

HUCKLEBERRY HILL - by Maxine Carlson, Award Winning Author

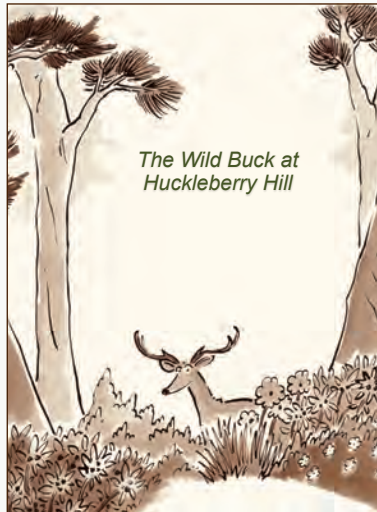
Within Del Monte Forest, we are surrounded by spellbinding beauty. People from all over the world travel here. It's a bucket list destination. Are you making the most of it? Challenge yourself. Make each and every day a 'staycation.' When was the last time that you explored the 17-Mile Drive?

Stop number two of the seventeen 'points of interest' within the Del Monte Forest is Huckleberry Hill. According to the Pebble Beach Resorts '17-Mile Drive Brochure' stop two is described as:

"HUCKLEBERRY HILL- Take in this tree-top-level view at Huckleberry Hill, where you can see Santa Cruz in the distance. The huckleberry filled hills, which have been set aside as permanently preserved forest, were rumored to be frequented by writers Robert Louis Stevenson and John Steinbeck."

As an author, thinking of Stevenson and Steinbeck within the landscape of Huckleberry Hill, well, this image allows one to combust with inner delight.

For my family, living on Huckleberry Hill is pure joy. During my childhood, long summer days were spent picking huckleberries. If we were patient, and had extra helping hands, we would gather enough huckleberries for a pie. Fresh out of the oven, homemade pie, served with a large dollop of vanilla ice cream, it's huckleberry heaven. As a matter of fact, in my first children's




Artist Drew McSherry, THE WILD BUCK

book, the finale scene is a family making a huckleberry pie. In my Italian household, culture, family, love and food are all connected.

Del Monte Forest huckleberries are minuscule when compared to the size of a cultivated berry. It takes patience to collect enough small purple huckleberry morsels to bake with. When gathering of berries is sparse a favorite recipe is huckleberry pancakes. Compared to a pie, pancakes need fewer berries. Quickly, one can make pancake batter from a mix. Toss huckleberries onto the pancake before flipping. Serve with real butter and maple syrup. Simple and rewarding!

If you want to really showcase Pebble Beach huckleberries then use this 'from scratch' pancake recipe, shared from talented Chef Anna Marie Bayonito (STICKS at Spanish Bay). We love the fluffy reward of this process. Lemon mascarpone is a perfect complement to huckleberries.

Do you have any favorite memories or recipes featuring huckleberries? If so, please share. I would love to archive your ideas and tips. Reach me anytime via email at huckleberryhilladventure@gmail.com.

Living in the awe inspiring Del Monte Forest surely feeds the soul. Enjoy! 

What a Year. It's hard to believe that more than a year ago, in March 2020, Governor Newsom issued his first Stay at Home Order. From that point forward, nearly every aspect of our lives – in business and family alike – has changed. Doesn't it seem like we're measuring time in pandemic terms, rather than calendar months? For Pebble Beach Company, the pandemic presented enormous challenges and changes. For the first time in our 100-year history, we closed our resort hotels, restaurants, clubs, and world famous golf courses. We were faced with the heart-wrenching reality of layoffs and reduced work schedules across all lines of business. At the same time, a heartbeat of optimism, connectedness, and strength remained ever-present throughout the resort and Del Monte Forest community.

Amidst a year of uncertainty, we pressed on, and I'd like to highlight a few bright spots and accomplishments of the pandemic year.



New Sloat Guestroom Building:

At The Lodge, we rebuilt the two guestroom buildings behind the 18th green from the ground up. The new 26 guestroom Sloat Building provides unobstructed views of the 18th fairway, Stillwater Cove and Point Lobos. The renovation was completed in time to host professional players for the 2021 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.



AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am: With no spectators, celebrities, or amateurs, the 2021 tournament presented a wonderful opportunity to showcase our golf courses absent the usual build-out of grandstands, tents, and concessions. Anyone who watched the tournament on CBS or Golf Channel will attest to how beautiful our golf courses and surrounding area looked, not to mention the spectacular golf. The CBS television ratings on Sunday were



Daniel Berger shot a seven-under 65 over the final 18 holes to win the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. Berger eagled the 18th hole for his fourth eagle of the week and second of the day to clinch his fourth PGA Tour victory.

its highest for a regular-season PGA TOUR event in four years. Since its inception in 1947, the Pro-Am has generated more than \$176 Million for local charities. And, although business was down substantially this year,

the 2021 tournament will add significantly to that total thanks to all the hard work of the Monterey Peninsula Foundation and its partners.

