NEW HABITAT RULES HIT P.B. LOT OWNERS

By KELLY NIX

PROMPTED by the California Coastal Commission’s June 13 decision that native Monterey pine forest qualifies for special protection under the Coastal Act, county planning officials have begun subjecting single-lot developers to tougher habitat-protection requirements, meaning more out-of-pocket expenses and delays for home builders.

The Monterey County Planning and Building Inspection Department is now requiring all property owners applying for building permits to pay for a biological report — a document formerly requested only under special circumstances.

“We have stepped up what we have asked for,” said Carl Holm, the county’s acting planning manager. Holm said the new requirements were drawn up to ensure the long-term protection of the Monterey pine forest, which the California Coastal Commission decided is “environmentally sensitive habitat.”

Formerly, single-lot developers were only required to conduct a forest management plan, which assesses the types of trees on a parcel and how many are to be removed.

Now, developers will need a biological report, which identifies plant and animal species on a site, where they’re located and whether they are endangered or threatened.

“The reason to ask for the biological report,” Holm said, “is to see if an environmental impact report is needed.”

Holm said the county began looking into more stringent requirements as soon as he became the planning department’s acting manager about one year ago.

“It really has been developing over the past year, but the June coastal commission meeting gave us more of a focus relative to the Del Monte pine forest,” he explained. “We said, OK, we definitely need to start implementing this.”

See HABITAT page 29A

CREepy oakworms no cause for alarm

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WHILE THE rest of the county’s attention is focused on the state’s plan to spray pheromones this weekend to get rid of the light brown apple moth, Carmel has its own invasion of caterpillars under way.

The creeping, crawling, cobwebby California oakworms are dropping from defoliated trees, littering sidewalks and hitching rides on unsuspecting passersby, but the little creatures are largely harmless to the long-term health of the oaks on which they feast.

See WORMS page 23A

Appeals court: Molski, lawyer are ‘vexatious litigants’

By PAUL MILLER

JAREK MOLSKI and his attorney, Thomas Frankovich, are indeed “vexatious litigants,” according to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which last week upheld a lower court ruling that the infamous duo “plainly lied” and made numerous “false allegations” against businesses they sued in 2003 and 2004 for allegedly violating the Americans with Disabilities Act.

At least 300 businesses — including at least a dozen prominent restaurants, wineries and shops in the Carmel area — were sued by Molski and Frankovich during those years, court records show. The suits demanded at least $1 million in damages from each business. Virtually all the cases were settled out of court, usually for $30,000 or $40,000.

But the owner of The Mandarin Touch restaurant in Solvang, Phil Leo, refused to settle. Instead, he asked a federal trial judge, Edward Rafeedie, to throw the case against him out of court, alleging that Molski and Frankovich’s legal strategy — suing hundreds of small businesses for millions, and then settling for tens of thousands — amounted to a shakedown scheme. In December 2004, Rafeedie agreed.

See VEXATIOUS page 15A

Men arrested for trying to pass phony checks

By MARY BROWNFIELD

TWO MEN tried to cash a bunk $850.75 check at Wells Fargo Bank in the Crossroads Aug. 24 but ended up in jail instead, according to Monterey County Sheriff’s Sgt. Joe Moses.

“They made the check — either it was a copy, or they fraudulently made it — and tried to cash it,” he explained. “The account had been flagged, and when they went in, the manager called the sheriff’s office.”

Deputies contacted and ended up arresting Salinas residents Ramon Vasquez, 43, and Eddie Perez, 45. The charges included fraud, burglary and parole violation.

“We collected six checks for evidence,” Moses said. “And they were all for $850.75.”

See FIRE page 26A

Habits seriously damaged in overnight blaze

By MARY BROWNFIELD

IN THE largest fire to hit Carmel since a fatal incident in 2002, flames caused major damage to a Santa Lucia home just after midnight Monday.

Louise Frost was home alone with her two dogs and sound asleep when snapping sounds coming from the garage awakened her.

Thinking rodents had triggered traps or, worse still, an intruder was inside, she banged on the adjacent bedroom wall.

Then she smelled smoke and, rather than opening the door to the garage next to her bedroom — which could have been a fatal mistake — she went down the hall and opened the kitchen door to look back toward the garage. It was on fire.

As she dialed 911, police arrived, having already been alerted by neighbors. They told her to get out of the house, and she took her dogs with her.

PHOTOS/MARY BROWNFIELD

Carmel Fire Capt. Mitch Kastor (above, left) and engineer Kenny Hutchison cleared debris from the burned garage Monday morning. The rest, including the contents of the badly damaged office (left), was removed by a disaster cleanup company.

“We got out just in time,” said Frost, who had just returned from a vacation in the Sierra Nevada, while her husband, deputy district attorney David Frost, stayed on a bit longer.

Police evacuated adjacent homes and told arriving fire-
Garage to stay put, Plaza sunglasses shop to get remodel

By MARY BROWNFIELD

TIM ALLEN won’t have to move his garage 2.5 feet to the south after all. A seller of high-end eyewear can remodel a shop in Carmel Plaza according to revised plans. And a couple can substantially alter their home at the south end of town, the design review board decided Aug. 22.

The garage stays

At the meeting, the board reversed its July no-vote on Allen’s request to leave the garage at a remodeled Lopez Street home in place, although previously approved plans called for relocating it a few feet to the south.

The board changed direction after learning the upset neighbor who last month insisted the garage be moved and said a foundation had been illegally poured recanted those statements and now supports leaving the building in place.

“Moving the garage makes no sense,” Allen told the board, because it could fall apart when lifted and the work would require using heavy equipment on the neighbor’s land.

Allen, who could not attend the July hearing, also sought not returning sooner to ask for approval of his revised plans.

“Moving the garage makes no sense,” Allen told the board, because it could fall apart when lifted and the work would require using heavy equipment on the neighbor’s land.

Allen, who could not attend the July hearing, also sought permission to relocate the garage a few feet to the south.

Nonetheless, board chairman Keith Paterson objected to the garage’s location in the setback and chastised Allen for not returning sooner to ask for approval of his revised plans.

Board member Mary Bell was absent, and the vote was 3-1, with Paterson dissenting, to let the garage stay put.

Sunglass shop’s facade

The board also voted last month to deny upscale sunglasses retailer Ilori’s application for the remodel of a shop it plans to occupy in Carmel Plaza, but on Aug. 22, it OK’d a revised proposal.

“The primary basis for denial was that the proposed design lacked a natural appearance and a sense of warmth, and was inconsistent with the Plaza [design] guidelines,” Conroy summarized in a report to the DRB. At the time, board members objected to the use of metals and stark white, as well as the proposal to install two signs.

The revised plans include a wood and glass door painted white, a natural stone veneer on part of the wall and at the base of the storefront, wood-framed windows painted white, blackened steel door pull and kick plate, and a teak transom above the display windows. Ilori also proposed a blackened steel sign, but Conroy said it should be constructed of wood instead.

“The revised materials are much more consistent with the design guidelines,” Conroy wrote. “The mix of stone and wood gives the storefront a more natural and warm appearance.”

The board unanimously voted to approve Ilori’s application as part of a consent agenda that included other routine items.

Too many decks

The DRB also made changes to Graeme and Chris

Did you know...

In the autumn of 1842, as Commodore Thomas Jones of the U.S. Navy led a small squadron off the coast of Peru, he received a report that the U.S. and Mexico were at war.

The report was erroneous, but Jones very much wished to believe its veracity, perhaps envisioning a bit of glory. He promptly headed north for Monterey, which, like the rest of California, was ruled by Mexico. Upon arrival in the bay, he was told, “Nope, no war,” or words to that effect. He didn’t listen. Instead, he pointed his cannon at the town and demanded surrender. The local Californios lowered their flag, unhappily, and Jones celebrated, briefly. He soon found some newspapers that convinced him of the absence of war, and he and his ships hastily departed. (Next week: Californians write a constitution in Monterey)

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The Pine Cone September 7, 2007
Big Sur hotel worker held in suspected rape

A POST Ranch employee was arrested last week on suspicion of raping his ex-girlfriend in a room of the upscale inn's employee housing. Monterey County Sheriff's deputies found Pedro Escamilla, 21, at work in Big Sur and took him into custody on charges of rape and sexual battery on an employee.

