BY KEELY NIX

NOW THAT California American Water has agreed to pay $46 million to settle a lawsuit by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District for using more water than allowed, the district’s attorney Michael Stamp explained that the agreement means the community is finally no longer living in the dark about the water company’s water usage.

“Desal the solution”

Water district general manager Dave Stoldt said the project will be selected at the end of July, Stoldt said. “The way the order is written, Cal Am has to provide evidence that it has a long-term water supply” meaning the amount of water the company has been allowed to take order it filed against Cal Am that drastically limited the Water Resources Control Board first must lift the 2009 restrictions.

City screenshot through dangerous tree backlog

DOZENS OF trees fell during this year’s winter storms, while dozens more had to be taken down due to imminent danger, and city workers and contractors are working through a list of many more that need to be assessed or removed, according to forestry administrative analyst Tom Ford.

The full picture

At the April 13 streets and beach commission meeting, Ford said he was seeking “to provide as transparent a picture as possible” for how the city manages storm response and recovery efforts, and how problem trees are assessed for risk and prioritized for removal.

State shuts youth center for being unlicensed

By MARY SCHLEY

On March 27, in response to a complaint from an unnamed source that the center was providing care to young children without a license, an analyst from the California Department of Social Services arrived unannounced to conduct an inspection at the facility on Torres near the police station. In his report, he met with executive director Jessica Faddis, who explained that the youth center provides care on weekdays from 2 to 6 p.m. and during school breaks from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and that parents pay for the service and have the option of signing out their children.

Macias said Faddis also “disclosed that the youth center is a registered 501(c)(3)” and that she “was unsure of the licensing requirements.

After-school care, camps and other programs are available for kids as young as 5, and the center serves as few as 25 kids and as many as 65 over the course of a week. The youth center employs seven people.

“Therefore, the unlicensed complaint is found to be unsubstantiated,” Macias wrote. Specifically, the center was violating a Health & Safety Code section that states, “No person, firm, partnership, association or corporation shall operate, establish, maintain, conduct, or maintain a child daycare facility in this state without a current valid license.”

“Shocked”

Macias said he explained to Faddis that she’d have to close the center until she obtains a childcare license by completing an orientation and submitting an application within 15 days. He also issued a formal letter to that effect.

As a result, Faddis notified parents that all programs are canceled and the center is closed. “Due to unforeseen circumstances, we must close for the foreseeable future,” says a notice on its website. “We will update you as we progress. We apologize for any inconvenience.”

The closure blindsided parents who rely on the youth center for after-school care and activities, and for their kids. “Am I the only one shocked that they have been running all these years without being ‘fully licensed,’” and
Sandy Claws
By Lisa Crawford Watson

Precious prankster

Three years ago, after deciding to bring a golden retriever into the family, they found a scarcity of pandemic puppies amid an unprecedented number of people seeking to bring home comfort during Covid. When a breeder surfaced on Craigslist announcing a new litter of goldens, Mom drove to Fresno to meet the pups and came home with Maya.

“Maya’s not a rescue-dog story, and she’s not from a long line of renowned dogs,” said Mom, “but it was very special to get her from a loving home and bring her into ours.”

While scouring the internet for suitable names, she came upon Maya which, she read, means supernatural entity, power, strength.

“Maya has a bigger, broader face for an American golden,” her person said. “And when she looked at me with those wise, dark eyes, I sensed her name suited her.”

Maya lives in Sand City, but her favorite spot is Carmel Beach, where she’s more likely to venture past the shoreline than at other beaches. There, at the south end of the stretch of sand, the water pools, creating shallows where she seems quite happy to splash around.

“I love that Maya can run free down the length of the beach,” her person said. “I appreciate that dogs get to be dogs at Carmel Beach, chasing after birds or balls, dragging seaweed and playing with each other. And I like that we get that precious beach time with her.”

At home, Maya becomes a little prankster, grabbing the kitchen towel, a shoe, a sock — anything that belongs to her person. Then she looks up with a gleam in her eyes that suggests she’s proud of herself.

“I deflect,” her person said, “telling her I’m going to need the shoe back if she wants to go for a walk. It usually works.”

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By Lisa Crawford Watson

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CUSD board OKs contract for Carmel High stadium lights

By MARY SCHLEY

WHILE A lawsuit is pending in Monterey County Superior Court to try to stop the Carmel Unified School District from installing LEDs on poles around the Carmel High School athletic field and replacing lights at the pool, the CUSD Board of Education on Wednesday night approved a contract with Monterey Peninsula Engineering for the first phase of the project at a cost of $1,043,000.

The district advertised for bids for Phase I, which “includes purchase and installation of four lights for the CHS Stadium and replacement of existing pool lights,” and five contractors visited the site in late March, according to chief operations officer Dan Paul. Three submitted bids by the April 5 deadline, but only two met all of the job’s requirements, and Paul recommended the board OK a contract with low bidder Monterey Peninsula Engineering. The budget for Phase I is $1.1 million.

“MPE was the low bidder and is ready to proceed,” Paul told the board at the April 19 meeting.

The contract with MPE calls for the job to be completed within 90 calendar days and lists several mitigation measures it must follow, according to the environmental impact report the board voted to certify last November, when it approved the whole project.

Lawsuit acknowledged

The agreement also acknowledges the lawsuit filed by a neighbor group calling itself Save Carmel asking the court to halt the project based on alleged failings in the EIR.

“The parties acknowledge that litigation has been filed against the district alleging non-compliance with CEQA for this project,” the contract reads. “The district may, in its sole discretion, suspend, interrupt, or delay the work, in whole or in part, for such period of time as the district may determine upon one business day’s written notice to the contractor.”

If the delay is 120 days or shorter, the contractor won’t be paid for the time or entitled to any additional compensation, and if it runs longer, the same is true, but MPE can get out of the contract with 10 days’ written notice to the district.

At the meeting, Paul told the board the lighting design has already been approved by the International Dark-Sky Association, which has a mission to work “to protect the night skies for present and future generations.”

Part of the organization’s work involves certifying lighting installations at athletic facilities. “Recognizing the urgent need for leadership to encourage and promote community-friendly sports lighting designs,” a technical committee established criteria for certification of “community-friendly outdoor sports lighting.”

Specifically, the design must minimize “neighborhood lighting nuisances by greatly reducing the allowable spill and glare disruption,” manage high-angle glare, mandate curfews, limit use of the facility, and employ “best lighting practices” that reduce brightness and energy consumption.

Board President Sara Hinds said the news the design has been certified was “fantastic,” and no members of the public commented on the issue at the meeting.

Trustee Seaberry Nachbar moved approval of the contract, with Anne Marie Rosen providing the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Also at the April 19 meeting, but without discussion, the board approved an agreement acknowledging the lawsuit filed by Save Carmel asking the court to halt the project based on alleged failings in the EIR.

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The gavel falls

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

April 5 — Christian Tapia-Leon, 31, an officer employed by the Greenfield Police Department, pleads not contest to one count of Penal Code §242, battery.

On May 1, 2022, Tapia found out through a Snapchat video that his girlfriend was attending a family party also attended by his ex-boyfriend. Tapia took a screenshot of the ex-boyfriend — the victim in this case — and texted it to his girlfriend, along with multiple vulgarities. Ten minutes later, Tapia and a friend showed up at the house, located in Gonzales. Tapia stormed through the house, into the backyard and immediately attacked the ex-boyfriend. Tapia punched him multiple times in front of half a dozen people. Tapia’s friend, who was related to individuals at the house, also tried to attack the victim but was restrained by his cousin and forced out of the house with Tapia. The victim had a single bump on his head. He did not seek medical attention.

Gonzalez police were called and showed up immediately. When Gonzalez police officers asked Tapia what happened, he repeatedly lied to officers, told them nothing happened, and that there was no fight. He further demanded that police unencuff his friend, who was detained because he was drunk and belligerent. After repeatedly denying anyone was fighting or that he saw anyone throw punches, Tapia changed his story and said that the people at the family party attacked his friend for no apparent reason and Tapia was only trying to get his friend out of the house.

Numerous witnesses were interviewed. Five of them told police that they saw Tapia show up out of nowhere and attack the victim, who was blinded by the attack and fell to the ground as a result. When police questioned Tapia’s friend, the man told police that Tapia was angry about the ex-boyfriend being there and beat up the ex.

The following day, Tapia called the owner of the house and said that Tapia’s supervisor, a Greenfield Police Sergeant, would interview the homeowner. Tapia asked the homeowner for a favor. Tell the sergeant that Tapia was not involved in the fight and only was there to separate people. The homeowner agreed to do so later, when the phone call was reported to law enforcement along with a screenshot of the call, the homeowner eventually admitted he lied to the sergeant to help Tapia because of Tapia’s request.
Fight brewing over airport fire contract

By MARY SCHLEY

A BATTLE over fire services at the Monterey Regional Airport — that could result in curtailed firefighting services in the neighborhood around it — is coming to a head as the airport board prepares to vote on a new contract April 27.

After terminating its agreement with the City of Monterey following a dispute over the relocation of the airport’s fire station, the district received two proposals — one from Monterey and one from Pro-Tec, a private company in Wisconsin that specializes in providing aircraft rescue and firefighting services to commercial airports, airparks and aircraft manufacturers.

While Monterey’s bid was $3.1 million, the private company wants $1.7 million, but Monterey is arguing that it if loses the contract, nearby neighborhoods will suffer because it will take longer to get to them from other fire stations than it does with MFD engines stationed at the airport.

Crews at the station respond to calls on and off the airport property, but “should the airport choose Pro-Tec, all fire and emergency response services at the airport fire station would remain on-airport only, and the airport fire station would no longer serve residents and businesses off Highway 68, including Fisherman’s Flats, Deer Flats, Ryan Ranch, and other areas in Monterey, resulting in significantly increased response times of up to three or more minutes, to those neighborhoods,” according to Monterey Fire.

Why, exactly

According to airport district officials, the dispute stems from demands made by the City of Monterey during the environmental review of the impending project to relocate the airport’s taxiway, terminal and other facilities — including its fire station. Those plans call for demolishing the “aircraft rescue and firefighting facility” on the south side near long-term parking and building a new one — which is already underway — at the northeast corner of the airport. That location was the only feasible one because any on the south side would put fire engines and other vehicles in the pathway of aircraft, according to the airport district’s deputy executive director, Chris Morello.

During the federal environmental review of the project in 2020, then-Monterey Mayor Clyde Robertson objected to the new location and said the FAA should only allow it to be “on the north side of the airport if it is self-contained and does not answer daily calls to jurisdictions other than the Monterey Airport District.”

“That’s what the city wrote in a letter to the FAA,” Morello said. “So the FAA’s response was once the building is relocated to the northeast corner, then it will be self-contained and not provide services off-airport.”

Court fight

The city subsequently challenged the airport district EIR in court, arguing in part that it would have to build a new station of its own if it can’t share the airport’s, but the judge concluded that “the potential construction of a new fire station to address any deficiency in service that may occur after the ARFF ceases operating as a joint-use facility is too speculative,” and that the impacts of “such construction are even more speculative.”

With the case ultimately settled and the project approved by the FAA, airport executive director Mike La Pier sent a letter to Monterey city manager Hans Ulslar in October 2022 giving him the required one-year notice that the fire services contract would be terminated.

“This action is being taken in response to the relocation of the station and our understanding that the new station does not meet the needs of the city for off-airport services,” according to Monterey Fire.

See AIRPORT page 20A

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Esalen denies liability for ‘N word’ during meditation class

By KELLY NIX

ESALEN INSTITUTE has formally denied allegations made by a Los Angeles woman that a teacher at the Big Sur retreat played a video for students in which a Black comedian used the N word during his performance, which she said traumatized her. She’s seeking $1 million.

Nicole Evans alleged in the Dec. 28, 2022 complaint that while she was at Esalen in September 2022 taking part in a meditation class, a longtime Esalen faculty member played a video during the class featuring a Black comedian. While class members first laughed at the standup routine, it took a turn.

“But then the comic used the N word, saying that the Irish people were the N word of Europe,” Evans, a Black woman, said in her complaint. “Suddenly, the room became deafeningly silent, save for a few gasps, because everyone in attendance was in shock.”

Blame game

Evans claimed that the episode was “one of the most humiliating and traumatizing experiences” of her life, her lawsuit, filed in Monterey County Superior Court, said.

But Esalen has denied the allegation on behalf of the retreat and the meditation instructor, and it denies it violated Evans’ civil rights.

“Defendant asserts without reservation that neither it nor the defendant and its agents and/or employees failed to meet the reasonable care to prevent the incident,” because she did not take advantage “of the corrective opportunities” provided by the retreat.

Esalen also alleges intentional and negligent supervision and “retention of employees and/or agents” violated the state’s civil rights act “insofar as Evans was never subjected to racial or other unlawful discrimination,” Esalen said in its seven-page answer to Evans’ complaint, filed for the retreat by attorneys Michael Douglass and Megan Ortiz.

The document goes on to say that if “any damage was actually suffered” by Evans, it was “directly or proximately caused by the acts, omissions, carelessness or negligence of plaintiff or her agents and any monetary recovery she may be entitled to “should be eliminated or reduced.” But the document does not explain how Evans could have caused her own damage.

“Forced apology”

Esalen also accuses her of failing to “act reasonably” to mitigate her alleged damages.

Evans alleged that Esalen “directors” met about the incident and the meditation instructor offered her a “forced” apology. After the meeting, the institute’s director, whom she did not name in the complaint, “said he was sorry that this had happened to her.”

Esalen said that Evans’ claims fail because it used “reasonable care to prevent and promptly correct the alleged harassment,” because she did not take advantage of “the corrective opportunities” provided by the retreat.

Evans also alleges intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress and negligent supervision and “retention of an unfit employee,” and is seeking “an amount no less than $1 million.”

Correction

This week’s special section, Fun in the Sun, went to the printer before we received news of Carmel Youth Center’s closure, so the article on summer camps includes a reference to the center’s previously planned activities.
Improving healthcare access and patient care with advanced practice providers

Advanced practice providers — physician assistants and nurse practitioners — play a key role in patient care, as they help meet demand for healthcare services and improve access to care for Monterey Peninsula patients.

“Nurse practitioners and physician assistants are critical members of the teams taking care of our patients,” said Dr. Mark Carvalho, CEO of Monterey-based Montage Medical Group.

Physicians rely upon highly educated and experienced advanced practice providers, who have specialized knowledge enabling them to perform many of the same duties as the doctors they support.

Defining the difference: Physician assistants and nurse practitioners

The day-to-day role of a nurse practitioner can be similar to that of a physician assistant depending on the practice setting said Laurel Moody, a board-certified family medicine nurse practitioner with a sub-specialty in women’s health at Montage Medical Group’s Internal Medicine Carmel office. Other distinctions between the two, said Moody, include a different type of education and focus.

Physician assistants are licensed by the National Commission of Certification of Physician Assistants and are regulated by the California Physician Assistant Board, whereas nurse practitioners work under the guidelines of the California Board of Nursing which includes a bachelor’s degree in nursing and master’s degree. Guidelines can differ from state to state.

“We do similar things, but the approach of a nurse practitioner might differ from that of a physician assistant because of our education and prior nursing experience,” said Moody. “The traditional focus of a nurse practitioner is more total-person holisitc, as opposed to a medical model which traditionally focuses on diagnosis and treatment. Physician assistants are often primary care trained but can become highly specialized, which is more of a medical model, although there are many physician assistants that stay in primary care as well.”

A physician assistant can prepare casts or splints, suture small wounds, and interpret medical tests. They may also prescribe medications, create and implement treatment plans, counsel patients about care and treatment options, and provide pre- and post-operative care.

Better access and a personal touch

Due to working in care teams with physicians, advanced practice providers serve as direct extensions of the physicians they work with, increasing access for the community.

“On any given day access to a physician is limited by the number of patients they can physically see, but when you bring on an advanced practice provider, it is essentially doubling that. It really extends the access of that physician into that community,” said Luke Schilling, physician assistant with Montage Medical Group.

Schilling explains that high-quality care is in high demand and there just aren’t enough physicians to meet that demand. “A lot of people ask if they can set up an appointment with me and the answer is yes, absolutely. If they’re a patient of Montage Medical Group and their primary care provider is a physician here in our Marina office, they can give us a call and get added to my schedule — it would be my pleasure.”

Physician assistants and nurse practitioners do more than just expand access to care. As Schilling puts it, they can become like family: “When you can connect with a patient on a first name basis, you’re now that much more involved in their care and in their health. I’ll meet and help medically treat a patient’s sister, brother, parents, children, and I end up feeling like I become a part of their family. For me, that’s one of my driving forces in medicine — to have that connection with the patients.”

