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Napa Valley



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## PUBLISHER'S NOTE

By Rich Medel

Summer will soon be punctuated with the roar of engines as car week drives into Monterey County. And we're ready to celebrate. Barbara Briggs-Anderson provides us with a historical perspective on the annual Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance



while discussing its creation, growth, and purpose. She also shares images from the fundraiser's beginnings.

Up the road from Pebble Beach, Laguna Seca Raceway nestles on a patch of land that serves as a race enthusiasts' shrine. That shrine is now under new management. From racing an Austin J40 roadster pedal car when he was five, to becoming WeatherTech

Raceway Laguna Seca Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Tim McGrane takes us inside of a life that was born from the dreams of a small child.

Meanwhile, our friend and winemaker Charlie Wagner is loving the untamed terroir of Santa Lucia Highlands and shares his

passion for the area, why he expanded beyond Napa's borders, and offers an inside look at the soul of Mer Soleil winery.

Just across the Golden Gate bridge we had another taste of the wine life at Calmère Estate Winery, where the Peju family is imbuing a bit of ocean life into their vino by growing Burgundian grapes in the Carneros region and operating a tasting room that overlooks the bay.

We think you'll also enjoy reading about Joanne Weir, a chef, restaurateur, and renaissance woman whose engine gets better gas mileage than any racecar and whose energy only increases the faster she goes. Then stop by Yountville's beautiful North Block Hotel, where we slow down for a second and take in the tranquility.

As you continue to peruse this issue, you'll see how much fun we had at the Fifth Annual Red Cross Farm-to-Table Dinner, get to know the proprietors behind the new restaurant Pangaea Grill in Carmel, and learn what the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito is doing to ensure the future of our oceans.

We look forward to seeing everyone at car week!

*Rich*

# 57°

## THIS IS THE CITY

**PUBLISHER** Rich Medel  
rich@65mag.com

**EDITORIAL**  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR** Andrea Stuart  
andrea@65mag.com

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS** Olivia Boynton  
Katherine Matuszak  
Bettina McBee Hohman  
Fran Endicott Miller  
Jennifer Moulaison

**COPY EDITOR** Leah Weiss

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS** Michele Callaghan  
Zoë Nardo  
MacDuff Perkins

**ART**  
**CREATIVE DIRECTOR** Manolo Espinoza  
manny@65mag.com

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS** Manolo Espinoza  
Carol Oliva  
Darren "Flash" Lovecchio

**ADVERTISING / MARKETING**  
**SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE** Jack Pappadeas  
jack@65mag.com  
Chad Medel  
chad@65mag.com  
Tracy Ricci  
tracy@65mag.com

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** Christine Jensen  
christine@65mag.com

**MAILING ADDRESS** 65° Magazine  
P.O. Box 6325  
Carmel, CA 93921-6325

**PHONE** 831.917.1673  
**ONLINE** 65mag.com



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# CONTRIBUTORS

## THE WRITERS



OLIVIA  
BOYNTON



BARBARA  
BRIGGS-ANDERSON



FRAN  
ENDICOTT MILLER



KATHERINE  
MATUSZAK



BETTINA  
MCBEE HOHMANN



JENNIFER  
MOULAISON

## THE PHOTOGRAPHERS



MANOLO  
ESPINOZA



DARREN  
LOVECCHIO



CAROL  
OLIVA





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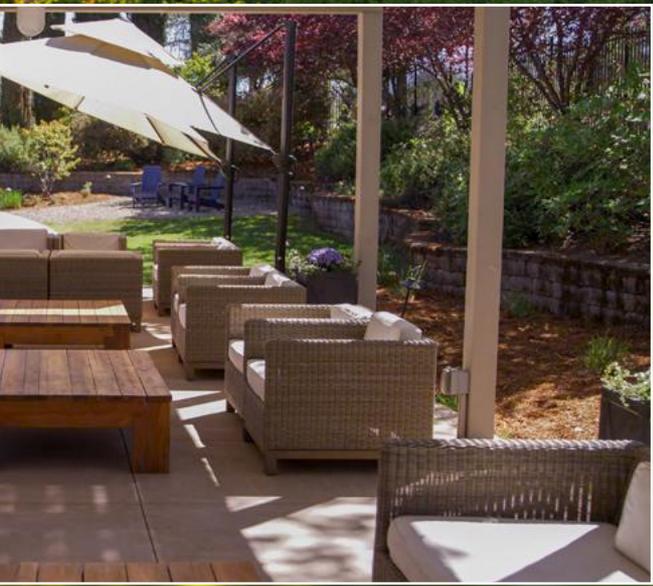
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# Rombauer Reaches the Sierra Nevada Foothills

By Jennifer Moulaison

So much of making great wine comes down to growing a consistently high-quality fruit according to Koerner “KR” Rombauer III, second-generation proprietor of Rombauer Wines. Rombauer’s recent purchase of an established 40-acre vineyard and tasting room among the rolling hills of Amador County at the base of the Sierra Foothills offers just that: berries with unrivaled juice.

The premier Napa-based winery has been synonymous with high quality wines since its inception. Koerner Rombauer II and his wife, Joan, were involved in the wine industry for years before they eventually leveraged their knowledge and expertise to develop the Rombauer label in the early 1980s. KR’s father comes from a lineage of culinary expertise. His aunt, Irma, authored the cookbook, *The Joy of Cooking*. “Food and wine are really two halves of one whole. The right wine can change a meal into a multi-dimensional experience,” says KR.

It was only natural that when Koerner and Joan moved to Napa with their children in the 1970s, they immediately immersed themselves in the culture of wine. Seeking as much experience as possible, Koerner and Joan became partners with Conn Creek Winery and Joan joined Stags Leap Winery as their Northern California Sales Director, eventually becoming National Sales Director. “It doesn’t get better than this for on-the-job training,” says KR. “It really cemented our knowledge of the industry and how to make a success from their passion.” The label has since grown to run the gamut of varietals, from deep Merlots and Cabernet Sauvignons to bright dessert wines. Not least among their productions is a delightfully aromatic Chardonnay—for which they’re best known. Additionally, the thriving label has expanded production to other regions beyond Napa.

Rombauer, who already owns a significant stretch of vineyard in El Dorado County, had originally shown interest in the property at the base of the Sierra Foothills as far back as 2009. “The timing obviously wasn’t meant to be, as we didn’t end up

acquiring the property at that time. But when the opportunity presented itself again, we knew we had to take it,” explains KR.

Unlike Napa’s climate, where hot summer temperatures are sustained through the night, the Sierra Foothills get relief of cooler evening temperatures due to its higher altitude. These unique conditions result in a smaller, more concentrated berry, which best suits still wines and Zinfandels, according to KR. Along with a unique pocket climate, Amador County also boasts well-established vineyards—some of which have been growing grapes for more than 100 years.



KR delights in having the opportunity to merge their label with this hard-working community of winemakers. “The passion of the growers in this region is palpable. Whether it’s a tough grow season or a great one, winemaking requires fortitude and commitment to make the product not just okay, or pretty good, but perfect. Great wine supports a label for generations. And that aligns with our business model,” says KR.

As for Rombauer’s intentions for the property, they merely plan to standardize things and make small adjustments to suit their production process. No major renovations are necessary. “I liken it to a cook’s kitchen. We might both be great cooks, but I might be used to having my knives in a different drawer,” describes KR.

Rombauer also brings with it the dedicated, hands-on approach that built the iconic label a generation ago. “Being hands-on has been critical,” says KR. “My parents were involved in every aspect of the process from the very beginning, right down to tasting wine right along with customers,” he concludes.

This approach is a legacy that continues today and will be handed down to future generations.



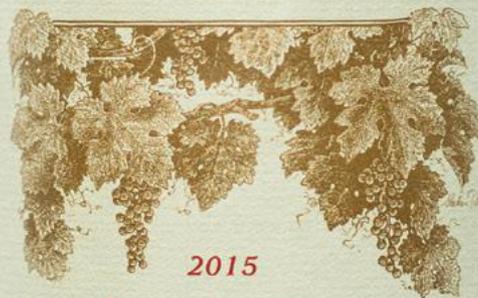
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# North Block

— HOTEL —

YOUNTVILLE AVA





# North Block Napa Valley

By Fran Endicott Miller

Location, location, location. The real estate agents' mantra is also the hoteliers' mantra, and given the North Block Hotel's setting in quaint Yountville on Washington Street, it's a winner.

Yountville's central Napa Valley locale provides easy access to the full bounty of Wine Country, but North Block takes it a step further, providing walkable proximity to the best that Napa offers. Wine tasting rooms, destination-level cuisine, and public artworks are all within a few blocks' radius.

Right outside North Block's compact yet posh lobby sits Redd Wood, Richard Reddington's popular Italian bistro that features rustic pizzas, pastas, and house-cured charcuterie, and where North Block guests enjoy breakfast as part of their stay. Next door is Girard, where wine tasting is free to North Blockers. On the other side is the stunning RH Yountville, where sumptuous furniture galleries are intermixed with a crystal chandelier-bedecked restaurant and a sultry indoor-outdoor wine tasting venue. Pancha's of Yountville, a town institution favored by everyone, from politicians to golf pros to the local labor force gathering for late-night pool, is just across the street. Farther down, visitors will find Thomas Keller's legendary French Laundry and its adjacent gardens, Jessup Cellars (another wine tasting venue free to North Block guests), boutique shopping, and rose-filled civic parks.

Keen-eyed visitors will also spot art—38 sculptural pieces, by a variety of local artists—scattered throughout town as part of Yountville's famed art walk. Use the self-guided audio tour or schedule a docent to lead the

way. Several of the sculptures are available for purchase—grab an art walk brochure from the visitor's center to find out which pieces seek a new home.

Notwithstanding the treasures beyond, North Block is itself a destination. Cozy, luxurious, and sophisticated, the boutique inn provides an intimate home away from home, where guests can choose privacy and retreat or enjoy the company of others while gathered at the fireplace-warmed central courtyard. The gracious hospitality begins at check-in, with the proffer of a beverage—bubbly, wine, or rye—to be enjoyed in the whimsically appointed lobby designed by Erin Martin, poolside, or within one's own private patio or balcony (don't hesitate to request a refill.) Despite its boutique stature, North Block features one of the Valley's loveliest pools, with cushy chaise lounges shaded by olive trees, canopied couch seating, a hot tub, and food and beverage service provided by Redd Wood.

Twenty rooms line a central courtyard that's lush with greenery and adorned with hand-painted Italian tile. Six room styles offer choice, each outfitted with plush beds and bedding, virgin wool carpeting, cozy throws to ward off nighttime chill, Trivoli music systems, Nespresso coffee makers, and flat-screen televisions. A few of the rooms feature fireplaces. Don't miss the hotel's subterranean Francis & Alexander spa, launched in partnership with industry visionaries Peggy Francis and Loma Alexander, offering a comprehensive range of services such as the Un-Corked, a foot and back exfoliation followed by a massage. A small fitness room rounds out the offerings for those seeking to counteract the effects of an indulgent Wine Country stay. Or perhaps indulgence is just what the doctor ordered.





# The Model Bakery

By Olivia Boynton

Walking into The Model Bakery is a homecoming. Warm, yellow walls stacked with luscious loaves of bread welcome you as you enter, smiling faces greet you at the door, and Karen Mitchell brings a basket of vegetables and eggs from her garden to make a homegrown and handmade breakfast to start your day off right. The Model Bakery in St. Helena is more than a business; it is a family.

Mother-and-daughter team Karen Mitchell and Sarah Mitchell Hansen have owned the bakery for 35 years. Mitchell, a well-known caterer in Napa Valley, worked across the street from The Sugar House Bakery, and when it became available in 1984, she embarked on her breadmaking adventure. As a child, she learned to bake from her Scandinavian mother and grandmothers. Their family recipes, along with her extensive travels around Europe in the 1970s, inspired her to create the first artisan style bakery in St. Helena.

Although The Model Bakery was the first of its kind in St. Helena, the bakery itself has been in existence since 1908, when the original Model Bakery was established. During one of their retail remodels of their St. Helena store in the early 1990s, Mitchell and Hansen found flour bags with Eiffel Tower designs on them as well as coins in the wall, from the original bakery's proprietors, that read, "good for one loaf."

With the help of various French pastry chefs, Mitchell developed her recipes using organic flour, wild yeast, traditional hand folding, and 12-hour fermentation techniques, making her bread perfectly light and airy. Focusing on high-quality products, The Model Bakery grew right along with the whole foods movement and Napa wineries over the past 35 years. Most of their original and continuing customers are the wineries and high-quality-food-focused restaurants that began cropping up in the valley.

