

Northern Sonoma County's Favorite Paper

FREE

Cloverdale Connect

Bringing our community together since 2020 December 2025



*Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season
and a Happy New Year!*

"MoE, MoE, MoE, Merry Chistmas!"



The **MoE's Eagles Nest Deli** crew is looking in
Cloverdale Connect for ways to spread Holiday Cheer!



Front Page Photo Contest Winner **Steve Tellez**
wins a Gift Card from **West Coast Sourdough**



28th Annual Lions' Club Toy Run
Sunday, December 14, 2025, Citrus Fairgrounds



DAHLIA & SAGE

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM DAHLIA & SAGE!
WISHING YOU A SEASON FILLED WITH WARMTH, GOOD FOOD, AND PLENTY OF CHEER.
MEET ANNA, OUR AMAZING IN-HOUSE BAKER.
SHE HANDCRAFTS EVERY PASTRY FROM SCRATCH AND FILLS THE MARKET WITH SWEET HOLIDAY AROMAS THAT MAKE EVERYONE SMILE.

ROUND UP FOR THE FAMILY RESOURCE & RESILIENCY CENTER THIS MONTH
YOUR CHANGE HELPS SUPPORT LOCAL FAMILIES AND STRENGTHENS OUR COMMUNITY THIS SEASON.



SAY HELLO TO ANNA!

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Look Inside! Lions' Toy Run, The Christmas
Table, Community Choir, Winter Festival,
Alexander Valley Bazaar, and much more!

Cloverdale Connect Inc PO Box 404 Cloverdale CA 95425



Cloverdale Properties
Wine Country Real Estate Network



This 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home on one acre offers stunning views of the Alexander Valley, where you can enjoy beautiful sunsets while picking a variety of fruits from your garden.
\$815,000.00.

Spanish-style home with 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and a den/office on one acre. The property features a paver driveway and a formal living room with a fireplace. Step into the formal dining area and enjoy the open kitchen with a breakfast nook. \$849,000.00.



Commercial property in downtown Cloverdale with over 4000 sq ft, featuring a prominent storefront, private offices, and rear storage. \$624,900.00.

Shalia Vanderweken, SRES, CRS, GRI
Associate Broker DRE#00517842
707-321-9601

CLOVERDALE, CA
WINTER FESTIVAL
Food, Wine, Downtown Shopping, Music & Good Cheer
(Comida, vino, compras en el centro, música y buen humor!)
2025
FRIDAY December 5th
5:00 to 8:00pm
5:00 Cookie decorating in the Plaza
Decoración de galletas en la Plaza
5:30 Santa arrival in the Plaza
Llegada de Papá Noel a la Plaza
6:00 Tree Lighting
Iluminación de árboles
Candlelit Stroll to Local Shops
Paseo a la luz de las velas hacia las tiendas locales
and A Holiday Movie on Broad St.
y Una película navideña en Broad St.

CUSD Employee of the Month Maria Duna
Sponsored by
Dahlia & Sage Community Market



We are proud to honor Maria Duna as Cloverdale Unified School District's Employee of the Month. Maria serves as a Speech and Language Pathologist, bringing compassion, professionalism, and heart to everything she does.

A proud Cloverdale native, Maria's journey into speech and language pathology began after she personally witnessed the life-changing power of communication support. Inspired to make a difference, she pursued her education with determination and returned home to serve the community she loves.

Maria is known for being thoughtful, caring, humble, and highly organized. Her work is thorough and precise, and she approaches each task with care and dedication. Colleagues describe her as dependable and kind, someone who always goes above and beyond to ensure her students receive the best possible support.

Her greatest strength lies in the connections she builds with students and families. Maria creates a warm, welcoming environment where students feel valued and confident. Families appreciate her patience, empathy, and ability to explain things clearly. She's always ready with a kind word or encouraging smile, making a lasting impact on everyone she works with.

Outside of her work with CUSD, Maria is also a local dance instructor and performer. Her creativity and passion for the arts mirror the same energy and enthusiasm she brings to her students each day. She lives in Cloverdale with her husband and their dog, enjoying the close-knit community that shaped her life and career.

Maria's professionalism, warmth, and commitment to excellence exemplify the best of Cloverdale Unified. We are grateful for all she brings to our schools and community. Congratulations, Maria—you make a difference every day!

The OUTPOST
(707) 894-6108 790 S Cloverdale Blvd
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Justin **REDBACK** **SALTY CREW**
Jonny Lama **Blundstone** **Dickies**
Timberland **GRUNDÉNS**
Wrangler **REEF**
BEN DAVIS **BOGS**
KEEN **KIMES RANCH** **BERNE**
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DEADLINE for ad space reservations, artwork, and content 3rd Friday of every month, 5pm

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PET of the MONTH

Ducky

Ducky enjoys long walks on the beach, and going to work with her mom, Melissa.

Nikki Collier

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

Prizes courtesy of DogGonit and Cloverdale Connect





WISHING YOU A

Magical Christmas!

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



Whisker Talk

Brigid Wasson



The holidays are here and we look forward to spending time with loved ones. Here are some special considerations to keep our pets safe.

- Update ID.** The hustle and bustle of travel and company can be stressful for pets. Cats may hide, and dogs may run out the door or a gate left open by visitors. Make sure your dog has a collar with ID and a registered microchip. Cats should have a registered microchip.
 - Give space.** Pets may not enjoy the company as much as you do. Give them a room or part of the house that is off-limits to others. When I was a kid I so wanted to pet my Great Aunt's grumpy old cat who was hiding behind the stove but she did not appreciate it!
 - Limit treats.** Most dogs will eat anything, and holiday foods can lead to diarrhea or a trip to the emergency vet. Keep pets away from the food, and advise guests to not treat the dogs no matter how much they beg.
- Holiday ID special: Drop in to Curly Doodle Dog Grooming any time Mon-Sat for a FREE microchip scan and ID tag. No purchase necessary!



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ALL VETERANS ARE INVITED

American Legion
Wednesdays
8:30AM FREE Morning Coffee Hour

205 W First Street
Cloverdale, CA 95425



Feed Hope. Fight Hunger. Support Local Food Banks.

This holiday season, food banks across Sonoma and Mendocino counties are seeing record need. Your generosity can make a real difference for local families.

Join Sonoma Clean Power in supporting our region's food banks. Every donation helps fill plates, lift spirits, and strengthen our community.

Visit sonomacleanpower.org to give today.





The Power of Community

Cloverdale Church Guide

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



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Carols followed by Holy Eucharist
Christmas Eve – 5 PM
Sunday Services at 10 AM
122 North Main Street, Cloverdale
707-891-6015 / goodshepherdclloverdale.org





Grace Lutheran Church
890 N. Cloverdale Blvd, Cloverdale, CA
www.GraceCloverdale.org
Join us for Sunday worship 10:00 am in person
or by web - Facebook LIVE
Join us Christmas Eve 5:00 pm
Classic Christmas Carols ❁ Candle light ❁ Luke 2

Jehovah's Witnesses
27100 Dutcher Creek Rd.
Cloverdale, CA 95425
Phone: 707.894.2742

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



Join us for our Christmas Services!
Christmas Service and Children's Choir Performance
Sunday, December 14 at 9am & 10:30am
Christmas Eve Communion Service
Tuesday, December 24 at 5pm
All are welcome!
553 W. Second Street, Cloverdale
Across from City Park

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

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

RIDE FREE
The Cloverdale Shuttle is Free For All Riders!
Hop-On, Hop-Off, Anytime.



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The Free-Fare Program is Sponsored By:
CITY OF CLOVERDALE

THE CHRISTMAS TABLE
CITRUS FAIR
December 25th / 4:30-6:30 pm
FREE COMMUNITY DINNER
EVERYONE WELCOME



<https://parksidecloverdale.church/christmastable>

HOSTED BY:
PARKSIDE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL & CLOVERDALE CITRUS FAIR
707-894-2893



SPECIAL THANKS TO:



The “Re’s” for Starting 2026! Nora Archambeau, M.A.

“Do not follow where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

November and December seem to be the most reflective months of the year. It also helps to have five planets in retrograde right now (Neptune, Saturn, Uranus, Mercury, and Jupiter). What this means is that there is even more opportunity to do all the “re’s”...reflect, revisit, redo, rejuvenate, restore, and rejoice. We can also benefit from cleaning up and clearing out what no longer serves us to move forward. Planning, tweaking, and dreaming of a new life chapter for 2026 are both gratifying and exciting. These activities give us more confidence and hope that, as I shared in a previous column, “Life is always working out for me.” (Abraham Hicks) Meanwhile, bumping up a self-care routine during the “re’s” is paramount. As we know, maintaining a healthy, loving, and supportive life helps prevent the nervous system from going bonkers. Sometimes, however, that “requisite” needs embellishment for human sustainability. I don’t need to venture far from home to find that multitude of rewards (please see below). All that is really needed to regulate ourselves is to bring more love, peace, and joy mindfully into our daily practices.

Self-care Tips, Tools, & Therapeutics Around Town:

1. **Center for the Performing Arts (CPAC)** where love and laughter are always found, “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” Dec. 12-21
2. **Cloverdale Senior Center**, a warm place for classes on meditation, yoga, knitting, ukulele
3. **Cloverdale City Park** with its bundle of historic Redwood trees and playgrounds
4. **Cloverdale Community Choir**, Dec. 6-7, and the **Cloverdale Winter Festival**, Dec. 5
5. Finally, frequenting the various shops, vendors, and entrepreneurs bring their own spirit of novelty, useableness, and generosity to our community!

As Kalpana Chalwa, the beloved Indian-American Astronaut and Aerospace Engineer (1962-2003), espouses in the movie *A Million Miles Away*, “**Tenacity is a Superpower!**”

ENGEL & VÖLKERS®



Elissa Morrash

Global Real Estate Advisor

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elissamorrash.evrealstate.com

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Cloverdale, CA



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Introducing the Economic Development Committee

The Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce has launched the Economic Development Committee (EDC), a community-driven effort focused on strengthening Cloverdale's economic vitality. Chaired by Erik Terreri and supported by six dedicated community leaders, the EDC is partnering closely with Cloverdale's city leadership to gather meaningful input and develop proposals that support local businesses, residents, and long-term economic growth.

To begin this work, the EDC is rolling out three targeted surveys. The first survey—arriving just after Thanksgiving—invites everyone who lives or works in the 95425 area to share where they work, shop, and dine, as well as what services and amenities they would like to see in Cloverdale. A second survey will engage commercial property owners to better understand their development goals and needs. The third survey will focus on small business owners, giving them the opportunity to voice the challenges and opportunities they experience.

Every perspective matters, and broad participation will help shape a stronger economic future for Cloverdale. The EDC encourages all community members to take part and ensure their voices are heard.

John Turner Honored

Recently, Councilmember Mark Laskey, on behalf of the City Council, honored John Turner, as part of the recently adopted Cloverdale Citizen Recognition Program (CCRP).

Laskey, stated, "I'd like to formally recognize, along with the assembled community here tonight, the selfless contributions John Turner has made to our community over the past (minimum) 41 years. As a husband, father, grandfather, and respectable community member, his direct involvement has included 35 years of dedicated service to events that promote



Powerful Power of Attorney Paula Hall

A well-drafted durable power of attorney is possibly the most powerful estate planning document.

A power of attorney is a document signed by an individual giving another the authority to act on his or her behalf. The person signing the document is the principal. The person receiving the authority to act is the agent or attorney-in fact.

