January 1-7, 2010

Ben Jealous, who grew up in Pacific Grove and was chosen to serve as president of the NAACP, paid a visit and helped celebrate the retirement of pastor Rev. Richard Nance from the pulpit at the First Baptist Church of Pacific Grove.

The City Council presented goals they had set for the city in a November, 2009 retreat. Goal #1: Achieve significant and sustained economic development that achieves the appropriate balance between community-friendly and tourist-friendly. Goal #2: Achieve long-term financial stability; increase revenue, adopt balanced budgets; resolve all CalPERS issues. Goal #3: Protect and enhance the city's natural, physical environment and coastline, housing stock and infrastructure. Goal #4: Protect and enhance health and safety. Goal #5: Enhance the city's governance and public trust in government by providing high-quality services consistent with our financial resources; maintaining effective two-way communication with our residents and operating in an open and ethical manner.

Parking was added at Rip Van Winkle Open Space (the ‘Dog Park’) after public outcry over enforcement of ‘no parking’ rules.

Boy Scouting celebrated 100 years and Pacific Grove Boy Scout Troop 90, which traces its origins to January, 1918, celebrated under the leadership of Scoutmaster Dave Randall, along with Cub Scout Pack 125 under Lance Wright and master Dave Randall, along with Cub Scout Pack 126 under Steve Earley.

The Museum presented a talk on living with coyotes. Cedar Street Times launched a health and wellness section.

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A flashing speed limit sign was installed on Stage Road and was promoted and under-promoted. “Links,” they said promotes a better image than “municipal course” which conjures up images of bald spots on the greens, poorly-maintained equipment, and less-than-pristine scenery.

A community e-waste recycling event was scheduled for the county fairgrounds. Our photo essay was JY boys baseball.

The Measure D Oversight Committee gave its annual report on how funds have been spent for the schools.

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Robert and Denise Frischmunth hosted the Sustainable PG annual meeting at the Museum.

and had won a scrimmage against Alisal. A two-page photo essay showed the intensity of the proceedings.

On the cover and the back page, the Renaissance Assembly celebrated the best of the best at the high school.

February 12-18, 2010

The six-month report to the City Council was made by Museum Director Lori Mannel. The report was required by the agreement between the City of Pacific Grove and the Museum Foundation. Increased hours, increased attendance, more programs and additional staff were all part of the progress reported.

PG Police reported an increase in thefts from vehicles prompted the chief to remind residents to lock their cars.

A core group of merchants, galleries and other businesses joined together to begin a First Friday movement in PG. As in many other communities, First Friday is an opportunity for business to stay open one night a month and for the public to discover new things about their community.

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Boy Scouts held a 100th birthday party for themselves.

The Library Summit was held during which a great cross-section of Pacific Grove residents talked about ways to fund the library. Reports were to be collated and made into actionable lists.

In a feature article, the great-nephews of Rollo Beck talked about their famous relative and the collection of birds at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

February 21-25, 2010
The Coastal Commission gave approval for renovation and a facelift at the 2009 Royal Court: Queen Topaz, Jenna Hively; Princess Celeste Torres and Lindsay Morgan returned from the 2009 Court. Also chosen were Allison Naylor, Courtney Lyon, Jennifer Winter, Katy Ohseik, Lauren Thuesen and Sarah Gordon. Sarah would later resign due to other obligations, and Lauren’s family moved out of the area forcing her to curtail participation.

While the dearth of butterflies at the Monarch Sanctuary is probably shared regionally or even nationally, it is agreed that the 1998 plan for management of the Sanctuary was not followed. Consultants Dr. Stuart Weiss and Dr. Francis Villalba called for an assessment by an arborist of the regionally or even nationally, it is agreed that the 1998 plan for management of the Sanctuary was not followed. Consultants Dr. Stuart Weiss and Dr. Francis Villalba called for an assessment by an arborist of the regionally or even nationally, it is agreed that the 1998 plan for management of the Sanctuary was not followed. Consultants Dr. Stuart Weiss and Dr. Francis Villalba called for an assessment by an arborist of the

In a “back room deal” allegedly negotiated by the Chamber of Commerce and the Business Improvement District to move the Farmers Market to the city parking lot between 16th and 17th Streets behind the Bank of America building angered many. It came as a surprise to the Council as it was not in their “packets,” and the site in question had been rejected earlier in the original negotiations. The Council sent it back as Everyone’s Harvest, the permit holder, had not requested the move and forcing it to do so was counter to city law.

