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Man with rifle scares docents at Point Sur

■ Drone search leads to arrest

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHEN VOLUNTEER tour guides arrived at Point Sur Light Station Sunday morning, they were shocked to discover a man with a rifle.



After a man with a gun was reported at Point Sur Light Station in Big Sur Sunday morning, Tony Snowden (right) of Hollister was arrested after being tracked down and captured with the help of a drone.

“A suspect with a rifle had broken into the historical buildings at the Point Sur Lighthouse sometime Saturday night,” Monterey County Sheriff’s Office deputy Jesse Villasenor reported. “When the lighthouse docents arrived Sunday morning to run the tours for the day, they discovered the man in one of the buildings.”

The volunteers called 911 and then locked themselves inside another building. By the time sheriff’s deputies responded to the scene, along with California State Park rangers, the suspect — later identified as Tony Snowden of Hollister — had run off.

A sheriff’s deputy launched a drone, and Snowden was discovered hiding nearby.

“The rangers were directed to Snowden’s location and he was subsequently arrested,” Villasenor explained.

Snowden had stashed his rifle, but it was later found. The arrest was captured by the drone, and a video of it was posted on social media.

Snowden, 49, was booked into Monterey County Jail on felony charges of burglary, being a felon in possession of a firearm, and bringing drugs — methamphetamines — into a jail, and misdemeanor charges of vandalism, unauthorized entry to closed property and possession of a weapon in a park.

The incident is under investigation by California State Parks, which oversees the historic light station. It once guided mariners around Point Sur and is now a popular tourist destination.

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Sheriff: Sanctuary law brings big decrease in county ICE detainers

By KELLY NIX

THE NUMBER of illegal immigrants handed over to ICE by the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office declined drastically this year over 2017 because of a “sanctuary state” law that limits local law enforcement from cooperating with federal government authorities, the county board of supervisors learned this week.

In 2017, the sheriff’s office allowed U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to take 217 inmates into custody after they were released from Monterey County Jail, where they had been held for committing a variety of crimes, Sheriff Steve Bernal told members of the board of supervisors Tuesday night.

But due to Senate Bill 54, also known as the Family Values Act, which went into effect in January, far fewer illegal immigrant inmates were taken into custody this year by ICE agents after being released from the jail.

“As of today, in 2018, there have been 36 inmates who have been turned over to ICE,” Bernal explained.

Bernal said the ones turned over had committed very serious offenses, including “assault with a deadly weapon, child molestation, domestic violence and a long list of other charges.”

See **ICE** page 15A

Meeting with Mozingo delayed until new year

By MARY SCHLEY

THE CONVERSATION city council members and the mayor planned to have this week with city attorney Glen Mozingo regarding his contract, legal costs and job performance has been put off until next month, according to city administrator Chip Rerig. Last week, the council held lengthy closed-door discussions about Mozingo and announced at the Dec. 4 meeting that they would be having a meeting with him this week.

But that didn’t pan out, Rerig said.

“We were not able to coordinate all council-member schedules due to the holiday season,” he said, so Mayor Dave Potter — who made Mozingo’s service and contract an issue in his successful November campaign — and Mayor Pro Tempore Bobby Richards, whose clashes with Mozingo have been no secret, settled on a Jan. 7 date.

Richards said taking a bit more time was necessary in order to ensure the evaluation is measured and thorough, and that the council’s feedback is focused.

“Among a variety of things, we will discuss goal setting, professional standards, advanced education and daily expectations,” he said. “When giving direction to our city administrator and city attorney, our message must be well thought out. By pushing the city-attorney review to the first part of January, each individual member of council will have time to compile questions and solutions regarding the various issues that need to be addressed.”

With the holidays putting demands on people’s schedules, and city hall set to be closed for the rest of the year after Dec. 21, Richards said, it made more sense to wait until after everything is up and running again in 2019.

See **MOZINGO** page 17A

P.B. AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPENING NEXT MONTH

By KELLY NIX

NEW TOWNHOMES in Del Monte Forest that will offer Pebble Beach Company workers a rare opportunity to live in affordable housing on the Monterey Peninsula will open for occupancy in January, the president of the company said this week.

President David Stivers said about 75 company employees have applied to be tenants in the Morse Place Townhomes, a 24-unit complex at the intersection of Congress Road and SFB Morse Drive that backs up to the Del Monte Park neighborhood of Pacific Grove.

“We could not be more proud to welcome employees and their families to their new homes in Pebble Beach,” Stivers

See **HOUSING** page 25A

Bomber pilot, philanthropist and entrepreneur, Howard Brunn dies at 95

By MARY SCHLEY

A DECORATED World War II veteran who later advocated for various causes, a successful businessman whose legacy continues, and a man who devoted much of his energy to preservation and stewardship, Howard Brunn died Monday at the age of 95.

So beloved in town was he that the mayor and city administrator named July 24, 2015 — three days after his 92nd birthday — Howard Brunn Day. Signed by then-Mayor Jason Burnett and then-city administrator Doug Schmitz, the proclamation noted Brunn spent “almost all” of his life “as an activist leader in local business, government, and non-profit organizations in and around Carmel-by-the-Sea.”

He did leave for a spell, though. Still at Carmel High School when the war broke out, Brunn joined the Army Air Corps in 1941 and flew a bomber on 70 missions in the European and Mediterranean theaters, earning the

Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 11 oak leaf clusters, and the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars, while his unit won two Presidential citations.

Back home in Carmel after the war, he “married the love of his life, Courtney, in 1960, and raised Vance, Karen, Mark, David and Robin,” the proclamation continued.

Noteworthy shops

He started the men’s shop that carried his name in the early 1960s, and he and Courtney were among the first tenants at Carmel Plaza that same decade, with their Mark Fenwick women’s clothing store. They opened other shops, too, most notably the Carmel Bay Company, which they established at Monte Verde and Ocean in 1972. Brunn also enjoyed a long and fruitful friendship and business relationship with Robert and Audrey Talbott, designing ties for them and serving on the

See **BRUNN** page 15A

Eastwood’s latest, ‘The Mule,’ looks like another winner



PHOTO/CLAIRE FOLGER, COURTESY WARNER BROS.

FORMER MAYOR Clint Eastwood’s latest film, “The Mule,” which tells the story of an elderly man who becomes a drug smuggler for a Mexican cartel, opens Friday at Del Monte Center and at Lighthouse Cinemas in Pacific Grove. Eastwood, shown above with Alan Heckner as a Texas State Trooper, stars in the film, along with Bradley Cooper and Lawrence Fishburn. The screenplay is by Nick Schenk, who also wrote the script for Eastwood’s highly acclaimed 2009 film, “Gran Torino.” In USA Today, critic Todd McCarthy said “The Mule” shows that the 88-year-old Eastwood “has still got it, both as a director and actor,” and on IndieWire, David Ehrlich called the film “soulful and deeply satisfying.”