Cannery Row Antique Mall sells vendor spaces

By KELLY NIX

The Cannery Row Antique Mall on Wave Street is "condominiumizing" the building by offering vendor spaces for sale, some for as little as $3,400.

In very small type, the water district’s user fee is showing up on property tax bills this month, and the water board says it is moving quickly to spend the money on new water projects.

After the federal government cut $18 million in grants for water reliability projects Thursday, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District’s user fee is showing up on property tax bills.

The fee, which was approved in 1995, killing millions of tanbark oaks — and to a lesser extent, Death has devastated forests throughout the coastal mountains of California and Oregon since it was first reported in 1995, killing millions of tanbark oaks — and to a lesser extent, Death has devastated forests throughout the coastal mountains of California and Oregon since it was first reported in 1995, killing millions of tanbark oaks — and to a lesser extent, Death has devastated forests throughout the coastal mountains of California and Oregon since it was first reported in 1995, killing millions of tanbark oaks — and to a lesser extent, Death has devastated forests throughout the coastal mountains of California and Oregon since it was first reported in 1995, killing millions of tanbark oaks.

The Museum at Garland Ranch Regional Park will host a free class on the latest techniques in preventative treatment of Sudden Oak Death this Saturday, Oct. 20, of a free class on the latest techniques in preventative treatment of Sudden Oak Death this Saturday, Oct. 20, of a free class on the latest techniques in preventative treatment of Sudden Oak Death this Saturday, Oct. 20, of a free class on the latest techniques in preventative treatment of Sudden Oak Death this Saturday, Oct. 20, of a free class on the latest techniques in preventative treatment of Sudden Oak Death this Saturday, Oct. 20.

The Cannery Row Antique Mall manager Claudia McCord told The Pine Cone Tuesday. "It’s probably the first time something like this has ever been done."

Since it opened in 1994, the roughly 100 antiques and collectibles dealers in the two-story building have paid a monthly rent plus commission for their spaces. Now, those dealers have a chance to buy their own spaces or continue to rent from their new owners, if they decide to lease them out.

Of the mall’s 22,000 square feet, about 14,000 square feet of dealer space was converted to retail condeminiums and placed for sale beginning in August. Most of the rest of the building, such as aisles and stairwells, is common area.

So far, about a dozen dealers have spent about $1 million toward turning wastewater into drinking water, while another $900,000 are due. Water directors will start allocating the funds at the district’s Nov. 19 board meeting.

About $1 million of the fee is slated to pay for a project to turn wastewater into drinking water, while another $900,000 will be used to cover the administrative costs, according to the water district’s general manager Dave Stoldt told The Pine Cone Thursday.

About $3.7 million will be raised annually from the fee, with about half coming in December when property tax bills are due. Water directors will start allocating the funds at the district’s board meeting.

A bulky ballot

The phone calls and other public awareness efforts, including a discussion set for Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Cypress Inn, aim to educate voters not just about the tax and its benefits, but to point out the fact they should bother to find it buried among the propositions and other measures on the bulky ballot.

"The basic message I’m getting is that when people listen to the reasons why we put it on the ballot and the range of causes it will go toward, they buy and large support it,” he said.

"The problem is, there are a lot of propositions on the ballot, and Measure D is at the end of those.”

Monthly pension numbers clarified

When the Pine Cone published a story in August that included a long list of former local public employees who receive pension benefits from the state, it made some waves.

Many readers lauded the story, which was based on data obtained by the local employees, the records showing registered voters and spoke to just under 100, others to talk about the tax, and Burnett and others have disseminated their message in front of the post office, at coffees and during town hall meetings.

"The overwhelming majority of the voters we’ve talked to are in support of Measure D,” Burnett said.

A dozen volunteers spent Wednesday night at the mayor’s house calling registered voters and spoke to just under 100, he reported. More than half said they would vote for the tax, while most of the rest were undecided.

"But I can’t take those numbers and extrapolate to the whole population,” Burnett said. "We’re going to try to talk
Fashion-forward Fendi

She wanted a Westie and planned to name it Prada, as a nod to her fascination with the fashion industry and devotion to designer duds, but she fell in love with an 8-ounce Yorkshire terrier and decided she needed a more delicate name.

Three years later, the name Fendi still fits the tiny terrier. Although this one dog who refuses to be paraded around in a purse, she does ride in a canine buggy that’s fit for a queen.

Fendi’s family thought about getting two terriers until they learned two would probably bond with each other instead of them, which wasn’t the point. So, they doted on Fendi, and she became devoted to them.

In fact, Fendi has never been left alone. She is ferried to every function, café and market with her family. And, although she won’t hop into a handbag, she wears a wardrobe of designer apparel, including a Louis Vuitton coat for fall and Coco Chanel for winter.

During her standing appointment at the groomer,
Landscaper pleads guilty to several charges

By KELLY NIX

The LANDSCAPER who was charged with performing illegal work after he was caught during a sting operation in August pleaded guilty to felony and misdemeanor charges last week.

Secundino Munoz, 52, owner of Munoz Landscaping, was charged with a felony for fraudulent use of a contractor’s license, one misdemeanor count of failing to secure workers’ compensation insurance and a second misdemeanor of contracting without a license. He is set to be sentenced Nov. 27.

On Oct. 9, Munoz pleaded guilty to the charges in a Salinas courtroom. Fraudulent use of a contractor’s license has a penalty of up to three years in state prison and a fine of up to $10,000. Contracting without a license has a penalty of up to six months in jail and a fine of up to $5,000.

Munoz was arrested after a July 9 incident when Contractors State License Board investigator David Leary, following up on phone tips, went to a Carmel home and found Munoz and three of his employees using unsecured ladders placed on the roof of a house.

When Leary found out Munoz was not a licensed contractor yet advertised he was, he issued Munoz a notice to appear in a Salinas courtroom on a felony charge of “fraudulent use of an incorrect license number.” Munoz, according to the CSLB, had placed a phony license number on his business card. Leary also found Munoz did not have workers’ compensation insurance for his employees. He faces up to one year in jail and fines for the crime.

When Munoz didn’t appear in court July 27 to face the criminal charges, a $75,000 warrant was issued for his arrest. To capture him, the CSLB and the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office set up a sting. They called Munoz and requested he bid on a job. When the landscaper showed up, he was arrested by Marina police and housed in Monterey County Jail.

The Carmel homeowner said Munoz told her that he was licensed and insured and that “his prices were higher due to all the safety equipment needed for the job,” according to district attorney’s office.

From 2006 to 2008, Munoz tried to get licensed to do tree work but failed every exam, according to the CSLB.

State law requires a contractor’s license for all home-improvement contracts with a combined cost of more than $500 for labor and materials.
Suspicous vehicles

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Monterey Street resident stated that on or about Sept. 15 someone picked some fruit from his apple tree.

Pacific Grove: A vehicle in the Garland Park parking lot and took various items. This was discovered by the gardener while the resident was away. Information only.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Non-injury accident on private property on Torres Street.

Pacific Grove: Theft of fuel from a vehicle on Miles Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Subject transported to county jail for warrants. Subject’s property lodged at PGPD for safekeeping.

Pacific Grove: Argument on Jewell Avenue which led to one party using offensive words toward the other. No desire for prosecution.

Pacific Grove: Forest Avenue resident reported the theft of a painting from a mail tube.


Pacific Grove: A vehicle was entered and items were stolen while it was parked on Funston. No suspects at this time.

Pacific Grove: Resident reported that someone made unauthorized purchases on his credit card. Charges reported to credit company; no suspects.

Carmel Valley: Resident on Cachagua Road reported suspicious circumstances with her neighbor.

Carmel Valley: An unknown person smashed the window of a vehicle in the Garland Park parking lot and took various items.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop on Junipero for CVC violations at 0055 hours, and the 26-year-old male driver was arrested for DUI.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of found property on Carmelo Street.

Carmel Valley: A Carmel Valley man at Carmel Valley Road and Eddy Road was found to be DUI.

Pacific Grove: Officer was dispatched to Grove Acre on report of suspicious circumstance. Resident stated when her husband arrived home shortly after dark, he noticed the exterior lights were inoperable. When he checked the lights, he found that the lightbulbs had been unscrewed. Resident stated a review of her surveillance system showed an unknown male walking his dog into their driveway and walk back out approximately one minute later. She stated she believed the male subject was responsible for loosening the lightbulbs. She stated this is not the first occurrence of such suspicious circumstance. She provided a photograph of the male subject which was obtained from her surveillance system. Nothing further at this time.

Big Sur: Man found his friend deceased on Plaskett Ridge. Investigation continues with the coroner’s office.

