



First Sergeant John Hanson

Back from Afghanistan with pictures to show and stories to tell



(From left to right) First Sergeant John Hanson and Sgt. David Bentley

In its first meeting of the New Year, the Carmel Residents Association will feature First Sergeant John Hanson, who recently returned from his Army National Guard duty in Afghanistan. Hanson's talk, *"Changing Hearts and Minds in a World Away,"* will be held on Thursday, January 27th, at 4:45pm in the Vista Lobos Meeting Room, on Torres between 3rd and 4th. Mark your calendar now.

First Sergeant Hanson will share the many aspects of his mission, the unique challenges and extraordinary experiences in the Kunar Province of Afghanistan, three continents away. Located in the rugged mountains along the eastern border of Afghanistan, Kunar Province is caught up in the maelstrom of war in a culture that has existed for over two millennia.

First Sergeant Hanson is a man of substance and no stranger to change. He is a long-time city employee, spending 23 years as a building official, and is also a Carmel Reserve Police Officer. He has been in the U.S Army National Guard for over 18 years, with two deployments to Iraq and now one tour in Afghanistan. A recipient of

the Bronze Star Medal for Operation Enduring Freedom, he personifies the definition of a patriot, with a strong sense of commitment and duty to country.

As First Sergeant, John Hanson was in charge of one of the many Agriculture Development Teams made up of National Guard soldiers from throughout California. They constitute a specialized unit of farming experts, engineers, forestry professionals, power-generation and animal-husbandry specialists, all part of the 40th Infantry Division. Front and center, the teams worked with rural villagers, offering methods to improve traditional farming practices, and helping farmers maximize their agricultural productivity in order to become self-sufficient.

First Sergeant Hanson became somewhat of a media personality after capturing the attention of ABC7 and the Carmel Pine Cone. ABC7 Nightly News followed his year-long tour of duty, and in turn, Hanson sent back videos of his mission throughout the year to the station. The network also covered his return home to his waiting family and friends. Sgt. David Bentley, a member of the unit, returned home earlier due to an injury, but was at the airport to meet him. "There were days I was surrounded by children," Bentley reflects. "I thought I was safe. We were doing good things, treating animals, and then somebody starts shooting at us."

All is not quiet on the eastern front, but this humanitarian mission brings a message of hope, resilience, and man's humanity to one another. Get ready to welcome First Sergeant John Hanson home, and share his experiences in Afghanistan.

Meeting

THURSDAY • JANUARY 27

Speaker: John Hanson

Time: 4:45 p.m.

Location: Vista Lobos Meeting Room

(on Torres between 3rd and 4th)

"Changing Hearts and Minds in a World Away"

No-host Social at Grasings following the meeting.





Barbara Livingston

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

It's a brand new year and the Carmel Residents Association is moving forward with some exciting new changes.

As your eagle eyes have discerned, there are changes in the way the *CRA NEWS* looks with a new design and format. Carmel artist **Kelly Steele** has provided us with his charming illustrations of our delightful neighborhoods and landmarks. I like the new look and hope you will too!

There will be changes in how we conduct our business. The **2011 Calendar of Events**, included as an insert in this newsletter, will help you follow the CRA activities month by month throughout

the year. But be sure to consult the newsletter for important details and any changes in venues, dates and times.

The **Citizen of the Year Celebration** and the **Carmel City Council Candidates Forum** will alternate every other year.

The *CRA NEWS* will be published five times per year in double issues. It takes MANY hands to produce these publications. You will find the names of the contributors as well as those of other CRA members who contribute their time and energy as board directors and in various other capacities. You will also notice a change in the masthead of CRA Directors. **Greg D'Ambrosio** has retired from the board due to his many commitments. **Michael LePage** has agreed to fulfill Greg's unexpired term.

CRA Dines Out and our program meetings will alternate every other month. After each program meeting we will invite our members to a no-host social hour at a downtown watering hole.

To make sure that we don't forget important events and programs, our email manager will send e-blast alerts reminding us of those dates.

