



the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

MAY ■ JUNE 2017

CRA Moving Forward Part III: THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITE THEIR PRIORITIES

Part III of the CRA's 30th anniversary year Moving Forward speakers' series is scheduled for Thursday, May 18, in Carpenter Hall, Sunset Center. The event, which encompasses the CRA's annual general meeting, is free of charge and open to all members as well as to the public. It begins at 5 p.m.

The gathering will feature Carmel-by-the-Sea's top city officials, who will outline their focus and priorities for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The meeting will also include ample time for questions, answers and comments, giving city leaders a chance to engage with constituents, and constituents an opportunity to engage them.

Mayor Steve Dallas will be on hand, as will Carmel City Council members Carolyn Hardy, Jan Reimers, Bobby Richards and Carrie Theis. Carmel City Administrator Chip Rerig will talk about his priorities and join the council in what promises to be an informative discussion about issues of the day, as well as hardy perennials such as the city restaurant ordinance, supersized tour buses, and maintaining the streets and forest canopy in the square mile.

CRA members and members of the public are invited to bring up topics of their own, in addition to the topics raised by city officials. To lay the groundwork for the May meeting, CRA President Barbara Livingston and *The Voice* asked invited city officials to preview their planned remarks at the meeting. Their responses touched on a wide range of topics. Here is a sampling of what they had to say, excerpted from e-mails:



Chip Rerig

MAYOR STEVE DALLAS: "My long-time priority has been the safety of our residents, and that priority extends to our businesses, as well. The upgrades at the police department have been a goal of mine for some time. We need to have a better-functioning work environment at the police department for the employees who keep us safe. I hope we can get a good start on making the needed changes in the coming year."

CAROLYN HARDY: "I will continue to keep my focus on projects with the public's safety in mind, whether it be through essential maintenance and upgrades at our police department, or fire prevention through fuel-load reduction in Mission Trail Nature Preserve...I put great importance on our technological infrastructure. I will also continue to be a supportive 'sounding board' to our city administrator as he continues to build an effective team of employees. And, as your representative to Monterey-Salinas Transit, I hope to see a new bus stop shelter...at the northwest corner of Devendorf Park."

JAN REIMERS: "An area of interest for me is to protect and manage our natural environment...I will continue to support keeping our white sand beaches clean, the North Dunes restoration project,

L to R: Jan Reimers, Bobby Richards, Carolyn Hardy, Mayor Steve Dallas, and Carrie Theis. Photographer: Leslie Fenton

and maintaining our forest with careful oversight and care." Continues Reimers: "Other important, but less visually attractive, projects are repairs to the infrastructure of the city."

BOBBY RICHARDS: "I would like to implement a program that would begin to attack the CalPERS debt. The next budget should have a line item calling for 5 percent of our gross revenue to be dedicated to the principal payment to CalPERS. Twenty-five percent of all monies collected from sources not in our typical revenue stream should be used to pay down the CalPERS debt. I would like to report the balance quarterly at our council meetings... Secondly, I would like all of us to think how best we can reduce our future obligations to CalPERS."

Continued on Page 3

**THURSDAY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MAY 18TH**

Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Carpenter Hall
Sunset Center
Mission St., South of 8th

Free and Open to the Public



“Downtown – Everything’s Waiting for you – Downtown!”

*“We can forget all our troubles, forget all our cares.
So go downtown. Things will be great when you're downtown.
Don't wait a minute more, downtown
Everything is waiting for you, downtown.”*

Most of us of a certain age remember these lyrics from a hit tune Petula Clark sang in the 1960s. In many respects it captures the way I feel about Carmel. My passion for this village is well known, but most people think it is primarily for the natural environment and the residential neighborhoods. Of course they are correct, but another aspect of our village, for which I have equal appreciation and respect, is our downtown.

If it's been a while since you last checked out what Carmel's "downtown" is like, take a walking tour, either independently or with one of the guided tours listed online.

