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The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 103 No. 43

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October 27 - November 2, 2017

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Soldiers reflect as nation celebrates a hero

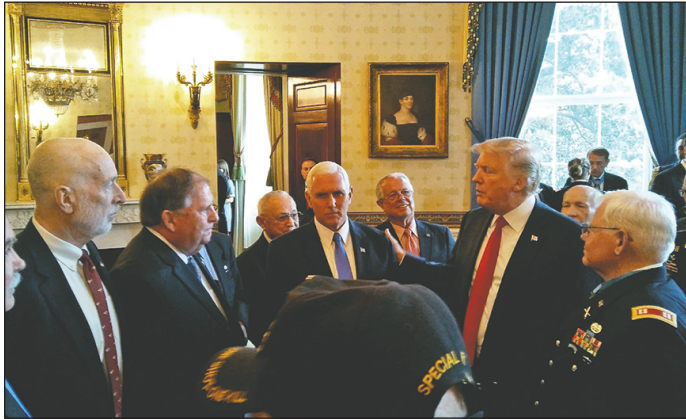
■ Peninsula man sees ‘validation’ of top-secret combat mission in Laos

By PAUL MILLER

WASHINGTON D.C. — WHEN PRESIDENT Donald Trump presented the Medal of Honor to former U.S. Army Capt. Mike Rose at the White House on Monday, the national significance of the soldier’s selfless, heroic deeds during the Vietnam War was unmistakable in the dignified air of the



(Left) President Donald Trump bestows the Medal of Honor on Capt. Mike Rose Monday at the White House. (Below) After the ceremony, the president and vice president held a private talk with Rose and the men who fought alongside him, including longtime Carmel resident and former Marine helicopter pilot Joe Driscoll (at far left).



PHOTOS/(TOP) TODD LOPEZ, US ARMY NEWS SERVICE, (ABOVE) COURTESY JOE DRISCOLL

East Room.

But for the combat brothers assembled to share the moment with the humble, soft-spoken Rose, now 70 years old, it was something much more personal: A chance to reunite with the men who shared a long-ago experience that was so profoundly challenging and violent, the only way to understand it was to be there. Especially since the top-secret mission across the border into officially neutral Laos was classified for 30 years, and only now is becoming well known to the public.

“I’m not sure I could describe in words how meaningful the Medal of Honor ceremony was to us,” said one of those men, longtime Carmel resident Joe Driscoll, who 47 years ago was a young Marine helicopter pilot in charge of a Cobra gunship.

To see their comrade receive the nation’s highest honor for bravery was “validation that what we did was important,” said Driscoll.

It wasn’t always so. The whole Vietnam War — fought to halt communist expansion in Southeast Asia, at a cost of more than 50,000 American lives — has somehow been consigned to the history books as a kind of epic mistake. Some of the men who fought in it came back home not sure if they should mention it, much less be proud of it.

Just one medic

But in September 1970, there was a mission to do: stop the Vietcong from using the neighboring country of Laos as a staging area to attack U.S. forces in South Vietnam. As the flow of guns and guerilla fighters through Laos escalated, orders went out to send 15 Army Special Forces combat specialists — backed with heavily armed helicopters flown by U.S. Marine aviators and accompanied by 120 Vietnamese tribal fighters known as Montagnards — deep across the border to disrupt enemy forces.

The difficult mission was called Operation Tailwind, and Mike Rose, then an Army sergeant,

See **HONORED** page 13A

Marina, activists, call on PUC to stop Cal Am desal plant

By KELLY NIX

THE CITY of Marina and its municipal water agency are expected next week to continue efforts to derail California American Water’s proposed desalination plant in the Marina dunes by trying to convince state regulators the plant is no longer needed because of conservation, lower demand for drinking water, and the availability of other new water sources.

On Sept. 29, Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado and others submitted testimony to the state’s Public Utilities Commission — the agency considering Cal Am’s proposed desal plant — asking the state agency to reject the proposal, which would allow the company to stop pumping most of its water from the Carmel River.

In testimony, Delgado and city manager Layne Long contend that Cal Am’s proposed desal plant — the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project — would adversely affect Marina’s “community values, recreational and park areas, and historical and aesthetic values, in a manner that cannot be mitigated.”

Cal Am’s desal plant, even downsized, is not needed to meet its customer demand, “especially given” the project’s “serious and wide-ranging impacts” on Marina, Delgado said.

“The commission should, therefore, find and conclude

Water no longer needed, they say, because of conservation and reclamation

See **DESAL** page 16A

SHORT-TERM RENTALS CRACKDOWN IS WORKING, SAYS CITY ATTORNEY

■ Dozens of listings pulled from internet

By MARY SCHLEY

SINCE THE city got tough about stopping homeowners from renting out their houses to vacationers, dozens have removed their listings from VRBO.com and similar websites — and six have put their homes on the market — city attorney Glen Mozingo told The Pine Cone this week.

In July, the city signed a contract with a company called Host Compliance that tracks short-term-rental listings on numerous websites and has been compiling the information for the city, so officials can go after the owners. Renting a home in the residential district to anyone for a period shorter than 30 days is against the law in Carmel, but the ordinance had gone largely unenforced for years.

“The comprehensive review of the websites indicates a lot of listings have been removed,” planning director Marc Wiener said Wednesday. “It looked like from what I saw, it’s down to being the range of 50 to 70 short-term-rental listings, total, which I think is pretty good compared to when we first started looking into this a couple of years ago.”

Mozingo said that in the past 65 days, 129 rentals have disappeared from the websites, and he suspects that’s due in part to the publicity surrounding the couple who was sued by the city for refusing to stop using their house as a short-term rental, and eventually settled.

See **CRACKDOWN** page 17A

Man pulled from wreck moments before it explodes

By CHRIS COUNTS

POLICE ARE calling a Palo Colorado Canyon resident a hero after he dragged a seriously injured state parks worker from a burning truck Oct. 18 — just seconds before the vehicle exploded.

Moments earlier, the truck had been hit head-on by an Acura, whose driver was attempting to evade Monterey County Sheriff’s deputy Jesse Villasenor. The two parties were engaged in a high-speed chase along Highway 1 that ended in a horrific collision just south of the Rocky Point restaurant.

It was shortly before sunset when Bret Engel — who was on his way home to Palo Colorado Canyon after work — pulled over and made a brief stop in the turnout at Hurricane Point. Suddenly, a northbound car came screaming around the bend.

“It must have been doing 80 mph,” Engel told The Pine Cone. “I said, ‘Holy shit!’ Jesse was tailing it about 40 feet behind.”

Passerby steps up

After the two cars passed, Engel pulled back onto the pavement and headed north. As Engel’s view to the north expanded, he could see the two speeding cars cross Bixby Bridge in the distance. “They were going so fast,” he recalled.

It takes about three minutes by car to get from Hurricane Point to Palo Colorado Road, and when Engel arrived at the intersection of the latter and Highway 1, he saw flames, smoke and chaos.

“The scene was sprawled out in front of me,”

Engel said. “The Acura was in three different pieces.”

A Ford F-250 pickup truck, meanwhile, was off the side of the road to the west of the pavement, and it was on fire.

“I saw a couple go across the road,” Engel continued. “The woman had her hand over her mouth, and the man said, ‘There’s somebody in there.’”

Engel quickly swung into action. He scurried down to the truck and opened the door to its cab. The driver, Rob McManaman, was in rough shape.

“He couldn’t get up because he had two broken legs,”

See **WRECK** page 15A



SCREENSHOT FROM VIDEO BY BRADLEY DOUGLAS

A motorist captured this image of the scene of a horrific traffic collision Oct. 18 on Highway 1 just south of Rocky Point in Big Sur. One man died in the crash.



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Sixth sense

LUNA IS a 4-year-old German shepherd who lives in Carmel Valley with her couple and a horse named Ursula. She was born at Van Den Heuvel K9 in Oregon, a breeder renowned for its "noble, healthy, versatile, courageous and well balanced" German shepherds. Luna came from a Czechoslovakian line, which makes her a little smaller, straighter, sturdier and smarter. Or so it seems.

"Luna is a beautiful dog but, as a puppy, she was such a challenge," her person said. "She shot out of that womb like a torpedo, ready to rock and roll. With some really good training, she became calmer, more focused. She's a really good dog."

When Luna was 2 years old, she awakened her person on a sleepy Sunday morning by pawing and sniffing at her left breast. Then, she started whining. Next, Luna climbed up and lay upon her person, crying.

By Lisa Crawford Watson



"I pressed my hand against my breast," she said, "and there it was, the lump."

Within days, Luna's person had been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, stage 1. Her doctors could not believe she'd detected the cancer so early, when a mammogram had not.

"I didn't," she said. "My dog did."

Luna's person, having gone through her cancer journey, remains healthy and well. And she and Luna remain very close.

"After my diagnosis, Luna never leaves my side, and her eyes rarely leave mine," her person said. "We've had four German shepherds, but Luna is different than the others. She has a phenomenal intelligence. I'm considering putting her through medical detection training."

But for now, Luna is her person's copilot in the car, sitting with her paw on her person's shoulder, as they ride. She is her partner on afternoon walks and, still, says her person, an absolute bullet at the beach.

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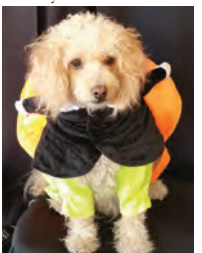
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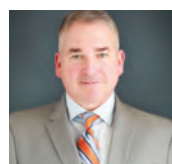
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Council appoints eight to oversee beach, forest, history and planning

By MARY SCHLEY

EIGHT PEOPLE — many of whom have already been serving and applied to re-up — were assigned to four city boards and commissions by the city council earlier this month.

Those who successfully applied for reappointment to their respective board or commission include Erik Dyar and Alex Heisinger for the historic resources board, Gail Lehman and Michael LePage for the planning commission, and Tara Twomey for the Harrison Memorial Library Board of Trustees.

Longtime forest and beach commissioner Karen Ferlito also applied for reappointment, but was not invited to serve another term.

The newcomers to city service are Christopher Bolton and Michael Caddell, both appointed to the forest and beach commission. They will serve four-year terms.

Bolton moved back into Carmel less than two years ago, but he first lived here with his family in 1978 and attended Carmel High School before going to UC Santa Cruz to study intertidal ecology — an educational aspiration inspired by his exploration of tide pools near Carmel Beach as a kid.

He's worked for his father, Michael Bolton of the Bolton Design Group, for 20 years, and said in his application that they have designed homes and other buildings "around, through and under more oak, cypress and pine branches that can be counted."

"I feel that I am uniquely qualified to serve on the forest and beach commission," he said. "My success in development, coupled with my scientific background and my desire to preserve Carmel's unique beauty while shepherding its growth, make me an ideal candidate."

Caddell, an attorney who has a firm in Houston, Texas, said he's lived on Carmel Point since August 2013, but has longer-running ties to the area, as his wife graduated

from Stevenson School in 1983. They were also married in Big Sur and had a house there, and he was a member of the Henry Miller Library board for many years.

Caddell has practiced law since 1979, and specializes in class action, commercial matters, litigation, product liability, franchising issues, trade secrets, "toxic torts," and insurance. The Caddell & Chapman Law Firm was started in 1985.

Living on the Point, Caddell and his wife often walk along Scenic and through Mission Trail park, he noted. "We appreciate the special character of Carmel and want to preserve that character as much as possible, while encouraging responsible growth and commercial activity," he wrote in his application.

Well wishing

Ferlito, who served two terms on the forest and beach commission in the 1990s, and another six years more recently, said she was out of the country when the interviews were held, "so that may have had something to do with not being reappointed."

"However, I was surprised to see that the commission seems to be all men now," she added. "I wish the new commissioners well. Virtually four of the five are very new and will need to be acquainted with the various and many management plans. I hope that orientation will take place soon."

Ferlito's concerns about the forest continue. She said she believes it's "suffering," and that not enough trees are being planted on publicly owned land to replace those that have died. "Nor are we conducting private property replacement tree inspections on a regular and active basis, so that we ensure that required replacements are actually in the ground and growing for the future," she said.

Even though she's no longer a member of the commission, Ferlito volunteers with the

See **APPOINT** page 27A


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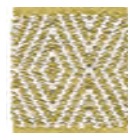
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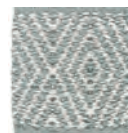


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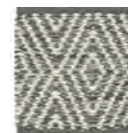
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Police, Fire & Sheriff's Log

Squirrel captured, injuries treated

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, OCTOBER 10

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dispatch received an anonymous letter that alleged someone was acting suspiciously. Allegations were looked into, and it was determined there was no merit.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Investigated a non-injury accident on Ocean Avenue.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Person lost a bracelet in the business district and requested a report in the event the bracelet is turned in for safe-keeping.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A report was taken for a lost wallet on the beach.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Adult male was cited on Junipero south of Fourth for being in possession of more than 1 oz. of marijuana. Male was contacted during a traffic stop. Cited and released from the scene. Case forwarded to the DA. Case closed.

Carmel area: A female reported that her vehicle on Highway 1 was broken into, and items were stolen.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Business owner on San Carlos south of Fifth was upset after a contractor

disabled the business owner's alarm system to work on the building directly above. Both parties were contacted, and a mutual understanding was reached.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Officer responded to a squirrel in a trap on Franciscan Way which caused injuries. The officer transported the animal to the SPCA wildlife department for care.

Pacific Grove: Subject on Spruce was served with two court orders.

Pacific Grove: A 25-year-old male on Forest Avenue was arrested for warrants.

Pacific Grove: Non-injury traffic collision on Pine.

Pacific Grove: Male adult, age 45, was contacted on Sloat Avenue and found to be on probation with no-alcohol terms. The subject admitted to drinking alcohol earlier in the day. He was arrested for violation of probation.

Pacific Grove: Citizen fell on public property while riding her bicycle on Sunset Drive.

Pacific Grove: Subject on Beaumont reported being contacted by a suspicious male.

Pacific Grove: Hit-and-run rear-end collision between two vehicles on Forest Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Theft of a wallet reported from a locked vehicle on Forest Avenue. No suspect information.

Carmel Valley: A male reported that he lost an item on East Carmel Valley Road while having a medical emergency.

