

# The Carmel Pine Cone

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April 16-22, 2021

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## Panetta visits migrant children at southern border

■ Says Biden, home countries should act

By KELLY NIX

CONGRESSMAN JIMMY Panetta last weekend witnessed migrants crossing from Mexico into the United States and visited an infamous Texas detention center for unaccompanied migrant children — experiences he called “intense and sobering.”

During his second trip to Texas in two weeks — amid

the deepening immigration crisis at the Southern border — Panetta and other members of the congressional bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus visited several spots, including a detention center for migrant children in Donna, Texas, which made headline news after photographs emerged of children being held in cramped quarters.

In an interview with The Pine Cone Wednesday, Panetta said he saw the same overcrowded conditions depicted in the images.

“We saw numerous pods filled with unaccompanied minors,” Panetta told The Pine Cone during an interview Wednesday. “And yes, they are all crammed in there. They range in ages up to 17 years old.”

### Plastic walls

Groups of children were separated by plastic-sided rooms, he said. The makeshift areas each hold 32 kids, according to news reports.

The youngest child Panetta met was a 3-year-old girl from Central America, who was with her sister, also a minor. The Democratic congressman from Carmel Valley, who used rudimentary Spanish and had interpreting help from Pennsylvania Rep. Conor Lamb, spoke to about 10 kids during his visit.

“I basically asked what countries they were from. And they were from Honduras,

See **BORDER** page 21A

## Teenagers lining up for vaccine

■ County vaccination rate at 48 percent

By KELLY NIX

NEARLY HALF of eligible residents in Monterey County have received at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, the county health officer reported this week, and many more can now get immunized since the state health agency opened the door Thursday for anyone 16 and older. Hospitals in Monterey County said teenagers in that category started getting the shot that morning.

Salinas resident Ariana Pennise, 16, went with her mom to Salinas Valley Medical Clinic — operated by Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System — early Thursday for the Pfizer version. And just like for everyone else, the vaccine is free for teenagers.

“It was a super smooth process and I’m excited to be a part of the solution,” said Pennise, who was among the first teens in the new eligibility tier in Monterey County to get the shot. “It didn’t hurt at all. I’m going to encourage all

See **VIRUS** page 18A



PHOTO/CONG. JIMMY PANETTA'S OFFICE

Rep. Jimmy Panetta talks to migrants at a U.S. Customs and Border Protection processing area underneath the Anzalduas International Bridge in Mission, Texas.

## Tiny bit of fentanyl closes downtown street

By MARY SCHLEY

FIREFIGHTERS SHUT down a block of Junipero Street for several hours Saturday afternoon and summoned a hazmat-removal team after police stopped a driver who admitted having fentanyl in his car, according to Carmel Police Sgt. Jeff Watkins. While it’s safe when carefully used in a medical setting for pain control and anesthesia, fentanyl can be extremely toxic, with even a tiny amount capable of causing death.

“If it gets in the air and you breathe it, you can die,” he said. “It’s a super dangerous drug.”

Officer Gerald Maldonado was on patrol April 10 when he stopped a car on Junipero behind Carmel Plaza at around 1:15 p.m. because it didn’t have a front license plate and had a defective brake light, according to Watkins. Maldonado discovered the driver, 21-year-old Andres Mora, was on probation and asked if he had anything in the car.

“He said yes, he had pills, and they were fentanyl,” Watkins said.

See **DRUG** page 21A



PHOTO/COURTESY SVMHS

Ariana Pennise, 16, of Salinas gets her first shot of the Pfizer vaccine Thursday from Salinas Valley Memorial nurse Angela Fuidge, as the teen’s mom, Cheryl, observes.

First mention —

## The irascible pride of the Carmel literati

By ELAINE HESSER

MARY AUSTIN may not be a name that leaps to mind as quickly as Robert Louis Stevenson or John Steinbeck when you think of local authors, but the prolific writer and playwright who produced dozens of works of fiction and nonfiction between 1903 and the late 1920s was resident of and/or regular visitor in Carmel from 1907 until 1914 — becoming not only one of the town’s original bohemians, but perhaps the first person to complain that the city was being ruined.

She first appeared in The Pine Cone’s pages not once, but three times in the issue of May 12, 1915 — just three months after the newspaper was founded. First, her play, “Fire,” was mentioned in a three-year retrospective of the Western Drama Society by Herbert Heron, a two-time mayor best

See **AUSTIN** page 25A



Mary Austin

## BIG SUR RESIDENTS, AGENCIES CLASH OVER COASTAL TRAIL

By CHRIS COUNTS

MORE THAN a decade after the late Jack Ellwanger convinced state officials to let residents choose the path the California Coastal Trail would take through Big Sur, the locals made a presentation on their plan last Friday — and the California Coastal Commission pretty much poured cold water on it.

The two sides appear to be far apart, which Sen. John Laird’s policy advisor, Kate Daniels, pointed out to everyone at the close of the presentation.

The first point of contention is what route the trail would take. Locals say the only viable place to put a trail is deep in the backcountry on existing trails, but that would make it off limits to anyone who isn’t in good shape, not to mention people with disabilities.

### Too far from sea?

But the coastal commission is insistent that the trail should be located “within sight, smell and sound of the ocean,” and be accessible to far more people. They won’t say precisely where it would be located, but it’s hard to imagine any other option than running it alongside Highway 1, where safety, private property and right-of-way issues abound.

The second point of contention involves whether a single trail will constitute the Big Sur stretch of the California Coastal Trail, which is what the locals want, or

a network of trails, which the coastal commission is endorsing.

During Friday’s online Big Sur Multi-Agency meeting, resident Butch Kronlund showed how the trail would mostly utilize existing trails as it winds its way through

See **TRAIL** page 20A

## Grand debut for ‘The Hay’



PHOTO/COURTESY PEBBLE BEACH COMPANY

Junior golfer Cullen Pritchard tees off at No. 2 during the grand opening of The Hay in Pebble Beach Thursday. The original par-3 course opened in 1957 and was a great way to spend the lunch hour. For its history, see page 23A



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# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Community cockapoo

SHE'D ALWAYS wanted a dog, and when her older brother left for college, his absence created a hole in her 11-year-old heart she was determined to fill. Her busy parents weren't up for dealing with a dog – until she changed their minds.

"Our daughter wrote us a two-sided letter about why she should have a dog and how responsible she would be and all the jobs she would do and how good it would be for her," said Mom. "And we just couldn't refuse."

A colleague had a cockapoo, the sweetest, softest, friendliest little dog they'd ever seen. So they contacted a breeder, and soon, they were at the Oakland Airport, collecting a lethargic little apricot-colored puppy.

"Once we got her out of the crate, she sprang to life and became exuberant," her person said. "Our daughter named her Hera, after the Greek goddess of women and family."



Eventually, Hera's person grew up and went away to college, leaving Hera home but not alone. In fact, she coexists with four miniature donkeys, two dwarf goats, eight hens, a potbelly pig, and a feral cat – all rescues who have come to her Carmel Valley home over time.

Hera, now 10, takes a break from the menagerie by spending the day down the street.

"She's a shared dog," her person said. "We once asked our neighbor to care for her while we were away, and it went so well, Hera now spends her days there and her nights with us."

Hera's other sanctuary is Carmel Beach, where she carefully avoids the waves rushing in but loves to roll around in the sand.

"Hera's also not keen on other dogs, but she adores people, who all think she's an untrained puppy, asking for affection," her person said.

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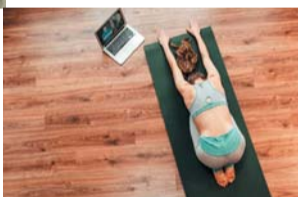


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# Pastor pit project hearing delayed

By MARY SCHLEY

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS on Wednesday decided to put off a hearing on the Ulrika Plaza project, as the large development slated for the pit at Dolores and Fifth is now called, because it's a big enough deal to deserve its own meeting. Commissioners had been scheduled to discuss the project and provide feedback at the end of a lengthy agenda but voted to put it off until a special meeting at the end of the month.

Planning director Brandon Swanson said at the start of the April 14 meeting that he'd received some correspondence from people asking that the hearing be delayed, and he left it up to the commission to determine whether that was warranted.

## Too much going on

Commissioner Gail Lehman said that even though the discussion of Monaco billionaire Patrice Pastor's proposed 20,451-square-foot, two-story, mixed-use building with a dozen apartments, 15 retail shops, underground parking and basement storage would be preliminary, with no decisions made, it should be delayed.

"There's so much going with this project, and it's such an important project, that it does deserve to have its own meeting," agreed commissioner Stephanie Locke.

"We could easily spend an hour-plus talking about what's going on here," she said.

"It's rare that we have something as important and as large as this before us," commented commissioner Christopher Bolton, adding that he'd like to be able to focus on it as much as possible.

Commissioner Robert Delves also concurred. "I'm relieved," he said. "Doing this at the end of an already busy meeting didn't seem fair or appropriate to anyone."

He suggested somehow meeting in person. "Could we meet in the pit itself?" he asked. "Maybe the logistics of that are absurd, and I'm just dreaming, but it feels like it would be helpful to have real people instead of the Brady Bunch."

Architect Henry Ruhnke, who designed the half-Mediterranean-style, half-Tudor-style complex, said he and his team "have been working very closely with planning staff and have been looking forward to this meeting for quite some time," but he was agreeable to postponing the discussion.

He did want it handled soon, though. "We have a hole in the ground. We would like to get the project under way and back into construction as soon as possible," he said. "So, for us, time is of the essence."

Ruhnke suggested commissioners might even take action at the special meeting. "If you guys felt that it was something worth approving or moving forward, we'd be open to that," he said.

Toward the end of the discussion, commissioners took a short break after several people complained they weren't being admitted into the online meeting.

It turned out the published dial-in information was incorrect, but eventually, the correct number and logon information were provided, and everyone who wanted to get in joined.

Commissioners resumed their discussion, and Swanson suggested adding Pastor's project to the agenda of the special meeting April 28 at 4 p.m. They'll also review the list of capital projects proposed for the 2021-2022 budget, but Swanson said that shouldn't take too long, and commissioners unanimously voted to put off the Ulrika Plaza hearing until then.

Ultimately, it was a wise choice, as the meeting lasted well past 9 p.m., and the project had been scheduled as the last item on the agenda.

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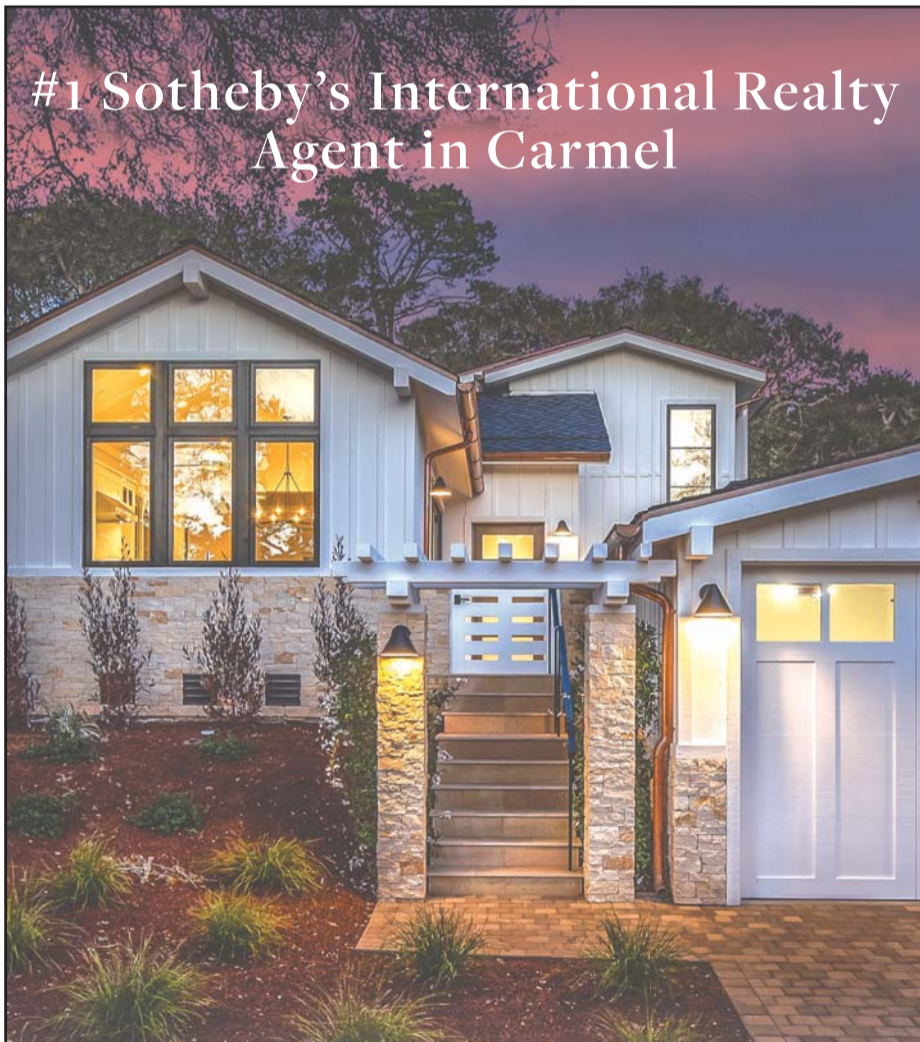
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# Police & Sheriff's Log

## Maybe a pooch charged a pedicure

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Officer flagged down for a report of the loss of a blue and green swim fin at the beach.

**Pacific Grove:** Unknown injury collision on Pine.

**Pacific Grove:** Officer was contacted by the chief about a dog bite on Ocean View Boulevard.

**Pacific Grove:** Two dogs found running loose on Sinex were turned in at the police department lobby. No owner information known. No one came forward to claim the dogs, so the dogs were transported to the SPCA.

**Pacific Grove:** Theft of an electronic device on Central Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** A 21-year-old female was arrested on Prescott Lane for misdemeanor battery and public intoxication.

**Pebble Beach:** Online report of fraud on Stevenson Drive.

**Carmel area:** Adult Protective Services referral at a residence on Meadows Road.

**Pacific Grove:** Abandoned vehicle towed from Lighthouse Avenue.

**Carmel area:** Found wallet near the Carmel Rancho shopping center.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Theft of bicycles from Dolores and Eighth.

**Pacific Grove:** Felony warrant arrest on Congress Avenue at 0530 hours of a female wanted for assault with a deadly weapon with possible great bodily injury.

**Pacific Grove:** Wife arrested for domestic violence against her husband. The 52-year-old female was transported to Monterey County Jail for booking on charges of felony causing corporal injury to a spouse and assault with a deadly weapon.

**Pacific Grove:** Theft from an unlocked vehicle on Mermaid Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle was towed from Marino Pines Road due to expired registration.

**Pacific Grove:** Animal bite on Forest Avenue.

**Carmel Valley:** Online report of fraud on Carmel Valley Road.

**Carmel area:** Subject reported a female at the Crossroads who was disoriented. She was taken back to her hotel.

**Carmel Valley:** Citizen on Via Milpitas reported receiving a scam phone call.

See POLICE LOG page 8RE in the Real Estate Section



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## The gavel falls

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

**Feb. 18** — Andres Soto Rubio, 52, a resident of Seaside, pled guilty to committing five counts of forcible child molestation on a child under the age of 14 years. All five charges are violent felonies and are considered "strikes" under California's Three Strikes law.

Jane Doe, who was 10 years old at the time, bravely disclosed to family members that Andres Soto Rubio, a relative, had molested her from when she was 6 years old to 10 years old. Many of the sexual assaults occurred at night, while other individuals were asleep in the same room. Jane told Rubio that she did not want to engage in the sexual acts with him, but Rubio would beg and plead with her, and would threaten to hit her with cables if she did not comply. Rubio also told Doe not to tell anyone about the molests.

Judge Mark E. Hood will sentence Rubio to 45 years in prison. In addition to his prison sentence, Rubio will be required to register as a sex offender for life.

**Feb. 24** — Deshawn Lee, a member of the Crips criminal street gang, was sentenced to 10 years in state prison for attempting to murder a rival gang member. Lee has a prior conviction for a strike offense involving gun possession for the benefit of his gang.

On May 14, 2019, witnesses in a residential area in the City of Seaside reported hearing multiple gunshots, which prompted several 911 calls. Seaside police found mul-

tiple shell casings in the 1600 block of Flores Street. During the investigation, the officers obtained video surveillance from nearby homes and businesses showing a black Nissan following a white Audi. One video showed the passenger of the Nissan extending his body out of the passenger side window shooting at the white car.

Following the shooting, video surveillance captured the Nissan speeding away on Flores Street. The driver's side window was down, showing the driver's face from a distance. Several officers identified the driver of as Deshawn Lee, who is well-known to law enforcement in Seaside as an active Crips gang member. Further investigation revealed that the black Nissan was registered to Lee's girlfriend, who resides in Nevada.

Seaside police officers contacted the driver of the white Audi, who was believed to be the victim of the shooting. The victim's car sustained significant damage from the impact of the bullets. The victim confirmed that the occupants of the black Nissan were following him. The victim expected the occupants of the Nissan to confront him about his gang affiliation. However, as the Nissan pulled up alongside the victim's car, the passenger immediately began shooting at the victim. The victim reversed his vehicle, drove away, and hid the car at his mother's house. The victim admitted his affiliation with the Norteño criminal street gang.

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# WWI arch to get protection, lighting

By MARY SCHLEY

CAPPING THE decade-long effort to restore the historic World War I Memorial Arch at Ocean and San Carlos, the group that has overseen the work received approval from the planning commission Wednesday to guard the monument with bollards, chains and posts to keep people from climbing on it and running into it with their cars. Four floodlights will also be installed to make the arch visible at night.

“We have worked with the applicants, worked with the police department and worked with planning to try to get the best protection for the arch,” public works director Bob Harary said at the April 14 meeting.

Harary recommended the commission support the Friends of the World War I

Memorial Arch’s plans, including installing posts and chain on the east side of the monument to keep people off the steps at its base and prevent them from climbing on it. He also backed the idea of embedding 3-inch-diameter non-galvanized steel bollards filled with grout in concrete on the north side of the monument. Reflective tape would help drivers see them.

### ‘Delicate’ stones

Harary pointed out that westbound drivers are coming to a stop at the intersection and are unlikely to hit the metal posts, but he worried about the group’s request to install them on the south side of the monument, where cars are accelerating as they pass through the intersection heading eastbound.

“We don’t want people to scrape their cars on the bollards,” he said. “It’s just too close for comfort.”

Planning commission chair Michael LePage stepped down from the hearing, since he is part of the Friends of the World War I Memorial Arch. Ian Martin, another proponent, explained the need to protect the historic arch designed by renowned architect Charles Sumner Greene and built in the early 1920s to honor the 61 Carmel residents who fought in World War I.

“The arch has been repeatedly scraped, dinged, banged and collided with by passing vehicles,” he said. While the bollards won’t prevent a catastrophic collision — like when a car lost its brakes on the Ocean Avenue hill and nearly toppled the arch in a 1977 crash — they will prevent the deep gouges, grooves and cuts that have damaged the soft sandstone over the decades.

