



# The Carmel Pine Cone

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October 29-November 4, 2021

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## Gunmen remain at large in brazen bank robbery

By MARY SCHLEY

THREE PEOPLE robbed the Chase Bank branch on Carmel Rancho Boulevard at gunpoint Monday morning, injuring two employees in the process and firing one round from an undisclosed type of weapon, the Federal Bureau of Investigations said. No one was shot, but the robbers — who wore masks and were dressed in all black — escaped with an unknown amount of cash.

The attack occurred around 9:15 a.m. Oct. 25, with Monterey County Sheriff's deputies and Carmel police,

who heard about it through radio traffic, rushing to the scene.

The criminals were already gone, having fled in a red Toyota 4Runner that was found abandoned but still running on Rio Road, according to a dispatcher.

Carmel police officer Joe Martis "responded and rendered first aid to the teller who was pistol whipped and to the manager, who I believe had a shoulder injury," Sgt. Jeff Watkins said. Radio traffic at the time indicated

See **ROBBERY** page 16A

## Teacher uses N word in class, told not to repeat it

■ Was reading from MLK's 'Letter from Birmingham Jail'

By KELLY NIX

A PACIFIC Grove High School teacher who uttered a forbidden word more than a year ago while quoting a letter written by Martin Luther King Jr. almost 50 years ago has agreed not to use the word again after a video of the lesson surfaced on social media.

On Oct. 22, the Pacific Grove Unified School District sent a message to parents informing them of the October 2020 incident in which the teacher — while reading aloud King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail" during a distance-learning English class for 10th- and 11th-graders — used the word because the great civil rights leader used it to illustrate the abuse Blacks in the South commonly suffered.

King, whose soaring rhetoric and masterful use of English made him one of the most admired Americans of the 20th century, used the forbidden word twice in the August 1963 letter, which he authored while confined in an Alabama jail after protesting racial segregation.

But saying the word out loud, even while quoting King, was inappropriate, the P.G. school district said.

"This was a mistake, one that the teacher readily admits, and one that was made without malice," the email message to parents said.

### No harm intended

PGUSD Superintendent Ralph Porras said that the district informed parents about the incident after an "extensively edited" clip of the incident started circulating on social media websites. The teacher, he reiterated, did not mean to offend anyone by using the word.

"Anyone who knows the teacher knows she is probably one of the staunchest allies of equity in the district," Porras told The Pine Cone.

Nevertheless, a student in the class expressed concern about the word and the teacher immediately acknowledged the "pain she'd caused" and apologized, the district said.

"Everyone involved recognized the seriousness of the situation and, regardless of context, the pain that the use of the N word can cause."

The district said it's learned a "great deal" from the incident and has asked teachers to refrain from using lan-

See **WORD** page 17A

## Students rally as neighbors fight CHS lights

By MARY SCHLEY

CARMEL HIGH students exercised their democratic rights, some probably for the first time, when they testified during a Carmel Unified School District board meeting Wednesday night in favor of the district's plans to install lights on the Carmel High football field.

One of them, James Moreau, also started an online petition supporting the lights that's gathered more than 1,200 signatures.

Their outpouring was prompted by efforts by nearby residents to stop the project, which calls for installing four poles between 70 and 80 feet tall capped with LED lights around the athletic field. A state law that takes effect next fall will mandate later start times for middle schools and high schools, and the lights would allow students to practice afterschool sports even when it's dark. They would also enable CHS to host Friday night football games, as is customary in high school, rather than the Saturday games

it has held for years.

"Carmel High is full of students who are spirited and enthusiastic about improving our school and allowing students more access to different experiences on campus," reads Moreau's petition at change.org. "Having stadium lights would benefit our student athletes for later practices and the opportunity to practice on our home field."

And night games would be good for the school and the community, according to the petition, "because the turnout for late games is much larger and a bigger bonding experience for the district."

### Problems galore

But larger and louder crowds are exactly what some nearby residents don't want, and several have declared the environmental impact report the district conducted for the project inadequate, particularly when it comes to analyz-

See **LIGHTS** page 14A

## Chamber of Commerce: Complaints about skincare stores outpace all others

■ Permit for another shop in process

By MARY SCHLEY

AS THE planning commission gets ready to hold a hearing on a new skincare store to replace the existing one on Ocean east of Dolores, Carmel Chamber of Commerce CEO Jenny MacMurdo said her organization has been fielding numerous complaints from customers who say they've been duped by such businesses.

Practically since the first skincare shop opened on Ocean Avenue more than six years ago, people have complained about salespeople hawking samples from the sidewalks and doorways, using high-pressure sales tactics, overcharging and refusing to make refunds, or sending them home with the wrong products or completely empty bottles, boxes or vials.

Many customers are too embarrassed to report what amounts to theft, in some cases, and many have said the experience soured them on Carmel so much that they may never return, MacMurdo told The Pine Cone this week.

"As soon as we started seeing people visiting again,

they just ramped right back up, and during the summer season, it was pretty bad — like one or two a week," she said. "For every person who writes a complaint, there are 20 behind them who are too afraid or embarrassed to say anything. We always encourage them to call the police department and file a report."

### 'Not coming back'

The nature of the complaints is always the same, with customers claiming they were overcharged or sent home with the wrong product, or no product at all, according to MacMurdo. The stores generally refuse to refund the money, forcing customers to turn to their credit card companies for help.

The chamber logs the complaints in detail, asking for photos of receipts and the products, and written accounts when possible, and notifies the city administrator's office and the police department, which has been referring victims to the Monterey County District Attorney's Office.

Sandra Book, director of tourism for the chamber, said

See **SKINCARE** page 17A

PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

The chamber of commerce and the city say they receive more complaints about the sales tactics at downtown skincare stores than they do about any other type of business.



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# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Parks & recreation

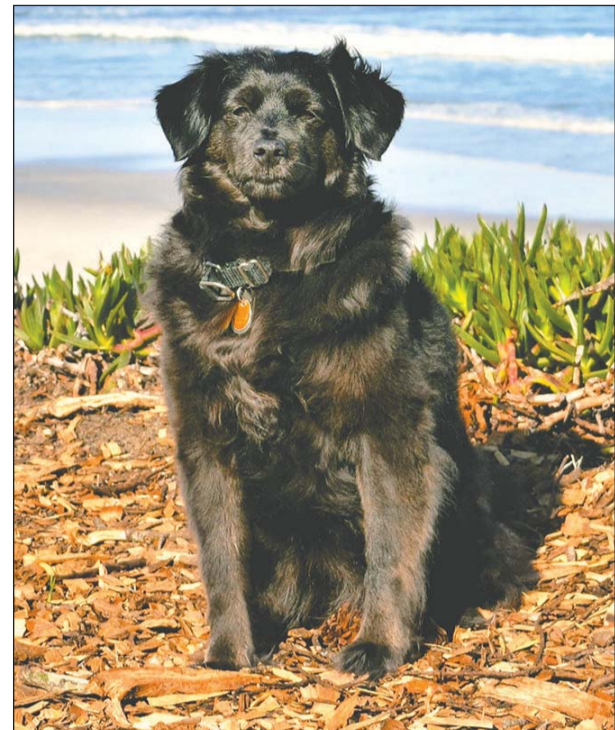
NIGHT AFTER night, they heard him crying, a tiny plea in the dark. Unsure quite where or why, they worried about the welfare of the little animal they couldn't get to. Later, they discovered the homeless pup had been taken to The SPCA for Monterey County. They'd gone there, just in case, but he was too young to adopt.

So, they waited for the little puppy to mature. Two weeks later, they got to bring him home, where they had a hard time setting him down, leaving him alone and going to sleep without him.

As soon as they could, the couple did a DNA test on the little dog, which turned out to be a long-haired Chihuahua-poodle mix. Surprised and a little unsure of the results, they tried a different test. It confirmed the original results. He really is a "Chi-poo."

Parker, now 9, spends a few days a week at a local doggy daycare. His people decided he should spend time socializing with the other canines on the block.

"He's such a good-natured little guy," his person said. "He's so sweet and loving. Whenever I feel frustrated, I pick him up, he tucks in and we walk



around until I feel calm. He has that effect on people."

His person works for the parks department. They live in Pacific Grove, and their little chi-poo loves to play in one of the nearby parks, so they had no choice but to name him Parker. He also likes the beach — possibly even more than the park — particularly Carmel Beach, where he can romp around off leash.

"Parker doesn't like the water, but he goes absolutely nuts in the sand, running around, digging like a prairie dog," his person said. "Then he takes off down the shore, but he always comes back when called. Beach day always means bath day."

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# Carpenter Street hotel plan calls for making guest units look like houses

## Architect hosts meetings to get feedback

By MARY SCHLEY

THE OWNER of the aging Carmel Resort Inn wants to tear it down and build an upscale boutique hotel that looks like housing rather than lodging along Carpenter Street between First and Second — so it will blend better with the neighborhood — and develop and sell eight single-family homes on the side of the block-wide property that runs along Guadalupe Street, according to architect Eric Miller.

The last time anyone saw plans for the proposed Carmel Resort Inn redo was at the forest and beach commission, which in February approved the removal of two dozen trees but required the planting of nearly 60 new ones. Those plans have been significantly redrawn, though, and Miller presented them at a community meeting Oct. 7 to seek feedback from neighbors. He said he'll hold another with a broader audience in a conference room at Sunset Center after

Thanksgiving.

"We really wanted to know what the neighbors felt," he said. "The meeting was really for them."

He estimated that around 60 people packed the small conference room at La Playa and said he received "some excellent input that was very helpful" and answered a lot of questions about capacity, parking, traffic and water.

### 'Fleabag hotel'

The Carmel Resort Inn has 31 guest units in around 20 cabins, but "the new project is going to have 25 guest rooms and one manager's room, and all but one of the units are going to be two bedrooms," Miller said. "Our whole concept is to make luxury suites. We decided consciously not to make it feel like one commercial or institutional project. Right now, the property is a fleabag hotel."

Miller said the idea is to draw families, as opposed to individual travelers coming in separate cars and occupying individual rooms, so the overall impact should be less than what it is now.

"There are not many places you can stay in suites in Carmel," Miller said. "There's just not enough of that here. It also brings in a higher level of tourist."

To make the hotel blend with the area, Miller designed the suites to look like residences. "It will look like a row of houses on Carpenter, even though it's not," he said.

The hotel won't offer any food, but each unit will have its own kitchen. The

See RESORT page 18A



A rendering by Eric Miller Architects shows the units planned for the new Carmel Resort Inn that will look more like houses than hotel rooms.



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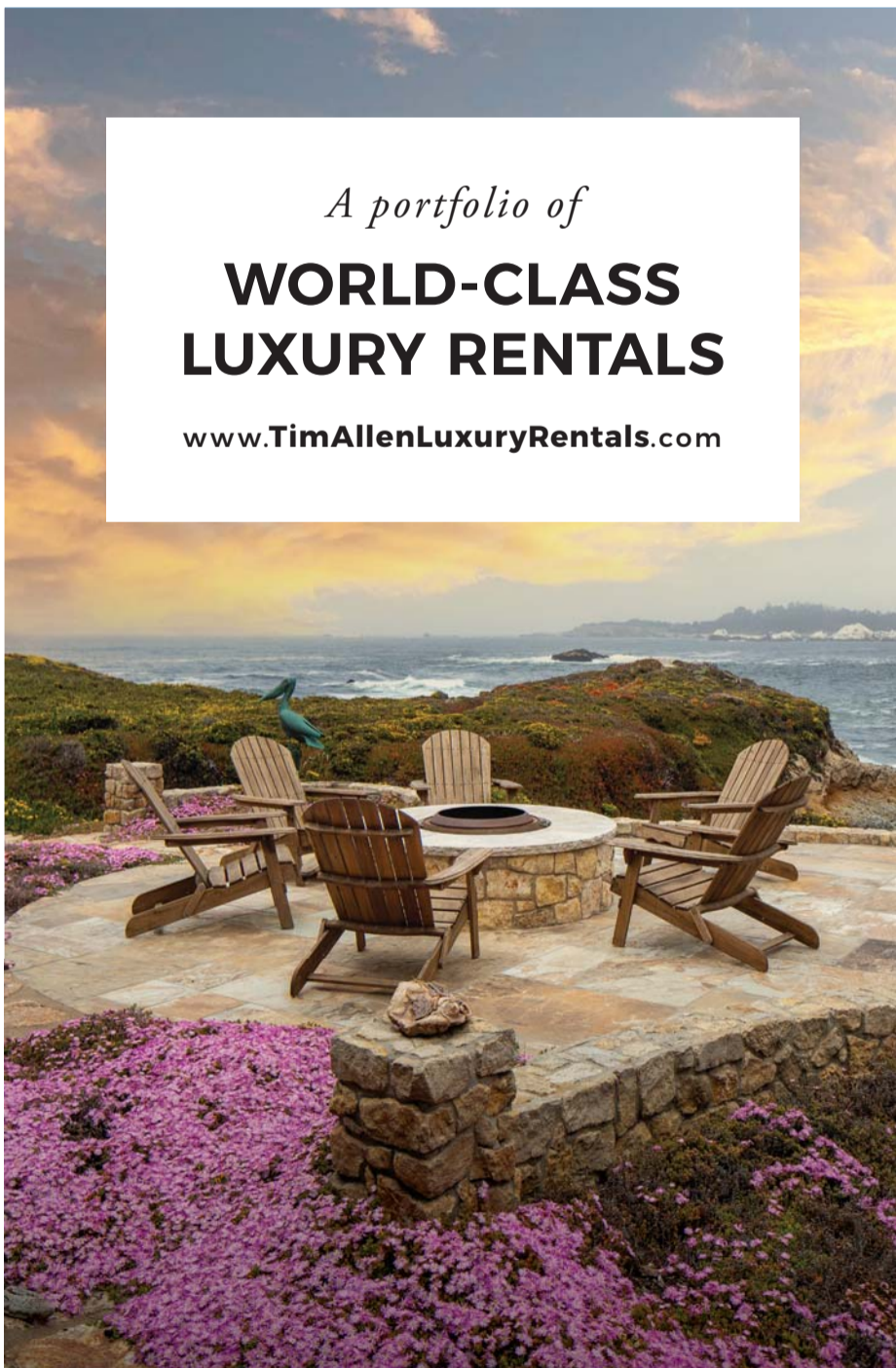
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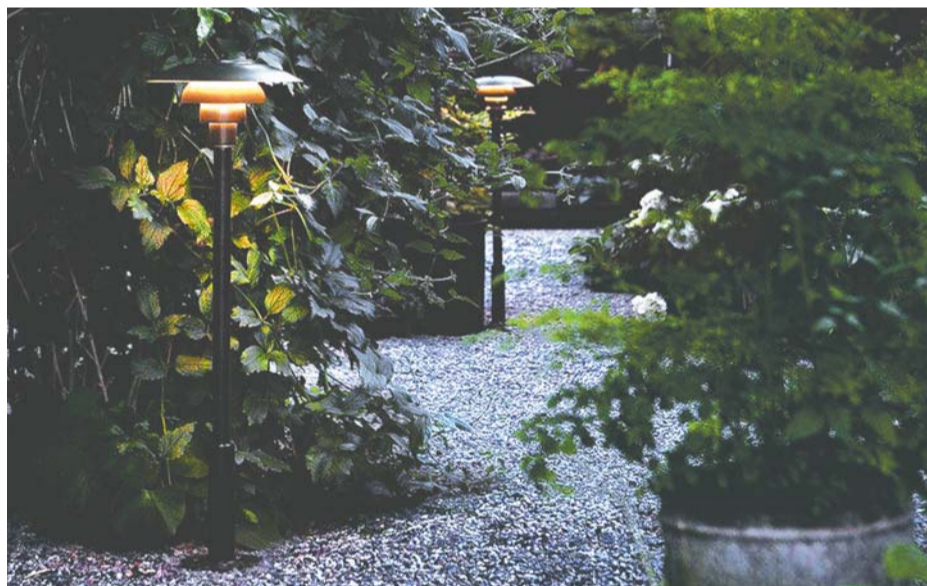
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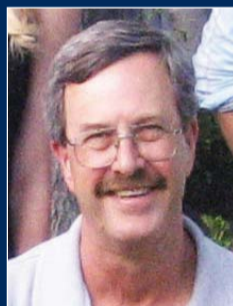


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## Police & Sheriff's Log

### Quick, follow those soap bubbles

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.

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

**Pacific Grove:** Subject admonished for trespassing at a residence on Jewell.

**Pacific Grove:** Hit-and-run on Grove Acre.

**Carmel area:** Male on Ocean Avenue reported a false crime.

**Carmel Valley:** Vehicle towed from East Carmel Valley Road for a traffic violation.

**Carmel area:** Deputies conducted a traffic stop on Rio Road and found a controlled substance.

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Vehicle towed from Lincoln and Seventh for blocking a driveway.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Person found an unattended ring in the roadway at Dolores and Third. The ring was placed into safekeeping pending contact with the owner. Finder would like to claim after 90 days.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Two female family members were causing a disturbance at a hotel in the Carmel at Junipero and Third at 2027 hours. The hotel staff asked if the females would vacate the property, which they agreed to.

**Pacific Grove:** Subjects on Laurel and Lighthouse were placed on 5150 holds [danger to self or others].

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Individual transported to CHOMP for medical treatment.

**Pacific Grove:** Camping trailer stolen from Asilomar.

**Pacific Grove:** Suspicious circumstances on 13th Street.

**Carmel area:** A suspicious female went into a bank on Carmel Rancho Lane and asked for a cash advance. The bank manager reported that the same female went into a different branch and used a fraudulent credit card to collect several thousand dollars.

**Carmel area:** Verbal domestic dispute on High Meadows Drive.

**Pacific Grove:** Stolen bicycle reported on Ocean View Boulevard.

See **POLICE LOG** page 10RE  
in the Real Estate Section



## The gavel falls

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

**Aug. 23** — Daniel Macias Victoria pled no contest to attempted murder of a police officer for his role in a December 2019 officer-involved shooting, and assault with a semiautomatic firearm for an incident that occurred days earlier. Victoria also admitted an enhancement for personal use and intentional discharge of a firearm.

On December 8, 2019, Victoria had a dispute with victim John Doe near Market Way and California Street in Salinas during which Victoria drew a gun and shot at Doe but missed. Doe fought back before Victoria shot again striking Doe's bicep with a bullet. Victoria fled the scene, and Doe was treated at the hospital for his wound.

On December 11, 2019, after identifying Victoria as a suspect in the California Street shooting, Salinas Police Officer Evan Adams attempted to pull over Victoria for a traffic violation that evolved into a lengthy pursuit through the City of Salinas and continued into unincorporated Monterey County on Alisal Road. Officer Daniel Garcia took the lead in the pursuit before Victoria reached out his window with a gun and shot twice in the direction of Officer Garcia but missed. The pursuit terminated in a field just outside Gon-

zales when Victoria's truck and the officers' patrol vehicles became disabled in the mud. In a subsequent standoff with police, during which officers surrounded Victoria's truck from approximately 100 yards away, Victoria fired another round in the officers' direction but missed. At that point, officers returned fire and subsequently arrested Victoria.

The Honorable Mark E. Hood will sentence Victoria to 25 years in state prison. These convictions constitute two "strikes" under California's three strikes law, and his plea to attempted murder qualifies as a "super strike" conviction that could result in a life sentence for any future felony conviction.

**Aug. 25** — Zion Dejon Hill pled guilty to residential burglary and assault with force likely to cause great bodily injury. He also admitted a prior strike conviction for a robbery he pled guilty to in 2019.

On January 11, the defendant entered the victim's home through her window and stole her life savings. A witness who knew the defendant saw him leave out the front door. The same witness reported that the defendant posted social media videos of himself waving

See **GAVEL** page 16A

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BY LARRY MESLER

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# Defense to seek new trial in shooting

By MARY SCHLEY

**JOSEPH SAMPOGNARO, Jr.**, the man convicted by a jury in April of shooting his father to death in a barn off of Laureles Grade last September and leading deputies on a dangerous chase that ended when he crashed on Highway 1 near Point Lobos, will seek a new trial, according to court records.

His attorney, Tara Higgins, plans to make a motion for a new trial at a Nov. 2 hearing in front of Monterey County Superior Court Judge Mark Hood based on the fact that one of the jurors regularly fell asleep while witnesses and experts were testifying.

In July, Higgins petitioned the court

to obtain jurors' contact information — which is usually kept sealed in such cases — and received it in September.

The demand for a new trial will be based on testimony that at least one juror fell asleep during the trial, according to court documents. Higgins hired investigator Virginia Hennessey to gather details on the allegations which she provided in an Aug. 26 declaration.

### 'Worked nights'

On July 8, Hennessey interviewed former public defender Rachel Miller, who represented Sampognaro throughout his trial. "Miller said there was an issue with

See TRIAL page 17A

# MAJOR STORM TRIGGERS ROCK SLIDE ON HIGHWAY 1, COULD TAKE WEEK TO CLEAR

By CHRIS COUNTS

SUNDAY'S BIG storm caused a landslide that left a large pile of rocks, dirt and debris on Highway 1 near the San Luis Obispo County line and "early assessments indicate that the highway may be closed for up to a week," Caltrans reported.

The closure is a quarter-mile north of the Monterey County line.

"This rockfall has resulted in a full closure of Highway 1 at Ragged Point," the state roads agency announced. "Maintenance and geotechnical teams are on site and continue their assessments of the area."

It's likely there's work that needs to be done beyond simply clearing material from the pavement.

"In addition to rockfall on the road, there is concern about unsupported rock on the slopes immediately above," the report continued. "It is expected that the work area for machinery and equipment to

address these conditions will need to cover the entire roadway."

To clear and repair the road, Caltrans signed an emergency contract with Papiich Construction of Arroyo Grande for \$500,000.

"Crews and equipment have already been mobilized, and work will occur seven days a week during daylight hours as long as site conditions are safe for crews," Caltrans added.

### 11.7 inches of rain

Sunday's storm hit hard along the Big Sur coast, where 11.7 inches were recorded at Mining Ridge, the National Weather Service reported. There's more wet weather on the way, but nothing like last week's.

"We are looking at the next system coming through Nov. 1-2, but it will be nowhere near what we saw during the recent atmospheric river event," forecaster Brooke Bingaman reported.

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# Supe says STR woes have gotten worse, calls for crackdown in 5th District

By CHRIS COUNTS

AS MONTEREY County moves forward at a glacial pace to craft an ordinance to regulate short-term rentals, supervisors are moving quickly to create a pilot enforcement program — but only for the 5th District, which includes unincorporated parts of the Carmel area, Carmel Highlands, Carmel Valley and Big Sur. Fifth District Supervisor Mary Adams said it's necessary because there's been a big uptick in complaints against the industry recently.

"It has gotten so much worse in the past eight months," Adams said told her colleagues Oct. 5. "It's untenable."

Supervisors instructed county staff to develop the plan in time for a tentative Dec. 7 hearing.

"I'm hoping we can have this implemented by Jan. 1, 2022," Adams said before making a motion to move the plan forward. She said it will bring relief to residents who have "been living with and dealing with this for the past seven years."

Adams said a third-party administrator should be hired to run the program, and taxes from the owners of short-term rentals operators should pay for it.

### Just 20 have permits

So how bad is the short-term rental situation in the district, where according to Dick Matthews of the Monterey County Vacation Rental Alliance, 82 percent of the county's STRs are? At the hearing, Eric Lundquist, the county's director of housing and community development, reported that

as of August, 20 operators of short-term rentals in Monterey County had permits, there were 126 open code compliance cases against illegal rentals, 644 properties were advertising vacation stays, and 400 were paying hotel taxes.

Pris Walton of the Carmel Valley Association said she and her group do not want to ban short-term rentals in Carmel Valley, but they do want to put limitations on them. In a recent letter to supervisors, the CVA urged the county to count short-term rentals against the cap on visitor-serving units in the valley, encourage operators to have hosts on site, limit the number of operators in rural zoning areas to no more than 2 percent of the homes, and use all hotel taxes for enforcement.

Matthews, though, insisted the com-

plaints against vacation rentals are "grossly exaggerated" — and suggested the proposed program would be a de facto ban.

Matthews observed that at one point in 2018, for instance, the county had 93 open cases, and all but 17 had nothing to do with the renter being a nuisance or the unit having code issues.

Matthews said many of those who have made complaints don't live anywhere near the sites in question. He said a "vigilante" turned in 33 STR operators, and not a single case of nuisance was found. He also noted that a Carmel Valley wedding planner turned in a Pebble Beach wedding planner "simply because he wanted to eliminate the competition."

See RENTAL page 15A



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# Committee criticized for racial makeup

By KELLY NIX

A PLAN by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors to consider appointing local business leaders to a county economic committee hit a snag Tuesday when several supervisors said there were not enough people of color considered for the panel.

During the supervisors' discussion about nominations for the county's Economic Opportunity Committee, which is being revived, several members, including 5th District Supervisor Mary Adams, were concerned that the candidate pool was not representative of the county's population, which is mostly Hispanic.

"It was so upsetting to me that two women of color were left off this list," Adams said about people she nominated to the economic committee. "It makes us look so lame that we are not able to pull together a committee that reflects the look of our entire county."

The two candidates Adams mentioned were not intentionally left off the list, she told The Pine Cone Thursday morning, but rather were omitted as a result of a technical glitch. She called the process to seat the new committee "irritating" and "very disappointing," and said it had "not been executed well."

The Economic Opportunity Committee is composed of 12 members, including 10 people and two supervisors — Adams and District 2 Supervisor John Phillips. On

See COMMITTEE page 15A

# Supes back \$30M in housing bonds

By CHRIS COUNTS

IN AN effort to create more affordable housing in a county where very little exists, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0 Tuesday to request that up to \$30 million in bonds be issued to finance the construction of a 66-unit affordable living complex at 21131 Ord Ave. and 21231 Ord Ave. in Marina. The land was once part of Fort Ord's East Garrison.

### Late leader praised

The homes would be built by the non-profit Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning Association of Salinas. When supervisor Luis Alejo made the motion to approve the bond measure, he praised the group's late leader, Alfred Diaz-Infante, who he suggested would have spoken out in favor of this project. But Diaz-Infante died last summer. "He was one of our greatest champions for affordable housing," Alejo said.

Supervisor Wendy Root Askew also praised the plan, which is in her district.

"This is exactly the type of project we want to see happening," Askew said. "It's been a long time coming."

The housing would be built on a 3.8-acre parcel where streets, sidewalks, a storm drain system and utilities have already been put in. Six buildings would be constructed, including three with three stories and three with two stories. There would be 65 one-, two- and three-room units for low-income tenants, along with a manager's unit.

While there has long been talk locally about creating affordable housing, very little has actually been accomplished, some say because California environmental laws make building anything more expensive and time consuming.

But during the past few years, a flurry of bills has been passed by the California Legislature to make building affordable housing easier and less costly.

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## York School starts tracking the sun

By ELAINE HESSER

YORK SCHOOL, on its sunny hilltop near Ryan Ranch, loves solar power. School spokesperson Felicia Pflieger said recently that about half the school's electricity is generated by different types of solar panels scattered around the campus. Like most such installations, they're fixed in one position, which limits their effectiveness as the angle of the sun changes daily and seasonally.

However, solar panels can be mounted on devices called solar trackers, which move to follow the sun. The technology has existed for some time but has been used primarily on large-scale installations. Until recently, they weren't something you'd see at private homes, even though tracker manufacturers say they boost energy production by 40 percent.

York is celebrating the arrival of its first solar tracker photovoltaic power system (science-speak for converting sunlight to electricity) mounted with 16 solar panels, with a dedication ceremony Friday. And it's all thanks to a personal connection that stretches clear to New England.

### Fog vs. sun

Pacific Grove resident James Newman's three adult children, Nick, Ellie and Katie, are York grads. And Newman has seen the sun from a perspective most folks only dream of — outer space. The astronaut and Naval Postgraduate School space systems department chair said he's long been interested in solar power, so in addition to his full-time government job, he works as an unpaid technical consultant for Solaflect, a private company based in Vermont.

Newman met Solaflect owner Bill Bender when they were freshmen at Dartmouth College. Bender founded his company in 2007 to manufacture and install backyard-sized solar trackers that allow home and business owners to benefit from improved efficiency.

Newman was curious about how effective trackers would be here. Would coastal fog offset the benefits of moving the panels? Also, he explained, "I was curious as to the effects of being so close to the ocean and what that would mean for corrosion control requirements for the solar tracker materials."



PHOTO/COURTESY YORK SCHOOL

A new solar tracker system at York School will follow the sun throughout the day.

Then, he said, "I finally realized that I could accomplish this most easily by donating one to York." Along with his friend and fellow York parent Herb Aarons, he worked with Solaflect to secure the technology.

In addition to improving energy efficiency, according to Pflieger, the school believes the tracker will be used by students "in science, technology, engineering and math courses to better understand the advantages of clean energy. The possibilities

See SOLAR page 16A

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# P.G. Monarchs thrive despite storm

## Optimism about numbers

By KELLY NIX

IT'S EARLY in Pacific Grove's monarch butterfly season, but there are indications that it could be a good one for the iconic butterflies, which for more than a century have spent time in the coastal city during the winter. The winged marvels even survived the powerful storm that struck the Peninsula over the weekend.

Typically, thousands of monarchs have arrived in Pacific Grove in October and stayed for the winter before departing in February and March. But in 2020, no monarchs were seen in the city, and a mere 2,000 butterflies were spotted from Mendocino County to the Mexican border, compared to the tens of thousands that are usually recorded, according to the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

Local butterfly enthusiasts are encouraged, however, after museum volunteers on Oct. 15 counted 1,316 monarchs at the Pacific Grove Monarch Sanctuary — where the insects usually congregate. Pacific Grove resident and monarch tracker Bob Pacelli said last week that the number grew to 2,000.

"It's a delight to see monarchs arriving and to have the opportunity to tell their amazing and inspiring story through our museum exhibit, education, and interpretive programs," said museum board chair Tama Olver.

### Survived storm

During the storm Sunday night that some experts said was the most powerful to ever hit the West Coast, and brought heavy wind to Pacific Grove, the monarchs had a protection plan in place.

About half of the insects moved to a eucalyptus tree Pacelli planted, while the other half huddled on cypress and pine trees behind a nearby inn, he said. Monarchs and other butterflies are known to safely seek

shelter in rough weather, including hurricanes.

The P.G. museum, which usually conducts weekly monarch counts from November through February, started the counting early this year. As part of the program, adults, college students and middle- and high-school kids count the number of butterflies they can find in the sanctuary, one of nine monarch sites in Monterey County.

Monarchs hang in dense clusters in the sanctuary, clinging to branches of various types of trees, including cypress and pine trees. The trees provide weather protection, and on warm days, the insects fly and drink nectar from nearby flowering plants.

### No chill

Pacific Grove, like other overwintering sites, is a good spot for the delicate insects, since the weather isn't cold enough to kill them. The butterflies' flight muscles don't function well unless it is 55 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer.

"Around February, the monarchs will start to leave the monarch grove, find a mate and then fly farther north to lay their eggs on milkweed," the museum explained.

Pacelli — who since 2010 has planted dozens of oak and blue gum eucalyptus trees in the monarch sanctuary to help draw more butterflies — said the insects are so far taking to his trees this year.

"About 75 percent of the monarchs are on my trees," Pacelli told The Pine Cone Monday.

Pacelli began the tree-planting effort after the city in the fall of 2009 heavily trimmed the sanctuary's eucalyptus trees. Pacelli and others blamed the trimming for fewer than 800 monarchs clustering there that year. For comparison, nearly 18,000 monarchs were counted in the sanctuary in 2008.

The monarch count in 2010 was 7,000 after Pacelli moved 43 trees to the sanctuary, and many people credited the high population that year to his efforts.



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# County child program agency has one of state's biggest payrolls

By KELLY NIX

A MONTEREY County agency that offers child care, health services and a variety of programs for kids up to 5 years old and their families had a bigger payroll in 2020 than all but four similar agencies in other parts of the state — including those in much larger counties — according to data released this week by the state controller.

On Tuesday, Controller Betty Yee outlined compensation for more than three-dozen First 5 commissions, including First 5 Monterey County. The county agency, funded by taxpayers, had a payroll of \$1,239,775, with another \$367,128 in retirement and health insurance costs last year, the data show.

The agency's payroll ranks it fifth on the list of highest First 5 payrolls, just after Sacramento (\$1,339,618), San Bernardino (\$1,613,181), Riverside and Los Angeles (\$14,017,607) counties, the state said.

First 5 Monterey County's highest paid employee was executive director Francine Rodd, who earned about \$213,000 in salary and benefits in 2020. The agency's director of programs earned \$175,323 in salary and benefits, while its controller was paid \$175,238. Nine of the agency's dozen full-time employees earned more than \$100,000, according to the state data.

Asked why First 5 Monterey County's payroll is bigger than counterpart agencies in much larger counties, such as Ventura, San Diego, San Mateo, San Joaquin and Fresno counties, Rodd said that First 5 commissions are structured differently to best meet the needs of their respective communities.

"The First 5 county commissions are each structured to respond to local community contexts," Rodd said. "Some First 5s contract out key roles and functions, and others provide support through in-house staffing."

First 5 Monterey County had a dozen full-time workers in 2020, according to the state.

### 60-hour week

Rodd said the compensation for First 5 Monterey County's employees is "well within other salaries" for "similar work" in the county. First 5's finance and personnel committee oversees a compensation study about every five years, and the agency's full commission — which includes District 3 Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez — OKs pay increases.

Rodd said the salaries are designed so First 5 Monterey County can be competitive and attract and retain staff while also being a "good steward of the funds."

"As local businesses are unfortunately acutely aware, staff turnover is costly in terms of training, efficiency and effectiveness," she said. "At First 5 Monterey County, half of the employees have been with the agency for nine years or more, saving money and maximizing skills."

Rodd, who has been in Monterey County since she was a young child, has led the agency since 2004.

"I absolutely adore the work I do," she said. "It challenges me every day, which is why a 60-hour work week is pretty typical. At one point, I chose to delay the salary [increases] indicated in the salary survey and phased it in over several years."

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# Verizon hearing postponed until December 7

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

VERIZON WIRELESS' attempt to convince the city council to OK the installation of a cell tower and equipment on Carmelo south of Eighth will wait until December, planning director Brandon Swanson announced Friday.

The company claims the new tower, which would be mounted on a power pole in the area, is necessary for cell coverage and must be approved under state and federal laws, but opponents have said allowing it will open the door for other companies to do the same and would violate city codes and ordinances.

The hearing was originally scheduled for the council's Nov. 2 meeting. Swanson said it was delayed "to give the community a little more time to digest" the company's proposal and its implications, and is now set to take place Dec. 7.



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# CITY'S 'BEAUTIFICATION WEEK' GIVES DOWNTOWN A MAJOR SPRUCE-UP

By MARY SCHLEY

EVEN THE top executives in city hall donned safety vests and put in a bit of sweat equity downtown for the inaugural Beautification Week, which planning director Brandon Swanson said he wants to make a regular occurrence.

Organized by the planning and public works department in collaboration with Carmel Cares and other volunteer groups, the weeklong effort has focused on downtown, defined as the area bounded by Monte Verde and Junipero between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

“This was supposed to be Monday through Sunday, but Monday was mostly spent doing storm cleanup,” Swanson said. Then they got into the tasks at hand, from scrubbing public trash cans and pulling weeds, to scraping stickers off the backs of stop signs and cleaning up graffiti.

“We have had our sidewalk washer out there and have been fixing some of the pavers up and down Ocean that have raised up over time,” he continued.

### Parklet rents

Using money from the restaurants paying \$842 per parking space per month for their parklets — which amounts to more than \$80,000 so far — the city also bought a couple of new benches for the commercial district and will replace missing and dilapidated street signs.

Swanson, public works director Bob Harary, assistant city forester Mike Tope and resident Cindy Lloyd, who has been tending the plants in the World War I Memorial Arch planter, walked the medians to see what plants need to be removed and where the irrigation system should be repaired. (Lloyd has been carrying buckets of water to the area where she’s been working.)

“We’ll repair the irrigation so it works in all five medians, pull out dead and dying plants, and replace them,” Swanson said, adding that he and Cleve Waters, also with public works, walked along the medians after dark, as well, to make sure all the lights work and are pointing in the right direction.

Parklet rental income will cover the costs of the new plants and irrigation system, as well as the overtime worked by city staff during the beautification effort.

Other chores included replacing lids on the remaining



PHOTO/BRANDON SWANSON

City administrator Chip Rerig and assistant city administrator Maxine Gullo join in the efforts to make downtown prettier by picking up trash during Beautification Week.

squirrel cans, pulling weeds, pruning branches, and cleaning or replacing the cigarette butt receptacles.

### Businesses in on it

“We also reached out to Jenny MacMurdo with the chamber of commerce, and she sent out a blast to the business owners asking them to come outside and wipe down their storefronts and do some sweeping,” and otherwise clean up the outside of their shops, he said. “I saw a handful of them out there.”

Swanson said this week’s cleanup campaign was “a soft launch” of what will become a regular program that relies on participation by many city departments, volunteer groups and property owners.

“Ideally, this would be something we’d do on a regular basis,” he said, whether every three, four or six months. “Hopefully it will grow and get some traction.”

It would also focus on different areas of the city, not just downtown.

But Swanson emphasized that Beautification Weeks will complement everything public works crews do on a daily basis, not supplant it.

This week’s work was well received, according to Swanson.

“People are really appreciative of it,” he said. “I think it’s good public relations, and it’s getting work done, too.”

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# Residents don't have to wear face masks indoors — at least for now

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY residents won't be required to wear masks indoors — at least this week — as the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention continues to rate the county “moderate” for new cases of Covid-19. The county has been in the moderate category for three weeks except for a single day last week of being in the “substantial” tier.

While coronavirus cases have steadily declined since late August, the CDC on Oct. 21 suddenly bumped Monterey County into the “substantial” Covid-19 transmission rate because of a slight increase in cases. A mask mandate OK'd by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors states that “face covering requirements would be triggered seven days after the county’s community transmission rate transitions to substantial or high from moderate or low.” The mask rule would apply to residents 2 years and older.

## Benefits of vaccine

On Oct. 22, the CDC put the county back into the moderate tier, where it has remained ever since. On Thursday afternoon, the CDC said Monterey County’s transmission

rate was 48.84 per 100,000 residents during the week — a number that kept it in the moderate range.

According to the Monterey County Health Department, the case rate is 34.3 per 100,000 residents — substantially lower than the CDC figure. The county also says the test positivity figure, at 2.0 percent, and hospitalizations, at only 10, are decreasing. About 83 percent of county residents 12 and older have gotten at least one dose of the vaccine.

Asked how long Monterey County would likely hover in the low 80th percentile for vaccine coverage, county health officer Dr. Ed Moreno told The Pine Cone, “All I can say is we continue to make progress every week on vaccinating individuals. I think there are still individuals who are hesitant to get the vaccine.”

Moreno speculated that the holdouts will eventually get the shot after they “see the benefits of the vaccine.”

With the holidays and harsher weather approaching, people will likely spending more time indoors, which could lead to an uptick in the number of Covid-19 cases. However, last year, the coronavirus vaccine had not yet been released to the public, which makes it unlikely this

winter’s surge, if it occurs, will be anything like the mega-surge that began in December 2020.

“We do know that last year around this time we started seeing people getting out of their households and mixing with other households,” Moreno said. “But we also had fewer people vaccinated than we do now.”

## Vax deadline looms

The deadline for Monterey County government’s roughly 5,500 employees to show proof they’ve been vaccinated is Sunday, Oct. 31. County supervisors OK'd the vaccine mandate in July.

County spokeswoman Maia Carroll said the vaccination number was slightly better than the 89 percent one week ago.

“The vaccination rate is 90 percent for county employees, with 265 approved exemptions,” Carroll told The Pine Cone Wednesday. “The rate did increase over last week.”

If the vaccination rate stays at 90 percent by the county deadline, it could mean that more than a couple of hundred county government employees without religious or medical exemptions will have not been vaccinated. The county won't reveal in detail how it intends to enforce the mandate and fill job positions made vacant by employees who quit or are fired over the vaccine requirement.

# Youth center hosts Halloween party, so does Links Club

By MARY SCHLEY

IN ADDITION to the City of Carmel’s parade and cupcakes in the park on Halloween, and downtown merchants welcoming trick-or-treaters, a few other celebratory options have arisen for fans of the spookiest holiday of the year.

The Carmel Youth Center on Fourth between Torres and Junipero next to the police station will hold a Halloween party from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29. Kids are encouraged to come in costume, and pizza and snacks will be provided. It’s free for members and \$18 for people who drop in at the last minute.

The youth center, which was the first of some 200 founded by Bing Crosby and is the only one still in existence, is also inviting people to join it in the city’s parade on Oct. 31. To participate, be at the youth center at 3 p.m. to walk in the procession, which is set to begin on Mountain View above Junipero at 4.

Register for both events at [carmelyouth.org](http://carmelyouth.org). For more about the parade and city activities, see [ci.carmel.ca.us](http://ci.carmel.ca.us).

Helping Paws Foundation, which supports all Monterey County veterinary practices to provide financial assistance to clients with pets in need of critical short-term treatment or longer-term care for chronic illness. Max’s Helping Paws has granted more than \$500,000 to help hundreds of local pets.

From noon to 3:30 p.m. on Halloween, the store will donate 10 percent of all sales proceeds to the nonprofit. For more information about the store, call (831) 625-1585 or go to [diggidydog.com](http://diggidydog.com). To learn more about the foundation, go to [maxshelpingpaws.org](http://maxshelpingpaws.org).

## Links Club

Links Club, located in Carmel Plaza, is offering Birdies & Boos Saturday and Sunday nights, Oct. 30-31, from 7 to 11 p.m. for “adults looking for a fun place to show off their costumes and hang out in a safe environment.” Links Club has several golf simulator bays, as well as big-screen TVs, drinks and food.

Links Club will also take part in the city’s festivities with a Birthday Boo Bash for families from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Halloween following the parade down Ocean Avenue. Prizes will be given for the Best Family Costumes, Spookiest Costume and Cutest Costume, among others. The party is free and will include games and food specials, as well as treats for trick-or-treaters.

For information and reservations, go to [linksclubgolf.com](http://linksclubgolf.com) or call (831) 625-7816.

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# LIGHTS

From page 1A

ing impacts on parking, traffic, light and noise in their neighborhoods surrounding the 80-year-old campus.

Resident Fran Dillard has led the charge against the lights, and at the Oct. 27 meeting, she reminded board members that they “are elected officials of the broader community.”

“We are going to hold you guys accountable to do your job,” she said. “Right now, it feels like you’ve rubber stamped the approval of a pretty weak and reckless” environmental impact report on the lighting project that’s also legally vulnerable.

Dillard also took on the board of education as a whole. “You have proven by your track record that you are a dysfunctional board that continues to flounder, with no record of success,” she said.

Residents and business owners are concerned about the impacts of the lights and nighttime activities on parking in the neighborhoods, which is a safety issue, according to Dillard. She also accused the parents, students and others who support the lights of ageism.