So much is special downtown: the eclectic architecture; the meandering courtyards; the small shops with their interesting mix of merchandise; the post office where we meet and greet friends; the Carmel Art Association, offering works by local artists; the Harrison Memorial Library; the Pine Inn Hotel that was rolled down Ocean Avenue on logs from what is now Devendorf Park to its present location; the medieval design of the buildings in the Courtyard of the Golden Bough; the mission-style architecture of buildings such as the Cypress Inn and Las Ramblas—often imitated, but never successfully copied; and the resident-serving businesses such as Bruno's and Nielsen's markets; Pilgrim's Way, Carmel's only book store, with its succulent garden in the rear; Carmel Drug Store, in business since 1906, and Knapp Hardware.

I have great respect for the hardworking business owners and managers who strive so valiantly to provide goods and services that are unique to our village. I am especially grateful to the resident-serving businesses, such as our drug store, markets, bookstore and hardware store that depend, to an enormous degree, on the support of residents. If we want these businesses to survive, we must give them our support.

Carmel Planning Commissioners recently attended a planning conference in Long Beach. One speaker revealed that 10-15 percent of all retail sales are now done online. As this trend continues and reaches 25 percent, traditional retail business could be in deep trouble. It may demand that businesses in Carmel become more creative, more innovative, more special and unique, providing shopping experiences that will make us want to go downtown and spend our money, rather than shop online.

Perhaps one Carmel property owner has foreseen, as a trend, a change in the balance between business and residential space downtown. (Remember that Carmel's business district has always been a mixed-use commercial and residential area.) His new building will include both storefronts and apartments (including two low-cost rental units). This is quite a novel approach and is sure to be copied by other commercial property owners.

Petula and I parted company when she extolled "lights are much brighter there" as one reason to hurry "downtown".

Carmel's business district seems to have succumbed to that particular malady. It appears that retailers are flooding their shop interiors with harsh lighting that they believe attracts customers to their shops. In my growing up years, it was always very romantic to walk downtown with my boyfriend on misty, magical evenings to look into the shops and restaurants that spilled soft, romantic glow onto the sidewalk. That wonderful experience is no longer possible.

The September 18, 1941 issue of the *Carmel Cymbal & Masten's Gazette* published an article about the harsh lighting at Fortier's Drug Store, then located on the southeast corner of Ocean and Dolores. Concerned about the excessive use of lighting, the council ordered Mr. Fortier to dim his lights. Today, there appears to be no such concern by the planning department or the city council on the over-lit commercial buildings downtown—apparently an effort to attract the attention of quick-visit, in-and-out tourists.

If we are enthusiastically to sing along with Petula, "Things will be great when you're downtown", some changes are necessary. There must be softer lighting inside the shops, no enticing of customers by touts from shop doorways; restaurants with more creative and innovative menus, and, above all, a more welcoming experience from shopkeepers and restaurateurs.

But perhaps the most important of all is elimination of tour busses in our village.

The Case of the Counter-Service Restaurant



David Mosley is the guest commentator who prepared this article. Dave was a candidate for the city council at the last election and served as CRA's representative on an advisory panel for the Carmel Planning Commission's review of regulations regarding restaurants.

Today, Carmel allows two types of restaurants: a "specialty" restaurant is a coffee or pastry shop where no more than 10 percent of sales are allowed to be from meals (soup, salad, sandwiches), and a "full line" restaurant is where customers order at the table, have food delivered to the table, and pay after they've finished their meal. Each restaurant type has other requirements; but those, along with zoning, are the main differences. A "counter-service" restaurant is something between a specialty restaurant and a full-line restaurant. In counter-service restaurants, the ordering is done at the counter, the meal is paid for at the time of ordering and the food is either picked up by the customer or delivered to the table.

The Carmel Belle restaurant (formerly Paulina's) in the Doud Arcade building is a fine example of a counter-service restaurant. That location has been "grandfathered" to operate as a counter-service restaurant for the past 63 years. In September of 2013 the Carmel Belle owners Jay and Chloe Dolata, made a request to the planning commission to expand their existing space from 1500 square feet to 2900 square feet. The

commission approved the request with the condition that the expanded space must come into compliance with a full-line restaurant because, according to city code, a non-conforming use cannot be expanded.

The Dolatas appealed that condition to the city council two months later in November of 2013. You can watch the archived video for yourself. The council voted 3-1 to uphold the planning commission's condition, and the Dolatas were given two years to come into compliance in the expanded area. No promises were made. Mayor Jason Burnett did say that maybe an update to restaurant ordinances was needed to reflect current trends in the restaurant industry. The restaurant expansion went ahead. City workload was high, time went by, and a two-year extension was granted in 2015. The extension expires in November of this year.