According to investigating deputy Fernando White's report, the victim, a 24-year-old female whose identity is shielded by the state penal code, reported being raped by her former boyfriend at her home in Big Sur Aug. 28. "The victim's roommate heard the muffled cries coming from the victim's room and intervened during the commission of the crime," White wrote in his report. "The victim was transported to the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula for a sexual assault forensic examination."

Afterward, deputies returned to the Post Ranch, which is located in Big Sur about 30 miles south of Carmel, and arrested Escamilla, according to Sgt. Joe Moses. They took him to Monterey County Jail.

Man takes unfortunate swing

A 46-YEAR-OLD Carmel Valley Village resident was staggering in the middle of Via Contenta just before 8 p.m. Aug. 28 when Monterey County Sheriff's Deputy Joe Palazzolo stopped to check him out. According to his report, Larry Burch, "assaulted a deputy with a tennis racket," so he was arrested was booked into Monterey County Jail.

"It looks like he was drunk," Sgt. Joe Moses said of the suspect. "He had this stuff in a plastic bag and swung it at the deputy's upper body." The tennis racket was in the bag.
Injured man was just lying down.

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

Saturday, August 18

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found silver and turquoise ring in downtown area on Junipero.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Subject reported a person lying in the street in front of a bar on Lincoln Street. Upon arrival, observed the subject on the floor unable to care for herself. Subject, a 50-year-old female, was arrested for public intoxication.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Ambulance dispatched at 0:20 hours to a motor vehicle accident on Carmel Valley Road at Valley Greens Circle along with the medic engine and chief from Monterey Valley. One person involved in the vehicle rollover with critical injuries was unconscious and flown out by Life Flight helicopter to Valley Medical Center in San Jose.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance were dispatched to a medical emergency on Camino Real. Upon arrival, found a female in her 50s complaining of back pain. Patient evaluated, loaded and transported to CHOMP by ambulance.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance were dispatched to a vehicle vs. pedestrian at Ocean and Dolores. Upon arrival, Carmel P.D. on scene notified crews it was non-injury.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a medical emergency at a store. Firefighters assisted ambulance personnel with patient assessment, diagnostics, monitor hook-up, oxygen administration and gathering information on a female in her 40s who was experiencing an altered level of consciousness, possibly due to a seizure. The patient refused transport and, when able to regain her faculties, was turned over to the care of family members. She signed a release and all units returned to the station.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Ambulance was dispatched to a 17th Avenue residence for a female choking. Upon arrival, patient had resolved the obstruction and did not want further treatment or transport. Patient signed medical release.

Carmel Valley: Several reporting parties in Carmel Valley Village stated a suspect was intoxicated, threatening people and challenging them to fight. Suspect was uncooperative and

See POLICE LOG page 22A

The New York Times magazine crossword puzzle
Debate over water main work in Carmel Valley continues

By KELLY NIX

CONCERNED ABOUT a serious drop in business because of traffic congestion, a Carmel Valley business owner has collected more than 900 signatures in an attempt to convince California American Water Co. to make repairs to water mains beneath Carmel Valley Road at night instead of during the day.

Previous work on the main, which delivers water to the Monterey Peninsula, has caused traffic tieups, and business owners contend it made a dent in sales. But more than just business owners are concerned. “The majority of those who signed the petition are residents who are sick and tired of the construction work,” said Jeffrey Andrews, owner of Avant Garden and Home in Carmel Valley Village.

Wednesday morning, Andrews and Los Laureles Lodge owner Mike Terry met with Cal Am community relations manager Catherine Bowie and a representative from the engineering firm performing the work to discuss the construction.

Both men also requested Cal Am put off the work until January, when business is slower. Cal Am expects the work will resume in late September.

See ROAD WORK page 9A
Shopper forgets toddler in hot car

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WITH HEAT-RELATED deaths occurring throughout the state last week, a Carmel woman could be charged with child neglect for leaving her 2 year old in her car while she shopped in Safeway late Sunday afternoon. The woman, whose name Monterey County Sheriff’s Sgt. Scott Ragan would not release, told a deputy she simply forgot she had brought her daughter and rushed out of the Crossroads store as soon as she remembered. The little girl was reportedly unharmed.

A passing shopper noticed the child in the car in the parking lot, waited a few minutes and then called 911, according to Ragan. By the time deputy Kathy Palazzolo arrived, the woman had already returned to her vehicle.

“The mother probably did just forget the child was in the car with her. She was pretty upset with herself for being so careless,” Ragan said, adding that she left the store without completing her shopping as soon as she realized what she had done.

“My name will be released,” the woman reportedly told the deputy.

“The weather has been unusually hot, though Ragan could not say what the temperatures were inside or outside the car. He estimated the child was left in the vehicle for about 10 minutes.

“Sure could have ended a lot worse,” he said.

A crew from the Cypress Fire station on Rio Road checked the little girl for signs of heat-related distress and found none but recommended the mother take her for a precautionary checkup at Community Hospital anyway, according to Ragan. He could not say whether she followed through but reported he believed she did.

“Were sending this case to the D.A. to review for filing child neglect charges,” he said. If the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office chooses to pursue the case, her name will be released.

In hot areas elsewhere, a 32-year-old Burlingame woman pleaded not guilty to felony child endangerment charges after she allegedly left her 2-year-old son in her car while grocery shopping for about 20 minutes, according to news reports. With a 2-inch gap in the window, the interior temperature rose to 125 degrees, but the child was unharmed. And in Nevada, an Oregon man reportedly left his 2-year-old daughter in a car in 95 degree heat while visiting a brothel near Reno. He also faces child-neglect charges, and the toddler was treated for dehydration and placed in custody of the Nevada’s family services department.

Nationwide, in the last 10 years more than 300 children have died from being left in overheated automobiles, according to the Associated Press.
Teacher demystifies spiders with talks and nighttime walks

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE SLINKING around in the dark with a flashlight in search of spiders might sound creepy to some folks, a sur- prising number of kids and adults find such an adventure informative, educational — and even fun.

Local science teacher Pat Stadille is not someone you would expect to be afflicted by arachnophobia. Yet Stadille, who will lead a spider “walk and talk” at Carmel Middle School Saturday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m., was once fearful of the eight-legged creatures.

“I was scared of them as a kid,” explained Stadille, who teaches at the middle school and at Carmel High School. “As an adult, I started getting curious about them.”

To learn more about spiders, Stadille signed up for “spider camp.”

“I took a week-long class from Darrel Ubik, who is one of the best spider experts in the country,” recalled Stadille, a Pacific Grove resident who has taught locally for 21 years.

“His a real authority, and the class was very inspiring.”

Spiders, Stadille determined, “are not all big and black and hairy. They’re actually quite interesting.”

Finding spiders, of course, is not a great challenge. There are reportedly between 50,000 and 70,000 spiders per subur- ban acre, a factoid that no doubt gives arachnophobes the jitters. But for someone like Stadille, the spider’s natural abundance is a wonderful thing.

“Many types of spiders spend the daytime in retreat,” he explained. “At night, you see all sorts of interesting spiders.”

For local middle and high school students, the event offers an added bonus — class credit.

“I will give extra credit to any Carmel Middle School or High School student who shows up,” Stadille offered.

The event is a collaboration between the middle school and the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District.

“I went on one of his spider walks and it was great fun,” said Debbie Wyatt, the naturalist for the park district. “Looking for spiders is something you can do in your own backyard. All you need is a flashlight. But the class is very informative because it’s more structured.”

Spider “hunters” will meet in the parking lot adjacent to the school’s garden. The school is located at 4380 Carmel Valley Road. Participants are encouraged to dress warmly and bring a flashlight. For more information, call Wyatt at (831) 659-6065.

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Notice that in a recent survey of thousands of people, 92% said they were uncomfortable with how dif- ficult it is to translate the needs we want a home to fulfill, and we try—often in vain—to translate emotional needs into quantifiable descriptions. Instead of saying we really want to have a bedroom for each member of our household plus a workroom for hobbies and a home office, we often end up saying we need a home that has, say, at least 2000 square feet of living space and five bed- rooms.

Notice that such a home description could easily rule out exactly the home that would work perfectly for us... maybe a beautiful home with a fully-wired office built into the garage and a den area for hobbies. Indeed, our needs might be met by floor plans we never would have imagined, much less considered.

