

# Carmel Valley Association

To preserve, protect, and defend the natural beauty and resources  
of Carmel Valley and the County of Monterey



CVA Newsletter ~ May 2010

[www.carmelvalleyassociation.org](http://www.carmelvalleyassociation.org)

## Coming Events

May 2, 2-4 pm

Carmel Valley Voices

### WATER FORUM

#### A C.V. Perspective

Keith Vandever

Ventana Wilderness Alliance

Darby Fuerst

MP Water Management

Craig Anthony-Catherine Bowie  
Cal-Am

May 8, 10am-1pm

### Annual Plant Sale

MEarth Bialek Habitat

Carmel Middle School

4380 Carmel Valley Road

June 13, 2-3:30pm

Carmel Valley Voices

### Living with our

#### Wild Neighbors

Rebecca Dmytryk & Duane Titus  
of WildRescue on  
humane CV wildlife rescue

July 11, 2-3:30pm

Carmel Valley Voices

### Trails & Lost Camps

of Carmel Valley

Paul Danielson

All Carmel Valley Voices

Programs are held on

Sundays, 2-3:30 pm, at

Sanctuary Bible Church

Faith Hall

8340 Carmel Valley Road

(at Schulte Road)

**FREE OF CHARGE**

# WARNING

## GPU 2010 unleashes new subdivisions in Carmel Valley

For the past ten years Monterey County staff, officials, and the public have been drafting and redrafting the next General Plan for Monterey County, now re-labeled as GPU2010. The approval of a final plan will set general guidelines for development and growth for the next 20-plus years in our County.

Since 1986, Carmel Valley has had the benefit of its own Master Plan, which guides county development decisions. Additionally, because of a subdivision moratorium created to avert continued traffic congestion on Carmel Valley Road, and constant vigilance by the Carmel Valley Association, large development projects in Carmel Valley have been held at bay.

GPU2010 has dramatically changed much of what was in the Carmel Valley Master Plan, allowing not only build-out on all 492 remaining legal lots of record, but also the creation of 266 new lots for development. The subdivision moratorium is gone. Rancho Canada Village, with its proposed 281 units, is also included as a special project area.

Our one road, with 99 entrance points in 12 miles, poses a unique challenge. Yet, in GPU2010, traffic standards across the county (and thus, here) have been degraded to allow for development without an associated improvement in roads.

GPU2010 uses sleight of hand to deal with traffic congestion. Because a totally different method of calculating traffic levels is used, what is currently considered "Level D" (unacceptable), becomes "acceptable" using the new calculations. The outcome will be increased traffic, with no roadway improvements. And improvements won't be needed, because the measurement method in GPU2010 says it's acceptable.

Currently 50 percent of all traffic on Highway 1 between Carmel Valley Road and Ocean Avenue comes from cars originating east of Rancho San Carlos Road. With the loosening of traffic stan-

dards, and big development on the way, we can anticipate a return to daily gridlock if GPU2010 is approved as is.

Some ask, "With all the water shortages we are hearing about, how can any new development be considered at all?" Rancho Canada Village developers argue that they have the water to move forward with their development. Plus, private wells are not counted against overdrafting. Even though the source is the same and limited, development is not necessarily held back by water constraints. The big developers seem to have water, but there is none for the little guy to add a bathroom.

Most disturbing about the county's new General Plan? Our CV Master Plan has been eliminated, with only some of its components incorporated into the larger plan for the county as a whole. The County thinks that what's good for other parts of Monterey County is good for Carmel Valley. Preserving our scenic beauty and rural character is looking much more difficult!

The GPU2010 draft and the FEIR (Final Environmental Impact Report) are online now at [http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/gpu/GPU\\_2007/gpu\\_2007.htm](http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/gpu/GPU_2007/gpu_2007.htm) and available in print from at Abrego Print and Copy in Monterey.

The public will have opportunities to comment (as of March 31) continuing every other Wednesday until completed, as County staff reviews the 1000-page document before the Planning Commission. When approved by the Planning Commission, the same process will occur again, before the Board of Supervisors.

*Residents! This is our last chance to have a say in Carmel Valley's guiding policy for growth for the next 20 years. CVA is working right now to challenge the deterioration of the traffic standards that will impact all of us and to advocate for the inclusion of all Master Plan components. Voices will be needed at the hearings! We will call on you. Be ready!*

*Back to the Future  
Construction of a bicycle/pedestrian underpass at the west end  
of Carmel Valley Road has stacked up  
vehicle traffic as in the days before the  
Highway 1 second climbing lane, and will again as new  
subdivisions are built out*





## President's Letter By Christine Williams

Someone recently remarked, "I can't think of one thing Carmel Valley Association has done for me." Rather than a reflection on CVA her

statement tells me we are not letting you in on what we do.

Do you see hills and ridgelines without rows of condos in Carmel Valley? That's because CVA and others lobbied for no ridgeline building.