The bottom line is that the Carmel Residents Association is approaching its 25th year in 2012 with optimism, resiliency, vigor and a strong positive attitude that the changes we are making will be beneficial for our organization and its growing membership!!

CALL FOR NOMINEES FOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR!



One of the changes I alluded to above has to do with the celebration of our Citizen of the Year Award. Not only will we be celebrating this event on the odd years (and alternating with our Candidates Forum on the even years), but we will announce the winner prior to the event so that friends and family of the nominee can plan to attend.

Citizen of the Year 2011 co-chairs Ovilee Kennedy and Kristy Downing are planning a grand event for Sunday, March 27th, at the Carmel Woman's Club from 3:00 to 5:00pm.

But that's getting ahead of the story. First we need your nominations. Ovilee and Kristy are asking Carmelites to submit names of people who have enhanced the lives of residents of our village and who have fostered the ideals of Ordinance 96, which states in part that Carmel should remain "primarily, essentially and predominately a residential city..." The candidates must be residents of Carmel-by-the-Sea

or its sphere of influence, but must not be a member of the Carmel Residents Association Board of Directors, a city or county employee or an elected official of Carmel-by-the-Sea or Monterey County. The candidates need not be members of the Carmel Residents Association.

With those criteria in mind, whose name will you submit for consideration for this prestigious award? There are so many worthy people in our community that it is always hard to pick just one. Please submit the name of your nominee with reasons why she/he should be selected. Send your nomination to: Citizen of the Year, Box 13, Carmel, 93921 no later than February 15th. THANK YOU!

Change is needed to restore public trust

To recover from the Rich Guillen sexual harassment scandal, the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea needs to restore its reputation and rebuild the public trust. According to *Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics*, a publication of the League of California Cities, "Public trust and confidence is vital to public agencies' ability to address the pressing issues of the day. Elected officials and agency staff are stewards of that trust and confidence."

Our city, however, remains stalled in a quagmire of dissension.

Whether at the post office, market, gym or library, the question of why City Administrator Rich Guillen is still in place inevitably enters into the conversation. Guillen's conduct has been the source of embarrassing and derogatory news about Carmel, has damaged the city's reputation and has distracted the City Council from other important issues. Through his own actions, Guillen has destroyed his credibility.

So, why is this man, who has generated so much negative controversy, still on the job? Because Carmel's Municipal Code requires a vote of four out of the five City Council members to fire a city administrator.

Councilmen Jason Burnett and Ken Talmage no longer support Guillen. Unfortunately, Mayor Sue McCloud and Vice Mayor Paula Hazdovac are protecting and defending him, while Councilwoman Karen Sharp remains silent. When the City Council should apply a much higher ethical standard because of the public trust placed in them, the majority of members are doing the opposite by refusing to fire Guillen. A recent letter to the *Pine Cone* referred to the ironic fact that the women on the City Council seem to be condoning demeaning behavior toward fellow women at City Hall.

McCloud and Hazdovac's October 16, 2010 commentary in the *Herald* ignored the ethical, honesty and public-trust issues related to the Guillen scandal:

■ They claim the city investigator found "no substance to Miller's claims," ignoring that when interviewed by the investigator, Guillen unequivocally denied having made statements to Jane Miller, which later surfaced. By lying to the investigator, Guillen effectively

"Wishfully thinking that the problem will go away if you don't respond is one of the top blunders made by agencies under fire."

~ League of California Cities

misled the City Council—a serious breach of ethics. McCloud and Hazdovac seem to place little importance on this fact, which was reaffirmed by Burnett and Talmage in a Nov. 2 commentary in the *Herald*.

■ They dismiss payment of a \$600,000 settlement and \$226,000 legal costs incurred simply because the city didn't have to pay the bills. By their standards, since the insurance carrier paid instead and the settlement agreement contained the standard boilerplate "no admission of guilt" clause, somehow Guillen's transgressions never happened.