Okay—now notice that in a recent survey of thousands of home buyers, the single most important service buyers wanted from their real estate professionals was “help finding the right home to purchase.” Even those responding in this fashion may be somewhat unaware of one of the most crucial (and magical) needs the Internet really can’t give you—is a professional’s assistance a real estate professional who is in tune with your lifestyle and your home to purchase.”

Even those responding in this fashion may be somewhat unaware of one of the most crucial (and magical) needs the Internet really can’t give you—is a professional’s assistance a real estate professional who is in tune with your lifestyle and your needs and wishes. It is, as the survey demon- strates, one of the most important things a great real estate pro- fessional can do for you. For professional assistance call Mauren at 622-2565 and visit her website at www.mauren- mason.com.

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— unsolicited subscriber comments received July 27-31
Sheriff: C.V. man had bombs, guns, pot plants, temper

CACHAGUA RESIDENT Todd Spring, 39, was arrested early Labor Day morning after a man said Spring tried to strangle him. But assault is just one of the charges, according to Monterey County Sheriff’s deputies, who reported they also found marijuana plants, pot seeds, guns, ammunition and bombs in Spring’s house.

Deputies were dispatched at 2:30 a.m. Sept. 3 to investigate the alleged attack on Benjamin Saputelli, who said he had been sitting in his vehicle when Spring “became angry with him and started strangling him.”

Saputelli, who was “very intoxicated,” according to the sheriff’s office, tried to drive away but struck a truck twice and another parked vehicle once, and then called authorities.

Spring is already the subject of a restraining order and on probation, and therefore had to consent to the search of his home which “revealed he was in possession of three firearms, possessed ammunition, had two explosive devices, a deputy’s report.

The list of confiscated weapons included a Sturm Ruger & Co .44 magnum Blackhawk single-action revolver, a Remington .308 caliber bolt-action rifle and a .44 caliber black powder new model Army single-action revolver.

Spring was booked into Monterey County Jail on charges of violation of probation, illegal possession of firearms, committing a crime while in possession of a weapon, assault with a deadly weapon and marijuana cultivation.

ROAD WORK
From page 5A

“It’s going to hurt the community as a whole,” said Andrews, who said he’s lost an estimated 25 percent in sales and was cultivating 19 large marijuana plants, according to a deputy’s report.

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Bowie said it’s possible people who signed the petition were not aware of the problems at night, like noise and lights.

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Publicly run golf shop exceeding sales, profit predictions

By KELLY NIX

A NEW report indicates the City of Pacific Grove’s golf course pro shop has hit a financial hole-in-one six months after the city took over the concessions from a private operator.

The six-month financial snapshot released last Monday shows the city made a $116,386 profit from January to June from pro shop sales at the P.G. Golf Links, compared to $32,704 for the same period in 2006.

“I think it’s too early to draw conclusions about long-term success,” said Jim Becklenberg, the city’s management and budget director. “But we have had a strong first six months financially and we’ve had really good feedback on customer service, and I think that was as much of a goal as the financial improvement.”

The pro shop is responsible for sales of merchandise, golf cart rentals, and driving range and greens fees.

Pacific Grove took on operations of the golf pro shop this year after its 30-year concessionaire charged a $30 flat rate.

“Typically, Becklenberg said, Vitarisi gave some of the money made more money, were among the reasons the city cited for taking over the pro shop.

But the city was criticized by many long-time local golfers for the venture, which they said was best left in the hands of a private operator.

Becklenberg said PG tried to use an apples-to-apples comparison to evaluate the financial performance of the golf course pro shop with that of Vitarisi’s operation.

“The golf course director, Mike Leach, and the pro, Joe Riekena, have done a great job building the staff and turning things around for the better,” he said. During the first six months of the year, the city took in a profit of $57,504 in merchandise sales, $34,144 in equipment rentals, $25,824 in driving range fees and a whopping $217,000 in golf cart rentals.

Leach attributed the increase in cart rentals to a new and greater fleet.

“We increased our cart fleet from what the concessionaire had,” Leach said. “He had 52 and we have 57. We also set up our cart rentals where it’s $17 per person. The concessionaire charged a $30 flat rate.

“Typically, Becklenberg said, Vitarisi gave the city a cut of at least $75,000 per year from sales at the pro shop. In 2006, “conservative” estimates showed Pacific Grove could make from $30,000 to $120,000 more each year by operating the course itself.

Although it’s possible the pro shop’s numbers might not be as strong when the city conducts its one-year snapshot, Becklenberg said January through June are typically six months that are slower for golf, meaning the remaining half of the year should yield more revenue.

“The biggest part is the summertime,” he said. “So we will have even more confidence we are on the right track after the next quarter and after a full year of operations.”

At the city’s ad hoc budget and finance subcommittee meeting Aug. 27, city councilwoman Lisa Bennett cautioned the upswing in sales could be due to the relative lack of rain on the Peninsula this year, allowing more golf play and visitors to the pro shop.

“These six months were unusually dry,” Bennett said, “I don’t think we should necessarily think these figures are predictable for next year.”

Beauty school rejected for theater building by P.G. planning commission

By KELLY NIX

A BEAUTY school that wanted to take over the old Lighthouse Cinema building in Pacific Grove has gotten the cut.

Basing its decision primarily on the lack of parking downtown, the city’s planning commission voted Aug. 16 not to issue a use permit for a Paul Mitchell Partner Beauty School, which would have occupied the 12,000 square-foot building at 525 and 527 Lighthouse Ave.

The cosmetology school, proposed by applicant Gilda Walker, would have offered 17- and 48-week full-time training programs Tuesday through Thursday for a student body of up to 100 and a staff of about 15.

Although the city determined the pro shop’s numbers might not be as strong when the city conducts its one-year snapshot, Becklenberg said January through June are typically six months that are slower for golf, meaning the remaining half of the year should yield more revenue.

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The remodelled golf clubhouse and pro shop, a change in the pro shop’s inventory, the golf course’s competitive rates and a new overall image could be factors in the increased revenue, Leach and Becklenberg said.

“Our golf rounds are up about 7 percent over what they were last year,” Leach said. “And the golf course’s customer service rating, according to Leach and Becklenberg, has improved.

“We haven’t received a negative,” Leach said. “And that’s what we got before.”

Leach said, Becklenberg meet regularly to discuss the golf course operations, something that didn’t happen before.

“For the first time in my 15 years,” Leach said, “we have a collaborative effort. We meet every two weeks.”
Children’s author to sign copies of new book

AUTHOR, ILLUSTRATOR and Carmel resident Belle Yang will sign copies of her new book, “Always Come Home to Me,” at Hauk Fine Arts in Pacific Grove Saturday, Sept. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The subject of a documentary film, “My Name is Belle,” currently being shown on the Public Broadcasting System, Yang is a native of Taiwan and moved the United States with her parents when she was 7 years old. Her new book is set in the Chinese countryside.

“It’s about the two children of a peasant farmer,” explained Steve Hauk, gallery owner. “The kids release a pair of doves into the sky every day. The last thing they say to the birds when they release them is, ‘Always come home to me,’ the same thing their parents say to them each day.”

The story appeals to all ages. “‘It’s about the responsibility of caring about animals, just as your parents care about you,” Hauk said. “Eventually, something happens to the birds and there is an adventure that follows.”

According to Hauk, the book “is gorgeously illustrated.”

Yang is also the author of “Hannah is My Name,” currently being shown on the Public Broadcasting System, Y ang is a native of Taiwan and moved the United States with her parents when she was 7 years old. Her new book is set in the Chinese countryside. It’s an important book, especially to school teachers, who find it useful in helping current students and immigrant students get along,” Hauk explained.

The film, which was produced by Mac and Ava Motion Pictures of Monterey, was based in part on the story told in “Hannah is My Name.” Much of the documentary is set in Carmel.

Hauk Fine Arts is located at 206 Fountain Ave. in Pacific Grove. For more information, call (831) 373-6007 or visit www.haukfinearts.com.

P.B. Fire to organize citizens emergency response team

DEL MONTE Forest residents will have a chance to work together to prepare for disasters and care for each other during emergencies as part of a new Community Emergency Response Team organized by the Pebble Beach Fire Department. A general information meeting about CERT is set for Sept. 25.

“CERT, the training schedule, the curriculum, the number and scope of incidents can quickly overwhelm professional emergency services,” reported Capt. Jennifer Valdez. “Traditionally, CERTs are trained to provide first aid and disaster mitigation until professional emergency responders are available.” It can take as long as 72 hours for crews to respond to non-critical emergencies in the wake of a major disaster such as a storm, earthquake or terrorist attack. CERT members help fill the gap. The teams may also support professional crews during emergencies and assist at community events.

