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BE SCENE

*Alexander Rubin:
For the Love of Photography*
By Jennifer Moulaison

PHOTO

*Douglas Sterling:
A Master Photographer*
By Nora Heston Tarte

STAY

Effortlessly Elegant
By Fran Endicott Miller

PERSONA

Red Stitch Wine Hits a Homerun
By Nora Heston Tarte

Napa Valley Trailblazer
By Fran Endicott Miller

WINE

Heart and Soul in Vines and Earth
By Michael Cervin

SAUSALITO

PERSONA

A Son Rises
By Fran Endicott Miller

A Dedicated Life
By Nora Heston Tarte

PHOTO

"Sunset" Jimmy Casares Jr.: Captured
By Jennifer Moulaison

SPECIAL

Gulfstream's Bespoke Interiors

STAY

All-Inclusive Indulgence
By Fran Endicott Miller

BE SCENE

*The San Francisco Fall Show Opening Night
Preview Gala*

Métal et Monet: ArtPoint Annual Gala



Cover Photo: Meadowood - Napa



Cover Photo: Sunset Jimmy

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

By Rich Medel

Normally, we would be writing about the upcoming car week events in this issue. Since events have been postponed until next year, we're commemorating our favorite moments from previous years. Keep your eyes peeled for the special Scenes we've included.

Carmel-by-the-Sea leaders are doing a fantastic job preserving our thriving community and keeping us safe. Read on to find out how they're doing that.



For those who would like to enjoy a little staycation with personalization, the historic Tickle Pink Inn offers a home away from home experience. It's a place many patrons have been visiting for generations.

For a nice meal out (or to take out), enjoy a meal at The Pocket restaurant. Their unparalleled service and beautiful décor accentuate the relationships they build with their diners.

Up in Napa Valley, Meadowood Resort wants to pamper you with freshly baked cookies and English-style accommodations tucked into the tree-covered hillside.

The thirteenth-century poet, Rumi, is noted as having said, "Either give me more wine or leave me alone." We like to keep our wine glasses full, too. Which is why we enjoy visiting with winemakers and viticulturists. This time, we met with Rich Aurilia of Red Stitch Wine Group and Andy Beckstoffer of Beckstoffer Vineyards. And we love that Spottswoode is making wine with an environmentally conscientious approach.

Thank you for your patience as we prepared this issue. Although things took longer than usual, we are grateful to be putting out our summer edition.

A red, stylized, cursive letter 'R' logo.

57°

THIS IS THE CITY

PUBLISHER Rich Medel
rich@65mag.com

EDITORIAL
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR Andrea Stuart
andrea@65mag.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Michael Cervin
Bettina McBee
Fran Endicott Miller
Jennifer Moulaison
Nora Heston Tarte

COPY EDITOR Leah Weiss

ASSOCIATE EDITORS Michele Callaghan
MacDuff Perkins

ART
CREATIVE DIRECTOR Manolo Espinoza
manny@65mag.com

CONTRIBUTING
PHOTOGRAPHERS Manolo Espinoza
Kimerlee Curyl
Darren "Flash" Lovecchio
Bob McClenahan
Maria Marriott
Douglas Sterling
"Sunset" Jimmy

ADVERTISING / MARKETING
SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Jack Pappadeas
jack@65mag.com

Chad Medel
chad@65mag.com

Tracy Ricci
tracy@65mag.com

MAILING ADDRESS 65° Magazine
P.O. Box 2426
Carmel, CA 93921-6325

PHONE 831.917.1673

ONLINE 65mag.com



Meadowood Napa Valley



Floating Homes of Sausalito by Olexie

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CONTRIBUTORS

THE WRITERS



MICHAEL
CERVIN



BETTINA
MCBEE



FRAN
ENDICOTT MILLER



JENNIFER
MOULAISON



NORA
HESTON TARTE

THE PHOTOGRAPHERS



MANNY
ESPINOZA



KIMERLEE
CURYL



DARREN
LOVECCHIO



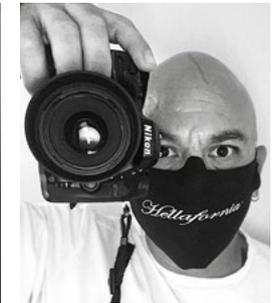
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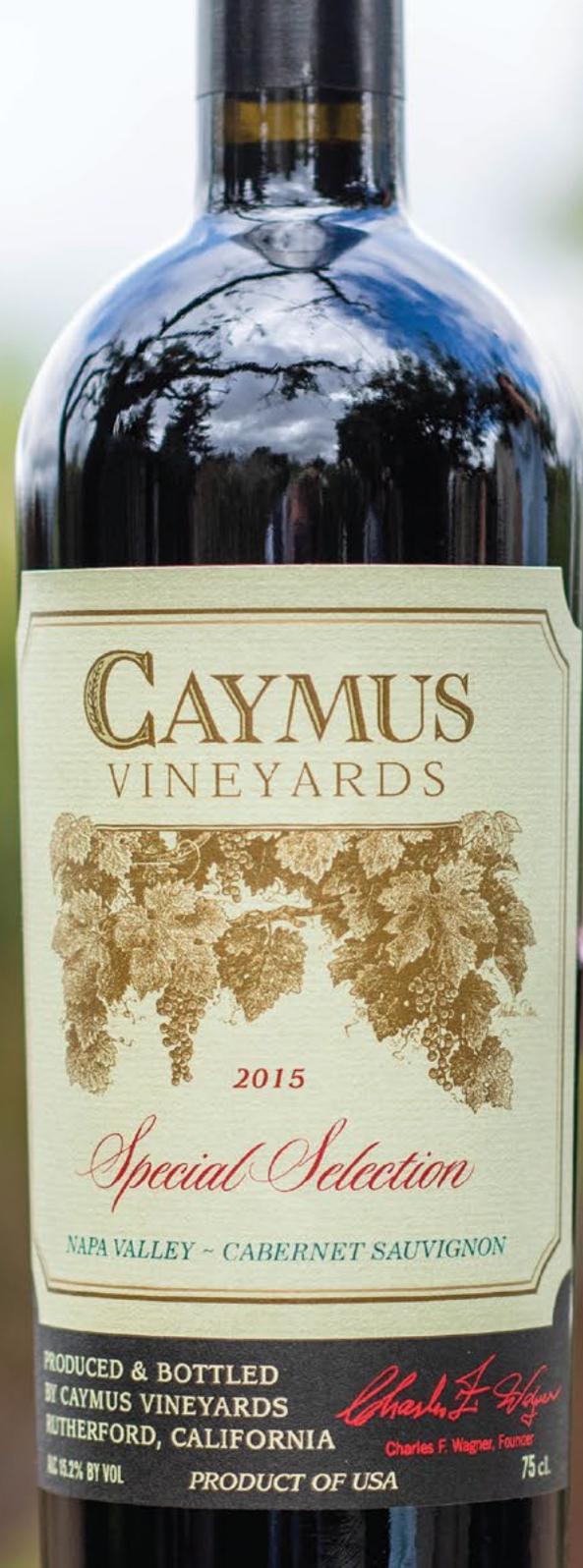
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The Aurilias, Miceks and Roberts

