

Volume 110 No. 41

https://carmelpinecone.com LOVED

ΒY

VISITORS

Caltrans says state needs 113 wildlife corridors

AND

BY LOCALS

But just one in Monterey County

TRUSTED

By CHRIS COUNTS

LEGISLATION PASSED by the state in 2022 requires Caltrans to identify where safe crossings are needed along California highways to prevent motorists from hitting wild animals, and, this week, Caltrans released a report that shows potential sites for 113 wildlife crossings.

Fourteen should be installed in Santa Barbara County, the road agency says, but in Monterey County, just one.

In all, the report indicates that "180 native, endangered



or threatened animal species" are at risk due to the lack of such crossings.

Endangered badgers

The sole local site is on Highway 68 on property owned by the Bureau of Land Management. The report notes that tiger salamanders, badgers, bobcats, coyote, deer and gray fox would all benefit from having a safe way to cross the road.

The Pine Cone has previously reported on the risk of mortality faced by badgers crossing the busy highway between Monterey and Salinas.

> Asked why Monterey County has only recommended one wildlife crossing, and none in Big Sur, Caltrans spokesman Chris Clark said the sites were "prioritized based on coordination" with various Caltrans districts, including District 5, which represents Monterey

See PATHS page 24A

Salinas OKs rent control, eviction protection

By MARY SCHLEY

COME JAN. 1, 2025, owners of many rental apartments in Salinas will be subject to rent control and other restrictions that its city council members hope other cities throughout Monterey County will also implement.

After several hearings and extensive feedback from renters, landlords and community groups over the past year, the Salinas City Council unanimously voted Sept. 24 to adopt a rent stabilization ordinance, a "tenant protection and just cause eviction ordinance," and "tenant anti-harassment protections," all of which take effect on New Year's Day.

The new laws are restricted by a state law, the Costa-Hawkins Act, that exempts single-family residences,

condos and properties built after February 1995 from rent control and allows landlords to raise rent back to market rate after a tenant leaves.

Could apply citywide

A Nov. 5 statewide ballot measure seeks to overturn Costa-Hawkins, so while Salinas officials and a consultant say 19 percent of the city's housing would be affected by the new rent-control laws, more could be subject to them if Proposition 33 passes.

Rents in multifamily buildings constructed before 1995 in Salinas have increased 117 percent between 2000 and 2024, according to officials, with an average vacancy rate

See RENT page 16A

School board incumbent charged with election fraud

SINCE

By MARY SCHLEY

1915

AN INVESTIGATION by the Monterey County District Attorney's Office revealed Anne-Marie Rosen, who is running for reelection to the Carmel Unified School District's board of education, lied about where she lives so she would qualify for the Nov. 5 ballot, according to Chief Assistant District Attorney Berkley Brannon. Rosen, 61, was charged Friday with four felony counts of elections fraud.

A longtime resident of Middle Canyon Way on the

north side of Carmel Valley Road, Rosen changed her voter registration on June 26 to indicate she lives in another home she owns on East Garzas Road in a neighborhood south of Carmel Valley Road.

New districts

The distinction is important because last fall, the school board, including Rosen, voted to shift from at-large elections to trustee-area elections, and to be able to run for another fouryear term, Rosen would have to live in one of the three zones on this year's ballot.



October 11-17, 2024

Anne-Marie Rosen

"Rosen is running to represent the board in Trustee Area 5," Brannon explained. "Previously, she represented she resided at an address in Trustee Area 4, which is not up for election this November.'

After changing her voter registration to show the East Garzas Road address, on Aug. 9 she submitted a declaration of candidacy for Trustee Area 5, and on the form. "she declared: 'I meet the statutory and constitutional

See ROSEN page 31A

Mayoral candidates weigh in on issues campaign forums missed

By MARY SCHLEY

WITH BALLOTS in the mail and voters well on their way to choosing the people they want to represent them, The Pine Cone submitted a few questions of its own in the wake of the candidate forums hosted by the Carmel Residents Association and the Carmel Chamber of Commerce last month.

All three candidates for the mayor's seat ---- received. Some answers have been very lightly edited. Council candidates' answers start on page 14A.

Modern architecture

such as metal roofs or number of windows?

Pine Cone: What are your thoughts on modern/contemporary architecture? How much control should the planning department/planning commission have over individual design choices about which there is no stated rules

"modern architecture" around town, but too much glass,

non-organic materials, and strong vertical design close to street level would probably not be appropriate in many neighborhoods in Carmel. But as more and more "modern architecture" replaces the more traditional Carmel cottage, the very thing that made Carmel a special place to live in and visit is removed. We could wake up someday and feel like we are in a completely different place.

Balance is important, including not having too many milar houses in a row. I don't like metal roofs person

bent Dave Potter and challengers councilman Jeff Baron and community organizer Dale Byrne - took the time to answer. Their responses are presented in the order



ally, but they are preferred by insurance companies and, as Dale Byrne: Carmel has plenty of good examples of

See CANDIDATES page 18A

Pine Cone launches election survey

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

As OF 9 p.m. Thursday, subscribers to The Pine Cone's email edition are invited to participate in a poll to find out which candidates they support in the Nov. 5 municipal election and how they feel about the state housing mandates and street addresses for Carmel homes.

Voting in the poll will remain open until 5 p.m. Oct. 16, with results reported in next week's edition.

"A web link for the poll is only going out to subscribers, but anyone who wants to participate can sign up by using the 'Free and Easy Subscription' button on our website," said publisher Paul Miller. New subscribers will be promptly emailed a link to vote, he added.

The election in the City of Carmel has the strongest field of candidates in many years, with Dave Potter, Jeff Baron and Dale Byrne running for mayor, and Danny Hala, Parker Logan, David O'Neil, Bob Delves and Hans Buder running for city council.

The Pine Cone's website is https://carmelpinecone.com.

Dave Potter



Jeff Baron

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