A power of attorney can be durable or undurable. To be durable, a power of attorney must include a provision stating that the power of attorney will not be affected by subsequent incapacity. Without that sentence, the agent will not have the power to act when the principal is incapacitated. People execute a power of attorney to give someone authority to act upon incapacity and expect it to work.

Although the pre-printed California Statutory Power of Attorney is easy to download from the internet and sign, without an attorney, it does not always work and may even result in unintended consequences. It is frequently rejected by third parties, especially title companies, real estate agents, and banks, because it does not include required language or reference a specific transaction. Banks require specific language authorizing the agent to deposit in, draw from, establish or close a bank account.

The powers to designate beneficiaries, create or modify a trust and to fund a trust must be specifically granted. Those powers, when properly used, can avoid probate. If the principal becomes incapacitated, owning real property or other assets requiring protection from probate, the agent can use the power of attorney to create and fund a trust.

It is critical that the power of attorney work when it needs to. Review your power of attorney, preferably with an attorney, to ensure it is durable and specifically grants the powers you may want and need.

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the mission statement of the Cloverdale Lions Club, which in part reads: 'to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding...' Along with that, he has volunteered concurrently for another 30 years through his direct involvement in the Cloverdale Joe Pardini Chargers football program, and at a bare minimum, 25 years as Santa Claus for the Lions Club Toy Run, and countless volunteer hours as Santa for the Tree Lighting ceremony each December at the Plaza. It would be hard to fathom our community without John giving freely of his time and tireless hours volunteering, and I would say everybody who comes into contact with John would be hard-pressed not to be affected by his infectious demeanor and welcoming smile. On behalf of the citizens of Cloverdale and the City Council, we once again thank you and would like to present you with this certificate of recognition."

The presentation was attended by dozens of Cloverdale Lions, family, friends, neighbors and supporters who witnessed a well-deserved tribute. Thank you, JT, from all of us!

Real Estate Investment: A Pathway to Stability and Growth

Elissa Morrash

When pursued for the right reasons and with proper guidance from advisors—tax, legal, fiduciary, and real estate—investing in property can provide small investors with tangible financial gains, a sense of control, lifestyle benefits such as independence and legacy-building, and long-term stability for themselves and their families.

As part of renewing my California real estate license (required every four years), I recently completed a course on real estate investment, specifically focusing on 1031 Exchanges. These exchanges, governed by IRS rules, allow investors to defer capital gains taxes by reinvesting proceeds into “like-kind” properties. While tax deferral is the primary benefit, the 1031

Exchange also supports community revitalization and offers investors opportunities to grow wealth strategically.

This training enhanced my ability to assist clients who want to maximize returns while protecting their financial future. For small investors, real estate is more than a financial tactic—it's a pathway to independence, empowerment, and stability. It's not just about money; it's about building security and long-term growth.

Successful investing requires more than browsing listings. Agents undergo continuing education and recertification to provide professional expertise that goes far beyond market availability. If you'd like to explore your options as a real estate investor, I encourage you to reach out.

Elissa Morrash is a licensed Advisor (DRE 01872845) with Engel & Volkers Healdsburg. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce and served as Executive Director of the Cloverdale Museum of History for 12 years. She was previously Vice President of Marketing for Christopherson Homes. Follow her on social media and reach her in person at (707) 694-8821, text her, or at elissa.morrash@evrealestate.com.

Mountain Mike's Pizza Something for Everybody

Michele Armanino

Gurpreet Singh arrived in the USA from Punjab, India in 2014 with a BA in Computer Applications and experience working on his father's farm. He got his start in the food industry flipping pizzas at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa and Novato. “I really learned the business from the bottom up.” he says. “I started as a dough maker, prep guy, pizza maker and delivery man. I was quickly promoted to manager where I learned how to order food, organize scheduling and other management.”

Gurpreet didn't hesitate to discuss possible family ownership with family members Arsh Singh and Prabjot Singh after learning that Mountain Mike's in Cloverdale was for sale. Their successful partnership has made Mountain Mike's a welcomed addition to Furber Plaza. Gurpreet's wife, Pardeep Kaur, an LVN at Kaiser, pitches in at the restaurant managing Instagram and Facebook accounts. “I bring my one-year-old daughter to the restaurant so she can see what Daddy does.” says Gurpreet smiling.

“We have something for everybody.” he states. There is a fun arcade with pinballs, a puncher and video games for all ages. Wrapped around the restaurant are six big screen TVs for those NFL football games. Every couple of months, the restaurant hosts Beer Educational Tastings with Anderson Valley Brewing Co., and HenHouse Brewing Co. There is a lunch buffet every Monday-Friday where for \$13.99 you can get pizza, salad and a drink. Their “something for everybody” motto includes a Senior Discount, too. And fifteen percent will be subtracted from the bill for larger pizza parties.

Everything is made fresh daily, with all produce purchased locally. “The pizza toppings are spread edge to edge!” says Gurpreet. There are ten beers on tap and wine selections from Kendall Jackson, Carmel Road and Murphy-Goode. Pizza delivery includes a five-mile radius from Cloverdale, including Geyserville.

“Give us a try - just one time”, says Gurpreet. “We will do everything to fulfill your expectations.”

Kiwanis Christmas Wish Program

The Kiwanis Club of Cloverdale Christmas Wish Program is in full swing. The Christmas trees with children's wishes attached are placed in various locations around town. The Kiwanis Club collects gifts for the children, wraps them and distributes them to the children. Last year we presented 200 children with gifts through the generosity of our townspeople and the Lions Club of Cloverdale. We accept monetary donations in which to purchase extra clothes if needed. A donation can be given to any Kiwanis member or mailed to our PO Box 367, Cloverdale, Ca 95425.

Our goal is to make every child have the best Christmas ever.

Merry Christmas and a huge thank you to our community.

Healdsburg Hospital Honored for Excellent Stroke Care

Healdsburg Hospital recently received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines® - Rural Stroke Gold quality achievement award. Healdsburg caregivers are being honored for their commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines.

A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and accelerating recovery times.

“Healdsburg Hospital is committed to the constant improvement of our patients' experience by adhering to the latest evidence-based guidelines for stroke care,” Providence Sonoma County Chief Administrative Officer Scott Ciesielski said. “We are proud of our doctors, nurses and staff members who work together to ensure our patients receive critical treatments that ultimately lead to more lives saved.”

Get With The Guidelines - Stroke was developed to assist health care professionals to provide the most up-to-date, research-based guidelines for treating stroke patients. The program promotes consistent adherence to these guidelines, which can minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death.

Each year, program participants qualify for the award by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for stroke patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, Get With The Guidelines participants also educate patients to help them manage their health and recovery at home.

Learn more at providence.org/healdsburghhospital



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Wayne Sager, ISA Certified Arborist
wsager@gmail.com 707-894-0800

ISA Certificate #WE-9731A, Contractor License #946149

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

- Protect frost-tender species - you can use an anti-desiccant spray such as Cloud Cover or a spun fabric row cover. Covering plants with sheets or lightweight blankets or burlap is another option. If you use plastic sheeting, do not allow plastic to contact foliage.
- Dig up and divide grasses and perennials if the ground is not completely saturated from rain. Moist earth, shorter days and cooler weather, combined with their dormancy, make this the least stressful time for disturbing perennials. Make sure that once you've excavated a plant to keep roots moist.
- If you have deciduous trees, rake up leaves as they fall. Shred large leaves before composting or run a lawn mower over them. If not shredded, large, moist leaves will mat and decompose very slowly, making a slippery, gooey mass in your compost pile or on beds. You can put them out in the compost bin as well, but it's best to put their nutrients back into your own garden.
- Dormant-spray fruit trees and roses with horticultural oil after they have lost their leaves to control fungal infections and kill overwintering insect eggs.
- Make sure your garden is amply mulched for the winter. Mulch will insulate roots and retard weed growth. Winter weeds grow prolifically in the rainy season.
- Plant any remaining spring-blooming bulbs. Sow wildflower seeds.
- Clean, oil and store tools such as shovels, hoes, and pruners. Use light machine oil on metal parts to prevent rust.
- Clean out gutters to avoid overflow and direct water to downspouts.
- Winter is the season when rats forage—and damage—ornamental plants. If you have had problems in the past or if your neighbors have noticed rats, put out traps early before rats damage fruit trees, vines, climbing roses and shrubs. If you have ivy, the best time to prune or remove it is winter when growth slows and soil is somewhat soft.



DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR Cloverdale Grocery Outlet

- Dec. 5 Fri.**

5-8pm Winter Festival
Downtown Cloverdale
5pm Cookie Decorating in the Plaza
5:30pm Santa arrives
6pm Tree lighting
Candlelit stroll to local shops
Holiday movie on Broad St.
- Dec. 6 Sat.**

11am-3pm Cloverdale Wine Walk
Downtown Cloverdale

10am-1:30pm Alexander Valley Christmas Fair & Bazaar, Alexander Valley Hall, 5512 Hwy 128

1-3pm Cloverdale Wellness Christmas Cookie Celebration, 124 S. Cloverdale Blvd.

2pm & 7:30pm Cloverdale Community Choir "Silver Bells", La Familia Sana (formerly United Church of Cloverdale)

5-7:30pm Photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus
207 Gamay Drive, Cloverdale
- Dec. 7. Sun.**

1-3pm.2pm Cloverdale Community Choir "Silver Bells", La Familia Sana, 439 N. Cloverdale Blvd., (formerly United Church of Cloverdale)

5pm Healdsburg Community Band
Raven Performing Arts Center Theater
115 North St., Healdsburg
- Dec. 13 Sat.**

9am Wreaths Across America
Cloverdale Cemetery

10am-Noon Come & Create Christmas Craft Fair, Grace Lutheran Church
890 N. Cloverdale Blvd

11am Alan Furber Celebration of Life
Cloverdale Citrus Fair Auditorium

11am-1:30pm Pet Adoption Event
I.SEE Optical 210 N. Cloverdale Blvd.

5:30pm Kiwanis Crab & Pasta Feed
Cloverdale Citrus Fair
- Ongoing Events:**

Mondays **10am** Qigong; 11am Tai Chi 24 Form
Clover Springs Lodge, 210 Red Mtn. Drive

State Funding Brings Alexander Valley Health Center Closer Than Ever



The Alexander Valley Health and Wellness Center is one step closer to reality, thanks to a \$3.5 million grant from the State of California, announced by Senator Mike McGuire in Cloverdale on October 29. Before the announcement, Senator McGuire toured AVH's Tarman Medical Center, hearing firsthand from providers about the impact the new facility will have—more space, better equipment, and expanded services for the entire community.

The planned 27,000 square-foot, two-story building will feature urgent care, a pharmacy, on-site lab, and expanded primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services. Once complete, it will double AVH's patient capacity, ensuring access to quality care for all ages.

Prior to this announcement, AVH raised \$1 million from local supporters, and \$6.7 million in grants from businesses, foundations, Sonoma County, Congressman Huffman, and the State Proposition 1 Bond program. With a total project cost (including planning, construction, furnishing and equipment) of \$38 million, the remainder will be financed through additional fundraising and a tax-exempt bond.

Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2026 and finish by early 2028. With this impactful state grant, and ongoing community support, Cloverdale is on track to get the health center it needs and deserves.



Happy Holidays

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Happy Holidays to all from the Board and staff at the
Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center.
May this season be bright, merry, and filled with much love and joy.



Trish Chappell, Eleanore Webster, Dana Johnson, Melanie Hall,
Ken Allen, Frank McAtee, Shawna Masur, Marcelino Figueroa,
Linda Walker, and Bert Bernstein. Not pictured, Anthony Ramirez.