“Perhaps we do seem like silly, old, disconnected people,” she said. “I believe the sentiment in your online petition was, ‘F old people.’ Instead of trying to drown out our voices, can you guys meet us halfway for a productive discussion? These are really serious issues.”

Her husband, John Dillard, said the residents could “hold this up for a few years in court,” and that he hopes the students will learn a lesson about “social responsibility” by considering the future impacts of installing the lights and drawing hundreds more people to the area at night.

Student athlete and CHS senior Addie Crabbe, who is also ASB vice president, spoke on behalf of the “Let There be Lights

Campaign” and observed that school spirit has been lackluster at CHS, especially compared to other local schools that host Friday night games.

“I’ve gone to other ‘Friday Night Light’ games at neighboring schools, and it’s sad to say the amount of connectivity and school spirit in their student sections would be a foreign experience to most of the students here,” she said.

### ‘With a vengeance’

Other students, mostly those involved in school government and athletics, made similar comments and pleaded for support for the proposal, as did several school staffers, coaches and parents.

Coaches in particular noted that without the lights, CHS athletic teams that play in the winter will have far less time to practice than their opponents, and that they need adequate time to warm up and cool down in order to train safely.

Longtime Carmel High English teacher Hans Schmidt said that if he were in charge, and if he were to be voted off the school board for making a decision that benefited the culture of the school and its students, “I would do it every time, and I

would do it with a vengeance.”

Principal Jonathan Lyons praised the students for speaking out and participating in the process.

Dozens of people spoke for and against the lights over the course of nearly an hour-and-a-half, even though the lights weren’t on the board’s agenda.

After public comment closed, superintendent Ted Knight complimented everyone for avoiding personal attacks and for respecting each other.

“I really want to acknowledge the students that we saw tonight,” he said. “For all of us who are educators, this is why we come to work — this is what we want to see.”

He also provided an update on the draft EIR and the process, noting that comments and concerns will be addressed in the final EIR, which is set to be released in December.

“The draft EIR is not supposed to be perfect, I don’t believe, or it wouldn’t be a draft,” he said.

“By the end of this meeting, most people wanted some type of a collaborative solution, and I think we’re moving toward that,” he added.

## Fighter jets and cherry cars at Salinas Airshow

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE CALIFORNIA International Airshow will be staged at Salinas Airport Oct. 30-31, featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds jet demonstration team and two F-35 fighter jets — a rare sight even on the airshow circuit — along with a number of other acts.

And this year, Cherrys Jubilee will show off historic cars along the flight line, too.

The addition will give aficionados the “unique opportunity for participants to showcase and ‘cruise’ their classic cars, trucks and motorcycles on the airport’s flight line in front of thousands of airshow

spectators,” according to organizers.

Several aerobatic performers and a sky diver are on the schedule, and on the ground, a dragster, monster trucks and a jet truck will add to the action — and noise. Static displays of private and military aircraft, activities, and vendors selling food, drink, souvenirs and memorabilia round out the entertainment.

In the past four decades, the airshow has raised more than \$8 million for local charities, and tickets run from \$20 to \$55.

A Friday night party is planned, too, for \$150 per person, with food, drink, a mini airshow, fireworks, music and dancing.

For more information and tickets, go to salinasairshow.com.

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# COMMITTEE

From page 7A

Tuesday, there should have been 10 candidates for the board to consider but there were only eight were on the agenda. The board voted to pass through two of them.

“I look forward to having a more robust discussion” when the full list of candidates appears before the supervisors, Adams said.

Because she wants the process done “correctly rather than quickly,” Adams said it could take more than a week for the item to return to the board for consideration.

### ‘More diversity needed’

Apart from the two nominees of color who were unintentionally left off the list, Fourth District Supervisor Wendy Root Askew said she was concerned about the general “lack of racial, gender and generational diversity,” of the candidates — most of whom are White — and said she wanted a “diverse and forward-thinking” list of candidates when the board revisits the topic.

First District Supervisor Luis Alejo agreed with Askew, and he called for a “diverse pool of candidates” to reflect the “different constituencies in our county.”

“Although the people on this list are good nominees, I

think we can just do better” with more diverse representation, Alejo said.

Former Pebble Beach Company CEO Bill Perocchi has been nominated to represent finance on the committee. Other candidates for the panel include Monterey County Farm Bureau executive director Norm Groot, construction business owner Don Chapin and Portola Hotel & Spa general manager Janine Chicourrat.

The purpose of the committee, according to the county, is to advise the board of supervisors “on appropriate

economic development policies, programs and activities to ensure a countywide perspective in support of a diversified economy, higher paying jobs and an expanded revenue base for local government services, while preserving and protecting the county’s agricultural, tourism and education economic base in collaboration with cities.”

Candidates for the positions must reside in, own a business located in, or be employed in Monterey County. Applicants are asked to answer numerous questions, including disclosing their ethnicity and gender.

# SOLAR

From page 8A

are numerous and will give our students another distinctive learning opportunity.”

Two York seniors — Juliet Oliver and Alan Yang — have already jumped at the opportunity to do some research. In their project overview, Oliver and Yang wrote that they plan to compare how well the different panels around the campus work, including those mounted on the tracker, and accurately assess their efficiency and effectiveness.


Pflegger said she believes that many students and faculty will find inspiration and opportunities for research in the newly installed technology.

# RENTAL


From page 6A

The leader of the local short term rental group said only about 20 short term rental operators in inland areas have gone to the trouble of getting a permit because the process is “so onerous, so costly, so uncertain and so lengthy.”

Matthews also said that while the county once insisted it would only target “nuisance” operators while it works through the lengthy processing of developing an ordinance, the county’s enforcement effort contradicts that.



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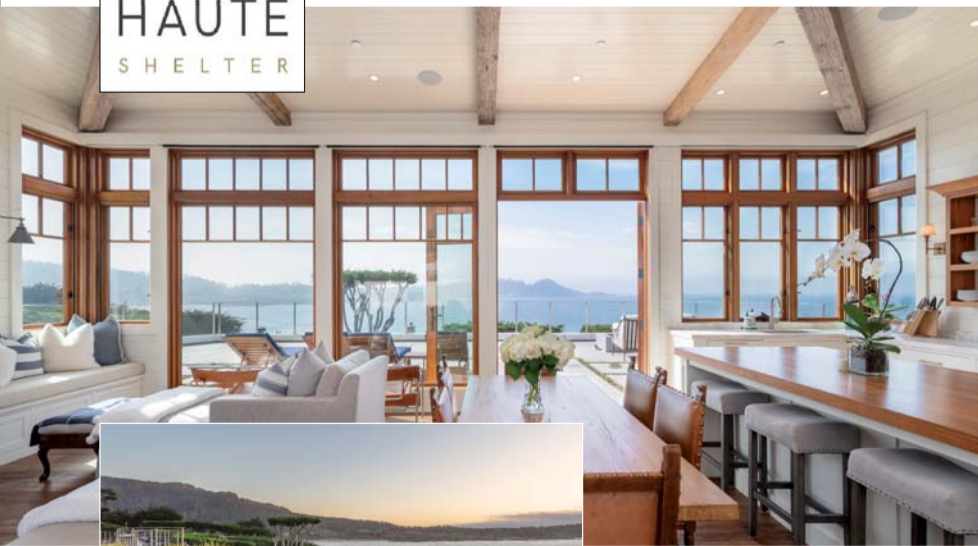


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# LETTERS

From page 20A

tion is not Jewish at all.

The mockery displayed by the cartoon is offensive. The Pine Cone owes its readers an apology.

**Irwin Speizer, Susan Spiegel, Carmel**

*Editor's note: The Pine Cone's "Police Log" cartoons are based on actual emergency calls which our artist then humorously illustrates with Hollywood themes. The drawing of ultra-Orthodox Jews used last week to depict the Israeli hikers was inspired by several sources, including the Netflix series, "Unorthodox" and the 1971 Hollywood film, "Fiddler on the Roof." It was intended to be affectionate, and we apologize for any offense.*

## Names on ad?

Dear Editor,

A full-page advertisement (Friday Night Lights) written from the shadows of anonymity by "concerned Carmel residents," closes with a request for transparency from school board members and school leaders. What's good for the goose is good for the gander. If you can't put your names on it, don't print it.

**Mark O'Shea, Carmel Highlands**

## 'People live here'

Dear Editor,

In 1967, my sister was sent home from Carmel High

School for wearing culottes which went to the top of her knees. At times I don't think we have made much progress since then.

As a 1975 graduate, former cheerleader and mascot at Carmel High, I have to respond to the full-page ad regarding the lights at the football field.

First off, I would love to know how many full-time residents even live on Highway 1 or the adjacent road which these lights would impact.

The school is situated on a major highway! It is the highway that people travel to get to Big Sur and travel to Southern California or drive up to San Francisco! Do you see and hear the traffic on any given weekend? It is backed up all the way to Monterey. You live by a high school. There are certain aspects of noise and traffic when one lives next to a school.

There is this constant theme in Carmel to keep it "quaint and charming," which it has somewhat maintained throughout the years, but then again has lost part of its soul of what it once was. Those of us attending our 46th reunion just last weekend reminisced about when Kip's Market was on Ocean, the hardware store with the scale outside to weigh yourself for a penny, the sandal shop, The Creamery, Dick Bruin, Raggets, McCloud's, Sprouse-Reitz, and the list goes on and on. What replaced them? Art galleries for the most part.

What seems to be forgotten is that Carmel is a town. Not just a tourist destination but a town with families that share a community with everyone who lives here. At times, I believe this is forgotten, and the lights are just one more opportunity for the area to lose a sense of community.

**Susan Elwood, Monterey**

## Flooding due diligence

Dear Editor,

People buy or build a house in a floodplain near not only a lagoon but a river and the ocean, yet the county (a.k.a. the taxpayer) is responsible for flood damage? How is that possible? Sounds to me like someone didn't do their due diligence. Just saying.

**James Nazzium, Carmel Valley**

## 'Honored'

Dear Editor,

You printed a wonderful front-page article last week about the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony honoring Chinese American Veterans of World War II. What a set of coincidences! I just happened to sit next to Don Woo and I was presented my late father, Philip Tong Woo's, medal, and Don followed for his late father, Philip Wing Woo. Our fathers have the same name, both served in the Army Air Corps, and we both live in Carmel by-the-Sea. Like Don, I am also a Vietnam Vet, serving as a medic for 14 months in 1968 and 1969.

My late father Philip passed in 2002. He grew up in Denver and, prior to the war, was an Army munitions inspector. He served as sergeant, Technical Air Intelligence, in New Guinea and the Philippines from 1943 to 1945. His unit was detached and operated independently with photo IDs and special orders to acquire and analyze Japanese aircraft using his Kanji language and engineering skills. He served with mixed services members, including the U.S. Navy, RAF, Aussie and Kiwis. After the war, he was a civil engineer for Caltrans and the San Francisco Port Authority.

I am blessed to have my father, Philip Tong Woo, so honored for his service. I am also blessed to live in Carmel since 1991.

**William Willard Woo, Carmel**

# ROBBERY

From page 1A

a man had injured his arm when he fell while running away.

Sheriff's deputies immediately put out the call for neighboring law enforcement agencies to station cars at major highway intersections and off-ramps in hopes of catching the robbers, though officers didn't know what to look for, since they had apparently switched vehicles.

### Help wanted

The FBI and the sheriff's office are conducting a joint investigation, but the sheriff's office referred all questions to the feds, who confirmed the basic details of the robbery and reiterated that those responsible are still at large, armed and dangerous.

"At approximately 9:20 a.m., three armed subjects entered the bank. All three subjects were masked and wore dark clothing, dark hooded sweatshirts, and gloves," the FBI said in a statement. The three got away with "an undisclosed amount of money" from the bank. Investigators did not say whether they believe the robbers were male or female.

"One gunshot was fired by a subject within the bank, but no injuries were sustained as a result of that gunshot," the statement continued. "Two victims sustained injuries at the scene and were later treated and released from a local hospital."

The federal agency sent special agents and an evidence response team to interview witnesses and gather information and other clues that might lead them to those responsible, but the FBI did not reveal any leads or release any surveillance images.

After Martis returned from the bank, he and Cpl. Rachelle Lightfoot "contacted all of our banks to be on alert and to contact us immediately should they see or hear anything suspicious in nature," Watkins said.

The FBI and the sheriff's office are asking anyone with information or who might have seen anything to contact them at tips.fbi.gov, (415) 553-7400 or montereysheriff.org, and noted that "all tips can remain anonymous."

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## SKINCARE

From page 1A

the organization has received 40 complaints since April 2016, with the most recent one made earlier this month. Nine of them “said they would never come back to Carmel” due to the experience, she said.

“The most frequent complaint is that the behavior of the salespeople is aggressive, intimidating and unethical, and they were conned into believing they were purchasing a product that would work as well as or better than plastic surgery,” she said. “Often, once home, they discover that the product they purchased was nothing like the product that was used on them in the store,” with a different color, odor or results, and “in some cases, they received an empty box with no product at all.”

## WORD

From page 1A

guage in the classroom that could be considered discriminatory or harmful to any group of people, even if the language originates from a source which is beyond reproach.

“We understand that words have power, and it is our intention and our responsibility to ensure that all of our students and their families feel safe and comfortable in our classrooms and schools,” according to the district, which went on to say that it takes seriously its responsibility to “make certain our school culture is one where students can thrive.”

Porras said “Letter from Birmingham Jail” and other reading material with potentially offensive language would still be available at the high school for students to read themselves.

### Equity Plan

In the same note to parents, PGUSD said it would roll out a new “equity plan” for the district. While the document is still being drafted, Porras said it would offer, among other things, more guidance for teachers with regard to racial and gender issues.

For instance, “Pacific Grove has a pretty long history of Chinese-American people, and it would be relevant to talk more about that in our instruction to students,” Porras explained. “We want to work more on how we train our teachers on addressing issues of racism and color and gender and equity.”

The plan has been in the works for several years and was not prompted by the P.G. High teacher’s use of the forbidden word or any other incident.

The district is partnering with the Monterey County Office of Education’s equity division, which is working with a “state and national group” on the equity plan, Porras said.

The document will be unveiled at the Nov. 18 school board meeting, and Porras said the district welcomes input from students and parents.

## TRIAL

From page 5A

one of the jurors sleeping,” Hennessey said, and the attorney identified him as a man who lives in North Monterey County and was seated in the jury box. (Due to Covid, jurors were also spread throughout the gallery in the courtroom.)

“Miller said the juror worked nights and arrived late for court that day,” Hennessey said in the declaration. “Shortly after the session began, the juror fell asleep.”

Miller told the investigator she pointed out the napping man to Hood, “who had admonished prospective jurors that sleeping during the trial was unacceptable,” and the judge “called the juror into his chambers and again stressed that he had to be attentive in court.”

### Stand in a corner

On July 19, she interviewed bailiff Donovan Gonzales, who also told her “there was a male juror in the jury box who was falling asleep,” and that Hood spoke to the man on the record but outside the presence of the rest of the jury.

Further, Hennessey said Gonzales told her about another instance in the second week of the trial in which a female juror seated in the gallery fell asleep, and the bailiff “quietly approached the woman and suggested if she needed to fight off her drowsiness, she could stand in one of the rear corners.”

Two of Sampognaro’s aunts who said they attended each day of the trial also told Hennessey they saw a male juror “who frequently slept during testimony.”

Sampognaro, who is accused of shooting his father to death following a fight over a car, remains in Monterey County Jail without bail.

Receipts are stamped with “all sales final,” which leaves them little recourse. “Once you walk out their door with product in your hand, it is your word against theirs,” Book said.

She quoted several of the complaints, including one from a woman who spent nearly \$1,800 and later realized she’d been scammed, and another who was charged \$324 for a product that was supposed to cost \$299 — and then discovered the vial was empty. She told the chamber she had been planning a wedding here, but “now I feel so grossed out and bothered, I am not sure I wish to ever return.”

According to the city’s code enforcement officer, Bo Grunde, since January, a half-dozen people have lodged official complaints reporting solicitation of sales outside the business and use of high-pressure sales tactics.

In September, a customer told police that after visiting one of the stores on Ocean east of Monte Verde, she discovered the syringe of eye cream she’d bought was empty, but she was unable to get through via telephone.

The officer “made contact with the business, and they said they would follow up with the customer and send her a new one.”

### City response

In response to the complaints and concerns, the city has tightened some of its rules for skincare stores — including requiring a higher level of review by the planning commission before a new one can open, since previously, they obtained business licenses without any public hearings — and has cracked down on employees soliciting on the sidewalk. But no one can enforce the rules all the time, MacMurdo noted.

The chamber has tried to address the problem from a different angle by forming a Carmel-by-the-Sea Commercial Property Owners Group. “We wanted to get to the property owners to tell them about these bad business practices,” she said, and to encourage them to better screen their tenants.

“They don’t have the integrity that we expect from our

retailers here,” she said of the skincare businesses. “We are trying to get to the people who are leasing to these companies, because they clearly are not going to much effort to scrutinize them.”

Many commercial property owners aren’t local and have no real connection to town, and since these tenants pay their rent, their landlords remain unconcerned about their day-to-day practices, according to MacMurdo.

The owner of the building on Ocean east of Dolores that has been occupied by a succession of skincare stores, Jason Spaits, lives in Rocklin, for instance. It’s there that Ezra Chen is seeking permission from the city to open Carmel Boutique, according to documents filed in April and July. But it appears only the name and operator are changing, since the store layout Chen submitted is exactly the same document that was provided with the first application for a store there in 2015. Chen formerly had Royal Bee, which also carried skincare products and gave out samples at the door — drawing rebuke from city officials — on Dolores Street, but it closed during the pandemic.

According to Chen’s July 22 email to city planner Evan Kort, Carmel Boutique will focus on “the retail sale and display of skin and beauty products, including but not limited to the ‘Selected skin care cosmetics’ skin care and beauty products, spa products, fragrances, cosmetics and other related accessories and such other skin and beauty products as sold from time to time from tenant’s catalogs, website or tenant’s other retail locations, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever. Tenant shall be permitted to perform facials on its customers and to hand out samples of its products.”

In the handwritten application Chen submitted in April, under “business description,” he wrote, “skin care product, soaps, bath bomb.”

Chen’s application was initially scheduled to be considered by the planning commission at its October meeting but is now set for a hearing Nov. 10.

MacMurdo said the chamber’s interest is in ensuring commercial tenants will “be an asset to the village and not take away from the character.”

## Francis Gillmore Blinks

(1931 - 2021)

Francis Blinks passed peacefully from this earth on October 14, 2021, surrounded by her loving sons and family. If you knew her, you’re going to miss her.

Francis was born in Fort Sill, Oklahoma on Flag Day, June 14, 1931, to William and Marion Gillmore. William was a star athlete for the West Point football and boxing teams (USMA 1925), and Marion was a spirited outdoors woman from Kansas. As an Army daughter, Francie traveled the world with her parents and sister Betty. She was always deservedly proud of being an Army daughter, an Army wife, and an Army mother. There was a heartbeat of service to country, family and friends that permeates her life and her stories.

Francie graduated from Carmel High School (1948), and the University of Oregon, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa (1953), where she became a lifelong member of the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority. Following college graduation she married the charming Michael J. Lally, Jr. As a young Army Lieutenant, Mike and Francie began their Army life together in Fort Benning, Georgia and were blessed with sons Michael, William, and Robert. The Lally family lived on various Army posts in the United States and did overseas tours in Germany, Korea and Panama.

Francie became a widow in 1987 and returned to Carmel. She worked as a bank teller for Wells Fargo. During that time she met and married her next love in life, MG Autrey Maroun (USMA 1935). Autrey was well loved by the family. In 1994, he and Francie traveled to France as the guests of honor for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the liberation of Thionville where in 1944 Autrey led his troops through the streets as they liberated the town from German occupation. They had 19 years of happiness together at their home in Pebble Beach. Some years after Autrey’s passing it was karma that she reunited with and married her Carmel High School classmate, Dr. John Blinks. John was a world-renowned oceanographer with a warm and loving family who became part of our own.

Francie was quite a woman in her own right. She was well loved and respected for her warm personality, infectious smile, kindness, and leadership within the community. She was an accomplished pianist with a beautiful voice, and her playing and singing were the highlight of many a party. Most requested was her performance of “God Bless America.” She was a member of the Sunset School orchestra, served several years on the Monterey Peninsula Symphony Guild, and was a volunteer and board member of the Carmel Bach Festival. In her younger years, Francie was active with the American Red Cross. During her years in Washington D.C. she served as the President of the Army Officer’s Wives Club of the Greater Washington Area, and was a dedicated member of the Arlington Ladies at Ft. Myer, VA. She also served as an Army Community Service representative in many of the locations she lived as an Army wife. Her other volunteer associations included The Colonial Dames where she served as historian for many years, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and PEO. She was an active member of The Church in the Forest, and served on the board for six years. Those of you who know Francie, also know she was an avid golfer who just a few weeks ago made four birdies in a single round at the Monterey Peninsula Country Club Shore Course. She enjoyed many happy times at MPCC and her friendships with both members and staff were a valued treasure. Francie was Captain of the Women’s Golf Association in 1995. Additionally, she served with honor as the President of the Senior Women’s Golf Association for nine years.

Francie was a thoughtful, generous, and wise matriarch embodying the three “E’s” of Energy, Enthusiasm, and Empathy. She encouraged us to consider life as a school where there is always something to learn. She always looked forward to walks along the beach, playing the piano with friends and get-togethers with her book club.

To her daughters-in-law, she was always Mom. To her sons, she was always the light in their eyes. To her grandchildren she was their loving Gommy. We will remember her as someone who loved to sing, laugh and play. We hope you will too.

Francie is survived by her three sons and spouses, Mike (Jennifer), Bill (Kathleen), and Bob (Katie) and her grandchildren, Stephanie, Rachel, Tracey, BJ (Jaclyn), Elizabeth (James) and Bobby, as well as great-grandchildren, Merrick and Jerome.

A memorial service and celebration of her life will be held at Church in the Forest at 1 p.m. on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. At a future date she will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Francie’s family would like to thank all her good friends who made her life full and happy. In lieu of flowers, donations in Francie’s honor may be made to The Carmel Bach Festival, Inc. at P.O. Box 575, Carmel, CA. 93921. Please visit [www.ThePaulMortuary.com](http://www.ThePaulMortuary.com) to sign Francie’s guestbook and leave messages for her family. Cards may be mailed to the care of Bill Lally, P.O. Box 476, Pebble Beach, CA 93953.



## RESORT

From page 3A

earlier plans included a spa and other amenities, but those were eliminated, and all parking will be above ground.

“The original plan had a basement with a spa and a pool and all that. We gave that up because of water and trees,” he said. “There’s no underground parking, and it’s not that big a project.”

Unlike with the hotel proposal, people at the meeting didn’t bring up many questions or concerns about the homes that will be built on the eight lots on Guadalupe, according to Miller. “The houses aren’t that much of an issue, because they are single-family residences and go through planning separately,” he said. “Ninety percent of the questions were about the hotel.”

### Make it better

The architect said he’s grateful for the feedback he’s gotten so far and is working to incorporate suggestions and address the issues. He said he has a list of everyone who attended the meeting at La Playa and will invite them, as well as the public at large, to the post-Thanksgiving session at Sunset Center.

“I’m going to reveal the solutions that do make a lot of sense and make the project better,” he said. “We always incorporate those. And the ones we really can’t change, we try to address those.”

Former planning commissioner Ian Martin attended the meeting and said he felt Miller “listened and made a sincere effort to solicit feedback from the community.”

Martin also said he thinks there shouldn’t even be a hotel on the property and would rather see all 16 lots used for housing. He praised Miller’s contemporary designs interspersed with more traditional concepts.

“The overall effect is varied and eclectic — just what we should have,” he said. “The variety he’s proposing allayed my fears that this was going to feel like a tract house development with economy of scale being the driving design motivation.”

### ‘Ditch the hotel’

But the hotel rooms might be a deal breaker, he said. “I do not predict a smooth ride for its approval process.”

Many at the meeting seemed skeptical of the hotel project, according to Martin, who questioned whether the property owner should be allowed to demolish the old cabins while retaining the right to build new hotel units there. The zoning for the property is single-family residential, with the hotel use grandfathered in.

“The developers will have a much smoother ride if they ditch the hotel and do all residential instead,” he said. “I don’t see anyone turning out to support the hotel notion — even with significant revisions.”

Martin speculated that pushback could mean the little cabins there now will be around a while, “and to many people in this community, that’s a great outcome.”

## GAVEL

From page 4A

around a large number of \$100 bills.

On Jan. 29, the defendant participated in an armed robbery during which he and a group of other co-participants approached the victim as he walked home and demanded his valuables. While another co-participant brandished a firearm at the victim, the defendant took the victim’s cell phone.

The Honorable Judge Carrie Panetta will sentence the defendant to 10 years in state prison. The defendant’s plea to residential burglary constitutes his second “strike” under California’s three strikes law.



### Robert Arthur Slaughter

9/13/1962 — 9/1/2021

Former Carmel resident, Robert (Bobby) Slaughter, 58, passed away unexpectedly in his sleep from cardiac arrest on Sept. 1, 2021, in Glassboro, New Jersey.

Bobby was born in Boston, MA to former Carmel resident Sandra Gunter (nee Shager) on September 13, 1962. Bobby, his mother and older sister, Roxanne, settled back in Carmel, CA with his adopted father, Robert Slaughter, when he was 4 years old. Bobby attended Carmel Woods School, Carmel Middle School, Carmel High School, and Carmel Valley High School.

Bobby was active in sports in his youth playing baseball in middle school and football in high school and junior college. He was a defensive linebacker on the Carmel High School Padres’ team. Bobby continued to play football at Hartnell Community College in Salinas. The highlight of his time playing football and one of his proudest achievements in the sport was being a part of the Hartnell football team that won the State Community College Football Championship in 1980.

Bobby loved to make people laugh (including himself) and had a fun-loving, good-hearted nature. Bobby made friends easily and maintained a number of his childhood friendships throughout his life. Due to Bobby’s gregarious nature, Bobby was someone who never met a stranger. He affectionately called old friends and new friends, “Pardner” or “Darlin.” Bobby could be a prankster with his friends and family, but somehow, he managed to make those that he pranked feel like they were in on the joke. Bobby appreciated the simple pleasures in life and proudly considered himself to be “easily amused”, whether that was playing his guitar barefoot outside, growing vegetables in his garden, or enjoying the company of friends and animals.

As an adult Bobby lived in California and Nevada, but spent most of his time living in the South, having been introduced to the region by his stepfather, Tom Gunter. Bobby learned construction skills from his father, Robert, and grandfather, Grant Shager. He used these skills working construction jobs throughout his life while living in California, Nevada, Tennessee and New Jersey.

Bobby’s love of music was a constant in his life, particularly country music. He had a passion for writing songs and playing guitar. Bobby found himself most at home in the state of Tennessee living in the country and in Nashville. He spent many years playing open mic venues around Nashville working on his songwriting and performing skills.

Bobby was a true animal lover of all types of animals, but particularly dogs. He had many dog companions over the years that enriched his life. During periods in his life when he didn’t own a dog, neighborhood dogs would find Bobby and they would become fast friends.

Bobby will be dearly missed by his mother, Sandra Gunter; his sisters: Roxanne, Crissy and Jenny Slaughter; his stepfather Tom Gunter; his aunt Sylvia Forbes; his stepmother Jennifer Slaughter; his stepsisters: Mary Hammock, Dawn Gunter M.D., Wynn Dickenson, and Courtney Walters; and the many friends (two-legged and four-legged) that he made throughout his life. He is predeceased by his beloved family members including his grandparents, Grant and Lanore Shager; and his father, Robert Slaughter.

Bobby always said that his happiest moments were spent with his family (including pets) and his friends, playing music for them and watching football. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Monterey County S.P.C.A (www.spcamc.org).

A memorial service for Bobby will take place in Carmel. Details are pending.

## LEILANI EVERITT GRINOLD

1941-2021

After recently celebrating her 80th birthday, Leilani died on October 12, 2021, after a courageous multi-year battle against cancer. To her family and friends, no one was a greater ally than Leilani Grinold. She never judged, or gave unsolicited advice. She was just there, in your corner, no matter what. She left behind an unfillable void.

Leilani was born in San Francisco on the 15th of August, 1941, to Dexter Everitt of North Carolina and Rosita Bondanza Everitt of El Salvador. Leilani was the second of five children. Her unusual name came from the 1937 hit song, “Sweet Leilani,” although an alternative backstory has it that her name was a tribute to her dad’s Hawaiian girl friend from his time in the Navy during the 1930s.

Leilani was raised on Prague Street in the Excelsior District of San Francisco where she attended Saint John’s Ursuline High School. She entered the University of California, Berkeley, in fall of 1959 as a member of the class of 1963. Things did not go exactly to plan. She took time off from school to marry Clinton Bidwell and have three children, Greg, Brett, and Hilary Bidwell. After spending time in New York and Los Angeles with her young children, Leilani returned to Cal and graduated with the class of 1968.

Her marriage to Mr. Bidwell ended in divorce and she settled down in Healdsburg, CA to raise Greg, Brett, and Hilary. While in Healdsburg she owned and operated a children’s toy store on Healdsburg Plaza. She also had a small vineyard and sold old vine zinfandel grapes to several of the local wine makers.

When Leilani’s nest was empty, she moved to the Bay Area and took a job in the personal trust department of Wells Fargo. At a UC Berkeley event in March 1983 she met Richard Grinold who was a professor at Cal at the time. Richard and Leilani married in June 1988. Leilani spent her time as a volunteer at the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens and as a supervisor of a never ending series of house remodeling projects in Oakland, Piedmont, and eventually Pebble Beach. She would frequently take a deep dive into an eclectic series of topics: Cervantes, Native American history and culture, volcanoes, Freeborn John Lilburne the 17th century Leveler, the 14th century Black Death, the Roman Empire, and, most recently, the modern history of Israel.

She was physically active. She ran in the ‘70s and ‘80s and completed a half marathon in 1986. She was a member of the Oakland Barracuda Masters Swim Club from 1993 to 2005 and with various levels of enthusiasm braved the dark and cold to dive into the pool at 5:30 a.m.

Above all, Leilani loved children and that love was returned. She was happiest in their company and that happiness peaked on Christmas morning when she and the children open her masterfully curated presents.

Leilani is survived by her husband Richard; her four siblings, Albert, June, Linda and Dexter; her children, Greg, Brett and Hilary; her step-children, John and Kathleen Grinold; seven grandchildren and four step-grandchildren. On Christmas morning, they will gather together to remember her, while opening their more conventionally wrapped Christmas presents.

To sign Leilani’s guest book and leave messages for her family, please visit [www.thepaulmortuary.com](http://www.thepaulmortuary.com).



## Obituary Notices

Let us help you pay tribute to your loved one with an affordable obituary in The Carmel Pine Cone. For more information please contact: Anne Papineau (831) 274-8654 [anne@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:anne@carmelpinecone.com)

## Miniatures return to museum — online and in-person

OFFERING EVEN amateur collectors a chance to win a piece of fine art, the Monterey Museum of Art this week unveiled its annual fundraising Miniatures show, which will be conducted this year in person and online. Due to Covid, last year's show was just done online.

"This is my eighth Miniatures exhibition with the museum, and while the exhibition changed over the years, a few things are always the same," the museum's Roxanne

donation to the museum, and let the museum know what piece or pieces you like. You can make as many donations as you choose. A drawing will be done at the close of the show to determine who wins each piece. Proceeds from the show will help pay for the museum's exhibits and programs.

The show continues through Dec. 19.

Also on display are shows by Japanese-American artists ("Shadows from the Past: Sansei Artists and the American Concentration Camps") and photographer Karen Halverson ("Trees, Chairs, and Power Lines").

The museum is located at 559 Pacific St. Visit [monte-reyart.org](http://monte-reyart.org).

## Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

O'Weger said. She looks forward to seeing "old friends during drop off and hearing the stories behind submissions, the pride of showing off the work of our talented community of members in the galleries, and the excitement from lucky winners who get to take home a new work of art."

O'Weger said the exhibit showcases the local art scene, and will likely encourage others to explore their own creative impulses. "It's not only a great opportunity to introduce visitors to the work of local artists, but I've seen it inspire people to start their own collection, jump back into making art, and join the museum."

To win something in the show, you need to make a

### ■ 'Creative Women II'

The spotlight falls on female artists this month at Gallery MAR Carmel, where "Creative Women II" opens Friday.

Owner Thomas Cushman came up with the idea for the show because he was meeting so many women who were asking him to exhibit their works.

"It seems like a niche that needed to be filled," Cushman told The Pine Cone.

Included in the show are pieces by Amie Aamodt, Eliza-

See **ART** page 23A



### Gertrude 'Trudie' Johnson McEwen

Gertrude Jean Ernestine Johnson McEwen passed away on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at her home at Carmel Valley Manor. She was one month shy of 97 years old.

Gertrude "Trudie" Johnson was born in Oak Park, Illinois, the second child of Ruth Sabin and Harvey Johnson. She had fond memories of summers on her family farm in Wyoming and with family in Wisconsin and Michigan. She attended Milwaukee-Downer College and graduated with a degree in Home Economics in 1946.

Following graduation, she asked for a one-way ticket to San Francisco where she joined the Macy's Department Store as an assistant buyer. It was there that she met a customer, William "Bill" Kirk McEwen, and love quickly blossomed. She and Bill were married July 1, 1947. Bill was the associate professor and principal research scientist at the Francis I. Proctor Foundation at U.C. San Francisco Medical Center. They raised four daughters at their home in Berkeley, CA. The premature birth and subsequent blindness of their second child kindled their passion in education and they worked to ensure that blind children were successfully integrated into the public school systems. Trudie was also very active in the PTA, Children's Hospital of the East Bay, and PEO.

In 1962, Bill took a sabbatical to teach in England. The family flew around the world and visited Asia and parts of Europe. The family spent five months in Oxford, England and the children went to Greycoats School. Trudie volunteered in the primary classroom.

Trudie received her teaching credentials in 1969 and her master's degree in 1977 in education with a specialty in reading. She worked for the Oakland Public Schools as an elementary teacher and then a reading resource specialist.

When Bill retired, they moved to Carmel in 1977 and she started the Sabin-McEwen school, a state certified non-profit for children with reading disabilities. She was active in the honorary teacher organization, Delta Kappa Gamma, where she held many positions. She ran the school for approximately ten years. Many children from the Monterey area benefited from Trudie's support and education.

Bill passed in 1984 and Trudie retired shortly thereafter. She spent her retirement years traveling, visiting friends, and having fun with her grandchildren. Her passion for education continued and she supported the educational efforts of the Monterey Bay Aquarium. She moved to Carmel Valley Manor in 2003. She enjoyed the activities and lifelong friendship she made there. Her kindness was her hallmark and the staff adored her.

She is survived by her four daughters, Sandy Savage (Jack), Jan Brown (Talmadge Wells), Ellen McEwen (Tom LeDuc), and Laura McEwen (Jim Falls); her three grandchildren, Eric Savage (Jenn Seibly), Brian Savage (Katie Kelley) and Jade Falls; her three great grandchildren, Colin Savage, Sylvia Savage, and Miranda Savage; her niece Margie Kerksieck and nephew Jim Johnson.

A private memorial will be held at a later date.

Remembrances can be posted at [www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/10413951](http://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/10413951)

Donations in her memory can be made to the educational efforts of the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

## DR. LAWRENCE 'LARRY' CHEWNING BLAIR

(Col. US Army, Ret.)

1930-2021



Dr. Lawrence "Larry" Chewning Blair (Col. US Army, Ret.) devoted husband and loving father, grandfather, and great grandfather, passed away peacefully at his home in Monterey, CA surrounded by his children on September 8, 2021. He was 90 years old. Larry is survived by his five children: Three daughters,

Jennifer Blair Hagan (Douglas) of Encinitas, Melissa Blair Aliotti (John) of Sacramento, and Stephanie Blair Silacci (Dennis) of Morgan Hill; and two sons, Timothy Blair (Katherine) of Los Angeles and Jonathan Blair of Sacramento. He is also survived by six grandchildren, Andrew Cummins (Catherine) and Matthew Cummins (Alyssa), Madeline and Elise Aliotti, and Lauren and William Blair; and two great-grandchildren, Henry Cummins, and Carmela Cummins. He also leaves behind his beloved sister and only remaining sibling, Sue Blair Barta of Virginia.

Born September 25, 1930, in the small coal mining town of Gary, West Virginia, Larry was the fourth of five children, all of whom left Gary to pursue college and advanced degrees. Always an excellent student, Larry received his bachelor's degree from the University of West Virginia, to which he remained a loyal sports fan his entire life. Larry earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He met his wife, Margaret "Gita" Helen Perry, while he was an intern at Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia where she was a patient. Having been drafted into the Army during the Doctors' Draft of the Korean War, Larry and Gita were stationed all over the world with assignments including Honolulu, Hawaii; Chitose, Japan; Boston, Massachusetts; Washington D.C. (twice); Frankfurt, Germany; and finally, Monterey, CA. Larry completed his surgical and thoracic surgical residencies in his two tours at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Dr. Blair also served in Vietnam where he commanded the Army Hospital in Saigon and several MUST hospitals in forward deployment. A decorated Army officer,

Dr. Blair received the Bronze Star and twice was awarded the Legion of Merit. Upon his return stateside, and after rising to the rank of Lt. Col., Dr. Blair was assigned as Deputy Commander of Silas B. Hays Army Hospital at Fort Ord in 1973. Two years later, he was promoted to full Colonel and assumed the role of Commander of the Hospital. Despite offers of further promotion, Larry declined advancing his career in order to keep the family on their beloved Monterey Peninsula. Dr. Blair continued in command at Hays for eight years before retiring from the Army in 1983. After his military service Larry served as a physician with the State of California for ten years.

Beyond his career, Larry was a devoted father and grandfather and despite endless days (and sometimes nights) in the operating room or tending to his other duties, he made it to most of his children's and grandchildren's athletic and artistic events. Larry, often referred to by the coaches as simply "Doc," could be found in any autumn of the late 1970s and early 1980s pacing the sidelines of Monterey High School football games, watching for the occasional dislocated shoulder or suspected concussion. Later in life, he would be found regularly in the stands to watch his grandsons play baseball. Whether it was a high school or college graduation, or other family celebration, Larry made sure to be present for all his grandchildren's important events. Known as "PopPop" to his grandchildren and great grandchildren, Larry was ever devoted, loving, and proud of his children and their families.

Larry and Gita enjoyed classical music and were faithful supporters of the Monterey Symphony, where Larry served on the Board of Directors. Dr. and Mrs. Blair were members of the First Presbyterian Church of Monterey for nearly 50 years, and both spent many of those years singing in the choir. Larry served on the Hospitality Committee for the California Rodeo and attended the Rodeo annually for many years. Larry and Gita were also members of the Monterey Peninsula Country Club, where they enjoyed entertaining family and friends. While many in the Blairs' wide circle of friends predeceased Larry and Gita, there are yet many who survive them. All these friends brought them much joy in fellowship as they entertained and learned from one another. Gita predeceased Larry by four years.

The Blair family wishes to express its deepest gratitude to Lata Fisi, for the exceptional care she provided both Dr. and Mrs. Blair over the last seven years. The loving commitment Lata and her family showed to Dr. and Mrs. Blair will always be remembered.

A memorial service is planned for 4 p.m. Friday, November 12, 2021, at the First Presbyterian Church, 501 El Dorado Street in Monterey. A reception will follow on church grounds in Fellowship Hall. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the First Presbyterian Church of Monterey or the Monterey Symphony in Larry's memory.

# Editorial

## The nuisance next door

IF YOU buy a house near the airport, is it kosher to start complaining about airplanes?

The answer is no, and not just because you knew about the airport when you bought your house, but because the nuisance value of the airport was already priced into your home when you paid for it.

Same thing with noise from Laguna Seca, golf balls from any of our local golf courses, crowds and noise at the Forest Theater, and the smell of fertilizer in the Salinas Valley. If you buy next to it, don't start bitching about it.

For a handful of homeowners, buying next to a nuisance and then getting the offending operation shut down can be a useful part of a house-flipping strategy. But most people who commit the buy-next-to-the-airport-and-then-start-complaining-about-the-airplanes sin are just doing what comes naturally to 21st century Americans and has become an honored part of the land-use process in California, i.e., complaining about your neighbors, even if they got there first. Making a profit isn't what these wronged parties have in mind. They just want what they want.

This is not to say that people who live near airports or landfills or gun clubs shouldn't be allowed to oppose major expansions of such operations. As air traffic grew at LAX, to cite the most noteworthy example, the noise got so bad the airport bought all the homes at the west end of the runways and tore them down. The homeowners were paid a fair price, which not only freed them from airplane noise, it made it possible for them to buy elsewhere.

If Laguna Seca tried to build another circuit, the people who live at Pasa-dera or Corral de Tierra would have legitimate reasons to try to stop such a large project in its tracks, but that does not apply not to modest changes or additions to existing operations.

Which brings us to Carmel High School and its quest to add lights to the football field. Is this a major expansion of the school's operation or a modest change to its current modus operandi? Clearly, it's the latter.

If you live near a school, you're going to be dealing with noise, traffic, lighting and even smells that are part and parcel of what a school does. Meanwhile, schools are not only important, they are absolutely vital to the functioning of our society, and we depend on them to be as active and successful as possible — including sports.

The people who live next to Carmel High School already got discounts on their houses because the school is there. It's fine for them to try to get the football field lighting project modified to minimize the disruption of their neighborhood. But they should not be allowed to stop it.

## BEST of BATES



**"For the party, let's have live music and then invite the neighbors so they won't complain."**

## Letters to the Editor

### Lagoon solution

**Dear Editor,**  
There is another solution that seems not to have been discussed in the meeting about the lagoon flooding. There is an unnatural levee to the south of the river that could easily be broken in several places or taken down completely to allow water to run into what had been an estuary before it was artichoke fields.

I know that there is talk of creating a causeway under Highway 1, which is a good idea, but before that is done, an enormous amount of water could fill the former fields and turn them back into the original wetlands they once were, lessening the threat of the lagoon flooding and providing for the steelhead and large numbers of water birds and other animals. In addition, the lagoon needs to be dredged and some of the reeds removed to restore more open water. Compared to raising houses or creating a barrier, these actions would be hugely cost effective and would restore the natural environment. Take down the southern levee!

**David Ligare, Carmel Valley**

### Names on memorial plaque

**Dear Editor,**  
I'm a retired U.S Army officer with over 22 years of service and the commander of Post 512 of the American Legion in Carm-

el. I support the placement of all the names on the plaque at the World War I Memorial Arch, as does the executive committee of the post.

I have been involved with the planning for the plaque and rededication of the memorial for months. The research I have seen leads me to believe that the community and the people who built the arch intended for the memorial to be a monument to Carmel's members of the armed forces and the Carmelites who served in support of the larger war efforts. I am proud that the founding veterans of Post 512 chose to be inclusive when honoring those who served and proud to continue that tradition.