“A lot of the stones are still original to the memorial from the beginning of the 1920s, and they are delicate,” Martin said. “They would literally crumble

See ARCH page 26A



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# RESTAURANT CHALLENGES FEES, TAXES IMPOSED BY STATE, COUNTY HEALTH

## Seeks refunds licenses, permits

By KELLY NIX

THE OWNERS of a Cannery Row restaurant have waged a legal battle against Monterey County and the State of California over their ongoing collection of fees and charges — which restaurants across the state have been compelled to pay from day one of the pandemic even as they faced shutdown orders and other restrictions that severely hamstrung businesses.

In a class action lawsuit filed April 9, Monterey Martini, the company that owns Lalla Oceanside Grill at 654 Cannery Row, contends that the fees and charges collected by the Monterey County Health Department and the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control were

unfair, and it wants a judge to declare their collection unlawful.

“Despite requiring the closure and/or severely limiting the operating ability of these businesses, the county and state continued to charge the businesses permit and licensing fees, as well as late charges,” the complaint says.

Furthermore, restaurants should get refunds for the cost of state liquor licenses, county health department permits and other fees since the state and county prevented restaurants from operating and “failed to use the money for plaintiff’s benefit, as intended.”

Monterey Martini is the only plaintiff named in the suit. No individual owners of the company are named, although state records show that the owner is Pat Ottone.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on March 19 issued a stay-home order two days after Monterey County health officer Dr.

Ed Moreno ordered the immediate closure of all businesses deemed non-essential, including indoor dining at restaurants.

“The county order was extended and amended by other subsequent orders, which all severely limited and/or completely closed the operating ability” of Monterey Martini “and the proposed class members’ businesses,” the complaint says.

### ‘Demands fairness’

Now, more than a year after the coronavirus pandemic was declared, many restaurant owners are struggling to pay their bills and keep workers employed, the suit notes, even though restaurants have been allowed to reopen.

“Ironically, the same county and state government officials who forced the closure of these businesses have also been continuing to collect a wide range of government fees under the threat of revoking licenses and permits,” the complaint says.

Monterey Martini said it does not dispute the propriety of the Covid-19 health and safety orders, “it simply demands fairness.”

Besides a court order that invalidates the county and state’s fees and taxes and orders a refund of the money, Monterey Martini is seeking an order preventing the entities from levying the charges, monetary damages, attorneys fees and other costs. The complaint was filed for the Cannery Row restaurant by Los Angeles attorney Brian Kabateck, who has filed similar lawsuits on behalf of other restaurants in the state.

Monterey County Counsel Les Girard told The Pine Cone Thursday that the county has not yet been served with the lawsuit.

## Sandpiper Inn closed for big makeover

THE SANDPIPER Inn on Carmel Point is boarded up, but that’s just for renovation, the owners say.

“We are looking forward to an updated fresh look — see you all in about six to nine months,” the inn said on social media. For now, a fence surrounds the property.

According to Monterey County building official Joshua Bowling, a permit was issued Feb. 2 giving the inn permission to do an “interior upgrade” that includes ADA compliance and other improvements.

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# City approves new events ordinance

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER YEARS of wrangling over which special events should be permitted in the city's streets and parks and whether organizers should pay what it costs for them to take place, city officials decided to formalize the rules for making such decisions. Last week, the council gave its initial approval to a new set of guidelines that could mean big changes for events like the Concours on the Avenue and the Pebble Beach Tour d'Elegance.

Most notably, especially for organizers of large-scale annual events that require a lot of advance planning, is the requirement that the city process applications on a first-come-first-served basis and ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to hold an event in town. Therefore, the ongoing practice of letting the Concours on the Avenue take place on the Tuesday of Car Week and the Tour d'Elegance be held on the Thursday, with no other events allowed, would come to an end.

"In theory, you could limit the number of times you're willing to shut down a particular street, but you couldn't regulate exactly who has access to that," attorney Sergio Rudin said. "It would be a first-come-first-served permit process."

### Bringing in the lawyers

Five years ago, the city council adopted a policy on special events, and in 2018, it asked community activities director Ashlee Wright to work with a committee of community activities commissioners to update it. In February 2020, council members also decided the policy should specifically limit the number of events during Car Week to two — one on Tuesday and one on Thursday — though it did not name them.

At the April 6 meeting, Wright explained that after the city canceled its 2020 events during the coronavirus shutdown, she looked at the policy in depth, especial-

ly while dealing with people assembling for Black Lives Matters protests and to celebrate Juneteenth in Devendorf Park even though shelter-in-place orders banned almost all gatherings.

She said the new municipal code ordinance "is not something that is intended to make the special event permitting process more onerous to event organizers," and is "simply about policy and making sure particularly that we are in compliance with the First Amendment."

Wright researched how other cities handle event permits and said many have sections in their municipal codes to outline the process. "The purpose of municipal policies is to establish clear-cut, orderly and systematic methods for handling certain administrative duties and internal city operations," she explained.

### The details

The proposed code drafted by city attorney Brian Pierik with assistance from Rudin defines events as "any organized formation, parade, procession, demonstration or assembly which may include persons, animals, vehicles, or any combination thereof, which is to assemble or travel in unison on any street, sidewalk or other public right of way owned or controlled by the city which does not apply with applicable traffic regulations, laws or controls."

Gatherings of 75 or more people "for a common purpose under the direction or control of a person" require permits, except at Forest Hill Park and Piccadilly Park, where the number is 25, due to their being smaller spaces.

And any other organized activity that requires street closures, traffic control, barriers, or would otherwise "interfere with the normal use and operation of public rights of way for vehicular traffic" would require a permit, too.

See **EVENTS** page 26A

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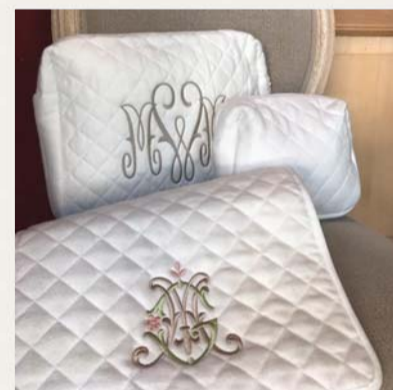
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# Aquarium's plans worry seal fans

By KELLY NIX

IT'S ONLY a shed, but the Monterey Bay Aquarium faced pushback this week from local harbor seal enthusiasts over its plans to demolish the tiny structure on its Pacific Grove property and build a new one in its place.

The aquarium asked the city's architectural review board for approval to tear down a 496-square-foot generator shed at the west end of the aquarium property and replace it with one that's about 2 feet higher than the current one. The slightly bigger shed is necessary to accommodate a larger, 2,000-megawatt diesel generator.

"The generator provides the electrical support for all of our life support systems" for animals at the aquarium in the event of a PG&E power outage, aquarium project manager Stephen Lyon told the architectural review board Tuesday.

The new, more powerful generator is necessary, in part, for an exhibit debuting in April 2022 called "Into the Deep: Exploring Our Undiscovered Ocean," an aquarium spokeswoman told The Pine Cone.

### Harbor seal impacts

The ARB OK'd the new shed in a 5-0 vote, but not before several citizens took aim at the proposal. Their concerns were centered around the idea that noise from construction could adversely affect harbor

seal births at two nearby beaches and could force mothers to abandon their pups.

"The aquarium's application points out that the shed is 35 feet from Hopkins Marine Station, but it doesn't point out that harbor seals are currently giving birth on the beach just right next to that property line," said P.G. resident and former Monterey Herald reporter Thom Akeman, who requested that work on the new shed not start before August and not continue after January.

Lyon said the aquarium is "certainly sensitive to endangering the livelihoods of our animals that are near us." The work expected to make the most noise includes cutting through a driveway and excavating a trench for electrical conduits. That work should take three days. Construction, to begin after the state OK's the plan, is expected to take several months.

The new generator will produce more noise when its tested monthly, and that also drew concerns. Lyon said the noise level increase would be negligible.

"We believe the difference between what exists now and what is expected to be produced is very close to being the same," he said. A noise study commissioned by the aquarium indicated "noise levels are expected to increase from 3 to 5 decibels" during testing.

A woman who lives across the street

See AQUARIUM page 27A

# Shop owner fesses up to sign prank

By CHRIS COUNTS

A WEEK after The Pine Cone recounted how a fake sign led some to believe that McDonald's was opening a fast-food franchise in Carmel Valley Village in 1991, one of the culprits contacted the newspaper and spilled the beans about who did the deceptive deed.

"My friend and I put that together late one night after a bender," explained Chip Wittpenn, who owns Wittpenn's Antiques on San Carlos between Seventh and Eighth. "It was a hoot."

Wittpenn's partner in planning the plank was the late Ingo Botschin.

"Ingo and I were real good friends, and we were sitting around one night and con-

cocted the idea," Wittpenn recounted. "The next day, we went to Salinas and picked up some McDonald's French fries — we wanted the box so we could match the colors."

### Late night mischief

The two mischief-makers planned to put the sign in front of a bank in the village that had recently closed. The Bernardus Tasting Room occupies the site today. They planned to affix their sign to the same posts that held the bank's sign. After measuring and drilling holes in the posts, they spent a day creating the sign and letting the paint dry. Then they came back to the site at about 3:30 a.m. and put the 3-foot-by-

See PRANK page 26A



A display of old shop signs at the Carmel Valley History Center includes one that caused quite a stir when it unexpectedly went up 30 years ago.

PHOTO/CARMEL VALLEY HISTORY CENTER



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# Big Sur’s busiest hiking trail reopens, but its famous hot tubs are gone

By CHRIS COUNTS

CLOSED TO the public since the So-branches Fire struck in July 2016, the most popular hiking route in Big Sur — the Pine Ridge Trail — reopened April 13, but without one of its main attractions, Sykes Hot Springs.

For decades, hikers made crude tubs at the site to soak in the warm and murky sulfur water that flows from a hillside along the Big Sur River. But the feds, with help from volunteers, have removed any man-made infrastructure — in large part due to unsanitary conditions. They also packed out vast amounts of trash.

The top local forest service official, Tim Short, called the tubs “a thing of the past.”

“Structures of any type cause resource damage and are prohibited,” Short said. “Violations will be taken seriously.”

Besides not finding hot tubs along the trail, hikers can also dispense with the notion of enjoying a campfire along the route during the busy season. The wildfire risk is just too great. “When fire restrictions are in effect, usually between May and November, campfires and smoking are not permitted anywhere along the Pine Ridge Trail,” Short said.

With people returning to Big Sur’s wildlands, Short urged everyone to be respectful and not leave behind trash, which includes hygiene products, disposable towelettes and toilet paper. He reminded them to clean up after dogs, too.

“Whatever is packed in must be packed out,” he said. “There is no garbage service in the wilderness and visitors are encour-

aged to leave these areas in better condition than they find them.”

Short called the route “one of the most iconic coastal trails in North America,” and the “gateway to the Ventana Wilderness.” The forest service official said it’s important for people to understand the role they play in protecting and preserving local wildlands. “Educating hikers on trail conditions, campfire restrictions, and wilderness ethics will prepare them to safely enjoy this magnificent area while protecting its natural beauty for future visitors,” he suggested.

### Iconic trail needs help

Short said his agency has been busy behind the scenes making the reopening possible, as have others.

“This reopening would not have been possible if not for the extraordinary efforts of our partners at Los Padres Forest Association, Ventana Wilderness Alliance and California State Parks,” he added. “I would like to also thank the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, the Community Association of Big Sur, and the Nepenthe/Phoenix Corporation for critical financial support. On behalf of Los Padres National Forest, I want to thank you for all that you have done to help safely reopen this amazing trail to the public.”

In an effort to give hikers more and better information about safely enjoying the backcountry, a new three-panel interpretive display has been installed next to the start of the Pine Ridge trail at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. More displays at other trailheads are planned.



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# CITY WANTS TO KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS ON OUTDOOR DINING — MAYBE

By MARY SCHLEY

OFFICIALS MAY soon be asking what you think about outdoor dining in public spaces downtown, as they prepare to decide if the practice should continue after the coronavirus is brought under control and indoor dining fully resumes. A special city committee spent an hour last week discussing a survey that will seek feedback on whether parklets should become a permanent fixture here.

“This survey is meant to gauge overall public sentiment about the potential for a future permanent outdoor seating/dining program in the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea after the temporary parklets have been removed,” the document planning director Brandon Swanson presented at the April 7 meeting begins.

The committee — headed by Mayor Dave Potter and councilman Bobby Richards, with input from business owners, residents, tourism and hospitality executives, and others — met to go over the draft survey. Members spent the first half-hour dis-

cussing whether the questionnaire should go to as many people as possible, or just to residents.

“How are we going to control the response to this?” asked resident Graeme Robertson. “This could get out of hand pretty quickly,” with people distributing the survey to their pro-parklet friends in an effort to essentially stuff the ballot box.

Potter observed the same could be done by anti-outdoor-dining people and was unconcerned.

“You can’t have it both ways,” Swanson said. “If you want to make this as open as possible, that’s the risk you run.”

Robertson also favored sending it only to residents and business owners in the city, not the public at large, and Richards said he wanted the survey to “reflect the desire of the residents, not the desire of the businesses,” but at the same time, he didn’t want to restrict its distribution.

### It’s not just about them

As planning tools, surveys are most useful if they’re sent to as many people as

possible, according to Swanson. “From a planning perspective, it’s not only about the folks who live in the city or a certain area, but the folks who use it,” he said. “My recommendation would be to include folks from outside Carmel as well, as long as we can identify them reliably.”

The group decided to distribute the survey online, as well as in print for the few who don’t have internet access. Respondents might have to provide email addresses and other personal information, though Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association executive director Kim Stemler suggested that anonymity makes people feel more free to speak their minds.

Possible survey questions include whether various types of outdoor dining — tables set up on the sidewalk, designated areas adjacent to restaurants with sidewalks bumped out around them, and platforms in parking spaces — would be compatible with the city’s character.

Other questions involve level of concern about the loss of parking, and positive

or negative impacts on aesthetics of the city, public safety, pedestrian and vehicular traffic flows, noise, marketability, the desire to dine out, and “other.”

The survey also asks a series of yes-or-no questions in the event outdoor dining becomes permanent: Should there be a uniform closing time? Should restaurants be charged an annual fee for it? Should restaurants only be allowed to use the space directly in front of their businesses? Should tasting rooms be allowed to do it? Should the 30 or so restaurants that already have outdoor dining on private property also be allowed to use public space?

Finally, it allows respondents to share other thoughts, including, as one commercial property owner suggested, that restaurants are being favored over other businesses, since retailers won’t be afforded the same opportunity to set up house on the sidewalks and in parking stalls.

The survey may run for the entire month of May to ensure everyone who wants to can respond.

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# Trail work along P.G. coast underway

By KELLY NIX

CONSTRUCTION CREWS have started work on a \$2.8 million project that Pacific Grove officials say will dramatically improve a nearly 1-mile stretch of coastline trail.

The project, dubbed the Point Pinos Trail Project, includes a 5-foot-wide decomposed granite trail along a .8-mile-long section of coastline along Ocean View Boulevard, and other improvements.

When finished in about a year, pedestrians — who now must use meandering and informal dirt paths along that part of the coastline — will have a safer way to get around the area, the city maintains. The new trail is also intended to keep pedestrians away from sensitive dune habitat.

“The project brings to fruition the vision of a safe, enjoyable pedestrian path

along Pacific Grove’s entire coastline” by filling a gap in the trail near Point Pinos, the city said.

A trail currently winds along the coast of Monterey Bay and includes most of Pacific Grove’s shoreline. The new segment will fill in the gap that begins near Crespi Pond and follows the coast to the west side of the city’s lighthouse reservation.

The project will also make the area safer for cyclists, allow better access for disabled visitors, upgrade numerous parking areas and generally “enhance the user experience,” the city said.

### Started last week

There will also be restoration of more than 100,000 square feet of native vegetation, establishment of 10 beach access points, development of parking and driveway approaches and various stormwater improvements.

“The initial phase of the project will be to begin clearing the site of the unwanted vegetation so the new parking locations can be established,” public works director Daniel Gho told The Pine Cone this week. “Seed collection will commence soon so plants can be propagated and ready for planting next winter.”

Pacific Grove was almost prepared last year to commence on the project but needed an extra \$400,000, which Gho said it obtained from the California Natural Resources Agency, a state agency funded by taxpayers.

Other government agencies, including the Transportation Agency for Monterey County and California State Coastal Conservancy, helped fund the project.

Gho said construction will occur in phases, with detours and temporary turnout closures expected.

The California Coastal Commission in 2018 issued a permit waiver for the project.



PHOTO/CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

Only informal trails exist around Point Pinos now, but they’ll soon be improved to accommodate more users.

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# Beverly Cleary, 104, leaves a legacy of children's literature

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

**DURING THE** celebration of Beverly Cleary's 100th birthday on April 12, 2016, the legendary children's author was asked if she'd like to share a few words. She gestured toward a display of her books and said, "I think I already have."

Cleary died at home at Carmel Valley Manor on March 25, just 19 days before her 105th birthday, leaving a legacy of children's literature.

She witnessed a lot during a long and interesting life, in which one might imagine she forgot more than most of us will ever learn. Except she seemed to remember everything. Perhaps it's because she wrote a great deal of it down.

She was born and raised in Oregon, where she lived on a farm near the tiny town of Yamhill until she reached school age, when her family moved to Portland.

With no library in Yamhill, Cleary's mother had books brought in from the Oregon State Library to kindle her child's love of reading, but Cleary's real passion was ignited in Portland, where there was a school library and a librarian to help her choose her own books.

## A debt repaid

In a 2016 interview, Cleary said, "I discovered that reading was actually a pleasure, not just something I had to do in school. The library in Portland meant so much to me. I didn't spend much time inside because they wouldn't allow my roller skates. Sometimes I borrowed a book, read



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

Beverly Cleary in 1993.

it, and returned it the same day."

The very first book Cleary read was "The Dutch Twins," by Lucy Fitch Perkins. Later, after she started to write and receive royalties, she bought a copy because she felt she owed it to the writer. Yet her all-time favorite book was "Dandelion Cottage," a tale of four young girls, written by Carroll Watson Rankin and published in 1904.

In 1934, at 18, Cleary moved to Southern California to attend Chaffey College, from which she earned an Associate of Arts degree while working as a substitute librarian at the Ontario City Library. From there, she went to UC Berkeley, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in English in 1938. A year later, she earned her degree in library science at the School of Librarianship at the University of Washington.

Despite her advanced education, Cleary believed her truest credential for writing about children was that she once was one, herself. "A lot of adults forget what it was like to be a child," she said. "I still remember how it felt."

Her academic background taught her to organize her ideas into an outline, but she tried it once and found it too structured. So, she took to starting with a scene she had in mind, and let the ideas flow from there. And she always wrote her books longhand.

## Books about regular kids

During her two years at Cal, she met her future husband, Clarence Cleary, an accountant to whom she was married for 64 years, until he died in 2004. As newlyweds, they lived in Oakland, and later moved to Berkeley.


"I was always going to write children's books," she said, "but I needed the place to do it. Finally, we bought a house furnished with an old kitchen table with chairs. I sat on my chair every morning for a week, expecting to write a story about the maturing of a sensitive girl. But everything I thought of seemed terribly dull."

