

Cloverdale Connect

Bringing our community together since 2020

April 2026



Editor's Note

Spread out before me are packets of zinnia, sunflower, moonflower, coneflower and nasturtium seeds. It's time! The ground is warm enough to spread these seeds in the garden and watch as they grow. Spring is the time for growth, renewal, and the magic of Mother Nature as our gardens come back to life. We are so lucky to live in such a gentle climate. The focus of this April issue is gardening. Whether it's a small pot of flowers on your front porch or a landscaped backyard with a pool and a pagoda, it's time to get out there and play in the dirt.

Every month, I am amazed at all the items that people send in so the word can get out into the community. I am thrilled that so many people see the value of *Cloverdale Connect* - "bringing our community together since 2020". From painting fire hydrants to free feminine hygiene kits to the Veterans Hall renovations to the Little Free Food Pantry - we are an active, involved and caring community.

See you around town!

Dana



Rick Tang Photography

Darlene and Bruce Reuser enjoying the spring weather while reading *Cloverdale Connect*



Front Page Photo Contest Winner
Andrew Kotnik

He wins a Gift Card from **West Coast Sourdough**

Join Eagle Pride Boosters Board - Make a Difference!

We're looking for passionate, community-minded individuals to join our Eagle Pride Boosters Board! Eagle Pride Boosters organization plays a vital role in supporting our students, programs, and school community. As a board member, you'll help guide fundraising efforts, support events, and ensure our students have the resources they need to succeed.

Why Join? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a meaningful impact on students' experiences Build connections within school and community Develop leadership and organizational skills Be part of a positive, supportive team 	What Board Members Do: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help plan and support fundraising and community events Attend board meetings and contribute ideas Support school programs, teams, and student activities Collaborate with other parents, staff, and community members
Who Should Apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents, guardians, alumni, or community members Organized, reliable, and team-oriented individuals No prior board experience required—just a willingness to help! 	Current Positions Open for 2026/2027: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-Secretary Athlete Coordinator Sponsorship Coordinator Fundraising Coordinator Snack Shack Coordinator Swag/Merch Coordinator

Where/When?

Please attend our next meeting on the first Monday of the month at 6 PM at the CHS maker space classroom to learn more.

DAHLIA & SAGE

COMMUNITY MARKET
DOWNTOWN CLOVERDALE @115 EAST 2ND STREET

Our customer spotlight this month is Ruthie!
"The best store ever! Wonderful choices, great products, & five star staff."

Don't Forget to sign up for our new loyalty program. Just type in your phone number at checkout & enjoy the rewards!



Come grab a spiral ham for your Easter dinner! Don't forget your hot cross buns!



PRSR STD
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*****ECRWSSEDDM*****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Look Inside! Annual Garden Guide, Veterans Building repairs, Little Free Food Pantry 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.



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

Co-Working Office Space Available

Private shared office space for rent in a conveniently located shopping center in Cloverdale. Perfect for accountants, real estate agents, small business owners.

Shalia Vanderweken, SRES, CRS, GRI
Associate Broker DRE#00517842

707-321-9601

CUSD Employee of the Month Alyce Hernandez

Sponsored by
Dahlia & Sage Community Market



We are thrilled to announce Alyce Hernandez as the Cloverdale Unified School District Employee of the Month. Alyce's journey with CUSD began in 2000, and for over two decades, she has been a vital ingredient in our students' success.

Alyce started out as an assistant cook. She advanced to head cook before being promoted to Food Service Manager in 2015. This progression is a testament to her work ethic, knowledge, and unwavering commitment to the well being of our students.

Alyce does much more than manage a kitchen. She navigates complex state programs and shifting demands with remarkable ease. Her efforts ensure that every student in our district has access to free breakfast and lunch, removing barriers to learning and ensuring no child goes hungry.

Alyce has spent her life in Cloverdale and is a Cloverdale High School graduate. Alongside her husband, she raised her family in Cloverdale and remains an active, familiar face in our local community.

The next time you see Alyce around town, please join us in thanking her for her hard work and dedication she brings to our schools and community.

20% OFF THE ENTIRE ORDER
ON FOOD PURCHASES OF \$20 OR MORE, EXCLUDING ALCOHOLIC ITEMS.
Valid for dine-in, carryout and delivery (delivery fees may apply). Offer not valid with mobile app. Limit one discount per person, per visit. Not valid with any other offers, promotions, coupons, or reduced price offers. No cash value. Valid at participating locations. Expires 01/31/2026. **OFFER CODE: 20OFFENT**
707-669-5060 | 1143 S CLOVERDALE BLVD. CLOVERDALE, CA 95425 | MOUNTAINMIKESPIZZA.COM/LOCATIONS/CLOVERDALE

ywca sonoma county Perinatal Mental Health Services
Servicios de Salud Mental Perinatal

For Pregnant Women and Mothers of Children up to 5 years of age residing in Healdsburg, Windsor, Geyserville or Cloverdale areas. Para mujeres embarazadas y madres de niños de hasta 5 años de edad que residen en Windsor, Healdsburg, Geyserville, o Cloverdale áreas.

- **FREE** 8-12 private sessions (30-min. each)
- In-person at Abel de Luna Community Center or via Telehealth
- 8-12 sesiones privadas **GRATUITAS** (30 min. cada una)
- En persona en el Centro Comunitario Abel de Luna a través de telesalud.

ywca sonoma county ywcasc.org

Easy program enrollment & session scheduling
Inscripcion y programacion de sesiones sencillas:

Intake Coordinator
Coordinadora de admisiones
(707) 303-8411

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



Rhonda Knowles

Each year, Jefferson Elementary School Library's Rhonda Knowles celebrates Read Across America by transforming the library into "Seussville" and welcoming community guest readers. This year she had firefighters, librarians, editors, authors, school board members, actors, officers, yoga instructors, bilingual readers,

and more. She partners with the community and the Cloverdale Library for Book Buddies and a book club, and she gets the support from Kiwanis Club of Cloverdale for hundreds of books for a book vending machine in the library. "I started at Jefferson Elementary in 2000 in different positions, but the library is my passion. I enjoy reading to students and fostering a love of reading. I see the progression from TK students looking at books to reading chapter books—it is pure joy," Knowles noted. She also decorates the school library with a new theme monthly to encourage students.

As Knowles explained, "I began working as a Library Manager in 2002, after libraries in C.U.S.D. had been closed for five years and they have not been made whole to date. I have worked at all three school sites and currently split my time between the high school one day a week and Jefferson Elementary four and a half days a week. I have watched students grow from kindergarten into young adults. My education is in Early Childhood Development, and I absolutely love working with the younger students at Jefferson—they are curious and eager to read a story.



Melanie Hall, Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center Program Manager

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

Cloverdale Connect Inc. 6800 published monthly, distributed via direct mail, and at participating merchants
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production@cloverdaleconnect.com • billing@cloverdaleconnect.com • CloverdaleConnect.com



PET of the MONTH

Oliver

Our cat keeping cool amidst the clover

Roberta Garrity and Michele Reynolds

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

Prizes courtesy of DogGonit and Cloverdale Connect



OWNING A HOME COULD MEAN:

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Tax season is the perfect time to explore buying—make your money work smarter.

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DRE# 01302532 | DRE# 01223041

The Beet Restaurant & Wine Shop
116 E 1st Street, Cloverdale, CA
Wed-Thurs: 12pm – 9pm
Friday: 12pm – 11pm
Sat: 12pm – 9pm
Sun: 10am – 2pm
707-669-5080 cloverdalebeet@gmail.com

good food • good wine • good vibes

Whisker Talk Brigid Wasson

Pet column will return with the May issue.



Cloverdale Veterans Building Improvements Underway

Sonoma County Public Infrastructure is currently working on improvements at the Cloverdale Veterans Memorial Building, including accessibility upgrades in the kitchen. In addition, they will be installing a backup generator and battery energy storage system to strengthen the building's reliability and resiliency. These upgrades will help ensure the facility can continue serving the community, especially during emergencies in North County.

The Veterans Building would like to thank Supervisor James Gore for his continued support, the City of Cloverdale, and all of the partners and stakeholders who are helping make these improvements possible. Most importantly, it is an honor to invest in a facility that serves as a gathering place for our veterans and the community, and we thank those who have served our country

GARDENING INFOGRAPHIC

Good Parenting Brighter Children

<p>1 SPADE clean the area you are planting; loosen & turn the soil over</p>	<p>4 WATERING plants need the right amount of water—not too much or too little, wait until the soil is dry to water</p>	<p>7 PEST CONTROL controlling garden pests is important but ONLY use an organic pest control</p>
<p>2 SOIL add additional soil; preferably organic soil to your garden. It makes a richer soil</p>	<p>5 SUN LIGHT grow your plants in a location so they get the sunlight they need</p>	<p>8 MULCHING add mulch to the soil to improve soil moisture, fertility and health of soil</p>
<p>3 SEED carefully plant your seeds or plant starts in the soil</p>	<p>6 CLIMATE make certain your plants grow well in the climate you live in</p>	<p>9 HARVEST harvesting your fruits & veggies is exciting for your family & especially your kids!</p>

goodparentingbrighterchildren

Crazy Dave's Bicycle Repair

Formerly at The Bike Shop Cloverdale

A family bicycle repair partner keeping you moving, affordably.