95

POINTS

Wine Spectator



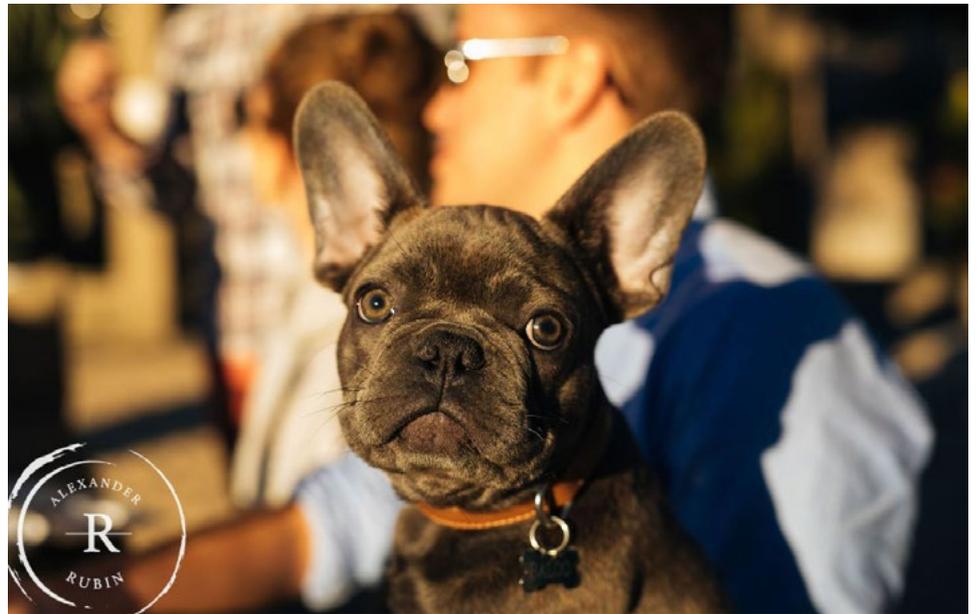
RED STITCH

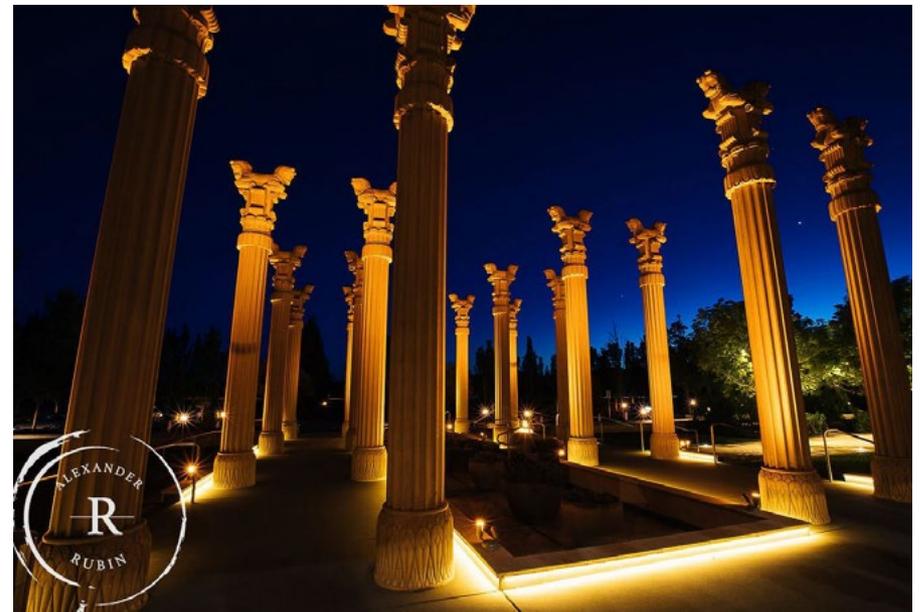
Napa Valley

Cabernet Sauvignon

— 2015 —







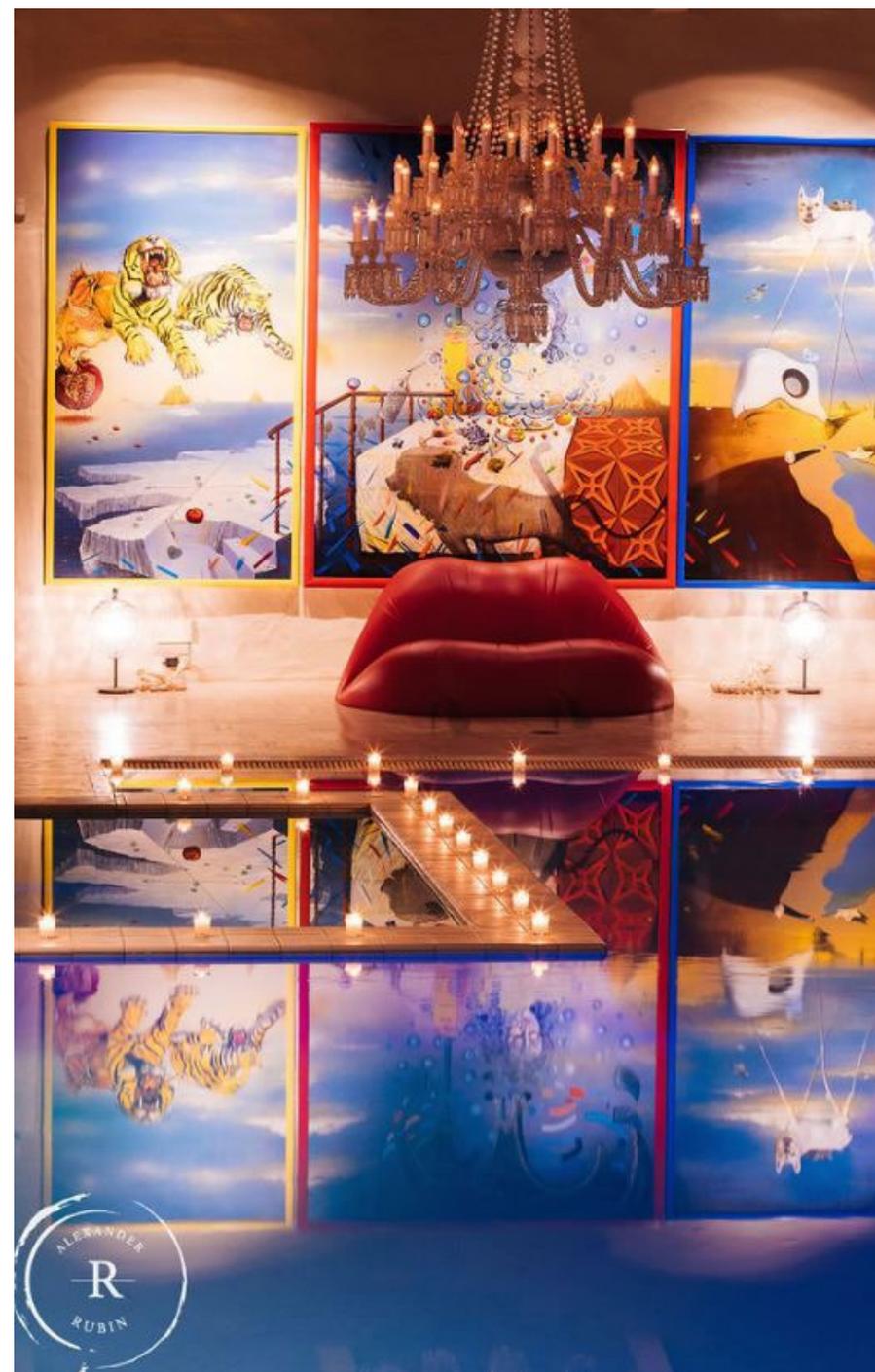
For the Love of Photography

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos by Alexander Rubin

Imagine freshly-picked grapes suspended in the air as they're tossed from their crate, so well captured they look as though you could pluck one right out of the photo and eat it. This is the type of work with which Napa-based photographer Alexander Rubin has become synonymous. Building a diverse portfolio over the past 14 years, Rubin describes his photographic style as a combination of fine art, candid, and editorial. He finds himself always inspired by what he's capturing.

Rubin's work encompasses everything from quintessential Napa vineyard and food images to high-level corporate and commercial campaigns. He has recently added video production as a way to adapt to the current business and creative climates. "This helps allow clients to feel more interactive, and it's great to have something to expand into creatively," says Rubin. He especially loves being able to allow the artistry of what he's capturing inspire him. "Everyone I work with is an artist in their own right, and I enjoy enhancing their creativity with my own creativity," he says. There's also an element of unpredictability in each project, and that has afforded him some unique and memorable experiences. "From watching John Legend perfect the blend for one of his wines to tasting tea with Oprah—these are the kind of moments you can't replicate [and] are a byproduct of doing what I love."

Rubin occasionally works farther down the coast in the Carmel area, which, in addition to Napa, is one of his favorite locations. "I've always loved Carmel, but for now, I feel so fortunate to live here in Napa. There's absolutely nothing like it anywhere in the world," says Rubin.



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A Master Photographer

Douglas Sterling is a creative force.

By Nora Heston Tarte

Douglas Sterling fell in love with art at a young age. Born into a family of artists, he first dreamed of becoming a painter, but during a college photography course at Santa Rosa Community College, Sterling switched gears. His first photo assignment at 21 years old won a school competition. “That put the nail in the coffin,” says Sterling. “It just clicked for me.”

For the past 30 years, Sterling has honed his craft, becoming a master behind the lens as a prominent Bay Area photographer. His works include architectural, commercial, editorial, digital media, and fine art. His images subjectivize his themes and are intuitive and sensitive to design and aesthetic while remaining technical. “It’s the way I see light, form, and shadows and how it plays on materials creating dimension to the subject, from architecture to editorial assignment,” he explains. Mostly he calls his process creative yet instinctual; often the final product plays on the translation of an overpowering mood, perfected by his inherent understanding of what to do behind a camera.

Sterling’s favorite moments include the once-in-a-lifetime shots where every element lines up. One such example comes from the day he shot Artesa for Sigma Architecture. It was late evening outside

and Sterling predicted the shot before it happened. He readied his camera and clicked just as the moon came into the frame over the apex on the entry portal. “It was just a magical time,” says Sterling.

The first day Sterling spoke to his (future) wife was the day he photographed the original Artesa building for Domingo Triay back in the ’80s. She worked for the client, and after the shoot he went on a fishing trip to Alaska and brought back a salmon to cook for her. On their 25th wedding anniversary, he returned to Artesa for a second architectural shoot. “It’s come full circle,” he says.

When it comes to photography, Sterling is a master of balancing work and play. He knows the moment to be serious and focus on the shot, but he also knows how to keep the job light and fun. “[Clients]] hire me not because I can focus a camera and take the picture, but because I am very creative,” Sterling says. Many of his images have appeared in magazines, books, brochures, digital media, and private homes—a testament to his talent. “There is an excitement of being in that creative realm.”

For more information, visit www.douglassterling.com.



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Effortlessly Elegant

By Fran Endicott Miller | Photos courtesy of Meadowood Resort

Tucked into the hillside off of the famed Silverado Trail, Meadowood Resort blends seamlessly and sublimely into its 250 acres of oak and redwood tree-studded terrain. Secluded and romantic, it's easy to see why the bucolic retreat is a desired wedding locale and choice destination for some of Napa Valley's premiere events. You'll not find any resort within Northern California wine country to be as effortlessly elegant. And though preternaturally posh, a renovation of three new swimming pools and a state-of-the-art fitness studio sends the resort's luxe quotient soaring.

The pampering begins upon your arrival, with a greeting of freshly baked cookies. Friendly bell staff escort you to one of the 85 sumptuously appointed, New England-style bungalows and cottages that dot the hillsides. Each space provides unparalleled privacy and features wood-burning or gas fireplaces to provide extra warmth on chilly nights and mornings. Dishes of daily refilled house-made caramels and nightly turndown treats from the kitchen will gratify your sweet cravings.

Settle in while contemplating activity choices that include wine tasting adventures, hillside trail hikes, croquet, tennis, spa treatments, and swimming. A new, adults-only pool features a series of adjacent lounges complemented by four private cabanas. The Club Pool provides for lap swimming in the mornings and quiet relaxation the rest of the day, complete with poolside lounges. The Family Pool provides a fun environment for families with children. An adjacent new building houses a snack bar and a bath house with showers and changing rooms. A new Kids Play Area, with activity lawns, makes the pool areas a bit more peaceful.

The men's and women's locker rooms feature new saunas and steam rooms. Spaces dedicated to daily fitness classes, weight training, and cardio

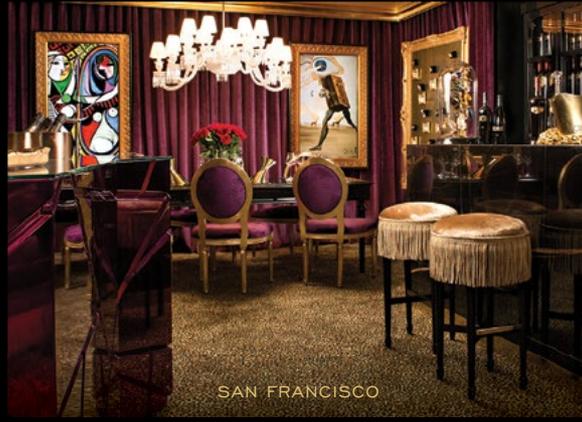
workouts have been improved and expanded, allowing more light-filled space for stretching and functional training. Advanced weight training and cardio equipment from Precor® includes two Peloton® bikes, Concept 2® SkiErg, a TRX® station, Stairmaster® StepMill, and Board3Os that use resistance bands for a varied, full body workout. The newly rebranded Strength & Spirit Studio offers a variety of daily fitness classes, including yoga, cardio weight training, and cycle/sculpt.

After your workout, head to the spectacularly serene and rustically modern Meadowood Spa, with its soothing color palette of warm grays, creams, fresh greens, and natural teak. Enjoy customizable holistic treatments offered within spacious individual suites. Pre- or post-treatment, you can lounge in the relaxation garden and sample nourishing elixirs and house-dried fruits, nuts, and grains.

A destination unto itself, the Michelin 3-starred The Restaurant at Meadowood is Executive Chef Christopher Kostow's celebration of Napa cuisine. Dining here is an event. Every delicious dish surprises and delights, the service is fabulous, and the low-lit, sultry environ inspires romance. For a more casual atmosphere and fare to match, you can opt for The Grill at Meadowood for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. During warmer months, the new Pool Terrace Bar & Restaurant offers a carefree, adults-only dining area and bar, with table seating under the shade of six tall palms.

Whether you're a wedding guest, gala attendee, or serenity seeker, Meadowood's relaxed yet refined service ensures that you feel like a VIP.

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Red Stitch Wine Hits a Homerun

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos by Bob McClanahan

The name might give it away. Red Stitch Wine Group is owned by a couple of Major League Baseball players. If the winery's moniker doesn't make it obvious, then a quick reading of the owners list, which includes Rich Aurilia (who played 11 seasons with the San Francisco Giants) and his former Giants teammate and current Dodger's manager, Dave Roberts, will spark recognition for most locals. The other four owners are Aurilia's wife, Amy, Roberts' wife, Tricia, and John and Noelle Micek, a couple the two Major Leaguers met through Bay Area wine tasting parties while they were playing in San Francisco.

The wines are available direct-to-consumer through the company's website (at \$50 to \$150 per bottle) and in select local restaurants and wine shops. The 2020 portfolio includes standouts such as three single-vineyard Pinot Noirs, a single-vineyard Chardonnay, and the flagship wine, a Napa Cabernet blended with less than 2 percent of Malbec.

Aurilia's desire to start a wine label came in 2007, during his final seasons with the Giants, predating his retirement by two years. He knew that his baseball career would soon end and wanted to get his next venture underway. Growing up in a predominantly Italian neighborhood in Brooklyn, he was surrounded by basement wine makers, and wine was a big part of the food experience at home.

"It was always a passion of mine, something I loved, and something I still love today," says Aurilia about wine. In 1997, he began soaking up more wine knowledge from the foodie scene in San Francisco. "[There], you have access to great restaurants and great wine lists," he explains. When they weren't practicing or on the road, Aurilia and Roberts attended blind tastings. During a Malbec blind tasting, they met John Micek and bonded over their shared passion for vino.

