



NO HORSERACING • NO GAMBLING

By Luana Conley
Fort Ord Access Alliance



The Carmel Valley Association joins numerous other groups and individuals in endorsing a yes vote on Measure M and a no on Measure K to:

- maintain access to 540 acres of popular public recreation areas for hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians;
- focus positive development on the urbanized footprint of former Fort Ord;
- prevent the massive horse race track development with its attendant gambling “racinos,” hotels, and housing sprawl.

Measure M enforces habitat stewardship and preserves 50,000 coast live oaks and key access points to the Fort Ord National Monument, elements of the original base reuse plan. Nearly 4,500 acres remain on Fort Ord for development.

Neither initiative provides funding for, delays, or impedes access to the planned state and federally funded veterans cemetery.

A ‘no’ vote on both measures puts the racetrack decision back in the hands of the FORA board and local jurisdictions already fast-tracking it.

In 1898, a coal company drew up plans to build a subdivision with 1,000 homes on Point Lobos. A high speed freeway was once planned for Carmel Valley Road. Today we are grateful that residents had a better vision. The Fort Ord Access Alliance has a better vision for Fort Ord.



CVA November 2013

You Decide What’s Next for the Library

By Doug Pease



A hundred years ago our local “library” was whatever would fit in a mule’s saddlebags. Eventually our library moved onto shelves in a family home in Cachaqua and from there to a family home in the Village.

Currently our Carmel Valley Branch of Monterey County Free Libraries occupies the building that used to be a restaurant, a tofu factory, a glazier’s shop, and an electrician’s office. Now that an average flow of patrons is reaching upwards of 500 a day, it’s time to take a breath and participate in a survey to determine what we really want to see happen at our library. We’ll have an opportunity to follow up on the results of the survey when the current building lease runs out next year.

You can help! It’s easy; the online survey takes 10 minutes at <http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/library/>. Look for the green CARMEL VALLEY SURVEY icon on the homepage. The survey is anonymous. If you prefer the a paper survey, ask for one at the library desk. When you finish, tell your friends we are still evolving and the survey is important. Thank you!

cheers!

BevMo! has thousands of items to choose from including all your favorite, wine, beer, spirits, snacks and more. Grab a friend and join us at our weekly wine tasting.

Wine Tasting for cva
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- All BevMo! locations

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P.O. Box 157
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
Since 1949

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*The Carmel Valley Association Needs You!
Join CVA to make sure our voice is heard on county decisions impacting Carmel Valley.
Become a member at carmelvalleyassociation.org.*

Shaping Our Future

By Christine Williams

Some of the approximately 140 ordinances currently being developed and adopted by the County, working to meet requirements of the 2010 General Plan for non-coastal areas, concern wells and well water, ridgeline and slope development, traffic issues, zoning changes, trails and bike paths, noise, signage, and commercial and housing developments.

Outside firms, hired at a cost of over \$1 million, are helping county staff get this job done. County Planning Services Manager Jacqueline Onciano heads up the five-member team of planners working on the development and implementation process. So far, 18 ordinances, plans or programs have been adopted and implemented, and 75 are in process, with the remaining scheduled for action in the 2104-15 fiscal year. The process includes vetting by county departments, the local Land Use Advisory Committees, stakeholders, and interested citizens before the ordinances are adopted by the Board of Supervisors. A

recently updated status report is online at co.monterey.ca.us/planning (Long Range Planning Work Program).

Why is it important for CVA and our community to be involved in the process? Simply because we may lose protections we now enjoy or be saddled with new rules that we don’t want. The Carmel Valley Association actively participated in the General Plan hearings, and again is following and commenting on pertinent ordinances affecting our quality of life in the Valley.

Because this is such a massive effort, we could use about 20 motivated people to follow each ordinance and report back to our board. It would involve staying up-to-date via email, as well as making contact with the county planner in charge. We’ll train you! Please contact Christine Williams at cvalanduse@gmail.com if you can help.