Services range from flat repairs, basic tune-ups (safety checks, lube, brake/gear adjustments), to comprehensive overhauls (full tear-down, deep cleaning, wheel truing, bearing service) and specialized tasks like suspension maintenance, hydraulic brake bleeds and modifications.

Follow me on Facebook at **Crazy Dave's Bicycle Repairs**. to see a list of used bikes and services & prices or call me.



Currently I'm limited to conventional bikes, adding on e-bikes in the March time frame.

By appointment only as I start up the business. 707-756-6122

LIVE THE WINE COUNTRY DREAM

This Healdsburg classic is just 4 blocks to the downtown plaza. This beautiful and artistically appointed home is available with a 1-year lease. Some of the property features include a covered outdoor breezeway offering great indoor/outdoor living, a fully equipped kitchen, all utilities included and high-speed WiFi.



Michael Tremont
DAYTON AND TREMONT REAL ESTATE
(707) 953-0555
DaytonandTremont.com
License # 01304670



Mark Your Calendars

Cloverdale Kiwanis Vineyard Races will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2026. The races will be starting and partying at the Cloverdale Municipal Airport.

MORE DETAILS SOON!

Sonoma County **Airport Express** IS NOW **GROOME transportation**

Safe, convenient, reliable, shared-ride airport shuttle service plus service to the Port of San Francisco cruise terminals. Available to charter for events or private airport transportation.

Groometransportation.com/Sonoma-county
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Cloverdale Church Guide

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



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Palm Sunday – 10 AM
Easter Day – 10 AM
Sunday Services at 10 AM
122 North Main Street, Cloverdale
707-891-6015 / goodshepherdcloverdale.org



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

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



(707) 894-3274
LivingWaterCloverdale.com
Living Water Church
Come celebrate our Risen Savior!
EASTER in Furber Park
SUNDAY, APRIL 5th, 10:15 AM
Easter Egg Hunt to follow worship for the kids!
Coffee, Refreshments and Fellowship

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



Join us for our Sunday service at 10am.
All are welcome!
553 W. Second Street, Cloverdale
Across from City Park
For more information email us at
info.parksidecloverdale@gmail.com

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

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



All Ages • Todas las edades
Queer Family Social
Reunión Social para Familias Queer
Saturday April 11 11:00-2:00
SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY BIBLIOTECA
Cloverdale Library

Re-fusing to Go Down! Nora Archambeau, M.A.

"I'm pretty sure that's what hope is. Stubbornness. Refusing to go down." — Josiah Bancroft, American Fantasy Author

Feeling our feelings and acting anyway are key to maintaining our equilibrium and equanimity. We all experienced a turbulent 2025. And yet, since the start of 2026, continued rocky waves are hitting us from all shores. This is why I want to invite each of us to take time out, get really centered, and decide what will help us stay calm, and be happier than we have ever been before! Sounds like an oxymoron, right? We are living in extreme times. It has happened before and will happen (yes) again. We all have the chance to "do" life better, softer, and more joyful this year. It is a choice and a decision. It requires extra attention to self-care, to other care, to pivoting. In my job, the complexity sometimes necessitates a lot of pivoting in order that the processes go as smoothly as possible. This swiveling can become a **Superpower**. Why? Because the order of the day mandates it. Remember, friends, we are RESILIENT. "Modern humans, known as Homo sapiens, have existed for approximately 300,000 years." (Internet) This fact (+-) should give us loads of confidence! Refuse to allow others – the media, and close associates, to take down your Resilience, nor your Hope!

Pivoting Tips:

1. Politely walk away from the "Debbie/Don Downers;"
2. Flip the script! Reframe the dialogue to a higher vibration;
3. As a wise man says, "Make it boring (the work, the situation, the connection);"
4. For the ten-teenth time, meditate and breathe, daily;
5. Pivot, pivot, pivot!
6. Put F.U.N. on the schedule;
7. Exercise out the stresses;
8. Take the emotional charge and reground it to Mother Earth; Tapping helps with this;
9. Alaskan Essences, "Calling All Angels" Sacred Space Protection Spray is my go-to tool;
10. Repeat out loud in the mirror, "I love you. I really love you!" (Louise Hay)

The Sister Support Network Jude Gibson

The Sister Support Network is a newly launched community collective providing free Feminine Hygiene Kits to those in need. We have already provided 1500 products to our Middle School and have been contacted by the nurse for CUSD to see how else we can assist.



Each kit contains a week's worth of products, a bit of chocolate and a little note saying: "You are beautiful". These kits are built by YOUR donations. YOU are making this a reality!

For a young girl, lacking access to feminine hygiene products—known as period poverty—means enduring severe shame, missing school or work, and risking infections by using unhygienic practices. It causes significant anxiety, reduced dignity, and can lead to long-term educational and health consequences. We have to be there for them.

This program is not just for young girls, it's for all women. If you would like to help, please email us at: SisterSupportNetwork@Gmail.com

Pick up a kit at any of these fine locations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Shop North End
233 North Cloverdale Blvd | Cloverdale Wellness
124 South Cloverdale Blvd |
| I.See.Optical
210 North Cloverdale Blvd | Cloverdale Grange Hall 456
201 Commercial Street |
| DogGonit Pets
115 North Cloverdale Blvd | Debbie's Pet Boutique
1129 South Cloverdale Blvd |
| Erin Mavis Clothing
113 East 1st Street | Little Free Food Pantry/Good Shepherd Church
122 N. Main St |
| Bella Moda
131 North Main Street | SoCo Trading
117 E. First St. |
| The Beauty Bar
111 South Main Street | Cloverdale Home & Garden
216 S. Cloverdale Blvd. |

Rhythm and Risk: The Last Smuggle

by Raymond Pesce, Author and Cloverdale Resident

Rick never knew about altitude sickness, but it hit him hard! How did he go from hustling \$5 bags of weed in the groovy 60's in the Haight Ashbury to smuggling cocaine in the wild 70's down in South America? He couldn't believe he was doing it. Money was his urgent need, and he needed it fast. He didn't like cocaine, he hated it, but desperation had him in its grip. He took a huge risk, putting all his money into a fancy Banking Machine, only to lose everything – his cash and his marriage.

Now, he was gambling with his freedom, embarking on a dangerous cocaine smuggling mission with total strangers. He didn't even know what they looked like. All he knew was he felt terribly sick and waited anxiously for his connection, a dude named The Spiderman.

Get ready for a wild ride, where danger lurks at every turn. Join Rick on his pulse-pounding journey as he faces unimaginable challenges, fighting for redemption and a shot at rebuilding his shattered life.

Here is what readers are saying about *Rhythm and Risk: The Last Smuggle*

"Finished reading 'Rhythm and Risk: The Last Smuggle' by Raymond Pesce and it was most enjoyable! Had me freaking out at times, LOL. Thanks Ray, for writing it. Good read, good times."
Chris V.

"Couldn't put it down. Rick the kind of man that gets things done."
John L.

"I finished reading it and started to read it again, it was so good."
Jeffery R.

"Either start reading it during the day or plan to stay up all night, because you won't want to put it down once you start. The twists, the turns, the intricate planning, the characters – it all made this a hard one to put down. Hopefully someone will turn it into a movie."
Mary Jo W.

"I am enjoying it very much. As I read it, I feel like I'm watching a movie or a series. I'm hooked."
Cathy V.



Available at So Co Trading, 117 E. First St., Cloverdale
Look for the **Cloverdale Connect Local Authors** display
Or go to RhythmAndRisk.bigcartel.com



Born in San Francisco and raised in the Richmond District, Raymond Pesce quit high school and joined his brothers and his father to work at Sunset Scavengers as garbagemen and as shareholders. He went on to become a professional musician and to travel internationally, and then began his vibrant career in the restaurant business, eventually becoming owner of the World Famous Hamburger Ranch and Pasta Farm in Cloverdale.

Now retired, he spends his time playing golf and writing.



HOP INTO SAVINGS

Spring is here—and so are huge savings!

This April, enjoy exclusive tire rebates on top brands to keep your ride smooth, safe, and road-trip ready.

Hop in for egg-citing deals. Schedule today!

Big Rebates | Leading Brands | Reliable Service

Tate's TIRE PROS & AUTO SERVICE (707)894-2492

Continental TIRE

GENERAL TIRE

Cloverdale AUTOMOTIVE & TIRES (707)894-1072

KID'S CLUB at LIVING WATER CHURCH

WEDNESDAYS Thru — April 29th 6:15-7:30 PM



All kids ages 4-12 are welcomed!
Join us as we sing songs
and play games!

Have snacks and learn about
Psalm 23 in the Bible!