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For common questions about physician assistants, visit www.aapa.org/about/what-is-a-pa.
HOMEOWNERS AGAIN DENIED PERMIT TO REMOVE CYPRUS THEY’RE AFRAID OF

By KELLY NIX

A PACIFIC Grove couple who said they’ve been forced to sleep in a different part of their house because they’re scared that one of three cypress trees on their property might fall onto it have lost another appeal to remove them.

On Wednesday night, the Pacific Grove City Council voted 4-2 to reject an appeal by Christie Monson and Tim Calvert to cut down the cypress in the front of their Crocker Avenue home. While Monson said that arborists she hired determined the cypress were “high risk,” city arborist Al Weisfuss said they “appear healthy.”

Trees topped

Monson — who said she also doesn’t have family visit because of the danger of the trees — noted that the previous property owners had topped the three cypress, a practice that can make them more likely to fall. She said removing the trees is a “human safety issue.”

“We have followed the law to the letter,” Monson told the council, urging them to allow her to cut down the trees.

The four council members who voted against Monson’s appeal, however, felt that she had not demonstrated that the trees are unhealthy, and they urged her to commission another study, called a resistograph, which may show whether the trees are decayed inside.

Councilwoman Lori McDonnell was one of the council members who felt the additional study would be helpful.

“If the evidence comes back that the trees are not healthy, then I would fully support” their removal, McDonnell said.

But Monson suggested Thursday that she will unlikely do the test, which she would have to pay for.

“Even if we did get a resistograph test and the drill did happen to hit all the decayed spots in the trunks,” she told The Carmel Pine Cone, “given the attitude of the city council to completely disregard the law and common sense, we believe that once we came before them with the results, they would just think up some other excuse for not letting us remove the trees.”

Monson went on to say that the members of the council have “proven themselves to be hostile toward citizens’ desire to be safe in their own homes, and favorable toward city staff members, regardless of ethics.”

“Fear is real”

Public works director Daniel Gho said he believed the fact that the three cypress had withstood the powerful winter’s storms, which brought strong winds, was testament to their durability.

“We have been overseeing these trees during the winds and we haven’t even noticed a branch failure,” Gho said. “We may be mistaken on that because we weren’t here every day.”

While Monson said she’s happy to replace the cypress with new, healthy versions, Gho and most of the council didn’t seem to like that idea.

“The trees provide stormwater benefits, habitat for wildlife, provide protections from climate extremes, improve overall human health and help the city meet our canopy goals,” Gho said. “They are part of the ecosystem in the neighborhood.”

Mayor Bill Peake and Councilwoman Debby Beck supported Monson’s desire to remove the trees.

Beck said she could relate to Monson and Calvert’s fear of the trees because she also slept in another room in her house during this year’s winter storms for fear of falling trees.

“Fear is real,” Beck said.

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Commission rescinds diversity awards

By KELLY NIX

IN AN embarrassing blunder, Pacific Grove has been forced to nullify a decision to give grant money to two business owners after it was determined the awards were discriminatory and violated California’s civil rights law.

The city in November 2022 began offering grants of up to $10,000 each through its “Minority- and Women-owned Business Grants” program. City manager Ben Harvey told members of the city’s economic development commission last year that business owners eligible for the grants must be women or minorities.

When the Jan. 6 application deadline ended, 15 business owners in P.G. applied for the funds. A commission subcommittee chose two recipients — both female business owners — and told them they’d won the money.

There was one small problem with that decision — state law.

Stunning claim

In 1996, California voters passed civil rights initiative Proposition 209, which prohibited state and local governments, districts, public universities and other public entities from discriminating against or giving preferential treatment to any individual or group in public employment, public education or public contracting on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

In other words, the grants violated the law because they were only offered to women and minorities. Proposition 209 banned affirmative action in the state.

The blunder led the economic commission at its April 13 meeting to nullify the awards and, at the behest of city attorney Greg Rubens, reopen the application process for any P.G. business license holder operating a business that serves benefits women and minorities within the community.” A subcommittee will review the new applications and the ones they previously received.

Because probably every business in Pacific Grove serves and benefits women and minority customers, it raised questions as to how business owners interested in applying for the grants could demonstrate that they fulfill that requirement. In an effort to explain, Harvey used a scenario of a pretend shoe store in town.

“I sell women’s shoes and agricultural boots,” Harvey said, asking commissioners to play along with the example. “I do that because I’m trying to impact the women in the community. I’m also trying to impact agricultural workers because they tend to primarily be Latino in this area.”

Harvey said that applicants for the grants should explain how they specifically serve “women and minority communities” versus stating that their “business is open and anybody could come in.”

Really?

Commissioner Kebea Richmond, owner of coffee shop Captain + Stoker, said she didn’t understand how the grants could possibly be discriminatory, but that she would respect the city attorney’s recommendation in reopening the application process. Richmond added that she hoped the grants would ultimately benefit women and minorities.

Commissioner Mike Gibbs said the law is clear that the city can’t exclude recipients on the basis of race and sex when local government or federal funds are involved, and that the grants should be open to every business owner.

Commissioner Elizabeth Jacobs, owner of Wild Fish restaurant, said she thought the grants would make P.G. more vibrant and welcoming to business. She also claimed that P.G. has a reputation for being unwelcoming to people of color but did not offer examples to support the statement.

Commission rescinds diversity awards

By KELLY NIX

IN AN embarrassing blunder, Pacific Grove has been forced to nullify a decision to give grant money to two business owners after it was determined the awards were discriminatory and violated California’s civil rights law.

The city in November 2022 began offering grants of up to $10,000 each through its “Minority- and Women-owned Business Grants” program. City manager Ben Harvey told members of the city’s economic development commission last year that business owners eligible for the grants must be women or minorities.

When the Jan. 6 application deadline ended, 15 business owners in P.G. applied for the funds. A commission subcommittee chose two recipients — both female business owners — and told them they’d won the money.

There was one small problem with that decision — state law.

Stunning claim

In 1996, California voters passed civil rights initiative Proposition 209, which prohibited state and local governments, districts, public universities and other public entities from discriminating against or giving preferential treatment to any individual or group in public employment, public education or public contracting on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

In other words, the grants violated the law because they were only offered to women and minorities. Proposition 209 banned affirmative action in the state.

The blunder led the economic commission at its April 13 meeting to nullify the awards and, at the behest of city attorney Greg Rubens, reopen the application process for any P.G. business license holder operating a business that serves benefits women and minorities within the community.” A subcommittee will review the new applications and the ones they previously received.

Because probably every business in Pacific Grove serves and benefits women and minority customers, it raised questions as to how business owners interested in applying for the grants could demonstrate that they fulfill that requirement. In an effort to explain, Harvey used a scenario of a pretend shoe store in town.

“I sell women’s shoes and agricultural boots,” Harvey said, asking commissioners to play along with the example. “I do that because I’m trying to impact the women in the community. I’m also trying to impact agricultural workers because they tend to primarily be Latino in this area.”

Harvey said that applicants for the grants should explain how they specifically serve “women and minority communities” versus stating that their “business is open and anybody could come in.”

Really?

Commissioner Kebea Richmond, owner of coffee shop Captain + Stoker, said she didn’t understand how the grants could possibly be discriminatory, but that she would respect the city attorney’s recommendation in reopening the application process. Richmond added that she hoped the grants would ultimately benefit women and minorities.

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Highway access could be restored to most of Big Sur by mid-July

By CHRIS COUNTS

If ALL goes according to plan, the closed portion of Highway 1 down the coast will shrink dramatically by mid-July. But it’s uncertain when the pavement will reopen at Big Sur’s mother of road obstructions, Paul’s Slide, making it a mystery when motorists will be able to make the complete drive between Carmel and Cambria.

Kevin Drabinski of Caltrans told The Pine Cone that two other significant slides — one to the north of Paul’s Slide and the other to the south of it — will hopefully be cleared by the middle of July. He said the work has been slowed by the presence of subsurface water.

He also observed that every slide “offers unique challenges.”

But Drabinski said the sheer amount of mud, rock and debris at Paul’s Slide is making progress slow. “There’s only so many truckloads you can take away in one day,” he explained.

Drabinski said his agency’s goal is to have a time estimate for when the road will be clear again at Paul Slide by mid-July. He also noted that when it does reopen, traffic will likely be restricted to one lane for some time.

On Wednesday, residents who have been isolated by a slide near the southern end of the closed area were able to take a convoy south to get supplies. Another supply convoy has been set for May 3.

For now, Highway 1 is open from Rio Road to a turnout near the Big Creek Bridge, a distance of about 44 miles. As a result, most Big Sur businesses and resorts are accessible, including Esalen Institute, which recently was cut off due to slides north of it.

Until recently the United States saw Turkey as a uniquely democratic Muslim majority country and a model for the Islamic world. Today most U.S. observers view Turkey as our most problematic NATO ally, dominated by the increasingly authoritarian President Erdogan. Against the backdrop of recent devastating earthquakes, Turkish citizens will go to the polls on May 14th to elect both the next president and a new parliament.

What are the chances that Erdogan’s 20-year-reign will end? How is the aftermath of the earthquakes expected to affect the vote? Our speaker, Scott Kilner, a 32-year U.S. diplomat with extensive Turkey experience, will address these and other issues, putting this country and a model for the Islamic world. Today most U.S. observers view Turkey as a uniquely democratic Muslim majority country and a model for the Islamic world. Today most U.S. observers view Turkey as our most problematic NATO ally, dominated by the increasingly authoritarian President Erdogan. Against the backdrop of recent devastating earthquakes, Turkish citizens will go to the polls on May 14th to elect both the next president and a new parliament.
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Supes OK plans for home at Carmel Point — again

By CHRIS COUNTS

For THE second time in less than two years, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved plans Tuesday a two-story single-family home at 26308 Isabella Ave.

In August 2021, the supervisors voted 5-0 Tuesday to OK a proposal by Chris Adamski to construct a 2,100-square-foot home on Carmel Point. Prior to the hearing, Adamski had removed a basement from the plans. Bases-

ments proposed at Carmel Point in recent years have drawn fire for their potential impacts on Native American burials. In 2019, bones were discovered at two sites in the area, which was no doubt inhabited by at one time by Native Americans.

But the approval required a variance allowing the floor area ratio to increase from 45 percent to 56.4 percent, which was opposed by attorney Molly Erickson. Erickson, who appealed an earlier decision by the Monterey County Planning Commission to approve the home, said the vari-

ance would be larger than any the county has ever granted.

Approved appealed

The following month, Erickson appealed the super-

visors’ decision to the California Coastal Commission. Besides her concern about the variance, she objected to the plan’s need for “excessive excavation” and the inclusion of an interior staircase that could encourage a roof deck. But before the state watchdog agency could consider the appeal, Adamski modified the plans to reduce the floor area ratio, reduce the amount of grading and eliminate the stair-

case. After the changes were made, the Monterey County Zoning Administrator gave the green light to the modified plan Feb. 9, reducing the size of the home to 1,837 square feet, and increasing the maximum allowed floor area ratio from 45 percent to 51 percent. The approval also allowed for cutting down four live oak trees. Erickson appealed the decision.

At Tuesday’s hearing, architect Rob Carver spoke in favor of the project he designed, and noted that it has been “revised to the satisfaction” of the coastal commission. Supervisor Luis Alejo made the motion to deny the appeal and let the project move forward, and all five supervisors voted in favor of it.

Pancakes raise $$$$ for Carmel Valley playground

To RAISE money to build a playground in Carmel Valley that can accommodate kids with a wide range of disabilities, the Carmel Valley Community Youth Center hosts rummage sale and pancake breakfast Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. Tickets are $12 for adults and $6 for kids. Called Tatum’s Treehouse, the playground will be built in Carmel Valley Community Park. Expected to cost $800,000, it is patterned after another playground, Tatum’s Garden, that was constructed in Salinas in 2013. Both are named after a local youngster, Tatum Bakker, who uses a wheelchair.

For details, visit tatumstreehouse.com.
A springtime sample social!

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Worse, and De Soi AT THE BAR!
RAFFLE CONTEST with tasty prizes!
FOR A GOOD CAUSE!
A portion of our dail y sales will go
to The Monterey County Food Bank

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Quoted from the Monterey Peninsula College, Monterey High, Seaside High, Marina High and RLS, and alumni from Carmel High, all working together;” Iqbus Hope of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District told The Pine Cone. “About 70 students from all over the Peninsula are our actors, musicians and in technical roles for this show.”

The school district’s visual and performing arts coordinator, Hope suggested the musical will help both audiences and the cast “shake off the Covid blues.”

“As we are coming out of Covid and striving to rebuild the creative community after some dark years, Monterey High decided to invite any student in the area to audition,” she explained. “Students have been so isolated and really need ways to be with other young adults.”

PacRep gets shout-out

Hope also said PacRep Theater deserves appreciation for its long time support of the local high school theater scene. “PacRep Theatre has been very generous with their help in so many ways, but did you know they are behind the scenes of almost every local high school production helping in some way?” she said.

Written by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O’Farrell, “Something Rotten” tells the story of a pair of brothers who struggle to find success in the theater during Shakespeare’s heyday. It opened on Broadway in 2015 and was nominated for 10 Tony Awards, winning one. The musical continues Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through May 7. All shows start at 7 p.m. except Sunday matinees, which begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are $27 for general admission and $14 for students.

The theater is located at 1500 Mark Thomas Drive. For tickets, visit santacatalina.org/tickets or call the box office at (831) 655-9340.

By CHRIS COUNTS

A SPOOF of musicals and iconic playwright William Shakespeare, a student production of “Something Rotten” opens Thursday at the Forest Theater.

“We have students from Monterey Peninsula College, Monterey High, Seaside High, Marina High and RLS, and alumni from Carmel High, all working together;” Iqbus Hope of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District told The Pine Cone. “About 70 students from all over the Peninsula are our actors, musicians and in technical roles for this show.”

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and regards it as a “supplemental” water supply project and backup to its proposed desalination plant.

“Will Cal Am still plead water scarcity in order to support the need for a desalination plant, or will they play along with us and support removing the cease and desist order and the moratorium?” Stoldt said. “We don’t know.”

On Thursday, though, Cal Am spokesman Josh Stratton reiterated the company’s position that its desal plant is the only project that can fulfill the Peninsula’s long-term water supply needs.

“From its inception, the Pure Water Monterey expansion has been considered a supplemental water supply as part of our three-legged stool approach, which includes aquifer storage and recovery, desalination and recycling, so the Pure Water Monterey expansion is a positive step towards water sustainability,” Stratton told The Pine Cone.

“True water sustainability will be achieved once the reliable, drought-proof desalination project is operational.”

**Matter of months?**

Whatever Cal Am decides, Stoldt said once the expansion project is finished it could take the state water board “two to three months” after the 2025 completion date to respond to the company. In a “worst case” scenario, Stoldt said the water board might demand to see the results of the expansion project “over time,” which could mean Peninsula residents might have to wait longer to use the new water.

In any event, Stoldt said that as soon as crews break ground on the project, the water district would have discussions with the state water board about lifting the cease and desist order, “and we will try to get Cal Am on board with us.”

If the order goes away, he said the process of lifting the California Public Utilities Commission-imposed moratorium — which has long banned Monterey Peninsula property owners from installing new water meters, toilets and other fixtures — would begin.

“Once the cease and desist order is lifted it wouldn’t take long or the moratorium to end,” Stoldt said.

Continues next page
However, the water district claims that Cal Am could continue to question the drought resiliency of Pure Water Monterey and other project components, “in order to assure a need for the cease and desist order and moratorium to remain in place until a desalination plant can be built. Or, Cal Am may choose to join with the district to lift the cease and desist order upon completion” of the expansion.

If that happens, Peninsula homeowners would likely have to wait indefinitely to make use of the new water. If, however, Cal Am determines that the expansion project is adequate as a long-term supply and the state water board doesn’t demand to see the project’s results over a period of time, property owners could possibly start using the water in a matter of months after the project is finished in 2025.

Extra bathroom, perhaps?

Stoldt has said the expansion project would provide more than enough water for the Peninsula.

“I’ve run scenarios that figure twice the growth forecast” for the Monterey Peninsula “and Pure Water Monterey has enough water for 80 years,” he said.

But it will be up to jurisdictions — not the water district — to decide who will get the water, based on their allocations from the water district.

