
57°
THIS IS NAPA VALLEY





















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By Rich Medel

This holiday season, *65 Degrees* celebrates a milestone worth raising a glass to: the conclusion of our twentieth year. Two decades ago, this magazine began as a way to tell the stories of the people, places, flavors, and creative spirits that make the Monterey Peninsula extraordinary. And that ethos naturally flowed into *57 Degrees* in Napa and Sonoma. As we mark this anniversary, we're celebrating some of the things we value most.

In Monterey, we meet artists and storytellers whose work invites us to see the world differently, from filmmaker Tom Michaels to photographer Parish Kohanim. We explore architecture inspired by nature through the eyes of Emily Yang Bauer, the enduring appeal of Pebble Beach Resorts, and the flavors of the coast.

We also celebrate organizations whose impact reaches far beyond their original missions, including Peace of Mind Dog Rescue and Special Kids Connect, as well as Dawn's Dream Winery, which is proving that purpose and philanthropy can be as meaningful as what fills the glass.

In 57 Degrees, the celebration continues throughout Napa Valley and beyond. We discover how an encounter with one of photography's great visionaries as a teenager helped shape a winemaker's philosophy at Turnbull Wines. We also meet artists who commemorate that which they love most through their work, sometimes allowing that artistry to move beyond the canvas.
As always, community takes center stage, inspiring local efforts to improve the lives of others, whether horses or humans.

That same spirit of care and connection carries through stories of thoughtful hospitality, remarkable culinary experiences, and wineries rooted in history and stewardship, reminding us that legacy is not simply inherited; it is continually being created.

From historic estates finding new life to vineyards honoring the character of the land, this issue is a celebration of creativity, heritage, and possibility.

As the year draws to a close, we invite you to savor these stories and join us in celebrating 20 years of honoring the people, places, and traditions that continue to shape these remarkable regions.

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TASTINGS



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57°

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Photo by Andrew Lincoln



Photo Courtesy of Turnbull Wines

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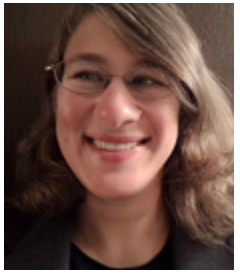
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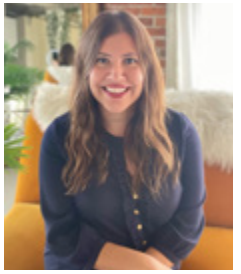
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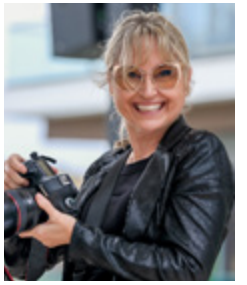
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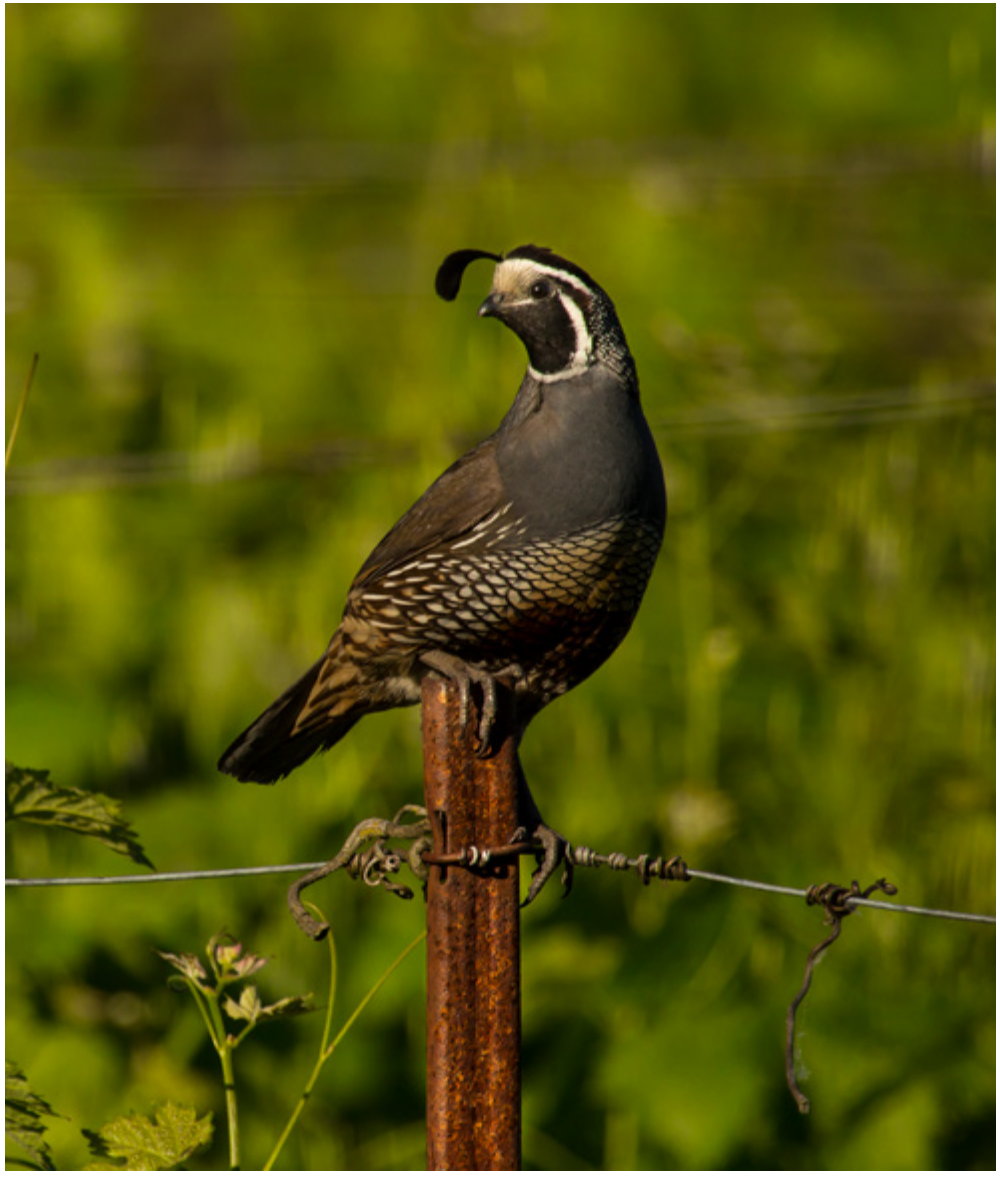
By Rebekah Moan
Photos by Andrew Lincoln

Photographer Andrew Lincoln is perpetually falling in love with the Napa Valley landscape. He grew up on a five-acre property in Oakville, the son of a fifth-generation grape grower, and he's still taken aback by the landscape. "Things yoau are familiar with can become the most extraordinary if you look at them in the right way," he says.

His perspective is influenced by two artists who inspire him: John Constable and Andrew Wyeth. "Constable had this sense of nostalgia and moral purity of nature that resonated with me," says Lincoln. "And Wyeth saw beauty in the simplest things around him. That idea appeals to me."

Lincoln's love of photography in particular can be partially attributed to his grandmother, a woman who traveled all over the world on photo trips. "I was fortunate to grow up around her," he says. "Photography was always around and she encouraged my love and appreciation of it."





That love and appreciation—for nature, for agriculture, and for the people working the vineyards—underpins all of Lincoln's work. He views photography as a means of memorializing something he cherishes. "I want to document my love of the land and where I grew up," he says.

And he applies his passion toward more than just capturing a pretty picture: He's also a champion of sustainability and rewilding. "We share this planet with so many species. It's not just about us," he says. "What I hope people come away with after viewing my photographs is a sense of wanting to care for and preserve nature as well as farm sustainably."

He notes that having grown up in the Valley, he's seen how the shift toward sustainable farming has increased biodiversity, which he wants to convey through his photography as well.

For more information, visit alincolnphoto.wixsite.com/website.

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Finding Light in Napa Valley

By Jessica Zimmer
Photos Courtesy of Thérèse Légère

Calistoga artist Thérèse Légère pictures Napa Valley in a way that few people do: in vivid, outlined brushstrokes that evoke the segmented pieces that make up stained-glass windows.

Some of her paintings contain architectural details, such as local bridges with shadowed arches. Others depict tree trunks surrounded by leaves and flowers. Légère refers to this style as "defined impressionism." "I work from photos that I take in Napa Valley and the Sonoma coast. Then I put paintbrush strokes next to each other, highlighting certain areas. That's how I make the colors come to life," she says.

Légère has always loved to visit Napa County, and she moved here with her husband about five and a half years ago, from Amherst, Massachusetts, to be closer to their four children who live here. She grew up in Montreal. After high school, she took classes from the painter Jean LeFébure at Cégep de Saint-Laurent college. "LeFébure was a member of Les Automatistes, a group of artists who believed in making art in ways that expressed the subconscious mind," she says. "I am also influenced by Vincent van Gogh, particularly *First Steps*, of a young child walking, and his two *Sunflowers* series."





Napa Valley has more sunlight than the places Légère has lived before. “My color palette changed considerably, as Van Gogh’s did when he moved from the Netherlands to France,” she says. She developed her defined impressionism technique seven years ago, after painting hundreds of pieces. “I remember highlighting a certain section of a painting, and then saying, ‘What if I did more of this?’ With practice and time, I created this style. Visitors love it, because they can take a little bit of Napa Valley home with them.”

Légère also weaves. She creates scarves, shawls, and cowls on a mini loom in her gallery. “I work with rayon chenille, a very soft, lightweight type of yarn that’s perfect for the local weather. My textile pieces are colorful, just like my paintings,” she says.

Légère currently shows her work at Collings & Légère Art Gallery and Sterling Vineyards, both in Calistoga, and at Jessel Gallery in Napa. She regularly participates in Yountville’s annual Art, Sip & Stroll every May and its Holiday Artisan Faire in December. This fall, she will show her paintings of trees in Redwood, an exhibition at Oli Gallery in Guerneville.

For more information, visit legereart.com and artinnapa.com.



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ESTATE




Breakfast Menu





Redefined Luxury: Savoring Time, Place, and Connection

By Sarah Gillihan
Photos Courtesy of Sttupa Estate

Just off Silverado Trail, an olive tree-lined drive ascends into the eastern hills of Napa Valley's famed Stags Leap District. Among the craggy rocks of the hillside, majestic live oaks punctuate the landscape. Behind an unassuming private gate is Sttupa Estate Napa Valley, a retreat that redefines the meaning of luxury in wine country.

Designed by the late Howard Backen, Sttupa Estate began life as Poetry Inn, where, under the ownership of Cliff Lede Winery, it gained a following for its commitment to privacy and flawless hospitality. Two decades later, the property has undergone a quiet rejuvenation under a new owner. At the helm is Juan-Pablo "JP" Torres-Padilla, managing director of his family's hospitality ventures. Born in Mexico, shaped by time in France, and now at home in Northern California, Torres-Padilla brings a global sensibility to the estate, one that prioritizes connection in an increasingly distracted and stressful world.

His philosophy for the family's hospitality and lifestyle offerings, which include Sullivan Rutherford Estate winery and Loco Tequila, blends European precision, American excellence, and the genuine warmth of Mexico and Southeast Asia into what he calls "generous hospitality," rooted in authentic human connection. The property's new name was inspired by stupas, the iconic domed Buddhist pilgrimage sites, in a nod to their purpose as a place that fosters connection with self and nature—a concept that Torres-Padilla values most of all.

Oriented westward overlooking vineyards and the silhouette of the Mayacamas Mountains, Sttupa Estate has arguably one of the best views in wine country. Five distinctive, roomy, well-appointed suites feature fireplaces, luxurious marble bathrooms, outdoor showers, Italian linens, and comfortable contemporary furnishings. Yet true luxury is marked not by these accoutrements but by the experiential and relational.





