood threat. Nearby resident
Lorin Letendre told The Pine Cone that
the flooding of two garages along Carmelo
earlier this month is further proof that the
county isn’t responding quickly enough.
He said the county needs to come up with
a better strategy for managing the sandbar,
and that rules need to be relaxed so the
work can get done.
“The county needs to get serious about
finding an alternative to what they have
been doing,” Letendre said. “It’s too risky.
The county needs to be able to mobilize
sooner and be able to lower the beach more
on its southern end.”
Resident Lisa Talley Dean agreed
that the county needs to act sooner when
flooding is anticipated. She suggested the
channel should have been opened Monday
afternoon when conditions were calm.
“We know the velocity of the water
coming down the river and we know
we’re going to reach a trigger point,” Dean
explained. “But [the county] can’t act upon
this until the water level in the lagoon
reaches a certain point.”

Officials urge precautions
About 2 inches of rain fell during the
most recent storm, and with more on the
way Friday and Saturday, county officials
urged residents at risk to take precautions.
“If you live near any of the county’s
burn scars or other flood-prone areas,
Monterey County has sandbags and sand
stockpiles to help you protect your prop-
erty during stormy weather. Sand stock-
piles are being replenished,” the county
announced Wednesday. “Take advantage
of this break in the weather to stock up on
and place sandbags around your property
if needed.”

Sandbags are available at fire stations
in Big Sur, Cachagua, Carmel Highlands
and Carmel (Cypress Fire District). Sand
is available at the Pfeiffer Ridge pullout
along Highway 1 in Big Sur, the Mid-Val-
ley Fire Station, along Carmel Valley Road
at Garland Park, along Pacific Meadows
Lane, along Oliver Road next to the Car-
mel River Inn, and at Cachagua Commu-
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Floating Farms in Mexico Capture Eye of Grant-Winning P.G. Filmaker

By CHRIS COUNTS

The story of a father and son in Mexico who have used an Aztec farming system to grow crops is coming to life on the silver screen, thanks to a $20,000 grant from the Redford Center, which is run by actor Robert Redford and his late son, James, started in 2005 to bring awareness to environmental issues and solutions.

The PG filmaker had lots of competition for the grant — the Redford Center received 250 entries from 20 countries.

Tanya title: “The Last Chhnumepers,” Alldis’s film examines the farming method employed by the late Don Felipe Caputitla and his son, Pedro Caputitla, who lives in Xochimilco, just south of Mexico City. Like his father did, Pedro builds chinampas, which are small manmade floating islands in canals that predate the colonial era.

“Welcoming and charismatic”
The method maximizes water retention, which has become essential because farmers in the region are struggling with dwindling water supplies.

Alldis, who was born in Monterey, met the older Caputitla in 2016 when she visited Xochimilco. She was there to work as a volunteer for a National Autonomous University of Mexico research project, which she was doing in part to improve her Spanish language skills.

“I got so absorbed in his story,” she said. “He was so welcoming and charismatic, and I just wanted to promote his farm by shooting some short videos. That went on for two years. When I heard Don Felipe had passed away, I thought this story was over.”

But Pedro had other ideas. He had left farming but wanted to start again.

“He said he wanted to bring the farm back to the farm to carry on the legacy,” the filmmaker said. “Now it became a much bigger story, one about a father and son, and about perseverance and a lost art. So I thought, ‘Maybe there’s a film here.’”

Alldis plans to use some of the money from the grant to return to Mexico to interview Caputitla and shoot more footage. “I want to include the son’s journey, as it serves as a beacon of hope for my generation that ancient wisdom can help solve the big challenge we face with a changing climate,” she said.

Besides receiving $20,000, the filmmaker will join a mentorship program that includes a two-week workshop in Telluride, Colo., in May. “The money will help us get through some initial expenses, but it’s the mentorship that will ultimately make the film,” said Alldis, who will do all the filming and production work.

Alldis is still raising funds for the project, which she expects to cost about $75,000 when it is finished. If you’re interested in making a donation or learning more about her work, www.lastchhnumepers.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business under the fictitious business name(s) listed below.

NAME OF TENANTS

Barbara J. Hawkins, 10150 Salinas St., Salinas, CA 93906.

1/3, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20/2023

The statement was filed with the Secretary of State, California, on 1/3/2023. (PC 1241)

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Miriam Smith

1/3, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20/2023

The statement was filed with the Secretary of State, California, on 1/3/2023. (PC 1241)

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NAME OF TENANTS

PAMELA RUIZ FLORES, 13425 Agua Caliente, Salinas, CA 93908.

1/6, 1/13, 1/20/2023

The statement was filed with the Secretary of State, California, on 1/6/2023. (PC 1233)

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Judge’s ruling slows Monterey High lights

By CHRIS COUNTS

AFTER NEIGHBORS filed a lawsuit against the approval of a $12 million upgrade plan for Monterey High School’s Dan Albert Stadium that includes installing lights, Judge Thomas Wills of the Monterey County Superior Court ruled Dec. 8 that the project needs more studies to address environmental concerns.

The lawsuit contended that the project would have significant and unavoidable noise and lighting impacts on the surrounding residential neighborhoods, as well as impacts on traffic safety, parking and historic resources. It also claimed the project’s environmental review failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Some nearby residents have backed the project, while others say it will have negative impacts.

Disappointed by the delay

Superintendent PK Diffenbaugh of the Monterey Peninsula School District expressed disappointment that the ruling will lead to further delay.

“Class after graduating class continues to be denied the ability to utilize a safer, up-to-date, legally compliant athletic facility,” Diffenbaugh said. “It will be difficult to tell students that the project they have been waiting for since 2019 will be delayed yet again.”

The plan calls for installing four 70-foot-high light towers so that games can be played at night. Downward-facing light fixtures would be used to minimize light scattering into the neighborhood. A second set of lower-output LED lights would be installed up to 16 feet high to illuminate airborne soccer balls and footballs. More lights would be installed near pathways along the bleachers and other areas.

“Stadium lighting would be on for a limited number of times per year and would not be used past 10 p.m. except for limited circumstances where athletic games proceed past the planned end time,” a report indicates.

Principal praises project

Monterey High School Principal Tom Newton said the project has benefits that “cannot be overstated.” Newton said practices and games wouldn’t have ended early due to darkness, and student-athletes wouldn’t have to leave class early to go to games, or play in an off-campus “home” stadium. Moving games to Friday night would also free

See MONTEREY page 28A
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Like most high school wrestling coaches, the guy at Carmel High lives in the real world, where hard knocks might be lurking round the next corner. Life is that way.

“These kids aren’t going to be state champions,” said Russ Shugars, who knows that a teenager who chooses wrestling — perhaps the most physical of all sports — needs mental might to survive.

Better to be a wreck than an orchid. A cockroach, not a butterfly.

“It’s hard, and they’re learning to handle adversity that will help them in every phase of life,” he said. “The rest of their lives will be easier because of the things they learn about themselves as wrestlers.”

Don’t be misled: Shugars is gushing with optimism, with 25 kids in his wrestling room — a recent turnout during the eight seasons he’s coached the Padres. (For perspective, 95 played football at CHS this season.)

Mission crown is a goal

Winning a championship in the Mission Division of the Pacific Coast Athletic League looks like a realistic goal this year for the Padres, who are likely to fill every weight division except 113, 220 and 285 pounds.

If the championship happens, it’ll be big news for Carmel High (enrollment: 862), whose competition in the division consists of King City (1,198), North County

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

(1,257), Soledad (1,595), North Salinas (2,144), Everett Alvarez (2,246) and Watsonville (2,319).

“It’s so much better to have more kids — the energy level is always up, because there’s always somebody near you who can give encouragement,” he said. “When you’re working with small numbers and everybody’s tired, it’s harder to find that one kid who can fire it up.”

Shugars was pleased a year ago to have 14 wrestlers, including 11 sophomores, at his December practices, but only a half-dozen were still around at the end of the season, after Covid and normal attrition took their toll.

“We actually can have wrestling groups now, and well matched partners,” he said. “In past years, I might have a 100-pound kid, a 130-pounder, a 150-pounder, and a 200-pound kid, so nobody had a good partner and we’d lose efficiency in practice. Our matchups were mismatches.”

Colborn is team leader

Gabe Colborn, Shugars’ only returning senior, is a 152-pound varsity veteran and clearcut leader of a team with just four other 2021-22 letter winners.

Colborn, who is hearing-impaired, blends mental and physical toughness with a level of intelligence that earned him a full-ride academic scholarship next fall to the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York.

The other experienced wrestlers are juniors Jason Baker, Oliver Stephens (both 160 pounds) and Chase Lander (145), plus 132-pound sophomore Zack Lander.

The Lander brothers are among those who have made an early impression. Zack won his weight division at the Harbor fresh-sopt tournament on Dec. 3, and Chase nearly medaled the following weekend at Sunnysvale’s talent-stacked Weber-LawsonInvitational.

Three freshman newcomers also fired shots across the bows of future opponents at Harbor’s fresh-sopt event, where Ryder Salzillo placed second at 106 pounds. Aiden Walker was third at 126, and Cody Csigio took fourth at 152.

“We have a lot of kids in the room who have never wrestled before, including three seniors that Gabe Colborn

See SPORTS page 28A

PADRES WRESTLING COACH EXPRESSES OPTIMISM AFTER RECORD TURNOUT

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“We have a lot of kids in the room who have never wrestled before, including three seniors that Gabe Colborn
CASA
From page 64

later became the first mayor directly elected by voters, serving from 1990 to 1992.

Barney, who was often referred to as “the father of Carmel,” led the city through some tumultuous times, notably when hippies tried to take over Devendorf Park and during Carmel’s protest of California’s newly enacted public school desegregation law. Clovis’ analysis reads:

The home was added to the city list of historic homes in 2020, after the death of Laiolo’s second wife, Eli- nor. Her estate sold the 4,852-square-foot house on 11,312-square-foot lot to Kim and Sandra Liberis in November 2020 for $8,850,000.

