# Potter calls for investigation of 'vandalism' at landmark P.B. house

Volume 101 No. 26

A MONTEREY County supervisor Tuesday called for the district attorney's office to open an investigation of vandalism that was reported in February to an historic Pebble Beach house that's at the center of a dispute between its wealthy Silicon Valley owner and a group of preservationists.

In comments made at Tuesday's board of supervisors meeting, 5th District Supervisor Dave Potter said whoever damaged the Richard Neutra-designed house at 1170 Signal Hill owned by Massy Mehdipour should be "criminally pros-

Mehdipour is trying to get approval to raze the 1958 midcentury modern house and replace it with a new one, but preservationists and neighbors are trying to stop her.

Though Mehdipour reported to sheriff's deputies that vandals had badly damaged the house, Potter rejected the claim. He also called the condition of the structure "unbelievably

"This is not traditional vandalism," Potter said. "It's actually an attempt to further degrade a piece of property that's been in intentional deterioration for a while.'

Potter cited structural members that had been cut in half. load-bearing beams that had been drilled through, and timber that had been cut and oddly stacked afterward. He noted there was no graffiti, and said that things of potential value, such as copper wiring and plumbing, "seem to have been left untouched?

'What I saw last week was to the point where there should be some criminal prosecution on this," Potter said. "And I hope the district attorney's office gets involved."

See DAMAGED page 16A



No, it isn't in a slum, but this landmark house in Pebble Beach has become an eyesore as its owner, Massy Mehdipour, seeks permission to tear it down. A county supervisor says the house hasn't been damaged by vandals, however, and he wants the perpetrator investigated.

# Paid parking results don't sway vocal opponents

By MARY SCHLEY

A PRESENTATION by Steffen Turoff of Walker Parking Consultants on the effectiveness of the city's pilot paid-parking program didn't change a lot of minds at a workshop in the Carmel Woman's Club Wednesday evening. Business owners, residents — and even a few longtime visitors — took the opportunity to condemn the concept, saying it's bad for business and counter to the town's character.

In April 2014, after decades of discussion about parking congestion downtown and the problem of employees taking up all the spaces that might otherwise be used by shoppers, the city council voted to give paid parking on Ocean Avenue a try, while opening up more spaces on nearby streets to provide free all-day parking for people who work downtown. When that vote was taken, it was greeted with applause in the council chambers.

Free all-day parking in the Sunset north parking lot and along Junipero began July 1, 2014, and paid parking was launched early last December.

Since then, parking-space occupancy during business hours has dropped on Ocean to around 85 percent, meaning one to two spaces are usually available per block, while side streets have become more congested, and the newer all-day parking areas are routinely full. Most of the people paying for parking on Ocean are one-time visitors, according to data collected by the police department.

But most of the people who spoke at Wednesday's meeting just wanted to know when the meters would be removed.

Sheree Smith, owner of Carrigg's of Carmel, said she sent an email to downtown merchants asking for their thoughts on parking. Only two respondents said they want the parking kiosks to stay, she said, and those don't have businesses on Ocean Avenue.

"There were many comments on how much it's hurt our business," she said, adding that whatever revenue the city has Grand jury blames city's problems on Pine Cone, residents, mayor and council

By MARY SCHLEY

A REPORT that was widely expected to condemn the actions of former city administrator Jason Stilwell and second-in-command Susan Paul instead lambasted longtime employees, The Carmel Pine Cone, the mayor and the city council for the problems that plagued Carmel City Hall during the past two years.

The Monterey County Civil Grand Jury's report on the city's governance — a review requested by Mayor Jason Burnett and a group of residents led by Richard Kreitman shocked almost everyone in town.

"If Stilwell and Paul were such heroes, why did our problems seem to disappear as soon as they were gone?" asked Carolyn Hardy, who assisted with an investigation of some of the contracts they signed.

"And then we turned the corner and were on the mend."

"To say I was disappointed is just scratching the surface," said Carolina Bayne, who organized a march on city hall and circulated petitions calling for Stilwell's resignation last August. "It sounds like they got a snow job from Stilwell and Paul and believed every word of it. They insulted everyone who signed the

**Everybody** 

was at fault -

except Jason

Stilwell and

Susan Paul

petition, like we're a bunch of idiots."

"Ultimately, I have no respect for any of it, the grand jury, Stilwell and Paul, or the council that tolerated and encouraged bad behavior," said former longtime city councilwoman Paula Hazdovac. "I guess my only comment would be to ask Steve McInchak how he thinks the city was being run. Oh yes, you can't — he's dead."

At the other end of the spectrum, Kreitman and Carmel Residents Association President Barbara Livingston praised the civil grand jury.

Kreitman said the report was mostly correct and agreed that the council and mayor failed to exercise proper control over the administration.

"Their conclusion was the mayor and city council vacated

See GRAND JURY page 13A

# On the edge



Big Sur has seen its share of explorers over the years, but two remarkable athletes have ventured into the backcountry this year and literally gone where no man has gone before. See story page 6A.

See PARKING page 12A

# 78th Bach Fest promises 'Bach, Bohemia & Beyond'

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

 ${
m A}$  CENTURY ago, a creative group of like-minded people who practiced unconventional lifestyles involving musical, artistic and literary pursuits created this Bohemian community. How fitting, then, that in this 78th season of the Carmel Bach Festival — and on the eve of the town's centennial — artistic director and principal conductor Paul Goodwin and his musicians will take audiences through "Bach, Bohemia & Beyond."

"Every program I create to be something spicy, interesting and unusual," Goodwin says. "The festival programming will be peppered with Bohemian music, which many people will have heard, and many will have not. I like narrowing the possibilities in the program a little bit and delving into interesting areas. People will have an unexpected pleasure ahead of

Each year, Goodwin selects a focus to complement the works of the master. He introduces composers who were significant in their era, and presents them in the context of a larger theme. The music of Bohemia — which today is a region of the Czech Republic — had an enormous influence

on the baroque and classical periods, particularly through wind virtuosi and folk music.

In keeping with the theme, the festival will begin with "Fireworks and Harmony." The opening night concert, to be introduced by festival dramaturge David Gordon, will feature George Frederick Handel's "Royal Fireworks Music," Bach's cantata "Sleepers Awake," and Joseph Haydn's "Harmony Mass."

"The pairing of 'Fireworks and Harmony' enables us to introduce different colors in our performance," says Goodwin. "We have absolutely fantastic wind players, and 'Fireworks' was written for a whole raft of wind instruments, expressing the bright, exciting colors in Handel's music."

The "harmony" portion of the concert comes from the German "harmonie," meaning "wind ensemble" — hence, Haydn's "Harmony Mass." Handel's "Royal Fireworks Music" is a wind ensemble suite composed in 1749, under commission by George II of Great Britain, to accompany the fireworks in London's Green Park. And, perhaps the best known of Johann Sebastian Bach's cantatas, "Sleepers

See BACH page 23A

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# Sandy Claws

June 26, 2015

# Constant companion

The Carmel Pine Cone

TIBBY BITES her ball, leaps out of the car and scampers across the sand in search of the first kids who cross her path. Then she tosses her ball toward them and waits for them to get in the game. She will continue to play catch as long as the children are willing to fetch.

Tibby is a 5-year-old Australian labradoodle born in Paso Robles and growing up in Carmel Valley. Her person, having recently moved to this canine community, and knowing absolutely no one, decided she might like the companionship of a dog.

"I did a lot of online research," says her person, "and the labradoodle seemed to meet all my qualifications. I've had Siberian huskies and bichon frises, so I've gone from the sublime, to the ridiculous. This time, I wanted one that was small but sturdy, that didn't shed and was hypoallergenic. I figured, why not get a dog that meets my needs and doesn't promote a lot of problems for people?"

Tibby came home at around 12 weeks, a tiny black bundle of energy who became her person's constant companion. What her person didn't realize was that Tibby also would become the conduit for connecting with people throughout the community.

"I don't go anywhere that someone doesn't ask me about Tibby," her person says. "Mostly because she is so cute, and she wiggles with excitement like a puppy. People love that."



## By Lisa Crawford Watson



Tibby's name came from her person's favorite childhood stories, Maud Hart Lovelace's "Betsy-Tacy and Tib" series. She also heard the name in "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" movies. Most of all, she felt the name fit.

"Tibby' just sounds like the name of someone sweet and affectionate," her person says. "And she is such a wonderful companion. The only thing she might like more than me is our Siamese cat, Simon."

# Independence Day at Devendorf

THE CITY of Carmel will host its annual July 4 celebration in Devendorf Park, located at Junipero and Ocean, from noon to 4 p.m., so grab your blankets and chairs, stake out a place on the grass, and celebrate American independence with your fellow residents and visitors.

Mayor Pro Tem Ken Talmage will welcome guests to the party, after which cover band Velvet Plum will take the stage. Velvet Plum features "some of the Bay Area's best vocalists and musicians," including Lara Price (vocals, drums, guitar), Dennis Dove (vocals, drums), Brian Tucker (bass) and Stuart Horton (guitar, vocals).

Activities will begin at 1:30 p.m., with hula-hoop dancing, sack-jump dancing and games for kids.

Attendees are invited to bring their own picnics, but they can also get their fill of

hot dogs, fruit, ice cream, popcorn, drinks and cookies provided by service groups like the Carmel Host Lions, Mission Trail Lions, Yes for Carmel, Carmel Heritage Society, Carmel Woman's Club, Carmel Chamber of Commerce, Carmel Kiwanis, Carmel Residents Association, the Central Coast Celtic Association and others.

For more information, call (831) 620-2020 or email mper-otti@ci.carmel.ca.us.



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Jack and Levi's guardian passed away several months ago and they were surrendered to POMDR.

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# Ambulances won't have problems getting to CHOMP during roundabout work, engineer says

By KELLY NIX

WHILE TRAFFIC will no doubt be a tangled mess on Highway 68 and other nearby roads when construction is underway for the \$8.2 million roundabout next year, planners said Tuesday that emergency vehicles will always have a clear path to and from Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula.

Monterey traffic engineer Rich Deal said at a June 23 meeting in Carmel that during the eight stages of construction for the project — which has been delayed until next year — ambulances, fire engines and other emergency vehicles will be able to get to and from the hospital via routes carved out just for them.

"During all of our stages of construction, we are requiring the contractor to allow emergency vehicles to go through the construction site to the hospital," Deal said. "The contractor is going to have to provide a way for those vehicles to get through."

There have been concerns that traffic during construction could make it difficult for emergency responders to get to CHOMP quickly. And hospital officials have said they're concerned that once the roundabout is open, drivers making U-turns at the hospital could clog the entrance.

But Transportation Agency for Monterey County planner Ariana Green said at Tuesday's meeting that she will organize an "interagency task force" with representatives from the fire departments, CHP, sheriff's office, ambulance service and others so emergency responders will know precisely which routes to take during each phase of construction.

"We will distribute the final alternate routes in a map or in a handout in the fall when we do our round of community workshops," Green said, adding that the task force will meet monthly or more frequently if necessary.

While only two people from the public showed up at Tuesday's meeting, Deal said TAMC and the City of Monterey have given more than 50 presentations on the roundabout project, many to community groups and business associations. And Green said there will be several public outreach meetings in the fall, when the interagency task force will likely meet for the first time.

Though construction was set to begin in the fall, Green said some unforeseen Caltrans and PG&E issues have pushed construction back to next spring. But, she said, the \$8.2 million project cost has not increased from its original

estimate

As for CHOMP's concern that the roundabout traffic will impede doctors, nurses and ambulances from getting to the hospital — since those exiting westbound from nearby Carmel Hills Professional Center will be forced to make a Uturn at CHOMP to head eastbound on Highway 68 — Deal said that traffic simulations at peak hours indicate that vehicles will flow smoothly through the artery and that there will be no major tie ups at CHOMP.

There are plans to build a second roundabout at the hospital, but there's no funding for the project. As many as 28,000 vehicles per day travel on Highway 68.

## Fun and food in Big Sur

CALLING ATTENTION to the many thousands of acres of public land that exist in the local mountains, the Los Padres Forest Association stages a Big Sur Wilderness Celebration Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Big Sur Station

The event will feature art, food, kids' activities, a climbing wall and music by the Zach Brough Bluegrass Band. "We're thrilled to kick off what we hope will be an annual celebration in Big Sur," said Bryan Conant of the LPFA.

Big Sur Station is located 26 miles south of Carmel and a quarter-mile south of the entrance to Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park

## 'My Fair Lady' in Monterey

RETELLING THE rags-to-riches story of a young woman who defies the distinctions between classes, Broadway-by-the-Bay brings the musical, "My Fair Lady," to Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

The cast includes Samantha Williams as Eliza Doolittle, Scott A. Solomon as Henry Higgins, Praveen Ramesh as Col. Pickering and Sergey Khalikulov as Freddy Eynsford-Hill. The musical is directed by Kenneth Savage.

Saturday's show starts at 8 p.m., while Sunday's matinee begins at 2 p.m. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Tickets are \$39 to \$59. Call (831) 649-1070.







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of his law office effective December 31, 2015.

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June 26, 2015

services as a neutral through Thompson Mediation & Arbitration (Est. 1996). He will also continue to be available to the Court for

appointments through its ADR programs.

Mr. Thompson is honored to have worked with so many outstanding people on the Central Coast, and offers his sincere thanks and appreciation to the clients, professional associates, colleagues, judges, court personnel and friends who have been such an important part of his life



Ralph W. Thompson

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# To get the job, please send money to India

 $\mathbf{H}$ ERE'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.

#### **MONDAY, JUNE 8**

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Hit-and-run collision on Ocean Avenue, with no suspects

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Female reported the loss of a ring at Lincoln and Ocean.

Pebble Beach: Grand theft from an unlocked vehicle parked on Ocean Pines Lane.

Pacific Grove: Report of suspicious poppies on Grove Acre. Located bushes along the parking area of the complex. Advised management about the flowers and possible illegal use. Management stated the flowers would be removed by the gardening service.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to Ninth Street on report of someone finding marijuana growing in their front yard. Upon arrival, the officer inspected the plant and found it to be marijuana. The officer took several photographs and collected the plant and placed it into evidence for destruction.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to a reported theft from a vehicle on 16th Street. Male stated he received a phone call from another police department asking him about an iPad it discovered. He stated he had his iPad taken from his vehicle the week before but never reported the theft because he thought it would not be recovered. Suspect identified as an 18-year-old

Pacific Grove: Metal weather stripping on a Grand Avenue building appeared to have been hit by hammer near the lock.

