



**New version
of an
oft-told tale**



**Always looking for
a chance to raid
the dinner table**



**Cowboys ride
into Sunset
— INSIDE THIS WEEK**

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Former racehorse and friends need homes

By KELLY NIX

ONE IS a racehorse that wasn't fast enough for his owner. Others are just forgotten pets. But all of the seven horses the SPCA for Monterey County has up for adoption are in need of caring homes.

"We have been getting so many horses recently," said SPCA spokeswoman Beth Brookhouser, "we just don't have room for them all, which is why we are looking for homes for them."

The horses available for adoption were either given to the SPCA or seized from their owners. Most of them had been neglected.

One of the horses available to adopt is Ben, a 7-year-old registered thoroughbred who was surrendered to the SPCA by his Prunedale owners.

"He had injuries on his hind legs the vet described as rope burns," she said. "He's getting medical treatment for his wounds and is doing well."

As is often done with registered thoroughbreds, Ben had the inside of his lip tattooed with an identification number, Brookhouser said. SPCA officials used the number to find out the gelding's history by looking through records at a jockey club.

At some point, "he won \$535 at the track," Brookhouser said. "That's all he won. I don't think he was very fast, which, sadly, is why he fell on harder times."



PHOTO/COURTESY SPCA

Ben (left), a racehorse that didn't perform, needs a new home where his friend Snuffy (right) can also live. The two have become pals at the SPCA.

Ben's race name was Super Temp, which SPCA officials can only speculate was short for "super temperament." "He is a very sweet horse," Brookhouser said.

See **HORSES** page 27A

Public hearing set on apple moth spraying

■ New round to begin June 1

By KELLY NIX

A MEETING has been set in Monterey next week to allow the public to weigh in on an environmental review of the state's campaign to get rid of the invasive light brown apple moth.

The meeting, to be held at Monterey Peninsula College Feb. 20, will allow Peninsula residents to address concerns about the California Department of Food and Agriculture's LBAM eradication program that began last year.

"It really is up to the public to tell us what it thinks" about the eradication efforts, CDFA spokesman Steve Lyle said Thursday.

Although the CDFA contends the moth-confusing pheromone used to prevent the moth from reproducing is harmless to people, hundreds of people complained of a variety of ailments following spraying in September and November 2007.

The CDFA's announcement of the meeting, one of four held in the state in February, comes one day after it released its 2008 action plan to "eradicate" the moth, which it says could cause up to \$640 million in annual crop damage.

The environmental impact report will evaluate the effects of eradication strategies and methods for the moth in areas of the state where infestations have been identified.

Environmental issues raised during the public meeting will be incorporated into a public scoping report which will identify issues to be examined in the EIR.

Public meeting are also set for Santa Cruz, San Francisco and Oakland.

Because the state designated the LBAM problem an emergency, the CDFA was able to begin its eradication program before completing the EIR, which is

Road maintenance fee may be added to permits

By MARY BROWNFIELD

CARMEL'S STREETS are in pretty good shape, the city council learned last week, and it will cost \$660,000 annually to ensure they stay that way. Since it spends a little more than half that amount on maintenance and repairs each year, the city is considering imposing a fee on construction permits to raise more money for the work.

See **ROADS** page 10A

District: School projects exempt from county codes

By MARY BROWNFIELD

COMPLAINTS FROM a neighbor about the lit sign at Carmel High School — and a query whether Monterey County has jurisdiction over the electronic billboard — prompted the Carmel Unified School District Board of Education Monday night to pass a sheaf of resolutions stating the sign and other projects on four campuses are not subject to county planning and

See **PROJECTS** page 11A

See **LBAM** page 12A

Bob Nash, prolific and unconventional Big Sur artist, dies at 89

By CHRIS COUNTS

SHELLSHOCKED BY his experiences in World War II and disillusioned by the quickening pace of the modern world, artist Bob Nash was simply looking for a quiet place in the sun when he moved to Big Sur in the early 1950s.

Over five decades — and with 26,000 line drawings in his portfolio — it became obvious he succeeded in his aim.

When Nash died this week at 89, the Big Sur community lost perhaps its greatest living link to the illustrious Bohemian past made famous by his old friend, writer Henry Miller.

"Bob died as he lived, in his simple shack with his beloved cat, Teddy, curled up beside him," observed Linda Rowland-Jones, a long-time friend and neighbor.

According to Rowland-Jones, Nash was an inspiration to several generations of Big Sur artists.

"Bob's life was a work of art," she observed.

From the deck of steamer passing along the Central California Coast, a 19-year-old Nash caught his first glimpse of Big Sur in 1937. During the war he saw some deeply disturbing things he never wanted to talk about. In the 1950s he became a resident of Big Sur's Partington Ridge, where he befriended an eclectic group of nonconformists which

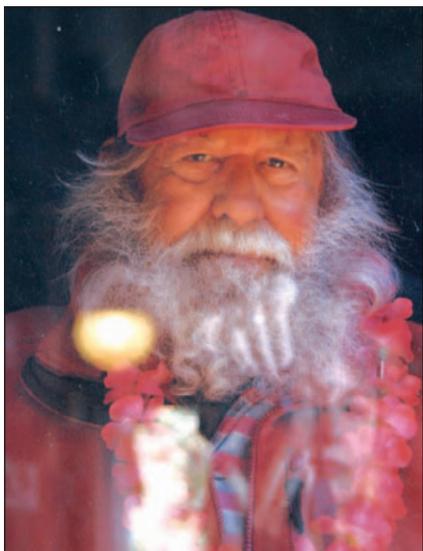
— in addition to Miller — included respected ethnologist Maud Oakes, retired diplomat Nicholas Roosevelt, archeologist Giles Healey, sculptor Harrydick Ross and author Lillian Bos Ross.

Inspired by his neighbors and his surroundings, Nash produced an astonishing number of tiny abstract line drawings. Prior to moving to Big Sur, Nash dabbled in a variety of mediums before photographer Edward Weston suggested he focus on the drawings.

When he first encountered Nash's work, Miller was mystified. "What was this man trying to say?," Miller asks in "Journey to an



Nash, second from left, with Henry Miller (far right) and friends in the 1950s.



PHOTOS/COLLECTION OF BOB NASH

The artist Bob Nash in 2001.

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