

The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 110 No. 3

www.carmelpinecone.com

January 19-25, 2024

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Homeowner to write \$9,139 check for illegal pruning

■ Arborist says oaks won't survive

By MARY SCHLEY

THE OWNER of a home on Monte Verde Street is on the hook for more than \$9,000 after her landscaping crew trimmed three city-owned trees so brutally that they won't

survive, according to an arborist's assessment. Ruth Gupta told the forest and beach commission last Thursday that she didn't know the trees were in the public right of way, that she didn't know she needed a permit, and that what was supposed to be a minor job went out of control when a neighbor pretended to be the owner and ordered the crews to cut more than she had requested.

"I was driving around the city and got a call from one of my crew members that there was some pruning going on and I needed to go look at it," city forester Justin Ono recounted at the Jan. 11 meeting.

Two holly oaks and one coast live oak outside the property on Monte Verde northeast of Ninth "were severely over-pruned," according to Ono, and he shut the job down.

No business license

The company, Central Coast Landscaping, is not on the city's list of tree companies and has not had an active business license since June 2020, according to Ono and public works director Bob Harary. Work was stopped after Ono visited the property in October 2023, and he asked an outside arborist to assess the trees and put a price on their damage.

The arborist concluded the three oaks will not survive and assessed their total value at \$5,660.92, which Ono recommended Gupta be required to pay, along with an investigation fee of \$620, double the normal \$665 tree removal

See **PRUNED** page 26A



PHOTO/WEST COAST ARBORISTS

A landscaping crew turned what was supposed to be "a little twig snip" on Monte Verde Street into a brutal pruning job requiring replacement of the trees and fines for the homeowner.

Nantz says Pro-Am changes are major boost for tournament

By MARY SCHLEY

THE OVERHAUL of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am this year is drawing the best golfers in the world — including No. 1-ranked Scottie Scheffler and No. 2 Rory McIlroy — transforming it to one of the most important events on the PGA calendar.

The pro-am, one of eight top-shelf PGA Tour Signature Events out of 37 tournaments this season, now boasts a record-setting \$20 million purse and is part of the FedEx Cup. As a result, it's attracting an unparalleled field of pros, some of whom have never competed on the Pebble Beach Golf Links.

"It's going to be a new tournament this year," longtime CBS sports commentator Jim Nantz said Friday from Buffalo, N.Y., where he was snowed in and awaiting the postponed Bills-vs.-Steelers game that was finally played Jan. 15.

More prestige and money

As a Signature Event, the pro-am had its field narrowed from 156 pros paired with 156 amateurs — including numerous celebrities — to 80 pros and 80 amateurs. The celebrity contingent includes a handful of professional athletes, among them Tom Brady, Aaron Rodgers and Buster Posey, and the pro-am component ends with a champion crowned Friday night, with the pros competing on their own Saturday and Sunday. The tournament is being played on two courses — the Pebble Beach Golf Links and Spyglass Hill Golf Course — and there is no cut, so the full

See **NANTZ** page 10A



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

CBS broadcaster Jim Nantz, shown here interviewing Jimmy Walker at the conclusion of the 2014 AT&T Pro-Am, says major changes to this year's tournament are great news for golf fans.

EX-SERGEANT ACCUSES SHERIFF OF RETALIATION

By KELLY NIX

A VETERAN investigator with the Monterey County Sheriff's Office has accused Sheriff Tina Nieto and others of firing him in retaliation for questions he raised about the agency's handling of workplace sexual harassment complaints by female employees, and for refusing to endorse the sheriff's 2022 political campaign.

Bryan Hoskins, who worked for the agency for two dozen years before being fired in March 2023, claims in a Jan. 12 lawsuit that his superiors in the sheriff's office tried to silence him when he raised concerns about sexual harassment within the agency in summer 2022. At the time, Nieto was campaigning to succeed outgoing Sheriff Steve Bernal.

Payback for raising questions and refusing to endorse?

Hoskins — who was fired by Nieto's administration several months after she was sworn in — also claims that during her campaign, she became upset that he repeatedly snubbed her requests for endorsement. Hoskins said that led Nieto to direct county and sheriff's office officials to try to coerce him to do so "through threats and adverse employment actions," including his termination.

Anonymous letters

The former investigative sergeant offers a somewhat disjointed timeline of events in the lawsuit, which seeks an unspecified amount in damages exceeding \$25,000.

In spring 2022, about the same time Hoskins said he refused to endorse Nieto, someone sent the county board of supervisors an anonymous letter alleging improper use of overtime by some sheriff's employees, including Hoskins.

"On information and belief, the anonymous letter was sent by persons acting on behalf of Nieto's campaign," his

See **SERGEANT** page 11A

Monterey considers license plate cameras

■ Two town hall meetings set

By MARY SCHLEY

POLICE DEPARTMENTS in Carmel, Pacific Grove, Seaside and other cities say their high-tech license-plate-reading cameras have helped them find stolen cars and track down criminals, and the City of Monterey is considering installing the technology, too. But with other jurisdictions hearing complaints about invasion of privacy and visual blight, the Monterey Police Department will first hold town hall meetings to get public input Jan. 22 and Feb. 8, both at 6 p.m. in the city council's chambers at 580 Pacific St.

Monterey P.D. announced it is exploring the

See **CAMERAS** page 16A

PG&E plans more outages to beef up local grid

By CHRIS COUNTS

PLAGUED BY floods and wildfires, Carmel Valley has faced numerous — sometimes lengthy — power outages over the years. But the next time the electricity goes out there, it will be by design as PG&E kicks off an effort to make major upgrades to transmission lines. The next one is set for Friday.

The work includes replacing 20 power poles and installing 12 new transformers and multiple spans of new and hardened wire.

"PG&E is regularly upgrading our electric system by installing stronger poles and covered powerlines," the utility company said. "We are also burying 10,000 miles of powerlines in the highest wildfire risk areas. This system-hardening work will help reduce wildfire risk and improve reliability during severe weather."

Next one Jan. 19

The first of the planned electrical outages occurred Jan. 15, when nearly 1,000 residents went without power from

9 p.m. to 9 a.m. Carmel Unified School District sent out word the next morning that school buses were running late as a result.

Four more outages are planned by PG&E, including Jan. 19 (51 households), Jan. 30 (480 households), Feb. 2. (66 households) and Feb. 12 (133 households).

Replacing transformers, power poles and hardening wires

To minimize delays for motorists, most of the construction will be done between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m.

"PG&E will be conducting much of this work at night to help lessen impacts on the roads and to help reduce disruption to customers due to power outages," a

PG&E report indicated. "One lane on Carmel Valley Road will be closed during the work."

See **PG&E** page 26A

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Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Papi's perfect

Charlie was short and sturdy, a durable little dog most people assumed was a schnauzer-poodle mix. Or, at least that's what he looked like. Mostly he resembled Maurice Sendak's "Little Bear" drawing. Charlie was 12 when he got hit by a car, and his person thought she just might lie down with him.

Until she met a scruffy little 8-month-old terrier mix who also had been hit by a car and was healing from a broken hip in the embrace of Animal Friends Rescue Project volunteers.

"Three months after Charlie died, a friend suggested I take a look at the little terrier," his person said. "I wasn't ready for another dog. And I was about to leave on a trip to Mexico. I know there's never a perfect time, only perfect dogs. I'd been thinking about getting a fe-



male and naming her Poppy, yet here was this injured little male."

A friend reasoned that while she couldn't save Charlie, perhaps she could save this one. And that might prove healing for her and the pup. "Besides," she said. "You like the sound of 'Poppy' so, as a Latina, why not name him 'Papi'?"

Papi is the Spanish term for "Daddy" or "a sweet, loving, male figure." Turns out that's exactly who Papi has become for her.

Papi's person spent months rehabbing his hip through swim therapy and other treatments. Now nearly 3 years old, he heads down the hill from their home at the north end of town and races around Carmel Beach on all four legs, particularly when chasing a ball off his person's Chuck-it.

"Papi's really good about retrieving the ball, but he won't give it back unless he sees the second ball I bring," his person said. "Once I toss that, he drops the first and races after the second. It's a mind game."

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PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 26

Meena Lewellen - (831) 274-8655 - meena@carmelpinecone.com
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CYC board: Not so fast, city council

By MARY SCHLEY

THE CARMEL Youth Center is not going anywhere anytime soon, regardless of suggestions from some city council members last week that the nonprofit be told to vacate its building at Torres and Fourth so the adjacent police station can be remodeled and expanded.

“That suggestion struck a nerve with me and the entire board of directors at the CYC,” said board President John Ruskell. The city does not own the youth center’s building, just the land underneath it, and that is the subject of a 30-year lease.

And while state officials shut the youth center down in spring 2023 for providing childcare without a license, the nonprofit is on the verge of reopening after undertaking the extensive application process and changes the California Department of Social Services requires, according to Ruskell.

“We’ve complied with virtually everything the state has wanted us to do,” he said. “And stuff that they just sort of come up with.”

New facilities

The heating system, which is also used when the youth center serves as a warming center during wintertime cold snaps and power outages, is being overhauled. A staircase to the parking lot must be built. “For the younger kids, you have to have a certain size toilet, a certain size sink — there are many little things there — so we’ve done that,” he said.

When it reopens, the center will serve not just middle-school-aged kids, but those as young as preschoolers. The state requires specific ratios of children to teachers and aides, “and as soon as we absolutely have the green light to reopen — which according to the state is anytime now, it’s very close — we will then hire staff in the appropriate ratios,” he said.

But the comments councilwomen

Karen Ferlito and Alissandra Dramov made during the Jan. 8 discussion of options for constructing a new police station are already impacting the youth center, according to Ruskell.

At that meeting, a consultant and the ad hoc committee of Mayor Dave Potter and councilman Jeff Baron recommended studying the feasibility of building a new station on the Vista Lobos property a block away and repurposing the existing station, which they said is way too decrepit and inadequate to simply undergo a remodel. But Ferlito and Dramov said they’d rather keep Vista Lobos as a potential housing site and look into expanding Carmel P.D. onto the adjacent land, which would require the youth center to relocate.

Donors worry

“We’re already getting some feedback from donors” who are concerned about the organization getting forced out of its building, and Ruskell wanted to ensure them and the general public that won’t happen.

“I wish a different word had been used, because that word did tend to strike a nerve in the city,” Ruskell said, referring to The Pine Cone’s characterization of the councilwomen’s suggestion as asking staff to research “evicting” it for an expansion.

“The youth center family has worked long and hard to achieve this milestone reopening, and to read the suggestion that we might be evicted after serving the community for an uninterrupted 70-plus-year run was, to say the least, unexpected and sobering,” he said. “It is our understanding that the comment may have been ‘off the cuff.’ We hope this is the case.”

He also doubts much will happen on the new Carmel P.D. station anytime soon.

“The biggest issue for the city is going to be, where are they going to get the money to do this?” he added. The consultants suggested a ballpark figure of more than \$30 million to repurpose the station and construct a new one at another location.

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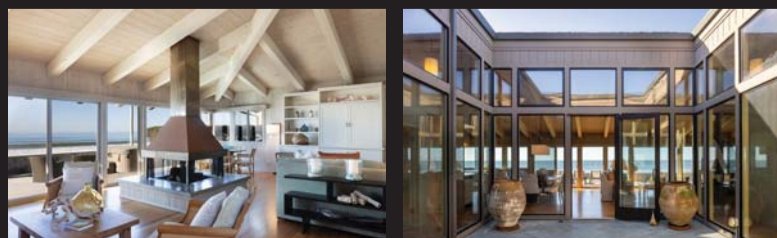
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Police & Sheriff's Log

Cracked windshield leads to arrest

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

Pacific Grove: Driver's license and credit card were found at Park Place and Grand Avenue and brought into the police station.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle was towed from Alder Street for expired registration.

Carmel Valley: Suspicious circumstance occurred at a closed Carmel Valley resort.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Men's wedding band turned in at the police department's front lobby.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 56-year-old driver was cited at Junipero and Ocean for having a false DMV registration.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Investigated a hit-and-run collision with suspect information on First Avenue. Vehicle towed per section 22655.5(a) VC [a vehicle may be removed from a public roadway when a peace officer

has probable cause to believe the vehicle was used as the means of committing a public offense].

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A private tree fell onto a parked vehicle in an off-street private parking lot on San Carlos south of Ocean. The vehicle sustained damage such as scratches and dents. No estimate of the cost of repair the damage.

Pacific Grove: Argument on Grove Acre Avenue between former significant others.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle towed from Ransford and Piedmont.

Pebble Beach: Subject on 17 Mile Drive was placed on a mental health evaluation hold.

Carmel Valley: Commercial burglary at two businesses on East Carmel Valley Road.

Carmel Valley: Vandalism reported on Paseo Mediano.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Pebble Beach: Report of alleged neglect on Rodeo Road.

See **POLICE LOG** page 9RE
in the Real Estate Section



The gavel falls

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

Dec. 11 — Daniel Dejesus Garcia, 23, of Greenfield, was sentenced to two years and eight months in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for a March 24, 2023, collision in which Garcia pled guilty to driving while under the influence of alcohol with a prior felony driving under the influence conviction.

On March 24, 2023, Garcia was driving while intoxicated and hit a parked vehicle resulting in no injuries but causing damage to the vehicle. Garcia attempted to flee the scene on foot but was apprehended by law enforcement. A chemical test revealed that Garcia had a blood alcohol concentration of between .25 and .27 percent. At the time of the collision, Garcia was on probation for a prior felony driving under the influence offense.

The case was investigated by the Greenfield Police Department and prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney's Office specialized DUI prosecution unit. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Dec. 15 — Edgar Romero Zaragoza pled

guilty to first-degree murder of his girlfriend, Irma Garcia-Ruiz. Zaragoza admitted he willfully, deliberately, and with premeditation murdered his girlfriend of eight months. The defendant will be sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison.

On Aug. 29, 2023, around 8:45 a.m., Salinas Police Officers responded to 517 Stevenson St. in response to a possible deceased female victim. The reporting party said his tenant, Zaragoza, had killed his girlfriend and fled from the residence.

When officers arrived on scene, they spoke with the reporting party, who told officers he rented a room to Zaragoza and his girlfriend, Irma Garcia-Ruiz. On Aug. 29, the reporting party returned home and found Zaragoza in the living room of the house. Zaragoza told the reporting party that he needed help. The reporting party looked in Zaragoza's bedroom and saw Ruiz's body wrapped in sheets and clothing. Zaragoza then fled the residence. Salinas Police officers contacted Zaragoza near the residence and took him into custody.

At the scene, officers found broken,

See **GAVEL** page 15A

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Il Tegamino owner sues attacker

By MARY SCHLEY

THE OWNER of a downtown restaurant who was allegedly beaten by a man who also stole his Vespa scooter has sued his alleged attacker, Southern California real estate developer Michael Tutelian, in Monterey County Superior Court.

Tutelian, who was celebrating his 38th birthday at the time of the Sept. 1, 2022, attack, was the only suspect police identified in the incident in which four people assaulted Il Tegamino owner Giuseppe Panzuto and his employee, Jose Garcia, near the intersection of Monte Verde and Ocean. Through an extensive investigation that included surveillance footage and help from the victims and witnesses, Carmel Police obtained a warrant for Tutelian. He turned himself in to Monterey P.D. nearly two weeks later and posted \$30,000 bail.

Tutelian was working as vice president of construction and development at Hackman Capital Partners in Santa Monica. The criminal case has seen numerous continuances since it was filed, and he is now seeking a mental health diversion, with a hearing set for Jan. 25. If the court finds he is not mentally fit to face trial, the case could be delayed or set aside altogether.

Damages sought

Meanwhile, Panzuto is suing Tutelian for assault, battery, trespass, civil rights violations and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

According to the complaint filed Nov. 22, 2023, by Monterey attorney Daniel Hollingsworth, Panzuto and Garcia had left the restaurant together after closing

and walked to where the Vespa was parked.

As Panzuto went to get on the scooter, Tutelian and his three friends approached and asked to take it for a ride. Panzuto repeatedly refused, but Tutelian — who, along with his friends, appeared to be drunk, according to the complaint — ignored him, pushed him out of the way, “and proceeded to get on and start the Vespa.” Although Panzuto was extremely upset, the complaint says, he was concerned about Tutelian’s safety and offered him his helmet.

When Tutelian returned with the Vespa, he made comments that Panzuto took as hostile, and as the restaurateur got on the scooter and started up the street, Tutelian continued to speak. In an effort to defuse the situation, according to the lawsuit, Panzuto quipped that the man could have at least given him a few bucks for gas.

Racial epithet

“Tutelian approached Plaintiff and stated words to the effect of, ‘I know you f**king Italians, you are all the same,’ and began punching Plaintiff in the head,” the complaint continues. Panzuto was knocked to the ground, and the Vespa fell on top of him and landed on his knee. “Tutelian continued to punch and kick plaintiff while he was helpless on the ground,” with the three unidentified friends joining in.

When Garcia tried to intervene, he was punched in the face, and Panzuto attempted to get up, but Tutelian and the others held him down and continued to beat him, the lawsuit says. “People on the street witnessing the attack yelled at Tutelian” and the



Michael Tutelian

See BEATING page 26A



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Lion charged with more felonies

By MARY SCHLEY

ANOTHER FELONY case has been filed against Bruce Lion, the 61-year-old Carmel Highlands resident who was arrested last September for blocking Highway 1, throwing rocks at cars and attacking construction workers in the area. Other cases have followed, including misdemeanors for trespassing, resisting arrest and obstructing customers, and restraining orders have been obtained by a Carmel Valley woman and Charles Schwab & Co.

The latest case, filed Jan. 3 by Monterey County deputy district attorney Candice Hooper, is based on an assault that allegedly took place in Lion's home last November involving a 48-year-old woman and his 91-year-old father, Al Lion. The Lion family owns the 120-year-old Fresno-based ag company, Lion Raisin.

According to a daily log item, the Monterey County Sheriff's Office responded to a residence on Highway 1 after receiving a report of "a male subject who punched a female in the face and threatened to kill her and her family."

Victim's identity withheld

The complaint filed by the district attorney's office alleges that on Nov. 19, 2023, Lion "did willfully and unlawfully commit an assault upon Confidential Victim with a deadly weapon, to wit, a sword," resulting in the felony charge of assault with a deadly weapon.

He also "did willfully and unlawfully threaten to commit a crime which would result in death and great bodily injury to Confidential Victim, with the specific intent that the statement be taken as a threat," according to the complaint. "It is further alleged that the threatened crime, on its face and under the circumstances in which it was made, was so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate and specific as to convey to Confidential Victim a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of

execution." The threats caused the victim to fear for "his/her safety and the safety of his/her immediate family."

Finally, Lion was charged with misdemeanor battery for his willful and unlawful use of "force and violence" on the unnamed victim. Lion was set to appear in court for arraignment in this case, along with hearings on several others, Jan. 18.

No-show in Schwab hearing

He was also supposed to attend a Jan. 16 hearing on Charles Schwab & Co.'s civil harassment case and the firm's request for a restraining order barring him from all the firm's offices after he repeatedly showed up at its Clock Tower Place branch.

Apparently frustrated by being unable to access his accounts and complaining his wife was trying to steal his money, Lion repeatedly verbally lashed out at employees, made threats and refused to leave the premises even when told to go, according to the complaint filed last month by attorney Simon Levy on behalf of Charles Schwab. Sheriff's deputies were summoned on at least one occasion, and the branch hired a security guard and has begun locking the front door. The branch manager, Cassandra Bartlett, described her team there as "terrified" of what Lion might do.

Management also told Lion to transfer his considerable assets to another firm, as his business was no longer wanted there.

Monterey County Superior Court Judge Carrie Panetta issued a temporary workplace restraining order Dec. 27 and set the Jan. 16 hearing.

