

the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 32 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

MAY ♦ JUNE 2019

Pasta Feed & Feedback – the CRA Annual Meeting

Here's an opportunity for CRA members to meet the CRA Board of Directors, new and current, where the membership can interact with CRA leaders, ask questions, learn of our ongoing programs and of our advocacy for sustaining the special, historic character of the Village of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Thursday, May 23 at 5:00 PM, in the Vista Lobos Community Room, 3rd Avenue between Junipero and Torres, are the date and place for the CRA Annual Meeting.

You like pasta? Stick around after the meeting for a social Pasta Feed.

For \$15 Sue and Fred Taylor will see that you'll have plenty of pasta, green salad, French bread, wine and dessert.



Is there a better deal on the Peninsula?

Please send checks in advance to: Sue Taylor, 225 Crossroads Blvd. #168, Carmel 93923.

We need to receive your check and reservation BEFORE May 17. This meeting is about and for our valued members only. That's amore! ■

Carmel Cruising

By Dale Byrne

Have you ever thought of living on a cruise ship? With this issue, we are starting a new column called "Adventures of a Home Town Tourist" in which we will be imagining that YOU are on a cruise every day right in your home town! So, let's get started. Bon Voyage!

Most of us have seen the cruise ships coming into Monterey Bay. Like it or not, they bring thousands of visitors for tours, taking

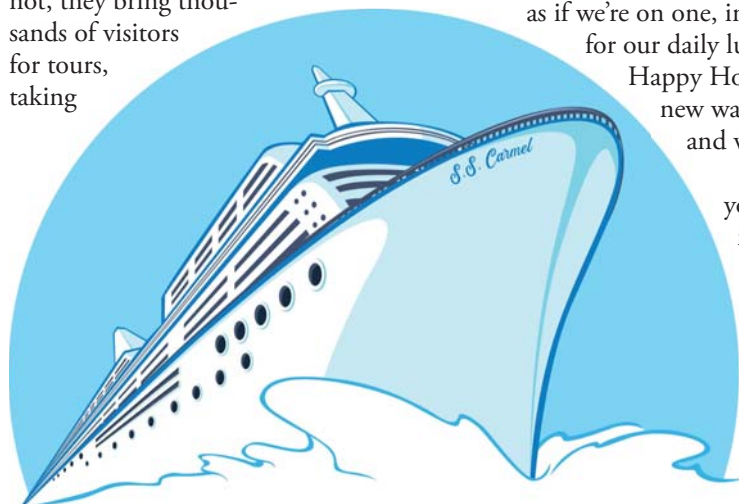
them to a place so special they travel from all over the world to see it. Once here, they go looking for fairytale houses and secret passageways, shop our stores and relax on our beautiful beach. In one or two hours they are on their way with just a surface level understanding of the history and richness that this area has to offer.

My wife Margaret and I have spent significant time cruising the world. Yet, since we've been living full-time in Carmel-by-the-Sea, we've cancelled four cruises. Why? Because cruise ships come here! So, we decided to treat every day

as if we're on one, including going out for our daily lunch, visiting local Happy Hours and finding fun new ways to meet locals and visitors.

To help you plan your "cruising" activities we have teamed up with CRA member Lynne Mombousse who has developed a vast amount of information on all things Carmel-by-the-Sea.

This new column will be a combination of *The Voice*, online content and eventually mobile phone apps. We will show you how you can turn your hometown into a virtual cruise ship and learn things about our Village that you didn't know or haven't seen in a long time. We will also be featuring the growing list of VIP Offers that makes getting out and supporting our local businesses fun and rewarding. Get ready for new adventures that are just a short stroll away. No tour bus required! See page 2 in this issue of *The Voice* for an overview of your first adventure. ■



CRA Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 23, 5:00 PM

Vista Lobos
Community Room

3rd Avenue
between Junipero and Torres

CRA Members Only



Give me a C! Give me an A! Give me an R, M, E, L!

WHAT DOES THAT SPELL? . . .

CARMEL! A SPECIAL PLACE THAT GOT THAT WAY ON PURPOSE.