“We are one of the only places in the state where a city building department says, ‘OK, we will issue you a permit’ for construction, ‘but you need a water permit first,’” Stoldt explained.

If someone wants to add a toilet and sink, for instance, their city would decide whether to approve a building permit. With pent-up demand to build homes on empty lots and add toilets — and pressure from Sacramento on cities to build more affordable housing everywhere in California, including the Peninsula — Stoldt raised the possibility that cities could favor affordable housing over home remodels.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development wants Carmel to build 349 affordable housing units, including 113 “very low” units, while it wants Pacific Grove to build 1,125 units and Monterey 3,654, meaning it’s possible that cities could make property owners wait to make use of the new water after that housing is built.

“It will be up to each city, but I hope no city will say ‘we don’t believe there isn’t enough water and we will only release water for affordable housing,’” he said.

The water district, he said, would begin the process of deciding how much water each city and the unincorporated areas it serves will receive around the time construction crews break ground on the project.

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Public Notices

City of Carmel-by-the-Sea is soliciting applications to fill eight (8) pending vacancies on City Boards & Commissions.

Planning Commission:
One (1) vacancy

The Planning Commission consists of five members. All members of the Planning Commission shall be residents of the City, and shall have particular interest in, and familiarity with planning matters. The Commission meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Term length for Commissioners is four (4) years. Applications can be found on the City’s website at https://ci.carmel.ca.us/boards-and-commissions or obtained at 10 West Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley Village.

Harrison Memorial Library Board of Trustees:
Three (3) vacancies

The Harrison Memorial Library Board of Trustees consists of five members. At least three Board members must reside in the City, and no more than two members may reside in the City’s unincorporated areas. All members of the Board shall be residents of the City, and no more than two members may reside in the City’s unincorporated areas. The current make-up of this Board, the applicants must reside in the City. Applicants should be interested and knowledgeable about library services. The Board meets monthly, or the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. Term length of Board Members is three (3) years.

Community Activities and Cultural Commission:
Two (2) vacancies

The Community Activities and Cultural Commission consists of five members. A two-thirds majority of the members of the Community Activities Commission shall be residents of the City, and the remainder may be residents of the City’s adopted Sphere of Influence. Due to the current make-up of this Board, the applicants must reside in the City or the City’s Sphere of Influence. An equitable division of the membership shall be representative of persons who have an interest in, or familiarity with, the creative or performing arts and those who have an interest in, or familiarity with, the City’s parks and recreational programs and in the various City park facilities. The Commission meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. Terms for Commissioners is four (4) years.

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Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 5, 2023 — you may mail or drop off your application at Carmel City Hall. Mailing address: Carmel City Hall, 2630 East Ocean Avenue, Carmel, CA 93923; or, you may mail your application to Nova Romero at cityclerk@ci.carmel.ca.us or at 831-620-2016 with your request.

Pine Cone Staff
also, how is it possible to give a moment’s notice to what I imagine are 70-plus families that they will have no after-school care for their children?” one parent posted on a local website. “And now today I received an email stating …

City supports center
In an undated, unsigned letter to city administrator Chip Rerig, Mayor Dave Potter and the city council, the Carmel Youth Center’s board of directors announced it had “received a cease-and-desist order” from the state and had “responded appropriately and has discontinued all CYC services to children until either a proper licensing application is approved by the state or an alternate arrangement can be reached with the state.”

Evidently, and without notice, the state is claiming that the CYC has been improperly licensed;” the letter reads. “It is claiming that the proper license should be one of a daycare center.

“Ms. Faddis, the CYC director, has been assured that a license application should be approved quickly such that the CYC can resume operation.”

The letter notes that the youth center “provides a vital resource for our community’s children and families,” and “has implemented an impressive array of educational and recreational activities for the children. It is far more than a daycare center.”

But if the state persists in its insistence on a license, the letter says, the lease with the city for the building should be revised so that childcare falls within the approved uses of the center. “We would also like to revisit the allowable sublease duration, such that, if needed, we can implement a stopgap solution to the CYC closure,” the letter continues. “Time is of the essence on this important matter.”

Rerig said Thursday the city has no response to the situation, other than to “continue to support the board’s efforts.” He also said the city is “very disappointed in the state determination” that the center is violating the law.

Not the first time
According to Theresa Mier, who handles public affairs and outreach for the California Department of Social Services, the youth center has never been licensed to provide childcare, even though its programs cater to children as young as 5.

But in 2017, also in response to a complaint that the youth center was unlicensed to offer childcare, evaluator Jean Walton made an announcement visit to meet with then-executive director Ernest Griffin-Ortiz.

In her May 15, 2017, report, Walton said Griffin-Ortiz explained that the youth center was a recreational program originally established for kids in fifth grade or older who came and went at will. “They recently lowered the age to 8 years and added the requirement a parent must give permission for their child to leave,” she wrote, and advised Griffin-Ortiz that “this type of program requires a license.”

Between the state’s initial visit in March 2017 after receiving the complaint and Walton’s follow-up inspection in May of that year, she said, Griffin-Ortiz met with the youth center’s board, which “decided to revert to the original recreational program” and subsequently updated the website to indicate “the children are allowed to come and go at will and must be at least in fifth grade and older.”

It’s unknown when the center went back to providing services for younger children and began requiring parents to sign their kids out. Faddis did not respond to a request for comments.

UNLICENSED
From page 1A

The Carmel Pine Cone      April 21, 2023

David & Dori Canepa
celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Clubhouse in The Meadows with family and friends sharing in their happiness. They married on March 17, 1973, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Seaside. Blessed with five children, 11 grandchildren and, 50 years later, LIFE IS STILL A DAILY BLESSING.

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David & Dori Canepa

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Includes a story in Monterey.
Book was just banned in his hometown of Bogalusa, Louisiana.
Time to find out why.
As part of its search for a replacement for Carmel High School’s ousted principal, Jonathan Lyons, the Carmel Unified School District is seeking feedback from students, staff and families on “the personal and professional attributes, skills and qualifications you would like to see in the school’s next leader,” and their thoughts on what that person’s priorities should be for the school and its culture.

A firm that specializes in headhunting for school districts, Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, is handling the search and has released a survey that should be completed before April 26, with the brief questionnaire available at surveymonkey.com/r/CHSprincipalsearch.

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**Lights**

From page 3A

increase to its existing contract with HGHB Architectural Services to include landscape design for the CHS stadium improvement project at a cost of $16,225. The landscape work is required by the project’s EIR.

The architectural firm is already under contract for $282,105 worth of design, engineering and other work related to the project, including $123,820 for the pool area parking lot and storage building, $66,920 for design work on converting tennis courts to parking, and $91,365 for plans implementing the tennis court conversion.

With the board’s approval Wednesday night, the total contract increased to $298,330.
Last month, the department fielded 70 tree permit applications, compared with 15 in a typical month, and approved 62 while reducing the usual months-long turnaround to shorter than seven days, according to Ford, thanks largely to consulting arborist Justin Otto. He also said roughly 150 permits were waived on an emergency basis during the storms.

Lots of calls

According to Ford’s report, public works and forestry staff fielded more than 1,400 calls, emails and other contacts in March and still have about 300 people to get back to. “I have very much appreciated people’s patience — we very much do need it,” he said. “We’re really doing our best to get back to everyone.”

All of this work, especially on an emergency level, has also been expensive, and Ford said the city’s contract tree cutting fees are paid out in invoices so far with another $15,000 expected, plus $12,000 for stamp removals and $50,000 for the high-priority tree work being worked through now, for a total of around $200,000.

He said the department will be asking the city council to allocate additional money for those big bills, though some reimbursement could come from FEMA down the road.

Forestry staff is also in the process of assessing the city trees that fell or had to be cut down to see if any of them had been on the pruning or removal list, if any had been identified as high priority or lower risk, which was when they fell, and what types of soil they were growing in.

“It does take a bit of time, actually, to go through and identify exactly which tree fell, overlay it with our map of 10,000 city trees, and see which one it was,” he said.

For the longer term health of the forest and peace of mind for the residents, the city hired Davey Resource Group, a division of Davey Tree, to assess all the city trees and make recommendations about when and where new trees should be planted, which trees should be removed or relocated, and what steps should be planned for the future.

“They will provide a tree species palette based on Carmel’s unique environmental conditions,” he explained.

As a dad Ron had a virtually inexhaustible love of play, including games of backyard Capture the Flag. Ron was also an avid runner, beginning in the early ‘60s and continuing for over two decades, including competition in the Northern California Seniors Track Club. He was a fan of track and field since college and recalled fondly the crunch of his spikes on a cinder track among his most exhilarating memories.

His business career included working for Colgate-Palmolive in Oakland and United Technologies Corporation in Lancaster, CA. While working at UTC Ron received a commendation from the U.S. Secretary of Labor for training masters on gas.

Ron's love of the Monterey Peninsula continued through their move in 1998 to Carmel and eventually making Tierra CC and Hualalai Golf Club on the Big Island.

After Ron’s first marriage ended in 1985, he married Linda Jean Bowman on May 10, 1987. Ron’s recreational activities included for many years.

Ron was born in Sacramento, CA on July 25, 1932, to Ben Borgman and Augusta (Schwall). Augusta died in 1936 of pneumonia after having six children by the age of 33. The Great Depression left Ben unemployed as he was a farm worker and John along with the whole family settled into a new home in Walnut Creek, California.
Chair IC Myers said he was “impressed at how quick the city was to be at residents’ sides.”

“Youth who have been more than one will be in a world of hurt,” he said.

Meanwhile, a group of residents led by Bill Taormina, whose garage and house on Monte Verde were damaged when a neighbor’s tree fell on them in early March, continued to work with the city on changing tree-related policies to accommodate requests based on threats to life and property. The process proposed by Taormina would give priority to homeowners who identify dangerous trees on their properties and request immediate review by the city’s arborist. If the resident disagrees with the arborist’s conclusions, the person could appeal to a citizens appeal review board appointed by the city council.

All tree work would have to be done by licensed contractors, and the city would create a list of licensed emergency contractors.

The program would also allow residents to identify threatening trees on neighboring properties and on city land, which would trigger the same process, starting with the arborist inspecting the tree and notifying the owner if it’s dangerous.

Finally, the city would also pay a contract arborist to serve as a consultant and ombudsman to property owners who choose to be proactive and have safety inspections of trees surrounding their property from time to time, and who would “also make ongoing inspections proactively and leave notices of trees that need to be trimmed with the respective property owners.”

There will be no charge for this consulting service, since it is an important part of making certain that no dangerous conditions go unnoticed,” the draft policy reads.

The feedback I got from our residents was only praise for how quickly the city was acting,” he said. “Chip is very responsive and professional, so I want to give him adequate time to work within the current city hierarchy to present our requested changes.”

Lois Kettel, 1929-2023, died of natural causes.

For a more detailed obituary, go to this link: bermudezfamilyfunerals.com

My Father, Dale Gingerich, aka Pops Panda
STAMP

From page 1A

Monterey County Bar Association.

Besides his work in the courtroom, Stamp spent time in the classroom. As a law professor, he taught at UC Berkeley and the Monterey College of Law. He is being honored this month by the latter as a Distinguished Pro-

fessor of Law Emeritus. “Michael loved to teach and to mentor and to expose students to complex issues and to challenge them to contradictory schools of thought,” his obit observed.

Was a ‘worthy opponent’

Attorney Tony Lombardo, who faced off against Stamp many times in court or before the board of supervisors, said he “was certainly a worthy opponent.” “He was fre-

quently able to convince a court that an agency didn’t fol-

low the proper process,” Lombardo told The Carmel Cone.

“September Ranch is a good example.” A former Santa Cruz County supervisor and executive director of LandWatch Monterey County, attorney Gary Patton said Stamp helped bring transparency to local gov-

ernment. “He stood up for the Public Records Act and won some very significant victories against Monterey County when it wasn’t complying.”

Fifth District Monterey County Supervisor Mary Adams called Stamp “truly one of a kind.”

“He was so knowledgeable,” said Adams, who enjoyed many spirited dinner conversations at Stamp’s home. “He was also wise — he not only knew what to take on, but how to take it on. He had a real impact on the 5th District, and there’s a lot we have to thank him for, although oth-

ers might disagree. He was really a champion who would stand up for folks when rules were not being followed or people were being treated unfairly.”

AIRPORT

From page 5A

response,” La Pier wrote. “Should that change, we’d be happy to engage in discussions regarding a new contract.”

While its price tag is bigger, the City of Monterey argues it also has far more local resources than an out-of- state private company and can call on any of them to assist in an emergency at the airport.

“When seconds matter”

In its public plea for support, the city focuses on the fact that Pro-Tec wouldn’t be able to go off-airport, so it would take longer for Monterey Fire engines to get to res-

idents in the neighborhoods that benefit from the current shared services agreement.

“Seconds matter, three to five minutes can make all the difference between life and death,” the “news alert” says. “The City of Monterey will be submitting a supple-

mental proposal next week that is cost-competitive and reflects our shared service model.”

Monterey also points out that because the cities and districts it serves share in administrative and other joint costs, if the airport district is removed from the mix, costs to the other cities will increase.

The board meeting will be held at 200 Fred Kane Drive, Ste. 200, on April 27 at 9 a.m., and will take place in person only. Monterey urged supporters to reach out to individual board members, attend in person, and email comments to info@montereyairport.com with copies to Monterey Fire Chief Gaudenz Panholzer at panholzer@ monterey.org. For more information on the overall air-

port safety enhancement plans and to read the original proposals from Monterey Fire and Pro-Tec, visit monter-

eyairport.specialdistrict.org. The fire information is under “legal notices.”

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50 years when he participated in a six-man cartoonist show at the Carmel Art Asso-
ciation gallery with Virgil Partch (“The Captain’s Gig”), Bill O’Malley (known in part for his cartoons of nuns), Jimmy Hartlo (“They’ll Do It Everyday”), Fritz Zilling (a caricature artist better known for his lat-
ter paintings) and Hank Ketcham.

About a year later, The Pine Cone reported, “Eldon Dedini, whose cartoons
appear in Esquire, The New Yorker and other magazines, has decided to become
a permanent resident of the Peninsula. He and his wife are living on Flanders Way.”
The story introduced Dedini to his new neighbors—he was born in King City and attended junior college in Salinas. He began his career at the Californian and did
work for Universal Pictures and Disney Studios. Dedini’s wife, Virginia Conroy,
was an artist and became a member of the Carmel Association in 1957.

In August 1953, Dedini, Ketcham, Hartlo and Gus Arriola (“Gordo”) were
selected to help Monterey Mayor Dan Searle choose the queen of the Monterey
County Fair. Three months later, Dedini’s work was shown with that of Ketcham,
Dedini continued drawing and was invited to judge all sorts of art-related
contests, from film festival entrants to posters to entice tourists to the Peninsula.
He also contributed his work to many char-
table causes.

He did a series of drawings of an affable
and chubby price for All Saints’, which
were published in “The Portly Padre, or
Brother Larry in the Kitchen: A Church
Calendar Cookbook.”

“I’ll keep going!”
In 2005, “Broccoli and Rabes — The
Comic Art of Eldon Dedini,” a retrospec-
tive exhibit, was shown at the Sanomonti
Gallery in Salinas, and on Nov. 4, The Pine
Cone interviewed the artist. He explained
that the reference to broccoli came about
because the marketing director of Mann
Packin asked him to do advertising car-
toons for produce in 1985.

Dedini said he had no intention of retir-
ing. “I’ll keep going as long as somebody’s
laughing,” he told the paper. But on Jan.
12, 2006, the 84-year-old died of esoph-
agel cancer. On Jan. 27, the paper pub-
lished a letter penned by Arriola. He wrote,
“still can’t believe our beloved friend is
gone,” and called him, “a superb painter, a
remarkably inventive illustrator, philos-
opher, humorist, a keen observer revealing
life’s little truths with his unerring brush.”
Tuck enjoys a strong track record — academically and in the saddle

Since joining the equestrian team at CSU Fresno in 2019, Sara Tuck has seen her education as a horsewoman blossoms on multiple fronts, including physical fitness, riding technique, horse whispering, competing in a team setting, and balancing the rigors of intercollegiate athletics with the challenges of maintaining a sky-high grade-point average.

But the most important part of her growth, said Tuck, has been improving the way she communicates with herself.

“I’ve learned how to talk to myself in a positive way, and limit the negativity in my self-talk — something I’ve always struggled with,” she said. “I’m very much a perfectionist, but I’ve learned to reach for excellence, which is attainable, rather than perfection, which is not.

