Kenneth Parker’s images depict Nepal’s otherworldly landscape and its rich and fascinating culture.

‘Last Forbidden Kingdom’ on display at Sunset

By CHRIS COUNTS

WINDSWEPT AND nearly devoid of vegetation, the remote Nepalese district of Mustang is a place where fried yak dung and goat droppings serve as cooking fuel, where sheep horns hang over doorways to chase away evil spirits and where firewood is considered a sign of wealth.

And yet Mustang is also home to a collection of ancient Buddhist art so impressive that Carmel photographer Kenneth Parker has made three trips there since 2003 to capture what he calls “The Last Forbidden Kingdom.”

An exhibit of Parker’s photographs, “Buddhist Earth: Birthplace of Tibetan Buddhism,” opens Friday, May 30, at the Carmel Art Center, where the photographer has been living since 2006.

PARKER’S EXPLORE A Suburban woman who had been forced to leave her home in the district of Mustang in Nepal, and a plate glass window that was removed by burglars.

The Fresh bullet holes in the U.S. Embassy in N’Djamena were a clue: Vaughn Feather was not in for a leisurely trip to central Africa. And he didn’t want one.

“Last year I had finished a business consulting program, and I had some wanderlust,” he told The Pine Cone after returning home to Carmel. “I decided I should get involved in some kind of humanitarian program.”

Because of a long-standing interest in Africa, he decided that’s where he wanted to make a difference.

And thanks to a friend of a friend, he chose a unique program for his efforts: Rising International, headquartered in Felton, which bolsters third-world economies by helping the poorest of the poor — in places such as Afghanistan, Bosnia and Rwanda — turn their local crafts and handiworks into products that can be sold in the United States.

“In some of these situations, the people are so desperate, what they really need is help getting three meals a day,” said Carmel Jud, founder of Rising International, which has operations in more than 30 countries. “We look for an entrepreneurial opportunity that will help them — without it being charity.”

“Pretty much she arrived at Chad as a great possibili ty for me to help,” Feather said. The local economy is in tatters, and a flood of refugees from neighboring Darfur has added to the woes. Rising International’s goal was to set up basic export businesses in some of the refugee camps.

“The traditional model of charity isn’t working, and the people we work with will tell you that,” Jud said. “Nobody knew.”

The Pine Cone page 15A

PROLIFIC LOCAL BLACK WIDOWS SPARE THEIR MATES

By CHRIS COUNTS

THANKS TO the work of two spider researchers from Canada, the folks at Carmel Valley’s Hastings Natural History Reserve have had an opportunity to reexamine some of the myths surrounding the most feared, and perhaps most misunderstood, of arachnids — the black widow.

It turns out the local variety of the poisonous spider, the Western black widow, doesn’t eat its mate. But perhaps even more unusual is how common the black widow is — especially in Carmel Valley, researchers say.

See WIDOWS page 15A

Speedy, stealthy burglars hit Carmel Plaza

By MARY BROWNFIELD

AFTER REMOVING an entire plate glass window from its frame to enter the store early Friday morning, professional thieves took less than three minutes to stuff two large duffel bags with $80,000 worth of purses and belts from Louis Vuitton and escape, according to Carmel police.

The heist occurred three months after burglars crept into a rear hallway, cut through a wall of another Carmel Plaza store, The Cheese Shop, and stole more than $15,000 worth of rare wines.

Just before daybreak May 23, the burglars, cloaked in black and wearing masks, removed a strip from the base of the 6.5-foot-by-4-foot window and then peeled the rest of the rubber trim away.

“They lifted the window out and walked right in,” said Sgt. Mike Calhoun. “Since they removed it without breaking it, they had to know either a glazier or had some window experience to know how.”

See BURGLARS page 13A

Two more dogs in ‘vicious’ hearing

By KELLY NIX

TWO SEARCH and rescue dogs that attacked a woman and her Labrador in Pacific Grove five months ago must be moved out of town or permanently restrained, a hearing officer ruled last week.

The decision, issued May 20 by Robert E. Davis, comes after a Dec. 30, 2007, attack by the two dogs, both German shepherds, on the Lab as she was getting into a car.

The dog hearing, the second in the city’s history, came about 10 months after KION TV anchorwoman Olga Oschina’s Maltese was fatally mauled by a Labrador and a German shepherd in front of the PG post office July 25, 2007. Those dogs was banned from the city.

In the December attack, the two German shepherds, Lola, 2, and Bear, 11, owned by Monty Reitz, jumped Reitz’ 4-foot fence and ran toward Tule, a 2-year-old female Labrador owned by Casey Conover Houston, and began biting the dog, according to Davis’ report. Houston had been visiting her

See DOGS page 31A

Bassoonist makes a return engagement

By PAUL MILLER

THE FRESH bullet holes in the U.S. Embassy in N’Djamena were a clue: Vaughn Feather was not in for a leisurely trip to central Africa. And he didn’t want one.

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See WIDOWS page 15A

A Carmel Valley black widow, who’s probably not a widow.


May 30-June 5, 2008
Defoliation the result of hungry worms, not sudden oak death

WHILE THE sight of defoliated live oak trees might be disconcerting to some residents, it’s actually nothing to worry about, suggested Mark Stromberg, director of Carmel Valley’s Hastings Natural History Reserve.

Despite the concerns of locals who recently contacted him, Stromberg said most defoliated Carmel Valley live oaks are not suffering from the much-feared sudden oak death, which has decimated the local tanbark oak population.

“If a tree gets sudden oak death, its leaves don’t fall off right away,” he said.

Instead, the widespread defoliation is a sign the trees are being invaded by millions of California oak moth larvae, which seem to have an insatiable appetite for the leaves of live oaks.

Thankfully, the oak worms do little actual damage to the trees. And the defoliation is part of a natural cycle, Stromberg explained.

“An afflicted tree might be bare for a year, but they typically return to normal,” he said. “I’ve watched this occur on oaks at Hastings, and the next year, you can’t tell they were ever defoliated. It’s nature’s way of thinning the forest.”

Oak moth populations can rise and fall dramatically from year to year. Stromberg suspects the weather has something to do with the annual fluctuations.

“I think [the rise in the oak moth larvae population] is because we’ve had a dry spring,” he added. “Oak worms are killed by diseases caused by naturally-occurring bacteria, fungi and viruses. Because it’s been so dry this year, bacteria and fungi just haven’t been able to get going.”

Sudden oak death, meanwhile, is caused by Phytophthora ramorum, a pathogen that has plagued oaks since the mid-1990s. While live oaks are affected by sudden oak death, tanbark oaks have suffered the most. The principal symptom of sudden oak death on a live oak is the appearance of areas of discoloration on its trunk and the presence of “bleeding” sap.

For more information about sudden oak death, visit www.sudden oakdeath.org.
Strict conservation rules for people who believed they were exempt

Bringing them under the rules would “correct some things that should probably have been corrected a long time ago,” water demand manager Stephanie Pinart told The Pine Cone. A 2006 court ruling limits the amount of water that can be pumped from the Seaside Basin, which underlies Seaside, part of Fort Ord and much of the Highway 68 corridor. Cal Am, the City of Seaside and Sand City have to abide by the pumping limitations. But customers in the three small areas don’t have to — yet.

At the May 19 meeting, residents who live within those areas spoke out against the possibility they might have to conserve water the way other Peninsula residents do. They “expressed displeasure with the proposed ordinance and how it seems inconsistent with provisions in their purchase agreement with [Cal Am],” said MPWMD general manager Darby Fuerst. So many people showed up for the meeting it spilled into another room where attendees watched on TV.

Hidden Hills resident Russ Hatch told The Pine Cone the inclusion of his area’s water system in the MPWMD water conservation system is upsetting since it was believed Hidden Hills’ water interests were protected. Hatch, who addressed directors at Monday’s meeting, said the Carmel Valley Mutual Water Company, which served all of Hidden Hills, rebuilt its water system and then sold it to Cal Am in 1994. Hatch served as the Mutual Water Company’s administrative officer.

He said the contract the Mutual Water Company forged with Cal Am included a stipulation that Cal Am would maintain the wells and the company “wouldn’t bring us into the overall problems of the Monterey Peninsula,” Hatch said.

But, he said, that is exactly what would happen if the ordinance is passed. “Our position is they have set aside our connection,” Hatch said.

In a letter to the district, Hidden Hills resident Karlheinz Woehler said the terms of the sale of the Hidden Hills water system to Cal Am should be binding.

“In no way should the seller be held responsible for Cal Am’s gross mismanagement of the Peninsula’s water resources in the last 30 years,” Woehler wrote.

And while those conservation rules could be increased, “they still wouldn’t have any restrictions on getting permits,” she said. “If someone in Hidden Hills wants to add a bath- room, there is nothing that says they can’t do that.”

And those users won’t be bound by more strict conservation rules outlined in Order 95-10, which was issued in 1995. The main changes for residents in those areas include paying higher water rates if the district goes into Stage 3 conservation, being subject to rationing if necessary, and requiring users take part in an audit to set a limit for users who exceed 220 gallons per month and meet other conditions.

The district contends the new rules are necessary because of a 2006 judgment that limited the amount of water Carmel Valley Mutual Water Company could deliver from the Seaside Basin to those areas.

According to that decision, Cal Am is only allowed to pump 345 acre-feet of water per year, even though the current average demand in the three areas is about 480 acre-feet, Fuerst said. And by 2017, Cal Am must reduce pumping to zero. Therefore, in order to continue to serve the three satellite systems, Cal Am will need to develop new supplies from outside the Seaside Basin. That will also require upgrading Cal Am’s infrastructure to connect the satellite systems with that of the Peninsula. The board Monday agreed to bring the matter up again in 60 days.

In a packed meeting in Monterey last week, residents in the Hidden Hills and Laguna Seca neighborhoods along Highway 68 expressed frustration they could soon be bound to the same conservation and rationing rules as other Peninsula water users.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District board last Monday began the first steps toward approving an ordinance that would expand the district’s “water resource system” to include customers in the Ryan Ranch, Hidden Hills and Bishop systems, which have about 1,100 water connections.