At Carmel High, I yelled my heart out for the Padres teams under the cheer leadership of Carol Walker, Bob McDonald, Corky Nicholas and Adele Marie Thompson.

Thirty-six years after graduating from college, I returned to Carmel to cheer for my hometown. And how do I do that? I attend Planning Commission and City Council meetings, study their packets, keep informed on issues and often speak to the issues confronting the City, many of which are very complex. As President of the Carmel Residents Association, I will represent the CRA at these meetings, but only if the Board gives me authorization to do so, otherwise I speak for myself.

It is disappointing to me, as I believe it must be to the City Council and Planning Commission, that more residents are not motivated to attend these vitally

important meetings where Carmel's future is decided. Solutions to the complex issues facing our Village demand the input of everyone in the community, the business people as well as the residents. Problem solving cannot be done in a vacuum. Sometimes creative, innovative ideas from villagers can influence decision-makers and take them in a direction they had never considered.

The 2019 State Legislature will be considering even more rigorous laws

Until they do, an undue burden is placed on the remaining 30%. One idea to help the situation has been to encourage part-timers to split their voter registration between their hometown and Carmel. Part-timers are handicapped because they cannot serve



PHOTO: NIC COURY

The 2019 State Legislature will be considering even more rigorous laws which have the potential to threaten the autonomy of California cities.

which have the potential to threaten the autonomy of California cities. It is more important than ever for us to take an active and vigorous interest in our city government.

The problem is that, according to The Chicago Title Company, 70% of Carmel's housing stock is owned by part-time residents. Hopefully, the part-timers will eventually retire here and assume a more active role in the community.

on city boards or commissions, cannot be elected to office, and find it difficult to serve on non-profit boards.

My challenge to ALL of you is to give our Mayor, Council members and staff the support they need to continue the good work of the original founders of this Village, to ensure that Carmel does not become, "Any City, USA."

I've got the spirit – how about you? Give me a C—A—R—M—E—L! ■

Adventures of a Hometown Tourist – Episode 1

Today we will take a 1-hour walking tour of Ocean Avenue as if we had arrived on a tour bus at Carmel Plaza. Begin your tour by crossing to the north side of Ocean Avenue at Junipero to Devendorf Park. This land was donated by one of our Founding Fathers, James Franklin Devendorf. You'll first see the bust of Frank and his inspiring statement sculpted by his daughter Edwina. She was born a deaf-mute but became an accomplished artist. Spend some time with memorial monuments honoring those who fought in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. There is a public restroom at the northeast corner of the park behind the large wooden statue of another important figure of our commu-

nity, Saint Junipero Serra. Don't miss the 9/11 I-beam from the Twin Towers at the northwest corner and one of the largest Coastal Live Oaks in the Village at the southwest corner.

Next cross Mission Street to Palomas Home Furnishing. This stucco and tile building began its life in 1932 as Graft's Carmel Dairy. The corner was made into an image of a milk bottle! The original dairy sign is painted to the right of the front door. It's actually a re-creation as the original was damaged in 1933 by a driver who lost control and ran into the building.

Jumping ahead, after passing Dametra heading east on the south side of Ocean, you will find the newest gallery

in town, Aaron Chang Ocean Art. This world-renowned photographer has an extensive collection of photography from his 30 years of travelling the world. Step inside and see the dramatic colors and exquisite details that draw you in and create a unique Carmel experience. His works are featured in residences, businesses and corporate facilities and a book of Carmel art will be released soon.

To take the complete tour of Ocean Avenue with rich background information and pictures go to: carmelresidents.org/hometown-tourist.

The next episode will feature the Jane Powers Walkway. This is a reasonably strenuous walk that will expose some of the true character of Old Carmel. ■

The Voice is open to many perspectives and opinions. In this issue we welcome environmentalist, Michael DeLapa, Executive Director of LandWatch Monterey County.

Climate Change Coming to Carmel

Climate change is coming to Carmel. Rapidly. So what changes in climate can we expect?

