

Cloverdale Connect

Bringing our community together since 2020

April 2025



Editor's Note

As I sit down to write this on a beautiful spring day, the weather is picture postcard perfect. I just got home from an after-church brunch and one of the songs we sang was "Here Comes The Sun" – a perfect anthem for the season.

I love Spring. Absolutely love it. I've got the doors open, the windows open, the cats are lying in the sunny patio, the canary is singing and the camellia bush is full of blossoms. We live in paradise.

There's lots going on this month – time to get out in that garden and get to work. Check out our Annual Garden Guide in this month's issue for lots of ideas. And don't forget to see all the upcoming community events in our monthly Event Calendar.

Happy Spring, everyone! As Raymond says: "What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day in my life for it".

I'll see you around town!

Dana



The always hilarious Bob Zany is no April Fool! He reads *Cloverdale Connect* whenever he's in town.



Front Page Photo Contest Winner **Robert Bauer** Wins a Gift Card from **West Coast Sourdough**

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 "Together, we take action to create lasting change in our communities and around the world."

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 Club of Cloverdale

(photo - 2024 Russian River Cleanup)

Rotary International

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Look Inside! Annual Garden Guide, Autism Awareness, CHS Scholarships, New Veterinarian in town, and much more!

Cloverdale Connect Inc PO Box 404 Cloverdale CA 95425



Learn About People Who Contribute Articles To Cloverdale Connect*



Christy Anne Latchford

Cloverdale resident since 2007, hair-dresser, massage therapist, painter, book-enthusiast, dreamer with a corporate life behind me I don't care to repeat, but gives me structure to fall back on. Creating something fun out of the mundane is my soul's purpose, and I encourage all to embrace whimsy and continual growth whilst navigating life.

I do believe to my core that art remains the purest path to self-expression!



MJ Girad

1966 was the beginning of an astonishing journey in radio broadcasting. A summer replacement job at KMSL in Ukiah led to decades in the entertainment business in Texas, Oklahoma and, while in the service, the Republic of Vietnam.

Now hosting "Roots of Rock" live every Sunday morning at 7:00 also on demand at KOWSfm.com. Requests gladly taken! mj@mcn.org



Eleanore Webster

I wanted to write about City Council meetings for the *Cloverdale Connect* because I had been hearing how the decline of local newspapers was impacting citizens' ability to know what was going on in City Hall. I have zero experience with City Hall, but I really admired the work Dana was doing and how she took up the cause after the

Reveille shut its doors. I knew how to write and use a laptop, so I volunteered. I'm glad I did.



Jennifer Molidor

Before moving to Cloverdale, I was a university English professor. Now, I work as a sustainable food advocate at the Center for Biological Diversity, a non-profit that fights to protect wildlife and wild places. I'm also a nature writer and aspiring children's book author. Storytelling builds community, so I write for *Cloverdale Connect*. We live in a

beautiful area, and I want to help people understand the magical world of wildlife around us.

*Part 2 - see May issue for Part 3

CUSD Employee of the Month Jane Lyons

Sponsored by
Dahlia & Sage Community Market



Hardworking, faithful, reliable, caring, and resilient are just a few words that describe Jane Lyons who is our CUSD employee of the month for April! Ms. Jane, as she is known, has worked for CUSD for 10+ years in many different roles. She has been a Student Supervisor, an Instructional Assistant, and is currently serving as a paraprofessional at Jefferson Elementary School. Jane is an integral part of our CUSD family and is always willing to do her part to see students and families' educational needs are met with kindness, integrity, and a smile. Ms. Jane enjoys cooking, shopping locally, and spending time with her family and friends when she is not working at Jefferson. We celebrate Ms. Jane and the incredible part of the CUSD community that she is.

Speaker Series - Author Elaine Rock Katie Bogner Gibson, Engagement Director

The Cloverdale History Museum is excited to announce the latest Speaker Series event on **April 22th at 7:00 pm** at the **Cloverdale Performing Arts Center**. Join us for a conversation with author and historian, Elaine Rock as she speaks about her recently published book, "Dusty Roads: Meet the Hidden Figure Who Really Ignited the Women's Movement." She will discuss how the 1950s and '60s connect to today's world, primarily focusing on what women were prohibited from doing at that time. She will explain how this motivated Dusty, who was an airline stewardess at the time, to become a pioneering union leader, how she met Dusty (who was a Sonoma County resident), and why it took ten years to write Dusty's biography. She will address the discriminatory airline policies that Dusty fought against, including marriage bans, age limits (being fired for turning 32 or 35, depending on the airline), weight restrictions, unequal pay, and even girdle checks.

Additionally, Elaine will detail how Dusty became one of the first female lobbyists to Congress, filed the first Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) discrimination complaint in the U.S. after the Civil Rights Act and Title VII were passed, stopped a strike, and reshaped airline workplace policies, opening employment opportunities for women and men nationwide. Elaine will share a slideshow of photographs, including some that were not featured in the book. There will be a Q&A session at the end. Elaine will be joined by Amy Nycamp, the president of Sonoma County NOW. Tickets are \$20 each and are on sale now at: www.cloverdalehistorymuseum.org.

Dahlia and Sage Wins Shelby Award



Dahlia and Sage recently won Shelby Publishing's "Exceptional Independent" award. The Shelby Report is the nation's leading publication on the grocery industry. Awards are given in recognition for a grocer's commitment to supporting neighborhood charities and community involvement and investment in their employees' training and advancement.

Dahlia and Sage is honored and grateful to be recognized for their hard work, and to be a part of the amazing Cloverdale community.



DEADLINE for ad space reservations, artwork, and content 3rd Friday of every month, 5pm

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PET of the MONTH

Ms. Winnie
Owner: Dianna Ellis

Please contact us to receive your prize

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

Prizes courtesy of DogGonit and
Cloverdale Connect



Whisker Talk Brigid Wasson

Spring is here and we look forward to tending our gardens. Unfortunately, our dogs may have different ideas. Freshly planted dirt is perfect for digging, and before you know it your bulbs, flowers, or vegetables will be scattered everywhere! How to keep destructive dogs out of the garden?



- Exercise.** All dogs need daily exercise. With the weather more pleasant we can enjoy long walks, or trips to Cloverdale's dog park. Play fetch or whichever games your dog enjoys to keep his mind and body active.
- Training.** If your dog may dig, do not leave him unsupervised. Hang out in the yard and discourage him from exploring the off-limits areas. A verbal "no" and a water squirt bottle will tell him what you expect.
- Limit access.** When unsupervised, leave your dog in the house or another part of the yard. If this isn't possible, fence off the planted area to keep it safe from curious paws.

Happy Spring from FirstStreetPets.com!

Notice to Circulate a Petition

Notice is hereby given of the intention to circulate a petition to:

Form an Alexander Valley Water District ("AVWD") and establish a new Sphere of Influence ("SOI") for the AVWD subject to the procedures of the Sonoma Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCO") and the requirements of Water Code Section 34000 (the Principal Act) and the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Act (LAFCO Law).

