Dem bigwigs urge local party to restore order

By KELLY NIX

U.S. REP. Jimmym Panetta and four other elected officials are calling for members of the Monterey County Democratic Central Committee to “work together” after recent infighting has rocked the group.

In an April 11 letter to central committee Chair Karen Araujo and its executive board members, Panetta, Rep. Zoe Lofgren, former Rep. Sam Farr and state senators Anna Caballero and John Laird urged “everyone to work together” to achieve the party’s goals.

“Don’t lose sight” Panetta and the officials referenced many of Koller’s concerns and urged the group to address the issues, adding it was their hope that “everyone on the Monterey County Democratic Central Committee will not lose sight of its importance as the local organizing arm for our party’s electoral work.”

They cited women’s rights to abortion, effects of climate change, and affordable housing as the local organizing arm for our party’s electoral work.

Some issues, including David’s need for frequent rest control over his arms and legs, and “requires adult assistance in all aspects of his daily life, including feeding, toileting, dressing, and navigating his classroom and campus.”

Those issues, including David’s need for frequent rest and control over his arms and legs, were discussed, and the conversation moved on to other topics, and that’s what his parents expected Carmel Unified to provide when the family moved to the area in April 2022.

The message comes after a March 28 meeting in which the committee was urged to address the issues, adding it was their hope that “everyone on the Monterey County Democratic Central Committee will not lose sight of its importance as the local organizing arm for our party’s electoral work.”

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“Charlie is so entertaining. He’s funny and loving and in control, like me,” said his person. “I’d love it if he were a little purse puppy, but he’s just not. I could never bear the thought of living without a dog. They rule our lives. We sleep in their bed and we live in their house.”

Charlie has a great disposition, loves all people and does well with other dogs and cats. Kids are good in his book too! He is seeking a kind, patient adopter that will continue his puppy training and socialization. He already walks nicely on a leash. For an online application, visit www.animalfriendsrescue.org.

Sent by Lisa Crawford Watson
More than $2 million to restore marsh habitat in Elkhorn Slough

By KELLY NIX

MORE THAN 90 percent of the state’s wetlands have disappeared over the last 100 years, according to state officials, but a Monterey County estuary rich in wildlife is being restored, thanks to more than $2 million in taxpayer funds.

On April 21, the Elkhorn Slough Foundation announced that NOAA approved $2.2 million in funds to pay for a “far-reaching restoration initiative at Elkhorn Slough.”

“The funding will bring back species across an entire coastal landscape, from coastal grasslands to tidal salt marsh, eelgrass beds to native oysters,” the foundation said.

The restoration will be specific to what’s called the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is owned and managed by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife in partnership with the foundation and NOAA.

The marshes in the slough play a key part in an ecosystem, which is home to 340 bird, 550 marine invertebrate, and 102 fish species. However, over the last 100 years, the estuary, according to the foundation, has been “highly altered,” with loss of habitat due to diking and pollution.

Species such as pickleweed, eelgrass, and oysters play important roles in supporting fish, birds and sea otters, as well as in taking up carbon dioxide and pollutants.

“Bringing back these species is critical because they each form the foundation of a distinctive coastal habitat, and this effort will employ a unique restoration approach for each species,” the group explained.

OYSTERS, too

The restoration project seeks to return salt marsh habitat, much of which has been lost because of diking tidal waters, which led soils to dry out and sink too low for marsh growth after the dikes were breached.

“We are building this marsh high enough to last in the face of rising seas, long after most other marshes in the estuary have drowned,” said the reserve’s tidal wetland program director Monique Fountain, who leading the restoration project as part of a larger marsh restoration initiative.

Coastal prairie and eelgrass will also be restored. And because oysters in Elkhorn Slough have had “no successful reproduction in the wild since 2012,” scientists will

See SLOUGH page 23A
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The gavel falls
Verdicts, pleas and sentences announced by
Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni

March 29 — A jury found Castroville resident Christopher Smith, 40, guilty of possession for sales of methamphetamine. The jury also found that Smith possessed over a kilogram by weight of methamphetamine. The Hon. Judge Jared A. Jefferson presided over the three-day trial. On Aug. 16, 2022, Detective Michael Vovinkeln and Detective Matthew Costa from the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office executed a search warrant at Smith’s residence. Vovinkeln deployed his K9 Olive to assist in locating contraband within the residence. Costa located a shoebox on top of Smith’s dresser and discovered approximately 1,215 kilograms of suspected methamphetamine in the shoebox. Other items discovered in Smith’s residence, including sales of the drugs were a scale, a Polymer80 P90 jig used for manufacturing firearms, and a gun holster. Costa collected the contraband for further testing. A download of Smith’s cell phone showed further evidence of drug sales, including active drug transactions and communications with his drug runners. Jefferson will sentence Smith on April 26, 2023. He faces up to six years in the Monterey County jail and a fine.

March 29 — The Hon. Stephanie Hulsey sentenced Angel Del Fino of Salinas to 50 years in prison for committing five counts of a forcible lewd act upon a child under 14 years old. All the offenses are violent felonies and considered “strikes” under California’s three strikes law. Carmona will also be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life. The defendant repeatedly sexually assaulted Jane Doe, a female household member, over the course of several years. In May of 2022, Doe found the courage to tell her mother about the sexual abuse that had been going on since she was 9 years old. Doe’s mother believed her daughter confronted the defendant, and recorded him admitting what he did to Doe. This recording became important evidence for the prosecution of this case. As part of his plea, the defendant also admitted that he took advantage of a position of trust to commit these crimes. Not only was Doe violated, but her entire family was betrayed by the defendant’s actions and violation of trust. Hulsey commended Doe for having the courage to disclose what happened to her and noted that she is “going to survive, and she is going to have a bright future.”

This case was investigated by Salinas police officer Byron Gansen and D.A. investigators Terri Edwards and Pablo Añarde. Doe and her mother were assisted by victim advocate Estella Sanchez as well as victim services dog Norma Jeane.

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Mow Mow 14 years old

SPCA of Monterey County Chasing Links
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Drunk man resists being helped
Drunken man resists being helped

PAGE 6
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A MAN who filed a lawsuit against the estate of a little league coach claiming the man sexually molested him when he was a teenager has settled the complaint out of court, according to court records. The unidentified Maryland man, who was 30 when he filed the suit, made the claim against the estate of David Stamm in October 2022 alleging Stamm assaulted him when he was 14 years old. Stamm, of Pacific Grove, had been charged in 2021 with lewd acts on two boys, 12 and 13, in 2005 and 1998 through 1999. While charges were pending, Stamm, 59, killed himself.

**Family vacation**

The man’s lawsuit sought an unspecified amount of money exceeding $25,000. Court documents, however, indicate that the matter had been resolved with Stamm’s estate.

“The parties have reached a settlement in this matter,” according to a minute order following a March 28 hearing before Monterey County Superior Court Judge Thomas Wills.

The terms of the settlement were not included in the court documents, and such out-of-court resolutions are usually kept secret. Attorneys for both parties filed to dismiss the lawsuit on April 12.

The victim — who used John Doe as an alias — alleged in his lawsuit that he met Stamm during a family vacation in 2003 when he was 11 years old, and that once he returned home, he and Stamm continued to correspond.

“Such conversations quickly became sexual in nature,” according to his lawsuit. Stamm and the boy had frequent, sexually explicit conversations, and Stamm would send him pornographic content, which “often depicted subjects who appeared to be young children themselves, according to the man’s suit.”

In 2005, when the boy was 14, and he family moved to California, and during that summer, he claimed to have “suffered a number of sexual batteries at the hands of David Russell Stamm,” which he said left him with “lasting emotional distress.”

A separate dispute over Stamm’s estate was also resolved. The estate included a Pacific Grove house worth more than $900,000.

Stamm had been charged with molesting a third boy in 2000, but a 2008 trial resulted in a mistrial when the jury couldn’t reach a unanimous verdict. He faced a second trial in 2009, but it also resulted in a deadlocked jury.

Peter Anthony Piton, who said he was the first of Stamm’s victims to report him, but who was not the plaintiff in the recent lawsuit, told The Pine Cone that while he’s “at ease knowing” the other “survivors can now move forward.

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“...survivors can now move forward.”

— Peter Anthony Piton

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RESIDENTS APPLYING for permits to remodel their houses, install water heaters, cut down trees or undertake any of the other practically innumerable projects or changes that require a permit can now pay their fees online by credit or debit card, the city council decided earlier this month, and the system went online April 10.

Prior to that decision, residents and business owners applying for permits had to take a check to city hall or call in with a credit card number that would be entered by hand at the end of the day, planning director Brandon Swanson told the council April 4. Not only is entering payments manually labor intensive, he noted, but the setup meant people could only pay during business hours.

While much of humanity has long enjoyed the convenience of paying online for everything from property taxes and DMV registration renewals to gifts, clothing, necessities and groceries, the shift at the city was prompted by a state code that was just revised to eliminate the provision that only checks could be accepted for certain permits.

**Code compliance**

“Every three years, the state adopts new building model codes to establish uniform standards for construction and maintenance,” Swanson said, with the most recent changes affecting all new permit applications as of Jan. 1. The California Administrative Code “was amended to remove the check-only payment method” so it would not conflict with other parts of the code.

To comply, Swanson said, the planning and building department must begin accepting online payments by credit or debit card and pass on the 3.5 percent service charge for processing them to the public. He needed the city council’s approval to impose the charge, since the fee schedule for this budget year only allows the city to charge 2.5 percent on payments made with plastic.

Councilwoman Karen Ferlito asked if Swanson had researched the ability to pay by electronic check, with the money drawn directly from the applicant’s bank account, an option offered by other government agencies that generally costs much less.

Mayor Dave Potter agreed that 3.5 percent can add up to a lot when permit fees are high, and city administrator Chip Rerig said he would look into it. Ferlito added that she was supportive, either way. “Let’s make it as easy as possible,” she said. “We don’t need people running all over town in their car to run over here to write a check.”

The council unanimously approved the change, and Swanson announced a few days later that “this exciting news means that you will no longer need to come into city hall to pay” for planning, building, encroachment or tree permits.

“Not only does this mean the entire permit process can be done online, saving you a trip to city hall, but it also means you can complete your transaction anytime you want, rather than only during business hours,” he said.

Other than the new “submit payment” button on the screen, Swanson added, nothing else about the online permit system has changed.
‘Yes for Carmel’ is no more

By MARY SCHLEY

THREE DECADES after a group of residents came together to rally for a political measure and morphed into a social club after the election, the organization is disbanding due to lack of interest and support, longtime Yes for Carmel board member Merv Sutton said this week.

“Quite a few” factors played into the board’s decision to dissolve the group, which has staged events for its members and guests — including an annual Christmas party at the Cypress Inn — and supported local charities and groups with small grants and gifts for nearly 30 years.

“One was the lack of support,” he said. “When we started, we had 300 members, and now we have 170.”

Holding parties has become more difficult as venues have increased their site fees and other charges, according to Sutton.

“That’s been a problem,” he said.

End of an era

And, in spite of repeated efforts to encourage more members to join the Yes board, no one has stepped up to replace those who have resigned or passed away.

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“A shortage of members — not to mention people to serve on the board”

he said, and the lackluster response is further evidence the time is right to close the books on Yes for Carmel, he said.

“It’s been a lot of fun, and we’ve done a lot of nice things,” he said, especially thanks to late Carmel resident Erl Lagerholm, who left his fortune to numerous local groups when he died, including Yes for Carmel, which received $25,000.

“People have been very generous, and we’ve done well, but I think it’s just time,” Sutton said. “It’s kind of bittersweet.”

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JARROD PENNER, CPA
Jarrod is an Equity Partner and Partner-in-Charge of the Monterey office where his areas of expertise include assurance and tax services for non-for-profit, local government, small business and construction industry clients. Jarrod grew up in a small agriculture town in California’s Central Valley. Jarrod attended California State University, Monterey Bay, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting. Jarrod and his wife, Leslie, currently reside in Monterey with their two sons. When Jarrod is away from the office, he enjoys spending time with his family and supporting various causes on the Monterey Peninsula.

Maggie Hilburn, The ‘Princess’ of Harmony House
October 25, 2006 - April 6, 2023
SHE CAME TO US on March 9, 2003, in first class on a flight from Oklahoma City to San Jose, accompanied by a board member of Lucky Star Cavalier Rescue. She was two-and-a-half years old, having 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 pretty good lottery ticket!” Don became treasurer of Lucky Star many years ago 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 had freckles on her nose and beautiful Blenheim coloring, which she remarkably maintained through to the end of her 16 and a-half year life.

Maggie was well-known in Carmel-by-the-Sea as she frequented the dog-friendly restaurants (including Porta 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. She loved her Friday nights at Patisserie Boissiere while her parents dined there, and in her earlier years, her trips to Yountville and then regular trips to the Delphinus Bay Resort, just north of Pismo Beach. She loved her first love, Leslie “Harrington” and, after Leslie passed on, then her new and current boyfriend, Posha Harrington, as well as his Dad and Mom, who doted over Maggie, too.

She and Posha enjoyed their weekly Wednesday or Thursday afternoon outings at the Crossroads with their Dads, as those who passed by would marvel at “Princess Maggie” and a table of friends.

Maggie is missed by her parents, Carol & Don, her “aunt” Karen, her “aunt” Marca and “uncle” Glenn, and many dear friends from Texas and New York and many neighbors and others in and around Carmel who would see her walking many times a day on Dolores Street. She was a wonderful “Princess” who brought joy to us all. Rest in peace, sweet and wonderful girl.

Donations in Memory of Maggie Hilburn can be made to: Lucky Star Cavalier Rescue, Inc., P.O. Box 7054, Carmel, CA 93923 or through the website: Luckystarcavalierrescue.org.
Supervisors in favor of ‘dark skies’

By CHRIS COUNTS

A GLOBAL campaign to reduce light pollution at night, the dark sky movement is picking up steam in Monterey County — as evidenced by a proclamation the county’s board of supervisors made last week declaring it “International Dark Sky Week.”

While nighttime lighting is an essential component of modern living, advocates of darker skies say they’re not just making it easier to enjoy the stars, but also to help people sleep better and be healthier.

According to the supervisors’ proclamation, Monterey county “is blessed with many excellent areas of dark sky at night where residents and visitors can enjoy viewing stars, planets, and the Milky Way.” It also recognizes that “maintaining dark skies has been shown to be beneficial to humans and animals.”

At the April 18 supervisors meeting, 5th District Supervisor Mary Adams brought up the subject and introduced John Heyl, who has helped lead local efforts to raise awareness about light pollution.

“This is one of those issues that’s hard not to be behind,” said Heyl, who is also a board member for the Carmel Valley Association. “It’s as simple as turning off your light switch, and looking up and seeing the stars. In many areas of the country, you can...”
Novel holiday will be observed this weekend

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THERE ARE made-up holidays for everything. Why, this coming week alone, there are days dedicated to the Pony Express, rats, flash drives and new beers. But sometimes, one of those holidays speaks directly to the soul.

Do you prefer reading materials that don’t shut down during a power outage? Does the smell of a bookstore make you slightly giddy? Is the sight of a smiley face on the side of another cardboard box from a faraway, faceless outlet grazing on your buy-local sensibilities? Well, April 29 is Independent Bookstore Day. In fact, it’s the 10th edition of the event sponsored by the American Booksellers Association.

River House Books in the Crossroads shopping center is partying from noon to 4 p.m. with “music, prizes, treats, great book sales and fun for all,” said bookstore manager Debra BatesGavlak in an email. You might also venture out to Carmel Valley, because Kesley Boyte, the new owner of Olivia & Daisy at 13766 Center Street, is looking forward to meeting readers and showing off her recently revamped shop.

Still plenty

Of course, downtown you’ll find Pilgrim’s Way (Dolores between Fifth and Sixth), where, co-owner Cynthia Fernandez said, “We celebrate Independent Bookstore Day every day.” She invites everyone to celebrate “the revival of real bookstores giving real recommendations from real people!”