Then she remembered a boy she'd met when she was a librarian in Yakima, Wash. He'd asked her, rather crossly, "Where are the books about regular kids like us?" With that in mind, she wrote "Henry Huggins," about a "regular kid" who lives on Klickitat Street in Portland, and, with his dog, Ribs, has adventures with other neighborhood youngsters. The book was published in 1950 and was a great success.

Five years after Henry Huggins became a household name, Cleary introduced her best known and most beloved character, Ramona Quimby, and the older sister she called Beezus. Ramona, a spunky child with penchant for becoming a pest, generated eight books between 1955 and 1999.


"Ramona was inspired by a 6-year-old girl, a pain in the neck who lived behind us when I was growing up, on the


See **CLEARY** page 27A



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# After 13 years of back and forth, Carmel (Sands) Lodge to get overhaul

By MARY SCHLEY

**Y**EARS AFTER the previous owners received permission to rebuild it, Carmel Lodge at San Carlos and Fifth is slated to undergo a remodel and major sprucing up, according to plans OK'd by the planning commission Wednesday night.

The approval brings calm after a lengthy and tumultuous past for the hotel, formerly known as Carmel Sands, which had been set to be demolished and rebuilt, garnering numerous complaints from neighbors and multiple hearings before the planning commission and the city council, which eventually approved the plans in 2010.

But the lodge went into foreclosure, and Mark and Susan Stilwell purchased it from Wells Fargo Bank for \$6.5 million in 2013. They successfully revived the rebuild plan in 2016, but the Stilwells now have a different concept, which planning director Brandon Swanson said this week includes a full exterior renovation of their mid-1950s, 42-room, 20,000-square-foot hotel, and an additional 2,290

square feet in conference space, five guest rooms, and covered parking. The addition will not increase the total room count, though, as a full interior remodel will reconfigure some of the existing rooms. Landscaping, fountains and fire pits will be installed, too, and the long-closed corner restaurant will be overhauled, while the swimming pool will be removed.

## Local architects and builders

Stilwell said he was careful to put together a team of local architects and builders to develop the new plans, and he told commissioners he expects hotel taxes generated by the property to double after the work is done.

"This is a major investment by our family," he said.

Former Mayor Steve Dallas was the only member of the public who commented, and he said he was "in complete support."

"This is a long time coming," he said. "I would love to see this commission unanimously support this project." Dallas said he hopes other hotel owners will upgrade their

properties, too.

The commissioners all favored the proposal — other than hoping Stilwell might choose a less bright white and a less dark black for the paint and trim colors.

"I am very pleased that this is not a tear-down-and-rebuild," commissioner Chris Bolton said. "This is a very sensitive way to get an updated look."

Bolton was "concerned about the whiteness of the white" and recommended using charcoal grey instead of black for the trim, but said he is comfortable with Stilwell working out the details with planning staff instead of having to come back to the commission.

"I think it's really clever what you've done, and eliminating the swimming pool is exactly the right thing to do," commissioner Robert Delves said. "I'm 100 percent supportive of this project, and I like the black-and-white theme, and I'm sure you will experiment with a few variants of those colors."

See **LODGE** page 19A

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## Commission: Your skylights must go

By MARY SCHLEY

A SECOND Avenue homeowner who installed two skylights in a carport without a permit has to rip them out, the planning commission decided Wednesday night.

The skylights, which Juan Mancheno and Buck Blackwell wanted to put on the east-facing roof of a carport at the house northwest of Lincoln Street, had been proposed along with a kitchen remodel and a third skylight over a bathroom in February 2020, according to assistant planner Evan Kort. He told them the proposed skylights would violate residential design guidelines and couldn't be approved over the counter at the planning department, but that the rest of the work could.

"The applicant indicated he would revise the plans to be consistent with the residential design guidelines," Kort said, and the project was subsequently approved administratively, without the two carport skylights.

During a drive-by five months later, Kort saw they had been installed, anyway, so he contacted the men to advise them they either had to remove the skylights or get them approved after the fact by the planning commission.

But when they requested their final inspection from the city, the skylights were still there, and they were told again they had to get rid of them or get the planning commission's OK before any final inspection.

In February, they applied, and at the April 14 meeting, Kort recommended denial, since the skylights are visible from the street and violate the residential design guidelines.

### 'The city knew'

But Mancheno insisted he and Blackwell did nothing wrong, and that even though they installed them without permission, "the city knew we intended to apply for these two skylights."

"It wasn't something we were doing on the side," he said. Mancheno also noted that "every single home surrounding this property has skylights."

Blackwell said the skylights comply with all the rules as much as possible and accused the city of being unfair.

"There are hundreds of skylights like this," on houses around the city, he said. "Is there rampant favoritism in the building department? Because these have all been approved, and the design guidelines are 20 years old — and a lot of these houses aren't."

Planning commissioners were unimpressed by their arguments.

"I'm kind of disturbed about this whole thing," commissioner Stephanie Locke said. "Just because your neighbors have skylights doesn't mean you can add two without getting approvals."

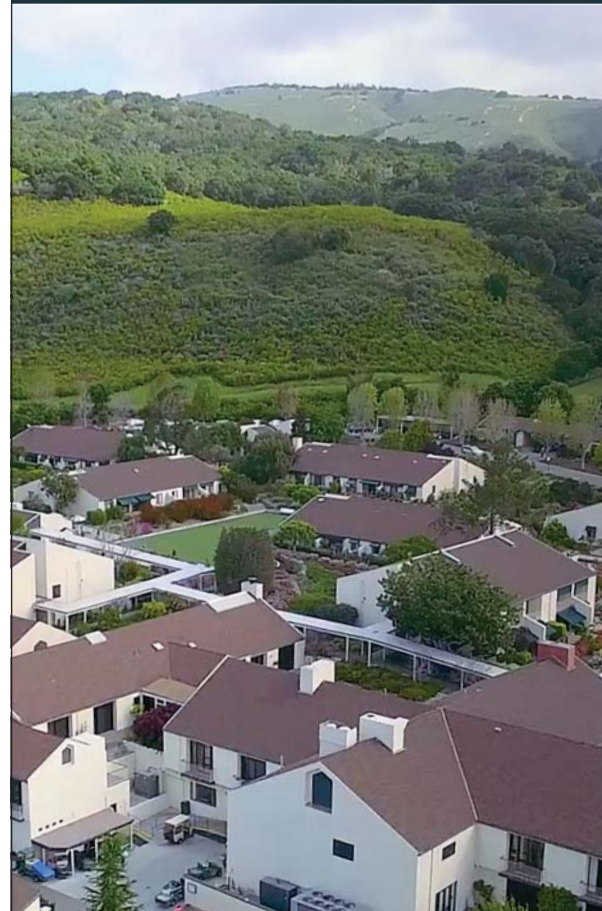
She said it was "very clear" the skylights hadn't been approved and could only be OK'd by the planning commission. "I'm a stickler for permitting, and permitting properly, and following the rules," she said.

"You really left us no way to go, here," chair Michael LePage said. "As a review body, if we don't respect the permitting process, then we completely undermine any respect that the public has for us."

He could find no justification for approving the skylights, either, and Locke made the motion to deny them, which passed 3-0. Commissioners Chris Bolton and Gail Lehman had to recuse themselves from the hearing.

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**You are invited to learn about  
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Thursday, April 22nd at 1:30 pm**

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

**RSVP by April 20th**

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

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# Virtual reality app shows how Moss Landing could flood

By CHRIS COUNTS

A NEW app uses virtual reality to show how flooding triggered by climate change will one day inundate the Moss Landing area — and Caltrans suggests that such flooding could start happening less than a decade from now.

“As early as 2030, an 8-mile section of Highway 1 and 5 miles of railway in Elkhorn Slough, home to extraordinary biological diversity, could experience regular storm and tidal flooding,” a press release from Caltrans this week reads. “The railway east of Highway 1 already experiences flooding at extreme high tides. The marsh area, the third largest in the state, is especially vulnerable, with about 85 percent of it projected to be inundated with a 5-foot sea level rise.”

To meet the complex challenges such sea rise would entail — and find “creative” and “innovative” solutions to the possibility that an important transportation corridor will be submerged — Caltrans is teaming up with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments and an environmental group, the Nature Conservancy.

A climate resiliency study done by AM-

BAG concludes that action is necessary to combat the rising sea level. “The 8-mile stretch of Highway 1 near Elkhorn Slough is already constrained and will be increasingly impacted by coastal storm flooding and sea level rise,” the report indicates.

### Saving roads, rails & wetlands

The Nature Conservancy is particularly interested in doing what it can to protect Elkhorn Slough, a 7-mile-long tidal estuary. The group has bought more than 800 acres in the area and transferred the land to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation.

“Our main goal for this area is for it to be resilient to climate change,” Juvenio Guerra of the Nature Conservancy told The Pine Cone. “As the highway and railway adapt to sea level rise, the needs of Elkhorn Slough need to be taken into account. We’re excited that Caltrans is taking a comprehensive approach, and they’re not only looking at benefiting the community, but benefiting nature, too.”

Guerra said the app, which is on the Apple and Google stores, will be a valuable tool for saving roads and railways and will also benefit the public by illustrating the threat rising seawater poses.



A screenshot from the new app to show how sea level rise may affect Moss Landing harbor.



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herb garlic butter, Parmesan-Romano cheese, fresh parsley

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spinach & ricotta filled rolled pasta, tomato-basic cream sauce, Parmesan cheese

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mashed potatoes, sautéed vegetable medley, horseradish crème  
(prime rib extra cut, 12 oz. add 10.)

USDA PRIME PETITE FILET MIGNON 4 oz.  
& GRILLED GULF PRAWNS (3)  
garlic mashed potatoes, broccolini, mushroom cap  
fried onion straws, périgourdine sauce

PAN SEARED KING SALMON  
braised broccolini, artichokes & carrots, hollandaise sauce (add crab meat 15.)

### CHOICE OF DESSERT

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**John J. King**  
May 16, 1930 – March 27, 2021

John J. King, born in Watsonville, CA, to John S. King and Marian Enos. John was one of three children. His sister was Rosemary King and brother William F. King resides in Carmel Valley. John grew up on Larkin Street, also known as "Spaghetti Hill." He graduated from Monterey High School in 1949.

After graduation, he worked for the CA state division of Forestry and Salinas fire department before he was drafted into the U.S. Army where John was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. After military service, John started his career with Pacific Telephone. He met and married Eileen G. Rosselot on April 14, 1956, in Salinas, CA. John and Eileen started the laundromat business and John retired shortly after from the phone company.

John was an avid outdoorsman, which included hunting, fishing, backpacking, skiing and his favorite, golf. He worked as a volunteer for the Bing Crosby tournament, later called the AT&T golf tournament, from 1975-2021. One of his favorite pastimes was taking road trips and playing cards (hearts and gin rummy) with his grandkids.

John's home was always open to family and friends. He loved to entertain and show off his beloved peninsula.

John is survived by his wife, Eileen; son, Kevin; daughter, Stephanie and her husband Ken Cox, Colonel U.S. Army (Retired); grandson, Christopher and wife, Natell; granddaughter, Lee Ann and husband Garrett Knight; great-grandsons Elliot and Thomas; and great-granddaughter Atticus, to arrive in 5 months; and brother William (Bill) King and wife Judy King.

John King was a great husband, father, grandpa, great-grandpa and friend to many. We will miss you, your smile, laughter, and big heart – you did so much for so many and will be missed every day!

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

## CHS, CVHS seniors to get Sober Grad celebration after all

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER NEARLY a full school year without many of the rites of passage seniors typically enjoy, the Class of 2021 at Carmel High School, and its much smaller cousin, Carmel Valley High School, will get its Sober Grad Night — complete with rollercoaster rides until midnight, arcade games all night long, and plenty of snacks at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. To make it all happen, members of the Padre Parents Club are working to raise \$60,000, much of it through a rummage sale planned for April 24 at the high school.

"It's 227 kids, and all of them will be able to attend for free," said parent JC Myers, who's co-chairing the event this year.

The annual rummage sale to raise funds for Sober Grad Night usually takes place in March, but due to the pandemic, it was postponed. "We didn't know until yesterday that we were going to be able to do this," he said Tuesday, so the sale is coming together quickly during the first week of in-person school, which starts April 19. "We're collecting goods Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and holding the sale on Saturday."

Myers is hoping the sale will attract people who've had time while sheltering in place to cull their housewares, furnishings and other items that might bring in cash for the annual party, which seeks to ensure graduating seniors are celebrating together in a safe and sober environment, instead of partying elsewhere and driving drunk or on drugs.

"Sober Grad is a really important event for these kids," said Myers, who has a son in this

year's graduating class. "The community is eager to support these kids and understands their senior year has kind of been taken from them."

### No time for trouble

Many Sober Grad Nights have been held in the CHS gym, which dedicated volunteers transformed into casino nights and other themed parties over the years. But getting enough volunteers together to do all that work can be tough under the best of circumstances, and with distancing required to help keep coronavirus from spreading, the gym was a nonstarter this year.

Fortunately, Myers was able to line up a night at the theme park, which hosts various schools for Sober Grad Nights. "We were extremely fortunate to get in the rotation for the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk," he said.

Carmel High seniors will leave town

See SOBER page 19A



PHOTO/SHERMAN CHU

CHS kids should get lots of adrenaline rushes during Sober Grad Night at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk this year.

## Jo-Ellen (Tooher) Lee

July 20, 1936 ❖ March 19, 2021

Jo-Ellen Lee died peacefully at home after a 12-year struggle with Parkinson's and dementia. Her husband, her five children, and her dearest friend and sister, Nancy Symons, were with her in her final days.

Jo-Ellen was the youngest of three children born to Charles and Julia Tooher. She grew up in Schuyler, Nebraska, a small town about 70 miles west of Omaha. She was proud of her Nebraska roots, her Irish heritage, and her Catholic faith. She was a founding member of the Naughty Nine, life-long friends from grade school and high school who initially demonstrated their mutual commitment by smoking a cigarette and drinking a beer! Three members of the Naughty Nine survive her.



She loved music and cats. When she practiced the oboe for the high school band, her cat scampered out of the room, but it cuddled up to her when she practiced piano. She abandoned the oboe and played classical piano music for enjoyment until Parkinson's took it from her.

She earned her B.S. degree in nursing at St. Catherine's College in Omaha, then worked in a children's psych ward after graduation. She moved to Pasadena, California, in the summer of 1960, where she tended premature babies in Huntington Memorial Hospital and met her future husband, Ed Lee, while visiting a friend. They married on September 30, 1961, and their first child, Therese, was born the following August. Over the next decade, they were blessed with Colleen, Mike, Tim, and Maria, and bought their first home in Claremont, California. In 1972 they moved to Carmel Valley and, for the next 20 years, raised their family on East Garzas Road, attended Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, and worked with Catholic youth.

When Maria left for college, Jo-Ellen became a hospice volunteer. Later, she earned her master's in divinity at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley and did a chaplain residency at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford. She served as a volunteer chaplain at CHOMP and at St. Charles Hospital in Bend, Oregon, where she and Ed lived for eight years before returning for good to the Monterey Peninsula in 2014.

She delighted in each of her nine grandchildren (Julia Stromatt, Grace Stromatt, Joe Raggett, Hugh Raggett, Mae Raggett, Trey Lee, June Lee, Max Lee, and Sebastian Lee). They remember her as the "cookie grandmother" because she playfully taught them how to bake cookies.

She enjoyed her travels to Europe, China, Taiwan, Australia, Thailand, Indonesia, New Zealand, South America, and around the USA. However, her favorite place was Lake Tahoe, and more specifically, Sand Harbor, where she vegged out in the sunshine on many a summer day.

Her Irish wit, subtle, gentle, and loving, persisted to her final days. Through the challenges of dementia, she quietly contributed surprising one-liners to ongoing conversations that brought a smile, a laugh, and tears of joy.

We will celebrate her life with a memorial service when conditions permit.

She was my best friend.

Ed



# Sudden Oak volunteer 'blitz' coming

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

**J**UST AS they do each spring throughout the region, researchers are seeking volunteers to help them sample local trees for symptoms of Sudden Oak Death April 30 to May 5. They call the efforts, "blitzes."

"Due to the pandemic, last year we re-designed the training so that participants can do it online," researcher Kerry Frangioso announced. "The 2020 Sudden Oak Death blitzes were a smashing success, and more trees were surveyed and sampled in 2020 than in 2019."

Before samplings trees for signs of the pathogen, volunteers are asked to watch a 30-minute video online. Then they pick up

collection packets at a station that will be set up at the Discovery Center in Palo Corona Regional Park at 4860 Carmel Valley Rd. Each packet makes it possible for a volunteer to sample 10 trees.

Frangioso said the discovery of an aggressive variant of Sudden Oak Death makes the surveys more critical than ever. The disease continues to threaten one of the state's great natural treasures, its oaks.

"In 2019 alone, more than one million trees were killed by SOD. The presence of new SOD strains is alarming and the SOD blitzes are the best, if not the only, program to intercept them before they spread," Frangioso reported. For more details, visit [sodblitz.org](http://sodblitz.org).

## LANING YANG

September 8, 1932 — March 31, 2021

**O**n a bright Carmel Day, Laning Yang (born Lin Laning) cast off the weight of her body with her only child Belle curled up next to her in bed in the house she lived in for 45 years. Even in her last hours, when Belle kissed Laning on her lips, Laning kissed her back. In death her face with its high, rounded cheekbones was beautiful to behold.

She was born September 8, 1932 in Yu-ch'i (Fish Pond) deep in the mountains of Taiwan, which was then under Japanese colonization. Her ancestry was Hakka, Hokkien Han Chinese with a trace of Hmong. But early in her life her entire family was adopted by the Setoguchi family, a samurai clan from Kyushu.

In 1938 her family sailed across Taiwan Strait on the Canton Maru (the ship was sunk by Americans two months later) to occupied Canton where her father was a teacher at a Japanese girl's school. After Japan's surrender, her family booked a return passage to Taiwan, but masses of refugees swarmed the ship and displaced them. They lived in the rubble of bombed-out Canton for nine months. The family ultimately returned to Taiwan with only the clothes they were wearing and no shoes, because at typhoon-churned sea washed over the deck and took most of their belongings.

At 13 Laning began teaching Mandarin Chinese, standing on a box so her students, who were adult aboriginal people, could see her above the podium.

At age 18, after attending normal school, Laning began teaching in T'ai-tung City. There Laning fell in love and married her colleague Yang Zuwu — Joseph Yang — a tall striking Manchurian refugee from the mainland. When she won one of twelve coveted scholarships to attend prestigious Taipei Normal University, the couple moved to the capital Taipei. In 1960 Yang Xuan — Belle — was born to them. In 1964 the family of three moved to Tokyo where Joseph attended graduate school and Laning worked as an editor for a Chinese magazine. Two years later, under the auspices of the Hart-Celler Act, the family of three arrived in San Francisco with 80 dollars, ultimately settling in Carmel, CA in 1971.

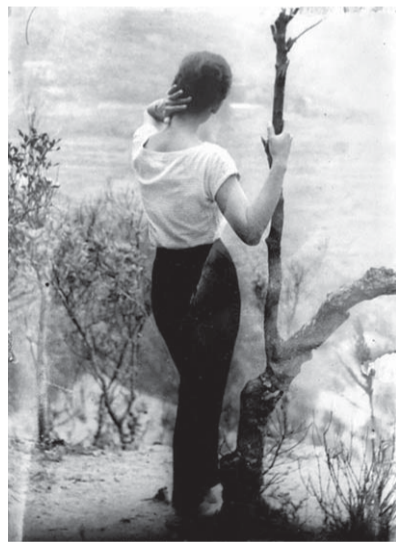


Photo by Joseph Yang

Laning worked side-by-side with her husband in an antiques and art gallery she and Joseph opened in which they showcased Joseph's paintings and wire art.