The reasons for the proposal are:

Petitioners are self-supplied domestic, industrial, and irrigation water users in the Alexander Valley who possess their own water rights and operate their own water facilities to divert water from the Russian River and groundwater basins interconnected with the Russian River. This common water supply has become unreliable and is at risk due to frequent droughts and drastic reduction in the historical importation of Eel River water to the East Fork Russian River from the Potter Valley Project hydropower facilities. A new water district is needed to help Alexander Valley landowners reliably manage and ensure the sustainability and conservation of existing water supplies, implementing programs such as the Water sharing Program and expanding groundwater management.

Name and Address of the Proponent:

Russian River Property Owners Association (RRPOA)
Post Office Box 2124
Healdsburg, California 95448

Signature of Proponent:

Date: 1-27-25

Brad Petersen
President, Russian River Property Owners Association

(paid for by Brad Petersen, RRPOA)



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The Longest Table

The third annual much-loved Longest Table event will be on Sunday, April 27, Noon - 2:30 pm on First St., between Cloverdale Blvd. and Main Street.

This is a free event for everyone in the community. Whether you're one person or a big group, everyone's invited. There

will be tables, chairs and music. Just bring your own food and utensils, decorations, plates. Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

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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 / goodshepherdcloverdale.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

Maundy Thursday 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

Invites the community to our annual

EASTER in the PARK

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 10:15 AM

Easter Egg Hunt to follow worship for the kids!
Coffee and Refreshments



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

Join us for our Sunday service at 10am.
All are welcome!



553 W. Second Street, Cloverdale
Across from City Park

For more information email us at
info.parksidecloverdale@gmail.com

St. Peter's Catholic Church
491 S. Franklin St.
Cloverdale, CA 95425
707-894-2535

The Bridge Foursquare
50 Commerce Lane Ste. C
Cloverdale, CA 95425
mail@TheBridge4sq.net

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
1011 S. Cloverdale Blvd.
Cloverdale, CA 95425
707.280.9433



Next worship service Easter Sunday Bring flowers to add to the cross

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SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH
AT 10AM

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Love Truth People

Lightness of Being Nora Archambeau, M.A.

If we were to take the pulse of our surroundings, I imagine we would find it more unsettling than we would prefer. Whatever leanings we hold, political or otherwise, major, quick, and uncertain changes affect everyone. When this happens, it shakes up the nervous system, and it can be challenging to rebalance it. The plus side of this quandary is that we are given the chance to rethink our priorities, how we fundamentally live, and what is working well or is missing. What are we longing to regularly receive? Do we need to reconsider some aspect that needs changing or tweaking? What is important to help maintain a modicum of balance?

Hard Truth "If you wait until you feel 'better' to start living, you might be waiting forever. Go live your life. Do it sad. Do it anxious. Do it uncertain. Because healing doesn't always come before the experience. Sometimes, the experience is what heals you." (@myhealtime, 2024)

This month's column proposes more "lightness of being" tools to help reset our equilibrium and reduce the heaviness that is permeating the collective conscious.

S ~ **Soften** the approach to life, to others, and to each other. Healthy boundaries do not necessitate harshness. Setting Boundaries with Brad Yates <https://youtu.be/O00JcYq7DMA>

P ~ **Pray**, reflect, meditate...whatever gives inner peace and calm. Epsom salt baths and candles are a wondrous delight, as is a Sound Bath Healing evening with Cloverdale's Kendall Galvaz. (@angelsgatehealing)

R ~ **Reduce** the number of activities packed into a day/week/month, even by one or two items. Your psyche will thank you.

I ~ **Invite** levity into the "to dos" with humor, silliness, and comedies. <https://www.marieclaire.com/culture/movies/best-comedy-movies-2025/>

N ~ **No** is a complete sentence." (Anne Lamott, internet)

G ~ **Go** outdoors to wander, explore, and relax. A 30-minute walk helps take the edge off the day's hustle and more readily invites a peaceful evening. <https://www.sonomacounty.com/>

One Letter at a Time: How Siri Chettipally (non-speaking and Autistic) is Defying Expectations and Pursuing Her Dream in Neuroscience

Ben Chettipally



For much of her life, Amy Siri Chettipally was underestimated. As a non-verbal autistic student, many assumed she lacked intelligence or the ability to learn in an academic setting. But everything changed when she discovered the letterboard—a tool that finally allowed her to express her thoughts. And with that, she shared an ambitious dream: to study medicine and become a neuroscientist.

The road ahead was anything but clear. Siri had never been in a traditional academic classroom, and her family had no roadmap for how to begin her higher education journey. Yet, with determination and the right support, Siri has forged her own path—one that is already proving how much potential was overlooked for years.

A Journey Through Education with Limited Resources:

Like many neurodivergent students, Siri's experience in the K-12 system was a mix of challenges and resilience. While the world has made strides in recognizing the educational rights of students with disabilities, the reality remains that many classrooms are not equipped with the proper knowledge, training, or resources to support non-verbal autistic students. Misconceptions about intelligence and communication abilities continue to hinder learning opportunities, leaving students like Siri without access to the education they deserve.

But Siri's story is a testament to the power of presuming competence—the belief that every individual has the potential and desire to learn, regardless of communication barriers. For non-verbal individuals, apraxia (a disconnect between the brain and body) can make it difficult for the body to follow the brain's intentions, leading to frustration and misinterpretation. Through her letterboard communication practice, Siri has proven that intelligence is not tied to speech and that her ability to learn has never been the issue—access to training with tools has.

From Letterboard to College Classroom:

Siri's journey in higher education began when Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) opened the door for her to explore her academic abilities. Now, with her younger brother, Ben Chettipally, serving as her Communication Regulation Partner, she is excelling in college-level coursework. Ben, trained through the International Association for Spelling as Communication (I-ASC), supports Siri in her studies at the College of San Mateo (CSM), where she is currently enrolled in 13 units, including biology.



With the right accommodations and support, Siri has flourished in college. Professors and staff at SRJC and CSM have embraced an inclusive approach, ensuring she has the necessary resources—such as extended deadlines and tailored participation methods—to succeed. The willingness of educators to have open conversations about supporting neurodivergent students has made all the difference.

A Future Neuroscientist in the Making:

Today, Siri is studying zoology, attends lectures, participates in labs, and pursues general education courses in communications and Spanish. Her professors know her name, her classmates work alongside her, and her support system, including her mother and letterboard practitioners—ensure she has the assistance needed to navigate college life.

Every step of Siri's journey, she faced challenges. Her story is a powerful reminder that intelligence is not measured by speech, but by the access to opportunity. With dedication, hard work, and a support system that believes in her, Siri is proving that dreams—no matter how ambitious—are within reach.

And as she moves closer to her dream, one letter at a time, she is not just shaping her own future—she is paving the way for countless others like her.

To Follow Siri:

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@mynameissiri-designsbysiri>

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Mother's Day Photo Album May Issue



Submit your photo of "Mom" for our annual Mother's Day Photo Album in the May issue of Cloverdale Connect and you may be a winner! One winner will be chosen at random to win the Mother's Day Prize Package.

