MST adds new routes to take Wi-Fi to students who have no access

As schools across Monterey County have shut their doors due to the coronavirus pandemic, thousands of students are now adjusting to distance learning. However, this transition can pose great difficulty for many families who may not have access to internet connectivity.

That’s why the Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) has launched its Digital Equity Team (DEQ) to ensure every student in Monterey County has the ability to participate in high quality online distance learning by providing access to the devices and connectivity needed for success.

Securing connectivity in the home is a long-term solution, but for the short-term, MCOE and several districts in the county are proud to join with Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) to deploy MST buses equipped with WiFi to neighborhoods where the districts have identified the highest needs for internet access.

“As we work to ensure high-quality distance learning for all and are planning for the possibility of extended and/or repeated school closures, we know that an Internet connection is a lifeline and a learning link for our students,” said Dr. Denen Guss, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools. “We are thankful to MST for their partnership to bring connectivity to our students when they need it most. We are also thankful to community member, Mary Ann Leffel for bringing the idea to us.”

Leffel, a community member who has been involved in transit, broadband and education shared, “I believe this is a good way for public entities to work together to support the community.”

MST General Manager and CEO Carl Sedoryk stated, “The decision to use MST resources to support students and help our neighbors bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas was simple – MST exists to support the communities we serve, and together with our educational partners during this crisis we will deploy our resources to support the community.”

The Covid 19 virus pandemic stole their senior year from. No graduation ceremony, no awards assembly. There were no spring sports nor sports assemblies. There was no prom. And now it’s likely there will be no fall semester at many colleges and universities, either.

But the Class of 2020 has a new skill to show to the world – distance learning.

Some of those ceremonies and assemblies will be postponed until the pandemic is over, but many of the memories are lost forever.

Members of the class gathered last Saturday to celebrate the end of the school year, with photos and posters.

Thank you, KC Knoop Photography for providing the photos. There are more on pages 6-7 of this digital issue.

Class of...
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 306 Grand Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Press deadline is Wednesday, noon. The paper is distributed on Friday and is available at various locations throughout the county as well as by e-mail subscription.

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Garibaldi
Hypsypops rubicundus

Garibaldi are bright orange damselfish found along the Pacific coast, from Monterey to Baja California. As California's State Marine Fish, they frequent kelp forests in shallow waters, picking invertebrates off the kelp stalks. Garibaldi only grow up to one foot long, but are quite aggressive, harassing larger fish and even divers that enter their territory. They can also produce an audible sound in the water by grinding their jaws together.

Juvenile Garibaldi are covered with vibrant blue spots that disappear with age. These spots last for the fish's first few years, and may be used to signal adult Garibaldi that the smaller fish is not a threat to its territory.

© Dan Bohrman, 2020

PG RAIN GAUGE

Near Lovers Point, as of early Wednesday 5/13/20
Reported by John Munch on 18th near Central

Total for the season (since 7/1/19)..............16.99"
Yesterday rain........................................0.00"
Yesterday low temperature..........................56.4 F
Yesterday high temperature.........................66.5 F
Last week rain........................................0.03"
Last week low temperature.........................49.2 F
Last week high temperature.......................68.9 F
Last year rain to date (7/1/19-5/13/19)........17.51"
Last year rain total (7/1/19-7/1/19)............19.24"

Previous Season-- July 2018 through June 2019: 26.3"
The completed – and operational - Monterey One Water recycled water plant.

The evening of May 27th was a momentous one for the Monterey Peninsula. This was the day the Monterey One Water (M1W) agency board of directors met to discuss and vote on whether to certify a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for a potential Pure Water Monterey expansion. It was "supplemental" because the original EIR for the existing recycled water plant was completed years ago, and this report was simply to evaluate whether an expansion was feasible. It found that under any of the scenarios that could be anticipated, it was.

Their partner agency in the environmental review, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) had met a few days before to approve a letter urging them to certify that report. That is because, as a partner agency, the MPWMD had provided over half of the $1.3 million in funding for the review.

Approval of the SEIR would not have allowed M1W to build the potential expansion. The agency does not have the money or authority to do that, but would have allowed their staff to have "exploratory discussions" about building the plant as a back-up if Cal Am - the largest water company in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Basin - decided not to bring up the issue of weighted voting, the Salinas - as the largest entity - has six votes. Except for a few modifications over the years, however, the voting structure has been the same for over 40 years.

After an unprecedented almost five hour meeting, the vote was 11–10 not to certify the SEIR.

A few days later the MPWMD met in closed session to discuss their partner agency’s action. That meeting should have been expected since MPWMD had paid for $750,000 of the study and felt blindsided by their partner agency.

The reaction was rather mild, however, stating only that “MPWMD respectfully requests that your agency identify specific deficiencies found in the SEIR,” find a remedy and bring it back for another vote. I actually expected them to file a lawsuit. They did not, though they did reserve their right to sue M1W (and, I suppose, that other agencies involved in influencing M1W).

The board is a member of the M1W Board for five years – and its Chair when the original project was approved and staff is very sad for me to see it come to this. I still remember being in a room with Dave Stoldt and Paul Soluto when signing the documents for the state loan to start the original project. That was an exciting time and the agencies were cooperating with each other.