The Board of the Feast of Lanterns announced the 2010 Royal Court: Queen Topaz, Janna Hively; Princess Celeste Torres and Lindsay Morgan. Monterey Rape Crisis Center sponsored their appearance locally. The Board of the Feast of Lanterns announced the 2010 Royal Court: Queen Topaz, Janna Hively; Princess Celeste Torres and Lindsay Morgan. Monterey Rape Crisis Center sponsored their appearance locally.


The Chamber of Commerce was busy passing out Awards of Excellence to members. Brian Fortune Gill received “Best Service.” The Offset Project received “Best Business for the Environment.” “Best Lodging” went to Old St. Angela Inn. “Best Restaurant” was Pizza My Way, and “Best Retail” went to Back Porch Fabrics.

DiAnna Gamecho reported on the missions of T.A.S.K. 4 Teens to Nicaragua to deliver donations and help in orphanages. The teens also learned a lot about what they have to be thankful for as Americans.

Brevier Girls’ Soccer made their first division III playoff appearance in school history, finishing 13-6-0. A Water Summit was held and representatives learned about options for a regional desalination plant as well as storage facilities, including the Forest Lake Reclaimed Water reservoir, storm water reservoirs, and on-site collection throughout the city.

Three young girls sold lemonade in front of Dress for Change and sent the money to Haiti for earthquake relief. Dress for Change will move from Pacific Grove in January, 2011.

The annual Alpha-Omega concert featured grade school students and high school students under the direction of Dave Hoffman.

Monterey Police filed a felony driving complaint against Aaron Corn, the driver of an SUV in a solo accident that left Chelsie Hill in a wheelchair.

Playwright and gallery owner Steve Huack announced the debut of a drama he has written about liturgical artist E. Charlton Fortune. An exhibit of her work opened at Carmel Mission.

The countdown was underway to Earth Hour.

March 26-April 1, 2010
The city’s Public Works Department was busy replacing old clay sewer pipes around town.
Pacific Grove’s mayor Carmelita Garcia joined other California mayors in endorsing a measure to stop the state from taking or borrowing local gas tax dollars that should go to cities. The measure eventually received enough signatures to be placed on the November ballot and passed.

Eric Miller joined a list of PGHS graduates named to the Monterey Peninsula College Hall of Fame, receiving a Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Roll was published. Our restaurant reviewer gave restaurant owners an operator’s a primer on “how to lose a customer for life.”

March 19-25, 2010
Junior Morgan Brown won the California State championship in the annual Poetry Out Loud competition and was headed to Washington, DC as the state’s representative.

Canterbury Woods appealed the decision of Hearing Officer David Spradling to the Monterey County Superior Court. A cease-and-desist had been filed against the senor community’s owners.

A temporary restraining order was issued against Daniel Maniscalco and Apothecary, Inc. in the degenerating effort to open a marijuana dispensary in Pacific Grove. Giuilla Riso, a senior at PGHS, has launched a drive, in conjunction with Be the Match, to find more marrow and organ donors for those in need of transplants. It is her Senior Project.
Looking back at 2010

April 9-15, 2010
Gordon Williams, Jack Beigle and Tama Oliver were honored as United Way Award recipients; Yoshiko Edith Uchiugi was a Jefferson Award recipient; Nancy Dolton was honored as Senior Volunteer of the Year. All were feted at the city council meeting.

April 23-30, 2010
The Cultural Arts Commission, since disbanded, was thrilled to announce the choice of Dr. Barbara Mossberg as Pacific Grove’s resident poet. She will live at the Poet’s Porch.

An indulgence was sought and won to delay a report on medical marijuana, due May 3, to July 7, 2010.

The City Council voted to support the Regional Water Project, but not, in the words of Mayor Carmelita Garcia, the financing options. Former councilmember Dan Davis and others began circulating a citizen initiative to reform City employee retirement benefits. The initiative would limit the city’s contributions. The initiative eventually won enough signatures to be placed on the November ballot, but the City Council decided to pass it on the spot. It is now tied up in court.

