

# The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 109 No. 49

www.carmelpinecone.com

December 8-14, 2023

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## Driftwood dispute puts beach rules on hold

By MARY SCHLEY

SHORT ON community input and information about what Carmel can and can't do with its beach, the city council voted Tuesday to put off implementing new rules governing cleanups on the town's most precious piece of



PHOTO/MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

State and federal laws allow beach visitors to gaze upon sea life like these starfish, but they're not allowed to touch or remove them.

real estate.

In September and October, the forest and beach commission discussed the proposed policy, which is dictated by the state and federal agencies that control the shore below the mean high tide line. The Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area was established in 2007 to impose a ban on taking any "living, geological or cultural marine resource" from the beach other than the recreational catching of fish and commercial harvesting of kelp, and the area is also part of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

### No touching

But garbage, dog feces, rotting seaweed, piles of driftwood and stagnant pools of standing water have long annoyed beachgoers, and cleanups have taken place for years, regardless of those laws. The proposed policy would cover the entire beach to avoid having different rules in different areas and says all "naturally occurring material," including algae, driftwood, feathers, rocks, kelp and "cultural, archaeological and historical items" must be left in place, while all human-sourced (and dog-sourced) waste and hazardous materials must be thrown away or recycled.

While commissioners agreed with much of the proposed policy, some objected to placing the city-owned

See **CLEANUP** page 14A

## Supes reject design for bridge railings

### Coastal commission next?

By CHRIS COUNTS

ECHOING THE concerns of the Monterey County Planning Commission — which has twice turned down the same plan — the county board of supervisors voted 5-0 Wednesday to reject a proposal from Caltrans to replace the old railings on the Garrapata Bridge in Big Sur — despite the state roads agency's contention that the existing railings are dangerous due to their age and outdated design.



PHOTOS/CALTRANS

Caltrans wants to replace the existing railings (top) alongside Garrapata Bridge in Big Sur for safety reasons, but a handful of locals, along with the county's planning commission and board of supervisors, want the new design (above) to look more like the old one.

Caltrans wants to replace the railings with ones that would be somewhat thicker, with smaller portals between the posts. But a group of locals contends they don't look enough like the old railings and would diminish the flickering views of the coastline through the portals.

At Wednesday's hearing, Mitch Dallas of Caltrans told supervisors his agency has worked hard to come up with a

See **RAILINGS** page 15A

## Council balks at revenue 'loss' from Wright house

### But OKs Mills Act for 'Bird Cottage'

By MARY SCHLEY

PATRICE PASTOR'S purchase of the Frank Lloyd Wright house at the south end of Carmel Beach for \$22 million in February boosted the property's annual tax bill from just over \$73,400 to an estimated \$240,000, and on Tuesday, city council members resisted the idea of reducing that tab in exchange for the owner's commitment to restore and preserve the historic home. Instead, they

decided to again delay a vote on Pastor's application for a Mills Act contract — so named because the 1972 state law to offer the tax break to owners of historic properties was authored by former State Sen. James R. Mills of San Diego.

The city council's decision on the Wright house came shortly after the council unanimously approved a similar agreement for a cottage on the other side of town. Located on Third northwest of Junipero, the English Cottage-style home owned by Michael and Kimberly Griffin was designed and built by noted architect Frederick Bigland in 1927 and was officially named the Agnes Shorting House, though everyone knows it as the Bird House. It was added to the historic inventory in 2005.

### Commitment

In their Mills Act application, the Griffins committed to undertaking \$282,750 worth of improvements over a 10-year period, including foundation inspection and repairs as needed, plumbing and sewer repairs, exterior painting, annual chimney inspections, rehabilitation and installation of original window shutters, assessment and repair of exterior doors and windows, in-kind roof and gutter repair, new stone where needed, insulation, and termite testing and repairs.

"Although the adoption of a Mills Act contract will decrease property tax revenue to the city, this contract

See **HISTORIC** page 18A

## Got a place for us? We're all ears ...



PHOTO/BUNNY TRAIL RABBIT RESCUE

This adorable ball of fur is just one of many that has found a temporary home at Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue in The Barnyard shopping center. The shelter is open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. See page 12A.

## Big Sur residents group says, 'No more hotel rooms'

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE EVERYBODY seems to agree there needs to be a cap on hotel rooms and "glamping" campsites in Big Sur, there's wide disagreement between locals and Monterey County officials over what the number should be.

In a Nov. 27 memo, officials said a total of 187 "visitor-serving units" can still be created, based on its interpretation of the Big Sur Land Use Plan, which establishes strict guidelines for development down the coast.

The memo also notes that an additional 30 rooms have been set aside for two projects — one at the former Westmere Inn just north of Rocky Creek Bridge, which will have 24 units, and the other at Rancho Rico in Big Sur Valley, which will have six.

But according to the group Keep Big Sur Wild, the

county is using faulty math to come up with its numbers. The organization contends that the county failed to account for 105 rooms that were created between 1980 and 1985, as well as a number of glamping units — camping with luxury amenities — at Big Sur resorts.

In the group's view, the cap for adding more visitor-serving units has been reached.

### Disputed numbers

The county reports that there are 457 hotel rooms in Big Sur, a stretch of about 70 miles, while Keep Big Sur Wild says there are 482.

The memo acknowledges the discrepancy over the counting of units that can still be built. "The county's new

See **BIG SUR** page 9A

# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Third time's a charm

It all started when they decided their chocolate Labrador retriever mix, a Big Sur rescue named Teaka, needed a playmate. And there he was, a chow chow-pug mix or "chug," languishing at an animal shelter in Los Angeles. Born in the shelter, he just kept growing and growing until the only thing "pug" about him seemed to be his tail.

His first family wasn't feeling it, and in his second family, their Rottweiler wasn't feeling it. But with his third family, he found his forever home in Marina.

They named their chug "Jambo," which means "Hello" in Swahili, after his friendly, easygoing nature. Both Jambo and Teaka enjoyed many days at the beach together, but they experienced their coastal playground very differently.



"Teaka, to whom we had to say goodbye last May when he was 15, was a crazy water dog," his person said. "He was all in with the water, and was all about cleaning up the ocean. We'd toss a ball, and he'd bring back a buoy, a rope, or a stick."

Jambo, who prefers to stay anchored on the sand, prances up and down the shoreline, showing off his long, lean "cheetah" body, trying to win friends and influence playmates along the way.

"Jambo stops only to say hello to everyone he meets," his person said. "It doesn't have to be another dog. It might be a bird or a human or, once he gets home, a cat."

The biggest highlight of Jambo's day is sneaking across the street to greet the neighbor's cats. If, in his exuberance, he charges at them, the cats get scared. Then he backs up and tries again, more slowly, and they all touch noses.

"Jambo is now 15," his person said. "Dogs just don't live long enough, especially when we have so much to learn from them."

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# Hofsas House overhaul to make planning commission debut

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER HOSTING two community meetings on her plans to tear down and reinvent the Hofsas House as the Carmel Legacy Hotel, owner Carrie Theis is set to hear what the Carmel Planning Commission thinks of the design created by architect Eric Miller. Commissioners will get their first in-depth look at the proposal and provide initial feedback at their Dec. 13 meeting.

“They’re looking at doing a full demo-rebuild — it’s an exciting project for them to take it into the next century. They wanted to — wisely — come talk to the planning commission and the community early on in the process to see what every-

76-year-old hotel, but they soon concluded a full demolition and new construction was the only feasible option. The buildings, one of which is four stories tall, sit on a steeply sloped property and contain no elevators, only stairs. The materials are outdated, it’s impossible to soundproof the rooms, and much of the hotel doesn’t comply with current codes. The driveway is very steep.

### Their vision

Miller’s drawings feature lower, more contemporary, craftsman-style buildings of stone, wood and glass. The proposal calls for keeping the number of rooms the same at 38, replacing two apartments with two condos, and preserving the historic house on the Dolores Street side of the property in which Theis and her husband, Kevan Urquhart, live. Driveways on San Carlos will be eliminated, but a porte cochere on that frontage will accommodate guests who will have their cars valet parked in the garage via a Dolores Street entrance. The onsite restaurant will serve only hotel guests.

Theis said she met with the city’s design review committee, which included key

department heads, the police and fire chiefs, and representatives of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and Carmel Area Wastewater District, to determine whether the project raised any red flags, which it didn’t. It would comply with current codes and standards, has enough

See **HOFSAS** page 21A



RENDERING/ERIC MILLER ARCHITECTS

A rendering shows the San Carlos Street frontage of the proposed Carmel Legacy Hotel, which would replace the Hofsas House.

body thinks,” planning director Brandon Swanson said when he announced the meeting Friday. “Kudos to that project team for being proactive and reaching out. This is the first city-sanctioned review of that project, so we’re excited to have that happen.”

Theis and Miller initially explored the idea of remodeling her family’s



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# Police & Sheriff's Log

## Attempt at a sinker went wild

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.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Female reported an unknown male masturbating in front of her on San Antonio Avenue at 0419 hours. Suspect was gone on arrival. Investigation continues.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Vehicles were towed from San Carlos and Eighth and Mission south of Eighth at 0440 hours per section 22651(n), temporary tow-away zone (Home-crafters' Marketplace).

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Found wallet at Dolores and Ninth was brought to the station for safekeeping. The wallet was released back to the owner.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Non-injury traffic accident at Dolores and Seventh. A Ford Fusion was attempting to leave a parking stall

and struck a Mercedes driving north. Information exchanged.

**Pacific Grove:** A 32-year-old male was arrested at Central Avenue and 13th on a bench warrant for failure to appear in court. He was booked into Monterey County Jail and held on \$10,000 bail for obstruction of an officer, possession of narcotics, and vandalism.

**Carmel area:** Property found at the Barnyard was returned to the owner.

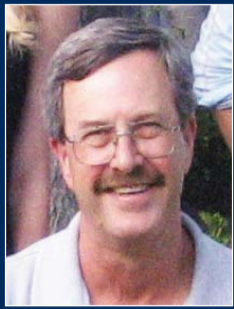
### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** No calls to report.  
**Pacific Grove:** Vehicles marked for 72-hour parking.

**Pacific Grove:** Suspicious circumstance on Jewell Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** At about 0520 hours, officer dispatched to a deceased person found on

See **POLICE LOG** page 7RE in the Real Estate Section



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## The gavel falls

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

**Oct. 27** — Marie Aiello, 61, a resident of Marina, was sentenced to four years of felony probation and remanded into custody to begin serving a 180-day jail sentence.

The defendant inflicted injury on May 25, 2023, by assaulting John Doe, who was in her care at Miss Barbara's Child Care Center in the city of Marina.

This case was reported to police when Doe came home from daycare with some new scratches and scrapes. He told both his mother and teacher that the defendant, who worked at the daycare but was not his assigned teacher, had hurt him.

Video surveillance showed the defendant dragging 2-year-old Doe into a classroom and repeatedly throwing him down onto a sleeping mat.

She also attempted to hold him down on the mat using a chair.

Doe's family members spoke at the sentencing about the impact this has had on him, and the impact on his parents, who put their trust in the defendant and the daycare center to keep their child safe, only to have that trust broken.

This case was investigated by Officer Gabriel Rose and Detective Michael Ball of the Marina Police Department, as well as District Attorney Investigator Rachel Maldonado.

**Oct. 27** — Bryan Perez Lustre, 30, a res-

ident of Salinas, was convicted by a jury of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving on a suspended license.

On May 7, 2023, just before 2 a.m., an off-duty CHP officer observed Lustre driving his Lexus SUV on top of the raised median that separates east-and westbound traffic on West Blanco Road near the intersection with South Main Street in Salinas. A marked police unit subsequently arrived and conducted a traffic stop. The officers smelled alcohol on Lustre's breath and observed that he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. Two breath tests were administered and showed his blood alcohol level to be .21 and .20, which is over two times the legal limit of .08. Lustre was also found to be driving with a license suspended for a previous DUI conviction.

Jurors additionally found true that Lustre had suffered three prior convictions for driving under the influence, twice in 2018 and once in 2020. Under California law, a fourth conviction for DUI within a 10-year period is punished as a felony.

Based on the conviction, Lustre faces up to three years in prison.

This case was investigated by the California Highway Patrol and prosecuted by the specialized DUI prosecution unit at the Monterey County District Attorney's Office.



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# Arrest in ruse to steal hotel's cash

By MARY SCHLEY

A THIEF'S plan to distract the clerk at an upscale downtown hotel long enough to empty the cash register in the lobby late last Tuesday night succeeded — but he got caught in the end, thanks to surveillance cameras and his own missteps, according to Carmel Police Sgt. Michael Bruno.



Halile Johnson

At around 11 p.m. Nov. 28, the front desk at L'Auberge Carmel at Monte Verde and Seventh received a phone call regarding a disturbance inside a hotel room, and when the clerk went to investigate, a man later identified as Halile Johnson "walked into the hotel and straight to a cash drawer," he said.

"The suspect stole several hundred dollars in cash and ran out of the hotel," he said.

It didn't take long to determine the identity of the culprit, however. Called to

investigate the theft, officer Gerald Maldonado reviewed footage from the city's traffic cameras and the hotel's surveillance video and identified Johnson, a 21-year-old resident of Monterey, as the thief, according to Bruno.

Also working against him were the facts that "employees recognized Johnson because he was a former employee of the hotel," and he used his cell phone during the attempted theft, according to Bruno.

### Needed a burner

"Through phone records, it was confirmed that Johnson placed the initial call to the hotel as a ruse to steal the cash," he said.

The following afternoon, Johnson returned to the city and was spotted by Maldonado, who pulled him over at Carpenter and Sixth and arrested him for burglary. He was booked into Monterey County Jail but subsequently posted bail and was released.

"The money was not located, and Johnson wouldn't provide us with the information to lead us to the money," Bruno added.

# Jersey Mike's offers Scout fundraiser

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A NEW sandwich shop in Pacific Grove is offering a super deal that will also benefit a local Scouting group.

With Wednesday's opening of Jersey Mike's at 100 Country Club Gate Center, the shop — until Sunday, Dec. 10 — is offering a free regular sub with a minimum \$3 donation to Boy Scouts of America Troop 43, one of the oldest local troops.

And until Dec. 15, Jersey Mike's is also

offering coupons for discounts on sandwiches and a free drink and a bag of chips with the purchase of any size sub.

For each coupon received, the shop will donate \$2 to the BSA Troop 43, which was chartered in 1957. The coupons are available at the store.

Jersey Mike's is located next to Starbucks just off Forest Avenue and is in a space that had been vacant since McDonald's closed and the coffee chain giant opened for business in 2017.

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## Police investigating murder attempt

By KELLY NIX

**TWO PEOPLE** Pacific Grove Police say were connected to an attempted murder last week at Lovers Point Park — one of the city's most visited spots — were arrested several days later. But police won't identify the suspects.

On Nov. 30 at about 11:20 p.m., P.G. Police say officers responded to Lovers Point to a report of a disturbance "involving several masked individuals and one person with a gun." When they arrived, the victim was gone, but they were able to get information about the suspects' vehicles and the direction in which they fled.

That led officers to make traffic stops on vehicles matching the descriptions of those that had fled the crime scene. However, because the male victim was not available to identify the people police detained, the occupants were released. On Dec. 1 at 12:55 a.m., though, the unidentified victim contacted PGPD.

He "provided more details about the incident that coincided with security footage collected from the crime scene, establishing that an attempted homicide had occurred," PGPD Cmdr. Brian Anderson said in a media release.

### Cameras helped

Pacific Grove police, in cooperation with other local law enforcement agencies, confirmed the "identifications of possible suspects and obtained search warrants. On Dec. 3, P.G. Police, in collaboration with Seaside and Monterey police departments and the Monterey Peninsula Special Response Unit, served two search warrants and arrested two people "in connection with the attempted homicide."

Police investigators requested to see video footage of cameras installed at the Beach House Restaurant to determine if the crime was caught on tape, the restaurant's managing partner, Kevin Phillips, told The Pine Cone.

"While we did provide some video, it was inconclusive and the police weren't sharing many details with us," Phillips said Tuesday. "Although alarming, this appears to be some kind of isolated incident."

Anderson said that cameras PGPD installed to take photographs of license plates of vehicles entering the city were

"instrumental in assisting detectives with identifying the possible vehicles involved in this case."

Besides refusing to disclose the names of the two suspects, PGPD did not say whether they are believed to have carried out the attempted murder or played other roles.

### Secretive

While it is commonplace for law enforcement agencies to publicly identify people they've arrested, Pacific Grove Police took the atypical step of refusing to do that in the attempted homicide case. Asked for the names of the suspects Monday, Anderson cited the "ongoing investigation" into the crime.

"We are not releasing the names of the arrestees at this time or any other type of identifying information," Anderson told a Pine Cone reporter Monday. "We will release more information regarding this case in the future."

To protect the public and the civil rights of people who are detained, a state law requires police departments to publicly announce the names of anyone arrested, but Anderson maintained that it is "not unusual for police departments to withhold the identities of persons involved in an ongoing investigation where we still have outstanding suspects and the lives of the individuals involved could be at risk if their identities were immediately revealed."

However, Pacific Grove Police has a history of withholding information that other police departments, including Carmel, Monterey, Seaside and Marina, regularly and freely disclose.

On Nov. 22, after a Pine Cone reporter requested the name of the man who was arrested by a PGPD officer arrested for threatening to kill the principal of P.G. High, the police department — without offering an explanation — initially refused to provide his name and instead directed the reporter to the sheriff's office for information.

That suspect, Riley Elvin, turned out to have an extensive criminal past, leading to questions about why he was allowed to walk the halls of two schools several times before being challenged. If his name had been kept secret, the public would have not known about his past.

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## Man charged in fight over sand dune's 'Free Gaza' message

By MARY SCHLEY

FORMER CONGRESSIONAL candidate Max Steiner has been charged with battery and vandalism for his Oct. 12 altercation with three young women who decorated the Sand City "billboard" sand dune with a "Free Gaza" sign that he destroyed. According to news reports of the incident, which involved two siblings of Palestinian descent and another relative, Steiner allegedly grabbed the youngest one, wrested her cell phone away from her and flung it.

The complaint filed by Monterey County deputy district attorney Greg Peterson Nov. 30 states Steiner, who lives in Monterey, "did willfully and unlawfully use force and violence upon the person of Jane Doe," and "willfully, unlawfully and maliciously" vandalized her iPhone by grabbing it and throwing it. Both charges are misdemeanors.

### 'Choked by a Zionist'

During testimony before the Monterey County Board of Supervisors Oct. 24 opposing a proposed resolution supporting Israel in the war against Hamas, Carmel High School graduate Aminah Khalil identified her younger sister as the victim in the Sand City incident.

"My sister was assaulted and choked by a Zionist running for Congress," she said. Steiner, a Democrat, unsuccessfully ran against Republican Doug LaMalfa for the seat in the 1st Congressional District, which encompasses most of 10 counties in

the northeastern part of the state, in November 2022. According to court records, he now lives on Lobos Street in Monterey, and there's no indication the 2011 U.C. Berkeley graduate and U.S. Army veteran plans to run again.

After condemning support of Israel here and abroad as "support of terrorism," Khalil, daughter of Dodi's Auto Sales owner Dodi Khalil, referred again to the incident, in which she said "a 13-year-old was choked by a 36-year-old."

A week later, the San Francisco Bay Area office of the Council on American Islamic Relations, the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, demanded that the Monterey County District Attorney's Office "take action in response to an alleged hate crime that occurred more than two weeks ago and to file charges against the perpetrator."

According to CAIR, Steiner instigated the argument with the two Palestinian-American Muslim siblings and a Native American relative, "vandalized their sand art, and, in an alarming turn of events, allegedly choked the youngest woman, a 13-year-old, as he attempted to grab the phone she was using to record the encounter."

"Although the argument was captured on video and shared on TikTok, the physical altercation itself was not recorded," CAIR stated. "Steiner admitted responsibility for the incident on social media, with the exception of the physical attack."

Steiner's arraignment is set for Jan. 14, 2024.

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# MENTAL ISSUES MAY HALT COURT CASE

By MARY SCHLEY

MICHAEL TUTELIAN, the Southern California real estate developer arrested more than a year ago for beating up a restaurant owner and a waiter and vandalizing the owner's scooter during a nighttime brawl, could have the criminal case against him set aside due to psychological issues, according to Monterey County Superior Court records.



Michael Tutelian

attorney William Pernick filed a motion seeking postponement. He asked the judge to put off the hearing, at which the court will consider Tutelian's mental status and whether to proceed with the criminal case against him, to Dec. 14. Pernick also said deputy district attorney Amanda Puck "has no objection to this request."

According to her bio, as a clinical psychologist licensed in California, Oregon and Utah, Stotler-Turner "has spent much of her career working with correctional patients in inpatient hospital settings, where she

See ISSUES page 14A

# BIG SUR

From page 1A

new unit count data begins after the date of the certification of the Big Sur Land Use Plan by the California Coastal Commission on April 10, 1986," it says. "Keep Big Sur Wild's counts use an earlier date."

Keep Big Sur Wild argues that the county's data needs to be revised to account for the units that were created between the time the plan was written and when it was certified six years later.

"In our recent communication with the county, Keep Big Sur Wild has clearly stated that these county numbers are incorrect," reads a statement from the group.

"We have explained how and why the cap on lodging units has already been exceeded, and that no additional lodging units should be allowed in Big Sur.

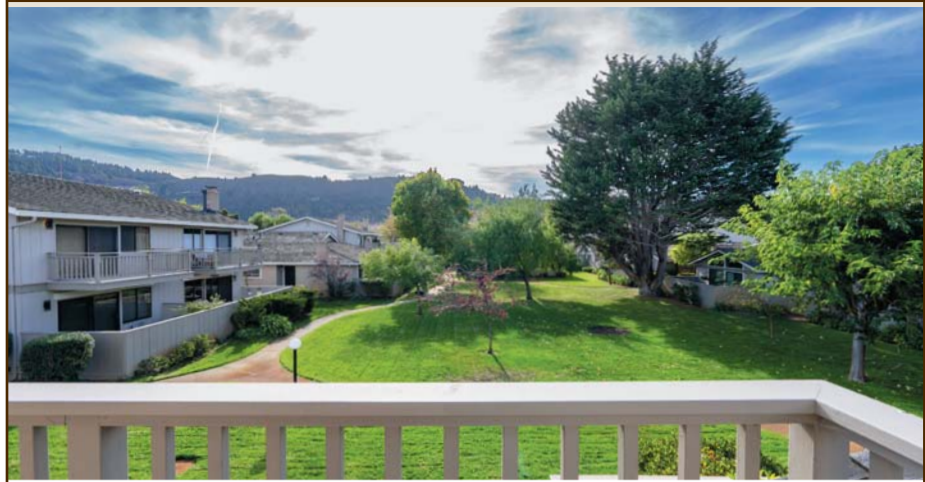
The county has chosen to ignore the facts and to proceed with expanding commercial development in Big Sur," the group continues.

Keep Big Sur Wild warns that it's only a matter of time before more visitor-serving units are proposed — and if they are approved, traffic congestion in Big Sur will only get worse.

"The county has done a really remarkable job of confusing the cap-counting issue," spokesman Tim Green said. "If this subversion of the plan succeeds, the plan that has successfully protected this national treasure for 40 years will fail."

The cap count is particularly relevant because the county is in the process of updating the Big Sur Land Use Plan. The county released a nearly complete version of the document in early November for public review, and the Monterey County Planning Commission is hosting a public workshop on the topic Dec. 13.

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# Lion hit with restraining order, charges for scuffle with Pebble Beach officer

By MARY SCHLEY

A MONTEREY County Superior Court judge last month authorized a restraining order keeping Carmel Highlands resident Bruce Lion away from a Carmel Valley woman he harassed, and the district attorney's office has filed formal charges in one of several pending cases against him.

