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The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 91 No. 13

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April 1-7, 2005

YOUR SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS, ARTS AND OPINION SINCE 1915

ONE DEGREE OF SEPARATION

By MARY BROWNFIELD

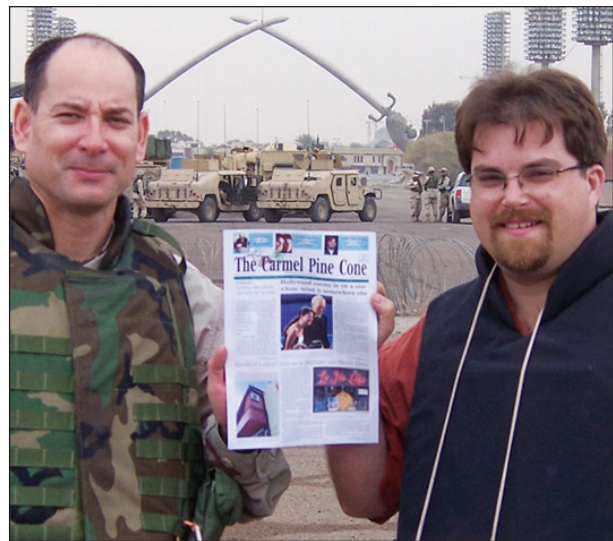
TWO MEN worked together in Baghdad's Green Zone — now called the International Zone — for weeks before realizing they shared much in common.

"After a month of working together here in the International Zone, Ethan Luke overheard me talking about Carmel. We discovered that we both graduated from Carmel High School," wrote Brek Corso in an e-mail to The Pine Cone.

Corso, who grew up in Carmel Valley and graduated in 1986 before obtaining a degree in psychology from Cal State San Marcos, arrived in Iraq April 5, 2004. For the past year, he has worked for a reconstruction contractor.

"Working in Iraq has been the most rewarding experience of my life," he wrote.

Luke, who graduated from CHS in 1979 and has a degree in finance from San Francisco State University, met Corso while on a 120-day assignment helping rebuild Baghdad with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was first deployed to restore Iraqi oil resources from May



Ethan Luke (left) and Brek Corso, Carmel High grads who met serendipitously in Baghdad, keep up with news from home with the The Pine Cone they downloaded from the Internet.



PHOTOS/COURTESY BREK CORSO

At the base of the looming statue of the Crossed Scimitars in Baghdad are Iranian helmets embedded in the tarmac for Iraqis to trample upon. The helmets were war prizes claimed during the 1980-88 Iran/Iraq war. The swords are said to be made from the guns of fallen Iraqi soldiers.

through October 2003.

It should be noted that the Pine Cone in their hands was not taken along in their suitcase; they downloaded and printed it from the internet, which disseminates the paper worldwide each week in its entirety.

Moment of truth for coastal commission

■ *After two-year delay, supreme court
to hear case on agency's constitutionality*

By PAUL MILLER

THE APPEALS court had its say way back in 2002, when a three-judge panel ruled unanimously that the California Coastal Commission had too much power and was unconstitutional.

Next week, after a wait of more than two years, the state supreme court will finally hear the coastal commission's appeal of that ruling — a session that has enormous implications for the Pebble Beach Company and its new golf course in Del Monte Forest, for proponents of a desal plant to solve the peninsula's longstanding water crisis, and for hundreds of other property owners and local governments along the state's precious coast.

"If my client prevails before the supreme court, the coastal commission will be limited to setting policy pursuant to the California Coastal Act and will no longer have the power to issue, condition or deny coastal permits," said Ron Zumbrun, attorney for the Marine Forests Society, an Orange County environmental group that sued in 1999 after the coastal commission ordered the group's experimental underwater reef off the Newport Beach pier be dismantled.

According to Zumbrun, if the supreme court sees things his way, the routine permit functions which the commission has carried out for nearly 30 years would revert to local governments. This was the "original intent of the Coastal Act of 1976," Zumbrun said.

Even if the coastal act intended that permit hearings be carried out locally, the law also gave enormous power to the legislature, too much power to be legal according to the appeals court. Since 8 of 12 coastal commissioners are appointed by the President of the State Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly, the legislature effectively controls

See *COMMISSION* page 11A

Carmel, P.G. beaches attracting Salinas gang members

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WHETHER TO avoid the cops who know they're violating probation or to hang out without fear of attack by rivals, gang members from other Monterey County cities are being spotted more and more in Pacific Grove and Carmel.

"This is not an area where they need to constantly watch their backs. They'll drink alcohol and go to the beach with their girlfriends," said PGPD Lt. Tom Uretsky. "They come to P.G. because in many cases it's considered neutral territory by the Salinas gangs."

And police say locals should beware: A volatile situation can easily ignite if warring gang members find themselves on the same stretch of sand.

Carmel Police Detective Jesse Juarez said Carmel Beach has long been a destination for gang members, especially during warm summer nights.

"People will come in because they don't get messed with, so they come here to just kick back and chill out," he said. "They're not necessarily committing crime."

But they will if the opportunity arises, warned Salinas Police Sgt. Matt Maldonado, who has worked

See *GANGS* page 8A

FOSSETT BREAKS ANOTHER WORLD RECORD, BUT DID HE EAT THE TARANTULA?

By KIRSTIE WILDE

NEW YORK — CARMEL CAN claim only a third of world-famous explorer Steve Fossett, who divides his time on terra firma between his Carmel Highlands home and his base in Colorado. But when it comes to aeronautical exploration, half of Fossett is still double that of most mortal men.

'In one of my earlier aeronautical adventures, I went down in a thunderstorm in the Coral Sea and the flag went down in the capsule.'

— Steve Fossett

The adventurer has just been honored by the venerable Explorers Club in New York — founded in 1904 with the ideal that it is vital to preserve the instinct to explore — for what has been called the last great aviation record: a solo non-stop circumnavigation of the globe, which Fossett completed March 3 when his single-engine jet touched down in Salina, Kansas, after a 23,000-mile flight around the world in just 67 hours, 2 minutes and 38 seconds. That first was just one of four world records Fossett set in the past 12 months. He broke the speed title for sailing around the globe with a time of 58 days, nine hours. He set the record for gliding



PHOTO/KIRSTIE WILDE

Steve Fossett with his Explorers Medal at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, where he returned the flag from his latest adventure.

See *FOSSETT* page 20A

FAKE MONEY ORDERS FAIL TO FOOL HOTEL MANAGER

By MARY BROWNFIELD

A NEW scam involving money orders hit a Carmel innkeeper last week, but the savvy intended victim recognized the dupe. Detective Jesse Juarez issued a warning this week to hotels that might be similarly targeted.

The Monte Verde Inn received five counterfeit U.S. Postal Service money

orders of \$700 each in payment for a room March 21, according to Juarez.

The person who sent the money orders claimed there was a room reservation, but the manager could find no such thing, Juarez said. The same day, the inn received an e-mail reporting the guests who booked the room were stuck in Spain and needed some of their money back in order to leave the country. The innkeeper was asked to

deposit the money orders, withhold a share for the trouble, and return the remaining \$1,600.

Juarez explained how the scam works. "By the time the USPS notices they are fraudulent, the [victim usually] has already sent the money back."

But the Monte Verde Inn manager, Andrea Colker, was suspicious. Her questions did not receive satisfactory answers.

"She was very sharp in realizing the e-mail traffic was pretty much one sided," he said. "The hotel person was asking specific questions, and the other person trying to commit the fraud was being very elusive."

Ultimately, she contacted the U.S. Postal Service and confirmed the money orders were fake. She brought them to Carmel P.D. March 25.

Juarez said the money orders were recognizable as counterfeits to a practiced eye, and he advised shopkeepers and hoteliers to look for faded colors and watermarks that appear on the surface of the paper rather than embedded in it.

Anyone with doubts about a money order's authenticity should contact the issuing agency.

Juarez forwarded the fakes to postal service inspectors, who will take over the case.

Greetings from Togo

While typically perpetrated by e-mail and fax, a common scam letter sent from Africa arrived in a target's Carmel post office box March 22, according to Juarez.

The letter advised her she had the same last name as a person who had died in Africa and whose money was being held in the bank and would soon be collected by the government unless an heir was found. It asked her to forward her bank account information to the letter writer, who would then give her a share of the riches in exchange for the temporary use of her bank account.

Similar "advanced fee fraud scenarios" allege an oil company's riches must make it to the United States before they are confiscated, and the scammers offer a percentage or a fixed dollar amount in exchange for use of the victim's bank account to hold the cash.

The most obvious indicator that such letters are scams is their lack of any specific information about the recipient.

"One of the key things people need to notice is that your name is not anywhere in the letter," Juarez said. "It will only allude to the fact that they know your name."

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TOT campaigns wind down

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WITH ABSENTEE ballots steadily pouring in to the Monterey County Elections office and polls set to open Tuesday, both sides of the proposed Carmel hotel tax increase are pressing their messages.

Supporters believe increasing the transient occupancy tax from 10 percent to 12 percent would raise \$700,000 a year for the city — money to maintain city parks, beaches, open space, buildings and infrastructure, as well as promote tourism. Because it allocates the funds for specific uses, it requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

Opponents argue the tax hike needs a termination date; they don't like the fact that it can only be rescinded by another vote of the people; they believe it will damage the faltering tourism industry; it would take money-spending decisions away from the council, and the city budget already relies too heavily on visitors' tax dollars.

Campaigners have been warming the sidewalk in front of the post office, among them city officials who oppose the tax hike and some residents who favor it.

"There are no surprises planned for the last minute that I'm aware of [for the campaigns]," said Carmel Mayor Sue McCloud, who distributed "No on Measure A" information at the post office.

City councilwoman Paula Hazdovac campaigned on the No side last Friday and plans to do so again April 4.

"I'm optimistic, considering the comments I'm getting from people," she said about the chances to defeat the tax hike. "They also feel it's the wrong time to be doing this. If the economy were healthy and our occupancy rates were up to historic high levels, then yeah, we would have just done it, though maybe not 2 percentage points."

During discussions of how best to increase cash flow to the general fund, the city council dismissed a TOT increase as bad for business and instead favored a smaller sales-tax increase. After proponents gathered

enough signatures to put the tax increase on the ballot, the council voted to oppose it and then drafted arguments against it for the voter information pamphlet. The Carmel Chamber of Commerce and local innkeepers also oppose the tax increase.

Ann Fairbank, who spearheaded the idea with Carmel residents Jim Brun and Mike Biele, said many have taken up the fight for the tax.

"The supporters of the initiative are putting more into it than any of us have been," she said, including several members of the Carmel Residents Association. "They've picked up the ball."

Fairbank encouraged every registered voter in the city to cast a ballot in favor of the tax increase, which she doubts visitors will object to paying.

"If I wanted to [visit Carmel, the tax increase] "wouldn't even be part of the equation," she said. "You're willing to go support a beautiful community that you want to visit."

In addition, she speculated high-end and middle-income customers are always going to gravitate toward hotels in Carmel and near the beach, regardless of the tax on a room.

"Who would have suggested this if they thought it would hurt commerce?" she asked. "No one."

Roberta Miller, a CRA member who favors the tax increase, said supporters have become reenergized as the election draws near, particularly given the positive reaction from many residents.

"This will ensure Carmel's long-term financial stability and return Carmel to its world-class status," she said.

As for final campaign strategy, she said, "We'll talk to as many people as we possibly can."

According to Carledene Rollman in the county elections department, more than half of the 1,628 absentee ballots mailed to voters in March have been cast. The polls at Sunset Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. April 5, after which results will be announced in Carmel City Hall.