Do you know that our committee of five who work on water issues attend several meetings a month to help hammer out solutions to the region's water issues?

Are you aware that CVA members are reading through the 3000 pages of documents on the next general plan, attending daylong hearings, and speaking up? We are on the forefront of looking out for the interests of preserving a beautiful Carmel Valley and keeping the traffic on our only road somewhat sane.

How would we know that the traffic standards have been altered to our detriment if it weren't for one man spending months reading and analyzing the complex reports and teasing out the truth behind them?

*When a problem gets solved in Carmel Valley, often it is at the urging of CVA. When big developers scale back their plans, it's often because CVA has reminded the County of our water and traffic constraints and held it accountable for approving what is reasonable in Carmel Valley.*

We are all volunteers whose motivation is protecting the Valley from encroaching big development. Our destination locale will only remain a "destination" as long as it maintains its beauty and rural character.

As annual meetings go, CVA's was pretty good! It was excellent to have Supervisor Dave Potter share his thoughts on the state of the County and answer questions. The new by-laws were passed, as well as the newly elected Board presented. Thanks were expressed to outgoing board members Mary Kleinbardt and Pete Jones. Robert Greenwood, long time board member, past-president and outgoing treasurer was honored with a Life Membership status to CVA for his outstanding service. Robert continues on the board's Membership Committee. With regret, the board accepted Todd Norgaard's resignation at our March meeting. Rich Fox and John Walton were elected as co-vice presidents.

# Carmel Valley



## Focus on Carmel Valley Business By Elizabeth Vitarisi Suro

The Carmel Valley Chamber of Commerce (CVCC) mission is to provide services for its members leading to the promotions of a healthy business climate and to encourage civic responsibility. This year is sure to be one of the most marketable years on the Monterey Peninsula due to the popularity of the 2010 US Open in Pebble Beach in June. And that is why we are pleased to continue our mission through the support of expansion from existing businesses such as the Carmel Valley Athletic Club (CVAC), the opening of new businesses and the success of CVCC signature events.

The Carmel Valley Chamber of Commerce held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bocce Ball Tournament & Mixer on Friday, April 23, 2010 at CVAC. The event included BBQ food, wine, a disc jockey playing music and networking among the verdant surrounding hills and cozy fireplaces of CVAC. The proceeds from this event go to support the promotion of Carmel Valley businesses. CVAC offers a state-of-the-art tennis and fitness facility situated in a tranquil, sunny location at the mouth of the valley on Rancho San Carlos Road. Long known as the locals' resort, CVAC has undertaken an

extensive renovation. A new clubhouse, lap pool and family pool, increased studio space and new landscaping, CVAC is renewing its look and expanding services. Visit the facility to enjoy their quality programs and amenities, where the focus is delivering the highest level of customer service to members. In addition, The Grill at CVAC offers a gourmet menu for breakfast and lunch that you can enjoy inside next to a fireplace or on the many sunny days outside on the deck. Book your next private party or event for 15 to 300 people. To receive up-to-date information about CVAC's renovations or events visit [www.cvaonline.com](http://www.cvaonline.com).

**The CVCC 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Art & Wine Celebration will be held on June 12, 2010 from 11 am to 5 pm throughout Carmel Valley Village.** This event highlights art exhibits that line the streets, including *plein air* artists, photographers and jewelry designers, plus live entertainment at two stages, and Monterey County wine tasting. The event is complimentary; however to enjoy wine the cost is \$20 per person which includes five wine visits (of two to three varietals from a single winery) and a keep-sake wineglass. Contact the CVCC at (831) 659-4000 or visit [www.carmelvalleychamber.com](http://www.carmelvalleychamber.com).

*Elizabeth Vitarisi Suro is managing director for CVCC*

# Gallery



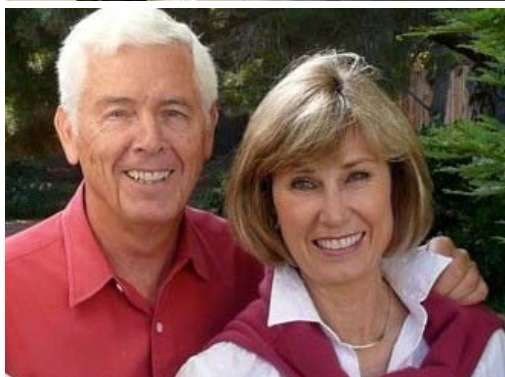
**Top left**  
Dave Potter at the CVA Annual Meeting, Del Mesa Carmel

**Bottom left**  
Concerned Valleyites attend the CVLUAC site visit to a planned 42-unit subdivision on Val Verde Drive



**CV VOICES**  
**Above right**  
In March, high schoolers Lindsay McMillan & Sonja Huff shared their 2009 visit to a school for the poor in Vrindavan, India

**Below**  
Pam & Fred Gilbert among five local authors at our Writers' Roundtable, in April



## Pulse of Carmel Valley

By "The Doctor"

The Doctor is delighted that the **Magic Circle Theater** has reopened after a five-year hiatus. Owner and producer Elsa Con presented marvelous plays that were always both entertaining and thought-provoking, and her current season picks up right where she left off in 2004. David Mamet's *November* was great fun. If you missed it, **Dead Man's Phone is next on the schedule.** The Magic Circle Theater is located at 8 El Caminito Road in the Village. Make an evening of it with dinner at Wills Fargo, which is just a short stroll away.