So where do we go from here? I think there are several obvious next steps. Marina Coast was right to bring up the issue of weighted voting and representation. Since the agency was formed, over 40 years ago, some cities have grown more than others; and service territories have changed. But rather than a knee jerk change in structure has been the same for over 40 years, however, the voting needs of residents. Salinas and the Ag communities not.

In order to preserve the relationship between the two agencies, M1W also has an obligation to meet the MPWMD’s request to identify actual technological specific deficiencies in the SEIR, identify potential remedies, and bring that back for another vote.

Cal Am should recognize that there has been a significant change in water needs for the Peninsula; with conservation measures reducing the demand and new development on line to meet a good portion of that need. That would allow them to redesign a smaller plant that meet current needs at a much lower cost.

Call Am also needs to have the courage to tell the Coastal Commis- (no small thing) that slant wells – especially in the selected area – won’t work. Cal Am should recognize that the Coast Commission and other interested parties that their water need projections are correct. Without such an accepted number there will be more meetings between the agency, cities, Cal Am, and the busi- ness community.

Mr. Fischer served on the Board of Directors of M1W for five years, and was the Board Chair when the agency approved the Pure Water Monterey project and started construc-
It was January of 2006; I was managing the SPCA Benefit Shop on Forest Avenue. Judy LeRoi who was working for SPCA brought a cage full of kittens for off-site adoptions. I went down to look (naturally), there was a marmalade tabby, who happened to have six toes on his huge front feet. It reminded me of a visit we took to Key West and Ernest Hemingway’s home which is now a museum. The place is alive with cats, many polydactyl.

Ernest Hemingway was given a white six-toed cat by a ship’s captain and some of the cats who live on the museum grounds are descendants of that original cat, named Snow White. Key West is a small island and it is possible that many of the cats on the island are related. The polydactyl cats are not a particular breed.

The kitty I saw was feisty at best, but I thought he was adorable. At that time, we had two cats and three dogs. But we both seemed to feel “the more the merrier” when it came to animals. I called John and he said “sure, bring him home” He didn’t fit in very well, but he was only six weeks old and we were sure he would mature. I named him Toby (Maguire) because he hung from everything, a natural “spider cat”. At the time we had Mike (my marmalade) Manx, Joe, whom you might recall as Bruiser Joe (he left home when Toby came) first moved next door to Flavins…then wandered the streets for many months. When David Clemens took him in he was no longer “Joe Montana” but a street fighter…ergo the name “Bruiser Joe”…Toby was not friendly. Mike was very old, the new cat simply used the house as his headquarters. Time passed. Mike died; we adopted another car. A Siamese that never really fit in…loved only me, terrified of all others. Toby is now just short of sixteen. When Sammy left home (we don’t know what happened to him), Toby became a new cat…whereas he had snarled, scratched and sulked, he now purrs, cuddles and in the morning jumps into the bed. Joe became enraged when we adopted Toby and left home, but not far, just next door to the Flavins, and later, across the street (to the Clemens, remember the story of Bruiser Joe?), but most of them stay home and will find their way back if lost. Here’s to the cat, long may he walk by himself, if he comes home. Jane Roland

O CAT

The Naming of Cats is a difficult matter.
It isn’t just one of your holiday games.
You may think at first I am as mad as a hatter
When I tell you, a cat must have THREE DIFFERENT NAMES.
First of all, there’s the name that the family use daily.
Such as Peter, Augustus, Alonzo or James.
Such as Victor or Jonathan, George or Bill Bailey—
All of them sensible everyday names.

He continued the poem, discussing the importance of giving cats three names, and from this delightful romp came the hit musical CATS. Eugene Field wrote of the Gingham Dog and Calico Cat, in “The Duel”, and Dr. Seuss has entertained generations with The Cat in the Hat. I could spend the entire column discussing books and poems about cats, but this is not an essay.

I have discussed with friends’ felines and how often they are named for people, friends or famous individuals. We had a Joe Montana (no Steve Young yet), Reggie Jackson, Molly Malone, Michael Crawford, Samson (to go with pup Delilah) and now Toby McGuire and Orphan Annie (our dog). Cats are owned by no one; they do not serve at your pleasure but deign to provide you with their company. They are instinctive and sensing that someone doesn’t care for them, impose their presence, as if to say “I am Cat I will tame you”.

I find cats fascinating and delightful, some not as nice as others but all are mercurial. One day Mike and Joe spotted a gopher which ran behind a pot. From the first sighting until the end of the day they took turns guarding the rodent until finally one of them trapped it, and gopher remains garnished our patio. Mike was my cat and left the family room in the morning to run around and jump into bed with me. The day he died (old age, but tragic) we were given a kitten, he slept in the family room, but the first day he was let out, he ran around the house into the window and leapt into the bed. Joe became enraged when we adopted Toby and left home, but not far, just next door to the Flavins, and later, across the street (to the Clemens, remember the story of Bruiser Joe?), but most of them stay home and will find their way back if lost. Here’s to the cat, long may he walk by himself, if he comes home. Jane Roland

After 18 years, the Island Marble Butterfly Finally Receives Federal Protection

In response to a petition filed by the Xerces Society in 2012, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently finalized listing the island marble butterfly (Euchloe ausonides insularus) as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act and designated critical habitat. The Xerces Society and other conservation groups first petitioned the USFWS to protect the island marble butterfly as an endangered species 2002.

