



THE MONTEREY HERALD PRESENTS  
READERS' CHOICE WINNERS FOR

2019



MARCH 2020  
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## FIRST PLACE

Best All American Classic Menu  
Best Artichoke Items  
Best Calamari  
Best Clam Chowder  
Best Fried Food  
Best Locals Menu  
Best Seafood  
Best Restaurant known for giving back  
Best Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf

## SECOND PLACE

Best Date Night Dining  
Best Fine Dining  
Best Local / Family Owned Restaurant  
Best Restaurant Wine Selection  
Best Romantic Restaurant  
Best Service

## HONORABLE MENTION

Best Server (Joe)  
Best Family Friendly Dining  
Best Historic Restaurant  
Best Restaurant to watch the sunset  
Most Amazing Restaurant Views  
Best Steakhouse  
Best Comfort Food

## THIRD PLACE

Best Dessert Selection  
Best Farm-To-Table / Local & Fresh  
Best Local's Secret  
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and protection, a haven*

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**Special thanks to our staff, guests, owners and the community for their support.**

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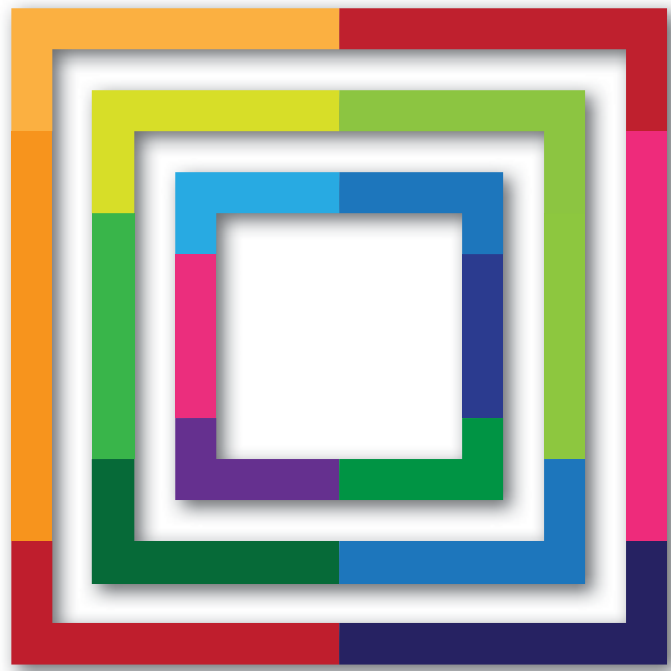


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# Readers choice



## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO VOTED FOR YOUR FAVORITES FOR 2019!

It's time again to celebrate the bounty of amazing businesses, people and nonprofit organizations in Monterey County recognized in The Monterey Herald's 2019 Readers' Choice Awards. You'll see some frequent winners from long time, well known establishments like our Best Steak winner (again!) The Whaling Station, most Romantic Restaurant - The Sardine Factory, Rosine's for Best Desserts and of course, Old Fisherman's Grotto who is recognized in numerous categories. If you haven't been to Cafe Fina on Fisherman's for Italian food yet, you are missing out on some of the most tasty and authentic dishes around. You'll also see some newer or undiscovered businesses who provide products and services that you haven't realized you even need yet! How about some amazing vegetarian meal options fresh from PG's Happy Girl Kitchen? Or a brand new skin care regimen from Complexions in Salinas? Take time to check out some of the historic venues including Monterey's own Golden State Theatre which was chosen as the best music and comedy venue. They have a roster of entertainment throughout the year that will surely have someone you will want to go and see and with very affordable ticket prices too! There are also some first time winners this year including the King's Den which was chosen in a new category this year of "Best Dive Bar." The Monterey Herald's 2019 Readers' Choice winners represent the best of the best Monterey County has to offer in numerous categories. We encourage you to take some time to go through this publication and make a list of places you've never been - or maybe have never even heard of - and then check them out yourself and see what you think. Thinking of going shopping for clothes, shoes, or a new (or used) car? Looking for a new doctor, dentist, travel agent, attorney, CPA, Realtor, financial planner or other business or personal professional? Why not give one of our winners a chance to impress you as they obviously have other readers. Be sure and let them know "I saw you in the Herald!"

Please support these outstanding local businesses and individuals who work so hard to provide top quality products and services and rely on the patronage of our residents all year round.

Our 2020 Readers' Choice Awards balloting will begin this year in mid November - and run through early January 2021 so be sure and make your voice heard when that time comes and nominate and vote for all of your favorites! If you are a business owner, we always encourage businesses to Rock their own Votes using in-store promotion, social media, eblasts or word of mouth.

Thank you to those of you who took the time to vote, to our fantastic advertising partners, and to the sales staff at the Monterey Herald who worked so incredibly hard to put this rather large section together. We are lucky to have Alyson, Danielle, Lorraine, Mike, Rachel, Sheila, Sunil, and Rick on our team and appreciate their efforts in getting the publication done each year.

We all truly hope you enjoy this special section and have an opportunity to stop by and congratulate our winners while you are out and about this year. ■

Cheers,

*Dana Arvig*  
Advertising Director



▲ Readers' Choice honorees David Marzetti from ShagBag Radio Show, Kevin Phillips from The Whaling Station, Beach House at Lovers Point, Abalonetti, and Big Fish Grill and Dana Arvig from the Monterey Herald discuss the annual Readers' Choice section on a recent Saturday morning Shagbag Radio Show!



▲ Brayden Ruiz of Pacific Grove prepares to feast on a Hawaiian Delight Pizza from Gianni's Pizza - readers' choice winner for best pizza!



Dana Arvig at the January 2020 IMPOWER luncheon. IMPOWER is a local nonprofit recognized as being the best Company/Organization for Giving Back to The Community.

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# CHICANO ALL STARS

CHOSEN AS HERALD READERS FAVORITE LOCAL BAND OF 2019

Out of Monterey County comes The Legendary Chicano All Stars Band. Well known as an extremely talented, dynamic and energetic all pro-musician band, this is the first time they have been voted Monterey Herald's Readers' Choice winner for Best Local Band. Band members are grateful to all of their loyal, dedicated fans and friends who voted for them. The band's professional musicianship and stage presence appeals to a wide variety of audiences and guarantees to keep you on the dance floor. Band founder, Sam Martinez,

is a well-known musician with solid and highly polished vocals as well as an experienced drummer and guitarist. In addition to starting the band, he has also been the band manager for the last twenty years. All of the band members have years of expertise in the music business as entertainers and musicians. The band has built a solid reputation as one of Monterey's local legends, a favorite dance band and recognized as the top Latin Rock band in this area for their energized Latin Rock sound, Rhythm & Blues, Old School, and danceable Reggae. The band



Photo provided by the Chicano All Stars

performs regularly at the most upscale local clubs including Sly McFly's on Cannery Row in Monterey, The Granada Theater in Morgan Hill, The Golden State Theatre in Monterey, The District Club in Gilroy, as well as many local Food and Wine Festivals and events. The band is available for hire to play for weddings, private functions and corporate events. Chicano All Stars has had the pleasure of performing and sharing the stage with such names as Lydia Pense & Cold

Blood, Eddie Money, Maria Muldaur, Sista Monica, Brenton Wood, Ron Ellison, Ramon Ayala, Sonora Dynamita, Los Tucanes, and Tigres Del Norte, The Delfonics, The Intruders, The Turtles, Jay & The Americans with Denny Lane, Tierra, Malo, El Chicano, Tower of Power, WAR, Richard Bean & SAPO, as well as Jorge Santana. For information or to book an event with the band, email: [Chicanoallstars@gmail.com](mailto:Chicanoallstars@gmail.com) or contact Band Manager Sam Martinez at (831) 235-9589. Follow the band on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Chicanoallstarsband](https://www.facebook.com/Chicanoallstarsband). ■

## CHICANO ALL STARS

### Sam Martinez

*Lead Vocals, Guitar and Percussion*

### Anthony "Nino" Lane

*Lead Guitar, Vocals*

### Albert Cervantes

*Bass Guitar*

### Raul Torres

*Drums*

### Hugo Barragan

*Congas, Percussion, Vocals*

### Juan Carlos Mejia

*Keyboard*

### Nathan McGriff

*Saxophone*

### Curtis Rodriguez

*Saxophone*

## JON STUEFLOTEN

### RESTORATION PAINTING

Readers' Choice Winner Jon Stuefloten is certified by Fine Paints of Europe. Local restoration painting specialist and winner of the Best Painter category in the Herald's 2019 Readers' Choice Awards, Jon Stuefloten, has been certified by Fine Paints of Europe. Fine Paints of Europe's Certified Painting Contractor Program is intended to provide homeowners with a source of carefully trained contractors familiar with their coatings and experienced in their application — contractors whose quality of work that can be recommended with confidence.

In order for Stuefloten to become a certified painter, he was nominated by a local Fine Paints retailer and confirmed to Fine Paints of Europe to be a professional of good character who has worked with their paints for at least five years. He attended a weekend training session in Woodstock, Vermont where he was formally introduced to each of the paint families and the best application techniques. Jon Stuefloten's Restoration Painting certification requires they continue to provide Fine Paints of Europe clients with first quality work at a fair price. To learn more about the high quality service and materials you can expect from this fine local business on your next painting project, visit [www.jonstueflotenrestorationpainting.com](http://www.jonstueflotenrestorationpainting.com). ■

## SUSAN YEDLICKA

READERS' CHOICE WINNER ALSO  
RECOGNIZED BY INDUSTRY



Morgan Stanley recently announced that Susan Yedlicka, 2018 and 2019 winner of the Monterey Herald's Readers' Choice award for best Financial Advisor, has been named to the Firm's Pacesetter's Club. The Pacesetter's Club is a global recognition program for Financial Advisors who have demonstrated the highest professional standards and first-class client service.

Yedlicka, a Financial Advisor and Portfolio Manager in its Wealth Management office in Monterey, has been with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management since 1997, and is a native of the Monterey Bay area. She holds the Series 7 and 66 FINRA registrations, a California Insurance License, and a National Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS) number. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Pacesetter's Club members must meet a number of criteria including performance, conduct and compliance standards, revenue, length of experience and assets under supervision. Club membership is no guarantee of future performance. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management is a global leader in providing access to a wide range of products and services to individuals, businesses and institutions, including brokerage and investment advisory services, financial and wealth planning, banking services, annuities and insurance, retirement and trust services. With offices in more than 41 countries, the Firm's employees serve clients worldwide including corporations, governments, institutions and individuals. For more information about Morgan Stanley, visit [www.morganstanley.com](http://www.morganstanley.com). ■





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# GOLDEN STATE THEATRE

## RECOGNIZED IN SEVERAL CATEGORIES

Monterey's historic Golden State Theatre has been voted the First Place Winner in the category of Best Music/Comedy Venue as well as Third Place in the category of Best Live Performance Venue and Honorable Mention for Best Live Music Bar/Club. The roots of this beautiful venue date back nearly 100 years. In 1926, a 15,000 square-foot Moorish castle rose at 417 Alvarado Street, much to the amazement of locals and visitors. A new cinema and live performance venue to rival those in California's largest cities, the Golden State Theatre, built by the Reid Brothers, was the definition of an opulent movie palace. After decades of deterioration, it was faithfully restored to its former glory, featuring an Old-World grand lobby and mezzanine, one thousand plush velvet seats, state-of-the-art sound, and the indefinable magic of a truly historic setting. World renowned performers including Jerry Seinfeld, The Beach Boys, Dana Carvey, B.B.