“I’ve also learned not to take my scores personally, because there always will be judges who love you and others who don’t. You can’t take those things to heart,” Tuck said. “I wouldn’t be competing at this level if my coaches and teammates didn’t think I was good enough.”

All-conference honors
That level, to be clear, is elite. On March 25, Tuck — a redshirt junior as an NCAA Division I athlete but a graduating senior academically — became the fourth rider in Fresno State history to be named to the All-Big 12 Conference team as a flat rider (a non-jumping category), garnering a team best four Most Outstanding Performer awards this year in flat, plus two more in jumping, and scoring a school record 96 points in the flat riding event on March 4 against Oklahoma State.

The All-Big 12 honor, which was announced during the awards ceremony at the conclusion of the Big 12 Championships in Stillwater, Okla., came as a shock to Tuck, whose name was announced last.

“I was completely surprised when I heard the announcer say my name. I wasn’t expecting it at all,” she said. “It was very exciting, especially because my mom, Cori Tuck, and my aunts, Yvonne Despard and Kristy Obink, had come to watch me compete, which made it super special.”

Sara and big sister Lauren (four years older) began riding at a young age thanks to their mom, who also competed as an equestrian.

Competing at age 7
“I was 6 when I started riding, and rode in my first horse show when I was 7,” said Sara, who qualified for the Equestrian National Championships in 2014 as a 14-year-old middle schooler, and again in 2015 during her freshman year at Carmel High.

Tuck also excelled as a cross-country runner at CHS, finishing 10th in the Mission Trail Athletic League Championships and 24th in the Central Coast Section as a junior. But, by then, she had her heart set on competing in equestrian events at the collegiate level.

Her arrival at Fresno State marked the first time she had ever been part of an equestrian team, an experience she described as “a culture shock.”

“I knew the coaching staff would be hard on us, just because they want the team to do well,” she said. “The bigger adjustment was being on a team with the other girls, because, yes, we were teammates, but we were also vying against each other for a spot on the competition team.”

Equestrian athletes compete throughout the school year. August through May, working out in the weight room twice a week to strengthen their legs, core and back. Additional physicality is required during practices, when team members are called upon to move heavy jumping fences and set up the courses. The riders are also tasked with caring for the animals and maintaining the barn.

See SPORTS next page
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• Field Sports Recreation Leader

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Villains and heroes change places

Not too long ago, one of the worst insults you could hurl at someone in this state would be to call them a “developer,” and the worst sin a community could commit would be to be “pro-development.” For some environmentalists, the very sight of concrete being poured was enough to cause heart palpitations.

Even though it was obvious that squashing new construction would cause a housing shortage, the no-growth movement wasn’t just a lot of talk. It was the law. Starting with CEQA and the Coastal Act, Sacramento spent 40 years piling restrictions on top of restrictions, a whole bunch of the legal profession sprang into existence to overturn permits and force cities and counties to enact their own highly restrictive zoning codes, and the big city media could always be counted on to fawningly support anybody who claimed to believe that cutting down even a single tree was a crime against Gaia.

But, oh, how things have changed. Nowadays, it’s the developers who are the heroes, and any city that tries to protect its restrictive zoning code — the one they were told they had to have — is a villain.

Two recent stories in the Los Angeles Times illustrate the new reality perfectly. The first is about how the city council of Coronado, a beach town in California’s sun-baked southern tip, defied a state housing mandate that requires it to allow 912 additional homes and apartments — things that will have to be shoe-horned into the built-out city of bungalows and low-rise apartments. But the city’s opposition, the Times lets us know in no uncertain terms, is abhorrent.

“Coronado is arguably the most flagrant resister of a state affordable housing law designed to give housekeepers and others, from teachers to nurses, a chance at an apartment in places that would otherwise be out of their reach,” the Times says. “The city’s elected officials have thumbed their noses at Gov. Gavin Newsom and state regulators, calling the housing mandate process ‘central planning at its worst’ and assuring residents that it will be years before the state cracks down.”

The story paints anyone who opposes the 912-unit requirement as a selfish jerk, depics the island’s working class who would benefit from the would-be affordable housing as helpless victims, and gives the Sacramento politicians who caused the crisis in the first place a pass.

“Newsom has talked tough about enforcing the law and others designed to ensure that cities zone for and approve new housing — one of his main strategies to remedy California’s crushing housing crisis,” the story says.

Some people’s housing policies are fantastic, but in Santa Monica, the L.A. Times found an even bigger hero who is fighting to build 4,500 apartments.

“The push for growth comes as Gov. Newsom and state legislators in recent years have passed laws eroding local controls over home-building, arguing that local resistance is a key reason behind California’s unexpected housing shortage and high cost of living,” the story says. “In response, developers are becoming increasingly willing to challenge city officials.”

And the newspaper likes it.

“Developer Scott Walter’s 4,500 apartments would be spread across 14 buildings, including a 15-story high-rise with 2,000 units that would be the tallest in Santa Monica outside the city’s downtown,” the newspaper reports.

“The plans have stumped local elected officials, with some worrying that the community will lose its distinctiveness. Santa Monica Councilmember Phil Brock called the 15-story high-rise ‘beyond the pale’ and an ‘unacceptable bar for the rest of the city.’”

But no matter how hard the Santa Monica City Council fights the massive project, the newspaper says Walter has an ace up his sleeve — something called the “builder’s remedy.”

If the state’s housing requirements are violated, “developers can essentially propose building whatever they want, provided some of the housing is set aside for low- or middle-income families,” according to the Times.

“Some developers are like, ‘Well, I no longer need to be friends with the city council. I just need to know my rights,’” according to an expert quoted in the story.

‘Hideous drug deaths’

Dear Editor,

The tragic and sickening death of Carmel High grad Jude Quirinale from a fentanyl overdose should make a sad example of the monstrous results of the failed “progressive” experiment in open borders and release of hard drug dealers that “liberal” voters demanded and got. It has long been known by even our pathetic state and federal politicians that China makes the basic chemicals for fentanyl and meth and ships them easily to Mexico where cartels manufacture vast quantities of the poisons for U.S. markets. The cartels then smuggle them easily over our wide-open borders to be sold openly on our streets by cartel-linked dealers.

“Liberals” must think that the over 93,000 U.S. overdose deaths from 1999 to 2021 and the perhaps 90,000 more deaths in 2022 (CDC source) are somehow desirable as they voted in “progressive” district attorneys and judges who won’t put what they call “broad” drug dealers in prison for life as they deserve — that would be “racist,” they say.

“Progressive” idiocy blocks any real border enforcement and a border wall to stop smuggling of bulk fentanyl from Mexico — that would be “racist” too, they claim — preferring tens of thousands dead to legal borders. The results so far of “progressive” enforcement is a million horrible overdose deaths so far, billions in financial losses and cities like San Francisco sinking into their “doom loop” of drug addiction, addicted homeless like zombies and drug-related crime closing stores and businesses. Only voters tired of drug deaths and addiction can stop this by demanding enforcement of our existing laws that block and imprison smugglers and put deal-dealing hard drug pushers in jail for life, regardless of race, creed or color. Are we hideous drug “progressives”? You choose.

Frank Louis Blair Kooncy III, Carmel Valley

Mean streets

Dear Editor,

Honestly, Carmel-by-the-Sea should be ashamed of the way our streets look. Along so many side streets, the parking spaces are not clearly marked, leading to mis-parking and confusion. And the road leading in and out of Carmel along Ocean Avenue is an absolute disgrace.

Come on, city hall. Instead of wasting your time on whether or not you like

See LETTERS page 29A

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The Carmel Pine Cone was established in 1915 and is a legal newspaper for Carmel-by-the-Sea, Monterey County and the State of California, established by Superior Court Decree No. 35759, July 5, 1952
The 1940 Women’s Amateur featured ‘spectacular golf’

The 1940 Women’s Amateur Championship was a highlight in the history of women’s golf. The event was held at Pebble Beach, a resort that had become synonymous with world-class golfing. The championship was significant for several reasons:

1. **Location and Scenery**: Pebble Beach offered a picturesque setting with its ocean views and sand dunes, providing a challenging and beautiful backdrop for the golf course.
2. **Competitors**: Some of the best women golfers of the day competed, including Marjorie Ferrie, Helen Sigel, and Betty Jameson, who were well-known for their skills.
3. **Significance**: The championship was a stepping stone for many golfers to advance their careers, with prize money and the opportunity to gain exposure.
4. **Historical Context**: The 1940s were a period of change and growth in women’s golf, with more players emerging and the sport gaining popularity.

Her canvas is a portal to a reality where everything is connected

SOMETIMES, AS she paints, Sofanya White steps back from her easel and realizes that she’s breathing heavily, pulsating with endorphins as if she just ran a race—possibly because she often moves spontaneously with the music she plays as she applies colors to her canvas. For White, the creative process is like a dance.

“I love that feeling. I wish I could have it all the time,” said the artist, who awakens from that nirvana to find herself in another nature and not separate from it. Life is the art,” she said.

For White, the profound creative process is a portal into the reality that everything is energy, vibration, frequency, and that all things are connected. White explained on her website: “Through textures, color patterns and imagery, I have discovered revelations from Universal Knowledge.”

A vivid memory from her adolescent years is staring through a window and longing for more than her hometown seemed likely to offer.

“I was wondering, ‘When am I going to get out of this place? I want to be out in the world,’” remembered White, who grew up in St. Paul, Minn.

“You’ll find that light”

“I didn’t have the confidence to explore at that time, but the desire for the spirit to thrive is stronger than anything else,” she said. “It’s like the plant that grows through the cement. If there’s a tiny crack, you’ll find that light.”

White had childhood aspirations to become a singer, dancer and actress, but she felt far away from discovering her talent at 10 or 11 after sketching a portrait of her grandparents.

“I looked at it for a second and then when I got up, I remember feeling shocked. ‘Wow… I did that?’” she said. “My mom was also really surprised, and that was a moment in my life when I felt a pivot.”

When she heard about Greenwich Village, she started longing for that, wondering how I could get there.

But she got married at 17, gave birth to her first child, Lance, at 19, was divorced at 20, and moved to New Mexico.

In 1973, in Denver, White studied with several mahatmas (Indian holy men), including Pritam Rawat, whom she calls her spiritual teacher. Rawat introduced her to many of the life-transforming techniques she uses today, including meditation and personal resources such as inner strength, choice, appreciation and hope.

“he didn’t just inspire or talk. He showed me how to go inside and be with the perfect energy of life,” she said.

That Colorado event is also where White met her second husband, David. At 26, she became a mother for the second time, to David. In the early 1980s, when the family lived in Miami, Fla., she became an art representative, marketing other artists’ creations to ad agencies and designers.

In 1985, they moved west, to Oakland, where she began to nurture her artistic talents more ardently.

In 1991, she began the 14-year marriage dissolved, White rented studio space in Emeryville, where she lives today.

See ARTIST page 34a
**History**

Champion. There was also Dorothy Traung, 1939 state champion and three-time P.B. champion, who had been runner-up in the 1934 U.S. Women’s Amateur.

There were seasoned stalwarts like Marion Hollins, Lenora Cheney and Helen Shepherd, and young rising stars like Morse and Elizabeth Hicks, who were doing well in the state’s big tournaments and had some national experience.

**Silent screeners**

Of the 164 entrants, 125 were from California — 67 from the north and 58 from the south. Only 39 golfers came from outside the state. Many of the California contingent knew they were long shots, including for the title of state. Many of the California golfers had some national experience.

Shepherd, and young rising stars like Morse and Elizabeth Hicks, who were doing well in the state’s big tournaments and had some national experience.

**A-1 Jolson — better known as Ruby Keeler — and Dolores (Mrs. Bob) Hope. LaRoque was surely surprised when her score of 92 put her in an eight-way tie for 36th place, making the cut with the 64 players who would enter match play for the championship. All of the favorites reached the championship flight — 39 from California and 25 from elsewhere. Traung had the low score among the ladies, 78. Hicks and Erna Ross of Burlingame tied for second at 79, and Cheney and Kirby tied for fourth at 81.

Six golfers tied for 64th place and had a playoff. Two were selected as Cheney withdrew with exhaustion. She had been ill for several years and had only rarely competed since winning her sixth straight state title in 1934. One of the two winners was Mrs. Al Morse of Washington, D.C., who turned the tournament’s first upset by defeating Russ, the second-place qualifier, in her first match.

**Maggie Hilburn, The ‘Princess’ of Harmony House**

Maggie had freckles on her nose and beautiful Blenheim coloring, which she maintained throughout all of her 16-and-a-half years after learning of the organization and adopting one of its rescues.

Her name was “Maggie” which because Cavalier King Charles Spaniels are an English breed, we always attributed to her being named for Margaret “Maggie” Thatcher, the British Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990.

Maggie was well-known in Carmel-by-the-Sea as she frequented the dog-friendly restaurants including Victoria’s Bella, the Cypress Inn and the Lodge at Pebble Beach and had many evening walks with her Dad, Don, around Carmel Plaza. She attended outdoor gatherings, meetings and other events, many with the Carmel Bach Festival on the Terrace at Sunset Center. She went to Dad’s office with him every day and then was always happy to return home to Harmony House and take an afternoon walk on Dolores Street and then a nap.

She was the absolute priority in her Mom and Dad’s lives — scheduling all activities around her well-being, feeding and comfort all year round.

Maggie had been rescued by Lucky Star, a national organization that rescues cavaliers from puppy mills and other bad-breeding situations. Her Dad, Don, would often say “She came from a cage in Missouri (where there are many puppy mills) to a cottage in Carmel. She drew a picture and would challenge Ferrie.

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**Windy day**

The weather had been ideal all week, but for the semifinals, the wind came in strong from the north. With extreme patience, Jane Cothran played steady golf and closed her match against Callender with a 10-foot putt for an eagle on the 15th Hole. Callender used a very different strategy, playing quickly in the wind. While she did not come close to putting the ball, Ferrie, who struggled under the conditions.

Cothran’s third shot onto the 18th Green went long, and Ferrie, down 1, sensed a chance to win the hole and force a playoff. Wanting no time, Cothran quickly chipped her shot from 35 feet and watched it roll into the cup for a birdie and the win. The fast-hitting Cothran was no match for the slow-moving Texan. Jameson got off to an early lead in the 36-hole final match and kept going. She was up 2 by the 9th Hole and up 9 as they finished the morning 18. Cothran made back a few holes in the afternoon, but even after winning the 12th Hole with a birdie, she was down six holes with only six to play. The ladies each sank long putts on the 15th, giving Jameson the win, up 6 with five holes to play.

Jameson went on to become one of the leaders of the LPGA and have a brilliant professional career. She was inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame when it was founded in 1967, and in 1998, took her place in the World Golf Hall of Fame. Pebble Beach had hosted its second USGA championship and showed it was a top challenge for the top ladies.

The USGA soon announced plans to return in 1942 for the men’s U.S. Amateur Championship.

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**Maggie Hilburn**

The ‘Princess’ of Harmony House

October 23, 2006 - April 5, 2023

SHE CAME TO US on March 9, 2009, in first class on a flight from Oklahoma City to San Jose, accompanied by a board member of Lucky Star Rescue. She was two-and-a-half years old, having been rescued by Lucky Star from Missouri (where there are many puppy mills) to a cottage in Carmel. She drew a picture and would challenge Ferrie.

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October 23, 2006 - April 5, 2023

SHE CAME TO US on March 9, 2009, in first class on a flight from Oklahoma City to San Jose, accompanied by a board member of Lucky Star Rescue. She was two-and-a-half years old, having been rescued by Lucky Star from Missouri (where there are many puppy mills) to a cottage in Carmel. She drew a picture and would challenge Ferrie.

**Maggie Hilburn**

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LETTERS
From page 26A

Patrice Pastor’s visions for The Pit, focus on something critical.

Barry Edwards, Carmel

Don’t ruin the town
Dear Editor,
What is happening to Carmel? We have been homeowners here for 30 years, so we’ve seen a lot of changes. Some are good and some are not so good. When I remodeled our home, the planning commission came down and stood in my front yard and studied my house. They made some suggestions, which I followed, because they were well thought out and kept to the city ideal.

People come to Carmel because they fall in love with the quaint little houses and the atmosphere of the city. They buy a house, and they become unhappy with the very thing they fell in love with.

Instead of moving, they tear down the house and plant a monstrosity. Next to my house they are digging down to put in three underground bedrooms. A house kitty-corner from mine was torn down in three hours. A deep hole was dug for what, I don’t know.

