

# the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

NOVEMBER ♦ DECEMBER 2023

## The Gifts of Carmel

**M**erry Christmas, Happy New Year—traditional, sincere greetings to friends and strangers. We've spoken these sentiments all our lives. And in many cases, this is the season for gift giving. Time to be generous in words and seasonal rewards. *The Voice* has a list and we're checking it twice (it's called editing), a list of folks and organizations we believe worthy of consideration. Here's our wish list. Note: Not even one gift contains a lump of coal.

So, let's begin with a special something for Carmel Cares. Dale Byrne is the founder of and inspiration for this splendid group of citizens who attend to all sorts of needs in town. Especially clearing and replanting our neglected Village green medians. And so, to Dale Byrne and his team we have a (virtual) stunning sterling silver spade (let's make that stainless steel). Dig, Dale, dig.

The Golden Bough is in the throes of a complete re-imagining of the interior of the theater. They can use plenty of donations. Our gift is to encourage Carmelites to add a helping hand to the project. We've missed the curtain going up for over two years. They hope to reopen in June of 2024. Let's help to make that happen.

Here's to the most modest and beloved former mayor of Carmel, Ken White. Your gift is in the mail. (You've heard that before.)

And to Carmel's older population, its best friend, Shary Farr, kindness and understanding above and beyond. Gold crowns as soon as we can locate them.

Let's not forget the fellow who's collecting all the property in town. And he's looking seriously for more. A few bucks in a sealed envelope will help that dream come true. Leave it at City Hall, they'll know where to find him.

To the folks at the Bach Festival—you make memorable music and have for so many years. And while fiddling you bring pride to Carmel-by-the-Sea. We're sending a package tied with a big red ribbon inside of which is our enduring gratitude for your existence.

Now, for the Design Traditions Committee we have a very special gift in mind: a keyboard with a period.

Several years ago, a group of local people established what was and is the Maybeck Plaque which hangs on the East wall of the entrance hall of Harrison Library. The plaque is named after the designer/architect, Bernard Maybeck. There are 98 donors listed on that plaque. The donations were generous, some would say costly, but the Maybeck filled up in just a few years. A list here of these folks would fill the page but they know who they are—those who are still around. So, we asked ourselves, why shouldn't the Maybeck members have a gift this year?

Why not, indeed? Here's to the foresight of those who long ago and continue to stand up in favor of our library, and who began a tradition of support which continues to flourish today through the legacies of the Carmel Public Library Foundation and Sterling Circle. We have a gift for you. No, that's wrong; the gift is yours to give. The gift you have given to the thousands of library patrons repeatedly through the years.

Now, for our City Administrator we also have a gift. What could that be? Thanks for his good works—yes, that should be said. His attendance at the myriad meetings every week—he's up for it. What else? Our plan is to leave this year's gift in his office. A pair of boxing gloves.

So many more gifts to give, so little space. (see page 2) Why not for everybody, for our cherished citizens who have chosen to live in our Forest by the Sea. To citizens who care about the history of our Village and who wish to preserve the character of Carmel. There will always be new ideas to consider, to accept or reject—that's what consequences are about. And so, this year we have been extravagant—a collective gift for all. Wrapped up in shiny paper with the largest silk bow we could find.

So, what's in it? A note, simple and to the point. "Fragile, Handle with Care." ■

## More Gifts of Carmel-by-the-Sea

We each have lists of what we love about our Village – most are frequently captured in *The Voice*, the press, books, videos, pictures, and paintings and much more. These are the endless Gifts of Living in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Especially as we connect with expanded family and friends over the end of year holidays – we all often hear or say ourselves “how blessed we are to live in this amazing Hamlet”. Even with unknown change and challenges ahead – we know what we love and appreciate about this wonderful place, its people, its experiences.