Lion, 61, is a member of the family that founded Lion Raisins in Selma 120 years ago. While the company's website formerly listed him among its executives, it no longer names the key figures in the company.

### Felony highway blocking

He first made headlines when he was arrested in September on several felonies for blocking Highway 1, throwing rocks at cars and assaulting construction workers, and spent several days in Monterey County Jail. He has also been warned to stay away from Pebble Beach and a downtown Carmel bar and was arrested by Monterey P.D. for

driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs Nov. 8. Also last month, he was accused of punching a woman in the face and threatening to kill her family at his Carmel Highlands home, according to the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

At a Nov. 22 hearing, a judge granted a restraining order barring Lion from seeing, talking to or otherwise contacting 22-year-old Carmel Valley resident Hannah Dreher.

Dreher, who doesn't know Lion personally, filed a civil harassment suit against him early last month after he showed up at her work Nov. 2 and refused to leave. "Bruce Lion came into my work clearly very drunk. He cornered me and was saying he wanted to show me pictures on his phone, at first normal pictures, then he began to show

me inappropriate photos of himself and others," she wrote in her request for protection. "He started touching my arms and leg. I asked him to leave maybe 10 times, but he would not go. After about an hour, he finally left."

### She warned him

In her filing, Dreher said Lion didn't threaten or harm her, she had not seen him before, and she did not notify law enforcement. She indicated she warned him she would be seeking the restraining order. Judge Vanessa Vallarta issued a temporary stay-away order, and on Nov. 22, Dreher appeared in court to argue her case.

Commissioner Katherine Stoner presided over the hearing, which Lion did not attend, though court records indicate he was served



Bruce Lion

See LION page 20A

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PAID MEDICAL PROFILE

# New Montage Medical Group family practice doctor specializes in compassion

PATIENTS WHO ARE CARED FOR BY MONTAGE MEDICAL GROUP DOCTORS can trust that they will receive high-quality, personalized, and compassionate care in a locally operated, community-oriented, and patient-focused environment. That's why Montage Medical Group's newest family practice doctor, Dr. Jeffrey Sasser-Brandt, chose to practice here.

Sasser-Brandt knew he wanted to care for others since he was young. He grew up with a love for animals large and small, and as a child he aspired to be a veterinarian. But as he navigated the social landscape of junior high school, he realized he had a knack and passion for developing connections and meaningful relationships with his peers.

That passion for social connection inspired the young Sasser-Brandt to shift his veterinary ambitions to study medicine. "I want to help everyone be the best versions of themselves they can possibly be," Sasser-Brandt says. "Having a close connection with

the community I care for is a priority."

Before coming to Montage Medical Group, Sasser-Brandt worked for hospitals and healthcare systems that were local and community-based, as well as large-scale, "business-oriented" hospitals, as he describes. "The rigid and transactional nature of those big business hospitals left no room for human interpretation, connection, different schools of thought, and truly personalized care," he says. "I knew I wanted to go back to an in-touch healthcare system that was woven into the fabric of the local area."

Sasser-Brandt found just what he was looking for in the locally managed Montage Medical Group. "The innovative, forward-thinking, flexible, relationship-based, community-oriented, and nonprofit structure of Montage Medical Group empowers doctors to provide personalized care to each patient," he says, "and facilitates doctor-patient relationship development which is critical to positive health outcomes."

---

*"These patients are more than their diagnoses or their labels. They are whole people who have lives, families, and social concerns, so it is vital to provide care in the context of what makes them who they are. I know what it is like to interact with a provider and not feel seen or heard, feel talked over, and pushed aside. I don't let that happen to my patients."*

— Dr. Jeffrey Sasser-Brandt



Dr. Jeffrey Sasser-Brandt, Montage Medical Group

"Dr. Sasser-Brandt is exactly the kind of compassionate medical professional that we are proud and honored to have on our team," says Dr. Mark Carvalho, Chief Executive Officer of Montage Medical Group. "While we are eager to add more doctors to our team and increase access to care for our community, it is important that we partner with doctors who practice excellence in everything they do, and Dr. Sasser-Brandt fits that bill."

Sasser-Brandt has special interests in caring for HIV-positive patients, caring for the LGBTQAI+ community, and medical dermatology. "These patients are more than their diagnoses or their labels," he says. "They are whole people who have lives, families, and social

concerns, so it is vital to provide care in the context of what makes them who they are. I know what it is like to interact with a provider and not feel seen or heard, feel talked over, and pushed aside. I don't let that happen to my patients."

Even when he is not at work, Sasser-Brandt continues to care for the community. He has a long history of service, from boxing up meals on Thanksgiving Day and volunteering at homeless and animal shelters to more recently helping rejuvenate the fire-devastated communities in Lahaina through fundraising, material donations, and assisting local Lahaina artists in selling their artwork in California.

Sasser-Brandt is accepting new patients. Visit [montagemedicalgroup.org](https://montagemedicalgroup.org) or scan the QR code.



# Rescue group moves, asks for help finding homes for unwanted bunnies

By CHRIS COUNTS

TYPICALLY A busy place during the holidays, The Barnyard shopping center will not only be filled this week with shoppers on the move, but bunnies, too.

That's because Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue, one of the shopping center's most unusual tenants, is temporarily moving to a new storefront. The change of venue was necessary due to a construction project above the existing site and could last for a few months.

Founded in early 2021 and led by founder and president Bethany Brandt, Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue offers grooming and boarding and tries to find homes for unwanted rabbits.

At the heart of the group's mission is the belief that the

long-eared furballs make great pets.

"They're adorable, and they make good indoor pets like cats and dogs," Brandt told The Pine Cone. "Most people don't know they can be trained to use litter boxes. They don't need walks, and they don't need much space."

It's also best if they live inside.

### Therapy bunnies

"They should be indoors and interacting with people," Brandt continued. "That is where they thrive and live the longest and happiest lives."

Those who seek emotional support animals often turn to rabbits.

"They are great at calming anxiety," Brandt observed. "They feed off your energy. They know when you're in a

good mood or a bad mood. They know how to put a smile on your face."

Besides offering therapy, rabbits are naturally theatrical. "They're very much entertainers," Brandt said. "If you're watching, they'll put on a show — they want to be the center of attention."

But raising the animals also has its challenges. Brandt said they are very vulnerable in many ways, especially to noise and stress. They also need lots of attention.

"They are very sensitive," she explained. "If you don't pay attention to them, they become aggressive or depressed."

A board member and volunteer at Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue, Michael Lykken, said many rabbits are brought home as pets but later abandoned because their owners were not able to give them enough attention. The number of rabbits in need of homes increases during the holidays, when so many are given as gifts. Lykken said rabbit rescue

See RABBITS page 28A



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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Historic Resources Board of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible. Immediately prior to the Public Hearing, the Board will visit some or all of the project sites in person as part of a Tour of Inspection. Interested members of the public are invited to attend both the Tour and the Hearing.

**THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE AND IN PERSON AT CITY HALL.** The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or remotely via Zoom; however, the meeting will proceed as normal even if there are technical difficulties accessing Zoom. The City will do its best to resolve any technical issues as quickly as possible.

To attend in person, visit the City Council Chambers at City Hall located on Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues. To view or listen to the meeting remotely, you may access the YouTube Live Stream at: <https://www.youtube.com/@CityofCarmelbytheSea/streams>, or use the following link to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom teleconference: <https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/88991263922?pwd=TFVQTUFVMjA5c1l2STdDQU994V1lOUt09>. To listen to the meeting via telephone, dial +1 346 248 7799. Meeting ID: 889 9126 3922. Passcode: 930 359.

All interested persons are invited to attend via teleconference or in person 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 emailing [mwaffle@cbts.us](mailto:mwaffle@cbts.us) prior to the meeting. With respect to written comments, please submit them at least 2 hours before the meeting in order to ensure they are provided to the Historic Resources Board 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 Historic Resources Board 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 Historic Resources Board meeting will be broadcast live on the City's website at <http://carmel.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/meetingsresponsive.aspx> and archived there after the meeting. For more information regarding Historic Resources Board meetings, please contact the Community Planning & Building Department at (831) 620-2010.

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Eric Miller Architects, Inc., Architect  
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Consideration of a historic determination for the single-family residence known as "Donna Hofsas House" and a historic determination for the Hofsas House Hotel located on San Carlos Street 2 northwest of 4th Avenue.

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# CLEANUP

From page 1A

beach — above the mean high tide line — under state and federal rules, and they argued for the removal of driftwood, which can be a hazard and a nuisance. Without those conflicts resolved, the draft beach cleanup policy reflecting staff’s perspective and recommendations was put on the council’s Dec. 5 agenda.

### Wait a minute

Councilman Bobby Richard called for a continuance before the item was heard.

“Before we get a staff report, would it be possible to postpone this until after we know the cans and cant’s and shoulds and shouldn’ts?” he asked.

Mayor Dave Potter agreed. “I don’t think we have quite enough consensus in the community as to why we’re doing this,” he said. “I’d also like to get a field trip together at the beach to get a better understanding of what the issues are.”

Councilwoman Alissandra Dramov was likeminded, saying the council and the public would be better served by having a little more time to mull over and understand the issues.

“To slow the process down a little bit — I think we would all benefit from that,” she said.

But councilman Jeff Baron argued for proceeding as planned. “Where we are right now is we have no beach cleanup policy,” he pointed out, saying that hearing the staff report and public comment would be edifying, even if the council didn’t take action.

Also wanting to proceed, councilwoman Karen Ferlito campaigned for voting on the proposed rules at the

meeting, considering the time already spent on it.

“I would prefer to approve a policy tonight and then do the field trip, and if there are any changes or amendments that need to be made, we can do it that way,” she said. “I don’t like continuing things, because it makes more staff work.”

Conversely, Richards said, approving the rules, only to go through the process of making changes later, would amount to “a waste of the public’s time, our time and the staff’s time.”

After going back and forth in the same vein for several more minutes, Richards made the motion to continue the item and received a second from Dramov, after which Potter opened the topic to the public.

No one in the audience favored moving ahead.

“When a best-practices document is proposed to become part of the municipal code, it is reasonable to expect it to be accurate and reflect the best thinking from all sides,” resident and Carmel Cares volunteer Shirley

Moon told the council. “This policy as written does not meet those basic goals, so I would be in favor of reviewing this more carefully and continuing it.”

### A beach party

Resident Richard Kreitman said the topic is too important to rush, and Dale Byrne said it didn’t follow due process or get enough public attention at the forest and beach commission meetings. Former forest and beach commissioner Brian Sours agreed.

City administrator Chip Rerig suggested getting the council together with officials from the state and federal agencies for a field trip at the beach, and possibly including the forest and beach commission, as well. He also said the council could send it back to the forest and beach commission or ask for the proposal to come back to it later, but that no direction needed to be given now.

Council members unanimously voted in favor of the delay.

# ISSUES

From page 9A

has conducted psychodiagnostic evaluations, psychopathy evaluations, malingering assessments, and violence risk assessments.” She has also worked as a forensic evaluator for the Department of State Hospitals and is on the expert witness list.

Tutelian, who was celebrating his 38th birthday, was the only suspect police identified in the unprovoked attack in which four people assaulted the two men near the

intersection of Monte Verde and Ocean the night of Sept. 1, 2022. Through an extensive investigation that included surveillance footage and help from the victims and witnesses, Carmel Police obtained a warrant for Tutelian, who turned himself in to Monterey P.D. nearly two weeks later. He posted \$30,000 bail.

Tutelian was working as vice president of construction and development at Hackman Capital Partners in Santa Monica. While he appeared on the company’s website at the time of his arrest, he is no longer included in the “Who We Are” list and photos of team members. His LinkedIn profile, however, still shows him as employed by Hackman Capital, which hired him in 2014.



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# RAILINGS

From page 1A

design for the new railings that closely resembles the old railings. “We fully understand the public’s concern about this bridge, and we’ve gone to great lengths to accommodate the aesthetics of the design,” he said.

Dallas said the old railings are failing, and they need to be replaced with something that meets modern safety standards.

“It would be irresponsible for us to build an unsafe condition out there,” he testified. “The state has massive liability associated with safety. This is a state highway — it has millions of users.”

Dallas noted that when the bridge was built in 1931, cars were much lighter than they are today. He suggested the existing railings won’t protect a car today that’s much heavier. He showed a photo of a vintage Model A Ford, which he said weighed about 2,300 pounds, alongside a modern van, which he noted weighs more than 12,000 pounds.

Dallas also displayed an image of a bad accident that occurred along Highway 101 that was blamed on railings that had failed.

### Restore vs. replace

A number of locals spoke out against the plan to replace the railings with the ones Caltrans designed, including Christina McGinnis of Keep Big Sur Wild.

“Modernization really isn’t necessary,” McGinnis insisted. “They can be repaired and restored.”

Rick Aldinger said the look of the existing railings needs to be preserved “It would be a disservice to residents and visitors alike to chip away at that in any way,” Aldinger said.

Ken Ekelund, who lives just a short walk from the bridge, urged supervisors to reject the plan by Caltrans to replace the railings. “Tell them to start over again,” Ekelund said.

A resident and the executive director for the Community Association of Big Sur, Patte Kronlund wrote in an email that the existing railings “have stood the test of time for over 90 years without any instances of injury due to failure.”

Kronlund and the community association want to see the railings repaired or replaced with something that resembles them. “We urge Caltrans to reassess and determine the necessary steps to pursue an exception to make this happen,” she added.

After public comment, Supervisor Luis Alejo suggested that what is decided for Garrapata Bridge will set a precedent for other historic bridges down the coast. Eventually, Caltrans wants to replace the railings on six Big Sur bridges, including the landmark Bixby Bridge.

“I realize that Caltrans is only doing its job, but what to do today will impact future generations,” Alejo said. “I want to make sure we do this right.”

### ‘Thick and clunky’

Supervisor Chris Lopez signaled his opposition to the plan to replace the railings.

“Big Sur holds a special place in my heart,” Lopez said. “I realize what it means to drive across those bridges and look through those windows — I get it.”

Supervisor Glenn Church asked Dallas if there have been any fatalities at the site. There have been accidents, but no fatalities, Dallas confirmed.

Supervisor Mary Adams conceded that a decision to deny the plan would likely not mark the end of the discussion. “I’m conscious of whatever the board decides will probably be appealed to the California Coastal Commission,” she said.

Adams added that she appreciates all the work Caltrans did to try and come up with a suitable design for the new railings, but she called the end result “thick and clunky.”

She made a motion to turn down the plan to replace the railings, which her colleagues all supported.



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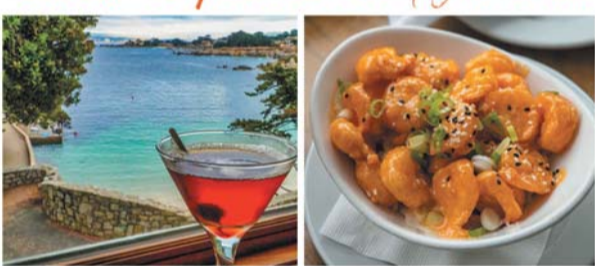
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# As city council debates tax hits, Mills Act applications put on hold

By MARY SCHLEY

WITH NO one from the public commenting and no discussion among them, Carmel City Council members on Monday unanimously approved an emergency ordinance halting the acceptance of Mills Act applications until they decide whether to further restrict the program, which provides tax breaks to owners of historic properties in exchange for their commitment to restore, maintain and preserve them.

The Mills Act is widely considered to be the most important economic incentive program in the state for the restoration and preservation of qualified historic buildings by private property owners, according to principal planner Marnie Waffle.

The legislation has existed since 1972, with jurisdictions

choosing whether they participate and what the criteria are, including limits on the number of contracts. Carmel restricts the number of contracts to 15 in any three-year period, but just 15 have been approved since the city's program took effect when its Local Coastal Program was certified in 2004.

In recent years, some council members have grown increasingly concerned about giving up property taxes in exchange for preserving significant buildings. The city's program requires five findings mostly relating to the historical significance of a building and its integrity. The fifth stipulates that the contract "will represent an equitable balance of public and private interests and will not result in a substantial adverse financial impact on the city," but council members have sparred over whether that equation should include impacts on the Carmel Unified School

District. CUSD heavily relies on property taxes for its budget, which this year anticipates \$69,427,457 in revenues. The district serves 2,274 students.

### Moratorium indefinite

Last month, the council asked city attorney Brian Pierik to draft an "urgency ordinance" that would prevent property owners from submitting Mills Act applications until the council further reviews the program and decides whether to add more restrictions.

To find out what other cities and counties do, the planning department reached out to 73 that have Mills Act programs and heard back from 40. The majority impose no restrictions on the contracts, which require a 10-year

See MILLS page 28A

# P.B. house gets historic nod, owners get tax break

By KELLY NIX

A PEBBLE Beach home designed by noted modernist architect John E. Dinwiddie is historic, and its owners should get a substantial reduction of their property taxes for maintaining it, county supervisors decided this week.


On Tuesday, the supervisors voted 5-0 to add a 1948, two-bedroom, three-bath home at 4161 Sunridge Road to county's official list of historic resources. The supervisors also said the owners, Steven and June Rivera, are eligible for a contract per the Mills Act, which offers homeowners tax breaks in exchange for maintaining and preserving their properties.

### Well preserved

According to a report prepared for the property in 2014, Kent Seavey said the Sunridge home is part of the "Second Bay Region" style, which he described as a "unique combination of the 'less is more' dictum of the International Style and the Soft Modernism that drew from the vernacular architecture of ranches, barns and low-cost homes."

He concluded that the home "clearly retains most of its

See TAX BREAK page 23A



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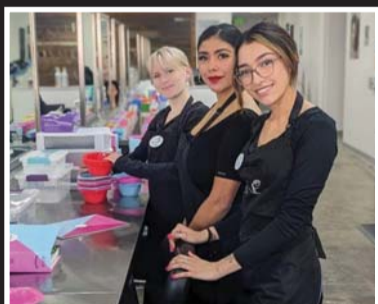
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## HISTORIC

From page 1A

represents an equitable balance of public and private interests,” principal planner Marnie Waffle said in her report to the council Dec. 5. Of the city’s 292 historic resources, only 15 have received Mills Act contracts since the city started participating in the program in 2004.

“The city would continue to receive a portion of the property tax revenue, and the investment in rehabilitation and maintenance supports local tourism, which benefits both private and public interests,” she said, adding that “the value of preserving a historic resource offsets the loss of revenue.”

While resident Kristi Reimers argued that the maintenance plan seemed too routine to warrant such a tax break, the council ultimately approved the contract unanimously.

But council members had a harder time with the proposal to protect the Frank Lloyd Wright house, which was commissioned by widow Della Walker from the famous architect in 1948 and completed in 1952. The home formally known as

the Cabin on the Rocks is on the local, state and national historic registers, and is Wright’s only seaside home. The previous owner, heir Chuck Henderson, had a Mills Act contract approved by the city council in August 2019 but then haggled over its terms before it was OK’d again in December 2020, according to Waffle.

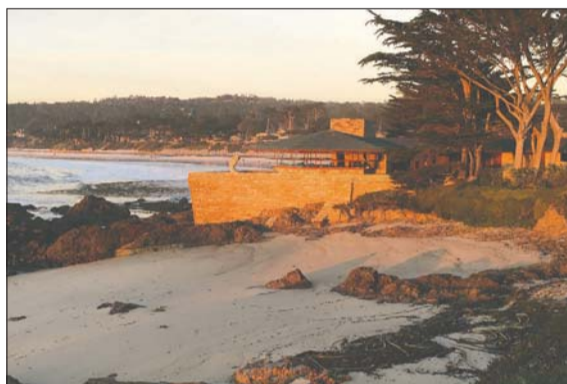
### Big ticket items

It would have run with the land but was never recorded with the county, and the family subsequently sold the house to Pastor, who submitted a new Mills Act application calling for a 10-year, \$1.34 million plan for repairing and maintaining it. Waffle said the list includes \$600,000 to replace the roof, \$173,000 to rehabilitate the windows, \$160,000 to restore the patio designed by notable landscape architect Thomas Church, and \$80,000 in new plumbing and electrical systems.

“It’s appropriate in scope and more than just routine maintenance,” she said. In August, the historic resources board also recommended approval.

Unquestionably, the Wright house is the most significant and famous home in Carmel, and Pastor will be paying much higher

*Continues next page*



The Frank Lloyd Wright house (above) at the south end of Carmel Beach suffers the effects of constant exposure to the ocean, including rusted and corroded windows (right).

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### From previous page

property taxes than the previous owner, whether the Mills Act applies to him or not. But some council members have questioned whether the Mills Act's preservation incentives are worth the forgone revenues, particularly to Carmel Unified School District, which relies heavily on property taxes. Councilman Jeff Baron has been the foremost critic, having been the dissenting vote on several Mills Act applications, including the Wright house's 2019 agreement.

In more recent discussions, Baron and council members Alissandra Dramov and Karen Ferlito have resisted a contract for the Frank Lloyd Wright house, considering the potential loss of tax revenues.

Representing Pastor at Tuesday's meeting, Esperanza Carmel LLC managing director Chris Mitchell told the council the law focuses on the property, not the applicant, nor his wealth, nor the value of the property.

"The house was already approved for a Mills Act contract," he pointed out. "The only change was the owner. If it had been signed, it would have carried through to the new ownership."

He also noted that money spent on the work there would flow back into the community, rather than to the county or state in the form of taxes.

And preserving the Frank Lloyd Wright house is no ordinary task. "There's no way you could argue that maintaining this house is normal maintenance," Mitchell said. "You can't go to your local hardware store and buy materials to maintain the Frank Lloyd Wright house. There's not a single 90-degree angle in the building. Everything is bespoke."

#### 'A little naive'

He and lawyer Jason Retterer also quarreled with Baron's position that the city should take the tax hit on CUSD into account. While approval of a Mills Act contract requires an equitable balance between public and private interests and no adverse impact on the city, "it doesn't require the council to consider impacts on anything other than City of Carmel," Retterer said. He urged the council to approve the contract based on the language in the policy.

But Reimers provided her own calculations indicating Pastor would profit from the deal by spending less on preserving the home than he would get in tax benefits.

Polly Osborne, president of the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects, simply urged the council to approve the contract, and architect and consultant Christopher Barlow did likewise.

Baron said he was troubled by the fact that Pastor's

reduction in taxes would exceed the amount he plans to spend on the house and that the impacts on Carmel Unified's budget can't be ignored, since 10 percent of the district's students live within Carmel's city limits.

"There's no doubt this house is one of, if not the most, important house in town," he acknowledged, "though I would note some of the owners of the Comstock houses might disagree with that."

Mayor Dave Potter noted the city is already benefiting from the increased property taxes resulting from Pastor's recent purchases — Mitchell said he's increased tax revenues by \$700,000 due to his transactions. Potter said he would support the application, as did councilman Bobby Richards, who said that since the application meets the policy's requirements, and Waffle and the HRB recommended approval, he would back it.

Ferlito countered that she also calculated the tax implications. "Perhaps when the Mills Act was first started in Carmel, we had no idea of the rise in property values," she

said. "And maybe we were a little naive." Dramov said she would be happy if Pastor committed to spending as much on preserving and maintaining the house as he would get in discounted property taxes, but she also wanted him to commit to opening the house to the public once a year, as the previous owners did for the Carmel Heritage Society. She also accused his attorney of "bullying us."

#### Work it out

Baron then offered to barter, suggesting the council approve the contract if Pastor agreed to spend more on the house and to divert some of his tax savings to the school district. Baron first made a motion to deny the application and then leaned toward a continuance, only to reverse course when he sensed Mitchell wasn't on board.