The winner will receive a wonderful assortment of cupcakes from **Flour Girl** and a Pamper Package from **Bella Moda Salon**

including a manicure, pedicure, haircut and blow-dry and a facial. **Honor your mother and send in your photos no later than Friday April 18th!**

Submit your photos to info@cloverdaleconnect.com or mail to P.O. Box 404, Cloverdale, CA 95425

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5% unsheltered

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Debbie Howell, CEO
dhowell@alexandervalleyhealthcare.org
(707) 669-1777

Kirsten Tellez, Director of Development
kitellez@alexandervalleyhealthcare.org
(707) 203-2135 office



City Council Report Eleanore Webster

February 26th meeting: new Council member Andrés Marquez took the Oath of Office and was introduced. Resolutions declared (1) February as Black History Month, (2) authorizing C&S Companies for engineering services at the Cloverdale Airport, and (3) amending the FY 2024-2025 budget to reflect previously approved expenses. Council approved the addition of one Water Operator in Training to the Water Department. This is a 365-day, 24-hour operation and needs another staff member.

The Potter Valley project was discussed. The City is in opposition of the MOU that was signed between PG&E, the tribes and the State. The Fire Chiefs have also signed on in opposition. The MOU doesn't clearly address the needs of the residents in the Cloverdale area for a reliable source of water. Mayor Lands announced a town hall meeting, with all parties invited, to state why and how this affects them. The meeting was held on March 20 at the Veterans Hall.

March 12th meeting: the month of March was proclaimed Red Cross Month. Dennis Sigmon and Andy Withohn were present to accept the recognition. The team talked a bit about the work that the Red Cross does, including installation of smoke alarms at no charge for folks in need.

The Plaza Park Survey results were presented. About 300 people completed the survey. Most of the respondents were 65 and older and attend during events such as Friday Night Live and the Farmers Market. There are a few who use it for breaks and exercises. People rated accessibility and facilities as good. Suggested improvements included additional seating, improved shading, lighting, and landscaping, and some opportunity for table games. Results can be found at <https://www.cloverdale.net/agendacenter>. City Staff was assigned to determine future steps. Some improvements on shading have already been planned.

The presentation of the City of Cloverdale audited financial statements was delayed to the next meeting because of audio problems. The Admin. Subcommittee is considering a cannabis tax and will meet with the providers in the city to get their input. They also considered options on bonding the funds coming in as a result of Measure DD.

Norma Waller

Norma Waller passed away on March 1, 2025 with her family by her side after a long battle with lung disease. Norma has lived in Cloverdale since 1940, worked in the bank industry most of her life and finally retired as a bank manager for West America Bank. Norma was a member of the Founding Committee for the Cloverdale Boys and Girls Club, and was also a former board member serving as Treasurer. She was also a member of Cloverdale Soroptimist from 1981 to 1995.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents Vaile and Thelma and by her brother Leonard. Norma is survived by her son Curtis (Perri), her daughter Cindi (Joe) and her four grandchildren Royce, Andrew, Delani, and Jodi as well as one great grandchild Aubree and her niece Lisa.

Per Norma's request, there will be no services. The family would like to thank the staff at Vine Ridge Senior Living in Cloverdale where she resided until she passed.

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Almost 7,000 copies distributed via direct mail each month to Cloverdale and Geyserville.

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APRIL COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- April 6 Sun.** 9am Russian River Clean-Up, First St. Bridge Parking Lot
10am-4pm Spring Market, Citrus Fair Grounds
7 - 9pm KOWS 92.5FM Fundraising Comedy Show
- April 11 Fri.** 11am-3pm Kiwanis See's Candy sale, ACE Hardware
6:30pm Community Dance, American Legion Hall
- April 12 Sat.** 11am-4pm Kiwanis See's Candy sale, ACE Hardware
7:30pm Blues Night, Cloverdale Arts Alliance
- April 13 Sun.** Washington School Golf Tournament, Tayman Park
- April 17 Thurs.** 5pm Rotary Bingo, La Tequila
7pm Laurie Lewis and Nina Gerber, Americana Nig
Cloverdale Arts Alliance
- April 18 Fri.** 11am-3pm Kiwanis See's Candy sale, ACE Hardware
- April 19 Sat.** 9-10am Lions Easter Egg Hunt, Jefferson School
11am til ? Kiwanis See's Candy sale, ACE Hardware
- April 20 Sun.** 10:15am Easter in the Park, Living Water Church
Furber Park
12-2pm Easter Brunch, \$25, Vine Ridge Senior Living
2pm Easter egg hunt, Vine Ridge Senior Living
- April 22 Tues** 7pm History Museum Speaker Series,
Elaine Rock author of *Dusty Roads*, CPAC
- April 24 Thurs.** 6pm Cloverdale Music Workshop
Cloverdale Arts Alliance
- April 25 Fri.** 11:30-1:15pm Cloverdale Senior Center Volunteer
Appreciation Lunch
6:30pm Community Dance, American Legion Hall
- April 26 Sat.** 10:30-12:30pm Botanical Dyeing
SoCo Trading back patio
- April 27 Sun.** Noon-2:30pm Longest Table, First St.

See's Easter Candy

Sold by The Kiwanis Club

at Ace Hardware

Friday, April 11, 11am-3pm

Friday, April 18, 11am-3pm

Saturday, April 12, 11am-4pm

Saturday, April 19 11-till SOLD OUT

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CUSD News

Glen Senestraro, CUSD Superintendent

As spring approaches, students in the Cloverdale Unified School District (CUSD) are gearing up for the annual California state assessments. These standardized tests, administered each year to students in grades 3-8 and 11, measure proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, and science.

Testing Schedule and Purpose

The testing window for CUSD schools will begin in mid-April and run through mid-May. Specific testing dates vary by school and grade level, so families are encouraged to check with their child's school for exact schedules. The tests are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) system, which helps educators and parents gauge student progress and identify areas for improvement. These assessments provide valuable insights into how well our students are mastering grade-level content. While they are just one measure of academic progress, they help us tailor instruction to better support our students.

What Students and Families Can Do to Prepare

To help students perform their best, district officials recommend the following:

- Ensure adequate rest – A good night's sleep before testing days can improve focus and stamina.
- Provide a healthy breakfast – Nutrition plays a key role in cognitive function and concentration.
- Encourage a positive mindset – Remind students the tests are an opportunity to show what they have learned.
- Familiarize with the test format – The CAASPP website offers practice tests students can take at home to become comfortable with the testing interface.

Technology and Accessibility

All testing will be conducted online, requiring students to use school-provided Chromebooks. The district has ensured that necessary accommodations are in place for students with special needs, including extended time and assistive technology as required by Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504 Plans.

Understanding the Results

Families will receive individual student score reports during the summer. These reports provide detailed insights into student performance and areas of strength or improvement. Parents and guardians are encouraged to review the results with their children and discuss any questions with teachers during the next school year.

Community Support and Encouragement

CUSD is committed to creating a supportive environment for students during testing. Teachers and staff will continue to provide encouragement, and families can support students by fostering a low-stress approach to test-taking.

For more information, families can visit the district website or contact your child's school directly. As testing season approaches, CUSD thanks parents, teachers, and students for their hard work and dedication to academic success.

Sculpture Spotlight Susan Leibovitz Steinman



Susan Leibovitz Steinman's piece, Tangled Up in Blue (my version) is a site-specific sculpture created in the lot next to Plank Coffee on Cloverdale Blvd. It is created on location using waste stream salvage & recyclable PVC pipe.