**Gerry Paratore, Carmel**

### 'Age-old stereotypes'

**Dear Editor,**  
We were aghast at the depiction in the Pine Cone of three Israelis who were lost and then found while hiking in Big Sur. The cartoon attempts to make humor of the incident by employing an inappropriate, age-old stereotype of Jews to caricature the hikers. That image is insensitive and smacks of antisemitism.

Apparently, the image of Israelis that came to mind at the Pine Cone was of bearded Jews in fur hats. In fact, the fur hat depicted in the cartoon is typically worn by the ultra-orthodox on special occasions. According to the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, only 8 percent of the Israeli Jewish population identifies as ultra-orthodox, while 42 percent define themselves as secular. Almost a quarter of the total popula-

See **LETTERS** page 16A

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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

# A brilliant officer, a Pebble Beach home, and an unbelievable discovery

ON THE surface, U.S. Army Col. Warren J. Clear was just one more military officer to retire in Pebble Beach in the 1930s. A deeper examination reveals a remarkable man who uncovered an unbelievable piece of California history.

Clear was born in 1895 near Boston, graduated from a Catholic high school in Newton, Mass., and in January 1915, his first year at Boston College, won an oratory contest. His subject was "Internation-

husband had left her financially secure. She had been traveling around the world when she met Clear.

They sailed to San Francisco in December for Clear's next post at the Presidio, and while they lived there, they often visited Monterey and played in golf tournaments. In 1928, they built a house in Pebble Beach and joined the recently opened Monterey Peninsula Country Club. Clear won the 1929 New Year's Day tournament at Del

Monte just weeks before he received orders to Washington, D.C. There, he worked with military intelligence in the chief of staff's office.

In the summer of 1931, Clear returned to San Francisco. In addition to duties as a public relations officer at the Presidio, he served as an instructor of high school ROTC programs in the Bay Area.

The Clears resumed visits to their home at Pebble Beach. While taking an evening walk along Fanshell Beach near Cypress Point in 1934, a glistening piece of purple glass caught Clear's eye. As he worked the glass loose from the sand, it emerged as an intact and very old bottle. He and his wife thought it was attractive and took it home to decorate a shelf.

Clear retired in 1935 and moved full time to the Peninsula. In addition to playing golf, he took an active role with county officials to help turn Camp Ord into Fort Ord. In March 1940, Clear made a liaison trip to Washington, D.C. on behalf of Monterey County. He came back with positive news and a new rank of major. The Army had more plans for Clear's services.

### Battle of Bataan

In August 1940, the Salinas Chamber of Commerce put Clear on its staff as assistant secretary in charge of military affairs. He served as liaison and lead the efforts to acquaint the community with the challenges and opportunities from the influx of military personnel who came to Fort Ord in September. The transition went well, and in April 1941, Clear was called to report directly to Secretary of War Henry Stimson in Washington.

As a new world war escalated, Congress called for an investigation of the War Department's readiness, and Clear was assigned to help eliminate redundancies noted in the resulting report. Clear stopped back on the Peninsula in August, supposedly en route to Honolulu for an inspection visit. Actually, Army intelligence was tapping Clear's experience in southeast Asia to inspect conditions in China, India, Burma, Indonesia and the Philippines.

See **HISTORY** page 23A

## History Beat

By NEAL HOTELLING

al Peace, the Ideal." Clear was an honors student and contributed as a writer and assistant editor of the school magazine. He was scheduled to be editor in chief for his senior year. That role was not to be.

### Japan and China

As World War I in Europe wore on, Clear spent the summer of 1917 at Harvard University's Reserve Officers Training Corps camp, living in infantry barracks in Cambridge. In the fall, he was commissioned as a first lieutenant and later given command of E Company of the 22nd Infantry, which remained stateside at various posts in New York and New Jersey.

After the war, the Army sent Clear to China. He was based in Peking from June 28, 1919, to June 5, 1921, and learned Mandarin while mapping the county's railway system. After returning to the United States, he spent two years in New York as a recruiter, and then was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to study Japanese. After mastering the language, he made captain and on May 1, 1925, was appointed to serve six months with a Japanese infantry regiment. As his duties in Japan wound down, Clear married Mary McIntosh Davis of Ohio on Nov. 18, 1925. She had been widowed in 1919. Her insurance executive



A young 1st Lt. Warren J. Clear used this infantry photo for his 1923 passport prior to leaving for Japan.

# He photographs the interesting, the serendipitous and the colorful

GARY GEIGER was a wide-eyed young man when he began chasing rainbows, exploring exotic lands in wide-eyed pursuit of cultures, architecture and colors blended in imaginative (and often unimaginable) combinations.

"I call myself a colorist — I like design and I look for it with color," said the 75-year-old Carmel Valley resident, a fine

and learned more about black-and-white in 10 days than we had in two-and-a-half years at Brooks," he said. "We had such a great time that we decided to travel together the following year to the Southwest United States."

For the three friends, that trip was the beginning of 38 years of worldwide photography. It was followed up the next year with the first of several journeys to Mexico.

"My love for color and design is why I did so much traveling in Mexico," said Geiger, who had a house there for 12 years. "I just

couldn't wait to get out early in the morning, walk through the villages and shoot pictures for maybe two, two-and-a-half hours. I'd put in a lot of miles every day to find that one good image.

"People in Mexico are very happy, their food is hot and spicy, and everything is incredibly colorful," he said. "Color is everywhere, and in combinations that one would never think possible."

### Wedding, corporate photography

Those annual trips, usually a week to 10 days long, kept Geiger inspired for the rest of the year, he said, while he earned his living as a wedding photographer — typically 50 to 75 ceremonies annually, often referrals from the Highlands Inn — and as a corporate photographer, usually for the Pebble Beach Company.

"I wasn't interested in getting rich — I just wanted to earn enough to allow myself to live on the Monterey Peninsula," he said. "As it turned out, I was doing more than enough weddings to create a comfortable lifestyle here. Then, when the corporate work came along, things really kind of took off.

"I'd work two weeks straight, then maybe have two weeks off. It was never a full-time job."

Geiger's artistic eye is drawn to unusual dwellings and ornate, weathered buildings with decaying signage, or artistic carvings, sculptures or pottery, brilliantly bright clothing and jewelry, exotic plants and creative staircases.

He also likes faces that tell a story.

"I love taking pictures of people, especially people whose faces have a lot of character," he said. "I look for people who have lived a life and wear it on their faces."

Photographing people is easier in some countries than others.

"In any Arab country, they'll get up and walk inside as soon as they see you lift your camera. They do

See **ARTIST** page 23A

## Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

art photographer whose website includes spectacular images from India, Asia, Cuba, Morocco and Mexico.

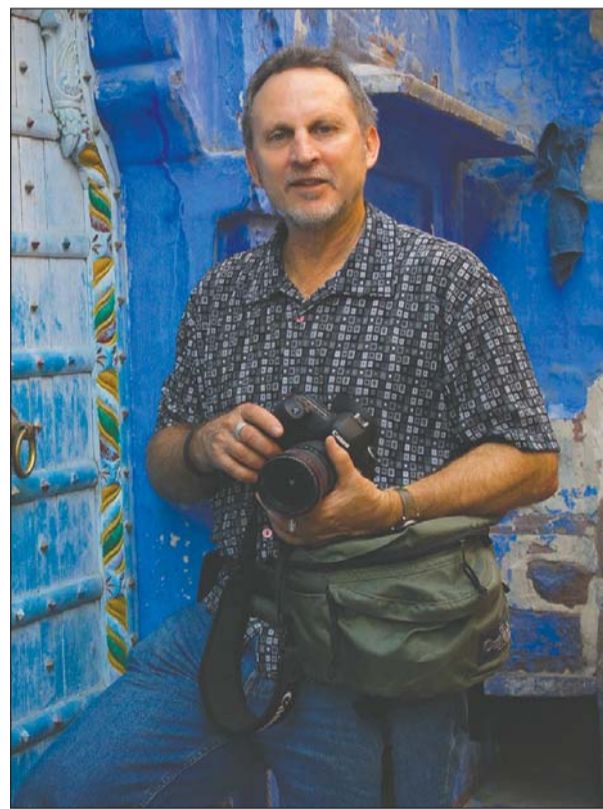
Over parts of five decades, he has wandered more than 30 countries, looking for ... well, actually, Geiger said he's learned to put his faith in serendipity.

### How the magic happens

"If you go out to look for something, you're never going to find it — that's been my experience," he said. "My approach now is to photograph whatever comes my way. That's usually how the magic happens."

The San Mateo native fell in love with photography as a student at UC Santa Barbara in the early 1970s — he earned degrees in kinesiology and history — then enrolled at Brooks Institute of Photography, where he befriended fellow students Kurt Andersen (Carmel High, 1965) and Jerry Hart, a Wisconsin native.

"In 1982, the three of us went to Virginia City, Nev., and took a workshop from a black-and-white master, Oliver Gagliani,



PHOTO/JERRY HART

Fine art photographer Gary Geiger, seen here in Jodhpur, India, in 2012, has wandered more than 30 countries searching for images.

Don't miss "Scenic Views" by Jerry Gervase — every week in the Real Estate Section.



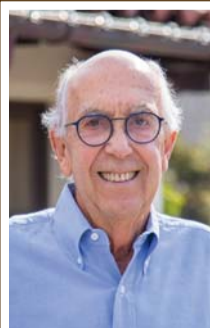
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# Order a pizza and don your Mets cap for a wild New York ride

AT 66, Tony Albano grins relentlessly, like a little boy with a thousand other little boys jumping up and down inside his body. He's a professional storyteller, with a gazillion true tales from his life and times, most of them humorous with a happy ending, which leads us, full circle, back to that grin.

Well, he made out with a nun — more than once — but we'll let him tell the rest of that tale in his autobiographical book, "Cherish — A Memoir: The Truth About Where I

ships between 1921 and 1961 — far more than anybody else.

But Brooklynites, at the time, remained fiercely bitter that their beloved Dodgers had abruptly left for Los Angeles before the '58 season, the same year the Giants jilted Upper Manhattan and moved to San Francisco. Their fans were equally angry.

Albano was 7 in 1962, when the New York Mets were born, fielding a ragtag roster of washed-up big leaguers and untested kids who played in the old Polo Grounds — the dilapidated ballpark that had been abandoned by the Giants.

The '62 Mets lost 120 games, more than any team in history, finishing 60 1/2 games behind first-place San Francisco in the standings, also an all-time futility record.

"I didn't care," Albano said. "I finally had a team to root for, and I loved them. I couldn't get enough of them.

"My gramps — my mom's father, who lived with us — loved the Dodgers when they were in Brooklyn, and I think he grew to love the Mets because I loved them."

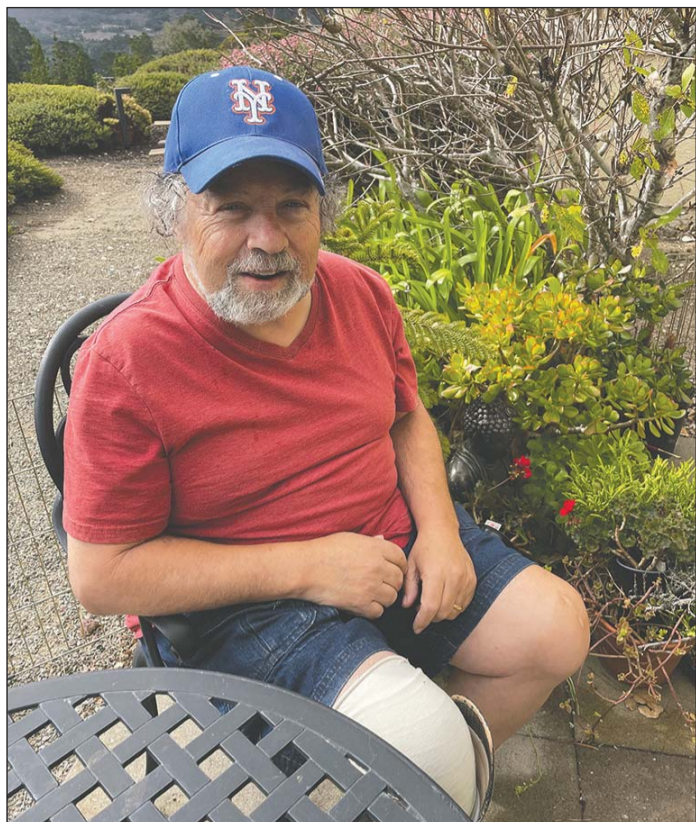
## Grandpa Juicy

That grandpa, known as Juicy, was Tony's constant companion, babysitter and childhood best buddy. He sat beside Tony when the Mets were on TV or radio. He took Tony along, sworn to secrecy, whenever he visited a "girlfriend," or drank at the neighborhood bar. He taught him how to drop water balloons off the fire escape onto people below.

Grandpa Mazine, on the other side of the family, lived with his large, notorious clan at 96 Snedeker Ave. in Brooklyn, with boarded-up buildings on the left, a sweater factory on the right and racing pigeons caged on the roof. The house was built free of charge by a guy who needed the Mazines to lie for him in court. That's how New York worked.

Starting in 1964, Tony's dad, Pete, began taking his 8-year-old son to Shea Stadium — the Mets' new home — where a family friend known as Uncle Enzo worked in the visitors' bullpen.

"We'd knock on the door and Uncle Enzo would let us in," Albano said. "He'd wave us toward another guy, who



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Tony Albano's obsession with his beloved Mets faded after the '69 season. 'I felt like they weren't mine anymore — they belonged to the world,' he said.

would point us toward a third guy, who would lead us to our seats, right next to the Mets dugout. We never had to pay."

The Mets finished dead last in '64 for the third straight year, but 1.5 million people came through the turnstiles — an all-time big-league attendance record.

In 1966, '67 and '68, they finished either last, or second-to-last, in the 10-team National League, and on July 20, 1969, a local joke — "A man will walk on the moon before the Mets win a championship" — came true when astronaut Neil Armstrong took his "giant leap for mankind."

Meanwhile, the once-hapless Mets were inexplicably part of a frantic pennant race with the Cubs, Pirates and Cardinals. They were doing it with a kiddie-corps pitching staff led by Tom Seaver, age 24; Jerry Koosman, 26; Gary Gentry, 22; Jim McAndrew, 25; Nolan Ryan, 22, and the youngest starting lineup in baseball with an average age of 24.5.

Naysayers felt validated when the Mets stumbled in August, falling eight games behind the first-place Cubs, but on Aug. 16, young Tony — still a true believer — began to witness the impossible. Over the next seven weeks, New York sizzled and the Cubs fizzled.

## The impossible dream

"All I dreamed was for the Mets to hang in there until Sept. 8, when the Cubs were coming to Shea to play two games," said Albano, who on game day, at age 14, drew on his Mazine heritage and slipped a few extra bucks to the man in the ticket office to sell him primo seats in a jam-packed stadium.

The Mets won a 3-2 thriller, moving within two games of the fading Cubs. Albano and his date were among thousands still dancing in Shea Stadium's parking lot hours after the game.

The next night they beat Chicago again, and on Sept. 10, they swept a doubleheader from the Expos. The Cubs lost, and for the first time ever, the Mets were in first place.

From there, the Mets were unstoppable. They won the division by eight games, crushed Atlanta in the N.L. playoffs and stunned heavily-favored Baltimore in the World Series, 4 games to 1.

"My dad scored tickets for all three home games for the Series — somebody owed him a favor — but I refused to go," Albano said. "I didn't want to be distracted by people who didn't care as much as I did. I stayed home and watched the games on TV."

After the Mets became world champions, his obsession faded.

"At that point, I felt like they weren't mine anymore — they belonged to the world," he said. "My work was done."

## Long Island to Monterey

Albano owned two Long Island delicatessens as a young adult. He met his future wife, Pat, in 1981, and they relocated in 1985 to the Monterey Peninsula, where he has worked in the restaurant industry as a waiter and host. He currently hosts two days every week at Il Fornaio in Carmel.

Albano, who never learned to type, has authored three books longhand or by dictation, sharing riveting stories of his horrific 2003 automobile accident, which led to the amputation of his right leg — and the three-legged dog, Brie, who restored his mental health — his serendipitous relationship with popular folksinger Melanie ("Beautiful

## Great Lives

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Came From and Who I Loved," a coming-of-age screenplay screaming to be written.

His grandfather, father and nine uncles were part of a Mafia-connected family that was either beloved or feared on the mean streets of Brooklyn, so young Tony learned to be street smart in gritty New York City before he entered high school.

His was a neighborhood where everybody owed somebody a favor, populated with characters named Johnny Numbers, Dunkie, Fat John, and Tony's own Uncle Polack, a Mazine family sibling. According to lore, all 10 Mazine brothers destroyed somebody's wedding after somebody punched Uncle Polack, who was drunk. As a child, young Tony witnessed a "West Side Story"-style knife fight between two shirtless street thugs. His dad once brought home a picnic table, labeled Property of New York City, that purportedly "fell off a truck." Tony's Uncle Sammy hijacked trucks for John Gotti, and Sammy's son married Gotti's daughter.

## A magical summer

Truth is, Tony Albano probably hit his peak in 1969, when he was just 14. Not that it's been all downhill from there — it's just that Albano can't imagine a greater thrill ride than the one he took that summer.

Much of his new book, "Cherish," is a baseball story, because during his youth, baseball was the lifeblood of New York City. Tony lived and breathed it.

Those who cheered for the Yankees, who played in the Bronx, were on top of the world, adoring a team that won 26 American League pennants and 19 world champion-



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# HISTORY

From page 21A

Clear was in Manila in January 1942 when the Battle of Bataan erupted. He volunteered to serve on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's staff and saw battle at Corregidor. After being ordered off the island in March, Clear was guided by a priest through enemy lines to the coast. A submarine took him to Australia, from which he returned to the United States. Clear spoke of the war and his experience in a national radio broadcast on NBC's "Army Hour" on April 11, 1942. In telling of sharing a foxhole with a sergeant during an assault, Clear gave the world a memorable line: "We prayed, and after the attack, the sergeant observed that there are no atheists in foxholes."

Clear was subsequently promoted to colonel, and in August 1942, he received

the Distinguished Service Medal with a presidential citation recognizing his "exceptionally meritorious service while on an intelligence mission." For the remainder of the war, Clear shared his Asian knowledge as an instructor at the General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

After the war, Clear returned to the Monterey Peninsula. He gave a patriotic talk at Sunset Center in November 1946 that reads like a present-day speech. "The propaganda of cynicism and ridicule directed against everything that has contributed to our national stability has permeated our schools and colleges and textbooks," Clear said. "The attack is well prepared and is being carried out with ferocity and determination. Lunatics say democracy never worked and never will. It has worked, but this is the time to convince our people that freedom and order are essential to democracy. It cannot survive without these two."

### Message in a bottle

Life eventually settled down for the retired officer. He resumed playing golf and was welcomed into membership at Cypress Point Club.

In 1949, while packing up to move to a new house near Jacks Peak, that old bottle he had put on a shelf caught his attention. The sand in it had dried out and come loose. He started shaking it out and discovered there was more than sand inside. He couldn't get the other materials to shake out. Not wanting to break the bottle, he took it Myron Oliver, who had an art shop and also refinished antiques.

Oliver had the tools and creativity to carefully extract what turned out to be a silver sixpence bearing the likeness of Queen Elizabeth I and a tightly wound lead scroll, which when carefully unfurled, revealed a date of May 1, 1579. The scroll turned out to be the land claim of Francis Drake declaring ownership of "this great land and the seas thereof" for Queen Elizabeth I.

More on this discovery next week.

Neal Hotelling has been researching and writing about Monterey County history for more than three decades. His email is [nbhotelling@msn.com](mailto:nbhotelling@msn.com).

# LIVES

From previous page

People," "Look What They've Done To My Song, Ma," "Lay Down," "Brand New Key"), those kisses he exchanged with a nun and many other tales.

Albano is well known locally for his storytelling appearances, sharing tales from his colorful life at libraries, book-

stores, restaurants, The Carmel Foundation and the Pacific Meadows retirement complex, where he resides.

His books — "Cherish," "Life is a Bumpy Road," and "A Leg to Stand On" — are available at River House Books in the Crossroads, Whittakers, Kris Kringle and Diggidy Dog. You can also find them at Book Works in Pacific Grove and Downtown Book & Sound in Salinas, as well as online, or contact him directly at [tonyalbano1969@gmail.com](mailto:tonyalbano1969@gmail.com).

# ARTIST

From page 21A

not want their pictures taken," Geiger said. "I totally respect that, and I'll ask permission first, unless I can shoot the photo candidly. I never wanted to look like an ugly American."

Geiger's images of the breathtaking landscapes and seascapes found so close to home have resulted in two hardcover books produced by Graphic Arts Publishing.

"Among the Cypress: The Monterey Peninsula," a collaboration with writer Douglas Long, was published in 1992 and features natural vistas of the Peninsula as well as photos of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Carmel, Cannery Row and some of the area's famous golf courses.

"Monterey Peninsula: A Cypress Shore" (2001), with writer Thom Akeman, captures the romance of the region's vibrant communities and woodland retreats at the edge of the ocean.

"Both books had a lifespan of close to 20 years," he said. "Pebble Beach, all by itself, sold almost 30,000 copies of 'Among the Cypress.'"

A bucket-list destination is Iceland, said Geiger, who is enamored with the scenery there, but he also aspires to shoot pictures of the vast, rolling wheat fields from

a 3,000-foot vantage point atop Steptoe Butte in Eastern Washington, as well as some of the tiny, dying towns in the area.

Closer to home, he wants to walk the streets of Carmel-by-the-Sea (something he's done once before) to capture images of... well, the streets will reveal that as he wanders.

### Constantly changing

"As a photographer, I couldn't have landed in a more-beautiful place," he observed. "I've been to Point Lobos more times than I can count, walked every trail, shot every angle. But the weather and lighting conditions on the Monterey Peninsula are unique and change so much that it's often like you're seeing things for the first time."

Geiger has two adult sons, Sean (headwaiter at L'Escargot in Carmel) and Brett (a cryptocurrency investor in Eugene, Ore.) by his first wife, Wendy, and a stepdaughter, Melissa, whose mom, Katia, married Geiger eight years ago.

Geiger's fine-art photographs can be seen at Gallery Sur (Sixth Avenue between Dolores and Lincoln streets) in Carmel. Images of his work and additional information can be found online at [garygeiger.com](http://garygeiger.com).

Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at [scribelareate@gmail.com](mailto:scribelareate@gmail.com).

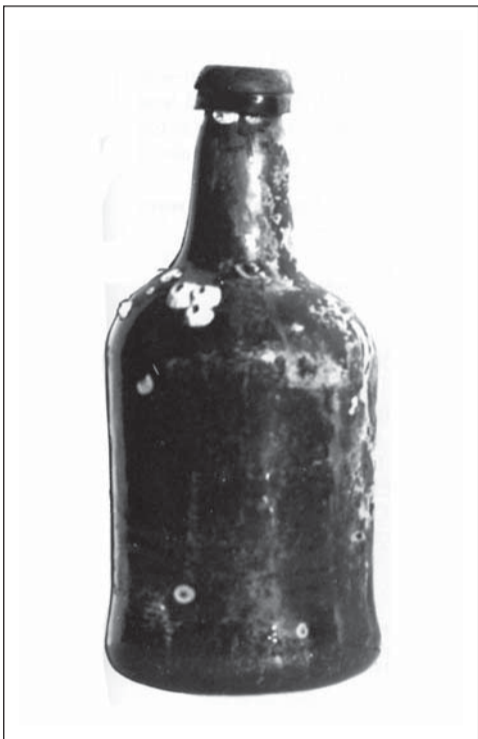


PHOTO FROM 'MORE THAN MEMORIES' (1985) BY RANDALL REINSTEDT  
A rare photo of the ancient bottle found in Pebble Beach in 1934 by (then) Capt. Warren J. Clear.

# ART

From page 19A

beth Barlow, Nicole Cromwell, Hannah Grotberg, Rose Hagan, Monica Johnson, Rebecca Koury, Osta Lange, Robin Sawyer and Kathryn Stotler. Grotberg, by the way, is just 14.

During the town's early years, a number of female artists lived here, including Anne Bremer, E. Charlton Fortune, Jane Gallatin Powers and Jeanne D'Orge, who founded the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts.

Cushman said he's hoping to continue that tradition.

"I really want this gallery to be part of the community and

Carmel's artistic legacy," he said. "The history of the artist colony and the creativity of so many of the current residents is a big part of what originally drew us here."

The gallery, which hosts a reception Friday from 5 to 8 p.m., is located on Dolores between Ocean and Seventh. For more details, call (831) 624-2000 or visit [gallery-marcarmel.com](http://gallery-marcarmel.com).



"Bonita Manana" by Osta Lange is included in a show, "Creative Women II," that opens Friday at Gallery MAR Carmel.

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# The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

## News of swift runners, hard drivers, great spikers and stalwart goalies

THE CARMEL Padres are a solid favorite to capture the overall girls team championship Saturday at the Pacific Coast Athletic League Cross-Country Championships at Toro Park, where the first starting gun will fire at 9:30 a.m.

Carmel's top three runners, sophomores Christiana Kvitak and Isabella Davi and freshman Ava Ghio, are at least dark-horse contenders, based on their season-best performances for the 3-mile distance.

Kvitak, at 20:03.5, ranks fifth in the PCAL, after Monte Vista Christian's Caelan Gilliam (19:23); Watsonville's Katelynn Ruiz (19:38); Gilroy's Karina Rodriguez (19:43) and St. Francis Central Coast Catholic's Monserrat Ramirez (20:00). Carmel's Davi is seventh (20:06.8), and Ghio is eighth quickest (20:10.8).

Ghio's season best makes her the ninth-fastest freshman in the entire CCS. Kvitak and Davi rank 10th and 12th among all CCS sophomores.

That kind of speed at the top of the lineup is remarkable, but where the Padres separate themselves from the rest of the pack is team depth. Two other runners, Marina Hobson (20:41.0) and Sophia Davi (20:48.9) have bettered the 21-minute mark this season, and two more, Sarah Eyjolfssdottir and Chiara Kvitak, have run under 22 minutes. No other team in the PCAL can match that.

Santa Catalina's girls, according to the simulation, are seventh-best in the PCAL, led by senior Catlin Kostka (21:54), freshman Heidi Green (22:26), and junior Audrey Morrison (22:49).

Stevenson will also be looking for a top-10 finish, paced by senior Gabby Torres (21:38) and freshman Amy Rong (22:26).

### ■ York's Julian paces the boys

Julian, the York senior from Boulder Creek, won all four of the races he started this season, all four in 2020, and six of the seven he ran as a sophomore in 2019, when he was the PCAL champion.

His record for the 3-mile distance — 15 min-



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Aiden Tarantino, Dylan Craig and Tyler Imamura give Coach Whit Rambach's Carmel Padres a shot at a top-three finish at Saturday's PCAL Cross-Country Championships.

utes, 18 seconds — leaves his league rivals in the rearview mirror, and also ranks No. 3 among all the runners in the Central Coast Section.

But 11 other runners have covered the distance in less than 17 minutes, which sets the stage for a sensational fight to the finish.

Best 2021 times among Julian's chasers belong to Gilroy's Nicholas Guzman (16:06) and Carmel's Aiden Tarantino (16:11.9), Palma's Moises Benito (16:35) and Monte Vista Christian's James Ponzio (16:35.2).

Another Carmel runner, Dylan Craig, is ninth on the list at 16:45.7, and Stevenson's best, John Puka, ranks 18th in the league at 17:20.

The PCAL's top three boys teams in a 29-team race figure to be Salinas, North Monterey County and Alisal, followed by Carmel (Tarantino, Craig, Tyler Imamura, Avi Desi, and Jack Seifert).

Continues next page

## Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

In a computerized race simulation compiled by athletic net, based on season-best times, Carmel girls come into the race as 14-point favorites over the PCAL's second-best team, San Benito, and 107 points better than the No. 3 team, Watsonville.

The individual competition promises to be a greyhound race to the tape.



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel, the pre-meet favorite to win the PCAL girls cross-country crown on Saturday, is deep in talent with (from the left) Christiana Kvitak, Marina Hobson, Ava Ghio, Isabella Davi and Sophia Davi.

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**From previous page**

This year's CCS meet is Nov. 13 at the Crystal Springs cross-country course in Belmont.

■ **Pirates win golf crown**

Stevenson won the PCAL golf championship Oct. 19 at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch, led by medalist Nikki Iniakov, whose 1-over-par 71 was two strokes better than runner-up Jara Gomez of York.

Five Stevenson golfers placed among the top eight: Sydney Craven (75) was fourth, Michelle Wang (76) was fifth, and Emma Chung and Katrina Wu (both 80) tied for eighth.

Grace Wang (78, sixth place) paced Santa Catalina, and Ellie Rydenheard (79, seventh) led Carmel.

Stevenson (382 total strokes) and Carmel (436) qual-

ified their full teams for the CCS tournament, scheduled Tuesday at Laguna Seca (9:30 a.m. starting time).

■ **Carmel, Catalina in VB playoffs**

Santa Catalina (12-3 overall, 10-2 in the Mission Division) finished second to Notre Dame (12-2, 12-0), and will be one of two local teams in the CCS girls volleyball tournament.

The other, Carmel (18-9, 8-6), earned an automatic berth as the third-place finisher (behind Salinas and San Benito) in the rugged Gabilan Division.

Stevenson also had a stellar year (13-5 overall, 10-2 in the Santa Lucia Division), but first-place Gonzales (14-3, 11-1) clinched the division's only postseason spot — a CCS play-in game against Alisal, the No. 4 team from the Gabilan.

Brackets for each division can be found online at [cifccs.org/playoffs/fall\\_playoff\\_brackets\\_-\\_info](http://cifccs.org/playoffs/fall_playoff_brackets_-_info). Quarter-

finals begin Saturday.

■ **Pirates win water polo titles**

Stevenson's boys and girls teams both won the Gabilan Division water polo championship outright to qualify automatically for CCS.

They'll learn which bracket they'll play in, where they're seeded, and who their opponent will be in the Nov. 6 quarterfinals after Sunday's seeding meeting.

Stevenson's girls took a 7-0 division record and a 19-4 overall mark into their regular-season finale against Salinas on Wednesday. The boys were 9-0 and 16-5 going into their last Gabilan match, also against Salinas on Wednesday.

Carmel's girls tied with Gilroy for second place in the Gabilan — each with a 5-3 record — then won a coin toss Tuesday to advance to a 3:30 p.m. play-in game today — Friday — against Mission Division champion San Benito in Hollister.

■ **No postseason football**

With two regular-season games remaining, it's certain that neither Carmel nor Stevenson will qualify for the CCS football playoffs this year.

After beating Pacific Grove in a non-league season opener, the Padres had their next two games canceled when 22 players tested positive for coronavirus, then never really recovered, going 1-4 in the Mission Division, 2-4 overall.

They'll finish with their final home game of the year Saturday against Soledad (2 p.m. kickoff), and a Nov. 6 road game against Monterey at Monterey Peninsula College (2:30 p.m.).

Stevenson started practices three weeks later than its competition, waiting for its boarding students to arrive on campus.

The Pirates opened the season with a 27-25 non-conference loss at Pacific Grove, then a 42-12 defeat in their Santa Lucia Division debut against St. Francis at home.

St. Francis (3-0 division, 5-3 overall) has clinched the Santa Lucia's only playoff slot with two remaining, including Saturday's 2 p.m. kickoff at Stevenson — a non-division game that will not impact the standings.

The Sharks finish next week with a division game at home against last-place Pajaro Valley.

An upset loss to the Grizzlies won't impact St. Francis' playoff spot, since the Sharks' division win over Stevenson early in the year is the tiebreaker if both teams finish 3-1 in the Santa Lucia.



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Food & Wine  
Galleries and Art

# This Week

Live Music,  
Clubs and Events

## Award-winning county singer is back on the road, will visit Folktale Friday

A FAMILIAR voice on country music radio who overcame long odds before attaining stardom, singer **Sara Evans** plays Friday at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

Evans was singing in front of audiences by the time she was 4, but when she was 8 she was struck by a car and spent months in a wheelchair recovering. Undeterred, she bounced back and was working regularly as a singer by 16.

The singer burst onto the national scene in 1997 when a video from her debut album was picked by the Billboard Music Video Awards as best of the year by a new country artist. The singer has had five No. 1 country hits, including "Born to Fly," "A Real Fine Place" and "A Little Bit Stronger." In 2006, the Academy of Country Music Awards chose her as its Female Vocalist of the Year.

Evans' most recent record, "Copy That," her first with no original songs, opened at No. 1 on the iTunes country

charts last year.

After a lengthy hiatus, Evans is back on the road, and she's thrilled to reconnect with audiences.

### On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

"People are desperate to hear live music," Evans said in a recent interview. "If you can fill an airplane full of people, we can figure out a way to do concerts safely."

Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$39. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070.

The theater is requiring a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours or proof of full vaccination. "Masks are op-

tional but strongly encouraged," the theater's Covid policy reads.

Next up on Golden State's music calendar is blues singer and guitarist **George Thorogood**, who visits Nov. 12.

### Acoustic duo plays in Sand Box

A finalist for the 2021 Bluegrass Music Association's Mandolin Player of the Year, **Tristan Scroggins** will be joined by violinist **Alisa Rose** Friday at the Sand Box in Sand City. The two perform under the banner of **Scroggins & Rose**.

Scroggins, who is based in Nashville, has a reputation for stretching the boundaries of his instrument.

"He frequently plays on the Grand Ole Opry," **Michelle**

See MUSIC page 30A



A duo that blurs the lines between musical genres, Scroggins and Rose (far left) takes the stage Friday at the Sand Box in Sand City. The Andrea's Fault Duo (near left) plays Saturday at Tarp's in Monterey, and top-selling country music singer Sara Evans (above) performs Friday at the Golden State Theatre.



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# FOOD & WINE

## Seltzer Co. to breathe new life into Latitudes, BSFW tickets still available

THE LONG-DORMANT restaurant space next to Lovers Point in Pacific Grove looks like it will finally get a tenant. A trio of friends who launched a business creating and selling hard seltzer (flavored but unsweetened sparkling water with an alcohol content similar to beer) during the pandemic are opening a restaurant in the Ocean View Boulevard building that was formerly home to Latitudes.

Veronica Camp, Charlie Lippert and Joe Ehlers met at a Turlock beer festival that Camp has organized for years, and they got along so well, they decided to collaborate on a new venture, she explained to The Pine Cone this week. They ultimately settled on creating a new line of hard seltzers after being inspired by some slushies she'd made for the three of them on a hot day.



Big Sur Food & Wine events are always fun – especially the lively Wine & Swine – and festive attire is encouraged. A brunch with bubbly and a painting lesson is part of this year's lineup, too.



### First of its kind

The friends started researching and tasting other hard seltzers on the market and worked to develop recipes of their own. California Seltzer Co. debuted with pineapple-lemon flavor.

to come up with the first seltzer-focused restaurant in California?" Camp continued. The idea has taken hold in North Carolina and Colorado, she said, but not yet here.

They scouted locations and discovered the empty space near Lovers Point that had been vacant for years. Camp had visited Pacific Grove before and attended the Feast of Lanterns many times, so she was familiar with the town and the building, which offers expansive

landlord and then getting all the necessary permits from the city and county, they broke ground, and construction is now well underway.

Locals and others they've encountered are practically as excited about the developments as they are, according to Lippert. "We tell them where we're opening a spot, and they lose their minds," he said. "We'll be breathing new life into that area."

Camp said anyone interested in working should contact her at (209) 614-8148 or veronica@californiaseltzerco.com.

"We do really want to express our gratitude for how kind everyone has been to us so far," she added. "It's been shocking."

### ■ BSFW events still available

More than half of the events set to be offered during the Big Sur Food & Wine Festival Nov. 4-6 are sold out, but fortunately for latecomers, a handful still have space, including a wine tasting, a fancy dinner, and BSFW's signature party, Wine & Swine.

On Friday, Nov. 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Big Sur Loft at Ventana Inn, a wine tasting will pay tribute to the late Jim Clendenen, the visionary winemaker behind Au Bon Climat. "Jim was a great friend of our festival and an even better mentor to countless wine novices that found a path to success through the doors and barrel rooms of his enviable winery," festival organizers said. "Jim inspired so many with his passion for food and wine,

*Continues next page*

## Soup to Nuts

By MARY SCHLEY

"As of right now, we have five," Camp said, including Berry Rush, blood orange, pink lemonade, and hibiscus lime.

The idea of building a restaurant and menu around their new beverages came next.

"Due to our success and brainstorming, we thought, 'Wouldn't it be awesome

views of the coastline and sea.

"Once we went to that location, it was hard to see ourselves anywhere else," she said.

Lippert agreed. "We went to a few other places in other cities, and we kept coming back to Pacific Grove," he said.

After a year of negotiating with their

### Help wanted

They hope to open the restaurant they're calling California Seltzer Co. @ Lovers Point by late January 2022 and plan to serve light breakfast items like quiche, pastries, fruit and avocado toast, and then offer wood-fired pizzas, salads, paninis, soups and other fare for lunch and dinner.

Their seltzers and non-alcoholic sparkling water are produced in Lodi and will be brought weekly to serve and sell here in P.G. Camp said they'll also feature select beers — including those brewed by Lippert and Ehlers at their Five Window Beer Co. in Lodi — and wines.

The restaurant will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, and Lippert noted they'll be hiring for all positions.

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# FOOD & WINE

**From previous page**

and never hesitated a moment to say what he really meant.” The panel’s featured winemakers were among his closest friends and collaborators, including his father, Bob Lindquist of Lindquist Family Wines, Frank Ostini from Hitching Post, Gavin Chanin of Chanin Wines, former wife Morgan Clendenen with Cold Heaven, and Paul Lato of Paul Lato Wines.

The panelists are selecting wines to share “that were either influenced by Jim personally or had a direct connection to him and Au Bon Climat winery,” and they’ll each choose one of their own and one from ABC’s portfolio to pour and discuss. Ventana Big Sur chef John Garcia will prepare small bites to share. Tickets are \$50 apiece.

**Brunch, bid, wine, dine**

The Bubbles & Brushes in the Redwoods brunch at Big Sur Lodge, with plenty of food, champagne and wine followed by a painting lesson from Palo Colorado artist Sofanya White, will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 6 and has tickets available for \$75 each.

The live auction, which will be held in an undisclosed location from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., overlaps brunch. Attending it is free, but bidding is not! Organizers expect to have 20 or 30 lots that will include intimate dinners, music tickets, travel experiences, wine, lodging and artwork. Proceeds benefit Big Sur charities via the Big Sur Food & Wine Foundation.

Post Ranch Inn is hosting a Rarities Dinner that evening from 5:30 to 9:30 with hors d’oeuvres on the deck at Sierra Mar restaurant followed by a five-course dinner prepared by executive chef Reylon Agustin. Each dish will be paired with rare wines from the library of DNS Wines founder Todd Mathis, who plans to bring “mature” bottles from Benoit Ente in Meursault, Patrick Piuze in Chablis, Perrot Minot in Chambertin, George Vernay in Cote Rotie and Domaine Economou in Greece. Dinner is \$425 per person and limited to 12 guests. Unlike the other BSFW events, reservations for the Rarities Dinner must be made through the inn’s restaurant at (831) 667-2800.

The fest’s marquee event, Wine & Swine, celebrates food, wine, music and fun as the weekend wraps up and organizers, participants, chefs, winemakers, sponsors, volunteers and guests gather to celebrate with great food and wine, and then dance long into the night. The festivities take place from 7 to 10 p.m. at Henry Miller Library. Tickets are \$135, and a mandatory shuttle from Carmel costs an additional \$35.

For details and tickets, go to [bigsurfoodandwine.org](http://bigsurfoodandwine.org).

**Who’s the best?**

The Golden Pine Cones are out, and as usual, the Best Restaurant in Carmel category had a lot of competition among voters.

Congratulations to all the restaurants that received votes this year: Grasing’s, La Balena, Seventh & Dolores, Akaoni, AW Shucks, Alvarado Street Bistro, Anton & Michel, Aubergine, Basil, Cantinetta Luca, Carmel Belle, Bistro Giovanni, Casanova, Cultura, Cypress Inn/Terry’s, Dametra, Dutch Door Donuts, Enzo, Flying Fish Grill, Forge in the Forest, Il Tegamino, Katy’s Place, L’Escargot,

La Bicyclette, Patisserie Boissiere, La Playa/Bud’s, Le Soufflé, Links Club, Little Napoli, Cantinetta Luca, Lugano Swiss Bistro, Mission Bistro, Mission Ranch, Cafe Napoli, Pangaea, Porta Bella, Rio Grill, Stationaery, Sur, The Pocket, Toro, Treehouse, Vesuvio and Yafa.

The Golden Pine Cones honor the best restaurants in numerous categories, including cuisine types, locations and occasions, like where to take clients, significant others or kids. Find all the winners and their descriptions in the special section in this week’s paper.

**More Halloween fun**

Wild Fish restaurant on Lighthouse in Pacific Grove is hosting a grown-up Halloween with food, cocktails and live music. The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet featuring Bob Phillips on keys, Stu Reynolds on sax, Zach Westfall on bass and Mike Shannon on drums, with special guest “Fast Eddie” Erickson on banjo, will play from 6:30 to 9 p.m. for a \$5 cover outdoors.

Guests will enjoy “wild and wicked cocktails” like the Coastie Ghostie, the Dark & Foggy and the Screamsicle and can order off of Wild Fish’s eclectic regular menu. Owners Liz and Kelvin Jacobs are encouraging people to come in costume. For more information or reservations, go to [wild-fish.com](http://wild-fish.com) or call (831) 373-8523.



The distinctive building in the bend of Ocean View Boulevard near Lovers Point has been vacant for years, but it’s slated to become a new restaurant run by the founders of the California Seltzer Co.

Next door in Monterey, Puma Road winery’s tasting room near the Portola Hotel at 281 Alvarado St. is hosting the (Return of) Monster Bash with spooky tunes by duo Magenta Spreen, a costume contest — and wine specials — Oct. 31 from 5 to 8 p.m.

See **FOOD** page 35A

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## CALENDAR

**Nov. 1 - Dazzling Pumpkins! It's time for the annual Carmel Woman's Club Succulent Pumpkin Sale and Crafts Fair,** Monday from noon to 3 p.m. Designer pumpkins beautifully decorated with living succulents will be on display and available for purchase along with an array of handcrafted boutique items. Event is free. Each uniquely designed, the long lasting pumpkins are suitable for holiday table decor and come in a variety of shapes and sizes. The Carmel Woman's Club is at Ninth and San Carlos in Carmel. Masks required for entrance.

**Nov. 1 - Carmel Orchid Society guest speaker Deric Wenzler discusses "Orchids in our Outdoor Landscape"** at 7 p.m. Presentation, orchid sales. Free, easy parking. Multipurpose room of the Church of the Monterey Peninsula, 4590 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel.

