

Artist: Joe Cotruvo



Local Resources • Events • People

# Cloverdale Connect

FREE

Bringing our community together since 2020

March 2024



## Editor's Note

As I write this, I am sitting on my balcony on the Crown Princess cruising back from Mexico. This is the exact ship that we will be on for the first annual **Cloverdale Connect** Cruise to Alaska this May. We will sail out of SF under the Golden Gate Bridge on the Crown Princess, round trip to Alaska. Please join us! (See page 10 for more details).

March is here and there is a hint of Spring in the garden. My camellias are blooming, the Buddha Hand fruit is ready, the daffodils are peeking up, the roses are awakening - this is my favorite time of year when things start to grow and the astounding resilience of nature can be witnessed. Don't forget our annual Garden Guide, devoted to the spring season, will be in the upcoming April issue. It's time to dig, plant, prune and sprout.

I'll see you around town!

*Dana*



Mayor Todd Lands stays connected to the community by reading *Cloverdale Connect*.



Front Page Photo Contest Winner Claudia Müller-Stach  
Wns a Gift Card from **Cloverdale Nursery**

## EXPERIENCE CLOVERDALE

Experience Cloverdale at any time of the year with events and entertainment that range from live music to food festivals and more. From the popular Car Show, to an all-time-favorite Citrus Fair, Cloverdale's event calendar is full throughout the year.

Discover Cloverdale's eclectic arts scene offering unique experiences for every interest. Our arts community is rich in traditional performances like the theater, while also bringing innovative and new productions to life. As an intersection of culture, fun, and education, Cloverdale offers something for everyone.

## Summer Softball 2024 For Girls Ages 4-14

**Early Bird Registration Until March 15<sup>th</sup>**



Cloverdale Ponytail League has been active for nearly 50 years, teaching girls in Cloverdale and the surrounding communities the skills and fun of softball.

CPL Summer softball Season 2024 will run from May 29<sup>th</sup> - July 31<sup>st</sup>. All games are played at City Park in Cloverdale, 1-2 nights per week. Game nights are Monday and Wednesday, sometimes Thursdays pending teams/schedules. We do not play on Weekends giving you plenty of time for your favorite Family Summer Adventures!

2024 CPL Season Registration runs **February 1- April 14, 2024**

Visit our website for more information [www.cloverdaleponytailleague.org](http://www.cloverdaleponytailleague.org)

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

## Look Inside!

Tribute to Margaret Fitzgerald, Time To Vote, Scholarships, Boys & Girls Club Corner and more!

*Cloverdale Connect Inc* PO Box 404 Cloverdale CA 95425





CUSD Teacher of the Month  
Janet Anguiano

Sponsored by  
Dahlia & Sage Community Market



We are excited to announce this month's Cloverdale Unified School District's employee of the month is Janet Anguiano. Janet currently works in the district office as the District Budget Technician. Previously she held the position of HR/Accounting Technician and Latino Outreach Liasian. Janet excels in all she takes on. She is extremely conscientious in her work and strives to do the best job she can.

Away from work, you can find Janet spending time with her family including her husband and two children. She is a CUSD graduate and previously served on the Alexander Valley Healthcare Board of Directors.

When you see Janet around town, please thank her for all she does for our schools and community. We look forward to many more years with you Janet!

Annual Garden, Landscape & Building Special Section

April 2024 issue of *Cloverdale Connect*

Attention! Nurseries, Landscapers, Builders, Landscape Materials, Equipment Rentals, Garden Art and related businesses!

RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW!

Make sure **your** business is included and featured in the **Garden Guide**

Choose from many available ad sizes or run "advertorial" showing the community that YOU are the expert on a subject related to gardening, landscaping or building

Be sure to reserve your space NOW!  
DEADLINE MARCH 15TH!

Clarification: There was an article about the new Manager, Hannah Gart, at Railroad Station on page 12 in the February 2024 issue. This is not an ownership change. The business has not been sold.

Thank You

A special THANK YOU to all of our supporters for the CUSD Teacher/Staff of the Month recognition. The continued generosity of donating a gift card or other item for their gift bag is very much appreciated. Without you, our CUSD nominee wouldn't have such a fabulous gift bag. Small town vibes helping each other goes a long way.

Thank you to the following:

- Cloverdale Nursery  
Erin Mavis Clothing  
Starbucks  
Jean Hager Home  
MoE's Eagles Nest Deli  
El Milagro Mexican Restaurant  
Debbie Handy Painted Rocks
- Pick's Drive In  
Cloverdale Connect  
Mountain Mike's Pizza  
Clover Dog  
Earle Cummings  
Papa's Pizza

And a special thank you to Dalia and Sage for sponsoring the monthly photo and biography of the CUSD nominee. Grateful recognition goes to Angela Cordova without whom this feature would not be possible.

Scholarships For Graduating CHS Seniors

Please see CHS counselor, Kathryn Ulrich, [ulrichk@cusd.org](mailto:ulrichk@cusd.org), 707-894-1924, for complete details and individual scholarship requirements.

DUE IN MARCH

- American Legion Auxiliary Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship
- California Association of Winegrape Growers Foundation Scholarship
- 10,000 Degrees
- Green Thumb Garden Club Scholarship
- CIF Scholar-Athlete of the Year
- American Association of University Women Scholarship
- The Andrew Q. Peschard Memorial Scholarship
- Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.
- Brown Hudner Navy Scholarship
- Asian Pacific Fund Scholarship Program
- Patricia Pedersen SRJC Scholarship
- Youth Ag & Leadership Foundation Scholarships
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 293 Scholarship
- NOBLE Scholarship
- "Working Through School" Scholarship
- Cloverdale Kiwanis Club Community Service Scholarship
- Children of Vineyard Workers Scholarship
- Teachers Association of Cloverdale Scholarship

DUE IN APRIL

- Active 20-30 Club Redwood Empire #1029 Scholarship
- United Church of Cloverdale Scholarship
- The Druidic Scholarship Awards Program
- Sonoma Marin Cattlewomen & Sonoma Marin Cattlemen Scholarship
- Italian Catholic Federation Scholarship
- Petaluma Riding & Driving Club
- Tom Savage Scholarship Program
- Golden Gate Section of the Society of Women Engineers Scholarship
- Work Ethic Scholarship Program
- Cloverdale Ram Sale Scholarship
- The CAA/ESA Youth Scholarship Program
- Farm Bureau Foundation of Sonoma County
- Courtney Jade Davis Memorial Scholarship
- North Coast Builders Exchange Scholarship Program
- Knights of Columbus Academic Scholarship
- Knights of Columbus Vocational Scholarship
- Cloverdale Road Runners Car Club Vocational Scholarship
- Eagle Pride Boosters Club Scholarship
- Latinos Unidos del Condado de Sonoma Scholarship
- CASCWA Bay Section Scholarship
- Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission Scholarship

DUE IN MAY

- The Girl Effect Scholarship
- Steps for Change Scholarship
- Cloverdale Lions Club Scholarship
- California School Employees Association Cloverdale Chapter #170 Scholarship
- Cloverdale Connect Scholarship
- JohnE Johnson Creative Arts Scholarship
- Cloverdale Rotary Club Academic Scholarship
- Cloverdale Rotary Athletic Scholarship
- Cloverdale Rotary Scholarship for Junior College Education
- Cloverdale Rotary Florentino Montoya Memorial Scholarship for Vocational Education
- Cloverdale Rotary Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship
- Cloverdale Rotary Maxine & Jack Allen Scholarship for Vocational/Trade Education
- William Russell Ledford Post 293 American Legion Scholarships
- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Scholarship
- Kids' Chance of California Scholarship
- Corazón Healdsburg Rhodes Family Scholarship

DUE IN JUNE

- Native Forward Scholars Fund



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*May the luck of the Irish be with you...*  
and your referrals always be with us!

**TEDI SPAIN & MARIA KENNEY**  
707.292.3060 | 707.696.2258  
DRE# 01302532 | DRE# 01223041





# PET of the MONTH



## Baby Boy

**Kara Driggers**

Send your pet photos for PET of the MONTH to:  
info@cloverdaleconnect.com


Prizes courtesy  
Clover Dog Pet Supply & Wash  
and Cloverdale Connect

## Whisker Talk

Brigid Wasson

### Should you welcome a Doodle into your family?

One of the biggest pros to this breed (mix) is that they are ADORABLE. With the right grooming, they resemble a living teddy bear with a soft round face and a button nose. They are clownish, funny, and playful. That said, every dog is an individual requiring love, exercise, and training to be their best self.



They can be a good choice for individuals with allergies. While no dog is truly “hypoallergenic,” dogs that do not shed can work in such a home. Poodles do not shed, but the other parent (Labrador, Golden, etc.) definitely does, so it’s a toss-up if the offspring will or not.

You can choose which size and breed type works best for your family. Doodles can be bred (to an extent) in different sizes. Be aware, however, that as a mixed breed, adult size is a bit of a gamble. I have seen “mini” Doodles weighing 50lbs! Doodles MUST be groomed regularly, no exceptions! Do not get a Doodle if you can’t afford it or can’t be bothered. Be prepared to pay \$150+ every 6 weeks at minimum.