California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment summarizes what the current science tells us:

- **Hotter and Drier** - Expect more frequent and longer heat waves and drier summers.
- **More Variability** - Maximum and minimum temperatures will continue to increase through the next century, with greater increases in the inland region. Precipitation is expected to increase slightly, but precipitation variability will increase substantially.
- **More Droughts** - More droughts are likely to be a serious challenge to the region's already stressed water supplies.
- **More Coastal Flooding and Coastal Erosion** - Periodic El Niño events dominate coastal hazards across the Central Coast. Atmospheric rivers are the dominant drivers of locally-extreme rainfall events and are expected to increase. Recently observed and projected acceleration in sea level rise poses a significant threat.
- **More and Larger Wildfires** - Frequent and sometimes large wildfires will continue to pose a major threat. Post-fire recovery time may be lengthened.

The single biggest climate change challenge that every city in California faces is to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and build workforce housing to reduce the distance between where people live and where they work. According to data from the Census Bureau, 2,154 people are employed in Carmel, but commute from other areas. These are principally the people who work in Carmel's hotels, restaurants and tourist-related businesses. These are the people who drive Carmel's economy, and its carbon footprint.

To reduce the greenhouse gas emissions its residents and businesses generate,

Carmel should:

- Build more housing that is affordable by design, specifically apartments and accessory dwelling units, throughout the city, but especially near transit and within walking distance of downtown
- Increase densities to encourage multi-story, mixed use development
- Make it faster and less costly to build by adopting objective building standards that are applied ministerially rather than subjective standards that the planning commission interprets on a case-by-case basis
- Create incentives that encourage long-term rentals rather than vacation rentals and second homes
- Encourage mass transit, especially more frequent buses
- Pursue long-distance bike/pedestrian trail connections between Carmel, the rest of the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Valley, and Salinas

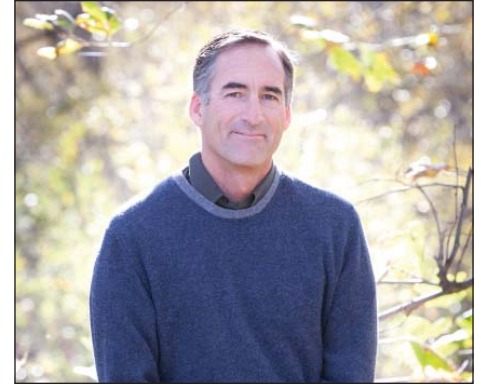


PHOTO: IAN MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY

16 feet above current levels by 2100. At a minimum, the City should not issue any building permits in areas expected to erode or flood. A strategy of “managed retreat” should be considered for properties immediately on the beach and possibly in other high-risk locations.

But perhaps the most important action on climate change Carmel can take: **demonstrate leadership.**

As Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn said,

But perhaps the most important action on climate change Carmel can take: demonstrate leadership.

As Carmel becomes hotter and drier, it will be more prone to fires. Much of the vegetation that surrounds the city today – Monterey pines, in particular – is unlikely to survive the heat and drought. It isn't too early for Carmel to think about specific “adaptations,” such as assessing fire risk and forest management options and planting heat and drought-tolerant trees both to reduce local temperatures and absorb carbon dioxide.

Another significant challenge to the City will be sea level rise. The U.S. Geologic Survey estimates that Carmel Beach is eroding at 0.7 - 1.1 ft per year. Further south, the erosion rate seems to be higher at approx. 1.5 - 2 ft per year at Monastery Beach.

There are no good options to address rising sea level, which could increase 6 to

“It is an uncomfortable truth that we need to make a dramatic transition away from driving and toward walking, biking and electrified transit. That requires far more than personal choice, it will take sustained system change - which requires elected leaders to lead.”

Climate change is without a doubt humanity's most significant challenge. Everything we know and have come to expect – temperatures, precipitation patterns, erosion, vegetation, fires, where and how we live, and how we interact with the land, sea, and air – is indelibly changing. The less we drive, the more we walk, bike, and take mass transit, the less the impacts will be. And the more we understand those impacts, the sooner we address them through public policy and personal decisions, the better off we will all be. ■

Carmel by the Sea's Revenants

On the last Sunday of April 1948, Carmel-by-the-Sea, or rather its residents, said goodbye. A few weeks earlier, in darkness on the evening of the seventh, eternity snuck into the Village and departed with the soul of Clara Kellogg. She was seventy-eight years of age, a Carmelite for two decades plus some years.