“We are so glad to see the island marble butterfly finally protected,” said Scott Black, Executive Director of the Xerces Society. “But we are highly disappointed that it took 18 years to get the protection it deserves.”

The Xerces Society is proud to serve as the voice for the “little things that run the world.” From the world’s rarest butterflies, to caecilians that live solely on one stream, to declining bumble bees, we are dedicated to protecting invertebrates and the ecosystems that depend on them — no matter how long it takes. Advocacy for legal protection of imperiled species, conducting long-term research, and raising public awareness for key issues all require dedication and endurance. Thank you for standing with us for the long haul.
What does God say about Truth?

Bill Cohen

Reasoning With God

by God to keep what we know to be good and true, foremost in our minds, is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and easy to be intreated, full of...
PG High Class of 2020

Photos by KC Knoop
Crossword Puzzle

Peter Silzer
(Themeless) For Adults

Follow petespuzzles on Facebook for more puzzles
Solution is on page 8

"Fruit Salad" by Peter Silzer

For kids

Write down the names of fruits that you know. How many can you find in this puzzle?
Follow petespuzzles on Facebook

Across
1 Common household pet
4 Clean with a broom
9 Put 2 and 2 together
12 Ginger __, a type of soda
13 Stingy person
14 Aunt in Acapulco (in Spanish)
15 Sweet part of a "Hawaiian" pizza
17 New York baseball player
18 Playing card higher than a King
19 Eat a small portion of something
21 Nasty smile (rhymes with jerk, a person who might do this)
24 Like 2, 4, or 6
26 The opposite of "pros" in an argument
27 It's like a banana, but usually less sweet
31 "Year" in Spanish (Like in "Feliz __ Nuevo")
32 Like a shirt that's all one color
33 Ghost sound
34 Like an orange, but smaller
36 Mosquito's attack
37 Liquids in pens
38 What 4 is in 9-across
39 Get up from sitting down
42 "More __ than a barrel of monkeys" (Have you ever heard this phrase?)
43 Something to bake a cake in
44 A small round fruit sometimes baked in muffins or pies
50 Frozen water
51 Path for a shopping cart
53 "Certainly, Cap'n!
55 Place to play sports indoors

Down
1 A baseball player wears one, but a soccer player doesn't
2 Prince in the movie "Aladdin"
3 Highest score in gymnastics
4 Kissing sound
5 Clean with a cloth
6 Mind reading, abbreviated
7 Long, snaky fish
8 Make-believe
9 They give people money outside banks, abbreviated
10 Try to lose weight
11 Dark, sweet fruit from a palm tree
12 Tiny insect that can carry a big load
13 Joseph's was multicolored
14 Emulated Marcel Marceau
15 Unexpected research result
16 Political cluelessness
17 Innate tendencies
18 Break-outs or breaks out
19 Not mainstream, briefly
20 Changes (for the better according to Darwin)
21 Like a political dove
22 Eight-armed cephalopod
23 Unexpected research result
24 Like an orange, but smaller
25 Overly proud
26 Unexpected research result
27 Vandalized a house on Halloween, in a way
28 Unexpected research result
29 Run a dodge?
30 Unexpected research result
31 A dynamite WarnerMedia TV Co.?
32 Unexpected research result
33 Unexpected research result
34 Unexpected research result
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37 Unexpected research result
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63 Unexpected research result
64 Unexpected research result
65 Plays the scooter

Down
1 A baseball player wears one, but a soccer player doesn't
2 Prince in the movie "Aladdin"
3 Highest score in gymnastics
4 Kissing sound
5 Clean with a cloth
6 Mind reading, abbreviated
7 Long, snaky fish
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64 Unexpected research result
65 Plays the scooter
The City of Marina filed a lawsuit May 11, 2020 in Monterey County Superior Court against RMC Pacific Materials, LLC (CEMEX) and California-American Water Company (CalAm) to enforce a binding agreement restricting the extraction of groundwater at the CEMEX Property to install slant wells and other facilities for CalAm’s desalination project. These slant wells would extract groundwater at the rate of approximately 15.5 million gallons every day, which equates to a total of over 17,300 afy of water. These massive extractions, which are barred by the Agreement, threaten to cause irreparable harm to Marina’s clean, affordable, and reliable groundwater resources, which provide 100% of the City’s drinking water.

“Cal Am thinks it is above the law, but it is not. CalAm is not entitled to receive state and federal agency permits for a project that violates local agreements and state laws,” said Bruce Delgado, Mayor of the City of Marina. CalAm’s proposed pumping could dangerously deplete this valuable water supply and eliminate the groundwater barrier protecting against further contamination of the Basin. These contractual and statutory violations by CEMEX and CalAm threaten irreparable harm to the Basin and could defeat decades of efforts by Marina and other agencies to carefully conserve, protect and manage the groundwater resources underneath and near the City.

“The issues addressed in this lawsuit are additional warning alarms to everyone that CalAm’s project is unsafe, infeasible and environmentally hurtful,” said Bruce Delgado, Mayor of the City of Marina. “This desal project cannot be justified on economic or environmental merits. It is distracting our region from direct and speedy pursuit of the vastly superior Pure Water Monterey expansion alternative, which would provide adequate water supplies to CalAm’s customers through 2050.”