There are many Doodles available for adoption in shelters and rescues, so I would encourage you to start there. If you decide to buy a puppy, I strongly suggest you choose a local breeder so you can visit, interact with the dogs, and ask questions about health, temperament, and socialization.

Oh, and one more thing you’ll appreciate, if you decide to share your life with a Doodle: put your socks away!

## in Cloverdale

Did you know that Cloverdale has a Lyft driver? Woodley Frampton has been driving for Lyft in Cloverdale for over two years and can drive you to Santa Rosa or beyond. He has a 5-star Lyft rating and has completed over 550 rides. Passengers should download the Lyft App onto their phone, including banking information. There are no cash transactions for Lyft. Then contact Woodley at 707-293-6306 and arrange the ride.

## City Council Report ~ Eleanore Webster

During the January 24th meeting, Sandra Hoevertsz was thanked by Council members and recognized for her four years of service on the Cloverdale Planning Commission, particular for her advocacy for seniors and her work with several housing and public projects in town. She will be joining the Sonoma County Council on Aging.

Jeff Duval, Director of Sonoma County Dept of Emergency Management, presented the 2023 Louis “Pete” Peterka Emergency Management award to the City and the Resilient Cloverdale Emergency Preparedness Program. Daniel Homsey, son of Cloverdale’s Kay Wells, was recognized as getting the ball rolling. Kay and her daughter Diane were there to receive recognition on his behalf. Sadly, Kay passed away just a few weeks after this presentation. It is fortunate she was able to receive the recognition.

Furber Park Survey results were presented. Goals that can be addressed quickly include a doggie bag station, cornhole boxes, garbage receptacle, a disc golf course, improved staircase, and creek viewing access. The Council adopted a resolution to add a flagpole at the southwest corner of City Hall, along with the existing US/California flagpole and will be used to fly commemorative flags.

During the meeting on February 14th, the Council recognized Black History Month. The designated recipient was Michael Driver, basketball coach, who passed away just a week before the meeting. His daughter was present to receive the recognition, along with many of his friends and students, who were there to express their love and appreciation for Coach Driver. City Staff also presented the mid-year financial report to the Council members, showing that the City is in good financial shape.

The Council heard a staff request to support an application for County funding to develop improvements allowing safe and accessible use of Soda Springs Ranch Open Space Preserve. Members of the public expressed concerns about parking and privacy. City Staff expressed their determination to provide safe surroundings for park users and bordering neighborhoods. The final new business item concerned a new Mobile Home Rent Control Ordinance. City staff checked with other cities to see what they were doing, so they could make informed recommendations. Goals focused on protections for mobile home renters. Council members expressed support for staff recommendations. Several park owners were present to express concerns for fairness.

### Low Income Home Energy Assistance

North Coast Energy Services (NCES) is a non-profit organization that receives federal funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) through the State of California to assist low-income households with utility bill assistance and weatherization services.

NCES can provide assistance with electric, natural gas, propane, kerosene or heating oil bills. Your bill must cover at least 22 days of service. If approved, a pledge may be made on your account and the payment would be credited within 8-12 weeks.

Some of the measures that NCES may be able to do for a home are:

LED light bulbs	Fix/replace windows
Thermostatic shower valves	Door repair/replacement
Door weather-stripping	Advanced power strips
Air conditioner/swamp cooler	Attic insulation
Heater repair/replacement	Refrigerator/microwave
LED night lights	Solar shade screens
Occupancy sensor switches	

In addition, NCES may be able to assist with past-due water bills. Visit their website at [www.nces.org](http://www.nces.org) to apply online and download the application. You can also get more information about Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) at [www.csd.ca.gov](http://www.csd.ca.gov).

For more information and to see if you qualify, contact NCES, 1100 Coddington Center #1, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 707-495-4417. Se habla Espanol.



# Cloverdale Church Guide

Cloverdale Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
1085 S. Cloverdale Blvd.  
Cloverdale, CA 95425



**Good Shepherd  
Episcopal Church**  
*Palm Sunday – 10 AM*  
*Easter Day – 10 AM*  
**Sunday Services at 10 AM**  
122 North Main Street, Cloverdale  
707-891-6015 / [goodshepherdclloverdale.org](http://goodshepherdclloverdale.org)





**Grace Lutheran Church**  
890 N. Cloverdale Blvd. Cloverdale, CA  
Join us for Sunday worship 10:00 am in person  
or on web - Facebook LIVE  
Join us Easter Morning 10:00 am  
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 pm  
Good Friday 7:00 pm

Jehovah's Witnesses  
27100 Dutcher Creek Rd.  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
Phone: 707.894.4490

Living Water Church  
450 S. Franklin St.  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
707.894.3274

Oat Valley Baptist Church  
31000 Cooley Lane  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
707.894.2998

Parkside Christian Chapel  
553 W. 2nd St.  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
707.894.2893

**ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH** *Holy Week Schedule*  
Holy Thursday 7PM; Good Friday 12PM Eng., 6PM Span.  
Easter Vigil, Sat. 7PM; Easter Sunday 9AM Eng., 11AM Span.  
For More Info: **Website:** <https://stpetersclloverdale.org>  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/StPetersCloverdale>  
**Call:** 707-894-2535



The Bridge Foursquare  
50 Commerce Lane Ste. C  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
707.894.5050

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
1011 S. Cloverdale Blvd.  
Cloverdale, CA 95425  
707.894.2910



We are a church that tries to follow the example and the teachings of Jesus through the kindness and compassion of our missions. We welcome all of our neighbors with an open mind and without discrimination or judgement. Our messages and music give us hope and lead us to a closer spiritual relationship with God. Please join us.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CLOVERDALE**  
439 N. Cloverdale Blvd. Cloverdale  
707.894.2039 [www.uccloverdale.org](http://www.uccloverdale.org)

## When Life Gives You Lemons Nora Archambeau, M.A.

What do you do when life gives you lemons? “H.J. Whitley, the father of Hollywood, circa 1900, bought 500 acres in the heart of Hollywood. He turned lemon orchards into Hollywood. At a banquet, his business partners toasted him by saying, ‘If life gives you lemons, make lemonade.’” (Gaelyn Whitley Keith, 3/31/19, Stack Exchange) How often do you use this phrase? When do you apply it? Is it just a phrase or does it hold some weight in your life? My cousin recently shared that she thinks people are feeling an onslaught of difficult situations these days. I agree. I felt this in 2023. I believe 2024 will bring more intensity worldwide. Yet this year will also offer us so many possibilities for good things to happen, for better choices to be made and for small and big dreams to start coming true. My personal goal is to finish a day, a week, a month knowing that more good is happening than hardship, more levity felt than visceral pain. When life gives us lemons, how can we best make lemonade? Some ideas:

- Dig Deeper:** Go within yourself. Be quiet. Close your eyes and visualize going down, down, down into the Earth. The Earth that is nurturing and rooted in the colors of green and brown. Take whatever angst, worry, or pain that exists and begin to release it bit by bit into Mother Earth. Allow Her to take your cares away, envelope them and place them in the ground for transmutation to occur. Imagine yourself lighter. Gradually, rise upwards above ground into reality. Last, invoke Light in and around you imbued with hope, determination, and optimism. Open your eyes and note how you feel.
- Trust:** Believe in something larger than yourself, e.g., the Universe, God, Goddess, the Divine, whatever is seemingly outside yet still a part of you. When I put confidence in the Divine, it liberates me from feeling “It’s all up to me!” And that, my friends, is scary.
- Let it Be:** Give Abraham Hick’s mantra a try: “Life is always working out for me.”

## African American Genealogy Seminar

The 18th annual California African American Genealogy Seminar coming up on March 9th. This is a Virtual Seminar and is 100% African American focused. Previous years included seminar participants from the Greater Sacramento Area and the Bay Area. In 2023, the Sacramento Coordinating Council, in conjunction with the Sacramento Family History Center and the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation, expanded the seminar into the Los Angeles area, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Coordinating Council and the Los Angeles Family History Center.

This virtual seminar is professionally done, lead by a tech team headed by film maker Keith Merrill. Presenters are all experts in African American Genealogy from across the country and some have been featured speakers at Roots Tech.

Registration can be done on their web address:  
[www.AAFHS.com](http://www.AAFHS.com).

## Veterans Building Host Many Events

Recently, the Cloverdale Veterans Building was the site of the Sonoma County Mayoral Conference and dinner. The conference was hosted by Mayor Todd Lands, assisted by City Manager David Kelly, Police Chief Jason Ferguson. Many of the Cloverdale City Council members were in attendance. Of special note, 22 years City Council Member and six-times Mayor Gus Wolter attended. Cloverdale Veterans building Directors Gene Marcinkowski, Bob Cox and Al Delsid prepared the building for this conference. A full-service bar was tended by the Cloverdale Lions Club.

The building also recently hosted a town hall meeting for Ariel Kelly a candidate for State Assembly.

The Veterans Building will be a site for voting on March 5th. PLEASE VOTE make your voice heard.

If you are interested in hosting your event at the Cloverdale Veterans building, please contact Gene, Bob, or Al at 707-669-2089 (msg) or 707-291-0500.