King, Dave Mason, Willie Nelson, Yes, Patti Smith, Bob Weir and The Smothers Brothers — just some of the entertainment legends that have graced the stage – have contributed to the Theatre's new legacy since its renovation and exciting revival. If you have never attended a world-class concert, comedy show or film festival at the Golden State Theatre, you are missing out on a wonderful experience.

The Golden State Theatre is operated by husband and wife entrepreneurs, Eric and Lori Lochtefeld, along with a team of industry professionals from across the country. Upcoming shows include Tower of Power (March 6), Black Violin (March 8), Michael W. Smith (March 22), Taj Mahal Quartet (March 26) and Kathleen Madigan (April 16). For more information, visit [www.goldenstatetheatre.com](http://www.goldenstatetheatre.com) or call (831) 649-1070. ■



Photos provided by California History Room, Monterey Public Library

## MADONNA GARDENS ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

### HERALD READERS' CHOICE 2019 BEST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Madonna Gardens Assisted Living & Memory Care in Salinas helps people find their happy place. The community optimizes residents' health through customized care, engagement, building relationships, family connection and fun activities.

Madonna Gardens residents enjoy a lifestyle that puts many of life's simple pleasures within easy reach. A relaxing cup of tea in the garden, a movie or card game with friends, delicious meals prepared by professional chefs and more can be enjoyed at the community. The staff aims to anticipate and accommodate the needs of each resident, freeing them to pursue the simple pleasures that define the Madonna Gardens experience.

At Madonna Gardens, residents have the freedom to live the life they want with the peace of mind that comes with knowing helping hands are never far away. An inspired blend of modern convenience and care makes Madonna Gardens a place where the entire community can easily interact, enjoy each

other's company and be energized by the beauty and vitality of life.

Their passion is creating an environment where personal well-being is at the center of everything they do. Madonna Gardens' Memory Care community is designed to help residents with Alzheimer's, dementia and other forms of memory loss overcome many of the unique challenges they face in everyday life. The staff is trained in therapeutic methods and programs to help memory care residents reconnect with favorite memories, pastimes and routines. Find out why Madonna Gardens was chosen "Best Retirement Community" by Herald Readers by scheduling a tour today. Contact Laura Ruggieri, Community Relations Director, at 831-758-0931 to schedule your tour or to receive more information.

Madonna Gardens Assisted Living & Memory Care is located at 1335 Byron Drive in Salinas, CA. Visit [www.carefieldliving.com](http://www.carefieldliving.com) or the Facebook page for additional information. ■





*thank you!*

*Monterey County Herald* readers for voting us "Best Bed & Breakfast"  
in the 2019 Readers' Choice Awards. We are grateful  
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# SLY'S REFUELING STATION

OFFERS FOOD AND FUN ON CANNERY ROW

BY MONICA CORTEZ

Walking along the world famous Cannery Row in Monterey, one encounters gift shops, restaurants, and of course, McAbee Beach. However, there is a not-so-hidden gem in Cannery Row that you'll want to be sure you don't miss.

Sly's Refueling Station, formerly Sly McFly's, is a restaurant and bar that first opened its doors in 1977. Recently, they were awarded first place for Best Live Music Bar/Club, third place for Best Dining with Live Music, and Honorable Mention for Best Late Night Stop in Monterey County in the Monterey Herald's Readers' Choice awards for 2019.

This does not come as a surprise, as they have made significant improvements in their entire dining

experience, from transforming the interior to making important changes to their menu.

Jim Crossman, a partner in the restaurant, said "Whenever possible, we are farm to table and use seafood from the bay." In other words, their food is always served fresh to appeal to the consumers' taste



buds. Crossman also says, "We are currently in-process of expanding our seafood footprint by working with the Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust." This is with the intention of becoming a more sustainable restaurant. Sly's offers fresh seafood, craft burgers, premium steaks and salads. In addition to great food, they offer live music and dancing every night, featuring some of the best talent on the Central Coast. Bands, including local favorites The Money Band and The Fabulous Sand Dabs, liven up the mood as people sip their drinks or toast to any type of celebration. So if you're looking to eat cioppino at lunch, a New York steak for dinner, or simply want to grab a Sunset Martini and enjoy the night, Sly's Refueling Station is the place to go. It

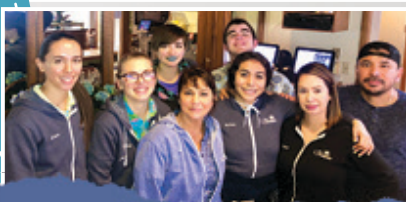
is an experience like no other on Cannery Row. Visit [www.slymcflys.com](http://www.slymcflys.com) for photos, event schedules, menus, happy hour specials and more. ■



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019

# WINNERS



## FOOD & WINE

### BEST ALL AMERICAN CLASSIC MENU

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor

### BEST ARTICHOKE ITEMS

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Giant Artichoke Restaurant  
Third - Artichoke Festival  
Honorable Mention - Rio Grill  
Honorable Mention - The Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor

### BEST ASIAN FOODS

First - The Noodle Palace  
Second - Crystal Fish  
Third - Chef Lee's Mandarin House  
Honorable Mention - Tommy's Wok

### BEST BAKERY

First - Paris Bakery  
Second - Layers  
Third - Alta Bakery and Cafe  
Honorable Mention - Pavel's Backerei  
Honorable Mention - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Red's Donuts

### BEST BAR/RESTAURANT TO CURE A HANGOVER

First - Crown & Anchor  
Second - Baja Cantina  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - King's Den (KD)

### BEST BARBEQUE

First - Salinas City BBQ  
Second - Tarpy's Roadhouse  
Third - Smalleys Roundup

### BEST BARTENDER

First - Rose at Golden Tee @ Monterey Airport  
Second - Tyler at the Kings Den  
Third - Omar at Fireplace Lounge @ Hyatt Regency  
Honorable Mention - Michael Macedo at the Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Angelo at The Sardine Factory

### BEST BREAKFAST

First - First Awakenings  
Second - Breakfast Club  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - The Butter House

### BEST BREW HOUSE /TAP ROOM

First - Alvarado Street Brewery  
Second - Dust Bowl Brewing  
Third - Peter B's BrewPub  
Honorable Mention - The Tap Room  
Honorable Mention - Dubbers

### BEST BRUNCH

First - First Awakenings  
Second - Rosine's Restaurant  
Third - Crema  
Honorable Mention - Red House Cafe

### BEST BUFFET

First - Crazy Horse Restaurant @ Red Lion Inn  
Second - Mission Ranch Restaurant  
Third - Ambrosia India Bistro

### BEST BURGERS

First - In-N-Out Burger  
Second - Crown & Anchor  
Third - r.g. Burgers  
Honorable Mention - Dubbers  
Honorable Mention - Rosine's Restaurant

### BEST BURRITOS

First - El Charrito Market  
Second - Michael's Taqueria  
Third - Joses Mexican Restaurant

### BEST CALAMARI

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Sandbar & Grill  
Honorable Mention - Abalonetti Bar & Grill  
Honorable Mention - Rosine's Restaurant

### BEST CATERER /CATERING SERVICE

First - Aqua Terra Culinary  
Second - Italian Cowboys BBQ Catering  
Third - Tarpy's Roadhouse  
Honorable Mention - Jeffrey's Grill & Catering

### BEST CHEESE SELECTION

First - The Cheese Shop  
Second - Star Market  
Third - Bruno's Market  
Honorable Mention - Nielsen Brothers Market

### BEST CHINESE FOOD

First - Chef Lee's Mandarin House  
Second - Tommy's Wok  
Third - Great Wall

CONTINUE TO PAGE 20





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# Local pub consistently recognized for outstanding service and fare

## Crown & Anchor wins numerous awards again this year

BY LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

At a glance, passersby might imagine Franklin Street's Crown & Anchor is a tiny British pub where people duck in for a pint of ale. They're not wrong — although 2,400 sq. ft. is not small — but that likely wouldn't be enough to win them three First place-, two Second place-, five Third place- and nine Honorable Mentions in the 2019 Monterey Herald Readers' Choice Awards.

Other folks might say the prize-winning pub is a local favorite because it keeps its food menu open until midnight,

its bar open until 1am, and shuts the doors by 2. Or that it offers comfort food in vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and conventional options.

"These days, people have so many different needs, preferences and ailments, it's important to accommodate everyone," says owner Tony Sutton-Deakin. "That's how you create community."

British-born Sutton-Deakin, who opened the pub more than 20 years ago, will tell you it's because the place offers



Crown & Anchor owners, Sarah and Tony Sutton-Deakin.  
Photos by Mike O'Bleness, Monterey Herald

CONTINUE TO PAGE 18

### The CROWN & ANCHOR



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#### WINNER

- Best Pub
- Best Late Night Stop
- Best Bar/Restaurant to Cure a Hangover

#### SECOND PLACE

- Best Burgers
- Best Fried Food

TIE

#### THIRD PLACE

- Best Comfort Food
- Best Gastro Pub
- Best Happy Hour
- Best Server - Nic Moisoto
- Best Watering Hole with Character

#### HONORABLE MENTION

- Best All American Classic Menu
- Best Bartender - Michael Macedo
- Best French Fries
- Best Service
- Best Sports Bar / Restaurant
- Best Restaurant in Monterey
- Best Artichoke Items
- Best Dog - Friendly Eatery
- Best Locals Menu

British Owned & Operated

[crownandanchor.net](http://crownandanchor.net)



When you've been in business over fifty years, you learn a thing or two about true customer service. From the very beginning, we've always said, "If we make you feel like you're at home, we've made a million dollar mistake." That's because at The Sardine Factory, our goal is to make you feel even *better* than at home—otherwise why would you go out? Our guests are our number one priority and without loyal patrons like you, we wouldn't be here today. That's a fact. We appreciate you all so much and thank you for your continued support year after year.

We're incredibly thankful to readers of The Monterey County Herald for recognizing our efforts at The Sardine Factory with eight awards, including "Best Restaurant on Cannery Row." We were also awarded for Best Service, Best Wine Selection, Best Fine Dining, Best Date Night, Best Historic Restaurant, Best Romantic Restaurant, Best Dining with Live Music.

At The Sardine Factory, our staff works tirelessly to provide award winning food, wine, and service that creates a dining experience that's second to none. From the front of the house to the back of the house, it's because of their dedication to excellence that we may celebrate these awards together.

To all our staff at The Sardine Factory: We're truly honored by your dedication to bringing the very best to our customers each and every day. We could not do this without you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We love you all!

Ted Balestreri & Bert Cutino



#### **READERS' CHOICE WINNER**

Best Fine Dining  
Best Restaurant on Cannery Row  
Best Historic Restaurant  
Best Service  
Best Wine Selection  
Best Date Night  
Best Romantic Restaurant  
Best Dining with Live Music





**Crown & Anchor Readers' Choice winners, Nic Moitoso and Michael Macedo**

good food and good cheer, and because it's a friendly, welcoming place with a dynamic atmosphere, which has earned the loyalty of a lot of regular patrons.

The term "pub" comes from "public house," a private home opened to the public, says Sutton-Deakin, where people can eat, drink and be merry.

"I came up with the name," he says, "because it's authentic. The crown represents royalty. And I come from Portsmouth, a port city and naval base on England's south coast, with a great maritime history, which I love. So, being by the Monterey Harbor, it all works."

Sutton-Deakin had the Penny Farthing Tavern in Salinas for 17 years before moving his business to Monterey.

Prior to coming to California, Sutton-Deakin attended hotel-and-restaurant school and then spent many years working in the trade before he was invited to move to America in 1980. Two years later, he opened his first pub.