Potter, however, coaxed Baron back to favoring a delay to see if Mitchell and city staff can work out some sort of deal, and the council voted 4-1 for another continuance, with Richards dissenting on principle.



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## PACREP BRINGS BACK 'RUDOLPH'

By CHRIS COUNTS

CELEBRATING THE heartwarming story of a young buck who turns a disability into a beacon that saves Christmas, PacRep's musical version of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" returns to the Forest Theater through Dec. 17. The musical played at the same venue during last holiday season.

The cast features Addie Miller — who portrays Rudolph — Naomi Gluck, John Radley, Cody Moore, D. Scott McQuiston, Keith Decker — who plays Santa Claus — Seaneen Sullinger and Heidi Witten-Forsythe.

The musical is directed by John Newkirk, with choreography by Sarah Gaudoin and musical direction by Michael Blackburn.

The music includes timeless songs like "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," "Silver and Gold," "A Holly Jolly Christmas," and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

"Get ready to sing along with the all-time favorite songs that have become synonymous with the holiday season," PacRep said.

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"Rudolph" will be performed Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$27 for general admission, \$17 for students 13 and over, and \$10 for children. The Forest Theater is located at Santa Rita and Mountain View. For tickets, call (831) 622-0100 or visit pacrep.org.

## LION

From page 10A

with the temporary order and notice of the hearing at his Highway 1 residence. As with the temporary order, Stoner said the sheriff's office should serve it without any cost to Dreher, because it's based on "unlawful violence, a credible threat of violence, or stalking."

Stoner signed the order Nov. 28, a day after the Monterey County District Attorney's Office filed a new case against Lion based on his dustup with Pebble Beach security a month earlier.

According to the complaint, Lion "delayed Jose Herrera-Ponce, who was then and there a peace officer attempting to and discharging the duty of his/her office

and employment" at 1500 Cypress Drive near the Lodge at Pebble Beach after he ran one of the gates entering Del Monte Forest.

He also "did unlawfully and intentionally interfere with a lawful business" by "obstructing and intimidating those attempting to carry on business, and their customers, and refusing to leave the premises of the business establishment after being requested to leave by the owner, the owner's agent and by a peace officer acting at the request of the owner and owner's agent."

The complaint was signed by deputy district attorney Matthew L'Heureux Nov. 14 and filed two weeks later. Lion posted \$5,000 bail the day after the altercation and is set to be arraigned Dec. 13.

Cases involving the DUI and the battery at his home have yet to be filed.

## JOSEPHINE MOSELEY

1933-2023

Our dear mother, Josephine Moseley, née Modafferi in Tenafly, New Jersey on March 13th, 1933, sadly passed away, surrounded by her family on December 1, 2023 in San Marcos, California at the age of 90. She was a wonderful, vibrant and loving Italian-American mother, who will be dearly missed by friends and family alike. She was preceded in death by her son, David Wayne Rump, and her first husband, Charlie Rump, and her second husband, Dr. Robert Moseley and grandson Walker Rumpf. Josephine was a pure "Delight" in every way, and would light up the room with her presence.

Josephine was a devoted Roman Catholic. She had a special relationship with Jesus and the Blessed Mother— making pilgrimages as far as Lourdes, France. Jo enjoyed donuts and coffee every Sunday with her grandchildren and church community at the Carmel Mission.



She was a courageous woman and was awarded for jumping over a fence while pregnant and putting out a fire on a neighborhood child with her bare hands, saving his life.

Josephine loved painting, singing and playing the guitar for her church and family. She enjoyed playing tennis, lawn bowling, line dancing, tai chi and yoga for many years. She was a great cook and enjoyed throwing wonderfully entertaining parties throughout the years. Jo loved traveling the world.

Josephine is survived by her three sons: Charles Rump and grandson Ivan Surikov Rump and great-grand children, Vitanya, Emilia and Robert Rumpf. Son Eric Rumpf and his wife Nadia and his children Marianna, Sophia and Nathan Rumpf. Her daughter Nancy Modafferi Bulger and her husband Joseph Bulger III, her grandchildren Carlo Rivetti and Carly Waters, Grand children Nico and Arianna Rivetti and great grandchildren Ava Marie and Natalia Catherine Rivetti. Her Grandson Gianni Rivetti and great grandson Joseph Squire Rivetti and grandchildren Michael Rivetti and Penelope Toogoode and great granddaughter Marguerite Rose. Her Son Jeffery Rumpf and grandsons Wilder and Wyatt Rumpf.

There will be a Memorial Service held at the Carmel Mission Basilica in Carmel, California on Monday, December 18 at 10 AM. All are welcome to attend.



# HOFASAS

From page 3A

water, and would mitigate traffic issues on San Carlos created by the current layout.

"The new project makes better use of the land with having underground parking," she said this week. "It meets the code 100 percent."

She said the non-binding meeting set for Wednesday will serve to "introduce the project to the planning commission and get feedback," and she hopes she and Miller will be able to answer questions raised by commissioners and the public.

"The reason we're here now is, what are we trying to plan for the next 75 years?" she explained. "Buildings don't last forever," but she wants her son and grandchildren to enjoy and carry on the family's legacy. The hotel has been in Theis' family since its inception.

"We've always enjoyed being part of Carmel — part of the community — and we want to continue doing that,"

she said. At 91, Theis' mother, Doris, lives in a condo a block away and still works at the hotel five days a week.

Theis also acknowledged she and her other family members will feel nostalgic about the old hotel once it's gone, but they are looking forward to what will replace it. Its story will not be lost, either, since it will be chronicled in photos, as well as in homages incorporated into Miller's design.

"What's nice about working with Eric is he really

appreciates the transition from old to new and incorporating pieces of the old in the new," she said. "There's going to be a link."

To see a fly-through video rendering of the project and find other information, go to [carmellegacyhotel.com](http://carmellegacyhotel.com). The planning commission meeting will be held in person at city hall on Monte Verde Street and via Zoom starting at 4 p.m. For more information, including a complete agenda, visit [ci.carmel.ca.us](http://ci.carmel.ca.us).

## Catherine Ann Merz McPherson

May 15, 1947 - Sept. 18, 2020

Catherine grew up in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

She passed away on September 18, 2020.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, she graduated from Carmel High School in 1965 and attended San Jose State, majoring in interior design. After graduation she worked for American Airlines as a stewardess. She worked as a project manager for 25 years and then retired in Rocklin, Ca.



Catherine enjoyed golfing, art, cooking, camping, boating with the family and traveling.

She is survived by her loving sister, Nancy; brother-in-law, Robert Cain; and her nephews, Eric and Brandon Cain of Auburn, California; as well as her brother, Dennis Schwaigert.

## FRANCIS ANTHONY PASTOR

June 3, 1934 - November 23, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our father, Francis Pastor on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2023. He was 89 years old and died peacefully at home in Monterey.

Francis was born in Bordelonville, Louisiana where he graduated high school. He is the son of Walter John Pastor and Essie Bordelon Pastor. Francis graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in agricultural sciences. He was hired by Union Carbide Corporation in his senior year of college and his career took him around the country and the world for the next 35 years.

He was a member of the Carmel Host Lions Organization for many years. He was an avid hiker and backpacker and a prolific gardener. Above all, Francis loved to dance and could be found doing the foxtrot, waltz or Cajun two-step wherever he found the opportunity. Francis was always friendly, forthright, outgoing and he made friends wherever he went. He had a great sense of humor until his last days.

He is survived by his daughters, Valerie Pastor and Stephanie Pastor; and son, Charles Pastor. He is also survived by his longtime girlfriend, Diane Flescher; his brother, Walter John Pastor, Jr. and sister-in-law, Carol Pastor of Pineville, Louisiana; his sister, Linda Turner and brother-in-law, Wayne Turner of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; his brother-in-law, Cliff Chatelain of Harahan, Louisiana; his sister-in-law, Evelyn Pastor of River Ridge, Louisiana and sister-in-law, Renella Pastor of Bordelonville, Louisiana. Francis is also survived by numerous beloved nieces and nephews.



## GEORGE RONALD GILL

George (Ron) Gill Graduated to his Heavenly Home on November 7th 2023 at the age of 81. Present to say "See you later" were his loving family: Irene, his wife of 58 years, and children John Gill (and Toni), Christina Fredericksen (and Luca), Scott Gill (and Kimberly). His five "Grands": Joshua Gill, Katya Fredericksen, Oliver Fredericksen, Audrey Gill and Amery Gill were able to be in attendance for their Papa/Popie (either physically or virtually) as well. Ron was born in Portsmouth, VA on March 17th 1942 to Anne Campbell and Ronald E. Gill (CMDR, USN, Ret). Though mostly residing on the West coast, as his father was "out to sea", Ron especially enjoyed a long stay in Key West, FL. Thus began a life-long interest in fishing.

Having finished his schooling at Monterey High (1960) and MPC (1963), he began a career as a Computer Specialist. He was hired as a civilian by the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey in 1965. Working in the Meteorological Department, he was part of the Maintenance group in charge of Computers that, at that time, occupied an Entire Room! Subsequently, he became a partner in a medical Software company, also based in Monterey. Ron felt very blessed to have collaborated with so many others in the then "New Era" of computers. Given a Godly gift of Teaching allowed him to engage in coaching with the Carmel Youth Baseball program.

For over the span of 20 years, it was his pleasure to teach and oversee players as they advanced in the sport. In addition, the gift served him well as he was privileged to teach Bible classes at Yielded Vessels Ministries, his long-time church in Marina. Being a 64 year resident of the Monterey Peninsula, Ron enjoyed the family home built 47 years ago in Carmel Views and, more recently since September 2021, at Hacienda Carmel. As Family was of utmost importance to him, we all are already missing him greatly. We can all attest to his many wonderful attributes including keen Intelligence (sometimes TMI), extreme Patience and witty Humor. He was a faithful supporter (emotionally and physically), humble and fond of simple pleasures. He had a "Playful Spirit", was very Kind and "Present". A Side Note: Being a "Southerner", Ron loved him some Banana Pudding AND, though Not a fan of Leftovers, there was never a Pasta dish on Repeat he would refuse!

A Homegoing / Celebration of Life Service is planned for Saturday, December 16th at 11 AM at the Sanctuary Bible Church 8340 Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA.

If attending, please feel free to wear Colorful attire.

(Any Contributions in Ron's Memory may be made Online at [www.carmelhighschoolfoundation.org](http://www.carmelhighschoolfoundation.org) to help Students offset the cost of participating in College Baseball Camps/Opportunities)



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# TAX BREAK

From page 17A

historic integrity as constructed and evokes a strong sense of time and place, and feeling and association with post-World War II modernist expression," and is an "important example of residential design during its period of significance" and consistent with the theme of Pebble Beach post-war homes from 1946 to 1969.

Dinwiddie designed the home in the late 1940s for Ferris Bagley, a retired production manager for Golden State Milk Products Company, the historic review indicates.

The supervisors' review of the home follows the county historic resources review board's 6-0 recommendation on July 6 to list the property on the historic register and to approve the Mills Act contract.

County staffer Phil Angelo told the supervisors that the home was purchased for \$3,395,000 but recently appraised at \$2,850,000, due to a decline in the local real estate market. Angelo outlined the savings the owners will get on their taxes.

"The estimated property tax for this property would be about \$33,000, and it would be reduced to about \$4,100 annually," he said, which would mean a total tax revenue decline of about \$29,000 per year, including roughly \$4,400 to Monterey County.

Fifth district Supervisor Mary Adams said she is familiar with the home.

"My hope is that we will be able to approve the staff's recommendations so that we are able to continue to keep the character of the various parts of our county intact," Adams said before the board voted.

### 'Subsidizing'

During public comment, one man was opposed to allowing the tax break.

"I just don't think giving this type of tax break is appropriate, especially in this time as we face budget deficits, record inflation over the last five years and a lot of money that has gone through this county that seems to have gone up in smoke," he said.

Fourth District Supervisor Wendy Root Askew expressed some skepticism about the Mills Act program, including the administrative costs associated with it.

"We are increasing the cost of marriage

licenses for regular residents of our community and yet, in this case, we are subsidizing individual property owners," Askew said.

While Askew suggested that the Mills Act "process should be looked at," she and the other supervisors ultimately voted unanimously to list the Pebble Beach home.

Before the supervisors voted on the P.B. home, there were 13 properties in Monterey County in the Mills Act program, which meant an estimated revenue loss in 2022-2023 of \$317,459.

"Because that tax distribution is shared between school districts, special districts

and the county, the county's reduced revenue last year was approximately \$47,000," Angelo explained.



PHOTO/MONTEREY COUNTY

This Pebble Beach home, built in the 1940s, is now considered historic, and its owners will get a big tax break for maintaining and preserving it.

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# Pirates' new varsity hoops coach is ready to grow — and so is his team

THE NEW boys varsity basketball coach at Stevenson School inherited big pair of shoes (metaphorically speaking) and a garden full of sprouts this season, but Tyler Brown is excited to watch a talented-but-inexperienced team bloom.

The 33-year-old Brown, dean of students at Stevenson middle school, takes the reins after two seasons as varsity assistant to Justin Clymo, whose teams went 153-69

find ways to finish ballgames," Brown said.

"We were leading in the third quarter against Hollister, then finished with an 11-minute scoring drought," said the coach of that 54-45 setback. "And against Alisal (a 46-42 loss), we were up by 5 in the fourth quarter, then had three empty possessions after they scored. That game came down to the last 90 seconds, but we made a defensive mistake and gave up a 3-pointer at the end. Moments like that are when we need to fortify, but we wilted a little bit."

Only three returning players — seniors Nile Glover and Sean Ishii, and junior Harry Marquess — saw notable court time a year ago, but none averaged more than 13 minutes per game. Everybody else is essentially a varsity rookie.

Glover and Marquess share co-captain duties this season with senior Justin Diniz, a varsity newcomer whom Brown described as "a high-energy, high-character kid who works his tail off every day ... kind of a glue guy for us."

"Not everything Justin does is going to show up on a stat sheet, but what he says in the locker room and during practices is invaluable," the coach said of the 5-foot-6 guard, who plans to play college lacrosse next year. "He's a multi-sport athlete, and he's been a leader in every sport

he's played. He just knows how to win."

Glover, destined to be a college long jumper and high jumper, is a 6-3 forward, physical and athletic, who can rebound, score, and lead — on the court and off.

"His teammates look up to Nile as a kid who has been there before. He's been on and around good teams, both last year and the year before," Brown said.

## Marquess learning at point guard

Marquess, 5-10, is stepping into the crucial point guard position, even after practicing one-handed for the first three weeks of the year.

"He had an injury to his right wrist and was unable to use that hand, so he was doing everything left-handed," the coach said. "He actually looked really comfortable during our first game, then had a few turnovers against Hollister and Alisal, but I think he's going to settle into his role. He's still learning what it takes to be successful at point guard, where there's a lot on his shoulders."

Ishii, a 5-9 guard, is nursing a football injury but is expected to be a major contributor on defense, a role at which he excelled last year.

See **SPORTS** next page

## Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

and qualified for the postseason every year (except for the Covid season) from 2016 to 2023.

"It's going to be fun trying to put my own stamp on the program and trying to take it to new heights, but I definitely have big shoes to fill," acknowledged Brown, who played on championship teams that Clymo coached at El Camino High, then went on to Humboldt State, where he was part of conference title teams, including an NCAA tournament qualifier.

This will be his first stint as a varsity coach, but Brown assisted former CSU Monterey Bay coach Rob Bishop (now Palma's head coach), San Francisco State coach Vince Inglema during a 19-victory season, and CSU Fullerton coach Dedrique Taylor, whose teams have gone to the NAAs three times in the past six years. That's a pretty good pedigree.

### No returning starters

All five starters from Stevenson's 2022-2023 Central Coast Section quarterfinal team graduated, leaving Brown with a young roster with very little varsity experience. But during their first three games of the season — one victory, two close losses — the Pirates have already shown significant flashes of promise.

At Alisal's annual Solis/Miles Invitational, a three-day tournament, they won their season opener over San Jose-based KIPP Collegiate 50-33, then lost back-to-back games to Hollister and Alisal the next two days.

"I think what I learned there was that we're a tough team and we play hard, but we have to



PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

Co-captain Harry Marquess, a playmaker, (left) is learning the crucial point guard position as a junior letterman for Stevenson. Kekoa Williams, (right) a 6-4 junior, scored 13 points and grabbed five rebounds in Stevenson's season opener, his first varsity game.

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# SPORTS

From previous page

“Sean is high-energy, plays extremely hard, and understands our pressure defense,” Brown said. “He’s been on the court at important moments, made big stops, grabbed big rebounds, and chased down big loose balls. He understands the importance of those things.”

Kekoa Williams, a 6-4 junior, is a starting forward who plays tall around the basket but is learning the nuances of rebounding and physicality at the varsity level.

Another starter, Alex Rushing, is a 6-1 junior who can score from the perimeters if he’s properly set, and drive to the basket for a shot, or stop and dump the ball off to low-post player.

### A versatile Toole

Tate Toole, a 6-3 sophomore, could become the team’s jack-of-all-trades, said the coach.

“He’s a utility guy who can shoot from outside or midrange, bring the ball up the court, play on the wing or at the low post ... he’s got a lot of abilities,” Brown said. “He also understands the game and speaks up on defense.

Tate will be very dangerous once he finds his confidence.”

Iason Manthoulis, a 6-2 junior, brings an element of aggression to the floor as wing player.

“He’s a very tough kid,” Brown said. “He dives on the floor, he takes charges, he has good length, and in a month or so I could see him scoring 8 points for us on hustle alone.”

Lincoln Fung, another 6-2 junior, is a left-handed shooter who scored a critical

bucket against Alisal, hitting a 3-pointer to give the Pirates a 1-point lead near the end of the game.

“He’s finding his confidence and trying to understand what I’m asking of him as we’re defining our roles,” Brown said.

Tilger Evans, a 6-4 senior post, brings muscle into the paint, and could emerge



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Nile Glover, a 6-3 senior and an aspiring college track athlete, is a fast, athletic scorer and rebounder in his third varsity season at Stevenson.

as a strong rebounder as he learns the concepts of the game.

And a transfer student from Carmel High, sophomore Cooper Olin, is a 6-4 sophomore who is likely to have a serious impact in January when he becomes eligible after fulfilling transfer-protocol requirements.

“He comes from a basketball family (brother Parker, a standout for Stevenson’s

See **MORE SPORTS** page 29A

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# Editorial

## Missing the forest

THERE WERE a lot of things wrong with the city council's decision this week not to approve an application from developer Patrice Pastor for a property tax break in exchange for extensive repair and restoration work on the city's most important historic home, the Frank Lloyd Wright house on Scenic Road.

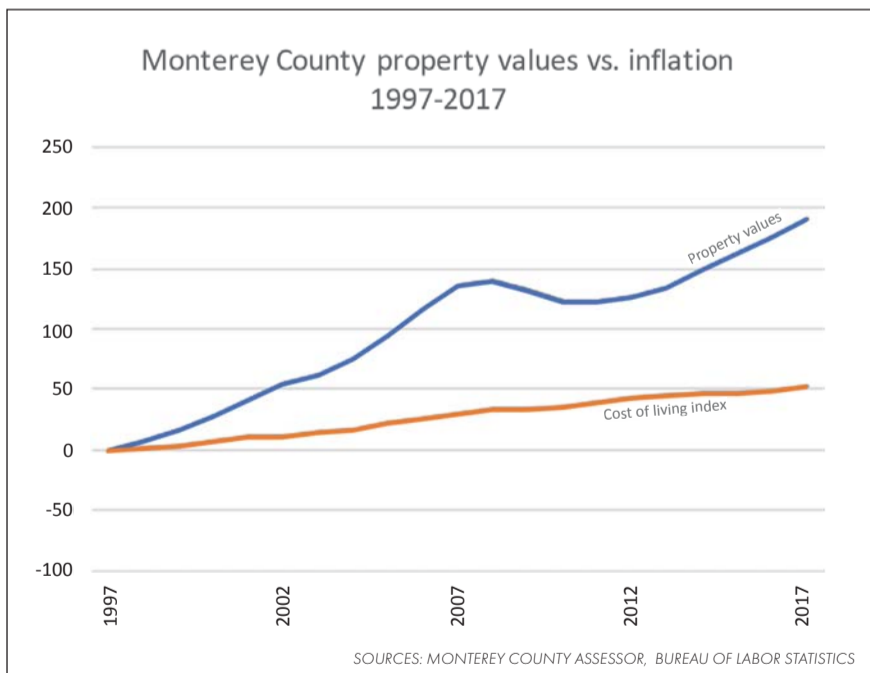
From the outset, several members of the council had their attention focused on what they claimed would be a "loss" of revenue from Pastor's tax break. This is not the correct way to look at it, and not just for the simple reason that the property taxes on the Wright house are now more than three times higher (\$240,000 vs. \$73,000) than they were last year merely because Pastor bought it. Even if he got a 50 percent discount under the Mills Act, he'd still be paying significantly more than the previous owner, and far more than the average Carmel homeowner. So instead of worrying about a "loss" of revenue, which is really just not as much of an increase, the members of the city council might want to thank Pastor for buying the house and being willing to undertake such a massive tax obligation for the benefit of his fellow citizens. After all, the government services required by the Wright house and whoever owns it are no more costly than what an average homeowner receives.

But there's an even bigger reason why the council members worrying about a "loss" of revenue are missing the forest for the trees. As the accompanying chart shows, property values in Monterey County have been rising much faster than inflation. From 1997 to 2017, they increased about three times as much (190 percent increase for property values vs. 53 percent inflation). And, needless to say, values in Carmel have gone up much faster than in the whole county. So once again, when the council bemoans a "loss" of revenue from lower taxes on historic homes, it would be more honest for them to say, "Isn't it wonderful how rapidly this delicious property tax pie gets bigger?!"

It was also obvious from their discussion that their attitude toward the Wright house owner's taxes was colored by how rich they believe he is — an ironic approach for a town full of rich people. Jealousy over how wealthy Pastor may be should have no place in council members' willingness to enter into a Mills Act contract with him. Instead, they should only consider the criteria laid down in the city code for evaluating Mills Act applications.

Which bring us to our final point. During their discussion this week, several members of the council expressed concern for the impact on the finances of the school district if the Wright house Mills Act contract were approved. But Carmel's schools are not in the City of Carmel, nor are they the city's responsibility. Therefore, under the city's rules, the financial impact on the schools cannot be part of the council's decision.

Supposedly, protecting historic homes is one of the council's highest priorities. If it is, they should start acting like it. And they should also follow the law.



## BEST of BATES



"I can tell you what I had for breakfast in 1961, but I can't tell you where I parked my car."

## Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone only accepts letters to the editor by email. Please submit your letters to mail@carmelpinecone.com

### The value of beauty

Dear Editor,

It was quite clear that if a vote had been taken on Tuesday, the Frank Lloyd Wright house would not have received the Mills Act Contract. The argument against was mainly based on the loss of tax revenue for the school district.

My response to that is, as a child looking at this house from the beach, from every angle from which I was allowed to, I received a greater education in the aesthetics of human and natural collaboration than I did in any school I went to.

Polly Osborne, Carmel Valley

### 'Someone needs to lose job'

Dear Editor,

I have to comment on this well-written story last week about the intruder at Pacific Grove schools.

On Nov. 14, Riley Elvin was able to freely enter the P.G. High school campus without challenge at 10:25 a.m. and wander around for 20 minutes. Later, he entered the occupied middle school, suggesting he was looking for his daughter, "Lucifer." Hmm. Oddly, it was researched for him,

and he was told that no one named Lucifer was a registered student. Riley was then allowed to leave, without a call to 911.

