



CALENDAR

FREE SENIOR LUNCHEON

First Monday Monthly-11:30
CV Community Center
25 Ford Road

CV VILLAGE LIBRARY

"Lessons Learned On and Off the Field," Jim Tunney,
NFL Referee & Educator
Feb. 4, 10:15 a.m.
659-2377

CV Historical Society

30th ANNIVERSARY

Celebration & Reception
April 29, 2-4 p.m.
77 W. Carmel Valley Road
659-5715

Carmel Valley Association

ANNUAL MEETING

March 26, 2-4 p.m.
Redwood Room, Del Mesa
Carmel, 500 Del Mesa

POINT LOBOS GUIDED TOURS

Check pointlobos.org/calendar
for Easy Access Adventures

CV FARMERS' MARKET

Every Sunday 10-3
Behind the History Center
CV Village

Subscribe to our **FREE**
weekly e-bulletin to
keep up with the latest
Carmel Valley issues and
events. You need not be
a CVA member to get the
news in your inbox every
Thursday. Sign up at www.carmelvalleyassociation.org

CVA FILES SUIT AGAINST COUNTY OF MONTEREY

by *Pris Walton*

The Carmel Valley Association (CVA) has filed a lawsuit against the County of Monterey, challenging the County's failure to meet County General Plan and California Environmental Quality Act Requirements in reaching its decision on the recent Rancho Canada development project. The CVA Board of Directors voted unanimously to do so because this is an issue of the utmost importance to all future development in the county.

CVA's major concern is that established land use decision making practices and legal requirements were ignored in a rush to act on the project before 2017. This rush to judgment by the Board of Supervisors in late December set a dangerous precedent for the approval process for all future projects in the county, and there is already another major project in the pipeline for Carmel Valley that has similar flaws.

While the County's General Plan governs land use decisions, the Board of Supervisors ignored at least six important general plan policies. These policies relate to the way a general plan is to be amended, traffic policies intended to ensure our safety and prevent further degradation of our roads and highways, and affordable housing requirements. Projects that are inconsistent with substantive general plan policies cannot legally be approved under California laws.

Failure to meet significant requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act is also at issue. These include a lack of a proper project

description and flawed analysis of project alternatives, as well as an inadequate assessment of traffic impacts.

Had the project been processed in accordance with existing general plan policies, an amendment to the General Plan's affordable housing requirements should have been considered separately from the proposed project. This would have given the public and decision makers an opportunity to weigh in on this important issue.

Additionally, due to the haste in getting the project to hearing, the Planning Commission did not have a Final EIR to review, nor did it have a complete list of project conditions, until the day of the hearing. In spite of its responsibility to provide the Board of Supervisors with a carefully considered recommendation, and over the protests of Commissioners Diehl and Vandevere, the commission sent the project to the Board with little or no discussion. Likewise, final Board deliberations were equally sparse and inadequate.

In short, the CVA Board believes strongly that the approval process for this project has not been conducted pursuant to legal requirements, and that it did not properly serve the interests of the people of Carmel Valley. It is an egregious precedent that we cannot allow to stand.

To view our full lawsuit filing and documents, and for regular updates on the suit, please visit www.carmelvalleyassociation.org and sign up for the weekly CVA e-bulletin.

President's Letter

by **Pris Walton**



Priscilla Walton

The Carmel Valley Association Board wishes our membership a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. We appreciate the tremendous support you have given financially and otherwise throughout 2016, to help us carry out our mission to preserve and protect the rural character and natural resources of Carmel Valley.

The year ended with a lovely holiday event at Hidden Valley. More than 80 members attended. We are grateful to Peter Meckel for donating the lovely venue for the event, Mibs McCarthy and her event committee for organizing it so wonderfully, Wild Thyme Deli for the delicious food, and the Bolero Brothers for the festive music. We hope to make this an annual event, and we