"I'm British; that's my trade," he says. "It makes sense to have a pub that serves British food — Cornish pasties, fish 'n chips, shepherd's pie, bangers and mash — but also salads, fish, burgers, plus beers, wines, scotches and brandies. We want everyone to feel welcome." Sutton-Deakin recently celebrated his 80th birthday with a huge party at the pub.

In addition to numerous Readers' Choice awards related to their establishment and extensive menu, server Nic Moitoso, 29, and bartender Michael Macedo, 29, both natives of Monterey, received awards as well. Ironically, both Moitoso and Macedo are of Portuguese descent and from the Azores. Both received numerous votes in their respective categories, landing them both into the Top 4.

Crown & Anchor features a television at either end of an imposing, well-stocked bar, so sports fans can sidle up, order a beverage, and watch the game among comrades. The back of the house hosts a restaurant, where friends and family can gather to dine in comfort, in a quieter setting more conducive to conversation. "At Crown & Anchor," says Sutton-Deakin, "you should be a stranger here but once." ■

**HONORED. HUMBLLED.**  
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While we always hold ourselves to the highest standards, it's the feedback from you that we value most. Thank you for thinking so highly of us. We can't wait to serve your next fresh, made to order Double-Double®, fries, and shake!

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## BEST CLAM CHOWDER

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Domenico's On The Wharf  
Honorable Mention - Vivolo's Chowder House

## BEST COFFEE SHOP

First - Acme Coffee  
Second - Alta Bakery and Cafe  
Third - Carmel Valley Coffee Roasting  
Honorable Mention - Castle Rock Coffee & Mercantile  
Honorable Mention - Rosine's Restaurant

## BEST COMFORT FOOD

First - Rosine's Restaurant  
Second - Black Bear Diner  
Third - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Poppy Hall

## BEST DATE NIGHT DINING

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Honorable Mention - Chart House  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch

## BEST DELI

First - Compagno's Market & Deli  
Second - Bruno's Market  
Third - La Sala's Bi-Rite Market & Deli

## BEST DESSERT SELECTION

First - Rosine's Restaurant  
Second - Layers  
Third - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Paris Bakery Cafe

## BEST DINING FOR RACE FANS

First - Baja Cantina  
Second - Turn 12  
Third - Tarp's  
Honorable Mention - The Golden Tee  
Honorable Mention - The Crown & Anchor

## BEST DINING WITH LIVE MUSIC

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Folktale Winery  
Third - Sly's Refueling Station  
Honorable Mention - Baja Cantina

## BEST DIVE BAR

First - King's Den (KD)  
Second - Alfredo's Cantina  
Third - The Running Iron  
Honorable Mention - Segovia's  
Honorable Mention - Pearl Hour

CONTINUE TO PAGE 22

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Monterey Recreation would like to thank the readers of the  
Monterey Herald for voting **Whispering Pines Day Camp**  
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### **BEST DOG-FRIENDLY EATERY**

First - Cypress Inn  
Second - Forge in the Forest  
Third - Esteban Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Alvarado Street Brewery  
Honorable Mention - Tarpy's Roadhouse  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor

### **BEST DONUTS**

First - Red's Donuts  
Second - Monterey Donut Shop  
Third - Marina Donuts and Bagels  
Honorable Mention - Pavel's Bakery

### **BEST FAMILY FRIENDLY DINING**

First - Rosine's Restaurant  
Second - Gianni's Pizza  
Third - Gino's  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto

### **BEST FARM-TO-TABLE / LOCAL & FRESH**

First - Poppy Hall  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Estéban Restaurant

### **BEST FAST FOOD**

First - In-N-Out Burger  
Second - Five Guys Burgers & Fries  
Third - Chipotle

### **BEST FINE DINING**

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Fandango Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Whaling Station  
Honorable Mention - Chart House

### **BEST FIRESIDE DINING**

First - Forge in the Forest  
Second - Sardine Factory

Third - Tarpy's  
Honorable Mention - Esteban at Casa Munras

### **BEST FIXINS' FOR A PICNIC**

First - Bruno's Market & Deli  
Second - Compagno's Market & Deli  
Third - Star Market

### **BEST FRENCH FOOD**

First - Fandango Restaurant  
Second - Bistro Moulin  
Third - La Bicyclette  
Honorable Mention - Paris Bakery

### **BEST FRENCH FRIES**

First - In-N-Out Burger  
Second - McDonalds  
Third - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Honorable Mention - Five Guys Burgers & Fries  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor

CONTINUE TO PAGE 24



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A big THANK YOU to everyone that voted for us in the Monterey Herald Readers' Choice awards **for three years in a row!** We are honored and appreciate all of you who place your trust in us. It has been our pleasure to serve Monterey County for 41 years.



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### BEST FRIED FOOD

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Crown & Anchor  
Third - Giant Artichoke  
Honorable Mention - Abalonetti Bar & Grill

### BEST GASTRO PUB

First - Alvarado Street Brewery  
Second - Peter B's Brewpub  
Third - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Melville Tavern

### BEST GLUTEN-FREE OR ORGANIC

First - Happy Girl Kitchen  
Second - Estéban at Casa Munras  
Third - Hulas  
Honorable Mention - Rosine's Restaurant

### BEST GREEK FOOD

First - Dametra Cafe  
Second - Epsilon  
Third - Petra Restaurant, Pacific Grove  
Honorable Mention - Petra Mediterranean Cafe

### BEST HAPPY HOUR

First - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Cibo Ristorante Italiano

### BEST HIGHWAY 1 DINING

First - Nepenthe  
Second - Big Sur River Inn  
Third - Rocky Point Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Deetjen's Big Sur  
Honorable Mention - Whole Enchilada

### BEST HISTORIC RESTAURANT

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Mission Ranch Restaurant  
Third - Deetjen's Big Sur  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto

### BEST HOT DOGS

First - Pig Wizard  
Second - Archie's American Diner  
Third - r.g. Burgers

### BEST ICE CREAM/YOGURT

First - Revival Ice Cream  
Second - Cold Stone Creamery  
Third - Ghirardelli

### BEST INDIAN FOOD

First - Ambrosia India Bistro  
Second - Aabha Indian Cuisine  
Third - Avatar Indian Grill

### BEST IN-HOTEL RESTAURANT

First - Saltwood at The Sanctuary Beach Resort  
Second - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Third - Schooners at Monterey Plaza Hotel  
Honorable Mention - The C Restaurant at InterContinental  
Honorable Mention - Jack's at Portola Hotel

### BEST ITALIAN FOOD

First - Cafe Fina  
Second - Gino's Fine Italian  
Third - Gusto Handcrafted Pasta & Pizza  
Honorable Mention - Il Vecchio  
Honorable Mention - Little Napoli  
Honorable Mention - Gianni's Pizza

CONTINUE TO PAGE 26



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# ALVARADO STREET BREWERY



## Passion for quality brew continues to fuel Alvarado Street Brewery team

For nearly six years, Alvarado Street Brewery, located in a historically registered building in Old Monterey, has proudly served locally sourced, gastropub-influenced fare built around it's beers that are produced on-site. The Brewpub has plenty of indoor seating in a very comfortable setting, as well as a shaded sidewalk patio overlooking Alvarado Street.

Located behind the brewery is the Beer Garden which customers can access from either Alvarado Street or Calle Principal. The outdoor, pavilion-like structure features communal seating for 50, two fire pits with lounge-style seating, and a separate bar with 12 house beers on tap. On weekends, there is a menu of rotating specials in the Garden, sometimes including Chef Brandon Miller's smoked barbecue items. They also offer vegetarian, gluten-free and vegan options.

When J.C. Hill, Co-owner & Head Brewer was notified about the recognition received in this year's Monterey Herald Readers' Choice awards, he said, "It feels great to be recognized, especially as we're approaching six years of brewing and serving the community come May. A lot has changed since we've been open, but our focus remains the same - brew the highest quality and most exciting beer we can, and passionately serve the locals and visitors to Monterey. That's our way of contributing to the thriving food and beverage culture here on the Peninsula."

In addition to the restaurant, brewery and beer garden in Monterey, Alvarado Street Brewery also opened a Salinas Production Brewery in April of 2016 at 1315 Dayton Street. This location supplements house offerings at the Brewery & Grill in Monterey, and allows them to supply draft beer to quality minded local establishments. The tasting room is set smack dab in the middle of the brewery, allowing patrons to witness the brewing process and be a part of the action. To learn more, visit [www.alvaradostreetbrewery.com](http://www.alvaradostreetbrewery.com). ■

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## BEST JAPANESE FOOD

First - Crystal Fish  
Second - Sapporo  
Third - Benihana  
Honorable Mention - Kokoro

## BEST KOREAN FOOD

First (TIE) - New Korea Restaurant  
First (TIE) - Orient Express  
Third - Yi's Korean BBQ

## BEST LATE NIGHT STOP

First - Crown & Anchor  
Second - In N Out Burger  
Third - Nacho Bizness  
Honorable Mention - Sly's Refueling Station

## BEST LOCAL / FAMILY OWNED RESTAURANT

First - Rosine's Restaurant  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Fandango

## BEST LOCALS MENU

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Rosine's Restaurant  
Third - Red House Cafe  
Honorable Mention - Abalonetti  
Honorable Mention - The Sandbar & Grill  
Honorable Mention - Cafe Fina  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Poppy Hall  
Honorable Mention - Beach House at Lovers Point

## BEST LOCAL'S SECRET

First - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Second - Rosine's Restaurant  
Third - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Sandbar & Grill  
Honorable Mention - Golden Tee Restaurant @ Monterey Airport  
Honorable Mention - Poppy Hall

## BEST MEXICAN FOOD

First - Michael's Taqueria  
Second - Baja Cantina  
Third - Sarita's  
Honorable Mention - Jose's Mexican Restaurant

## BEST NACHOS

First - Nacho Bizness  
Second - Baja Cantina  
Third - Whole Enchilada  
Honorable Mention - Peter B's Brewpub

## BEST RESTAURANT ON CANNERY ROW

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Whaling Station  
Third - Chart House  
Honorable Mention - Fish Hopper  
Honorable Mention - Schooners

## BEST ON-GOLF COURSE RESTAURANT

First - The Bench at Pebble Beach  
Second - Sticks at Spanish Bay  
Third - Del Monte Golf Course Grill

## BEST OUTDOOR DINING

First - Nepenthe  
Second - Schooners  
Third - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch Restaurant

Thank you, readers of The Monterey County Herald,  
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### BEST PHO

First - The Noodle Palace  
Second - Chop Stix  
Third - Noodle Bar

### BEST PIZZA

First - Gianni's  
Second - Pizza My Heart  
Third - Cafe Rustica  
Honorable Mention - Gusto Handcrafted Pasta & Pizza

### BEST PLACE TO EAT AT THE BEACH

First - Phil's Fish Market  
Second - Beach House at Lovers Point  
Third - Rocky Point  
Honorable Mention - Roy's at Spanish Bay Pebble Beach  
Honorable Mention - Schooners

### BEST PLACE TO SATISFY A SWEET TOOTH

First - Rosine's Restaurant  
Second - Lula's Chocolates  
Third - Layers

### BEST POKE

First - Poke Bar  
Second - Poke House  
Third - Poke Bowls and Rolls  
Honorable Mention - Poke Time

### BEST PUB

First - Crown & Anchor  
Second - Peter B's Brewpub  
Third - Dust Bowl Brewing  
Honorable Mention - Dubbers

### BEST RESTAURANT KNOWN FOR GIVING BACK

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Sardine Factory  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Passionfish  
Honorable Mention - Rio Grill