#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 38-year-old female on Monte Verde Street was cited and released for possession of methampheta-

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Hit-and-run vehicle collision on Camino del Monte. Driver cited.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male reported his friend on Mission Street whom he has power of attorney over was having some issues with her landlord. Police notified him that the issue was civil, not criminal, and he needed to seek legal counsel. Male stated he understood but wanted the incident documented.

Pacific Grove: Four copper pipes were taken along with three used water-meters from a pickup truck on Forest Lodge

Pacific Grove: Female on Bayview reported her brand new vehicle was keyed. There were two scratch marks parallel to each other. The second scratch was approximately 10 feet long from the back of the vehicle to the front of the vehicle. All scratches were on the driver's side.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to a call of a suspicious person videotaping a female and her infant son on Ocean View. Female stated she was walking to a bathroom at a park when she saw a Hispanic male adult with a dark gray flip phone possibly filming her. She stated she was not sure if he was filming but did not feel comfortable around him. She did not confront the male to see if he had been taking pictures or filming her. At this time, there have been no other reports regarding this male or this particular circumstance.

Pacific Grove: Dispatched to a reported burglary on Sinex. Resident stated he arrived home from work and found that money and a Glock .40 mm pistol were taken. A loaded magazine in a black pouch was also missing.

Carmel Valley: Welfare check requested on a Carmel Valley man who was possibly suicidal.

Pacific Grove: While driving on David Avenue, an officer spotted a broken 30 mph sign lying on the sidewalk. The post the sign was supposed to be affixed to appeared undamaged. Appears the sign may have come off during high winds on the morning of June 8. Sign turned over to public works for reinstall.

> See POLICE LOG page 16RE in the Real Estate Section



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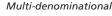
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# Cal Am test well could be turned back on next week, officials say

By KELLY NIX

THE HYDROGEOLOGISTS who investigated the drop in groundwater levels near California American Water's desal test well in Marina have concluded that the cause was probably due to agricultural pumping and not the company's test operation.

On June 5, Cal Am turned off the test well after the hydrogeologists determined that the water level in a nearby monitoring well had dropped more than a foot. But in a follow-up report released June 22 that was also sent to coastal commission executive director Charles Lester, the group backed its original theory that the dip in groundwater level is not a result of the test well.

The data "shows that the regional trends and fluctuation cycles in [the monitoring well], are most likely due to inland pumping and/or seasonal fluctuations, and are expected to continue," the report said.

The conclusion is good news for Cal Am and the entire Monterey Peninsula, since a

drop in groundwater levels could have meant that the test well was drawing too much fresh water from the Salinas Valley, and not enough seawater from the Pacific Grove.

Cal Am spokeswoman Catherine Stedman told The Pine Cone that the company expects to hear from the coastal commission next week.

"They could give us the go-ahead to turn the well back on, or could request more data," she said.

The test allowed the hydrogeologists to collect more data while the test well was turned off, a crucial step in determining the reason for the groundwater dip.

"If the test well caused the drawdown, you would expect to see a rebound in inland groundwater levels" when the pump was turned off, Stedman explained. "We haven't seen that."

The hydrogeologists also concluded that "even under a worst case scenario relating to factors/causes of the regional water level declines and slight changes in the downward

trend of those declines (i.e. not caused by inland pumping or outside influences), it seems clear from the data collected so far that if there is any drawdown [at the monitoring wells] — it is less than 0.5 feet and probably closer to 0.2 feet to 0.3 feet."

As a condition of the coastal commission permit issued to Cal Am for the test operation, the company must stop pumping from the well if the water level goes below 1.5 feet. Cal Am opted to turn it off before it got that low, however.

Given the coastal commission's permitted drawdown of 1.5 feet, the "water levels are well within the allowable limit," according to the hydrogeologists.

Though Cal Am wasn't required to turn off the test well, Stedman said the move was done out of caution.

"Everyone is exercising caution to ensure the test proceeds according to the permit conditions, the basin is protected, and that the test period yields valuable and accurate information," she said.

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## Water board asked to loosen 2009 order

By KELLY NIX

WITH IMPLEMENTATION of a draconian cutback order looming at the end of next year, the mayors of the six Monterey Peninsula cities are getting ready to request that the State Water Resources Control Board delay the order until Dec. 31, 2020.

There's widespread belief that if the state water board imposes the cutbacks — which are scheduled to be as much as 70 percent of the Peninsula's water supply — before an alternative water supply is in place, the resulting water shortage will cripple the local tourism industry.

It could also be a threat to other businesses, not to mention to the health and welfare of residents.

Jason Burnett, one of the six mayors col-

lectively known as the as the Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority, told The Pine Cone that the mayors decided this week a petition requesting that the order be deferred "should be submitted jointly by Cal Am, the Water Authority and, if it agrees, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District."

Burnett said he doesn't expect that the

state water board will decide whether it will relax its order until late in the year.

However, with all the progress being

However, with all the progress being made on Cal Am's desal test well in Marina, and with a final environmental impact report for the company's proposed large-scale desal plant expected to be in place by late 2018, he said the state water board will probably have "more comfort that this project will, in fact, be built"



The Natividad Trauma Center is committed to excellence in trauma care, which has a profound impact on the residents of Monterey County and the Central Coast Region.



WHEN MINUTES MEAN SURVIVAL WE STAND READY



The Carmel Pine Cone June 26, 2015

## Hiker first to complete Condor Trail, runner searches for elusive waterfalls

By CHRIS COUNTS

Two HIKERS who don't know each other — a woman from San Diego and a man from San Carlos — pushed their bodies to their limits to visit parts of the Ventana Wilderness others have only seen on maps.

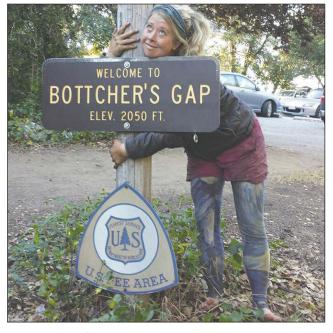
Brittany Neilsen (not the KSBW newscaster) last week became the first person to complete the Condor Trail, which winds for 411 miles from Lake Piru in Ventura County to Bottchers Gap, about 20 miles southeast of Carmel. And not to be outdone, Leor Pantilat has traveled up to 40 miles in a single day across steep and difficult terrain to photograph the most remote waterfalls in the Big Sur backcountry.

#### Five weeks on the trail

After hiking and camping along the Condor Trail for five weeks, the 29-year-old Neilsen arrived at Bottchers Gap in Big Sur June 18. The national forest campground is located at the end of Palo Colorado Road, about eight miles from Highway 1.

We want to congratulate Brittany on becoming the first person to hike the Condor Trail," the VWA posted on its Facebook page. "This amazing achievement earns her bragging rights as the first person to complete the entire trail."

Not long after making it to Bottchers Gap, Neilsen



Thirty-six days after leaving Ventura County, hiker Brittany Neilsen arrived at Bottchers Gap in Big Sur June 18.

embraced a sign welcoming visitors to the campground. And after changing into a fresh set of clothes, she tossed the grimy garments she wore while hiking into a garbage can.

Neilsen's odyssey began five months ago when she contacted the Condor Trail Association and said she was interested in hiking the entire length of the route, which actually isn't completed yet because it lacks easements across a number of private properties. "I tried to scare the hell out of her, but that didn't work," Bryan Conant of the trail group told The Pine

Conant and other volunteers decided to help Neilsen complete the trek by providing her with deliveries of food along the way. They also spent hours with her going over the details of the trail and planning detours around private property.

After taking a bus ride from San Diego to Ventura County, Neilsen hit the trail May 13.

Because many stretches of the hiking route don't have formal campsites, Conant said Neilsen would often hike until dark and simply set up camp on the trail.

Thirty-six days later, Neilsen completed her journey. In all, she traveled 363 miles on dirt paths and roads, 40 miles alongside paved roads and eight miles on sand.

Conant spoke with Neilsen shortly after her trek ended. "She was proud of what she accomplished, but she was a little scared about going back to reality," he reported.

> Understandably, Conant was impressed by Neilsen's determination.

"We were afraid she might give up, but she fought through it," he added. "She's one of the toughest people I've ever met."

While the Condor Trail is still a work is progress, Conant is hopeful it will one day be completed. He and others are continually "revising and tweaking" its length and alignment as they strive to create what they call a "dream route." "We're still 20 years away," Conant added.

The trail could soon receive a boost — in both funding and publicity. United States Sen. Barbara Boxer and Congresswoman Lois Capps last month introduced the Central Coast Heritage Protection Act, which would officially create the Condor National Recreation Trail. www.condortrail.org

## No ordinary selfies

While thousands of people visit Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park each year to take selfies with the park's iconic waterfall in the background, the 30-year-old Pantilat would rather photograph waterfalls few people have

To find such hidden gems — which can be viewed on his blog at pantilat.wordpress.com — Pantilat goes to extraordinary lengths. Employing a combination of trail-running, bushwhacking and boulder-hopping, he has criss-crossed the Ventana Wilderness in search of waterfalls — an endeavor that has its dangers.

"It's not easy to go offtrail in the Ventana Wilderness," Pantilat told The Pine Cone. "It has all sorts of complexities, like rattlesnakes, thick chaparral, biting flies, poison oak, ticks and huge temperature swings at high elevations. The Ventana is very unforgiving.

One thing Pantilat doesn't encounter much are people. "Places like Sykes Hot Springs are overrun with people, but if you talk to oldtimers, they'll tell you that places in the Ventana off the beaten track get less visita-



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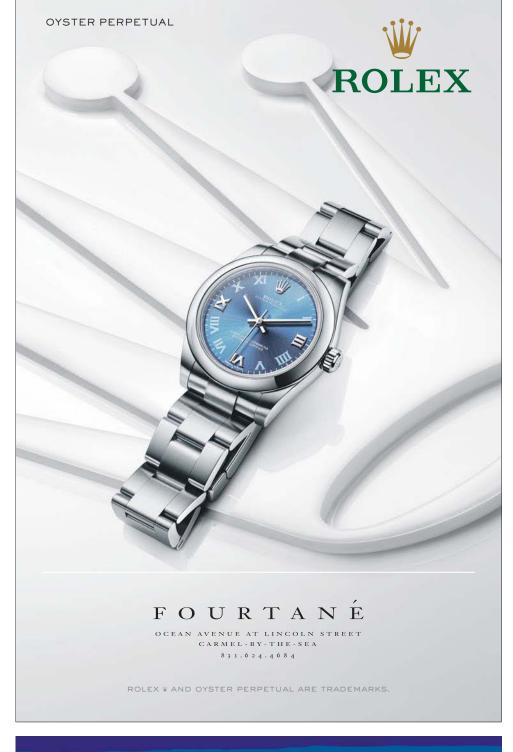






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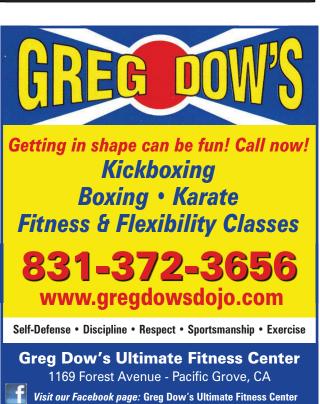


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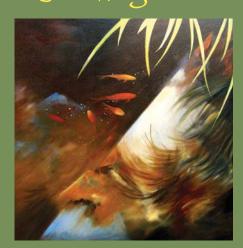
The Carmel Pine Cone







"ASPECTS OF WATER" Exhibit By Local Artist Jan Wagstaff



Artist Statement

This series of paintings are of images of water that I have seen and observed throughout my travels both here on the Central Coast. The transient qualities of water are an intriguing subject matter both as an observer and a painter.

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# Lawsuit filed over expensive bikes stolen at hotel

By KELLY NIX

A MAN whose pricey racing bicycles were stolen off of his car in Monterey after he paid for valet parking at a Monterey hotel has filed a lawsuit against the hotel and a valet company for more than \$25,000.

Mitchell R. Labar says that on April 18, 2015, after checking in as a guest at the Monterey Marriott Hotel on Calle Principal for two nights, he paid for valet parking. A valet attendant, he said, parked his vehicle that had a trailer rack with two locked bicycles.

But on the second morning of his stay, Labar says he "returned to the valet area to retrieve his vehicle, only to find his vehicle parked on a public road, the locks on his hitch rack broken, and both bicycles missing," according to the lawsuit filed June 15 in Monterey County Superior Court.

Besides Marriott International, Inc., Labar is also suing valet service Towne Park LLC, which provides valet services at the Monterey hotel.

Apart from accusing the defendants of breach of contract, Labar claims that the unnamed valet attendant who parked his car the night before may have been involved in the bike theft. Surveillance footage shot at 10 p.m. shows a valet attendant talking to two suspects who were later seen using bolt cutters to cut the locks and ride off on Labar's bikes.

"The valet attendant on duty willfully participated in the theft, or in the alternative, failed or refused to prevent it from taking place," according to the suit, filed for Labar by Roseville attorney Dennis M. Cota.

Labar says the valet attendant failed to park his car "in an

underground garage as promised, but rather in a three-minute loading zone on a public road."

The stolen bikes were a Trek Madone Project One and a Specialized S-Works. The Madone 7 Series Trek starts at more than \$11,000 while the S-Works starts at \$8,250, according to the websites of the companies that make them.

A copy of the valet claim check Labar was given by the attendant indicates that "management" is not responsible for loss, damage or theft unless it appears "that the loss or damage was caused by willful act of misappropriation on the part of management or its employees."

Neither Marriott International, Inc. nor Towne Park responded to messages from The Pine Cone seeking com-

## Fire photos, video sought

MONTEREY FIRE Marshal David Reade, who's investigating the June 6 fire at the New Masters Gallery that badly damaged the storefront and four upstairs apartments, is still searching for clues to the blaze. The fire started around an exterior staircase at the rear of the Dolores Street building and burned into the basement, as well as up the back of the

This week, he requested anyone with photos or video of the fire to send them to him. He's received some already that have piqued his interest, he said, so he's looking for more. Reade can be reached by email at reade@monterey.org.

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L to R: Stephanie Chrietzberg, SVP MCB; Kathy Torres, VP MCB, Jim Russo; James Russo; Beth Russo Tarallo; Charles Chrietzberg, President MCB

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# Want vodka in your Arnold Palmer? The Point Pinos Grill will help

By KELLY NIX

ATTENTION GOLFERS: The Point Pinos Grill now serves liquor.