The Tuesday, Sept. 25, meeting will include a description and explanation of CERT, the training schedule, the curriculum, the program’s goals, who is eligible to participate, and other details. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the Pebble Beach Community Services District board room at 3101 Forest Lake Road.

Anyone interested in attending should call Valdez at (831) 647-5642 or email jvaldez@pbcasd.org.
COWBOY TUCKER, 13, is a golden retriever who thinks he’s a person. He relates to all things human, doesn’t see himself as a dog, has no animosity to cats, and has a pacific, live-and-let-live attitude to one and all. Except for the three possums he dispatched in his Salinas backyard over the years.

Dad Jim said Brother Matt picked Cowboy out of a litter when the pup was only 7 weeks old. Matt, now working with a publisher in New York City but visiting his parents on his way to a conference in San Diego, went to Salinas High, which is known for its football team, the Cowboys. Loyal to his namesake to this day, Cowboy wears a gold and purple collar and matching leash to honor the team.

Cowboy’s other brother, Nate, is a teacher in Sacramento, which leaves Cowboy somewhat brotherless most of the time. Dad Jim, now retired from construction work, and Mom Susan, an X-Ray tech at CHOMP, see to it that Cowboy gets to run on Carmel Beach as often as possible.

Born in July, Cowboy has had his colors done. He’s an autumn, which is exemplified in his beautiful red-dish-brown coat. His favorite toy is a big, thick rubber fire hydrant that he never gets tired of chewing. Cowboy has one nemesis: A big gray and white cat who lives next door. Cowboy never troubles the feisty feline, but the cat takes off after Cowboy every chance he gets and has been known to swipe pacific Cowboy with his claws.

At night, Cowboy retires to his outdoor dog run and his sleeping box, keeping one eye open for trespassing possums and cranky cats.
characterizing the strategy as “extortionate shysterism.”

Rafeedie barred Molski and Frankovich from filing additional federal ADA lawsuits in the Central District of California without the OK of a judge. He also asked the California State Bar Association to consider disciplinary action against Frankovich.

Rafeedie’s ruling threatened to put Molski and Frankovich out of a very lucrative business. In July, the SF Weekly newspaper reported Frankovich has earned $10 million from his ADA practice. His plush office, inside an historic Victorian off Van Ness Avenue, contains an “enormous, hand-carved desk” and is stuffed with “original paintings, sculpture and antiques,” the newspaper reported. During a court proceeding two years ago, Molski, who is paralyzed because of a motorcycle accident, admitted he had no other occupation beyond filing lawsuits.

Their livelihoods at stake, Molski and Frankovich appealed Rafeedie’s ruling. Admitting they filed hundreds of suits, they defended themselves by claiming the businesses they sued deserved to be sued for not fully complying with the ADA.

“Molski contends his suits were not vexatious because they had merit,” the 9th Circuit appeals court observed. “On thirty-seven occasions Molski alleged he had been injured two or more times on the same day, and on nineteen occasions Molski alleged he had been injured three or more times in one day.”

Even a small child, the court noted, would have enough sense not to repeat behavior that results in pain and injury. Therefore, the purported injuries could not be real, the court concluded.

Frankovich is undoubtedly considering his next move in his San Francisco office — an office which, the SF Weekly noted, is not ADA compliant.

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This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant conducted business under the fictitious business name listed above on: N/A. (s) Paul R. Lukas. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 7, 2007.

PUBLIC NOTICES • PUBLIC NOTICES • PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: PETITIONER’S NAME: K. Sempek, VP/CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 7, 2007.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MONTEREY

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ANNULMENT

The name, address and telephone number of the person who served the petition is (s) Lisa Galdos, Clerk of Court, 703 Sherman Cir., Salinas, CA 93907, 703 Sherman Cir., Salinas, CA 93901. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant conducted business under the fictitious business name listed above on: N/A.

PROOF OF SERVICE


NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: PETITIONER’S NAME: R. E. Williams, Partnership Trustee. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 7, 2007.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MONTEREY

SUMMONS – FAMILY LAW CASE NUMBER: DR 46063

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ANNULMENT


SUIT NO. 20071883. The petition is dismissed, a judgement is entered, and a Decree of Annulment is granted. The court order was filed on: Aug. 24, 31, Sept. 7, 2007. (PC 824)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The name, address and telephone number of the person who served the petition is (s) Lisa Galdos, Clerk of Court, 703 Sherman Cir., Salinas, CA 93907, 703 Sherman Cir., Salinas, CA 93901. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant conducted business under the fictitious business name listed above on: N/A. (s) Robert E. Williams. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Aug. 7, 2007.

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Vanessa Jimenez • (831) 274-8652 • vanessa@carmelpinecone.com
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COLLECTOR WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR for vintage designer clothing, handbags, and costume jewelry. We buy estate sales, probate, divorces, probate, etc. (NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, PHONE, E-MAIL). Visit us at www.5StarFun.com.

Classified Deadline: TUESDAY 4:00 PM.
BY CHRIS COUNTS

WITH MORE than 60 participants, this weekend’s 2007 Monterey County Artists’ Studio Tour provides a showcase for the abundance and diversity of local art. With such a surplus of quantity and quality, perhaps the biggest question facing anyone taking the tour is simply, “Where do I start?”

That’s where the Pacific Art Center comes in. The nonprofit venue is hosting an opening reception Friday, Sept. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m., for an exhibit featuring samples of work by all studio tour artists.

“Each artist has submitted one piece,” explained Joan McCleary, director of the art center. “People can decide what they like and where they want to go. The show also gives visitors a chance to see the work of artists they might not be aware of.”

The self-guided tour — scheduled Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8-9 — is presented by Monterey County Arts Council, the art center and the Artists Equity of Monterey County. Maps will be available at the art center and online at www.montereystudioart.com.

■ ‘Bold designs and bright colors’

In addition to the opening of the Studio Tour group show, the P.G. Art Center is unveiling two solo exhibits highlighting the talents of painter Cheryl Kampe and photographer Stephen Schindler.

Kampe, who lives in Pacific Grove, will feature, “As I See It,” a collection of watercolors depicting local wildlife, gardens, classic cars and other Monterey County scenes. “Inspired by the bold designs and bright colors of Georgia O’Keefe and the strong brushstrokes of Van Gogh, Cheryl uses color, design and texture to express emotions and the essential mood of a scene,” McCleary observed.

Schindler, meanwhile, is a Big Sur resident whose black and white photography is focused on local wildlife, gardens, classic cars and other Monterey County scenes. “Each artist has submitted one piece,” explained Joan McCleary, director of the art center. “People can decide what they like and where they want to go. The show also gives visitors a chance to see the work of artists they might not be aware of.”

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Old cars, pinewood derbies, souped-up big rigs, and lots of speed

By MARY BROWNFIELD

MAZDA RACERWAY Laguna Seca will be awash in cars this weekend and motorcycles next weekend, when two very different events take over the track back to back.

Tommy Hayden — nicknamed Tommy Gun — rode a Kawasaki at Laguna last year but is on a Suzuki in 2007. Despite mid-pack finishes, he's fifth in points for the championship and will try to wrap up the racing season with a spot on the podium next weekend.

Cherry's Jubilee — the major Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital fundraiser that showcases classic cars — kicked off Wednesday and continues through Sept. 9.

See RACES page 19A
Researchers offer tips to slow spread of oak disease

When a group of international plant disease researchers met in Pacific Grove last year, Pine Cone readers learned about the devastating effects of sudden oak death on the local tanbark oak population. Representing 17 different countries, the researchers traveled to Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park and Carmel Valley’s Mittelfeld Preserve to see firsthand the effects of the pathogen.

In Big Sur, researchers observed the wholesale destruction of a tanbark forest along the popular Pfeiffer Falls trail. In Carmel Valley, where the disease only recently arrived, they looked at thousands of dying trees with bright red leaves that could be mistaken for the colors of fall.

While researchers remain optimistic that they can slow the spread of Sudden Oak Death, there doesn’t appear to be a quick solution. According to Katie Palmieri, public information officer for the California Oak Mortality Task Force, research is still in its early stages. "It could take a period of time to determine what the most successful way is to manage Sudden Oak Death," Palmieri said. "Although it started appearing in the mid-1990s, it wasn’t isolated, recognized and named until 2000."