LIVING WATER CHURCH (707)894-3274
450 S. Franklin St. Cloverdale

Watching Movies Under The Stars

Mary Jo Winter

Parkwood Auto Movies, Cloverdale's first and only drive-in movie theater, was built in 1960 for approximately \$125k by William A. Blair.

Located on the north side of Hwy. 128, near the junction of N. Redwood Hwy, the outdoor theater was the largest venue of its kind north of San Francisco.

The grand opening on July 21, 1960, began with a one hour live remote broadcast by Santa Rosa radio station KJAX. Free record albums were distributed, orchids flown in from Hawaii were handed out to all ladies in attendance, and popcorn, candy and ice cream was available for the kids.

"Portrait in Black," starring Lana Turner, Anthony Quinn, Sandra Dee and John Saxon was the featured film that night, followed by "Too Young to Love," with Jennifer West and Richard Evans.

Parkwood Auto Movies went out of business after just four seasons, with the final weekend cut short by one day due to the JFK assassination. The former drive-in hosted a rodeo the following summer.

Born in 1928, Blair moved with his parents from Michigan to Cloverdale in the 1940s, settling in the 200 block of what is now S. Cloverdale Blvd.

The Blair family originally owned and operated the Del Rio Theater, but closed it in 1950 to open the Blair Theater on First St. Later renamed the Clover Theater, there was a long stretch where it was closed, before reopening as the Clover Cinemas just before William Blair's death in 2000.

Eventually, it reverted back to being the Clover Theater for a few years, but is once again closed indefinitely.

Blair, who was in the theater business his entire life, married his wife Marlene in 1955. In 1965, they moved to Santa Rosa where he built a theater at Coddington Mall, as well as a number of others throughout northern California and in Hawaii.



Annual Garden Guide

KARMA DOG CONSTRUCTION, INC.

At Karma Dog Construction, Inc. we specialize in delivering seamless end-to-end design and construction solutions for residential and commercial clients. Our integrated team of architects, designers, and builders ensures that every project reflects our commitment to sustainability, quality, integrity, and expertise.

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As your North County Cloverdale Builder, we build your design or design/build for you.
 info@karmadogconstruction.com
 karmadogconstruction.com
 707.495.8456

SUSTAINABILITY QUALITY INTEGRITY EXPERTISE

Compost

In the atmosphere, carbon is found mostly in the form of carbon dioxide and methane, which act like blankets for the Earth. However, methane is 86 times better at trapping heat than carbon dioxide over 20 years. Composting organic materials like yard debris and food scraps prevents them from going into the landfill where the lack of oxygen causes methane to form.

Plants use the sun's heat to convert carbon dioxide into sugars and wood. Putting compost on soil gives more nutrients to the plant and so helps it grow faster and bigger. The larger the plant, the more carbon is taken out of the atmosphere—this is called carbon sequestration.

When plants grow bigger, more food is produced. People and animals digest the sugars in plants and exhale carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Although we must decrease carbon emissions and increase carbon sequestration to slow climate change, some carbon dioxide is necessary for plants to grow.

In addition to sequestering carbon and providing more nutrients to plants, compost increases aeration, water holding capacity, and biodiversity in the soil. This decreases the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The carbon that is not converted into sugar or wood is stored in the soil.

Accepted In The Compost Cart

- Eggshells
- Fruit and peelings
- Grass clippings, leaves, and weeds
- Landscape prunings
- Meat, bones, dairy, and seafood* (packaging removed)
- Pasta, grains, and bread
- Paper plates, bowls, and napkins (no plastic or compostable plastic)
- Tea bags, coffee grounds, and paper filters
- Tree trunks and branches (maximum 4 inches in diameter by 2 feet long)
- Vegetables and peelings
- Wood ashes (cold)

Not Accepted In The Compost Cart

- Animal/pet waste
- Bamboo
- BBQ ashes (wood fireplace ashes okay)
- Cactus
- Cooking oil and liquid waste
- Dirt, rocks, or sod
- Glass
- Manure (from chickens, cows, horses, etc.)
- Palm fronds
- Pampas grass
- Poison oak
- Sudden Oak Death infested material
- Tree stumps

Cloverdale
HOME + GARDEN

The garden gives everyone a place to bee-long

216 S. Cloverdale Blvd. | 707.894.6654

SHONE FARM'S
PLANT SALE

MAY 2ND & 3RD
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
9:00AM-2:00PM

GET READY TO GROW!

JOIN US THE FIRST WEEKEND OF MAY FOR THE ANNUAL SHONE FARM PLANT SALE — YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KICK OFF THIS YEAR'S GARDEN.

WHAT WE'LL HAVE:

- 80+ SPECIES OF CALIFORNIA NATIVE AND DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS TO SUPPORT POLLINATORS AND LOCAL BIODIVERSITY.
- A WIDE VARIETY OF ORGANIC FRUIT AND VEGGIE STARTS.
- BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS, LANDSCAPE PLANTS, AND HOUSEPLANTS.
- SHONE FARM PRODUCTS INCLUDING AWARD-WINNING OLIVE OIL, BERRY PRESERVES, DRIED GOODS AND SO MUCH MORE!

THIS IS A CASHLESS EVENT AND WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING PRE-ORDERS. ALL PLANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, AND WE ENCOURAGE GUESTS TO ARRIVE EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION. OUR COMPLETE PLANT LIST AND ADDITIONAL EVENT DETAILS WILL BE SHARED SOON!

Annual Garden Guide

April Gardening Tips from Sonoma County Master Gardeners Sponsored by Sanz Nursery

Rains generally taper off in April, so be prepared to start your irrigation system. Late rains or lack of rains affect the need for supplemental water. Stay focused on climate-appropriate plants that can withstand dry summers.

- Flush out drip systems and make sure all emitters are working. Replace batteries on systems that use battery-operated controllers. Ensure that timers are working. Do this now before it gets really hot and dry and plants need water immediately.
- Continue to lightly fertilize perennials that are emerging from winter dormancy.
- If growth has not yet begun, there is still time to prune summer-flowering shrubs.
- Aphids will flourish on tender new growth in warm weather; use insecticidal soap or spray with water from the garden hose as necessary. Wash off spittle bugs.
- The ground is soft enough to make weed pulling easy—stay ahead of it and you will have fewer weeds going to seed.
- Fertilize or amend soil around azaleas and rhododendrons with acidic material or acid fertilizer. Work carefully to avoid damaging shallow roots; add mulch.
- Sow hardy annuals in pots or directly in the garden.
- Plant summer bulbs and rhizomes.
- April is a busy time for finishing debris clean-up from late winter and early spring and for cutting back cold-sensitive, summer-blooming perennials, such as salvia, nepeta and penstemon. Leave fading foliage of spring bulbs and let them wither; they provide nutrients for next year's blooms.
- The last frost date in Sonoma County is April 15, although there still may be very cold nights ahead.



Economy Tree Service
Tree Trimming Tree Removal Stump Grinding Brush Chipping

Cloverdale residents receive 10% off
Expires 4/30/26

Wayne Sager, ISA Certified Arborist
wnsager@gmail.com 707-894-0800
ISA Certificate #WE-9731A, Contractor License #946149

NOW RECRUITING!

EXTRA-HELP FISH AND WILDLIFE TECHNICIANS

Work with a focus on fish and wildlife biology in streams, rivers, and estuaries. Support and assist senior staff in the development, implementation, and management of fish and wildlife populations and habitat monitoring programs.



To learn more and apply:
sonomawater.org/current-job-openings





APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR

Cloverdale Grocery Outlet

April 4 Sat.	9-10am Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt, Pre-school – 3rd Grade, Jefferson School Cloverdale Wine Walk
April 18 Sat.	9am-2pm Green Thumb Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser, Cloverdale Museum 6-10pm FFA Benefit Dinner, Asti Church
April 19 Sun.	8-11am Biscuits & Gravy Oriental Hall Fundraiser, Oriental Community Hall, 1000 Highway 128, Geyserville
April 20-25	Mountain Mike's Dine & Donate Rotary Rise Against Hunger
April 21 Tues.	5-6:30pm Meet Your 4th District Sonoma County Supervisor Candidates, Cloverdale Senior Center 311 N. Main St.

Honeybee Swarming Season Is Upon Us Travis Tyler, Cloverdale's Bee Guy

I would like to share some information about our small, but incredibly important Bee friends.

Honeybees are essential pollinators that support both natural ecosystems and global agriculture, playing a critical role in the reproduction of flowering plants and the many fruits and vegetables we rely on for food.



As they travel from flower to flower collecting nectar and pollen, they facilitate plant fertilization, which sustains biodiversity and strengthens food security.

During the spring, honeybees exhibit a remarkable natural behavior known as swarming, which is a sign of a healthy and growing colony. Swarming occurs when a colony becomes large enough to reproduce itself: the original queen leaves the hive with thousands of worker bees to establish a new home, while a new queen remains behind.