Happy Holidays Cloverdale!

Merry Christmas and
Happy Hanukkah!



erik.terreri@compass.com terreri.com
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"We appreciate your business, Happy Holidays!"



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DELICI.USO

WHAT'S HAPPENING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

HEY THERE EVERYONE!

I'm so very excited to get the holidays started! There are some special things coming up & I can't wait to celebrate with you all!



EVENTS

Christmas pre sale Sale will open 12/1 on social media & website	Windsor winter festival 12/4 5-8 pm Windsor front green	Cloverdale winter festival 12/8 8-9 am Aichamy Catering 2070 N. Cloverdale Blvd	Cloverdale wine walk 12/8 11-2 pm at home of the bar owner 784 Lake St.
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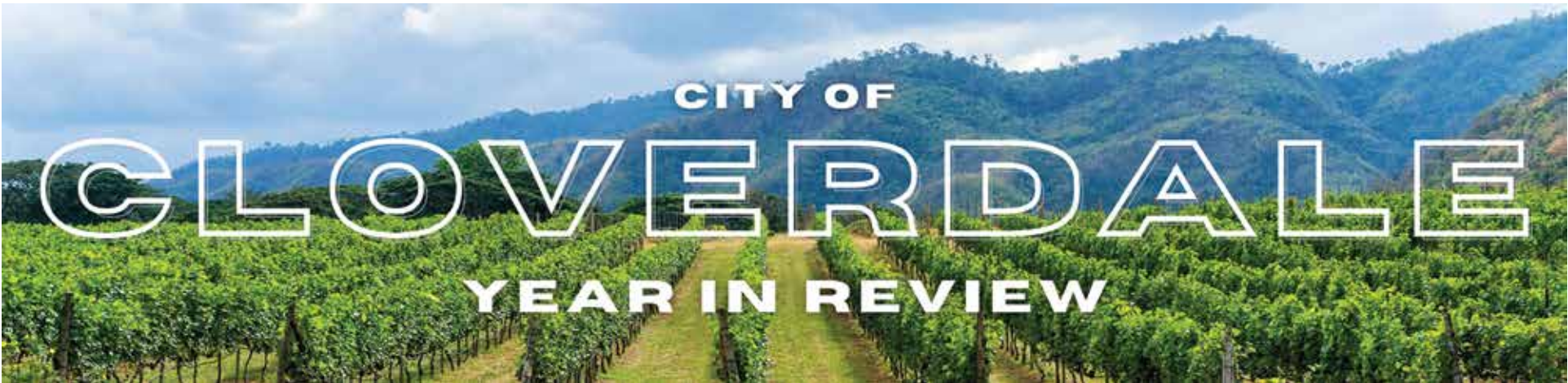


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A lot can happen in a year, and this snapshot offers a summary of what moved our town forward in 2025. It was a year of transition with a mix of returning and newly elected and appointed Councilmembers, a new City Manager, and a few new staff, yet the focus remained on strengthening foundations, improving essential services, and supporting long term stability. We also acknowledge the staff whose steady day to day work keeps the City operating and makes these major achievements possible. For more detailed information, residents can always visit the City's website and contact their elected officials or department leadership.

Infrastructure, parks, and public spaces saw wide ranging improvements this year as the City continued investing in safety, accessibility, and outdoor amenities.



Photovoltaic upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, a significant repair to Lake Street, ongoing repairs to water service lines across multiple neighborhoods, and airport improvements that included two new portable buildings supported system reliability, while crews responded to 235 community service requests ranging from pothole repairs to graffiti abatement and park maintenance. Survey feedback guided new downtown drinking fountains, planter adjustments, and other enhancements. Routes to schools were improved through vegetation clearing, branch trimming, serviced school zone lights, and



refreshed striping at key crossings, and work continues in the downtown corridor to reduce tripping hazards and improve accessibility. The City also participated in the countywide Streets to Creeks trash awareness campaign and contributed to the Russian River Cleanup to protect local waterways. Water system improvements were completed through a turnkey efficiency project that installed a combined 600-kilowatt solar system at the water and wastewater treatment plants and finalized the AML meter upgrade with Neptune Mach 10 meters and customer facing usage tracking tools. The Wastewater Treatment Plant integrated new SCADA automation and completed a biosolids removal project that cleared more than three hundred dry tons to support uninterrupted service. Two replacement drinking water wells were also drilled to strengthen system resiliency and ensure continued access to clean drinking water. Parks received major upgrades as well, including the new inclusive playground and scoreboard at Furber Park, expanded recreational amenities, a new gazebo at 2nd Street City Park and the dog park gained improved ADA accessibility. Significant progress continued at the 210-acre Soda Springs Ranch Open Space Preserve, where new multiuse trails, picnic sites, fencing, signage, and a parking area moved the project closer to public opening. Vegetation management throughout the year included prescribed burns and targeted sheep grazing to support habitat health and fire safety. Parks, Public Works, and Water jointly secured more than one million dollars in grants to support these efforts and

Thank you, Cloverdale, for trusting me to be your Mayor. Because of your support, we have accomplished so much! We will continue to work hard for you! Happy Holidays!"
- Todd Lands, Mayor



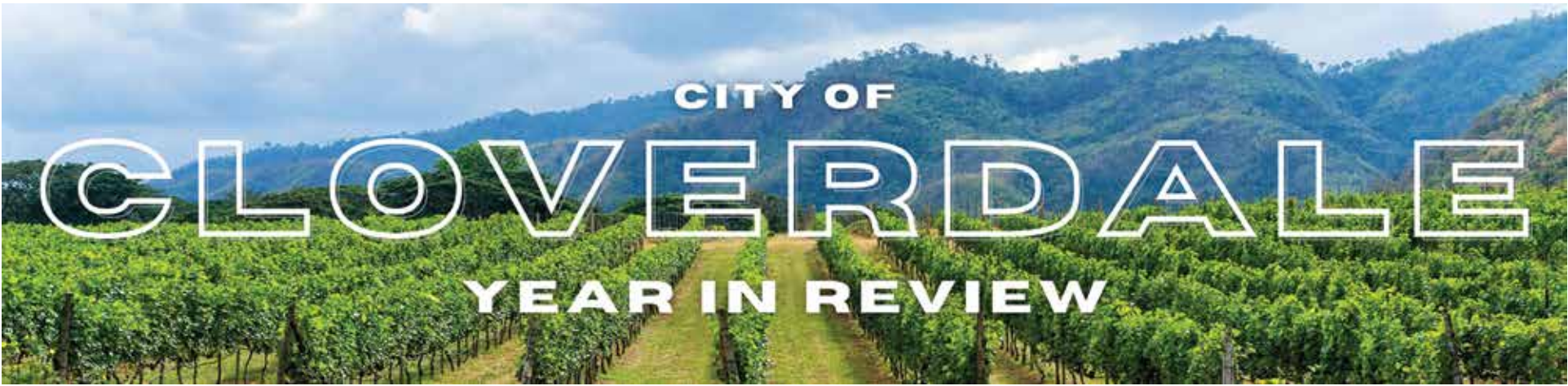
bolstered their staff with multiple Operator in Training (OIT's), and expanded maintenance personnel to strengthen ongoing operations and support succession planning. The accomplishments reflect the City's integrated approach to community improvements, supported by reorganized staff roles that now place the Parks Superintendent in charge of street crews, strengthening coordination across departments.



Public safety efforts remained a core focus this year through continued support of Resilient Cloverdale, FEMA and Emergency Operations Center trainings, and updated EOC preparedness supported by joint simulations with the County. The Police Department strengthened staffing with new trainees, promoted two officers to Patrol Sergeant, and upgraded equipment through a Homeland Security grant, while continuing its use of body worn cameras and Taser systems. The department purchased two new patrol vehicles, one of which is a four-wheel drive unit that increases access to all terrain areas. Officers expanded community outreach through school programs, events, and a local business mixer, and investigative work led to major arrests in a bank robbery, a retail theft ring, and multiple stolen vehicle cases assisted by the Flock camera system. Participation in drug disposal events and expansion of less lethal tools further supported safe incident resolution. Over the last four years, officer-initiated activity increased by 35 percent, calls for service rose 3 percent, arrests increased 8 percent, and citations grew 27 percent, reflecting a proactive, community-centered approach to public safety. As of November 2025, this year the department handled 8,792 calls for service from dispatch, responded to 14,080 total incidents, and officers initiated 5,288 of those incidents. A total of 237 arrests were made. These efforts highlight the City's continued commitment to safety, preparedness, and strong community relationships.

Development activity this year focused on long term planning, community investment, and careful review of future projects. The City purchased the lot and buildings next to Plaza Park to support the planned Plaza Expansion and create more space for public use. A major reorganization of City records was completed, including relocating long term files to a new retention site to improve storage and access. The Planning Commission and Council approved the Circulation Element, and Objective Design Standards were adopted to provide clear guidance for future housing and commercial projects. A Vacancy Ordinance was also adopted to incentivize economic development and reduce long-term commercial vacancies. The City also assisted in the sale of the vacant carwash property, moving a long-time blighted site toward renewed use. Work continued on evaluating cost reduction options for the Police Department facility design, and early review began on potential development concepts





for the proposed Edge Esmerelda site. Together, these efforts reflect ongoing initiatives aimed at improving community spaces, strengthening planning, and supporting responsible future growth.



Community engagement grew significantly this year as the City participated in and helped coordinate several events, including the downtown Halloween festivities, the Fourth of July parade, a Chamber of Commerce Mixer at the Police Station, and representation at the Citrus Fair and several ribbon cuttings. The new lights and speakers the City purchased for the plaza stage helped elevate the Friday Night Live concert series, and National Night Out strengthened connections between residents and public safety partners; and the Grinch stole Winterfest again! The Police Department also participated in the 2025 Law Enforcement Torch Run, carrying the Flame of Hope through Cloverdale in support of Special Olympics Northern California and amplifying inclusion. Civic engagement expanded through multiple surveys, increased social media outreach, website cleanup efforts, advertised initiatives, press releases, town halls, and outreach campaigns. Residents are encouraged to follow the City on Facebook and Instagram at @cityofcloverdale and subscribe to the newsletter, which shifted to a more photo centered format and

is now published the Thursday after each Council meeting. The City also responded to more than one hundred records requests, supporting public access to information. We assisted the Cloverdale Unified School District by hosting field trips at the Water Treatment Plant and City Hall, promoted community attendance at after school sporting events, and while two Student Liaisons completed their terms, after summer break two new liaisons began representing the Cloverdale student body at City Council meetings. Public meeting accessibility improved through upgraded audio-visual equipment at the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center, and Council commemoratively named the walkway between City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce Wolter Way in honor of former Councilmember Gus Wolter. Council also led a community initiative opposing the decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project to help protect regional water supply. This effort required extensive time and coordination by the Mayor and Council to ensure Cloverdale's water interests were strongly represented. Councilmembers continued broader advocacy work through their service on multiple regional boards, reinforcing the City's commitment to active leadership beyond the local level. Council delivered over 20 public recognitions and proclamations, launched a new citizen recognition program, and adopted over 70 resolutions and 6 ordinances that guided City policy. These combined efforts strengthened communication, increased transparency, and helped build a more informed and connected community.