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



Deja Vu Couture

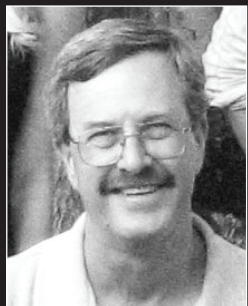
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The gavel falls

Verdicts, pleas and sentencings announced by
The Monterey County District Attorney

Aug. 22 — Jose Castaneda, a former Salinas City Councilman, was sentenced to eight years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the crimes of kidnapping, domestic violence and stalking.

On September 5, 2015, at 11 p.m., Jane Doe, a former dating partner of Castaneda's, refused to talk to him. Castaneda unexpectedly approached her outside of her Salinas home, grabbed her forearms and dragged her down the driveway and pushed her into a van which he drove approximately a half-mile away. They remained at that location for two to three hours as Castaneda continuously hit the victim on her head, arms and legs, and subjected her to accusatory and degrading questioning. He then demanded the victim's phone and passwords to her social media accounts.

When the victim refused, he pulled her into the back seat and continued to berate and strike her. When the victim's phone battery died, Castaneda released the victim and she walked the half-mile to her home barefoot.

The victim did not report to police until Castaneda returned to her home that same evening and again demanded to talk to her while he banged on her car windows, her front door and her brother's bedroom window.

On May 24, 2017, after two days of deliberations, a jury of seven women and five men found Mr. Castaneda guilty of kidnapping, domestic violence and stalking.

In court, the victim detailed how Castaneda's criminal conduct impacted her daily life for the last two years and will continue to do so in the future. She related that many people applaud Castaneda for his public persona, but those persons do not know his other side — the one that is demanding, controlling and violent. She stated through the pendency of this case, Castaneda cast himself in the media and in court as the victim. But she is the victim that endured his violent behavior in September 2015 and his manipulation of the court's time for two years. The victim, accompanied by her son, brother, aunt, niece and many friends, mentioned she hopes that other victims of domestic violence will come forward and report violence to family, friends and law enforcement.

Castaneda made a public apology to both prior girlfriends who testified in the jury trial

about "what went on between us" and related to the court that he has had time to dwell on his mistakes. After several minutes of reading his statement, he asked the court for a grant of probation so he could continue his work in the community and be the backbone for his family.

In rendering sentence, Judge Carrie Panetta stated Castaneda's apology sounded like a political statement for his supporters. She described his in-court statement as self-serving and said that it did not appear to illustrate any genuine remorse for his crimes. She noted that he not once indicated that he committed any crime but only apologized for "the things that went on between he and the victims."

Judge Panetta determined Castaneda was not eligible for a grant of probation. She further stated that Castaneda's crimes displayed planning, a high degree of cruelty and callousness, and his crimes were of increasing seriousness which posed a danger to society. Judge Panetta imposed the upper term of eight years for the crime of kidnapping, and concurrent sentences for the domestic violence and stalking charges. She also granted a criminal protective order prohibiting contact with the victim and her son for a period of 10 years.

Aug. 24 — The Honorable Pamela L. Butler sentenced Alex Espinoza, age 24, of Salinas, to 32 months in state prison for one felony count of evading a peace officer.

Mr. Espinoza pled no contest based on the following facts. On December 7, 2016, at about 12:06 a.m., a California Highway Patrol officer began pursuing the Honda Accord driven by him. Gilroy police had previously attempted to stop the Accord because it displayed fraudulent license plates. Mr. Espinoza drove the Accord at speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour on Highway 101. After exiting Highway 101, Mr. Espinoza exited the Accord and fled on foot. Earlier, he had thrown his wallet with his California driver's license out the window of the car, which led to his identification.

California's Three Strikes law doubled his sentence because he previously suffered a strike conviction for Criminal Street Gang activity. Despite the defendant's prior strike conviction, pursuant to the recent passage of Proposition 57, Espinoza will be eligible for parole consideration in 16 months.

Sleeping cousins arrested in parked car

By MARY SCHLEY

A COUPLE of women found sleeping in the back of a car parked on Scenic Road shortly after midnight Monday were taken to Monterey County Jail when police officers discovered they were both in violation of parole for violent felonies, according to Carmel Police Sgt. Luke Powell.

Cpl. Ken Shen and officer Jacob Clifford were patrolling the beach area at 12:15 a.m. Oct. 23 when they noticed a white Nissan Altima parked on Scenic Road just south of Eighth Avenue. Parking is prohibited in that area after midnight, except for residents with permits, so they stopped to check out the car, according to Powell.

“They discovered two female adults sleeping in the rear seat of the Nissan, and both were bundled up under multiple blankets and pillows,” he said. Since camping isn’t allowed, either, the officers woke the women up

and warned them about the rules.

It was then that Shen and Clifford discovered the ladies were Gabriella Mendez from Tulare (in Tulare County) and Melissa Mendez from Hanford, in Kings County. Ages 26 and 24, respectively, they are cousins, according to Powell.

“Gabriella and Melissa were both found to be on active parole for various felony convictions: Gabriella was on parole for attempted murder, and Melissa was on parole for assault with a deadly weapon,” he said.

Shen and Clifford searched the women and their car, but found nothing incriminating. Shen also checked the terms of their paroles and found neither woman was supposed to be more than 50 miles outside her county.

As a result, their parole agents asked CPD to take the Mendez cousins into custody, and Clifford drove both of them to Monterey County Jail, where they were held until they returned to their own counties.

Man hits windshield, gets fractured spine

By MARY SCHLEY

A DRIVER who looked down to change the radio station ran onto the shoulder of the road near Carmel River School Wednesday morning, striking a man who was out for his morning stroll and sending him to a trauma center with major injuries, according to California Highway Patrol officer Oscar Loza.

At around 8:20 a.m. Oct. 25, Donald Bruno, a 64-year-old Seaside resident, was “on his daily walk,” when 22-year-old Jacob Rankin, who lives in Marina, drove his 2006 Mercury onto the northbound shoulder of 15th Avenue near Monte Verde Street, hitting him. Bruno collided with the windshield and was thrown to the ground.

“According to Mr. Rankin, he traveled onto the shoulder because he was changing the radio station,” Loza said.

Carmel P.D. officer Joe Boucher also heard

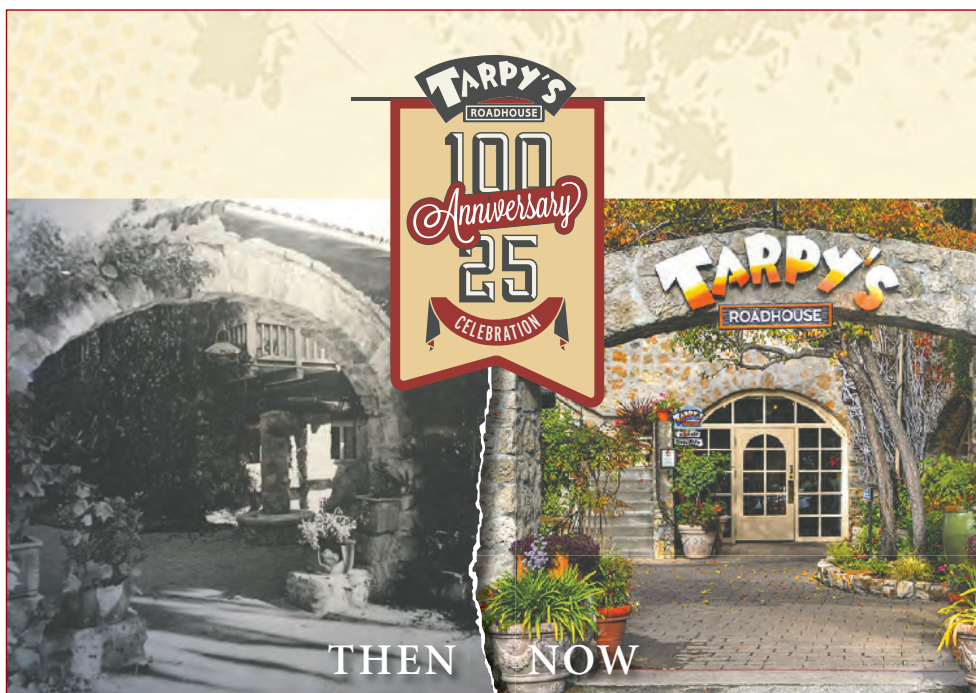
a report of the crash on his police radio, and, since he was doing radar speed enforcement on nearby Rio Road, he drove over to see if he could help, according to CPD Sgt. Luke Powell. The area is not within the city limits.

When he got there, a Cal Fire engine and Carmel Fire Ambulance were already on scene and were treating Bruno, who was lying on the side of the road in front of the school, according to Powell.

“Officer Boucher could see visible injuries and abrasions on the subject’s right hand and elbow, but overheard the subject having difficulty answering basic questions, like, ‘What happened?’ and ‘Do you know where you are?’” Powell said.

Boucher helped with traffic control while the medics worked on Bruno, and after the CHP officer got there, Boucher went in search

See FRACTURED page 27A



CHEERS TO 100 YEARS

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County wants help in finding new ambulance service for 10-year deal

By MARY SCHLEY

IN 2020, the County of Monterey will have a new 10-year contract for ambulance service, and last week, representatives from the county Emergency Medical Services Agency and a consultant sought feedback from residents regarding what they expect when they dial 911 for an ambulance, and how much they want to pay for it.

Such information will be useful as they develop a “request for proposals” and solicit companies that might be interested in doing the job.

“We have given Fitch & Associates reports on all our systems — they’ve interviewed fire chiefs, ambulance management, labor, physicians,” and others who can provide insight into emergency medical services

in the county, Mike Petrie, director of the Monterey County EMS Agency, said at a community meeting at Carmel Middle School last Wednesday night. “Many of the key stakeholders have been interviewed, and we’ve conducted these meetings in each of the five districts.”

Petrie said the county is doing “more comprehensive outreach than any other EMS system in the state of California,” including meeting with city and county planners to understand how land use figures into the mix.

While the Oct. 18 meeting was reportedly better attended than the others, Petrie and the Fitch & Associates representative didn’t get all that much input on what people want.

Mary Adams, 5th District Monterey County supervisor, said she’d prefer an

ambulance company that has “experience with working in a jurisdiction as varied as ours is,” while Mike Niccum, general manager of the Pebble Beach Community Services District, noted that fire engines in Del Monte Forest now have paramedics riding on them, in part because ambulances had a hard time getting to patients in the forest quickly enough. There are two fire stations within Del Monte Forest, but no ambulance is stationed there.

A Carmel Highlands resident noted that when people in his neighborhood need one, they don’t know if it will be a county ambulance, or one from Carmel Fire Ambulance or Monterey County Regional Fire District. Those two agencies, which provide service in Carmel-by-the-Sea and Carmel Valley, respond to calls if they’re closer than the county provider.

and county supervisors meddled too much. Jurors suggested the county come up with “realistic and accurate” requirements for ambulance service, and develop a contract that specifies alternate means of resolution (other than fines and termination) for being out of compliance, lets the company hire qualified workers, and clearly defines the roles of all involved, among other things.

At last week’s meeting, Petrie said the goals are to put people first and provide superior ambulance service countywide. Clinical and operational performance should be measurable and continue to improve, and the deal should make fiscal sense while being reasonably priced for patients.

Economics are one of the more challenging aspects, considering Medicare and Medi-Cal provide very low reimbursements for transporting their patients, and the companies eat the costs when patients aren’t covered by insurance, because they don’t pay anything on their own, according to a company representative at the meeting. Privately insured patients cover the bulk of the expenses. A bill for a single ambulance ride can run into the thousands of dollars.

The agreement should also “ensure healthcare dollars are used for healthcare purposes,” and it should include the right “incentives and sanctions to provide positive outcomes,” Petrie continued.

The county plans to solicit applications for a new ambulance provider later next year. Having the deal signed by January 2019 would give the new company time to get enough equipment and employees in place by the time it takes over on Feb. 1, 2020.

“We want to make sure we do this right. We want to make sure it lasts for the whole 2020-2030 period,” Petrie said.

For more information and to provide feedback, visit www.mocoems.org.

A bailout, but failure anyway

But everyone knows they don’t want a repeat of what transpired a decade ago, when Westmed, the company the county contracted with for ambulance service at the time, failed to meet many of the terms of its contract, including responding to calls as quickly as the company said it would, and getting enough patients to pay for their ambulance services.

Despite a \$1 million bailout by county taxpayers, the company lost money, and as a result, the agreement was dissolved. American Medical Response has operated ambulances throughout much of the 3,326-square-mile county since then.

A Monterey County Civil Grand Jury report in January 2008 concluded the failures under the contract with Westmed weren’t entirely the ambulance company’s fault, because the agreement’s requirements “were unattainable with resources available,”

Coping with holiday-season grief

THE HOLIDAYS are a time of joy for many, but for those who have lost a loved one — especially a partner, spouse or child — they can be an excruciating reminder of what was, and cause for deep sadness.

On Nov. 8, The Carmel Foundation will present a free talk on coping with grief during the holidays. Nurse Joy Smith, Dr. Lily Rich, and chaplain Trevor Jones will share insights on the complex emotions that arise during the holiday season, and how to handle them — including remembering and honor-

ing those who are gone. The discussion will take place from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in Diment Hall at Eighth and Lincoln. It’s free and open to the public.

The foundation serves members age 55 and older by offering low-cost lunches, meal delivery for the homebound, free medical equipment loans, in-home services and respite grants, a library, entertainment, a computer lab, field trips, and more than 50 classes and activities each week. For more info, visit www.carmelfoundation.org.

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Pacific Grove council looks to continue ban on commercial pot

By KELLY NIX

DESPITE THE statewide legalization of recreational marijuana in 2018 — and the lure of big tax money from sales of the drug — the Pacific Grove City Council is poised to maintain the city's ban on the commercial sale and cultivation of pot.

After nearly a two-hour discussion on the city's cannabis policy at a noon meeting Wednesday, Councilwoman Cynthia Garfield made a motion to direct city staff to "come back with a preliminary ordinance that continues our prohibition on the commercial cultivation and sale of cannabis."

The council voted 5-0 to approve the motion and set Nov. 1 for a public hearing on the ordinance. Council members Rudy Fischer and Nick Smith were absent.

While the midday meeting only drew about 25 people, Councilman Bill Peake also called for a "robust public outreach program" on the issue. Nearly 70 percent of Pacific Grove residents voted in favor of the proposition to legalize marijuana, considerably higher than the state's 57 percent.