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Prominent Carmelites urge you to vote NO on Measure A on April 5th:

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Indira Aslan	Mary Anne Conmy	Dolores P. Hagey	Dennis Levett	Gail Scearce	Denise Swift
Sigrid S. Banks	Susan Cornett	Norma Hall	Bob Little	Rod Schimerer	Ken Talmage
Bart Bartram	Judy Cunningham	Bob Harr	Caroline MacDonald	Dona Seymour-Smith	Chris Tescher
Mitsu Bartram	Edgar Daniels	Harriet Harrell	Don Mathews	Deborah Sharp	Tammi Thaup
Michael Batori	Lisa Dias	John Haveles	Betty Mathews	Dennis C. Sharp	Carrie Theis
Clay Berling	Tom Dineen	Dorothy Herning	Ali McDaniel	Bill Shellooe	Doris Theis
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Nellie Brocchini	William Eggleston	Diane Hydorn	Thomas V. Nash	Jason Sims	Kevan Urquhart
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Eileen Caul	Roger L. Frasca	Nancy Jones	Earl H. Power	Connie Spencer	Michel Willey
Joseph Chaffers	Joyce Frasca	Casey Jones	Karen Redmon	Rob Spencer	Susan J. Willey
Betty Chaffers	Larry Frisone	David Keyston	Fred Reed	Patricia Steele	John Wilson
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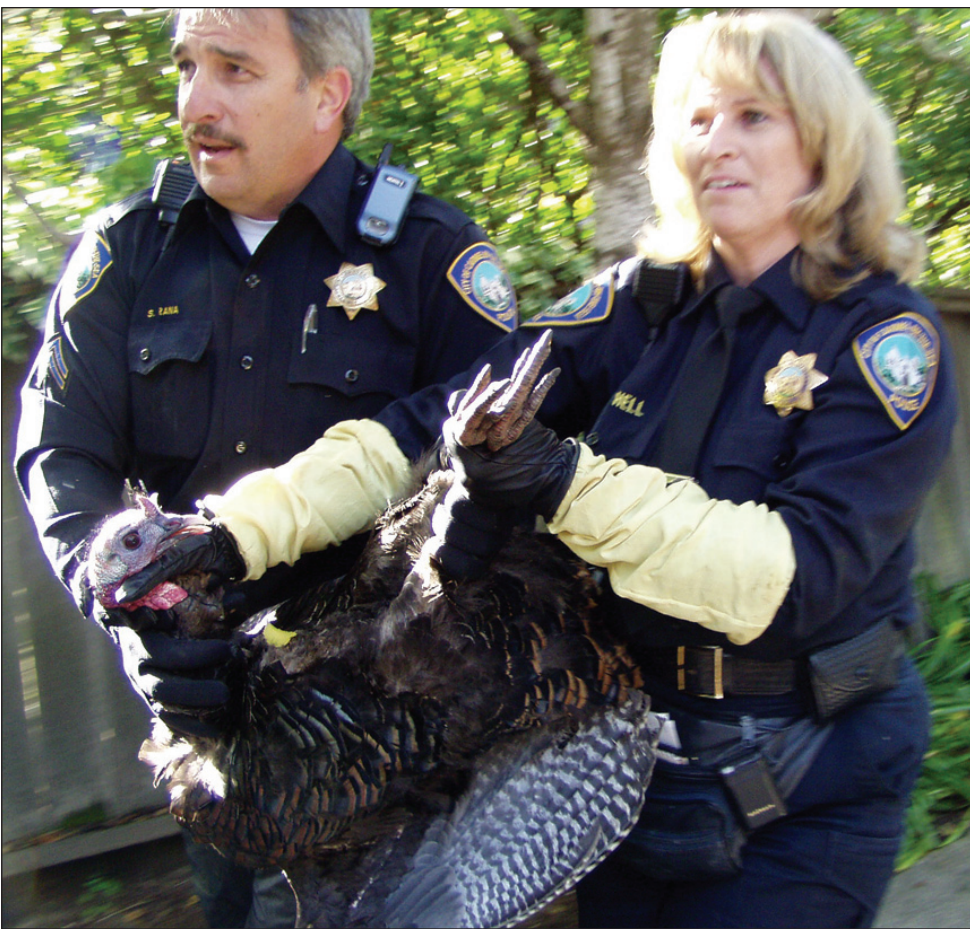


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PHOTO/MARY BROWNFIELD

Doin' the turkey trot are Carmel Police Cpl. Steve Rana and animal control officer Cindi Mitchell. It was a nice break from chasing bad guys and marauding raccoons.

Cops wrestle one heck of a turkey

"IT'S ABOUT 4 feet tall," a police corporal said over his scanner Monday afternoon, before he attempted to catch the large wild turkey occupying an Eighth Avenue driveway. A neighbor had called to report the formidable fowl was so enraptured with its own reflection that it refused to leave.

Grasping huge nets reminiscent of cartoon dogcatchers, Carmel Police Cpl. Steve Rana and animal control officer Cindi Mitchell captured the 15-pound bird after it fled to the back side of the small cottage.

Together they carried it to the street, where community services officer Lisa Panetta assembled a cage on Mitchell's scooter.

Turkey incarcerated, Mitchell drove it to the police department, with Rana providing an escort in his squad car, to be retrieved by a representative from the SPCA's wildlife center.

No March Thanksgiving dinner is in store, though. "They'll just take it somewhere and release it," Rana said.

Thomas Stiltz

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Police & Sheriff's Log

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Candor makes man spitting mad

BECAUSE OF space limitations in last week's Pine Cone, several days' calls logged by the Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department, the Carmel Fire Department and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office were delayed. They appear this week, along with the most recent calls, all compiled by Mary Brownfield.

Today's Real Estate

by MAUREEN MASON
Certified Residential Specialist



Preying Upon Young Homeowners

There is a relatively new mortgage scam being foisted upon young homeowners who are burdened by extraordinarily large monthly payments on their mortgage. They are told that, for an up-front fee, a group of mortgage experts can get their entire home mortgage debt discharged. They are further told that once the debt is discharged, the upfront fee — often about \$6,000 or more — can be financed and paid off as a loan.

The con artists practicing this scam gain the confidence of their victims by weaving a complex (and utterly incorrect) explanation of how the home financing market really works and how they can work it to their advantage. Once they sign on, the young homeowners are unwittingly participating in fraudulent activity.

The likely outcome of this tragedy is that the "experts" will soon vanish, the homeowners, whose \$6,000+ fee most likely more than drained all available resources, are facing foreclosure and will indeed lose their home. The salt in the wound is that they may also face a significant judgment against them for participating in fraudulent activity, and the resultant debts are not dischargeable through bankruptcy because they involve defrauding a lender. Needless to say, this poison pill must be entirely avoided. It can only result in personal disaster. As has been mentioned before, an advance fee should always tip us off to trouble. The promise of getting something (payoff of a mortgage balance) for nothing should also raise neon red flags! Need help? Just call Maureen at 622-2565 and visit her website at

www.maureenmason.com

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Owner of a Carmelo Street residence hired an attorney to represent her in the dispute with PG&E over workers installing a telephone pole in front of her house and possibly trespassing on her property to complete the work. Responded and found no work being conducted on any telephone poles in the area. Attempted to contact the homeowner, but she was not home. Contacted the attorney regarding the findings and informed the city building official regarding future problems.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Units responded to a report of juveniles drinking on the beach at 1537 hours. Arrived and observed one subject, an 18-year-old male, in possession of a beer. A search revealed he was also in possession of marijuana, Ecstasy and hashish. He was transported and booked into Monterey County Jail.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Responded to report of past-tense fall on city property. Contacted the victim, who was unable to say where she fell. She was only able to describe that she fell on her way to the beach somewhere on Eighth Avenue. She added that it was about a block from the beach and was on a sidewalk in a driveway. She was reluctant and refused to show her injury. She sustained only a minor injury to her knee.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Engine and ambulance responded to a fire alarm activation at Lincoln and Seventh in the Cypress Inn. Fire crews were requested to cancel en route by the hotel but

continued in Code 2 as a precaution. Upon arrival, the system had been reset by employees, who said they did not know how the alarm was activated. A search of the general area showed no problem, and the maintenance supervisor said he would call for an inspection of the detectors and the system.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Engine responded to report of wires down on Casanova between 11th and 13th. Two cable wires appeared to have been accidentally clipped by a truck that had passed through the area earlier. Firefighters secured the safety of the wires, wrapped them up and tied them off with yellow caution tape.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: On-duty fire and ambulance crews responded to a request for first aid inside the Carmel Fire Station. Emergency personnel provided an ice pack to an older female who had fallen on city property at Camino Real and Eighth. Police were notified of the incident. Patient refused further treatment or transport to the hospital.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Engine and ambulance responded to a residential fire alarm activation at Camino Real and 10th. Firefighters discovered the alarm had been activated by a worker striking the alarm box with a hammer by accident. There was no fire problem, but the alarm could not be reset, although it was silenced. The contractor said he would call the alarm company to request service and necessary repairs.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Engine and ambulance responded to a

See POLICE LOG page 6B

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Schools fight to boost state test scores

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WITH CARMEL Unified elementary schools again outshining the middle and high schools in the 2004 Academic Performance Index, district officials say they are aggressively developing strategies to boost student learning at the upper schools.

"The scores at the secondary level are disappointing," CUSD Superintendent Marvin Biasotti admitted. "We're not pleased."

According to the California Department of Education's evaluation, Carmel River School scored the highest of the six Carmel public schools, with 922 out of a possible 1,000 points. Tularcitos came in at 882 and Carmel Middle School at 810, placing them above the 800-point threshold the state uses to determine which schools are successful. Carmel High School scored just 752 points.

And when pitted against schools comparable in class size, student mobility, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and number of English-language learners, CMS and CHS also did not fare well.

Biasotti was quick to defend teachers in the middle and high schools. He said they are no less dedicated and competent than their lower school counterparts, and "the majority of our parents, as evidenced by our survey, continue to believe that the experiences we're providing their students are high quality."

Regardless, Biasotti said the district is working hard to better kids' scores.

"A year ago, we saw a rather dramatic drop in our scores, so at that point the discussion became accelerated," he said, as did the search for an assistant superintendent to tackle that task.

Mary Bull was hired in August and put in charge of curriculum and instruction.

Looking for instruction consistency

"One of the primary roles Mary has is the alignment of instruction with the state curriculum," Biasotti said.

Over the last few years, the district has brought the material in line with state expectations, but the actual instruction has varied across classes and schools.

Bull asked all the teachers in the district to examine the

standards and determine how their methods and materials aligned.

"They should be teaching the same content, so if it's third grade at Tularcitos or River, it's the same, and if it's your algebra class or mine, it's the same," she said.

Bull also recommended they help students learn at a more sophisticated, cognitive level — requiring not just memorization, but judgment, reasoning and perception.

"It's something you don't just do overnight, but we have exposed teachers to those cognitive levels, and they are collaborating to produce lessons that have those kinds of outcomes," she said.

Smooth transitions from one grade to the next are also imperative, Bull said.

"Teachers communicated with grade levels above and below about the strengths and weaknesses the students came in with and exited with," she explained.

Check in, don't check out

To better help pupils who fall behind, and to make sure students remain academically engaged until they graduate from high school, Biasotti said the district is implementing new classes, programs and strategies.

The board of education recently authorized the middle school to hold seventh-period classes four days a week for students whose skills are flagging, and several teachers have volunteered to lead them.

The early identification of slower learners and "well conceived intervention" in those extra courses should help, he said.

"We're also doing summer school differently," Bull said. Rather than repeat the courses in which they did not fair so well, summer school kids will have coursework "personally targeted to each student, with the hope of catching them up to their grade level."

"Shadow classes" at the high school will offer similar help, "to close whatever the gaps are in their learning and then help them keep up," Biasotti added.

Teachers and the district are researching ways to motivate students who are failing.

"We have a number of strategies designed to keep students more engaged and more successful, because success begets success," Biasotti said. "Freshman year really sets the tone for the remainder of the high school experience, so we're designing that year so far more students are succeeding in their curriculum."

That success will not come from easier assignments, but from "connecting students with teachers who are clearly committed in their desire to support them."

Biasotti expects the effects of that change to manifest more slowly than the others.

"Motivation is not something that changes overnight just because you start putting some structures in place," he said.

But other evidence of success could appear as soon as next month, when Carmel students take the exams that will be used to calculate 2005 API figures.

"The awareness level has increased significantly, and teachers are making every effort to teach the standards in a thorough way," Bull said. "A year from now will be stronger, but I think we will see some change this time around."



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Carmel Valley

LAFCO to C.V. firefighters — It's too early for divorce

By CHRIS COUNTS

A CONTENTIOUS public hearing Feb. 28 illustrated how great the differences are between the leaders of the Carmel Valley Fire Protection District and some longtime volunteer firefighters who want to break away from the agency. Despite encouragement by Local Agency Formation commissioners for the two sides to seek mediation, and that a divorce may not be necessary, a hearing March 28 made it clear that little has changed.

The parties met without a mediator five days before, but the only thing they seemed to agree upon was that they disagree. Even so, commissioner Vince DiMaggio still hopes the firefighters who want to form their own agency will keep an open mind about staying with the district.

"I didn't hear one member of this committee say they were in favor of detachment and that you should go to the [March 23] meeting seeking a divorce settlement," DiMaggio said to the volunteers. "Once we [try mediation] and things don't work out, then we'll talk about detachment."

Four years after three fire districts in the valley were con-

solidated to form the present district, Carmel Valley Village volunteer firefighters are seeking independence once more, claiming that service has declined since the merger.

"Our district is often left unmanned," said David Cummings, battalion chief of the Village station and a volunteer firefighter for 29 years. "This is not acceptable. When our guys are out, paramedic service has to come from six to eight miles away."

Current Fire Chief Sidney Reade countered by saying "response times are quicker than they've ever been."

"Our 911 service has never been stronger," Reade said. "People in Carmel Valley don't need to go to sleep at night and keep one eye open."

Reade said the Village fire station is only unmanned on rare occasions because personnel "are out on calls, just like any other fire station in Monterey County."

Cummings also accused the fire district of financial mismanagement and claimed the district refuses to open its books, which it denies.

"For the past three years there has been no money to spend on capital expenditures," Cummings said. "They have

a high overhead. Revenues have doubled, but expenditures have gone way beyond that. They're borrowing against the future. It doesn't add up to a good financial plan."

Gene Erner, a district board member and a member of its finance committee, disagreed with Cummings's assessment of the district's finances.

"Yes, our budget is tight, but we're doing a pretty good job," Erner said. "We've been audited by Hayashi and Wayland [a local accounting firm] and they didn't find any problems. We've offered many times to show [the Valley volunteers] the books. We've set up special budget meetings for them."

Bridging the communication gap

The Valley volunteers have lost their voice in the district's decision-making process, Cummings said.

"We are not involved in hardly anything anymore," Cummings said. "[The district] disregards what we have to say."

Reade said the district is trying to bridge the communication gap. She points to a "strategic planning process" — where a consultant interviewed every firefighter, officer and board member — as evidence of the district's sincerity.

"We are highly aware of the issues," said Reade. "We are addressing them."

One of the Valley volunteer's chief arguments for detachment is their belief that they were given the assurance that if they didn't like the way consolidation was working, they would be able to resume their independence.