In June of 2016, a restaurant subcommittee was organized. It consisted of Marc Wiener community planning and building director, and planning commissioners Ian Martin and Keith Paterson. Also included was an advisory panel consisting initially of restaurateurs Chloe Dolata, Rich Pepe, Ken Spilfogel, Hans Hess and myself. The city knew it could not relax the definition of the two defined restaurant categories for fear of existing coffee shops and full line restaurants morphing into lower-cost, higher-profit counter service restaurants. All control would be lost, so a new third category would need to be created if counter service was to be allowed. The majority of the advisory panel was strongly against adding a third restaurant category, but director Wiener pushed ahead with defining the counter service category. The new category was eventually to fit restaurants types like Carmel Belle. Adding the third category became complicated when the city began

considering how to limit the allowable number in town.

In January, 2017 the planning commission (now without commissioners Martin and Paterson) eventually rejected the new category by a 3-2 vote. On review, the city council also agreed to not adopt the new counter service category.

Today, Carmel has several (some say six) specialty restaurants operating as counter-service restaurants. Creating a counter-service category would encourage more to open, and it would certainly result in some of our full line and specialty restaurants wanting to convert to counter service to save labor costs and increase sales and profits. All of this would be at some expense of village character in Carmel. It would contribute to Carmel having a more commercial and industrial feel to it. So in the case of counter-service restaurants, our current planning commission and city council got it right.

Continued from Page 1

CARRIE THEIS: "I am very interested in supporting the new computer software and systems so our employees can have more up-to-date technical tools...for example, new financial software will allow us to have improved access to reports in regards to contract and agenda management; and a new website will also serve as a communication tool. I also want to focus on the beauty of Carmel, to keep promoting the planting of trees and the projects along the Scenic Pathway and shoreline."

CITY ADMINISTRATOR CHIP RERIG indicated he plans to address the importance of filling key city staff positions and to implement city priorities. The positions of city attorney, planning director and finance director were vacant when *The Voice* went to press.



Courtesy of the Henry Meade Williams Local History Room, Harrison Memorial Library.

Harrison Memorial Library

A TRIP TO WHERE THE BOOKS ARE

Those of us who love libraries, who check out books, schmooze with the librarians, just can't seem to get enough of the allure of the place where the books are. Gadzooks! What a thrill when we were invited into the administrative offices of Harrison Memorial the other day to talk with Jean Chapin, head reference librarian and a lady who readily confesses that we were visiting with a person who loves books, and everything about books—the touch, the smell, the binding, and even the fly leaves. So there we were, why not ask those questions we've always been curious about, and what did she have to say?

Browsing the stacks there are many times when we run across a volume that's obviously been on the shelf for many years. Let's say it was first published in 1936. Has it been on the shelf since that time? That could be 80 years.

We put a mark, a stamp on each book when it enters our system. The publication date really doesn't answer your query. We may have acquired it in '76. If you're asking about the longevity of certain titles, then I can tell you we have books currently on our shelves back to the early twentieth century. Books are made to last. So, for instance, if a book circulates 300 times and is well bound, has good paper, it can last for many, many years.

Are there basic guidelines for libraries, that is, are there "must have books" or genre that a good or major library should have in its collection?

Yes, it's called "The Core Collection". We carefully look the lists over, fiction, non-fiction, children's books, etc. It's very helpful in keeping up to date on what is recommended, and what is essential for a major library's collection.

Do you purchase books on demand; that is books in certain categories that have been requested by the reading public?

I have to tell you the top requests and the most circulated items in this library are the DVDs. Upstairs Downstairs has a history of circulating over 900 times

And books?

Our highest book circulation of all time are the Sue Grafton mysteries. So yes, mysteries, suspense, thrillers. Here are some definitions I have for you—Mystery: Aunt Susie is dead, who killed her? Suspense: Aunt Susie is in danger. Oh no! Thriller: Aunt Susie and her whole country are in danger. What now? After mysteries, the highest circulated are cookbooks, current travel, general fiction, art, how-to books, and children's books at the branch library.