Architecture less important

Built in a “variant of Spanish Eclectic and Monterey Revival styles,” the house didn’t “herald an important phase in the architectural development of Carmel,” and which style, if any, was signed by a noted architect, it wasn’t an example of his best work, Clovis said.

Accordingly, she concluded the architecture of the house is not one of historic significance, which could provide more flexibility in its renovation.

Among other alterations and upgrades, the Libre- risis plans call for overhauling the second floor, which is structurally unsound because of rotten wood. Specifically, a bathroom will be made smaller and a bedroom will be made larger, a shed roof over an interior staircase will be removed, as will a chimney on the west elevation, and a new chimney will be built on the south side.

A roof shed to the front of the northern wing will be taken off, too.

At numerous places in the house, major upgrades will be needed to bring handicapped accessibility up to code, earthquake protection, etc., according to a report from Morrison Shaffer Engi- neering. Floor beams are unsupported, openings in walls aren’t properly strengthened, and “hinge conditions” are present in many load-bearing and non-load-bearing walls.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Carmel City Council will consider the application of CCI Collective for use permit purposes to modify the current zoning regulations of the property located at 3575 109th Pass, to allow the demolition of the existing restaurant, Forge in the Forest, and construction of a 1,995-square-foot, two-story, single-family residential structure, with an attic, three bedrooms and two bathrooms and 1,662 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor, for a 5th Avenue in the Single-Family Residential District.

An aerial view of the expansive Casa Laiolo on its unusually large lot. The historic house is set to be renovated, and a detached accessory dwelling unit will be added.

She said she believed the Laiolos would still recognize the home after they’ve done renovating.

“It will be a historic property that the city and residents of Carmel can be proud of,” she said.

Architect Tom Meaney said the project’s primary goal is “to address deficiencies.”

“It’s just not a safe structure to inhabit,” he said, but upgrading it to current standards will help ensure “the house can be here for another 100 or 200 years.”

Only three historic resources board members attended the meeting. Karyn Hall said she appreciated the Liberis’ desire to retain as much of the house as possible and com- mended them for wanting to save it.

“I think it’s going to be lovely when it’s finished,” com- mented the newest member, Esther Goodtree.

“IA agree it’s quite a project to tackle, and I appreciate you guys doing it,” chair Jordan Chrismann said before the meeting adjourned.

The property had caught our eye before, when we would walk our dog to the beach,” she said. “Our goal is to update it and preserve the historic look of the house, which has some significant structural problems that need to be addressed.”

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Veto points

THE ATLANTIC is a predictably left-wing publication that’s owned by Laurene Powell Jobs, the billionaire widow of Apple founder Steve Jobs. How predictable is it? The magazine’s home page this week featured hit pieces on an assortment of villains like Elon Musk and Krysten Sinema, along with old standbys Donald Trump, the GOP and Israel.

But an article published by The Atlantic Dec. 12 is noteworthy for its departure from one of the most cherished parts of the Democratic Party’s long-term agenda, particularly in California, of blocking new housing and other real estate projects in the name of protecting the environment.

The article, “The Obvious Answer to Homelessness,” by Jerusalem Demsas, begins by analyzing some of the common misconceptions about the homeless, such as that they’re almost all either mentally ill or addicted to drugs, or that poverty is what put them out of their last homes.

If those were the main factors, Demsas asks, “Why are there so many more homeless people in California than in Texas? Why are rates of homelessness so much higher in New York than in West Virginia?” All those places have similar rates of mental illness and drug use.

Meanwhile, “some urban areas with very high rates of poverty (Detroit, Dade County, Fla., Philadelphia) have among the lowest homelessness rates in the country, while some places with comparatively low poverty rates (Santa Clara County, San Francisco, Boston) have relatively high rates of homelessness.”

The answer, she says, is that while mental illness, drug abuse, being poor and other personal struggles may contribute to homelessness — particularly among the people you see on the streets — the real answer is a shortage of housing, which she compares to a game of musical chairs. Sure, in the game’s last round, the strongest and biggest kid may be the one in the final chair, but “the only reason anyone is without a chair is because there aren’t enough of them.”

Homelessness is abundant, Demsas says, “only in areas with robust labor markets and low rates of unemployment — booming coastal cities.” And the reason for that, she says, is that even as demand has soared, places like San Francisco have been openly hostile to new housing projects, resulting in soaring prices and rents — and homelessness.

“When there’s a dire shortage of affordable housing, it’s all but guaranteed that a certain number of people will become homeless,” Demsas concludes. And while politicians and policy makers are always promising to do something to fix the housing shortage, they do very little to address its real causes, namely the “web of regulations, laws and norms that has made development of new housing pitifully simple.” So simple, that community groups, environmentalists and other activists have a variety of “veto points” they can utilize to stop pretty much anything that involves putting concrete, wood and steel on the ground — even projects favored by the majority.

If all this sounds familiar, it’s because California, and especially upscale communities like the Monterey Peninsula, have been Ground Zero for the no-growth, NIMBY movement. In those places, local ordinances that ban new subdivisions and tightly regulate what can be built on existing lots, powerful state laws like CEQA and the Coastal Act, and infrastructure shortfalls like the Peninsula’s 30-year water crisis combine to create a perfect storm of housing failures — not only forcing some people onto the streets, but driving up prices so that only the wealthy can afford decent places to live.

The Atlantic’s article seems to have been written as a warning for the Democratic Party that if it doesn’t wise up and start removing some of the barriers to development of new housing, and as homelessness and crime soar, it may start to lose support, even among its most stalwart voters. For the rest of us, the challenge is to figure out a way to provide new housing at decent prices without comprising the quality of life in the small towns we all love.
After thirty years, a playground finally takes shape in Monterey

In 1953, nearly 30 years after the City of Monterey first contemplated putting a playground at El Estero Park, cartoonist Hank Ketcham began planning one. Ketcham moved to Carmel in 1949 with his wife, Alice, and young son, Dennis. When an exasperated Alice declared her son a menace, Ketcham was inspired to create the soon-to-be-famous “Dennis the Menace” cartoon that was first syndicated in newspapers in March 1951. He had produced other cartoons, but nothing had taken off like this one. By the summer of 1953, the comic strip was published daily in papers around the world. It led to two hardcover books, toys, a series of comic books and even a line of apparel. The business required a team of writers and illustrators.

After nearly three years of being focused on how young children think, when Ketcham heard that plans for a playground were moving forward, he asked for the privilege of creating something unique for Monterey. He had some interesting ideas and to bring them to life, he called on an old friend, Arch Garner. A model for the Ketcham-Garner design was approved by the planning commission in May 1954. The same year, Ketcham bought a ranch in Carmel Valley that served as his family home and the production headquarters for the Dennis cartoons and finalizing plans for the playground.

Earlier that year, to quote the May 10, 1955, Herald, “Mrs. Marje Ettalessen and Harold R. Lewis, both outspoken critics of the city administration, were elected to the Monterey City Council.” During his first few months in office, Lewis called for the council’s review of the playground. As a planning commissioner in 1954, he had voted for its approval.

Creative

Dan Searle, who in the May election became a third-term mayor, called for a special meeting on Nov. 4 and was clearly not happy. The Herald reported that Searle accused Lewis of “trying to run the city as a one-man organization.”

“Don’t we care whether you like the playground or not? The important thing is whether we as a group like it or not.”

Ketcham, who attended the meeting, said he wanted “to give the children more than something to just use. We want to give them something that will bring out their creative instincts.” He said it was “designed for small children. It will include a treehouse, a free-floating raft, a maze, a drinking fountain in the form of a lion’s head, weird-looking devices to stir a child’s imagination.”

When Ettalessen expressed concern that the playground would be too close to the recently completed youth center, Ketcham insisted there was so much room that the city could build tennis courts there if it desired. In the end, after a heated but brief 40-minute meeting, the council voted 3-2 for approval, with Lewis and Ettalessen dissenting.

Old No. 1285

How Ketcham learned about the availability of an old locomotive is unclear, but he showed one in his 1954 model. The Southern Pacific Railroad was replacing its coal-powered steam engines with diesel-powered ones. Rather than selling the old engines for scrap, they offered them to playgrounds and museums. As part of Ketcham’s plan, Monterey accepted an old switch engine, No. 1285, which had been put into service in 1924. The city coordinated with Fort Ord engineers for its delivery to the park as a tactical exercise for the Army. They used a tank retriever to move the coal tender to the park in late January 1956. The more complicated delivery of the engine came on Feb. 3.

An editorial in the Feb. 27, 1956, Herald indicated children were already enjoying the playground. “This is why you should choose Murphy’s Hardware Sales

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GO OUT TO THE BARN AND PLAY!

An IDEAL mind was the artist’s playground for Kate Warthen, who grew up on remote farmland in Northern Wisconsin with no TV, six siblings and a mom who, for sanity’s sake, frequently barred, “Get out of the house… go play in the barn!”

So they did.

“As kids, we always had to find ways to keep ourselves entertained and that worked for me,” said the Marina resident, a landscape artist who believes most of her creative instincts can be traced to those days. “I think I got at making stuff up.”

She paints in a custom-built backyard studio, 8 by 10 feet, with a large, north-facing window and another smaller one on her east wall, applying oil to canvas — materials she didn’t have as a kid.

“I was always drawing, and always trying to find something to draw on,” Warthen said. “It’s not like we had reams of paper and boxes of paint, so we’d literally scrape out a big area of our driveway and draw in the dirt. Or in the snow."

Her hometown, Webster, population 500, was a dairyland village about 70 miles south of Duluth, Minn., a frequently forested area of the country where record low temperatures are 40, even 50 degrees below zero.

“Oh, this is it!” Among her most vivid childhood memories is a day when her grade-school class was treated to a tour of the local high school, where, on the second floor, she came upon a jaw-dropping sight.

“I saw this big art room with a lot of light shining through these huge windows, and lots of easels,” Warthen recalled. “I was in the sixth or seventh grade at the time, but I can remember thinking, ‘Oh, this is… I cannot wait to get in here!’”

That never happened. When she was about to enter eighth grade, Warthen’s father, a self-employed carpenter, moved the family west.