**Nov. 7 - The Monterey County Composer's Forum presents "Heroes for the Arts,"** featuring local performers Cindy Wu, and the Monterey String Quartet with David Dally and Liana Berube. Composers include Abbott, Ettinger, Gatica, Kaiser, Macy, Ovens, Price, Rentz, Roseman, Schmidt, Victorine, and Yramategui; at Hidden Valley Music Seminars, Carmel Valley Road at Ford Road in Carmel Valley. \$10. Vaccinated and masked, please.

**Nov. 9 - Carmel Residents' Association presents internationally known and award-winning local artist Will Bullas,** with his unique process, perspectives, images and humor. Join us at 5 p.m. in Sunset Center's Carpenter Hall. It's open to the public, enjoy a glass of wine, and chuckle too. For details visit [www.carmelresidents.org](http://www.carmelresidents.org).

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# MUSIC

From page 27A

**Djokic** of the Sand Box told The Pine Cone. "He's very creative."

Rose, who lives in San Francisco, is a classically trained violinist. She earned a Grammy Award nomination for her work with Quartet San Francisco.

"She's a versatile and talented composer who can improvise freely," Djokic said. "Bluegrass is in her DNA."

Djokic said the music the two play, which incorporates many genres, is pretty distinct. "So many elements come together to make something unusual and beautiful," she added.

The music starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35. The Sand Box is located at 440 Ortiz Ave., sandboxsandcity.com.

Next up at the Sand Box is **The San Francisco Yiddish Combo**, which plays Nov. 28.

## Live music Oct. 29-Nov. 4

**Barmel** — singer and guitarist **Rick**

**Chelew** (folk, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). San Carlos and Seventh, (831) 626-3400.

**Bernardus Lodge & Spa** in Carmel Valley — pianist **Tom Gastineau** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Fred McCarty** (Saturday at noon), pianist **Martan Mann** (jazz and classical, Saturday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist **Casey Wickstrom** (Sunday at noon). In the Lucia Restaurant & Bar at 415 W. Carmel Valley Road, (831) 658-3400.

**Bon Ton LeRoy's Lighthouse Smokehouse** in Monterey — **Alligator** (zydeco, Saturday at 7 p.m.) and Open Mic Night (Thursday at 7 p.m.). 794 Lighthouse Ave., (831) 375-6958.

**Cypress Inn** — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), guitarist **Richard Devinck** (classical, Sunday at 6 p.m.) and singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, (831) 624-3871.

**Cibo** restaurant in Monterey — **The Dave Holodiloff Duo** (jazz and bluegrass, Sunday at 7 p.m.), singers **Lee Durley** and

**Scotty Wright** (jazz and r&b, Tuesday at 7 p.m.) and **The Ben Herod Trio** (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St., (831) 649-8151.

**Del Monte Center** in Monterey — **Carnaval!!** (Santana tribute, Friday at 6 p.m.). In the Garden Courtyard at 1410 Del Monte Center.

**Folktale Winery** in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Talmon Owens** (Friday at 3 p.m.), **Two Rivers** (pop and rock, Saturday at 3 p.m.) singer **Chelsea Riddle** and guitarist **Glenn Bell** (country, jazz and soul, Sunday at 11:30 a.m.) and singer and guitarist **Johan Sotelo** (Thursday at 3 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road, (831) 293-7500.

**Gusto Pizzeria** in Seaside — singer **Lauri Hofer-Romero** and guitarist **Bruce Forman** (jazz, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.). 1901 Fremont Blvd., (831) 899-5825.

**Hidden Valley Music Seminars** in Carmel Valley — a trio of musicians, in town to teach a workshop, present a free concert (early music, Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). Carmel Valley and Ford roads, [hiddenvalleymusicseminars.com](http://hiddenvalleymusicseminars.com)

**Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel** — singer and guitarist **Fred McCarty** (Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road, (831) 372-1234.

**Hyatt Carmel Highlands** — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive, (831) 620-1234.

**The Inn at Spanish Bay** in Pebble Beach — pianist **Gary Meek**, bassist **Steve Uccello** and drummer **Andy Weis** (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.) and pianist **Bill Spencer**, bassist **Steve Uccello** and drummer **Andy Weis** (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive, (831) 647-7500.

**Juice and Java** in Pacific Grove — Open Mic Night (Friday at 6 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave., (831) 373-8652.

**Intercontinental Hotel** in Monterey — guitarist **John Sherry** (rock, folk and blues, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.) and guitarist **Robert McNamara** (classical, jazz and pop, Sunday at 6 p.m.). In the C Restaurant, 750 Cannery Row, (831) 375-4500.

**La Playa Hotel** — **The David Morwood Band** (jazz, Sunday at 4 p.m.). Camino Real, (800) 582-8900.

**The Lodge at Pebble Beach** — singer **Haley Jane** (rock, Friday at 6 p.m.) singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (Saturday at 6 p.m.) and guitarist **John Sherry** (rock, folk and blues, Sunday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive, (831) 624-3811.

**Lucy's On Lighthouse** in Pacific Grove — **The Brad Wilson Trio** (rock and blues, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave., (831) 920-2006.

**Massa Tasting Room** in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (folk,

See LIVE page 33A

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[mary@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mary@carmelpinecone.com)

**Chris Counts:** Carmel Valley, Big Sur, Arts & Entertainment and scholastic sports  
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**Kelly Nix:** Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, Monterey, Seaside, state government, civil courts and water  
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**Distinguished Lords & Ladies of Carmel,**  
It is our honor to impart to you that the Awards of Excellence shall officially return to Quail Lodge this December 1st, 2021.

The incomparable businesses of Carmel are invited for a night of festivities in the form of a royal Regency-era ball as inspired by the Netflix series Bridgerton. Set in 1813, the Regency is perhaps the most extraordinary decade in all of British history. Noted for its elegance and achievements in the fine arts and architecture. This era encompassed a time of great social, political and economic change. You may know the time period as being the setting of numerous novels by celebrated author Jane Austen.

This will be the pre-eminent event of the social season. An auction, symphony music, Regency-era dress and fine dining will be part of the festivities as we recognize the best amongst us.

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**THURSDAY, NOV 16th**  
**RIBBON CUTTING @ BIG LITTLE BOXES**  
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5:00 - 6:30pm

**WEDNESDAY, NOV 17th**  
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Service Directory continues on next page

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**S**ubject reports the library computers were not secure

and he was being harassed electronically.

**W**hile walking on the beach he could hear voices

from devices planted in the sand.

**S**ubject was evaluated.

Information only.

**Domeniconi**



# LIVE

From page 30A

Sunday at 2:30 p.m.). 69 W. Carmel Valley Road, (831) 659-6221.

**Midici Pizza** in Monterey — singer **Tammi Brown** bassist **Dan Robbins** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.) and **The Kyle Hernandez Trio** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St., (831) 264-7013.

**Mission Ranch** — singer and pianist **Maddaline Edstrom** (jazz and pop, Friday through Sunday at 5 p.m.) and pianist **Gennady Loktionov** (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St., (831) 625-9040.

**Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa** — pianist **Michael Culver** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.) and singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **Javier Sanchez** (Latin, Sunday at 1 p.m.) and multi-instrumentalist **Gary Meek** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.). On Schooner's Patio at 400 Cannery Row, (831) 646-1700.

**Puma Road at Portola Plaza** in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Max Crist** (Friday at 5 p.m.) singer and guitarist **Tom Faia** and singer **Kate Miller** (Saturday at 2 p.m.) and singer and guitarist **Zhjon** (Saturday at 5 p.m.). 281 Alvarado St., (831) 747-1911.

**Rio Grill** — singer and guitarist **Zack Freitas** (Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (Saturday at noon). In the Crossroads shopping center, (831) 625-5436.

**The Salty Seal Pub** in Monterey — **The Fearless Lovemore Duo** (rock and pop, Friday and Sunday at 8 p.m.) and **Silver Train** (rock, country and blues, Saturday at 8 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row, (831) 920-2327.

**Sly McFly's** in Monterey — **Brad Wilson & The Rolling Thunder** (rock and blues, Friday at 9 p.m.), **Jon Griffin & The Lightfighters** (rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.) **Brad Wilson & The Rolling Thunder** (rock and blues, Sunday at 8:30 p.m.), **The John Michael Band** (rock, Wednesday at 9 p.m.) and **The DC Trio** (funk, jazz and r&b, Thursday at 9 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row, (831) 649-8050.

**Tarpy's** in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Adrea**

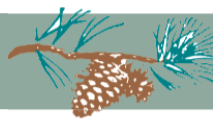
**Castiano** (Friday at 5 p.m.), and **The Andrea's Fault Duo** (jazz and blues, Saturday at noon). 2999 Highway 68, (831) 647-1444.

**Trailside Cafe** in Carmel Valley — **Stevie & Rod** (rock, Friday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist **Brad Wilson** (rock and blues, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place, (831) 298-7453.

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Continues from previous page

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212099
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Pearl Dialysis, 1492 Constitution Blvd, Salinas, CA 93905, County of MONTEREY
Registrant(s):
Capron Dialysis, LLC, 2000 16th Street, Attn JLD SecGovFin, Denver, CO 80202
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
Capron Dialysis, LLC
S/ Samantha A. Caldwell, Secretary, Total Renal Care, Inc., Mng Mbr, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 09/29/2021
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29/21
CNS-3503829#
CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication dates: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1001)

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).
S/Sherif Warda, President
Date: Aug. 19, 2021
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 27, 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: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1014)

ifornia Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Jay Roadamel
1811 Santa Rita Rd. Ste 207
Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925) 271-5646
This statement was filed by Superior Court of California, County of Monterey on Sept. 29, 2021.
Publication dates: Oct. 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1021)

written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Jay Roadamel
1811 Santa Rita Rd. Ste 207
Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925) 271-5646
This statement was filed by Superior Court of California, County of Monterey on Sept. 29, 2021.
Publication dates: Oct. 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1022)

6250-6277).
S/Monique Vasanji, Vice President
Date: Sept. 29, 2021.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 5, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1026)

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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1026)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212110
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: PETS BY THE SEA, 1231 Ninth St., Monterey, CA 93940.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.
Registered Owner(s):
MELISSA LEAH KATOA, 1231 Ninth Street, 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 N/A.
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).
S/Melissa Katoa
Sept. 29, 2021
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 29, 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: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1011)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212164
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: THE BARN AT VALLEY HILLS, 7164 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.
Registered Owner(s):
KELLEY SWEENEY, 7230 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 1, 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).
S/Kelley Sweeney
Sept. 24, 2021
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 24, 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: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1017)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HWEI CHU YEN

Case Number 21PR000436
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of HWEI CHU YEN.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TSAIR-SHIAN OLIVER YEN in the Superior Court of California, County of MONTEREY.
The Petition for Probate requests that TSAIR-SHIAN OLIVER YEN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: December 22, 2021
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Dept.: 13
Address: Superior Court of California, County of Monterey, 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212241
Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: STARCHILD BOUTIQUE, Ocean Ave. btwn Mission & San Carlos, Carmel, CA 93921.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1806, Carmel, CA 93921.
County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: VASANI INCORPORATED, Ocean Ave. btwn Mission & San Carlos, Carmel, CA 93921.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 30, 2004.
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 that 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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212242
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HEAVEN ON SEVEN, 7th & San Carlos, Unit 3, Carmel, CA 93921.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1806, Carmel, CA 93921.
County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: VASANI INCORPORATED, 5 Bush St., Monterey, CA 93940.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 27, 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 that 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).
S/Monique Vasanji, Vice President
Date: Sept. 29, 2021.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 29, 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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212243
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HEAVEN A CHILDS BOUTIQUE, Lincoln St. SW Ocean Ave., Carmel, CA 93921.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1806, Carmel, CA 93921.
County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: VASANI INCORPORATED, Lincoln St. SW Ocean Ave. Carmel, CA 93921.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 30, 2004.
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 that 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).
S/Monique Vasanji, Vice President
Date: Sept. 29, 2021.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 5, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1027)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212187
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: Radicle Snacks, 683 Las Casitas Dr., Salinas, CA 93905, County of Monterey.
Registered Owner(s):
Organica Specialties USA, Inc., 39 Via Cimarron, Monterey, CA 93940; CA
This business is conducted by a corporation
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on Not Applicable
S/ Steve Cardoza
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 09/27/2021
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29/21
CNS-3515301#
CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication dates: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1012)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212238
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: ROYAL OAKS MOVEMENT CENTER, 14165 Campagna Way, Royal Oaks, CA 95076.
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.
Registered Owner(s):
ANN BASILE, 14165 Campagna Way, Royal Oaks, CA 95076.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Oct. 1, 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).
S/Anne Basile
Oct. 4, 2021
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 4, 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: Oct. 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 2021. (PC1020)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea will conduct a public hearing in the Council Chambers located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea and via teleconference, on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible. Immediately prior to the public hearing, the Commission will visit some or all of the project sites in-person as part of a Tour of Inspection. Social distancing requirements will be maintained during the Tour. Interested members of the public are invited to attend both the Tour and the Hearing. To attend via Zoom: [copy and paste the link into your browser]; https://zoom.us/j/97793575109? Meeting ID (if needed): 977 9357 5109, Passcode (if needed): 818959; to attend via telephone, dial 1-301-715-8592.

Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 has allowed local legislative bodies to hold public meetings via teleconference and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body. Also, see the Order by the Monterey County Public Health Officer issued March 17, 2020. The health and well-being of our residents is the top priority for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

All interested persons are invited to attend via teleconference at the time and place specified above to give oral or written testimony concerning this matter. Written comments may be submitted to the Community Planning & Building Department at City Hall located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or P.O. Box CC, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, 93921 or by email bswanson@ci.carmel.ca.us prior to the meeting. With respect to written comments, please submit them at least 2 business days before the meeting in order to ensure they are provided to the legislative body and made part of the record. Comments received after that time and up to the end of the public hearing will be saved as part of the record but may not be provided to the legislative body prior to or during the public hearing.

The staff report and relevant documents will be available at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting on the City's website at http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us and found by clicking on "Government" and then "Meetings". The Planning Commission meeting will be broadcast live on the City's website at http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us/agenda/pub:lic/meetings/responsive.aspx and the City's YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAvOaUwM1JCdzDzJ86mA, and archived there after the meeting. For more information regarding Planning Commission meetings, please contact the Community Planning & Building Department at (831) 620-2010.

DS 21-220 (Gregg)
Brian Congleton, Architect
Santa Rita Street 3 northeast of 3rd Avenue Block 23, Lot 16, APN: 010-025-012-000

Consideration of a Concept Design Study (DS 21-220) for construction of a 1,006 square-foot, two-story addition to the existing one-story, 594 square-foot historic Alfonso Ramirez Cabin located on Santa Rita Street 2 northeast of 3rd Avenue in the Single Family Residential (R-1) Zoning District; APN 010-025-012-000

UP 21-149 (Carmel Boutique)
Erez Chen, Business Owner
Ocean Avenue 2 NE of Dolores Street Block 71, Lot 8 & 9 APN: 010-134-009-000

Consideration of a Use Permit (UP 21-149, Carmel Boutique) for the establishment of Cosmetic Store located on Ocean Avenue 2 Northeast of Dolores Street in the Central Commercial (CC) Zoning District; APN: 010-134-009-000

DR 21-114 & UP 21-226 (The Conservatory)
Robert Carver, Architect
Dolores Street 2 SW 7th Avenue Block 75, Lot 19 APN: 010-147-006-000

Consideration of a Design Review and Use Permit Application (DR 21-114 and UP 21-226) for the establishment of a music recording studio and remodel and structural seismic retrofit of an historic 5,857 sf structure, including the addition of a 986 sf interior balcony, staircase, elevator, a 20 sf basement addition, install new solar panel array, new skylight and exterior windows to the China Arts Building located at Dolores 2 Northwest of 7th in the Central Commercial (CC) Zoning District (CD) Overlay; APN: 010-147-006-000

DS 21-274 (Hermle-Collins)
Claudio Ortiz, Agent
Southwest corner of San Carlos Street and 8th Avenue Block: 96, Lot 1 APN: 010-144-001-000

Consideration of a Concept Design Study (DS 21-274) for the partial demolition and 174 square-foot net addition to an existing 1,395 square foot one-story residence with a 230 square-foot detached garage including the construction of a new 361 square foot second story located at the on southwest corner of San Carlos Street and 8th Avenue in Single-Family Residential

(R-1) Zoning District; APN: 010-144-001-000

DS 21-264 (Kolsch)
John Mandurrago, Agent
Escolle Way 2 southeast of Perry Newberry Way Block: 2B, Lot: 10 APN: 009-161-011

Consideration of a Concept Design Study (DS 21-274) for the partial demolition and 140 square-foot net addition to an existing 1,537 square-foot one story residence with a 279 square-foot attached garage that includes the construction of a new 544 square-foot second story and new 200 square-foot garage in the front setback located on Escolle Way 2 southeast of Perry Newberry Way in Single-Family Residential (R-1) Zoning District; APN: 009-161-011-000

DS 21-189 (Malamut)
Chad Brown, Agent
Santa Fe Street 2 SW Ocean Avenue Block: 80, Lot 5 1/2, 3, N 1/2 5 APN: 010-279-014

Consideration of a Combined Concept and Final Design Study (DS 21-189) and associated Coastal Development Permit for construction of a 193-square-foot ground floor bedroom addition to the rear of an existing single-family residence as well as the demolition of 476 square-feet of decking and exterior stairs located on Santa Fe Street 2 southwest of Ocean Avenue in Single-Family Residential (R-1) Zoning District; APN: 010-279-014-000

DS 21-233 (Escobedo)
William Melford, Architect
San Carlos Street 3 southwest of 9th Avenue Block: 111, Lot: 7 APN: 010-156-003

Consideration of a Concept Design Study (DS 21-274) for a partial demolition and 855 square-foot net addition to an existing 945 square foot one story residence inclusive of a 203 square-foot attached garage including the construction of a new 445 square-foot second story, conversion of the existing garage, and the construction of a new 240 square-foot detached carport in the front setback located on San Carlos Street 3 southwest of 9th Avenue in Single-Family Residential (R-1) Zoning District; APN: 010-156-003-000

City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Brandon Swanson, Community Planning & Building Director
Publication dates: Oct. 29, 2021 (PC1043)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS • ID NO. 21-07 For the Pavement Improvement Project At Touche Pass and Vasquez Trail in The Santa Lucia Preserve

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District ("District") hereby calls for sealed bid proposals to be received by the Director of Operations of the District, at the Gate House, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93923 on or before Friday, November 12, 2021 at 10:00 am U.S. Pacific Time Zone, verified at www.time.gov.

Description of Work: These bids shall cover all the furnishing of all labor, material, equipment, mechanical workmanship, transportation and services which are required for construction of pavement improvement on the Santa Lucia Preserve. The work generally includes, but is not limited to, AC repair for approximately 22,736 sq ft, cut out and replacement at 4" with 2" lifts, and other items that are required, standard specifications or the Invitation to Bid. Bids are required for the entire work described in the Bid Documents.

Contractor's License Requirement. The bidder and all subcontractors of the bidder shall possess a valid California contractor's license issued by the Contractor's State License Board (www.cslb.ca.gov) for the type(s) of work they are proposing to perform at the time the bid is submitted. The bidder shall possess at a minimum the following California contractor's license Class A or C-12 The Contractor must be properly licensed as a contractor from contract award through contract acceptance (California Public Contract Code § 10164). When the Contractor submits its bid to the District, the Contractor must list each Subcontractor whom the Contractor must disclose under Public Contract Code Section 4104 (Subcontractor Listing Law), and provide all required information.

Contractor Registration Requirement. Pursuant to California Labor Code Section 1771.1(a), a contractor or subcontractor shall not be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, as defined in this chapter, unless currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5. To register, go to: http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html

Bidding Procedures. Bids must be made on a proposal form which is included with the contract specifications and must be signed by the bidder and accompanied by a deposit in the amount shown on the Bidder's Bond which is part of the Proposal and sealed within a bid envelope. The bid envelope is to be addressed to:

"Sealed Bid – Bid No. 21-07 – Touche.Vasquez, Santa Lucia Community Services District, Attn: Director of Operations David Simpson, Gate House, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93923."

The deposit may be cash, cashier's check made payable to the District, certified check made payable to the District (certified without qualification and drawn on a solvent bank of the State of California or a National Bank doing business in the State of California), or bid bond executed by an admitted surety insurer, made payable to the District, or the bid will not be considered. This deposit is to serve as agreed liquidated damages should the party or parties to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into the contract after the award or fail to give the bond required for the faithful performance of the contract or fail to furnish any other bond required by law.

At 10:00 am November 12, 2021 the Bid Proposals will be taken by the Director of Operations of the District and opened and publicly read by him or his authorized representative. All bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The bids, together with a report of the bidders and the respective amounts of the bids, will be presented to the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District on Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

The successful bidder shall furnish a performance bond and a payment bond.

Questions. Direct any questions to: Director of Operations David Simpson, Santa Lucia Community Service District, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, CA 93923 831-620-6772 dsimpson@santaluciapreserve.com

Obtaining SCHEDULE and CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS may be obtained by contacting the Director of Operations. Each bidder shall furnish the District with the name, address, and telephone number of the firm requesting specifications. It is the bidder's responsibility to regularly check for any addenda that may be issued prior to the bid opening date. Failure to acknowledge receipt of an issued addendum will be cause for a submitted bid to be deemed non-responsive. The Plan Holders' List is available by contacting the District.

Addenda. Any addenda issued prior to the bid opening shall constitute part of the Contract Documents. Subject to the limitations of Public Contract Code Section 4104.5, District reserves the right to issue addenda prior to bid time.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and any or all items of such bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid but if the bids are accepted, the contract for the improvement will be let to the lowest responsible bidder for the Project.

Date of Publication: October 15th, October 22nd & October 29th, 2021

By order of the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Service District. State of California Forrest Arthur General Manager Publication Date: October 15, 22, 29, 2021 (PC1024)

# FOOD

From page 29A

## ACF picnic rescheduled

The American Culinary Federation Monterey Bay's picnic for members, friends and family was rescheduled to Halloween from 1 to 5 p.m. at Toro Park. The gathering was originally set for Oct. 24 but was postponed due to weather.

The ACF is a professional organization for chefs and cooks that was founded in 1929 in New York City with the mission of "promoting the professional image of American chefs worldwide through education of culinarians at all levels." The group is now the largest organization of professional chefs and other culinary professionals in North America, with more than 22,000 members across 230 chapters.

The free picnic will include hot dogs and hamburgers, beer and wine, music, face painting, candy and prizes, and everyone is encouraged to come in costume. It will take

place in the Quail Meadows Day Use Area of Toro Park off Highway 68 in Salinas. For more information, go to [acfmontereybaychefs.org](http://acfmontereybaychefs.org).

## Twisted Roots for veterans

The Twisted Roots tasting room in Carmel Valley Village will support all who have served their country in the armed forces with a fundraiser starting on Veterans Day Nov. 11 and running through the weekend, with some of the proceeds from sales and wine tasting benefiting the Veterans Transition Center in Marina. The nonprofit's mission is "to empower veterans to transition from crisis to self-sufficiency," by providing homeless veterans and their families with food, clothing, case management, life skills, substance abuse counseling, benefit enrollment, medical referrals, employment training, and housing.

Twisted Roots, which produces chardonnay, albariño, sparkling brut rosé, old-vine zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, petite sirah and hard apple cider, is located at 12 Del Fino Place off Pilot Road. For more information, call (831) 594-8282, email [info@twistedrootsvineyard.com](mailto:info@twistedrootsvineyard.com) or visit [twistedrootsvineyard.com](http://twistedrootsvineyard.com).

# Community Foundation offers C.V. grants

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE COMMUNITY Foundation for Monterey County is taking applications for grants from the Community Fund for Carmel Valley — which distributed \$188,000 to nonprofits to help residents who lost their homes during last year's Carmel Fire — through Nov. 5.

Nonprofits, public programs and other groups that serve residents of Carmel Valley and Cachagua can apply for grants of \$1,000 to \$3,000 from the fund, which has \$30,000 to distribute.

Priority will be given to projects and programs that "build community, improve infrastructure and meet local needs," expand youth programs and services, and support educational, cultural and historical programs. Applications can be found at [cfmco.org/carmelvalley](http://cfmco.org/carmelvalley). For more information, contact (831) 375-9712 or [janet@cfmco.org](mailto:janet@cfmco.org).

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DAVID MOORE (aka DAVID E. MOORE) Case Number 21 PR000280

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DAVID MOORE (aka DAVID E. MOORE).

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MARY ANNE ZICARELLI and VIRGINIA PANZICH in the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey.

The Petition for Probate requests that MARY ANNE ZICARELLI and VIRGINIA PANZICH be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representatives to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representatives will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: November 24, 2021  
Time: 9:05 a.m.  
Dept.: 13

Address: Superior Court of California, County of Monterey, 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:  
Andrea Starrett, Esq.  
111 North Market Street, Suite 300  
San Jose, CA 95113  
(408) 775-8028

This statement was filed by Superior Court of California, County of Monterey on Oct. 15, 2021.

Publication dates: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 2021. (PC1028)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VALLEY ROAD TAP HOUSE, 7180 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.

Mailing address: 2553 Winsford Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608.  
County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: WEDOS, LLC, 201 Via Gayuba Street, Monterey, CA 93940.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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 that 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).  
S/Christopher Leidig, Member  
Date: Sept. 23, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 1, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1029)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: BoldJewelers, 136 Harvest St., Salinas, CA 93901, County of Monterey.

Registered Owner(s): Eduardo Constantino, 136 Harvest St., Salinas, CA 93901  
This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 08/20/2021 S/ Eduardo Constantino

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 10/08/2021

10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19/21  
CNS-3518342#  
CARMEL PINE CONE  
Publication dates: Oct. 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19, 2021. (PC1030)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: PARROT RANCH POTTERY, 21975 Parrot Ranch Road, Carmel Valley, CA 93924.

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Registered Owner(s): JAMES STUART KACHLER, 21975 Parrot Ranch Rd., Carmel Valley, CA 93924.

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Aug. 15, 1992.

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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/James Stuart Kachler  
Oct. 12, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 15, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1031)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ULDA & HARLAN HOUSECLEANING, 1623 San Lucas St., Apt. D, Seaside, CA 93955.

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Registered Owner(s): ULDA HERNANDEZ PONCE, 1623 San Lucas St., Apt. D, Seaside, CA 93955.  
HARLAN JOSE QUEZADA ARQUELLO, 1623 San Lucas St., Apt. D, Seaside, CA 93955.

This business is conducted by co-partners. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Ulda Hernández Ponce  
Sept. 13, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Sept. 13, 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: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021. (PC1032)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: THE SILVER TREADLE, 13766 Village Center St. G-5, Carmel Valley, CA 93924.

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Registered Owner(s): DEBORAH ANNE TWISSELMAN, 21975 Parrot Ranch Rd., Carmel Valley, CA 93924.

LINDA JOANNE VAN HOUTTE, 294 Hibbing Circle, Marina, CA 93933.  
This business is conducted by a joint venture.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Nov. 1, 1990.

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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Deborah Anne Twisselman  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 15, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1035)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE MEATERY, 1534 Fremont St., Seaside, CA 93955.

County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: CALIFORNIA PROVISIONS LLC., 27469 Schulte Rd. Carmel, CA 93923.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Oct. 5, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/James Stuart Kachler  
Oct. 12, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 15, 2021.

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS BID NO. 21-08

### The Santa Lucia Preserve

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District ("District") hereby calls for sealed bid proposals to be received by the Executive Assistant of the District, at the Gate House, One Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel, California 93023 on or before Friday, November 12, 2021 at 10:00 am U.S. Pacific Time Zone, verified at [www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov).

All bids will include delivery to above address and all appropriate sales tax etc. for Monterey Co.

Please contact Aimee Dahle (831) 620-6780 or [adahle@santaluciapreserve.com](mailto:adahle@santaluciapreserve.com) for specifications/questions.

One (1) 2021 Sierra 3500 HD, 4 WD, Regular Cab, Long Bed, 6.6L Duramax Turbo Diesel V8, Allison 10-speed automatic transmission, in Summit White. Also include Harbor truck bed, Trademaster for 56CA SRW. Vertical series-C/S & S/S w/stainless steel pop top lids.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and any or all items of such bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid but if the bids are accepted, the contract for the equipment will be let to the lowest responsible bidder.

At 10:00 am November 12, 2021, the Bid Proposals will be taken by the Executive Assistant for the District and opened and publicly read by her or her authorized representative. All bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The bids, together with a report of the bidders and the respective amounts of the bids, will be presented to the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Services District on Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

Date of Publication: October 15th, October 22nd & October 29th, 2021

By order of the Board of Directors of the Santa Lucia Community Service District.  
State of California

Publication date: October 15, 22, 29, 2021 (PC1023)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212345  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: CARMEL NAILS & SPA, 106 Mid Valley Shopping Center, Carmel, CA 93923.

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Registered Owner(s): MIKEY T. NGUYEN, 601 Mid Valley Shopping Center, Carmel, CA 93923.

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Mikey T. Nguyen  
Date signed: Oct. 20, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 20, 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: Oct. 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 2021. (PC1035)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212328  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: danielcutshethevalley, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905, County of Monterey.

Registered Owner(s): Daniel Escobar, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212248  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE MEATERY, 1534 Fremont St., Seaside, CA 93955.

County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: CALIFORNIA PROVISIONS LLC., 27469 Schulte Rd. Carmel, CA 93923.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Oct. 5, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Deborah Anne Twisselman  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 15, 2021.

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).

S/Todd Fisher, Managing Member  
Date: Oct. 5, 2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 5, 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: Oct. 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19, 2021. (PC1038)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212328  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: danielcutshethevalley, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905, County of Monterey.

Registered Owner(s): Daniel Escobar, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A

S/ Charles Harper  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 10/11/2021  
10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19/21  
CNS-3519138#  
CARMEL PINE CONE  
Publication dates: Oct. 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19, 2021. (PC1042)

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212328  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: danielcutshethevalley, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905, County of Monterey.

Registered Owner(s): Daniel Escobar, 788 Charro Way, Salinas, CA 93905

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20212248  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE MEATERY, 1534 Fremont St., Seaside, CA 93955.

County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: CALIFORNIA PROVISIONS LLC., 27469 Schulte Rd. Carmel, CA 93923.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Oct. 5, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).  
S/Deborah Anne Twisselman  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Oct. 15, 2021.

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

### Notice Of Trustee's Sale

A.P.N. 012-015-026 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 5/12/2006. Unless You Take Action To Protect Your Property, It May Be Sold At A Public Sale. If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Kimberley R. Enos And Franklin Carl Enos, Wife And Husband And Wife As Joint Tenants Duly Appointed Trustee: The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation Recorded 5/24/2006 as Instrument No. 2006046816 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Monterey County, California, Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1864 Juarez Street Seaside, CA 93955 A.P.N.: 012-015-026 Date of Sale: 11/9/2021 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: main entrance to County Administration Building, 168 West Alisal Street, Salinas, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$49,255.71, estimated The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. Notice To Potential Bidders: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. Notice To Property Owner: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (877) 440-4460 or visit this Internet Website [www.mkconsultantsinc.com](http://www.mkconsultantsinc.com), using the file number assigned to this case 21-0022-11. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Notice To Tenant: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (877) 440-4460, or visit this internet website [www.mkconsultantsinc.com](http://www.mkconsultantsinc.com), using the file number assigned to this case 21-0022-11 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. The Notice to Tenant pertains to sales occurring after January 1, 2021. Date: 10/4/2021 The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation 1851 East 1st Street, Suite 100 Santa Ana, California 92705 Foreclosure Department (949) 720-9200 Sale Information Only: (877) 440-4460 [www.mkconsultantsinc.com](http://www.mkconsultantsinc.com) Sindy Clements, Foreclosure Officer Please Be Advised That The Wolf Firm May Be Acting As A Debt Collector, Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information You Provide May Be Used For That Purpose.

Publication dates: Oct. 15, 22, 29, 2021 (PC1016)



**TANYA FARAH**  
NEW YORK

**Friday & Saturday**  
**October 29 & 30**

**ADAM FOSTER**  
FINE JEWELRY



**Thursday, Friday, Saturday**  
**November 4 - 6**



**SUSAN BENDER**  
NEW YORK

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday**  
**November 4 - 6**

**Augustina's**

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augustinaleathers.com

*Celebrating over 30 years on the Peninsula*

SECTION RE ■ October 29-November 4, 2021

Open houses are back!

# The Carmel Pine Cone

# Real Estate



■ This week's cover, located in Pebble Beach, is presented by  
Nick Glasier Properties of Sotheby's International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)

**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

# Real Estate

October 29-November 4, 2021



**3200 Palmero Way | Pebble Beach**  
**3200Palmero.com | \$15,500,000**

Just up the street from The Lodge at Pebble Beach, this exquisite estate embraces an unbeatable location, ideal layout, privacy and ocean-views. With grand entertaining areas, a wine cellar, billiard room, 8-seat theater and an elevator; this stunning estate embodies ultimate luxury living.

5 bedrooms | 5 full baths | 2 half baths  
 7,290 approx sq.ft



**Glaser Properties**

Nick Glaser  
 Deanne Glaser  
**831.596.0573**  
 DRE 01190153

**Sotheby's**  
 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# Real Estate Sales October 17 - 23

**Escrows closed: 44**  
**Total value: \$69,010,000**

## Big Sur

51168 Partington Ridge Road — \$2,800,000  
 Thierry Lovato to Pig Sur LLC  
 APN: 420-211-002

## Carmel

**Mission Street, 3 NE of Tenth Avenue — \$885,000**  
 Katherine Books to Claudia and Efrain Coria  
 APN: 010-076-014

**Lobos Street, 3 SE of Third Avenue — \$1,455,000**  
 Monterey LLC to Kathleen Schiavi  
 APN: 010-013-010

**24611 Lower Trail — \$1,505,000**  
 Leslie and Geoffrey Petry to Craig Rasmussen  
 APN: 009-072-033



270 Crocker Avenue, Pacific Grove — \$2,890,000

**Mission Street, 2 SW of First Avenue — \$2,960,000**  
 Christopher and Janice Gennone to Keith and Janice Robinson  
 APN: 010-121-021

See **HOME SALES** page 4RE



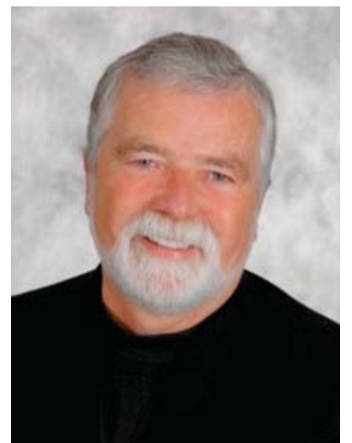
**Bill Wilson**  
 (831) 915-1830  
 wggwilson@aol.com  
 BRE# 01096607

## Wilson & Larson

*Integrity  
 Experience  
 Results*



**COLDWELL BANKER  
 REALTY**



**"Bud" Larson**  
 (831) 596-7834  
 Bud@CasperByTheSea.com  
 BRE# 00404972

5 Bed, 6 Bath • 7,286 sq. ft. • 1.75 acres  
 \$5,999,999 • 8370MonterraViews.com



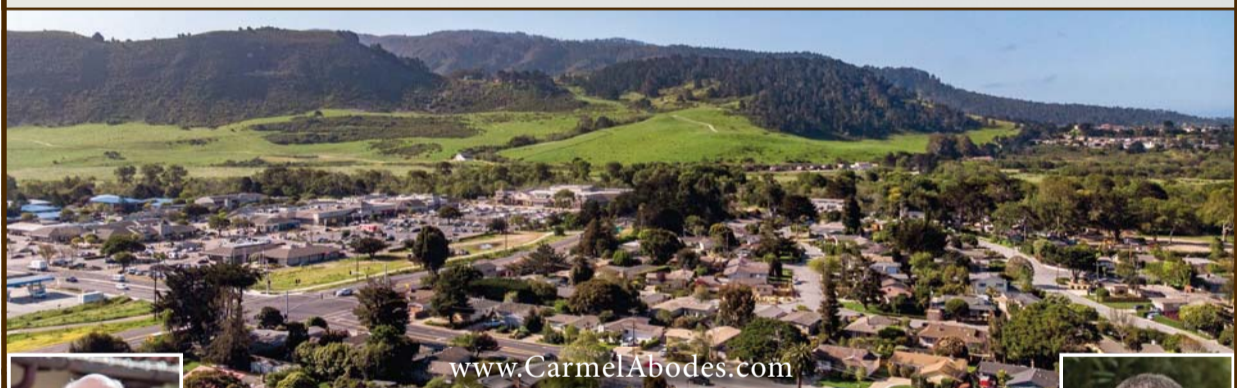
7567 Paseo Vista, Monterey • 3.32 acres • \$1,199,000



Producing Remarkable Results.  
**Ben Zoller**  
 831.595.0676  
 BenZollerProperties.com  
 Ben@MontereyCoastRealty.com  
 REALTOR® | DRE#01967810



**Rare Carmel Lot With Southeast Views of Fish Ranch**  
 Last Lot on Elegant Street ■ \$785,000 ■ Flyover Video at [www.3528Lazarro.com](http://www.3528Lazarro.com)



[www.CarmelAbodes.com](http://www.CarmelAbodes.com)



(831) 601.1620 | Paul Brocchini  
 DRE #00904451

Mark Ryan | (831) 238.1498  
 DRE #01458945



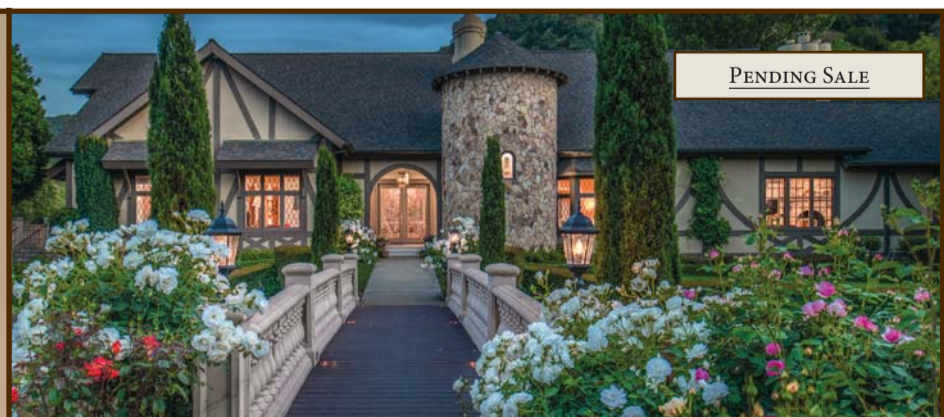
**CARMEL REALTY COMPANY**  
 ESTABLISHED 1913



BOARD OF REGENTS  
**LUXURY REAL ESTATE**  
 CARMEL • PEBBLE BEACH



**539 Paseo Venadis, Carmel | 4 Bed & 3.5 Bath | \$3.5M**  
 Very private five acre estate in Carmel's prestigious Jacks Peak.  
[www.539PaseoVenadis.com](http://www.539PaseoVenadis.com)



**100 Panetta Road, Carmel Valley | 5 Bed & 3.5 Bath | \$3.495M**  
 This beautiful and gracious home creates a quiet paradise in nature.  
[www.100Panetta.com](http://www.100Panetta.com)



THE DEFINITIVE EXPERT IN CARMEL REAL ESTATE

**LISA TALLEY DEAN** 831.521.4855  
[LisaTalleyDeanProperties.com](http://LisaTalleyDeanProperties.com) DRE#01401218



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 CARMEL • PEBBLE BEACH



# CARMEL REALTY COMPANY

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## CARMEL & CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

LUXURY PROPERTIES



3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$4,999,000 ■ [www.CasanovaHideaway.com](http://www.CasanovaHideaway.com)



OPEN SUN 1-3PM  
3292 Martin Rd.

4 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$4,500,000 ■ [www.3292MartinRd.com](http://www.3292MartinRd.com)



OPEN SAT 12-3PM  
2831 14th Ave.

3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$4,350,000 ■ [www.283114th.com](http://www.283114th.com)



4 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$1,949,000 ■ [www.9865Palisade.com](http://www.9865Palisade.com)

## MONTEREY PENINSULA

LUXURY PROPERTIES



4 beds, 4.5 baths ■ \$3,650,000 ■ [www.700TesoroRoad.com](http://www.700TesoroRoad.com)



4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,700,000 ■ [www.27DeerForest.com](http://www.27DeerForest.com)



OPEN SAT 1-3PM  
1235 Aguajito Rd.

4 beds, 3 baths ■ \$1,799,000 ■ [www.1235AguajitoRd.com](http://www.1235AguajitoRd.com)



OPEN SAT 12-2PM  
53 Miramonte Rd.

2 beds, 1 bath ■ \$1,259,995 ■ [www.53Miramonte.com](http://www.53Miramonte.com)



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# HOME SALES

From page 2RE

## Carmel (con't.)

**Mission Street, 2 NW of Vista Avenue**  
**\$3,000,000**

Blustone LLC to Melita Figueroa and Margaret Sipos  
APN: 010-115-016

**26246 Carmelo Street — \$3,435,000**

David and Caroline Werner to Daniel and Joylene Hegel  
APN: 009-403-029

**26265 Carmelo Street — \$4,100,000**

26265 Carmelo Investors LLC to Lawrence and Martha Fogel  
APN: 009-395-011

**Sixth Avenue, 2 SW of Dolores — \$4,300,000**

Robert Buck and Pace Properties LLC to Michael Cobler  
APN: 010-139-003

## Carmel Valley

**7 Trampa Canyon Road — \$335,000**

Frank Hespe to RV Famous LLC  
APN: 418-231-019

**Hacienda Carmel — \$475,000**

John Light to Barbara Henares  
APN: 015-331-001

**60 Del Mesa Carmel — \$889,000**

Alexanne Mills to Janice Minearo  
APN: 015-445-005

**27983 Berwick Drive — \$1,300,000**

Kenneth and Catherine Griggs to Devon and Keri Thompson  
APN: 169-232-001

**2 Penon Peak Trail — \$1,300,000**

Thomas and Ann Livermore to Puffin Properties LLC  
APN: 239-071-010

**711 Country Club Drive — \$1,928,000**

Donna Brusaschetti to Daniel Kato  
APN: 187-631-004

**9621 Homestead Road — \$2,205,000**

Edward Bright and Joyce Duxbury to My Beloved Zebbie Trust and The Glenmede Trust Co.  
APN: 416-531-052

**5498 Quail Meadows — \$6,750,000**

John Splittorf and Edgar Haber Trust to James Shen  
APN: 157-171-006

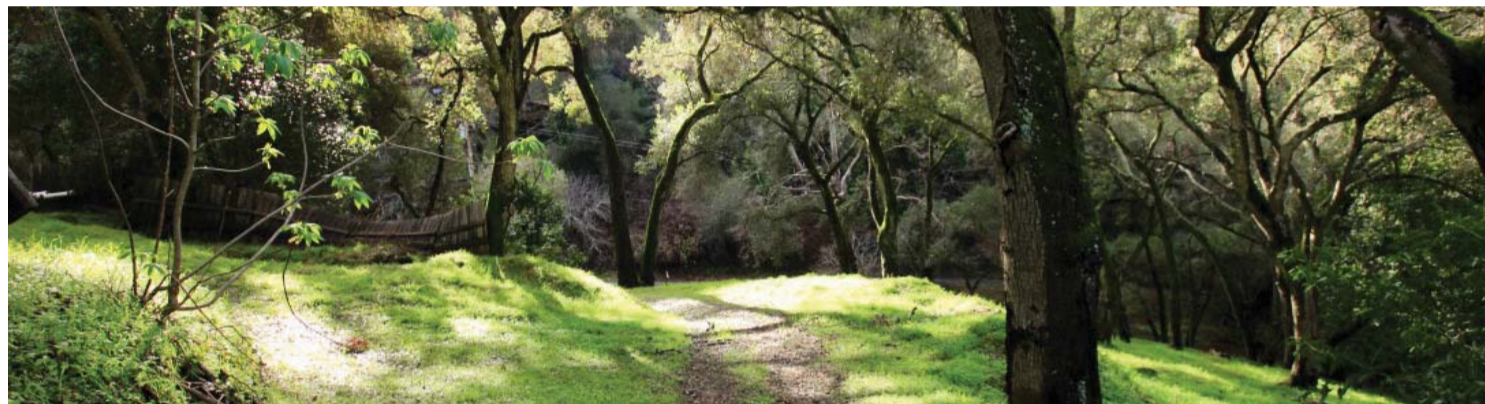
## Highway 68

**8 Montsalas Drive — \$650,000**

See ESCROWS page 14RE

**Just Listed 2.5 Acre Lot**  
108 Hitchcock Canyon | Offered at \$429,000

Contractors welcome to explore the options  
with this Carmel Valley gem!



