A ‘Full House’ at Cynara Court Housing Project

Monterey County’s Resource Management Agency (RMA) is proud to announce that Cynara Court, an affordable housing project in downtown Castroville, is a success - filling its 57 rental units in just two months.

The Building Services Department of the RMA completed final inspections and issued Certificate of Occupancy Certificates for Cynara Court in October. The project achieved 70% occupancy that first month and 100% occupancy by the end of November.

Cynara Court offers one, two and three-bedroom units. Rent is set to be affordable from a range of 30% to 55% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Size</th>
<th>Rent Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Bedroom</td>
<td>$379 - $633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Bedroom</td>
<td>$378 - $760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Bedroom</td>
<td>$442 - $883</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Fifteen of the units are reserved for farm workers, three are handicap accessible and 17 are considered adaptable units.

More than 500 applications for housing at Cynara Court were received. Approximately 40% of all the applicants were Castroville residents and 76% were from Monterey County.
The Housing and Redevelopment Agency provided loans totaling $2.6 million to MidPen Housing for the construction of Cynara Court. The project is considered important as a way to add to the stock of affordable housing available in Monterey County and to meet the Board of Supervisors’ goal of providing affordable housing, particularly housing for farm workers.

**Lonoak Bridge Project Nears Completion**

Construction of a replacement for the Lonoak Road Bridge at Lewis Creek is expected to be finished in mid-December, more than a month ahead of schedule and on budget. The new box girder bridge is 152-feet long and replaces the seismically insufficient bridge built in the 1930s.

Lonoak Bridge is located 14 miles east of King City near State Route 25 on the San Benito County line.

The old bridge was made of poor quality concrete and had no piles – supports that are now required for seismic safety. The new bridge is made of stronger concrete and meets today’s seismic standards.

The cost of the new bridge is approximately $3.2 million and is funded by the Federal Highway Administration, State Seismic Retrofit and County Road Funds.
County Departments Aid Sheriff’s Teddy Bear Drive

Three county offices in Salinas are joining in as collection points for the Sheriff’s Department’s Holiday Teddy Bear Drive.

In conjunction with the Association of Government Accountants - Central Coast Chapter, the Auditor-Controller, Water Resources Agency and Agricultural Commissioner’s offices have donation boxes set up to receive teddy bear donations, to make it easier and more convenient for folks to give to the program.

Donated toys must be newly purchased for health reasons and are used by Sheriff’s deputies and detectives to comfort children exposed to crimes and violence.

Bears or other stuffed animals can be dropped off at any Sheriff’s office or substation and now at these additional Salinas locations:

Auditor-Controller  168 W. Alisal Street, 3rd Floor
Water Resources Agency  893 Blanco Circle
Agricultural Commissioner  1428 Abbott Street

If you have any questions, please call Dave Kimbrough ext. 4861 or Al Friedrich ext. 5343.