"There was a promise that we could always go back to our original district," Cummings maintained. "We took their word. We would like them to honor their promise."

Reade responded that the volunteers "were never promised that if they weren't happy they could detach."

Valley volunteers and local residents have collected 1,616 signatures of registered voters supporting detachment, Cummings said, adding the signatures represent over 50 percent of voters in the affected area.

"The community is getting shafted here," Cummings said. "We should be spending money on defibrillators and 'Jaws of Life.' We're spending it on attorneys."

Cummings said the Valley volunteers' decision to seek detachment is a last resort.

"I can't think of anything positive that consolidation has done for us," Cummings said. "All we're trying to do is to go back to the way we were. We tried to do it the nice way and it didn't work."

Despite the obvious rift, Reade said the distraction of the detachment hearings has not affected the district's ability to deliver a high level of emergency services.

"When we all work together on a call, you can't tell there is a controversy," Reade said.

LAND TRUST ASKS PUBLIC TO DEFINE AMBITIOUS PARKWAY PLAN

By CHRIS COUNTS

THE WORD "parkway" is truly a mind bender — you can park on a driveway and drive on a parkway. Sometimes the word describes a scenic highway, while on other occasions it may refer to a walking mall along the banks of a river or a path through a forest. The Big Sur Land Trust would prefer to let the public decide what the word means.

In an effort to seek public input on a plan to connect parklands at the mouth of Carmel Valley, the Big Sur Land Trust will host a series of community forums on the proposed Carmel River Parkway April 1-2 at the Carmel Mission Inn.

The BSLT has no intention of managing what promises to be a very ambitious project — to connect Jacks Peak County Park, Carmel River State Beach, Palo Corona Regional Park, Pt. Lobos State Reserve and other parklands. To the contrary, its goal is simply to serve as a catalyst for dialogue.

"Every community has a unique character," said Cynthia Holmsky, general manager of the BSLT. "For a project like this to be successful, we need public input."

So the BSLT has proposed a plan that intentionally avoids specifics.

"Our objective for now is to conduct an academic planning exercise that involves all facets of our community," explained Bill Leahy, executive director of the BSLT. "If the community supports the plan that emerges, we will begin to consider possible implementation."

How to balance the often conflicting goals of park administrators and those who ride horses, run dogs, ride bikes or birdwatch in the parklands is unclear, but the BSLT isn't afraid to think big — it has already floated the possibility of overpasses and underpasses to get pedestrians across Highway 1 and Carmel Valley Road.

The mouth of Carmel Valley would serve as a hub for a network of local trails. Other suggestions include creating a visitor's center at the mouth of Carmel Valley and an organic farm on the former artichoke fields east of Highway 1 and south of the Carmel River.

For the BSLT, the parkway dialogue is a big shift away from its past focus, which has been acquiring and preserving open space. Since 1978, the conservation group has protected more than 30,000 acres in Monterey County, primarily in Big Sur.

"One of the criticisms of the environmental movement has been that it's not about possibilities, but about what you can't do," Leahy said.

So the BSLT is presenting residents of the Monterey Peninsula with the possibility of something they can do — make an existing system of parks even better by connecting them.

"This location is unique," Holmsky said. "It's such a palette of diverse landscapes."

To help design the project, BSLT has recruited three graduate students studying landscape architecture at Cal Poly Pomona, including Sarah Peterson, a lifelong Peninsula resident and 1991 Carmel High School graduate.

"As students, we get to come in and say, 'what if?' We need to think big. We need to work toward what's possible."

Peterson believes it is essential to involve the public in the parkway plan's vision.

"This is a very environmentally-minded community. How much we care about our environment is what bonds us."

The April 1 forum starts at 10 a.m. On April 2 one forum begins at 10 a.m. and another starts at 2 p.m. All are at the Carmel Mission Inn. Call Jo Lynn Rosbach at (831) 625-5523, ext. 100 to make reservations.

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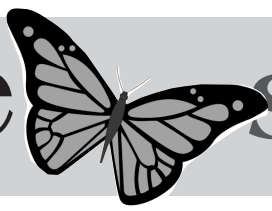
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GANGS

From page 1A

with the department's gang unit since 1998.

"It doesn't really have anything to do with neutral territory. If a Norteño sees a Sureño, the chances of something happening are pretty likely," he said. "It's not like all bets are off and they're just going to leave each other alone."

They also commit whatever crimes will bring money, he added, whether selling drugs, burglarizing cars and homes, or robbing people.

"Gangs are notorious for sending members out to do cer-

tain types of crimes and bring back a certain amount of money every month," Maldonado said. "Most of it is actually a crime of opportunity: Are you in the wrong place at the right time, where they're at?"

Uretsky pointed to the murder of 17-year-old Carmel resident Christopher Olinger who was stabbed to death on the beach in Pacific Grove in 1997, a crime believed to have been committed by gang members but which has never been solved, as reason for locals to be wary.

Looking for safe haven from police

Although he has not specifically heard of gang members spending time in Carmel or Pacific Grove, Maldonado said they tend to leave their hometowns in order to avoid being recognized by police. A standard condition of probation forbids gang members from affiliating with each other.

"The officers [in P.G. or Carmel] wouldn't know by looking at them who they are and that



PHOTO/CHRIS COUNTS

Graffiti defaces stop signs throughout Pacific Grove. The question is whether it's done by gang members or copy cats.

they shouldn't be able to hang out together," he said, adding that gang members from Watsonville or Castroville will often do the same in Salinas. "They do have a tendency to go to other locations so they can hang out and do what they want to do and not be noticed by law enforcement."

But neither Uretsky nor Juarez could point to crimes regularly perpetrated by gang members in their city, except for graffiti, which Juarez said might also be painted by copycats.

"We can't say the burglaries in our town are directly associated with gang activity," Uretsky said. "But we have officers contact people at the beach who turn out to be gang members."

Gang-related murders

Uretsky became more concerned about the gangs while investigating the 2002 shooting of Seaside resident Ignacio Sanchez, who was killed near the American Tin Cannery in Pacific Grove. Gang members were convicted and sentenced in that crime.

Identifying gang members has become increasingly difficult,

because they hide their tattoos and deny affiliation rather than boast of it.

"Gang members are reluctant to admit they are gang members, because of the [punishment] enhancement that comes with," he said. In the Sanchez case, gang affiliation added 10 years to the sentence.

P.G. police officers are trained to recognize gang members, he said, and the city is a member of Cal Gangs, a database maintained by San Jose P.D.

"We can determine if someone is a verified gang member and then pass that information along in the police report to the district attorney," he said. "We're doing the best we can to try to track them."

Juarez said there's no way to keep them, or anyone else, out of Carmel.

"You can't just stop people for no reason," he said.

And when Carmel officers contact gang members, unless the situation calls for more forceful action, they angle for good behavior rather than taking an adversarial stance, according to Juarez. He doubted gang members would commit much crime in town, because it might jeopardize Carmel being a neutral zone.

But Maldonado said their presence should not be taken lightly.

"If I were living in that area and [gangs] were in my neighborhood, I would be concerned about it," he said.

Juarez advocates law enforcement agencies working together to prevent gang-related crime, and Maldonado said a joint crime-fighting effort with Salinas P.D. and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office will get under way this month, with officers from each agency patrolling together throughout the county.

"It's something for all local law enforcement agencies to be concerned with, whether you have a problem with gang members living in your jurisdiction or coming into your jurisdiction," he said.

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The tournament, named for Quail Lodge founder Edgar Haber, will begin at 10 a.m.

with registration and the Putting Purse's initial contest on Quail's new six-hole putting course. Lunch will be served on the lawn at 11:30 a.m., followed by the Putt-Off at 1:15.

The Player's Purse, in which two-person teams play the Robert Muir Graves-designed 18-hole course in a best-ball format, will have a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m.

Entry fees are \$500 per person for the

Putting Purse and \$75 per person for the Player's Purse, all of which will be donated to the winners' chosen charity.

And those who wouldn't touch a golf club or can't attend the party may still contribute via The Donor's Purse. Donors name their chosen charities along with their gifts. Of all the donors' cards, four will be drawn during the awards dinner, and the donations divided

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A reception follows the competition at 5:30 p.m.; the awards dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

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SENIOR LIVING



Flying Birdmen share wartime tales

By MARY BROWNFIELD

“DURING ONE of my last missions, one engine got shot out and the other wasn’t working well...” former B-17 bomber pilot Bob Lockwood said as he began to share one of his harrowing World War II exploits.

Lockwood and four of his fellow Flying Birdmen who fought in the European Theater will tell their stories at a Yes for Carmel reminiscence panel set for April 12 at Sunset Center.

Joining Lockwood will be Carmel resident Chuck Poland, who flew a B-24, Jim Green, who flew the venerable P-51 Mustang and a P-47, and Bob Greathouse, who flew a P-38.

Poland signed up for the U.S. Army Air Corps shortly after the start of the war and spent nearly five years in the service. As pilot of the famous B-24 Liberator, “Miss America,” Poland said he still gets a rush every time he sees one of those aircraft in flight. The B-24 was built by



COURTESY/CHUCK POLAND

Carmel resident Chuck Poland (upper left) occupied a “coffin seat” in a B-24 Liberator, which he flew in the European Theater in World War II. To learn what the coffin seat is and hear stories from Poland and other World War II pilots, attend Yes for Carmel’s free lecture at Sunset Center April 12.

Ford Motor Company, which was producing one bomber every 58 minutes during the war.

In a documentary on the restoration of World War II bombers, Lockwood calls the B-17 Flying Fortress “a dream airplane to fly,” given its forgiving nature and resistance to stalling during combat landings.

Event organizer Lucia Dahlstrand praised the pilots’ willingness to participate in Yes for Carmel’s reminiscence panel.

“These guys are all so enthusiastic,” she said. “It’s marvelous.”

The free programs are a means by which the nonpolitical social organization fulfills its mission to support the city and the community, Dahlstrand said.

Poland arranged to have it filmed and reports that the Endorphin Productions documentary in which he and Lockwood appear will air on PBS channels nationwide May 29.

Poland, who met Lockwood when the two were interviewed for the documentary, said it wasn’t hard to find local war vets who would share their experiences.

“I just put the word out to some of my friends,” he said, and soon met Greathouse at a meeting of retired men and later heard from Green, who said, “I understand you’re looking for a P-51 pilot.” Poland answered, “I sure am. Do you happen to know one?” And Green replied, “Yeah, me.”

The talk will run from 7 to 9 p.m. April 12 in Carpenter Hall at Sunset Center and will include refreshments. It is free and open to the public.

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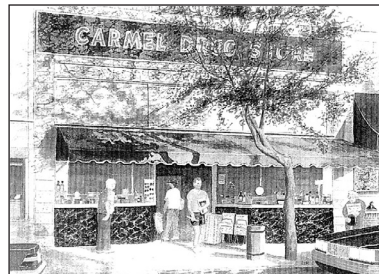
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Carmel wi-fi could mean more general fund dollars

By MARY BROWNFIELD

IF CARMEL-by-the-Sea becomes a wireless Internet service provider, it could bring in more than \$300,000 a year, according to a report submitted to the city council by information systems manager Steve McInchak during a budget workshop Tuesday.

The city could provide wi-fi connections to 5,000 users in the central commercial district, in the park and beach area, and to residential and single users, "with minimum charges for upkeep of infrastructure and initial costs," according to McInchak.

He estimated startup costs at more than \$145,000, including \$25,000 for consultants to do a site survey, \$60,000 for equipment, \$50,000 for installation, \$10,000 for software and \$80,000 a year for maintenance.

He speculated those expenses could be offset by charging

hotels, restaurants, businesses and others to join the city network at a rate lower than that levied by commercial companies. Individual users would charge hourly fees to their credit cards while surfing the web on the city-provided wi-fi network.

"As an example, if you charged \$5 per first hour of connection and \$2 for each additional hour, then 100 connections of less than one hour and 50 connections of more than one hour — but less than two hours — per day would yield \$304,000 annually," McInchak reported.

Before the meeting, Mayor Sue McCloud expressed enthusiasm for the proposal. She suggested Sprint's research in installing antennas on Sunset Center might yield some useful survey information. Failing that, the council could use some of its discretionary budget money to pay for a survey before this fiscal year ends June 30.

Asked at the March 29 workshop to provide policy direc-

tion on a three-year work plan, the council also reviewed the city's project status report, and the capital outlay and capital improvement programs that indicate how much money is needed in current and future budgets.

Firehouse, Flanders top the list

City administrator Rich Guillen's goals for 2005 and 2006 include completing the firehouse retrofit and organization, selling Flanders Mansion, continuing to develop revenue sources, updating how the general plan relates to the Local Coastal Program certified last fall, and implementing the Forest Theater management plan.

Other new projects on the list include laws governing going-out-of-business sales — set for possible final approval by the city council next week — live music and walking tours, and the establishment of a farmers' market downtown.

COMMISSION

From page 1A

the agency's business, including its enforcement powers, which the constitution reserves for the executive branch of government, according to the appeals court.

"The scheme for appointment of its members gives the legislative branch control over the commission, thus impermissibly interfering with the commission's executive branch responsibility to execute the laws," a three-judge appeals court panel unanimously ruled in Jan. 2003.

This legal theory was mocked by coastal commission executive director Peter Douglas when it was first embraced by Superior Court Judge Charles Kobayashi in a May 2001 ruling.

"He [Zumbrun] has been pushing this idea for a long time, and he finally found a judge who agreed with it," Douglas said at the time.