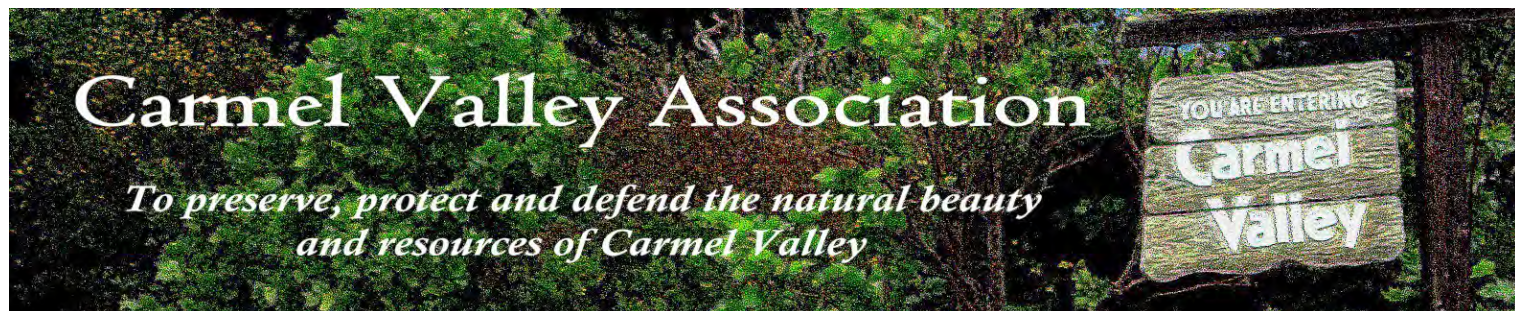


Calamity Farms at 550 W. Carmel Valley Rd. The netting shows the 30’ height limit.

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CVA Newsletter - November 2013

carmelvalleyassociation.org

CALENDAR

**ELECTION DEADLINE
VOTE by November 5!**

☞ **Thursday, November 14
6-9 p.m.**

**Rio Grill 30th Anniversary to Benefit
the Food Bank for Monterey County**
RSVP: <http://www.riogrill.com/>

☞ **Thursday November 28,
Noon - 3 pm**

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner
Free!**
Community Center, Ford Rd.

☞ **Saturday, December 7
2 - 4 pm**

**GRAND OPENING &
Christmas Party
CV Historical Society**
East end of Community Park

☞ **Saturday, December 7
4:30 pm**

Community Tree Lighting
CV Community Park

☞ **Saturday, December 14
10:30 am**

Santa Fly-In
Carmel Valley Airfield

☞ **Tuesday, December 31
New Year’s Eve**

Hidden Valley Theater
Details pg. 2 and hiddenvalleymusic.org



Stay up to date by bookmarking the calendar page at our website carmelvalleyassociation.org.

Small Business: Backbone of our Community

By Axel Binneboese

A flourishing community needs good infrastructure, a local arts scene and educational facilities run and staffed by dedicated people. The element tying all these attributes together is healthy commerce. We have an extraordinary small business community that is unique and diverse. The merchants offering their products, restaurateurs trying to fill their seats, art galleries offering the unique creations of fabulous artists – all feel the effect when consumers’ confidence levels fluctuate.

Not only have consumers’ wallets been tight in the past few years, but rising costs and tight credit have put pressures on their economic wellbeing.

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The Barnyard’s new Lafayette Bakery & Cafe.
Owner Jean Bernard Vial and son Thibault

From the President



Mibs McCarthy

I love the fall season in Carmel Valley. We may not have all the colors of some regions, but we have our own magic light on the golden hills, with crisp mornings and warm days. Then when a storm is brewing, the leaves begin to rustle and fall, and comes – rain. Rain? We can only hope.

Fall is a time of festivals and parties. The Carmel River Festival and Feast was a great success with proceeds going toward purchasing and upgrading fish rescue equipment, hosting educational watershed tours, and river habitat restoration projects. The always fun Party in the Village concert and barn dance benefitted the Carmel Valley Village Improvement Committee and the Historical Society.

On a serious note, this November, it is important to vote. We strongly urge a vote in favor of Measure M and against Measure K. Every voter in Monterey County is eligible to vote on this issue. We don’t need a race track, and remember, the veteran’s cemetery (which has been reduced by the Federal Government to a columbarium) is not affected by either measure. We believe a higher quality of use will result from the

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New Year's Eve at Hidden Valley

Jazz Trio
George Young,
Eddie Erickson,
& Bobby Phillips



**Sumptuous Small
Plates & Champagne**



**Magician
Rich Meyer**

**\$50 per person
reservations:**
hiddenvalleymusic.org
88 W. Carmel Valley Rd
(831) 659-3115

Business from page 1

However, compared to many places in our state, we have fared better than most because of the character of our community and of those who visit or live here. Carmel Valley has retained a quiet rural pace and that "small town feel" where neighbors are there for each other.