When an injury forced Roberts to step down from playing, he brought Aurilia a slew of wine-related ideas that included opening a wine shop. Ultimately, both wanted to be more involved in the process, and they settled on launching a boutique wine label focused on producing the Napa Cabernets they loved. "It was a total new ballgame for us, learning all the ins and outs of the wine industry," says Aurilia, who owns a home in Healdsburg.



One of their main goals was to create wine that tasted good, not to simply slap their names on a product to try and sell it. The name, an obvious nod to baseball, came from Roberts' brother-in-law. Aurilia says it's subtle enough, but admits that his celebrity in the Bay Area may help sell bottles. It certainly gives him an edge when he's handling the daily sales and marketing duties.

In addition to the three families, a winemaker on staff handles the products from start to finish and manages operations. Aurilia, Roberts, and Micek attend bottlings, blendings and harvests, tasting the wines each step of the way and giving input on barrel type and aging processes. Aurilia is also involved in the company's day-to-day operations.

Ultimately, Aurilia doesn't want to be known as a baseball player who makes wine. "We take a lot of pride in what we do," he says. "We want to be looked at as serious vintners and people that make a high-quality wine."

For more information, visit www.redstitchwine.com.



Bob McClenahan
photography

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Photo by Andy Berry

Napa Valley Trailblazer

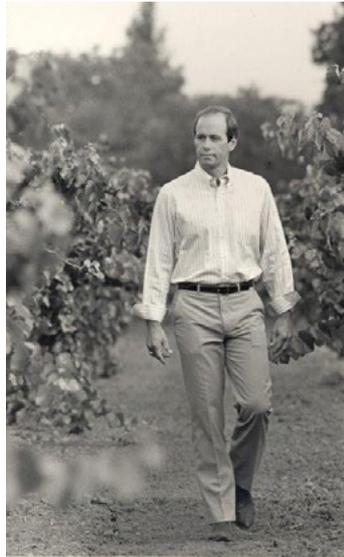
By Fran Endicott Miller

Few have made a larger impact on the evolution of Northern California's wine industry than Andy Beckstoffer and the company he founded in 1970. For 50 years, Beckstoffer and his Beckstoffer Vineyards have forged major shifts in the way the wine industry values land, grapes, and farmers. His passion has helped to put Napa Valley and California on the global wine stage.

Beckstoffer's ever-growing portfolio of premium vineyard sites in Napa, Mendocino, and Lake Counties consistently yield the highest quality Cabernet Sauvignon grapes in Northern California. The company's six Napa Valley Heritage Vineyards alone produce some of the most sought-after grapes in all of California wine country, if not the world. Beckstoffer sells this fruit to a carefully selected group of winemakers who collectively produce more than 50 vineyard-designated wines that originate entirely from a Beckstoffer Heritage Vineyard. These wines consistently receive 95+ scores and other accolades.

But beyond his impressive vineyard portfolio, Beckstoffer has served as a catalyst for some of Napa Valley's most stunning transformations. In 1976, he initiated a new grape pricing structure that triggered a shift in how the California wine industry viewed the importance of wine growers and grape quality. When Beckstoffer started his Napa Valley farming business, grapes were a commodity, and the best wines were credited to the talent of the winemaker, not the quality of the fruit. He advocated for tying the price of grapes to the retail price of the bottle. The more expensive the bottle, the more Beckstoffer charged for his premium fruit. The shift enabled Beckstoffer to successfully advocate for vineyard-designated wines as the best expression of single vineyard sources—another shift that transformed how Napa wines are marketed and sold.

Preservation and sustainability have always been paramount to Beckstoffer. He was instrumental in forming The Napa Valley Grapegrowers Association in 1975, with a mission to sustain grape growing in Napa Valley. In 1990, he played a major role in Napa County establishing the Winery Definition Ordinance, which introduced key measures to preserve agriculture in Napa Valley and required that wines from new wineries and expansions of existing wineries be produced from at least 75 percent Napa Valley grapes. "Napa wineries should make Napa wines," declares Beckstoffer.



In 1994, he served as founding director and first president of the Rutherford Dust Society, the Rutherford American Viticultural Area's advocacy group. Under his leadership, in 2002, the group initiated the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project, the goal of which has been to restore the 4.5-mile Rutherford Reach of the Napa River to rehabilitate the local riparian and aquatic habitats. The project has received national acclaim. Today, Beckstoffer Vineyards focuses its preservation efforts on climate change. Fearing that Cabernet Sauvignon may not be viable in the future, many growers and vintners are starting to experiment with alternative and less profitable grape varieties, but Beckstoffer is committed to not only preserving but also improving the quality of the grape that put Northern California wine on the map.

"The past 50 years have been remarkable," says Beckstoffer. "We made Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon wine a major American contribution to world culture. And while business success is wonderful, saving the Napa Valley for agriculture and open space has been my career. We've accomplished a lot over the years, and it is really about the people and their passion for our land, our wines, and each other."



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The nicely appointed, single-story home offers 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths, where every room is flooded with natural light reflected in the neutral colored walls and wood flooring. The living room with cozy fireplace and the formal dining room offer views of the mature landscape off the front of the property. Kitchen offers room for the most inspired chef to thrive with space to prepare, cook and share culinary talents with wood cabinetry, granite counter tops and high-end appliances. The bedrooms are large, offer wonderful views of the lush landscape and have closets with built in systems. The bathrooms feature granite and stone plus radiant floor heat.

What the sellers love most about this house revolves around the outside where they dine nightly and host friends and family. "It's such an easy entertaining house." You'll delight in the multiple vignettes from the expansive patio beautifully lit at night; bocce ball court; intimate dining in the lighted pergola, the prolific rose garden, and the rolling meadow where the Iris' bloom in the spring. Don't miss your chance to call this unique property your home.

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Heart and Soul in Vines and Earth

By Michael Cervin | Photos Courtesy of Spottswode

We know the real estate adage: location, location, location. It's no less true in the wine world. A fabulous property, perfect soil, ideal weather, and prime location equals Napa's Spottswode Winery.

Spottswode's history dates back over 130 years. In 1882, the first vineyard was planted on the property, and after successive owners, the place was called Lydenhurst. In 1910, Susan Spotts acquired the property and renamed the estate to honor her deceased husband, Albert, who passed away unexpectedly just a year earlier. Sixty-two years later, Dr. Jack Novak, a general practitioner, and his wife, Mary, uprooted their five children and left the San Diego area in search of a quieter life, one predicated on returning to a connection with the land. They purchased Spottswode, with its impressive Queen Anne Victorian mansion on 31 acres, surrounded by lavish gardens and vineyards in the tiny town of St. Helena.

"It's sheer luck that we found this place. Dad was looking for a house big enough for his family . . . He wanted to drive a tractor, and Mom was an avid gardener," says Beth Novak Milliken, Spottswode's president and Jack and Mary's daughter.

Everything went according to plan until 1977, when Jack unexpectedly had a fatal heart attack. Left with children to raise and a lot of land, Mary understood both her predicament and location. She decided to stay and began supporting her family in part by selling grapes to Napa's most established wineries: Shafer, Heitz, Mondavi, Caymus, and Duckhorn. Her vineyard became known for quality grapes, particularly Cabernet Sauvignon. Today, Spottswode makes only three wines—Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, and Lydenhurst Cabernet Sauvignon.

Winemaker Tony Soter was influential in changing the course of the winery. He brought the idea of organic farming to Mary. "Tony really

wanted an intimate connection to the land," says Milliken. "Mom trusted him completely." In 1992, Spottswode became the second estate vineyard in Napa Valley to earn California Certified Organic Farmers certification, before it was considered a popular practice.

In the years since, Spottswode has received numerous environmental awards. More importantly, it has become a multi-functioning operation, adding cover crops, bee boxes, restored riparian areas, owl boxes, solar power, and more. This approach to farming is labor intensive and more costly. "It's not even a question for us," says Milliken. "There's a lot of lip service given to sustainability." Looking at the climatic changes over the decades, she understands that the vineyards have more resilience.

That commitment to resilience led to the current winemaker and vineyard manager Aron Weinkauff to add biodynamic practices. "When you have the good fortune of working with one of the world's great vineyards, you realize you are part of an ongoing story," he says. "I recognize the decisions made decades ago that still profoundly shape the quality of our wines. Everyone who has had the privilege of working with our vineyard has strived to leave it better than when they arrived, which is no small feat."

It is also a large, heartfelt commitment. "It's been a huge amount of passion and hard work," says Milliken. "For almost 50 years, what we have built at Spottswode has defined our family. The values that guide us, and the love and care we apply to our estate and to every wine we make, are the ways we honor my parents' legacy. Spottswode is irreplaceable."

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Resilient Sausalito

By Karen Aiken

We are slowly emerging from the spring shuttering. During the 90-plus days many of us spent incubating at home, Sausalitans have been experiencing new patterns of ordinary life: working at home and reinventing play. There have been some benefits. Time has slowed down for many of us, allowing for long walks along the waterfront and in the hills, happy-hour Zoom video chat sessions to stay in touch, and relaxing for the sake of relaxing. Our summer events, such as Jazz by the Bay, Call of the Sea's Annual Fundraiser at the Bay Model, Sausalito's Got Talent, Sausalito Wine Experience, and our world-class Art Festival, have been all been postponed to 2021. We are discussing the future reemergence of Sausalito.

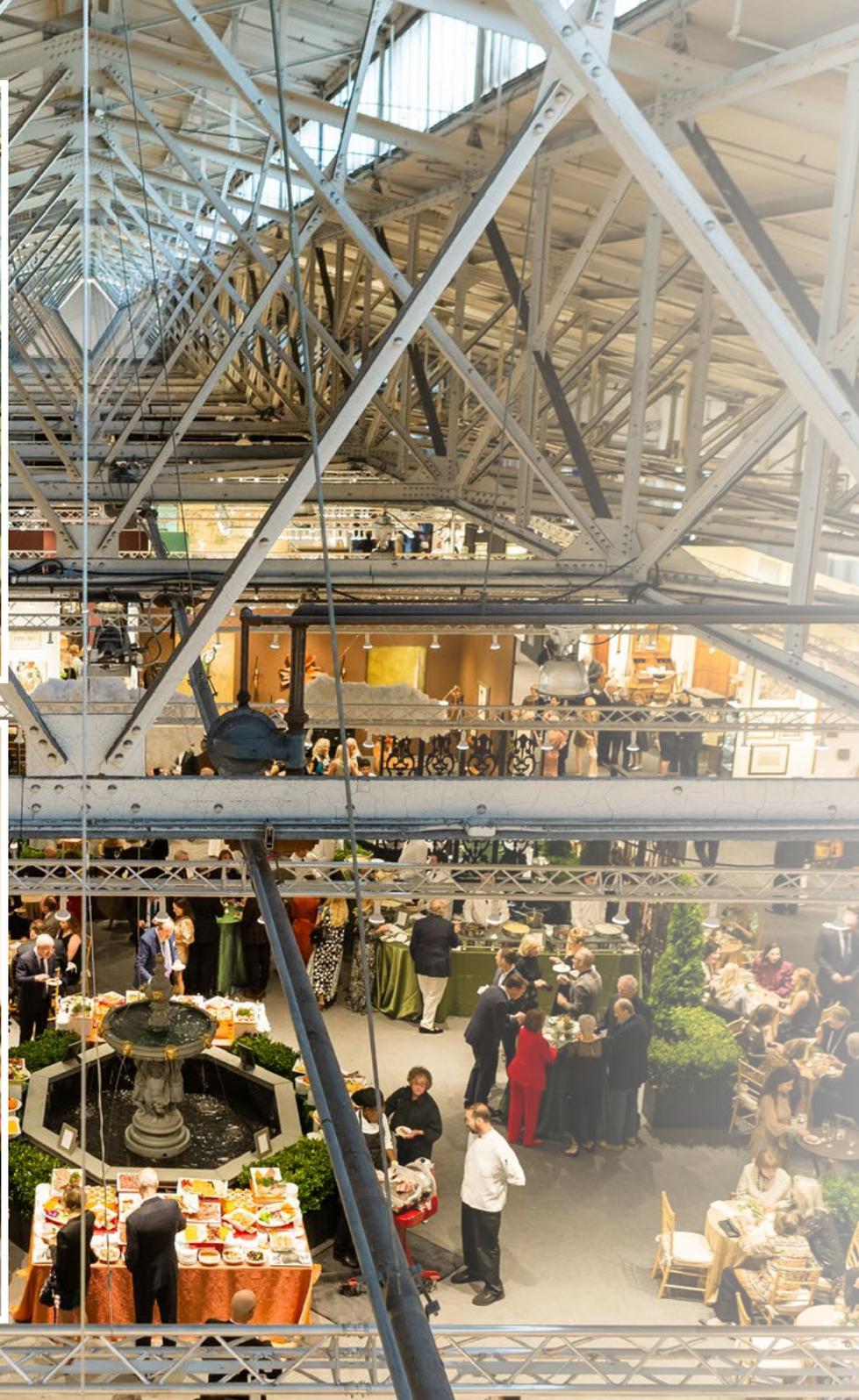


Our community resilience is being put to the test. Reinvention, in these volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous times, is challenging. Residents, the Chamber of Commerce, and City Hall are together reimagining Sausalito under the new rules and are slowly, thoughtfully reopening. Marin County was quick to react to the pandemic, and we contained the spread and prepared our local hospitals well. Our citizens don't want to lose containment of the novel coronavirus. So, now we are faced with questions: How do our businesses, economy, events, and relationships reemerge safely with empathy and mindfulness? How do we support our local businesses and rebuild our economy? How do we build closer connections in new ways? We will be discussing these issues in full force at all levels of the community. Our opening will illustrate this creativity.