May 7-13, 2010
The City Council could not agree on allowing the Farmers Market to move, despite comments in favor of the change. Council member Deborah Lindsay resigned as her family will move to Santa Cruz. Chelsie Hill, the teenager paralyzed when the SUV in which she was riding crashed in February, 2010, talked about her determination to walk – and even dance – again.

Patrons and owners of small, indepedent pet supply stores joined to protest plans for Pet Extreme to open in the Country Club Gate shopping center.

April 2-8, 2010
A press conference was held in Monterey to announce an agreement among California-American Water, Marina Coast Water District, and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency on how the financing, ownership and operation of a regional desalination and water distribution project will likely be structured. In November, 2010, the PUC OK’d the agreement. Next step: Coastal Commission.

April 16-22, 2010
Pacific Grove’s antique fire engine was on display in the good Old Days parade.

A bocce tournament was held at the PG Art Center as a fund-raiser.

Skyler Lewis and Nate Phillips once again shared a photo essay, this time on an annual talent show at PGHS.

Tony Prock offered photos of the ribbon cutting for the Museum’s newly remodeled garden.


April 30-May 6, 2010
Everyone’s Harvest, operators of the Pacific Grove Farmer’s Market, agreed to apply for a change in their use permit – which was the “legal” thing to do, as the change had to come from them. They will move to the intersection of Central Avenue and Grand Avenue, using the blocks in front of the Museum and the Library plus some spots on Grand Avenue.

Layoffs were averted as PGUSD and staff agreed to some furloughs.

May 14-20, 2010
The idea of a Monterey Peninsula-wide fire service consolidation met with
The 2010 Royal Court of the Feast of Lanterns was presented at Canterbury Woods.

approval at the Pacific Grove City Council, first to agree to examine a Joint Powers Authority to move it forward. Already sharing services with Monterey, the city joins others in searching for ways to cut costs.

Members of the City Council also joined to celebrate Bike To Work Week by riding their bicycles to the city council meeting.

Craig Beller took over as interim principal at Pacific Grove Adult School. Cedar Street Times celebrated Isaiah Binding, a dance phenomenon who attends PG High School.

Firefighters presented the Library with a check for $2,500 earned by selling tri-tip sandwiches at Good Old Days. The Feast of Lanterns held a Tea and Fashion Show at Canterbury Woods.

May 21-27, 2010

Pacific Grove haircutters joined to help with the Gulf oil spill clean-up by providing loose, cut hair to fill hose and create booms to help contain the oil.

More than 50 citizens showed up for a special town hall meeting to discuss pruning down the city’s tree ordinance.

A special parcel tax to fund the library was one of the potential ballot measures presented to the city council ahead of the deadline for the November ballot.

Nate Phillips did a photo essay on the Sea Otter Classic at Laguna Seca.

The Museum hosted a Memory Walk in honor of Chinese villagers burned out of their homes more than 100 years ago at Pt. Alices, approximately where the Aquarium is today.

The Heritage Society presented a talk on the Chinese Finish Village, “Ghost in the Flame” by Bill Brandeis, who tells how fire in the 1930s caused by higher than normal bacteria levels.

The 2010 graduating class of Pacific Grove High School were celebrated in photo essays.

Cedar Street Times profiled Cub Pack 125 Scoutmaster Lance Wright’s rockety lessons.

honored as Public Official of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce.

“Treasure Island,” with Pacific Grove’s Keith Decker in the role of Long John Silver, opened at the Outdoor Forest Theater. The play had originally been presented there in 1913.

‘There are two lasting bequests that we can give our children. One of these is their annual anthology, calling it “Talk of the Town.”

Winners of the 2010 Heritage House Awards were announced. Donors to the Pacific Grove Art Center’s annual Miniatures Show were announced.

Grades of PG Middle School and PG High School were celebrated in photo essays.

Cedar Street Times’ editorial called for the banning of plastic bags.

John Miller – no relation to any of the other Millers in Pacific Grove – was sworn in as a Commander at the Pacific Grove Police Department.