Our small business operators have learned a lot in these past years and have found creative ways to steer through tough economic conditions, learning the value of operating efficiently and maintaining good relationships.

CVA is most encouraged to see our local small business community operating with a level of confidence that we have not seen since 2008.

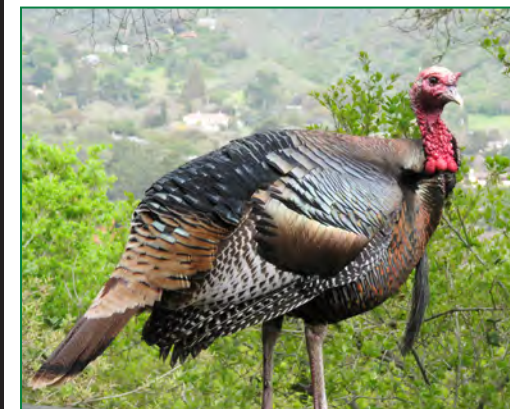
At the mouth of the valley the Barnyard and Crossroads shopping centers are leasing more and more space to small and medium-sized businesses. The larger outlets have weathered the storm, but the measure of economic health has always been the smaller stores and their need for expansion. Rising sales resulting from the return of visitors and higher consumer confidence locally are contributing factors.

Closer to Mid Valley, the newly reopened Quail Lodge exemplifies what many businesses have been through in the past four years. Quail management closed its hospitality operation in 2009 and reopened with a refreshed product, a more value-driven price point and smarter service delivery. It immediately became a local driver for many small businesses, just as it once was. Small businesses supplying the Quail Lodge operation or their guests are thriving again. Additionally, the rest of the local hospitality community has not seen a dip in business levels as a result of Quail Lodge being back in business.

The merchants and restaurants in Carmel Valley are also feeling the wind in their sails. Restaurateurs report that this is the first year they feel that things are returning to the way they were before the economic slow-down.

After a wonderful summer season for small business operators, the focus now turns toward the holiday shopping season. If the economic indications of the summer hold true, the upcoming season may be the best we have had in years. And that is good news!

Let's **SHOP LOCALLY** and support our business community!



President from page 1

approval of Measure M and that any future development would be better planned on the Fort Ord blight.

We are so glad to see businesses booming in Carmel Valley. In the Village, Brinton's has turned the old Pot Farm into The Lemon Tree. They have made clever use of what could have been a difficult space, weaving indoor and outdoor exhibits very attractively. A new exercise facility, The Movement Loft, has moved into Delfino Place, providing yoga, zumba, and pilates classes. Carmel Valley Video recently closed its mid-valley site to concentrate its business in their Village store. We are so fortunate to have such a vibrant video outlet with Pete and Peggy Jones enhancing our community in every way. We are glad that the one location will give them more personal free time. The Athena Café in the mid-valley shopping center has a new owner and an expanded menu. The Barnyard now has an authentic French bakery,

the Lafayette Bakery and Café. The owners just moved here from Lyon, France. They are very friendly, and it is lovely to smell the freshly baked bread as you approach their doors. For pet owners, the Raw Connection has expanded into the old Keller-Williams building in the Carmel Rancho shopping area. I am sure there are other new businesses in the Valley. Please let us know.

For the past five years, CVA has been fortunate to have had the talented Scott MacClelland as the production coordinator, photographer, and ad sales person for this newsletter. Scott's vision for reaching all Carmel Valley residents and businesses with timely and meaningful articles guided our decision to mail 7000 full-color newsletters quarterly. Scott retired from this job in October, and we thank him for achieving his vision and for his work promoting Carmel Valley Association.

We, at Carmel Valley Association, continue to work to preserve, protect and defend the natural beauty, resources, and rural nature of Carmel Valley. We hope you will enjoy the articles in this issue of our newsletter.



Hacienda Hay & Feed annual pumpkin patch



Timothy Bottoms at the River Festival

How to LOWER Your Water Rates

By Ron Cohen (Public Water Now)

Public Water Now proudly announces it is circulating a petition to solve our water problems. The petition Initiative calls for the Monterey County Water Management District to buy back our water system so, it will also let us say Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

Technically, when the is passed by the voters the Water Management within nine months on under local control, and then to implement the purchase.

