Officer Brian Gorman

By Marge Ann Jameson

By the time Brian Gorman graduated from Pacific Grove High School, he already knew what he wanted to do with the rest of his life. So he enrolled at Fresno State to study criminology, and set his sights on joining the Pacific Grove Police Department.

He studied in the daytime and at night for turning them in. He said they were just promised “no questions asked, $100 reward” if the guns were turned in, he said, and many who brought weapons in didn’t even want the weapons hosted in California, this one with the Fresno County Sheriff’s Department.

By the time he graduated, he had “four or five” solid offers, but says, “[Pacific Grove] is a good place for me.” He joined the department in 2010 and served his year of probation.

He had also joined the California National Guard ROTC while in college, which meant he owed Uncle Sam some active duty, so just as soon as he finished his probation with the police department, he was summoned to serve with the 649th Military Police Company for nine months in Afghanistan, beginning in 2011. While deployed, he did “patrol and security, not law and order” in that war-torn country. His company provided convoy security of shipments, patrols through villages, and security.

“It went well,” he said, not mentioning the promotions, patrols through villages, and security. “It went well,” he said, not mentioning the Bronze Star medal he received. Pacific Grove was proud of him, too, Brian Gorman is married, and his wife is in counseling. She’s understanding about his work, he says, which involves 12-hour shifts and weekend work.

Brian has just finished one of those 12-hour shifts when we talked. He sported a sunburn from participating in the gun buyback program the day before. More than 300 guns were turned in, he said, and many who brought weapons in didn’t even want the promised “no questions asked, $100 reward” for turning them in. He said they were just concerned citizens who feared having the weapon fall into criminal hands if their home should be broken into and the guns stolen.

It’s the people that Brian Gorman works for. He studied the psychology of crime, not the stuff of television police dramas, but it’s what he signed up for. “I love this job,” says Brian. “I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”

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Your Community NEWSpaper
Vol. V, Issue 30

April 12-18, 2013

Pacific Grove’s

Cedar Times

If it’s April, it must be time for a Magic Carpet Ride

Suddenly, almost overnight, the annual bloom of the mesembryanthemum, or ice plant, has begun along the shore near Lovers Point. Ice plant, while not native to California (it comes from south Africa), thrives in the area and provides a beautiful tourist attraction — and subject for photos — each spring.

Photo by John Harris

Police officer back from Afghan war

Pacific Grove High School grad is doing what he always wanted to do

By Marge Ann Jameson

By the time Brian Gorman graduated from Pacific Grove High School, he already knew what he wanted to do with the rest of his life. So he enrolled at Fresno State to study criminology, and set his sights on joining the Pacific Grove Police Department.

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It’s the people that Brian Gorman works for. He studied the psychology of crime, not just law enforcement. Earlier in the day, one of the many calls he answered was mediating a dispute between room mates. Not glamorous, not the stuff of television police dramas, but it’s what he signed up for. “I love this job,” says Brian. “I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”
Appeals Court backs Monterey in marijuana dispensary case

The City of Monterey prevailed in an appeal filed by the owner of a former medical marijuana dispensary in Monterey. Jhonrico Carrnshimba, the owner of MyCaregiver Cooperative, Inc., filed the appeal in an attempt to renew the license for a medical marijuana dispensary at 554 Lighthouse Ave. in Monterey. The City alleged that the marijuana dispensary operated in violation of the City’s zoning regulations.

On March 27, 2013, the Sixth District Court of Appeals in California ruled the appeal as “moot” as the causes for the appeal no longer existed. A permanent injunction against the dispensary’s owners had expired, and the owners had vacated the Monterey property that housed the dispensary.

The Court also weighed in on the merits of the controversy, citing a continued public interest in medical marijuana laws. The Appeals Court found that the use of commercially zoned property for a medical marijuana dispensary was not permissible under the City’s zoning ordinance, and therefore constituted a public nuisance in Monterey. The Court said the City Code enumerates permitted uses for commercial property and a medical marijuana dispensary is not a listed use. The Court rejected appellant’s claim that the dispensary could be classified as a “retail sales” or “pharmacy” use.

The Appeals Court found that Carrnshimba: a) did not disclose the medical marijuana dispensary use in his application for a license to do business in Monterey, b) continued operation of the dispensary after it was declared an illegal use and a public nuisance, c) violated the City Code prior to the City’s passage of an ordinance banning medical marijuana dispensaries.

Democratic Women present Sen. Lois Wolk on California’s water challenges

On Friday, April 19 the Democratic Women of Monterey County luncheon will host speaker Senator Lois Wolk, the first woman to chair the State Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee. Sen. Wolk is an expert in flood control, water management, the protection of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta, and climate change. She presently chairs the Senate Select Committee on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, a body of water that impacts the whole state of California. Her talk will present the latest state efforts to create water law and policies and will provide time for audience questions.

Democratic Women of Monterey County present monthly luncheons to provide information which support Democratic values and promote women in elected leadership. New members are welcomed.

The talk and luncheon will be held at Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguaajito Road, Monterey in the Big Sur Room. Tickets $35 for non members,$29 for members. Annual membership is $45

For more information see dw-mc.org or contact Vicki Williams at 831-372-5407 to RSVP.

Cedar Street Times was established September 1, 2008 and was adjudicated a legal newspaper for Pacific Grove, Monterey County, California on July 16, 2010. It is published weekly at 306 Grand Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

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Two killed, one injured in Pebble Beach 
drunken driving incident

On July 16, the IRS website pre-

A vehicle was towed from Crocker Ave. for having false license plates.

Passport found
City worker found a passport on Central. An old cell number and a house address were available.

Possble theft from a dependent elderly person
Under investigation.

Two killed, one injured in Pebble Beach drunken driving incident
Stuart Elder, a 30-year-old Pacific Grove resident, was arrested for drunken driving and vehicular manslaughter Sunday night, April 7 following a crash in Pebble Beach in which two Pebble Beach residents were killed and a passenger with Elder, since identified as Selvia Gantt, 20, of Pebble Beach, was seriously injured. According to California Highway Patrol, Elder was driving a 2009 Cadillac when he crossed the center of the road and collided with a 2005 Ford on Sunset Road at about 7:30 p.m. The two women in the Ford, a 72-year-old and a 65-year-old, were pronounced dead at the scene. Their identities are being withheld pending notification of next of kin. Guttas was flown to Stanford Medical Center following the collision, where she remains at this time. There is no update on her condition.

Police said Elder sustained minor injuries and was taken to a local hospital where he was arrested. He was booked into Monterey County Jail early Monday. Elder, a luxury home builder, was released from custody about noon on Monday after posting $430,000 in bail, according to a Sheriff’s Office spokeswoman.

The Monterey County Herald reports that Monterey County court records show Elder received 13 traffic citations between 2003 and 2012. Police are still investigating the Sunday incident.

Pedestrian struck and killed on Pine Avenue
On April 10, 2013 at approximately 7:45 am, the Pacific Grove Police Department, Monterey Fire Department, and American Medical Response ambulance responded to the intersection of Pine Avenue and 19th Street for a reported vehicle versus pedestrian collision.

Upon arrival, the 97-year-old pedestrian was found in the roadway semi-conscious and in critical condition. The woman was transported via ambulance to an established landing zone to be airlifted to a regional trauma center. The victim’s condition was determined to be too unstable for air transportation and he was re-directed to Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula where he succumbed to his injuries at 9:11 a.m. Identification of the pedestrian, a Pacific Grove resident, is being withheld at this time pending notification of the next of kin.

The driver, a 55-year-old Pacific Grove resident, was contacted at the scene and cooperated with police. The driver stated he was driving eastbound on Pine Avenue looking directly into the rising sun and did not see the pedestrian. Alcohol, speed, or other distractions do not appear to be a factor in this collision. The driver’s identification is also being withheld at this time due to the continuing investigation.

The matter remains under investigation by the Pacific Grove Police Department with assistance from the California Highway Patrol. If you have any information regarding this matter, please contact the Pacific Grove Police Department at 831-648-3143.

Area-wide earthquake disaster drill planned for May
Disaster Preparedness: On May 15, California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) will hold a large scale catastrophic earthquake drill in the bay area which includes Monterey County. The Golden Guardian exercise will provide an opportunity for local emergency service agencies to evaluate their command and control, operational and logistical capabilities. For example, Monterey will open their EOC and test their interoperability with Pacific Grove, Carmel, the Defense Language Institute (POM) and Monterey County’s EOC’s.
Hostel program about Pt. Reyes

There will be a travel talk on the coastal wilderness of Pt. Reyes National Seashore given by Pt. Reyes Hostel staff member Mark Bowen at the Monterey Hostel at 778 Hawthorne Street in Monterey on Monday, April 22. An optional potluck at 6 p.m. precedes the 6:45 p.m. program. Bowen's talk will highlight some of the outdoor visitor opportunities in the area located just about 30 miles north of San Francisco: hiking, biking, kayaking on Tomales Bay, camping or strolling on the beach. Springtime is seal pupping season and the wildflowers are in bloom. One can visit Pt. Reyes Lighthouse and various visitor centers with ranger-led programing. This is an ideal place for a rustic retreat to take time to just relax and enjoy this serene wilderness sanctuary.

The public is welcome at no charge. Setup help at 5:30 p.m. is appreciated. For program information, call 372-5762 or 899-3046.

Military Officers Association to hear talk on America’s submarine force

The monthly meeting of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Monterey County Chapter, will be held on Thursday, April 18 at Rancho Canada Golf Course. ADM Winford (Jerry) Ellis, U.S. Navy (Retired) is the speaker. ADM Ellis was formerly Special Assistant for Undersea Strategy in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy, and currently is Undersea Warfare Chair and Director of the Undersea Warfare Research Center at the Naval Postgraduate School. ADM Ellis will discuss the current status of the submarine force. Social begins at 11:00, lunch at 12:00. Active duty, retired and former military officers, their spouses and widows are welcome. Lunch cost is $20.00. For reservations, please call 649-6227.
Monterey history camp registration is open

Monterey State Historic Park invites children entering third through fourth grades to “step back in time” to experience Monterey of the past. “Los Ninos de Monterey” history camp registration is now open, offering four camp programs from June 17 to July 19. Los Ninos uses hands-on learning techniques to teach children about life in old Monterey. Through the years, this week-long, half-day program has become one of the most popular and loved programs for children interested in California history and the lifestyle of the Mexican Rancho Era.

Children’s programs for students entering third through fourth grades are scheduled for Session A (June 17-21) or Session B (June 24-28). Juniors’ programs for students entering fifth through sixth grades are scheduled for Session C (July 8-12), or Session D (July 15-19).

All programs are held at Monterey State Historic Park in downtown Monterey. Registration forms are available at the Cooper Museum Store, 525 Polk Street at Munras and Alvarado, or online at www.parks.ca.gov/mshp (programs).