But be honest — you didn’t really need an excuse to go book shopping, did you?

Fifth Avenue gets another fix

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A STREET that’s been ripped up more than once during various construction projects was under the jackhammer again last week, when public works crews tore out a section of hazardous sidewalk and curb that had been pushed up by the roots of a large cypress tree. Workers removed and reconstructed the damaged concrete curb, which doesn’t have the river-rock facing that many curbs in downtown do, and reset the pavers.

“After many weeks of cleaning up tree debris, our hardworking street crews were excited to be doing something different — street work,” public works director Bob Harary observed.

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Hikers, lace up your shoes —
Big Sur’s most popular trail reopens

By CHRIS COUNTS

THE BUSIEST hiking trail in Big Sur, the Pine Ridge Trail, has reopened, giving locals and visitors somewhere else to recreate down the coast.

Hiking options had been severely limited in recent months due to storm damage along Highway 1, which has curtailed access to many trailheads.

Los Padres National Forest officials recently announced the reopening of the trail, which travels 23 miles over steep and spectacular terrain from China Camp along Tassajara Road, to Pfeiffer Big Sur park.

In early April, a contract trail crew funded by the U.S. Forest Service teamed up with volunteers from the Ventana Wilderness Alliance to repair sections of the trail that were in poor shape or blocked by fallen trees. “The intrepid crew was supported by packers who used their team of horses and mules to convey kitchen gear, food and tools to Terrace Creek Camp and backhauled it up to the Coast Ridge at the end of the hitch,” reported the VWA, which plays a key role in keeping trails open on local federal land.

Was impassable

According to Mike Chamberlain, executive director of the VWA and a Carmel Valley resident, the recent week long effort included repairing and improving 1.2 miles of the Pine Ridge Trail, reconstructing a 50-yard section of the path that was impassable, and removing brush along a spur trail that leads to a popular summer-time destination, Ventana Camp.

Chamberlain told The Pine Cone he’s thrilled to see the trail reopened. “We’re incredibly proud of the work our volunteers and hired staff did get this trail open,” he said.

The recent clearance of a slide on state park property near the west end of the trail also made the reopening of the path possible.

Remembering Mom with a card or two

NO MOTHER-CHILD relationship is perfect, but most folks owe the woman who brought them into the world and stuck by them until they launched at 18 or 21, at least a Mother’s Day card and a healthy helping of gratitude.

Some mourn, though, don’t get to spend the second Sunday in May with family. Those whose worlds have shrunk to the walls and grounds of a nursing home can find the day disheartening, particularly if everyone around them is getting cards, flowers and visits.

That’s where the Alliance on Aging’s 30-year-old “I Remember Mama” program comes in. Each year, the Salinas-based organization collects homemade Mother’s Day cards from donors and distributes them in person at nursing facilities throughout Monterey County.

“These cards bring smiles and tears of joy and remind these special women that they have not been forgotten,” said Nicki Pesculli, the agency’s marketing manager. Cards can be of any size, and while the Alliance prefers they be in an envelope, it’s not a requirement.

Sounds like a great weekend project for some creative adults — or kids. To donate cards, mail or drop them off to Alliance on Aging at 236 Monterey St., Salinas, CA, 93901.

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The office is located in Oldtown, and the deadline is May 8.

RICHARD MACDONALD

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SPCA: HOW TO HELP BABY OPOSSUMS
By KELLY NIX

It’s awful hard being a baby opossum, but SPCA Monterey County is doing all it can to make life easier for the little marsupials. The nonprofit organization is caring for 20 opossum babies it rescued recently, including many that were found orphaned in people’s backyards.

“Some were rescued after their mother was attacked by dogs or cats,” SPCA Monterey County spokeswoman Beth Brookhouser said.

“One was found with a rodent trap stuck to its hand and will likely require one finger to be amputated,” she added.

Female opossums every spring hold babies in their pouches until they grow strong and healthy. But sadly, some mother opossums — which are slow-moving animals — are hit by cars or attacked by dogs as they forage for food, and their babies cannot survive without being rescued by humans.

“Tragically, many more slowly starve or freeze to death in their mother’s pouch after they’re hit by cars,” Brookhouser said.

“Anatomy apparent”

However, the SPCA urges people to help the little animals.

“If you hit an opossum with your car, or see one lying on the side of the road, and if it is safe to stop, please check on the opossum,” the organization said, including some tips.

If the animal is alive but injured, the SPCA asks that people call the organization at (831) 264-5427 or visit spcamc.org/wildlife. If it appears “recently deceased, and you are in a location safe from other vehicles,” please check to see if the opossum is male or female,” Brookhouser said.

“The animals’ anatomy is “easily apparent,” she said.

“If the opossum is female, use gloves and a towel, rag, or washcloth to gently open the pouch and check for babies,” Brookhouser explained. “They can be as small as honeybees, but they will be pink and squirming. If you find babies, please call us for help. Please don’t attempt to remove the babies yourself, as you could seriously injure their tiny mouths. Be sure to always wash your hands afterwards.”

Last year, the SPCA cared for 40 opossum babies after their mothers were hit by cars, and an additional 90 babies who needed rescuing because of other accidents.

SPCA Monterey County

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see the Milky Way at night. Preserving that seems to us to be a worthwhile activity.”

The proclamation observes that the county adopted construction exterior lighting design guidelines in 2016 that are consistent with the principles adopted by the International Dark Sky Association, which is leading the global campaign against light pollution.

Bank nixes ‘glare bomb’

Joining Heyl in his efforts to educate people about light pollution, Meredith Nole is a lighting expert who has worked with locals to make their lighting less obtrusive. She complimented Chase Bank in the Crossroads shopping center as an example of a local business taking light pollution seriously. Previously, the bank’s security lights were creating what Nole described as a “glare bomb.”

“Folks living in the area were having glare all over the place every night,” Nole reported. “Chase Bank did the right thing by changing their light fixtures to eliminate the glare.”

To raise local awareness of light pollution, Nole said she and others held two workshops on the topic recently at the Carmel Valley Library. According to the Tucson-based International Dark Sky Association, which was founded in 1988 by a pair of astronomers, “research suggests that artificial light at night can negatively affect human health, increasing risks for obesity, depression, sleep disorders, diabetes, breast cancer and more.”

“Experiencing the night sky provides perspective, inspiration, and leads us to reflect on our humanity and place in the universe,” its website reads.

The group works to encourage less light pollution by certifying that specific places, communities, parks, sanctuaries and reserves “have been protected through ‘responsible lighting policies and public education.’

Twelve national parks — including Joshua Tree and Death Valley — have been certified by the group. Last year, National Geographic did an extensive article on the rise of “dark sky tourism” at national parks, which have installed telescopes, and are offering night sky interpretive programs and guided full moon hikes. As you can imagine, certifying a town is trickier than certifying a park because of the sheer number of lighting fixtures, but Flagstaff and Sedona, Ariz., and Ketchum, Idaho, made the list. By far, the highest number of certified sites are in Utah and Arizona. The only California sites listed are located in the southeast corner of the state.

Problem growing locally

According to the Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy, Monterey County, like many larger metropolitan areas, faces “a growing problem with light pollution.”

“A critical factor in locating the MIRA observatory in Monterey County was its clear skies,” the observatory reported. “But the light pollution in the Central Coast has increased dramatically in the last few years.”

MIRA reports that the worst sources of light pollution locally are the coastal cities and Salinas, which may seem obvious, but they said another heavy light polluter is the pair of correctional facilities in Soledad. “Light pollution from these sources now crosses the mountains into Carmel Valley and spreads the length of the Salinas Valley,” the observatory added.

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EXPERT
From page 1A

whom asked for more information from city hall about what had gone wrong and why.

Pacific Grove community development director Anastacia Wyatt told The Pine Cone in March that Baird + Driskell was let go because it had completed only eight pages of the housing document and that it acknowledged it was “unable” to fulfill the terms of the contract and produce the report on time.

Went without pay

However, a March 15 email message from Driskell to Rubens indicates that Pacific Grove’s relationship with the firm had long been problematic, and that P.G. didn’t pay it for about eight months. Driskell also said that city staff for months was unresponsive to requests for information.

While the consultant’s agreement with P.G. specified the city would pay within 30 days of invoicing, Driskell said that didn’t happen, which he said was “very much outside the contract terms.”

“It is not often that we work for nearly eight months without payment from a client,” Driskell said in the email, which was among thousands of pages of documents obtained by citizens Inge Daumer and Jane Haines via public records requests.

In the same message, Driskell said that he pushed Wyatt on Dec. 5, 2022, requesting that she provide feedback on the first of five chapters of the housing element, but that he didn’t get a response from the city until Feb. 25 — about three months later.

Driskell went on to say that his firm expected “the full participation and timely response of city staff to requests for input,” and suggested that Pacific Grove did not provide that. It is unfathomable to us that we would develop on our own a policy document that will lead to the most significant land use and development policy changes in Pacific Grove in generations without the full participation and utmost attention from” Wyatt and others at city hall, he said.

Driskell called working with Pacific Grove “challenging, to say the least,” as it underwent “three leadership transitions” and “months without staff in key roles to provide us with direction or to even respond to requests for basic information.”

“We have worked consistently to provide the city with high quality work products, reliable advice and expert guidance,” Driskell told Rubens, expressing regret that the relationship ended on a “sour note.”

While Driskell recognized Wyatt’s “frustration” with the housing plan process, he said, “from where we sit, her frustration is grossly misplaced.”

The Pine Cone asked city manager Ben Harvey about its relationship with Baird + Driskell, including why it did not pay the company for eight months. Harvey responded with a statement.

“The city terminated its professional services agreement with Community Planning Collaborative [formerly Baird + Driskell] in March of 2023 because they were unable to deliver an adequate draft housing element document,” Harvey said.

The city has paid the company “for all services rendered,” he added.

In late February, Pacific Grove paid Driskell $88,156 for work dating back to April 2022.

Driskell told The Pine Cone this week that his company and the city had “differences of perspective related to approach, content and timing that were compounded by delays in receiving information” from city officials.

“That said, we respect the city’s right to terminate the contract and wish them well in completing this important planning work for the city’s future,” Driskell said.

Haines said she found that Driskell had turned in to the city more than 250 pages of the housing plan.

The new consultant hired to complete the housing plan has said it’s likely it won’t meet the state’s end-of-year deadline to turn it in.
SHOWERS
From page 1A

the bathhouse was out of order. “We felt so defeated and so upset. We got a motel room and took showers — it was the best thing in forever,” he said.

That’s when they decided to find a way to give homeless people more access to hot showers and improved hygiene. The Tortorellis connected with an Alameda-based nonprofit called Nurtureshower. Its website says it has designed mobile facilities that operate in 89 cities in seven countries and offers consulting, training and support to people who want to provide showers and/or hand-washing stations in their communities.

They located a place that sold mobile showers in Illinois, putting down $20,000 of their own money to order a three-unit rig in August 2022 and purchase a truck to haul it. It was ready about a month ago. “It was going to cost $6,000 to deliver it, so I said ‘let’s drive it here,’” offered Tortorelli.

Blizzard, tornado

But this winter’s weather was not ideal for hauling a trailer cross-country. “It took us 10 days. We went through a blizzard and just missed a tornado in Iowa. I thought, ‘This is a terrible idea — what did I get myself into? This isn’t going to work. This is so dumb.’”

The feeling was temporary, and on reflection, the couple was impressed with the rig’s quality. “It was much nicer than I expected,” he said.

They got home and set up the showers at the Salinas church the next day. A volunteer from First United Methodist took the reins — the couple said they want to work with organizations where volunteers already know the clientele — and, said Tortorelli, “When I saw the first person come out of the shower, it was all worth it.”

The 20-foot trailer comprises three 4-by-6-foot bathrooms with showers, sinks and toilets. The locations where they park provide the water, which is heated on the rig by propane. The trailer also has air conditioning and heat. Each user gets 15 minutes to wash up, then a volunteer thoroughly cleans and sanitizes the bathroom for the next person. Towels and soap, shampoo, etc. are provided. Two other volunteers, Karyn Heirl and Cathy Garza, take turns doing the laundry. The used water is disposed of at an RV dump site in Salinas.

The Tortorellis moved from Carmel to Toro Park a few years ago, and said they’re grateful that Lopez Liquors and Fine Wines gives them a secure place to park the bathrooms-on-wheels.

They financed the truck and rig to the tune of about $125,000 and are seeking donations and grants to pay for them. Sara added, “Our main focus for grants or donations is to be able to have employees that can take the trailer out full time,” since Nick is taking time off from work to drive it around. If you’d like to help, you can visit their website at refreshstart.org.

Sara, a lawyer for the California Department of
Volunteers give Forest Theater a spring cleaning it really needed

MORE THAN a dozen volunteers from three local Rotary clubs, CSUMB, the Girl Scouts and Carmel Cares spent their weekend pulling weeds that had sprung up in rain-induced bounty among the 1,100 native plants and flowers volunteers planted on theater grounds last November.

According to city officials, the offending vegetation and other debris amounted to more than 600 pounds by the end of the day. Carmel Cares founder Dale Byrne said the volunteers included Sherry and Frank Williams, Loren Steck, Geoff Arnold, Robert Slawinski and others, and their efforts were part of an overall goal of getting the theater and its grounds ready for the upcoming play, “Something Rotten.”

“The plants are growing pretty well now and will look pretty amazing by mid-summer,” Byrne said. “Next year, it will be spectacular.”

He said he planned to meet this week with the contractor who will be installing ADA pathways at the theater, along with a pad for a new picnic table.
Mountain lion lounges in oak near C.V. home

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE THE sight of a cat in a tree often triggers a rescue-by-ladder, a local resident found one recently that wasn't worth the trouble. The discovery happened last Friday afternoon in rural Carmel Valley.

"On Friday afternoon, our German shepherd was barking up an oak at something and I went out there expecting to look up and see a treed turkey or squirrel," reported Lane Olson, who lives about 1.5 miles up Robin-son Canyon Road. "I was quite surprised to instead look up at a massive cougar staring down at us."

Olson said the oak is about 40 feet from her house. "After backing up a ways, I got some photos [one is displayed below] of it camouflaged in the tree," she said. "The woman and her parents watched the mountain lion, which didn't seem to worry about all the attention."

"When I went back out to get a couple more photos, it didn't seem to be bothered whatsoever," she said. "It probably spent another 30 minutes reclining there before it headed west down the hill."
LYNDALL ANNE DEMERE
1937 – 2023

Lyndall Anne Demere, age 75, of Carmel, California passed away on March 25, 2023, from cancer. She was born in Washington D.C. on December 20, 1947, to Loraine Simms Dingee and George M. Dingee, and grew up in Arlington, Virginia. Lyndall was an avid scholar and teacher throughout her life. She earned undergraduate degrees and a Ph.D in psychology at Temple University, where she realized the power of working with individuals, as well as in a group setting. She furthered her training at the The Family Therapy Institute in Rockville, MD, Euselite Institute in Big Sur, CA, The Center for Grandfather Coyote in NY, NJ, and CA, and the Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, NY. She earned master’s and doctoral degrees in metaphysics, and became a board certified pastoral counselor from the University of Metaphysics in Sedona, AZ.

Lyndall was devoted to the practice of truth, spiritual principles and selfless service to others. She loved people who love God, no matter the denomination. She worked with individuals, as well as in a group setting. She furthered her training at the The Family Therapy Institute in Rockville, MD, Euselite Institute in Big Sur, CA, The Center for Grandfather Coyote in NY, NJ, and CA, and the Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, NY. She earned master’s and doctoral degrees in metaphysics, and became a board certified pastoral counselor from the University of Metaphysics in Sedona, AZ.