“There wasn’t a lot of construction going on in Northern Wisconsin, where the winters are so cold, so he brought us to Monterey to get more work,” she said. “We had all the art classes but graduated from Monterey High with no clear vision of her future.

Single mother of two

“I couldn’t have cared less about a career then — to me, a job was just a way to pay your rent. That was my worldview,” said Warthen, who became a wife and then a single mom, raising a son and daughter, Hugh and Arlena Malone.

“I was working full time, raising two children and going to school. In 1968, when she said, ‘I got frustrated, decided didn’t have any talent and quit.’

In the 1990s, Warthen went back to school to earn technical certification in project management, then began a 25-year career in the cell phone industry, working with AT&T, Verizon and other companies.

“People often say, ‘Wow, that just seems so different from an artist who has a nice kind of mind,’” she said. “But I enjoyed the job because project management was interesting, provided communi- cation, finding solutions, creating plans — always just kind of feeling my way through.”

A dozen years ago, Warthen revisited her art with a newfound passion.

“At that point, I decided to set aside at least one day on the weekend as an art day. That became sacri- fice,” she said.

Learning from Gauf

Five years ago, she began taking lessons from Carmel Art Association luminary and Big Sur resident Erin Lee Gauf, switched from watercolors to oils, and fell in love with painting oil.

“Erin’s approach is very permissive — she doesn’t say, ‘Here’s how you do it.’ She’s more about letting you find your own way, and, for me, that works.”

See ARTIST page 30A

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Kate Warthen, a Peninsula resident since 1968, created her first artworks in the dirt and snow of the family’s driveway in Wisconsin.
‘Save Carmel’ sues school district over Carmel High stadium lights

By MARY SCHLEY

A GROUP called Save Carmel announced Thursday it is suing the Carmel Unified School District and its board of education for approving stadium improvements at Carmel High School, including four light poles between 70 and 80 feet tall. The group describes itself as “an unincorporated association of residents and taxpayers” and said the litigation “challenges the actions of superintendent Ted Knight and board of education members Sara Hinds, Tess Arthur, Karl Pallastrini, Seanberry Nachbar and Anne Marie Rose,” in approving the CHS project and certifying the associated EIR, adopting CEQA findings and a statement of overruling considerations, and adopting a mitigation and monitoring reporting program that would help offset the project’s potential environmental impacts.

The court document states: “Save Carmel objects to the lack of compliance with CEQA during the administrative proceedings,” including that the district and board “did not adequately review, respond, or address public comments.” Opponents said the EIR, which exceeded 2,000 pages, failed to “adequately disclose, analyze or mitigate the significant environmental impacts of increased lighting and nightly noise.”

The complaint also alleges the project description was “not finite, stable or accurate.” “Save Carmel has a strong interest in the preservation of the environment, including protection of Carmel’s pristine skyline, views and quiet night-time atmosphere,” the announcement said. “Litigation intends to hold CUSD and board of education accountable to address and resolve serious concerns about public safety, parking and traffic challenges.” Requests to the group, as well as to both of its attorneys, for a copy of the complaint went unanswered, and the case does not yet appear in the Monterey County Superior Court online system.

MONTEREY
From page 23A

SPORTS
From page 24A

Wong ranks fifth all-time: Santa Catalina product Laurel Wong ranks fifth on Stanford’s all-time outdoor pole vaulting list with a career-best of 13 feet, 7 and 1/4 inches at last year’s Stanford Invitational, where she placed first. Wong won the state high school championship in 2018, her junior year at Catalina. She’s a senior at Stanford, majoring in human biology.

Driscoll averaging 7 points: Stevenson alumnus Luke Driscoll has played in all 10 games this season, starting three, and is averaging 7.0 points per game at Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio. Driscoll, a 5-11 junior guard, was a two-time all-county and All-PCAL choice at Stevenson, where he was Monterey Coun-
y’s Player of the Year in his senior year.

Crabbe gets honorable mention: Former Carmel High standout Emma Crabbe earned honorable mention honors in the Western State Conference in her sophomore season of volleyball at Santa Barbara City College, where she was a starting setter. Crabbe helped the Vaqueros to a 16-11 record and a trip to the SoCal Regional Finals this season with 483 assists (6.34 per set), 167 digs, and 34 kills. She was All-PCAL Gauchos and co-player of the year in Monterey County as a senior at Carmel High in 2019-2020.

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

■ Alumni watch

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SPORTS

Zack Landes, top, a 123-pound sophomore, won his weight division this year at Harbor’s Koshouchi tournament. Senior Gabe Colborn, left, and junior Chase Lander, on one knee, bring leadership to a young team as returning lettermen at 152 and 145 pounds, respectively.

On the weekends for students to have jobs. Newton said the improvements would not only improve safety for student-athletes, but help the school comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title IX.

School district trustees approved the plan for stadium upgrades in July 2021, but the lawsuit, which was filed by attorney Molly Erickson Aug. 27, threatens to derail it. Erickson is representing two groups’ petition “alleges that the CUSD district and board of education approvals constitute an abuse of discretion,” according to the announcement.

“Save Carmel objects to the lack of compliance with CEQA during the administrative proceedings,” including that the district and board “did not adequately review, respond, or address public comments.” Opponents said the EIR, which exceeded 2,000 pages, failed to “adequately disclose, analyze or mitigate the significant environmental impacts of increased lighting and nightly noise,” failed to adequately address required life safety and emergency exit routes and pedestrian safety, failed to adequately address or adequately mitigate increased traffic and the impacts of increased vehicle emissions, and failed to adequately consider feasible alternatives to the project that would avoid significant and unavoidable impacts on the environment.

The complaint also alleges the project description “was not finite, stable or accurate.” “Save Carmel has a strong interest in the preservation of the environment, including protection of Carmel’s pristine skyline, views and quiet night-time atmosphere,” the announcement said. “Litigation intends to hold CUSD and board of education accountable to address and resolve serious concerns about public safety, parking and traffic challenges.”

Requests to the group, as well as to both of its attorneys, for a copy of the complaint went unanswered, and the case does not yet appear in the Monterey County Superior Court online system.

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company’s regular business activities.

This is the second settlement resolving allegations that TJX mishandled hazardous waste at its California retail stores. In September 2014, California prosecutors resolved similar violations by entering into a stipulated judgment for which TJX paid $2,777,500 in civil penalties, costs and funding for supplemental environmental projects.

The current stipulated judgment requires TJX to pay an additional $2,050,000, which consists of $1,800,000 in civil penalties, $300,000 in supplemental environmental projects and $250,000 in reimbursement of investigative and enforcement costs. In addition, the settlement includes provisions requiring TJX to continue to employ at least one California compliance employee to oversee its hazardous waste compliance program and to undergo waste audits in a portion of their California facilities to ensure hazardous wastes are properly disposed of at all stores.

The company must also continue to comply with injunctive requirements regarding hazardous waste management.

TJX worked cooperatively with prosecutors during the investigation. TJX, like all retail stores, is required to properly dispose of hazardous waste that is generated in the normal course of its retail business, and to manage such hazardous waste in labeled and segregated containers to ensure that incom- parable wastes do not mix and cause dangerous chemical reactions.

On Oct. 21, 2014, according to a complaint filed in Monterey County Superior Court, the injury occurred during an accident in the garage of the Monterey home where Villicana and Sanchez were staying. Sanchez was staying there to help Villicana with his dental because of the following facts:

1. Sanchez said yes, neighborhood video shows the gun was in Sanchez’s hand. Sanchez was lying on his back on the garage floor. Another police officer arrived. She heard a gunshot and saw Villicana open the garage door and walk out.

Villicana and Sanchez were friends.

- 350 words maximum.

Have something important to say on a topic of local interest? Send your letter to the editor to mail@carmelpinesonline.com — 350 words maximum.

Twitter scandal

Dear Editor,

Thanks to Elon Musk, we now know that the FBI, DHS, DOJ, DNC and the Biden administration were pressuring Twitter and other social media outlets to censor, blacklist and shadow-ban online critics.

Twitter records show that federal agents suppressed the Hunter Biden laptop story for political reasons, a blatant violation of the First Amendment. Our government is not supposed to take sides in political campaigning.

Moreover, at least 80 FBI agents collaborated with Twitter to help monitor the social media site, engaging in weekly meetings with the Twitter staff, along with causes death, is not a crime. However, a vol-
tary manslaughter occurs when a person’s gross negligence causes the death of a human being. Gross negligence is recklessness that amounts to disregard for human life or in-
difference to the consequences of one’s act. An example of gross negligence might be in-
tentionally pulling the trigger of a gun while purposely pointing it at a person, thinking the gun was unloaded when it was not. Or traveling 100 mph on a city street. Ordinary negligence, on the other hand, would be more consistent with speeding more moderately over the legal limit.

Villicana did not demonstrate indifference to the consequences of his handling of the gun. Accidentally dropping a gun and reacting to catch it is not gross negligence. It involves no decision-making showing in-
difference or disregard for human life. This incident involves a slip and an unluckily re-
action. While Villicana may have been neg-
ligent or may just have been involved in an accident, in either case, his conduct was not criminal.

Sanchez was pronounced dead at the hos-

tipal. The Salinas Police Department concluded the discharge was accidental.

We also conclude the discharge was acci-
dental because of the following facts:

1. Villicana left the garage door open in daylight.

2. The eyewitness neighbor who saw the incident said it was an accident. She heard no argument and observed Villicana’s demeanor immediately afterward.

3. There is no evidence of motive. San-
chez and Villicana were friends.

4. Sanchez stated three times the dis-
charge was accidental.

5. Villicana shot himself in the left hand.

6. Villicana was the one who called 911. He did not fire. His demeanor and explana-
tion were credible.

7. There is no evidence at all, nor proof beyond a reasonable doubt, to contradict Vil-
licana’s account. On the contrary, all the evi-
dence is consistent with his story.

An accident, and even negligence that former FBI agents employed by Twitter, like Jim Baker, who helped to ban any Twitter account that expressed the wrong political narrative.

From a batch of Twitter files, Musk recently asserted that the government “paid Twitter millions of dollars to censor info from the public.” That figure was $3.4 million, which the FBI confirmed as just a “reimbursement.”