In 1986, Laning and Joseph sent Belle to study art in Beijing and on her daughter's return after the Tiananmen Massacre, Laning supported her career as a writer-illustrator. She inspired Belle with the stories of her own mother who saved small snippets of the umbilical cords of her babies. She edited Belle's adult and children's illustrated books on Joseph's life as a refugee fleeing the ravages of war-torn China. She kept the peace between father and daughter.

She hung on to life for two years after the death of Joseph in 2019, knowing her own continued presence would be ballast to her daughter's future. The mother-daughter pair could be seen along Scenic Drive in Carmel, Belle pushing Laning in a transport chair as the latter's lovely smile greeted people they met by the water. Belle believes her mother is a bodhisattva. Although she was a property owner, Laning never considered anything hers. She left the Earth with three drawers neatly lined with pill bottles, a few pairs of knitting needles and some knickknacks.



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to the family at  
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## VICTOR WILLIAM DAHIR, JR.

July 1945 – March 2021  
Pebble Beach, California

A life well lived, loved and respected by many. No matter his professional success, Victor believed his greatest achievement was as a parent. From a large family, oldest of six, growing up in a suburb of Chicago as son of Madeline and Victor Dahir.

He was driven to better himself at an early age working to put himself through college at Amherst and Business School at Harvard. Throughout his life he remained close to his fraternity brothers, Richard Skillman, Mather Neill, Mark Perry and Donald Johnson. He communicated with each, shared memories and said his farewells near the end.

An early career as a CPA | Audit Manager in San Francisco with Arthur Young (now Ernest & Young). Lifelong friendships ensued, personal and professional with Joe Amigone and Rich Puntillo. A number of career opportunities preceded his position with VISA which began a journey of professional challenges and pride that culminated in his most satisfying career achievements as CFO in partnership with CEO Carl Pascarella until his retirement. Many friendships have continued from his time with VISA and he remained in contact with several colleagues and directors, fondly remembered and too numerous to name. Post retirement, he consulted to a local company in Monterey, True Organic Products working for Jake Evans as a business consultant to a startup enterprise that he totally enjoyed. In 2010 he was elected to the Board of Directors of MoneyGram International where he proudly served until his passing.

Survived by wife Kimberly Burgess, daughter Victoria Zak (Brian) and son Robert Dahir (Karina), grandkids Kayla, Brooke, Reiss and Cooper, sister Lyn Ree (Steve), brother Russell Dahir (Tracey) and their families. Closest friends Susan Black and Aris Angelopoulos and their families shared many holidays, travel, love, laughter and memories.

Grateful to Dr. Stauffer, Dr. Koontz, Dr. Hausdorff locally at Community Hospital, Dr. Skinner and Dr. Shelton and their teams at Stanford Hospital for their valiant efforts to give Victor more time. Heartland Hospice nurses Kathy, Tara, and Jason for their compassionate care, making his last few weeks comfortable. Private duty nurse, Bobby will be fondly remembered for his kindness, understanding and exceptional care.

Victor was not religious, but viewed himself as a spiritual man. His request was to share a poem to put his final thoughts in perspective.

### THE DASH

by  
Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.  
He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning . . . to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears,  
But he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that they spent alive on earth.  
Now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own: the cars, the house, the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time you have left that can still be arranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real  
And always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more  
And love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile,  
Remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash . . .  
Would you be proud of the things they say  
About how you spent YOUR dash?

\*\*\*

At Victor's request, there will be no services. Memorial contributions may be made in Victor's name to the [MoneyGramFoundation.org](http://MoneyGramFoundation.org) or to the [AmericanCancerSociety.com](http://AmericanCancerSociety.com)



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Payment made for photos accepted for publication.

# VIRUS

From page 1A

my friends to get vaccinated, too.”

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula spokeswoman Brenda Moore said the hospital had 1,158 appointments

booked for Thursday and Friday for the first dose of the Pfizer shot.

“And of those, 76 are for 16- and 17-year-olds,” Moore told The Pine Cone. “Appointment sign-ups and the clinic operations have been steady.”

“Vaccine providers in Monterey County have vaccinated about 48 percent of residents, ages 16 and older,” health officer Dr.

Ed Moreno told news reporters Wednesday afternoon.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said Thursday that the “vaccine eligibility expansion is a major milestone in our state’s fight against the pandemic and another step on the path to reopening fully in the coming months.”

While about 35,000 vaccinations were administered in Monterey County this week, the health department joined the move to pause the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, as recommended by the CDC, over concerns about blood clots. Only six people out of an estimated 7 million who received that manufacturer’s vaccine nationwide were diagnosed with the blood clots.

### Many no shows

Moreno said Wednesday he’s not heard of any problems with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine in the county. While not being able to use it would have “some impact” on the county’s vaccination efforts, he said the Johnson & Johnson accounts for a small percentage of shots here.

He would not speculate when the county might get most of the other half of Monterey County’s population immunized, but said the health department still has a “lot of work to do to reach our goal.”

“We will continue to tell people about the importance of vaccinations,” he said.

Meanwhile, county hospital Natividad Medical Center held a mass vaccination clinic at Everett Alvarez High School in Salinas last weekend where it vaccinated 7,899 people over two days. But 1,380 peo-

ple who made appointments to get the shot were no shows, which county officials said hinders the vaccination efforts, — though some were offset by walk-ins.

“It is imperative that when patients book appointments, they show up” or cancel ahead of time, NMC clinical pharmacy coordinator Shade Alabi told news reporters Wednesday.

Alabi said that those who didn’t make their appointments at NMC had likely booked at other vaccination sites, such as pharmacies and clinics. Natividad Medical Center, she said, has seen instances where people have made as many as four appointments because they wanted to make sure they secured a spot.

No shows not only make it difficult for hospitals to prepare for the number of vaccines they need to remove from storage, they can also take away spots that could have been filled by someone else.

Moore said CHOMP is experiencing a fair number —10 percent or more — of no shows, which she also blamed on people making multiple appointments.

“As the number of vaccine providers has increased, some people have booked appointments at more than one site, and then didn’t cancel the others,” Moore explained. “Also, the first waves of people were very eager to get vaccinated, and now it may not be as high a priority for some.”

The current number of new coronavirus cases per day per 100,000 people in Monterey County is among the lowest in the state at a mere 2.3 — a figure that has not been seen in the county since May 2020.

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# SOBER

From page 16A

around 8 p.m. June 4, after graduation and celebrating with their families, in chartered buses, and will have the run of the park, including six rides that will go until midnight, and arcades open all night. They'll feast on pizza and goodies, and everything is free for them, including the games.

### Even a hypnotist

"As the evening starts to wind down, I have a hypnotist coming," Myers added. Las Vegas-based Steve Falcon will entertain the group.

"This guy is incredible," he said. And generous: Falcon offered to do the job pro bono if the Padre Parents can't raise enough cash to pay him.

A DJ will take over for an after-hours party, and at about 4 a.m., the presumably exhausted group will board buses and be back in town around 5.

"We'll release them to their parents, and we've done our job of keeping them safe on a statistically scary night," Myers said.

The Padre Parents have been raising funds through grants from community groups and the City of Carmel, and have been collecting donations from service clubs and generous businesses. Pacific Valley Bank contributed \$5,000 and is Sober Grad Night's "lead sponsor," Myers said.

The Padre Parents Club is a nonprofit and accepts donations through PayPal and by check, and contributors should note their gifts are specifically for Sober Grad Night. Go to [carmelunified.org/domain/296](http://carmelunified.org/domain/296) for information.

### Contributions, please

Anyone who wants to contribute to the rummage sale can drop items off at the performing arts center at Carmel High between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. April 21-23. The sale will be held April 24, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# LODGE

From page 13A

"I hate to say it's a sensible plan, because it's more than that," added chair Michael LePage.

Commissioners voted 4-0 — Stephanie Locke had to recuse herself because she lives nearby — to approve Stilwell's plans, with the condition that he provide color swatches for approval by the planning department.

"It will be really nice to see something happen there after all these years," LePage said.

Early this week, work crews were already busy gutting the restaurant.

# P.G. museum reopens

OFFERING A multi-faceted look at the local flora and fauna, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History reopened last week.

For now, the museum will be open Friday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 50 percent of its capacity.

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

Like other museums, the local one expanded its online content during Covid, and will continue to do so. "Our digital offerings will remain accessible to serve the widest possible audience on an ongoing basis," the museum reported.

For more details, visit [pgmuseum.org](http://pgmuseum.org).

## April 2021 COVID-19 Vaccine Update

On March 25, 2021, the State of California announced the **next expansion of eligibility** for the COVID-19 vaccine.



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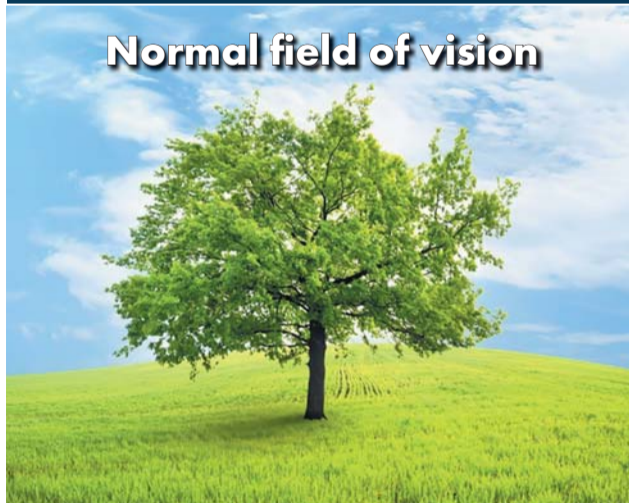
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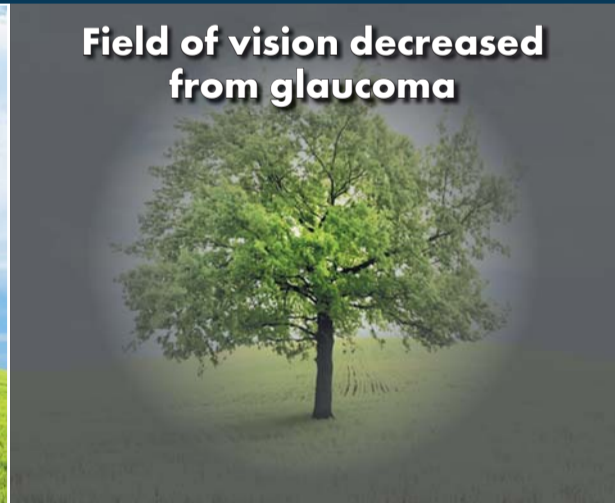
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# TRAIL

From page 1A

Big Sur's backcountry. Such a trail would certainly not be for everybody — the landscape is seriously steep, and the backcountry gets really hot and dry during summer.

The Big Sur section of the trail would start at Palo Corona Regional Park in Carmel Valley and wind its way south, at first through mostly Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District property along an existing road.

## Ups and downs

After crossing into state and federal land, the trail moves through some of Big Sur's least visited terrain, vaulting ridges and crossing creeks. It comes close to the coast at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park before veering inland again. It finally offers easy coastal access at Kirk Creek Campground.

From there, it hugs the coast for about eight miles before heading east again. After some more ups and downs, the trail enters San Luis Obispo County.

As the crow flies, the distance between Carmel Valley and Gorda is about 50 miles, but hikers will no doubt pile up as much as double the mileage as they navigate Big Sur's famously uneven terrain.

But the coastal commission wants what they call a "braided trail," which they describe as a "cohesive" trail system designed to accommodate "many people and different uses." More commonly, the term refers to a trail which has different paths for different types of users — paths that alternately diverge and coincide based on terrain and obstacles.

"We believe very strongly in a braided trail," countered Linda Locklin, coastal access program manager for the coastal commission.

Locklin said the coastal commission is willing to "work" with the Big Sur community to consider making some or all of the locals' inland trail part of the braided trail, but she didn't go into details about where she envisioned its different components would be built.

Daniels noted that the two sides are far apart.

"It would benefit everyone who is here to be really frank about where we are right now," said Daniels. "There is a lack of agreement whether this is a trail with a single alignment or braided network of trails."

## Single trail or a network?

So, should the California Coastal Trail be a single inland path or a network of routes to accommodate various users?

Noaki Schwartz of the coastal commis-

sion told The Pine Cone that her agency and the state's coastal conservancy have "consistently stated that the California Coastal Trail is a braided network of interconnecting trails and routes."

According to Schwartz, the Coastal Act and other two the other state laws — SB 908 and AB 1396 — "require that the California Coastal Trail be completed and that it shall be a braided network system of trails."

Referring to the locals' route as the "Ridge Trail," Schwartz said the California Coastal Commission would be willing to consider adding "existing segments of it" to an upcoming California Coastal Trail mapping project, where it "perhaps" could be "a strand" of the coastal trail.

## Same topic, different view

Attorney Pam Silkwood pushed back against the coastal commission's claims that "the trail" was always going to include many trails. She noted that there's no mention of the route in the Coastal Act. "If you search the California Coastal Act, it simply does not use the words, 'coastal trail.'"

According to Silkwood, Senate Bill 908 makes it clear that the California Coastal Trail will be one single route.

"In the final language of SB 908, the trail is consistently referred to in the singular as a trail," Silkwood explained. "In

fact, the legislative intent was made clear when the words 'network of multi-user trails' were deleted from the bill during its amendment process."

As for AB 1396, the attorney said that during the push to pass the bill, it was routinely characterized as "a trail" with "a continuous public right of way."

## What's next?

With the locals' vision for the California Coastal Trail at odds with what state agencies want, Daniels said she's hopeful Sen. John Laird can bring the two sides together.

"He is currently meeting with members of the Big Sur Coastal Trail Working Group and staff from the coastal commission and the coastal conservancy," said Daniels, who is also a Monterey County planning commissioner. "I am optimistic that the senator will be able to navigate the current impasse and find a solution that will ultimately be amenable to both the community and the state agencies."

The California Coastal Trail was first proposed by supporters of the Coastal Act in the 1970s. A nonprofit, Coastwalk, has been advocating for the trail since it was formed in 1983. In 2001, state legislators called for the completion of a recreational trail spanning the length of California's coastline from Mexico to Oregon.

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# BORDER

From page 1A

El Salvador and Guatemala,” Panetta said. “I also asked them how long it took to get here, and most of them said about one month.”

Out of respect for the children, who may have endured trauma in their home countries, the congressional lawmakers avoided asking the minors why their families decided to send them to the United States, Panetta said.

### Arrows direct them

On Sunday — a day of the week Panetta said border security officials told him there are not as many crossings — Panetta saw migrants wander into the United States.

“We saw a couple of people in the distance walking under the bridge and toward” a temporary U.S. Customs and Border Protection processing facility. Such immigrants, who have been arriving in large numbers over the last two months, often do not try to cross surreptitiously but seek out border officials so they can request asylum.

Arrows that the U.S. Customs and Border Protection placed on the U.S. side of the Rio Grande direct migrants for processing, which is done under the Anzalduas Inter-

# DRUG

From page 1A

That revelation prompted police to call the fire department, which in turn summoned the hazardous materials team from Seaside and Salinas, since Monterey Fire is not equipped to safely handle the toxic drug in powder form.

“We carry fentanyl in our paramedic engines as a medication, but it’s suspended in liquid and has a very specific dosage,” explained Monterey Fire Division Chief Greg Greenlee. “Powdered fentanyl is extremely dangerous.”

It’s also often mixed with other drugs when used illegally, he noted.

Mora’s car contained pills and a piece of foil with residue on it, according to Watkins. “He was smashing up the pills and then smoking them off of tinfoil,” he said.

Seaside Fire arrived, and firefighters and police kept people at least 150 feet away from the car while the Salinas hazmat crew — a six-person team that travels in a large specialized truck — methodically suited up, thoroughly searched the car, gathered all the drugs for containment and testing, and then cleaned everything up. “The risk of rushing in and making the wrong decision could be deadly,” Greenlee said.

Field tests on the powder and pills to determine whether they were fentanyl were inconclusive, so they turned everything over to police for further analysis in a lab.

No one was exposed to the drug, Watkins said. Maldonado had been wearing gloves and was checked out by the ambulance crew and cleared.

As for Mora, he was cited for the drug and probation violations, and sent on his way. “He was in town because he works for a landscaper and had driven up to Devendorf to use the bathroom,” Watkins said.

national Bridge — a 3-mile bridge over the Rio Grande that connects Reynosa, Mexico, with Mission, Texas.

Panetta and the other member also visited a Catholic charities group in Rio Grande Valley, went on a ride-along on the border with law enforcement officers and had a boat tour of the Rio Grande to get a sense of the Texas Department of Public Safety and National Guard’s efforts to combat human traffickers and drug smugglers.

His first trip to the border this year was on March 26 when he visited a U.S. Health and Human Services facility for unaccompanied children in Carrizo Springs, Texas. Unlike the Donna facility, that one was not overcrowded.

Panetta said what he and his colleagues saw on the trip gave them the evidence and justification to push for “complete immigration reform” in Congress, and he noted legislation that the House of Representatives recently passed to protect Dreamers — children who were brought to the country illegally by their parents — immigrants with temporary protected status, and farmworkers. He said it’s time for the U.S. Senate to take action on those bills.

The children being detained at the overcrowded Donna facility are awaiting transfers to temporary housing under the auspices of Health and Human Services, an agency better equipped to care for unaccompanied minors.

“That is why they are so crowded, because HHS doesn’t have the facilities to take them in,” he said. “That is why HHS is getting more facilities. It needs to be done quicker, in my opinion.”

The congressman called the United States’ immigration system “broken and in urgent need of immediate reform to restore compassion, security and clarity.”

### ‘More resources’

Panetta also said the Biden administration needs to provide more resources for “order” at the border, and for Mexico and the Northern Triangle countries to do more to “help stem the flow of those fleeing violence, economic disparity, and the effects of climate change.”

Furthermore, he said migrants need to be able to apply for asylum in their home countries before making the perilous journey through Mexico, where they are vulnerable to human smugglers and other criminals.

In some quarters, the United States is depicted as an irredeemably racist place where people of color are systematically oppressed and abused, but the immigrants, who risk life and limb to get here, evidently don’t see it that way.


Panetta was asked if immigration reform should also include repairing parts of the southern border wall that are in disrepair and allow migrants to cross over freely. While

he said the decision should be made by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, he said he would support the move if it is “not political” and is “based on sound policy.”


He also pointed to more technological security measures that should be implemented and expanded to make the border safer for migrants and U.S. border officials.

“Immigration is the most politically complex and policy complicated issue that I have dealt with,” said Panetta, who was elected to Congress in 2016.

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## Editorial

# What people are thinking

**YOU KNOW** those articles every couple of years that use U-Haul rental prices to gauge which parts of the country are attracting the most new residents? For the last year, for example, it's been super easy to book a van for a one-way rental to San Francisco, which tells you that very few people want to move there, while vans leaving the city have been scarce (and therefore expensive) because so many people who live there — especially young people — are doing their best to relocate basically anywhere else.