**SAM PIFFERO** 831.236.5389

sam.piffero@sir.com | sampiffero.com

*“We love ranch and acreage properties  
To help you find yours, call us today!”*

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# CHRIS PRYOR PROPERTIES

From Pebble Beach to The Preserve

# JUST SOLD

LP: \$10,950,000 ■ REPRESENTED BUYER



## THE LAST LOT ON PEBBLE BEACH GOLF LINKS



**CHRIS PRYOR**

Mobilizing a Lifetime of Relationships

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## PEBBLE BEACH LUXURY PROPERTIES



Privately perched above Stillwater Cove.  
5 beds, 6+ baths ■ \$28,500,000 ■ [www.1470Cypress.com](http://www.1470Cypress.com)



6 beds, 5.5 baths ■ \$13,995,000 ■ [www.3164Palmero.com](http://www.3164Palmero.com)



7 beds, 7 baths ■ \$12,750,000 ■ [www.CasaDeLaEstrella.com](http://www.CasaDeLaEstrella.com)



5 beds, 5.5 baths ■ \$12,500,000 ■ [www.3208Palmero.com](http://www.3208Palmero.com)



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



4 beds, 5.5 baths ■ \$8,895,000 ■ [www.1584GriffinRoad.com](http://www.1584GriffinRoad.com)



5 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,398,000 ■ [www.2002Majella.com](http://www.2002Majella.com)



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## NEW LISTINGS IN THE SUNSHINE



33315 E. Carmel Valley Rd in Carmel Valley  
3 bedrooms/3 bathrooms/2,548 square feet  
Offered for \$1,310,000

Beautiful house in park-like setting on about a hillside acre with a well, wide southwesterly views just east of Carmel Valley Village, and bordered by the over 2,000 acre Wilson Ranch for much peacefulness and privacy. Carmel Unified Schools.



451 Laureles Grade Rd in Carmel Valley  
3 bedrooms/3 bathrooms/2,048 square feet  
Offered for \$1,099,000

Tremendous upside potential just west of Carmel Valley Village on about a hillside acre with expansive southwesterly views. Carmel Unified Schools.



155 San Benancio Rd #A in Corral de Tierra  
4 bedrooms/4 bathrooms/3,533 square feet  
Offered for \$1,285,000

Large home with southwesterly views and much potential for multiple units due to current infrastructure. Set up off of San Benancio Rd on over 7 hillside acres with a well. Ready to enjoy right now or take it up a notch with your own style and flair. In the award-winning Washington Union School District.



**JAN WRIGHT BESSEY**  
831.917.2892  
trulybeautifulplace.com  
DRE: 01155827

# Finding my alter ego and good wallet in Casablanca

*Bogart: to keep a joint dangling from your lip, a la Humphrey Bogart. To keep something all to oneself, to bully or intimidate.*

THE CURRENT kink in the supply chain trickled down to my level even though the White House chief of staff called it a “high-class problem.” The shop where I got an oil change was out of the air filter my car needed. I was told it was a supply-chain issue. The same thing happened at an auto supply store. Guess I’ll have to drive to Long Beach and rummage through the thousands of containers stacked at the port.

When I saw an advertisement online for a \$12,000 Hermès Togo Birkin 30 handbag, I wondered how many wealthy women were doing without one because of the disruption in the supply chain. The crisis of a Birkin delayed can be a pearl-clutching event. Don’t Bogart the Birkins.

Believe it or not, I have some history with women’s purses. I learned about the inviolability of a woman’s hand-

bag from three women, my grandmother, my mother and my wife. My grandmother pinned her purse to the inside of her long black coat, which she wore winter and summer. My mother clutched her arms around her handbag

## Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVAISE

the way Chicago Bears linebacker Dick Butkus wrapped his arms around a quarterback. I can still see Mom at the corner grocer, pointing to what she wanted with her eyes. She would loosen her grip on her purse only when it was time to pay.

So, I consider a woman’s handbag sacrosanct and

See GERVAISE page 10RE

# Carmel Sophistication.



COMPASS

CARMEL  
**26029 Atherton Drive**

3 Bed 3 Bath 11,400 Sq. Ft. Lot \$3,045,000/  
26029atherton.com

**Bambace Peterson**  
831.200.3178 | bambacepeterson.com  
@bambacepeterson | DRE 01731448



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# Just Listed - Corner Lot Perfection

10448 Fairway Lane

COMPASS



3 Bedroom | 3.5 Bathroom | 2,804Sq Ft | \$2,395,000



**Marcie Sadler Lowe**  
Realtor®  
DRE 01484718 | 831.595.4887  
marcieslowe.com

6th Avenue, 2SW of San Carlos Street  
Carmel By The Sea CA 93921



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# TEHÁMA

CARMEL

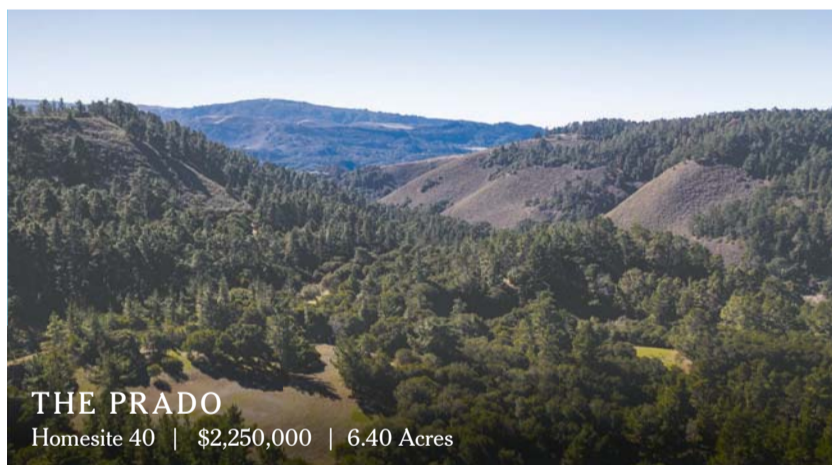
Home, Sweet *Getaway.*

The best kind of getaway is one you're able to call home. One that allows you to retreat from modern life and take comfort in the natural world. At Teháma, discover your everyday escape amid more than 2,000 rolling acres, where you can live freely, breathe deeply and find your true sense of place — all just moments from Carmel-by-the-Sea and Monterey Bay. A limited number of opportunities with mountain and ocean views remain in the community's final phase.

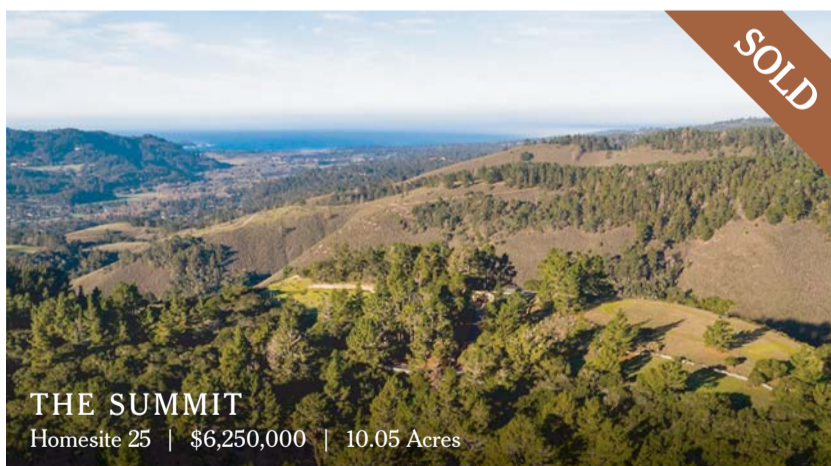
**Nearly 75% of Teháma's 90 homesites are now sold.**  
**Homesites priced from \$1.75 million.**



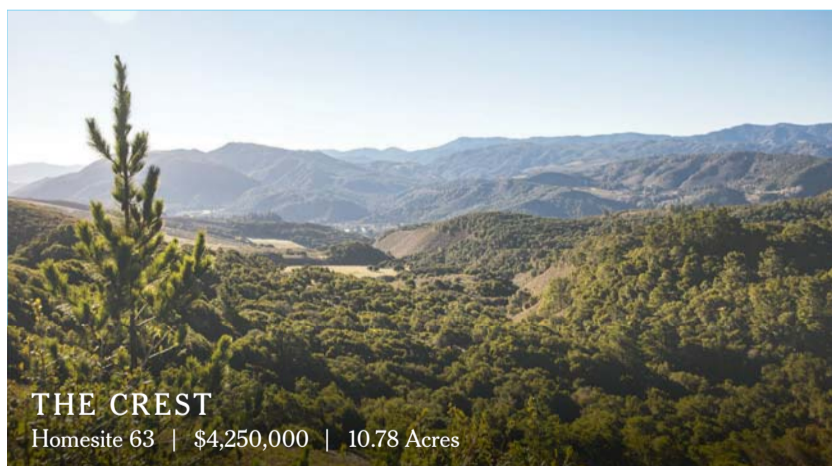
**THE GROVE**  
 Homesite 37 | \$1,750,000 | 10.01 Acres



**THE PRADO**  
 Homesite 40 | \$2,250,000 | 6.40 Acres



**THE SUMMIT**  
 Homesite 25 | \$6,250,000 | 10.05 Acres



**THE CREST**  
 Homesite 63 | \$4,250,000 | 10.78 Acres

**Rick Ojeda**  
 rick@avenue8.com  
 310.902.7676 | DRE 00987794

**AVENUE 8**

**Mike Jashinski**  
 mike.jashinski@sothebyshomes.com  
 831.236.8913 | DRE 01419985

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[tehamacarmel.com](http://tehamacarmel.com)

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CARMEL



**35700 Highway 1**  
3 BD | 3 BA / 1 HBA | \$8,498,000  
35700Hwy1.com  
NOEL BEUTEL & STEVE BEUTEL 831.915.0632

SALINAS | NEW OFFERING



**23500 Belmont Circle**  
3 BD | 3 BA / 1 HBA | \$2,538,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/6NS24L  
TERESA GIAMMANCO-CURTICE & LESLIE JOHNSON 831.915.0265

PACIFIC GROVE



**410 Grand Avenue**  
UNIT A: 2 BD / 1 BA | UNIT B: 1 BD / 1 BA | \$1,197,000  
410GrandAve.IsHomeNow.com  
TEAM ROUSE 831.277.3464

MONTEREY | OPEN SATURDAY 1-3PM



**47 Cielo Vista Drive**  
4 BD | 4 BA / 1 HBA | \$2,700,000  
47CieloVista.com  
JEANNIE FROMM 831.277.3371

PEBBLE BEACH | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM



**2971 Colton Road**  
4 BD | 3 BA / 1 HBA | \$2,898,000  
2971Colton.com  
KATHERINE HUDSON 831.293.4878

MONTEREY | OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11AM-2:30PM



**250 Forest Ridge #73**  
2 BD | 2 BA | \$630,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/W6ZBCS  
LARAYE SULLIVAN 831.887.8022

MONTEREY REGION BROKERAGES | CARMEL RANCHO | CARMEL OCEAN | CARMEL VALLEY | PACIFIC GROVE

CARMEL VALLEY



**365 Ridge Way**  
2 BD | 4 BA | \$2,998,000  
365RidgeWay.com

JEANNIE FROMM 831.277.3371

CARMEL



**24755 Summit Field Road**  
3 BD | 2 BA / 1 HBA | \$2,158,000  
24755SummitField.com  
**PATTY ROSS** 831.236.4513

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA



**Dolores 2 NW of 3rd Street**  
2 BD | 2 BA | \$1,799,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/WLGSHV  
**ZAK FREEDMAN** 831.915.2082

CARMEL



**26050 Rio Vista Drive**  
4 BD | 2 BA | \$1,750,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/98Q86Z  
**THOMAS ZEBROWSKI** 773.546.8045

PACIFIC GROVE



**402 Central Avenue**  
4 BD | 2 BA / 1 HBA | \$1,595,000  
402CentralAvenue.com  
**DOUG & LISA STEINY** 831.236.7363

CARMEL VALLEY



**33315 East Carmel Valley Road**  
3 BD | 3 BA | \$1,310,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/PFE8KZ  
**JAN WRIGHT BESSEY** 831.917.2892

CARMEL VALLEY



**0 East Carmel Valley Road**  
114 ACRES APPROX | \$895,000  
CarmelCoastAndValley.com  
**LAURA & KENT CIUCCI** 831.236.8571

CARMEL



**135 Del Mesa Carmel**  
2 BD | 2 BA | \$899,900  
sothebysrealty.com/id/VDQKZ6  
**LETTY VEITENGRUBER** 831.277.1206

SALINAS



**27331 Bavella Way**  
4 BD | 2 BA / 1 HBA | \$889,000  
sothebysrealty.com/id/XYJR84  
**TAMMY LASALA** 831.915.2109

PACIFIC GROVE



**731 Eardley Avenue**  
2 BD | 1 BA | \$700,000  
HardcastleProperties.com  
**DIANE HARDCASTLE** 831.915.7256

MONTEREY REGION BROKERAGES | CARMEL RANCHO | CARMEL OCEAN | CARMEL VALLEY | PACIFIC GROVE

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# POLICE LOG

From page 4A

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** A 57-year-old male Pebble Beach resident was arrested at San Carlos and Seventh at 0030 hours for drunk in public. He was taken to Monterey County Jail.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Unattended phone was found in Carmel at Santa Lucia and Junipero and brought to the station for safekeeping. The owner was contacted and later reunited with the phone.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Lost license plate at Lincoln and Eighth.

**Pacific Grove:** Disturbance between a male and female on Forest at 0023 hours.

**Pacific Grove:** Citizen on Sinex turned in firearms for safekeeping.

**Pacific Grove:** Bank deposit at a bank on Lighthouse was tampered with.

**Pacific Grove:** A school official reported behavioral is-

sues between juveniles on David Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** Subject on Forest was placed on a mental health hold.

**Carmel Valley:** Commercial burglary occurred at Mid Valley Center.

**Carmel area:** Deputies collected found property on Valley Greens Drive.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Person found an unattended men's wallet in Carmel Valley. The owner of the wallet was contacted and said he would come to the station on Sunday to retrieve the wallet.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report taken for a lost purse. Purse turned in to the station Oct. 10, and the owner was contacted.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Soapy water from a restaurant was observed running into the gutter on San Carlos south of Fifth. Officer advised the manager they were not allowed to let any type of water other than rainwater enter the drains. They apologized and stopped cleaning. The soapy water did not reach the storm drain.

**Pacific Grove:** Officers responded to an overdose on Ce-

dar Street. The individual was transported to CHOMP by ambulance.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle-vs.-bicyclist injury accident on Ocean View Boulevard.

**Pacific Grove:** Possible fight between two females on Ripple at 1938 hours. Officers arrived and determined one of the females had broken a window on the door. The homeowner did not wish to file charges. Report for informational purposes.

**Pacific Grove:** Responded to a report of subjects screaming on Ripple at 2129 hours. Officers located several subjects outside of a residence. One female claimed she was physically attacked by two other females. She also claimed that they took her keys and cell phone. No prosecution was desired. Report for informational purposes.

**Pacific Grove:** Officer responded to a suspicious person at Esplanade Park and made contact with several subjects. The subjects were committing multiple crimes, and a pat-frisk search of one suspect revealed he was in possession of a loaded semi-automatic pistol. The 20-year-old male was arrested and booked into Monterey County Jail on felony charges of illegally possessing and concealing a loaded firearm.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

**Pacific Grove:** Subject on Lighthouse called 9-1-1 and reported consuming medication in an attempt to harm himself. Subject was transported to the hospital for medical aid.

**Pacific Grove:** A phone was found on 12th Street. Owner notified and will be in to pick it up.

# GERVASE

From page 6RE

would never dare to look inside one. Even when my wife gave me permission to search for something in her purse, I did so with trepidation. I would scrounge around in that black hole with no success.

"What's taking you so long?" she called. "Can't you find the car keys?"

"No, but there's a lady in here who looks remarkably like Amelia Earhart." After that, she never asked me to look in there again.

But wait. There's more.

I went on a shopping trip with her. She deposited me at the gift-wrap department to wait for presents she bought for a baby shower.

"I'm going down to the first floor to look at purses," she said.

I found her 15 minutes later. My wife had about a dozen purses spread out on a counter. All were black leather and about the same size.

"Which one do you like?" she asked.

There was no way to answer that question. I had used up all of my comic lines such as, "I like the one that will hold the set of encyclopedias when you go door to door."

### A great setup

I knew if I expressed a preference she would give her "what makes you think you know anything about purses?" look, because I don't know anything about purses.

I resorted to my usual copout: "What's wrong with the one you have?"

"This is a summer purse. These are fall purses." Twenty minutes later she had a new purse. It was black leather. Then, almost as an aside, she asked:

"Do you want to look for a new wallet?"

This was a great setup trap she rarely fell into, since it let me flash her my "what makes you think you know anything about wallets?" look. I was about to Bogart the whole expedition.

I already had a wallet. Why would I want another? It was the perfect wallet, which took me weeks to find when I shopped for it 20 years earlier. It had formed itself to the contours of my body. It featured a flap that flipped open to show my driver's license, the way Joe Friday flashed his badge on "Dragnet." A zippered pocket held an extra car- or house key. It was a burnished burgundy color made from soft Moroccan leather. I don't know why Moroccan leather is a feature of good wallets. Perhaps, it's made of skin from the stomach of a virgin camel, which is why it keeps its suppleness. Why isn't neighboring Mauritanian leather as good? Again, I refer back to virgin camels, but it probably has something to do with Casablanca being in Morocco.

### 'I don't trust your driving'

When I opened that genuine Moroccan leather wallet, I tapped into my alter ego. I was Rick Blaine holding court at the bar of my *Café Americain*, okaying a check for 10,000 francs while telling Signor Ferrari, the owner of the rival *Blue Parrot*, that my place was not for sale at any price.

"Do you want to look for a new wallet?" my wife asked.

"Of all the department stores, in all the towns, in all the world, she walks into mine," I said channeling my inner Bogart.

"Give me the car keys," she said. "When you're like this I don't trust your driving."

I hooked arms with her as we walked towards the exit and said:

"I think this could be the beginning of a beautiful friendship."

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

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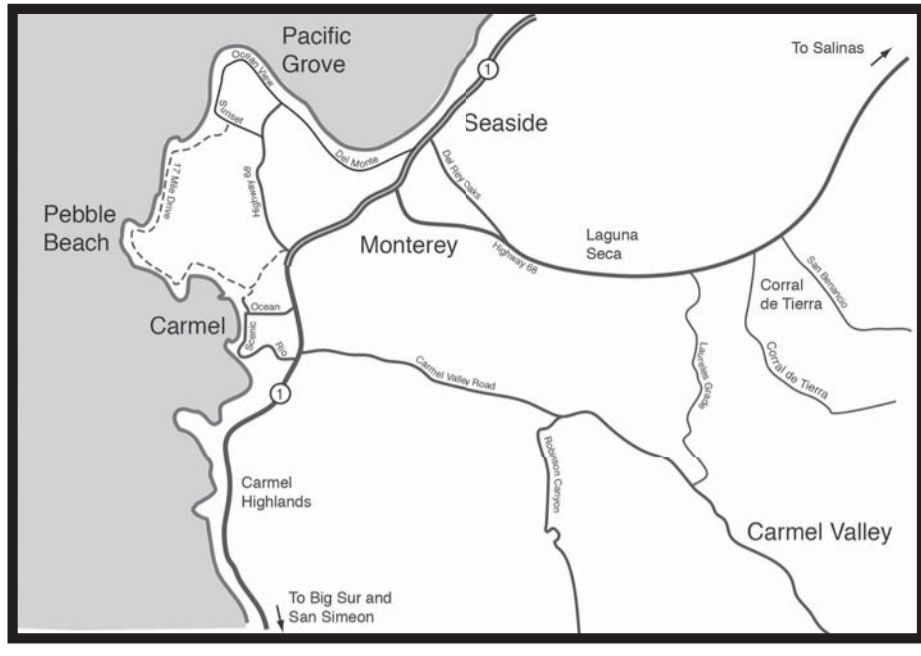
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\$739,900	2bd 2ba 287 Del Mesa Carmel David Lyng Real Estate	Sa 12-4 Carmel 594-0851
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\$2,600,000	3bd 3ba 25360 Vista Del Pinos Carmel Realty Company	Sa 12-2 Carmel 241-1434
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\$1,165,000	3bd 2ba 20 Del Robles Dr Monterey Coast Realty	Sa 11-1 Su 1-3 Monterey 717-7959
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From page 4RE

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Helen Carlin to Natalie Orrick  
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## 23799 Monterey Salinas Highway unit 52 — \$750,000

Scott Deckebach and Nicole Jonay to Patrick Small  
APN: 161-572-028

## 780 Quail Ridge Lane — \$925,000

Adam and Katherine Newhouse to Ryan and Madeline Beck  
APN: 161-231-001

## 22671 Gallant Fox Road — \$1,275,000

Dena McCague and Rockwell Trust to Marc Crocetti  
APN: 173-083-009

## 1527 Monterey Salinas Highway — \$1,795,000

Ryan and Madeline Beck to Jennifer Silacci  
APN: 101-231-001

## 25395 Boots Road — \$1,850,000

Diana Sala to Patrick and Jill Corrigan  
APN: 416-161-013

## Marina

### Arrido Way — \$412,500

Shyam Kamath to University Corporation at Monterey Bay  
APN: 031-171-005

### 364 Everett Drive — \$519,000

Jamie Shatusky to Ouita Martin and Thomas Johns  
APN: 032-273-020

### 3067 Bayer Drive — \$796,000

Eileen King to Jeffrey Teresi  
APN: 032-253-014

### 3015 Tyndall Way — \$996,500

JPA Marina Builders to Scott Smith  
APN: 031-277-054



38 Sierra Vista Drive, Monterey — \$2,600,000

### Abrams Drive — \$1,005,500

JPA Marina Builders Inc. to Fred Gomez  
APN: 031-277-051

### 3011 Tyndall Way — \$1,055,500

JPA Marina Builders Inc. to Emily Bauer  
APN: 031-277-056

### Arrido Way — \$1,262,000

JPA Marina Builders Inc. to Kawa Najim  
APN: 031-277-004

## Monterey

### 4106 Golden Oaks Lane — \$400,000

Terrance Low to Niloufar Amiri  
APN: 001-945-004

### 300 Glenwood Circle unit 303 — \$479,000

Mark Miller to Larry Borrelli  
APN: 001-776-011

### 125 Surf Way unit 318 — \$698,000

Walter Hoylman to Michael Fisher  
APN: 011-443-033

### 1 Surf Way — \$700,000

Michael Hy to Jacqueline Hofer  
APN: 011-442-078

### 257 Littleness Avenue — \$815,000

Sal Cardinali to Brandon Sullivan

APN: 013-173-016

### 6 Cielo Vista Place — \$899,000

Patricia Duran to Hui Robinson  
APN: 001-901-004

### 1 Surf Way — \$1,300,000

Mark and Martha Ross to Marin County Exchange Corp.  
APN: 011-442-075

### 38 Sierra Vista Drive — \$2,600,000

Dennis Monterosso and Patricia Calla to Peter Griffin and Janet Dudley  
APN: 001-921-016

## Pacific Grove

### Shell Avenue — \$450,000

Claus and Joanna Bock to Stewart and Francene Tabak  
APN: 006-013-017

### 144 10th Street — \$1,385,000

Diane Kelly to Jeffrey and Angela Chen  
APN: 006-201-004

### 270 Crocker Avenue — \$2,890,000

David Rawson to Sebastian and Nicole Roschke  
APN: 006-392-004

## Pebble Beach

### 21 Shepherds Knoll — \$645,000

Donald Lundquist to Anthony Dunning  
APN: 008-252-021

### 1170 Chaparral Road — \$2,220,000

Joel and Sharon Friedman to Kevin and Linda Smith  
APN: 007-543-016

## Seaside

### 1766 Judson Street — \$615,000

Jennifer Bunden to Allison Cady  
APN: 012-798-005

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2 Beds, 2 Baths • 3600 High Meadow Drive #9, Carmel  
\$849,000 • [www.3600HighMeadow.com](http://www.3600HighMeadow.com)



3 Beds, 2.5 Baths • 18594 McClellan Circle, East Garrison  
\$847,000 • [www.18594McClellan.com](http://www.18594McClellan.com)



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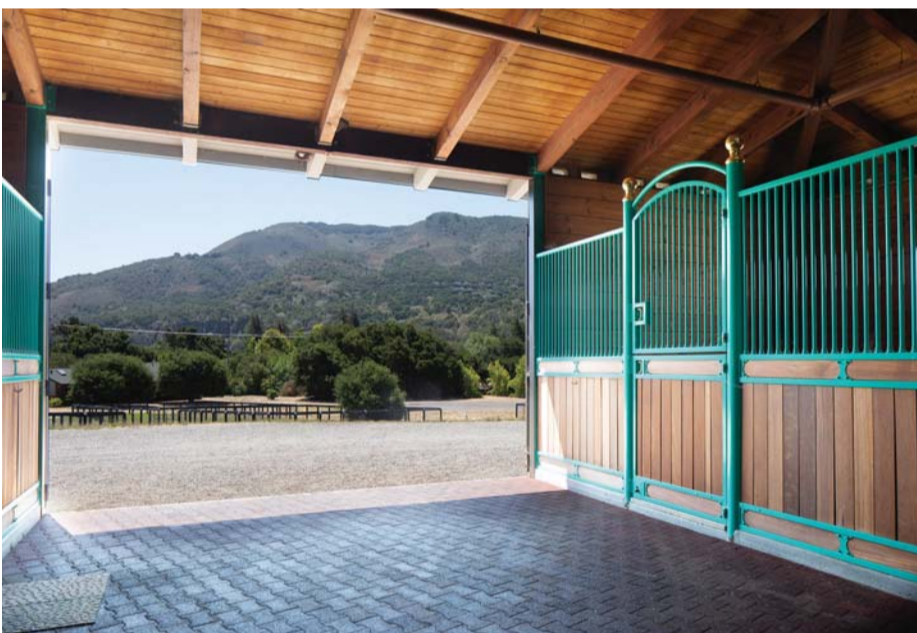
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# The Golden Pine Cones

October 29, 2021

## Supply chain, phooey! The Peninsula already has the best of everything.

**I**T'S FALL. Sure, once in awhile we get a bomb cyclone or two, but autumn in the Monterey Peninsula also means crisp, sunny weather that's perfect for enjoying our incomparable scenery. And while you're counting your blessings for living here, fall is also the best time to take advantage of the offerings from our own sweet lineup of exceptional local businesses. We speak, of course, of the Golden Pine Cones.

This year, more than a thousand of you flocked to your computers, patiently working your way through 173 categories to vote for the best places to rediscover pants or work off Covid weight gain, the perfect setting to marry that terrific person (because gosh darn it, if you made it through quarantine together, you've got this nailed), and your favorite place to read your favorite newspaper.

There was a wide variety of local superstars from which to choose. Veterinarians, swamped with new pandemic pet parents and their charges, had a chance to shine, as did stylists who've managed to restore our self-images, despite more than a year spent staring at our own dismal images on Zoom calls. Bookstores, bike shops and jewelers are here, as are electricians and plumbers. The latter, along with cashiers, restaurant servers, delivery drivers and especially healthcare providers and first responders, deserve bronze pine-needle-cluster add-ons for their bravery and determination in the face of the plague.

A round of applause, too, to the businesses that weathered supply line interruptions which temporarily turned bleach, toilet paper and new home appliances into the stuff of fantasies.

We're also celebrating the return to the stage of all sorts of live entertainment, whether it's a crooner in a piano bar, a play or a classical concert.

One quick caveat — consumers and circumstances forced businesses to become more flexible during the pandemic, so hours of operation have been in a bit of flux. It's best to call to make sure your favorites are open and ready to greet you

before making a special trip.

Whatever you've been most looking forward to since March 2020, it's probably available now. So please, peruse this remarkable array of the best of everything, according to ... you.

### Food & Wine

- Best Neighborhood Market
- Best Butcher
- Best Deli

**Bruno's Market & Delicatessen** — NE Junipero and Sixth — 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily — (831) 624-3821, [brunosmarket.com](http://brunosmarket.com)

Since 1953, Fermin and Ryan Sanchez' Bruno's Market has been everything a (literally) corner store should be. Whether you want locally farmed eggs for breakfast, fresh fruits and veggies or a decent bottle of wine, it's the ideal spot to stop, considering its convenient downtown location and easy parking.

Also voted Best Butcher, Bruno's Market's meat department carries top-grade beef, choice pieces of pork and other prime meats, and will custom cut whatever you need. The back counter can be relied upon to be busy with customers ordering their generously sized, custom-made sandwiches for lunch on the go or a picnic in the park. You can pick up a few bags of chips and some salsa, sure, but why not treat yourself to some wonderful sides, like potato or pasta salad. Got a sweet tooth? Grab some gourmet ice cream or a big old chocolate chip cookie.

Thursdays through Saturdays starting at 4 p.m., you can pick one of the delicious specials — prime rib, salmon, pork loin or leg of lamb — to make a fancy dinner as easy as swiping your credit card. Carmelites, as well as the city's many

visitors, appreciate being able to find exactly what they need at Bruno's.

### ■ Best Fruits and Vegetables

**Farmers Markets** — [oldmonterey.org](http://oldmonterey.org) - [montereybayfarmers.org](http://montereybayfarmers.org) - [everyonesharvest.org](http://everyonesharvest.org) - [wcfma.org](http://wcfma.org) - [ci.carmel.ca.us/farmers-market](http://ci.carmel.ca.us/farmers-market)

Why go to the grocery store for produce when there's a nearby farmers market almost every day of the week? Pine Cone readers know the best fruits and vegetables (not to mention eggs, pasta, meats and other staples, prepared foods and plants) are found at their local farmers markets. The largest one takes over Alvarado Street in downtown Monterey on Tuesdays from 4 to 8 p.m. (4 to 7 p.m. in winter), while Del Monte Center now hosts the popular Friday market that had been held at Monterey Peninsula College for decades (8 a.m. to noon, in the lot behind California Pizza Kitchen). Pacific Grove presents a modest Monday afternoon market on Central Avenue from 4 to 7 p.m. Other markets are held on Thursdays at Sixth and Mission in downtown Carmel from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays at 215 Reservation Road in Marina from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at Mid Valley Center in Carmel Valley during the same hours. Seasonal markets take place at The Barnyard at the mouth of the valley on Tuesday mornings and at Del Monte Center in Monterey on Sunday mornings from May through September.

### ■ Best Seafood Market

**Sea Harvest Fish Market & Restaurant** — 100A The Crossroads, and 598 Foam St., Monterey — open daily in Carmel and Monterey — (831) 626-3626 and (831) 646-0547, [seaharvestfishmarketandrestaurant.com](http://seaharvestfishmarketandrestaurant.com) (Crossroads)

See GOLDEN next page

**Thank you**

**BEST Rosé of Monterey County 8 years in a row!**

**AND Favorite Monterey County Wine 2021!**

**Dawn's Dream Winery Tasting Room**  
NW Corner 7th & San Carlos – Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA  
(831) 659-2649 – [www.dawnsdreamwinery.com](http://www.dawnsdreamwinery.com)

## GOLDEN

From previous page

A stone's throw from the Pacific, Sea Harvest market started nearly 30 years ago and added restaurants soon after. The markets in Monterey and at the Crossroads boast the best in fresh seafood every day, from locally famous Dungeness crab and sand dabs, to halibut, sushi-grade tuna, locally caught squid, and a wide range of other sustainably caught bounty from the sea. Sea Harvest's knowledgeable staff will help you select the best and freshest choices — and offer cooking tips, too. The market cafes are a good option if you can't wait to get home to tuck into your deliciously fresh fish or want someone else to do the cooking for you.

### ■ Best Bakery

**Pavel's Backerei** — 219 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove — Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 7 a.m. until they sell out — (831) 643-2636

For more than two decades, Pavel's Backerei has turned out amazing (and generously sized) tender-crisp croissants plain or oozing with chocolate, crisp and decadent cookies, floury French bread and multigrain loaves, and countless other savory and sweet baked delights, thanks to the hard work of owners Paul and Johanna Wainscoat. Seasonal goodies are also offered. Most mornings, a line forms out the door as fans wait for the chance to pick up their freshly baked treats for the day, and when the couple take their well-earned breaks and close up shop, the protestations can be heard far and wide.

### ■ Best Catering Company

**Jeffrey's** — 112 Mid Valley Center, Carmel Valley — (831) 624-2029, jeffreysgrillandcatering.com

As pandemic-related restrictions have eased, the catering business is starting to rebound, and Jeffrey's can be relied on to turn out the best for any occasion, whether a large party or a small one. Locals know they can rely on this Mid Valley institution for the very important task of providing beautiful food and excellent service. A presence in the Valley for nearly a quarter-century, Jeffrey's operates a popular restaurant, makes and sells highly addictive spiced nuts, and is extremely capable of meeting every catering need, with plenty of emphasis on fresh, local ingredients and just the right dishes for the occasion.

### ■ Best Wine Store

**The Cheese Shop** — Carmel Plaza — 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily — (831) 625-2272, thecheeseshopinc.com

The Cheese Shop is, of course, absolutely amazing for cheese, with hundreds of different varieties in every taste, texture and flavor and from every origin imaginable. But it's also the go-to place for wine, and longtime owner Kent Torrey knows his stuff. He keeps his store stocked with many hard-to-find bottles, as well as affordable but high-quality options — and he knows about every producer in his inventory. Need advice? He's the one to talk to, and he makes sure everyone who works at The Cheese Shop is extremely knowledgeable, as well. Fledgling sommeliers have flourished in his employ, and his customers benefit from that knowledge and the well-curated selection.

### ■ Best Tasting Room

**Scheid Vineyards** — SE San Carlos and Seventh — noon to 7 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, noon to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 626-9463, scheidvineyards.com

Centrally located in downtown and open daily into the evening, Scheid's tasting room has become the go-to place. It's not only a great introduction for first-timers curious about the longtime Monterey County producer's wines, but a favorite among locals who keep going back. The tasting room is light and airy and provides plenty of space, and the staff are welcoming, congenial and knowledgeable. And, ever important in Carmel, it's also dog friendly. Scheid hosts special tastings and events throughout the year especially for wine club members. Reservations are available online. For those on the road, there's also a tasting room at the winery in Greenfield just off Highway 101.

### ■ Best Monterey County Chardonnay ■ Best Monterey County Sauvignon Blanc

**Bernardus** — 5 W. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — Tuesday through Saturday, reservations available at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. for up to 12, walk-ins accommodated based on availability — (831) 298-8021, bernardus.com

Bernardus may have a new owner (still Dutch) and a new look (the labels have been redesigned), but its winemaking team's chardonnays and sauvignon blanc won the hearts of

Pine Cone readers again this year, as they have many times in the past. Vineyard manager Matt Shea cultivates Bordeaux and Burgundy grapes at the winery's estate vineyards in Cachagua and Carmel Valley, and winemaker Dean DeKorth and his team work hard to produce the wines that keep fans coming back. Long-running relationships with grape growers throughout Monterey County — including Michael Griva, who cultivates superlative sauvignon blanc for Bernardus in Arroyo Seco — ensure the team always gets the best fruit for its impressive wines. And with a handful of different vineyard-designated chardonnays, as well as the Monterey County chardonnay sourcing grapes from several different vineyards, it's no wonder Bernardus took that category, too.

### ■ Best Monterey County Rosé ■ My Favorite Monterey County Wine

**Dawn's Dream Winery** — NW San Carlos and Seventh — 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, noon to 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon to 6:30 p.m. Sunday — (831) 659-2649, dawnsdreamwinery.com

Over the years, consumers have caught on to the refreshing versatility of the dry, fruity pink wines that were once considered appropriate only in spring and summer, but are now delicious and popular any time of year. In Monterey County, numerous wineries produce rosés from a wide range of grape varieties, and once again, Dawn's Dream has emerged as the favorite among Pine Cone readers. Owned by Dawn Galante, the winery produces a dry rosé of pinot noir that offers bright citrus notes and juicy hints of fresh berries — and goes with just about everything. Dawn's Dream's portfolio is deep, especially when it comes to pinot noir, and adding to the draw, the winery is socially conscious, as Galante founded it with a mission of supporting charities benefiting women and children. All of those are good reasons for winning My Favorite Monterey County Wine this year.

### ■ Best Monterey County Pinot Noir

**Silvestri** — Sixth between San Carlos and Dolores — noon to 6 p.m. daily — (831) 625-0111, silvestrivineyards.com

Alan and Sandra Silvestri's winery produces three pinots from its estate vineyard just east of Carmel Valley Village, and each is distinctive — and distinctively good. The newest addition is Piave, named for Alan's father, Louis Piave Sil-

See **HONORED** page 4 GPC

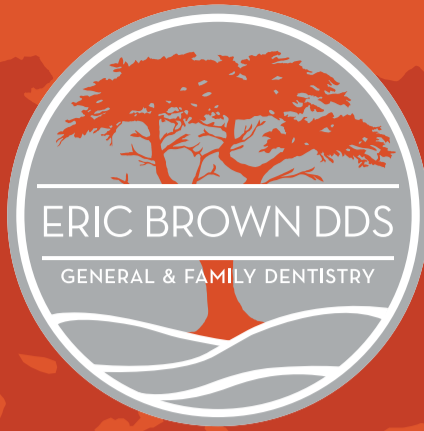
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**HONORED***From page 2 GPC*

vestri, and the 2018 vintage is described as having “notes of black raspberry fruit flavors and a dose of spice,” and said to be a good pairing with lamb burgers or duck.

Rising Tide is made from Block 1 in the vineyard and is silky and fruit-forward, and best enjoyed with wild mushroom pasta, while the estate wine is medium-bodied and perhaps best savored on its own. Either way, and whichever pinot they favor (if they have to pick just one), readers heaped praise on Silvestri’s pours.

### ■ Best Monterey County Merlot

**Galante Vineyards** — Dolores between Ocean and Seventh — 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 12:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon to 6:30 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-3800, galantevineyards.com

Galante Vineyards consistently produces the best Bordeaux varietals, earning Pine Cone readers’ votes year after year. While he and wife Dawn sold their vineyards and winery to a young couple last year, Jack Galante continues to focus on producing the finest possible wines from the Cachagua vineyard and letting the fruit express itself in the wines — efforts that have been rewarded with praise. His merlot boasts balance, body and fruit. Fans can also explore Galante’s deep library, with several vintages from different estate vineyards going back many years — even decades.

### ■ Best Monterey County Cabernet Sauvignon

**Twisted Roots Vineyard** — 12 Del Fino Place, Carmel Valley — noon to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday — (831) 594-8282, twistedrootsvineyard.com

For the couple and the friends who own Twisted Roots, which has a tasting room in Carmel Valley Village, making

wine is joyous work, and their efforts show in all their wines. Founded by third-generation wine growers based in Lodi, Twisted Roots was incorporated a decade ago and is now owned by charming and affable Josh and Julie Ruiz and their friends. In addition to its popular cabernet sauvignon, which is soft and fruit-forward, but not heavy like many cabs are, Twisted Roots produces chardonnay, petite sirah, zinfandel from the family’s century-old vines, sparkling rosé and dry apple cider.

### ■ Best Place for a Beer

**Alvarado Street Brewery** — Carmel Plaza at Junipero and Ocean and 426 Alvarado St., Monterey — open daily, check location for hours — (831) 293-8621 and (831) 655-2337, asbcarmel.com and alvaradostreetbrewery.com

The father-and-son duo that brought immensely successful Alvarado Street Brewery to the Monterey Peninsula also operates Alvarado Street Brewery & Bistro in Carmel Plaza, and both locations are ideal for enjoying a beer (or several), along with some snacks. The Monterey beer garden and the patio in the plaza both offer great spaces for dining and drinking outdoors. With Alvarado Street’s stellar lineup of locally made beers, from perennial favorites Mai Tai IPA and Monterey Beer, to seasonal, sour and other more creative offerings — paired with delicious high-level pub food, plenty of indoor and outdoor seating at both spots, and a lively yet sophisticated atmosphere — it’s really no surprise ASB won this year’s award.

### ■ Best Cocktails

### ■ Best Restaurant in Carmel

**Grasing’s Coastal Cuisine** — NE corner Mission and Sixth — lunch and dinner daily, with brunch on weekends — (831) 624-6562, grasing.com

A favorite among locals for its ambiance and high-quality cocktails, the bar at Grasing’s is often busy when other spots are not. A strong and diverse liquor selection that includes some hard-to-find bottles, adept bartenders who will create what you want or craft anything from the cocktail menu — which is not expansive but covers everyone’s tastes — and a comfortable bar that makes you want to linger awhile all add up to why readers chose Grasing’s for Best Cocktails this year. They also identified it as the Best Restaurant in Carmel, and it has long been a favorite of locals for the great food offered by owner Kurt Grasing and his team — which as of September includes star local chef Cal Stamenov, formerly of Bernardus. The menu will still feature the favorites that repeat customers expect to find but will surely benefit from Stamenov’s creativity and exceptional culinary skills. Also adding to the draw are Grasing’s many options for al fresco dining, with its back patio, parklet and rooftop deck.