Susan is a conceptual artist, social sculptor and ecofeminist activist. Melding art, ecology and grassroots activism, she engages multi-group collaborations to create street-front

installations that revitalize blighted natural and cultural landscapes using salvage and organic materials. Exhibited internationally, her sculptures, paintings and installations marry found and organic materials to comment on personal/political issues.

Artist Statement:

"This is an improvisational sculpture using materials that I recycle from one work of art to another, most of my work being temporary. Working this way is fun for me as I'm never quite sure what the finished product will look like. I do come with a general idea and specific materials that limit the possibilities. I like to use PVC as if I were drawing in space.

There is also a picture frame closer to the street as another viewing device. The metal frame holding the wood picture frame was on site already. Rather than ignore it, I integrated it into the installation."

The 8th Grade Parent Group & Washington PTSA Presents

Swinging for Promotion

Golf Tournament

A Fundraiser to support Washington Middle Schools 8th Grade Students
Sunday, April 13, 2025 • Tayman Park, Healdsburg

Shotgun Start – Four Person Scramble
Prizes – Lunch – Goodie Bags- And more!

\$125 per Golfer/\$450 per foursome

All funds raised will go directly to supporting the Washington Middle School's 2025 8th Grade Class and ensuring that all students can participate in the 8th Grade Promotion, Day Away, and End of Year Celebration Dance.

Get Registered today by emailing Fireman1476@yahoo.com or calling 707-799-0220 with any questions.



Annual Garden Guide

April Gardening Tips from Sonoma County Master Gardeners

Sponsored by Sanz Nursery

- As rain tapers off, check your irrigation system for cracks, leaks and clogs. Dirty filters can wreak havoc, especially if you are on a well. Clean out filters and replace as needed.
- Flush out drip systems and make sure all emitters are working. Replace batteries on systems that use battery-operated controllers. Ensure that timers are working. Do this now before it gets really hot and dry and plants need water immediately.
- Continue to lightly fertilize perennials that are emerging from winter dormancy.
- Aphids will flourish on tender new growth in warm weather; use insecticidal soap or spray with water from the garden hose as necessary. Wash off spittle bugs.
- The ground is soft enough to make weed pulling easy—stay ahead of it and you will have fewer weeds going to seed.
- Fertilize or amend soil around azaleas and rhododendrons with acidic material or acid fertilizer. Work carefully to avoid damaging shallow roots; add mulch.
- Sow hardy annuals in pots or directly in the garden.
- Plant summer bulbs and rhizomes.
- April is a busy time for finishing debris clean-up from late winter and early spring and for cutting back cold-sensitive, summer-blooming perennials, such as salvia, nepeta and penstemon. Leave fading foliage of spring bulbs and let them wither; they provide nutrients for next year's blooms.
- The last frost date in Sonoma County is April 15 although there still may be very cold nights ahead.

March Cloverdale Weather

Average High Temperature 63°F

Average Low Temperature 42°F

Total Rainfall 4.2 inches



(as of publication date)

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California Native Plants

Natives are generally defined as plants that have evolved in a particular region or ecosystem and have not been introduced by human intervention. Endemic plants are those that occur both naturally and uniquely in a defined area and nowhere else.

A wide diversity of plant species native to California grow in coniferous forests, chaparral communities, grasslands, marshes, sandy dunes, and riparian corridors from cool coastal sites to hot inland valleys and mountainous terrain. For success growing natives, it's best to provide a garden location similar to a species natural habitat: similar temperature range, sun exposure, garden soil, and available moisture.

In the garden, many species thrive only with supplemental irrigation. It is equally misleading to suppose that all natives are care-free since many require regular pruning, insect management, and replanting typical of non-native plants in any cultivated garden. Seasonal garden activities may be reversed from maintaining non-native plants since many California natives experience summer dormancy.

With a careful selection of California native plants, it's possible to create a casual cottage garden, a naturalistic setting, or a stylized formal landscape. While garden design may initially drive plant selection, perhaps the most important reason for planting California flora is providing a habitat for native fauna. Not only will native plants create a pleasing home landscape, but they appeal to birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, pollinators, and many other forms of wildlife as they provide food, shelter, and nesting sites.

Courtesy of Sonoma County Master Gardeners

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Sonoma County Year-Round Food Gardening

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Vegetable	Planting Window	Cool/Warm Direct/Trans	Final Spacing	Days to Maturity	Harvest
ASPARAGUS (crowns/roots)	Jan-Mar	T	12"	2-4 years	Harvest 2 yrs from planting crowns/roots
ONIONS, bulb	Jan-May	C,D/T	4-5"	90-150	After tops yellow and fall over
SPINACH	Feb-Mar	C, D/T	3-8"	40-50	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
TURNIPS	Feb-Mar	C, D	2-6"	30-75	Start pulling when 2-3" in diameter
GREENS, ASSORTED*	Feb-Apr	C, D	2-6"	35-45	Harvest varies by crop; before flowering
PEAS	Feb-Apr	C, D	2-6"	60-80	Pick pods regularly to prolong harvest
RADISHES	Feb-Apr	C, D	1"	20-60	Harvest as early as 3 weeks from sowing
LEEKS	Feb-July	C, T	2-4"	120-150	When stems are 0.5-2" wide
POTATOES (not sweet)	Feb-Aug	C, D	12"	90-120	Dig after flowering when tops die down
SWISS CHARD	Feb-Aug	C, D	10-12"	60-80	Cut outer leaves when plant is 12-18"
LETTUCE –HEAD & LEAF	Feb-Oct	C, D/T	4-12"	40-90	Cut young outer leaves or whole plant
BROCCOLI	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	12-24"	60-100	Cut central head with tight buds
CABBAGE	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	18-24"	65-120	When firm and before head splits
CAULIFLOWER	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	18-24"	80-110	When heads are full size
KOHLRABI	Mar-Apr	C, D/T	4-6"	50-70	When bulb is 2-3" wide
BEETS	Mar-Aug	C, D	3-5"	55-70	When bulb is 1-3" wide
CARROTS	Mar-Sept	C, D	2"	120-150	When roots are 1" in diameter
COLLARD GREENS	Mar-Sept	C, D	18-24"	60-90	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
ONION, bunching	Mar-Oct	C, D/T	1-2"	50-80	When tops are 12-18" tall
KALE	Mar-Nov	C, D/T	12"	65-75	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
ASPARAGUS (seedlings)	Apr-June	C, T	12"	3-4 yrs	Cut 5-8 spears lightly third year
CELERIAC	Apr-June	C, T	6-8"	150-180	Dig when roots are 3" wide
OKRA	Apr-June	W, T	12-18"	70-80	When pods are 2.5-3" long
PEPPERS	Apr-June	W+, T	12-18"	65-85	Can be picked green or wait for color
TOMATILLOS	Apr-June	W, T	18"	70-80	When fruit is green and 1-2" wide
TOMATOES	Apr-June	W+, T	18-24"	50-90	When fruit is fully ripe and colored
CORN, SWEET	Apr-July	W, D	12"	65-100	3 weeks after silks appear
CUCUMBERS	Apr-July	W+, D/T	12-24"	50-75	Pick when ripe to prolong harvest
PUMPKINS	Apr-July	W, D/T	36-96"	100-120	When shell has hardened
SQUASH, SUMMER	Apr-July	W, D/T	24-48"	50-60	When small and tender
EGGPLANT	May	W+, T	18"	60-80	When some color develops and skin glossy
MELONS	May-June	W+, T/D	12"	85-120	Ripeness depends on type
PARSNIPS	May-June	C, D	3"	90-120	Harvest when mature; before flowering
SQUASH, WINTER	May-June	W, D/T	24-60"	80-120	Shell should be completely hardened
BEAN, POLE & BUSH	May-July	W, D	2-4"	48-70	Pick pods when mature to prolong harvest
ARTICHOKES	May-Sept	C, D/T	24-48"	130-190	Cut tight, plump buds next spring
CELERY	June-July	C, T	6-12"	90-170	Harvest outer stalks or whole plant
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	July-Aug	C, T/D	24"	100-150	Pick 1-2" sprouts before leaves yellow
CABBAGE	July-Aug	C, T	18-24"	65-120	When firm and before head splits
BROCCOLI	July-Sept	C, T	12-24"	60-100	Cut central head with tight buds
CABBAGE, CHINESE	July-Sept	C, D	12-18"	70-85	Whole heads when firm and well-formed
GREENS, ASSORTED*	July-Oct	C, D	2-6"	35-45	Harvest varies by crop; before flowering
SPINACH	July-Oct	C, D	3-8"	40-50	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
RUTABAGAS	Aug	C, D	6"	90	When roots are 2-3" in diameter
CAULIFLOWER	Aug-Sept	C, T	18-24"	80-110	When heads are full size
CHICORY & RADICCHIO	Aug-Sept	C, D	12"	80-90	Harvest small leaves in 40-50 days
ENDIVE & ESCAROLE	Aug-Sept	C, D	8-10"	60-80	Harvest leaves; overwinters well
KOHLRABI	Aug-Sept	C, D	4-6"	50-70	When bulb is 2-3" wide
ONIONS, bulb	Aug-Sept	C, D/T	4-5"	90-150	After tops yellow and fall over
RADISHES, Daikon & winter	Aug-Sept	C, D	4-8"	50-70	Harvest roots about 2" in diameter
TURNIPS	Aug-Sept	C, D	2-6"	30-75	Start pulling when 2-3" in diameter
PEAS	Aug-Oct	C, D	2-6"	60-80	Pick pods regularly to prolong harvest
CORN SALAD (MACHE)	Sept-Oct	C, D	2"	80	Harvest leaves; overwinters well
RADISHES	Sept-Oct	C, D	1"	20-60	Harvest as early as 3 weeks from sowing
GARLIC	Oct-Nov	C, D	3-5"	120-185	Harvest end of June when tops begin to die; stop water last month
RHUBARB	Dec-Mar	C, T	36"	-	Harvest 1 yr from roots, 3 yrs from seed