So even if the number of self-move vehicles needed in the whole country stays about the same, the regional demand can vary significantly based on where people want to leave and where they want to go, and by adjusting prices, a company like U-Haul can use its customers to relocate their vehicles to the places where they are most needed. Which means that by sampling the prices on the U-Haul website, even the laziest demographer can stay up to the minute on the where people would like to be, which also reveals where they believe jobs are plentiful, the quality of life is best, and taxes are low.

Today's transportation-as-metaphor story is that rental cars are suddenly in very short supply, and that if you're going to need some wheels from Hertz or Avis for your summer vacation, you'd better make sure you have them booked well in advance.

The first thing you can take from this development is that the rental car business is very capital intensive, which also means that without tons of cash coming in, even a company with a lot of success under its seat belt can suddenly lose the ability to make payments on the hundreds of millions it borrows to keep 400,000 to 500,000 nice cars on hand. So when rental car demand dried up last spring, and nobody had any idea when it would come back, the rental car companies had no choice but to sell tens of thousands of their cars, which is what they did. But then they had the problem of trying to be ready for the day when people would decide to start traveling again. You can't make money renting cars if you don't have cars to rent, and you also can't pull 10,000 cars out of a hat. They aren't like software that can be duplicated an unlimited number of times at very little cost.

Over the past several months, the people who run the big rental car companies have been studying all sorts of trends, many of them very positive for their business. The economy is flush with money — check. Millions of Americans have cabin fever and would like to go on a trip — check. The vaccines seem to be working — check. But then the head of the CDC says she feels a sense of “impending doom” where the coronavirus epidemic is concerned, and Tony Fauci keeps popping up on television to say that even people who have been vaccinated still have to stay home with two masks on. So how many rental cars will Hertz and Avis need three months from now?

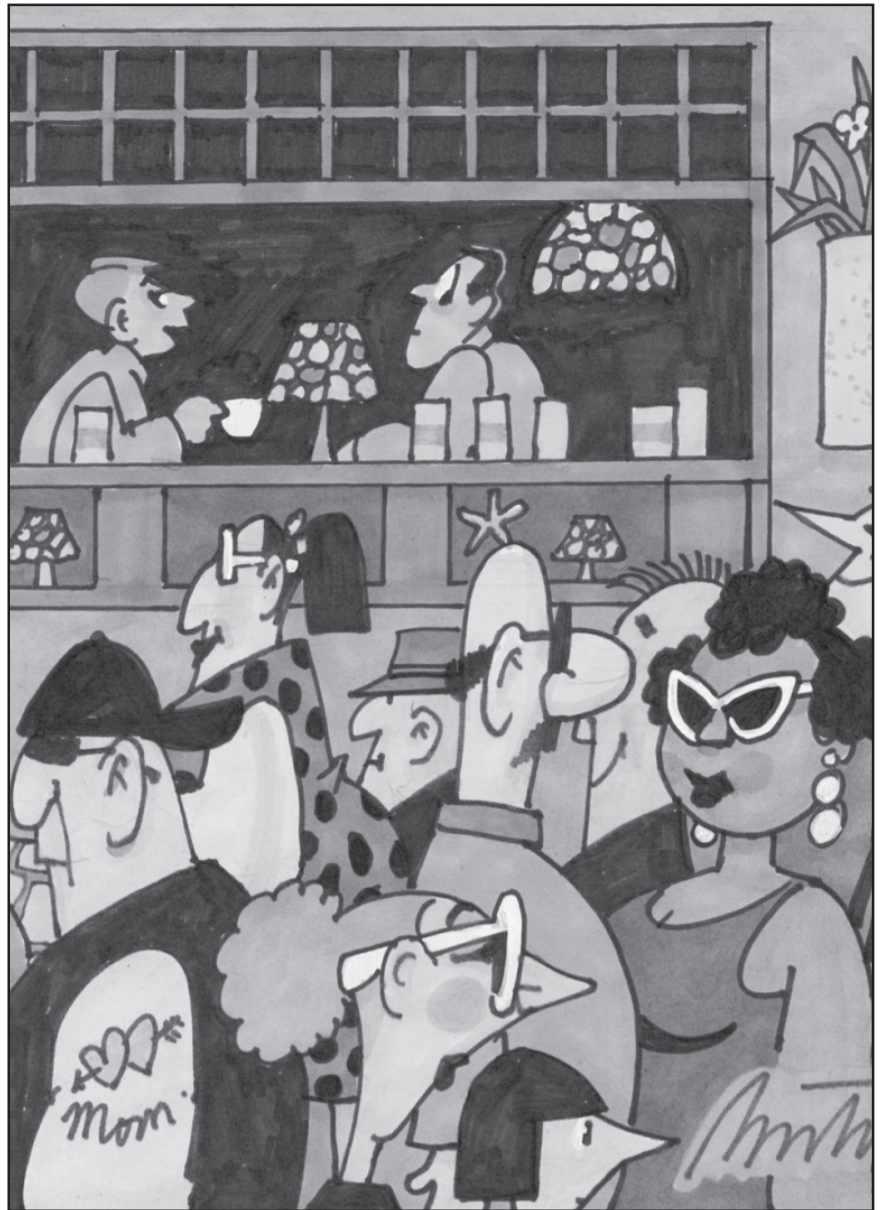
Apparently, the people who make the decisions at those companies haven't been coming up with the right answers, because this morning's Wall Street Journal says there's such a “sudden surge in post-vaccination travel” going on even now that there's a big shortage of rental cars.

“Travelers report sky-high prices and sold-out dates even in non-beach destinations like Kansas City, Houston and Memphis,” the WSJ says. “Travelers with reservations complain that they now sometimes show up and, with no cars on the lot, must wait for a car to be returned and cleaned before they can drive off.”

Meanwhile, the major airlines say they're expecting summer travel to be as high as 90 percent of what it was before the pandemic, and that they're moving quickly to reactivate their idle jets.

Get ready to feel sorry for people who don't make their plans early or can't afford the higher prices that will result when demand for things like rental cars and airline seats outstrips what's available. But save some of your pity for Dr. Fauci, because it looks like nobody's listening to him anymore.

## BEST of BATES



“On second thought,  
Carmel doesn't need a zoo.”

## Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. Letters cannot exceed 350 words, and must include the author's name and home town. We reserve the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication and to edit for length and clarity.

The Pine Cone only accepts letters to the editor by email. Please submit your letters to [mail@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mail@carmelpinecone.com)

### How do they get reelected?

Dear Editor,

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors doesn't seem to have a mind of its own.

The board's latest resolution, described in the April 9-15 Carmel Pine Cone, says we're all racist, a classic example of “virtue signaling” and “wallowing in white guilt.”

The resolution came from the Monterey County Health Department and was approved unanimously.

That office demonstrated its incompetence in dealing with Covid-19. It didn't do well with that but the Board approved their actions unanimously.

Now the Health Department has moved on to racism. Their population statistics add up to 90 percent and exclude the Asian

portion entirely.

There is no mention of actual plans to address specific problems in areas such as education, housing and water.

Did the supervisors read this before voting? How do they manage to be elected and/or reelected?

**David B. Goldenson,**  
Carmel

### 'Needs cancellation'

Dear Editor,

Is The Pine Cone joining our loco MoCo board of supervisors in believing the awakened counter culture cretins have a mandate to declare racism, a social disorder, “a public health crisis”?

History is filled with examples of ethnic animosity: Irish, Italians, Germans and Jews among others.

In none of these periods of racism was public health considered an issue.

If our supervisors think “woke” is the new social norm, they may consider apologizing for being White: they have much to apologize for including the illusion of “white privilege.” Critical race theory is tearing this nation apart.

It is time to put a stop to this irrational social mendacity.

I ask The Pine Cone's readers: Who among you thinks America is a systemic racist society?

White supremacy and (systemic) racism need cancellation.

**Roland Martin,**  
Carmel Valley

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**The Carmel Pine Cone**  
 was established in 1915 and is a legal newspaper for Carmel-by-the-Sea, Monterey County and the State of California, established by Superior Court Decree No. 35759, July 3, 1952

# The celebrated past of one of the Peninsula's easiest courses

THIS WEEK "The Hay" — the former Peter Hay Golf Course, redesigned by Tiger Woods — opened, so I thought it would be appropriate to look back at some of the highlights of the old course.

An item in the Monterey Herald's coverage of the 1957 Crosby Pro-Am noted, "At the present time, a new nine-hole, compact

Peter Hay was a big promoter of youth golf, but that was not the reason for the shorter course. The goal was to allow people of all ages who didn't want to play a full round to experience a high level of golf in about an hour, getting "maximum enjoyment with a minimum of exertion." The Peter Hay Junior Golf Tournament was not played on the short course in his day. Hay began the youth tournament when he was at the Del Monte Golf Course, and after a hiatus during World War II, he resumed it on Pebble Beach

Golf Links in 1948. It continued there even after his new course opened.

On Sunday, Oct. 6, 1957, P.B. Co. chairman Samuel F. B. Morse hosted a luncheon at his home across the street from the new course, followed by a private tournament to open it. The guests included a distinguished list of Morse's wealthy friends with homes at Pebble Beach.

Among them were rancher and oil executive Harry Hunt and his wife Jane, Leslie and Marcella Fenton, who soon began development of Carmel Plaza, and entertainer Bing Crosby, who had brought his Pro-Am to Pebble Beach a decade earlier. The mixed-team competition was won by Jane Hunt and teammate Paul Winslow, a World War I aviator, who became a hotel executive in Hawaii before moving to Pebble Beach in the 1930s.

Morse declared that even if the new course was not successful financially, esthetically it was an improvement to the area.

The next morning, the new course opened for public play. The cost was one-eighth that of an 18-hole round at Pebble Beach, not unlike today, when a round at The Hay is \$65 as compared to \$575

See HISTORY next page

## History Beat

By NEAL HOTELLING

course for irons and putters is being created near the Lodge." Pebble Beach golf professional Peter Hay officially designed the original nine par-3 holes. He openly shared the credit with his friends Jack Neville, co-designer of Pebble Beach Golf Links, and Gen. Robert McClure, who designed the Bayonet course at Fort Ord.

The course was built in-house under the direction of Pebble Beach course superintendent Leonard Feliciano, with his son Lawrence heading the construction team. Lawrence wrote a detailed description of the construction process for the June 1957 issue of The Golf Course Reporter. It was the 1950s, so removing 200 pines and 50 oaks from the 9-acre hilly terrain was not an issue.

### Lots of prep work

To create suitable soil conditions, they added drainage and irrigation as well as 4,075 cubic yards of topsoil and another 2,200 cubic yards of sand for building the tees and greens. Preparation included applying different elements of soil conditioning — 400 cubic yards of manure, a fertilizer-weed killer — each separated by weeks and followed by disc-harrowing. Finally, the conditions were right for seeding the course with Seaside Bent grass.



PHOTO/JULIAN P. GRAHAM, PEBBLE BEACH CO. LAGORIO ARCHIVE

Lawson Little, Pebble Beach resident and 1940 U.S. Open champion, poses with two members of the hospital's Women's Auxiliary to promote a fundraising event on the Peter Hay course during the 1962 Crosby Pro-Am.

# Hippie surfer finds desert beauty

WHEN THE beholder is a professional artist, beauty can be found as easily in a rusting farm truck, or a vintage Airstream trailer, as it is on a coastline where the sun is shimmering off the waves, or in a field in the Salinas Valley, or the rough, backroad terrain in Fort Ord National Monument.

Carmel Art Association painter Andy Williams has renderings of such things throughout his portfolio, alongside depic-

and waterlogged. Within an hour it would gain so much water that it was almost impossible to paddle," he remembered. "It floated long enough for me to catch a few waves, but it wasn't long before I started learning to build surfboards."

In the summer of 1965, using money on loan from his parents, Williams and his brothers (Tim and Peter) opened a surfboard ding repair shop in Santa Cruz, a block away from one of the best surfing spots in the city.

"We kind of lived in that shop," he said. "We rented and repaired boards, and I started to learn more about

## Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

tions of delectable desserts and teacups on saucers from an era gone by.

At 76, he travels south every January with his wife, Amy Brewster, to Borrego Springs, America's largest state park, in Eastern San Diego County. It's a desert surrounded by mountains on three sides, where he sees and appreciates things that few others notice in such rich detail.

"It's a spectacular place in the western-most part of the Sonora Desert," said Williams, who typically stays until late March. "Every morning I'm watching the mountains light up in these bright-pink colors, and every evening they're draped in gorgeous, purple shadows. You step out your door and there's a magic."

Borrego Springs also is a place where he can see lots of those Airstream trailers for which he reserves a special kind of affection.

"I don't own one, but a lot of the residents down there do, and we see quite a few in the big campground in the state park," he said. "They're really great to paint because they're like huge mirrors that reflect everything around them."

Much of the art for which he is known is plein air — painted outdoors — but Williams shies away from labeling himself as a plein air painter, even though he became a signature member of the Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association in 2006.

"I just see myself as a painter, and don't want to think of myself as only a plein air artist," he said. "In fact, I'm really not as good at plein air painting as I'd like to be. And I also see the time I put into my plein air art as time away from my studio, so the question becomes: What do I want to do with my time?"

### A job in aerospace

He is the eldest of three brothers who grew up in Niagara Falls, Ontario, just over the New York border, but he was 18, and fresh out of high school, when his father's job as an industrial designer in the aerospace industry brought the family to San Jose.

Williams enrolled at San Jose State University, but immediately began driving over the hills to Santa Cruz, teaching himself to surf on a borrowed board.

"Unfortunately, the board was old

building boards — how to use the tools, the polyurethane foam, the fiberglass and fiberglass cloth, how to shape them."

In 1968, after finishing school at San Jose State, Williams and a friend opened a retail surf shop in Campbell, and a year later he moved to Hawaii, where he learned more about his craft, and lived his surfing dream.

"I lived in Waianae, on the west side of Oahu, and my friends and I were basically the only hippie surfers in town. We built our boards there and had a great time surfing on them," he said.

### The art journey begins

Williams was a student at San Jose State when he met the woman who became his first wife and the mother of his two daughters — an art student who enlisted him to help with some of her projects.

After earning a bachelor's degree in psychology, he took art classes at Cabrillo College, then stayed on to earn a master's degree in social work.

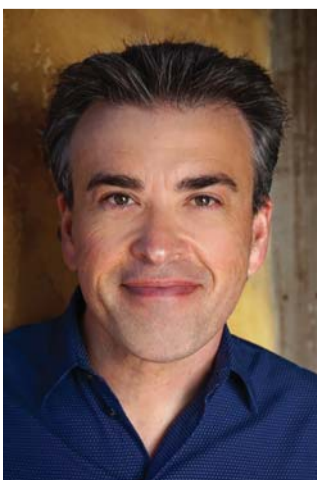
See ARTIST page 35A



PHOTO/JAMY BREWSTER

Carmel Art Association painter Andy Williams specializes in everything from landscapes and seascapes, to ornate teacups and Airstream trailers.

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# HISTORY

From previous page

at Pebble Beach. Of course, in 1957, the greens fees were \$1 for Peter Hay and \$8 for Pebble Beach.

The new Peter Hay course became a popular venue for golfers of all ages, and also served as a venue for special tournaments and fundraisers. One such event paid tribute to Hay, who died on March 10, 1961. During the 1962 Crosby Pro-Am, the course was used for "Peter Hay Memorial Hole-in-One Golf Tournament." The nine-day fundraiser was run by the Women's Auxiliary for the soon-to-open Community Hospital. For a donation of \$1 or more to the "Peter Hay Memorial Physical Therapy Center," golfers of all ages and skills could enter for a chance to win prizes.

The grand prize for a hole-in-one was a week for two at Hollywood Beach, Fla., with roundtrip airfare from San Francisco.

The Peter Hay Junior Tournament continued at Pebble Beach for 10 years following Hay's death, but was then discontinued. In 1988, RJ Harper, then the assistant pro at Pebble Beach, relaunched it on the Peter Hay course as a twice-a-year event. The spring and fall tournaments have continued to be played on Peter Hay since then, with very few gaps.

### Golfer in a kilt

The first missed tournament was Spring 1991, although the playing conditions were less than ideal in 1990. The Peter Hay course became a victim of drought. In the era before reclaimed water, the courses of the Peninsula had to collectively reduce water consumption. The Peter Hay course was left dry, to allow more water for the

championship courses, essential as Pebble Beach was being prepared for the 1992 U.S. Open.

The drought ended in 1991, and the company restored Peter Hay, adding some bunkers and a water-efficient irrigation system. A reopening tournament in September 1991 welcomed local dignitaries and media. In my first year as golf operations manager, I was paired with KCBA sportscaster-comedian Craig Kilborn. Two years later Kilborn was an anchor on ESPN (1993-1996), then launched the Daily Show (1996-1998), and then hosted the CBS Late Late Show (1999-2004).

Until then, the course had no logo, something it needed when the company decided to offer an annual card program. A few months earlier, I had discussed the Del Monte course logo with its creator, cartoonist Eldon Dedini. He explained that that logo had come from a series of ads he illustrated in 1973. It proved so popular that Talbot had asked for similar golf characters they could place on ties. He showed me several of his sketches. I especially liked one of a bearded golfer in a kilt and asked for a copy, thinking I might have some future use for it. In late 1991, Dedini polished it up for the Peter Hay course logo.

### Momentum

The Peter Hay course received national attention in February 1995. The Pro-Am courses were so wet that golfers weren't allowed practice rounds on the championship courses. The pre-tournament shoot-outs were moved to Peter Hay. In Tuesday's pro shoot-out, Billy Andrade had a hole-in-one on the 2nd hole, but Ben Crenshaw took the top prize. On Wednesday, the celebrity event featured Bill Murray as well as Kevin Costner and Don Johnson, fresh from filming "Tin Cup." To protect the crowd, the celebs were paired with pros who made the tee shots. The team of Bobby Clampett and singer Vince Gill won in a six-way playoff.

For the 2000 U. S. Open, the Peter

Hay course became the championship village and grand entrance. In addition to large tents, a giant bronze sculpture by Richard MacDonald, Momentum, was installed to commemorate the 100th playing of the national championship. The sculpture remained on Peter Hay for almost two decades. Just prior to the 2019 U.S. Open, it was moved to the Pebble Beach Golf Academy, across the street to the north.

Peter Hay Golf Course has been a part of the experience for many visitors for more than 60 years. In addition to golf, it has been a display area for cars during the Concours d'Elegance, and also a venue for company picnics. It is now revitalized with a new, exciting design and people of all ages will continue to be able to experience a round of golf in about an hour, getting "maximum enjoyment ... with a minimum of exertion."



PHOTO/JULIAN P. GRAHAM, PEBBLE BEACH CO. LAGORIO ARCHIVE

At the October 1957 Opening Tournament, course designer Peter Hay hands Mrs. Leslie Fenton her scorecard.

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# AUSTIN

From page 1A

known for founding the Forest Theater.

In the same issue, an article Austin wrote for Century magazine about California architecture was quoted extensively. The third mention was a write-up of her play, "The Arrow Maker," which had been produced the previous summer.