Since there is no longer the reference bible that was called Books in Print, where do you go to find titles and availability?

Where millions of people go today: Amazon.

Here's a scenario for you. A patron walks up to the information desk and is looking for a particular book they read about in the New Yorker. He/she has a bit of a problem: can't recall the title, author or publisher. What does come to mind is that it, the book, has a red jacket.

That happens quite often. I do my best. I ask if the patron could tell me a bit

about the subject, plot, or perhaps a character or two. With what information I'm offered I'm quite often able to solve the mystery. In fact, I have a pretty good track record.

We're not the least surprised. Thank you, Jean Chapin. You're a perfect example of why book lovers in Carmel are proud of our Harrison Memorial Library.

And so our library fix was over for the day. Before leaving, we stopped off at the circulation desk to ask for a title we wanted to check out. The only thing we recalled was that the book in question had a yellow cover.



CRA COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Newsletter: Barbara Livingston, David Armstrong, Richard Flower and Tom Parks (Editorial Board), Bonny McGowan (Design and Production), Mary Condry (Proofreader), Carl Iverson and Vicky Kou (Distribution). Other: Kathy Fredrickson (E-Blast Manager), Loren Hughes (Email Manager), Frankie Laney (Mailing Chair) and Darlene Mosley (Dines Out).

CONTACT CRA

www.carmelresidents.org
carmelresidents@gmail.com
(831) 626-1610

THE FUTURE OF THE MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

With this article, The Voice introduces a new feature "CRA Investigates". From time to time we will explore a timely topic of vital interest to Carmel residents.

Before it was a how-low-can-you-go dance, limbo was a place. In theology, to be stranded outside heaven as an unbaptized soul was to reside in limbo. Marine scientists, educators, environmentalists, and staff of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) are beginning to know what a decidedly secular limbo feels like. They are waiting to find out if, and how, a proposed 17 percent reduction in federal funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), overseer of the nation's 13 national marine sanctuaries, will affect stewardship of America's coastal waters. At this writing, it's impossible to know the budget's final form. But it's fair to say there is considerable anxiety.

"I've been around long enough to see bad budgets and cuts across the board before," California State University Monterey Bay professor James Lindholm told *The Voice*. But "these are different times," he said, citing broad and deep cuts to science in President Donald Trump's budget. Weeks of Congressional horse-trading precede passage of a new budget. The federal fiscal year begins October 1, but cuts could begin this spring.

Lindholm, a Carmel-by-the-Sea resident and Director, Institute for Applied Marine Ecology, in Seaside, expressed concern for the MBNMS. Created by an Act of Congress in 1992, the MBNMS reaches from Cambria to the Marin County headlands and covers 6,094 square miles

of ocean. In addition to being a prime recreation destination, the sanctuary is a mother lode of information for researchers.

Lindholm is especially worried about the federal-state Sea Grant College Program, targeted in the Trump budget. Sea Grant, which operates in 33 coastal and Great Lakes states, awards research funds to university applicants who submit peer-reviewed proposals. Since 1966, the program has trained graduate students to apply their scientific knowledge to marine management, research and education.

"Of the 17 Sea Grants in California this year, 10 were awarded to students on CSU campuses," Lindholm told *The Voice*. "CSU is training people to work with federal and state agencies." Elimination of the \$250 million program would choke this pipeline of new talent, he said, and complicate efforts by academics like himself to recruit new faculty.

Paul Michel, superintendent of the MBNMS, referred questions to NOAA in Washington, D.C., which deferred to its parent organization, the U.S. Department of Commerce. The DOC, in a statement, endorsed Trump's "America First Budget Blueprint." There was no mention of NOAA or marine sanctuaries.

National and local media coverage of the proposed budget has not given sustained attention to marine sanctuaries. Coverage has focused on threats to the National Weather Service, also part of NOAA, noting that weather forecasters rely heavily on NWS data from underwater monitoring and overhead space satellites. Funds for next-generation satellites are on the chopping block.

In a prepared statement, Rep. Jimmy Panetta, a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, underscored the value of the ocean: "The Central Coast's unspoiled coastline and waters, including the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, California Coastal National Monument and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, are critical for our public health, environment, recreation, tourism, university science programs, marine research institutions and our \$2.1 billion ocean-related economy."

