March 3-13  “Funny Girl” the Concert
MPC Theatre
For Info call: 831 646-1213
www.mptheatre.com

* Fri., March 11
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Steve Gillette & Cindy Mangsen
Classic American folk singers
The Works
$15

Sat., March 12
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
The Black Brothers
The Works
$20
667 Lighthouse Ave., PG
831 - 372-2242
www.theworkspgp.com

* Sat., March 12
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Pet Trust Seminar
Peace of Mind Dog Rescue
700 Jewell Ave., PG
831 718-9112

Saturday, March 12
The Black Brothers
Shay & Michael Black
World-class Irish singers & band
7:30 -9:30 PM ~ $20.00 cover
Advance tickets available @ The Works & PG Resource Center
The Works
667 Lighthouse Avenue
Pacific Grove
831-372-2242

Sunday, March 13
1:30 PM
Steve Palumbi presents his book:
“The Death & Life of Monterey Bay”
700 Jewell Ave., PG
$15
648-5760
LMaddale@pacificgrove.lib.ca.us

Sat., March 19
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
“Problem Solving Through Poetry”
Poet-in-Residence
Poetry Workshop
Dr. Barbara Mossberg
PG Public Library
$15
648-5760
LMaddale@pacificgrove.lib.ca.us

March 19 & 20
11-4pm
Grand Opening AFRP New Cat Adoption Center Location
Pet Food Express - Carmel
Crossroads

City Council seeks to get smarter about SmartMeters

By Marge Ann Jameson

It took three tries with three iterations of similar ideas, but the Pacific Grove City Council finally managed to pass a motion to have staff come back at the April 6, 2011 meeting with wording for a resolution – not an ordinance -- enunciating policy for citizens to opt out of PG&E’s new SmartMeters for various reasons, which already approved the meters, and the California legislature, expressing concern about the SmartMeters. And they asked for research into what other jurisdictions which have passed stronger measures have done to ensure that they can enforce their wishes.

After dozens of people spoke against the SmartMeters for various reasons, mostly related to questions about the health effects of the new meters, it would have appeared that if the people in the room had had their way, the meters would be banned. But the strongest motion put forth, one that would have imposed a one-year moratorium on any more SmartMeters in Pacific Grove, was soundly defeated by a 5-2 vote.
Shuttle Discovery Facts

- Discovery is the world’s most flown spaceship with 39 missions, 148 million miles, 5,830 orbits of Earth, 365 days spent in space.
- It flew 13 times to the space station, more than any other craft of any nation.
- Discovery is 27 years old, having debuted in 1984.
- Discovery launched the Hubble Space Telescope in 1990.
- It made the first shuttle rendezvous with Russia’s Mir space station.
- It carried the first female shuttle pilot in 1995.
- It made the first shuttle rendezvous with Russia’s Mir space station.
- It carried the first female shuttle pilot in 1995.
- John Glenn, the first American pilot to orbit the Earth, returned to space on Discovery in 1998.
- It will now become a display at the Smithsonian Institution. It will be the most visited artifact in the museum.
- The NASA Shuttle is the first and only shuttle to complete all 39 missions of its national service.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP
City of Pacific Grove

We need your help to PRESERVE PACIFIC GROVE’S CULTURAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

Monday, March 14, 2011
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Pacific Grove Community Center
515 Junipero Avenue, Pacific Grove CA

The City of Pacific Grove is proud to sponsor the development of a city-wide historic context statement that will explore themes, events, people, and places significant to the history of Pacific Grove. You are invited to learn more about this exciting project, and to contribute by sharing your photographs, maps and other materials or information you may have that pertain to historic architecture in the City. We will be able to scan images at the workshop.

The history of Pacific Grove is best told by the people who live and work here. We need your input to fully understand the history of Pacific Grove.

Please join us for this informative workshop. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have questions about this workshop, please call the Pacific Grove Community Development Department at (831)648-3190.

To place legal advertising call 831-324-4742
Have you ever run until you felt like the muscles in your legs were going to rip, your throat craved water, your face burned, you felt your heart beating in your ears, your chest throbbed for pain you felt in your legs? Have you ever been fearful of sand? Have you ever hated the sun, the hills, each blade of grass, and every grain of sand? Have you ever prayed that each twig, root, divot, or rock you passed moved into your foot's way to trip you? Have you ever run so much that you pass a spectator, you would give your life to switch places with them? Have you ever been so grateful for shade that you purposely slowed down just to cool off, at least, until your omnipotent coaches yelled at you to go faster? Have you ever run so much that when you finally crossed the finish line, it felt as if you had been running for days? Have you ever run so much that when you finally stopped to sit down or drink some water that you were never happier in all your life? I have.

Poet-in-Residence offers Poetry Workshop March 19

The Pacific Grove Public Library presents a poetry workshop by Pacific Grove’s Poet-in-Residence, Dr. Barbara Mossberg on Saturday, March 19, from 9 to 12 noon. The title of the workshop is “Problem Solving through Poetry — how the process of writing poetry can rouse creative solutions for personal challenges.” Workshop includes reading and discussion of Mossberg’s poetry as well as workshops for writing, including creative solutions, new optimism, and possibilities for life challenge. Dr. Mossberg’s class will include writing exercises and break-out groups. The class is limited to 15 people and a $15 fee will be charged to support the Poetry Fund. Tea and pastries will be served. For more information, please call Lisa Maddalena at 648-5760, or email her at L.Maddalena@pacificgrove.lib.ca.us.

Aaron Corn gets 7 years, 4 months

Aaron Corn, 19, of Pacific Grove was sentenced Thursday to seven years and four months in prison for driving under the influence of alcohol and causing great bodily injury to one of his passengers, Chelsie Hill. Corn, whose blood alcohol was 0.9, pleaded no contest in January to the charges. He also pleaded no contest to car theft, the sentence for which was included.

Cedar Street Times was established September 1, 2008 and was adjudicated a legal newspaper for Pacific Grove, Monterey County, California on July 16, 2010. It is published weekly at 311A Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Press deadline is Wednesday, noon. The paper is distributed on Friday and is available at various locations throughout the city as well as by e-mail subscription.

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PGHS Young Writers’ Club

Young Writers’ Corner

Cross Country by Emily Marien

A male juvenile was arrested on school grounds at Pacific Grove High School for possession of a knife and making terrorist threats against the assistant principal and her son. The suspect is a resident of Pebble Beach and in the junior class at the school. He has, according to court documents, been in trouble off and on for drug paraphernalia, being under the influence of a controlled substance and other disruptive behavior. His former girlfriend had advised authorities at the school that he usually carried a knife and had marijuana on his person.

The morning of his arrest, his mother contacted the school and said her son had been smoking pot so he was pulled from class and searched, at which time the knife was discovered. Police were called.

He told the assistant principal that he holds grudges and would return in 10 years and is angry because he was pulled from class. When asked why, but our guess is that it was parked for too long. (Esplanade)

A temporary restraining order has been obtained and the juvenile has been sus-

Student threatens administrator Weapon at school

no contest to car theft, the sentence for which was included.

A parked vehicle (already stopped) was towed away. No indication as to why, but our guess is that it was parked for too long. (Esplanade)
Dear Readers: Please bear in mind that historical articles such as “High Hats & Parasols” present our history — good and bad — in the language and terminology used at the time. The writings contained in “High Hats” are not our words. They are quoted from Pacific Grove/Monterey publications from 100 years in the past. Our journalistic predecessors held to the highest possible standards for their day, as do we at Cedar Street Times. Please also note that any items listed for sale in “High Hats” are “done deals,” and while we would all love to see those prices again, people also worked for a dollar a day back then. Thanks for your understanding.

The News … from 1911.

Train Improvement group gathers
Disatisfaction is increasing in response to the services extended by the Southern Pacific railroad. Included among their complaints are late or missing train arrivals and departures, unclean cars, rising fares, and uncomfortable seating.

Southern Pacific Passenger Supervisor E. Schillingsburg traveled here from San Francisco to meet with a committee of dissidents. Schillingsburg said that he was at a loss to understand exactly what was causing the problems, but that they would be looked into as soon as possible. The committee agreed to put off further protests until Schillingsburg’s report is received.

Trustees meet

Pacific Grove’s Board of Trustees met in adjourned session on Monday evening with all members present except Trustee Berwick. The clerk read a communication from Inspector Birk’s stating that the portion of the city west of the Southern Pacific tracks is infested with rats and ground squirrels, and that these pests must be exterminated. The trustees agreed.

E. S. Johnston also read a communication from Trustee Berwick in which it was stated that I. D. Norton is preparing a brief plan for a surface-water drain for Fifteenth street and that he is in favor of this for storm water dispersal.

A communication from H. E. Van Horn, who formerly conducted business as the Grove Laundry, was read. Van Horn asked that he and his bondsman be relieved of any further responsibility in regard to the waterway leading to the laundry. The Grove Laundry, was read. Van Horn asked that he and his bondsman be relieved of any further responsibility in regard to the waterway leading to the laundry.

The trustees agreed, and planned to make inquiries of the new owner.

Notice to redeem

E. C. Smith wishes to advise Dorothy Watson that certain property situated in Pacific Grove was sold to him for delinquent taxes for the year 1909 by the county tax collector E. B. Rich. The sum involved was $12.01. Be it now known that the opportunity to redeem said property is extended by Smith to Miss Watson until the 26th day of April, 1911. The amount must be paid in cash, as well as all required fees and fines.

Trelle Clef Club to sing
The date has been set for the high-class concert by the Trelle Clef Club. It will be given on Monday evening, April 3, in the Civic Club hall. This should be an event well attended by the music-loving public. The music to be presented will be composed of high-class sacred music suitable to the Easter season. Miss Edith Pickering, the talented soprano of the Presidio of Monterey, has kindly consented to assist the club. Her selections will add greatly to the enjoyment of the program. Her featured selection will be Gallia, a motet by Gounod.

Tickets are now on sale for the concert and everyone should assist the club by purchasing one of more.

Travel advisory
Roads between here and Gilroy are so rough as to be almost impassable, and the bridge is gone between Sargents and Gilroy. For those requiring passage to Gilroy, the railroad is suggested.

Middle West in grip of a blizzard
For those in awe of the periods of cold, high wind, and rain pestering Pacific Grove for the past few weeks, be in sympathy for the Middle West. Heavy snow has caused considerable damage. Roads are blocked. The railroad east to Philadelphia and New York is blocked and impassable. Lines east are also cut off.

