

A festival of flavors

October marks the 10th year of the **Drummond Culinary Academy's** strong partnership with **Markon**, and the exclusive **Taste of Markon** culinary event will be held on October 3 on the RC campus in Salinas. Get ready for one unforgettable night of food, wine, and purpose. Top Markon Member Chefs from across North America team up with our talented student chefs for a culinary experience unlike any other.

Sip local wines, savor dishes featuring California's freshest produce and soak in panoramic views of the Salinas Valley. It's exclusive. It's delicious. And every ticket supports Rancho Cielo's Drummond Culinary Academy—helping empower the next generation of chefs. "Food has created an incredible amount of opportunity for [at-promise] youth in our community, and for this, I am forever thankful," **Laura Nico-**



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la, DCA Dining Room Manager, FOH Instructor, says, "Through food, [our students] realize that they are worthy, their self-esteem increases, and their overall attitude towards life improves dramatically. This is priceless."

In addition to hors d'oeuvres, wine, a delicious strolling dinner, and a silent auction, celebrity chef **Michael Voltaggio** will be on hand, meeting and supporting our students and guest chefs. Besides his fame on **Food Network**, Voltaggio has operated some of the top restaurants in the U.S. He

earned a **Michelin Star** at **Charlie Palmer's Dry Creek Kitchen**, received a rare 4-star review at **The Bazaar** by **José Andrés**, and was a finalist for the **James Beard Best New Restaurant** award. Voltaggio also co-wrote the cookbook **VOLT ink**, which was a finalist for the **James Beard Award for Best Cookbook**. The L.A. chef actively supports nonprofits like **No Kid Hungry**, **Los Angeles Mission** and **World Central Kitchen**. For more information and for tickets, please visit ranchocielo.org.



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Raise a Glass for Literacy Celebration

The annual Words & Wine - Raise a Glass for Literacy celebration is coming up on Sunday, November 16, at 12:30 at Hacienda in Carmel. With multiple storytelling stations, a live auction, raffle, and fun family-friendly games, there is so much to get excited about. Adult tickets include lunch and

wine; youth tickets are available at a discount. Celebrate the heart of our library community. There'll be plenty of great food, local wine, and good company to go around. Tickets can be purchased at mcfl.org/wordsandwine2025. This is a community fundraiser for Monterey County Free Libraries



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Old Fisherman's...continued from page 16

Carousel Candies, Wharf Chocolate Factory and Candy World.

• The online presentation of photos through the years, "Old Fisherman's Wharf Through the Decades," will launch, featuring 400 fascinating historic images that illustrate the history of Old Fisherman's Wharf from 1845 to 2025 on the Wharf website for easy viewing.

• Festive birthday decorations will provide the perfect backdrop, as well as the Western Flyer, General Pershing, and strolling costumed characters.

• Fun-loving characters Nemo and Dory from "Finding Nemo" will be strolling on site and doing meet and greets for fun photo ops.

• Several costumed marine animals representing the 17th Annual Whalefest Monterey (April 11-12, 2026), a major annual event on Old Fisherman's Wharf, will also be on site for photo ops.

• **Maritime Historian Tim Thomas** will offer a free one-hour Wharf Walk to attendees (time to be confirmed).

• **Wharf Birthday Bites:** Special food, merchandise, and activity discounts will be available from participating Wharf businesses.

• There will be an information table and giveaways for the "Walk to End Alzheimer's," which will be held on October 18th at Custom House Plaza and Rec Trail.

• **Pirate Selfies:** Guests can commemorate Monterey's history by dressing as pirates or sailors and taking photos with the pirate statues at Pirate's Cove.

• Through the end of the year, be sure to see the **Bounty of the Sea** exhibit at the adjacent Monterey History and Art Association Stanton Center, which features outstanding historic photos and artifacts from the Italian Heritage Society and Festa Italia Monterey.

• Starting November 1, 2025, a special 3-month exhibit will feature a collection of 35 large framed and captioned photos. This exhibit will open with additional historic photos of the Monterey Harbor area from the Chris Shake Collection, entitled "On The Waterfront," at the Monterey History and Art Association Stanton Center.



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