Four hours later, he returned to the campus. Rather than calling 911, the female campus resource officer (a police officer) was contacted, but Riley could not be located.

A week later, Riley was back on campus, seeking a school ID card. This time, he was escorted off campus by the principal after threatening him. Finally, the police were engaged and they arrested Riley, who has quite a history of violent felonies going back seven years (including assaulting police).

There are several problems here: We have a violent, possibly mentally ill guy living amongst us for years, due to a liberal plea-bargaining process. The level of administrative incompetence at this school is just over the top; ineffective security protocol, and extremely poor judgment by school staff. Here you have a squirrely looking 28-year-old prowling the campus and entering buildings without one 911 call. Someone needs to lose their job. Did Riley look at all like he belonged there?

Had this bad actor used a firearm on students, the first to be blamed would be the firearm, and the second, the police for not arriving fast enough.

Dick Barclay, Carmel

### What it means

Dear Editor,

Unlike what was stated in a letter to the

See LETTERS page 29A

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# The Carmel Pine Cone

www.carmelpinecone.com

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. 109 No. 49 • December 8, 2023

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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

# Rancho Point Pinos: The sequel

LAST WEEK, we began tracing the troubling title history of the 2,666-acre Rancho Point Pinos, granted to Jose Maria Armenta in 1833. It made up the northwest portion of the Monterey Peninsula, including what is today most of Pacific Grove and a portion of Del Monte Forest.

Armenta died in 1838, and his widow sold the rancho to Don Jose Abrego just before she died in 1844. She did so "in the name of the said sons, heirs and successors." They had three sons and a daughter. The sale became enmeshed in a lawsuit soon after California became a state in 1850.

In January 1850, Abrego and his wife, Doña Josefa Estrada, deeded Rancho Point Pinos to four Yankees — Milton Little, Jacob P. Leese, Santiago Gleason and Thomas O. Larkin — for \$30,000 in silver. Attorney Pacificus Ord sued on behalf of the Armenta children before the new owners could file their title with the new state. Ord argued the Mexican Grant of 1833 was to Armenta and his heirs and that his four

an undivided half in the Rancho. The other half remained with Ord (3/8) and Pogue (1/8).

Sheriff Aaron Lyons left office without filing the title in favor of Leese. In January 1856, Abrego paid the taxes on what was deemed Randall's half interest in Rancho Point Pinos, and then in April 1857, received the title to the lands. Randall could not dispute the transaction because he was shot and killed in San Francisco on July 26, 1856.

Concurrently, Dr. James Ord loaned his brother, Pacificus, \$2,000 for medical expenses, perhaps for the latter's wife, Maria, who died in Monterey in 1854. When Pacificus could not repay the loan, his brother sued him and eventually took over Pacificus' share of Rancho Point Pinos and sold it to Leese.

## New wharf

In April 1857, Abrego then sold his half to Durrell S. Gregory (who became a state senator) and in June 1857, Leese sold his three-eighths to Henry Degraw. The sale included the sawmill in which Gregory and Degraw then became partners. Both sales were on terms, but other than holding the mortgages, Abrego and Leese were no longer involved. Pogue retained her eighth as an investment.

Degraw had come to Monterey in 1855 and built the new jail at Colton Hall. He later became sheriff. Despite being a senator, Gregory had financial problems. In July 1858, John S. Davis and Henry J. Beers sued him to recover \$2,456.35 and interest on promissory notes.

Degraw further developed the lumber mill at Point Pinos and built a wharf at Mussel Point, near today's Hopkins Marine Station. In May 1859, Gregory leased his holdings and interest in the mill to Degraw for 24 months and then assigned that lease to Joaquin Bolado as collateral for a \$2,000 note.

Pogue, silent since 1853, emerged on July 6, 1859, filing a suit against Degraw, Leese, Abrego and Gregory, seeking "an equitable partition and distribution of the

See **HISTORY** page 30A



PHOTO/LONE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE COLLECTION OF STEREOGRAPHS BY EADWEARD MUYBRIDGE

The Point Pinos lighthouse began operation in 1855. In 1865, after a lawsuit, *Degraw et al., vs. U.S.*, the government was ordered to pay for the site.

## History Beat

By NEAL HOTELLING

children were not party to the 1844 sale.

The court ruled that only the eldest son was old enough to participate in the sale and therefore sold only his quarter interest to Abrego in 1844. The three other children were each awarded "an undivided quarter" of the Rancho. The Yankees then sued Abrego, who settled by buying back their now-quarter interest in the Rancho for \$15,000. Because Ord took the case on contingency, he received half of each of the three quarters, leaving each heir with an eighth and Ord with an undivided three-eighths.

## Sawmill

One Armenta heir sold his eighth in January 1853 to Lucinda E. Pogue for \$1,100. The other two received \$1,000 each from Pedro Zabala for their eighths. Nobody owned any specific parcel; instead, Ord, Abrego, Zabala and Pogue each owned interests in the whole. Nevertheless, in 1853, Abrego, Leese and Stephen Hutchinson established a sawmill. Hutchinson, in June 1853, sold his one-third interest in the sawmill to Andrew Randall. In October 1853, Randall acquired Zabala's and Abrego's quarters, as well as Abrego's one-third interest in the sawmill.

Then, in 1854, Leese sued Randall over various notes and contracts and received a lien on Randall's Point Pinos holdings. At a sheriff's sale in July 1855, Leese was the only bidder and essentially paid himself \$2,400 for ownership of

# A second career choice opened a shutter and let adventure in

PATIENCE IS a virtue Jason Bradley doesn't typically have, he confessed with a laugh, unless he's carrying his camera, wandering or swimming in search of an image that tells a story, evokes emotion, or feeds his soul.

"I really think of photography as a meditation. It centers me. It helps me feel a sense of connection with wildlife and nature — beautiful things that I yearn to be connected to in my own life and feel compelled to share so others can have a

have to do is get to Nairobi. We meet them at the gate, walk them through customs, take them to a local hotel, and later put them on a domestic flight to Maasai Mara, where we go straight to safari."

## 'It's why you go out there'

Among the images displayed at Bradley Photographic is a large photo of two adult lions engaged in violent combat, which, for the photographer, epitomized the thrill of a career he genuinely adores.

"Those are the things that get your heart pumping. It's why you go out there. It's an adrenaline rush ... it's an endorphin hit ..." he said. "Those lions were far away — I shot that photo

## Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

sense of the same sort of connection," said Bradley, a fine-art photographer in Pacific Grove.

"As a photographer, I need to slow myself down, connect with what I'm seeing, understand why I'm seeing it, think about why it's interesting, and what it is that I want to say with the photo," he said.

He has devoted much of his adult life exploring on dry land and underwater, capturing spectacular images of nature and wildlife. Some adorn the walls of Bradley Print Services & Photographic Center, the multifaceted business he's operated since 2003 at 565 Lighthouse Ave.

## Kenya safari in 2025

Artists have their secrets — things that they hope separate them from the crowd — but Bradley happily shares his in multiple ways.

In January 2025, he'll lead 12 clients on a tour of Kenya (a place he has been many times before), where they'll spend 12 days and 11 nights photographing the landscape and the wild creatures of Maasai Mara and Amboseli national parks.

"People pay a flat rate that is basically all-inclusive," said Bradley, who still has about five spots available. "All the clients

with a 600-millimeter lens — but that fight was so loud that I could literally feel the sound vibrating through me. It was truly amazing."

Bradley said he experiences the same thrill whenever all the right elements come together for a quality image — light, shadow and composition.

He and one of his primary employees, photographer Joe Platko, frequently lead camera enthusiasts of any skill level on photo walks, free of charge. Bradley Photographic regularly hosts talks, lectures, book signings, and movie nights on its premises.

On the first Tuesday of every month, Bradley does a webinar he calls Lightroom Live — also free — teaching the intricacies of Lightroom, the online app most professional photographers use to edit photos and manage their photo libraries. Bradley, a recognized expert who has written books and multiple articles about Lightroom, invites people to register for the seminars on either of his two websites, [bradleyphotographic.com](http://bradleyphotographic.com) or [bradleyprint-services.com](http://bradleyprint-services.com).

The photographer, himself, reminisces with some amusement about the improbable road he took to the successful career he

adores today.

"I grew up in the San Fernando Valley, with no connection to the ocean whatsoever — I have no stories about my dad taking me fishing or going out on a sailboat or hanging out at the beach — but for reasons I cannot explain, I decided one day that I wanted to become a marine biologist," he said.

## From the skateboard to dolphins

Until that moment, Bradley was a long-haired skateboarder, playing guitar and aspiring to become a rock star. He had also dropped out of high school.

"Something went off in my head one day, out of nowhere, and I decided I wanted to work with dolphins," he recalled. "And that completely changed my life."

He cut his hair. He went back to school. He moved

See **ARTIST** page 30A



PHOTO/COURTESY OF JASON BRADLEY

Pacific Grove's Jason Bradley discovered his professional bliss as a fine-art photographer after detouring from his college interest — marine biology.

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



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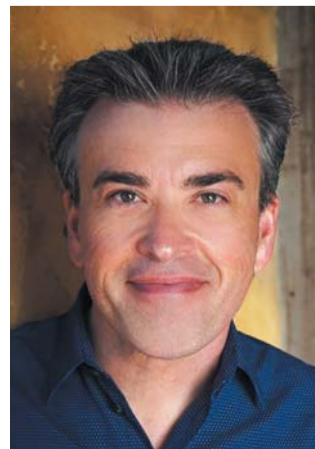
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THE CHURCH OF  
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## MILLS

From page 17A

work plan and are renewed annually unless either side decides to cancel. Seventeen jurisdictions limit the agreements on various levels, such as caps on the number of contracts, restrictions on the type of building (residential or commercial), and limits on assessed valuation or on the amount of tax revenues lost.

At its Dec. 4 special meeting, the council agreed that the emergency ordinance "is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety to allow the city sufficient time for the complete review of the city Mills Act contract policies and make any necessary changes to those policies to ensure historic preservation," as defined by the municipal code.

The ordinance, which is supposed to be temporary, required no environmental review and took effect immediately after the council's unanimous approval. The moratorium on Mills Act contracts will remain in place until the council votes to rescind it.

## RABBITS

From page 12A

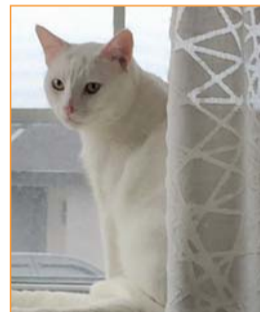
operations "all over the state" are "maxed out," and he encouraged people to consider many factors before adopting one. Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue is caring for 25 adults and six babies that need homes. "There are too many bunnies," he said.

Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue is seeking homes for the rabbits it's caring for, and because they're operating on a shoestring budget, they're also seeking donors. "We're always looking for fosters and volunteers, and we're always looking for financial help," Brandt added.

All rabbits available for adoption have been spayed or neutered, and have been vaccinated against the RHDV respiratory virus.

Despite this week's move, Bunny Trail Rabbit Rescue will be open during its regular hours, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more details about the group, including how to make a donation, visit [thebunnytrailrescue.org](http://thebunnytrailrescue.org).

## Sammy



Hi, I'm Sammy. I'm a 7½-year-old snow white gentle giant with long legs and golden eyes. I just lost my human unexpectedly and now need someone to love me forever. I love windowsills, warm laps, and food. I've been told I need to shed some of my 18 pounds so as much as I hate to say it, I need someone who will ignore my pleas for second breakfasts. I'm pretty shy, so I prefer a quiet one- or two-person home. Can you help me?

If you are interested in Sammy, please fill out an adoption application at [www.gocatrescue.org](http://www.gocatrescue.org).

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The Pine Cone has been a member of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce for more than 100 years.

# LETTERS

From page 26A

editor last week, “from the river to the sea” is not just a phrase. It is code for cleansing the area of Jews.

The following was published on an anti-defamation website on Oct. 26:

“From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” is an antisemitic slogan commonly featured in anti-Israel campaigns and chanted at demonstrations.

This rallying cry has long been used by anti-Israel voices, including supporters of terrorist organizations such as Hamas and the PFLP, which seek Israel’s destruction through violent means. It is fundamentally a call for a Palestinian state extending from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, territory that includes the State of Israel, which would mean the dismantling of the Jewish state. It is an antisemitic charge denying the Jewish right to self-determination, including through the removal of Jews from their ancestral homeland.

**Bee Epstein-Shepherd, Carmel Valley**

## Horrific deeds and words

Dear Editor,

“From the river to the sea” is not just a phrase. It is a call for the extermination of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. That region has a long and complicated history and without truly understanding what has transpired there over the last 5,000 years, saying so is ignorant. Those chanting this call for genocide, along with all of the other propaganda that incites violence against Jews, indeed are antisemitic regardless of their denials.

When one takes the side of the racists, they are no different. “Yes, Hamas did a terrible thing ... BUT”? There is no but. These demonic savages carried out the most depraved actions and there is no reaction too strong against them.

The selective outrage by those taking the side of Hamas is extraordinary hypocrisy. I have not seen many demonstrations against the Saudis murdering 300,000 Yemeni citizens, or the Syrians’ civilian death count of the same number, and where are the calls to stop the Sudanese slaughter of their people? The glaring difference in outrage is that Israel is involved. That speaks loud and clear to me.

In the history of civilization, the battle against profound evil, as in this conflict, has often proven essential for survival. Were there calls for cease fire after Pearl Harbor? Should we have just left Germany alone during World War II or ignored 9/11? The answer then was no and the answer now is the same.

I do, however, agree that Jimmy Panetta has no business calling for a ban of this or any “hate speech.” All speech is protected by our First Amendment rights, even words that offend and we do not like to hear. In spite of some in our government and media attempting to strip us of our free speech rights over the last three years, for now we still have them and even the wicked have these rights.

**Lauren Cohen, Monterey**

# MORE SPORTS

From page 25A

Class of '17, played at Chico State, and their dad, Matt, starred at Stevenson and University of Pacific), and he’s going to change our dynamic on offense when we add him to our lineup,” Brown said. “These will be his first varsity minutes, but he’s capable of multiple things, and really understands basketball.”

## Returning to the Mission

The Pirates tied Seaside for second place a year ago in the Mission Division, which could be up for grabs this season.

Those two teams will be rejoined in 2023-24 by Mission holdovers Pacific Grove and North County, but this year’s division also will include last season’s top three teams from the Cypress Division — St. Francis (18-8), Watsonville (13-11) and Marina (17-8) — plus tradition-rich Alisal (12-13), which drops down from the Gabilan Division.

Stevenson is hosting the 28th annual Coach Wilson Memorial Tournament, which opened with a Thursday game against Sacramento-based Rio Americano. Friday the Pirates tangle with Pajaro Valley at 8 p.m., and Saturday they’ll take on Nevada Union, a Grass Valley school, at 3:30 p.m.

After stepping aside as boys coach, Clymo has stepped in as head coach of Stevenson’s girls team, which played Rio Americano on Thursday at the Wilson Memorial, faces Pajaro Valley tonight at 6:30, and finishes against Nevada Union at 2 p.m. Saturday.

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

# Former P.G. official might work for Cal Am

By KELLY NIX

FORMER PACIFIC Grove city manager Ben Harvey — who resigned from his job in July — is in talks with Cal Am to do consulting work, a spokesman for the company told The Pine Cone this week.

Cal Am spokesman Josh Stratton said Wednesday that the company has had discussions with Harvey about working for the utility, possibly on a part-time consultancy basis. Harvey left his municipal job in July as part of a “separation agreement” with Pacific Grove. Per the deal, Harvey got more than \$400,000 in exchange for not suing the city. The P.G. City Council approved the arrangement.

Stratton said nothing has been finalized, but that Cal Am would welcome Harvey’s work experience.

## ‘Excellent resource’

“Water resources are a top priority on the Monterey Peninsula and it is crucial to engage all stakeholders in advancing water solutions,” Stratton said Wednesday. “California American Water regularly partners with water and policy experts to gather information and support for local projects, and Mr. Harvey would be an excellent resource given his experience as a local city manager.”

Stratton went on to say that while there is “no arrangement” yet to contract with Harvey, “his input and experience are valuable considerations for possible project consulting work.”

Cal Am didn’t say what kind of projects Harvey, who

lives in Pacific Grove, might work on for the water company, and he couldn’t be reached for comment Thursday.

News that Harvey might join Cal Am comes at a time the company is trying to fend off a government takeover by the Monterey Peninsula Water Manager District, a public agency, and start construction of its long-sought desalination plant, which would provide a drought-free water supply for the Peninsula.

At the time of Harvey’s departure, Pacific Grove’s city attorney didn’t publicly disclose why the council wanted him gone — and those specifics were confidential. The agreement had him leaving with two years’ pay — roughly \$438,000 — plus some medical benefits.

# Santa Fly-In Saturday

JOINING ONE of Carmel Valley Village’s most cherished traditions — and creating a spectacle for all ages — Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive by helicopter at the old airfield site Saturday at 10:30 a.m. for the 65th annual Fly-In.

After landing, the pair will lead a parade through the Village before arriving at the Carmel Valley Community Youth Center at 25 Ford Road. Starting around noon, a family-friendly celebration will include “food, games, carriage rides, a petting zoo, bounce houses, and more.”

For more about the Fly-In, including volunteer opportunities, visit [cvcyc.org](http://cvcyc.org).

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- Dee

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# ARTIST

From page 27A

to the coast and enrolled first at Santa Barbara City College, then UC Santa Barbara, and volunteered as a student at a natural history museum. He also spent eight years at the Santa Barbara Marine Rehabilitation Center.

“At the marine rehabilitation center, I worked for Peter Howorth, who modified a shotgun that launched a net, which allowed us to capture a seal or sea lion in a hard-to-reach spot where they were difficult to capture with a hoop net,” he said. “We’d actually come up here to teach the guys in Monterey how to capture marine mammals back in the day.”

Bradley discovered that wherever there were marine scientists, there also tended to be people with cameras — lots of them — which put him in the proximity of accomplished wildlife photographers like Bob Talbot, whom he credits as his primary mentor, as well as Ted Orland, David Bayles and Franz Lanting.

After his father passed away, Bradley left USCB for a semester, during which he decided he was no longer interested in becoming a scientist, but loved the lifestyle he had discovered working with marine animals.

“Just as random as deciding to work with dolphins was the epiphany that I wanted to be a photographer — even though I had no background at all in photography,” he said. “Luckily, unlike the sciences, I actually fell in love with photography.”

Bradley developed an early passion for capturing undersea images and began to embrace the serenity he discovered as he dove in the ocean.

### ‘Energetic, yet peaceful and calming’

“It’s a very energetic experience, yet peaceful and calming at the same time,” he said. “Being surrounded by the water is physically regenerating.

“It’s peaceful, but not silent,” Bradley said. “There’s so much movement, so much happening, and if you dive anywhere around here, there are all kinds of organisms down there making noise. It might sound like a hiss or a crackling or a white-noise sort of thing, and it’s usually animals — vertebrates of some kind — making those sounds.”

Prior to moving to the Monterey Peninsula in 2002, Bradley spent three years as a marine mammal observer

for a marine mammal consulting group, was a “Cittercam” field coordinator for National Geographic Television in Washington, D.C., a photographer for the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach and an imaging instructor for four years for Backscatter Underwater Video and Photo on Cannery Row.

Print services offered at Bradley Photographic also include paper prints, metal panels, canvas wraps, Xpozer prints, film scanning, editing and retouching, and high-resolution film submission.

He is a board member of Pacific Grove’s Business Improvement District and for a recently organized Pacific

Grove Arts District (artsdistrictpg.org), currently in its development stages.

His most recent project is the launch of Wildlife Magazine, his own publication, meant to fill the void of the iconic Outdoor Photographer magazine, which folded in July. Five elite wildlife photographers from Outdoor Photographer will become part of his staff, he said.

For additional information and to see images of his art, visit [bradleyphotographic.com](http://bradleyphotographic.com) or [bradleyprintservices.com](http://bradleyprintservices.com).

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

# HISTORY

From page 27A

proceeds thereof for an accounting for the rents and profits of said tract of land, and especially for an account of trees and timber cut down and converted to their own use from the first day of June 1855.” It added “that said defendants be restrained and enjoined from cutting down of the trees and removing down timber, logs, wood or plank, etc., and for judgment against defendants in favor of said order for \$15,000; and against the defendants in favor of said Pogue for \$5,000.”

Gregory tried to get out of the action by selling his interests to Degraw for \$1 on Aug. 12, 1859. This gave Degraw seven-eighths. The suit with Pogue dragged on, but on Aug. 14, 1861, the case was dismissed when Degraw bought Pogue’s land, thus becoming sole owner of Rancho Point Pinos.

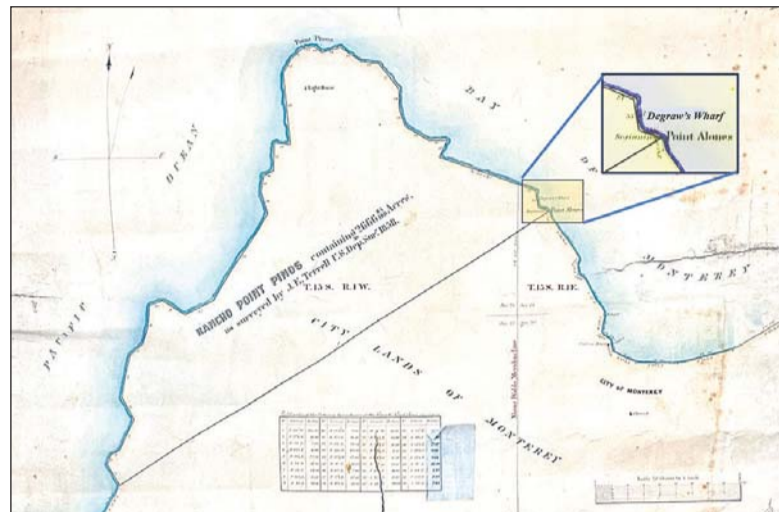
But Degraw could not rejoice, as he now had a growing list of creditors. Between July 1861 and September 1862, at least seven individuals filed suit against him for debts, and a man named Charles Brown bought debts owed by Gregory, including liens on the Rancho, which allowed him to take possession of the half interest once owned by Gregory.

### Unfortunate voyage

In September 1862, Degraw gave up. He sold his remaining interests to one of his creditors, Theron and Sarah Hopkins of San Francisco. They paid off the others to clear their half interest in the Rancho.

Degraw died a few months later. As sheriff, he was accompanying a prisoner by ship to San Francisco. It capsize on Feb. 17, 1863, and all aboard drowned.

Hopkins and Brown together sold the sawmill



MAP/PEBBLE BEACH CO. LAGORIO ARCHIVE

This 1858 U.S. survey of Rancho Point Pinos shows few features — just the Pacific Grove Lighthouse and Degraw’s Wharf near Point Alones, the northeast marker of the Armenta Line and present-day site of the Hopkins Marine Station.

equipment to David Jacks in October 1863 with the right to operate it on-site for 18 months. In December, they leased 300 acres to Thomas Whichter for farming. They also sued the U.S. government, which had simply claimed the 25-acre lighthouse tract in 1850. They won and were awarded \$1,250 but pursued Congress for a larger payment and eventually got it.

Meanwhile, Brown pledged his interest in the Rancho for a loan. He was sued in August 1865 and took out another loan in 1866 to settle the suit without losing the land.

Then, in September 1867, Gregory re-emerged. He bought Brown’s interests and in November paid for quit-claims from James Ord and Zabala. In December 1867, Gregory sold his re-acquired half to Jacks. Jacks eventually bought Hopkins’ half in 1872, to become sole owner of all but the U.S. lighthouse reservation.