Retaining the property's commitment to privacy and hospitality, the Sttupa Estate team demonstrates a warmth and attentiveness that lacks all pretense. Client-centric wellness is seamlessly woven into the experience, as guests can book private yoga instruction, spa treatments, and hikes through the surrounding hills.

Food, wine, and hospitality are incorporated effortlessly into every stay at Sttupa Estate Napa Valley. Curated dining and wellness experiences are an extension of the estate's ethos, where every moment, whether elaborate or simple, becomes an opportunity to savor time, place, and connection.

The culinary program has also expanded, starting with a three-course seasonal breakfast that sets the tone for the day ahead. Served at a pace that invites lingering, each course reflects the region's healthful bounty, such as freshly picked local fruit, hand-selected pastries from Napa Valley's best bakeries, and warm savory dishes that strike the perfect balance between comfort and refinement. Whether enjoyed on a private terrace overlooking the valley or fireside in a suite, breakfast at Sttupa Estate feels both restorative and luxurious, with every detail designed to satisfy without excess.

Before guests even arrive on property, Director of Operations Scott Trace and the attentive and creative team work to ensure guests' dining dreams come true. That could mean obtaining a hard-to-secure reservation at one of the valley's best restaurants and wineries or bringing that experience home to the privacy of Sttupa Estate. For guests craving a night in but still desiring the best that Napa Valley has to offer, the team arranges options from a casual hands-on pizza party to a classic yet elegant diner-style selection created by one of the region's leading Michelin-starred chefs. Tastings with Regiis Ova Caviar are another guest favorite. Whatever the request, the result will help guests relax, slow down, and connect.

A visit to Napa Valley wouldn't be complete without some time to explore the wines of the region. Each Sttupa Estate guest is invited to visit the resort's sister property, Sullivan Rutherford Estate, a legendary winery located in the heart of the Valley and renowned for its world-class terroir and merlot wines.

Reservations may be made online or by phone. For the ultimate in privacy and comfort, it's possible to book the entire house, making it ideal for reunions or an executive retreat.

Sttupa Estate Napa Valley's culinary and wellness experiences are solely available to guests. Reservations are available on the property's website or by phone.

For more information, visit sttupaestate.com or call 707-944-0646.




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Festival Napa Valley

Photos Courtesy of Festival Napa Valley

Presented by Napa Valley Festival Association, the nonprofit organization Festival Napa Valley is dedicated to making the arts available to everyone through world-class performances and extensive arts education programs.

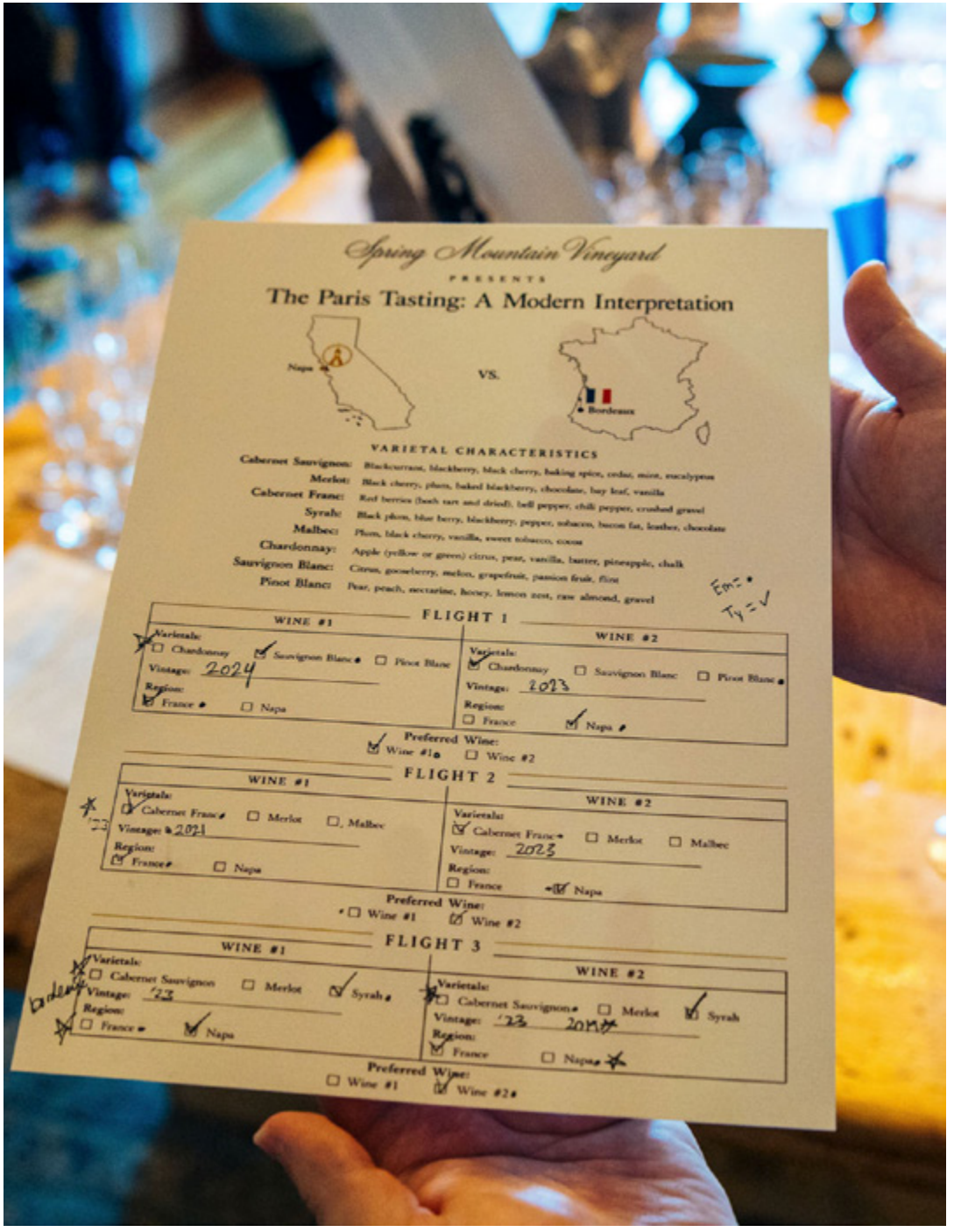
Festival Napa Valley's 20th anniversary celebration took place July 4–19, culminating at Charles Krug Winery in St. Helena. From the opening Festival Live! Faculty Recital at the Culinary Institute of America at Copia to the grand finale performed by Festival Orchestra Napa under the baton of two-time Grammy Award–winning conductor JoAnn Falletta, the festival offered daily opportunities to experience music and cultural programming.

Marking both the festival's milestone 20th season and the 250th anniversary of the United States, this year's celebration featured more than 200 artists, including Renée Fleming, Wynton Marsalis, Time for Three, Ray Chen, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Highlights included the world premiere of The Judgment of Paris, a new opera by Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer inspired by Napa Valley's storied wine heritage.

Notably, the season also included the record-breaking Arts for All Gala, which raised $6.5 million, the highest fundraising total in the organization's history. Festival Napa Valley's vicennial season has reaffirmed its place among the country's premier cultural celebrations.






Spring Mountain Vineyard
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Napa
VS.
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VARIETAL CHARACTERISTICS
Cabernet Sauvignon: Blackcurrant, blackberry, black cherry, baking spice, cedar, mint, eucalyptus
Merlot: Black cherry, plum, baked blackberry, chocolate, bay leaf, vanilla
Cabernet Franc: Red berries (both tart and dried), bell pepper, chili pepper, crushed gravel
Syrah: Black plum, blue berry, blackberry, pepper, tobacco, bacon fat, leather, chocolate
Malbec: Plum, black cherry, vanilla, sweet tobacco, cocoa
Chardonnay: Apple (yellow or green) citrus, pear, vanilla, butter, pineapple, chalk
Sauvignon Blanc: Citrus, gooseberry, melon, grapefruit, passion fruit, flint
Pinot Blanc: Pear, peach, nectarine, honey, lemon zest, raw almond, gravel
FLIGHT 1
WINE #1
Varietals:
Chardonnay
Sauvignon Blanc
Pinot Blanc
Vintage: 2024
Region:
France
Napa
WINE #2
Varietals:
Chardonnay
Sauvignon Blanc
Pinot Blanc
Vintage: 2023
Region:
France
Napa
Preferred Wine:
Wine #1
Wine #2
FLIGHT 2
WINE #1
Varietals:
Cabernet Franc
Merlot
Malbec
Vintage: 2021
Region:
France
Napa
WINE #2
Varietals:
Cabernet Franc
Merlot
Malbec
Vintage: 2023
Region:
France
Napa
Preferred Wine:
Wine #1
Wine #2
FLIGHT 3
WINE #1
Varietals:
Cabernet Sauvignon
Merlot
Syrah
Vintage: '23
Region:
France
Napa
WINE #2
Varietals:
Cabernet Sauvignon
Merlot
Syrah
Vintage: '23 2019
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Wine #2



Photos by Alexander Rubin







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CAMBIUM

Evolving Tradition Beneath Ancient Guardians

By Andrea Stuart
Photos Courtesy of Sequoia Grove Winery

For more than four decades, Sequoia Grove Winery has been a quiet force in Napa Valley, crafting site-driven cabernet sauvignon from some of the region's most celebrated vineyards. Founded in 1979 in a restored barn beneath a grove of ancient conifer trees in Rutherford, the winery has built its reputation on a commitment to expressing the character of place.

Today, Sequoia Grove is entering a new chapter that reflects a holistic approach to connecting the vineyard, cellar, and table. Guided by Winemaker Jesse Fox, whose nearly 20 years in Napa Valley are complemented by a culinary background, the winery is expanding its vision through significant vineyard investments, enhancements to its winemaking facilities, elevated hospitality experiences, and the debut of a Napa Valley sauvignon blanc.

At the heart of Sequoia Grove's evolution is the belief that impressive wine is meant to be experienced alongside elevated cuisine. The winery welcomed Executive Chef Bryce Palmer in early 2026 to refine its celebrated culinary program. Palmer's ingredient-driven menus are designed to illuminate the nuances of each wine and challenge conventional expectations. "Chef Palmer has a remarkable ability to bring our wines to life through food, allowing the rhythm of the vineyard and seasons to inspire his menus," says Fox.





Expanding on the relationship between libations and bites, Sequoia Grove offers several guest experiences in the Cambium Room, named for the living layer of a tree responsible for growth and renewal. These experiences are paired with curated wines, including current releases, vineyard-designated cabernet sauvignons, limited productions, and reserve wines with imaginative dishes inspired by Napa Valley's seasons and terroir.

Sustainability remains a driving force for Sequoia Grove, supporting its offerings and identity. The winery and its estate vineyards are among the first five wineries in the Valley to be Napa Green certified, and they're powered through MCE Deep Green's renewable energy program, which relies on local wind and solar energy. Sequoia Grove also supports environmental conservation through its partnership with the Save the Redwoods League.

President Rick Bonitati believes the winery's future is embedded in the same values that have guided it since its founding. "For more than 40 years, Sequoia Grove has been guided by the philosophy of making great wine, treating people well, and stewarding the land responsibly," he says.

As Sequoia Grove continues to evolve, its legacy remains rooted beneath the shade of towering woodland monarchs.

For more information, visit sequoiagrove.com.


Happy Holidays
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FAIRY







A Sanctuary to Heal

By Betsy Reynard
Photos Courtesy of Sunrise Horse Rescue

Every horse at Sunrise Horse Rescue has a story. Many come to the sanctuary after experiencing neglect, abandonment, or other difficult circumstances. Sunrise's mission is to provide lifelong care, healing, and hope, offering every horse the second chance it deserves.

The idea for Sunrise Horse Rescue came while Lisa O'Connor was accompanying her daughter to riding lessons, and she noticed a growing number of vulnerable horses in need. Determined to make a difference, she joined forces with her daughter's trainer, Tracy Oles, and horse owner Katrina Kay, to establish the 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2007. Their first rescue, Captain, marked the beginning of a commitment for nearly two decades running to give at-risk horses kindness, safety, love, and a future.