Please contact Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado at bdelgado62@gmail.com or Marina City Manager Layne Long at llong@cityofmarina.org if you have any questions regarding this lawsuit. - City of Marina Press Release

The Cedar Street Times thanks:
Emily Castillo, William Cohen, Diana Soule
The Beach House, Roberta Hall
for their generous support.
To learn how you can help your local newspaper, please visit www.cedarstreettimes.com
Wanda’s wandering trailers located

As you know, Homeless In Paradise columnist Wanda Sue Parrott has doggedly been looking for answers about the designated use and number of “missing” FEMA trailers local government and News outlets told us, back on April 14, were set to roll into town that very week. At the time, the number was “dozens” revised to 100 the following day.

But early last week, trailers were nowhere to be seen and the flimsy facts were still harder to pin down than a wiggling two-year old who doesn’t want to put on her sweatshirt. Wanda tasked me with digging deeper and asked if you’d care to bet on the current or future whereabouts of the mystery trailers … any good guesses out there?

At the May 12 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Shawne Ellerby, Deputy Director of Administrative Services at the Resource Management Agency (RMA) reported there are 15 trailers total. These are here, and currently staged at (drumroll, please) San Lorenzo Park in King City. It’s not clear whether all 15 will stay there, as some had also been on standby for the Marina Airport alternative care site, according to Genny Malais, County Office of Emergency Services Director just last week.

At that time, he confirmed the state’s original offer of 100 trailers had dwindled to 15, and county officials could lease additional trailers from the state or some other provider if they needed more. From the tenor of his tweet (pictured) County Supervisor Luis Alejo wasn’t thrilled when he learned the new two-digit number.

WHAT ARE THE TRAILERS ACTUALLY FOR, ANYWAY?

Until last week, the use of the trailers hadn’t been fully fleshed out, and that’s why information was scarce. At this time, they’re on standby, empty, to be used if needed at “alternative care sites” and “alternative shelter sites,” neither of which are for our homeless population, per se.

Alternative care sites are to accommodate hospital beds for medical care of COVID-19 positive patients, should the county’s hospitals reach capacity.

Alternative housing sites are to lodge COVID-19 positive patients who, when released from the hospital, aren’t able to quarantine safely in their place of dwelling – whether it be indoor or outdoor. These sites, too, are for overflow as the county has also contracted with local hotels which, as of last week, were housing 27 residents who have tested positive.

The alternative care sites include San Lorenzo Park, the Marina Airport, and the Monterey Fairgrounds, and the housing sites still being analyzed include Sherwood Hall and Salinas Valley Fairgrounds. Based on current numbers, none of these sites may need to go live.

WHAT ABOUT SHELTERING THE HOMELESS?

Some of the same hotels are also being contracted by the county as part of Project Roomkey, which is a separate program, funded differently, to house people who are experiencing homelessness and who are vulnerable (but haven’t tested positive) to COVID-19 based on their underlying health conditions, age, and living situations.

Project Roomkey allocates state funds to existing county programs to shelter the most vulnerable homeless population – by today, approximately 100 homeless will have been housed in local hotels, where they’ll be able to stay until the county shelter in place order is lifted – currently scheduled for May 31. The program also provides for meals and medical care, in conjunction with the county’s pilot Whole Person Care program – which I’ll tell you more about in the future!

You can’t apply to “Project Roomkey.” Social services workers identify and reach out to potential recipients from the case files. You can, however, contact your social worker and ask to be considered if you are unsheltered and at risk. There is an intake process, a code of conduct to abide by, and specific criteria to qualify as an at-risk candidate.

AND FOOD?

With food banks now limiting distribution to drive-up recipients, and fast food restaurants no longer serving walk-in traffic, the homeless and carless have fewer options. A few local agencies are still providing lunches, but busses are operating daily on a Sunday schedule, making the trip difficult. "Nicole" is making due with sandwich materials from the grocery store, and hasn’t had hot food since a woman outside Lucky’s gave her a rotisserie chicken two weeks ago.

More on Nicole’s story in my next column and thank you, Wanda, and Wanda’s Readers, for welcoming me!

Contact Vanja Thompson, 831-915-7594, hello@vanjathompson.com

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Vanja Thompson
Guest Columnist
filling in for
Wanda Sue Parrott
Scott Dick, Monterey County Association of Realtors

Market Matters

New COVID-19 Shelter-in-place guidelines relaxed for Monterey County real estate transactions

Source: Monterey County Association of REALTORS®

The initial Monterey County shelter-in-place Order from March 16, 2020 effectively brought real estate transactions in Monterey County to a halt. Residential real estate was only added later to the CISA list of essential infrastructure activities. Although real estate was added to the list, the more restrictive Monterey County Order took precedence and only virtual activities were allowed. In mid-April the Monterey County Health Department issued guidance on real estate transactions that restricted how renters, agents, sellers and buyers could conduct business – it was definitely not business as usual. The updated Order only allowed activities related to maintaining the residence such as plumbing, electrical or other construction that was specifically related to the building itself. The Order did allow virtual showings and very limited in-person showings only if the property was vacated and had no furnishings.

On May 1, Monterey County issued updated guidance that has made it easier to conduct real estate related transactions including in-person viewings in residences that remain occupied or with furnishings present in the dwelling. It is important that everyone interested in renting, buying or selling familiarize themselves with the current restrictions.