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Lyndall believed that prayer is one of the best gifts that we can receive. There is no cost, just rewards. One of her channeled meditations focused on the joyful, sparkling hearts that are in each of us. Lyndall believed that prayer is one of the best gifts that we can receive. There is no cost, just rewards. One of her channeled meditations focused on the joyful, sparkling hearts that are in each of us. Lyndall believed that prayer is one of the best gifts that we can receive. There is no cost, just rewards.

A Memorial Mass will be held at the Carmel Mission at 10 a.m. on May 19th, followed by a Celebration of Life at 4068 Rio Road. Please RSVP to celebratinglyndalleding@gmail.com.

My Father, Dale Gingerich, aka Pops Panda

NOVEMBER 11, 1934 – MAY 27, 2022

My beloved father passed away at 87 years of age and will be greatly missed. He was my business partner in Monterey Mattresses for 36 years. His legacy lives on with me, in Carmel, and the brand, Monterey Mattresses: Gingerich-Built, and is well-known around the Amish town of Kalona, Iowa and Iowa City, home to The University of Iowa.

My best friend and greatest supporter, I got him into the business when he moved out here after the Iowa farm economy became bad. Of Amish-Mennonite roots, he was a master woodworker and custom home builder, and owned quite literally the most progressive cattle farm in the state of Iowa, home to the first national soil conservation far. Of local note, he restored the historic original antique bar at Clint Eastwood’s Mission Ranch with a glimmer in his eye, he sense of humor was unperturbed. He would always put everyone before himself, and his generosity of spirit was also unperturbed.

He leaves behind my mother, Ruth, my four siblings, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren, all living around our family farm.

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The Carmel Pine Cone

Circulation: 23,000 readers get their Pine Cone online and 18,000 print copies are at more than 300 locations.
Robin Armour Rote, 80, died at home, Sunday April 2nd, 2023. After living for three years with Lewy Body Dementia, she flew away, enveloped in the love and admiration of her dear friends and family.

Born in Riverside, California to Glen and Evelyn Campbell, Robin grew up with the sweet scent of orange and magnolia blossoms in the air. With her lifelong school friends, she hopscotched, played jacks, rode bikes, cruised cars and be-bopped to all the music hits of the time. Described by her friends as “cute as a bug,” she was the belle of the ball and her “dance card” was always full.

After graduating from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1964, Robin moved to Carmel, California where she met her soon-to-be-husband, James W. Rote, and began her 40-plus-year teaching career.

From her early days teaching in Marina and Seaside, to Pacific Valley School on the South Coast of Big Sur and everywhere in between, Robin made a huge impact as a reading specialist, teaching and tutoring children with any learning challenge. She had a gift of knowing what her students needed to excel and gave them confidence to achieve success. So often her students would share, even years later, what an impact she made on them when they needed a creative, patient teacher and mentor to support and encourage them to overcome any obstacle.

One of Robin’s greatest attributes, aside from her gift as a teacher and devoted love for her family and close friends, was her ability to connect with others in a remarkably genuine way. Empathetic and non-judgmental, she seemed to know how to reach out to anyone she met, offering trust, compassion and her unique self.

Robin wore her heart on her sleeve and lived her life authentically with boundless love, energy and style. It was not uncommon for her to surprise people with sweet little bouquets from her lovingly tended garden, or to slip a little “hush” money to her family. She was generous in every way.

Known by many endearing nicknames: Robina, Rockin Robin, Bird, Suegra, Auntie Rob, Sweet Pea, Robbie Dobbs, and Big One ... she will forever be remembered as our ‘Grand’.

Grand was strong-willed and quirky, thoughtful and loving. With a beautiful, infectious laugh and a marvelous, crooked smile, she was one-of-a-kind and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her daughter, Rachel Rote Wahl of Carmel; her granddaughters, Lucia Wahl and Eime Ridearl Wahl both of Carmel; her nephew, Matthew Campbell Shea of Carmel Valley; and her son-in-law, Brendan Wahl of Carmel.

The family would like to thank everyone at Villa Mirage in Carmel Valley and The Hospice of the Central Coast, particularly Anna, Remy and Angie.

A celebration of Grand’s life will be held later in the summer. In memory of Robin, donations may be made to The Rote Professorship Program Fund at https://donate.csumb.edu
the growing wine tourism industry in their districts.
Adams said she was disappointed by the lack of support for the temporary ban, which would have stayed in effect until the county could pass a new set of ordinances to regulate vacation stays in residential neighborhoods. “This has been a top priority for me,” said the supervisor. “I’m pleased by what I have seen so far.”
Yet Adams said the new permitting requirements mean she’s ready to put the idea of a moratorium behind her. “We have come to a point I believe is a compromise,” she said. “I’m ready to put this idea of a moratorium on hold.”

**ROBERT DARWIN**

Robert Darwin was born in 1826 and grew up in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He began his lifelong interest in writing while in high school, becoming an associate editor and feature writer for his school newspaper, The Chronicle. Darwin was called to duty in 1844 and entered World War II as a Naval electronics technician. He was immediately shocked by the Navy’s commissioning of the beautiful Hotel Del Monte as its training site where Robert first fell in love with the Monterey Peninsula, vowing he would one day make it his home. After serving in the Navy, Darwin attended Rutgers University in 1846, majoring in business and finance at his father’s wise suggestion.

After graduating in 1856, he moved to Hollywood to try his hand at screenwriting before getting involved in the business world. Darwin was soon approached by a talent scout and was immediately thrust into the acting profession, where he appeared on television and in films, including Western movies and the Jack Benny Show. After nine years, Darwin left acting to resume screenwriting and directing, and produced a full-length motion picture while living in Paris, France for five years.

In 1967, Darwin made good on his desire to return to the Monterey Peninsula. Robert and his business partner / closest friend John Herschel bought a Carmel Valley Ranch and started a thoroughbred horse breeding farm; just one of many successful business ventures.

Darwin also continued his interest in writing and trains, resulting in a major photography book entitled, “The History of the Union Pacific Railroad in Cheyenne.” This large coffee-table book became the most successful and highly regarded railroad photo book ever published. He also pursued his passion for flying planes, eventually earning a commercial pilot’s license.


The Board of Regents of California State University (CSU), and CSU Monterey Bay awarded Robert Darwin an Honorary Doctorate Degree (L.H.D.) for his generous support toward improving the destiny of the university’s students in Monterey County and beyond.

Robert Darwin passed away on April 16th at 96 years of age after a brief illness. Throughout his long life and into his last days, he maintained a robust propensity for humor, laughter and the desire to partake in all of the positive things that life has to offer. He loved great food and remained social with many friends surrounding him at all times. He felt Carmel Valley and the Monterey area was the most beautiful place on earth.
EACH YEAR since 2010, Cal State Monterey Bay has run a “Shark Tank” style challenge for local business startups, and this year Mark Angel of Carmel Valley is set to run a similar event. Angel has a master’s degree from CSUMB in information science and technology, and his latest venture is called Get Up and Move! It’s a natural extension of his existing business, which includes massage therapy, health and wellness coaching and martial arts instruction.

After surviving a qualifying round, getting advice from a mentor and attending workshops sponsored by the university, Angel is vying against four other startups in Friday morning’s final round for a top prize of $5,000. Two runners-up will receive $1,500 apiece.

Get Up and Move! uses an app (available in its beta version in Apple’s and Google’s app stores) to encourage people to be more active throughout the day, using what Angel’s website describes as “exercise, meditation, and lifestyle modifications developed to help people move more, more regularly, and in more beneficial ways.”

Previous winners have included Carmel Honey Company and Neece’s Gluten Free Baked Goods in Monterey. A free app featuring competitors in all divisions will be open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday in the Otter Student Union’s main ballroom at CSUMB. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m.

Mary Margaret Graham passed away peacefully at her home in Carmel, CA on Monday, April 10th at the age of 99 years old. M.M., as she was known, was born in 1923 in Texas on her family’s 500-acre farm where she learned to drive a tractor and take care of all the farm animals. She and her mother, Alma, moved to Santa Barbara when she was about 8 years old. There she attended La Cumbre Junior High and then Santa Barbara High School. After graduating, she studied at the University of Oregon and San Jose State.

She and her mother eventually moved to Sacramento where M.M. worked for the California State Legislature in the historical archives. She excelled there and later became head of the department. In 1948, while still living in Sacramento, she took the train into San Francisco where she had been accepted into the prestigious Stanford Opera Workshop. It was there that she learned to polish her operatic talent and where opera became an integral part of her life. Shortly thereafter she was accepted as lead soprano for the San Francisco Opera where she performed numerous engagements during the 1948 and 1949 opera seasons.

After meeting her future husband, Douglas Graham, at the famous Rye Hotel in Sacramento on a blind date, they married in 1950 and moved to the Monterey Peninsula where he opened a Buick dealership, and they started a life and family together in Carmel. M.M. was well-known locally for her operatic talent and sang throughout her life for friends and acquaintances at local engagements and fundraisers, including those at the Oppenheimer Ranch (The Preserve), Stuyvesant Fish Ranch, for the Sobrante family, and Westland House, among others. She became an incredibly accomplished opera singer during her lifetime and was musically fluent in French, Italian, German, Spanish and Gaelic. She was a world traveler and had unique opportunities to sing at some of the major basilicas of Europe, including St. Peter’s, Notre Dame, and St. Giles and St. Andrews in Scotland. She sang numerous times at the Carmel Mission Basilica and opportunities to sing at some of the major basilicas of Europe, including St. Peter’s, Notre Dame, and St. Giles and St. Andrews in Scotland. She sang numerous times at the Carmel Mission Basilica and had the rare honor to sing at the Carmelite Monastery.

M.M. had prolific local affiliations and memberships including Casa Alchemos Club, La Mirada, the Monterey Peninsula chapter of I Cantori, Monterey Art Association and the Monterey Symphony. She and her husband spent many years enjoying golf and tennis as members of Monterey Peninsula Country Club, the Beach and Tennis Club, and John Gardner’s Tennis Ranch.

Mary Margaret Graham is survived by her son, Bruce Graham, and his wife, Joyce Scampa Graham; son, Bryan Graham; and grandchildren, Finn Graham, Corin Hanamakai Silva, Christina Hanamakai, Chad Hanamakai, as well as numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Douglas Graham, and her two daughters, Lisa Ann Graham and Robertha Leu Graham.

A heartfelt thank you to Hospice of the Central Coast and wonderful nurses Bianca, Giselle, Mary Martha, Cindy and Jillian for their kindness, grace and priceless support. Mary Margaret loved to sing and sang to live.
Getting to know you: Three schools, three new varsity lacrosse coaches

With first-year varsity coaches at Carmel, Stevenson, and Santa Catalina high schools, and rosters packed with new players, girls lacrosse programs at all three schools are adjusting again this season to new tactics, philosophies and personalities — while still working toward the goal of becoming competitive with the best teams in the Central Coast Section.

A year ago, an exceptionally talented Stevenson Pirates squad made progress on the latter front, advancing to the semifinal round of the first CCS girls championship tournament, where they were eliminated by top-seeded St. Ignatius, which went on to win the trophy.

That Stevenson team was runner-up in the Gabilan Division with an 8-1 record and went 12-4 overall.

Three schools are adjusting again this season to new tactics, philosophies and personalities — while still working toward the goal of becoming competitive with the best teams in the Central Coast Section.

When this week began, Stevenson’s 2023 squad had a winning record at 6-4. Carmel was even at 5-5, and Santa Catalina, 3-5, was flirting with a .500 season, despite having a roster of only 13 total in a sport that requires 12 on the playing field.

Stevenson’s new coach, Jerry Gilbert, is a former Dartmouth College football player with two daughters who became NCAA Division I lacrosse players. Lauren, his firstborn, was a two-time All-American who helped Northwestern University to the semifinal round of the national tournament three times and now plays in a nascent professional league called Athletes Unlimited. Katie, her younger sister, is playing at Stanford, where she’s in her junior year.

“When our girls fell in love with lacrosse, I started coaching at the youth level, and stayed with them all the way through high school,” said Gilbert, whose wife, Chris-tina, is helping coach the Pirates’ JV team. “We met Stevenson’s athletic director (Justin Clymo), and what started as, ‘Maybe you could help us out a little bit,’ turned into, ‘We kind of need somebody to run the program.’”

“We kind of need somebody to run the program,” Gilbert said. Ishii is an athlete with boundless energy that makes her a leader by example. She is a strong passer with a great lacrosse IQ and is well-versed in the game’s fundamentals. She is also excelling in the new role of the goalkeeper, the last line of defense.

Among other notable players are seniors Misha Lauer (midfield), Anouk Catania (defense) and Laney Neugebauer (defense), juniors Maxime Vanbrussum (midfield) and Sara Vanchi (defense), sophomores Skyler Stratmore (attack and midfield) and Julie Draxler (the first-year goalie), and freshmen Georgia Bonifas (midfield) and high-scoring Brogan Dolata (attack), who tallied four goals in a victory over Salinas.

Bufkin’s advanced stick skills make her the coach’s pick to take the draw — the face-off for control at the beginning of each half and after each goal. Patel is adroit at distributing the ball and has natural instincts for the game, Gilbert said. Ishii is an athlete with boundless energy that makes her a leader by example.

Senior Molly Bufkin, No. 11 (left), is a dangerous scoring threat this season for the Stevenson Pirates. All-Gabilan Division standouts (center) Peyton Kelly, shooting, and Reygan Bethea, No. 9, are field generals for a youthful Carmel team. Fia Enwa, (right) Catalina’s senior captain, is an all-around standout and prolific scorer who tallied 10 goals in a game against Salinas this year.

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Way through high school,” said Gilbert, whose wife, Christina, is helping coach the Pirates’ JV team. “We met Stevenson’s athletic director (Justin Clymo), and what started as, ‘Maybe you could help us out a little bit,’ turned into, ‘We kind of need somebody to run the program.’”

A good returning cast

The 2022 Pirates graduated four players who earned first- or second-team of All-Gabilan recognition, but Stevenson returned a strong nucleus that includes sophomore Macey Torres (an all-division midfielder) and a pair of attackers, senior Molly Bufkin and junior Naiya Patel (both second-team All-Gabilan).

Bufkin, Patel and sophomore midfielder Grace Ishii are providing exceptional leadership as tri-captains, the coach said.

“This is a strong, healthy group, and there’s a sense that this has been a fairly successful program,” Gilbert said. “But competing outside our league has been a challenge here, and our goal is to build the program so we match up with those strong Bay Area teams.”

Torres, the all-leaguer, missed the team’s first five games with an injury, but returned April 10 to score five goals in a victory over Salinas.

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Enea is a scoring machine
Santa Catalina’s first-year coach, Julian Salas, has a lone captain, senior midfielder Fia Enea, a second-team All-Gabilan player whose explosive scoring ability produced a 10-goal eruption against Soquel, and seven against Monterey. Enea scored 24 in Santa Catalina’s first five games.

The Cougars’ second-leading scorer, junior Sophia Fisher, leads a supporting cast that includes her younger sister, Allie, a sophomore who can play anywhere on the field, junior attacker Ophirna Ragsdale and sophomore goalkeeper Sofia McHugh, and defenders Sawyer Vogel and Maniya Dorey.

“With only 13 girls in our entire program, our fitness has become our strength,” Salas said. “With just one reserve player on our sideline, we can’t really substitute for anybody.

“Our girls are playing very hard every game, which is a difficult thing to do throughout an entire match, while also trying to conserve energy,” he said.

His Cougars are talented, but inexperienced, Salas said.

“We have a lot of new players and we’re learning as we go,” he said. “The athleticism is there, but they’re learning the intricacies of a sport that a lot of them have never played before.”

Last year’s CCS bracket included 12 schools, two (Scotts Valley and Stevenson) from the Pacific Coast Athletic League. This year’s tournament is scheduled May 10-19.

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

Grace Ishii, 6, became one of three team captains at Stevenson this season as a sophomore, thanks in part to her tireless hustle and exceptional work ethic.

