

# The Carmel Pine Cone

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## Tyrannosaur settling in, but is he legal?

By KELLY NIX

HE JUST moved to town, and he's already getting an education in Carmel's famously strict zoning code.

A towering steel Tyrannosaurus rex statue erected last weekend in the front yard of a home on Sixth Avenue near Perry Newberry Way is captivating neighbors and passersby alike.

"I think it's a great conversation piece," said longtime resident Robert Slaughter, who lives across the street from dinosaur, a conspicuous presence in town.

But not everyone is amused. On Tuesday, city planning department officials were in discussion with dinosaur owner, Kevin Kramer, about the T. Rex sculpture.

"The property owner has been made aware that he will need to submit a design review application and obtain approval from the planning commission to keep the dinosaur," code enforcement officer Margi Perotti told the Pine Cone Wednesday.

The planning department requires all exterior building alterations to undergo some level of design review, including when a homeowner wants to make various modifications to the landscaping and/or intends to construct decks, sheds, retaining walls, fences or "any other structures on the property."

Though it's possible the scary-looking dinosaur —

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## P.B. affordable housing project angers neighbors

By KELLY NIX

RESIDENTS WHO live near 24 proposed affordable housing units in Del Monte Forest gave the Pebble Beach Company a clear message: Not in my backyard!

Those opposed to the housing project packed a Del Monte Forest Land Use Advisory Committee meeting Thursday afternoon issuing concerns ranging from the impact to wildlife habitat, the loss of trees, excessive noise and access to trails.

"Do us all a favor and look at other options besides ruining our forest," said John Honeywell, who lives on Miles Avenue, the Pacific Grove street that would be adjacent to the development.

The \$7 million project at the intersection of Congress Road and S.F.B Morse Drive, which would provide housing for some of the P.B. Co.'s workers, is part of the company's development plan, approved in May 2012, that includes a new hotel, large spa, meeting rooms and parking spaces, and sets aside 635 acres of Monterey pine forest as open space. The county urged the company to build the inclusionary housing inside the forest, and otherwise required it to pay a

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PHOTO/KELLY NIX

Would you mind if a 12-foot-tall metal Tyrannosaurus moved in next door? This view from the living room of Robert Slaughter's house on Sixth Avenue shows how the T-Rex looms over the yard — but Slaughter thinks it's great.

## Stolen 'Vette recovered in bad shape

By KELLY NIX

PAT MONAHAN didn't have much hope of ever seeing his 1962 Corvette again after it was stolen outside the Pacific Grove B&B where he and his wife were staying during Concours week.

"Like most people, I thought it was in a shipping container going overseas," Monahan told The Pine Cone this week.

But on Saturday about 8 p.m., when Monahan and his wife were returning home from dinner, he got a call from a

man named Richard who said an old Corvette had been parked on his San Jose street for about seven days.

"He had taken a picture of [the car] and sent it to his nephew," Monahan said. "The nephew stated that the car looked like the one posted all over the Internet as being stolen from Pacific Grove, and he said to call me."

While the parked 'Vette didn't have a hardtop like Monahan's, he asked Richard

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## 'Condor ambassador' back home for the first time since injury

By CHRIS COUNTS

UNABLE TO fly, a 2-year-old California condor named Dolly will be the guest of honor at an event in Big Sur to bring attention to the plight of the largest — and one of the rarest — birds in North America.

A private ranch down the coast will be the site Saturday, Sept. 7, of "Feathers in Flight," a fundraising benefit for the Ventana Wildlife Society, which reintroduced the condor to the Central Coast 16 years ago. Today, about 65 of the endangered birds soar above Monterey and San Benito counties.

For Dolly, Saturday's event represents a homecoming of sorts. When the bird was just five months old, condor researchers found her in bad shape near Pinnacles National Monument.

"Dolly was hatched in the wild March 24, 2011," explained Kelly Sorensen, executive director of the VWA. After she was discovered injured, "she was examined and it was determined she had a broken wing, so she was brought to the Los Angeles Zoo."

An orthopedic surgeon

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PHOTO/COURTESY VENTANA WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mike Clark of the Los Angeles Zoo with his friend, Dolly, the condor whose injured wing prevents her from flying.

## Love blooms in desert at Burning Man

### ■ Couple's meeting was a 'metaphysical certitude'

By MICHAEL TROUTMAN

BURNING MAN, the enigmatic annual event in the Black Rock Desert of western Nevada is now over, but the effects linger. Not so much in the desert itself; the surface

will soon be whisked completely clean by the Playa Restoration Team in accordance with the Leave No Trace policy, one of the ten guiding principles that shape and inform the alternative cultural event.

The weeklong festivities might be (wholly inadequately) described as Mardi Gras on the moon. One thing that is clear is that one

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Last week, Burning Man turned an empty Nevada desert into what have some have called "Mardi Gras on the moon," complete with 68,000 celebrating residents (top). Among the art and music, there's also love, as Lisa Nicks and Chris Balthasar discovered two years ago. On Saturday, they celebrated the two-year anniversary of their meeting in Black Rock City (right) and talked about getting married there someday.

PHOTOS/MICHAEL TROUTMAN, DMT IMAGING