Renovating our multiple city parks predated the pandemic, and so our parks are ready to open safely with a brand-new look and feel. Kayaks and paddleboards are now abundant on the bay. Our wonderful restaurants are remodeling and reconfiguring to prepare for distancing and safety. The Sausalito Yacht Club is undergoing a major remodel. Businesses are banding together under the leadership of the Chamber of Commerce for marketing, and are slowly, creatively reopening. Our City Council voted to allow the closure of Caledonia Street to through traffic so that opening restaurants can provide street seating, properly distanced, and with an new, festive atmosphere.

Indeed, crisis fosters opportunities, and we are looking forward to a new beginning, a new look, and a new energy. We are discovering, once again, Sausalito's resilience.







Photos by Drew Altizer

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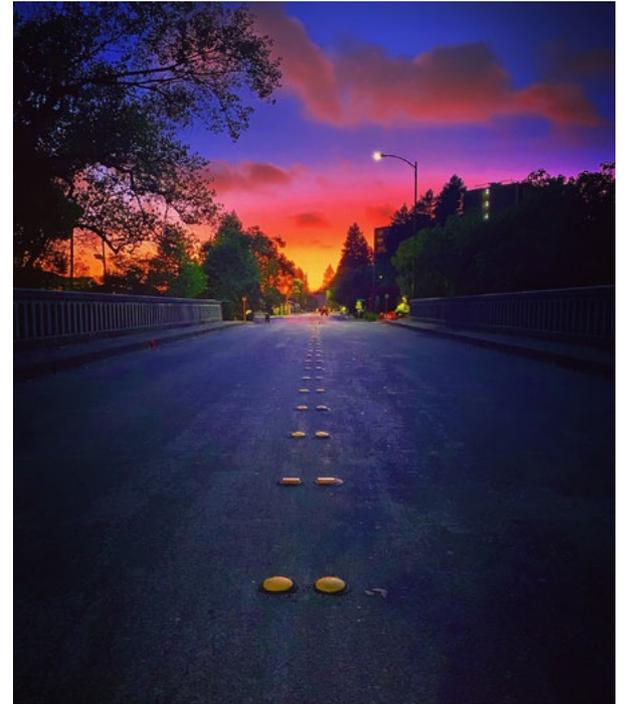
Pictured right to left: John Hamel, Managing Director; George Hamel, III, Managing Director; George Hamel, Jr., Vintner; Pamela Hamel, Vintner



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“Sunset” Jimmy Casares Jr.: Captured

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos by Jimmy Casares Jr.

As the day melts away in Santa Cruz, those wise enough to be outdoors and cast their gaze westward are unfailingly rewarded with spectacular sunsets. One so wise, thanks to a stint tending bar at a seaside haunt, is Jimmy Casares Jr. The establishment’s nightly ritual of ringing a bell as the sun met the ocean’s horizon encouraged everyone there to stop what they were doing and watch the sunset. When it came time to leave bartending behind in pursuit of a career, Casares credits those sunsets for leading him to a rewarding career behind the camera.

The defining moment, according to Casares, occurred eight years ago, while driving alongside a vineyard in Santa Rosa with his mother. Knowing Casares’ affinity for the camera and ability to capture natural beauty, his mother convinced him to pull over and photograph the sun setting just beyond the vineyard. “My family has always pooled around me and have always wanted to support me and whatever makes me feel my best,” he says.

Casares’ work is untraditional in style and has maintained consistent vein of boldness over the years. “I’m telling a story with the intention of giving a very distinct feeling. I want to convey the energy of a moment. The way a sunset can make you to stop what you’re doing and take something in, I want my photos to have a similar impact,” he says. This has earned him the pseudonym Sunset Jimmy. “My shots aren’t for everyone, but I always want them to be something everyone can respect,” he explains.

As his style continues to evolve, Casares still looks back to that image taken from the roadside while with his mother. “To this day, this is the most significant photo I’ve ever taken,” says Casares. “Not only is it visually exceptional, it spurred my decision to dedicate myself to photography, and I’ve never been happier.”





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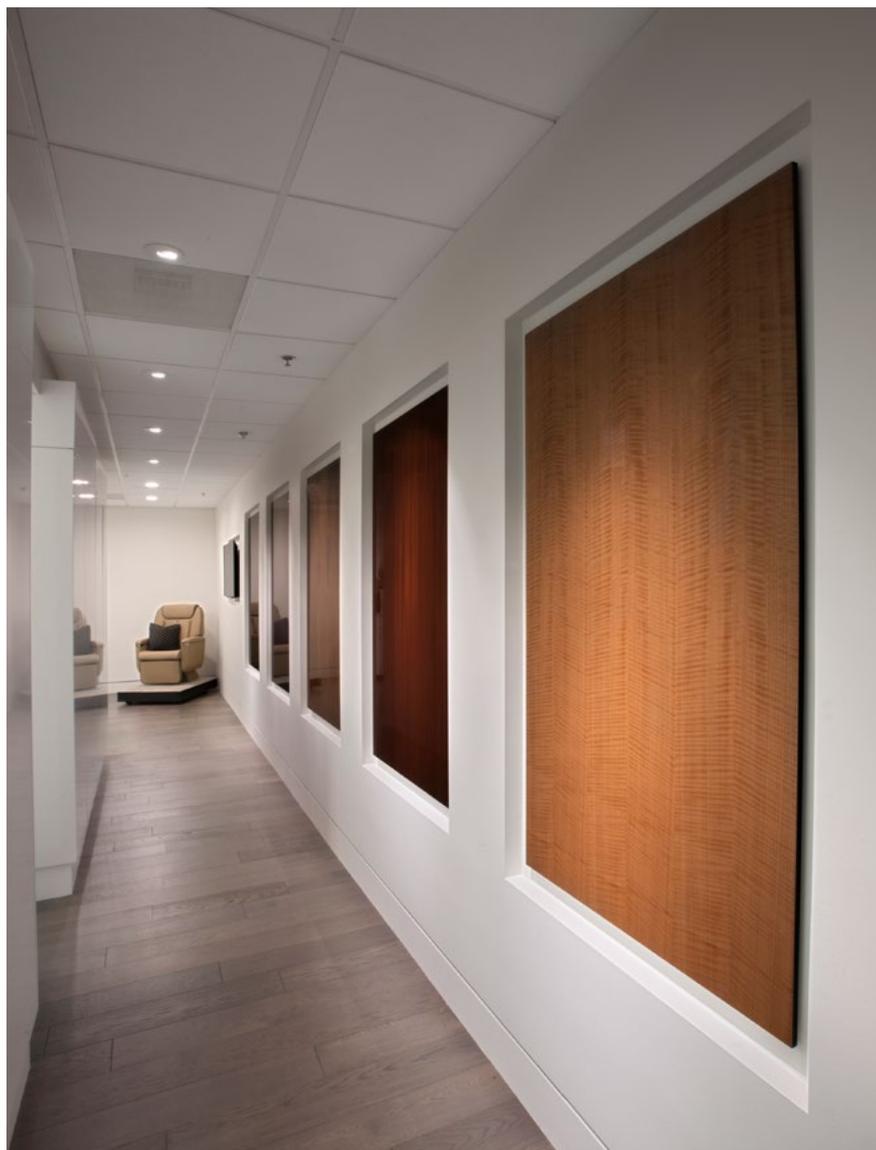
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Gulfstream's Bespoke Interiors

Photos Courtesy of Gulfstream

Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation recognizes that discerning business-jet owners expect their aircrafts to wed time and excellence. With a Gulfstream, you can have that rare combination of speed, craftsmanship, bespoke design, and artistry. And you can outfit your aircraft close to home at Gulfstream's Long Beach Sales and Design Center.

As if already in the cabin of a Gulfstream G650ER, the quiet envelops. Here, the outfitting process begins in a showroom on par with the finest ateliers, featuring a curated selection of textiles, exotic wood veneers, European leathers, crystal, and more. The materials here are a tactile enticement, intended to provide inspiration and evoke feeling.

The cabin interior design process begins with a conversation deftly navigated by an award-winning Gulfstream designer. What inspires you? What are your favorite spaces? Where will you fly? What brings you home, no matter where you are? Every aspect of the Gulfstream cabin is custom made and one of a kind.

All interior spaces present their own unique challenges; after all, at its core, interior design is about solving problems. Gulfstream interior designers address a host of specifications, from requiring certification for flying to creating spaces with the flexibility to serve as a conference room one moment and a private dining suite the next. Such challenges are easily overcome, thanks to the team's talent, experience, and innovativeness.

Gulfstream has a long history of working with preeminent suppliers to adapt their materials to regulations for high altitude. For example, the hand-tufted, made-to-order carpeting, frequently a blend of wools and silks, is aviation-grade but no less plush.

Clients can choose from a dedicated supply of natural, exotic woods for the bulkheads, cabinetry, and accents. To ensure the availability and consistency of the wood, Gulfstream maintains a live log program, in which roughly 100 logs sourced from around the world are held in reserve exclusively for its clients. Whether you want Smoky Eucalyptus or Mocca Oak, you can be guaranteed that what you choose will be of the best quality.

Once fabric, upholstery, and leathers are selected, Gulfstream's clients in the Long Beach Sales and Design Center can virtually step inside their aircraft cabin to see how the materials work together. Gulfstream interior and visualization designers have harnessed the latest technology to provide real-time, computer-generated renderings. With the tap of a touch screen, upholstery patterns and seat designs can be swapped out. Change the floor plan, move the divan, and see how the leather complements the carpet.

Gulfstream designers will stay in touch with you throughout the outfitting process. They have the tools to provide updates remotely, should you wish to check in from afar. Gulfstream Long Beach is your studio close to home and stands ready to exceed your expectations.

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A Son Rises

By Fran Endicott Miller | Photos by Darren Lovecchio

As stewards of an iconic Sausalito inn founded by their late father, Bill McDevitt, Willie McDevitt and his two siblings take their responsibility seriously. Consistently rated one of the top hotels in the country, The Inn Above Tide is considered a local treasure, and the McDevitt trio plans to ensure its status for years to come. “After Dad passed away, offers to purchase the property poured in,” says Willie, “but The Inn has always been a family-run operation, and it will continue to be.”