On Tuesday, Maria Mendoza presided over the hearing as judge pro tempore, and Levy was there on behalf of Charles Schwab, as was Bartlett.

Lion never showed, but there was also no proof that he'd been served with the protective order and hearing date, according to court records. As a result, Mendoza re-issued the temporary restraining order through the next court date, Feb. 27.

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‘Micro-shelters’ to help homeless

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHAT MIGHT a temporary fix to California’s homelessness crisis look like? A Washington State-based firm is planning to showcase “micro-shelters” as small as 70 square feet Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Shuman Heart House homeless shelter in Monterey.

One of six companies that California has approved to manufacture temporary dwellings for the homeless, Pallet Shelter has launched a month-long, statewide, 11-city “road show” of its buildings.

Pallet Shelter says it can help meet an increasing demand for temporary shelters in California, where state officials say nearly 200,000 people live without roofs over their heads. Last March, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced a program of \$1 billion — or \$5,000 per homeless person — to address the crisis, which includes buying 1,200 “small homes” and installing them at sites in Los Angeles, San Diego County, San Jose and Sacramento.

Pallet Shelter will have two sample homes on display in Monterey Jan. 19, including a 70-square-foot model with

one bed, and another with two beds and 120 square feet of living space. Each includes locking doors, personal climate control and storage for possessions. The most affordable model starts at just under \$19,000. “We are committed to providing tailored and dignified solutions that enable communities to address homelessness,” said the company’s CEO, Amy King.

Used at dozens of sites

Shelters like these are used at 40 sites throughout California, including a Santa Cruz complex containing 30 units.

The company contends its dwellings can play an important role in reducing homelessness. “A wealth of evidence confirms that successful transitions for vulnerable, unhoused populations are achieved by coupling secure interim shelter with supportive services,” its website suggests.

At the very least, the shelters give communities another option in their efforts to combat homelessness.

“There is no one-size-fits-all solution to unsheltered homelessness,” said Robin McCrae, the CEO of Community Human Services, which owns and operates the Shuman Heart House. “Communities should be encouraged to explore all options and choose what works best for them.”

In Los Angeles, where more than 60,000 people are homeless, nine “villages” of Pallet Shelter homes have opened since 2020, the company reported.

Located at 600 E. Franklin St., the Shuman Heart House offers beds for 16 homeless single women and four families in need. The \$8 million facility celebrated its grand opening last November.



PHOTO/PALLET SHELTER

Shelters like these in Denver are being used to combat homelessness in many places, including Santa Cruz.

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RACETRACK SUPERVISOR ISSUES RESPONSE TO LAWSUIT

By KELLY NIX

THE NONPROFIT organization that operates Laguna Seca raceway issued a statement this week in response to a lawsuit filed in December by an activist group hoping to halt racing at the iconic track because of noise and other concerns.

In a Dec. 12 complaint against Monterey County and its board of supervisors, the Highway 68 Coalition took issue with what it calls serious impacts from racing, and it argued that current and future use of the 2.2-mile racetrack violates zoning laws, and that the supervisors' July 2023 approval of a concessions agreement with the Friends of Laguna Seca should be set aside because it doesn't require an in-depth environmental review of the track.

On Tuesday, the nonprofit Friends of Laguna Seca

emailed supporters, characterizing "recent challenges" to the track as attempts to "interrupt its stewardship and improvements of Laguna Seca Recreational Area."

'Remains focused'

"We live here, too, and share the same concerns as our neighbors about noise and traffic," group president Ross Merrill said. "Our team of experienced business and community leaders are eager to move forward to revive this staple in our community for decades of future success and revenue generation for Monterey County."

The organization said it "remains focused" on its obligations in the agreement that was unanimously approved by the county supervisors and the National Parks Service.

See **RACETRACK** next page

Fiddlers suing over gig

By KELLY NIX

MUSICIANS OFTEN play for a pittance, but an established Scottish fiddlers group alleges in a lawsuit that a major online ticketing agency failed to compensate its members nearly \$12,000 for three concerts, including one at Carmel High's Center for Performing Arts last year.

In a civil complaint filed Jan. 11 in Monterey County Superior Court, the Scottish Fiddlers of California contends that La Jolla-based Events.com, which supplies tickets for concerts for a fee, breached a contract related to three shows. An online advertisement for the show said the group was slated to play a concert on May 21, 2023, at Carmel High.

"Events.com collected money and made representations for payments to the musicians," according to the suit, filed for the fiddlers group by Carmel Valley attorney Jacqueline Pierce.

Events.com "sold tickets to three concerts and has failed to remit payment to any of the Scottish Fiddlers of California, as of this date."

Company acquired

Though the lawsuit doesn't specify where the other concerts were, the group also played Palo Alto and Berkeley in the days before the Carmel show. The fiddlers seek \$11,925 for the performances plus interest from July 1, 2023, the complaint says.

The fiddlers say the concert tickets were originally sold by Brown Paper Tickets, a Seattle company that Events.com acquired.

The fiddling company goes under two other names — the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers and Scottish Fiddlers of Los Angeles.

"The deep and joyful music of Alasdair Fraser's inspired solo fiddler, along with the full band of a hundred musicians, captures the essence of springtime," according to promotional chatter for the concerts at Carmel High by Brown Bag Tickets, which incorrectly identifies the high school's venue as that of a venue in Palo Alto.

According to its website, the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers was formed in 1986 when Alasdair Fraser placed an advertisement in a newspaper looking for people interested in sharing Scottish fiddle music.

"A small group of enthusiasts quickly gathered, which in the years since has grown to over 250 members," the site says.

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BSLT seeks name for new Salinas Park

By CHRIS COUNTS

Now THAT a 73-acre portion of Carr Lake in Salinas is being turned into a park, the Big Sur Land Trust, which helped create it, is asking the public to help select its name. The deadline for voting is Jan. 28. The park is expected to open in spring 2026. To take the survey, visit survey.monkey.com/r/CarrLakeNamingSurvey.

“We are especially interested in hearing from Salinas residents or those who work there or spend time there,” the land trust’s Rachel Saunders said.

After considering an initial list of names suggested by community members, a committee narrowed the field to three names, including the obvious one, Carr Lake Park. The others are Ensen Park and Nikkei Park — both of which honor local cultural groups with historic ties to the areas. The voting will select the winner from among the three.

A former wetland located at 618 Sherwood Drive in the heart of Salinas, 480-acre Carr Lake was originally named for Jesse D. Carr, an early state leader, postal agent and entrepreneur who moved to Salinas in 1859 and once owned the low-lying land that would become a park.

Ensen Park would honor the region’s Native American heritage. “Ensen” is a word that indigenous people used to describe “home of the blackberries.”

Three candidates

Quoting a contemporary author, Carol McKibben, the land trust notes that the Tennessee-born Carr “benefited from a world that profited from enslavement” before he arrived in Salinas just two years before the Civil War, and “engaged in multiple new businesses along the way, including owning and trading in human beings.”

Nikkei Park would recognize “the Japanese-Americans who farmed in the Salinas Valley” and the “Japanese-Americans

who endured internment camps during World War II.” “Nikkei” refers to Japanese immigrants.

The contest also offers the option of voting for a write-in candidate.

The park will occupy about 6 acres, with the rest of the land designated as open space. When completed, the park will have walking paths, a playground, picnic tables, benches, a basketball court, restrooms and an area for dogs. Construction is expected to start this spring.

The land trust bought the land for the park from the Ikeda family in 2015 for just under \$4 million. Most of the money came from taxpayers through the California Coastal Conservancy and from private donors, including the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

RACETRACK

From previous page

“Friends of Laguna Seca will provide the leadership and business resources to operate, maintain and revitalize the Laguna Seca Recreational Area for the next 50-plus years,” the nonprofit added.

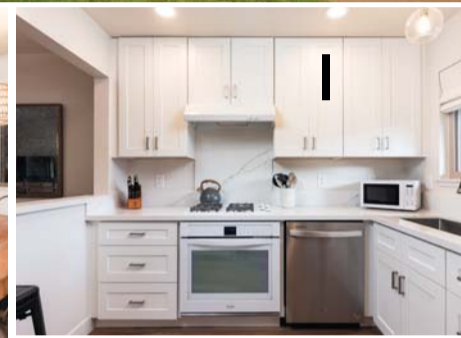
The group said it’s bound in its concession agreement to the “historical usage of the Laguna Seca Recreational Area and the existing policies limiting attendance and sound at the park,” and is also required to conduct a sound study and invest in noise mitigation.

A&D Narigi Consulting manages the track.

The Highway 68 Coalition’s lawsuit argues that race events and rentals at Laguna Seca from 2021 to 2023 have increased substantially compared to “similar operations” from 1974 to 2021, and their impacts, including noise in excess of 100 decibels, affect the community.

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Painting: Between Worlds - Monica Johnson

NANTZ

From page 1A

field competes on Sunday. The pro roster exceeds that of prior tournaments, including the last U.S. Open in Pebble Beach in 2019, Nantz said. According to this year's Official World Golf Rankings, half the pros set to compete in the pro-am are in the top 50.

"There's a lot to say for the fact we'll have the greatest players in the world on arguably the best course in the world," he said. "I'm very excited about it."

While some might bemoan the loss of celebrity antics and the off-course activities and parties, Nantz said the changes will help ensure the tournament's future. In recent years, the pro field had dwindled due to increased competition from the LIV Tour, concerns about the weather, the slow pace of play that frequently had rounds running six hours, and three days of pro-am competition.

"We didn't have the strongest professional field. It had become problematic, and we weren't getting the best pros, for whatever reason," Nantz said. "And now it becomes a tournament about the best players in the world. It's a different personality than what we had in the past."

'High stakes sport'

Nantz acknowledged the importance of what Bing Crosby created when he launched his charitable Clambake with industry friends to raise money for charity in Rancho Santa Fe in 1937 and was convinced to reinvent it in Pebble Beach in 1947 following a hiatus during World War II.

"The revelry of what Bing started with his Clambake and bringing together the mix of the entertainment world, sports figures and pro golfers all getting together laughing and celebrating and partying and playing golf — it's not going to be that anymore," Nantz observed. "Professional golf has changed — it's a high stakes sport."

The AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am's

earning the vaunted Signature Event label "is a status that every PGA Event strives to achieve," he added.

He admitted the shift, which he first heard about last spring and which was announced in the fall, took some getting used to. But now, Nantz said he can't wait to see Scheffler, McIlroy and other stars of the sport compete for a vastly larger purse. The pot is growing from \$9 million last year to \$20 million this year, a jump funded by title sponsor AT&T, with \$3.6 million for the winner.

Steve John, CEO of the Monterey Peninsula Foundation, which organizes the pro-am and funnels its considerable income to local nonprofits, said ticket sales are reflecting fans' enthusiasm for the new format and pro lineup.

"We had a good bump when we announced the strength of the field last week," he said Saturday. "Golf fans are in for a massive treat."

In response to demand, John said Pebble Beach this year will have double the usual number of grandstands "and plenty of spirits in the triangle" — the large bluff bordered by Holes 6, 8 and 14 that's the site of expansive hospitality facilities.

Not semi-retired

Nantz, who has a home in Pebble Beach that he enjoyed full-time for a decade before relocating to Nashville, Tenn., to make his travel logistics easier, made headlines when CBS announced early last year that he was retiring from calling college basketball's Final Four.

"I made the right decision to let go of one of my three events," said Nantz, 64, who also regularly sportscasts the Super

Bowl and The Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., in April. "It was time."

He was amused to observe that many people took that decision as an indicator that he is "semi-retired."

"CBS created so much fanfare around my stepping down," from the Final Four,




PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

CBS commentator Jim Nantz and colleagues broadcasting from their booth near the 18th Green during a prior AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.


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he said. "It's a lighter schedule, but it's still 42 weeks a year."

Nantz noted that many don't know about the other work he does beyond appearing in national televised sports coverage. This week, for instance, he was shooting the March Madness ads for Capital One that he's done for years with Spike Lee, Charles Barkley and other stars. With the Kansas City Chiefs and the Buffalo Bills winning their respective games this week, the two teams will face off Jan. 21, which means Nantz will be back in Buffalo.

He'll be at the large PGA show in Orlando, Fla., for speaking engagements and appearances with Titleist three days later, then fly home to Pebble Beach for the AT&T, and then head to Las Vegas for the Feb. 11 Super Bowl.

"It's not like you're going home to play golf," he said.



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SERGEANT

From page 1A

lawsuit alleges.

The issue, Hoskins said, involved a misunderstanding about the amount of permitted employee overtime hours. Hoskins and other sheriff's office investigators and supervisors were mistakenly adding more overtime on their timecards than permitted. Once alerted to the oversight, Hoskins said he immediately changed the practice and instructed his detectives to do the same.

'Singled out'

But in April 2022, an internal affairs investigation was launched into the overtime issue, and Hoskins and several other employees were questioned. While the inquiry was underway, Nieto asked Hoskins for his endorsement as part of a new employees' union he helped form and his personal endorsement. Hoskins refused, though, and he said Nieto was "dissatisfied and displeased" with his decision.

In October 2022, a "substantially similar" anonymous letter was given to county supervisors. That same month, one of Nieto's campaign representatives again asked Hoskins if he was ready to endorse her for county sheriff. He declined.

The next day, Hoskins said he was placed on administrative leave and was served with a disciplinary action notice. In addition, Chief Deputy James Bass "proposed to terminate his employment."

No other sheriff's office employees were disciplined, even though Hoskins said they also admitted to the "same alleged conduct," the complaint says, adding that he believed he was being singled out.

His lawsuit adds that the Monterey County Sheriff's Office "had a policy and custom of retaliating against deputies who did not politically support the sheriff, including the presumptive incoming sheriff."

When Hoskins said he raised concerns about the sexual

harassment of "multiple female employees in the department by then-Undersheriff John Mineau," and the sheriff's office's alleged failure to take action to protect others, Bass told him he shouldn't be talking about the issue.

'False and pretextual'

After Nieto won the Nov. 8, 2022, election and took office the next month, Hoskins claims that she "told others at the Monterey County Sheriff's Office" that he "would be fired." He was fired March 29, 2023.

The "defendants retaliated" against Hoskins "by taking adverse employment actions, including by engaging in an internal affairs investigation, placing Hoskins on administrative leave and terminating his employment," according to the civil complaint filed for Hoskins by Los Angeles law firm Greenberg Gross.

"Nieto's misconduct was committed intentionally, in a malicious, fraudulent, despicable and/or oppressive manner," according to Hoskins' 20-page civil complaint filed

Jan. 12 in Monterey County Superior Court.

The complaint seeks punitive damages "to punish Nieto, and to make an example of and deter her from engaging in such conduct in the future."

Hoskins calls the sheriff's office's reason for putting him on leave and firing him "false and pretextual," and said the agency did not consider disciplining him over the timecard issue.

He alleges discrimination, harassment, violation of state labor laws and retaliation, and failure to prevent those things.

Hoskins "continues to suffer humiliation, emotional distress and physical and mental anguish," according to the complaint, which seeks an unspecified amount in monetary damages.

Susan Blitch, acting county counsel for Monterey County, said her office has been served with the complaint but that the county doesn't comment on active litigation. A message to Nieto went unanswered.




Tina Nieto



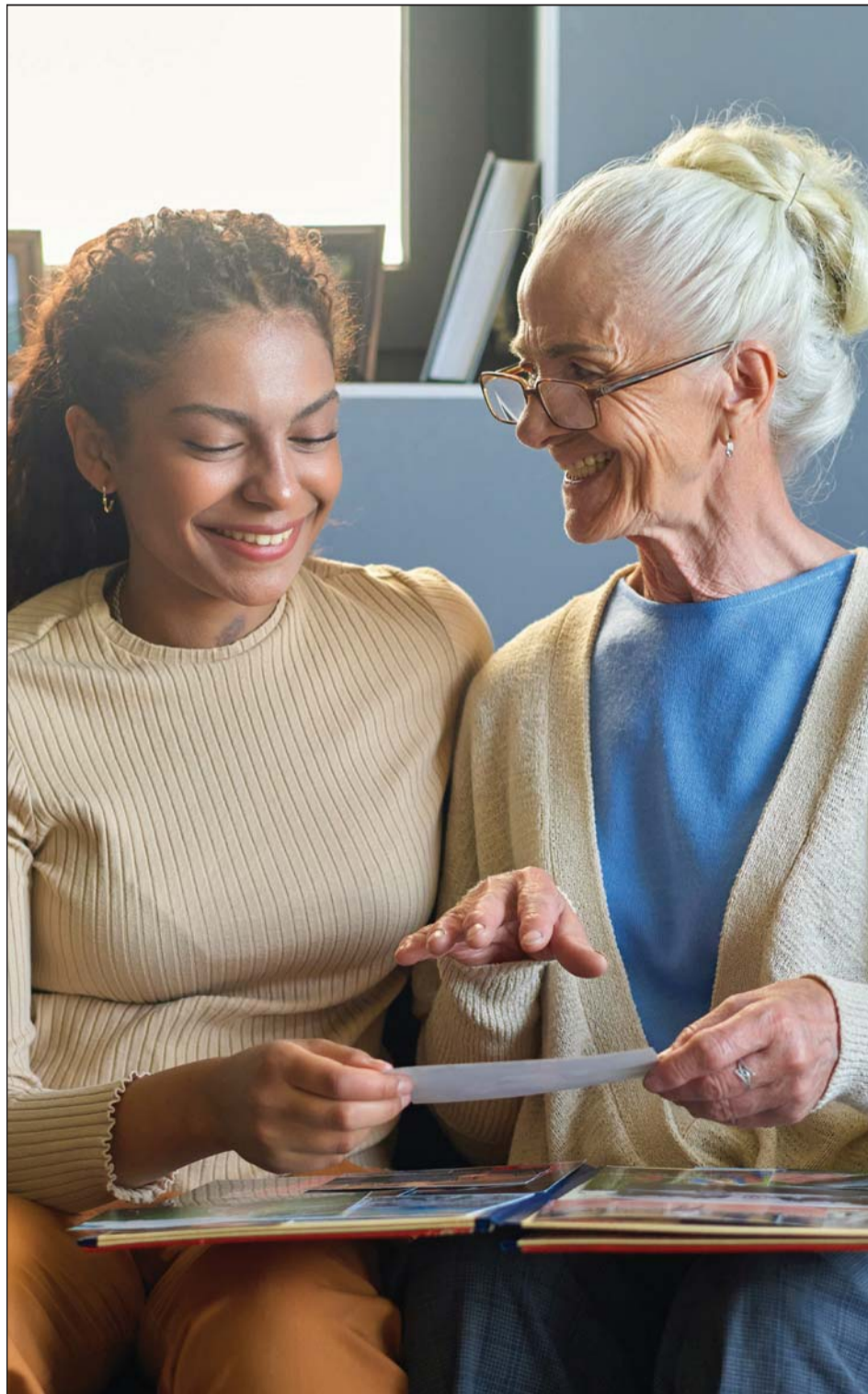
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DEI TASK FORCE PICK SAYS HE'LL BE A VOICE FOR THE MARGINALIZED

By KELLY NIX

THE PACIFIC Grove City Council approved the mayor's appointments to various boards, committees and commissions Wednesday night. Not surprisingly, controversy swirled around the city's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force.

The city council unanimously confirmed Mayor Bill Peake's 17 picks for the library board, planning commission, economic development commission, traffic safety commission, architectural review board, administrative enforcement hearing officer panel, and historic resources committee. But the DEI task force was front and center of the discussion at the meeting.

Peake appointed Bruce Doneux, a 76-year-old massage therapist who's lived in Pacific Grove for four decades, to the task force, and Kim Bui, the DEI's current chair.

'Voice of support'

Doneux, a White man, explained in his application that the task force helps "promote a welcoming atmosphere for all residents and visitors." He introduced himself to the city council and said a few words at Wednesday's meeting.

