

The Carmel Pine Cone

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Three-hour shooting spree kills more than 80 animals

By MARY SCHLEY

A 39-YEAR-OLD convicted felon, Vicente Arroyo, from Salinas shot and killed 81 animals in Prunedale — including miniature horses, goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, ducks and other types of birds — during a rampage early Tuesday that lasted three hours and involved numerous firearms, according to Monterey County Sheriff's Cmdr. Andy Rosas.

One animal was the property owner's, while the rest

belonged to a person who rents the space for them. Some animals had survived but were taken by the SPCA to be euthanized due to the severity of their injuries.

The violence began at about 3:25 a.m. Sept. 3, when numerous people started calling law enforcement to report rapid-fire gunshots. When deputies arrived, they could hear the gunfire but couldn't immediately find the shooter.

"Various calibers of weapons could be heard being

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PHOTO/MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Vicente Arroyo (left) was arrested following a three-hour shooting spree that killed dozens of animals, including two miniature horses and a pony, on a neighbor's land in Prunedale. The next day, sheriff's deputies searched his home and found numerous firearms (above), as well as ammunition.

Street addresses, housing mandates, and mail delivery on council agendas

By MARY SCHLEY

EVERYONE'S FAVORITE issue to fight over — whether houses in Carmel-by-the-Sea should have numbers like those in most other cities do — is on the council's Tuesday agenda, offering the presidential debate set for that night a run for its money.

Meanwhile, a city staffer has set up a web page dedicated to the topic where anyone interested in making up their mind about the decades-old controversy can find staff reports, presentations, frequently asked questions, research and other information compiled since the council most recently made the issue one of its priorities in 2021.

Brown Act debate

At its July meeting, the city council narrowly voted to proceed with further delving into implementing a house-numbering system, which would include amending local law. At last month's session, numerous people objected to that decision and alleged it was a violation of the Brown Act because the agenda item had not specifically mentioned changing the municipal code.

City attorney Brian Pierik disagreed and said the council's discussion and decision did not constitute a violation of open meeting laws. The conflict generated correspondence on both sides, including a form letter signed by a number of residents alleging the violation, as well as numerous comments at the meeting.

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COASTAL COMMISSION REPORT REVERSES COURSE ON BEACHSIDE BUSWAY

Vote could come next week

By CHRIS COUNTS

JUST WEEKS ago, a \$92 million plan to turn a portion of the train tracks that run along Monterey Bay into a bus line seemed destined to be rejected by the California Coastal Commission, which is set to consider the project Thursday morning at the Portola Hotel in Monterey.

But apparently the powerful watchdog agency had a change of heart — its staff has revised a previous recommendation and now supports the Surf Busway and Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Path forward 'identified'

The project is being pushed by Monterey-Salinas Transit, which wants to build a 4.3-mile long, 30-foot-wide two-lane bus road along a section of the railroad corridor that runs along the coastline west of Highway 1 between Sand City and Marina.

The original plan called for placing the bus route next to the train tracks. But the coastal commission opposed the move, warning it would damage critical dune habitat, along with the flora and fauna it supports.

An alternative plan called for removing the tracks and replacing them with the bus lanes, but the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, which owns the land, objected to the idea of removing the tracks, which haven't been used since 1971. The agency wants to see a rail project remain viable.

However, in a report released Aug. 30, the coastal commission signaled that it no longer has "any substantial issue" with the project because construction would be done in a previously disturbed area, thereby lessening the impact on the environment. The agency also announced that all parties have "identified a path forward," and the transportation agency is now on board with the alternative.

The CEO of Monterey-Salinas Transit, Carl Sedoryk, said the removal of the tracks won't prevent a rail project from moving forward. But he suggested it could be a

while before that is viable. "There's room for both," said the official, who noted that it could be 30 years before a rail project gets off the ground.

Others supporting the bus road include Sen. John Laird, Assemblymember Dawn Addis, 4th District Monterey County Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, California State Parks and LandWatch Monterey County.

Rail better than bus?

The project has drawn fire from some due to its impacts to plants and animals, and others, who want to see

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Second Tutelian victim sues over punch to face

By MARY SCHLEY

THE LEGAL battles in civil and criminal court against a Southern California real estate developer accused of beating up a downtown Carmel restaurant owner and one of his employees intensified last week when the restaurant server sued his alleged assailant.

Michael Tutelian, now 40, was the only suspect police identified after an allegedly unprovoked attack on Il Tegamino restaurant owner Giuseppe Panzuto and employee Jose Morales near the intersection of Monte Verde and Ocean the night of Sept. 1, 2022. According to accounts, Tutelian took Panzuto's scooter for a short ride when the owner reluctantly agreed to let him, and afterward, words were exchanged and a fight broke out, with Tutelian and his friends beating up Panzuto and punching Morales when he tried to intervene. Following an extensive investigation that included surveillance footage

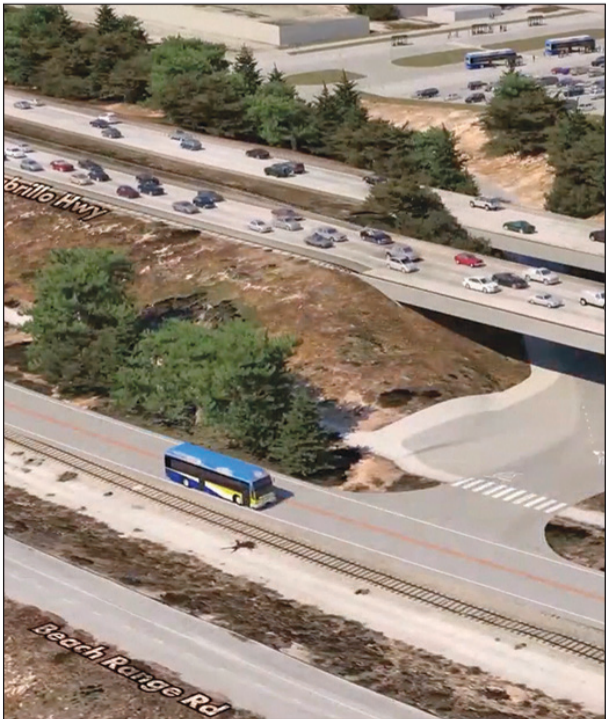
and help from the victims and witnesses, Carmel Police obtained an arrest warrant for Tutelian, who turned himself in to Monterey P.D. a few weeks after the incident and posted \$30,000 bail.

He was charged with three felonies, but the criminal proceedings have progressed very slowly, failing to even reach the stage of a preliminary hearing in which a judge will evaluate the evidence against Tutelian to decide whether the case can proceed or should be dismissed.

Broken nose

Tutelian late last year asked the court to set aside the criminal case against him for mental health reasons but then dropped that motion in March. Meanwhile, Panzuto sued him in civil court, and in response, Tutelian countersued, giving a completely different account of the incident

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PHOTO/MST

A rendering prepared by Monterey-Salinas Transit shows the separate bus road it wants to build alongside Highway 1.