Initially, it was thought that Sudden Oak Death was the result of infestation by beetles. Now that a mold, phytophthora, has been identified as the cause, the researchers are urging people to take a few precautions to help slow it from spreading.

"It’s going to take everyone’s effort," she suggested. Phytophthora does not readily produce spores or spread naturally under dry conditions, when soil and organic material won’t readily stick to your clothes, your shoes, your pets or your car’s tires. But under wet conditions, the pathogen is actively producing spores and spreads easily.

If you travel to, work in, or live in an area infested with sudden oak death, you could be unintentionally spreading the disease. The best way to help is to avoid moving anywhere from infested areas for at least a week before you visit another oak-infested area.

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, which includes much of the oak forests in the area, was established in 1992 to protect marine life and conserve coastal resources. The sanctuary is managed by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of marine life and resources. The foundation works to ensure that the sanctuary is protected and managed for the benefit of future generations.

The foundation offers a variety of programs and initiatives to educate the public about the importance of marine conservation and to encourage responsible marine use. Some of these programs include educational outreach, scientific research, and public education initiatives. The foundation also works to support research and monitoring programs in the sanctuary, which helps to ensure that the sanctuary is protected and managed for the benefit of future generations.

The foundation is committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to ensure that the sanctuary is protected and managed for the benefit of future generations. The foundation believes that it is important to involve the public in the sanctuary’s management and to ensure that everyone has a voice in the sanctuary’s future.

The foundation’s programs and initiatives are funded by donations from individuals, corporations, and organizations. The foundation is grateful for the support of its donors, who are helping to ensure that the sanctuary is protected and managed for the benefit of future generations.
RACES
From page 17A

The following weekend will feature the higher-speed American Motorcyclist Association Superbike Championship. During the 15 years since its creation, Cherry’s Jubilee has become a motorsports festival that includes 50-mile Poker Runs for cars and motorcycles, Show ‘N’ Shines in downtown Monterey and at Laguna Seca, laps around the track in race-ready Porsches and contestants’ own machines, awards, vendors, visits to the Festa Italia in Monterey, live music, food and drink, and even a pinewood derby. Classic cars (model year 1973 and older) still take top billing, bringing in the most contestents, but the sports/special interest (1974 and newer) category, motorcycles and “work show trucks” are gaining interest as well.

The big rigs, some with as many as 2 million miles on the clock, are used daily for hauling goods and produce across town at Carmel but “a show truck is more than a work truck,” according to Cherry’s organizers who announced the new category this year. “It is an extension of its owner’s personalité.”

Even nonmotorized cars will see some action. Saturday at Cherry’s will feature the Corporate Pinewood Derby, in which adults from local businesses will pit their carved wood racers against each other in speed and design contests, and on Sunday, the Champions Invitational will feature Boy Scouts’ fastest cars. A final race will include the three quickest corporate cars and the three quickest kids’ cars.

While Cherry’s Jubilee participants will pay $35 to enter their wheels in the event, spectators will pay just $10 ($5 for kids, and $8 for adults over 59) to peruse the cars and watch their wheels in the event, spectators will pay just $10 ($5 for kids, and $8 for adults over 59) to peruse the cars and watch.

Speedy bikes return

In a treat for motorcycle buffs, Laguna Seca’s 50th anniversary season includes two weekends of two-wheeled racing. With July’s huge Red Bull U.S. Grand Prix already in the books, fans are gearing up for the Corona AMA Superbike Championships Sept. 15-16. The Laguna event will mark the season finale for the American series, and while only two of the AMA classes competed during the July races, all four will be included on the schedule next weekend.

The thrill of seeing the 2007 champions crowned at Laguna Seca. The competitive fields will include some racers with local roots. Salinas resident and former champion Doug Chandler is set to compete in the top-billed Superbike class on a 1,000cc Honda, and Carmel Valley resident Hawk Mazzotta is on the roster for the SuperSport class, riding a 600cc Yamaha. Oscar Covarrubias from Salinas and Kenny Carlotta of Gilroy are registered to race in the Formula Xtreem class, which features highly modified 600cc sportbikes.

As if the racing won’t be entertaining enough, the new “Corona Beach” will offer live music and beach volleyball, and a fan parade lap and a rider autograph session will be offered Sunday. The Rocket Nation stunt team will perform on the track between races both days.

Weekend tickets are $45, while Sunday tickets are $30 and Saturday tickets are $25 if purchased by Sept. 10. Admission includes paddock access and open grandstand seating. Children 12 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. Unpaved parking for motorcycles and cars is free, while weekend-long paved motorcycle parking is $20 in advance. Visit www.laguna-seca.com for tickets and more information.

Kudos

Last month, Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca received a Business Excellence Award in the nonprofit division from the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. The Sports Car Racing Association of the Monterey Peninsula — commonly referred to as SCRAM — has operated the track since its inception a half century ago and annually donates the net proceeds to the volunteer groups that help run it. During Laguna’s five major events each year, representatives from those local charities and civic organizations handle all sorts of tasks, from collecting tickets and providing rides for disabled spectators, to selling programs and assisting fans.

Last season, SCRAM donated more than $400,000 to local nonprofits and service clubs.

Fundraiser at Tehama to help poor women

AT TEHAMA Golf and Country Club Sept. 30, Dina Eastwood will host Faces of Hope, a fundraiser for Rising International, which seeks to end poverty in the United States and around the world by helping the poor start their own businesses.

The event, from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., will feature former United Nations Under Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict Olara Otunnu. According to the organization, low-income women and teens throughout the United States have completed the Rising International training program to earn income from craft sales as independent business owners.

The event will also have a live auction of “once in a lifetime experiences,” a silent auction of exquisite handmade art made by Rising International artisans, international cuisine, tribal music and dance, and an introduction to the Rising International solution for ending poverty. Admission tickets are $500, and event seating is limited to 200 tickets. To purchase tickets or for more information about Rising International, visit www.risinginternational.org or call (831) 662-9295.

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Paint for Peace Day

4th annual Paint for Peace Day Saturday, Sept. 8, from 1 to 7 p.m. A remarkable exercise in collaboration, the event offers artists and non-artists an opportunity to work as a team to create a giant piece of painted sculpture.

“Corona Beach” will offer live music and beach volleyball, and a fan parade lap and a rider autograph session will be offered Sunday. The Rocket Nation stunt team will perform on the track between races both days.

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The competitive fields will include some racers with local roots. Salinas resident and former champion Doug Chandler is set to compete in the top-billed Superbike class on a 1,000cc Honda, and Carmel Valley resident Hawk Mazzotta is on the roster for the SuperSport class, riding a 600cc Yamaha. Oscar Covarrubias from Salinas and Kenny Carlotta of Gilroy are registered to race in the Formula Xtreem class, which features highly modified 600cc sportbikes.

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Tene Shake to go national with his ‘Coastal Cuisine’ TV show

THE LATE Sabu Shake Sr., counseling his six sons on the path to success, said, “If you do just enough to get by, you’ll never get ahead.”

Shake, who came from Karachi, Pakistan, eventually settled in Monterey and opened Old Fisherman’s Grotto on the wharf after working his way up in the restaurant business. “Dad drilled this advice into us, and as a result, all six are success,” said Tene Shake, youngest of the Shake boys, who owns and manages three restaurants on the Monterey Peninsula.

The newest of his restaurant enterprises is Lattitudes at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove — a play on the word “attitudes,” with “Loungitudes” the punning name of the restaurant’s bar. Two other dining establishments on Monterey’s Fisherman’s Wharf — Isabella’s Italian Seafood & Steaks, and Cabo’s Wild Mexican Food — are Chef Tene’s also.

Executive chef and owner of all three restaurants, he hosts and cooks at each of them, although the restaurants have their own individual exec chefs: Rick Edge at Lattitudes, and John Gervich at Cabo’s and Isabella’s. Chef Tene is very involved in the direction of food, creating specials from the catch of the day and instructing his chefs and staff.

Playing to a larger audience, Chef Tene is seen regularly on channel 7 on his own “Coastal Cuisine” TV show, which he designed “to take the fear out” of cooking seafood.

“When people are confused about seafood,” said the chef who has mastered at the restaurant and on TV exactly how to prepare and cook fish and shellfish. He keeps up an easy instructional patter as he brings the seafood from raw to cooked, ready to eat.