In their *Herald* commentary asking for the resignation of Guillen, Carmel City Councilmen Burnett and Talmage were explicit about public trust and ethics: Guillen, they wrote, "exhibited poor judgment and violated Carmel's written ethics policy. Guillen's actions did not meet the ethical standards expected of public officials and our city administrator... In sum," they concluded, "Guillen no longer has the credibility to serve effectively as city administrator."

Ironically, with Guillen at the City Council dais taking part in discussions, a revised sexual harassment policy is now under consideration. Those familiar with the Miller case will recognize that the revision is a very pointed response to every violation of the current policy that Guillen committed. We question the benefit of a revised policy when two, possibly three, elected City Council members do not seem bothered by the ethical and moral implications of having the city run by Mr. Guillen.

The City Council has avoided making difficult decisions, instead hoping the matter would just go away. It won't. No matter when Guillen goes, voters in the next election will not forget. They will carefully

consider how council members handled the Guillen matter, and will likely hold accountable those incumbent candidates who continued to support him. In recent weeks, the subject of initiating a recall has even been raised.

The only way, in our opinion, to ameliorate this blunder and pull Carmel out of its ethical quagmire is for the City Council to change its present course. By firing Rich Guillen, council members would demonstrate that they understand the public expects its elected officials to uphold the highest ethical standards and that sexual harassment at City Hall is unacceptable. If the council majority is unwilling to take this courageous step, then, as Burnett and Talmage suggested, "The time for further discussion of this matter has passed. Now is the time for action. Rich Guillen should resign. We thank him for his years of service and wish him well."

Kelly Steele

HOMETOWN BOY—ARTIST AT HEART

We visited with Kelly Steele on a balmy Saturday afternoon. The house is a vintage wood frame set among redwoods and pines. His wife and young son are in the back garden. Mr. Steele is at his easel. We're offered a chair. We promise not to take up too much of his time. And we don't.



You're a hometown boy, an artist, photographer and a family man. What can you tell us about your life and work in Carmel-by-the-Sea?

I was born in the state of Washington but have made Carmel my home since I was a child. I attended the Huff Nursery School, really a pre-school, River School, Sunset School, Middle School, Carmel High and MPC. I have drawn since I was very young. At first, simple drawings, cartoons, pen and ink sketches, and then oils. After high school I had wanderlust and traveled all over the U.S., Europe and Asia. I was considered a "long hair"—it was the 60s of Rock and Roll, political consciousness, and speaking out. When I returned from my travels I worked at odd jobs, drove a cab, did some landscaping. But I never stopped drawing. Eventually I opened my own gallery and studio. I've since moved my work space to a studio in my house.

Many in our community know of your work from the "A to Z" booklet distributed last year by the CRA to Carmel residents. You have a personal style, easily recognizable.

Style? Yes, I suppose you could call it that. Anyway, I call it the "Kelly style." To be honest, it was and is inspired by the Fauvists, and specifically the French Fauvist, Albert Marquet. There's a little German Expressionism in some of my work. The first thoughts I have as I stand before a blank canvas are line and color. I move on from there.

CRA thanks you for your contributions to our redesigned CRA NEWS.

You're referring to the illustrations of the Carmel houses. I love this village, its architecture, its trees, its winding, irregular streets. Several years ago I decided to draw in miniature entire blocks of houses, easily recognizable by local citizens. I draw in detail: the houses, the shape and type of trees, even an occasional automobile sitting in a certain driveway. And I'm flattered that CRA is using some of these drawings in their publication.



Stacy, Cooper and Kelly Steele

Since you've been here for fifty years or so could you comment on the Carmel you know today compared with the Carmel of the past, as you remember it?

The village seems very much the same. I do miss the open spaces; there are few of those left. For many years we saw very few children but that seems to be changing and I believe that's a good thing.

You have a wife, Stacy, and a ten-year-old son, Cooper.