Outdoor Patio Dining: Absent indoor dining during the pandemic, we've created new, covered outdoor dining options. We expanded the outdoor dining space at The Bench, and we now offer a beautiful Tap Room outdoor dining experience on the Fairway One patio. We also built a warm, glass-enclosed patio at Peppoli, a delightful new way to dine outdoors at the Inn.



Short Course: The reimagination of Peter Hay Golf Course is very close to opening. In fact, depending on the time you read this, you may have already seen our announcement with the details. If not, please keep a close eye out. The new facility, created in partnership with Tiger Woods and his TGR Design company, will include nine all-new par-3 holes, a 20,000-square-foot putting course, and a food and beverage venue featuring a full kitchen and bar and the resort's largest outdoor patio positioned for expansive views of the golf course and Carmel Bay. We hope to see you out enjoying this great new facility soon!

The Game of Golf: While COVID has forced us to pause many of our beloved activities, Golf has enjoyed a resurgence and become a coveted way to safely connect with local friends and family.

Across the country, rounds played grew more in 2020 than any year since the height of Tigermania, despite most courses having to close for a period in the Spring. We have seen the same dynamic on our courses, albeit with locals and day visitors filling the tee times usually occupied by our resort guests. Going forward, we're really excited to see all the benefits from this newfound growth in the game.



As I write, I'm struck with a sense of optimistic anticipation for the post-pandemic year ahead. More and more of us are receiving vaccines each day, and we're looking forward to reconnecting in person with family and friends. Many of us are daydreaming and planning our next vacation. After all the uncertainty and changes of the last year, Pebble Beach remains an extraordinary place like no other. Perhaps that's why I'm so optimistic – because today Pebble Beach is as magical as ever, stunningly unchanged, and ready to share with visitors, friends, and family for yet another 100 years.

If you enjoy the outdoors, you are likely at some point to encounter a bobcat (aka *Lynx Rufus*). There are about one million bobcats in North America, including the lower portion of Canada and parts of Mexico. Bobcats are twice as big as the average house cat. They sport long legs, large paws and tufted ears similar to the larger Canada lynx. A distinctive feature is their short tail, a “bob”, which can be as long as six inches, and gives the cat its common name. The rich, beautiful coat is light grey to brown, sometimes with a reddish tinge and marked with spots or stripes; a fantastic camouflage. Bobcats can live up to 15 years in the wild.

Bobcats have prominent “false eyes” in the back of their ears. These white markings make the bobcat look larger to frighten predators. It is possible that the spots and the raised underside of the tail, also white, are signals for the kittens to follow mom in dim light. Think of headlight-tailight.

Bobcats are adaptable to many environments including deserts, forests, swamps, scrub land, and urban. They do most of their hunting during twilight hours, traveling 2-7 miles within their territory. When a mom is feeding her kittens, she may need to spend more time hunting during daylight.

Fantastic climbers, they can run close to 30 miles per hour in short bursts, meaning they can exceed the maximum speed limit anywhere in Del Monte Forest. In fact, bobcats mainly hunt by stalking and then leaping as much as 12 feet to capture prey. Do you notice a similar behavior in your kitty?



Jerry Loomis

The main prey of bobcats is rabbits, but they will feed on other small mammals like gophers, ground squirrels and sometimes even birds or reptiles. One thing that can help keep the bobcat population healthy is to avoid using toxic substances to control pests. These substances are introduced into the wild animal food chain with unintended consequences.



Paul Fenwick

Solitary animals, male and female bobcats come together only during mating seasons, usually in the winter months. The females choose a secluded den to raise the young, two to four kittens per litter. Gestation lasts about 60-70 days. The cute little kittens are usually born in the spring; they will remain with mommy for about five months. What do bobcats sound like? They rarely mew like domestic cats but will growl and make birdlike chirps. During courtship their vocalization will remind you of a screaming feral cat. Before you

get mad at your neighbors for letting their cat outside during its “amorous” phase, be aware that what you are hearing may not be a kitty-cat at all.

I hope you have the experience of sighting one of these magnificent creatures in our beautiful forest.