They drew from some of the same sources as other Monterey Peninsula water users, and officials said the lack of strict conservation guidelines for the neighborhoods could lead to excess water use.

Approved to do VA/FHA loans

FHA loan is a mortgage loan that is insured by the Federal Government. Since the government insures the loan the lenders are more willing to give out loans with fewer requirements and stipulations. We also do VA loans. Bring your mortgage statement for a free mortgage analysis.

1. FHA Loans Benefits
2. Lower Down Payment Requirements
3. Competitive Interest Rates
4. No Credit Score Requirements
5. Lower Closing Cost
6. No Origination Fee
7. No Prepayment Penalties

Gentle Yoga

Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. or Thursdays, 4-5 p.m.

Hartnell Professional Center • $35/4 sessions or $60/8 sessions

Explore your inner peace and grow beyond stress through gentle yoga. You will be guided through a variety of gentle yoga postures, breathing exercises, and meditation techniques to foster relaxation and mental clarity.

Safe Sitter

Friday and Saturday, June 20 and 21 (you must attend both sessions)

Hartnell Professional Center • $100

Experience gentle stretching and strengthening through yoga. Breathing and simple relaxation exercises encourage flexibility and stress reduction. Learn how to stretch at your ability level and within your limitations.

Topics in Diabetes

Wednesday, June 4, 7-8:30 p.m. • Conference rooms A, B, and C

Call 654-7225 for information or to be added to our mailing list.

This group offers expert speakers and group discussion to increase your knowledge about diabetes. Family members and support persons are welcome.

Walk and Win

Mondays and Wednesdays, June 16-August 6, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Monterey Peninsula Community College • Admission: $45 + $10 fee per class

Earn one CEU credit for $10. Register at your first class.

For more information, call 654-7780.

Women’s Heart Risk Assessment

Women have unique heart risk factors. They are at risk for heart disease due to the effects of aging, menopause, and the menopausal phase. Women also have the risk of heart disease due to their lifestyle. Women’s Heart Risk Assessment is a heart health assessment that can be done for $125-4765.

Heart disease is the leading killer of women. We can help you identify and reduce your risk. This new program, designed just for women, takes a comprehensive look at your personal risk for heart disease. It includes lab tests, a risk assessment, and consultation with a cardiologist.

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula

Innovative healthcare with a human touch
**The Whiffenpoofs**

The world’s oldest and most famous a cappella group

**LIVE AND IN CONCERT**

Your are invited to join us for an evening of the finest in a cappella singing. The evening program draws from over 90 years of original arrangements, ranging in style from classic jazz to folk songs, to The world’s oldest and most famous a cappella group, The Whiffenpoofs.

**YOU’RE INVITED!!**

To attend The Annual Meeting of the Carmel Area Chapter of The American Red Cross

**DATE**
Saturday, June 28, 2008

**PLACE**
Highlands Inn, Surf Room

**TIME**
5:30PM – 7:30PM

• Buffet Dinner and Drinks
• State of the Chapter Address by the Board Chair
• The Vision for the future by the Executive Director
• Carmel Red Cross Chapter Historical Exhibit

$50 per person all inclusive

Please call the Carmel Chapter for reservations by June 15, 2008 at 831-624-6921

American Red Cross  
Carmel Chapter

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, MAY 10**

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male on Mission Street reported having a dispute with his 13-year-old son. The son did not want to go with his father to a friend’s house. The son wanted to stay with his mother for the evening. There is a court-ordered custody agreement giving visitation to the father for the weekend. Parties counseled, and the son went with his father.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of dogs barking outside the noted location on Carmelo Street. The officer arrived and noted the dogs were in the front yard and were barking continuously and loudly. The owner came home while the officer was there and found the dogs had opened a door and exited the residence on their own. The owner of the dogs did not let them outside and was warned for the excessive barking in a residential area.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance on scene of a medical emergency on San Carlos Street for a female in her 80s who was experiencing dizziness. Firefighters assisted with patient assessment, oxygen administration, diagnostics, packaging and gathering information. The patient was transported to SVMH by ambulance.

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**POLICE LOG page 28A**

**Jacqueline Rainwater Ramsay, 88 years**

Jacqueline Rainwater Ramsay was born April 20, 1920, in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, the first child of Alva Weir (“A.W.”) and Ethel Rainwater. She was admitted to Hendrix College in 1938 and graduated in the class of 1942. Her real love was libraries and library science, in which she earned a master’s degree from Louisiana State University in 1944.

In the mid-1940s she worked for the Arkansas State Library Commission, driving a truck all over the state to supervise and restock small local libraries. In 1946 on another library assignment she met her future husband, William R. Ramsay, then in Army Air Corps uniform (demobilization was still in progress), who asked her for a book on musical counterpoint.

In the late 1940s for different reasons: she to work as director of the Brooklyn Public Library’s small branch libraries, and he to attend RIT’s engineering school. They married in New York, at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, on March 28, 1950.

They settled in the San Francisco Bay area in 1956. Jacqueline Ramsay remained active in library matters, setting up small libraries in elementary schools and serving on the board of supervisors of the Santa Clara County Library.

Jacqueline and William Ramsay retired to Carmel in 1988. After her death in 2002, she continued to live in Carmel, enjoying her last interests in life was encouraging the education of the college-age women whom she employed as assistants to help her live semi-independently. She died peacefully at home on May 2, 2008, after complications from a fall ten weeks earlier. She is survived by her son Clay Ramsay, her grandson Zeo the Rainwater, and her brother Gary Rainwater.

A memorial service for both Jacqueline & William Ramsay will be held on Saturday, June 7, at 11 am, at the Church of the Wayfarer in Carmel, Lincoln St. and 7th Ave.
The mother of a Carmel High School student injured in a horrific car crash in July 2006 that killed two of his classmates is suing the parents of the dead driver.

Dawn Schneider, mother of Kenny Schneider, 17, injured in the crash that killed driver Alex Robbins, 16, and passenger Ryan Field, 17, is suing the Robbins family for hospital and medical expenses, loss of earning capacity and general damages, according to the suit filed May 13.

Schneider's suit is the most recent of a string of lawsuits filed against the Robbins family and its insurance company.

Dawn Schneider's lawsuit alleges Alex Robbins' negligence led to Kenny Schneider's injuries, which are not specified in the suit. The Schneiders' Oakland-based attorney, Steven Brewer, was out of town and couldn't be reached for comment.

Robbins and Field died after the Ford F-150 pickup, in which the boys were headed northbound on Pitkins Curve just south of Lucia after a surfing trip, plummeted 450 feet after a data logger malfunction caused it to careen off the side of the road.

Another lawsuit in crash that killed two CHS students.

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NEW LEADERS IN DISTRICT, SCHOOLS

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WHILE LEADERSHIP changes can be jarring, and ideal candidates for top-level positions difficult to find, a combination of highly qualified employees eager for new challenges and an unexpectedly large pool of applicants made the task of filling several vacancies this summer easier than expected for Carmel Unified School District Superintendent Marvin Biasotti and the board of education.

As a result, come July 1, the district will have a new director of curriculum, instruction and assessment; Carmel Middle School will have a new principal and vice principal, and Carmel High will have a new assistant principal. The only remaining task is finding someone to head Tularcitos.

Moving across the driveway

After six years as principal of CMS, Edmund Gross will become the district’s new director of curriculum and instruction, replacing Mary Bull, who is now head of the Vallejo school district.

“Edmund has really proved his leadership at Carmel Middle School,” Biasotti said. “He has a deep interest in curriculum but also a strong interest in instruction, and that’s what the district needs to focus on.”

While his commute will not change—the district office is located across the driveway from the middle school—the work certainly will.

The role “is multifaceted,” explained Biasotti, including developing new courses, working with teachers, facilitating textbook adoptions, helping staff improve and taking on a host of other responsibilities.

When he shows up for his new job, Gross will already have a lengthy to-do list, including implementing new math and foreign language curricula, and trying to get 75 percent of the district’s high school graduates to meet requirements for state universities. He will also be in charge of ensuring the schools are fulfilling the requirements of state standardized tests.

“We’re working in the district to close the achievement gap between our mainstream students and our students who come from backgrounds that present challenges, like English-language learners,” Biasotti added. “Edmund will assume a large role in facilitating that.”

The timing was perfect for Gross. While he has enjoyed his job at the helm of CMS since his arrival in August 2002, he said seven or eight years is the maximum time someone should lead a particular school. Changes at the top ensure the environment remains fresh and the students benefit from new administrators with new ideas.

“I’ve been doing the school thing for 26 years,” he said. “It’s time to take on a new challenge, learn something new and my wife and I can flex my wings a little bit.”

Moving on up

While losing a principal at the district’s only middle school could cause concern, the board and the CMS faculty rested easy in their desire to see vice principal Ken Griest take the top spot, according to Biasotti.

When he asked teachers what they wanted in their new principal, “they were describing Ken in many, many ways, in terms of his professional traits and in terms of his interpersonal skills.”

They envisioned someone with integrity, vision for the school, good listening and communication skills, flexibility and creativity, an academic focus, a desire to do what’s best for the students, an ability to balance various demands, and knowledge of high-tech, according to Biasotti.

“He has their respect—that was a key message they were giving me,” he said. While Gross, Biasotti and the board “truly saw Ken as the heir apparent,” the school employees’ approval sealed the deal. “Once I knew that, it was a relatively easy decision.”

In a March 31 letter to CMS parents describing the changes, Biasotti said promoting Griest was “the best way to provide for both continuity and growth.”

The CMS assistant principal since July 2005, Griest was formerly principal of a Monterey elementary school and assistant principal at a middle school in South Lake Tahoe.

New assistants

Naming Griest’s replacement wasn’t as easy, partly because there were so many applicants—a group that was narrowed from 50 to six, then to two, with Ryan Peterson of Palo Alto Unified School District ultimately chosen.