Proposition 64, which California voters passed Nov. 8, 2016, and goes into effect in 2018, allows adults to use marijuana recreationally. In the same vote, the council also decided to follow the new law, which permits recreational marijuana users to grow as many as six plants indoors. The state law is at odds with federal law, which still prohibits marijuana use. The use of marijuana for medical purposes is legal in the state.

The argument was made that if Pacific Grove doesn't allow commercial sales, users will continue to purchase the drug from a local dispensary and have it delivered to their Pacific Grove homes.

"As long as there is a consumer demand, you are going to have deliveries come into your community," cannabis consultant David

McPherson, who was hired by the city, told the council.

One woman who uses marijuana spoke against a ban, pointing out that pot deliveries occur in the city, yet it doesn't see a penny.

"I just hope there will be some time to consider making marijuana a tax generator for Pacific Grove," she said.

And the possibility for big profits is real. McPherson, with HdL companies, outlined how much tax revenue the city could make annually from marijuana sales, which ranged from a "conservative" estimate of \$675,000 to an "aggressive" estimate of \$1,620,000.

According to McPherson, the state's cannabis industry is expected to generate "\$7.6 billion in California by 2020."

Public safety concerns

A good portion of the discussion involved public safety concerns with commercial sales and cultivation, including driving while impaired and the possible risk to children, who could have easier access to marijuana because it's legal.

"One of the concerns we have is the chief gets a call from a school that they got a third-grader who smells like they have been rolling in the stuff," McPherson said. "And they can't go into the classroom [smelling] just like if they had been [sprayed] by a skunk."

There were also queries about edible marijuana products and the possibility they could get into the hands of children.

Former Pacific Grove Mayor Carmelita Garcia, who spoke in favor of continuing the ban, told The Pine Cone that Pacific Grove Unified School District and parent-teacher associations should also be included in the discussion. Garfield also said the schools should be involved in the cannabis conversa-

See POT page 27A

Man gets prison for bizarre crime spree

By MARY SCHLEY

A FRESNO man who broke into a Santa Cruz dealership to steal a truck, smashed into several cars while driving it, and then stumbled into a Monterey hotel ballroom and threatened to beat up the guests before causing a disturbance at CHOMP, was sentenced this week to four years in prison, according to Monterey County deputy district attorney Robin Duffy.

Michael Zavala, 44, pleaded guilty to vehicle theft and numerous other charges stemming from the spree that started just after midnight on Jan. 17, when he "stole a brand new pickup truck by throwing a rock through the window of the Santa Cruz Nissan dealership," according to Duffy. As he fled, Zavala hit two other parked trucks and drove through a fence. When he side-swiped another vehicle, he inexplicably stopped, identified himself, and provided his full contact information to the victim.

He then drove to the Monterey Peninsula, and around 9:20 a.m., "highly intoxicated and with blood covering his face and hands, stumbled into a ballroom at the Monterey

Plaza Hotel," Duffy said. There, he interrupted a meeting, refused to leave, and then threatened to punch hotel guests. When he tried to run from police, he was quickly caught, and found with two credit cards that had been reported stolen from an unlocked car in Monterey earlier that morning.

At Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, where he was taken for treatment, "he caused quite a commotion during intake," Duffy continued. "He began shouting that he hadn't done anything wrong and ran out a side door of the hospital."

A Monterey police officer chased him down and captured him — again — but didn't know he had stolen a truck from Santa Cruz and let him go on a citation, according to Duffy. Zavala was arrested again at around 9 p.m. after California Highway Patrol officers noticed a Nissan truck with dealer plates and significant driver's-side damage parked on Old Stage Road in North Monterey County, and found him sound asleep in the passenger seat.

On Oct. 24, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Burlison sentenced Zavala to four years in state prison.

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JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN MONTEREY

Why travel when you can play in your own backyard.

Builder collecting tools to help Wine Country fire victims get back to work

By MARY SCHLEY

A CONTRACTOR is planning a heavy-duty caravan up to the fire-ravaged areas of Sonoma, Mendocino and Napa counties in late November, by which time he hopes to have enough donated tools, equipment and hardware to help contractors and homeowners who lost everything start rebuilding their homes and livelihoods.

Kirk House, who lives in Carmel and runs his own business, said he went to New Orleans to assist after Hurricane Katrina, and encountered a major tool shortage. So, when the Wine Country fires swept through heavily populated areas, destroying some 8,400 homes and businesses, he knew the losses would be devastating, not only for homeowners, but for those who work in the building trades.

"I know a lot of guys who have tools in their garages, so I started talking to them" about donating what they could, he said. "And Hayward Lumber gave us a storage space."

House is looking for hand tools like hammers, saws and

screwdrivers; power tools of all types and sizes; garden implements like rakes, shovels and hoes; blowers and mowers — basically, any kind of tool for professional or personal use — as well as hardware, such as nails, screws and hinges.

But House is not taking any cash, because he doesn't want to be liable. Plus, plenty of other organizations are seeking financial contributions, he pointed out.

Already a response

House just started handing out flyers about his tool drive Wednesday and said the donation period will run from Oct. 30 to Nov. 20. Nonetheless, he's already collected a significant amount of equipment.

"So far, the response has been pretty huge," he said. He's received levels, Skilsaws, compressors, electrical cords — "That's the first thing that melts," — and numerous other items.

After the donation period closes in November, he and his friends will drive all the donated tools and equipment up to

the affected areas in their trucks and trailers.

"We'll make as many trips as we need to," he said.

House doesn't want to go up there sooner, because in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, volunteers are plentiful, but places to stay and storage areas aren't. "I don't want to get up there too early, because when I did Katrina, there were too many people trying to do the right thing, and there was nowhere for them to stay," he recalled.

Anyone who would like to donate can bring the items to Hayward Lumber, 1140 Sunset Drive, in Pacific Grove. "They can drop them off at the front gate there, and the employees or I will put them in a storage room," he said. "And once we accumulate enough, we will make our first trip up there."

House is also willing to pick up items from people who are physically unable to get them over to Pacific Grove, and he will provide a receipt to anyone who wants one for tax purposes. To arrange a pickup or for more information, call (831) 601-7656.



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Helicopter drops big load in lagoon, steelhead get roof over their heads

By CHRIS COUNTS

MORE THAN three months after the Carmel Steelhead Association planned for it to happen, a helicopter lowered more than 100 tons of wood and boulders into the Carmel River Lagoon this week to provide shelter for young steelhead from predators.

First set for July 17, the work was postponed several times because the helicopter was needed in the fight against wildfires elsewhere in California.

But on Wednesday, on a picture-perfect fall day, the helicopter operation went off without a hitch. The job took about four hours to complete.

"I'm absolutely delighted," Carmel River Steelhead Association president Brian LeNeve told The Pine Cone. "A lot of work went into this, and it's really paid off. I don't think it could have gone any more smoothly, and we couldn't have asked for a better day."

The helicopter placed the wood and rocks at 11 sites along a three-quarter mile stretch

in the river. The materials included 11 gray pine logs — each measuring at least 20 feet long — and 14 large redwood root wads, which are root balls with a portion of the trees' trunk attached. Each piece of wood had a one-ton boulder and chain attached to it, and another 23 three-ton boulders were also lowered into the river.

Later this week, divers used the chains to tie the pieces together and anchor them to the bottom of the lagoon. Once assembled, the shelters are called woody debris structures, and steelhead advocates are optimistic they will provide a safe haven for the beleaguered fish, which are eaten by predators like birds and invasive striped bass.

As an added bonus, LeNeve and others are hoping the boulders scour the bottom of the lagoon and create deeper pools that can also provide shelter for steelhead.

The project cost about \$380,000 in taxpayers' money, which the local steelhead nonprofit received as a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy.

Science Saturday at the Museum

THERE'LL BE a spooky theme to Science Saturday at the P.G. Museum of Natural History. Just in time for Halloween, you can learn all about bats, spiders and snakes, Oct. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Northern California Bat Rescue will bring live bats, Andy Rea with Area Reptile will be there with snakes, which have busy

schedules and can only stay until 1 p.m., and Carmel Middle School teacher and author Patrick Steadille is bringing the arachnids.

Spooky trivia and crafts will be part of the fun, and there will be candy for downtown trick or treaters.

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Panetta applauds analysis of bipartisan healthcare update

By KELLY NIX

CONGRESSMAN JIMMY Panetta this week lauded the Congressional Budget Office's review of a bipartisan Senate healthcare bill, which analysts estimated would reduce the federal deficit by nearly \$4 billion over the next decade without substantially changing the number of people who are covered under Obamacare.

The nonpartisan agency on Wednesday released its analysis of the Bipartisan Health Care Stabilization Act of 2017, which supporters contend would stabilize the market by allowing for cost-sharing reduction subsidies, which use money from taxpayers to make healthcare cheaper for poor Americans, and expand eligibility for "catastrophic" coverage.

While President Donald Trump and many Republicans in the House oppose the plan, Panetta said he was pleased with the outcome of the CBO review of the proposal, which he

maintained would bring "certainty" to the individual healthcare market, safeguard insurance for millions of families and offer additional options for states and individuals "to address their healthcare needs."

"Our number one goal was to have the cost-sharing reductions" for low-income enrollees, Panetta told The Pine Cone by phone Wednesday afternoon from his Washington D.C. office.

Without subsidies, higher costs for some

U.S. taxpayers provide billions of dollars in subsidies to insurers to offset costs in discounted copays and premiums they are required to offer low-income customers. The subsidies, which Trump ended this month, would resume until 2019, according to the bipartisan healthcare bill.

Without the subsidies, insurance companies would raise premiums on those who have to pay for their own healthcare — charging them more than the care costs, so others can pay

less.

The bill would also allow anyone — not just those under 30 as the law currently permits — to purchase so-called catastrophic plans, which offer low premiums but very high deductibles.

Although the health proposal was introduced by Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander and Democratic Sen. Patty Murray, core elements of the bill reflect elements drafted by the Problem Solvers Caucus, a group of composed of both parties formed earlier this year to tackle particularly partisan issues.

Panetta, a member of the caucus, talked to The Pine Cone in July just as the relatively new group — co-led by New Jersey Congressman Josh Gottheimer, one of Panetta's roommates in Washington D.C., — had begun delving into healthcare following the Senate's failure that month to unwind parts of the Affordable Care Act.

Panetta said this week that the bill takes steps toward "strengthening" the ACA and providing "financial relief to [low-income] residents on the Central Coast." Portions of the healthcare compromise, he explained, were shaped by the caucus' work with senators.

Panetta urged the House and Senate to approve the bill, which is facing resistance from the GOP.

Last weekend, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he would consider bringing the bill to a vote but was waiting for a signal from Trump to proceed.

Whether this version of the legislation goes through, Panetta said the caucus — and the Murray-Alexander Bill — demonstrate that both parties are indeed collaborating together on Capitol Hill, despite regular news reports to the contrary.

"The important thing is that in July, when the skinny repeal [of Obamacare] failed, you had 23 Democrats and 23 Republicans in the House to take it upon themselves to come up with these principles that demonstrated leadership, and show that there are areas where we can agree upon," he said.



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Over objections from Adams, board of supes OKs Cachagua church

By CHRIS COUNTS

AT A showdown in Salinas this week over plans for church in a Cachagua, Fifth District Supervisor Mary Adams sided with opponents, insisting that church leaders should be required to reapply for their permit in two years as a condition of approval. But Adams' colleagues saw it differently, and even though the church is located in her district, she found herself on the losing side of two 4 to 1 votes that gave the church the go-ahead to open.

In the end, church opponents did gain some concessions from the church after Supervisor Luis Alejo crafted a compromise. Church supporters had hoped to limit events to 125 people and the church's parking lot to 65 cars. But Alejo made a motion to reduce the number of event attendees to 65, and the number of vehicles in the parking lot to 33.

The motion also included limiting events to church-related activities like weddings and funerals, prohibiting the church from renting the property to third parties, prohibiting parking along Cachagua Road, requiring that portable bathrooms be used for special events, and other conditions. It passed, with only Adams opposing it.

PC OKs plan ... sort of

The plan to establish a church on a 10-acre site at 19345 Cachagua Road was approved by the Monterey County Planning Commission in August, but with a condition that the permit would expire in two years, and the planning condition would have a chance to review it before granting an extension.

Church backers called the condition unfair, along with another that would limit the number of people who could attend an event to 65, and they appealed the planning commission's decision to the Monterey

County Board of Supervisors.

The two sides met before the supervisors Aug. 18, but after lengthy testimony from the public, the hearing was continued to Oct. 24 because Supervisor John Phillips had to leave the meeting.

At this week's hearing, attorney Tony Lombardo asked supervisors to remove the two conditions. "This is not fair or legal," said the lawyer, who is representing the church.

'Creeping and growing'

The hearing also gave opponents perhaps their last chance to speak out on the topic.

Don Bonsper said he's concerned the church — and its congregation — will become larger than advertised. "It's creeping and growing and expanding," he said.

Greg Martin said he's worried the church's septic system will fail. "My well is downstream from the septic system and I'm concerned," he testified.

And Pam Bonsper said church leaders haven't been straightforward about their plans.

"I feel the whole project has been based on deception," she added.

Church supporters, who were well represented at the Aug. 18 hearing, were mostly silent this time around.

Adams announced she planned to vote against it, and after a discussion, she called for a vote, but it failed 4 to 1. She then suggested that supporters and opponents step outside and try to find a compromise — a suggestion she made after the last hearing.

"I want everybody to meet again and come back later in the afternoon with a resolution," she said.

But Alejo countered by making a motion that removed the requirement for a two-year review, but included limitations on the size of church gatherings and other conditions.

Phillips and Fourth District Supervisor Jane Parker agreed that the review requirement was troubling, and along with Supervisor Simon Salinas, they voted in favor of letting the church proceed.

Later, county official Carl Holm told The

Pine Cone that "no other religious facility has a condition that requires periodic review," adding that "there was concern that adding such a condition in this case could be

See **CHURCH** page 27A

Shooting victim sues Salinas Applebee's for not intervening

By KELLY NIX

A MONTEREY County man who said he suffered permanent injuries after being shot four times outside an Applebee's in Salinas is suing the chain restaurant, claiming that it's responsible for violence because employees did not try to stop the gunman before he opened fire.