HIDDEN VALLEY MUSIC SEMINARS

2017 MASTERS FESTIVAL

June 5 Keith Underwood, flute

International teaching/performing artist

June 8 Ali Ryerson, jazz flute

International teaching/performing artist

June 12 Elaine Douvas, oboe

Principal oboe, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra

June 23 Judith LeClair, bassoon

Principal bassoon, NY Philharmonic

Robert Walters, English horn

Solo English horn, The Cleveland Orchestra

August 15 Mark Kosower, cello

Principal cello, The Cleveland Orchestra

Golden Gate Chamber Players



Performances

Saturday, March 18 & Sunday, March 19

4:00 – 5:30 pm

Admissions Free

Hidden Valley String Orchestra

Stewart Robertson, Music Director

Roy Malan, Concertmaster

Saturday, April 8, 2:30 pm

Hidden Valley Theatre, Carmel Valley

Sunday, April 9, 2:30 pm

Peace United Church, Santa Cruz

Tickets: \$25.00/person

TICKETS

659-3115

hiddenvalleymusic.org
104 W. Carmel Valley Rd

President's Letter, continued from Pg. 1

hope you will be able to join us later this year.

We also want to thank all of the CVA board and our committee members and committee chairs for their hard work this year: Land Use, Frank Hennessy; Communications, Donna Kneeland; Traffic, Tim Sanders; Water, Roger Dolan; and Membership, Rick Manning. We are very pleased that our membership has continued to grow under Rick's able leadership.

Our efforts in addressing development that will impact Carmel Valley yielded mixed results last year. On the upside, with the help of Friends of Quail, we were able to prevent the development of the Canine Event Center across from Quail Lodge. That development, with its proposed events, would have severely impacted Carmel Valley, worsening the traffic on Carmel Valley Road.

We also supported Measure Z, which will prevent fracking in Monterey County, and Measure E, which will continue the funding to support the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District. We are proud to have played a part in getting both passed by the voters in November.

On the downside, the process used by the Board of Supervisors in its rushed approval of Rancho Canada Village in December was so egregious that the Carmel Valley Association Board of Directors voted unanimously to file a lawsuit. (See the story on page one.) We believe that this project exemplifies the worst in Monterey County planning, and that it sets a dangerous precedent.

We will remain vigilant and keep you informed on our actions.

On a positive note, we very much look forward to working with our new 5th district supervisor, Mary Adams. We eagerly anticipate the new directions and fresh thinking that she will bring as supervisor to help keep Carmel Valley the very special place it is. We know that she is committed to an open and transparent public process that involves Carmel Valley residents in the land use decisions that affect us. We wish her all the best in the coming years.

Among the major land use issues that we will be addressing in 2017 are the short-term rental and special events ordinances.

We hope to see the newly constituted Board of Supervisors begin to develop a vision for Carmel Valley and the county that favors sustainable communities.

We cannot just leave this to the housing developers and expect to preserve our quality of life, and we cannot continue to allow boundless urban sprawl.

We will fight relentlessly to ensure that the county enforces the 190- unit cap on development of new housing that CVA negotiated in its legal settlement with the county, and to uphold our mission to preserve and protect this special place. Please join us in this effort by becoming a member and by participating on our committees, working on issues with us, and financially supporting our efforts. We need you to be actively involved.

With your help, I know CVA will have a very successful 2017. . . Thank you!

Free Monthly Luncheon & Social for Local Seniors

A free lunch for Carmel Valley seniors is held the first Monday of every month at 11:30 a.m. in the Carmel Valley Community Youth Center, 25 Ford Road. Coordinated by volunteer Marilyn Rose, all seniors and their caretakers are welcome. Bingo and dessert are included. No RSVP is necessary. It is a challenge to reach seniors who may not be on email lists, so please remind your neighbors and friends that all seniors are welcome and invited to this monthly event.



Volunteer cooks and servers, Luana, Marilyn, Mibs, and Janice

CA Insurance Commissioner Advises Locals

By Mibs McCarthy



CalFire house fire photo

California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones addressed a forum in October co-sponsored by CVA and the Fire Safe Council for Monterey County. The commissioner leads the CA Department of Insurance and regulates the CA insurance market – the nation’s largest. The Fire Safe Council educates the public about defensible space and wildfires. It also helps communities apply for grants for fuel reduction.