Notes from around the area…

• The Neal System is the very best way to unload yourself of a drinking habit. With Neal (San Francisco) the control of booze over you will be broken in a mere three days at a very reasonable cost.

• The Monterey-Pacific Grove BPOE will meet Tuesday evening, 7 pm, at the Socobe Hall on the corner of 17th and Lighthouse, to discuss organization.

• The funeral of the late Mrs. Hannah Moren will be held at the Methodist church on Wednesday afternoon, 2 o’clock. Rev. Leslie Burwell is to be the officiating clergyman.

The cost of living…

• Blue Ribbon Creamery Butter from F. J. Wyeth, Grocer. 35¢ by the pound.

• Phillips & Lawrey, a hardware where you can find paints, oils, and wallpaper.

• Police lanterns at a 1-inch bulb system. $1.15.

• Sporting goods at Holman’s store. The highest grade smokeless powder. $3.15 for five-pound bag. Clay pigeons for skeet shooting, $2 per box of 500. Live target-bird releases and live birds also available.

Author’s Notes

I  A motet is a highly varied choral musical composition. Charles-François Gounod (1818 – 1893), a French music master, was best known for Ave Mária.

II  The weather in 1911 was very much like the weather in 2011. Notice the news item that follows above about the heavy snow storm that occurred back east.

III  The Pacific Grove Elks Lodge failed. Monterey Elks Lodge was formed a year later, in 1912, with a core of 26 Elks transferred from the Salinas lodge. The Monterey Elks first met at the Del Monte Hotel.

IV  The Humane Society would have paled to learn that live birds were being sold for skeet shooting and target practice.

Please note! Readers are advised that the 1911 prices quoted herein are no longer valid, nor are these items / properties available from the mentioned seller. The Cedar Street Times appreciates the callers who have attempted to vantage themselves of these 1911 values, but we can be of no help.

Know some news or trivia from a century ago? Contact the author Jon Guthrie: profguthrie@gmail.com.
Male and female English bulldogs for adoption to a good and caring home. Socialized with children and other pets. Excellent personality and comes up-to-date on vaccinations. Contact BillFrancis@LIVE.com for more information on the puppies.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Petition of DRENNON RAY PRUETT Case No. M10-0583 Filed February 8, 2011. To all interested persons: Petitioner Drennon Ray Pruett filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: present name DRENNON RAY PRUETT to proposed name JUANITA PEARSA-JIMENEZ. Any person interested in the matter shall appear before Judge of the Superior Court: Kay T. King-Porter at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. Notice of hearing date: April 11, 2011 Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept. 14. The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Monterey, 1200 Aguajito Rd., Monterey, CA 93940. A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: CEDAR STREET TIMES. DATE: March 11, 2011 

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Petition of STEVEE LUSK Case No. M10-1024 Filed February 15, 2011. To all interested persons: Petitioner Stevee Lusk filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: present name STEVEE LUSK to proposed name AZARIA HALEY LUSK. Any person interested in the matter shall appear before Judge of the Superior Court: Kay T. King-Porter at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the hearing. Notice of hearing date: April 11, 2011 Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept. 14. The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Monterey, 1200 Aguajito Rd., Monterey, CA 93940. A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: CEDAR STREET TIMES. DATE: March 11, 2011 

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PETITION OF DRENNON RAY PRUETT
Case No. M10-0583

PETITION OF STEVEE LUSK
Case No. M10-1024

When my boyfriend and I moved back to Monterey from working in Yosemite National Park for three years where dogs weren’t allowed, I wanted a dog again. What a gift, to be able to adopt Squeak, and have a living thing running around the house again. I feel the desire to never leave Squeak alone. I take her to the office, I eat in restaurants with outdoor seating with her, we take trips to pet stores she’s allowed in, and she loves running on the beach. Since Farmer’s Market is outside, I assumed that dogs would be welcome. Of course Squeak and I came to a screeching stop at the sign with the picture of the puppy crossed out on it.

“Well Squeak,” I sighed. “I guess this is one place we can’t go together.” I pulled her back to the car, and we left without buying any fresh local produce. I have since learned my lesson, and I leave Squeak at home when I go to Farmer’s Market.

It’s important for me to support local growers, and I love the Farmer’s Market, but no dog rule is confusing. It is acceptable to have dogs on open restaurant patios and on beaches, why not in an open market environment?

It is becoming more common around the United States for markets to ban animals. In Portland, Oregon there is a market which does not allow dogs, and one that allows dogs with a set of considerations. Your dogs must be personable, on a short leash and you must keep them away from food and clean up after them. Sounds reasonable. Why can’t we have dogs here in Pacific Grove with those considerations?

I decided to call Iris Peppard, executive director of Everyone’s Harvest which runs Farmer’s Markets in Pacific Grove, Marina, Salinas and Greenfield. She says that the Monterey County Health Department does not allow live animals within one hundred feet of their markets. So, unlike in some areas where allowing animals is left to the discretion of the people who run the market, here in Monterey County, it is a decision of the health department.

It’s a bummer that we can’t enjoy our dogs, and our dogs may not be able to enjoy our local markets without your furry friends!
Five Awards of Excellence were presented to business people at the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce’s 90th Annual Member’s Luncheon on Friday, March 4, at the Inn at Spanish Bay.

Featured speaker was State Sen. Sam Blakeslee, R-San Luis Obispo, who delivered his first legislative update since being elected to the California State Senate in 2010 to represent the 15th Senate District, which includes the counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Santa Clara.

Blakeslee serves as Chair of the Select Committee on Recovery, Reform and Re-alignment, a bipartisan Senate think tank to develop innovative reform concepts that, if implemented, could address the current structural impediments to job creation, budgetary stability, and accountable governance. He previously served in the California State Assembly from 2008 to 2010.

“The Awards of Excellence are given on the basis of quality of service, involvement in the Chamber of Commerce, and giving back to the community,” said Chamber President Moe Ammar.

Receiving Awards of Excellence:

Best Restaurateur: Holly Hammer, Holly’s Lighthouse Café. She opened the Lighthouse Café six years ago from then-Chamber Chairman Alan Cohen and his partners. She changed the name slightly to Holly’s Lighthouse Café and made improvements in the business, which is more than 30 years old and originally was a sandwich shop. The downtown café, at the corner of Lighthouse Avenue and 16th street, serves breakfast and lunch daily and dinner on Friday and Saturday. She owes her success to attracting locals and customers with quality food, good service and a comfortable ambiance. “We are very lucky to have so many locals that come here, some twice a day,” she said. “And we have a wonderful staff.” She donates to many community activities. “I like to help the schools when I can,” she said. She also supports community events, such as the Festival of Lanterns and Stillwell’s Snow in the Park. A 30-year resident of Pacific Grove, he has always worked in the restaurant business and once was a waitress at the old Monterey Restaurant (now Mando’s Mexican restaurant).

Best Hotelier: Victoria Arroyo, Sea Breeze Inn & Lodge. Since October 2004, she has been general manager of Monterey Peninsula Inns, which operates the Sea Breeze, and is one of the longest serving general managers in the Pacific Grove lodging industry. This is her 12th year with the company and has a reputation for effectively handling both large and small groups. “I have a great team.” she said. “Hospitality comes from your core. It certainly isn’t a solo act.” She supports the many volunteer activities and functions in town whenever she is needed, which has included the annual Feast of Lanterns, Good Old Days and Fourth of July events and other community events. “I love working in Pacific Grove,” she said, and sees the hospitality industry as an important economic factor for Pacific Grove. Before joining Monterey Peninsula Inns, she worked as a reservation agent for the Casa Munras Garden Hotel in Monterey. Her interest in the hospitality industry goes back to her teenage years when she was involved in a work-study/intern program.

Best Retailer: Glenn Gobel with Glenn Gobel Custom Frames. Glenn opened his store at 562 Lighthouse Avenue in downtown Pacific Grove in March of 2008 and is most thankful to his many customers for his continued growth and success in what he calls “a rather difficult business environment.” Aggressive in marketing, promotions and service, Glenn has drawn customers to Pacific Grove from the entire peninsula and beyond. He has seen all at competitive vitality of “our beautiful downtown.” Gobel Framing offers all aspects of custom picture framing with a specialty in custom mirrors for both residential and commercial clients. About his award, Glenn said, “It is nice to be recognized. We are proud of our association with and our contribution to this fine community.” He pointed out that his business focuses on “customer service, superb quality and craftsmanship.” and that those are the reasons he has become the recognized leader in his industry for the entire Monterey Peninsula. Glenn is active in many Chamber and other community activities including the Wine, Art and Music Walk. Gobel Framing’s website is ggcustomframes.com and showcases all of the business’ services.

Best Service: Michael Krokowski, Mykel’s Interiors, Sea Breeze Inn & Lodge. Mykel’s, which he founded in Pacific Grove 20 years ago, has a designer showroom in the Russell Service Center on Sunset Drive and offers residential and commercial carpeting, floor coverings, window coverings and upholstery. The company sells both directly to consumers and through designers, architects and building contractors. The business focuses on service and quality workmanship in addition to working closely with interior designers. He currently serves on the City Economic Development Commission, is a former member of the Chamber Board of Directors and has been involved in many activities of Pacific Grove Rotary for about 20 years. His chamber involvement over the years has included sponsorship of the Chamber’s Awards of Excellence event, at which he never expected to receive an award. “It is totally unexpected,” he said, “and quite an honor.” With Rotary, he has been involved in staging the annual Pacific Grove High School Invitational Track Meet.

Best Commercial Realtor: Josh Jones, Cassidy Turley BT Commercial. As a total of nine years experience, five in the San Francisco Bay Area and four on the Monterey Peninsula, he has been responsible for attracting small and large businesses to relocate to Pacific Grove, among the most recent ones being Happy Girl Restaurant and Pet Extreme. He also has been able to keep businesses in Pacific Grove by helping to renegotiate leases, such as a recent instance involving Pier 1 Imports. He focuses on retail and commercial business, tailoring Pacific Grove’s selling points to each individual business. About the Chamber award, he said, “I am honored to receive this,” adding that it is a pleasure to work among “so many outstanding people who make Pacific Grove what it is. This is a great community and a great hometown and I am glad to be a part of it.” He serves on the City Economic Development Commission.

Above: Mykel Krokowski, Mykel’s Interiors, Best Service.

Below: Victoria Arroyo, Sea Breeze Inn & Lodge, Best Hotelier.

Above: Josh Jones, Cassidy Turley BT Commercial, Best Commercial Realtor.

Below: Holly Hammer, Holly’s Lighthouse Café, Best Restaurateur.