In a lawsuit filed Oct. 19, Jerry Lee Sanks alleges that while he was at the eatery at about 9 p.m. in March with some friends and their families, a man named Royce Curl started harassing Sanks and other members of his party.

The dispute escalated when Curl "appeared to brandish" a firearm under his clothing.

"In order to protect the women and children" in his group, Sanks and several of his friends followed the armed Curl out of the restaurant, the lawsuit, filed for Sanks by Monterey attorney Larry Biegel, claims.

"As Sanks exited the front door, and while still on the premises, he was shot four times by Curl," the complaint says. "As a result, Sanks sustained severe and permanent injuries."

Curl was arrested the same night and booked on attempted murder charges.

Salinas police would later arrest a second man for shooting back at Curl as he fled through the parking lot of the restaurant on North Davis Road.

Although Curl allegedly pulled the trigger, Sanks claims that chain Applebee's is negligent and liable because its employees "did nothing" to prevent the harassment that led to the shooting.

"When the harassment began inside the restaurant, employees stood by watching, but did nothing to protect Sanks or other patrons," the complaint says.

The workers also did not offer him "any aid or assistance" while he was in the eatery, according to the lawsuit, which also claims that in at least three years prior to the shooting, there had been a "large number" of incidents involving criminal activity at the Applebee's.

Besides "premises liability," Sanks accuses Applebee's of "negligent infliction of emotional distress," and is seeking an undisclosed amount exceeding \$25,000 in damages, including punitive damages, which a judge may award in cases involving fraud, oppression or malice.

A spokeswoman for Applebee's said the company does not comment on pending litigation.

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Flock of new board members hope to bring change to youth center

By MARY SCHLEY

OF THE 14 people who sit on the board at the Carmel Youth Center, 10 of them joined just this year. Among the newcomers is restaurant operator Ken Spilfogel, who said the board is motivated to find more money, improve the center's facilities, and make other changes at an organization that's been around for nearly 60 years.

Because there are so many new faces, "we're definitely getting to know each other," said Spilfogel, who joined the board in April. "We're having to have some closed-door sessions to get to know each other."

Board members who came on board this year include Dr. Ron Chaplan and son Adam, John Plastini and John Ruskell in April; Felicia Pflieger (wife of Carmel P.D. Sgt. Ron Pflieger) in May; Kate McGrath in June and Kate Bruno in July; Brent Sepulvado in August, and Teresa Segovia in September.

Ernest Griffin-Ortiz, the center's executive director, said he's excited to work with his new board members. "Their energy, enthusiasm, and fresh ideas make me hopeful that we'll be able to meet our goals to ensure that the CYC can continue to serve our community for many years to come," he

said. "They've already shown that they can perform under pressure by putting together a wildly successful fundraising event at the Sunset Center this past September. With only a couple of months to throw it together, we managed to raise about \$30,000."

That success was largely due to Pflieger, Spilfogel said, though many of the board members worked long and hard to bring the event together, and are already discussing how to make it more successful next year.

"Our board had grown so rapidly within just a few months. We needed to integrate and get to know each other, and that's happening," Spilfogel said. "We have some more effective people — it's a board of doers, and that's a nice thing."

The dollars

While the City of Carmel owns the land underneath the youth center and charges \$1 per year for rent, the nonprofit owns the building and is responsible for its upkeep, according to city administrator Chip Rerig.

The center, founded by Bing Crosby in 1960, has some maintenance issues that need to be addressed, but Griffin-Ortiz, who goes by the nickname, "E," said the organization is contemplating some more extensive pro-

jects, too.

"We're looking into the possibility of adding solar panels on our roof to supply clean energy, not only to our facility but possibly to the police department and public works facilities as well," he said, since those buildings are located next door on the same property. "We're also exploring the possibility of renovating our theater to add amphitheater seating and better ventilation."

On the programming side, Spilfogel said the board would like to see more offerings for teenagers. "We'd like to bring in the older kids, and give them some space and privacy and things that are good for them," he said. And when those kids go off to become successful adults, he added, they are more likely to give back in the future.

"As part of our effort to support the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of every child," the center's goals include the continued development of its science, technology, engineering, art and math lab, and martial arts programing, Griffin-Ortiz added. "We now offer a free weekly meditation class. We'd like to develop more consistent art and music programming to enhance the arts and craft projects we already provide. We'd also like to include more programming that supports healthy eating."

Construction projects, equipment and services are expensive, of course, and Spilfogel

said the board wants to find a grant writer or two to help find public and private dollars to help pay for them.

"And we need to get E some help," Spilfogel added. "He's working a lot, and he can't be all things to all people."

The youth center's tax documents for 2015 (the most recent year available) list Griffin-Ortiz as the only paid employee, with a salary of \$58,462 and additional compensation of \$1,200. He said the center's annual budget is \$360,000.

Most of its revenues come from donations. In 2015, the center took in \$651,062 in grants and contributions — a stunning \$566,541 more than during the prior year — and reported total revenues of \$767,150. Griffin-Ortiz said the huge jump in contributions came in part from the settlement of an estate, the Pederson Trust, though the list of donors is extensive and impressive. For example, the center receives contributions from the Pebble Beach Co. in exchange for running concessions during the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance and the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Meanwhile, its expenses in 2015 were actually lower, totaling \$239,836, compared with \$245,765 in 2014.

"Our financial goals are to reach out to new grant sources, legacy gifts, and other sources to help us toward long-term financial security," Griffin-Ortiz said.



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HONORED

From page 1A

was to be the only medic. What a job that turned out to be.

"Before they even touched the ground, enemy fire struck the men," Trump told the audience of about 200 VIPs, family members and military brass gathered for the ceremony, along with a nationwide TV audience. For the men in Laos, what followed was four harrowing days under constant attack, taking casualties at every turn as they tried to move toward their objective.

On two occasions, Rose left the relative safety of his unit's perimeter to retrieve comrades who had been hit. He also repeatedly risked his own life to comfort and treat as many as 70 wounded. After shrapnel struck his back and left a gaping hole in one of his feet, he fashioned a crutch from a branch so he could continue to perform his duties.

"Mike did not stop to sleep or eat or even care for his own serious injury as he saved the lives of his fellow soldiers," Trump said. "The people with him could not believe what they were witnessing."

'The hearts of our heroes'

Finally, after destroying a Vietcong base camp, the besieged forces prepared to evacuate — only to be slowed down when the chopper carrying Rose was hit, forcing it to crash land in the jungle. Continuing to treat the wounded, he waited with the others for another helicopter to take them back to base, and to safety. Almost every man on the mission was injured, but they were all alive — many of them, the president said, thanks to Rose.

"Nations are formed out of the strength and patriotism that lives in the hearts of our heroes," Trump said as he presented Rose with the Medal of Honor — decades after his heroic deeds.

"It took so long for him to be recognized because the mission wasn't even acknowledged until 1998," said Driscoll, whose heavily armed helicopter provided cover for the men on the ground and was hit "at least eight times" during the evacuation.

"Many of us got medals, but the citations never mentioned Laos," continued Driscoll, who today lives in Seaside Highlands. In 1971, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his role in Operation Tailwind, but the citation only said he served "deep in enemy-held territory in the Rep. of Vietnam."

And almost as soon as Operation Tailwind was declassified, several major news outlets tried to depict it as something to be ashamed of. CNN and Time even claimed the mission involved the use of nerve gas — an illegal weapon — against U.S. deserters among the Vietcong. After a Pentagon investigation debunked the report, CNN retracted it. Ironically, it was the same investigation that led military officials to re-examine some of the medals awarded for Operation Tailwind, culminating in a recommendation that Rose get the nation's highest honor.

"For those of us who supported the mission, the predominant emotion during the ceremony was happiness for Mike to be properly recognized for his courageous service," said Driscoll. "It was a happy day for us all, to be there to experience the final chapter of this amazing story."

And the men's three-day reunion involved a lot more than just the White House event, which had Vice President Mike Pence, National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly in the audience.

There was also a dinner each night, a ceremony at the Pentagon and a wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery. And on the way to the White House Monday afternoon, buses carrying Rose and his comrades and their families were given a police motorcycle escort — sirens, flashing lights, waving onlookers and all.

"They even closed the highways," Driscoll said. "We were all making jokes and really enjoying it."

A private visit

Inside the White House, they were given a grand entrance and treated to a lavish reception in the Blue Room overlooking the South Lawn and the Washington Monument. And after the Medal of Honor ceremony, Rose, Driscoll and the other men got something completely unexpected.

"The president and the vice president took the men who were on the mission into the Green Room, and we spent 20 or 30 minutes privately talking," Driscoll said. "They couldn't have been more generous with their time, and the president was terrific — no putting on airs, just wonderful authenticity in the discussion."

Driscoll, 70, is back home on the Monterey Peninsula now. Looking back on his role in one of the Vietnam War's most dangerous missions, and on the celebration to honor the heroism of his colleague, Mike Rose, he said there's an encouraging lesson for everyone.

"Here's a man who did his job well in the most arduous, life-threatening times, asked for no thanks, and who's continued his life of service for 40 years," Driscoll said. "There are a lot of shining lights like that in the world, and you can take heart from it."

But for a bunch of old guys who answered the call of their nation so many years ago, the grandeur of Monday's ceremony at the White House was overshadowed by an affirmation that went straight to their hearts.

"What we did turned out to be important," Driscoll said. "And for us, for the people involved, it was important for us to have done our best. And we knew we did our best. And we're proud."



PHOTOS/US ARMY, COURTESY JOE DRISCOLL

(From left) Joe Driscoll in 1970, Mike Rose returning from the top-secret mission into Laos that earned him the Medal of Honor, and Rose and Driscoll reunited in the Blue Room at the White House on Monday.



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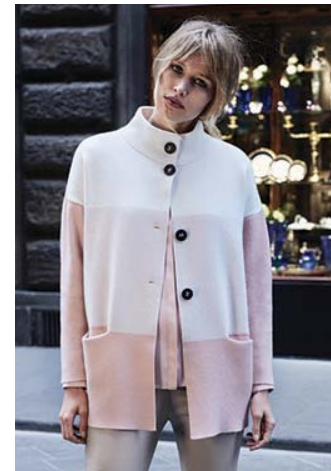
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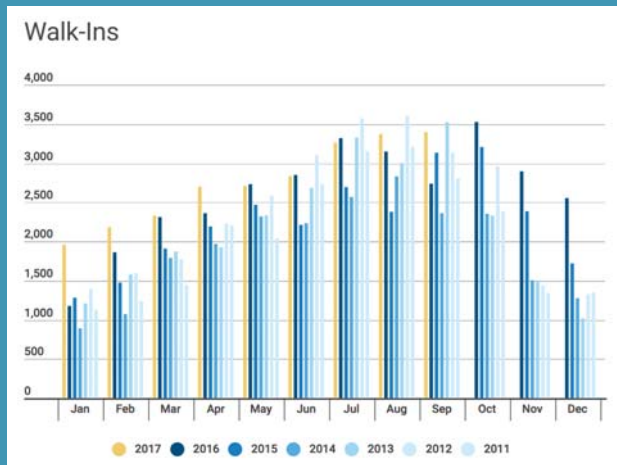
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VISITOR CENTER STATS

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

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Earthbound Farm's Farm Stand & Organic Cafe held a wonderful mixer to kick off the fall season. Showcasing their delicious handmade organic foods, their organic flowers, gourmet groceries, unique gifts and more. Photo by Jenny MacMurdo.

MAZDA RACEWAY LAGUNA SECA



Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca hosted the Carmel, Carmel Valley, Monterey Peninsula, Pacific Grove and Salinas Chambers of Commerce Mega Mixer! The kick-off the Continental Monterey Grand Prix had us meeting race car drivers and taking pace car rides around the track! Photo by DMT Imaging.

HAHN FAMILY WINES



Hahn Family Wines celebrated the opening of their new tasting room in Carmel Plaza. The winery's second tasting room offers wine lovers a way to enjoy Hahn's estate wines near the conveniently-located tourist hubs of Carmel and Monterey. Banner by Bob the Printer. Photo by DMT Imaging.

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WRECK

From page 1A

Engel said. "He was messed up. The cab was on fire, and I thought, 'This thing is going to blow at any second.' I pulled him out of the cab and dragged him down the hill. About 20 to 30 seconds later, the whole thing just exploded and went up in flames."

Engel said once his adrenaline kicked in, he was focused on saving the man. "I never thought for a moment that what I was doing was dangerous," he recalled.

Like others in Engel's situation have testified, he felt a surprising surge of strength. "He was as light as a feather," he said of the man he rescued.

Oscar Loza of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office reported that Engel "helped pull McManaman from the burning F-250 seconds from it becoming fully engulfed in flames," and called his actions "heroic."

Ripper and Reaper plays at Cherry

TWO PLAYS that promise to give you nightmares open Friday, Oct. 27, at the Cherry Center for the Arts.

In Rob Foster's "26 High Street: A Jack the Ripper Mystery," retired London detective Frederick Abberline reveals the identity of the infamous Ripper to a news reporter. Meanwhile, in Edgar Allan Poe's "Masque of the Red Death," an aristocrat and other nobles lock themselves inside his castle to avoid the plague, but the Grim Reaper finds a way in.

The play returns Oct. 28 and Nov. 17-19. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for seniors, students and active military. For tickets, call (831) 601-7460 or visit brownpapertickets.com.

CORRECTION

LAST WEEK'S Letter to the Editor from Kevin Klein misattributed a quotation about road conditions to 5th District Monterey County Supervisor Mary Adams. The line in the story was a paraphrase, not a direct quotation, and came from the county's resource management agency, not Adams or her office.

McManaman — whose condition was described as serious — was transported to Natividad Medical Center, along with two of the three passengers in the Acura. One passenger in the Acura, 18-year-old Emel Shivers of Oakland, died at

the scene. A third motorist whose Ford Escape was hit, Alana Warcken of Big Sur, escaped with minor injuries.

According to the sheriff's office, the suspects "broke into multiple vehicles along Highway 1" before the chase began.

Goldworth Louise Merino

March 15, 1930 – May 6, 2017

Goldworth Louise Merino made a memorable impression from the moment she was born. Her father, Clyde Moore, was so happy to have a second daughter after having four sons; he named her Goldworth because she was "worth her weight in gold." Her dad passed when she was 10, and her mother, Helen LeGros Moore, began calling Goldworth, "Louise."