In a move that will please most people but rile a few, the restaurant at the Pacific Grove Golf Links began serving more than just beer and wine Friday, June 19, after getting approval from the state's Alcohol Beverage Control board to serve booze

Pacific Grove City Councilman Rudy Fischer told The Pine Cone this week that serving hard alcohol will allow the grill, which has been open since 2006, to host special events such as weddings and corporate meetings.

"Although I know a few people will be upset by this," Fischer said, "I think it will allow the grill to operate in a more normal manner."

Councilwoman Casey Lucius said the city's role includes creating an environment where businesses can thrive. Serving alcohol at the grill will do that by increasing revenue to operator Dory Ford and the city, which leases the space to

"We want Point Pinos Grill to succeed and continue to be a gathering place for our residents and visitors," Lucius said.

The golf course clubhouse and grill have long attracted opposition from a small group of residents, who have complained about the potential for noise, its parking lot lights, indoor amplified music, and other issues.

Lee and Jim Willoughby are among the critics. They say the location where the grill is located is in one of the "most spectacular and serene open space zones in Pacific Grove." They tried to stop the clubhouse from being built, were against letting it serve wine, fought to prevent it from being open at night, and now don't want it to serve liquor.

'Visitors come to this coastal area to enjoy the beauty of its magnificent open space, not for more alcohol consumption," Lee Willoughby said.

A group of neighbors including the Willoughbys sued over the city's decision to allow the Point Pinos Grill to be open late at night. A judge dismissed the complaint.

But Bruce Obbink, chairman of the Golf Links Advisory

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Commission, praised the ability of the restaurant to serve liquor and said it will only help Pacific Grove.

The city "is going to continue to see a very popular and

well attended facility move forward, not only for Pacific Grove residents, the golfing community and tourists," he said, but for the business community, too.





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## **JULY 2015**

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## **CELEBRATION TIME!**



Graeme Robertson 2015 Board Chair

Happy 4th of July. I hope we all appreciate this wonderful country we live in with all the opportunities it offers. It's a good time to reflect on how fortunate we all are. We would like to thank the Carmel Pine Cone for all their support of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and the monthly update page on all our activities that support our community.

We had a fantastic number of attendees at our annual Membership Luncheon early this month. We thank

and congratulate all our valued members, especially the members with over 45 years of commitment to our organization...there were 16 businesses recognized in this category at the event. We admire your longevity, creativity and service you provide to our community.

The ribbon cuttings and mixers continue to have record attendance this year. The team at Bernardus Lodge and Spa hosted a sold out mixer at their newly remodeled property in early June. The remodel is spectacular, the food delicious and the wine complimented a very special evening. Thanks to Sean and his team for their warm hospitality. The ribbon cuttings at Coast Carmel and +Olive provided us an opportunity to see the creativity of two VERY unique businesses. Cathy, Janice and their team at Coast Carmel hosted an intimate event that highlights the transformation of an iconic location into a retail store that compliments the outdoor lifestyle we all enjoy in Carmel. Later in June, Ashley and her team at +Olive transported us into an experience in her studio that reflects the sensitivity of our environment in a sustainable way. Please visit all these locations...you

We also congratulate Susan Love for hosting another very successful and meaningful event...Run in the Name of Love.

See you around town.

Graeme Robertson

Board Chair, Carmel Chamber of Commerce

## JULY CALENDAR

For a comprehensive list of local events visit: www.carmelcalifornia.org

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## CARMEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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#### **MIXER**

Where: Quail Lodge & Golf Club

Edgar's, 8000 Valley Greens Dr., Carmel When: Wednesday, July 8, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM **\$10 Carmel Chamber Members** 

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The Carmel and Carmel Valley Chambers of Commerce invite you to come see the newly opened and refined 18 holes at Quail Lodge & Golf Club. Nibble on delicious signature bites crafted by Chef Ken MacDonald at Edgar's Restaurant. Sip expertly-crafted wines on Edgar's Patio. Learn a golf tip from our PGA Director of Instruction, Katherine Marren, on our newly refined practice range. Dare to partake in the Land Rover Experience and enjoy live music from KRML Radio. Register at www.carmelcalifornia.org.



Bernardus Lodge & Spa hosted a mixer showcasing their new look and new restaurant, Lucia. Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber of Commerce board chair (L) is shown with Bernardus General Manager Sean Damery (C) and Bernardus Executive Chef Cal Stamenov (R). Photo by DMT Imaging.

## JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

The Carmel Chamber of Commerce will host a table at the 4th of July Celebration in Devendof Park from 12:00 - 4:00 pm at the corner of Ocean and Junipero in Carmelby-the-Sea. Visit us for your very own copy of the Guide to Carmel! This free local resource book, membership directory and visitor guide is a must-have for 'everything Carmel!' We look forward to seeing



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## RIBBON CUTTING

Where: David Lyng Real Estate

Corner of 7th & San Carlos, Hampton Court When: Wednesday, July 15, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Cost: FREE to Attend!

David Lyng Real Estate is proud to announce the opening of their newest office in Carmel, located in Hampton Court at the southwest corner of 7th & San Carlos. Chamber friends and clients are invited to stop by and join them while they celebrate their five years in Carmel and the opening of their newest location. Small bites will be provided by Cantinetta Luca with wines by Silvestri Vineyards and Scheid Vineyards.



+Olive in The Crossroads Carmel hosted a ribbon cutting during their grand opening event. Shown are: (L-R) Monta Potter, Carmel Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer; Cynthia Buhl, The Crossroads Carmel General Manager; Michelle Lange, Carmel Chamber board member; Ashley Yeates, +Olive owner with children Hamilton, Astin and their dog, Olive; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair. Banner courtesy of Bob the Printer. Photo by DMT Imaging.



Coast Carmel celebrated the opening of their store in Carmel-by-the-Sea by hosting a ribbon cutting. Shown are: (Front L-R) Graeme Roberson, Carmel Chamber of Commerce board chair; Mike and Cathy Hirst with Janice and Chris Cleary, Coast Carmel co-owners; Carrie Theis, Carmel-by-the-Sea city council member; Carmel-by-the-Sea Mayor Jason Burnett. (Back L-R) Monta Potter, Carmel Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer; Ken Talmage, Carmel-by-the-Sea city council member; Steve Dallas, Carmel-by-the-Sea city council member. Banner courtesy of Bob the Printer. Photo by DMT Imaging.



## Council meeting Monday

THE CARMEL City Council will hold a special meeting in city hall on Monte Verde Street Monday, June 29, starting with a closed session at 4:30 p.m. to address potential litigation and a lawsuit filed against the city by Rosalina Chavez.

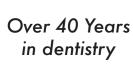
At around 5:30, the council will reconvene in open session to vote on two items on the consent calendar: the appeal of a home project on Scenic that was discussed at the June 2 meeting, and four contracts.

# Storm drain decal program for disadvantaged seniors

TWO NONPROFITS are teaming up to help protect the ocean and raise awareness about storm-drain pollution, they announced this week.

Save the Whales is partnering with Hope Services in a program that helps cash-strapped cities and counties in marking their storm drains while giving disadvantaged adults who are clients of Hope Services an education in ocean pollution.

The program involves picking up trash in various of the Monterey Peninsula and applying a bright, colorful decal on storm drains telling citizens in English and Spanish, "No Dumping — Flows to the Bay."





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Celebrating 45+ years of membership: (Back L-R) Todd Pontti, Rancho Canada Golf Club; Crystal Petersson, Cypress Inn; John Lloyd, The Pine Inn and Tally Ho Inn; Tony Rizzo, Quail Lodge & Golf Club; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair; Carrie Theis, Hofsas House; Philip Tringali, Wells Fargo Bank; Bobby Corliss, Robert Talbott, Inc. (Front L-R) Mary Crowe, La Playa Carmel; Nicola Reilly and Chelsea Ferraro, Carmel Bach Festival; Jan Wagstaff and Patty Biederman, Carmel Art Association; Meena Lewellen, Carmel Pine Cone; Bill Mitchell, Carmel Realty Company; Alan Siegrist, Edgemere Cottages; Peterson Conway, Conway of Asia; Dan Krolczyk, Monterey Herald.

## 35 YEARS



Celebrating 35 years of membership: (L-R) Stephanie Haney and Christy Aldrich, Carmel Mission Museum Store; Tony Salameh, Anton & Michel Restaurant; Todd Porteous, Coldwell Banker Del Monte Realty; Mia McKee and Sherry St. Clair, GuestLife/Pebble Beach the Magazine; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair.

## 30 YEARS



Celebrating 30 years of membership: (L-R) MaryAnna Wagner-Stahl, March Hare Salon; Tom Korper, St. Moritz Sweaters; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair.

## 25 YEARS



Celebrating 25 years of membership: (L-R) Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair with Lois Carwin, PineCone Properties, Inc.

## 20 YEARS



Celebrating 20 years of membership: (L-R) Kimberly Paley, California Vacation Center Reservations; Cathy Schanderl, Alain Pinel Realtors; Matt Whitney, II Fornaio; Mark Bollwinkel, Church of the Wayfarer; Maurya McBride, Knitting-By-The-Sea; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair.

## 15 YEARS



Celebrating 15 years of membership: (L-R) Mel Ahlborn, Richard MacDonald/Dawson Cole Fine Art, Rich Hughett, Wine & Travel; Karen Nordstrand, Monterey County Film Commission; Denise Morton, Carmel Mission Inn; Doug Lumsden, Monterey Movie Tours; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair

## 10 YEARS



Celebrating 10 years of membership: (L-R) Anne Thorp, Carmel Music Society; Phil Giammanco, Pure Water Bottling Co.; John Kelly, Kelly Productions; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair.

## 5 YEARS



Celebrating 5 years of membership: (Back L-R) Jess White, KRML Radio; Juliet Lewis, Vintage Property Management; Carlos Posadas, Level 5 Construction, Inc.; Tina Del Piero, VNA & Hospice; Richard Pepe, Vino Napoli; Graeme Robertson, Carmel Chamber board chair. (Front L-R) Vic Grabrian, Carmel Mission Foundation; Cathy Montante, Collezione Fortuna; Vicki Tackett, Certified Folder Display Service; Ed Anderson, Automated Mailing Service; Richard Kuehn, Family inHome Caregiving, Inc., Jackie Woods, David Lyng Real Estate; Laz Laky, Mission Trails Lions Club; Hunter Finnell, Hunter Finnell Media.

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All photographs are by DMT Imaging.



Donna Burt (L) received the award for Visitor Center Volunteers of the Year from Sona Dennis (R) on behalf of both she and her husband, Bob.



Jeanie Sumners (L) of Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca received the award for Volunteer of the Year from John Lloyd (R) of The Pine Inn and Tally Ho Inn.



Graeme Robertson (L) presented the award for Business Partner of the Year to Gerard Mattimoe (R) of Glastonbury Audio Event Specialists, Inc.

Not shown - Michelle Amirkhanian of Nielsen Bros. Market & Deli received an award for Ambassador of the Year.

The Carmel Pine Cone

# **PARKING**

From page 1A

received from paid parking (just over \$120,000 in the first six months), the stores have lost. "These are affluent people who don't want to pay to park, and if they don't find a space, they move on."

Phil Finnerman, who owns Wilke's Estate Jewels on San Carlos, said he's only heard negative comments from clients regarding the parking program.

"One customer came in and told my wife, 'Until they remove the parking meters, I'm not coming back," he said. "I don't understand how anyone who has any concern for business can be in favor of this.'

Finnerman speculated the high rate of onetime parkers on Ocean happens because people deal with it one time and, as a result, decide not to come back.

Restaurateur Rich Pepe said his businesses haven't been affected by paid parking, but he's noticed the side streets downtown have suffered. "I don't think it was a perfect idea, because it just pushed people to the other streets," he said.

But while many who spoke at the meeting oppose the idea of charging for parking, he said, "I don't think that's the sentiment of every business or every person in town."

Todd Tice, owner of The Club clothing stores on Ocean, said he is part of a group of residents and business owners who have been discussing ways to deal with the parking problem — which will also be the subject of another meeting Tuesday, June 30.

"While none of us wanted the parking meters, there is evidence that the meters are working to keep business owners and employees off of Ocean Avenue," he said. "But at what expense?"

While Tice said his business hasn't been negatively impacted by paid parking, his group came up with some suggestions. including increased enforcement and raising the fine for people who wipe off the chalk marks left by parking officers. (Ocean Avenue enforcement uses electronic licenseplate reading technology, not chalk, but officers still mark tires in some of the other timed zones in town.)

A man who has visited Carmel with his wife regularly for 51 years said he didn't like the paid parking, either. "We come because it's quaint, it's unique — and we were

> JULY 26TH SEPTEMBER 7TH

shocked when we saw the meters," he said.

Connie Ockert, who co-owns Khaki's in Carmel Plaza with her husband, Jim, pointed out that she and Tice both require their workers to park away from the business district. She suggested a "snitch program" where people identify employees and business owners who regularly take up valuable parking spaces downtown.

"We see it all the time," she said. "We walk through the Plaza and give the people dirty looks." She said sharper fines could help further discourage them, too.

Mayor Jason Burnett, who led the meeting, encouraged critics and supporters of the paid parking program to attend the June 30 meeting, when he and the council will be soliciting any and all ideas on how to manage parking. It will begin at 4:30 p.m., also in the Carmel Woman's Club on San Carlos at Ninth, across from Sunset Center.

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From page 1A

their responsibilities of oversight inquiry," he said. "That was essentially the heart of our request: Were we right in the sense that government had failed, and what can be done to correct that?"

He also said the report missed some points — principally, that although the city had a skeleton crew as a result of the layoffs in the 2000s, it was functioning fairly well, from the public's standpoint, and "Mr. Stilwell failed in the area of keeping it working while correcting the poor habits that had developed."

Livingston only commented, "The grand jury report held few surprises for me. With a few minor exceptions, I think they got it all right."

#### The Five Forces

The civil grand jury's report was apparently written by a five-member Carmel Investigative Committee, which was headed by foreman pro tem Lou Panetta, a businessman and former member of the Monterey County Herald advisory board (and is not related to Leon). Other members are believed to have been Peter Hiller, Francis Small and Bill Harris. The committee concluded that the town was a mess before Jason Stilwell was hired and decided he had to clean it up.

Carmel "had significant lack of compliance, human resources issues and outdated systems and processes" during the years before Stilwell became city administrator in September 2011, the grand jury said.

But when Stilwell and Paul tried to fix the problems, "they encountered pushback from city employees and the citizenry."

