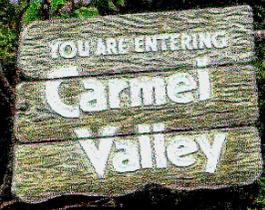


Carmel Valley Association

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



CVA Newsletter ~ February 2013

www.carmelvalleyassociation.org

CALENDAR

Feb 1-3

**Irshad Manji
Muslim scholar-
in-residence**

Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road
624-2015

Feb 12

**Supervisors Vote
on CVA agreement**

County Government Center
240 Church Street, Salinas

Mar 1-31

**Steinbeck's
Of Mice and Men**

Magic Circle Theatre
8 El Caminito, CV Village
Magiccircletheatre.net
659-7500

Mar 23-24

**Golden Gate Chamber
Players in concert**

Hidden Valley Theatre
659-3115

Mar 24, 2-4pm

CVA Annual Meeting

Del Mesa Carmel
See details on page 3

Apr 13, 7:30pm

Montana Skies
cello/guitar duo
Magic Circle Theatre

Apr 27, 7:30pm

**Alisa Fineman
& Kimball Hurd**
In concert
Magic Circle Theatre

County flirting with legal action

By Christine Williams

Carmel Valley Association's settlement of its lawsuit against the County over traffic measurement on Carmel Valley Road is near the finish line! Final adoption of General Plan amendments resulting from a mediated settlement between CVA and the County in a lawsuit reluctantly filed in November 2010, is near completion; that is, if the Supervisors vote to uphold the agreement they made with us.

Attorney Ron DeHoff, former CVA leaders Glenn Robinson and Tim Sanders, and I spent countless hours in mediation over an 18-month period, with County legal counsel, Les Girard. The two sides were able to come to an agreement and thus avoid a costly trial. Each step of the way, the Board of Supervisors, in closed session, was apprised of the ongoing progress and gave direction to Mr. Girard. The settlement was finalized in September 2012. CVA president, Mibs McCarthy, lauded the settlement as "a win for common sense."

CVA traffic analyst Tim Sanders researched the traffic measurement issue deeply. CVA submitted, both in writing and as comments at hearings for the General Plan, our objection to the particular traffic measurement methodology (percent of time spent following: PTSF) which replaced a counting method (Average Daily Trips: ADT) used success-

fully for the last 20 years. PTSF was traded for ADT, and inserted without the legally mandated review. ADT counts one car for one car. PTSF, is a 26-step mathematical computation that has the effect of counting less traffic the more the number of cars goes up. CVA believes that residents would prefer not dealing with gridlock traffic as they commute back and forth on our one road.

We are pleased agreement was reached that will include both traffic methods with specific benchmarks triggering review. Additionally, the new unit/lot limit of 266 was reduced to 190. Language was also reinstated concerning removal of protected trees and a clarification of slope development limits was added.

Because the settlement language requires an amendment to the General Plan, it must go through public review. The CV Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC) recommended its adoption unanimously. The Planning Commission (PC), however, voted 8-0 to recommend adoption, with exception to the 190-unit cap, wanting it to be returned to the 266 units. We believe the PC had no authority to vote as they did; they should only have voted on the settlement as presented, yes or no. If the supervisors agree to the PC recommendation, the settlement agreement is voided, and CVA then is in a position to take it to trial. We have a strong case. But we'd prefer, of course, that the Supervisors keep their commitment to this agreed settlement.



President's Letter

By Mibs McCarthy

What's in store for Carmel Valley in 2013? Within CVA our standing committees set policies and recommend actions regarding the issues that fall under our

Mission Statement—to *preserve, protect and defend the natural beauty and resources of the Carmel Valley*—and in so doing give due consideration to the pertinent interests and rights of

residents and property owners.

We also encourage appropriate residential and commercial growth and development that takes account of our scenic values, air and water quality, natural resources, traffic circulation and safety, and the general quality of life. For example, we monitor and work to influence the planning and provision of required services such as water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, utilities, police protection, fire protection, roads, parks and trails. In addition, we disseminate information on issues affecting lives and property in the Carmel

Continued on Page 2, column 1

Continued from Page 1

River watershed, provide a forum at Board and General Membership meetings for open discussion of pertinent concerns. We also coordinate our policies and activities with those of other organizations for the attainment of mutual goals.