Hansen has tended to the business side of the bakery since 2002, helping it blossom alongside the growth of Napa Valley with expansion into three new locations: Oxbow Public Market, Mini Model in Yountville, and a production bakery in Napa.

A ten-year-old when her mother opened the bakery, Hansen would walk to the store after school, grab a cookie, and nestle herself onto the large flour bags to complete her homework. After graduating from college at University of California Santa Cruz, she began a corporate business career in 1996.

When steam lines in the antique ovens began collapsing, Mitchell considered selling the bakery. Upon hearing that news, Hansen bid farewell to the corporate world and returned home to the bakery. Since then, The Model Bakery has fruited a diverse array of projects and successes. The Model Bakery is renowned not only for its artisan breads and pastries, but also for its English muffins, of which 2,000 to 5,000 are made daily at the production location. They are still hand rolled and grilled with clarified butter on a stove top, giving them that extra touch of love and flavor.

In 2016 and 2017, Oprah Winfrey put the English muffins on her list of "Oprah's Favorite Things." Now, the dynamic mother and daughter duo are sending their beloved breads, English muffins, and pastries to Whole Foods in San Francisco and around the country through Amazon.

The Model Bakery in St. Helena shares the Mitchell family traditions and provides a community space where people can feel at home. "It is really a town bakery. We have customers coming three to four times a day," says Mitchell. "I know everyone's kids. The children that were little in town when I first started now work for me now as employees. We just have a really good rapport with everybody."





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# Charlie Wagner's Mer Soleil

By Jennifer Moulaison

There was a bustle and excitement as cases of wine glasses were being delivered. A large, tented structure was erected adjoining Mer Soleil's cask room, adding to the allure of this premier winery nestled in the Santa Lucia Highlands (SLH). It was the eve of the annual SLH Sun, Wind & Wine Gala, hosted by Mer Soleil's owner and winemaker Charlie Wagner. Yes, that Wagner. As in Wagner Family of Wine, producers of award-winning wines under seven labels, including Caymus, Emmolo, Red Schooner, Mer Soleil, and Conundrum (the latter three overseen by Wagner himself). As luck would have it, preparations for the gala served as an ideal backdrop for getting to know Wagner and absorbing the atmosphere at Mer Soleil.

One might think a wine gala might be better suited to the rolling hills of Napa. The SLH makes an apropos and arguably much more dramatic setting, however. Deemed an official American Viticultural Area in 1991 by the federal government, SLH boasts approximately 6,400 acres of grapevines ideal for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay—precisely the two varietals produced by Mer Soleil. Both demand the delicate balance of sun, fog, and wind unique to this region. “The mouth of the valley opens directly to the Pacific and creates a wind that defines this climate,” says Wagner. “The wind acts as a natural refrigerator, with cooler temperatures allowing us to keep grapes on the vine longer, leading to exceptional richness and character.”

With the benefit of Wagner's expertise, Mer Soleil leverages every nuance of SLH's mild, yet dramatic climate. Spend only a few moments with the man, and his remarkable knowledge of the industry and local agriculture becomes obvious. What's more apparent, and downright infectious, is Wagner's genuine passion not only for wine but also for the extraordinary impact the SLH climate has on its production. Both enthusiasm and experimentation are palpable when perusing pockets of grapevines nestled within small canyons at the base of this appellation. For instance, the vineyards grown by the Wagner family have a variety of different trellis systems and row orientations allowing them to play with sun exposure and create canopies of shade and light for each row of grapes. The approach achieves different aromas and flavors, which enable the creation of a layered wine. SILVER—sourced from the broader Monterey County appellation—is the product of even further experimentation, as it's aged entirely in stainless steel and concrete tanks sourced from Burgundy, France. Remarkably vibrant and

fresh, SILVER features crisp aromas of flower blossoms, pear, and a hint of citrus, courtesy of the lemon orchard growing adjacent to some of the grapes used.

Unlike Napa, which is largely about grape production, SLH possesses an agricultural diversity that embodies the rich fertility of California soil. “I'm a fifth-generation Napa native and will always love it there. But the farming community here is also unique,” says Wagner. “Whether it's grapes or other types of row crops, there's a real love for the land, and a rugged, untamed quality that you can't find anywhere else.”

Though grape growing in the region dates back to the 1790s, when the vines were first planted by Spanish missionaries and conquistadors, more diverse farming in the region rapidly evolved. Wagner offers a colorful glimpse into this evolution, pointing out faded white barns that pepper the land. These once belonged to Swiss and Italian dairy farmers who immigrated to the valley but eventually discovered that the California soil has many different agricultural uses. The valley is now blanketed with a wide variety of row crops as far as the eye can see—everything from lettuces and broccoli to small pockets of avocado trees meticulously planted on the hillside. Driving along River Road, the only passageway through the SLH, one passes a cactus farm, an unexpected sight that underscores just how diverse this place is.



All this splendor is hiding in plain sight just a stone's throw from Monterey and Carmel. Tourism in SLH is still evolving – particularly compared to Napa. “It's something of a catch-22,” says Wagner, who notes that the SLH gala is the one day each year when Mer Soleil winery opens to the public. “Some are hungry for the area to gain recognition and reap the economic benefits of driving tourism to the area. But there's also the desire to remain unexposed and off the beaten path.”

It is a path worth exploring. From the oak trees, hundreds of years old, left undisturbed among Mer Soleil's grapevines to the micro-ecosystems preserved on the adjacent hillsides, this enchanting pocket of iconic California agriculture is waiting for those fortunate enough to find it.

A couple is walking hand-in-hand on a sandy beach. In the foreground, a large, gnarled tree with many bare branches dominates the right side of the frame. The background shows a calm ocean with a small island or headland in the distance under a clear sky.

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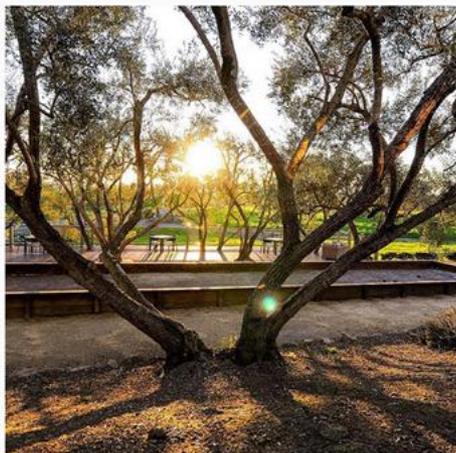
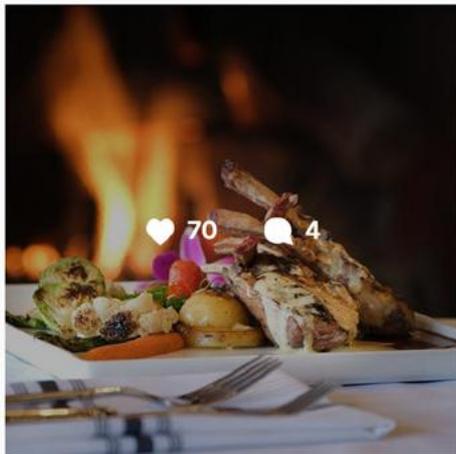
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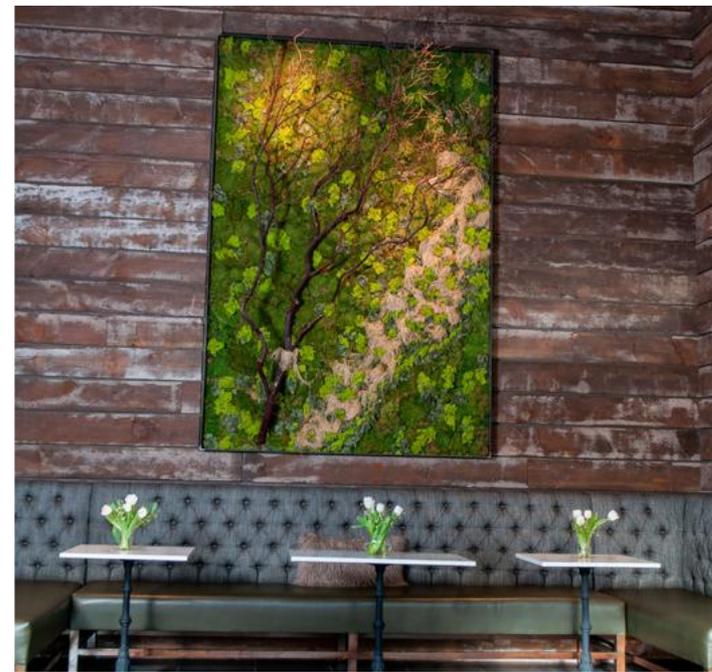
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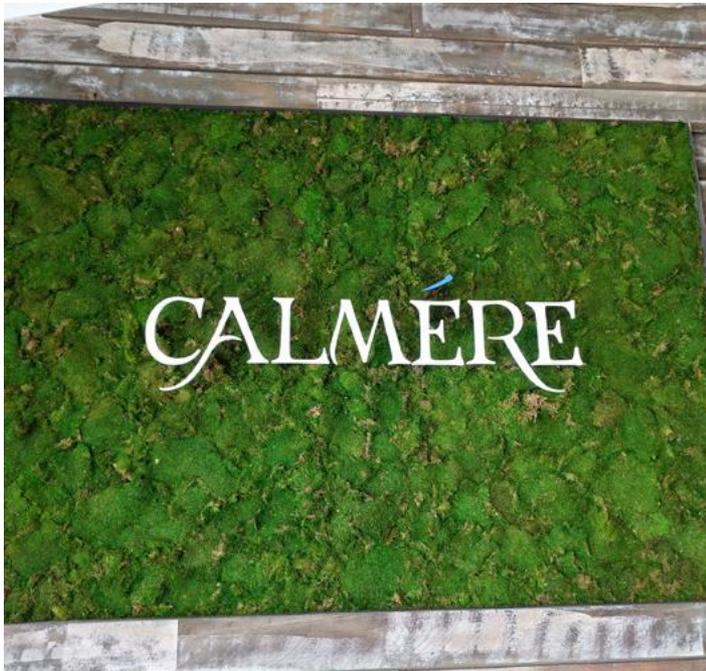
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# Enjoy a View with Your Vino

By Fran Endicott Miller

From the family behind the award-winning Peju Province Winery in Napa Valley comes Calmére Estate Winery, located in Napa's Carneros American Viticultural Area (AVA). This passion project of sisters Lisa and Ariana Peju, who grew up surrounded by their family's winery, is aptly named for its idyllic location just 45 minutes from the Golden Gate Bridge and feature some of wine country's most spectacular views. Sightlines include westward-facing Bay waters on which the afternoon sun sparkles and the lush greenery of the Carneros foothills. While other Napa AVAs and their wineries that line Highway 29 and the Silverado Trail welcome record numbers of visitors, Carneros somehow continues to fly slightly under the tourist radar. This gateway AVA provides a calmer wine tasting experience, and Calmére offers a peaceful respite, little traffic, and room to breathe.

"The name, pronounced *cahlm-air*, comes from the French words for calm [*calme*] and sea [*mer*], reflecting our serene setting and unrivaled views of San Francisco Bay," says Lisa. "Our family's Rutherford winery has been a huge part of our lives since we were kids, and it inspired us to create our own concept that reflects our love for fine wine and our appreciation for the unmatched beauty of the Carneros wine-growing region. Calmére guests can enjoy their tasting amongst the olive trees, which frame our expansive deck with its romantic vistas of the Bay and rolling Carneros hills."

Calmére's winemaker, Sara Fowler (also Peju's winemaker), carries out the Peju sisters' viticultural vision. "At Calmére, we are producing exceptional Burgundian varietals that are ideally suited to the growing conditions in Carneros," says Fowler, one of the Valley's most popular figures, frequently voted by regional publication readers as "Napa Valley's Best Regional Winemaker." The Carneros growing conditions include significant morning fog

that rolls off of the Bay, followed by warm afternoons and cooler evenings. "Within the 100-acre estate, we have 38 acres planted with nine different Pinot Noir clonal varietals—Acacia, Martini, Mt. Eden, Swan, Hansel, Pommard, Clone 115, Clone 667, and Clone 777—which offer us the perfect recipe for truly memorable and delicious wines."