Overseen by executive director Lisa Cannon, Sunrise has a part-time staff of four, nine board members, and 40 active volunteers who provide rehabilitation, advocacy, education, and equine-assisted programs. Each resident receives the medical care they need and the compassion they deserve.

At the heart of Sunrise Horse Rescue are programs that promote healing, learning, and personal growth. Among them is the Connected Horse program, developed in partnership with University of California, Davis, and Stanford University, which supports people living with dementia and their care partners. Children who visit the rescue are given hands-on experiences in horse care, designed to foster empathy, confidence, responsibility, and respect for all living beings.









Together, these programs celebrate the unique bond between horses and humans. As Cannon says, “these horses make a difference every day, and the very horses who once needed someone to believe in them often become the ones who inspire connection, healing, and hope in others.”

Sunrise Horse Rescue responds to every call for a horse in need, striving to ensure each animal receives the care and support it requires. As the demand for rescue grows and the cost of veterinary care rises, funding remains one of the organization’s greatest challenges. Individual donors, grant support, private foundations, community organizations, and the annual Harvest of Hope gala allow Sunrise to continue its work.

Today, 20 horses live at the Tubbs Lane location and 5 live at a nearby satellite pasture, all on land donated by the Sharpsteen family. For Cannon, seeing them heal, learn to trust again, and experience love and kindness is the greatest reward. At Sunrise Horse Rescue, every horse is valued not for its performance, age, or ability but for its gentle spirit, resilience, and capacity to connect with people. “Knowing these horses would have faced a very different future if Sunrise had not been there to provide a safety net is the heart of everything we do,” says Cannon.

For more information, visit sunrisehorserescue.org.


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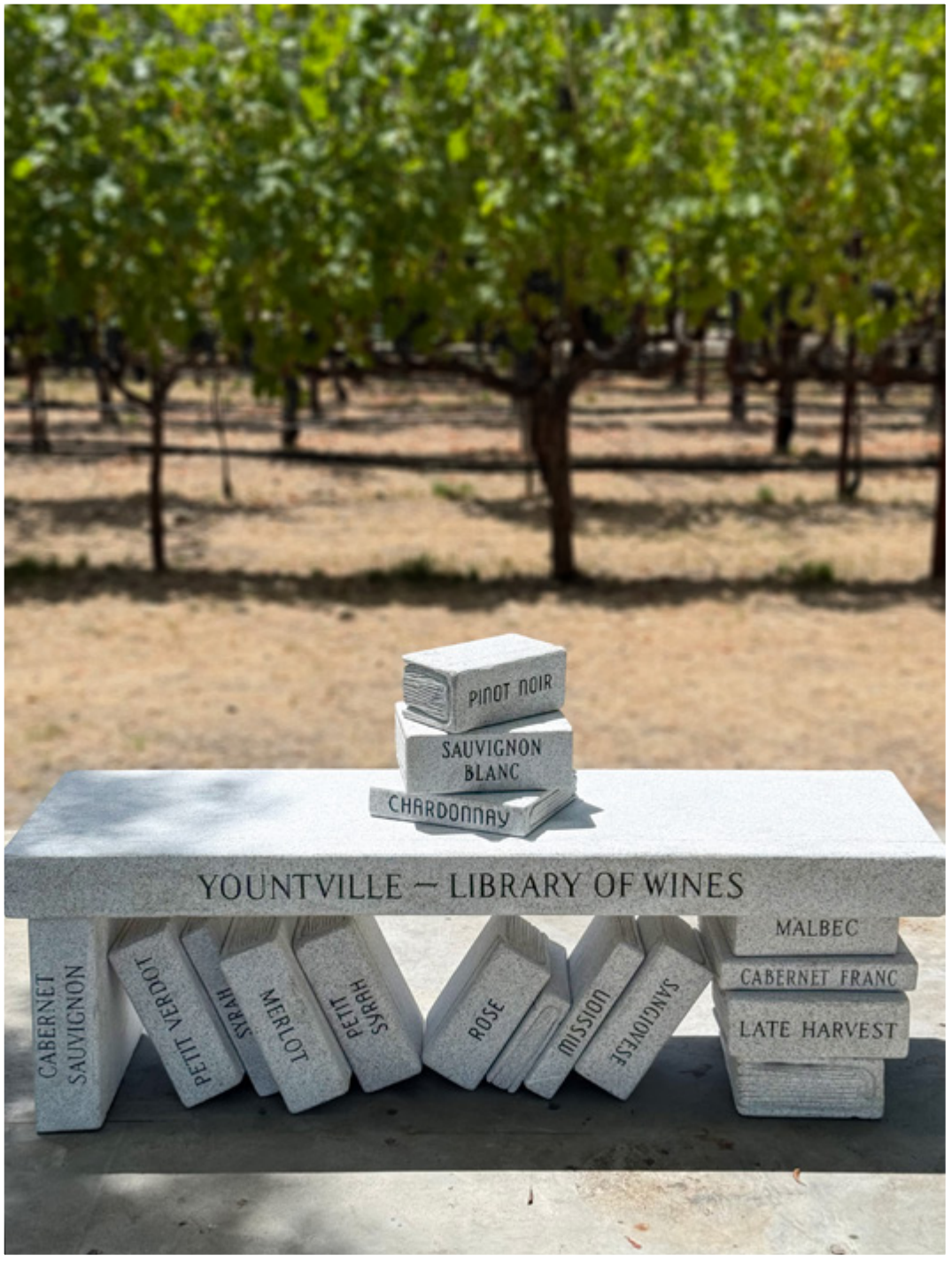
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LATE HARVEST



Sculpture in Plein Air

By Jessica Zimmer
Photos Courtesy of Yountville Art Walk

The Yountville Art Walk is an experience in *passeggiata*, a leisurely evening stroll with family and friends. From north to south, the art walk spans 33 unique sculptures to enjoy, from sculptors across the United States.

"The Yountville Art Walk is more than an outdoor gallery," says Ronda Schaer, Chair of the Yountville Arts Commission. "It's a living, evolving conversation between artists, Yountville Arts, our community, and the many visitors who experience Yountville each year. Every sculpture tells a story. Together they tell a story of a community that values creativity."

New arrivals to the art walk this June included *Reciprocal,* by Chad La Fever, an abstract human figure holding a western bluebird, intended as a comment on the interconnectedness of humanity and nature; *Heart of the Matter* by James Moore, which he describes as a person finding the answer that has been in their heart all along; and *Library of Wines* by Craig Gray, a bench formed out of granite books created specifically for Yountville.

Schaer says Library of Wines was inspired by the joy of reading. Yountville arts commissioners gave Gray the names of grape varietals grown in the area, which he used for the titles of the books.

Art lovers can participate in the walk by requesting a prearranged docent-led tour, taking a self-guided tour by using the map from the website and scanning the QR codes on the sculptures' plaques, or simply by jumping in at any point to see their sculptures of choice.

Every sculpture in the art walk is for sale, and most of them are on loan for two years. If a work is sold, its sculptor may replace it with another.

"This rotational concept keeps our pieces coming and going all year long," says Schaer. "[It also] keeps the Art Walk fresh for our community and returning visitors."

For more information, visit townofyountville.com/238/Art-Walk.

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from our family to yours












CALIFORNIA


WAGGIN' TRAILS RESCUE
FROM HOPELESS TO HOME







Pours and Pups

Photos by Amy Little Photography

Wag, Wine & Dine is a celebration of some of life's simplest pleasures: exceptional wine, delicious cuisine, beloved fur babies, and coming together. Designed for wine enthusiasts, dog lovers, and those who appreciate the relaxed elegance of Napa and Sonoma wine country, this year's event on August 23 offered an afternoon of refined fun.

Guests enjoyed craft cocktails featuring Tito's Handmade Vodka and Charbay Vodka, along with fresh pints from Lagunitas Brewing Company. Pours from more than 20 premium Napa and Sonoma wineries were thoughtfully paired with an array of small bites as attendees explored the offerings with their four-legged companions.

Dogs mingled, played, and basked in a welcoming, pet-friendly environment that was punctuated by the event's perennial crowd favorite, the Pooch Pageant. Canine contestants proudly pranced the red carpet, winning over a panel of local celebrity judges.

Beyond the festivities, those who participated in the VIP experience enjoyed extras, including access to an exclusive lounge, premium wine tastings, and a gift bag.

More than a wine tasting and more than a dog-friendly gathering, Wag, Wine & Dine captured the spirit of wine country hospitality, bringing together people and their pets for an afternoon filled with flavorful interactions.

For more information, visit waggintrailsrescue.com.

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Photos by Alexander Rubin







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The *AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am* and *Pebble Beach Food & Wine* are both in the upcoming Winter issue.

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TURNBULL
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Picture Perfect in Oakville

By Bob Cooper

Photos Courtesy of Turnbull Wines

Turnbull Wines owner Patrick O'Dell was a teen when he attended an Ansel Adams lecture near his parents' Humboldt County home. Afterward, he introduced himself as a photographer who worked in his father's newspaper darkroom, and Adams offered to sell him an original print of *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico* for $150.

"I was only making a few dollars an hour, so $150 seemed like an impossible amount of money," he recalls. He had to walk away. "But the experience stayed with me and made me want to work hard enough to someday afford photographs of that importance and beauty. Years later, when I finally acquired Moonrise, it felt like I had come full circle." He later met Adams at his Carmel home and purchased *Moonrise* for about $25,000.

Success in publishing and wine making has allowed O'Dell to amass collections of antique trucks and tractors (one of the five at Turnbull is a 1924 Model T truck) and antique French furniture (several are in the tasting room), in addition to hundreds of original prints. He owns one of the world's most significant private collections of Ansel Adams photos and black-and-whites by the likes of Imogen Cunningham, Alfred Stieglitz, and Dorothea Lange.





Gallery tastings at the winery let visitors sample exquisite wines (especially Turnbull's beloved cabernets) and enjoy a museum-like experience in the tasting gallery, since O'Dell rotates the art from his collection about twice a year. The current display of 64 portraits of Hollywood actors from the 1930s and 1940s by George Hurrell will be replaced this winter by an Edward Weston exhibition.

The art photography may be a compelling attraction, but it's not the only reason Turnbull was named one of the top ten tasting rooms by *USA Today*. The wines, created by fourth-generation winemaker Peter Heitz, are aged in French oak barrels that match the terroir of each one. They're poured in a tastefully luxurious setting: outside in the flower garden or inside one of the redwood barns (also used for wine making and storage) that tower over Turnbull's Home Vineyard on State Route 29 in Oakville. If the farmhouse-chic, landscape-blending architecture brings memories of Sea Ranch, it's because it was designed by the Sea Ranch architect—and winery namesake—William Turnbull.

O'Dell lives at Turnbull's highest-elevation estate vineyard in the eastern hills above Oakville, where he can admire the view and the Ansel Adams photos that once eluded him.

For more information, visit turnbullwines.com.



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ULYSSIA









A Superyacht to Call Home

Photos Courtesy of My Yacht Group

Measuring a vast 1,050 feet in length, *Ulyssia* is the incredible new residential superyacht, recently announced at the Palm Beach International Boat Show, that's set to redefine luxury living at sea.

Spearheading the design is renowned naval architect Espen Øino, whose illustrious career spans over two decades of crafting custom yachts for global clientele. Indeed, *Ulyssia's* exterior lines are more reminiscent of a superyacht than residence ship, pushing the boundaries to create a unique vessel with esteemed German shipbuilder Meyer Werft, boasting 225-plus years of shipbuilding experience, ensuring that construction adheres to the highest standards.

Ulyssia will have 132 exceptional residences plus 13 guest suites, with living spaces ranging from 1,790 to over 15,000 square feet, available in configurations ranging from one to six bedrooms and including reception areas, open-plan kitchens, and terraces. Select residences and the vessel's common spaces were penned by FM Architettura. Led by Francesca Muzio, the firm has designed over 100 of the world's most prestigious superyachts, and the firm's motto, "I am home," is a perfect fit for what will be a floating, like-minded community. Eight designers—including Jean-Michel Gathy (Aman Resorts, Four Seasons), Sabrina Monte Carlo (superyacht and residential specialists), and even Lenny Kravitz—are on hand to provide unique, bespoke touches in line with residents' every design wish.