My wife teaches nutrition and reading to grade school children in East Salinas. It's an interesting story of how we met. I had drawn a map of Carmel, a commission from the Chamber of Commerce. They printed thousands. Stacy came out to California and to Carmel and picked up one of the copies and kept it, finally pinning it to a wall in her new house when she settled here. We met and began

to date. One day she invited me to her house and I spotted the map on her wall. "Nice map," I said. "Let's see who the artist is, it's written right here on the edge, Kelly Steele." She was impressed. I think that moment sealed our relationship.

Finally, in your opinion, is Carmel sustaining, politically and culturally, its image of friendliness and beauty and charm in this early 21st Century? Is this still the place you want to be?

Yes, we want to be here. We're happy to see a new, young person on the City Council. We hope that more

citizens will become involved and aware of how our local government is performing. Personal attack is always counterproductive. Constructive dialogue is so important. Living where we do (on the former Carmel Hospital parcel), across from a proposed over-large development is of great concern to us and our neighbors. We're here, we've taken a stand and we're not going anywhere.

Thank you for your time. And thanks again for your wonderful art work which will appear in every issue of the CRA NEWS.

“Inchling” to the Rescue!

The worm that helped save the Forest Theater



Scene from a production of *Inchling* (Courtesy of Henry Meade Williams Local History Room, Harrison Memorial Library.)

Last year's observance of the Forest Theater's 100th anniversary probably did not receive the recognition it truly deserved. This monumental achievement must have seemed the remotest of possibilities at several precarious points in its history. Though many people have been credited with the germinal idea for the Theater, Herbert Heron was the person who transformed fantasy into reality.

Heron arrived in Carmel in 1908 with an established reputation in community theater. He located a vacant wooded tract of land on a gentle slope overlooking the village and figured it an ideal location for an outdoor theater. He approached Frank Devendorf, the equally visionary co-founder of the Carmel Development Company, offering to purchase the property. Devendorf recognized that Heron's idea would contribute to the community he hoped to create, and agreed to allow Heron the use of the property rent free. Early in 1910, the first stage and benches for audience seating were erected; and on July 9th its first production, *David*, was staged.

During the next 15 years, the theater accommodated over 50 major

productions. Many were successful, but occasional problems arose, usually related to uncertain finances. In 1924, to solve some of these problems, a group joined together forming the Forest Theater Corporation. The next year they purchased the property.

Gradually, the Great Depression of the 1930s took its toll. On July 3, 1936, this dire statement appeared in *The Pine Cone*: "The Forest Theater is in trouble. Unless funds are raised to pay the City of Carmel \$850 in taxes, \$365 in penalties, the county \$295 and a mortgage of \$600, the 16 lots and buildings that comprise the property will be sold to satisfy the debt."

These amounts seem trivial today, but were formidable at the time. Contemporary accounts don't say who originated the idea, but a plan emerged to reduce the indebtedness — a real-life version of the Rooney/Garland problem-solving "Let's give a show!" It called for a revival of *Inchling*, a children's fantasy, which had twice met with considerable success in 1922 and 1928. The revival was to be accompanied by a village fair.

Inchling was originally created by three Carmelites: Ira "Rem" Remsent wrote

the book, Thomas Vincent Cator composed the score, and Irene Alexander wrote the lyrics. Of the three, only Alexander was still living at the time of the revival.

Inchling tells the story of the problem child among the 500 offspring of Mr. Inchworm, owner of a factory making the green leaves essential for the return of spring. Inchling fails dismally at his task of measuring leaves for quality control because he is preoccupied with an ambition to fly. Subplots include

a shortage of "green," the essential ingredient for leaves; the unrequited love of a firefly for a widowed ladybug (she fears he might start a blaze, as in "ladybug fly away home; your house is on fire!"); a robin who can't sing to herald the spring because of laryngitis; and the nefarious deeds of a villainous mosquito. In the end, Inchling emerges from a cocoon, transformed into a handsome flying butterfly-prince.

