FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type Resp | ponses |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Ranelli John | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO [CENT] | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY, 1340 TREAT BLVD, SUITE 600 | | | | 3. Date of | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/24/2018 | | | | | | XDirec | etor er (give title belo | ow) | _ 10% Owner _ Other (specify | below) |
| (Street) | | | | 4. If Amen | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | _X_ Form fi | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | |
| WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | | | | | | | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acqu | | | | | | uired, Disp | ired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | |
| (Instr. 3) | | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial | | | |
| | | | | (Month/Day/Year) | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | (msu. 3 | (Ilisu. 3 and 4) | | | | |
| Class A Comm | non S | tock | 02/24/2018 | | | F ⁽¹⁾ | | 5,104 | D | \$ 37.5 | 2 542 | | | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | | 02/27/2018 | | | S | | 7,000 | D | \$ 37.262 (2) | 25 4,663 | 4,663 | | I | By John R. Ranelli Trust (3) | |
| Class A Common Stock | | 02/28/2018 | | | S | | 4,563 | D | \$ 36.532 (4) | 21 100 | . 100 | | I | By John R. Ranelli Trust (3) | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | 39,385 | | | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | 100 | | | I | By John R. Ranelli Trust (3) | |
| Reminder: Report | on a s | eparate line | for each class of sec | | • | | Per cor the | rsons wh ntained i | no res n this splay | form a | re not requently valid | ction of inf uired to res I OMB conf | spond unle | ess | C 1474 (9-02) |
| | | | Table II | - Derivative S (e.g., puts, c | | | | - | - | | • | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion Date | | 3. Transacti Date (Month/Day | Execution I any | d 4. Date, if Trans Code | 4. te, if Transaction | | Number an | | Date Exercisable d Expiration Date Ionth/Day/Year) | | Title and nount of iderlying curities str. 3 and | | f 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction((Instr. 4) | Owner Form of Deriva Securi Direct or Indi | tive Ownershi ty: (Instr. 4) (D) rect |
| | | | | Code | e V | (A) (D | | | Expira Date | ation Tit | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| Relationships |
|---------------|
| |

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
|--|----------|--------------|---------|-------|
| Ranelli John C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY 1340 TREAT BLVD, SUITE 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | X | | | |

Signatures

| /s/JoAnn Jonte as Attorney-in-Fact for John Ranelli | 02/28/2018 | |
|---|------------|--|
| **Signature of Reporting Person | Date | |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Shares delivered by Reporting Person in payment of the withholding tax liability upon vesting of restricted stock. The amount of shares withheld is based on the average of the high and low of the sales prices of CENTA on February 24, 2018.
- The range of prices for the shares of Class A Common Stock is from \$37.15 to \$37.39. Mr. Ranelli undertakes that he will provide, upon request by the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, full information regarding the number of securities sold at each separate price.
- (3) Mr. Ranelli disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of the Company's Common Stock and Class A Common Stock owned by the John R. Ranelli Trust dated 12/24/97 except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (4) The range of prices for the shares of Class A Common Stock is from \$36.42 to \$36.77. Mr. Ranelli undertakes that he will provide, upon request by the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, full information regarding the number of securities sold at each separate price.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.