But after the court of appeals quickly upheld Kobayashi's ruling two years ago, then-governor Gray Davis called an emergency session of the legislature to try to fix the problems with the coastal commission's make-up.

The solution they came up with — giving the assembly speaker's and state senate president's appointees fixed terms in office instead of having them continue to serve at the whim of the legislators who appointed them — may have removed those commissioners' fears of being fired for acting on their own, but it didn't stop the legislature from continuing to control the coastal commission, according to

Zumbrun.

"The legislature's solution fails to address the separation of powers deficiencies discussed in the appellate court's decision," Zumbrun said.

And numerous "friends of the court" briefs filed with the supreme court by the City of Malibu, the Pacific Legal Foundation and other groups, argue that the legislature unquestionably still controls the coastal commission.

Attorneys representing the commission disagree. The original appointment structure was fine, deputy attorney general Joseph Barbieri argued, and the appeals court erred in overturning it. But the legislature's fix was fine, too. Furthermore, even if the commission was and remains unconstitutional, none of its earlier decisions should be overturned. In fact, the only reason for the Supreme Court to get involved, according to Barbieri, is to validate the legislature's power to continue to appoint a majority of coastal

commissioners.

"Principles of judicial restraint suggest

'We can hope that their long silence indicates they've been going into it in great depth, so they can resolve these issues once and for all.'

— David Armanasco

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that it would be appropriate for the court to confine its analysis to the commission's existing appointment system," he wrote in a letter to the high court in January.

Meanwhile, the supreme court's long delay in scheduling oral arguments in the Marine Forests case is undoubtedly an indication of the importance and complexity of the case.

"We can hope that their long silence indi-

cates they've been going into it in great depth, so they can resolve these issues once and for all," said Monterey businessman David Armanasco, a former member of the coastal commission.

The California Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case, Marine Forests Society vs. California Coastal Commission, April 6 at 2 p.m. at 300 Spring St. in Los Angeles.



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Blackstone Winery opens Kasson show

BLACKSTONE Winery is hosting a reception for photographer Jim Kasson's exhibit, "Alone in a Crowd," from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 9.

Kasson is known largely for his aquatic photography, much depicting the South Pacific.

The show, now open through July 24 at Blackstone's gallery in Gonzales, displays Kasson's portfolio of images he has captured during his various travels.

The reception is open to the public. Admission is free. Contact Eric Bosler at (831) 755-6792 or Deborah Canepa at (831) 675-5341 for more information.

Passionfish owner heads to sustainability conference

CINDY WALTER, co-owner of Passionfish restaurant in Pacific Grove, will be attending the Partners for Sustainable Seafood Systems conference in Astoria, Ore., April 12-13.

consumer awareness of sustainable seafood consumption, sources and coastal communities. The Monterey Bay Aquarium will be represented at the conference as well.

The conference will focus on promoting consumer awareness of sustainable seafood consumption, sources and coastal communities. The Monterey Bay Aquarium will be represented at the conference as well. Walter can be contacted at (831) 655-3311.

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BUDDING GARLIC CHEFS CAN CLAIM PLACE IN THE SUN

By LAITH AGHA

IT'S GARLIC time. And if you're an amateur in the kitchen but cook a killer garlic dish, it's show-off time. The Gilroy Garlic Festival is seeking recipes for its annual Great Garlic Cook-off Recipe Contest, now in its 27th year.

Of the 400 expected submissions, eight finalists will be selected to prepare their garlicky dishes for a panel of five celebrity judges at the festival, slated for July 29-31.

Recipes must be original and include at least six cloves of fresh garlic — whole, minced or chopped. They must serve six and take fewer than two hours to prepare. Professional

chefs and other food specialists are not allowed to enter. The winner receives \$1,000 and an honorary crown of garlic.

In 1978, a French village claimed to be the garlic capital of the world when it drew 80,000 visitors to three-day garlic soup tasting event. Upon hearing the claim, Dr. Rudy Melone, president of Gavilan College at the time, made it his mission to prove that Gilroy was the true garlic capital world. He inspired the idea of the Gilroy Garlic Festival, which is now one of the largest food festivals in the world, drawing more than 120,000 people each year and entrenching the town as the undisputed garlic capital of the world.

And the cook-off is the main event.

Recipes must be submitted by May 1. For more information on the festival or the contest and how to enter, visit the website at www.gilroygarlicfestival.com or call (408) 842-1625.

Il Fornaiolo chef prepares a taste of home

BORN AND raised in Casteggio, Italy, Massimo Ruffinazzi is a true Italian chef. And he is offering a taste of home with a two-week special menu featuring the foods of Liguria, the Italian region from which he hales.

Il Fornaiolo, located in Carmel's Pine Inn, will offer seven Ligurian entrees to complement the restaurant's main menu,

April 4-17. Featured plates include bluenose sea bass, ahi tuna and sauteed rabbit. Also on the special menu will be three different pasta dishes, a risotto, several appetizers, a savory dessert and two Italian wines.

For reservations, call (831) 622-5100 or visit the website at www.ilfornaiolo.com.

SONS OF ITALY RAISE FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF QUEEN

MONTEREY Lodge No. 2003 Order Sons of Italy in America will serve chicken and ribs in support of the lodge's appointed queen, Kellye Ono. The feast will be served 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 3, at St. Angela's Church, Lighthouse between Ninth and 10th, Pacific Grove.

Curly from Curly's BBQ will be cooking. Meals are \$10.

The Sons of Italy focuses on promoting and preserving Italian culture and language.

For more information call Sal Tringali (831) 372-8582 or visit the website: www.sonsofitalymonterey.org.

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Upcoming Classes

April 1 (Friday)
Artist Reception—Carol Baker
6:30–8:30 pm FREE
Join us in welcoming nationally known silk artist Carol Baker! Refreshments will be served.

April 14 (Thursday)
Pep Talk—Roy's Chef de Cuisine Yoichi Saito
6:30–8:30 pm \$35
"Pep Talk" host Rich Pepe presents Roy's Chef de Cuisine Yoichi Saito. Chef Yoichi will be creating four original springtime dishes fusing local ingredients with European sauces & Asian spices. Includes wine.

April 19 (Tuesday)
Wine & Cheese Tasting—April in Paris
7:00–8:30 pm \$25
Join us for a night of delicious food & education. Taste five of our French wines & an array of decadent cheeses from our vast cheese department. Learn where & how they are produced & what foods to pair them with.

April 21 (Thursday)
Naturopathic Talk—Managing Menopause Naturally
6:30–8:30 pm \$10 Dr. Tanya Fleck
Join Dr. Tanya Fleck, a Naturopathic Doctor, for a discussion on the safe & natural alternative treatments for menopause & menopause symptoms.

Register for classes inside our store at our Customer Service Counter. Registration requires payment in full & guarantees your spot in class. For cancellations, please contact us 24 hours in advance for a full refund.

Quail Lodge plans Mother's Day brunch

QUAIL LODGE in Carmel Valley is offering a Mother's Day Sunday brunch, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 8.

Among the featured menu items are mesquite grilled organic chicken and Monterey Bay halibut. The carving station will offer roasted turkey and herb crusted Angus prime rib.

The buffet will also offer fresh pastries, eggs benedict, made to order omelets, shellfish and assorted sushi.

For reservations or more information, call (831) 620-8866.

Spring festival concludes tonight at Roy's at Pebble Beach

ROY'S AT Pebble Beach has organized a spring festival that concludes with a festive dinner tonight, Friday, April 1.

The festival's finale, overseen by chef Roy Yamaguchi, will star Shafer wines of Napa Valley. A four-course dinner will complement the wines.

Dinner is priced at \$55 per person, \$90 with wine. An a la carte menu is also available.

For reservations and more information, call (831) 647-7500.

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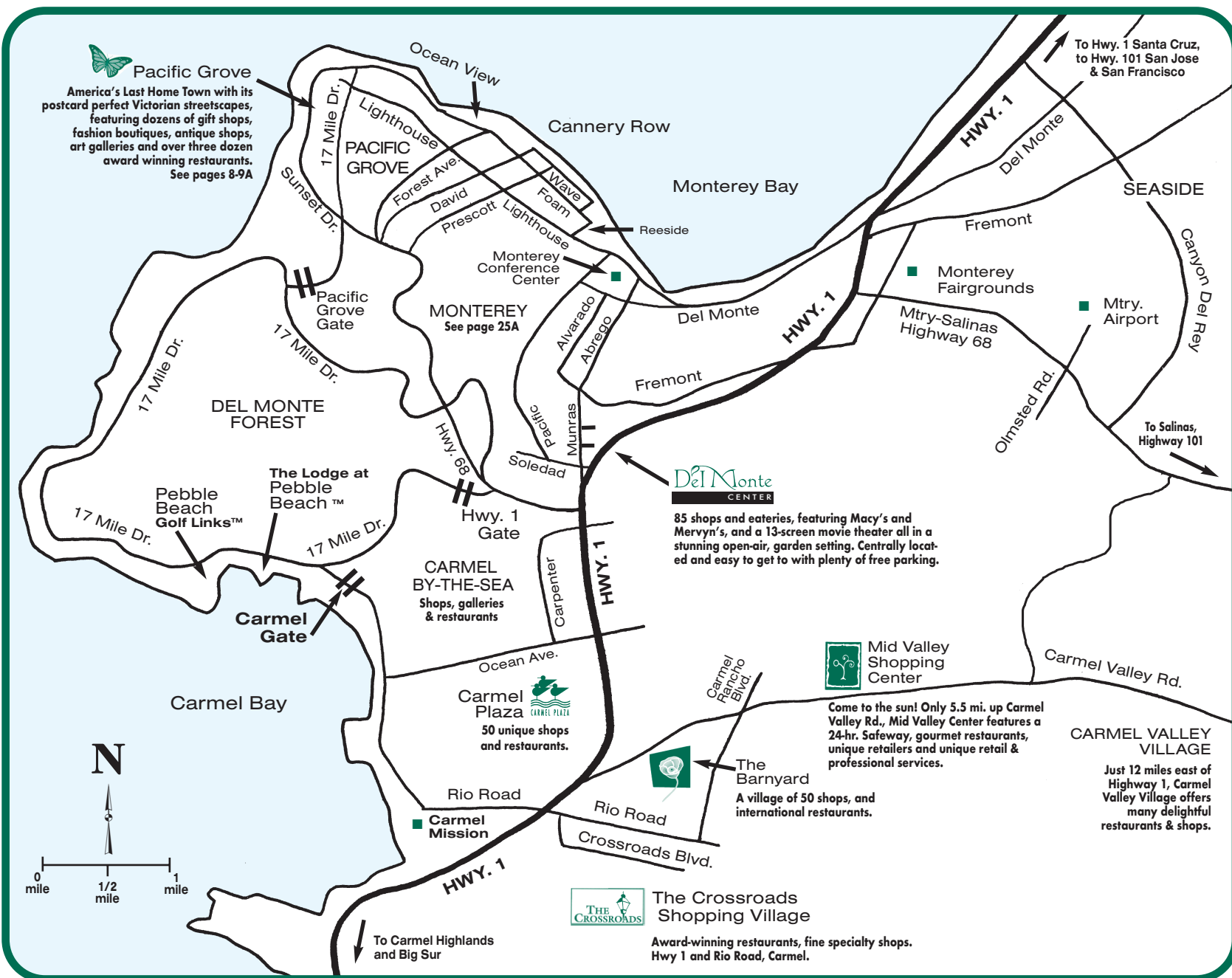
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CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
SUNSET CENTER
 presents
COMING EVENTS
 April
 See page 15A

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
CARMEL MUSIC SOCIETY
 presents
BEAUX ARTS TRIO
 April 8
 See page 18A

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
HANSON GALLERY
 Meet the Artist
THOMAS STILTZ
 April 2
 See page 4A

Dining Around the Peninsula

CARMEL
 Christopher's on Lincoln ...13A
 da Giovanni ...12A
 Flaherty's ...12A
 Fourth Ave. Pasta ...12A
 Il Fornaio ...12A
 L'Escargot ...12A
 Sushi Heaven ...13A

CARMEL VALLEY
 Village Fish House ...19A

PACIFIC GROVE
 Fandango ...9A
 Holly's Lighthouse Cafe ...9A
 Joe Rombi's ...8A

MONTEREY
 Casa Cafe at Casa Munras Hotel ...22A
 Monterey Fish House ...19A
 Rosine's ...25A
 Siamese Bay ...25A
 Stokes ...25A

KEN ROSENTHAL IMAGES AT CENTER FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC ART



WHAT: Evocative images by Ken Rosenthal explore issues of personal and collective memory
WHEN: Reception for the artist 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 1; exhibit continues through April 29
WHERE: Center for Photographic Art in Sunset Center, San Carlos at Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea
INFO: (831) 625-5181



Guarneri String Quartet plays Beethoven

WHAT: Chamber Music Monterey Bay presents the Guarneri String Quartet in an all-Beethoven recital
WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday, April 1
WHERE: Sunset Theater, San Carlos at Ninth, Carmel
COST: \$15 to \$41
INFO/RESERVATIONS: (831) 625-2212 or www.chambermusicmontereybay.org

Lullaby of Broadway



WHAT: Tom Parks (left) and John Harris present "Say It with Music," an evening of songs from the golden age of Broadway
WHEN: 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 and 5 p.m. Sundays
WHERE: Carl Cherry Center for the Arts, Fourth and Guadalupe, Carmel-by-the-Sea
COST: \$25
INFO/RESERVATIONS: (831) 626-3900

Irish lads at PacRep

WHAT: Mike Baker (left) and Justin Gordon tackle multiple roles in "Stones in His Pockets"
WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday, April 1-3 and April 6
WHERE: Pacific Repertory Theatre, Monte Verde between Eighth and Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea
COST: \$6 to \$30
INFO/RESERVATIONS: (831) 622-0100 or www.pacrep.org



PHOTO/KATHI KAMMERDIENER



Patrice Vecchione

Vecchione leads poetry workshop

HOW DOES the poet achieve the distillation of experience that characterizes this artform? Patrice Vecchione, author of "Writing and the Spiritual Life: Finding Your Voice by Looking Within," will lead a poetry writing workshop on Saturday, April 2.