Clara Kellogg - Courtesy of Harrison Memorial Library

Other than a few close friends, not many of her fellow citizens knew that she had been ill, so her death was a surprise to those who had encountered her as a Red Cross volunteer or had applauded her service as a member of the school board and had twice elected her to the City Council. They had engaged with her at Heron's bookstore or at one of John B. Jordan's Pine Inn events or at the Blue Bird, a favorite eatery of hers.

On that Spring Sunday seventy-one years ago, her citizen colleagues recalled her service on the planning commission and the library board. Appreciation was expressed for her work on the city council as Commissioner of Streets, for residents now had paved roadways rather than muddy or oil capped thoroughfares. Mothers of the PTA extolled her dedication to education. Her memorial was held at the Sunset School auditorium, an appropriate venue since she was an educator by profession and a volunteer school board member when the facility was approved and then constructed. Carmelites remembered Clara.

Writer Sara Zarr has penned that

"when the remembering was done, the forgetting could begin." Clara Kellogg is forgotten.

Every community has citizens from long ago who made lasting contributions to their home towns but become invisible in the somnolent fog that shrouds time's passage. Some names in our Village vocabulary remain forever---Heron, Newberry, Devendorf, M.J. Murphy--- but most evaporate from public consciousness and recognition within a decade or so of their deaths. They are the Forgotten.

The roll call of Carmel's Forgotten is long, contemporary knowledge of their community contributions short. Some of the Village's long silenced souls, whose works still live with us today, would be:

Birney Adams, one of the original founders of the Carmel Chemical Company (forerunner of the Fire Department) and the Village's first fire chief. He was the propellant for Carmel obtaining a Red Cross ambulance. Bill Overstreet noted in 1941 that Birney's "outstanding thought and ability were devoted to the establishment and constantly improving efficiency of the Carmel Fire Department."

Overstreet is largely forgotten. A thin man with an expansive appetite for news,

Every community has citizens from long ago who made lasting contributions to their home towns but become invisible in the somnolent fog that shrouds time's passage.

he was the founder of the *The Carmel Pine Cone*, long time Village postmaster and recording secretary for the early fire department.

J.E. Nichols was the first city clerk, elected as a write-in on municipal incorporation day in 1916, later appointed the second fire chief. Milt Latham, local architect, designed the still utilized 1937 fire station. He was the husband of Sade, the restaurant/bar proprietor.

Grace Deere Velie Harris, a Highlands resident, conceived the idea and

By Doug Schmitz

funded a private clinic just outside Carmel-by-the-Sea's boundary that eventually morphed into a local hospital and then into CHOMP. Harris is forgotten.



Peter Mawsdley, a congregate of All Saints Church, left the parish so he could, as the community's city clerk, lead the negotiations for the acquisition of the current city hall without a scent of conflict of interest scandal. Mawsdley was instrumental in the separation of Carmel from the Monterey School District and was chair of the school board at the time of construction of Carmel High School.

Bernard Rowntree served on the city council and with the Carmel Sanitary District and was the supervisor when the current sewer plant site was chosen and the facility constructed. Rowntree is forgotten.

Lawrence D. Rose succeeded Mawsdley as clerk and later became editor of the *Pine Cone*. In that capacity, he proposed and continuously advocated for the City's acquisition of the Sunset School as a community arts center. In August 1962,

he editorialized for the Village to initiate a Sandcastle Contest, an event which continues to this day.