Margaret "PJ." Webb, a Cambria public-interest lawyer, expressed deep concern. Webb, who chairs the unpaid, federally appointed MBNMS Advisory Council, told *The Voice* that sweeping cutbacks would be "short-sighted at best. We're playing catch-up with ocean research. We know more about the surface of the moon than we do about the depths of the oceans."

Webb shares Panetta's appreciation for the immense importance of the Pacific: its fisheries, its shipping lanes, its crucial role in both shaping our climate and understanding climate change. "Our coastal communities are going to have huge impacts from climate change; we know that," she said. Webb, as did Lindholm, opined that scientific research was inadequately funded under President Barack Obama also, but not to an extreme degree. Fortunately, she added, in a nod to Sacramento, "California is doing a great job. We're far ahead of the curve." That said, NOAA plays a crucial role in coordinating collaboration between federal, state, county and local authorities.

That, too, is in limbo.

ROBERT MULLANE RESIGNS

Robert Mullane has resigned as Carmel Public Works Director. Since joining the city staff, Rob has been a steadfast friend to CRA. He has always been immediately responsive to requests for information and ever willing to listen to suggestions. His always-helpful presence will be missed. We wish him well in whatever he chooses as his new career.

CARMEL ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Beginning in the spring of 2016, the library's local history department has been conducting oral history interviews, collecting the memories and stories of long-time Carmelites, and learning more about the history of our town. Thus far five interviews have been completed and are available for viewing. Interviewees include former Mayor Charlotte Townsend, library trustee Niels Reimers, former city council member and CRA president Barbara Livingston, and long-time residents Vince Torras Jr. and Don Berry, members of the Carmel High School class of 1951.

DVDs of the interviews are available for loan at the main library or on the internet at <http://hm-lib.org/history/> or on Youtube. For further information about the project, contact the local history department at 624-1615 or hml.localhist@gmail.com.

CITY SERVERS

The winter's vigorous storms incidentally offered the opportunity to test the city's new computer servers during periods of power outage. Thankfully, the new system performed as designed and the servers that lost power transferred their workload to the primary data at the police department. The total server outage lasted for less than five minutes.

TSUNAMI READINESS

As a coastal community Carmel must remain aware of its vulnerability to tsunamis. We should learn how to survive a tsunami before, during and after the event. Tsunami-ready communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of a tsunami through planning, education and awareness.

To become a Tsunami-ready community, certain criteria must be met. A community must: ■ establish a 24-hour warning point and an emergency operations center, ■ have more than one way to receive tsunami warnings and disseminate the emergency alert to the public, ■ promote public readiness through community education and distribution of information, and ■ develop a formal tsunami plan that includes holding emergency exercises and drills.

In 2016, Carmel applied for readiness status and completed the requirements to become a tsunami-ready community. The city was awarded the designation of tsunami-ready community by the National Weather Service. As a part of the required public education program, the Carmel Police Department, the Monterey Fire Department, and Cal Fire cooperated in setting up a booth at the Carmel Farmers Market.

CARMEL PLAZA REMODEL

Construction has begun on the fairly substantial remodel of the Carmel Plaza that was approved last year. It includes new landscaping, lighting, paint, railings, stair configuration and signage. The first component is a remodel of the interior restrooms. The project is expected to take around eight months to complete and intends to provide an updated look to the Carmel Plaza while still maintaining its unique character.

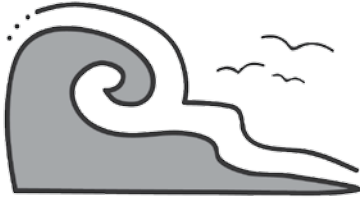
ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

City Hall and the police department have been receiving increasing complaints about speeding vehicles and stop sign and cell phone violators in our village. To assist in addressing these issues, Carmel Police Department called upon the STOPP (Strategic Traffic Offender Prevention Program) that is composed of Monterey Peninsula police agencies' traffic officers. Each month the group focuses their attention on particular cities and/or problem areas along highways. The group came to Carmel and spent four hours contacting drivers who were observed violating the law.