C = cool season crops that grow best in soil temps of 60° to 65°F and air temps of 55° to 75°F

W = warm season crops that grow best in soil temps of 65° to 80°F and air temps of 65° to 95°F and little cooling at night

W+ = warm season crops that need extra protection to keep them warm if planted early in season

D = seed is usually sown directly in the garden

T = crops are usually planted from transplants

D/T = seeds can be planted directly into soil or transplants can be used

For help with your garden problems, call the Master Gardener hotline at 565-2608 or visit the Master Gardener information desk in the University of California Cooperative Extension office (133 Aviation Blvd., #109, Santa Rosa), or ask a Master Gardener at your local farmers market or the Sonoma County Fair or other event. See our [website](#) for additional publications.

Annual Garden Guide

SPRING

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Grow Your Green Thumb with Us!

Join our Garden Club and connect with fellow plant enthusiasts. Learn from experts, share tips, and cultivate friendships.

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When: April 23rd 1-3 PM

Speaker: David Iriabane- Superintendent of Golden Gate park

Membership Benefits:

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Gardening tips and Q/A with master gardener

Membership Fee: \$30/year

Not a member? Come to our next meeting to learn more!

For questions: Call Karen Devine: 707 391 9062

Success Begins Underground Russian River Watershed

Do you feel like you constantly need to water and add more fertilizers to get results in your garden? Then it may be time for a soil refresh!

Remove weed fabric and rock mulches to allow for nutrient cycling and reduce soil temperatures. Add compost to give your soil much needed organic matter and improve its structure. If you have large areas of bare soil, consider covering them with organic material like wood mulch, which will help retain water and make weeding easier. Check out <https://rrwatershed.org/resource-library/#nurture> for more information and happy gardening!

SAVE THE DATE
GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB
ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR
MAY 10, 2025 10:00 – 2:00
ACE HARDWARE LOT 750 South Cloverdale Blvd.



We have so much to offer this year whether you are looking for a wonderful and unique Mother's Day gift, something for yourself or a friend, plants for your garden, or baked goods for a snack or dessert. Come see what our Garden Club members and other vendors have to offer:

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Roots of Rock
MJ Girard ~ KOWSfm.com

Ah, April showers, bring the May flowers! Unfortunately, the weeds too! However, we live in a nearly perfect location on the North Coast of the Golden State...the envy of many. Our community here has a deep appreciation of neighborly values, where we look out for the welfare of those around us.

Where words alone may not convey our feelings, music complements the spirit of neighborly love and kindness. Having the soft background of musical instruments and the warmth of the human voice oftentimes makes the world feel more palatable and less stressful.

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Thank you for your support.

Animal Hospital of Cloverdale Welcomes Stephanie Peterson, DVM



The Animal Hospital of Cloverdale is thrilled to welcome Dr. Stephanie Peterson. With 12 years of experience as a dedicated veterinarian, Dr. Peterson brings a wealth of knowledge and skill to the team. Her compassionate care for animals, combined with her warm and approachable personality, makes her a wonderful addition to the clinic. The Animal Hospital is excited for

both our patients and clients to experience her expertise and genuine love for animals.

Dr. Peterson has devoted much of her life to the veterinary field, following a passion for animal care that began at the age of 15 in Arizona. Starting as a volunteer, she gained hands-on experience in nearly every role within a veterinary hospital, from kennel assistant to medical director. In 2013, she proudly earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

At home, Dr. Peterson is lovingly supervised by cats Archie and Bennett. She enjoys family road trips, experimenting with new soup recipes, and soaking up the tranquility of the beach. Dr. Peterson is genuinely excited to become an active part of the Cloverdale community and looks forward to meeting you and your furry friends!

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Cloverdale High School Scholarships 2025

Children of Vineyard Workers Scholarship (\$500-\$2500)

- One or more parent working in wine agriculture
- Senior continuing in higher education

Cloverdale Connect Scholarship (\$1200)

- Career: media, advertising, graphic design, photography or related field
- Due May 1, 2025

Cloverdale Roadrunners Car Club Scholarship (\$500)

- Senior with minimum 2.0 GPA
- Plan to attend vocational or trade school
- Due Apr 25, 2025

CSEA Cloverdale Chapter 170 Scholarship

- Family member of a past/present Cloverdale CSEA
- Positive work ethic
- Due May 1, 2025

Omar Gallardo Memorial Scholarship (\$500)

- Career; teacher or social worker
- Minimum 2.0 GPA
- Financial need considered
- Due May 30, 2025 at 5pm

North Bay Realtors Association Scholarship (\$1000-\$2500)

- Graduating senior residing in and attending Sonoma, Napa, or Mendocino County

Happy 90th Birthday Rev. Jane Snibbe



Jane is a 3rd generation native Californian. She was born in Oakland and grew up in Berkeley and Pacific Grove. She has been an Episcopalian for most of her life, serving as the first woman Eucharistic Minister, and later Senior Warden at St. Mary's by-the-Sea in Pacific Grove. She has a B.A. in history from

UC Berkeley, and studied at the University of Edinburgh. She and her late husband Dick met at Cal. She earned a Master's in Education from U. of Montana, and a Master's in Library Science from San Jose State. She is a 4-year graduate of the Education for Ministry program of the University of the South Seminary.

