

THIS WEEK

Food & Wine

SENIOR LIVING • ENTERTAINMENT
RESTAURANTS • EVENTS • ART

OCTOBER 10-16, 2008

Carmel • Pebble Beach • Carmel Valley & The Monterey Peninsula

Urban artist gets a big break

By CHRIS COUNTS

ACCUSTOMED TO working in an urban setting, artist Laura Diamondstone could barely contain her glee when she arrived last week at the picturesque Glen Deven Ranch in Big Sur.

"It's indescribable here," said Diamondstone, the second recipient of a program that offers artists an opportunity to live and work in Big Sur for eight weeks. "There isn't any other place like this."

The program is collaboration between

two local nonprofit groups — the Big Sur Land Trust and the Big Sur Arts Initiative. The winning artist is selected by a committee of local artists and receives a stipend of \$3,000.

While there are many scholarships and residencies available to artists, this program stands out, if only because of its extraordinary setting. Diamondstone will spend the next seven weeks in a studio that sits atop the narrow spine of Garrapata Ridge on the north Big Sur coast, just north of Palo Colorado Road. The ridge is blessed with an inspiring, 360-degree panoramic view of the surrounding mountains, canyons and ocean.

As she settles into her new home, the biggest challenge facing Diamondstone may be one of focus. With all the scenery outside, she has six projects of varying complexity and ambition underway, including a large abstract triptych; a series of 6-foot vertical paper rolls using mixed media; 20 assemblage pieces utilizing found objects; 40 4-by-4-inch canvases showcasing her use of soil, ash and the juices of local berries; a panoramic sketch of her Big Sur surroundings; a mixed media piece using paper stained with coffee grounds, and a watercolor of a Mid-Coast Volunteer Fire Brigade engine.

"I'm working all day and into the night," she explained. "I'm jumping from project to project."

Diamondstone will stay at the ranch through Thanksgiving.

For the BSAI, the program adds a new dimension to Big Sur's dynamic artistic community.

"Our intention is to nurture California artists," said Lisa Goettel, who heads the BSAI's Arts Bridge program. "And she's helping us look



At the top is the view from Glen Deven Ranch, where an urban artist will live and work for the next six weeks. Pictured above is Lord Wellington, the namesake English bulldog of a new Carmel gallery.

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Jade festival survives latest Big Sur wildfire

By CHRIS COUNTS

AFTER SCORCHING more than 12,000 acres and surviving the first rain of the season, the Chalk Fire continues to burn along Monterey County's south coast. But it won't be enough to stop one of Big Sur's most enduring traditions, the Big Sur Jade Festival.

As the flames spread toward Highway 1 in southern Monterey County last week, organizers feared they would have to cancel. But U.S. Forest Service officials announced this week the festival will go on.

"We just the official word from the forest service, and it's a go," explained Kirk Brock, a festival volunteer. "The fire's out and the festival is on."

The Pacific Valley School will host the 17th annual festival Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11-13.

The guest of honor at the festival is, of course, eye-catching blue green nephrite jade, which can be found along beaches near the San Luis Obispo/Monterey County line. But jade of every imaginable hue and origin is welcome at the festival.

"This is probably the only show of its kind with so many kinds of jade from so many different places," Brock said.

While jade is the star of the show, a diverse and eclectic collection of musical acts shares the billing. This year's lineup is as varied as ever, ranging from rock, blues and jazz, to more exotic offerings like Celtic, African and Middle Eastern music.

Performing at this year's festival are the Mighty Croondogs, Calinambe, Guy Budd and the Gypsy Souls, Rough House, Kenny Blackwell & David West, the Steve Tracy Band, Seamus Conroy, Dave Adams and Zoe Tree, the Cal-Poly Arab Music Ensemble, Dan Singer and Jud Davidson, the Frank West Band, the Topsy Gypsies, Sweetrock, the Higher Movement African Drum & Dance Ensemble, Ted Waterhouse with Debra Windsong,

See JADE page 21A

How to throw a really good party for yourself

ONE OF the perks of being a booking agent is that you get to throw yourself a party whenever you want ... and that is exactly what booker **Hattie Catania** is doing this Friday, Oct. 10, at **Monterey Live** with "Hattie's Bluegrass Birthday Bash," featuring **Microtonic Harmonic** and the **Down Beets**.

Since taking over the booking chores last November at the Alvarado Street music venue, Catania has brought an impressive and eclectic array of music to the intimate club. Friday's birthday bash kicks off at 9:30 p.m. and showcases a pair of talented local bluegrass acts on the rise.

Microtonic Harmonic, formerly Dave and Evan, play "happy-bluegrass-funky-folkadelic-roots 'n' love infused music." Core members **Dave Holodiloff** (mandolin and vocals) and

Evan Francis (guitar and vocals) are accompanied by a rotating cast of talented musicians. The Down Beets are a Santa Cruz bluegrass quartet featuring Sheila Golden on banjo and vocals, Mike Lucas on bass, Kasey Scott on guitar and Jeremy Lampel.

Also at Monterey Live, on Saturday, Oct. 11, singer songwriter **Lauren Shera** plays selections from her latest CD, "In My Bones." Her concert starts at 7 p.m. Call (831) 373-5483.

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See page 3A

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Holiday Tent GRAND OPENING October 11-12

See page 7A

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October 24

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Dining AROUND THE PENINSULA



CARMEL

Aubergine at L'Auberge Carmel .19A
AW Shucks19A
China Gourmet18A
Christopher's on Lincoln ...18A
Em Le's20A
Hola at The Barnyard21A
La Dolce Vita21A
Sushi Heaven20A

CARMEL HIGHLANDS

California Market
at Highlands Inn19A
Pacific's Edge at Highlands Inn 21A

MONTEREY

Culinary Center20A
Santa Lucia Cafe18A

PACIFIC GROVE

Fandango21A
Mauricio's19A
Thaiwainian Bistro18A



CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

DAWSON COLE GALLERY
presents

Born of Fire: An Epoch in Bronze

Oct. 1-Nov. 1

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CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

SUNSET CENTER
presents

COMING EVENTS

October - November

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ART

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at Big Sur with a fresh perspective.”