PHOTO/KERRY BELSER
From previous page

goals against both York and Salinas and three against Carmel.

First-teamers back at Carmel
Carmel’s new coach, Reed Walter, has 55 prospects, including first-team All-Gabilan veterans Reynan Berthea (attack and midfield) and Peyton Kelly (midfield), who are senior co-captains.

“Reynan comes from a lacrosse family with very good knowledge of the game and the kind of calmness you need to help bring our younger players up to speed,” said Walter, who played collegiately at Roanoke College in Virginia. “She teaches the game — how to cut, how to run plays, how to get our midfield and attack in sync.

“And Peyton, I call her ‘the director’ out there,” the coach said. “She sets the tempo of our attack and also has great defensive skills. Those two are our backbone.”

Other key players include seniors Sophia Bone (all-around), Riley Speidel (goalie), Audrey Glaser (defense), Hannah Kastner (defense and midfield), Riley Palshaw (defender) and Ema Heiser (midfield), juniors Sophia Scattini (midfield) and Anya Melton (attack), and sophomores Charlotte Mayer (midfield and attack), Kate Graham (attack) and Ella Gallagher (defense).

Glaser and Kastner earned second-team all-league recognition in 2022.

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APRIL 28, 2023
THE CARMEL PINE CONE
25A
Nothing for something

HAVe CALIFORNIA’S income tax rates gone up as fast as they can go?
The answer is apparently yes, because while the Democratic Party may be famous for its “make the rich pay their fair share” philosophy, they’ve made no move in recent years to raise the state’s income taxes. This is true even though they have absolute power in Sacramento to pass any law they want.

It was back in 2012, with Jerry Brown still in the governor’s office, that the Democrats achieved two-thirds majorities in both houses of the state legislature, and they’ve kept them ever since. Brown’s successor was Gavin Newsom. Even the state supreme court has a 6-to-1 Democratic majority. Quite literally, Republicans have no power in state government — and their only influence is to try to persuade their colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

So why, with their constant talk of the unfairness of this country’s economic system, the need to spend more on schools, childcare, housing for the homeless and innumerable other social welfare programs, and even the necessity to pay billions in reparations for slavery for the Democrats’ raised taxes? This year, even with the state facing a big budget shortfall, Newsom says he opposes an idea floated in the state senate to raise taxes on highly profitable businesses — something surely most Democrats would favor.

“It would be irresponsible to jeopardize the progress we’ve all made together over the last decade to protect the most vulnerable while putting our state on sound fiscal footing,” Newsom spokesman Anthony York said this week in response to the plan.

Some commentators linked Newsom’s tax-hike opposition to his White House ambitions. Tax increases don’t play as well in swing states as they do in true-blue California. But we think the spokesman’s words — “put our state on sound fiscal footing” — deserve credence, if only because they are indisputably true.

Income is something you earn by being productive, and when people earn money, they are usually careful to get value for their dollar when they spend it. Creating the thing of value someone wants to buy with their hard-earned money requires an accounting down to the penny — and on, of billions of times every day, until you have a functioning, prosperous economy that benefits everyone it touches.

But when the government takes money in the form of taxes, it provides nothing to the taxpayer in exchange, lessening the productivity and prosperity of the overall economy. Likewise, when the government spends the money it takes, it usually isn’t careful to spend wisely, damaging the economy even further.

Of course, the role of government is important. Things like police, courts, the military and support for the elderly and disabled are essential, and the money taxed and spent on such things is worth it, despite the damage it may do to the economy.

But when the government uses its tax revenue to dole out political favors or support frivolous programs, that money is a loss to the taxpayers and the prosperity created by their hard work.

Which means that taxes should only be imposed to support essential government programs, not ones cooked up because “the rich should pay their fair share.”

The economy’s improving. I’ve got two jobs.”
Women’s golf pioneer Helen Lengfeld

Among the most active women golfers in California’s early development of the sport was Helen Foorman Lengfeld, a woman whose ancestors were among the state’s pioneers.

Her paternal grandfather, Simon Foorman, immigrated from Germany in his 20s, briefly settling in Ohio before joining the gold rush and making his first fortune with mining and then forming the Mokelumne and Campo Seco Canal Company, which supplied water to others for hydraulic mining. And then he made even more money in real estate. Helen’s father, Isaac Foorman, was born in San Francisco in 1859 and worked with his father, taking over the family business in 1900, when Simon died. Helen’s mother, Sadie Samuels, was born in New York in 1869. She was just a month old when her parents brought her across the Isthmus of Panama to settle in San Francisco, where Sadie’s father established D. Samuels House of Lace. The name under-described its luxury wares, which was also included fine art and furs. It served its wealthy clientele for decades.

The September 1897 San Francisco marriage of Isaac Foorman and Sadie Samuels was a society event, and the birth of their daughter, Helen, came the following May. The young family lived in San Francisco until December 1900. They moved to San Mateo, bringing Simon’s widow with them.

The society pages recorded that the wealthy Foorman family was very philanthropic, and that even young Helen donated $10 to the Children’s Hospital. Her first child, Louis, was born in November 1919 and a daughter, Frances, was born in December 1920. In 1921, Louis Lengfeld partnered briefly in the hardware business and then later joined recent Swedish immigrant Eric A. Ohlund to form The Coral Home Building Company. Helen helped as a director of the business, which built small homes in the area. As their business grew, they took on larger projects and reincorporated as Lengfeld and Ohlund. The Lengfelds also joined San Mateo’s Beresford Country Club, whose golf course had been completely rebuilt in the early development of the sport.

Corey Home

After the war, the Lengfelds returned to San Mateo and began their family. Helen’s parents set them up in a large home neighboring theirs on El Camino Real. Their first child, Louis, was born in November 1919 and a daughter, Frances, was born in December 1920. In 1921, Louis Lengfeld partnered briefly in the hardware business and then later joined recent Swedish immigrant Eric A. Ohlund to form The Coral Home Building Company. Helen helped as a director of the business, which built small homes in the area. As their business grew, they took on larger projects and reincorporated as Lengfeld and Ohlund. The Lengfelds also joined San Mateo’s Beresford Country Club, whose golf course had been completely rebuilt in 1922 by Donald Ross. Helen soon returned to the game she began playing as a girl. Louis tried golf, but it didn’t suit him.

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Ventura’s highway brought him bright lights, big cityscapes

As a 1960s TV announcer told us every week, “There are 8 million stories in the Naked City.” Pebble Beach resident Paul Ventura, a Gotham-born artist whose luminous cityscapes light up Carmel’s New Masters Gallery, has a tale worthy of the raccoons.

As he was evolving as a painter, Ventura enjoyed a glittering Hollywood career, casting soon-to-be-famous superstars for films, TV shows and thousands of commercials. George Clooney regularly showed up to do voice-over work. Cameron Diaz was an aspiring model before Ventura talked her into trying acting. Brad Pitt frequently dropped by to steam up the lens at casting calls for commercials.

“One an average day of casting, before they hit it big, I’d bring in Leonardo DiCaprio, Billy Bob Thornton, Bryan Cranston, Reese Witherspoon, Elizabeth Moss, Kathy Bates, David Spade or Paul Rudd. Nicole Kidman did one of her first auditions for me,” reminisced Ventura, who spent time at Paramount and Universal studios.

He also worked with a list of legendary producers-directors that included Sidney Poitier, Roger Corman and Alan Arkin, along with music stars like Leven Helm, Papa John Creach, Ernie Watts, Willie Dixon and Buddy Collette. His Hollywood career also included a half-dozen bit parts as an actor in TV shows like “M*A*S*H.”

All of which enabled him to buy the Pebble Beach home where he lives today — originally as a gift for his parents (both deceased), whom he credits for encouraging and nurturing his creativity from the earliest years of his life.

Choosing rockets over baseball

Ventura’s dad — also named Paul — played centerfield at Brooklyn Polytechnic College, earning an offer from the Brooklyn Dodgers after scouts watched him blast a game-winning three-run homer out of Ebbets Field.

“I saw the letter from the Dodgers’ general manager, Branch Rickey, offering a contract and inviting my dad to Vero Beach. Fl., for spring training,” Ventura said. “But the Dodgers already had this guy named Duke Snider — an eight-time National League All-Star — in centerfield, and Dad had some back issues, so he told him he was going to become an engineer.”

His mother, Cecilia, was a New York artist who saw creative potential in her toddler son, using what Ventura called “reverse psychology” to lure him into her studio one weekend.

“I was 3 years old. She was headed out of the house to go shopping. And she said, ‘Stay out of the den — your father is working — and, whatever you do, don’t go into my studio.’” Ventura said, sharing family lore.

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Lengfeld (left) at the 1925 Del Monte Championship with Sally Schweitzer of Lake Merced Country Club and leisa Horan of Hollywood.
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Kate Carter has been in small animal general practice since graduating from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 2019. She shares Dr. Kaplan Dau's dedication to offering the highest quality of care while working with clients to manage their pets' health. She believes strongly in practicing evidence-based medicine.

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S.F.B. Morse’s grandson gives talk

DELVING INTO the details about the man who founded the Pebble Beach Co. and built its famous golf course, Charles Osborne will formally announce the creation of an annual S.F.B. Morse Conservation award, which will be given to groups that are “furthering conservation efforts of Monterey Peninsula’s coastline.”

The fire station is located at 73 Fern Canyon Road.

— Correction ——

In last week’s Fun in the Sun section, we reported that Summer at Catalina was open to first and second graders, but it is only open to third graders and above.

“increased dignity, self-esteem and confidence.” Sara said.

Her husband noted that one of the people who used the showers and donned clean, donated clothing, soon got a job at a local retail outlet.

Finally, Sara said, the service can create jobs. “We’re hoping to grow enough to hire full-time staff and maybe get more trailers,” she said.

For now, they’ve secured a second site in Salinas through a group in Chinatown called A Closer Walk. Nick Tortorelli suggested that they might add Monterey and Seaside to the weekly rounds, too.

Meanwhile, their generous investment has already allowed many people to enjoy the simple pleasure of something most of us take for granted — a hot shower.

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Dear Editor,

I have noticed a troubling direction the DEI task force in Pacific Grove seems to be taking. Decorum and any code of ethics have been cast aside by allowing public comment to devolve into insults towards some in attendance who disagree or question DEI agenda items as task force members sit in silence. At the last meeting, an individual present closed out her three-minute comment by pointing out the “white elephant” in the room, no one was speaking about, turned to face the audience and declared, “white supremacists.” The meeting before that, we were described by a Zoom caller as “the three white men sitting in the audience.”

I do not allow such attacks to discourage me from speaking out, but I can believe there are many in our community who do. Being labeled a white supremacist in today’s society can be very dangerous. We have all read about doxing, swatting and harassment of individuals who may find themselves labeled as such. Citizens of Pacific Grove engaged in government or private business certainly do not want the label of white supremacist attached to their names. It is safer to stay quiet. Unless you submit and comply without question regarding the opinions of the DEI, you may face labeling, which can bring division within our community.

At the meeting of March 13, Chair Bui presented a packet defining the words diversity, equity and inclusion. I am not sure how allowing such comments to occur without addressing them promotes the racial healing Bui speaks of in her publication. I would ask then for clarification from the DEI regarding meeting decorum and respect going forward. Is there a code of ethics that governs these meetings? If not, one must consider the DEI members’ silence as support for such tactics. Where is the equity in that? As for inclusion, I would assume the label I have been given certainly prohibits me from membership in that club. I refuse to obey, submit or virtue-signal and will continue attending the meetings despite the hate speech and labels others tend to use as tools to control the narrative.

Stephen Houx, Pacific Grove

What’s in a name?

Dear Editor,

As someone familiar with the history of the City of Monterey and the State of California, I feel compelled to respond to Sam Farr’s letter in the April 21 Pine Cone, “Why change county’s name? Farr’s letter starts out by saying “We’ve been Monterey County for 173 years now. So why change it now?”

Actually, when the state Legislature created Monterey County as one of the California’s original 27 counties on Feb. 18, 1850, it was officially designated as County of Monterey. Hence, the name is not changing. The county is merely mak- ing alterations to the county seal to reflect its official name.

Farr then pondered that he can’t imag- ine “Santa Cruz County, and other coun- ties changing their names.” Actually, the County of Santa Cruz did change its name to the County of Monterey, the County of Santa Cruz was an original county; however, the state Legislature cre- ated the County of Branciforte. The state changed its name to County of Santa Cruz two months later. In addition, the County of Colusa was originally Colusi and the County of Yolo was originally Yolla.

Farr continued by saying Monterey is where California began. While this statement is correct, given that this was the location of the California constitutional convention, it is important to recognize that counties are creations of the state. As such, the County of Monterey was actually created in San Jose, which was the location of the first Legislature.

Finally, Farr suggested changing the name of Monterey Bay. That cannot be arbitrarily done, as he implies. The U.S. Board of Geographic Names is the Federal agency in the Department of Interior which is responsible for the review and approval of such changes. The recent change of the name of Mt. McKinley to Denali is an example of this process.

Timothy Blomgren, Carmel

What’s in a name?

Town going downhill

From page 26A

LETTERS

others who care.

Carmel cottages left! I’m glad there are

stock-built house has.

beautiful many-paned doors that this Com-

“castle-like” front door and all the beau-

being tearing out the solid wonderful

all the changes that will be made. One

the house while I lived there, talking about

acquired our front yard giraffe.

every single day. And that was before we

driving would stop and take pictures of it

lifetime estate.

I owned 50 percent of it and he left me a

and I was forced to sell our home, though

information on the cottage. All papers were

so we went to city hall to see the infor-

artist of some note had owned the home,

went up in its place and took all the light

that happened was the small cottage next

Fourth for close to 25 years. First thing

becoming tearing out the solid wonderful

I've been reading letters from people

name-calling at DEI

diversity, equity and inclusion. I am not

%XLSUHVHQWHGDSDFNHWGH¿QLQJWKHZRUGV

may face labeling, too, which can only

or private business certainly do not want

and harassment of individuals who may

find themselves labeled as such. Citizens

while I lived there, talking about

people

while I lived there, talking about

While we lived in the home, people

were...
brought her game to the Pebble Beach Championship for Women in February 1925. She reached the championship flight but lost her first match to Mary K. Browne, the 1924 runner-up to Marion Hollins. In April 1925, Lengfeld reached the semifinals in the California Women's Championship played at Lake Merced. She lost to the eventual winner, Dorothy Richards, of Cleveland. In September 1925, Lengfeld lost her semifinal match in the Del Monte Championship to eventual winner Kathleen Wright. Lengfeld couldn’t count many wins, but she could be counted as one of the top golfers women in the state.

Sweet victory

In November 1925, she scored one win in an invitational tournament in Bemisford. Making it even sweeter, she defeated Sheedy in the final. They had met in play match five times over the past few years, with Sheedy always besting her. Another victory came when Lengfeld won the 1926 San Francisco City Championship. Lengfeld’s role in golf took another turn in 1926. That fall, the Northern California Golf Association decided to split. President Nickel announced that “The new plan is that the women shall have a permanent organization of their own, not only running the Northern California Women’s Championship, but also the decision of all other matters pertaining to women’s golf.” Lengfeld was appointed as the first secretary-treasurer of the new Women’s Northern California Golf Association, a role she would hold for several years.

Lengfeld gave birth to a third child, Kathleen, in July 1927, so did not compete that year. However, the 1927 Northern California Championship was conveniently delayed until January 1928, and Lengfeld won. The Lengfelds had a nurse at home to help with the children. A 1929 interview of the “modern mother” demonstrated that she is passionately fond of her family.” Asked how she found time for golf with three children 10 and under, Lengfeld insisted. “I’m not all the time on the golf course. I play very little. Golf is a game with me and I always want it to be.”