Some key points of the updated Order:

- Effective on May 1, 2020 the Monterey County Order requires all persons leaving their residences to have some type of face covering unless engaged in limited types of recreational activities.
- Effective May 4, 2020, the County Order allows in-person showings of occupied properties with specific restrictions.
- Residential viewings should occur virtually if possible.
- In-person viewings shall be by appointment only, with no more than two visitors at a time residing within the same household or living unit and one individual showing the unit.
- In-person visits are not allowed when the occupant is still residing in the residence unless cloth face coverings are worn during the visit and there is no contact with staging items or personal property during showing.
- Property sellers and landlords may require clients to wear gloves and use hand sanitizer before entering a property.
- The seller or landlord must clean and sanitize the property after each visit with products on the Environmental Protection Agency’s approved list of disinfectants, paying attention to any areas that may be commonly touched such as light switches, door knobs, handles, counter tops, appliances and staging items.

Real estate offices and other offices related to residential transactions service providers remain closed.

Puzzle Solution

Peter Silzer

FRUITS

Puzzle is on page 6

Squid Season in Monterey

Photos by Lawrence Gay

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Puzzle Solution

Peter Silzer

THEMELESS

Puzzle is on page 6

Squid Season in Monterey

Photos by Lawrence Gay

Market Matters

New COVID-19 Shelter-in-place guidelines relaxed for Monterey County real estate transactions

Source: Monterey County Association of REALTORS®

The initial Monterey County shelter-in-place Order from March 16, 2020 effectively brought real estate transactions in Monterey County to a halt. Residential real estate was only added later to the CISA list of essential infrastructure activities. Although real estate was added to the list, the more restrictive Monterey County Order took precedence and only virtual activities were allowed. In mid-April the Monterey County Health Department issued guidance on real estate transactions that restricted how renters, agents, sellers and buyers could conduct business – it was definitely not business as usual. The updated Order only allowed activities related to maintaining the residence such as plumbing, electrical or other construction that was specifically related to the building itself. The Order did allow virtual showings and very limited in-person showings only if the property was vacated and had no furnishings. On May 1, Monterey County issued updated guidance that has made it easier to conduct real estate related transactions including in-person viewings in residences that remain occupied or with furnishing present in the dwelling. It is important that everyone interested in renting, buying or selling familiarize themselves with the current restrictions.

Some key points of the updated Order:

- Effective on May 1, 2020 the Monterey County Order requires all persons leaving their residences to have some type of face covering unless engaged in limited types of recreational activities.
- Effective May 4, 2020, the County Order allows in-person showings of occupied properties with specific restrictions.
- Residential viewings should occur virtually if possible.
- In-person viewings shall be by appointment only, with no more than two visitors at a time residing within the same household or living unit and one individual showing the unit.
- In-person visits are not allowed when the occupant is still residing in the residence unless cloth face coverings are worn during the visit and there is no contact with staging items or personal property during showing.
- Property sellers and landlords may require clients to wear gloves and use hand sanitizer before entering a property.
- The seller or landlord must clean and sanitize the property after each visit with products on the Environmental Protection Agency’s approved list of disinfectants, paying attention to any areas that may be commonly touched such as light switches, door knobs, handles, counter tops, appliances and staging items.

Real estate offices and other offices related to residential transactions service providers remain closed.

Puzzle Solution

Peter Silzer

THEMELESS

Puzzle is on page 6

Squid Season in Monterey

Photos by Lawrence Gay

Market Matters

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Joy Colangelo

From the Trenches

The Revival of the Economy . . . Or Not

I’ve decided to help the Aquarium out. They’ve been begging on social media to sign a petition asking congress for relief for zoos and aquariums. They’ve sent out letters to members (I am not one, never have been one) asking for $100.00 and to please, please, please keep your annual membership payments despite the fact they are highly unlikely to re-open until after the first of the year. So, anyway, back to me helping. I am going to pay the rent on their main facility for the next five years because they are in the last year of a five year lease. Five. That will give them time to have a thoughtful re-opening — my understanding is they are following the lead of Disneyland so when D’land re-opened, Aquariums had to wait. Reopen at the same time is the main building will have the rent paid in full to the Cities of Pacific Grove and Monterey. Just have Julie Packard call me (none others) and we’ll swing the deal as she plans for their museum.

Twitter announced this week that workers can work from home forever and other big tech companies have said they will allow all workers to work from home until 2021. Google, Zillow, Sagicor (large insurance company) have made their announcements and invested in home set-ups until 2021. Additionally, Cal State university system announced it will not reopen for the fall semester.

A few counties are allowed to re-open dine-in restaurants in California since they’ve had no Covid cases. Amador, Butte, El Dorado, Lassen, Nevada, Placer and Shasta Counties will reopen if diners are screened for Covid symptoms before entering, they use disposable menus and do not pre-set tables with napkins, cutlery and dishes. Condiment bottles and salt and pepper shakers are banned and tablecloths and napkins have to be removed after each use in sealed bags. If possible, windows have to be left open for ventilation. Add those expenses onto restaurants and still mandate that tables are six feet apart and you might wish you never reopened. And if you haven’t heard of those counties before or don’t know where they are, well it’s the same for Covid – it has no idea how to get there.

