



BUILD A BUSINESS IN 3 DAYS!

FEBRUARY 3-5, 2023
CAL STATE MONTEREY BAY



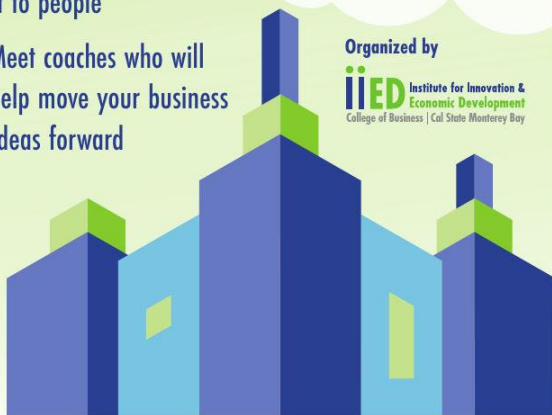
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THE BUZZ

FREE SPEECH

A little over a year after it began publication, the **Pacific Grove Press** has been sold by owner **Gary Baley** to the publisher of the **Seaside Post**, **Alade Djehuti-Mes**, under his company **Empower Local Media LLC**. Baley announced last fall that he would cease publication in December unless he could find a buyer for the biweekly newspaper. On Dec. 16, the front page of the *Press* featured a photo of Baley and Djehuti-Mes smiling and shaking hands, announcing the sale. "I didn't want a local paper to die," Djehuti-Mes says of why he made the purchase. The *Press* took a short break before resuming publication Jan. 11, with Baley as a guest columnist and providing numerous photos. Djehuti-Mes, a native of Seaside, purchased the 76-year-old *Post* two-and-a-half years ago but has not put out any new editions since 2020. He says he will be starting up the *Post* again in February. "We look forward to providing quality news to the people," Djehuti-Mes says.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Water is going into areas it hasn't been in a decade or more."

-Anthony Guerriero, a supervisory hydrologic technician with the U.S. Geological Survey, explaining how drought makes modeling potential flooding on the Salinas River extra challenging (see story, posted Jan. 12 at mcweekly.com).

THE WEEKLY TALLY

\$30 million

Estimated minimum cost to repair damage to public county infrastructure from the series of recent storms. This includes roads, bridges, parks, debris removal and more. *Source: Monterey County Office of Emergency Services report to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services*

GOOD WEEK / GREAT WEEK

GOOD: Exactly 150 years ago on Jan. 4, the **Southern Pacific Freight Depot** opened as Salinas' first train station, planting the seed that grew into the Salinas Valley becoming known as the "Salad Bowl of the World." The depot, located in what is now the **Salinas Intermodal Transportation Center** in downtown Salinas, began transporting passengers and freight in 1873; at one point the freight depot was shipping out about 50 percent of the valley's produce, according to the **California Welcome Center Salinas**. The board-and-batten building consisted of a waiting room, baggage room, ticket office and freight bay. A separate station for passengers was built next door in 1905. The freight depot now serves as the Welcome Center's home, featuring displays from the region's rich history. "We are proud to be the stewards of this important piece of California history," the center announced on the building's 150th birthday.

GREAT: A new group of aspiring local filmmakers have received scholarships from the **Monterey County Film Commission**. The winners are **David Orta** of Greenfield, a film student at **Hartnell College** (awarded with \$1,500); **Laska Stanford** of Marina, a student in the Cinematic Arts and Technology Department at **CSU Monterey Bay** (\$1,500); and **Diego Garcia** of Lemoore, also a CSUMB film student (\$500). "In a time of financial strain and economic disparity, this award is a glimmer of hope for artists like myself and the creative people I collaborate with," Orta said in an announcement. "I feel very grateful for the creative freedom receiving this scholarship affords me," Stanford added. The Director Emeritus Richard Tyler Film Student Scholarship Award program was created in 2008; the film commission itself was created in 1967. This year marks an expanded scholarship program; in 2021, Eliette Singleton of CSUMB was the sole winner of \$2,000.