That pushback was intensified after public alarm was raised by "biased" reporting by The Carmel Pine Cone, which ran articles that "heightened or escalated local concern by echoing the one-sided viewpoints of terminated employees, since the city was prohibited by law from disclosing its reasons for terminations."

And the mayor and council caved to media pressure and public criticism in firing Paul and accepting Stilwell's resignation, instead of providing "conscientious oversight and governance," according to the report.

The grand jury identified "The Five Forces" acting on the city's governance: "The Old Guard" of long-term employees who were doing the best they could in a city with little management, due to job cuts, but who did not necessarily know the rules; "The New Administration" of Stilwell and Paul, who wanted to "fix this fast;" the city council, which paid "little attention to its responsibility for inquiry and oversight," and was "ineffective;" The Pine Cone, which "incited a groundswell of public opinion among the residents through articles generally biased against the New Administration" and which supported "The Old Guard;" and the residents, most of whom "seemed to be strongly influenced by The Carmel Pine Cone."

Pine Cone publisher Paul Miller called the grand jury's criticism of the newspaper "clueless" and said its report was "an inexplicable insult to the intelligence of the people of Carmel." He also questioned where the grand jury got its information.

"They obviously spent a lot of time talking to Stilwell, but nobody on the grand jury ever bothered to talk to us, and I doubt whether they read more than a tiny bit of our coverage, either," Miller said.

The newspaper had more than 40 front-

page stories about Stilwell and the turmoil at city hall, he pointed out, from June 2013, when Steve McInchak's house was raided by police, to October 2014, when Stilwell resigned.

Hardy said the civil grand jury underestimated residents by failing to recognize they get their news from a variety of sources, not just The Pine Cone.

And attorney Michelle Welsh, who represented McInchak and his widow, also weighed in

"The derogatory comments about the role of Carmel citizens and the role of The Pine Cone in the official grand jury report also concern me, since it may have a chilling effect on their First Amendment rights of free speech and free press," Welsh said. "The ageold role of newspapers in our country is to report and comment on our government's actions. The essential role of citizens is to consent to the way we are governed, or to speak up."

## Stilwell and Paul did no wrong

Conversely, the civil grand jury described Stilwell and Paul in glowing terms. Stilwell was "a well qualified city administrator who recognized and diligently addressed widespread city management problems ... maintaining a professional attitude in spite of external pressure and criticism," while Paul "was an experienced administrative services director who quickly recognized areas of mismanagement and risk for the city and implemented solutions within what she understood to be her areas of authority with due diligence and proper municipal procedure." Their only shortcoming was failing to understand the culture of Carmel, according to the report.

"There was no credible evidence to support allegations of contract splitting, cronyism or any other wrongdoing under Mr. Stilwell or Ms. Paul," the jurors concluded.

The report addressed problems with IT and network security, employee terminations, contract awards and legal fees, and Public Records Act requests — all of which were widely reported in The Pine Cone. It mostly assigned the blame to practices already in place when Stilwell and Paul arrived.

Regarding IT, the grand jury mentions a 150-page report prepared by an unnamed consultant that "enumerated some 800 security vulnerabilities," but no one in the city could provide a copy to the civil grand jury.

"So why would the grand jury even mention the contents of a report they had never seen?" Hardy asked. "They included mention of it based again only on hearsay."

## They deserved it

Regarding terminations and resignations, the group concluded that the firings underwent significant analysis and review before they were carried out, and that the evidence the civil grand jury was allowed to see "indicated that there was employee conduct that violated commonly accepted employment standards" — in other words, that the city employees who lost their jobs deserved it, although the grand jury did not elaborate further

The civil grand jury condemned new city administrator Doug Schmitz — who also worked for Carmel for several years in the 1980s and early 1990s — for rehiring the fired employees, which implied they were wrongfully terminated. "That conclusion, based on the body of evidence and documentation reviewed by the grand jury, is neither fair nor warranted," according to the report.

"It is not possible to reconcile the conclusions of the grand jury with what we know about the way the Carmel employees were

treated," Welsh said in response.

Carmel Mayor Jason Burnett said the grand jury was off base in taking issue with the council's hiring of Schmitz and accepting the recommendations of him and city attorney Don Freeman to rehire the three employees whom Stilwell and Paul had fired.

"I don't think very many people who live in the community and understand it from our perspective think that it was a mistake to ask Doug to be our city administrator, or to resolve those employee issues," he said. "Most people, even without knowing all the details of what the council learned in closed session, realize it was a good thing for the city and the community to have a new city administrator."

The grand jury criticized Freeman for not being more involved in the city's legal business, and the council for not acting on its power to make inquiries beyond talking to the city administrator. But because the council would not waive attorney-client privilege with Freeman, the civil grand jury committee decided that "such an interview would not offer any meaningful inquiry."

The committee also concluded Stilwell and Paul did not engage in contract splitting, which is illegal under the municipal code, when they hired computer consultant Mark Alcock under three different agreements. The grand jury did note that Alcock's contracts eventually totaled \$128,500, but he billed taxpayers \$357,360 in fees — and received most of it. While those facts and others were vetted in a report produced by attorney Stephanie Atigh for the city in May, the grand jury dismissed her analysis — which simply examined the contracts and their amounts, their stated work product and the "deliverables" the city was supposed to receive — for "being limited and selective in scope, its failure to recognize the city's historic and system contract process problems," and for not interviewing Stilwell.

Ultimately, the grand jury decided Stilwell was justified in signing the Alcock contracts, due to "the believed urgency in the need for forensic technology services."

#### 'Appalling and outrageous'

In dismissing Atigh's report, Hardy noted, the grand jury gave no weight to the fact the outside counsel from Santa Barbara "hired a PR firm to help polish Stilwell's tarnished image within the community," entering a third-party contract and passing along \$63,439 in bills to city taxpayers as "reimbursable expenses."

"That was an appalling and outrageous use of public funds," she said. "It was the misuse of public funds that the grand jury should have been looking at, but in reading the report, it was clear they were sweet-talked by a silver-tongued smoothie who had the ability to charm."

The grand jury also concluded Stilwell didn't engage in cronyism in hiring Paul — with whom he worked for Santa Barbara County — and contractors, including another computer consulting group run by former S.B. County coworker Sally Nagy that received \$224,348.49.

It states Stilwell had no role in the hiring process that ultimately placed Paul in the position of administrative services director—though former assistant city administrator Heidi Mozingo said she was present with Stilwell during Paul's interview for that position and that Stilwell made the final selection. (Hardy also reported another person had been offered the job, and had even given notice, but that Stilwell rescinded the offer and hired Paul instead.)

Overall, Hardy — who has been a civil grand jury foreperson and has read many similar reports — said she found the evaluation of Carmel arrogant and full of ego, and rife with descriptive adjectives. "Those statements became opinion and were very biased," she said.

Bayne said the report was vindictive.

"I think they were pissed because the city council withheld a lot of stuff from them," she said. "OK, you won't cooperate with us, this is how we will deal with you and your town and your council..."

"In spite of what may have been the grand jurors' good intentions, the report reads more like a defense of Jason Stilwell and Susan Paul than a balanced review of the administration's and city council's actions during that period," Welsh said.

Burnett said the grand jury presented a "false choice" between effective governance and being sensitive to the desires of the people who are governed.

"The notion that the city council had to make a choice between a professional operation and senior leadership who loved Carmel and respected the community is clearly a false choice," he said. "And by bringing in Doug Schmitz, we have illustrated the fallacy in that argument."

He also observed that the report is characteristic of a group with an outside perspective, which is what he wanted when he asked it to investigate.

"It's good to have that external view, but there's also a reason we don't ask grand juries to run cities," he said. "You want the people of the community to make decisions on behalf of the community."

Indeed, a lot of those decisions jibe with the grand jury's recommendations and are already in place or in the works, Burnett noted. The city's response is due in 90 days and will be developed by a committee that includes Burnett, Schmitz, Freeman, Mayor Pro Tem Ken Talmage and city treasurer David Sandys, and discussed at a future open council meeting.



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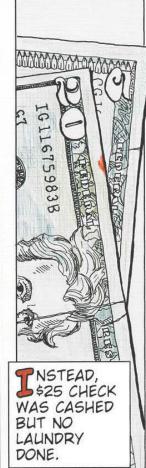
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#### The Carmel Pine Cone

June 26, 2015

Opponents of Mehdipour's proposal have in the past accused her of intentionally allowing the old home to crum-

Potter said his aide, Kathleen Lee, met last week with a Monterey County deputy district attorney requesting an investigation. However, Potter told The Pine Cone the DA's office has said it is hesitant to get involved in the case.

Mehdipour and her attorneys, John Bridges and Doug Aikins, did not return messages seeking comment.

#### 'Demolition through neglect?'

Though Mehdipour's Pebble Beach house wasn't a topic on the supervisors' agenda Tuesday, several other people spoke out against the building being left to ruin, though Potter said he didn't know others were going to address the issue. Mehdipour — the CEO of tech company, Jotter — was not at the meeting.

Prominent land-use attorney Tony Lombardo, hired by

Mehdipour neighbor Sam Reeves to stop her from building a new home, said the old house, as of last week, was unsecured. The doors and windows were open, and there was a "gaping hole" in the front of the house, Lombardo said. He went further than Potter, accusing the homeowner of damaging the house.

"Unfortunately, in the last couple of months, it's become abundantly clear that what was called vandalism — as supervisor Potter mentioned — was actually an intentional act of destruction by the property owner," Lombardo said.

Lombardo also said his client supports having the DA's office pursue "criminal prosecution for violation of numerous county orders."

Steve Aitchison, senior vice president of the Pebble Beach Co., urged the county to require Mehdipour to comply with county regulations related to the property's "maintenance and redevelopment."

"It's entirely unreasonable that this property has been left to go the way it has," Aitchison said. "It's a beautiful part of the forest, and the blight that exists in this spot right now is, as I said, entirely unreasonable."

Mike Dawson, president of the Alliance of Monterey Area

Preservationists, or AMAP, told the supervisors that allowing the home to decay is "totally unacceptable."

"It's a valuable asset to Monterey County, and we need to fix it," Dawson said.

AMAP board member Jeff Becom said allowing Mehdipour to get away with not maintaining the home sets a "terrible precedent," and he added that the county needs to make it clear to homeowners that they "can't get away with demolition through neglect, or in this case, intentional owner vandalism."

Karen Lesney with Monterey Bay Modernism — a group that has advocated for the Neutra house to be preserved told The Pine Cone after the meeting that the "calculated means to accelerate the deterioration of the home" was "insulting to the general intelligence of the community."

Mehdipour wants to replace the Richard Neutra house with a 11,933-square-foot, two-story single-family home designed by the late Mexican architect Ricardo Legoretta that features outdoor terraces and a multi-car garage. Her attorneys have said the new house will be a pinnacle of modern architecture.

However, last year, the National Register of Historic Places determined the Neutra house — often called the Connell House for its first owners — is eligible for historic designation. The house has already been listed on the California Register of Historical Resources.

#### **Deadline to comply**

On May 22, Monterey County Resource Management Agency code compliance manager Tim Burns issued Mehdipour an order to "discontinue the code violations" after it was determined the single-family house was "substandard."

Mehdipour was required by June 1 to seek permits from the county to repair broken windows and sheetrock, perform mold abatement, identify the source of water intrusion in the

in front of the house with the warning: "Unsafe. Do not enter or occupy."

Burns also told Mehdipour that "willful failure to take the

# Artathon student-artists get 'wild and wacky'

PRESENTINVG 24 wild and wacky hours of art-making," the Youth Arts Collective stages its annual Artathon from 10 a.m. Saturday until 10 a.m. Sunday, June 27-28.

youngsters ages 14 to 22.

right of passage for YACsters, and the biggest grassroots effort of the year, which we count on to bring in a substantial chunk of YAC's annual operating funds," reads an invitation

The work created during the Artathon will be displayed at YAC's Summer Art Show July 31.

In addition to mentoring young artists, the Youth Arts Collective provides them with studio and gallery space. The nonprofit is located at 472 Calle Principal. Call (831) 375-

house and schedule an inspection, among other things. On June 15, an agency official slapped a red tag on a tarp

necessary actions to correct any violation of the county code is a misdemeanor," and he gave her a June 22 deadline to provide evidence as to why the violation notice should not be

The event will showcase the creative talents of local "Please join us again or for the first time in this traditional

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# **NEW WASTE COLLECTION** SERVICES IN PEBBLE BEACH

- Effective July 1, GreenWaste Recovery is the new hauler in Pebble Beach for garbage, recyclables and organics for residents and businesses, replacing Waste Management. GreenWaste was selected by the Pebble Beach Community Services District Board after a competitive bidding process.
- New carts are currently being distributed to customers. Waste Management will remove its carts on your regular collection day between Wednesday, June 24th and Tuesday, June 30th. Waste Management carts should be used until that time. You can leave your old carts by the curbside after they are emptied during that week and start using your new carts.
- Waste Management is expected to collect a large majority of its carts during that one week period. After that, they will make one more pass between July 1st and July 7th to collect any carts missed during the prior week. If you still have any old Waste Management carts after July 7th, please call GreenWaste at (831) 920-6707 to schedule pickup.
- The basic solid waste service in Pebble Beach includes a 32-gallon garbage, 65-gallon recycle, and 95-gallon yard trimmings carts. The fee for this service will be \$21.50 per month and will be collected on the property tax rolls. The basic service includes a one-way either pickup or return to property within 100 feet of the curb upon request, at no additional cost. The rates for larger size containers; and two-way and other additional services are available at http://www.greenwaste.com/pebble-beach-csd. Fees for additional services will be billed directly by GreenWaste.
- If you don't receive your new carts by your regular collection day during the week of June 24th thru June 30th; or the carts you received are not the right sizes please call GreenWaste at (831) 920-6707.
- Expanded services will include three annual curbside collection events for bulky and/or reusable items, 30 extra material set-out stickers annually (can be used for garbage or yard trimmings), new color-coded carts and compressed natural gas (CNG) collection vehicles.
- More materials will be accepted in the recycling cart (including bundled film plastics, small appliances and electronics) and items such as household batteries can be collected. These new programs will help the District meet a State mandate requiring a 75 percent recycling rate by 2020 (Assembly Bill 341).

If you have questions, please call GreenWaste (831-920-6707) or visit greenwaste.com/pebble-beach-csd

tion than they did 20 years ago," he said. "Big Sur has a lot of visitors, but they're concentrated in a few places."

While Pantilat's backcountry adventures are hard work, the thrill of discovering and photographing such elusive scenery is more than worth the effort.

