

# **Carmel-By-The-Sea—A Work In Progress**

The Holidays are here. And that means different things to different folks. The next weeks will be fraught with cheers and chores and choices for those of us who celebrate this time of year. There's a kind of seasonal wide-eyed energy in many of us—making lists, mailing greetings, shopping for—what's that grandkid's name? Better pack in the turkey, let's see, fresh or frozen or faux? Hold on, not to worry, we'll get through it. And so . . . take a deep breath.

It's near year end and *The Voice* has decided to take inventory of what's been happening in terms of the quality of life for us, the residents of Carmel-by-the-Sea. There's been progress in some cases, a wait-and-see in others,

and to-be-announced in still other areas. What's important is that we're talking. Talking, meeting, sharing ideas, making compromises, smiling, holding our tempers, and willing to listen.

Casual polls seem to indicate that many, if not a majority, of Carmelites would like to see numbers attached to their houses. To be followed by mail delivery? How would this impact our 93921 Post Office? In this case, we're actively talking.

What architectural design, style, look should Carmelites favor? Right now, it's up for grabs. This is an on-going issue passionately shouldered by advocates of traditional vs modern. The traditionalists favor softer lines, cottage details, what they consider the Carmel aesthetic. Others seem ambivalent but open to eclectic design. The fact that the conversation is taking place is positive. We're meeting and talking.

Friday Night Lights (FNL) at Carmel High is a hot button issue. In fact, we don't have Friday night lights at present



nor for Sunday through Saturday. Many advocates are ready to activate the switch to light up the field; opponents prefer Saturday afternoon scrimmage. Neighbors cringe at the thought of high-tech illumination through their parlor windows while sports fans argue that FNL is an American tradition that Carmel should embrace in the 21st Century. Decision is up in the air not unlike a field goal. But still, friends, we're talking.

At last, Harrison Library is open. Four days a week at this reporting.

This is good news. And we look forward to a full week—and perhaps weekends—next year. More good news about the library is that finding a title is made simple online. The website is clear and easy to access. Find a book, put a hold on that book, walk into the library just hours later and pick it off the "on hold" shelf. Bravo library, staff, and volunteers.

Most residents' complaints are satisfied. Success? Yes, so far.

The dining sheds are gone. But not without controversy. Many residents and

more tourists were pleased with the plein air experience. Others found the temp lean-to's aesthetically offensive. City government, after many delays, made a decision to haul them away. There are many restaurants in the Village where one can dine alfresco. Someone once said you can't please everyone. And to be honest, we haven't. Still, bon appetite.

November isn't just for turkey; we have an election Tuesday November 8th.

The 17th biannual CRA Candidates Forum introduced us to four residents who are vying for seats on the Carmel City Council. On November 8th we will be voting for two. The incumbent mayor is unopposed. In under two

hours these citizens presented their views on governance and what they believe they personally can bring to the betterment of our Village. Former Congressman, Sam Farr, the moderator, closed the session with what *The Voice* believes the most important message of the evening: We have just 2,553 registered voters in town. Vote for whomever you like, but vote.

It seems to us that this year, which is rapidly coming to a close, is one of the most collaborative between government and citizenry. Surely this is good news. Of course, we don't all agree. But there is a process, one that must be respected, in a diverse and democratic society. Are we listening; are we engaged? For the most part, yes. Actually, for the most part, definitely yes.

Now, about that turkey . . .



# PRESIDENT'S Message

# **Before You Vote!** 17<sup>th</sup> BIANNUAL CANDIDATES FORUM





Jeff Baron

The Candidate's Forum is, without a doubt, one of CRA's most important informational events. Our 17th bi-annual public forum on September 21 at the Carmel Woman's club was well attended and quite informative. The Carmel Residents Association does not endorse any political candidates but delivers this Forum for Carmel citizens to hear directly from the candidates on our Carmel residents' ballot. Once again, our Forum moderator was Sam Farr, former member of the House of Representatives for 24 years and Carmel resident.

Our panelists included incumbent Jeff Baron, and new candidates Alissan-



Parker Logan



Ashley Stoddard

dra Dramov, Parker Logan, and Ashley Stoddard. Running unopposed, incumbent Mayor Dave was not included on the panel but welcomed mixing with attendees through the evening.

Our candidates were asked to give their response to 10 questions crafted on topics from you and our board and were not shared with the candidates in advance. The questions covered relevant issues and hot topics including street addresses, public parking, Regional Housing Needs Allocation, use of the public right of way, tourism management, climate change, and our telecom/wireless ordinance. Our tenth question asked for their long-term



vision for our Village and wrapped up with one-minute closing statements. We also included a "lightning round" with their supportive thumbs up or thumbs down to an added 5 topics.