To preserve this Village experience and life, for many, this means we contribute to its preservation where we should or can. We show our thanks and appreciation with our time, our dollars, and our voice. Thanks to the organizations and their people who volunteer for their cause. Exploring the many board or volunteer



opportunities of all of these organizations – is one of the best paths to new and lasting friendships with the fascinating people of Carmel.

And our thanks continue to our City Council, Commissions and City staff who do their best to serve all of us. Some would say that some of us can be a bit demanding

at times. And we do have just a few asks and opinions – too many to count and very diverse ones as well. Your CRA board always, and anytime, wants to know your views. On this note, the CRA Board thanks you for your opinions as represented in our August Survey (See page 5).

What more do we appreciate in our 1 square mile? The charm of our Village of course means its characteristic architecture in downtown with its alleyways and courtyards sprinkled about and in its residential homes in neighborhoods with roadways that make way for medians and trees. It also means our Forest-by-the-Sea that needs our care and preservation, as they provide the oxygen that we breathe, the cover that shades us, the habitat for wildlife, and yes – they also increase the value of our homes.



We are blessed with what nature provides in our internationally recognized Carmel Beach, and our North Dunes, our Scenic Trail, and the Mission Trail Nature Preserve plus with our City parks too – all year round and only a short walk away. As we know, these too require great care to keep them the priceless jewels for all of us to enjoy.



Of course, it is our people. Whether residents, neighbors, employees, workers, chefs, artists, authors, performers, musicians, or bagpipers: they contribute to keeping our Village alive and full of stories, creativity, familiarity, enjoyment, and relationships that enrich our lives. We overlap and develop lasting and new connections while at our shops, restaurants, galleries, theaters, parks, meetings in Council Chambers, and events that can fill up your calendars each and every week. And there is our rustic 93921 US Post Office, where we all do (or should) provide a warm smile and greeting to both new and familiar faces in our multiple visits each week.



Yes, these are gifts of Carmel-by-the-Sea. We are thankful for them and for you. Happy Holidays and New Year.

PS: We hope to see you (or have seen you) at the annual City's Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> Tree & Menorah Lighting Celebration on Ocean in front of Devendorf Park and our CRA Membership Holiday Gala December 2<sup>nd</sup> (see page 7) at La Playa for what these provide to grow new & old wonderful relationships and memories as we conclude 2023! ■



## Character and Tradition Matter *by Tom Parks*

Over the years those of us who reside here, that is, actually live here full time, might ask ourselves just why—why is it we live here, why have we chosen this particular place to pitch our tent(s)?

And over those same years we have heard mostly the same answers: the sea, the forest, the beaches. And the tranquility, the clean air with natural heat abatement from the fog. In short, the unique beauty of this place. So, here we are ensconced in our treed neighborhoods grateful for making the right choices for ‘home’.

Hold on a minute. There are many and constant voices reminding us we’re living in a relatively new century; changes are here and multiplying. Those voices are correct, and we can’t deny what they’re telling us.

What we’re reminded of is that there is a cultural upheaval that can’t be ignored: traffic, the nearly all year influx of visitors,



delivery trucks in commercial and residential areas, noise wafting from eating houses, demolished age-old houses being replaced by “new” or bunker-like architectural designs, disgruntled homeowners demanding house numbers, home mail delivery, major proposed developments by wealthy landowners—this is the short list.

And we must face and deal with everyone on the long list. At the same time, we must be reasonable, fair, and accommodating to all sincere citizens with desperate ideas in these new times of change. With this in mind—for over the 100 years that Carmel-by-the-Sea has existed. Character and tradition have been carefully and vigorously maintained. And that is why this tiny Village remains a community, refuge, a berth like no other.