On a recent Sunday morning show, he concentrated on crab prepared five different ways — and he did it all in minutes, thereby besting Rachel Ray at her own game. He not only prepped the crabs, including soft shell crabs, he cooked and plated them.

While the demo dispelled any mystery surrounding this particular shellfish, he’s done the same for lobster and various types of fish found in the sea. “I was raised in the whole seafood lifestyle,” he said. “It’s natural for me to teach people about it, and I’m honored to do it.”

Starting in October, the television show — which will be titled “America’s Seafood Chef” — is going national through the America One Network with 188 cable stations and a combined potential audience of 110 million.

Chef Tene’s wife, Tracy, helps with the direction, organization and recipes for the television show. The couple, who met as teenagers, have been married 25 years, have traveled the world together and share an enthusiasm for all things culinary.

The television program is particularly popular with the landlocked residents of the Central Valley. Many visit Lattitudes oceanfront restaurant after seeing Chef Tene prepare gifts from the sea on the show. “I love the people who come over from Bakerfield, Fresno and Modesto,” he said. “They appreciate our cooler weather and our seafood.”

But that’s not to say his restaurants serve seafood exclusively. They all offer well rounded menus.

Fresh fish is supplied to his restaurants, and those of his brothers Sabu Jr. and Chris, through the Grotto’s Fish Market, which has its own fishing fleet run by brothers David and Benji, the eldest of the Shakes. All of them are unanimous in their support of the ocean’s sustainability, and say their restaurants reflect that philosophy.

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On a recent Sunday morning show, he concentrated on crab prepared five different ways — and he did it all in minutes, thereby besting Rachel Ray at her own game. He not only prepped the crabs, including soft shell crabs, he cooked and plated them.

While the demo dispelled any mystery surrounding this particular shellfish, he’s done the same for lobster and various types of fish found in the sea. “I was raised in the whole seafood lifestyle,” he said. “It’s natural for me to teach people about it, and I’m honored to do it.”

Starting in October, the television show — which will be titled “America’s Seafood Chef” — is going national through the America One Network with 188 cable stations and a combined potential audience of 110 million.

Chef Tene’s wife, Tracy, helps with the direction, organization and recipes for the television show. The couple, who met as teenagers, have been married 25 years, have traveled the world together and share an enthusiasm for all things culinary.

The television program is particularly popular with the landlocked residents of the Central Valley. Many visit Lattitudes oceanfront restaurant after seeing Chef Tene prepare gifts from the sea on the show. “I love the people who come over from Bakerfield, Fresno and Modesto,” he said. “They appreciate our cooler weather and our seafood.”

But that’s not to say his restaurants serve seafood exclusively. They all offer well rounded menus.

Fresh fish is supplied to his restaurants, and those of his brothers Sabu Jr. and Chris, through the Grotto’s Fish Market, which has its own fishing fleet run by brothers David and Benji, the eldest of the Shakes. All of them are unanimous in their support of the ocean’s sustainability, and say their restaurants reflect that philosophy.
AS IF washing socks and underwear at Mid-Valley Center didn’t suck enough (nothing against the laundromat! I’m just no domestic diva), there was nothing like grabbing a slice at the pizza place formerly known as Shnarley’s to really put a damper on my day. At Shnarley’s, the slices were unwieldy and not all that tasty, the establishment way too dark and, half the time, they were out of slices, period.

But that was Shnarley’s. Thankfully, Janice and Bill Robertson have bought the space, brightened it up quite a bit, added a few outdoor tables, changed the name to Iolis’ Pizzeria, and spiced up your standard pizza-joint menu.

On a recent visit, I gave the Brooklyn Deluxe a try: homemade meatballs, mushrooms, red onions and black olives. I wasn’t completely enamored with the crust — I’m a thin crust East Coast girl at heart and this version was a bit bready for my taste. But, by California standards, my pie was perfectly sauced with the right amount of cheese and artfully applied toppings. I’d love to try those meatballs flying solo on a sandwich. Compared to Shnarley’s, and the pizza I sometimes pick up at the Stirrup Cup (which has handed me an oozy-gooey cheese disaster the past three takeout orders) Iolis’ is a much welcomed change of pace to the valley. Pizzas are listed under four categories — East Coast, West Coast, Italian and Pacific Rim — and they also offer salads, sandwiches, pasta and family-style garlic bread, plus private pizza parties on Sunday afternoons. Iolis’ Pizzeria, 307 Mid-Valley Center, Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, (831) 622-9463.

Two new menus

I just interviewed Dory Ford, executive chef for The Monterey Bay Aquarium, for an article for Sunset magazine and, sustainable seafood talk aside, he had oodles of other good news to share. First off, the Pelican Tavern on Cannery Row is revamping its menu, with Ford’s help. There’s an NFL kickoff party on Sunday, Sept. 9 — look for a complimentary halftime appetizer buffet, and drink and food specials throughout the season. Several current menu items will be improved upon and the spin is for fresher, local and seasonal pub-style fare. Ford promises a kick-ass burger, weekend brunch and Unwined Wednesdays, with once- or twice-monthly tastings from various wineries. The new menu officially unrolls Sept. 15. Call (831) 647-8200 for more details.

Within the same week, on Sept. 13, Portola Café at the Monterey Bay Aquarium is unveiling a new menu. Where does Ford find the time to mastermind all of this? I’ve
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Burglary on Mission Street. People staying in a vacation home reported it was ransacked and burglarized, with some items damaged or stolen. Officer contacted the owner and the crime was determined very little of value, due to its use as a vacation residence.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Suspicions circumstances on Lassen Drive. Subject called to report his backyard window had been broken and the window screen had been cut. The subject stated he was gone for the day and noticed it when he returned home. The subject believed someone may have tried to break in to his home but stated no one made entry. He stated he did not want an officer to come to his home. He only wished Carmel P.D. to document the call. Information only.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost Superman wallet. Reporting party lost wallet in the 300 block of Delores Street. Two purses taken from a clothing store by two unknown females.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Responded to a report of a vehicle through a fence on Lincoln Street. A subsequent records check of the vehicle showed the registered owner was also the property owner of the fence. Telephone contact with the owner made, and he was already aware of the damage and location of the vehicle.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Victim reported loss of wallet with contents while patronizing shops in the business district. If located, please notify reporting party.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a structure fire on Santa Rita Street. On scene, crews deployed 150 feet of 3 1/4-inch multi-footline hose, performed an interior attack to obtain knockdown, and extinguished a total of 45 gallons of water on a 12-foot by 12-foot single room and contents fire. Crews further assisted Cypress Fire units with extension, ventilation, and overhaul. Monterey County Sheriff’s Office also responded and reported it appeared to have originated from the water heater.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a medical emergency at a lodge on San Carlos Street. Engine and ambulance on scene. Crew assisted with oxygen, vitals, patient report information and loading for a male in his 60s with seizure activity. Patient transported to CHOMP by ambulance.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a medical emergency on Lincoln Street. Patient found to have medical condition. Crew transported by ambulance to hospital.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Victim reported loss of wallet containing. If located, please notify reporting party.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a structure fire at 1134 College Ave. Called by the resident. On scene, crews deployed 150 feet of 3 1/4-inch multi-footline hose, performed an interior attack and extinguished a total of 33 gallons of water on a two 10-foot by 12-foot single room and contents fire. Crews further assisted Cypress Fire units with extension, ventilation, and overhaul. Monterey County Sheriff’s Office also responded and reported it appeared to have originated from the water heater.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a medical emergency on a hotel on Monte Verde Street. Patient found to have medical condition. Crew transported by ambulance to hospital.

Pebble Beach: At 17 Mile Drive and Ocean Road, Suspect 1 said Suspect 2 challenged him to a fight, and Suspect 2 said Suspect 1 challenged him to a fight. Case suspended.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a request for assistance at Carmel Plaza. On scene, crews met with Plaza maintenance personnel and made entry into the elevator control room. It was discovered that an individual who was stuck in the second-level elevator. The control system was reset, the occupant removed, and Plaza maintenance personnel assisted in getting the occupant back into the elevator.

Carmel area: Unknown person(s) smashed a window of the victim’s car while it was parked on Highway 1 in the Carmel Highlands. The driver reported that the window had been broken and the window screen had been cut. They stated a water leak was emitting from the detector. The alarm company company was not the manager to respond with a technician to assess the problem.