Our land use committee is currently following several projects. Rancho Cañada Village is awaiting the final unit cap decision on the General Plan and will have an EIR done for their reduced (from 281 units) number of units; RCV would like to amend the General Plan to allow for senior housing which would count two units for every one allowed. Quail Lodge Hotel plans to re-open the resort's 90-room hotel on April 1; it has been closed since November 2009. September Ranch received a Water Distribution Permit from the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, the last of the approvals needed to develop 95 home sites; SR is required to completely disconnect from CalAm and will not be allowed to use CalAm water as they claim their own aquifer has plenty of water for their needs. Robles del Rio Lodge has new owners who plan to restore the lodge and create 59 hotel rooms; the County is waiting for the required landscape plan and other condition compliance before building permits can be issued. With all that CVA is charged with doing, we are fortunate to have both knowledgeable and energetic people on our Board and our committees.

This is the time of year when we say good-bye to some and elect new members to our Board. Edward Surprenant who has served on the board for three years as Treasurer is retiring. We thank him heartily for all he has done for us. Sandy Schachter has been our superb Secretary and has agreed to continue for another three years. Karin Strasser Kauffman, former County Supervisor, has also agreed to continue on our Board. Vice President Rich Fox and I have agreed to serve another three-year term. In addition we have nominated four new board members. Tim Sanders, retired professor of physics and traffic expert, is returning to our board after a year off. Axel Binneboese, General Manager of the Carmel Valley Athletic Club and The Refuge, moved to Carmel Valley with his family in 2008. Luana Conley, who has recently moved back to Carmel Valley, is a staff member at CSUMB, and has worked tirelessly for the environment and Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County. Cindy Walter is co-owner of Passionfish Restaurant in Pacific Grove and has been an activist for sustainability and the environment.

At our annual meeting, March 24, 2-4 p.m., in the library at Del Mesa Carmel, we will announce the election of new board members. At that meeting, *Sharing Questions, Answers and Suggestions with the CVA Board*, we are looking forward to seeing and hearing from you. Everyone is welcome.

Carmel Valley

The Colors of Winter in



Focus on Non-Profit Friends of Carmel Valley Library

By Karin Strasser-Kauffman

One could do worse than settle into a cushioned armchair and footstool in front of the hearth at the local library, then open a favorite newspaper or magazine and catch up on the news. The firewood, fireplace grating, chair, footstool and possibly the newspaper subscription are courtesy of The Friends of Carmel Valley Library. The seventeen Monterey County Free Libraries are supported by tax revenues sufficient to keep our library staffed and open five days a week, and to provide basic library services at no further cost to patrons. However, the Friends of the Library provide enhancements--to the collection, to the furnishings, to the costs

of additional staffing, to some of the programs and, starting this year, to the rent on new space in the building.

As you might imagine, for these various endeavors we need all the friends we can get. There is a membership dues envelope on the shelf inside the front

door; do become a Friend for 2013, at \$15 or \$25 or \$50... or more. There are also many ways throughout the year to lend a helping hand with one or more of our projects.

Why not make it a point on the next first Saturday morning of the month to attend one of our First Saturday presentations; enjoy

coffee and a bagel before the event—and when it is over, relax at one of the umbrella tables in the patio outside. Or stay inside and try out one of the chairs in front of the fire. See for yourself what a prize your library really is!



Gallery

Carmel Valley



Above: Cast of Deathtrap in Magic Circle production on Nov. 25, taking curtain call.

Below: At a public meeting on the San Clemente Dam removal were Joyce Ambrosius of NOAA, Jeff Szytel of Water Systems Consulting and David & Susan Schiffman of Sky Ranch Property Owners Assn., Cachagua Valley.



CVA Annual Meeting

In keeping with our bylaws, the slate listed below is member notification of the nominees for the next term. Any member in good standing may nominate other candidates by gathering 15 member signatures and submitting such by February 21.

If other candidates are submitted, postcards will be mailed out by March 1, with voting due back by March 15. If there are no other candidates, the slate as presented here will automatically be appointed. The new board and board-designated officers will be introduced at the Annual Meeting.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2-4 PM
Library, Del Mesa Carmel
500 Del Mesa Carmel
(at Carmel Valley Road)

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO A 3-YEAR TERM:

Axel Binneboese
Luana Conley
Rich Fox
Mibs McCarthy
Tim Sanders
Sandy Schachter
Cindy Walter

Focus on Business Carmel Valley's got culture!

By Sandy Schachter

Among the various ways to absorb "culture" in Carmel Valley, perhaps the tastiest is by eating frozen yogurt. This snack, made of cultured milk, is not only delicious but healthy, with plenty of protein, calcium, and Vitamins B6 and B12. Yogurt is estimated to have been around since about 2000 BCE and was known as "the food of the gods" in ancient India. The frozen variety was first sold in New England in the 1970's and now comprises 10% of the frozen dessert market in the United States.