For more information, contact program coordinator Lisa Bradford at 649-7109 or email her at Lisa.Bradford@parks.ca.gov.

American Cancer Society Discovery Shop seeking volunteers

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop is an upscale benefit shop located at 198 Country Club Gate in Pacific Grove. Profits from sales go to cancer research, patient services, and education. They are currently looking for volunteers to work in varying positions in both the main shop and the newer annex. No experience is necessary--just a willingness to work towards a good cause. For information, call (831) 372-0866 or apply in person, Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., or Sunday, 12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m.

New Catering Service Coordinator named for Monterey County Fair

Gabrielle DeVilla has recently joined the Monterey County Fair & Event Center as Catering Services Coordinator. In her position, she will handle the bar management of all events at the Fairgrounds including Interim, Fair and Heritage events. Gabrielle is a graduate of the University of California, Irvine where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology. Gabrielle has six years of experience working in the hospitality industry in Southern California starting out in restaurants including The Yard House and The Lone Star Steak House and Saloon. During her time at the Yard House she was a member of the Yard Core Training Team where she trained restaurant staff and management. In addition to the above, Gabrielle has also worked for Monterey/Salinas Airbus where she was an administrative assistant.

The Monterey County Fair & Event Center has 30,000 square feet of indoor banquet space, a variety of outdoor areas and a professional and experienced staff, the Monterey County Fair & Event Center is the perfect venue for private events of all sizes. For more information about the grounds and its annual events log on to www.montereycountyfair.com or call the Monterey County Fair & Event Center office at 831-372-5863.
Linda Dryden, producer of the 'Asilomar Centennial' production, lives in Pacific Grove. She has enjoyed the beauty of Asilomar with her husband and children for several years. When she learned of the Centennial, she decided to showcase the celebration through music. Near the beginning of her inspiration, she attended a local production of Cypressaires Men’s Barbershop Chorus Annual Show and met their director, Kristen Thompson who introduced her to more local talent such as the women’s quartet Vocal Point, men’s quartet Four on the Floor and soloist Robb Hasse. Her ideas continued to flourish and began to coalesce with her numerous musical contacts.

The musical program can be viewed on the Centennial website. It is a beautiful program and symbolically suggests we should be sensitive to our environment by going ‘paperless’ whenever we can. Linda knows Asilomar will bring as much pleasure to future generations as they enjoy the efforts and visions of past stewards of the land.
Arts and Events

Up and Coming

Dorian Young at The Works

A very special evening of piano jazz and smooth vocals is offered Sat., April 20 for one night only. Dorian Young will perform jazz piano and vocals at the Works, 867 Lighthouse Ave. There is a $12 cover. The concert will take place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. for more information, call the Works at 831-372-2242. Dorian Young is the son of legendary trumpet great Webster Young.

Celtic group Litha will perform at St. Mary’s

Litha will perform at St. Mary’s By-The-Sea on Wed., April 17 at 7 p.m. Litha is a world class Celtic band consisting of two duos: Aaron Jones and Claire Mann who play with Scotland’s Old Blind Dogs, and two members of the Irish band Cara. They are on their way through California following a successful European tour. Their CD “Dancing of the Light” received critical acclaim following their debut at the Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow last Fall. Tickets are available through www.brownpapertickets.com, and are $15 for adults or $5 for children under 12. Beer, wine and snacks will be available for purchase with proceeds and a portion of the ticket price going to support the work of St. Mary’s food pantry. Call 224-3819 for more info.

The community is invited to an evening of jazz on the campus of California State University, Monterey Bay as the annual Heritage Music Festival returns on Saturday, April 27.

The free concert will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Black Box Cabaret, located on Fourth Street near the intersection of Gen. Jim Moore Boulevard and Inter-Garrison Road.

The concert features John Santos and his sextet; and the CSUMB Jazz Ensemble, with special guest soloist Don Pendergrass on piano.

Santos, a five-time Grammy nominee, is a San Francisco Bay area mainstay, a musical anchor and outspoken ambassador of the city’s active Latin jazz scene. He is an exponent of Afro-Latin music through innovative use of traditional forms and instruments with contemporary music. The John Santos Sextet appeared at the Monterey Bay Festival in 2011. Pendergrass, a pianist and vocalist and longtime member of the Roger Eddy Band, and has four appearances at the Monterey Jazz Festival to his credit. He is a stalwart of the local jazz scene.

The concert is sponsored by CSUMB’s Music and Performing Arts Department, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, and the university’s Special Event Fund.

While the concert is free, a parking permit must be purchased from a nearby dispenser. Driving directions and a campus map are available at csumb.edu/map. For more information or disability accommodations, call 582-3009.

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April 12: NO DANCE JAM

Chautauqua Hall is unavailable due to the 34th Annual Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild Quilt Show opening reception, part of Pacific Grove’s Good Old Days festival. See you next week!
‘Soft flamenco’ may be the thing for arthritis

Ella Bekker teaches a low-impact version

If you have arthritis, doubtless your health care professionals have told you that gentle, low-impact movement is helpful to keep joints limber and strong and, while it may be painful at first, will eventually decrease pain and suffering.

Hundreds of arthritis sufferers attend exercise classes locally, or follow an exercise routine on their own, but dozens are finding dance and tai chi are more fun.

Ella Bekker, a native Russian woman who retired to the Peninsula after a career with the Defense Language Institute, found that flamenco dance was her own salvation after bicycling and tennis were no longer options for her. She devised a style of “soft flamenco” and a combination of sitting and standing moves that she teaches to clients at Sally Griffin Center each Friday afternoon.

“It is a gift given to me and I want to share it,” says Ella. “Are you in pain? Get up! You’ll walk better and feel better.”

Even the castanets are helpful for people with arthritis in their fingers, as are the typical “filigree” movements native to flamenco dance.

Ella says there is something about flamenco dance that is very special. Her students dress in colorful skirts (sashes for the gentlemen) and even that is therapeutic, she says. “There’s emotional involvement. It is visual. It is theatrical. It makes you feel better about yourself, putting on this beautiful costume.”

Students are not required to have any experience to join the class, which meets Fridays at 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. There is no fee for the class, either, and people are encouraged to drop in and sign up at the front desk or by calling 831-375-4454.

You make your own feel-good flamenco costume, or borrow one that Sally Mateo, a student, has made and provides. Ella provides the castanets.

Parkinson’s patients try tango

Dips without chips?

From the masterful Mark Morris Dance Group (current choreographer of Mikhail Baryshnikov in Brooklyn, N.Y.) to Monterey, “Dance for Parkinson’s Disease” is gaining momentum. Evidence of massive benefits in favor of brain and body movement on the dance floor is mounting.

According to research commissioned by the English National Ballet and Roehampton University, published in Arts and Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice, “dancing is an important tool to increase well-being, to aid daily life and to give people a sociable, creative outlet that is not disease-focused.”

Michelle Stone of Monterey Dance is offering Dance for Parkinson’s to a group of 74- to 91-year-youngsters. They torch up the floor from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. every Wednesday, culminating with tango dips.

This fun loving, lively group attributes Irene Watson, whom they met at Sally Griffin Center in Pacific Grove, as having introduced them to this healthful dancing lifestyle.

Watson apparently has overcome her share of personal maladies. She claims, according to Giselle Petzing-er, MD and Neuroscientist at USC that “There is compelling scientific evidence that learning and exercise, especially learning to dance, causes regenerative changes in the brain’s existing neurons that can restore neuron function and remedy the effects of aging and a number of disorders.”

To learn more about Dance for Parkinson’s Disease in Monterey, call 831-293-3001. The first class is free.
Urge divestiture from fossil fuel stocks with efforts toward renewable energy

Open letter to Mayor and City Council members of Pacific Grove:

We, the undersigned citizens of Pacific Grove, are convinced by the weight of scientific evidence that global warming caused by fossil fuel combustion is a great threat to the welfare of the world, both immediately and for future generations.

The immediate threat has already been experienced in extreme weather events including record heat, massive storms, huge floods, longer, more intense, periods of drought, and more intense and frequent wild fires. Resources that could be spent building our communities have and will be diverted to recover from an increasing number of natural disasters.

The legacy of greenhouse gas emissions for future generations includes ecosystems in disarray, increased sea level rise displacing millions of people, and loss of biodiversity.

We have the technology to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by eliminating dependence on fossil fuels in a few decades. Special interests whose success depends on burning fossil fuels for energy oppose that transition and are impeding progress. A proven way to put pressure on such interests is divestiture.

We believe that holding stocks and bonds in companies whose profits and share price are largely dependent on burning fossil fuels until they are all gone is wrong, practically and ethically. We strongly urge the city to take action to divest fossil fuel energy companies and to request divestiture from other entities that manage funds on their behalf. We also ask that the city become a leader in the use of renewable energy.

As time passes the cost of inaction goes up very quickly. The time to act is now.

Larry Telles
Robert Nixon
Adrienne Allen
Denise and Robert Frischmuth
Maurice O’Brien
Patrick Driscoll
Bill Bruffey
Peter Montforte
Karin Locke
Jack and Tama Olver
Vicki and John Pears
Ken Morley
Larry Sharp

Councilmember decry CalPERS costs and places the blame at State level

Editor:

In recent letters to the Cedar Street Times, two of our former police chiefs have decried the dismantling of the police department. While I agree that it is a shame to see the department declining in size, I don’t think there is a concerted attempt to “systematically dismantle” it. At least there is no such intention on my part.

I think one can strongly argue that a citizen or she considers to be a better job; and that is what some of our officers have decided to do. I wish them well. But we also have some loyal officers who are sticking with the city, and I hope we can find a way to reward them for that loyalty. But we can only do this within certain financial constraints. Public safety has grown to over 50 percent of the City’s general fund budget, leaving us with other things we can’t take care of.

The City Manager and Police Chief have to ensure the city has sufficient police services; however, and are doing the right thing in looking at contracted services. They want to make sure we have enough police officers on the street to provide for your safety. That safety is not provided now from the 156 to 158 month from now. So a study has been completed.

Yes; a citizen’s group has circulated initiatives trying to restrict City payments to our employees’ pensions. I hope the City to investigate how CalPERS costs became so high. They are not attacking the officers themselves, however, but an out-of-control system that threatens the future finances of the City. After agreeing to the 3 percent per year of service formula, our City’s Public Safety costs have grown from 43 percent of our general fund budget to 53 percent in less than 10 years. We have to do something about those costs and get them under control. We can’t wait another six or seven years and have public safety costs consume 60 percent of our budget! If we don’t have the money to fix everything now, we certainly won’t then.