Originally founded by Bill in 1961 as an apartment complex, it wasn't converted into a luxury boutique inn until 1995. Willie remembers tending the apartment's gardens during his teen years, as well as the time he flooded the walkways by accidentally leaving the water running. Clint Eastwood, who was a regular tenant during his Dirty Harry filming days, took it upon himself to find the spigot and stop the overflow. When Willie knocked on Eastwood's apartment door to thank him, the gesture earned him an invitation to accompany the screen idol to Sausalito's famed dive bar, No Name. “I was only 18, but I wasn't going to turn down that invite,” says Willie.

The Inn was Bill's operation until 2005, when he invited and encouraged his son to take on more responsibility. At the time, Willie was running a successful Petaluma-based construction company with his brother. He and his father had always shared common interests, such as golf, travel, and horses, but their strong personalities had prevented them from joining forces in the workplace. “Over time, we figured out a way to work together,” says Willie. “Dad respected my business acumen. We built a grudging but rewarding work relationship, the result of which was Dad appointing me to oversee the family real estate partnership.”

A longtime resident of Petaluma, Willie continues to oversee The Inn while maintaining his successful construction business, McDevitt

Construction Partners, and serving on the board of the Bank of Marin. A deep background in real estate and banking has provided him with extensive contacts and suppliers. He's enjoyed long-standing relationships with his clients, with whom he remains friends due to his collaborative way of doing business. As the builder of a number of high-profile Marin Country projects, such as car dealerships, banks, and wineries, Willie is proudest of his company's work with nonprofits. “It's our way to give back,” he says. He has developed a reputation for his ability to tackle budget issues. “We've learned a lot through the years about nonprofits and how they operate, and we are able to use that experience to our clients' advantage.”

Willie grew up in San Raphael and spent weekends at his family's second home in Pebble Beach, where he met Christine, now his wife. He has two grown daughters from a previous marriage, and a granddaughter who lives with him and Christine. He rides his bike 70-miles roundtrip from Petaluma to Sausalito, for weekly meetings at The Inn.

“The lifeblood of any small town has always been its people,” says Larry Mindel, proprietor of Sausalito's popular Poggio Trattoria. “No family in Sausalito exemplifies the importance of leadership and camaraderie more than the McDevitts. Willie carries on his family's proud tradition of absolute integrity, coupled always with thoughtfulness. He, his family, and their inn are icons of our very small, beautiful, village on the bay.”

As Willie gradually prepares to retire from the construction business, his work overseeing The Inn continues to move forward. “We've invested millions to expand The Inn and improve the guest experience,” say Willie. “This is our legacy. Dad would be proud.”



LODGE AT THE PRESIDIO

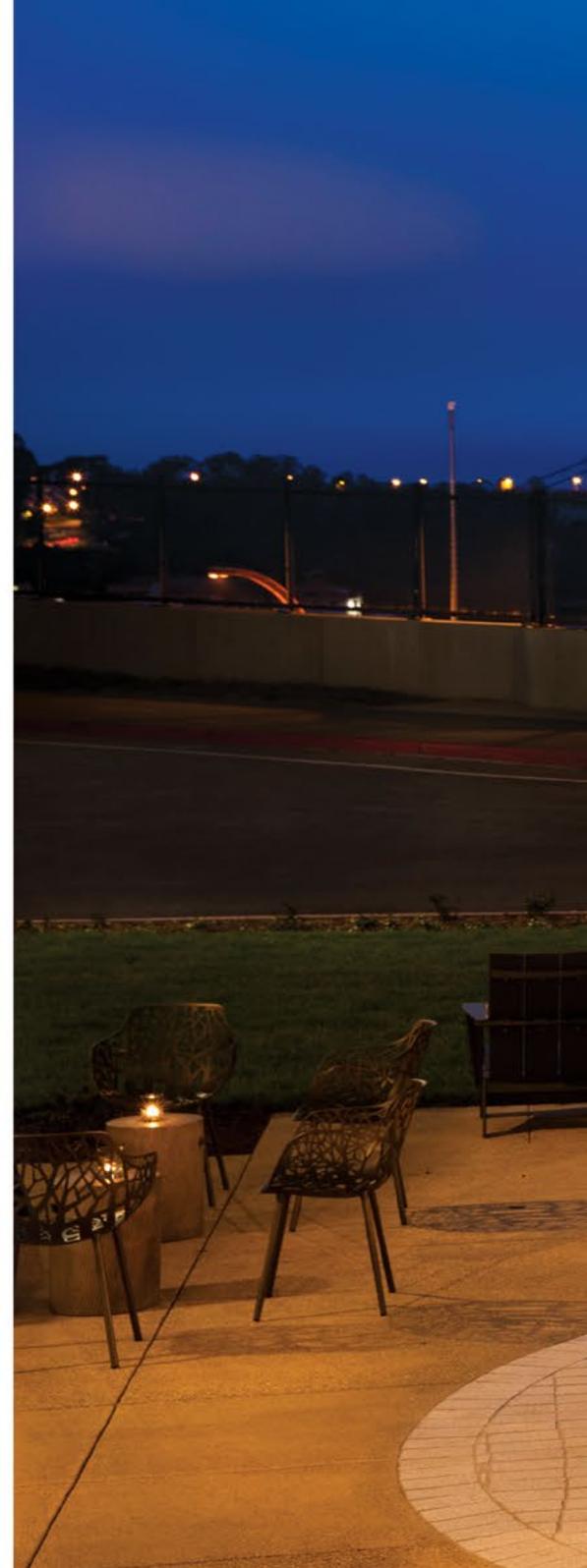


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A Dedicated Life

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos by Darren Lovecchio

Chris Gallagher, 60, is one of the most active Sausalitans in town. Her long list of positions includes Sausalito Chamber of Commerce's board chairman, Rotary's district regional officer, Sister Cities' champion Japan member, founder of the Women in Leadership and Philanthropy Council at Dominican University, volunteer with Volunteer in Public Safety for Sausalito, and former volunteer and board member of Red Cross, United Way, and Marin Humane. All this in addition to Gallagher's full-time job as manager of the Bay Model, the US Army Corps of Engineers' working hydraulic scale model of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta System. If it sounds like she's busy, that's because she is.

"I like being with people, and I guess I just like giving back," says Gallagher of her community efforts serving both Sausalito and Marin County. "[Volunteering] just sort of snowballed, and it was something that sort of resonated and grew on me." Gallagher says her single mother didn't have the time to dedicate to volunteering, but she herself seems incapable of saying no when opportunity arises to help others. "Hopefully, I've made a small contribution to the betterment of Sausalito's community," she says modestly. "I get back more than I give."

The majority of Gallagher's causes come by word of mouth. In most cases, a friend of a friend alerts her to work that would benefit from her attention, or someone in the community reaches out to her, offering a board seat or chair. "A lot of my friends are associated with various organizations I'm involved with," she explains. Other efforts, such as her work with the animal shelter, are from her own passions. Gallagher

would love to have a dog, but her busy schedule doesn't allow enough time at home to fully care for one. She plays with dogs on the weekends to fulfill that desire and as her own form of therapy.

Gallagher's full-time work has led to some of her extracurricular activities. She became manager of The Bay Model in 2001—overseeing a \$16.5 million renovation to the facility in 2010–2011, including the Army Corps' largest solar installation—after a long career as a ranger. "I just like being outside, in nature, doing outdoor activities," say Gallagher. It was a way of life she learned to appreciate while at outdoor camp in Maine. "I've never seen myself being someone to sit in a cubicle."

When it comes to doing it all, Gallagher says one thing makes it all possible: organization. She keeps a calendar, tries her best to avoid double booking, and prioritizes as necessary. Gallagher's managers at work recognize the importance of her community involvement and allow her the flexibility to maintain her commitments, for which she is very appreciative.

Seeing her impact on the community, even in small ways, is what keeps Gallagher motivated. Her work with Sister Cities, for example, lets her to see how the partnership can have lasting effects on the children involved. During the COVID-19 shutdown, she delivered meals to seniors, and often they would be waiting for a delivery and ready to chat. To Gallagher, that didn't seem like a big ask. "Never underestimate your small act of kindness," she says. "You may not think it's a big deal but clearly, [to the receiver], it's a big deal."

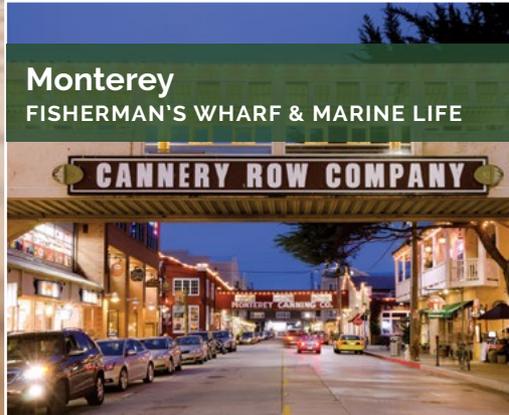


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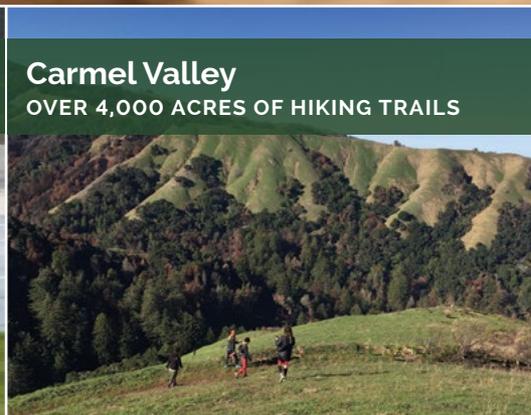
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All-Inclusive Indulgence

By Fran Endicott Miller | Photos Courtesy of The Clement Hotel

The Clement Hotel is an under-the-radar gem of a boutique in Silicon Valley. It is favored by venture capitalists, entrepreneurs, and visiting Stanford professors, who fill its 23 posh suites. Guests seeking rest and relaxation are treated to six-star service, a level of hospitality that differentiates The Clement from other hotels—all-inclusive service. That means meals, snacks, cocktails, wine, and even gratuities are included in the room price. There is no other place like it in the Bay Area, and for those seeking a decadent, indulgent getaway, there is no better spot.

Your introduction to The Clement takes place a few days prior to your scheduled arrival, when an email query arrives, asking about your preferred beverages and snacks. Staff will have your favorites waiting for you. You needn't be shy about any special needs or requests, as The Clement aims to please. No detail has been overlooked at this luxurious, private residential-style haven where nearly every wish is the staff's command. The Clement's spacious one- and two-bedroom suites offer modern, sophisticated comfort, with carefully curated amenities of the highest quality, including Matouk® linens, Frette® towels and robes, two 65" Samsung IPTVs, Nespresso® VertuoLine coffee machines, electric kettles, and stocked refrigerators. Spacious, stone-lined bathrooms feature heated floors and toilet seats, large soaking tubs, rain shower heads, in-mirror televisions, and luxe olive oil bath amenities by ODE Natural Beauty. Sleek window shades open and close with the push of a button.

Enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner prepared by the hotel's presiding chef in the open kitchen. The seasonal menu changes based on both market

availability and guest preferences. A guest pantry—open 24 hours—features an ever-ready selection of homemade cookies and a freezer stocked with Palo Alto's artisanal Tin Cup Creamery ice cream. Help yourself to a steaming mocha, latte, or cappuccino. If you are celebrating a special occasion or a successful business transaction, champagne will be waiting on ice. Enjoy your repast in the dining room, the outdoor dining terrace, in a cabana at the private rooftop pool deck overlooking the Stanford campus, or in your suite.