Lengfeld continued to play throughout the 1930s and was a regular on the Monterey Peninsula. She was runner-up in the 1930s Pebble Beach Championship. She even reached the championship flight in the 1940 U.S. Women’s Amateur at Pebble Beach, losing her first match to Betty Jameson, the defending champion who won again in 1940.

Poaching from Florida

More significantly, Lengfeld became an accomplished golf administrator. In December 1940, she became president of the Women’s Northern California Golf Association. In February 1941 she announced plans for a new Northern California Women’s Golf Circuit to compete with an established circuit in Florida that had been drawing top women golfers away from California events each winter and spring.

The new circuit would start with some early March events in San Francisco and move to Monterey in late March, incorporating the Pebble Beach Championship (March 26-30), preceded by an 18-hole Open championship at Del Monte Golf Course and followed by a 72-hole championship at Cypress Point Club.

About 20 women entered the Del Monte Open, which was won by “Babe” Zaharias, the 1932 Olympic athlete turned golfer. Zaharias shot 80; Marion Hollins was second with 83. Among the 50 women entering the 1941 Pebble Beach Championship, Clara Callender defeated Hollins to win. Of the 67 women who entered the Cypress Point championship, 50 posted third-round scores, at which point Hollins led by four strokes. But when rain soaked the fourth round, only four golfers completed the tournament.

Rain may have dampened the spirits of the first California Golf Circuit, but the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941 put it on ice. World War II would have several impacts on golf, including canceling the 1942 U.S. Amateur scheduled at Pebble Beach.

Next week, we will cover how the resort and especially women’s golf came through the tragic years of World War II. Spoiler alert — Lengfeld had an even bigger impact on women’s golf on the Peninsula following the war.
ARTIST

From page 27A

“...and we peeked inside. I saw a blank canvas on her easel, and her paints and brushes all set up for me.”

The boy wandered in, dabbed a brush into the oils, and painted Humpty Dumpty into a brick wall.

“It was actually pretty detailed — I even did the bricks and mortar,” he said. “Mom came home and saw what I did, loved it, and I’ve been painting ever since.

“My life was interesting, because my mom would teach me about music and art, my dad would teach me sports and math, and I had a very balanced childhood from all of those disciplines,” said Ventura, whose father, a rocket engineer, helped design the ships that took American astronauts to the moon. Paul Sr. later helped engineer the booster rockets on each side of the space shuttle.

“Throughout his career, they’d bring my father in to solve major problems in the rocket industry,” he said.

When their son was 8, the Venturas left New York City for Sacramento — a hub for aerospace design at the time — creating artwork, which morphed from the whimsical Americana.

“...and so much more!”

Connections made through that experience took Ventura to Los Angeles, where he was quickly hired to help cast a movie at Universal Studios for Roger Corman. That job led to an offer to work at Paramount Studios.

“The office they gave me there as an assistant casting director — all mahogany — had previously been used by John Schlesinger, the director of ‘Midnight Cowboy’ and ‘Marathon Man,’ and Dan Curtis, producer of ‘Burnt Offerings’ and ‘The Winds of War.’ It would’ve made Michael Corleone envious,” said Ventura, whose Hollywood heyday extended from 1981 to 2010.

Throughout the years, he never stopped creating artwork, which morphed from the Andrew Wyeth-style realism he did in his earlier days, to classic pop that was compared to the work of Wayne Thiebaud, to whimsical Americana.

That’s not to mention the spectacular and enormous cityscapes (New York, Paris, Tokyo, Shanghai, Singapore, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas) for which he is best known. All are intricately detailed, mixing iconic landmarks from each city with colorful embellishments from Ventura’s imagination.

“I’ll work from photographs to recreate the iconic buildings, and then just kind of become a city planner,” he said. “My painting of Tokyo took five months — New York and Paris took years.”

Images of his art, and additional information, can be found online at paulventurart.com. Some of Ventura’s paintings — including those of New York and Paris — can be viewed at New Masters Gallery (Ocean and Seventh).

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

Tor House Garden Party set for May 7

OPENING ITS doors for a festive celebration, the Tor House hosts its annual Garden Party May 7, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Presented by the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation, the annual afternoon gathering offers a peek inside one of the town’s most interesting homes and showcases an array of musicians and artists.

The musicians include Melinda Coffey Armstead and Barbara Rudzicka, who will play Una Jeffers’ restored 1904 Steinway piano, a Celtic music trio, the Woods, and bagpiper Ed Jarvis.

Santa Cruz weaver Kris Nardello will peek inside, I saw a blank canvas on her easel, while printmakers Peter and Ireland by Una Jeffers in 1841.

Plein air painters will have easels set up in the garden, while printmakers Peter and Donna Thomas and artist Tom Killoon will be on hand to sign copies of their creations.

During the party, people will be able to explore the Tor House, which looks very much the way it did a century ago, and visit the property’s distinctive Hawk Tower. They will also be able to take photographs, which they generally aren’t allowed to do.

One of America’s most celebrated poets during the early 20th century, Jeffers bought the land and started construction in 1918. With the help of builder Mike Murphy, the home was completed in 1930. The work on the tower started in 1920, and was finished four years later.

Many celebrities visited Jeffers at Tor House, including Sinclair Lewis, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Langston Hughes, Charles Lindbergh, George Gershwin and Charlie Chaplin.

Tickets are $25 for general admission. Kids 10 and over are welcome. Masks are required indoors. Tor House is located at 26384 Ocean View. For more details, call (831) 624-1813.
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A dangerous inheritance — tracking genes that increase cancer risk

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

As a gastroenterologist with Monterey Bay GI Consultants Medical Group, Dr. Daniel Luba typically works to manage diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, such as colitis, irritable bowel syndrome, stomach pain, pancreatitis, acid reflux and ulcers. Yet, in treating a recurring issue among his patients, he found himself going down a path that veered away from his normal specialty, because he simply couldn’t ignore it.

“I found that after removing big polyps from certain patients, they kept returning with more big polyps. I knew I was missing something and wondered if this might be hereditary polyposis syndrome. That’s when I realized there are hereditary syndromes that can put people at risk of developing cancers.”

He wondered whether through genetic testing, physicians could identify people at risk for a heredity cancer syndrome and then figure out how to manage the risk before the disease could manifest and thus, save lives.

“Why aren’t we doing this?” he thought. “It’s like thinking someone might have a propensity for high blood pressure. We test for it and address the risk. I thought, ‘if I didn’t dive into this, who would?’”

Luba began by researching cancers associated with the gastrointestinal tract, such as colon cancer, as well as uterine and ovarian cancer. This led him to contemplate Lynch Syndrome, a hereditary disorder which increases a person’s risk of developing cancers of the breast, ovaries, colon and uterus.

He decided to take action. “In 2011, I set up systematic genetic testing for 4,000 people who met the criteria for testing, and among those, two people were identified who had Lynch Syndrome.”

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But as scary as that is, the risk of developing cancer as smokers age is higher. The CDC says that about 10 to 20 percent of smokers will get lung cancer, and the American Cancer Society adds that the average age of people who are diagnosed is 70. And therein lies one of the challenges. If you think it’s tough to get college freshmen to consider the consequences of a frat party Facebook photo on a job search just four years away, imagine trying to get them to worry about something that might not happen until they’re septuagenarians.

LUNG CANCER doesn’t have a lapel ribbon, a celebrity spokesperson or designated month for “awareness,” even though it’s the deadliest of all cancers, claiming more than 120,000 American lives each year.

Unlike many other deadly cancers, however, it’s largely preventable. The Centers for Disease Control estimates that 80 to 90 percent of lung cancer cases are linked to smoking.

The CDC adds that more than 200 kids in the United States start smoking every day. Ninety-nine percent of all smokers start before they’re 26, 90 percent before they’re 18 — the legal age to purchase tobacco. Teens also use e-cigarettes — something that concerns many physicians, including Dr. Mario Cole, a pulmonologist with Salinas Valley Health (formerly known as Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System).

Cole said that in the CDC’s 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey, 28 percent of high school students admitted using e-cigarettes. In 2020, that number dropped to 19 percent, but he still finds it worrisome.

‘Harmless’

“The perception is that e-cigarettes are harmless,” Cole said, but they aren’t. “They develop nicotine dependency,” and many kids “graduate” to smoking cigarettes. This seems countereuitive, given that old-fashioned smokes are more detectable by parents, messier and more expensive.

Cole speculated teens might make the change because when they first vape, they only get small hits of nicotine, the stimulant in tobacco that provides an immediate, brief-but-powerful buzz. “As they learn to inhale, the nicotine levels increase,” he said, and smokers’ tolerances rise, as well. Because traditional cigarettes provide more nicotine, smokers might make the change to compensate for their increased tolerance.

The CDC says that e-cigarettes are less harmful than traditional ones, but points out that there are still risks. Nicotine — regardless of its source — is dangerous for pregnant mothers and unborn children, and, in young people, can affect brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s. The dose of nicotine in different e-cigarettes isn’t always specified and ingredients can vary widely. The CDC adds that vapors still inhale some volatile organic compounds, heavy metals and cancer-causing chemicals, too.

E-cigarettes have also evolved, Cole noted. When the gadgets entered the market in 2007, consumers had no control over what was in them. Now, it’s possible to add harmful ingredients to refillable cartridges.

Cole cited an example called vitamin E acetate, a chemical which has caused severe lung injuries in thousands of people who inhaled it while vaping. Cole said he saw a 19-year-old patient who had to be placed on a ventilator and nearly died as a result of inhaling the vapors from vitamin E acetate.

But as scary as that is, the risk of developing cancer as smokers age is higher. The CDC says that about 10 to 20 percent of smokers will get lung cancer, and the American Cancer Society adds that the average age of people who are diagnosed is 70. And therein lies one of the challenges. If you think it’s tough to get college freshmen to consider the consequences of a frat party Facebook photo on a job search just four years away, imagine trying to get them to worry about something that might not happen until they’re septuagenarians.

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- Ask your doctor about detecting cancer risk with genetic counseling
- Avoid smoking and using tobacco products
- Be active and limit alcohol
- Eat a healthy diet by choosing plenty of fruits and vegetables and limiting processed meats
- Protect your skin by using sunscreen and avoiding tanning beds

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chomp.org/cancer
IN 2022, colorectal cancers accounted for the fourth-largest share of new cancer diagnoses (151,030) and the second-largest share of cancer deaths (52,580) in the United States. That’s according to the National Cancer Institute (cancer.gov), part of the National Institutes of Health.

These cancers occur in the large intestine, or large bowel, a 5-foot-long tube that comprises the cecum (which connects it to the small intestine), the ascending colon, transverse colon, descending colon, sigmoid colon, rectum and anus. Its function is to “absorb water and salt from the remaining food matter after it goes through the small intestine,” according to the American Cancer Society (cancer.org).

Dr. Geetha Varma, the cancer research medical director for Salinas Valley Health (formerly Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare), said that colorectal cancer used to be found almost exclusively in people 50 and older, but there’s been an alarming rise in cases in people in their 30s and 40s.

Nobody is certain why, although the National Cancer Institute notes that “half of younger adults with colorectal cancer were overweight and 17 percent were obese.” Dr. Zach Koontz, an oncologist with Pacific Cancer Care in Ryan Ranch, said that “the overwhelming consensus” in the oncology community is that it is a result of a combination of diet and lifestyle.

“It’s a First World problem,” he said.

Some risk factors are out of your control, like having a first-degree relative—a parent, sibling or child—with the disease. Varma recommended that anyone diagnosed with colorectal cancer get a simple blood test for a genetic mutation that might be shared with close relatives, who can then also be tested. If they’re at a higher genetic risk, they can schedule more frequent screenings to ensure the disease doesn’t develop unchecked.

“We see members of the same family all the time who develop cancer, but normal, age-appropriate cancer screenings could have prevented them,” Koontz said.

Things you can control include diet and physical activity. Obesity is associated with an increased risk of the disease, as is a diet low in fruits and vegetables and/or high in red meat or processed meats, like hot dogs.

The ACS says that cooking meat at high temperatures, including deep-frying, blackening, grilling and broiling, may also be a risk factor.

Enjoy the view of gorgeous hills. Then go hike in them.

Enjoy the view of gorgeous hills. Then go hike in them.

If you’ve been looking for motivation to get screened for colon cancer, you should know that it’s the second deadliest cancer in the United States, and that by the time someone develops symptoms, it’s usually progressed dangerously far.
LUNGS from page 34A

Dr. Katrina Fischer, an oncologist with Pacific Cancer Care in Ryan Ranch, explained that cancer simply means uncontrolled cell growth, which leads to tumors and other problems, depending on where in the body the cancer is located.

In the lungs, it can eventually interfere with breathing and may metastasize to the brain, liver, bones and other parts of the body. By the time it starts causing coughing, chest pain, tiredness and other conditions that bring someone in to see the doctor, the cancer is usually incurable.

However, Fischer said, in its earliest stages, lung cancer is treatable with surgery. Depending on the subtype, chemotherapy and radiation may also be used. That is why she and Cole each recommended that anyone who has smoked ask their doctor about annual lung cancer screenings — even if they quit years ago.

She explained that a patient’s risk is assessed using pack years — the number of packs of cigarettes a person smoked a day, multiplied by the number of years they smoked. That means a pack-a-day smoker for 20 years or someone with a two-pack-a-day habit for 10 years, would both be classified as 20 pack-year smokers.

And, Fischer added, the risk continues for 15 years after someone quits. The American Cancer Society has a national screening initiative aimed at getting smokers and former smokers to get annual low-dose CT (computed tomography) chest scan, in the hopes of catching more cancers at earlier, treatable stages.

Cole said that screening is recommend ed for people between the ages of 50 and 80 with a 20 pack-year (or higher) history of tobacco use.

What about weed?

Cannabis legalization in California (medical use in 1996 and recreational use in 2016) raised the question, “Does smoking marijuana cause cancer?” and the answer is, “nobody’s sure.”

Specifically, the CDC says, “Smoked marijuana can harm lung tissues and cause scarring and damage to small blood vessels. Smoke from marijuana has many of the same toxins, irritants, and carcinogens as tobacco smoke.”

But, it adds, more research is needed to find out whether pot affects the risk of lung cancer and other serious respiratory conditions.

Dr. Jaya Sugunaraj, a pulmonologist with Montage Medical Group, told Healthy Lifestyles that researchers have noted bronchi al inflammatory changes similar to changes observed with smoking.

He went on to say that smoking cannabis is associated with several serious conditions, including COPD, and that people have reported symptoms including wheezing, shortness of breath, cough and phlegm production.

Sugunaraj summarized, “In the grand scheme of things, the lungs are ideally built for inhaling clean air. My personal bias would be to not inhale any noxious agent including smoking, vaping and marijuana.”

Dr. Jaya Sugunaraj

Dr. Katrina Fischer

Overall, the risk of cancer is reduced with smoking and other tobacco products.

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Grilled Monterey Bay King Salmon with English Peas, Pea Shoots, & Morels
Matt Bolton, Executive Chef, InterContinental – The Clement Monterey

**INGREDIENTS**
4 6-ounce portions wild king salmon
Kosher salt and freshly cracked pepper
Extra virgin olive oil

**Step 1:** Preheat grill to medium high. Moisten a towel with more olive oil and rub down the grate. Heat a sauté pan over medium heat. Add 1 tablespoon olive oil and shallots. Season with salt and pepper. Cook shallots until tender and fragrant, about 3 minutes. Once it is nicely caramelized, use a spatula to carefully flip the salmon, and cook for about three more minutes. Remove from the grill, place on a resting rack for a couple minutes and serve.

**English Peas**
1 pound English peas, shelled

**Step 2:** In a large stock pot, bring water and salt to a boil. Blanch peas until tender, about 2-3 minutes. Shock in ice water, reserve.