See **BEST** page 6 GPC

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# G O L D E N P I N E C O N E S

## BEST

From page 4 GPC

### Best Happy Hour

**Vesuvio** — Sixth between Junipero and Mission — from 4 p.m. nightly — (831) 625-1766, [chefpepe.com/restaurants](http://chefpepe.com/restaurants)

A lively rooftop deck and a long indoor bar make Rich Pepe's Vesuvio a fun spot for Happy Hour — every day from 4 to 6 p.m. — and readers chose it as their favorite again this year.

The restaurant offers plenty of drink and food specials, with appetizers like bruschetta, arancini, fried calamari, and baby back ribs, and a full bar capable of turning out all sorts of cocktails. It's a popular gathering spot, so reservations are recommended.

### Best French Restaurant

**L'Escargot** — Mission just south of Fourth — lunch and dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to closing Wednesday through Sunday — (831) 620-1942, [escargot-carmel.com](http://escargot-carmel.com)

Originally founded in 1958 by Yvan Nopert, L'Escargot has been under the charge of chef-owner Kerry Loutas for more than two decades and reflects his unflinching care for turning out high-quality classic French-country cuisine, from steak frites and French onion soup, to house-made pate, escargot (of course) in the shell — and frogs' legs. Loutas believes in providing personalized, friendly service at a restaurant that's been a local favorite for years, and now has outdoor tables, too. An added bonus: During the pandemic, Loutas began offering lunch for the first time in the restaurant's history, and so far, it has stuck. The midday menu includes a few sandwiches and other items not listed on the dinner menu, providing even more reasons to return.

### Best Chinese Restaurant

**Tommy's Wok** — Mission between Ocean and Seventh — lunch from 11:30 a.m. and dinner from 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday — (831) 624-8518, [tommyswokcarmel.com](http://tommyswokcarmel.com)

Tiny Tommy's Wok is the only place to find Chinese food in Carmel-by-the-Sea, but its reputation for delicious, fresh dishes and a vast menu draws people from all over the Peninsula, making it the only winner in this category, ever. The dishes paraded out of its diminutive kitchen are bright, fresh, aromatic and satisfying in the ways that only really good Chinese food can be, and it's a perennial favorite among Pine Cone readers, having taken the crown each year since the Golden Pine Cones started in 2008. Tommy's Wok serves up a menu of Szechuan, Hunan and Mandarin specialties, and is always one of the top spots for takeout, too.

### Best Indian Restaurant

**Aabha** — The Barnyard Shopping Village — noon to 8 or 9 p.m. daily — (831) 250-5940, [aabhaindian.com](http://aabhaindian.com)

Executive chef and proprietor Bhupender Singh's food is as warm as he is. Everyone who comes to the hospitable and spacious restaurant in the Barnyard shopping center at the mouth of Carmel Valley feels welcome, and Singh's delicious Indian food — some spicy, but always just right — never disappoints. The menu includes a wide range of dishes, including many vegetarian and vegan options. Singh's devotion to cooking came from observing his mother and helping her in the kitchen when he was a child, and he says he's "passionate about creating authentic Indian food and bringing Indian delicacies to the table."

### Best Italian Restaurant

**Mezzaluna** — 1188 Forest Ave. Pacific Grove — 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday — (831) 372-5325, [mezzalunapizzeria.com](http://mezzalunapizzeria.com)

Chef/owner Soerke Peters and partner Amy Stouffer

See WINNERS page 8 GPC



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## Folktale Group Log

Here's a look at some of the significant calls logged by the Folktale Group. This week's log was compiled by Barry Zlay.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Subjects yelling and refusing to leave the restaurant at Seventh & Dolores until they were allowed to cast votes for Best Restaurant to Have a Steak.

**Carmel:** Found husband and wife having way too much fun with friends at **Folktale Winery**, drinking wine, dining, and soaking in the sun at Monterey's Best Place to Relax and Listen to Music.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Vehicle stopped at Seventh and Mission, in front of next year's Best Bakery Pine Cone winner, Rise + Roam. Rioters dispersed after tasting amazing bread, baked goods, and coffee.

**Carmel Valley:** Officers responded to a report of missing dairy, gluten, meat, soy, and egg from **Organic Pharmer's** delicious cleanse beverages and soups. All products were released for sale to **Folktale Provisions** and online at [organicpharmer.com](http://organicpharmer.com).

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021

**Monterey:** Report of freshest sushi and bowls at **Pacific Bowls & Rolls** on Alvarado Street.

**Carmel:** Staff at all **Folktale Group** businesses overwhelmed with gratitude to our community.



[www.folktalegroup.com](http://www.folktalegroup.com)

## THANK YOU PINE CONE READERS VOTED BEST:

### SEVENTH & DOLORES



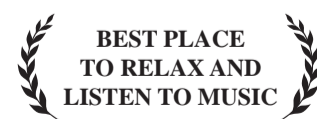
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## WINNERS

From page 6 GPC

continue to impress with their pasteria and mozzarella bar on Forest Hill, thanks to their attention to detail and passion for producing excellent food and an overall superlative dining experience. All the pasta is made in-house, as are the sauces, and Peters' creativity shines through in the menu, which includes pillowy gnocchi with gorgonzola sauce and truffle oil, saffron ravioli with lobster, amazing lasagna with chicken sausage, house-made duck pate, grilled octopus and many other inspired and well orchestrated appetizers and main courses, along with five "mozzarella bar" items. The beautiful bar and lounge area are also perfect for snacks and cocktails, which are creative and well crafted. Mezzaluna boasts a huge selection of amaro, Italian bitter liqueurs, as well.

### Best Japanese/Sushi Restaurant

**Toro** — Dolores between Fifth and Sixth — lunch and dinner daily from noon Mon. through Thurs. and from 11:30 a.m. Fri.-Sun. — (831) 574-3255, torosushicarmel.com

Opened by two friends last summer in the former Em Le's/Lafayette/Etats Unis space, Toro quickly captured locals' hearts with its delicious sushi, creative menu and friendly service. More traditional rolls, sashimi and nigiri are complemented by Toro Rolls like the Dolores (yellowtail and avocado topped with salmon salad, tobiko, green onion and two sauces) and the Maine Squeeze (tempura lobster and spicy tuna topped with yellowtail, snow crab, avocado, toasted macadamia nuts and unagi sauce) and a selection of seared rolls. With a sake master on staff, the selection of sakes from all over Japan is expansive, too, and flights are available for tasting.

### Best Mediterranean Restaurant

**Dametra Cafe** — Ocean and Lincoln, Carmel — 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 622-7766, dametracafe.com

Crowds of locals and visitors flock to Dametra not just for the food, but for the lively atmosphere and the impromptu musical performances that can often be heard a block or two away. Friends Faisal Nimri and Bashar Sneeh were brought together by their love of music — both play the traditional Mid-

dle Eastern stringed instrument, the oud — and their desire to create restaurants that feel like home to all who walk through the door, strangers and friends alike. Hence, their Dametra Café, which offers Greek, Italian, Spanish, Moroccan, Turkish, French, Israeli and Lebanese dishes — always has a line of eager diners waiting for their seats at the table. Nimri, from Jordan, and Sneeh, from Syria, continue to build their following by displaying their inimitable hospitality. With the city still allowing parklets (for now), Dametra has outdoor dining on Ocean and on Lincoln.

### Best Thai Restaurant

**Baan Thai** — University Plaza at 1760 Fremont St., Seaside — takeout or eat in, 11 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Monday through Friday, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 4:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, 3 to 9 p.m. Saturday — (831) 394-2996, baanthaiseaside.com

Is it worth the trip to Seaside just for some Thai food? You bet. This place has been a poorly kept secret for decades — rumor has it that it's been a favorite of a few local chefs. Lunch specials — all 17 of them — come with generous portions and soup or salad. Whether you decide to eat in (or under their outdoor tent) or take your food to go, you'll be greeted by the pungent scents of garlic, ginger and curry. Service is as prompt as the food is flavorful. Start off with the fried wontons and plum sauce, or the butterfly shrimp — battered and served piping hot with sweet chili sauce. If fried food isn't your thing, there are pot stickers, or chicken sauté on skewers with peanut sauce. Traditional Tom Yum soup is served with chicken, shrimp or assorted seafood, and a refreshing shredded papaya salad comes with lime-chili dressing. Fancy it up with a roasted duck salad or move on to an extensive selection of entrees. Vegetarians can find plenty to eat, with several curries and stir-fries available. If you still have room, get the fried banana with ice cream or the green tea or coconut ice cream.

### Best Mexican Restaurant

**Baja Cantina** — 7166 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday — (831) 625-2252, carmelcantina.com

When you're cruising down Carmel Valley Road, this racing-themed spot is easy to miss, but hard to forget. Settle in with some

nicely seasoned chips and fresh salsa and peruse the lengthy menu while you enjoy an icy margarita. Starters include nachos, a variety of quesadillas and the Laguna Seca toothpicks — chicken flautas with pico de gallo, guacamole, sour cream and habanero sauce. Gourmet enchiladas can be made you're your choice of rosemary chicken, slow-roasted pork in mole sauce, roasted citrus pork Yucatan style or wild mushrooms, spinach and chicken. The fresh catch fish tacos are topped with crunchy cabbage and the usual accoutrements, or you can have the fish of the day blackened, with coconut rice and sautéed spinach. There's pasta, and three special burgers with a side of fries or onion rings. If you (or your date) love cars, the walls are adorned with posters and other racing memorabilia. There's a casual vibe and plenty of outdoor seating for warm Carmel Valley days, and they're great at handling crowds.

### Best Restaurant for Seafood

**Passionfish** — 701 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove — 5 p.m. to closing nightly — (831) 655-3311, passionfish.net

The cute little restaurant at the corner of Lighthouse and Congress in P.G. has been around since 1996, when owners Ted and Cindy Walter would go down to Fisherman's Wharf every day to buy fresh fish. Three years after they opened their seafood spot, the Monterey Bay Aquarium established its Seafood Watch program, and the Walters went all in on sustainability.

In an interview this past May, Cindy said, "From pole-caught wild fish, to beef raised on small ranches, from zero-waste wineries to fresh, organic produce, from house-made cleansers to the natural brown paper instead of bleached white table covers, our mission is to provide something valuable and good that serves people without hurting anyone or anything." Of course, all those good intentions don't mean as much if the food isn't good — but, of course, it is.

Plates are beautiful and creative like an appetizer of fried California squid with spicy tangerine vinaigrette and a sea scallop paired with an artichoke risotto cake. Sweet treats include maple-banana bread pudding with bourbon caramel sauce and banana ice cream, and Meyer lemon panna cotta with strawberry coulis. Eat responsibly, but by all means, eat well.

See FAVORITES page 10 GPC

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The results are in.

Once again, we are humbled and grateful for your votes among the 'Best of the Best' 2021 Golden Pine Cone Awards.



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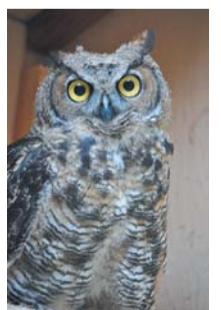
2021



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## FAVORITES

From page 8 GPC

### ■ Best Restaurant for Steak

**Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse** — right where it says it is — 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday through Monday — (831) 293-7600, 7Dsteakhouse.com

It's hard to believe that 7D was voted Best New Restaurant just four years ago — it already seems like a local institution. In an area awash in seafood and salad greens, Pine Cone readers have asserted their right to splurge on good, honest red meat. But they won't sacrifice seasonal goodness, either. According to the restaurant's web site, "The rich, fertile land of California and the spectacular Pacific Ocean dictate the seasonally changing menu, but as victims of wanderlust, we also want to bring the energy and influences of our travels back to our home in Monterey County." Menus are playful

and always interesting, with unexpected classics like crispy veal sweetbreads, and respectful versions of traditional favorites — 14-ounce New York strips, 10-ounce filet mignons and 24-ounce bone-in ribeyes. There are some things you just don't want to mess with, and beef is one of them. You can top with a sauce of your choice, or get a flight of six sauces to sample for \$25. Other entrées include sea bass, rack of lamb, a Niman Ranch pork chop and a vegetarian Portobello Bourguignon. Sides of potatoes — baked, French-fried, and mashed (with or without truffles) — and soups, salads and vegetables can help you round out the meal. If you have room for dessert, indulge your sweet tooth with Valrhona chocolate terrine or goat cheese beignets.

### ■ Best Restaurant for Vegetarians

**Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant** — 1180 Forest Ave., Suite F, Pacific Grove — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily — (831) 656-9533, juliasveg.com

You might not know where Julia's is, but vegetarians and

the people who love them anyway know it's at the back end of that little strip of restaurants and shops between Safeway and Trader Joe's. For more than 10 years, this spot's been serving up vegetables — especially mushrooms — in all kinds of creative and satisfying ways. It's open for breakfast every day at 9, and you can kick off your meatless Monday with real eggs or vegetarian egg substitutes. Donut holes tossed in cinnamon sugar with candy cap mushroom dipping sauce (just go with it, it's delicious) prove that being a vegetarian doesn't mean you have to become an ascetic. The locals' lunch menu, available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekdays, offers two delicious curries — a yellow vegetable combo with carrots, squash and mushrooms over rice, or a pumpkin curry served with pumpkin seeds for \$16. There are also soups — the South Pacific squash purée is a must-try — and creative salads. There are eight pizza choices, and you can add a drizzle of truffle oil or get a gluten-free crust if you like. Lots of live music is on tap, along with kombucha and a nice selection of beers and wines, not to mention what might be the funkier (in a good way) bathroom on the Peninsula.

### ■ Best Salad

### ■ Best Restaurant Service

**Rio Grill** — 101 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 625-5436, riogrill.com

All through Covid-19, Rio Grill kept dishing it out, whether to go or on its spacious patio. Now the longtime locals' favorite is back in full swing, and if it skipped a beat along the way, nobody seems to have noticed. No one's sure which of the six salads — iceberg wedge, mixed greens, Chinese chicken, butter lettuce, charred romaine heart or ahi tuna — won your votes, because each is distinct and comes with delightful variations. You can add chicken, salmon or skirt steak to any of the salads. The Chinese chicken salad is a textural feast, with sesame-soy noodles, crunchy almonds and savory tahini dressing, while the ahi tuna comes with avocado, jalapeños and grilled watermelon, topped off with ginger-sesame dressing.

Good restaurant service is hard to define, yet you know it when you see it. It's been compared to conducting a symphony with fire and knives, or a well-choreographed ballet, but in the end, it's about balance. Meals should come to the table efficiently, but not so quickly that your appetizer fork is still in midair when the main dish arrives. The sizzling medium-rare porterhouse steak has to come out at the same time as Aunt Ethel's grilled prawn pasta, without either being over or under done. Servers have to be able to suggest the right cocktail to go with your app, the right dessert to have with your coffee, and to keep everyone's food allergies and sensitivities straight, as if yours is the only table on their minds. When it comes together, it's beautiful.

### ■ Best BBQ

**The Crossroads Barbeque** — 241 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (or when sold out) daily, delivery available — (831) 250-7616, thecrossroadsbbq.com

The Ingram family had already brought its love of smoked meats to Salinas, Santa Cruz County and Santa Clara County when they set up shop in the Crossroads in 2018. Casual, sometimes raucous and always delicious, this is a great place to relax and feed your caveman cravings. Treasured family recipes for hearty potato salad and baked beans, as well as the must-have personal vats of berry cobbler with two scoops of vanilla ice cream and bread pudding shine, but the meat is the main event.

The Ingrams have it down to an art, slow-smoking beef, pork and chicken with California oak wood for hours until everything is just right. Smoky tri-tip will send you on a mental vacation to a dude ranch, brisket is tender and the pulled pork with vinegar-molasses "hog wash" sauce will have you closing your eyes in appreciation. Don't even bother with a fork for the St. Louis-style pork ribs — just pick 'em up with your bare hands and have at it. Sauces are complements, not floods of flavor-smothering sweetness. Order a couple of craft beers to have while you dine in, or order the whole shebang to go and dive in at home, where nobody can see the sauce-smear evidence on your face.

### ■ Best Fish & Chips

**AW Shucks** — Ocean between San Carlos and Dolores — lunch and dinner from 11 a.m. daily — (831) 624-6605, awshucks Carmel.com

Owned by Michael and Michelle Sapon — who can almost always be found working at their restaurant — AW Shucks has long been a favorite oyster bar in town, and this year, Pine Cone readers identified it as the best place for fish & chips, too. A generous portion of beer-battered fish fried light and crisp in the tiny, open kitchen is served with steak fries (or a salad, but what's the point of that?). A full bar offers several beers on draft, as well as its famous Bloody Marys and a wide selection of liquors. The restaurant doesn't take reservations, but when it's busy the person at the door will take down names and numbers and call when tables open.

2021



2020



2019



2018



2017



2016



2015



2014



2013



2012



2011



2010



2009



2008



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## FINEST

From page 10 GPC

### ■ Best Place to Get Ice Cream

**Revival Ice Cream** — 463 Alvarado St., Monterey  
— Noon to 9 p.m. daily, open until 10 p.m. Friday through  
Sunday — (831) 747-2113, revivalicecream.com

“Lovingly handcrafted, small-batch organic ice cream, using locally harvested and sustainable ingredients ....” With an intro like that on its website, Revival Ice Cream had better be ready to deliver on the promise of something that’s a scoop above — and that’s precisely what must be happening for our readers to vote for it as their favorite ice cream shop — again and again. Ice cream comes with an implied promise that it will transport you back in time to memories of childhood. It’s almost impossible not to smile while you’re slurping up a spoonful, even if — perhaps especially if — you’re standing in front of the freezer in your bathrobe. Try the Chocolate Nuts and Fluff, Revival’s take on Rocky Road. What’s the fluff? Homemade marshmallow, which everyone should consume now and again, if only to remind themselves what the real thing tastes like. Those and other flavors, includ-

ing banana caramel, apple pie, milk and cookies, and lemon peel sherbet, can be ordered in cups or cones, or pints or half gallons to take home. Revival sells reusable containers for serious ice cream junkies, and 10 percent of sales of the containers go to its nonprofit partners, like MEarth, Community Partnership for Youth and MY Museum. Go to the website to share the frozen goodness with friends from coast to coast.

### ■ Best Sandwich or Burger

**RG Burgers** — 201 Crossroads Shopping Village, Carmel  
— 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily — (831) 626-8054, rgburgers.com

Wow! These “real good” burgers have been around since the late 1900s — 1990, to be precise. And in those 30-plus years, they’ve become a local classic and multiple Golden Pine Cone winner. Even if it were only about the burgers, it would be impressive — there are more than 20 of them, with influences from the around the world. Whether it’s the Asian-spiced sriracha, the Hawaiian burger with grilled pineapple and teriyaki sauce, a hoity-toity Béarnaise, a south-of-the-border Ortega jack, or a N’awlins-inspired Cajun burger, you have your choice of beef, chicken, turkey or falafel. They also make a full range of old-school diner sandwiches — you can get a patty melt, BLT or that old standby, egg salad. Cutting carbs? Hit them up for a Cajun chicken salad or a grill chick-

en Caesar. Sides include homemade soup and chili, fries (regular, sweet potato or garlic parm), tater tots, cole slaw or mac and cheese. How you could possibly have room for sweets is unfathomable, but they’re there, as are nostalgic milkshakes. Or, wash everything down with a soda, beer or wine.

### ■ Best Breakfast

**From Scratch** — 3626 Barnyard Shopping Village —  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Tuesday —  
(831) 625-2448, fromscratchrestaurant.com

Not only is breakfast the most important meal, you can make a compelling argument that it’s the most fun. What other time of day can you indulge in eggy fried bread with maple syrup or stacks of fluffy pancakes with blueberries or bananas and walnuts? Guy Fieri of “Diners, Drive-ins and Dives” (pictured on the restaurant’s web page cozying up between fellow celebrity chef Robert Irvine and From Scratch’s own Chef Steve) is represented with the “Triple D” sampler — extreme sausage biscuits and gravy with a side of your choice and homemade brisket chili topped with cheddar, onions and sour cream. Corned beef hash is slung, and you can get your eggs with some of the more than 22 veggies, meats and cheeses on the menu. Yes, there are potatoes, and of course there are Benedicts — go traditional, or try the turkey-and-avocado version. But hey, maybe your idea of breakfast is a smoothie and a run on the beach. That’s OK, you can still have lunch, with a Barnyard club wrap (ham, turkey, bacon, avocado and more in an oversized tortilla) or house-made BBQ beef brisket with “Sweet Spicy Love” sauce on a house-made roll.

### ■ Best Coffee

**Acme** — 485B Palm Ave. (in the alley), Seaside — 7:30 a.m.  
to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 393-9113,  
acmecoffeeroasting.com

“Resist Corporate Coffee,” is Acme’s motto, and visiting its shop in Seaside makes you feel a wee bit subversive — it takes a little bit of doing to find it, but once you do, you’ll know you’re somewhere coffee is taken seriously. Now, Pine Cone readers are voraciously locavorish — many of you wouldn’t be caught dead with one of those cups with the green mermaid emblazoned on the side — but this is the first time Acme’s intoxicating scent has jump-started the voting in large enough numbers to walk off with the coveted Golden Pine Cone. Maybe it’s the funky vibe of the Seaside location, where you can sometimes find local artists exhibiting their works. The beans are as carefully sourced as wine, with names like Guatemala Huehuetenango, a region in the Central American highlands whose name means “place of the ancients” in the indigenous language, Nahuatl. Blends have names custom-fit for gearheads: Powerglide, a light roast with a nice kick of caffeine, Road Dog, an all-occasion blend, Motor City Espresso, and the aptly named Valve Job, a dark roast with great body that the folks at Acme say is “designed to scrub your pipes.”

### ■ Best Coffeehouse

**Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Co.** — Ocean  
Avenue between Lincoln and Monte Verde, 3720 The Barn-  
yard, and 256 Crossroads Blvd., The Crossroads — carmelc-  
offeeroasters.com for hours and phone numbers

You can make really good coffee right in your kitchen with gear as simple as a cone filter holder and a kettle. Oh, and a grinder — you want to grind the beans right before you brew, y’know. There might even be some treasured company you like to spend your mornings with — a spouse, or perhaps just a rescue dog whose best quality is that he doesn’t argue about politics. But what if you want a perfectly foamed cappuccino or a latte? Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Company’s three locations are comfortable, but not fancy or intimidating. They offer sweet treats and savory breakfast items to enjoy with your Joe, and the baristas are friendly and knowledgeable. If you’re not a coffee drinker, check out the assortment of herbal and black teas they can brew up and serve hot or iced (the turmeric ginger has a great, caffeine-free kick). You can hang with your friends, read the newspaper and listen to the eclectic background music. People-watching is fun, too — a couple Pine Cone reporters and columnists can be spotted there from time to time, caffeinating in preparation for bringing you all the news you want to read.

### ■ Best Desserts

**Sweet Reba’s** — 206 Crossroads Blvd., The Crossroads,  
Carmel — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday —  
(831)601-4818, sweetrebas.com

OK, here comes the warning. The cinnamon donut muffins are habit-forming. Even the wonderful folks at Sweet Reba’s call them “seriously addictive” and “a gateway muffin.” They’re just the right balance of sweet and cinnamon-y, just a bit more than a bite, with a little bit of muffin-top texture on the outside and a soft chewy interior that vanishes too quickly. That’s all right, though, because they’re only 50 cents apiece. People line up outside the bakery’s cheerful pink Dutch door, staring into the windows like little kids. Triple chocolate brownies and snickerdoodles are on the menu along



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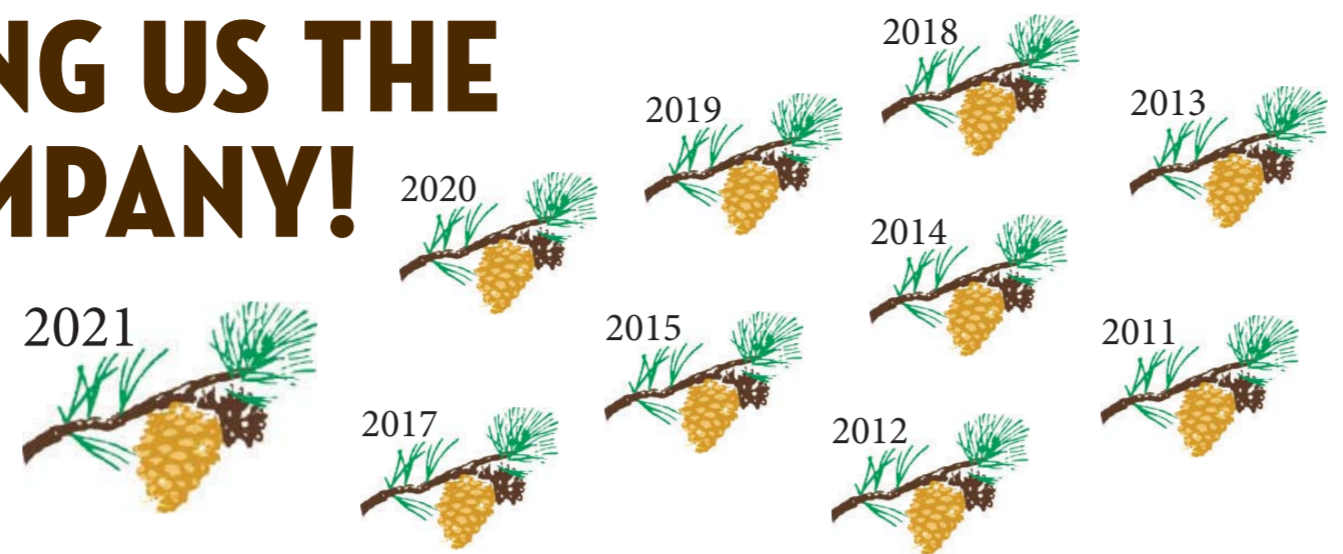
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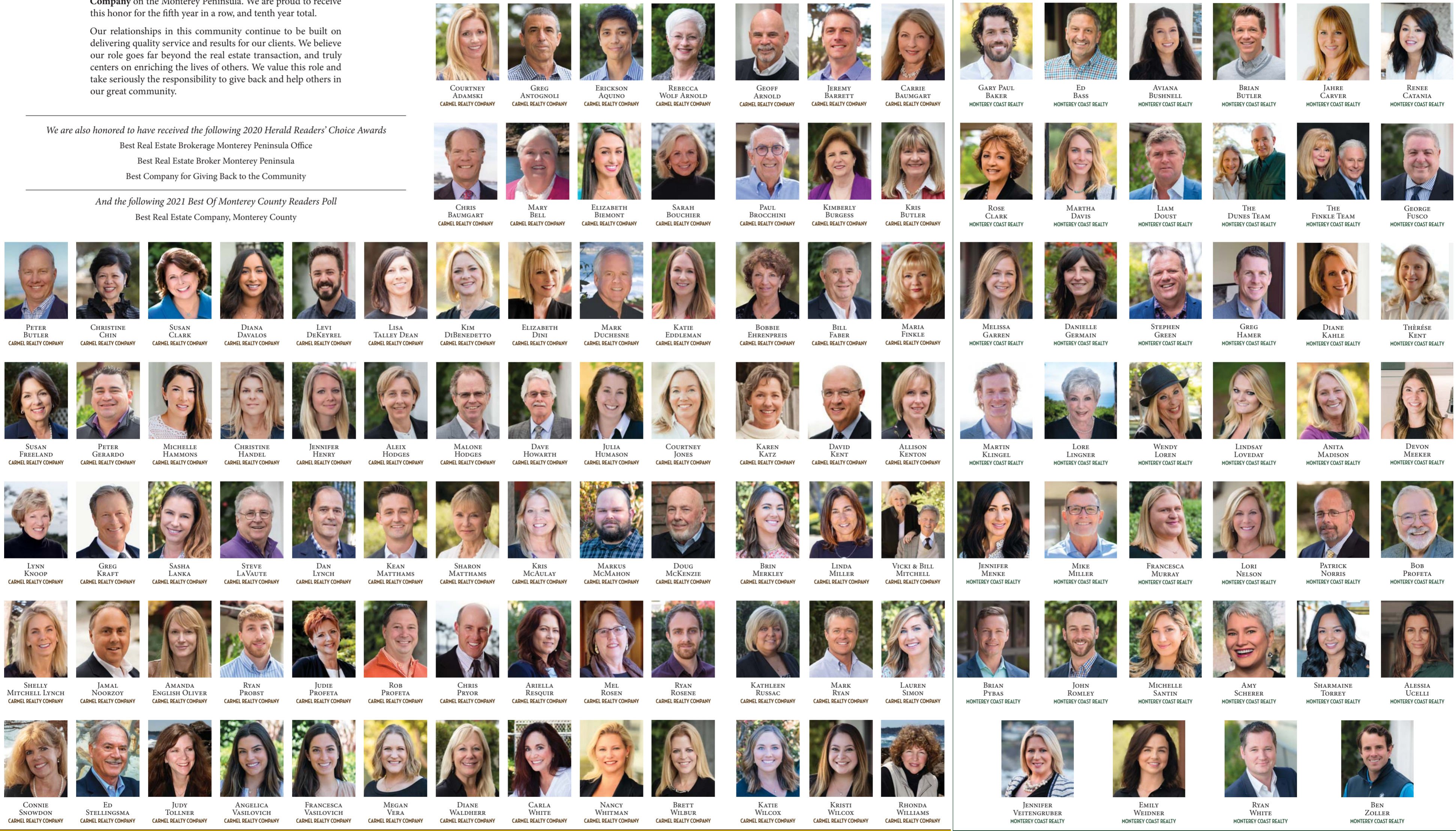
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SUPER

From page 12 GPC

with chocolate chip and oatmeal-cranberry cookies. Sweet Reba's also makes gorgeous and creative wedding cakes, and custom cakes can be made to look like fantasy gardens or Christmas trees. Carrot cake, red velvet and seasonal selections are available, as are a bunch of exceptionally good pies with great crusts. But whatever you choose to indulge in, you can't say you weren't warned.

#### Best Pizza

**Heirloom Pizza Co.** — 700 Cass St., #102, Monterey — 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily for takeout, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in-house dining Thursday through Sunday — (831)717-4363, heirloompizzapie.com

Owner Michael Foley brought his decades of pizza expertise to this spot near the Monterey post office in 2017, and it's garnered a respectable number of local awards and accolades. If your home is a pizza battleground — deep dish vs. thin crust, pineapple “yes, please” vs. “eww heck no,” or an anchovy no-man's-land — you can at least agree on where to order, because Heirloom has all those options and more. Fancy it up with gorgonzola and sun-dried tomatoes or go old school with pepperoni and mushrooms. If you're gearing up for a long hike in Garland Park or a 10k fundraiser in town, check out the pesto potato carbfest, or bring the elegant pb&g — pears, bacon and gorgonzola with red onion and a balsamic reduction — to a potluck to shake things up. Apps can be traditional — spicy baked wings — or unexpected, like roasted broccoli. If you want to eat there, go on the website and secure a spot on the waitlist. There are three choices of salad and a nice selection of beers (draft and bottled) and wines from near and far, many available by the glass.

#### Best Wine List

**The Sardine Factory** — 701 Wave St., Monterey — lunch (takeout only) 5 to 9:30 p.m. nightly — (831) 373-3775, sardinefactory.com

This 53-year-old restaurant had a role in “Play Misty for Me,” right along with Clint Eastwood, and it's been the setting of thousands of special occasions — marriages, anniversaries and big promotions — all of which deserve celebratory toasts. Fortunately, it has a wine cellar worthy of the most over-the-top events you can imagine, including that time Leon Panetta and his colleagues took down an international terrorist. (Legend has it that an 1871 Chateau Laffite Rothschild valued at between \$10,000 and \$15,000 was uncorked for that one.) With more than 2,000 labels and 20,000 bottles, the list has been recognized by Restaurant Hospitality Magazine as the best in the nation. Stored in the cozy and appropriately vintage cellar, with its 16th-century antiques and brick walls, the selection can be perused on the restaurant's website. It's sorted by varietals, wines by the glass, the cellar master's selection and special treasures. You don't have to break the bank — you can have a nice glass of most any major varietal for \$15 or less — but if you're seeking to impress your friends, you can splurge on a \$120 bottle of Bordeaux or a \$550 bottle of a 1975 white wine from Germany with a name so long it seems like it would have to be continued on a second label. Thank goodness there's a sommelier to guide you.

#### Best Brunch

#### Best Chef — Amelia Scatena

**Stationary** — San Carlos between Fifth and Sixth — brunch 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday through Monday — (831) 250-7183, thestationary.com

Anthony and Alissa Carnazzo have been operating this neighborhood restaurant for a few years now, and they seem to have nailed down the locals' tastes when it's time to greet the day with a proper brunch. You can eat in or take out, but brunch seems like a thing you go to, not something you have to clean up after, so get yourself a reservation. Chef Amalia Scatena has been at Stationary since 2018 and has obviously developed quite a following hereabouts. A graduate of the Culinary Institute in Florence, Italy, Scatena was acknowledged in 2017 by Food & Wine magazine as one of the top five Charleston, S.C., “rising star chefs to watch.” The menu offers a variety of choices without being overwhelming — or making you suspicious that some of the dishes might not be up to your discerning standards. Stationary manages to cover all the bases with choices like avocado toast (soft-boiled egg and/or caviar are extra, but available), a potato pancake served up with bacon and a side of frisée with tarragon dressing, a French cast iron pancake with fruit, crème fraiche and maple syrup, or the best possible version of breakfast — chive scrambled eggs, bacon and a biscuit with jam.

#### Best Outdoor Dining or Parklet

#### Best Piano Bar

**Mission Ranch** — 26270 Dolores St. — breakfast 7 to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, “early grazing” 3 to 5

See **GREATEST** next page

# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## GREATEST

From previous page

Friday, “early grazing” 3 to 5 p.m. daily (outdoors, limited menu), dinner 5 to 9 p.m. nightly, Saturday and Sunday brunch 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – (831) 624-6436, missionranchcarmel.com

They don’t take reservations (except for Easter Brunch, Mother’s Day and Thanksgiving), but there are no bad tables at Mission Ranch. Even during those bleak pandemic days when you could only dine al fresco, no one complained about the sweeping views of pastures with contentedly grazing sheep or the moody blue-green lagoon and brilliant white sand, looking inland to the Santa Lucia mountains or to the coast at Point Lobos. Breakfast offerings include classics like a house-made waffle (with Vermont maple syrup) and new favorites, like an açai bowl with yogurt and granola. If the sunset and ocean breezes whet your appetite for dinner, the menu can take you to sea, with jumbo scallops with lemon, capers and roasted Kabocha squash, or to Monterey’s rich agricultural and ranching heritage with smoked pork ribs and Asian barbeque sauce, or slow-roasted prime rib. Pasta choices like salmon ravioli are similarly tempting. Mission Ranch is also a wonderful place to hear live jazz on the piano. Singer and pianist Maddaline Edstrom performs Friday through Sunday, while pianist Gennady Loktionov plays Monday through Thursday.

### ■ Best New Restaurant (opened in the last 12 months)

**Le Soufflé** — Fifth and Dolores — 4 p.m. to closing Thursday through Sunday — (831) 250-5314, lesoufflehcarmel.com

Pine Cone readers may have inflated

expectations, but this new French eatery hasn’t sagged a whit — at least, not if our polls are accurate (and they are). Lisa and Tyler Foreman and Chef Ivan Samchenko say on Le Soufflé’s website that they’ve been working “to create an experience for our guests that emulates the refined comfort one envisions when planning a special night out.” Lisa hand-selected the vintage silverware and décor over years of travel, and it all evokes a spirit of comfortable hospitality in the restaurant’s six-table dining room. Using “completely organic ingredients,” Samchenko assembles each dish from scratch. The two- or three-course prix fixe fall menu starts with elegant appetizers including citrus-cured salmon complemented by tangy watercress and borscht with crème fraiche. As far as the entrées — well, how would anyone even choose among a garlic soufflé with boeuf Bourguignon sauce, a duck à l’orange soufflé or an Alsatian mushroom soufflé with mushroom Riesling sauce? And what would a soufflé place be without tempting desserts? You don’t have to find out — just select from chocolate, Grand Marnier or other fluffy sweet treats. There are numerous interesting French wines by the glass or bottle, along with selections from featured local producers Caraccioli Cellars and Holman Ranch.

### ■ Best Place to Take Clients ■ Best Restaurant in Monterey

**Tarpy’s Roadhouse** — 2999 Monterey-Salinas Hwy., Monterey — 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily — (831) 647-1444, tarpys.com


Tarpy’s has always had extensive and pleasant outdoor seating so that you can enjoy views of the pond and trees — along with the occasional thrill of an airplane directly overhead. Food is playful, but also substantial and consistently well prepared. Then menu doesn’t change radically, it just

See **LOVED** page 20 GPC

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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## LOVED

From page 17 GPC

evolves, so that all of your favorites won't suddenly vanish, and you never have to worry about the kitchen having an "off day" when you bring your special guests. Whether they start with the coal-roasted Castroville artichoke or the giant Bavarian pretzel (were there ever three words so wonderfully juxtaposed?), you know everything will come out hot and delicious. The buttermilk fried chicken sandwich is satisfyingly crispy, salads are fresh and creative, and the shrimp and grits entrée really jazzes things up. Although getting there is only part of the equation, Tarpy's has a real sweet spot — next door to the airport and easily reached from Salinas or anywhere on the Peninsula, it's a great central location. The understated-but-friendly service is another reason for its popularity. Employees tend to stick around, and servers are warm and knowledgeable. They seem to magically appear when you're ready to order, but they don't hover about or rush guests, so there's plenty of time to close a business deal.

### ■ Most Romantic Restaurant

**Casanova** — Fifth between Mission and San Carlos — 4:30 to 9:30 p.m.. Wednesday through Saturday — (831) 216-3811, [casanovacarmel.com](http://casanovacarmel.com)

Shouldn't you expect romance from a place that calls itself Casanova? The 18th-century Venetian, Giacomo Casanova, was a colorful fellow whose romantic exploits were, well, quite something. He wrote in "History of my Life," "Cultivating whatever gave pleasure to my senses was always the chief business of my life; I never found any occupation more important." The namesake restaurant in this magical village seems to have taken that sentiment to heart, putting its guests' happiness and satisfaction first. Casanova looks to small organic farms and local fisheries when gathering ingredients, and seems to make all that attention to detail appear somehow effortless.

Make an impression by reserving the very table at which Van Gogh dined in France for a special chef's tasting, if you like, but you'll also be perfectly happy in the main dining room. Once you and your date are comfortably ensconced within the French country setting, you'll want to take your time perusing the menu, which is a nothing less than a love letter from the kitchen, wooing you with the promise of oys-

ters and caviar, luring you further in with duck confit or a plate of linguini and seafood, and leaving you breathless but contented after a Basque cheesecake or a chocolate tart with chocolate sabayon. Whew. Keep reading. We're going to need a moment.

### ■ Most Dog-Friendly Restaurant ■ Most Dog-Friendly Hotel

**Cypress Inn/Terry's Restaurant & Lounge** — Lincoln and Seventh — 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5 to 9:30 p.m. daily, afternoon tea Saturday, noon to 3 p.m., brunch served 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-3871, [cypress-inn.com](http://cypress-inn.com); (831) 620-7454, [carmelterrrys.com](http://carmelterrrys.com)

The hotel is elegant, rising up near the center of town with a white, big-city façade. All that's missing is a doorman. Inside, the elegance continues, with a grand piano by the hearth in the living room, glass doors opening to garden seating, and lunch, dinner, cocktails, or afternoon tea from Terry's Restaurant & Lounge. But what pleases many people most is the canine hospitality, ensured by proprietor the late Doris Day. Even after the 2019 passing of the legendary singer, actress, and dog devotee, guests can rest assured their canine companions will still have a place to sleep and a seat below the table. At the end of the day, rooms are appointed with canines in mind, including special blankets, a place to rinse pets after a romp on the beach, doggie-doo pickup bags and a list of local pet sitters for those who want to venture out to places that persist in remaining only people friendly.

### ■ Best Bartender

**Brent Carlson/The Running Iron** — 24 E. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — Wednesday through Monday from 11 a.m. — (831) 659-4633, [runningironrestaurantandsaloon.com](http://runningironrestaurantandsaloon.com)

There's a reason Pine Cone readers picked Brent Carlson, the main man behind the bar at the Running Iron in Carmel Valley Village, as Best Bartender. Actually, there are a whole lot of reasons. Not only can he mix mean drinks of any and all persuasions, but he's friendly, knowledgeable, a good conversationalist — and has a heart of gold. A lifelong local, he's been known to let a patron or two stay with him if they had no way to get home safely after the bar closed and has taken in more than his share of stray dogs and cats. He can also tell you pretty much anything you want to know about Carmel Valley.

If you want to go to a bar and feel immediately at home, The Running Iron — a Carmel Valley Village institution for decades — is the place to be, especially when ginger-haired and bearded Carlson is the person pouring your drinks.

### ■ Best Restaurant in Big Sur

**Nepenthe** — 48510 Highway 1 (29 miles south of Carmel) — 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily — (831) 667-2345, [nepenthe.com](http://nepenthe.com)

The name — Nepenthe — comes from Homer's "Odyssey," in which it's mentioned as a magical drug that takes away sorrow, and our readers know that the sweeping coastal panorama from more than 800 feet above sea level works just as well as an ancient Greek panacea. If it weren't for the server stopping by, you might get lost in the view and forget you're there to eat. If you're more hangry than sorrowful, the menu with beloved local classics like the Ambrosiaburger could help, perhaps with a glass of something special from the wine list. Change your Ambrosia habit up with a shrimp BLT or the California beet salad, which features Point Reyes blue cheese, orange slices, pickled fennel and spicy candied walnuts. When the evening chill and fog set in, consider one of the warming beverages like Nepenthe Coffee with Metaxa brandy or a hot cider spiked with organic rum. If you're more of a morning person, Café Kevah — one level down from Nepenthe — opens at 9 a.m. and offers a nice selection of breakfasts and coffee. Once your belly's full, stop in at the Phoenix Shop (open 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily) and get lost among the works of local artists and craftsmen.

### ■ Best Restaurant in Carmel Valley

**Café Rustica** — 10 Del Fino Place, Carmel Valley — 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, 5 p.m. to closing Tuesday through Sunday — (831) 659-4444, [caferusticavillage.com](http://caferusticavillage.com)

A consistent winner with our readers, Café Rustica had cozy outdoor dining nailed long before it became a business survival skill in 2020. The folks there have been serving up home-style European specialties — like Hungarian paprika beef goulash — al fresco for years. Known for unusual thin-crust pizzas and hearty entrees, Rustica has also been a go-to place for Sunday brunchers. The patio is warm and convivial, or you can get the food to go.