Although their swarms may appear alarming, they are generally non-aggressive and focused on protecting their queen. This seasonal behavior not only ensures the survival and genetic diversity of honeybee populations but also expands pollination activity across wider areas, reinforcing their vital ecological and agricultural importance.

It is also important to remember that native pollinators are vital to the health and resilience of ecosystems in Sonoma County. Species such as native bees, butterflies, beetles, and hummingbirds play a crucial role in pollinating wild plants and agricultural crops, supporting local food systems and biodiversity.

Our native pollinators are specially adapted to the region's climate and plant communities, making them more efficient at pollinating certain native species. By sustaining plant reproduction, they help maintain habitats for wildlife, prevent soil erosion, and contribute to the overall stability of Sonoma County's natural landscapes and farms.

Protecting all of these various pollinators through habitat conservation and pesticide reduction is essential for the county's environmental and agricultural future.

If you are looking to support our important pollinators, I suggest that you stop by a local nursery and ask them what you can plant to help them thrive.

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Help Butterflies Thrive in Your Garden

Grow the plants they love

Butterflies and caterpillars depend on specific plants for food and shelter. Milkweed, coneflowers, asters, and dill are great choices.

A common mistake is planting only decorative flowers that look pretty but offer little nectar.

Leave a little wild space

Butterflies don't need a perfect, spotless garden. Native plants give them a safe place to feed and rest.

Many people tidy up too much and accidentally remove important habitat.

Skip harsh chemicals

Pesticides can harm butterflies, caterpillars, and other helpful insects. Natural gardening methods keep your garden healthier for everyone.

It's easy to spray at the first sign of bugs, but that often harms the good ones too.

Provide sun and shelter

Butterflies love warm, sunny spots and places to rest, like flat stones or leafy plants.

Some gardens are full of shade, and butterflies simply pass them by.

Add a shallow water source

A small dish with pebbles and a bit of water gives butterflies a safe place to drink.

Many people forget that butterflies need water just like any other creature.

Plant in groups for more impact

Clusters of the same flowers are easier for butterflies to spot and feed from.

Scattering single plants around the yard may look nice, but it's harder for pollinators to find them.

Courtesy Green Thumb Tips And Tricks

Butterflies & Caterpillars of North America



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Off The Shelf Susan Erkel Ryan

FUP by Jim Dodge

I've read this 52-page novella at least ten times, given it often as a gift, and read it out loud to friends while sequestered in a snug cabin during a winter snowstorm. It is a raucous, rowdy, and deeply touching tale set in the hills above Cazadero, masterfully balancing bawdy humor with profound themes of grief and consolation.

FUP begins with a tragedy. But it is essentially a love story of a time, a place and a motley crew made up of Granddaddy Jake, a 99-year-old cantankerous soul who believes his "Ol' Death Whisper" moonshine makes him immortal; his giant grandson, Tiny, who spends his time crafting fences with wire so taught the wind plays them like an instrument; their huge, overweight, flightless pet duck, FUP; and a wild boar named Lockjaw who lives to destroy Tiny's fences. Hilarious, heartwarming, and unforgettable, *FUP* simultaneously lifts your spirits and breaks your heart.

First published in 1983 and reprinted numerous times, *FUP* was rescued from obscurity by the stellar Heyday Books. This California-focused, independent non-profit publisher is as much of a local treasure as the book *FUP* it resurrected.

If you want a good quick read, or a good cry, or a modern fable that will tickle your funny bone and puzzle your gray matter, find *FUP* and give it a read. www.heydaybooks.com

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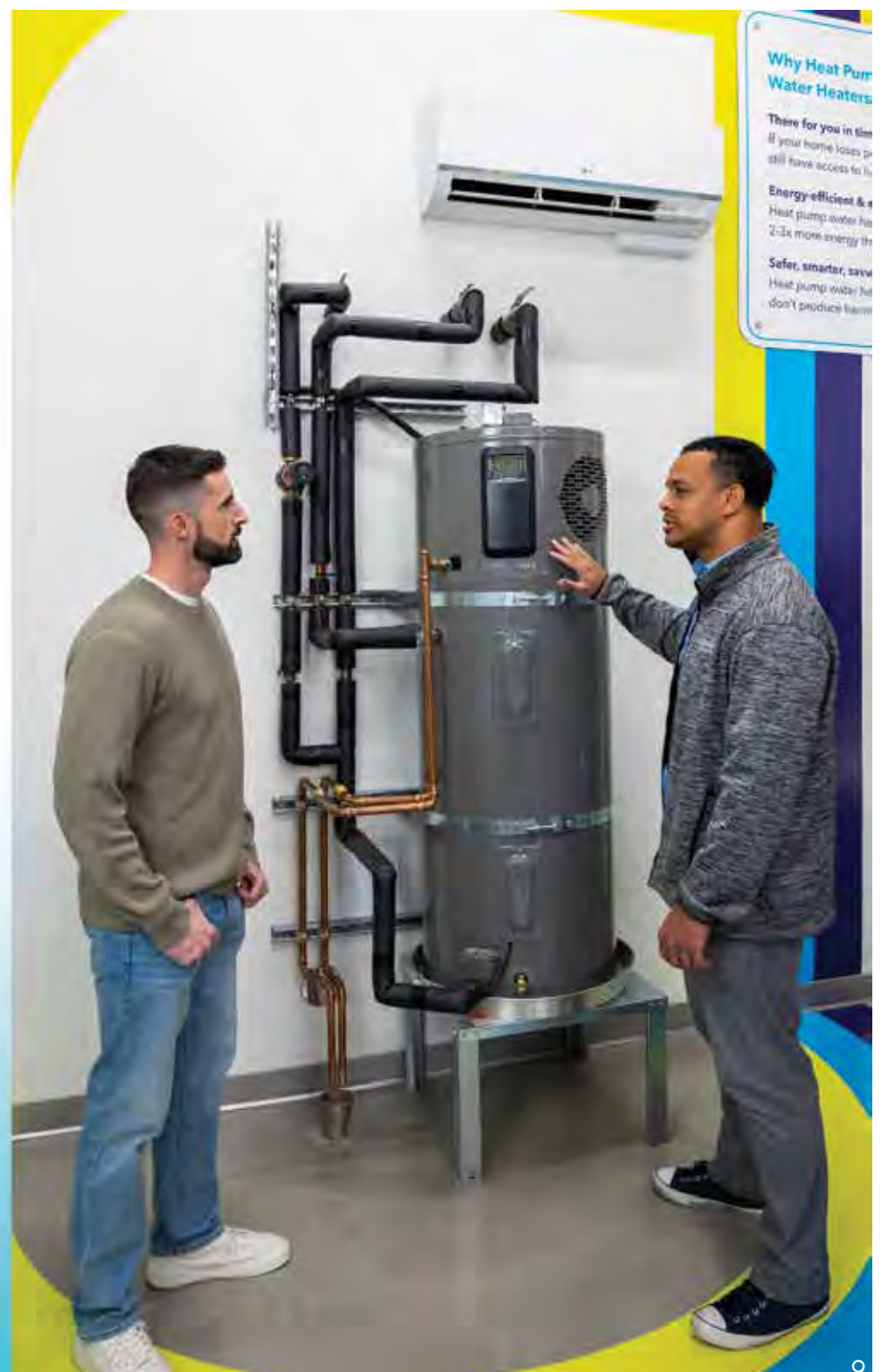
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On The Wild Side Jennifer Molidor

Flowers are blooming and birds are chirping. Our hillsides are painted with cheerful orange California poppies and wild Columbine decorate our hiking trails. It's been a warm winter, with sunshades out earlier than usual, before the first day of spring.

Californians know this changing climate doesn't bode well for wildfire season or the health of our watersheds. Wetlands are dry, and the snow has been too low in our highest mountain ranges.

To help our wild neighbors stay nourished, keep birdbaths full of water and in the shade. Consider making a bee bath using a wide, shallow lid filled with pretty glass and stones. You may also create microhabitats for insects with a generous amount of cool mulch in your garden. And if you're leaving water out, add rocks and sticks for animals to climb out if they accidentally take an unexpected dive.



Remember to clean out hummingbird feeders regularly and to not put them where their predators hang out. If you want to up your game, you can plant your yard in a xeriscape habitat with pollinator friendly native plants. Taking these steps can help make our world a little wilder and nicer for nature.

You can also support the local movement for a community garden. We need a group of volunteers to step up. If you're interested in helping bring a Cloverdale Community Garden to life, we need folks with skills in gardening, irrigation, carpentry, teaching, project coordination, grants, environmental knowledge, and a willingness to lend a hand.

Contact Andres Marquez amarquez@ci.cloverdale.ca.us if interested! Stay tuned for updates in **Cloverdale Connect**.

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Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center Melanie Hall

I have been looking forward to April and Spring because it is always such a beautiful time of year. The past two months have been filled with weather surprises, first snow in February and then a heat wave in March!