**Morel Ragout**
8 ounces morel mushrooms, rinsed well (see notes)
1 shallot, sliced
1/2 bunch parsley, chiffonade (see notes)
1 bunch pea tendrils (leaves picked from stems)
Kosher salt and freshly cracked pepper to taste

**Step 3:** Heat a sauté pan over medium heat. Add 1/2 teaspoon micro-planed lemon zest and 1/2 tablespoon olive oil. When the oil is hot, add 1/2 bunch thyme, stems removed (see notes) and 1 bunch pea tendrils (leaves picked from stems). Cook for about 3 minutes, or until the peas have a glossy sheen. Add stock, lemon zest, parsley, peas and stock and cook for one additional minute. Spoon ragout onto each plate and top with grilled king salmon.
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GENETIC from page 33A

them, identified 400 who had a hereditary cancer syndrome,” including Lynch Syn-
drome.

A person with Lynch Syndrome who has
cancer, said Luba, has a 30 percent chance of developing a second cancer within 10
years and a 50 percent chance of develop-
ing a second cancer within 15 years. That’s
why he said it is so important to become
educated about genetic risk.

He continued, “The model in the United
States is that one in 25 to 50 people has a
hereditary cancer syndrome. We know
this because 38 percent of all people in this
country will develop cancer, and 5 to 10
percent of them are caused by hereditary
cancer syndrome.”

In practical terms, he said, “If you iden-
tify someone with hereditary cancer syn-
drome, you know they are at high risk for
good cancer. So, at a certain age, maybe
a woman is done having children and is
ready to have her ovaries removed as a pre-
caution. Maybe a woman will have a bilat-
eral mastectomy (removal of both breasts),
or maybe, instead, she will get mammro-
grams more often. Maybe the person will
have colonoscopies more frequently. The
purpose is to catch cancer at a treatable
stage, to monitor health or to remove risk
through preemptive surgery. It is up to the
patient; it’s a personal decision.”

Project DNA

In 2014, Luba established Project DNA, a
nonprofit dedicated to increasing public
awareness of hereditary cancer syndromes
while encouraging physicians to imple-
ment screening processes to identify pa-
tients who have a genetic risk of develop-
ing cancer.

“If you have a family history of colon cancer — typically several family mem-
ers or those diagnosed at a young age —
these are risk factors that warrant test-
ing,” he said. Six cancers — colon, uterine,
ovarian, breast, pancreatic and prostate —
indicate a person is at high risk of heredi-
tary cancer syndrome.

Today, said Luba, local oncologists rou-
lessly test and evaluate people at risk of the
syndrome. Montage Health has established
a genetics center across the hall from its
Carol Hatton Breast Care Center in Ryan
Ranch. Luba is a co-director of the center
with Dr. Lulu Zhang, an oncologist at Pa-
cific Cancer Care.

“We have a questionnaire at the Breast
Care Center, which every woman receives,
to help identify those at higher risk for breast cancer and determine whether they
should receive a referral to the genetics
program for further testing.”

His vision is to expand from genetic
testing to determine the risk of developing
cancer, to identifying patients who have a
strong family history of abnormal genes that
may cause other issues. After all, why
stop at cancer?

“I like to compare it to HIV. We first saw
cases in the early 1980s and had no idea
what it was or how to handle it,” he said.
“Today, everybody who has risk factors for
HIV is being screened and counseled. Now
we have a way to cure or manage it, and
people are living longer lives.”

This, he said, can be done for various
hereditary health risks.

“I’ve come to realize there are genet-
ics that can cause sudden cardiac death. If
we’re sending off genetic testing to identi-
fy someone at risk for developing cancer,
let’s identify the risk for sudden cardiac
death as well,” said Luba. “There’s also
genetic testing to determine how we me-
tabolize drugs. This is where we need to be,
going in oncology, cardiology, pharma-
cology. This is true preventive medicine.”
problem,” he said. “Generally, diets high in vegetables and low in red meat are better.”

Fruits and whole grains also appear to lower the risk, and Varma said she continues to be surprised by people who say they only have vegetables once a week. “That seems especially bizarre, given Monterey County’s multi-billion-dollar agricultural industry.” Eating whole fruits and vegetables with all their fiber is better than juicing. Fiber supplements, Varma added, are unnecessary if you have a healthy diet.

Some estimates say regular physical activity can lower colorectal cancer risk by as much as 19 percent. The National Cancer Institute recommends “150 to 300 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity, 75 to 100 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity, or an equivalent combination of each intensity each week. This physical activity can be done in episodes of any length.”

And smoking and having more than one alcoholic drink per day for women or more than two for men are believed to increase the risk of many kinds of cancers, including colorectal cancer.

Early stages of the disease have no symptoms, so screening is vital. “I recommend people have a regular relationship with a primary care physician,” said Koontz, because it enhances the likelihood that you will get the tests and screening you need.

The American Cancer Society lowered the recommended age to start colorectal cancer screening from 50 to 45, but not all insurers have bought into the change. Most people at normal risk still do one screening every 10 years, while those with higher risk may need to do it every three to five years, the ACS says.

Screening options

One way to find colorectal cancer is to check the stool for blood. ColoGuard tests do this, and there are multiple, similar tests and brands available. If your doctor prescribes one of these, you’ll get a kit to collect a sample from your poop at home and mail it to a lab. No special preparation is involved. Faecal occult blood tests, as they’re technically known, are usually recommended for adults who are not at high risk for the disease. Koontz explained that’s because the likelihood of a positive result — which requires a colonoscopy — is higher, so you might as well just have the colonoscopy in the first place.

Varma called colonoscopy “the gold standard” of detection. Plus, it’s the only screening test that includes immediate removal of precancerous or cancerous polyps. (For detailed information on colonoscopies, see page 42A.) Polyps are relatively slow-growing, which is why screenings can be done less often than, say, mammograms.

If polyps are removed, your doctor or testing center will follow up after they have them tested in a lab to determine if any are malignant.

When colorectal cancer goes untreated, symptoms including mild anemia, changes in bowel habits, cramps and unexplained Dr. Geetha Varma

Dr. Zach Koontz

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Learn More
Colorectal cancer is a significant health issue, but early detection can greatly improve outcomes. The American Cancer Society recommends that individuals at average risk for colorectal cancer begin regular screening at age 50 or at age 45 if they have a family history of the disease.

#### Staging and treatment

Varma said if cancer is found, tests will be done to determine the extent — or stage — of the disease, on a scale from 1 to 4. The higher the number, the further it has progressed.

Treatment for stages 1 and 2 often involves surgery alone, while stage 3 typically requires several months of chemotherapy, too.

As it grows and spreads, five-year survival rates drop to 74 percent for cancer that has metastasized nearby and 17 percent by the time it’s found in distant parts of the body. Stage 4 is incurable; treatment depends on where and how much it has metastasized.

Sometimes, a temporary colostomy — an artificial opening from the colon to the outside of the body, allowing the person to pass waste into a disposable bag — is done so that the lower portion of the intestine can rest while it heals after surgery. Contrary to popular belief, the Colorectal Cancer Alliance says that only about 10 percent of patients need a permanent colostomy.

As with many other cancers, recent treatment innovations involve immunotherapy, which Varma explained “stimulates our immune systems to attack cancers,” and has fewer side effects than other therapies.

You may have read about a drug called dostarlimab, marketed as Jemperli, currently approved for use in a different form of cancer. A small clinical trial of the drug (14 patients) for colorectal cancer had an almost unbelievable outcome — 100 percent remission. However, Varma cautioned that the drug is only appropriate for a small subgroup of colorectal cancer patients who have an uncommon form of the disease.

If you’re 50 or older and have not been screened for colorectal cancer, talk with your doctor about doing so. Although collection of a stool sample or having an instrument inserted through the colonoscope — a thin tube with a lens and light — through the anus and expands the colon with air or carbon dioxide — is done so that the doctor has a clear view and can see small polyps. In general, restrictions involve consuming only clear fluids for 24 hours before the test, although some doctors ask patients to abstain from specific kinds of foods, such as nuts, for several days beforehand. You may also be told to stop taking certain medications before your appointment.

The day before, you’ll be asked to take laxatives. The good news — at least in this reporter’s experience — is that part has improved significantly, both in terms of quantities consumed and the amount of discomfort they cause. You’ll need to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.

The amount of anesthesia also varies. Most people prefer to sleep through the procedure, although a few opt to watch the scope on a screen. It takes from 30 to 60 minutes, plus a period of observation and recovery, after which you’ll need someone to drive you home — and most facilities will not release patients to rideshare services like Uber or Lyft.

For the procedure, the doctor inserts a colonoscope — a thin tube with a lens and light — through the anus and expands the colon with air or carbon dioxide. They’ll guide the scope through the colon while examining it for abnormalities.

Prep requirements vary a bit among facilities, but all are designed to clean out the bowel so the doctor has a clear view and may remove precancerous growths — called polyps — during the exam.

Complications are rare, but can include a reaction to the anesthesia and nicking or perforating the intestine. More frequently, patients have some discomfort in their bellies. Your doctor will go over the risks with you, and you’ll be given discharge instructions telling you what to do if specific symptoms occur.

#### COLONOSCOPY

DURING A COLONOSCOPY

Colonoscopies are often referred to as “the gold standard” of colorectal cancer detection. In addition to finding cancer in its early, asymptomatic stages, the doctor can remove precancerous growths — called polyps — during the exam.

Prep requirements vary a bit among facilities, but all are designed to clean out the bowel so the doctor has a clear view and may remove precancerous growths — called polyps — during the exam. For the procedure, the doctor inserts a colonoscope — a thin tube with a lens and light — through the anus and expands the colon with air or carbon dioxide. They’ll guide the scope through the colon while examining it for abnormalities.

If you have polyps, the doctor will remove them using an instrument inserted through the colonoscope and have them biopsied. Polyp removal is painless.

Once polyps are found, some insurers reclassify subsequent colonoscopies from preventive, or screening, to diagnostic, which can change how much of the cost is covered.

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**THE GOLD STANDARD** — WHAT TO EXPECT DURING A COLONOSCOPY

Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the second leading cause of death from cancer in the U.S. An estimated 151,000 new cases were diagnosed in 2021, and 44,000 people died from CRC.

As with many other cancers, recent treatment innovations involve immunotherapy, which Varma explained “stimulates our immune systems to attack cancers,” and has fewer side effects than other therapies.

You may have read about a drug called dostarlimab, marketed as Jemperli, currently approved for use in a different form of cancer. A small clinical trial of the drug (14 patients) for colorectal cancer had an almost unbelievable outcome — 100 percent remission. However, Varma cautioned that the drug is only appropriate for a small subgroup of colorectal cancer patients who have an uncommon form of the disease.

If you’re 50 or older and have not been screened for colorectal cancer, talk with your doctor about doing so. Although collecting a stool sample or having an instrument inserted through the colonoscope — a thin tube with a lens and light — through the anus and expands the colon with air or carbon dioxide — is done so that the doctor has a clear view and may remove precancerous growths — called polyps — during the exam.

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Once polyps are found, some insurers reclassify subsequent colonoscopies from preventive, or screening, to diagnostic, which can change how much of the cost is covered.

If you’ve had polyps removed, make sure you ask about coverage before your next screening.

Although the New England Journal of Medicine published a European study in 2022 that cast doubt on whether colonoscopies save lives, subsequent articles roundly criticized its methodology, noting that more than half of the people who were scheduled for the preventive procedure failed to show up, skewing the results.

Complications are rare, but can include a reaction to the anesthesia and nicking or perforating the intestine. More frequently, patients have some discomfort in their bellies. Your doctor will go over the risks with you, and you’ll be given discharge instructions telling you what to do if specific symptoms occur.
Chamber music group closes season with ‘feast’ at Sunset Center

PAIRING AN award-winning ensemble with a pianist who teaches at the Juilliard School in New York City, Chamber Music Monterey Bay wraps up its 2022-23 season Saturday with a 7:30 p.m. concert at Sunset Center by The Daedalus String Quartet and Soyeon Kate Lee.

“The evening will be a feast for the ears,” said Alcide Guillory of Chamber Music Monterey Bay.

The program includes William Grant Still’s “Lyric Quartette: Musical Portraits of Three Friends,” Béla Bartók’s String Quartet No. 6, BB 119 and Amy Beach’s Piano Quartet in F-sharp minor, Op. 67. Lee will join the quartet on the final piece.

Musicologist Ian Scarfe presents a pre-concert talk at 6:30 p.m. Tickets start at $25, with discounts available for music teachers, students and active military. Also, a lim-

ated number of free tickets are available for kids if accompanied by an adult.

Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. For more details, call (831) 625-2212.

■ Jazz birds add voices to jam

The last Sunday of the month means live jazz at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, where many of the Monterey Peninsula’s top players gather to jam. The music starts at 1 p.m. See MUSIC page 49A

By CHRIS COUNTS

Chorus sings Mozart’s Requiem

A volunteer singing group that was founded more than four decades ago by members of the Carmel Bach Festival Chorus, I Cantori di Carmel performs Mozart’s last masterpiece, his Requiem in D Minor, Saturday and Sunday at the Carmel Mission. Both concerts start at 8 p.m.

Music director Daniel Hendriks said he’s thrilled to hear the choir present Requiem. About 50 singers will participate — including four soloists — along with 26 instrumentalists. Mozart died before the composition was completed, and it was finished by some of his students. Still, it is widely regarded as one of his greatest works.

“It’s the last thing Mozart wrote,” Hendriks told The Pine Cone. “It’s one of the those hallmark pieces that’s on the bucket list of every choral singer and classical musician. It’s a celebration of life.”

Hendriks is also looking forward to hearing the chorus perform at the mission, which is better known as a historical site than a music venue.

“This is the kind of music that was composed to be played in a sacred place,” he said of Mozart piece. “It’s really inspiring to perform at the mission, and our audi-

ence really loves it. It’s such an immersive experience.”

The program also includes uplifting music by 20th century composers Maurice Durufle, Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber and Elliott Carter.

General admission tickets are $40. The mission is located at 3080 Rio Road. For details, visit icantori.org.

■ I Cantori di Carmel (left) performs Mozart’s final masterpiece, Requiem in D Minor, Saturday and Sunday at the Carmel Mission. A native of France, violinist Pauline Kempf (right) joins harpsichordist Derek Tam and cellist Michelle Djokic Thursday at the Sand Box in Sand City.

April 28, 2023 The Carmel Pine Cone 43A

CARMEL • PEBBLE BEACH • CARMEL VALLEY & THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

This Week

Food & Wine Galleries and Art

Live Music, Clubs and Events

Chamber music group closes season with ‘feast’ at Sunset Center
MEarth Day, Stationery dinner, and a benefit for Point Lobos

For a quarter-century, the MEarth Habitat Project next to Carmel Middle School has helped kids of all ages learn about growing and preparing food, caring for the environment, and other critical lessons of art and science as its grounds and programs have expanded over the years. On April 29, a week after Earth Day, the project will host MEarth Day, with exhibitors and vendors, small plates made with local and garden-fresh foods, a live auction, music, cultural performances, a native plant sale and activities for kids, and everyone is invited.

The event celebrates a project that was the brainchild of former CMMS principal (now Carmel Unified School District board member) Karl Palustrini and then-teacher Craig Hohenerberger, who in 1995 proposed setting up a native habitat on district property that had been an abandoned Christmas tree farm.

With a master plan from Bud Whistler and the Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club, the habitat was laid out over 10 acres and developed with a greenhouse, bird-hushing lab and other basics in its first few years. Its stewards and volunteers started work on their now-expansive organic garden in 2001, later adding a wood-fired pizza oven, a native bee garden, and a pond built with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Don’t stop growing
With help from Canavina and La Bicyclele restaurants, among others, kids began learning how to grow, harvest and cook their food, and the habitat team worked with Carmel Unified and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Monterey County to add more academic experiences, including those focusing on the sciences, and the staff came up with more ways to get college kids and adults involved, too.