Miss Kellogg and the listed Carmelites gave us schools and a hospital, paved roads and a sanitation system, a fire house and a fire department, a City Hall and sandcastles and a cultural center and a local newspaper. We and the generations before us and those to come are heirs to their good works and efforts. Let's not forget to remember the Forgotten ones of Carmel-by-the-Sea. ■

Meet Tony Salameh – A Man of Taste

On a brisk, Spring early Monday morning there was no waiting for a table at Anton and Michel (known to many simply as “Tony & Mike’s”) the iconic Carmel restaurant at 7th and Mission. In fact, the place was empty of diners. But that didn’t mean that there was no one around. In fact, the owner-manager, himself, Anton Salameh, was standing at the door to greet us. “Call me Tony,” he said, as we moved to a table overlooking the appealing pool and fountain in the courtyard. Here is a man with an innate charm, the same charm and ambition that have brought him success as a purveyor of

Well, after our remodel we concentrated on the bar area to cater to those who might want lighter fare. And we certainly had our local folks in mind when we did that. I have to say it really paid off especially in the winter-time when we see fewer tourists. And, speaking of the remodel of just a few years ago, our business picked up considerably—in some cases 50%. The new design was less formal both inside and out as casual dining is a trend that isn’t going away. Besides the bar area, we offer fine dining in an elegant atmosphere overlooking the courtyard fountain.



Tony Salameh, Owner of Anton & Michel

good food in some of the Peninsula’s best and most popular restaurants. So, let’s talk, Tony.

■ *When did Anton and Michel become Anton and Michel?*

A cousin and I bought this restaurant, which at first was named the Criterion and then the Briar House, in 1980. The Court of the Fountains had been built in 1964. After the purchase we brought our names to it, and after my cousin moved on I became the sole proprietor.

■ *Your clientele? Is there a mix? Both tourists and locals?*

■ *We’ve talked to so many of our friends about this restaurant. What we hear mostly is praise for the coziness and the food in the bar. Is that a surprise?*

Not at all. The bar has always been a favorite of the local people. We watch them when they enter. First thing they do is walk up to a table to talk with their friends and neighbors.

■ *Bar hopping?*

Yes. And our staff knows who they are. We have a bartender who knows their names and what they want to drink and eat. We so appreciate all our guests, the

By Tom Parks



tourists, of course, but maybe especially our locals, certainly in the winter-time when the tourists are not in town.

■ *Can you comment on Carmel restaurants in general?*

For such a small town, there are so many restaurants, close to 50. And there are many choices—variations on cooking styles: continental, ethnic, and of course, Italian. So many choices from all over the world.

When I began to look for a property for a restaurant, I told my agent that I only wanted Carmel. The uniqueness, the beauty and the history of this Village is where I wanted to do business. My menu really has not changed since I opened. Yes, it’s evolved with lighter fare, fewer rich sauces, but essentially, we offer much of the same cuisine. Again, the bar menu is different, lighter, simpler. We’re not alone in this, times and tastes have changed. And we have, also. And let me say that so many of our locals dine here, mostly in the bar, three or four times a week. This is not exaggeration.

■ *The CRA is very grateful to you for signing onto our VIP program, the card that members carry for discounts and special offers at local restaurants and businesses. Are people using the discount card at Anton and Michel?*

Yes, absolutely. We’ve had many people participate in your VIP discount. We’re very happy to honor it, and to support the CRA.

■ *Here’s a last and personal question from a CRA member. Do you still offer your wonderful Caesar Salad prepared, dressed and served at the table?*

Absolutely. It has never changed, and we’re delighted to offer it.

Thank you, Tony Salameh, if it were not breakfast time, we’d order a Caesar. Not to worry, we’ll be back, we’re locals. ■

Carmel is Now Better Prepared!

On March 28th, at CRA's Emergency Response Program, Carmel Police Chief, Paul Tomasi and Carmel/Monterey's Fire Chief, Gaudenz Panzholder, gave the large audience a look into how the City is prepared to deal with emergencies.

Of the four possible threats to Carmel, wild and unpredictable storms remain the highest risk factor. Tsunamis are not a real threat as the configuration of Carmel Bay breaks up the waves. Earthquakes are not high risk because Carmel is built on granitic rock. Wildfires, such as experienced in Northern California, are not a high risk because we do not have heavy undergrowth of dry grasses, chaparral and manzanita, which cause fires to spread rapidly. We came away more confident than ever of our city's ability to respond quickly and efficiently to emergency situations.