"The waterfalls in Big Sur are in extremely lush and beautiful settings," explained Patilat, who works as an attorney when he's not rambling through the wilderness. "There are 40- to 50-foot waterfalls everywhere in the Sierra, but they don't have the ferns, the moss and the redwoods."

Photographing such scenic wonders provides creative inspiration for Pantilat. "This is my form of art," he explained. "I like to go to beautiful places and take pictures of scenery people haven't seen before. It's pretty special."

While Pantilat's forays into the Big Sur wilderness are impressive, they are hardly the most difficult adventures he has taken.

Just last year, Pantilat completed the 223-mile John Muir Trail in just three days, seven hours and 39 minutes — a mark Trail Runner Magazine called "the fastest known time."

"He's a legend," said Mike Splain, the executive director of the Ventana Wilderness Alliance, which has restored many miles of hiking trails in Big Sur.

In loving memory of Edna Landess D'Ambrosio 7/31/22 - 6/12/15

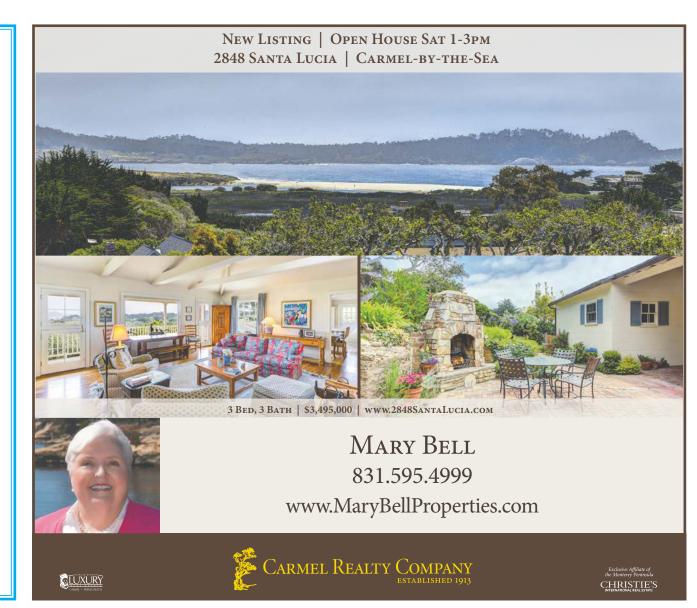




Cherished wife of Bob D'Ambrosio Blissfully married for 74 years.

> Beloved mother of Greg D'Ambrosio Lori D'Ambrosio Bobbe D'Ambrosio Collins

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# NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP

regarding the Airport Master Plan for

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America's Most Convenient Airport

Tuesday, July 7, 2015 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Short Presentation at 6:00 P.M. Topic: Draft Airport Master Plan Recommendations

Monterey Peninsula Airport District Board Room 2nd Floor of the Airport Terminal Building 200 Fred Kane Drive, Monterey, CA 93940

## **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

For more information, please call: 831-648-7000 ext. 208 or visit our website: www.montereyairport.com

and click the Airport Master Plan website project link.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

**PUBLIC NOTICES** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea will conduct a public hearing in the City Hall Council Chambers, located on the east side of Monte Verde between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, on Wednesday, July 8, 2015. The public hearings will be opened at 4:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible. For the items on the agenda, staff will present the project, then the applicant and all interested members of the public will be allowed to speak or offer written testimony before the Commission takes action. Decisions to approve or deny the project may be appealed to the City Clerk within ten (10) working days following the date of action by the Planning Commission and paying the requisite appeal fee.

If you challenge the nature of the proposed action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission or the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

1. DS 15-105 (Corradini) Robert Carver, AIA 4 parcels SE of 9th on Scenic Rd. Block: A2 , Lot: S pt. of Lot 7 & N

Block: A2 , Lot: S pt. of Lot 7 & N pt. of Lot 8
APN: 010-302-010
Consideration of a Concept Design Study (DS 15-105) and associated Coastal Development Permit application for the construction of a new residence located in the Single-Family Residential (R-1) Zoning District, Beach and Riparian Overlay (BR) District, and the Park Overlay (P) District

2. DR 14-38 (Carmel Mission)
Diocese of Monterey
SW Cor. of Rio Road & Lasuen Dr.
Block: US, Lot: 38
APN: 009-531-003
Consideration of a Design Review
(DR 14-38) application and associated
Coastal Development Permit for alterations to the Carmel Mission located
in the Single Family Residential (R-1),
Park Overlay (P), Archaeological
Significance Overlay (AS) and Beach
and Riparian Overlay (BR) Zoning
Districts

3. CDP 15-199 (Carmel International Film Festival Beach Event)
Valarie Schad and Tom Burns Carmel Beach NW of Scenic and 13th Ave.
APN: n/a (Carmel Beach)
Consideration of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP 15-199) for the 7th Annual Film Festival Beach Event, a one-day dinner on the beach for approximately 225 participants. The site is located in the Improved Parklands (P-2) and Beach and Riparian Overlay (BR) Zoning Districts.

4. DR 15-195 (New Summit Corp - ARBI) Scott Hervey SW Corner of 5th and San Carlos Blk: 56, Lot: 1 APN: 010-135-001 Consideration of a Design Review (DR 15-195) application for the installation of new roofing materials and the installation of a new parapet to screen rooftop equipment for a property located in the Service Commercial (SC) Zoning District

5. APP 15-164 (O'Day Appeal) Judy O'Day Casanova 2 parcels SE of 4th Blk: EE, Lot: 40 APN: 010-214-027 Consideration of an Appeal (APP 15-164) of DS 15-143 (Bruno) for the

installation of a new 3-ft high wood gate along an existing 4-ft grape stake fence in the northern side yard of an adjoining parcel, as depicted in the plans approved on April 27, 2015.

6. UP 15-188 (Hahn Winery)
David Peartree
SE Corner of Ocean and Mission
Blk: 78, Lots: All
APN: 010-086-006
Consideration of Use Permit (UP
15-188) to establish a retail wine shop
with wine tasting as an ancillary use in
an existing commercial space located
in the Central Commercial (CC)
Zoning District

7. DS 15-057 (Karapetkov)
Jeff Kilpatrick
3009 Lasuen Drive
Blk: 10, Lot: 13
APN: 009-371-013
Consideration of a Concept
Design Study (DS 15-057) and associated Coastal Development Permit application for the demolition of an existing residence and construction of a new single family residence located in the Single Family Residential (R-1-C-6) Zoning District

8. UP 15-118 (Alexander-Smith)
Jennifer Smith
Southside of Ocean Ave.,
between Monte Verde and Lincoln
Bik: 74, Lot: 6
APN: 010-201-005
Consideration of a Use Permit (UP
15-118) application to allow live music
from an existing retail wine shop with

from an existing retail wine shop with wine tasting as an ancillary use locat-ed in the Central Commercial (CC) Zoning District

City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Rob Mullane, AICP, Community Planning and Building Director

Publication Dates: June 26, 2015. (PC 616)

# Ambitious new gallery comes to P.G., Sunset fundraiser raises \$40K

MODELED AFTER a similar nonprofit venture in Santa Cruz, a new gallery called Monterey Bay Artisans plans to open next month in the American Tin Cannery in

Occupying 4,800 square feet and representing more than 80 artists, the gallery will open Thursday, July 2, and host a grand opening celebration Saturday, July 11.

"Monterey Bay Artisans, along with its sister venue, Art of Santa Cruz in the Capitola Mall, represents a new, non-profit model for quickly and affordably establishing large-scale art exhibition and sales venues for local artists in the Monterey Bay area," explained Dawn Teall of the nonprofit Regional Artisans Association. "The challenge of expanding our area's visual arts infrastructure can be overwhelming and prohibitively costly, particularly given our cost of living and the state of the economy. The Regional Artisans Association assembles large groups of local artists who work together to establish self-sustaining exhibition spaces - much like permanent, indoor art and craft festivals."

The gallery will be on the second floor of the shopping mall, which is located just steps from the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

## ■ Art auction gets off to good start

Sunset Center's inaugural Juried Art Auction raised more than \$40,000 for three local arts charities June 19-20, and its organizers declared the event a success.

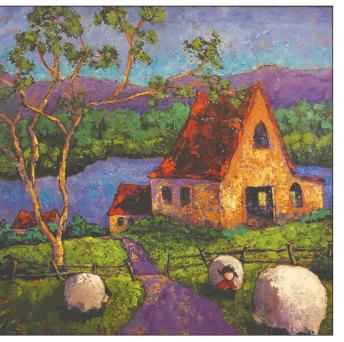
More than 100 artists participated in the event. The proceeds will be split between the artists and three nonprofits — the Carmel Art Association, the Arts Council for Monterey County and Arts Habitat.

One of the artists who submitted work, Carmel Valley illustrator Will Bullas, sees a bright future for the fundraiser.

"Artists, as well as our steering committee, want this to be an annual tourist event that will grow into a national, international gala to support the entire area art community," Bullas said.

"One unique aspect of this event was that many of the collectors were able to meet their favorite new artist on the spot," added Paulette Lynch, the executive director of the Arts Council. My job was to introduce them to each other, knowing that many will become lifelong friends."

See ART page 23A



Dorsey McHugh's painting, "Only One Honey," is included in a show at Gallerie Amsterdam. The artist also presents a demonstration of her technique Saturday afternoon at the gallery, with guitarist Gene Smith and singer Carrie McDowell performina.



# Calendar

To advertise, call (831) 274-8652 or email vanessa@carmelpinecone.com

June 28 - Temple Beth El brings to its campus the third annual Jewish Cultural Festival, Sunday, June 28, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free for this family-friendly event that includes six hours of food, music and fun. Nosh and kibbitz, shop the shuk, and swing and sway to non-stop live musical entertainment. Parking will be available on the Temple Beth El campus with overflow parking at the Cabrillo College parking lot across the street. 3055 Porter Gulch Road in Aptos.

July 6 - Art Class. 10 Weeks starting July 6. Mondays 9:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. Drawing and painting. Beginners, retirees welcome. Pacific Grove . Adult School. \$90. Call (831) 646-6580.

July 11 - De Tierra Vineyards 2nd Annual Vino with the Vindegard at De Tierra Vineyards with Chef Kathleen Robison and 'Gus' Gustat, Saturday, July 11, 1 to 4 p.m. Mediterranean lunch buffet, blind tastings, picnic games, great prizes, library wine tastings and more! Tickets: \$65 regular, \$55 wine club members. Russell Estate, 503 Corral de Tierra Road, Salinas. arrusell@detierra.com, www.detierra.com.

July 11 & 12 - Del Monte Kennel Club All-Breed Dog Show, July 11 & 12, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Carmel Middle School, 4380 Carmel Valley Road. See 2,500 dogs compete in conformation, obedience and rally! Pre-entered dogs only. Wirehaired Pointing Griffon, Rottweiler, Great Dane & English Setter specialty shows Friday. AFRP dogs will also be available for adoption on Sunday. Parking just \$10. www.DMKC.org or (831) 333-9032.

July 27-31 - Students in grades 1-6, join us at World Art Workshop, where artistic expression meets cross-cultural exploration! This non-religious day camp takes place July 27-31 at the educational facilities of Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula. Register now! www.WorldArtWorkshop.org or call (831) 277-

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## Festival returns with enticing lineup, Sky Country back in business

A YEAR after it debuted at the Monterey County Fairgrounds, the Monterey Americana Festival returns Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28, with a new name — the Monterey BaconFest — and an impressive lineup featuring one performer, Chris

CARMEL •

Hillman, who played at the same site during the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival.

Hillman, who will share the stage with singer-songwriter Herb Pedersen Saturday at 3:30 p.m., is best known as a co-founder of the Byrds, the folk-rock group that helped

transform pop music in the mid-1960s with hits like "Mr. Tambourine Man," Turn, Turn, Turn" and "Eight Miles High."

Hillman and his fellow Byrds all had backgrounds in folk music. But like just about everybody in 1965, they were transfixed by the arrival of the Beatles, who Hillman described as a "divinely-sent healing force."

"The Beatles really hit a nerve," Hillman

told The Pine Cone. "Whether you were a musician or not, you were after you heard them."

After listening to a demo of Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man," the Byrds

recorded a cover version with electric guitars, harmonies and a rock beat. The single quickly climbed to No. 1 on the charts, igniting an explosion of folk rock in pop music - and showed that a pop song could address topics of considerable more weight than teen romance.

"It elevated the substance level of lyrics on Top 40 radio," Hillman said of the song.

As folk rock gave way to psychedelic rock in 1966-67, Hillman began writing songs like "Time Between" and "The Girl With No Name," which anticipated the arrival of country rock, and the Byrds became pioneers of the genre.

Determined to further explore the common ground between country and rock, Hillman left the Byrds in 1968 and cofounded the Flying Burrito Brothers with the late Graham Parsons. Although the Burritos never experienced the commercial success of the Byrds, they paved the way for more successful country rock groups like the Eagles. Their songs have been recorded by Emmylou Harris, Beck, Steve Earle, Sheryl Crow and



By CHRIS COUNTS

many others, which Hillman calls "a real stamp of approval."

"We were the original outlaw alternative band," Hillman recalled. "We couldn't get on country radio and we couldn't get on rock radio. Yet 20 years later, we became a huge cult thing."

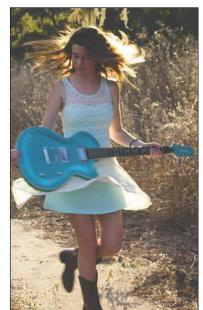
In retrospect, Hillman is proud of what the Burritos achieved. "Success is not always measured by your bank account," he said. "So many artists have covered our songs they've held up real well."

Hillman's final flirtation with fame came

See MUSIC page 22A









CARMEL

BACH

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78th Season





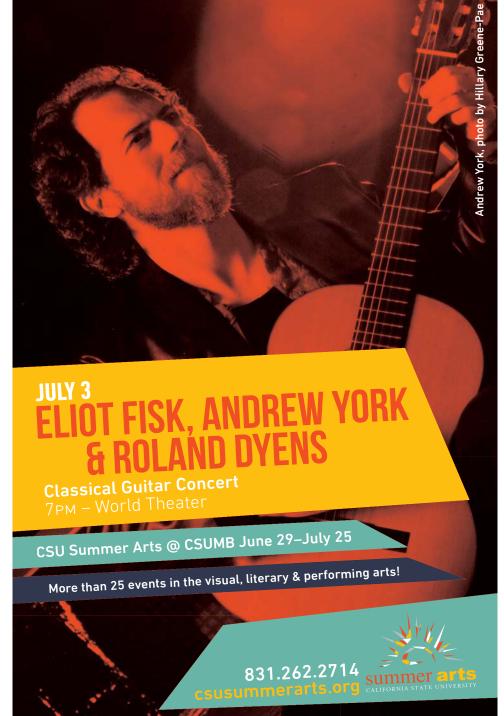
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# Welcoming The Cricket, awaiting The Pan, and anticipating Mabuhay

THE LONG-AWAITED and much anticipated Il Grillo — the sister restaurant to the popular Italian restaurant, La Balena — opened its doors to family and friends for "Happy Hour" over the weekend to test drive the new operation and get an idea for how it feels full of patrons.

person, plus tax and tip.

