

## PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS

### Morro Bay's Galley set to reopen soon

Morro Bay is gaining a new restaurant and hotel along its waterfront, with the opening of the Galley Seafood Grill and Bar and the Anderson Inn in the next few weeks. Both businesses will be run by longtime friends connected to historic businesses in San Luis Obispo County.

The restaurant and inn will be in a new 7,500-square-foot building that juts over the harbor at 899 Embarcadero. The building replaces the old Galley restaurant, run by the Anderson family for 40 years before it closed four years ago. The closure was prompted by a lawsuit filed by Jarek Molski, who claimed the enterprise did not give adequate disabled access as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Anderson family decided to demolish the building, one of the first structures on the waterfront and more than 50 years old, and rebuild it from the pilings up. The Andersons have added an eight-room inn on the second floor as a way to maximize their investment as well as to reconnect themselves to their family roots, said Rodger Anderson. Anderson owns the building, along with several family members, including brother Jefferson Anderson and sister Mollie Mason. They plan to operate the inn as a family enterprise.

“My great-grandfather Jeff Anderson founded the Anderson Hotel in San Luis Obispo. My dad, Bud Anderson, started as a bellhop at the old Anderson hotel and ended up running both the hotel and opening the Galley restaurant in Morro Bay. So we're going back to the old family business, which is a lot of fun for us,” Rodger Anderson said.

Built in 1923, the five-story Anderson Hotel on Monterey Street in San Luis Obispo was famous for hosting many celebrities, including Clark Gable and Marlene Dietrich, who stopped at the hotel on their way to visit William Randolph Hearst's castle in San Simeon.

The Galley Seafood Grill and Bar will be owned and operated separately from the inn by Anderson family friends, David and Aglaja Peter. David Peter, who recently retired from a 20-year career in the software technology business, said coming back to run the restaurant means the realization of a long-held dream.

“I got my first job as a busboy at the Galley on my 14th birthday and continued to work there until I was 20,” Peter said. “I was working for Bud Anderson, Rodger's father.”

Designed by architect Steve Puglisi with interiors by Jeannie MacDougall and built by Chuck Eras, the new building will also include By the Bay Gallery, an 800- square-foot American craft and fine jewelry store owned by Ray and Becky Knox. The shop is moving to its new location from 910 Embarcadero, just across the street. It will open simultaneously with the restaurant and inn.

--Melanie Cleveland