The joint profit from the *Inchling* revival and fair totaled just under \$1,000, significantly reducing the Theater's debt. A year later, the Corporation deeded the property to the city, principally to receive WPA funds for necessary renovations, but also for forgiveness of remaining tax debt.

The Pine Cone subsequently reported *Inchling* productions in other cities, including New York and London, and claimed "cinema tycoons are casting sheep's eyes at the script." Walter Pritchard Eaton, Yale's eminent authority on playwriting, called it "the most charming children's play ever written."

Though far from threatened with extinction, the Forest Theater could use a financial boost during its 101st year. Another revival of *Inchling*, perhaps?



Community CALENDAR

■ CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tues., Jan. 4, 4:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers

■ CRA GENERAL MEETING

Thurs., Jan. 27th, 4:45 p.m.

First Sergeant John Hanson

*"Changing Hearts and Minds
in a World Away"*

Vista Lobos (Torres w/side btwn 3rd and 4th)

■ CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tues., Feb. 1st, 4:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers

■ CRA DINES OUT

Thurs., Feb. 24th, 6 p.m.

■ CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tues., Mar. 1st, 4:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers

■ Beach Clean-ups resume in March

ONGOING CITY MEETING DATES:

All held in City Council Chambers,
Monte Verde between Ocean
and 7th. Check with City Hall
for updates. <http://ci.carmel.ca.us/>

City Council, 1st Tues., 4:30 p.m.

Forest and Beach Commission,

1st Thurs., 1:30 p.m.

Planning Commission, 2nd Wed., 4 p.m.

Community Activities and Cultural

Commission, 2nd Tues., 9:30 a.m.

Historic Resources Board, 3rd Mon., 4 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees, 4th Wed., 9 a.m.

Please see the CRA's website for the
schedule of meetings and events.

www.carmelresidents.org

Council meeting TV broadcast:
the Sunday after the meeting,
8:00 a.m.-noon, Channel 26.

CRA Dines Out AT CASANOVA



Kathleen and Barry Swift and Mary Ellen Thomas, chairs of CRA's popular "Dines Out," have chosen one of Carmel's favorite restaurants for the CRA members' dinner on Thursday, February 24th. The event will take place at Casanova Restaurant in the Harvest Room, located on Mission and 5th.

Considered by many to be Carmel's "most romantic restaurant," Casanova is tucked away in a lovingly restored cottage that feels like the French countryside. Proprietors Gaston and Walter Georis and sister Denise Dekens have prepared a creative menu reminiscent of European country cuisine that's sure to make us say "Ooh La La." Dinner for members is \$39/person, which includes tax and tip.

Please send your check, payable to CRA, with your entrée choice and your phone number to: Kathleen and Barry Swift, P.O. Box AC, Carmel, CA 93921.

The deadline is Monday, February 21st.

You will be notified if you have been placed on the waiting list. If you reserve space and must cancel, please call Kathleen or Barry at 625-1426 so your place can be given to someone else.

Cocktails 6:00 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

Here is Casanova's tempting menu:

■ FIRST COURSE CHOICES

Soupe du Jour

~OR~

Salade of the Season

■ ENTRÉE CHOICES

Poulet de Grains Rôti aux Champignons
pan roasted natural chicken breast,
potato gratin, seasonal vegetables and
truffle forest mushroom glacé

~OR~

Pesce Rustico

roasted salmon served with seasonal
vegetables and country lentils

~OR~

Cannelloni al Basilico

house-made pasta filled with ricotta
cheese and pesto, baked in a fresh
tomato sauce, 'au gratin'

~OR~

Bistro Steak

pan-roasted prime château with potato
gratin & seasonal vegetables

■ DESSERT CHOICES

Chocolate Nougatine

chocolate custard pie with whipped
cream, nuts, shaved dark and white
Belgian chocolate

~OR~

Tarte au Citron Provençale

Southern French lemon curd and
custard tart with chocolate crust
and whipped cream

Coffee or Tea

House red or white wine will be available
at \$7 per glass (tax included), plus tip.