A large part of these increases have been due to the costs of the CalPERS retirement system. This state agency has lost millions of dollars that the City of Pacific Grove paid to them to make sure that public safety employees have generous pensions when they retire. The way it works now, however, CalPERS doesn’t care if they lose that money — because they simply send the taxpayers a bill for any shortage. You and I, as taxpayers, are on the hook to pay that bill. If a CalPERS Board member directs investments to his friends, and that money is lost; you and I, as taxpayers, are on the hook to pay that bill also.

I would ask Darius and Carl: You are both honorable men. Is that fair? I would like to keep our current officers, reward them for their loyalty, and build a new department around these veterans. They know Pacific Grove and I am confident they can do that. That will take some time, however, and we will need to contract out while we undertake that rebuilding. We also must keep costs under control. If we don’t do that we will have a great police department; but no city to speak of.

Rudy Fischer, Councilmember
Pacific Grove

Dear Budget Committee:

I do not know what the police union would say about a drastic move such as what little remains of the Pacific Grove Police Department. Let’s do that without any more talk about it. Let’s do that before we’ve lost our once proud Department.

I would urge you to allow our Police Department to sink to such an impossible low? I sincerely hope they have not been frightened and cowed by the noisy people in town who are making all manner of the wall, even false statements about the retirement situations of our public servants. I deplore this dishonest approach to community issues. It has no place in public discourse. Chief Miller’s paragraph #5, in which he spells out the realities of police personnel retirements (no paid health insurance, no paid Social Security, no paid Medicare, etc.) should be required reading and community issues. It has no place in public discourse. Chief Miller’s paragraph #5, in which he spells out the realities of police personnel retirements (no paid health insurance, no paid Social Security, no paid Medicare, etc.) should be required reading and memorization for all citizens, let alone Council members.

I would ask for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Department to be a model for what this community needs at this time. I hope to see replacement officers that are respectful and well-trained and well-respected in the community. That is how we can do our duty and not cause a great deal of harm.

Thank you for printing the letters (03/29/2013) from our distinguished former Chiefs of Police of Pacific Grove. I totally agree with the Chiefs’ analysis and suggestions for further action. I can tell you this; I feel infinitely less safe in our town, knowing we have no police detectives and only two police sergeants! What are the Council members thinking, to allow our Police Department to sink to such an impossible low? I sincerely hope they have not been frightened and cowed by the noisy people in town who are making all manner of the wall, even false statements about the retirement situations of our public servants. I deplore this dishonest approach to community issues. It has no place in public discourse. Chief Miller’s paragraph #5, in which he spells out the realities of police personnel retirements (no paid health insurance, no paid Social Security, no paid Medicare, etc.) should be required reading and memorandum for all citizens, let alone Council members.

Thank you. We are proud of our police force and of the work they do. I have found that police officers who have a professional background and who are well-trained and well-respected in the community. That is how we can do our duty and not cause a great deal of harm.

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Healthy Communities = Healthy Watersheds
Sarah Hardgrave, City of Pacific Grove Environmental Programs Manager

Guest Commentary

Pacific Grove’s coastline is one of the most treasured features of this community. While there isn’t always agreement about the best ways to protect the Pacific Grove coast, most of us care about it deeply and passionately. This commentary is a call to the community to find better ways to work together with the City to improve and protect Pacific Grove’s precious resources.

The City of Pacific Grove is under new federal and state mandates to protect the near shore waters and improve the water quality of what is coming off the land and ending up in the bay. In addition to being a National Marine Sanctuary, lands and the near shore waters around the bay are also designated as the Pacific Grove Area of Special Biological Significance (PG ASBS).

In order for the Pacific Grove community to meet state water quality standards and requirements for its discharges into the Pacific Grove ASBS designated areas of the Monterey Bay, the community must understand the City’s obligation to meet these stringent standards to be in compliance with State and Federal regulations. By changing the tone of the dialogue considerably from the Greenwood Park experience, we can move forward in partnership in meeting the mandates within the prescribed timelines.

The public may not know the consequences of violations under the ASBS Special Protections and Statewide Stormwater Permit is fines on the order of $10,000 to $25,000 per day per violation for failure to comply with the state requirements. Pacific Grove cannot afford for this to happen.

As reported in the April 5, 2013 edition of the Cedar Street Times, the City had proposed a project at Greenwood Park for the purpose of improving the water quality of the runoff from the drainage through this area. Because of the hostile opposition by the neighbors to the City’s proposed project at the park at the scoping meeting, the City will attempt to redirect grant funds toward the neighbor’s proposed alternative, a project that will make needed repairs to the storm drain upstream from the park.

The City is not in the position to expend limited resources on unwarranted litigation over its efforts to meet Federal and State regulatory requirements, as threatened over the proposal at Greenwood Park. We do not yet know if the City will be able to redirect the grant funds; the State Water Board has the final word. However, it was clear from the meeting on March 28 the project proposed at tje park was unlikely to be successful.

What we do on land and what happens to the health of our waters and ocean.


Public invited to free lecture

The public is invited to learn about changes occurring throughout the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and the drivers of those changes, from experts who are seeking to understand them at the Sanctuary Currents Symposium. Observations on the Shifting Ecology of the Sanctuary is the topic of this year’s symposium set for April 27 at California State University, Monterey Bay. The presentation will provide insights into the changing face of resource management in the region.

Among the speakers is Dr. Stephen Palumbi of Hopkins Marine Station, who will talk about what Monterey Bay tells us about climate change, and what climate change tells us about the future of Monterey Bay.

The event, lasting from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., will include presentations about local research efforts by marine scientists and policy experts, and exhibits, displays and information provided by marine organizations such as the Institute for Applied Marine Ecology at CSUMB and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

It will take place at the University Center on Sixth Avenue at B Street on the CSUMB campus. Driving directions and a campus map are available at csumb.edu/mapping.

The event is free; no tickets or reservations are required. Sponsors include NOAA’s Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, CSU Monterey Bay and its Institute for Applied Marine Ecology; and the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Call 582-3653 for more information.

It’s Jazz Month

Tom Stevens
Otter Views

To mark Jazz Appreciation Month, I lined up my cool blue walking shoes for the other evening and strolled over to the Monterey Science Center. It was opening night of the Next Generation Jazz Festival which this year drew 20 student ensembles from as far away as Japan, Boston and Alaska.

I usually work weekends, so I missed the student performances held Saturday and Sunday at various downtown venues. But the festival also pitches a free Friday night concert by an adult group whose name sounds like a band:

The Adjudicators.

These are professional jazz musicians whose festival gig includes evaluating the bands and coaching the students in their instrumental and vocal specialties. The adjudicators also play a 90-minute concert to open the festival each year. The house fills up fast for that.

Booking transport, lodging and performance venues for 20 bands and two down judges must be crazy-making, especially when cancellations arise. This year, tenor sax titan Joe Lovano had to withdraw at the eleventh hour, but the festival managed to work around that. Nonetheless, when event impresario Paul Contos took the stage, he looked like a man who had juggled fire.

The festival is about numerous things, but professionalism is up there near the top. Many of the students hope to play professionally one day, and the Friday night concert gave them an idea of how that looks and feels. Any last-minute hassles that might have transpired off-stage were not evident once the house lights dimmed. The show started on time, the sound was excellent, and Contos read through a long list of thank-you's and performer credits mangle-free.

Then the music started. Up first was the Edmar Colon Quartet, a quicksilver ensemble from Boston’s Berklee School of Music. Scarcely older than its audience, the quartet delivered a up-tempo set of standards and originals with fire, humor and panache. Their closer was “Monk’s-eyes,” saxophonist Colon’s tune about swing era pianist Thelonious Monk. The whole set was adventurous, brilliant fun. The band also showed jazz’s reach, with players from Puerto Rico, Ireland, Saint Thomas and Oregon.

The Adjudicators were up next, but they were too numerous to present at once. This was a good thing for the audience, which got to enjoy combos of various sizes and voicings. The arrangement also gave each festival judge some well-deserved limelight, and it gave the students a musical introduction to their weekend evaluators.

But mostly, it showed the pros at work. It had to be a scrum back stage setting up the ensembles, agreeing on times and arrangements; juggling last minute hassles. But as each group took the stage, they looked and sounded as if they had played together for years. For some of them, this was true. Others had scarcely met. The amazing thing was, you couldn’t tell the difference.

I couldn’t, anyway. As a non-musician, I also couldn’t follow the secret language of signals, looks and nods whereby the players set the music on its glide path or agreed to deviate from it. Equally puzzling to me was the matter of tempo and the tune. They might have figured this out back stage, or they might have come to some silent, mutual understanding using the secret language of jazz musicians and bees. Whatever the case, some designee would snap off a count and the group would swing into synchronous, glorious, instantaneous flight. How do they do that? How do you get to Carnegie Hall?

The students doubtless found out over the weekend. As for me, I just leaned forward, closed my eyes, and dug being in a big room full of great players and attentive jazz people. No blenders, no cell phones, no bar dice, no silverware – just 90 minutes of fantastic music.

The festival may be renowned only in the jazz world, but they have a wealth of collective achievement. Among Friday’s players were university professors, Grammy nominees, text book authors, TV and movie score writers, touring company members and veteran recording artists. How veterans? Bassist Ray “Bulldog” Drummond has taken part in 300 recording sessions; drummers John Densmore, Rick Marotta and Horace Lewis have each recorded albums of their own; cornetist Patrice Rushen has 14 recordings under her own name. Also appearing Friday were big band trumpeter Bobby Shew, first-call saxophonist Antonio Hart, Joel Frahm and Gary Smulyen, Grammy-nominated guitarists John Pizzarelli and Bill Malone, and an electrifying jazz and scat singer from New Orleans named Kenny Washington. Also squeezing onto the stage were trombonist Dave Promon and emcee Paul Contos, who played a limpid, soulful alto flute.

Walking to PG afterwards, my blue shoes sang “All Blues.”

NoAA’s Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; CSU Monterey Bay and its Institute for Applied Marine Ecology; and the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Call 582-3653 for more information.
The Belgians are coming!

Pop culture motorcycle tour brings visitors to Monterey

The Belgians are coming, the Belgians are coming on their motorcycles to do some “California Dreamin.” From April 18 to April 29 a tour group of 125 folks on 72 bikes will be riding from San Francisco to Los Angeles and Las Vegas on a 1,600 mile music and pop culture tour. These European riders will be stopping on the Monterey Peninsula the night of Sun., April 21, to watch the movie “Monterey Pop” and listen and dance to a local classic rock & roll band. The tour is sponsored by a Belgian radio station, Classic 21, and Bike to Beach, a Belgian motorcycle club. The station is the biggest classic rock programmer in their country, with 400,000 listeners per day, and is called “bikers' radio.”