Carmel Valley: A Carmel Valley man at Carmel Valley Road and Eddy Road was found to be DUI.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4
Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost cell phone in commercial district.

Pacific Grove: Contacted a subject sleeping in a vehicle on

See POLICE LOG page 6RE

Carmel Valley: Formerly of Salon d’Europe

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City Hall, Carmel Chamber of Commerce and Day of Event
HOT DOG LUNCH $5.00 (Sorry No Refunds)
For Information call 831.620.2020

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle towed from Eighth Avenue for being parked longer than 72 hours.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of theft of a pendant from an Ocean Avenue business.

Pacific Grove: Contacted a subject on Ocean View for parking after midnight. Identity came back as a deceased person. Mental status questionable. Transferred to CHOMP. Later identified as a subject wanted out of Fresno.


Pacific Grove: Driver collided with another driver’s vehicle while attempting to park behind him on Congress. He claimed that his brakes failed. Minor damage to both vehicles; no injuries.

Pacific Grove: Female reported that an unknown suspect had submitted a change of address on her and her mother’s bank accounts to a location out of state. Possible suspect information.

Pacific Grove: Male who resides out of state threatened ex-girlfriend via phone. Resident requested documentation only.

Pacific Grove: A male purchased hamburgers from a restaurant at Country Club Gate, then stole a “caution, wet floor” sign as he was leaving. The sign was valued at approximately $13.

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AFTER DEBATING where a remnant of the World Trade Center should be placed in Devendorf Park — and finally settling on a spot different than that favored by the citizens group donating the memorial — the Carmel City Council formally voted Oct. 2 to accept the gift that will honor those lost in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Graniterock is providing the boulder that will hold the memorial and the labor to install it in the park, and resident CarrieAnn (her full name), who procured the laptop-sized piece of steel from the New York City fire commissioner, is giving it to the city. Following a Sept. 11 ceremony at Devendorf Park, the steel was moved to the library’s Park Branch, where it will remain accessible to the public until it is placed in the park next year.

According to the proposal approved by the planning commission, the piece will be mounted on the rock so that it floats a couple of inches above the surface, and the stone will be engraved with the date of the attacks. In addition, the back of the steel will be etched with information about its origin and significance, lest it ever come detached from the base.

“The proposed base consists of a tan-colored boulder that is approximately 32 inches tall,” associate planner Marc Wiener said in his report for the council. “The intent is that the steel can be touched and interacted with.”

CarrieAnn argued for a location near the fish pond, separate from the park’s three war memorials and accommodating of large groups that might attend Sept. 11 ceremonies.

Keith Severson, marketing services manager for Graniterock, said his company is “pleased to continue the long tradition of community support and involvement by partnering with Carmel-by-the-Sea for its 9/11 memorial.”

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A quieter spot

She said the planning commission unanimously voted in favor of her preferred location, but following questions from city councilwoman Victoria Beach, Wiener said the commission was fairly ambivalent about its placement and therefore supported the citizens group’s request. Another option could be rejected by this, and we are all here to support you.”

A SERIES of state-level meetings that will allow the public to weigh in on California American Water’s proposed $370 million water project for the Peninsula will be held next week, including one in Carmel Valley.

The meetings — two in Seaside Oct. 25 and one at Rancho Cañada Golf Club on Oct. 24 — will give Peninsula residents the chance to tell the California Public Utilities Commission what issues should be addressed in the latest environmental document for the project.

“The scoping sessions provide an opportunity for the public to let the California Public Utilities Commission environment review team know what issues and alternatives they believe should be addressed in the EIR,” Cal Am spokeswoman Catherine Bowie told The Pine Cone. “It’s a key opportunity to ensure that whatever you want studied gets looked at and have your input considered in the permitting process.”

Water customers are also encouraged to ask questions about the project, either in person or by submitting letters or email messages to the CPUC, the agency crafting the environmental impact report.

Cal Am’s Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project includes a 9 million-gallon-per-day desalination facility in Marina and expanded water storage facilities. Cal Am is also considering pursuing a smaller 5.4 million-gallon-per-day desalination facility Pratuck that the boulder will hold the memorial and the labor to install it in the park, and resident CarrieAnn (her full name), who procured the laptop-sized piece of steel from the New York City fire commissioner, is giving it to the city. Following a Sept. 11 ceremony at Devendorf Park, the steel was moved to the library’s Park Branch, where it will remain accessible to the public until it is placed in the park next year.

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The Oct. 24 meeting at Rancho Cañada Golf Club, 4860 Carmel Valley Road, is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Two meetings at the Oldemeyer Center at 996 Hilby Ave. in Seaside will be on Oct. 25, the first at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., and the second from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
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The city council took the first formal step Oct. 2 toward restructuring the city’s $6 million pension debt by agreeing to hire an underwriter for the bonds it will sell to refinance the debt at an interest rate substantially lower than the current 7.25 percent.

Vice Mayor Ken Talmage said the new interest rate is expected to be “more than a 50 percent reduction” from the current rate and that the city’s “excellent credit rating” was one of the reasons.

If voters approve a sales tax increase Nov. 6 (see story page 1A), that credit rating could be even better.

The city’s bond consultants, Chick Adams and Craig Hill, received 126 pages of proposals from four investment banks interested in selling the bonds and reviewed them the weekend before the council meeting.

Hill reminded the council and the public the goals of refinancing the CalPERS debt is “to take advantage of lower market interest rates, restructure for a shorter amortization period, and/or restructure with level payments over a term that is financially viable to the city’s general operating budget.”

The consultants solicited proposals from five investment banks, one of which chose to pass on the opportunity. They asked for recent experience with similar refinancing, estimated market rates, approach to selling the bonds to the public or to a private institution, and fee structures. In the past, the council has indicated it favors a public offering over private placement, since the rates and costs are more competitive.

But where the eventual interest rate is concerned, Hill warned the council not to count its chickens too early.

“Given that the municipal market is in a state of constant movement, making a consideration based on stated interest rates in any proposal is erroneous,” Hill warned the council. “The market is expected to change before the city’s bonds would be sold in the market.”

The rest of the council ultimately decided to leave the length of a longer term and other details for a later discussion or cast a vote, as he has prior business dealings with Hill.

The proposals included costs and interest rates based on the term of the bonds, from 10 years to 21 years. The per-bond costs ranged from .54 percent to 1 percent, or $34,111 to $62,850 for a public sale, and estimated interest rates for a 10-year amortization ranged from 2.93 percent to 3.76 percent for a public offering. Rates were higher if the bonds would be sold to a private bank.

While council members have said they want the bond terms to be 10 years if a proposed sales tax increase, also with a 10-year term, is approved by voters Nov. 6, the bond consultants also explored a longer term of 21 years, in case the tax doesn’t pass. Interest rates for the longer term were estimated at 4.38 percent to 5.16 percent.

“The bids tell me this is what the market is really doing,” Hill said, as they were relatively close. “These numbers are a little hypothetical — these firms aren’t committed to these numbers — but we can assess these guys on how aggressive they are. Nobody’s just throwing darts at a wall.”

For the short-term, 10-year transaction, Hill said Raymond James Morgan Keegan “can provide the city with the lowest cost of funds for its pension obligation bonds.” He also said the firm has an active local retail sales force and established relationships with larger institutional investors.

Council members spent some time discussing what the term of the bonds should be if the sales tax doesn’t pass. Finding it would be “bad policy” to stretch the loan out over more than two decades.

No members of the public commented on the matter, and Mayor Jason Burnett did not participate in the discussion or cast a vote, as he has prior business dealings with Hill.

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The rest of the council ultimately decided to leave the length of a longer term and other details for a later discussion or unanimously voted to hire Raymond James Morgan Keegan as the underwriter.

**By MARY SCHLEY**

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PERSONAL / BUSINESS / COMMERCIAL / WEALTH MANAGEMENT
Cultural commission OKs ‘Light up a Life’

By MARY SCHLEY

The Community activities & cultural commission last week approved Heartland Hospice’s memorial to the elderly and their families proposed for Devendorf Park on Dec. 8.

At the Oct. 9 meeting, Heartland administrator Patrick Conners told commissioners about the Light up a Life remembrance, which invites “friends and families of loved ones who have been lost or are in the process of an advanced illness” to decorate paper bags that will contain small lights. A Hawaiian band, Selena and the Sea Monkeys, will perform.

“It’s quiet music — it’s amplified, but not too high,” he said. “She’ll be singing while they’re decorating, and then as the sun is setting, the friends and families will light the luminary bags, and she will sing, ‘Over the Rainbow,’ with a moment of silence afterward. It’s a very sweet event.” The lit luminary bags, known around the Southwest as luminaries, will be arranged around the park, and hot cider, coffee and cocoa will be served.