# Margaret Fitzgerald Ends 22 Year Reign At Washington School

Charlie Delfino

What a wonderful ride it has been. Margaret Fitzgerald has passed the Junior High volleyball torch and will now focus on her 2 Club V travel volleyball teams, her JV and Varsity volleyball teams, her 3 Fire & Ice travel softball teams and her legendary softball program at CHS. It's definitely not what you would call a retirement yet she has enjoyed the little extra time to be able to travel and visit her family and grandchildren.

Margaret held the title of Coach for 22 years at Washington School. During that time period she has coached many young athletes including five family members. She has also had numerous players that started out under her tutelage that went on and played volleyball in college.

Only one year after she started coaching at Washington School she also started the Club V travel volleyball program which has been going strong for 21 years.



Coach Fitzgerald proudly poses with her last 8th grade team she coached at Washington School

Coach Fitzgerald went through the Cloverdale schools herself promoting from 8th grade in 1976 when volleyball wasn't even an option for the Junior High students. She started her coaching career at Cloverdale High School in the 1982-83 season coming straight from the Santa Rosa Junior College.

The student athletes at the Junior High level are commonly searching for identity and direction. Coach Fitzgerald gave them both, and more. Margaret promoted having fun while learning the very basic volleyball skills and fundamentals. While teaching the skills of serving, passing and setting the volleyball she was also building relationships and building a foundation of trust that would eventually carry on to her JV and Varsity teams at CHS.

Margaret also created a mentorship between her high school teams and the junior high as players from CHS would regularly attend the Washington School practices and help coach the younger players.

The Junior High Eagles volleyballers have 21 pennants hanging in their gymnasium and have won a few others along the way. A very successful feeder program for the CHS volleyball program.

Thank you, Margaret for your many years of coaching and mentoring our young generation of Junior High athletes.

## Police Officer Trainees Needed

The City of Cloverdale is seeking Police Officer Trainees who are currently enrolled in or planning to complete Basic Police Academy. As a Police Officer Trainee, you will receive financial support from the city to cover the expenses of attending the academy. Upon successful graduation, you will be officially sworn in as a Police Officer and assigned to our comprehensive Field Training Program. For detailed information, please refer to the Police Officer job description available at <https://www.cloverdale.net/532/Job-Descriptions>



## Susan Lewman



Susan Lewman, a.k.a. "Grandma Susie", "Sue" or "Curly Sue" passed away peacefully at home in Cloverdale surrounded by her family on January 25, 2024, at 96. Susan was born in Turlock, CA in 1927 and spent most of her life living in the bay area and the valley. Although she only lived in Cloverdale for 10 short years, she made a big impression on lots of people and made many friends. Susan was very proud to be an Assyrian and to be a first generation American and often talked about her upbringing where she grew up on a farm with no water or electricity. If you asked her, she would tell you she lived the best life. She is survived by her son Gib Lewman, her Granddaughters Carie (Matt) Gloeckner and Jessica (Larry) Padron, her 4 Great Grandchildren, Grace & Dylan Gloeckner and Alexis and Olivia Padron. The family would like to extend a huge thank you to all of her caregivers, especially her most recent: Debbie, Kellie, Jan, Patsy and Andrea who assisted her in allowing her to live her best independent life!

## 10 Years Later, Do You Know Sonoma Clean Power?

As a Cloverdale resident, you may receive your electricity from Sonoma Clean Power. SCP is the local power provider for Sonoma and Mendocino counties, offering cleaner energy to homes, businesses, and municipalities.

SCP is a not-for-profit public agency led by a Board of Directors made up of elected officials from each of the communities they serve. SCP offers services and programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help customers save energy.

SCP was formed to provide an alternative to the for-profit, investor-owned utility (PG&E), and create transparency in the power procurement and rate setting process. Today, SCP is one of the 20+ community-owned power providers serving residents across California.

If you are an SCP customer, you might be wondering why you see both SCP and PG&E charges on your monthly bill. As a shared customer, you pay SCP for electric generation service – the sourcing of the energy you use – and PG&E for delivery service – the maintenance of power lines and infrastructure.

SCP's electric generation costs are not an extra charge. If a customer chooses to opt out of SCP, they will continue to pay for electric generation service, but to PG&E instead of SCP.

Customers who receive generation services from SCP are saving money on their total monthly bills, compared to customers who receive both generation and delivery services from PG&E.

Since 2014, SCP's power purchase agreements have directly supported more than 195 megawatts (MW) of brand new renewable energy and storage projects in California, including six local solar facilities such as the 1 MW Cloverdale Solar Center. SCP is currently leading an effort to build 600 MW of new, local geothermal capacity to improve the state's grid reliability and reduce the use of natural gas.

In May, SCP will celebrate ten years of service. The agency remains steadfast in its commitment to offering customers a choice, upholding public decision-making, providing cleaner energy, and creating climate solutions tailored to local needs. Additionally, SCP continues to invest revenues locally to support community initiatives, energy education, rate stability, and unique customer offerings.



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call (707) 894-4311



The Food Pantry  
201 Commercial St.  
Open Friday, 11 am to 1 pm. Donations of money are used to purchase food in bulk at the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Mailing address is: PO Box 2038, Cloverdale, CA 95425



Chris Parker, Cloverdale's new Chief of Police, addresses the Rotary Club of Cloverdale at a luncheon meeting last month at the Cloverdale Historical Society. Chief Parker has been in law enforcement for many years in various positions and that varied experience uniquely qualifies him to enable Cloverdale to maintain the safe and friendly atmosphere it is known for. His dedication to our city's well-being, along with his professional staff, ensures the continued success of a peaceful and prosperous community.

## Let's Travel Craig Clark

### Regarding credit card disputes involving Travel Purchases:

If you see a wrong charge on your credit card, you can dispute the charge. The Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA) gives you 60 days from the time you receive your credit card bill to dispute a charge. However, credit card agreements often extend the time to file a dispute. The FCBA protects consumers from unfair billing practices including: charges you didn't authorize, incorrect charges, charges for goods or services not delivered, a good or service that was not as described by the merchant, and math errors in calculating the total.

Note: The FCBA only covers credit cards or charge accounts. It does not protect debit cards or money wired through a service like Zelle or PayPal. However, many electronic non-credit card transactions are covered by the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (EFTA).

### Requirements for a credit card dispute.

- a) **The transaction must be \$50 or more.** It has to be made in your home state or within 100 miles of your home address. This rule doesn't apply if the merchant is affiliated with the bank that issued the card.
- b) **It has to be in writing.** Once you dispute a charge, the bank must acknowledge the dispute within 30 calendar days, and it must resolve the dispute within 90 days.
- c) **You must give the merchant a chance to work it out.**

### How to dispute a charge on your credit card.

The easiest way to file a chargeback is to visit your bank's website. Most major banks will allow you to initiate a dispute online. Your bank or credit card company will follow up with a request for documentation. So, you'll want to keep any supporting evidence, including invoices, receipts, and emails.

More information is available at "The ultimate guide to chargebacks and winning a credit card dispute in 2024" (elliott.org)

Winter Energy

Bill Help

Energy bills are high right now. Check out our website, call us, or visit us at the Advanced Energy Center to discuss:

- The best rate plan for your situation
- Available discount programs
- Your energy usage
- Practical winter energy savings tips

We look forward to hearing from you.

[sonomacleanpower.org](http://sonomacleanpower.org)

1 (855) 202-2139

741 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa

6



# Easter Weekend @ Parkside

## Good Friday

Friday, March 29th @ 6PM  
Family Communion Service

## Easter Sunday

March 31st @ 10AM  
Family Service & Kids Activities

553 W. Second St. Cloverdale, CA 95425  
Rev. Thomas Craig • 707-828-9617

### March Gardening Tips from Sonoma County Master Gardeners *Sponsored by Sanz Nursery*

- Fertilize roses. Give them a first application at bud break then once a month thereafter.
- Fertilize other perennials that are emerging from winter dormancy.
- If you still have a lawn, apply a half-dose of fertilizer now and again in 6 weeks. If the thatch layer is more than ¾ in. deep, de-thatch. Dethatching relieves compaction and improves aeration and water absorption. Consider decreasing the size or removing lawn altogether, and replace water-demanding grass with a water-wise garden.
- Plant summer bulbs such as gladiolus, dahlia, callas, amaryllis, and lilies.
- Continue to look for and control snails. Hand pick them or apply Sluggo (non-toxic to pets, children, and wildlife) to control snails that are hatching now.
- If you have not yet pruned summer-flowering shrubs, such as crape myrtles or any that bloom on new wood, do it this month.
- Pull out what weeds you can by hand. If you get to them before they go to seed, put them on your compost pile.
- Use a few layers of newspaper or cardboard and cover with mulch to discourage areas of unwanted grass or weeds. By the end of the season, the paper barrier along with dead grass and weeds will be decomposed and become compost.
- Very hardy flowers can be planted 4-6 weeks before the average frost-free date; in Sonoma County, that is April 15. Indoors, sow warm-season flowers such as ageratum, celosia, cosmos, marigolds, sunflowers, and zinnias.
- To speed up decomposition in your compost pile, add sources of nitrogen such as food scraps, alfalfa meal, blood meal, cottonseed meal, or fish meal and stir the pile every day or two.
- Remember, the last frost date in Sonoma County is April 15th. Don't be fooled by any heat spells; cold nights are still possible.