Jacks worked from 1875 to 1880 with the Methodist-Episcopal Conference to establish a 100-acre Pacific Grove Retreat. Though popular, it was financially unsuccessful. Jacks sold the Rancho, including all the unsold retreat lots, to the Pacific Improvement Co. in May 1880. Its successful development led to the incorporation of the City of Pacific Grove in 1889.

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# CALENDAR

**Dec. 8 – Holiday Family Fun Day at the Kid’s Library,** 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Park Branch Childrens’ Library, Mission Street and Sixth Avenue, Carmel. Celebrate with us and share the joy of the season with arts and crafts, yummy treats and happy kids! Register on our website: [www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org](http://www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org). Hosted by the Carmel Public Library Foundation. Cost: free; Questions? [afallon@carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org](mailto:afallon@carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org) or (831) 624-2811.

**Dec. 9 – “Run Rudolph Run” presented by Arthritis Research Coalition and Monterey Spine and Joint.** 7:30 a.m. at Lovers’ Point Park. Dress up in your favorite holiday attire and join in on Pacific Grove’s #1 holiday Run/Walk.

**Dec. 10 – “A Little Christmas Cheer” event with stories, poems and songs,** 3 p.m. at the Church of the Wayfarer, Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

**Dec. 12 – Japanese flower arrangement demonstration** begins 12:30 p.m. at Pebble Beach Community Services District at 3101 Forest Lake Road, next door to PB Fire Station. Guest fee \$5. Light refreshments will be served. Gate fee waived by mentioning “Ikebana meeting.”

**Dec. 15 – “America Singing” presented by Melinda DeRouen accompanied by Paul DeRouen & Youth Laureate Mahi Shah with Palenke Arts Bilingual Chorus,** 5:30 p.m. Part of PGPL’s Fall Exhibition, “Ourselves We Sing” running through Jan 5. Visit [pacificgrovelibrary.org](http://pacificgrovelibrary.org) for more.

**Dec. 16 – Christmas Carolers Live at Meuse Gallery Carmel** Christmas Carolers will perform live in the Gallery amid the winter wonderland holiday theme. The event will occur from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Meuse Gallery on the corner of Ocean Ave. & Monte Verde St in Carmel, CA. Enjoy a cup of hot cocoa at Meuse Gallery and listen to your favorite Christmas carols performed



by the Peninsula Harmony Company singers. Browse our curated collection of beautiful originals by artist Simon Bull. All ages are welcome, and no tickets or reservations are needed.

**December 17 - Carols in the Forest.** Jubal Joslyn, tenor, in concert, 3 - 4:30 pm, at Church in the Forest, Stevenson Campus, 3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach. With Sophia Gonzalez, mezzo, Amalia Diaz, violin, Janneke Hoogland, cello and Cathryn Wilkinson, piano. Tickets \$35, students free, on Eventbrite or at the door. Contact 831-624-1374 or [churchintheforest.org](http://churchintheforest.org).

**Dec. 18 –** The World Affairs Council of the Monterey bay Area (WACMB) will present a lecture / luncheon at 11:15 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey. The topic is “Politics of the War in Gaza”, presented by Dr. James Russell, Professor of National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School. Visit <http://www.wacmb.org> for event information and registration.

**Dec. 22-23 – Winterdance, a seasonal celebration of music, song and Irish dance** features John Weed (fiddle, Molly’s Revenge); Stuart Mason (guitar, bouzouki, Molly’s Revenge); Tyler Weed (mandolin and banjo virtuoso), Amelia Hogan (Grammy nominee vocalist) and Lane Olson (Spanish Bay piper). Two spectacular shows at St. Mary’s By-The-Sea, Pacific Grove, Friday, Dec. 23 at 7 p.m., Saturday matinee at 3 p.m. Tickets available at [www.celticsociety.org](http://www.celticsociety.org)

**Through Dec. 23 – Don’t miss the 7th Annual Christmas on the Wharf** for four weekends. Enjoy spectacular decorations and a 19 foot Christmas tree, free Santa visits at his Santa House, talented choirs, singers and other live musicians, dancers, community caroling on Sunday evenings and more! More information and the entertainment schedule can be found on [montereywharf.com](http://montereywharf.com)

**Through Dec. 24 – Baum & Blume’s Holiday Boutique is open!** It’s “one-stop” holiday shopping – “fun-tastic” ornaments and décor, cozy accessories, great selection of holiday gifts for dads, kids, everyone! Gourmet goodies in our Farm Pantry, too! Shop 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat., Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito, Carmel Valley. (831) 659-0400.

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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

Forever young — a remarkable doll collection that dates to the 1680s

By DENNIS TAYLOR

**THE FRONT** door of the historic building at 213 Forest Ave. in Pacific Grove remains locked 24/7, because the astonishing treasures inside may be seen by appointment only.

But appointments typically are easy to get. Just call, and the proprietors of The Carmel Doll Shop, Michael Canadas and David Robinson, will enthusiastically conduct a tour of one of the most remarkable specialty businesses in the world.

Although a high-end doll merchant exists in the San Francisco Bay area, and another can be found in Chicago, Canadas and Robinson say a collector must travel to Paris to find a store that truly rivals their business.

“This is a place for the adult children — it isn’t a place where you’d shop for a child,” Canadas explained. “You won’t find a Cabbage Patch Kid or an American Girl here.”

What do they have there is one of the most elite collections of vintage dolls, dollhouses, doll clothing, doll furniture, doll accessories and miniatures anywhere on the globe. Much of their inventory is for sale, and much of it is on exhibit for visitors in the area of the shop they call the Grovian Doll Museum.

### A royal history

“The oldest piece is our William and Mary doll, which dates to the 1680s,” said Canadas, gesturing toward a figurine created during the reigns of two British monarchs, King William III (1689-1702) and Queen Mary II (1689-1694). The doll has bright rouge on her cheeks, ruby lips, and brown hair pulled tightly away from her forehead.

“She’s not wearing her original clothing. At some point, probably around 1740, she got a new dress,” he said.

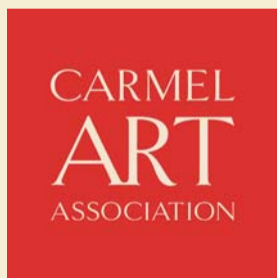
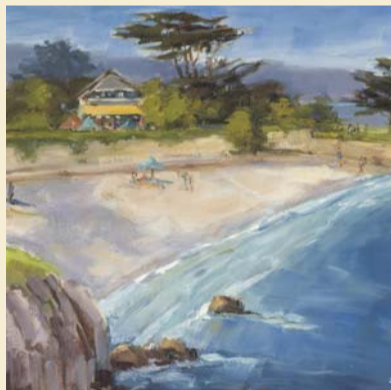
A wooden doll in a dark-brown nun’s habit, made around 1720, is “probably our most important piece,” Canadas said



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

David Robinson, left, and Michael Canadas bought the world-famous Carmel Doll Shop in 1989. They moved the business to Pacific Grove in 2009. After renovating a storefront at 213 Forest Ave., they turned it into a one-of-a-kind collection of vintage dolls and accessories.

**DOLLS** *con't.* page 40A



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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

## From the casual sipper to the pickiest drinker, Monterey County offers wine for all

By ROXANNE LANGER

**WHAT DO** winter movie-binge nights with friends, holiday hostess gifts, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve have in common? Someone has to select the wine to serve or to give to friends — which can be a daunting task for the wine aficionado and an overwhelming one for the wine novice, so we created a holiday wine guide to offer a few suggestions.

If you're going to sit home and watch, "It's a Wonderful Life," or head out to a holiday picnic at the beach, try Tamara Franscioni's Mini Vacay Bubbly Rosé, which comes in a can. Trust me when I say that this sommelier-turned-mom/winemaker knows what she's doing. Made from pinot noir grapes, the wine is clean, fruity (think strawberries) and zesty — in short, tasty and fun. It comes in a perfect size, too. One can equals about one-and-a-half glasses of wine. I never thought I would be recommending canned wine, but this one is worthy. 2022 Mini Vacay Bubbly Rosé is \$44 for an eight-pack. Order online at the winery website, or find in local stores and at the Carmel farmers market.

### Holiday Wrath

If you prefer your rosé sans bubbles, try the Joyce 2021 rosé from Arroyo Seco. More angular than fruit-forward, this wine offers refreshing minerality and strawberry fruit. Purchase for \$25 at A Taste of Monterey at 700 Cannery Row.

Looking for a white wine hostess gift? Wrath's 2020 San Saba chardonnay is perfect for your friends who prefer their chards creamy, rich and full-bodied. Lots of baking spices, butter and fruit move to a slight tropical note on the finish. Find it for \$49 at local stores, Wrath Winery's website and the Wrath tasting room (Carmel Plaza).

If your host prefers reds, Wrath has an answer for them, too. Its 2020 Pommard 4/777 pinot noir is earthy with more concentrated black fruits (cherry and berry), and goes for \$39.

If you enjoy a treasure hunt, see if you can track down a bottle of 2020 Wrath pinot noir (Tondre Grapefield) at a local store. The winery, where it was priced at \$49, is



WINE con't. page 39A

Joyce's 2021 Arroyo Seco rosé is an elegant and inexpensive choice — refreshing and not too sweet.

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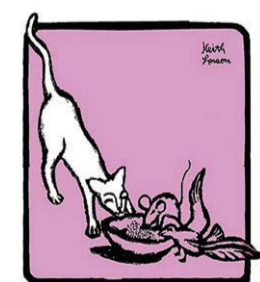
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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

## Living history and living room adventures for your favorite readers — young and old

By ELAINE HESSER

**MANY PEOPLE** still enjoy the look and feel of a good book, and if it's been written by locals or set in our own backyard, so much the better. If you're still searching for gifts, time's a-wasting, so let's get right to it.

"Raising the Blackbirds" is a novel by Edward Moncrief, who was the founding executive director of Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning Association, known familiarly as CHISPA, back in 1980. The organization has since built more than 1,000 homes for farmworkers and their families, and he led similar housing-related organizations elsewhere in the state. He also freelanced for the Salinas Californian and the Monterey Herald. Read his full bio at [edward-moncrief.com](http://edward-moncrief.com).

Although it was written and published some years back — the second edition came out in 2016 — the book remains relevant as Monterey County tries to come to terms with its homeless population, and the nation continues to deal with myriad problems presented by immigrants, legal and otherwise.

Moncrief tells the story of local immigrants through the eyes of Mexican-born Sixto Torres. In 1970, Torres arrives in the Salinas Valley just as Caesar



Edward Moncrief

Chavez is rallying farmworkers to action at Hartnell College.

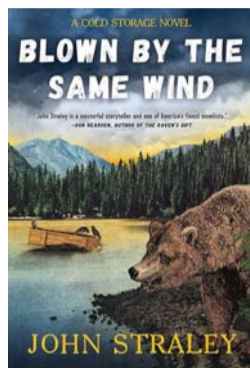
Torres joins the social and economic fight, and readers get a glimpse into a carefully researched world in a complex story that rings true, likely because of Moncrief's extensive experience.

### Murder up north

Murder mystery fans might enjoy "Blown by the Same Wind," by longtime author and poet Richard Straley, who lived in Sitka, Alaska, for nearly 40 years. He worked as a private investigator and writer, becoming the state's writer laureate in 2006, then moved here with his wife, marine biologist Janice Straley, to be closer to his family. His bio is at [johnstraley.com](http://johnstraley.com). Be sure to have a look at his blog there for a delightful description of how humans talk to dogs, inspired by a recent Del Monte Kennel Club dog show.

Straley's latest novel, "Blown by the Same Wind," is his fourth set in the fictional town of Cold Storage, Alaska. Filled with quirky characters, including a wonderful dog named Dot and some big, scary, stinky bears, it takes place in the tumultuous summer of 1968.

As the story begins, Life magazine has recently done a feature about Cold Storage, which has brought all kinds of people to visit. The town also gets an influx of college kids — with their long hair, hippie music



and pot — who come to work in the canning industry over the summer.

Among the newcomers is a monk from Kentucky who may or may not be the famous real-life Trappist theologian, author and mystic, Thomas Merton, and a few Southerners who are living out their own conspiracy theories. There's a lot of humor, some of it dark, and some graphic violence. It's also a fun read and a great ride.

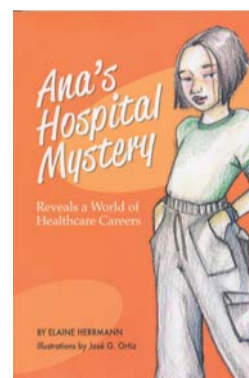
### Shrinking a hospital

Elaine Herrmann's "Ana's Hospital Mystery" is a solid choice for tweens and young teens interested in medicine. Herrmann ([guyvictorpub.com](http://guyvictorpub.com)) has a master's degree in public health and has devoted part of her career to helping young people learn more about jobs in healthcare — including ones that aren't strictly medical, like housekeeping, working as an electrician, preparing meals or directing visitors.

As Ana visits her hospitalized grandmother over a period of several days, she overhears employees discussing unexplained thefts around the facility, including in the gift shop. She decides to investigate, and the adventure turns into something like an escapade with Scooby-Doo and the gang,



Elaine Herrmann

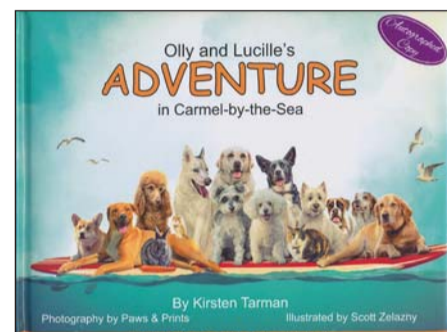


but with zero danger and more education. As Ana encounters employees and volunteers, she learns about their jobs. The hospital environment is quickly demystified and Herrmann's reassuring tone might ease the fear that comes when a loved one has an extended stay in a medical facility.

### For the even younger set

Carmel author Kirsten Tarman's children's picture book, "Olly and Lucille's Adventure in Carmel-by-the-Sea," is delightfully illustrated by Scott Zelazny, with photography by Paws & Prints. The

BOOKS cont. on page 46A



Canine sleuths Olly and Lucille star in this delightfully illustrated children's book (above).

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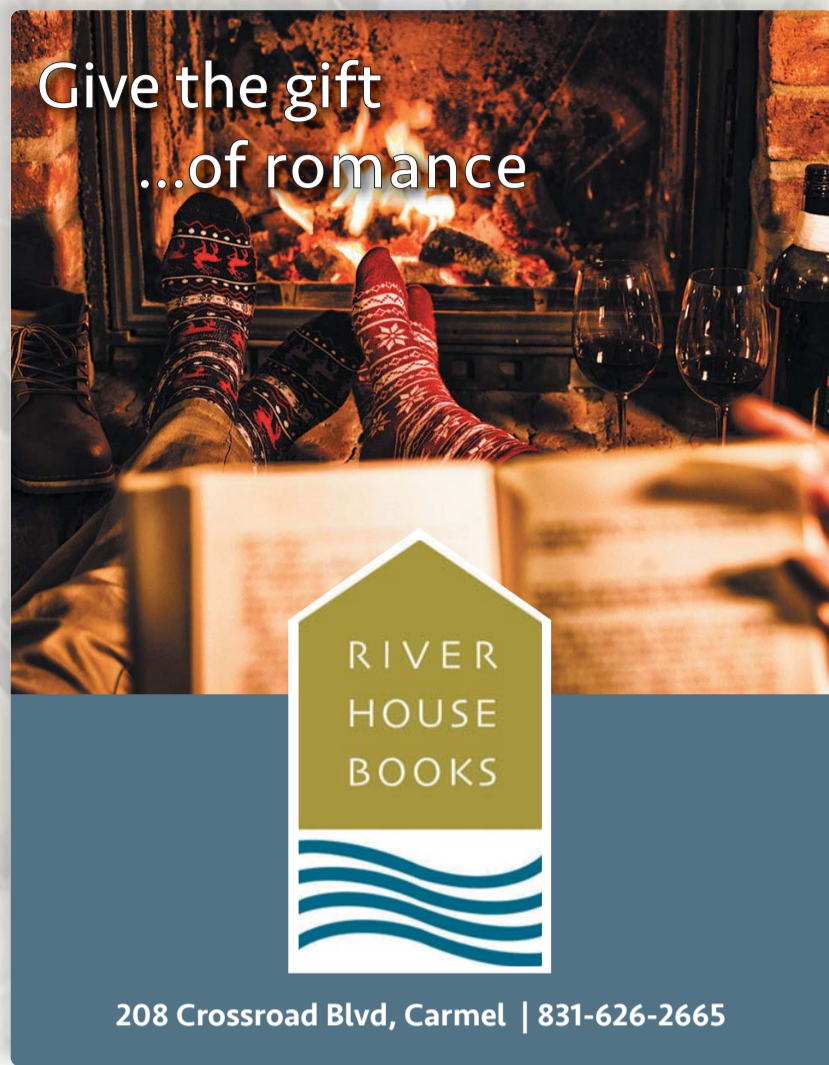
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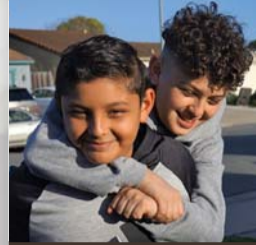
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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

Santa's workshop is far away. These hometown treasures are not.

By SALLY BAHO

AS YOU do your holiday shopping, be sure to look in our own backyard for locally crafted or themed gifts; the Monterey Peninsula is teeming with artists and artisans who make presents that are as special as this place we call home.

**Carmel Valley Art Association & Gallery** (8 Del Fino Place) is a treasure trove of unique gifts, with the works of 35 local artists providing a wide variety of options. Jeweler John Aliotti sells an array of estate jewelry and one-of-a-kind handmade Hopi and Navajo pieces, along with works from other Native American tribes. Artist Will Bullas' work can also be found there. Whimsical prints like "Crabernet" — a crustacean with a glass of cab — or "3 Sheeps to the Wind," which features some sheep enjoying a few too many drinks, are perfect for the wine lover in your life. Also at Carmel Valley Art Association is jeweler Pamela Forman's line of hand-beaded FirePoppy accessories.

**Artisana Gallery** at 612 Lighthouse

Ave. in P.G. carries the works of many area artists, from Marcia Perry's original artwork to Will Sandford's poppy pottery, along with breathtaking images by local photographer Greg Magee. All the apparel for sale there is made by local artists and manufactured right here. Plus, they have a beautiful selection of Big Sur jade.

#### Friendly competition

Did you know you no longer need to go into the **Monterey Bay Aquarium** to browse its gift shop? You can find it at 585 Cannery Row, and it does not require aquarium admission. Pick up a penguin stuffie or an ocean-themed book for your grandchild. The shop's best seller is Monterey Bay Aquarium Monopoly. After all, who doesn't love a little friendly competition at the holidays? The board features an array of local sea life, and instead of Chance and Community Chest, players draw cards from stacks labeled Take the Plunge and Act for the Ocean. The board

also features the only free parking for blocks.

The gift shop at the **P.G. Museum of Natural History** (165 Forest Ave.) has some fun stuff celebrating monarch butterflies and whales. Long live Sandy, the life-size gray whale sculpture that's become a mascot for the museum since its arrival as a temporary exhibit in 1981.

The holiday gift guide from the **Pebble Beach pro shop** is full of appropriately themed gifts for the duffer in your life. Offerings range from apparel to home goods — Pebble Beach collectible ornaments, such as a bagpiper figurine or a golf ball — and branded throw blankets. Get your grandchildren started on the game with golf-themed children's books or diminutive Pebble Beach attire and plush toys.

#### Readers' havens

There are a number of bookstores in the area that are gold mines of gifts. **Pilgrim's Way Community Bookstore and Secret Garden** on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth has a wide selection of good reads, journals, and fun gifts for the garden. **River House Books** in the Crossroads — also locally owned — has plenty of bestsellers, foreign and domestic magazines, children's books, photography, a fine selection of cookbooks, food and wine references, and more. **Olivia and Daisy**, in Carmel Valley at 13766 Center St., is a woman-owned independent book-



LOCAL con't. page 43A

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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

**WINE** from page 34A

sold out. Buy a bottle and put it under the tree with your name on it as a gift for yourself or someone else special. A charming, well-balanced, earthy wine with black fruit and minerality, this pinot pairs well with earthy flavors such as mushrooms and rich meat sauces.

**Intriguing choices**

Need an impressive gift for someone with an educated palate? Try a bottle of 2022 syrah from Samuel Louis Smith, a Salinas-based winemaker who produces small batches (1,000 bottles annually) made with grapes from the Santa Lucia Highlands and the Santa Cruz Mountains. His resume includes working in France, Australia, Santa Barbara and Oregon's Willamette Valley.

Any vintner making wines with high acid and low alcohol (low in American terms — the French would say “normal”) gets my attention and should also get that of your favorite oenophile. This wine is light to medium bodied — especially when compared to other California syrahs — has ample red and black fruits and finishes with some spice. The high acid makes it great for pairing with food and the pleasing fruits and spice make it an enjoyable quaff on its own. Order on the winery's website (samuellouiswines.com) for \$47.

Need a few more wine options to im-



A six-pack of Mini Vacay brings fun to any party.

press (or just enjoy)?

Consider the 2019 Talbott Fidelity Pinot Noir which shows lovely blackberries, blueberries and plum, with fig, earthiness, spice and forest floor. Winemaker Kamee Knutson brings out the best from the Sleepy Hollow vineyard and captures it all in this wine. At \$100, it's a bit of an in-

*SIPS con't. page 45A*



Samuel Louis Smith, head winemaker for Morgan, also has his own small-production label.

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**MC GIVES!**

# HOLIDAY GUIDE

DOLLS from page 33A

of "Sister Marie," who has been passed down through descendants of James II (King of England, 1633-1701).

"It's amazing to me that these things once were toys," Robinson marveled. "The quality is amazing."

### Smiling Bye-lo Baby

Among their rarest pieces is a Smiling Bye-lo Baby, a doll made in 1923 and popularized by the 1931 song, I Found a Million Dollar Baby (in a Five and Ten Cent Store).

"When that song was written, they made millions of Bye-lo dolls, but only a handful of Smiling Bye-Los," Canadas explained. "I've only seen two in my life, and we have one of them."

Old doesn't necessarily mean valuable, noted Robinson, who breaks the heart of many a caller who suspects that their grandmother's favorite doll might be priceless.

"The value of a Jackie Kennedy doll, for example, is mostly sentimental," he

*'Old doesn't necessarily mean valuable'*

said of a figurine of the former first lady made in the 1960s. "The only way that doll would have real dollar value is if the owner had left it in the box with the pink tissue paper in place."

### 'Let's go crazy!'

Canadas, who grew up in Carmel and Carmel Valley, traced his fascination with vintage dolls to his grandmother, a Pacific Grove resident.

ANTIQUES cont. on page 42A



Left to right are the American bisque doll from 1923 known as a Bye-lo Baby, an 1860s-era doll from England made from poured wax, and a French doll, circa 1900, in African costume

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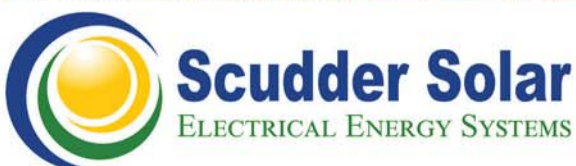
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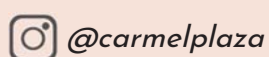
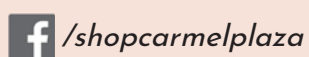
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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

**ANTIQUE** from page 40A

“When I was small, she’d grab me by the hand and say, ‘Let’s go crazy!’ and take me shopping through those wonderful antique shops that were around in the 1960s,” he reminisced. “She had a love for old dolls, and passed that on.”