I am excited to let you know that the Senior Center will host a Meet Your 4th District Sonoma County Supervisor Candidates forum on Tuesday, April 21, from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Two of the candidates, Melanie Bagby and Todd Lands, are from Cloverdale, and the third candidate, Tom Schwedhelm, is from Santa Rosa. Each candidate will have time to introduce themselves, share their thoughts, ideas, goals, and strengths. We will conclude with a question-and-answer session with the audience. Space is limited, so please let us know if you are planning to attend at 707-894-4826.

One of our classes at the Senior Center is Meditation. If you are like me, you recognize that many situations bombard your attention and can cause additional stress in life. The first thing I do when I get up in the morning is meditate, and I can thank some special girlfriends for introducing me to this wonderful practice. According to Healthline, "While meditation is well known as a technique to reduce stress and anxiety, it may also help enhance your mood, promote healthy sleep patterns, and boost cognitive skills. Some of the benefits of meditation are stress reduction, promoting a positive outlook on life, developing stronger self-awareness, and increasing your attention span. In addition, it may reduce age-related memory loss, generate kindness, help with addiction, and decrease blood pressure. Here is a quote from our Meditation teacher, William Cordingley:

"I love my Tuesdays and Thursdays when I lead the morning Meditation class. Over the last three+ years, I've met so many kind people who just want to improve how they're feeling, whether it's de-stressing, alleviating worries, or just living a calmer, more relaxed life. I get to enjoy the satisfaction of helping them make those big changes...that's my payoff for teaching. It's pretty great."

May we generate much kindness through meditation.

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May 29th, 2026

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*Use QR Code: Notate "Class of 2030"

*Send Checks: Payable to "Cloverdale Boosters," mail or drop off to 8th Grade Promoting Class c/o Washington Middle School Office, 129 S. Washington Street, Cloverdale, CA 95425

If you want to donate and need further instruction or information, please email sanchezfamily2004@outlook.com.

Joanne “Joey” Marie Angeli



Joanne “Joey” Marie Angeli, a longtime resident of Cloverdale, California, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2026, at the age of 72. She was born on July 13, 1953, in Garberville, California, to Thomas and Helen Tobin.

Joey attended Santa Rosa Junior College, where she met the love of her life, Duane Lee Angeli. The couple made

their home in Cloverdale, where they shared 33 years of marriage and raised their family.

She was a devoted wife, loving mother, cherished sister, loyal friend, and proud “Grammie.” Joey is survived by her children, Toni Vizcaino (Martin) of Cloverdale and Nicholas Angeli (Jamie) of Fortuna; her sister, Patricia Mosby; her brother, Tom Tobin; many nieces and nephews; and her beloved grandchildren, Rowan, Abbey, Maddie, Finn, Capri, and Rylan.

Joey will be remembered for her joyful spirit, kind heart, and easygoing nature. She had a playful sense of humor and brought laughter to those around her. Family was the center of her life, and she found great happiness in supporting her loved ones in all their activities.

She enjoyed baking, attending sporting events, traveling, shopping, and spending weekends on the water with family and friends. She also loved her trips to the casino and treasured her quiet mornings with a warm cup of tea.

An open house celebration of Joey’s life will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Cloverdale Veterans Memorial Building, 205 W. 1st Street, Cloverdale, CA.

Joey’s warmth, love, and vibrant spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

The Avian Almanac Robert Bauer

One of the wonderful things about living in Cloverdale is the number & diversity of birds that grace our neighborhoods and surrounding open spaces. April is an especially captivating time for our feathered friends as it heralds the opening of baby bird season. As we bustle through our daily lives the birds are busy building nests, laying & brooding eggs, and feeding & protecting their newborn chicks.

As for the hatchlings, this is a particularly perilous time for them. They can accidentally stumble, or be pushed from the nest. They can be blown out of the nest by strong winds. They can freeze in an unexpected cold snap. And, they can become the prey of any number of nest-raiding birds or animals. Survival is a risky business, and for those that make it, it’s a miracle.

Sometimes, however, that miracle depends on us. Sometimes we stumble upon an avian crisis of one kind or another, and our hearts won’t let us walk away. So, what do you do if you find a baby or injured bird? There is a process for determining the correct actions to take, and a detailed flow chart for making that decision can be found on the Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County (BRC) website page entitled **“Help! I’ve found a baby bird.”** This link can be found on the BRC home page. Although the full details are presented on the web page in process diagram form, I’ll try to give you a brief description of what your life-saving mission will entail.

- 1) Try to determine the bird’s status: Is it a baby, juvenile, or adult? Do you know what kind of bird it is? Can it walk? Can it fly short distances? Is there an obvious injury? Does it allow you to approach? And, if you know, how did it get injured?
- 2) Try to take a photograph of the bird. You will need this later after calling the BRC.
- 3) With this information, call the BRC at 707-523-2473. They will give you a separate number for texting your photo.
- 4) After presenting the photo to clinic staff the BRC will call you back with further instructions.
- 5) They may ask you to bring the bird in. The BRC has limited rescue resources, so if possible, be prepared to bring the bird in. The BRC staff will guide you through the process.
- 6) If you can’t bring the bird in try to remain with the bird until the rescuer arrives. Please note that the BRC staff cannot enter private property without the owner being present.
- 7) Once your bird is safely inside the BRC rehab center, you will be given an admission number and invited to check on your bird in the coming days. And you can ask to be contacted for the release.

If you do answer the call of a bird in need you will receive in return an immense sense of accomplishment and pride for doing a really good thing. And, if your bird is ultimately released, every time you look up at the sky you can say to yourself, “There goes my bird.”

Robert Bauer (yes, THAT Robert Bauer) is a California Certified Naturalist who volunteers at the Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County in the admissions department guiding callers through the rescue process, and in the field for rescue & release.



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We love taking the **Cloverdale Connect** with us on all our vacations. This year, we took a cruise to French Polynesia, visiting Tahiti, Bora Bora, and several other beautiful islands. ~ **Aldo and Jeff**

Time to Get Ready for the Next Big Shake

An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. They can strike without warning, at any time of year, day or night. Everyone needs a plan that includes how to prepare, what to do when the ground starts to shake, and how to respond and help neighbors, families, and friends in the time immediately following a shake.

The following are some preparedness tips on what to do during an earthquake. Whenever you feel shaking, always Drop, Cover, and Hold On immediately:

Prepare NOW

1. Practice makes perfect! Practice the Drop, Cover, Hold On earthquake drill with family and neighbors. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops.
2. What could fall on you, your family, or pets in an earthquake? Secure items, such as televisions, and objects that hang on walls. Store heavy and breakable objects on low shelves.
3. Consider obtaining an earthquake insurance policy whether you own or rent your residence
4. Make sure you have supplies for the whole family for at least 7 days in your Shelter in Place Kit in case getting on the road is challenging
5. Learn more at SoCoEmergency.org/get-ready

Roots of Rock KOWSfm.com ~ M.J. Girard

Ah...Springtime the awakening of our beautiful environment from its Winter slumber. Of course, the weeds also are awakened...darn it! As the song "Rose Garden" by Lynn Anderson stated "I Never Promised You A Rose Garden..." this notion equates to the worldwide situation we find ourselves in. As a Vietnam Veteran, I can say without fear of contradiction, that War in Never the answer, but a Last Resort to protect our Democracy. A democracy that is being tested as to its validity and sustainability.

On a happier note, "The Voice" has returned to NBC T.V. on Monday evenings, showcasing the vast talent that call America home. The raw talent of our great nation is incredible, I can remember the talent shows of past decades; Arthur Godfrey, American Idol, Star Search, Major Bowes Amateur Hour, and many others that have highlighted the up and coming talents. If you know of anyone who has potential, encouragement is the highest form flattery that you can bestow.

This season on the "Roots of Rock" we will continue to highlight the unbelievable entertainment pool that runs deep and wide, from R&B, Gospel, C&W, Blues and of course Rock! We will be featuring The Rolling Stones this summer, as well as many of the highly popular artists that have been requested. Requests are welcome and encouraged: Girard.org

Let's continue to support our community, our State and of course our Nation.

God Bless you and keep you safe from harm...thanks for tuning in!



March Cloverdale Weather Recap

Average High Temperature 80°F
Average Low Temperature 47°F
Total Rainfall 0 inches

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Larry Pina
3/13/1940 - 2/27/2026




Larry Pina, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and longtime member of the Cloverdale community, passed away surrounded by the love of his family. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Larry proudly served his country in the United States Navy before returning home to serve his community with the Cloverdale Police Department, where he retired as a Police Sergeant after many years of dedicated service.

Known for his vibrant personality, Larry also loved performing and was a cherished presence in the local cabaret scene, where his humor and talent brought joy to many. He had a gift for making friends wherever he went.

Larry is survived by his wife, Patrice; his children, Colleen, Shawn & Danny; his sister, Genie; his grandchildren, Devon, Maya, and Ethon; and his great-grandchildren, Liam, Noah, and Emmeline. His warmth, laughter, and love for others will be remembered by all whose lives he touched.