Art-filled and urbane, The Clement is owned and operated by Pacific Hotel Management and is named after its president, Clement Chen, a seasoned hotelier who has used his exacting standards to fashion a superior retreat that pleases the most discriminating traveler. From office supply-stocked desks to a state-of-the-art fitness center to sunglasses and sunscreen offered poolside, Mr. Chen has included everything to make your stay indulgent and memorable.

The Clement is within walking distance of the chic shops and restaurants at Town & Country Village and Stanford Shopping Center. The Stanford campus provides miles of walking and jogging trails, and the rooftop pool and Jacuzzi® are heated to just the right temperatures. If you feel like stepping out for a meal, hotel staff will recommend any number of lauded eateries within proximity. But the beauty of a stay at The Clement is that you need not leave the property to experience the allure and energy of Silicon Valley. That, too, is all-inclusive.







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.





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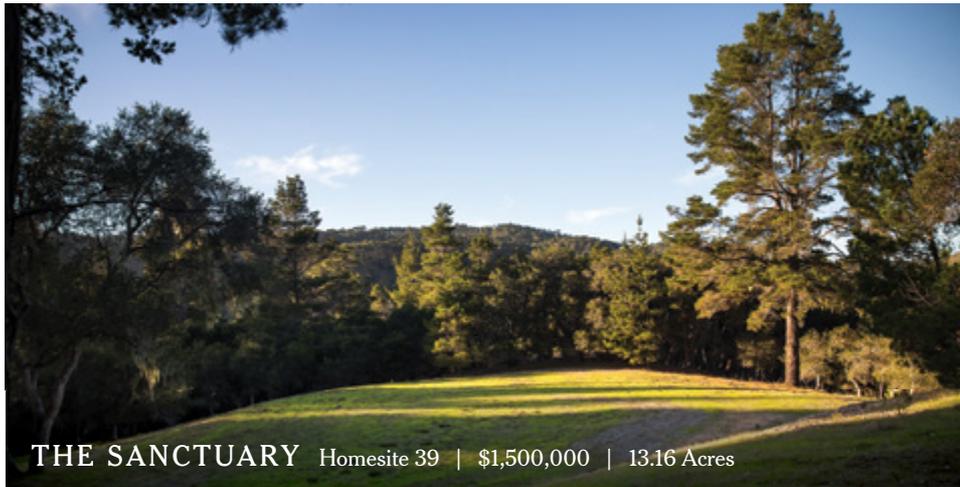
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PHOTO

Darren Lovecchio: A burning Passion
By Jennifer Moulaison

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(left) RICHARD MACDONALD working with models on 'Duality' in Las Vegas Studio.

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A Burning Passion

By Jennifer Moulaison

Reflecting back as early as high school, Darren Lovecchio was aware of his passion for photography, but he was called to a career as an emergency medical service firefighter when his family home was victimized by arson. It wasn't until his retirement that he finally had the opportunity to focus attention back to his original creative passion for being behind the lens.

"I feel very fortunate to have had such a rewarding career, doing what was important to me on a personal level," says Lovecchio. "Every fire I fought, I felt as though it was in my own house." An injury that resulted in multiple stress fractures in his back pushed Lovecchio into early retirement and forced him to search for that silver lining, photography. Lovecchio discovered a surprising correlation between the high-stress situations with which he was familiar and the serenity of capturing beautiful images. "I possess situational awareness that's incredibly helpful for knowing when something extraordinary or photo-worthy is occurring around me. I also find that my experience finding someone in crisis and letting them know they'll be okay is also a social component that I use when photographing people, to make them feel at ease and natural."

It's been five years since Lovecchio traded the ladder for the lens, but his techniques playing with dramatic lighting and his ability to capture authentic moments have already helped establish himself in the industry. "I'm still pinching myself," he says. "It's surreal to hear I've been name-dropped by colleagues and iconic photographers in conversations."

When asked what he loves most about his second career, Lovecchio explains, "I'm grateful to have a community of photographers in the area that is so supportive, but what really drives me is being able to get lost in the moment. When something catches my eye, I stop what I'm doing and start clicking the shutter. That's what really gets me up and out the door every day."

Follow darren Lovecchio on Instagram: [@impactimages831](https://www.instagram.com/impactimages831)





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Tango

Photo by Maria Marriott



Photo by American Wild Horse Campaign



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Photo by American Wild Horse Campaign

Wild and Free

By Andrea Stuart

Wild horses and burros are American icons, revered for their historical role in this country. They have a mutually beneficial relationship with the land (terrestrial ecological mutualism)—dispersing seeds, pruning with their teeth and thus assisting in fire management, and depositing nutrient-dense manure into the soil. For many people, especially in the American West, they also represent freedom.

Since the creation of the federal Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, wild horse populations have grown to healthier numbers. However, the federal government is currently pushing a \$1 billion-plus program to reduce wild horse populations to the number that existed in 1971, when Congress protected them because they were “fast disappearing.”

One organization is working to prevent the wild horse and burro from disappearing. American Wild Horse Campaign’s (AWHC) mission is to protect “America’s wild horses and burros by stopping the federal government’s systematic elimination of these national icons from our public lands.”

AWHC Executive Director Suzanne Roy—who became a horse advocate after reading her daughter *Misty of Chincoteague*—conducts legal advocacy and develops seat-on-the-ground programs. She also wears numerous other hats in the organization. “We work to ensure that Congress continues to prohibit slaughter and directs the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to move away from cruel in-the-wild management and replace it with birth control,” says Roy.

AWHC Development Director Terri Ducay, a lifetime animal lover and advocate, spends her time fundraising and informing constituents and donors. “Our focus in Washington is to educate lawmakers about the overall issue,” she says. One way AWHC is doing this is by promoting and implementing fertility management. “Urban encroachment on wild horse lands reduces herd access to water, food, and safety. It endangers the horses in numerous ways,” says Roy. “If we can work with the BLM, developers, and other interests to manage the populations, we can eliminate roundups.”

BLM’s preferred method of herd management is through helicopter roundups. Helicopters fly low to the ground, forcing herds to stampede over rugged terrain

until they are captured. Horses and burros are then either adopted, auctioned off, or warehoused in long-term holding facilities. Many are slaughtered. These insufficient methods cost taxpayers over \$100 million a year. By removing large numbers of animals, roundups free up resources and cause horses left on the range to breed at higher-than-normal rates. The roundup process is then repeated, perpetuating the very problem—high population growth rates—that the BLM complains about. But AWHC has a solution that just might satisfy all parties.

Since April 2019, AWHC has been conducting a fertility control program in the Virginia Range of Nevada by administering porcine zona pellucida (PZP) vaccine to approximately 3,000 mares. The vaccine produces an immune response that prevents fertilization without affecting hormones, making it a safe, effective, and reversible birth control method. It’s administered remotely with a dart fired by a rifle.

In addition to being a highly effective form of population management, preventing more than 90 percent of pregnancies in wild mares, it’s significantly more cost-effective than roundups. In the first year of the fertility control program, AWHC darted 958 wild mares at \$190 per horse, preventing approximately 862 births. The BLM would have spent \$1,000 per horse rounding them up and would have spent \$50,000 per horse for lifetime holding. This new fertility management effort saved around \$35.5 million.

Wildlife preservation is a challenge because there are numerous factors to consider. Environmental groups, rescuers, and wildlife experts aim to keep wildlife wild. Meanwhile, other groups would like to use the wildlife habitat land for other purposes. The one thing everyone seems to agree on is that responsible population management of wildlife is necessary. “If we can keep the animals on their land, they will remain wild and free,” concludes Roy.

Wild and free. Isn’t that the American ideal?

To learn more about American Wild Horse Campaign, visit AmericanWildHorseCampaign.org.



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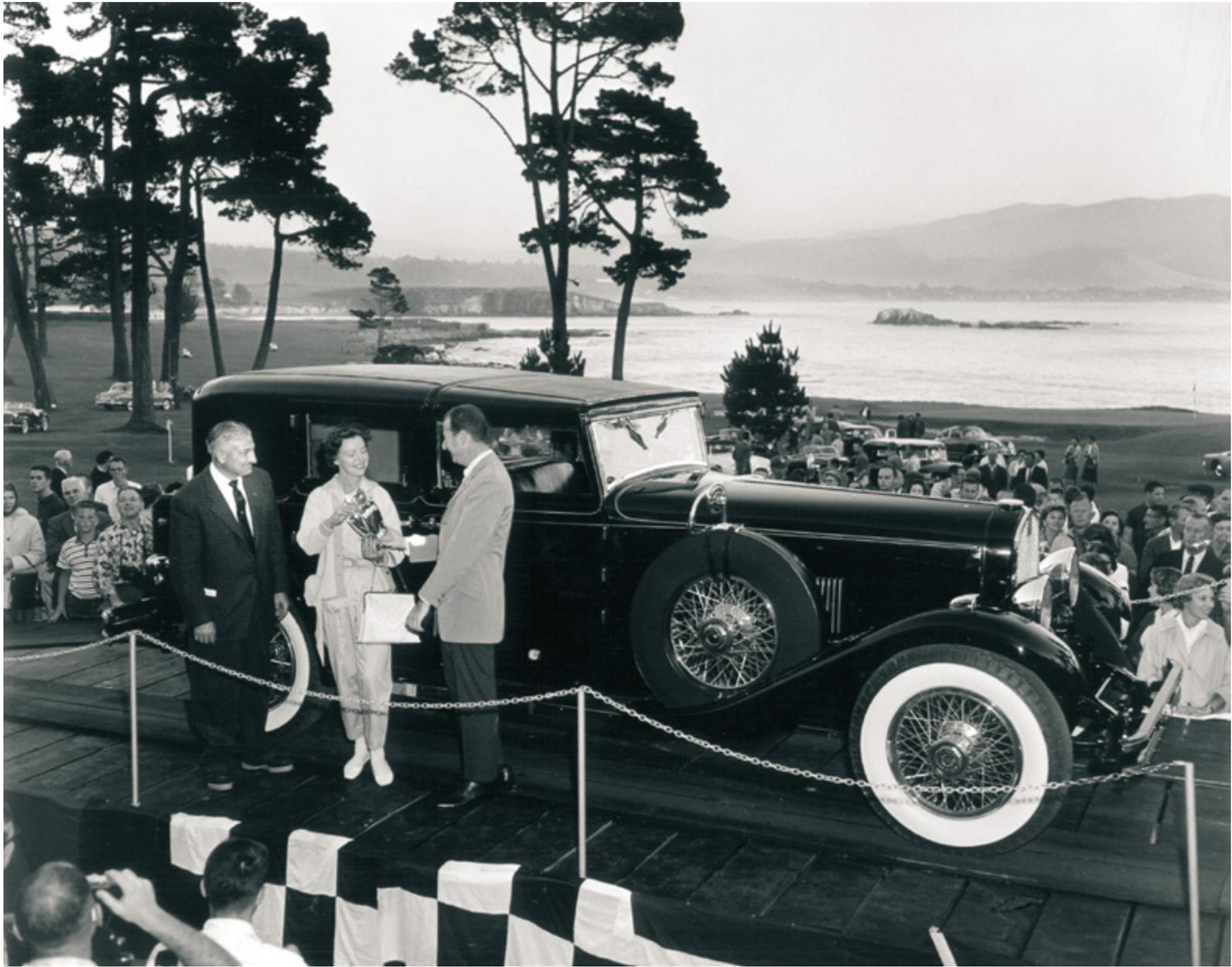


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2014 Best of Show. 1954 Ferrari 375MM Scaglietti Coupe. Photo courtesy of Pebble Beach Company Lagorio Archives.



1958 Best of Show. 1930 duPont Model G Merrimac Town Car shown by J.B. Nethercutt. Photo by Julian P. Graham courtesy of Pebble Beach Company Lagorio Archives.