Our Green Page featured the home of John and Vicki Pearse.

June 11-17, 2010

Following the primary election, a runoff in the race for sheriff was obvious but there were still questions about who the candidates would be. Eventually, it came down to incumbent Mike Kanaldis and Scott Miller, former Pacific Grove Police Chief and City Council member.

The Farmer’s Market move to Central Avenue, the potential of potted trees in Jewell Park by the PG Library, and we inquired as to the city council’s decision to examine the initiative on the spot rather than make it a ballot measure, despite warnings from union and legal representatives that the measure was flawed and would wind up in legal battles.

The City of Seaside delayed decision on the Fire Services JPA after protests by its firefighters’ union, thereby postponing a decision by all other players.

Meanwhile, the potential of shared services for police departments remained on the agenda as Police Chief Darius Engle asked the council to have an agreement drafted by staff and bring it back by August 18, 2010.

The “Romero Bill,” also known as the Open Enrollment Act, prompted action by the PGUSD school board as an influx of out-of-state students became a reality possibility. The district set up guidelines for outside students, hoping in the long run that they would materialize as there is no funding for the measure and no way for the district to recoup costs.

The committee was formed to examine the possibility of putting potted trees in the Monarch Sanctuary to replace trees trimmed in what some term a misguided safety measure. With numbers drastically low all over the country, any mitigation needed at helping the butterflies survive would be welcomed.

A library parcel tax was confirmed for the November ballot and details were being hammered out. A committee will work hard at drafting a measure that will appeal to voters. A similar measure was repeatedly decieded by only 35 votes in the last election.

A second parking enforcement officer, Joseph Hendrickson, was added by the police department.

The protests over Pet Extreme continued on the Opinion page.

May 28-June 4, 2010

Round 1 of the budget talks came before City Council and it included $550,000 for the Library, which councilmembers asked to be increased to $600,000.

The 2010 graduating class of Pacific Grove Community High School was feted on our front page.

Seven residents vied for the empty seat on the city council left by the resignation of Deborah Lindsay.

City Attorney David Laredo was in favor of the city’s tree ordinance.

June 25-July 1, 2010

Baka Beyond, an African/Celtic fusion band, performed at Chautauqua Hall. The pension reform initiative limiting City contributions to employees’ retirement benefits passed its first reading. City Council decided to examine the initiative on the spot rather than make it a ballot measure, despite warnings from union and legal representatives that the measure was flawed and would wind up in legal battles.

The City of Seaside delayed decision on the Fire Services JPA after protests by its firefighters’ union, thereby postponing a decision by all other players.

Firefighters presented the Library with a check for $2,500 earned by selling tri-tip sandwiches at Good Old Days.

The 1952 Sherwood House at 1760 Shafter Street was presented to the city council ahead of the measure and no way for the district to recoup costs.

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July 2-8, 2010
Meghan Blais, who had joined the Pacific Grove Police Department in 2007, became its newest detective.

While in our offices on June 30, we saw Chuck Johnson headed up Forest Avenue toting a 12-foot cross. A former loader driver for the Southern Pacific Railroad, he has crossed the country this way 12 times, occasionally getting rides. He has visited each of the 48 continental states and carries his cross 365 days a year.

Plans were unveiled for a remodel of the “little house” in Jewell Park. Built in 1952 by the Pacific Grove Rotary, it is in need of a new ADA-compliant rest room. Rotary, the City, and Monterey Peninsula Parks are collaborating. Ragamuffin Theatre was in rehearsal for “Into the Woods.”

Members of the Ragamuffin Theatre did their version of “Waka Waka” for a video.

Rabia Erduman joined Cedar Street Times as a health and wellness columnist, joining Rhonda Farrah and Amy Coale-Solis in rotation. California Coastal National Monument’s 10th Anniversary was celebrated at the Museum as children took part in a Science Saturday by getting up close and personal with reptiles.

Rebecca Barrymore, director of Forest Guild Theater, was profiled. The guild made plans to present Alice in Wonderland.

July 9-15, 2010
Pictures of the city’s 4th of July celebration were featured.

Flags crowned the fence at Caledonia Park for the city’s Fourth of July celebration.