Cities are closing streets for the year as well. With bike sales up 600 percent, manufacturers are saying they’ve sold a years inventory in 45 days. BikeRental, a rental company in New York, is now selling bikes within 5 minutes of assembly. There’s nothing to rent anymore and still have well-spaced lines out the door. Pacific Cycle (owner of Schwinn), Specialized and Trek noted they “are running on fumes.” Beijing saw a near 200 percent increase in bike share use; Philadelphia saw a 105% increase in cycling which found them closing 5 miles of roads to use as open space for bikes. One hundred and thirty German cities opened up pop-up bike lanes; Bagota is opening 72 miles of new bike routes; Mexico City opened 80 miles; and Paris is building more than 400 miles of bikeways, calling them Coruna cycleways. Oakland and Seattle have closed many miles of roads to traffic. Carmel, near San Francisco, being very progressive, is closing Dolores.

The response scares New York mayor DeBlasio – their traffic and likely very economy relies on public transportation use (only 22% of NYC citizens drive). Trillions of dollars have been spent on subway systems which are now public enemy number one. People state they are very unlikely to return to public transport because of the inability to social distance. A cyclist is a rolling disaster for the economy. If they don’t buy a car (or that second or third car), they don’t need a car loan nor car insurance. They don’t buy fuel, don’t need repairs or washing, and don’t use paid parking.

What was found in Cuba, after the embargo, is people abandoned their cars and rode bikes so they didn’t need something else either. They didn’t need health care. They lost weight which reduced diabetes and heart disease in substantial drops. They didn’t need medication nor did they need hospitalization. There are numbers that start to collapse when you ride a bike and you lose numbers for when you open a fast food chain outlet. For every fast food brick and mortar, 30 jobs are created in the form of 10 cardiologists, 10 dentists and 10 weight loss experts. Our health care system is designed for you to remain sick and the sicker, the better. In cultures that squat, walk and ride bikes, very few if any hip or knee replacements are needed. In the continental U.S., nearly a 400,000 hip replacements are performed and another 700,000 knee replacements every single year. As Covid is showing our hospitals right now, if they don’t have those elective surgeries, they can’t run a hospital. Heck, CHOMP had to have volunteers make masks for them they got so damn poor. That was fast for a hospital that pulls in over $1 billion a year. When things got right back to the Aquarium. Talk about a fast demise in a business that has an untold number of members at $75.00 each, only 600 employees because they staff the place with 1,200 volunteers and now have their rent paid by me (!) - they still need your help. No, you can’t work from home but you can use your membership from home. Click on the channel to watch the fish being fed and remember, pay your dues.

Memorial Day: Day to Pay Tribute

Editor: Each year, Memorial Day marks an opportunity to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives while serving in the U.S. Military. This year, amid the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the national holiday will undoubtedly be different.

While you may not be attending a parade or celebrating with family and friends, there are still many ways that we can pay tribute to our country’s fallen heroes. I encourage you to don your patriotic gear, fly your American flag at half-staff, take a moment to reflect on the freedoms and liberties you enjoy and give thanks to those who sacrificed their lives to protect them. Share your gratitude via social media, helping others to remember why we should all continue to be grateful for our great nation.

The National Moment of Remembrance is also scheduled for 3 p.m. local time each Memorial Day and presents a chance for all Americans to commemorate the fallen by pausing for a minute to remember those who so humbly gave their lives for the freedom of our country.

During these trying times, do your best to remind yourself that you are not stuck at home, you are a safe at home.

To learn how you can pay tribute not only on Memorial Day, but throughout each year, contact your local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post.

Michael J. Kuznik
State Commander
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of California

MST Wi-Fi From Page 1

The schedule, to begin on Monday, May 11, 2020 will be as follows:

New! Mondays - Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.: Serving the Greenfield Union SD Area

Mary Chapin, Mary Camino Real, Greenfield

New! Mondays - Fridays from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: Serving the Salinas UHSD Area

Oak Ave School 1239 Oak Ave., Greenfield

New! Mondays - Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: Serving the Salinas UHSD Area

La Paz Middle 1300 N. Sanborn Rd., Salinas

New! Mondays - Fridays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.: Serving the Salinas UHSD Area

La Paz Middle 1300 N. Sanborn Rd., Salinas

Mondays - Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Serving the South Monterey County UHSD Area

Site: Salinas Valley Fairgrounds 625 Division St., King City

Mondays - Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: Serving the Soledad USD Area

Site: 425 Gabrian Dr., Soledad

Mondays - Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.: Serving the Soledad USD Area

Site: 441 Main St., Soledad

Mondays - Thursdays from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.: Serving the Soledad USD Area

Site: YMCA 560 Walker Dr., Soledad

Thursdays - Fridays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Serving the Soledad USD Area

Thursdays - Fridays from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.: Serving the King City Union School District Area

Site: Salinas Valley Fairgrounds 625 Division St., King City

Mondays - Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.: Serving the King City Union School District Area

Site: Salinas Valley Fairgrounds 625 Division St., King City

As planning continues, MCOE hopes to announce additional WiFi bus stop locations in the near future. Residents can find a complete listing of locations, dates and times on the Monterey County Office of Education’s webpage at: www.montereycoe.org/resources/alerts/coronavirus/wifi-bus-schedule/index.