The FBI’s collusion with Twitter to “squash free speech is a serious assault on the Constitution. We cannot allow the flagrant weaponization of government agencies against one party’s political opponents.”

L.K. Samuels, Carmel

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- 350 words maximum.
say. ‘Here’s how you do it.’ She’s more about letting you find your own way, and, for me, that works,” Warthen said. “I love oil paints because of the richness, the vibrancy,” she said. “It’s been quite a learning curve, and it still is — I’m constantly studying, constantly learning.”

Her list of favorite artists is topped by American realist Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009) and his father, N.C. Wyeth (1882-1945). She also admires local contemporary realist David Ligare.

“I consider myself a contemporary/abstract painter, mostly landscapes, sometimes with architecture,” said Warthen, who typically has devoted five days a week to her art since retiring from the wireless industry three years ago.

“It’s definitely not like a job, where you have a list of things you need to get done, you have a schedule, you have meetings,” she said. “I go into my studio — the first studio I’ve ever had — and I have a blank canvas, a wide-open space, and it’s up to me to do something with it.”

Although she considers herself a Californian, Warthen said she’s still very much a Midwesterner.

“I feel like everything I am as an artist was already there when I was a kid,” she said. “I really want to go back there some summer and spend at least a month painting the lakes. The California hills are near and dear to my heart now, but a lot of my Midwestern upbringing seeps into my art. Undertone is still Wisconsin.”

Docent at Monterey Museum
She also volunteers as a docent at the Monterey Museum of Art, where a favorite gig is the museum’s Family Fun Days.

“I always work those because I enjoy that moment when little kids see that big table with felt-tip markers, and scissors and all kinds of other art supplies — the kind of things not every kid has at home,” said Warthen, remembering her own childhood.

“They’ll sit down and start making something, and then it gets really quiet because they’re really into it,” she said. “That’s one of my favorite parts of the whole docent program.”

Warthen participates annually in the Arts Habitat Studio Tour and this year she was among the artists who showed their work at the Carl Cherry Center in Carmel. Her art is represented locally by the Haute Enchilada Gallery in Moss Landing.

Images of her work and additional information can be found at katewarthen.com.

Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.com.
climbing onto and examining the engine.

The goal was to complete the playground by the end of the school year. The Junior Chamber of Commerce had adopted the playground as a project in 1952 and oversaw fundraising.

The effort went into high gear. To assist, Ketcham designed a certificate of merit for contributors that, in part, recognized parents “for outstanding ability, courage, endurance, love, knowledge, patience, skill and faith” in coping with their children. (If anyone has one of these certificates, I’d love to see it.)

By April, area gas stations joined the fundraising effort. Contributors to the playground fund received Dennis stickers for their cars as well as certificates. Local welders and metal fabricators helped construct the equipment. By June 1956, installation had begun, but it was November before the playground was ready to open.

“Softened their landings”
Given the proximity to Thanksgiving, the city decided to celebrate with a parade from downtown to the park on Saturday, Nov. 16. Children dressed as pilgrims, and winners of the best costumes were 10-year-old Heather Armstrong and 7-year-old Jeffrey Garner, son of the playground’s co-designer. They received first access to the new playground.

Safety was a key factor in the design of the playground. Deep sand surrounded each piece of equipment. As Ketcham wrote:

“You can’t stop kids from jumping — in fact, that’s a basic play activity — but you can soften their landings.”

Nevertheless, modification of the cleverly crafted equipment began early. Even before the opening dedication, the clapper was removed from the train’s bell. There had reportedly been noise complaints from as far as a half-mile away. A Balancing Bridge, which narrowed to 2 inches wide at the ridge, was designed to stretch 4 feet over a sand pit. It was constructed at a height of 3 feet and soon lowered to half that due to the number of falls.

Children of all ages enjoyed the new playground. Reports by late November indicated that on weekdays there were as many as 150 present at any given time and that on weekends there were 3,500 attendees per day.

What had been planned as a treehouse was created as the Umbrella Tree. Metal pipes invited climbers and colorful plastic around the outstretched “branches” at the top created an attraction. Garner claimed it was inspired by a real tree with that nickname, which he loved to climb during his youth in Fresno.

The Giant Swing was described as crane-like and giraffe-like. Its elongated, whirling platform was mounted on top of a pylon and rotated on bearings, powered by the riders as they climbed off and on from an adjacent platform.

To explain The Thing, I’ll quote a story from the Aug. 27, 1958, Portland, Maine, Evening Express. Portland was one of many communities that sought to duplicate the success of Monterey’s playground. The Express wrote: “The Thing is some 40 feet long and defies description. To the young imagination it could be a spaceship, bird, fish, airplane — almost anything. Great for jumping, crawling, pretending, it is built of steel reinforcing rods, expanded metal and deck plate, gussied up with bright colored plastic.”

The original playground included a maze, a wading pool with a raft, and a track for tricycles. It drew national attention with photos and an article in the Jan. 20, 1957 Parade magazine. The Monterey Jaycees won a national award for Project of the Year and offered the playground plans at cost to other groups. They received more than 300 requests for information and at least a few other Dennis the Menace playgrounds sprung up, including in Whittier, Midland, Texas, and Evansville, Ind.

Lost to risk management
Of course, what was considered safe when I was growing up would now be an invitation to a lawsuit. Monterey has revamped its Dennis the Menace playground numerous times over the years. It was closed for three months at the end of 1997 to replace most of the equipment. Ketcham was on hand for a reopening dedication on Feb. 20, 1988. Garner had passed away in 1969.

Old No. 1285 was fenced off years ago and the original lion-designed drinking fountain has joined it behind the fence. Sadly, almost all the other original equipment can only be enjoyed in photos and memories.

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Happy 2023!

We are looking forward to ringing in another great year!
THE SITUATION might be all too familiar. Your walking buddy, whose sparkling conversation is easily understood while you're strolling along Scenic, is hopelessly drowned out in a coffee shop. Or your partner, the die-hard Clint Eastwood fan, is playing “Misty” so loudly that you’re sure they can hear it in the next county.

Now that over-the-counter hearing aids are available for adults with mild-to-moderate hearing loss, you may be tempted to try them out. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration gave final approval to their sale in August and the first models became available in October.

“Nearly 25 percent of Americans between the ages of 65 and 74 have hearing loss severe enough to affect their daily life, and that number jumps to 50 percent for people over the age of 75,” according to the National Council on Aging.

However, the council adds that many adults wait 10 years or more before buying hearing aids, largely because of the cost — on average, more than $4,000 a pair.

As you probably know, hearing aids aren’t covered by Medicare and most private insurance companies. Forbes Health reported earlier this month that only about 30 percent of adults aged 70 or older who could benefit from hearing aids have them.

That’s problematic, since hearing loss can be far more serious than missing out on bits of gossip or part of a movie — it’s associated with increased isolation and a greater risk of dementia, among other things.

Boon or bane?

So, how much could you save with OTC hearing aids, and are they helpful? The first part’s easy — the National Council on Aging compared several devices with prices ranging from $99 to $2,998 per pair. (You can read its full review at ncoa.org/adviser/hearing-aids/best-otc-hearing-aids.) Other groups and publications have done similar research.

Despite the FDA’s approval, however, whether the new devices are helpful is the subject of some dispute. If online reviews are to be believed, the ones on the market are being received favorably by consumers. However, features, fit and ease of use vary widely. For anyone (like this reporter) who’s not familiar with the jargon of hearing aids — in-ear, over the ear, and so on — the notion of choosing one without expert advice seems daunting.

DEVICE con’t. page 37A
GAIL CARMONA is the founder and CEO of Central Coast Sign Language Interpreters, or CCSLI, a 15-year-old business in Castroville. Her husband, Dioris Carmona, is deaf, and the couple communicates using American Sign Language, or ASL.

CCSLI provides sign language interpreters and instruction and other related services. They can assist people locally as well as in Santa Clara, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties, and beyond.

The director of education for the company, Dustin Yaeger, is deaf, and he, along with interpreter and sign language instructor Shiloah James, joined Gail Carmona in a Zoom meeting to talk with Healthy Lifestyles about ASL interpretation.

Various agencies estimate that around 3 million of California’s nearly 40 million residents are deaf or hard of hearing. That number includes people who have no hearing ability as well as those who can use hearing aids, people who were born deaf, and those who lost the ability to hear later in life.

Some become part of what is called Deaf culture, with ASL as their common language. They participate in traditions created and passed down within the Deaf community. As an example, Carmona discussed one way in which etiquette is different.

“When you are deaf, hearing people are suddenly getting up and leaving the room all the time. But you can’t hear the phone ringing in the other room, a horn honking in the driveway or someone calling them from upstairs. The person you were sitting with just up and leaves you sitting there. What happened? Did you offend them? Why did they leave? So, a cultural norm or tradition now rooted in the Deaf community is that — even if you are in a group — before you leave the room, you must tell someone where you are going.”

Other people embrace ASL, but don’t identify with the culture, while still others relate primarily to the hearing community, using assistive devices like hearing aids.

Someone who grew up with ASL, like Yaeger (who was born deaf), is referred to as a native speaker, and Carmona said that as with any language, they are the best teachers.

ASL isn’t a simple one-for-one translation of spoken English. It has its own grammar and syntax, as well as its own idioms, and if you read a literal English translation of ASL, you probably wouldn’t understand much of it.

“As the name implies, American Sign Language is not international. “In Japan, Africa and Europe, the signs for the same things are different,” Yaeger noted. Carmona said that when she visited New Zealand, even though English predominates, she could understand only about 40 percent of what was being signed.

Regional accents

The National Association of the Deaf says on its website that there are regional differences within ASL. “If you were to travel to another state and have an opportunity to sign with a person, you may notice that s/he will use some signs differently than you. These signs are known as ‘regional’ signs, and you can think of them as the equivalent of an accent.”

ASL speakers can be very physical, Carmona said — an attribute that conveys something similar to tone of voice. If a friend looks at you and says, “Wow,” you know by their intonation whether they mean, “Wow, you look fantastic,” or “Wow, you look awful.” In ASL, that inflection is communicated through facial expressions and body movements.