Mary Dainton

THE FIRE THREAT – WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

- by Rick Verbanec, Chair, Del Monte Forest Open Space Advisory Committee

I see two ways of approaching the reality of our fire problem in California. The first is from the top down, as will surely be taken by governments at every level. This involves forest management policies (i.e., fuel reduction) in the state and federal lands, power line safety standards, new subdivision restrictions in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), new and more stringent building code requirements, especially in CalFire's designated "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones," and changes in insurance regulations to incentivize compliance in existing homes. These are planning and regulatory activities that require buy-in from many constituencies and will, I believe, be many more months or years in the making.

The other approach is a bottom-up view of what can be done locally and individually to "harden" our own communities and homes starting from now until, or whether, the government regulations catch up with reality. Since most of us have little influence on the larger planning processes, the most effective use of our energy would be focused inward to protect ourselves.

Here in Del Monte Forest, in cooperation with Pebble Beach Company (PBC) and Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC), our fire department is applying existing fire road/fuel break standards to the egress routes from the Forest, intended to reduce the risk like that experienced by folks trying to flee the Camp Fire that destroyed Paradise last year. Following the 1987 Morse Fire, Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) undertook to improve the ability of CalFire to defend us from fire. All the findings of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) post incident report, ranging from issues with water supply, forest access, backup power, communications, construction methods, and response protocols within CalFire have been addressed, spending well over \$20M. Recently, an Insurance Services Office rating of 1, the highest possible, was achieved by the Pebble Beach Fire Department, putting them in the top 5% statewide. While this is no guarantee of insurability in the Forest, it would be a shame to waste it with individual practices that might tend to scare insurers away.



For that reason, as well as our self-preservation, it is important to follow the property clearance standards of Public Resources Code (PRC) 4291 (the 100 ft rule) regarding flammable vegetation around habitable structures on our private property. But since fire does not recognize lines on paper, our vulnerability does not stop there either. The 100 ft rule should really be applied cooperatively among neighbors across property lines. El Dorado County, for example, has passed an ordinance (5101) expressing exactly that intent. We should also move in that direction on our own initiative.

In truth, wind driven wildfire as we have seen across the state in the last few years will not be stopped by any external measures once it gets started. Burning embers can rain down from a distant fire, igniting anything flammable they encounter. This is the rationale for a "class A" 1-hour fire rating requirement on roof systems, giving occupants time to escape before burn-through occurs. But wood shingles, siding, decks, trellises, etc., even if (temporarily) treated, can ignite, flake off, and become flaming embers which threaten home-to-home propagation. Even though the Forest is unlikely to suffer the extreme wind events associated with the recent catastrophic and virtually unstoppable fires, the potential for spot fires or flaming trails generated by any wind presents an extreme and unwarranted hazard to the surrounding neighbors. Our homes should be hardened in every way possible and surrounded with non-flammable materials to have the greatest chance of survival.

Suha Kilic, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial Officer for Pebble Beach Community Services District, is retiring in May after thirty-three years of service.

Suha is originally from Istanbul, Turkey. As a Junior Lieutenant in the Turkish Navy, he arrived in Monterey after graduating from the Turkish Naval Academy, to study and graduate from the Naval Post Graduate School (NPS) in 1983. After finishing his service obligation in Turkey, in 1988, Suha returned to Monterey and began working for Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) as an Information Systems Coordinator. He attended the Finance MBA program at Golden Gate University during the evenings.

Established in 1982, the District provided only three services at the time he joined: trash, fire, and sewage, operating with only two stand-alone computers. Suha established the first network, developed database programs, and implemented the computerized financial system used today. Suha stated the experience was similar to a small start-up. PBCSD's growth, in Suha's words, "required the development of new systems, procedures, and partnerships from the ground up – all contributing to an ever-changing, highly satisfying career."

He was quick to give praise and credit to the talented group of people he worked with throughout his career, including his mentors who so generously shared their wisdom, his fellow employees, and community-oriented residents who volunteered their time and experience.



Suha has enjoyed a leadership role in many local organizations. In 2008 he was chosen by the Monterey County Treasurer to lead a six-person team to review Monterey County's investments, policies, and annual compliance audit, a responsibility he held until the beginning of this year. He was the Vice Chair for the Board of the American Red Cross Monterey Bay Chapter from 2009 to 2012. Suha was a Director and later President of the Board of Directors for the Del Monte Forest Conservancy between 2010 to 2018. In 2012 Suha was a charter member and later the President (2015-16) of the Monterey Bay Cannery Row Rotary Club.

His proudest accomplishment is raising his daughter. In addition to her many wonderful qualities, she enjoys working as a director at a media company in New York City. In his leisure time Suha enjoys reading and exercising. He is currently enjoying "A Little History of Economics" by Niall Kishtainy. Suha is a gym regular in the early morning hours. He has participated in marathons, obstacle course races, mountain climbing (Mount Whitney and Half Dome), and hiking our local forest trails. Suha enjoys sailing, his favorite location being the Aegean Sea, between Turkey and Greece.