All of this was done without notifying me or my neighbors. If people want bigger houses, they should go somewhere else. Don’t spoil our city! Don’t do it! Keep Carmel quaint, the way we love it.

Virginia Madden, Carmel

Lesson from the past
Dear Editor,
Many decades ago, Cook County in Illinois (where I have a second home) was faced with a similar challenge now faced by the State of California: a massive shortage of affordable housing. Its solution to that problem was the creation of Soviet-style housing blocks that ultimately became breeding grounds for violent gangs and crime—and which also happened to be incredibly ugly and ruined otherwise beautiful neighborhoods.

Unhappily, the California Legislature has now come up with new statutes that mandate the creation of multiple housing solutions that threaten to create the same failed solutions that made a disaster in what had been traditional neighborhoods in Chicago. Incredibly, Monterey County’s AMBG (which has a representative member on its board from Carmel) has issued a mandate for 349 new housing units in Carmel-by-the-Sea. And without any substantive discussion with Carmel’s residents, AMBG failed to assert a timely appeal to that mandate.

If you believe that Carmel has no space or rational capacity for 349 new housing units, or that the destruction of Carmel’s parking lots, zoning restrictions, parks, and the addition of third stories throughout Carmel’s commercial district, or that we ought to add hundreds of shanty units throughout Carmel’s residential district (which would necessarily require the removal of hundreds of trees and the degradation of our city’s charm and ambience), then you should contact the city and tell them to go ahead with their so-called “easy” housing solutions, and move to create proposed units that cannot be built in any case because we haven’t the water to build them. But if you disagree, then please contact the members of the city council and tell them that you want to keep Carmel as it is.

Gerard Rose, Carmel

Why change county’s name?
Dear Editor,
We’ve been Monterey County for 173 years. So why change our name now? What’s broken that needs fixing?

The reason given for the board’s dumb excuse I’ve heard. Can’t imagine Marin County, Napa and Sonoma Counties, Santa Cruz County and other counties changing their names.

Monterey County is where California

See MORE LETTERS page 31A

April 21, 2023
The Carmel Pine Cone 20A

April 13th-27th
Friends & Family Event

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The Carmel Pine Cone’s June 2 edition will be a great opportunity to celebrate your graduates and let them know how proud you are of their accomplishments!

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Jessica Caird (831) 274-8590 jessica@carmelpinecone.com
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Congratulations graduates!

Class of 2023

Do you have a loved one, friend, classmate or group graduating this year?

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creativity began to flourish.

“I had an ideal studio space, and during those years I think I probably made some of the most interesting, outside-the-box kinds of art I’ve ever done,” said White, who, in addition to her paintings, began to design wearable art.

“I drove to L.A., showed my samples to an art rep there, and they immediately sent me thousands of dollars’ worth of orders,” she said.

The experience taught her a great deal about the business side of art, she said, but intense production deadlines intruded on her creativity.

In 1995, feeling depressed and craving a change, White drove to Big Sur, where she found the address, pulled into the driveway, and saw this woman — the caretaker — sitting there, nursing a baby. She looked like a Rubens painting.”

“The next day, as soon as I turned onto Palo Colorado Road, I said, ‘I’m home — this is it,’” she recalled.

“I stayed in Big Sur that night and was looking for a house for rent. ‘I’m home — this is it’

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“I found the address, pulled into the driveway, and saw this woman — the caretaker — sitting there, nursing a baby. She looked like a Rubens painting.”

Since moving into The Dome House in 1995 and purchasing the property in 1997, White has renovated it from head to toe, turning it into a “living work of art” that’s a “perfect space for my creativity.”

A spectacular color palette permeates her creativity, but the portfolio White has painted at The Dome House resists any specific niche. Styles vary with her moods, ranging from the surreal to expressionism, abstract and realism — often a combination.

“I have synesthesia. I play music as I paint and I’ll see the music in colors,” said White, referring to a neurological condition in which an experience that typically stimulates one sense might activate several. “It’s a lot of fun and always such a discovery,” she said.

The four-time grandmother recently painted the faces of seven children — one from each of the seven continents — commissioned by the Lambourne Institute for Life Mastery. That piece will be exhibited at Big Sur’s Henry Miller Library in late summer.

White will also host a painters retreat in July (dates to be announced) and is planning to schedule multiple painting sessions for visitors to her forest oasis.

Images of her art, photos of The Dome House and her rental properties, and information about retreats, weddings, and other getaways, can be found online at sofanya.com and jewelintheforest.com.

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Denis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scrisbelouvat@gmail.com.

ARTIST
From page 27A

The Pine Cone’s email edition: Complete local news without pop-ups, click bait, pay walls or banner ads — and we don’t even harvest your data.

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MORE LETTERS
From page 29A

began. It’s the “Monterey” that’s descriptive, not “County.”
Do we have to change the name of our famous bay too?
Ah, heck. Let’s drop the name California and just call it “State.”
Sam Farr, Carmel

It’s a local issue
Dear Editor,

Rudy Fischer conflates the issues when he suggests that the 23,757 Peninsula voters who voted for Measure J in 2018 somehow override the will of the entire 440,000 county residents. Those 23,757 represent 5.6 percent of the voters of Measure J, an effort to have MPWMD buy out Cal Am if feasible, to run the water distribution system, for the Monterey Peninsula. Aromas, or King City or Salinas or Gonzales, or Marina or the rest of the county have no standing on the issue. They don’t use the water purveyor and they don’t pay the overpriced bills. They have their own narrow special interests, rather than the community as a whole.

Those voters are not “throwing the rest of the residents of Monterey County under the bus,” as Fischer states. It is the Salinas Valley members of LAFCO who threw the Peninsula residents under the bus by ignoring their staff recommendations, and their own consultants which they forced MPWMD to fund at about $70,000, to support their recommendations, and their own narrow special interests, rather than the community as a whole.

What Fischer claims to be illegal is yet to be litigated and is scheduled for court this summer. If Peninsula residents acquire Cal Am through the Measure J initiative and the eminent domain process to lower their rates and create local control of their own water system, why would anyone outside of the district be concerned? It would not impact their water bills by a penny.

Michael Baer, San Jose

‘Divorced from reality’
Dear Editor,

As usual, Lawrence Samuels’s letter in the April 14 Pine Cone is completely divorced from reality and filled with misinformation and errors. So let’s set the record straight.

Samuels is writing about the cost of the MPWMD buy-out offer for Cal Am. He doesn’t say buyout, however; he refers to the water district’s attempt “to nationalize Cal Am.” What does that even mean? The buyout is more accurately a process to “localize” Cal Am.

If the buyout is completed, the water district will set water rates and propose infrastructure projects through public hearings, subject to checks and balances of the Proposition 218 process. The incompetent CPUC will at long last be bootstrapped from our water bills along with the profiteering monopoly known as Cal Am.

Add to that misinformation, Samuels erroneously places the bill on property owners. But the buyout will be funded by a low interest bond paid by the water district through its rate payers, not property taxes. At the public hearing where the water district announced its good faith offer to Cal Am on April 3, general manager Dave Shiekh showed how the purchase would save ratepayers about $18 million per year from the current rate case Cal Am charges, and another $23 million per year after the bond is retired in 30 years.

The buyout is good economics for all residents who buy water from Cal Am on the Peninsula — even Samuels, despite his protestations.

Janice Purse, Pacific Grove

’Simple questions’
Dear Editor,

A few simple questions for those advocating for the government purchase of the Cal Am assets:

Have any of the analyses taken into account the conversion costs of private company employees to government employees?

Have any of the costs of future pensions been calculated in the analyses?

Show me three examples of where the government has done a better job at lower costs than the private sector.

Mike Patton, Carmel

Gathering feathers
Dear Editor,

Relating to the “engineered firing” of Pacific Grove police officer, Michael Gonzalez, orchestrated by Cathy Madalone, Ben Harvey, Jenny McAdams and Randy Fairgarden, there is a Hasidic tale about the impossibility of undoing damage done by harmful gossip. A man slandered the rabbits, he felt remorseful, begged the rabbit for forgiveness and said he was willing to do penance. The rabbit told him to take several feather pillows, cut them open, and scatter the feathers to the winds. The man did so, then reported back to the rabbit that he had fulfilled his request. The rabbits responded, “Now go and gather all the feathers.”

It is impossible to repair the damage done by your words as it will be to recover the feathers.”

Michael Gonzalez won a $10,000 settlement but lost his job, career, was slandered, falsely accused of racism, and fliers were sent to police departments in California warning them not to hire Gonzalez. Yet Chief Madalone admitted in all respects, his performance as a police officer was positive.

Cathy Madalone, Ben Harvey, Jenny McAdams and Randy Fairgarden, your behavior was despicable and hateful. I hope Michael Gonzalez’s career burgeons in direct response to your cowardly actions.

Catherine Sullivan, Carmel

Dangerous bicycle route
Dear Editor,

After a resounding 92 percent “against” vote by the residents of San Carlos Street, the Carmel City Council decided that democracy does not matter.

They chose to channel bicyclists onto the truck route that is shared with trucks, buses and all sorts of emergency vehicles. This also is the only street in Carmel where they would be exposed to this traffic.

Knowing the dangers of this decision, the council showed callous disregard for the safety of the bike riders, insisting on using this route.

So when, not if, a bike rider makes contact with a firetruck, bus or other heavy vehicle, most likely fatally, and with so many alternate routes available (any other street), this open Carmel and possibly the council members themselves to great liability. They chose expediency over sanity and ignored the will of the people.

Tor McPartland, Carmel

Many thanks
Dear Editor,

I had the most amazing party/fundraiser for my husband, Mark, at the American Legion in Carmel on March 30. Our community showed so much support and love that night I wanted everyone to know how much Mark and I appreciated all the effort that was put in.

Special thanks to Wendy, Michele, Minds, Bruce and Spike who worked tirelessly to help me with this event. To everyone that brought food and Ginny and Paige who made sure it was in order. Pat and Gina Phinny, Kevin Philipps, Joe Cavallo, A.B. and so many others who donated gifts and so much more. Music by Roger Eddy and Friends highlighted the evening.

My eternal gratitude to everyone.

Dee Finer, Carmel
List with a Team. List With the Best.

Sea Glass
SeaGlassOnScenic.com

On the Famous Pebble Beach Golf Course
336417Mlife.com

Equestrian Estate in Pebble Beach
3348Onduardo.com

San Carlos Sanctuary
SanCarlosSanctuary.com

Carmel Cottage on 14th
CarmelCottageOn14th.com

All About the Views
24675Outlook.com

Contemporary Riverside Retreat
5ViaPoca.com
DID YOU go to summer camp as a kid? Whether it was day camp or the sleepaway version, you know the memories last long after the smell of a campfire fades and skinned knees heal.

Since your s’mores days, “camping” has come to encompass a whole buffet of youth-centered activities, but it’s still a place to make friends, try something new, learn or hone some skills and have an adventure or two.

Nowadays, kids can camp in the wings of a theater, behind a music podium or artist’s easel, on the basketball court or even in a classroom. Read on to learn more. You may find yourself wishing you could fake being 8 years old again.

Schoolhouses rock

Santa Catalina School in Monterey is accepting registrations for its summer program, which includes three two-week sessions and one five-week musical theater session, with options for day and overnight campers, all between June 18 and July 29. Girls entering grades three through nine this fall will have opportunities for many memorable experiences. In addition to traditional activities and games, there are classes in STEM, sports and more.

Third, fourth and fifth-graders can join the new mini camp programs, which last one week. Santa Catalina’s director of marketing, Crystal Boyd, said the youngsters will participate in activities with the older girls, and the new program “allows new campers to test out being at camp without committing to a full two weeks. This is especially important if they’ve never been to a resident camp,” she said.

Summer at Santa Catalina school offers girls a chance to work on sports skills, hit the beach, throw a pot, learn something new, make friends and have some memorable good times.

CAMPS cont. on page 37A
WELL, IT has been a winter, hasn’t it? By now, we hope you’ve dug out, dried out and are ready for spring and summer, along with the usual collection of diversions. You’ll find events that celebrate cars, cowboys, olden times, new art, Bach and bacchanalae.

It’s worth noting that many of the events — particularly those at the Monterey Fairgrounds — have strict policies on what you can and can’t bring (hint: you might want to find a stylish clear tote bag to replace your usual Coach number), so check out event websites to make sure you’re good to go. Read on to see what’s going on!

It’s fitting that The Last Hometown’s annual admission-free street fair is called the Good Old Days. For 64 years, Pacific Grove has hosted the downtown party. On May 6 and 7, more than 40 performers, 200 art, craft and food vendors, and a collection of carnival rides will take over Lighthouse Avenue. Enjoy a pancake breakfast from the P.G. Kiwanis Club and the Rotary-sponsored parade, then visit the quilt show, take the kids to the petting zoo and cheer on your favorites at the firefighter challenge.

Don’t forget to visit the businesses along Lighthouse for some old-fashioned personal service. May 25-28 is the Cali Roots Festival (californiarootsfestival.com), showcasing what organizers describe as “top names to emergent artists in complementing genres of reggae rock, island reggae, roots reggae, folk and conscious hip hop.” For four days, dozens of musicians will take various stages around the Monterey Fairgrounds to spread good vibes. The website boasts that the event has “raised thousands of dollars and brought awareness, education and a community platform” to groups like the Surf Rider Foundation, the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County and Save Our Shores.

Food and the Fourth

June 10 and 11 is the weekend to celebrate the festival with the Artichoke Festival (artichokefestival.org) at the Monterey Fairgrounds. In addition to food and cooking demonstrations featuring some of your favorite local chefs, there’s a new comedy night (dubbed Thistle be Fun-ny), a quilting challenge, live music and wine tasting. The annual Monterey County Winemakers’ Celebration’s June 10 party on Dolores south of Ocean marks the event’s 30th year. Starting at 1 p.m. for VIP ticket holders and 2 p.m. for everyone else, guests can sample more than 100 local wines and discuss their finer points with winemakers and growers, while local chefs offer their best small bites. You can also participate in Wine Camp — you know, to make it educational. This event is for humans over 21; no dogs allowed. A complimentary shuttle from the Barnyard is included with admission. Tickets and additional info are on Eventbrite.com.

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that the new holiday of Independence Day “ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, *DPHV6SRUWV*XQV%HOOV%RQ¿UHVDQG,OOXPLQDWLRQV from one End of this Continent to the other.” Our end of the continent is all in, with several lively parties.

SUMMER AT STEVENSON SCHOOL

Sports Camp

K-Grade 12, Pebble Beach Campus

June 12 – August 3

Multiple sessions available for the following sports:

- Lacrosse
- Swimming
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Water Polo
- Field Hockey
- Basketball
- Pole Vault
- Quarterback and Wide Receiver

Junior Camp

K-Grade 4, Carmel Campus

June 26 – July 26

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Workshops begin at 9 am

Six, one week sessions

Our summer programming is designed by Stevenson faculty and staff, who focus on crafting enriching experiences for rising Kindergarten–grade 4 students that extends the Stevenson School approach to education into the summer. Junior Camp allows students to expand their intellectual capacity and love of learning into areas beyond our core curriculum. Our program is guided by Stevenson’s mission and core values and packed with joyful summertime fun!
BEST SUMMER EVER!

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS

SUMMER REGISTRATION IS OPEN! We are offering the following camps and programs plus much more. Follow Monterey Recreation on Facebook and Instagram or online at monterey.org/rec for updates and program information. REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

Beach Volleyball (10–18 yrs.)
June 5–9, June 19–23, July 10–14

Challenger International Soccer (7–14 yrs.)
June 5–9, June 26–30, July 17–21

Track and Field Camp (7–13 yrs.)
June 19–23

Basketball Camp (7–13 yrs.)
July 10–14

Flag Football Camp (7–14 yrs.)
July 24–28

Playwell LEGO® Camps (5–12 yrs.)
June 12–16, July 3–7, July 24–28

Imagine Dance Camp (5–12 yrs.)
June 19–30

Summer Fun Playground Program (5–10 yrs.)
Offered M-F from 9am–4pm and located at neighborhood parks.
June 12–July 28 (7-week program)

Whispering Pines Day Camp (5–9 yrs.)
Weekly sessions offered M-F, June 12–July 28

Camp Quien Sabe Youth Overnight Camp (7–15 yrs.)
Weekly sessions offered M-F, June 19–July 28

Tiny Tots Summer Camp (3–5 yrs.)
Tuesday–Friday, 3 hours per day
June 6–30 or July 5–21

Chess Summer Camp (6–10 yrs.)
July 10–14

Summer Woodworking Camp (8–11 yrs.)
July 10–14

Registration is available online 24/7 at monterey.org/rec. Full program information is posted on the Monterey Recreation registration website at monterey.org/rec. Questions? Email: montereyrecreation@monterey.org.