For questions about this program, please contact Communications and Public Relations Officer, Jessica Hull at jhull@montereycoe.org or 209-679-4858.
To bring some purpose to my walking the streets of PG for exercise, I have created a number of scavenger hunts for friends and family based on public art around town. Attached is an image on one with murals as the theme. It has been suggested that you may wish to include this on your newly expanded digital CST.

David A. Laws
According to Lynbrook High School's track website – which is a wealth of historical information – “In the years before the California Inter- scholastic Federation was formed in 1914 to pro- vide a competitive track and field environment, the Stanford Invitational Meet was the state’s outstanding annual prep event. The meet first was held in 1906. In the early years, most of the teams were from Northern California, but as the Invitational’s reputation grew, more and more Central and Southern California schools were represented. By 1911, the competition began to show that quality which would carry over into the CIF state meet five years later.”

In 1906, a sprinter from P.G. High by the name of Gillen – first name unknown – made the trek to Palo Alto to compete in the inaugural Stanford Invitational where he proceeded to win the 100 Yard Dash in the very respectable for the day – remember, dirt track, no starting blocks, who knows what kind of shoes - time of 11.1 seconds. To declare him as the de-facto State Champion is a bit presumptuous, but that performance likely established him as one of the premier dash men in Northern California if not the state. By the time the next great Breaker sprinter came along Mr. Gillen had graduated to 60 and 80 yard dash.

We know nothing about Terrell Moss’ fresh- man year, but as a sophomore in 1948 he placed 2nd in the 440 at the North Coast Section (NCS) Championships, a race won by Wiley McClain of Pittsburgh in 51.2. That year’s State meet fea- tured the first time that the 440 was run entirely in lanes. No wonder 440 was run in a one turn race, the athletes in lanes down the first straightway before breaking for the pole and running in a pack to the finish. Also, in that year the 440 was run as a two section final – no heats. Moss did not place in the top five in either section. His junior year is a bit of a mystery; all we know for sure is that he didn’t place at section. But as a senior he had a much better performance, putting up a time that until very recently stood as the school record: 49.7 – converted to 49.4 for 400 meters. According to Track & Field News’ 1950 Best Performers (high school) List, that non-winning time tied him as the eighth fastest quarter-miler in the nation. He probably ran it at the NCS Championships, possibly placing 2nd. Sherman Miller of Napa won that race in State record 48.2. Miller went on to win State at 48.8 and was at the top of the national list with a 46.1. Moss finished out of the top five, though his best time would have tied him for 4th. Moss’ senior year marked the arrival of an athletically talented young man, Fred Nelson.

Though noted mainly for his accomplishments in the Long Jump (see “Let’s Get Horizontal”, April 17 edition), Nelson also left at least a mod- est mark in the sprints. As a sophomore winning in the Lightweight Division at the 1951 NCS Championships, He placed 4th in the 75 Yard Dash and 3rd in the 150. Those results, along with his victory in the Long Jump and wins by teammates Phil Nash and Fred Delgalido in the High Jump and Shot Put were enough to earn the Breakers the team title. Sometimes 1952’s Nelson ran 100 yards in 10.0 seconds, which, converted to 10.9 for 100 meters and taking into account the difference between hand and automatic timing, has him checking in at 10.8 on the record board.

Like Nelson, Johnnie Johnson – who we’ve also met before – is remembered more for his long jumping than his sprinting, even though as a sprinter he had the race of his life in 1953. He first gained notice as a freshman at the 1963 King City Invita- tional when, competing in the lightweight division, he set a meet record 7.8 seconds in his 75 Yard Dash trial heat and then went on to win the final in 7.9 (he also set a new record in the Long Jump). In mid-May, at the North Coast Section Division II meet, he won the 75 in 7.8, the 150 Yard Dash in 14.9, and of course the Long Jump in a meet record 23-0 1/4”. One week later, on the 25th of May, he again qualified for three of his events by clocking 7.9 and 13.5, and tying the National Inter- scholastic Freshman Record in the Long Jump to single-handedly win the NCS Lightweight Division title.

Johnson hit his peak as a sprinter in his sophomore year. At the 1964 King City Invitation- al, competing as a varsity athlete, he swept the 100, 220, and Long Jump setting meet records of 9.7, 21.3, and 24”. His 220 – converted to 21.2 for 200 meters – and Long Jump marks are to this day still the K.C. Invite records, and his 9.7, converted to 10.6 for 100 meters, is the standing PGHS school record. He also set the standing school record at 200 meters - 21.1, converted from 21.2 for 220 yards – sometime during the 1964 season. At the NCS Division II meet he finished 2nd behind Sunnyvale’s John Figueroa in both sprints and of course broke Fred Nelson’s meet record. Now winning the L.J. Figueroa again swept the sprints at the NCS Championships clocking 10.0 and 21.6, with Johnson 3rd in both running 10.1 at 100 and 22.0 in his favor. He finished with yet another meet record. After reviewing a film of the race, Johnson’s 3rd in the 100 was changed to 4th. Still, it was on to the State Cham- pionships held that year at the L.A. Memorial Coliseum in all events, where he scratched from Heat 3 in the 100 and failed to advance from Heat 4 in the 200. That, the 10.0 and 21.9 in the Long Jump make the finals from those two heats. As noted in that earlier article, Johnson had a lousy meet at State. By the way, both the 100 and 220 were won that year by James Hines of McClymonds HS in 9.7 and 21.5. In 1968 Hines became the first per- son to break 10 seconds for 100 meters and then proceeded to win Olympic gold in that event.