**I.SEE.** Optical Company

### Community Calendar

**March 2 Sat., 11am-3pm** Wine Walk \$30 tickets  
[www.cloverdalewinewalk.com](http://www.cloverdalewinewalk.com)

**March 4 Mon.,** City of Cloverdale Finance,  
Administration & Police

**March 5 Tues.,** City of Cloverdale Planning Commission

**March 6 Wed., 7-7:45pm** Guitar Lessons (FREE) World  
Rhythms Class, Cloverdale Arts Alliance

**March 7 Thurs.,** The Lorca Hart Bridges Trio,  
Cloverdale Arts Alliance

**March 9 Sat.,** 18th annual California African American  
Genealogy Seminar. To register: [www.AAFHS.com](http://www.AAFHS.com)

#### March Library Events:

##### Children

**March 2 Sat., 2:00 pm** Mirelle Ortega: Story & Art  
Workshop for Kids

**March 5 Tues., 10:30 am** Bilingual Family Storytime

**March 12 Tues., 10:30 am** Spanish Music & Movement

**March 19 Tues., 10:30 am** Bilingual Family Yoga

##### Teen

**Every Fri., 4:00 pm** Teen Pride (un)Book Club

**March 28 Thurs., 4 pm** Universal Yums

##### Adult

**March 5 Tues., 6-7:30 pm** Cricut Crafting: Spring Wreaths

**March 26 Sat., 5-7:30 pm** Quilted Tote Bags

**Now thru April 11** AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, Free tax  
service for those who need help preparing and filing  
their income tax. No age or income restrictions. By  
Appointment ONLY! Call or text 707-836-3198

For complete event details and more local events go to  
[www.cloverdaleconnect.com](http://www.cloverdaleconnect.com)



**Cloverdale Kiwanis Club Is  
Selling SEE's Easter Candy**

**Call Laurie 707-328-2147**

### Karma Dog on Luxe Gold List

Luxe Interiors+ Design Magazine has released their 2024 Luxe Gold List for "exceptional work in the field of architecture, interior design, landscape design, and other related fields. Karma Dog Construction, Inc. made the list for their outstanding design/build work. Karma Dog Construction, owned by Preston Addison, Micah Addison and Wendy Conner has a workforce of 16 employees, which allows the company to take a project from design through permitting to construction.



For over 20 years, Karma Dog Construction has designed and built homes in Sonoma and Mendocino County focusing on Cloverdale, Geyserville and Healdsburg. If you check their website, you will see a variety of projects from bathroom remodels to complete custom homes. Some of the homes they remodel are historical renovations and they take pride in blending the old with the new.

Clients are central to Karma Dog Construction's success. Preston and Micah work directly with the clients to take their ideas and work with them to build a project that meets their highest expectations while keeping within the budget.



## Police Department:

Under the direction of Chief Parker, the Cloverdale Police Department has undergone significant changes in its personnel and leadership, reflecting its ongoing commitment to service excellence and community engagement.

- **Officer Katie Vanoni** transitioned to the role of **Detective**, bringing a wealth of experience and dedication. With a background in Criminal Justice from SRJC and Sonoma State, she has overseen the resolution of over 700 cases and collaborated with various law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, DEA, and local investigative units. Her involvement in high-profile cases, such as assisting in a murder investigation with the Sonoma County Multi-Agency Incident Response Team, underscores her commitment to public safety and justice.



- **Officer John Camara** has been promoted to **Patrol Sergeant** after 24-year career at the Cloverdale Police Department. With a diverse range of roles, including K-9 Officer and tactical rifle instructor, Sergeant Camara has been instrumental in drug investigations, apprehensions of wanted individuals, and confiscation of illegal weapons. His proactive approach to addressing community concerns, particularly regarding homelessness, highlights his dedication to fostering a safe and secure environment in Cloverdale.



- **Officer Rickey Rhodes** has been assigned as the **School Resource Officer (SRO)**, with 12 years of law enforcement experience and extensive training background. His commendable service record underscores his commitment to serving the community and ensuring the safety of Cloverdale's youth. School Resource Officer Rhodes will soon commence duties, initially working one day a week. This arrangement will continue until the Police Department is fully staffed, then will transition to full-time.



## Finance Department:

On February 14th, the City Council received a mid-year report and presentation about the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget, reflecting the strategic vision set forth by the City Council, emphasizing key city-wide goals and initiatives. The mid-year financial report covering July - December 2023 provides a mid-year overview of expenditures and revenue for various funds, including the General Fund, major enterprise funds (sewer, water, and airport), special funds (Measure M Transportation Fund and gas Tax).

## General Fund Analysis:

The General Fund is crucial for funding essential services such as Public Safety, Parks, and Planning. Key points from the mid-year report include:

- Revenue sources are around 50% of the budget, with property tax slightly over budget but Cannabis Excise Tax and Sales Tax revenues lower than forecast.
- The estimated ending year General Fund unassigned fund balance corresponds to an 18% budget reserve and a total reserve balance of 55% including assigned and committed reserve account balances.
- Overall Expenditures are on target with the budget, with department expenditures ranging from 26% to 53% of their respective budgets.

## Budget Amendments and Adjustments:

- The City Council approved budget amendments totaling \$1,203,580 for projects and additional expenditures, which reduce the overall general fund reserve balance to 55%.
- Additional amendments were approved for the Water Enterprise Fund (\$126,609) and the Sewer Enterprise Fund (\$128,488).

By closely monitoring revenue and expenditure trends, the City Council can make any adjustments needed to ensure the City remains well-positioned to address current needs and plans for the future. A copy of the mid-year report is included with the City Council agenda here: <https://www.cloverdale.net/agendacenter>. The City of Cloverdale also maintains an Online Budget Book and Transparency Portal where the community can follow and track budget expenses and revenue.

## Public Works Department:

The Public Works Department continues their work to maintain and improve our city's infrastructure and has been hard at work maintaining the water system that provides Cloverdale residents with clean drinking water year-round. The Water Treatment Plant team is making progress on three critical projects.

- **Replacement of the Cherry Creek (Southcrest) Water Tank** With the assistance of a professional engineering firm, the City completed a hydraulic evaluation of the 200,000 gallon Cherry Creek reservoir. The city favors a two-tank alternative which would allow the possibility of keeping the existing tank in service while a new tank is constructed.

- **Implementation of the Smart Water Meter System.** The City of Cloverdale is continuing the final installation of meters as part of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. This project involves replacing and upgrading approximately 3,300 water meters with "WaterSmart Meters," enabling near real-time updates to the city's customer portal. Through an online web portal, residents will have the ability to monitor their water consumption and make informed decisions to manage their usage.

- **Implementation of SCADA for the City's Water Transmission system.** The Water treatment plant provides around the clock access to important treatment plant operational data and automated function control. The SCADA system is being extended from the Treatment Plant to the Transmission System and undergoing updating and maintenance to provide safety of operation and security of the treatment plant computerized system.

## Community Development & Parks Department:

The Planning Department plays a vital role in shaping the future of Cloverdale. The Community Development & Parks have been busy delivering new park improvements including:

New pickleball courts at Furber Park, new basketball courts at City Park, new restroom in the Plaza, A new dog park at the Train Depot, acquisitions and planning for a new 250 acres open space.

Community Development has also been updating the City of Cloverdale's General Plan. After recently completing an update to the City's General Plan Housing Element, the City is undertaking the following planning projects:

- **Update of the General Plan Circulation Element** - The process of updating the General Plan Circulation has been initiated by the City with the assistance of a transportation and planning firm.
- **Update of the City's Mobile Home Rent Control Ordinance.** The City Council is considering updates to the existing Mobile Home Rent Control Ordinance to provide improved regulations of rent control in mobile home parks. In addition to adopting a mobile home rent control ordinance, the City may make changes to its Zoning Code in order to protect mobile home residents.

## Conclusion:

The City of Cloverdale extends our gratitude for the community's continued support and engagement. The City thrives on the active participation and enthusiasm of its residents. We encourage you to stay informed, get involved, and be part of the positive changes happening in our community.

Remember, your voice matters, and together we can build a brighter future for Cloverdale!



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Purely Elizabeth's Granola  
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**\$1.79**  
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Peter Rabbit Organics  
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**\$3.79**  
save \$2.00

Malk Alternative Milk  
28oz Bottle

**\$12.99**  
save \$6.00

Ener-C Drink Mix  
30ct

**\$3.79**  
save \$2.20

Harmless Harvest Coconut Water  
16oz Bottle

**\$8.49**  
save \$3.20

Giovanni Smoothing  
Castor Oil Hair Care  
13.5oz

**2/\$7**  
save \$3.58

Yogi Tea  
16ct.

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For more information and to reserve your stateroom, call Craig at **Cloverdale Travel** [www.CloverdaleTravel.com](http://www.CloverdaleTravel.com), 707 894 5284.



## Clover Dog Pet Supply and Wash A One Stop Shop Michele Armanino

Melissa Shreeve spent her younger years growing up around her dad's pet supply and wash stores in northern California and southern Oregon. "It was just natural for me to follow in my dad's footsteps," the Cloverdale resident says. She opened Clover Dog Pet Supply and Wash in 2018 and by 2020 doubled the store's space, including a full-service grooming suite.