**Antiques to vintage**

At 20, Canadas bought an antique doll in need of restoration and took it to the original Carmel Doll Shop (then in Carmel-by-the-Sea) for repair.

“I didn’t really know anything, but I knew they weren’t doing the repair properly,” he said. “But as I watched, I became friendly with the owner, who left town two or three years later because of some kind of family emergency.”

Canadas and Robinson, who co-owned two antiques businesses — one on Light-house Avenue in Monterey, one in the San Francisco Bay area — bought the Carmel

Doll Shop in 1989.

“We were young, we had energy, and nobody said, ‘No, you can’t do this,’ so we just did it,” Canadas said.

Robinson, a graduate of Monterey High and Monterey Peninsula College, had no interest in dolls, but recognized a business opportunity.

“The passion for dolls is Michael’s contribution,” he said. “But I’m handy, and I can do restoration. I was used to finishing and doing repairs on the vintage furniture at our antiques shops, and transferred those skills to dolls.”

They soon sold their other two businesses and focused on the dolls while moonlighting as restaurant workers to make ends meet.

“One year, Michael flew to Washington, D.C., to do a specialized doll show and grossed twice as much money over four days than he would’ve earned in the restaurant industry in a year,” Robinson said. “When he came home, he quit the

restaurant job and said, ‘This is what I’ll be doing.’ A year later, I quit mine.”

**Influential friends**

As participants in major doll shows nationwide, they built their social circle, client base, reputation and brand. They made influential friends — CEOs, politicians,

celebrities, even royalty.

“One minute, you understand that you’re dealing with a very powerful person. The next, you get to see them as a 7-year-old, a side no one else gets to see,” said Canadas.

**UNIQUE** cont. on page 44A



Carmel Doll Shop co-owner Michael Canadas discusses a vintage dollhouse with local collector and client Denise Woodward.

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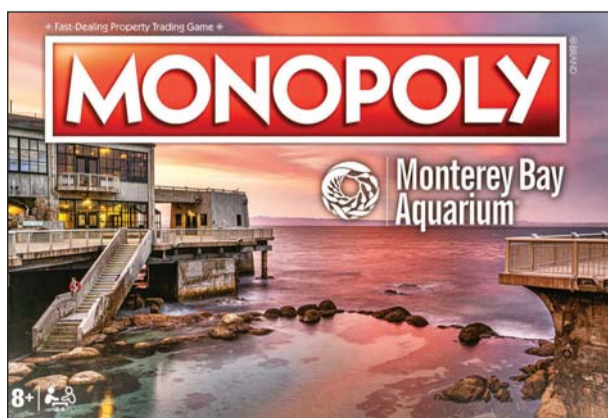


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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

**LOCAL** from page 38A

seller where folks take pride in bringing people together through shared reading experiences, highlighting community favorites along with their own staff picks. **Bookworks** at 667 Lighthouse Ave. in P.G. also has a great selection of good reads, with a section dedicated to local authors and interests. They carry hand- and locally made cards, so you can stick to the locally inspired theme. Be sure to grab



Local gifts abound (from top): Artisana Gallery ceramics, a poinsettia from Dirty Girl, Bookworks' local interest section, P.G. Museum monarchs and Monterey Bay Aquarium Monopoly.

a dirty chai latte — spiced tea with a shot of espresso and milk — at the café in the front before or after you've done your shopping.

**Jan de Luz** at Dolores and Sixth will elegantly customize linens, tote bags, towels, etc. that make great gifts. Maybe a bespoke set of robes for the newlyweds in your life? Or perhaps an organic French cotton blanket, embroidered with your new grandbaby's name? The work there is beautiful, timeless, and they turn things around quickly ... et voilà, you have the perfect, personal gift for the special people in your life.

**The Green Directive** (77 Soledad Drive in Monterey) specializes in plastic-free alternatives to soaps, shampoos and conditioners, etc. They carry several locally made soaps and CBD pain relief creams. Similarly, **Eco Carmel** on San Carlos between Seventh and Eighth carries eco-friendly homewares and a wide assortment of 100 percent organic holiday pajamas, as well as fair-trade, handcrafted wool ornaments for your tree. Another way to gift green is to shop at some lovely plant stores, like **Dirty Girl Plant Co.** at 1098 Del Monte Ave. in Monterey, which carries potted plants, pots, dirt, watering cans, and everything

you could need for the green thumb in your life. Likewise, **Planted**, in Carmel on San Carlos between Seventh and Eighth, offers plants, pots, accessories and more for the plant lover in your life. They sell houseplant themed gift baskets, and will put one together to suit your needs or

even build you a terrarium — a mini aquarium for plants — which makes the most charming gift.

Get away from your computer screen and support our local brick-and-mortars this holiday season. The shop owners and your loved ones will be sure to thank you.



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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

## UNIQUE from page 42A

Among their close friends is doll enthusiast Barbra Streisand, who wrote about the Carmel Doll Shop in her 2010 book, "My Passion for Design."

"I have two doll buddies, Michael Canadas and David Robinson, who own the Carmel Doll Shop," Streisand wrote. "The

three of us have gone on shopping trips everywhere from Pasadena to Paris."

Canadas and Robinson frequently drop everything, cancel all appointments, and fly away to rendezvous with collectors who have valuable dolls to sell — especially if another collector is likely to get there first.

"We travel all over the world to find these things, which can be exciting, but I

can tell you after 40 years that it's a hard job and a lot of work," Canadas said. "The only really fun thing is the shopping — the discovery of some hard-to-find item that we've never had before. That thrill is still there."

### Creepy-doll themes

In 2009 they purchased and restored their current venue, Pacific Grove's historic Angwin Building (built in 1902), originally a barber shop/billiards hall/taxidermy museum. "It was filled with masculine energy," Robinson said. "We like to assume John Steinbeck probably got his haircuts and beard trims there." The Angwin later had a 25-year-run as a camera shop.

Following the 2 1/2-year restoration, Pacific Grove's Heritage Society officially designated 213 Forest Ave. as a Heritage House.

"We love it when P.G. old-timers tell us how happy they are that we preserved the building exactly as it was," Robinson said. "The truth is, there's almost nothing in here that wasn't redone."

The shop and building have since been featured on two quirky television shows, "Oddities" and "Ghost Adventures."

"Both segments had creepy-doll themes," Robinson said with a laugh. "Zak Bagans and the 'Ghost Adventures' crew

were hoping to discover dolls that carry spirits. They didn't have any luck with the dolls, but they did find three spirits in our building of the human variety."

Despite relocating to Pacific Grove, they opted to keep the Carmel Doll Shop name.

"If you're Mutual of Omaha and you relocate your headquarters to Denver, you don't change the name," Canadas reasoned. "We're long-established under that name. We have a brand."

### Five-day workshops

In recent years, they've expanded their business to include the Carmel Doll Shop Boutique — on-site sewing workshops, three a year, five days each, where attendees from all over the world learn to recreate dolls and doll fashions.

Canadas and Robinson invite the public to visit their location over the holidays to view their festive Christmas window, an annual tradition for The Carmel Doll House, or tour the shop by appointment.

Images of their dolls, doll accessories, dollhouses and specialty items can be found at [carmeldollshop.com](http://carmeldollshop.com). Individuals or groups who would like to arrange a tour of the shop and the Grovian Doll Museum may call (831) 643-1902 or email [carmeldollshop@gmail.com](mailto:carmeldollshop@gmail.com).



The French child doll in the blue hat is circa 1880, from the Jules Nicolas Steiner firm of Paris, France.

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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

SIPS from page 39A

dulgence, but a worthwhile one. Find it on the winery's website or at the Carmel tasting room.

Then there's ROAR — fabulous pinot noirs made by the Francioni family (yes, Tamara of Mini Vacay is a family member), sourcing from amazing vineyards including Rosella's, Gary's, Soberanes, Sierra Mar and Pisoni. You truly can't go wrong with any of them, and whether you are gifting the wine or serving it at a holiday meal, all palates should be pleased.

The issue is more in acquiring the wines, as many are set aside or, in winery lingo, "allocated" to wine club members who sign up in advance of releases. High-end retailers locally and statewide usually have some available, though, so (just this once) jump on your computer and order away!

### Bubbles

Now let's talk sparkling — bubbles make the season! The good news is that there are several high-quality local

sippers and more offerings on the horizon. The great news is that Caraccioli Cellars has put Santa Lucia Highlands and the winery on the sparkling wine world map by winning the 2023 National Trophy at The Champagne & Sparkling Wine World Championships in the UK with its 2017 Brut Rosé (\$70). A blend of estate chardonnay and pinot noir grapes from the Escolle vineyard, this bubbly has delightful strawberry flavors with yeasty brioche and steely minerality. And the absolutely best news? Some of these bottles are still available. It's perfect pairing for a movie night, a hostess gift, a holiday aperitif or, last but not least, a celebratory toast after a romantic holiday marriage proposal.



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# HOLIDAY GUIDE

**BOOKS** from page 35A

front-cover warning — “There’s a bunch of cute pets in here” — is spot-on. The mysterious tale has several of Tarman’s family pets helping to find a missing dog named Ruby, following the clues to real-life Carmel locations and meeting several other well-known local pets, whose photos and stories are included near the end.

Tarman made the book interactive, with a map that families can take to follow the characters’ route through town, questions for discussion sprinkled throughout the story, and activity pages designed to spark age-appropriate conversations. Nonprofit organizations benefiting pets and their people are also highlighted, and they receive a portion of the proceeds from the books.

**Just for fun, a cult**

“Carmel Conundrum” is a cozy murder mystery by author Stacy Wilder, one of this village’s many Texan fans. The story is set here and follows parallel plotlines involving corporate identity theft and a cult that preys on homeless people. The latter is led by a charismatic guru who calls himself Apollo, and runs a compound that could never have made it through the planning commission.



South Carolina-based investigator Liz Adams is drawn into the strange goings-on while she and her lie-detecting Labrador, Duke are visiting a Carmel client.

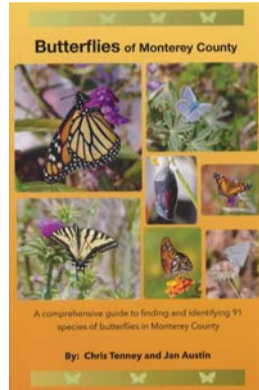
Wilder’s work is reminiscent of the Lucky Santangelo novels Jackie Collins wrote in the 1980s, with evocative descriptions of clothing, architecture, food and wine that create a world of luxury you want to inhabit, even if it is a little dangerous. It’s even filled with people you think you’d like to hang out with. Except for Apollo, that is. You don’t need The Pine Cone to tell you he’s bad news.



Stacy Wilder

**Following the butterflies**

“Butterflies of Monterey County,” by Chris Tenney and Jan Austin, is exactly what it claims to be — “A comprehensive guide to finding and identifying 91 species of butterflies in Monterey County.” With more than 200 glossy photo-filled pages, the volume translates scientific information into layman’s terms. It lists six families of local butterflies and then breaks them down into species. Each is listed with multiple photos, along with times of year and places to look for them. There’s even a checklist in the back to track your finds. Visit the [montereybutterfliesonline.com](http://montereybutterfliesonline.com) for more information.




Kristen Tarman

We received many other submissions for this story, but there wasn’t room enough to write all of them up (or even time enough to read them all). Among those that crossed my desk were “Poetry-by-the-Sea” by R.M.S. Thornton, a short collection of verse about local events and people, and Jon Eric Am-

brosia’s “Monterey Moonrise: A true story with a mix of reality, fantasy and emotion.” For more local choices, check out your local bookseller. They’ll happily point you in the right direction.



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# This Week

Live Music,  
Clubs and Events

## Monterey Peninsula Voices, Italian tenor present holiday concerts

A COMMUNITY choral group with deep local roots and more than 100 singers, **Monterey Peninsula Voices** presents its annual holiday concert Saturday at 7 p.m. and

Christmas,” not to mention Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus,” which is Easter music but is frequently performed at Christmas. The audience is encouraged to sing along.

“This is an ambitious program,” Boulware said. “We have more music than ever before in our holiday concert, which includes a repertoire of familiar carols and cutting-edge new music.”

Once a part of the Monterey Peninsula College Choir, the group became the Monterey Peninsula Choral Society in 1965. It was renamed Monterey Peninsula Voices 11 years ago.

Tickets are \$30 for general admission, \$25 for seniors, students and active military, and \$20 for children 12 and under. The church is located at 915 Sunset Drive.



Pink Martini takes the stage Friday at Golden State Theatre in Monterey. The music starts at 8 p.m.

### On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Sunday at 3 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church in Pacific Grove.

Led by **Sean Boulware**, the choir will sing favorites like “Silent Night,” “Winter With You” and “The Light of

### ■ ‘No cover tunes allowed’

Showcasing local talent and raising money for a good cause, nine musical acts play Sunday from 2 to 10 p.m. at American Legion Post 512.

The lineup includes singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik**, **The Katherine Lavin Band**, **The Chuck Brewer Band**, **Psycho Betty**, **Grace & The Grit**, **Rosewood**, **Jon Griffin & The Lightfighters**, **The Transducers** and **The Scalps**.

“I know all these musicians personally,” said drummer **Lisa Rutta** of the Transducers, who co-organized the show. “They are all amazing, hard-working, creative and super-cool humans. These bands will only play their original music — no cover tunes allowed. This and the diversity of music styles represented in a single eight-hour day, including rock, blues, funk, pop, grunge and punk, make this a unique music showcase.”

Tickets are \$50 for general admission, and free for those under 16. Proceeds benefit the post, which supports local veterans. The hall is located at Dolores and Eighth in Carmel.

### ■ Singer returns to mission

Acclaimed Italian tenor **Pasquale Esposito** returns Sunday to the Carmel Mission, where he plays a 7:30 p.m. concert to celebrate the Christmas season. A native of Naples, Italy, Esposito now lives in California. At the mission, he’ll be joined by two other singers, **Laura Schwingel** and **Victoria McDowell**, in “a colorful repertoire of holiday favorites and traditional seasonal songs.”

See MUSIC page 50A



Santa Cruda plays reggae Sunday at the Salty Seal at 653 Cannery Row in Monterey. Showtime is 4 p.m.



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# FOOD & WINE

## Foraging for fun, mixing it up at La Playa, and getting ugly

AS THE only medical facility on the coast between Carmel and Cambria, the Big Sur Health Center is critical not just to residents of that stretch of coastline, but to those who work there or are just passing through. After a several-year hiatus due to Covid, the Big Sur Foragers Festival, which raises funds for the health center, will return next month with talks, hikes, and the headliner, the Fungus Faceoff.

Set to be held at the Big Sur Lodge in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Jan. 20 from noon to 3 p.m., the competition will allow guests to savor and judge creations featuring foraged foods prepared by chefs from The Pocket, Kin and Kitchen, Sammich'd, Big Sur Bakery, Wild Plum, Fernwood, Coast Big Sur, Sierra Mar at the Post Ranch Inn, River Inn, Solstice Big Sur, Ventana and the Big Sur Lodge. Wines will be shared by Bernardus, Morgan, Talbott, Cru and Cordant. A silent auction and raffle will offer the chance to win exclusive items and experiences. Tickets to the faceoff are \$85 apiece.

### Popular hikes

Also back are the Wild Foraging Walk and Talk mushroom hikes offered in the park. Because the walks have been so popular in the past, the fest is offering four this year, two on Saturday and two on Sunday.

Hikers will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Big Sur Lodge at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park for a talk and display of wild mushrooms organized by Lisa Haas and Maryia Crabbe, and will then head out in groups of 30 people each. The hikes will be led by renowned Santa Cruz mushroom expert and Fungus Federation founding member Phil Car-



This year's Big Sur Foragers Festival will include four Wild Foraging Walk and Talk mushroom hikes that start with (left) a discussion and display of wild mushrooms organized by Maryia Crabbe and Lisa Haas. Hikers will be led by Phil Carpenter of the Fungus Federation (above) and several other experts.

## Soup to Nuts

...penter, former Fungus Federation President Mark Gillespie, avid forager and former Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant owner Anthony Gerbino, and Todd Spanier, a pioneer of the sustainable and wild food movements in California and owner of King of Mushrooms Ltd. The cost is \$75 per hiker. Tickets to the faceoff and hikes can be purchased through Eventbrite. Visit [bigsurforagersfestival.org](http://bigsurforagersfestival.org) for the link and other details. — MS

### Christmas at Quail

The Covey restaurant at Quail Lodge is offering a three-course dinner on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day from 5 to 9 p.m. First course is a choice of a salad with marinated baby beets, goat cheese mousse, micro watercress, candied walnuts and white balsamic vinaigrette, or a bisque with a medallion of lobster, and leeks, pine nuts and garlic aioli.

Each diner can choose an entrée from six options. There's traditional aged prime rib with whipped truffle potatoes, chard, kale and bacon. Or, choose sous vide duck breast (slow-cooked in a water bath to maintain tenderness) with potatoes Anna, red cabbage, and endive choucroute (an Alsatian version of sauerkraut). Chilean seabass, roast chicken, cheesy baked gnocchi and roasted butternut squash — served with cranberries, quinoa and spinach-cauliflower curry purée — round out the options. For dessert, assuming there's room, you can choose between pumpkin trifle or chocolate-y Mississippi mudpie. Dinner is \$78 plus tax and gratuity, and you can make

the required reservations by calling (831) 620-8660. Call soon if you're interested. Thanksgiving sold out before we could even write about it! — EH

### Holiday mixer

The Carmel Chamber's annual holiday mixer is set for Dec. 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at La Playa Hotel — a grand dame which recently had a little work done, as one does when one is more than 100 years old. The 75-room hotel, built in 1905 as a mansion for the heiress to the Ghiradelli chocolate fortune, underwent a \$15 million renovation this summer. To check it out while you mix and mingle, visit the chamber website and register — it's \$15 for members and \$30 for everyone else. — EH

### Shhhh...it's a secret

Comanche Cellars partners with numerous Monterey

See **FOOD** next page

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# FOOD & WINE

## FOOD

From previous page

County vineyards to produce the wines you can find in its tasting room at 412 Alvarado St. in Monterey and, according to its website, in many downtown restaurants, including La Bicyclette, Mission Ranch, Portabella and more. For the holidays, it's offering Secret Santa Six-Packs of mystery wines for \$100. Since most of Comanche's bottles go for at least \$30, it's a deal — even if you're not sure what you're getting. Those willing to take a chance can choose either mixed reds and whites or all reds, and the winery says that the six-packs have "current releases of six unique wines." The offer is good through Dec. 31.

On Dec. 18 at 6 p.m., the tasting room is also hosting an Ugly Sweater Dumping Party, in which participants clad in glitter- and light-laden knitwear will stop gawking at each other's fashion fails long enough to learn how to make Asian-style dumplings with Emily Lippe of Miss Lippe's Dumpling Parties. For \$40 apiece, students will learn how to fold and fill the tiny treasures, which Lippe will then cook and serve. Register and purchase tickets at Eventbrite. — *EH*

### ALBA celebrates achievements

The Agricultural and Land-Based Training Association in Salinas — much better known as ALBA — celebrated the release of its 20-year impact report this week (albafarmers.org/impact) with a party on its 100-acre organic farm. The nonprofit says that since its incorporation in 2001, ALBA has provided intensive training to more than 600 farmers, of whom more than 200 launched farms on its land via its farm incubator program. Nearly 100 went on to farm independently. And, the group said, more have leveraged new skills to gain better employment.

Farming isn't easy. Start with the cost of land and add in labyrinthine employment laws and complex food safety regulations, along with weather that can be arid one year and flood-inducing the next, and you start to wonder why anyone would want the job in the first place.

#### Way of life

But for farmworkers who want to make agriculture their way of life, ALBA offers a one-year, 250-hour course that covers soil health and crop planning, business planning, marketing, and organic production. Graduates can lease a few acres of land in the group's organic farm incubator, where they receive expert advice and guidance at no charge. Land and equipment are offered at subsidized rates for those using the incubator. Prices are set at 20 percent of market price in the first year, rising to 80 percent in the fourth and final year. Starting on 1/2 acre, farms expand up to 5 acres over four years before graduates transition from ALBA to continue farming independently.

The organization estimates that about 15 percent of ALBA participants end up farming independently, while the rest use their experience to get better jobs and/or earn college credit.

Supporting local communities is important to the group, too. It partners with the USDA, using taxpayer dollars to incentivize buying fresh produce at farmers markets for people with lower incomes. ALBA also hosts more than 1,000 fourth and fifth graders

for an annual agricultural career day, and is developing a program to introduce organic farming as a potential career pathway for high school students. — *EH*

### Rosine's Cookbook

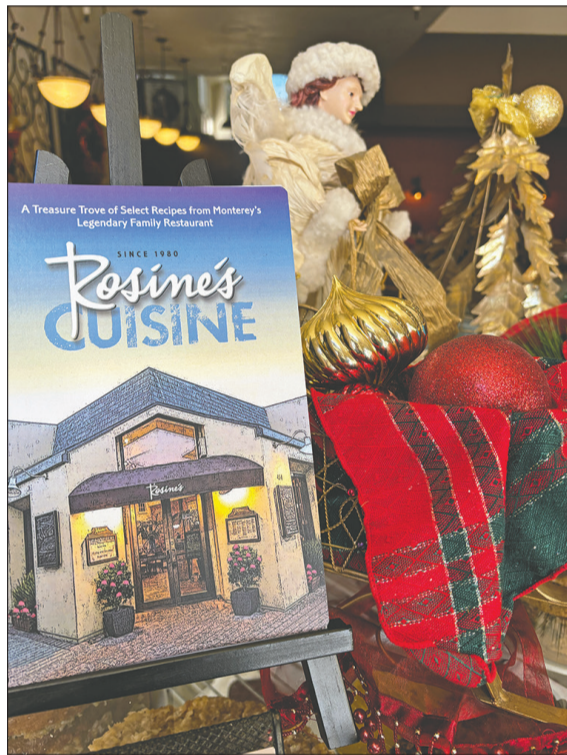
Just in time for holiday gift-giving, Rosine's Restaurant in Monterey has released a cookbook from the eatery's Culcasi family. It's called "Rosine's Cuisine," after the restaurant's namesake, Rosine Culcasi, who opened the place with her husband in 1980 in Del Monte Center before moving to 434 Alvarado St. According to the restaurant's website, the book — a

revamped version of an older edition — contains "updated tried-and-true favorites, new chapters, new breakfast and brunch recipes, new soups, main dishes, and even more dessert recipes." That includes some of the delicious homemade pies and towering cakes that beckon from the pastry case just inside the front door. You can purchase the book in person at the restaurant, or order it at rosinesmonterey.com for \$38 plus \$8 shipping and handling. Click on the Cookbook link at the top of the web page and follow the directions to the online order form. — *EH*

*Elaine Hesser and Mary Schley contributed to this week's column.*



ALBA — a nonprofit that assists farmworkers in advancing their careers or becoming farm owners — celebrated 20 years of achievements this week. Board Chair Ed Moncrief is shown here with Priscilla Barba and executive director Patricia Carrillo.



Owned by the Culcasi family for more than 40 years, Rosine's restaurant in Monterey has issued an updated version of its cookbook with recipes for breakfast, soup, main dishes and, of course, desserts.

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# MUSIC

From page 47A

The event offers an opportunity to “get into the season of giving with an intimate evening of music and stories as Esposito takes the audience on a musical journey celebrating the most wonderful time of the year.”

Tickets are \$50 for the concert, or \$150 for the concert plus a 5 p.m. pre-concert dinner at Little Napoli. The mission is located at 3080 Rio Road. For tickets, call (408) 528-6308 or visit [pasqualeesposito.com](http://pasqualeesposito.com).