He will be greatly missed and forever remembered.



Rotary News



Pictured receiving their Paul Harris awards are Julie Cratty, far left, and Hannah Gart, far right, from Dr. James Novak, past Rotary President and current Cloverdale Rotary Foundation chair, and Kevin Kostoff, current Rotary Club President. The Paul Harris Award is conferred upon Rotarians who have contributed both financially and physically to the Rotary organization. Congratulations to both Julie and Hannah for their efforts and their "Service above Self."



Pictured are Robert Redner, past Rotary Club President, Polly Lile, current Rotary President Kevin Kostoff, and Bob Cox, past Rotary President and volunteer extraordinaire, stocking the food pantry with donations gathered through the "Simple Gestures" program involving Rotary and the Cloverdale community. Google "A Simple Gesture" for more information on how you can be a part of this great program.

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Meghan Sweeney
Melanie Hall
Melissa & Bill Cox
Michael Sasso
Michele Armanino
Michelle Dalsing
Nancy Lloyd
Patrick & Irene Dodd
Paul & Rebecca Van Lith
Rachel & Scott Allred
Randy & Erica Lane
Ray & Ann Smith
Richard & Brooke Greene
Richard Crane
Robert & Virginia Bauer
Shelli Byers
Steve Kawa & Dan Henkle
Susan Connolly & Jason Connolly Foote
Susan Ryan
Thana Brunges
Timothy & Linda Clougherty
Timothy Lucas
William Wagy

SUPER CHAMPIONS

Aldo Raicich & Jeff
Allen Roberts
C.D. Grant & Eric Neel
Carolyn Adkins
Carolyn Ramos
Dan Henkle & Stephen Kawa
David & Candace Delgado
David Karp & John Postma
Debbi & Frank Davis
Deborah & Patrick Nurisso
Deborah Hall
Denis Thoms
Dennis & Catharine Davis
Dianne Vernon
Dobie C Edmunds
Don & Dee Green
Donna Arnstein
Earle & Susie Cummings
Edwin & Chrislyn Bowen
Francesca Giacalone
Frank & Debbi Davis
Gail Collins
Gene & Carolyn Marcinkowski
Geoffrey & Nancy Dalwin

George & Svetlana Artemoff
Geraldine G Burgess
Jan & Ken Screechfield
Jerry & Linda Angeli
Jill Henry
John Pearson & Tammy Azcarate
Joseph & Karen Devine
Joseph Wiedman
Josephine Saylor
Joy Camilli
Joyce Sartori
Kate Greene
Kiwanis Club
Linda Elliott
Lucy Ogden
MR Wallace
Maria Erickson
Marilyn A Michelin
Mark Thayer & Jean Herschede
Marne Dupere
Mary Jo Winter
Michael & Dorina Olson
Mike Barnett
Mildred & Philip Thomas
Nancy Dalwin
Neva Goodman
Pat & Cindi Buell
Paul Cowden & Chuck Levine
Richard & Michele Stratton
Richard Price
Ricky Serbin
Robert Maddock & Marianne Rickards
Robert Redner
Robert Scott Tim McDonald
Ron & Jane Pavelka
Rotary Club of Cloverdale
Sam & Shelley Witten
Sandra Lydy
Scott & Elaine Carlson
Sheila Kostoff
Stephen & Dianne Oliver
Susan & Phil Brooks
Susan Lile
Teal Johnson
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Wyatt Shook

How to Be a Cloverdale Connect CHAMPION

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 @ **Become a Champion!**

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Wednesday 10-4 PM
Thursday 10-4 PM
Friday 10-4 PM
Saturday 10-1 PM

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Cloverdale, CA.

Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center
EST. 1997

Senior Center (707) 894-4826
311 N. Main
Cloverdale, CA.

All proceeds support our local Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center.



SALE

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.



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.

Coming to Cloverdale Performing Arts Center

OPEN MIC NIGHT
Saturday, April 11
Doors Open 6:30pm
Event Runs 7-9pm
MUSICIANS, COMEDIANS, POETS, DANCERS, SINGERS, ETC.
\$5 Admission Fee

LEADING LADIES
by Ken Ludwig

Sponsored by Dobi Edmonds, Lee Hunt & Joan Miesel
April 17 - 26
Tickets: \$25 General
\$20 Students/Seniors

MENDOCINO DANCE PROJECT

Saturday May 2 at 7:30pm
Tickets: \$20 online/\$25 door

CloverdalePerformingArts.com

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707-894-2067

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Saturday & Sunday

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Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center

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www.catrescueofcloverdale.org

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Bring donations ONLY during business hours please. cloverdalegrange@gmail.com

Cloverdale Free Food Resources

- Cloverdale Food Pantry 202 Commercial St.
Friday 11am-1pm
- Little Free Food Pantry - Good Shepherd Church
122 N. Main St. Open 24/7
- La Familia Sana 439 N. Cloverdale Blvd.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays 3-4:30pm
- LDS Church 1101 S. Cloverdale Blvd.
Thursday 10am
- REFB at Citrus Fairgrounds
Mondays 3:30-4:30pm

Senior Center Endowment Program

Please give generously to the Community Endowment Program supporting the Cloverdale Senior Multipurpose Center (CSMC) at Redwood Credit Union. Your donation provides for future generations to enjoy the benefits and programs available at the Senior Center.

Choose a one-time, weekly, or monthly contribution to the CSMC Endowment Fund at RCU. Consider including CSMC in your estate planning as part of your will or trust.



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- Get your high school diploma

sonomalibrary.org

America 250 Fire Hydrant Painting Contest Al Delsid

The Sons of the American Legion are sponsoring a fire hydrant painting contest to help promote Americanism and to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our country. Individuals, businesses and organizations are encouraged to participate in this patriotic themed contest and to have the opportunity to win cash and US flags as prizes.

Only fire hydrants on Cloverdale Boulevard will be allowed to be painted. Applicants can choose a fire hydrant, or one will be assigned. Help us celebrate America's 250th anniversary. "Be Creative" and especially "Have Fun"

Contestants can pick up the Fire Hydrant Painting Contest applications at the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, Cloverdale Ace Hardware or email: delsidal@gmail.com

The winner will receive \$250 in Cash, 2nd Place a 20' flagpole and 3x5 US flag, and 3rd Place will receive a 3x5 US Flag home kit. All other contestants will receive a prize of \$17.76. Painting must be completed by Flag Day, June 14th. Winners will be announced during the 4th of July parade.

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Connect With CHS June Schriener

Prom will be held on April 11th this year at the Villa Chanticleer in Healdsburg with the theme being "Old Red Carpet."

Congratulations to our tennis team for winning against Ft. Bragg 5-0! Come out and support their home match on April 9th against Middletown.

Our senior class took a field trip to the Santa Rosa Junior College for those who are interested in joining classes in the fall. Also, freshman students in AVID classes took a field trip to Sonoma State University to explore the campus and future college options.

Upcoming events:

4/7 - Varsity softball game @ home
4/15 - Track meet @ home

What Exactly is the Cloverdale Arts Alliance?

Dan Richert, CAA Executive Director

Just about everyone in Cloverdale has heard of Friday Night Live. Far fewer are as familiar with the Cloverdale Arts Alliance. We are the local non-profit organization that works all year planning, organizing, fundraising, and so much more, to produce Cloverdale's beloved community event every summer.

We are sometimes asked, "What exactly is the Cloverdale Arts Alliance?" Understandably, we might simply reply at first, "We are the people that bring you Friday Night Live."

But we are so much more than Friday Night Live.

We are an art gallery providing space for local artists to share their passion and creativity with our community.

We are Americana Night, the monthly concert series that has sold out its last five performances to captivated audiences.

We are Cloverdale Pride Weekend, with its own full calendar of events, celebrating diversity and inclusion.

We are THE Jazz Club, where acclaimed local and Bay Area musicians have performed for Cloverdale audiences for years.

We are the Cloverdale Sculpture Trail, bringing engaging art and character to our outdoor spaces.

We are Blues Night and Cloverdale Music Workshop, providing a home for local musicians to hone and share their talents.

We are our newest community events, such as Battle of the Bands and Party Gras.

We are approximately 50 live concerts and 100 community events overall every year.

We are community partners, knowing we accomplish more when we work together.

This year, the Cloverdale Arts Alliance celebrates twenty-five years of bringing art, music, and culture to our community. Over that span, so many have poured their hearts, their resources, and their time into our cause. We cannot thank them enough. And looking forward, we are poised to do even more for the community we love so much.

We are Cloverdale. www.cloverdaleartsalliance.org

CUSD News Glen Senestraro

Spring Success & The Home Stretch for CUSD

The hills are green, the sun is out, and the Cloverdale Unified School District is buzzing with pre-break energy. From the crack of the bat on the softball diamond to the focused quiet of our elementary classrooms, our students and staff are finishing the month of March strong.