Interpreting requires fluency in more than one language, which in itself is an uncommon skill. James said confidentiality and accuracy are two important issues. No one can say, “Oops, don’t tell the other person I said that.”
That time making snow angels gave you a devil of a backache. (But you still dream of doing it again someday.)
So much to learn in life

THE OTHER night, doctors Ryan and Grace Casserly made pan seared and leek soup together. The air was cold, the night came early, and a warm, hearty soup seemed a fitting meal to set on the table in the Carmel home these physicians share with their two boys, 6 and 2.

Grace is an internist with Montage Health, while Ryan is an otolaryngology specialist who works with advanced ear surgery, hearing restoration and balance support at Central Coast Head and Neck in Monterey. He’s also a foodie who completed a culinary apprenticeship back when he was applying to medical school.

“I fell in love with my wife, who has a master’s degree in piano performance,” he said. “The first time I heard her play the piano, I fell in love. She says she fell in love with me when I cooked for her.”

The Casserlys are known for their levels of accomplishment in a variety of areas. There is so much in life to take interest in, said Ryan. “I took a little time between my undergrad and med school years and dedicated it to food anthropology, looking at the role that food plays in cultures and communities. I started with an intense five-week culinary program at a French cooking school in the south of England, in a beautiful place called Devon.”

And then he came home to attend the USC Keck School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

“Given my undergraduate degree in neuroscience,” said Casserly, “I thought I would specialize in one of the “neuros” — neuurosurgery, neurology, or neuroradiology — but they didn’t resonate strongly with me when I cooked for her.”

So, he enrolled in a study abroad program at a French cooking school in the south of England, in a beautiful place called Devon.

CASSERLY cont. page 38A
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BREAKFAST SMOOTHIES
Fuad Al-Qudsi, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

CASSERLY cont. from page 36A

with me. Then I learned of neuro-otology, essentially ear, nose and throat medicine, and that drew me in.”

Ear, nose and throat as a specialty gets into how we interact in the world, said Casserly, who was drawn to the idea of helping patients with hearing, taste and smell. “That turns out, has enabled him to use more of his neuroscience training than any other specialty might have.”

The world of hearing loss has two large, main sub-groups. The first group of people have age-related hearing loss, which affects high-frequency hearing. When people start losing conversations, Casserly said, they turn to hearing aids as a normal part of the aging process.

“Some 50 percent of people age 80 and older have moderate hearing loss, making it appropriate to wear a hearing aid,” he said, but not everyone does so. “It carries a stigma of aging and people don’t want to feel or look old. Yet they actually seem older when they can’t hear or engage in conversations.”

For the second type — sensory-neuro hearing loss — Casserly said cochlear implantation is the only restorative intervention available. Introduced in the 1960s, cochlear implants have undergone considerable improvements.

“I did the first cochlear implant surgery here in June 2021,” he said. “Now I’ve done seven, but not alone. I couldn’t do it without my audiologists, Dr. Robin Ramsay and Dr. Amanda Lee Scott. Contrary to what we see in the movies, the moment we turn the implant on doesn’t mean the patient has perfect hearing. It depends on how long the loss has been present and to what degree. And it takes rehab to adjust to the device.”

Long relationship
Now that Medicare and the FDA have begun to understand cochlear implant research, he said, this intervention has become more widely available for patients who are not completely deaf, but who still have a severe loss of hearing.

Casserly grew up in a musical family and, like his wife, played the piano for years, making music and hearing a passion for him.

“I sang in high school and college with the woman who is now my wife. Using that perspective and appreciation for how and what we hear is a big deal,” he said.

“A Helen Keller quote I tend to repeat is, ‘Blindness separates people from things, deafness separates people from people.’ This is a tune I find so interesting and revealing about hearing, which is subtle and tricky to navigate.”

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She said that there are several conditions that may first appear as mild or moderate, but that if left untreated, can lead to dangerous and severe outcomes. Given the risks of a serious condition going unnoticed, and the education and consumer protections built into the licensing process for audiologists, Taylor asked, “Where is the logic in offering consumers the option to bypass this needed expertise?”

According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, since 2008, audiologists in California have been required to have a doctorate, and Taylor noted they “complete close to 2,000 hours of clinical work just focused on the ear.” She added that, in California, audiologists “are also required to pass exams just to work with patients regarding hearing aids.”

And, there’s the complexity of the devices. “Hearing aids are microcomputers with complex hardware, sound processors, software algorithms, microphones, speakers and individual-specific ear pieces that process sound based on their hearing loss and preferences,” she said.

“When you see someone who hasn’t been fitted properly with hearing aids and then you fit them correctly, you see them regain the ability to interact with the world around them. Many are not avoiding social situations anymore, and it really helps improve their quality of life and decreases the effort needed to understand what they are hearing,” Taylor noted.

She added, “Most clinics have payment arrangement options that are very palatable for patients. There are also programs offered by the community and even hearing aid manufacturers, to allow patients of all income levels access to hearing aids.”

Casserty, who in addition to being an ENT specialist is a neurologist who works with advanced ear surgery and hearing restoration, said that you could think of OTC hearing devices as “a little like reading glasses.” They might help, but they’re “one size fits all” and don’t come with the same kind of support as prescription hearing aids.

He explained that dealing with age-related hearing loss is more than a matter of turning up the volume. “Many people are missing consonant sounds. Bear, chair, air and fair all sound alike to them.” Boosting higher-frequency sounds — the ones typically lost with age — is necessary, he said.

The hearing aids you can buy at your local drugstore or online aren’t just person-al sound amplifiers, which have been used by birdwatchers, hunters and inveterate cavediggers for decades. OTC hearing aids work similarly to prescription models, but don’t have the same expert customization.

Casserty gave an example of a patient who might have difficulty in a car because their new hearing aids amplify road noise. Prescription devices can be programmed for a different “profile” the person can use while driving or riding around town. A golfer, meanwhile, may want an adjust-ment to minimize wind noise. Indoors, you might want different settings for a concert or a meeting.

Physically, Casserty said, they need to fit “snugly and comfortably,” and of course, a custom-fitted pair is ideal. Another advantage of prescription devices, he mentioned, is the ongoing support of an expert provider to help you get used to them and figure out what adjustments need to be made.

But for someone who can’t afford prescription hearing aids, Casserty said over-the-counter models offer an accessible alternative — again, only for adults with mild-to-moderate hearing loss. And he and Taylor both said that if you have any hearing loss or tinnitus (ringing in the ears), you should consult your family doctor and request a referral to an audiologist for testing.

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3 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

**Monterey Optometric Center**

700 Caas Street, Suite 101
Monterey, California 93940
831.641.7252 tel

**Solinas Optometric Center**

48 West Rome Lane
Salinas, California 93901
831.424.0834 tel

**Marina Optometric Center**

271 Reservation Road, Suite 202
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831.384.6800 tel

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and expect her to comply. “My role is to facilitate communication,” she said. She gave a hypothetical example of interpreting for a student. If a teacher gave one date for an exam at the beginning of class, but gave a different date at the end of the period, James said, “I wouldn’t clean that up — someone else will ask the question.”

Sign language interpreters can — and should — become certified, said Carmona. CCSLI is a member of a national certifying body called Registered Interpreters for the Deaf. “We can interpret in almost any venue — schools, hospitals and businesses — but not criminal or family court,” she said, because those interpreters have a different body called Registered Interpreters for the Deaf.

“Interpreting is a rigorous process,” Yaeger said. “We like to feel included, so not keeping us involved” is frustrating. He said he also wishes that others were more often aware that there are deaf people living in their communities. “While shopping for clothes or food, people come up behind you and ask, ‘Do you need help?’” and then think they’re being ignored, he said.

When someone speaks to a deaf person through an interpreter, they shouldn’t look at the interpreter — that’s not who they’re interpreting, she simply avoids eye contact with the hearing person.

Some situations, like medical appointments, are best done with an in-person interpreter. Yaeger said he prefers a live interpreter to using screens in most situations, because becoming fluent in a second language is difficult and the certification process is rigorous.

She noted that more hearing people are learning to sign, and members of the Deaf community appreciate it. Even when her husband’s luggage was lost on a flight into San Jose, Carmona said it was “an absolute treat,” when they discovered that the agent at the luggage desk spoke their language.

How do deaf people learn sign language? Yaeger said that many people who are born deaf go to specialized schools, while others learn from family members or members of a local deaf community.

He said that there’s a “baby sign language” that uses signs adapted for an infant’s level of dexterity and understanding, and Carmona added, “It’s becoming really popular with hearing families. There are studies that show an association between early exposure to sign language (including among hearing children) and increased intelligence.”

Shared experience

Yaeger said, “I am grateful to communicate in sign language. It’s really important for a deaf person to receive that mutual, shared experience.” Carmona agreed, adding that deaf people are generally “very accepting of different people. They’re a warm and kind community that accepts others.” She said that when people are trying to learn ASL, deaf people welcome their sincere attempts to communicate, no matter how awkward.

There are some situations deaf people find trying, however. While Yaeger made it clear that he couldn’t speak for such a diverse group, he said that for him, it’s annoying if someone who can sign doesn’t try to help. “We like to feel included, so not keeping us involved” is frustrating.

When someone speaks to a deaf person through an interpreter, they shouldn’t look at the interpreter — that’s not who they’re interpreting, she simply avoids eye contact.
A hearing on the petition will be held on January 11, 2023.

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will of LINDA WATERFIELD, you are hereby notified that the Petition for Probate has been filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey.

You can find these court forms and more at this court and have a copy served on you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien has been recorded in the public records of the county in which the property is located.

To all creditors of the above-named decedent, you are hereby notified that a petition forprobate has been filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey.

The name, address and telephone number of the registered owner and the person in charge of the business are as set forth in the statement. The business is conducted by a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before any change in the facts set forth in the statement.

A hearing on the petition will be held on January 11, 2023. Attend at the court to show cause why the court should not grant the relief prayed for.

For more information, contact the County Clerk at 831-648-2670.