Monterey Peninsula author of The Hippie Dictionary, John McCleary, will show “Monterey Pop” at their hotel conference room and giving the Belgians the lowdown on the movie and our California counterculture scene of the 1960s and 70s. After the movie and discussion, the travelers will converge on the Cannery Row Brewing Company for music and dancing to our local hippie band, The Cachagua Playboys. The party is not private, and the brew pub will be open to the public as usual, with everyone invited to enjoy the band’s gig from 9:30 p.m. ’til all hours.

The radio station and bike club spon- sor about five trips a year, four in Europe and, since last year, one in the USA. The first American tour based on music was “The Blues Route,” from Chicago to New Orleans, and this year they are coming to California. The group is a mix of French-speaking Belgians, from their late 30s to early 60s. They are fun, cool and eager to discover California and listen to good music and interesting stories. Monterey will be one of the highlights of their tour.

Two evenings of film showings, part of the 12th annual Reel Work May Day Labor Film Festival, will be held on the campus of Cal State Monterey Bay and in Monterey.

The festival features films that illuminate the lives and struggles of workers in the United States and around the world. This year’s theme is the growing movement of worker-run cooperatives, which have become a vibrant part of society in Argentina, Spain and Greece. As factories shut down, workers move in to run them successfully on their own.

Other films touch on workers’ role in developing literacy in Cuba, women’s and LGBT rights in the workplace and creative youth re-imaging political engagement.

The three programs are sponsored by the CSUMB chapter of the California Faculty Association.

On Sat., April 27, an afternoon of international films will be presented at the Museum of Monterey at 5 Custom House Plaza in Monterey. At 1 p.m. “Maestra” will be shown, with guest speaker and CSUMB faculty member Linda Turner Bynoe. “Maestra” which means “teacher” in Spanish, explores the role of young women who made up the majority of the 1963 Cuban literacy brigade.

At 2:30 p.m. “You Cannot? We Can!” will be seen. Greek factory workers have taken over their abandoned factory and are preparing to restart production. At 3 p.m. “Shift Change,” with filmmakers Mark Dworkin and Melissa Young, will be screened. Secure, dignified jobs are created in employee-owned workplaces in the U.S. and Mondragon co-ops in Spain.

On Tue., April 30, at 8 p.m., “Never Get a Dime,” a film about Lilly Ledbetter’s 11-year fight for equal pay will be shown. The first piece of legislation President Obama signed into law was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Also, “Out at Work,” stories of LGBT workers as they seek workplace safety, job security and employee benefits, will be shown. Both films will be screened in the Tanimura and Antle Library on Divarty Street at Fifth Avenue, Room 1188.

On Thur., May 2, at 8 p.m., also at Room 1188 at the library, “Let Fury Have the Hour” will be shown. It tells how skateboarders, punk rock and poetry led a group of young people of the 1980s to political engagement.

Admission to all events is free; donations will be accepted. Visitors must purchase a parking permit from a nearby dispenser at the CSUMB campus. For more information, visit www.reelwork.org. For more information on the CSUMB screenings, contact Jennifer Colby at 726-2006 or jcolby@csumb.edu.

Celebrate local heroes in Monterey County

The American Red Cross Monterey Bay Area Chapter will recognize local individu- als whose extraordinary acts of courage have made them heroes at the annual Monterey Bay Area County Heroes Dinner on Saturday, May 18 at the Hyatt Regency Monterey. To get a full listing of Heroes awarded and to purchase your tickets, please visit www.acmontereybay.org. RSVPs are due May 10.
Audubon ‘Birdathon’ will raise youth scholarship funds

Monterey Audubon Society will hold their county-wide Birdathon 2013 from Fri., April 26, 4 p.m. through Sat., April 27, 4 p.m., followed by a catered lasagna dinner at Wild Bird Haven at Del Monte Shopping Center, Monterey, 5:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Birders from everywhere and of all skill levels are invited to attend the event and spot as many birds as they can in the 24-hour period. Bring your own binoculars and dress for changing weather.

Registration is preferred by contacting Cooper Scollan at 831-241-1422 or scollancouper@yahoo.com to participate. Cost is $30/person, $50/couple with kids/students free. All proceeds to Monterey Audubon’s May Gong Tenney Youth Scholarships.

A silent auction at the dinner will also benefit the scholarship fund.

Pacific Grove Art Center gives Open call for artists working in 2-D and 3-D

The purpose of the Pacific Grove Art Center is to Educate, Appreciate, Exhibit, Encourage, and Inspire. Since 1969, the PGAC has been a community based nonprofit seeking to enhance art appreciation and encourage the creation of art. With the desire to have art available to everyone, PGAC has held low cost classes, free exhibits to view, low cost gallery rental fees, and has also offered reduced rent for artists’ studios for over 40 years.

Emerging and established artists are professionally shown in our historic galleries, and large group shows can provide the first step into the art world for many. Through generous donations, grants, and hundreds of volunteered hours, the Art Center continues its mission today.

Apply for a SOLO SHOW by visiting our website and downloading the submission form. Submit required materials and submit and encourage the creation of art with the desire to have art available to everyone, PGAC has held low cost classes, free exhibits to view, low cost gallery rental fees, and has also offered reduced rent for artists’ studios for over 40 years.

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Artists earn 60 percent of the sale price. Artists are responsible for delivery and pick up of their work. Please see submission form for additional details. Good luck!

Note: Unsolicited materials not accepted. Applicants not following application procedure will not be accepted.

Submission deadline May 31 for Teen Film Festival

Young filmmakers eager to see their work on the big screen bigger than YouTube will get the opportunity in the fall, when CSU Monterey Bay will hold its fifth annual Teen Film Festival.

The Tele-dramatic Arts and Technol-

ogy Department is accepting entries for the festival, which will be held on Sept. 7 and 8 as part of the Monterey Bay Film Festival’s three-day run (Sept. 6-8). The deadline to apply is May 31.

Filmmakers between 13 and 19 years old are invited to submit films and videos up to five minutes in length. Entries may be in English or Spanish and there is no entry fee. Entries may be submitted online at montereybayfilmfestival.com.

TAT students will organize the event and handle the judging, according to Professor Enid Baxter Blader.

“It’s an educational experience for our students, who want to go out in the world and have their films screened in film festivals. A great way to understand that process is to curate a film festival,” Blader said.

CSUMB also hopes the festival will serve as a way to interest local teens who might not have considered going to college. By inviting them to campus and showing them what the university offers, they may consider enrolling.

While local teenagers are encouraged to enter the competition, it’s also open to teenagers from around the world.

Last year’s event drew more than 200 entries with films submitted from Mexico, South Africa, Venezuela, Salinas, Soledad and Los Angeles. Close to 400 people attended the festival, making it the most attended event in four years. Teen filmmakers from all over California, their families and community members came to enjoy the show.

The Monterey Bay Film Festival will also feature three programs curated by Mike Plante. Plante is an associate programmer of the Sundance Film Festival, and curates many other festivals internationally. This will be his fourth year as the programmer of the Monterey Bay Film Festival.

Kernes Pool grand re-opening celebration

Kernes Adaptive Aquatics is having a ribbon cutting and open house on Tues-

day, April 23 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. to show off the newly renovated Josephine Kernes Memorial Pool. The public is in-vited to enjoy refreshments, music, tours of the pool, and a “ducky” raffle. Kernes Pool provides warm water exercise for children and adults with special needs. For more information see www.KernesPool.org, or call 372-1240. The pool is located at 15 Portola Avenue, Monterey.
LaCrosse: Breakers best Chieftains in a knucklebiter

By Kellen Gibbs

The Pacific Grove Breakers took on the Palma Chieftains this Monday in a knuckle to knuckle, fast-paced game that ended a little more physical than hoped for.

For most of the first half both teams were responding well to each other and the score stayed very close. Pacific Grove’s goalie, Taylor Dunbar stood his ground in front of the goal, deflecting countless shots from Palma’s offense in what could have made the outcome of this game a lot different from what it was. Towards the latter half of the second quarter, Palma’s defense left a few too many openings for Pacific Grove’s offense and brought the Breaker’s to a leading score of 4-2.

The Breakers would keep their lead for the rest of the game but the Chieftains weren’t about to give up. Coming out of the locker room and into the third quarter Palma tried to fight their way back on top with a goal that put the score to 4-3; Pacific Grove was still in the lead. The lack of goal scoring by the Breaker in the third quarter put this game in close reach for Palma when the quarter ended.

It was the final period of play that secured the Breaker’s victory over the Chieftains in this game. Pacific Grove came out firing quickly at the beginning of the fourth. An early goal by #21, Austin Lord (who had racked up the majority of the Breaker’s goals in the game) stretched Pacific Grove’s lead to 5-3. Palma continued to put pressure on the Breakers throughout the duration of the game but Pacific Grove didn’t budge. Scoring the sixth and final goal the Breakers ended with a final score of 6-3 and as the final seconds ticked away at the end of the game, tension was high.

Multiple flags were thrown out on the field as Palma’s coach seemed to have lost his temper and was thrown out of the game for unsportsmanlike conduct. Like a ticking time bomb, players from both teams were riled up and in each other’s face as the game, luckily came to an end before anything unnecessary happened.

The Pacific Grove Breakers head to Stevenson on Tuesday to take on the Pirates and carry themselves into another win.

Ben Alexander

Golf Tips

Ben Alexander PGA
PGA Teaching Professional,
Pacific Grove Golf Links,
Bayonet Golf Course
PGA Teacher Of The Year,
No Cal PGA
831-277-9001
www.benalexandergolf.com

A putting drill

Try this drill on the putting green: Get ready to hit your practice putt. Stick a tee in the grass on the toe of your putter and on the heel of your putter. Allow a little room so the putter can move back and through with a practice putting stroke. Then hit some putts in between the tees. This will get more consistency with keeping your putter square at your target.
Harlem Ambassadors coming to Pacific Grove

The Harlem Ambassadors have all played college basketball and have college degrees in fields ranging from exercise science to counseling rehabilitation. Each season (Sept-May) they perform approximately 250 fundraising games and entertainment events for non-profit organizations, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Chambers of Commerce, the Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, and the U.S. military. 2012-13 marks the Harlem Ambassadors’ 15th touring season. The Ambassadors have played in all 50 states and 20 countries. The Harlem Ambassadors show is quality family entertainment and is fun for audiences of all ages, from kids to kids-at-heart. In addition to the hilarious comedy and slam dunks, audience members, especially children, will have the opportunity to participate in interactive games between the quarters and during halftime. Everyone will have the opportunity to meet the Harlem Ambassadors after the game and get autographs from all of the players during the complimentary autograph session. You’ll find more information about the Harlem Ambassadors at www.harlemambassadors.com.