"This year, Cloverdale made strong progress on community priorities and essential services. I'm proud of our collective accomplishments and grateful for the continued partnership of our residents, staff, and City Council as we work toward a thriving future" - Kevin Thompson, City Manager



What's Next in 2026

As we look ahead, the City will continue to strive for community wide connection and growth, supported by Council's newly adopted Mission, Vision, and Values, which guide long term planning, reflect what the City strives to achieve for the community, and are available for review on our website. Work will begin on the next two-year budget to ensure that community priorities shape financial decisions. The City will continue implementing the recently adopted tax measure funds to support infrastructure, public safety, and long-term resilience. Renovation of the historic Scout's Cabin in City Park will move forward, and plans will advance for the City Plaza expansion and the remodel of the former Trading Post building. The Soda Springs open space area is expected to open, new lights will be added at the dog park, a new gazebo will be installed at Furber Park, recreation programming will expand, and a new park picnic rental program will launch. The City will also undertake a major transition from a dot net to a dot gov website, a significant project that will update the City's digital presence. The City will continue its advocacy on regional water issues and pursue options that protect long term supply. With three City Council seats on the November ballot, 2026 will also be an important year for civic participation! Thank you to the Cloverdale community for your support, involvement, and continued spirit. We look forward to serving you in the year ahead!

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Pig Hunting Now Open

The Friends of Lake Sonoma has announced that its popular feral pig hunting season is now open and will conclude Sunday, March 22, 2026. Hunting is archery and crossbow only; firearms are not allowed in the park.

Hunters are required to register in person at any of the following locations:

- Milt Brandt Visitor Center at Lake Sonoma; 3288 Skaggs Springs Road, Geyserville
- Lake Sonoma Resort & Marina, 4200 Skaggs Springs Road, Geyserville
- Turra's Backroom Archery, 3260 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa
- West Coast Archery, 2040 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma

Hunters must show a valid driver license and valid California hunting license, as well as a Wild Pig Validation. Each hunter will be provided a Pig Hunting Property Pass for their vehicle and orientation materials. The cost for the pass, good for the entire season, is \$35.

The pig hunts are sponsored by the Friends of Lake Sonoma, a non-profit organization that supports programs at the lake. All money raised is used to cover registration costs, educational materials and land stewardship projects within the park.

Note: Hunters are subject to all park rules and regulations plus all county, state and local laws, and California Department of Fish & Wildlife regulations.

Streaming, Television, or Streaming Television? Will Carter

When I was growing up, my family had a Netflix subscription which became the focal point of family movie nights. Each week we would have a new movie or disc of a TV series delivered in the mail. We would slip the DVDs out of their Tyvek sleeves, load them into the DVD player, and sit down to watch the film. These days of course, Netflix is VERY different.

When Netflix began streaming it kicked off a new age of media consumption. Today, streaming services are ubiquitous and DVD rentals by mail are a thing of the past. As streaming services have become popular, something unexpected has happened; they've started to compete directly with traditional television services like Dish, DirecTV, and Xfinity. These services replace your DVR or set top cable box with an app for your smart TV, Roku, or personal device. The same channels and networks you are already familiar with are available, including the Bay Area news stations and local sports coverage.

Hulu + Live TV, Xfinity Stream, Sling, and YouTube TV are all examples of this new type of service. The benefits of these services include a lower monthly price, no hardware or installation fees, and TV that is easy to take with you on your laptop, tablet, or phone. Of course, there are some tradeoffs, you will need an adequate internet connection (≥16mbps), a compatible smart TV or steaming device, and a willingness to learn a new system for watching TV.

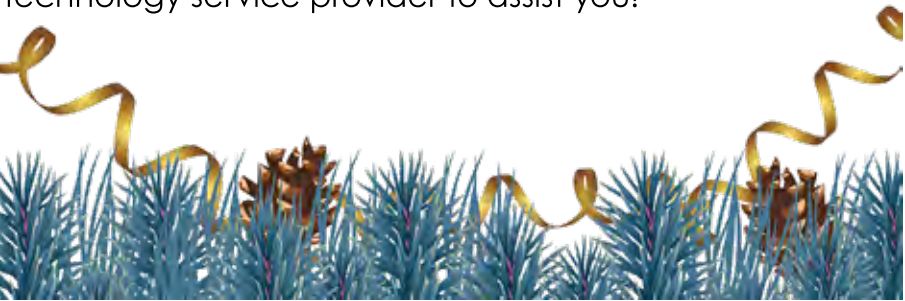
As prices for both traditional television and streaming services climb, many of my customers are rethinking how and what they watch on their TVs. Some folks only use streaming services but will include a PBS Passport or other subscription for live news. Others are sticking to their traditional TVs for most of their watching. However, most people do a little bit of both! No matter how you watch TV, it should be an enjoyable experience with few glitches or frustrations. If you do experience issues with television or streaming, ask a techy friend for help or call a trusted technology service provider to assist you!

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Roots of Rock M.J. Girard

Joy to the World, the King has come! In my business that typically referred to Elvis Presley, and when he was alive, his latest album release. It's amazing how things have changed over the decades, but the one everlasting legacy this holiday season is the memories that come to mind whenever we hear the songs of Christmas, the carols and hymns that originated hundreds of years ago traditionally of religious worship. It wasn't until the Great Depression in the 1930's that American song writers began writing and producing songs of a more secular nature with more Western themes and customs associated with Christmas. These tunes were often aimed at a more youthful audience, such as "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town" and "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" as well as more sentimental tunes, sung by the "crooners" of the day to include "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "White Christmas" which have remained the most often heard during the season.

Referring to the "King of Rock and Roll" released in 1957, Elvis' Christmas Album remains the most popular and best-selling holiday album of all time with worldwide sales of well over twenty million copies sold!

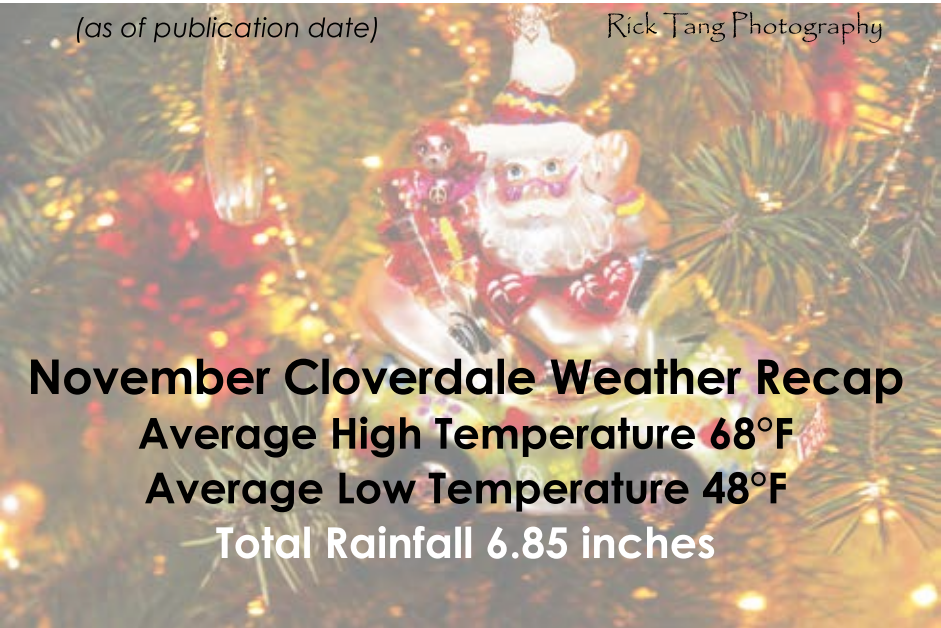
What is your favorite holiday song? I hope that you will have the opportunity to hear it and many others this season, as we give thanks for our many blessings, writing the cards and letters to family and friends, some of whom we will see as 2025 comes to a close and we all hope and pray that the New Year brings peace and prosperity to everyone.

God Bless you, your family and may the American Dream continue to shine!



(as of publication date)

Rick Tang Photography



November Cloverdale Weather Recap

Average High Temperature 68°F

Average Low Temperature 48°F

Total Rainfall 6.85 inches

4th Annual Eagle Pride Boosters Cornhole Tournament

What better to do than to get some light exercise with some amazing community member on a beautiful day at the City park? That is exactly what 22 teams of two did on Sunday November 2, while participating in the 4th Annual Eagle Pride Boosters Cornhole tournament, run by Mac Butler of CHS girls basketball, as well as City of Cloverdale Parks & Rec department.

The event started with coffee and donuts as tournament director Butler went over the rules, tournament layout, and prizes. Bags started flying at 10:00 and friendly competition was underway. Each team's paid entry got them guaranteed 2 games (double elimination), and a hot dog lunch. There also was a 50/50 raffle and an AirMail Challenge where advanced competitors shot 4 bags into a small 16"x16" board with regulation hole. This year, Dan Wilson walked away with the prize!

After teams started to be eliminated the final 4 was set, Sack To The Future (Ray Sychowski & Darrell Shouse), The Griffin Berries (Griffin Garrison & Dylan Berry), Corn Nuts (Mike Llapitan & Matt Ostermann), and The Great Cornholios (Heath Blackwell & Matt O'Donnell). Sack To The Future avenged their first loss by eliminating The Great Cornholios to face The Griffin Berries in the Semi-Finals. The Griffin Berries had a commanding lead 20-14, before Ray Sychowski hit a 3 bagger, resulting in 7 points and a walk off win to go to the finals! Game 1 of the championship was all Corn Nuts, two-time defending champions, winning 21-12. Game 2 Sack To The Future battled the entire game but came up short again, losing 21-16 and giving team Corn Nutz their 3rd championship in 3 years.



Dynamic Duo - Vickie Norris and Dana Johnson

It was overall a great event, bringing all skill levels and ages together! Thank you to City Parks and Rec Hector Galvan and Brandon Southard for getting the park ready. Thank you, Derrick Montanye and Andrea Sanchez for getting the lunch prepared. Thank you to Nikko and Krissy Miller with CloverDesign for being our premier corporate sponsor, supplying the winners with custom cornhole boards, and all the other "The Dale" Merchandise. Thank you to Dick and Heidi Butler for all of their help and support in making the event run smoothly. Tentative dates for next year Sunday 10/25/26.



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City Council Report ~ Eleanore Webster

At the **October 22** meeting, Council awarded the first Citizen Recognition award to John Turner for his contributions to Cloverdale over 41 years. (see article "JT Honored", page 5, this issue) Then the Library Commissioner's Report was presented by Commissioner Brooke Greene (see Agenda for more information). Council amended the Municipal Code to establish objective design and development standards for new housing developments, based on California regulations. Council also approved naming the City Hall/Chamber of Commerce alleyway in recognition of former Council member Gus Wolter. This is part of City property and not a formal street. Council Members then made reports, including mention that the Grange Hall will be the new home of Heaven's Closet and possibly the food pantry.

November 12 meeting, Council proclaimed November Native American Heritage Month, in recognition of local tribal residents. Members of the Cloverdale Rancheria and Dry Creek Pomo Indians were present to receive the recognition. Council also committed to working more closely with tribal members in the future.

Council approved measures to enable construction of Alexander Valley Health Care & Wellness Center (see <https://alexandervalleyhealthcare.org/wellness-center>). These changes come from AVH requests to reduce its footprint and begin construction. The measures are needed to address the surrounding infrastructure. Council authorized a grant of \$1.2 million from Low-Moderate Income Housing Fund for this purpose. Financing will address Washington Street extension and storm drain updates. The changes will benefit Washington School as well as access to the area. It will also make the remainder of the property more attractive for development or sale. AVH consultants made a presentation about the project (see www.youtube.com/cityofcloverdaleca). Council asked about power usage and emergency backup, funding priorities, and sources for the estimated costs. Project representatives were present to answer questions about funding and improvements. Esmeralda group then made a presentation (see separate Cloverdale Connect article, page 21, this issue).