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

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**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LISA CHRISTINE BAKARJAN, A MINOR**

To all persons interested in the estate of LISA CHRISTINE BAKARJAN, A MINOR, you are hereby notified that a petition for administration of the estate has been filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey.

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Latin Jazz Collective, AJ Lee & Blue Summit headline First Night

FROM LATE afternoon to past midnight on New Year’s Eve, 20 musical acts — including five new ones — play on various stages throughout downtown Monterey during the 30th First Night Monterey celebration.

When the clock strikes 12, a pair of headliners — The Latin Jazz Collective and AJ Lee & Blue Summit — will have everyone shaking their booties. The former is a local favorite led by percussionist John Nava, and you can catch them in the Serra Ballroom at the Monterey Conference Center. Making their First Night debut, the latter serves up an irresistible hybrid of bluegrass, Americana, country, and folk music at Golden State Theater.

Also new this year will be performances by The Dead Cassettes (rock and r&b), singer and guitarist George Cole (Gypsy jazz), Matt Mashih & the Messengers (reggae) and River Voices, an Americana ensemble with heavenly harmonies that includes singers Jacqui Hope, Lyra Englehorn and Kate Faber, singer and guitarist Linda Arceo and violinist Vera Marie Bridges.

The musical lineup also features some popular returning acts, including The Black Irish Band, Dirty Cello, percussionist Jayson Fann, homegrown hip-hop singer MC Lars, Sensory Tribe and Monterey County Pops.

Buttons for this year’s First Night party are $30 for adults and $20 for 6 to 16. Kids under 5 get in free. While masks and proof of vaccination or a negative test are not required for indoor shows, that could change if Covid numbers rise, according to organizers. For more details, visit firstnightheavy.org.

New Year’s at the Cherry

Carrying on a tradition at one of the town’s hot spots for creative expression, The Cherry Trio presents a baroque concert on New Year’s Day at the Cherry Center for the Arts.

The trio features violinist Elizabeth Gaver, harpsichordist Michael Peterson and violist Penny Hanna. They’ll be joined this year by violinist David Wilson. Together, they’ll play an assortment of music from the 17th century, including trio sonatas by Henry Purcell, Johann Rosenmüller and Georg Muffat, a suite for viola da gamba by Marin Marais, and a harpsichord solo by J.C.F. Fischer.

The music starts at 3 p.m. Tickets are $25. The Cherry Center is located at Fourth and Guadalupe.

Rock ‘n’ funk for a good cause

A local band that serves a generous portion of funk with its rock, The Transducers celebrate the arrival of 2023 and raise money for a worthy cause at the American Legion Hall. “We are excited to partner up to support our local veterans and our community at large,” drummer Lisa Rutta told The Pine Cone. A portion of the proceeds benefit the American Legion’s Girls State Program, which offers leadership training for young women.

See MUSIC page 47A
Reasons to go to Cannery Row, a downtown stay, and food philanthropy

Many locals avoid Cannery Row because it draws so many tourists and parking is often a challenge, but the C Restaurant + Bar in the InterContinental Hotel has a fix for that: free valet parking. And with the recent return of veteran restaurateur Joe Valencia to the Peninsula to become director of food and beverage at the property, the C is seeing even more creative energy from executive chef Matt Bolton, who has run the kitchen there for more than eight years, and pastry chef Michelle Lee.

It’s the dream job for Valencia, who worked at the Rio Grill, Porter’s in the Forest, Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse, Sly McFly’s and other Monterey Peninsula spots for many years before leaving in November 2020 to live and work closer to his father in Sedona, Arizona. After being told he wasn’t getting the post, he settled back in to contemplate his next steps, only to learn soon after that the first candidate fell through and he’d be hired, after all. He returned in mid-October with exuberance.

“No, Arizona, it’s been real, but my heart has always been in Cali. And I’m super stoked to be heading back to Mon­terey to work with John Turner, chef Mat­thew Bolton and the divine Michelle Lee at the InterContinental,” he announced in October. “Excited to join this great team as director of food and beverage,” added Bolton.

Happy Hour

Bolton’s cooking remains as elegant but accessible as ever, almost as if his once unassuming, yet confi­dent, demeanor comes through in his cuisine. The prawn and Dungen­ness crab pappar­delle in lobster crème fraîche, for instance, is rich but complemented by oven-roasted tomato, capers, fine herbs and preserved lemon, while the Lib­erty Farms duck confit with griss with kale rivals any great brasserie’s version of this classic dish, with crisp skin and rich, but not greasy, meat.

Lee’s desserts are irresistible, as always, including Milk & Honey Toast with brû­lée, milk ice cream, honeycomb candy and strawberry guava jam. Her S’more Crunch is a perennial hit.

Jump on NYE

In the meantime, spaces remain avail­able short term for vacationers and stay­ca­tioners alike. Galante’s little apartment, which is avail­able for half price, including the ever-popular California trout roe vs. Cal­ifornia salmon roe with crème fraîche on confit potato with finger lime, shallot, red radish sprouts and chive.

Foray Happy Hour

Executive chef Michael Chang’s Foray Restaurant, which he co-owns with Car­oline Singer, is a place for a splurge that may be out of reach for many. But there’s still a way to sample some of Chang’s creations at more accessible prices. Open Thursday through Sunday for dinner from 5 p.m. onward, the restaurant at the corner of San Carlos and Fifth now offers Happy Hour.

Until 6 p.m., bites and drink specials are available for half price, including the ever-popular California trout roe vs. Cal­ifornia salmon roe with crème fraîche on confit potato with finger lime, shallot, red radish sprouts and chive.

For more, visit forayrestaurant.com.

Galante apartment

Tucked away above the Galante test­ing room on Dolores south of Ocean is Galante’s little apartment, which is avail­able for half the price of vacationers and stay­ca­tioners alike. Jack and Dawn Galante’s studio apart­ment has a king bed, kitchenette, full bath, internet and cable TV, and, being down­town, is within walking distance of pretty much everything.

“Walk to your favorite restaurants, take in a show at the Sunset Center, or stroll along the white sands of Carmel Beach. It just doesn’t get any better,” they said. Wine club members get a free bottle of wine and discounted rates when they stay, too.

See FOOD next page
Bashar al Sneeh explained that the check during a celebration Dec. 15. Owner of Veterans Transition Center in Marina who have served by donating $15,000 to edgrilledcheese.com. For more information, visit toast-grilledcheese.com.

Now, the founders will have a permanent location in Carmel Valley to feed their fanatics. For more information, visit toast-edgrilledcheese.com.

Dametra helps vets

Dametra restaurants supported those who have served by donating $15,000 to the Veterans Transition Center in Marina during a celebration Dec. 15. Owner Bashar al Sneeh explained that the check presentation would take place in the sports bar inside Dametra Fresh “because when we built the bar, we formed a partnership with Veterans Transition Center by taking the historic bar top that used to be in the Stilwell club in the Fort Ord military base and installing it in our sports bar.” In return, al Sneeh and his partners promised to contribute part of the proceeds. The nonprofit Veterans Transition Center of California seeks “to empower veterans to transition from crisis to self-sufficiency” by providing homeless vets and their families with food, clothing, case management, life skills, substance-abuse counseling, benefit enrollment, medical referrals, employment training and housing.

BSFW Foundation helps

The Big Sur Food & Wine Foundation’s events — the food and wine festival, the fashion show, the Ferrari event at the Barnyard and other fundraisers — netted a record amount of funds to be distributed by the nonprofit that organizes them, according to CFO and events director Elsa Rivera. Net proceeds of all 2022 events resulted in $210,000 being handed out to Big Sur-oriented nonprofits.

Recipients included the Big Sur Fiddle Camp Weston Call Scholarship ($8,000), Big Sur Fire Brigade ($50,000), Big Sur Orange Hat Grant ($50,000), Big Sur Historical Society ($4,000), Big Sur Park School ($10,000), Big Sur Softball ($3,000), Captain Cooper School Parents Club ($10,000), Esalen Tribe of Monterey County for cultural and land maintenance ($8,000), Keep Big Sur Wild ($2,000), Mid Coast Fire Brigade ($15,000), Pacific Valley School ($10,000), StageKids ($3,000), The Big Share food assistance ($8,000), The Henry Miller Memorial Library ($15,000), the BSFW Foundation’s scholarship for Big Sur youth ($5,000) and Ventana Wildlife Society ($4,000).

Twisted Roots fights cancer

Twisted Roots, which has a tasting room in Carmel Valley Village, raised $1,000 for the Breast Cancer Foundation’s scholarship for Big Sur youth ($5,000) and Ventana Wildlife Society ($4,000).
Entries sought for photo contest, CPA teams

WITH MORE than $2,000 in awards and prize money up for grabs, the Center for Photographic Art is seeking submissions for its annual Members’ Juried Exhibition, which runs from April 1 to May 7.

“New or current CPA members working in all still photographic media are welcome to enter,” executive director Ann Jastrab announced. “There is no theme, and any subject matter is eligible.”

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

The contest will be juried by Hamidah Glasgow, the executive director at The Center for Fine Art Photography in Fort Collins, Colo.

Nice prizes

The prizes include $1,000 for Best of Show, $500 for Second Place, $250 for the Jack Wasserbach Award for B&W Photography — which is donated by the Image Makers of Monterey County — $250 for Third Place, $150 for a People’s Choice Award, and $50 each for five honorable mentions.

The submission period opens Jan. 2 and closes Feb. 17. For more details, visit photography.org.

Five openings in two days

Besides seeking entries for the CPA’s juried exhibit, Jastrab and others are working behind the scenes on five shows that will go on display in the next two weeks, including four at the Pacific Grove Art Center — thanks to the generosity of a benefactor.

“We had a lovely donor who wanted to support us and bring some of our exhibits to Pacific Grove,” Jastrab told The Pine Cone. “We’re taking over the entire art center for almost two months — there will be a different show in every room.”

Opening Jan. 6 at the P.G. art center are shows by photographers Monica Denovan, Richard Murai and Maniello Paganelli (“Up Close and Personal”), Bryant Austin, Scott Campbell, Chuck Davis, Camille Lenore, Robin V. Robinson and Kriziel (“Oceana: Deep Reverence”) and Ernie Luppi (“Bella Italia”), along with a collaboration between a pair of locals arts groups, Arts Habitat and the Weston Collective.