Attendees remained to ask candidates to elaborate on answers, plus a barrage of additional topics too. With these new insights on candidates' positions, attendees repeatedly said this forum helped them make decisions on casting their votes.

To prepare for your vote and learn our candidates' responses to the questions, The Carmel Pine Cone published an excellent follow-up article by Mary Schley in their September 23-29 issue. We provide this article as a PDF and a video of the Candidates Forum on the Carmel Residents Association website: www.carmelresidents.org.

Our winning candidates will be making decisions that directly affect the quality of life in our amazing Carmel-bythe-Sea. Finally, our democracy works best when we participate. There is a lot on the ballot, so please make the time to vote on November 8th.

## Jean White, A Remembrance

Some would say she was unstoppable. She was someone who loved Carmel from the day she arrived from Stockton. It was 1961, the same year she married Ken White. They were both teachers, she at the former Sunset School, now Carmel's Sunset Cultural Center.

After retiring from teaching, she taught CPR and water safety for the Carmel chapter of the Red Cross for many years along with her husband. It is no surprise that she was named chairman of that program.

And then she invented a unique program called The St. Bernard's. Several years ago, during an interview in *The Voice*, we asked her what that was all about. "It turned out to be a wonderful idea. Ken and I were always interested in older people, how they lived and what their thoughts were on aging and what they thought of where they lived in this small Village in a forest by the sea; they were, of course, our next-door neighbors. We were neighbor supporting neighbor—what a good idea. The program remained active for several years."

And then came the Sunset Center, recreated, refurbished, repurposed. Jean was there from the beginning and was asked to form a support group, Friends of the Sunset Foundation. She worked tirelessly in that capacity for 27 years. And that Foundation has returned more than \$250,000 to the Center through the sales of beverages and memberships, all in the hands of resolute volunteers.

Jean White was a quiet doer. Modest, soft spoken and determined. A month ago, Jean White left Carmel. But what she left behind is here as evidence of a good citizen, a generous person, and a fine woman.

CRA Communications	<b>Nancy Twomey</b>	<b>Tom Parks</b>	Mary Condry	<b>Monterey Bay Design</b>	Frankie Laney
	Communications Director/Publisher	<i>Editor</i>	Writer	Voice Design	Mailing Team

# 

Oh, come all ye CRA faithful, and celebrate the Holiday Season with members and guests. Join us as we gather once again at La Playa Hotel on December 9, 2022, for an evening of food, wine, and amazing company. Live background music will also help set the mood.

**Reception:** mix and mingle with fellow members beginning with check-in at 5:15 pm.

The Cocktail Hour begins at 5:30 pm on the Pacific Terrace where red and white wines are included throughout the reception and dinner. Well drinks will be available via no-host. **Dining:** Each dining table will be hosted by one of your welcoming CRA Board Members. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm in the Pacific Room with a special holiday salad – a colorful beet salad with oranges, pickled onions served on sweet gem lettuce with balsamic dressing and goat cheese.

#### Followed by your Entrée Choice:

- A. Roasted Chicken, served with Brussel sprouts, mushrooms and marbled mashed potatoes
- B. Alaska Salmon, served atop a bed of Israeli couscous, seasonal vegetables, light harissa sauce, and blistered heirloom cherry tomatoes
- C. Mushroom Ravioli, with blend of wild mushrooms, roasted Gilroy garlic, fresh herbs

#### Concluding with your Desert Choice:

- A. Lemon meringue tart
- B. Chocolate truffle marquise cake

If this yearend gathering matches our 2019 & 2021 Galas – this will be a sold-out event.

Please visit the CRA web page and emails for the latest details. Please mark your calendars for December 9th and act now to register to attend with your payment of \$85 per person.

We need to receive your payment and menu choices by Monday November 29th to confirm your reservation.



Please complete your registration and credit card payment by using the event link on the CRA website www.carmelresidents.org.

- ✓ Or Call Nancy at (650) 740-3477 who can answer any issues on the online signup and can take your registration and payment details live.
- Or you can confirm your attendance by check that must be received on or before November 29th – at CRA, PO Box 13, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921.
  *- Include your email and phone number and meal selections with any postal mailed sign-up.*

Note: Current CRA Membership is required for you and your guests to join us.

## Fill your Wine Cellar while you help fund CRA Programs in the New Year

No it's not a card game. But to add to the mix and mingle fun, we will be raffling great wines of California & our Monterey area. Buy one or more cards (\$50 each) from our deck of cards and if your card is drawn, you will *go home with multiple cases of wine*. Your dollars will help fund the great programs CRA brings to the community and our members in the year to come. Please bring your check book or some cash for this great cause and chances to win!