“He’s a math teacher, but he’s been on special assignment doing administrative functions for two years,” Biasotti said. “Many of his duties are equivalent to what an assistant principal does,” including supervising various departments, and handling student discipline and attendance issues.

“He has a nice range of experience and exceptional references,” Biasotti said. “I’m not sure I’ve ever read references stronger.”

With the departure of Elizabeth Laborde, Carmel High School will also have a new assistant principal—Martin Enriquez, an assistant principal in charge of counseling and pupil services at Seaside High School.

At Carmel High, which has 750 students compared with Seaside’s 1,315, his responsibilities will focus on student discipline and supervising several departments.

“He’s had a nice range of leadership positions, including having been a middle school principal and an assistant principal at the high school level in the Salinas system and the Monterey system,” Biasotti said. “And he’s bilingual, which we’re really pleased about.”

See CUSD page 27A
I have a point... really

It’s always a risk to talk about a hobby or pastime in a public forum, especially when you’re surrounded by like-minded people who may or may not be interested. We’ve all found out the hard way that the topics of pets, politics and pastimes are best discussed with those of like mind and a general interest in said pets, politics and pastimes. (I don’t want to hear about your husband’s collection. No, seriously, I don’t. Seriously.)

So the fact that people are running around town and I’m about to tell you a story that involves this year’s Big Sur International Marathon might cause a sudden fog of annual open house....

Come one and come all the visitor center annual open house....

Lisa is bringing everything but the sand for her BEACH PARTY theme

Thursday, June 5, 12 – 6 p.m.
San Carlos btw 5th & 6th.

Thompson Lange, Board Chair, Homescapes Carmel

So excited enough about meeting Jeff Galloway that the people I talked with to Carmel, stayed in Carmel, shopped in Carmel and ate in Carmel during a daytime event it means I’ve broken my promise not to talk about myself.

But I will talk about the 70 runners from all over the country who came to Carmel, stayed in Carmel, shopped in Carmel and ate in Carmel during a daytime event it means I’ve broken my promise not to talk about myself.

And I’ll tell you, the advice he gave literally changed my life... I went from training to run a marathon, trust me you’re running it even if it means cutting back on other expenses).

"Marriage and Myth – Matrimonio y Mito" Exhibition, Steinbeck Center, Salinas, June 27-28, 2008

So thanks to local businesses working together to bring people to Carmel in a creative way, we have ambassadors talking up our town with the best kind of advertising possible... Word of mouth.

And that, my friends, is the point.

Thompson Lange is co-owner of Homescapes Carmel on 7th and Lincoln between 5th & 6th in Su Vecino Court, Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Not to mention that we’ve all found out the hard way that the topics of pets, politics and pastimes are best discussed with those of like mind and a general interest in said pets, politics and pastimes. (I don’t want to hear about your husband’s collection. No, seriously, I don’t. Seriously.)

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Thursday, June 5, 12 – 6 p.m.
San Carlos btw 5th & 6th.
Police: Suspects living high life on stolen credit cards, cash

By MARY BROWNFIELD

Law enforcement agencies worked together to nab a couple of burglary suspects while they rode in a limo they booked with a stolen credit card, according to Carmel Police Sgt. Mike Calhoun.

San Jose resident Ezequiel Hernandez, 23, and a 29-year-old Salinas woman were taken into custody at gunpoint in Carmel Valley Ranch May 8 with the help of Pacific Grove police and the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office, Calhoun said. While the man ended up in Monterey County Jail, the woman was released but remains a “person of interest” in the ongoing investigation of several thefts from cars.

Carmel police began their search for suspects after a woman reported someone had stolen credit cards and cash from her unlocked car on Crespi Avenue while she was at work May 7.

“We started looking at the credit card records and found a charge for a limo service, Main Event,” Calhoun said. “We called, and they verified that yes, they had a reservation, and we were able to set up a sting operation.”

Carmel detective Jesse Juarez devised the plan, according to Calhoun. Suspecting the criminals might have struck Pacific Grove as well, Carmel P.D. asked if P.G. officers wanted to be involved in the planned arrests. Officers also advised the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office, since the suspects were in its jurisdiction.

Police advised the limo driver to pick up the couple from Carmel Valley Ranch, where they were staying, as arranged, and told him to expect to be pulled over soon after.

“We told him to stop the car, take the keys out and walk back to us,” Calhoun said. After the driver was safely away and had advised officers of the number of passengers, they would approach with guns drawn. It worked as planned: The driver told police Hernandez and the woman were inside, and officers ordered them out.

They took the suspects to the police station in Pacific Grove, where they were held and interviewed. They let the woman go but detained Hernandez on suspicion of grand theft.

Another luxury hotel Meanwhile, Monterey County Sheriff’s deputies were investigating a case at the Highlands Inn that ended up being related.
Fire victims surrender second story but cling to a skylight

By MARY BROWNFIELD

With the remains of their fire-ravaged home reduced to piles of debris and carted away, Louise Von Hasseln and David Frost received permission from the Carmel Design Review Board Wednesday to construct a new house on their Santa Lucia Avenue lot.

The one-story, U-shaped, stucco-sided house with attached garage — designed by DRB member Michael LoPage, who did not participate in the hearing — will be “visually interesting” but not too complicated, according to assistant planner Marc Wiener.

The gray slate roof of the three-bedroom, two-bathroom home will differentiate it from its stucco neighbors, and its low profile will respect their privacy, according to Wiener’s report to the board. He also said the new 1,911-square-foot house would fit well with the neighborhood.

But he suggested the couple use unclad wood windows and doors rather than the proposed aluminum clad, since city guidelines indicate wood is best unless it would not mesh with the design and style of the home. He also said some of the 13 proposed skylights should be moved or removed in order to prevent the light pollution that would bother the neighbors to the west.

Von Hasseln and Frost, whose home of 24 years caught fire during the night last September and was destroyed, told the board they had no objections to using unclad wood windows and doors.

Von Hasseln provided several supportive letters from neighbors and said she hoped their project could progress quickly so they can return to their own home.

The couple also agreed to shift a skylight proposed for the garage — where Frost spends time doing woodwork as a hobby — to the east side of the roof, but they reiterated their desire for a skylight over the dining room.

Frost described the evolution of their design and the concessions they had already made to Pam and Doug Coates, who own the two-story house to the west, which they built 10 years ago.

At first, Frost and Von Hasseln decided they wanted a two-story home, too.

“We thought if we went up, we would enjoy the view that all of our neighbors have,” Frost told the board May 28.

But the Coateses objected, even though Frost and Von Hasseln had not fought the Coateses’ planned two-story home despite their own concerns about privacy and view impacts.

“Our light was all taken away when the Coateses built their house,” Frost pointed out.

They decided to drop the second story anyway, but the neighbors still complained about the skylight.

“The skylight’s really to get natural light in and not bother anyone,” he said, adding that with Carmel’s small lots, “obviously you see other people’s houses.”

The Coateses, who did not attend the hearing, sent architect Brian Congleton in their place. The architect acknowledged the changes already made to accommodate some of the neighbors’ requests, including eliminating the second story and moving a skylight originally planned for the west side of the garage.

“The Coateses do want you to look very carefully at this one skylight,” he said. “Directly to the west is the Coateses’ first floor bedroom. French doors, and at night, light from that skylight will shine directly into their bedroom.”

But the chairman, Keith Paterson, pointed out that a skylight on the roof adjacent to the ground floor bedroom would create a minor intrusion.

And he observed Frost and Von Hasseln had demonstrated their willingness to address their neighbors’ concerns. Paterson speculated the skylight “would be a very minor issue as far as light is concerned at the ground-floor level.”

The applicant has shown good faith, and I’m inclined to cut him some slack,” commented board member Michael Lynch, and the rest of the board agreed, voting unanimously to approve Frost and Von Hasseln’s application. Board member Mary Bell was absent.

STREET SWEEPING HELPS THE SEA!

The Stormwater and Education Alliance (SEA) is asking all citizens to help protect the waters flowing into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Any polluted matter in the street can enter storm drains which flows directly to our lakes, rivers, creeks and ocean where it can harm marine life and pollute the water. Street sweeping helps to remove this matter and keep it out of the stormwater. Residents can help the street sweeper clean the trash and pollution from street gutters by moving vehicles off of the street on sweeping days.

Contact your public works department for street sweeping days:

Cities of:
- Carmel-by-the-Sea (831)620-2010
- Del Rey Oaks (831)384-8511
- Marina (831)884-1212
- Monterey and Sand City
- www.monterey.org/publicworks/strswp.html
- Pacific Grove (831)648-5722 www.ci.pg.ca.us
- Seaside (831)995-6269 www.ci.seaside.ca.us
- County of Monterey (831)755-4537

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Council gets first look at Forest Theater renovation plans

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WHILE TERMS such as “audience center multi-pavilion complex” and “multiple distributed speaker systems” might have caused some to fear the Forest Theater could become high-tech and slick, rather than preserved as rough and rustic, proponents of renovating the 58-year-old venue sought to reassure the Carmel City Council last week.

“The Forest Theater Foundation is very proud to present our predesign plan to the city council of Carmel-by-the-Sea, and thus to the Carmel community,” said Walt defaria, who is spearheading the effort to raise funds for updating the city-owned theater. “We stress that this is a starting point for discussion.”

Architect Richard McCann, whose firm is highly regarded in the field of theater design and renovation, described his predesign ideas to the city council May 20, including sound and lighting changes to minimize impacts on the neighbors, improved audience amenities, better walkways and emergency access, handicap accessibility, and more parking and open space.

Among his suggestions was the “audience center multi-pavilion complex,” a series of small buildings containing restrooms, “flex space” that could be used for a variety of purposes, a ticket sales booth and concessions stand.