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MONTEREY.ORG/REC
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To learn more, scan the QR code or visit: MontereyBayAquarium.org/UnderwaterExplorers

FUN IN THE SUN

Helping kids solve problems

By ELAINE HESSER

IT STARTED in 2018, when Marzena Wisniewska’s 8-year-old grandson started struggling with math, which reminded her of her own difficulties with the subject during high school. There, with the help of friends, she was able to grasp the basic concepts and, eventually, earn an A. She didn’t see anything like that happening for her grandson, though. “I couldn’t just do nothing, and a friend of mine had just opened a Mathnasium in Redwood City,” near her grandson’s home, she recalled. She signed him up and was impressed with the results. The tutoring franchise has more than 1,000 outlets nationwide and in seven other countries.

MATH cont. on page 40A
ning local musicians Dennis Murphy and Miranda Perl as part of the Dennis Murphy School of Music, the special session for All Saints kids will be held 9 a.m. to noon, June 5 to 16. No previous experience is necessary and the program will culminate with a studio show.

Stevenson School has a diverse assortment of day and residential camps for 5- through 18-year-olds. Kindergarteners through fourth-graders can start in Junior Camp from June 26 to July 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The program includes games, activities and an emphasis on making new friends, deepening learning and discovering new interests. Lunch is provided.

Stevenson also offers sports camps between July 31 and Aug. 3, catering to a variety of ages and interests. Basketball, pole vaulting and football quarterback and wide receiver options are available. There are also summer classes in high school history and geometry, with age and subject prerequisites. For more info on this or any of Stevenson’s offerings, or to register, go to stevensonschool.org, click on the Student Life tab and select Summer.

If your youngsters find math skills scarier than the boogeyman in a campfire story, Mathnasium in Del Monte Center is offering students and parents the option to purchase a two-month summer trial. The franchise outlet is locally owned and operated by a grandmother who wanted to help her grandson get the hang of numbers (see p. 32A). With a roughly 3:1 student-teacher ratio, frequent testing and a kidcentric reward program, Mathnasium Art at All Saints Day School.
FESTIVALS cont. from page 34A
Patriotic standards will be performed by Monterey County Pops! in Devendorf Park. You can party at P.G.’s Downtown Celebration or start the day with Monterey Firefighters Charity Pancake Breakfast at Station 11 on Pacific Street. Then watch the downtown parade along Alvarado Street while working up an appetite for the Big Little Backyard Bar-B-Que at Colton Hall. A short walk away, you’ll find the 4th of July on Monterey’s Fisherman’s Wharf!

Once you’ve recovered from the 4th, make plans to attend the 20th annual Monterey Beer Festival at the Monterey Fairgrounds on July 8. The specifics are a little sparse so far, but if it’s like previous years’ events, you can expect about 4,000 people to join in the summer version of Oktoberfest, with live music, food trucks and, of course, dozens of breweries serving up glasses of hopiness. It benefits the Monterey County Fair Heritage Foundation.

If you’re a fan of the annual Scottish Games and Celtic Festival, you’ll have to visit montereycelticfestival.com for updates on this year’s event, which is so far as inscrutable as the underpinnings of a bagpiper’s kilt.

Cowboys and chords
Help the Carmel Bach Festival (bachfestival.org) celebrate its 86th season from Aug. 11 to July 31, 2023. This year’s Monterey Jazz Festival brings the return of Herbie Hancock.

Car Week. The 72nd edition of the Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance is scheduled for Aug. 20, but the four-wheeled frenzy leading up to it includes auctions, showings of antique and vintage cars, and enough touchless to fill a few estate sales — all for anyone with an interest in things that go vroom. Or, visit Seaside’s Concours d’Lemons for vehicles that sometimes don’t go at all. Pebblebeachcoucours.net is a great place to start planning.

Celebrate cont. on page 40A
nassium helps learners to gain confidence and makes math fun.

Good summertime vibes
Carmel Youth Center is boasting a “massive multi-week camp filled with fun” that’s calling “Around the World in Seven Weeks.” Each weeklong daytime session between June 6 and Aug. 5 will include activities focusing on a different continent, with activities for children of various ages, first- through third-graders, and fourth- through sixth-graders. Campers will learn about foods, arts and crafts, science and engineering issues from each region. Visit carmelyouth.org/camps for more info or to register.

The City of Monterey has a ton of camp opportunities available. The city’s playgrounds will host supervised play sessions with games and singing for kids ages 5 to 10. Whispering Pines day camp turns 65 this year, with full-day weekly sessions for those 5 to 9, and special-needs campers up to age 17. Although it’s a day camp, organizers are planning Friday campfires with sights and songs, where kids will prepare their own lunches.

The city-operated Camp Queen Sate at Toro Park provides a variety of overnight experiences tailored to children 7 to 15. In addition to traditional activities, kids can participate in the Environmental Team (age 12), with an emphasis on ecology, or a Work Experience program (ages 13-15), where they’ll help with projects to improve Toro Park under counselors’ supervision.

The city is also offering sports camps for budding soccer players, basketball fanatics, runners, hurlers and baseball players. Also available is a beach volleyball program that’s notable because the city has partnered with the Sand City Volleyball club to run an advanced camp at the Monterey courts this summer. It’s for players 14 to 18 years old with previous tournament experience, and has sessions June 5-9, June 19-23 and June 10-14.

For all City of Monterey camps, the trail starts at Monterey.org/tec. To read all the details and sign up, click the activity registration link and create a free account with smartrec.

Meanwhile, the YMCA of the Monterey Peninsula has day camp opportunities for its members from trans-kin-dergarten through eighth grade. Weeklong sessions will run between June 5 and Aug. 4, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., with age-appropriate activities. Go to centralcoastymca.org and click on the Monterey icon and the program tab.

Let’s jam!
Pack Rep’s SoDA (School of Dramatic Arts) invites young musicians, dancers and actors to register for its summer offerings at the Forest Theater. Tiny thespians (kindergarten and first grade) can spend June 5-9 getting a taste of what it’s like to be on stage with On Broadway, learning to form a smattering of favorites from the Great White Way.

Fifth- through 12th-graders can improve their auditioning skills in the first of two Music Institutes, with 10 two-hour morning sessions from June 12-23. They can also learn to Make a Film in 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. during the same timeframe. Sixth- through 12th-graders can sign up for 25 afternoon sessions from June 19 through July 21, producing “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” for a public performance. In addition to opportunities to act, kids can learn about using props, lighting, sound and makeup and to create an on-stage world.

Triple-Threat Boot Camp for fourth- through 12th-graders will comprise 10 morning sessions June 26 through July 7, focusing on acting, singing on-key, and learning to move with confidence and poise on stage.

Second- through fourth-graders can take the stage for Aero’s Pieces, where they’ll learn to develop a character from one of the old Greek fables for a live performance at the end of the week (July 10-14).

Finally, July 17-28, the second Music Institute will help fifth- through 12th-graders focus on musical performance, including how to work with a pianist, handle nerves and receive constructive criticism. They’ll also learn to read music and build a repertoire. Peek behind the curtains at pacrep.org/so-da-school-of-dramatic-arts.

Dance Center Carmel is waiting in the wings to help rising performers, too. For nine weeks, from June 5 through Aug. 4, its camps will cover ballet, musical theater, vocal and music theory, jazz, hip hop and more. Dancers as young as 3 and through grade 12 can find a space on the floor. Familiar stories like “The Lion King” and “Sleeping Beauty” are in the mix with Mario Cart and Slimmer Time sessions. Boogie down to dansecarmel.com/summer-camp-schedule to get in step.

First Night Monterey doesn’t end on Jan. 1. Proceeds from the night’s revelry help support six five-day sessions of summer day camp for young artists ages 7 to 16 in Monterey. From June 12 and through July 28, possible activities include taking digital photos, painting, sculpting, cooking, sewing and screen printing, ending with an art show on the last day of each session. To learn more, go to firstnightmonterey.org, or call (831) 373-4778.

The Monterey Jazz Festival’s Summer Jazz day camp for middle- to high-school age vocalists and instrumentals is ready to nurture budding riffers and scat-singers from Monday, June 26 through Friday, June 30. Faculty will include 2023 artist-in-residence, saxophonist Lakecia Braduce.

The City of Monterey (top) has lots of ideas for getting your kids outdoors (including a new volleyball program), while Pack Rep’s School of Dramatic Arts (above) introduces the joys of the theater.
MATH cont. from page 36A

In 2021, Wisniewska moved down here, and although her grandson had made great strides and was doing well, the memory of his problems was still fresh. She said she decided she wanted to help more of those kids, and with some business associates, opened a Mathnasium in Del Monte Center. About 70 students are currently enrolled there.

It isn’t Jenga

The process starts with a detailed assessment that shows a student’s strengths and weaknesses. Then, a custom program is created to help them fill in gaps in their skills. During seven- or 12-month enrollments, parents are encouraged to bring their children at least twice a week, up to 10 times a month. Each session is an hour long, and the student-to-teacher ratio is 3:1.

Skills from basic addition and subtraction to pre-calculus are taught using a scientifically designed curriculum. Hands-on learning with blocks and other visual aids helps students apply basic ideas to larger numbers, and move from simple concepts to more complicated ones.

“It’s not like Jenga,” Wisniewska said, referring to the popular building-block game. “That’s building tall, but wobbly. That doesn’t work with math.” She said a couple of high school students were put off when they learned they’d have to start learning some concepts at a lower grade level to firm up their foundations, but those who stayed could see concrete progress — as could their teachers and parents — in their personal math binders.

The program also offers rewards for reaching assignment milestones. Wisniewska said she was impressed that many students could delay gratification and save up their rewards — redeemable for treats, toys and gift cards — to earn bigger prizes.

“I get so much satisfaction — I get to see the attitudes of children change. They move from being intimidated to being confident and actually enjoying math,” she said. This summer, the center is offering a two-month unlimited trial program, and students who enroll can schedule as many sessions as they like from June 1 to Aug. 9. You can contact Mathnasium by calling (831) 226-8426, visiting bit.ly/2aZWdxs, or dropping by the center next door to Pizza My Heart.

CELEBRATE cont. from page 33A

If you like your art outdoors and lively, circle Aug. 26 for the Monterey County Fair. From Aug. 31 through Sept. 4. As always, there will be lots of live entertainment, a colorful, noisy midway with carnival rides and games; livestock judging and heated competitions for blue ribbons among cooks, artists and crafters. You can also have your fill of funnel cakes, brats and other indulgent snacks. Kids can earn rewards by participating in Read and Ride, or enter the coloring contest at montereycountyfair.com (see the Participate tab, and select Special Contests), while those ages 4 to 7 who weigh less than 60 pounds can join in muttern-busting. Then you might want to get a few workouts in, in anticipation of.

It’s official. Festa Italia (festaitaliamonterey.org) is going to be 90 this year. Come to Custom House Plaza in Monterey from Sept. 8 through 10 for rivetingly all things Italian. It begins as the festival, itself, did, honoring Santa Rosalia, patron saint of Palermo, Sicily — home to the ancestors of many of Monterey’s longtime fishing families. Predictably, that leads to eating, drinking and music. Vendors will sell crafts and clothing, and wine and beer are available for purchase. At 66, the Monterey Jazz Festival is still perennially cool. From Friday, Sept. 22 through Sunday, Sept. 24, catch Herbie Hancock, Snarky Puppy and Grammy winner Thundercat, Artist-in-Residence Lecia Benjamin, who’s shared the stage with Stevie Wonder and Alicia Keys, will jam on Saturday night and share the stage the following day with the 2023 Next Generation Jazz Orchestra. Sunday gospel with Tammy Hall and the Texas Southern University Choir promises to raise spirits. For the full — and impressive — roster of artists, visit montereyjazzfestival.org.

Tunes and T-Birds

As daylight hours start to dwindle, take advantage of our great autumn weather at Old Fisherman’s Wharf’s 178th birthday party Oct. 8 from 1 to 5 p.m. Radio personality Dave Marzetti will emcee the free event and the Money Band will play. Organizers promise an assortment of family-friendly events, including stilt-walkers and a giant bubble performer, as well as a meet-and-greet with Monterey police officers and firefighters.

Although summer technically ends Sept. 22, you won’t want to miss the Rebels and Renegades Music Festival at the Monterey Fairgrounds. With three days and evenings of outstanding music from award-winning artists from Oct. 6 to 8, organizers are promoting “left-of-center, country, americana, folk, outlaw, Texas country, bluegrass, and roots music.” Also in the works are interactive art stations, a local artists’ marketplace, and an assortment of delicious food. Rebelsandrenegadesfest.com has all the info you need.

Even if you’re juggling with the outlaws at the Fairgrounds, you won’t be able to miss the sounds of freedom Oct. 7 and 8 at the California International Airshow Salinas. Feel the rumble of the Air Force Thunderbirds and let the Canadian Forces Snowbirds give you chills. Static displays of aircraft, plus a jet firetruck (you can’t make this stuff up), monster trucks and fireworks will be part of the action. Maverick’s Lounge will kick off the weekend on Friday night, Oct. 6 with plenty of food and libations, as well as special entertainment. File your flight plan at salinasairshow.com.
Benjamin, who performed at President Barack Obama’s 2009 inauguration and has shared the stage with Missy Elliot and Alicia Keys, among many other notables. Hit up montereyjazzfestival.org for more info.

At the Monterey Museum of Art, there will be six one-week sessions from 9 to noon daily beginning on June 12. Ages and topics vary by week and include mixed media, cartooning, Mandarinal Training with Legos, Spooktacular Summer Camp (think Halloween in July), Eco-Art and Animal Adventures using Legos. Organizers paint a cheerful picture at monteryart.org.

The Lyceum of Monterey County has offered some exciting five-day sessions in the past, but this year’s schedule is still under wraps. Ages vary by session, and last year’s offerings included collage, digital photography, space exploration, and Lego robotics. To see this year’s offerings, visit lyceum.org.

Go for a good time
This year’s Point Lobos Summer Adventures has added a third day camp session for older participants. Sessions 1 and 2, for 8- to 12-year-olds, are weekdays from June 20-30 and July 10-21. From June 24th through the 28th, teens 13 to 15 can enjoy their own outdoor escapades. The camps go from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This year’s highlights include creative art and habitat restoration projects, learning about underwater life, hiking and field trips for kayaking and whale watching. Registration is first-come, first-serve and can be accessed via parks.ca.gov/page/27276.

Camp SEA Lab lets kids learn more about marine science with adventures along the shores of Monterey Bay. Stewards of the Sea is a weeklong day camp for those ages 10 to 15, combining surfing and snorkeling with exposure to marine science and ecology. Participants experience plankton with a microscope and — normally — a visit to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Sessions are June 26-30 and July 24-28.

Beach Biology and Breakers (June 12-16, July 10-14) is for 8- to 12-year-olds and focuses on the denizens of beach and Monterey harbor. Ocean Forest Odyssey (June 19-23, July 3-7, July 17-21 and July 31-Aug. 4) takes 8- to 12-year-olds snorkeling, kayaking, exploring tide pools and other fun activities, to teach them about underwater life. Kids in Stewards of the Sea, Beach Biology and Breakers and Ocean Forest Odyssey must know how to swim.

Returning this year is Voyage Seaward, in which new and experienced sailors ages 13 to 16 board an 82-foot schooner for five days (July 3-7, July 10-14 or July 17-21) to cruise along the coast and study marine life while learning classic sailing techniques. Set your compass to campsealab.org to get the details.

The SPCA Monterey still has room in its ABCs of the SPCA for animal lovers ages 5-7, from 9 a.m. to noon July 24-28. It introduces participants to the ins and outs of the organization and its operations. Visit spcamic.org, click on Programs, then Education and Outreach, to get to the links for kids’ activities.

Beginning June 12, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History offers four one-week day camps for kids who will start grades three through five this fall. They can sign up to spend a week learning about paleontology and archaeology, community science, wonders of the museum or “all the ologies” — an exploration of chemistry, biology, zoology, geology and ecology. Camps run Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register at pgmuseum.org/camp2023.

Stronger, faster, higher
If you skipped straight to this section, make sure you check out the listing above for the City of Monterey, which has a solid menu of sports camps.

The Monterey Peninsula Youth Sailing Foundation normally runs two summer camps for those who want to go down to the sea in medium-sized boats. However, Stillwater Yacht Club’s Pebble Beach pier was destroyed by winter storms, so it won’t host any events this year.

The Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club has “a deep commitment in promoting junior sailing,” according to its 38th annual Asthma Camp from July 31 to Aug. 3 at Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club’s junior golf camps. Led by the ranch’s pro, Todd Southard, and his team, there are eight three-day sessions between June 13 and Aug. 10. Kids go on their own swings, short games, etiquette, putting and on-course play. Sessions go from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and lunch is provided. Call the pro shop at (831) 620-6406 to reserve a spot.

For kids ages 6 to 12 with mild to severe asthma, Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System is hosting its 38th annual Asthma Camp from July 31 to Aug. 3 at Monterey Park Elementary School in Salinas. Campers will participate in activities most kids take for granted, like swimming, soccer and hiking — all with medical supervision. They’ll also learn more about asthma and how to take care of themselves. Aside from a $10 registration fee, the costs of camp are covered by donations made to the Salinas Valley Health Foundation through the Children’s Miracle Networks Hospitals Program. To learn more, go to bit.ly/3Q47b4Z for more information.

KIDS cont. from page 39A

Join us for a Spring Preview designed specifically for families interested in starting Pre-K and Kindergarten in the 2023-2024 school year. New enrollment still available.

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Symphony celebrates Sibelius at Sunset, Sibley shares new music in C.V.

**Performing the** music of Finland’s greatest composer, Jean Sibelius, and showcasing a rising violinist, Tessa Lark, the Monterey Symphony plays Saturday and Sunday at Sunset Center. Saturday’s concert starts at 7:30 p.m., while Sunday’s matinee begins at 3 p.m.

Titled “Ethereal,” the program includes Sibelius’ Violin Concerto, which features Lark as a soloist, and his Symphony No. 2. Music director and conductor Jayce Ogren described the latter piece as an “inspiring rallying cry for Finnish independence.”

“In April we present a tribute to the great Finnish composer — and personal favorite — Jan Sibelius,” Ogren said. “‘Sibelius’ music arrives at universal, eternal truths about nature, spirituality and the human condition through soaring melodies and brilliant orchestral colors.”

Ogren called Lark “one of the most captivating artistic voices of our time.” “She is praised for her astonishing range of sounds, technical agility, and musical elegance,” he added.

Tickets start at $54 with discounts available for students, teachers, and active-duty military. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 646-8511 or visit montereysymphony.org.

Christian music star visits

Five-time Grammy Award-winning singer, guitarist and Christian music artist Steven Curtis Chapman takes the stage Saturday at Golden State Theater in Monterey. Showtime is 7 p.m.

While Chapman is far from a household name, he is perhaps the most successful of all contemporary Christian music artists. Nine of his studio albums have reached No. 1 on the Christian music charts, while two others have topped the bluegrass charts.

Tickets start at $22.75. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070.

Next up at Golden State is an April 28 show by Sali- nas-based alt-rockers, The Dead Cassettes, and others.

Q

Christian music star visits

*See MUSIC page 46A*
The Carmel City Council this month approved the Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association’s request to serve wine on public property during its annual Winemakers’ Celebration, this year moving back to its former location on Dolores south of Ocean and set to be held on a new date, June 10.

At the same April 4 meeting, council members also OK’d a request from the Carmel Art Festival to pour wine in Devendorf Park at the VIP reception held during the May 19-21 festival.

The 30th Annual Winemakers’ Celebration last week. The event will open at 1 p.m. for VIPs and 2 p.m. for general admission, and will run until 4 p.m., with local wineries pouring tastes and participating restaurants serving small bites. Demonstrations and other activities are planned, too.

Participating wineries include Albatross Ridge, Bernardus, Caraccioli Cellars, Carmel Road, Chalone, Cru, De Tierra, Folktale, Hahn, Holman Ranch, I. Brand & Family, J. Lohr, Joyce, Kori, La Crema, Lepe Cellars, Le Mistral, Odontia, Pessagno, Pierce Ranch, Puma Road, Redford, Robert Mondavi Private Selection, Scheid, Scratch, Shale Canyon, Silvestri, Talbott, The Wine Experience, Windy Oaks and Wrath.

The event’s Monterey Wine Camp will feature “hands-on, fun activities designed to advance guests’ wine knowledge.”

The VIP Experience includes early access at 1 p.m. and valet parking, and costs $145, while general admission is $95, with the gates opening at 2 p.m. Only those of legal drinking age can be inside the fences, and while service dogs are always welcome, “emotional support, where the dog’s mere presence provides comfort, is not considered a service animal under the ADA.”

The MCVGA will provide free shuttles between the Barnyard shopping center and downtown between 12:30 and 5 p.m., and all-day parking is available on most residential streets surrounding downtown.

For more information, email info@montereywines.org or call (831) 375-9400. To volunteer at the event, email kim@montereywines.org. And to buy tickets, go to montereywines.org and click on the Winemakers’ Celebration banner.

Carmel Art Festival

Also celebrating its 30th year, the Carmel Art Festival has artists around the Monterey Peninsula and in Devendorf Park at Ocean and Junipero creating and selling artwork and includes a reception May 19 at 6 p.m.

During the fest, some 60 plein air artists will spend a couple of days painting on location May 17-19, and their artwork will be displayed and sold starting at 4 p.m. Friday.

That evening, an invite-only VIP reception will take place in the park with wine, food and live entertainment, and artists can invite guests and collectors. The price is $40 per person at the door and includes a commemorative wine glass.

Live entertainment and programs for all ages will continue on Saturday, May 20, and throughout the weekend, galleries in Carmel-by-the-Sea will have an opportunity to display sculpture in Devendorf Park, where well-known sculptor Steven Whyte will work on a large piece representing a well-known figure who will be revealed on Sunday.

For more information on the reception and other events, visit carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com. See FOOD next page
The Carmel Pine Cone

FOOD & WINE

be a great place to celebrate Earth Day. On April 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Scheid winery and tasting room at 1972 Hobson Ave. in Greenfield will host a “fresh field-to-fork lunch from Stone Creek Kristina” accompanied by a tasting of Scheid’s sustainably grown wines led by Dave Nagengast, vice president of winemaking, who will also lead guests on a walk in the vineyard.

Industry experts on sustainable practices and representatives from CSUMB’s program on sustainable hospitality management will speak, too.

Tickets are $45 and can be purchased through Eventbrite. Find more information at scheidvineyards.com/events.

Social studies

Bitter Ginger founder and mixologist Brian Mazurek will return to Social Hour on Sixth Avenue between San Carlos and Dolores for another round of cocktail classes. Each session runs from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and includes all the necessary ingredients and tools, a small bite or two, and a little gift to take home. The cost is $85 per person per class, with a portion going to the nonprofit Big Sur Food & Wine Foundation.

The first session of Social Studies will be “Call to the Post — Kentucky Derby Cocktails,” and is set for Thursday, May 4. During this class, Mazurek will share the techniques and history behind the famous horse race’s iconic drink, the mint julep, and will lead guests through the process of crafting the Brown Derby, a 1930s Hollywood-era cocktail of bourbon, grapefruit juice and honey simple syrup.

On May 10, “Champagne: Champagne, Cognac & Cocktails,” will have guests learning about “one of history’s most iconic drinks,” Winston Churchill, from subject experts Gin Sander and Roxanne Langer — authors of Churchill: A Drinking Life: Champagne, Cognac, and Cocktails — as they entertain with stories taken straight from Churchill’s liquor cabinet. Each guest will get a signed copy of the book to take home.

The featured cocktails for hands-on lessons will be a classic Sidecar (Cognac, Cointreau and lemon juice) and “The Churchill,” his 80th birthday drink. It may not be his b-day beverage, but the best known cocktail named for Churchill was created for him by barman Joe Gilmore at the American Bar in the Savoy Hotel in the 1930s and calls for blended Scotch, Cointreau, sweet vermouth and lime juice.

June 14 will see the return of “Exploring Aman in Cocktails,” which will focus on the Italian herbal liqueur and its myriad uses. The bittersweet liqueurs run the gamut from floral and fruity to intensely herbal and are traditionally enjoyed before and after meals, but they can also add complexity and depth in mixed drinks. Mazurek’s lineup will include a tikki-inspired drink called Across the Pacific and a Boulevardier, a whiskey-based riff on the Negroni.

Finally, on June 29, the store will host “Sours: Shaken, Not Stirred,” when Mazurek will discuss drinks based on citrus, sweetener and spirits. Featured drinks will be two classics — the whiskey sour and the margarita — and will include tips on batching both cocktails for bigger groups and parties.

Sign up at socialhourcarmel.com.

Menu updates at restaurant trio

Rio Grill, Tappy’s and Montrio, all owned by Coastal Roots Hospitality, announced spring-inspired menu updates, including several dishes featuring branzino, a white-fleshed saltwater fish. Rio Grill in the Crossroads, for instance, will serve it skin-on with bacon cauliflower rice, broccoli and puttanesca, while Tappy’s on Highway 68 at Canyon del Rey is offering a pan-seared version with carrot, quinoa, shaved asparagus, cauliflower, liqueur-infused raisins and coconut cream sauce.

Also at the Rio, look for Dungeness crab cakes with Meyer lemon beurre blanc, Wagyu carpaccio with chimichurri aioli and manchego cheese, lamb shanks, duck confit tamales, and coppino.

Grilled lamb loin is on the menu at Tappy’s, as is grilled California peach salad, and Mediterranean hummus with zaatar.

At Montrio on Calle Principal in downtown Monterey, agnolotti pasta is stuffed with artichoke and fontina cheese, and Hamachi crudo is served with passionfruit vinaigrette. The restaurant also has dishes with Dungeness crab and brazeno, and seared scallops with creamy sweet pea risotto.

Visit riogrill.com, tappy.com and montrio.com for information and reservations.

GBBS scones and cream

The Great British Bake Shop in Salinas is upping its offerings with the introduction of boxes of scones, house-made clotted cream and jam.

The essential element in Britain’s tradition of afternoon tea, the GBBS scones & cream are served with a variety of preserves and Devonshire clotted cream.

Visit robatagrillcarmel.com.

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Farmers market demo
Healthy chef Maria Gonzales will demonstrate how to make a spring-inspired vegetarian sandwich at the Marina farmers market April 23 from noon to 1 p.m.
Gonzales was born and raised on the Central Coast and owns Green Thumb Organics and Cali Dawg, which features vegan hot dogs. She graduated from Le Cordon Bleu in San Francisco and has become an expert in plant-based cuisine. The Marina farmers market is organized by nonprofit Everyone’s Harvest and takes place at 215 Reservation Road at the corner of Vista Del Camino in the Marina Village Shopping Center every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

How to make a charcuterie board
Cru Winery in the Santa Lucia Highlands will host a class May 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on how to make a charcuterie board. The session will take place at the winery at 37500 Foothill Road in Soledad that was previously home to Paraiso Springs.
An expert from The Grazing Table will guide guests through selecting the best meats, cheeses, and other accompaniments for a charcuterie board that perfectly complements the Cru wines they’ll be tasting—of course. Participants will create their own boards from various meats and cheeses like prosciutto, salami, brie, cheddar and other gourmet choices.
Then, when the exercise is done, everyone will sit down to enjoy their creations alongside more Cru wines.

WINE
From previous page

French cream tea is clotted cream, which is made by heating full-fat cow’s milk using steam or a water bath and then leaving it in shallow pans to cool slowly. During this time, the cream rises to the surface and forms clots, hence the name.
Owners Lesley Everett and Chris Swanson are selling boxes with two English scones, strawberry jam and clotted cream for $12.50, and they can be purchased online at thegreatbritishbakeshop.com, with availability beginning April 24. The shop is located at 8 W. Gabilan St.

Farmers market demo
Healthy chef Maria Gonzales will demonstrate how to make a spring-inspired vegetarian sandwich at the Marina farmers market April 23 from noon to 1 p.m.
Gonzales was born and raised on the Central Coast and owns Green Thumb Organics and Cali Dawg, which features vegan hot dogs. She graduated from Le Cordon Bleu in San Francisco and has become an expert in plant-based cuisine. The Marina farmers market is organized by nonprofit Everyone’s Harvest and takes place at 215 Reservation Road at the corner of Vista Del Camino in the Marina Village Shopping Center every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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and swing. Wednesday at 7 p.m.) 301 Alvarado St. Cypress Inn — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and pianist Gennady Loktionov and singer Debbie Davis (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.), The Andrea Carter Trio (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.) and singer Lee Durley and pianist Joe Indence (jazz, Thursday at 6 a.m.). Lincoln and Seventh. De Tierra Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist Bobcat Rob Armenti (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth. Deja Blue in Seaside — singer and guitarist Dan Conley (classical, Thursday at 7 p.m.) and composer Anthony Caramanica, drummer Anthony King (pop and r&b, Saturday at 3 p.m.), The Latin Jazz Collective (Sunday at 3 p.m.) and singer Darlene Coele Sena, bassist Kevin McCullough, bassist David Daniels and drummer Leon Joyce Jr. (jazz, Wednesday at 6 a.m.). 500 Broadway. Dust Bowl Brewing Co. in Monterey — Sage & Austin (acoustic, rock, Thursday at 5 p.m.). 290 Figueroa St. The Fantasy Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist Danial Cortes (Friday at 4 p.m.) 8940 Carmel Valley Road. Gusto Pasta and Pizza in Seaside — singer Lauri Hofer-Romero and guitarist Bruce Forman (jazz, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.). 1901 Fremont Blvd. Harrison Memorial Library — harpist Vivian Sarubbi (folk, Thursday at 4 p.m.). Ocean and Lincoln. The Henry Miller Library in Big Sur — Flat Sun Society and The Big Survivors celebrate Day Rock (Saturday at noon) and cellist Boris Belušanovic and guitarist Dimitri Bartunov (classical, Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.). 48603 Highway 1. Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist Dina Vera (jazz, Friday at 6 a.m.) and singer Saturday at 8 p.m. and Thursday at 7 a.m.). 120 Highlands Drive. The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — Andy Weis Band with pianist Bill Spencer and bassist Dan Robbins (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.). The Andy Weis Band with pianist Gary Meek and bassist Pete Lips (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.) and The Andy Weis Band with pianist Gary Meek and bassist Steve Ucello (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive. Intercontinental Hotel in Monterey — guitarist John Sherry (folk, rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 6 a.m.) and pianist Terrence Ferrell (Latin music, Sunday at 9 a.m.). 750 Cannery Row. The Playa Hotel — ﬁsh and chips (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 6 a.m., Sunday at 4 p.m.), Bud’s Bar, Camino Real and Eighth. The Links Club — The Vick Silva Band (rock, Friday at 7 p.m.) and Open Mic Night (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean. The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and guitarist Kip Allert (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist John Harris (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Daniel Cortes (Thursday at 6 a.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive. Lucy’s on Lighthouse in Pacific Grove — King Bee (rock, Saturday at 11 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave. Massa Tasting Room in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (60s folk, Sunday at noon.) 69 Carmel Valley Road. Midici Pizza in Monterey — singer Lauri Hofer-Romero and guitarist Bruce Forman (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.) and singer Miranda Perli and guitarist Adam Astrup (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St. Mission Ranch — singer and pianist Mandeline Edstrom (jazz, Friday through Sunday at 5 p.m.) and pianist Gennady Loktionov (jazz, Monday through Thursdays at 5 p.m.). 3620 Delores St. Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — singer Joe Indence (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist Scott Brown (jazz and pop, Saturday at 8 p.m.), singer Gary Meek (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), mandolinist Dave Holodiloff (bluegrass and jazz, Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m.) and singer and multi-instrumentalist Don Frechette (Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row. Puma Road at Portola Plaza in Monterey — Songbird Meadow (pop, blues and Latin, Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Joyce Sampson (Saturday at 5 p.m.) and guitarist Glenn Bell (jazz, Sunday at 5 a.m.). 281 Alvarado St. Rio Grill — singer and guitarist Paul Behan (Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Johan Sotelo (Saturday at noon) and singer and guitarist Scott Slaughter (Saturday at noon). Crossroads shopping center. Rockfish Harbor Grill in Monterey — singer and guitarist Pat Lefebvre (Saturday at 7:30 p.m.). 201 N. Main St. Wharf. The Sardine Factory in Monterey and multi-instrumentalist David Conley (pop and rock, Friday and Saturday, Tuesday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). 701 Wave St. Salty Sea Pub in Monterey — The John Michael Band (pop and rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), Vinyl Revival (rock and r&b, Saturday at 8 a.m.), Sage & Austin (acoustic rock, Wednesday at 7 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Dan Frechette (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row. The Mermaid in Monterey — Retroreconstruct (rock, Friday at 9 p.m.) and Jon Griffin & The Lightfighters (rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.). The Long Distance Flyers (classic rock, Monday at 9:30 p.m.). Victory Lane (classic rock, Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.) and 5 Star (rock and soul, Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row. Targy’s in Monterey — singer and guitarist Casey Frazer (Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and guitarist Mark Cereck (Saturday at noon) and singer and multi-instrumentalist Amazing experiences on the road. Suggested donation: $10. All proceeds to Gathering for Women. OBI is at 5716 Carmel Valley Road — parking is free. May 18 – Bridging Animals to People Class. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Awakening (522 Central Ave., Pacific Grove). This in-person long class provides solid tools to help you bridge the emotional frequency of the client, increasing personal healing and enhancing wellness. Text or call (831) 402-5330 or register at HealingTouchinB4You.com. May 19-21 – Healing Touch for Animals Level 1 Class. This class is for anyone who is interested in improving the lives of their animals through energy therapy. Class locations are the Center for Spiritual Awakening, 522 Central Ave., Pacific Grove, 19-20 May) and Sea Star Horse Sanctuary (531 Riley Ranch Road, Carmel – 21 May). Class days: 2-6 p.m.; 20-21 May. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Text or call (831) 402-5330 or register at HealingTouchinB4You.com. May 21 – Alasdair Fraser and The San Francisco Fiddlers. 3 p.m. at Carmel High School Performing Arts Center, 27990 N. Doris Watson Place, Carmel by the Sea. Tickets available soon at www.sfifiddles.org. See LIVE next page
One painter strikes a balance between styles, another opens gallery downtown

In a show that starts Friday at Gallery MAR Carmel, painter Michael Azgour explores the fertile creativity territory that exists between realism and abstraction. The gallery hosts a reception at 5 p.m.