### BEST RESTAURANT ON FISHERMAN'S WHARF

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Cafe Fina

Third - Domenico's On The Wharf  
Honorable Mention - Scales  
Honorable Mention - Abalonetti

### BEST RESTAURANT TO WATCH THE SUNSET

First - Roy's at Spanish Bay Pebble Beach  
Second - Nepenthe  
Third - Rocky Point Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Beach House at Lovers Point  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch Restaurant

### BEST RESTAURANT WINE SELECTION

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Passionfish  
Honorable Mention - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Honorable Mention - Grasing's  
Honorable Mention - Bernardus Lodge  
Honorable Mention - Montrieo Bistro

CONTINUE TO PAGE 28



Seafood from the Bay  
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- 1st place- Best Live Music Bar/Club
- 3rd place- Best Dining With Live Music
- Honorable Mention - Best Late Night Stop

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## BEST ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Casanova  
Honorable Mention - Fandango  
Honorable Mention - Chart House  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch  
Honorable Mention - Whaling Station

## BEST SANDWICHES

First - Compagno's Market & Deli  
Second - Bruno's Market & Deli  
Third - LaSala's Bi-Rite Market & Deli

## BEST SEAFOOD

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Passionfish  
Third - Phil's Fish Market  
Honorable Mention - Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Cafe Fina

## BEST SERVER AND RESTAURANT

First - Luis at the Golden Tee @ Monterey Airport  
Second - Christian at the Fireplace Lounge Hyatt Regency  
Third - Nic Moitoso at Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Joe at Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Roxanne Roark at Cafe Fina  
Honorable Mention - Don at The Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Katy at Rosine's Restaurant

## BEST SERVICE

First - Sardine Factory  
Second - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Third - Rosine's Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Cafe Fina

## BEST SPORTS BAR/RESTAURANT

First - Knuckles at the Hyatt Regency Monterey  
Second - Turn 12  
Third - Peter B's Brewpub  
Honorable Mention - Sticks Spanish Bay  
Honorable Mention - Dubbers  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor

## BEST STEAKHOUSE

First - Whaling Station  
Second - Chart House  
Third - Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Tarpy's Roadhouse  
Honorable Mention - Seventh & Dolores aka 7D  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch Restaurant  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto

## BEST SUSHI

First - Crystal Fish  
Second - Ocean Sushi  
Third - Sushi Heaven  
Honorable Mention - Sushi Time

## BEST TACOS

First - Baja Cantina  
Second - Mi Tierra  
Third - El Charrito Market  
Honorable Mention - Jose's Mexican Restaurant

## BEST THAI FOOD

First - Zab Zab Thai Cuisine  
Second - Baan Thai Restaurant  
Third - Lemongrass

CONTINUE TO PAGE 40



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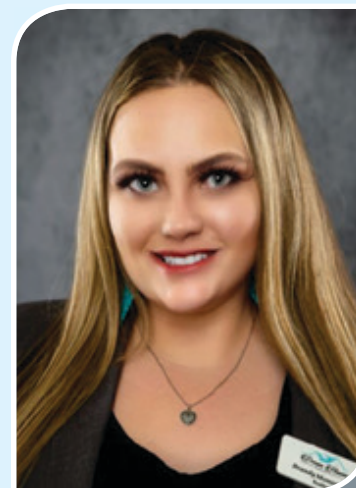
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**Best WATERING HOLE WITH**  
**CHARACTER** Honorable Mention  
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**a hangover** And, congratulations  
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Second place for **Best Bartender!**

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# CASA

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Established in 1995, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Monterey County is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that recruits, trains and supports community volunteers to advocate for our most vulnerable population—our foster children.

The purpose of CASA of Monterey County volunteers is twofold:

- To advocate for the best interests of the foster child, ensuring the foster child receives the services s/he needs and deserves, while pursuing a safe and permanent home for him/her.
- To be the stable adult for the foster child during the often confusing and lonely time they're in the Dependency court system, providing ongoing personal support.

CASA volunteers must be at least 21 years of age, are asked to make a minimum commitment of 18 months to a child, and can expect to spend approximately 12-18 hours per month assigned to a child's case in order to ensure stability and consistency for their assigned child.

CASAs are ordinary people with extraordinary hearts who want to make a difference. They are people from all walks of life, who are specially trained and continuously supported by CASA staff.

Could you be a CASA of Monterey County volunteer? Call (831) 299-CASA, or email [info@casaofmonterey.org](mailto:info@casaofmonterey.org) to learn more about volunteer opportunities. ■

# YELLOW BRICK ROAD

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY  
FOR THREE DECADES

Yellow Brick Road was started by Carmel Presbyterian Church more than 30 years ago. This unique, upscale store sells gently used items and returns the net proceeds to worthy Monterey County charities and scholarships. Over the past 30 years, more than \$6.5 million has been given back to the community. Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop has three locations. The main shop offers clothing for women and men, home goods, jewelry and other items. The book shop includes items such as DVDs and music CDs and the third shop features furniture, art and linens. Visit Yellow Brick Road's shops on Carmel Rancho Lane, next to the Barnyard Shopping Village. For information, call (831) 626-8480. Shop hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday—Saturday, open Wednesdays until 6 p.m. Visit [www.yellowbrickroadbenefitshop.org](http://www.yellowbrickroadbenefitshop.org) for more information. Congratulations to Yellow Brick Road for once again being chosen as one of Monterey County's Favorite Thrift Stores! ■

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What an honor! We are overwhelmed that for the past 3 years, the community has recognized Gianni's Pizza as the 'Best Pizza' on the Monterey Peninsula. Plus, this year we were recognized as one of the best family-friendly dining restaurants. These awards wouldn't be possible without our hard working staff and managers. Gianni's Pizza would also like to thank the community and Herald readers who have continued to support our restaurant since we opened in 1974. We hope to continue to serve up delicious pizza, pasta, bread sticks and everything in between for years to come.

**725 Lighthouse Ave. Monterey • 831-649-1500**





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# PACIFIC CANCER CARE

BRINGS WORLD-CLASS CANCER CARE TO MONTEREY COUNTY

Pacific Cancer Care (PCC) is a community-based private cancer center, providing comprehensive oncology and hematology services to Central California for almost 50 years. The highly qualified physicians and dedicated staff at PCC work diligently to provide patients and their family members with a comfortable and caring environment while delivering personalized care close to home. Pacific Cancer Care provides a wide-array of services, all designed with one thing in mind - the patients' healing and comfort.

It's no wonder Monterey Herald readers recognized two of Pacific Cancer Care's oncologists in the Readers' Choice awards for 2019 in the best Oncologist category. First place honors went to Dr. Nancy Rubin and 3rd place to Dr. Koontz.

Taking a look at the reviews of these doctors and the entire team at Pacific Cancer Care, the words "compassionate" and "caring" appear many times. One patient even noted that she felt she was "treated like family" when she was there. During a stressful time like going through cancer treatment or dealing with other serious illnesses, those are key qualities patients and their families are sure to appreciate. Pacific Cancer Care strives to exceed patient expectations by offering prompt, convenient and compassionate care in a community-based, state of the art treatment center and making each and every patient a priority. Visit [www.pacificcancercare.com](http://www.pacificcancercare.com) to find out more. ■

Photo provided by Pacific Cancer Care



From left to right: John Hausdorff, MD, Zach Koontz, MD, Mallory Sandridge, NP, Nancy Tray, MD, Debbie Branson, NP, Lulu Zhang, MD, Roger Shiffman, MD, Nancy Rubin, DO, Ashley Sandridge, NP, (Not pictured: Dennis Niekro, NP)



*Readers' choice voted*  
**Best Thrift Shop**  
*in Monterey County*

*Thank You!*  
**Monterey Herald Readers**



**Yellow Brick Road BENEFIT SHOP**

*Over 30 Years and \$6.5 million given back to the Monterey Community in the form of grants and scholarships*

*And a special "Thank You" to our Volunteers and Donors!*

We're located next to the Barnyard Shopping Village  
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[www.YellowBrickRoadBenefitShop.org](http://www.YellowBrickRoadBenefitShop.org)



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Restaurant with Amazing Views**

**Best Locals Menu**

**Best Place to Watch the Sunset**


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*Thank You Herald Readers  
& Community for Voting Us the Best*



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*2019 Herald Readers' Choice Awards Recipients*

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### **CARMEL REALTY COMPANY**

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*We thank you and continue to strive  
to exceed your expectations after  
one hundred years.*



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## Thank you

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## **BEST VEGETARIAN OR VEGAN**

First - Happy Girl Kitchen  
Second - Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant  
Third - Ambrosia India Bistro

## **BEST VIETNAMESE FOOD**

First - The Noodle Palace (Carmel)  
Second - ChopStix  
Third - Noodle Bar

## **BEST VINEYARD WINE TASTING (ON-SITE)**

First - Folktale Winery  
Second - Bernardus Winery  
Third - Scheid Vineyards  
Honorable Mention - Hahn Winery  
Honorable Mention - Morgan Winery

## **BEST WATERING HOLE WITH CHARACTER**

First - King's Den (KD) Salinas  
Second - Baja Cantina  
Third - Crown & Anchor

Honorable Mention - Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Alfredo's Cantina  
Honorable Mention - Pearl Hour

## **BEST WINE TASTING ROOM**

First - Bernardus Winery  
Second - Folktale Winery  
Third - Cowgirl Winery  
Honorable Mention - De Tierra Winery

## **BEST/MOST AMAZING RESTAURANT VIEWS**

First - Nepenthe  
Second - Rocky Point Restaurant  
Third - Schooner's Coastal Kitchen & Bar  
Honorable Mention - Beach House at Lovers Point  
Honorable Mention - Fish Hopper  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto

## **BEST RESTAURANT IN BIG SUR**

First - Nepenthe  
Second - Big Sur River Inn  
Third - Rocky Point Restaurant

## **BEST RESTAURANT IN CARMEL VALLEY**

First - Cafe Rustica  
Second - Baja Cantina  
Third - Corkscrew Cafe  
Honorable Mention - Roux  
Honorable Mention - Lodge at Carmel Valley Ranch  
Honorable Mention - Lucia at Bernardus

## **BEST RESTAURANT IN CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA**

First - The Noodle Palace  
Second - Grasing's  
Third - La Bicyclette  
Honorable Mention - Mission Ranch

## **BEST RESTAURANT IN MARINA**

First - Salt Wood Kitchen and Oysterette  
Second - Michael's Taqueria  
Third - Noodle Bar

CONTINUE TO PAGE 42

# *Thank you for voting for Cater Chiropractic!*



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Monterey County! Proudly serving  
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## BEST RESTAURANT IN MONTEREY

First - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Second - Rosine's Restaurant  
Third - Sardine Factory  
Honorable Mention - Hula's Island Grill  
Honorable Mention - Esteban at Casa Munras  
Honorable Mention - Cafe Fina  
Honorable Mention - Crown & Anchor  
Honorable Mention - Montrieo Bistro

## BEST RESTAURANT IN MOSS LANDING

First - Phil's Fish Market  
Second - Whole Enchilada  
Third - Haute Enchilada  
Honorable Mention - Moss Landing Cafe  
Honorable Mention - Lemongrass Thai Restaurant

## BEST RESTAURANT IN PACIFIC GROVE

First - Fandango  
Second - Il Vecchio

Third - Poppy Hall  
Honorable Mention - PassionFish  
Honorable Mention - Red House Cafe

## BEST RESTAURANT IN SALINAS

First - Gino's  
Second - First Awakenings  
Third - Patria  
Honorable Mention - Dubbers  
Honorable Mention - The Steinbeck House Restaurant