In an ongoing effort to keep our community safe, the radar trailer (the white trailer with a lighted display) has been upgraded with a speed-recording computer chip. This computer chip will provide valuable data to the police department to help differentiate perceived speed versus actual speed to assist in making decisions about traffic calming needs.

BOARD AND COMMISSION TRAINING

Members of Carmel's boards and commissions frequently attend training sessions to increase their effectiveness. Recently members of the planning commission attended a conference sponsored by the League of California Cities that covered a variety of land-use topics. Members of the historic resources board attended a California Preservation Foundation workshop entitled "Teardowns and Mansionization: Preserving Community Character" that dealt with the problematic demolition of modest-size older homes and replacement with homes built at the maximum allowed floor area.



LOVERS OF CARMEL BEACH

BEACH CLEANUP

CRA's monthly beach cleanup, one of its oldest community service projects, has entered a new era. Helen and Mark D'Olivera have retired from project leadership and handed it over to Lauren Banner, who brings an organized activity, Lovers of Carmel Beach. Hereafter the beach cleanup program will be designated CRA's Lovers of Carmel Beach. We hope CRA members will participate in the program; and unaffiliated beach lovers and employee and student groups and club members will continue to be welcome participants.

Lauren grew up in Carmel. After a lengthy stay on the East Coast, she returned to Carmel in 2016. A beach lover since childhood, she was dismayed to see the changes that had occurred in her absence, particularly the accumulation of trash during the summer months; thus her activism in organizing Lovers of Carmel Beach that now becomes CRA's beach cleaning arm. She pledges, "Together we can make the beach cleaner than ever—not just for ourselves and our visitors, but also for the health of the Carmel Bay and the oceans beyond."

Beach cleanup dates for the remainder of the year are:

MAY 20	AUGUST 19
JUNE 17	SEPTEMBER 16
JULY 15	OCTOBER 21

Volunteers gather at the foot of Ocean Avenue at 10:00 a.m. to enjoy socializing with coffee and cookies. People bring their own gloves, but all other equipment is provided.



Panelists from CRA's Sustainable Tourism program panel. From left to right: Moderator David Armstrong, travel writer and CRA member; Rob O'Keefe, vice president/chief marketing officer, Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau; Monta Potter, retiring president, Carmel Chamber of Commerce; David Mosley, CRA member and member of advisory panel on restaurants, Carmel Planning Commission; Janine Chicourrat, general manager, Portola Hotel and Spa, and CRA board member; and Amy Johnson, chair, board of directors of Visit Carmel and operator of Carmel Country Inn. Photographer: Lauren Banner

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PROGRAM

CRA's Sustainable Tourism program, held on March 23rd, attracted a sizeable audience that included several people who have substantial involvement with Carmel's tourist industry, as well as public officials who are concerned with regulating that industry. Perhaps the single opinion that achieved the greatest agreement was that the city needs to address the issue of tour busses. There are too many, they are out of scale for our streets, and the parking fee should be increased from the ridiculously low \$10.

CARMEL TREASURES SALE

Our third annual Carmel Treasures Sale will be held in November, chaired by Ann Pendleton. Donations are already being delivered to Barbara Livingston's garage. Search for excess possessions: once-valued but long-unused items: tools, garden furniture, ornaments, household items from the kitchen and dining room (no Pyrex), electronic appliances in good working order, lightly used men's and women's clothing, jewelry (a big seller), paintings, table linens, picture frames, and handbags. Bring items to Barbara's garage or front porch (NW corner of 13th and San Carlos) or call 626-1610. Volunteers willing to help should contact Ann Pendleton at annpendleton4@gmail.com.

FIESTA GOES LUAU

This year CRA breaks with tradition. "Fiesta in the Forest", a highlight on CRA's calendar, will be transformed into "Fiesta Goes Luau". The menu, the ambience, and, we hope, celebrants' attire will be in keeping with that theme. Enter the date of August 31 on your calendar and start the search for the mumu or Hawaiian shirt you bought on that trip all those years ago. Ann Nelson chairs the Fiesta planning committee. Details about the event will be published in the summer edition of *The Voice* (another innovation).