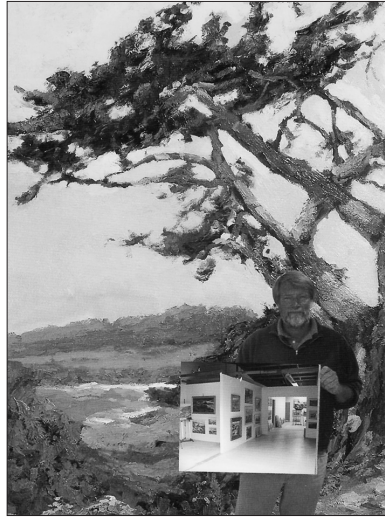
The workshop is sponsored by the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation, and take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bingham Room of Sunset Center, San Carlos at Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Vecchione has edited several poetry anthologies, and has taught poetry writing to children and adults for 25 years.

Fee for the event is \$50, and for reservations or details, call the Tor House Foundation at (831) 624-1813.

Coastal Impressions Studio/Gallery to host an Open House during Pacific Grove's first ever "Art Walk" event (www.pgartwalk)

The open house will take place from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, April 8th at Marshall's Coastal Impressions Gallery. This 1,200 square foot working studio near Asilomar Beach features over 150 framed and unframed oil and acrylic plein-air paintings of local scenes. Marshall also has a new show of over thirty paintings at Chapman Gallery on 7th Ave., Carmel-by-the-Sea (next to Bank of America)



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Branford Marsalis Quartet

Presented by Monterey Jazz Festival

The Chicago Tribune described Marsalis as achieving "a new level of emotional intensity and instrumental brilliance."

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April 7, 2005



Beaux Arts Trio

Presented by the Carmel Music Society

"During the past half century, one ensemble has been preeminent—the Beaux Art Trio, which, by any reckoning, has to be the most robust piano trio of all time..."

The New York Observer

Friday, 8 pm
April 8, 2005

Guarneri String Quartet

Presented by Chamber Music Monterey Bay
8 pm, Friday April 1

Wesla Whitfield

Presented by Sunset Center Presents & MAGIC 63
8 pm, Saturday April 9

Monterey Symphony – Concert VI

Limited Availability
3 pm, Sunday April 17
8 pm, Monday April 18

Ivan Zenaty

Presented by Mozart Society
8 pm, Friday April 22

Sunset Community Forum

Carpenter Hall
10 am, Saturday April 9

Andrea Marcovicci

Presented by Sunset Center Presents & MAGIC 63
8 pm, Saturday April 30

Leon Russell

Presented by Sunset Center Presents
8 pm, Saturday June 4

Steve Tyrell

Presented by Sunset Center Presents & MAGIC 63
8 pm, Saturday June 11

Center Arts Presents

Sweet Honey In The Rock

"They share their hope for the future...they sing some of the most beautiful music you have ever heard."
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Sunday, 8 pm
April 10, 2005



Center Arts Presents

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Wednesday, 8 pm
April 27, 2005

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San Francisco Chronicle



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Friends of Sunset Foundation expands board membership

EIGHT NEW members have been elected to serve on the expanded board of trustees of the Friends of Sunset Foundation, announced Ken White, president of the 20-year-old organization.

Newly named members are Lucia Dahlstrand, Chuck and Diane Elliot, Michele Littell, Robert Mulford, Doug

Pinkham, Richard Ruffolo and Frieda Saroyan.

The Friends of Sunset Foundation provides services and fundraising support for cultural activities and facilities owned and operated by the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Its current assistance project, conducted

in cooperation with Sunset Center, is a program to establish signage throughout the center's facilities.

Individuals interested in joining the foundation or obtaining further information are urged to call Marcia Keely at (831) 624-3168.

GET IN TUNE WITH YOUR INNER BAGPIPER, FREE

MICHEL D'AVENAS, pipe major of the Monterey Bay Pipe Band, offers free, introductory bagpipe lessons to children and adults. The lessons are offered every Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. in the York School Music Building off Highway 68. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (831) 633-4444.

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Richard Gadd named director of Weston Gallery

THE WESTON Gallery, a world leader in the field of fine vintage and contemporary photography, has appointed Richard Gadd as director.

Gadd brings to the Weston Gallery more than 15 years of museum and gallery experience, including expertise in exhibitions, collection development, management and operations, and photography presentations. Most recently, Gadd served as executive director of the Monterey Museum of Art. In this position, he directed museum operations and oversaw

development of the permanent collection, exhibition program, in-house and outreach educational programs, marketing, and fundraising activities.

Gadd also curated a number of exhibitions, including "Passion and Precision: Photographs from the Collection of Margaret W. Weston," "Photographs of the Monterey Peninsula" at the Ishikawa-Nanao Art Museum in Nanao, Japan; and "Brett Weston: Sculpture and Photographs," which



introduced the art world to the relationship between Weston's photographs and his wood sculpture.

In his new position, Gadd will oversee management and operations for the Carmel gallery. He will work to develop and expand the gallery's collection, as well as represent the gallery's works to museum and corporate collectors.

The Weston Gallery is on Sixth Avenue at Dolores.

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FRIENDS OF THE MONTEREY SYMPHONY present "Play It Again!," a sale of antiques and collectibles to benefit the symphony's

music and education programs. Sale hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 2 in the Sunset Center Lobby, San Carlos and Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea.



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From noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 2, come on down to Del Monte Center for "CATZ! 2005," a special nonprofit art exhibit to benefit Monterey County youth art programs. Stroll down the CATZWALK, an art exhibit of more than 100 "puurrfectly" decorated and sculpted cats, while enjoying live music by the Nick Williams Group and a rendition of the play, "Cats," by the Mini-Team from Dance Kids of Monterey County. Nonprofits and individuals throughout Monterey County have sponsored these cats and they will be available as silent auction items after the April 2 event at sponsoring businesses until they return for the final exhibit and auction at Del Monte Center on June 25. Information: Marie Wainscoat at (831) 883-1236 or visit www.gerrica.com

THE SANTA BARBARA CHILDREN'S CHORUS will present a free concert at Junipero and Ocean Avenue, Carmel, at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. The chorus is directed by Rebecca Leftwich Hodson, professor of music at Westmont College and in Santa Barbara public schools. The Santa Barbara Children's Chorus has 40 members chosen from Santa Barbara County Schools, grades 5-12. Their "American Music" program includes works of Ives, Berlin, Gershwin, patriotic and folk music. They are the resident children's chorus for the Santa Barbara Opera and other public events.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR AND YOUTH ORCHESTRA will present "Arise! Rejoice! Christ is Risen," Sunday, April 3, at both morning worship services - 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. This contemporary Easter musical narrated by co-pastors Rick Duncan and Bob Ohman the first Sunday after Easter will include the celebration of Communion for the congregation. Setting is the Carmel Presbyterian Church, Ocean and Junipero, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

"AN EVENING OF PREMIERES" - chamber works of Stephen Tosh, is slated for 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 15 at the Monterey Peninsula College Theater, 980 Fremont St., Monterey. Tickets: \$10, at the door. A dazzling evening of original works for piano, flute, clarinet and violin, featuring "Quintessence," a song cycle for mezzo

soprano and chamber ensemble with acclaimed vocalist **Cheryl Anderson.**

Join hundreds of your friends and neighbors in Monterey at the 2005 MS WALK on Sunday, April 10 to help fight Multiple Sclerosis. The healthy Sunday stroll begins at 9 a.m. in the parking lot of Whole Foods Market, Del Monte Center, Monterey, and finishes at Lovers Point, Pacific Grove, with buses bringing participants back to Del Monte Center at the end of the walk. Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast provided by Whole Foods Market and warm-up by Energia Body Centre. Win team and individual prizes, and enjoy live entertainment with your family, friends and four-legged companions. Visit the website, www.delmontecenter.com.

COASTAL IMPRESSIONS STUDIO/GALLERY TO HOST OPEN HOUSE DURING PACIFIC GROVE'S FIRST EVER "ART WALK" EVENT. Artist Barry Marshall will be hosting an open house at his studio/gallery as part of the first ever Pacific Grove Art Walk (www.pgartwalk.com). The open house will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 8 at Marshall's Coastal Impressions Gallery. This 1,200 square-foot working studio near Asilomar Beach features more than 150 framed and unframed oil and acrylic plein air paintings of local scenes. Coastal Impressions Studio/Gallery 2014 Sunset Drive, Pacific Grove, California (Russell Service Center across from Hayward lumber). Information: call (831) 277-5445 or visit www.barrymarshallpaintings.com

FRIENDS OF THE SEASIDE LIBRARY will host a photography exhibit and talk by award-winning photographer **Jan Goff-LaFontaine** on her recently published book: "Women in Shadow and Light: Journeys from Abuse to Healing." The book offers an intimate glimpse of 40 women - ages 19 to 95 - who found the courage to triumph over the trauma of sexual and physical abuse. It speaks of transformation and healing, to help others move beyond the role of victim, to empowerment and beauty. The event will take place 2 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at the Seaside Library, 550 Harcourt Ave. (near the DMV.) A discussion will follow the 40-minute talk. Light refreshments will be served. Information: call the Seaside Library at (831) 899-2055 or visit www.janlafontaine.com

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ACE HILL CARRIES SUPERIOR JAZZ CREDENTIALS

LIKE MANY of us, pianist **Ace Hill** moved here years ago, fell in love with the Monterey Peninsula and never left.

Born in Mississippi, Hill moved to New York City at age 12, and there he was introduced to the world of jazz. Drawing inspiration from Oscar Peterson and Art Tatum, the young pianist formed his first group in New York, toured the nation and moved to Chicago where he worked with Eddie Harris, Bobby Durham and Julian Preston.

Since moving to Monterey in 1965, Hill has become an active participant in the local music scene, performing at just about every club or lounge in the area at some time during the last four decades. A popular musician who never lacks for work, Ace is a jazz player with a keen understanding of the blues.

"If you can't play the blues, then you can't play jazz," he observed. "Spiritual, Gospel, work songs . . . it's all related. It's all American music." Performing this Saturday, April 2 at the Jazz and Blues Co. in Carmel, Hill will be accompanied by **Luke Franco** on guitar, **Bryan McConnell** on bass and **John Wright** on drums. Music starts at 7:30 p.m. Call (831) 624-6431.



Plugged In

By **Stephen L. Vagnini**

One of the great under-recognized jazz vocalists of our time, **Andy Bey** appears at the intimate Carmel venue on Friday, April 8 accompanied by guitarist **Paul Meyers**.

Born in 1939, Bey was a genuine child prodigy as a pianist and singer, appearing at the famed Apollo Theater and on television's "Spotlight on Harlem," where he shared the stage with Louis Jordan, Sarah Vaughn and Dinah Washington. A regular at the Blue Note in Paris during the late 1950s and early '60s, Bey has performed with McCoy Tyner, Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, Eddie Harris and others.

In 2004 he received a long overdue Grammy nomination for best vocal jazz recording for his album, "American Song." Expect some classic jazz standards from a classic jazz vocalist.

The Monterey Jazz Festival keeps coming up with better ideas and the **Jazz at Sunset** concert series is but one of them. Thursday, April 7, the MJF's 2005 artist-in-residence, **Branford Marsalis**, will perform with his quartet at 8 p.m. at Carmel's Sunset Theater. Marsalis will also perform and conduct clinics throughout the weekend of April 8-10 at the MJF's new Next Generation Festival.

The multi-talented, Grammy award-winning saxophonist is widely recognized by the jazz, classical, pop and entertainment worlds for his many talents as a composer, arranger,

producer, educator and performer. The Next Generation Festival will showcase up-and-coming artists from around the country, incorporating the Festival's 35th Annual High School Jazz Competition, moving the event from the Monterey Fairgrounds to the downtown Monterey Conference Center.



Ace Hill

All events — from the Kick-Off Concert (which will feature Marsalis) to the Big Band finals on Saturday night — will be open to the public free of charge. All events will take place at the Conference Center plus some participating groups will perform at Fisherman's Wharf throughout the weekend.

The Kick-Off Concert starts at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 8, with the **MJF County All-Star Band** and will be followed by the competition judges in

concert. For a complete listing of events and to purchase tickets to the Branford Marsalis concert, check out the MJF website at www.montereyjazzfestival.org.

The **Seventh Annual Heritage Music Festival** will be held Thursday, April 7 at CSUMB. The event kicks off at 10 a.m. with a free concert featuring the Afro-Cuban jazz quartet **Alegria** at the University Center. It continues at 4 p.m. with another free concert featuring local reggae band, **Jonah and the Whalewatchers** playing at the Music Hall Auditorium. The festival culminates on Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. with the **Pete Escovedo Latin Jazz Orchestra** playing Latin grooves at the World Theater on Sixth Avenue. Call (831) 582-4580.

And beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 9, the Rotary Club presents the **48th annual Pacific Grove Good Old**

Days. The event unfolds in downtown Pacific Grove on Saturday and Sunday, is free to all and features a wide variety of entertainment, including **Kelly & the Beachcombers, Trusting Lucy, Red Beans & Rice** and **the Cachagua Playboys**. The event also offers a large assemblage of arts and crafts vendors and food booths. More information is available at www.pacificgrove.org.

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SAT - APR 2

Abby Bukotzer, M.S. will be discussing "**Become the Creator Life.**" This involves the power of beliefs in our lives. How can we eliminate those beliefs that are negatively impacting our lives. How our experiences in adulthood reinforce beliefs we already hold as "the truth."
1 pm in the Thunderbird Community Room ♦ FREE

WED - APR 6

Author **Janice Crow** will be reading from her book "**I Give You My Word.**" It is a visual delight, filled with Janice's watercolor images. While both inspiring and unusual, it's filled with light, wit and good humor. Would make a great gift for aspiring writers and artists. She will be signing afterwards.
7 pm in the Thunderbird Community Room ♦ FREE

SAT - APR 9

Author **Stephan Harper** will be reading from his new book "**The Black Sheep,**" illustrated with wonderful watercolors by local Carmel artist, **Mary Beach**. This is the story of a black sheep born to a herd of white sheep. When told about a mythical herd of black sheep, the quest begins. This book has appeal to both children and adults. Steve and Mary will be sign after the reading.
1 pm in the Thunderbird Bookshop ♦ FREE

SUN - APR 10

Bring the children for a delightful story time event. Author **Karen Beaumont** will be on hand to sign copies of her recent book "**I Ain't Gonna Pint No More!**" There will be activity sheets and paint sets for the kids to try their hand at. Karen has a flair for rhythm and rhyme in her books, giving a silly twist to the fine art of self-expression.
1 pm in the Thunderbird Bookshop ♦ FREE

TUES - APR 12

Thunderbird Book Club meets. This month's selection is "**Runaway**" by **Alice Munro**. All are invited to attend.
10 am in the Thunderbird Community Room ♦ FREE

TUES - APR 12

Dr. Lee Jampolsky returns to the Thunderbird to discuss his recent book "**Walking Through Walls: Practical Spirituality f or an Impractical World.**" A no-nonsense handbook for the spiritual seeker with little time for a lengthy philosophical treatise and less energy for a "just think positive" self help book. He gets right down to the business of accelerating personal growth with an eight-week program of practical spirituality. Signing to follow afterwards.
7 pm in the Thunderbird Community Room ♦ FREE

THUR - APR 14

Thunderbird Book Club, evening edition meets. This month's selection is "**Tenor of Love**" by **Mary DiMichele**. All are invited to attend.
7 pm in the Thunderbird Bookshop ♦ FREE

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Answer to This Week's Puzzle

M	A	B	A	D	I	D	A	S	C	I	R	C	E	I	S	T			
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FOSSETT

From page 1A

with a straight distance of 2,193 kilometers and he owns the airship speed record at 115 kilometers per hour in the Zeppelin NT.

Readers of the newspaper may recall coverage of some of his five failed attempts to fly alone in a balloon around the world; he finally achieved that record in 2002 on his sixth try. Fossett has carried the Explorers Club flag on six expeditions (other EC flags also went to the moon with Buzz Aldrin aboard Apollo 11 and from Peru to Polynesia aboard the Kon Tiki with Thor Heyerdahl, among many other adventures) and he was awarded the prestigious Explorers medal in 2003. On March 19, Fossett was relieved to return the flag from his solo non-stop flight around the world to the Explorers Club, because that means it, and he, made it back in one piece.

"In one of my earlier aeronautical adventures, I went down in a thunderstorm in the Coral Sea and the flag went down in the capsule," he said, not mentioning that the storm had shredded his balloon 29,000 feet above Australia. He very nearly died. "It's a real pleasure to return the flag this time," he told the crowd of 1,800 explorers at the Waldorf Astoria.

While he didn't announce his next quest, the betting members of the audience had no doubt there will be one. After all, Fossett has broken more than 100 world records, at least 60 of which remain unbroken. Perhaps sailing will be next. His round-the-world speed record, set less than a year ago, was broken this month by Bruno Peyron, who shaved more than four days off Fossett's time. Although he congratulated Peyron, saying, "Your new record is likely to last, and certainly you have made a special mark on sailing history by breaking the Round the World three times," one wonders if Fossett can sit by and not go for it again.

Feast an adventure, to say the least

The Explorers Club dinner is an amazing show. Dromedaries (as in camels) strolled through the banquet hall; baby tigers lolled on the dais. A peregrine falcon swooped above the diners, proving its speed is the fastest on earth, Steve Fossett notwithstanding. But it was the food served during the Cocktails and Exotics portion of the evening that



Steve Fossett may hold 60 unbroken world records, but he wasn't seen braving the buggy buffet. Explorers Club board member Catherine Cooke tried the fried tarantulas as well as the mushrooms stuffed with maggots

PHOTO/
KIRSTIE WILDE

tested the mettle of the adventurers who toasted their returning brethren. The menu, not for the faint of heart nor bilious of stomach, includes:

Puff pastry with escargot butter and mealworms
Vertebrate optic globular capsules (eyeballs)
Sauteed lumbricus terretric
(duck tongues and earthworms)
Brandy spiced Madagascar hissing cockroaches
Roasted North American beaver
Musca domestica larvae mushroom caps
(mushrooms stuffed with maggots)
Roasted honey-glazed tarantulas
North American crickets
Scorpions on toast

As this reporter was about to taste the tarantula, not wishing to appear wimpy among all the testosterone in the room and having a serious problem with maggots and cockroaches, Explorers Club board member Catherine Cooke recounted the disastrous Cocktails and Exotics event three years ago.

"At least 125 people went to the hospital after eating the fried tarantulas," Cooke said. "Apparently the chef neglected to remove the leg hairs of the spiders, which caused an allergic reaction."

One wag had visions of this year's chefs, tiny razors in hand, shaving the hairy little legs of the spiders.

"The club was a bit worried about lawsuits after that one," Cooke continued, "But these were explorers, after all, and nobody sued."

In fact, one of those hospitalized reportedly remarked later, "Personally, I thought they needed more salt."



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She preserves fading cultures in images and words

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHEN LONGTIME Carmel resident Marianne Mangold travels to Mexico's Copper Canyon in May, she has no illusions that her efforts are somehow going to save fading traditional cultures in Central Ame-

rica.

"Our mission is to bring back powerful images," explained Mangold, who worked for a decade as a photographer and journalist for a Belize travel publication.

Mangold hopes to raise money for her Mesoamerican Cultural Preservation project

with a fundraising dinner April 6 at Carmel Bistro.

Instead of saving fading cultures, Mangold hopes to preserve them in words, photographs and on film.

"By bringing back powerful images of traditional cultures, we hope to educate Latino youth here in Monterey County," said Mangold, who studied photography with such local luminaries as Cole Weston, Henry Gilpin and Edna Bullock. "Why are these images so powerful? They give young people a chance to connect with a rich culture their own parents may not even be aware of. To be who we are, we need to know our heritage."

For anyone who has watched films like "The Gods Must Be Crazy" or "At Play in the Fields of the Lord," the message is clear that even a well intentioned brush with a traditional culture can have a devastating effect on it. Has Mangold con-

templated the possible negative effect of her own seemingly selfless efforts?

"I've asked myself that question," she said. "But the word 'preservation' in this project means the preservation of words and images."

For better or worse, the cave-dwelling Native Americans who live in Copper Canyon have already been exposed to modern civilization.

"It isn't like National Geographic hasn't already been down there," she said.

And Mangold isn't trying to turn back the clock.

"We're not going down there to tell them they can't wear Nikes instead of sandals."

Nor is it Mangold's intention to provide aid to residents of Copper Canyon. But she is bringing them food as a token

of appreciation for them sharing their way of

'Why are these images so powerful? They give young people a chance to connect with a rich culture their own parents may not even be aware of.'

— **Marianne Mangold**

See MANGOLD page 23A



Carmel resident Marianne Mangold hopes to preserve fading cultures by capturing them in words and images, before everyone in the world wears Nikes and T-shirts.

PHOTO/COURTESY
MARIANNE MANGOLD

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M I L E S T O N E S

ODETTE CANEL MORGENEGG, who with her late husband Edouard owned and operated the Spinning Wheel Steakhouse and Clam Box restaurant in Carmel, died Feb. 17. She was 94.

A native of Switzerland, Mrs. Morgenegg married her husband in 1947. She accompanied him as he accepted chef's positions in Seattle, Portland and Spokane. The Morgeneggs moved to Carmel in 1958, and were joined here by her brother Roger Canel and his wife, Jeanne.

In addition to the Canel, Mrs. Morgenegg is survived by a cousin, Claude Morgenegg of Geneva, and other cousins in Switzerland.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 182 El Dorado, Monterey, CA 93940.

CLAIRE DUYGOU, a 28-year member of the Carmel Unified School District faculty and one of the original teachers at Carmel River School, died March 14. She was 85.

Born in San Jose, she came to Carmel in 1942 with her late husband, John, and lived here for the rest of her life. Mrs. Duygou taught at Sunset School and Carmel Woods before joining the original faculty of

Carmel River School. As a first grade teacher, she shared her love of art with her students and motivated the creative spirit in many young minds.

Mrs. Duygou was a great lover of nature and spent hours tending her garden and feeding the birds and squirrels. She and her husband contributed to many charitable organizations dedicated to the preservation of natural areas and protection of endangered species. She will be remembered for the handmade Christmas cards she sent for many years as well as for being a dedicated teacher, good neighbor and a great friend.

Mrs. Duygou was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years in 2004. She is survived by a daughter, Danielle Hill; and grandson, Jean-Paul Hill, of Carmel.

Friends are encouraged to make donations to their favorite charity.

FRANCES ELIZABETH WOODRUFF DRUMMOND, a passionate horticulturist and orchidist, died March 23 in Carmel Valley.

Born March 16, 1919 in Kansas City, Mo., she attended Southwest High School and Stanford University, where she graduated with honors. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

She married Donald H. Drummond on Aug. 15, 1940.

Mrs. Drummond is survived by her husband; her three children, Donald F. of San Rafael, Diana Frizzelle of San Leandro and Kenneth of Oregon, as well as her grandchildren, Haley, Derek, Jennifer, Joe and Robbie.

Mrs. Drummond maintained encyclopedic knowledge of the family orchid business, called The Drummond Collection. She also participated for many years in her husband's

home-building business, which won many national awards.

Memorial contributions may be made in Mrs. Drummond's name to the Carmel Orchid Society, P.O. Box 2454, Monterey, CA 93942.

RICHARD WRIGHT, who for 50 years in Carmel ran a business in which he billed himself, "Richard Wright, World Famous Painter," died Feb. 3. He was 86.

A native of Kansas, at age 18 he enrolled in college where, in his words, he discovered "women and booze." Mr. Wright was taken in another direction by the world events of 1941. He enrolled in ROTC and entered the U.S. Army. Transferred to the Army Air Corp, he headed for Brooks Field south of San Antonio, Texas, where he became a navigator.

After Brooks Field the squadron transferred to the Salinas Air Base, from which members scanned for subs through the coastal fog. While living in the area he met and married Doris Mills. Eventually the 17th Reconnaissance Squadron was sent to Biak Island in northwest New Guinea. Their missions involved flying deep into enemy territory, mapping the areas with an on-board camera and flying ahead of the other squadrons to check weather at target sites.

On July 13, 1944 they took off for their 63rd mission. Flak from the boat they sank that day damaged the left engine of their B-25 and they had to ditch in the Pacific. Mr. Wright and his crewmates survived 26 hours in a life raft and he was awarded the Purple Heart for his combat injuries.

In 1945 he returned to the peninsula and the Wrights and another couple rented a house in Carmel Highlands. After his discharge from the Army he started a painting

business and in 1946 the couple's daughter, Charmaine, was born. The Wrights divorced in 1949 and Mr. Wright socialized at the Mission Ranch, Whitney's and El Fumidore.

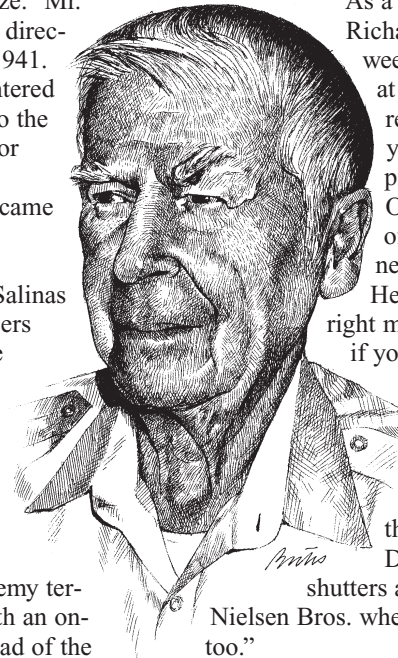
In 1958 he was hired to paint cabins at the old Highlands Inn. There he met and subsequently married the bookkeeper, Betsy McGibney. Mr. Wright became stepfather to Michael and Pat, who still reside in Carmel, and Michelle, a resident of Denver. A son, Rick, was born to the couple on Mr. Wright's birthday in 1960.