We look forward to seeing you there, and our thanks to those who've already signed up!



# POINT of View

## And So It Goes...At the Close of 1962

In 2022, the sometimes volatile and always versatile financial markets have endured the gyrating price per gallon of gasoline, employment, and unemployment, impacts from discord and war, inflation. These circumstances are different from the issues of the world, and Carmel-by-the-Sea, at the holiday season sixty years ago.

The annual inflation rate in 1962 was 1 percent. A gallon of gas was \$.31/gallon. Carmel Savings and Loan Association was

rewarding investors with 4.75% per annum interest payments. The national unemployment rate was 5.5 percent. The United States and the Soviet Union had peacefully resolved the Cuban Missile Crisis in October. Safeway in Pacific Grove advertised Red or Golden apples at \$1.00 for seven pounds. British Motors in Monterey promoted a new MG Sedan at \$1,898.

the Carmel Sands hostelry at Fifth Avenue and San Carlos, suggested reservations to assure a seat for its \$4.50 "superb food" dinner.

The Friday following Thanksgiving was a boom for local merchants. "Swimmingly" is how Courtney Brunn, owner of Mark Fenwick, described post-holiday sales, adding the shop had "a good healthy increase over business the same day last year." A similar summation came from Frank Putnam of Putnam and Raggett.



suits and dresses" with one-third to onehalf reductions in price. The Village Shoe Tree solicited customers with the tease that shoes were available at "up to a 50%" savings.

It wasn't just products, food and gasoline that were less expensive back



There were other matters of attentiveness in the Village when the holidays dawned in 1962. During Thanksgiving weekend, the Golden Bough Cinema was showing "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane" starring Joan Crawford and Betty Davis. Carmel High's football team, champions of the CCAL "B" division, had its end-of-season awards ceremony, Coach Hadley Hicks reporting to the team members and their families that the Padres had attained 967 yards by rushing, 726 yards in passing (completing 42 of 69 attempts) and secured 53 first downs. Mayor Eben Whittlesey appointed a Disaster Committee to prepare Carmel for "earthquake, flood, fire and nuclear war."

The Carmel merchants were readying for the holiday season. The La Playa restaurant advertised a Turkey Day meal at \$3.75/adults and \$2.00/children, available 2-8 pm. Simpson's, domiciled in "Without a doubt, it was the busiest Friday after Thanksgiving that we have experienced...." reported Mr. Putnam. Mrs. Louis Staples of Spencer's House of Cards was ecstatic----"We were mobbed."

The calendar was sliding toward 25 December when KRML announced its schedule for "the best in holiday music" at 1410 on the radio dial. The Peter Pan Beauty Shop on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth Avenues offered its lady customers a holiday permanent for "up to \$15" with a wee bit of tinting for \$7.50.

The end-of-year commentary of local business owners surmised that 1962 had been prosperous. Bill Godwin of the Pine Inn murmured (so as not to accuse the locals) "the bar appeared to do somewhat better than usual." Some shop owners inaugurated year-end clearance sales, with Pernie's on Dolores between Ocean and Seventh Avenues offering "apparel, woolen in those simpler times. Corum B. Jackson of Carmel Realty listed a three bedroom, two bath house on two lots in Carmel Woods for \$24,000. Town and Country Properties advertised a "cute cottage" south of Ocean Avenue for \$26,750. Realtor Louis Conlan promoted a redecorated, 2-bedroom, 1-bath cottage with a separate dining room on a "large lot" available for \$23,500.

As is still customary when a new year awakens and the old one ambles into eternal slumber, the citizenry flashed back to occurrences in and around the Village during the previous twelve months. Of notation was the appointment of Gordon Campbell, son of long-time Carmel city attorney Argyll Campbell, to the Superior Court. Robinson Jeffers and former mayor John Chitwood had died. The new Carmel Junior High, today the Carmel Middle School, opened while the old Carmel Hospital, aka the Grace Deere Metabolic Clinic, closed.

January 1963 arrived. It was time for The Crosby which teed off on Thursday, 17 January. The purse was \$50,000 with the winning pro to receive \$15,000. In 2022, the AT&T purse was \$8,700,000. The winner took home \$1,566,000.

Today, the world, and Carmel, are a bit different from sixty years ago.