PHOTO: DALE BYRNE

Overview of New Info Available from City Hall

The City recently posted these articles on their website:

1. A map and survey of the Downtown Conservation District. The map shows the location of the 43 historic properties and a picture with basic information about each one of them.
2. Commercial Core Vacancy Study. This has a map showing all current vacancies. There are 427 properties rented and 29 vacancies or 6% of total.
3. Planning Commission Project Approvals from 2016 to Present. There are approximately 71 pages showing a photograph or architectural rendering of each project.
4. 11-Year Permit Application Trends. This chart shows that the number of permits was fairly stable until 2014. Since then, there has been a dramatic rise in both planning and building permits with a peak of well over 500 planning applications in 2016 and nearly 600 building permits in 2018. The planning applications have declined since but building permits are still increasing.

You can view the details at: <http://ci.carmel.ca.us/post/special-reports-and-studies>.

Proper Tree Care

Taking care of your trees can help prevent storm damage. It is predicted that wild storms, such as those we experienced in January, could become more frequent. Steps to ensure the safety for our City's trees are twofold:

1. Hire a tree professional, licensed to do business in Carmel, to assess your trees for safety. This should be done annually in the Fall. Often tree professionals will remove part of the heavy tree canopy to reduce wind sail which in high winds can cause trees to fall over.
2. Another tip is to be sure no water collects at the base of trees. All water, irrigation or rain, must drain away. This is especially important when planting new trees.

Bixby Barber – A Vintage Way to Refresh Yourself!

You've read Tom Parks' interview with Tony from Anton and Michel, perhaps the longest-term business operator in Carmel. We'd now like to introduce you to Rachel and Anthony Amaya, perhaps the youngest and most recent business owners! Their shop, Bixby Barbers, is ironically located next to Anton and Michel in the Court of the Fountains. They run a classic barber shop and can cut men's, women's and children's hair (no shampoo available) and give old-fashioned straight-edge shaves. Here the husband-wife team are giving CRA member Tim Twomey the "royal treatment".



Bixby Barbers

PHOTO: DALE BYRNE

The Poet's Corner

SUDDENNESS OF THE PRESENT

this wet, brown earth covered with birds
time's movement made visible
as though we could suddenly see music
and no distance could keep us abstract
to each other as waves unfurl and wrap
around a rock with exactly the motion
of the heart's blind beating

Meredith Stricker
www.meredithstricker.com

CRA Elects Board Members

Don't forget to vote for our Board members. The ballots have been included in the mailed version of this issue of *The Voice*. We appreciate your participation. Please make sure your ballot is returned by May 17, 2019.

VIP Program Update

We are excited to announce the CRA "Village Incentive Program" (VIP) has signed up 6 new restaurants and merchants to participate in this new program. Recent additions include:

- Carmel Bouchee, 10% off food
- Friar Tuck, 20% off your meal M-F and 15% off Sat & Sun
- Hanagasa Sushi, 10% off total check
- Hedi's Shoes, 10% off purchase (Ocean Ave. & The Barnyard)
- Ruffle me to Sleep, complimentary slippers with purchase of robe or pajama set
- Sock Shop Carmel/Wicks & Wax, 10% off

We ask all CRA members to show their VIP cards at any/all local businesses and ask them if they honor the card. If not ask if they would like to be included! The program is free to merchants and restaurants. Forms to participate can be found on the CRA website, or they can email us at carmelresidentsvip@gmail.com.



PHOTO: DALE BYRNE

VIP Anecdote: Debbie Winick joined the CRA in January after hearing about all the great benefits she would

receive, including the new VIP program. She said, "I had my eye on a vegan (faux leather) jacket at Carmel Bay Company and their VIP discount finally got me into the store to make the purchase. I LOVE the jacket and get compliments every time I wear it."

Please get out there and experience the fun and adventure that await you in and around our Village!

"Fly Us to the Moon"

Give us your "Little Grass Shack in Hawaii" or your "Timeshare in Napa"! The CRA is looking for curious or intriguing items for our live auction and raffle during our Luau in the Forest.

This annual August event is a fun way to meet new people, share good food and enter for a chance to win raffle prizes or join in the live auction. The funds raised go toward our community outreach programs including CHS scholarships, CHS Sober Grad Night celebration, Chamber Music programs for Music in Schools, live music for Carmel's Halloween Parade and many others.