Landscaping throughout would soften the boundaries and separate patrons waiting in line from those walking through. In the 550-seat theater, the benches would be made a bit more comfortable by angling their backs, and the decomposed granite underfoot would be replaced with a hard surface textured to appear natural. The center aisle would be eliminated in favor of two side aisles.

“That puts more seats in the center, where the audience relationship is critical,” McCann said. The benches would also be closer to the stage than they are now, further increasing open space.

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Police dispatcher goes racing

By MARY BROWNFIELD

WHILE MOST people know Jeff Olinger as the helpful guy behind the counter at Carmel Police Department, he’s also a devotee to motorsports who spent five years overseeing radio communications at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. Last weekend he was on the track, racing at Northern California’s Thunderhill Park in a car he rebuilt with his dad.

“I always wanted to get back into it but didn’t have the opportunity,” said Olinger, who sold everything he had to go racing upon leaving the Army in 1974, but had to quit a few years later after the funds dwindled. He got married and children came along.

Two years ago, he decided to reenter the sport and bought an open-wheel racer from a man in San Jose. He got the car but didn’t get on the track until March 2008.

“I decided this year was the year to put it together,” he said, so Olinger and his dad got to work last December restoring the 1981 Caldwell D13.5 that had sat unused for more than a decade.

Together, they reworked the car “pretty much from the ground up,” ordering new parts from Volkswagen and updating it to fit Olinger, who is larger than its previous driver.

“We renamed it the ‘D13.5’ because of all the work we did,” he said.

As with any auto restoration effort, blood, sweat and oil were shed, and in Olinger’s case, it all happened in the garage of his father’s home off River Road in Salinas.

“He’s 82 years old, and he’s still racing,” he said of his dad, Al Olinger.

After finishing the car, the duo tracked it up to Portland International Raceway the last weekend in March so Jeff Olinger could take the Sports Car Club of America school to obtain his racing license. To pass, a driver must spend at least six hours on the track and attend a three-hour “ground school,” during which instructors discuss car control, the meanings of the warning flags corner workers use on the track, and other details.

“There was snow and rain and hail,” he said. “I’ve never been in pre-grid and watched it snow while waiting to go out on the track.”

Those challenging conditions helped Olinger practice “how to get through the corners without slipping around too much,” and though his car has an open cockpit, the elements didn’t intrude much when he was moving.

“You don’t get too wet — it’s really surprising,” he said.

Like son, like father

Olinger’s dad worked as a crew member for the school, having obtained his national competition license long ago. While and it’s typically the father who sparks his son’s or daughter’s interest in motorsports, in the Olingers’ case, it was the other way around.

After Jeff Olinger decided to give up racing the car he had bought in 1974, his dad took it off his hands. The older Olinger took a break from the sport a little while later, but got back into it in 1992 and has been competing throughout the United States on an amateur level ever since.

See OLINGER, page 13A

PHOTO/COURTESY JEFF OUNGER

Wearing another kind of uniform — a racing suit — police dispatcher Jeff Olinger pilots his open-wheel racecar at Road Atlanta in Georgia.

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PHOTO/COURTESY JEFF OUNGER

Wearing another kind of uniform — a racing suit — police dispatcher Jeff Olinger pilots his open-wheel racecar at Road Atlanta in Georgia.
Frances Arriola has left the building

By BEVERLY BORGMAN

MARY FRANCES Sevier Arriola, 94, passed away May 23 at home in Carmel, where she and “Goody” cartoonist Gus Arriola had lived for more than 30 years. Gus died Feb. 2, only days after their 65th wedding anniversary.

Frances was best known to her friends, had been ill for some time. After several therapeutic blood transfusions, she decided she’d had enough pain and was ready to move on.

This she did with the grace she’d always shown, greeting vis-
itors these last few weeks with good humor, blue eyes sparkling and cheeks carefully powdered.

Frances was born in Deming, N.M., but was shuffled from mother to grandmother to aunt, and back to mother just as Frances was becoming an adolescent. Though the details of those early years are still a bit unclear, it’s easy to believe that the young Frances was a challenge.

The last move took her to Monroe, La. Only recently she told of being the subject of a sermon in the local church. The minister condoned her as a “sinner” because she had publicly shaken the hand of the then-famous boxer, Jack Dempsey, who hap-
pened to be in town.

Apparently, boxing as well as dancing and card-playing were not looked upon with favor in the small Southern town. Upon graduating from high school, Frances fled to San Francisco.

The petite brunette with the recently minted Southern accent caught the eye of sev-
eral young men, but it was the aspiring cartoonist, Gus Arriola, who won her heart.

They were both employed in the animation department at MGM, though in those days the women worked separate-
ly.

It took a company Christmas party for Gus to make his move. They married in 1943. Following the war years and the birth of their son, Carlin, the Arriolas lived for a time in La Jolla and Arizona. In 1956 they moved to Carmel and almost instantaneously became part of the extended cartoonist family which included Hank Ketcham and Eldon Dedini.

Gus became one of the group of artists, teachers, lawyers, doctors and others who congregated at what had been the lab-
oratory of the marine biologist Doc Ricketts, immortalized in John Steinbeck’s “ Cannery Row.”

It was very much a “good old boys” club, now and then inviting the wives and girlfriends to in the music, stimu-

Frances, however, did not lack for friends. In a biography on the actress Jean Arthur, Frances is quoted as enjoying the parties at Arthur’s house, which was just down the street from the Arriola’s first house near Carmel Point.

In 1990, there was a move to protect that Arriola house as “historic,” but Gus nixed the idea, saying it was just an old, tired house. It was torn down shortly after.

As the wife of a man fast becoming something of a celebrity, Frances often stood apart as his fans swirled around him at receptions. She usually wore black (perhaps to further recede into the background?), but black flaunted her as a stunning young brunette, and again in later years, as her hair turned a soft snowy white.

To know Frances was to often find yourself suddenly laughing out loud. She was smart, she was witty and, it would have to be said, she had a sharp tongue. Pompous people were her favorite targets, though her attacks were rarely, if ever, serious.

Even in her 90s, with the soft sweet face of an apple doll, she had perfect comic timing, never failing to address the VIP technician who came to draw blood as “Dracula.”

Even the nurses at the oncology center came to enjoy Frances’ visits, as she never failed to brighten their often dif-
ficult day.

Frances and Gus endured the greatest loss any parent can experience — the death of their son when he was still a young man. Not long after that, in the early ’80s, Gus retired his “goon” color strip. "I retired him" for Frances. On papers she only recently filled out, she listed her prior occupation as “production manager.”

A bright spot in her later years was getting reacquainted with her granddaughter, who lives on the East Coast. Ramona Arriola McNamara visited this past February, bring-
ing with her a brand new baby, great grandson Thomas. Ramona and husband Whitney also have a 3-year-old daugh-
ter, Gwen.

Frances requested there be no services.

The Farmers’ Market returns to the Barnyard!

Every Tuesday
through September
New hours 9am to 1pm

Today’s Real Estate
by MAUREEN MASON

When Housing Economies Go Awry

Consider the needs of a community.

In a fairly small world, whose ser-
civities we most depend on should have
an accessible and affordable kitchen as a “basic necessity.”

Author as a member of the community.

In the past few years, with the loss of a number of long-time residents, our community has lost a significant number of housing options. In the past, residents have been able to choose from a variety of housing options, from single-family homes to small apartments. However, with the increasing cost of living, many residents are faced with the difficult choice of choosing between their basic necessities and their ability to afford a safe and healthy home.

The problem is not unique to our community, as it is a widespread issue across the nation. According to a recent report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the number of affordable and available homes for low-income renters has decreased significantly in recent years.

As a member of the community, I urge residents to consider the needs of a community when making decisions about housing. We must ensure that all residents have access to affordable and safe housing options. This is not only a moral obligation, but also a necessity for the continued vitality and prosperity of our community.

Let us work together to ensure that all residents have access to the basic necessities of a healthy and safe home. Together, we can make a difference.

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Moth legislation passes

THE CALIFORNIA State Assembly Thursday this week passed legislation that calls for state agencies to be more accountable in their plans to eradicate the invasive light brown apple moth.

Supported by Assemblyman John Laird, the Assembly passed ACR 117, a resolution that compiles the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s and other state agen-
cies to address unresolved health issues surrounding the LBAM eradication plans.

Also passed was AB 2763, which would require stricter rules for certain pesticides that are used to control an animal, plant or insect. Both bills move to the Senate for consideration.
From page 11A

In early April, father, son and a couple of other longtime racing buddies spent a weekend at Roebing Road in Bloomington, Ga., about 20 miles from Savannah. The nine-turn track is flat and fast — a sharp contrast with the hills and tight corners of Laguna Seca — and allows drivers to put the pedal to the metal on a 1,600-foot straight. Conditions were hot and humid, and sometimes rainy.

“There was thunder and lightning, and they had to stop all the practice and qualifying,” Olinger said, since driving amid lightning strikes is less than safe.

Fortunately, conditions cleared Sunday, which was race day, but Olinger wasn’t part of the field.

“My engine blew Saturday afternoon during the second lap of qualifying,” he said, so he spent the remainder of the weekend working as support crew for his dad and the other men, all of whom were racing.

“We took four cars there,” he explained. He worked to get a good engine back in the Caldwell, but when he still had no motor a few days before the SCCA club races at his home track, Laguna Seca, May 3-4, his dad offered his.

“My dad was going to do everything he could to get me out there,” Olinger said. Ironically, in the end, the blown motor was repaired in time for race weekend. They put it in his dad’s car so both men could race.

On Saturday, the duo qualified close to each other at the back of a pack that included much faster cars, and they finished their race Sunday within a spot of each other, each having moved up several positions.

“When I got out of the car, I was just grinning from ear to ear. You can’t have this much fun,” Olinger said, even though he didn’t beat his dad.