Players, sponsors sought for exhibition basketball game

Join Gateway Gladiators and play against the Harlem Ambassadors

Gateway Center is looking for donations, sponsors and players for an upcoming event with the Harlem Ambassadors. The internationally-acclaimed Ambassadors will be visiting Pacific Grove to play against the Gateway Gladiators at Pacific Grove High School May 11 at 6:30 p.m. Players for the Gladiators must be at least 19 years old. Anyone interested in being a part of this fundraiser is invited to contact Melissa Walchli, development director of Gateway Center at 372-8002, extension 12.

The remodeled Visitor Center will feature a new roof, ADA compliance and an expanded and modernized Garland Ranch Regional Park Visitors Center. The expanded floor plan will include an additional office, visitor information and increased space for educational programs and a future displays. The project is partially funded through a generous grant from an anonymous donor.

The Visitor Center is expected to officially close on or about April 22, 2013, at Locke-Paddon Park in Marina. The event runs for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The District is inviting the public to join in resorting and beautifying the park, which is located at 190 Seaside Circle in Marina. There will be interactive booths, arts and crafts, music and a free lunch for participants.

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park district announces visitor center remodel

Garland Ranch park structure to be expanded and modernized

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) has announced plans to remodel and expand the Visitor Center at Garland Ranch Regional Park. The updated facility will allow for greater public accessibility and interaction between visitors and MPRPD Staff and Volunteer Naturalists, expanded use by participants in the “Let’s Go Outdoors!” Activities Guide programs and the creation of additional displays including a new interpretive plant garden adjacent to the Visitor Center.

“The extremely excited about this project,” said Tim Jensen, Planning and Conservation Manager for MPRPD. “The remodel and expansion are following green building practices and our hope is the facility will be complete by September 1, 2013. As the primary point of public information for the park and the District, a properly sized Visitor Center was needed.”

The remodeled Visitor Center will feature a new roof, ADA compliance and the addition of 400 sq. feet to the Center itself. The expanded floor plan will include an additional office, visitor information and increased space for educational programs and a future displays. The project is partially funded through a generous grant from an anonymous donor.

“The increase in visitors to the park and participants in our ‘Let’s Go Outdoors!’ Activities Guide programs is an expanded and modernized Garland Ranch Regional Park Visitors Center was needed,” commented Board President, Kathleen Lee. “With this being the 40th anniversary of the District, it was a perfect opportunity to address this need. Through the generosity of our anonymous donor and the hard work of our staff and volunteers, we will have an outstanding facility that will anchor this park for the next 40 years.”

The Visitor Center is expected to officially close on or about April 22, 2013 (the restrooms will remain open), with construction to begin soon after, but the renovations will have minimal impact on visitors to the park and participants in the “Let’s Go Outdoors!” Activity Guide programs located at the Visitor Center.

To register online, go to mprpd.org and register. Pre-registration is strongly recommended for all free programs. For more information, please call Joseph at 372-3196 ext. 102, or send an e-mail to narvaez@mprpd.org.

Earth Day at Regional Parks

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (mprpdp.org) will hold an Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 13, at Locke-Paddon Park in Marina. The event runs for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The District is inviting the public to join in resorting and beautifying the park, which is located at 190 Seaside Circle in Marina. There will be interactive booths, arts and crafts, music and a free lunch for participants.

See the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District’s new “Let’s Go Outdoors!” spring/summer guide or go to mprpd.org to learn about all upcoming activities of the Park District.

To register online, go to mprdp.org and register. Pre-registration is strongly recommended for all free programs. For more information, please call Joseph at 372-3196 ext. 102, or send an e-mail to narvaez@mprpd.org.
Did you take your meds today...The Art of Meditation

Rhonda M. Farrah, M.A.

Wellness Empowered

Plant the seed of meditation and reap the fruit of peace of mind. Your mind is your instrument. Learn to be its master and not its slave. -Remem Sasson

Over the past nearly 50 years, meditation has entered the mainstream of modern Western culture, prescribed by physicians and practiced by everyone from business executives, artists, and scientists to students, teachers, military personnel, and... on a promising note...some politicians.

During most of our waking life our minds are engaged in a continuous internal dialogue in which the meaning and emotional associations of one thought trigger the next. All day long our mind experiences our work, our love, our finances, our family, or, perhaps, even our Life Purpose.

Too often we’re not even conscious of the internal messages and recordings taking up residence in our mind...and, perhaps, often, the greatest source of stress in our lives.

Although the mind is capable of creating life-affirming stories, it has what neuroscientists refer to as a negativity bias...yes...that tendency to pay more attention to negative experiences than to positive ones. The negativity bias evolved as a survival instinct millions of years ago, as our ancestors...and, now, those who choose to focus much more attention on the potential for harm rather than on potential for good, which tends to conserve a delicious meal or admire a once-in-a-lifetime sunset would have used valuable intelligence...must have been a barrier that prevented our ancestors more vulnerable to attack by a predator. Hey...go figure! Those who survived to pass on their genes paid a lot of attention to danger. Their legacy is a brain that is pruned to focus on negative experiences, a tendency that gets us stuck in conditioned patterns of thinking, returning again...and once again to thoughts of anxiety, and limitation...that "not enough" stuff.

The growing popularity of meditation, prevailing misconceptions about the practice are a barrier that prevents many people from trying meditation and discovering that we are not stuck in conditioned patterns of thinking, returning again...and once again to thoughts of anxiety, and limitation...that "not enough" stuff.

Meditation is difficult. False! This total misconception is rooted in the image of meditation as an esoteric practice reserved only for gurus, saints, and the Spiritually elite. In reality, when you receive instruction from an experienced, knowledgeable teacher or practitioner, meditation is easy and fun to learn. The techniques can be as simple as focusing on the breath or silently repeating a mantra. One reason why meditation may seem difficult is that we try too hard to...
**Good Old Days 2013 Music Festival Schedule**

**Entertainment Saturday, April 13**

**La Crème Stage: 13th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. Moonalice, San Francisco's Renowned Psychedelic Rock and Blues Jam Band (Opened for U2 in 2011)

**Chase Bank Stage: Forest Avenue and Lighthouse Avenue**

All Day Latin Stage with DJ Wilfredo Prudencio, presenting several Latin bands and dance teams.

12:30pm and 3:30pm Team Hotwheelz Dance Team by reality TV show star Chelsea Hill and Hotwheelz Wheelchair Dance Team.

**Bank of America Stage: 16th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

10:15am - 11:00am The Cypressaires Barbershop Chorus
11:15am - 12:00pm Touch’d Too Much, AC/DC Tribute Band
12:15pm - 1:15pm Jamaica’s Belly Dancers
1:30pm - 2:15pm Jodymia, Solo Vocal and Guitar, and Possessed by Obsession, Rock Originals and Covers
2:15pm - 3:00pm Black Pearl, Classic Rock Covers, and Counterfeit Control, Alternative Heavy Rock
3:15pm - 4:00pm The Legendary Chicano All Stars Band, Latin Rock/R&B
4:15pm - 5:00pm The Pacific Grove Brazilian Drumming Class
5:15pm - 6:00pm Foxtails Brigade, Bay Area Pop Band
6:15pm - 7:00pm Audio Waltz, American Blues Rock & Roll

**17th Street Grill Stage: 17th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

10:00am - 10:45am Asha-Med, Alternative/Garage/Punk
11:00am - 11:45am Monterey Flute Choir
12:00pm - 12:45pm A Band of Ninjas, Acoustic Rock Covers
1:00pm - 1:45pm Dave Conley, Variety of Covers and Originals
2:00pm - 2:45pm Random Stranger, Classic Rock Covers
3:00pm - 3:45pm Park Avenue Belly Dancers
4:00pm - 5:00pm Burly 59, Punk Rock

**Goodies Stage: Fountain Avenue and Lighthouse Avenue**

9:45am - 10:30am Snarky Cats, Psychedelic Blues/Motown/Funk
10:45am - 11:30am The Furry Chaps Bluegrass Band, Folk
11:45am - 12:30pm Johnny Clay Band, Blues/Rock
12:45pm - 1:30pm Tommy Faia and the Juice, Rock n’Roll/Blues
1:45pm - 2:30pm RockStar Dance Studio and PG Breaker Girls
2:45pm - 3:30pm Bay Belles Barbershop Chorus
3:45pm - 4:30pm Pacific Grove High School Chamber Orchestra
4:45pm - 5:30pm Hit & Run Band, Blues/Funk/R&B

**Jewell Park Stage: Central Avenue and Grand Avenue**

8:00am - 10:00am Monterey Maple Leaf Club, Ragtime
10:15am-11:00am Michael Martinez, Pianist
11:15am-12:00pm Rose Merrill, Folk/Pop
12:15pm-12:45pm Magician Buzz Lawrence
1:00pm-1:45pm Steppin’ Out, Rock/Jazz/Contemporary
2:00pm-2:45pm Richard McLaughlin, Guitarist
3:00pm-3:45pm Michael Brautovich, Saxophonist
4:00pm-4:45pm Joseph Mortela, Alternative/Folk Rock

**Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Co.: 15th St. and Lighthouse Ave.**

1:00pm - 3:00pm Margie Wong, Guitarist and Vocalist

**Entertainment Sunday, April 14**

**La Crème Stage: 13th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. Moonalice, San Francisco's Renowned Psychedelic Rock and Blues Jam Band (Opened for U2 in 2011)

**Chase Bank Stage: Forest Avenue and Lighthouse Avenue**

All Day Latin Stage with DJ Wilfredo Prudencio, presenting several Latin bands and dance teams.

12:30pm and 3:30pm Team Hotwheelz Dance Team by reality TV show star Chelsea Hill and her Wheelchair Dance Team. First time performing in Monterey County.