During high school, Louise played field hockey and semi-pro softball, spent as much time as she could at the beach and worked at Lawson's Malt Shop in Redondo Beach, CA. One spring day in 1947 a handsome 24-year-old WWII veteran, Carlyle Rene' Merino walked in and ordered a vanilla shake. He was the great love of her life and she was his. Carlyle and Louise married that December when she was 17, during her high school's break. Carlyle's mother taught Louise the art of authentic Sonoran-style Mexican cooking, and Louise embraced many other aspects of Carlyle's culture.

Rene' Lynnette, their first daughter, arrived in 1949. Louise and Carlyle bought their first home in Torrance, CA and lived a simple happy life. Ten years later, Carla Anita, their second child, arrived. Carlyle transferred to San Jose, with Western Electric in 1967.

Louise ran a traditional home, creating a routine of hard work for herself that made a happy and healthy life for her family. Louise was an amazing seamstress and arduously tended her beloved garden. She was devoted to feeding birds that visited her homes — especially doves because they mate for life. Known as the "jelly lady," each fall she would pick pomegranates from her tree, peel and hand-squeeze the fruit to make her magical jelly. Grandma Lou's jelly remains one of her grandsons' favorite childhood memories.

After Carlyle retired, Louise worked as the receptionist for Fremont Union High School District, welcoming visitors with her friendly disposition and charming sense of humor. When she retired, she joined Carlyle on many adventures. In 2013, Louise and Carlyle moved to Salinas to be close to their daughters. After Carlyle passed in 2014, Louise moved to Carmel. She loved being back near the ocean.

Louise delighted in her family, keeping in touch with siblings, nieces, nephews and cousins was very important to her. We will remember her as a vivacious, friendly, wise, loving and faith-filled woman who was deeply committed to her family and friends — definitely worth her weight in gold!

Louise is survived by her daughters Rene Merino; Carla Zilliox; her son-in-law, Kent Zilliox; two beloved grandsons Quinn and Lucas Zilliox; and her siblings, James, Frasier, Warren and Katherine. She rests beside Carlyle at All Faiths Memorial Park in Tucson, AZ. A celebration of Louise's life will be held next spring at a beach in Carmel. Donations may be made in Louise's memory to Big Sur Land Trust (bigsurlandtrust.org), a nonprofit dedicated to conserving the beautiful landscapes she loved so much.



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DESAL

From page 1A

that the MPWSP is not in the public interest, does not serve public convenience and necessity, is not feasible, and should not be approved as proposed," he said.

In response, Cal Am spokeswoman Catherine Stedman told The Pine Cone Thursday the company believes the testimony is a desperate attempt to derail the project.

"I think as we approach the home stretch toward the public utilities commission's approval of the desal project, we suddenly see groups trying to argue that a desal plant isn't necessary at all," Stedman said.

Cal Am has maintained that a desal facility that produces at least 6.4 million gallons of water per day, coupled with a 3,500-acre-foot recycled water project undertaken by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency, is needed to ensure there will be adequate water for the people of the Monterey Peninsula during maximum demand months, especially in dry years.

The company also points to the need to fulfill demand for water for development on lots of record, a growing economy and its

current customers.

However, Lon House, a consultant hired by Marina, also testified Sept. 29 that Cal Am needs — at most — an additional 1,500 acre-feet of water on top of the water provided from Pure Water Monterey, the recycled water project that has been approved.

"There is no need for the desal projects the size that Cal Am is recommending," House said. "A much smaller source or set of water sources is needed."

In demand or not?

Factors for diminished demand, House said, include the "price elasticity" of water and California's "plethora" of policies to limit water use. Water conservation, he said, constitutes a "new normal" in California, making it "illogical" that there will be any increase in demand.

"In light of these policies and proposed legislation to continue water consumption reductions, it is highly unlikely that the Monterey Peninsula will experience the surge in demand predicted by Cal Am," he said.

When Marina officials and others testify in San Francisco next week as part of ongoing PUC hearings on the Cal Am desal plant, they are expected to reiterate their positions. Numerous Cal Am officials, and others, including Pacific Grove Mayor Bill Kampe,

testified this week on the matter.

Jonas Minton, representing Surfrider Foundation and the Planning and Conservation League, testified Sept. 29 that Cal Am's "expected supply" could be satisfied without a desal plant in Marina. Further, he said that alternative water supplies sources "could meet the entire shortfall, eliminating the necessity for desalination."

But in rebuttal testimony on Oct. 13, Cal Am President Rich Svindland said if desal is "eliminated from the portfolio, California American Water will still need to pump Carmel River water to meet demands."

Cal Am Vice President of Engineering Ian Crooks testified that while Cal Am expects its customers will continue to conserve water, the company does not "mistake the extreme conservation and moratorium measures implemented during the drought to be a realistic indicator of water use in the future."

Former longtime Cal Am employee David P. Stephenson, who now consults for the company, also refuted arguments by those calling for the PUC to reject the desal plant, contending that they're placing too much emphasis on current customer demand and conservation practices.

Stephenson argues that, once drought restrictions have been lifted after Cal Am's desal plant comes online, Monterey Peninsula customers will want to use much more water.

"In every instance where I have been involved in the implementation of drought restrictions, there was significant rebound to the pre-drought conditions shortly after the restrictions were lifted," he said.

"I fully expect that over time, as water is available, and as more and more of the current population turns over, that the 'normal' habits of the population as a whole will influence the habits of the population in Monterey," he said. "This is just natural human behavior."

More time to oppose

In August, a PUC judge announced that the state agency was extending, again, the release of the final environmental impact report for the desal project to March 16, 2018, because of the "complexity and extensive number of comments received" on the document.

The PUC's protracted delays have allowed opponents more time to mount opposition against the proposal.

Center for Photography turns 50

THE CENTER for Photographic Art celebrates its 50th anniversary with a reception Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., in its gallery at Sunset Center.

The nonprofit can trace its roots back to 1967, when Edward Weston, Ansel Adams, Wynn Bullock and others founded the Friends of Photography at Sunset Center. When the group later moved to San Francisco, the CPA moved into the space.

Michael Adams will share stories about

his famous father, while Kim Weston will talk about the important role his dad, Cole Weston, played in creating the Friends of Photography. Bullock's daughter, Lynne Harrington-Bullock, will also speak.

A fundraising exhibit of 8-inch-by-10-inch photographs will be on display. The event will also feature wines, hors d'oeuvres and hand-crafted desserts.

Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. www.photography.org.




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CRACKDOWN

From page 1A

“Apparently my comments at city council have had some effect,” he continued. “Then there are letters that have gone out from our compliance officer showing we know they are engaging in that activity, and that they are to cease and desist, refund money given for any pending transactions, withdraw all advertising or promotion regarding availability of the property, and meet with the city attorney to discuss fees that should have been collected.”

Through Nov. 15, Mozingo is offering a “partial amnesty,” in which homeowners who were illegally renting out their properties for short stays can avoid paying the fees, fines and penalties, though they’ll still have to write a check for the 10 percent transient occupancy tax that hotels pay. (TOT is the single largest source of revenue for the general fund, and the 2017-2018 budget estimates the amount will exceed \$6.2 million out of total revenues of \$21.9 million by the time the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2018.)

Amnesty ending

Mozingo said there are 49 illegal listings, with another 32 that are suspected but need more research to confirm. Short-term rentals in the commercial zones are legal.


Of those that have removed their listings, seven have come forward seeking amnesty — and have agreed to provide all their numbers so the taxes can be tabulated — while many others have simply vanished.

“Some of them are just taking off and disappearing and hoping we don’t follow up,” he said. “Our intention is to follow up on all of them.”

And after Nov. 15, the owners will be on the hook not just

for the back taxes for up to four years, but for all the fines, fees and penalties, too.

“The whole theme was to gain the community’s cooperation and compliance. The law has been on the books for 27 years but never really been enforced until now,” Mozingo said. “We’re very pleased with the response, and we will continue to monitor and take enforcement steps to ensure this activity is terminated and won’t be repeated.”



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BRINGING NOTHING BUT THEIR VOICES, COUNTRY GROUP VISITS SUNSET

CALLING THEMSELVES the world's first all-vocal country group, Home Free takes the stage Friday, Oct. 27, at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

Formed in Minnesota 17 years ago, **Home Free** at first resembled many a cappella ensembles by singing music from various genres. But after the group added three members with Southern roots, a decidedly country sound emerged.

By the time Home Free made the cut and earned a spot on NBC's "The Sing Off" in 2013, they were a bonafide country act. Their fresh new sound not only won over thousands of viewers, but the show's judges were impressed enough to declare the group the season's winner.

"We had more eyeballs on us during the show than we had in the previous 10 years," member **Ron Lundquist** told The Pine Cone. "It was huge exposure."

Lundquist credits the focus on country music for the Home Free's success. "It was the best decision we ever made," he said.

Last month, the group released its 10th album, and now they're touring to support it. The disc features a mix of originals and covers, including versions of the folk standard, "Man of Constant Sorrow," and Dave Mason's 1977 hit sin-

gle, "We Just Disagree."

"It's an album we've been making for the last two years," Lundquist added. "We got to spend a little time on it this time, and every song is a labor of love. We love it, and we think it's the best thing we've put out."

Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$43 to \$65. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit www.goldenstatetheatre.com.

■ Feelin' blue at the Cherry

Showcasing a trio of promising young jazz musicians, the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts will host an afternoon concert by Blue Clay Sunday, Oct. 29.

Comprising members from the Monterey Jazz Festival High School All-Star Alumni Band, Blue Clay's lineup includes bassist **Aaron Georis** of Carmel High School, keyboardist **David Sanchez** of Monterey High, and trombonist **Felix Diaz-Contreras** of Pacific Grove High.

The music starts at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20. The Cherry Center is located at Fourth and Guadalupe. www.carlcherrycenter.org

■ Live Music Oct. 27-Nov. 2

Barmel — **Boscoe's Brood** (Friday at 7 p.m.); and **Lillie Lemon** (indie electro-pop, Saturday at 7 p.m.). San Carlos and Seventh, (831) 626-3400.

The Barnyard shopping center — **Fields of Eden** featuring **Kiki Wow** and friends (pop and rock, Friday at 8 p.m.).

Big Sur Vineyards tasting room in Carmel Valley — **Grove Acre** will play at a fundraising Halloween party (rock, Friday at 5 p.m.). 1 Del Fino Place, (831) 652-3020.

On A High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Bon Ton L'Roy's Lighthouse Smokehouse in Monterey — **The American Trashbirds** present a Halloween-themed "Trash Bash" (rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.). 794 Lighthouse Ave.

Cafe Trieste in Monterey — singer-songwriter **Karrie Pavish Anderson** (Friday at 6:30 p.m.); and **Johnny Tsunami** ("B-side classics," Saturday at 6:30 p.m.). 409 Alvarado St., (831) 241-6064.

Cibo restaurant in Monterey — **Funky Sound Experience** (funk, Saturday at 9 p.m.); **The Blue Fire Band** (classic rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.); singer **Dizzy Burnett** (jazz and swing, Sunday at 7 p.m.); singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz and swing, Tuesday at 7 p.m.); **Andrea's Fault** (Wednesday at 7 p.m.); and **The Ben Herod Trio** (swing and jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St., (831) 649-8151.

Cooper's Pub & Restaurant in Monterey — **Johnny Tsunami & the Shoulder Hoppers** (classic rock, Friday at 9 p.m.); and **The All In** (classic rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row, (831) 373-1353.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and violinist **Razzvio** (rock, Saturday at 4:30 p.m.); and singer-songwriter **Taylor Rae** (Sunday at 4:30 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

See MUSIC page 22A



Home Free (left) takes the stage Oct. 27 at Golden State Theatre in Monterey. Formed 17 years ago in Minnesota, the a cappella group has won over many fans since making the decision four years ago to focus on country music. A flute and guitar duo, Alma Nova (right) plays Oct. 27 at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley.

Portrait painter unveils new gallery

A PAINTER who loves bold colors, **Scott Jacobs** will celebrate the grand opening of his new gallery and studio in downtown Carmel Saturday, Oct. 28.

Located in a courtyard next to Christopher's restaurant on Lincoln between Fifth and Sixth, the Scott Jacobs Fine Art Gallery will be the site of a reception Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m.

"It's a great space," Jacobs told The Pine Cone. "There's a balcony, the courtyard is really nice, and the northern light is very accommodating for painting. It gets a lot of traffic, but it's peaceful. The surroundings are really nice."

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

While other artists create landscapes or seascapes, Jacobs prefers painting people. Earlier this year, he presented a portrait of Bill Murray to the famous actor when he visited his gallery. "To me, people are the most interesting, diverse, heartbreaking and inspiring subjects to paint," said the artist, who has previously operated two other galleries downtown.

For more about Jacob's artwork, visit www.thepegasuscollection.com.

■ Party like it's 1959

Best known for offering a mix of art classes and exhibits, Carmel Visual Arts will host a Halloween party Sunday, Oct. 29 — and they're encouraging partygoers to put on their best Lucy or Ricky Ricardo garb.

"Dress up like Ricky and Lucy and you could be entered into a costume contest, or come as your own favorite character," **Carol Henry** of Carmel Visual Arts said. "Dance to live

conga drumming by **Jayson Fann**. Enjoy Spicy Voodoo Tacos and dip your banana into a chocolate fountain. If you are stuck without a autumn cauldron to dance around, join in the fun."

Tickets are \$40. For tickets or more details, visit www.carmelvisualarts.com.

■ Students unite for pop-up show

Six weeks after unveiling an ambitious group art installation with an anti-bullying theme, Open Grounds Studios in Seaside presents a one-day pop-up exhibit of student art inspired by the same subject. The gallery and studio will be

See ART page 22A

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HalloWine fire fundraiser, beergarden closing for season, and strutting your mutt

ILLUSIONS OF Grandeur will transform the Barrel Room at Folktale Winery into a spooky pirate's cave for HalloWine, an Oct. 29 fundraiser for the victims of the Wine Country fires. From 6:30 to 10 p.m., local wineries and breweries will pour glasses of their best, and area chefs — including Todd Fisher from Folktale, of course — will prepare enticing small bites for the party.

All of the proceeds — \$60 per person, plus whatever other cash comes in during the night by way of extra drink purchases and auctions — will go to the community foundations in the affected areas in Napa Valley, Sonoma County and Mendocino County. Since the fires started the night of Oct. 8, more than 8,000 structures have burned to the ground, 42 people have died, hundreds more have been injured, and more than 100,000 have been displaced. Two dozen wineries have suffered partial or complete losses.