"As a child I remember Richard working six days a week. He'd leave the house at 5 every morning," Rick recalled. "He always said you could get any parking place you wanted on Ocean Avenue at that time of day. He always drove a new Chevy station wagon. He said it didn't send the right message to your customer if you pulled up in a paint-splattered wreck.

"You might have seen him in his painted Gucci loafers touching up the windows at the Oxbridge Shop on Dolores, or painting the shutters at the Pine Inn or maybe Nielsen Bros. when it was on Dolores, too."

In his 70s he slowed down but his business and the friends that surrounded it were his life. After Elizabeth died in '95, he began seeing a longtime friend, Irish Dixon. Coming back from a trip to see her in 2001, he hit, as he put it, "the only metal pole between Half Moon Bay and Santa Cruz." The accident prompted him to give up his business.

The family suggests that remembrances be sent to P.O. Box 1226, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA, 93921. Contributions in his name may be made to the Big Sur Land Trust.



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A RIVER RAN THROUGH IT IN STORM DRAIN CAVE IN

By MARY BROWNFIELD

THE FAILED pipes of a storm drain ate away enough earth in front of 10th Avenue resident Noel Beutel's home to leave a stream running beneath her front steps, pulling the porch away and causing the house to lean.

"It's unbelievable," she said. "You could park a car down there."

Beutel had no idea of the turmoil under her garden.

"I went out one day last week, and everything was fine," she said. "Half an hour later, I went out and the whole front yard had fallen in. It was shocking."

Acting as a funnel for the runoff from Sunset Center and surrounding streets, the storm drain above Beutel's house carried torrents of rainwater that ate away the soil around the old 12-inch pipe. Earth and plants caved into the water flowing below with a mere prod.

'I went out one day last week, and everything was fine. Half an hour later, I went out and the whole front yard had fallen in.'

— Noel Beutel

"They tried to shore it up so it wouldn't come down anymore, but with last night's rain, it sounded like a rushing creek outside my front door," she said Monday.

The city engineer surveyed the damage, and Beutel hired her own professional to check the stability of the home and surrounding property she's owned for 18 years.

Meanwhile, the city plans to relocate the storm drain's 190 feet of pipe to the center of 10th Avenue, according to building official Tim Meroney. The \$24,800 contract has been signed and the work should get under way this week, after which public works will backfill the 30-foot sink hole with soil and

slurry. Streets supervisor Stu Ross is overseeing the repairs.

"Then the public works crew will repair the sidewalk, walkway and steps that lead to the house," Meroney said, adding that they and the portion of Beutel's garden that sank

are on city property.

Meanwhile, Beutel will handle whatever repairs might be necessary to her home.

"She has the right to file a claim against the city for whatever damage she feels the city is responsible for," Meroney said.

Beutel said Meroney and Ross "have been wonderful" in their attention to the mess outside her front door, and she is confident Carmel will cover the costs.

"I think it's pretty black and white — it's their fault," she said.



PHOTO/MARY BROWNFIELD

There shouldn't be air under there. The earth opened up in front of Noel Beutel's 10th Avenue home during last week's rains to reveal a rushing creek in place of a failed storm drain.

While highway patrolman recovers, investigation begins

AFTER A narrow brush with death, California Highway Patrol officer Jim Covello is now home in Big Sur, where he is recuperating from injuries sustained on March 23 when he was struck by a van. There's been no decision yet on when he will return to work.

Covello was investigating an overturned and abandoned SUV at about 2 a.m. when a 1997 Dodge van driven by 18-year-old Redway resident Leif Holtermann clipped the Toyota 4-Runner before striking Covello and his patrol car. The van was traveling at an estimated speed of 40-45 mph.

Airlifted to Stanford Medical Center, Covello was treated for abrasions to his knees and a laceration to his head.

The accident is still under investigation. According to CHP public affairs officer Richard Richards, a multidisciplinary accident investigation team was brought in from Fresno. It is possible that charges could be filed against Holtermann or the owner of the overturned SUV.

"When something serious happens to an officer like this, we bring in the experts," Richards said, adding the investigation could take as long as two weeks.

At the scene of the accident, a Monterey County Sheriff's deputy found a leather briefcase in the nearby brush containing about two pounds of marijuana. Richards said it has been determined that the briefcase "was old and had been there quite awhile."

MANGOLD

From page 21A

life.

"We researched what their needs are and we are bringing bags of beans," she said. She thought about bringing corn, too, until she learned the locals ferment it into corn liquor.

The goal of her group is to document four vanishing cultures — Mayan, Lacandon, Huichol and Tarahumaran — and publish a book.

"There will be beautiful images," said Mangold, who has lived on the Monterey Peninsula since she was seven. "It won't be a textbook, but it will be an educational picto-

rial book geared toward schools, libraries and cultural centers."

A documentary film is also planned. All proceeds from the sale of books and the documentary will fund future projects. The Mesoamerican Cultural Preservation project is sponsored by International Health Emissaries, a nonprofit organization that provides health services to indigenous people in Latin America.

The April 6 fundraiser starts at 6:30 p.m. and will feature a silent auction, dinner by Chef Sal Tedesco, and wines from the Marilyn Remark Winery. Reservations are required by April 3. For information, call (831) 624-9538.

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Calling all budding photographers

THERE'S MONEY to be made by student photographers from the Gina and Kim Weston Scholarship contest, now accepting entries from lensmen enrolled in high school or college.

Last year's first-place winner, Kaile Hart, who snapped the striking image (right) won \$1,000 and used it to further her studies at the Art Center in Pasadena. This year, in addition to the \$1,000 first-place award, \$500 will be given to the best part-time student entry, as well as 10 \$200 honorable mention scholarships, according to Gina Weston.

To raise funds for this year's scholarship the Westons will be hosting an online photography auction along with the support of Byte Technology of Monterey. It will feature fine art photography from renowned local and other photographers. The auction date, to be announced, is scheduled for early May.

Last year's online auction raised more than \$8,000 for scholarships and donations to Monterey Peninsula College's photography department.

Kim Weston has been a fine art photographer for 30 years. He is a third-generation member of one of the most celebrated families in photography. He learned his craft assisting his father, Cole, in the darkroom, making gallery prints from original negatives made by his grandfather, Edward Weston.

A portfolio of 10 mounted/matted photographs is required for the scholarship contest, as well as a one-page statement about the submitted work and proof of full-time or part-time registration in school.

The negatives and prints must be made by the students. Black and white, color and alternative process photographs are acceptable. For competition rules and applications, visit Weston Photography Scholarship Information at the website www.kimweston.com or call Gina Weston at (831) 624-8111.



CHOMP wants your blood

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL of the Monterey Peninsula is seeking blood donations, citing excessive demand. If you are older than 16, weigh more than 110 pounds, and are able to give blood, you can donate at CHOMP's Blood Center, 576 Hartnell St., Monterey, across from the post office, 10:30 to 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, or at any mobile blood drive. Locations of mobile units are listed at www.chomp.org or by calling (831) 625-4814.

Sandy Claws

By Margot Petit Nichols



SCOUT MULVANEY, 5, is part black Labrador and part kangaroo, according to Mom Karen and Dad Tom.

Not only does Scout love to jump, she loves to dance with brother Mason, as well, and if she can't follow the beat from Mason's music, she hums a tune more suited to her dance acumen.

Scout lives in Lafayette but visits her second home here in Carmel-by-the-Sea frequently so she can run and chase balls on the beach. The tide was very low on Thursday morning, providing a vast and exciting field for running and retrieving.

A very affectionate person, Scout is also loyal, playful, a hugger, and understands English perfectly. As well as having Mason, 18, and Meg, 14, as her brother and sister, she also enjoys the company of Nikki, her 12-year-old feline sibling. Nikki and Scout get along famously, and even nap

together during the day. At night, Scout usually sleeps in the laundry room (except for the occasional sleepover in Mason's room), and Nikki snoozes on a mat outside Scout's laundry room, separated only by a door.

Harboring a passion for everyone's hosiery, Scout takes one sock from each room, carries it to the next room, and deposits it there in some arcane ritual the family has yet to fathom.

This week, at Carmel Beach, a plethora of monarch butterflies danced about the purple Pride of Madeira plants, casting their flittering shadows on the Scenic Road walking path. Scout tried her best to catch the butterflies, which proved elusive, but oh, so tempting for one who likes to fetch. "Oh, well," Scout thought. "You can't win 'em all."

Vote Yes on Measure A

Reason #5

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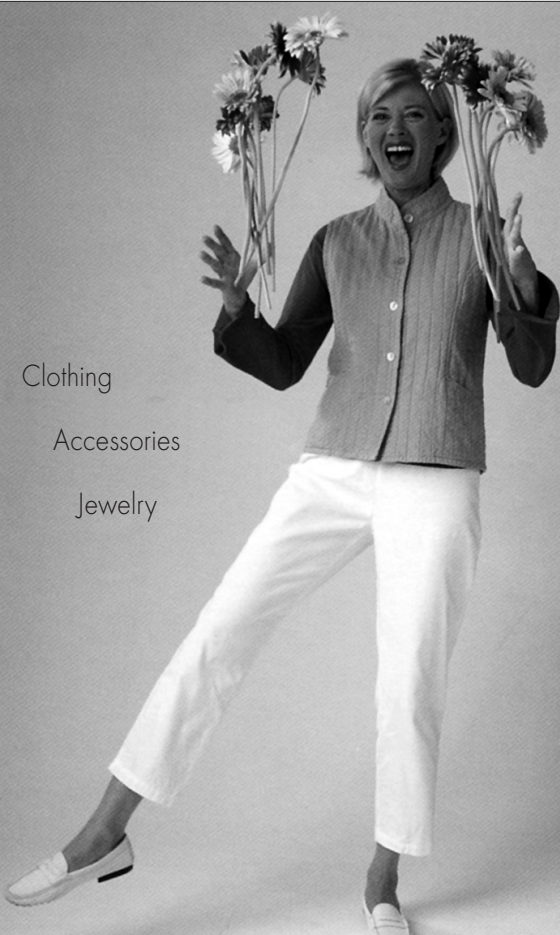
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Editorial

A judge's courage

THE VERBAL assaults on U.S. District Court Judge Edward Rafeedie may not have been intended to incite violence. But they came awfully close.

And with the recent murder of one judge in Atlanta and the revenge shooting deaths in Wisconsin of the family of another, the comments of attorney Steve Yagman outside a Los Angeles courtroom last month should not go unnoticed.

Yagman is the civil rights specialist who has made a career out of suing the Los Angeles police department. Two years ago, he also filed suit against President George Bush on behalf of Guantanamo Bay inmates. And now, he's been brought in by ADA superlitigants Jarek Molski and Thomas Frankovich to try to keep their careers intact. Between them, they've sued hundreds of California businesses for alleged problems with the Americans with Disabilities Act, including more than two dozen in Monterey County.

Unfortunately for Molski and Frankovich, one of those suits was assigned to Judge Rafeedie. And when the defendants in that suit, the owners of a Solvang restaurant called the Mandarin Touch, pointed out to the judge that the suit against them was part of a widespread shakedown scheme, Rafeedie responded in a way that can only be described as courageous.

First, he collected and analyzed nearly all of the 223 suits filed by Molski and Frankovich last year. Then he pulled from that massive pile of paper the essential points of their *modus operandus*:

- Identify vulnerable businesses, preferably owned by recent immigrants who can be easily intimidated.
- Scare them with big money demands backed by hyperbole-filled allegations of handicapped access problems at their establishments and overblown tales of injuries suffered by Molski when he tried to be a patron.
- Offer to settle quickly, and to help get the settlements paid by the businesses' insurance companies.

Without Rafeedie's intervention, hardly anybody would have noticed that the 223 Molski/Frankovich suits filed last year were virtually identical ("down to the typos," Rafeedie said). Their superficially altruistic purpose — improving access for the disabled — is a sham, Rafeedie was obviously right to conclude. Indeed, these suits actually harm the disabled by undermining public confidence in the ADA. And their primary purpose is obvious: to line the pockets of the people filing them.

Thus, Judge Rafeedie's order that Molski and Frankovich stop filing ADA lawsuits in his courthouse was warranted and long overdue. Any objective person can see that.

But Molski and Frankovich's counsel, Steve Yagman, responded to the orders like a wounded animal, hurling a string of invectives against Rafeedie. He even said the judge was worse than Hitler, which is the sort of insult one invokes when one can't think of something substantive to say. Yagman's words were dangerous, and should not have been uttered by a member of the bar. But we hope Judge Rafeedie takes them as evidence that he's on the right track.

Yagman's over-the-top reaction shows he must be aware that a proper legal strategy won't work because his clients are hopelessly guilty of the things of which Rafeedie accused them. Or maybe he exploded because he knows how much his clients depend on filing ADA lawsuits to make a living.

BATES



"Officer, I can't find my car. Should be easy to find. It's a white Toyota parked in front of an art gallery."

Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. The Pine Cone reserves the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication. Letters should not exceed 350 words, and must include the author's name, telephone number and street address. Please do not send us letters which have been submitted to other newspapers.

The Pine Cone is no longer able to accept letters to the editor by fax. Please submit your letters by U.S. mail, e-mail, or in person (addresses are provided below).