Public Works director Celia Martinez resigned. She had held the position since 2006 and had oversight for a number of improvements made to streets and sewer lines. She was instrumental in working out an agreement concerning public parking at the Rip Van Winkle Open Space (the “Dog Park”).

The Saksoebeing Marching and Concert Band, a Danish band of more than 50 musicians, entertained at the Farmer’s Market.

Lawrence “Stoney” Bangert joined staff as City Clerk, replacing Sheila Randazzo who had held the post temporarily since Ann O’Rourke moved on.

Kaye Coleman reached the halfway point in her effort to hike the Appalachian Trail.

Ken Hinshaw was looking for someone to take over his volunteer efforts for the Library, selling books at the Farmer’s Market. The one-year mark approached and his garage now has more than 150 boxes of books in it.

July 16-22, 2010
Nominations opened for six of the seven seats on the city council, including that of mayor. The only seat not up for grabs was Bill Kampe’s. Other positions, including that of mayor, were held by appointees or had terms expiring. Cedar Street Times offered to hold debates for the candidates and for the ballot measure on the library. Later, a debate with city council hopefuls hosted by the Hometown Bulletin was poorly attended so Cedar Street decided only to hold the Library debate.

The Farmers’ Market debuted at its new location at Central and Grant.

North of Pacific Grove, the U.S. 101 tunnel. Still about 4 years away, the plan for the tunnel. hat a dream the city would allow, but Pacelli had already been given some

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Looking back at 2010

Parks are collaborating.

Rotary, the City, and Monterey Peninsula need of a new ADA-compliant rest room.

28 jazz students, including several from Pacific Grove, went to Japan as ambassadors for the Monterey Jazz Festival. Money by concerned citizens so he began collecting and placing trees.

August 6-12, 2010
Chelsie Hill prepared to leave for Carlshad, CA for a month of intensive therapy. She is the teenager paralyzed in a drunken driving accident last February. Citizen scientists met to discuss the low butterfly count last winter at the Butterfly Sanctuary, and to discuss what could be done for the next season.

August 13-19, 2010
Pacific Grove’s fog made headlines for its persistence. There were an unusually high number of “fog days” in June, and unusually low temperatures in July, so no, it wasn’t your imagination. There were records set.

On August 11, Pacific Grove’s fog made headlines for its persistence. There were an unusually high number of “fog days” in June, and unusually low temperatures in July, so no, it wasn’t your imagination. There were records set.
High School who plan to attend college was at 90 percent, according to a survey. Monterey Peninsula College, by far the choice of most college-bound students from Pacific Grove, received high marks for the Recreation Department.

We profiled Dianne Lyle, purveyor of Middle School.

A Stanford University anthropologist digging in the area of Hopkins Marine Station is drawing a better picture of life in the Chinese fishing village which was burned out in 1906.

The Start Smart program for young drivers and their parents was reviewed.

Cameron Douglas did a photo essay on the first ever “Summerfest,” an arts and music festival at Lovers Point.

August 27 - September 2, 2010

Darlene Billstrom was hired by the City to complete a relational database for the El Carmelo Cemetery, working half a day Monday through Friday.

Volunteer efforts to maintain the cemetery were recognized.

PG P.R.I.D.E. was recognized by the PG Unified School Board for having raised $100,000 for schools through the efforts of some 600 parents, teachers and community members at the U.S. Open.

The first-ever Summerfest music and art festival was held at Lovers Point.

The Citizen’s Police Academy was offered, after a hiatus of five years, and Cameron Douglas signed on for the 10-week course.

New operators were brought in for the Pt. Pinos Grill at the golf course, but it didn’t last long.

Pacific Grove High School test scores show that local students are above the county and the national average. In a full-page article, CAHSEE, STAR and AP scores were compared.

Dr. Monte Sandon, an Environmental Science Advisor who specializes in habitats, came to Pacific Grove to assess the damage done to the Monarch Sanctuary by tree trimming. He said that he believed that potted trees were the best short-term solution for providing a windbreak for the butterflies.

September 3-9, 2010

Cindy and Ted Walter of Passionfish who had initially been chosen to operate the yet-to-be-renovated Bath House restaurant at Lovers Point, chose to let the opportunity pass them by and the restauranteurs continue back on the market.