Carmel Beach Continues to Erode

Do these quotes sound familiar?

*“Carmel, a village in a forest.
A one-mile long pure white sandy beach.”*

*“Experience what Carmel has to offer,
the beach...”*

*“Carmel is known for its spectacular
beaches; start your day strolling
Carmel beach.”*

The first quote is from the city’s official website, the second from the Carmel Chamber of Commerce, and the third comes from the Carmel Innkeepers Association.

All of Carmel’s marketing campaign brochures, ads, and websites focus on our iconic beach, with beautiful photos of the windswept cypress, pristine sand and pounding surf. The photos and message are always the same: Come to Carmel to enjoy the scenic beauty of our beach.

Why then, is Carmel beach – always the first attraction mentioned and promoted – being neglected?

Over the past decade, little attention has been given to and even less investment has been made in this scenic wonder – one of our community’s primary economic engines. Debates continue about replacing trees, beach fire restrictions or building another restroom, but our leaders have failed to deal with the larger issues that directly impact Carmel beach.



According to the Local Coastal Plan and the city’s agreement with the Coastal Commission, all beach revetments, including the one shown between 11th and 12 Aves, should be covered with sand during the spring through early fall months. This commitment has been ignored by the city for the past decade.

A prime example is the annual sand redistribution program. Carmel’s Local Coastal Plan explains that “Beach sand plays a critical role in protection and appearance of Carmel’s shoreline. Since the early 1960s, Carmel has used heavy equipment to redistribute beach sand, moving it from the lower beach to the upper beach. Originally, this procedure was focused along the beach below the Ocean Avenue parking lot to compensate for substantial sand moved downhill by foot traffic.” Annually, thousands of tons of sand are eroded, leaving bare clay bluffs, exposed manhole structures, dirty sand and perched trees with bare roots showing.



The sand on a large portion of the Ocean Avenue bluff has been eroded down to bedrock. In addition to the aesthetic blight and hazardous walking condition, the eroding bedrock has turned the beautiful white sand bluff below to a dirty brown color.

Since 1984, the city expanded the annual sand redistribution to cover all exposed rock revetments along the shoreline. This task was part of an agreement the city made with the Coastal Commission to compensate for beach lost from construction of these protective structures. Covering these structures also improves public safety and beach aesthetics. Since that agreement was signed in 2003, Carmel has never covered these revetments.

In the past ten years, sand replenishment has only been done twice – in 2009 and 2010. Both attempts were ill-equipped, incomplete, ineffective, and underfunded, at a combined cost of

less than \$30,000. The city historically budgeted \$25,000 or more each year. As a result, the slopes of Carmel’s famed beach continue to be seriously degraded and are only getting worse.

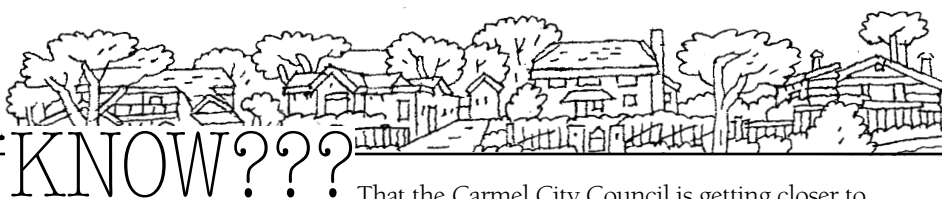
At Ocean Avenue, the sand is dark brown and nearly four feet lower than normal, with cypress trees sitting on mounds held together by roots that dry out in the sun. Part of the Ocean Avenue bluff is eroded down to bedrock. The revetments sit barren with no sand over the rocks, scarring what should be a sandy shoreline from spring through late fall.

Carmel needs to protect its world-class image, its cachet, as promoted by the city and by the businesses whose survival depends on the draw of our unsurpassed natural resources. Our city leaders need to step back and take a refresher course on how to manage this priceless resource properly. Past inaction and inertia must be reassessed; costly, ineffective decisions should be reconsidered; and the mandates of the Local Coastal Plan must be followed. Then, and only then, can we begin to give our iconic beach the attention and respect it deserves.