The common spaces and amenities will rival any found on dry land. Its state-of-the-art, 20,500-square-foot spa and wellness center will feature the Chenot Method®, which, through a science-backed approach, leading-edge medical equipment (including MRI, CT scanners, and ultrasound), and a combination of Chinese and Western medicine, is aimed at future-proofing the body.





Additionally, those wishing to stay active can take advantage of the ship's fully equipped gym, multiple indoor and outdoor pools, padel/pickleball courts, golf simulator, group fitness classes, and one-of-a-kind, 650-meter jogging track. In the extensive marina and beach club are an array of water toys, including fishing and sailing boats, Jet Skis®, kayaks, and a dive center.

For those looking for off-ship adventure, EYOS will create a program of once-in-a-lifetime expeditions as *Ulyssia* moves between upscale yachting ports to must-see global cities and on to the farthest, most remote areas of the planet, including under water in the ship's two Triton® submersibles. Two helicopters aboard are available for guest transfers as well as medical evacuation, flightseeing, heli-skiing and ice field recon. There are few places that remain inaccessible to the lucky few residents and their guests.

For the non-thrill seekers, onboard amenities will be broad and varied, including a well stocked signature wine cellar, a collection of restaurants featuring a rotation of world-renowned and up-and-coming guest chefs, a two-level theater, an extensive library, an art studio, a nightclub, a cigar and billiards room, plus guest lectures from world-class experts.

Cutting-edge connectivity, conference centers, and a business library will ensure full work capability aboard. Safety and security will be of the utmost importance, with industry leader MarineGuard protecting against air, surface, and subsurface threats. And exemplary service will cater to every whim or day-to-day need.

Ownership is a shared freehold and in perpetuity, in proportion to the square footage owned, and residents will have input on shaping the yacht's itinerary.

So . . . where shall we go first?

For more information, visit myyachtgroup.com.





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Combining Seclusion with Convenience

By Rebekah Moan
Photos Courtesy of Carmel Realty Company

Carmel Realty Company's Cuesta Cove property is the kind of place where guests can exhale the minute they walk through the door. All tension melts away as soon as they see the ocean views. And that goes for not only the interior—the contemporary home blends indoor and outdoor living, all on a single level.

"The unobstructed panoramic ocean views are the defining feature of the home," says Katie McAlister, Carmel Realty Company's director of vacation management. "All of the living space is oriented toward the ocean, creating a constant connection to the coastline."

Guests can gaze out at the ocean while chopping vegetables on the double island in the gourmet kitchen or while lounging in the living room, whose large windows frame dramatic ocean views. And when it's time to retire for the evening, the spacious three-bedroom, three-bath house offers plenty of privacy.

Like the living spaces, the primary ensuite bedroom offers unobstructed ocean views. It also features a gas fireplace and direct access to the backyard deck. The primary bathroom has double sinks and marble countertops, and the second ensuite opens onto a serene courtyard. Both ensuites have a walk-in shower, and all three bathrooms have tile floors with marble finishes.







"Cuesta Cove blends luxury with livability," says McAlister. "There's privacy between bedrooms, making it comfortable and accessible for a wide range of guests." And guests won't be sequestered in the home, either—the outdoor living area sports a hot tub, fire pit, dining area, and landscaped spaces. "Guests get an amazing view of Monastery Beach and Point Lobos as well as the Pacific," she adds.

Other features of the home include gorgeous hardwood floors, automatic window shades, a multipurpose breakfast and game table, and views of lush greenery. "Cuesta Cove would appeal to just about anyone, as the ocean views are so captivating you won't want to leave," she says.

However, for guests who want to venture outside of Carmel Realty Company's stunning property, the surrounding neighborhood of Carmel Meadows creates a quiet, private setting just minutes from town. Its flat streets are perfect for an easy walk to Ribera Beach, one of the neighborhood's hidden gems.

Downtown Carmel's restaurants, galleries, and boutique shops are also just a short drive away, giving guests the best of both worlds: peaceful coastal seclusion and convenient access to everything Carmel has to offer.

For more information, visit carmelrealtycompany.com/vacation-cuesta-cove-2972.htm.


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Beyond the Vines

By Betsy Reynard

As the sun sets on summer, the Napa Valley welcomes a season of promise and excitement, both in the vines and beyond.

At Chapter 5, Chef Morgan Robinson and his wife, Irma, present a weekly dinner series celebrating locally grown, prepared, and shared food. Home to Southside Century by day, the space transforms into a supper club every Wednesday. The ever-changing three-course menus are designed to surprise, delight, and rarely repeat.

In Yountville, Thomas Keller's Burgers & Half Bottles has officially transitioned from pop-up to permanent fixture. With burgers, sandwiches, draft beer served from the Thomas Keller Brew Bus, a 1965 Volkswagen bus, and wines by the glass and half bottle, it's one of the town's newest gathering spots. Save room for dessert, because the It's Ours ice-cream sandwich is made with a Bouchon Bakery cookie.

On the culture side of things, circle the first Saturday of the month for Jarvis Conservatory's It's a *Grand Night for Singing* series. Each program features professional and amateur singers from the worlds of opera, musical theatre, cabaret, and more.

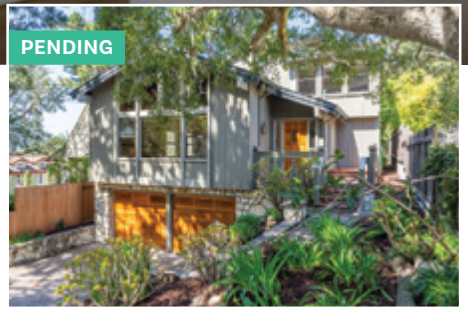
In American Canyon, The Ruins hosts concerts against the backdrop of a 130-year-old cement factory. Spread across 22 acres, the multi-venue site has four stages surrounded by walls of murals painted for the season. Expect festivals, DJ sets, and an assortment of off-the-radar talent most months of the year.

Once the holidays set in, tree lightings and lighted tractors fill the Valley with the joys of the season. St. Helena's annual barrel tree lighting takes place the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, offering local treats and a 100 percent chance of snow and Santa. In Calistoga, the first Saturday in December is the Lighted Tractor Parade, when vintage tractors, trucks, and floats decorated to the nines delight the crowds. This favorite local tradition is a small-town parade with a big-city heart.

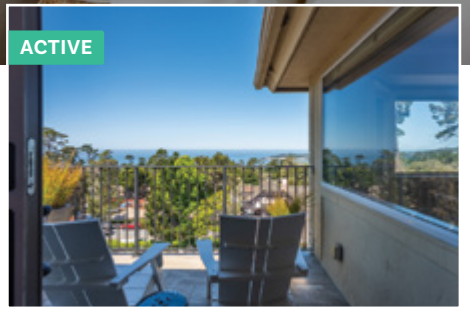
From dining and dancing to singing and parading, there are countless ways to experience Napa Valley this season.

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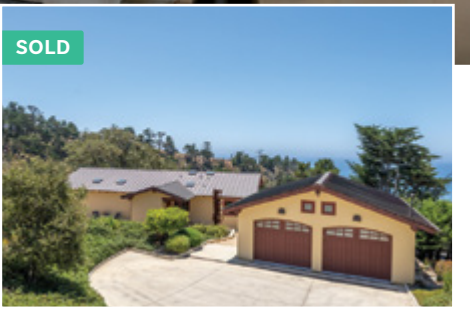
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LUXURY





All the Right Notes

By Jessica Zimmer
Photos Courtesy of Violet Grgich

Grgich Hills Estate is celebrating nearly 50 years of creating balanced, imaginative wines that recall the winery's history, at the same time that it continues to steward Napa Valley's cultural and agricultural future.

Violet Grgich, CEO and president of the estate, is a thoughtful, talented leader—and a trained harpsichordist). The daughter of Miljenko "Mike" Grgich, winemaker and cofounder of the winery, she's worked in every part of it, from the cellar to the tasting room. "The traditions, innovation, and resilience embodied by my father and the many wine industry visionaries who helped shape this region continue to guide our work at Grgich Hills Estate every day," she says.

Violet draws attention to the winery's Legacy Selections, its single vineyard, and its old-vine varietals. In 2026, Grgich Hills Estate added Paradise Block, a cabernet sauvignon; and Paris '76, a chardonnay; to this collection.

The 2021 Paradise Block has aromas of ripe cassis and orange peel, with a silky tannin structure. The 2023 Paris '76 has notes of fresh white peaches and crunchy pears, with a long, energetic finish. The latter is in the style of Mike Grgich's original Judgment of Paris Chardonnay. This is the Chateau Montelena Chardonnay that scored





the highest of all wines in the Paris Tasting of 1976. "Our chardonnay style, consistent throughout my father's career, [emphasizes] harmony, bright acidity, and crisp minerality. [It allows] the unique character of each vineyard to truly shine through," says Violet.

Violet Grgich is a longtime supporter of Napa Valley's classical music scene. She currently serves as a board member for the San Francisco Early Music Society, which fosters appreciation for medieval, Renaissance, and early Baroque music; Music in the Vineyards, the Valley's annual August chamber music festival; and Aeternum Choir, a Bay Area professional vocal ensemble. "I have the privilege of helping audiences experience music in the intimate settings for which it was intended," she says. "It's a responsibility I find deeply meaningful, and one that continues to reinforce my belief in the power of music to bring people together."

She adds that the winery became fully Regenerative Organic Certified in 2023. Now Grgich Hills Estate ferments using only the thousands of strains of yeast that come from its land. "That gives the wines incredible complexity and harmony, naturally," she says. "It also demonstrates one of my favorite musical analogies: that less is more."

For more information, visit grgich.com.


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***Gold Fragment* (2026)**

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Beauty in Balance

By Jessica Zimmer
Photos by Parish Kohanim

Photographer Parish Kohanim makes pictures in which the subjects hold themselves still in portraits of symmetry. He uses both deep and bright colors to create moods. Sometimes a dancer lies in a natural landscape; other times they are dressed in or surrounded by patterns that create optical illusions. “I have no idea how a photograph is going to end up,” says Kohanim. “As you go through that journey, time is of no essence. I let the work evolve as I engage in the process.”

Kohanim lives in Atlanta but has a link to Carmel. When he studied film at San Francisco State University in the 1960s and 1970s, he often traveled here and visited natural areas, especially the coast, taking photos as he went. Some of those photos remind him of growing up in Shiraz, a southern Iranian city surrounded by the Zagros Mountains. “My parents were my best teachers,” he says. “They took me on nature outings, which allowed me to learn from flowers. I still love photographing flowers today.” He adds that being outside in natural light shows him how to duplicate the experience of being outside: “Cloudy days have a sense of blue. Rainy days have a tinge of gray. Orange is for late afternoon.”







Since 1994, Canon has recognized Kohanim as an Explorer of Light, an outstanding professional image creator. He has a long history in commercial photography, having worked for advertising agencies, design firms, Fortune 500 companies, and magazines, including *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*. "I find my own path and do not repeat myself," he says.

For his upcoming book, *Luminosa,* Kohanim photographed Cirque du Soleil performers for over five years. Dancers posed with luminescent white globes resembling a full moon while his shutter captured their movements in milliseconds. The resulting pictures naturally lend themselves to celestial metaphor: a dancer appears to leap off the globe into space on the tip of her toes. A dancer balances in a side split that spans the world, resting her full weight on her forearms.

"I love working with performers, to establish synergy and a connection toward a common goal. Photography allows for infinite possibilities," says Kohanim.

In Carmel, Kohanim's work can be found at Dawson Cole Fine Art, where his paintings are exhibited alongside the gallery's broader selection of modern and contemporary works.