Fire stories

“Illusions of Grandeur came up with the idea of doing a spooky-pirate-themed event as a fundraiser, and Folktale Winery was happy to get involved and provide the amazing venue for this to happen,” said Chris Whitman, director of business development and marketing for Folktale. Executive chef Brian Kearns from nearby Quail Lodge has signed on, and Revival Ice Cream will be there, as will Firestone Brewery, to name a few. Cash bars will offer additional wine, beer, water and sodas. People are also encouraged to come in

costume and compete in the evening's contest for great prizes.

Kelly Productions will provide the evening's entertainment, according to Whitman.

“Monterey Fire Department is getting involved as well, and we will have some of them who were up in Napa fighting the fires to talk about what they saw and help people understand how bad it truly is up there,” Whitman said. “We are excited to have the true heroes on hand at this event, as they have been working round the clock to keep everyone safe from last year's fires here, and sending crews to Napa to help as much they can.”

Folktale Winery & Vineyards is located at 8940 Carmel Valley Road in Carmel Valley, and tickets can be found at CAWineStrongMonterey.com. The event is being supported by the Monterey County Hospitality Association and CAWineStrong, the organization of industry groups that combined forces to help their colleagues in Napa. The Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association is part of CAWineStrong.

“We want to help those affected by the devastating fires, and doing it through wine, food and music is a great way to start the healing process,” Whitman said.

Beergarden's last weekend

The final weekend in October marks the closure of the beergarden at the Trailside Café in Carmel Valley Village, owner Sean Allen announced this week. “So if you haven't been to our warm and serene backyard venue for craft beer tasting, home cooking and live music, this weekend is your last chance,” he said.

After the seasonal activities end, the beergarden and adjacent dining room will be available for private events until it opens again next May.

“We cater for all kinds of parties, from corporate presentations, to wedding receptions of up to 60, and everything in between,” Allen said. The dining room also has a TV that makes it ideal for sports parties.

The Trailside is located at 3 Del Fino Place. Email trailsidecafe@hotmail.com or visit www.trailsidecafevc.com for more information.

Rosine's freshening

A popular spot for decades, Rosine's on Alvarado Street is mak-

ing some changes this fall, including new drinks, desserts and menu items.

The owners are reportedly working on a full bar and are already accommodating most drink requests. They've also added new burgers — the guacamole bacon burger served with spicy ranch dressing, and the mushroom Swiss burger — salads and other dishes to their menus, and are bulking up the already famously abundant dessert case with fall specialties, like pumpkin pie, pumpkin cheesecake, and pumpkin spice cake.

Rosine's is open every day. For more information, visit www.rosinesmonterey.com.

soup to nuts

By MARY SCHLEY

Yeast of Eden takes bronze

Alvarado Street's Yeast of Eden beer, part of its Skeptics & Believers sour beer series, won a bronze medal at the Great American Beer Festival in Denver, Colo., earlier this month. The competition is fierce at the festival, which is presented by the Brewers Association and is said to be the largest commercial beer competition in the world.

The winners were selected by an international panel of 276 expert judges from more than 8,000 entries submitted by 2,217 American breweries. The top three winners in the competition's 98 style categories were announced Oct. 7 at the Colorado Convention Center.

Yeast of Eden is side project of Alvarado Street Brewery at the production facility in Salinas, and it specifically focuses on “wild and sour barrel-aged ales.” The program began at Alvarado Street's Monterey brewpub in 2014 with just a few wine barrels, and now has more than 100 barrels, in addition to French oak puncheons and several 300-gallon American oak barrels.

The Monterey venue will also host a party Saturday, Oct. 28, starting at 9:30 p.m. Boos and Brews will include a silent disco in the beer garden, a DJ inside, a costume contest for “a cool prize,” and other goodies. Tickets cost \$18 in advance and include a beer or cocktail if purchased online. Otherwise, they're \$25 at the door.

Alvarado Street Brewery is located at 426 Alvarado St. in Monterey. Visit www.alvaradostreetbrewery.com for more information.

Strut your Mutt

Haute Enchilada in Moss Landing will go to the dogs

Continues next page



Illusions of Grandeur specializes in transforming any space for a party, and at Folktale Winery on Sunday, the Barrel Room will become a spooky pirate's cave for the HalloWine fundraiser benefiting fire victims in Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties.



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From previous page

Sunday, Oct. 29, from 12:30 to 4 p.m., when it becomes the stage for the annual Strut Your Mutt dog party. The celebration and canine costume contest serve as a fundraiser for Peace of Mind Dog Rescue, which helps find homes for older dogs, and takes on pets whose owners have gotten too elderly to care for them.

The \$25 fee includes a burrito bar, chips and salsa, agua fresca, and entry in the dog costume contest. Lunch will be served until 2 p.m., and the contest will take place from 1:15 to 1:45 p.m., with prizes given for first, second and third place.

The Haute Enchilada is located at 7902 Moss Landing Road in Moss Landing. For tickets, call POMDR at (831) 718-9122 or email info@peaceofminddogrescue.org.

■ Cima Collina Growers Dinner

A special dinner at the Cima Collina Winery & Barrel Room in Marina will showcase the Palisades Vineyard, with winemaker Annette Hoff Danzer talking about "one of those precious secret places in the heart of Carmel Valley," Saturday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m.

Palisades Vineyard sits above the Carmel River on a south-facing hill composed of rocky, sandy loam soil and decomposed granite that's perfect for Pinot Noir. Planted in 2005, the vineyard has been exclusively used for Cima Collina wines since the first vineyard-designated release in 2012.

Vineyard owners and growers John Stafnes and Iathan Annand will be at the dinner, and chef Jerome Viel from Carmel Valley Market will provide four courses to complement Cima Collina's 2012, 2013 and 2014 vintages of Palisades Vineyard Pinot Noir. Danzer also plans on sharing some library selections from her cellar.

The cost is \$85 per person (club members are \$78). The winery is located at 3344 Paul Davis Drive, No. 6. To purchase, visit www.cimacollina.com.

■ ALBA Family Farm Day

The nonprofit Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association will celebrate fall with a Family Farm Day Saturday, Oct. 28, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., when ALBA will invite the community in to tour the training site and harvest

fresh fruits and veggies. The association helps aspiring farmers, mostly immigrant farmworkers, to start and grow organic farming businesses.

Guests will also be able to buy freshly harvested produce from farm stands and purchase local products like juices from Green Thumb Organic Farms, oils and honey from Las Lomas Lavender, and lunch items from My Mom's Mole. Visitors are encouraged to bring cash and re-usable bags for produce purchases.

Hay rides, pumpkin decorating, live art, and a bounce house will keep the kids busy, and children dressed in costumes will get free pumpkins.

ALBA is located at 1700 Old Stage Road south of Salinas. For more information, call (831) 758-1469 or visit www.albafarmers.org.

■ Dia de Los Muertos

The Center for Community Advocacy will hold its 22nd annual Dia de Los Muertos afternoon party and fundraiser at California State University Monterey Bay's University Center at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29. The CCA will honor this year's Ben Heller Award, Volunteer Hero Award and Sam Karas Farmworker Leadership Award recipients. The CCA seeks to recognize "the people who support a community where farmworkers are empowered to serve as leaders, and where community decision makers seek the counsel of these farmworker leaders."

Dia de Los Muertos is a three-day celebration remembering family members, loved ones and ancestors who have passed away. It begins Oct. 31 and end Nov. 2, and takes "a humorous outlook on death."

Tickets are \$100. For more information, visit cca-viva.org/events.

■ A lot are 'the best'

While readers chose Grasings as their favorite restaurant in Carmel for this year's Golden Pine Cone awards, more than a dozen local establishments received votes, and they all deserve mention for working hard to provide food and service good enough to be considered the best.



All of Cima Collina Winery's grapes are processed at its winery in Marina, which will also be the site of a special Growers Dinner this weekend. The evening will focus on Pinot Noir from Palisades Vineyard, one of the winemaker's favorites.

Vote-getters this year also included Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse (which won for Best New Restaurant), Aabha Indian Cuisine (Best Indian), Affina, Andre's Bouchée, Anton & Michel, A.W. Shucks, Basil, Bistro Giovanni, Cafe Stravaganza, Cantinetta Luca, Carmel Belle, Casanova, Cultura, Da Giovanni, Dametra (Best Mediterranean), Enzo, Flying Fish (Best Seafood), Forge in the Forest, Friar Tuck's, Grill on Ocean, Hog's Breath, Il Fornaio, Il Grillo, Il Tegamino, Katy's Place (Best Breakfast), L'Escargot, La Balena (Best Italian), La Bicycleette, Little Swiss Café, Mission Ranch (Best Brunch), Pacific's Edge, Patisserie Boissiere, PortaBella, Rio Grill, Sur and Vesuvio.

■ Halloween in Monterey

From 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, Lighthouse Avenue shops and restaurants will be handing out candy to costumed kids for the 9th Annual Children's Trick-or-Treat. All participating businesses will be located on Lighthouse between Reeside and David, and will have a Lighthouse Halloween poster displayed in their windows.

That evening, Bon Ton L'Roy's at 794 Lighthouse Ave. will host its 2nd Annual Halloween Trash Bash costume party, with music from American Trash Bird and local musicians, and drink specials all night. Cover will be \$5.

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|---|---|

8000 Valley Greens Drive, Carmel

MUSIC

From page 19A

Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley — **Alma Nova** (a flute and guitar duo presents an eclectic program of chamber music, Friday at 7 p.m.). Hidden valley is located at Carmel Valley and Ford Roads. Call (831) 659-3115.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — singer **Laurie Hofer** with **The David Morwood Jazz Band** (Friday at 7 p.m.); and singer **Scotty Wright**, bassist **Joe Dolister** and drummer **David Morwood** (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road, (831) 372-1234.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — **The Jazz Trio** featuring pianists **Bob Phillips** or **Bill Spencer** (jazz, in the lobby, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.); and **The Dottie Dodgion Trio** (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.); also, a bagpiper plays every evening. 2700 17 Mile Drive, (831) 647-7500.

Julia's vegetarian restaurant in Pacific Grove — singer-songwriter **Buddy Comfort** (Friday at 6:30 p.m.); singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6:30 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave., (831) 656-9533.

Mission Ranch — pianist **Tom Gastineau** (jazz, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m.); singer and pianist **Maddaline Edstrom** (jazz and pop, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 7 p.m.); pianist **David Kempton** (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m.) and pianist **Gennady Loktionov** (jazz, Sunday at 10 a.m., Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St., (831) 625-9040.

Pierce Ranch Vineyards in Monterey — **Blunts** ("orchestral grunge," Saturday at 7 p.m.). 499 Wave St., (831) 372-8900.

The Sunset Lounge at Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer **Neal Banks** and guitarist **Steve Ezzo** (pop and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.); and singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive,

(831) 620-1234.
Terry's Lounge at Cypress Inn — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.); pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.); **Andrea's Fault** (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.);

and guitarist **Richard Devinck** (classic, Sunday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, (831) 624-3871.
Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — **Tom Faia & the Juice** (rock, Friday at 6 p.m.); and **Grove Acre** (rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place, (831) 298-7453.

ART

From page 19A

the site of a reception Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Titled "You Will Rise," the show includes work by students from Monterey High School, Alisal High, Salinas High, Pacific Grove High, Seaside High and Santa Catalina School.

The participants all took part in an anti-

bullying work at the nonprofit art center. "Fourteen kids from six different high schools took the initiative to participate in the Art Against Bullying workshop, which happens every Sunday at Open Ground Studios," founder and director **Denese Sanders** said. "They did it to express how bullying affects their lives. One of the beautiful things I saw was how wise and intuitive they are in expressing how to rise above it." Open Ground Studios is located at 1230 Fremont Blvd. Call (831) 241-6919 or visit www.opengroundstudios.com.



At Open Ground Studios in Seaside, local high school students participate in the Art Against Bullying workshop. The nonprofit will be the site of a one-day pop-up show of student art on the topic Oct. 29.

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PADRES ENTER LAST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEASON WITH HOPE AND TALENT

THE POSTSEASON football hopes of Carmel High may be slim going into the final two weeks of the regular season — the Padres are 2-2 in the Mission Trail Division of the Mission Trail Athletic League, and 4-4 overall — but this is a different team than we watched in the early weeks.

Golden Anderson (eight seasons as head coach, eight playoff appearances) has seen a remarkable improvement over the past two weeks, during which the Padres routed San Lorenzo Valley 49-19 and Stevenson 41-0.

That leaves CHS in a fourth-place tie with SLV, behind King City, Soledad and Scotts Valley (one loss each). Meanwhile, it's possible that only one team — the league champ — will earn a playoff berth this year.

But a lot could happen in a very balanced league during those final three weeks.

The Padres had a bye last week — an opportunity to shore up some deficiencies and heal some nagging injuries — and will get the chance to knock King City (4-1, 5-3

a road game at Stevenson (1-3, 2-4) on Saturday, then host archrival SLV (2-2, 4-4) on the final weekend of the season.

Soledad (3-1, 5-3 overall), riding high after beating Scotts Valley 19-3 a week ago, finishes with back-to-back road games against SLV and Stevenson.

If SLV beats Scotts Valley and Soledad, Carmel has a better shot at playoff consideration.

“There are a lot of scenarios out there, and, honestly, I’m not really clear on what they all are, but we only control the games we play,” Anderson said. “We don’t really discuss the playoffs. We focus on the team in front of us and let the rest take care of itself.”

Solid corps

In fact, Anderson says his tendency as a head coach is to focus more on eliminating any weaknesses in his own team, rather than worrying about the next opponent — and there are fewer weaknesses than there were

three touchdowns, and intercepted two passes against SLV.

Last week, against his former school, he scored four TDs and ran for 95 yards.

An even bigger impact, said Anderson, is that Mornhinweg’s presence at running back has enabled Luke Melcher (446 yards in six games as the starting running back) to return to his more-natural receiver position, and allowed part-time running back Yungjae Chee to focus more intensely on his primary position, line-backer.

Melcher bolsters an already-solid corps of receivers that includes Rashaan Ward (32 catches, 487 yards, 8 TDs), sophomore Nico Staehle (averaging almost 20 yards per reception) and freshman J.T. Byrne (five catches in his last two games).