This is not some wild-eyed demand. Since Cal-Am is a profit-generating monopoly serving the wishes of its shareholders, we are confident the plan will show that the people can control our water resources more efficiently and at far less cost than a company headquartered in New Jersey which has been grossly unresponsive to our complaints about fixing leaking and broken pipes and outrageous bills.

Cal-Am's current plan to build a desal plant is riddled with problems. Their slant-well technology is unproven, and their efforts are likely going to be blocked by legal objections from the powerful agricultural interests. And we'll get the bill, again.

Finally, Cal-Am is demanding that we pay them as much as triple current rates over the next few years. They want us to mop up the costs of their previously failed desal plans, of tearing down the San Clemente Dam, and of other messes that they made that normally would be paid for by their investors.

What Public Water Now is saying is that it is time to remove Cal-Am (and the CPUC), essentially because we have lost faith and don't trust them anymore.

We are optimistic that the initiative will be approved by the voters, but Public Water Now needs you to add your name to the petition to put the Public Water Now Initiative on the ballot so we can take back control of our future.

For the latest information, come to our website at <https://www.publicwaternow.org/>.

River Festival Celebrates Restoration

Combined with the CVA Annual Picnic, the first Carmel River Festival and Feast was an amazing community collaboration celebrating the Carmel River - our life-giving ribbon of connection in the Valley. The Nason family (Esselen) blessing began the festivities where over 25 organizations were represented. Tastings of wild steelhead and wild boar accented a fantastic meal served with local wines.



Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado and wife Natalie visit tables at the fest.



from Cal-Am. And in doing good-bye to the California sion (CPUC).

Public Water Now Initiative in June 2014, it will instruct District to complete work a plan to put Monterey water

Keeping the River Alive

By Thomas Christensen, Riparian Projects Coordinator
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

In our Mediterranean climate, it is not uncommon to experience two dry years in a row, the definition of a drought. After two consecutive years of low rainfall, the Carmel River is now excessively dry, with just a few intermittent pools. During droughts, the water table drops from lack of runoff and from the operation of hundreds of wells along the river. If the water table drops far below the root zone too quickly, native streamside vegetation can be desiccated, which could result in the loss of property to erosion during high winter flows. The dry river also threatens the protected steelhead and California red-legged frog (CRLF) tadpoles. When an actual drought is combined with lawful and unlawful diversions, the river dries back faster for a longer stretch, and depth to groundwater can reach new extremes. The already fragile river ecosystem is then easily compromised.

Because of over-drafting, the WMD's Mitigation Program works to ameliorate these problems. The WMD carries out labor-intensive activities, including fish rescues, planting vegetation on exposed riverbanks, and installation and maintenance of irrigation systems to offset the impacts. Ecological Studies, a CalAm consulting group, rescues and relocates CRLF from the Carmel River. The Carmel River Steelhead Association volunteers also carry out steelhead rescues. Property owners can help. Consider utilizing the joint WMD/Cal Am rebate program on water-saving appliances, including a \$500 rebate on a high efficiency washing machine. Consider installing rain sensors on irrigation systems and watering landscapes only when absolutely necessary. We can all help by doing our part.



Dream Realized! History Center to Open



By Kim Williams

Opening day is almost here and you are invited! Saturday, December 7 from 2 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon the Carmel Valley Historical Society will proudly show off Carmel Valley's very own historical museum, including the annual Christmas party with lots of great munchies.

Three well-developed, distinctive displays will be featured at the inaugural opening:

⇒ **Current Family Connections** to the Esselen/Rumsen Indians - artifacts representing thousands of years of the lives of the Indians before the missions were established and the Mission Era and continuing on down to today, curated by Donna Zahn.

⇒ **Turn-of-the-Century Family Entertainment Venue** - a parlor featuring the original square grand piano that graced the parlor of the Hatton family home on Carmel Valley Road and what is now Carmel Rancho Boulevard, curated by Kim Williams.

⇒ **The Cowboys and Working Cattle Ranches of Carmel Valley** - a photo collection by James Zeigler, curated by Jeff Ohlson.

If you have turn-of-the-century parlor items including, games, toys, books, curios, a chandelier and an oriental carpet (all from no later than 1913) to donate or loan for the display please contact Kim at 659.1307 or kiwipapa8@gmail.com.

If you have other documents or artifacts related to Carmel Valley history you wish to entrust to the Historical Society, please contact them at 659.5715 or by email at cvhs3@live.com.

The CV History Center is located at 77 W. Carmel Valley Road - next to the CV Community Park. ●