She had a broad and seemingly insatiable curiosity that covered everything from native tribes in the Southwest to politics. On Sept. 5, 1918, an item in a column called "Red Cross Notes" announced she would give "a most interesting talk" to locals on "War Gossip in Washington."

Her work continued to be covered well into the 1920s, when the paper made note of short stories like "The Kiss of Nino Dios," featured in Delineator, a women's magazine, and "The Souls of Stilt," published in Harper's.

On March 3, 1928, The Pine Cone reprinted a poem of Austin's, "I Have Known Poets," which was published in the Literary Digest. The gist was that Austin didn't care what else she found in heaven, as long as there were two or three poets to be her friends. The paper opined that Carmel residents "will pretty generally agree with the sentiment of the verse."

Austin was often seen as unconventional. A Dec. 28, 1928, story mentioned "Mary Austin's home in a tree," which she named Wikiup. According to "Homes of Famous Carmelites" on the city's website, she enjoyed doing some of her writing in the treehouse. She had her Craftsman-style Rose Cottage, still on Lincoln Street near Fourth Avenue, built in 1911 under M.J. Murphy's supervision.

She remained in Carmel on and off until 1914. She was appointed director of East Coast publicity for San Francisco's 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition and later relocated to Santa Fe, N.M.

That did not stop The Pine Cone from continuing to cover Austin as a

prodigal daughter, however. In June 1929, the paper took note of a Los Angeles Times report on Austin's activities in Santa Fe. The L.A. account described her as Santa Fe's "ranking genius," who nevertheless "has temperament."

The writer implied that Santa Fe's gain was Carmel's loss, and that when Austin moved away from here, "with a final word of contempt for the invading real-estate, Carmel sank with a sob." Whether there was in fact such widespread depression is a question for historians. One thing we know: People have been making the same complaint ever since.

Then, with no small amount of amusement, The Pine Cone on Jan. 17, 1930, debunked a story in the Saturday Review of Literature of New York that substantially inflated Austin's connection to the community. In the magazine's words, "The original settlement was the inspiration of Mary Austin."

The Pine Cone knew better, of course, and pointed out that while Austin bought property in town in 1905, J. Frank Devendorf and Frank Powers were the founders of the city we know today.

### Claimed in pride

The paper also took umbrage at a quote in which Austin wrote of "the thing that destroyed Carmel," referring to an influx of non-artists who were "totally unable to understand the creative life."

The notion of the town's demise was unkind (not to mention premature), wrote The Pine Cone, particularly coming from Austin, who had "deserted" the area "in the town's heyday."

Time seemed to heal all wounds, however. Four days after her death on Aug. 13, 1934, in Taos, N.M., The Pine Cone ran a front-page obituary. It said in part, "Her name has never been erased as one of Carmel's own people, and she was still more a part of the village than many who live here. We have claimed her in pride and affection." It listed a few of her many works and called her "one of the very first of the literary people to make Carmel home."

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## EVENTS

From page 7A

Generally, events won't be allowed between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., and won't be allowed to shut down San Antonio, Junipero, Carpenter, Santa Lucia, or streets on the truck or bus route. The ordinance would also prohibit events in Mission Trail Nature Preserve and on the dunes at the north end of Carmel Beach, since they are "environmentally sensitive" areas. Events can be held elsewhere on the beach, however.

### No exclusivity

Since the ordinance would require that applications be processed in the order they're received, historically recurring events, such as Breakfast with the Bunny, the Carmel Art Festival, the Run in the Name of Love, the Winemakers' Celebration, Concours on the Avenue, the Pebble Beach Concours Tour d'Elegance, the Carmel High School homecoming parade and

the Surfabout would have no assurance their permits would be approved for their traditional dates each year.

Instead, the city would need to ensure "everyone has an equal right" to hold a public event.

Councilman Bobby Richards asked if multiyear permits could be issued, so that "as long as they follow the rules and do as they're told and what they're asked, it's just a given that they have that, instead of every year putting it almost up for bid for whoever is the first one there."

Rudin said the city could issue permits for multiple years, "as long as you can assure others have access and opportunity," though he didn't explain how both could be accomplished. He also noted organizers can apply for their dates well in advance of their events.

"I'm trying to understand how small events are impacted by this and even if they're considered events," said councilwoman Karen Ferlito, who asked if gathering signatures for petitions and getting together to take guided walks around town to

look at trees are considered special events.

Rudin said they wouldn't be.

If events are banned in Mission Trail park, are guided walks there also banned? Again, the opinion was no.

The rules also wouldn't apply to the city's own events, funeral processions, and First Amendment-protected activities that don't require street closures, traffic control, or other major use of public resources.

Councilwoman Carrie Theis made the motion to accept the first reading of the ordinance, and the motion passed unanimously. The proposed law will be brought to the council for another vote at its meeting in early May.

## PRANK

From page 8A

by-4-foot sign up.

"We wanted to make it quick," Wittpenn recalled. "Then we sat in a truck and waited until the sun came up. As people drove by, they slowed down and pointed at it. The next thing you know, somebody took it down, and we started laughing."

That seemingly was the end of the story, but it wasn't. "About an hour later they put it back up, and we couldn't believe it," Wittpenn said.

### Sign fools some

It was a weekend, and whoever was responsible for the property apparently didn't want to upset McDonald's in case the sign was real.

"They couldn't get in touch with McDonald's or the leasing company," Wittpenn continued. "They were afraid that moving the sign would be in violation of the lease agreement."

Eventually the sign was discovered to be a practical joke.

"We got a big kick out of it," Wittpenn added. "But we kept quiet."

The incident received press coverage from the Carmel Valley Sun. The newspaper noted that the pranksters "did a real professional job," and the ruse briefly lit up phones in the area.

The sign is now part of a display that adorns the outside of the Carmel History Center, located at 77 W. Carmel Valley Road. It's set to reopen May 1. [carmelvalleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://carmelvalleyhistoricalsociety.org).

## ARCH

From page 5A

under your touch."

The monument is fragile and needs to be protected from passing cars and people who want to climb on it, he argued.

"Not only is this an important symbol of remembrance to the people who have served our country in wartime, especially World War I, but it's also a very important architectural monument and something we should all take pride in protecting," he said.

Another arch proponent, Mike Brown, told commissioners the bollards "will go a long way toward helping to protect this structure."

Commissioners unanimously approved the work and asked Harary to report back in six months on whether any cars have hit the bollards, especially on the south side.

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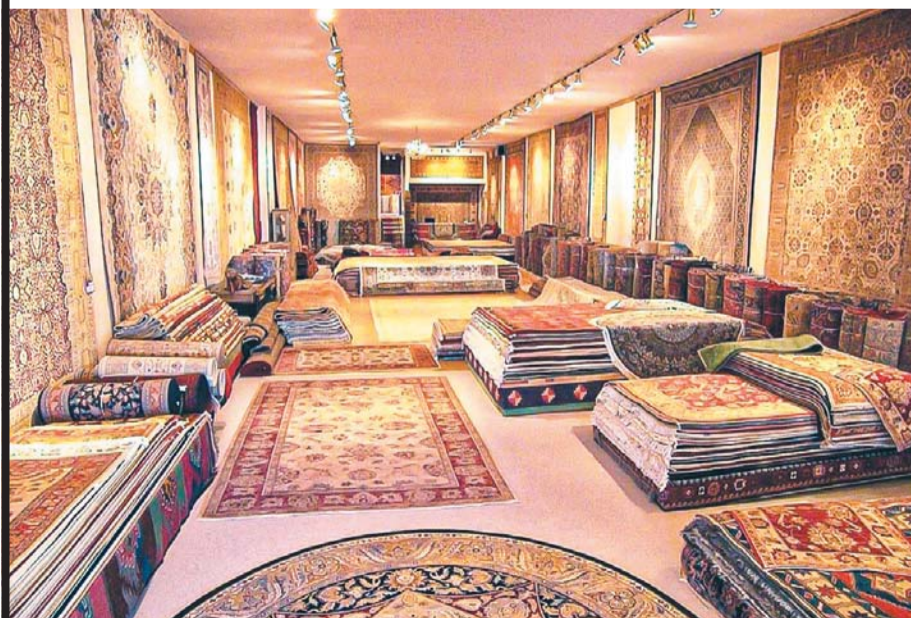
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# AQUARIUM

From page 8A

from Hopkins Marine Station said she wanted to know the exact day of the month the aquarium planned to test the generator, though Lyon noted before she spoke that the aquarium has constantly tested the current generator and had not had complaints.

Resident Lisa Ciani said that while she believed the predicament could be worked out, she urged the review

board to indicate citizens' concerns in its approval of the project.

### Will listen to neighbors

Lyon said the aquarium would "work with our neighbors to come up with a solution that works for them," but said it wanted to "separate" their concerns "from an architectural review consideration," suggesting it wasn't in the ARB's purview to consider noise and other concerns.

Still, board secretary Karmisha Reeb noted that the ARB — when it has reviewed other applications — considers things like "preserving trees," and she asked "where

is the line for us in terms of when we consider those things and when we don't?"

Board member Rosemary Wells said that with "all the aquarium's resources and goals," she felt it "would not do something here that is detrimental to the harbor seal population."

Considering the upcoming fire season in California and the impact wildfires could have on the PG&E power grid, Wells said she was "a little worried about putting" the aquarium "in a position where they can't get this installed in a timely manner."

The California Coastal Commission will have the final say over a permit for the shed.

# CLEARY

From page 12A

other side of a big hedge," said Cleary. "Beezus came from all older sisters I have known."

Cleary believed her mother worked hard to bring her up as a perfect young lady, but she didn't aspire to perfection. "I was neat and clean and well behaved, but I thought like Ramona all the time. She was never really naughty from her point of view. Nor was I."

Cleary's twins, Malcolm and Marianne, were born in Berkeley in 1955, the same year as Ramona. When the kids were 14, the family moved here, where they had vacationed over the years.

By then, Cleary was done writing books in the corner of her bedroom or sitting in the car, waiting for her children to finish school. She was determined to have her own, dedicated writing space. The couple looked at a lot of houses before buying one near Mission Trail park, with a spare room that had been used for gun storage — complete with a gun rack, which Cleary converted into a bookcase. And there, she continued her writing.

In addition to a regular schedule of speaking engagements and book signings, Cleary had quite a presence in town, particularly through the former Magic Fishbone bookstore, and the children's section of the Thunderbird Bookstore when it was owned by May Waldroup.

"Beverly was a wonderful person with a lovely smile," said Waldroup. "She'd press her lips together, and her eyes would twinkle with a certain mischief. She was a precious

part of my life, always willing to come to the Thunderbird, have a cup of mint tea, sign some books, and have a little chat. As the only bookstore in the country that had autographed copies of Beverly's books, she became 'our author,' the jewel in our crown."

Cleary wrote 22 books in her Carmel home, bringing her career total to nearly 40 published works, translated into 29 different languages.

"My mother wrote a lot in her head before it ever hit the paper," Malcolm Cleary said. "She could always tell if something had been written on a computer; it was too much, she felt, too many words."

### No agent needed

Cleary's books have sold a reported 85 million copies and continuing, through publisher HarperCollins. She never had an agent and said she never needed one.

"So much has been said by people who have read her books, and it all has been such a wonderful tribute to my mother," said Malcolm. "She was a remarkable woman, so dedicated to what she was doing. She's had a lasting impact on generations of children's lives, inspiring a love of reading among kids who might not have discovered that."

For her lifetime contributions to American literature, she received the National Medal of Arts, recognition as a Living Legend by the Library of Congress, and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal, among other awards. In celebration of her 100th birthday, HarperCollins issued new editions of three of her books — "Ramona Quimby, Age 8," "The Mouse and The Motorcycle," and "Henry Huggins," with new forewords by Amy Poehler, Judy Blume, and Kate DiCamillo, plus an interview with Cleary.

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 The following person(s) (is/are) doing business as: **ARSA CONSTRUCTION**, 921 Margaret St., Monterey, CA 93940.  
 County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
 Registered Owner(s): ARMANDO AGUSTIN SANTIAGO MATIAS, 921 Margaret St., Monterey, CA 93940.  
 This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 1, 2020.  
 April 6, 2021  
**BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.** A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also

aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).  
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 6, 2021. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).  
 Publication dates: Apr. 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2021. (PC432)

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# The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

## Sister act: Neills made a big splash — and not just in the pool

TWO-THIRDS of the Earth is covered by water that is home to 3.5 trillion fish and the Neill sisters, who might be the most prolific swimming siblings ever to dip their toes into the pool at Carmel High.

Kathy Neill (married name, Guinn), CHS class of '73,

said Kerry of her big sister, who lives today in Idaho, where she enjoys trail running.

### Early risers

Or maybe Kim didn't want to roll out of bed before sunrise, as her two younger sisters did all through high school to practice with the talent-rich Salinas YMCA Club team.

"We got up at 4 a.m. and had to be there by 4:45 a.m. to take the covers off the pool so we could start practice at 5," Tina recollected. "Afterward, we'd head back to Carmel High, go to class all day, then come back to Salinas after school for our afternoon swim practice."

"Our mother always got up early with us, got our lunches ready, and toasted English muffins that we could take with us," Kerry said. "Our parents were essential to us as kids, every step of the way."

Clayton Neill, their father, had played football, basketball and baseball at Carmel High (Class of '52), and played tennis and handball for much of his adult life, in addition to his long and distinguished career as a civil engineer. Katie, their mom, was never an athlete, but always stayed active, and worked to instill a good work ethic in their kids, Kerry said.

In the fall of 1987, Tina enticed Kathy, Kim, Kerry to join her in Hawaii for the Maui Channel Relay, swimming from Lanai to Maui, 14.2 kilometers, a distance they covered in just under four hours. Three years later, Kim, Kerry and four other friends did it again.

The sisters had fun conquering

Hawaii's 80-degree waters, but Tina was the one who fell in love with open-water swims in subsequent years and began making a serious splash in the sport a decade and a half later.

In 2001, she circumnavigated Manhattan Island — 74 kilometers — in 8 hours, 7 minutes, 29 seconds. Two months later, she competed in the U.S. Masters Swimming National Championships, finishing fifth among women.

And then, in July of 2003, at age 37, she swam the infa-

See SPORTS next page

## Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

who passed away in 2016, rewrote a portion of the Padres record book during her time at Carmel High, then moved on to Stanford University (her father's alma mater), where she swam four years and was good enough to qualify for the NCAA Division I Nationals.

Kerry Neill (Halsted), CHS '81, left her own marks on the record board at Carmel High, and also went to Stanford, where she competed at Nationals as a freshman before transferring to UC Davis — then a Division II school — where she became an 11-time All-American in three years.

In Kerry's senior year, she was joined at Davis by Tina Neill (Sanderson), CHS '84, who achieved All-America six times in her four seasons there, once in the 200-yard medley relay as a freshman.

### Still standing

Tina subsequently became one of the best open-water swimmers of all time, setting world records that still stand. In 2005, she became the only woman in history to swim the English Channel entirely with the backstroke. In 2008, she accomplished the same feat in the Catalina Channel Swim. Both records still stand.

Kim Neill (Antrim), CHS '78, also swam for the Padres, but preferred to be more stylish than speedy.

"She did some synchronized swimming but wasn't interested in training all year long. She liked other sports,"

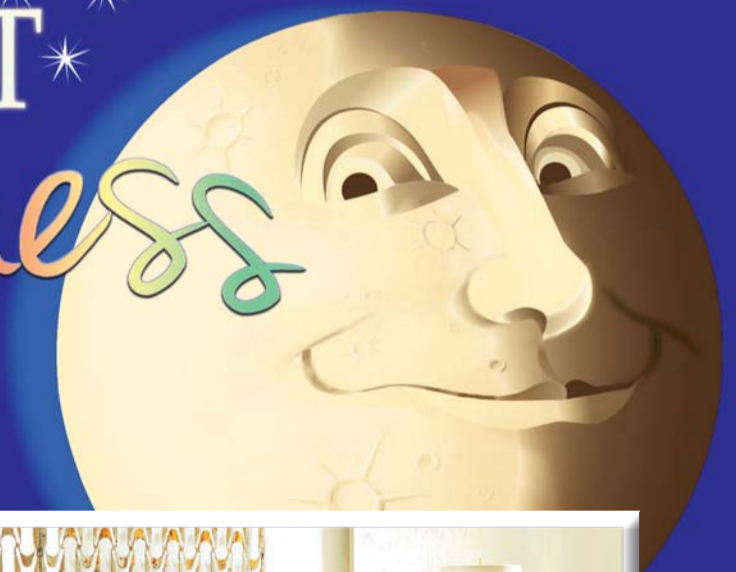


PHOTO/COURTESY NEILL FAMILY

Maui Channel Relay teammates (from left) Kim Neill, Kerry Neill, Melissa Zaharias, Karen Dimick, Tina Neill, and Kathy Neill, circa 1986.

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## SPORTS

*From previous page*

mously challenging English Channel — 33 kilometers from England to France — in 11 hours, 21 minutes.

"On the boat, when we were headed back to England after my swim, someone asked if I'd ever swim the channel again, and I said, 'Oh, yeah ... if I did a backstroke,'" Neill said.

Presumably her remark attracted hearty laughs, but in 2005, after two years of serious training, she returned to swim the same course in 13 hours, 22 minutes, entirely on her back, at age 39.

"Did she mention that she also walked out of the water backwards when she got to the beach in France?" Kerry asked.

The world record — for males or females — earned Tina Neill a mention in Sports Illustrated, along with an invitation to return to England to accept the Rosemary George Award from the Channel Swimming Association for the year's "Most Meritorious Swim."

In August 2006, she did the Lake Zurich Marathon Swim in Switzerland, 26.4 kilometers in 8:02:02, and six days later she swam Loch Lomond in Scotland, 34.8 kilometers in 11:12:33.

In July 2007, Tina Neill completed the 32.3-kilometer swim from the California mainland to Catalina Island in 9:26:45, and a year later, at age 42, she returned to do "the double," swimming from the mainland to the island, resting on the beach for five minutes, then swimming all the way back — 64.6 kilometers — in 22 hours, 2 minutes, 46 seconds. Perhaps most remarkable of all, Neill returned 16 days later to swim from Catalina to the mainland again, using only the backstroke. She finished in 10:37:42 — still a world record 12 years later. With six career crossings, she has been nicknamed "Queen of the Catalina Channel."

In her busiest year, 2011, she participated in five events, beginning with a 30.6-kilometer swim from Santa Cruz Island to the Ventura County mainland, followed by four Hawaiian swims.

### A huge rubber ducky

In June 2012, she swam around Manhattan Island again — this time with the backstroke — and three months later she finished the longest swim of her career.

At age 46, Neill swam 83.7 kilometers from San Clemente Island to the mainland (time: 28:41:58). That accomplishment was named "Solo Swim of the Year" by the Marathon Swimmers Federation.

"When you hit the 24-hour mark, you start seeing things out there — hallucinations," Neill said. "I saw Santa Claus, and I saw a yellow, boat-sized rubber ducky."

"You don't really feel a lot of pain. It's more of a mental game," she said. "You might get some suit rubs, and your throat sometimes gets scratchy from the salt water, but sometimes the shorter races hurt more because you're swimming harder."

In 2014, at age 48, Neill again swam the backstroke from the mainland to Catalina Island. Two days later, she swam back, doing the freestyle. On the day in between, she ran the Santa Catalina Marathon course, 26.2 miles.