## BEST RESTAURANT IN SEASIDE/SAND CITY

First - Breakfast Club  
Second - Gusto Handcrafted Pasta & Pizza  
Third - The Butter House

## ENTERTAINMENT

## BEST ART GALLERY

First - Carmel Art Association  
Second - Monterey Museum of Art  
Third - Monterey Bay Aquarium

## BEST COMMUNITY EVENT

First - Concours d'Elegance  
Second - SPCA Wag n'Walk  
Third - Monterey Jazz Festival

## BEST GOLF COURSE

First - Pebble Beach  
Second - Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Course  
Third - Pacific Grove Golf Links

## BEST HISTORICAL SITE

First - Carmel Mission  
Second - Point Lobos  
Third - Cannery Row  
Honorable Mention - Old Fisherman's Grotto  
Honorable Mention - Steinbeck House

## BEST LIVE MUSIC BAR/CLUB

First - Sly's Refueling Station  
Second - Folktale Winery  
Third - Cibo Ristorante Italiano  
Honorable Mention - Golden State Theatre

CONTINUE TO PAGE 44



## Thank you for voting us the best in Monterey County! First Place Awards

Best Family-Friendly Restaurant • Best Dessert Selection • Best Comfort Food  
Best Local/Family Owned Restaurant • Best Place to Satisfy a Sweet Tooth

## Runner Up & Honorable Mentions

Best Restaurant in Monterey • Best Service • Best Breakfast • Best Brunch • Best Burgers  
Best All American Classic Menu • Best Clam Chowder • Best Restaurant to Cure a Hangover  
Best Locals Secret • Best Restaurant Known for Giving Back • Best Server-Katy • Bakery  
Best Coffee Shop • Locals Menu • Best Gluten Free/Organic

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# THANK YOU

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**BEST LIVE  
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First - Sunset Center  
Second - Forest Theater  
Third - Golden State Theater  
Honorable Mention - Western Stage at Hartnell  
Honorable Mention - Pacific Repertory Theater

**BEST LOCAL BAND**

First - Chicano All Stars  
Second - The Money Band  
Third - Red Beans & Rice  
Honorable Mention - Johnny Tsunami and the Shoulder Hoppers

**BEST LOCAL RADIO  
OR TV PERSONALITY**

First - Dan Green - KSBW  
Second - Dave Marzetti - ShagBag Radio Show  
Third - Drea Blackwell - KSBW  
Honorable Mention - Brittany Nielsen, KSBW

**BEST MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO**

First - Body Worx Academy  
Second - American Karate of Monterey  
Third - Warren's Martial Arts

**BEST MOVIE THEATER**

First - Century Theater Del Monte Center  
Second - Osio Theater  
Third - Lighthouse Cinemas

**BEST MUSEUM**

First - Monterey Museum of Art  
Second - Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History  
Third - Steinbeck Center  
Honorable Mention - MY Museum  
Honorable Mention - Steinbeck House

**BEST MUSIC/COMEDY VENUE**

First - Golden State Theatre  
Second - Folktale Winery Barrel Room  
Third - Sunset Center

**BEST TOURIST ATTRACTION**

First - Monterey Bay Aquarium  
Second - Cannery Row  
Third - Refuge  
Honorable Mention - WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca

**FAMILY &  
YOUTH SERVICES**

**BEST COLLEGE / HIGHER  
LEARNING INSTITUTION**

First - Cal State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB)  
Second - Naval Postgraduate School  
Third - Middlebury Institute

**BEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
OR CREDENTIAL PROGRAM**

First - Monterey Peninsula College (MPC)  
Second - Hartnell College  
Third - Alliance Career Training Solutions

CONTINUE TO PAGE 46

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**Best Cannabis Dispensary  
in Monterey County**







# ROSINE'S RESTAURANT

## CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY WITH UNIQUE SPECIALS

Photos provided by Rosine's Restaurant

Founded by the Culcasi Family in 1980, the award-winning Rosine's Restaurant has reached a milestone of 40 years in business. To celebrate this grand achievement, Rosine's is cooking up some unique specials and other new items throughout the year.

Located in the heart of historic Downtown Monterey at 434 Alvarado Street, Rosine's is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner Sunday through Thursday from 8am – 9pm and until 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays. They also feature fabulous Weekend Brunches, beer, wine and select cocktails.

When Rosine's originally opened its doors at the Del Monte Shopping Center, it was known for offering great food at a great price, including their 'Del Monte Special.' 40 years later, the family is turning back time and offering that special again – now called the 'Downtown' in reference to the current Alvarado Street location. Four pancakes, your choice of bacon or sausage and one egg cooked any style for just \$4.00! It will be offered Mondays through Thursdays from 8am – 12pm for a limited time only.

Beginning April 1st, Rosine's will offer a 4-course special dinner menu for just \$19.80, tax not included. Guests can enjoy a special appetizer, cup of soup or salad, a throwback entrée and one of Rosine's famous desserts. It will be available for dine-in and take-out. This special will be available 7 nights a week from 5 pm – 8 pm for a limited time.

Since its founding in 1980, the family has happily shared in the work, from cooking and baking to serving and greeting. An instant success, Rosine's established a reputation with satisfied customers who enjoyed their delicious homemade soups, hearty meals, homemade fresh pies and sumptuous array of delicious homemade, award-winning cakes. After five years at the Del Monte Shopping Center, they relocated to the current location in historic downtown Monterey where they are now a third-generation family-run restaurant celebrating 40 successful years.

In 1980, Jim Sr. and Rosine Culcasi, along with their children, founded Rosine's Restaurant on the basis of serving delicious, homemade food in generous portions with friendly customer service. When Jim Sr. retired in 1994, Jim Jr. took the helm and now reigns as CEO. You can still find Jim Sr. mingling with customers, and you never know when Rosine will be in the kitchen making her scrumptious meatloaf and fruit pies. Daughter Renee left in 1986, and authored a cookbook featuring some of the restaurant's most beloved recipes. The book is currently out of stock, but the family hopes to reprint the book later this year. Daughter Annette helped run the restaurant for many years, and in 2017 left to pursue her own ventures.

According to Rosine, "When we first opened in 1980, I felt like my customers were coming as



guests in my home," she says. "That's never changed. They tell me they get a good feeling when they come in. It's so inspiring and fulfilling to us to see our returning customers, both locals and visitors, now that includes their children and grandchildren. And we truly appreciate the many awards we have received but most of all we enjoy seeing the smiles on the faces of our happy customers. We're truly blessed."

The third generation of the Culcasi family – Chris, John and Michael – have all worked in the restaurant and John and Michael still work there. John rose to the position of general manager and works closely with his father Jim Jr. to run the restaurant. Jim's wife Susan is

instrumental in building Rosine's presence, online through its website and social media, networking and customer relations.

In 2014, Rosine's was featured on the popular Food Network show "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives" with Guy Fieri. The celebrity chef joined Jim Jr. in the kitchen as he prepared his renowned Minestrone soup and delicious Lasagna. According to Jim, "It was a great experience filming with Guy Fieri, our episode 'Stuffed and Twisted' introduced Rosine's to a global audience and frequently airs in syndication." The segment can also be found on the homepage of Rosine's website, [www.rosinesmonterey.com](http://www.rosinesmonterey.com).

For 40 years, Rosine's Restaurant has been a consistent favorite among the populace, winning dozens of awards in local and national publications. Over the years, readers of the Monterey Herald have named Rosine's the Best in Monterey County in a multitude of categories including 'Best Family-Friendly, Best Dessert Selection, Best Comfort Food, Best Place to satisfy your sweet tooth, Best Restaurant in Monterey, Best Service, Best Local-Family Owned and more!' In 2016, Rosine's California Club Sandwich earned the #3 spot for 'Best Avocado Sandwich in California' in a USA Today Readers' Choice poll. In early 2019, Jim Sr. and Rosine were honored to be given the Italian Heritage Award, and in Dec 2019 the restaurant was presented with the 'Downtown Anchor Award' by the OMBA. And Rosine herself was presented with the John "Spud" Spadaro Hospitality Award in 2013.

On weekends and holidays, Rosine's may have a wait for a table, so they are offering a convenient new solution with their exciting new "Table's Ready" program. Check in with the host and give them your cell number – then you're free to take a stroll along historic Alvarado Street. Rosine's will text you when your table is ready.

To view menus and find out more, visit [www.rosinesmonterey.com](http://www.rosinesmonterey.com) or call (831) 375-1400. ■

## BEST NONPROFIT

First - Court Appointed Special Advocates - CASA  
Second - SPCA for Monterey County  
Third - Monterey Bay Educational Center

## BEST PRIVATE SCHOOL

First - Anthem Christian School  
Second - Trinity Christian High School  
Third - Robert Louis Stevenson

## BEST RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY

First - Monterey Bay Aquarium  
Second - Exodus Escape Room  
Third - Monterey Sports Center  
Honorable Mention - Carmel Valley Athletic Club Jr. Tennis Academy

## BEST SUMMER CAMP

First - SPCA Animal Camp  
Second - Whispering Pines Day Camp  
Third - Carmel Valley Athletic Club

## BEST SWIMMING LESSONS

First - Monterey Sports Center  
Second - Carmel Valley Athletic Club  
Third - YMCA

## BEST YOUTH ARTS / ENTERTAINMENT

First - Pac Rep Theatre  
Second - Ariel Theatrical  
Third - Youth Arts Collective  
Honorable Mention - MY Museum  
Honorable Mention - Arts Council for Monterey County

## FINANCIAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

## BEST AGRICULTURE RELATED BUSINESS

First - Taylor Farms  
Second - Ocean Mist  
Third - Tanimura & Antle

## BEST LOCAL BANK

First - Monterey County Bank  
Second - 1st Capital Bank  
Third - Pacific Valley Bank

## BEST COMPANY FOR GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

First - IMPOWER, Inc.  
Second - Taylor Farms  
Third - Pacific Restaurant Group (Shake Family)  
Honorable Mention - Cannery Row Company  
Honorable Mention - Carmel Realty Company

## BEST CREDIT UNION

First - Monterey Credit Union  
Second - Central Coast Credit Union  
Third - Bay Federal Credit Union

## BEST INSURANCE FIRM

First - AJim Russo Jr., State Farm Insurance  
Second - Carmel Insurance Agency

## BEST INVESTMENT ADVISOR

First - Susan Yedlicka @ Morgan Stanley  
Second - Mark J. Williams @ Vestus Group  
Third - John Giammanco @ Wells Fargo

Celebrating our 70th Anniversary!



