

The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 98 No. 40

On the Internet: www.carmelpinecone.com

October 5-11, 2012

YOUR SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS, ARTS AND OPINION SINCE 1915

PETS ARE KEY TO REALTOR'S JETSETTING LIFESTYLE

By KELLY NIX

CRAIG ANAPOL'S friends tease him that he runs an escort business. And in a way, he does.

Anapol owns PetsJets, a business that transports pets via commercial airplane when their owners — for whatever reason — can't.

"Pets and flying are my passions," Anapol, a broker with Alain Pinel Realtors in Carmel, told The Pine Cone. "So I combined the two and created PetsJets."

Anapol, who worked in sales and marketing for Delta Airlines for more than two decades, wanted to offer a personalized service where pet owners — who also have the option of sending their pets as cargo — had peace of mind their animals were in good hands.

"There continue to be many incidents where pets are lost, injured, traumatized or killed when sent via cargo," explained Anapol.

He launched PetsJets four years ago in memory of his late black Labrador retriever, Jackson.

'From Joplin to Jakarta'

The way it works is simple. With his small, 19-by-11-by-11-inch pet carrier in tow, Anapol picks up a client's pet — usually a dog or cat — and takes it to the airport. When he goes through security, he requests that it be done in a private room so the animal doesn't run away.

After boarding the plane, he places the animal carrier under the seat in front of him — the space also used for passengers' bags. He's never had a problem with any of the animals he's escorted and said they rarely make a peep during flight.

"I respect that the people with pets are sensitive to making sure their pets travel as safely and comfortably as possible," he said. "They are family."

Anapol's clients have myriad reasons for hiring him. One instance — which happened to be his longest trip for PetsJets — involved picking up a toy poodle from a breeder in Missouri to its buyer in Indonesia.

"I went from Joplin to Jakarta, Indonesia," he

See **PETS** page 27A



PHOTO/COURTESY CRAIG ANAPOL

Craig Anapol likes dogs and cats so much that he's made a business of escorting them all over the world. Here he's with "Skooby" on the way to JFK Airport.

Supes approve panel to oversee desal project

By KELLY NIX

THE MONTEREY County Board of Supervisors last week approved a plan to give the public more oversight of a \$370 million desalination plant proposed by California American Water.

At a special meeting Sept. 28, supervisors approved the formation a "governance" committee for the desal project composed of one representative from the Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority, a representative from the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and another member appointed by the county.

The creation of the committee was recommended by the

regional water authority, which comprises the mayors of Carmel, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Seaside, Del Rey Oaks and Sand City. Carmel Mayor Jason Burnett, who spearheaded the plan, addressed it at Tuesday's Carmel City Council meeting. It has also been approved by the board of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

"I think it is quite remarkable, given the fighting this community has seen over water," Burnett said, "that we reached a decision on governance and financing that was unanimously supported by the six mayors, the seven members of the water management district and the five county supervisors."

The governance structure will allow certain decisions about the desal project to be made in partnership with Cal Am, and other decisions to be made by Cal Am after hearing the advice of representatives from the public agencies.

The water district and the county have called for any desal project for the Monterey Peninsula to be publicly owned,

See **PANEL** page 19A

PGPD: homeless woman raped at church

By MARY SCHLEY

A 23-YEAR-OLD transient woman who had been sleeping on the back porch of a Pacific Grove church for the past few weeks was sexually assaulted around 4 a.m. Oct. 3, according to PGPD Cmdr. John Nyunt, who said police have information about a transient who may have committed the crime, though nobody has been arrested.

"We got a call about 9:30 a.m. that there was some type of assault that occurred, and the victim was at Community Hospital," he told The Pine Cone. "About an hour went by, and I was informed by the patrol officer that the victim had been sexually assaulted."

The victim also told officer Meghan Bliss that the attack had occurred at St. Mary's church on 12th Street, and Nyunt went down to investigate, summoning a forensic technician from the Monterey County Sheriff's Office to collect evidence, which they found.

Concerned it could compromise his investigation and the ability to track down and arrest the woman's alleged attacker, Nyunt would reveal few details of the incident, other than to say she appeared to be the victim of sexual assault

See **HOMELESS** page 17A

Huge crane raises the roof at Mission Basilica

By MARY SCHLEY

BLACH CONSTRUCTION — the contractor handling the \$5 million seismic retrofit of the Carmel Mission Basilica — raised a giant crane beside the building this week to install protective framing over the exposed roof.

Last month, workers began removing and stacking the clay barrel tiles on the roof of the 220-year-old building, which is one of the most historically significant structures in the state. With the roof and tops of the thick walls exposed, they will strengthen the Basilica's roof trusses and knee braces, as well as bore holes down



PHOTO/MARY SCHLEY

A crane lowers framing over the exposed roof of the Mission to protect it from the weather during reconstruction.



Police say union picketer assaulted La Playa guest

■ Union says incident never happened

By MARY SCHLEY

A HOTEL guest called police to report being hassled by a union protestor outside La Playa Friday evening, and officers identified a Monterey resident as the suspect, but a union official claimed the man lied about the altercation.

Thomas Lloyd-Butler told The Pine Cone he arrived from San Francisco around 6 p.m. Sept. 28 to meet his sister and their elderly parents. Outside the hotel, they encountered about 70 union protestors — who remain incensed La Playa's new operators have not rehired all of the staff fired by the previous owners when the property closed almost a year ago.

"It was really in your face and over the top," Lloyd-Butler said, explaining that the crowd stood in the way of his sister and elderly parents, who have mobility problems, as they tried to enter the hotel. "It was extremely disorienting for my mother, who has dementia."

Lloyd-Butler also said protestors tried to prevent him from getting out of his car, and, when he did, from removing his luggage.

See **ASSAULT** page 19A

Committee wants more happenings in Devendorf, weekly event at Sunset

By MARY SCHLEY

THE CITY council unanimously voted Tuesday night to recommend that the Carmel Community Activities & Cultural Commission facilitate more outdoor events in town and find a manager to run a weekly market at Sunset Center.

The recommendations came from the committee run by councilwoman Victoria Beach that aroused opposition from downtown merchants this summer because it was discussing a farmers market that would close some of the town's main streets, but the suggestions offered this week included no street closures. Instead, they focused on streamlining the process for proposed events in Devendorf Park and holding a weekly culinary-oriented gathering in the north parking lot at Sunset Center. In both cases, the events would be on Thursdays.

She described the suggestions for her fellow council

See **EVENTS** page 26A