Retirement plans for Suha and his wife Melanie include traveling to see family abroad, explore Austria, and other parts of Europe. Suha believes "You have to keep moving physically and cognitively." We thank him for his contributions, and send good wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.



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Pebble Beach is many things to many people; to some of us, like yours truly, it is a remarkable coastal environment. It is amazing that right here at our doorstep, there are trails through a variety of protected landscapes. We have the incredibly rare Monterey Cypress grove adjacent to 17 Mile Drive. If you walk further into the forest, you will find the even rarer Gowen cypresses and Bishop pines!

These trails have sustained many of us during the pandemic. Perhaps it's time for us to help preserve them. With that in mind, last month a small Covid-safe group of residents and friends joined forces on a beautiful Saturday morning to clear a trail of an invasive grass. In this case, Velvet grass. ("Holcus lanatus" for those of you who speak Latin.) This is a pretty grass with purple flower heads in May (in England they call it "Yorkshire Fog"). But don't let that fool you! It's actually an invader from Europe. The plant is mixing with the beautiful rushes and grasses along the Green trail, and will eventually smother those native species. According to knowledgeable friends, the seeds often travel on shoes... both sneakers and horseshoes! You will see it along popular equestrian trails as well.

We met near Congress at the Staub marker, and worked our way up the green trail, removing and bagging the invasive weed. Thank you to Micah Hawbaker, who is an ecologist, forester and road manager for Pebble Beach. He helped to orchestrate the event, even carrying the heavy bags of weeds away, and putting up signs to keep bicycles off the trail for our safety. (Bikes are not actually allowed on the trail, but that is another story for a different time.)

It was so much fun that we gathered again and pulled ice plant on March 13th. Amazingly, eight brave (or maybe foolish) volunteers (including one gracious Pacific Grove volunteer) were able to remove a long stretch of ice plant between China Rock and the MPCC fencing. Although we pulled the roots, it was much more deeply rooted than expected, so the work was challenging! The soil was dark, caused by the decaying ice plant leaves, which clearly has

changed the soil. We left huge piles of detritus by the side of the trail for Pebble Beach Company to dispose of. We still have to tackle the south side of China Rock and China Rock itself.

Ongoing, the remaining roots will continue to re-sprout, so we should collectively stay abreast of that. It may be best to replant the area with buckwheat and the other natives (lizard tail, vetch, poppies, etc). Collecting seed later this summer/fall from the nearby plants is also a good idea, to plant those before next winter's rains.

If you are interested in helping or getting on our list, please email me (Katie Spitz, k.spitz@me.com), or Bob Ogle (bob_ogle@msn.com). Currently it's still in the "word of mouth" stage. Samuel Morse envisioned a pristine environment... We can help keep it that way!



Velvet Grass



Native buckwheat, lizard tail, seaside daisy, poppies and vetch, all engulfed by ice plant



Seventy five percent of ice plant removed March 13th



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HUCKLEBERRY RECIPE

-Pancakes with Lemon Mascarpone-

*CHEF Anna Marie, STICKS, Spanish Bay,
Pebble Beach Resorts*

Serves 5 people three large
pancakes each

Pancake Ingredients:

2 organic eggs
3 cups cake flour
8 cups organic sugar
¾ cup oil
2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 cups organic buttermilk
1 tsp. salt
½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. baking powder
4TBS. melted butter
4 cups huckleberries

(Organic blueberries are used
at Sticks and can be substituted.)

In 2016 Chef Anne Marie Bayonito joined the team at the Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach as Chef de Cuisine at STICKS. Chef Bayonito's influences are eclectic and highlighted by her love of Asian, French, and Italian cuisines. Berry pancakes are a popular brunch staple at STICKS, especially enjoyed with the Spanish Bay ocean view and a cup of gourmet coffee.



Lemon Mascarpone: (*Mascarpone is similar to cream cheese but uses a base of whole cream rather than milk*)

1 cup good quality mascarpone
lemon to zest
powdered sugar to garnish

Directions:

Mix eggs, sugar, oil, vanilla and half of the buttermilk in a mixer until combined. Sift the dry ingredients and add to the mixing bowl. Combine the mixture until there are no visible lumps.

Add remaining buttermilk and melted butter to fully combine.

Heat well-oiled grill, sprinkle huckleberries (or blueberries) on batter before turning.

Top a stack of three pancakes with large dollop of mascarpone cheese, garnish with lemon zest and powdered sugar.