The Department of Insurance is an independent consumer protection agency. It makes sure there is insurance available for all California residents’ needs. It regulates the rates of auto, home, property, and casualty insurance. However, California is one of the few states in which the insurance commissioner has no authority to regulate health insurance. The Department of Insurance is also a law enforcement organization investigating false claims and insurance fraud.

The department also regulates the finances of insurance companies to make sure they have money to pay claims. Annually since 2011, Commissioner Jones has followed what insurance companies are doing to address climate risk and change. CA insurance companies have to report their investments in oil and gas. Jones is the first insurance commissioner to ask insurance companies to get out of coal investments, because of the devaluation of coal due to its effect on climate. This is one way Jones makes sure the companies he oversees maintain their assets.

This past year the Soberanes Fire was one of the most expensive in U.S. history to fight. However, so far, there have been no reports of home owners not being paid by insurance companies. Commissioner Jones recommends that we all check to see if our homeowner’s policy has an

additional living expenses clause (ALE) to cover expenses if we have to evacuate – like relocation and transportation costs. He says, “SAVE RECEIPTS.” If you have a loss, ask your insurance company for written guidelines. Keep a log of your calls with your insurer, but it is best to communicate in writing (e-mail or letter). Watch out for scammers. Check the license of any contractor with the CA Contractors’ State License Board. Contact the commission if you’re having problems before you hire a lawyer.



Commissioner Jones

of the architectural and design features of your home and your prized possessions. Store this in the cloud or somewhere safe – not just in your computer. Each year, contact your insurer and tell him or her about any changes to your home and ask about replacement costs. Replacement cost is different from market value of your home, and replacement cost is usually higher.

Home insurers use computer models to decide if your home is insurable. They set underwriting guidelines. Some of these you can control (roof, weeds), and others you can’t (slope, access, volunteer or paid fire department). About 12% of homes statewide can’t get fire insurance. In Monterey County, 25% have a high or very high risk of fire. If you can’t get insurance in the private market, the insurer of last resort is the Fair Plan created by the legislature. The Fair Plan, by law, has to write insurance for you. Then you can get add-ons from a private insurance company. If you get a notice that your insurance is not going to be renewed, your insurer is required to let you know about the Fair Plan.

If you believe you have been treated unfairly by an insurance company, contact the Department of Insurance at 800-927-4357.

In advance of a disaster, Commissioner Jones recommends that you have an emergency kit and know how you are going to get out of your home. Make an inventory of your belongings, and make a video

THE ANGEL PROJECT FOR CARMEL VALLEY

by Sandy Schachter



Visitors and volunteers at the well-stocked Angel Store
Photos by Mibs McCarthy and Luana Conley

How did Carmel Valley celebrate the holiday season?

About 250 Valley residents enjoyed warm community spirit at a delicious Thanksgiving dinner at the Carmel Valley Community Center, organized by the Carmel Valley Angel Project and prepared by professional chefs.



Just weeks later, the holiday was made brighter for 63 Carmel Valley families, who found new jackets, blankets, backpacks, toys, bicycles, food, and other gifts at the Angel Store at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in mid-December.

In addition, Rippling River residents were surprised by gift plants left outside their doors one morning just before Christmas.



Cynthia Hall shows off the hand knit items

BRIGHTEN HOLIDAYS VALLEY RESIDENTS



Store.

So the angels were flying again this season, with holiday spirit on their wings! Every season gets a little better.

Many thanks to the following: the Carmel Valley Community Parks District, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church, and the Carmel Valley Community Center for donating the use of their premises to the project; Angel Project president Terry Pershall, chefs Michael Jones and Todd Fischer, and over 40 other volunteers for organizing and working at the Thanksgiving Dinner; Christine Williams, Cynthia Hall, Ellen Korstanje, Marilyn Rose, Susan McDonald Brodey, and more than 80



other volunteers for shopping and working at the Angel Store; Kim Williams, Luana Conley, and June Taylor for help with outreach, and all the other individuals, organizations, and businesses mentioned on the Angel Project website who donated time, space, energy, gifts, and money to make all the events successful.

More information can be found on the Angel Project website at: thecvap.org.