While he enjoyed racing at Thunderhill — a track he had not driven before — the highlight was the birth of Olinger’s grandson, Christopher Olinger (named after his nephew, who was murdered in Pacific Grove 11 years ago). Having driven up Wednesday, Olinger drove down Thursday to meet the new family member in person, missing track practice but making it back in time for Friday’s qualifying session and the weekend’s races. He finished well behind the leaders but pronounced the venture great nonetheless and has plans for mechanical work to make his car faster.

OLINGER
From page 11A

BURLGARS
From page 1A

Once inside, it took the burglars two minutes and 45 seconds to fill their duffel bags and flee the store, according to Calhoun. Police learned of it from the alarm company at 5:14 a.m. and arrived about 90 seconds later, but the suspects were gone.

But they left a few items behind, including one of the gloves used for handling the glass, and a purse and belt found near the koi pond in Devondorf Park.

“We think they were probably rushing to get away,” said Calhoun. Officers also found a crowbar at the scene, and broken glass on the ground near where they believe the getaway car was.

Police hope to determine who sold the glove and the crowbar, and are asking experts to review the surveillance video to dig up clues about the suspects, whose eyes are visible through their ski masks.

“We do know one of them is white, because when he bent over, you could see the skin,” Calhoun said.

While two people are visible on the video, a third may have been involved, he added.

Considering the speed at which they executed the crime, Calhoun suspects the culprits are professionals who will sell the merchandise on eBay or some other way that allows anonymity.

The crime also evoked memories of the June 2004 pen heist from Bittner, a block away from Carmel Plaza. In that case, the suspects forced open a rear window, emptied the till of its change and stole about $500 in stamps.

“Other businesses hit for more information. 626-1774

And in the case of Christopher’s restaurant, they gained access with a screwdriver and broke in.

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Carmel reads The Carmel Pine Cone

"You can't have this much fun," Olinger said.
Beginning May 30, low-cost Allegiant Air will offer nonstop flights three times a week — Wednesday, Friday and Sunday — between Monterey Peninsula Airport and McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas.

“We are very excited to offer a convenient, low-fare option to Las Vegas,” said Robert DeVoce, chairman of the airport board.

Flights will depart Monterey at 3 p.m., arriving in Las Vegas at 4:15. Return flights will depart at 1:05 p.m. and arrive in Monterey at 2:20. A 150-seat MD-80 jet will transport passengers to Vegas, a flight that will cost passengers as little as $69 each way.

The service is also good for local travelers who need to fly into Las Vegas to catch a connecting flight en route to somewhere else.

Las Vegas-based Allegiant Air also offers air and hotel vacation packages to Vegas as low as $134 per person, double occupancy. On Friday, May 30, Allegiant Air and the airport are celebrating the airline’s inaugural flight from Monterey to Vegas.
CHAD

From page 1A

says, ‘give us food.’ They say, ‘Give us a way to make money.’" In the middle of April, and paying his own way, Feather set off on a 28-hour plane trip through New York and Paris to N’Djamena, the capital of Chad, where a recent coup attempt included gunfire directed at the American Embassy.

And then another flight took him to the remote town of Abeche, where Feather was able to set up housekeeping in the residence of an aid worker.

“The water flowed from midnight to 5 a.m., there was electricity 10 hours a day, and there were lots of mosquitoes," Feather said. “You’re just struck by how desperate and desolate the place is.”

And because there’s no banking system, aid workers are susceptible to being robbed for their cash and expensive vehicles. “While I was there, a worker for Save the Children was killed in a carjacking,” Feather said. “Actually, I would.”

To sign up for a house party, or to learn more about Rising International, go to www.risinginternational.org

WIDOWS

From page 1A

“We figured we’d find one of the spiders about every 50 meters,” said MacLeod. “They have their own world and their own territories, and there were definitely don’t want to let children get bitten.”

MacLeod clearly doesn’t suffer from arachnophobia, and Hastings, it turns out, provides an ideal environment for the spiders, who tend to live in small holes covered by webs.

The webs differ depending on how well the female spider has done, it’s great news for University of Toronto graduate students Emily MacLeod and Maria Modau. The two spider researchers are laying the groundwork for what could be as long as a five-year study of black widows at Hastings.

“We’re looking at their mating habits,” said MacLeod. “That’s the perfect habitat for black widows.”

Remarkably, researchers handle black widows with little concern they will be bitten. “We’ve been working with them for years, and nobody has ever been bitten,” MacLeod observed. “It’s difficult for them to perceive human skin. Plus, they aren’t very aggressive. They’re not out to bite humans.”

Despite how common they are, black widows are not that easy to find. “The risk of coming across one isn’t too high,” she insisted.

But MacLeod advises against tempting fate. “You wouldn’t want to get bitten,” she cautioned. “It’s painful. And you definitely don’t want to let children get bitten.”

MacLeod clearly doesn’t suffer from arachnophobia, and she discourages people from overreacting to the presence of a black widow. “They have their own world and their own ways of communicating with one another,” she added. “You can kill them if you want, but you might take a good look at them first. They might be more interesting than you think.”

And at the nearby refugee camps — each one with about 20,000 residents — he thought a local basket called a Taback could sell back home.
After historic North Korea tour, bassoonist returns to C.V.

By CHRIS COUNTS

As THE principal bassoonist for the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, Judith LeClair has played in some of the world’s most memorable concert halls. But it’s unlike-

LeClair performs a recital at Hidden Valley Friday, May 30. Appropriately enough, she’ll be accompanied by her husband on piano.

As an important player in the oldest active symphony orchestra in the United States, LeClair has jour-

The Philharmonic performed in Pyongyang Feb. 26, marking the most signif-

icant cultural visit by U.S. citizens to the isolated communist country since the end of the Korean War.

“She was featured prominently on the trip,” Meckel reported.

A gifted player and teacher, LeClair is no stranger to the spotlight. When she was just 23, she became the first woman — and the youngest person — to serve as principal bassoon-

LeClair performs a circa-1940 Heckel bassoon. Her first teacher, an older student, used the instrument until he died tragically in an accident at 19. The bassoon remains to this day her only instrument.

A CELEBRATION OF THE

(KINGDOM)

world, preserving a wealth of historic and creative artifacts Parker captured on film.

Parker explained. “Between the soil and the region’s low humid-

toys. The paved areas were not yet paved. All that really had to be done was clean them.”

The birthplace of Tibetan Buddhism, Parkers calls Mustang, “the last vestige of true, Tibetan Buddhist cul-

While Mustang’s artistic culture is well preserved, Parker isn’t sure how long it will stay that way. Specifically, he’s worried about China.

Mustang’s isolation “Probably isn’t going to last long,” he suggested. “The Chinese are building a road to it. They’ll kill it with tourism and turn it into a theme park like [Tibetan cap-

The monasteries of Mustang in Nepal reveal a remarkable artistic culture. Parker plans to publish an ambitious coffee table book featuring photographs from his three trips to the region. The book will also include images of Buddhist art from Cambodia and Burma. He said the Dalai Lama plans to write a foreword to the book.

Homeless Tibetans offer blessing

In addition to Parker’s fascinating images, Friday’s recep-

tion offers an impressive — if somewhat unusual — guest list. Lama Zopa Rinpoche and Khenpo Tsultrim Gyamtso Rinpoche, two of America’s most prominent Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leaders, will be on hand to offer a blessing.

“These guys are the rock stars of lamas,” explained Dennis High, director of the photography center.

The two spiritual leaders were living at the Pema Osel Ling Tibetan Center in the Santa Cruz mountains near Watsonville when a devastating wildfire struck last week. The Tibetan center’s residents were evacuated, and the wildfire’s flames, at one point, surrounded the rural retreat. Its residents still haven’t returned.

They had spot fires on the property,” Parker reported. “Two cabins burned.”

Thanks to Parker and a group of local residents, the temporarily homeless Tibetans will spend this weekend in luxu-

ry. After the reception, they’ll stay at Ansel Adams former Carmel Highlands home.

The following day, they’ll travel to the Esalen Institute, where presumably they’ll enjoy a relaxing soak in the hot tubs. They’ll spend Saturday at a spectacu-

lar private residence just south of Esalen. Along the way, they’ll be treated to the culinary wizardry of local caterer Michael Jones.

The exhibit continues through Aug. 1. The Center for Photography Art is located at Sunset Center in Suites 1 and 2. For more information, call (831) 625-5181 or visit www.photography.org.

Senior Living • Entertainment

Food & Wine

Carmel • Pebble Beach • Carmel Valley & The Monterey Peninsula


This week, LeClair presented a master class at Hidden Valley for bassoon students from around the world. The play-

ers ranged in the age from 16 to 28.

“One boy came here from Wuerzberg, Germany, while a girl traveled from Mongolia,” Meckel added.

LeClair and her husband serve on the staff at the presti-

gious Juilliard School at Lincoln Center in New York City.

The recital was free to the public. Hidden Valley is located at Carmel Valley and Ford roads. For more infor-

mation, call (831) 659-3115 or visit www.hiddenvalleymu-

sic.org.

The Carmel Valley Chamber of Commerce presents…

4th Annual Art & Wine Celebration

Saturday, June 7, 2008

11am-5 pm

Carmel Valley Village

60+ Artisans, Food Sampling, Live Entertainment & Wine

• Admission Free

• $10 charge for wine tasting includes 5 Wine Tastings, Food Samplings & Wine Class

RIDE THE GRAPEVINE EXPRESS-FREE, compliments of CVCC

Participating Wineries: Carmel Road, Chateau Simel, Bernardus Winery, Holister Estate, Juddian, Line Shack, Passionville Village Vineyards, Stillwater Vineyards, Szalay Winery, Talbott Vineyards, Ventana Vineyards, Zealard Cellars

www.carmelvalleychamber.com

P: 831-659-4000 E: info@carmelvalleychamber.com

Dancin’ with Gershwin

See page 27A

The Whiffenpoofs

May 30

See page 4A

CAMELOT

through June 15

See page 17A

SMUIN BALLET

June 6-7

See page 17A

CARMEL BY THE SEA

Carmel Presbyterian Church presents

Forest Theater Guild presents

CARMEL VALLEY CHAMBER

June 7

See page 16A

Senior Living • Entertainment

Food & Wine

Carmel • Pebble Beach • Carmel Valley & The Monterey Peninsula


PARKER'S TIBETAN ARTWORK:

To focus attention on the spectacular art of the Tibetan Buddhists in Mustang, a group of renowned photographers have been documenting the living culture. This week, the exhibit opened at the Esalen Institute, where presumably they’ll enjoy a relaxing soak in the hot tubs. They’ll spend Saturday at a spectacular private residence just south of Esalen. Along the way, they’ll be treated to the culinary wizardry of local caterer Michael Jones.