For more information, visit parishkohanim.com and carmel.dawsoncolefineart.com/artists/40-parish-kohanim.

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Photos by Manny Espinoza Photography

Coming Home with the Trophy

By Claudio Aizpuru | Photos by Manny Espinoza

Drought. In racing, it is measured not in months but in races. For Scott McLaughlin, the count had reached 36—two years of near misses, six podiums, and no trips to victory lane. On Sunday, September 6, at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca, that drought came to a decisive end.

The New Zealander put his No. 3 Team Penske Chevrolet on pole, then led 87 of 95 laps in the Mission Foods Grand Prix of Monterey, the final round of the 2026 NTT IndyCar Series season. He crossed the line 1.37 seconds ahead of Kyle Kirkwood, securing the eighth victory of his career and his first since Milwaukee in 2024. "My little girl hasn't seen me win yet, and now she has," says McLaughlin. "Dad's coming home with a trophy, baby."

The afternoon's only caution came before the field completed a single lap, when contact with Sting Ray Robb in Turn 6 sent Dennis Hauger into the tire barrier. His race ended there, though the Norwegian still claimed Rookie of the Year honors. From the Lap 4 restart, the race became a study in precision, as three flawless stops from the Penske crew kept McLaughlin out front through every strategy cycle.

Kirkwood, piloting the No. 27 Andretti Global Honda, shadowed him stop for stop but never found an opening. "We played it super clean, super methodical," says Kirkwood. "Second place is best of the rest." Alexander Rossi completed the podium for ECR, followed by Felix Rosenqvist of Meyer Shank Racing and David Malukas in a second Penske entry.

For Álex Palou, Monterey was a victory lap of a different kind. The Chip Ganassi Racing driver had secured his fifth IndyCar championship a week earlier at Milwaukee and arrived with nothing left to prove, finishing eighth.

Yet in the grandstands, the crowd's heart belonged to Pato O'Ward. The Arrow McLaren driver from Monterrey, Mexico, is IndyCar's most beloved star, and his orange-and-black No. 5 jersey was everywhere—worn by grandparents, parents, and children alike. O'Ward started 10th and finished 11th, hardly the result his faithful had hoped for, but he closed the season fourth in the championship.

As the checkered flag fell on the 2026 season, one father was finally heading home with a trophy, and a Peninsula crowd was reminded why this race remains one of the most cherished weekends on its calendar.

For more information, visit indycar.com.

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Teeing Up the Next Chapter

By Keyla Vasconcellos
Photos Courtesy of Pebble Beach Resorts

The 2025 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am wrapped with a win for Rory McIlroy, and the very next day, renovation crews moved into The Lodge at Pebble Beach for a nine-month overhaul that would eventually touch nearly every corner of the property. The work unfolded behind a golf course that has hosted some of the sport's defining moments, from Jack Nicklaus' 1972 U.S. Open win to Tiger Woods' record-setting performance there in 2000 and the U.S. Women's Open's first appearance there in 2023.

The project touched guest rooms and back-of-house spaces alike, including a full rebuild of the shared kitchen serving Stillwater and The Tap Room. Its most visible mark, though, starts before guests even step inside. Custom pavers now modernize the entrance, framed by olive trees that have stood for 140 years, and just past the doors, the expanded Terrace Lounge opens directly onto Stillwater Cove.

Caroline MacDonald, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Pebble Beach Company, describes a two-phased process built to carry The Lodge into its next chapter. "With more than 100 years of history as an American landmark, the vision was to position The Lodge for future generations," she says.

The renovation's respect for legacy is easiest to see in what wasn't touched: The Tap Room, the resort's clubhouse bar known among golfers as Pebble Beach's 19th hole, kept its green tones and leather booths fully intact. Just beside it, though, a new 24-person private dining room, the Champions Room, now displays USGA championship memorabilia, including the wedge Tom Watson used to chip in on the 17th hole en route to defeating Nicklaus at the 1982 U.S. Open.

Across the hall, Stillwater underwent a fuller transformation. Its own 24-person private dining room, the Lone Cypress Room, holds a ceramic sculpture of a school of fish that was hand-cast in Staffordshire, England, alongside custom Axminster carpeting and wrought-iron chandeliers, and the redesigned main dining room now wraps around a central bar positioned to keep Stillwater Cove in constant view.

Stillwater Bar & Grill is one of more than a dozen restaurants and venues across Pebble Beach Resorts, serving a California coastal menu. A 360-degree bar sits right at the center, wrapping guests in views of Stillwater Cove and Pebble Beach Golf Links' famed 18th hole. Bryan Anthony, vice president of Food & Beverage for Pebble Beach Resorts, says few restaurants along the California coast pair their cuisine with their scenery quite the same way. "The views and menu draw guests in for the first time," he says, "and the warm, personal experience our team delivers throughout is what keeps them coming back."

Chef de Cuisine Alex Ramirez builds the menu around the coastline, sourcing directly from organic farms and sustainable fisheries up and down the Monterey Peninsula. Hamachi crudo, crab cake, and Monterey Bay live-tank abalone number among the kitchen's most requested dishes, alongside less-expected choices like the blue cheese crusted filet mignon and the crème de Brie and mushroom toast, with pan-seared snapper rounding out the seafood side of the menu.

For a first visit, Anthony points to the 40-ounce tomahawk steak for two, served with Parmesan truffle potatoes and the restaurant's own Stillwater Salt Blend, paired with a Double Oak Fashioned finished with cinnamon maple syrup and a flamed orange twist. The Grand Seafood Tower, which can be topped with a five-ounce Maine lobster tail, and a smoked s'mores dessert with house-made graham crackers, are among the standouts.

Just off the main dining room, the Terrace Lounge extends Stillwater's specialty menu into an open-air setting from late morning through early evening. Guests step out for the ocean air with a glass from the restaurant's extensive wine cellar, which has been recognized with a Best of Award of Excellence from *Wine Spectator,* alongside craft cocktails and Pebble Beach's own exclusive barrel bourbons and tequilas. No reservation is required to take in either space, and each visit closes with a vintage postcard of The Lodge as a small keepsake.

Overall capacity across the renovated spaces grew by 25 percent, and the redesigned back-of-house kitchen now gives the culinary team what MacDonald calls a state-of-the-art space to work from, the product of a partnership between general contractor Hathaway Dinwiddie and design firm HBA. Sustainability efforts centered on that same century-old infrastructure, creating a more energy-efficient property overall.

For resort guests, Anthony says a meal at Stillwater has become close to essential for having the full Lodge experience. Local diners build entire days around it. What he hopes guests carry with them afterward has less to do with any single dish than with how the staff makes them feel. "We want them to yearn," he says, "for the feeling that our team provides."

For MacDonald, the renovation honors the history guests have shaped since The Lodge first opened in 1919. "The overarching theme for this project was continuing The Lodge's legacy, while tastefully modernizing it for the future," she says.

For more information, visit pebblebeach.com/dining.



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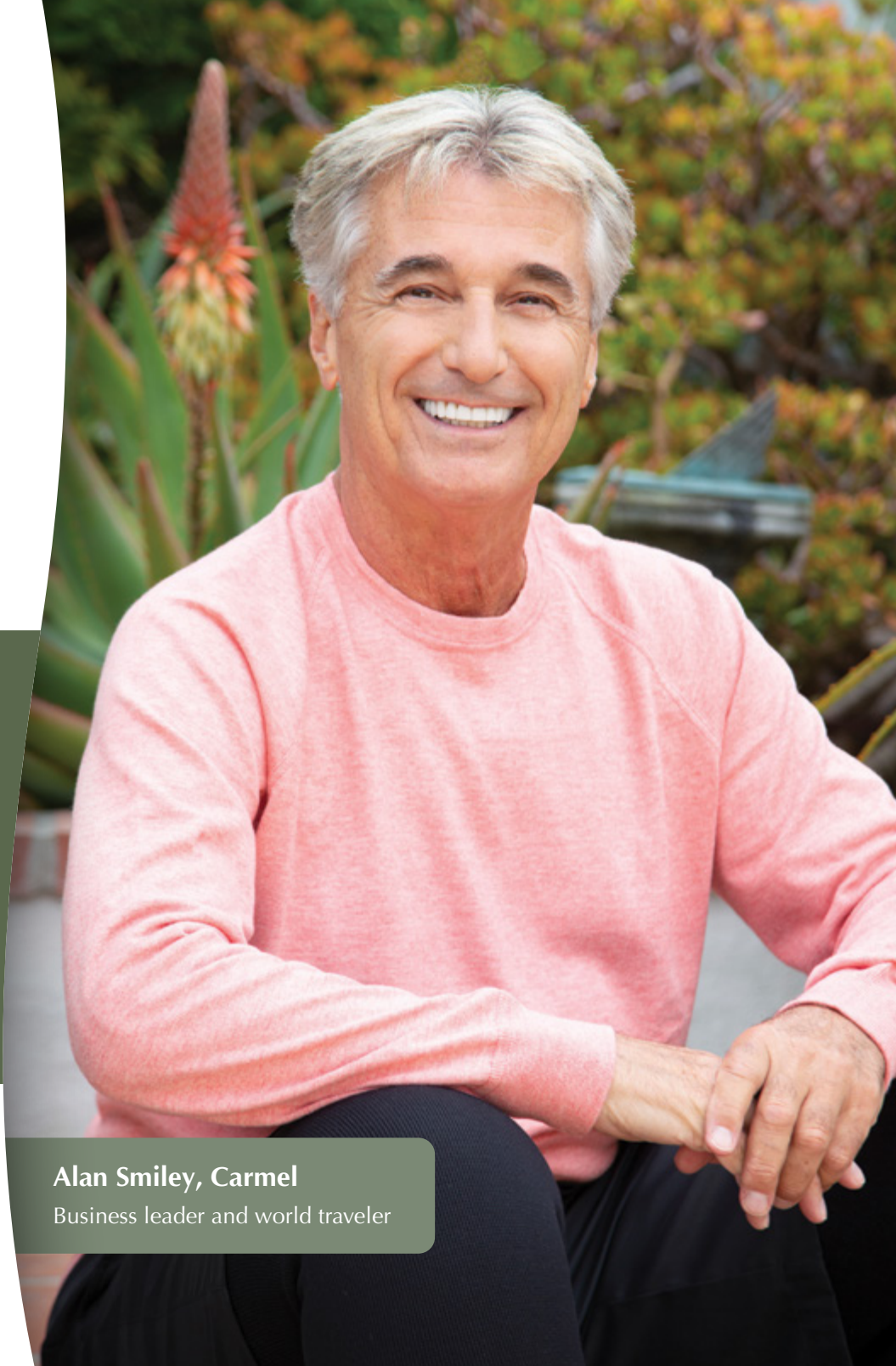
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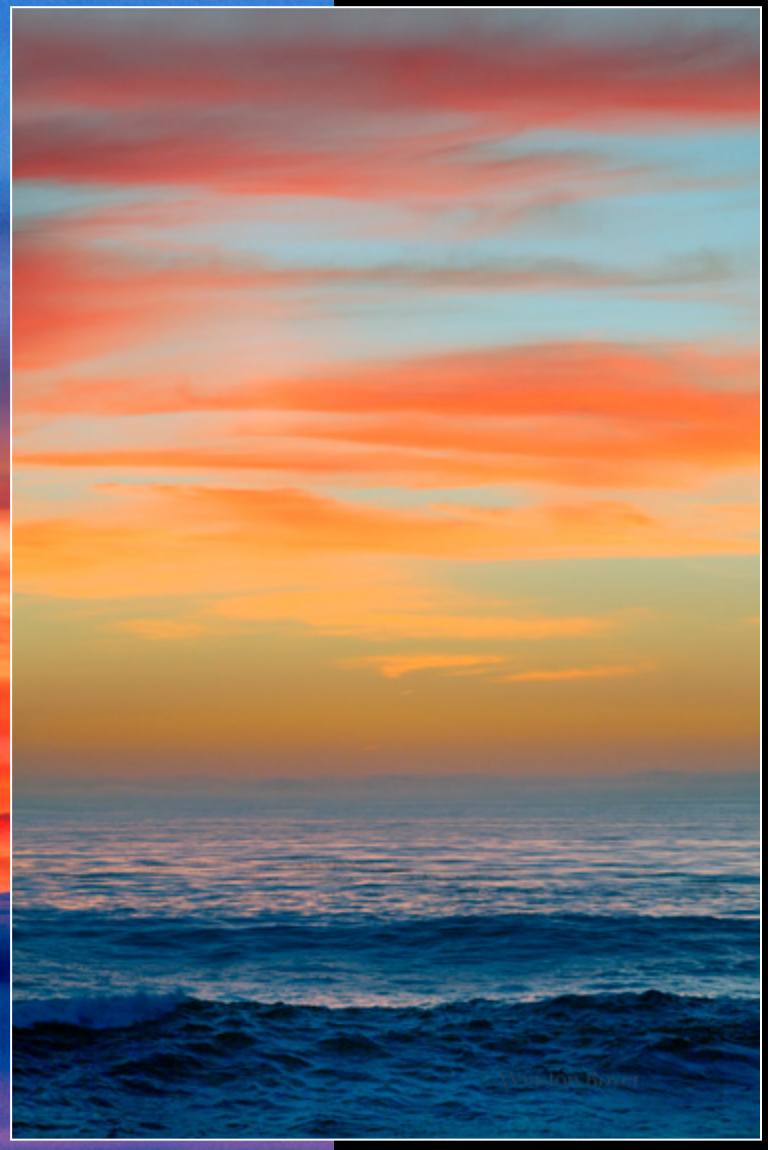
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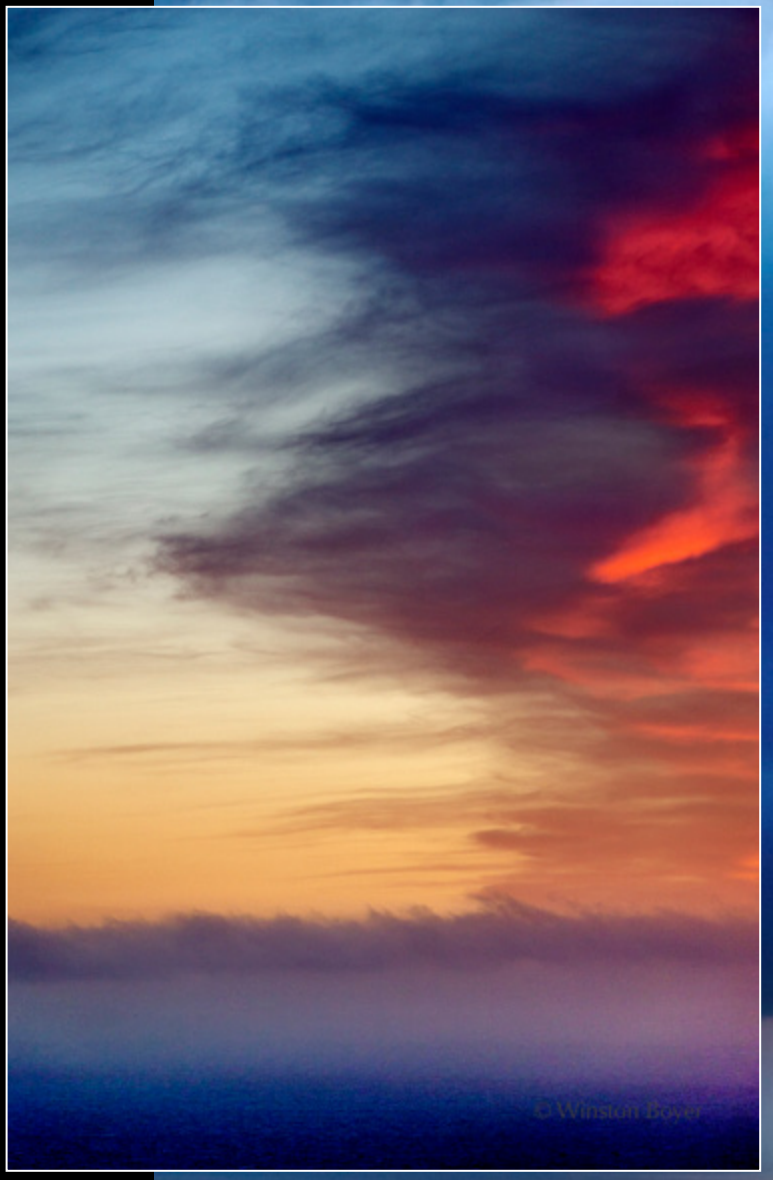
Winston Swift Boyer