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A Promise Kept ~ Gene Marcinkowski



Gene Marcinkowski

On April 11th, 2014, I contacted then supervisor Mike McGuire about the possibility of the veterans managing the Sonoma County-owned Cloverdale Veterans building. The building was in fairly sad shape at that time, even to the point where the county wanted to sell it. After serving on the county's Veterans Advisory Committee for a number of years, I realized that with all the veterans buildings the county owns, they were all vying for funds to repair and improve each building. Sadly, the Cloverdale building was not on a priority list, that's why I made the offer. I explained my vision for the building to Supervisor McGuire, who understood and shared that vision with me. James Gore was running for office at that time, and I spoke to him at a meet and greet during his campaign. I explained to him what I wanted to do and he was wholeheartedly in favor of it. The Board of Supervisors agreed to a third-party contract at the persuasion of Supervisor McGuire.

My goal was to convert a smaller trophy room into a veterans clubroom exclusively for the use of veterans to get together, share stories, and general camaraderie that we shared in the services. As managers of the building, we were responsible for renting the building for events, daily upkeep, maintenance of the grounds, and purchasing equipment and products to keep the building running efficiently. This was no easy task as our tables and chairs were old, as were the appliances. However, over the years we realized how much this building was part of the Cloverdale community. People would tell of their graduations, birthdays, wedding receptions, or memorials for loved ones,

and it served as a general meeting place for service groups. Since then, we have tried to do what we could afford, likening it to starting a business on a limited budget where you can only do so much improvement. In the 11 years, we have made a lot of improvements that we are quite proud of: new upholstered chairs, new lightweight tables, linens, dishes for the kitchen. We purchased a new commercial kitchen stove and ovens, and replaced outdated, inefficient, and noisy refrigerators. We removed large oak trees encroaching on the building and replaced a virtual weed field with a patio complete with benches and tables.

Mike McGuire, now Senator, visited our building approximately two years ago and remarked on how much we have done since we took over. We spoke about what I would still like to do. I told him that the commercial kitchen was very outdated and that would be a priority—to replace the inadequate cabinets and remove the asbestos flooring, which is a health hazard. Other projects were lighting, sound systems, a large screen TV for PowerPoint presentations, slideshows to celebrate the life of deceased, and pictures from the past for anniversaries and birthdays in the auditorium. Senator Mike said he would try to help us with some funds to upgrade the building. On Wednesday, October 29th, with approximately 100 Cloverdale residents in attendance, he announced appropriations for the Alexander Valley Health Clinic and the Veterans Building. This funding will be a very welcome addition for our community. I speak for the veterans and citizens of Cloverdale: THANK YOU, MIKE, he remembered us.



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Saturday 10-1 PM

Donations
If you have donations, please call the Senior Center at 707-894-4826. We are open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

SALE
Don't miss our weekly Sidewalk Sale every **Wednesday**, weather permitting! And here's the best part: on the **1st Wednesday** of each month, everything inside the store (except yarn) is 50% off! It's the perfect time to shop & save big!

We are grateful to our volunteers and customers for their continued support.

Want to make a difference?

Great idea!

Join a Library Advisory Board

215 N. Cloverdale Blvd.
Cloverdale CA 95425
707-894-2067

Open: 11am-2pm
Saturday & Sunday

office@cloverdalehistory.org

The Sonoma County Library is currently seeking applications from residents of Cloverdale for Library Advisory Board members.

To apply, fill out an application and drop it by the branch (or email to branch manager).

More info and link to application here:
<https://www.sonomalibrary.org/governance/lab>

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Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center

NOURISHING HOPE THROUGH COMMUNITY
FRIDAY 11:00 - 1:00 PM
202 COMMERCIAL STREET
(COMMERCIAL AT SECOND)
CLOVERDALE, CA

CLOVERDALE FOOD PANTRY

Qigong and Tai Chi 24 Form

Simu Janet Seaforth has taught Qigong and Tai Chi for over forty years. She's certified by the National Qigong Association and was a contestant on the USA team in the 2012 Wushu Championships in Huang Shan, China. She has written a book about her Qigong and Tai Chi experience, Little Book of Qi, Energy for Life, available through Balboa Press and on Amazon. You Tube channel: Qigong Energy for Life with Janet Seaforth. All people are welcome to come to Monday sessions for a full body practice of gentle movements, stretches and meditations for healing and wellness. Wear comfortable clothes for standing and sitting positions. Suggested donation is \$10 for Qigong, \$15 for Qigong and Tai Chi. Location: Clover Springs Lodge, 210 Red Mt. Drive

Mondays: Qigong at 10am, Tai Chi 24 Form at 11am

Cloverdale Food Distribution Sites

Cloverdale Citrus Fair
1 Citrus Fair Drive
Mondays 3:30-4:30pm
Food, Senior Baskets, and Diapers

St Peters Church
491 S. Franklin St
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 10-11am
Food, Senior Baskets, and Diapers

Cloverdale LDS Church
1101 S. Cloverdale Blvd.
1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:30-10:30am
Food, Senior Baskets, and Diapers

Cloverdale Food Pantry
202 Commercial St. (soon to be relocating to the Grange)
Fridays, 11am-1pm
Food/Groceries

CUSD Giving Thanks for Progress in 2025

Glen Senestraro, Superintendent

As we move into the season of gratitude, the Cloverdale Unified School District is proud to share several accomplishments from November 2025 and milestones that reflect the commitment of our students, staff, families, and community.

Expanding College & Career Readiness

Cloverdale High School continued strengthening its Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways this fall. New courses: Floral Design 2, Veterinary Science, Agricultural Construction, AVID 11, and Child Development 2. These courses offer students more hands-on, career-aligned learning. The Veterinary Science class was also launched as a new College and Career Access Pathway (CCAP) with Santa Rosa Junior College, giving students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school.

Engaging Families & Building Community

CUSD hosted several well-attended community events in November, including the regular Board Meeting on November 12 and a Board Coffee Chat at Jefferson Elementary on November 13. These gatherings provide valuable opportunities for families and staff to connect directly with district leadership and help guide district priorities through open conversation and collaboration.

Celebrating Athletics & Student Spirit

Student-athletes were recognized at the Fall Sports Awards Ceremony on November 17 at Cloverdale High. Teams also wrapped up strong postseason play, highlighted by the cross-country program preparing for the state championship meet on November 29. Their dedication and sportsmanship continue to inspire school pride across the district.

Supporting Early Learners

Open enrollment for Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten for the 2025–26 school year opened in November. CUSD remains committed to ensuring families have clear access to early-learning opportunities that help students start their educational journey with confidence and support.

As we transition into December, CUSD looks forward to expanding CTE opportunities, deepening family engagement, and continuing our focus on student achievement and well-being. We are grateful for the partnership of our Cloverdale community and proud of the progress we are making together.

ALWAYS FREE

Cloverdale Connect provides our readers with local news each month at no cost, supported by our local businesses, including FREE home delivery.

Come & Create – Craft Fair

Grace Lutheran Church

December 13th, 2025 – 10:00 am to Noon



Mark your calendars and bring a lawn chair. We are hosting a hands-on make-your-own Christmas crafts Fair Saturday, December 13th, 10:00 am to noon. Live music, Christmas carols, cookies and Christmas specialties, along with hot cider and coffee will all be a part of this special morning.

The Fitch Mountaineers will be with us along with the Renegade Carolers. It will be a fun morning that will get your Christmas launched right. The EVENT is FREE! Bring a friend and join us.

Grace Lutheran Church
Cloverdale, CA 95425

LIVE MUSIC - HANDS ON CRAFTS
CHRISTMAS TREATS

All are welcomed. Event is Free.



Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center

Melanie Hall

As 2025 is ending, I am reminded of all the wonderful classes, activities, and events that have taken place here at our beloved Senior Center. I am so thankful for our community's support and interactions.

We have had many guest speakers at our Coffee with the Mayor events. A big thank you to Mayor Todd Lands for sharing his time with us once a month for four years, and for informing us about what was happening at our City Council meetings.

In April, our focus was on our over-sixty volunteers as we held our Volunteer Appreciation event. A big thank you to Dr. Mario Del'Olio and his high school chorus, who put on a performance to remember.

I believe that our local poet, Howard Adler, summed up how it feels to participate in the Senior Center. Here is his original poem to enjoy.

*I love the senior center,
I learn or enjoy something new every time I enter
I feel like I've found family even in folks I've never met before
Never a gripe from the staff, only warm care and an easy laugh.
It's so easy to work with everyone when I volunteer.
Every move is a happy dance to the song of cheer.
You could do something new every time you go.
Podiatrist, beautician, and massage.
Someone is there to help you from head to toe.
You will find guidance in finance, a class in ballroom dance,
And important too, if you think those aren't for you,
You'll find it contagious to take the chance.*

*There are so many discussions, games, and donated books to find
that you're sure to find just the one to bring a giggle or expand your mind.
And all kinds of exercise classes to improve your health
Or tighten the wiggle in your behind.*

*The Friday Market is a cornucopia of fresh veggies sold at cost,
What great savings.
Something for every diet, taste, or craving!
What is left is donated forward, nothing wasted, nothing lost.*

The most important thing, the long and the short, what sums up and should have started my report, is the precious sense of sharing, caring, and unity, summed up in the name, community.

On behalf of the Board and staff, I would like to wish you a very merry holiday season and a Happy New Year.



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True West Film Center is a community-funded nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of cinema.

SCAN ME!



Let's Travel Craig Clark

*How to avoid getting to the airport too early
(and still make your flight)*

Check the crowds before you fly. Processing time information is available at several airports on the Customs and Border Protection site. <https://awt.cpb.gov> but remember that CBP airport wait times do not include time to retrieve baggage or navigate through the airport. And you should add an hour to your scheduled departure time, just to be safe.

Sign up for real-time updates on delays, gate changes, and other flight-related difficulties through your airline's app.

Sometimes, the airport is the destination itself. Singapore, which has one of the best malls in all of Asia, the Jewel Changi Airport, outside the gate area. It even has the world's tallest indoor waterfall, called the Rain Vortex. San Francisco, SFO, presents about 40 exhibitions throughout the terminals annually. Many other airports offer similar exhibits and entertainment.

A visit to the airport can also be a wonderful opportunity to exercise by walking through the terminal and checking out the shops and restaurants.

There are some common-sense steps you can take to avoid missing your flight during the busy holidays.

- Check in online and save your boarding pass to your phone, in addition to a paper copy.
- Become familiar with your airport in advance, so you know the location of your terminal and gate, and know your flight number, departure time, and destination.
- Don't forget travel insurance that can help by offering coverage for trip cancellations or interruptions, emergency medical care, and baggage protection, and 24 hr. phone assistance.

**From Elliott.org*

Don't check luggage. That adds stress, and there's an earlier cut-off time for checking your bags. If you can avoid checking a bag, you'll save time and avoid becoming a gate camper.

Center Stage at the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center Lenore Messler

Winter has arrived in Cloverdale! Hot days spent dancing in the plaza make way for cozy evenings cuddled by the fire as a festive energy settles into our town. Candy cane lights line Cloverdale Blvd, leading you to the front porch of the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center—where a joyful winter evening awaits you.

It's the perfect time to gather with friends, family, and neighbors to share in a bit of seasonal cheer. The Cloverdale Performing Arts Center invites you to do just that from December 12 to 21 with our heartwarming production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

This delightful musical brings the beloved Peanuts characters to life as Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, and the rest of the gang explore life's great questions while playing baseball, struggling with homework, singing songs, and celebrating the joy of friendship.

