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Mark Wilkinson, left, and his sister and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Howard Claire, are pictured in front of Dr. Wilkinson's resort in 2008. The family has sold the business, founded in 1952 by their parents, Dr. John and Edy Wilkinson.



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Wilkinson family sells iconic Calistoga resort

By Kim Beltran
Tribune Editor

Dr. Wilkinson's Hot Springs Resort, founded in 1952 by the man many believe launched the modern day-spa movement, was sold last week for an estimated \$15.4 million.

The new owner of the landmark property is San Francisco-based hotel investment company Chartres Lodging Group, according to the real estate firm that represented the

sellers and heirs of Dr. John Wilkinson – his son, Mark Wilkinson, and daughter and son-in-law, Carolynne and Howard Clair.

"After 66 years of service to our guests, employees, and community through our parents' vision, we are excited to pass the resort to a uniquely qualified owner and operator that appreciates and will build upon the foundation that our family has laid in the world of health and wellness," said Carolynne Wilkinson Clair of Wilkinson Family, LLC

in a statement.

Neither Mark Wilkinson or Carolynne Wilkinson Clair responded to repeated requests for comment about the sale of the business.

The resort will be managed by San Francisco-based Kokua Hospitality, an arm of Chartres Lodging Group, according to a press release issued Monday by CBRE, the global real estate and investment firm

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City manager Feik tenders resignation

Under terms of agreement, he leaves with \$116,684 and six months health coverage

By Kim Beltran
Tribune Editor

Dylan Feik has left his position as Calistoga's city manager three years after he was hired.

The City Council on Tuesday will consider approval of a "separation and release" agreement after Feik "indicated a desire to resign," city attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon wrote in a staff report for the April 16 council meeting.

"The city's best interests are served by entering into a Separation and Release Agreement with Mr. Feik," she wrote.

Under terms of the agreement, which was not attached to the staff report released this week, Feik is to receive a separation payment of \$116,684.41, which includes payment for accrued vacation, sick and executive leave, and "an amount equal to 6 months' salary which is provided for under Mr. Feik's Employment Agreement," Marchetta Kenyon said in her report.

Feik will also be able to continue his medical and dental coverage for six months or until he becomes eligible for such benefits under a new job. The city will cover 90 percent of the cost of those premiums.

The City Council held a closed session meeting on March 27 to discuss a Public Employee Performance Evaluation of the city manager. No

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The Calistoga City Council will consider approval of a "separation and release" agreement allowing Dylan Feik to resign as city manager. Mayor Chris Canning said Feik's departure was a "mutually agreed upon" decision. Feik, a resident of Windsor, was hired by the city in March of 2016. Neither Feik nor the city gave a reason for his departure.

International Color Award

Calistoga photographer Clark James Mishler, who also shoots for the Tribune, was included in the prestigious 12th annual International Color Awards last month and presented with the title "Nominee" in the category of "Portrait." The photo chosen for the show, a live, online gala attended by 11,829 photography fans around the globe, was an image made last August in Point Arena of Flynn Creek Circus' Jen Snyder standing in the door of her camper. "I have entered this contest a number of times over the years," Mishler said, "but this is the first time I made it to the final round," said Mishler. "It is an incredible achievement to be selected among the best from the 7,241 entries we received this year," said Basil O'Brien, the awards' creative director. "Clark James Mishler's exceptional image entered in the Portrait category, represents contemporary color photography at its finest, and we're pleased to present Clark with the title of Nominee."



PHOTO BY CLARK JAMES MISHLER

Trustees review bond spending, plan for more

By Claudia Aceves
Tribune Reporter

Calistoga school trustees on Monday approved a recent audit report for Measure A bond money that resulted in no negative findings, although it was noted that there is no active Citizens' Oversight Committee, as required under the measure.

School board members also voted to issue a Request for Proposals to update the districts original Facilities Master Plan, completed almost 10 years ago.

Measure A, which authorized the Calistoga school district to issue \$42 million in general obligation bonds, was approved by voters in November 2010 by more than 55 percent. The measure mandates that the district establish an eight-member oversight committee to monitor spending of the funds.

According to the audit report, since 2011, the district has issued approximately \$32.6 million in bonds of the approved \$42 million. About

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