Il Grillo (which means "the cricket," the counterpart to La Balena — "the whale" — in the "Pinocchio" fairytale) will feature a simple menu and an affordable wine list for lunch and dinner, according to Bartolini. Breakfast will include espresso drinks and

pastries. The restaurant floor is small, with a short bar and a handful of tables, plus a patio. But it has a large kitchen that will help Briske produce more food for both restaurants. A display case that formerly held pastries and sweets now

offer cheeses, charcuterie and other treats for customers to select.

Lunch service began this week, along with the prix fixe dinners, and Il Grillo will open for its full hours, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., beginning Monday, July 6.

For the dinner series, reservations to sit in the dining room must be made online, while the patio will be available for walk-ins or by request. Visit www.ilgrillocarmel.com/dinner-launch-series.

## ■ Another in the works

Meanwhile, Giuseppe Panzuto, who managed Cantinetta Luca and the restaurants at the Portola Hotel, is set to open his own establishment with his brother, Salvatore, in a tiny space in the Court of the Golden Bough, behind Cottage of Sweets and next to the Alexander-Smith by Paraiso tasting room. Il Tegamino — which will serve "Italian comfort food" — was part of the Winemakers Celebration on Dolores Street

Continues next page

# soup to nuts

By MARY SCHLEY

"It went well!" said Anna Bartolini, who owns both restaurants with her husband, Emanuele.

Chef Brad Briske's Happy Hour menu, which he hand wrote with a Sharpie on a piece of cardboard, included salumi, cheese and carpaccio, as well as five small plates: octopus with squid ink chickpea flan, chili oil, lemon and herbs; yellowfin tuna with cherry tomatoes, cucumber, puttanesca, chili oil, olive, anchovy and capers; house-cured bresaola with gorgonzola terrine, walnuts and balsamic; beef tenderloin with shaved porcini, parmesan, arugula, lemon and olive oil; and porchetta with padron peppers, anchovy, capers, spring onion and watercress.

Before the restaurant, located in the former bakery at Mission and Fifth, officially opens July 6, the Bartolinis and Briske are presenting a Special Dinner Series celebrating their new venture. On June 26 and 27, as well as July 2 and 3, they will present a three-course prix fixe dinner with choice of an appetizer, pasta and dessert, and one glass of house wine or Italian soda, for \$40 per









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Valid Monday through Thursday. Please present Monterey county or Military ID.

## From previous page

"Directly translated, Il Tegamino means 'The Pan.' To the Panzuto brothers, it means so much more. Il Tegamino is a tribute to their Mamma Rita," Giuseppe and Salvatore Panzuto say on their website. "Rita collected tegaminos in her kitchen where Giuseppe and Salvatore grew up in Napoli, Italy. She inspired their success into the culinary industry. Il Tegamino is the long sought after result of the Panzuto brothers' American dream."

Charming, experienced in the culinary industry and well acquainted with Carmel, Giuseppe Panzuto has a good chance of making a restaurant succeed in an off-the-street space where others have failed.

"We are so excited about the II Tegamino project and can't wait to share what truly authentic Italian comfort food tastes like in the ambiance of the Panzuto family kitchen," they say. The Court of the Golden Bough is located on the south side of Ocean Avenue between Lincoln and Monte Verde streets.

#### ■ Asian street food at CB

Carmel Belle in the Doud Arcade at Ocean and San Carlos will hold another Asian-street-food feast by Sierra Mar pastry chef Yulanda Santos Tuesday, June 30, from 5 p.m. onward. Featuring rice bowls, small plates, sides, sweets and drinks, Mabuhay is a collaboration between Santos and Carmel Belle chef Kyle Odell. It's cash only, with no reservations.

Instead, people will just have to make sure to get there in



time to choose from several small bites, like pork dumplings, shrimp and scallion dumplings, chicken or pork jowl yakitori or steamed pork belly buns, and any of three different rice bowls: fried tofu with soy-marinated shitake mushrooms, bok choy and sugar snap peas; chicken with sugar snap peas, achara and scallions; and bulgogi (soy-marinated beef, sugar snap peas, kimchi, scallions and sesame seeds). Guests can add a fried egg or kimchi for another \$2.

Two Asian sweets, rice and coconut cake, and sesame balls filled with sweet adzuki beans, will be available, as will fresh ginger tea, sodas, beer and sake. Take-away jars of housemade kimchi will be on sale, too.

#### ■ Commission denies Franscioni

Ray Franscioni, who sells his wines in the tiny building next to the Tuck Box on Dolores Street, can't open a tasting room on San Carlos Street in the former Perspectacles store, the Carmel Planning Commission decided earlier this month. The main reason, as has become the norm in the commission's denials, is that Franscioni's new venue would be located south of Ocean Avenue, while the city's wine-tasting policies state a preference for tasting rooms north of Ocean, where there are far fewer already established.

The city council made it quite clear they want any new tasting rooms to be on the north side of Ocean," commissioner Keith Paterson said. "I think we've got an adequate number on the south side at the moment."

Carmel Residents Association President Barbara Livingston complained the area where Franscioni proposed to

They're Baaaaack! Crispy Soft Shell Crabs Open 7 days a week 831-626-8000 **LINCOLN BETWEEN 5TH & 6TH** CARMEL -Dinner Nightly from 5pm www.christophersrestaurantcarmel.com RANCH BBQ SHORT RIBS · TONDRIE GRAPEFIELD PINOT NOI open his tasting room is already "an alcohol drinking establishments enclave," with Nielsen Bros. Market's wine shop, Mundaka restaurant and Barmel. And CRA member Roberta Miller said, "This courtyard has become quite tacky," she said. "I just think it's not going to have the diversity it needs."

Resident Jody Hanson said she thought the courtyard would be a good location for Franscioni to pour tastes and sell his wines. "These wine tastings are enlivening the town in some ways, and I think it needs it," she said.

But commissioner Michael LePage said there are already

five tasting rooms on that block, another threshold identified in the city's policies. "I just don't see how this application can be supported when we've hit the trigger point," he said. Commissioner Don Goodhue said it doesn't make sense to

adopt a set of guidelines and then ignore them, and the commission unanimously voted to deny Franscioni's permit.

#### ■ Bacon bacon!

The Monterey Americana Festival is in its third year, but it's never appeared in Soup to Nuts before. It is now, though, because organizers added BaconFest, slated for Saturday and

See CUISINE page 23A



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June 26, 2015

in 1988 when the Desert Rose Band — a group he co-founded "almost by accident" — scored a pair of No. 1 country hits with "He's Back and I'm Blue" and "I Still Believe In You.'

"We had a great time and we were very successful," he recalled. "People accepted us for who were and not who we used to be."

Hillman's performance Saturday will no doubt conjure up memories of the fabled 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, which launched the Summer of Love and propelled Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and the Who to stardom.

"I'll go on record and say it was the best rock festival ever," Hillman added. "It wasn't Woodstock or any other festival. It was Monterey.'

Also performing Saturday will be Delaney Ann and Southern SunDaze (11:30 a.m.); The Easy Leaves (12:15

**Lauderdale** (Sunday at 5:30 p.m.)

Tickets are \$15, with discounts available for families. The Monterey County Fairgrounds are located at 2004 Fairground Road. www.montereyamericanafestival.com

p.m.); The Silent Comedy (1:30 p.m.); and Albert Lee &

Shera (12:15 p.m.); Midnight North (1:30 p.m.); Lukas

Nelson and the Promise of the Real (3:30 p.m.); and Jim

Playing Sunday will be Mike Beck (11:30 a.m.); Lauren

## ■ Philharmonic duo performs

Cindy Cashdollar (5:30 p.m.).

Presenting the second concert in a series of six, Hidden Valley Music seminars hosts a performance by bassoonist Judith LeClair and clarinetist Mark Nuccio, Monday, June

The principal bassoonist of the New York Philharmonic, LeClair serves on faculty of the prestigious Juilliard School in New York City. The associate principal clarinetist of the New York Philharmonic, Nuccio teaches at the Manhattan School of Music.

"These master musicians leave their symphony orchestras behind to bring you an intimate evening of music focused on solo and duo instruments as you've never heard them before," said **Lisa Manning** of Hidden Valley.

When they perform at Hidden Valley, LeClair and Nuccio will be accompanied by pianist Zsolt Balogh. The program includes music by Paquito d' Riviera, Sergei Prokofiev, Michail Glinka, Camille Saint-Saëns and Ludwig Milde.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Hidden Valley is located at Ford and Carmel Valley roads. Tickets are \$25. Call (831) 659-3115.

## ■ Reunion, launch party at Barmel

Serving up a dose of what they call "California rock 'n' roll," Sky Country plays Saturday, June 27, at Barmel.

The performance ends an eight-month hiatus for the band, which features Nico Georis on vocals, guitar and keyboards, Mikey Selbicky on vocals and guitar, Adam Zerbe on bass, Will Condon on drums and Emily Poile on vocals and per-

Opening for Sky Country will be Andrew Dolan & the Good Sams, who will play "old time country music."

In addition to the reunion of Sky Country, Barmel will host a launch party Saturday for a new publication, Good Things Mag, and screen the preview a local surfing film.

The event begins at 7 p.m. There's no cover. Barmel is located on San Carlos just north of Seventh. Call (831) 626-

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Presented By

Carie Broeker CoFounder and Executive Director Peace of Mind Dog Rescue

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Contributing Speaker

Susan Koza **Development Director SPCA Monterey County** 

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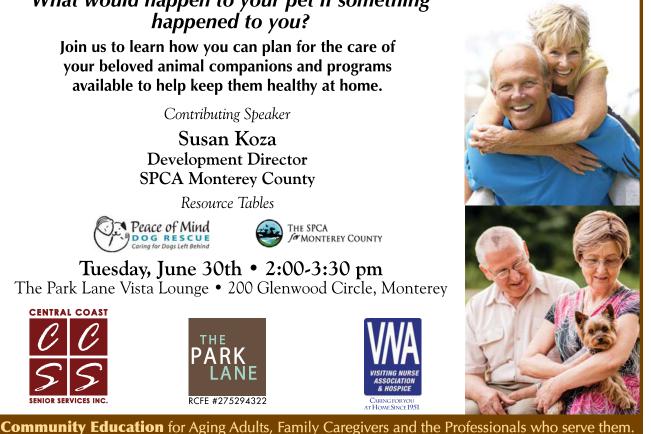


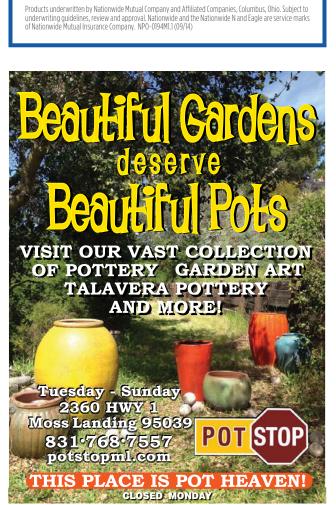
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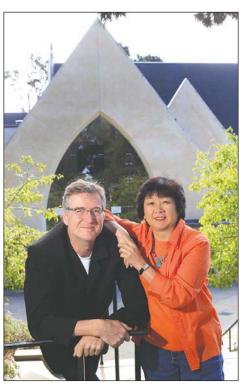


From page 1A

Awake" is a choral prelude written for a wind ensemble.

For the Monday night "Concertmaster Peter Hanson Presents" concerts, Hanson will realize his dream of having a really rich, full-string concert. Because of the tradition in Bohemia of full-string ensembles playing beautiful folk music, Goodwin told Hanson this was his year. He assigned Hanson all the strings in the festival orchestra to create a grand and glorious performance of works by Bach, Hungarian composer Bela Bartok, and Czech composer Antonin Dvorak.

On Tuesdays, the festival will present the



Conductor Paul Goodwin and executive director Debbie Chinn outside Sunset Center, where this year's Bach Fest will get under way July 18.

concert version of Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Because this is a "singspiel" or spoken-dialogue opera, dramaturge David Gordon will narrate, weaving the thread of the story in between the arias.

"The people of Carmel and the people of America generally love opera," says Goodwin. "Happily, the festival has been moving in the direction every year of doing more and more excerpts from opera. 'The Magic Flute,' which suits our ensemble, creates the opportunity to highlight many of the soloists from the chorale.'

#### Concert for kids, too

Gordon is not the only one who will narrate a concert this season. Goodwin will again narrate the children's special concert. Composed by second trombone player and librarian Suzanne Mudge, "The Underwater Adventures of Leonard and Rasmus" will take the audience on an undersea exploration, where the boy and his toy horse, Rasmus, will encounter all kinds of sea creatures.

"Extraordinarily," says Goodwin, "we hadn't had kids' concerts until last year, which was such a great success. This piece, which includes all kinds of water music, will be lots of fun. The music isn't dumbed down, but is fine pieces of the highest quality and properly done."

The final concert of the festival — "Bach to Beethoven Week 2" on the calendar — is where Goodwin will go "Beyond." A performance of "Concerto Romanesc," a 1951 composition by Transylvanian composer György Ligeti, stretches the boundaries with its avant-garde, contemporary classical style.

"I am not one to put simply standard programs in a spectacular, forward-looking festival," Goodwin says. "The Carmel Bach Festival brings people from all over the world who seek something interesting. People can go to traditional concerts with traditional orchestras for standard fare. They go to festivals to hear something special, different, new. This is going to be a really great festival."

For complete festival and ticket information, please go to www.bachfestival.org.

From page 18A

## ■ The fine art of water

In her latest exhibit, which opens Thursday, July 2, at the Carmel Bay Company, painter Jan Wagstaff looks at the subtle beauty she finds on the surface of

"The series reflects my interest in the transient qualities of water," explained Wagstaff, a member of the Carmel Art Association. "As I observe, or paint, the focus can be on a number of aspects, from the reflections on the surface and ripples in the water, to objects floating under or over the surface of the water, or a combination of these qualities."