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mation, call (831) 659-3115 or visit www.hiddenvalleymu-

sic.org.
IT HAS been more than two years since the Carmel-by-the-Sea City Council lifted the ban on live music. In addition to the weekly jazz sessions hosted by pianist Dick Whittington at Terry’s Lounge at the Cypress Inn and regular KRML Jazz and Blues Co. concerts, a number of other Carmel venues have taken advantage of the opportunity. The Forge in the Forest Restaurant, located at the southwest corner of Junipero and Fifth, presents live music every Tuesday through Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m., including a weekly gig by guitarist Bryan Diamond.

The group goes by the name tar, joined by harmonica, vocals and occasional slide guitar; world-class reeds player John Martin III; and Steve Uccello on stand-up bass and guitarrón. Call (831) 624-2233.

Another popular spot in Carmel for live music every Tuesday through Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m. is the Whittington Garden Stage, located at the southwest corner of Junipero and Fifth, which features former Young President Kenny Stahl on mandolin, vocalist John Martin III; bassist Myron Dove on stand-up bass and guitarrón; and vocalist John Martin III; and Steve Uccello on stand-up bass and guitarrón. Call (831) 394-6000.

The Monterey Rock & Rod Festival, a fundraiser for the Gateway Center of Monterey, is scheduled to take place Friday through Sunday at the Monterey County Fairgrounds. A celebration of ‘50s and ‘60s rock ‘n’ roll and classic cars, the event will feature Little Anthony and the Imperials, plus a tribute to Ricky Nelson, featuring his sons Matthew and Gunnar performing on the Garden Stage Saturday May 31. A number of other groups are scheduled to perform throughout the weekend. For more information, call (831) 624-2336.

At Monterey Live on Alvarado Street this Friday, May 30, the Saul Kaye Band plays groove based acoustic rock. The Bay Area-based band is touring in support of their latest album, “A Taste of Paradise,” and recently performed at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. The music starts at 9:30 p.m. Other club happenings this week include popular rhythm and blues band Spang-A-Lang performing on Friday at Sly McFly’s. The group features Santana vocalist Tony Lindsay, bassist Myron Dove and plenty of funky grooves. The music starts at 9 p.m. Call (831) 649-8050.

The music of the Juan Sanchez Ensemble is rooted in the Nueva Cancion (new folk) movement, and also incorporates rhythmic and melodic nuances that can be traced to contemporary urban jazz, Brazilian and Middle-Eastern music. The group, featuring the passionate voice of Sanchez, performs Saturday, May 31 at the Of Factory Cafe in Sand City. The show starts at 8 p.m. In addition to Sanchez’s guitar and violin playing, the ensemble features multi-instrumentalist Dayan Kai on piano, mandolin, zampoña, guitars, charango, kena and clarinet; world-class reeds player Paul Contos on flutes and saxophones; percussioneer and vocalist John Martin III; and Steve Uccello on stand-up bass and guitarrón. Call (831) 394-6000.

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You are being sued.

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

CASE NUMBER: DR 47198

File No. 20080605

5/23/2008


 mayo 30, 2008

Your name is: **SCOTT J. WINSLOW**

Do not respond to this notice. It is a court filing and does not represent the position of the City of Carmel or Monterey County.

You must respond to the court if you are the defendant.

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THEATER
From page 10A

ing the audience-actor connection.

The aisles would be stepped rather than sloped, and six spots would be dedicated to wheelchair users.

For the actors, behind-the-scenes workers and others involved in producing plays in the outdoor theater and small indoor theater below the main stage, 20 dressing stations, two private “dressing suites” for the stars, toilets and showers could be built.

New structures on each side of the stage would hold sets, scenery and equipment, and an orchestra pit in front would be covered by a thrust stage. A new sound booth and facilities for private “dressing suites” for the stars, toilets and showers could be built.

While she agreed the theater needs work, resident Carolyn Rose defended the status quo.

“We don’t want to support something that will take away that unique feel and character we all love,” promised Forest Theater Guild Executive Director Jane De Lay. DeFaria pointed out it has taken seven years of discussion and drawings to arrive at the predesign phase.

“We hope to have something done by the centennial in 2010,” she said.

“Some of the aspects of the plan I don’t like at all, and I’m sure I’m not the only person who feels that way,” said Gerard Rose when it was the council’s turn to chime in. Nonetheless, “moving ahead is a good thing. If we don’t do something soon, there won’t be a forest theater in another 20 years.”

Councilwoman Paula Hadzovic said setting priorities and phasing the work “in a logical fashion” would be most important, and she suggested ADA issues, restrooms and parking top the list.

“I would like to see some kind of green building incorporated into this project,” she added.

Mayor Sue McGuire said she hoped the plans could incorporate the existing concessions stand, which was moved from Sunset Center to the theater at a cost of $40,000 several years ago.

“I’m very hopeful we can also find some grants to fund this because of the historicity of the Forest Theater,” she said.

“No one wants a slick piece of something up there.”

The council took no official action following the presentation and discussion, though the proposed 2008/2009 budget includes $65,000 for design work on the theater, and the mayor and council members who were reelected April 8 all identified the renovation as a top priority for the city.
The Rotary Club of Carmel Valley will host its 20th annual Ten Gallon-Tee Off Western Open on June 4, at the Rancho Cañada Golf Club.

“This tournament is very special to us,” said Jim Kaufman, president of the Rotary chapter.

“We are pairing up with the Rotaract
free medical clinic in Seaside to bring in much-needed dollars for this wonderful organization that brings immediate help to the working poor of our community,” she said.

The clinic has three physicians, and a volunteer staff of Rotaract club members.

The C.V. club will award its Rotaract Cup to the two-person team with the best net score. The Proceeds of the tournament will also benefit a variety of local Rotary projects.

The golf club will host a BBQ dinner from 6 to 9 p.m. The event will also feature wine tasting, silent and live auctions, and cowboys songs from Mick Vernon. The cost of playing in the event is $195, which includes lunch and dinner. The golf club is located on Carmel Valley Road, about one mile east of Highway 1. For more information, call (831) 236-6857.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO her childhood idol, actress Layne Littlepage performs a one- woman musical, “An Evening with Beatrice Lillie,” at the Cherry Center for the Arts from July 22 to 26. Lillie was a popular comic actress whose career spanned 50 years.

Before coming on stage, she was often interviewed and considered “the funniest woman in the world.” Lillie died in 1989.

A gifted singer and entertainer, Littlepage is a member of the music faculty at Santa Catalina School.

Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m., while Sunday’s matinee begins at 2 p.m. Tickets continue through June 22. Tickets are $25.

The Cherry Center is located at Fourth and Guadalupe. For more information, call (831) 915-2167 or (831) 624-7491, or visit www.carlcherrycenter.org.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES
**Stretching your grocery dollars, the wise restaurateur’s way**

By DOROTHY MARASHIDZ

As I was cruising (I don’t surf, I cruise) the Net the other morning, I came across a flashing banner that read, “next time you’re in a restaurant, you’re a sucker if you order other than what I ordered.”

I couldn’t resist clicking the link to read the entire article, by freelancer Carol Vinzant, which was entitled, “Sneaky restaurant tricks: Teen to watch out for.”

Having spent the last 32 years of my career surviving the pitfalls of the restaurant business, I was miffed to see the words, “sucker,” “traps,” “sneaky” and “tricks” used to describe what most savvy business people would refer to as “marketing.” “how to stay in business in troubled times,” or “being intelligent enough to make changes in how you conduct business in a difficult market.”

But somehow the writer had the notion that restaurateurs should be regarded with as much suspicion and contempt as card sharks, drug dealers and Nigerian scam artists! To set the record straight, I would like to offer a response, which I call, “Five really smart ways to make the most of your dwindling grocery budget: Survival tips of intelligent restaurateurs.”

The hard-to-swallow facts are that prices of many groceries have gone up way in the past two years, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, including flour, up 48 percent, and eggs, up 24 percent. What are favorite restaurants doing to offset these numbers and still have a minuscule profit at the end of the month? Nothing sneaky; just logical steps you can also do at home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organic Produce &amp; Grocery Cheeses • Wines • Gifts Vitamins &amp; Natural Bodycare</th>
<th>5% Senior Discount • Case Discounts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>625-1454</td>
<td>26135 Carmel Rancho Boulevard • Carmel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- **Reduce the size of your portions.** Aren’t we all too fat anyway? And smaller portions also mean the waste being scraped off into the garbage will be reduced as well. They hand out awards for being “green” to restaurateurs for such practices.

- **Buy less expensive cuts of meat and learn how to cook them.** Instead of steaks at $11 per pound, pick up the basket or chuck roast. Do a little research online to find some great recipes or call your mother to get hers. My mother fed five kids three meals a day for decades with a mini-budget.

Here is a sample of her ingenuity at work: Day one — roast chicken with potatoes, carrots and onions. Day two — remain- ing cornbread morphs into a breakfast item, split in two, topped with poached eggs and diced ham gravy (left over from Sunday dinner). And so on and so on. 

Restaurateurs utilize every piece of an animal wisely. Additionally, substandard-looking vegetables that don’t make it onto your salad plate because they have a blemish or two, are trimmed of imperfections and put into the soup pot. Is this practice tricky or smart?