Jefferson Elementary School

Jefferson has been a hub of activity this month as students participated in the "Spring Literacy Challenge." Our youngest learners have been logging record reading minutes, with several classrooms reaching their collective goals early. On the playground, the "Peaceful Playground" initiative continues to thrive, fostering great sportsmanship during daily recesses.

Washington Middle School

At WMS, the focus has been on "Future Planning." Academically, the science department's recent "Invention Convention" saw truly innovative projects from our middle schoolers. Meanwhile, the school community is offering warm congratulations to Assistant Principal Casey Berry, who will be transitioning to a new leadership role at the high school next year.

Cloverdale High School

It is a thrilling time for Eagles Athletics! Our CHS Softball team is off to a powerhouse start, showing incredible chemistry and a high-scoring offense. They join our Baseball and Track & Field teams in representing the Blue and Gold with pride. For seniors, the focus is now on final projects and scholarship applications.

JEH Continuation School

Students at JEH continue to make great strides in their personalized learning paths, with a recent emphasis on Career Technical Education (CTE). The school's supportive environment has led to a significant spike in credit completion this quarter, keeping our seniors on the path toward their June diplomas.

District & Board News

A major leadership announcement was made this month: Casey Berry has been appointed as the Cloverdale High School Principal for the 2026-2027 school year. Currently serving at Washington Middle School, Berry brings a wealth of local experience and a familiar face to the CHS campus as we look toward the future.

City Council Report Eleanore Webster

February 25th meeting: public comments were voiced regarding disparaging communications at Council meetings (see City website recordings). The Council recognized February as Black History Month. LaReva Myles received recognition. Flying the Pride flag at Cloverdale Library was discussed. This is happening at all other County libraries. The three flags already approved for the City flagpole are for children's violence memorial, Pearl Harbor survivor sons and daughters, and Pride flag. The resolution passed (3-2) allowing the Pride flag to fly at the Cloverdale library.

Audited Financials for FY24/25 were presented. The financials were fair and in compliance. Cloverdale is in a positive position (see agenda attachments), but needs to do some long-term planning for the retirement fund, which is unfunded and untrusted. The auditor said the City accountant is doing a good job. The report was accepted. A community garden in Furber Park was discussed. City staff suggested this is a community need and sought Council members' opinions. The decision was made to survey community residents.

March 11th meeting: City Council proclaimed March 15-21 National Surveyors Week. Bruce Johnson, Land Surveyor, accepted recognition. Council proclaimed March as American Red Cross month. Chief Parker presented E-Bike Survey results. Police are trying to enforce the State's regulations, which are convoluted and being updated this year (see agenda for the detailed report).

Council considered a request for relief from water and sewer billing from Eric's Performance Trans Auto (Eric Liddell). He fixed the leak when he noticed it, but that was after several days. Staff asked Council to consider a credit to average costs. Council was sympathetic: the leak was fixed as soon as it was noticed, and the petitioner was present to answer questions. There were also extenuating circumstances, so alerts weren't noticed by City staff. Council voted to reduce the bill to his average costs.

Council considered staff's research into a Downtown Entertainment Zone, allowing the City to define a geographic area where people can have open containers of alcohol. Staff asked for Council member opinions before surveying business owners. Many other cities in California have made this move; regulations can be set and administered locally. Cloverdale's zone could be along Cloverdale Blvd and First Street, from Citrus Fair drive to East Third. The Council's recommendation is to have staff survey local businesses to see if there is buy-in.

**Save The Date June 27, 2026
Saturday 11am To 4 Pm**

Cloverdale All School Reunion

Cloverdale Vets Building

Desserts, coffee, sodas and water. You may bring your own food if you wish. No alcohol.

Contact Cindy Price, Cloverdalereunion@hotmail.com



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Is That Tech Foolish or Functional?

Will Carter

With over a decade of experience serving Cloverdale businesses and residents, I have come to have a lot of opinions. For April, I will share some of my opinions with a review of the most functional, and the more frequently foolish, technology products and services I have encountered.

Starting on the optimistic side, there are many more functional examples than foolish! Of the functional concepts, here are a few outstanding examples: Online Banking – I have found that online banking and associated apps are almost always a great idea and can be used easily, even by those who are new to using them. Home Speakers – Products like HomePods, Alexa devices, Google Home, and Sonos are an easy way to elevate music and AI assistants in your home. Synchronized music and an omnipresent assistant feels luxurious and futuristic. Password Managers – Moving on from a 'password book' to a proper digital storage tool is a game changer that makes remembering passwords a thing of the past!

Of course, not every tech concept will be a winner! While there is a time and place for most of these ideas, I would generally consider them foolish: VPNs as Security – There are many valid uses for VPNs, but if you only use a computer at home, it will make more problems without making any practical difference. "Upgrading" Phones – If you need or want a new phone, absolutely buy one! However, promotions from your carrier often sell you an overkill device with billing strings attached. Don't buy it if it wasn't your idea in the first place! Computers "Designed for Seniors" – While the brochure might look amazing, these devices run non-standard operating systems, demand hugely inflated prices, and are minimally serviceable. If you need an intuitive computer, look at Apple, not Telikin or WOW! Computer.

Remember, everyone uses their technology differently and everything I've mentioned has a place where it makes sense, even if I don't see it often. If you are interested in reevaluating something which may be on the foolish side, or implementing some new functional service or product, reach out to a techy friend or a trusted technology service provider!

Start the New Year with **More Space**



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Moving With A Partner Part 2

Elissa Morrash



Last month I wrote about moving when you share your life with a partner. How do partners make decisions? How do they respect the other's needs and still get their needs met? Often what is important to one partner is not important to the other. What should you compromise on?

Price? Size of house? Size of yard? Location?

I had some interesting responses. Many of you objected to the word compromise.

When you tell me you've spent your whole life compromising, I hear someone who's tired of bending so far, they practically don't know who they are any more. And honestly, that makes total sense. Anyone would hit a point where they think, "Nope. I'm done."

But here's the thing: compromise isn't the same as surrendering. Surrendering is giving up. Giving in. Losing what's important to you.

Think of compromise less like "giving in" and more like "choosing your life with intention." You're not losing yourself—you're reminding yourself that this is a new opportunity to get to know your partner and plan the next stage of your life together.

Compromise isn't about giving up who you are; it's an adjustment you choose because it keeps the bigger picture intact. It's positive control, not submissive. You stay connected to your values, your boundaries, and your sense of self. You're trading, not losing.

What's the situation right now that's making you feel so done with compromising?

Elissa Morrash is a licensed Advisor (DRE 01872845) with Engel & Volkers Luxury Real Estate Healdsburg. She has made a specialty working with partners. Call or text her at (707) 694-8821 to arrange for a consultation on making decisions and respecting needs when moving with a partner. <https://elissamorrash.evrealstate.com>

Little Free Food Pantry

The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church has installed a Little Free Food Pantry on the porch of the Vicarage, 122 N. Main St. The food cupboard is stocked and accessible 24/7. Good Shepherd Church thanks Country Porch Antiques for their generous donation of the cabinet for the pantry. The pantry provides emergency food to those in need when there isn't a food pantry open. You'll find food and hygiene items, with inventory changing frequently. The community is invited to stock the shelves with non-perishable and non-expired food items.



The Little Free Food Pantry is an easy way for neighbors to help neighbors who are in need. Even though it is located on church property, it belongs to all of us. Please take care of it and the space around it. Tidy the shelves if needed, clean up any spill, and don't litter.

Give what you can by placing food and hygiene items inside the pantry cabinet. Give what you would want to receive. No gift is too small – a single can of green beans can help.

Take what you need and know we care about you. Please remember the Little Pantry belongs to the entire community and take only the items you need.

Let's Travel Craig Clark

Navigating Mexico: Safety, Strategy, and the Savvy Traveler

Travel to Mexico remains a hot-button issue, especially following recent cartel-related violence in Jalisco. While high-profile incidents like airport blockades and retaliatory strikes can be alarming, the reality for tourists often depends on their specific destination and their own behavior.

Understanding the Risk: The U.S. State Department maintains a "Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution" advisory for Mexico—a rating shared by many European countries. However, specific states like Sinaloa and Colima carry "Level 4: Do Not Travel" warnings. Safety in Mexico is largely a matter of geography. Popular hubs like Cancún and Los Cabos remain generally safe, but travelers should avoid rural roads at night and fly directly to their destination to bypass the interior's security crises.

Avoiding Self-Inflicted Disasters: Beyond external security, travelers are often their own worst enemy. Problems frequently arise from "four fatal flaws":

Entitlement: Demanding home comforts and assuming everyone speaks English.

Rudeness: Disrespecting local customs or cultural sites.

Ignoring Fine Print: Facing financial loss because of non-refundable bookings.

Lack of Empathy: Treating service workers poorly.

The Verdict for Spring Break: If you are headed to a gated resort in Quintana Roo, you are likely safe, but you are still visiting a country in a security flux. To ensure a successful trip, treat travel as a privilege rather than a right. Stick to toll roads during the day, secure travel insurance that covers civil unrest, and remember that you are a guest. The fastest way to ruin a vacation isn't just a cartel blockade—it's the "me-first" attitude that ignores local reality.