"I was thinking today, that the reason I want to be on this committee is because I want to use my voice to support the voices

of people who have been marginalized," Doneux said.

At a PGUSD board meeting last October, Doneux told trustees that racial bias in Pacific Grove should be addressed by White people "getting together and figuring out why we're so screwed up," before he promoted a local group called Whites for Racial Equity, an outfit he's been involved with.

The five-member DEI task force has had poor member attendance, causing at least two monthly meetings to be canceled last year. Also in 2023, the then-vice chair suggested that a citizen's innocuous comment on a social media site was comparable to those of Nazi Germany's chief propagandist, who advocated for the extermination of the Jewish people.

'Blaming, shaming'

Task force critic Mike Gibbs and others have questioned what the group has accomplished since its formation in spring 2021. Gibbs told the council Wednesday that the task force's existence has amounted to three years of "naming, blaming and shaming."

"It's time to disband the DEI task force," he said. "It's done enough damage."

Proponent Fred Jealous called DEI a

See DEI page 19A

Ex-P.G. city manager looks to Ojai

By KELLY NIX

THE CITY of Ojai is courting Pacific Grove former city manager Ben Harvey in hopes he'll take on the same job in that Southern California coastal city, according to a recent news report.

Harvey left his Pacific Grove gig last July as part of a "separation agreement" with Pacific Grove, which included him getting more than \$400,000 in exchange for not filing suit against the city. The P.G. City Council approved the arrangement.

'Discord'

The Ojai Valley News reported last weekend that Harvey has been tapped as the top pick for city manager of Ojai, which is about 200 miles from Pacific Grove.

"We have not yet had an acceptance" from Harvey, the newspaper reported city attorney Matthew Summers as having said at a special meeting Jan. 13 to discuss a "public employee appointment."

If hired, Harvey would replace interim Ojai city manager Mark Scott, who was in the job for only four months before suddenly resigning last November, pointing to what he called "discord" in the Ventura County town of fewer than 8,000 residents.

An Ojai resident weighed in on the prospect of a new city manager at last weekend's meeting, in which Harvey reportedly attended.

"Everybody in town wants the new city manager to do well — to do better than well, not just good enough" Larry Steingold said.

The Ojai City Council is set to make its decision on a city manager at a Jan. 23 meeting.

A spokesman for Monterey Peninsula utility California American Water told The Pine Cone earlier this month that the company was considering Harvey as a temporary consultant.



Ben Harvey

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




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Veterinarian, 83, dies — founded Crossroads pet hospital in 1969

By CHRIS COUNTS

A VETERINARIAN who founded the Animal Hospital at the Crossroads in 1969 — and who tended to the medical needs of countless pets for more than five decades — Dr. George Bishop died Jan. 7 at 83. Bishop's passing came as a surprise to many. He had tended to patients just days before.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, Bishop grew up on a farm near the small town of Milford Center. It was there that he developed his love of animals. He entered Holstein cows and Yorkshire pigs in livestock contests.

"He was a state winner," recalled his sister, Janet Kiser. "His life was full of animals."

Before opening the animal hospital at the mouth of Carmel Valley, Bishop earned a veterinary degree

from Ohio State University in 1965 and served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps at the Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colo., during the Vietnam War.

One of his customers, Margaret Hurley, told The Pine Cone that Bishop had operated on her Westie's paw just two days before his passing. "He was a pillar of the community and worked until his last day on earth," Hurley said.

The Animal Hospital at the Crossroads won Golden Pine Cones in 2009 for Best Veterinarian and 2014 for Best Pet Boarding.

The hospital was featured in The Pine Cone in 1998 when Bishop helped save a Norfolk terrier puppy that had eaten a poisonous mushroom, and in 2008 when he treated

a greyhound that was badly hurt when it struck a submerged rock at Carmel Beach.

'A thoughtful and quiet leader'

Besides the impact he made locally on the lives of so many pets, Bishop was

a longtime board member for the American Veterinary Medicine Association. The group's current president, Rena Carlson, called the late veterinarian "a thoughtful

See VETERINARIAN page 19A



Dr. George Bishop

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GAVEL

From page 4A

bloody scissors and a bloody cellphone cord in Zaragoza's room. Ruiz was still breathing when officers arrived. AMR transported her to Natividad Medical Center where she succumbed to her injuries. Ruiz sustained four stab wounds to her neck and had visible ligation marks around her neck consistent with being strangled. Ruiz's cause of death was a stab wound to the neck with strangulation as a significant condition.

During Zaragoza's in-custody Miranda interview with Salinas Police detectives, he admitted to strangling Ruiz with a cellphone cord and stabbing her with a pair of scissors in the neck four times because she had laughed at him that morning during a fight.

The next court date is Feb. 6, 2024, for a setting of a sentencing hearing.

Dec. 15 — Rosie Kathleen Vaoifi, 36, a resident of Marina, was found guilty by a Monterey County jury of one count of corpo-

ral injury to a child and one count of criminal threats. Criminal threats is a serious felony and is considered a strike under California's three strikes law. The Hon. Mark E. Hood presided over the trial.

On April 2, 2022, Marina Police Department received a phone call from John Doe's father, who reported that Vaoifi was threatening to kill Doe and that he was afraid for Doe's life. He requested Marina Police Department check on Doe. When Marina Police officers contacted Vaoifi, she had Doe on her back. The officers immediately noticed that Doe had numerous bruises to his face and other areas of his body. Doe was transported to the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. The doctor noticed that Doe had bruises all over his face, arms and back and determined these injuries were not consistent with accidental trauma and were highly concerning for child abuse.

Vaoifi faces a maximum of six years and eight months in prison. The case was investigated by Officer Francisco Tapia and others from the Marina Police Department as well as district attorney investigators Rebecca Ayala and Pablo Andrade.

MARJORIE ANN COLEMAN

Marjorie Ann Coleman, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother sister, aunt and friend passed away at Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula on November 26, 2023.

Marjorie "Margie" was born in Sioux City, Iowa, on October 14, 1937, the oldest of three children. She was part of a large extended family that took her in; along with her mother and younger sister, Mary after their father was captured in the Pacific Theater during WWII. Five years later, younger brother Tom was born, and the family relocated to Los Angeles. There Margie attended St. John the Evangelist grammar school and St. Mary's Academy High School. St. Mary's provided her a wonderful education including the study of music where she developed a lifelong passion for jazz. After graduation she worked for Hughes Aircraft and on her 18th birthday she met Mahlon Coleman. They married in 1958 and started a family thereafter. Mahlon was the love of her life and they were married for 65 years until her recent passing.

Margie and Mahlon first visited the Monterey Peninsula in the 1960s. Upon her retirement from Cal Tech/Jet Propulsion Lab in Southern California, where she also took advantage of a degree program earning an AA in accounting, she and Mahlon moved from La Cañada Flintridge and enjoyed a wonderful life in Pebble Beach. Margie was a lifelong Catholic and was a member of the Carmel Mission Parish. She was in the original class of docents from 1984 at the Monterey Bay Aquarium until her retirement. Her volunteer hours were counted in years, not months.

Margie was loving and faithful. She valued family and friends deeply. She relished time with her nine grandchildren and six-soon-to-be-seven great-grandchildren. Nothing was better than a smile or hug from one of them. She was smart, loved learning and loved to laugh. She was funny and insightful, forgiving and optimistic. As one of her recent cousins stated, "She always made you feel special." Margie will be deeply missed by her family and dear friends.

Her life was a blessing on her entire family. The love she showed to us will continue to be passed onto future generations. Margie is survived by Mahlon; and her children, Mary, Michael, Virginia, Jean and their families. She has lifelong friends who mourn her passing.

Funeral Mass will be held at the Carmel Mission January 25, 2024 at noon. In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made to St Mary's Academy at www.smabelles.org/donate under the Annual Giving Fund. Please indicate that your gift is in memory of Marjorie Betz Coleman Class of 1955 in the Donation Dedication Section of the form. These funds will be used to help establish a scholarship and support the instrumental music program at St. Mary's Academy.



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Some Carmel Unified School Board members are not qualified to hire another superintendent and need to resign immediately.

Under their leadership the district has been subject to financial mismanagement, Brown Act violations, controversial payouts, mishandling of sexual harassment cases, lack of transparency, dwindling academic test scores, extracurricular, academic, & student services cuts to name a few.

The CUSD Board of Education has been sued for violating the Ralph M. Brown Act and the illegal approval of the settlement with former superintendent, Ted Knight. The Davi lawsuit states: Petitioner is informed and believes that on August 11, 2023, CUSD board members Sara Hinds, Karl Pallastrini, and Jason Remyse voted and approved the illegal separation agreement and payment to superintendent when they could not have reasonably believed the expenditure was authorized, or that it would benefit the education of students in the district.

The CUSD Board of Education voted in a 3 to 2 vote to pay former Superintendent Ted Knight a \$770,000 separation agreement. Board members Sara Hinds, Karl Pallastrini, and Jason Remyse are being held personally responsible to pay back the district \$524,480 the amount that they are accused of illegally paying out above and beyond the amount he was legally entitled to according to his contract and state of California.

The board needs to answer the following questions:

Why is the school board facing numerous lawsuits, including 6 sexual harassment cases? Currently, there are 3 sexual harassment lawsuits filed against CUSD and 3 pending.

Why did the board spend over \$50,000 investigating Ted Knight, only to find NO wrongdoing, yet still terminate his contract early? Similarly, investigations into former high school principal John Lyons led to no wrongdoing, but he was dismissed without justification.

Why did the school board pay over \$200,000 to two custodial staff involved in sexual harassment? Why did the school board REWARD the perpetrators of the crimes and FIRE OR TRANSFER THE VICTIMS of the harassment?

Why was previous Superintendent Dr Barb Dill-Varga released from her contract in 2020, receiving \$312,084 with no explanation to her or the community?

Why is the school board unwilling to follow and continually violates California Brown Act requirements allowing for public input at their board meetings when action items are discussed?

Why are some members of the school board refusing to conduct business in public and continually discussing important matters in closed session and refusing to allow the public to witness what they are doing? The board is continually trying to cover up their mistakes and wrongful actions.

How can the school board explain in the recent survey of 364 respondents of teachers, staff, students, district administrators, parents and the public at large that only 7% and only 1 of 8 school administrators felt the district was headed in the right direction. The stakeholders have spoken and they don't think this board is heading CUSD in the right direction.

Board members Hinds, Pallastrini, and Remyse have been fiscally negligent and improperly wasted and paid out more than \$1,000,000 of district funds to lawyers, investigators, and "hush money," paying people off to be quiet and go away rather than spend that money for our children's education, which is how it is supposed to be spent.

Hinds, Pallastrini, and Remyse need to resign or face a recall election for financial mismanagement and lack of transparency.

Our community deserves NEW board members who prioritize students, teachers, and are fiscally responsible with taxpayers money.

Students, teachers, staff, parents, and taxpayers are urged to attend the next Board of Education meeting on **Wednesday, January 24th, at 5:30 PM in the Carmel Middle School Library**. Join to demand answers to these questions and insist that a new school board be the one to appoint the next superintendent.

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CAMERAS

From page 1A

implementation of an automated license-plate-reading program, referred to as ALPR, that would utilize fixed and mobile cameras. The devices capture images of vehicles and their license plates and can automatically run the numbers through crime databases to see if the owner is wanted. The footage can also help identify suspects based on when and where they were in the city at the time of a crime.

While Monterey officials have not said what vendor they'll use, Carmel, Pacific Grove and Seaside all use the Flock system.

Last week, Seaside P.D. arrested two accused armed robbers after reviewing footage from the city's cameras, according to police.

On Dec. 22, 2023, at around 1:20 p.m., four masked men robbed a young man at gunpoint while he was walking on San Pablo Avenue. With diligent work by officers and detectives, Seaside P.D. announced, "we were able to identify the suspect car through our Flock License Plate Reader system," and on Jan. 11,

officers tracked down 20-year-old Marcos Sanchez-Canseco and his 15-year-old brother at their home on Trinity Avenue.

"Additional searches are still in progress to locate the firearms, but a ski mask and the victim's necklace have already been discovered," Seaside P.D. said.

Rapist caught

Last year, Pacific Grove P.D. reported its Flock cameras, which now number 10, were instrumental in investigating what officers described as an attempted homicide near Lovers Point in late November. The footage helped police identify vehicles involved in the case, though the two women PGPD ended up arresting were later released without any criminal charges filed against them.

While the case involved the license plate camera system Carmel used prior to installing Flock, the city's traffic cameras were key in identifying the man who pistol-whipped and raped an older woman in the driveway of her vacation home near Carmel Beach in May 2020. Salinas resident Isaac Garcia eventually pleaded guilty and was sentenced in June 2021 to 25 years

Continues next page

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SETH ADAM GOLDBERG

1962-2023

Seth Goldberg passed away on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, surrounded by his family in Carmel Valley, CA, after a bravely fought battle with a tough cancer. He held onto every ounce of hope until he couldn't any more.



Seth was born in Los Angeles in June of 1962, and was given the Hebrew name of Beryl. According to the Torah, Beryl means "The Bear" — the translation signifies great strength and power.

Growing up in Orange County, he loved being near Newport Beach and by middle-school age was riding his bike to the beach to surf, which would become his life-long passion.

After graduation from high school in 1980, he soon went to work building Carl's Jr. restaurants, which later evolved into his life's work building and remodeling tract and custom homes. Seth turned his career into an art, advising, creating, comforting and bringing joy to homeowners no matter what the job entailed. He brought honesty, skill and artistry to every job.

Seth and his beloved wife Teresa met in 1982 and their relationship grew from their mutual love of the beach, camping, adventures, nature and, of course, infamous surfing trips.

Seth and Teresa married in 1990 and had three beautiful children, Leah, Kelly and Casey Jean. The family moved to Carmel Valley in 1996 for a better quality of life. They soon became integral parts of the special Carmel Valley fabric of neighbors, volunteers and community. Seth joined the Carmel Valley Fire Department, serving as a Valley Volunteer for 16 years. Additionally, he volunteered for the Carmel

Valley Community Youth Center and spearheaded the patio project by gathering friends to volunteer their time and equipment. Seth was an integral part of helping with the Carmel Surf-a-Bout, making sure the stage and viewing deck was built with care and skill. He was selfless and he loved giving to his community.

As a father, Seth was very involved in all of his kid's activities and always showed up for every game, concert, or dance show. He taught all three the skill of surfing, the value of being outdoors, and the excitement of adventure. Seth instilled in them his craftsmanship, skill in woodworking and ultimately his good nature, sense of humor and all-around care for others and the environment.

Many looked up to Seth as a mentor, but his advice to young adults speaks to his true character, "Help the environment, other people, or animals. Do what brings you joy and satisfaction at the end of the day. Be proud of who you are and what you can do to help others."

Seth was a gentle, kind and loving soul. He saw the good in everyone and always saw the positive in any situation. He had a smile that revealed his loving heart. He was a soft-spoken man; many admired his calm demeanor. He had a great wit and also gave out funny nicknames. He loved his family (which includes his dogs), surfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, concerts, woodworking, bacon, hot sauce, and Jim Gaffigan. His favorite song was "Angel from Montgomery" so when you hear it, think of Seth.

Beloved son, brother, father, husband, uncle and friend to many. He was a gift to us all and will be missed immensely. Everything he loved, he loved deeply.

Seth is survived by his wife of 38 years and best friend, Teresa; also his three children, Leah, Kelly and Casey. He is survived by his mother, Janet; father, David; brothers, Bob, Mike and Andy; and many nieces and nephews, and his "chosen kids."

The family is forever grateful for all the loving care provided by the staff at CHOMP. Specifically the surgeon Dr. Halamandaris, Dr. Rubin, ICU, IRU, ER, Hospice Care of the Central Coast, Radiation Oncology, the many "wings" he stayed in but mostly Terrace West, and even the front desk and valet. Thank you. Seth had an amazing team of doctors and nurses who cared for him, me and the kids equally, as if we were family.

A celebration of life will be held on February 17th, 2024, at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley Village, starting at noon.

If you would like to donate please consider the Carmel Surfabout non-profit organization at www.carmelsurfabout.com. Your donation will support a local surf contest held every June at Carmel Beach that is in its 41st year ... an event Seth loved so much!



Sharen Marie Stoner

Sharen Marie Stoner, born July 1, 1953, died Dec. 25, 2023, at the age of 70. She resided in Pacific Grove for 33 years.

Sharen and her twin sister, Karen, were born and raised in Long Beach, California. Sharen married Eric Holk in 1972 and they then lived in Hollywood for five years. She graduated from Pepperdine University with a B.A. in 1974. She accepted a job offer from Merrill Lynch in Carmel and moved to Monterey in January of 1978 to become the first woman stockbroker on the Monterey Peninsula. She gave birth to Jonathan in 1980 and James in 1982 and loved being mom to her beloved sons. She went on her own as an independent financial planner/investment advisor and later also assisted her husband in the management of his law office. She and Eric became members at Carmel Presbyterian Church in 1978 and loved the fellowship and Jesus-centered teaching. She loved cooking and reading and offering her opinions. Sharen's book group friends were wonderfully supportive through her illness, as were her extended family and friends from church and Pepperdine.

Sharen is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, Eric Holk; her dearly loved sons, Jonathan and James; daughters-in-law, Spirit and Daniela; grandsons, Marcus and Noah (who brought her great joy in her final years!); dear sister, Karen Rudolph; nieces and nephews; lifelong best friend, Vickie Angus Tremper, and many more dear friends.

A memorial service for Sharen is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at Carmel Presbyterian Church, corner of Ocean and Junipero in Carmel.

To place an obituary for your loved one, contact anne@carmelpinecone.com or (831) 274-8654

From previous page

to life in state prison. Now 24, he is serving his sentence at the California Correctional Institution in Tehachapi.

Privacy worries

In Carmel last year, the Flock rollout was postponed when some city council members and residents asked for more information and expressed concerns about privacy.

And at last week's Carmel City Council meeting, former city councilman Gerard Rose, an attorney, raised the issue again.

"People have been asking me to make some comments about privacy and right to privacy," he said at the Jan. 9 meeting. The California Constitution includes a provision enacted a half-century ago to protecting people's privacy, making California the first state in the nation to do so, according to Rose.

"It's a serious provision — it's still enforced by the state," he said. "There are a lot of court decisions that talk about what cities can and cannot do to protect privacy."

Rose requested that Police Chief Paul Tomasi or city administrator Chip Rerig provide an update on the effectiveness of the Flock system, what kind of results it's had and whether anyone has complained about encroachment on their privacy.

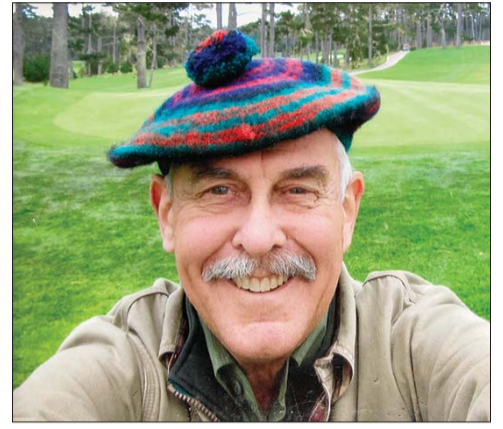
But Monterey P.D. reports on its webpage dedicated to the project (haveyoursaymonterey.org/alpr) that vendors have addressed privacy concerns by creating systems that identify license plates and vehicles and their makes and models, but not their occupants.

"The ALPR system would not capture personally identifiable information; it would only capture the images and license plates already visible in public," the department says.

The town hall meetings will include a presentation by MPD and will then open for questions, discussion, comments and concerns. To participate via Zoom, go to monterey-org.zoomgov.com/j/1606041265.