Does every meal need to include an appetizer, soup or salad, entrée and dessert? No. Learn to eat small plates of food like the rest of the world, i.e., tapas, mezes, dim sum, cicchetti, bocaditos, etc. It’s a great way to utilize those odds and ends in the fridge or freezer. Try it one night per week and use your web browser See BUDGET next page
BUDGET
From previous page

Food & Wine

The New Restaurant at L’Auberge Carmel

We are pleased to announce that Demi Briscoe has been appointed Manager of our Carmel Branch. With more than 25 years of local banking experience and community involvement, Demi brings an ideal combination of skills to her new position.

Demi’s thorough understanding of our customers’ financial needs adds to the solid foundation of premier banking and wealth management services First National Bank has always been known for. We welcome Demi to our Carmel team.

Contact Demi Briscoe at:
26180 Carmel Rancho Lane, Carmel, California 93923
831.626.5086 | demi.briscoe@1stnational.com

With the arrival of new Executive Chef Christophe Grosjean (recently of Marinus) and Executive Pastry Chef Ron Mendoza (recently of the French Laundry) and their total revision of the menus at L’Auberge Carmel, it became apparent that this simply isn’t the same restaurant anymore. So we gave it a name of its own - Aubergine. New options, more choices but with the same care and attention to detail that made this the place Bon Appetit magazine named Best of the Year in its Restaurant Hot Seat review.

Please join us for dinner June 2-15 as we travel to the Italian region of SICILIA

For THE folks at the Pacific Grove Art Center, downsizing is a good thing. “Tiny Treasures,” the art center’s annual fundraising miniature show, opens Friday, May 30 with a reception at 7 p.m. “This is one of our two biggest annual fundraisers,” explained Joan McCleary, director of the art center. “It’s a great opportunity to own an original piece of art while supporting the art center at the same time.”

This year’s exhibit will feature works by 155 mostly local artists, including Mark Farina, Lauren Taylor, Jane Flury, Donald Craighead, Rollin Pickford, Pamela Takigawa, Jim Casteel, Fred Carvell and many more.

“We have a huge array of media and subject matter.” McCleary said. “There’s something for everyone.”

Each piece will be raffled off Wednesday, July 9. Tickets are $3 each, or 10 for $25. Winners don’t need to be present to win.

Also opening at the art center will be exhibits by local artists Dan Cronin, Marilee Childs and David Hohmann. Cronin presents a collection of new paintings, while Childs offers an exhibit of acrylic transparencies and watercolors. Hohmann, Downsized art a boon for nonprofit gallery

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LLOOWW  PPRRIICCEE

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ART
From previous page

meanwhile, presents a collection of watercolors and pen-and-ink drawings inspired by underground comic books.

The exhibit continues through July 10. The art center is located at 568 Lighthouse Ave. For more information, call (831) 375-2208 or visit www.pgartcenter.org.

Big Sur gallery welcomes new work

The Del Campo Gallery in Big Sur hosts a reception Friday, May 30, from 5 to 7 p.m. for artists Julia Ingersoll, Joshua Burbank and Natasha Julicher.

Raised in France and trained in Florence, Italy, Ingersoll is a gifted painter who just happens to be a world class mountain bike racer.

“Julia paints in the classic European style,” explained gallery owner Lorena del Campo. “She creates beautiful landscapes and seascapes.”

Burbank is a painter, sculptor and mixed media artist.

“This work has an urban edge to it,” del Campo said. “Some of his pieces are dark, yet they have a warm quality to them.”

Julicher, who is married to Burbank, is a sculptor who creates work del Campo describes as “elegant and graceful.”

The reception at the Del Campo Gallery is part of a larger “Art, Culture and Spirit Celebration” that will be presented Friday at Loma Vista. The event will also feature Brazilian drumming, fire dancing and a performance by the Yaocuauhti Aztec Dance Company.

Loma Vista is located on Highway 1, about 27 miles south of Carmel. For more information, call (831) 667-2618 or visit www.delcampogallery.com.

Join us for the Grand Opening of our Del Monte Center location and a very special book signing with Jim Denevan as he signs copies of his new book Outstanding in the Field Thursday, June 5 from 2:00–4:00 pm 1210 Del Monte Center • Monterey, CA • (831) 641-9398

The exhibit continues through July 10. The art center is located at 568 Lighthouse Ave. For more information, call (831) 375-2208 or visit www.pgartcenter.org.

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according to Calhoun, as the suspects there had property belonging to the same victim.

“They were all involved in using the victim’s credit cards,” he said. Carmel P.D. reported discovering fraudulent charges had been made at Men’s Warehouse, Target in Salinas, Zales Jewelers in Del Monte Center, and the limo service.

At the Highlands Inn, sheriff’s deputies arrested 33-year-old Jason Williamson and 26-year-old Lilliana Raya, both of Salinas, after two vehicles were burglarized there and the hotel’s staff reported a couple of suspicious guests.

“The deputy went into their room and found evidence that linked these people to crimes,” said Cmndr. Kevin Oakley, including identification cards belonging to other people and “things that clearly weren’t theirs.”

“The more he looked, the more stolen property he saw,” he said. The suspects also allegedly had methamphetamine and a pipe.

The subsequent investigation identified eight burglary victims in Monterey County and Carmel, though more might come forward according to Oakley. He encouraged victims of recent unsolved car burglaries on the Peninsula to contact detective Mark Stevens at (831) 647-7702 to see if their stolen items are among the property found in the Highlands Inn room where Williamson and Raya were arrested.

Oakley and Calhoun lauded their agencies’ abilities to work together in investigating the serial burglaries.

“We have a really good relationship with Carmel P.D.,” Oakley said. “The chief of police is a fantastic guy and really encourages a spirit of cooperation.”

Calhoun wished to thank PGPD and the sheriff’s office.

“The coordination between all the Peninsula agencies has really improved dramatically over the last few years, and we’re going to see more and more of this, because there’s strength in numbers,” he said.

Finally, Tularcitos Elementary School Principal Brenda Sylvia, who took the reins from Kim Williams in mid-2006, submitted resignation this spring.

“The board approved her resignation with regrets,” Biasotti said. “I can’t say how sad we are that she’s leaving. She’s an extraordinary principal, and by all accounts, she was very happy here in Carmel.”

But Sylvia and her husband have family in the Central Valley and “felt the time had to be now to be able to give back to their parents,” Biasotti said.

Fortunately for the district, that vacancy also generated a large number of applicants wanting to guide Tularcitos, which was nationally recognized as a 2007 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School last October.

“Again we have had an exceptional number of applicants — more than 50 for her position,” Biasotti said. “We’re still in the paper screening process but finding very strong candidates.”

High Life From page 8A

CUSD From page 6A

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Carmel reads The Pine Cone
POLICE LOG
From page 4A
covering the city. Veterinary care was given and the bandaged dog was brought home the same day. The next day, the owners transported their dog to their main residence out of town.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine, ambulance and police units dispatched to a possible past-tense suspicious fire in a mailbox outside of a gallery on Dolores Street. Business owner expressed concern after finding what appeared to be a melted candle in his wooden flyer box mounted in front of his store. There was no evidence of a fire, such as charming, inside the mailbox. Emergency personnel on scene speculated as to the cause of the wax being found inside of the mailbox, but nothing was conclusive. Police and firefighters agreed, as did the business owners, that there was no need to further investigate this incident. A history of past vandalism created some suspicion, but it did not appear that this situation was related. It was determined that it was possible that an unknown person may have had a hot candle on top of the box, and the hot wax melted through a slit cut in the wood.

Carmel Valley: A Monterey resident called from an address in Carmel Valley to report his brother had assaulted him. Deputies responded and found no signs of injury on either party. The reporting party requested documentation only.

Pebble Beach: On 17 Mile drive, a female juvenile, 17, reported being threatened by ex-boyfriend, male juvenile, 17. Pebble Beach: A male juvenile, 14, reported the theft of his wallet and its contents from Stevenson School.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle found parked on San Carlos Street south of Ocean Avenue displaying false 2008 tabs, with the registration actually expired in May 2005. Vehicle towed.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic collision on private property on Ocean Avenue. Vehicle was drivable.

MONDAY, MAY 12

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Assistance provided to a citizen with regards to an employee and former employer at a Lincoln Street business.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Assistance provided to a citizen with regards to an employee and former employer on Lincoln Street.


Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found cell phone on Scenic Road returned to owner.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fire engine and ambulance responded to a medical emergency on Forest. Engine and ambulance on scene. Crew assisted with patient report information and loading patient to ambulance, possibly en route.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: On-duty crews received a walk-in medical alert at the station. Crew assisted with vitals and report information for a male in his 60s complaining of general weakness.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Ronald R. Marek
1943-2008
MONTEREY: Ronald R. Marek, well-known purveyor of used and rare books, died May 21 of a heart attack. He was 64.

Marek was born in Wyandotte, Michigan. In 1973, he and his then wife, Jackie, moved to Carmel. In 1982 Marek established Lighthouse Books at 801 Lighthouse Avenue, Monterey. His infectious love of books and authors delighted friends and visitors for years. His talent to inspire lively conversation and camaraderie led to his booksore becoming a mainstay for various personalities of the peninsula and beyond.

Marek is survived by his brother, Alfred; nephew Daniel (Pam) and niece, Katherine Marek of Dearborn, Michigan; nieces Debi (John) Oswalt and Dawn (Ron) Seuss; nephew Richard Marek; former wife Dickie Preisser of Salinas; close friends Dennis and Caroline Copeland, Jim Johnson, and many other dear friends and colleagues. Deceased are his brother Stanley Marek and parents Jane and Stanley Marek.

Visitations hours at The Paul Mortuary, 390 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, from Noon to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, May 29.

A Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Friday, May 30 at St. Angela Merci Catholic Church, Pacific Grove.

His family and friends ask that in lieu of flowers contributions be made in his memory to the Monterey Public Library, 625 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940

We all loved Ron and will miss his wit, idealism and kindness.