Photos Courtesy of Winston Swift Boyer

For more than four decades, California photographer Winston Swift Boyer has transformed landscapes, oceans, architecture and everyday surroundings into evocative works of fine art. Based in Carmel, Boyer has built a career defined by a distinctive eye for color, light, line and perspective—and by a fascination with seeing familiar places in unexpected ways.

Born June 25, 1954, in Great Falls, Montana, Boyer studied cinematography and art history at Monterey Peninsula College, San Francisco State College and the University of California at Santa Cruz. His early career took him to Europe, where he worked as a sports photographer, documenting bicycle racing and the Tour de France for European and American publications. Along the way, he photographed European landscapes, architecture and people, experiences that would influence his evolving artistic vision.

Boyer turned increasingly toward fine-art photography, holding his first solo exhibition at Carmel's Lakey Gallery in 1979. Since then, his work has been exhibited throughout California, across the United States and internationally. Photography West in Carmel recognized him among the early West Coast photographers it exhibited beginning in 1980.





Among Boyer's most notable bodies of work are the Ocean Series, American Roads and The Views, in which he explores landscape, distance, color and perspective. His photographs often approach the medium with a painter's sensibility, using saturated color, dramatic compositions and unexpected perspectives to create images that exist somewhere between documentation and abstraction.

His work is represented in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Brooklyn Museum, Corcoran Gallery of Art and Monterey Museum of Art, as well as other prominent institutions. The recognition reflects the lasting appeal of Boyer's distinctive approach to photography and his ability to transform familiar landscapes and subjects into compelling works of art.

With his enduring connection to Carmel and the Monterey Peninsula, Boyer continues to explore the visual poetry of place. His work invites viewers to pause, look again and discover something extraordinary within the familiar.

For more information visit: winstonboyer.com


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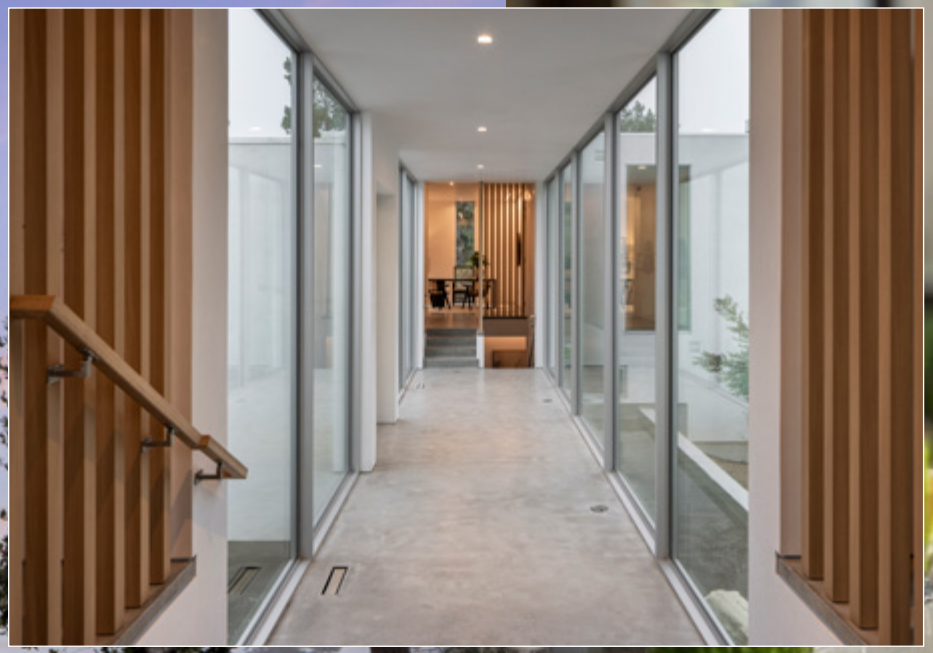


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Designing with Nature in Mind

By Rebekah Moan
Photos Courtesy of Emily Yang Bauer

For designer Emily Yang Bauer, nature is the greatest teacher. “Living on the Monterey Peninsula reminds me that architecture should never compete with nature—it should belong to it,” she says. “The extraordinary landscape here keeps me humble and inspires every project I undertake.”

Over the past several years, Yang Bauer has designed three homes that are now available to rent or buy via Carmel Realty Company: Waterbridge House, Spyglass Garden House, and Ikeniwa—dubbed the Pond Series for a feature common to all three. Each reflects her signature approach: modern, minimalist, and functional, with every element pared down to what truly serves the way people live. Water organizes each design, so the pond becomes part of the guest experience, reflecting the changing light, weather, and seasons while linking the architecture to the rugged landscape beyond.

But Yang Bauer doesn’t just think about a home’s first occupants—she has future generations in mind as well. She designs each property as a compound (even one that measures just 2,400 square feet) with multiple distinct destinations, like a rooftop garden, a tea house, or a separate guest house. This arrangement allows family





members and guests to gather together while still enjoying quiet moments alone.

"Rather than one oversized structure, I prefer a family of buildings arranged around gardens and outdoor space," she says. "This creates what Chinese culture calls *ren qi*—the vitality created by people. Separate buildings offer privacy while encouraging connection. Together, they form a small village rather than a house."

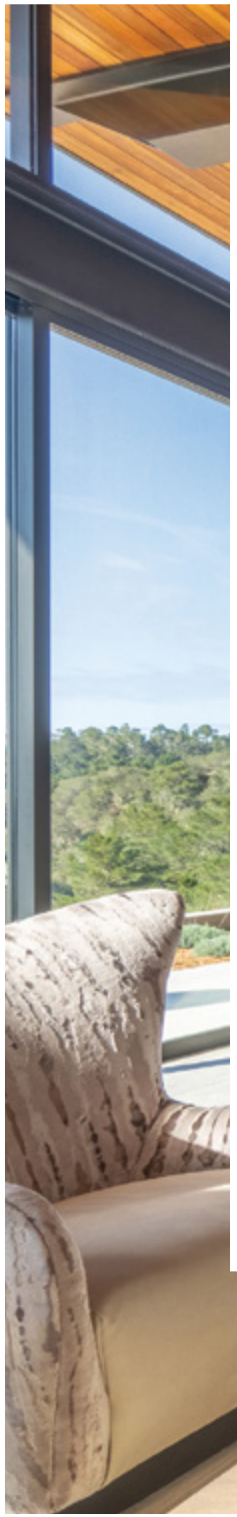
Yang Bauer aims to create flow between structures and within each home. For every site, she studies how sunlight moves through the day and seasons, analyzing how shadows will fall on each building and window using AutoCAD software—and even some hands-on modeling with Lego bricks. Light shapes our living experience, so she positions primary living spaces and gardens toward the south or southwest, where they can capture the warm afternoon and evening sun when people naturally gather.

She sums up her design style as simple, functional, and quietly artistic: "It's built to hold up against, and in conversation with, one of the most dramatic coastlines in the world." And she hopes her designs endure. "Good design creates lasting value—not because of size or materials, but because it enriches people's lives long after it's built. I believe this style represents an exciting future for the Monterey Peninsula. My goal is to keep designing homes that offer a fresh perspective while honoring the untamed beauty of this place."

For more information, visit emilyyangbauer.com.


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Special Kids Connect

The Sound of Belonging

By Keyla Vasconcellos
Photos Courtesy of Special Kids Connect

Special Kids Connect started in 2007, when a group of Monterey County parents grew tired of struggling to find out what services applied to their children with developmental disabilities. What began as a peer network has grown into a full continuum of support, reaching from families with a prenatal diagnosis to adults searching for vocational training, supported living, or residential options. In between, the organization guides families through their child's eligibility for special education and connects them with case management and parent support.