We know why we’re here and so do you. Stay alert, keep informed, volunteer. And celebrate what makes where we live so special. Character and Tradition matter. Or have we said that? ■





## A Ghost House—Scout's Honor

It's Friday, November 1931. On the corner of Mission and Eighth. Carmel residents, their kids, dignitaries, the curious and the skeptical all gathered in the grand room of the new, landmark structure. The *Pine Cone* referred to the occasion as a "jollification." The Scout House was open for business. Carmel Troop 85 had a new and grand home. There was music, bunting, proud speeches uttered, merit badges presented and, well, as reported, a grand time was had by all.

In the works and on the page the new building was conceived in 1925-28. Funds were raised, donations sought, architects were consulted.

The location was and is in the business zone, diagonally opposite the big playground of Sunset School, now a parking lot. The proposal reads, "The Scout House will be simple, but amply large for its purposes, with an assembly room, thirty by forty feet, and a large fireplace to give it warmth and cheer."

Simple? Well, the plan called for two stories, a Scoutmaster's office, dressing rooms with showers, lavatories, and a kitchen ("with arrangements for providing the simple spreads that help make scouting attractive)."

Most Carmelites would have agreed on that Friday in 1931 that Troop 85 had splendid new digs.

That was then. Let's take a tour. Fast forward (but not too fast) to the new century, the present time.

The same Scout House (let's call it Bleak House) has been empty and abandoned for many years. The last member of Troop 85 moved on at least thirty years ago and is now on his way to receiving his first Social Security check.

Let's take a few imagined camera images of what we can see now of these once splendid digs.

The building sits on a sloping hill covered with many seasons of natural detritus. There are stairs to the entrance level which leads to a small, almost hidden main door. We have entered the lower level, more like a basement, with a ceiling so low that even Mickey Rooney would have to watch his head. (OK, one of the Munchkins.) The smell is not agreeable.

There is a pocket size room with one toilet—go before you make the tour. A large room with damp walls and scattered chairs and tables here and there.



Add to the lower level three or four small windowless rooms which may have been offices but now only hold more discarded whatever.

Back to the entrance.

To our easy right we see a staircase, no more than thirty or forty inches in width, carpeted in something that looks like lime yogurt. Up to the main floor, we enter the grand assembly room. And it is and was grand.

Open ceiling with elaborately carved redwood buttresses. At the East end of the room is an impressive stone-faced fireplace, the set piece of the hall one could say.

At the West end of the grand room is a small kitchen with an existing stove and sink and cupboards, unused for many years and looking tired as so much of the

By Tom Parks



building is.

Why the tour? What were we looking for? What did we expect to find?

Thirty years ago, many concerned Carmel citizens seemed interested in the Scout House: "Save the Scout House!" Sincere gestures questioning the fate of

the tattered abandoned building. And now, that interest seems to have waned to a point where many residents are not even aware of its existence. But there it is, Mission and Eighth, mostly hidden by nature, worn, faded, unused and mostly forgotten.

What to do?

We don't know.

Some questions: Can the Scout House be rehabilitated, repurposed, rebuilt? In its present state can it meet the requirements of the ADA? Should

it be demolished in favor of living space? (It is not on the list of Carmel historic houses/buildings.) What do our citizens think of the history and a new future for the Scout House? Isn't it about time to consider a solution?

And so, here's to the young boy scouts of Troop 85 wherever you are. Do you still recall building bird houses, learning to tie knots, camping out, cooking over an open fire, helping old ladies cross the street, missing home and family while far away at camp? Sure, you do. Therefore, the CRA will honor you with a virtual merit badge just for reading this article. ■





# OUR CRA Town Hall

## Our Representatives on Housing Legislation

**T**op of mind for municipalities throughout California are the multiple Housing mandates coming our way from Sacramento – in a One-Size-Fits-All approach. For some cities, usually the larger ones, homelessness is a big issue. And for most of populated California, housing prices are prohibitive, especially for low income or those just starting out.

CRA held our Town Hall October 23rd hosting our local Assembly and State Representatives, Dawn Addis and John Laird respectively, to discuss these challenges; and was moderated by Paul Miller, editor of the *Pine Cone*. Here are excerpts worthy of note with more available on our website.