The Calmére tasting room was designed by Lauren Pique, a Napa Valley-based interior designer known for her artistry in bringing spaces to life in a manner that respects the existing architecture and building history. The room combines the industrial with the organic, capturing the beauty of the outdoors in a modern, fresh indoor space featuring elements of land, air, and sea. Design touches include rusted metal bar carts, a leather banquette, large concrete tiles, metal bistro tables, blown glass light fixtures, a roll-up garage door, and walls made with reclaimed wood from the Peju family's Pope Valley property. "We sought out not only beautiful touches but also ones that were memorable and unique to us, such as antique glass wine containers as lighting fixtures and reclaimed wood paneling from an oak tree on our family's Persephone Ranch vineyard," says Ariana.

The first-floor tasting room flanks the production area. Its open views offer guests the opportunity to witness the winemaking process from start to finish. Seated tastings feature up to five wines and take place in the tasting room or outside on the raised garden terrace with west-facing views. Private member tastings are hosted in the second-floor Club Calmére lounge, which features floor-to-ceiling glass doors opening onto a private balcony, providing an even more stunning vantage point from which to take in the spectacular Bay views.







## Outstanding in the Fields

Outstanding in the Fields brings guests together around a community table where they become fast friends. Perched on the Sonoma Coast in Cazadero, Bohan Ranch served as the setting for an evening dinner filled with spectacular views. George and Nikki Bohan are long-time growers and farmers whose history in the area goes back to 1857. Jamie Kutch of Kutch Wines poured Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from various blocks of their vineyard and Chef Gonzalo Guzman and the team from Nopalito's San Francisco prepared an incredible Mexican feast for guests as they made their way to the table. The evening provided a captivating sunset as the sun waned from the vineyards and dipped behind the ridges to the Pacific Ocean.



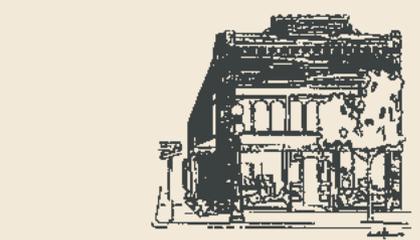
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# Sausalito Happenings

By Karen Aiken

You know summer has arrived when Blues and Jazz by the Bay is back on Friday nights in Gabrielson Park. It's a great place to meet up with family and friends, listen to live music, enjoy libations and food booths, and surround yourself with stunning views of the Bay.

The Call of the Seas Annual Gala, on June 8, celebrated a new tall ship, *Matthew Turner*, which will serve as a floating classroom for students, extending the program's capacity to serve the Northern California community. The evening included a tour of sailing vessels, music, and beverages.



July started with a bang, literally, with the annual Fourth of July celebration, that included a parade and fireworks. This year, the youth sailors from our Sister City Cascais, Portugal, Exchange Program joined the Sausalito Youth Sailors in the parade. A week of sailing challenges at the Sausalito Yacht Club followed.

Summer is not complete without hiking in Tennessee Valley, Fort Baker National Park, or making a day trip to Muir Woods. Trekking around the US Army Corps of Engineers' Bay Model Visitor Center's hydraulic 3-D model of the Bay is also a special excursion, especially if you have visitors in town. Walks along the Boardwalk are the best way to view the San Francisco skyline and the Sausalito Yacht Harbor. If you enjoy water, try kayaking or paddleboarding on the Bay, especially among the floating homes and along Seal Pier.

Sausalito's signature event signaling the end of summer is the Sausalito Art Festival, held over Labor Day weekend. Featuring unique entertainment, world-class art, and ample food, this three-day happening is a fabulous way to enjoy life. This year, a group of businesswoman from our Sister City Viña Del Mar, Chile, along with a team from the mayor's office and a

Chilean artist, will attend the festival.

Finally, we all look forward to Fleet Week and the Blue Angels Flight Show on October 12-13. You can view the Blue Angels' display while sipping wine at the elegant third annual Sausalito Wine Experience, which is held at Casa Madrona Hotel and Spa's upper decks, at the Sausalito Yacht Club, or along the waterfront parks.







## ArtPoint Annual Gala Metal Makeover

Photos by Drew Altizer

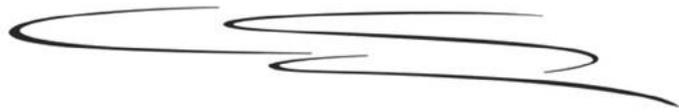
On a warm spring evening, 900 Bay Area young professionals donned their 1980s glamour finest and gathered at the de Young Museum for *Métal et Monet: Into the Garden*, ArtPoint's Annual Gala, a no-holds-barred evening of live music, libations, and high fashion. Such a night could only be dreamt up by ArtPoint, the young professionals group of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, who drew inspiration from the critically-acclaimed exhibition, *Monet: The Late Years*, which received more than 100,000 visitors in its first month on view.

In a whimsical nod to Monet's epic love affair with his garden and his enduring rockstar status, the de Young Museum was transformed into a 1980s greenhouse by Blueprint Studios and Got Light. Guests matched the decor, drawing on 1980s vintage couture, metallics, and the subversive style of metal music. A special performance by *Métal Stréet Böyz* (the latest spin-off from legendary Bay Area band *Tainted Love*) cemented the "Métal et Monet" theme. DJ KingMost (Patrick Diaz) mashed up just the right amount of 80s metal with contemporary vibes for an expected musical set that blended genres and languages into a unique style all his own.

Attendees were treated to brews from Fort Point Brewing Co., wines by Gerard Bertrand, Larkmead Vineyards, and Vinebox, and a selection of custom cocktails by Junípero Gin, Stillhouse Whiskey, and Grey Goose Vodka, and noshed on a selection of seasonal bites by Betty Zlatchin.



# THE INN ABOVE TIDE



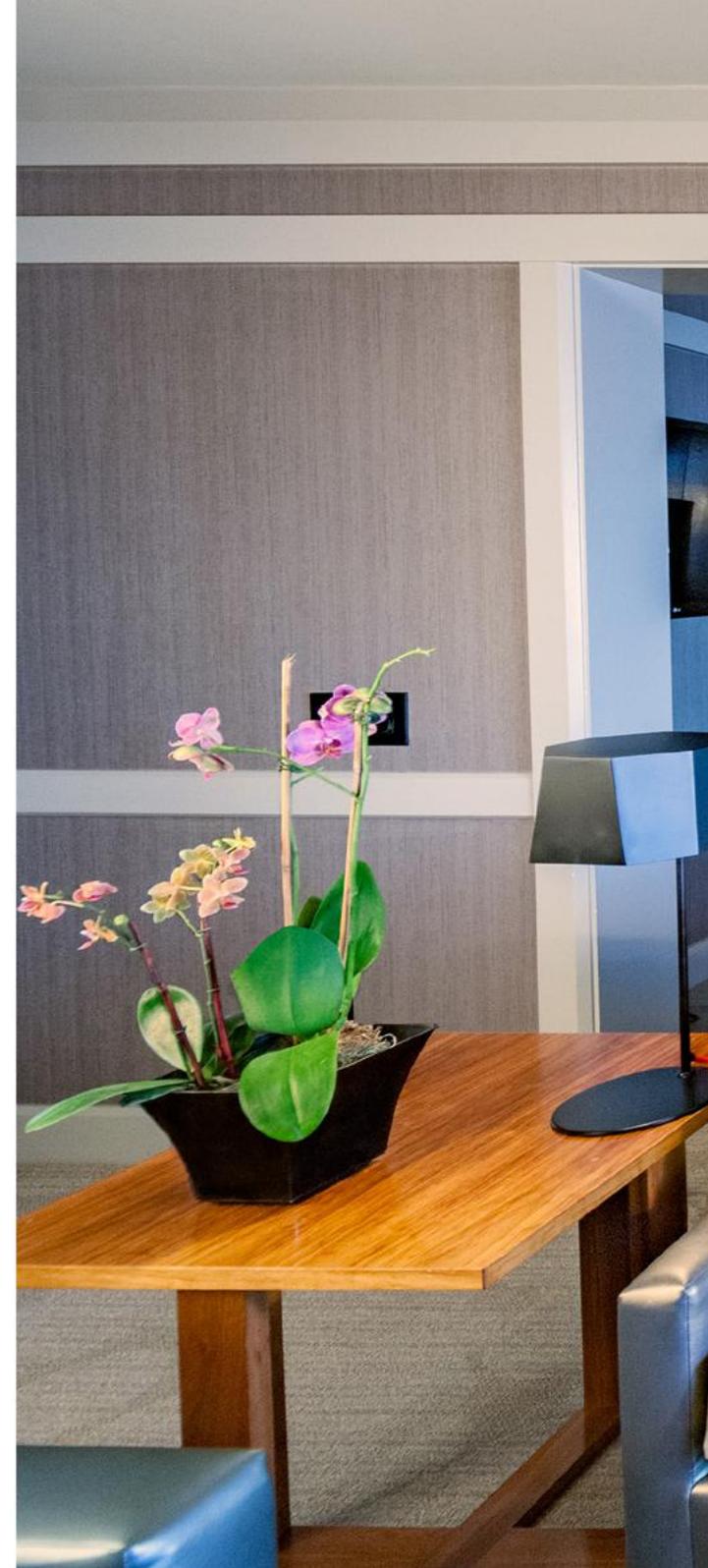
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# Wandering Gypsy

By Fran Endicott Miller | Photos courtesy of Joanne Weir

Chef, teacher, restaurateur, cookbook author, television personality, and travel guide. Joanne Weir has worn all of these hats—often at the same time—during her seemingly charmed life. It’s a resumé that exhausts even the most energetic go-getter. But the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) star and bestselling author admits to an insatiable drive to always do more. “If things are too quiet, if the pace is too slow, I get scared,” says Weir. “I’m constantly seeking out the next creative project.”

When not traveling the world while leading her culinary journeys, or filming her numerous popular PBS cooking shows, or writing yet another award-winning cookbook (she has 17 to her name), Weir can often be found, margarita in hand, greeting guests in her popular Sausalito restaurant, Copita, her paean to fresh and flavorful Mexican cuisine and a temple to tequila, her favorite spirit. She’s entrusted the kitchen to Chef Daniel Tellez, yet she continues to taste test every dish and drink that finds its way onto Copita’s ever-changing, seasonal menu.

Weir caught both the travel and cooking bugs as a young girl. Her father nicknamed her “the wandering gypsy” for her penchant for exploration. Though she often felt deprived of the packaged foods and Oreos that her friends consumed, she understood that the “old-fashioned,” homemade meals and desserts made by her talented mother and both sets of her grandparents were to be appreciated. A simple, salt-sprinkled, garden-grown tomato sandwich, lovingly prepared by her mother, led a then six-year-old Weir into a lifelong love affair with food.

Several years would pass before Weir had an epiphany that she might actually forge a career in food. During college, and afterward as a salesclerk and art teacher, she experimented in the kitchen. Her arroz con pollo became renowned within her circle of friends. As the California food

revolution gathered steam, she pilgrimaged from her East Coast home to California, where without any professional experience she landed the weekend chef position at a tennis club. Soon after, she decided to kick things up a notch. “I realized that I didn’t want to be a tennis club chef forever, so I decided to spend a year getting a master chef diploma, studying in France with Madeleine Kamman,” says Weir, who quickly found herself a trusted friend to the esteemed French chef. The two enjoyed a close relationship until Kamman’s passing in 2018.

The indomitable Alice Waters is another cherished friend of Weir’s. The “Earth Mother of California Cuisine” hired Weir shortly after she completed her year with Kamman. Weir had to pinch herself each time she stepped into the Chez Panisse kitchen. After five years at the Berkeley landmark, Weir acknowledged the pleasure she derived from teaching the newer chefs, and she left to become a full-time cooking instructor. “Teaching others how to cook was and is incredibly rewarding to me,” says Weir.

Weir has also forged a worldwide reputation as a leader in exotic culinary journeys. Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, France, and Morocco are just a few of the destinations where her students learn not only about local foods but about the culture. “Though my classes are focused on food, they’re really about exploring and living life to the fullest,” she says.

Her popular PBS cooking shows, Joanne Weir’s Cooking Class and Plates & Places, present an artistic, entertaining blend of her greatest loves (husband Joe notwithstanding): food, instruction, and travel. “My goals have always been to give students confidence in the kitchen and to keep people interested in making their own food,” says Weir. “Beyond the nutritional necessity, food has always been vital to my own well-being. My life’s most vivid memories all center on food.”







# Little and Luxurious

By Fran Endicott Miller

It's all about the waterfront deck at Tiburon's Water's Edge Hotel. The expansive, southern-facing outdoor space juts over the bay, offering an up close peek at the boats and yachts bobbing in the Tiburon harbor. A brilliant sun sparkles on the water while distant evening fog hovers, threatening to obscure the spectacular view of the San Francisco skyline. If and when that calming fog eventually makes its way to this cozy retreat, wool throws and a central fire pit are at the ready to ward off the chill.