MEarth subsequently separated from CUSD and became an independent nonprofit in 2008 before going on to open a LEED-certified building with a full teaching kitchen in March 2012 to facilitate lessons and labs for students and host fundraisers for chef’s dinners to draw adults.

Now, the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District sends kids to take part in programs at the habitat, too, and high-end chef demos are produced in partnership with the culinary team from the Post Ranch Inn in Big Sur. And while the habitat used to shut down when schools weren’t in session, it now provides opportunities year-round.

All of that will be cele-

See FOOD page 46A

Soup to Nuts

By MARY SCHLEY

I recently visited Bruno’s Market and had a great experience. The deli counter is in the back of the store with a large menu of delicious sandwiches. The staff was very friendly and helpful in helping me decide what I wanted. The wait time from ordering my sandwich to it being ready was only about 5 minutes, even on a Saturday afternoon. The sandwich was delicious and I would definitely recommend it to anyone looking for a casual spot to grab some grub in Carmel.

- Alex W. Sunnyvale, CA.
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The Carmel Pine Cone
FOOD
From page 44A

braved during MEarth Day, which will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some of the vendors and food purveyors set to participate include Captain + Stoker Coffee Roasters, Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant, Taavala Bake Shop, Happy Girl Kitchen, Palermo’s Bakery, Revival Ice Cream, Bigoli Pasta, Carmel Berry Co. and Earthbound Farm. MEarth Day is free to attend. The habitat is located at 4380 Carmel Valley Road. Find more information at meartncarmel.org.

Stationery brings back dinner
Anthony and Alissa Carnazzo, owners of Stationery restaurant on San Carlos north of Sixth, announced they are bringing back dinner service Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights starting May 4, with plans to add Tuesdays and Wednesdays this summer.

The couple said chef Amalia Scatena and her culinary team plan to change the menu weekly “in line with our commitment to source the best in local and seasonal ingredients,” but that it will always include the cheeseburger and the farmer’s salad “for our creatures of habit.”

“Our goal is to offer you an inspired menu while maintaining our approachable style,” they said.

The Carnazzos observed that since they opened five years ago, they’ve changed their model several times to meet customer demands and survive the pandemic, among other challenges. “Now we are getting back to the place we always wanted to be: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Steady and sure, evolving and consistent, all at the same time. Your favorite neighborhood restaurant.”

The menu hasn’t been released yet, but more information can be found and reservations may be made at thestationery.com.

Serious food discussion
The Hartnell College Foundation will host the Annual Western Food Safety Conference again this year at Sherwood Hall on North Main Street in Salinas. The conference, which will focus on “Food Safety: The State of the Industry,” will run May 3-4, when “nearly 500 people with a professional stake in the safety of fresh fruits and vegetables consumed worldwide” will gather for presentations, dialogue and education.

The latest research, information on produce safety, and regulatory developments will be presented and discussed by industry-leading scientists, executives and professionals. Speakers and panelists include experts in water quality, data science, sustainable agriculture, and state and federal regulations.

Keynote speakers will be attorney Bill Marler, a national expert in food safety, on May 3 and California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross the following day.

College students are invited to attend the conference alongside industry executives and managers in growing, shipping, processing and cooling, food safety, quality assurance, contract labor, communications and auditing. Registration fees and sponsors in 2022 helped raise $15,000 for scholarships for Hartnell College ag students, adding to more than $100,000 previously raised at the conferences.

Registration and sponsorship opportunities can be found at thewesternfoodsafetyconference.com.

Dinner for Point Lobos
Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley will host a fundraising dinner in its Wine Garden May 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. to support the Point Lobos Foundation in its mission to protect and nurture, while educating and inspiring visitors to preserve its unique natural and cultural resources.

The foundation is the sole source of funding for the

See WINE next page
Green will bring “a new and special pulled pork sandwich and country-style baked beans” this time around. Last summer, Mary’s Barbecue prepared and served brisket and grilled veggies, which were a hit.

The May 7 breakfast will also include coleslaw, pickled onions, and dessert prepared by an Al & Friends volunteers, and it’s open to anyone who’s looking for a meal.

Siekert started serving Sunday breakfasts in the park near the beach in Monterey a dozen years ago to help individuals and families in need, and said he and his volunteers usually feed between 75 and 90 people, “so on May 7, we are offering this distinctive brunch-style breakfast to anyone and everyone — no questions asked.”

He also thanked Green for the help and noted that day’s branch will be “a great way to diversify our Sunday morning fare.”

Sponsors supporting Siekert’s efforts include the cities of Pacific Grove and Monterey, the Pacific Grove Police Officers Association, CHOMP, The Monterey Foundation, Elroy’s Fine Foods, KMBY Radio, Lasamericas Foods and the Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust, Old Fisherman’s Groats, Pacific Grove Market, Bombas Socks and Hanesbrands Clothing, among others.

For more information, visit alandfriends.org and find Mary’s Barbecue on Instagram.

New Sea Root offerings

Sea Root, the restaurant in the Hyatt Regency Monterey, is introducing new spring-inspired dishes and spirits.

Continues next page
The Carmel Pine Cone      April 28, 2023

FOOD & WINE
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Full menu + additional specials
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In addition to the restaurant’s newly launched breakfast menu, Executive Chef Fabian Di Paolo will feature exclusive entree selections in celebration of local and visiting moms.

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Reservations may also be made on Open Table

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The musicians include The Jazz Birds, which features singers Gail Cruse, Vickie Neville Collins and Cher Peterson, saxophonist Jim Stainton, bassist Dennis Murphy and drummer Andy Weis.

Co-host and drummer Jim Vanderzwaan described the musical gathering as “a very special day to be a part of,” and he’s hoping to expand the lineup. “Pros are invited and welcome to participate,” Vanderzwaan said.

The Embassy Suites is located at 1441 Canyon Del Rey Blvd.

The Cherry Trio plays Sunday

The Cherry Trio performs Italian and Spanish music from the 17th century Sunday at its namesake, the Carmel Cherry Center for the Arts. The music starts at 3 p.m.

Featuring Elizabeth Gaver on violin, Penny Hann on viola da gamba and Michael Peterson on harpsichord, the trio will be joined by Francis Toldi on the dulcian, a woodwind instrument from the 16th and 17th centuries that was the predecessor of the bassoon. The program includes music from Italian and Spanish composers of the 17th century.

The center is located at Fourth and Guadalupe. Tickets are $25. Call (831) 624-7491.

Baroque series debuts

A new series of concerts, “The Gutsy Plucky Players,” that debuts Thursday at the Sand Box in Sand City celebrates the music of the Baroque era. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

“Derek Tam, the director of the San Francisco Early Music Society, brings his plucky harpsichord to the Sand Box for a program featuring works of Corelli, Viviani, Leonardo, and many other rock stars of the era,” announced Sand Box founder and cellist Michele Djoske, who will also play, along with violinst Pauline Kempf. Tickets are $35. The Sand Box is located at 440 Ortiz Ave. sandboxsandcity.com

Live music April 28-May 4

Bernardus Lodge & Spa in Carmel Valley — pianist Michael Culver (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist Casey Wickstrom (rock and blues, Saturday at noon), pianist Joe Indence (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist John Sherry (folk, rock and blues, See LIVE next page

The Daedalus String Quartet performs Saturday at Sunset Center in the final concert of the year for Chamber Music Monterey Bay. Pianist Soyeon Kate Lee accompanies the quartet.

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LIVE
From previous page

Sunday at noon. 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist Rick Chelew (’60s music, Saturday at 12:30 p.m.), 4680 Highway 1. Hon Ton L’Roy’s Lighthouse Smokeshow in Monterey — the Knotty Gs (Americana, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 794 Lighthouse Ave.

Cibo restaurant in Monterey — The Dave Holodiloff Duo (bluegrass and jazz, Sunday at 7 p.m.), singer Lee Durley and Scotty Wright (jazz, Tuesday at 7 p.m.), singer Miranda Perl and guitarist Adam Astrup (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St.

Cypress Inn — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and R&B, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m.), pianist Lee Durley and pianist Joe Indence (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh.

De Tierra Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist Freshour (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth.

Deja Blue in Seaside — singer Minor Williams and others (R&B and funk, Saturday at 3 p.m.), singer Wandza Diamond, keyboardist Michael Robinson, drummer Leon Joyce Jr., and others (R&B, Sunday at 3 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and multi-instrumentalist Meredith McElroy (Friday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist Chris Jones (Sunday at 2 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

Gusto Pasta and Pizza in Seaside — singer and multi-instrumentalist Chuck Brewer and guitarist Ernie Buck (rock and blues, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.). 1901 Fremont Blvd.

The Henry Miller Library in Big Sur — singer and guitarist Darryl Purvis (Saturday at 7 p.m.) and Open Mic Night (Thursday at 5 p.m.). 48603 Highway 1.

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and R&B, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — The Andy Weis Band with pianist Bill Spencer and bassist Pete Lips (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.), The Andy Weis Band with pianist Gary Meek and bassist Dan Robbins (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.), The Andy Weis Band with pianist Gary Meek and bassist Steve Uccello (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.

Intercontinental Hotel in Monterey — guitarist John Sherry (folk, rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist Terrence Ferrell (Latin music, Sunday at 9 a.m.). 750 Cannery Row.

La Playa Hotel — The David Morwood Band (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., Open Mic Night (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and pianist John Harris (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), and singer and multi-instrumentalist Meredith McElroy (Saturday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

Lucy’s on Lighthouse in Pacific Grove — singer and guitarist Jim Fucillo (rock, Saturday at 2 p.m.). Evergreen featuring singer Lisa Marie and singer and guitarist

continued next page
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PUBLISHED: MAY 12, 2023

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From previous page

nist Gennady Loktionov (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m., 26270 Dolores St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — pianist Steve Mann (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist Scott Brown (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), keyboardist Peter

Cor (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), 400 Cannery Row.

Puma Road at Portola Plaza in Monterey — singer and guitarist Sherrieta Perez (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist Kris Angelis (Saturday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist Matt Masih (Sunday at 5 p.m.), 281 Alvarado St.

Rio Grill — singer and guitarist Dan Cortes (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist Darryl Purpose takes the stage Saturday at the Henry Miller Library in Big Sur.

From previous page

paring Scott Slaughter (Saturday at noon), singer and guitarist Kevin Pfeffer (Sunday at noon). Crossroads shopping center.

The Sardine Factory in Monterey — singer and multi-instrumentalist David Conley (pop and rock, Friday and Saturday at 5 p.m.).

Salty Seal Pub in Monterey — Mixtape (pop and rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), The Tramps Rockers (rock and funk, Sunday at 8 p.m.), The Backbeats (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist Kyle Kovalik (Thursday at 6 p.m.).

Sly McFly’s in Monterey — Mad About You (pop and rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), The Joint Chiefs (rock and funk, Saturday at 9 p.m.), Rhythm Tribe West (rock, Sunday at 9 p.m.), The Long Distance Flyers (classic rock, Monday at 9 p.m.), Victory Lane (classic rock, Tuesday at 9 p.m.), Johnny Tsunami (rock, Wednesday at 9 p.m.), DC Trio (rock and funk, Thursday at 9 p.m.).

Tarp’y’s in Monterey — Andrea’s Fault Duo (jazz and blues, Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist Casey Frazier (Saturday at 5 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist Meredith McHenry (Sunday at noon), 2999 Highway 68.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist Greg Freeman and singer Wendy Lyn (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist Lindsay Berry (pop and soul, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

Wild Fish restaurant in Pacific Grove — The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet with pianist Bob Phillips, saxophonist Paul Contos, bassist Zach Westfall and drummer Mike Shannon (Friday, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), 545 Lighthouse Ave.

To update these listings, email chris@carmelpinecone.com

Music From the Time

VIVAT REGINA!

MADREGALIA! & THE PASTYME CONSORT

MAY 5, 2023 AT 7:30PM

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+++++++ MONTEREY+++++++
April 29 — Monterey State Historic Park Spring Gathering. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Memory Garden, Pacific House, Monterey State Historic Park. Open to the public, free event, mingle in the garden learn about volunteer opportunities in the state park, education programs and the restoration efforts of the Monterey County Historical Park Foundation.

May 1 — “The Great Variety of Orchids That Can Grow Outdoors in Our Area,” presented 7 p.m. The Carmel Orchid Society welcomes guest speaker Deni Wenzler. Meeting held at the Pebble Beach Community Services building next to the PB Fire Station at 3101 Forest Lake Road. Free event. Guests welcome! Plant table.

May 5 — Vivat Regina! Music from the Time of Elizabeth. 4 p.m. at St. Mary’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 800 Cass St, Monterey. Suggested donation $25. Students free. www.pastynymusic.com

May 7 — “The Great Variety of Orchids That Can Grow Outdoors in Our Area,” presented 7 p.m. at St. Mary’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Pacific Grove. Advance tickets $30, door $35. Purchase at www.coheitsociety.org, kids’ prices available. For info call or text (831) 224-3819.

May 7 — Tor House Foundation’s Annual Garden Party. 2-5 p.m. at 26304 Ocean View Avenue, Carmel, 93923. $25. Visit the home of poet Robinson Jeffers. Climb Hawk Tower. Enjoy delectables in the garden. Listen to bagpipes, piano, fiddle. Photograph to your heart’s content. Masks required indoors. Visit: torhouse.org

May 7 — Scottish Supergroup Old Blind Dogs. 3 p.m. at St. Mary’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Pacific Grove. Advance tickets $30, door $35. Purchase at www.coheitsociety.org, kids’ prices available. For info call or text (831) 224-3819.

May 7 — Tor House Foundation’s Annual Garden Party. 2-5 p.m. at 26304 Ocean View Avenue, Carmel, 93923. $25. Visit the home of poet Robinson Jeffers. Climb Hawk Tower. Enjoy delectables in the garden. Listen to bagpipes, piano, fiddle. Photograph to your heart’s content. Masks required indoors. Visit: torhouse.org

May 13 — Congregation Beth Israel. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cohn’s First Theatre.

May 15 — Mother’s Day Buffet and Festivities. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa. $30 adults, $25 children ages 6-13, free for children under 6. Celebrate those special mothers in your life while enjoying stunning Monterey Bay views, a beautiful buffet, and fun family friendly activities. To learn more, https://montereyplazahotel.com/dining/mothers-day-buffet.

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, day-long class provides solid tools to help clear, balance and increase the energetic frequency of the client, increasing personal healing and enhancing wellness. Test or call (831) 402-5330 or register at Healingtouchforanimals.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 Avenue, Pacific Grove, 19-20 May) and Sea Star Horse Sanctuary (53 Riley Ranch Road, Carmel – 21 May). Friday classes: 2-6 p.m., 20-21 May. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Test or call (831) 402-5330 or register at Healingtouchforanimals.com

May 21 – Auldais Fraser and The San Francisco Scottish 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.sfidsfes.org


For Life, an annual national effort that raises about $4 million annually for HIV/AIDS service groups through restaurants donating portions of their proceeds. He also supports and has served on the boards of numerous other charities.

Allen holds a master’s in journalism from New York University, with an advanced certificate in the school’s science and environmental reporting program, and a bachelor’s in psychology from Purdue University. He lives in Brooklyn with husband Barry Rice.

Tickets run from $55 to $85 and can be ordered online at sunsetcenter.org, by phone at (831) 620-2048 or at the box office Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m.

Ted Allen, best known as host of Food Network’s “Chopped,” will kick off Carmel’s Culinary Week on June 8 at Sunset Center.

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CALANDER
Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

gives them a magic realism — her details are amazing.” A member of the Carmel Art Association, Carroll is inspired by “the early Dutch and Spanish masters,” and focuses her work on “showcasing the beauty and inherent truth in everyday objects.”

The show continues through May 28. The gallery, which hosts a reception for Carroll May 14 at 3 p.m., is located on Dolores between Ocean and Seventh.