ROD STOFLE

Rod Stofle passed away peacefully in November 2023. He was a devoted husband, loving father, brother, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend. Rod was born in North Hollywood, California to Sterling Leroy and Grace Evelyn Stofle. He grew up in North Hollywood and upon graduating from high school, he attended Stanford University where he majored and received his degree in political science. At Stanford he met the love of his life, Patricia Stofle. Together they graduated from Stanford in June of 1956, and were married the day after graduation in the Stanford Memorial Church.



After returning from their honeymoon in Hawaii, Rod entered into the U.S. Air Force as a second lieutenant. After his four years of service in the USAF, Rod and Patricia settled in Santa Clara, California. They had three children and raised them in Portola Valley, California. Rod was employed in San Francisco in human resources at States Steamship Company and Marcona Shipping Company. Upon retirement from their formal careers, Rod and Patricia fulfilled a life-long dream and purchased a Bed and Breakfast in Mendocino, California. They owned and managed the inn for eight years. From Mendocino they retired and settled in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. Rod was a founding member of Spyglass Golf Course and served as a marshal at the Bing Crosby /AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am Golf Tournament for 25 years. With his wife Patricia, they became docents at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and were volunteers for 25 years. Together they traveled around the world visiting all seven continents to see a wide range of animal species. Rod loved golf and football. Besides Rod's passion for playing golf, he and Patricia attended every home Stanford football game and had 49er season tickets. They were faithful Stanford and 49er fans and loved to tailgate with their friends.

Rod is survived by his children, Mark (Michelle) Stofle; daughter, Tracy Loum, and daughter Tricia (Glenn) Bland; grandchildren, Tyler (Brie) Simpson, Lauren (Johnny) Rojas, Erika (Robert) Hall, Sarah (Phillip) Giugliano, and Colley Loum; great-grandchildren, Eloise Hall, Henry Hall, Beatrice Barbuto, Bruce Rojas, Flynn Rojas, Birk Giugliano, Taytum Simpson, Abner Giugliano and Asher Simpson.

Services will begin at 11 a.m. Jan. 27th, at the Church in the Forest, on the Stevenson School Campus, in Pebble Beach. A reception will follow at noon. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Hoffmann Hospice at www.hoffmannhospice.org, or to the Monterey Bay Aquarium at www.montereybayaquarium.org.

Robert L. Jaques

December 28, 2023
Monterey



Robert Louis Jaques, he liked the nickname "Roberto," came into this world on June 19, 1978. His birth was a difficult one, and his chances of surviving were very low. But Robert was a strong boy and with much help from the doctors at the Stanford Neonatal Intensive Care Center he was able to overcome the adversities and grew into the wonderful person that he was.

Robert was a dear, dear person ... very loving and caring, respectful, helping others, courteous ... all of the things that a parent would hope for in their son. He brought incredible joy and happiness to his parents, Robert S. Jaques and Helen Jaye, and was loved by everyone who knew him. He had an inquisitive mind and was interested in a wide variety of things, always asking questions to learn more about them. Because of his father's work as an engineer in the field of water treatment and recycling, he had an especially strong interest in construction projects and treatment facilities. His father took him on numerous trips to see and learn about these.

One trip was at the early age of 2, in a backpack, at midnight on the beach in Seaside to inspect a treatment plant ocean outfall that was being repaired by marine divers. And another during construction of the Regional Treatment Plant in which a crane operator asked him if he'd like to come up into the cab with him and help lift a huge piece of equipment. He did, while his father was talking with the project superintendent and unaware of his son's adventure.

Robert loved to travel and took many, many trips with his parents including to Seattle, Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C., New Orleans, Halifax and Boston. On one of the trips to Chicago he got to meet the cast members of "Chicago Fire" — one of his favorite TV shows. He went with his parents to France at the age of 3, and again with his father as an adult. With his mother he went on many road trips throughout the western United States.

Robert worked for a number of years for Hope Services in Monterey on a janitorial crew at the Naval Postgraduate School. Prior to that he worked as an office assistant, and later did computer e-waste dismantling.

Robert had a great love for movies and music and had an extensive collection of CDs and DVDs. His middle name was in memory of Louis Armstrong, whose home he visited with his father in Queens, New York.

Robert was one of the regulars at Red's Doughnuts in downtown Monterey, often joining his father there for coffee, sometimes his favorite maple doughnut with peanuts, and the spirited conversations in what is like the "Cheers" of doughnut shops. He was pictured in the SFGATE newspaper's August 23, 2022 edition in an article about Red's. He also frequented Rosine's on Alvarado and the Fisherman's Grotto on the wharf.

Robert suddenly and unexpectedly passed away at the UCSF Medical Center just before he was scheduled to be discharged following brain surgery in December. His mother and father were with him at his bedside. In spite of all of the medical adversities he faced in his life, he was always upbeat and positive and served as an inspiration to many people.

He is survived by his brother, Evan; his father's partner, Lynne Semeria; his mother's husband, Ron Jaye; his uncles, Bill Davies, Xavier Alvarez and Don Jaques; his aunts, Anne Kelly and Barbra Alvarez; and his cousins, David, Alex, Andie, Kevin, Donald, Tracy and Suzanne.

His parents will hold a gathering to honor Robert at a future date.



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Service Directory continues on next page

Police Log: Page 1, Dec. 17

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VETERINARIAN

From page 13A

and quiet leader” and “a true example of a servant leader.”

Bishop was also a past president and board member for the California Veterinary Medicine Association. Its executive director, Dan Baxter, called him “a pillar in the veterinary association community, having served in just about every imaginable position on the local, state and national level.”

“He was a tireless advocate for the

veterinary profession, as well as a much-beloved clinician at his longtime practice in Carmel, where he worked right up until the end,” Baxter added. “Dr. Bishop leaves a void that will be difficult to fill, and he will be missed dearly by all who knew him.”

Awards and praise

Awards Bishop earned during his career include the American Animal Hospital Association’s Outstanding Practitioner Award and the California Veterinary Medical Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

A number of Bishop’s friends and colleagues shared their memories of Bishop at

dignitymemorial.com, including Annette Richmond.

“Dr. Bishop was my veterinarian when I was just 13 years old and he cared for my cat,” Richmond wrote.

“Little did I know I would follow in his footsteps and end up at UC Davis’s veterinary school years later,” she added.

A woman who has worked with him,

Jenny Everts also expressed her sadness at the news of Bishop’s passing.

“George gave everything he had to care for his four-legged patients, and I have huge respect for that,” she said. “Dr. Bishop has more than earned his eternal peace and once again can be with all his animal friends, which I am more than certain is his idea of heaven.”

DEI

From page 12A

“charged subject,” but suggested the task force in Pacific Grove needs to continue.

“We still have not really dealt with the fact that this was a country that was set up for White men,” Jealous, who’s White, said. “We are still unwinding it, we are still resolving it.”

Former P.G. Mayor Carmelita Garcia told the council that she’s had some concerns regarding the task force, including “not really understanding what its

purpose” is.

“Perhaps with new appointments, new clarity will be brought forth to the public so that we can gain a better understanding,” Garcia said.

Councilwoman Debby Beck said she finds the DEI meetings “very divisive,” and suggested that she’s still trying to figure out its goals.

She said she would like to see more from the group, if it is to continue.

“I’ve been on the council for 12 months,” Beck said. “I don’t think anything has been brought from the DEI to council. And the only thing I’m aware of is that the Feast of Lanterns went away.”

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Padres wrestling coach welcomes a record number of newcomers

THE LAW of the Jungle applies to the world's oldest sport, but the king isn't necessarily the biggest, strongest,

about wrestling: It'll build you into a very capable person who can handle any kind of adversity as you go through life. You learn to keep going, keep moving forward," he said.

In his ninth season as head coach, Shugars continues to stack the building blocks of a strong program at Carmel High, where his varsity and JV rosters include 30 wrestlers, the largest number he's ever had.

That's exciting, and he sees talent and potential all over his wrestling room, but it's a rugged world out there.

Tough challenge in Gilroy

Friday and Saturday at Gilroy High (9 a.m. both days), the Padres will test their mettle against some of the top-ranked teams in California at the MidCals Classic, which promises to be both bruising and educational for a Carmel squad with only two seniors on its varsity roster.

"It'll be great preparation for the Central Coast Section tournament," said Shugars, who believes as many as seven of his wrestlers could be capable of reaching CCS. The regional qualifier is Feb. 10, and sectionals are Feb. 17, both at Watsonville High.

Oliver Stephens is the only CCS veteran on the Padres' roster, and the 175-pounder shares co-captain responsibilities this year with fellow senior Chase Lander, who wrestles at 157.

The only other upper-classman on this year's team is 150-pound junior Zack Lander, Chase's brother.

"Chase took fifth place at our first tournament of the year, the Bert Mar Invitational (Dec. 16 at Christopher High) and also should have placed at the really tough Aptos tournament (the Pat Lovell Memorial on Dec. 27), but he got sick and missed the second day," Shugars said. "Just making it to the second day of that



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

The Padres' highest placer at Christopher's Bert Mar tournament was junior Zack Lander, who took third at 150 pounds.

tournament was big, and he really should have medaled."

Little brother Zack offered a glimpse of his capabilities at the Bert Mar tourney, where he won a third-place medal.

The bulk of Carmel's lineup is sophomore-dominated, with five 10th graders holding starting slots.

Carmel's most talented wrestler, said Shugars, might be 126-pound Luke Stiver, who took first place at a talent-loaded Hillsboro tournament in his freshman season. Others who could have bright futures — if they put in the work — include Skyler Madsen (144), Aden Walker (132), Ryan Salzillo (106), and Rowan Jeffries (138).

The only varsity freshman, Alexander Noto-Hagen, occupies the heavyweight slot in the lineup, where he already has displayed some impressive dedication.

Big potential

"Alexander walked into our wrestling room weighing 300 pounds, so his first big goal was losing 15 pounds to get down to wrestling weight (285 maximum for a high school heavyweight)," Shugars said. "He's got an NCAA Division I frame — the kind college coaches love — and he'll be a force to be reckoned with in a year or two."

See **SPORTS** next page

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

meanest, fastest, smartest, loudest or the one with the most battle scars.

Dedication, determination, pride and hunger also can make the difference in wrestling, where a 106-pound kid has exactly the same opportunity to wear the crown as the one who weighs 275.

And the journey is often the most important part.

Preparation for life

"I love this sport, and I've talked to the team about my own history, when I had those king-of-the-world moments, but have also felt like I was going through some of the darkest days of my life," said Carmel High wrestling coach Russell Shugars, who was one of Maryland's top 10 wrestlers in his weight division, despite battling illness and injury as a junior and senior.

"We all have peaks and valleys, but here's the thing



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel coach Russ Shugars greeted 30 prospects this school year, a record turnout in his ninth season at Carmel High.

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SPORTS

From previous page

Carmel's spots at 190 and 215 pounds are vacant this year.

"Our story probably is that we're a young team, but we're going to be competitive," said the coach, whose hopes of competing for the Mission Division championship this season took a hit with a 42-23 road loss to Soledad — probably the league's top team.

The Soledad loss, coupled with a 59-21 victory over Rancho San Juan, gave the Padres a 1-1 record at the

beginning of the week, which included a triple-dual meet against both Monte Vista Christian and Greenfield on Wednesday (results unavailable at press time).

Home meet on Thursday

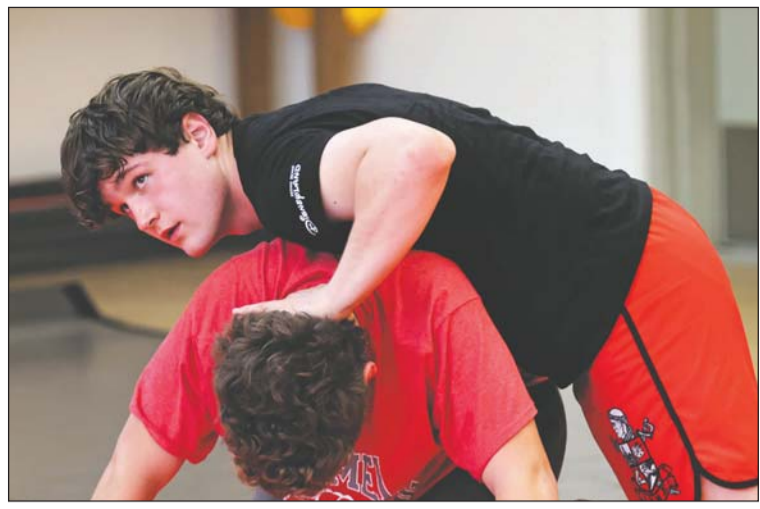
Carmel's only home meet of the year is at 4:30 p.m. Thursday against Everett Alvarez, and the Padres finish their dual-meet schedule on Jan. 30 with a match at King City.

"It's a challenging league," Shugars said. "Soledad has 19 seniors, and when you have that many on your roster, you've got to be feeling pretty good about your chances. North County has more than 50 kids. Greenfield has a big team. I think almost everybody had a good turnout."

In addition to his record roster at the high school level, Shugars reported that he had 25 wrestlers in his middle school program last spring, also an all-time high.

The best news, perhaps, is that he likes the grit and positivity he sees in his squad.

"We can only control the things we can control, which are effort and execution. If those things are good, the outcome takes care of itself,"



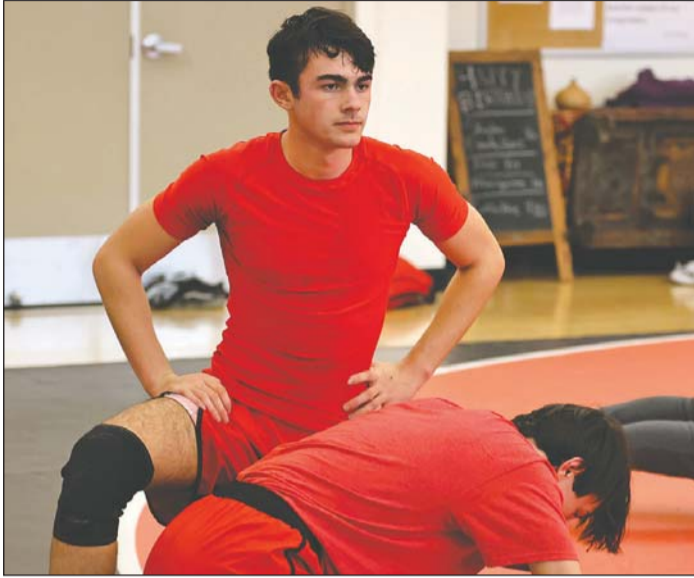
PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Senior co-captain Oliver Stephens, Carmel's 175-pounder, hopes to qualify for the Central Coast Section tournament for the second straight year.

Shugars said.

"Our attitude is good. It's a long season — you take the good with the bad, and there will always be setbacks, but it's how you handle those setbacks that matters. We don't quit, we just keep trying harder."

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



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Chase Lander, a 157-pound senior co-captain, won a fifth-place medal for the Padres at this year's Bert Mar Invitational.

"The Pine Cone. Not the only great paper. Not the only free paper. But the only great free paper."

— unsolicited reader comment

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Editorial

What can be at stake

REMEMBER WHEN the City of Irwindale tried to collect damages from the company that makes Sriracha hot sauce because its manufacturing plant smelled too spicy? Or when Milwaukee and Baltimore sued Hyundai and Kia because their cars were too easy to steal? And you may not have even heard about a Florida woman’s attempt to collect \$5 million based on a claim that Kraft Foods misled consumers about how long it takes to prepare a cup of microwaveable Velveeta macaroni and cheese. According to Reuters, the plaintiff in that case, Amanda Ramirez, objected to packaging that said her macaroni and cheese would be “ready in 3-1/2 minutes” because it did not include time to remove the lid, add water and stir in a cheese sauce pouch.

Especially in California, ridiculous lawsuits like these can present unique perils to defendants because, even if they prevail on most of the claims against them, the tiniest victory for the plaintiffs can bring an award of huge damages for legal fees.

The same things can happen if a suit is settled out of court, and an outstanding local example is the decision by the Monterey Airport District’s board of directors in August 2013 to settle a lawsuit filed by Highway 68 activists who opposed safety improvements at the airport.

Mostly because of trivial CEQA violations in the airport district’s approval of an access road near the runway, the activists won in Superior Court twice, so it was certainly understandable that the airport board decided to settle rather than appeal. Since the airport board was facing a December 2015 deadline to meet federal safety requirements, there was no time to waste. And if a trial court judge could side with the activists, an appeals court might, as well. Dumber things have happened in California.

So, with the flying public’s safety at stake, and with the outcome of any appeal uncertain, the airport agreed not to build an emergency access road to the east end of the main runway. The road was needed, but that part of the settlement isn’t what was horrible.

The thing that made us choke on our breakfast when we learned about the story was the airport board’s decision to pay up to \$1 million of the flying public’s money to the activists’ attorneys to compensate them for their work on the lawsuit. The lawyers won, so state law entitled them to ask for full compensation at sky-high rates.

Why does the law do this? Ostensibly, so private citizens can afford to sue corrupt government agencies and big nasty companies to prevent them from harming the environment. In other words, the awarding of attorneys fees to people who bring lawsuits with an “environmental” purpose is enshrined in the law supposedly to make sure David (the activists) goes after Goliath (government and corporations) with more than a slingshot.

However, what has really happened is that a few activists have used laws such as CEQA to become very powerful because of the numerous lawsuits they file and how much it costs to fight them. There is nothing helpless or weak about environmental Davids anymore — they run the show.

Furthermore, the lawsuits they bring aren’t meant to kill big, bad Goliaths. They are meant to thwart majority rule. The airport board is made up of elected officials, duly put in office by votes of the people. Therefore, their decisions are entitled to a strong presumption that they represent majority opinion. But state environmental laws make the opposite presumption and empower tiny minorities to have their way, no matter what the majority needs or would prefer.

The powerful lawyers in the airport runway case are back again, this time with a lawsuit complaining that racing at Laguna Seca is too noisy. And once again, what’s at stake isn’t just the outcome of the suit on its merits, but how much it will cost to defend it.

Should someone who buys a home near the airport be able to complain about the noise of planes landing and taking off, and the associated impacts of operating and making reasonable improvements to the airport? Obviously not, and the same thing applies at Laguna Seca. But nobody ever said the law makes sense, and even if Laguna Seca and Monterey County win this latest lawsuit, in the end, they may lose. If they do, so will the public.

BEST of BATES



“I told you we were in a recession. Look, an empty parking space on Ocean Avenue.”

Letters to the Editor

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

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

How many times?

Dear Editor,

In the Jan. 12 edition of The Pine Cone, was the story “New Year’s Eve fight ends with man’s arrest for spousal abuse.”

My question is “How many times does a man get to physically abuse a woman before he is put in jail?”

Five times and counting for this guy. It seems by the information in this story, it’s open season on women. It tells men that they can batter women with no consequences. Is this OK with everyone?

Linda Fisk, Monterey

Nevada the key

Dear Editor,

France tried a wealth tax in the last few decades and many of the affluent relocated to Brussels. The wealth tax was rescinded almost immediately.

The distance from Paris to Brussels is 164 miles. From San Francisco to Reno is

218 miles. The distance from Los Angeles to Las Vegas is 270 miles. Note to Gavin Newsom: Get ready for a property boom in Nevada!

John Goode, Carmel

How to pursue free enterprise Dear Editor,

I’ve dealt with building wealth for clients for over 20 years now and I can say your editorial last week was spot on regarding the wealth tax ... but it really doesn’t matter, because those in power do not care. The taxes that come through the door aren’t their money and they have unchecked power to spend it.

The two best ways to destroy wealth are via taxation and inflation, but the bigger threat is inflation. Price inflation affects all industries, especially energy, housing, healthcare, education and food. And like the wealth tax, inflation is almost always a result of bad monetary policy. Indeed, “The Inflation Reduction Act” may be one the worst pieces of legislation of all time in terms of the wealth it has destroyed.