Jane retired from a 33-year career as a teacher and school librarian in 1997. She and her late husband Dick moved to Clover Springs in 1998, and began attending Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. She has two sons, Carl and Kurt, and three grandchildren.

As a life-long practitioner of lay ministry including Altar Guild, holding 4 lay licenses, teaching Sunday School and Bible Studies, Jane answered the call of the congregation for ordained ministry. She was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate in February 2019, and to the Priesthood on December 8, 2019.

She is involved in various programs in the Cloverdale community, including education and the library.

Cloverdale's Historic Celestial Event Mary Jo Winter

A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between Earth and the Sun, leaving only a moving region of shadow on the Earth's surface. The next one visible in the United States will occur in 2044, but will be limited to Montana, North Dakota and a very small portion of South Dakota.

The only recorded total solar eclipse over Cloverdale occurred on January 1, 1889. While the total duration was 3 hours, 45 minutes, 36 seconds, the actual eclipse only lasted 1 minute and 45 seconds.

One hundred years later, at 2 p.m. on January 1, 1989, about a dozen people marked the centennial anniversary with a gathering in the Druid's parking lot.

Cloverdale Historical Society members Jack Howell and Phyllis Hendrickson, together with W. J. Shiloh Unruh of the Lick Observatory, had compared photographs taken in 1889 with current background scenery. They were able to determine that the parking lot was the exact location where photographers gathered a century earlier. Excursion trains brought hundreds of people to witness the unusual event. An estimated 100,000 people viewed the eclipse, many of whom crowded onto the hillsides of what is now the Cloverdale Cemetery.

There were also sixty-eight photographers from the Pacific Coast Amateur Photographic Association in town. The crowds created such a demand for food, the U.S. Hotel had to lock the windows to keep people from crawling through into the dining room.

Lunar eclipses happen several times a year, but total solar eclipses are extremely rare. They occur somewhere on earth about every 18 months but only pass over the same place once every 300 to 400 years.

Cloverdale will experience a partial solar eclipse on January 14, 2029, but everyone will have to wait another 150 years or more for the next total solar eclipse to pass this way again.

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At Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Oncology Patients Get Therapy From Friendly Dogs

Carly Perkins

Therapy animals have long been a welcome sight at Providence Sonoma County hospitals, providing emotional support, companionship, and happy distractions for patients before they're discharged. But some patients, like those at Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Oncology, visit long-term — often daily, for weeks or even months, and could use a friendly and furry visitor.



Don Forst, director of volunteer services for Providence Sonoma and Napa Counties, and Mario Orsolini, a chemotherapy infusion nurse at the oncology center, worked to bring pets like Forst's friendly golden retriever, Cricket, to the facility. At the outpatient Round Barn Circle center, patients receive chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and other treatments, which can be tedious. For people who don't have family or friends to

accompany them, they can also be rather lonely.

With the North Bay's Paws for Healing canine-assisted therapy at their sides, patients see an always-happy face begging for love in the form of head rubs and ear scratches.

Forst's next-door neighbor, Michael Cusack, has been a patient at the oncology center for the past three years — and Cricket is his favorite therapy dog. He shares, "The temperament of Cricket and the therapy dogs puts me and other patients at ease during otherwise high anxiety situations. You can see people relax as they interact with the dogs and it's an incredibly healing experience."

Providence is looking for more Paws for Healing dogs to add to the Sonoma County therapy dog team.

To learn more and get involved, visit Paws for Healing at pawsforhealing.org/classes.htm



Become A Cloverdale Connect Champion

Every month, Cloverdale Connect publishes and distributes almost 7,000 copies of the paper, which equals over 16,000 readers, calculated by industry standards. The papers are delivered via USPS direct mail, and also at many "drop" locations, at no charge to our readers. Over the last four years, our printing and postage costs have gone up and up and up, and yet we still provide the paper free to our readers.

We are looking for readers who would like to become **Cloverdale Connect Champions** with a \$50 annual gift. (Please note: this is not a tax-deductible expense as we are not a non-profit organization).

Contact us at info@cloverdaleconnect.com to support local community news and information.


Are You a Cloverdale Connect Champion? Go to cloverdaleconnect.com, click **Champion!**

Thank you to the following readers who are now **Cloverdale Connect Champions!** Please see our expanded list of Champions below as of 3/26/25.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
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| C. D. Grant | Robert Redner |
| Carolyn Adkins | Shelli Byers |
| Cecily G. Henry | Susan Lile |
| Deborah Hall | Susan & Phil Brooks |
| Debra Jack | Thana Brunges |
| Denis Thoms | Valerie Chestovich |
| Ellen Boulanger | William Wagy |
| Frances Giacalone | Al & Melonie Delsid |
| Frances Ramage | Ann & Jack Mackenzie |
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Make the choice today to set up a one-time, weekly or monthly contribution to the CSMC Endowment Fund at RCU. In addition, we invite you to include the Senior Center in your estate plan as part of your will or your trust. Invest in our community's future. Make a difference.

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David Maciel recently hosted the **Hopland 4H Club** at **The Bike Shop**. He taught the kids how to take the tire off the bike and fix a flat tire by putting in a new tube & how to repair the old tube.

David was a member of the 4H growing up, so providing this opportunity meant a lot to him. He said they were a great group of kids!

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I See You Michele Armanino

It didn't take **Sara Hagen** long to adapt to small town life in Cloverdale after relocating from San Diego eight years ago. Sara is the proprietor of a unique and stylish eyewear and clothing boutique, I. SEE. Optical Company located at 210 North Cloverdale Blvd.



The ABO certified optician is thrilled to offer the Cloverdale community quality eyewear not found anywhere else. "My frames are all independent brands that people have never heard of," she says. "You won't find big brand names in my store." Sara has a personal relationship with the vendors, actually speaking with them and learning how the frames are made. "I focus mainly on USA made products. Dick Moby is a compostable line of eyeglasses made from cotton and wood fiber. Vieux sunglasses offer limited edition frames, and excellent workmanship," she says proudly. The store also features American Optical, a company that makes naval sunglasses and has been around since the 1800's.

Sara, who is the current President of the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, first came up with the idea of the popular Cloverdale Wine Walk over two years ago. The walk, she says, has been great for so many Cloverdale businesses. For I.SEE. Optical, it gives people a chance to do some wine tasting while perusing eyeglass frames and her versatile line of women's clothing (including plus sizes) and men's casual and business wear.

"If you book a styling appointment with me, I set aside at least an hour to assure that you get the fit and look of the eyeglasses that you want," says Sara. "My hope is that more people will realize that I have a fashionable, high-end, handmade and unique eyeglass wear collection."