See **OUTSTANDING** next page

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# G O L D E N P I N E C O N E S

## OUTSTANDING

From previous page

### ■ Best Restaurant in Pebble Beach

**Roy's** — 2700 17 Mile Drive (at the Inn at Spanish Bay) — breakfast 6 a.m. to 11 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and dinner 5 to 10 p.m. daily — (800) 877-0597, pebblebeach.com

You almost couldn't blame Roy's if it relied on its setting rather than its food. Whether it's a sparkling blue ocean surging beyond the verdant golf course on a sunny day or a moody, fog-filled afternoon around a fire pit, you might not even notice a second-rate meal — but happily, that won't ever happen. Chef Pablo Mellin makes sure all the dishes are as beautiful as the views, which you can take in from virtually any table in the house, and they're delicious enough to make you sit up and take notice. Set yourself up for a great round of golf with a rib-eye steak and eggs, a stack of blueberry pancakes or a healthy egg white omelet.

Afterward, come back for an Asian fusion lunch of sushi — like the yellowtail firecracker roll with jalapeños and habanero — or some barbecue baby back ribs. And when you're through shopping or strolling around Pebble Beach, the sunset comes into view, and Roy's dinner menu once again lives up to the location. Is it gilding a lily to crust a filet mignon with peanuts and serve it up Thai style? If it is, our readers don't care. There are two takes on surf-and-turf, including a black bean-glazed swordfish with honey mustard beef short

ribs and a 6-ounce Australian lobster tail paired with a New York steak — but try not to imagine Crocodile Dundee, because this is way more sophisticated than that guy with the machete in the movie. Enjoy it all with a signature cocktail (Mai Tai, anyone?) or glass of wine and enjoy a slice of banana chocolate cream pie as you mull over the relative merits of the music coming from the bagpiper as he makes his way across the dunes each night.

### ■ Best Restaurant in Pacific Grove

**Fandango** — 223 17th St., Pacific Grove — lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, brunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, dinner 5 p.m. to closing nightly — (831) 372-3456, fandangorestaurant.com

What's your idea of a great evening out? A cozy setting near a fireplace while the fog works its magic outside? A place where you can actually hear your friends over the background noise? A menu full of simple classics, perfectly prepared? Fandango checks all those boxes. It's been a mainstay in Pacific Grove long enough that some of the original diners now bring their grandchildren in for special occasions. Maybe your special occasion is just a nice Wednesday lunch. It's all covered here, with apparent ease and just enough formality to make you feel like a VIP. If you've never had them, this is a great place to try escargot, but you can also start out with calamari or some house-cured salmon.

Let the wait staff guide you through an impressive wine list to find just the right bottle to accompany your osso buco, duck a l'orange or paella, all in portion sizes that let you bring

a really fancy lunch to work the next day. If you don't want a heavy meal, try one of the salads, like the signature traditional Caesar or the spinach Mimosa with chopped bacon and hard-boiled egg. Leaving without the profiteroles for dessert? *Mais non!* What are you, a Neanderthal?

### ■ Best Restaurant in Seaside

**Gusto** — 1901 Fremont Blvd., Seaside — 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, 4:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 4:30 to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 899-5825, gusto1901.com

Welcome! That's what Gusto shouts to those who drive the extra few miles to get to its Seaside location. It's but a few minutes from Highway 1, with refreshingly easy parking. But why would you go at all if there wasn't good food? The friendly staff here knows you won't, so they do their best to make it delicious — and abundant. The smell of garlic and the comfortable, casual décor greet you as you step inside. The menu offers so many combinations of pastas and sauces, it'll make your head spin with the possibilities. If you just want a pizza, you'll still have some reading to do — there are 14 house combos plus a design-your-own option. You can get regular crust, thick crust or gluten-free, too. Don't skip the arancini appetizers.

Conceived by thrifty Italians to use up leftover risotto, they're fried balls of Arborio rice with gooey house-made mozzarella centers. The pastas are meals in themselves, as in

See **CHAMPION** next page

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## CHAMPION

From previous page

the broad, rustic pappardelle noodles paired with four-hour braised beef short rib with veggies and jus, or the linguini de mare, with an assortment of seafood in a sauce of San Marzano tomatoes and white wine.

Other favorites like eggplant or chicken parmigiana are there for you, too. Add a glass of wine, enjoy a cannoli, and walk out singing like Louis Prima or Keely Smith. Now that's Italian!

## Recreation and the Arts

### Best Local Artist

**Will Bullas** — Carmel Art Association Gallery, Dolores between Fifth and Sixth, and the Carmel Valley Art Association, 2 Chambers Lane, Carmel Valley — willbullas.com

In a place that's absolutely brimming with artists, illustrator Will Bullas again captures one of the most prized of Golden Pine Cones. Perhaps it's his humor that sets him apart from the many, or maybe it's his talent for portraying animals in human roles. But whatever his secret is, it likely has something to do with the many smiles and chuckles his artwork inspires. His latest work includes a rooster doing rocket science, a chicken dressed up as a cowboy and a pair of raccoons in formal wear comparing the wonders of white and red wines.

### Best Photo Gallery

**Weston Gallery** — Sixth between Dolores and Lincoln — open by appointment — (831) 624-4453, westongallery.com

The masters of traditional black-and-white photography come together at Weston Galley. The family's patriarch, Edward Weston, was one of the medium's greatest visionaries. His sons, Cole and Brett, followed in his footsteps and achieved success and acclaim. Today, two more generations are carrying on the family's legacy. The downtown gallery not only showcases their work, but also that of the elder Weston's contemporaries, like Ansel Adams, Wynn Bullock and Imogene Cunningham, and contemporary photographers like Maggie Taylor, Jerry Takigawa and Kenneth Parker.

### Best Sculpture Gallery

**Bennett Sculpture Carmel** — San Carlos and Sixth — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily — (831) 626-3054, bennettsculpture-carmel.com

Like Edward Weston, brothers and sculptors Bob and Tom Bennett established a family business that thrives long after their passing. Today, the gallery is owned and operated by the mother-daughter team of Debi Bennett, who is Bob's widow, and painter and jeweler Ashley Bennett-Stoddard. Located in the same site where it was established nearly 40 years ago, it's home to many marvelous creations by Tom's daughter, Terrie Bennett, and three other relatives, sculptors Kim Bennett, Keith Shannon and MK Shannon.

### Best Art Gallery

**Gallery MAR Carmel** — Dolores between Ocean and Seventh — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-2000, gallerymarcarmel.com

Eleven years after the first Gallery MAR was established in Park City, Utah, the second opened in downtown Carmel two years ago. The gallery represents nearly 30 contemporary painters and sculptors, including Carmel Valley glass artist Nick Leonoff, whose glass pumpkins herald the arrival of fall each year, and Beau Frank, who lives in Pacific Grove. Also on the roster is Annie Hooker, whose great-grandfather, Samuel F.B. Morse, founded the Pebble Beach Company. As a bonus, a friendly and handsome English pointer mix named Caspar can often be found in the gallery greeting visitors.

### Best Performing Arts Group or Company

**Pacific Repertory Theatre** — Monte Verde between Eighth and Ninth — (831) 622-0100, pacrep.org

The Monterey Peninsula's premier theater group, PacRep stages its many productions at the Golden Bough Playhouse (currently closed for remodeling), the Forest Theater and the Circle Theatre. Founded in 1982 by its longtime creative director Stephen Moorer, the theater celebrates the genius of William Shakespeare with a festival each year, and kicks off the New Year with a rock 'n' roll tribute concert. Despite the many challenges of presenting live theater during Covid, PacRep marked Valentine's Day with a concert featuring the

music of Broadway at the Monterey Fairgrounds. PacRep also prepares the next generation for the stage through its School of Dramatic Arts.

### Best Concert Venue

**Sunset Center** — San Carlos between Eighth and 10th — (831) 620-2048, sunsetcenter.org

Owned by the city and operated by a nonprofit, Sunset Center attracts world-class talent to its main stage — even during the pandemic, when Monterey County Symphony concertmaster Christina Mok recorded a live concert in the otherwise-empty space. Once the historic Sunset School, it has been transformed into a state-of-the-art facility, with soaring ceilings and excellent acoustics. After a hiatus, concerts are back, and upcoming performers include dobro legend Bela Fleck and singer-songwriters as divergent as Aoife O'Donovan and Boz Scaggs. Sunset Center also provides a stage for concerts by four local music groups, Monterey Symphony, Chamber Music Monterey Bay, the Carmel Music Society and Youth Music Monterey Bay, and is home to the Carmel Bach Festival, one of the longest-running musical events in the nation.

### Best Place to Relax and Listen to Music

**Folktale Winery** — 8940 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — (831) 293-7500, folktalewinery.com

It's hard to imagine a better place to sip wine and enjoy music than at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley, which has done a marvelous job of combining the two, along with a gorgeous garden setting. Founded in 1982 by Bob and Patti Brower as Chateau Julien, the winery was acquired and renamed by Greg Ahn in 2015. Since then, the site has emerged as an enticing place to play for local musicians, mostly solo artists or duos. It also provides a stage for out-of-town acts and has hosted several up-and-coming country music stars.

### Best Local Music Group (Classical)

**Monterey Symphony** — (831) 646-8511, montereysymphony.org

Now in its 75th season, the Monterey Symphony has gone

See **EXCELLENT** next page

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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## EXCELLENT

*From previous page*

to great lengths to keep audiences and musicians connected throughout the Covid pandemic. This year, the orchestra wrapped up a series of concerts that were livestreamed from the balcony of its downtown office, recorded a concert in the P.G. Library, launched an online educational series for kids and produced a pair of memorable “Love Letter to Carmel” concerts at Forest Theater. With the departure of Max Bragado-Darman at the end of the 2019-2020 season, this year the symphony’s offerings will include four concerts led by finalists to replace him as conductor.

### Best Local Music Group (Rock, Pop and Jazz)

**The Bubba Pickens Band** — *instagram.com/bubbapickens*

They’ve been flying under the radar for a while, without a website or a Facebook page — not even Google can tell you who Bubba is — but the Bubba Pickens Band must be playing somewhere, because for the second time in recent years, their many fans have won them a Golden Pine Cone. The somewhat elusive but talented band, which includes a few local teachers, serves up a lively good-time mix of bluegrass and Americana, as a YouTube video of a performance last year at Fernwood Resort in Big Sur attests.

### Best Place to Take Visitors

**Point Lobos State Reserve** — *Highway 1 south of Carmel – pointlobos.org*

Called the “greatest meeting of land and water in the world” by painter Francis McComas, Point Lobos State Reserve is a magnet not only for painters and photographers, but for just about anyone who loves the out-

doors. Famous for its rugged coastline, wind-swept cypress groves and ancient forest of Monterey pines, it’s remarkably accessible, and including trails that can accommodate wheelchairs. It’s also home to one of the richest marine environments anywhere — every weekend, scores of scuba divers explore the mysterious world beneath the waves.

### Best Family Activity

**Monterey Bay Aquarium** — 886 Cannery Row, Monterey – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (by reservation only) – (831) 648-4800, *montereybayaquarium.org*

More than 2 million people each year visit the world-famous aquarium, which offers a fascinating glimpse into the wonders that lie beneath the waves of Monterey Bay. And who can resist the adorable sea otters frolicking in their own special tank? The marine showcase reaches beyond local borders to introduce visitors to penguins and creatures from other oceans, too. The first aquarium in the world to exhibit a kelp forest, it also made news for displaying and caring for a great white shark. Located on the site of a former sardine canning factory, it has become a major tourist attraction, which has revitalized a part of Monterey that had become blighted following the collapse of sardine industry. Since then, the aquarium and its audiences have only grown. You can still visit all the fish and their friends, but masks are required, as well as proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test. You will also have to make your reservation online.

### Best Local Festival

**West End Celebration** — *the third weekend of August – westendcelebration.com*

Canceled a year ago due to the pandemic, Sand City’s West End Celebration — the big-

*See WORTHY next page*

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- Lula’s Chocolates
- Mark Fenwick
- Nicola’s Cocina de Herencia (Coming Soon)
- Parts Unknown
- Patisserie Boissiere Restaurant

- Pure Barre
- Rise + Roam Bakery And Pizzeria
- Scully Leather
- Sea Bags Maine
- Seaside Yoga Sanctuary-Carmel
- Sugar Farms Marketplace
- The Cheese Shop
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**WORTHY**

*From page 23 GPC*

gest annual street fair in the region — returned in late August. Providing a marketplace for artists of every imaginable stripe, the gathering also offers a stage for than two dozen mostly local musical acts. Established in 2001 by county assessor and music promoter Steve Vagnini, and presented by the city, the two-day event helps call attention to Sand City’s wonderfully creative business district.

■ **Best Church-Sponsored Event**

**Jewish Food Festival** — *carmelbethisrael.org*

Hosted by Congregation Beth Israel in Carmel Valley, the Jewish Food Festival has delighted attendees with great food, beautiful crafts and amazing music for more than three decades. It has also offered opportunities to experience Jewish culture and traditions with events like a reenactment of a Jewish wedding, as well as synagogue tours and the chance to ask Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum all your questions. The menu is filled with “Jewish Soul Food” favorites like hot pastrami, brisket, latkes, blintzes, matzo ball soup and egg creams — and so much more. On Aug. 22, this year’s festival was done as a drive-through event.

■ **Best Place to Watch the Sunset**

■ **Best Place to Take Your Dog**

■ **Best Beach**

**Carmel Beach** — *Ocean Avenue and Scenic Road – free parking along Scenic is permitted from 6 a.m. to midnight – ci.carmel.ca.us*

Is Carmel Beach heaven? With ample white sand, easy access and no leash law, it’s certainly paradise for people, as well as their pooches of every shape and size who can be seen daily getting sandy claws, splashing in the waves, socializing with other dogs or engaging in the time-tested thrill of chasing seagulls. For two-legged visitors, it’s just about the best place anywhere for a sunset stroll as the cool fog rolls in and dulls the echo of the churning surf. And like the best things in life, it’s free.

■ **Best Place to Read The Pine Cone**

**At Home** — *locations and hours vary*

A great many readers suggested The Pine Cone is best enjoyed in private — as if perhaps its content is too hot to handle — though you can find many in polite society perusing its pages on Friday mornings at any local java joint, bravely risking a coffee spill onto its pages. We suspect that many of you are just happier leafing through the print edition or reading it on your tablet in your jammies and bathrobes, while ensconced in a favorite old chair. Catching up on the Police Log or high school sports *chez vous* is also far safer than attempting it on the beach, where the breezes can easily snatch your paper away. If you must read it by the sea, you could do so on your phone or tablet. Just don’t drop it in the ocean. Come to think of it, “at home” does sound like the right answer, after all!

■ **Best Hiking Trail**

■ **My Favorite Park**

**Garland Ranch Regional Park** — *700 W. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley – dawn to dusk daily – mprpd.org*

The crown jewel of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, 4,400-acre Garland Park has trails for explorers at every level of fitness, from easy and shady strolls along Carmel River and Garzas Creek, to steep switchbacks that lead to sweeping views of the valley. Dogs are welcome and enjoy splashing around in the Carmel River, and it’s heaven for horseback riders, too. In the spring and early summer, the upper meadows offer spectacular wildflower blooms, with golden poppies and blue lupines splashing color across the landscape. For those in good shape, a hike to Snively’s Ridge gains nearly 2,000 feet of elevation and offers a birds-eye view of the Monterey Peninsula.

■ **Best Fitness / Health Center**

**Carmel Valley Athletic Club** — *27300 Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel Valley – 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday – (831) 624-2737, cvaconline.com*

More than just a place to work out and get in shape, the Carmel Valley Athletic Club calls itself the “Locals’ Resort.” There’s tennis, pickleball, bocce ball, yoga, Pilates, dance classes, a heated 25-yard pool, hot tubs, a sauna, a two-story fitness center with state-of-the-art workout equipment, a cafe with excellent food by renowned chef Moises Munoz, a salon, child care and an array of social activities, including poker.

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## AMAZING

From page 24 GPC

### ■ Best Yoga Studio

**Seaside Yoga Sanctuary** — Ocean Avenue and Mission Street in Carmel Plaza — classes offered daily, see the online schedule for details — [seasideyogasanctuary.com](http://seasideyogasanctuary.com)

Downward-facing dog, seated pigeon, hidden wildebeest, cringing alpaca (OK, those last two are made up) ... starting a yoga practice can be intimidating, but Seaside Yoga Sanctuary makes it easy. The studio on the third floor of Carmel Plaza is not only a welcoming place, but it offers classes for beginners as well as experienced practitioners. Indoor classes have returned, but outdoor and online sessions are still available. "Yoga is for everyone," owner Laura McKinnon told The Pine Cone. "Everybody and every age can do yoga."

### ■ Best Golf Course

**Pebble Beach Golf Links** — 1700 17 Mile Drive, Pebble Beach — Hours vary by season — (831) 574-5609, [pebblebeach.com](http://pebblebeach.com)

Rated the No. 1 public golf course in the country by various groups and publications, Pebble Beach Golf Links has been drawing golfers to the Monterey Peninsula since 1919. Many of golf's greatest moments have happened on the course, which hosts the annual AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, where many of the sport's top players are paired with amateurs, some of whom are movie stars or gifted athletes in other sports. The iconic course is set to host the U.S. Women's Open for the first time in 2023, and in 2027, it's scheduled to be the site of the U.S. Open — the seventh time it has hosted the prestigious contest.

### ■ Best Museum

**Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History** — 165 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday — (831) 648-5716, [pgmuseum.org](http://pgmuseum.org)

Very early in the pandemic, the venerable history museum — which first opened its doors in 1883, but had to bow to Covid and shutter itself in 2020 — figured out how to give virtual lectures to engage kids and their parents, providing welcome distractions on weekend afternoons. Now that the museum has reopened its doors, visit the website to see what they're up to these days — whether it's monarchs or bird life, wildflowers or whales.

### ■ Best Library

**Harrison Memorial Library** — Mission Street & Sixth Avenue — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Friday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday — (831) 624-4629, [ci.carmel.ca.us/library](http://ci.carmel.ca.us/library)

"We want to express how grateful we are for our library patrons, their dedication and how much they really love the library. They have stayed with us through all the changes brought on by the pandemic, and now that our hours are different, every time we open our doors, it's a good day." So says the library, and even though it's had reduced hours while rebuilding its staff, it's grateful to its staunchly loyal followers. Those fans have been vocal at city meetings and in letters to the editor of The Pine Cone about missing their beloved reading space. Now that those dark days are ending, the staff wanted us to mention that the rack is still outside the library for people to donate books, and the Friends of the Library are still accepting books at Sunset Center, every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### ■ Best Inn/B&B

**Carmel Garden Inn** — Fourth Avenue & Torres Street — (831) 624-6926, [carmelgardeninn.com](http://carmelgardeninn.com)

Some people come for the homemade granola and scones, served with a hot cup of Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Company coffee. Others seek out the garden setting, wood-burning fireplace or the privacy, serenity and peek of the ocean. Plenty of people are pleased they can bring their dogs to the canine capital of the country. Carmel Garden Inn has history, anchoring it to the community like a welcome mat. What began in 1949 as Rosarita Lodge, an apartment complex amid a lush garden setting, the inn has maintained both the gardens and the hospitality. Enjoy a homemade breakfast in the morning, and a wine and cheese reception in the afternoon.

### ■ Best Hotel

**La Playa Carmel** — Camino Real Street & Eighth Avenue — (800) 582-8900, [laplayahotel.com](http://laplayahotel.com)

Designed to complement Carmel Mission, La Playa was built in 1905 as a private mansion by artist Christian Jorgensen for his wife, heir to the Ghirardelli fortune. Its elegant Mediterranean architecture played gracious host to many prominent guests until the 1920s, when the property was con-

See FANTASTIC next page



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## FANTASTIC

From previous page

verted to a boutique hotel with 75 guest rooms framing its lush garden setting overlooking the sea. Although the property has been upgraded and expanded considerably over the years, its ambience has remained true to its original aesthetic as an intimate seaside inn. After renovations to the historic property in 2012, what is still called “the new” La Playa Hotel is considered The Grande Dame of local luxury hospitality.

## RETAIL

### ■ Best Florist

**Burst + Bloom** — 238 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; Sunday and Monday by appointment — (831) 625-8111, [burstbloom.com](http://burstbloom.com)

Beneath a sign that reads, “Make it Simple but Significant,” floral artist Lauren Orman studies a blossom, picks a couple of leaves from the stem and lets them fall to the cement floor. Then she adds the flower to the table bouquets she’s making for a wedding reception, all similar but not quite the same. Orman, the owner of Burst + Bloom, which opened a dozen years ago, creates custom floral designs — festive or fancy, but not fussy. Many of the blooms are sourced from local gardens. “I appreciate so many different things about working with flowers,” Orman said. “I love working with a perishable product. I love that I am making something artistic, sculptural, but it’s also completely ephemeral. I like that I have to understand timing and surrender to it. Floral design is a completely Zen practice; I can’t get too attached to the product.”

### ■ Best Furniture Shop

**Mum’s Place** — 246 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 372-6250, [mumsfurniture.com](http://mumsfurniture.com)

For 35 years, Mum’s has been dedicated to bringing in a diversity of designs to satisfy a wide variety of needs, tastes and budgets. It is a place where patrons wander among middle- and high-end home furnishings as if visiting a beautifully

appointed private home. The showroom is filled with a wide range of furniture styles, plus accessories and objets d’art, staged in vignettes to help shoppers feel at home. “Design and quality are important, but so is value,” said owner Mugo Tersakyan. “Our vision is to bring in the latest and enduring designs at accessible prices.” Among classic, traditional, transitional, country French and contemporary collections at Mum’s Place, clients can customize their choices from more than 80 furniture lines and some 5,000 fabrics. “Most of our achievement is due to our employees. From designers to delivery folks, they have been with us a very long time.”

### ■ Best Golf Shop

**Pebble Beach Pro Shop** — 1700 17 Mile Drive, Pebble Beach — 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily — (831) 622-8723, [pebblebeach.com](http://pebblebeach.com)

The purpose of the Pebble Beach Pro Shop is to provide quality products and services guests aren’t likely to find elsewhere. In addition to the breathtaking beauty of the coastal greens and craggy coastline that attract guests into the resort, the shop is another element of a guest’s Pebble Beach golf experience. Since merchandise represents that experience, saying, “It’s Pebble Beach, and I was there,” staff endeavors to provide the best products and the highest quality. For folks who have never held a golf club, or avid golfers who want to add to their collection, the shop balances the new and exciting with proven core brands.

### ■ Best Hardware Store

**Ace Hardware** — 290 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel; 401 Mid Valley Center, Carmel Valley; 229 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove; 1136 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove — hours vary by location — [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com)

Although Ace Hardware store is a member of the largest retailer-owned hardware cooperative in the business, individual stores give customers a sense of shopping “small-town local,” where everybody knows your name, with the benefit of big-business backing. In an era when it’s hard to find specialized service or someone to work the register, a company that says, “Ace is the place with the helpful hardware folks” invites confidence. When customers ask for help, employees are trained to say, “Helping you is the most important thing we have to do today.” It’s that kind of service that caused this community to give them a Golden Pine Cone.

### ■ Best Housewares Store

**Prim’s Carmel** — 546 Carmel Rancho Blvd. — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 620-1251, [primscarmel.com](http://primscarmel.com)

It’s been nearly nine years since the family-owned hardware and housewares store created a fresh venue in a landmark location. By now, the company has built its own reputation for service, and the community has responded to it. Its investment includes expansive hardware, housewares, and paint sections, as well as specialty patio, home furniture, bedding, and gift departments. What likely earned the Golden Pine Cone is the customer service. More important than their motto — “We stand out from the competition because we deliver the products you can’t get anywhere else. We not only offer the best products but the best value for you.” — is that they mean it.

### ■ Best Craft-Knitting-Quilting Shop

**Monarch Knitting** — 529 Central Ave., Suite 4, Pacific Grove — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 647-9276, [monarchknitting.com](http://monarchknitting.com)

Their motto is “Knit and be happy.” This community-oriented shop welcomes guests into a fresh, well-lit atmosphere with cubbies of colorful skeins of yarn, among a cadre of friendly craftspeople. Its name is a nod to the butterfly sanctuary for which the town is known, but this place has knit together another kind of sanctuary. So much more than a yarn store, it’s a place where you can take lessons, participate in projects, buy beautiful yarn and simply belong. At Monarch Knitting, someone will show you what you need and how to work with it, helping you feel at home.

### ■ Best Pet Store

**The Raw Connection** — 26200 Carmel Rancho Blvd. — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday — (831) 626-7555, [therawconnection.com](http://therawconnection.com)

After reading veterinarian Ian Billinghurst’s book, “Give Your Dog a Bone,” Sarah Adams switched her Irish wolfhounds from kibble to a raw food diet. Within weeks, she said, her 7-year-old had lost weight, its once-dull coat had

See **SUPERB** page 29 GPC



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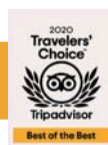


*Thank you, Carmel Pine Cone readers!*

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# The Golden Pine Cones

October 29, 2021

## SUPERB

From page 27 GPC

a glossy shine, and the happier pooch was back on the beach, running with the energy of a 2-year-old. In 2002, Adams launched her raw-food delivery service. Four years later, she opened The Raw Connection store with what she considers the “largest inventory of raw food in the country.” The shop also sells healthy treats, handmade toys, and an array of safety collars, harnesses and leashes. “Our mission,” she said, “is to educate customers on transitioning their dogs and cats to species-appropriate food. This is how to pamper a pet.”

### ■ Best Garden Shop

**Griggs Nursery** — 9220 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 626-0680, grignsnursery.com

If there are blessings in this pandemic, one of them must be that people are getting back to their roots. Digging their hands into the soil has had a centering, nurturing effect as citizens cultivate their gardens. Folks have been flocking to Griggs Nursery to buy houseplants and succulents, seasonal annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs to upgrade the places where they are now spending their days. For nearly 20 years, Griggs Nursery has been thriving in its Carmel Valley location, helping to improve the local landscape one plant at a time. “We know what works here, so we can grow the variety and quality we want for our customers,” the Griggs family said.

### ■ Best Camping/Skiing/Surfing Store

**On The Beach Surf Shop** — 693 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 646-9283, onthebeachsurfshop.com

Kelly Sorenson was just 20 years old in 1986 when he and Mike Locatelli founded On The Beach Surf Shop at Ocean and Mission. Three years later, he became the sole owner of the company and, in 1993, opened a second store on Lighthouse Avenue in Monterey. Six years later, he closed the Carmel location. Today, On The Beach spreads out across nearly 6,000 square feet with a tropical theme, designed by Sorenson and created by contractor Chris Murren.

With bamboo and beach sand throughout, tiki huts filled with clothing, and classic surfboards from the Pete and Cathy Noble collection, On The Beach, said Sorenson, feels like a surfer’s paradise, filled with gear from all the coolest surf and skate companies.

“What means the most,” said Sorenson, “is seeing the California surf community make On The Beach their hangout and source to live the lifestyle.”

### ■ Best Place to Buy Athletic Wear

**The Treadmill** — 111 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily — (831) 624-4112, thetreadmill.com

Family owned and operated since 1983, The Treadmill was created with a vision to develop a store that would anchor the running community like a starting line. The Treadmill has since expanded heavily into hiking, athletic and athleisure wear. With an emphasis on great quality, premier brands and a truly caring and knowledgeable staff, The Treadmill was voted the No. 1 source for everything folks need from head to toe, to live a healthy lifestyle on the California coast or wherever adventures may lead. For the past 38 years, The Treadmill has endeavored to be, and will continue to be, the epitome of a friendly, service-oriented small business.

### ■ Best Pharmacy

**Carmel Drug Store** — Ocean Avenue between Dolores and San Carlos — 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily; pharmacy 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 624-3819, carmeldrugstore.com

Carmel’s classic drug store and family pharmacy has been independently owned and serving the community since 1910. Known for offering quality products and service, this drug store might just be the most convenient stop in town. Located in the heart of Carmel, its narrow storefront is chock-full of everything folks might need or maybe forgot on their way into town. The back of the shop looks like the old-fashioned pharmacy it is, yet it provides state-of-the-art products — including veterinary medicines for your pets. The front of the store offers greeting cards and postcards, magazines, and books by local authors. It has hair accessories and hygiene products, perfume and makeup, candy and scented candles. The only thing missing is a soda fountain.

### ■ Best Children’s Clothing Store

**Heaven, A Child’s Boutique** — Lincoln Street between Ocean and Seventh avenues — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-6550, heavenincarmel.com

Ash and Monique Vasanji, who hosted a grand opening of Heaven in 2001, are celebrating the 21st anniversary of their European-style children’s boutique, designed for the customer who has exquisite taste and seeks quality and style. “Throughout the years, our family has remained committed to bringing in really special clothing, shoes, and gifts for the children of our community and beyond,” said Monique. “We are so grateful for the support and recognition.” Located on Lincoln in the site of the legendary Village Straw Shop, Heaven beckons customers through double doors into a gracious, well-lighted salon appointed with very special, very select children’s apparel. It’s as if you’ve wandered into the custom wardrobe of a privileged child. Perhaps yours.

### ■ Best Men’s Clothing Store

**Khakis of Carmel** — Carmel Plaza on Ocean Avenue —

See MOST next page

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## MOST

*From previous page*

9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday – (831) 625-8106, khakisofcarmel.com

During the Covid-enforced closure, customers, out for a welcomed walk, shopped the dynamic display windows at Khakis and continued to collect quality classic and couture menswear. This shop's success seems to be rooted in providing the ultimate in customer service. Khakis of Carmel is the award-winning pursuit and passion of Jim and Connie Ockert, whose combined creative and entrepreneurial talents have created a haberdashery that's stood the test of time and taste. "We have worked tirelessly to be innovative in these ever-changing times, and to curate a really different, interesting product selection that suits today's customer," said Jim Ockert. "We are grateful that The Carmel Pine Cone audience and the wider community have continued to support Khaki's."

### ■ Best Men's Shoe Store

**Hedi's Shoes** — Ocean Avenue & Mission Street (additional locations in the Barnyard, on Alvarado in Monterey and in Del Monte Center) – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday – (831) 624-5580, hedi.com

When Haydar Movahedi opened his first Carmel shoe store 30 years ago, "European comfort shoes" were experiencing an emerging market. Through his carefully chosen offerings, "Hedi" has cobbled together comfort, quality, convenience and cool, matched by customer service from experienced staff who understand fit, form and function. Featured among various brands offering dressy, casual or rough-wear shoes, are Ecco, Cole-Haan, Pikolinos and Mephisto, Paul Greene, Pas de Rouge, HOKA, KÜHL, Birkenstock and more, plus a complement of KÜHL clothing and accessories. Comfort truly can look and feel good.

### ■ Best Women's Clothing Boutique

**Girl Boy Girl** — Mission Street & Seventh Avenue – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday – (831) 626-3368, girlboygirlcarmel.com

See TOP page 32 GPC

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## TOP

From page 30 GPC

Girl Boy Girl, established in 1991, is known for its exceptional curation and large selection of more than 80 contemporary brands. GBG and its sister store, Paloosh, endeavor to present something for everyone seeking fun, festive fashion. Guests have come to expect excellent customer service by stylists uniquely qualified to style women from head to toe, while honoring the unique characteristics of each client.

### ■ Best Resale/Consignment Shop

**Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop** — 26388 Carmel Rancho Blvd. — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 626-8480, [yellowbrickroadbenefitshop.org](http://yellowbrickroadbenefitshop.org)

More than 30 years ago, Shirin Snyder, wife of Rev. John Snyder, former pastor of Carmel Presbyterian Church, had a dream. She wanted her church fellowship to become more closely connected to the wider community. She sought meaningful, productive ways to offer some people a chance to give, others a chance to buy bargains, and those in need, a chance to receive. Some people come in every day the shop is open just to see what's new. Just to see who else is shopping. Just to see which volunteer is running the cash register. More often than not, they buy something. Yellow Brick Road has generated more than \$6.7 million, which has been given back to the community through grants to nonprofit organizations, including more than \$430,000 in scholarships to college-bound, high school graduates.

### ■ Best Women's Accessories

**Foxy Couture** — San Carlos, 2 SW of

Fifth Avenue — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday — (831) 625-9995, [foxycouturecarmel.com](http://foxycouturecarmel.com)

Although finance was her profession, fashion was her passion. Susan Gavin's love of clothing led her to design school at night, and the launch of her own clothing line by day. But she quickly realized she was more enchanted by design than the business of it. So, in 1991, she started recycling vintage and contemporary clothing in a small office space, which eventually became Foxy Couture, a luxury vintage and consignment store. "We are sustainable because everything in our store is pre-owned," she said. "We recycle and repurpose older products from design houses that typically don't change that much. These luxury fabrics and designs have been gently worn or not at all." Gavin sleuths out pieces for her store from all over the world. "It's a very special, constantly changing collection," she said. "I take special care of these things until I sell them. It's important to be fair and honest and kind. At the end of the day, I feel good about it."

### ■ Best Women's Shoe Store

**Lloyd's Shoes** — Ocean Avenue & Dolores Street — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily — (831) 625-1382 — [lloydsshoes.com](http://lloydsshoes.com)

Tess Calhoun at Lloyd's has on a pair of Chie Mihara suede platform sandals with a printed metallic snake pattern on the heel, complemented by scalloped black suede straps. Although the Spanish shoes are perfect for the holidays, she has chosen them for daywear at the shop. "We've actually brought in a lot of new styles from Spain," she said. "Among them Pons Quintana shoes from an island off the coast of Spain. Knowing their limited distribution of these beautiful shoes makes them even more special." After facing many Covid-based issues around obtaining

See SUPREME next page

# Aabha Indian Cuisine



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# G O L D E N P I N E C O N E S

## SUPREME

From previous page

merchandise, Calhoun is excited to have new wares and so many new offerings in the store. "We're so grateful for our amazing customers who have supported us during the pandemic. We couldn't be in our 41st year without them," she said. Calhoun's advice during Covid and beyond? "Just wear your cute shoes. Everywhere."

### ■ Best Place to Buy Designer Clothes

**Debra C** — 129 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 624-9400, [debrac.com](http://debrac.com)

Debra Couch established her exclusive store in Beverly Hills and then, in 2011, opened a second store at The Crossroads, quickly garnering a loyal clientele and a collection of awards. Couch, a woman who makes fashion look effortless, says it is — or should be. Particularly if you shop at Debra C, her boutique of European designer apparel for women. Whether you're looking at beautiful Italian designers, or her private label, she says, it's all about the way it's put together. "We're high end, so the apparel endures. You can do the same look next year, or add a new piece and mix it up. All of us at Debra C are happy once again to receive this prestigious award."

### ■ Best Leather Goods Store

**Augustina's** — Ocean Avenue between Mission and San Carlos streets — 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily — (831) 624-2403, [augustinaleathers.com](http://augustinaleathers.com)

Established in 1987, this family-owned, family-run business endeavors to create a Carmel experience clients and guests will remember and return to. The store is named for a beloved tiny terrier, which makes sense since few canines are more couture than those of Carmel. Augustina's is an exclusive leather goods boutique, known for representing the largest selection of Remy leathers in California. "We also offer Augustina's custom leathers, crafted in the United States, for men and women, in any size, any color. We specialize in jackets, vests, coats, pants and skirts, as well as beautiful handmade leather belts in exotic skins — gator, lizard, ostrich

and hornback," said owner Tracy Delaney Odle.

### ■ Best Vintage Clothing Store

**Ritzy Ragz & Thingz** — Dolores Street & Fifth Avenue — 11:30 to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and

Saturday — (831) 625-1018, [ritzy-ragz-thingz.business.site](http://ritzy-ragz-thingz.business.site)

"Vintage clothing is like perfume. It takes you someplace," said Ava Havilland-Spiering, who opened Ritzy Ragz & Thingz, her vintage and designer consignment shop, five

See PRIMO next page



— Established 1974 —

2021



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CARMEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

# GOLDEN PINE CONES



## PRIMO

From previous page

years ago to indulge her own attraction to clothes that make women “feel good when they look at them, quality pieces that feel nice to the touch.” Her motto is, “You don’t want to see yourself coming and going; you want something different, interesting, eclectic.” If you bought it at the mall, it’s not something she wants. Gravitating toward the 1950s and ’60s, Haviland-Spiering wants to look at a dress and wonder who wore it and had a fun night with a “girl about town” look.

### ■ Best Jewelry Store

**Kocek Jewelers** — San Carlos Street between Seventh & Ocean avenues — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday — (831) 624-8485 — kocekjeweler.com

Born Kirkor Kocekian in a war-torn Istanbul and introduced to the craft of fine jewelry when he was just 11 years old, Kirkor Kocek got his green card in 1973 and opened his eponymous jewelry store in Carmel. “My career has been a balance of crafting and selling custom jewelry and timeless designs, and a devotion to giving back to nonprofit organizations, such as the Kinship Center,” he said. “I know the gifts I give can make people’s lives easier. This is something I understand.” After 47 years in business, Covid forced Kocek to shutter his store. Undaunted, he purveyed fine jewelry by appointment. “I am proud to be part of Carmel. We are steadfast by the sea,” he said. “This award is meaningful to me. I am honored.”

### ■ Best Gas Station

### ■ Best Car Repair Shop

**Lemos 76** — 544 Carmel Rancho Blvd. — 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-2925,

lemos76.com

If he’d had his way, Bill Lemos would have gone to Germany, or wherever the action was during the Korean War. Instead, after joining the Army, he spent the war years at Fort Ord as a heavy weapons instructor. After the war ended, he could have returned to his native Gilroy to go back to work on his uncle’s dairy but instead, in 1955, he accepted his brother-in-law’s offer to become a Union 76 dealer in Hollister.

In 1961, a Union 76 rep invited Lemos to consider leasing and running a brand-new Union 76 station at the mouth of Carmel Valley. The shiny new station sat at the edge of the old Hatton Dairy, with nothing more than a Safeway and a drugstore nearby.

“It was a little scary to start a new station with nothing else around,” said Lemos, who was 28 at the time. “But the Union Oil Company reps were very helpful, and I saw it as a way to support my community and, eventually, six children.”

Sixty years later, Lemos, 88, is still connected to the business, now run by his daughter-in-law Debbie Lemos. It has consistently won the Golden Pine Cone award for years. Patrons and employees alike report the appreciation is less about the gas pumped or even the mechanical repairs, and more about the spirit of service, the community investment and the station’s honesty and integrity.

The Lemos family reported receiving customer letters over the years that referred to cars returned from service cleaner than when they went in. People wrote to them of lost cash found and returned, and of a handbag left behind in the restroom and mailed back to a grateful owner. They also shared their praises of everyone’s kindness, courtesy, confidence and respect.

Those who have worked for Lemos in the past six decades — he employed many students attending Carmel High School and Monterey Peninsula College — recall lessons learned, not just about pumping gas and fix-

See CHOICE next page

# Thank You

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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## CHOICE

From previous page

ing automobiles, but about life skills, the value of hard work and accountability — doing things the right way.

“Working with Bill Lemos, I learned about honesty and integrity in business,” said Matt Horton, who was employed there during his years at Carmel High and summer breaks from UC Davis. Horton later opened his own Union 76 station in San Jose. “Bill is a really kind, straightforward, honest businessman, with a lot of heart. He’s my role model for business and life.”

As Bill Lemos looks back on 60 years, he’s grateful to his customers, his community and his crew, particularly his daughter-in-law.



Bill Lemos (top right) and family in the old days, when the guy who pumped your gas looked as spiffy as you did.

“Debbie’s run the place for more than 15 years. She’s devoted to it, and I don’t interfere. She’s the one who implemented ‘self-serve’ but keeps the full-service available for those who want it. Back in the day, competition was stiff. It was good, honest service that kept us ahead. Debbie makes sure that same level of service continues,” he said.

### ■ Best Shopping Center

**Carmel Plaza** — *Ocean and Mission, Carmel* — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 624-0138, [carmelplaza.com](http://carmelplaza.com)

With more than 35 stores and boutiques in nearly 112,000 square feet of space in the heart of Carmel, the open-air Carmel Plaza offers something for everyone, including Tiffany & Co., Kate Spade, Khaki’s of Carmel and Anthropologie. If you’re looking for a bite to eat in between shopping, there are several eclectic restaurants and gourmet shops, such as Alvarado Street Brewing & Bistro, Flying Fish Grill, the Cheese Shop and Carmel’s newest culinary buzz — Dutch Door Donuts. The Plaza also has three notable wine tasting rooms. And if you’re concerned about what to do with Spot while you’re shopping — don’t be. Carmel Plaza is pet-friendly. And no need to worry about parking. The Carmel Plaza has a convenient parking garage that can be accessed at Mission St. and 7th Avenue.

### ■ Best Antique Shop

**Wittpenn’s Antiques** — *San Carlos between Seventh and Eighth, Carmel* — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, closed Wednesdays — (831) 624-1336, [wittpensantiques.com](http://wittpensantiques.com)

This place warrants wandering. And patience. And attention to detail. At Wittpenn’s Antiques, there is so much to

See **HIGHEST** next page

# The Carmel Garden Inn



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# G O L D E N P I N E C O N E S

## HIGHEST

From page 35 GPC

see and something for everyone to discover. Owned by Chip and Kathy Wittpenn, this treasure trove is a short stroll from Ocean Avenue, near Sunset Center. Just the windows of this little gem feature enough eye-catching collectibles to keep shoppers occupied for a while. Browse a wide selection of antiques and specialty items, including sterling silver, vintage guitars, mandolins, books, one of the best pottery and vintage toy collections in Northern California, Tiffany, Lalique, Native American rugs, blankets and so much more. It's definitely reminiscent of old Carmel and worth a peek.

### Best Bookstore

**River House Books** — 208 Crossroads Blvd. — 10 a.m.

to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 626-2665, riverhousebookscarmel.com

Imagine walking into a building where they have books. Yes, real books to hold, flip through, and purchase from an actual shop — not a cold, unfeeling online retailer. Amazing, huh?

Well, a real bookshop exists in Carmel and it's highly popular. A family-owned store, River House Books is a constant Golden Pine Cone winner, having won from 2013 to 2020 and this year, too. Local authors are highlighted with special bookmarks and sections devoted to them. There's a separate section just for a section children's classics and youth favorites, too.

Let the well-read and well-informed staff guide you as you choose from best-selling fiction and nonfiction, humanities and sciences, sports and recreation, and many other categories. If they don't have the title you're looking for, they'll do their damndest to track it down for you.

### Best Bike Shop

**Mad Dogs & Englishmen** — Southwest Corner of Ocean and Mission Street and at the Monterey Plaza Hotel — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday, Mondays by appointment — (831) 250-7687, maddogsgenglishmen.com

A new category for the Golden Pine Cones, Best Bike Shop this year goes to Mad Dogs & Englishmen, a shop that specializes in high-quality electric bikes. The shop's owners pride themselves on identifying and stocking the world's finest bikes and cycling accessories, and the inventory is hand-picked to offer customers some of the best rides money can buy. "Everything we sell is superior in quality, design, functionality, craftsmanship and innovation," according to Mad Dogs & Englishmen's website. "So whether you are looking for a performance bike for road or trail, a commuter or active/leisure bike, a vintage-inspired or retro-style throttle bike, a folding bike, a cargo bike, a kid's bike, or even a super special bicycle sidecar, we have the best in class to meet your needs." The shop also offers repairs and maintenance, along with rentals and tours.