The Carmel Bay Company, which hosts a reception Thursday at 5:30 p.m., is located just south of Ocean on Lincoln. Call (831)

## ■ Finding one's own style

With guitarist Gene Smith and singer Carrie McDowell providing music, artist Dorsey McHugh will offer painting demonstrations throughout the day Saturday, June 27, at Gallerie Amsterdam.

Employing a subtle use of color, McHugh paints a wide range of subject matter, including landscapes, still lifes and figurative work.

According to gallery director Sheri Barnes, McHugh studied under Juanita Greene Parks, who encouraged the painter to focus on learning the fundamentals of painting and avoid embracing a particular style.

McHugh took Parks' advice, and today she's thankful for it. At first I thought I was going to paint like her," the artist said. "But as I began to evolve, I found my own style."

Smith tours with pop singer Amy Grant, while McDowell was once a Motown recording artist.

The gallery is located on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth. Call (831) 624-4355.

# CUISINE From page 21A

Sunday, June 27-28, at the Monterey Fairgrounds. The festival will feature music by 10 nationally known Americana acts complemented by bacon-based vendors offering bacon-flavored foods and bacon dishes.

Further, a Best in Bacon competition will have purveyors battling for \$3,000 in cash prizes, chefs will offer cooking demonstrations focusing on the smoky strips of pork, and plenty of other related memorabilia will be for sale, too. Because no one should go thirsty while gorging on tasty salted pig parts, wine, beer and cocktails will be available, along with the special margaritas and Bloody Marys being poured at the BaconBar.

General admission is \$15 at the gate. VIP tickets are \$60 at the gate for each day and include early entry, a preferred seating area, and a commemorative souvenir. Family tick-

ets are available, too. The festival gates will open at 11 a.m. (10 a.m. for VIP ticket holders), and the music will start at 11:30. The show will end at 7 p.m.

## ■ Homebrew 201

Bottoms Up Homebrew in Seaside offers classes for people who want to make beer at home, from novices, to experts, and on Sunday, June 28, from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., the crew will be teaching Homebrew 201 — All Grain Brewing, for \$25. "

All-grain brewing is how the pros do it, and the only way to take complete control of the flavor profile of your beer," they say. "We'll take you through the steps of making beer from scratch and share techniques that work." The class is only recommended for people who have already taken the introductory Homebrew 101 course. Bottoms Up is located in Suite K at 1143 Echo Ave. in Seaside. See www.bottomsuphomebrew.com.

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#### June 26, 2015

# **Editorial**

# Lesson learned

m WE HAD to go to the thesaurus to try to come up with the right word to describe the report issued last week by the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury about the problems in Carmel during the Jason Stilwell era. "Idiotic" didn't seem to be right. And neither did "facile," "inane" or "moronic." At first, we thought "clueless" was pretty good, though it didn't seem to quite go far enough. Maybe "absurd" or "nonsensical"? Hmmmm.

And then it occurred to us — every synonym for "stupid" fits this report very well. It's actually that bad. And any objective person who lived through the Stilwell era and followed it as it progressed through all its tragic and comedic aspects would have to agree. You can't just talk to a handful of people and peruse a few documents and understand the Jason Stilwell saga in the slightest.

We're not even going to try to rehash all its episodes. Our front page stories alone were nearly 50 over a 16-month period from June 2013, when everything began with the police raid on Steve McInchak's house, through October 2014, when Stilwell finally left.

Instead, we invite the reader to go to a compilation which we've made available at pineconearchive.fileburstcdn.com/stilwellera.pdf. Those stories — all of them reported by our superbly professional city hall reporter, Mary Schley will take you on quite a journey.

It's obvious, however, that the grand jury didn't look at more than a handful of them, and by their own admission they interviewed only a few people and were not able to look at many of the documents they requested. Yet foreman Brandon Hill and his colleagues on the grand jury managed to come up with quite a powerful narrative. It's fiction, but it sounds good.

According to the grand jury, city government in Carmel was a shambles when Jason Stilwell and Susan Paul were hired to clean the place up. When they started to do so, despite their fairness and professionalism, the Old Guard at city hall reacted with horror, which led The Pine Cone to go on the attack with a series of biased and one-sided stories. Those stories alarmed the gullible public, which frightened the cowardly mayor and meek council into unjustly chasing Stilwell and Paul out of town.

That's the grand jury's story and, having foisted it on the public with the impressive backing of the Monterey County courts, they now refuse to defend it or answer any questions about it. The story the way tell it is completely false, yet a spokesman for the grand jury says its investigations and deliberations are "shielded by secrecy."

How convenient. Funny that the grand jury singled out The Pine Cone for being "one-sided," in that when we reported about people being fired at city hall, Stilwell was never able to give us his side. He couldn't, he told us, because of "employee confidentiality." But at least we frequently asked him for it. The grand jury condemned us without making so much as a whisper that we were under investigation, much less giving us a chance to explain what we did and why we did it.

Fortunately, the civil grand jury that issued this report isn't like a criminal grand jury. This grand jury has no power, and its reports don't bring any legal

Perhaps, knowing that, the citizen volunteers who made up the grand jury that investigated Carmel just decided that half a job would be good enough. It also explains why the grand jury's annual reports on a variety of local government topics are usually forgotten almost as soon as they're issued.

This time is different, though. The grand jury's report on Carmel is so inept, thousands of civic-minded Monterey County residents have now learned that the grand jury's work isn't just worthy of indifference — it's worthy of contempt.

## **BEST of BATES**



"Beats me how it got through the planning commission."

# etters the Editor

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

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

## *Importance of free press* Dear Editor,

I have read the report drafted by the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury regarding the governance of the City of Carmel-by-

I confine my comments to the assault on the community newspaper, the Carmel Pine

Casting aspersions on the Pine Cone for reporting on verified facts and exposing the conduct of city hall would be synonymous with proclaiming that Woodward and Bernstein of the Washington Post were "enemies of the state" for reporting on the activities of a president who had become delusional with the power entrusted to him by the electorate. That same president proclaimed to his most trusted staff members, H.R. Haldeman and John Erlichman, that "the enemy is not marching in the streets, it is the goddamn Washington Post."

The only thing that stands between government and tyranny is the constitutionally protected free press. Our forefathers recognized this truth, and our countrymen have fought and died to protect that freedom. In recent years, we have witnessed numerous attempts by extremists and governments to restrain the press with threats and violence, and yet that freedom remains the most valued asset of a governed society.

It matters little that those who would seek to limit a free and open society by restraining its press are cloaked in a cover of religious, political or governmental oversight authority. The evil it begets is equally destructive to a free society.

The grand jury proclaims that the citizens of Carmel-by-the-Sea were incorrectly and unfairly influenced by that which they read in the newspaper. By doing so, they infer that the citizens of this community are so poorly educated and naïve that they are unable to discern fact from fiction on their own and are therefore easily led astray, an insult at best, libel at worst.

If I were to have to choose between a government without a free press and a free press without a government, I, sir, would choose the latter.

G.R. Mozingo, Carmel

#### It was previous council's fault Dear Editor:

Concerned Carmel citizens and the Carmel City Council both asked the grand

See LETTERS page 27A

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## The Carmel Pine Cone

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

## The wife behind a great life

As she enters her eighth decade, Joan Jeffers McCleary reflects on what she considers a great life, much of which has been in assistance to or support of others. Born in Illinois, McCleary moved frequently with her parents, along with her father's Navy assignments, until 1946, when he was discharged, and the family decided to set up their residence on the Monterey Peninsula. Her parents were married in the chapel at Stanford, from which her mother had graduated, and honeymooned at the old Del Monte Hotel in Monterey, now part of the Naval Postgraduate School.

McCleary's father took the position of librarian for the City of Monterey, and the family tried to settle into life amid the coastal beauty of the Yet, when area. McCleary was just 6 years old, her father took his own life. Her mother never remar-

"I was, essentially, raised by a single mother," McCleary says. "I always felt so fortunate to have a mother who was so

open, communicative, trusting and accepting. She was my mother and my friend." McCleary attended junior high school in

Monterey, where she went steady with a smart boy named John. By the time they got to Monterey High, they had gone their separate ways. But she never forgot him.

For two years, McCleary attended the Katharine Gibbs college in Boston, where she also worked as a legal secretary, followed by studies at Northeastern University, but she did not graduate. Instead, she married, just shy of her 20th birthday, and moved to Fresno with her husband. There, he pursued

a graduate degree, while she worked to support him. At his commencement ceremony, her husband lined up with the other men to receive their diplomas. Then, their wives were invited to stand and receive their PHT certificates: "Putting Husband Through."

"I know it sounds sexist, and I didn't take it seriously, but the school did," McCleary says. "They saw it as a symbol of respect."

The couple remained in Fresno, where McCleary earned her BA in English, but when the marriage ended in divorce, she took time out from her life and went to Europe, traveling to Corfu, Greece, with friends. Upon her return, she visited the Monterey Jazz Festival, where she had ushered during high school. At the gates, she ran into her junior high school flame, John McCleary. Her seats were better than his, so he joined her.

We knew, as soon as we met, that we would rekindle our romance," she says. "Here was this old friend I had known since he was a little boy, but I hadn't seen in years. Coincidentally, he, too, was recently back from Corfu, where he had been working. Three months later, we were married, and

people said, 'John must really love that girl to move to Fresno."

The marriage was destined to last, but not the move to Fresno. In 1995, the McClearys moved to Monterey. "We missed the ocean," she says, "and we just didn't want to grow old in Fresno."

McCleary took a job as administrative assistant to the president of the Monterey Institute of International Studies, whose office was in the same building where her father had served as city librarian. She knew she was home.

Five years later, she took time off work to

serve as editor of her new husband's books, most prominently, "The Hippie Dictionary," a 700-page cultural encyclopedia of the 1960s and 1970s. It was a labor of love, and a particularly wise move by her husband to tap into the skills of his English-major spouse who had a critical eye and precise perspective on the era. He acknowledged her: "I want to thank my wife, Joan Jeffers McCleary, who is also my editor. Not many editors will reheat your coffee and kiss the nape of your neck as you hunch over your com-

McCleary next was tapped to direct the Pacific Grove Art Center in support of member artists.

"After editing John's books, I was eager to do something that spoke to my own interests," McCleary says. "I love art, decorating, color, perspective, and I have great respect for artists. I also love people, and through the art center, I got to meet people from all over

She served the center for nearly a decade before retiring.

Thirty years later after their reunion at the Monterey Jazz Festival, the McClearys are still enjoying their life together. They live in the home her mother once owned to which they have added extensively, mostly with architectural salvage and other items found

## **Great Lives**

## By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

and collected through their travels.

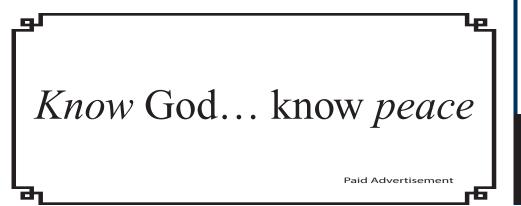
"John loves the same things I do," says Joan. "People, travel, music, writing, art. Every day we celebrate our life together, and how fortunate we are to live here."

These days, McCleary volunteers in the California History Room at the Monterey Public Library, established by her father.

"I always knew, once I retired, this is where I would volunteer," she says. "I'm working on a special project, preparing photographic prints from photographer Rey Ruppel's negatives, for the City of Monterey. Having grown up here, I find many of the images are so familiar, and the work, rewarding. Everything I've done, I think, is because I'm patient, detail oriented, and I can correct spelling. But mostly it's because I care about helping people and making a difference through them."

To suggest someone for this column, email lcwcarmel@aol.com.

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



# FOR LIFEGUARDS, SUMMER IS NO DAY AT THE BEACH

JUST WHEN you thought it was safe to go back in the water, sharks are making headlines again this summer. And not in a good blockbuster movie way.

The latest attacks happened on the East Coast. But we know sharks are lurking on the Monterey Peninsula, too. We read about the two-legged variety every week in The Pine Cone police log.

After a shark sighting close to shore three things usually happen. Swimmers are ordered out of the water, public beaches are closed, and the Discovery Channel schedules another Shark Week on television.

In the movies, panicked bathers run screaming from the water at the first sign of

trouble. But in real life, beachgoers often ignore warnings from lifeguards. With all the budget cutbacks lately, fewer public beaches have lifeguards anyway. They're on the endangered species list along with affordable salmon. Apparently

the only sand America spends money to patrol these days is in Iraq.

This issue is close to my heart. As a kid, I was a summer lifeguard in Bradley Beach, New Jersey. I worked my way up from the bottom, starting out as a beach peddler.

You see, my father sold dry goods. Like every retailer he sometimes got stuck with a dud he couldn't give away. One summer it was a hair ornament for women, a plastic comb with an artificial flower attached. Pinup queen Betty Grable had worn one and it became all the rage. For about 20 minutes. By the time my father stocked up on them they were history. Unfortunately, he got such a good deal he bought five gross — 720 flower combs deader than lox. So he came up with a genius sales plan. Mark the combs down from 50 cents to a dime and peddle them on the beach.

And guess who he picked to be the lucky

Peddling merchandise on the beach was embarrassing enough for a skinny squirt just coming of age. But there were other drawbacks. On the Jersey shore in July the sand gets broiling hot. To keep from torching my tootsies, I had to leap from one blanket to another with my box of flower combs. A regular Beach Blanket Baryshnikov.

Somehow I managed to sell 200 combs that summer despite annoying scores of sunbathers by crash-landing on their beach towels. The remaining combs my father stored in the cellar until the following year when I unloaded 100 more. Actually, I sold only 50. The rest magically disappeared. I told Pop it was shoplifters, but I'm sure eventually flocks of flower combs washed up on the shores of Argentina.

The only way I could get out of peddling on the beach was if I landed a real summer job. Hanging around the shade of the lifeguard stand I became friendly with the three lifeguards. They treated me like a kid brother. I ran errands for them, fetching Cokes and procuring phone numbers of beach babes they spotted. And since I was a fast swimmer, I convinced them to make me a Junior Lifeguard.

Weighing in at 97 pounds, I was not exactly the heavyweight Hercules a drowning person would want to see coming to the rescue. I had barely enough muscle to lift the whistle.

In the off-season I worked hard, put on a few pounds, and got my Red Cross certification. The next summer I became a fullfledged lifeguard. For pay. No more peddling flower combs. But that's when I learned that every job has its downside.