**Bank of America Stage: 16th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

10:00am - 11:00am The Linda Arceo Band, Pop/Rock
11:15am - 12:00pm Firefly, Classic Rock
12:15pm - 1:15pm Cullum’s Hounds, San Francisco’s #1 Irish Folk
1:15pm - 2:15pm Beso Negro, San Francisco’s Top Gypsy Jazz
2:30pm - 3:30pm Matt Masih and the Messengers, Soul/Funk/R&B
3:45pm - 4:45pm Stu Heydon Blues Band, Blues

**17th Street Grill Stage: 17th Street and Lighthouse Avenue**

10:00am - 10:45am Martin Shears, Rock
11:00am - 11:45am Blue Collar Band, Blues Jam Band
12:00pm - 12:45pm Audio Waltz, American Blues Rock & Roll
1:00pm - 1:45pm All Good Things, Blues/Jazz/R&B
2:00pm - 2:45pm Rayburn Brothers, Folk/Rock
3:00pm - 4:00pm Terrie Londée and B+4 Dawn Band, R&B/Funk/Pop
4:15pm - 5:00pm Groovy Judy, 60’s and 70’s Music/Funk-Rock

**Goodies Stage: Fountain Avenue and Lighthouse Avenue**

10:30am - 11:30am Sierra Silver Strings, Kids Fiddle Group from Reno, Nevada
11:45am - 12:30pm Sierra Silver Strings, Kids Fiddle Group from Reno, Nevada
12:45pm - 1:30pm Tommy Faia and the Juice, Rock n’Roll/Blues
1:45pm - 2:30pm Del Monte Brass Band
2:45pm - 3:30pm Ame Chapman & The Velvet Tumbleweeds, Americana/Folk
3:45pm - 4:30pm Sierra Silver Strings, Kids Fiddle Group from Reno, Nevada

**Jewell Park Stage: Central Avenue and Grand Avenue**

9:15am - 10:15am Sean Ryan, Guitarist
10:30am-11:15am James Woolwine, Guitarist
11:30am - 12:30pm Steppin’ Out, Rock/Jazz/Contemporary
12:45pm – 1:30pm Joseph Mortela, Alternative/Folk Rock
1:45pm – 2:30pm Dusty Moon, Folk
2:45pm – 3:30pm Kenny Chung, Acoustic Guitar and Harmonica
3:45pm – 4:30pm Boggie and the Turtles, Rock

**Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting Co.: 15th St. and Lighthouse Ave.**

1:00pm - 3:00pm Margie Wong, Guitarist and Vocalist

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**Good Old Days 2013 Music Festival Schedule**

**SAVE THIS PAGE!**
The Save the Lovers Point Children’s Pool Campaign, with the support of Grove Market, will host a weenie roast on Saturday, April 13 from 4-9 p.m. The event will be held at the Lovers Point Park and Beach at the corner of Ocean View Boulevard and 17th Street.

The event features an old fashioned weenie roast dinner, musical entertainment and a screening of the movie “Finding Nemo” at the beach. Dinner tickets are $10 for a hot dog, $15 for a hamburger and $20 for Tri-Tip and includes salad, chili and a drink. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs to enjoy the movie.

“We are thrilled to have the support of the Grove Market and the entire community for this fundraiser,” said committee chairperson Steve Thomas. “This will be a wonderful event, so we encourage everybody to come down after Good Old Days and enjoy a great family meal, entertainment and a fun movie.”

All of the money raised at the event will be donated to the ongoing Save the Lovers Point Children’s Pool campaign, which is raising money to replace the shuttered pool at Lovers Point. The public pool is used for swimming and water safety classes for young children and their parents.

If you can’t make the event, direct donations are tax deductible and can be addressed to City of Pacific Grove, Save the Pool Campaign, 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. For additional information please visit www.facebook.com/friendsopgrec, the City’s website www.ci.pg.ca.us/savepool, or contact Don Mothershead at 648-3130 or dmothershead@ci.pg.ca.us.

St. Mary’s to hold Spring Book Sale during Good Old Days

St. Mary’s-by-the-Sea Book Sale will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00am - 2:00pm at St. Mary’s-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, located at 146 12th Street in Pacific Grove.

Shop through hundreds of great books. Histories, mysteries, science, nature, art, finance, spiritual, political, medical, gardening, cook books, children’s books, and more! Hardcovers and paperbacks - some brand new. Plus DVD’s, Videos, CD’s, cassettes and miscellaneous oddities. After 1:00pm, you can fill a grocery bag for $6.00. No admission cost. Open to the public.

AFRP Treasure Shop offers discounts during Good Old Days

Celebrate Good Old Days in America’s Last Home Town, Pacific Grove, and help raise funds for the cats and dogs at the AFRP adoption center on Lighthouse Avenue. The AFRP Treasure Shop, at 160 Fountain Avenue, will offer bountiful bargains and 20 percent discount to shoppers who come into the shop on Saturday, April 12 and Sunday April 11, from 10:00 until 4:30. For information, please call Jane Roland at 333-0491.

The Lovers Point Children’s Pool has been serving the citizens of Pacific Grove and visitors to the Lovers Point Beach since 1970. Providing a venue for swim lessons and water safety while employing dozens of lifeguards and other city Recreation Department personnel, the pool acts as a testament to the City of Pacific Grove’s commitment to providing recreational and quality of life activities for its residents. The Friends of P.G. Rec are focused on supporting the important mission of the Recreation Department.

Skillshots
Seniors

Make this a golden age

Free writing workshop offered

The Creative Writing Workshop, a six-week course taught by San Francisco playwright/creative advisor Lee Brady, welcomes new and experienced writers of all ages who want to write fiction, nonfiction, poetry, or plays. The workshop will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursdays from April 11 to May 16. The stated goal is for students to discover or renew their passion for writing. Contact Lee at 869-0860 or freshleebrady@gmail.com, or contact Kathryn Kress, coordinator of MPC’s Older Adult Program at 646-4058 or kkress@mpc.edu. The workshop is free and will meet at the Sally Griffin Center at 700 Jewell Avenue.

Monterey Library offers program for Boomers

The Monterey Public Library presents ‘Boomer Education 101: A Two-part Series’ with Bob Petty, an advisor with Partners for Transitions, LLC on Mondays April 8 and 15, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., a program designed to help members of the Baby Boomer Generation prepare for some major changes that are just around the corner. Topics covered include Medicare benefits, Social Security, and continued employment after age 65. Admission is free and no reservations are required. The Monterey Public Library is located at 625 Pacific Street, Monterey. For more information call 646-5602 or see www.monterey.org/library.

When is a Hospital Stay Not a Hospital Stay?

Susan L. Alexander, Esq.

(J.D., M.P.A., LL.M. - Taxation)

Spotlight on Seniors

Increasingly, hospital patients throughout the country are learning they are considered outpatients on “observation status,” and not “inpatients,” although they have stayed many days and nights and been treated in a hospital. Among the harmful consequences of observation status, people who need post-hospital nursing home care do not qualify for Medicare coverage, since the law requires a three-day prior inpatient hospital stay to obtain Medicare skilled nursing facility (SNF) coverage.

On March 14, 2013, bills addressing observation status were introduced in the House of Representatives (HR 1179) by Representatives Joe Courtney, Tom Latham and, in the Senate (S 569), by Senator Sherrod Brown. Similar to bills introduced in prior sessions of Congress, this legislation would amend the Medicare Act’s definition of “post-hospital extended care services” to clarify that time spent in the hospital in observation status counts toward the three-day prior hospital prerequisite for Medicare SNF coverage; this would help thousands of older and disabled people.

More and more Medicare recipients are getting hit with the sort of sticker shock that comes with not having been admitted to the hospital as an inpatient. In part due to pressure from Medicare to reduce costly inpatient stays, hospitals are increasingly not admitting patients but rather placing them on observation to determine whether they should be admitted - often for the duration of their hospital stay. The consequence is that if the patient moves to a nursing home after being “released,” the patient must pick up the tab for the nursing home stay – Medicare will pay none of it. The bills can run between $200 and $500 per day.

This scenario reflects the utility of having a HIPAA Authorization in place in case you cannot attend to your own healthcare issues due to illness or incapacity. HIPAA is the federal law (California has a counterpart) that governs confidentiality of a patient’s medical records. If someone else is helping you manage your health care, you may wish to list him as a HIPAA representative to enable him to be able to receive your protected health information, such as your hospital admission status. If you have an older Healthcare Power Of Attorney, it may not contain the requisite HIPAA language so be sure to see your attorney to update your documents. One of the kindest things a patient’s HIPAA representative can do is to learn the patient’s admission status at the hospital. One simple inquiry could timely enable a patient’s family and friends to advocate that inpatient status is appropriate. In addition, such an inquiry could save a patient tens of thousands of dollars in post-hospital skilled nursing fees that everyone assumes will be paid for by Medicare.

Susan L. Alexander is a local Elder Law and Estate Planning attorney with offices in Pacific Grove. She is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and is a passionate advocate for seniors and their families. Susan can be reached at 831-644-0300.

Caring for Seniors

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- Healthcare Decision Making
- Elder Abuse and Neglect
- Wills and Trusts
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Monterey Pacific Grove Museum announces their Spring Docent Training Class, which begins April 18 and continues on Thursday evenings, until May 26. New and returning docents will learn all about the natural and cultural history of the Central Coast. Interested volunteers do not need any previous background knowledge or experience, as the course will have classes on monarchs, birds, mammals, and native plants.

One of the Museum’s current docents, Marc Rush, speaks well upon his experience volunteering at the Museum: “It is so rewarding to be able to help visitors to get more enjoyment out of their visit to our wonderful museum, and if I can enhance their knowledge a little and instill a sense of wonder about the natural world around them at the same time, well, that’s a real bonus for me too.” In addition to the re- ward of interacting with Museum guests from around the world, docents enjoy other benefits such as free admission to Museum lectures and ongoing enrichments.

Anyone interested in becoming a Museum docent should register for the free class by contacting Allison Watson, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History’s Community Outreach Program Manager, at (831) 648-5716 Ext. 20 or outreach@mgmsuem.org for more information.

Pacific Grove featured in Where to Retire Magazine

Pacific Grove, Cambria and Grover Beach, CA, have been selected by Where to Retire, the only magazine in America geared toward helping people with retirement relocation decisions, as “California Coastal Gems” for retirement. The towns are profiled in the May/June issue, available nationwide on April 16, 2013.

Where to Retire Editor Mary Lu Abbott said these locales possess qualities important to today’s retirees. “Cambria is known for its artsy vibe and eclectic galleries that showcase the work of local artists. Grover Beach, home to Pismo Beach State Park, is poised for growth as the town works to become a technology hub. Pacific Grove charms boomers with its Victorian downtown and stunning coastal views,” Abbott said.

Mayor and Mrs. Bill Kampe were interviewed for the article. Each year, 700,000 Americans relocate to new towns to retire. Generally, relocating retirees are healthier, better educated and more affluent than those who choose to not relocate. They bring significant economic benefits to their new states and hometowns. Nationally, two dozen states and hundreds of towns seek to attract retirees as a source of economic development.

Where to Retire magazine, launched in 1992 with the goal of helping its readers find the ideal place to retire, is published six times a year. The magazine covers the best retirement regions, towns and master-planned communities, and has a national circulation of 200,000. The magazine is sold on various newsstands and at Barnes & Noble bookstores.

For a magazine subscription or to purchase a back issue, visit WhereToRetire.com.
Jane Roland

Animal Tales and Other Random Thoughts

The Gentleman Caller

Last week I wrote about our annual Easter party. I failed to discuss one of our guests whom I shall call “The Gentleman Caller” (with apologies to Tennessee Williams). This fellow hangs around a great deal, bothering other visitors to our home. He snacks on treats and morsels intended for other guests. He is Jay, surname Blue. Yes, he is one of those creatures to which many equate with sea gulls and call the rats of the avian world.