Let'd Travel ~ Craig Clark

How to protect yourself from noise when you're traveling.

- Travel is loud, and is often getting worse, from unintelligible airport announcements, jet noise and street and hotel construction noise.
- Here are a few tried and true tips for shielding yourself from noise when you're traveling.
- Buy a pair of noise-canceling headphones or earplugs — and use them.
This is probably the single most effective thing you can do to reduce noise levels, particularly on flights and in noisy hotels. Then you can replace the outside noise with your noise.
- Download a white noise app or calming nature sounds.
- The Babelio Mini Sound Machine creates white noise and this can help mask disruptive noises in hotel rooms and other environments. And you can also play calming music or ocean waves.

Plan your flights and accommodations carefully

- Avoid flying during peak hours or on smaller, noisier planes. When booking a hotel, request a room on a higher floor or away from busy streets, ballrooms and elevators. You can also look for hotels that advertise soundproofing features like double-paned windows. It's a favorite with flight crews who just want a good night's rest.
- Most importantly, don't tolerate loud noise. That's especially true if you're staying in a hotel or vacation rental. It's not just sounds coming from other guestrooms, but also noise leaking from outside — airports, construction, street traffic, and emergency sirens. The best way to deal with it is not to deal with it. Complain to the hotel and ask for a different room.

As travel continues to amplify its decibel levels, it's time for travelers to take matters into their own hands — or ears. By packing a pair of quality earplugs and having a well-thought-out travel plan, you can reclaim your right to enjoy the journey without feeling like you're stuck in a rock concert.

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Digital Spring Cleaning ~ Will Carter

"There's a lot of stuff on it, so that might be slowing things down" is a common refrain that you've likely heard before. This comes from a time - in what is now computer antiquity - where our electronics stored our data magnetically on 'floppy' or 'hard' disks. When accessing your data required a mechanical device to spin up and seek, looking for the file you requested. When disks would need to find a literal gap in the existing data to write new data. If your drive started to get full, and you hadn't defragmented lately, your computer would become slower ostensibly because "there's a lot of stuff on it". These days this effect is a thing of the past, but what should you do instead for your digital spring cleaning?

- Check in on your cloud services. Make sure that services like Google One, Apple's iCloud, Microsoft OneDrive, and any backups are in good standing and that you still have free space available in these services. This can also protect you from scams which claim that such services are full and you need to cough-up to continue use!
- Delete unwanted photos. With the convenience of a high-quality camera in our pocket, many of us are taking more photos than ever. Perhaps, more than we need to! Smartphones have relatively little storage and cannot be upgraded, so get ahead of the problem by deleting the blurry or irrelevant photos from your phone.
- Audit your subscriptions. With video streaming, music/podcast services, the cloud services mentioned above, and even Microsoft Office moving to subscription models, you can easily find you have duplicate or overlapping services. Read through everything you're paying to see if anything is ready to be downgraded or canceled.

Today, we can store the equivalent of 3000 CDs on a single solid state microSD card, about the size of your thumbnail. Storage is cheap and most devices will function just fine up to about 95% full. If your device slows down there is probably something else at play, reach out to a trusted technology service provider for guidance!

Real Estate for Real People Elissa Morrash

Connecting Buyers With Down Payment Assistance

Last month my column on parental assistance for home-buyers got a great response from readers. This month, I'll let you know about GSFA down payment assistance. GSFA (Golden State Finance Authority) offers ways to make a home purchase possible and sooner than you might think.

NOT One Size Fits All. GSFA programs are solution-oriented for various buyer needs. The programs are flexible and are NOT limited to first-time buyers. Assistance can be used towards down payment and/or closing costs.

Credit. Improving credit is one of the first things a buyer should do. That said, these programs do not require perfect credit. FICO scores as low as 640 can qualify.

Shop Around. The GSFA programs give buyers the opportunity to shop around because they offer various first mortgage loan types including FHA, VA, USDA and Conventional Financing.

Buyers Have Choices. These programs allow for flexible income limits, too (low-to-moderate income), and a variety of housing types, such as 1-4 unit residences, condos, townhomes and manufactured homes are allowed.

Buyers considering a home purchase should consult with their tax, legal and fiduciary advisors about potential tax and other consequences. Be informed!

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. She is sometimes on social media but can be reached in person at (707) 694-8821, text or elissa.morrash@gmail.com.

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Locally produced Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil grown in Cloverdale by Showa Farm won another award at the New York International Olive Oil Competition for 2025. Showa Farm's EVOO is now ranked #19 in the United States. The olive oil is available at Cloverdale Home and Garden on Cloverdale Blvd. or directly

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On the Wild Side Jennifer Molidor

California condors (known as Prey-go-neesh to the Yurok) are apex scavengers who provide vital ecosystem services to natural habitats. They are social, forming strong bonds with each other, and are often seen playing together and preening.

With a 9-foot wing-span, California condors are the largest land bird in North America. Once they ranged from California to Florida, Canada to Mexico, and lived up to 60 years. But they are now critically endangered from habitat loss, hunting, poaching, and lead poisoning.



Image from Monika Neumann (Pixabay)

In January, 18-month-old "Pey-noh-pey-o-wok" died from lead poisoning in a remote part of Redwood National Park. He was one of the first endangered condors released by the Yurok Tribe and had only recently been released in the wild.

The Northern California Condor Recovery Program, which works to restore the balance of biodiversity California condors bring, is a joint effort by U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the National Park Service, and the Yurok Tribe. Condors are considered sacred to many tribes in the West.

But lead poisoning is responsible for nearly half of all condor deaths. Most cases are linked to lead shot in the carcasses condors eat. Even a tiny bullet fragment can contain a fatal dose.

We can help protect condors, eagles, hawks, owls, and other species affected by lead shot. The California ban is supported by most hunters and heralded by the Audubon Society. Condors have been sighted in the Bay Area. If we work together to keep our wild Cloverdale backyard healthy, maybe we will see the return of condors here too.

When Its Time to Plan for Incapacity - Powers of Attorney ~ Paula Hall

Incapacity planning is an important part of estate planning. Incapacity can happen to anyone - a silly accident, falling off a ladder while pruning - is all it takes. Powers of Attorney are a vital incapacity planning tool. You must, however, sign a power of attorney before becoming incapacitated or before a dementia diagnosis.

With a power of attorney, the principal (the signer) chooses a person he or she trusts to act for him or her as agent, or as attorney-in-fact. The decision is not left to chance. Without estate planning documents, or if there are problems with the existing documents, a conservatorship, an expensive court-supervised process, where the court appoints someone to act, is usually the only option.

A power to act could be granted for a specific purpose or duration using a limited power of attorney, to handle the sale of an out-of-state asset, for example.

For incapacity planning, a durable power of attorney is required. A power of attorney that is Adurable@ endures during the principal's incapacity, and must contain specific language regarding validity during incapacity. There are two basic types of durable powers of attorney, Springing Durable Powers of Attorney and Durable Powers of Attorney. Springing Durable Powers of Attorney "spring" into action upon incapacity with a physician's letter. Durable Powers of Attorney (non-springing) are effective immediately upon signing.