The captain of our crew had a good eye for spotting trouble in the water. One day he said, "Larry, swim out and tell that schmuck in the blue bathing cap not to go out any fur-

## **Wilde Times**

By LARRY WILDE

I swam out and delivered the warning. The guy said, "I know what I'm doing. You and your captain can buzz off."

No sooner had I returned to shore than the guy in the bathing cap starts waving frantically, calling for help.

In emergencies, my job was to attach a line to my belt and swim out as fast as I could. After the victim was secured I gave the signal for the crew on shore to reel us in.

The guy's wife was screaming hysterically. Volunteers rushed to help pull in the line. Unfortunately they pulled so fast I was dragged underwater. By the time we got to shore I had swallowed my weight in saltwater. I was half-drowned, coughing and sputtering, but the guy was OK.

See WILDE page 27A



Larry Wilde during his glory days in Bradley Beach, New Jersey.

## **BROCCHINI RYAN**

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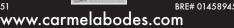


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# Grand jury points finger where it belongs — at the mayor and council

THE MONTEREY County Civil Grand Jury is composed of 19 volunteers from the community who serve for one fiscal year. Its statutory charge is "to investigate or inquire into county matters of civil concern." It issues reports, not criminal indictments. That said, the report it just issued about Carmel's recent governance reads like an indictment of the mayor and city council.

The grand jury investigated Carmel in response to a written complaint by a group of residents which asserted that during 2012-2014, the city's governance and administration had "substantially failed," and a letter from Mayor Jason Burnett asking that the grand jury "review our organization, our corrective actions and make any additional recommenda-

While the town's residents may have wanted a thorough investigation, it appears questionable that the mayor and

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members of the city council — who frequently lavish themselves with praise for their commitment to "transparency" really wanted an honest and thorough assessment of the city's governance. Their level of cooperation with the grand jury suggests otherwise.

Some examples:

June 26, 2015

■ In July 2013, the city retained an IT expert "to perform a complete audit of the existing IT system and to report findings and security concerns." The report from the audit is "roughly 150 pages in length, listing more than 800 security vulnerabilities," the grand jury said, and cost taxpayers a healthy six-figure amount. But when the grand jury asked to see the IT report, "the city reported that the audit report could not be found."

■ Because the city spent nearly \$500,000 on outside counsel during fiscal 2012-2014, the grand jury wanted to

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interview such counsel "to gain clarity about the appropriate use of separately retained counsel and to help determine if charges of cronyism were founded." Accordingly, the grand jury asked the city council to waive attorney-client privilege

# **In Any Case**

By NEIL SHAPIRO

so the interview with outside counsel could proceed, but the city declined. The grand jury also requested a waiver by the city council of its closed session privilege. That, too, was denied.

■ "In order to form conclusions about the city's human resources processes and the appropriateness of its major personnel actions during 2012-2014," the grand jury said it "requested specific files for the affected employees." The city said that it would comply only if forced to do so by a court order. In time, a Monterey County Superior Court issued that order, and the city finally complied.

So much for "transparency."

The grand jury report directs criticism toward an array of targets — long-time city employees who resisted change, Jason Stilwell and Susan Paul for their insensitivity to what Carmel is all about and for their abrupt manners in imposing change, "the politically active residents" who lacked any "real understanding of the difficult position the City was in," and The Pine Cone for being "biased" in its reporting of what

But it reserves its harshest criticism for the city council, concluding that "the actions of the mayor and city council appeared to place more importance on avoiding public criticism, unfavorable media exposure and the threat of litigation than on conscientious oversight and governance." The grand jury report chronicles the council's abdication of its "responsibility for inquiry and oversight" and says that when the long-termers and and the new administration clashed, "the council took no action and allowed a business problem to

Continues next page





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## **LETTERS**

From page 24A

jury to investigate the recent proceedings and ensuing fracas in Carmel. Coming from fundamentally different points of view, they sought the grand jury's objective insight.

The grand jury's findings are most interesting. Much of the negative publicity over the past few months fell on the shoulders of Mayor Jason Burnett and his council. The grand jury report made it clear that Sue McCloud's prior administration was responsible for creating the perfect storm for Burnett's council, for which they paid the price. For the record, her administration hired Jason Stilwell, not Burnett's.

Perhaps it is time to acknowledge that this city council and mayor were willing to step up and take responsibility for the events, which happened during the perfect storm. I hope all of us, given the same situation, would have acted as responsibly and with as much grace.

Maggie Hardy, Carmel Valley

## Vaccine Programs Work

State Sen. Bill Monning is a rare individual who both understands and stands with regular working people. He is an exceptional legislator, trusted by his diverse constituen-

Bill supports legislation requires children to be vaccinated before they can attend schools. Almost all public health officials and medical doctors also support this legislation, because they know that vaccination preventive programs are effective and require that almost all individuals be vaccinated.

Vaccination opponents fear that the vaccines cause childhood illnesses. Home schooling unvaccinated kids may solve the problem, but some parents cannot or will not do so. Rather, they have threatened recall efforts for any legislators who support the vaccination requirement for school admittance. Hopefully, the small anti-vaccination

contingent will not carry through on their recall threats.

As someone who well remembers when we kids could not swim in pools, ponds and lakes in the summer, and who had friends who ignored the warnings and suffered lifetime crippling illnesses, I know firsthand the relief that vaccines have brought to parents everywhere. We abandon mass vaccine programs at our peril.

John Dalessio, Carmel Valley

## Farr thinks for himself **Dear Editor:**

I must not have been the only one struck by the irony of Casey Lucius accusing Sam Farr of being more loyal to the Democratic Party leadership than to his constituents and of "following partisan dictates" during the very week when Congressman Farr was courageously demonstrating his independence on the national stage.

He was one of only 28 House Democrats daring to buck his party's leadership by voting for the Trans-Pacific trade pact and compensatory American-worker assistance. In this era of lockstep partisanship and polarization, all Peninsula voters should be proud that our representative can take principled, perceptive stands.

Russell Sunshine, Pacific Grove

#### Setting canine record straight Dear Editor

On June 5 our cavaliers were honored to be featured in Sandy Claws with a delightful article describing their sweet personalities.

I'd like to add a note about Baxter's life before he came to live with us. His former person was concerned that he was unhappy being home alone while she worked long hours. So she gave him to us, or actually, she gave him to Blossom, so that he would have a friend. And it's perfect! They are never apart!

I look forward to reading the Sandy Claws article each week. And it was a special treat to have our dogs featured.

Barbara Brooks, Carmel

## **SHAPIRO**

From previous page

escalate into a major public disruption." Also, "when the public pressure to remove Mr. Stilwell and Ms. Paul and to rehire previously terminated employees became overbearing, it appeared that the mayor and city council chose public appeasement over problem solving."

At the same time, the report gives the mayor and members of the city council a colorable excuse for their failures: They had no clue how to do their jobs.

"Managing local government is not easy because the issues are complex, resources are scarce, the media watches closely, and municipalities are governed with lengthy policies and municipal codes," the grand jury report notes. "All too often, new mayors and council members receive little more than on-the-job training to equip them for their

A "solution to this problem is provided by the League of California Cities" in the form of a two-and-one-half day "New Mayors & Council Members Academy" on city governance. The grand jury "requested information as to whether any Carmel elected officials had ever attended this 'Academy' training." The city didn't respond to that request, the grand jury said, but "information from the interviews suggests that none had ever attended the academy training."

While there are many flaws in the grand jury report, it captures some of the essence of what went wrong. Imported administrators, utilizing the sensitivity of Sherman's march through Georgia, attempted to impose on city workers and residents policy and procedure reforms necessary to bring Carmel's governance in line with cities like Santa Barbara, to make it more business-like. But they failed to understand that Carmel is not Santa Barbara, that it is a very small town populated with characters who unabashedly, and vociferously, offer and defend their opinions on almost any issue. It is slow to accept change. And when the inevitable clashes occurred, when we needed adults to deflate the conflict, those with the authority and mandate to do so were nowhere to be found.

The good news is that through it all, Carmel pretty much remained Carmel.

Neil Shapiro is a Monterey attorney.

## WILDE From page 25A

His wife came running over. She said, "Why did you let my husband swim out so

The captain said, "Ma'am, he ignored my warning. He could've been washed out to sea. It's lucky he's alive."
She said, "Well, I'm not a bit happy."

The captain said, "Lady, we saved your

"Yes," she said, "but you lost his bathing cap!"

See, that's the problem for a lifeguard. There's never a shark around when you really need one.

Carmel resident Larry Wilde is a former standup comedian and the author of 53 published books of humor. With sales over 12 million copies The New York Times has "America's Best-Selling called him Humorist." E-mail larry@larrywilde.com.

# **Betty Marie Aspinwall Patterson**

August 22, 1917 - June 17, 2015



Betty Marie Aspinwall Patterson passed away peacefully with family at her side on June 17, 2015 at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. She was two months shy of 98. Betty was preceded in death by her husband of more than 74 years, MacKenzie Carlin (Pat) Patterson, Sr. who died April 21, 2015. Betty and Pat had been recent residents of The Park Lane, Monterey. Previously, they had been residents of Carmel Highlands for 25 years and had also resided in: Belvedere, CA; Portola Valley, CA; and Greenwich, CT.

Born the fifth of six children at Grand Rapids, MI on August 22, 1917, Betty was the daughter of Asa Chester Aspinwall and Crystal Louretta Merrifield Aspinwall. Betty is survived by four sons: MacKenzie Carlin Patterson, Jr. of Carmel, CA; George Aspinwall Patterson of Santa Rosa, CA; Thomas Chester Patterson of El Cerrito, CA; Robert Barney Patterson of La Grange, CA; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Betty led an extraordinarily full and busy life as wife, mother, homemaker, traveler, adventurer, sailor, skier, artist, pilot, and life partner with Pat. Betty and Pat first met in high school and at age 23 they were married. They were partners in everything they did from raising four boys, to building several houses together, sailing adventures, ski trips, car trips, world travel, and flying their own plane around most of North America. With Pat's encouragement Betty got her private pilot's license at age 65 so that she could truly be Pat's co-pilot.

Betty was always the gracious hostess and to the end one could not be greeted in her home without the offer of food or drink.

Betty and Pat belonged to The Carmel Foundation where Betty's artistic side flourished. She found tremendous pleasure in her painting classes and art showings. Her numerous watercolor paintings will be cherished by her children and grandchildren as a reminder of her wonderful life.

A private memorial gathering will be held in the Fall.





James Duncan Farley died peacefully at home in Hobe Sound, Florida on June 19, 2015 after a progressive decline in health. Mr. Farley was born on June 24, 1926 to Alice Duncan Farley and Donald Stephen Farley in Chicago, Illinois. The eldest of six children, he was raised in Madison, Wisconsin where he graduated from Edgewood High School. In 1944, he entered the Merchant Marine Academy. He graduated from Georgetown University in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service. At Georgetown, he was a member of the Golf Team igniting a life-long passion for golf.

In 1950, Mr. Farley was hired as a trainee at the First National City Bank in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The bulk of his 40 year career at Citibank was spent in New York City where he retired in 1991, as a Vice Chairman. During his career, he was involved with the Mercantile Bank of Canada in Montreal, Canada, the Citibank New York State Branches, the Citibank Merchant Bank, and he was the head of corporate banking in Central and South America. He was the consummate New York City Banker in banking's heyday.

In 1960, James Farley married Mary Kay Tracy. The Farley's raised their four children in Greenwich, Connecticut. He served as a Trustee of International House, Manhattan College, Georgetown University, and the Anderson School of Business at UCLA. He was a Knight of Malta, and served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the John A. Hartford Foundation.

In 1991, Mr. Farley retired from Citibank and maintained residences in Hobe Sound, Florida, Harbor Point, Michigan and Pebble Beach, California. He remained active at the Hartford Foundation, on the Golf course and traveled the world. He was a member of the Cypress Point Club, the Los Angeles Country Club, the Lyford Cay Club, the Everglades Club, the Little Harbor Club, and the Question Club. He was a founding member of the Loblolly Pines Golf Club, and a Director of the Wequetonsing Golf Club and the University Club of New York.

He was predeceased by his wife Mary Kay Farley, a year ago, after 54 years of marriage. He is survived by his children Frances A. Farley, M.D. (Darryl J. Snabes), James D. Farley, Jr. (Cornelia Connor Farley), Kathryn T. Farley, PhD, and Andrew E. Farley. He is also survived by six grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters, two brother in laws, five sister in laws and thirty four nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Holy Childhood Church, Harbor Springs, Michigan, Georgetown University, and the Highland Cottage Hospice, Petoskey, Michigan

Funeral Mass is at Holy Childhood Catholic Church, 150 Main Street, Harbor Springs, Michigan at 11 AM, June 27, 2015. The family will greet friends at 10 AM at Holy Childhood Church. Burial will follow at the Holy Childhood Cemetery, Harbor Springs, Michigan. Funeral arrangements are through the Schiller Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at stonefuneralhomeinc.com

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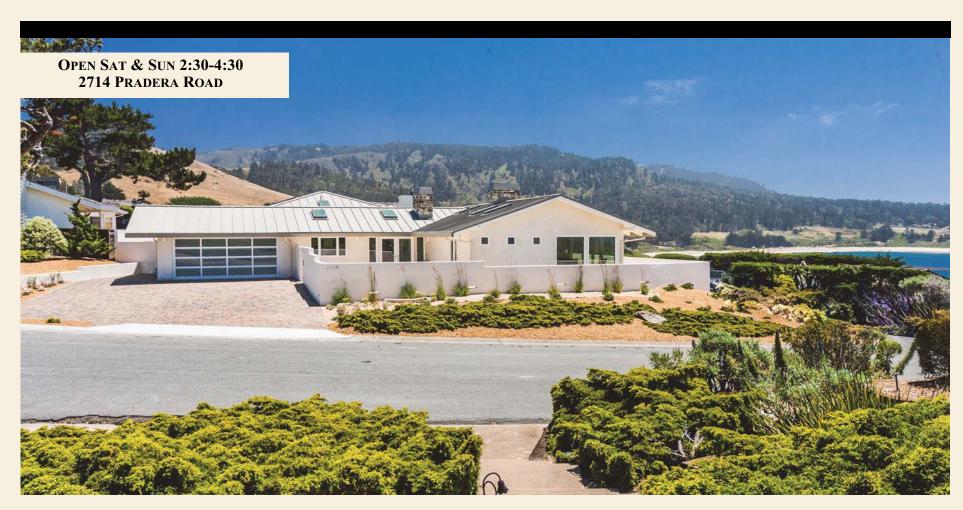
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