For the BSLT, the program provides a wonderful chance for the local land conservation group to make use of one of its most spectacular properties. The former home of late Seeley and Virginia Mudd, the ranch was donated by the couple to the land trust in 2000.

“We are supporting this program because of Virginia’s heartfelt desire to have artists inspired by Big Sur,” said Rachel Saunders, BSLT director of communications.

■ Art sought for county building exhibit

The Arts Council of Monterey County is seeking original works of art for its annual juried show, “Celebrating Monterey County,” at the Salinas Government Center. Forty winners will be selected, and for the next year, their works will adorn its walls. Paulette Lynch, executive director of the APMC, said, “It’s a wonderful opportunity for artists.”

Participating artists will receive 70 percent of the proceeds of works sold. The balance will benefit the APMC Professional Artists in the Schools program, which provides arts and literacy programs to more than 10,000 students at more than 20 schools throughout Monterey County.

The deadline for submitting art is Friday, Oct. 17. There is

a \$35 entry fee. For more information, call (831) 622-9060 or send an email to: paulettelynch@culturalmonterey.org.

■ New gallery named for pooch

Only in Carmel does man’s best friend get his own art gallery. Carmel sculptor Steven Whyte — who recently won a Golden Pine Cone for Best Sculpture Gallery — celebrates the opening of his new gallery, Wellington’s Legacy Fine Art Sculpture, with receptions Friday and Saturday, Oct. 10-11.

“That’s my bulldog,” Whyte declared proudly when asked about the origin of name of his new gallery.

Whyte is best known locally as the “Sculptor in the Park” at the annual Carmel Art Festival. At the event each year, he creates a larger-than-life-sized statue of a figure in American history in Devendorf Park while an audience looks on.

To help raise money for the Animal Friends Rescue Project, Whyte will auction off a bronze sculpture and a pet portrait at the receptions. A portion of the art sales from the receptions will also aid the local nonprofit group.

The new gallery features work by Whyte and other contemporary sculptors. “I have always wanted to have a venue where I could showcase other artists whose work I find inspiring,” he said.

The new gallery is located next door to Whyte’s existing studio in Su Vecino Court on Dolores Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenue. For more information, call (831) 620-1917 or visit www.stevenwhytesculptor.com.

MUSIC

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The **Cypress Inn** marks three years of “Jazz at the Inn” at **Terry’s Lounge** this coming Thursday, Oct. 16, with a trio composed of pianist **Dick Whittington**, bassist **Robb Fisher** and drummer **Vince Lateano**. Lateano, a San Francisco jazz drummer and a Monterey Jazz Festival clinician, toured with Cal Tjader, Woody Herman and Stan Getz. Friday night, Oct. 10, Whittington will be accompanied by bassist Dan Robbins, and on Oct. 11, flutist Kenny Stahl, another Terry’s Lounge regular, joins the fun. The music starts at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and goes on until 10. On Sunday, classical guitarist Richard Devinck plays weekly from 5 to 8 p.m. Call (831) 624-3871.

At the **Ol’ Factory Café** in Sand City, local maverick **Morgan Christopher** mixes politics with music Wednesday, Oct. 15. After the final presidential debate, which can be watched at 6 p.m. on the restaurant’s televisions, **The Belleville Outfit**, one of Austin’s premier acoustic bands, will play their foot-stompin’ brand of Gypsy swing, big band jazz and Americana roots music. During the past year, the Outfit has played for more than 25,000 people, touring in a van-with-trailer to shows all the way from Texas to Tennessee, from Colorado to New York, and sold out shows up and down the East Coast and throughout Texas. The music starts at 8 p.m. Call (831) 394-7336.

At **Cibo Ristorante** on Alvarado Street in Monterey, **Nadia Deleye** fronts her funky rhythm and blues band Oct. 10 and 11 from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., and on Cannery Row, the **Wade Love Band** returns to **Sly McFly’s** Saturday, Oct. 11. A consummate performer, Wade Love’s father is Rudy Love, former music director for Sly and the Family Stone, and his sister is Kandice Love, a singer/songwriter signed with Def Island Soul/Def Jam records. The music starts at 9 p.m.

The Old Monterey Business Association presents the **Columbus Day By the Bay Festival** Oct. 11-12, with non-stop entertainment beginning Saturday morning at 11 a.m. In addition to food vendors and arts and crafts booths, the festival will feature six of the best local bands in the Monterey Bay Area.

Appearing at this year’s festival are perennial local favorites John “Broadway” Tucker, The Tony Miles Band, Red Beans & Rice, Andrea’s Fault, The Kaye Bohler Blues Band and The Money Band. The stage is located at the Custom House Plaza.



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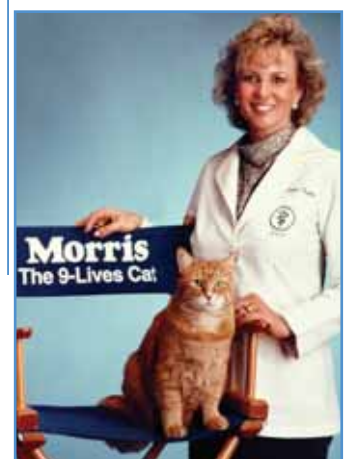


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