### ■ *Setting the stage...*

**Paul** "...signed on October 11 is SB423. This is the one the *LA Times* said recently could bring major changes to cities like Carmel-by-the-Sea. The words like "major changes" don't necessarily go together with Carmel by the Sea. [AUDIENCE GIGGLES] It requires local governments that fail to meet their state housing goals to streamline affordable housing projects, reduces coastal commission review that we are surprised to see."

"...After hearing so much over the years from state officials about what a special place Carmel is. I can quote 100 Coastal Commission staff reports warning about changes. All this new legislation has people wondering what happened."

"... And I believe the way that someone said we don't want every place to look like Malibu. ... But Carmel, if it weren't for the Coastal Act, I can't believe it wouldn't be. People in this City have all been sensitive to that. ... Why didn't the legislature decide to leave them (localities) alone for 20 years, wouldn't this be a way to solve this problem?" [AUDIENCE CLAPPING]

### ■ *How and where is it possible to create affordable housing?*

**John** "And when I was in the Legislature the first time, Governor Schwarzenegger wanted a huge infrastructure bill of 56 Billion and we leveraged in affordable housing for people that's not happening now. And the way it should work is when we had the surplus to take that money and apply it to affordability. And yet at the time, you see the SB423

that you mentioned, that has the coast in it, that (funding) was not the focus of the rest of the state.

**Dawn** "So, you still need ways to track developers who are interested in developing your community. ... I much prefer to see the State support and infuse (\$) support into our localities... We kind of talked about SB423 and how difficult it was to navigate. ... The main reason I didn't support it was that part of it allows streamlining, but if you do 9 units or less, you don't have to have any affordable units.

...Not just because it is in sensitive habitats, but also when you are dealing with flood zones, coastal erosion, effects of climate change, we have to be very careful where we build, because in the end it can be even more expensive. Home owners who may not be able to get flood or fire insurance; that's a burden on the rest of us. ... (CEQA & Coastal Act) may have come in the 70s because people didn't want all of California to look like Malibu. But now it has a completely different meaning, with the effects of the Climate Crisis."

*Yes, but I can speak for the people here, the political reality for Carmel is very different from San Francisco."*

*- State Senator John Laird*

### ■ *What about more housing on open land?*

**Paul** "Why not use some of that vacant land to solve the housing crisis instead of foisting it on historic small built out towns like Carmel by the Sea?"

[AUDIENCE CLAPPING]

**John** "...the RHNA system is not working overtime. [AUDIENCE CLAPPING] Cities and Counties have been assigned more housing units than they will realistically do, with the exception of some big cities. Of the 21 (cities in my district) I have only 2 that will come close – Gilroy and Morgan Hill. ... inside their cities, not farmland. And so, the thing about it is – that everyone has to make a good faith effort to build housing. That is when I think there will be more flexibility." **Paul inserts** "Please let me know when you think this has happened." [AUDIENCE GIGGLES]



**Dawn** "...But I would say just in terms of building in Carmel and perhaps the RHNA numbers are too large for Carmel, that I'm hearing loud and clear from this audience." [AUDIENCE CLAPPING] .... And if it's not these RHNA numbers on a local level, then what is it? And we should not stop ourselves by saying "bad State, good us." But we should push that conversation to say, if we can't get Carmel to 349 units, what can we get to? And how are we going to diversify our communities for the health of all of us and our future?"

### ■ *What of power, and water infrastructure?*

**John** "...Let me get this right, the power goes out all the time, they want us to rely on electric cars; our wells rely on electricity. [AUDIENCE CLAPPING] And I hate to say it, over time we do need to move to electricity. But we have to have enough, and it has to be reliable."

**Dawn** "...the PG&E's, the SoCal Edison's of California need to get going on this. And then we did pass legislation to add some accountability around what we call connectivity or being able to get your projects connected to the grid."

