

## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDREA WOGSLAND



July marks a special time. The summer is in full-swing. Plans are made with our friends and families to be outside. We have the opportunity to enjoy each other with nature.

This is the time of year the outdoors reconnects us to a feeling of optimism and celebration.

Whether it is going on a camping trip, taking that hiking trail that has been on your mind, visiting a beach where the shores reveal sea life, or simply finding the perfect place with a view in the shade to read a few more chapters of your summer read--all lead us to moments where memories are made.

We intentionally invest in this time to be able to move through our lives with passion.

Were you able to catch a glimpse of animals in the wild? Speculate on their movements? Share your surprise of the colors of plants along your path?

Future plans are devised to relive the fun. When we empathize with future generations, we never want those places to go away.

The question is, what actions are we taking to inspire investment in nature? I'm looking forward to engaging in those solutions together with you.



## Don't Miss "Egret's Dream" By Carol Jean Attoe at Greenspace's 31st Annual Art and Adventure Auction



*Special Look with Sydney Torres, Intern with Greenspace*

A departure from her "Ocean Lives" & "Tiny Lives" series', Carol Jean Attoe's *Egret's Dreams* is a special addition to Greenspace's Art & Adventure Auction on July 13, 2019.

By using the bones of the Egret, Carol Jean gives this heron a second life, in the way of art. Carol Jean sources these bones from the Cambria area, whether it's along the shores of San Simeon Creek beach or given to her by friends who supply her with found materials. The Egret skull is a rare find. "I use these bones as a deep reverence for the animal; I feel a kinship with each skull," says Carol Jean.



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In relation to other vessels in her series', the Egret skull size and shape presented more of a challenge than that of a snake skeleton. Carol Jean's utilization and

placement of the skull showcases the Egret's elegance beyond its lifetime. The Earth toned colors of the ceramic clay contrasts with the pine weaving into an ethereal balance.

Greenspace is honored that Carol Jean was inspired to create for the occasion. We continue to be invigorated by her creativity in support of Greenspace's work.

Let the bidding begin!

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## **Pocahontas Park Native Plant Demonstration Garden: An Idea Blossoms**



*Announcement from  
Amanda Darling, Board  
Member*

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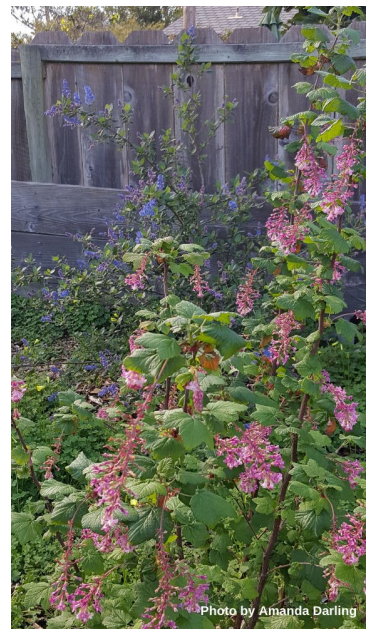
Five years ago, a coworker told me that he was going to start growing vegetables at Pocahontas Park. The park used to be a community garden, but for a couple of years the site sat unused. So he and I, with the help of Rick Hawley, arranged to use the space. As you may know, there are many challenges to gardening in Cambria, such as deer, gophers, and birds, but water is the deal breaker. You

can put up cages and nets, but you can't grow food without water. We tried to truck in non-potable water, but that proved an arduous task. Unfortunately, due to that challenge and the lack of overall involvement, the community garden once again sat unused. But a new idea was beginning to blossom.

While working at a local nursery, and living in Ragged Point, I developed a passion for gardening with native plants. Excited by the beauty and variety that grows naturally all around us, my enthusiasm grew. I later became involved with Greenspace through a local farm I was working on, and I went on to join the board of directors. I remember my first board meeting, when I heard of the suggestion of converting the Pocahontas Community Garden into a native plant garden, I knew it was the perfect project for me.

I have always found the idea and energy of a thriving community garden to be appealing, especially in bustling urban areas where a patch of earth may be hard to come by. We believe that we can generate equal if not more enthusiasm and involvement around a native plant garden in Cambria.