"We like to educate people on the different varieties of pet food. Today, pet owners want more than just kibble for their pet," Shreeve states. Clover Dog offers a smorgasbord of frozen, fresh, raw, canned, gently cooked and human grade foods for all pets. "We love Nutrisource, a sixty-year-old family-owned business. It's such a healthy brand and I feel like we're doing justice to generations of animals."

If you prefer to groom your own pet, Clover Dog offers a self-service at \$17.00 (\$12.00 on Tuesdays) for any of your pets. "I'm always amazed at how well people in Cloverdale care for their animals. They have a special place in their hearts for them," Shreeve says smiling.

Pool Party Series and Sip, Shop and Adopt are Clover Dog events where shelters bring dogs for possible adoptions. You will see at least five cats up for adoption daily in the store. "We facilitated over one hundred cat adoptions in 2023!" Shreeve says.

Clover Dog employs Cloverdale's teenagers and Shreeve is proud of it. "For lots of Cloverdale High School students, Clover Dog is their first job. They run the business!" she exclaims. Shreeve is dedicated to sponsoring local Little League, Cloverdale High School sports' banners, and elementary and middle school t-shirts and folders.

Fully funding over one hundred adoptions a year, Clover Dog donates the money back to the Sonoma County animal shelters. "During Covid and the Sonoma fires, we were at the relief booths with bags of dog food to hand out," she states. "I love this community. It's one of the last communities that really looks out for each other."

A Clover Dog website will be up and running soon for local subscriptions and deliveries.



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## Leo Giovannetti October 5, 1945 – February 8, 2024



Son of the late A. Joseph and Dina Giovannetti. A 1963 graduate of Cloverdale High. He attended SRJC, Humboldt State and Sonoma state. He spent a 36-year career teaching and coaching at Armijo High School, Fairfield.

Survived by wife Nancy, sons Chris (Samantha), Craig and daughter Katie (Bart), brother Paul, sisters Ginny and Geri and four grandchildren.

Services were held February 29 in Fairfield, Ca.



## Support our Cloverdale businesses!

Submit your "Shout Out" to [info@cloverdaleconnect.com](mailto:info@cloverdaleconnect.com)

Each business featured in **Cloverdale Connect's "Shout Out"** receives a window sticker suitable for display, acknowledging that they are supported by our community.

Great job by **Jesse Fox at All n One Kustoms**. Immaculate job and affordable — with All N One Kustomz Collision.

Nick Kennedy

Andrés at **Symphonic Finishing** is amazing! He completely upgraded our two bathrooms and we are still getting compliments on how great they look!!

Bob Russell

You nailed it **Nicole (Pick's Drive In)**! The pot pie was superb!

Kay Atchison


Ten minutes after I made the call to **Cloverdale Tow**, they were here and I was on my way! Thank you, Cecil!

Connie Anderson

Shout out to **Studio 5 Yoga** for grounding me mid-week with your Rise Shine and Stretch 6am yoga class. I look forward to it every week! Come check it out, we are so lucky with this gem here in Cloverdale!

Kendall Galvez





The Rotary Club of Cloverdale was proud to build 3 exhibit boards for this year's Citrus Fair. Using almost 800 oranges and 10 plus pounds of foodstuffs the club presented their interpretation of "Peace, Love and Unity," this year's Citrus Fair theme.

*Pictured are: Lynn Hoyer, Rotary president Robert Redner, Dr. Bill Hoyer, and Will Jobson*

## Identifying Suspicious Emails

Will Carter

Mean spirited folks have been taking advantage of others forever. In the case of emails, the Nigerian Prince Scam is by far the best known and you have likely heard of it, so I don't need to give you that warning! However, most scam emails today are not as obvious as that. Here are several things to check to make sure an important looking email is legitimate.

1 **Who sent the email?** Check not only the name provided, but also the actual email address of the sender. Banks, businesses, and other institutions should not be sending messages from free email services like Gmail, Outlook, iCloud, or Yahoo. For example, a legitimate email from PayPal might come from service@paypal.com, not ha9632632@gmail.com!

2 **Is the email clear and well written?** Many scam operators do not speak or write English as their first language which will often give them away. Look for unexpected capitalization, commas as decimals, poor spelling, DD/MM/YEAR date formatting, and dollar signs after numbers. These issues are almost never found in legitimate emails.

3 **What is the email about?** Often scam emails will claim to be renewals or bills for services you have never used. Others will pretend to be a friend or acquaintance in need of a favor. Of course, there are also those which blatantly ask for money orders, wire transfers, or gift cards. If an email fits any of these descriptions it is best to treat it as suspicious.

4 **Does everything fit together?** If the email includes emails, phone number, or addresses, look them up to see if you can confirm they are associated with who they claim to be. Make sure that any links in the email actually open the site they claim, not a site which looks similar, but with a different URL.

Ultimately, if an email passes the above checks, it is probably not a scam. Any time you are dealing with an important email, it is better to be safe than sorry. Run through this checklist and if anything doesn't look right, reach out to someone you trust to help you make that determination.

## Vote With Facts Not Fiction

### Misinformation Effects Democracy

This is an important election year. We have "seasoned" candidates who have served many years in Congress and in the Senate asking us to support their continued service in state and federal positions. We have local candidates that want to serve in our local community and our county. We have candidates that want to serve on Superior Courts. And we have state measures involving taxpayers spending.

The campaigning messages can become very noisy! And we are experiencing misinformation which has affected our personal relationships and importantly, democracy. It is important that you have the facts when you mark your ballot.

Some people read the Santa Rosa newspaper, The Press Democrat, which provides information in their editorial section. You can sort fact from fiction by checking some online resources that are non-partisan and provide facts. Here are a few to check.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan grassroots organization, that does not support or oppose candidates or political parties. Their voting and election resource, VOTE411.org, provides reliable, nonpartisan information.


Justfacts VoteSmart is another website that provides information about who is representing you and where they stand on issues you care about.

News Literacy Project has resources that can teach you how to identify credible news information. You can empower yourself with quality and vetted voter information.

We have eight months to gather information to decide how we want to be governed. So be an informed voter when you make your mark on the ballot. INFORMATION IS POWER!

*"The mission of the CloDems is to foster an informed and engaged electorate"*

## Advertiser of the Month ~ The Finishing Touches



Jeannie Griffiths, The Finishing Touches Interior Design Studio, has been enhancing homes for over 30 years. Jeannie works closely with her clients to create a home they will love, consulting with them to enhance their home by choosing paint colors, flooring, rearranging furnishings, artwork, and accessories. She also specializes in custom window coverings, including Hunter Douglas blinds, custom draperies, valances, shutters, roman shades.



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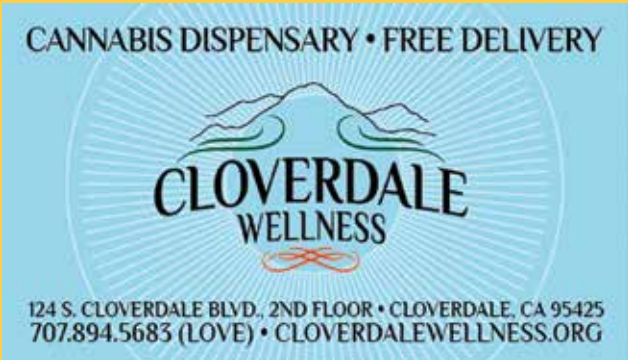
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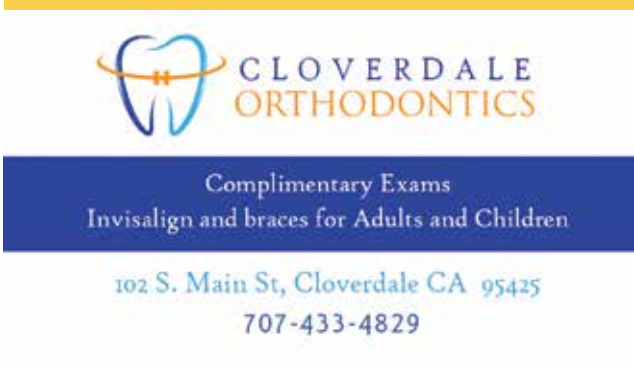


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# Out & About

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Princess while at sea

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### Dog Park Fundraiser



Pictured at the new Cloverdale Dog Park are Cloverdale City Manager David Kelly, (on left) Hector Galvin, head of the city Parks Department, and Rotarians Lynn Hoyer and Preston Addison, discussing plans for a Rotary fundraiser aimed at providing ore amenities for the dog park by selling engraved bricks and tiles, much like the Rotary Club did twelve years ago to help build Kleiser Park.

The Rotary Club and the City are excited to offer the public a way to directly contribute to this wonderful new addition to our town. Keep reading in future issues of Cloverdale Connect and in the City of Cloverdale newsletter for further updates.

Show your school spirit and help raise money for,  
**8th Grade Day Away**, by purchasing  
one of these super soft throw blankets. It will help keep you warm  
during those cold morning games or you can use it to cover the  
hard, cold bleacher you're sitting on.