Bottom: Glenn Gobel, Glenn Gobel Custom Frames, Best Retailer.

Local child actor receives CARE Award in Hollywood

Local actor, Tanner Gray, age 11 of Pacific Grove, will be walking the red carpet to accept a unique Hollywood Award. He will be receiving a CARE Award from BizParentz Foundation on April 30th at Universal Studios Hollywood.

Billled as a kind of “anti-child-star-gone-bad” event, CARE honors more than 150 of the industry’s brightest young stars, for their positive contributions to the entertainment industry. To be eligible for a CARE Award, young performers must work professionally in 2010, demonstrate good academics, community service, union membership, acting study, and more. Their parents must even take a quiz on their business knowledge of the entertainment industry.

Tanner Gray is being recognized for his work in Treasure Island as Jim Hawkins. He is also being recognized for his other community service singing at various fund raiser’s and community events for the 4th of July and Jingle Bell Run for Arthritis in Pacific Grove. Tanner has been performing in the industry since he was 3 years old and was a weekend stock boy in the Forest Theater Guild of Carmel’s production of Music Man. A highlight of his success in the industry was making his first movie in Hollywood where he co-starred with Hailee Steinfeld (True Grit) in Heather: A Fairy Tale directed by Vince Raisa when he was 8 years old. He recently completed a run of The Prince and the Pauper starring as the Prince at Monterey Peninsula College and has just been chosen to play Peter in the Forest Theater Guild’s production of Peter and the Wolf.

Tanner Gray and the other award winners will receive red carpet entrance to Universal Studios, private awards luncheon, trophies, gift bags, collectible souvenirs, and entrance to Universal Studios Theme Park for a day of kid-oriented fun after the event.

The CARE Awards is presented by BizParentz Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to education, advocacy and charitable support to parents and children engaged in the entertainment industry.

For more information about the BizParentz CARE awards, please visit www.bizparentz.org or call (818)731-9897.

Leigh Gray submitted this article. Cedar Street Times profiled Tanner Gray in a recent article.
The Pacific Grove Young Entrepreneur Awards (YEA!) presentation was held on Tues., March 1, at Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History in Pacific Grove. The presentation acknowledged 136 Pacific Grove Middle School students who prepared comprehensive essays titled, “How I Will Create A Successful Business.” Entrepreneur and former Pacific Grove mayor Dan Cort served as Master of Ceremonies. More than 250 people were in attendance -- students, parents, teachers, administrators, city officials and business leaders were on hand to congratulate the entrants.

The YEA! program offers Pacific Grove students an opportunity to win cash and prizes for their submissions of comprehensive business plans and/or essays outlining a fictitious business. All entries receive merit prizes and certificates. The winning entries were announced the night of the awards presentation.

2010-11 Young Entrepreneur Award Winners

1st Place— CASH PRIZE $300 Vishwani Naidu Business: Tire Pots
2nd Place— CASH PRIZE $200 Zelda Elisco Business: Adopt A Beach
3rd Place— Cash Prize $100 Elliot Bradford-Cheesebrough Business: Chalkboard Christmas Ornaments

(12) Honorable Mentions— CASH PRIZES $10 Each
Emily Czaplak’s Fast Pitch Softball Lessons
Cassie Guideri’s Smell of Lavender
Kendra Lu’s Handy Helpers
Victoria Lopez’s Go Green Accessories
Taylor Rhoades’ L’Amour Lip Gloss
Emma Teering’s Emma’z Bag’z

The YEA! Program, formed in 1996, stimulates Pacific Grove students’ interest in business and serves to better prepare them for entering the work force or college. This year’s program is funded by generous contributions from the following businesses and individuals: 17th Street Grill; Marc Afifi; Debby Beck; Cedar Street Times; Central Coast Silkscreen; Chrysalis Software, Inc.; Yunjeong Chun; Cort Co.; Dan Cort & Family; Juice & Java; Lighthouse Cinemas; Liquid Surf; Maureen Mason; Monterey Mirror Maze and Laser Challenge; Mrs. Delish’s Cupcake Boutique; Passionfish Restaurant; Red House Cafe; Riddell & Riddell Advertising; David Spalding; and Winning Wheels. The Young Entrepreneur Awards Program is under the fiscal sponsorship of the Action Council of Monterey County.

For further information regarding the Young Entrepreneur Awards call Committee Chair, Rebecca Riddell, at 831-646-0351.

Photos by Rebecca Riddell

The future of business in Pacific Grove

The Pacific Grove Young Entrepreneur Award winners receive cash prizes

Alex Villacres’ Gator Grip
Sebastian Araujo’s T-shirt Bags
Chris Scanlon’s Scanlon’s Service
Daniela Coatu’s Royal Jungle Jewelry
Jack Norris’ Limited Editions-rare comics store
Sam Halal’s Capturing the Moment Photography.

Entries were judged by a team of volunteers from various local businesses and organizations, including: Debby Beck, Coldwell Banker Real Estate; Dan Cort, Cort Company; Joseph Rock, Architect; Mari Demera, Trellis Garden Market; Laura Hodge, RN; Jan Leasure, of Monterey Bay Property Management; Robert & Leela Marcum, Valerie Morin, H&R Block; student judge & 2009-10 first place winner, Eric O’Hagan; Terry Peterson, Monterey County Social Services; Steve Thomas of Thomas Brand Consulting; and local entrepreneur David Spalding. The judging committee used a set criteria to determine the most comprehensive entries: comprehension; composition; feasibility; presentation; and originality. Each of the judges also selected an entry to receive an honorable mention.

Left, top: Schmoozing with plates of pizza, which was surely part of the attraction are awards ceremony-goers. Behind the table is Taylor Rhoades with her “L’Amour Lip Gloss,” a simple formula with scrumptious aromas.

At Left: Steve Thomas at the podium sports one of Victoria Lopez’s Go Green Accessories, a hat made from a soda can. She and her product were his judge’s Choice for Honorable Mention.

Above, left to right, are the three top prize winners. In second place was Zelda Elisco’s Adopt A Beach, a business which involves obtaining sponsors to pay her to keep portions of the beach clean. Sponsors would receive pictures and reports on how much trash she gathered. Center, third place winner Elliot Bradford-Cheesebrough offered a kit called Chalkboard Christmas Ornaments. At the right is Vishwani Naidu. Her business is Tire Pots, plant containers made from recycled and decorated tires.
Taxes!

You need a qualified CPA who can help you deal with the new tax laws, as well as help you keep the proper records that substantiate all of your allowable deductions. I help keep you out of trouble before you get into it, as well as deal with problems after they occur.

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Mud Run March 26

The sixth annual Mud Run, presented by the Big Sur International Marathon in cooperation with the Presidio of Monterey and CSUMB, will take place Sat., March 26. Individuals will begin competition at 8 a.m. followed by team competitors at 10 a.m.

The race course encompasses five miles of road, trails, mud pits, walls and other obstacles throughout the CSUMB campus and former Ft. Ord lands in Seaside. The event begins and ends at CSUMB’s Freeman Stadium (near Lightfighter Drive and 2nd Ave.), Patterned after the popular mud run at Camp Pendleton, Army and Marine drill sergeants bark orders to motivate participants along the way.

The Mud Run is sold out to participants, but spectators are encouraged to come cheer at the final mud pit at the entrance to Freeman Stadium and take part in post-race festivities. There is no charge to spectators.

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PG P.R.I.D.E. announces 2011 volunteer awards

PG P.R.I.D.E. (Public Response In Dollars to Education) has announced their 2011 Volunteer Service Award recipients. Receiving awards for their years of dedication to the children and community of Pacific Grove are:

- Mike & Staci Consiglio
- Bill McElvea
- Grove Market

First Acknowledgements

Awards will be presented at the 21st Annual Great Taste of PG on Sunday, March 27, 2011 from 4pm until 7pm. Tickets for this evening of Great Food, Great Wine and a Great Silent Auction are $50 per person (over 21 years of age please). For reservations please call (831) 642-4943. Proceeds benefit Pacific Grove Unified School District schools.

PG Links has a new instructor

The Pacific Grove Golf Links announced that Ben Alexander, the 2004 Northern California PGA Teacher of the Year and 2008 nominee for National PGA Teacher of the Year, has joined the golf links as the Director of Instruction.

“We are thrilled that Ben has decided to join our instructional team. To have a professional of Ben’s knowledge and caliber teaching golf at the Pacific Grove Golf Links is a great addition to the course, and more importantly the community,” said Pacific Grove Golf Links Head Professional Joe Riokena. Alexander was also named as Golf Magazine’s 2005 “Top Teacher in the Region” and is a regular contributor to PGA.com, KG0 Radio, and the Golf Guys Radio Show. He is the regular teacher for seven-time LPGA winner Danielle Ammaccapane and counts Dennis Quaid and Harry Connick Jr. as regular students.

“As a Pacific Grove resident, I am honored to have the opportunity to teach at this historic course.” said Alexander. “I am excited to be able to give back to my community while improving the skills of golfers of all levels. We are offering single, group and series of lessons in addition to "stay and learn" packages.

To find out more information about Ben Alexander and instruction at Pacific Grove Golf Links, log onto www.pggolflinks.com and click instruction or contact Ben directly at (831) 277-9001 or teachgolf@aol.com

Alexander, who is one of the foremost instructors in California, will continue to give lessons at Poppy Hills.

Rebecca Costa to address Central Coast Writers

Central Coast Writers present: “What Really Happened: How My Book Became Hot” a talk by Rebecca Costa. The talk will be held on March 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Casa Munras Hotel, 700 Munras ave. in Monterey.

There is no cost. For further information, call Cheri Love at 831-375-6186.

Rebecca Costa is the author of The Watchman’s Rattle: Thinking Our Way Out of Extinction and a sociobiologist who explains emerging trends in relationship to human evolution, global markets, and new technologies. Her book has been recognized as the top science philosophy book of 2010, and one of the top “green” books of the year by ABC News. In “What Really Happened?” she will discuss how one of America’s largest publishing conglomerates got hold of her manuscript and ran with it and what it really means when a publisher labels a book a “lead” title.

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CENTRAL COAST WRITERS PRESENT: “WHAT REALLY HAPPENED: HOW MY BOOK BECAME HOT” A TALK BY REBECCA COSTA. THE TALK WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 15 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE CASA MUNRAS HOTEL, 700 MUNRAS AVE. IN MONTEREY.

There is no cost. For further information, call Cheri Love at 831-375-6186.