Yes vote is important

Dear Editor,

I write this letter after learning more than I care to about the attitude of Carmel's city council, the innkeepers and the chamber of commerce toward the proposed increase in the hotel room tax paid by tourists to our village. When the chamber's executive director publicly stated that this tax will NOT affect the hotel business, why would they think that the sky is falling? Carmel's rate is currently 10 percent; increasing it to 12 percent would keep pace with the national average of 12.4 percent. Other California competitors for our tourist dollar are at 12-14 percent with

the full support of their city councils which, in all cases, brought the tax increase to their voters. If it was good for their communities, why shouldn't it work for Carmel? Successful communities work together — the elected city council, the chamber of commerce, as well as residents. When all are open and willing to exchange ideas, and all groups are respectful of each other, then the community becomes a cheerful inviting place for all.

The added revenue Measure A will provide will go a long way to minimize further expenditures from reserve funds. Your yes vote on Tuesday, April 5 is important. It can make a difference!

Vi Fox, Carmel

Too harsh

Dear Editor,

The group that initiated Measure A is to be commended for its concern with the city's finances and for bringing this to the focus of the community.

There are two main points in this measure, the first to raise the Transient Occupancy Tax from 10 percent to 12 percent, the second to designate exactly where the income generated by this increase must be spent.

The 2 point increase in the TOT is actually 20 percent based on the present 10 percent

See LETTERS next page

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LETTERS

From previous page

rate, which strikes many as being too harsh. The restriction on the use of the resultant revenue subverts its use which should be directed to the city's general fund. For instance, money should not be required to be spent on Flanders Mansion when it is destined to be sold.

In neither of these cases does Measure A measure up to being a document which is fair to all concerned. It behooves the city council to formulate and promote a revenue-producing source which has fairness as an underlying theme.

Given the present inequities of the ballot measure, it's in the voters' interests to vote NAY on A.

Erling Lagerholm, Carmel

The usual 'suspects'

Dear Editor,

Each week I read in The Pine Cone letters of support for the TOT initiative countered by letters against. It has occurred to me that those favoring the initiative are the same old "suspects" who couldn't win at the ballot box in 2004 and failed to gain control over Sunset Center. Now, rather than waiting for the next election they have chosen the initiative process in an effort to undermine the mayor and city council.

The mayor and council members were elected by positive margins and their favorable performance should warrant our continued support. The TOT initiative is politically, not economically, motivated and it is my belief that the mayor and council must have the responsibility to manage without the undermining effects of such an initiative. Additionally, times and conditions change, but this initiative has no end it which may very well present constraints in the future by fixing the allocation of expenditures.

Should you be dissatisfied with the performance of our elected officials, register that at the ballot box in the next regular election.

Until then, let our elected officials do their jobs and vote against the TOT initiative.

William Scarce, Carmel

Turn off your brain?

Dear Editor,

I cannot resist responding to the letter by Robert Spencer (March 13), wherein he urges Carmelites to just turn off their brains, close their eyes and follow their leaders. For a democratic, representative government to work, the public definitely should be informed. And who says Carmelites aren't aware of the arguments pro and con on Measure A? Just because we elect officials doesn't mean that when things are going poorly voters don't have the right and duty to make changes and suggest solutions.

Carmel needs money to run the city at a level that protects and enhances our community today and in the future. If the current slide in services and appearance continues, visitors will go elsewhere. Residents and businesses will also suffer. Carmelites, vote yes on Measure A and help secure Carmel's future. It will benefit us all.

Marie Mason, Carmel

Adverse consequences

Dear Editor,

I strongly urge the voters of Carmel-by-the-Sea to join me in opposing Measure A. The measure has three primary faults, any one of which could lead to serious adverse consequences.

First, and most important, it permanently and unduly hampers all future city councils by requiring them to sink scarce revenue dollars into specific, fixed categories, including wasting assets, such as the Flanders Mansion, regardless of whether such expenditures are wise or even desirable.

Second, it forces the city to rely too heavily on tourism, an industry whose income is typically unpredictable. How will we make up the shortfall if our city faces emergencies such as the flooding that occurred in 1995, or another disaster like 9/11?

Finally, it unfairly targets tourists, who already pay a grossly disproportionate share of our revenues. Carmel is already in the top 2 percent of all California cities that have transit occupancy taxes. Why penalize tourists rather than encouraging them to patronize our inns and shops.

Simply stated, Measure A is the wrong "solution" at the wrong time. Please vote NO on Measure A.

Gerard A. Rose, Carmel

One-crop economy

Dear Editor,

As a member of the revenues and expenses advisory committee, I was heartened by the Carmel City Council's implementation of most of our recommendations as presented to council in April 2004. Our committee was composed of a wide range of citizens, and our charge was to advise on how to increase revenues and reduce expenses.

Revenue recommendations adopted or in process include sale of city owned property (the city is taking steps to sell Flanders house); pay and display parking for tour buses and the north lot of Sunset; increase permit fees for all city services and audit hostelry receipts.

Expenditure recommendations adopted or in process include consolidation of city departments; staff reductions, minimizing wage and benefit increases and sharing city services with adjoining cities.

To my knowledge, the sponsors of the TOT initiative made no contact with city staff, council or the innkeepers. The goal of our committee was to develop financial

strategies which can adjust to the ebb and flow of the local economy and not be dependent on a one-crop economy: tourism. Working together with mutual understanding of these complex issues, the response has been gratifying.

Vote no on Measure A.

Pat Sippel, Carmel

City needs TOT income

Dear Editor,

Those who oppose Measure A (an increase in the hotel tax) argue that Carmel is in fine fiscal health and that whatever funds might be needed can be acquired by selling city property. Suppose you agree. Once the city sells all its property, what then? Where will the city look for money? Parking meters downtown for residents and tourists? An increase in our property taxes to pay for needed improvements to sewers, storm drainage and streets? An increase in the sales tax, 81 percent of which goes to Sacramento?

If the city is in such great financial shape, then why is the forest and beach department at its all-time low with only two employees? Why do we not have a forest and beach director? Why do we not have a fire chief? A planning director? Why do we not have a code enforcement officer for the residential and commercial areas of Carmel? A public works director? Why is there no one to answer the telephone at public works and forestry department?

The sad truth is that the city's current fiscal policies have left us with a shell of a city. Where's the money in the budget to maintain our forest, mile long beach, parks, walking trails, cultural facilities, roads and sewers? The city council has an obligation to increase revenues in order to uphold Carmel's image if it truly wants visitors to keep coming. That's why the April election to increase Carmel's hotel tax is so important. Join us — Carmel property owners and voters — and vote yes on Measure A. It will add \$700,000 extra annually to the city budget.

Richard Andre, Aptos

Restore services

Dear Editor,

What can we afford? What can't we afford? We all struggle to learn. In Carmel, petitioners for Measure A contend the city cannot afford to continue indefinitely to:

- drain financial reserves
- lay off employees
- shut facilities
- underfund road, park, beach, forest repair
- postpone capital projects

- close library bathrooms
- cancel library cleaning service
- cut library staff and hours; close Sundays; close children's branch Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday a.m.

Choices are painful, affecting everyone: residents young and old, families, children, students, visitors, tourists and eventually, the economy and town character.

One hundred percent of revenue from the TOT increase (successful in competing destinations) remains in Carmel for Carmel, wholly protected from state plunder. Of what other tax can this be said? None.

What other source (from whom? when?) offers a cash stream even close to the estimated \$700,000 annually?

Will \$2 to \$12 — rather than \$10 — on a \$100 hotel room really dissuade likely guests? (Industry studies doubt it.) Measure A compensates hotel business by almost doubling the money to promote Carmel's charm and safety for tourist families.

Unless Carmel remains attractive for residents, visitors and business, too, our thrift becomes self defeating. Vote for Measure A. Restore services; protect financial reserves.

John Hicks, Carmel

Residents have rights, too

Dear Editor,

Regarding the upcoming election to increase the hotel tax and gain \$700,000 in additional revenues, there are those who say that Carmel residents should stay out of the way and let the city council make its own decisions unencumbered by our thoughts, ideas or needs. I beg to differ.

Democracy means all interests should be heard, but in Carmel today only business has a seat at the table. The chamber of commerce and the innkeepers association, both of which play a big political role in the decision-making process of the city council, seem to have the sole right to determine Carmel's future. Where is the residents'

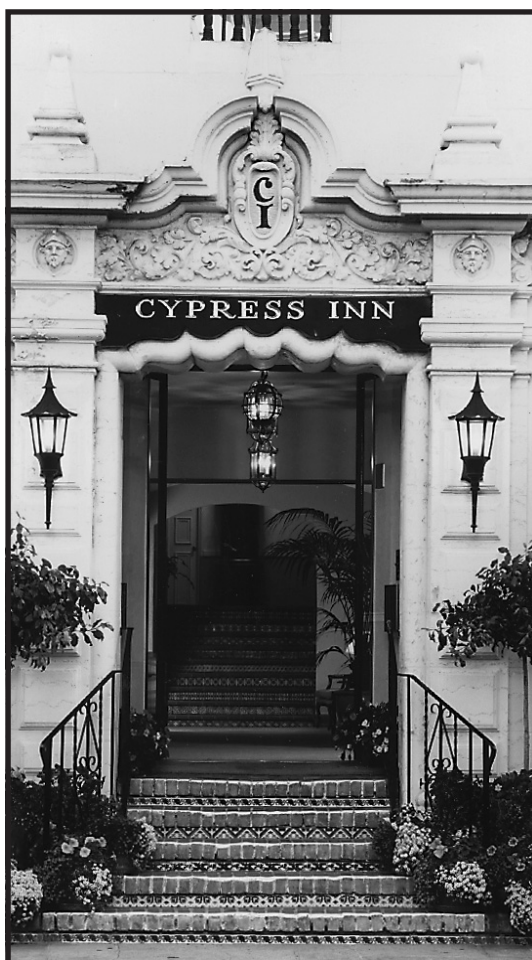
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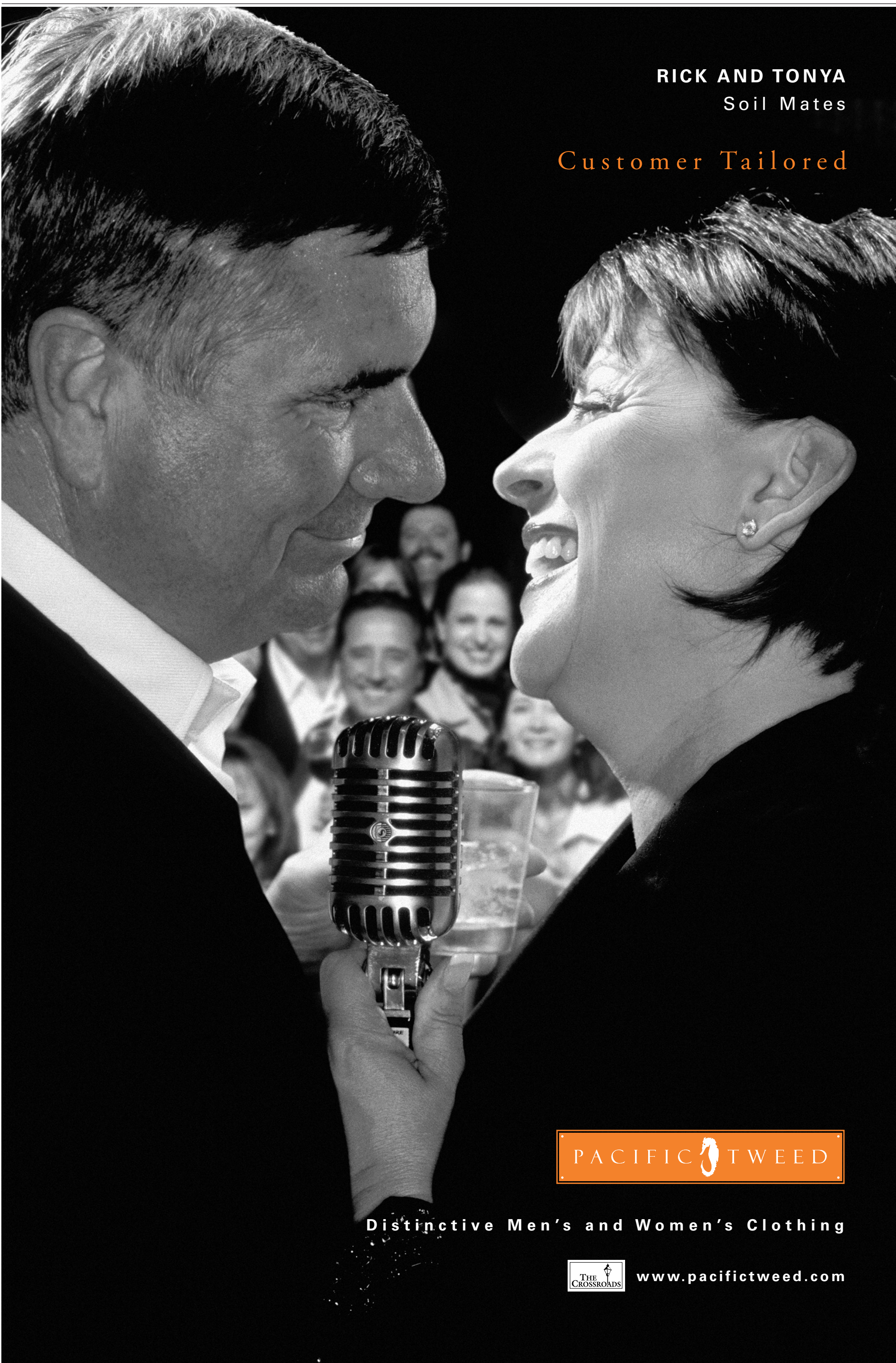


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