Conners said the City of Capitola hosted last year’s Light up a Life, and the mayor designated the day as Heartland Hospice Day. Heartland serves the elderly and dying in Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties, and its non-profit foundation is covering most of the costs.

“This is just a remembrance event,” he said. Commissioner Ruth Rachel asked about any potential liability problems, and Commissioner Donna Jett, who was reappointed to the group last month after a hiatus, said no street closures would be needed.

“On the basis of public awareness of the hospice movement, I think this is a reasonable event,” Parks said, and Jett added that having music in the park is always a benefit.

Commissioners unanimously approved the Dec. 8 Light up a Life remembrance.

City hall garden dedicated

Members of the Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club joined Mayor Jason Burnett outside city hall Oct. 5 to formally dedicate its overhauled garden to a former member, Connie Ridder, who died of cancer in the summer of 2011.

Her husband, Tony Ridder, formerly CEO of the Knight-Ridder newspaper publishing company, and his friends raised $175,000 to pay for a garden project in her honor, and he and his family took part in a ceremony that was attended by some 150 people, according to garden club member Hallie Mitchell Dow.

Landscape designer Michelle Comeau created the new garden, replacing not just plants but walkways, railings and other elements and creating a patio with benches and a fountain made from a large tree stump. A local artist made railings from wrought iron to represent tree branches, and new handicap-access ramps were laid. New irrigation systems and drainage were also installed, and city taxpayers contributed $25,000 to the effort.

The city hall garden marks the latest significant project by the club, which also undertook the redo of Piccadilly Park on Dolores Street and the overhaul of the garden outside Harrison Memorial Library, among other endeavors.
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Gold Bangles .................. up to $450  
Gold Charms .................. up to $200  
Gold School Rings .................. up to $250  
Gold Earrings .................. up to $150  
Gold Nugget Bracelets .................. up to $2,550  
Dental Gold .................. up to $250  
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Gold Pocket Watches .................. up to $2,500  

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The Crossroads Fall Celebration

Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 20 & 21

Enter to win a $250 Crossroads Gift Card at participating stores

We’re rolling out the red carpets just for you

ERICKA ENGELMAN COUTURE
Fall trunk show featuring local fiber artists & jewelry designers

NOTHING BUNDT CAKES
Free bundlet cards & free samples

KICHEL ECOLUXE
Sat 11-4, Intuitive healing sessions & Sun 1-4, Free makeovers by Vija Pure Mineral Makeup by appointment. Free SanRe gift bag with appointment or purchase.

SEA HARVEST FISH MARKET
Free calamari appetizer or shrimp cocktail with entrée

WOODYES OF CARMEL
Free gift with any purchase. Enter to win a Harvey’s Seat Belt Purse. Free gift wrapping.

TRAVEL BAG
Sat 11 AM, Packing demonstration & airport preparedness class, please call for reservations

LULA’S CHOCOLATES
10-40% off the entire store

PRO BEAUTY SUPPLY
Selected items 50% off

O SALON
10% off blowouts, 10% off new clients with Niki. Now offering manicures & pedicures.

SHE
Magaschoni Cashmere trunk show & 20% discount throughout the store

CAFÉ STRAYAGANZA
Complimentary dessert with lunch or dinner, Complimentary appetizer with proof of Crossroads store purchase.

CARMEL APPAREL COMPANY
Mini fashion showoff our latest fall collection

DERRA C CARMEL
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Select merchandise 50% off

THE UPS STORE
Free set of return labels or self-inking stamp with order of 100 Holiday Greeting cards

STEPHAN CORDI
Mini fashion showoff our latest fall collection

EUROPEAN JEWELERS
Prize drawings & delicious desserts

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FEE
From page 1A

will be earmarked for expanded water storage facilities.

Billing without a hitch

Stoldt said the first billing cycle is going smoothly and that the district's office received only about 20 phone calls from property owners opposed to the user fee. "That's not bad for 30,000 [property owners]," Stoldt said.

The fee appears on property tax rolls as "MPWMD-Water Supply Charge."

On Sept. 17, the water board voted 6-1 to reject a petition backed by the Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association and the Monterey County Association of Realtors that contained more than 4,000 signatures from property owners opposed to the user fee, voting instead to pursue a petition drive against the fee. But water district attorney Dave Laredo said the petition could be invalid, in part, because the Proposition 218 process allows initiatives, not referenda, to reduce or repeal local taxes, assessments or fees.

Citizens' group delayed

Meanwhile, Stoldt said the formation of a board to consider initiatives, not referenda, to reduce or repeal local taxes, assessments or fees.

Elections Office confirmed the taxpayers' association had gathered 4,136 valid petition signatures, more than enough to place a referendum on the ballot to try to overturn the fee. But water district attorney Dave Laredo said the petition could be invalid, in part, because the Proposition 218 process allows initiatives, not referenda, to reduce or repeal local taxes, assessments or fees.

"The board continued it for 60 days," Stoldt said. "So far, the Monterey County Hospitality Association, the Coalition of Peninsula Residents Association, the Carmel Chamber of Commerce, the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association, the Carmel Residents Association, the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and other groups have formed a Citizens' group to oppose the fee."

The MPTA board of directors met with the mayor and vice mayor of Carmel and listened to proposals about Measure D to call him at home at (831) 624-3252 or visit www.burneftorrent.com/Measure_D.

"As you can see, MPTA is, and has been, involved in the betterment of what the taxpayer gets for his money," he said.

BURNETT encouraged anyone with questions about Measure D to call him at home at (831) 624-3252 or visit www.burneftorrent.com/Measure_D.

Senior Health Care
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Who Pays and When?
Join us for a Panel Discussion Saturday, October 20th at 10:00 a.m.
Canterbury Woods
615 Sines Ave, Pacific Grove
RSVP Encouraged
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Donald Wilson Robinson, Jr.
December 26, 1934 ~ October 10, 2012

CARMEL – Donald “Don” Wilson Robinson, Jr. passed away on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 in Carmel, California. He lived in Carmel with his family for 48 years.

Don was born on December 26, 1934 in Sacramento, California and was raised in Placerville, California. He attended Placerville Elementary, El Dorado Union High School, UC Berkeley, and received his CPA education in San Francisco.

Don married his long-time best friend from kindergarten, Marla Robbirk Robinson on June 25, 1961. They have known one another 73 years and were married for 51 years. Don and Marla moved to Carmel in 1964 with their son, Jeffrey, and daughter, Jennifer.

Don worked for the Barlow, Davis and Wood CPA firm in San Francisco, was a CPA accountant in practice with the late Robert Work, and later with the late Anthony Crivello. Don retired in 2005.

Don was a JC, Monterey Elk, and belonged to the CPA Association of Monterey County. He played tennis and golf, and loved traveling to see his greatest dreams, Africa, Egypt, Europe and the Caribbean with his wife and children. He devoted his life to his family, friends, clients and his beloved dog, Gigi.

Don was a very gentle man, who is survived by his beloved wife, Marla; his son, Jeffrey, his daughter, Jennifer; his son-in-law, Christopher; his grand-daughter, Christina; his sister-in-law, Mary Robinson; and his niece, nephew and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother, Daisy Robinson, his father, Donald Robinson, Sr., and his beloved brother, Eugene Robinson.

The family wishes to thank his long-time caregiver, Leticia Ralda, as well as Nancy Roberts and the staff of Carmel Valley and Country Residential Care, the Parkinson’s Clinic in Santa Clara, Hospice of the Central Coast, Dr. Kuhl, Dr. Roostra, and Dr. Kajikuri for their devoted care throughout the years.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, October 20, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at The Paul Mortuary Chapel, 390 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA. At a later date, inurnment will take place at El Carmelo Cemetery, Pacific Grove.

Donations may be made to the Parkinson’s Clinic in Santa Clara, 675 Almanor Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085 or to The SPCA for Monterey County, PO Box 3058, Monterey, CA 93942.

Please visit www.thepaulmortuary.com to sign Don’s online guest book and to leave condolences for his family.

MERLE COLEGATE MURPHY

Merle Colegate Murphy passed away peacefully on October 8, 2012 at the age of 91. He was born in Centralia, Washington. He had three sisters who predeceased him.

He is survived by two daughters, Judy (Jerry) Garner and Kathleen (Michael) Sheldon, and three grandchildren, Jared and Julia Garner and Kathleen (Michael) Sheldon.

Merle served in the Army in both the European and the Pacific Theaters of World War II. After an Honorable Discharge, he moved to Washington, D.C. in 1960. In the early 1950’s he got his General Building Contractor’s License and had a life-long career in construction. Later in his life, he also became a licensed Real Estate Broker. Merle was known for his quality workmanship and as a hardworking man.