Sausalito might entice many North Bay visitors but some of the most spectacular Bay views are found in neighboring Tiburon. This formerly rowdy railroad town that once served railroad workers and their families in the early 1900s is now one of the Bay Area's most highly prized residential regions. Luxury homes, which line the waterfront and stack into the hills, afford vistas as enchanting as any along the French Riviera.

Located on Tiburon's historic and chic Main Street, Water's Edge Hotel, with its 23 rooms, is poised to take advantage of the panorama: Angel Island to the southeast, San Francisco to the south, and Belvedere to the west. Within walking distance of the inn are miles of harborside trails to be explored on foot or bicycle

and historic landmarks such as Old St. Hilary's—one of only a few Carpenter Gothic churches to survive in its original setting—and the Victorian-era Lyford House. Just outside the Water's Edge's front door are boutique shops featuring art, clothing, and candy. Adjacent is the Tiburon ferry landing, providing easy, 10-minute access to Angel Island, and right next door is the always-popular Sam's Anchor Café, where visitors can arrive by boat and tie up to the dock.



But wanderlust might be the last thing on guests' minds, once they step into Water's Edge. Nautically themed rooms are spacious and airy, each featuring a gas- or wood-burning fireplace, comfy robes, and plush bedding. Second-floor rooms have vaulted ceilings and balconies. A welcoming lobby features an all-day coffee and tea bar. At 5 p.m. every evening, complimentary wine and appetizers are served, best enjoyed on the waterfront

deck with its inviting lounge seating. Additional amenities include freshly baked cookies every evening at 8 p.m., complimentary bicycles, room-service breakfast, and a daily choice of newspapers—the New York Times or the *San Francisco Chronicle*. With so many little luxuries provided for its guests, it's only natural that Water's Edge Hotel is a much-desired Tiburon destination.



Photos by Drew Altizer



# Mad Dogs & Englishmen

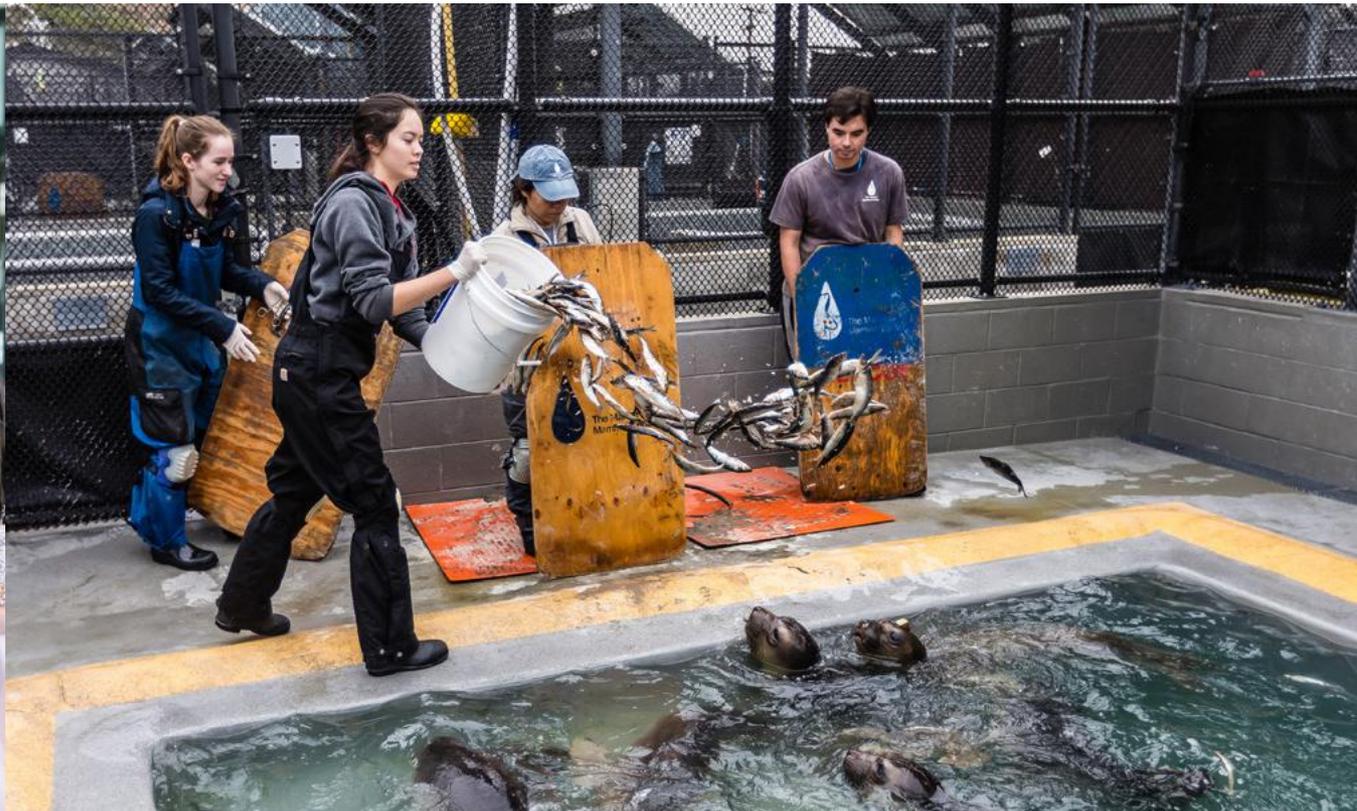
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# Advocating for Our Oceans

By Jennifer Moulaison

In 1975, when Lloyd Smalley, Pat Arrigoni, and Paul Maxwell founded the Marine Mammal Center, the idea of rescuing marine mammals was perceived as lofty and inundating. Since then, the center has grown to become the premier marine mammal teaching hospital in the world, advancing global ocean conservation through marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, scientific research, and education—all of which are more relevant now than ever, due to the declining state of our oceans, according to the center’s executive director, Dr. Jeff Boehm.

Dr. Boehm, who received his veterinary medical degree from the University of California at Davis, joined the Sausalito-based center in 2008. His career in veterinary medicine began when he was a volunteer at The Marine Mammal Center in 1980. That experience propelled his commitment to work with wildlife in the context of conservation. With Boehm at the helm, the center’s Global Response Team covers a 600-mile-long stretch of the California coastline and the Big Island of Hawai’i, responds to thousands of calls, and rescues approximately 600 to 800 marine mammals annually. “The reach of our rescue program really extends around the world,” Boehm says of their response efforts. “We train and support marine mammal rescue groups worldwide on best practices in rescue and veterinary care as well as disentanglement procedures. We’re committed to ensuring the global community is well prepared to respond to the increasing number of marine mammals in distress.”

Through its continued investigation of diseases found in marine patients, the center’s veterinary and research teams share valuable information with researchers around the world, many of whom are using the information to benefit human and marine mammal or ocean health. “We now have decades of health data that we share,” says Boehm. “Dr. Alissa Deming recently published a paper that looks at the prevalence of urogenital carcinoma—a type of cancer in California sea lions that has one of the highest rates of cancer of any wildlife species on Earth.” Boehm explains how this paper may ultimately lead scientists to better understand the disease in sea lions as well as how the cancer progresses in humans.



Some of the most interesting data recently uncovered by the center, according to Boehm, is the increase in stranded gray whales in the San Francisco Bay Area. “Through necropsy, or animal autopsy, performed on each stranded whale, these tragedies serve as opportunities to learn more about threats facing whales,” he says. “Understanding the cause of death allows us to pursue solutions to complex conservation challenges that are caused by humans.”

According to the center’s research, ship strikes and entanglements are among the leading causes of whale mortality. Thanks to data provided by The Marine Mammal Center and other members of the Marine Mammal Stranding Network, changes were made in 2013 to the mile-wide shipping lanes into San Francisco Bay to reduce traffic in areas whales are known to frequent.

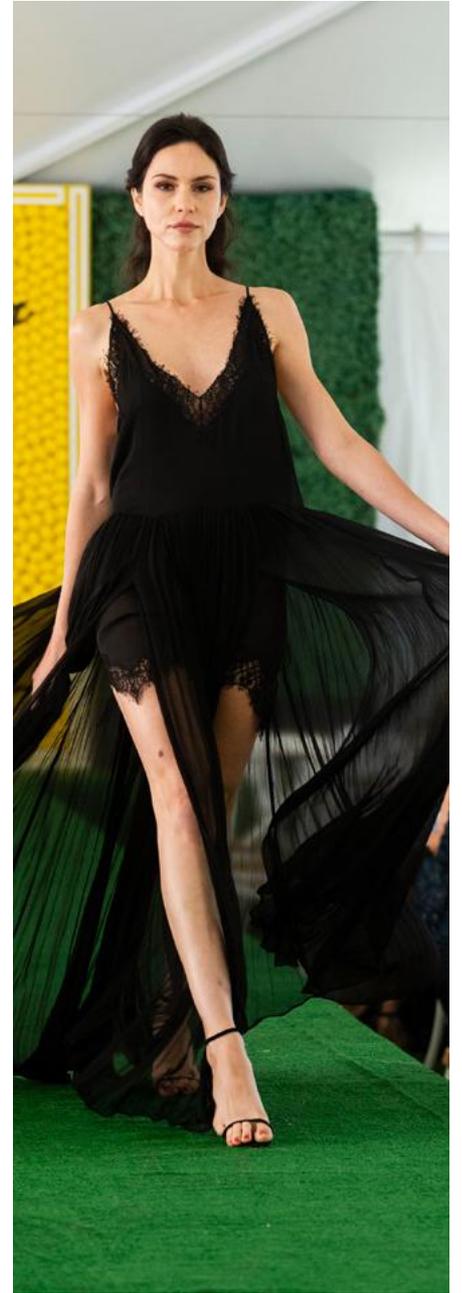
The center also provides marine science education opportunities, including an award-winning program, Ocean Ambassadors, that offers middle school curriculum, classroom resources, and teacher professional development to thousands of middle school students and their teachers in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ocean Ambassadors engages students in field trips to the center and guides them in creating action-oriented projects relevant to their communities. The goal is to increase student interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers and inspire the next generation of informed scientists and engaged citizens who will advocate for and help protect the oceans.

The center is currently embarking on an ambitious five-year strategic plan to help ensure vibrant, healthy oceans for animals and people. “Focusing on three core program areas—global response, our teaching hospital, and public awareness—we’ll expand our reach to empower people around the world to take action and save marine mammals and our oceans,” says Boehm.

*For more information, visit [www.marinemammalcenter.org](http://www.marinemammalcenter.org).*









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## Rosé by the Bay

Wine lovers from all over the Bay Area turned out for the first Rosé by the Bay party at the St. Joseph's Art Society in San Francisco. Whispering Angel Winemaker Sacha Lichine and cohosts designer Ken Fulk and Bond Capital star Juliet de Baubigny showed the Bay Area how to party in a celebration with the angels.

The former Catholic church was turned into a glamorous 20,000-square-foot party space for the evening and was flooded in shades of pink light to match Lichine's rosés. Lichine flew in the Pete Moore Band, a Hong Kong-based swing band to entertain with classy standards before the night erupted into a St. Tropez-style dance set by DJ GG Magree.

Over 1,000 bottles of Whispering Angel, Rock Angel, and Garrus wines were consumed by execs from Instagram, Twitter, Airbnb, Google, and YouTube. Also in attendance were former Hearst Magazine COO Joanna Coles, the famed Chef Cecilia Chang, Slanted Door's Charles Phan, Michelin-starred Chef Mourad Lahlou, San Francisco Ballet Principal Dancer Benjamin Freemantle, Twitter Executive Chairman Omid Kordestani and his wife, Gisel Kordestani, Calm meditation app founder Michael Acton Smith, SoFi executive Libby Leffler, Tolan Florence, artist Leo Villareal, Sebastian Taylor, DJ Rob Garza, Future Bars Founder Doug Dalton, and many more.

Based out of a National Historic Landmark in San Francisco, the 1913 Saint Joseph's Church has been revitalized as a haven, a forum, and a source of inspiration for artists, patrons and the public.