# VILLAGE Voices

## Sibyl Johnson – The Art of the Artist

She lives in one of Carmel's iconic cottages. Postcard worthy. Her name is Sibyl Johnson. She's an accomplished painter/artist who traverses the Peninsula with easel, canvas, colors and brushes when she's not in her studio completing landscapes and figure painting or teaching. Sibyl Johnson is one of Carmel's most prolific and valued artists.

She's in her garden, the sun is shining, and we've come to call. lessons in drawing and painting whenever I could find the time. So yes, the avocation became a vocation after I retired and settled in this little house in Carmel in 2006.

#### What particular artists do you most admire, those who may have inspired your work?

Well, I think I should call myself a contemporary realist. And so, there is no



Here you are a much-admired artist after many years of making art. At what age were the first stirrings apparent, that is that you had found a vocation?

It seems that making art has always been enjoyed, from early childhood until, well, until the present. To practice, to become a full time artist, wasn't possible after my education. I had a small daughter to raise, just like so many single moms. I taught school in the San Diego area for thirty two years. Mind you, I always took doubt that I've been inspired by the work of S.C. Yuan, Armin Hanson, Maynard Dixon, T. Allen Lawson, Daniel Pinkham. There are others of course. Dare I not mention Matisse or Monet or Alice Neal.

You work in oils. What about subject, color, technique, texture?

Oil, yes. I'm mostly a plein air painter.

#### And why not, on this breath-taking Peninsula?

Generally I

paint small but I have for some time now been working larger in the studio—we'll see. Color? Of course I use color but many years ago I discovered a friend of color; gray, the boring color gray, can make the spaces of color pop.

### Have you considered or experimented with non-representational art?

I have, but I haven't. I know where my best fix is.

Where do you show? Local galleries? I belong to the Carmel Valley Art



Association, and I show there. I also have a website, sibyljohnson.com.

## Ab, but two years ago something very special happened.

I think you must be referring to being accepted and invited to join the Carmel Art Association as an artist member. Yes, that was very special.

### And?

Thanks for asking. A really big deal: I have an Artist level membership in the California Art Club. I'm rather proud of both.

#### After many years of raising a child, teaching, making art when you found the time from just "living," you are now a full time, successful artist. How does that feel?

An achievement, yes. It's a rare day when I don't look out at my small studio and want to get back to what I love. That is making art.

Well, Sibyl Johnson, we see that there's not a spot of paint on your hands or on your shirt. We'll leave you now so that you can get back to work. The CRA thanks you for giving us this time. Next time we're in the Carmel Art Association we'll look for your signature.



# ABOUT Town

## **Update on Design Traditions**

**C**armel architecture for the next decade will be defined by this City initiative. The City team hosted a great Workshop October 3rd with review of current findings and directions. Next major public update is targeted for December with initial drafts of the revised Guidelines. To learn more on this project and the city's work, visit the CRA website "Carmel Architecture" for key documents and timelines.





### **Multiple City Initiatives Work Moving Ahead**

- Initial work on Parking Management and Addresses (not Mail Delivery) has received the nod from the City Council to continue project scope, implications, and next steps. See the "Parking" and "Addresses" pages on the CRA website for these City efforts and background.
- Our revised Wireless/Telecom Ordinances work continues with a new draft expected later this year for public comments.
- 5th & Dolores (The Pit): in the October 12th Planning Commission (PC) meeting heard public and commission comments on the newest Esperanza Carmel design. Future PC meetings will formalize the two-step process for design approval.

### **Rainy Day Reminders from the City Public Works Team**

October was the official start of California's "rainy season." Actionable steps residents can take to help prevent stormwater pollution this rainy season include:

- 1. Ensure your irrigation systems are not broken or misaligned and consider skipping watering your garden if rain is forecasted. If you have a lawn, consider replacing it with drought-tolerant landscaping. Rebates are available at the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District webpage.
- 2. Redirect your rain gutters to your landscape instead of the pavement or consider capturing water with a rain barrel or installing a rain garden.
- 3. Avoid application of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides before rainfall and use natural fertilizers whenever possible, such as compost.
- 4. Maintain your trash bin areas and pick up any litter that may have been missed.
- 5. ALWAYS pick up after your pets! Pet waste contains a lot of bacteria and can damage ocean health and water quality.
- 6. Regularly check your vehicles for fluid leaks and take used oil, antifreeze, and other household hazardous waste to the Household Hazardous Waste facility at the Marina Landfill to dispose of it properly.

### **City Events in November & December**

These include 11/19 Home Crafters aka "CraftaPalooza", 12/3 Holiday Tree Lighting, 12/3-5 Nutcracker at Sunset Center and so much more. Keep on top of the latest additions and updates to the Calendar on the CRA website.