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### Connect with C.H.S. Cheyenne Schriner

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In addition to new CTE courses offered on campus, under-classmen have been granted the ability to try out each course through field trips to college centers, such as the Santa Rosa Junior college and Sacramento State. As an introduction to childhood development, the SRJC provided a detailed tour of the campus, curriculum, and hands-on experience of the play and nurturing oriented approach offered by their programs. They also visit to Sacramento's Universal Technical Institute program, which provides a trade course by skilled diesel and automotive technicians as opportunity in field.

The winter sports ceremony occurs March 6th, where seasonal students can expect recognition and awards from their coaches and peers for persistent participation in soccer, basketball, and cheerleading.



Highlight Performance: Tylie Hatcher scores 1000 points in her time at CHS, celebrated against Willits in a 50-28 win!

Photo credits: Varsity Girls Basketball Team  
Emmerson Reasoner - Girls Soccer

### Kevin The Driver



Kevin is an independent, personal driver for our area. He can take you to any airport (STS, SFO, OAK, SMF, SJC) medical and dental appointments, courier documents for you, take you on shopping trips, tourist jaunts, be your driver for a big rented truck or van and more. He is available for short notice or pre-planned trips in his comfortable Lincoln Town Car.

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Live Music at La Tequila

“The Rice & Bean Project” is a group of professional musicians who have individually been playing for over 30 years. They have come together locally and have been playing for more than five years. The band consists of local musicians who play Latin jazz, soul, and island music including original songs plus familiar songs with a Latin vibe. They are also available for private parties.



The musicians are: Oscar Calderon - Vocals and guitar, Mal Tornay - Percussion/Conga drums, Ubi Whitaker – Bass, Rudy Luehs – Keyboard, and Tony Davids – Trombone.

The Rice & Bean Project plays every Friday at 5:30pm in the main dining room at La Tequila on Cloverdale Boulevard. When nicer weather allows, they play on the outside patio.

February  
Cloverdale Weather

Average High Temperature 59°F  
Average Low Temperature 42°  
Total Rainfall 16 inches  
*(as of publication date)*  
Rick Tang Photography

Footprints from the Past

Jennifer Jordan  
Cloverdale Historical Society Volunteer

Imagine going back in time to summer 1905, living in the Bay area, and deciding to “rusticate” in Cloverdale, to escape city life or summertime chill. After crossing the bay by ferry (no Golden Gate bridge until 1937), you ride north on the train. You arrive and stay at the U.S. Hotel on West Street or Pop McCray’s rustic resort in Oat Valley.

How to” rusticate” in Cloverdale? You can swim or boat on the Russian River, or travel to Italian Swiss Colony winery in Asti, founded in 1881 by Andrea Sbarboro and Pietro Rossi, a winery renowned for its Tipo Chianti and parties at the Villa Pompeii. You can go to mineral springs like Alder Glen on Hwy. 128 or Skaggs Hot Springs, which accommodated 300 guests! The spring is now at the bottom of Lake Sonoma! Or you can travel by stagecoach to Cloverdale’s most famous turn-of-the-century resort, the Geysers, located on Big Sulphur Creek. The grand hotel, surrounded by bubbling springs and fumaroles, attracted visitors from around the world, including Mark Twain, Ulysses S. Grant, and the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII).

How to get there? Travel involved an exciting, sometimes perilous journey through 16 miles of steep hills and unpaved roads by stagecoach. Bandits like Black Bart could lurk. In later years, cars and buses made the journey. It was a bumpy ride but one to tell your friends about.

Today you can visit our own Cloverdale History Museum and see one of these stagecoaches first hand. This stagecoach was discovered in Willits in 1993 with a sign that read “Cloverdale to the Geysers”. Willits Museum donated it and ,after repairs, it is now in our museum. Come down to see it and other historical treasures.

*Cloverdale Connect Cruise To Alaska!*  
**Departing May 26th from San Francisco**  
For more information and to reserve your stateroom, call Craig at **Cloverdale Travel** 707 894 5284.

Service Above Self



Demonstrating the motto "Service above Self", Cloverdale High School student Keiko Saito, President of the Rotary Interact Club, works with a student from Jefferson Elementary during an after-hours program to help students continue to develop their reading skills. She, along with Interact Vice President Max Fincher, have been developing a pilot program for the Rotary Interact Club to help elementary students continue to improve their academic abilities. A special thanks goes to Mrs. Holden, Jefferson Principal, for helping to facilitate this project.



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## Earthquake Brace + Bolt Grants Now for Available Eligible California Homeowners

Thousands of California homeowners are now eligible to apply for Earthquake Brace + Bolt (EBB) seismic retrofit grants. Now since February 21st, eligible homeowners can apply for \$3,000 seismic retrofit grants to help strengthen their homes against earthquake damage. There are more than 1.2 million houses in California built before 1980 in high-hazard areas that are vulnerable to collapse or destruction by sliding off the foundation during a strong earthquake.

More than \$20 million in grant funding will be available to help offset the cost of seismic retrofits that brace the crawl space walls of older homes, when present, and bolt houses to their foundations, making them less vulnerable to earthquake damage. In the ten years since it began, the EBB program has assisted more than 23,000 homeowners in strengthening their homes against earthquake damage.

Income-eligible homeowners may qualify for supplemental grants. Up to \$7,000 in additional grant funds are available for households with an annual income at or below \$87,360, which may be able to provide up to 100% of the funds needed to cover a seismic retrofit. Grants are contingent upon meeting eligibility requirements and available funds.

Established by the California Residential Mitigation Program, EBB offers up to \$3,000 to help California homeowners retrofit their house to reduce potential damage from earthquakes. Residential seismic retrofits bolt the house to its foundation and add bracing, if required, around the perimeter of the crawl space making it more resistant to earthquake activity. For more information, please visit [EarthquakeBraceBolt.com](http://EarthquakeBraceBolt.com).

The California Residential Mitigation Program was established in 2011 to help Californians strengthen their homes against damage from earthquakes. CRMP is a joint powers authority created by the California Earthquake Authority and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

**For more information, please visit  
[CaliforniaResidentialMitigationProgram.com](http://CaliforniaResidentialMitigationProgram.com).**

"I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to utilize this program. It saved me at least \$10,000, and was easy to navigate. I had to put no money up-front. The contractor I choose from the EBB list was great and took care of everything. Now my house is bolted and will be safe in an earthquake. I urge anyone who needs earthquake proofing to utilize this tax dollar funded program." ~ Vickie Norris

## Real Estate for Real People Elissa Morrash

Buying or selling a house is an unusual and often stressful experience. It is not something we do every day. Real people usually have lots of questions! The guidance of an experienced agent is invaluable to help throughout the transaction.

### Buying Your First House Is Not for the Commitment-Phobic

Realtors get asked lots of questions about the market, pricing, and interest rates. Oddly, we don't often get asked, "When should I buy my first house?" And that's too bad. Because buying a house is not like buying a car. Becoming a homeowner is one of the single biggest changes you will make—to your own life—in your lifetime.

Whether you are getting a loan and committing to paying a mortgage, or you are a cash buyer and putting a good portion of your savings into the property, it doesn't matter. The one takeaway should be that while buying a home and becoming a homeowner empowers you in wonderful, exciting ways, it also limits you in unseen and sometimes unexpected ways. While you are doing your research with hopefully a licensed experienced empathetic agent, keep that in mind. Do you have financial goals? Where are you working now? Do you expect to stay in the area for the next five to seven years? Do you plan on other changes in your life involving personal relationships? How does that play out in your mind?

Becoming a homeowner changes things. Think of it as having a long-term relationship—one that will last your lifetime. And one that is not easy to get out of if you change your mind down the line.

So, before you jump in the deep end, ask yourself "Where do I see myself now and in the future?" These are tough questions for anyone. Find mentors who can give you honest feedback.

I hope you found this helpful! Let me know if you have any other questions or talk to your trusted real estate agent.

*Elissa Morrash is a licensed Realtor® DRE 01872845 with W Real Estate in Cloverdale and is an active member of the local professional real estate community.*

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## Annual Cloverdale Lions



Sat Morning March 30th  
at

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9am-10 Pictures with Crayola Bunny  
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10am Hunt Begins (Don't be late!)

**3 Fields!** \* Preschool\* K-1\* 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Over 1900 eggs will be hidden in 3 fields + mystery PRIZE EGGS!

*This is a completely free event hosted by the Cloverdale Lions Club  
Please bring a basket or container to collect eggs*

*See you there! -Your Local Lions!*



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# Primary Election

Tuesday, March 5, 2024



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## Boys & Girls Club Corner

Kat Ryan

We are having an amazing school year full of growth, learning and fun at all of our club locations. We braved the rain in the Citrus Fair Parade with our club members and families. We loved seeing all the smiling faces of our community members as we passed out flower headbands and peace necklaces. We couldn't be more proud to be part of raising the children of Cloverdale.



We are enrolling Tk-8th grade now for our exciting Spring Break camp the first week of April. Plans are also underway to create a "Summer to Remember" for our summer camp program. Our camps will be at our Clubhouse location where we host teen night weekly and teens cook dinner, play basketball, pool, ping pong and more.

Robotics has launched in Cloverdale and has been enjoyed by kids of all ages. The teens program at the high school has been making and programing the robots to play games and solve engineering problems.