Carmel area: Ambulance responded to a medical emergency at a hotel on Sunnyside Way in Carmel Highlands.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance dispatched to a public assist on Ridgewood. Patient found to have medical complaint and prepared for transport to CHOMP by ambulance.

Carmel area: Ambulance dispatched to a vehicle accident at Carmel Valley Road and Valley Greens Drive at 0123 hours. At scene, canceled by Carmel Valley Fire division chief after it was determined to be a coroner’s case.

Pebble Beach: Contractor reported approximately $7,300 worth of power tools burglarized from a garage under remodel at a Cabrillo Road residence.

Pebble Beach: A United Kingdom driver’s license was located in the lost and found. The driver’s license will be mailed to the United Kingdom.

Pebble Beach: Victim reported the theft of her wallet, checkbook, credit cards and purse from the Bird Rock beach parking lot in Pebble Beach.

Big Sur: Traffic stop on Highway 1 near the 44-mile marker resulted in the arrest of an individual for possession of cocaine and ecstasy for sales and transportation.

Financial Focus

by Linda Myrick, AAMS
Financial Advisor

LUMP SUM VS. ANNUITY: THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Do’s your employer offer a pension? If so, you’ll eventually have to decide how to take the money.

You have two basic options. First, you can accept the pension as a series of annuity payments. Second, you can take both as a lump sum, although this option isn’t offered in all plans.

Which option is better? There’s no “right” answer. Create a financial plan. If you take your pension as a lump sum, you could reinvest the proceeds into other securities, which might give you more assets to leave to family members. On the other hand, an annuity can provide you with a lifetime income stream.

As you near retirement, consult with your financial advisor and tax professional to determine which option is right for you.

You worked hard for your pension - so make it work for you.

Linda Myrick, AAMS
26537 Carmel Ranchou Blvd.
Carmel, CA 93923
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See POLICE LOG page 7E


SHAKE
From page 26A

they harvest fish accordingly.

All six brothers grew up on the wharf, coming to their father’s restaurant directly after school to help out and learn

The best method involves using a natural bacterial spray that targets the worms, but that only works when they’re small and the tree is still largely intact.

“Most people don’t recognize them until it’s too late,” he said.

People can blast the trees with water to knock the worms out, which Branson said city workers often do with

Nonetheless, they are ugly and messy, and a little creepy when found on clothing or in hair, so people often ask Branson how to get rid of them.

■ Last call for lycopene

Aside from being tasty and delicious, tomatoes are touted for their antioxidant, lycopene and Vitamin C properties.

Celebrate the Beefsteak, Burpee and Big Boy at the 16th Annual TomatoFest Sunday, Sept. 16, from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

Pack up the family, catch a ride on the shuttle and sample some of the tastiest tomato culinary creations around.

Tickets are $95 per person, but kids under the age of 12 can attend for free.

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MID COAST INVESTMENTS
Real Estate Sales and Development

The vast majority of the trees can tolerate them,” said city forester Mike Branson, who fields numerous calls about the ubiquitous creatures, which eat the leaves, spin cocoons and pupate in California oak moths each summer and fall.

“It’s the human factor — whether we can tolerate them.”

Demuded coast live oak trees, covered in sticky threads and dangling tiny worms, have become a common sight in recent weeks. Some areas of town show extensive damage and infestation, while others appear almost entirely spared.

Residents in certain areas reported the proliferation is far worse than usual, but that variation is common, according to Branson.

“They run in cycles, and it varies from year to year. Sometimes there are several years between heavy infestations, and sometimes just a couple of years,” he said.

“They only eat oak leaves, not other plants.”

The larvae and moths they produce are also not to be confused with nonnative, invasive species, such as the gypsy moth and the light brown apple moth.

“If they were that devastating, they would have wiped out the oak trees,” Branson said. Instead, most oaks — unless they are already unhealthy, are newly planted or have root damage — survive the worms’ feasting.

“Theyir droppings actually recycle the nutrients back into the oak tree’s soil fairly quickly,” he added, compared with the time it takes for fallen leaves to become mulch.

Nonetheless, they are ugly and messy, and a little creepy when found on clothing or in hair, so people often ask Branson how to get rid of them.

For additional information on the oak moth, visit www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7422.html.

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FIRE

From page 1A

fights no one was inside the burning building. “At that time of night, if there’s a fire, we’re just going to assume people are in the house,” Carmel Fire Capt. Ian Watts said. But after hearing no rescue was necessary, the crews on the first engine and ambulance arrived with fire suppression in mind.

They connected a hose to a hydrant more than a block away and began attacking the fire from the outside but had to wait for more firefighters to arrive before going inside, since safety laws require at least two emergency personnel to remain outside a burning structure while others enter it.

Several moments later, a second ambulance arrived from Carmel Valley, providing the necessary back-up. By then, the fire had extended into the attic, and that led to damage in the rest of the house, Watts said. “Once in the attic, it was really difficult to control.”

Complicating efforts were the tight spaces alongside the home, which sits on a characteristically narrow Carmel lot. Watts, according to Watts.

When the 20-40-foot-high flames burned through the top of the garage, “the fire got into the trees and could have spread to Watts.

“Once everything slows down, and you’re wet and soaking and cold, these guys show up, warm and dry,” and ready to work, Watts said. “They helped us move the hose and did all the dirty work. You can see how many people it takes, and that was just for control.”

And eight Pacific Grove Fire volunteers arrived at an opportune moment.

The Carmel chapter of the American Red Cross also mobilized its emergency response vehicle to provide hot drinks and food for the fire crews.

No cause determined

Investigation of the fire had to wait for the debri to cool, because of the Fire Department’s hunting ammunition stored in the garage, according to Watts.

The garage also contained wooden hunting decors, and some cans of paint and varnish used for restoring the decors, but David Reade, the Monterey Fire marshal in charge of the investigation, said the residents denied having any piles of used rags that might have spontaneously combusted.

Frost reported she had spent the day fighting the fire surveying the damage and said she was impressed with the Disaster Kleenup Specialists crew that came in, cleared out the debris, stored the salvagable furniture and boarded up the house.

Another Carmel couple has loaned their house to the Frosts and their two dogs for several weeks while they search for a rental.

“I am astounded at how kind everyone has been,” Frost said.
OAKS
From page 1A

California Oak Mortality Task Force’s website offers a few tips for reducing the spread of the pathogen:

- Do not collect or transport plant material from an infested or quarantined area.
- Avoid entering infested areas during wet conditions.
- Keep vehicles on paved and graveled surfaces when conditions are wet.
- Stay out of areas of wet soil and mud.
- If you do enter an infested area during wet conditions, check yourself, your pets, your vehicle and equipment for accumulations of mud, soil, organic material and detached plant leaves.
- If you live in an infested area and travel to an uncontaminated area, be sure the belongings you take with you, such as shoes, bicycles, pets, vehicle, etc., are clean.

For more information about Sudden Oak Death, call (510) 847-5482 or visit http://nature.berkeley.edu/comtf on the internet.

Don Soule

passed away on September 1, 2007. A native of Bellaire, Michigan, Don moved to California after serving his country during World War II, for which he received a purple heart and a bronze star. He obtained his teaching degree from San Francisco State University. Don taught in Southern California for several years and then at Walter Colton Jr. High School for more than 20 years retiring in 1980.

While living on the Monterey Peninsula with his wife and children, Allen, Mary Jane, David, Rob and Jennifer, he enjoyed sailing a 42-foot sailboat that they built. It was one of the last built at Monterey Boat Works. Don retired while living in Carmel Valley and will be fondly remembered for his many appearances in Veterans Day, Memorial Day and 4th of July parades, driving his authentically restored military jeep.

Private family services will be held. Don’s family requests any memorial contributions be made to the school or library of the donor’s choice.

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

Mayor Sue McCloud, city administrator Rich Gulien, forester Mike Branson and other officials gathered with the donors who paid for the landscape of Ocean Avenue’s medians to officially cut the ribbon on the redo last Wednesday. Work was completed last fall, but forged bronze plaques bearing the donors’ names and affixed to rocks in each median only recently arrived.

Landscape architect Michelle Comeau designed the live-block project for free, and designer Kathleen Cass oversaw the effort.

