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Weil's farewell: 'I am very grateful'



■ Final festival for conductor includes many of his favorite works

By PAUL MILER

THE MUSIC may be timeless, but the performances are definitely limited. In fact, many of the concerts on this year's Carmel Bach Festival program are literally never to be seen again.

That's because several of the artists who, over the last two decades, have elevated the festival to the top of the international Baroque and classical world — including music director and conductor Bruno Weil, concertmaster Elizabeth Wallfisch, baritone Sanford Sylvan and tenor Alan Bennett — are calling it quits after this season.

And it's the success of the festival that gave Weil the personal motivation to make this season his finale.

"You should leave when you've just won the World Series, not when somebody wants to get rid of you," Weil said when he announced his resignation.

And one of the highlights of his career as music director of the Bach Festival also promises to be a can't-miss moment in this year's event.

"The St. Matthew Passion is absolutely the highlight," Weil said. "During my years in Carmel,

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Conductor Bruno Weil (top left) is leaving the Bach Festival at the end of this season. One of the highlights of his 19 years in Carmel was opening night of the new Sunset Center theater (left) in 2003. But this summer's performances will also be memorable, he says.



City pays Miller \$600K to drop suit

By MARY BROWNFIELD

HUMAN RESOURCES manager Jane Miller and her attorney, Michael Stamp, received \$600,000 to drop her sexual-harassment lawsuit against Carmel and city administrator Rich Guillen, the city council announced after a special closed session Tuesday night. Without explicitly defending themselves, city officials approved a settlement that implied their belief Guillen and the city did nothing wrong.

The agreement also gives Miller four months' accrued leave, so she can earn more money for retirement, take advantage of medical insurance and enjoy some other employee benefits. She has not been at work since 2008 and received her last paycheck in December of that year, after exhausting her sick leave and vacation time. She will not return to work, according to Stamp.

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Appeal of Flanders decision under way

By MARY BROWNFIELD

RATHER THAN redo the EIR again or change its mind about selling Flanders Mansion, the City of Carmel has started the legal process of appealing a Monterey County Superior Court judge's ruling that overturned last November's decisive vote by residents to sell.

Judge Kay Kingsley's ruling, issued in March and finalized in May, marked the city's second loss in court over officials' efforts to sell Flanders, which was constructed more than eight decades ago and has gone unused since it was purchased with taxpayer dollars in the early 1970s. The historic mansion sits on the edge of Mission Trail park.

Kingsley ruled the environmental impact report, prepared at a cost

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SANDBAR CLOSED TO KEEP WATER IN LAGOON

By CHRIS COUNTS

USING BULLDOZERS, workers from the California Department of Parks and Recreation closed a channel in the Carmel River Lagoon sandbar Tuesday in the agency's latest attempt to improve habitat for steelhead and other wildlife in the lagoon.

"What we're trying to do is capture the tail end of the river flows and keep the lagoon healthy until the winter rains arrive," explained Kevan Urquhart, a fisheries biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Despite this year's above-average rainfall, the water level in the river had dropped to a point where officials were concerned. Once the flow slowed to about 20 cubic feet per second, they decided to take action.

"We have a goal of maintaining a water level of at least seven feet above sea level in the lagoon," Urquhart said. Without the work, he said the water level in the lagoon could have dropped to as low as one foot by next month.

Bulldozers in the summer?

After closing the lagoon by rebuilding the sandbar, workers also created an overflow channel to the south to protect against highly unlikely summer downpours.

While it may seem surprising that bulldozers are being used to close the lagoon, rather than opening it as is done nearly every winter, Urquhart said it became necessary because of the amount of water Cal Am and other users take from the river.

"All we're doing is allowing the lagoon to close

with more water in it, which would happen under normal circumstances," he said. "We're trying to make an unnatural situation better and improve habitat."

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Another recession ill: too little garbage

By KELLY NIX

IT'S NO secret that because of the recession, people are buying less stuff. Not surprisingly, that means people also aren't throwing as much stuff away.

While some may believe less waste is a good thing, that's not what landfill operators think. A decline in trash translates into less revenue and fewer jobs.

The Marina landfill is no different.

Since 2006, the Monterey Regional Waste Management District has seen a more than 30 percent decline in the amount of commercial and residential waste — a drop off in business that's forced a hiring freeze and other spending cutbacks at the landfill.

"In the past, there was a perception that waste disposal was almost recession-proof," said Jeff Lindenthal, the MRWMD public education and recycling manager. "However, I think this recent recession

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P.G. teen charged for hosting party that led to DUI crash

By KELLY NIX

A COURT hearing is set next week for a young Pacific Grove man charged with hosting an illegal party at his house just hours before police say one of the teen partygoers drove drunk and crashed an SUV into a tree, seriously injuring a 17-year-old girl.

Christopher Ray Veloz, Jr., 19, is charged with hosting a party where alcohol was consumed by minors. The count, which violates Pacific Grove's municipal code, is a misdemeanor.

Veloz, who was arraigned June 24 in a Salinas and pleaded not guilty to the charge, faces up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine if convicted. A pretrial conference is set for July 22.

'Beer pong'

Pacific Grove city attorney David Laredo alleges Veloz, the son of Seaside Police Cmdr. Chris Veloz, was hosting a party Feb. 21 at his Syida Drive home where P.G. High School senior Aaron Corn and other teens were present and drank beer.

The party occurred after a basketball game between Pacific Grove



CJ Veloz

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