### Backstroke and butterfly

"And one year Kerry and I did the Donner Lake swim," she said. "I did the backstroke, she swam the butterfly."

Kerry Halsted and her husband of 32 years, Lance (a former University of San Diego swimmer), reside in Davis, where he works at the university as an electrical engineer and she coaches youth swimmers, ages 5-10, and a masters club. Her first-born, Trevor, ran cross-country at UC-Davis.

Her daughter, Tara, is a former Stanford swimmer who qualified this year for the U.S. Olympic Trials for the third time. Her youngest, Torin, is a former triathlete who now does ocean swimming.

Tina Neill lives today with her husband of six years, Phil Sanderson, on an acre of land in Kona, Hawaii, where they nurture 40 coffee trees, citrus trees and avocados.

She is semi-retired from a career in coaching that has included stops at Davis High (where her team won a mythical national championship), two colleges and a high school in Minnesota, and masters teams in Minnesota and Hawaii.

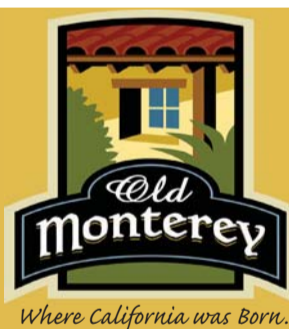
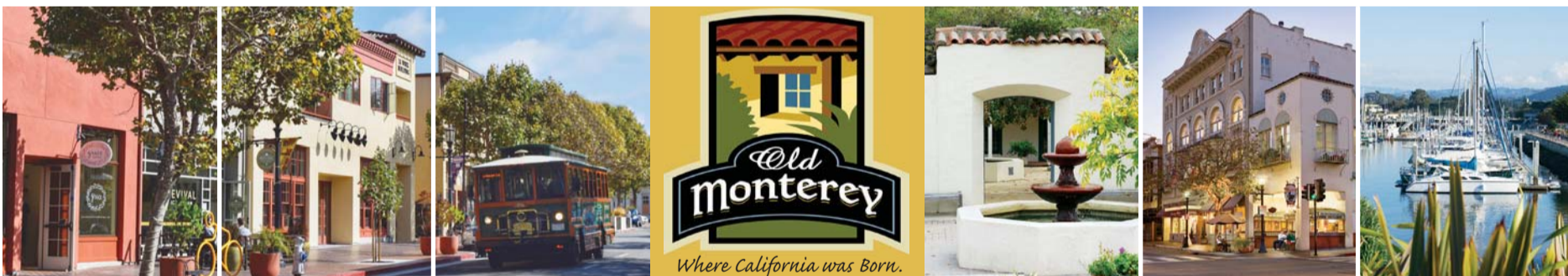
Tina's most recent swim was in 2017, but she isn't yet ready to say she's done.

"I've never really had a plan, but I've traveled a lot, I've had lots of adventures, and I've really enjoyed it," she said. "I might still have something left on my bucket list, but I'm not going to say anything more about that. Wait and see, I guess."

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

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# This Week

Live Music,  
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## Bach Festival moves to October, PacRep offers drive-in jazz at fairgrounds

WITH COVID waning and concert halls deemed safe enough to welcome back audiences, the Carmel Bach Festival announced this week that it will present a live and

will be honored.

Founded in 1935 as a four-day series of concerts at the old Sunset School — where Sunset Center is today — the festival has since expanded to a two-week gathering, with an array of concerts, recitals, master classes, lectures and open rehearsals. This year's highlights include performances of Bach's *Mass in B-Minor*, Mozart's *Symphony No. 40* and Handel's *Ode to St. Cecilia*.

The Pit.”

The lineup includes singers **Janice** and **Miranda Perl** and **Jaqui Hope**, keyboardist **Bill Spencer**, saxophonist **Ben Herod**, bassist **Zach Westfall** and drummer **Darrin Thomas**.

The show, according to PacRep, “tips its fedora toward the theatrical orchestra pit” with “creative arrangements of familiar songs” from the Broadway catalog.

“We’ve chosen songs that were originally composed for Broadway shows and movies, and have since become jazz standards,” Janice Perl told *The Pine Cone*. “Our arrangements are unique and fun. Most of the songs are

### On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

in-person two-week festival Oct. 23 to Nov. 5. Most of the events will happen at Sunset Center.

Last year's festival was canceled and this year's had been scheduled for July 17 to 31.

“After considering all relevant factors, we are now committed to presenting a festival which will safely enable the largest number of our dedicated patrons once again to enjoy the superlative live music for which the event is known,” festival president **Cyril Yansouni** said. “For more than 80 years, the festival has been the high point on the July arts calendar on the Monterey Peninsula. This year, a fall schedule offers the best opportunity for a joyous celebration and reunion with our musicians and patrons.”

Tickets aren't on sale yet. “More specific information and ticket availability will be announced at a later date,” the announcement added.

Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **Paul Goodwin**, who plans to step down after the festival,

### ■ Jazz from the drive-in

The third in a series of drive-in concerts presented by PacRep Theatre at the Monterey Fairgrounds, an all-star group of musicians pays tribute Wednesday to “Jazz From

See MUSIC page 37A



Originally set for late July, the Carmel Bach Festival will return from Oct. 23 to Nov. 5. The two-week gathering will honor Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Paul Goodwin (left).



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## Remembering Csaba Ajan, \$\$\$ for restaurants, and farmers markets on the way

A KEY figure in hospitality and the downtown restaurant scene for many years, Csaba Ajan died last week shortly after his 79th birthday. Born in Hungary in 1942, Ajan and his family fled the communist takeover of their country when he was a boy. He came to the United States to attend college in Southern California, earned an MBA and embarked on a career in hotel and restaurant management.

Tony Salameh, owner of Anton & Michel and a longtime friend and business partner of Ajan's, met him while applying for a job at a hotel in San Diego where Ajan was food and beverage director in 1972.

"He did not have an opening but said he would keep my application," Salameh recalled.

In mid-1973, Ajan — who had been hired to manage

Quail Lodge by founder Ed Haber — called Salameh and said he had a job available at the Carmel Valley resort.

"That's when we opened the Covey restaurant," Salameh said this week. "He was my best friend for 50 years."

### An exacting boss

It was at Quail that another longtime friend, attorney Tom Nash, met Ajan and Salameh. "A few other guys and I were among the original waiters there — that was just before I went to law school," he said. "So, we all bonded. Csaba was still the boss, and kind of a demanding one, but he tried to keep the level of service very high." Quail received 5 stars from Mobil early on under Ajan's leadership.

Salameh left in 1980 to open his own restaurant, but later, Ajan and another late longtime local, Ted Leidig, became his business partners, and together they owned several restaurants. Salameh and Ajan remained partners until they sold Merlot Bistro and Porta Bella in 2015.

"Csaba was the ultimate gentleman," Salameh said. "I learned so much from him and from working with him. He was always courteous, loved the business, and he exuded hospitality. He lived his life the way he always wanted to live it."

Long after Nash abandoned restaurant jobs for the legal profession, they all continued to get together, usually to enjoy food and wine, whether at trade tastings, large events like the former Masters of Food & Wine — or at Porta Bella, where Ajan graciously greeted customers, as well as overseeing everything.

"Csaba was discerning, exacting, and conveyed a very old-school European sense of hospitality," Nash said. "One of the fondest memories I have of him in recent years is while he was co-owner of Porta Bella. After the lunch shift was over, he would sit outside at one of the tables along Ocean Avenue and invite his many friends to join him for

a glass of wine and conversation. It was this combination of European-style conviviality and hospitality that most defined him."

At last week's restaurant committee meeting, the day after Ajan's passing, longtime fellow restaurateur Rich Pepe commented, "What a sweet man he was."

"He was a legendary feature here in Carmel," he said.

## Soup to Nuts

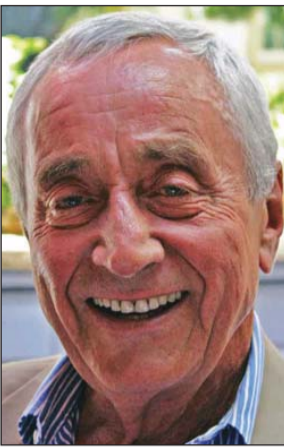
By MARY SCHLEY

### Free money for restaurant owners

President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus aid package includes nearly \$29 billion in taxpayer dollars to help shore up restaurants affected by the pandemic. The Restaurant Revitalization Fund will be distributed through the Small Business Administration to aid any "restaurant, food stand, food truck, food cart, caterer, saloon, inn, tavern, bar, lounge, brewpub, tasting room, taproom, licensed facility or premise of a beverage alcohol producer where the public may taste, sample, or purchase products, or other similar place of business in which the public or patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink."

The tax-free "grants" are intended to cover all losses and expenses due to coronavirus between February 2020 and Dec. 31 of this year, minus any Payroll Protection Program funds the business has received, and operators need only "submit a good-faith certification" that the "uncer-

Continues next page



Csaba Ajan in 2012



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# FOOD & WINE

**From previous page**

tainty of current economic conditions makes necessary the grant request to support the ongoing operations,” according to the National Restaurant Association, which lobbied for the funds.

Candidate businesses also can't have applied for or received money through the Shuttered Venue Operators grant program, which has mostly been used by theaters and performing arts centers.

The only ineligible companies are those that are publicly traded and those with more than 20 establishments.

While many grant programs have targeted businesses that were operating before the pandemic shutdowns began, with the intent of helping to offset their losses, the restaurant relief fund will distribute money to food-and-drink businesses that opened last year — and those that aren't even open yet.

Payouts will be calculated by subtracting 2020 gross receipts from 2019 gross receipts, but if the business was only open for part of 2019, the amount will be “the difference between 12 times the average monthly gross receipts for 2019 and the average monthly gross receipts in 2020,” while “eligible expenses” for businesses opened in 2020 will be covered, and “if the business is not yet in operation as of the application date, but it has made ‘eligible expenses,’ the grant would be made equal to those expenses.” The SBA could also develop its own formulas, however.

Maximum payouts will be \$5 million per location and \$10 million per company with multiple locations.

The SBA hasn't begun taking applications yet, but more information can be found at [restaurantsact.com](http://restaurantsact.com).

**■ Farmers markets coming in March**

Monterey Bay Certified Farmers Markets' seasonal markets at the Barnyard shopping center and Del Monte Center are set to reopen next month.

“The doldrums of winter are behind us, and root veg-

etables and winter squash are replaced with stunning displays of berries, stone fruit, early spring vegetables, leafy greens, herbs, colorful spring flowers and potted plants,” market organizers announced this week.

The Barnyard market, held Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., will start May 11, and the DMC Sunday market, which runs from 8 a.m. to noon, will begin May 9 in the area behind California Pizza Kitchen and Yama Sushi.

During the pandemic, Del Monte Center has also been hosting the Friday market, which took place at Monterey Peninsula College for decades. That year-round market is also open from 8 a.m. to noon.

“We are deeply grateful to the Del Monte Shopping Center for providing a new location and hosting our Friday and Sunday farmers markets during the pandemic,” officials with the market group said.

Customers are asked to wear masks and keep their distance, and to leave their pets at home.

**■ Keep those blades sharp**

Anyone who enjoys cooking knows the importance of sharp knives, and the Friday farmers market in Monterey offers knife sharpening services while you shop. Master sharpener Terry Beech of Sharp Quick and Craig Chadwick from Restoration Edge work with the Monterey market and another in Aptos to provide professional sharpening services not just of knives, but of garden tools and scissors, too. Shoppers are asked to securely wrap their knives and other sharp objects in dish towels, newspapers or other secure packaging, or bring them in the knife block in which they are stored, when turning them over for sharpening. The Monterey market, which relocated from MPC to Del Monte Center, is open from 8 a.m. to noon.

Carmel Cutlery on Dolores Street between Sixth and Ocean also offers sharpening services, starting at \$7 per knife, depending on size and quantity. The store has a great selection of knives, too. For more information, go to [carmelcutlery.com](http://carmelcutlery.com).

**■ Brunch at Mana + Pua**

The Mana + Pua wine bar in the Crossroads shopping center is serving weekend brunch indoors and outdoors, now that Monterey County is firmly in the Orange Tier. The shop has a new kitchen and also offers salads and flatbreads daily.

“We are continuously striving to bring new and fresh menu items to complement our revolving wine program,” said owner Ashleigh Hutchison.

For information on tasting, eating, shopping and other details, visit [manapua.wine](http://manapua.wine).

**■ Prizes for diners**

The nonprofit Center for Community Advocacy will hold a drawing during its drive-in movie at the Monterey Fairgrounds May 8, though those who buy the tickets for \$10 each or 11 for \$100 don't need to be present to win.

Prizes include \$250 gift certificates to Haute Enchilada in Moss Landing and Lugano's Swiss Bistro in the Barnyard, a package of \$100 gift certificates for Bistro Moulin and Mezzaluna, along with two bottles of Twisted Roots sparkling rosé, and a package that includes a one-night stay at Hofsas House in Carmel and dinner in Pacific Grove.

Other prizes are a mixed case of wine and a collection of gift certificates for Starbucks and various fast food restaurants. Visit [cca-viva.org/events](http://cca-viva.org/events) for more information.

**■ Kids catch their dinner**

It's a bit of a drive from the Monterey Peninsula, but Fort Hunter Liggett will host its 18th annual Youth Fishing Derby April 24, inviting kids 15 and younger from the base and surrounding communities to try their luck catch-

*See FOOD next page*

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**CALENDAR**

**Carmel High School Sober Graduation Benefit Rummage Sale:** Drop off gently used items 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 21-23 at Carmel High School Performing Arts Building. SALE is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 24. More information: contact JC Myers, (831) 915-5323

**April 22 – Healthy Aging Webinar,** 1:30 p.m. Register for this free webinar at [CVManor.org](http://CVManor.org). Carmel Valley Manor Director of Health Services, Chris Regan, R.N., will share tips and techniques for how a sharp mind contributes to a fit body. Call (800) 544-5546 or email [events@cvmanor.com](mailto:events@cvmanor.com).

**April 26 – Aspire Health Plan Presents: How to Grow a Great Tomato,** a Virtual Community Connections Class, 2 to 3 p.m. Learn all you need to know about growing a great tomato, and plenty of other gardening tips. Presented by Monterey County Master Gardener Carole King. Event is free. We ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or [www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections2021](http://www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections2021). Call or register to receive participation details.

**April 29 – Aspire Health Plan Presents: Whole Person Wellness Part I: Creating a Wellness Vision and Taking Control of Your Thoughts,** a Virtual Community Connections Class, 2 to 3 p.m. Draft your personalized roadmap toward optimal wellness! In this session we will dive into the visioning, planning and preparation that is essential for sustaining motivation to reach and maintain your long-term health goals. Event is free. We ask you to register so we can know how many people to expect. RSVP to (877) 663-7651, or [www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections2021](http://www.aspirehealthplan.org/connections2021). Call or register to receive participation details.

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## FOOD

*From previous page*

ing some of the 1,700 pounds of rainbow trout stocked in Del Venturi Reservoir.

When the derby ends, the pond will be open for everyone who has a California fishing license, with no need for a separate Fort Hunter Liggett fishing permit, April 24-25.

Garrison Cmdr. Col. Charles Bell is holding the derby to celebrate the Month of the Military Child and to give kids who have never gone fishing before the chance to do so. Registration is required for participation and begins at 6:30 a.m., with the derby ending at noon. Children and teens can catch up to five fish apiece, and prizes will be given for the biggest fish caught in various categories, first through third place.

Breakfast and lunch

A youth fishing derby at Del Venturi Reservoir in Fort Hunter Liggett is open to everyone age 15 and younger and will offer lots of chances to catch rainbow trout. Prizes will be given for the biggest fish in several categories.

PHOTO/BRYAN LEE

will be available for purchase (cash only). Fishing poles and a limited amount of bait will be provided for up to 150 participants, who are also encouraged to bring their own bait.

For more information or to register, visit [fhlmwr.com/youthfishingderby](http://fhlmwr.com/youthfishingderby) or call the Fort Hunter Liggett Outdoor Recreation Department at (831) 718-7607. To ensure Covid-19 safety requirements are met, admission will be limited to 1,000 people. The derby is sponsored by USAA and various businesses.



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**APRIL 23**

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# ARTIST

From page 23A

In 1973, when he was a social worker for Monterey County, Williams did a favor for a friend at work, who wondered aloud how he could return the good deed.

“He was a really good watercolorist, so I asked if he’d give me a lesson, and he did,” Williams remembered. “My wife, Pam, was a nurse, working the night shift, so when I came home from my job, and she left for hers, I would take care of our infant daughter. I’d paint with watercolors all night, and I just kept getting deeper into it.”

In the early 1980s, after taking art classes at Cabrillo College, he returned to San Jose State for a master’s degree in fine art.

“One of my instructors saw my portfolio and said, ‘You know, your art is kind of old-looking,’” Williams recounted. “I don’t think he intended it as an insult, but the message I got was, ‘You’re kind of out of step.’ This was a time when new-wave art, abstract realism, and other really bold stuff was going on.”

So Williams stretched a large canvas and started painting with acrylic, using a palette knife, repeatedly scraping the paint and adding more.

“I wound up with something that kind of looked like a mosaic — a little bit impressionistic, a little bit modern

— and it had a swimmer in it,” Williams said. “I took it to the graduate student exhibition and it sold. And I was like, ‘Wow! Really?’”

Williams retired from his day job in 2006, and enjoyed one of his most successful years in 2008, when he was among a small group of artists selected to paint at Carmel’s Tor House, the Santa Lucia Ranch Preserve, and the Concours d’Elegance.

### Sexton, Rushton and Auster

His artistic journey included an experimentation with encaustic art (melted beeswax mixed with added pigments), returned to watercolors, then transitioned to oil after taking workshops from Randall Sexton and William Rushton. He also recalled a philosophy espoused by another instructor, Ken Auster: “If your peers think you’re good, you’re good,” Auster told him. “If your peers think you stink, you stink.”

“Thinking of myself as an artist was a slow evolution,”

Williams said. “It kind of happened piece by piece, climbing the ladder, getting into galleries, getting my master’s degree, starting to sell, and of course, getting accepted into the Art Association.”

Williams is beginning his 15th year as a member of the Carmel Art Association, whose roster dates back to 1927 and includes many of the most celebrated artists in California history.

“It was great hearing that I had been accepted there, but, believe it or not, I probably didn’t realize at the time how much of an accomplishment it was,” he said with some amusement. “It was only after I had been a member for a while — maybe even after I had served a couple of years as president — that I realized exactly what people had to go through with the application process, and how few are accepted. I think that’s when I realized that the art association is a pretty important place.”

Images of his work and additional information can be found at [andywilliamsstudio.com](http://andywilliamsstudio.com) and at [carmelart.org](http://carmelart.org).

## Scots and Celts stay away for another year

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

AS HAPPENED last year, the Monterey Scottish Games & Celtic Festival, set for July 17-18, has been canceled, with all hopes of seeing men and women in kilts throwing phone poles, listening to bagpipers, watching reenactments of traditional Highlands feasts and dancing, visiting all the clans, and filling up on beer, Scotch eggs and other delicacies being put off until 2022.