## ■ Christmas on the Wharf

The 7th annual Christmas on the Wharf celebration, which continues through Dec. 23, features a busy slate of free live music, including performances this weekend at the entrance to Old Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey.

The lineup includes shows by **The Peninsula Harmony Company** (Friday at 6 p.m.), **The Defense Language Institute Choral Group** (Friday at 7 p.m.), **The Watsonville Community Band** (Saturday at 1 p.m.), **Pacific Pop ‘n’ Jazz** (Saturday at 3 p.m.), **The Peninsula Harmony Company** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), and **The Carmel Presbyterian Church Choir** (Sunday at 2 p.m.).

There will also be caroling on the wharf Sunday at 5 p.m.

For more details, visit [montereywharf.com](http://montereywharf.com).

## ■ Pour me another

Featuring a repertoire with songs in more than two dozen languages, **Pink Martini** takes the stage Saturday, 8 p.m., at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

Closing in on its 30th anniversary — the group celebrates the milestone next year — Pink Martini is led by singer **China Forbes**, who last year took home the Ella Fitzgerald Award at the Montreal International Jazz Festival.

Pink Martini’s best known song is “Sympathique,”



The Transducers, including singer and guitarist Jason Stout (left), are one of nine musical acts playing Sunday at American Legion Post 512. Tenor Pasquale Esposito (right) sings Sunday at Carmel Mission.



which became a big hit in France in 2000, and was nominated for Song of the Year at the Victoires de la Musique Awards, the country’s equivalent of the Grammys.

Tickets start at \$58. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070.

## ■ Live music Dec. 8-14

**Barmel** — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). In Carmel Square at San Carlos and Eighth.

**Big Sur River Inn** — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Saturday at 12:30 p.m.). 46800 Highway 1.

**Bulldog Sports Pub** in Monterey — **Tribe in the Sky** presents a weekly Community Jam (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.). 611 Lighthouse Ave.

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

Alvarado St.

**Cuz’s Sportsman’s Club** in Seaside — **The Transducers** (rock and funk, Saturday at 8:30 p.m.). 594 Broadway.

**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** with guitarist **Darrin Michell** and multi-instrumentalist **Ben Herod** (pop, jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), guitarist **Richard Devinck** (classical, Sunday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea’s Fault Trio** (jazz and blues, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel.

**De Tierra Vineyards** tasting room — singer and guitarist **Michael Gaither** (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth, Carmel.

**Deja Blue** in Seaside — **The Al James Band** (r&b and blues, Saturday at 3 p.m.), **The Latin Jazz Collective** (Sunday at 3 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scotty Wright**, bassist **David Daniel** and drummer **Lenny Joyce Jr.** (jazz, Wednesday at 6 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

**Estéban Restaurant** in Monterey — guitarist **Catherine Broz** (Spanish music, Friday and Saturday at 5:30 p.m.). 700 Munras Ave.

**Fernwood Resort** in Big Sur — singer and guitarist **Dani Hagan** (rock and blues, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

**Henry Miller Library** in Big Sur — **The Wholehearted Community Chorus** performs during the library’s Saint Lucia’s Day celebration (Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.). 48603 Highway 1.

**Folktale Winery** in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Daniel Cortes** (Friday at 4 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Saturday at 2 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kris Angelis** (Sunday at 2 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

**Gusto Pasta and Pizza** in Seaside — singer and keyboardist **Carl Oser** and bassist **Tony Bianchini** (jazz, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.). 1901 Fremont Blvd.

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

**Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel** — **Jazzbos 2** with singer and guitarist **Andrea Carter** and multi-instrumentalist **Ben Herod** (“timeless jazz standards, and ‘60s and ‘70s pop,” Friday at 6 p.m.), saxophonist **Neal Battaglia** and guitarist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), **The Gil Cadilli Jazz Duo** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road.

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

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

**Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant** in Pacific Grove — singer and guitarist **Rags Rosenberg** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Smith** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave.

**La Playa Hotel** — **The David Morwood Band** (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., Sunday at 4 p.m.). Bud’s Bar, Camino Real and Eighth, Carmel.

**The Links Club** — **Bounce Kitty Buskers** (Dixieland jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.), **The New Wave Band** (rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.), Singer-Songwriter Showcase (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

See LIVE next page




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# LIVE

From previous page

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

**Massa Tasting Room** in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Sunday at noon). 69 W. Carmel Valley Road.

**Midici Pizza** in Monterey — singer **Lauri Hofer-Romero** and guitarist **Bruce**

**Forman** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.

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

**Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa** — pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Peter Corr** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Monday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Dan Cortes** (Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Meredith McHenry** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

**Pearl Hour** in Monterey — **The Zach Westfall Group** (jazz, Sunday at 8 p.m.), **The Ben Herod Trio** (jazz, Wednesday at 8 p.m.). 214 Lighthouse Ave.

**The Sardine Factory** in Monterey — singer and guitarist **David Conley** (pop and rock, Friday and Saturday, Tuesday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). 701 Wave St.

**Salty Seal Pub** in Monterey — **Sixth Street Alternative** (alternative and indie rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), **The Edge Band** (rock and country, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **Santa Cruda** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.), **Shilstone & Wilson** (rock, Thursday at 8

p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

**Sly McFly's** in Monterey — **The Josh Rosenblum Band** (pop and rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), **B-Town** (r&b and funk, Saturday at 9 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

**Trailside Cafe** in Carmel Valley — saxophonist **Roger Eddy** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Dave D'Oh** (alternative, pop and soul, Sat-

urday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

**Wild Fish** restaurant in Pacific Grove — **The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet** (Friday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 545 Lighthouse Ave.

To update these listings, email [chris@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:chris@carmelpinecone.com).



Singer and guitarist Dani Hagan plays rock and blues Saturday at Fernwood Resort in Big Sur. The show begins at 10 p.m.

## Celtic Music Series at St. Mary's

AMELIA HOGAN · JOHN WEED · TYLER WEED · STUART MASON · MARISA GILMAN

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SECTION RE ■ December 8-14, 2023

Open Houses on page 10RE!

# The Carmel Pine Cone

# Real Estate



**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

■ This week's cover property, located in Pebble Beach, is presented by Tim Allen of Coldwell Banker Global Luxury Realty. (See Page 2 RE)

TA

The Carmel Pine Cone

# Real Estate

December 8-14, 2023



**1100 Arroyo Drive, Pebble Beach**  
**5 Bedrooms, 5 Full & 1 Half Bathrooms**  
**3,699 SqFt Home | 12,100 SqFt Lot**  
**\$5,975,000**

Located on the 2nd Fairway of the Dunes Course of the prestigious Monterey Peninsula Country Club, this extensively renovated home features 5 en suite bedrooms, a gourmet kitchen, and open floor plan. The primary bedroom and one of the guest suites are on the main level, along with a great open living, dining and kitchen all spilling out into an entertainer's dream backyard. The property has an effortless flow between indoor and outdoor living areas. Other highlights include an extra large 3 car garage with storage, a comfortable family room, luxurious primary suite with spa-like bathroom, laundry, walk-in closet, and private patio leading out to the mature oak studded ~12,000 SqFt lot and the golf course. This rare combination of a completely renovated home with privacy, convenience, quality, and prime location make this stunning Pebble Beach property a must see!

[PebbleBeachElegance.com](http://PebbleBeachElegance.com)  
[TIMALLENPROPERTIES.COM](http://TIMALLENPROPERTIES.COM)



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REALTOR  
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## Real Estate Sales Nov. 26 - Dec. 2

**Escrows closed: 24**  
**Total value: \$47,261,000**

**Carmel**

**25240 Highway 1 — \$1,170,000**

Carlos Santiago to Hoang Nguyen and Susan Lee  
APN: 009-171-014

**Mission Street, 5 SE of Fourth Avenue — \$1,325,000**

Lane Loyko to Mission Condo LLC  
APN: 010-361-001

**3288 Serra Avenue — \$1,700,000**

Estela and Stephen Georgiuo to Stuart Melnick and Deborah Klis  
APN: 009-084-012

**Monte Verde Street, e SW of Third Avenue — \$1,875,000**

Leneve Charitable Trust and Community Foundation for Monterey County to Kshire Properties Investments LLC  
APN: 010-223-009

**26011 Atherton Drive — \$1,950,000**



30 Poppy Lane, Pebble Beach — \$9,400,000

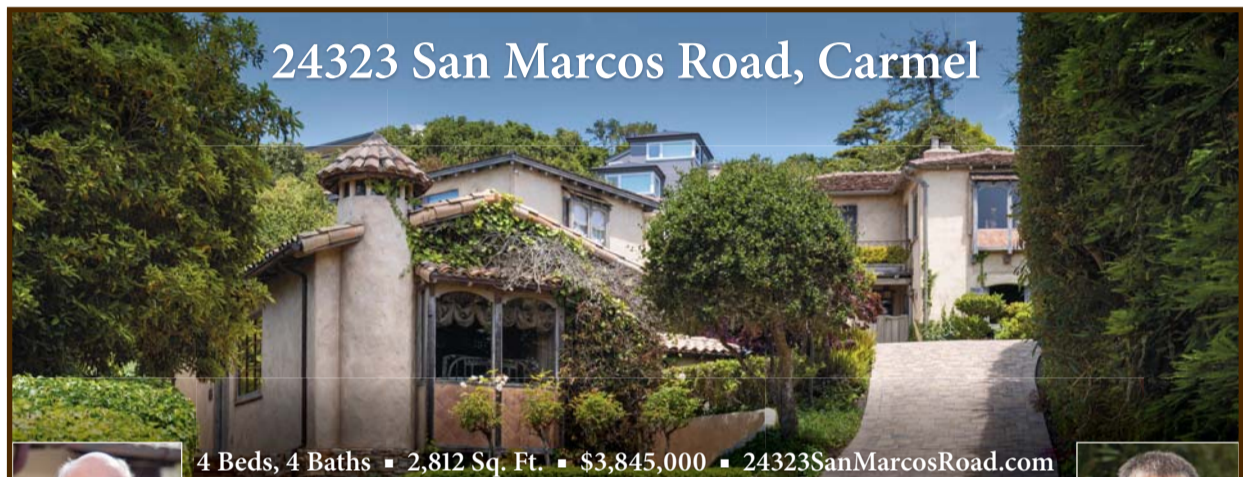
Sally and Thomas Hudson to Marites Yamut and Christian Grossman  
APN: 009-273-008

**5012 Monterey Street — \$2,000,000**

Kimberly Galbreath to Wayne Tsuchitani  
APN: 010-012-007

See HOME SALES page 4RE

## 24323 San Marcos Road, Carmel



4 Beds, 4 Baths ■ 2,812 Sq. Ft. ■ \$3,845,000 ■ [24323SanMarcosRoad.com](http://24323SanMarcosRoad.com)



(831) 601.1620 | Paul Brocchini  
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Carmel ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$5,499,000 ■ [www.ViewsOnSanJuan.com](http://www.ViewsOnSanJuan.com)



Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$5,250,000 ■ [www.3179DelCiervo.com](http://www.3179DelCiervo.com)



OPEN SAT 1-3PM  
San Carlos 5 SW of 12th

Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$3,950,000 ■ [www.SanCarlos5SW12th.com](http://www.SanCarlos5SW12th.com)



Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$3,925,000 ■ [www.MonteVerde4SW12th.com](http://www.MonteVerde4SW12th.com)



OPEN SUN 12-2PM  
9644 Poplar Court

Carmel ■ 3 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,599,000 ■ [www.9644PoplarCourt.com](http://www.9644PoplarCourt.com)



Carmel ■ 2 beds, 2 baths ■ \$2,345,000 ■ [www.24620LowerTrail.com](http://www.24620LowerTrail.com)



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$1,350,000 ■ [www.ArroyoCarmelTownhouse.com](http://www.ArroyoCarmelTownhouse.com)



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# HOME SALES

From page 2RE

## Carmel (con't)

**Mission Street, 4 NW of Eighth Avenue — \$4,750,000**

William Keland to Mission Street 3 SW of 7th Avenue GP  
APN: 010-142-003

## Carmel Valley

**3850 Rio Road unit 54 — \$1,297,000**

Frederick and Mary Williams and Jennifer and Larmer Thomas to Peter and Michelle Serchuk  
APN: 015-532-006

**10495 Fairway Lane — \$2,500,000**

Daniel and Margaret Gerosin to Marilyn and Howard Cohen  
APN: 416-593-024



1041 Jewell Avenue, Pacific Grove — \$2,950,000

## Highway 68

**114 Circulo de Casitas — \$432,500**

Lana Canova to Hamid Mohammed and Ismael Salwa  
APN: 173-131-014

**10300 Saddle Road — \$2,925,000**

Kenneth and Mary Zagzebski to Paul Alexander  
APN: 416-191-026

## Marina

**3080 Crumpton Lane unit 21 — \$720,000**

Trevor Johnson to Lalita Balakrishnan  
APN: 032-501-021

**3057 Sunrise Circle — \$930,000**

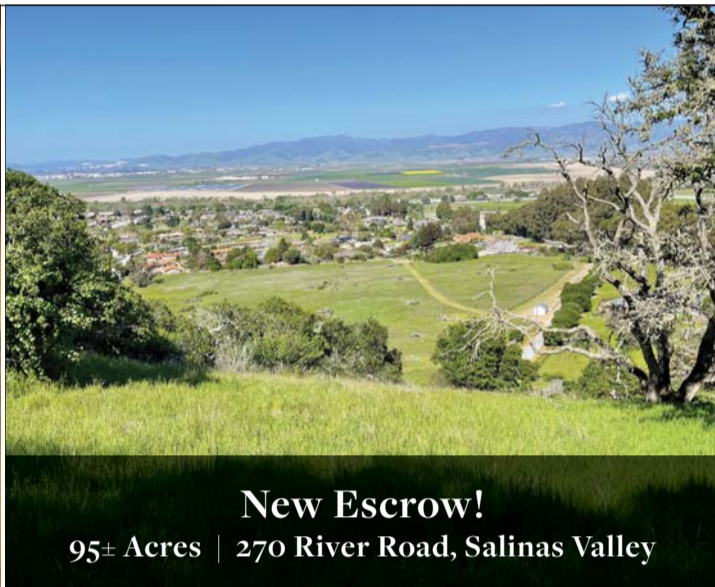
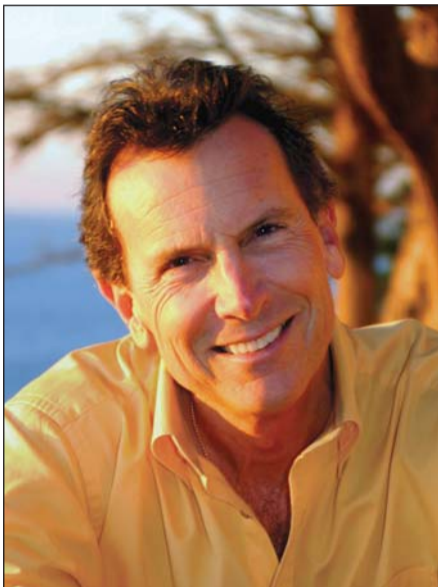
Catamount Properties 2018 LLC to Michael and Jennifer Rotondo  
APN: 032-361-007

**3003 Boardwalk Avenue — \$944,000**

Robin Mayer to Tiffany Sakato  
APN: 031-252-010

**3131 Bayer Street — \$2,150,000**

See ESCROWS page 15RE



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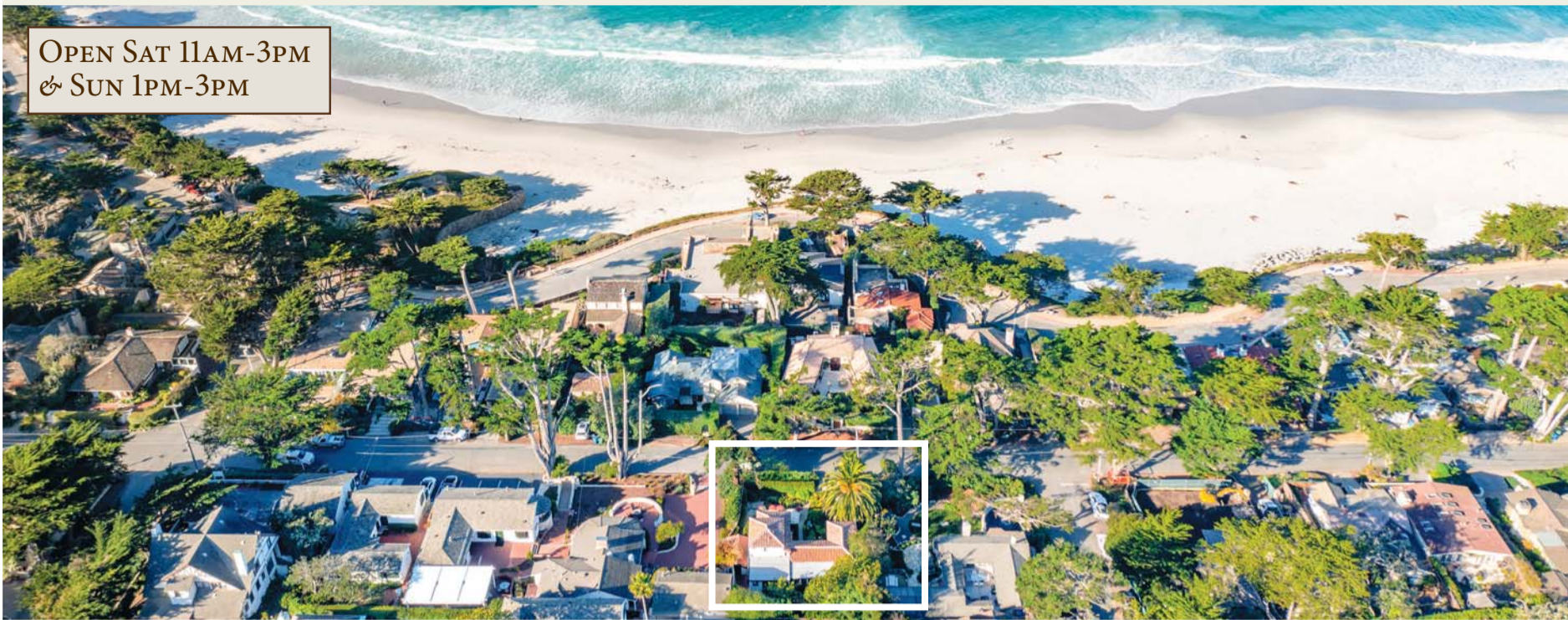




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# I LOOK AT TELEVISION, AND LISTEN TO MY MUSIC. BUT I TALK TO MY BOOKS.

I DON'T have a man cave. After all, what is a man cave but a den with a massive ego, or a dyslexic version of cave man? I have no masculine safe room to protect me from "honey-do" lists. There are no neon beer signs on the wall amid shelves filled with archaic sports memorabilia. I have no shuffleboard, no pool table with a dartboard cue

rack, no 80-inch OLED TV with the complete NFL package, no mini-fridge or arcade games. And definitely no cheesecake pinups. (My photo of Jane Seymour from the movie "Somewhere in Time" doesn't count.)

What I do have is an inconsequential office with a roll-top desk, computer, printer, and a small paper shredder

to destroy evidence. There is also a leather recliner and a modest 42-inch dumb TV. And bookshelves. And books. Lots and lots of books. I talk to them, and I listen when they talk back.

Books communicate ideas, knowledge and stories, and they stimulate curiosity. My relationship with them is more simpatico. This rapport may go back to my teen years when I was a library page, and I grew closer to them when I sold medical books.

### Dickensian orphanage

Sometimes the conversations are thoughtful, even endearing, and almost intimate. They are so quiet that I can hear Snow Falling on Cedars or listen to a Horse Whisperer.

There are times when the dialogue takes on a more disciplinary tone. Give-and-take from a library filled with strong authors and characters can degenerate into chaos when they are vying for attention and for shelf space like cans of soup in a supermarket. It's then that I threaten to donate them to The Friends of Harrison Memorial Library

## Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

book sale. Immediately they become worried they might end up in some Dickensian orphanage where unwanted street urchins dog-ear their pages or spill porridge on them.

I dislike being a martinet, but Anne Lamott and Billy Collins are a pair of rascals whom I must often chasten about their troublemaking. Anne will poke Cormac McCarthy in the spine. She thinks This is No Country for Old Men. She is totally ignoring scowls from Charles Krauthammer, who tells her she would do well to concentrate on Things that Matter. I swear she should come with Operating Instructions.

I cannot prevent Billy Collins from Sailing Alone Around the Room trying to interest others in a game of Musical Tables. (Huh! What's up with that?) Tough guy Ernest Hemingway hates my copy of Catcher in the Rye and wants to throw it Across the River and into the Trees. He thinks Holden Caulfield is a sissy. Holden's creator,

See GERVASE page 11RE



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### A HEARTFELT THANKS TO MY COLLEAGUES & VENDORS

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your invaluable contributions to my service for my sellers and buyers, culminating in the achievement of \$30 million in sales in 2023! Your dedication and expertise have played a pivotal role in our shared success. Thank you for being an integral part of Susan Cardinale Real Estate.

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Jason Remnyse | Ringer Electric  
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Uri Cabrera | Uri Cabrera Painting  
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# POLICE LOG

From page 4A

Shell Avenue in Pacific Grove. The body of the decedent was released to the mortuary.

**Carmel area:** Deputies responded to a call regarding a 61-year-old male who punched a 48-year-old female in the face and threatened to kill her and her family.

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report taken for a lost cell phone at the beach.

**Carmel area:** A male subject was given a no-trespassing admonishment on Cañada Way.

**Carmel Valley:** A male reported his credit cards being stolen from his unlocked vehicle on Rancho San Carlos Road. It was later discovered an unknown suspect attempted to use the credit card at a business.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report taken for a lost dog-training device.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Non-injury accident at Lincoln and Sixth.

**Pacific Grove:** A 28-year-old male was arrested for trespassing on school grounds and making threats. He was booked into Monterey County Jail.

**Pacific Grove:** A report of the theft of a cell phone from a vehicle on Central.

**Pebble Beach:** Burglary reported at a construction site on Stevenson Drive.

**Big Sur:** Driver on Highway 1 called to make a report that, after he honked at pedestrians walking in the roadway and yelled at them, one of the pedestrians made an unwanted hand gesture back to the reporting party. The pedestrian later parked outside the reporting party's driveway and began yelling at the reporting party.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Burglary at San Carlos and Camino del Monte. Suspects seen stealing electrical bicycles from an open ga-

rage. Fled with one bicycle left in the street.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report of found credit cards at Ribera Beach.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Traffic collision on Seventh Avenue. Vehicle was drivable.

**Pacific Grove:** Trespass admonishment on Forest Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle on Caledonia Street marked for 72-hour parking.

**Pacific Grove:** Vehicle towed from Carmel Avenue and Gate Street for expired registration.

**Carmel area:** Report of physical abuse at a residence on Flanders.

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

**Carmel Valley:** Report of a suspicious circumstance on Ford Road.

## THANKSGIVING

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Property damage on San Carlos north of Camino del Monte.

**Pacific Grove:** Child custody dispute at a residence on David Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** Unknown subject threatened to release intimate photos/video of the victim, a David Avenue resident, unless the victim sent money.

**Carmel area:** Ex-friend attempted to follow a 24-year-old female home from the Barnyard shopping center, but she was able to lose him. He continued to call and text her multiple times throughout the evening.

**Carmel area:** Spousal abuse at a Portola Avenue residence between an 81-year-old male and an 80-year-old female victim.

**Carmel area:** Manager in a grocery store on Carmel Rancho Boulevard believed a male walked out with two bottles of alcohol. After reviewing footage, the male was not seen taking any alcohol.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Dog bite to a person on Ocean Avenue.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Fall on city property at Ocean and Del Mar.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Vandalism to vehicle on Junipero.