Ah, spring, when a young man's fancy turns to what the girls have been thinking about all winter. Spring is always one of Carmel Valley's most glorious seasons, and the rains that never seemed to end this year have created an amazing display of wildflowers. Garland Ranch and the Ventana Wilderness are both spectacular. The Doctor urges everyone to get out and take a hike. It's good for both the heart and the soul.

There's apparently been a sharp increase in the blood pressure level in Carmel-by-the-Sea. The sphygmomanometer detected this when Linda Anderson of the Carmel Residents' Association wrote a letter to the Monterey County Weekly in which she said that "the *Pine Cone* is off the charts in its bias and Paul Miller's craziness." Pine Cone owner/publisher Paul Miller responded in his own paper by praising reporter Mary Brownfield, saying that she is one of the best reporters he knows. (Mr. Miller also offered to arm-wrestle Ms. Anderson.) The Doctor thinks that both sides have valid claims. After all, Mary Brownfield is an excellent reporter.

Research shows that it's important to keep our brains active so that they stay healthy throughout our lives. Carmel High School's Mock Trial team has taken this message to heart, keeping their brains so active that they not only won the Monterey County competition for the second time in a row, but also came in 11<sup>th</sup> in the state competition, which is the highest place ever earned by a Monterey County team. Emily Robinson won the J. Skelly Wright Constitutional Advocate Award for being the best prosecution pre-trial motion attorney in the state; Nick Kreitman came in second in the courtroom journalist competition. A hearty cheer through the stethoscope to Emily and Nick and all their hard-working teammates for making us all proud!

When the CHS football team won the CCS Championship, the Pine Cone ran it on the front page, complete with a full-color picture, and we all applauded. Since Mock Trial is a competition of the intellect, which is the focus of our excellent schools, one would have thought that the local paper would have fallen all over itself to celebrate this academic accomplishment. But one would have been mistaken. While brawn got the front page, brains received less than four column inches on page 27A, which leaves The Doctor wondering what exactly the priorities of the local paper are. Arm-wrestling, perhaps?

## CERT Update

By Dave Burbidge

The first CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class was successfully completed and the second class is currently being held from April 19 through May 8, on Monday evenings and Saturdays. One of the attendees of the first class stated that "it is excellent, teaching really useful and important skills for an emergency." Classes will be scheduled throughout the year, so please contact Jeff Frye (Capt Ret) at [jfrye@carmelvalleyfire.com](mailto:jfrye@carmelvalleyfire.com) or at 238 2772 for CERT training class information.



Join us for the opening of  
**CARMEL FARMERS MARKET**  
at The Barnyard in Carmel  
Tuesday, May 4, 9AM - 1PM

Sign up for **FREE** newsletter at  
[www.montereybayfarmers.org](http://www.montereybayfarmers.org)

## CARMEL ADULT SCHOOL SPRING SESSION BEGINS WEEK OF APRIL 5th ENROLLMENT ON-GOING



Multiple Art Classes (with oils, acrylics, watercolors)  
Ceramics & Sculpture  
Life Figure Painting/Drawing  
Animal Drawing & Painting  
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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Carmel Valley Non-Profit Profile**  
**Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop**

By Dick Nystrom

The Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop was opened in August 1989. Our purpose is "To be a Christian outreach activity of Carmel Presbyterian Church. To sell donated merchandise to the public. To give witness to faith in Christ and evidence of good will and caring by donating all store proceeds, less operating expenses, to organizations that provide for the physical, emotional and social needs of the community."

Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop first started in the basement of the church at Junipero and Mountain View in Carmel before expanding into rented space at 26388 Carmel Rancho Lane, near The Barnyard shopping center. The retail store contains a variety of clothing, jewelry, and household merchandise on display and a "previously enjoyed" book section that is a favorite hang

out spot for many bibliophiles.

Operating costs are kept to a minimum by using over sixty volunteers serving as cashiers, decorators, merchandise processors, sales staff and drivers who collect donations in our van. Besides the volunteers, there are seven part-time, paid employees who help receive, process and price the donated merchandise, set up and decorate the rotating displays situated throughout the store.

Each month the Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop distributes all of the net proceeds from the sales of donated merchandise to local charities and projects throughout Monterey County. Annually, in May, the Shop also grants thirteen scholarships to high school students who continue on to a college level education.

During the past twenty-one years the funds distributed to various charitable purposes totals \$3,652,950, representing a significant impact throughout Monterey County.

*Dick Nystrom is president of the Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop board*

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