Don Prince Still Has a Good Grip

by Rick Manning

Who knows how many “friendly neighbor” cocktails Don Prince had over the years at Wills Fargo or the Running Iron, or how many burgers and chocolate milk shakes he had at the Chatterbox, but it was certainly a lot. And who knows how many times Don has been a true friendly neighbor to others here in Carmel Valley during his eighty-nine years?

Maybe you’ve heard of Prince’s Camp, and the Prince’s nymph used in fly fishing. Well, that’s Don’s family. Maybe you’ve heard of Buck Mountain, off the Cachagua Road. That’s where Don and Mike Marquard lived as friendly neighbors for decades.

Maybe you know that Don taught tennis with John Gardiner in Pebble Beach in the fifties, helped build the court fences at the Tennis Ranch, was the head tennis pro at the Menlo Circus Club, and that he came back to the valley to teach at the Tennis Ranch and Corral de Tierra, before finally retiring. There wasn’t another tennis pro who was more devoted to the sport. Don wrote a small book, *Tennis, the Right Way*, which basically meant the way Don explained it. It cost five cents. He had his special way of teaching, a bit gruff at times. He had notebooks with pictures of the great players, hitting the right way, and you’d have to study them. He was monotonous repeating his favorite sayings: “Don’t reinvent the wheel,” “Don’t delay your learning,” “Don’t put five bucks in a one-dollar shot,” “Grip, up, wrist,” “Look Good.” If you want to know if this stuff worked, just ask Carlos, Rocky, Rob, Ken, Graeme, Glen or hundreds of others - it did.

In spite of being a bit of a loner and ornery, Don does have his social side, and many close friends over the years: the Swansons, Don Ratcliff, the Boekenoogens, Steve Wagner. If you were lucky, you might be invited to Buck Mountain before sunset to help feed the critters - the herd of deer; each of which he could identify by name. Before long, you would be looking through photo albums with thousands of pictures or listening to stories about



Don Prince at Villa Mirage
Photo by Rick Manning

Carmel Valley in the old days. Special friends got to stay for Buck Mountain chicken, but you wouldn’t get the recipe.

It’s hard to say who was Don’s best friend, but probably Duke, his yellow Lab, who rode in Don’s rig wherever he went. When Duke died, Don got Dukie, and then she rode in the rig, and was probably his new best friend.

Don would drive down south to Parkfield to gather rocks on property owned by his friends, the Vervains. He only collected the rocks he classified as “A,” which were the most colorful and best-shaped, which Don then used for a wall he built by hand around his cabin and bunkhouse. Of course, there was an American flag flying from the pole in his front yard.

When he was nineteen, Don saved Dennis from drowning in Carmel Bay. In the Sierras, he taught Jim how to walk silently to approach wildlife. There wasn’t another person you’d be safer with if you were out riding, hiking, hunting, or fishing. Wilderness was his favorite neighborhood.

By the way, a friendly neighbor is Jack Daniels and 7 Up, and Don will turn 90 this coming March 3.

CVA MEMBERS ENJOY COMMUNITY SPIRIT AT HOLIDAY PARTY



Old friends and new enjoyed the food, festivities, and conversation
 Photos by Mibs McCarthy

by *Sandy Schachter*

Amid poinsettias, mini-Christmas trees, and a few Dickens characters, a friendly and animated group of more than 80 community-minded Carmel Valley residents gathered together at Hidden Valley last December 4 for the Carmel Valley Association's holiday party. CVA members sampled an array of refreshments, listened to the romantic music of the Bolero Brothers, and

participated in a drawing for dinners at local restaurants. But most importantly, they enjoyed the warm community spirit, reconnecting with old like-minded friends and meeting new ones, finding time to talk with neighbors during a busy holiday season. Everyone went home more determined than ever to support the mission of CVA and work to preserve the rural character of Carmel Valley.

Many thanks to Peter Meckel for allowing

us to use the Hidden Valley facilities, to Café Rustica, Plaza Linda, and Lokal for providing gift certificates for the prize drawings, and to Hubert Fabre of Vineyard Brands and Ridge Watson of Joullian Vineyards and Winery for wine donations. Special thanks go to CVA President Emerita Mibs McCarthy for organizing and working tirelessly to make the event a success.