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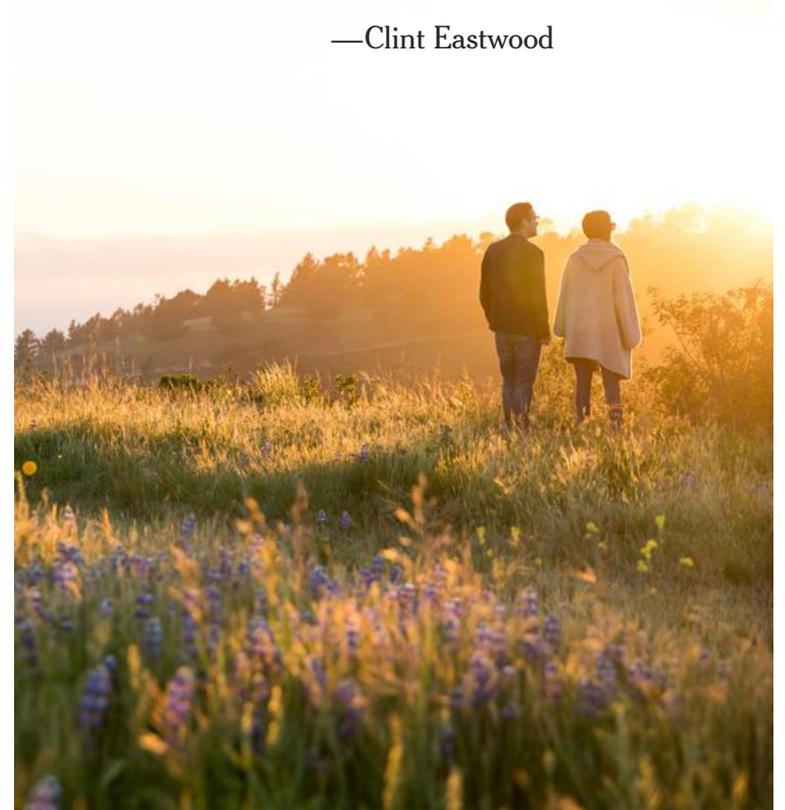
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## 65° DEPARTMENTS

### PERSONA

#### Keeping Pace

By Bettina McBee Hohmann

### FEATURE

#### Cars, Concours, and Centennials

By Kelley Lefmann

#### The New Powerhouse

By Bettina McBee Hohmann

### WINERY

#### A Taste of Home

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### BE SCENE

#### Fifth Annual Red Cross Farm-to-Table Dinner

#### Celebrating the Motorcycle

By Bettina McBee Hohmann

### FOTO

#### Concours d'Elegance through the Years

By Barbara Briggs-Anderson



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# Fifth Annual Red Cross Farm-to-Table Dinner

Photos by James Cagle & Manny Espinoza

Over 350 community members from across the Central Coast gathered at Carmel Valley Ranch on June 2 to enjoy the finest offerings from local farms, restaurants, wineries, and distilleries while celebrating the Red Cross's fifth annual Farm to Table Dinner.

The dinner raised approximately \$270,000 for Red Cross disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The local Red Cross chapter recognized World Central Kitchen as its 2018 Disaster Response Partner. They served approximately 350,000 meals last year to victims of the Camp, Carr, and Mendocino Complex Fires in Northern California. They also provided support to the Woolsey Fire and Montecito mudslides in Southern California. The nonprofit organization also provided essential feeding support to the first responders and volunteers who were deployed to those disasters.

Monterey-based Capital Insurance Group was recognized for a second \$35,000 gift, which the company made toward

the recent purchase of a new chapter-based emergency response vehicle.

Attendees were entertained by The Brian Fitzgerald Trio and a tasting reception, which included libations by dozens of regional wineries and distilleries. Chef Tim Wood of Carmel Valley Ranch, Chef Fabrice Roux of ROUX and Chophouse, and Chef Soerke Peters of Etats-Unis and Mezzaluna prepared a multi-course, family-style dinner featuring fare from local farms with expertly selected wine pairings. Jennifer Roux, also of ROUX and Chophouse, served as Event Chair.

The chefs were assisted by Rancho Cielo Drummond Culinary Academy, and the dishes were served by students from the CSU Monterey Bay Hospitality Program.

The event culminated with an exciting live auction that benefitted the local programs and disaster services that the Red Cross provides in the Central Coast Chapter's tri-county service area.



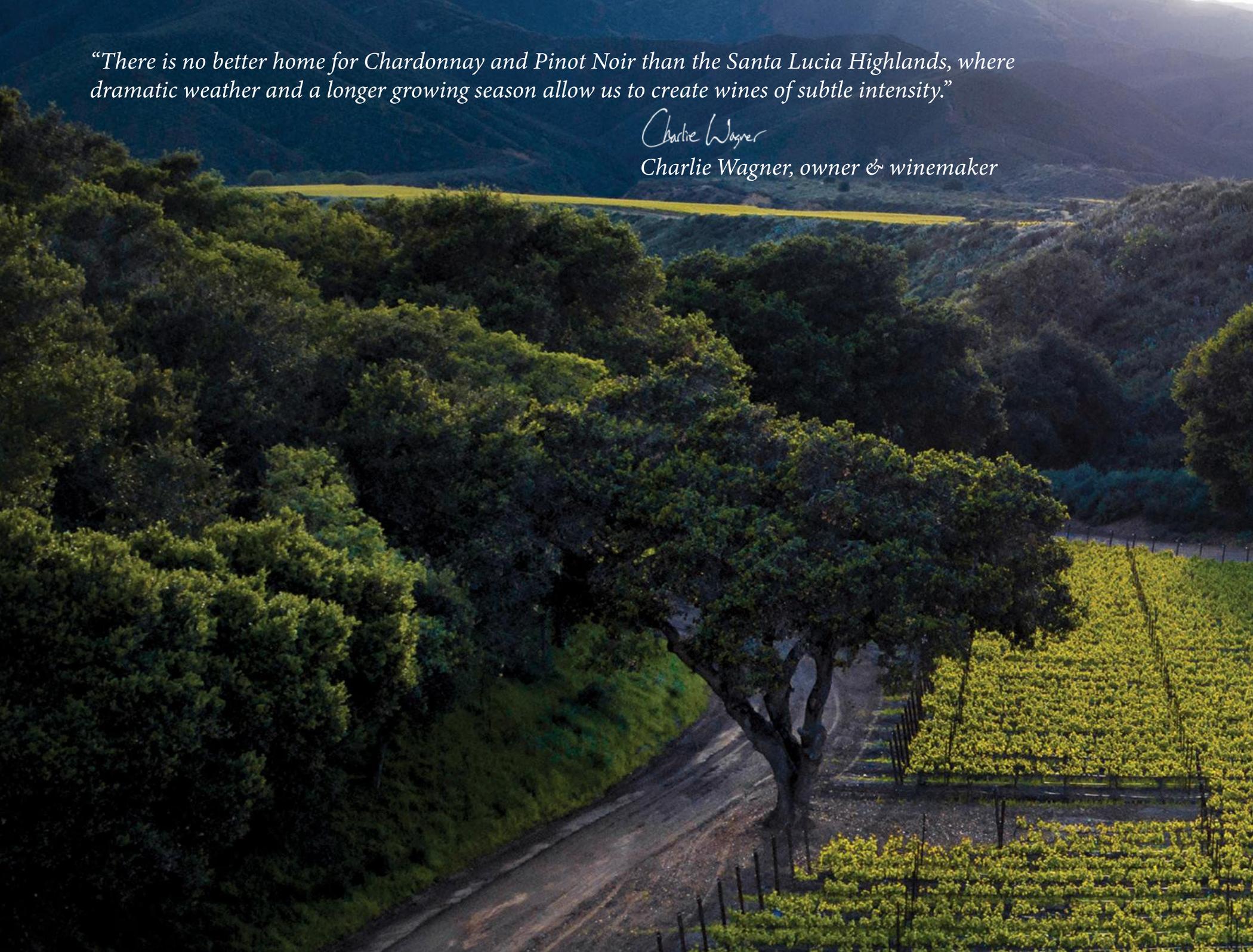
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A scenic landscape of the Santa Lucia Highlands. In the foreground, a dirt road curves through a lush green forest. A large, spreading tree stands prominently on the right side of the road. To the right of the tree, there are rows of vineyards with young grapevines. In the background, rolling hills and mountains are visible under a clear sky.

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*Charlie Wagner*

*Charlie Wagner, owner & winemaker*



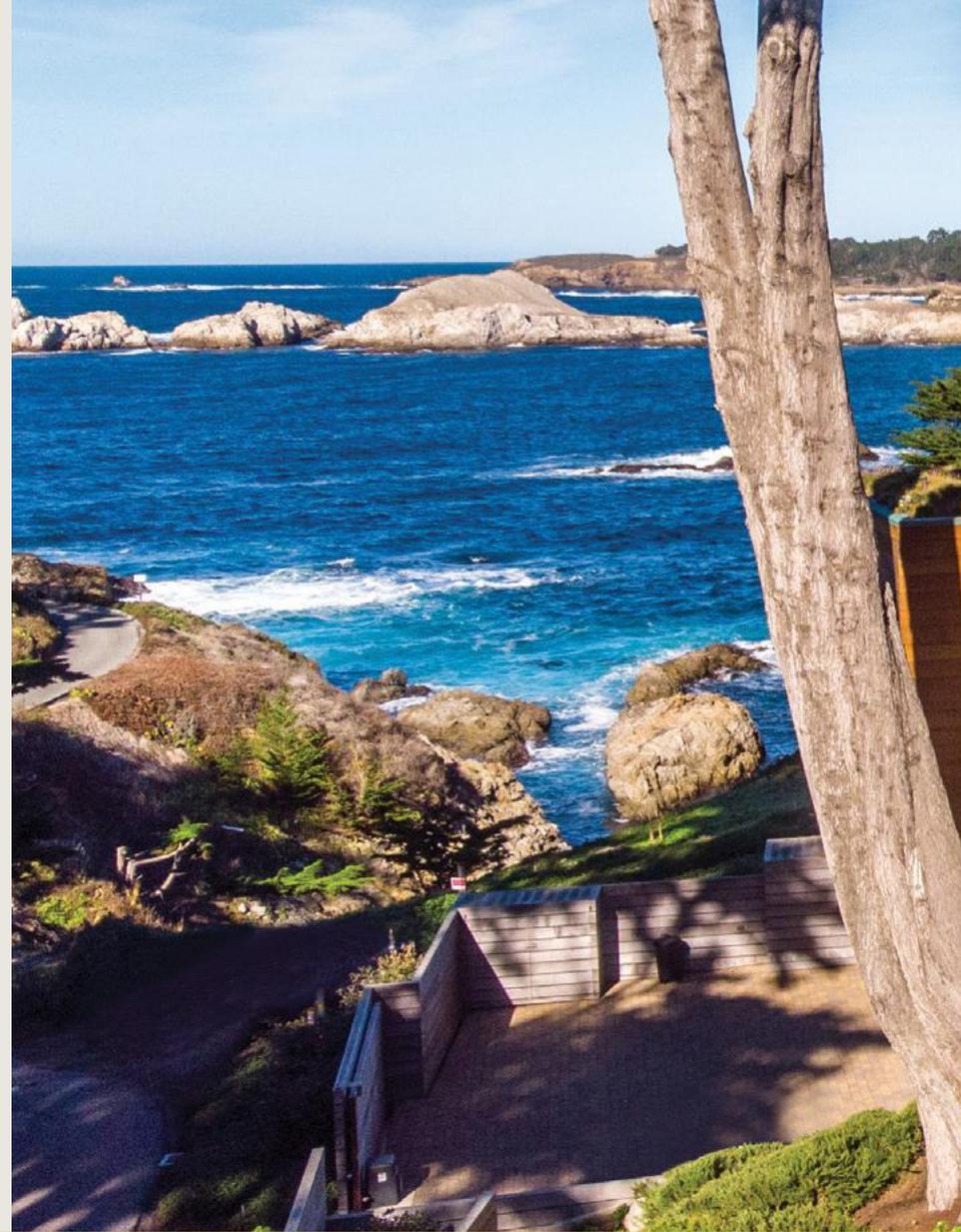
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In 1956, Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance attendance was by invitation only. Programs were sold for 50 cents (the entrance fee at the gate was 75 cents).





1958

# Concours d'Elegance through the Years

By Barbara Briggs-Anderson  
Photos by Julian P. Graham Photographs

The term Concours d'Elegance translates to Parade of Elegance and was the creation, in 1950, of Gwenn Graham, head of public relations for the Del Monte Properties, today the Pebble Beach Company. Graham was interested in an event to complement the sports cars and drivers that were to race on a Sunday in the first Pebble Beach Sports Car Road Races, envisioned by Jack Morse (S. F. B. Morse's son) and Sterling Edwards.

The first Sports Car Races were held in the Del Monte Forest on Sunday, November 5, 1950, and Graham organized the Concours d'Elegance for the preceding day. At this initial Concours event, Graham wanted to encourage as many people as possible to attend, and so no admission was charged. Attendees could inspect and ogle the classic, racy automobiles, which were divided into three categories: prewar, postwar and MGs. After some years, a one-dollar charitable contribution was requested at the entrance.