And that’s not all, the next day, a show by photographers Austin Leong, Adrian Martinez and the late Henry Wessel (“With Soft Eyes”) opens at the CPA’s Sunset Center gallery.

Support Pine Cone advertisers — they make this newspaper possible
Joe needs our help.

A familiar face wherever music is played locally, guitarist Joe Lucido was recently released from the hospital after a tough battle with a pneumonia. Because he is facing a lengthy recovery, one of his friends is raising money for him at gofundme.com. The funds will go to rent, food and bills.

"His doctors are praising his progress, but he’s looking at a fairly lengthy recovery," posted saxophonist Casey Frazier (Saturday at noon), singer Lee Durley and pianist Joe Indence (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Kevin Pfeffer (Sunday at noon). 415 V. Carmel Valley Road.

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (60s music, Saturday at 12:30 p.m.); 46840 Highway 1.

Chico Restaurant in Monterey — The Dave Holodiloff Duo (bluegrass and jazz, Sunday at 7 p.m.), singer Lee Durley (jazz, Tuesday at 7 p.m.) and The Ben Herod Trio (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.), 303 Alvarado St.

Cuc’s Surfside Bar & Grill in Seaside — The Vic Silva Band (rock, Friday at 8 p.m.); 594 Broadway.

Cup’s Surfside Bar & Grill in Seaside — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist Gennady Loktionov and singer Debbie Davis (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.), The Andersen Trio (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.) and singer Lee Durley and pianist Joe Indence (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.); Lincoln and Seventh.

Folk Tale Winery in Carmel Valley — Two Rivers with singer Richard Bryant and guitarist Kyle Kovalk (pop and rock, Friday at 3 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist Rory Lynch (Saturday at 3 p.m.), singer and guitarist Asher Stern (Monday at 3 p.m.) and singer and multi-instrumentalist Joe Kaplow (Thursday at 3 p.m.). 8409 Carmel Valley Road.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 8 p.m.) and Thursday at 7 p.m.); 120 Highlands Drive.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — singer and guitarist Fred McCa- rthy (Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Zack Freitas (Saturday at 5 p.m.); 1 Old Golf Course Road.

The Inn at Spanish Bay — singer, pianist and multi-instrumentalist Gary Meek (jazz and pop, Saturday at 5:30 p.m.), 1.1 Old Golf Course Road.

The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet — singer and pianist Zach Westfall (jazz, Saturday at 9 p.m.). Thursday, 5:30 p.m. and Sunday at 9 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St.

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and multi-instrumentalist Casey Wickstrom (rock and blues, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer Julie Capilli (jazz, Sat- urday at 5:30 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Scott Slaughter (Saturday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive. Massa Tasting Room in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (60s folk, Sunday at noon). 69 W. Carmel Valley Road.

The Miles Piano Bar — singer and pianist Bill Spencer (jazz and pop, Friday at 7 p.m.), 46840 Highway 1.

The Transmitters — rock and funk, Friday at 8 p.m.) and pianist Mike Shannon (Saturday at 6 p.m.). FishHopper.com

The Vic Silva Band — rock band, Friday at 8 p.m.). 594 Broadway.

To update these listings, email chris@
carmelpinecone.com.
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This week’s cover, located in Pebble Beach, is presented by Canning Properties Group of Sotheby’s International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)
We were looking for a getaway home that could easily become our retirement home. After several months of searching in
entertaining guests or enjoying a quiet reprieve. The stunning ocean views — showcased from every room — on a private and elevated setting.

Beautiful Carmel stone lines the driveways, exterior grounds and entry while the reverse contemporary. Legacy Cypress trees frame the Cypress Point Club awaits this timeless

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Centrally located above the famed 17 Mile Drive between the Lodge at Pebble Beach and the Cypress Point Club awaits this timeless contemporary. Legacy Cypress trees frame the stunning ocean views — showcased from every room — on a private and elevated setting. Beautiful Carmel stone lines the driveways, exterior grounds and entry while the reverse floorplan maximizes ocean views from the main entertaining and living quarters perfect for entertaining guests or enjoying a quiet reprieve.

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December 30, 2022-Jan. 5, 2023

Real Estate Sales
Dec. 18 - 26

Escrows closed: 27
Total value: $53,628,500

Carmel

Sterling Way, NE corner of Perry Newberry – $2,500,000
Christopher and Timothy Hrusa to Tony and Berinca Das
APN: 029-162025

Casanova Street, 2 SW of Eighth – $3,290,000
Gerald Kleinsmith and Gerard Michaud to Elizabeth Hawthorn
APN: 010-134020

See HOME SALES page 4RE
3 beds, 2.5 baths  ■  $6,400,000  ■  www.VistaDeLaPlayaCarmel.com

4 beds, 4 baths  ■  $3,850,000  ■  www.RobinsonCanyonCarmelTreasure.com

5 beds, 3 baths  ■  $1,950,000  ■  www.LowerTrailViews.com

2 beds, 2 baths  ■  $1,200,000  ■  www.223DelMesa.com

5 beds, 4.5 baths  ■  $3,995,000  ■  www.31660ViaLaEstrella.com

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HOME SALES
From page 2RE

Carmel (con’t.)

26357 Scenic Road – $6,250,000
Fremont Bank to Cappo Real Estate Holdings LLC
APN: 009-442-018

Carmel Valley

18197 Cachagua Road – $589,000
Frank Balesteri to Daniel Aguilar
APN: 417-101-013

287 El Caminito – $1,750,000
Joel Nobrega to Raymond Lee
APN: 187-591-063

28042 Dove Court – $2,065,000
Dallas Hodgson to Hancock Family Partnership LLC
APN: 416-541-021

18197 Cachagua Road – $589,000
Frank Balesteri to Daniel Aguilar
APN: 417-101-013

297 El Caminito – $1,750,000
Joel Nobrega to Raymond Lee
APN: 187-591-063

26357 Scenic Road, Carmel – $6,250,000

7635 Mills Road, Highway 68 – $4,500,000

May this new year be full of adventure and growth.

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Misty watercolor memories of the way some lost friends were uninterested in baseball appreciate how much some people care about the game. “It is foolish and childish, on the face of it, to affiliate ourselves with anything so insignificant and patently contrived and commercially exploitative as a professional sports team,” Angell wrote. “What is left out of this calculation, it seems to me, is the business of caring — caring deeply and passionately — which is an emotion that has almost gone out of our lives. And so it seems possible that we have come to a time when it no longer matters so much what the caring is about, how frail or foolish is the object of that concern, as long as the feeling itself can be saved. Navireted — the infantile and ignoble joy that sends a grown man or woman to dancing and shouting with joy in the middle of the night over the haphazardous flight of a distant ball — seems a small price to pay for such a gift.”

While Angell wrote eloquently about baseball, Vin Scully spoke eloquently about it. If you were in your mother’s womb the first time you heard Scully’s voice, you would have been on Medicare when he retired. He covered the Dodgers for 63 seasons. In an age with multiple commentators in the booth, Scully single-handedly did a simulcast while holding the attention of both radio listeners and TV viewers. During his tenure, he called 18 no-hitters and three perfect games. He was at the mic in 1974 in Atlanta when the Braves’ Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth’s all-time home run record. “A black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking a record of an all-time baseball idol,” Scully told his audience. “What a marvelous moment for baseball.”

Marilyn Bergman said in 2012, She and her husband Alan wrote song lyrics that epitomized regret and remembrance: “Can it be that it was all so simple then? Or has time re-written every line? If we had the chance to do it all again/Tell me, would we? Could we?”

Sidney Poitier’s career was filled with memorable characters he portrayed with dignity, intelligence and moral courage — particularly noteworthy because he did so at a time when Hollywood was notorious for neglecting black artists and audiences. Surely the angels said, “Guess who’s coming to dinner?” when Sidney knocked at heaven’s gate.
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2022: another year for gratitude. Success happens with teamwork, collaboration, and with the work of so many in our community. We would like to thank all of those who contributed to this success. We’re looking forward to more work together in 2023!
This Weekend’s OPEN HOUSES
Dec. 31 - Jan. 1

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Sunset’s Inn Rd
11-30-35

CARMEL VALLEY
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4 Bed 3 Bath
4 Phelps Way
Cobbled Benter Realty
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POLICE LOG
From page 4A
Pacific Grove: Traffic stop at Ocean View Boulevard and Asilomar Avenue resulted in the driver being cited and released for driving with a suspended license.
Pacific Grove: Informational report regarding a child custody dispute on 17th Street.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Officer made contact with a shop owner on San Carlos south of Seventh regarding complaints of feeding wildlife at the business. Discouraged photos of raccoons looking inside and leaning up against the business door around sunset. Officer observed bird seeds outside near the door and dog treats inside the door. This was a second warning for the bird seeds. The officer attempted to express the importance to prevent the dangers of raccoon behavior being altered by food given directly or inadvertently.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Sexual assault at the beach is under investigation.
Pacific Grove: A 56-year-old female was cited at David and Lighthouse for having an out-of-county warrant for failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.
Pacific Grove: Report of a suspicious circumstances near a school on Junipero. Claims were unfounded.
Pebble Beach: Subject on Pine Meadows Way was placed on a psychiatric evaluation hold.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Burglary/theft of an art piece from a gallery on Dolores north of Sixth.
Pacific Grove: Subject on Camino Real south of 11th requested a residence check after her surveillance camera showed two separate unknown women enter her front yard. Upon checking the exterior, it appeared one of the females filled two grocery bags full of lemons from the resident’s tree in the back. Resident did not wish to file report or prosecute female if identified, but provided a trespass advisement if identified and contacted in the future.
Pacific Grove: Subject on Glen Lake Drive was placed on a 510 hold.
Pacific Grove: Attempted fraud, theft by use of an access card at Country Club Gate.
Carmel area: Person of interest was located on Highway 1 and the family was notified. Missing property stored at a local P.D. was returned to the subject.
Carmel Valley: Information report was requested at Del Mesa Carmel.
Carmel area: Suspect sent intimidating message.