See LOG page 13RE

# JUST SOLD IN CARMEL!

San Antonio 3 SW of 12th, Carmel



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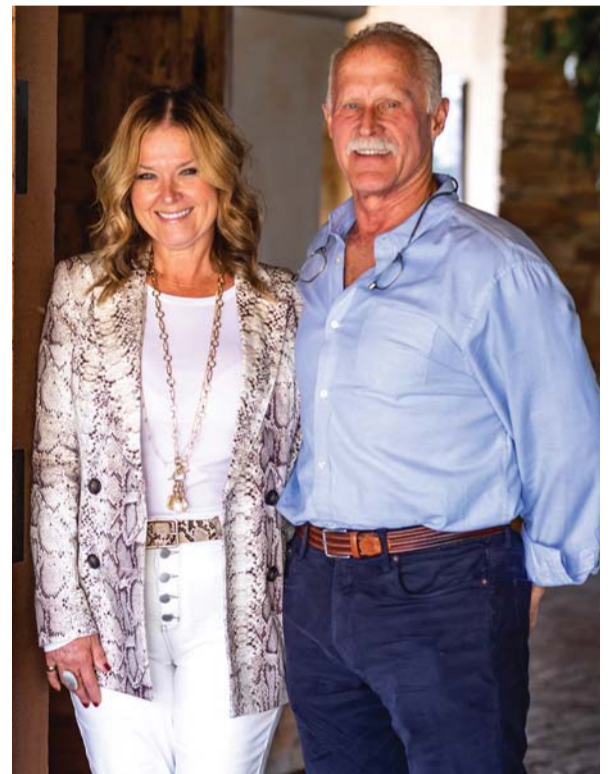
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2 BD | 2 BA | \$1,150,000

37DelMesaCarmel.com

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1060 Laurel Lane

3 BD | 2 BA | \$2,599,995

YourHomeByTheBay.com

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CARMEL | OPEN DECEMBER 8TH & 9TH, 1PM - 3PM



19 Del Mesa Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | \$899,000

19DelMesaCarmel.com

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CARMEL VALLEY | OPEN DECEMBER 9TH, 12:30PM - 3PM



33732 East Carmel Valley Road

4 BD | 4.5 BA | \$5,995,000

33732ECVRoad.com

COURTNEY STANLEY 831.293.3030

CARMEL | OPEN DECEMBER 9TH & 10TH, 1PM - 3PM



114 Del Mesa Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | \$895,000

114DelMesaCarmel.com

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MONTEREY | SHORELINE SPLENDOR



125 Surf Way #331

1 BD | 1 BA | \$1,245,000

125SurfWay331.com

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PEBBLE BEACH | OPEN DECEMBER 9TH & 10TH, 1PM - 3PM



3041 Strawberry Hill Road

3 BD | 2.5 BA | \$3,100,000

3041StrawberryHill.com

MICHELE ALTMAN 831.214.2545

PEBBLE BEACH



2833 Paradise Park Road

4 BD | 4 BA | \$3,995,000

2833ParadisePark.com

PATRICK & KATIE RYAN 831.238.8116

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120± ACRES | \$3,900,000

CV120Acres.com

COURTNEY STANLEY 831.293.3030  
SKIP MARQUARD 831.594.0643

PACIFIC GROVE | OPEN FRI 3-5, SAT 2-4, SUN 1-3



403 Central Avenue

DUPLEX + ADU | 4 BD | 3 BA | \$2,300,000

BlakeRussellRealty.com

BLAKE RUSSELL 831.917.9886  
STUART SHANKLE 831.915.2800

PACIFIC GROVE



145 15th Street

TRIPLEX | \$1,975,000

RiddollsProperties.com

RIDDOLLS TAYLOR TEAM 831.293.4496

PACIFIC GROVE



251 17 Mile Drive

3 BD | 2 BA | \$1,449,000

25117MileDr.com

J.R. ROUSE 831.277.3464  
MATT VELASQUEZ 831.254.3949

CARMEL VALLEY



19231 Cachagua Road

3 BD | 2 BA | \$1,175,000

TrapinAndersonMyers.com

TRAPIN ANDERSON & MYERS TEAM 831.601.4934

CARMEL | OPEN SAT 1-3:30 & SUN 1-3



163 Del Mesa Carmel

2 BD | 2 BA | \$1,150,000

163DelMesaCarmel.com

CLAUDIA MCCOTTER 831.293.3391

CARMEL VALLEY



17114 Cachagua Road

10± ACRES | \$925,000

CV10Acres.com

SKIP MARQUARD 831.594.0643  
COURTNEY STANLEY 831.624.1566

CARMEL



39 Arroyo Sequoia

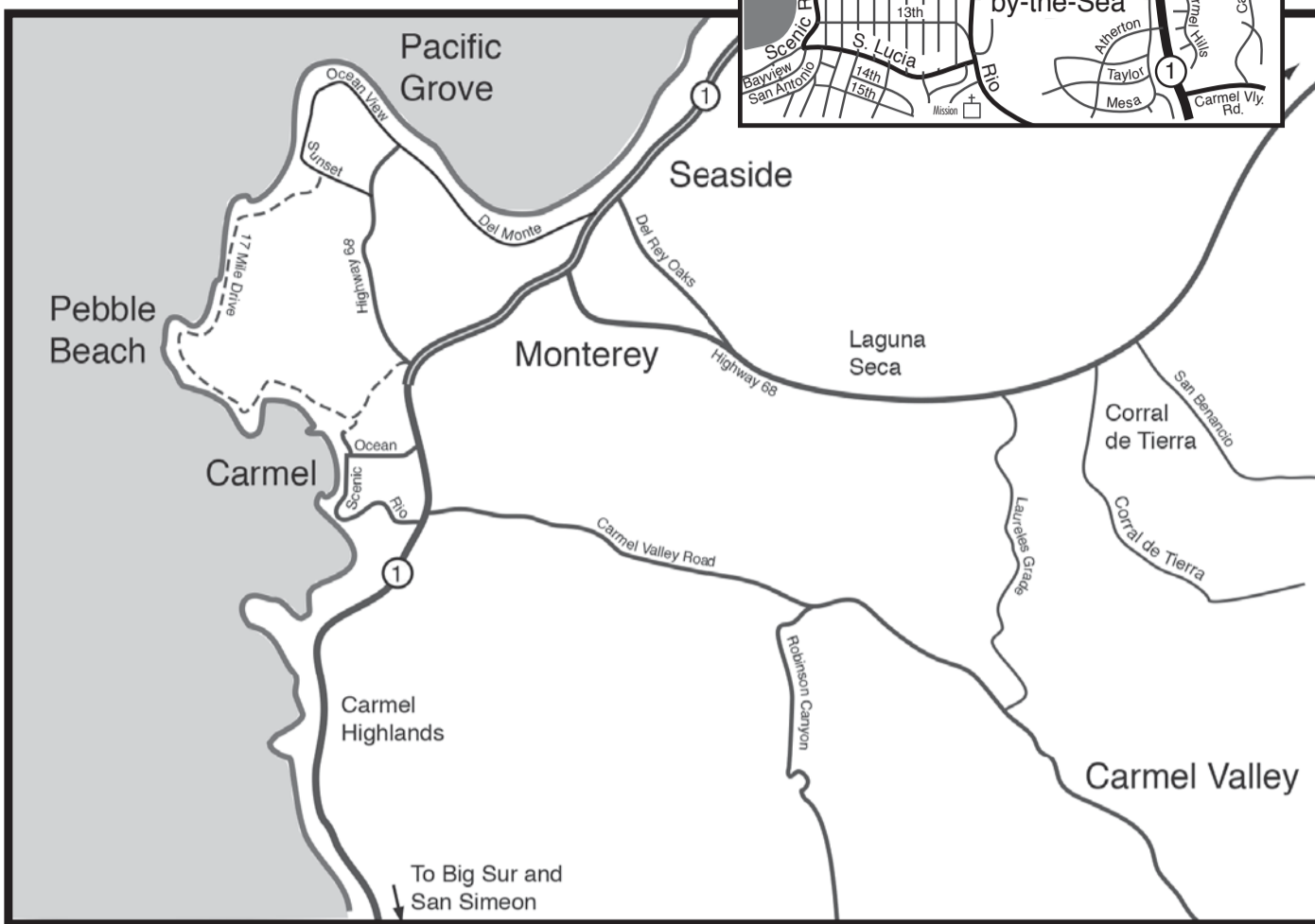
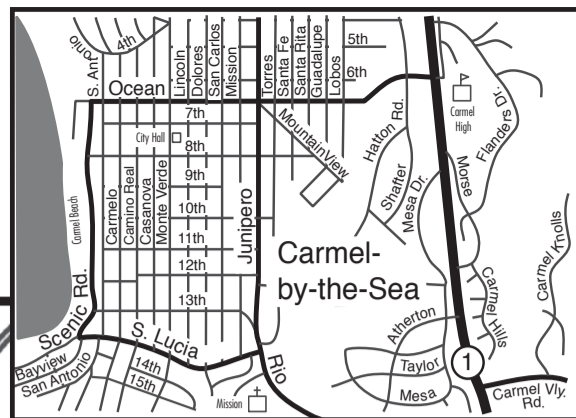
13.32± ACRES | \$575,000

MickPfaffProperties.com

MICK PFAFF 831.588.2154

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# This Weekend's OPEN HOUSES December 8-12



CARMEL		
\$895,000	2bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3 114 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 480-376-5473
\$899,000	2bd 2ba	Fr Sa 1-3 19 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 238-8768
\$960,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 11-1 24501 Via Mar Monte #74 The Jones Group 277-8217
\$1,079,000	2bd 2ba	Sa Su 12-3 110 Del Mesa Carmel Monterey Coast Realty 303-502-6477
\$1,150,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3:30 163 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 620-2468
\$1,150,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 37 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 293-3391
\$1,150,000	2bd 2ba	Su 1-3 163 Del Mesa Carmel Sotheby's Int'l RE 293-3391
\$2,495,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 3629 Mesa Court Compass, Weathers Gannaway 594-4752
\$2,599,000	3bd 3ba	Su 12-2 9644 Poplar Ct Carmel Realty 402-4108
\$3,095,000	3bd 2ba	Fr 12-4 Sa 10-3 Su 11-3 24439 San Juan Rd The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams Inc- 917-4707
\$3,095,000	3bd 3ba	Sa 12-2 Su 1-4 24675 Outlook Drive Sotheby's Int'l RE 214-3377 / 805-390-5916
\$3,695,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 10:30-12:30 Su 1-3 3462 Lazzaro Dr Coldwell Banker Realty 206-0129 / 320-6391
\$3,950,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 12-2 Lincoln 3NW of 13th St Coldwell Banker Realty 596-6118
\$3,950,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 San Carlos 5 SW of 12th Carmel Realty 574-0260
\$4,750,000	3bd 2ba	Sa 1:30-3 26265 Carmelo St Compass 224-6353
\$4,895,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-3 Monte Verde & 7th SWC St Coldwell Banker Realty 206-0129
\$4,995,000	4bd 3ba	Sa 1-3 Su 10-12 25293 Randall Way Sotheby's Int'l RE 915-7814
\$5,985,000	3bd 2.5ba	Su 1-3 38462 Highway 1 Sotheby's Int'l RE 760-7091
\$6,500,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 11-3 Su 1-3 San Antonio 2 SE of 12th Avenue Carmel Realty 277-5544

CARMEL VALLEY		
\$1,150,000	3bd 2ba	Su 2-4 20520 Cachagua Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 238-0464
\$1,199,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 2 Laguna Robles Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 760-5126
\$1,250,000	3bd 2ba	Su 12-2 184 Calle De La Ventana Carmel Realty Carmel Valley 277-5256
\$1,400,000	4bd 2ba	Sa 11-2 60 Lupin Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 773-546-8045
\$2,195,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1:30-3:30 28003 Mercurio Rd Coldwell Banker Realty Carmel Valley 227-3914
\$3,195,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa 11-1 27467 Schulte Rd Coldwell Banker Realty Carmel Valley 227-3914
\$5,995,000	4bd 4.5ba	Sa 12:30-3 33732 E Carmel Valley Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Carmel Valley 293-3030

MARINA		
\$989,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 11-1 Su 1-3 2767 Telegraph Boulevard Monterey Coast Realty Marina 277-6728
\$1,225,000	4bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3 Su 2-4 2712 Sea Glass Avenue Monterey Coast Realty Marina 238-0653

MONTEREY		
\$895,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 2-4 1360 Josselyn Canyon Road 33 Monterey Coast Realty Monterey 717-7959
\$1,245,000	1bd 1ba	Fr 1-4 125 Surf Way #331 Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 917-1631
\$1,250,000	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-4 759 Grace Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 236-7826 / 773-546-8045
\$1,370,000	4bd 2ba	Fr Sa Su 11-2 70 San Bernabe The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams Inc- Monterey 277-0294
\$1,549,000	2bd 1.5ba	Fr 12-3 Sa 11-2 Su 12-4 457 Wave St Units 1-4 The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams Inc- Monterey 261-6468
\$1,575,000	2bd 2.5ba	Su 2-4 23 La Playa Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 238-7559
\$1,685,000	4bd 2.5ba	Fr Sa Su 11-2 1190 7th St The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams Inc- Monterey 595-9242
\$1,750,000	5-unit apt.	Tu 4-5 737 Laine St eXp Realty Monterey 335-9000 / 408-505-0708

MONTEREY		
\$4,795,000	5bd 5.5ba	Sa 12-3 Su 1-3 116 Via Del Milagro Sotheby's Int'l RE Monterey 595-0797 / 710-1655

PACIFIC GROVE		
\$1,195,000	3bd 1ba	Fr 2-4 Sa 11-1 913 Syida Dr The Ruiz Group, Keller Williams Inc- Pacific Grove 917-4707
\$1,645,000	4bd 3.5ba	Sa Su 1-4 150 18th Street Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 293-4190
\$1,749,000	3bd 3.5ba	Sa 11-1, 2-4 501 Forest Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 925-216-0647 / 601-6453
\$2,300,000	4bd 3ba	Fr 3-5 Sa 2-4 Su 1-3 403 Central Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Pacific Grove 293-4190 / 915-2800
\$2,476,000	2bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3 520 Lighthouse Avenue, Unit 203 Platinum One Real Estate Pacific Grove 915-9710
\$3,578,995	3bd 2.5ba	Sa 1-3 520 Lighthouse Avenue, Unit 201 Platinum One Real Estate Pacific Grove 915-9710

PEBBLE BEACH		
\$2,500,000	4bd 2ba	Sa 11-2 Su 11-3 3089 Hermitage Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 238-8116
\$2,599,995	3bd 2ba	Sa Su 11-4 1060 Laurel Lane Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 404-401-8647 / 905-3760
\$3,100,000	3bd 2.5ba	Sa Su 1-3 3041 Strawberry Hill Road Sotheby's Int'l RE Pebble Beach 214-2545 / 262-2301
\$5,975,000	5bd 5.5ba	Sa 1-3 Su 12-3 1100 Arroyo Dr Coldwell Banker Realty Pebble Beach 521-5401

SEASIDE		
\$625,000	2bd 2ba	Sa 1-3 912 Harcourt Avenue A Monterey Coast Realty Seaside 915-9726
\$750,000	2bd 1ba	Sa 1-3 1110 Clementina Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 277-8622
\$799,000	2bd 2ba	Sa Su 1-3 967 Trinity Avenue Sotheby's Int'l RE Seaside 402-5877

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DRE# 01507458 & DRE# 1895649

## HOUSE OF THE WEEK



3 BEDS, 2 BATHS | 3,122 SQ. FT.  
2.5 ACRE LOT  
61CORRALDETIERRAROAD.COM  
\$1,799,000

Built in 1975, this thoughtfully designed home is on 2.5 acres of land, offering 3 beds, 2 baths, office & bonus room, new hot tub, roof & garage door. Distinctively designed with natural elements, the house is built with clear all heart redwood siding, interior & exterior. All cabinets, buffet, shelves, built-ins, fireplace screen, kitchen hood light & pot hanger were custom designed or commissioned by local craftsmen. The large beam in

the living room over the fireplace came from an old Big Sur trestle bridge. Heath tile for the kitchen counters was carefully selected & the poppy-themed tile inset was a custom design. With breathtaking views on a park-like parcel, this property is not to be missed!

Christine Handel  
REALTOR®  
(831) 915.8833

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# GERVASE

From page 6RE

J.D. Salinger, taunts Hemingway: "Criticize me and my beloved character? Aren't you the guy who ended a book with, 'Isn't it pretty to think so?'" I agree with J.D. and would never end anything with that ridiculous line.

Then there are the Russians. Dostoevsky calls Hemingway an Idiot! Tolstoy just wants Peace instead of War. Anna Karenina balks at Tolstoy's suggestion they ride the Bart to San Francisco.

### Brilliance and hope

I have many conversations with Shakespeare, probably because he has accurately captured the human condition in all its psychological circumstances. I was complaining to him about inflation and told him I need to take out a loan to buy a pound of hamburger. The Bard said to me, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be." Ha! That's priceless coming from a guy who wanted everybody to lend him their ears.

The situation deteriorates. Thomas Wolfe wants to go home. Who's afraid of Virginia Wolff? I am. She wants her Orlando to transition from paperback to hardcover. I'm not paying for that operation. Just the cost of re-typesetting the pronouns would break me.

I fear I'll never bring order to my books. Then I look at Emily Dickinson. Why can't they all be like her? Emily's enigmatic brilliance gives me Hope.

It is a silly game, isn't it? Something I play while gathering wool as I daydream. There is a term for talking to inanimate objects: anthropomorphism. That makes me an anthropomorphist. The phenomenon is becoming more

common. One in five U.S. homes have futuristic digital assistants that act as automated maids, valets and personal shoppers while ingesting and storing your preferences and interests like a bear stocking up on energy for a winter's hibernation.

Talking to books and absorbing what they have to say requires a childlike imagination that artificial intelligence cannot fathom. The young Anne Frank wrote in her diary, "Having a strong imagination in your darkest hour can

bring out hidden strengths you never thought you had."

Through my Dictionary of Imaginary Places I have visited the restored tower at the entrance to Narnia's capital, Cair Paravel, and am the only person I know who has reached the 28,000-foot summit of Mount Karakal in Shangri-La, a place where I show no visible signs of aging. Never aging. I know that's impossible, but isn't it pretty to think so?

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

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OPEN HOUSE | Sat. 1-3PM

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COMPASS

### Press Release guideline

Press releases about newsworthy events should go to the following Pine Cone reporters:

**Mary Schley:** Carmel-by-the-Sea, food & wine, police, fire, criminal courts and schools  
[mary@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mary@carmelpinecone.com)

**Chris Counts:** Carmel Valley, Big Sur, Arts & Entertainment and scholastic sports  
[chris@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:chris@carmelpinecone.com)

**Kelly Nix:** Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, Monterey, Seaside, state government, civil courts and water  
[kelly@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:kelly@carmelpinecone.com)

Letters to the editor are only accepted by email and should be sent to [mail@carmelpinecone.com](mailto:mail@carmelpinecone.com)

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back deck with a filtered ocean view thru the trees  
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27560 Mooncrest Dr, CV	\$1,600,000	38 Calera Cyn, SAL	\$1,500,000	25429 Outlook Dr, CAR	\$1,950,000	911 Shell Ave, PG	\$1,818,000
923 Alameda MON	\$1,500,000	864 Del Monte Blvd, PG	\$1,225,000	662 Lighthouse Ave, PG	\$1,685,000	45 Del Mesa, CAR	\$1,255,000
1121 Presidio Blvd, PG	\$1,050,000	515 10th St, PG	\$979,000	1207 Presidio Blvd, PG	\$1,178,000	1107 Presidio Blvd, PG	\$1,050,000
698 Dickman Ave, MON	\$913,500	1221 Roosevelt St, MON	\$855,000	313 14th St, PG	\$980,000	519 7th St, PG	\$915,000
1232 Vallejo St, SEA	\$839,000	700 Briggs, #83 PG	\$710,000	219 Locust St, PG	\$795,000	3231 Vista Del Camino MA	\$760,000
1732 Luxton St, Seaside	\$672,000	300 Glenwood Cir, #265, MON	\$635,000	747 Las Coches Ave, SAL	\$650,000	Cnr Asilomar & Pico, PG	\$315,000

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Service Directory continues on next page

**Police Log: Carmel-by-the-Sea; Jan 15**

**C**PD received a fax from a subject making threats toward police departments.



The fax was sent to police from a hotel in Chandler, Ariz.

**V**ictim on Palou reported five pieces of wood were taken from her front porch.

Due to the wood being free from a fallen tree, the victim suffered no monetary loss.



# LOG

From page 7RE

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Female reported that while at her place of employment on Ocean Avenue, she was standing next to the kitchen sink, and suddenly she was struck by an item that was thrown toward the sink. She did not believe the item was thrown at her on purpose but wanted the incident

documented.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Found wallet on San Carlos.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Found wallet turned in to the CPD lobby.

**Pacific Grove:** Abandoned vehicle complaint on Junipero.

**Pebble Beach:** Vandalism occurred on Elk Run Road involving a 75-year-old female victim.

**Big Sur:** Deputies responded to a deceased person on Highway 1.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Counterfeit money at a business on Ocean Avenue.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Report taken for a lost wallet.

**Pacific Grove:** Officers were dispatched to a possible dead body discovered on First Street. Upon arrival, the person was confirmed as deceased. The coroner later responded and took possession of the decedent.

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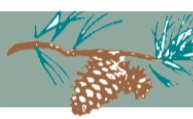
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Continues from previous page

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3288 Serra Avenue, Carmel — \$1,700,000

# ESCROWS

From page 4RE

## Marina (con't)

Richard and Glenn Sales to Mal Bauerschmidt  
APN: 032-131-044

## Monterey

**300 Glenwood Circle unit 292 — \$412,500**  
Michael Cook to Hsiu Chung  
APN: 001-776-044

**33 Montsalas Drive — \$795,000**  
Alice Armstrong to Deborah Carr  
APN: 101-261-025

**1103 McClellan Avenue — \$1,055,000**  
Rae Yuan to Michael and Eileen Favalora  
APN: 001-151-009

## Pacific Grove

**229 Asilomar Blvd. — \$2,225,000**  
Ida Barber to Dag Lohman and Virginia Machardy  
APN: 006-382-024

**1041 Jewell Avenue — \$2,950,000**  
David Laws to Mira Hess and Timothy Beckman  
APN: 006-121-033

## Pebble Beach

**4155 Sunset Lane — \$2,825,000**  
James Toni and Maryland Edwards to Brinda Tammara  
APN: 008-072-018

## 30 Poppy Lane — \$9,400,000

Cypress Point Ventures LLC to William and Robyn Boyd  
APN: 008-032-013

## Sand City

**636 Dias Avenue — \$350,000**  
William and Roy Hubbard to Leonides and Sandra Raygoza  
APN: 011-194-003

## Seaside

**750 Amador Avenue — \$580,000**  
Heather Parker to Edgardo Espinola  
APN: 011-325-006

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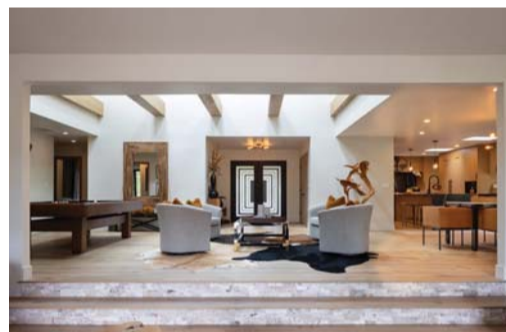
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