I have thought long and hard about how to change the direction of California. For those who don’t want to vote with their feet, and stay in their own country, I have a very targeted idea to get things started.

My major takeaway from living in California is that fiscal conservatives need to concentrate their power on an elected office with significant regulatory power that can be, and I think the only viable play is insurance commissioner.

In my view, the only thing that can

See LETTERS page 25A

- Publisher Paul Miller (paul@carmelpinecone.com)
- Production/Sales Manager Jackie Miller (jackie@carmelpinecone.com)
- Office Manager Irma Garcia (274-8645)
- Reporters Mary Schley (274-8660), Chris Counts (274-8665)
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- Editorial Assistant Emilie Ruiz (emilie@carmelpinecone.com)
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The Carmel Pine Cone

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PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. 110 No. 3 • January 19, 2024

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Deliveries: 734 Lighthouse Ave.,
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Telephone: (831) 274-8593

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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

Her name is on playbills, but at PacRep, she also pays bills

IN JULY 2001 at Carmel's Golden Bough Theatre — nervously awaiting their opening night entrance for Anton Chekov's "The Cherry Orchard" — PacRep's Julie Hughett stood beside Obie- and Academy Award-winning actor Olympia Dukakis, who stepped out of her shoe within seconds of their approaching cue.

"She just had a panic," said Hughett. "I

Great Lives

By CARLIN JARDINE

helped her get her shoe back on, we made our entrance and everything was fine. For me, it was eye-opening to realize although she's the embodiment of the very best that theater and film have to offer, in essence she was just like us."

'A little distracted'

Hughett — founding member of Pacific Repertory Theatre — lives in Seaside.

She was born at Community Hospital of Monterey and attended Monte Vista Elementary School in Monterey. She received a scholarship to Santa Catalina school, where her love of theater began, then a scholarship to Robert Louis Stevenson school in 1976, becoming a member of its first class with girls — 300 boys and 30 girls. "My grades suffered that first year because I was a little distracted," she offered. She auditioned for a play, was cast and chose to give up Friday night cheerleading for rehearsals. Time passed, and she began thinking about what to do after graduation.

"My advisor had me apply to UCLA, but I didn't get in," she said. "I was crushed, and no one said, 'Why don't you apply to other colleges?' I kind of fell through the cracks." At 17, Hughett took a job at Monterey Savings and Loan in Carmel Valley, a job she stayed with for nine years.

"It was all about customer service back then. You knew everyone's name and you did everything you could to take care of them. We even called to tell them if their account was about to be overdrawn. I just loved every aspect of that job."

Created a job

One day in 1986, she wandered into Custom House Plaza in Monterey while a theater festival was in progress. Fairy tales were being performed, there was a full production of "The Three Musketeers," and a production of "Romeo and Juliet."

"I was blown away. I stayed all day, because I had to find out who these people were. I wanted to be a part of it," she said. So she began volunteering for the company, fitting in where she could, while a determined and energetic young guy named Stephen Moorer was busy performing, directing, hanging lights, writing

grants and trying to take care of the business side of show business. Confident of her abilities with her success at the savings and loan, she told him, "You know, I think I can help you with this."

She created her own job. It evolved into a business manager's position through the transformation of Stephen Moorer's 1986, 90-seat GroveMont Theatre on Hoffman Street in Monterey, to its 1990 move to the Washington Street, Monterey, Playhouse. And she was there when it emerged as a full-fledged 300-seat theatre facility after founder

and executive director Moorer discovered United Artists had put a for sale sign in front of the Golden Bough Playhouse on Monte Verde Street. There, the performing company found a permanent home and a new name: Pacific Repertory Theatre.

Through it all, Hughett has been charged with handling bills, money, deposits, book-keeping and payroll. "I get the mail. I'm also a producer, I help implement actors'

contracts. I'm involved with royalties and dealing with Actors Equity, as well as the agreement with the city to manage the Forest Theater and the major renovation — currently underway — the Golden Bough. I also act as Stephen's assistant." She pointed out, "In all things we do, our mutual goal is keeping this beautiful thing we've created alive and healthy."

"Oftentimes people are surprised to learn that Stephen and I were once married,"

she offered. "We care very much for each other, we work well as a team, we come together on the holidays and are very proud parents of our daughter Claire, now living in New York who is — wouldn't you know — working the front of the house at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

On stage and off

The dichotomy of the right brain/left brain phenomenon could not be more on display than when Hughett steps away from her desk and accounting ledgers at PacRep and onto the stage of the Golden Bough or the Forest Theater in one of the 50-plus theatrical works she has performed over the past 35 years. She possesses considerable natural gifts as an actor and the dramatic depth to carry off some of the most challenging roles in theatrical literature from Cleopatra in William Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra," to Blanche DuBois in Tennessee Williams' "Streetcar Named Desire."

"I'm drawn to dramatic tragedy," said Hughett. "You have a little more leeway to act with your heart. In 'Streetcar,' Blanche

See LIVES page 26A



Julie Hughett

PAINTERS' MARRIAGE MAY BE THEIR GREATEST MASTERPIECE

A STROKE of luck collided with strokes of a paintbrush, and sparks flew when art aficionado Sylvia Schaefer met artist Kirk Miller in 2014.

She was an art collector and aspiring painter — an empty-nester, years removed

trawling for an art instructor near her home in Davis, taking multiple classes from the local teachers, but didn't find a connection with anybody she tried.

"I just wasn't impressed, or turned on, or motivated by what they were doing," she said. "So, after moving up to Fair Oaks on the American River, I started vetting the artists who were teaching there and Kirk popped up."

She signed up for his multi-week course, waited her turn, and got everything she wanted in a guru.

Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

from the nursing career she had put aside to raise her children.

He was a well-established California artist with a long waiting list for the classes he was teaching in historic downtown Folsom.

A decade later, they're a married couple in their 70s, painting in separate but adjacent art studios in the backyard of their northeast Carmel home. His is a spacious garage, where he relaxes to James Taylor and John Denver. Hers is a bright, sunlit little structure, where she cranks up the heavy-metal rock that energizes her as she paints.

Landscapes, seascapes, florals

Both specialize in vibrant local landscapes, seascapes, and bright floral scenes. Miller also does commissioned paintings of Carmel's quaint little cottages.

"I had dabbled with art throughout my early adulthood, when I was a registered nurse, and then I became a mom, which also takes a lot of energy, so there wasn't a lot of time in the day," remembered Schaefer, who devoted herself to the creative outlets of her two sons.

"The kids took music lessons, art lessons — all of that stuff — which kind of helped pacify me," she said. "All of their friends hung out at our house, because I was the mom who made the homemade Play-Doh, all nice and warm and smelling good when it came off the stove."

As the kids got older, Schaefer began

Four weeks of fundamentals

"I teach fundamentals, and when you learn those things really well, you can apply them to any style you want to paint," said the man who became her husband in September 2022 (the second marriage for both — she was divorced, he was widowed). "I show my students everything they need to know during the first four weeks, and then we explore."

Said Sylvia, "He taught 10 students at a time, and he'd zero in with each student — where they were, what they wanted to do. He was so patient and personal, and so honed in on each individual. I was inhaling everything he said and did."

Their personal relationship blossomed into a romantic life partnership.

"She's fun. I'm fun. We both like art. And what are you going to do with however many years you've got left, you know?" he said. "Also, Sylvia bought one of my paintings, and I had to marry her to get it back."

Detour to Australia

Miller is an Alabama native whose father, a controller, helped run worldwide corporations, and the family relocated to Australia when Kirk was a sixth-grader.

At 18, he was halfway through a two-year apprentice program to become a professional golfer there when his life abruptly changed.

"It seemed like I was needed back in the United States to help them fight in Vietnam," said Miller, who graduated high school in Alabama.

"So I went home, rode the bus to Montgomery, took all their tests and figured, 'Hey, I'm a really smart kid, a straight-A student: They're probably sending me to Officer Candidate School!'"

"When I asked where I'd be going, they said, 'You're going home, kid — you've got asthma.'"

So he enrolled at Troy State University, earning two art degrees in less than three years, studying in a department headed by Alabama native Woodi Ishmael, who taught classical realism and enjoyed a prolific career as a painter, illustrator, and syndicated columnist.

For the past 55 years,

See ARTISTS page 27A



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Carmel artist Kirk Miller and Sylvia Schaefer, who are married, specialize in vibrant seascapes, landscapes, and floral scenes. Her painting is on top, his is the larger of the two.

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



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MENTAL HEALTH GROUP TURNS TO STUDENT ART TO HELP PUSH MESSAGE

AIM FOR Mental Health, a group dedicated to improving the mental health of local youngsters, is hosting a contest and asking local students to come up with a piece of art to use in a public information campaign.

“Each year, our annual AIM for Awareness Design Challenge invites students like you to submit an ad that raises awareness about youth mental health challenges, stigma and solutions,” the group announced.

The 7th annual competition is open to middle and high school students, and prizes will be awarded to both. The ads could be used in both print and online media. The contest started Jan. 15, and the last day to submit entries is April 1.

“We are looking for ads that can provide hope to someone struggling with mental health,” a description of the contest reads. “Your ad may encourage other youth to speak up and seek help, or it might encourage others to be empathetic. Your ad might help reduce the stigma

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

associated with mental illness and substance use disorders and help break the stigma for youth to seek support and treatment.”

According to the group, a surprisingly large percentage of young people suffer from mental health challenges. Its website contends that one in five children struggles with mental illness — and less than 20 percent of those kids receive the treatment they need.

For more details, visit aimymh.org/Design-challenge.

Places and faces

A new show at the Monterey Museum of Art opens Friday featuring the work of photographer Joe Ramos. The show, “Mixed Up,” focuses on the places and faces of the Salinas Valley.

“The exhibition merges intimate portraits of family and friends with captivating landscapes, reflecting themes of identity, belonging and the intricate interplay between humanity and nature,” the museum said. “The portraits capture a lifetime of cherished faces, while the landscapes reveal the artist’s profound connection to the Salinas Valley. These photographs, from birth to the end



“Monique as a Child” by photographer Joe Ramos is included in a new exhibit at the Monterey Museum of Art.

of life, remind us that we are all connected, regardless of our backgrounds.”

Also on display at the museum is an exhibit of Dorotea Lange’s photographs from 1935 to 1942, a group show that explores the impact of agriculture on art (“Harvesting California”) and a solo show by painter Katie Herzog (“Currents”).

The museum is located at 559 Pacific St.

Youth show opens

Last week, Oldemeyer Center in Seaside welcomed the latest Marti Mulford Youth Arts Exhibit, which includes art by local club members as young as 6. The show will be on display through Feb. 22.

“This year’s exhibit features artwork in various mediums, from acrylic paintings to watercolors, reflecting the creative spirit of our young artists,” the group said. “For over two decades, the annual art exhibit has been a cherished tradition of the club, providing a platform for our young artists to shine.”

The center is located at 986 Hilby Ave.

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LETTERS

From page 22A

save this state is a transparent and open market for health insurance rather than the corrupt system in place which parcels out monopolies by counties, prevents competition, and allows healthcare providers to charge whatever prices they want knowing full well they will be 100 percent reimbursed by the State.

Obamacare has resulted in 4 out of 5 Californians being under the taxpayer-funded "Covered California" umbrella welfare system, now including full health insurance for illegal residents and non-citizens, while the burden for small businesses and gainfully employed young families is almost unbearable as we bear this yoke.

An open marketplace with transparent competition will result in a collapse in premium costs because the power will be drained from Sacramento and instead transferred back to the people via a public exchange. Think eBay for healthcare insurance.

If fiscal conservatives can control insurance in this state, then there is a chance to turn around what was once the envy of all other states.

Tom Rapko, Monterey

Too many immigrants

Dear Editor,

The United States does not have the resources to help all 8 billion people on earth. No one is morally obligated to kill oneself in order to help another, and America is not morally obligated to plunge itself into chaos and darkness to help the rest of the world.

Millions, if not billions, of decent, ordinary people are in desperate need of food, clean water, shelter and medical care. There is no way that prosperous countries like the United States can let them all in. Our country is unable now to address the needs of many of her citizens. The impact of mass immigration on education, health care, law enforcement, social services and culture is crippling.

It is not heartless, unvirtuous or un-Christian to prevent dire harm to all future generations in this land. Allowing deliberately orchestrated, catastrophic mass immigration to continue is not a matter of limited "self-sacrifice," it is a matter of survival. Unless we confront this mass immigration issue now as a question of survival rather than sympathy, it will be the end of this country.

As an example, Africa's population is projected to quadruple by 2100 to more than 4 billion, and it is entirely reasonable that 1 billion people would want to immigrate to America over merely the next decade, if the border remains open. Whether we are Black, White, Hispanic or Asian, we owe it to our children, to our grandchildren, and

to our posterity, to pass on to them this great nation, which will not remain a great nation if there are not rules regarding who can come here.

John Conricode, King City

Money isn't the question

Dear Editor,

The recent article about Fire Chief Andrew Miller is below the standards of The Carmel Pine Cone. Focusing on salary, instead of the value of Miller's unique qualifications and commitment to the community, belittles his selfless act of coming out of retirement to serve as the interim fire chief of Monterey. Miller didn't create the city's retirement pension plan, he simply put in many years of hard work and rose to the top of his profession through commitment, intelligence and a devoted work ethic to be of service to the public. The article focusing on Miller's salary — past and present — and not on his unique and proven professional qualifications, is unfair.

Miller did not pursue the new interim position, but rather was asked to help fill the gap by the Monterey City Council until a new chief is found. He will lead with insight, integrity, unparalleled experience, and a solution-based approach that has proven to be his legacy, and also to be of great benefit to the community. There is no one more qualified than Miller to take on this challenging task.

Wendi Giles, Pacific Grove

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232267 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 4 U 2, 5100 Coe Ave, Spc. 1, Seaside, CA 93955. MARGARITA SANCHEZ, 5100 Coe Ave., Spc. 1, Seaside, CA 93955. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 19, 2023. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/Margarita Sanchez Date signed: Dec. 19, 2023 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 19, 2023. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232267 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MONTEREY BAY PIRATE JERKY, 11 SHADY LANE, MONTEREY, CA 93940 County of MONTEREY Registrant(s): Anthony Lombardo, 11 Shady Lane, Monterey, CA 93940 This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Anthony Lombardo This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 12/18/2023. CNS-3749522# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Dec. 29, 2023; Jan. 5, 12, 19, 2024 (PC 1235)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232268 Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing.. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: J&A CONSTRUCTION INC., 1524 Mira Mar Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. Mailing address: P.O. Box 924, Seaside, CA 93955. County of Principal Place of Business: Monterey. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: J&A PAINTING INC., 1524 Mira Mar Ave., Seaside, CA 93955. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 4, 2014. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Juan Carlos Velis, CEO Date: Dec. 20, 2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 20, 2023. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232264 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Val's Party Rentals Salinas, 822 West Acacia Street, Salinas, CA 93901 County of MONTEREY Registrant(s): Robin Jones, 1401 21st ST STE R, Sacramento, CA 95811 This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/01/2023. S/Glenice Valenzuela, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/18/2023. CNS-15/12/1/19, 1/26/24 CNS-3769773# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024. (PC 102)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232299 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SELCOUTH, 13766 Center St. G5, Carmel Valley, CA 93924. Registered Owner(s): DANIEL PADILLA, 11 Wawona Rd., Carmel Valley, CA 93924. KATHRYN CHRISTINE PADILLA, 11 Wawona Rd., Carmel Valley, CA 93924. LAURA ELIZABETH SMITH, 34 Wawona Rd. Carmel Valley, CA 93924. JUSTIN ROBERT SMITH, 34 Wawona Rd., Carmel Valley, CA 93924. This business is conducted by a general

partnership. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 13, 2023. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/Daniel Padilla Date signed: Dec. 27, 2023 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 27, 2023. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240054 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PRECISION PLUMBING AND HEATING, 1738 Hickory Street, Suite C, Sand City, CA 93955. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: PRECISION PLUMBING CONTRACTORS INC, 1738 Hickory Street, Suite C, Sand City, CA 93955. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 1, 2006. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Aimee Warren, Secretary Date: Jan. 9, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 9, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240016 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GM'S PROFESSIONAL TREE SERVICE, 635 Elm Ave., Seaside, California 93955. Registered Owner(s): DANIEL GAMBOA MEZA. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 21, 2023. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/Daniel Gamboa Meza Date signed: Jan. 3, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan., 3, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232289 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Vibe Salon, 54 Pearl St., Monterey, CA 93940 County of MONTEREY Registrant(s): Dominee A. Fischer, 703 Cypress St., Monterey, CA 93940 This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Dominee A. Fischer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/26/2023. 1/19, 2/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 CNS-377247# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 2024. (PC 108)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240064 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SANTANNA APARTMENTS, 1235 Garner Ave., Salinas, CA 93905. County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: FOLEY INVESTMENTS LP, P.O. Box 6922, Salinas, CA 93912. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. This business is conducted by a limited partnership. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 18, 2013. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Garrett Hardin Date signed: Jan. 8, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 8, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240057 Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COUNTRY COTTAGES OF MONTEREY, 17505 David Ave., Monterey, CA 93940. Anthony Joseph Sallicio County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: BETTYE SOLLECITO REVOCABLE TRUST, 1063 Laurel Lane, Pebble Beach, CA 93953. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. This business is conducted by a trust. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 31, 2017. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Antony J. Sallicio Date: Jan. 4, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 9, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240037 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VETTYFILMS, 881 Lobos Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Registered Owner(s): GARRETT JOHN HARDIN. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Garrett Hardin Date signed: Jan. 8, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 8, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232221 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: O'REILLY AUTO PARTS #6681, 8065 SAN MIGUEL CANYON RD, SALINAS, CA 93907

County of MONTEREY Registrant(s): O'REILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES LLC, 233 SOUTH PATTERSON AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802 This business is conducted by a limited liability company Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/16/2023. O'REILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES LLC S/JEREMY FLETCHER, CFO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/11/2023. 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 CNS-3774549# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 2024. (PC 113)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232262 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BLUE SEA HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE, 2040 Buchanan St., Seaside, CA 93955. Registered Owner(s): OMAR ARROYO RAMIREZ, 2040 Buchanan St., Seaside, CA 93955. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/Omar Arroyo Ramirez Date signed: Dec. 18, 2023 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 18, 2023. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240037 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VETTYFILMS, 881 Lobos Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Registered Owner(s): GARRETT JOHN HARDIN. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Dominee A. Fischer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/26/2023. 1/19, 2/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 CNS-377247# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 2024. (PC 108)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240057 Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COUNTRY COTTAGES OF MONTEREY, 17505 David Ave., Monterey, CA 93940. Anthony Joseph Sallicio County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY. Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: BETTYE SOLLECITO REVOCABLE TRUST, 1063 Laurel Lane, Pebble Beach, CA 93953. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. This business is conducted by a trust. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 31, 2017. BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Antony J. Sallicio Date: Jan. 4, 2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 9, 2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20240037 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VETTYFILMS, 881 Lobos Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Registered Owner(s): GARRETT JOHN HARDIN. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. S/Dominee A. Fischer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/26/2023. 1/19, 2/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 CNS-377247# CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 2024. (PC 108)

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20232221 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: O'REILLY AUTO PARTS #6681, 8065 SAN MIGUEL CANYON RD, SALINAS, CA 93907

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PRUNED

From page 1A

permit fee, and the arborist's fee of \$1,529 for the assessment and report, for a total of \$9,139.92.

Gupta, who owns two properties near each other and said she's spent a lot of time here since 1987, told commissioners she asked her landscaper, Edgar Baltazar with Central Coast Landscaping, to do "a little twig snip" to clear limbs from secondary power lines, because she was worried about the trees hitting the lines during winter storms. She doubted anyone would even notice the trimming, it was so minor.