Chee is part of a defense that has forced 10 turnovers in its two most-recent games

learning on the job, gaining experience, and showing improvement,” the coach said. “And the real maturity I see has been in our work habits during practice. Our attention to detail has become much better as the season has progressed.”

A final factor that bodes well is that the Padres enter the homestretch with every player available: no injuries, no ineligible players going into the final two games.

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Saturday’s opponent, King City, will arrive with a quarterback, Luis Luna, who has thrown for 1,234 yards and 13 TDs, and an explosive receiver, Clay Barbree, who has 588 yards on 24 receptions.

King City will be looking for its third-straight win after beating SLV 27-9 on Oct. 13 and Pacific Grove 49-0 last week.

The Mustangs also will have some additional motivation: They haven’t won a league title in 35 years, and haven’t beaten Carmel, or reached the postseason, since 2006.

Looking ahead (Oct. 27 - Nov. 2)

■ The Padres field hockey squad finishes its regular season with a 3:30 p.m. game today (Friday) at Santa Catalina.

■ King City’s league-leading football team plays at Carmel High at 2 p.m. Saturday.

■ Carmel boys water polo will participate Saturday in the Monterey Bay League postseason tournament at Hartnell College. The match will be played at either 12:30 or 2 p.m. (to be determined).

■ Girls golf competes Tuesday in the Central Coast Section Championship tournament at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch (TBA).

■ Carmel girls tennis plays Wednesday and Thursday at the MTAL Championship tournament at Chamisal, 1 p.m. both days.

■ Carmel cross-country competes Thursday at the MTAL Championships, beginning at 3 p.m. at Toro Park in Salinas.

■ Carmel volleyball will participate in Central Coast Section playoffs (days, times, venues TBA).

Contact Dennis Taylor at scribelaureate@gmail.com.



PHOTOS/LUKE DEPALATIS

Padres players like cornerback Adam Ramlawi (above) and wide receiver Rashaan Ward (right) are focused on playing well the next two weeks, with some hopes of getting to the postseason.



overall) from its exclusive position atop the standings in a 2 p.m. game Saturday at Carmel High. If they can do that, then win The Shoe at Pacific Grove (0-5, 1-7) the following week (7:30 p.m., Nov. 3), they’ll finish 4-2 (6-4 overall) and hold a tiebreaker over the Mustangs.

Scotts Valley (3-1, 5-3 overall, with a win over Carmel and a loss to Soledad) will play

during the first six weeks.

Some very positive dominoes began to fall Carmel’s way on Oct. 6, when sophomore running back and cornerback Dakota Mornhinweg finally became eligible to play after transferring to CHS from Stevenson, where he was a standout receiver a year ago.

In his debut as a Padre, Mornhinweg rushed for 148 yards on 20 carries, scored

(six against SLV, four against Stevenson).

In fact, the Padres have intercepted an astounding 20 passes in their first eight games, led by free safety Zach DeZee and cornerbacks Adam Ramlawi (four each), safety Tristan McCallister (three), Benjamin Lund (two), and Mornhinweg (two).

Anderson also points to the improvement of an offensive line that was revamped after the first three games. Left tackle Jackson Williams and left guard Takaya Cole have been particularly reliable, he said.

“We’ve got a lot of young players who are

Where are the kids in bathing suits?

IT WASN’T as hot out when a car crashed into a fire hydrant on a Pacific Grove street corner last week, but kids seeking relief from record temperatures wouldn’t have had much time to play in the geyser of water at Laurel and 17th, anyway. Since the accident happened right behind the fire station, firefighters were quickly able to shut off the water, according to Cal Am spokeswoman Catherine Stedman, saving an untold amount of water.

“The fire department was able to respond right away, given how close the hydrant was to their location, so the valve was shut off quickly,” she said. “A car hit the hydrant, which broke the bolts at the bottom of the hydrant. We replaced the bolts and the gasket; otherwise, the hydrant was fine.”



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Editorial

Please don't listen to the water crazies

THIS COMMUNITY has a single, over-arching job to do when it comes to our water supply: Get one that's reliable, drought-proof, cost-effective and adequate for the needs of the people. That's it — and after more than 30 years of trying, we're finally getting close.

But that doesn't mean that there aren't still plenty of obstacles in the way. The technical problems have all been pretty much worked out, in the form of a desal plant in the Marina Dunes, but the political ones are still significant: First of all, to get the permits the desal plant needs. And then to survive the court challenges to those permits. And then finally build the dam thing.

Why is it so difficult to get permits for something as essential as a supply of drinking water? Isn't the permit process supposed to serve the needs of the people? Not in this state, unfortunately.

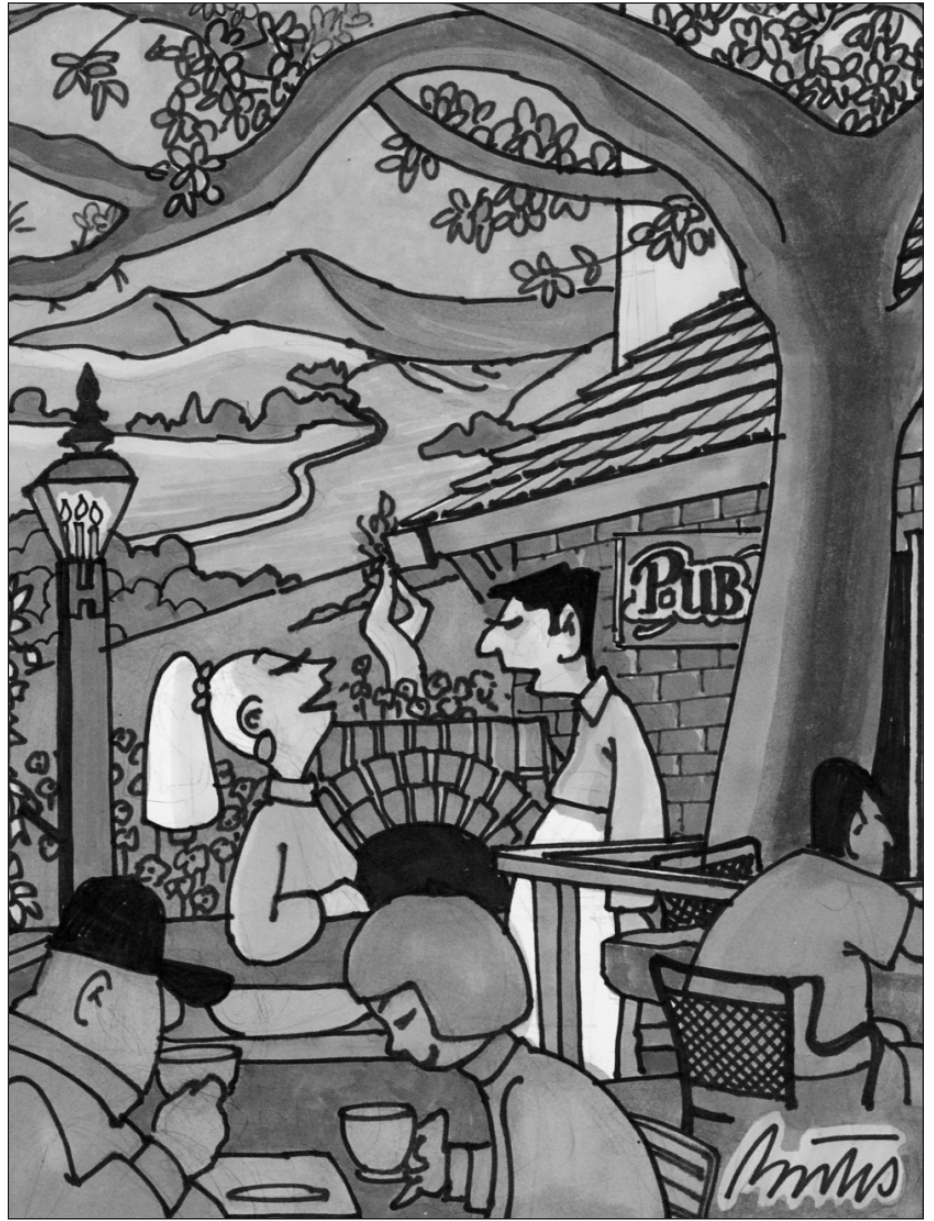
Starting in the early 1970s, California enacted a series of laws designed to make it harder to build even the most essential project — a task that was accomplished largely by empowering activists and busybodies and giving them the tools they need to stop anything they don't happen to like. Starting with the public comment period at every local government meeting, continuing with the exhaustive environmental studies that must be completed to support an application before it's even submitted and the multi-layered process every project must survive before getting a permit, and culminating with the lawsuits that can be filed, challenging even the tiniest aspects of the development project or the decision to approve it, California's permit maze has a complexity that would be a source of wonder, if it weren't so awful.

The local examples of this phenomenon are too numerous to list, although two of the most egregious examples are happening right now. As you read these words, one group is still fighting the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's plan to reuse wastewater, a project called Pure Water Monterey, while another group, aided by the City of Marina, claims the Pure Water project will be such a success, there will no longer any need for a desal plant.

They can't both be right, of course, but lock them in a room, and the result is that your garden dies.

We can only hope that the California Public Utilities Commission approves our desal plant regardless of the silly objections our local activist groups and a disgruntled city raise, and that somewhere, somehow, a judge with a strong sense of public purpose can be found to let the permits for the desal plant survive. But don't count on it happening in your lifetime.

BEST of BATES



"Is Clint here?"
"No, ma'am. It's his day off."

Letters to the Editor

Slant well works

Dear Editor,

There is too much deception being foisted upon Monterey's water consumers. Trying to counter it can easily become a daily task. Case in point is the often-repeated argument that the test slant well in Marina is not operating as Cal Am claims. The truth, supported by expert science, is that the slant well is operating as expected.

A slant well uses the same proven technology as vertical wells, simply drilled at an angle. The well is constructed on land angled to capture ocean water that has been flowing inland via seawater intrusion for decades. The result: the Cal Am plant will process seawater without the environmental impacts of an open-ocean intake.

After two years of slant well testing, the water drawn from the well is on average 92 percent ocean water, and the rest is unusable brackish water.

Outside experts, not Cal Am employees, have proven the effectiveness of this approach and its results. And all the data accumulated is available to the public at www.watersupplyproject.org.

Paul B. Bruno, Monterey

'Courage dwells not'

Dear Editor,

Naive me, I thought nullification went out with John C. Calhoun. However, our county supervisors fully embrace California's recently imposed sanctuary state policies, which intend to subvert federal law regarding international trespassers — to the point of using \$1.8 million of Monterey County taxpayer's money to give free medical care to criminal immigrants.

But let's get back to the concept of nullification. It takes no bold courage for the supervisors to merely follow what the governor, the attorney general and the legislature have stated as their intent. Surely heads higher up will fall before the supervisors ever feel anything like Jacksonian heat from the Federal government. (Andrew Jackson threatened to hang Calhoun for nullification).

However, if nullification of higher authority is the new cause célèbre of Golden State politics, why don't county supervisors call for the nullification of the state's Carmel River cease and desist order? Why not show some real courage and tell the state that the Carmel River is our water, to hell with the fish and wacky environmentalists, and we intend to use the river for the health and well being of our citizenry. Afterwards the CPUC and Cal Am can be dealt with in accordance with how accommodating they wish to be to the consumer (sounds rather like free enter-

See LETTERS page 26A

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Bringing history to life is all in a day's work for him

IF YOU'VE ever toured Ed Ricketts' Pacific Biological Laboratory on Cannery Row, you've probably seen the concrete "boxes" out in back, where Ricketts temporarily held his specimens of sea life.

But did you know that he didn't create them? Tim Thomas, probably the foremost local authority on the history of Cannery Row, Fisherman's Wharf and Monterey Bay's fisheries, said that Ricketts didn't build the lab. He purchased it from a Spanish family who lived there, who used the boxes to brine sardines.

The funny thing about talking to Thomas, though, is that no matter what you ask him

Thomas — a Pacific Grove resident — has long, deep roots in the Monterey Peninsula. His family's lived here for four generations, including in a house in P.G. that was designed by Julia Morgan. And, he's a distant cousin of John Steinbeck. He can recount stories from his maternal grandmother about the author, because she lived next door to him in Salinas.

While he was at MPC, he said, he really wanted to go into filmmaking, but then he discovered that was a pretty expensive endeavor.

Also, history just held too much fascination. He became the historian, curator and director of public programs at the Monterey Maritime Museum, where he stayed for 16 years, constantly adding to his extensive knowledge of the bay's fishing history.

His distinctive, animated style of storytelling developed while he worked at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, where he created living history pieces about whaling, and the history of Chinese fishing in the area. "I noticed people remembered better," with the drama, he said.

'History slam'

On his Fisherman's Wharf tours, Thomas reaches all the way back to when the Rumsien people set out in small tule boats — boats made of rushes tied together — to fish. He describes how one immigrant population succeeded another in the fishing industry, each disliked by the groups of people who already lived here.

Other tours include the neighborhood that was once Monterey's Japan Town, from the

Great Lives

By ELAINE HESSER

about himself, he manages to quickly segue to a story of local history — and they're all interesting.

He's a walking treasure trove of information, and thanks to a flair for the theatrical, the tours he's given for years of local sites are not just an experience of watching somebody point at something, explain what it is/was, and then move on. No, he brings props and acts things out.

"That's just the way I am," he said, adding that he'd taken theater classes along with history at MPC. That means that he doesn't just tell you about Monterey restaurateur Ernest Doelter, and how he made abalone world-famous way back in the early 1900s. Thomas whips out a red fez, like the one Doelter is wearing in the Jo Mora illustrations on his

Historian and tour guide Tim Thomas likes to illustrate his tours with props, like a faux sardine. He's also been known to don a bright red fez because he believes drama helps people learn.

PHOTO/MICHAEL LOWE



Alvarado Street restaurant's menu, and sings part of "The Abalone Song."

What "Abalone Song"? The one that was sung by folks hereabouts to pass the time while they pounded out the pucks of shellfish to tenderize them. Verses — dozens and dozens of them — were composed on the spot, starting with the first one by Carmel writer George Sterling.

"It wasn't always a song," Thomas noted. "When George Sterling encouraged all those Bohemians to make up these abalone ditties, while pounding abalone on Carmel Beach, they were recited more like a dirge. Sterling later published several verses as poetry."

