

Late-night surprise: Mountain lion charges into woman's bedroom

By CHRIS COUNTS

SECONDS AFTER a late-night encounter with a mountain lion this week, a Big Sur house cat did the most logical thing possible — it scampered under its owner's bed. Unfortunately for the cat, the mountain lion — following close on its heels — tried to do the exact same thing.

"It was about 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, and I dozed off while I

was reading in bed," recalled Jane Chanteau, who lives off Palo Colorado Road. "I woke up when my cat let out a horrible scream. It sounded like a cat fighting, only much louder."

Opening her eyes in the dimly lit bedroom, Chanteau thought she saw a dog chase her cat, a black and white 11-year-old named Bearli, under the bed. The intruder's head was also under the bed, so Chanteau gave him a good whack on his behind.

"I hit him, and I yelled really loud," she explained.

Much to the 73-year-old grandmother's surprise, a lion pulled its head from beneath the bed.

"He jumped up on a box about four feet away, sat down and just looked at me," she said. "He wasn't aggressive at all. He was calm."

See LION page 9A

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Fierce advocate for historic buildings dies at 86

By MARY BROWNFIELD

ENID SALES — a dedicated preservationist touted as a hero by some and vilified by others for her fierce fights against the demolition of historic buildings — died Wednesday at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula of respiratory failure. She was 86.

"She could be a maddening person to work

with, because she had definite ideas about how she wanted things done," said former Carmel City Councilwoman Barbara Livingston, who met Sales more than 50 years ago when both were living in the San Francisco Bay Area. "In the end, of course, she was always right. She had a wonderful sense of aesthetics and ethics and would never

See SALES page 9A



Enid Sales in front of the Carmel City Council in 1999, receiving an award from Mayor Ken White. Sales, who often battled with the city in court and in front of the California Coastal Commission, died this week at the age of 86.

PHOTO/PAUL MILLER

Kenney's sentence to be life without parole

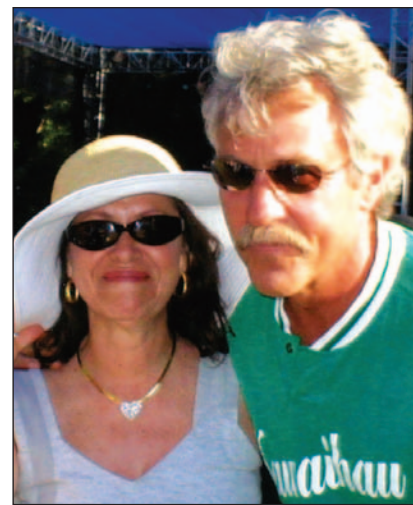
Convicted of two murders and 'special circumstance'

By PAUL MILLER

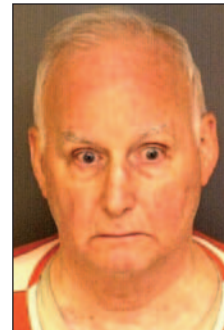
HE ADMITTED he killed his neighbors, claiming it was in self-defense. But a jury decided John Kenney's story was a lie and convicted him of two counts of murder Wednesday — second degree for killing Mel Grimes after a confrontation over a boulder Kenney had placed on a shared driveway, and first degree murder for shooting Elizabeth Grimes as she tried to get help for her mortally wounded husband.

After three days of deliberations, the jury also decided the double murders were a "special circumstance" which, under California law, means Kenney will get life without parole when he is sentenced Nov. 3 by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Stephen Sillman.

The jury acquitted Kenney of "lying in wait" — another charge which, combined with the murder verdicts, could have brought a sentence of life in prison without parole. But because the jury decided on the special circumstance of multiple murders, the acquittal doesn't lessen the penalty Grimes faces, according to Assistant District Attorney Berk Brannon.



John Kenney's mugshot (right) after he was arrested for killing Elizabeth and Mel Grimes (above) in January 2007. This week a jury convicted him of two murders.



"There were two ways to get the sentence of life without parole," Brannon said. "It was a very just verdict."

See KENNEY page 11A

City to try free MST trolley next summer

By MARY BROWNFIELD

THE THIRD time was the charm for supporters of a free cable-car-style trolley to shuttle tourists, workers and residents in a loop that will include Carmel Beach, Sunset Center, Vista Lobos, Carpenter Street and much of Ocean Avenue. After rejecting two earlier proposals for a trolley, the city council decided last week to try out the Monterey-Salinas Transit trolley between Independence Day and Labor Day next year.

Council members said they preferred the new plan because the trolley would not leave Carmel.

Free up parking

"This concept is expected to increase the amount of time tourists stay in our city, which is an important factor of economic revitalization, as well as improve the availability of visitor parking in the business area," city administrator Rich Guillen said in his report Sept. 9.

Councilwoman Karen Sharp, who represents the

city on the MST board and helped spearhead the idea, said the free trolleys would serve three groups of customers: businesses and their workers, visitors and people who live in town.

"I think we all know that people who are parking in front of their stores and moving their cars every two hours are eliminating some of their own business," she commented. Instead, they could park in the free city-owned lot at Vista Lobos and hop a shuttle in the morning.

No uphill climb

Visitors could similarly leave their cars in a downtown lot all day and still go to the beach without having to climb back up Ocean Avenue, while residents could use the trolley for running errands, visiting friends or getting to Scenic Road.

"Gas prices are high, and we're trying to reduce our carbon footprint," Guillen said. "We should encourage mass transit, even if it's just within one square mile."

Two prior failed propositions had the shuttles traveling into town but also serving other areas, such as Pebble Beach. In May 2006, the council decided not to test a trolley targeting tourists, and in June 2007, the council voted 3-2 to reject a plan for one in and about town, even though the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and the Crossroads Shopping Village would pay for it.

With those proposals, people were concerned the buses would take people out of Carmel rather than bring them in.

MST administrator Hunter Harvath discussed the proposed city-only route, which would incorporate MST bus stops and



This MST trolley will carry tourists, residents and workers around Carmel for free next summer.

See TROLLEY page 10A

Latest Internet scam: Fake C.V. rental on Craigslist

By CHRIS COUNTS

THE THREE-BEDROOM house with lots of amenities was offered for just \$1,300 a month, and all you had to do was send your first month's rent and security deposit to somebody in South Carolina.

"The house is perfect and I am looking for a tenant who will take very good care of it," said the listing on the Internet site, Craigslist.

The dream-come-true house was supposedly located at 8040 Carmel Valley Road, the website said.

"I drove out to the house, and it was not the one pictured in the ad," said Sheryl Brooks, who responded to the Internet listing by email, but quickly realized the rental didn't exist.

According to Brooks, a "land-

lord" calling himself Calvin Gore replied to her inquiry:

"I am in Greenville, South Carolina, now where my company has transferred me to," the scammer emailed. "Unfortunately, I would not be available to show you the home."

Instead, Calvin asked the potential renter to fill out an online application.

"After approval, I would send you the keys and agreement document via FedEx," he continued.

To close the deal, all Brooks needed to do was send \$1,300, plus a \$500 security deposit, to the landlord.

Brooks was livid after discovering the scam.

"Let's hope this creep can be stopped," she wrote. "It really makes

See SCAM page 10A