We hope this production adds warmth, laughter, and a touch of nostalgia to your holidays. From all of us at the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center, we wish you a wonderful holiday season.

Cloverdale Rotary Club Expands Opportunities Through Local Scholarships

Cloverdale Rotary Club is proud to support local students through a variety of scholarship programs designed to help graduates pursue their educational and career goals. Each year, the club awards several scholarships to Cloverdale High School seniors, recognizing academic achievement, community involvement, and a commitment to personal growth.

In addition to these long-standing awards, Cloverdale Rotary also administers the **Maxine and Jack Allen Scholarship for Vocational and Trade Education**. This unique scholarship is open to all Cloverdale residents—not just current students or recent graduates. Offering up to **\$2,500**, the scholarship helps individuals pursue training in high-demand vocations, technical fields, or skilled trades that support both personal advancement and the strength of our local workforce.

Anyone interested in applying or learning more is encouraged to email **CloverdaleRotaryScholarship@gmail.com** to receive an application or additional information. The Rotary Club looks forward to hearing from community members and supporting Cloverdale residents as they take the next steps toward their educational and career goals.

Cloverdale
Community Choir
Dr. Mario Dell'Olio, Artistic Director
Kira Bombace, Piano

Silver Bells!

December 6, at 2:00 & 7:30 p.m.
December 7, at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets at: www.ccesonoma.com
La Familia Sana
(formerly the United Church of Cloverdale)
439 N Cloverdale Blvd.



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Wine Country Rock Crawlers Gear Up for Annual Holiday Toy Drive

Season Briggs

The rumble of engines and the spirit of giving are once again joining forces as the Wine Country Rock Crawlers prepare for their annual holiday Toy Drive, set for December 13, 2025, at the Cloverdale Fire Department.

Founded as a community-centered off road and social club, the Wine Country Rock Crawlers have grown into a well-known group of four-wheel-drive enthusiasts who mix trail adventures with service to the community. The club meets monthly to plan trips, discuss safe and responsible off-roading practices, and organize outreach efforts.

Each year, the group selects a different local fire department to host its Toy Drive, a tradition that brings together club members, firefighters, and families in need during the holiday season. Past locations have included fire stations throughout Sonoma County, with the destination changing annually to spread support across the region.

This year's partnership with the Cloverdale Fire Department is exciting for me, as I work at Washington Middle School, and am looking forward to giving to the community that I work in. Members, friends, and family will caravan into town with their rigs loaded with new, unwrapped toys. All donations collected will benefit local children and families.

Beyond charitable events, the Wine Country Rock Crawlers are known for organizing group trail runs ranging from scenic back-country drives to technical rock-crawling routes. The club welcomes drivers of all experience levels and encourages responsible outdoor recreation.

Those interested in joining the club, participating in the Toy Drive, or following upcoming events can find more information on the Wine Country Rock Crawlers' Facebook page.

Creative Corner

Christy Anne

To infinity & beyond...Cloverdale Creative Corner's next chapter

I cannot express strongly enough the joy writing for **Cloverdale Connect** over the past 5 years has given me. Sharing ideas and inspiring others is oxygen to me & being able to write about it as well in my voice, awesome! Like all things, though, evolving happens. I am ready to expand a bit. By that I mean more detailed projects and the space to detail the process so that even a novice can follow along if the inspiration bug bites them. A deep breath has been taken; a step of confidence is mid-air & I have procured a domain name so that I can post projects and details in a more expansive way and blog about the joys and frustrations that can arise with making and creating. There will be emails available to ask questions, request projects to be shown and described. When my husband Brodie retires in May, he will be joining in as well, adding more dimension and perspective. Eventually, videos will be created as well – look at us embracing technology!



Next month I will place an announcement in **Cloverdale Connect** with Cloverdale's Creative Corner's official website address and email addresses for questions. I cannot state strongly enough what an honor this has been and a HUGE Thank You to Dana for asking me 5 years ago, as without that invite, this seed may never have been planted. From this crazy Canadian to all of you – wishing you an amazing holiday season and reminding all, that creativity, like joy, it is up to us all to keep it alive. Christy Anne xoxo



Cat Rescue of Cloverdale

Whiskers' Wish List

Help us make it a Meowy Christmas for our foster kitties!



Kitty wish list:

- Kitten and Cat Food: Wet and Dry (Royal Canin, Science Diet, Purina Pro Plan)
- New Small Litter Boxes
- Cat Trees and Scratchers
- Clean Beds & Cozy Small Blankets
- Cat Carriers: Small to Medium size

Drop off Donation Bins located at:

Ace Hardware, Debbie's Pet Boutique, DogGonIt Pets, & Ray's Food Place

Monetary Donations to the Whisker's Wish List
May be mailed to:
Cat Rescue of Cloverdale PO BOX 354, Cloverdale, CA 95425

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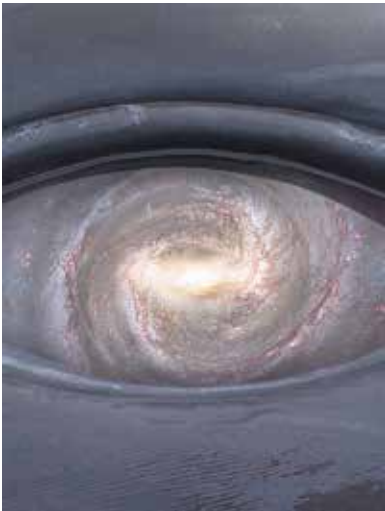
- Storytimes and reading programs
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Innovation for the 21st Century

- WiFi hotspots and computers
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- BiblioBus stops

On the Wild Side

Jennifer Molidor



This dreamy eye of a fin whale is the size of a grapefruit. Fin whales are the second-largest whale on the planet. The largest, the blue whale, visits the California coast along with gray, humpback, and fin whales. These species are protected by the Endangered Species Act. Gray whales travel 14,000 miles between the Arctic feeding grounds and California breeding grounds. Recently, the San Francisco Bay has been awash with whales, delighting

lucky viewers on whale watching tours in the Bay.

Visiting whales are vulnerable to the Bay's shipping lanes and boat activities. 10 gray whales have been killed by ship strikes in the Bay Area this year. At least 80 whales are killed by ship strikes off the West Coast each year, which also harms sea turtles. Ship strikes are the leading cause of mortality for gray, blue, fin, and humpback whales off California's coast, just as automobile strikes are a threat to many threatened species of wildlife across the U.S.

One way we can prevent this is if the National Marine Fisheries Service reroutes and slows shipping lanes and curbs air and noise pollution near endangered marine life. Of course, we could buy local more often, too. Plans like these could minimize harm to whales and sea turtles.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act is another important law. It's saved some whales from extinction. With this law, seafood imports must meet U.S. standards for limiting marine mammal "bycatch." That's the wonky name for the millions of sea creatures accidentally killed by the fishing industry and discarded. Many of these animals are whales, dolphins, and sea turtles.

This winter, try to spot whales in the Bay, whether on a tour or safely from the shore. Learn about the precious roles whales play in keeping our local ecosystems healthy.

New Middle School Librarian

John Koetzner, Children's Services Librarian

As many parents know, the librarian at Washington Middle School left the district this past summer, and because it happened during summer, it took a little bit to get the position filled. Well, as of September, students arrived at Washington Middle School Library to see the smiling face of Mattielina Garcia. She has enthusiastically embraced the job, making the library a welcoming space. When I asked her about her new position, she said, "What I like best about my role in the library so far is I wish to be an advocate for those kids who need a safe and sane space to come to." She also has praise for her colleagues, "The teachers and staff are great. They are extremely welcoming and helpful and full of information that I might not know to help me navigate as the school's new librarian. I am grateful for all of them"



We have a joint library venture, a fifth and sixth grade book club, and she's also starting a seventh and eighth grade book club with Teen Services Librarian, Sonia Sutherland, in December. She continues with a popular book vending machine program as well, giving students who write book reviews and who are doing good work tokens for getting books.

After two months in her new role, what does this Cloverdale native do in her spare time? "I am a mom of two little ones, 3 and 1, so my free time is very limited. Any time I do have, I love to spend it with them: walks to the park and just going out and spending quality time with my family." Her enthusiasm and good humor make her a nice addition to the middle school four days a week and one day a week at Cloverdale High School.



The Power of Showing Up

In a seeming morass of digital noise and global headlines, it's easy to feel that our obligations begin and end at our own front doors. But here in Cloverdale and Geyserville, we know that true community isn't built by good intentions. It requires the radical act of showing up. Volunteering is a keystone of our community. Expanding that involvement to include active civic engagement is how we ensure a bright future for all.

When we volunteer—whether it's serving lunch at the Senior Center, helping organize a local event, or simply checking in on a neighbor—we engage in the work of community care. When isolation is commonplace, engagement is a declaration of interdependence. Community involvement rejects isolation and cynicism and asserts that we belong to one another.

Showing up goes beyond volunteering at a food pantry or service club. It also means participating in the decisions that shape our daily lives. It means attending city council meetings not just when there is a complaint, but to understand the challenges our leaders face. It means joining a local board or commission, or simply staying informed by actively seeking local news. When you engage with the school board or support local businesses, you are weaving a stronger social fabric that supports us all.

Your time is a non-renewable resource, making it the most valuable currency you possess. By investing in Cloverdale and Geyserville, you are casting a vote for the kind of community where you want to live every single day. We cannot wait for someone else to solve every problem. To build a future that truly works for everyone, we must be willing to do the work—block by block, meeting by meeting, and hand in hand.

Article provided by the Cloverdale Democratic Club
www.clodems.com

LIFE NOTICES

Obituaries • Birthdays • Weddings • Retirements
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Submit to info@cloverdaleconnect.com

CLOVERDALE AUTOMOTIVE RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Big news from the team at Cloverdale Automotive & Tires — we've been honored with the AAA Best in Auto Repair Gold Award for 2025!

It's a reflection of every late-night tire change, brake check, friendly greeting, and trusted repair.

Thank you to our amazing customers, dedicated crew, and community for making this possible. Here's to many more miles of quality service, trust, and local support.

*- Greatful beyond words,
The Tate Family*

Cloverdale Connect Mission Statement

The mission of Cloverdale Connect is to bring the community together with respect and dignity; uplifting community members while avoiding divisiveness, opinion, and negativity.



Esmeralda Project Presentation to City Council Eleanore Webster

At the November 12th Council meeting, Esmeralda Project Founder Devon Zuegel and Director of Development Michael Yarne, made a presentation to City Council and Planning Commission (see www.youtube.com/cityofcloverdaleca). This was the first of several presentations planned to go before Council: water impact in December; and Entitlements Package in January. Council potentially will vote in February. The Entitlement Package includes amendments to the Environmental Impact Report, AVR specific plan, SP-1 zoning district, development agreement, infrastructure finance plan, and tentative master map. The final version of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Study is due in January. City leaders take these findings into account when reviewing the proposal.

The proposal includes public river park, roads, walking/biking trails into town, housing, and hotel. The design preserves heritage oaks and restores natural habitats to the half-mile long and roughly 18' tall wood/dirt mound ("Twinkie") left by the lumber company. The park includes public parking and restrooms. The site is in the Russian River Watershed and can expand the river flood plan to capture and store water. Presenters estimate the residential units will be 50% primary residents and 50% second homes; they acknowledged there is no way to know for sure. Planned housing ranges from large homes to small studio apartments. These are market rate homes, including some "affordable by design" lower-priced homes.