"As you know, that's not what happened," she said. "My neighbor behind me pulled into my driveway, behaved as if he was in charge, and directed the young crew to do the awful result" that prompted Ono's visit and the resulting stop-work order.

"Justin sent me a photo the day that it happened, and I was frankly horrified," she said.

Gupta acknowledged she's responsible for the fees and fines but balked at the tree replacement values. She also said she has no plans to take up the matter with her unnamed neighbor, since civil litigation "is not anything that would bring anybody any joy or remedy the situation."

'Intimidated and overwhelmed'

She speculated the workers who were trimming the trees "were entirely intimidated and overwhelmed by the gentleman who drove his car into my driveway and told them what to do, which was not what I had instructed, at all."

Baltazar, who purchased the landscaping company from the late Tom Deyerle in 2005, said Central Coast Landscaping is not on the city's list of approved tree companies because he is not an arborist, and that he was doing a favor for a longtime client by trimming the trees.

"My instruction was to liberate the branches on the secondary power lines," he said, adding that the workers who were bullied into doing more cutting than they were supposed to could and would identify the neighbor.

"We've lost three beautiful oak trees there," forest and beach commissioner Tamara Michie observed.

"It's shocking, honestly," commented commission chair JC Myers.

He wondered why the appraised values were so low, and Ono said that while the trees had been healthy before the pruning, they had already been topped because of power lines, which contributed to a lower assessed value.

"I think this is pretty open and shut," Myers said, making the motion to impose the fines, fees and requirements on Gupta as recommended by the city forester. "I think these numbers are exactly the way it's supposed to be structured."

His motion passed unanimously.

BEATING

From page 5A

others to stop, at which point they did, "and crossed the street as if nothing had happened."

Panzuto was treated by paramedics at the scene and taken to Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, where he spent the night in the emergency room.

As a result, Panzuto is suing Tutelian for assault and battery, violation of the Bane Civil Rights Act for the racist comment, trespass for taking the Vespa, and intentional infliction of emotional distress. He is seeking compensatory and general damages according to proof, punitive damages, a \$25,000 civil penalty, attorney's fees, the costs of the suit and any other relief the court deems "just and proper."

A hearing is set for March 26.

LIVES

From page 23A

is a deeply troubled character and not particularly likable. As an actor, you want to find a way to make the audience understand why. Playing her was an inviting and rewarding challenge for me. I like to work on projects that are meaningful"

'Wonderful people'

She is often asked why she never pursued a degree in theatre arts or never headed for New York. She answers by saying, "Once I got involved in that world here on the Peninsula, I didn't see the need to, because I was doing it — I was actually doing it — and here I have the unique opportunity to continue doing it. That's typical of how I've lived my life. It's all been trade school for me." Hughtt added, "As much as I love doing theater, I think I like the business of it even more. I've never had a longing to be on the Great White Way. I love living here amongst all this beauty and all these wonderful people who fulfill those two parts of me."

She continued, "The downside is that when professional talent is brought in, I sometimes feel the need to prove myself, which can get in the way of things. It's a result of my insecurities for not having a wider background.

"But as I've gotten older, I've gotten over that. The reason I get to do all these great roles is because I'm good at it."

PG&E

From page 1A

PG&E said the project will reduce the number and severity of unplanned outages. The utility company urged customers to be prepared for the upcoming planned power cutoffs and will send outage notifications to all impacted customers.

Neighbors are advised to be prepared for overnight outages by fully charging electrical equipment and cell phones. Customers may be impacted up to three times during these infrastructure work periods.

The work in Carmel Valley, which is expected to be completed by mid-February, is part of a larger effort to make major upgrades to transmission lines throughout unincorporated Monterey County, including Big Sur and Carmel Highlands, where winter storms routinely wreak havoc, leading to frequent and lengthy outages.



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from Dr. Steven MacDonald, D.C.

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ARTISTS

From page 23A

Miller has earned his living as a full-time artist — originally a syndicated illustrator and portrait specialist — and an art instructor who taught 150 students a week in Laguna at his peak.

“I couldn’t get a real job, so that was my path,” he joked.

‘Nursing is part of who I am’

Schaefer grew up in Southern California, near Claremont and was drawn to art at a young age.

“I was kind of a go-getter as a little kid — curious about everything. I was into crafty kinds of art, because that’s what we did in school,” she said.

But nursing became her focus through college and graduate school, and Schaefer went on to enjoy a multifaceted career before motherhood changed her life.

“I really loved nursing and still do. It’s still a part of who I am,” she said.

One year ago, Miller and Schaefer moved to Carmel from Sacramento,

leaving the heat and the rattlesnakes in their rearview mirror.

“She wouldn’t go with me to the Caribbean, so here we are!” he said with a laugh.

Since last February, the couple has sold more than 30 paintings, building their client base and exploring the wonders of the Peninsula.

Taking in the sights and smells

“I go walking and hiking a lot, trying to observe,” she said. “I take a lot of photographs to capture the lighting and the setting. I take in the sights and smells, then come back and try to capture everything I’ve experienced on canvas.”

Miller often prefers to sketch the scenes he finds before converting them into paintings.

In addition to his visual art, Miller authored instructional books entitled “Egg Tempera Painting” and “Landscape Workshop.”

Additional information about both artists and images of their art can be found at kirkmillerartstudio.com.

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

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HEALTHY

Lifestyles

Looking for a way to improve heart health? Here are a few things to count on.

By ELAINE HESSER

EVERY WEEK, twice a week, millions of people buy Powerball tickets on the theory that “knowing” the right six numbers will radically change their lives. Never mind that the odds of matching all six are roughly 1 in 292 million and that the grandkids’ birthdays are no luckier than any other digits — people plunk down \$2 a pop to play.

However, there are numbers that can truly — and certainly — change your life for the better. And, said Steven Lome, a cardiologist with Montage Medical Group, you can start with just three — weight/BMI, cholesterol and blood pressure.

You may recall Lome’s name from his news-making 2022 Monterey Bay Half Marathon. It wasn’t his race time that garnered media attention, but the fact that he saved the lives of two runners by administering CPR when they suffered heart attacks. Greg Gonzales collapsed at the 3-mile mark, and Michael Heilemann went down just as the doctor crossed the finish line. Both made full recoveries and ran with Lome in the 2023 race.

Lome, of course, would rather prevent cardiac arrest than treat it. He advocates getting to the right numbers through diet and exercise

habits that will reduce most people’s odds of having heart problems down the road.

Let’s start with weight. Groan and roll your eyes, but Lome said that achieving and maintaining a healthy weight is extremely important — and rare. “Only about 1 to 2 percent of the population is at their ideal body weight,”

he said — a group that mostly comprises athletes and chronically ill patients. “More than 80 percent of adults are overweight or obese,” he continued.

Lome explained that those terms have quantifiable meanings based on BMI, or body mass index, calculated based on a person’s height and weight. Excess weight in most people means excess fat, so unless you’re a professional body builder, BMI is likely a valid indicator of whether you should shed a few pounds.

You can find BMI tables online, including one from the National Institutes of Health at bit.ly/3TU7VSc. Normal BMI is 18.5 to 25, overweight is 25 to 30, and obese is anything over 30. People with a BMI exceeding 35 are considered morbidly obese. While there’s no shortage of caveats and concerns about BMI from a variety of reliable sources, Lome said that it’s the “No. 1 parameter” indicating whether a person will die early. “It’s more powerful than smoking” as a predictor of early death, he said.

Real food

Lome’s not unsympathetic to those who struggle with weight loss — he took off more than 100 pounds while he was in medical school — but he said there’s no way around the mortality statistics. He advocates the style of eating summarized by journalist Michael Pollan in the book, “In Defense of Food” — “Eat food, not too much, mostly plants.” For Pollan, “food” expressly excludes anything highly processed. He urges people to avoid eating things with long lists of ingredients you can’t pronounce or that wouldn’t be recognizable to your great-grandmother as food.

That approach — along with limiting or eliminating saturated fats found in meat, cheese and other animal



products from the diet — will also improve cholesterol numbers, Lome said.

Coconut oil and palm oil may be from plants, but they contain saturated fats and are common in processed foods, so avoid them, too

When it comes to cholesterol, focus on the low-density lipoproteins, or LDL. While having more high-density lipoproteins (HDL) was once thought to offset the bad effects of LDL, doctors no longer believe that’s true.

“Having high LDL is like smoking more cigarettes,” said Lome. “When you have exposure over the years,

NUMBERS *con’t. page 33A*



Steven Lome, M.D.

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CPR can improve chances of surviving cardiac arrest

By KATHARINE BALL

A MAN suddenly collapses. A bystander runs to help him. The victim's breathing and pulse are checked, but can't be detected. The Good Samaritan arranges the unconscious man on his back, head tilted back to make sure the airway is clear.

Then the helper begins rapid, forceful chest compressions, sometimes accompanied by mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Most of us have seen such a scene played out, in a television drama if not in real life. (For a story of someone performing CPR and saving two lives in one day, right here on the Peninsula, see page 29A.)

But how helpful is cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR? According to the American Heart Association, "If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival from an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest."



Pooja Klebig

The nonprofit goes on to say that about 436,000 people in the United States experience cardiac arrest annually. About 350,000 of those incidents occur outside a hospital, meaning the victims may have to rely on family members or passersby to come to their aid — and only about 9 percent of those patients will survive to the point of hospital discharge, the AHA says.

Call 911 first

The statistics are daunting, but you can learn to provide the immediate help a victim needs.

Pooja Klebig, regional communications

director for the American Red Cross Northern California Coastal Division, which includes Monterey County, said, "We encourage everyone to learn CPR, first aid and how to use an AED so they have the knowledge and confidence to act in an emergency and help save lives."

AED stand for automated external defibrillator, a device designed to electrically jolt the heart back into beating. Once rarely seen outside of hospitals, AEDs can be found in businesses, shopping malls, schools and many other public places. Ambulances also carry them, which is why it's important for someone at the scene to call 911 immediately.

"Every second counts in an emergency," Klebig said. "Each minute that the defibrillator is delayed, the chances of survival are reduced by 10 percent."

CPR can include artificial respiration, but doesn't have to, if you don't feel like you can manage it conjunction with the chest compressions. The compressions keep blood flowing to vital organs and require a fair amount of strength. For adult victims, the chest over the heart needs to be compressed by about two inches, not easy in the bony context of the rib cage and sternum (breastbone). Sometimes the person administering CPR may accidentally break a victim's rib, but Klebig said not to worry about that.

"CPR is the difference between life and death, and at that point, we want [the car-



A Red Cross CPR instructor demonstrates proper technique for the lifesaving procedure.

diac patient] to live," she said. So-called Good Samaritan laws protect the person providing CPR from getting sued if someone is injured by a resuscitation attempt.

Getting certified

If you're attempting to rescue a cardiac arrest victim and an AED is available, just grab it, turn it on, and the device itself will start talking you through the steps to use it, Klebig said.

"A neophyte could make it work, but it's best to get certified to have confidence with it," she said.

If you're interested in getting trained in

these lifesaving skills, the Red Cross and American Heart Association offer courses.

■ **Red Cross:** [Redcross.org/takeaclass](https://www.redcross.org/takeaclass)

■ **American Heart Association:** [Atlas.heart.org/home](https://atlas.heart.org/home)

■ **Salinas Valley Health** also offers monthly courses for the general public (except in December) and has already published its schedule for 2024: salinasvalleyhealth.com/events-classes.

■ **For easy-to-follow online CPR instructions, visit:** my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/17680-cardiopulmonary-resuscitation-cpr.

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HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Another reason to love salmon

By Fuad Al Qudsi

EVEN IF you're doing everything "right" — maintaining a healthy weight and exercise — you'll likely begin to experience stiffer arteries as you age, and this stiffness can increase blood pressure, raising the risk of heart attack and stroke. In addition to regular physical activity, good nutrition is one of the best ways to help reduce your risk. Getting unsaturated fats, such as omega-3s, is a great way to achieve this.

Fish-centric diets

Omega-3s include 11 related essential fats. In nutrition, an "essential" nutrient is something the body needs, but can't manufacture it on its own, so you have to get

it from your diet. The three main types of omega-3s are ALAs, found in plants, and DHA and EPA, found in fish and other seafood. According to the National Institutes of Health, most Americans have no difficulty getting enough ALAs in their diets.

Fish-eating communities have been observed to have very low rates of heart disease, and it was discovered that this was because their diets are rich in omega-3s, including DHA and EPA. Omega-3s are thought to help with arterial stiffening in several ways, including being powerful at battling inflammation — particularly the type associated with heart problems.

OMEGA *cont. on page 34A*



text for photo

Hormones? Hair Loss?



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HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

NUMBERS from page 29A

more plaque builds up in the body.” Plaque is the stuff that hardens and blocks the arteries, leading to heart attack and stroke.

The target number for overall cholesterol is less than 200, with LDL under 100 — although Lome said that below 70 is even better, and some studies suggest that the number may be revised to an even lower threshold.

Reversing high LDL cholesterol can be done relatively quickly if you’re willing to go completely plant-based and consume whole foods (whole grains, like 100 percent whole wheat versus white bread, and whole fruits instead of juice, for example). Protein comes from beans and other plant products. Most people who do this see 80 percent of the potential improvement from this diet in two weeks, Lome said, citing the case of one person whose numbers went from 210 to 90.

He noted that this type of eating was found in something called the Ornish Diet, but said that for most people, the critique of that plan was “good luck following it.” Lome noted that the Mediterranean diet, which includes fruits, vegetables, beans, nuts, seeds and whole grains, with olive oil as a fat source and limited amounts of dairy products, eggs, fish and poultry, was good and easier to follow. It’s recommended by the American Heart Association, too.

Beyond weight loss

Simply losing weight isn’t enough, Lome emphasized. He noted that people who follow a ketogenic (low-carbohydrate, high-fat) diet often shed pounds but still have an increased risk of heart disease.

While exercise plays a role in reducing cholesterol, it’s far less significant than diet. Where working out does help, how-

ever, is in lowering blood pressure — the third set of numbers you need to know.

The Cleveland Clinic explains on its website that regular exercise helps blood vessels dilate (get bigger) and makes the heart stronger so that it can push out more blood with each beat. That slows the pulse and lowers blood pressure.

The top number of a reading, called systolic pressure, measures the pressure in your arteries when the heart contracts, or beats. It should be below 120, Lome said. The bottom number, known as diastolic blood pressure, measures pressure when your heart is at rest and should be less than 80.

Since many people have what’s called “white coat syndrome” — their blood pressure rises just because they’re in a medical office — your cardiologist may suggest getting a blood pressure cuff and doing readings at home. Otherwise, they might prescribe medication that lowers your blood pressure too much, causing fainting spells and other problems.

Lome has patients bring their machines into the office to make sure people are using them correctly — not elevating or lowering their arms during the process, for example. He has them do two readings a day at random times for two weeks and report the results.

In addition to 150 minutes of aerobic exercise a week, having a healthy diet, getting regular sleep, avoiding alcohol and limiting salt intake will all help lower blood pressure.

Knowing your numbers can help you prepare for your next doctor visit — you can ask questions about changes that are right for you. It’s certainly a better bet than that \$2 on the Powerball, and besides, you want to be around to spend all that money when you win, right?



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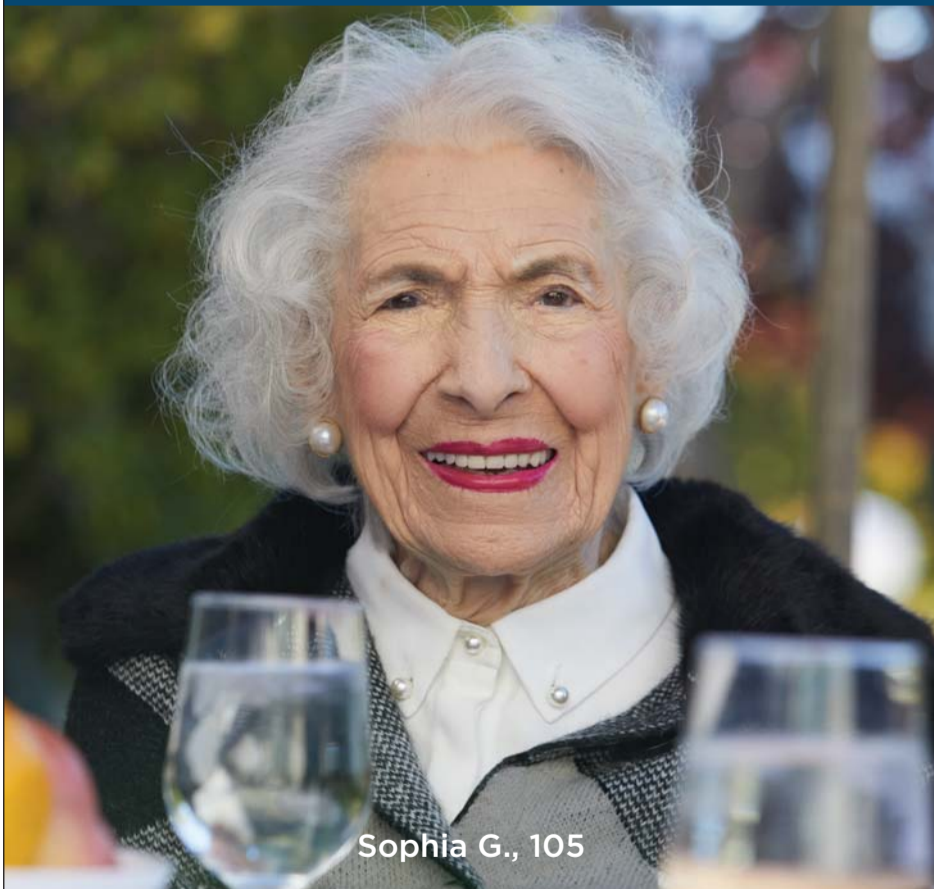
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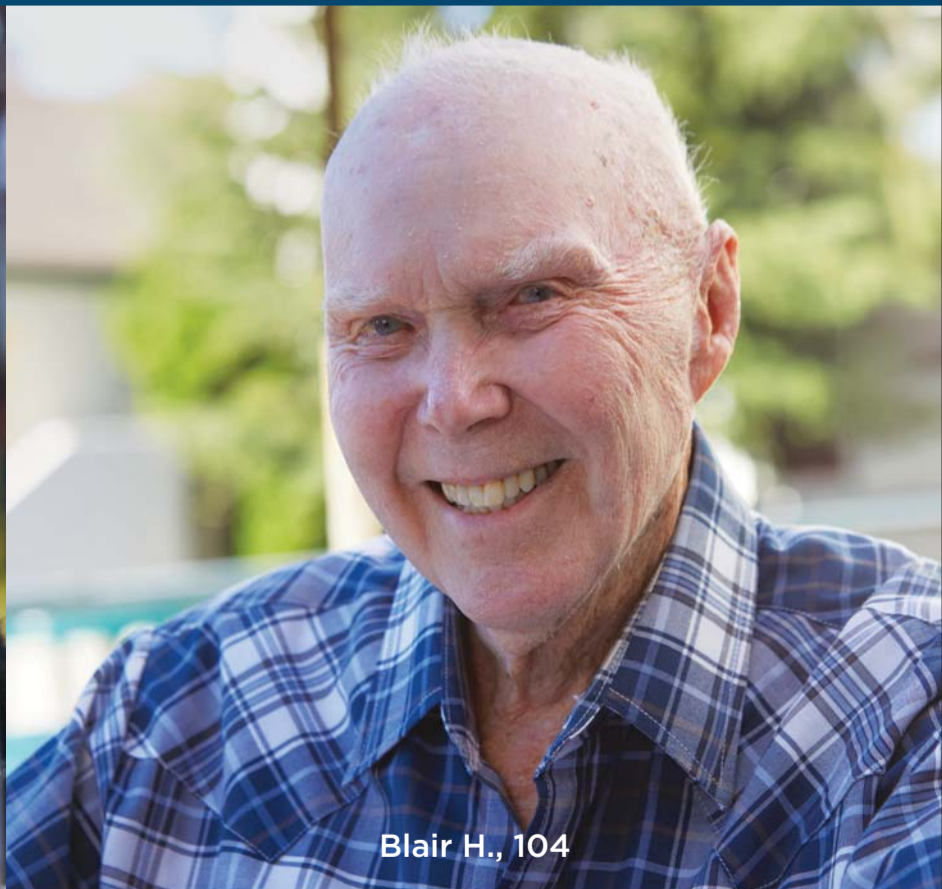
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THE KITCHEN

Pasta Fagioli

Courtesy Chef Brandon Miller, Paella LLC

PREPARED SOUPS are so readily available in so many varieties that it never occurs to most people that they could make a pot for themselves. It's a great meal for beginning and experienced cooks alike — it's about as forgiving as recipes get and often keeps leftover veggies out of the compost bin.