The annual festival celebrating the music, dance, food and athletic events of Scotland and Ireland usually takes place at the Monterey Fairgrounds but was canceled last year due to the pandemic. With uncertainty regarding whether state coronavirus guidelines would allow the festival to take place this year, organizers decided to cancel it again.

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SECTION RE ■ April 16-22, 2021

The Carmel Pine Cone

# Real Estate



■ This week's cover property, located in Carmel-by-the-Sea,  
is presented by Peter Butler of Carmel Realty Company  
(See Page 2RE)



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# About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

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April 16-22, 2021



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Marilyn Leary to Kenneth and Janet Perez  
APN: 010-172-005

**25498 Hatton Road – \$820,000**

Saifu Angto, Cecilia Indrajio and Chun and Margaretha Ng to Sherman Salmon  
APN: 009-192-005

**Mission Street, 5 SE of Fourth Avenue – \$965,000**

Keith Percy to Xchange Solutions Inc.  
APN: 010-361-002

**Guadalupe Street, 2 NW of Seventh Avenue – \$1,560,000**

John and Reo Haynes to Andrew and Kimberly Letts  
APN: 010-043-006



26241 Valley View Avenue, Carmel – \$4,900,000

**Junipero Street, 5 NE of Third Avenue – \$1,650,000**

Michael and Penelope Hoglund to Alison Falck  
APN: 010-105-035

**25057 Hatton Road – \$2,150,000**

Nancy Reiley to Peter and Hilary Hanlon  
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See **HOME SALES** page 4RE

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BRE# 00404972

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4 beds, 4 baths ■ \$3,925,000 ■ [www.DoloresAnd9th.com](http://www.DoloresAnd9th.com)



3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$3,795,000 ■ [www.HopeFloatsCarmel.com](http://www.HopeFloatsCarmel.com)



4 beds, 5 baths ■ \$2,375,000 ■ [www.545AguajitoCarmel.com](http://www.545AguajitoCarmel.com)



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# HOME SALES

From page 2RE

## Carmel (con't.)

**Crespi Avenue, 2 SW of Mountain View Avenue — \$2,375,000**

Mary Boland to Mikhail and Evelina Khain  
APN: 010-052-031

**26241 Valley View — \$4,900,000**

Theodore Pearson to John and Sandra Neukom  
APN: 009-403-028

**Scenic Road, 3 NE of Santa Lucia Avenue — \$9,375,000**

Tracey Hirt to Michael and Suzanne Sievert  
APN: 010-293-008



32 Poppy Lane, Pebble Beach — \$5,500,000

## Carmel Valley

**13 Del Mesa Carmel — \$750,000**

Wye Not LLC to Rumiko Shirokow  
APN: 015-444-020

**258 Del Mesa Carmel — \$845,000**

Joseph and Nancy Verska to Mervin Sutton and Daphne Lewis  
APN: 015-516-016

**14314 Hitchcock Road — \$965,000**

Richard and Monica Skydell to John and Debra Buonaguidi  
APN: 417-032-008

**27946 Berwick Drive — \$1,035,000**

Anita Costa and Knauss Trust to Christopher and Kristina Montellese  
APN: 169-233-004

**9901 Club Place Lane — \$1,200,000**

Skropeta Properties LLC to Michelle Kovac and Kathy Champlin  
APN: 416-561-029

See ESCROWS page 10RE

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**3470 RIO ROAD, CARMEL**

A majestic oak tree and white picket fence welcome you to this 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Mission Fields residence with some old world charm. Offering hardwood floors, a brick fireplace, and a peaceful, sunny backyard, this home is in the Carmel School District and within walking distance to the Crossroads and the Barnyard. The Carmel Mission is located just up the street on your way to town or the beach.

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7 beds, 6 baths ■ \$11,500,000 ■ [www.VillaChe.com](http://www.VillaChe.com)



5 beds, 5+ baths ■ \$9,995,000 ■ [www.1515Riata.com](http://www.1515Riata.com)



7 beds, 8+ baths ■ \$8,900,000 ■ [www.KingsleyCourtEstate.com](http://www.KingsleyCourtEstate.com)



5 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,498,000 ■ [www.2002Majella.com](http://www.2002Majella.com)

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## I like the British, yet methinks we have a language problem

PRINCE PHILIP was a man whom I admired even though I've never been a fan of the monarchy. The British obsession with antiquity and royalty mystifies me. But, blimey, I don't live in a country that looks at the year 1066 as if it happened just a fortnight ago. Our history is at least 10 centuries younger than theirs.

We fought the Brits to break away from the tyranny of their monarchy. We established a free society that has been attracting immigrants for more than 200 years.

the merry wives, husbands and children of Windsor cost the British taxpayers about £2.92 million a year. Yet, they add £1.8 billion to the economy via tourism and trade deals made through official visits by members of the crown. So it looks like the royals are green-blooded, not blue.

### Common language

The royal family also makes for some good dramatic television. Remember the perils of Princess Diana? She was never a favorite of mine, especially when she was cavorting all over Europe with Dodi Fayed and compromising pictures of them were all over the telly for her children to see. My mother and Frank Sinatra had a name for such a woman: "That's why the lady is a tramp."

How ironic that we've created our own form of royalty by kowtowing to Hollywood personalities and people who play games with balls.

My problem with the concept of royalty is hematological. Sorry, peerage people, your blood isn't any bluer than mine. The divine right of kings was a political doctrine in defense of monarchical absolutism that asserted that kings derived their authority from God and could not be accountable for their actions by an earthly authority such as a parliament.

### Merry money

And speaking of blood, the history of Europe is written in it due to the incompetence of monarchs. From the Wars of the Roses, through the War of the Spanish Succession, to World War I, monarchies screwed things up.

With all of that, the Brits still have a devout reverence for their monarchy. It makes sense when you follow the money. An article from Forbes in 2017 states that

Ah, but Prince Philip! He shared an irreplaceable bond with Queen Elizabeth that came from their shared perseverance and steadfastness at key moments in history. He deferred to her sovereignty while never displaying any sign of betrayal or frailty. Philip described Elizabeth's life as "one of wars, revolutions, separations and tragedies." Stiff upper lip, if you will, but certainly a man to be trusted and admired.

Was it Wilde or Shaw who first said, "England and America are two countries separated by a common language"? According to The Stack Exchange, a website of English Language & Usage, the answer appears to be, both: "In *The Canterville Ghost* (1887), Wilde wrote, 'We have really everything in common with America nowadays except, of course, language.' However, the 1951 *Treasury of Humorous Quotations* (Esar & Bentley) quotes Shaw

See GERVASE page 8RE



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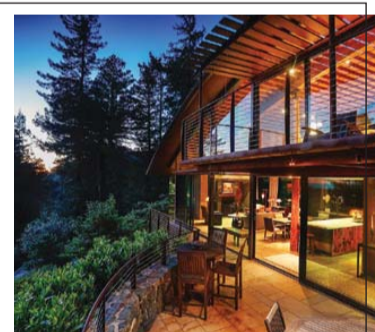
*"The beautiful spring came, and when nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also."*

— HARRIET ANN JACOBS



## Big Sur's Tower House | 47701 Coast Ridge Rd | \$6,500,000

Big Sur's Tower House is a luxurious modern masterpiece, with gorgeous ocean and redwood forest views from each of its three floors. Completed in 2013, nothing was spared in the construction of this contemporary design by architect Mickey Muennig's heir apparent, Tim Brattin. Exquisite craftsmanship and design are apparent throughout the home's multiple levels, which open to decks and patios interfacing directly with mother nature. From here, options are infinite. Stroll through the garden and orchard before entering the secluded hot tub in the redwoods. Or, meet your guests in the detached guesthouse and take them for a hike right from your driveway to the top of the coastal range. Of course, there's always the option of meandering over to Ventana, located next door, for a drink, dinner, or a massage. Whatever way you cut it, this is a rare opportunity to live that Big Sur life you've long been dreaming about. **For more info visit: [www.bit.ly/bigsurtowerhouse](http://www.bit.ly/bigsurtowerhouse)**



## Lincoln & 3rd \$2,250,000

Another extraordinary design by Alan Lehman of Lehman Design Studio. White water views of Pt. Lobos and Carmel Bay from the main bedroom suite and upstairs deck. Sited on a tranquil lane leading to a picturesque walking bridge into the charming village of Carmel by the Sea.

The exterior features a blend of stone and wood with stately oak trees welcoming you to the front entry. Three bedrooms and three full baths, fabulous great room, dining and chef's kitchen. This offering includes the lot with water and planning approvals. The final building permit estimated to be this month.

**For more info visit: [www.bit.ly/lincolnand3rd](http://www.bit.ly/lincolnand3rd)**



## 335 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley \$2,445,000

Best estate value in Carmel Valley based on square footage and acreage. Walking through the front door you are greeted with magnificent views of the oak covered mountains across Carmel Valley. The open living area is

welcoming for entertaining. There are 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths with separate living quarters downstairs and a studio in the north wing of the house offering stunning valley views from this 2.2 acre property. Room and credits for your pool! Amenities include a private home office, Solar, A/C, and a Tesla car charger. Exceptional value.

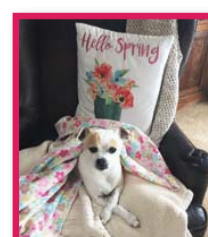
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*Puddin is enjoying the Spring weather and all the new flowers and fragrances.*

COMPASS



# 170 Spindrift Lane Carmel, CA

List Price \$12,500,000

2 Bed | 2 Bath | 2,070 Sq Ft | 2 Acre Lot

The majesty of the sea welcomes you to this private, oceanfront estate on exclusive Spindrift Lane. Built in 1957, this coastal icon has served as a refuge from the world for each of its prestigious owners. The two-acre property weaves into the fabric of the Carmel coastline and allows you to feel one with nature's most wondrous creations while enjoying the view of soaring pelicans, swimming otters, and migrating whales from your bedroom window. The current configuration includes a 1 bedroom/1.5 bathroom main house and 1 bedroom/1 bathroom guest house with an attached 1-car garage. Planning approval has been received to construct a new 4,300 square foot, 3 bedroom/3 bathroom main house that will allow the next owner to enjoy a front-row seat to the symphony of crashing waves for years to come!

[170spindriftlane.com](http://170spindriftlane.com) | [jonathanspencerproperties.com](http://jonathanspencerproperties.com)



CARMEL • CA  
36° 32' 59" N  
122° 55' 23" W



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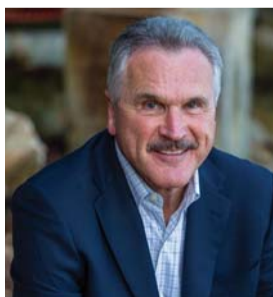
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## POLICE LOG

From page 4A

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Female lost her credit card somewhere in the area of a pet grooming business. As the officer was on the phone with her, she said she found her credit card on the roadway and canceled the report.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Verbal domestic dispute at Junipero and Eighth.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Traffic stop at Carpenter and Highway 1 at 2310 hours led to the seizure of drug paraphernalia.

**Pacific Grove:** Subject fell on David Avenue, causing injury to left leg.

**Pacific Grove:** Report of a burglary of a work truck and a theft from an unlocked work truck on Grand Avenue. Various tools and supplies were taken. No suspect identified at this time.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle stop on 17th Street revealed the driver had an out-of-jurisdiction warrant. The 27-year-old male was cited and released.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle vs. pedestrian collision on Ocean View Boulevard.

**Pacific Grove:** Warrant arrest of a 41-year-old on Ocean View Boulevard.

**Big Sur:** A 52-year-old male threw objects at a supervisor's vehicle on Highway 1, causing damage. Victim is a 42-year-old female.

**Carmel Valley:** Person on Boronda Road generated an online report in regard to lost property.

**Pebble Beach:** Adult female on Indian Village Road reported being bitten by a dog.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 1

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** A 57-year-old male resident on Mountain View was arrested at Ocean and Hatton for DUI and booked into county jail.

**Pacific Grove:** Located an unoccupied

## GERVASE

From page 6RE

as saying, 'England and America are two countries separated by the same language,' but without giving a source. The quote had earlier been attributed to Shaw in Reader's Digest (November 1942)."

Although I love the English language spoken by Englanders, I am a casualty of Britspeak and my own inability to understand British actors. I love British drama. It has a lot of characters, often very quirky, who carry the accumulated baggage of previous liaisons and umbrages.

Essayist William Zinsser describes them this way: "Dozens of picturesque men and women come and go, discussing entanglements, and the people they were addressing seem to know what they are talking about."

As for myself, even with the clarity of a wireless headset, I don't understand anything they say. I use closed captions to watch British television shows as if I am watching a foreign language program, giving credence to what Oscar, or George Bernard said about our two countries.

stolen vehicle reported from another jurisdiction on Evergreen Road at 0141 hours. The vehicle was returned to the owner.

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

**Pacific Grove:** Unknown subject(s) slashed the tires of a vehicle while it was parked on Forest.

**Pacific Grove:** Non-injury collision on Forest. Vehicle was towed from the scene.

**Pacific Grove:** Contacted a 30-year-old male on 13th Street who was known to be on probation and have warrants for his arrest. The male did not listen to verbal commands, physically resisted, and was found to be in possession of stolen property. This was in violation of the subject's probation terms. He was booked into jail for the warrants and fresh charges.

**Pacific Grove:** An argument occurred on Lighthouse Avenue at 1645 hours over loud music. The involved parties did not seek prosecution for the crimes committed. Report for informational purposes only.

**Pacific Grove:** Non-injury accident on Walnut Street. Private property damage.

**Pacific Grove:** Officers responded to a verbal argument between a married couple on Forest.

**Pacific Grove:** Deceased person on Egan. No foul play suspected.

**Carmel Valley:** A telephone scam and fraud were reported on Carmel Valley Road.

**Carmel Valley:** A deceased female was located in her home on Ford Road.

**Carmel area:** Adult Protective Services referral at a residence on Carpenter Street.

**Carmel Valley:** Adult protective services requested a welfare check on Canada Lane.

**Carmel Valley:** Deputies received a call from a residence on Saddle Road about possible threats being made.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 2

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Person found a wallet on the sidewalk near the a coffee house on

See SHERIFF page 13RE

The captions are fine for watching television. Not so good for going to the theater. The whole point of going to the theater is to hear the play.

There have been times I paid top dollar to see a stage play with mostly English actors and came away with the feeling I would be more satisfied if I had eaten the money I spent on tickets.

## Lobbying for a title

While I'm on the subject, how come so many Brits narrate American sporting events? I was way into the drama of the Masters Tournament last weekend. The narrators included two Brits. Is there some kind of gravitas built into the English larynx not available in Yankee voice boxes?

By the way, I wish CBS would stop referring to Nick Faldo as *Sir* Nick Faldo. You only use a knight's first name if he is born into the peerage. Otherwise you should refer to him as Sir Faldo. How do I know that? Well, maybe my blood is bluer than you think.

End of rant. Now, back to "The Crown." With subtitles, of course.

Contact Jerry at [jerrygervase@yahoo.com](mailto:jerrygervase@yahoo.com).



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## ESCROWS

From page 4RE

### Carmel Valley (con't.)

**57 Chamisal Pass — \$1,425,000**

Jon and Linda Gruber to Scott Reynolds and Ritzy Boyd  
 APN: 239-041-023

**3470 Edgefield Place — \$1,500,000**

Jolene and Albert Semtner to Taylor Eribaum and Melody Mak  
 APN: 015-451-020

**Via Malpaso — \$1,850,000**

Orbis Financial LLC to Robert Thull and New Horizons 2019 Trust  
 APN: 259-092-019

**10423 Fairway Lane — \$2,075,000**

Fairway Lane Villa LLC to Glenmede Trust and My Beloved Zerbie Trust  
 APN: 416-593-006

**8700 River Meadows Road — \$3,400,000**

John and Eleanor Powers to Frank and Carrie Dorr  
 APN: 416-028-024

See **MORE SALES** page 12RE

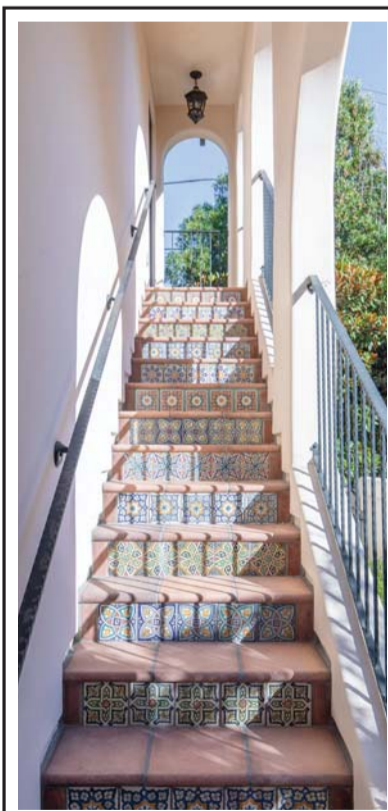


25057 Hatton Road, Carmel — \$2,150,000

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# MORE SALES

From page 10RE

## Highway 68

### 2969 Highway 68 unit B17 — \$578,000

Bradley and Pamela Hook to Ryan and  
Catriona Cairns  
APN: 259-022-028

### 24563 Rimrock Canyon Road — \$850,000

Mary Alvarez to Lawrence Ingram  
APN: 416-412-001

### 1 Antelope Lane — \$1,315,000

Joe and Cathleen Clinton to Paulson Farming LP  
APN: 101-281-028

### 25440 John Steinbeck Trail — \$1,335,000

Mary Campion to James and Karen Fanoe  
APN: 161-555-008

### 16614 Toro Hills Court — \$1,560,000

Richard and Kimberly Ramsey to David and  
Adela Cech  
APN: 161-042-015

### 16618 Toro Hills Court — \$1,600,000

William and Dana Armstrong to Gregory and  
Marcia Giwin  
APN: 161-042-016

### 540 Paseo Venado — \$1,950,000

Linda Van Houtte and Deborah Twisselman to Jason Ca-  
mara and Michael McMahan  
APN: 103-041-003

### 478 Corral de Tierra Road — \$2,850,000

Christopher and Jamie Caren to Martin and  
Daniela Essig  
APN: 416-452-032

## Marina

### 204 Cypress Avenue — \$500,000

Richard Lee to Stephen Lo  
APN: 032-312-044

### 3052 Frederick Circle — \$615,000

Tracey Kerbs and Estate of Donald Brewer to Jose Garcia  
APN: 032-341-008

### 206 9th Street — \$800,000

Aaron Crabtree to Dylan Caulboy  
APN: 031-255-003

## Monterey

### 500 Glenwood Circle unit 514 — \$382,000

Jason Coniglio to Thomas Anderson  
APN: 001-773-037

### 801 Casanova Avenue — \$500,000

Elisabeth Moodenbaugh to Luis Arreguin  
APN: 013-151-017

### 300 Glenwood Circle unit 177 — \$510,000

Raymond Mok to Amy Sueyoshi  
APN: 001-777-017

### 125 Surf Way unit 314 — \$610,000

Timothy Eding to Roger Tregear  
APN: 011-443-022

### Forest Ridge Road — \$610,000

Alexey Lopukhin to Steven Guth  
APN: 014-121-010/141-038

### 815 Parcel Street — \$1,010,000

Danny and Deborah Pittman to Chad and Hilary Nichols  
APN: 001-183-013

See TRANSACTIONS page 14RE

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