Rebecca Costa is the author of The Watchman’s Rattle: Thinking Our Way Out of Extinction and a sociobiologist who explains emerging trends in relationship to human evolution, global markets, and new technologies. Her book has been recognized as the top science philosophy book of 2010, and one of the top “green” books of the year by ABC News. In “What Really Happened?” she will discuss how one of America’s largest publishing conglomerates got hold of her manuscript and ran with it and what it really means when a publisher labels a book a “lead” title.

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130 Congress Ave., Pacific Grove CA 93950

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Battle of the Bands and Soloists
invited to enter competition

The Foundation for the Performing Arts – Pacific Grove is sponsoring its first Battle of the Bands and Soloist Competition open to all Monterey Bay area high school students playing in any genre who submit their application and are selected as an event finalist. An application, performance video, photo, and fees are required to enter. There is a $25 entry fee for bands and $10 entry fee for soloists.

Bands and soloists submissions will be judged by a panel of music aficionados and community members. Finalists will be notified by April 8, 2011. The Battle of the Bands and Soloists will be at the Performing Arts Center – Pacific Grove on Saturday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three bands and soloists, including a $500 first prize in the band competition and $150 for the first place soloist. For a complete list of prizes, go to the Foundation’s website.

Entry deadline is March 25, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. Submit application to Foundation via PG Hometown Bulletin at 620 Lighthouse Ave., PG. Complete entry info and application is available at www.performingartscenter.org. For all other questions, call the Foundation at 831-655-8814.

The Foundation for the Performing Arts Center – Pacific Grove will host the Battle of the Bands & Soloists Competition on May 7 in the Performing Arts Center – PG. The Competition is open to all Monterey Bay high school students. Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places in addition to other prizes. Complete details are available at www.performingartscenter.org.

For more information on the event, call Lindsay Munoz at 831-647-1641.

Feast of Lanterns Royal Court
applications extended

And yes, the Feast is returning to Lovers Point

Application deadlines have been extended for young women wishing to serve on the Feast of Lanterns Royal Court. Applications are available in schools, including Stevenson School, Pacific Grove Middle School, Pacific Grove High School, Santa Catalina, York, and charter schools.

A more extensive outline of the duties and responsibilities of the court is also found on the Feast of Lanterns website at www.feast-of-lanterns.org.

Applications are also available at the Chamber of Commerce office on Central. Forms may be returned to the school offices or mailed to the Feast. They will be picked up on Tues., March 21. Personal interviews before a select board of judges will be held later in March and applicants will be notified of the time and place in advance. The responsibilities and commitment required of the Royal Court and their families include time, energy and the ability to represent Pacific Grove in a positive manner at times, according to Sue Renz, Board president. The Royal Court represents Pacific Grove at events in other cities, including the Obon Festival, the Salinas Rodeo, and the Monterey Fourth of July parade.

Renz offered this advice: “Before applying for the Royal Court, review the information included in the application package and on the Feast of Lanterns website. Discuss with your family what is required of you and your family during the Court’s reign. We want to be sure that you understand the commitment you are making and the responsibilities you are accepting before you apply to be a member of the 2011 Royal Court. All girls are eligible to submit a Royal Court application: who are in grades 8 through 12 at the time the application is due, and whose primary residence is in the Pacific Grove Unified School District, although they are not required to attend a Pacific Grove public school. Officials are working to raise funds to take the Feast Pageant back to Lovers Point.

Scholarship for women applications now open
Junior League gives money for schooling

The Junior League of Monterey County, Inc. (JLMC) will award a scholarship(s) to a woman/women residing in Monterey County. Past award amounts have been up to $5000, and the amount might increase this year.

Statement of Purpose
The scholarship is designed to assist women 18 years of age or older who want to improve their career opportunities by furthering their education. The applicants must have specific degrees or training goals in mind and demonstrate community involvement.

Selection Process
The scholarship recipient(s) shall be selected by the JLMC Scholarship Committee. Finalists will be required to participate in an interview process. Scholarship applications are due on Friday, April 8, 2011. Awards will be announced by Monday, May 2, 2011. All decisions made by the JLMC Scholarship Committee are final.

Selection Criteria
Applicants must be currently enrolled at a two-year or four-year college or at a vocational school that has been approved and accredited by the State of California. Applicants must be registered for a minimum of nine semester units, or the equivalent. Applicants must be residents of Monterey County and must be a minimum of 18 years of age by January 1, 2011. Applicants must be citizens or legal residents of the United States and may be required to show proof of citizenship status with proper documentation.

Attachments to Application
Please attach a copy of a valid driver’s license or identification card, as well as two letters of recommendation and copies of all transcripts with your application. The top five finalists are required to submit an official copy of transcripts.

Evaluation Criteria
Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
1. Community Involvement
2. Personal essay – content and quality
3. Past academic performance and future goals
4. Personal interview (top five finalists only will interview)

Scholarship Award Distribution
The scholarship award is available at a trade, on books, and student fees. Scholarship amounts of up to $5000 have been awarded in the past. Checks will be sent by the JLMC to the recipient’s chosen school upon receipt of written verification of enrollment/registration for the following school year.

General Information
Please call JLMC’s Scholarship Committee Chair, Kelley Carpenter, at 831.915.3057 with any questions or to visit the JLMC web site at www.jlmcotc.org for more information about the JLMC Scholarship program.

Applications are due on Friday, April 8, 2011 and should be sent by U.S. mail or dropped off at the Junior League of Monterey County Headquarters Tuesday – Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please note that the Headquarters is not open on Mondays.

Mailing Address
Junior League of Monterey County, Inc.
Attn: Scholarship Committee
391 Decatur Street
Monterey, CA 93940
Phone: 831 - 375 - 5356
Web site www.jlmcotc.org
The JLMC Headquarters is located in the Old Whaling State adobe in Heritage Harbor (99 Pacific Street).

Office hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
SoDA gets their lease on Indoor Forest Theater

PacRep Theatre has announced that its School of Dramatic Arts, known locally as “SoDA”, has been awarded the lease on the Indoor Forest Theater, which will now become the official home of “SoDA” classes, workshops and special events. The regional theater arts program has recently expanded, and is accepting on-going registration for its spring, summer and fall semesters, featuring over a dozen classes in various aspects of theatre arts including two new classes, SoDA Glee and Film Acting. Student ages range from 4 to adult. Mary Ann Rousseau returns as Dean and Instructor, joined this spring by Laura Akard, Mary Lee Sunseri, Suzanne Sturr, Diane Weiss Goyetti, Britney Kalmbach, Lyla Englehorn, Mark Shuler and Donna Greenfield.

With classes offered for beginners and seasoned performers alike, PacRep’s School of Dramatic Arts (SoDA) was originally established in 1999 as a PacRep outreach program for Boys & Girls Clubs and the YMCA of the Monterey Peninsula. SoDA soon expanded to offer a full range of theatre arts development for all ages staffed by professional teaching artists. The current program offers acting, singing, movement, writing & related theatre skills. Class titles include Pre-musical Theatre; Sing-Dance-Act; Let’s Put On A Play; Teen Shakespeare; Stage Combat & Physical Acting; Film Acting, and Playwriting, among others. Adult classes in beginning and advanced acting are also offered.

Program attributes include individual attention and mentoring; cultivation of talent and imagination; confidence building; and an emphasis on creative and social growth in a collaborative group setting.

To register for SoDA, call (831) 656-9730, or apply online at www.schoolofdramaticarts.org. Scholarships are available. PacRep Theatre, the only professional theatre on the Monterey Peninsula, was founded in 1982 by Stephen Moorer. For more than 29 years, PacRep has consistently produced high quality, resident-professional theatre on the Monterey Peninsula—reaching a wide audience due, in great part, to the diversity of venues, production choices and outreach programsand actors alike. For more information on PacRep Theatre’s SoDA programs, call (831) 656-9730.

Pacific Grove and Carmel students collaborate on movie

Beginning Nov. 20, 2010, students from Pacific Grove High, Carmel High, Monterey High and York School dedicated their weekends to collaborate on producing a feature film with HARA Motion Pictures at the Carmel Youth Center. The entire experience provided acting for the camera, screenplay writing, and a crash course in serving as a crew on set as well as editing during post-production. Over the course of 10 weekends, each student created unique characters and worked to weave their stories together to create, “Instructions Not Included.” This, the title they agreed upon, encompasses the unifying theme of each character seeking acceptance and love, and their stories of taking risks and sometimes making mistakes in order to find it. “There are no blueprints or instructions for life,” they said, “you gotta learn for yourself.”

During their holiday break, students shot the film over 13 days on location in Carmel, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Salinas, and Big Sur. “We are thrilled to premiere their 45-minute featurette locally,” said Britney Kalmbach, spokesperson for the group. The school is currently seeking a venue, therefore the premiere time and location are to be announced. For more information, contact: brittney@haramotionpictures.com. For the trailer and more information about the school, go to www.haramotionpictures.com

“We are currently in negotiations for a venue, but we expect to premiere March 26/27 or early April,” said Britney.
Update: China Garden now China House

By Cameron Douglas

Pacific Grove’s iconic China Garden restaurant—now called China House—has completed a hectic moving and expansion process, and is serving at their new location in the American Tin Cannery.

New paint in the front and back, along with the installation of a different stove in the kitchen, brought the operation on line. After vacating the old location on Dec. 31, the doors opened in the ATC on Feb. 12.

The restaurant’s 27-year run at 100 Central Avenue ended when the property owner denied a lease renewal. The Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce took over the building and is near completion of a large, new Visitor Center there.

When word came down of the lease’s end last year, the future was uncertain. To make sure the business would continue owner Katy Wang took over the old Great Wall location in Monterey at 600 Munras Avenue. When the ATC location became available, Wang’s daughter, Yu An, agreed to stay on and run things in Monterey. “We have a lot of parties there,” says Wang.

The new location at the Tin Cannery looks very different from the old place on Central, but rich decorations abound. The trademark bright red seats are there. What had once been a bar has been converted to informal seating and tea service. The large, open room features a bank of picture windows overlooking the remnants of Monkey Face Rock, on the site of the old Chinese fishing village.

Seating is rated at 67 inside and another 8-10 on the patio. There is parking above the mall, with free validation to China House customers.

So far business is going well, with a mix of old and new customers. Wang credits Chamber representative Heather Hubanks for getting a sign up at the restaurant’s old location directing customers to the ATC. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23. Call the Chamber at (831) 373-3304 for more details.

Above, left: An artist gifted the restaurant with this traditional image of mother and daughter, representing owner Katy Wang and her daughter, Yu An.