That's why you can sometimes catch Thomas, on the Wharf, in front of God and everybody, reciting a verse like, "Oh, some like ham and some like jam and some like macaroni, but our tom cat, he lives on fat, and juicy abalone."

period in the 1930s when 80 percent of the wharf's businesses were Japanese-owned, and of course, his tour of Cannery Row. He'd like to write a book about that one, and it wouldn't be his first.

Thomas is the author of, "The Abalone King of Monterey," "The Japanese on the Monterey Peninsula" and co-author of "Monterey's Waterfront."

He said he's taking a little break from his tour business, but he's kicking around a few other things he'd like to do. He's contemplating organizing a "history slam," in which a bunch of historians would get 10 minutes apiece to share a true story of days gone by on the Peninsula.

Another idea is to start a blog about Monterey's restaurant industry, using his extensive collection of menus, dating back to the 19th century. Sounds like a great way for him to give us all something else to chew on.

Is it a straight line that joins these blocks, or is it something more?

THE GENESIS of an artist is rarely identifiable, but Lucas Blok seemed mildly amused as he reminisced about attending a Montessori school in Holland, where, as a 6-year-old, somebody sat him down in a woodshop, taught him to use a handsaw, and put him to work making bookshelves.

"They basically amounted to six planks, about 30 inches long, that somehow got assembled," he said. "I always laugh about that because I paint rectangles today, so I guess I'm still connected."

With a bit of a stretch, we also might touch other connections in his life that suggest why (if not how) this artist is somehow able to paint his colorful rectangles in a way that plays tricks on a viewer's eyes and mind. Stare at a Blok painting long enough and it appears to morph and move. Edges vibrate or glow. Colors change. Shapes sometimes seem to vanish. He compares the effect to the experience of listening to music.

"In music, the linear time factor — rhythm — along with harmony, volume, and intensity — creates the experience. It is constantly moving, changing," Blok explained. "In my work, I utilize color and optics to achieve a similar experience: creating time-rhythm within a static image. I aspire toward a visual music."

How an artist comes to paint vibrating rectangles, as opposed to flowers, faces, or oceanscapes, is a mystery that's probably too

deep to solve, but it seems oddly suspicious that Blok moved from those childhood shelf-building days in Holland to a teenage upbringing in Palo Alto, not far from the cultural revolution erupting at UC Berkeley and Haight-Ashbury in San Francisco.

"I probably got into art as a 16-year-old in California because the whole anti-establishment thing going on. It wasn't cool to be 'The Man,'" he said. "Those were the beginnings ... but nothing about it was an intelligent decision on my part."

Indeed, perhaps an artist with a developing brain gets a contact high, at the very

Carmel's artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

least, from a culture infused with marijuana, LSD and other things that might help him learn to make a perfectly rigid rectangle move on its canvas surface.

A bottle of gin

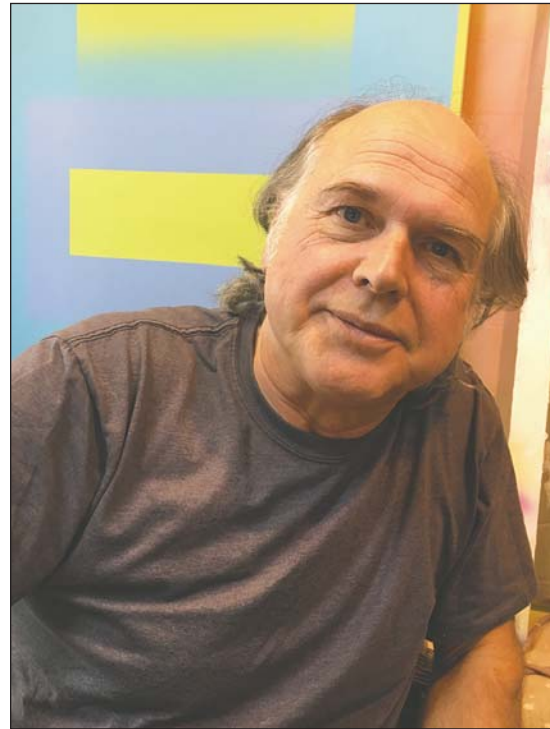
Blok's upbringing also might drop some clues. His early years were certainly bleak enough to make a child develop an imagination as a defense mechanism. Blok watched his parents struggle through Holland's post-World War II years, the aftermath of an era of Nazi occupation, during which they had seen friends hauled off to work in German factories (targets of Allied bombs), or die in concentration camps.

"My mother literally walked around occupied Holland with 10,000 guilders and a bottle of gin in her purse," he said. "If anything bad happened, first you offered the money, then you offered the gin, and if that didn't work, you offered yourself. My parents told me a lot of stories about the things people did to survive."

Blok's father brought the family to Canada two different times, searching for a better life. He was disappointed both times by a lack of opportunity and eventually made the move to California, where he found work as a 40-year-old busboy, and eventually became a dining room manager.

His son, meanwhile, felt burned out by the moves, and frustrated by changes of countries, languages, and schools.

"When you're always coming into new situations, and you're the stupid one, education becomes confirmation



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Known for his abstract paintings of rectangles, Lucas Blok started painting around age 16, in Palo Alto.

See **BLOK** next page

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



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LETTERS

From page 24A

prise, doesn't it?). Alas, courage dwells not in the supervisors' chambers.

Richard S. Hellam, Seaside

Time to 'get creative'

Dear Editor,

The way the planning commission and some council members are behaving toward the Carmel Coffee and Cocoa Bar in the Carmel Plaza is going to give Carmel a black eye.

The objections sound petty to me, and disrespectful to a particular group of tourists who visit Carmel regularly and often choose to frequent that shop. Those tourists feel welcomed there because the food is familiar,

they can see the menu in tasteful pictures on the wall (overcoming a language problem), and they don't have to spend a lot of time getting a meal before they go to other shops. Plus, many locals hang out there during the day because they like the place just as it is. The food at the coffee shop is served fast because of the kind of food served but is eaten while sitting at the tables and chairs provided by the restaurant ... not take-out.

I love the long counter because I get to see what I can buy. There are other restaurants that have long counters. I wonder if the city council is measuring all of those ... I hope not.

I think it's time for the city council to get creative, think out of the box and figure out ways to be more inclusive instead of being picayune.

Carol Kahn, Carmel

'Strength and decency'

Dear Editor,

Jimmy Panetta and 100 of his House of Representatives colleagues are right to urge the administration to admit more refugees for resettlement in the United States. In recent years the average number allowed into the United States has been about 110,000 per year. The Trump administration would like to reduce that by more than half.

As you point out, Americans are a generous people, but many of our fellow citizens oppose resettlement of refugees in general. Some are concerned that refugees take jobs away from U.S. citizens and many see

refugees as potentially being involved in terrorist activities.

I'm sure Rep. Panetta and his colleagues are aware of these concerns. They all hear from constituents who oppose refugee resettlement. But, while weighing these concerns, the members of Congress who signed the letter to the administration are saying we are a generous and brave people who offer friendship and support to victims of war and tyranny.

This a position of strength and decency which should be applauded.

Jim Copeland, Carmel Valley

BLOK

From previous page

tion that you don't know much," Blok said. "As a result, I'm pretty much self-taught in most of the things I do."

He dabbled in music (briefly taking guitar lessons from Jerry Garcia, soon to achieve Grateful Dead fame) and played in a garage band as a teen, began experimenting with art as a college student, and worked as a graphic artist and printer as a young adult.

While attending Foothill College, Blok met his future wife, Barbara Ruzicka, a blossoming classical pianist who is among the Peninsula's most sought-after private piano instructors.

They originally moved to Carmel in 1976, but a Bohemian spirit took them to San Francisco, Portugal, and England before they returned in the fall of '88. They live near Sunset Center.

Since 1994, Blok, now 67, has created his artwork in a studio he rents in the attic of a Monterey church. The genre sells better in

large, diversified cities — major art hubs like New York, Miami (where a December show is scheduled), or Los Angeles — than locally, he said. His pieces are part of the permanent collection of the Triton Museum of Art in Santa Clara, the Crocker Museum of Art in Sacramento, and the Berkeley Art Museum, as well as Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, Westland House in Monterey, and Montage Wellness Center in Salinas. Blok's work is represented in Europe by Heitsch Gallery in Munich, Germany.

"My goal, which I don't think I've achieved yet, is to create something complex enough, yet immediate enough, that you could spend an hour or two with it," he said. "It's sort of like rehearsing something, or reliving it ... having an experience that holds up until ultimately, it becomes emotional."

Blok's art can be viewed at the Carmel Art Association gallery (Dolores Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues), and can be seen online at www.lucasblok.com.

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

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POT

From page 7A

tion, and went further by saying the city should hear from the county's Child Protective Services about "what they anticipate their challenges will be in protecting kids from unexpected exposure."

"There are a lot of questions about kids," Garfield said. "And what I would like to know is whether we have the capacity to restrict edibles, particularly the ones that look like gummy bears and candy, to keep

them from being distributed in our community?"

Mayor Bill Kampe also wondered if the city could ban edibles, but by the end of the meeting, there was no clear answer.

Although P.G. Police Chief Amy Christey recommended that the council continue the prohibition on commercial sales and cultivation, she also played devil's advocate.

"I heard a lot of concern and questions regarding children," Christey said. "I do want to say that right now we have alcohol and drugs in houses, and there are children in those houses. So, I will draw that analogy with marijuana as well."

FRACTURED

From page 5A

of witnesses, but didn't find any.

An ambulance took Bruno to Natividad Medical Center with serious injuries that included brain bleeding, and fractures in his upper spine and right elbow, according to Loza, but he's expected to survive.

The investigating officer does not believe Rankin was intoxicated at the time of the crash, though he still could be cited for hitting Bruno with his car.

"The California Highway Patrol would like to remind drivers of the importance of keeping your eyes on the road, especially in residential areas where pedestrians, children, pets and bicyclists are commonly found," Loza added. "It only takes a second for a tragedy to occur."

APPOINT

From page 3A

Friends of Carmel Forest. She's monitoring about 20 Centennial trees and also works with the Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve doing monthly cleanups in the park to remove invasive species.

New library trustee

Finally, Phillip Pardue was appointed to the Harrison Memorial Library board to finish out the term of Richard Flower, who died earlier this year. Pardue will serve out the remainder of Flower's three-year term.

Pardue is also new to the area, having moved to Hatton Fields a little over a year ago. He was a surface warfare officer in the U.S. Navy from 1983 to 2011, when he went on to become a program manager and executive at Johns Hopkins University's applied physics laboratory. In addition, he's conduct-

CHURCH

From page 11A

in conflict with the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act that prohibits the imposition of burdens on the ability of prisoners to worship as they please."

The church's pastor, Orville Myers, said he's happy about the outcome, but is still concerned that some are uneasy about the church, and he's hoping time — and the church's good deeds — will sway them.

"It's just going to take some time for people to realize that we're not going to be this huge thing," Myers added. "Every community needs a church — people need a place to go when they're hurt and looking for answers. Even those who have opposed the church will be warmly welcomed at any time."

ed research on the life-cycle costs of Navy vessels for the RAND Corporation since December 2016.

In his application, he noted that Harrison Memorial Library is "an intellectual hub in our community and serves as a much-needed social center of focus for a significant segment of our residents." He also noted that a balance can be struck between preserving the best and strongest attributes of the library, and changing with the times.

At the Oct. 3 council meeting, members unanimously voted in favor of the appointments as recommended by Mayor Steve Dallas and Mayor Pro Tem Carrie Theis, who reviewed the applications and interviewed the candidates. Before the vote, councilwoman Jan Reimers thanked them for their time and energy, and said she "was excited to know we had such a wonderful array of just really super applicants." In addition to those appointed, a half-dozen people applied for the various positions.

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VNA Community Services continued the tradition of community based flu prevention by providing flu vaccines to 372 participants at **Tularcitos School in Carmel Valley**.

The clinic was made possible with the use of State QIV vaccine, and the support of **Carmel by the Sea Rotary** and **Carmel Valley Rotary**. Rotarians were on site to facilitate the crowd, answer questions and provide support to our team. Participants were grateful to the Monterey County Health Department and the local Rotary groups.

We look forward to working with our community partners for the good health of our community.

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CALENDAR

Ongoing: Friends of Harrison Memorial Library are accepting book donations for the 46th annual book sale to be held August 2018. Book donations can be dropped off from 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday at Sunset Center's Lower Level, 10th Avenue and San Carlos, Carmel. For information call 224-4663.

Oct. 27, 28, 29 — Thomas Kinkadee Galleries is celebrating 25 years in Carmel as the first exclusive Gallery on Friday, 4 p.m. @ The Church of the Wayfarer with "Walk of Light." Featuring rare, limited edition artwork for purchase. At 7 p.m. Patrick Kinkadee, an art historian will welcome and introduce the movie "The Christmas Cottage," an inspirational movie sharing Thomas & Patrick's early life in Placerville, CA. Starring Peter O'Toole, Maria Gay Harden & Jared Padalecki. Q&A with Patrick. Saturday Master Highlight event @ Studio in the Garden in Carmel and Sunday in Monterey across from the Monterey Plaza. RSVP studiointhegarden@kinkadee.com (831) 624-3363

Oct. 28 — The Blind & Visually

Impaired Center of Monterey County, 225 Laurel Ave., Pacific Grove. This annual fundraiser event is free. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., day of fun, food, and entertainment. Wine tasting and free delicious treats are part of the experience.

Nov. 5 — Wings of Remembrance Fundraiser: 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Please join us for a fun afternoon at Embassy Suites in Seaside, including lite bites, a magical musical concert by Johnny B. of Homer, Alaska with silent and live auctions to benefit Papillon Center for Loss & Transition's programming. Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased online www.papillon-center.org or by mail P.O.Box 4075, Monterey, CA 93942. For more information please call (831) 320-1188.

Baum & Blume's Holiday Preview Party & A.F.R.P. Fundraiser! 5-8 p.m. Nov. 8. Be first to preview the boutique's 2017 theme: "The Northwoods are Calling." Hors d'oeuvres, tiki cocktails, local vintages, live music, shopping. \$20 @ door. Proceeds benefit Animal Friends Rescue Project. Space is limited! RSVP (831) 659-0400. 4 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley.

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