"Through our coaching, they learn how to become effective advocates for their children," says Executive Director Lori Luzader, who has led Special Kids Connect since 2015. Families find their way in through school, medical, or word-of-mouth referrals. Family support specialists, many of them parents of children with disabilities themselves, guide them through the system from there.

The REACH program gives children who have disabilities the chance to build confidence, friendships, and skills alongside their neurotypical peers, in activities from basketball to badminton to art. State funding covers only case management, so REACH depends on donor support and community grants to stay running.









Luzader traces her commitment to this work back to a simple belief: "We all have a right to belong, to know that we matter." She remembers a parent waving her over during a REACH Art session this spring and telling her to listen. What she heard was thirty children talking over each other, half of them with developmental disabilities, half without, arguing over who the best superhero was and whose Instagram had the most followers. Each one held a paintbrush, too caught up in conversation to notice they were simply treating one another like friends.

That kind of moment depends on families reaching a program like this at all, which is Special Kids Connect's most persistent challenge. The same hurdle looks different across Monterey, Salinas, and south Monterey County. A King City parent may drive 130 miles round trip for one therapy appointment, a Peninsula family squeezes visits around work and Highway 68 traffic, and language barriers and tight waitlists strain non-English-speaking and military families further.

Despite those obstacles, Special Kids Connect has grown from a small peer network into full-spectrum support across Monterey County. Some REACH volunteers go on to study special education or build careers in therapy, carrying the mission further. For Luzader, that mission still comes down to something simple: a world where no child eats lunch alone.

For more information, visit specialkidsconnect.org.



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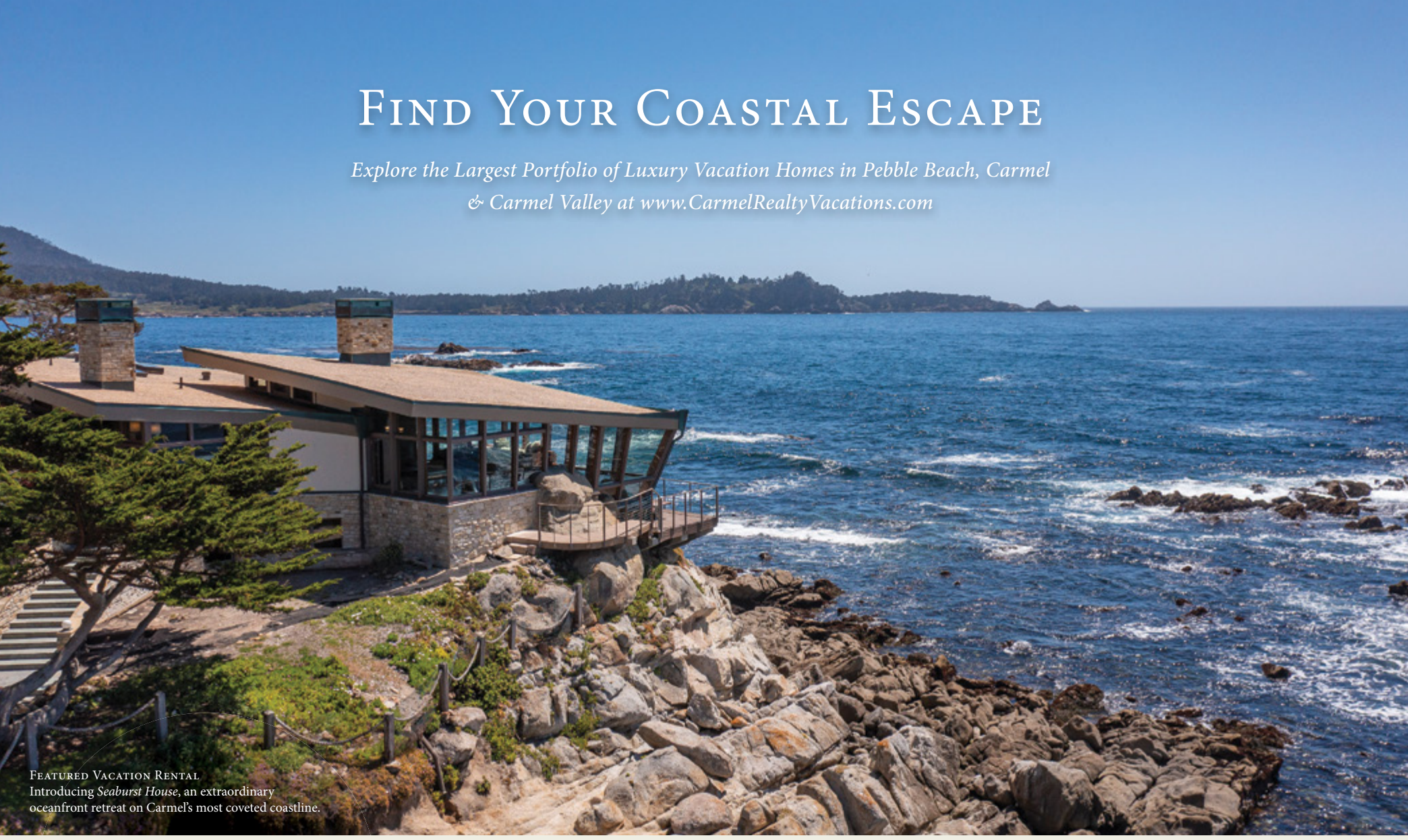
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TOM MICHAELS





Shot in 16-Millimeter

By Keyla Vasconcellos

Photos Courtesy of Tom Michaels

Before Tom Michaels ever picked up a camera, he was a boy in front of the television, watching Clint Eastwood move through *Dirty Harry*. "I was in this hypnotic trance," says Michaels. His father noticed the reaction, and told him, "As you get older, you'll get to know more about iconic movies." That moment set the course for a career as a filmmaker, actor, and screenwriter who would go on to found Orzel Films.

Michaels studied business management before redirecting his focus to acting, unable to shake the pull film had on him. The business background stayed with him. He now owns a production company, and credits those early studies with preparing him to run it.

His training took him through the Meisner technique at the William Alderson Acting Studio and Antaeus Theatre Company in Glendale, where he heard actor after actor describe the difficulty of landing auditions in a competitive city. Rather than keep competing for parts alone, Michaels decided to learn the craft from behind the camera too. He began producing his own work, learned screenwriting, and eventually studied filmmaking at the University of Southern California, creating, as he puts it, his own destiny.

That instinct shows up on set. Michaels' visual style draws from Alfred Hitchcock, Stanley Kubrick, and John Carpenter, but the look he's built from those influences begins, always, with the script. From there it's a foregone conclusion that he'll shoot on film, paired with specific lenses and lighting that give a scene its grain and warmth. For Michaels, that choice comes down to how film holds color and light compared to digital video. "Film is just different," he says. "It feels different."

Two short films, *Older Self* and *Come the Nightfall*, carried that philosophy into festival circulation. *Older Self,* an homage to *The Twilight Zone*, won Best Sci-Fi Film, though Michaels felt it hadn't fully realized what he'd set out to make. That left him wanting one more short before he took on feature films, a decision that set the ball rolling for *Come the Nightfall*. Shot on 16-millimeter film as a tribute to vintage slasher cinema, it has since won more than 170 festival awards, and Michaels is now developing a feature adaptation.

Michaels doesn't point to a single work that shaped his storytelling. He describes it instead as a body of work: the oeuvres of Hitchcock, Kubrick, Carpenter, and Eastwood, rewatched since childhood until their visual instincts became his own. What started as admiration turned, over time, into a style built by taking a little from each and shaping it into something new.

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By Rebekah Moan

Photos Courtesy of Peace of Mind Dog Rescue

Peace of Mind Dog Rescue (POMDR) operates at the intersection of animal welfare and human compassion, creating second chances for dogs while supporting the humans who love them. The Monterey County–based nonprofit takes a holistic view of senior dogs and senior people, acting as a resource and advocate for both on California's Central Coast. Executive Director and Co-founder Carie Broecker says, "We model compassion, empathy, and the value of seniors, whether humans or animals. We really want to celebrate, cherish, and honor aging because we're all going to age if we're lucky enough to."

Broecker founded POMDR with Monica Rua in 2009. The seeds for the nonprofit were planted years prior when Broecker fostered a dog, Savannah, who was later adopted by a woman named Alice. When Alice developed emphysema, she reached out to Broecker for help. Broecker took care of Savannah while Alice was at her medical appointments and brought her to visit Alice in hospice. "She was so worried about what would happen to her dog," says Broecker. "She was afraid Savannah would be euthanized." While walking to her car, the idea for POMDR—name and all—hit her like a bolt of lightning.







Broecker, who was on the board of directors of the Animal Friends Rescue Project, was already well aware of the shelter and foster system. She knew how stressful shelters can be for animals and humans alike—senior dogs need special medical attention, and their human caretakers are already juggling a lot. “It was a win-win-win all the way around,” she says, “because the senior dogs would have more time to find loving homes, they wouldn’t be taking up shelter space for younger dogs, and it would release pressure on humans.”

Sheltering is important, but POMDR also keeps senior dogs and their people together as long as possible. That meant implementing a dog-walking program for seniors who are unable to do it themselves, temporary foster care, and even veterinary services to support medical needs.

POMDR has grown so much and is so successful that the nonprofit is considering moving to a new building, which would allow it to sell its current offices, vet clinic, and animal-care facilities and house everything under one roof.

“We’ve created a culture and a community on the Central Coast where even young people are interested in adopting senior dogs and volunteering with us,” says Broecker. “I feel like our vision has seeped out into the greater community.”

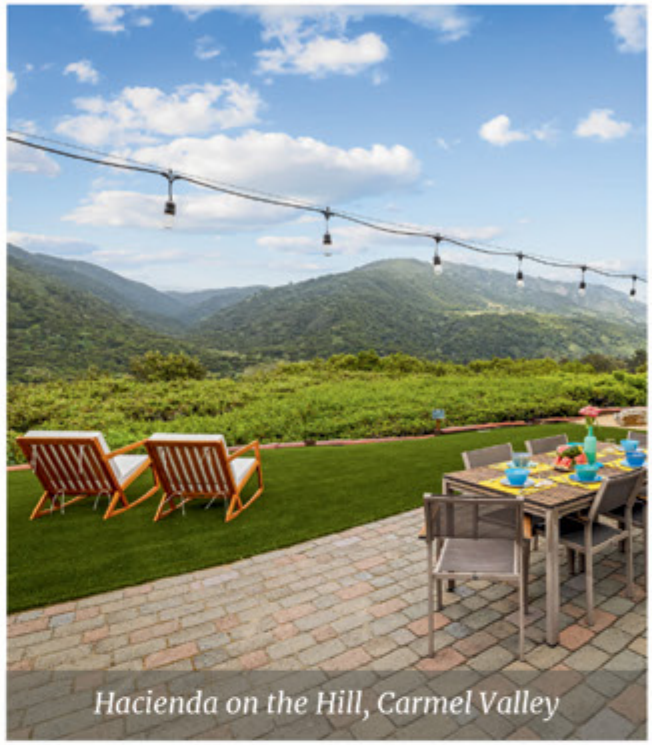
For more information, visit pomdr.org.