City staff recommended that an updated management plan for the Monarch Sanctuary be drawn up and that a joint subcommittee be established with the

A 96th birthday cake was cut by Meals on Wheels volunteer Loretta Collins as Meals on Wheels launched its “Save Our Breakfast” fund-raising campaign.

well as other volunteer services, including Kiwanis; and Vicki McKeen, a blood donor, and Nicolas, her dog, who is a certified CHOMP Therapy Dog.

Casa Privato opened its doors in a private ribbon-cutting.

A check for $1,608.30 was presented to the PG Library by Adrienne Jonson of Artisana Gallery, representing funds raised at the Fine Arts Fair held in June. John Moulen of Marina Motorsports presented a check for $1000 to the library and another for $1,000 to the Youth Center. The money was raised at The Little Car Show.

The mayor got a new doggie. “Scruffy” is a rescue.

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The seasonal hagga by Neal and Elaine Whitman offered a celebration of the end of summer.

Pacific Grove High School Breakers opened their football season.

Soul Vibes radio celebrated their birthday on KNRY.

Ten potted eucalyptus trees arrived and were carefully arranged at the Monarch Sanctuary to provide needed windbreaks for the Monarchs, due to arrive sometime in October. The trees were purchased with money donated by citizens to Project Pacelli to provide protection after the existing trees were mistakenly trimmed too closely to provide windbreaks.

and began publishing in two sections. A glance through the pages shows excellent color reproduction compared to older issues.

September 24-30, 2010

Even though the Monarch card is a better deal, the three clubs at the Pacific Grove Golf Links celebrated the return of the 20-Play Punch Card. The Card had been abandoned in budget discussions. In addition to the membership fees, which vary among the clubs, the cost of the card is $20. It allows walk-up tee times, when there are open tee times available.

Taelen Thomas brought Mark Twain back to life to benefit the Pacific Grove Library.

Cameron Douglas did a photo essay of the pt.

August 20-26, 2010

On the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the sixth annual Peace Lanterns event was held at Lovers Point.

There was a photo essay of the indoor pageant for Feast of Lanterns. Patrons paid to see the show, which was adapted from its usual outdoor venue at the pier at Lovers Point for the stage at Pacific Grove Middle School.

From the Accreditation Commission.

The Museum unveiled plans for changes in the appearance of the entryway, including a “Squid Desk” and a “Mountain Lion Case.”

Renovations and remodels greeted students returning to campuses all over the district.

Entries opened for Heritage Houses for the Birds, the annual event that raises funds for the Heritage Society.

A letter to the editor complained about squashed seagulls being left to rot, and the detrimental effect the policy has on tourism.

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Looking back at 2010

The “Yes on Measure Q” campaign was in full swing, but so was the “No on Measure Q” faction. Library funding was on line.

We visited a Forest Grove School classroom where CSUMB students mentored a first grade class. Breaker footballers won their Homecoming game handily.

We weighed in on the question of Cannery Row.

The “Glow: Living Lights, The Bizarre World of Bioluminescence” opened October 2 at the Museum.

pictures of the wonderful bird houses up for auction for the benefit of the Heritage society were featured. Also featured were pictures of the annual Butterfly Parade with Pacific Grove grade school students.

Following a rash of car burglaries, the Pacific Grove Police Department launched the TLC Program: Take your valuables, Lock up, and Close your windows!

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Breaker footballers won their Homecoming game handily.

We weighed in on the question of PG&E’s “Smart Meters” which are due in the city soon.

October 15-21, 2010

The mange-ridden coyote that lurked in Pacific Grove last year has been spotted again, eating domestic cats and hanging out at the Golf Course, near Asilomar, and in Rip Van Winkle Open Space. Pacific Grove Police offered hints on how to protect pets and humans from the coyote.

Rev. Vincent Raj blessed the animals at Canterbury Woods, celebrating St. Francis of Assisi.

The “Yes on Measure Q” campaign was in full swing, but so was the “No on Measure Q” faction. Library funding was on line.

Feast of Lanterns published a survey asking the public to tell them what they wanted most out of the Feast, and what they were willing to do to get it. Many assumed the Feast was a city celebration, but it is a private non-profit and has been for more than 100 years.