For whatever reason, Johnson didn’t com- plete in 1966, his senior year, so we move on to the 1980 CCS Championships. Competing in the Frosh-Soph Division, Curt Cearlock was the slowest qualifier (51.9) in the fastest section of the two-section 400 Meter final. He proceeded to run a personal and school frosh-soph record 51.17 to place 3rd. Bill Shirley of Aptos won in 50.48. And a senior, Larry Strachan (pronounced “Strawn”) ran 11.04 to win the 1999 MTAL 100 Meters. He also won the Long Jump that day. The following week at the CCS South Sub-Section meet, he won both the 100 and 200 in 10.94 to qualify for the CCS Semi. That time was good enough to place him 2nd on the school record board, behind only the great Johnnie Johnson. At the CCS Semi-Finals he placed 2nd in heat 2, both he and winner Gabe Cabrera of Silver Creek clock- ing 11.05 into a 0.9 meter/second headwind. The C.C.S Semi-finals were held in Palo Alto. Lane scratched from the Long Jump, but starting in lane 6, in an incredibly close finish, placed 4th in the 100. Only 1/100th of a second separated 3rd from 5th, with both Lane and 3rd place getter Vince Barrin- tos of Palma timed at 11.04 while in 5th Dingle Jackson of Aragon ran 11.05. So, by some fraction of an inch and the judge’s photo-finish judgment, Strachan was ruled out of State Meet bid.

Two years later Stephen Covell made a simi- lar run for glory. At the 2001 CCS South Sub-Section meet he placed 2nd in both his 100 and 200 Meter heats, running 11.40 and 23.08 to move on to the CCS Semis. At that meet he ran 11.20 to miss qualifying for the 100 final by a mere 0.01 second but grabbed the last spot in the 200 final with his 22.34. At the C.C.S Championships he ran 22.94 to finish 8th.

Finally for this article, we come to another truly great sprinter: Zack Miller. In 2014, as a freshman, he was the MTAL champion at both 100 and 200 Meters (11.19 and 22.62). He moved on to the C.C.S Finals where he placed 5th in the 100 with a wind-aided 11.15, and 7th in the 200 in 22.72 into a slight headwind. The next year he def- ended his MTAL titles but failed to qualify for the C.C.S Finals. As a junior in 2016 he said goodbye to the 100 and hello to the 400. Zack commenced his one-lap efforts with an easy season 50.98 win. On April 22nd, he became the only second Breaker ever to break 50 seconds when he ran 49.94 to finish 3rd at the CCS Top 8 Invitational. He improved that to 49.85 the following week in winning at the Ro- tary Invite, where he also won the 200 and Long Jump. On May 7 he swept those three events at the MTAL Championships, and along with Jake Alt, Nick Coppola, and Everett Milette added the 4x400 Meter Relay to his list of wins. Two weeks later, on May 21 at the C.C.S Semis Zack was 4th in the 100 Long Jump qualifying, placed 2nd in his 200 Meter and 1st in his 400 Meter heat running a PR 48.55, breaking Terrell Moss’ 66 year-old school record. At the CCS Finals on May 27 Zack placed 2nd in the 200 in 21.85, and 1st in the 400 (48.55), and 5th in the Long Jump (21-11”).

It should also be noted that Zack was selected as the C.C.S Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the 2016-17 school year. To quote from the C.C.S press release: “The son of 2 firefighters, Zachary understood from an early age the importance of giving back to his community. Jumping at the chance to help others, Zachary was one of the first people to sign up when Pacific Grove established an after-school math tutoring program. “Humble, kind, honest, and selfless are some of the words that teachers used to describe Zachary. Involved in numer- ous service projects and activities, Zachary was selected for a prestigious internship at the Naval Postgraduate School.

An exceptional student, Zachary maintains a 4.25 GPA and has challenged himself with a difficult course load. Co-founder of the Technology Club and a member of the Robotics Club, Zachary has many interests at PG. With outstanding test scores and a C average through the 10th grade, he will enter his 11th grade with a C average. Zachary will continue to be an outstanding student at PG next year and will pursue a major in physics.

Athletically, Zachary is a standout basketball and track athlete with many accolades for his accomplishments. Coaches and administrators speak to his care and concern for teammates and his consistent ‘we’ mentality, whatever the situa- tion.

“A hardworking student-athlete with a bright future ahead, Zachary is well deserving of the title of C.C.S Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year.”

Wayne Giffin
The 1906 Pacific Grove High Track Team. One of those young men was probably Master Gillen. 1906 Sea Urchin Yearbook photo.

Terrill Moss, described in the yearbook as “Affable, agile, athletic.” 1950 Sea Urchin Yearbook photo.

Johnny Johnson, doing what appears to be a barefoot warm-up (or warm-down) on the old high school – now Middle School – athletic field. Photo courtesy of Bob Crispin (PGHS 1963).

Curt Cearlock. 1982 Sea Urchin Yearbook photo.

Lane Strachan. 1999 Sea Urchin Yearbook photo.


Zack Miller, on his way to victory in the 2016 CCS 400 Meters. Vern Fisher, Monterey County Herald photo.