Last but not least we are forming a Community Advisory Board and Volunteer Base to support in our community engagement and would love to have you join us. If interested reach out to Kat Ryan, Community Engagement Manager, 707-894-5063, kryan@bgcsonoma-marin.org.

Save the Date

FIRE AND EARTHQUAKE  
SAFETY EXPO

2024

Sunday, May 19, 2024, 10 am to 3 pm  
Cloverdale Citrus Fairgrounds



## Introducing Dr. Jing Zhao

Chief Medical Officer

AVH is pleased to introduce Dr. Jing Zhao, our new Chief Medical Officer who joined us at the end of last year. Born and raised in China, Dr. Zhao's journey into the world of medicine began when she was a young child. A visit to a hospital, crowded with people and lacking enough doctors, left an indelible mark on her. Determined to make a difference, she vowed to help others access healthcare when she grew up.



After graduating from Dalian Medical University, Dr. Zhao's medical journey in China led her to specialize in organizational injuries and then took her to Japan for cancer research, focusing on gastric cancer prevalent among Asians.

Fascinated by Japan's society and its cost-effective health access, Dr. Zhao became curious about the U.S. healthcare system and wanted to learn more. Initially considering a PhD program, she found herself in clinical practice after completing her residency at NYU and spent two years at Cornell as a hospitalist.

Dr. Zhao and her husband then moved to Northern California, where she spent 13 years as a physician with Kaiser, benefiting from the opportunities the organization provided for continuous learning in value-based healthcare. A brief move to Southern California followed to help care for her husband's parents. While in Los Angeles she worked at UCLA Health as a faculty member for three years, teaching students, residents, and primary care physicians.

They returned to the Bay Area in 2018 where Dr. Zhao became more aware of the pressing needs of Community Health Centers, first joining NE Medical Services in San Francisco as the Medical Director, then to Harmony Health in Sacramento as CMO. Dr. Zhao embraced the challenges and rewards of caring for our underserved communities.

Now, as she takes on the role of Chief Medical Officer at Alexander Valley Healthcare, Dr. Jing Zhao hopes to expand our practice, bring in specialists, and enhance patient care. In addition to her administrative role, Dr. Zhao continues to care for patients and looks forward to getting to know Cloverdale, recognizing that our entire community relies on AVH for their care. As a compassionate leader, she sees the potential to bring a holistic healthcare approach to ensure the overall well-being of our patients. Dr. Zhao's journey, marked by resilience and lifelong learning, is now intertwined with the narrative of Alexander Valley Healthcare's commitment to growth and a healthy future.

### AVH Health & Wellness Center Updates

Progress continues! The AVH Board has established a committee to review the 3 bids from general contractors and finalize the project budget. Once this process is complete and a GC is selected, permit applications will be submitted to the City of Cloverdale.

Our Capital Campaign is ongoing, with close to \$2 million (including \$1 million from the County) raised towards our \$5 million goal. The final application and completed feasibility study for the Tax-Exempt Bond issue will be submitted to Cal Mortgage for approval at their Advisory Loan Insurance Committee (ALIC) meeting in June. We hope for bond financing by July/August of 2024.

We will continue to provide updates in **Cloverdale Connect**, but please reach out directly to Kirsten Tellez, Director of Development kitellez@alexandervalleyhealthcare.org (707) 203-2135 with any questions. Thank you for your patience, we look forward to celebrating with you at the groundbreaking later this year!



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REAL ESTATE

Creative Corner

Christy Anne

A bit early this year, Spring is less than a few weeks away. I can almost hear the shouts of “Yes Please” and “Thank the Lord” with all the rain we have been blessed with this year. There is only so much even the proclaimed lovers of the rain (yours truly included) can proclaim with any modicum of honesty, when the assault of rain feels never-ending, that we too, have had enough.

Of course, with all the rain and havoc it has wrought, the threatening takeover of weeds and blown about branches will be keeping many of us busy for awhile leaving extra energy for projects at a deficit. So, a simple little project for Spring for those that want to add a little sunshine themselves to the world at large and their gardens, I thought an old school and simple project would fit the bill.



Wildflower seed paper. We often see in card form or other creative ways artisans have come up with. But there is no reason even younger kids (with a wee bit of help from their elders with the blender or food processor) can't make them, themselves. The ingredients are easy enough: old scraps of paper ripped up into tiny shreds, water, and a packet of seeds. Oh, yes and the tough part – some patience. Simply shred what paper you have and soak in water until it turns soggy. Drain excess water and combine in mixing device of your choice, run until well blended. Again, drain excess water, scoop into a bowl, and mix in a packet of seeds (Thank you Cloverdale Nursery for the Bee Feed). Easiest is to wrap in cheesecloth and squeeze excess water out, but straining through fine mesh works as well. I found putting between 2 sheets of parchment paper and using a rolling pin to be the easiest way to get flat. Then allow to dry out – patience! Once dry, slowly cut into desired shape and they are ready to go. Place under thin Layer of soil in a sunny spot & keep soil moist through germination (4-14 days), water as needed and enjoy!



Founded in 2019 by members rooted in Bluegrass, Country, and Psychedelic Rock, the music is a hard driving mixture of twangy guitar and psychedelic noise, held together by a steady rhythm section with the whine of the pedal steel layered in between it all.

Electric Tumbleweed has maintained steady momentum in the Northern California music scene and has backed David Nelson (New Riders of the Purple Sage) on multiple occasions. Barry Sless (Phil Lesh and Friends, Bob Weir and The Wolf Brothers) and Dave Zirbel (Sammy Hagar Band) are regular pedal steel players in the group and Scott Guberman has been making more and more appearances on keys. Electric Tumbleweed's aim is to keep their goals high, and to perform high quality music; focusing on writing and arranging new songs, and booking future tour dates.

Electric Tumbleweed released their debut full-length album in October 2021, which features Sam Bush (New Grass Revival, Emmylou Harris), Barry Sless (Phil Lesh & Friends), and Lester and Dylan Chambers (The Chambers Brothers). The album also features the artwork of legendary artist Stanley Mouse (The Grateful Dead) and Jannae Bennett (Noodle ARTifacts) and was engineered and mastered by Grammy winning Oz Fritz (The Ramones, Tom Waits, Primus).

Americana Night is hosted at the Cloverdale Arts Alliance Gallery located at 204 N. Cloverdale Blvd. Tickets are \$25 for Cloverdale Arts Alliance members and \$30 for non-members. Doors open at 7:00pm; music from 7:30 – 9:30pm. Americana Night takes place the third Thursday of each month from October through May.

To receive reserved seating privileges, purchase advance tickets online at [www.cloverdaleartsalliance.com](http://www.cloverdaleartsalliance.com). Tickets, if available, may also be purchased at the door.

Extra FREE copies of *Cloverdale Connect* are available each month at **Geiger's Market, Dahlia & Sage, Plank Coffee, Pick's Drive In, Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, Zini's, Cloverdale Senior Center, Cloverdale Library, Charlie's Grill, WorldMark Windsor, Gin Gilli's, Geyserville Grill** and other locations.

River Park Clean-up



Members of the Cloverdale Rotary Club were hard at work recently removing trash from McCray Road, gateway to Cloverdale River Park.

Rotarians James Novak, Frank Crivello, Bill Hoyer, Lynn Hoyer, Jim DeMartini, and club President Robert Redner.





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### Cloverdale Police Department Police Logs

The Cloverdale Police Department maintains police logs of current non-confidential activities and incidents. The logs are available for viewing in person at the Cloverdale Police Department or accessed digitally at: [www.cloverdaleconnect.com](http://www.cloverdaleconnect.com). (**Police Log** button).

The Police Log provides an easy and convenient way for residents to access the latest information regarding police calls, arrests, and other notable incidents.

**Current Incident Reports:** Stay updated on recent incidents and law enforcement activities happening in and around Cloverdale. The website provides access to real-time incident reports, allowing you to be aware of the issues affecting our community.

**Community Engagement:** The Cloverdale Police Logs website encourages community engagement by fostering an open and transparent dialogue between residents and law enforcement. By staying informed, you can play an active role in supporting public safety initiatives and collaborating with local authorities.

An informed community is a safer community. By utilizing this resource, we can work together to ensure Cloverdale remains a secure and welcoming place for all.

The Cloverdale Police Logs are posted and made available on the City's website, as a powerful tool to promote transparency, enhance public trust, and strengthen the bond between law enforcement and residents.

### Rotary Bingo



Pictured is Rotarian Glen Senestraro, calling out numbers during Cloverdale Rotary's 3rd bingo night at Railroad Station. Over 40 people enjoyed great food and comaraderie while winning over \$1000 in prizes generously donated by the wonderful merchants and businesses in our city. Rotary would like to especially thank the merchants, the participants, and Railroad Station for their contributions to this event.

A special shoutout goes to Rotarian

Ken Allen for orchestrating the whole endeavor. Look for more Rotary Bingo events in the near future.

### Cloverdale Connect Photo Contest

Each month a *Cloverdale Connect* Front Page Photo Winner receives a gift card from a participating merchant.