### Snapshots of September & October City Events

Shown here are a few images of life in our Village - Forest Theater, CHS Homecoming Parade, and Pumpkin Roll to name only a few.





CHS Homecoming - September 2022



Forest Theater – Monterey Symphony "Love Letter to Carmel 2" Sept 2022

Carmel's PumpkinRoll October 2022 2-4 PM

# MARY'S Comen

### **Another Great No Host Coming Up November 3rd**

Join us at Edwin's on Thursday from 4:30 to 6PM. Mingle with your fellow CRA Members once again, no reservations needed, enjoy an early happy hour+ with food and beverages on your personal tab at **Edwin's**, corner of San Carlos and 6th. Let's fill it up. Plus, an ongoing big thanks to our No-Host program leaders Terri & Ross Kaplan.



### Be Sure To Join Us At The CRA Holiday Gala – December 9th

The last day to signup is November 29th! We have limited capacity and sold out the last 2 Gala's. (See page 3 for details.)

### A Great CRA Start to Fall in Carmel

Check out the pictures & videos from our recent CRA Programs & Events - visit the CRA Web Page! We have kept quite busy hosting our biannual Candidates Forum and our program on the Hotel Del Monte and 17 Mile Drive history. And thanks to those of you who joined us marching in the Village Anniversary-Halloween Parade.

### A CRA Holiday?

Following our stalworth efforts the rest of the year, hosting the CRA community table at our Village Farmers Market and our CRA Beach Clean Up, we take a break in November and December. CRA will return to the Farmers Market each last

Thursday beginning in January and will return to our Beach Clean Up each third Saturday morning in March.



### **Appreciation Abounds**

Heartfelt thanks are due to all who worked tirelessly on our events throughout this year. Without you they couldn't have happened. Hopefully you will get a few moments "rest" during the dark nights of winter!







### Consider This as Your End of Year Check List



## In Memoria

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**Roger Dahl** – husband of Terri Dahl, a Father, Teacher, Principal, and avid Carmel Cares Volunteer.

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**Becky Hanna** - volunteer par excellence over many years in our Village and co-founder of the St. Bernards Program.



Jean White – wife of our Ken White, Mother, Career Teacher, Carmel Citizen of the Year, Leader of Friends of Sunset Center, and overall champion for our Village.



Post Office Box 13 Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921 WWW.CARMELRESIDENTS.ORG | INFO@CARMELRESIDENTS.ORG

### **CRA Membership**

Please join or renew your annual membership at \$30 Individual, \$50 Couple, \$100 Benefactor, or \$1000 Lifetime by visiting our website. Enjoy CRA benefits for members only. And your donations keep our 35 years of content and programs relevant for all.

### **CRA Board of Directors**

Fred Bologna, President | Ken White, Vice President

Tim Twomey, Treasurer | Frankie Laney, Secretary

Mary Condry, at Large

#### DIRECTORS

Janice Bradner, Mike Brown, Janine Chicourrat, Cindy Lloyd, Tom Parks, Graeme Robertson, Nancy Twomey, Sherry Williams, Jon Wolfe

The Carmel Residents Association is committed to the protection and enrichment of the traditional quality of life in Carmel-by-the-Sea and the preservation of its heritage and natural beauty through education, community activities and advocacy.

The CRA does not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our members' information with any organization or company.

## CHEERS & CHIDES

*CHEERS* Nov 8th, 2022– Every Vote Counts! Be Sure To Vote.

**CHEERS** More open hours at the library. Here's to weekend openings for kids and working folks. Patience, it will happen.

**CHEERS** To us! The Candidates Forum was another success. Thanks to all the candidates, the moderator, the staff, and the attentive audience. CRA is proud to be in the forefront of civic awareness. **CHEERS** Great to see the new STOP (Now a 4-way) at Junipero and 7th. How about a look at the same for San Carlos and 5th? It's a bit of a dicey intersection especially for visitors.

**CHEERS** (If it ever happens) - What if the City designated two or three blocks in the heart of the business district as walking avenues? Quiet, accessible, Carmel Charming. City Council, are you listening?

**CHIDES** Is Carmel-by-the-Sea turning into the cosmetic center of the world? Pay enough dough and you can have a make-over in ten minutes. Word has it that Bella Lugosi walked into one of the Ocean Avenue salons; walked out looking like Boris Karloff. Not bad for twelve hundred bucks.



**CHEERS** May 3rd, 2023, is the Deadline for getting your REAL ID, required to board flights within the US and enter federal facilities. Be sure to beat the last-minute rush. For more go to dmv.ca.gov



Good Bye 2022 - Late Fall Sunset



Plac Stam Here

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