Friends may go to the paulmortuary.com to sign the on-line guest book and leave messages for the family.


carmelpinecone.com

Back issues are available for $3.00 per issue (plus $1.00 for postage and handling). To order, contact the Circulation Department, PO Box 255, Carmel, CA 93923.
Highway 1 at 0025 hours for DUI.

Information.

One of the overdue hikers had a warrant, and was cited and released.

One of the overdue hikers arrived on scene in good health. One of the hikers had no food or water, and one of the hikers had a possible injury to her knee. The overdue hikers arrived on scene in good health. One of the hikers had a warrant, and was cited and released.

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Female subject, age 45, arrested on Highway 1 at 0025 hours for DUI.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic collision on private property on Casanova Street. Vehicle was drivable.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Officer responded to a report of two dogs in a unattended parked vehicle on Dolores Street. The reporting party was uncertain if the dogs had adequate ventilation. On arrival, the vehicle was in the shade, and the dogs showed no signs of distress. Two of the windows were properly ventilated. The officer contacted the owner, who was nearby. The officer advised him to have water available to the dogs, and he opened two more windows.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Victim reported losing his wallet while attending a show at Sunset Center. He later called the station to report finding his wallet and wished to cancel the report.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Female subject, age 45, arrested on Aliso Road for shoplifting.

Carmel Valley: Person on Aliso Road reported a set of missing building plans.

Carmel Valley: Person on Robinson Canyon Road reported information.

Carmel Valley: Person on Carmel Valley Road reported a civil problem.

Carmel area: Information report.

Carmel area: During an argument, the suspect threw items at her husband’s vehicle with sufficient force to cause dents. Her children were near the vehicle at the time of the incident and hid, fearing for their safety.

Big Sur: A subject reported his two friends were overdue from a hiking trip to hot springs in Big Sur. The hikers had no food or water, and one of the hikers had a possible injury to her knee. The overdue hikers arrived on scene in good health. One of the hikers had a warrant, and was cited and released.

Victim reported the theft of 26 items of clothing totaling $8,760 from display shelves on April 24.

Carmel area: Safeway employees reported aggressive suspect outside harassing patrons, cursing, saying he was God. Upon contact of subject, deputies found he was obviously intoxicated and had a $26,000 warrant from L.A. for ADW [assault with a deadly weapon]. Search found three edged weapons.

Carmel Valley: Resident reported a theft of money from his house.

Carmel Valley: Victim in the mid-valley area reported a theft of jewelry from her house.
Bates goes too far

BILL BATES has a well earned place in the hearts of Carmel residents. In 25-plus years as a Pine Cone cartoonist, he has deftly captured many of the town’s charms and quirks. Some of his drawings are genuine classics—not only of art, but of local color. (Check out the lobby of the post office if you’ve missed a few of his best ones from years gone by.)

However, several years ago, Bates started publishing weekly drawings in the Monterey County Herald. We encouraged him to do this, knowing it might open doors for him as a nationally syndicated political cartoonist. Though we preferred to have his services exclusively, we also wanted him to gain wider exposure and make more money.

Unfortunately, in the Herald, Bates has sharply departed from the quaintness and small-town cleverness that has always been his signature in The Pine Cone. Instead, he has been tackling national subjects—always with a sharply left-wing point of view. While this has earned him some praise, it has also generated a great deal of disdain from those who appreciate the drawing for its local color.

Forbes magazine has noted that Bates is one of “The Ten Best Political Cartoonists.” Forbes adds, “Bates’ cartooning style is very good. It is generally clear and direct. He is a good artist.”

But Forbes also points out that “Bates is too political and too opinionated.”

We agree, and so do many of our readers.

“Bates is a cartoonist with a political agenda. He is a liberal, and his cartoons reflect that. Many people appreciate his work for its political correctness, but others find it offensive.”

We cannot allow the Pine Cone to be an offensive paper. We maintain that the Pine Cone should be one of the best sounding boards for our community. We are not a political cartoon, and we do not endorse any political viewpoint.

We urge Bill Bates to tone down his political cartoons and to return to his local color style. We believe that the Pine Cone should be a forum for all viewpoints, not just for one political perspective.

We look forward to seeing more of Bill Bates’ work in the Pine Cone. We encourage him to continue his excellent work in the community.”

* Editor's Note: Letters to the Editor are not necessarily the opinion of the editor. The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. Letters cannot exceed 250 words, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and street address. Please do not send us letters which have been submitted to other newspapers. We reserve the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication and to edit for length and clarity.

The Pine Cone does not accept letters to the editor by fax. Please submit your letters by U.S. mail, e-mail, or in person (addresses are provided below).
parents, the Conovers, who live next door to Reitz on Crocker Avenue.

In order to protect her dog, Houston said she "threw herself on top of her dog and screamed for help," Davis wrote. "The two German Shepherds...continued to try to reach the back of the dog. Tule, attempting to push past Houston's body with her teeth, screamed for help," Davis wrote. "I'm really grateful that the City of Pebble Beach was able to keep me from losing my dog," Houston said.

Tule would have absolutely been killed," Houston said. "If they had let it slide, I would have been killed," Davis said. "If they were vicious, [Houston] would have been in the hospital and had stitches," Dunn said. James Lacalamahta, who has known Reitz for about five years, told The Pine Cone he's "never seen Bear or Lola be aggressive toward people or animals."

My grandkids play with his dogs," he said. "There is no growling or fighting or attacking." Reitz has trained Lacalamahta's own dogs, who help the Monterey County Sheriff's Office as search and rescue dogs. And he has been on 193 search and rescue missions looking for people or cadavers. In his report, Davis noted there is "long-standing animosity between the Conover family and Reitz, centering on the Reitzes' dogs."

About two months after the attack, Houston sent a letter to Reitz asking for $5,000 for "pain and suffering," and the cost of vet bills and medical bills, which Houston listed at $490.

Although Reitz didn't pay her any money, Houston said she still would have requested the dog abatement hearing even if he had. "I'm really grateful that the City of Pebble Beach wants to do something about this," Houston said. "If they had let it slide, I have no doubt it would happen to somebody else."

Davis reviewed nine statements attesting the dogs are not vicious. "If Reitz doesn't comply with the order, Ospina called for the one of the two Labradors involved in her attack to be "put down."

In his report, Davis reviewed nine statements attesting the dogs are not vicious. "If they were vicious, [Houston] would have been

"He'll be the judge we need now."

DOGS

From page 1A

LETTERS

From previous page

have successfully partnered to create single fire agencies that better serve the public, stretch every available tax dollar, reduce management costs, improve resources, and more efficiently protect and serve their communities. Local pol-

ies have usually hindered fire consolidation proposals but fortunately certain local forward thinking community leaders, city councils, fire chiefs and the professional employee associations are moving in the right direction by attempting to create a single Monterey Peninsula fire agency. I am confident that we will all be better served and protected in both the immediate and long term. I urge Carmel residents to push Mr. Guillen and the city council forward on this very critical public safety issue and not allow political foot dragging to slow the progress. Jerry Floyd, Carmel

Pebble Beach reads The Pine Cone

Hummingbird Hill Fabulous estate-like property on 60,000 plus sq. foot lot in coveted Ramonda Vista, sunny yet close to Carmel. 2 story, 3 bed, 4 bath house has a large living room, 3 separate sleeping wings, open floor plan for easy entertaining in & out of doors. Property brims with fruit trees, vines and raised flower and vegetable beds, a veritable Eden of delights. $1,625,000.

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CORA ROBINSON, 11, is an Australian dingo, the first we have ever seen. It is believed the dingo is the ancestor of all dog breeds. Cora lives in Pebble Beach with her Dad Tom and her Grandmother Norma. She became a Robinson after she escaped from a dingo farm in Arizona some 10 years ago, lived in quiet seclusion in the woods along the Verde River for about eight months, then found Dad when he was living in Flagstaff. They’ve been inseparable ever since.

Cora’s coat is a yellow/ginger blend with white embellishments and feels as soft as cashmere. She has a little white mark on her forehead that looks like a heart, if you squint a little, and so she was named Cora, short for the Spanish corazón (heart).

Dingoes can climb trees, an unusual trait they share with irrepressible Jack Russells. Cora has been known to chase a squirrel up a tree. She is quite, obedient, affectionate, protective and likes routines. When Dad and Cora go for one of their frequent strolls on Carmel Beach, she keeps an eye on him, and if a fast-running dog approaches, she’ll put herself between Dad and the oncoming intruder.

Cora enjoys playing in the large, fenced garden of her P.B. home and taking car rides to Carmel Beach. As yet, she hasn’t visited the Cypress Inn for high tea but plans to do so soon.

Nana Norma takes pleasure in brushing Cora’s thick, soft fur, which Cora herself keeps spotlessly clean by grooming herself for an hour after dinner in preparation for bedtime. She sleeps in her own bed just outside Dad’s bedroom door to make sure no harm befalls him.

Sandy Claws
By Margot Petit Nichols

Sandy Claws

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Small town Texas brings laughs to PacRep stage

THE STEREOTYPES of rural Texas provide comic inspiration for a new PacRep Theatre play, “Greater Tuna,” which opens Wednesday, June 4 at the Circle Theatre.

The third smallest town in Texas, a place where the Lion’s Club is considered liberal and Patsy Cline plays endlessly on the radio, provides the setting for the play. Written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard, “Greater Tuna” is directed by John Rousseau, who co-stars with Michael D. Jacobs in the two-man comedy. Remarkably, Rousseau and Jacobs play a total of 20 characters, including men, women and animals.

The play continues on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays through July 16. Tickets range from $16 to $35, with discounts available for seniors over 65, students, children, teachers, and active military. The Circle Theatre is located on Casanova between 8th and 9th. For more information, call (831) 622-0100 or visit www.pacrep.org.

GOT CLOGS?

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2. Don’t use toxic copper roots killers or caustic drain cleaners.
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Go to ClogBusters.org or call 645-4604 for more information.

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