The first Concours was parked and displayed at the Beach Club, and in 1952, the event was moved to the

lawn behind the Del Monte Lodge (known today as the Lodge at Pebble Beach), overlooking the 18th fairway and spectacular Stillwater Cove. Over the years, as the Concours has become more sophisticated, with more distinguished and knowledgeable judges, the class categories of automobiles became more specialized, with antique, vintage and classic groupings.

After Ernie McAfee's fatal accident while driving a Ferrari Scaglietti Spyder in the 1956 Pebble Beach Sports Car Road Race, the races were moved to Laguna Seca in 1957 for safety reasons, and are still held there today. The Concours has continued in its stunning, picturesque location on the 18th fairway of the Lodge at Pebble Beach. The event has grown, from a couple dozen cars in 1950 to an entry field in 2018 of 209 automobiles shipped and flown in from 31 states and 17 countries. As of August 2018, the monies accumulated over the years by the Concours d'Elegance total more than \$27 million, which benefit the various Monterey Peninsula charities.



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# Keeping Pace

By Bettina McBee Hohman | Photos by Carol Oliva

When he was five years old, WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Tim McGrane received an Austin Junior Forty (J40) roadster pedal car for his birthday. On it, the license plate read, “TIM 5.” “I think I slept in it a few times,” McGrane says, laughing. That car represented the beginning of a lifelong passion for racing.

McGrane grew up in Kent, England, where he says racing became his life. He and his family lived near Brands Hatch raceway in West Kingsdown, Kent. “I’d cycle to all the races—cars and motorcycles. It was exciting to go into the paddock and meet the racers,” he continues with a glint in his eye.

When he wasn’t at the races, he and his friends could be found racing their bikes while pretending to be the racers they idolized. During his elementary school years, he attended boarding school, where he hid under the covers, hoping he wouldn’t be discovered trying to find a French station that covered the Le Mans races with his transistor radio.

McGrane also spent hours reading articles about famous drivers who competed at the iconic Laguna Seca track. In 1981, he visited the track for the first time and got to take in the world-famous Corkscrew. “It’s hallowed ground,” he says, beaming. Perhaps it was his destiny to return.

Now, as he celebrates his first year as WeatherTech Raceway’s CEO, McGrane admits that racing has changed: “Gone are the days when fans would come to the track, sit in the stands for hours, enjoying the sights and sounds of speeding cars, burning rubber, and fuel. Now, they want more.”

McGrane is transforming his childhood love for racing into a template for matching Laguna Seca’s fans’ desire for a multisensory experience. The goal is to elevate the fan experience by including ample parking, easy access, concessions, social media, and opportunities to meet the drivers. “The Monterey Peninsula is a wonderful place to experience the rich history of the Monterey County-owned iconic raceway, but we have to take the priceless heritage and legacy of the track and move forward, into today’s world,” he explains.

McGrane has a strong background in event planning and management. He founded Los Angeles-based Events International Company in 2008, of which he is still President. He was also executive director of the Blackhawk Automotive Museum in Danville, California. One of the organization’s main missions is “to educate, engage, and inspire visitors and members.” He now brings that mission to Laguna Seca, where he says they are building upon a solid platform and making positive changes in the racing community and the region.

Monterey Speed Week is one of the track’s most popular events. It brings two of America’s premier racing events together: the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship’s on September 13-15, and the INDYCAR Firestone Grand Prix of Monterey on September 20-22.

“We will be in the eyes of millions of people via live network coverage. Corporate executives and major sponsors, along with race fans, are excited about this event because it is on the Monterey Peninsula,” McGrane shares. You can hear the giddyness in his voice. It’s clear this is not just a job for him. Cars are his life. Community is his blood. And bringing the two together is the fuel that keeps his engine running.



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## Celebrating the Motorcycle

By Bettina McBee Hohmann | Photos by Darren Lovecchio

Gordon McCall's eleventh Quail Motorcycle Gathering at the Quail Lodge is America's best display of motorcycle machinery. This year highlighted 100 years of Bentley Motors, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the McLaren F1, and a tribute to the electric car movement. Harleys, Hondas, classic Indians, mini-bikes and pre-war military bikes decorated the manicure lawn at Quail. This year's event focused on women, who are rapidly outnumbering men as consumers of these freedom machines.



The event hosted hundreds of motorcycles and thousands of fans. Spectators were dazzled by the beautiful collection of chrome-plated masterpieces while rock and roll music filled the air. Attendees feasted on a gourmet lunch as well as delicious delights from Marianne's Ice Cream. MY Museum's Wheelie Moblie was there, promoting lifelong learning through creativity and curiosity.

Gigi Montrose, owner of Moto Couture, was moderator of the fireside chat, which featured 11-year-old motorcycle champion Kayla Yaakov, who has 185 wins and 25 championships.

The gathering also welcomed some of the coolest custom bikes invented. This included the KRGT-1 Performance Cruiser, created by Arch Motorcycle Company and owned by Keanu Reeves. To say that the Quail Gathering celebrated the evolution of motorcycles this year is an understatement.



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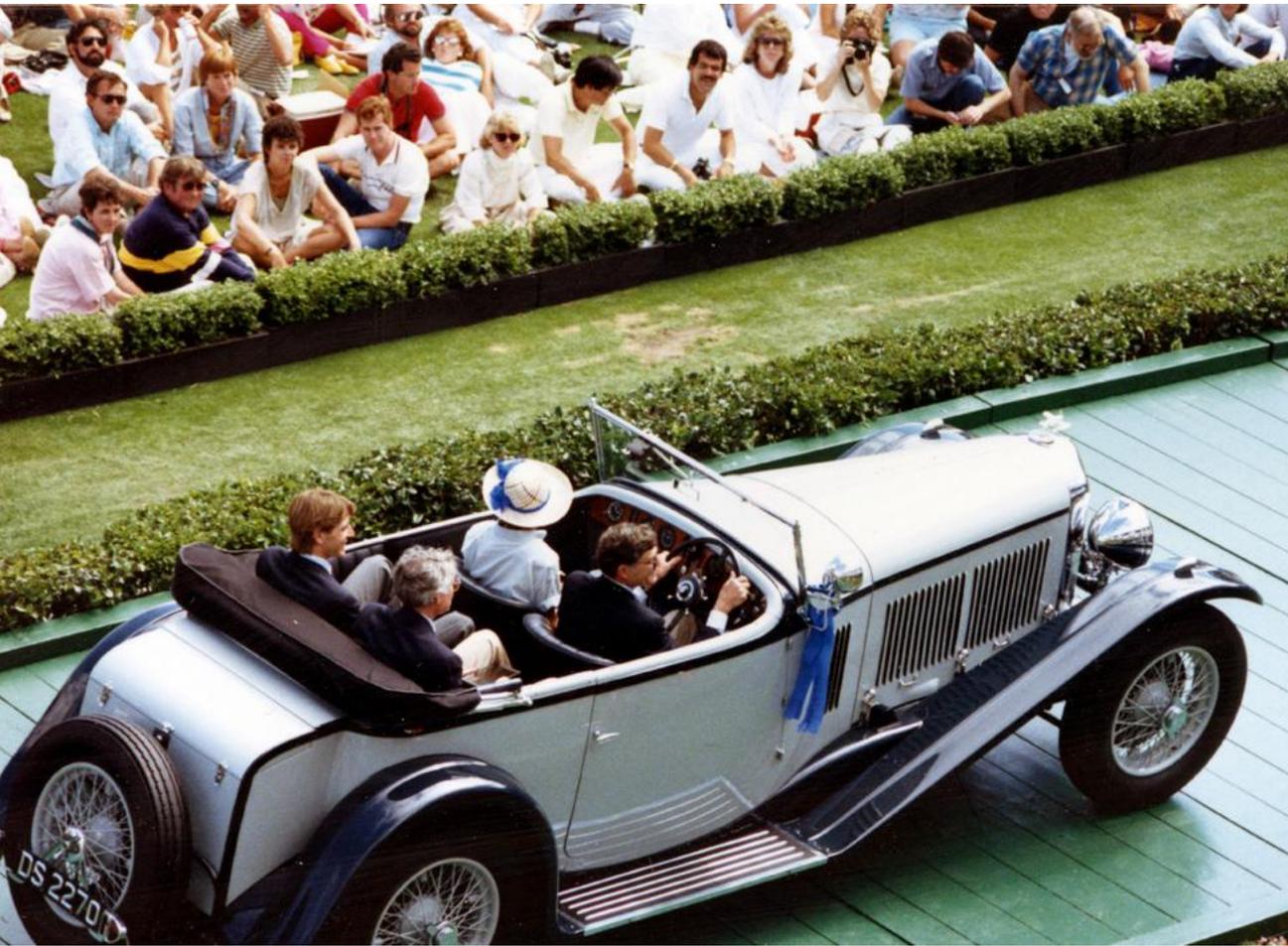
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A rather different take on Bentley's "Flying B" hood ornament.  
(Steve Burton/Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance)





A 1931 Bentley 8 Litre Vanden Plas Tourer shown by Theodore E. Reich climbs the awards ramp to accept its First in Class trophy.  
(Al McEwan/Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, 1987).

A lineup of Bentley racing greats.  
(Kimball Studios/Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, 2009)

A 1939 Bugatti Type 57C Shah of Persia Vanvooren Cabriolet as shown by Oscar Davis.  
(Glenn Mounger/Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, later 1980s)

A 1922 Bentley 3 Litre Park Ward Tourer shown by Peter & Robin Briggs  
(Sanford Edelstein/Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, 2009)

# Cars, Concours, and Centennials

By Kelley Lefmann

Mention the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance to any automobile enthusiast and you will surely elicit smiles, personal stories, and fond memories. Each August since 1950, thousands have come to the Monterey Peninsula to revel in a week of automotive events, from parades and races to auctions and parties. This is where classic, luxury, and one-of-a-kind cars are showcased and sought after.

Bentley Motors celebrates its centennial this year, and Bugatti honors its 110th anniversary. Considered the best of the best for car enthusiasts for racing and design elegance, these two marks will represent the majority of cars on the field in 2019. Bentley will have six automobile classes, each with up to eight cars on display.

W. O. Bentley founded Bentley Motors to “build a fast car, a good car, the best in its class,” and that has remained at the heart of Bentley’s vision ever since. In honor of its founder, the Mulliner division has crafted an extremely rare and exquisite car, the Mulsanne W.O. Edition. With a production run limited to just 100 cars, it provides an opportunity to own a priceless piece of Bentley’s story.

Time-honored tradition is nothing new to Bentley; every vehicle that bears its mark is made at the factory in Crewe, in North West England, by a team of over 4,000 highly skilled men and women. While the longest-serving employee has worked at the factory for 40 years, one family currently has four generations working there.

Bentley is a lifestyle car and brand because it ties directly to the Roaring Twenties and the start of the Art Deco era. The heralded “Bentley Boys” and “Bright Young Things” referenced by F. Scott Fitzgerald in his writings were rogue, well-heeled, no strangers to grand-scale celebrations, and at the core of the 1920s in Britain.

Bentleys were big, hulking, green monsters that won at Le Mans. The men who would just go out and race these cars were the individual racing greats of their days. When the 24 Hours of Le Mans race started, Bentley did well from the get-go, winning six of eight in the early years, mostly driven by independent drivers. This year, Pebble Beach Concours is

showcasing an early Bentley Boys theme, including one that in its heyday raced against a train. W. O. Bentley led the company only for the first dozen years, but his name and engineering were so lauded that he is still being celebrated 100 years later.

Pebble Beach Concours is also celebrating Bugatti, the winningest automobile (boasting nine “Best of Shows”) at Pebble Beach car week. The Pebble Beach Concours received international attention for the first time in the 1980s, when it featured all six Bugattis. Those cars haven’t been together since, due to challenges. This year, the Concours has a wide variety of Bugattis on display, plus one special class of cars—a set of race cars that have never been put together before. Another class will focus on touring Bugattis.

Then there are the Thomas Flyers, including the car driven by George Schuster that won the very first Around the World New York to Paris race in 1908. An international competition among teams representing Germany, Italy, France, and the United States, that “Great Race” was often compared to feats then as unimaginable as journeying to the moon. Given 24 hours’ notice of the race, Schuster secured a victory for the American entry that still stands nearly a century later. In the back of the race car was a New York Times reporter who had to file his stories every day. He tied his news to the leg of a carrier pigeon, and that is how the race victory made the front page. The Thomas Flyer was one of the most powerful, elegant cars of the first decade of American automobile manufacturing. They are a special class of cars, representing a unique period of American history.