‘Explorations’ opens at museum

Opening this week at the Monterey Museum of Art is a show by a photographer Martha Casanave, who pushes the boundaries of her medium by employing one of its earliest techniques. The winner of the prestigious Imogen Cunningham Photography Award in 1979, Casanave explores pinhole photography in her latest show. The technique pre-dates the Civil War.

“Its allure is its very simplicity: a box with a tiny hole creating an image,” Casanave explained. “No lens, no

See ART page 55A
A painter with an intense focus on realism, Pamela Carroll has a new show on display at Winfield Gallery.

From page 53A

ART

New show on display at Winfield Gallery.

A pair of artists, painter Amanda Burkman and sculptor Yves Goyatton, share their creations from Friday 5 to 9 p.m. during a pop-up show in The Barnyard shopping center’s Community Shared Space room.

Burkman’s “recycled paint chip mosaics” include figurative, abstracts, landscapes and portraits. A native of France and a member of the Carmel Art Association, Goyatton finds inspiration in architectural shapes and their juxtaposition with the human form.

The room (H23) is located in the shopping center’s Sierra Barn. The shopping center is located at 3663 The Barnyard.

‘By artists’ & ‘for artists’

A local group founded five decades ago “by artists” and “for artists,” the Monterey Peninsula Art Foundation presents an All-Member Exhibition in May and June at Seaside City Hall.

Titled “Creative Superbloom,” the show includes oil paintings, watercolors, pastels, photograph and sculpture by the group’s members.

The site of a reception set for May 12 at 7 p.m., Seaside City Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Besides the display, the group has a gallery at 425 Canary Row in Monterey.

APRIL 2023

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SAVE THE DATES

FRIDAY, MAY 12
Membership Luncheon & State of the City
The Inn at Spanish Bay
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 25
Ribbon Cutting
Hidden Hills Brewery
The Barnyard
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

THURSDAY, JUNE 15
Ribbon Cutting
Le Coupe, a Susan De Nicolo Gallery
Carmel Square
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21
Team Beesley Summer Mixer
The Henry Hoover Cottage
600 Monterey Street, Monterey
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23
Mixer
The Crossroads Carmel
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

CARMEL Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 4444, Carmel, CA 93921 (831) 624-3877

Annual Membership Luncheon & State of the City
Friday, May 12th
11:30am - 1:30pm
The Inn at Spanish Bay

Join local business owners, community leaders, and prominent local politicians as we review our achievements, celebrate Membership milestones, and look ahead to our exciting future.

GUEST SPEAKERS
City Mayor Dave Porter and City Administrator Chip Rerig
Senator John Laird, representing the 17th State Senate District

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10 YEARS

5 YEARS
1st Capital Bank, AIM Youth Mental Health, Carmel Fun Map, Carmel Valley Art Association, Carmel Valley Tennis Camp, Central Coast Community Energy, Danielle Price, De Tierra Vineyards, Delia Bradford Fine Arts, Donna Jean Photography, Double H Ranch BRR at Stonepine Estate, Eric Brown DDS, Glick Design, Holman Ranch Tasting Room, House of 8 Media, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa, icreate Design Studio, Mad Dogs & Englishmen Bike Shop, Meuse Gallery, Monterey Presbyterian Church, Monterey Touring Vehicles, Native Coast Landscapes, Olde English Inn, Optique America, ReGen Monterey, Rothwell Realty Inc., Seaside Yoga Sanctuary, SHE, Special Olympics of Northern California, Stationary, Synergy One Lending, Tenji Aquarium Design + Build, Titus Waterproofing

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This week’s cover, located in Carmel, is presented by Canning Properties Group of Sotheby’s International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)
Real Estate Sales April 16 - 22

Escrows closed: 37
Total value: $57,574,000

Carmel
San Carlos Street, 4NE of 12th Avenue — $2,438,000
Michael Katakas to Michael and Amae German
APN: 010-153-008

Carmel Highlands
95 Yankee Point Drive — $1,800,000
Dean Wiebey and Oddon Trust to Mackylie Marshans
APN: 243-182-011

20 Mentone Road — $4,150,000
Kay Giovetta to Keith and Judy Bequeira
APN: 243-193-031

Carmel Valley
264 Hacienda Carmel — $490,000
Margaret Van Ostrand to Florence Stowell
APN: 015-356-016

6 Hacienda Carmel — $730,000
Jaice and Dai Williams to Karen Jeffries
APN: 015-332-010

73 Del Mesa Carmel — $891,000
Kathryn Parker to Gregory and Sandra D’Ambrosio
APN: 015-446-009

Carmel Highlands
20 Mentone Road, Carmel Highlands — $4,150,000

See HOME SALES page 4RE

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From page 2RE

Carmel Valley (con’t.)
3850 Rio Road unit B4 — $1,100,000
Kevin and Kristin Huston to Marilyn Woods
APN: 015-532-036

45 Del Mesa Carmel — $1,255,000
John and Alexandra Dickerman to Barbara Elder and Mary Pollock
APN: 015-442-023

3548 Greenfield Place — $1,649,000
Leslie Johnson and Christopher Winfield to David and Aimee Steven
APN: 015-451-043

2 La Rancheria Road — $1,650,000
Steven Bruno to Patrick and Kathryn Craig
APN: 187-121-039

6 Hacienda Carmel, Carmel Valley — $730,000
Marc and Janinia Colliard to Brad and Lisa Serwin
APN: 168-421-045

See ESCROWS page 12RE

New Listing
311 Chestnut Street, Pacific Grove — $1,795,000
Leslie Johnson and Christopher Winfield to David and Aimee Steven
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Dating back further than the scenic, winding path of Highway One, this six-parcel, 350-acre coastal ranch presents a colorful past and an even brighter future.

Six unique homes, a magnificent redwood grove, and a private beach inhabit this serene stretch of land nestled between the canyon and cliffs. A private access road connects all of these homesites, where expansive decks overlook the diverse terrain and secluded paths allow for a lifestyle centered on the outdoors. With its use of rustic stone and wood, the original homestead proudly exhibits its rich history, while the more modern buildings gracefully complement it. Together, the property offers 12 bedrooms, 10.5 bathrooms, 2 pools (indoor and outdoor), and innumerable viewing points. Cherish the calming effect of year-round streams, hikes up the canyon, and quick access to fine dining - Post Ranch Inn and Nepenthe. The potential for a private helipad will further prestige, and the undeveloped beach parcel presents endless value.

newellranchbigsur.com
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Carmel area: Stewart Way resident reported suspicious activity on her laptop computer. This report is for informational purposes only.

Pebble Beach: A theft was reported on Paradise Park Road and is under investigation.

Big Sur: A battery was reported on Highway 1. A 31-year-old female was also issued a trespass admonishment.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost Trader Joe’s tote bag reported at Scenic and Del Mar.


Carmel Valley: A 46-year-old male was arrested at the Crossroads shopping center for a parole and probation violation.

Carmel Valley: Business establishment on Carmel Valley Road wanted a 60-year-old male to be trespassed from the property.

Pebble Beach: A male was issued a tres-

See SHERIFF page 9RE
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My Sales
Confessions of a consummate corporate cocktail party schmoozer

Half of the harm done in this world is due to people who want to feel important — “The Cocktail Party,” by T.S. Eliot

Eye on the prize
At cocktail parties, I became one of those rare people who can get down into the woods, work on the details, yet still see the big picture. I was there to schmooze the clients and allay any complaints they might have with soothing platitudes and even more soothing martinis. It was a setting where I learned that it mattered little whether my conversation could be understood — just so long as nothing I said could be misunderstood. Often it took a great deal of restraint not to be impolite to a client who was two sheets to the wind — any more to drink and the third sheet

Scene Views

By JERRY GERVAISE

would become a shroud.

I learned that clients wanted to do the talking. It was their job to impress upon me how important they were in the decision-making process that determined whether my product would be purchased and to remind me that they controlled my destiny — and I became an expert at letting them think so.

I did this with a few key phrases that were virtually meaningless but, when said at the proper time and with varying inflections, enabled me to tiptoe through the conversational minefields of corporate cocktail parties. Among them were, “It’s all good,” and “It’s what it is.” It was important not to use them in the wrong situations. The phrase, “It’s all good,” is best thrown into a conversation that has positive overtones. Thus, when buttressed by a client who was so deep into the martinis that he was drowning in a gin-soaked sea of self-importance, and lecturing me on the importance of his importance, I would nod my head (another invaluable maneuver) and when he stopped for air I would say, “It’s all good.” Usually, his eyebrows rose in non-comprehension (but not in misunderstanding).

Throw in a ‘bro’

If he really needed more approbation, I delivered the phrase while extending my arm and placing my hand on his arm (the one not holding his martini). If his eyes were glassy enough, I would add “brother” to the phrase — “It’s all good, brother.” If he were really gone I would add “bro” as in, “It’s all good, bro,” which presaged a degree of camaraderie only shared and understood by captains of industry. If I really wanted to lay it on thick, I would lead into “It’s all good,” with, “In today’s world,” which implied globalization and gave solemnity to my meaningless phrases.

See GERVAISE next page

Iconic Views of Stillwater Cove & Point Lobos

— 3908 Ronda Road, Pebble Beach • 5 Beds, 5.5 Baths • 7,113 sq. ft. • 0.92 Acres • $15,500,000

Capturing the essence of indoor-outdoor living, this European inspired estate in the heart of Pebble Beach offers a stylish and sophisticated residence. This newly built home boasts impressive sunset views over treetops to the Pacific Ocean, while the forested setting offers ultimate privacy.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 14
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury accident on San Antonio Avenue.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vandalism to a vehicle at Dolores and 10th.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost wallet at Carmel Beach.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Information report at Forest Avenue.
Pacific Grove: Theft of personal property at Forest Avenue.
Pacific Grove: A wallet was turned in to the police station. It was found on the border of Pacific Grove and Monterey on Foam Street. Owner could not be contacted, so the item will be held for safekeeping.

Pacific Grove: A watch was turned in to the police department that was found near the Grill at Lovers Point. Owner information is not known, so the item will be held for safekeeping.
Pebble Beach: Suspicious circumstances reported on Sunridge Road.
Pebble Beach: Report of financial elder abuse at a residence on Sunridge Road.
Carmel Valley: Report of alleged financial abuse on Carmel Valley Road.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury accident on San Antonio Avenue.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Violation of a restraining order on Santa Fe south of First.

The second key phrase, “It is what it is,” is best reserved for untenable situations. Perhaps the client’s business was bad, costs were out of control, the market was unstable, his company was being killed by cheap Chinese knock-offs — all things beyond his control.

His eyes pleaded with me for a solution, so I would say, “It is what it is,” using the hand-on-arm maneuver and adding “brother” or “buddy” where appropriate. Almost invariably, his pained expression melted into one of gratitude at my understanding of their problems. And then I would add, “Going forward…” without finishing the sentence but giving him some hope that things will get better.

Sometimes they would ask for proprietary information I could not divulge. “That’s above my pay grade,” wouldn’t suffice because then he inferred that he was dealing with a low-level executive and I couldn’t jeopardize my own importance. “I don’t have the bandwidth for that” became my go-to answer. I have no idea what it means, but the customer concluded I was hinting that I had the authority but not the breadth of freedom to discuss the issue. This would be a good time to use “granular” and/or “metrics,” as in, “The metrics prevent me from being more granular about that.” Then I would polish it off with, “Perhaps we should take this offline” (sotto voce), followed with a knowing smile and an offer to refresh his drink.

You may bridle at what you would consider my superficiality and obvious manipulation. And I would disagree with your assessment. But you know, bro, in order to survive, you gotta do what you gotta do. You need to think outside the box and grab the low-hanging fruit — because it’s a jungle out there.

Contact Jerry at jerrygervase@yahoo.com.

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Carmel Valley (cont.)

515 W. Carmel Valley Road — $3,050,000
Satoru and Vicki Higa to RDF Investments LLC
APN: 157-061-005

7036 Valley Greens Circle — $1,400,000
Carmen Desai to Theodore and Jane Druker
APN: 157-061-025

Highway 68

22585 Toreador Drive — $955,000
Estate of Helen Louray to Christopher Argoud and
APN: 101-151-008

Zamora

James and Stephanie Dietz to Thomas Gallagher and Delfina
1184 Josselyn Canyon Road — $1,210,000
APN: 161-292-022

Tessa Cady

Estate of Helen Louray to Christopher Argoud and
22585 Toreador Drive — $955,000
APN: 101-151-008

Carmel Valley (con’t.)

7036 Valley Greens Circle, Carmel Valley — $3,275,000
Satoru and Vicki Higa to RDF Investments LLC
APN: 157-061-005

LOG
From page 9RE

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Ticket sign-off at the station.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Amuso surrender by a Torres resi-
dent.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Battery on Mission Street.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost wallet on the beach.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost ring on the beach.
Pacific Grove: A doorjamb of a building on Seventh
Street was vandalized by an unknown subject(s).
Pacific Grove: Officers dispatched to the 100 block of
Central Avenue in Pacific Grove regarding a welfare
check on a male lying on the sidewalk. The male was
contacted and determined to be unable to care for himself due to his
level of intoxication. During the arrest, the 27-year-old male resist-
ed officers. He was transported to a local hospital to receive treatment,
and charges were forwarded to the district attor-
ney’s office.
Pacific Grove: Officers dispatched after a solo-vehicle
collision. Upon arrival, officers developed probable cause
the driver was driving under the influence and arrested
the 22-year-old female.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Carmel Valley: Report of a restraining-order violation
at a Cashua Road residence.
Pebble Beach: A 54-year-old Mora Lane resident was ar-
rested for inflicting injury to a dating partner, mayhem
and assault with force causing great bodily injury involving a
57-year-old female victim.
Carmel area: Deputies responded to a suspicious circum-
stance on Rio Road.
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury accident on Dolores
Street. Vehicle was towed away.

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$1,818,000 3 bed 3 bath 219 Locust St, PG

$980,000 2 bed 1 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$790,000 2 bed 1.5 bath 31660 Via La Estre, Carmel Valley

$595,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$595,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$575,000 3 bed 2 bath 800 3rd St, Carmel Valley

$500,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$450,000 3 bed 2 bath 31660 Via La Estre, Carmel Valley

$450,000 3 bed 2 bath 313 14th St, PG

$435,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$425,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$400,000 3 bed 2 bath 313 14th St, PG

$350,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$300,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$250,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$200,000 3 bed 2 bath 31660 Via La Estre, Carmel Valley

$150,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$150,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$125,000 3 bed 1 bath 31660 Via La Estre, Carmel Valley

$100,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

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$50,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$45,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$40,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$27,500 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$22,500 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$20,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$15,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$10,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$9,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$8,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$7,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$6,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$5,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$4,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$3,000 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$2,000 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$1,000 3 bed 2 bath 1732 Luxton St, Seaside

$500 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

$350 3 bed 2 bath 1207 Presidio Blvd, PG

$250 3 bed 1 bath 313 14th St, PG

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From page 12RE

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499 Bonte Court — $1,400,000
JA Marina Builders to Maksim Vlasov and Marina Vlasova
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497 Bonte Court — $1,923,500
JA Marina Builders to Douglas and Brenda Gips
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Monterey

820 Casanova Avenue unit 9 — $449,000
Suzanne Kloza to Crystal Suarez
APN: 013-253-043

257 Littleness Avenue — $1,020,000
Brandon Sullivan to Marina Mesa
APN: 013-173-016

721 Oak Street — $1,030,000
Galina Epstein to Seaside Real Estate & Investments Inc.
APN: 001-129-007

Pebble Beach

4041 Los Altos Drive — $2,500,000
Leon Le and Minh Nguyen to Amardeep Aulakh and Jaspreet Kaur
APN: 008-112-025

3893 Ronda Road — $5,398,000
Albert and Dawn Wood to Priya Balasubramanian
APN: 008-234-023

Seaside

1300 Flores Street — $655,000

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