A native of Huntington Beach, Azgour now lives in Krakow, Poland, although he occasionally teaches art classes at Stanford University.

My work hinges on the ambiguous space between fact and fiction,” the painter said. “We live in a time where truth is manipulated to such an extent that the very nature of the world is obscured. I integrate disparate formal elements — representational and abstract — in my work in order to exemplify the distinction between the real and the contrived.”

The owner of Gallery MAR, Thomas Cushman said he’s thrilled to display Azgour’s creations downtown.

“This work exemplifies what we like to bring to the art scene here on the Peninsula,” Cushman said. “It is current, it is contemporary, it is thought-provoking, well-crafted, has depth and is beautiful.”

The gallery is located on Dolores between Ocean and Seventh. gallerymacarmel.com

• Portraits of Big Sur People’

Thirty-seven years after she captured color portraits of more than 50 Big Sur locals, photographer and longtime South Coast resident Connie McCoy will present a pop-up display of the images Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Big Sur Grange Hall.

Presented by the Big Sur Historical Society and titled, ‘Portraits of Big Sur People,’ the show includes photos that were taken with a 4-by-5-inch film camera and printed using the Cibachrome process. The subjects include many prominent individuals who lived down the coast, including Esther Ewoldsen, Linus Pauling, Jeff Norman, Edmund Kara and Emil White. The subjects range in age from 5 (Connie’s son, Aaron Harlan), to their 90s (Blanco Diablo).

The exhibit even features a photo of “Robot,” an unforgotten character famous for his circus tricks and soapstone pipes.

“These portraits were originally shown in exhibits titled ‘Big Sur’s Own’ at the San Luis Obispo Art Center in 1987, and subsequently, at the Monterey Museum of Art in 1988,” McCoy explained. “The portraits showcase both well known and obscure individuals of Big Sur at a given point in time.”

McCoy, who will present a talk and slide show Saturday, is donating the collection to the Big Sur Historical Society.

The Grange Hall is located on Highway 1 just south of Rippleswood Resort — about 24 miles south of Rio Road.

• Art from the heart

A one-time local who recently returned after a decade-long hiatus, painter Marie-Claude Joron recently opened a gallery on San Carlos between Fifth and Sixth next to the Hog’s Breath Inn.

On Wednesday, the artist hung up a sign with the name of her new gallery: Galerie d’Art Marie-Claude Joron. She joins the ranks of local artist-owned galleries.

“This is the first time I’ve opened my own gallery,” Joron told The Pine Cone. “It’s just my art, and nobody else’s.”

A native of Montreal, the painter describes her art as “very large, colorful, spontaneous and abstract.”

“It’s always inspired by nature,” she explained. “It’s from the heart.”

To introduce her gallery, Joron plans to host a series of receptions each Saturday in May, with wine poured around 3 p.m. For more details, call (805) 722-0664 or visit mcjart.net.

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This week’s cover, located in Carmel, is presented by The Bambace Peterson Team of Compass. (See Page 2 RE)
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From page 2RE

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See ESCROWS page 9RE

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Naked defense of one of the world’s most treasured works of art

IT BOGLES my mind to see one of the world’s greatest works of art being verbally disparaged.

Michelangelo’s magnificent 500-year-old statue of David is the center of a controversy in a school district in Florida that culminated in the forced resignation of a charter school principal.

A parent complained that sixth-graders were exposed to pornography during a lesson on Renaissance art that included Michelangelo's sculpture. The school offers a classical education curriculum.

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

How do you do that without teaching the Renaissance? It is just more evidence of the death of common sense. The statue of David is called pornography, but drag queens bumping and grinding in front of five-year-olds is educational.

It’s been more than 10 years since I visited Italy. It was humbling to walk into historical places as if stumbling into the illustrated pages of a history book. Much of Italy is like that.

Amid all the beauty and wonders of that trip, the ones I saw in Florence are at the top of my list.

There he is

One goes to the Accademia dell’Arte specifically to see David. Other treasures, spellbinding in their own right, tease you. Then at the end of a corridor you hear the buzz of a murmuring crowd. Suddenly your head, as if on a swivel, twists. And there he is at the end of another corridor, dominating the domed room.

First thought: He is out of proportion. The hands are too big, his right hand dangling almost grotesquely against his thigh. Michelangelo was told the parapet would be high off the ground, so he compensated for the height difference by making David’s extremities larger. Viewed from the proper distance, everything would be in perspective.

Michelangelo portrays David before

See GERVASE, page SRE
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his confrontation with his enemy. This is a shepherd boy whose father had sent him with food for his older brothers, who were camped with the army before the Philistines. The Philistine champion, Goliath, had been taunting the Israelites for 40 days, challenging them to send a warrior to fight him in a “winner take all” battle. Goliath was 9 feet tall. His armor weighed 125 pounds. The sharp tip of his spear weighed more than 60 pounds. He saw David and sneered: “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks and stones? Come here and I’ll feed you to the birds of the air and the beasts of the fields.”

Ill-fitting armor

The complaining parent in Florida doesn’t understand that David’s nakedness is vital to the story. He was a teenager who may have weighed less than Goliath’s armor. But David was defiant: “I will kill you and take your head, and I will give the carcasses of your army to the fowls of the air that the earth may know there is a God in Israel.” It was this attitude Michelangelo carved from a piece of marble other artists had abandoned. One look at David’s eyes and you can see he understands what’s at stake. One errant stone, and the Israelites become subjects of the Philistines. The Bible tells us that David tried on armor. It hindered his movements, so he discarded it. David’s older brother, Eliab, criticized him: “Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness?” How knew condescend you are and how wicked your heart is. You came down only to watch the battle.”

King Saul told David, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him. You are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth.” But David told the king how he killed lions and bears that threatened his sheep. He replied to Saul: “The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”

Don’t dis the king

There is no fear in Michelangelo’s David. His nakedness shows that he needs only his pure faith to defeat Goliath. With all due respect to the Bible, I think the author of the book of Samuel may have missed a quote: “How dare you dis my king?” I hear David saying. David knocked down Goliath with one stone, used the giant’s own sword to kill him, and then cut off his head. The story doesn’t end there. The people’s exaltation over David’s victory angered King Saul. The people made him jealous of David and went into a rage. From that moment, he plotted to kill him.

The 20th-century Digital Michelangelo Project at Stanford University reveals that David’s left eye gazes forward while his right eye is focused on some distant spot, as if he could foresee Saul’s jealousy. Perhaps pornographic, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Michelangelo captured David’s naked faith and chiseled it into a masterpiece that has remained mesmerizing for five centuries.

Contact Jerry at jerrygervase@yahoo.com.
April 21, 2023 | The Carmel Pine Cone | 9RE

ESCROWS
From page 4RE

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THURSDAY, APRIL 6
Carmel Valley: Burglary to a commercial business on Center Street where electronics were taken.
Carmel area: Conducted a welfare check on a female Dolores Street resident. Nothing further.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found dog at Scenic and 13th.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle towed from Ocean west of Lincoln for having expired registration over six months.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle towed from Mission north of 10th for being abandoned for 72 hours.

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA:
Non-injury collision on Junipero Street.
Found diaper bag at Ocean and Junipero.
Check fraud reported at San Carlos and Seventh.
72-hour hold on a male and female who were arrested at Junipero and First at 1621 hours for possession of drug paraphernalia and driving on a suspended driver’s license.

SALE PENDING
JUNIPERO 4 SW OF ALTA, CARMEL

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA:
Assault reported on Junipero Street.
Report of a sewage leak at San Carlos and Fourth.
Pacific Grove: Incident report. Ammunition was brought in by a Bayview Avenue resident for destruction.
Pebble Beach: Victim on 17 Mile Drive reported receiving annoying phone messages.

CARMEL VALLEY:
A verbal domestic dispute was reported on Carmel Valley Road.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male and female were arrested at Junipero and First at 1621 hours for possession of drug paraphernalia and driving on a suspended driver’s license.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: A resident called the department to report a lost wallet and cell phone.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Commercial fire on Lincoln south of Ocean.
Big Sur: A domestic altercation occurred on Highway 1. A 48-year-old male was arrested.
Pebble Beach: A subject on Stevenson Drive was placed on a mental health hold.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 29-year-old male Walnut Creek resident was arrested on Ocean west of Dolores at 0026 for DUI. Released to a sober party.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject on Casanova was placed on a 72-hour hold.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Ongoing elder abuse at Dolores and Fifth involving neglect, fraudulent use of the victim’s credit cards and defrauding a public health benefit program.

LOOKOUT VIEWS FROM CARMEL VALLEY RANCH
Offered at $3,350,000
Sited high above the majestic oaks in the sought after gated community of Carmel Valley Ranch with lookout views across the golf course + down Carmel Valley. Offering privacy and space for family and friends. The statuesque vaulted ceilings call you to the homes views with entertaining and living space warmly surrounding you. Elegant limestone flooring encompasses the main living area. Two fireplaces, an expansive ipe deck, top of the line appliances, and quartz countertops add to your entertaining needs.

SUSAN CARDINALE | 831.277.7600
COLDWELL BANKER REALTY
susan.cardinale@cbnorcal.com | susancardinalerealestate.com
CALBRE#02045240

DAVID CRABBE 831.320.1109
david.crabbe@sir.com | DavidCrabbeRealEstate.com | DRE# 01306450

Main House 2 bed, 2 bath | Guest House 1 bed, 1 bath
1,693 sq.ft. | 4,000 sq.ft. lot | $2,350,000
Juniper4SWofAlta.com

SALE PENDING
JUNIPERO 4 SW OF ALTA, CARMEL
NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total $500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. Law state also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb.ca.gov or 1-800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than $500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board. The PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION requires household movers to include their PUC license number in their ads. Contact the PUC at licensing@cpc.ca.gov.
PINE CONE PRESTIGE REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIEDS

PROPERTY SWAP
ANYONE INTERESTED IN A PROPERTY SWAP? Picturesque ocean side houses (wonderful gardens) in New England for a house in Carmel or vicinity (Pacific Grove or Monterey). For information contact: paulousc@yahoo.com 831-375-2062.

RENTAL WANTED
PROFESSIONAL SINGLE FEMALE in her 40's working at the president. Looking for a mother in law unit/studio. Reasonable, non-smoker, no pets, rotating shifts. Outstanding credit. Contact 530-304-8155, Nina.almas74@gmail.com 815-304-8155

RENTAL WANTED
MATURE, RESPONSIBLE SINGLE MALE. Seeking a 1 bedroom cottage in town. Can provide a Cashier/Manager role on a property or estate. Mark 831-325-4343

PINECONE PREMIUM REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIEDS

VACATION RENTALS
CARMEL - beach front, Bolt 2ba, beautiful, nautical, close to base. For reservations: firstcarmelbeachcottage.com 831-626-2800

WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER A VARIETY OF VACATION HOMES EXCEPTIONAL REAL ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGER CALIFORNIA LICENSED

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RENTAL WANTED
CARMEL - beach front, Bolt 2ba, beautiful, nautical, close to base. For reservations: firstcarmelbeachcottage.com 831-626-2800

We are pleased to offer a variety of vacation homes.
Exceptional rental properties and services.

CARMEL - beach front, Bolt 2ba, beautiful, nautical, close to base. For reservations: firstcarmelbeachcottage.com 831-626-2800

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Exceptional rental properties and services.

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MORE SALES
From page 9RE

Monterey (con’t.)
501 Figueroa LLC to Jackeline Zuazo
APN: 001-722-014
409 Congress Avenue — $1,575,000
Sandra Cardinale to Melissa Cardinale
APN: 001-473-002
912 Monterey Circle — $900,000
Sandra Cardinale to Melissa Cardinale
APN: 001-473-002
70 Forest Ridge Road unit 2 — $917,500
Dana Costa to Patricia Burke
APN: 014-151-002
1045 Cass Street — $1,149,000
Gregory Shuster to Patricia Burke
APN: 001-671-003

Monterey
712 Lobos Avenue — $1,258,000
Hernandez Cordoba and Allen Trust to Jose Martinez and

Pacific Grove
409 Congress Avenue, Pacific Grove — $1,575,000
Aimee Ramos
APN: 006-557-015
910 Short Street — $1,300,000
Craig and Karen Neyman to Timothy Coltrell and
Be Here Now Trust
APN: 006-347-006
409 Congress Avenue — $1,575,000
Sharon and Robert Badler to Prelag and
Bljana Spasic
APN: 006-464-008
Pebble Beach
4083 Los Altos Drive — $1,550,000
Dana Costa to Patricia Burke
APN: 006-464-008
1045 Cass Street — $1,149,000
Gregory Shuster to Patricia Burke
APN: 001-671-003

Monterey Peninsula Homes

Thinking of buying or selling a house in the Monterey Peninsula?
Be sure to use a realtor who advertises in The Pine Cone.
They care about the community ... and they care about you!
PACIFIC GROVE
www.PacificGroveJewel.com
Located just a few blocks from downtown Pacific Grove, this home features ample natural light, a cozy fireplace and a fenced in back yard.

NEW LISTING
MONTEREY
www.MontereyHaven.com
$2,395,000
This exquisite Californian Hacienda set on over an acre offers sweeping ocean and mountain views, an in-ground spa, multiple patios and lush gardens.

UNDER CONTRACT
PEBBLE BEACH
www.ParadiseOnPoppy.com
$9,950,000
This striking contemporary masterpiece overlooks the 14th hole of Poppy Hills Golf Course and boasts an extraordinary list of features.

JUST SOLD
CARMEL
www.LaRamblaByTheSea.com
$8,500,000
One of a kind luxury property in downtown Carmel featuring two ocean-view residences, a private 1,700 SqFt courtyard, plus two commercial units.

LUXURY RENTAL
PEBBLE BEACH
www.Stayat18.com
Inquire for Rental Pricing
This classic French Country, single level home is one of only five homes located on the legendary 18th hole of the famed Pebble Beach Golf Course.

SAN JUAN ISLAND, WA
www.SanJuanIslandEstate.com
$14,500,000
Sited above one of the most beautiful and dramatic seascapes in the world, this legendary oceanfront compound borders almost 1,000 feet of coastline.

JUST SOLD
SANTA CRUZ
www.PerfectionOnThePoint.com
$3,500,000
Perfectly Positioned on Pleasure Point. With one of Santa Cruz's best surf spots just outside your front door, this front line property with a 1,196 SqFt main house and charming 353 SqFt ADU building offers the ideal location.

UNDER CONTRACT
PEBBLE BEACH
www.ParadiseOnThePoint.com
$2,395,000

STEADYGROWTH
INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITY

COLDWELL BANKER
1616 The Carmel Pine Cone April 21, 2023

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE.
GLOBAL CONNECTIONS.