Sunday was his Bacchanalian feast, from containers of mixed nuts he grabbed bits, caring not that a human hand impeded his progress. He would swoop down, thumb his beak at the appendage in his way and soar away. He was not discriminating, nibbling from random bowls. When the containers were covered, it was not a deterrent. He would poke under the foil. I wonder what the salt did to his blood pressure. It was amusing and annoying, but he did not retreat.

When the party was over Joe, the older of the two grandsons, came running in. “Nana, Nana, you have got to see this. It is hilarious.” There was our blue coated buddy snatching bits and pieces that had fallen on the ground. I didn’t see him the next day, he was probably suffering from too much of a good thing. He was there the rest of the week, hanging off the bird feeders, wandering around the yard, looking, I am sure, for some more goodies.

I really love watching the jay birds, they seem to have no fear, and are the clowns of the avian world. All birds are fascinating. Sea gulls sense when a game is over and hang around stadiums waiting for the crowds to disperse. A snow goose was the hero of a wonderful book by Paul Gallico, symbolizing hope and courage, during the Second World War, a story of Dunkirk. Read it, please, but be prepared to cry.

Many years ago, when I was managing the SPCA Benefit Shop on Forest Avenue, we were about to close. Corrine Thomas, a longtime volunteer (and mother of one of my current valuable helpers), was shutting things down when she cried out, “Jay, Jay, there’s a sea gull inside.” There, indeed, it was, swooping around the shop, tearing into the window, then back to the dressing rooms. We didn’t know what to do. I grabbed a broom and attempted to guide the frightened creature to the door. Somehow it got into the window.

What would we do? I called various agencies. They didn’t exactly laugh at us, but were unable to offer assistance. I told Corrine to go home, but she would not. At that point, there was a tap on the window. I opened the door and there was a young man in hiking gear. “I saw the fellow flying around the window and think I can help you,” he said. At his request I got a pillow case and there was a young man in hiking gear. “I saw the fellow flying around the window and think I can help you,” he said. At his request I got a pillow case and attempted to guide the frightened creature to the door. Somehow it got into the window.

What would we do? I called various agencies. They didn’t exactly laugh at us, but were unable to offer assistance. I told Corrine to go home, but she would not. At that point, there was a tap on the window. I opened the door and there was a young man in hiking gear. “I saw the fellow flying around the window and think I can help you,” he said. At his request I got a pillow case and attempted to guide the frightened creature to the door. Somehow it got into the window.

Laura Lockett opens new art exhibit

A new exhibit of watercolors by Laura Lockett will show at the Pebble Beach Post Office during the entire month of April. The post office, open from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, is located at 1491 Cypress Drive in Pebble Beach. Call 624-3016 for more information.

Lockett also continues to have a rotating display at Juice and Java at 599 Lighthouse Avenue and will have two watercolors at the Pacific Grove Art Center in the Central Coast Art Association’s 68th Semi-Annual Juried Show in the David Henry Gill Gallery, opening April 12. Call 373-0631 for more information.

Roiianne Hart to demonstrate at art association meeting

Noted Pebble Beach artist Roiianne Hart will demonstrate her impressionistic watercolor style at the regular monthly meeting of the Central Coast Art Association on Monday, April 22, starting at 7 p.m. The Central Coast Art Association meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Monterey Youth Center, 777 Pearl Street, next to Dennis the Menace Park in Monterey. Attendance is free and open to the public.

Hart will paint a series of three-minute gestures by a costumed model, with a half-hour following pose. Her purpose is to show the freedom that watercolor allows in figure painting, and to have fun. She welcomes attendees to paint along with her.

She is inspired by local landscapes and the jazz world. Her work is in collections throughout the United States. She is an exhibiting member of the Carmel Art Association.

Learn more about Roiianne Hart and her art at www.lyonshead.com/our_artists/detail.php?id=13. For more information, contact: Deborah Russell at dvadeba@gmail.com or 920-8130.

Art auction to benefit young cancer patient

“Giving for Melody” is the theme of a silent art auction at The Works in Pacific Grove, April 24-29. Proceeds benefit treatment costs for three-year-old Melody Jane Holloway, who suffers from liver cancer. The Works is located at 667 Lighthouse Avenue and is open open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Original artworks by members of the Central Coast Art Association are offered for sale, with proceeds donated to Melody’s family.

This auction is jointly sponsored by The Works and Central Coast Art Association.

For further information contact Debbie Griest, exhibit coordinator at debbie.griest@yahoo.com or 236-2064, or Leela Marcum, exhibit host and CCAA president, at leela.marcum@gmail.com or 642-0260.
Not unlike a first grade-bound six-year-old, Pebble Beach Food & Wine has matured from a toddler into a well-man-nered student. The event poured countless dollars into the surrounding economies, filling hotels, restaurants, and taxis. When events of this size and scope take place I believe that many only see the glitzy – glamorous side of it and don’t actually know how much of the money does make it to their local small businesses. For example –

- All of the nearly 250 chef coats were procured by the lovely folks at Press Cleaners, 230 Grand Ave., P.G. Jin and Karen Jung who did an amazing job of pressing and delivering them to us in record time.

- The visiting guests usually had at least one or two nights with no event to attend…where do you think they went to dine? I heard rave reviews from Mr. and Mrs. Chocolate, Jacques and Hasty Torres from NYC about the meal they enjoyed at Passionfish. I also saw a post on Passionfish’s Facebook page stating “Peww! What a busy weekend thanks to PBFW! “That’s good to hear!

- Of course, all of the food enthusiasts and wine aficionados would naturally be searching out the places with the best of the best – PBFW sent numerous guests to both Martinis in Carmel Valley and Aubergine in Carmel to enjoy a more high-end experience. When queried as to where to go to grab a more casual bite to eat guests were pointed to Passionfish and Fandango (great wine lists at both) in P.G., La Balena and Cantinetta Lucca and Mundaka in Carmel (local flavor and charm), and Aubergine in Carmel being named, Food & Wine Magazine’s Best New Chef in California. This is quite the accomplishment in food circles…and is richly deserved by Chef Justin. Watch for him to continue to excel to greater glory in years to come.

- The Intercontinental Hotel and the Monterey Marriott played host to large groups of attendees, sous chef and wineries. Repeatedly, we heard great reviews of these places and flabbergasted gushing about “Everyone is sooooo… NICE here,” to which I invariably replied, “of course they are NICE. They live in the best place on earth!”

Above, top: Eggs in a crème fraiche claver
Above, bottom: Chef Roy Yamaguchi prepares smoked fish
Right, top: Abalone and tomato compote
Right, bottom: Chapelle Wines

Photos of Pebble Beach Food & Wine submitted by Rebecca Barrymore

Art in service of science
Science illustration students exhibit work

If you’ve ever wondered about the artwork that illustrates science textbooks, field guides, and interpretive signs in parks and nature preserves, you have the opportunity to learn about it at an exhibit in Pacific Grove.

Illustrating Nature, the fourth annual exhibit of work by students in the CSU Monterey Bay Science Illustration Program, will be on display at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History May 4 through June 16. The museum is located at 165 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove.

The opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on May 4. The 65 illustrations and several field sketches in the exhibit depict subjects ranging from our local kelp forest to life on Mars and using media including pen and ink, scratchboard, colored pencil, watercolor, gouache, acrylic and digital media.

A demonstration of science illustration methods and techniques will be held at the museum from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 11.

In 2009, the science illustration program relocated from UC Santa Cruz Extension to CSUMB. One of the most prestigious programs of its kind in the nation, it prepares students who are sought after by scientific institutions and publications around the world. Graduates are working at the Smithsonian Institution; New York’s American Museum of Natural History; the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History; the Monterey Bay Aquarium; and National Geographic; Scientific American and Nature magazines.

Museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free. More information about the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History is available at http://www.pgmuseum.org/
Art scholarship offered by CCAA

The Central Coast Art Association is offering a $1,000 scholarship to a Monterey Peninsula high school senior and/or other educational program in the visual arts at an institution of higher learning. Applications have been placed at all local high schools and with the Youth Arts Collective, 472 Calle Principal, Monterey. Applicants should excel in two to three dimensional visual arts with a sincere intent to pursue their art academically.

Applicants must deliver their application, biographical statement, two letters of reference and a digital portfolio of recent works on CD to The Works Bookstore

667 Lighthouse Ave
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Application deadline is Thursday, April 18, 2013.

For more information contact: Debbie Griest – CCAA Scholarship Committee Chair – 831 236-2064 – debbie_griest@comcast.net

The Central Coast Art Association is a nonprofit organization with membership open to anyone interested in the visual arts. Its purpose is to promote interest in and appreciation of the visual arts of the Monterey Peninsula. CCAA provides members with opportunities to network, exhibit work in local venues, monthly art demonstrations by well known artists, participate in juried shows and workshops and be involved in community service projects.

Visit CCAA’s Website: – http://centralcoastartassociation.com/

Inaugural Earth Day Challenge seeks sponsorships

The Village Project, Inc. is an established non-profit organization providing culturally specific services to our communities, helping families and individuals reach a healthier lifestyle. Our challenge is to strengthen families through delivering services to every child and adult who requests assistance. The Village Project is committed to providing our services to anyone who needs them.

We offer: Individual and family counseling, groups for boys and girls; educational tutoring, interviews skills, emergency financial assistance, life planning skills; and much more.

To help us reach our goal of “Every child and adult who requests assistance,” on May 3, 2013, the Village Project will host the inaugural “Earth Day Challenge.” The Earth Day Challenge is a multi-functional team competition fund-raising event, consisting of combined games of golf and bowling. First, competitors will enjoy an open round of golf at Monterey Pines Recreation Complex, followed by three games of bowling at Monterey Lanes.

With your partnership, the Earth Day Challenge will successfully help us help others to help themselves. We are asking for YOUR help. Will you join us in this fund-raising event by providing a tax-deductible sponsorship or donation?

This year, 2013, we will celebrate five years of hard work and dedication in successfully serving the needs of marginalized households in the Monterey County area, and with your help and support, we look forward to serving the needs of our communities for many years to come.

Thank you for your time and support, and remember “It takes a village to raise a child.”

Mel Mason, MSW, LCSW
Executive Director/Clinical Director
EIN: 61-1562515
The Village Project, Inc.
1069 Broadway Ave., Suite 201 • P.O. Box 127
Seaside, CA 93955
831-372-0250 • Fax: 831-392-1501
tww.thevillageprojectonc.org

Breast health lecture offered at library

Daya Fitch will present a lecture, “Breast Health: Four Simple Methods” on Monday, April 22 in the Library Community Room at the Monterey Public Library.

The presentation attempts to provide useful, proactive information about acupressure, lymphatic massage, breathing techniques and the latest research in prevention. Simple changes that will take no more than a minute can have profound effects on body and breast health.