October 22-29, 2010

The City Council, at the request of Mayor Carmelita Garcia, will look at expanding the smoking ban in the city limits.

A subcommittee was set up to study the framework of existing policies and law about sidewalks. What can the City do to require property owners to install sidewalks in front of their property? What are the guidelines property owners must follow if they choose to install a sidewalk in front of their property? The subcommittee will report back by the Jan. 19, 2011 city council meeting.

The Citizens’ Advisory Committee toured a tour of the Salinas Valley State Prison. No blue jeans allowed.

The Pacific Grove Police Department was to offer free trick-or-treat bags.

October 30-November 4, 2010

Proposed decisions were issued by PUC Commissioner John Bohn and Administrative Law Judge Angela Minkin concerning the Regional Water Project.

Changes were suggested in the agreement, but in the end the PUC OK’d the project without major alterations.

Monterey Fire Chief Sam Mazza, who became Pacific Grove’s chief when the two departments reached a shared services agreement, announced he would retire in December, 2010.

Speculation was that Pacific Grove’s former chief, Andrew Miller, who became assistant chief of Monterey Fire Department, would replace Mazza. It did in fact turn out that way.

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PG&E’s “Smart Meters” which are due in the city soon.

Former Fire Chief Don Gasperson debuted a piece he wrote about Robert Louis Stevenson.

An organ concert celebrated 100 years at Mayflower Presbyterian Church.

Serrena, CHOMP’s center for integrated Therapies, was profiled as they set out to raise funds to provide services to those unable to afford them.

The Pacific Grove Golf Links celebrated the 50th anniversary of Jack Neville’s design for the back nine at the golf course.

Pacific Grove theater Keith Decker debuted a piece he wrote about Robert Louis Stevenson.

There were more than 1000 butterflies counted at the Sanctuary.

November 12-18, 2010

A human furry, which apparently has been at the Museum for more than 50 years, was turned over to the Pacific Grove Police Department as the Foundation continued a long-overdue catalogue of Museum specimens.

Former Fire Chief Don Gasperson died at the age of 81.

The Pacific Grove High School newspaper, Knockout, was printed inside Cedar Street Times. The pages were given to the school at cost.
of Pacific Grove High School football was held at Chautauqua Hall. PG got walloped by Carmel, however.

Pacific Grove approved changes to the “no smoking” ordinance which extended the prohibition to all parks, recreation areas, playgrounds and the Farmers’ Market.

Public areas on the golf course are also included but not the course itself.

Ten ladies recreated a photo taken in the 1930’s as a celebration of the Mayflower Presbyterian Church’s 100th birthday. Three Pacific Grove girls placed in the Punt, Pass & Kick contest at Candlestick Park in San Francisco.

Marcia Stearns of Bookmark Music was among Distinguished Honorees for Philanthropy Day 2010. She was honored for her work with the Camerata Singers.

The Big Sur Half Marathon surged instead of waiting until next fall. The “Little House” in Jewell Park took our intrepid reporter down to the neighborhood near Jewell Park, where he bravely stuck his arm down the storm drain and came back up with some nasty water with mosquito larvae in it. Turns out it’s not exactly a storm drain but more of a catch-water sion – before they can break ground. A progress report on the restoration project at Pt. Pinos Lighthouse was given to Cameron Douglas. The lighthouse, built in 1855, is now the beneficiary of a public/private foundation which seeks to make repairs and further restore the lighthouse, the oldest continuously-operating one on the West Coast. The lighthouse was deeded to the city by the Coast Guard in need of repair.

Home economics students at Pacific Grove Middle School got some Tai Chi lessons from “Ms. Lydia.”

Pacific Grove Pony League opened registration for the Spring 2011 season. PG Pony League was founded in 1974 to provide organized baseball and softball to the community. Pony League has a newly remodeled website where online registration is available. The league has raised $10,000 to help the city with field improvements.

Rabbi and Mrs. David Holtzberg of Chabad Monterey in Pacific Grove hosted a community menorah lighting for Chanukah.

The third annual Friday Night Lights celebration was held downtown and it took place at the same time as First Friday. Despite the bone-biting cold, downtown was filled with carolers, dancers, and shoppers who braved the cold to take advantage of open shops and to visit Santa Claus.