We are fortunate in the Valley to have not one, not two, but three different places where we can enjoy this treat. Let's look at them geographically and chronologically. The oldest yogurt shop is Yogurt Heaven at the Crossroads shopping center, owned and managed by Yong and his wife Yun Hee, originally from Korea. About fifteen years ago, the company Yong worked for was sold and, finding himself out of a job, he decided to go into the yogurt business. As it turned out, his shop has become

one of the most successful businesses at the mouth of the valley. You can find non-fat frozen yogurt (20 calories an ounce), ice cream, smoothies, and a variety of toppings here.

The next yogurt shop to come along, about two years ago, is located at the back of the produce store at Earthbound Farms, a locally owned working organic farm between the mouth of the valley and mid-valley. The specialty here is non-fat, organic, plain yogurt in the tart European style, topped with either organic raspberry sauce or locally produced honey—or swirled together. Smoothies, ice cream, and vegetable juices can also be enjoyed here.

Finally, the newest addition is The Ice Box at mid-valley, owned and managed by Rachel Wahl (left) and located across from the UPS store. It has been in operation since August of 2012 and provides a convenient break from mid-valley errands. Here you can find sugar-free frozen yogurt and toppings, home-made ice cream from Santa Cruz, milkshakes, smoothies, and fresh fruit and vegetable juices, along with homemade soup, hand-made crepes, bagels, and kosher hot dogs. It is open every day but Tuesday.

All of these spots have outdoor seating so that the yogurt-eater can sit back and enjoy the food of the gods in the Carmel Valley sun.





Carmel Valley Association
PO Box 157
Carmel Valley CA 93924

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Local
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Carmel Valley Association needs you!
Join CVA to make sure your voice is heard on future county decisions impacting Carmel Valley
Learn more at carmelvalleyassociation.org

Coming soon to KRML

Carmel Valley Association board members Rich Fox and Karin Strasser Kauffman will soon join other local hosts for a live call-in talk show on the historic station.

Owner Scot McKay has committed KRML to local programming and hosts, jazz, blues and rock music during the week and variety "lifestyle" programming, on weekends, all with limited advertising.

KRML broadcasts at 1410 AM and 102.1. FM, and can be heard on line at krml.com.



Focus on Carmel Valley history

Frederick Preston Search

By Arlene Hess

Acclaimed as one of America's and Europe's finest cellists for over 25 years, Frederick Preston Search came to California in 1915 with his parents. He married Opal Heron in 1923 and they resided in the Search home (in Carmel) then moved to Jamesburg. Mr. Search was a composer as well as a performer and his compositions included "Festival Overture" for the 1915 San Francisco Pan-Pacific Exposition. During his years in Carmel, Mr. Search often provided music for performances at the Forest Theater, and from 1920 to 1933 he directed the orchestra at the old Del Monte Hotel.



Above: Search with cello and pets rafting on the Carmel River

Arlene Hess was Harrison Memorial Library local historian from 1994 to 1999.

San Clemente Dam Removal Project Update

By David Burbidge

The California State Coastal Conservancy held two public meetings on Dec. 13 at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley Village to present the revised plan for the removal of the San Clemente Dam. After objections from residents in Cachagua regarding the construction traffic on local roads, the project is being revised to provide construction access by the way of Tularcitos Road off Carmel Valley Road. This route will link the upper access road to the dam and will also by-pass Sleepy Hollow residences. This road will be made usable for heavy construction equipment by building one permanent and one temporary bridge and improving the affected roads.

Heavy construction equipment will be moved to the site along Highway 1 and Carmel Valley Road for a limited amount of time. Parking sites for a proposed shuttle for construction workers are being examined and negotiations concerning several possible parking locations are in progress. The final EIR and approvals are in the works and a spring start is anticipated. Contacts are Jeff Szytel with Water Systems Consulting (www.wsc-inc.com) or Trish Chapman with the California State Coastal Conservancy (tchapman@scc.ca.gov). More information at

www.sanclementedamremoval.org

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CALLING ALL CARMEL VALLEY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

Presidents or representatives of Carmel Valley Home Owners Associations (HOAs) are invited to a meeting, hosted by Carmel Valley Association, to discuss issues of mutual concern and work together to find common solutions.

The first meeting will be a discussion of Cal-Am water rates in the common areas of Home Owners Associations. These are now classified as "commercial," rather than "residential," and are charged at a higher rate.

The first meeting will be held Feb. 8, 2013.

To be a part of the discussion group, HOA Presidents are asked to contact Priscilla Walton, Committee Chair, at 659-1519, or Priswalton@sbcglobal.net.