In the 1960’s and 1970’s he entered his homemade breads in the Monterey County Fair and won many awards over the years.

Anyone wishing to make any contributions in Merle’s name could contribute to any Veterans’ organization or a charity of their choice.

There will be a gathering of friends and family on October 28, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Grant Hall at All Saints Episcopal Church on Dolores and 9th Avenue in Carmel.

TAX
From page 1A
to over 1,000 voters, so we have more work to do," Burnett said voters’ support, as well as that of the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association, the Carmel Residents Association, the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and other groups, is in part due to the work the council has done over the past 10 years to help the city’s financial stability.

“The city council took action starting a decade ago and has made a consistent, concerted effort toward cutting costs,” he said. Increased marketing and the creation of a fee-driven hospitality improvement district, solicitation of grants and major gifts, fundraising, public-private partnerships and other efforts have boosted revenues for the city.

Nonetheless, deferred maintenance needs are growing, and services are increasingly expensive. The city has routinely had to use money from reserves to balance the budget, and while its savings accounts are healthy, “we cannot sustain the current quality of service through drawing from reserves, because that’s inherently unsustainable,” Burnett pointed out.

Finally, he asked, does Carmel want to compete for business based on the fact it’s got the lowest sales tax rate on the Monterey Peninsula, or does it want to operate by offering a “high-quality experience for visitors and residents, alike?” When put in those terms, he said, most people prefer the latter.

“The other thing that makes sense for voters is this is returning the sales tax to where it was two years ago,” he said. Before the statewide sales tax dropped from 8.25 percent to 7.25 percent. “And 100 percent of the revenues from Measure D will stay right here in Carmel-by-the-Sea to benefit the community,” Rom Pasquinelli, head of the MPTA, explained his group’s support of the tax measure. It has favored three tax measures in the past five years, including Carmel’s, and has recommended people vote their conscience on several others.

“The MPTA board of directors met with the mayor and vice mayor of Carmel and listened to proposals about Measure D to call him at home at (831) 624-3252 or visit www.burneftorrent.com/Measure_D.

"As you can see, MPTA is, and has been, involved in the betterment of what the taxpayer gets for his money," he said.

BURNETT encouraged anyone with questions about Measure D to call him at home at (831) 624-3252 or visit www.burneftorrent.com/Measure_D.
But McCord said “condominiumizing” the building is largely seen as a saving grace for the antique mall, which opened in 1994 but has struggled since it was purchased by Wave Street Partners in January 2008.

At that time, the investment group wanted to ditch the antique mall and turn the space into professional condominiums. But not long after it bought the mall, the economy went bust and the idea of selling business space wasn’t feasible.

The monthly collection of rent from dealers within the mall was barely enough to allow Wave Street Partners to cover debt service for the building.

But Glen Yonekura, managing partner for the group, came up with the idea of selling off the vendor spaces — which appears like they do now, with no added walls or partitions separating the spaces.

The City of Monterey approved the arrangement in May 2012.

“Each space has an APN [assessor’s parcel number],” McCord said. “A surveyor came in and surveyed all of it and created a unit number” for the spaces.

While some dealers have decided to take a wait-and-see approach in terms of purchasing their space, real estate broker John McCormack, owner of JNM Company, said most of the dealers in the mall have been receptive of the idea.

“There were those who were hesitant because proof of the concept needed to be done,” McCormack said. “But now that we have translated [the spaces] into actual sales, people are starting to realize this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Dueling instrumentalists at Sunset kick off ‘Season of the Piano’

Paying tribute to one of the most popular of all musical instruments, the Monterey Symphony kicks off its “Season of the Piano” — as well as its 67th season — when it performs Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 20-21, at Sunset Center.

Under the guidance of conductor Max Bragado-Darman, the symphony’s first concert of the season showcases the talents of pianists John O’Conor and Heidi Hau.

This weekend’s concerts mark the sixth time O’Conor has performed with the symphony. Often cited as the greatest living interpreter of Beethoven’s music — he has recorded the legendary composer’s entire repertoire — the Irish-born pianist has been decorated by the governments of France, Austria, Italy, Poland and Japan.

A protege of O’Conor’s, Hau is the founding artistic director of Stanford University’s Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition. A winner of the Carmel Music Society’s instrumental competition in 1998, she is making her first appearance with the symphony.

Accompanied by Hau, the symphony will open this weekend’s concerts with Haydn’s Keyboard Concerto No. 11 in D Major, Hob.XVIII/11. Next, O’Conor will join the symphony for a rendition of Irish composer John Field’s Piano Concerto No. 1 in Eb Major, H.27.

After an intermission, the symphony will perform Mozart’s Symphony No. 35 in D Major, K.385, “Haffner” and his Concerto No. 10 in E-flat Major, for Two Pianos, K.365. O’Conor and Hau will join the symphony on the second piece, which will close the concert.

A free pre-concert lecture will be offered an hour before each performance.

Saturday’s concert starts at 8 p.m., while Sunday’s matinee begins at 3 p.m. Tickets range from $28 to $78, with discounts available for students and groups. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Nineth. Call (831) 646-8511 or visit montereysymphony.org.

The “Heart of the Highland”

Mamontzi Vineyards is only six focused acres. Here, the family’s hands-on winemaking and time-honored techniques combine to craft elegant, limited, award-winning releases.

In the Highlands and Carmel
Our two tasting rooms offer exceptional hospitality. Whether “At the Source” or in charming Carmel-by-the-Sea, visitors will have the opportunity to sample our newest releases and rare vintages.
EXPATRIATE KNITTING MASTER RETURNS TO BIG SUR WITH NEW BOOK

By CHRIS COUNTS

FORTY-FOUR YEARS after picking up his first knitting needle, Kaffe Fassett — who has revolutionized knitting with his generous and creative use of color — returns to Big Sur this weekend with his new autobiography, “Dreaming in Color.”

Fassett will sign copies of the book Monday, Oct. 22, at the Phoenix Shop from noon to 2 p.m., and at Nepenthe restaurant from 3 to 5 p.m.

The event marks a homecoming for Fassett, who spent much of his childhood just a few steps away from Nepenthe, which was founded by his parents, Bill and Lolly Fassett, in 1949.

Surrounded during his youth in Big Sur by a colorful cast of artists, actors, dancers, poets and writers, Fassett grew up in an environment where creativity was encouraged — and discipline rarely prevailed.

“...there, it absolutely felt like home,” he recalled.

By moving to Europe, Fassett was not only pursuing his dreams of travel, but he was also following in the footsteps of his great-grandmother — the painter, Jane Gallatin Powers — who left Carmel in 1920 to pursue her creative ambitions abroad, eventually settling on the Italian island of Capri.

From novice to visionary

Over the next four decades, Fassett established himself as a visionary in the art of hand knitting. The subject of countless articles and interviews, the artist even hosted a six-part television series on his work.

Fassett’s one-of-a-kind designs earned him a devoted following among collectors, including celebrities like Barbra Streisand, Lauren Bacall, Ali McGraw, Shirley MacLaine, and many others.

Fassett had hoped to make it as a painter in England, but success in that medium eluded him there. As a result, he traveled to New York in 1968, where his paintings were more favorably received.

But another event happened in 1968 that dramatically altered Fassett’s focus on painting.

“I met a fashion designer who was just about to launch a line,” he said. “...we found the most beautiful knitting yarns. I learned to knit on the way back to England. I couldn’t believe how thrilling it was to make a piece of fabric. From then on, I poured all my energies into textiles.”

New band, familiar faces make debut at Plaza Linda

By CHRIS COUNTS

SERVING UP a blend of bluegrass, Americana and acoustic “roots music,” a new local band, Scarlett Road, makes its debut Friday, Oct. 19, at Plaza Linda restaurant in Carmel Valley Village.

“This band called and asked if I would come to their rehearsal, and since they are locals, I went and checked it out,” local music promoter Kiki Wow told The Pine Cone.

“Boy, was I surprised — you will absolutely love this delightfully scrumptious band,” local music promoter Kiki Wow told The Pine Cone.

When he’s not playing music, Wittpenn can often be found at his downtown shop, Wittpenn’s Antiques. Moore, meanwhile, is a gifted singer who once opened for Willie Nelson. And Clark has been a member of the Cachagua Players since the group was founded two decades ago.

The following evening — Saturday, Oct. 20 — touring New Zealand singer-songwriter and fingerpicking guitarist Brett Hallam Holland celebrates his birthday by playing an original mix of jazz, blues and pop at Plaza Linda.