RAFFLE PRIZES

One feature of our summer fiesta is a raffle that helps to support CRA's community service projects. Last year's prizes included a week's stay at a condo in Puerto Vallarta, a golf party at Carmel Rancho, two dinner parties—one with a bocce ball tournament, tickets for Sunset Center events, a kayak tour, a walking tour of Carmel, and select wines. Donors of equally valuable prizes are currently being sought by a committee headed by Ovide Kennedy. Contact Ovide at ovileek@gmail.com or call Barbara Livingston at 626-1610. For appropriate publicity, items should be offered before the end of May.

CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 13

Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921

www.carmelresidents.org

carmelresidents@gmail.com

The CRA Board wishes to assure our members that we do not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our mailing list with any organization or company. This list is held in the strictest confidence for our organization's use only.

CHEERS & CHIDES



CHEERS to the 5th graders of River School for their impassioned pitch to the city council for help in eradicating plastic straws and glasses at Carmel restaurants.



CHIDES to the city for allowing two sizable automated pay stations to loom, unused, in the north Sunset Center parking lot nearly two years after parking meters were pulled from Ocean Avenue. Draped in plastic covers, the big pay stations make the monolith in Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey* look dainty and friendly.



CHEERS to council member Carrie Theis for hosting fund-raisers for the Monterey County Food Bank.



CHEERS to council member Bobby Richards for setting the record straight about counter food service and Carmel Belle in the March 24 *Carmel Pine Cone*.



CHIDES to the smokers—local and visiting—who light up wherever they please downtown, littering the sidewalks and ignoring restrictions on where smoking is permitted. And yes we do dream of the day when all of downtown Carmel is a no smoking zone.



CHEERS to the Carmel High School students who discovered and publicized the thousands of golf balls unraveling at the bottom of north Carmel Bay.



CHEERS for the mention of *The Voice* in the *Monterey County Weekly's* Squid Fry column. They didn't exactly like what we wrote, but anything is better than being ignored.



CHEERS to the Carmel Garden Club for its many privately funded improvements to our city's parks, open spaces, and public buildings: Piccadilly Park, the north dunes of Del Mar Beach, and the City Hall garden with its fanciful but practical handrails, tree stump waterfall, benches and lovely plants.

CRA's "Double Header" Celebration

HONORING

★ ★ 2017 Citizens of the Year ★ ★
★ Melanie Billig & Mike Brown ★

AND

"Welcome Home" to Sam Farr

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

(Photographs by Richard Green)



Monterey County Supervisor Mary Adams congratulates Mike



Citizens of the year Melanie and Mike admire pictures painted by local artists presented to them by CRA



Phoebe and Greg Da Silva and Sam Farr congratulate Citizens of the Year Mike and Melanie



*Carmel City Administrator Chip Rerig introduces Citizen of the Year Melanie.
Citizen of the Year Mike applauds*



Carmel Mayor Steve Dallas pays tribute to Citizens of the Year Melanie and Mike



Introducing previous Citizens of the Year



*California Assemblymember Mark Stone presents proclamations
to Citizens of the Year Melanie and Mike*



*Dave Mosley and Jane Veneman,
wine stewards extraordinaire!*



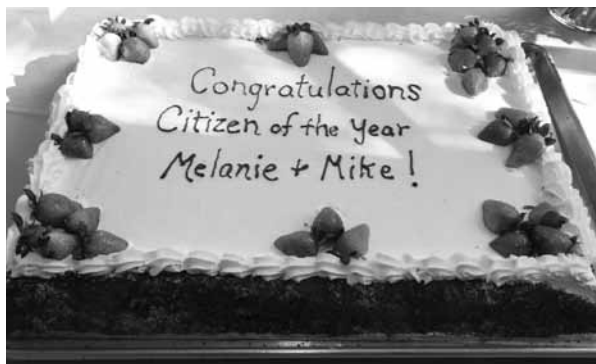
*Always-willing CRA volunteers
Mary Condry and Frankie Laney*



Sam and Shary Farr



Event Chair Loren Hughes



Tribute cake provided by Magdy Ibrahim of Patisserie Boissiere



*CRA President Barbara Livingston greets Sam Farr
before the program begins*



Dave Potter, Ken White and Dick Stiles "reorient" Sam Farr to life in Carmel



Partytime following the program



CRA members and guests fill the Carmel Woman's Club to honor Sam Farr and the Citizens of the Year