Finally, there will also be a class of hot rod cover cars: hot rods featured on covers of early magazines. Hot rod heritage started in California around the dry lakes, where races were held. These cars started as local creations and are now revered around the world.

One thing is certain—Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance attracts car enthusiasts from every corner of the globe. This year, it provides a few more compelling reasons to celebrate the automobile.

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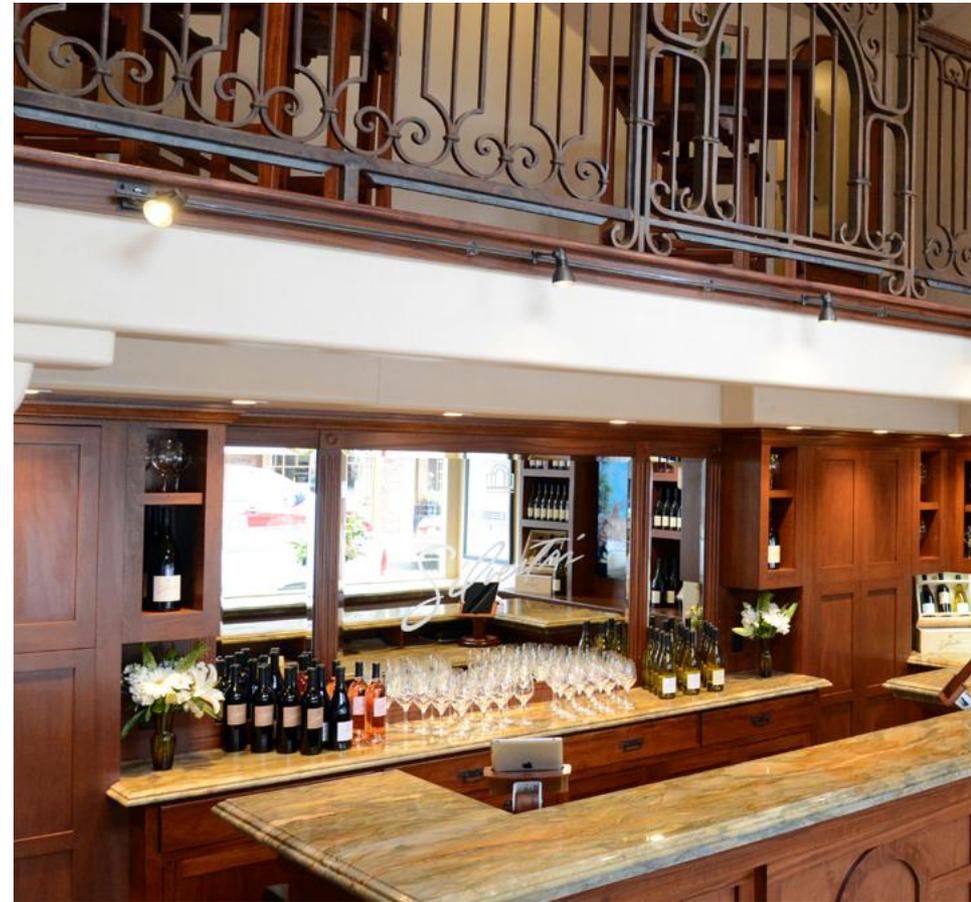


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# A Taste of Home

By Olivia Boynton | Photos courtesy of Silvestri

Come in for a wine flight at Silvestri Vineyards' tasting room and you will hear Alan Silvestri's legendary scores play as you approach the bar. While sipping on Silvestri's Double Gold-winning Barbera and Red Ranger Syrah, his music will transport you to some of the most memorable moments in film history.

For the Silvestri family and their crew, making and serving wine is much like composing music—it is a labor of love. From soil to barrel to bottle, every note along the way is made with passion and quality. “We don't pick the fruit unless it is perfect,” says head winemaker Frank Melicia.

Barbera grapes are a difficult varietal to produce in the Carmel Valley, as they prefer a hot climate, but Melicia has managed to dial in a process for making an elegant, full-flavored Barbera. The Red Ranger is deep, dark, and dense, with hints of velvety chocolate and stone fruits—a perfect pairing with grilled summer meats.

High quality wine and food are a symbol of home for the Silvestri family. Jenny and Joe, Alan's grandparents, each immigrated to America from Italy in 1908. They met in Little Italy and then married. Growing up, Alan enjoyed their homemade wine and wonderful cooking.

Two generations later, in 1989, Alan and his family put down roots in Carmel, fulfilling a three-generational dream of “being home.” The double-window and arch motif found on the wine bottles and in the tasting room's design symbolize the family's journey to find home.

Whether you are a local or a visitor, you'll find Silvestri Vineyards' tasting room to be the perfect place to feel at home after a day exploring Pebble Beach or downtown Carmel, or hiking through Hatton Canyon. As Melicia says: “Come in, have fun, enjoy the music, and let the wine speak for itself.”



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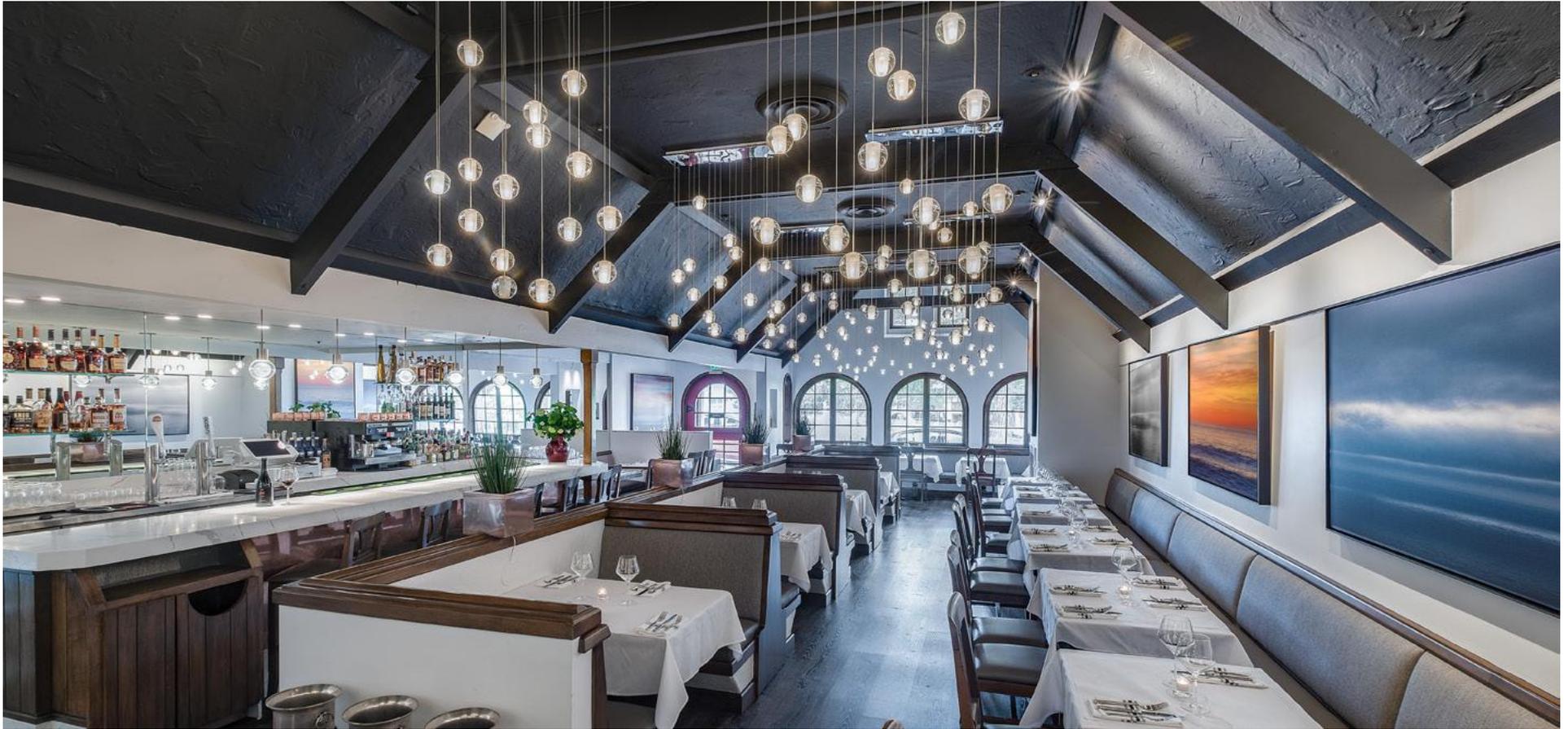
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# Authentic Flavors from East to West

By Katherine Matuszak | Photos by Manny Espinoza

It's easy to feel transported, walking into Pangaea Grill. Your eyes first drift upward, to the dozens of globe-shaped lights shining down from the darkly painted ceiling like stars in a night sky. All around, adorning the walls, are portraits of the ocean reflecting the sky in blues, yellows, or grays. On chilly nights, the fireplace casts a comforting orange glow. This is Pangaea Grill, where flavors from around the world are brought together into one harmonious home.

Some foodies shy away from so-called “fusion food” restaurants, concerned that offering more than one type of cuisine leads to a lack of finesse or focus. But Pangaea delivers a straightforward menu, split by “East” and “West,” each section developed by a different chef. The result is a dining experience with a sense of adventure. Which authentic flavors do you want to experience on this trip? You'll find yourself planning what to order on your next visit before finishing your entree.

Mira Porges, owner of Pangaea Grill and creator of the East side of its menu, was born in Korea and spent much of her childhood seeing the ins and outs of the restaurant business through her parents' Seoul restaurant. When she moved to Carmel, Porges saw the need for more variety in the dining experience. “I've always loved to try new types of cuisine,” she explains. “It wasn't always just eating because I'm hungry, but eating good food and appreciating their cultures.” Despite creating dishes that customers can't stop talking about—particularly her kimchi fried rice—Porges doesn't consider herself a traditional chef. “I'm just cooking East food I learned from my parents and my grandmother especially.” Carmel locals have responded to her traditional family recipes, from the Korean-style short ribs to the dumpling soup, with resounding positivity.

She found the right chef to create the West portion of the menu from an unexpected place—the restaurant that previously resided in Pangaea's current location. When Porges learned that The Grill on Ocean Avenue was for sale, she began a series of reconnaissance missions to determine if it would be a suitable location for her new restaurant venture. She had fallen in love with the meals cooked by Chef Carlos Reyes, who had worked there for 20 years. Porges offered Reyes the head chef position at Pangaea Grill, and he created the West menu, which continues to wow guests. Diners especially love the melt-in-your-mouth filet mignon and locally sourced sand dabs.

Porges has been pleased to serve a diverse variety of guests at her restaurant, including visitors from China, Korea, Japan, France, England, Ukraine, and Brazil. “A lot of people think this is an Asian restaurant, but it's probably 70 percent Western food, and the rest is Eastern food,” she explains. “We offer lots of variety, so you can get the food you want and then also try something new.”

Pangaea Grill opened on December 31, 2018, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Since then, Porges has enjoyed hosting and getting to know many guests—some have even become friends. Some guests have dined at her restaurant every day, sometimes for all three meals during their short stays in Carmel.

Focused on high-quality food, professional and warm service, and a comfortable and relaxing dining experience, Porges hopes her restaurant fills a gap in the Carmel dining community and offers unique flavors that guests have never tried. “People come from all these different places,” says Porges, “and we offer them some comfort food or a little adventure.”



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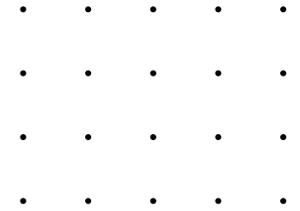


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# The New Powerhouse

By Bettina McBee Hohmann | Photo by Sherman Chu

Established in 1913, Carmel Realty Company (CRC) is the oldest real estate company in Carmel. They have been unmatched in their success since its beginning. The company believes it is paramount to create valuable relationships with homeowners, visitors, buyers, sellers, tenants, and local businesses. For this reason, CRC is an essential part of the community.

“We sell a unique lifestyle of the Monterey Peninsula,” says Dan Lynch, CEO of Carmel Realty Company. “Now, more than ever, people want to spend their time and money being part of a community.”

Voted locally as The Best Real Estate Brokerage on the Monterey Peninsula and The Best Company to Work For, Carmel Realty is a family with four generations of local realtors. “Building strong relationships is key to our success,” explains Lynch, “and this success is a result of hiring the best agents.”