The people of Cambria love their gardens. In hopes of encouraging the growth of native plants in those gardens, Pocahontas Park is being used to demonstrate the prosperity of native plants. By exhibiting native plant



growth, we hope to show Cambrians that a beautiful garden can be achieved with the addition of native plants. This inspiration scales to a larger audience through education events and volunteer involvement.

What's so great about native plants? Well, for starters, these plants are well-equipped to thrive in conditions where traditional garden plants struggle. Most are drought tolerant, deer resistant, and thrive in poor soil with little maintenance. Bringing native plants into gardens brings about the added benefit of increasing biodiversity. Native plants attract native insects ("good bugs"), pollinators (birds, bees, butterflies), lizards and small mammals. These plants also have many uses which have been demonstrated by the Native Americans, who lived in harmony with them. Some are edible, some have medicinal properties, and all are uniquely made to grow and thrive in this area.

Two of my favorites (featured in the accompanying photos) are Yerba Buena (*upper right*), a beautiful herbaceous ground cover that makes a tasty tea, and Chaparral Currant (*previous page lower right*), which, with its gorgeous pink flower clusters and edible berries, provides nectar, food and shelter to many birds and insects.

We are very grateful to Greenspace board members, supporters, volunteers, and businesses that have donated plants, labor, and funds to make this vision a reality. On behalf of Greenspace, I would like to introduce to you the Pocahontas Park Native Plant Demonstration Garden.

The garden's opening will be on August 17, from 1pm to 4pm. There is also an opportunity to roll-up your sleeves and get involved before the opening at the Community Volunteer Day. This volunteer day will be on August 10 from 10am to 2pm, one week prior to spruce up the garden in advance of opening day. Be part of

the growth and development of the Pocahontas Native Plant Demonstration Garden.

I hope that you will be pleasantly surprised and inspired to grow your own native plants.



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## CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Chinese Temple Comes Alive



*Notes from John Seed,  
Volunteer Chinese  
Temple Curator and  
Docent*

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To those of you who stopped by to observe Nan Rae's recent complimentary demonstration at the Chinese Temple, thank you!

Nan Rae was invited to demonstrate her painting techniques at the Chinese Temple in Greenspace's own Creekside Reserve, working at a long table inside the temple. Nan has taken the art of Chinese brush painting in a new individualistic direction. Her most common subject of focus are flowers. During



her Cambria demonstrations on May 25th, in conjunction with Cambria's Heritage Day celebration, she painted Chinese Magnolias, Chrysanthemums,

Irises and, upon request, a tulip. The tulip was painted for a young man who attended the event with his mother. Delighted as he watched Nan paint, the tulip was then presented to the young man as a gift. The sessions at the temple were intimate and full of laughter as Nan told stories and provided helpful painting tips.

The following day, in conjunction with the Cambria Center for the Arts, Nan worked with two groups of students while teaching them Chinese style painting. With the help of special brushes that Nan provided, each student

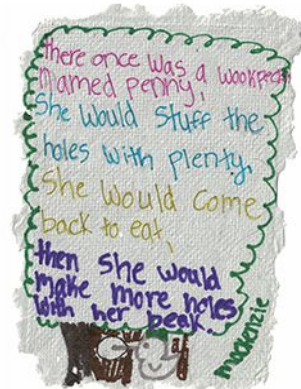


Painted Magnolias and bamboo, a traditional Chinese subject. The students, ranging from middle school students to seniors, were all successful in creating vivid and skilled paintings. At the conclusion of each session, Nan and the students posed delightfully for pictures with their paintings. Stay tuned for future exciting live art-themed cultural events at the Chinese Temple. *Photos left by John Seed. Photo below by Veronica Barry.*



## EDUCATION: Penning Poet-Tree

As part of Greenspace's Environmental Field Education Program, after students have spent time in Greenspace's Strawberry Canyon, we join them back in the classroom to experiment with creating recycled paper. This exercise culminates in poet-tree! Thank you to the Harold Miossi Charitable Trust for supporting this program.



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