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### **BEST INVESTMENT FIRM**

First - Morgan Stanley  
Second - Vestus Group  
Third - Merrill Lynch

### **BEST LAW FIRM**

First - Pierce King Law  
Second - Noland, Hamerly, Etienne & Hoss  
Third - Fenton & Keller

### **BEST LAWYER**

First - Julie P. King  
Second - Andrew H. Swartz  
Third - Sara Boyns

### **BEST MEMBER ORGANIZATION FOR BUSINESSES**

First - Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce  
Second - Monterey County Business Council  
Third - Monterey Peninsula Young Professionals  
Honorable Mention - Carmel Chamber of Commerce

### **BEST MORTGAGE FIRM**

First - OGI Mortgage Bankers  
Second - Platinum Capital Mortgage  
Third - Steinbeck Mortgage

### **BEST NEW REAL ESTATE AGENT**

First - George Anderson, Steinbeck Real Estate  
Second - Sharmaine Torrey, Monterey Coast Realty  
Third - Angolee Bode, The Peninsula Group

### **BEST PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

First - Carmel Realty Company  
Second - Sanctuary Vacation Rentals  
Third - Steinbeck Real Estate

### **BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT / MONTEREY PENINSULA**

First - Dana Bambace, Compass  
Second - Ben Zoller, Monterey Coast Real Estate  
Third - Jen Jacobs Bolger, The Jacobs Team  
HM - Shelly Mitchell Lynch, Carmel Realty  
HM - Courtney Jones, Carmel Realty Company

### **BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT / SALINAS VALLEY**

First - Julia Hanson-Brown, Dream House Realty  
Second - Angela Savage, Steinbeck Real Estate  
Third - Brandy Monasmith, Dream House Realty  
Honorable Mention - Chantel Henson, Vanco Real Estate




### **BEST REAL ESTATE BROKER - MONTEREY PENINSULA**

First - Dana Bambace, Compass  
Second - Bill Mitchell, Carmel Realty Company  
Third - Stuart Shankle, Shankle Real Estate  
Honorable Mention - Judith Profeta, Carmel Realty Company

### **BEST REAL ESTATE BROKER - SALINAS VALLEY**

First - Tami Monasmith, Dream House Realty  
Second - Angela Savage, Steinbeck Real Estate  
Third - Chantel Henson, Vanco Real Estate  
Honorable Mention - Connie Jo Stubblefield, Re/Max

CONTINUE TO PAGE 48



# MONTEREY BAY EDUCATIONAL CENTER

*Would like to thank the readers of the Monterey Herald  
and the Monterey Peninsula Community for  
voting the Monterey Bay Educational Center  
as one of the best Non-Profits in Monterey County*

## As A Thank You

**We would like to invite you to a one-of-a-kind workshop.  
Special Guest: Dr. Jeff Lester MD/DO**

**Topic: Presenting cutting edge solutions for Memory Issues, Brain Fog, and ADHD.  
Location: 2150 Garden Road, Suite B1, Monterey, CA 93940  
Date and Time: Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 6:30PM**

**Please call as space is limited.**

## COME LEARN WITH US!

P: 831.649.1010  
www.mbayedu.org  
mbec@mbayedu.org

## **BEST REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE / MONTEREY PENINSULA OFFICE**

First - Carmel Realty Company

Second - Compass

Third - Century 21 Showcase Realtors

Honorable Mention - Shankle Real Estate

Honorable Mention - Monterey Coast Realty

## **BEST REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE / SALINAS VALLEY**

First - Dream House Realty

Second - Steinbeck Real Estate

Third - Vanco Real Estate

## **BEST REAL ESTATE TEAM**

First - Mitchell Lynch

Second - The Jacobs Team

Third - Monterey Peninsula Home Team

Honorable Mention - Annette and Peter Boggs

Honorable Mention - Team Beesley

## **BEST TAX PREPARER / CPA**

First - Gail Delorey / Bianchi, Kasavan & Pope

Second - Clark Savage

Third - Hayashi and Wayland

Honorable Mention - Bianchi, Kasavan and Pope

## **BEST VACATION RENTAL COMPANY**

First - Sanctuary Vacation Rentals

Second - Carmel Realty Company

Third - A.G. Davi

## **GENERAL SERVICES**

## **BEST ANIMAL HOSPITAL / VETERINARIAN**

First - Natural Vet Therapy

Second - SPCA Veterinary Clinic

Third - Romie Lane Pet Hospital

Honorable Mention - Toro Park Animal Hospital

## **BEST COMPUTER REPAIR / TECH SUPPORT**

First - Alvarez Technology Group

Second - Katrina Calabrese

Third - Rayne Tech

## **BEST DOG TRAINING**

First - SPCA for Monterey County Puppy & Dog Training

Second - Home Away From Home Pet Spa

Third - Barbara de Groot

## **BEST DOGGIE DAY CARE / PET BOARDING**

First - Peace of Mind Pet Sitting & Doggy Day Care

Second - Home Away From Home Pet Spa

Third - Dawg Gone It

## **BEST DRY CLEANERS**

First - Vapor Cleaners

Second - Owl Cleaners

Third - Carmel Cleaners

## **BEST FUNERAL HOME / MORTUARY**

First - Bermudez Family Cremations & Funerals

Second - Struve & Laporte

Third - Mission Mortuary

CONTINUE TO PAGE 52




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2019**





# THANK YOU!



We are honored that the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa has been recognized as Monterey County's Best Hotel! We are also thrilled that Schooners Coastal Kitchen & Bar received second place for Best Outdoor Dining, and Vista Blue Spa received honorable mentions in the Best Massage and Best Skincare Services categories. We thank our wonderful guests and our amazing associates for making these awards possible.

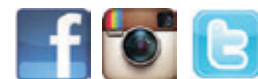
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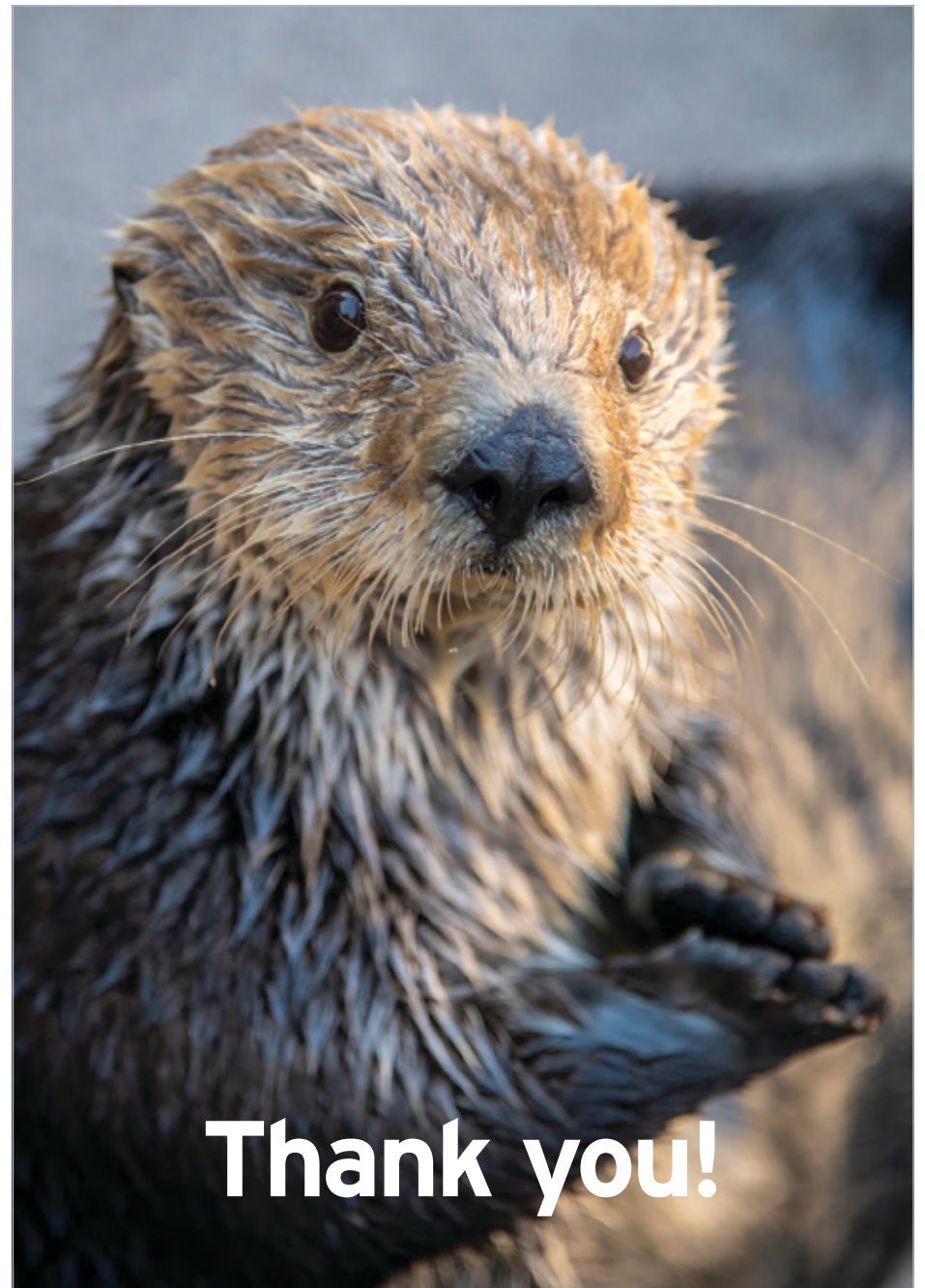
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First Place for Best Recreational Activity  
Third Place for Best Art Gallery



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## BEST LIMO / CAR / BUS SERVICE

First - Monterey Airbus

Second - Main Event Transportation

Third - AITS (American International Transportation Service)

## BEST PHOTOGRAPHER

First - Allie Rybinski @ Halcyon Media

Second - Carol Oliva Photography

Third - Creative Images

Honorable Mention - Sherman Chu

Honorable Mention - Cook's Photography

Honorable Mention - Michael Troutman

## BEST WEDDING VENUE

First - Folktale Winery

Second - Gardener Ranch

Third - Holman Ranch

Honorable Mention - Carmel Valley Ranch

## GROCERY STORE OR MARKET

## BEST BUTCHER SHOP

First - Grove Market

Second - Star Market

Third - The Meatery

Honorable Mention - Bruno's Market & Deli

## BEST GROCERY STORE

First - Trader Joe's

Second - Star Market

Third - Grove Market

## BEST HEALTH FOOD STORE

First - Whole Foods

Second - Trader Joe's

Third - Cornucopia

## BEST PLACE FOR FRESH PRODUCE

First - Whole Foods

Second - MPC Farmer's Market

Third - Star Market

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## BEST ACUPUNCTURIST

First - Oona Hull, L.AC. Acupuncture & Alternative Medicine Ctr.

Second - Dr. Nuttall

Third - J H Cho Acupuncture & Herb

## BEST CHIROPRACTOR

First - Cater Chiropractic

Second - Dr. Aaron Gaily, DC - The Back & Neck Pain Ctr of Monterey

Third - Dennis Romero, DC

## BEST DANCE STUDIO

First - The Dance Center

Second - Golden State Elite

Third - Carmel Barre

Honorable Mention - Carmel Ballet Academy

## BEST DENTIST

First - Dr. Constance Newton, DDS

Second - TLC Dentistry

Third - Dr. Brad Carl

## BEST DERMATOLOGIST

First (TIE) - California Skin Institute

First (TIE) - Rheim Dermatology

Third - Dr. Christopher Barnard, Barnard Dermatology

## BEST EYE DOCTOR

First - Vantage Eye Center

Second - Hattori Vision Optometry

Third - Blink Optometry

CONTINUE TO PAGE 54



## PIERCE KING LAW

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**THANK YOU MONTEREY HERALD READERS!**

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UP**

**SUNSET PRESENTS**

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Highly recognized for reinventing  
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**SUNSET PRESENTS**

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**Thursday, March 5 at 8PM**

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**SUNSET PRESENTS**

**Mnozil Brass**

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## BEST FAMILY DOCTOR

First - Dr. Cassandra Ohlsen

Second - Dr. Peter Franklin

Third - Dr. Gerard Issvoran, Monterey Bay Ctr for Integrated Health

Honorable Mention - Dr. Rebecca Abundis

## BEST FITNESS CENTER / GYM

First - Monterey Sports Center

Second - Carmel Valley Athletic Club

Third - Carmel Barre

## BEST HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

First - Refuge

Second - Carmel Barre

Third - Montage Wellness Center

Honorable Mention - Spa at Pebble Beach

Honorable Mention - Aqua Blue

## BEST HEARING AID PROVIDER

First - Carmel Hearing Aid

Second - Valley Hearing

Third - Salinas Hearing Aid Center

## BEST HOSPITAL SERVICES IN MONTEREY COUNTY

First - Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula (CHOMP)