Esmeralda does not yet own the property; it is owned by Spight Properties II LLC. A hotel partner is unknown at this point, but the vision is a boutique hotel with about 100 rooms and some "condo" units. Most of the jobs are hotel/service-related jobs. The SMART train would run through the site; Esmeralda is meeting with SMART officials to discuss engineering designs. Solar power is also being considered. There is a proposed school, but Council wants a commitment to work with the Cloverdale School Board. The Presenters said it will be up to the City of Cloverdale on the inclusion of a school.

This project would provide considerable income to Cloverdale, with estimates of \$2.6M in gross hotel TOT revenues and \$2.2M net annual fiscal surplus. Construction will generate about \$2.5M one-time sales and tax revenue. Esmeralda expects to provide \$77.5M in-kind and cash payments toward public parks, infrastructure, stormwater management, schools, fire, and police. The project will rely on public-private partnerships, grant funding and public agency support. Planned build-out spans 11 years, with approvals in 2026 and Phase one (the hotel) in Year 4. Subsequent economic growth, with more business coming because of the town's growing size, is also probable.

Questions were asked by Commission and Council members

and the public, and included:

- Is this part of the Network State movement and aren't you taking advantage of a small-town environment? No;
- Is this a Special Economic zoning? No.
- Why are investor names being kept secret? Privacy protections, but investors don't include Peter Thiel or Network State author Balaji Srinivasan. Ed. Note: for info on Network State, see:
 - o <https://www.forbes.com/sites/digital-assets/2023/12/20/network-states--revolutionary-idea-to-potential-new-asset-class/>,
 - o <https://observer.co.uk/news/business/article/are-network-states-the-future-or-just-fantasy-land>.
- Why the lack of transparency on investors? There are 19 different investors, mostly families local to the Bay Area; their investor base is more democratic than most projects; people want to remain private for obvious reasons.
- Water? Come to next month's meeting.
- Why would hotel guests and residents drive into Cloverdale? There are bus, bike and walking paths and people don't limit their activities to their homes and hotel rooms.
- If Esmeralda isn't associated with the Network State, why did Zuegel speak at their conference? Devon speaks at many conferences and she is not part of that association.
- Impact on parking, police and fire department resources? The increased income to the City will more than cover those costs.
- Won't this end up like Stanly Ranch in Napa (see <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/2025/10/28/luxury-napa-valley-resort-development-in-230-million-default/>)? That's why they're doing the preparation, to avoid that outcome.
- Changes to Cloverdale's culture? Control of the property? Growth can be positive; an HOA is part of the plan.
- Accusations included lying and the Chataqua model's highlighting of Henry Ford, with reference to his known biases. Devon will consider removing the offensive website photos.

Council encouraged the Presenters to be more transparent on funding sources and ties to other organizations. Mayor Lands talked about three ways towns can grow: increased housing, tourism, and funding. He feels this project does a bit of each and not too much of any. Lands said residents want to avoid being Healdsburg, with an overabundance of tourism or excessive growth. This project can bring income without destroying the town's culture. It can also help support the water system's storage and recharge. Mayor Lands then asked the student liaison for her opinion: she expressed optimism about higher income for the school district through property taxes.

and Woodie Wilson. The family, including her sister Annette Magoulas (1945-2023), Inez Tenter and Mervyn Wilson moved to Arcata, CA then to Cloverdale in 1961, where Sue lived until her passing.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Cloverdale Lions Club on Sue Dickens behalf.

Editor's Note: Some people who were around in the 1970's, including me, can remember heading up to the hot springs at the old dilapidated bathhouse and enjoying care-free afternoons floating around naked in the hot water. I can remember the men who worked at the Geysers at that time would spend their lunch hour on the little bridge over the bathhouse ogling the naked "hippie" chicks.

CLOVERDALE KIWANIS
23RD ANNUAL
CRAB & PASTA FEED
CLOVERDALE CITRUS FAIR

SAT
DEC 13TH

\$70

LET'S GET

DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

DINNER SERVED 6:15PM

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CRAB, PASTA, SALAD & DESSERT
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TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ANY KIWANIS MEMBER
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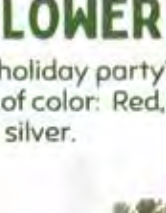
FFA

CHRISTMAS FLOWER SALE

Need centerpieces for a holiday party? We have you covered! Your choice of color: Red, white, gold and/or silver.

SMALL CENTERPIECE (3 ROSES)

\$40



**LONG AND LOW
GREAT FOR LONG TABLES!
(5 ROSES)!**

\$50



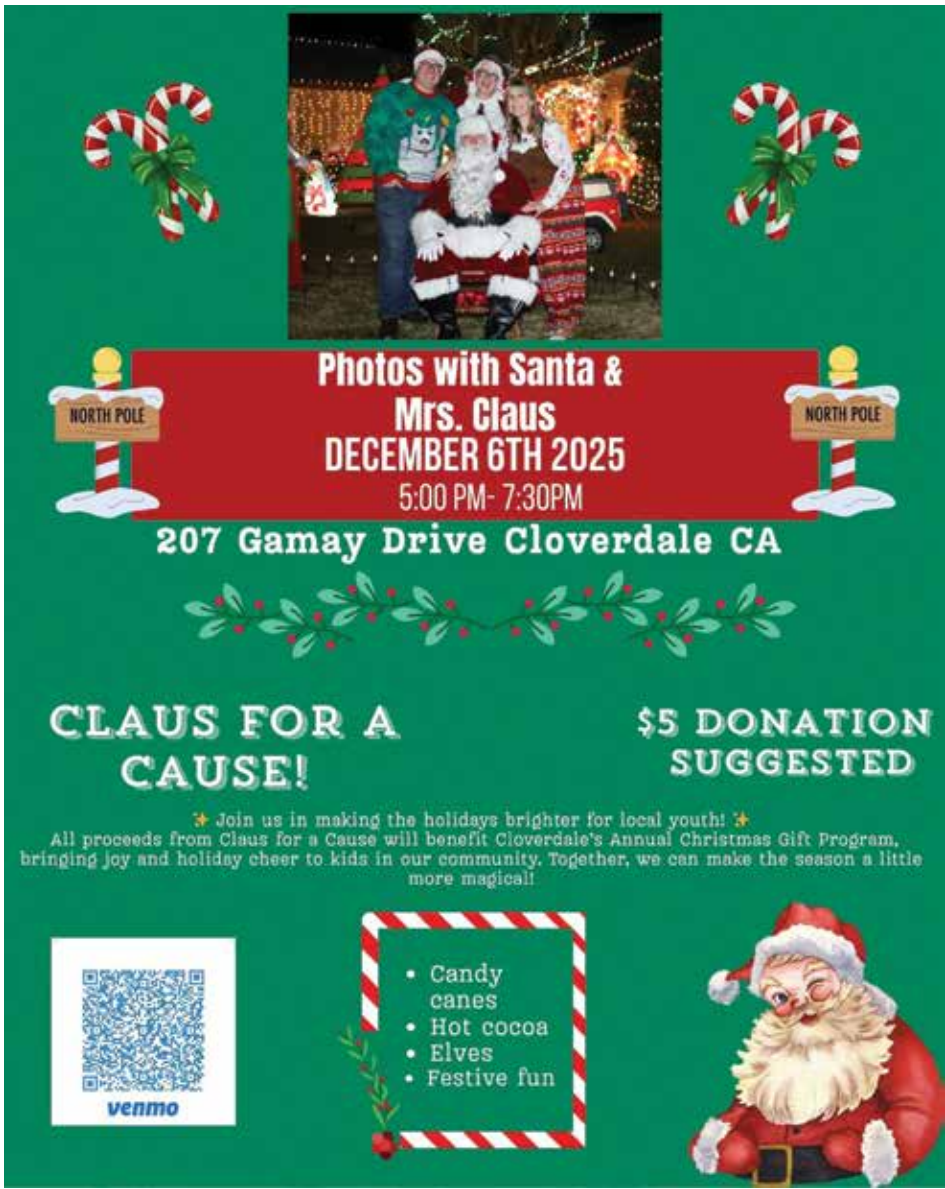
**WREATHS
AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP 12/5**

\$40



EMAIL DALER@CUSD.ORG BY 11/21





Handcrafted Walking Sticks
Earle Cummings



The hills behind Clover Springs have lots of dead Douglas fir seedlings that are "ladder fuel" if a wildfire starts on the ground. The fire in the dry dead seedlings will heat nearby vegetation and get a canopy fire going. So, I hike the woodland trails and pick up dead seedlings, trim off the side twigs, shave off the bark with a "spoke-shave" I inherited from my grand-dad Harry Cummings, sand it smooth, varnish and wax it, put a little rubber tip on the bottom and leave it leaning by the entry gate to the Preserve Trail. People pick them up pretty fast and enjoy walking with them. It is fun to see how quickly they get picked up and put to use.



Rotary President Kevin Kostoff recently presented Rotary District 5130 Governor Kristine Redko with the local Rotary Club's banner during her tour of the 43 Rotary Clubs in her district. She reported the Cloverdale Club to be one of the happiest and most productive clubs that she has visited, exemplifying the Rotary credo "Service above Self."



Pictured on left is Kevin Kostoff, Rotary Club President, presenting a check to Rotary Interact Treasurer Ry Squire, while shaking hands with Interact President Max Lamaster, for their participation at the Rotary Asti Tour de Vine bike event last month; also present are Astrid Wilke, Vice President, Alana Clemmer, Secretary, and Robert Redner, Rotary Interact Club Director.

The Asti Tour de Vine event allows the Rotary Club to donate more than \$10,000 annually to the Cloverdale community, once again promoting the Rotary motto "Service Above Self."



Preston Addison, pictured left, was recently presented the "Harmony in Rotary" award by District Governor Kristine Redko, and Club President Kevin Kostoff. Preston received the award for his continued dedication to Rotary, its principles, and his selfless energy in continually going above and beyond.



Support Our Cloverdale Businesses!