**Paul** "What about our local water supply? We can't have housing without water. And I assume you might know something about the bizarre history of water in the Monterey Peninsula, where we've had many areas of permit moratorium in place since 1995."

**John** "...You're asking me if I'm confident about something about Monterey water?" [AUDIENCE LAUGHS] ■

For the October 23rd YouTube or Transcript visit [www.carmelresidents.org/carmel-meets-sacramento---town-hall](http://www.carmelresidents.org/carmel-meets-sacramento---town-hall). For additional information pushing for local control visit [www.carmelresidents.org/local-control-land-use-and-zoning](http://www.carmelresidents.org/local-control-land-use-and-zoning).



## Our 2023 Membership Survey Highlights

We thank you for the opinions you expressed in our Survey this August. We'll work to keep these results alive and visible to decision makers in our City as the topics appear on Council or Commission Meetings (example Addresses project report in November) in the months to come. But for those of you who haven't yet crawled through our 42-page report on our website, here are some key points worthy of calling out.

**On Housing** – You are reluctant to increase housing in our built out 1 square mile and are reluctant but understand that our **Housing Element** needs approval by Sacramento. Additionally, you are concerned about how 349 new units over the next 8 years could negatively impact on the charm and character of our Village. And as a result, we absolutely must work to maintain local control.

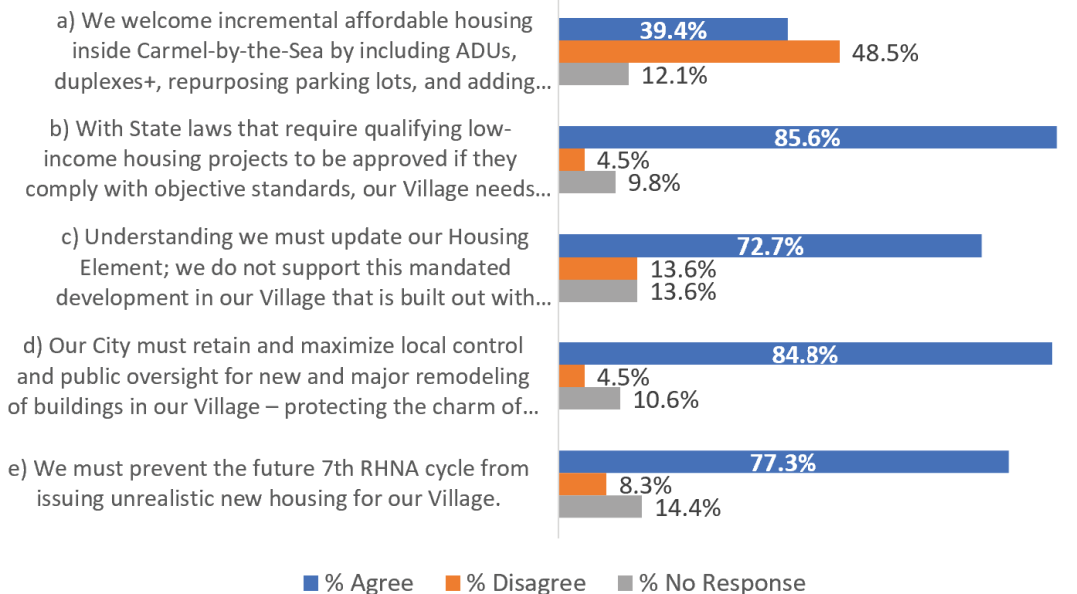
The **Design Guidelines/Design Traditions Project** underway must assure that new construction honors our forest, our natural environment, and our architectural heritage. With the expected reinstatement of a **Design Review Board**, the critical desire is to speed up and clarify what is required for approvals. And with the push for **ADU's**, again local control and design alignment is critical, while there is little desire for pre-approved, pre-manufactured units to appear about town.