China Garden owner Katy Wang (left) serves tea to former PG council member John Stidham, who helped in the transition process.
Above: The scene that made Fanny Brice a star in Funny Girl

For tickets visit us online at www.mpctheatre.com, call the MPC Box Office at 831-646-4213 or www.mpctheatre.com

Tickets for FUNNY GIRL, the CONCERT are priced from $18 - $25 with Young Adult (16-25) and military and group discounts available.

Performances are:
Fri., March 4 (Opening), 8:00 p.m., Sat., March 5, 8:00 p.m.,
Sun., March 6, 2:00 p.m., Thurs. March 10, 7:00 p.m.,
Fri., March 11, 8:00 p.m., Sat., March 12, 8:00 p.m., Sun., March 13, 2:00 p.m.,
Funny Girl, the Concert is recommended for theatergoers 6 years and over.

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For tickets visit us online at www.mpctheatre.com, call the MPC Box Office at 831-646-4213, or visit the Box Office in person on the MPC Campus, Wednesday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The creative team includes Walt deFaria (Director); Gloria Elber & Reed Scott (Choreographers) Barney Hulse (Musical Director), D. Thomas Beck (Technical Director) and Constance Gambier (Costumes).

Peter Tuff (Nick)

Peter first appeared with MPC Theatre Company last year as Billy in Cole Porter’s Anything Goes. He made his stage debut at age 9 as Whitney in Life With Father at Carmel’s Circle Theatre. Peter lived in Austria for ten years as he sang at the Vienna State Opera and in Salzburg Festival productions. He has sung over 125 leading and supporting opera roles. Recent concert appearances include performances of Furtwängler’s Tuba Posa, Vaughan Williams’ A Sea Symphony, and Mozart’s Zaide. Earlier this year, Peter was appointed executive director of the Carmel Music Society. Recent empty nesters, Peter and his wife, Carmel portrait artist LeAnna Tuff, just adopted “Mr. Figaro,” a mini-poodle mix. They make their home in Carmel.

The Director: Walt deFaria

Walt directed A Taffeta Christmas and Anything Goes last season at MPC, and A Year with Frog and Toad in 2009. deFaria has directed numerous productions at Carmel’s outdoor Forest Theater for PacRep including Beauty and the Beast, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, the Wizard of Oz and Peter Pan. Currently he is Executive Producer on an animated film in Japan and a movie for television for the BBC, both based on the classic children’s books, The Borrowers. He has a film project based on Russell Hoban’s The Mouse and His Child in development with Kennedy/ Marshall Productions in Los Angeles.

The creative team includes Walt deFaria (Director); Gloria Elber & Reed Scott (Choreographers) Barney Hulse (Musical Director), D. Thomas Beck (Technical Director) and Constance Gambier (Costumes).

Gracie Moore Poletti as Fanny Brice in Funny Girl.
The Wastewater Reclamation Project operated by Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) and Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBSCSD) are the fact that the project has completed its first full water year using no potable water to irrigate the golf courses and recreational areas of the Del Monte Forest.

The water year was actually (October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010) but with renewed focus on water recently, the company has released information concerning the recycling effort.

The golf courses include the world-famous resort courses of Pebble Beach Company (Pebble Beach Golf Links, Spyglass Hill Golf Course, and the Links at Spanish Bay), the Northern California Golf Association’s Poppy Hills Golf Course, and the private courses at Cypress Point Club and Monterey Peninsula Country Club.

The recreational areas include the Stevenson School athletic fields and Pebble Beach Company’s Collins Field.

“All in all, the Project has been a true win-win for everyone concerned,” said Pebble Beach’s spokesperson.

Below and right: Forest Lake Reservoir. The photo at right is an aerial view.

Right, top: the new treatment facilities at CAWD. Photos courtesy of Pebble Beach Community Services District.

The local environment benefits both sport and recreational area owners,” says the spokesperson.

History of the Project

The operation of the project reflects a unique and successful public-private partnership among CAWD, PBSCSD, MPWMD, Pebble Beach Company, and the other golf course and recreational area owners,” says the Pebble Beach report.

CAWD owns and operates the MF/RO treatment system located at its plant on the south bank of Carmel River near Highway One. PBSCSD owns and operates the recycled water distribution and storage system, including Forest Lake Reservoir. MPWMD facilitated the initial public financing for construction of the first phase of the Project, and performs billing and collection services for all recycled water sales. Pebble Beach Company guaranteed the initial public financing, provided all funding for construction of the second phase, and reimburses to the three public entities for any operating or financing expense shortfalls of the Reclamation Project, according to the report.

The total cost of the Reclamation Project, including both the first and second phases, was $67 million. No public or taxpayer dollars were used for this funding, as Pebble Beach Company has been the sole financial sponsor of the Project from its inception.

Finally, project operating costs are paid primarily from the sale of recycled water to the golf courses and recreational areas, thus making Cypress Point Club, Monterey Peninsula Country Club, Poppy Hills Golf Course, and Stevenson School integral partners in seeing the success of this venture.
In what he describes as a “dramatic sky” over the ocean off Asilomar, Skylar Lewis departs from his usual color format to present a monochrome image. The Pacific Grove High School student is working in black and white in his photography class this year.
There is no greater director than John Ford, and the Lighthouse Cinema could easily fill an entire season of its classic film series with just his movies. Perhaps in the future we can have double bills of Stagecoach and The Searchers, or The Grapes of Wrath and How Green Was My Valley, but for now we can be happy with The Quiet Man, starring John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara, for next week’s St Patrick’s Day special. Ford traded the reds and browns of Monument Valley and the American West for the greens of Ireland to tell the story of an ex-boxer trying to keep a vow of non-violence amid a feisty, fiery, fight-loving village, and marry the feisty, fiery Maureen O’Hara.

The Irish connection is not coincidental or superficial. John Ford was born John Feeney, the youngest son of Irish immigrants who settled in Maine in the 1880s. His film career began in 1914, when he followed his big brother to California to work in silent films. The brother, Francis, was a bit of a wild man (married, divorced, vaudeville), and went by the name Ford so as not to bring any further disrepute to the family name. When John began in the film business he took his brother’s stage name to avoid confusion. Francis was an actor, writer and director of hundreds of silent films and continued to act into the 1950s, including in The Quiet Man.

Though filmed on location in Ireland and interested in the daily lives and traditions of the Irish community it portrays, the film has been criticized for its lack of realism, mainly because it ignores the political, class and religious division in Irish society. So it is seen as Ford’s sentimental and romantic view of Ireland, as opposed to his truthful and meaningful portrayal of the American west. ‘This may be true, but it is worth looking closely, if a bit academically, at what this can tell us about film realism.

From the earliest days of cinema, there has been a debate over film’s ability to present reality and it’s inherent inability to tell the whole truth. On the one hand, the camera doesn’t lie; actions and situations are “caught” on film, and become a faithful representation of an event, in its proper sequence and leaving nothing out, useful in many applications, from the courtroom to the laboratory to the classroom. On the other hand, film is a deceptive barrier between reality and the viewer; the very fact that the images so closely resemble actual people places and things masks the fact that they are, of course, illusions.

On the outer edges of the spectrum – the technical scientific film or the CCTV image on the one side and the abstract, avant-garde film poem on the other – things are relatively simple. We trust the CCTV and we have no expectation of, or need to trust the reality of the images in an abstract film poem. However, in the vast middle, where Hollywood films live (alongside documentaries, advertisements, reality TV, news stories, and youtube clips) it can be very tricky to unpick the knotted tendrils of reality and illusion. Is color more realistic than black and white? Are actual locations more realistic than studio sets? Are non-actors more truthful than actors? Is unedited footage more representative than a scene constructed from many different angles and viewpoints, with added sound effects and music?

My John Ford’s films, and The Quiet Man in particular, are great examples of how hard it is to pin down a definition of realism. He shot many of his films, including this one, on location. His westerns, and their settings in, especially the Monument Valley of Utah and Arizona, helped to create the image we have of the west in the last half of the 19th century, not just of the landscape but of the people and their individual places in America. The curator of a recent retrospective of his films at the Harvard Film Archive says that “Ford’s cinema offers one of the most important and sustained mediations on the West in American popular culture. In such works as My Darling Clementine, Wagon Master, Fort Apache and The Searchers, the distinct landscapes and culture of the late 19th century West … are given such vivid shape that they remain among the most influential and lasting representations of this absolutely formative period in our nation’s history.” Similarly, How Green Was My Valley and The Grapes of Wrath are heralded for their social realism, illuminating the suffering and dignity of extreme poverty and social injustice. And yet all these films offer insight into people and places through artifice and manipulation, through acting and editing.

John Wayne was not a real civil war veteran, or a cowboy; his name wasn’t even John Wayne. How Green Was My Valley was filmed in California and much of The Grapes of Wrath was filmed on a sound stage in Hollywood.

The Quiet Man is seen as a dream of Ireland, of Ford’s personal tribute to his parents’ homeland. I would contend that the level of artifice and truth on this film was probably equal to that of his westerns and historical dramas, but the tone and feel of the film is so much lighter that we don’t see it as “real.” It doesn’t have the gravitas of those other films, but perhaps it is their seriousness that provides the illusion of reality, not the other way around. It’s like seeing Woody Allen films as his personal tribute to New York, and less “real” than gritty crime dramas like The French Connection or Serpico. Ford himself was uninterested in any aesthetic or academic debate. “My name is John Ford”, he famously said, “and I make westerns.” So come along to the Lighthouse Cinema Thursday or Friday, noon and 7:30, to see one of his best-loved films.

Mary Albert

Going to the Movies
Shane comes back. . .to the Lighthouse

The American West in the second half of the 19th century inspired great works of sculpture, painting, and literature, but it inspired masterpieces of art in the form of the movie western. From the earliest silent films, bad guys robbed trains, cowboys drove cattle, wagons headed west on dusty trails and Indians were out there waiting. Danger, adventure, conflict, camaraderie, heroism and tragedy, westerns had it all, plus the stunning backdrop of the actual Western landscape.

This week’s film at the Lighthouse Cinema, Shane, with Alan Ladd and Jack Palance and directed by George Stevens, is one of the best Westerns of the classical period. Made in 1953 and shot mostly on location in Wyoming, beneath the ominous Grand Teton mountains, it should hang prominently in the movie western wing of any fantasy museum of American art, between Red River and The Searchers.