Both shows start at 7 p.m. and there’s a $10 cover. Plaza Linda is located at 27 E. Carmel Valley Road. Call (831) 659-4229 or visit www.plazalinda.com.

Marks on lead guitar; Dean Chapman on harmonica; Tamila Macklin-Swanson on bass, Bill Rawson on banjo; and Patrick Clark on fiddle and guitar.

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Classic rockers at All Saints festival

From 1960s psychedelic blues rockers to 1980s dance party favorites, The Wharf Rat’s play classic rock Saturday, Oct. 20, at All Saints’ Day School’s annual Fall Festival in Carmel Valley.

Based in Monterey, the Wharf Rats’ lineup includes Matt Bosworth on vocals and guitar, “Billy Ray” Cleverger on lead guitar, Nancy Jones on vocals, Craig Varjian on bass, and Rod Wilson on drums.

In addition to the Wharf Rats, two bands comprising All Saints’ Day School students perform at the festival. The event features a wide variety of games, arts and crafts, prizes, pony rides and a haunted house. The festival starts at 11 a.m. Tickets are $20. The school is located at 8060 Carmel Valley Road. Visit www.ands.org.

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SINCE ITS launch a few years ago, the Big Sur Food & Wine Festival has had a con-
genial feel that sets it apart from other culi-
nary gatherings. Founder Toby Rowland-
Jones has always emphasized the fact that the chefs and wineries who participate are friends, whether of his personally, or of the Big Sur community at large, or both.
This year, that element remains true, even as the festival reaches new heights with the corporate hospitality and support of the Highlands Inn, the Post Ranch Inn, and even Lexus.
“People have said we are a world-class even, but this really propels us into a whole new level, having the prestige of the Hyatt Carmel Highlands and the Post Ranch,” he said this week.
The BSF&W is unique among food-and-
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aries, tastings and parties, but winmaker...
The recent openings of several new tasting rooms in Carmel Valley Village prompt-ed seven of them to band together to orga-nize events and better market themselves.

Led by Nick Elliot of Holman Ranch, which occupies one of the tasting rooms at 19 E. Carmel Valley Road — the informal group is calling itself the East End Wine Row and also includes Silvestri, Cima Collina, Parishone, Chesebro, Joyce and Dawn’s Dream. All are located in the old White Oak dairy barn and the stretch of storefronts that also includes Taqueria del Valle and Plaza Linda.

“We have the addition of Plaza Linda in the old Volcano Grill, we are fully stacked,” Elliot said. “I’m so glad Plaza Linda was able to take over down there — it’s so good for this end of the Village.”

The EEWR grew out of a larger meeting of the valley’s 18 tasting rooms last March.

“It was just a little bigger than people had wanted, so shortly after that meeting, the seven families here in White Oaks started talking,” he said. “It made sense for us to do something together.”

Last month, they developed the idea of a holiday event they will jointly host Dec. 8, Holiday Taste of Wine Row.

“We came up with the date, and then it was that we really need to collab-orate who has the original idea, and he certainly sold us on this type of idea, and he certainly sold us on this type of event,” he said. “Making it holiday focused definitely made holiday sense, as well.”

From 1 to 5 p.m., ticket holders will taste wine, sample small bites from C.V. restaurants and explore the EEWR tasting rooms.

They can also support Voices for Children — CASA of Monterey County, which will be collecting holiday gifts for its “store,” who in kids without other means can select presents for their families. The nonprofit helps abused and neglected children navigate the courts. Bring an unwrapped gift for a child or adult, male or female, to receive a a ticket.

Attendees will gather in the restaurant’s brand new Barrel Room to pick up their drink tickets and a party bag, and then go on to taste chef Cy Yontz’s tequila-cured salmon, Sonoma goat cheese croustade with chipo-tle-maple-honey, BBQ duck tamales.

As for the cocktails, bartenders will be mixing blood orange margarita and Mojitos, and the Spa Treatment, described as “a super-refreshing cucumber-gin cocktail,” will be passed all evening.

Reservations for the fiesta are required and cost $95 per person, including tax and tip. For more information, call (831) 625-5436 or go to www.nisgrill.com.

The Salinas Valley Food and Wine Festival, a free event held on several blocks in Oldtown from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, will offer live music on four stages, cooking demonstrations, a “Vegetable Olympics,” cultural acts, and lectures from notable beer and wine experts.

Some 150 vendors will line six blocks and offer food tasting, while adult guests are invited to purchase tickets for $40 in advance or $50 the day of the festival in order to sip samples from the nearly 50 participating wineries and 30 breweries.

To learn more, visit www.salinasvalleyfoodandwine.com.

### Event Details
#### Fiesta time
Rio Grill in the Crossroads will hold its final Flavor Education Series event of the year in the form of a Southwest Fiesta Saturday, Oct. 20, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Attendees will gather in the restaurant’s brand new Barrel Room to pick up their drink tickets and a party bag, and then go on to taste chef Cy Yontz’s tequila-cured salmon, Sonoma goat cheese croustade with chipotle-maple-honey, BBQ duck tamales.

As for the cocktails, bartenders will be mixing blood orange margarita and Mojitos, and the Spa Treatment, described as “a super-refreshing cucumber-gin cocktail,” will be passed all evening.

Reservations for the fiesta are required and cost $95 per person, including tax and tip. For more information, call (831) 625-5436 or go to www.nisgrill.com.

#### Cima Collina Harvest
Wine tasting, dinner, dancing — and rides to the winery’s Hilltop Ranch Estate vine-yard with Tractor Pete — are on tap for Cima Collina’s 9th Annual Harvest Party Saturday, Oct. 20, from 1 to 5 p.m. at its new tasting room at 19-A East Carmel Valley Road in Carmel Valley Village. Hilltop Ranch, where Cima Collina’s Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris grapes are organically farmed, is open to the public just once a year during the harvest party.

Monterey Cookhouse will provide the wood-fired dishes paired with Cima Collina’s wines, while the Long Distance Demons will provide the music.

Dinner will include Sonoma goat cheese croustade with chipotle-maple-honey, BBQ duck tamales. A salsa bar will feature three different condiments, as well as tacos, and the dessert table will be decked out with cookies, roasted banana cake and lemon bars.

Cooking demonstrations will focus on empanadas and BBQ duck tamales. As for the cocktails, bartenders will be mixing blood orange margarita and Mojitos, and the Spa Treatment, described as “a super-refreshing cucumber-gin cocktail,” will be passed all evening.

Reservations for the fiesta are required and cost $95 per person, including tax and tip. For more information, call (831) 625-5436 or go to www.nisgrill.com.
NOTICE OF PETITION TO IMPROVE PROPERTY OF ROBERT NEAGLE FORREST

Case Number MP 20087

Address: Monterey County, California

Monterey, CA 93940

A Request for Special Notice (Form 1250) has been filed by CLAUDIA LORENA CHICKAYAW, the personal representative of the estate of ROBERT NEAGLE FORREST, aka HARLOW GORDON STIMSON, to establish the fact, time, and place of the death of Harlow Gordon Stimson. Petitioner, CLAUDIA LORENA CHICKAYAW, has filed a petition and a Request for Special Notice, consisting of a declaration as provided by Section 16084 of the California Probate Code. Pursuant to Section 16085, the probate court will hold a hearing on the petition at the Monterey County Superior Court, 1250. A Request for Special Notice (Form 1250) was filed with the court on Oct. 19, 2012. A hearing on the petition will be held At the Monterey, CA 93940.

The name, address and telephone number of the personal representative of the estate of ROBERT NEAGLE FORREST, aka HARLOW GORDON STIMSON, is:

CLAUDIA LORENA CHICKAYAW

Located at: Monterey, CA 93940

File No. 20101983

A—hearing and state your objections or request a hearing.

Address: Superior Court of California for the County of Monterey, 1250. A Request for Special Notice (Form 1250) was filed with the court on Oct. 19, 2012. A hearing on the petition will be held At the Monterey, CA 93940.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IS TO BE HELD ON:

Monterey, CA 93940

A—hearing and state your objections or request a hearing.

Address: Superior Court of California for the County of Monterey, 1250. A Request for Special Notice (Form 1250) was filed with the court on Oct. 19, 2012. A hearing on the petition will be held At the Monterey, CA 93940.

The name, address and telephone number of the personal representative of the estate of ROBERT NEAGLE FORREST, aka HARLOW GORDON STIMSON, is:

CLAUDIA LORENA CHICKAYAW

Located at: Monterey, CA 93940

File No. 20101983

A—hearing and state your objections or request a hearing.

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**FOOD**

From page 15A

at 25 Soledad Drive in Monterey, the tea room will kickstart a fundraiser for Voices for Children—CASAA, with 10 percent of its sales donated to the nonprofit between Oct. 20 and the end of the month.