Plus, it might help to master a few simple Spanish verbal tools. You can try the E library, <https://sonomalibrary.org/elibrary> and view some of the video lessons via the Great Courses.

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To see if you qualify, visit healdsburg-ca.aauw.net/scholarship-and-grants/ or QR code.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2026

Cloverdale, CA



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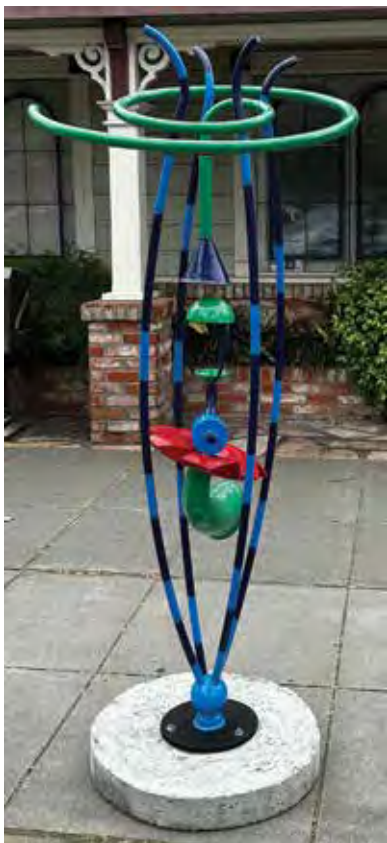
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HOSTED AT CITY PARK

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Artist Spotlight

Stan Huncilman ~ Harappan Daydream

Sponsor: Bob Scott & Tim McDonald



Stan Huncilman's whimsical and colorful sculptures have been a part of the Trail since nearly its beginning. Harappan Daydream is located on the East side of Cloverdale Blvd. in front of I.See.optical company.

Artist Statement:

"My Sculptures are not of real things but of the imagined. When I begin a sculpture, I never know how it will resolve. It is the first step in an adventure. I have a map that is composed of previous sculptures – some complete others merely remnants. Each work has something of the work before it. Sculpture is like language, in that it can tell a story, yet it can be a language so personal that no one else can understand it (sometimes even the creator). That is what makes the adventure exciting – being able to show others what happened – by creating a language with an ever-larger vocabulary.

Harappan Daydream is a metaphor for the intricate interplay of life's elements, with its balance symbolizing harmony amid life's complexities. The sculpture encapsulates the interplay of external and internal forces, cycles, and the convergence of diverse elements in the complex journey of life.

THIS APRIL
at True West Cinemas



SCAN ME!

	April 4 - She Dances Feature film directorial debut from Healdsburg local Rick Gomez, who co-wrote the script with Steve Zahn, who leads the cast with his daughter, Audrey Zahn.
	April 10 - Harlan County, USA Followed by live Q&A with special guest Barbara Kopple, presented in partnership with Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival.
	April 11 - Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory When Willy Wonka promises a lifetime supply of sweets and a tour of his factory to five lucky kids, penniless Charlie Bucket seeks the golden ticket.
	April 20 - Smiley Face Happy 420 from True West and Gregg Arak! Celebrate with a screening of Gregg's stoner classic Smiley Face, followed by a video Q&A with Mr. Arak himself.
	April 23 - Dead Poets Society Presented as part of a celebration of literary arts taking place throughout Healdsburg this April, California's official "Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month."
	April 25 - The Great Muppet Caper When a wealthy fashion designer's priceless diamond necklace is stolen, it's up to Kermit and Muppets to bring the real culprits to justice.

TRUE WEST FILM CENTER

June 2nd Is Coming -- Your Vote Matters! ~ CloDems

In the June 2022 California primary, only 33% of registered voters cast a ballot — meaning two-thirds of voters let others decide which candidates they'd get to choose from in November. (Source: California Secretary of State, certified primary election results)

That's why you need to show up to vote this June 2nd!

What's on the ballot that affects us locally:

4th District Supervisor — 3 candidates filed: Melanie Bagby, Todd Lands, and Tom Schwedhelm.

Measure B (SMART Train Sales Tax Extension) Voters in Sonoma and Marin counties will decide on whether to extend the SMART train's existing quarter-cent sales tax for 30 years beyond its 2029 expiration.

- The last day to register to vote for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election is May 18, 2026.
- All California active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election.

- Your county elections office will begin mailing ballots by May 4, 2026.
- Ballot drop-off locations open on May 5, 2026.
- Vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail, at a drop-off location, or your county elections office.
- Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties beginning on May 23, 2026.
- Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by June 9, 2026.

(Shirley N. Weber, California Secretary of State)

NOTE: A new USPS rule means ballots are now postmarked at a regional sorting facility — not when you drop them off. That gap could be a day or more for rural Sonoma County voters. The League of Women Voters recommends mailing at least one week before June 2, using a drop box, or requesting a handstamp at the post office counter.

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Armanino Publishes Story



"The Boy in the Storybook", written by **Cloverdale Connect** feature writer, Michele Armanino, has been published by the Ritchfield Reaper. Forty-five years ago, the Ritchfield Reaper ran an ad from a 10-year-old, Elsinore, Utah boy named Jason who requested books as he was opening a library in his small, rural

town. Jason was catapulted into fame overnight. Michele, an elementary school teacher in San Francisco and part-time resident of Cloverdale, followed the trail of this heart-warming story all the way to Utah.

You will find the story in its entirety by going to <https://cloverdaleconnect.com> where "The Boy in the Storybook" is available on the website.

New Resource Taking Shape: Community Cocina by Calpine

La Familia Sana is proud to announce the development of a new community resource designed to nourish, connect, and support local families for years to come.

What began as a simple conversation around a volunteer day has grown into something much more. With the generous support of Calpine, a business unit of Constellation Energy, La Familia Sana is upgrading its kitchen to meet Sonoma County Health Code standards, transforming it into a safe, functional, and welcoming space for community use.

This new space, officially named The Community Cocina by Calpine, will serve as a hub for food distribution, meal preparation, educational workshops, community gatherings, and micro-entrepreneurship. It will also play a critical role in emergency preparedness, strengthening La Familia Sana's ability to respond quickly and effectively to community needs.

During renovations, additional safety issues, including unsafe electrical conditions, were identified and addressed to ensure the space meets all required standards. Thanks to Calpine's partnership and investment, these improvements are being completed with care and intention, ensuring long-term safety and sustainability.

"We are deeply grateful to Calpine for helping make this vision a reality," said Executive Director Jade Weymouth. "This kitchen is more than a physical space—it's a place where community comes together, resources are shared, and opportunities are created."

As the project nears completion, La Familia Sana invites community members, businesses, and partners to be part of bringing the Community Cocina fully to life. Contributions will support final improvements, equipment, and ongoing programming.

To learn more or contribute, visit lafamiliasana.org/cocina Together, we are building something that will nourish our community for generations.

Cooking with David Maciel Sponsored by Ray's Food Place

In April my attention turns to grilling outside on the BBQ or smoker. One of my favorites is pork marinated in fresh orange juice & herbs. I recommend that you marinate for at least 24 hours or longer to ensure the meat absorbs the liquid.

Orange Marinated Pork Tenderloins

- 1 cup fresh squeezed orange
- 1/3 cup low sodium soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- 3 teaspoons minced garlic
- 2 (3/4 pound) whole pork tenderloins fat & silverside removed
- Sea or kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Instructions

- Make the orange marinade by whisking together the orange juice, soy sauce, rosemary thyme and garlic. Pour over pork tenderloin and marinate for at least 24 hours or up to 48 hours.
- Preheat the BBQ to 400 degrees you can also do this in the oven
- Drain pork, reserving the marinade, and place on the grill or smoker.
- Season with salt and pepper to taste.
- Roast for about 20 minutes until internal temperature has reached 145 degrees.
- Meanwhile, strain the reserved marinade and bring it to a simmer in a small saucepan. You can thicken the sauce with equal parts of water & cornstarch. Serve this as a sauce for the meat.

New Service Provider at AVH Cheyenne Matyac, D.N.P., F.N.P.-B.C.



Cheyenne Matyac, family nurse practitioner, earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of California, Irvine and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from San Diego State University. With five years of acute care experience as a registered nurse, Matyac has a strong foundation in pulmonary medicine, internal

medicine, and abdominal organ transplant surgery, with expertise in caring for telemetry patients gained while working at Keck Hospital of USC. She was inspired to work in primary care after witnessing first-hand the consequences of unmanaged chronic conditions, resulting in the need for kidney and liver transplantation.

She provides comprehensive, holistic care across the life span tailored to each patient's unique needs. Matyac's clinical interests include preventative health screenings, chronic disease management and improving health literacy while providing culturally competent care. She aims to empower patients to take charge of their own health while collaborating with them through shared decision making. Matyac's primary care placement is at Alexander Valley Healthcare.

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