Email your photos to [info@cloverdaleconnect.com](mailto:info@cloverdaleconnect.com) or Mail to P.O. Box 404 Cloverdale, CA 95425

### CELEBRATION NOTICES

**Birthdays • Weddings • Memorials • Retirements  
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### Michael Driver



Micheal Drive passed away on Sunday night, February 4th, 2024. Originally born in Newark, New Jersey, Michael moved to Sonoma County in the 1980s. He became a member of the Cloverdale community in 2003.

He is known as an amazing father, friend, basketball coach, mentor, spectator, and announcer. He enjoyed walking his dog and reading in his free time. But most of all, his love for basketball was evident. Mike played with and taught his children the game, as they grew up. He recently started to announce the Cloverdale Eagles boys and girls basketball games during the 2023-2024 season.

He is remembered by his sons, Tamarind and Desmond, and his daughter, Catherine. He is loved by Teri Driver and his sister, Melissa Driver.

A Gofundme account has been set up for the family - Fundraiser by Catherine Driver: In Memory of Michael Driver ([gofundme.com](http://gofundme.com)). The donations will be used for funeral/arrangement expenses, future support for his children and family, and traveling. Anything is much appreciated. This is a complete shock to the Driver Family. Sending love and support is much needed right now.

### Lorca Hart Bridges Trio Performing March 7

On Thursday, March 7, the Cloverdale Arts Alliance will continue THE Jazz Club season with Northern California's Lorca Hart Bridges Trio. West Coast drummer Lorca Hart and his Bridges Trio, play straight ahead standards rooted in the jazz organ sound while also exploring more contemporary elements with original compositions and composers such as Josh Redman, John Scofield and Pat Metheny. Featuring Mike Scott on guitar and Brian Ho on organ.

This performance will be at the Cloverdale Arts Alliance Gallery, located at 204 N. Cloverdale Blvd. Tickets are \$25 for Cloverdale Arts Alliance members and \$30 for non-members. Doors open at 7:00 pm; music begins at 7:30 pm. THE Jazz Club takes place the first Thursday of each month from October through May.



To receive reserved seating privileges, purchase advance tickets online at [www.cloverdaleartsalliance.org](http://www.cloverdaleartsalliance.org). If available, tickets may also be purchased at the door.

THE Jazz Club is a program of the Cloverdale Arts Alliance, a non-profit arts organization bringing cultural arts to northern Sonoma County. Other CAA programs include Friday Night Live at the Plaza, Art Gallery, Americana Night, Music Workshops, Discovering Art Series, The Blues Night, Art Classes, Wine Appreciation Workshops, and Special Events.

### TRANSLATE to Spanish Button

Easily translate *Cloverdale Connect* content from English to Spanish on our website by using the orange **TRANSLATE** button in the upper right-hand corner.  
**¡Pruébalo!** [www.CloverdaleConnect.com](http://www.CloverdaleConnect.com)



# Evolution Of Cloverdale's Public Library

Mary Jo Winter

From 1884-1911, Cloverdale's first library was located in the 200 block of N. West Street (now Cloverdale Blvd.) in a two-story building known as Library Hall. A fire on the night of June 1, 1911, destroyed about \$12k worth of downtown business property and seriously damaged Library Hall, although all of the books were saved.

The second library, the Cloverdale Free Library, was sponsored by the newly chartered Women's Improvement Club and started in 1913. With help from volunteer librarians and donations from the community, it opened in a small room in front of the old Citrus Fair Pavilion.

The Women's Improvement Club (WIC), with their focus on the social, moral and intellectual improvement of a community, then set their sights on raising funds to construct a stand-alone library building. They held fundraisers and successfully circulated a petition requesting a town library tax of \$0.03 per \$100, bringing in about \$14 per month.

Land for the proposed project, located at 231 S. Cloverdale Blvd., was generously donated by Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Humbert. The building was completed in September 1921, and by March 1922, the construction debt was completely paid off.

In 1956, the Sonoma County Library system took over and in February 1979 the new Cloverdale Regional Library was opened in its current location. A \$350k remodel in 2016 has been the only major renovation to the building since opening.

Proceeds from WIC's sale of the former library building helped to greatly reduce the cost of the new building. WIC also contributed to the cost of landscaping and the purchase of new books.

Several different businesses have occupied the former library building, including Bowman Lumber, Fiesta Travel, and Voss Signature Vintage. Currently, it is home to the Kelley & Young Tasting Room and the recently-opened Crystabelle Fine Minerals.



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## Cloverdale Unified School District News

Glen Senestraro, CUSD Superintendent

CUSD has many projects planned for the rest of this school year and the next. We are in the planning stages for eight (8) new Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten classrooms at Jefferson. These classrooms will be built on the north side of campus to replace the current portables. Construction on the new modular buildings will begin in the Fall of 2024. We are anticipating occupying the new classrooms in August 2025. The next project is the new school bus turnout at Washington. With the planned expansion of Washington Street to Healdsburg Avenue, CUSD is creating a school bus turnout adjacent to the street. This will create a flow of traffic for drop off and pick up at the school as well as trying to alleviate safety concerns.

Lastly, CHS is upgrading and modernizing their Career Technical Education (CTE) garden area. We plan to erect a new greenhouse, build a barn to house small animals, bring utilities to the area, and make a clean, well-structured learning space.

We are proud and honored to serve the greater Cloverdale community and its students. CUSD is governed by an elected Board of Trustees. Our regular meetings are on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:00 PM in the CHS Makers Space. Our Board members are President Gabriela Mendoza-Torres, Clerk Jenny Candelaria-Orr, Trustee Preston Addison, Trustee Jacque Garrison, and Trustee Ashley Lopus-White.

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## The Historical Society Garden Plans

Discussing the upcoming plans for the beautiful Cloverdale Historical Society's garden, are Carolyn Adkins (on left) with Elissa Morash, Executive Director, who along with the Cloverdale Garden Club has developed and maintained the garden for a number of years. Because of all these efforts the garden continues to thrive and be a jewel in our city. All are welcome to come and enjoy it's ever-changing beauty and colors. It is just another example of how the museum contributes to the uniqueness and prosperity of our town.



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## Cooking with David Maciel

**Sponsored by Ray's Food Place**

*Easter is always a nice bone-in ham at our dinner table. I love this sweet nutty glaze with the smokiness of ham. You can use a boneless ham but not the pre-sliced hams. Happy Easter.*

### Ham with Bourbon, Molasses & Pecan Glaze

#### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup apple juice (preferably fresh unfiltered)
- 1/4 cup bourbon
- 3/4 cups (packed) dark brown sugar
- 1 cup pecans, toasted, cooled, finely ground
- 1/4 cup mild-flavored (light) molasses
- 3 tablespoons dry mustard
- 1 whole bone-in 16- to 18-pound

#### Step 1

Boil juice and bourbon in small saucepan until reduced to scant 1/3 cup, about 6 minutes. Combine sugar, pecans, molasses, and mustard in bowl. Add bourbon mixture; stir to form thick paste. (Can be made 2 days ahead. Cover; chill. Bring to room temperature before using.)

#### Step 2

Position rack in bottom third of oven and preheat to 325°F. Line large roasting pan with heavy-duty foil, leaving overhang on all sides. Trim off skin and all but 1/4 inch fat from ham. Place ham, fat side up, in prepared pan. Roast ham until thermometer inserted into thickest part registers 130°F to 135°F, about 10 minutes per pound or 2 hours 40 minutes for 16-pound ham.

#### Step 3

Remove ham from oven; increase oven temperature to 425°F. Lightly score fat on ham in diamond pattern. Rub glaze thickly over top and sides of ham. Return ham to oven and roast until glaze is deep brown and bubbling, about 25 minutes. Let ham stand at least 20 minutes and up to 45 minutes.



## Cloverdale Library Community Connection John Koetzner, Children's Services Librarian

Sonoma County Library had over a million checkouts of physical items last year and over three million digital items checked out. Many of our patrons already use the Libby app for getting access to our more than 100,000 eBooks and eAudio titles on their phones and tablets. If you read eBooks or listen to audiobooks, one of our newest apps, the Palace Project, includes Libby, but it also adds several other apps for eBooks and eAudio.

For example, it adds more than 90,000 Enki eBook titles, as well as the California State Library's over 23,000 eBook and eAudio titles, and over 15,000 eBook and eAudio titles from the Shared California eBooks for all program. Finally, the Palace Bookshelf has over 17,000 eBooks that are free to download and keep. What a deal. All of them are free!

The good news is that we are still getting new physical books and audio books, along with DVDs and other materials in all the time. So, be certain to visit the library to see exhibits of books, media, etc. that we have on display, especially in March for Women's History Month. We're waiting for you at the desk.

#### Children

Mirelle Ortega: Story & Art Workshop for Kids – Saturday, March 2 at 2:00 pm

Bilingual Family Storytime – Tuesday, March 5 at 10:30 am

Spanish Music & Movement – Tuesday, March 12 at 10:30 am

Bilingual Family Yoga - Tuesday, March 19 at 10:30 am

#### Teen

Teen Pride (un)Book Club – Every Friday at 4:00 pm

Universal Yums – Thursday, March 28 at 4 pm

#### Adult

Cricut Crafting: Spring Wreaths– Tuesday, March 5 @ 6-7:30 pm

Quilted Tote Bags – Saturday, March 26 at 5-7:30 pm



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