The severe drop-off in the Del Mar parking lot at the foot of Ocean Avenue is unsightly, dangerous and often the first impression many visitors have of Carmel Beach. In the upper left-hand corner, exposed roots from a Monterey Cypress can be seen – one of many cypress in the area with this problem. This past week the city spent more tax money attempting to address this long standing problem with a short term solution.

did you



HARASSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE REVIEW

Several CRA members have asked questions about the recently settled harassment suit against the City of Carmel. In order to answer these questions, a committee of the Board of Directors filed a series of document requests under the Public Records Act. A detailed summary of the information received has been prepared by the committee and is now available online. Go to www.carmelresidents.org, and you will see a section titled **Reports**, with a link to the harassment report. To receive a hard copy, please email carmelresidents@gmail.com, or mail your request to Carmel Residents Association, P.O. Box 13, Carmel, CA 93921.

That the Carmel City Council is getting closer to making a crucial decision regarding the future of fire services for our village?

Over a year ago, the Carmel City Council directed staff to bring back for review all current information for viable fire service options: (1) maintaining a stand-alone fire department, (2) contracting with Monterey, or (3) contracting with Cal Fire. Consideration of a joint powers authority for Peninsula-wide fire services has stalled due to difficulties with risk management and changing politics in other Peninsula cities. Staff has now refocused attention on developing information for the other three alternatives.

At the December 2010 City Council meeting, the Council discussed holding a workshop sometime in January to review the various options. Councilman Ken Talmage requested that the staff report be made available to the public ten days ahead of the anticipated workshop. Councilman Jason Burnett requested that the report contain cost projections for ten years rather than only two or three.

Mayor Sue McCloud mentioned that possible workshop participants would represent Monterey, Cal Fire, and possibly the Cypress, Highlands and Pebble Beach districts that contract with Cal Fire. Retired Public Safety Director George Rawson also has agreed to return to participate in discussions.

At our publication's printing deadline, the workshop date has yet to be set. We encourage our readers to watch for further information on this most important issue or contact City Hall at 620-2000.

CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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The CRA Board wishes to assure our members that we do not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our mailing list with any organization or company. This list is held in the strictest confidence for our organization's use only.



WHAT IS CRA ALL ABOUT?

The Carmel Residents Association is committed to the protection and enrichment of the traditional quality of life in Carmel-by-the-Sea and the preservation of its heritage and natural beauty through education, community activities and advocacy.

BECOME A MEMBER!

It's easy to become a member of the Carmel Residents Association.

- Visit us on line:
www.carmelresidents.org
- or email us:
carmelresidents@gmail.com
- or call us: **626-1610!**

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Illustrations	Kelly Steele
Beach Cleanup Coordinators	Helen and Mark d'Oliveira

2011 CRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	Newsletter	Dines Out	General Meeting	Other
JAN	X		Jan 27 at Vista Lobos	
FEB		Feb 24		
MAR	X			Mar 27 Citizen of the Year
APR		Apr 28		
MAY	X		May 26 at Vista Lobos	
JUN	NEW BOARD BEGINS			
JULY				
AUG				Aug 25 Fiesta in the Forest
SEPT	X		Sept 22 at Carpenter Hall	
OCT		Oct 27		
NOV	X		Nov 17 at Vista Lobos	
DEC				Dec 12 Holiday Gala
<p>Notes: Dines Out requires reservations; downtown no host social hours follow general meetings.</p> <p>The CRA newsletter is mailed the 2nd Mon. of January, March, May, September, and November. Please refer to CRA NEWS for greater detail about these events.</p>				

PROBLEMS WITH CRA EMAIL UPDATES???