### Best Car Dealer

**Porsche Monterey** — 1781 Del Monte Blvd, Seaside — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 920-0744, porschemonterey.com

If you've driven down Del Monte Boulevard in Seaside, certainly you've seen Porsche Monterey and the dozens of high-performance vehicles lined up along the road. Porsche Monterey would like you to stop in and browse its preowned and new inventory, which ranges from the 2022 Porsche 718 Boxster Cabriolet to the venerable 911. "Whether you're after an energetic car or a versatile SUV, we have something on our lot sure to exceed your automotive expectations," the business says. "When you purchase a pre-owned vehicle from

See VALUED next page

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## Best Estate Planning Attorney Jeannette Witten

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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## VALUED

*From previous page*

us, you can trust it to perform at the high level you need for many miles down the road.” Porsche Monterey also offers parts and service, and its certified technicians can handle everything from routine maintenance to unexpected, complex repairs.

### ■ Best Car Wash

**El Estero Car Wash** — 590 Fremont St., Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday — (831) 373-1801, [elesterocarwash.com](http://elesterocarwash.com)

There’s a reason that El Estero Car Wash has been a repeat Golden Pine Cone winner — readers believe they’re the best in the area. From a basic exterior hand-wash to deep cleaning inside and out, El Estero has been serving the local motoring public for more than six decades, offering a variety of services. El Estero’s crew will gladly detail a Bentley with the same vigor and enthusiasm as they wash a Prius. With the Monterey Peninsula’s perpetual water problems, you’ll be glad to know that El Estero recycles 70 percent of its wash water, too.

### ■ Best Place for Brides to Shop

**Epiphany** — 5 Mission St., Carmel — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Sunday — (831) 626-7700, [epiphany-boutique.com](http://epiphany-boutique.com)

Epiphany Bridal Boutique in Carmel makes it clear that it wants each of its clients to be comfortable in searching for a wedding dress that will be forever memorable. “Wedding dress shopping be a fun and exciting experience,” the shop says. “We’re here to guide you through your entire journey. Beginning when you enter our doors for

the first time, through your fittings and right up to your wedding day!” For a dozen years, the Carmel boutique has strived to make its brides feel pampered and part of its family. Personal attention and a large selection of “only the most beautiful gowns” are what you can expect when visiting Epiphany, according to the shop.

### ■ Best Gift Shop

**House of Cardoon** — Ocean Avenue and Mission Street, in Carmel Plaza — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday — (831) 204-0438, [houseofcardoon.com](http://houseofcardoon.com)

Combining her love of travel and design with many years of merchandising expertise — including spending a decade buying for Pottery Barn — House of Cardoon owner Nora Lee Cavallero offers a curated selection of eclectic gifts, including custom-designed furniture, textiles and leather goods, artisan-made ceramics, jewelry, artwork, sunglasses and vintage T-shirts. And just in time for the holiday season, House of Cardoon has a variety of colorful new ornaments to adorn the humblest of Christmas trees. You’re bound to find something for just about anyone in this heart-of-Carmel gift shop.

### ■ Best Candy Shop

**Lula’s Chocolates** — Locations in downtown Carmel and the Crossroads, call for days and times — [lulas.com](http://lulas.com)

Carrying on the chocolate-making traditions of the late Lula Lund, who sold chocolates under the name Mrs. Lund’s Personality Chocolates and lived to be 99, grandson Scott has carried on the tradition for nearly two decades. With two shops in Carmel, the Monterey-based Lula’s Chocolates is well known to Peninsula residents and offers chocolate and

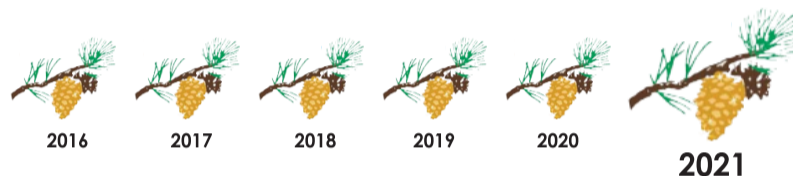
See **RECOGNIZED** next page



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## GOLDEN PINE CONES

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## RECOGNIZED

*From previous page*

confections using Lula's original recipes. The famous sea salt caramels as well as meltingly delicious buttercreams, crunchy nut clusters, dense truffles and other selections are all so delicious that it's impossible to go wrong. "Lula's original recipes are at the heart of everything we make, and we do our best to carry on her legacy with the best ingredients to create the world's premium gift chocolate," the shop said.

### ■ Best Carpet and Flooring

**Bereman Carpets** — 1070 Del Monte Ave., Monterey — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday — (831) 373-7759, [beremancarpets.com](http://beremancarpets.com)

It's amazing what wonders flooring — whether it's carpet, hardwood, tile or laminate — can do to revitalize a home, and there's one place that Pine Cone readers consistently select as their favorite place to go — Bereman Carpets. Located in Monterey, the shop's professionals will help you every step of the way, from choosing just the right flooring to competent on-site measurements to removal of old flooring and skilled installation. "We do it all expertly, so your floor will look amazing and give lasting satisfaction," Bereman said.

### ■ Best New Business

**Ami Carmel** — Dolores between 5th and 6th, Carmel — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily — (831) 620-1600, [amicarmel.com](http://amicarmel.com)

Ami Carmel describes itself as a "lifestyle boutique," and the shop in downtown Carmel has something for any budget, including snuggly clothing, accessories, jewelry, wall art, sassy dish towels and everything in between. The shop is run by Annee Martin,

who took over when its founder decided to step away after seven years. She brought her friends, Annie Darling, AnneMarie DeFreest and Hayley Jane Soggin, along for the ride. They're known for their wonderful customer service and eclectic selection of gifts. Online reviews confirm it — a man visiting in Carmel early this year said he went to the shop, which was a few doors down from where he was staying. "I was able to pick up something special to take home to my wife," said the pleased husband. "As someone who does not shop well, the owners could not have been nicer or more helpful. If you're in the area, I would certainly recommend finding and visiting this very neat slice of Carmel!" A woman shopper also had nothing but good things to say about the business. "This is one of the most charming and hidden gem boutiques in Carmel! I ended up coming back a few times for amazing gifts for family and friends! A great place to find amazing statement gifts with personalization. I am obsessed with everything there and the staff was amazing!"

### Services and Health Care

### ■ Best Place to Work

**Sotheby's International Realty** — Brokerages in Carmel, Carmel Rancho, Carmel Valley and Pacific Grove — Hours vary — (831) 624-9700 for Ocean Avenue brokerage, [sothebyshomes.com/Monterey-Real-Estate](http://sothebyshomes.com/Monterey-Real-Estate)

Sotheby's International Realty not only offers some of the Monterey Peninsula's most exceptional homes and properties, it's also a great place to earn a living according to the readers who voted it Best Place to Work. With more than 100 local real estate agents, Sotheby's current offerings include a \$19.5 million custom oceanfront home on more than 1 acre four miles south of Carmel, and a

*See ESTEEMED next page*

# FOXY COUTURE

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2021

### Best Women's Accessories

*Thank you to our customers and friends!  
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experience and are grateful for another Foxy  
year with you!*

# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## ESTEEMED

From previous page

\$12.5 million, four-bedroom, five-bathroom home on Carmel Point.

Of course, Sotheby's has oodles of homes on the Peninsula listed for sale at a range of price points, and one need only check the company's website to find them.

### Best Place to Volunteer

**Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula** — 23625 Holman Hwy. — (831) 624-5311, [montagehealth.org](http://montagehealth.org)

Many say that Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula wouldn't be the same without its volunteer force. During the Covid-19 pandemic alone, the hospital relied on dozens of volunteers just to help administer vaccines. The volunteers themselves often speak fondly of their experiences, and many were greatly saddened by the inability to come to work at their unpaid jobs during the pandemic.

Community Hospital touts volunteering not only as a way of helping others, but helping yourself by boosting self-esteem, building new skills, gaining new knowledge, meeting new people, reducing stress and improving physical health.

"Healthcare volunteers play an essential role in the patient experience at Montage Health and Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula," the hospital said. "We appreciate the time, kindness, and dedication you share with us. Choose a volunteer opportunity that matches your interests and preferences from our wide range of options." Those interested in adding to their ranks can do so through the Montage Health and Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula Auxiliary, an organization founded in 1955 by eight women that has grown to more than 450 volunteers.

### Best Place to Get Married

**Carmel Mission** — 3080 Rio Road — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, closed Monday and Tuesday — (831) 624-1271, [carmelmission.org](http://carmelmission.org)

When Padre Junipero Serra founded the Carmel Mission in 1771, about a year after he arrived in Monterey by ship, he likely didn't have an inkling that the Mission would become one of the most popular places to get married on the Monterey Peninsula. Well, about 250 years later, the historic church, with its softly worn stones and romantic gardens, has become a super desirable place to tie the knot, and Pine Cone readers have decided once again that it's the Best Place to Get Married. There are some guidelines, however, including the requirement that couples obtain permission from their local Catholic pastors to get married outside their parishes and at the Basilica. But staff at the Mission makes it clear they will help you every step of the way. "The church seeks to help you prepare yourselves for the great day of your wedding as well as helping you with spiritual, psychological and practical things that will make your wedding day a Sacrament that will last a lifetime!" the Mission states.

### Best Place to Get Married (non-church)

**Mission Ranch Hotel and Restaurant** — 26270 Dolores St. — (831) 624-6436, [missionranchcarmel.com](http://missionranchcarmel.com)

With Point Lobos, Carmel River Beach and the Pacific Ocean as natural backdrops, Mission Ranch is an obvious choice for many couples to get married. Just imagine the wedding photo possibilities!

With its tranquil setting a few steps from Carmel Mission, Mission Ranch and its experienced and professional staff offer myriad

See **DECORATED** next page

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## DECORATED

From previous page

possibilities for the big day.

“Ceremonies can take place on a lush green lawn, with a dramatic entrance for the bride as she crosses over the picturesque bridge and pond, or on our more intimate brick patio,” Mission Ranch says (to say nothing of the potential for adorable photo-bombing sheep). “The wedding reception and meal service are held inside the historic barns, creating an out-of-the-ordinary place to celebrate.”

Management also reminds couples that the Ranch is a unique place for a rehearsal dinner — “idyllic, truly distinctive and a great prelude to any wedding.”

### ■ Best Retirement Community

**Del Mesa Carmel** — 500 Del Mesa Drive, Carmel Valley — (831) 624-1583, [delmesacarmel.org](http://delmesacarmel.org)

A repeat Golden Pine Cone winner, Del Mesa Carmel was planned in 1967 by founders who envisioned a “premier retirement community for active adults.” Residents in its 267 condominiums would likely say that the founders succeeded in their mission. Located on a hillside above the Carmel River and not far from Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Mesa offers a combination of sunshine from Carmel Valley and cool, ocean breezes. In keeping with the vision of an active adult community, it offers its residents a superior level of home and landscape maintenance services, allowing “residents to be homeowners and yet have plenty of time for their favorite sports,

fitness, travel and social activities.” Amenities and activities include lawn bowling, dancercise, a gym and swimming pool, extensive hiking and bike trails nearby and a well-stocked library of local national newspapers, magazines and fiction and non-fiction books.

### ■ Best Electrician

**Cate Electric** — Dolores and Seventh — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday — (831) 624-5361, [catelectrical.com](http://catelectrical.com)

The 2021 Golden Pine Cone for Best Electrician brings Cate Electric’s award tally to 13. With that kind of love and support, it’s obvious that the business’ staff and electricians excel at providing customers with premier service. From home remodels to landscape lighting and other services, Cate Electric, founded in 1960, can provide most of your electrical needs. In May, one of Cate’s Carmel Valley customers commented on the company’s work, calling it the “greatest choice for an electrician” on a review website. “This is a local, family-run treasure, and we are so happy with the results. We manage several units and actually look forward the next time we need to call in an electrician!” the customer noted.

### ■ Best Plumber

**A&R Plumbing** — 1720 Contra Costa St., Sand City — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 24-hour emergency service — (831) 394-7221, [aandrplumbinginc.com](http://aandrplumbinginc.com)

Founded in 1974 and still family-owned and operated, A&R Plumbing can unblock your toilet or sink or perform more complex plumbing issues, such as replacing the decade-old pipes in your house to help reduce clogging and prevent leaks. With about 20 employees, the wait time for A&R crews to arrive is not long. In July, a Carmel renter said he was so pleased with A&R that he felt compelled to write an online review about the business after his kitchen sink stopped draining. “Alden was super-nice and friendly, and I could tell he knew what he was doing,” the man said. “He didn’t mind that I was hovering over him and watching the work, and I even learned some stuff. This guy deserves a raise!”

### ■ Best Architect

**Adam Jeselnick** — Junipero & Fourth, Ste. 3 — 10 a.m.

See **CELEBRATED** next page



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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## CELEBRATED

*From previous page*

*to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday – (831) 620-5164, adamjeselnick.com*

While architect Adam Jeselnick was a student at the University of Notre Dame, he studied classical architecture and traditional urbanism in Rome, Italy, and gained what he called “contemporary inspiration from travels around the world.” He and his wife, Laura, settled in Carmel in pursuit of their shared love for the arts and sustainability. Upon moving here, he joined well-known firm Carver + Schicketanz Architects where he managed custom residential projects including the LEED-certified transformation of two mid-century modern homes and several landmark coastal estates. He launched Adam Jeselnick Architect in 2013 with a focus on residential design, local and small businesses, sustainability and adaptive reuse. His notable work includes the Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse, the mixed-use development on Lincoln Street, now home to luxury apartments, Talbott’s wine tasting room and The Pocket restaurant, as well as numerous homes in Carmel, Big Sur and around the Monterey Peninsula. Jeselnick’s firm is a repeat Golden Pine Cone winner.

### Best General Contractor

**Stocker & Allaire** — 21 Mandeville Court, Monterey – 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday – (831) 375-1890, stockerallaire.com

Monterey-based general contractor Stocker & Allaire has been in business for nearly four decades, which is in itself a testament to the company’s success. But its long time in business notwithstanding, Stocker & Allaire has an extensive and impressive portfolio which includes fabrication of exhibits at the Monterey Bay Aquarium for more than

20 years, restoration of Victorian-era homes, redesigns and rebuilds, and the construction of new homes on the Monterey Peninsula. Stocker & Allaire notes that in all of its projects, it identifies the needs of its clients and works closely with them to ensure they’re met. “Our facilities and staff allow us to firmly control and manage our projects from start to finish,” the company stated. Its craftsmen do everything from detailed restoration work to building complicated modern homes. Stocker & Allaire also has a cabinet shop on site, which allows it to control the quality and the delivery of cabinets and furniture for its clients. “On projects ranging from simple new homes to restoring some of the most important California coastal homes, our team successfully brings concept into reality. We have an office staff that can handle the most complicated project management — from tracking down the most elusive products to the clear and accurate billings often needed for large projects.”

### Best Painting Company

**Jon Stuefloten Restoration Painting** — 148 W. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley – 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday – (831) 320-3252, jonstueflotenrestorationpainting.com

Even if you haven’t heard of 2020 and 2021 Golden Pine Cone winner Carmel Valley-based Jon Stuefloten Restoration Painting, it’s likely you’ve seen some of the company’s work, including the grand Hart Mansion on Lighthouse Avenue in Pacific Grove and the Point Pinos Lighthouse, also in that city. He also painted the Point Sur Lighthouse (including some precarious perching) and the interior of Crespi Hall at the Carmel Mission. Of course, he’s gussied up a lot of older homes and garnered a reputation not only for expertly applying finishes, but for being able to match and repair damaged surfaces. In 1980, Stuefloten started his

See **IMPORTANT** next page



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## IMPORTANT

From previous page

own painting business, and since 1993, he has owned and operated his restoration painting company. Though Stuefloten was born in San Jose, he's a longtime Peninsula resident, having moved to the Carmel area as a child in the mid-1940s. "Stuefloten learned his craft in the 1950s before latex and high tech painting tools," according to his website. "He still uses Old World techniques to restore and create the highest quality projects."

### ■ Best Landscaper-Gardening Service

**Craven Landscaping** — 343 Roberts Ave., Seaside — (831) 394-6967 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday — cravenlandscaping.com

For more than three decades, Craven Landscaping has brought outdoor ideas to life for property owners on the Monterey Peninsula. With a crew of about 25 employees, the heart of Craven Landscaping, the company says, is Roark Craven, a licensed landscape contractor and Peninsula native. The company offers everything for your landscaping needs, including design, installation and maintenance. Craven Landscaping's crew is so confident that its motto is "Yes We Can." From a meandering footpath, to an intricate fountain to a cozy fire pit, the company can do it all, and it has the photographs on

its website to prove it. "We take time to answer your questions and help you with all the aspects of your garden or landscape," the company says. "Communication and respect for you are prime objectives of our staff, and it's how we earn your satisfaction."

### ■ Best Real Estate Company

**Carmel Realty** — Dolores, south of Seventh — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 622-1000, carmelrealtycompany.com

With local real estate expertise dating back to 1913 — before the incorporation of Carmel-by-the-Sea — family-owned Carmel Realty is unrivaled for longevity and excellence, as well as integrity, work ethic, teamwork, collaboration, communication and customer service. Four generations of the Mitchell family have lovingly built a company specializing in luxury real estate, from oceanfront homes to estates with sweeping views of the Pebble Beach Golf Links, and made mentoring their new, younger agents a priority. Over the past eight years, this iconic local business has increased staff, brought in additional leadership, updated processes, created a new website and built an experienced network of trusted and accomplished professionals.

### ■ Best Real Estate Rental Company

**San Carlos Agency** — 26358 Carmel Rancho Lane, Ste.

5, Carmel — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (temporarily closed on weekends) — 831-624-3846, sancarlosagency.com

Established in 1954, San Carlos Agency is a full-service business specializing in real estate sales, property management, and vacation and long-term rentals in Carmel, Carmel Highlands, Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach, Pacific Grove and Monterey. A reputation for fairness and honesty has made this fourth-generation, family-owned business one of the most-respected companies in Carmel and the Monterey Peninsula for nearly 70 years.

### ■ Best Real Estate Lender

**Synergy One Lending** — Dolores Street 2 SW Seventh, Unit D — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 521-9378, s1l.com/branch/carmel

Senior loan officer Chad Hawker, a former world-class Ironman triathlete, brings the same work ethic to lending that he did to training, teaming with branch manager Courtney Garneri (his wife), and transaction coordinators Alexi Connell, and Bryanna Costa to inject personalized tender loving care into every client relationship. Synergy One Lending is establishing itself as the place to come in Carmel for "The Modern Mortgage Experience" (a company trademark) for anyone looking to buy or refinance a home.

### ■ Best Title Company

**Chicago Title** — 26609 Carmel Center Place, Carmel — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 277-9081, chicagotitlerene.com

Chicago Title, a perennial champion in Golden Pine Cone voting, brings elite expertise to every aspect of the underwriting experience with a centralized team of industry experts that provides reliable, integrated, high-liability services to commercial and industrial developers, builders, lenders, attorneys and other real estate professionals. This iconic national corporation boasts more than 170 years of underwriting experience. "Chicago Title can assist you with every phase of your transaction and development," said Rene Ayers, vice president of sales and marketing for Monterey County. "Dedication to serving the needs and alleviating the concerns of our customers has made us the nation's foremost name in title insurance." Now, if someone could just find a way to get rid of the seemingly endless forms that have to be initialed and signed when you buy a house.

### ■ Best Personal Bank

**Wells Fargo Bank** — San Carlos and Ocean and many other locations — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 624-5302, wells Fargo.com

For Wells Fargo Bank, serving customers and communities doesn't happen with one transaction, in one day on the job, or in one quarter — it is earned one relationship at a time.

See **PRESTIGIOUS** next page



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### Obituaries:

Anne Papineau (831) 274-8654  
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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## PRESTIGIOUS

From previous page

Henry Wells and William G. Fargo, who brought their stagecoach into the banking world in 1852, built an innovative start-up to help customers build businesses and manage money in a rapidly-changing world. Their legacy exists to this day, finding creative solutions and advocating for more inclusive communities to inspire generations of change makers. Customer services include banking and credit cards, loans and credit, investing, retirement and wealth management, among others.

### Best Business Bank

**Monterey County Bank** — Four locations, including 3785 Via Nona Marie, Carmel — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday — (831) 625-4300, [montereycountybank.com](http://montereycountybank.com)

The oldest locally owned and locally managed business bank in Monterey County opened in 1977, and has evolved into a perpetual leader in Small Business Association loans, thanks to the leadership of long-time president and CEO, and ubiquitous man-about-town, Charles Chrietberg.

Monterey County Bank specializes in all aspects of business banking, providing competitive commercial lending products and outstanding merchant credit card services, all delivered with personal attention to its clients, and during the pandemic shutdowns, it was a community leader in securing government assistance for beleaguered businesses of all types.

Branches are conveniently located in Carmel, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel Rancho and Salinas.

Company motto: "We believe in personal banking relations. We don't open accounts — we start relationships."

### Best Investment House/Advisor

**Monterey Private Wealth Management** — 2340 Garden Road, Ste. 202, Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 372-3426, [montereyprivatewealth.com](http://montereyprivatewealth.com)

Besides health, is there anything that keeps people up at night more than worries about money? Peace of mind is a primary product provided by Monterey Private Wealth Management, which strives to ensure that clients achieve their financial goals, employing an exclusive six-step planning process that highlights the issues that are most important to each individual. An exceptional team of financial professionals creatively customizes investment management, financial planning and business retirement plans, with no hidden fees, serving affluent families and business owners who appreciate first-class service.

### Best Accountant

**Hayashi Wayland** — 26515 Carmel Rancho Blvd., Suite 10, Carmel — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 624-5333, [hw-cpa.com](http://hw-cpa.com)

Celebrating 45 years of service to the community, Hayashi Wayland has grown to become the premier professional services firm on the Central Coast, offering the greatest number of services of any firm in the area, from traditional accounting services to retirement planning, investing, litigation support and other consulting services. Hayashi Wayland is the only accounting firm around here with membership in the RSM US Alliance, providing clients with the unique advantage of working with a local, easily accessible accounting firm, while also benefiting from the resources and support of a national firm.

See WONDROUS next page

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## WONDROUS

From previous page

### ■ Best Veterinarian

**Monterey Animal Hospital** — 725 Foam St., Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 373-0711, [montereyanimalhospital.com](http://montereyanimalhospital.com)

For top-of-the-line medical care and unri-

valed compassion for your furry, four-legged friend, Monterey Animal Hospital has been the go-to place on the Monterey Peninsula since 1966. Veterinarians Ben Wilson (the owner), Crystal Chung, Lannis Enriques and Karen Fenstermaker bring more than 50 years of combined experience to a full-service practice that offers a wide range of state-of-the-art treatments for your ailing pet, including pain management, senior care, ultrasound, dental care, laboratory, radiology, vaccinations and surgery, as well as grooming, boarding and other services.

### ■ Best Pet Boarding

**Casa de Amigos Animal Hotel** — 715 Foam St., Monterey — 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily — (831) 373-0482, [casadeamigosanimalhotel.com](http://casadeamigosanimalhotel.com)

The Cypress Inn may be our readers' choice for the most dog-friendly hotel, but if you aren't taking your buddy along on your next trip, he'll need a place where he can stay and relax without you. Offering overnight boarding, doggie daycare and full-service grooming, Casa de Amigos is yet again the people's — and pets' — choice on the Peninsula for lodging and tender loving care. Established in 1970, this business has undergone extensive changes in recent years, including facility upgrades, new services, extended hours and increased staff, all with the goal of making every animal's stay as comfortable and fun as possible. Casa de Amigos is owned and overseen by Dr. Ben Wilson, and located right next door to Monterey Veterinary Hospital.

### ■ Best Pet Care

**Suds 'N Scissors** — 223 Crossroads Blvd., Carmel — Contact for hours — (831) 624-4697, [sudsandscissorsinc.com](http://sudsandscissorsinc.com)

Luxury and love await your best friend at the Peninsula's premier pet spa, including a wide range of shampoos (i.e. bright white, hypo-allergenic, miconazole, oatmeal, pramoxine), nail and teeth treatments, feather trims, flea baths and a wide variety of haircuts. A Carmel grooming retreat for more than 65 years, Suds 'N Scissors is owned and operated by Todd Harris, whose experience includes ownership of Country Club Kennels, Santa Cruz Animal Care and Tatoha Trainers. Harris also has been a professional dog show handler since he was 16, and a member of the Del Monte Kennel Club for 30 years. If he knows what makes a pooch ready for a run around the show ring, you can bet he knows how to take care of your four-legged pal.

### ■ Best Auto Body Shop

**Gene's Import Auto Body** — 531 Shasta St., Sand City — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — 831-899-0343, [genesimportautobody.com](http://genesimportautobody.com)

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See FAMED next page

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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## FAMED

*From previous page*

family-owned business has been the preferred facility on the Monterey Peninsula for auto-body repair since 1979, consistently raking in glowing customer service reviews. More than 85 percent of the shop's business comes by word of mouth from loyal customers. Gene's mission is "to provide its clientele with the highest level of professional service and quality repairs at a reasonable price," striving to restore each vehicle to factory standards, with a well-trained staff who use factory-certified equipment and technology. "We will strive to complete each vehicle in a timely manner, always upholding factory standards, and never sacrificing quality for a quick repair," the business says.

### ■ Best Dry Cleaner

**Carmel Cleaners** — Junipero and Third – 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday – (831) 624-3616

A winner of multiple Golden Pine Cone awards, Carmel Cleaners consistently receives rave reviews from locals and Peninsula visitors for courteous, efficient and high-quality service that includes skilled alterations and garment repairs. Specialties include the preservation of wedding gowns, prom dresses and other treasured garments. "Good clothes deserve good care" is the longtime mantra of owner Deok Chong.

### ■ Best Travel Agent

**Pacific Grove Travel** — 593 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday – (831) 373-0631 or (800) 648-1808, [pgtravel.com](http://pgtravel.com)

Pacific Grove Travel has been serving the Peninsula for 41 years despite a number of obstacles, from the 2008 recession to the rise of faceless internet vacation-mongers, and then a pandemic that locked down the entire world. But they have endured and are beloved by local travelers. Owner Joe Shamas and expert travel advisors Laura Lockett and Mary Potter have kept locals in good hands for all their traveling needs. They plan to be around when you're ready for your next big trip, building on a legacy of providing clients with service and

*See RENOWNED next page*



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## GOLDEN PINE CONES

### RENOWNED

*From previous page*

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#### Best Hair Salon

**Oya Salon** — 201 Lighthouse Ave.,  
Monterey — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through  
Saturday — (831) 656-0570, [oyasalon.com](http://oyasalon.com)

Pine Cone readers like consistency, and when their coiffures require attention, they seek out the best. Oya Salon has been styling the Peninsula for 26 years and in its current Lighthouse Avenue location for 18. Owner and stylist Brian Bode is committed to being a part of the community. The experts there don't just cut, color, and style hair, they regularly donate to local schools and charities. Bode just launched an international hair product line that is all sourced locally from the Big Sur area.

#### Best Skin Care

**Shelley Bennett Skincare** — 588  
Houston St., Monterey — by appointment only,  
Monday through Friday — (831) 324-4611,  
[shelleyskin.com](http://shelleyskin.com)

Shelley Bennett said she is grateful to be voted Best Skin Care by Pine Cone readers. Her interest in skin care began when she was a young girl and has only grown. In the doldrums of the pandemic, she launched her own private-label skincare line. Bennett offers facials, peels, masks, waxing and more. She has been in business since 2015, and her

hard work and investment have paid off so well that she cannot accept new clients. Influenced by a short training opportunity at the George V Four Seasons in Paris, she values one-on-one, private experiences that her clients appreciate.

#### Best Nail Salon

**Paradise Nails** — 26544 Carmel Rancho Blvd. — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 622-7070

You can put your hands in the hands of Paradise Nails — a family owned and operated business that has been serving the Peninsula in the same location in Carmel Rancho Shopping Center for almost 16 years. It is a full-service salon, offering manicures, pedicures and — bonus — waxing. Its staff believes in taking plenty of time with each customer, and that's probably why Paradise Nails is so loved.

#### Best Spa

**Refuge** — 27300 Rancho San Carlos Rd., Carmel-by-the-Sea — 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Sunday — (831) 620-7360, [refuge.com](http://refuge.com)

Experience the Thermal Cycle at this outdoor oasis, with its multi-temperature pool circuit that is sure to make your heart skip a beat. Start by getting warmed up in a sauna or steam room (when available), then plunge into one of the pools labeled with snowflakes for an icy blast. Relax by the fire pits for a bit, then start the whole cycle over again. You can also unwind in warm or hot Jacuzzi-style pools with little torrents from rock waterfalls creating the only noise you'll hear. The wonderfully silent experience is loved by locals and tourists alike. Robes and bottled water can be added to the price of admission, and there are places to refill your own water bottle, too. Whether you get a massage or just go

See **DISTINGUISHED** next page

Bennett Sculpture  
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2019



2020



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# GOLDEN PINE CONES

## DISTINGUISHED

From previous page

enjoy the pools, you are in for a treat. Refuge aims to enhance the lives of guests with excellent customer service and unrivaled relaxation.

### Best Dentist

**Eric Brown** — 108 Mid Valley Center, Carmel Valley — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 Via Joaquin, Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday — (831) 574-8252, (831) 375-2322, ericbrowndds.com

If you're not sure where to take your smile for maintenance or a tune-up, you might want to consider multiyear Golden Pine Cone winner Eric Brown, who has been practicing locally since 2011. His practice deals with a broad range of dental services including all the basics — exams, x-rays, cleanings and fillings — and more complicated issues like TMJ, dentures and gum disease. Maybe he has been so popular with readers because his office provides many options for sedation dentistry, so you can snooze while he services your pearly whites.

### Best Dermatologist

**James and Joseph Rheim, Rheim Dermatology Cosmetic Laser Center** — 757 Pacific St. Suite A-1, Monterey — Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. — (831) 373-4404, rheimderm.com

Multiyear winner Rheim Dermatology Cosmetic Laser Center is a local institution for all your skin care needs. The practice started with James, who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer. Joseph, his son, joined him in 2004 after finishing medical school at Tulane in New Orleans, La. — just like his dad. According to the practice's website, "Dr. Joe" has "garnered extensive experience in cosmetic treatments." Between father and son, you can bet you're getting the benefit of years of experience. Whether it's a medical issue like skin cancer or psoriasis or simply the desire to look your best, they have you covered.

### Best Ophthalmologist

**Philip Penrose** — 21 Upper Ragsdale Dive. Ste. 201,

Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 740-8934, eyemdmonterey.com

Ophthalmologist and eye surgeon Dr. Philip Penrose specializes in LASIK and cataract surgery with premium intraocular lenses. He also has an interest in the medical and surgical

management of diabetic eye disease and glaucoma. Penrose is bilingual in Spanish and English, and regularly spends time in an underserved area of Guatemala performing cataract surgeries. In their reviews, patients raved about the care

See **EXPERT** next page

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## EXPERT

From previous page

Penrose provides, especially with regard to cataract surgery. One patient said, "you've taken an otherwise unpleasant but necessary experience and made it relaxed, friendly and comfortable."

### Best Orthopedist

**Chris Meckel, Monterey Spine & Joint** — 12 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Suite A, Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 648-7200, [msjhealth.com](http://msjhealth.com)

Multiyear Golden Pine Cone winner, Dr. Meckel is the co-founder of Monterey Spine and Joint and is a hip and knee replacement specialist. He grew up on the Peninsula and graduated from Carmel High in 1984. Meckel's expertise in arthroscopic surgery (the kind with the tiny incisions) and minimally invasive, computer-assisted knee replacements, are just some of the things our readers found to like about the good doctor. He said he is happy to be back in his hometown, serving the community where he was raised.

### Best Pediatrician

**Todd Dwelle** — 1900 Garden Road, Ste. 110, Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday — (831) 372-5841, [stanfordchildrens.org/en/location/pediatric-group-of-monterey](http://stanfordchildrens.org/en/location/pediatric-group-of-monterey)

Dr. Dwelle is a board-certified pediatrician from the California Central Valley. He attended medical school at Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, followed by a residency at the University of Connecticut. In 2002 he and his family moved to Monterey. In 2017 he was given the Clinical Excellence Award for Primary Care by Stanford Children's Health. He is passionate about advancing medicine using technology such as telehealth — an option that Covid made even more attractive. He enjoys spending time with his children, flying, swimming, road biking and backpacking.

### Best Primary Care Physician

**Gregory Tapson** — 26607 Carmel Center Place, Suite 104 — 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, and Wednesday through

See EXALTED next page

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# G O L D E N P I N E C O N E S

## EXALTED

From previous page

Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday – (831) 624-3077

A longtime — and dearly loved — Carmel physician, Dr. Tapson's online reviews make clear the reasons readers awarded him a Golden Pine Cone...again! With adjectives like "amazing" and "compassionate," he's built a solid reputation as someone who cares for his patients as human beings. Tapson studied at UCSD and then attended the USC School of Medicine before coming to Fort Ord for a family medicine residency in the military. He has enjoyed caring for patients on the Monterey Peninsula for the last 31 years. He also likes to help out with youth sports and plays music in his leisure time.

### ■ Best Plastic Surgeon

**Douglas Sunde** — 856 Munras Ave., Monterey — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through

Friday - (831) 372-0200, drsunde.com

Dr. Sunde is the readers' choice for The Golden Pine Cone once again, thanks to a passion for his profession, zeal for maintaining up-to-date techniques and commitment to his patients. He has been practicing in Monterey since 1994, and he has become loved by locals. He specializes in plastic surgery and provides individualized care as he performs state-of-the-art cosmetic and reconstructive treatments. A native of suburban Chicago, he was an Eagle Scout, a National Merit Scholar, and valedictorian of his high school class before pursuing higher education at Stanford, where he graduated with distinction, followed by medical school at UC San Francisco, where he was part of the medical honor society for leadership and academic excellence in medical scholarship. Pine Cone readers know that with Dr. Sunde, you'll always put your best face forward.

### ■ Best Physical Therapist

**Balance Physical Therapy** — 2260 N. Fremont St., Monterey — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday – (831) 372-4782, balancept.com

Balance Physical Therapy & Human Performance Center — a multiyear winner of the Golden Pine Cone — has been serving the Central Coast since 2002. With locations in Salinas, Monterey and Prunedale, its mission is to change the world...one patient at a time. Headed up by John Farahmand, who has his doctorate in physical therapy, the team of expert clinicians say they provide the most patient-focused and result-oriented care in the Monterey Bay.

Not content just to help the hurting, Balance PT has specialized services for runners and golfers who want to up their games. The folks there strive to help patients reach their goals and return to a happy, pain-free life!

### ■ Best Chiropractor

**Peter Ruiz, Monterey Family Chiropractic** — 991 Cass St., Monterey — (831) 375-2225, montereyfamilychiropractic.com

Dr. Peter Ruiz discovered his passion for chiropractic care as a child when his mother saw her first chiropractor and Ruiz witnessed the effects a chiropractor could have on overall health. He began his practice in 1986 in Bakersfield, but moved to the Peninsula. He has been practicing here since 1998. Patients claim, "he really cares!" Not only do they cite his chiropractic expertise and relieving them of their pain, but also his pleasant demeanor and excellent bedside manner.

See VENERATED next page

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# VENERATED

From previous page

## Best Divorce Lawyer

**Sarah Cavassa** — 50 Ragsdale Drive, Ste. 201, Monterey — (831) 655-6868, cavassaconnell.com

Sarah Cavassa is a family law specialist certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. She represents clients in a wide array of family law issues, including divorce, custody and support. She's a graduate of the University of Washington and Monterey College of Law — where she also teaches — and has been practicing law since 2008. She is an adjunct professor in community property and the Heisler Moot Court program at MCL, passing on her real-life knowledge to aspiring attorneys. When she's not working, Cavassa enjoys running and being outdoors.

## Best Estate Planning Attorney

**Jeanette Witten** — 490 Calle Principal, Monterey — (831) 375-3151, hudsonmartin.com

Highly esteemed in the community, Jeanette Witten serves as managing partner of Hudson Martin PC. She has been practicing law since 1998, and her expertise includes transactional law, especially estate planning. She represents companies in business and corporate law matters and transactions, including securities transactions and issuances, intellectual property licensing, management, mergers and acquisitions, entity counseling, and trademark and copyright matters. She also represents individuals in estate planning and wealth management.

## Best Lawyer if You Need to Sue Somebody

**Andy Swartz** — 550 Hartnell St., Suite A-1, Monterey —

(831) 373-3235 or (800) 624-9911, ssklaw.com

Andy Swartz has been righting wrongs in Monterey since 1973. A repeat winner of the Golden Pine Cone, he specializes in a broad spectrum of civil litigation for plaintiffs and defendants, ranging from personal injury to defamation, and has won multiple high-profile cases. Swartz holds degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Santa Clara School of Law (magna cum laude), where he was on the staff of the law review. He said, "Much thanks to my two partners as well as the other members of our local bar association who make the practice of law enjoyable for me."

## Best Defense Attorney

**Larry Biegel** — 2801 Monterey Salinas Hwy, Ste. A — (831) 373-3700, biegeflow.com

Larry Biegel has been in Monterey County since 1975.

See **RESPECTED** next page

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## RESPECTED

From previous page

He started as a public defender and later moved into private practice. He likes to be a problem solver. He and his team tell their clients that they “want to be their last attorney, not their next attorney.” Biegel grew up in Los Angeles and is a “double Bruin,” having attended UCLA for both his undergraduate and his law degrees. He is married to one of his law partners, Cristina Biegel, whose expertise is dealing with the psychological fallout that clients experience — a definite plus in difficult situations. Besides being a veteran criminal attorney, Biegel represents people injured in accidents or otherwise harmed. His work has resulted in multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements for his clients.

### ■ Best Public Relations Company

**Armanasco Public Relations** — 585 Abrego St., Monterey — (831) 372-2259, [armanasco.com](http://armanasco.com)

Armanasco Public Relations is a full-service PR firm established in 1985 and serving clientele locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Readers love them for the personalized attention they pay to all clients. They are known for their media training and specialize in crisis management, such as produce recalls.

### ■ Best Insurance Agent

**Matt Little Jr., Carmel Insurance Agency** — San Carlos between Seventh and Eighth — 8:30-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday — (831) 624-1234, [carmelinsurance.com](http://carmelinsurance.com)

Another repeat winner, Matt Little’s family legacy dates back three generations in Carmel. Robert L. Little opened Carmel Insurance Agency, Inc. in 1948, when he began delivering quality solutions in the areas of commercial, personal, health and life insurance. His son, Matthew A. Little Sr. began working with his father in 1968. Throughout his career, Matthew (Senior) expanded the agency’s markets throughout the United States. In 1995 his daughter, Amy Little-Figge joined the firm, and Matthew A. Little Jr. began his career in 2000. Today, the company is locally owned and operated and committed to serving the community with all their insurance needs. Many clients count their time working with the firm in decades, not years, and that kind of service is tough to beat.

### ■ Best Shoe Repair

**Federico’s Drive-In Shoe Service** — 542 Abrego St., Monterey — 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday — (831) 649-3322, [federicoshoes.com](http://federicoshoes.com)

Since 1939, Federico’s Drive-In Shoe Service in Old Monterey has brought old-world craftsmanship and the art of shoe and luggage repair to the Monterey Peninsula. In fact, you can think of the folks there as sustainability experts for footwear and such, fixing them so that you don’t have to toss them prematurely. Whether you need a new zipper, polish, shining, dyeing or resoling, Federico’s is the place. The company’s talented professionals can repair most things from luggage to handbags, furniture, and more, so don’t shy away from bringing them a repair project that seems hopeless. This outstanding, family-run operation takes great pride in its customer service, earning the affection of a community that has made Federico’s a multiple winner of the Golden Pine Cone.

### ■ Best School

**All Saints Day School** — 8060 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — (831) 624-9171, [asds.org](http://asds.org)

Readers love All Saints Day School...as well as its teachers and principal (see below), awarding them three Golden Pine Cones this year. Serving local kids since 1961, ASDS is an Episcopal institution, with an enrollment of more than 200 children from preschool through eighth grade. Student-to-faculty ratios are low, and 95 percent of the teachers have at least five years’ experience on the job, according to the school’s website. Alumni and parents are fiercely loyal and supportive, too. The academic curriculum is rigorous, and everyone there believes in nourishing the whole child. Students have won state and national honors in history, prizes in science and engineering, and this year, 2017 alumna Kate Popky won a Jefferson Award for service to the community for a charity she founded while attending York School, where she’s the student body president. According to its website, “This school community is alive with a thirst for knowledge and connection, where all are encouraged to find meaning in their lives, explore their own sense of spirituality, and grow a deeper understanding of the world beyond our walls.”

### ■ Best Teacher

**Mandy Georis, All Saints Day School** — 8060 Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel Valley — (831) 624-9171, [asds.org](http://asds.org)

Mrs. Georis grew up in Southern California and attended UCSC for environmental studies with an emphasis in entomology, so it’s probably safe to say that very little bugs her. At UCSC, she met her husband, local Gabe Georis (owner of Pescadero and Barmel) and the couple moved to the area. She began working at ASDS in 2004 as a teacher, currently imparting her knowledge to fifth graders, and says, “it’s wonderful to spend my days with 24 fifth graders and learn from them and help them embrace the entire learning world.”

### ■ Best Principal

**Scott Fujita, All Saints Day School** — 8060 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — (831) 624-9171, [asds.org](http://asds.org)

Mr. Fujita has been involved with ASDS for nine years and counting, first as a parent, then as board member and now as head of school. An athlete himself — he was an NFL player for 11 years, and captain of the defensive unit with the New Orleans Saints’ Super Bowl Champion team — it’s not surprising that he established the school’s first cross-country team, as well as the track and field team, and re-established the flag football team. He was a producer and the director of development on the feature-length, award-winning documentary, “Gleason,” about a friend and former teammate living with Lou Gehrig’s Disease. According to his welcome message, “At ASDS, everyone is someone.”

### ■ My Favorite Nonprofit

**SPCA for Monterey County** — 1002 Monterey-Salinas Highway — (831) 373-2631, [spcamc.org](http://spcamc.org)

It’s no surprise that Pine Cone readers love the SPCA so much — after all, they’ve been following the four-footed stars of Sandy Claws for years. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is a local, nonprofit, donor-supported humane society that has been dedicated to serving the animals of Monterey County since 1905. Besides caring for stray cats and dogs (not to mention lizards, tarantulas, rabbits and hamsters), the SPCA houses rescued horses and other farm animals at its spacious campus, and says its Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center helps 3,000 wild things annually. They also look after stray parakeets, snakes and other exotic animals. You can adopt a pet, send your kids to camp to learn about animals and you can visit the website to find out more about community programs like Ruff Start, which pairs shelter dogs with inmates at Salinas Valley State Prison for training and socialization.

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