**On New Police Station+ Project** – You'd like to see this project finally get past go, not just be a patchwork approach, addressing the long term needs for this critical team, while the revisions to this structure should meld into the traditional architectural character of our Village.

**On Parking** – You overwhelmingly are NOT in favor of a new paid parking program, while you agree that new ideas for employee parking are needed and enforcement of the current 2-hour limits with increased Parking Control Officer staffing.

Local control, just as with Housing,

### 1. Updating Housing Element (RHNA) with plans for 349 new housing units for 6th Cycle over 2024 -2032



*This Housing graph is a sample of the numeric responses, others are in the full Survey report.*

is essential in our revised **Wireless Ordinance**, now successfully approved by City Council. (See page 8)

But for standard **Addresses** we received more mixed views. You generally all agree there is no push for full postal mail delivery. Half of you believe the current model with the occasional inconvenience should be preserved, while the other half expressed strong preferences for standard addresses for financial dealings and how to be located.

And then there are **Trees**. Not surprisingly, you expressed critical needs for increased efforts on maintenance of trees on public land, and supported increased education for homeowners on how to care for their tree investments. This was the topic receiving the most individual comments – where you pushed hard to minimize tree-caused power outages, while you reinforce that “Trees make Carmel special”.

Your views continue on topics including caring for our **Village Parks, Beautification, Capital Improvement, and Climate Programs**. Just as with our Forest, universally increased progress and ongoing funding for maintenance is critical. Responses included asks on why

we need to fund so many consultant engagements prior to “getting things done”. Expectations are to invest in keeping our Village beautiful, efficient, clean, and well maintained. And why is it that our taxes don't adequately cover these costs?

**Fire, Ambulance and Police Services** are strongly supported in our responses.



We wrap up with asking about future disposition of City property **Flanders Mansion and Scout House**. (see page 3) Amazingly, when asked if these properties should be sold, there was strong support for this option. Conversely, if we could get beyond prior hurdles to successfully engage new lease operator engagements for both of these dormant facilities, this path is also desired. Everyone is looking for timely decisions to be made on these properties. ■

*All of your open comments and the agree and disagree percentages on each of these Survey topics are presented in our full report as shown on the CRA website.*

## 1920's Carmel Pine Cone Editorials - THEN OR NOW?

*Reminder: This column continues a series of stories on the owners/publishers/editors of The Carmel Pine Cone during its first fifty years, which began in 1915.*

William Overstreet sold his newspaper in May 1926, eleven years after its establishment, to J. A. Easton, a San Luis Obispo businessman. By July, Easton had parlayed his ownership into an exchange with Allen Griffin of the *Monterey Daily Herald*, Griffin taking half-interest in the *Pine Cone* and Easton receiving half-ownership of the *Herald*. By December, Easton had sold his ownership positions and Perry Newberry became a co-owner/editor of the Carmel newspaper.

The announcement of Newberry's editorship was made in an editorial by Griffin, which read "Perry---Carmel's own---is on the job." Griffin continued "...but Perry Newberry has been more closely, intimately and lovably a part of the varied personality that has been and is Carmel than any other person of the many who have paused here for a while or for good...."

Following the staid, stolid, sedate editorials of Overstreet and Easton, New-



berry's writing was stormy, churning with advocacy for those causes and values he held deeply.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* said of Newberry "...he achieved Nation-wide fame for his war on commercialism. He sought toll gates to keep out tourists,

fought paved roads, beach hotels, mail delivery, house numbers and other conventional symbols of civilization..." Perry was an ardent advocate for the Village forest, writing and speaking on a civic responsibility to maintain and to plant Monterey pines.

During his eight years as editor, Newberry stayed consistent with the foundational orthodoxy of his 1922 campaign for city council.



Perry Newberry

despoilation of flowers, shrubs and even the cypresses themselves; not alone in the park, but upon the roads that lead to and from it."