Some people have not been receiving the CRA email updates, which are sent to members who have given us their email addresses. The majority of those not receiving our email updates are members whose email provider is either AOL or Redshift. Those providers, plus a few others, are automatically rejecting all CRA updates because they are sent to multiple email addresses. If you use one of these providers and have not been getting the updates and reminders, but do want to receive them, you will need to contact your provider and request that you receive all emails from craupdates@att.net in the future.

Members IN THE SPOTLIGHT



CRA members **Bill and Nancy Doolittle**, who co-chaired the campaign for the renovation of Sunset Theater, were honored in November as outstanding philanthropists in the Monterey Bay area. The award was sponsored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Development Executives Network. Shortly after the renovated theater opened to rave reviews, Nancy and Bill were chosen Citizens of the Year by the Carmel Residents Association for contributing to and spearheading the successful fundraising campaign.

CRA Member **Tom Parks**, with the assistance of George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Cole Porter and Jerome Kern, will present a cabaret evening of music and stories entitled, "**Tom Parks, A Life and a Few Songs.**" Opening at the Carl Cherry Center, January 21st through February 6th, on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm and on Sundays at 5:30pm. Tickets: ticketguys.com or 601-5816.

Robin Wilson recently retired as Carmel's Planning Commissioner after 14 years in office. He and his wife, Pat, a former CRA board member, have moved to Ashland, Oregon to be closer to their family. Both were active in this community, which they "loved for its combination of art and technology." To quote Robin, "*I thoroughly enjoyed each and every session of the Planning Commission, if for no other reason than it kept me from hanging around Carmel's street corners.*" We wish the Wilsons good health and happiness in their new home.

Long time Carmel resident **Anne Bell** has moved into Carmel Valley Manor, 8545 Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel, CA 93923, 626-4761. Her new e-mail address is anne-bell@comcast.net. Anne promises to stay in touch with us and looks forward to hearing from her CRA friends.

TO GEORGE: WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT

Carmel's respected Police Chief, George Rawson, is retiring from duty. His message to me (shown below) tells a lot about the man and his deep feelings for the people of our village:

"Since my announcement to retire I have been overwhelmed by so many responses. As I was sorting through my much backed-up inbox, I found your wonderful card and your kind words. Thank you for taking time to write; your comments are truly appreciated. It means a lot to me to know that you have good opinions about the police department and our services. I also thank you for the many years of support and I'm so glad we had a chance to work together on protecting our wonderful village. I will not be a stranger though, for I plan to bring my Mom back to shop, have coffee or see a show at Sunset. I will always have a great respect for the unique charm and beauty of our town, and I'm glad to have played a role in protecting all the special people who live and visit here. I believe I've mentored Commander Calhoun well and you can expect that he will carry on with the same passion for providing excellent service. Please take good care, and I wish you a wonderful holiday filled with joy, peace, and good health for years to come." ~ George Rawson

Those of you who know Commander Michael Calhoun will know that George leaves the Carmel Police Department in good hands. The CRA wishes George health and happiness! ~ Barbara

CUDO'S FOR OUR HARASSMENT REPORT

We have received favorable comments about the harassment report. Some of the comments include:

"Thank you very much for doing this research and sharing it with us. I hope we haven't heard the end of this, but I'm not optimistic."

"I applaud the CRA Committee for filing a Public Records request for the purpose of getting information into the public domain,

especially the new information related to attorney/private investigator Karen Kramer and her 'investigation.'"

"After reading and re-reading the CRA Report, I am impressed by the Mayor's and City Council's numerous and various violations of the existing harassment prevention policy."



BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES!!!

Public Works Superintendent Stu Ross has announced that the city of Carmel is setting out its usual wintertime supply of bags and sand for residents who want to keep rainwater from flowing into their homes, down their driveways or onto their property. The sandbag stockpile is located behind the Carmel Youth Center at Torres at 4th Avenue. Its contents are only for use by Carmel-by-the-Sea residents, not contractors or people who live in the county, according to Ross. Please respect your neighbors and don't take the sandbags off the tarp covering the sand and holding down the empty bags. For more information call City Hall at 620-2000.