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MAYA ANGELOU

CELEBRATED POET AND AUTHOR, DIES AT 86

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KNIGHTS, HMB ARE ELIMINATED

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Harbor improvement grant lacks fishermen support

Frustration boiling over about Pillar Point Harbor control, district decision-making

By **Samantha Weigel**
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF

While seeking funds to update one of the most productive commercial fishing ports in the state, the San Mateo County Harbor District is receiving pushback from a group of fishermen who say they no longer trust the district has their best intentions at heart.

On April 28, the district applied for a \$3.4 million grant from the federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), to help fund road and pier improvements at Pillar Point Harbor in Half Moon Bay.

Pillar Point Harbor is home to the county's only coastside search and rescue vessel and team while also housing top performing commercial fishing fleets comprised of

100 commercial vessels and three offloading facilities, which generate about \$6.5 million a year, according to the district.

Yet the district has fallen under suspicion by the public and the fishermen it's meant to serve with accusations of backroom deals, high fish buying fees and the installation of a new hoist that benefits one fish buying company.

Although the improvements are meant to

benefit the harbor's fishing industry, some have spoken out against the district's application citing frustration and lack of consultation with recent policy and infrastructure decisions.

The Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association represents about 25 commercial fishermen at Pillar Point and, on May

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ANGELA SWARTZ/DAILY JOURNAL

Vanessa Lieberman volunteers at the Peninsula Humane Society/SPCA, caring for cats.

Avid volunteer heads to college

Vanessa Lieberman gives her time to animal efforts

By **Angela Swartz**
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF

An avid volunteer, Mercy High School Burlingame's Vanessa Lieberman has spent the past six years tending to cats at the Peninsula Humane Society/SPCA, but is ready for new experiences in college this coming year.

Lieberman, 18, grew up in Belmont. She will graduate from Mercy on Sunday, June 1. She spent about 88 hours volunteering this year. During her junior year at the Catholic school, she started the Sea Shepherd Club, a

spinoff of the international marine wildlife conservation nonprofit. The group volunteers in efforts to protect the oceans and spread awareness of wildlife issues.

She also worked as a TLC (Tender Loving Care) volunteer to provide comfort, companionship and socialization for cats, which, in part, makes the cats friendlier to potential adopters. Her mom, who works at Genentech, initially brought her to the SPCA when she was in the seventh-grade to volunteer.

"We make them become adopted," she said. "It's really powerful for us

that what I do at the SPCA makes a difference for others. ... I enjoy spending time with the cats; it really takes away my stress."

Some of Lieberman's duties at the SPCA include exercising animals, hands-on socialization to build confidence for some animals, minor grooming, providing toys and fresh blankets for all animals and completing volunteer visit/behavior cards.

Now, Lieberman is moving on to Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida, to study interior design. She chose the school because

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Hill's bill moving forward

Senate passes legislation to reopen Martin's Beach

By **Samantha Weigel**
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF



Jerry Hill

The efforts to reopen the contested Martin's Beach to the public were propelled forward Wednesday as state Sen. Jerry Hill's legislation, aimed at upholding access to California beaches, passed the Senate floor and will head to the Assembly.

Hill's Senate Bill 968 was approved 21 to 11 and would require the State Lands Commission to negotiate with billionaire venture capitalist Vinod Khosla,

See **BILL**, Page 200

Protest hearing set for land swap ballot decision

San Carlos council begins complicated process for citywide vote on park land

By **Michelle Durand**
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF

San Carlos voters are one step closer to deciding whether to rezone a city-owned parcel to potentially accommodate a charter school campus but the council can't decide definitively until a protest hearing at the end of June.

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