During the open house, guests will learn more about E&M’s new offerings while sampling tea sandwiches, Karen Anne’s granola parfaits and cupcakes. The rest of the time, the tea room is open by reservation only. For more information about it or the anniversary party, contact owner Karen Anne Murray at (831) 393-9479 or visit www.eddisonandmelrose.com.

’Tis the season for Sweet Elena’s

Sweet Elena’s Bakery and Café in Sand City is celebrating October’s festivities with handmade Halloween cookies in the shapes of ghosts and pumpkins, and pumpkin cheesecake. Located at 465 Dr. Olympia Ave. in Sand City, Sweet Elena’s is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (831) 393-2063 or see www.sweetelenas.net.

Pappardelle alla Bolognese

Cantinetta Luca, located on Dolores Street south of Ocean Avenue in Carmel, will host a class Thursday, Oct. 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in which a handful of fortunate students will learn to make the restaurant’s beloved Pappardelle alla Bolognese. Executive chef Jason Balestrieri will teach his guests how to make great dough using different types of pasta machines, as well as the proper cooking times and procedures. He’ll also share the recipe for the restaurant’s popular meat-based tomato sauce.

The cost is $50 per person, plus an 18 percent service fee and tax, and reservations can be made by calling (831) 625-6500. See cantinettaluca.com to learn more.

Pollan to talk in Santa Cruz

Michael Pollan, who has written extensively on eating in America, including the bestselling books, “In Defense of Food” and “The Omnivore’s Dilemma,” will join a panel discussion in the Santa Cruz High School auditorium Thursday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. During the Every Body Eats event, which will benefit the Homeless Garden Project, Pollan will join a panel of local food experts to discuss “how to break down the barriers between all people and good local food,” according to organizers.

Pollan will talk about his recent book, “Illustrated Food Rules,” and John Robbins, author of “Diet for a New America” and “The New Good Life,” will serve as moderator. Panelists include Rhone Ranger and biodynamic vintner Randall Grahm; Jamie Smith, senior manager of food services and nutrition with the Santa Cruz City schools; Swanton Berry Farm founder Jim Cochran, who started the state’s first organic strawberry farm; Homeless Garden Project executive director Darrie Ganzhorn; and marine biologist Dr. Wallace J. Nichols.

The Santa Cruz High School auditorium is located at 415 Walnut Ave., and the doors will open at 7 p.m. Tickets are $12 for students and $18 for adults. To purchase tickets, visit everybodyeats.eventbrite.com.

Medicare topic of Foundation talk

TAMARA MCKEE of Alliance on Aging will speak about updates to Medicare at The Carmel Foundation Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 2:30 p.m. The talk will take place in Diment Hall and will address the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program to provide an overview of Medicare in 2013. The presentation is free. For more information, call (831) 620-8705 or email aalbano@carmelfoundation.org.

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In recognition of Carmel Chamber of Commerce businesses that excel in quality service and/or products, practice the highest business ethics, foster a beautiful environment and exemplify enlightened customer service and staff relations.

Nominate your favorite Carmel Chamber member business, organization or service by circling one line for each 2011 category. Businesses excluded in “Business of the Year” are:

- 2011 category winners
- A.W. Shucks Cocktail & Oyster Bar

Mail to: Carmel Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 4444, Carmel, CA 93921
Or deliver to: Carmel Visitor Center, Santa Barbara Ctwn bltn. 5th & 6th

2011 Nomination Form

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Out 19 - A Jewelry Affaire opens at Joining Hands Benefit Shop, continuing through the weekend. Catered reception, 4 - 6 p.m. Discover a treasure from our selection of jewelry, evening attire and accessories! Your purchase supports transplant and emergency housing in the community. 26358 Carmel Ranch Lane. (831) 293-2660.

Out 19 & 20 - Plazainda Recupero & Contina presents Fashion on the Patio this month. Oogie Dinning. 2 - 4 p.m. day! Bring your friends and their pooches out to the sun for Chicken or Beef & Rice bowls ($4.95) while you sip and enjoy the sun. Live Entertainment this Friday, 10/19 a Scalll Road (Bluegrass/Americana) at 7 p.m.; Sat., 10/20 Brett Hallon Huldan (Guitarist/Songwriter on Tour) at 7 p.m. $10 donations appreciated. www.plaza-inda.com.


Out 20 - Under the baton of Music Director and Conductor Max Bragado-Darman, Monterey Symphony opens its 67th Season. Season performances will take place at Sunset Center, Nehb and San Carlos, Oct. 20, 8 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 21, 3 p.m. Tickets $28/$78. For additional information, please call (831) 646-8551 or visit our website www.moneystromony.org.

Out 20 - 4 A San! Sea Day! School Bell Festival! Fun for the whole family! Games and Tallies, Great Food, Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Haunted House, and Handmade Craft. Live music performed by the Wheel Rat and our own AHS Student Band. Free Entry, Games and attractions require wristband. $20 for all day. Children 3 and under play for free. Saturday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 8060 Carmel Valley Road. (831) 624-9175.

Out 20 - The Big Sur Coast Gallery is celebrating its 6 Big Sur legends: Joni Vandersande and James Hamilton own the Big Sur Coast Gallery for an extraordinary and rare opportunity to meet local sculptors Vandersande and Hamilton and view their gallery exhibits. Saturday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Big Sur Coast Gallery, 4991 Hwy 1, Big Sur (831) 657-2203, www.bigsurcoastgallery.com, info@bigsurcoastgallery.com.


Out 20 - Calling All Wranglers! Imagine spending the day working on your writing with acclaimed poet & workshop leader Martha Akenson. You'll leave this workshop with a Plot Planner customized for your novel, memoir or screenplay. Sponsored by Central Coast Writers, Saturday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monterey Peninsula College. Sign up at www.centralcoastwriters.org.

Out 20 & 21 - Monterey Home Garden and Gourmet Days at the Monterey County Farmgrounds. Saturday, Oct. 20; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Remodeling ideas from local business, gourmet food and wine tasting. Free admission and parking. Show entrance at Gate 3. Enter to win $25,000. www.moneystromonkeycountrystatefarm.org.

Out 21-26 - An Artist’s Retreat with Anna Rhodes, hosted by Cypress Inn and Veggies & Hens. A culinary experience from the very beginning of the art-making process to the end. (e.g. finding agents), writing presentations, success stories, QA & Presenters: longtime food/property photographer & professional writer Patrick Hamilton. Cost $10. No pre-registration needed. Question? (831) 635-1233.

Out 27 - Post Oak Theatre’s Annual Fundraising Gala, De Waekled and De Whipped. Saturday, Oct. 27, at a private venue in Pebble Beach, 6-10 p.m. Enjoy fine wines, dinner, dancing, live entertainment, and fantasy auctions. Tickets are $135. For more information, visit www.pstheatre.org or call (831) 622-0100.

Out 27 - Celebrate CarmelbytheSea’s 96th Birthday at our Annual Party and Halloween Parade. Saturday, Oct. 27, 11 a.m. Hot Dog Lunch noon to 1 p.m. at Sunset Center. $5. Tickets for lunch available at City Hall, Carmel Chamber of Commerce and on day of event. (831) 620-2020.

Out 27 - Garlic Vineyards 2012 Harvest Open House. Come on out and enjoy great wine and fabulous food, live music with Sierra Gold, and a wonderful day! Tickets are $10 per person and advance at $12 [at the door]. For reservations call (831) 625-2683.

Out 31 - St. Mary’s by the Sea Bell Book Sale. Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Mary’s Edwards Hall, 126 Central Avenue, Pacific Grove.

Out 27 - BBQ fundraiser for Senior Transportation - Carmel Valley Community Park, 12-4 p.m. The benefit Independent Transportation Network Monterey County Wine, beer, BBQ, Live Music, Silent Auction. Free admission. (831) 233-3447 info@mcvtran.org.

Now 2 - Opening Reception Exhibit and Book Launching “Voyancing Voices, Fading Traditions” - Documenting native cultures in Mesoamerica by local photjournalist Marianne Mangold. Four expeditions in Central America were guided by a deep belief that authenticated documentation of vanishing traditional cultures is vital for the children of tomorrow for a better understanding of indigenous heritage and cross-cultural appreciation in all who recognize the importance of ancient wisdom. Friday, Nov. 2, 5 - 9 p.m. National Steinbeck Center, 1850 Central Ave., Salinas, CA 93901.