In editorials and columns during his first year as editor, 1927, Newberry wrote:

11 March 1927: "If Mayor Jordan--or any trustee (councilor)--or official in Carmel--has not a serious desire to uphold Ordinance No. 7 (tree preservation) then there is something distinctly wrong; for the cutting of the forest from its streets and parks is the greatest damage that could be done to Carmel."

On the expansive growth of the

In his first editorial, published on 10 December 1926, he expressed skepticism about the State's interest in acquiring Point Lobos for a public park, and of the tourists who would be attracted. "A public picnic ground---mayhap camping ground--at Carmel's door, with a stream of flivvers laden with camp equipment; with large, picnic parties, sometimes not too orderly, coming from the cities; with the litter of papers and tin cans, and the



Village in the 1920's---

1 April 1927: "The song of the hammer and the swing of the saw are heard above the beat of waves on sandy beach and wind in the pines from eight until five each workday in Carmel now. Favoring weather and sunshine have started buildings growing almost as fast as the wild flowers."

13 May 1927: "We passed an ordinance (No. 7) making it a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment to fell a tree upon any of the city's lands unless a permit had been granted to do so, then became liberal with permits. Any excuse was a good one. Old pines fell to right and left. But never a seedling went in to replace the one demolished."

The Carmel Woman's Club proposed in spring 1927 a recreation center at the site of the old Beach House. Newberry--- "Because Long Beach has an amusement pier, some people are going to ask that Carmel get one. Because Salinas has stop-buttons (see image), some people say Carmel should have stop-buttons. It is the hardest thing to overcome, that law of the ordinary. Because Monterey, Pacific Grove, Kokomo, and Kalamazoo have straight, white curbs on their streets, Carmel is going to have them."



A movement to pave Carmel's oiled streets, and to install a storm water management system in the mid-1920's, propelled Newberry to pen: 19 August 1927: "Storm water disposal, concrete streets for San Carlos and Santa Lucia---at least--are deeply imbedded in the minds of some members of our City Council, and because they have the notion there must be others in Carmel advocating these "improvements." The *Pine Cone* would like to know them and learn the arguments for these expensive proposals."

.....TO BE CONTINUED. ■





# ABOUT Town & CRA Stuff

## Abundant & Important November Meetings & Workshops

This month we heard reports requesting directions on Standard Addresses, HCD's response to our City Housing Element Draft, first views of the revised ADU Ordinance, and a discussion on Private Space use for Wine Tasting. Our CRA emails "News You Can Use" provided highlights on these sessions and are also Hot Topics listed on our CRA home page where we post YouTube's and more. As usual, if you're up on reading the *Carmel Pine Cone*, they likely will cover these as well. ■

## City Ad Hoc Teams Roster Grows

In addition to the work with Design Traditions Steering Committee, City Council has gathered or is gathering Ad Hoc teams to work on many of the important topics and projects underway. These include Housing Element, Flock Camera placements & program, Private Space Outdoor Wine Tasting, Police Station Facilities; possibly others that may morph in the months to come. We all look forward to updates as these projects progress. Of course, we can hardly wait (grin) for next fiscal year's budget planning and strategic priorities session that will likely update on these as well. ■

## A CRA Board Big Welcome, Welcome Back & Shifting Gears

We warmly welcome Sara Harnish to our Board – who was raised in Carmel, became an Attorney, raised 2 children, then returned to her roots to volunteer and reconnect. And we also are thrilled to welcome back 25-year resident, a fully engaged area volunteer and former CRA President Sherry Shollenbarger to our Board. And we say good bye to Tom Parks who is ending his decades on our Board, (but thank goodness) he continues to apply his talents in prose as the ongoing Editor of *The Voice!* With these three updates – we continue to work to finalize 1 more spot on our CRA Board – Is this you? Visit [www.carmelresidents.org/board-of-directors](http://www.carmelresidents.org/board-of-directors) for more. ■



## Wrapping Up Our 2023 Together

**November 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday from 9am-3pm, Homecrafters** returns again to the North Lot of the Sunset Center plus. Don't miss this great unique holiday gift, food & decoration shopping extravaganza!