Skyler Lewis’ photo essay on Snow in the Park may be the last with snow, but we’ve heard that before. Costs, says the Chamber of Commerce, have risen beyond what they can handle and the company that produces the snow no longer will it. Bruce and Judy Cowan, perennial volunteers for the Salvation Army, were at their customary stand in front of the post office, offering traditional music to passers by.

City leaders met with students at Hopkins Marine Lab to discuss ways of reducing storm water runoff pollution. Stanford University asked Cedar Street to be allowed to link to the story.

A conference room in the new Pacific Grove Unified School District office was named for veteran teacher and school board member Jessie Bray.

An idea to turn Pine Avenue into a three-lane street with bike lanes was postponed – maybe for years – as no agreement could be reached on traffic needs around Robert Down Elementary School.

Kaye Coleman reached the end of a six-month journey as she completed her hike on the Appalachian Trail. “It takes you so far away from regular life,” she said. “I feel as if there’s nothing I can’t do.”

A Secret Santa began passing out cards on the street and in stores, each containing from $10 to $50 in cash. Also in the envelope was a letter encouraging the recipients to share the gift in various ways.

The new kitchen at Robert Down, remodeled with Measure D funds, was opened to accolades from staff and students.

The first ever Jingle Bell Run & Walk was held, and benefited the Arthritis Foundation. Participants tied jingle bells to their shoes and some dressed in costume.

As Joan McCleary retires after eight years at the Pacific Grove Art Center, Jacqueline Hope takes over.

Chief Engles was tapped to head the Monterey County Chief Law Enforcement Officers’ Association.

Food writer Richard Oh paired wine with chocolate. What could be better?

Meals on Wheels received a grant of $50,000 from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation to help with their Save Our Breakfast campaign.

Jessie Bray, who taught for 25 years in Pacific Grove Schools and served for 13 years on the school board, died peacefully on December 21, the winter solstice. She will write periodically on projects the students undertake or subjects they wish to educate our readers about.

December 24-30, 2010

Cameron Douglas braved the cold and the raccoons to capture a striking photo of a rare coincidence – a lunar eclipse and the winter solstice.

American Airlines had planes in San Francisco to pick up the passengers from the flights on December 25.

Meals on Wheels received a grant of $50,000 from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation to help with their Save Our Breakfast campaign.

For the first time in five years, Pacific Grove Breaker girls cross country team qualified as a team for the Central Coast Section championships.

In a follow-up to a story published last year, Lt. Col. Robert Lucian reported to Cedar Street Times that he has made great strides in his efforts to teach Vietnamese animal cruelty.

ClogBusters (the Monterey Regional Waste Management District) asked people planning to fry their Thanksgiving turkeys to use the oil used to fry, and not to put it down the drain.

December 3-9, 2010

Monarch Magic (the renamed Monarch Madness) event was held with record crowds at the Museum of Natural History. Hundreds came to celebrate and learn about Pacific Grove’s favorite visitors.

With ball set at $1 million, murder suspect Sunny Nguyen’s case was continued until Dec. 7.

Former Mayor Dan Cort held a booksigning for his new book, Downtown Turmoil. Funds awarded in 2008 became available for work on Phase 3 of the city’s storm drainage upgrades. It will enable the system to handle another one million gallons annually, with dry weather diversions, a new sewer pump station and urban runoff lift station.

Mary Albert reviewed “It’s A Wonderful Life” as part of the classic movie series. Lighthouse Cinema recently announced that they will start another series in January instead of waiting until next fall.

We ran photos of the Christmas tree lighting and the Children’s Winterfest at Chautauqua Hall.

Not only did we review Dan Cort’s Downtown Turmoil, but we also reviewed The Death and Life of the Monterey Bay by Steve Palumbi and Carolyn Sotka. It is an exciting history of the Monterey Bay’s revival after near death from pollution.

December 10-16, 2010

The Regional Water Project, which had received Pacific Grove’s thumbs-up months ago, received an OK from the Public Utilities Commission after public hearings. The desalination plant faces one more large hurdle – the Coastal Commission

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