Second - Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare (SVMH)

Third - Stanford Hospital Clinics

Honorable Mention - Montage

## BEST ONCOLOGIST

First - Dr. Nancy Rubin, Pacific Cancer Care

Second - Dr. Thomas P. Bradley

Third - Dr. Koontz, Pacific Cancer Care

## BEST ORTHODONTIST

First - Dr. Tim Auger, DMD

Second - Monterey Bay Orthodontics

Third - Dr. Eisinger

## BEST PEDIATRICIAN / PEDIATRIC GROUP

First - Monterey Peninsula Pediatric Medical Group- MPPMG

Second - Pediatric Group of Monterey | Stanford Children's Health

Third - Salinas Pediatric Medical Group

Honorable Mention - Pacific Coast Pediatrics

## BEST PERSONAL TRAINING

First - Carmel Valley Athletic Club

Second - Monterey Sports Center

Third - Carmel Barre

Honorable Mention - Montage Wellness Center

## BEST PHYSICAL THERAPY

First - Balance Physical Therapy

Second - Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula (CHOMP)

Third - Damon Anderson & Associates Physical Therapy

Honorable Mention - Performance Physical Therapy & Sports Conditioning

## BEST PODIATRIST

First - Dr. Bobby Yee

Second (TIE) - Dr. Alan H. Smith, DPM

Second (TIE) - Dr. Ann Hudacek, DPM Monterey Bay Podiatry

## BEST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

First - Madonna Gardens Assisted Living & Memory Care

Second - The Park Lane

Third - Hacienda Carmel

CONTINUE TO PAGE 56

**THANK YOU**

**Herald readers for supporting  
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**Mary Potter, CTC;  
Joe Shammass, CTC;  
Laura Lockett, CTC**  
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# Thank you!

## Best Skincare Services Best Waxing Services



Thank you so much for voting for us. My name is Diana Arroyo Robledo and I'm a California Licensed Aesthetician with a background in Medical Esthetics. I worked in a medical esthetics practice for several years under the supervision of a local Plastic Surgeon successfully treating problem skin. My training has also included studying under the renowned acne research dermatologist, Dr James Fulton, co-developer of Retin A and founder of THE ACNE RESEARCH. My motivation is EMPATHY. I once had grade 4 acne with painful boils and cysts so I know what it's like to wish for better skin, and I've worked hard to master the best methods of achieving it. So whether you're looking for correction, prevention, or just thoughtful maintenance, my team and I will work together to develop a mix of treatments, products, and daily routine that will truly change the way you look and feel.



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## BEST URGENT CARE / EMERGENCY CARE

First - Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula (CHOMP)  
Second - Doctors on Duty  
Third - Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare (SVMH)

## BEST YOGA STUDIO

First - Carmel Barre  
Second - Seaside Yoga Sanctuary  
Third - Om Studios

## PERSONAL SERVICES

### BEST DAY SPA

First - Refuge at CVAC  
Second - Complexions Skincare & Body  
Third - Aqua Blue Skin & Body Spa  
Honorable Mention - Magic Nails

### BEST HAIR SALON

First - Oya  
Second - Furey's Barber Shop  
Third - Euphoria Lounge

## BEST MASSAGE

First - Aqua Blue Skin & Body Spa  
Second - Refuge  
Third - Peak Performance Massage  
Honorable Mention - Pebble Beach Spa

## BEST NAIL SALON

First - Magic Nails  
Second - Serenity Nails  
Third - Toro Park Nails

## BEST SKINCARE SERVICES

First - Complexions Skincare & Body  
Second - Euphoria Lounge  
Third - Aqua Blue Skin & Body Spa

## BEST TANNING SALON

First - Sahara Sun  
Second - Glamour Glow  
Third - Sun Your Buns

## BEST TATTOOS / PIERCINGS

First - Creative Visions  
Second - Gold Coast  
Third - 831 Ink

## BEST WAXING SERVICES

First - Complexions Skincare & Body  
Second - Euphoria Lounge  
Third - Aqua Blue Skin & Body Spa

## HOME & SHOPPING

## BEST APPLIANCE SELECTION

First - Built-In Distributors  
Second - Ferguson  
Third - Best Buy

## BEST CARPET CLEANING

First (TIE) - Barry's Carpet Service  
First (TIE) - My Pro Dry of the Central Coast  
Third - Ferrante

## BEST EXTERMINATOR

First - Monasmith Home & Termite Inspection  
Second - Clark Pest Control  
Third - Monterey Bay Pest Control

CONTINUE TO PAGE 62



*Thank you*  
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# SANCTUARY VACATION RENTALS

## Month-Long Vacation Rentals Offer Many Advantages to the Discerning Traveler

Anyone who has stayed in a short-term vacation rental is likely familiar with the advantages and conveniences of staying in a private home rather than traditional traveler lodging. You can often find better pricing, more flexibility, more space, more choices, and so forth.

Those advantages are still applicable when one opts for a longer-term vacation rental, such as a one-month rental. Thirty days may seem like a long time, but when you vacation in an area like the Monterey Peninsula, a few days is certainly not enough to see and experience all the area has to offer.

Monterey based Sanctuary Vacation Rentals, named one of the best vacation rental companies in Monterey County in this year's Herald Readers' Choice awards, was founded more than 11 years ago and represents almost 100 homes across the Monterey Peninsula. The vacation rental professionals at Sanctuary Vacation Rentals specialize in both short-term and long-term rentals and have surveyed both renters and owners about the advantages and disadvantages of both.

Below are seven reasons to consider a one-month vacation rental:

1. You have a home base. It's your home away from home. You can sleep in, go on an outing, shopping, sightseeing or whatever you want to do. There's no check-out times. There's no getting awakened by housekeeping knocking on the door. If you're not feeling well, you can stay in for a day and rest and recuperate and not feel you're missing out.



2. You only need to unpack and pack once. You can unpack everything you brought with you without having to worry about packing up in a day or two, giving you more leisure time. And you're not living out of your suitcase.

3. You have more room and more time to use it. Vacation rentals have much more space than the average hotel room. There's more room to stretch out, relax and use areas of the home you may not use if you're only there for a day or two. Plus, there's usually more bathrooms and areas where you can get away from everyone else and have some quiet alone time.

CONTINUE TO PAGE 62

Morgan Stanley



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JAMES E. RHEIM, M.D. • JOSEPH R. RHEIM, M.D.

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# RED'S DONUTS

## SEVENTY YEARS OF SERVING UP THE TASTIEST DONUTS

Next time your sweet tooth is calling out, stop in and pick up a freshly made donut (or twelve!) and discover why Red's Donuts has once again been chosen as the winner of the Best Donuts category in the Monterey Herald's annual Readers' Choice competition. Red's Donuts began in 1950 when Herman "Red" O'Donnell opened the store on Alvarado Street in Monterey. Seventy years later, Red's continues their legacy of making fresh donuts daily. To make sure their donuts are convenient for everyone to get, Red's has a second location in Seaside. Red's is now owned and operated by Rene and Rosa Reyes. The Reyes' began working for previous owner, Matthew O'Donnell, in 1997. Rene has been making donuts ever since, carrying on the tradition of offering a wide variety of fresh, delicious donuts daily. Meanwhile, Rosa has done just about every other duty that comes with running this busy establishment including packing donuts for deliveries, cleaning the shops, serving customers

and progressively assuming all of the duties that Kathy, Matthews sister, used to do 5 years before they bought the business. From then until 2019, the husband and wife team of Rene and Rosa managed various aspects of Red's Donuts before officially taking over. Joseph Krantz continues working at Red's where he has been making their fabulous donuts for more than 30 years. Matthew O'Donnell still acts as the "expert advisor" say the Reyes. They continue making their well-known tasty donuts fresh daily with the highest quality ingredients. In addition to the two stores, there are numerous other local stores that sell Red's donuts including Forest Hill Mart, Grove Market, Bruno's Market, Nielsen Bros. Market, Ord Market, Alliance Mart, Bi-Rite, Troia's Market, Daney's Mini Mart, Kasey's, Meg's Chevron, Carmel Valley Roasting Co., and Acme Coffee. And so that donuts don't go to waste, Red's donates leftover donuts at the end of the day to The Salvation Army. ■



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Beer and Wine





# Pacific Cancer Care

*Advanced Treatment. Personalized Care.*



*John Hausdorff, MD, Zach Koontz, MD, Mallory Sandridge, NP, Nancy Tray, MD, Debbie Branson, NP, Lulu Zhang, MD, Roger Shiffman, MD, Nancy Rubin, DO, Ashley Sandridge, NP, (Not pictured: Dennis Niekro, NP)*

## ***Bringing World-Class Cancer Care to Monterey County***

For almost 50 years, Pacific Cancer Care has provided state of the art oncology/hematology services across Central California and beyond. We also provide infusion services for patients with anemia, osteoporosis and a variety of other chronic illnesses. We are the largest independent community oncology practice in the region.

Our expert team of physicians, nurse practitioners, RN's and support staff, cutting edge treatments, genetic and genomic based health care, clinical trials — including partnerships with Dana Farber Cancer Institute and the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, Palliative Medicine, Health Coach program, Scalp Cooling and Healing Touch, allows us to create a personalized plan which enables each patient to achieve the best possible outcome in a setting that is close to home.

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John Hausdorff, MD	Dennis Niekro, NP
Zach Koontz, MD	Debbie Branson, NP
Nancy Rubin, DO	Ashley Sandridge, NP
Nancy Tray, MD	Mallory Sandridge, NP

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## BEST FIREPLACES & INSERTS

First - The Hearth Shop  
Second - Monterey Stove & Hot Tub  
Third - Coast Building Products

## BEST FLOORING

First - Grand Avenue Flooring  
Second - ProSource Wholesale  
Third - Bereman's Carpet & Floors

## BEST FURNITURE

First - Mum's Place  
Second - Ashley Home Store  
Third - Macy's

## BEST GARDEN CENTER / LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

First - Griggs Nursery  
Second - McShane's Landscape Supply  
Third - Valley Hills Nursery

## BEST HARDWARE STORE

First - Ace Hardware - Salinas  
Second - Ace Hardware - Pacific Grove  
Third - Ace Hardware - Carmel

## BEST MATTRESSES

First - Mum's Place  
Second - Macy's  
Third - Mattress Firm

## BEST PAINT & WALLPAPER STORE

First - Sherwin - Williams  
Second - Kelly Moore  
Third - Home Depot

## BEST PAINTING COMPANY

First - Jon Stuefloten Restoration Painting  
Second - Costa Painting

## BEST PLUMBER / PLUMBING COMPANY

First - Mr. Rooter  
Second - A&R Plumbing  
Third - Chris Wilson Plumbing

## BEST ROOFING COMPANY

First - Scudder Roofing  
Second - Knox Roofing  
Third - Coastal Roofing & Solar

## BEST SOLAR ENERGY SUPPLIER

First - Solar Tecture  
Second - Solar City  
Third - Ross Roofing & Solar  
Honorable Mention - Scudder Solar

## BEST SPAS / HOT TUBS

First - Blackthorne Pools & Spas  
Second - Monterey Stove & Hot Tub  
Third - Spas by the Bay

## BEST TREE SERVICE

First - Tope's Tree Service  
Second - Urban Lumberjacks  
Third - Iverson's Tree Service

## HOME & SHOPPING

## BEST ANTIQUES

First - Cannery Row Antique Mall  
Second - Pacific Grove Antiques  
Third - Fourtane' Jewelry

## BEST ART SUPPLIES

First - Imagine Art Supplies  
Second - Michael's  
Third - Beverly's

## BEST BIKE SHOP

First - Toro Grind  
Second - Bobcat Bicycles  
Third - Workhorse Bicycles

## BEST BOOK SHOP

First - River House Books  
Second - Bookworks  
Third - Pilgrims Way  
Honorable Mention - Downtown Book & Sound

## BEST BRIDAL SHOP

First - Epiphany Boutique  
Second - Nest, Pacific Grove

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 58

4. You can choose the type of property with the amenities and comforts you want. Unlike many hotels, you can pick a home that has a hot tub, Jacuzzi or even a pool or one that comes furnished with outdoor swings, fire pits, and gas barbecue grills. Some homes even come equipped with beach toys, bicycles, surfboards and other recreational equipment.