CVA MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

By Rick Manning

The results are in. In an informal poll taken at CVA's holiday party, those present were invited to tell us what they felt was important to maintain Carmel Valley's rural character and continued well-being. The question on what is "very important" resulted in a tie for 1) Traffic on CV Road and 2) Overdevelopment of Carmel Valley.



Second place: Health of the Carmel River

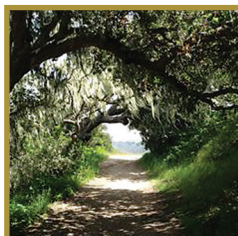
Third place: Status of Rancho Canada Village

Fourth place: Water conservation

Fifth place - a tie: 1) The amount of traffic on Highway #1 and 2) Keeping the rural nature of the village

Members responded as follows with the activities they would like to see sponsored by CVA:

- 1 - Forums dealing with Valley issues
- 2 - Hikes in Garland Park
- 3 - Picnic
- 4 - Wine tasting



We appreciate having our members weigh in on their priorities for Carmel Valley. The board is pleased to know you share its concerns and goals. When the Board holds its annual retreat in January, the activities that have been requested, e.g., hikes, forums, will also be discussed. Further developments will appear in the e-Bulletin and in succeeding newsletters.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Priscilla Walton, President

president@carmelvalleyassociation.org

Eric Sand, Vice President

Sandy Schachter, Secretary

Kim Williams, Treasurer

Mibs McCarthy, President Emerita

Frank Hennessy

Karin Strasser Kauffman

Donna Kneeland

Rick Manning

Marlene Martin

Tim Sanders

Dick Stott

Jeff Wood

- * Eleanor Avila, Historian
- * Janet Brennan, Advisor
- * Luana Conley, ex officio, Newsletter Production Mgr.
- * Rich Fox, ex officio

ADVERTISERS!

Send your message to 7,000 local residents every season. Limited space available.

Call for a rate sheet!

Luana Conley

CARMEL VALLEY VOICE

Production Manager

831-659-4958

luanaconley@gmail.com

CVA P.O. Box 157

Carmel Valley, CA 93924

carmelvalleyassociation.org



Peter Meckel, director of Hidden Valley Music Seminars, and Farkhad Khudiyev, leader of Monterey Youth Orchestra, at CV Village Library First Saturday program
Photo by Mibs McCarthy

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Local

Residential Customer

CVA ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 26
Nominees Introduced ~ Rancho Cañada Discussion

The Carmel Valley Association will hold its Annual General Membership Meeting on March 26, 2-4 pm at the Redwood Room of Del Mesa Carmel, 500 Del Mesa. In keeping with our bylaws, the slate listed below is member notification of the Carmel Valley Association board nominees for the next term. Any CVA member in good standing may nominate other candidates by gathering 15 member signatures and submitting them by February 23rd. If other candidates are submitted, ballots will be sent out by e-mail (or mailed, on request) by March 5th, with votes due back by March 17th. If there are no new petition candidates, the slate presented here will be automatically appointed. The new board and board-designated officers will be introduced at the annual meeting.

Nominees:

Paola Berthoin is a former CVA board member, local artist and life-long resident of Carmel Valley.

Rich Fox is a former CVA board member and consults with non-profit organizations around the world on fundraising.

Ed Lake has a professional background in engineering and human resources and has worked with traffic safety in Pacific Grove.

Bob Siegfried is an agricultural engineer with extensive experience in water issues.

Current board members nominated for a new three-year term are **Donna Kneeland, Dick Stott, and Kim Williams.**

Free and open to the public.

CLIP

COUPON

MAIL

START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT! CLIP AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK TO:
CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 157, Carmel Valley, CA 93924

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

<u>SINGLE</u>	<u>FAMILY</u>
_\$25 Basic	\$40 Basic
_\$50	\$75
_\$100	\$150
_\$500	\$750
_\$1,000	\$1,500

If you live, work, or own property in Carmel Valley, please join the CVA today!

Joining or renewing at the \$100 level or above will greatly help our efforts to preserve Carmel Valley. Have a voice in Valley affairs and help sustain our mission!

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS _____
(If different than mailing address)

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____
(Your information will be used only for CVA business and news.)



SINCE 1949