A recent merger with the 22-year-old brokerage Alain Pinel REALTORS® Carmel an alliance of the only locally owned and operated real estate company on the peninsula.

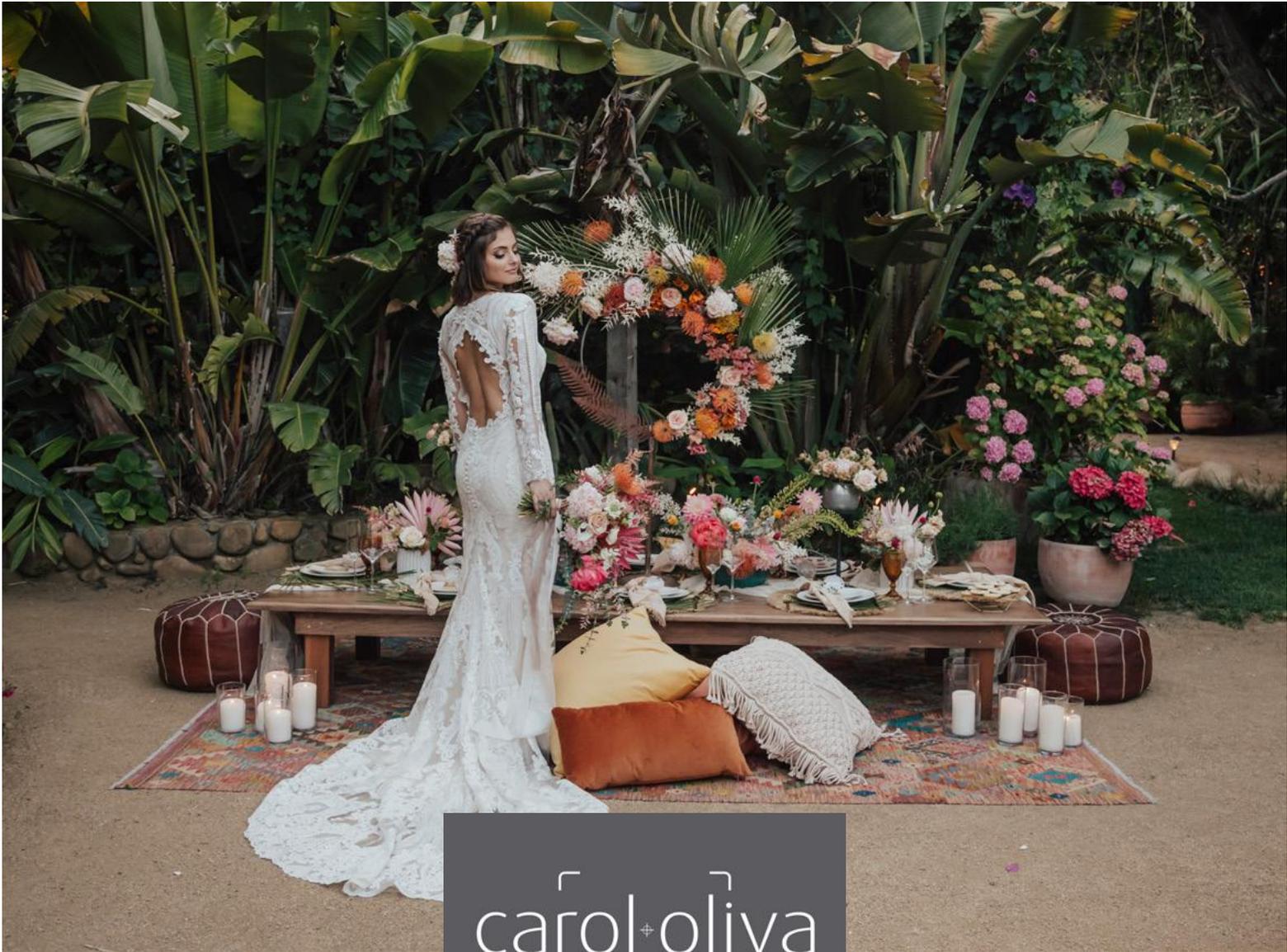
“Our decision to join with Carmel Realty Company and Monterey Coast Realty is based not only on their success,” says Judy Profeta, Alain Pinel REALTORS® Carmel owner. “It’s based on their standard of care and individualized service, which fully mirror our beliefs.” Bill Mitchell, Managing Director for Carmel Realty agrees: “We are grateful to have aligned with a team that shares our commitment to community by giving back.”

Since its inception, Carmel Realty has given a percentage of every real estate transaction to the Carmel Realty Foundation. The foundation, along with the company’s generous agents, have donated over \$4 million dollars to local charities.

Community Partnership for Youth (CPY), located in Seaside, is a prevention program that provides positive alternatives to gangs, drugs, and violence while reinforcing individual strengths. It will benefit from the merger as well.

For years, Alain Pinel has supported CPY in Seaside. With the merger, Carmel Realty and Monterey Coast realty will continue their support. “CPY is thrilled with the merger,” says Shari Hastily, Executive Director and founder of CPY. “Students are sponsored by realtors, allowing our youth to keep up with academics, go on field trips, and learn new exciting skills.” During the holidays many families felt like they were able to celebrate because the caring realtors adopted families and provided gifts for each person. “We are extremely grateful for their continued support of our mission,” shares Hastily.

The merger is an unmatched combination: an innovative collaboration of extraordinary people with the common goal of fueling the local economy. Passionate in their commitment for giving back, CRC instills philanthropic values into the children of its employees, passing them on to the next generation. This methodically fuels their market exposure. Buyers know that by working with CRC they are giving back to the peninsula. “It is a synergistic effect that we expect will continue for years to come,” says Lynch.



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# The Invisible Character

By Andrea Stuart | Photo by Darren Lovecchio

The simultaneous bright crash of cymbals, boom of snare drums, and deep spiccato of cellos and double basses introduce the first thematic notes of *The Avengers* theme song.

Composer and Carmel-by-the-Sea resident Alan Silvestri has an impressive repertoire, which includes the theme to *The Avengers* and his character-driven scores for *The Avengers*, *Avengers: Infinity War*, and *Avengers: Endgame*. His introduction to the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) began with the soundtrack for *Captain America: The First Avenger*. “The folks at Marvel must have liked how it turned out because I was invited to do the first Avengers film,” says Silvestri.

While composing the theme song and score for the Avengers movies, Silvestri was faced with a new kind of responsibility. “When working on *Back to the Future* we had no idea if it was ultimately going to succeed because it was a new concept,” he shares. “But Avengers was created from several characters who already had successful franchises. We knew it would be successful unless we, the filmmakers, made a terrible mistake. [chuckles] That kind of pressure is unique at this stage of my 45-year career.”

Whenever Silvestri felt the pangs of anxiety, he simply went deeper into the music, into the characters, and into the scenes. His process is technical in application, yet, the cadence and development of his music is born from emotionality. “In a sense, I have to act along with the characters and track the performances. I have to feel the tragedy, elation, fear, loss of energy, whatever the scene brings,” says Silvestri.

For Silvestri, deadlines helped him stay centered and in the creative stream. Serving as a kind of metronome, the clock sets the pace for Silvestri. It provides parameters for him to work within so that he can’t get in his own way for too long. He says it also helps to work alongside a filmmaking team that remains humble and kind even in the face of stress. “*The Avengers* filmmakers were all on a battlefield with tremendous consequences and stakes, yet they had smiles on their faces and were respectful. It’s rare in any workplace and something to really be enjoyed,” admits Silvestri.

What really keeps Silvestri coming back to filmmaking is his love for the invisible character. “The music is another character in the production,” explains Silvestri. “Without the music, you see the scene and are left with your own feelings. The music takes you out of yourself and into the story.”

Culminating the MCU series, *Avengers: Endgame*, released last April, was the highest grossing movie in the series, proving that Silvestri, the movie’s directors, Joe and Anthony Russo, and the rest of the filmmaking team did just what they aimed to: they created a cinematic legacy.

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# The Club at Pasadera: A Family Affair

By Jeff Green | Photo Darren Lovecchio

Thanksgiving could be called America's annual homecoming. It's when families unite to celebrate togetherness, express appreciation, and enjoy food. In 2018, around Thanksgiving, several local businesspeople joined forces to purchase the former Nicklaus Club Monterey in a spirit of collaboration. They formed a tradition of community and a vision for a family club experience.

"We were fortunate to already have a core group of dedicated, hardworking employees who had been working and supporting each other here since the original Pasadera Country Club started in 2000," says managing member Chris Laver. "Some are even related to each other, and it was essential that we build the new club around their dedication and sense of service. You can't fabricate a culture like that."

Like a fine wine, a community takes time to mature. The members knew they had something special on their hands with Pasadera. "It's a chance to express a family spirit and bring people together. Many of our members have told us it's this intangible community element that personifies what they've been seeking in a club," continues Laver.

In June 2019, The Club at Pasadera recruited a new director of food and beverage, Don Basch, directly from his GM post at Monterey's fabled The Sardine Factory on Cannery Row. That move rejoined Basch with the club's new executive chef, Colin Moody, who worked with Basch for years at Monterey Peninsula Country Club.

"It's a natural fit," observes new GM Kurt Burmeister, to whom Basch now reports. "At its core, a great club is a place known for companionship and camaraderie. That starts from within. By adding award-winning cuisine, we now are well on our way to delivering a world-class experience."

Another local investor, Bob Rosenthal, has played a key matchmaking role in attracting many of the partners. "Like a family, we are willing to get into the details," he says. "We care so much about getting this right. We are a group committed to each other, the members, the residents who live around the Club, and to the entire Monterey Bay area."

During the recent U.S. Open week, the club's golf course designer, Jack Nicklaus, stopped by to have a special luncheon interview with member Jim Nantz. He also spoke with members about how much the club means to him. "Each course I develop is like one of my children," says Nicklaus, affirming that he'd be happy to return regularly as part of "The Club Family" to share guidance.

That kind of support demonstrates the reason Laver, Rosenthal, and their fellow partners ventured into the uncertain world of country club ownership: to create something that lasts for generations and inspires a sense of belonging and purpose. Just like a family.









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# Give a Dog a Job®

By Olivia Boynton

Since its establishment in 1975, Canine Companions for Independence® has paired, free of charge, over 6,100 highly trained dogs with people living with disabilities. The nonprofit organization, which started up in a home office in Santa Rosa, has expanded all over the country, with volunteers as its heart. Puppies are raised and trained by volunteers for 18 months, and then go to a training center for professional training, graduation, and placement with a person or facility. Once a pairing is secured, Canine Companions provides that team with support for the lifetime of the placement.

In Monterey County, Canine Companions facility dogs Odie and Namaste work at the Monterey County District Attorney's Office, helping victims of crime navigate through the criminal justice system. Monterey County is also home to many supporters, volunteers, and puppy raisers.

This year, the organization is benefiting from a fundraiser on August 15, during the Automobile Nirvana Concours week. Carmel's Light+Shadow Fine Art Gallery master artist Thierry Thompson will host a night of Fine Art, Fine Automobiles, Fine Wine & Fine Chocolates, with a silent auction to benefit Canine Companions. The funds raised will support the organization's mission by providing the money required for breeding, raising, and training canines. Randy Wight, a Navy veteran, will attend the event and share his story about his service dog.

Alma, the facility dog at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, assisted Wight days after his spinal cord injury and throughout

his stay at the hospital. Having her support encouraged Wight to eventually apply for his own assistance dog. In 2012, Wight was paired with Neo, who assists him with mobility and stamina during his daily activities. "Canine Companions changed my life when they trained Neo to be my partner. Neo performs tasks that help me conserve energy so that I can focus on physical therapy and volunteer at a local high school. He watches over me and tries to anticipate and provide me with what I need, even before I realize I need it—picking up dropped items, opening doors, handing me a towel in the gym, shower . . . I cannot imagine life without Neo," he says.

Wight and his wife, Linda, are avid supporters and volunteers of Canine Companions, both serving on the Northwest Region board of directors since 2014. "We wanted to support Canine Companions and its mission because it had such an impact on our lives," says Linda, who has also served on the organization's Sit Stay Sparkle gala planning committee and on its personnel committee.

For those interested in becoming volunteers or supporters of Canine Companions, Wight says, "Be prepared to have your soul expanded each time you encounter a graduate whose life has been changed by one of these amazing assistance dogs. Be prepared to shed tears of joy each time you attend a graduation. This is an incredible organization to be a part of, for all involved."

***To learn more and see all the ways to support Canine Companions for Independence, visit [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org).***

# Silvestri



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