Shane has it all: first and foremost, a lone stranger who rides down off the mountain and proves to be a gunslinger. Next, a bad guy as mean as they come, dressed head to foot in black, who’ll shoot an innocent man in cold blood in the middle of town. The conflict, a clash between evil cattle barons and terrifed but steadfast homesteaders over water rights and fences, leads to gunfights in a saloon. At the center is a solid, decent family, who take in the man with hardly any name, and nothing is ever the same. The father, Joe, needs Shane first as a farm hand and then as a savior. Wholesome mother and wife Marion can barely contain her attraction to him, and the feeling is mutual. Young Joey worships Shane and especially his gun, but is he a good role model? Shane himself is battling his past and his violent nature, just as the West as a whole is moving from lawlessness to civility.

The lone gunslinger, violent but decent, troubled but heroic despite his dark past and uncertain future, is a mythological character, larger than life to the townspeople and to us, and he evolved in film history through and beyond the reaches of the American West.

Though the western is a uniquely American subject, the themes that were explored in westerns were popular all around the world, inviting a cross-polli- nation of influence between, especially, Japan and Italy as well as Hollywood.

Akira Kurosawa was influenced by the filmmaker John Ford and the novelist by Dashiell Hammett, and one resulting film, Yojimbo, was turned into Sergio Leone’s spaghetti western. A Fistful of Dollars, another lone gunslinger story in the wake of Shane. Leone’s star, Clint Eastwood made a near remake of Shane in Pale Rider, and carried the embattled lone gunslinger with a past theme to its furthest point in Unforgiven.

These great westerns resonate across time and space because they offer universal truths about humanity and change, about inventing yourself and finding your place in a community. Our town, like every American town through history, sits on the brink of change, as it always will, with factions debating the proper course ahead. Right now, we have a museum here, the Lighthouse Cinema, where we can go ahead. Right now, we have a museum here, the Lighthouse Cinema, where we can go to see this masterpiece of American art. See you there, Thursday and Friday, high noon and 7:30.

Don't go, Shane! Shane says goodbye as he becomes the last gun to leave town.

Mary Albert

Going to the Movies

The Classic Film Series at the Lighthouse Cinema
Winter 2011

March 3-4  Strangers on a Train 1951 directed by Alfred Hitchcock, with Farley Granger
March 10-11  Shane 1953 directed by George Stevens, with Alan Ladd
March 17-18  The Quiet Man 1952 directed by John Ford, with John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara (St. Patrick’s Day Special)
March 24-25  The Philadelphia Story 1940 directed by George Cukor, with Cary Grant, James Stewart and Katherine Hepburn
March 31- April 1  East of Eden 1955 directed by Elia Kazan. With James Dean
April 7-8  An American in Paris 1951 directed by Vincente Minelli, with Gene Kelly
April 14-15  Father of the Bride 1950 directed by Vincente Minelli, with Spencer Tracy and Elizabeth Taylor
April 21-22  The African Queen 1951 directed by John Huston. With Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn
April 28-29  The Thin Man 1934 directed by WS Van Dyke, with William Powell and Myrna Loy

Films are currently scheduled to show Thursdays and Fridays, at noon and 7:30. Check with the theater at 643-1333 or http://www.srentertainment.com/lighthouse4.asp to confirm show times.

Send your event information to kioskcedarstreettimes@gmail.com
PG Art Center to sponsor Plein Air workshop with Robert Lewis

The Pacific Grove Art Center is sponsoring a four-day outdoor painting workshop called “Plein Air Boot Camp.” “Plein air” is a French term meaning “outside, outdoors,” or in the open air. The workshop will be led by local artist Robert Lewis, former owner of the Pacific Grove gallery called Le Beau Soleil Gallery, now closed, that hosted many local artists for many years on Forest near Lighthouse.

The painting workshop will take place in locations around on and around the Monterey Peninsula, Pacific Grove, and the Big Sur Coast. This intensive workshop, which immediately precedes the Carmel Art Festival, will, as Lewis says “…get you out of your rut and out in the world coping with any painting situation that comes along. The workshop will be presented May 7, 8, 9 and 10, 2011. There is a three-day option available as well.

To attend this 4-day boot camp an artist should already have some experience painting outdoors, on location, in oils. Lewis is not teaching acrylic or watercolor. Oils only, even if you’ve never done oils. You should prepared to work hard.” says Lewis, “I am there to bring out the best in you, any way I can!” Artists should be fit enough to work and smart enough “not to whine”. Artists will come away from this experience with a lot of paintings and a “can do” attitude.

Lewis notes that “If you are a competitor in the Carmel Art Festival (May 12-15, 2011), this will be a great “warm up” for the competition. Find the best locations and practice and details about this workshop, including online sign-up, can be found at www.robertlewisart.com/workshops/plein-air-boot-camp/

First Peninsula Jewish film festival coming to Congregation Beth Israel

The inaugural Monterey Peninsula Jewish Film Festival starts Thursday, April 7, and runs through Sunday, April 10, at Congregation Beth Israel, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, in Carmel.

Israeli films include The Matchmaker, a coming-of-age drama set in Haifa, and A Matter of Size, a comedy about a grossly obese restaurant worker who finds respect in the world of Sumo wrestling. Anita, from Argentina, shows the good side of humanity through the perspective of a young woman with Down Syndrome. Wedding Song, from France, follows the relationship of two teenage girls in Tunisia—one Jewish, the other Muslim—during the upheaval of World War II. The American documentary Where I Stand examines the life of Las Vegas Sun publisher Hank Greenspun as he confronted McCarthyism, exposed government corruption and organized crime, and fought against racial segregation.

Advance single tickets are $10–12, or $35–45 for a five-ticket package. Film schedule: April 7, 6:30 pm, Opening Night Reception/The Matchmaker; April 8, 6 pm, Optional Sabbath Dinner and Service/Where I Stand. The Hank Greenspun Story; April 9, 7:30 pm, Brief Havdalah Service/Anita/Desert Reception; April 10, 4 pm, A Matter of Size? 7 pm, Wedding Song (refreshments available at each Sunday showing).

To make online reservations, visit Congregation Beth Israel’s website at www.carmelbethisrael.org. For additional information, call 624-2015.
Existence is doing all the work for you

In our culture we are very often raised in a traumatic way, filled with negative beliefs about ourselves and life. When you decide to heal your negative conditioning from your infancy and childhood and discover who you really are, you will pass through at least three distinct phases.

Phase One: The Infant Phase
The first phase is the infant phase, where at your subconscious level you still believe that you are a helpless infant and cannot meet your own physical survival needs. Most people live their whole lives in this phase, believing that their well-being depends on other people. They are full of strategies and attitudes as well as never-ending fears, all designed to help them manipulate others to accept them and to take care of them.

This won’t be obvious on the surface, but as you more deeply view the concerns, strategies, fears and desires of the mind, you will find that all things lead back to the helpless infant who is concerned about its survival. Over the years, your survival strategies became more and more sophisticated, so that by today they are hardly recognizable to you as the worries of the infant you used to be. However, as you start to see this more clearly, your concern about survival begins to diminish. On a deeper level you finally understand that you can relax, because you are now a capable adult, able to take care of yourself. This realization brings you to the second phase.

Phase Two: Caring For Yourself
At this stage you see that this huge computer called the subconscious has only one purpose, one thought, one passion and that is your survival which it believes to be danger because the old memories of the infant you used to be. However, as you recognize that you are taking care of yourself and you are doing it better than your mother and your father did when you were an infant, because you are always available to yourself. You know your wants and your needs better than anyone else can know them.

Phase Three: Existence Is Doing the Work for You
In the first phase you say to yourself, “I can’t do it. I am helpless and I can’t meet my survival needs.”

In the second phase you recognize that you can do it. This is the phase of the adult, where you really see that, “Hey, I am taking care of myself. Though meeting my basic survival needs was a big deal for the infant that I used to be, it is now a minor part of my life.”

After being in this phase for a while, no longer dominated by the fear of your infancy and allowing your eyes to open more to what really and truly is, you begin to see something else. Even though you are always taking care of yourself as an adult, in reality, it is Existence that is doing all the work. It finally becomes clear that it is not someone else taking care of you, nor is it even you, the adult, taking care of you. Rather, all the important things concerning your survival are being taken care of by Existence itself.

You can call Existence something else if you like. But whatever name you give it is something outside of yourself, something much bigger than you which has created the body you live in. That something bigger has given your body energy, intelligence, sensitivity, and mobility. That something has created each part of your body: legs, feet, arms, hands, eyes, ears, nose, everything. Something greater than you has designed the heart that beats continuously until your death. Something larger than you keeps your heart beating day and night and day and night. Whether your conscious mind’s wake up call or whether your conscious mind is spaced out present or your heart keeps beating. Something greater than you is causing your heart to beat. And what is more important than having your heart beat?

Something greater than you is taking care of you.

Something greater than you created your lungs. You might say that you are doing the breathing, but most of the time you are totally unaware of your breath and it yet it continues to happen. Certainly you are unaware of your breath while you are sleeping, and yet you continue to breathe. Something greater than you created this and maintains this, allowing you to have oxygen at all times.

Something greater than you has created your digestive system, so that while you are asleep your dinner can be digested. You certainly don’t have any clue about this. Something greater than you has designed this system.

Something greater than you has designed your healing system. The body is constantly healing itself; it is a miracle. Something greater than you created and maintains this marvelous healing system. You didn’t do it.

Something greater than you is taking care of you. And it is not taking care of you in a vacuum, but in relationship to everything else. What good are your lungs if there is no air to breathe? What good is your digestive system if the planet doesn’t produce the right food?

As you start to see this, life becomes much, much lighter. It enables you free up practically all of your energy. You stop worrying. You stop manipulating. You begin to relax at a very deep level, and your old programs about survival begin to fall away. Once you see how you, yourself, are an expression of Existence, all of the fears and worries are simply senseless.

There Is No Separation
Because many people feel separate from Existence and somehow inferior to it, they find this difficult to accept. As long as you believe that you are separate, then you feel inferior. But when we see that Existence is moving through you, then you realize that you are Existence.

We are like leaves on a tree. A leaf on a tree could say, “I am separate from the tree. I lead my own life. I am alive because

Rabia Erduman
Self discovery

See Existence Page 16
of my own struggle, because of what I do to take care of myself.” But when that leaf sees things clearly, it realizes that everything it is comes from the tree.

The leaf’s blueprint comes from the tree. Its energy comes from the tree. Its nourishment comes from the tree. This leaf is entirely an expression of the tree. If we were to touch that leaf, we could say that we are touching a leaf. But isn’t it more correct to say that we are touching the tree, because the leaf is the tree? In the same way, if we touch ourselves we can say, “I am touching Existence.” The second statement is actually truer than the first.