Now 7 - Carmel Valley Women’s Club will feature a talk by Dr. Richard Kazanis at its Nov. 7 luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Plaza Linda, 9 Del Fino Place, Carmel Valley. Professor and Senior Program Coordinator of the Pomona Institute, he will speak on the institute’s programs and current issues. $35 per person. Call (831) 659-9404 to reserve.

Now 17 - Reading the Carmel Valley Library invites you to the 11th Annual Wine Juror’s Taste-Off judges for the annual Wine & Food Festival on Thursday, Nov. 17, 5:30 p.m. with Rich Tangori, Master WineMaker of Keller Estate Winery as Master of CeremoniesTickets must be purchased in advance at the library or Casa Del Soul in the Village. For information, call (831) 659-2377.

Wordless film comes to Henry Miller Library

AN UNCONVENTIONAL documentary with dazzling imagery and riveting insights, screening Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Henry Miller Library in Big Sur. Filmed in connection with a five-year span, “Samsara” explores the stark contrasts between the nature and industry, as well as the sacred and secular worlds. Shohtung: 7:30 for the film, 9:30 for the After Party.

MOVIEGOERS are encouraged to dress warmly. The library is located on Highway 1 about 2 miles south of Carmel. Call (831) 624-2680 or visit www.henrymiller.org.
OAKS

From page 1A

spread out over 54,000 acres throughout 14 counties in California. A study last year — which surveyed the same areas — identified 38,000 dead trees spread out over 8,000 acres.

The survey identified Carmel Valley as one of several locations throughout the state where an “urban outbreak” of Sudden Oak Death appeared.

According to Katie Palmieri, a spokesperson for the California Oak Mortality Task Force, 689 bay laurels in Carmel Valley were examined this spring and 185 trees sampled showed signs of a potential oak death infection. Bay laurels are tested because they can easily spread the disease but are mostly unaffected by it. The samples were sent to a lab, and 69 trees were determined to be carrying the disease. Palmieri said that number represents “about a 15 to 20 percent increase in positive samples since 2008 for the Carmel Valley region.”

The vast groves of live oaks that blanket the north-facing hillsides of Carmel Valley have been largely unaffected by Sudden Oak Death. “Live oaks are fortunately one of the more resistant species,” Palmieri explained. “They’re getting hit, but not at the same rate.”

Tanbark oaks, on the other hand, have been hit particularly hard by Sudden Oak Death. “They’ve been totally hammered by it,” she said.

While tanbark oaks exist in Carmel Valley, they don’t seem to be as common there as they are in Big Sur. Countless thousands of tanbark oaks — generally taller and straighter than their live oak cousins — have died along the coastal canyons of Big Sur, leaving large swaths of standing or fallen dead trees and providing highly combustible fuel for wildfires, such as the Basin Complex Fire, which burned more than 160,000 acres in 2008.

But the arrival of the disease is no longer a death sentence for trees. “Precautionary steps won’t save every tree, but about 80 percent will be protected if a regimen is followed,” Palmieri said.

One of the most efficient ways to protect oaks is to trim bay laurels that are nearby and remove their saplings. Palmieri suggested creating a 5-meter break between oaks and laurels.

If you live within a half-mile of an existing outbreak, Palmieri suggested treating your oak trees with Agri-Fos, a fungicide that has proved effective against it.

“Agri-Fos can be applied topically or injected,” Palmieri explained. “It boosts trees’ ability to ward off invasive fungus.”

While scientists have developed a much greater understanding about Sudden Oak Death since its discovery in California 17 years ago, Matteo Garbelotto, an oak researcher from the University of California at Berkeley, said he understands how unsettling it can be for residents who live in a community where an outbreak has been detected.

“Whenever you are dealing with populated areas, concerns over failing trees potentially harming people or property, as well as the loss of property value and aesthetics, it can be very challenging,” he added.

Carmel reads The Pine Cone
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2012
3:00 – 5:00 PM
RIO GRILL
Santa Fe Room at The Crossroads, Carmel

Prior to co-founding The Global Freedom Center, Kelly was Senior Counsel at the U.S Department of State, Office To Monitor & Combat Trafficking In Persons.

- Estimated 27 million people held in slavery around the world
- Only 42,000 were freed in 2011
- This is happening in our own local communities

We need your help in combating slavery and the scourge of human trafficking. Tax-deductible donations in person, online, or by mail can make a difference.

www.GlobalFreedomCenter.org
Please RSVP Carole Heinrich at 831-601-9019 or email Carole@TheHeinrichTeam.com

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A Special Invitation from Ben and Carole Strauch Heinrich
Please join us for a reception in support of Kelly Heinrich, J.D., President of the Global Freedom Center, Washington D.C. and Executive Director, Kathiva Sreeharsha, San Francisco

Saturday, November 3, 2012
3:00 – 5:00 PM
Rio Grill
Santa Fe Room at The Crossroads, Carmel

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"Digital Reflections" at Sunset

After majoring in art in college, Kelley worked for three decades in computer systems integration and marketing before relaunching himself as an artist about 20 years ago. A reception, which starts at 5 p.m., will feature tastings of Kelley’s famous limoncello. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 620-2040 or visit www.sunsetcenter.org.

P.G. photos open studio

The gallery and studio, which is located in the Russell Service Center at 2016 Sunset, features its own darkroom. “There are fewer and fewer darkrooms available to artists printing black and white silver prints from film, especially so spacious and well equipped,” Robinson explains.

The event is free. The studio will be open Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (831) 238-0982 or visit www.2016sunset.com.

Indian Summer in village
An exhibit of work by local painter Alana Puryear — who was recently named the new executive director of the Pacific Grove Art Center — is on display at the Carmel Valley Library.

A group exhibit of watercolors by all four artists is on display at the art center. The event is free and starts at 6 p.m. The CAA is located on the west side of Dolores between Fifth and Sixth. Call (831) 624-6176 or visit www.carmelart.org.

“Spotlight on Watercolor”


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And in 1988, he became the first living textile artist to have a show at London’s Victoria and Albert Museum. More than 30,000 people visited the exhibit in six days. Later, when it was staged in Iceland, an estimated 30,000 people visited the exhibit in six days.

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potential to provide access for heavy equipment to the project site. But for the road to work, Cal Am still needs to jump through a few hoops. “We’re still wrestling with the final numbers, and trying to find out the CEQA impacts,” Svindland said. “We’re checking for endangered species—if we find any, that could stop the route from being used.”

Also, a considerable amount of work would need to be completed before the route is used. Currently, the only way to access the road is through Sleepy Hollow, so an entrance along Carmel Valley Road would need to be built, as well as a bridge. Yet aerial maps reveal an old road that the proposed route would follow. The road connects with San Clemente Drive near Cal Am’s treatment plant, skirting the edge of the Sleepy Hollow community in the process. Svindland said Cal Am hopes to do the work without temporarily shutting down Carmel Valley Road.

Currently, construction traffic for the project is scheduled to travel along three routes: San Clemente Drive, Cachagua Grade and Cachagua Road via Tassajara Road. The smallest vehicles would travel along San Clemente Drive, while the largest vehicles would take the last route. By adding a fourth route, traffic would be eased—but not eliminated—along the other routes. “We still need to use all the roads,” Svindland explained.

Meanwhile, Svindland conceded that the cost of pushing so much of the project’s traffic through Cachagua will add a significant cost to the $83 million project. “It’s not the $8 million one resident suggested, but [the longer route through Cachagua] does add a couple million dollars to the cost of the project. It makes [the proposed alternate] route look feasible.”

The confirmation comes on the heels of an announcement by Sleepy Hollow residents that they had signed an agreement for some of the dam removal traffic to pass through their community, and growing criticism from Cachagua residents who say construction traffic would have a severe impact on them.

“We’re trying to find a plan that works for everyone,” Svindland noted in discussing the new alternate. Set to begin this fall, the project can’t get started until Monterey County issues a permit. Most of the actual dismantling of the dam will occur between 2013-15. The planning commission postponed taking action on the project at its Sept. 12 meeting, and will consider again at its Oct. 31 meeting.

City sandpile for residents only

IN ANTICIPATION of the rainy season, the city’s public works department this week supplied its annual sandpile, along with sand bags, behind the Carmel Youth Center at Torres and Fourth. During heavy rains, storm water often runs down the town’s steep roads and driveways into below-grade garages and across yards, so sand bags are an effective and inexpensive means of preventing such residential flooding.

“This pile is for emergencies and for the use of city residents only,” cautioned city public works superintendent Stu Ross. “Contractors not allowed.”
What your vote on Nov. 6 will mean

COME ELECTION Day, you’ll have the chance to make a difference in your community by voting on a host of important state and local races and ballot measures. But one thing that won’t be worth much is your vote for president: California is going for Barack Obama, no matter what you do. It may feel rewarding to vote for such an important office, but for residents of one-sided states such as New York and California, with their huge populations of devoted Democratic voters, Election Day is a foregone conclusion. Whether you support Obama or Mitt Romney, if you want to make a difference in the outcome for president, you’ll have to move to Nevada, Ohio or Florida.