The proper document, correctly executed, is the key to a successful plan and voiding conservatorship. Where incapacity planning is the goal, the power of attorney must be "durable", or effective during incapacity. The agent must be alive, available, willing to act and trusted by the principal.

If you have a power of attorney, review it with your attorney to ensure that the document is still right for you.

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Passing the Gavel

Pictured on the right is Robert Redner, current president of the Cloverdale Historical Society, passing the gavel of the presidency to Kate Barrett (of Bolt Fabric fame) who began her term as President on March 31st. Kate brings a comprehensive background of public relations, administration, human resources, and historical research to the position and is looking forward to keeping Cloverdale's history alive and well.



Rotary Interact Club Rocks



Pictured is the Cloverdale High School Rotary Interact Club members who help prepare and serve the over 75 County-wide Rotary Club members that attended the annual Cloverdale Rotary Club Crab Feed, presented as a way of thanking Rotarians for continuing the mantra of "Service above Self."

Dr. Gary Barth: Bringing Vision to Cloverdale and Beyond



When Dr. Gary Barth spoke at the Cloverdale Rotary Club on January 16, he underscored a simple truth: vision transforms lives. As a Healdsburg-based ophthalmologist, Barth serves patients across Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake counties, offering cutting-edge cataract treatments in a region where few such options exist. His practice is one of the few in the North Bay to offer RxSight's Light Adjustable Lens™ (LAL) technology, which allows patients to customize their vision after cataract surgery, optimizing eyesight in ways previously unavailable.

Barth's impact stretches far beyond Northern California. Now in his 26th year of humanitarian volunteering in Southeast Asia, he is not slowing down. This month, he will return to Nepal to open BBH Eye Foundation's 25th Primary Eye Care Clinic (PECC), a crucial step in expanding sustainable access to vision care. PECCs serve patients in some of the most remote areas of the Himalayas, where access to even basic medical care is severely limited. From there, Barth will travel to Myanmar—a nation at war—where BBH continues to support six charity eye hospitals that performed over 35,000 surgeries last year.



BBH Eye Foundation, the nonprofit Barth co-founded, has enabled over 200,000 free cataract surgeries since 2019. He continues to be committed to doing all he can to eradicate curable blindness by expanding sustainable eye care solutions in some of the world's most underserved regions. Whether restoring sight in Cloverdale or in villages high in the Himalayas, Barth remains dedicated to ensuring that as many people as possible regain their vision and independence.

One patient at a time, Barth is helping people see a future full of possibility.

For more on BBH Eye Foundation, visit bbheye.org.

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Senior Multipurpose Center Melanie Hall

Goodbye March, hello April, goodbye winter, hello spring. On the first spring day, we had a Lunch and Learn presented by local resident, Gerald French, where he shared information about early days in Cloverdale. There is so much to tell that Gerald will present part two of, "Cloverdale," on May 8, 11:30-1, we would love for you to join us (space is limited, reserve your spot no later than May 1).

Also, on the first day of spring, we had John Reese and The Open Hearts Trio perform their original songs at the Center. This local favorite trio shared stories which led to the creation of various written songs that are quite beloved by friends and fans. It always amazes me how music, food, and friendship can create one very memorable experience!

Coming up April 24, 11:30-1, we will have another Lunch and Learn. The topic will be Nikki's Exotic Animals, where you will be able to experience Nikki's love for her bearded dragon, and her tarantulas, and learn more about these special creatures. You must reserve your spot no later than April 17.

Speaking of beloved pets, DogGonit Pets, one of our local pet stores, is offering a Senior Discount Day every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Stop by on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for Animal Therapy/Adoption Days where you can enjoy some snuggles with adorable dogs and cats.

Every Friday morning, 10:00-11:00 a.m. the Senior Center is the place to go for fresh wholesale produce. We work in coordination with the non-profit, Front Porch, and Andy's Produce Market to have produce delivered early Friday morning. This market is open to the community so bring a friend and your reusable bags. Cash only.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Cooking with David Maciel

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Easter in our house is always a bone-in smoked ham. I made this ham glaze recipe using simple ingredients and it's the best I've ever tasted. Brush onto the ham during the last half hour of baking to add incredible flavor and create a sweet, sticky, caramelized coating your guests will love.

Tangy Honey Glazed Ham

Ingredients

- 1 (10 pound) fully-cooked, bone-in ham
- 1 ¼ cups packed dark brown sugar
- ⅓ cup pineapple juice
- ⅓ cup honey, or more to taste
- ⅓ large orange
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 ½ teaspoons lemon juice, or to taste (Optional)

Instructions

Pre-heat the oven to 325°, place the ham in a roasting pan with a rack and bake for 2 hours uncovered.

While the ham is baking, combine brown sugar, pineapple juice, and 1/3 cup honey in a saucepan. Zest orange into the saucepan, then squeeze in the juice. Add Dijon mustard and ground cloves; whisk mixture over medium-high heat as it comes to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until glaze thickens slightly, 5 to 10 minutes.

Start basting the ham every ten minutes for the last 30 to 40 minutes. Bring the ham to 145 degrees internal. Bon appétit

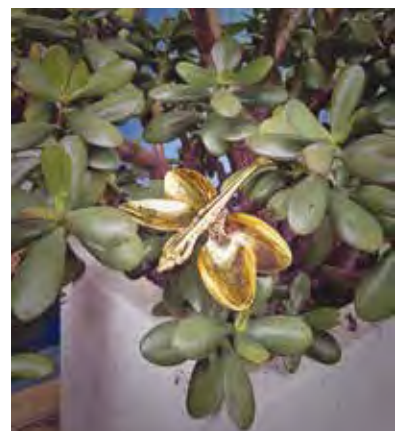
Creative Corner

Christy Anne

With all the madness currently unfolding in the world of late, I was tickled to find out that dragonflies symbolize having the wisdom and resilience to adapt to change. With the abundance of Spring beginning to show her face, I find myself keeping my eyes out for the occasional visit from these elusive and beautiful creatures.

This is also the time of year that the clearing of homes of clutter or items no longer in use and the sheer volume of vintage flowery cutlery starts to show up in garage sales or pass downs from family members or friends. As I am the sentimental sort, I am always looking for ways to take items of the past and give them new life in the now.

So, what does one need to create new garden art to adorn the new Spring flowers? Well, one idea is to gather 4 spoons of your choice, a bolt cutter, some epoxy or gorilla glue hot gun sticks and something to mount your creation on. In my case as I am the collector of random crap, I grabbed one of the metal knitting needles I have purchased by the bag full, from Creative Notions, as not only does the flat metal head on top work perfectly, but the metal rod can withstand the elements for some time.



Although quite simple, the trick is to engage your patience. First snip 4 heads off spoons. Aligning 2 spoonheads, glue or epoxy along the underside of the seam, repeat to create 2 sets of "wings." Once dried, glue/epoxy the 2 sets of wings together. Next is glue/epoxy a spoon handle atop the "wings" with the widest end of the spoon as the dragonfly's head. Once dried, the last step of glue/epoxy of the dragonfly to the knitting needle or whatever you wish to mount upon and voila! Now, not only do you have a little sparkle for your garden, but a nod to adaptability and resilience as well. My fave trifecta: repurpose, create & remembrance. Joy!