2014 Best of Show. 1954 Ferrari 375MM Scaglietti Coupe. Photo courtesy of
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1950 Best of Show. 1950 Edwards R-26 Special Sport Roadster shown by Sterling Edwards.
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The Key to Your Next Adventure

By Bettina McBee | Photo by Manny Espinoza

Everyone loves cars. They take us where we need to go. But in a classic, vintage machine, the ride is sweeter and the scenery more magical. Thanks to Monterey Touring Vehicles I had the privilege to drive a 1965 convertible Ford Mustang—red with white racing stripes—down the coast to Garrapata, through Carmel Valley Cachagua, and then along 17-Mile Drive. As the wind whistled through my ears, the sleek feel of the steering wheel and the comfort of the seats demanded that I sit back and enjoy the ride. Though I was in control, I felt as if the Mustang took me places I'd never been before. It was an experience I will never forget and that should be shared.

Sharing such adventures is what sparked Heather and Rob Gardner, of Carmel Valley, to turn their passion for classic cars into a modern-day business. They owned a 1978 Volkswagen Beetle and a 1969 Mercury Cougar. Friends and family were mesmerized by the cars, and requests to drive them were constant. Responding to the demand, they decided, over a Thanksgiving dinner, to open a classic car rental service. Erin Sollecito was recommended to work with Heather on the new business endeavor, and together they created the only classic car rental service on the Monterey Peninsula.



Photo by: Robbie McKay

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Renters love choosing from the diverse fleet of 37 classic beauties, which includes a 1955 Ford Thunderbird, 1965 Cobra Tribute, 1958 Porsche 356 Outlaw, 1968 Chevy Camaro SS convertible, and 1938 Buick Special Sedan. “Look how old

these cars are,” says Sollecito, smiling, “and they’re still here. They themselves are survivors.”

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Be Tickled Pink

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos Courtesy of The Tickle Pink Inn

The Tickle Pink Inn sits on a boutique property boasting spectacular ocean views in the Carmel Highlands. Touted as a destination for the leisure traveler, it has an interesting past: named for Senator Edward Tickle, the inn was built by family friends of the senator's in 1956, and today offers more than 60 years' worth of guest stories.

Al Gurries, managing general partner of the Tickle Pink Inn and descendent of its original builder, says that loyalty—from the staff, guests, and a family of eight grandchildren and third-generation owners who still run the place—sets the inn apart from other area properties. “As one guest put it, years ago,” says Gurries, “If you stay here once, you will be back. It gets inside of you like a lovely bar of music.”

Gurries explains how his grandfather bought ocean-view property in Carmel Highlands, on the same plot of land where his friend Edward Tickle built a stone cottage as a vacation home. The cottage was nicknamed the Tickle Pink for the bright pink flowers Tickle's wife planted around it. On that land, Gurries' grandfather built an inn and named it after Tickle's cottage.

But the real stories of the Tickle Pink are told in the guest logs dating back numerous decades. The weathered books present life at the Tickle Pink Inn through the eyes of those who stayed there. Gurries collects these sentiments, phrases such as “It's the people that make it special . . . that's why we always go back,” “You feel like you're in someone's home,” and “Our baby is now the third generation at the Tickle Pink.”

Many visitors come because Tickle Pink is part of their histories. One guest wrote, “Now I know why my parents honeymooned here 35 years ago; I will

have a lot to tell my children about the Tickle Pink Inn 35 years from now.” Another penned, “We have been coming to the Tickle Pink Inn for 40 years . . . first with our parents, then with our children. It has become a very special place for us.”

It's hard to ignore just how important the inn is to many people. More than half of the staff have been with the inn for 10 or more years, and 25 percent have stayed for more than 20 years. Over 60 percent of guests are repeats or referrals. “Many come several times a year, year after year,” says Gurries. The importance of the property to Gurries' grandparents and parents is part of the reason he is still involved in the legacy today. Gurries and the seven other grandchildren who own the inn see it as a family legacy of which they are proud to be a part. Their goal is to keep the history of their grandparents and the reputation of the inn alive for years to come. “It's our living connection to our grandparents and extended family,” says Gurries. “It keeps the family close.”

Since 2015, the property has undergone improvements, with new amenities and décor, including updated artwork, ADA upgrades, new signage, an extended room service menu, new bedding and entry doors, and various personal touches for guests. The family has not abandoned the efforts that have long carried the Tickle Pink: complimentary champagne upon arrival, evening wine and cheese receptions, in-room spa tubs, private balconies, 100 percent Egyptian cotton linens . . . the list goes on, almost as long as Tickle Pink's history.

For more information, visit www.TickledPinkInn.com.

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In the Pocket

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos by Manny Espinoza

The Pocket Restaurant in Carmel got an unconventional start. Slated to open in spring 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic altered the course for this wine-driven concept restaurant. It had to delay a traditional opening and instead shifted to a takeout model for its big debut on June 1. Despite the challenges, the eatery, brought to Carmel by restaurateurs Kent Ipsen and Federico Rusciano, former general manager of Peppoli at Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach, is thriving.

Both owners grew up in food families, learning the tricks of the trade in the kitchen while their families operated local eateries. For Ipsen, it was Skipolini's Pizza, which he has since grown into a seven-location chain from its modest one-location beginnings in Clayton. Rusciano spent his adolescence in Capri, Italy, where his family owned the seafood restaurant Caprice.

"Growing up in a restaurant family, you're never standing around not doing anything," says Rusciano. It was his father's wish that, before leaving home, Rusciano knew how to cook. He wanted his son to have a trade to fall back on. Rusciano moved from a youngster learning the ropes to co-owning an expansive coastal eatery celebrating seafood and other global cuisines.

As a concept restaurant, The Pocket doesn't focus on one type of food, though Italian and seafood dishes are well represented. Instead, the menu features a long list of eclectic meals, including those with Asian, Spanish, Mexican, and Californian roots, evoking casual luxury. When it is allowed to open at full capacity, The Pocket will serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and will offer a full bar. A lover of seafood, Rusciano recommends the seafood

pasta and seafood risotto to guests, but he says the steaks are also divine, and the Grecian roasted sea bass, deboned tableside, is an experience. All of the accompaniments—the dressings, pasta, gnocchi, sauces, and stocks—are made from scratch, which only adds to their decadence. "It's hard for me to say which one is the favorite," says Rusciano.

While the food takes center stage, experience is just as important to Ipsen and Rusciano. They have a strong culinary team of chefs and servers, and Rusciano lends his talents both in and out of the kitchen. As an advanced sommelier, he is poised to assist guests in pairing wine with each dish, a task the curated wine list was made for. "The experience is going to be different than the rest of Carmel, just because of the personal investment," he explains.

Guests are invited to create their own dining adventure, choosing between several settings. This includes casual meals on the patio, where a pergola opens and closes to the elements, and private dinner parties in a secluded dining room that seats up to 20. The open-concept kitchen, the building's centerpiece, allows guests to glimpse behind-the-scenes action as they dine. Outside, towering olive trees, a 15-foot fountain, and fire elements elevate the space. "We are giving the guests the opportunity to choose what they want to eat, what they want to spend, the experience they want to have . . . all of it," says Rusciano.

The Pocket sits on a large property owned by Ipsen, and includes two residences available for short-term rentals and a wine shop. Each unit boasts ocean views, a private golf simulator in the residence basement, a balcony fireplace, and luxury touches everywhere you turn. "There's no other way than to go all out," says Rusciano.

For more information, visit www.ThePocketCarmel.com.



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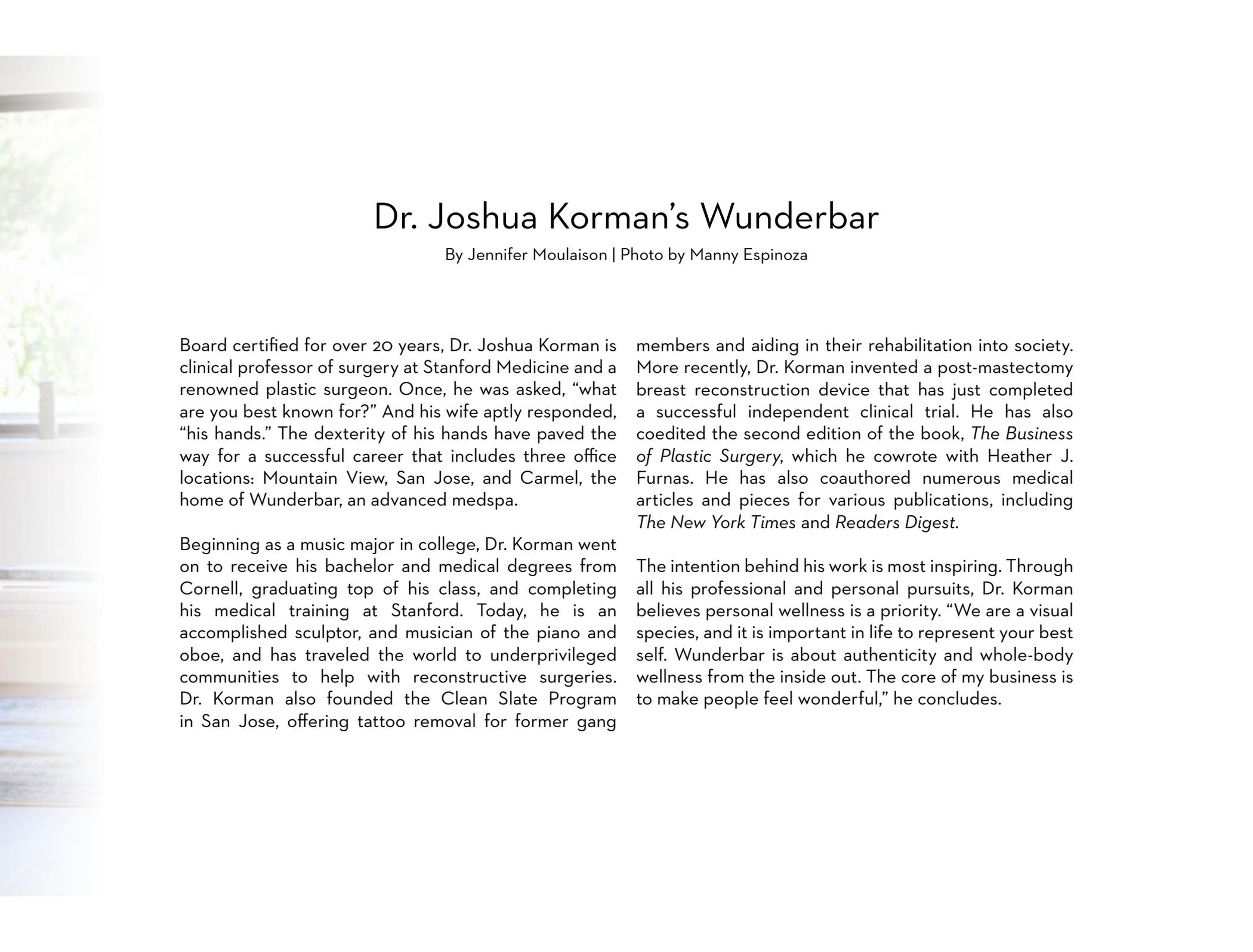


Photos by Manny Espinoza









Dr. Joshua Korman's Wunderbar

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photo by Manny Espinoza

Board certified for over 20 years, Dr. Joshua Korman is clinical professor of surgery at Stanford Medicine and a renowned plastic surgeon. Once, he was asked, "what are you best known for?" And his wife aptly responded, "his hands." The dexterity of his hands have paved the way for a successful career that includes three office locations: Mountain View, San Jose, and Carmel, the home of Wunderbar, an advanced medspa.

Beginning as a music major in college, Dr. Korman went on to receive his bachelor and medical degrees from Cornell, graduating top of his class, and completing his medical training at Stanford. Today, he is an accomplished sculptor, and musician of the piano and oboe, and has traveled the world to underprivileged communities to help with reconstructive surgeries. Dr. Korman also founded the Clean Slate Program in San Jose, offering tattoo removal for former gang

members and aiding in their rehabilitation into society. More recently, Dr. Korman invented a post-mastectomy breast reconstruction device that has just completed a successful independent clinical trial. He has also coedited the second edition of the book, *The Business of Plastic Surgery*, which he cowrote with Heather J. Furnas. He has also coauthored numerous medical articles and pieces for various publications, including *The New York Times* and *Readers Digest*.