Previous donations included gift certificates from restaurants, timeshare/condo usage, golf packages, sailing excursions, etc. So, put on your thinking caps and help us make this the best Luau event ever!

Please contact Sherry Williams at 625-5410 or sherry.ruth.williams@gmail.com or Barbara Livingston at 626-1610 or carmellivingston@gmail.com.

Carmel Gatherings

A few months ago, 10 of our members put together a very successful "Old Carmel" gathering at one of their homes. The CRA is working with local residents, artists, musicians and historians to put together "Carmel Gatherings" in and around town. In Carmel history, the residents would often get together to enjoy each other's company, read their latest poems, play music, sketch or paint, pound abalone, and in general, have a good time. Our plan is to recreate this type of fun and get our Villagers out enjoying our unique and precious community. Stay tuned for more information which will be distributed on the CRA website, e-Blasts and Facebook posts.

CRA Facebook Page

For our new members and some of our old ones, there is something you should know. If you use Facebook, please be aware that there is another group that calls itself the "Real Carmel Residents". It was originally called the "Real Carmel Residents Association" until we had a conversation with them and they agreed to remove the word Association. **WE** are the Carmel Residents Association and have been since 1987.

In Memoriam

❧

J.S. Holliday
by Francis & Mary Anne Lloyd

Robert Littel
by Jeani & John Ferrari

Victor Swalef
by Valerie Swalef



CRA Communications Team

Barbara Livingston, Mary Condry,
Tom Parks
Voice Editorial Board

Monterey Bay Design
Voice Design & Production
Website Design & Production

Margaret Byrne
Communications Director

Nancy Twomey
Facebook Manager

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Place
Stamp
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CRA Board of Directors

Barbara Livingston, *President*

Dick Stiles, *Vice President*

Jon Wolfe, *Treasurer* | Karyl Hall, *Secretary*


MEMBERS


Lauren Banner, Janine Chicourrat, Mary Condry, Darlene Mosley,
Ann Nelson, Tom Parks, Ann Pendleton, Ken White


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** To Pure Water Monterey for the wastewater treatment project. First new water supply in years—possibly forever.


 **CHIDES** To the California Supreme Court for not addressing the fundamental issue of the California pension crisis. Solvency is not in the near future.


 **CHEERS** To the City Council for giving the green light to traffic calming medians on San Carlos between 10th and 13th and for moving forward with making the Scout House once again ADA accessible.


 **CHIDES** To the Carmel Plaza management for bricking over the 3 tree planters on Ocean Avenue sidewalk in front of the Plaza.


 **CHEERS** To our public safety officials, Police Chief Paul Tomasi & Carmel/Monterey Fire Chief Gaudenz Panholzer, for their terrific presentation about Carmel's Emergency Response Plan.


 **CHEERS** To event chair, Daniel Cardenas, chef Bruce Finch and his catering business, "A Party for Your Palate" as well as Magdy Ibrahim of Patisserie Boissiere for putting on one of the best buffets ever at our festive Citizen of the Year event for Charlotte Townsend.

 **CHEERS** To residents on Southern Junipero. Emboldened by the positive movement toward traffic calming on lower San Carlos, residents are asking for similar measures for their heavily trafficked street.

 **CHEERS** To Carmel Bouchee for delighting us on Tuesday nights with their All-You-Can-Eat-Mussels-and-Fries menu. Note: Bouchee is a new CRA VIP member offering discounts to our membership.

 **CHEERS** To Pilgrim's Way Bookstore. Carmel-by-the-Sea's only bookstore is celebrating 50 years of serving townspeople and visitors.

 **CHIDES** Once again, the Weekly muses over the introduction of street vendors on Ocean Avenue. And once again they got it right: Carmel IS exclusive, and we got that way on purpose. We chose character above all so that people can live here, work here and visit here in peace and beauty.

 **CHEERS** To the Carmel Woman's Club for continuing to provide a venue for the community to host parties, meetings and celebrations.



Aaron Chang Ocean Art PHOTO: DALE BYRNE