Chef Brandon Miller's pasta fagioli (pasta with beans) is a solid example of soup's simplicity and adaptability. Of course, as every longtime cook will tell you, the first time you make someone else's recipe, you should follow it exactly. This lets you know how it works and where you might want to dial something back, like hot pepper flakes, or add more of something that makes you happy, like fresh thyme.

Then, you can start tinkering. People

who are trying to avoid animal fat might try making it with lowfat turkey sausage or simply omitting the meat and Parmesan cheese. You could add a small box of thawed and drained frozen spinach or some chopped chard.

The beans provide plenty of protein and fiber, and many weight-loss programs encourage people to eat soup before or as part of a meal because it's filling. By making it yourself, you can control the salt content — prepared soups are notorious for their high sodium content. If that's a concern and you use canned beans, choose a low-sodium variety.

If you decide to freeze the leftovers, you can stir in the macaroni, but it has a tendency to get mushy. We'd recommend freezing portions and cooking some pasta while you're reheating the soup.

INGREDIENTS

(Serves 6 to 8)

- 12 ounces loose Italian sausage or diced pancetta
- 2 small onions, diced
- 3 ribs celery, diced (reserve leaves)
- 3 medium carrots, pared if necessary, and diced
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 tablespoon chili flakes (or to taste)
- 3 large cloves of garlic, diced
- 3 bay leaves
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 28-ounce can San Marzano tomatoes
- 2 cups of cooked beans (Chef's favorite is cannellini beans.)
- 8 ounces cooked macaroni
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- Extra virgin olive oil for drizzling
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese to taste
- Italian parsley for garnish



cook for another 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Pour in white wine and cook for 5 minutes more to allow the alcohol to evaporate. Add the canned San Marzano tomatoes, crushing them with your hands. Stir well and allow the mixture to simmer until it starts bubbling. Add the beans and simmer for 30 minutes.

Season with salt and pepper and top with Italian parsley.

To plate, put a handful of pasta in each serving bowl and top with soup. Drizzle with olive oil and add Parmesan cheese to taste. Dunking some bread wouldn't be a bad idea, either.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, sauté the sausage until evenly browned. Add diced onions, celery and carrots. Reduce heat to low and simmer until the vegetables release their juices and become tender.

Add fresh thyme, bay leaves and dried oregano. Stir well. Incorporate diced garlic and simmer for an additional 5 minutes over medium heat.

Stir in tomato paste and continue to

Chef Bio



CHEF BRANDON Miller is a familiar face to local foodies. The proud owner of Paella LLC, a mobile catering operation specializing in his signature Spanish dish, Miller previously helmed kitchens at the former Mundaka in Carmel, a previous incarnation of Stokes Adobe, and Alvarado Street Brewery, to name a few. You can often find him doing cooking demos at local events, where you begin to see he's as much showman as chef.

Miller has been working in kitchens

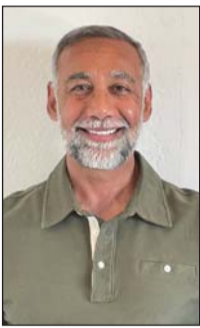
for more than 30 years. He started as a kid, cracking crabs at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf as a summer job, and at 20 took over the oyster bar at Pacific Heights Bar and Grill. By the time he'd moved on to the city's famous Fog City Diner — first in the pantry and then as sous chef — he said, "I knew this was the natural thing for me to do."

His culinary education included stints in Amsterdam and France, and he said he "ate his way through Italy."

In his spare time, Miller grows some of his own food, makes a little homebrew and enjoys spending time with his wife, Marci Bracco, and their French bulldogs.

OMEGA from page 32A

Omega-3s are among the substances nutritionists sometimes refer to as fatty acids — the building blocks of the fat in the food we eat. These types of fats are divided into four categories: saturated, monounsaturated, polyunsaturated (like omega-3s), and trans fats.



Fuad Al Qudsi

A daily intake of 450-500 milligrams of omega-3 fatty acids is recommended in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans published by the U.S.

A good omega-3 supplement should contain EPA and DHA

departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services. That increases to 1 gram daily if you have heart disease. So, where can you find this healthy fat in your diet?

The most potent sources are from fish

SUPPLEMENTS cont. on page 35A



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HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

SUPPLEMENTS from page 34A

and seafood, and salmon is the most common. One 6-ounce salmon filet provides 1,800 milligrams of omega-3s. Below is the content for other seafood sources:

1,000 mg per serving

- herring
- sardines
- trout

500-750 mg per serving

- bass
- flounder
- lobster

125-500 mg per serving

- tuna
- shrimp
- scallops
- tilapia

Compared to wild salmon, farmed salmon tends to have more fat per serving — about 10 grams more — meaning it tends to have a higher omega-3 content. Farmed salmon is also usually more affordable than wild. If you're concerned about the

environmental impacts of farmed salmon, check out seafoodwatch.org, the Monterey Bay Aquarium's guide to responsible fish consumption. The site recommends which farmed salmon to purchase and which to avoid.

Read labels

Eating fish every day — particularly salmon — to get enough omega-3s can get expensive. This is why many people decide to take fish oil, krill oil and other types of omega-3 supplements. If you do not eat at least two servings of fatty fish per week, you should think about taking an omega-3 or fish oil supplement.

However, it's important to know what to look for. For example, even though a supplement says it contains omega-3s, doesn't always mean it contains enough omega-3s to provide heart health benefits.

A good omega-3 supplement should contain EPA and DHA, so read the labels. A supplement that contains 900 mg of fish oil may not have 900 mg of EPA and DHA, or actual omega-3s. Make sure the supplement you are purchasing contains both EPA and DHA in quantities that total 250–500 mg.



Tilapia, an inexpensive and quick-cooking fish, is a good source of omega-3 fatty acids.



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This Week

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Scottish quartet plays Haydn, Mendelssohn at Sunset Center Saturday

AN AWARD-winning ensemble from Scotland, **The Maxwell Quartet**, presents a 7:30 p.m. concert Saturday at Sunset Center. The performance is the third of the season presented by Chamber Music Monterey Bay.

Although the group officially came together in 2010 at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, its members — violinists **Colin Scobie** and **George Smith**, violist **Elliott Perks** and cellist **Duncan Strachan** — grew up playing folk and classical music together in youth orchestras and music schools.

The quartet has won many honors, including First Prize and Audience Prizewinner at the 9th annual Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition in 2017.

The program for Saturday's concert includes "classical masterworks" by Felix Mendelssohn and Joseph Haydn, original arrangements of "Scottish Work Songs," and "two

lovely works" by composers from the British Isles.

"We look forward to seeing you at this 'must hear' concert," Chamber Music Monterey Bay said. "You are bound to be as delighted as the rest of the music world by powerful performers and their beautiful music."

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

The quartet was scheduled to play here two years ago, but Covid postponed the event.

Tickets start at \$30, with discounts for students and active military and a limited number of free tickets for

children accompanied by adults. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 625-2212 or visit chambermusicmontereybay.org.

Jazz quartet honors guitarist

Mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff**, violinist **Elijah McCullar**, guitarist **Lex Olsen** and bassist **Steve Uccello** pay tribute to pioneering guitarist Django Reinhardt Sunday, 2 p.m., at Bon Ton L'Roy's Lighthouse Smokehouse in Monterey.

Regarded today as one of the most influential of all jazz guitarists, Reinhardt turned a disability into a superpower — able to use only his index and middle fingers on his left

See MUSIC page 37A



Forrest Day (left) plays Friday and Saturday at Fernwood Resort in Big Sur. An award-winning ensemble from Scotland, The Maxwell Quartet (center) takes the stage Saturday at Sunset Center. Mandolinist Dave Holodiloff (right) and friends pay tribute to guitarist Django Reinhardt Sunday at Bon Ton L'Roy's Lighthouse Smokehouse in Monterey.

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FOOD & WINE

Readying hearts and flowers, doing yoga and enjoying silence

NO PRESSURE, but it's less than a month until Valentine's Day. If your sweetie's expecting something special, Quail Lodge is here to help.

The Covey Grill is serving a three-course, prix fixe dinner on Feb. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. After a bite or two of smoked salmon with trout roe and crème fraîche to whet your appetite, move on to a first course of salad, carrot soup or a scallop served with butternut squash. Entrées include

Soup to Nuts

beef Wellington, a chicken roulade — chicken rolled up with roasted mushrooms and carrots — or poached lobster.

Dessert is your choice of Paris-Brest, a classic filled French pastry with hazelnut praline and cacao nibs, or mille feuille, a treat pairing thin pastry layers with various types of filling.

Dinner is \$98 per person plus tax and gratuity. Your date night can continue at the lodge with a special Valentine's Day promotion. From Feb. 9 through Feb. 16, you can book a night at the luxury 850-acre resort and get a lavender-scented gift from Santa Cruz's Bonny Doon Lavender Farm, a bubble bath filled with rose petals upon arrival, a complimentary bottle of local wine and a box of Monterey's Lula's chocolates. Use the promotion code VDAY to book, or visit quailodge.com to learn more.

■ Ooh-la-la

Maybe your plans include a romantic home-cooked (or catered) French dinner. Consider rounding out your menu with a red wine in the famed Burgundian tradition. To find a suitable bottle made from locally grown grapes, drop by one of Windy Oaks' tasting rooms — there's one in Carmel Valley and one in town on Lincoln Street near Ocean Avenue.

The Burgundy region of France has produced many of the most sought-after and expensive red wines in the world and is considered the home of the pinot noir grape from which these amazing wines are made. Although it has existed in Burgundy for close to a millennium, the grape most likely came to the region — as did many wine grapes in France and Western Europe — via the Romans. In fact, it's possible that pinot noir originated long before

that in Italy or even farther east in the Mediterranean or Caucasus regions.

Despite being nicknamed the “heart-break” grape because of its perplexing sensitivities to almost every issue — from susceptibility to vineyard diseases and pests, to climate variations and low yields, not to mention issues in the winery requiring very delicate handling — pinot noir is still popular among winemakers.

More than 100 years ago, pinot noir was planted near Soledad, and now our vintners produce some of the best pinots in the country, if not the world.

Windy Oaks Estate is in Corralitos but uses grapes from the Santa Lucia Highlands and Chalone in addition those from its estate. It produces pinot noir in a true Burgundian manner. Efforts in its vineyards are sustainable and incorporate some organic and biodynamic farming.

Native yeasts are used in the fermentation process (as opposed to killing the native yeast and then adding a commercial one). The wine is aged on the lees (the aforementioned yeast) in French oak barrels and neither filtered nor fined — processes to remove sediment and clarify the wines — when bottled. The resulting drink is very Burgundian in style. More information is at windyoaksestate.com.

■ Get away, but not too far

It sometimes seems silly to go anywhere else on vacation, doesn't it? Especially when thousands of people spend their hard-earned money to come here every year. Carmel Mission Inn is offering a romantic Valentine's Day compromise — take a break in your own backyard.

The inn's Cheers to Love package includes accommodations in a guestroom or suite, \$100 dining credit for a



Quail Lodge is offering a special Valentine's Day dinner — and a romance package in case you want to enjoy the luxury resort overnight.

romantic dinner or breakfast in bed from Shearwater Tavern, two plush signature bathrobes to take home and a split of Champagne. Prices start at \$289 per night, and the package is available (with some blackout dates) through Feb. 28. To reserve, visit carmelmissioninn.com/specials-packages. Shearwater Tavern will serve its full dinner menu on Feb. 14 and is offering a complimentary dessert (presumably with two forks) when you buy two entrées.

■ Strike a pose

No, we're not suggesting you go all “show business” — but you can chill out where Hollywood stars once did. Holman Ranch is hosting a yoga session on its scenic property in the hills past Carmel Valley Village.

See **FOOD** next page

MUSIC

From page 36A

hand, he invented a distinctive style of playing.

Just as they do each year, Holodiloff and McCullar honor Reinhardt on what would have been his 114th birthday. The guitarist died in 1953.

“Dave and the band will be playing pure Gypsy jazz,” the restaurant announced. “This is a not-to-be-missed musical celebration by Monterey Bay's hottest acoustic string band paying homage to the music and legacy of one of the greatest musicians of all time.”

Tickets are \$25. The restaurant is located at 794 Lighthouse Ave.

■ Live music Jan. 19-25

Albatross Ridge Winery and Kitchen in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Lindsay Beery** (Friday at 7 p.m.), guitarist **Peter Martin** (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.

Bernardus Lodge & Spa in Carmel Valley — pianist **Mathias Morris** (classical, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and

guitarist **Kip Allert** (Saturday at noon), pianist **Michael Culver** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Sunday at noon), singer and guitarist **Paul Behan** (Tuesday at 4 p.m.). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

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

Blue Fox Cellars in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday at 2 p.m.). 25 Pilot Road.

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 **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Tuesday at 7 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St.

Cypress Inn — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), guitarist **Richard Devinck** (classical, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz,

See **LIVE** page 39A



Nepenthe's caprese salad combines refreshing cucumber with tomatoes, creamy cheese and a drizzle of dressing. Stunning coastal views are included.

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FOOD

From previous page

On Saturday, Feb. 10th, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., enjoy a 60-minute yoga flow class suitable for folks at all levels, guided by certified instructor Jordan Rossow and followed by a little wine.

Bring a mat, towel and water bottle, and arrive by 9:45 a.m. to get settled in. The class will take place inside the carriage house on the hilltop ranch, which has been around since 1928 and, according to its website, was once a retreat for icons like Charlie Chaplin, Theda Bara, Marlon Brando and Clark Gable.

For \$25 for wine club members and \$40 for nonmembers, you can find out what drew these show biz icons to Carmel Valley. The ticket price includes the class and one glass of wine.

Register at exploretock.com, or visit holmanranch.com to learn more.



For Valentine's Day dinner, Shearwater Tavern in the Carmel Mission Inn is offering delicious items like grilled salmon.

■ Half-day getaway

Still quiet. That's how Big Sur was on a Jan. 6 visit. Parking at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park was wide open — at 8:30 a.m., there were no cars in the lot. And on a Saturday! After sharing the hilly Buzzard's Roost trail with just a few other hikers on a peaceful winter morning, it was time for brunch. Nepenthe, a few miles south, was an obvious choice. Its patio breakfast-and-lunch spot, Café Kevah, is closed for the season, but should be open Presidents Day weekend, according to the restaurant's website.

Nepenthe opens at 11:30, so my hiking buddy and I killed some time in the Phoenix shop downstairs, which welcomes customers starting at 10:30 a.m. and is filled with interesting gifts and locally made art and jewelry, among other things. Then we headed upstairs to get a table.

Not to be pushy, but if the tomato bisque is being served, order it. The layers of flavor go well beyond the comforting contents of a certain red-and-white can. There's a little bit of smoke, a little bit of spice, and a lot of tomato flavor. The caprese salad was big enough to split as an appetizer, thanks to an ample portion of cheese. Nepenthe's version adds cucumbers — a clever choice, since getting fresh and flavorful cukes isn't nearly as tough as finding decent tomatoes in winter.

The soup-and-salad combo, at \$22.25, comes with bread, and paired



As if anyone needed help unwinding in Holman Ranch's peaceful hilltop setting, with its beautiful valley views, the folks there are offering a yoga-and-wine session on Feb.10.

with the garbanzo-kidney bean salad, it makes a hearty meal. That bean salad, by the way, is what the stuff on grocery-store salad bars aspires to. It's well-seasoned and properly dressed with a nice balance of oil and vinegar. Other lunch options include Nepenthe's famous Ambrosia Burger, a shrimp BLT, and a beet salad with Point Reyes blue cheese. The triple berry pie was a fitting, not-too-sweet ending, and the accompanying café latte was noteworthy for its smoothness.

There were several open parking spaces in the upper lot when we left around 12:45 p.m. — quite unusual on a weekend. If you're looking for a way to spend half a day, you could do a lot worse than a walk among ancient redwoods and a nice lunch

at one of the oldest restaurants on the coast. Nepenthe is at 48510 Highway 1; visit nepenthe.com for more information.

■ Chalone grand opening

Although its doors have been open for some time, Chalone Vineyard is hosting a grand opening celebration and ribbon-cutting on Jan. 25 from 4 to 7 p.m. at its new tasting room in Carmel Plaza. A "sparkling toast and locally inspired small bites" are on the menu. There's no charge, but you must RSVP to communications@foleyfamilywines.com to attend.

Roxanne Langer and Elaine Hesser contributed to this week's column.

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CALENDAR

Sign up TODAY to volunteer at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am taking place Jan. 31-Feb. 4. You are welcome to use your volunteer badge to spectate the event before or after your shift on the day/s you volunteer. For more information: email, Info@CarmelYouth.org, visit our website, www.CarmelYouth.org, click "How to Contribute" & then "Volunteer", or call (831) 624-3285. Walk-in sign-ups will be 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Jan. 22. RBS training & certification is 8:30 a.m.-noon Jan. 26. Both held @ at the Carmel Youth Center, Fourth and Torres in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Jan. 23 – Carmel Residents Association presents Paul Miller discussing "The Carmel Pine Cone Inside/Out." Paul the owner, publisher, editor of The Carmel Pine Cone, will share a behind-the-curtain view into what makes it our village weekly "must read." Held at the Carmel Woman's Club and open to the public,

doors open at 6:30 p.m. with wine served. For details visit www.carmelresidents.org and submit questions you want asked to info@carmelresidents.org.

Jan. 26 – The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) will present a lecture / luncheon, 11:15 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey. Topic is **"Kazakhstan in the Soviet and Post-Soviet World," presented by U.S. Ambassador John Ordway.** Visit www.wacmb.org for event information and registration.

Feb. 14 – Baum & Blume's Intimate Sweethearts Dinner! Surprise your "special someone" with an exquisite four-course Valentine dinner served in a cozy setting. The chefs have created a very special menu! Book a table ahead – space is limited! Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito, Carmel Valley. (831) 659-0400.