See SHERIFF next page

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Dec. 31 - Jan. 1

CARMEL
$1,895,000
4 Bed 3.5 Bath
2031 Flinders Dr
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$2,260,000
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$2,192,000
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Sunset’s Inn Rd
11-30-35

CARMEL VALLEY
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See Sheriff next page

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January 30 – February 5, 2023

AT&T PEBBLE BEACH PRO-AM
Publications Dates: Jan. 27 & Feb. 3
texts to a victim on Carmel Rancho Boulevard.

Pebble Beach: A vehicle burglary was reported on 17 Mile Drive.

Carmel area: A 40-year-old male was arrested on Hawk Court for violating a temporary restraining order.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle towed from Sixth and Junipero.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Misconduct at San Carlos and Ocean.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject reported finding an Apple Watch on the sidewalk on Mission Street. The watch was placed into safekeeping.

Pacific Grove: Dispatched after report of battery on Siner. It was determined this case was unfounded and documented for information purposes.

Pacific Grove: Fraud by use of a stolen access card which occurred outside of the country in Hong Kong.

Pacific Grove: Suspected mountain lion kill on Siners.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject at Del Mar and Scenic reported a lost electronic device.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Medical emergency at Mountain View and Eighth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Reported lost men’s wallet. Later follow-up contact with the owner, who advised the wallet was found.

Pacific Grove: Fall on city property on Aulimor.

Pacific Grove: At about 1047 hours, officers were dispatched to a residence regarding a civil matter involving family.

Pacific Grove: Old ammunition from an Earlday residence was surrendered to the police department to be destroyed.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject lost a كلمة قصيرة.

Carmel Valley: Old ammunition from an Earlday residence was surrendered to the police department to be destroyed.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a domestic dispute at Monte Verde and Ocean. It was found to be a verbal dispute only.

Pacific Grove: Report taken for an unprovoked dog bite. Information only.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded to Tassajara Road after a report of shots being fired.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Pacific Grove: Fall on public property on Laurel.

Carmel Valley: A female was found to be unable to care for herself due to mental health issues. She was transported to CHOMP.

HALF NEW YEAR!

Wishing our clients and friends good health and much happiness in 2023!

““We all get the exact same 365 days. The only difference is what we do with them” – Hillary DePiano

SELLER REPRESENTATION IN 2022

28060 Robinson Canyon Rd Carmel - $2,250,000
8044 Poplar Lane Carmel - $3,850,000
990 Pioneer Road Pebble Beach - $3,050,000
22 Shepherds Knoll Pebble Beach - $812,000
25340 Vista Del Pinos Carmel - $3,600,000
4000 Rio Road #69 Carmel - $1,155,000
1116 Presidio Road Pebble Beach - $2,165,000
936 Sand Dunes Road Pebble Beach - $3,355,000
8072 Lake Place Carmel - $3,775,000
3600 High Meadow Dr #10 Carmel - Under Contract
0 Casanova 2 NE of 2nd Carmel - Current Listing
26277 Isabella Ave Carmel - $2,995,000

BUYER REPRESENTATION IN 2022

25340 Vista Del Pinos Carmel - $3,000,000
14930 Breckinridge Ave East Garrison - $1,050,000
25919 Carmel Knolls Rd Carmel - $2,899,500
47 La Rancharia Carmel Valley - $2,525,000
25075 Outlook Dr. Carmel - $2,325,000
2 Shepherds Knoll Pebble Beach - $1,198,000
1076 Sawmill Gulch Rd Pebble Beach - $1,900,000

Contact Julie Kavanaugh at 831-601-9963 for more details.
Highway 68 (con’t.)

Jeffrey Dougherty to Stephen and Zuzzanne Broom
APN: 161-421-016
Marina
18595 McClellan Circle – $650,000

Brigitte Kalai to Duckworth IRA Investment Group
APN: 031-162-027
3126 Crestview Court – $705,000

Frank Bull to Reeda Palmer
APN: 032-151-032
2 Caroline Lane – $755,000

Drucilla Wilson to Tirtha Maharjan
APN: 033-135-006
3171 Shuler Circle – $825,000

Richard Sinconis to Landau Davidson
APN: 032-101-055

704 Granite Street, Pacific Grove – $2,120,000

ESCROWS
From page 4RE

3078 Helena Way – $850,000
Breakridge Property Fund 2016 to Jon Anderson
APN: 032-261-023

Imjin Road – $875,000
Shea Homes LP to Scott Robertson
APN: 031-101-054

3001 Abrams Drive – $920,000
Richard Misner to Thomas Frank
APN: 031-275-027

2765 Telegraph Blvd. – $931,500
Shea Homes LP to Shri Kumar
APN: 031-205-024

2604 Catwalk Court – $1,030,000
Shea Homes LP to Robert Shawo
APN: 031-205-028

Imjin Road – $1,097,000
Shea Homes LP to Stacey Brachman
APN: 031-101-054

3003 Pinnacles Way – $1,462,500
JPA Marina Builders to Mengqi Zhao

APN: 031-279-027
Monterey
250 Forest Ridge Road unit 48 – $669,000
Massah’s Sakai to Halice Garcia
APN: 014-141-048

3 Forest Knoll Road – $1,199,000
Christina Chaffait to Edward Yanosh
APN: 014-062-027

Pacific Grove
511 Gibson Avenue – $1,482,500
Shea Homes LP to Kimberly Moulton
APN: 006-545-004

3001 Abrams Drive – $920,000
Richard Misner to Thomas Frank
APN: 031-275-027

2765 Telegraph Blvd. – $931,500
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APN: 031-279-027
I was 17 when I saw singer Joni James in a nightclub. Her hit song, “Why Don’t You Believe Me,” had reached No. 1 on the charts. She was only six years older than me. I was smitten and had serious imaginings of ditching my prom date for Joni. The best romantic voice ever.

The Toonsday coffee meeting has been mentioned in many of these columns. In its heyday, as many as 20 cartoonists, writers, artists, entertainers, raconteurs and entrepreneurs gathered to engage in the repartee, exchange ideas, and just enjoy the camaraderie. Alas, we lost three members this year, and the group has dwindled to a precious few.

David Loye left us in January. He was a psychologist, evolutionary systems scientist, and author. Among his 30 books, “Darwin’s Lost Theory” was hailed as one of the most important books of the 21st Century by science philosopher and systems theorist Ervin Laszlo.

Cartoonist Dennis Renault and architect/designer Kipp Stewart left us in November within a week of each other. Dennis drew more than 6,000 cartoons for the Sacramento Bee during his 27-year tenure as political cartoonist. He jousted with state politicians, often nettling Speaker of the House Willie Brown. His cartoons appeared in national magazines including Playboy, The Saturday Review of Literature, and The Saturday Evening Post. He was a gifted storyteller, punctuating his tales with a keen wit.

Kipp Stewart’s No. 1 legacy is the Ventana Inn — a design that’s perfectly harmonious with the rolling landscape over looking the Pacific Ocean. There was no one quite like him. He wasn’t a knock-off or a here-today-gone-tomorrow type guy. Speaking about Carmel, he once told me: “I have met so many people, some good and some very good.” Think about that. Most people would have said, “some good and some bad.” Not Kipp. He liked everyone.

What a joy it was to meet once a week with such outstanding individuals. I will miss political satirist P.J. O’Rourke. His brand of anti-authoritarian journalism that mocked government and the establishment took down left- and right-wing targets with sardonic glee.

Many other notables died in 2022, including Queen Elizabeth II, writer Hilary Mantel (Wolf Hall), actor James Caan, and basketball player and civil rights trail blazer Bill Russell. What a joy it was to share the planet with them. Good health, Peace and Prosperity. May we be thankful for what we have and find joy in sharing our good fortunes.

Jennifer Menke
REALTOR®
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jmenke@montereycoastrealtors.com
JMenkeMontereyCoastRealty.com

Recent Sales

1085 Trappers Trail, Pebble Beach | SP: $2,295,000 • Represented Buyer

1076 Sawmill Gulch, Pebble Beach | SP: $1,900,000 • Represented Seller
1897’ Cashague Road, Carmel Valley – $1,897,000

Timothy and Michelle Toland to Jason Wonk
APN: 037-218-005

22800 Bravo Place, Monterey – $1,015,000

1076 Sawmill Gulch Road – $1,900,000
Pebble Beach
Holdings LLC
APN: 006-278-008

Marc and Lisa Schonbrun to Mark and Julie Kavanaugh

2952 Stevenson Drive – $2,450,000

The Pine Cone prints all Monterey Peninsula real estate sales shown on recorded deeds, and we do not omit sales for any reason. For more on our home sales policy, please go to pineconearchive.com/homesalespolicy.html.

David Crabbe Real Estate
Property Management is our only Business...

DRE: 01306450
David.Crabbe@sothebys.realty
831.320.1109

Happy New Year
May this new year be full of adventure and growth.

David Crabbe
831-320-1109
David.Crabbe@sothebys.realty
DavidCrabbeRealEstate.com
DRE: 01306450
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STAND UP and shout your achievements

Real Estate Insider is the Carmel Pine Cone’s exclusive cool column read by the thousands who follow this dynamic Monterey Peninsula industry. Find out who’s getting promoted, who’s been hired, who’s won an award or hit a goal, not to mention the latest news about corporate developments at real estate firms, big and small. And why stop there? Look for newsy tidbits about mortgage brokers, title companies and anyone else who’s part of the local real estate scene.

Columnist Elaine Hesser invites you to submit story ideas directly to her by email: elaine@carmelpinecone.com.

Include hi-res headshot photos of newsmakers.

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$1,250,000 • www.18535McClellan.com

3 Beds, 2 Baths • 2966 Garnet Way, Marina
$1,125,000 • www.2966GarnetWay.com

2 Beds, 2.5 Baths • 18555 McClellan Circle, East Garrison
$978,000 • www.18555McClellanCt.com

5 acres • 46199 Clear Ridge Road, Big Sur Coast
$699,000 • www.46199ClearRidge.com

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