5. You can save money. By grocery shopping and cooking your own meals "at home," you can save money and use it on excursions and sightseeing instead of eating out every night. And if you want to eat out, you still have that option too. You can also split the costs with your friends and family and use it on weekends and still be ahead.

6. You have more flexibility. You can plan longer excursions or short trips or

do them in stages, knowing you have more than a day or two to experience them all. You can invite family and friends to visit on weekends or for a couple of days.

7. Finally, you can do all of the above in the location of your dreams. Vacation rentals give you more options than a hotel room, whether it's a quaint Carmel cottage or a multi-room Pebble Beach mansion with an expansive view, you'll be able to find something that fits your dream perfectly.

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## BEST CANNABIS DISPENSARY

First - Big Sur Canna Botanicals  
Second - East of Eden Cannabis Co.  
Third - Monterey Bay Alternative Medicine

## BEST CONSIGNMENT STORE

First - Spirals  
Second (TIE) - Chatter Baux Shoppe  
Second (TIE) - Crush Consignment

## BEST EYEGLASS /SUNGLASS SELECTION

First - Insight Eyewear  
Second - Vantage Eye Center  
Third - Hattori Vision

## BEST FLORIST

First - Swenson & Silacci  
Second - Fleurs Du Soleil  
Third - Seaside Florist

## BEST GENERAL STORE

First - Prim's General Store  
Second - Big Sur Deli  
Third - Fernwood General Store

## BEST GIFT SHOP

First - Gift Peddler  
Second - Casona on Main  
Third - Gifts-on-the-Go

## BEST GOLF ACCESSORIES

First - Golf Mart  
Second - 831 For Men  
Third - Monterey Peninsula Country Club Pro Shop

## BEST JEWELER/JEWELRY

First - McWherter's  
Second - Bench Jeweler  
Third - B&G Jewelers

## BEST LOCAL BOUTIQUE

First - Head Over Heels  
Second - Go Figure Activewear  
Third - 831 For Men

Honorable Mention - Augustina's  
Honorable Mention - Bliss Boutique  
Honorable Mention - Marita's

## BEST MEN'S CLOTHING

First - 831 For Men  
Second - Khaki's  
Third - Patrick James  
Honorable Mention - Marita's

## BEST MUSIC STORE

First - Recycled Records  
Second - Wise Music  
Third - Bookmark  
Honorable Mention - Vinyl Revolution

## BEST PICTURE FRAMING

First - Glenn Gobel Custom Frames  
Second - Artistic Hangups  
Third - Monterey Custom Framing

## BEST SHOE SHOPPING

First - Lloyd's Shoes  
Second - Joypers

CONTINUE TO PAGE 67

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# MONTEREY'S **CASSANDRA** OHLSEN, MD

## STRIVES TO BE YOUR PARTNER FOR A HEALTHY LIFE

Monterey Herald readers selected Cassandra Ohlsen, MD as Best Family Doctor in this year's Readers' Choice awards for the second year in a row. Dr. Ohlsen is more than just someone to facilitate your annual check up, she is a true partner in your overall health and wellness. She is a proponent of encouraging patients to take the time to do what's right for them and their health on a daily basis. This includes healthy eating, exercise, mental well-being, and most importantly making health a priority. Her approach to health is a holistic one, taking into account all of the diverse elements that work in concert to make up the foundation of your life.

Dr. Ohlsen says, "I believe that healthcare is far more than treating symptoms; my personalized approach focuses on you as an individual with a unique opportunity to flourish. Whatever your age or personal health goals, I welcome the opportunity to partner with you to help you to live life to the fullest."

Dr. Ohlsen has published a book to help people learn about how eating the correct diet contributes to achieving their weight goals. Her book, *Enlightened Eating*, is available at bookstores, libraries, and online and helps readers better understand the connection between what we eat and our

health and weight. Most of us don't give much thought to overeating and consuming high-calorie, fat-laden, prepared, processed, and unnatural foods. The quickest and surest way to reverse the results of our unhealthy food choices is to eat nutrient-rich, calorie-sparse natural foods—vegetables, fruits, beans, and whole grains. Dr. Ohlsen explores the extensive health benefits, food-enjoyment issues, psychological considerations, and earthly impact of a plant-based diet. This book takes the reader on a journey from the perspective of someone who was an overweight meat eater suffering many health challenges to transforming into a slim, healthy individual whose diet is entirely plant-based whole foods. Her practical advice includes how to change eating habits using Buddhist psychology and a master plan called the Eightfold Path to help establish and support healthy decision-making. Dr. Ohlsen interweaves nutrition, inspirational stories, and mindful eating to help us eat better, think better, and do better. To learn more about Dr. Ohlsen and how you can work toward a healthier lifestyle, please visit [www.drcassandraohlsen.com](http://www.drcassandraohlsen.com) or find her on Facebook. ■



Best server award recipient  
(Honorable Mention)  
Roxanne Roark

# Thank you!



Dominic Mercurio

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Third - Head Over Heels  
Honorable Mention - Hedi's Shoes  
Honorable Mention - Marita's

### BEST SHOPPING CENTER/AREA

First - Del Monte Shopping Center  
Second - Carmel Plaza  
Third - The Crossroads

### BEST THRIFT STORE

First (TIE) - SPCA Benefit Shop  
First (TIE) - Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop  
Third - American Cancer Society Discovery Shop

### BEST TOYS & GAMES

First - Thinker Toys  
Second - Zearly Carmel  
Third - Zucchini's Tricks n Things

### BEST WOMEN'S CLOTHING

First - Go Figure Activewear  
Second - Head Over Heels  
Third - Macy's

## TRAVEL AND AUTO

### BEST AUTO BODY/PAINT SHOP

First - Gene's Import Auto Body  
Second - Caliber Collision  
Third - Jerry Graham Auto Body

### BEST AUTO DEALER (NEW)

First - BMW  
Second - Lexus Monterey  
Third - Victory Toyota  
Honorable Mention - Mercedes of Monterey  
Honorable Mention - Sam Linder Honda

### BEST AUTO DEALER (USED)

First - Sam Linder Honda  
Second - Mercedes of Monterey  
Third - Cardinale Audi  
Honorable Mention - BMW in Seaside  
Honorable Mention - Gold Star Motors

### BEST AUTO PARTS STORE

First - O'Reilly  
Second (TIE) - NAPA  
Second (TIE) - Skip's

### BEST AUTO REPAIR SERVICES

First - Hans Auto Repair  
Second - Rossi Bros. Tire and Auto Service  
Third - Wayside Garage

### BEST BED & BREAKFAST

First - Tickle Pink Inn  
Second - Seven Gables Inn  
Third - Carmel Garden Inn

### BEST CAR RENTAL AGENCY

First - Enterprise  
Second - Hertz  
Third - Alamo

### BEST CAR WASH

First - El Estero Car Wash  
Second - Del Rey Car Wash  
Third - Wash N Dash

CONTINUE TO PAGE 68



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## BEST HOTEL

First - Monterey Plaza  
Second - Portola Hotel  
Third - Bernardus Lodge

## BEST MOTEL

First - Deetjen's Big Sur  
Second - Mariposa Inn  
Third - Monterey Bay Inn

## BEST SMOG INSPECTION

First - Pacific Smog  
Second - Clean Air  
Third - Union 76 Carmel Rancho

## BEST TIRES & TIRE SERVICE

First - Sullivan's Tires  
Second - Newton Brothers Tire & Auto  
Third - Rossi Bros. Tire & Auto Service

## BEST TRAVEL AGENCY

First - Pacific Grove Travel  
Second - Carmel Monterey Travel  
Third - AAA  
Honorable Mention - Bob McGuiness Travel

END OF LIST WINNER LIST

# CAFÉ FINA

SERVES UP AUTHENTIC ITALIAN MEALS DAILY



Cafe Fina owner Dominic Mercurio. Herald file photo

Monterey Herald readers chose Cafe Fina as their choice for the Best Italian Food in the county, and that makes owner Dominic Mercurio and his team very happy. The restaurant received numerous accolades in this years Readers' Choice Awards and they are all well deserved for decades of serving locals and tourists who visit the gorgeous Monterey Bay. Mercurio was happy to accept these awards but recognized that without the hard work of his employees, he'd not be able to offer the fabulous food and dining experience people have come to expect at Cafe Fina. "My staff is the best. I couldn't do this without them" he said.

Since 1958, Old Fisherman's Wharf has been like another home to Mercurio. "A bunch of us used to come down here every day in the summertime," he recalls. "We were 10 or 11 years old and

CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE

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COMPASS

would leave home in the morning and not go back until dark. We'd be fishing every day, catching little smelts or mackerel."

Mercurio and his family are part of Monterey's famous fishing industry legacy. Fishermen from all over the world who settled in Monterey enjoyed a bounty of sardines, squid and other seafood, but when the sardines vanished in the 1950s, the fishermen ventured north to Alaska for salmon and to South America for tuna, seasons still observed today. "My father Jean introduced my brother and I to the fishing industry, and shared everything he knew. We are proud to continue his legacy," says Mercurio, pointing to one of the many family photos hanging from the walls of Cafe Fina. "He was born in a French province of North Africa. He was one of a group of Sicilians who went there to fish the sardines and who were kicked out during the French Revolution in the 1950s. That's how he and his five brothers ended up coming here – for the sardines."

Mercurio opened Cafe Fina, named after his mother Josephina, in 1989. Family recipes passed down from grandmother to mother are still used and provide an authentic Italian seafood

experience on the Monterey Wharf. Homemade pasta and fresh fish have been main courses since the beginning.

In addition to sourcing the freshest seafood, Mercurio also owns and operates a 25-acre stretch of sun-soaked land in Los Banos, CA, which produces organic produce for Cafe Fina to offer a true farm-to-table experience. Next time you have a craving for a delicious meal – prepared with care, using only the freshest ingredients – and you want to experience that meal while taking in an incredible view, make plans to visit Cafe Fina on Monterey's historic Fisherman's Wharf. ■

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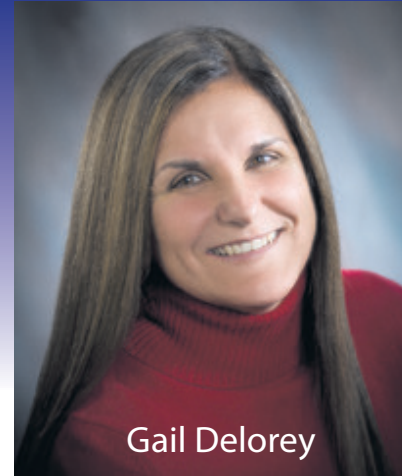
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Gail Delorey



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**Alex Holmes, MD** - Cataract Surgery  
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