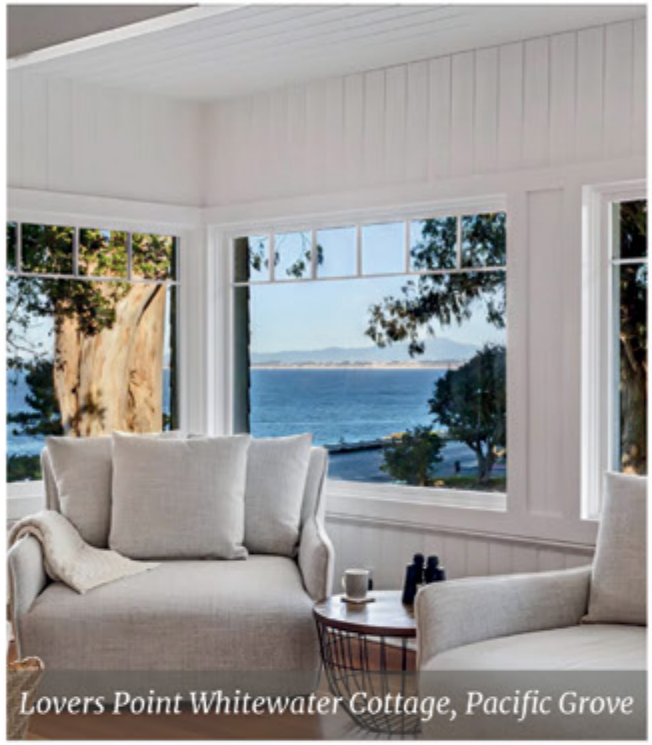
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his head, and his heart is an artist."

~ Saint Francis of Assisi

A Reputation Built to Last

Celebrating 25 Years of Travis Construction Company

By Rebekah Moan | Photos by Manny Espinoza

For 25 years, Travis Construction Company has built a reputation throughout the Monterey Peninsula for quality, creativity and craftsmanship. Founder and general contractor Travis Loper has grown the company from modest beginnings into a builder of substantial custom residences, including second and third homes for clients whose lives span the globe. His work has taken him into some of the Peninsula's most distinguished communities and has earned exposure beyond the region, including Sunset Magazine and a national GMC commercial.

That success is rooted in a deep, hands-on understanding of his craft. "I learned from the ground up," Loper says. He married his high school sweetheart at 18 and started a family young, giving him an early sense of responsibility and drive. Before construction became his career, he worked various jobs, at one point balancing four at once. While working the graveyard shift at The Inn at Spanish Bay, he would sleep only a few hours before reporting to his construction job during the day. Eventually, he chose construction full time, learning from several companies and helping build multimillion-dollar homes in Pebble Beach before earning his general contractor license and founding Travis Construction at 26.





An early boss advised him to start small and work his way up. Loper followed that advice, beginning with additions and remodels and building his reputation project by project. Twenty-five years later, the scale of the work has changed considerably. Travis Construction now creates sophisticated custom homes distinguished by thoughtful execution, craftsmanship and close collaboration with homeowners and design teams.

Loper also continues to stay current with evolving trends in design and construction, frequently attending conferences and trade shows to learn about new innovations and technologies. His work has earned national exposure and has included homes used during Pebble Beach Concours week by brands including Aston Martin, BMW and Range Rover.

Loper has built second and third residences for clients from around the world, including Saudi Arabia, while remaining personally invested in the details of each project. That same commitment has shaped relationships lasting decades. Some subcontractors have worked alongside Loper since the company's early years. "I treat my employees like friends and family," he says. His clients receive the same loyalty. "I really try to give it my all for my clients. I have their best interest at heart."

That reputation is reflected in Loper's work with real estate agent and developer Tim Allen, for whom he served as general contractor on three luxury home developments on Poppy Hills Golf Course. "Travis has deep knowledge of his field, takes a personal interest in the project, and is a problem solver," Allen says. "He works well with his subcontractors and his crew, and with me, as the owner-developer. The quality of the workmanship is outstanding."

For Loper, 25 years represents more than longevity. It reflects a body of work, enduring relationships and a standard that has remained constant as the projects have grown in scale and distinction: quality, creativity and craftsmanship.



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DAWN'S DREAM
WINE TASTING ROOM


Dream a Little Dream of Me

Helping Dreams Come True for Nonprofits

By Rebekah Moan | Photos by Manny Espinoza

Dawn's Dream Winery was founded on the belief that a winery can do more than produce exceptional vintages—it can create meaningful change. After raising her three daughters, Dawn Galante launched the direct-to-consumer operation in 2011 while continuing to work alongside her husband, Jack, at Galante Family Winery. In Dawn's Dream, she sought to create a company where every bottle tells a story and serves a greater purpose.

"Rather than leaving the family business to pursue a career centered on helping others, Dawn's Dream was born," she explains. "It gave me the opportunity to build on what we were already doing as a family while creating something that reflected my passion for philanthropy and community." Dawn says her desire to give back began at an early age, inspired by her mother, who was always helping others. Those early lessons in compassion and generosity became the foundation of Dawn's Dream Winery.

Dawn's Dream partners with one nonprofit each year, introducing guests to its mission and creating meaningful opportunities to get involved. This year, they've partnered with Set Free Monterey Bay,





which is dedicated to preventing human trafficking, supporting survivors, and educating the community. Each nonprofit receives support throughout the year through wine donations for fundraising, five dollars from every bottle of the winery's Dare to Dream wine sold, and use of the tasting room for special events. More importantly, Dawn's Dream raises awareness for thousands of guests and inspires community involvement.

The Galante family story is woven throughout the winery. Dawn named her three pinots noirs after her daughters, and her granddaughters are featured on other labels. "I wanted my daughters, and now my granddaughters, to know they're part of this legacy," she says. "Every bottle tells a story, and they'll always be part of the story Dawn's Dream is telling." Considering how important a wine's label is to that storytelling, Dawn carefully considers their design elements. "I have a lot of fun creating the meaning behind each label," she says. "Each label has a story my team can share with our guests."

But she's quick to point out that she's not the face of the winery—the mission is. "It's my team and our mission that drive this business. It's not about me. I often stand back and smile at what it has become."

For more information, visit dawnsdreamwinery.com.


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Creating Unique Landscapes in Unexpected Spaces

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We recently completed two distinctive projects, each shaped by its setting. The first transformed a single sidewalk tree well in front of our small downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea office. Working within a very limited footprint, we combined large pots, a fountain, two metal trellises, and an existing building flower bed to create a charming garden vignette — with several birdhouses adding a layer of character to turn a modest urban space into a scenic little retreat.

Our second project reimagined the entrance to Valley Therapy Boutique Spa in Mid-Valley. The existing concrete apron ran extremely hot, so we introduced sun sails for shade and boulder-sized rocks with copper planting beds to form a series of garden "islands." Potted plants and flowers, several larger trees, two above-ground ponds with lighting, statues, a birdbath, and an outdoor rock-shaped stereo playing soft music brought the space to life — turning the spa entrance into a more peaceful arrival for customers coming and going.

Both projects prove that beautiful landscapes can flourish in spaces of almost any size. With careful planning, creative materials, and an eye for detail, even the most unexpected settings can become inviting places.

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Piazza Motor Nights Sets the Stage for Monterey Car Week



Under the evening sky in Sand City, exceptional automobiles, Mediterranean-inspired hospitality, art, and live entertainment came together to create an elegant new opening-night experience for Monterey Car Week.

Held August 10 at the Courtyard by Marriott, the inaugural Piazza Motor Nights offered a relaxed and sophisticated setting designed around more than the cars themselves. It was an evening that encouraged guests to explore, connect, and settle into the spirit of Car Week.

The event was created and executive produced by Will Elkadi—publisher of the Monterey Car Week Guide and widely known as "Mr. Car Week"—through Nuraveo, his experiential production company specializing in immersive events shaped by design, hospitality, entertainment, and storytelling.

The evening began with an intimate VIP reception before expanding into the piazza and adjoining East Wing. There, a thoughtfully curated collection traced nearly a century of automotive design, from a 1931 Cadillac V16 Imperial Limousine and 1936 Cord Phaeton to a 1959 Lancia Appia Zagato and 1984 Ferrari 308 GTS Quattrovalvole.

Contemporary models from Ferrari, Aston Martin, Lamborghini, McLaren, and Porsche added a modern counterpoint to the historic display. The collection extended to two wheels with a 1985 Cagiva Alazzurra, 1997 Ducati 916, 2001 Ducati 748R, and 1976 Vespa Sprint Veloce.

One of the evening's most memorable arrivals came courtesy of Frank Heyl, Director of Design at Bugatti Rimac, who appeared in his personal one-off Bugatti Veyron 16.4 "Le Directeur."

The official opening welcomed Sand City Mayor Mary Ann Carbone, Monterey County Sheriff Tina Nieto, Seaside Mayor Ian Oglesby, and celebrated automotive and television personalities Wayne Carini and Donald Osborne.

As the afternoon softened into golden hour, Piazza Motor Nights revealed its full atmosphere. Guests moved between live automotive art, premium cocktail bars, European makers and lifestyle brands, and a culinary program designed to complement the Mediterranean-inspired setting.

The wine program showcased the character of California's Central Coast through selections from Folktale Winery & Vineyard, Bernardus Winery, LadySomm, Dawn's Dream Winery, Galante Vineyards, Blade & Talon Wines, Puma Road Winery, and Pessagno Winery.

An original soundtrack produced exclusively for Piazza Motor Nights set the tempo as ballroom dancers moved through the courtyard. At twilight, a mermaid appeared poolside, and after sunset, fire performers transformed the space once again—bringing the evening to a dramatic close.

"The idea was to create a place where Car Week could begin socially," Elkadi said. "A beautiful setting where people could discover exceptional cars, but also slow down, connect, and enjoy the beginning of the week together."

With its distinctive blend of automotive culture, hospitality, and performance, Piazza Motor Nights introduced a new way to begin Monterey Car Week. The event now looks ahead to 2027, with the vision of becoming an annual opening-night tradition.



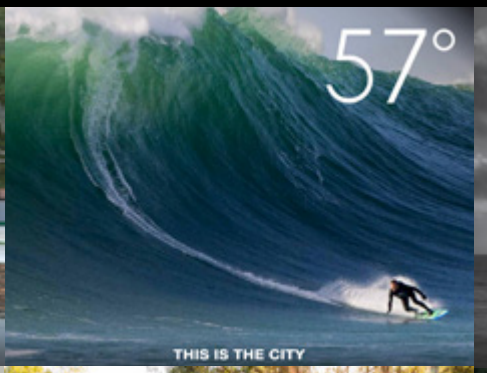


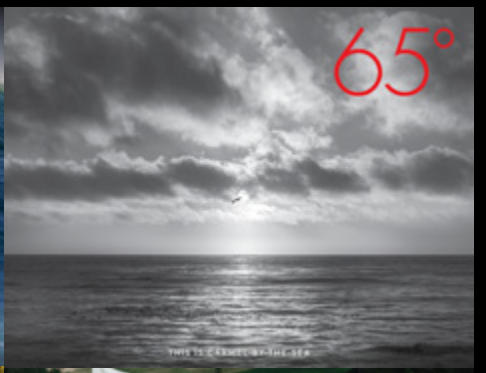



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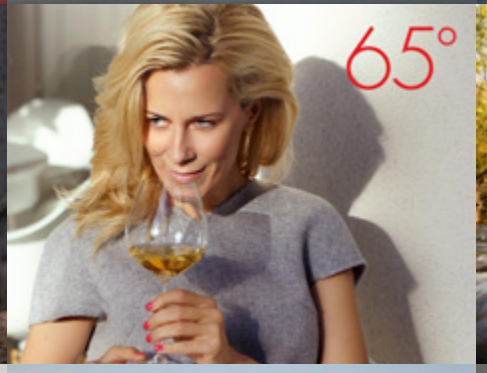

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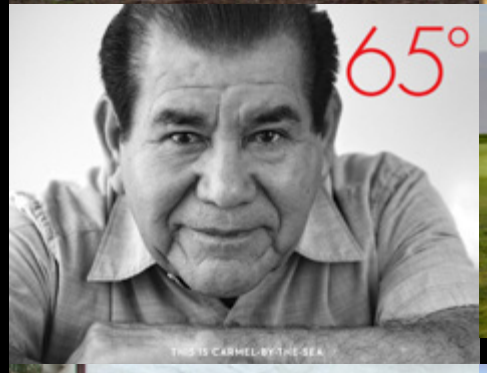

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