Daya Fitch is passionate about health and empowering people to heal their own bodies to live vibrant, awake lives. She is trained in many therapeutic modalities and is a specialist in Lymphatic Massage. Daya has also studied traditional Ayurvedic healing, Yoga and numerous other massage techniques. Learn more at breasthealthproject.com.

The lecture will be held from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Adults are invited to attend and admission is free. Reservations are required. Call 646-5632 or email thongchuc@monterey.org.

The Monterey Library is located at 625 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940. The Friends of the Monterey Public Library and the Monterey Public Library Endowment Committee.

Smart Gardening Fair scheduled April 13

The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners’ Seventh Annual Smart Gardening Fair will take place Sat., April 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Highway One at Rio Road in Carmel, adjacent to the Crossroads Carmel. This free event provides an opportunity for local gardening groups, vendors, organizations to share their green expertise with the public. Detailed information may be found at www.smartgardening.org or by telephoning 383-9818.
Aquarium becomes accessible to lower income residents

Free admission and free transportation made the Monterey Bay Aquarium accessible to thousands of people from low-income, at-risk and under-served communities in 2012 through the aquarium’s revamped and expanded Free to Learn program. Thousands more will visit in 2013 through partnerships with government agencies, nonprofit social services organizations and Monterey-Salinas Transit.

Free to Learn is one of several free-admission programs offered by the not-for-profit Monterey Bay Aquarium. Over a quarter million people visit the aquarium free of charge each year through free access programs. Other programs include Shelf to Shore, which provides free admission to low-income individuals and families through local libraries, and Community Days each December, when Monterey County residents can visit free of charge.

“Free to Learn provided aquarium admission to more than 5,000 children and adults from Monterey County, Santa Cruz County, Santa Clara County and beyond last year,” said Barbara Meister, public affairs director for the aquarium. The visits were sponsored by the aquarium in collaboration with 94 different social service organizations.

In addition, thanks to a partnership between the aquarium and Monterey-Salinas Transit, more than 500 of those visitors received free transportation from southern Monterey County and East Salinas in 2012. This year, approximately 2,400 people are expected to benefit from MST’s complimentary service.

“We want to make an aquarium visit possible for those who cannot otherwise afford to purchase a ticket,” Meister said. “We know that connecting people with Monterey Bay and with ocean animals helps inspire them to do more to protect ocean life. That’s expected to benefit from MST’s complimentary service.

At the same time, an aquarium visit can be a rich resource that helps other non-profit groups fulfill the goals of their programs for low-income or at-risk members of the community.

One example: PAPAS, Supporting Father Involvement has partnered with Free to Learn for the last two years to bring nearly 200 fathers and their children to the aquarium. These visits have advanced the PAPAS mission to promote positive father-child relationships and to increase fathers’ participation in their children’s lives and communities.

“The fathers we brought were clearly inspired by seeing so many other families at the aquarium,” said PAPAS Project Director Deutron Kebebew. “That reinforced our own commitment to take a more active role in their children’s lives.”

The “Secret Lives of Seahorses” special exhibition held particular meaning for the fathers, as it showcased the unique breeding habits of sea horses, species in which the males become reproductively mature and give birth. The woody sea dragons on exhibit were pregnant at the time of the PAPAS visit. This exhibit reinforced the PAPAS message of positively redefining how fathers are viewed by society, and recognizing fathers as equally important as mothers in building strong families.

“The PAPAS fathers felt a personal connection to the seahorses,” said Kebebew. “They became more confident by seeing the importance of fatherhood being emulated by the aquarium.”

Other groups have also benefited from free admission to the aquarium through the Free to Learn program, including veterans, disabled people, and college students from organizations including the Veterans Transition Center, Imagine Supported Living Services and Upward Bound.

Free to Learn sponsored visits are available throughout the year to qualified California nonprofit organizations. To register contact Lisa Emanuelson at 648-4978, or by just showing up for the first class. The classes will be held on Thursday, May 11 at 6 p.m. Luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and is $25 for members or $35 for non-members.

A vegetarian option will be available. An RSVP is requested and must be made by April 18. Call 643-1855 to register or visit www.wacmb.org. Tickets may be purchased by check, or by Visa or MasterCard at $2 extra. The golf club is located at 4860 Carmel Valley Road.

Lecture on nuclear threats offered

At the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is starting the annual training for educational docents on April 11 at the sanctuary’s headquarters in Monterey. Classes will be held for six weeks on consecutive Thursday mornings, with field trips on the weekends.

Anyone not signed up for the training can register now by contacting Lisa Emanuelson, the sanctuary’s volunteer monitoring coordinator, lisa.emanuelson@ noaa.gov, (831) 647-4227, or by just showing up for the first class. The classes will be from 6 to 8 p.m. in Building 455 at Herndon Wharf, near Fisherman’s Wharf and Custom House Plaza.

The weekend field trips will be scheduled during that class.

The 20-year-old marine sanctuary has two programs for educational docents - TeachIN for docents in kayaks during summer months, and Bay Net for docents along the shoreline year round.

Relay for Life will be held May 4

The American Cancer Society will sponsor the Monterey Relay for Life on Saturday, May 4 at the Monterey Fairgrounds. The event begins at 9 a.m. and continues for 24 hours. Volunteers will walk to raise money and hope for cancer survivors. Music and food will be provided. A silent auction will be held during the event.

Walkers can sign up as teams by visiting www.relayforlife.org. Watchers are admitted free. Cancer survivors will receive free coffee, breakfast and lunch, goodie bags and t-shirts. The event will raise money for cancer research.

Marine sanctuary starts docent training

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The 20-year-old marine sanctuary has two programs for educational docents - TeachIN for docents in kayaks during summer months, and Bay Net for docents along the shoreline year round. 
A harbor seal pup was born on the main beach at Lovers Point over the weekend of April 6-7, 2013. Docents from Bay Net believe this is the first confirmed birth there. Bay Net docent for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Kim Worrell, spotted the mom and baby on the beach about 7 a.m. on Sunday morning and called in other docents to help.

“We saw remnants of the afterbirth in the sand when we arrived by 7:30 a.m., so confirmed the birth was on that beach,” said Thom Akeman, a Bay Net volunteer who reports he was onsite at 7:30 a.m. following Worrell’s report. Later in the day, a couple (among 300 members of the public with whom Akeman spoke) reported they had seen the birth at 11:15 p.m. the night before and had returned to see how the pair of seals were doing.

Seals have been pupping at the beach at Hopkins Marine and sometimes at a small beach at the bottom of 5th Street in Pacific Grove for as long as records have been kept, but this is the first confirmed birth at Lovers Point Beach, a popular spot with visitors and locals alike.

Documented earlier this season that the seals seem abnormally skittish this year. There have been sightings of one, possibly two, large elephant seals at the Hopkins Marine beach, the favorite of seals in past seasons. Hopkins has been fenced off to protect the seal rookery, though people can still view the seals from a safe distance.

It is also reported that a number of distressed, possibly starving, sea lions have been noted.

“The nursing seal pair moved around on the beach for an hour or so, then went into the water for a swim. They were on and off the beach for the next two hours then went for a long swim. A docent spotted them on the little beach at the bottom of 5th Street about noon and we hoped that would end the Lovers Point situation,” said Akeman.

It apparently did not. Human intruders at 5th Street — from the unsecured side at Berwick Park — apparently scared the nursing pair off the beach as intruders had other pairs Friday and Saturday, and they were back at Lovers Point about 1:30 p.m. The seals approached the beach several times for the next hour and a half, then took off again.

“During my 9 hours at Lovers Point I talked to nearly 300 people who were heading to the beach,” said Akeman. “What absolutely amazed me was that all but one – a middle-aged surfer -- were very cooperative and even happy to help protect a baby seal.”

Docents noted earlier this season that the seals approached the beach several times for the next two hours and apparently scared the nursing seals. A docent spotted them on the little beach at the bottom of 5th Street about noon and we hoped that would end the Lovers Point situation,” said Akeman. "What absolutely amazed me was that all but one -- a middle-aged surfer -- were very cooperative and even happy to help protect a baby seal.”

Seal pupping season in full swing

By Thom Akeman

Harbor seal pups are being born so quickly along the Pacific Coast these days that it’s been difficult for wildlife observers to get a reliable count. There have been at least 30 born so far on the main birthing beach at Hopkins Marine Station and many of those can be seen at any time from our Coastal Trail.

There have been eight seal pups and their mothers spotted at the little spillover rookery at the bottom of 5th Street, but none of those have stayed on that beach long. The city hasn’t secured that area as none of those have stayed on that beach long. The city hasn’t secured that area as well as in past years so people don’t know not to have been going down to that beach almost daily, scaring the skittish seals away. Signs about the seal pupping that are regularly posted along the railings in that area were ripped down over the weekend in an act of vandalism against public property.

Possibly as a result of the disruptions, one seal mother that favors the little beach at 5th Street moved over to the main beach at Lovers Point to deliver her baby late Saturday morning.

The mom and baby were on and off the Lovers Point beach into Wednesday morning, keeping the most popular beach in PG closed to people.

Bay Net docents for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary have been at Lovers Point explaining the closure to would-be beach goers and all but a few have cordially accepted the disruption to help a baby seal. As a consequence, the beach on the other side of the pier was crowded with sunbathers and children playing in the sand and water on Sunday. The crowds were predictably smaller on Monday and Tuesday.

It’s still too early to guess whether this year will be as good as last when 82 baby seals were seen on our beaches in April and May, but it clearly started early this year and is going strong right now.

For a running scorecard so far, we’ll say:
• 30, at least, born on the Hopkins Beach
• 1 born at 5th Street, though none stayed long
• 1 born at Lovers Point

Some of the new pups have been orphaned already for whatever reasons. Two pups were picked up by the Marine Mammal Center and are now in their hospital at the Marine Mammal Center signs out of the sand at 4:30 p.m., told people in the area the beach was OK to use again and left. Docents had spent the day explaining the situation and asking people not to go down on the beach and possibly disrupt the nursing seals.

"During my 9 hours at Lovers Point I talked to nearly 300 people who were heading to the beach," said Akeman. "What absolutely amazed me was that all but one -- a middle-aged surfer -- were very cooperative and even happy to help protect a baby seal.”

Please remember that it’s important to not disturb seals and their pups. Most human interventions result in the deaths of the pups. If you see a problem, call the Marine Mammal Center at (831) 648-2585, or the NOAA hotline at 1-800-855-1964, and let trained rescuers assess the situation and take any actions that are appropriate.

Clarification

A swamp by any other name is still an unfortunate acronym

In last week’s The Green Page article, “Docent, name-calling clouds Greenwood project meeting,” Mr Douglas mentioned that several residents called the Greenwood Wetlands Project a swamp. As derivative as that word sounds we did not choose it; Fall Creek Engineering did. It is a State approved acronym provided to us very early in the process. It stands for Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program.