Hard as it may to imagine now, California was once a solidly Republican state. From 1952 to 1988, the state went for every Republican candidate for president except Barry Goldwater, who lost in a landslide to Lyndon Johnson in 1964. In 1976, California’s voters even preferred Gerald Ford to Jimmy Carter! However, since 1992, the state has not failed to cast its entire slate of electoral ballots for the Democrat at the top of the ticket, and four years ago, Barack Obama carried the state by an almost 2-to-1 margin over John McCain. This year, Obama’s lead over Mitt Romney is only a little smaller. And, thanks to the huge increase in California’s Hispanic population, the Democratic trend shows no sign of reversing or even slowing down...

Likewise the statewide offices Monterey Peninsula residents will be voting on in two weeks. All the Democrats on the ballot — Dianne Feinstein for U.S. Senate, Sam Farr for Congress, Bill Monning for the State Senate and Mark Stone for State Assembly — are shoo-ins. None of the Republicans has the slightest chance.

Why bother to vote, then?

For one thing, there are some interesting ballot measures which have hardcore Democratic Party support but which are by no means sure to pass. Foremost among these is Prop 30, Gov. Jerry Brown’s tax increase, which may fail. Whether you’re for or against it, your vote on Prop 30 will make a big difference. Other favorites of many Democratic voters — including Prop 34 to ban the death penalty, Prop 36 to loosen the state’s Three Strikes Law, and Prop 37 requiring labeling of foods containing GMOs and authorizing citizen lawsuits to enforce it — are by no means certain to pass.

At the bottom of the ballot, two local measures are also in play. Pacific Grove’s Measure F would rezone downtown to allow a large hotel to be built, and Carmel’s Measure D would increase the city’s sales tax. If you care about those issues, you won’t want to pass up the opportunity to vote on them.

Pacific Grove will also elect a mayor and city council. And, of course, there’s the county supervisor race between Dave Potter and Marc Del Piero. The outcomes of those races are anybody’s guess.

The Electoral College system of electing a president may seem outdated, although it is working exactly as the Founding Fathers intended. Way back in 1787, it was added to the Constitution to prevent larger states from completely dominating presidential elections at the expense of the smaller states. Without that provision, the smaller states might not have agreed to join the union, and the Constitution would not have been adopted. Likewise, without their consent, the Constitution cannot be amended to switch to a popular vote system of electing a president, which they are not going to do. So give up on the idea of switching to a popular vote system for electing a president anytime soon.

When you go into the voting booth Nov. 6, your votes for president and on statewide offices will be just gestures. If you’re a Democrat, you can be happy because your candidates in those races are sure to win. And if you’re a Republican, you can console yourself with the knowledge that your votes on statewide ballot measures and on local races might actually mean something.
Carmel residents who receive CalPERS benefits contacted Norris, saying the figures on the database were, in fact, incorrect.

“We are going to take another look at the data and determine whether we need to run new information,” she said.

As an example, the initial monthly pension figure CalPERS listed for Carmel building official Tim Meroney, who retired in 2007, was overstated by about $1,500, according to Norris. His current monthly pension is $5,239.96.

For Potter, squared multiplied by his environmental record equals 1,000 votes, how much support does Del Piero cubed minus his Republican record deserve? I believe the proper calculation is this way: 3P(2) x E x W x D(0.1) x W.

Supervisor Dave Potter and his rival, Marc Del Piero, are both battle-scared survivors of a theater littered with the broken spirits of Bill Peters and Karin Strasser-Kauffman.

Potter and Del Piero are both dearly beloved or they are bitterly reviled, depending on what day it is.

They have both roamed the Monterey County political landscape long enough to infuriate and disappoint the people who got them there to begin with.

Between the two of them, they have burned more bridges than anarchists during the Spanish Civil War.

In this particular race to elect the Devil You Know, a good number of Democrats are abandoning ship to support Del Piero, who most recently bullied his way through the credibility of kooks known as the Monterey County Republican Central Committee, while hardcore Republicans are gravitating to Potter, apparently because he represents the voice of the establishment in a world gone mad.

Checking the lists of supporters doesn’t help; both candidates are evenly divided in the kick support factor.

Cutting through the clutter of politics, the only real difference between Del Piero and Potter is that the incumbent has the most recent history of doing the infuriating disappointments.

I’ve watched them both long enough to conclude that neither is as corrupt or as bellicose as he’s been portrayed. I’ve secretly admired his accomplishments and not so secretly, whined about their blunders.

They are both actually accomplished in their experience and their activities — and in and out of Monterey County — and have developed track records that are both impressive and dubious.

As a member of the State Water Resources Control Board, Del Piero put Monterey County leaders on notice to solve their issues quickly, both on the Monterey Peninsula and in the Salinas Valley. He also earned environmental brownie points when he was the hearing officer in a square mile-or-so area in the Los Angeles Department of Water and environmentalists, he ruled that water should be returned to Mono Lake.

Del Piero’s name also has been linked to a couple of forehead-shaping water shenanigans, including the raid of water from Aromas to satisfy a San Benito County subdivision and his work with the power-grabbing Pajaro Sunny Mesa Community Services District.

Meanwhile, Potter ended up on the California Coastal Commission, where he developed a reputation as the great compromiser. Trouble is, when it comes to coastal protection, compromise is tantamount to dereliction of duty.

For Potter, it all comes down to the old political adage: “What have you done for me lately?” And lately, he embittered folks when he involved himself with a goofy proposal to build a horse-race operation on Fort Ord.

Really? A horse-race operation? Who comes up with these ideas?

In the past, voters tolerated Potter’s penchant for embracing sketchy proposals on local lands because the election-day alternatives — the Devils You Don’t Know — seemed too scary, too Davi-ish.

Then along comes Del Piero. And suddenly, we have a horse race we don’t have to drive to Fort Ord to watch.
A man who knows the real meaning of ‘torture’

By TONY SECON

Dear Editor,

You editorial blames Detroit’s downfall solely on the bad business decisions by Mr. Grossman, and an injury to our staunch belief in the change strictly nonviolent demonstrations. Perhaps they would better understand why we think it is important enough to boycott La Playa. WE’LL BE BACK!

Peaceful protests

Dear Editor,

I was dismayed to read The Pine Cone’s recent coverage of the boycott of La Playa Hotel in Carmel. I have participated in these protests, and I know that the benefits we seek are worth more than $1 per hour, and that the negotiation of a fair contract will benefit all employees.

Linda Garb, San Rafael

The value of workers

Dear Editor,

113 workers at the La Playa Hotel in Carmel were fired when the new Hotel owner, Grossman Properties of Phoenix, purchased the hotel. Only two of the existing employees were rehired. The 113 employees were long-term, loyal and experienced union employees who worked at the hotel almost 1,000 years. Not rehiring these workers was a bad business decision by Mr. Grossman, and an injury to our community.

Erica Parker, Monterey

LETTERS

From page 25A

Meanwhile the Japanese had zero corrections.

On top of a far more innovative assembly process was the nature of Japanese corporations at that time. After the war, the Japanese adopted a large and new system of pyramidal hierarchies, which resulted in the hallmark of the big three, GM in particular. Following the end of World War II, the Japanese corporations were reorganized into two main groups: the government and the business community. The business community, which was dominated by large corporations, was responsible for the bulk of Japan’s economic growth.

Peter Nosler, Carmel

Editorial warning, part 2

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Erica Parker, Monterey

Replacement workers were hired at reduced wages and benefits. The agreement between the previous owner and the 113 employees who made the La Playa great should be honored. Our community was enriched by the free association of the 113 employees and the collective power to bargain collectively for higher wages and benefits for themselves and family. The 113 former union employees are not the only losers if the prior labor contract is not restored.

A dishwasher at the La Playa uses to make $13 an hour, now the replacement worker makes $9. For the sake of arguments, let’s say that the negotiated benefits were worth another $10 per hour. Now we have a differential of $5 per hour per worker. A full-time employee works 2,000 hours annually. 113 multiplied by 2,000 and multiplied again by the labor market per worker. A full-time employee works 2,000 hours annually. 113 multiplied by 2,000 and multiplied again by the $5 per hour. Not only do the replacement workers lose this money but also our community loses the multiplier effect that benefits local businesses. Our community just had a $5 million hole put in it.

Gary Karnes, Pacific Grove

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Rev. Pamela D. Cummings

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula

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