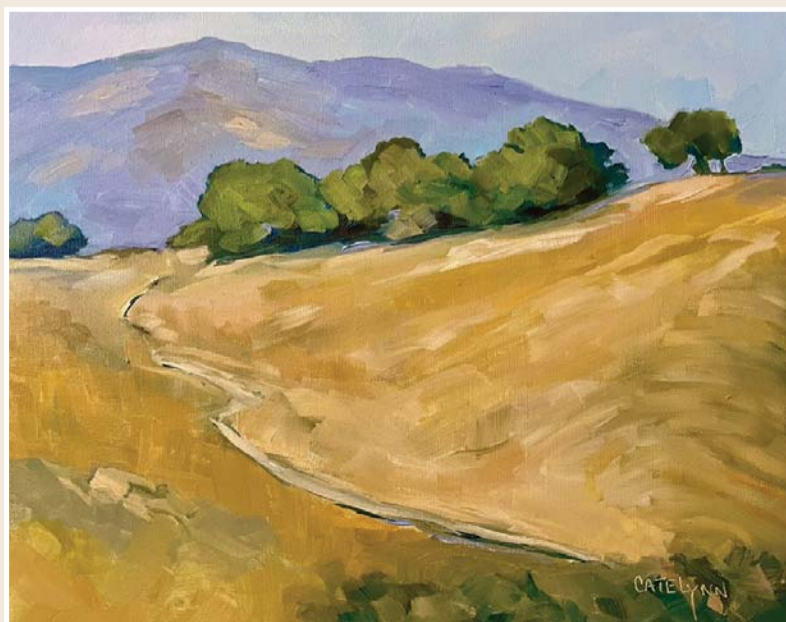
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Cate Lynn feels strongly that as communities look at ways to provide desperately needed housing, that saving open space and small neighborhood oases of green open space and nature is essential for our well-being. Exhibit runs thru January 31.

LIVE

From page 37A

Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel.

Deja Blue in Seaside — singer and keyboardist **Simon Russell**, multi-instrumentalist **Paul Branin** and others (blues and funk, Saturday at 3 p.m.), keyboardist **Tony Johns** (blues and r&b, Sunday at 3 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Roger Glen**, keyboardist **Gary Meek**, bassist **David Daniel** and drummer **Leon 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 — **Forest Day** (“attention-deficit-disorder rock,” Friday and Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (rock and blues, Friday at 4 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Saturday at 4 p.m.), violinist **Chris Lynch** (Sunday at 2 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

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

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday and Sunday at 8 p.m. and

Thursday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — flutist **Kenny Stahl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), **Battaglia and Bell** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — **The Andy Weis Band** (jazz, Friday, Saturday and Thursday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.

Intercontinental Hotel in Monterey — guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **Terrence Farrell** (Latin music, Sunday at 9 a.m.), singer and guitarist **Zack Freitas** (Monday at 6 p.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 — **The Edge Band** (rock, Saturday at 7 p.m.), Singer-Songwriter Showcase (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Pfeffer** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Reija Massey** (pop, rock and country, 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.

Melville Tavern in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Greg Tapsen** and guitarist **Steve Moseley** (rock, Tuesday at 6 p.m.). 484 Washington St.

Midici Pizza in Monterey — singer **Janice Perl** and pianist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Dennis Murphy** and guitarist **Paul Magpusao** (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.

The Monarch Pub in Pacific



The Rumba Madre plays Latin-American and world music Sunday at the Salty Seal Pub in Monterey. The show starts at 4 p.m.

Grove — **The Katherine Lavin Band** (pop and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.). 617 Lighthouse Ave.

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz and pop, Friday and Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 5 p.m.), pianist **Joe Indence** (Sunday at 5 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Monday and Thursday at 5 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Tuesday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **Reija Massey** (pop, rock and country, Wednesday at 5 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

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

Puma Road at Portola Plaza in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Kito Rayburn** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Joyce Sampson** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **Peter Martin** and bassist **Zach Westfall** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.). 281 Alvarado St.

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 — **The Rogue Roosters** (rock and blues at 8 p.m.), **The John Michael Band** (pop and rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **The Rumba Madre** (Latin-American and world music, Sunday at 4 p.m.), mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff** (bluegrass and jazz, Thursday at 8 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

Sly McFly’s in Monterey — **Jon Griffin & The Lightfighters** (rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), **5 Star** (rock and soul, Thursday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Dave “Nomad” Miller** (rock, Friday at 6 p.m.), banjo player **Banjer Dan** (bluegrass, Saturday 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.



Violinist Chris Lynch performs Sunday at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley. The music starts at 2 p.m.



Kitties of the Week

Chunkie 2 years old

Tortilla 8 mos. old



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SECTION RE ■ January 19-25, 2024

Open Houses on page 8RE

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate



■ This week's cover, located in Pacific Grove, is presented by J.R. Rouse of Sotheby's International Realty. (See Page 2 RE)

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

January 19-25, 2024



904 Del Monte Boulevard, Pacific Grove
New Price: \$3,900,000

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Real Estate Sales Jan. 7 - 13

Escrows closed: 18
Total value: \$35,222,500

Carmel Highlands

30560 Aurora del Mar — \$7,525,000
 David and Jayne Love to Diligent Lending LLC
 APN: 243-331-003

Carmel Valley

273 W. Carmel Valley Road — \$900,000
 Christopher Thom to 273 Carmel Valley Road LLC
 APN: 187-231-003

8008 River Place — \$2,335,000
 Patricia Doyle to Donn and Mary Frizzell
 APN: 157-041-016

Gonzales

Johnson Canyon Road — \$1,575,500



30560 Aurora del Mar, Carmel Highlands — \$7,525,000

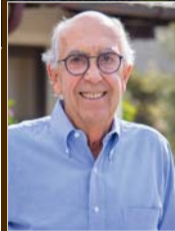
Michael Kasolas to Lost Valley Explorer LLC
 APN: 223-042-015

See **HOME SALES** page 4RE

3334 Martin Road, Carmel



4 Beds, 3 Baths ■ 2,537 Sq. Ft. ■ \$4,750,000 ■ 3334MartinRoad.com



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2023 Annual Market Statistics



GREATER CARMEL

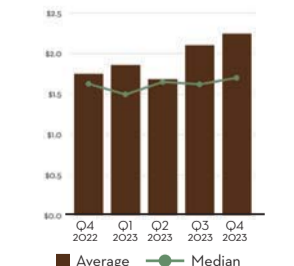
AVERAGE SELLING PRICE
\$1,973,770

↓ 13.2%
 versus 2022

UNITS SOLD
49

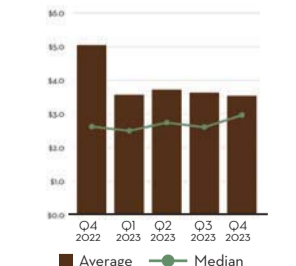
↓ 32.9%
 versus 2022

AVERAGE VS. MEDIAN SALES PRICE



PEBBLE BEACH

AVERAGE VS. MEDIAN SALES PRICE

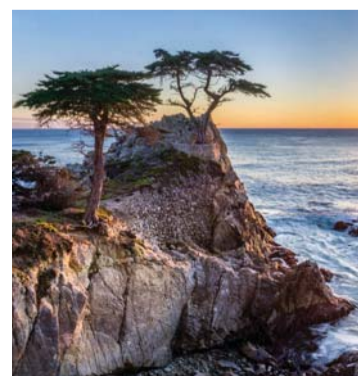


AVERAGE SELLING PRICE
\$3,613,327

↓ 36.2%
 versus 2022

UNITS SOLD
75

↓ 20.2%
 versus 2022



With inventory remaining tight, prices remain strong in Carmel and Pebble Beach. There is a great opportunity for sellers to take advantage of this market. Please reach out to learn more about the current real estate market, or if you or any of your friends or family need assistance in the listing or purchasing of a home!



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Carmel Valley ■ 3 beds, 3 baths ■ \$2,950,000 ■ www.ElCaminitoCarmelValley.com



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Carmel Valley ■ 4 beds, 4 baths ■ \$2,790,000 ■ www.27465LomaDelRey.com



OPEN SAT 12PM-3PM
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HOME SALES

From page 2RE

Marina

2767 Telegraph Blvd. — \$982,000

Louis and Claire Scalzo to Jonathan and Ariana Blumenfeld
APN: 031-259-023

2717 4th Avenue — \$1,203,500

Shea Homes LP to Louis and Claire Scalzo
APN: 031-258-004

416 Reservation Road — \$5,500,000

HNS Hospitality LLC to Gawfco Enterprise LLC
APN: 032-152-046

Monterey

335 Eldorado Street — \$307,500



1247 Josselyn Canyon Road, Monterey — \$1,800,000

Linda Burnett to John Faia and Chad Cassidy
APN: 001-741-023

451 Dela Vina unit 301 — \$590,000

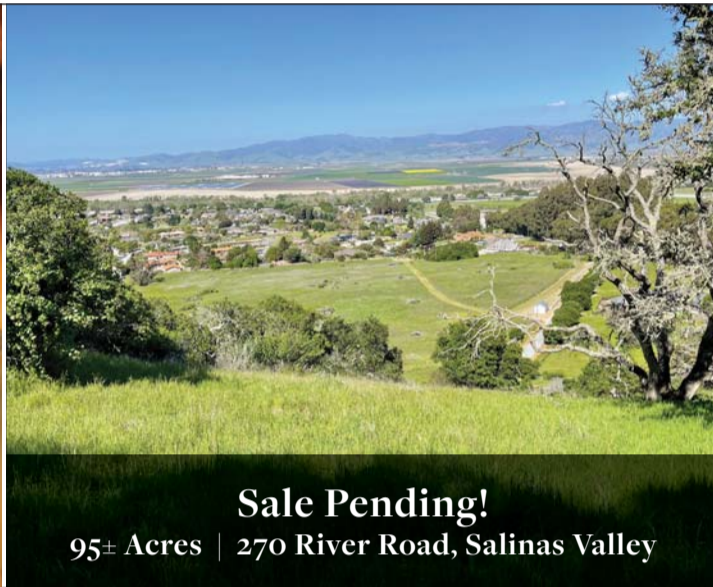
Ronald Scro and Robin Kelly to



3128 Stevenson Drive, Pebble Beach — \$2,800,000

Christopher, Bun and Judy Ngov
APN: 013-331-025

See ESCROWS page 11RE



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Hearing voices and managing multiple personalities when writing

WITHOUT A formal education in creative writing, I am hesitant to offer any advice to people who ask me about becoming writers. Danger lies in suggesting a one-size-fits-all approach that doesn't account for the diverse nature of storytelling. I tell them writing is a risky business. You have to take chances without any guarantee of

a good result.

Writers must be willing to accept rejection. I have a collection of material I affectionately call my beloved losers, because editors too obtuse to recognize great stuff spurned them. My drawer is full of grammatically correct rejection slips. The rebuff I'll never forget came with this

question, "Have you ever considered investing in a dictionary?" You would think I would be devastated by such a remark, but I was encouraged. It was a handwritten note. At least I knew that someone actually read what I wrote.

Writers work in their minds. What they do in their minds is imaginary and becomes something worthwhile only if it connects with the reader's imagination. A writer cannot do what a sculptor does with clay, what a painter does with paint, or what a composer does with constantly

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

rearranging *do-re-mi-fa-sol-la-ti-do*. There is sensory involvement with those art forms. Whatever pleasure a reader derives from reading takes place in his imagination, just as the composition takes place in the imagination of the writer.

The question I receive more frequently than any other is: Where do my ideas come from? My standard answer is, "I don't know," because the real answer would probably cause the questioner to call for an exorcism. I hear voices, which places me somewhere between Joan of Arc and Son of Sam. I am not as saintly as Joan, nor as pathologically deranged as David Berkowitz, but there is a smidgeon of abnormality that comes with writing.

Finding the extraordinary

The voices I hear come to me mostly at night. Maybe it takes a body at rest to be open to bizarre communication. Thus there is pen and paper on the nightstand to record the messages before they disassemble into the unpredictable dimensions of a dream world. The next suitable venue for hearing voices is the shower. Perhaps washing away earthly grit is symbolic of washing away distractions, and you know how writers love symbolism. There is risk involved, too, in separating the prosaic from the extraordinary. Are the voices telling me to produce the great American novel or to conserve water?

Aside from hearing voices, multiple personalities play large roles in producing literary gems on a regular basis. Writing coaches advise you to "be yourself." Being myself isn't good enough. By myself, I would be a writer

See GERVASE page 10RE



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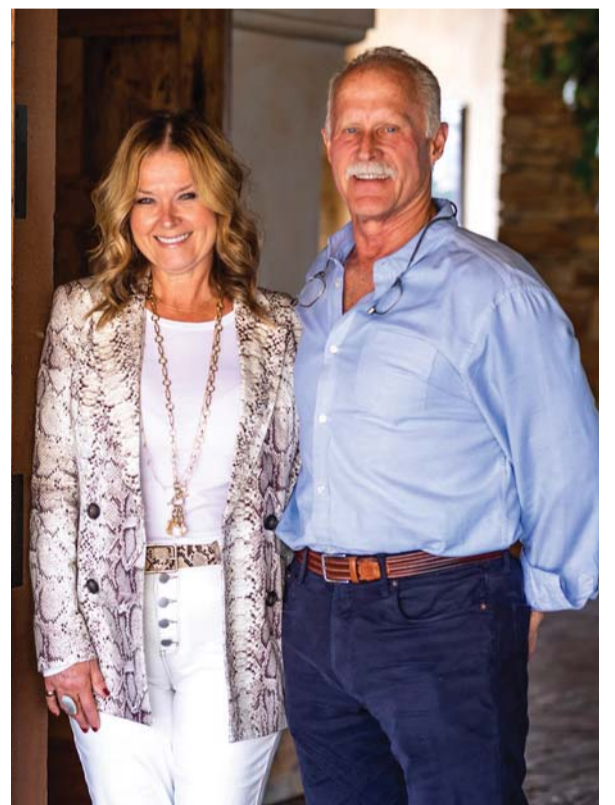
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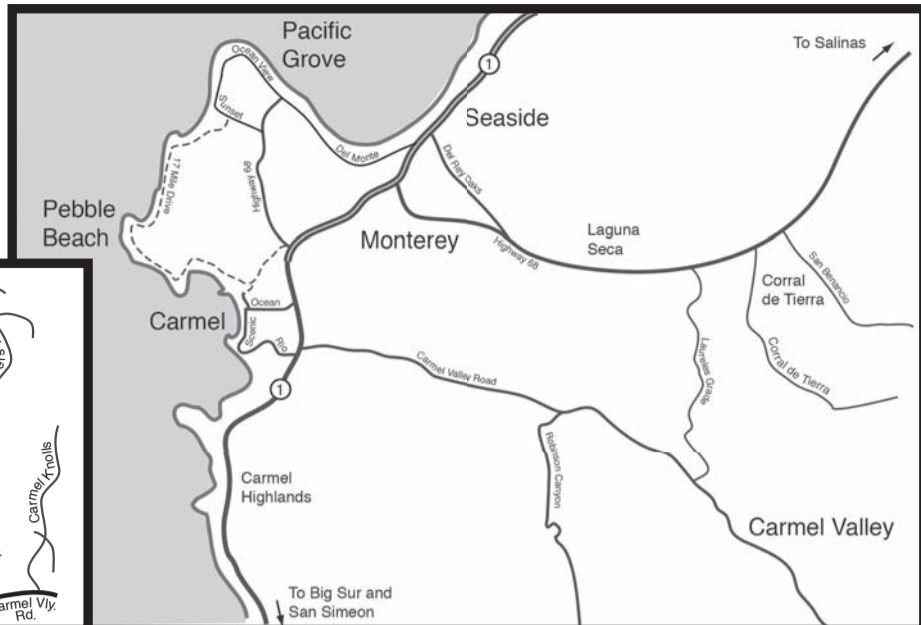
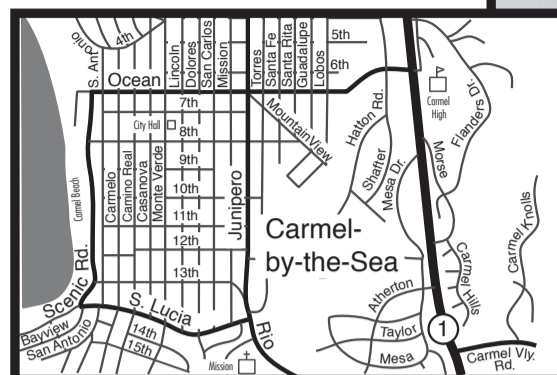
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POLICE LOG

From page 4A

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Carmel-by-the-Sea: No calls to report.
Pacific Grove: Fraudulent activity on Lighthouse Avenue.
Carmel area: Adult Protective Services referral at a Mission Fields residence for financial exploitation. Victim did not wish to provide information or press charges.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A traffic stop was conducted on a GMC driven by a 23-year-old male on Ocean and Carpenter for a cracked/defective front windshield. A records check was conducted, and the driver was found to have seven outstanding traffic warrants. He was released from the scene with a promise to appear.
Pacific Grove: Vehicle at Ocean View Boulevard and Sea Palm Avenue was marked as abandoned.
Carmel area: Report of fraud by false pretense at the Barnyard shopping center.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject lost a wedding ring at Carmel River Beach.
Pacific Grove: Found property at the trail by Lovers Point was turned in.
Pacific Grove: Subject on Ripple Avenue was placed on a mental health evaluation hold and firearms taken from the residence for safekeeping.
Carmel area: Deputies responded to a dead body found on Sycamore Place.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Carmel-by-the-Sea: No calls to report.

Pacific Grove: Found bicycle at David and Buena Vista.
Pacific Grove: Found property at Patterson Lane was turned in.
Pacific Grove: Suspicious circumstance reported on Forest Avenue.
Pacific Grove: Abandoned vehicle with expired registration at Stuart and Seaview.
Pacific Grove: Abandoned vehicle with expired registration at Stuart and Seaview.
Pacific Grove: A theft from a vehicle occurred on Junipero Avenue.
Carmel area: A male on Rio Road passed away of natural causes.
Carmel area: Deputies responded after report of an unresponsive adult male on Rio Vista.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle towed from Mission and Sixth for having expired registration over six months.
Pacific Grove: Adult Protective Services report on Piedmont.
Pacific Grove: Lost property on Granite Street.
Pacific Grove: Earrings stolen from a store on Asilomar Boulevard.
Pacific Grove: Suspicious circumstance at Pacific Grove High School.
Carmel Valley: Battery reported on Del Fino Place involving a 23-year-old female and a 28-year-old female.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Carmel-by-the-Sea: At about 0910 hours, a person reported a 39-year-old male taking his clothes off and yelling at people for no apparent reason. Officers responded and located him in the area of Junipero and Sixth. He had six warrants for his arrest, including drug-related offenses, violation of probation, making threats, brandishing and driving on a suspended license. He was arrested and booked into Monterey County Jail.

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GERVASE

From page 6RE

of grocery lists or an instructor in one of those writing mills that used to advertise on matchbook covers. There are times when I want to be a three-dot journalist like Herb Caen: "Pretty girls smoking cigars are like roses dipped in mustard." Or write insightful commentary like Thomas Sowell: "It is usually futile to try to talk facts and analysis to people who are enjoying a sense of moral superiority in their ignorance." Or knock out homers the way Roger Angell did when writing about baseball: "Infield practice is a more mystic ritual than preparation, encouraging the big-leaguer, no less than the duffer in the stands, to believe in spite of all the evidence that playing baseball is a snap."

Several writers wrangle for control of my keyboard. I like to think that Caen, Sowell and Angell dwell within me. My selection of selves, though, cannot be limited to those three. There are times when I aim for Melville. Mickey Spillane, creator of Mike Hammer, brushes Herman's fingers away from the keys, and I turn out: "Moby, Private Dick." My mind must be a democracy in which all parties, even the crazy ones, have their say. Without balance, sanity (my own) would be impossible.

Dictatorship

The voices and personalities I channel are not always there. This is more than evident in first drafts. Even Joan of Arc isn't available, as she is busily establishing a defense because the DOJ is investigating her for colluding with arsonists. The voices begin to show up during the revisions.

Psychologists have pointed out that few writers are wise in life. They become wise (if they do) through revision — which answers the second most frequently asked question I get: How long does it take to write a column? Sometimes minutes, sometimes days, sometimes longer when several voices are speaking to me at once. I listen to them all, but at some point democracy turns into a dictatorship, and writing truly becomes a one-man job for which I will be judged because my name, not theirs, is on the page. But they're hovering.

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From page 4RE

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