The donors were Pime Lim owners Richard and Mimi Gunner, who gave $20,000 for the strip between Lincoln and Monte Verde streets; the Carmel Plaza, which contributed $20,000 for the median on its block; John Plastini and recently deceased Shreve “Mac” Archer, who gave $10,000 each for the block from Mission to San Carlos, and the Legid and Draper families, who gave $20,000 for the strip between San Carlos and Dolores. The Larry Farrel/Carmel Rotary fund gave $10,000, and the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and Denny LeVett each contributed $5,000, for the block between Dolores and Lincoln. Jody Leidig also contributed $3,000.

George D’Fernano landscaping was hired to do the planting, and Aurum Consulting Engineers Monterey Bay designed the lighting, for the project.

With the bronze plaques finally in place, the city officially dedicated the revamped medians Aug. 29. McCloud asked Ted Legid — who she called “the spur” behind the project — and longtime Carmelite Glenn Legid to cut the wide red ribbon, and they happily obliged.

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STUART
From page 16A

doesn’t come up very often,” Moorer said. “‘Mary Stuart’ is his best-known play. Some consider it his greatest work.”

The story of Stuart’s life is inseparable from that of Elizabeth’s, so to successfully produce the play, Moorer and director Ken Kelleher needed two compelling actresses. Marcia Pizzo, who lives near San Francisco, plays Stuart. “The Mary Schiller writes about is passionate, impetuous and frightened,” Kelleher explained. “Marcia brings those qualities to life.”

Jessica Powell, also from the San Francisco area, plays Elizabeth. “She’s playing an iconic role,” said Kelleher of Powell’s casting as Elizabeth, “and she brings a sense of strength and grace to the part.”

For an actress, either role constitutes a challenge. “Two of the juiciest roles in recent theatrical history,” Moorer explained. “Shakespeare’s work is dominated by male characters,” Moorer explained. “When a part like that of Elizabeth’s or Mary’s comes along, great actresses are chomping at the bit to play the role.”

Stuart was imprisoned at the age of 24 by her cousin, Elizabeth, the Queen of England. Stuart, in the eyes of the queen, represented a threat to a crown that was now tenuous. Schiller’s play explores the fascinating, and at times heart wrenching, power struggle between the two women.

The Golden Bough hosts a preview of “Mary Stuart” Friday, Sept. 7, with the official opening set for Saturday, Sept. 8. Both performances start at 7:30 p.m. The theater will present a matinee Sunday, Sept. 9, at 2 p.m. The show continues through Sept. 23. For tickets, visit the box office, which is located on Monte Verde between Eighth and Ninth, or call (831) 622-0100. For more information, visit www.pacrep.org.

Lawsuit filed over tax

A LOCAL man has filed a lawsuit against the City of Pacific Grove in response to three tax measures that will appear on a November ballot.

On Aug. 1, the city council voted to place the tax measures on the Nov. 6 ballot. Last week, Carl Mounteer filed a suit challenging them.

“It’s a pre-election challenge,” said P.G. city attorney David Laredo. “He is seeking to have the tax measures removed from the ballot.”

Voters will decide whether to place a cap on the city’s business license tax, and to approve a parcel tax and sales tax increase.
At the June 13 meeting in Santa Rosa, the coastal commission rejected a ballot measure approved by Monterey County voters in November 2000 that would have facilitated demolition part of the lower level, remodeling the house and constructing three decks.

Tom and Diane Stone, who live across the street on the north side of Santa Lucia, said the project would block most of their southerly view and obstruct the light that filters through their windows. In a letter, the Stones asked the board to reject the changes.

But Conroy said a site visit suggested the addition would not deprive the Stones of much of the view, which is already inhibited by a heavy canopy of trees. Furthermore, Conroy said the Stones would not lose their best views down Francisca Way.

Board members agreed the impact would not be significant and said the Stones’ views might actually improve, considering the Robertsons’ pledge to trim the trees.

David Shields thanked the Robertsons for agreeing to reduce the size of the rooftop deck, as recommended by Conroy. In his report, Conroy concluded that, overall, the upstairs deck he wanted removed from the plans.

“My concern is it has no view, it serves no function and doesn’t affect privacy between the two homes,” he said of the southeast deck he wanted removed from the plans. “It’s asking for another pair of eyes to take a look at it and assess what’s happening out there biologically,” Holm said.

So far, about 15 to 20 developers have had to comply with the new requirements, Holm said.

Biologist Vern Yadon, for whom the Yadon’s orchid is named, hadn’t heard of the new county rules but said they seemed reasonable. Yadon said he has prepared biological reports for about a decade.

“In the environment, I think that it is a good idea in my estimation,” Yadon said. “On the other hand, if someone has to pay a huge sum of money for me to look over something to say there’s nothing rare, that doesn’t sound logical.”

While most applicants in Del Monte Forest now need to obtain a biological assessment, Holm said there may be a few instances — when there is a barren parcel of land with no apparent plant species, for instance — when it might be unnecessary.

“There are some [cases] where it’s not warranted,” Holm said.
Science is the answer

IT’S SOMETHING that has been played out over and over again in human history — people fearing something they don’t understand. During the last several weeks, some residents of the Monterey Peninsula have been driven to near hysteria over the state agriculture department’s plan to spray a mysterious chemical across a wide area to disrupt the reproductive cycle of an Australian species of moth that somehow made it to our shores and threatens to do millions of dollars worth of damage to local agriculture. The very name of the type of chemical — pheromone — is weird and sounds scary and is something most people aren’t familiar with.

Obviously, a cost-benefit analysis is in order to measure the risk to the human population if the pheromone is sprayed vs. the cost to agriculture if it is not. And who should provide this analysis? Not community activists, not amateur environmentalists and not politicians. The people of the Monterey Peninsula should put their faith in scientists. If they say the pheromones which are to be sprayed aren’t harmful to humans, that’s good enough for us.

Water board unanimity?

IT IS refreshing to see that all the candidates for seats on the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District board agree that getting a new water supply should be the board’s No. 1 priority. Whether it’s to be a Cal Am desal plant, one built by the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District, an offshore desal operation such as that proposed by the Water Standards company or any other plan that is economically and environmentally responsible, all government agencies with the slightest say in the matter should be trying to get the darn thing built as quickly as possible.

Environmentalists want a water project so overpumping of the Carmel River, and its concomitant damage to the river’s flora and fauna, will cease.

Owners of vacant land, and businessmen who want to expand their stores, restaurants and hotels support a water project so they can get their fair share of a valuable public resource.

And everybody who uses water should realize the need for a project, too, so the taps don’t run dry during the next drought (which may have already started).

It’s going to be expensive, but as long as the new water project eliminates illegal pumping from the river and provides enough new water for the basic human needs of the community, we should all be willing to pay for it.
Dear Editor,

Not a blank slate.

Visitors to enjoy; vote this kind of “progress” down. Not a blank slate. Our city government cannot possibly make certain that literature remains alive and integral to the quality of life for you and for your money and greed. Protect Carmel’s extraordinary quality of life for the lowest common denominators of go the direction of the impossibly congested Virginia!

“googling.” The Developer is not local; he sounded so fishy to us that we did a little research. He has been established, there is no going back. Ocean Avenue? Once this kind of precedent has been set, there is no going back.

From previous page

Joyce and Kevin Murphy, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Not a blank slate
Dear Editor,

With their upcoming Authors and Ideas Festival, Jim and Cindy McGillen are attempting to raise the cultural level of Carmel to match that of their beloved Sun Valley. Carmel is, however, no tabula rasa, no cultural desert, devoid of writers and venues, are working hard, year round, to make certain that literature remains alive and accessible to all the citizens of Carmel.

Alex Vardamis, President, The Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation

CRA’s value
Dear Editor,

Last April, I attended the Carmel Residents’ Association’s extraordinary 20th anniversary gala, elegantly and tastefully staged at La Playa Hotel. At this event, many awards were presented to CRA members who had served the interests of the residents of Carmel in the intervening years. A host of CRA members were in attendance at this sold-out celebration, as were several city council members, including the mayor, who presented an honor to CRA for its 20 years of service to Carmel.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. McGillen success in the kitchen.

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Sheridan
Mackenzie Finch
Samantha Bailey
Anjeli Elkins
Allen Bret Champlin
Brenna Sammon
Madeline Parker
Justin Rusco
Brenna Sammon
Wesley Carssel
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Dylan Karman
Aileen Breit Champil
Bryan Esparza
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