**December 1<sup>st</sup> Friday** late afternoon in front of Devendorf Park – Carmel City Hosts its **annual Holiday Celebration** that includes Menorah & Tree Lighting, plus music, dancing, singing and Santa too.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Our annual **CRA Members Holiday Gala** at La Playa tradition continues on Saturday 12/2. We again plan on a full house for reconnecting with neighbors and friends and making all new ones. (Kilts are optional.) ■



By Nancy Twomey



## Thanks!

To our newest Lifetime members



Mary Pat &  
Richard McCormick

## Starting 2024 with New CRA Programs



**Tuesday January 23<sup>rd</sup>** CRA will be hosting **Paul Miller**, the owner, publisher, editor of the *Carmel Pine Cone*, at the Carmel Woman's Club, doors open at 6:30 PM. Paul will share "**Behind the Curtain**" views into what makes this our Village weekly a "must read" – with lots of time for your questions too.

**Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>** CRA will be hosting our "**Carmel's City Directors - On Point**" – not the theatrical kind, at the Carmel Woman's Club, doors open at 6:30 PM. Familiar staff names including Wright, Harary, Gullo, Tomasi, Swanson will be sharing updates and insights with what happens behind-the-scenes as well. Yes, and time for your questions too. ■



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## CRA Membership

Please join or renew your annual membership at \$40 Individual, \$65 Couple, \$120 Benefactor, or \$1000 Lifetime by visiting our website. Enjoy CRA benefits for members only. And your donations keep our 36 years of content and programs relevant for all.

## CRA Board of Directors

**Graeme Robertson, President** | **Ken White, Vice President**  
**Tim Twomey, Treasurer** | **Frankie Laney, Secretary**

### DIRECTORS

Janice Bradner, Mike Brown, Janine Chicourrat,  
Mary Condry, Sara Harnish, JC Myers, David O'Neil,  
Sherry Shollenbarger, Nancy Twomey, Sherry Williams

*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.*

*The CRA does not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our members' information with any organization or company.*

## 👍 CHEERS & CHIDES & ??? 🙄

👍 **CHEERS** With focus and dedication – our biggest CRA thanks go to -

**Christy Hollenbeck, Robert Kavner, and Tasha Witt.**

Their endless efforts and dollars too helped assure the newly City Council approved Wireless Ordinance embraced protecting the unique character of our Village and keeping local controls.

👍 **CHEERS** As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, we are thrilled to have Chief Tomasi back where he belongs! And big thanks to acting Chief Watkins for holding the fort too.



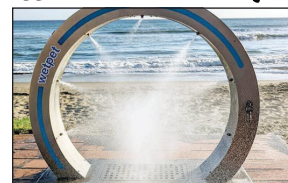
👍 **CHEERS** Oh my! Village and Member events this fall too many to count. Our thanks go to those who prepare for the enjoyment of so many. In case you missed them, photos of many of these are on the CRA home page - CHS Homecoming, CRA's Feast in the Forest, Taste of Carmel, Ken White as Bohemian of the Year, CRA's No-Hosts at Little Napoli & Flaherty's, City's Halloween & Anniversary Pumpkin Roll and Parade, Veterans Day and many others.

🙄 **CHIDES** For Sacramento's HCD reply to our draft Housing Element received on November 1<sup>st</sup> for their 9-page meticulous bureaucratic findings that begets excessive and tedious follow-up efforts by our Village City Staff.



👍 **CHEERS OR CHIDE?** 🙄 Only for 4-legged friends far

and near, this pup beach shower just might make it into our 2033 FY City Budget – or not!



**THIS SYMBOL IS A REMINDER AND HOPE FOR WORLD PEACE.**