You Are Existence, and Existence Is Freedom, Joy and Gratitude

Everyone is longing for something. Everyone is longing for harmony. Everyone is longing for unity. Everyone is longing for freedom. Because of that, Existence is longing to come home.

Existence is Freedom, Joy and Gratitude

Through March 13 at the Monterey Conference Center & Portola Hotel & Spa

Friday March 11
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday March 12
7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday March 13
7:30 - closing

The California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD) is hosting the 2011 CAHPERD California Congress on Creating the Healthiest Children in America Monterey Conference Center & Portola Hotel & Spa

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Regina M. Benjamin, MD MBA is the 18th Surgeon General of the United States. As America’s Doctor, she oversees the operational command of 6,500 uniformed health officers in locations around the world to promote, protect, and advance the health of the American people.

Meet with Antoinette (Toni) Yancey, MD, M.P.H., UCLA School of Public Health; Elaine LaLanne, Jack LaLanne’s wife of 51 years; Dan Issaoun, Celebrity Fitness Expert and “Father of Personal Fitness” Industry; Thom McKenzie, Ph.D., Dept. of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences, San Diego State University; Tom Torlakson, state Superintendent of Public Instruction; Robert Huizenga, MD, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, UCLA and more

Thank you to our volunteer and Monarch Alert crew this week!
Action needed on program cancellation at Monterey Peninsula College

To All of the Dance and Arts Advocates Who Have Been Following the Budget Cut Struggles at Monterey Peninsula College:

Your support, in the form of 350+ emails, and 400 in attendance at the Board Meeting this March 8, 2011 has been impressive to behold. I thank every one of you for contributing your voice to keep Dance and much else of value alive in our educational system.

Unfortunately, despite 2 and a half hours of poignant, impassioned and varied public comments of dismay, the proposal to effectively eliminate several diverse and thriving programs from the curriculum, including our 35-year old Dance Department, was passed unanimously by the 4 members of the Board of Trustees.

Despite the disappointment of this vote, the battle may not be lost.

The decision essentially covers the Board to lay off these faculty members in compliance of CA Education Code (pink slips required by March 15). If, however, in the coming two months (May 15th is the next deadline) a more intelligent and less destructive alternative can be reached, those pink slips may be rescinded.

I propose that we catch our breath, then resume this effort to include:

1) Brainstorming and proposing new, concrete alternatives to the MPC Board and President

2) Demanding that some Alternative Scenarios be seriously considered and shared with the public

3) Contacting our State-level Legislators to lobby for reduced tax cuts to Community Colleges and a Public Vote on the matter

Deanna Ross
MPC Dance Faculty

Closing of arts programs at MPC shows lack of concern for future of society

Dear MPC Board of Trustees:

I don’t know who made the decision to close these two important arts programs, but it must have been an accountant looking at the bottom line and not concerned with the future of our society. Education, of all industries, should be concerned with the future and protection of our culture. Creativity and out-of-box thinking give growth to our culture and strength to our society. The arts are where all new ideas come from, not from business or accounting classes.

These kinds of decisions are going to kill our culture by deadening our creative minds. If you cut arts and creative departments, you better start increasing the Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice Departments, because more of their graduates will be needed to work with the many new criminal minds produced by a dearth of creative thinking.

Also, you’d better increase the language classes in Chinese, Japanese, French and German, because those countries are where the culture, new ideas and economics will be.

The arts expand minds, whereas mathematics and business confine thoughts to rules and old formulas. If you cut one Photography class, you should cut one Business class. Keep some semblance of parity between the artists and the accountants, or we will die as a society.

P.S. I’m not even going to address the exercise and health (mental and physical) aspects of dance or the fact that the Monterey Peninsula is one of the most historically important places in the world of photography.

John McCleary
Monterey

Smart Meters are, too, dangerous . . . and potentially lethal

Editor:

I must take issue with the Robert Frischmuth letter regarding Smart Meter deployment - on practically everything. Coming from the electrical industry, Mr. Frischmuth’s opinions may be credible, but then again…... He wants to tell us what he knows, but the future and protection of our culture. Creativity and out-of-box thinking give growth to our culture and strength to our society.

As for FCC standards, well, aside from having some of the lowest standards in the world, there essentially are no standards in the US for non-metallic radiation exposure. For recent study on Smartmeters exceeding FCC standards, go to http://sagerports.com/smart-meter-rf/.

Frischmuth also sees “little incentive” for hacking. Well, not only can a hacker determine if/when someone is home or not, a wireless grid is susceptible to all kinds of cyber attacks. You can just say NO.

I suggest www.emfsafetynetwork.org, or http://stopsmartmeters.org for credible info.

Larry Parrish
Carmel

Cedar Street Times welcomes your letters on subjects of interest to the citizens of Pacific Grove as well as our readers elsewhere. We prefer that letters be on local topics. At present we have not set limits on length though we do reserve the right to edit letters for space constraints, so please be concise.

We will contact you to verify authenticity so your email address and/or telephone number must be included as well as your name and city of residence.

We will not publish unsigned letters or letters which defame or slander or libel.

Cedar Street Times is an adjudicated newspaper published weekly at 311A Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

Press deadline is Wednesday, noon. The paper is printed on Friday and is available at various locations throughout the city as well as by e-mail subscription.

Marge Ann Jameson, Editor/Publisher
Phone 831-324-4742 • Fax 831-324-4745
Email: editor@cedarstreettimes.com

Letters to the Editor

City Skills: How Your City Works

New Dates

A four-week class on how your city will be presented by Leadership Monterey Peninsula and Leadership Salinas Valley in May. The class will be held May 5, 12, 19 and 26 at the Shoreline Conference Center in Marina, corner of Injim Parkway and 3rd Avenue.

Our sponsor is Pacific Gas and Electric. The fee for all four classes is $15 and dinner will be served at 5:30 pm with the classes presented from 6-8 pm.

Topics include: what makes a city run, how to access your local government, city services and government structure, presenting your views to government, neighborhood conflict resolution, and more. Presenters include a variety of speakers from elected office, city staff and the community.

Space is limited so RSVP by April 29th. For more information and to reserve a space, contact Leadership Monterey Peninsula at 831-649-8232, info@leaderhipmonterey.org or Leadership Salinas Valley at 831-655-1282, tcarvey@salinaschamber.com.

Vincent Tuminello
Pacific Grove

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Vincent Tuminello
Pacific Grove
The Green Page

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park Dist. Photo class, tidepool walks, and hikes

A class in macrophotography, a tidepool program along the Pacific Grove Coast and hikes at the Mill Creek Redwood Preserve are on the upcoming schedule of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (mprpdp.org). Details are below.

For information on all winter activities offered by The Park District, please see the MPRPD’s fall/winter Let’s Go Outdoors! guide or go on-line at mprpd.org.

Macro-Madness!
Elevate your photography to the next level while spending the day among the beautiful wildflowers of Garland Park. Capture vivid images from a “bee’s eye view” as you learn the basic concepts and techniques of macrophotography. Practice and improve your artistic eye with individualized coaching.

Ages 18 and up, Saturday, March 12, 8:30 AM-5:30 PM, Garland Ranch Regional Park Museum, 700 W. Carmel Valley Road, $145 (district resident), $160 (non-district resident). Instructor: David Gubernick.

The Ebb and Flow of Tidepooling
Rocky shores are a world in motion! Your guided tidepool discovery begins with a brief introduction to this environment, followed by a gentle search for sea life using your newfound awareness. Uncover the secrets low tide reveals in this captivating world. An enriched appreciation of our local seashore will accompany you when you return with the next low tide.

Ages 7 and up, an adult must accompany children 12 and younger, Saturday, March 12, 10 AM-12 noon, Pacific Grove location (see mprpd.org for details), $15 (district resident), $17 (non-district resident), or $45/$50 for group of four. Instructor: Augustina Ursino.

Wild Adventure: Mill Creek
Enjoy a hike through the coastal redwoods and tanoaks of Mill Creek, among the most accessible examples of this unique environment in the area. Mid-March is “biological spring” in coastal California, when plants and animals should be in their most interesting phase. Take special care to look out for our smallest songbird, the tiny and elusive Pacific Wren.

Ages 13 and up, Saturday, March 12, 10 AM-3 PM, Mill Creek Redwood Preserve, Big Sur (entrance is on south side of Palo Colorado Canyon Road, approximately 6.8 miles east of Highway 1), $20 (district resident), $22 (non-district resident). Instructor: Bruce Elliott.

Follow the Seasons Hike Series
Observe spectacular seasonal transitions in vivid relief at the private Santa Lucia Preserve. Follow the crisp reds and yellows to the verdant greens; learn about owl behavior, ladybug hibernation and Native American peoples on these focused hikes revealing the seasonal secrets of Carmel Valley and its residents.

Ages 16 and up, Thursday, March 17, 12:30 PM-2:30 PM, Santa Lucia Conservancy Visitor Center, 26700 Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel Valley, $10 (district resident), $11 (non-district resident). Instructors: Santa Lucia Conservancy naturalists.

Pre-registration is strongly suggested for all classes and programs offered by The Park District. Register online at www.mprpd.org or in-person between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Tuesday-Friday at the MPRPD office, 60 Garden Court, Suite 325, Monterey (check, money order, Visa or MasterCard accepted).

If space is available, there is an additional charge of $5 to register the day of the class. On-site registration begins 20 minutes prior to the start of the class. All check-in and registration closes 5 minutes before the class begins. For more information, please contact Joseph Narvace, at 372-3196, ext. 3.

Regional Parks to hold action plan workshop

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) and its chief executive recognize a responsibility to the community for the culture, performance and effectiveness of the organization.

The new general manager, James Sulentic, and key staff members will prepare an action plan for presentation and discussion at a special public workshop. This plan will recommend specific actions and timelines designed to accomplish the following priorities:

Increasing organizational transparency;
Effectively engaging the public;
Addressing other specific issues raised related to achieving optimal performance in our park district to meet the needs of the residents and visitors we serve.

The MPRPD Board and staff will regularly report progress on these goals as part of the agenda at future Board meetings. The date and time of the upcoming public workshop will be announced on the MPRPD website.

In advance of this special workshop, the MPRPD welcomes suggestions from the public.

$100 REWARD
FOR RECOVERY OR SIGHTING OF A TAGGED MONARCH BUTTERFLY

The MONARCH ALERT PROGRAM and Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, are offering a $100 reward to the first person who recovers or photographs a tagged monarch butterfly in Pacific Grove.