Submit your "Shout Out" to
info@cloverdaleconnect.com

I want to appreciate our little town! We have the best shops, people and incredible food! I, along with a group of my friends from out of town, talked about how amazing this community is, how nice the people are and how supportive they are! They loved seeing all the pop ups in the businesses and really appreciated the sense of community and togetherness we have! I've only been here a little over a dozen years and feel fortunate to call **Cloverdale** home!
Savannah DelCampo-Snyde

Thank you to **All N One Kustomz Collision** for fixing my car. You guys did an awesome job – looks just like new!
Liam Montes

Ok, so this small, but very mighty, restaurant (**The Beet**) is in the beautiful Alexander Valley of Sonoma County. Not only do they do perfectly crispy frites (which I would eat everyday if I could), but I'm eating the most luxurious quiche I've ever had (leek, bacon, cheese). Probably the best I've had because the custard is so rich and smooth. Their brunch chef is a magician with eggs. Normally comes with a side salad, but *Spudman* here needed his frites.
Tim Boccia

Shout Out to **Will Carter, Carter Systems**, he took care of my computer problems. I had been dealing with Xfinity/Comcast for over a week and the frustration was beyond belief. Will came out, found the problem, helped me order the parts and came back to install them, exactly as he said he would, as well as the time he said he would be here. Huge Thank You to Will for outstanding work.
Sheri Koch

Shout Out to **Tiffany at Bella Moda Salon** for always doing an amazing job!
Annika Lewis

Thank you so much for all the suggestions yesterday! **Cloverdale Xpress** fixed my tire in 5 minutes – and they were completely full today but still did it for me! Love our lil' town!
Juli Rial

I love the new **Cloverdale ACE Hardware**! I got a good glass baking pan there to make cranberry orange bread!
Elissa Morrash

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Do you know how much fun **The Sawmill** is? It was the first bar we checked out when we moved here. Gianna introduced us to each customer and helped us get to know people. And soon a great new restaurant is going to be here!
Tim Boccia

Took my car in last week to **Eagle Tech** body shop for a ceramic coating to protect it for the winter. Randy and his crew did a fantastic job, making it look like new again! Thanks for everything they do for our community!
Robert Redner

I'd like to Shout Out for **Travis Weide** at **Air and Energy Solutions**. They are a locally owned company right here in Cloverdale. Travis came out and resolved my mini split A/C problem in record time and on budget. He's pleasure to work with.
Steve Nurse

We just wanted to give a huge thank-you to **Trip DeMeo** of **DeMeo Construction** for the amazing job they did on our home. They were professional, efficient, prompt and the results are just beautiful! We highly recommend Trip, Coleen, and John to anyone looking to brighten up their home!
Chuck and Paul

My wife and I would like to give a "Shout Out" to **Logan Sauder** with **Precision Woodcraft**, for doing a great job. He installed vinyl flooring throughout our house and we are very pleased with his work.
Blake Manning

Kathy and I have been fans of **Papa's Pizza Café** to the point the crewmember that answers the phone almost knows our name. Kathy ordered the small Mediterranean Salad, and I ordered the large Chicken Caesar Salad, and a ½ rack of ribs to share, that's three each. All this was about the same price as an extra-large pizza. Papa's Pizza Café went OVER THE TOP! The ribs were GREAT, the sauce was great. Both our salads were out of the ballpark!
Richard Battles



Connect with Cloverdale High School

June Schriener

The Cloverdale High School football teams wrapped up their last game, against Lower Lake. Our JV team took the win, 49 to 0. Congratulations to our Eagles for a great season.

In honor of Veterans Day, our Cloverdale FFA recognized our local veterans by presenting plaques honoring their service! Thank you!

Our fall sports banquet was held on November 17th honoring all of our fall sports teams (cheer, football, cross country, and volleyball.) Thank you to our coaches, parents, families and volunteers who help to make it all happen.

We have had a few visitors on campus who have spoken to students. Our Cloverdale Fire Department spoke to students about pursuing careers in firefighting and emergency services. We also had a representative from San Francisco State University talk to students who were interested in attending there.

A big congratulations to one of our CHS teachers Mrs. DeMarta for being awarded Outstanding Agriculture teacher!

Good luck to our soccer and basketball teams for their upcoming season. Please come out and support our players!

Upcoming events: Winter break - 1 December 22 to January 26, 2026

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December 6

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Thank you from Courtney's Pumpkin Patch

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Courtney's Pumpkin Patch, we would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generosity to our recent fundraising event which was held in conjunction with the Wolf House Hoptoberfest and A Good Run.

Thank you to the United Church of Cloverdale for their very generous donation. You have been a wonderful part of this community and will be greatly missed.



Our Wonderful Sponsors:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| North Bay Motorcycle Association/Cycleworks | Erin Mavis |
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| North End LLC | I See Optical |
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| Sawmill Saloon | Aaction Rents |
| Steve Taylor Excavation – Sage Taylor | Fred Young Funeral Home |
| Cloverdale House Inn | Kiwanis Club of Sebastopol |

Our Amazing Volunteers:

Adam, Heidi, Shasta and Kylee Vlasak, Terry Yanglin, Vann Randolph, Curtis Waller, Sterling Guillory, Judy Peterson, Catie Legro, Erin Callahan, Phoenix Williams, Mary Callahan, Reagan Williams, Taylor Kurpinski, Taylor Selberg, Pat Kraegal, Virginia Ashburn, Michael Valva, Fernando Gonzalez, JJ Mean, Mac Towner, Cooper Llapitan, Jorge Rodriguez, Aksel Carpizo, Reece Llapitan, Aiden Lopez, Sierra Reis, Sedonah Kilin, Cynthia Chanure, Kimberly Calvillo, Mayson Cavness, Manxsei Gomez, Damian Lopez.

Our Awesome Donors:

Vichy Springs, Snoopy's Home Ice, Animal Hospital of Cloverdale, Benbow Inn, David's Restaurant, Costeaux Bakery, Panaderia El Palomo, Train Town, El Milagro, Pricketts Nursery, Emmitt Scorsone, Skunk Train, El Taco Grande, Toulouse, Meyer Family Cellars, Harbor Lite Lodge, Beachcomber, Handley Cellars, Noyo Harbor Inn, E's Nails, El Molcajete, 1st St. Barbershop, The Beet, Mountain Mikes, Cloverdale Nursery, Taqueria Guadalajara, Dutcher Crossing, West Coast

Sourdough, La Tequila, Trione, Burke's Canoe, Acorn Café, Drewish Deli, Dylan Davis, Schat's, MacNab's Men'swear, Ukiah Valley Golf Course, Eddie's Cocina, Bolt Fabric, Hardwear Clothing, Healdsburg Golf, Zialena, San Francisco Zoo, Dancing Crow Vineyards, YMCA, Mark Wiget, Cloverdale Saw & Mower, Ellie's Mutt Hut, Bonterra, R Salon (Ivy), The Outpost, Rebounderz, Scandia, Navarro Vineyards, Penny Royal Farm, Silver Oak, Green Music Center, Pedroncelli, Dry Creek Store, Flakey Cream Donut, Foxtail Golf Club, Cal Skate, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Testa Vineyards, Hare in the Forest, Amista, Anytime Fitness, Bella Moda-Meliza Fernandez, Nails by Tiffany, SoCo Trading Co., Kathy McQuaid, The Bike Shop, NorCal Skydiving, Preston Farm & Winery, Healdsburg Bar & Grill, Little River Inn, Grocery Outlet, Trader Joes, Pizza Leah, Epicenter, Crook Coffee, Cloverdale Performing Arts, Tranquility Massage, Telestar Charters, One-o-One, Jaxon Keys, Luther Brubank Center, LaVon Gambetta, Big O Tires, Husch Vineyards, Frey Vineyards, Tian Yuen, Pastori Wines, Alexander Valley Lodge, Paula's Hair Salon, Ukiah Brewing Co., Debbie's Pet Boutique, Papa's Pizza, Piacere, Foppiano, Galiano & Sandra Filippe, DH Designs, Dahlia & Sage, Larsen's Feed, Cloverdale FFA, Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, Low Knob Press, Rays Market, Linda Amann.

And to our Supporters throughout the Past Year:

A Huge Shout Out to Doug Lemley. Anita Jennings, Lorre Staretz, Marc Cupp, Kelly Chadwick-Janney, Gene Lile, Virginia Neat (donating in memory of Pam Wilson), Richard & Paula Gilbert, Daniel Frankston, Gianna Volpi, Stacey Montoya, Debbi Davis, Cloverdale Police Officers Assoc., Ann Gaytan, Elizabeth Bernier, Janet Seaforth, Roberta Garrity, Sondra Card, Kellie Castrillo, Cheri Torvick, Peggy Lagerquist, Dobie Edmunds, CD Grant, Dayna Sibert, Carl Ed Olson, Jacob Basurto, Beta Sigma Phi members- (Tammy Montenegro, Dana Morgan, Vickie Morgan, Bella Ioli, Pamela Smith), Melissa Donahoo Haug, Karyn Pulley- donating in memory of Tina Campbell, Steve & Dawna Kissmann, Angela Cordova, Chelsea Judith, Bob and Janelle Baker, Bri Bohanan.

Courtney's Pumpkin Patch Board Board of Directors:

- President: Catharine Davis
Vice President: David Domeniconi
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Board Member: Dylan Davis



Ace & Plank

Your Cloverdale Ace Hardware is proud to now feature Plank Coffee items for sale up by the register. There is a selection of bagged coffee bean blends, signature granola and a variety of fresh baked cookies and brownie bites. Make sure to grab your treat today!

They also have a new assortment of coffee mugs in to choose from, which would make a great gift idea for the upcoming holidays!



Poet's Corner
Howard Adler

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Introducing the Cloverdale
Leadership Council

The Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the launch of the Cloverdale Leadership Council (CLC), a new collaborative initiative designed to bring together Cloverdale's many nonprofits, service organizations, and community leaders. Chaired by Erik Terreri, the CLC serves as a unified forum to strengthen communication, encourage cooperation, and promote shared success across the community.

Guided by its mission—"The Cloverdale Leadership Council (CLC), sponsored by the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, unites community organizations and nonprofits to strengthen communication, encourage collaboration, and drive shared success. CLC fosters a connected, informed, and empowered network of community leaders dedicated to enhancing the well-being, vitality, and future of Cloverdale."—the CLC has already welcomed 30 local organizations into its growing network.

The Council meets quarterly, with its next meeting scheduled for **February 10, 2026**. CLC members contribute to a shared community calendar that highlights upcoming events throughout Cloverdale.

Organizational representatives interested in learning more are encouraged to reach out to CLC Chairperson **Erik Terreri** at **erikterreri@gmail.com**. The Cloverdale Leadership Council looks forward to supporting a stronger, more connected future in Cloverdale.



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Thank you to our **Cloverdale Connect Champions** as of 11/30/25

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Cooking with David Maciel

Sponsored by Ray's Food Place

Fresh brussel sprouts are in season and mixing them roasted with dry fruits nuts & cheese makes this dish a winner at the Christmas dinner.

Oven Roasted Brussels Sprouts

- 2 pounds brussel sprouts, rinsed, trimmed and cut in half
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 4 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoon honey
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Dash of pepper
- ½ cup crumbled blue cheese, (or you can use goat cheese)
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- ½ cup pecans, walnuts, almonds, or pistachios

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
- Prepare the brussels sprouts by washing and drying them thoroughly (wet sprouts won't roast properly).
- Trim the stems and remove any outer leaves that are wilted or damaged.
- Slice sprouts in half (or quarters if they're very large) to ensure even cooking and expose more surface area for caramelization.
- In a large mixing bowl combine the brussels sprouts, 1 tablespoon olive oil, salt and pepper. Spread on a large baking sheet (you want the brussels sprouts to have space so if it is too crowded use two baking sheets).
- Roast the brussels sprouts for 20 to 30 minutes or until tender and golden brown around the edges. The exact cooking time will depend on the size of your sprouts.
- Remove from the oven and return to the large mixing bowl. Toss in the additional 1 tablespoon olive oil, balsamic vinegar and honey.
- Add the blue cheese, dried cranberries and pecans. Put on a platter and serve warm.

Leftovers will keep for up to 4 days in the refrigerator in an airtight container.

Be a Cloverdale Connect CHAMPION

Since 2020, **Cloverdale Connect** has published and distributed close to 7,000 copies of the paper each month FREE to every household, business and post office box in the greater Cloverdale and Geyserville areas. This equals over 20,000 readers per month, calculated by industry standards. The papers are also at many "drop" locations from Hopland to the Sonoma County Airport.

We invite you to become a Cloverdale Connect Champion with a financial gift to **Cloverdale Connect** to help offset the ever-rising printing and postage costs. It's just like paying for a subscription. Please support local news and information by joining other **Cloverdale Connect Champions** who support our work.

You may mail your check to P.O. Box 404 Cloverdale CA 95425 or join online www.cloverdaleconnect.com.

Thank you for joining us in Bringing Our Community Together!

(Please note: this is not a tax-deductible expense as we are not a non-profit organization)

Contact us at info@cloverdaleconnect.com, mail a check to **PO Box 404** or sign up at www.cloverdaleconnect.com