The intention behind his work is most inspiring. Through all his professional and personal pursuits, Dr. Korman believes personal wellness is a priority. "We are a visual species, and it is important in life to represent your best self. Wunderbar is about authenticity and whole-body wellness from the inside out. The core of my business is to make people feel wonderful," he concludes.

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Forgiven and Sometimes Forgotten

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photo by Darren Lovecchio

When shelter-in-place orders across California shuttered the doors of Carmel businesses, some questioned whether their doors would ever open again. And as weeks stretched into months, with no revenue coming into Ocean Avenue shops, more and more business owners began feeling the financial impacts.

“I get phone calls all day, asking what to do: ‘What are we going to do, John?’” says John Plastini, president of the TSD Carmel Properties LP, which owns a building that houses retail businesses in Carmel.

Businesses within the complex range in size from 225 to 3,000 square feet, and all are sole proprietors. “When the building was built, it was designed for mom and pops,” explains Plastini. He and the Doud family, who together act as landlords for the businesses, wanted to help the businesses make ends meet, so they came up with a rental forgiveness plan to reduce their tenants’ operating costs. In April, rent was forgiven in its entirety. In May and June, only 50 percent of rent was due, and tenants were allowed to use their security deposits to pay for that portion, if needed—they would have two years to pay it back. “It was the right thing to do,” says Plastini.

Carol Montana, owner of Kris Kringle of Carmel, was closed from March 16 to June 1. “For me, personally, [rent forgiveness] is a godsend, because cash flow is a huge problem,” she says. Montana describes Plastini and the rest of the family behind TSD Carmel as local landlords who care about their tenants. “It’s a business relationship, but it’s like a family relationship in many ways.”

Another concession made was allowing flexibility with store hours. Rental agreements often come with terms for when businesses must be open, but Montana says that store owners within the building are allowed to operate as they please. For her, that means limited hours, partly to keep herself safe, as she is someone who may be vulnerable to COVID-19.

Deborah Vieille, owner of Blackbird Art & Design, a gallery and gift shop, also opened on June 1, after two and one-half months of forced closure. “They are a very reasonable and understanding family,” she says of the landlords. “I just lost so much money.”



Carmel Belle owners Meghan Rasmussen and Lokman Balban pictured with landlord John Plastini.

While TSD Carmel lost money in rent, it was able to recoup some costs. A small business loan was secured to cover some of the building expenses. The company continues to evaluate the situation to decide what will be forgiven completely and what will be deferred with ample time to pay it back. “I’m just trying to comfort [tenants] and let them know that we will do everything we can to get them through this,” says Plastini. Ultimately, he wants everyone to get back to work, but he knows the road is long and that some of the shops may not make it through the downturn, even with the help.

Plastini has heard of at least five other landlords in Carmel offering similar terms, but Montana points out that many landlords aren’t extending the same kindness. Not every landlord is in the financial position to extend rental forgiveness, says Plastini. TSD Carmel is also family owned, which allows it to make its own decisions. Moreover, the building has been in the family for so long that its mortgage has been paid off. Says Plastini, “I think every landlord in town is doing what they can do.”



Luxury in Bloom

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photo by Manny Espinoza

Malva is a genus of about 30 species of flowers native to the temperate climate on the Monterey Peninsula and in South America, from where Gabriel Barba hails. Today, Barba and his wife, Karen, spend their days working leather into a striking and functional collection of handbags bearing the name representing their inspiration: *Du*, French for “of” or “coming from,” and *Malva*, referring to the floral variety.

Barba grew up immersed in the rural lifestyle of his family’s farming business in Argentina and still recalls the memorable scent of leather from the horse saddles. He traveled to Monterey to visit his sister, who was teaching there. “I came here intending only to stay for a year or so. It’s been 24 years, and I can’t imagine being anywhere else,” he says. He crossed paths with Karen, who traveled to the area from Colombia to purchase products for her boutiques. After bonding with each other and the Monterey region, they decided to find something they could do together. Inspiration struck during their travels

around northern Colombia, where they discovered a community of indigenous women who carried beautiful handmade wool cross-body bags.

Originally inspired by the bags, Barba and his wife designed a line of bags and Barba quickly fell in love with leathermaking. The bags have evolved to include the finest and exotic leathers as well as a unique hexagonal shape. Obtaining the necessary machinery and sourcing leather of exquisite quality, the couple got to work with the help of a small team. “We were having so much fun, it would be three o’clock in the afternoon before we’d realize we worked completely through lunch,” he says.

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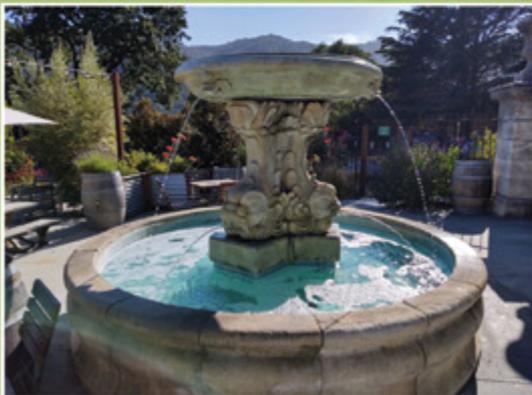

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Navigating the Reopening

By Andrea Stuart | Photo by Manny Espinoza

As cities start reopening during the pandemic, the balance between personal freedoms and community responsibility is in the forefront of many people's minds. Carmel-by-the-Sea Chief of Police Paul Tomasi, City Administrator Chip Rerig, and Assistant City Administrator Maxine Gullo have been considering this balance as they develop strategies to keep their community active and thriving.

65°: What did the city closure look like from your perspective?

Paul Tomasi (PT): The first month wasn't too bad. As the weeks went on, people appeared to be struggling with the shelter-in-place restrictions, frustration was apparent, and some people were crumbling. The police got more involved as complaints came in and have been focused on education more than punish[ing] violators. We have stressed from the beginning that this is a social responsibility. You have to care about your neighbors to follow these rules. You can't put the violations on the law enforcement and the court system. My goal as a police officer, and one shared by my department, is to build relationships based on trust. This is done through face-to-face communication and programs. People consider it a human right to be able to walk around and hug one another. The question is how do we support the community while protecting it? We have been pretty successful so far by leading with compassion and education.

Chip Rerig (CR): We closed City functions to protect our staff around March 17, and issued an emergency declaration immediately after the Governor [issued his]. At first, people saw it as a break, and they were sheltering in place. Then fatigue set in. There was a cry to open elements of the business world. We were instrumental [in getting] construction, gardening, and similar businesses back open. We helped implement protocols to make that happen.

65°: How do you keep the public informed about what's going on?

PT: I attend two to three meetings a week with the county regarding the developments. We were up to three vlogs on our website per week. Officers and code enforcement also go out [on foot]. I spend hours returning phone calls and emails. Keeping up communication and responding to questions has been a focus of our City. People need to be acknowledged.

MG: It is a shared responsibility by our team to stay continuously up-to-date with state and county orders as it relates to COVID-19. The police chief is focused on the health and safety of this community, the city administrator focused on our residents and commercial businesses, and I focus on making it a safe work environment for our workforce and visitors. We will continue to keep the public informed via vlogs and the Friday Letter that the community has indicated they prefer. Plus, we intend to continue to collaborate with our partners, such as the Chamber of Commerce, CRA, and Restaurant District that allows for the city's message to go out via different forums.

65°: What have been your biggest concerns through all of this?

PT: Mental illness, crime, drug activity, and drinking. The reopening is helping with tensions. However, a lot more people are getting COVID-19 because the county has loosened the restrictions. Although we're still asking people to wear masks, there are groups that don't want to follow the order. This is a challenge for law enforcement, as there are a growing number of people who just don't want to follow the Governor's orders. Our officers are out, working more like concierges, trying to provide information and educating people on the ever-changing rules and regulations

65°: How is Carmel treating summer tourism?

MG: The State of California indicates to avoid traveling long distances for vacation or pleasure as much as possible. Therefore, the city is not marketing at this time. Several tourism and local community organizations have banded together with Visit Carmel to sponsor banners and signs meant to promote responsible visitation to our village. Twenty banners have been installed down Ocean Avenue that encourage everyone to wear a face covering, keep six feet apart (social distance), and wash hands frequently.

CR: We thank our business and residential partners, and especially the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and our destination marketing organization, Visit Carmel.

65°: What does the future look like for Carmel?

PT: We have to think about the long-term impact of living with a pandemic. The longer we social distance, the more we have to consider mental health. Everyone in our department is trained in dealing with critical incident training [mental illness, specifically]. Police have developed into more than just police-, we are also educators and social workers, helping people through crises. This is more important now than ever, as this pandemic is challenging the mental health of everyone. We're capable of communicating with people who are having mental health challenges. We spend time with them. We work with them. We also have resources that we call upon, with county social workers and the Monterey Crisis Center, to provide further assistance. In Carmel-by-the-Sea, 40 percent of properties are seasonal residents, but the other 60 percent pretty much know one another, and they communicate with us. So, if someone is in trouble, we find out, we respond, and we help. We are a conduit of care.

MG: I know things will be different for everyone moving forward; however, I am confident that our village will come back thriving in the new normal. The leadership of the City Council, City Administrator, and our dedicated village will continue to work together to preserve the quality of life unique to this community during this unprecedented time into the future.

CR: We are talking about the long-term plans going a year or more out. We're learning from cities and states that opened prematurely. We have industry leaders who are drafting protocols for COVID-19-safe hotel stays and restaurant seating. We will have to reestablish what is essential. We're also relying on programs like Seniors Helping Seniors, the Carmel Foundation, and food delivery programs. We do welfare checks to ensure that at-risk residents are okay. Neighbors look out for each other, and the City is part of that equation. The question we should all be asking is, "What can I do to help my neighbor?"





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Home Is Calling You

Monterey Coast Realty are experts in local real estate

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photo by Sherman Chu

If you've ever envisioned making a life on the Monterey Peninsula, Monterey Coast Realty is there to make your dreams come true. With a diverse portfolio of homes speckling the rugged coastline, those who want to relocate to—or find a new spot within—Monterey or Carmel, have a breadth of options at their fingertips. Choose from European-inspired villages on the coast, estates with sprawling ocean views, new builds in growing suburbs, and rural communities offering space and sunshine. All of these locations offer one thing Monterey is known for—a blend of hometown charm and history. “There is something for everyone,” says Ben Zoller of Monterey Coast Realty.

The longtime local can offer something other realty companies can't with both his knowledge as well as the shared knowledge of other agents of Monterey. Instead of bringing in talent from all over and expecting homes to sell themselves, the team at Monterey Coast trains local agents to market the community they themselves are invested in. “Together with our sister company, Carmel Realty Company, our focus is entirely

community based and being a trusted premiere brokerage with deep roots,” Zoller says.

While the focus is on creating an even better community through helping home buyers find a gorgeous place to call home, the company's reach is global. Those from all over the world target Monterey and Carmel as a place to build a life, and when knowledge of the area may be scarce, that local touch is important.

With plenty of homes on the market, buyers shouldn't struggle to find the place of their dreams. Zoller's favorite available listing is 9 Sonoma Lane in the Carmel Highlands. “I believe that the Carmel Highlands is the best kept secret on the Monterey Peninsula,” says Zoller. “From the charming General Store to the private Carmel Highlands Beach all within minutes to Carmel.” The home was built in 2018 and features high-end finishes as well as ocean views from almost every room.

Start your home search, [montereycoastrealty.com](https://www.montereycoastrealty.com)



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