To claim the reward, call the telephone number on the tag and leave the following information: date and location of recovery or sighting, 5-digit number on the tag, your name and contact telephone number or e-mail address.

More information about MONARCH ALERT can be found at: http://monarchalert.calpoly.edu
Make a Tidal Wave

“I often struggle to find words that will communicate the vastness of the Pacific Ocean to people who have never been to sea. Day after day, Algoa was the only vehicle on a highway without landmarks, stretching from horizon to horizon. Yet as I gazed from the deck at the surface of what ought to have been a pristine ocean, I was confronted, as far as the eye could see, with the sight of plastic.” In this passage from the article “Trashed” by Charles Moore, discoverer of the great Pacific garbage patch, writes of the damage humans have done to the ocean. Due to the carelessness of humans, many problems face the ocean, a few of them being overfishing and the fourteen billion pounds of trash that end up in the waters each year. These growing epidemics will hurt the animals that consume trash with food, all ecosystems around the world, and the economy alike.

When plastic was first invented, people favored this non-biodegradable material over other material because it was more durable; however its durability is now the very thing that is causing some of the greatest harm to the oceans. Plastic does not biodegrade, so its remnants will be in the ocean for decades, if not centuries.

Meanwhile, fish and seabirds will confuse trash for food. For instance, if a sea creature has no nutritional value, the animals will feel full when in actuality they are starving. This issue can be especially harmful to endangered species, in some cases even leading to their extinction. If people continue this reckless behavior, someday the oceans will become an accumulator of floating plastic debris. How can the dictum “In ecosystems, everything is used be made to work with plastic?” Charles Moore talks about how currently, plastic is the feature that dominates the ocean and how it is continually accumulating in the ocean’s gyres. It also mentions that ecosystems find use for everything that is in them, so countess species will try to use the plastic for nutritional purposes, proving that humans are to blame for the damage being done to the ocean. Many factors are hurting marine life, but all problems are due to simply not caring or not knowing.

Saving the ocean is a valuable investment because it will help other world issues such as the economy and global warming. If people feel they want to make an impact on the world, they should start with one small act and maybe one day their actions will make a tidal wave of a difference.

Taylor Rhoades
1/23/10
First Prize Winner
Ocean Guardians Essay Contest

Becoming an Ocean Guardian

“If you hear the word “ocean”, chances are that you will picture a shining, beautiful blue sea with white caps rimming the surface. However, in reality, that image includes trash and other pollution caused by humans floating around and harming all marine life. Most people are not aware of the fact that in the North Pacific Ocean there is a zone twice the size of Texas filled with nothing but garbage. Appropriately called the “Great Pacific Garbage Patch”, the plastics and other debris found there end up in the stomachs of marine birds and animals, such as Albatrosses and Sea Turtles. However, if one makes minor changes to their everyday life, they can help save our once beautiful ocean. In order to help protect our oceans, one must reduce, reuse and recycle materials harmful to the ocean, protect against overfishing, and become aware of the issues that affect our oceans.

One of the first steps to take is to reduce, reuse, and recycle. This common phrase should be applied especially when dealing with plastics. Approximately 7 billion tons of plastic litter enter the ocean every year. Of this, around sixty percent is made of plastic, which can take about ten to twenty years to decompose entirely. It is estimated that about 100 thousand other marine animals die from ingesting our litter every year. By reducing the amount of plastic we use, we can help to lower the rate of marine animal deaths. A simple way to reduce your plastic use is to use reusable grocery bags, and to recycle the plastic materials that you have.

A major issue affecting our ocean is overfishing. Overfishing is where too many fish are caught for the food chain to support leading to deprivation of balance in the system. Although overfishing is a major problem that needs the attention and help from national leaders, every person can still make a difference. You should know if eating a certain fish will cause a negative impact on our oceans. Create a pocket seafood guide, so that you may resort to it to confirm a decision on your seafood choices.

One of the most important ways to help save our precious oceans is to be informed of the issues affecting it. News of human impact on our oceans shows up on television, in magazines and newspapers, and online. Learn about how you can cause a positive impact on our oceans rather than a negative one. Most importantly, tell your friends and family. By spreading the word more people will begin to act to restore a healthy ocean.

Some believe they cannot change the world by themselves. They believe their individual efforts to change the world will have no effect. However, if enough people began to change, they would make a massive difference. Furthermore, for centuries individuals have led others in making a difference in society, and this will continue to be true for generations to come. Others might argue that it is too expensive to care about. However, if we use for everything that is in them, so countess species will try to use the plastic for nutritional purposes, proving that humans are to blame for the damage being done to the ocean. Many factors are hurting marine life, but all problems are due to simply not caring or not knowing.

Saving the ocean is a valuable investment because it will help other world issues such as the economy and global warming. If people feel they want to make an impact on the world, they should start with one small act and maybe one day their actions will make a tidal wave of a difference.

Maya Sritharan
Period 2
Second Prize Winner
Ocean Guardians Essay Contest

Left: Map of the Pacific Ocean, showing the location of the Gyre. Above: Trash in the Gyre as seen from a fish’s viewpoint. Right: A seashore covered with plastic debris. Courtesy Discover.
Carnivores of the 16 mammal families called felids. These are the most absolute family of cats. Members of this family are before leaping onto the back of its prey. They generally stalk through brush and feeding mostly on deer and other mammals.

Mountain lions, also called pumas or cougars, are ambush predators, feeding on sick, injured or weak animals in the pose of a feline. Their purpose is to dissemble “invisibly,” thinks the cub, believing as long as it remains still, it will be undetectable to the human that just took its picture.

The cub grows up to become a superb killing machine; whose purpose is to dispose of sick, injured or weak animals in the wild. Mountain lions, also called pumas or cougars, are ambush predators, feeding mostly on deer and other mammals. They generally stalk through brush and trees, across ledges, or other covered spots before leaping onto the back of its prey and delivering a crushing bite to the neck.

Cougars belong to the Felidae family of mammals. Felidae is the biological family of cats. Members of this family are called felids. These are the most absolute carnivores of the 16 mammal families in the order Carnivora. The first felids emerged about 25 million years ago, and the great, saber-toothed cats belonged to a subfamily of those early felids.

Felid species still in existence are divided into two subfamilies: Pantherinae (which includes tigers, lions, jaguars and leopards) and Felinae (which includes cougars, cheetahs, servals, lynxes and caracal, plus the ocelot and the domestic cat). The cougar is the largest of the “small cats,” although its bulk characteristics are similar to the larger cats of the Pantherinae family. It has round pupils, unusual for a feline. The cougar has the largest land range of any wild animal in the Americas. This spans 110 degrees of latitude, from the northern Yukon to the southern Andes.

The cougar is a true obligate carnivore, feeding only on meat. It will eat anything it can catch, from insects to a large animal weighing up to 400 pounds, which it successfully drags off for storage. It can leap 22 feet from a standstill and 40 feet with a running start.

Frequently, this is the last thing a deer will see. (From the new Museum exhibit: photo by Cameron Douglas.)

By Cameron Douglass

Up in the hills away from town, a mountain lion cub peeks out from its lair, a tiny cave amongst the rocks. “I’m invisible,” thinks the cub, believing as long as it remains still, it will be undetectable to the human that just took its picture.

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Of course, cougars are not the sole predators in the wild, and they compete with others. While bears will steal kills, the gray wolf and the cougar compete more directly for prey. Wolves can steal kills and occasionally kill the cat. Wolves affect cougar population and distribution by dominating territory and opportunities for prey, disrupting the cat’s behavior.

Several organizations are devoted to preserving wild animals and their natural habitats. The Felidae Conservation Fund is based in Sausalito. Its mission is “to advance the conservation of wild cats and their habitats planet-wide through a combination of groundbreaking research, compelling education and cutting-edge technology. The Fund’s executive director, Zara McDonald, gave an hour-long talk at Chautauqua Hall as part of the Museum’s opening of “Living with Mountain Lions” on Feb. 26. She presented a slideshow packed with compelling images of cougars being captured and studied.

McDonald also brought and displayed in the Museum a video she shot in Chile of a South American puma chiding several dogs over rough terrain. Where the dogs went charging through the brush the cougar leapt over it, accelerating to a breathtaking display of speed. Cougars are not comfortable around packs of opposing animals, even though as an individual they are usually physically superior. It is far easier for the cat to employ speed, endurance and agility, rather than stand and fight when outnumbered.

Cougars who are inclined to attack humans usually display aberrant behavior beforehand. This includes being active during daylight hours; unafraid of humans; and stalking humans. When cougars do attack, they usually employ a neck bite, working to position their teeth between the vertebrae and into the spinal cord. Neck, head and spinal injuries are common and sometimes fatal. Children are at greatest risk of attack and least likely to survive.

Attacks on humans are random, but become more frequent as human populations encroach on the cougar’s natural habitats. As with many predators, cougars may attack if cornered, if a fleeing human stimulates their instinct to chase, or if a human “plays dead.” Exaggerating the threat to the animal through intense eye contact, loud but not panicked shouting, waving the arms and generally appearing larger and more menacing are ways to dissuade a cougar. Fighting back with sticks, rocks or even bare hands can make an attacking cougar disengage.

For more information on these powerful creatures, stop in at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, located on Central Avenue between Forest and Grand. Open Tuesdays through Sundays 10 am to 5 pm. “Living with Mountain Lions” is scheduled to continue for several weeks.

Eastern cougar declared extinct

Associated Press reports federal wildlife biologists in Allentown, Pennsylvania have declared the eastern cougar to be extinct. Researchers believe the subspecies has probably been extinct since the 1930’s. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has concluded there are no longer any wild populations of mountain lions in the eastern U.S. This makes it possible to remove the eastern cougar from the endangered species list.

Numerous sightings of mountain lions have occurred from Maine to South Carolina. However, the wildlife service contends those animals had either escaped or been released from captivity, or traveled from the West or from South America.

Meanwhile, the agency’s decision does not affect the status of the Florida panther, another endangered wildcat.

Mountain lion populations diminish when they are hunted by man, the only species that hunts wild cats. In other news, one of India’s foremost tiger conservationists, Fateh Singh Rathore, has died at age 73 following a brief battle with cancer. Rathore, known as the “Tiger Man,” devoted his life to saving the country’s dwindling tiger population. In 1973, he set up the Ranthambore tiger reserve to avoid extinction of India’s big cats. Tiger population in that country has shrunk from 40,000 in 1947 to 1,400 today.

Rathore passed away on Feb. 28, near the reserve that he worked to create.