

Calistoga Tribune

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\$8,000 for stray animal services

By Pat Hampton
Tribune Publisher

Since it's break from Napa County Animal Control over a decade ago, Calistoga has relied on local animal lovers and kind-hearted veterinarians to take care of stray and injured animals.

This week, the city council took another step towards funding those costs with an \$8,000 grant.

City manager Richard Spitler said the \$8,000 grant would go to Wine Country Animal Lovers (WCAL) to reimburse the volunteer group for money it spent on sick and injured stray animals last year. Spitler said \$4,000 of the funds would come from the police services budget and the other \$4,000 from the general fund reserve. The money will be transferred into the Community

Enrichment Grants fund and expended from there. Last year the city council awarded \$5,000 in grants to five non-profits.

On Jan. 28 the city received a request from Pam Ingalls of WCAL asking the city to reimburse the non-profit for the \$13,965 it spent taking care of hurt animals during 2013 or "as

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City signs emergency water contract with Solano County

■ Will be approved to buy 400 acre feet of water

By Pat Hampton
Tribune Publisher

Calistoga will be able to purchase water from the Solano County Water Agency as a part of an emergency drought contingency plan that assures enough water will be available to city customers through the end of the year.

Under a contract with the State Water Project (SWP), Calistoga is currently entitled to 1,950 acre feet of water per year delivered through the North Bay Aqueduct (NBA), with the amount of water delivered varying each year, but typically from 40 to 100 percent. Because of the severe, on-going drought and a critical shortage of water statewide, the SWP declared a zero percent allocation in January.

Since the beginning of the year, Calistoga has been using carry-over water that was purchased but not used in 2013 to service its

1,560 customers. So far the SWP has not indicated that the carry-over water will be cut back, said city manager Richard Spitler, but the city needs to be ready for any action the state may take.

In his report to the council on Tuesday, public works director Mike Kirn said the state is considering installing massive rock barriers in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta next month to help keep salt water from the ocean encroaching into the estuary and damaging fresh-water fish and plant habitats.

Because of the drought and low snow pack in the Sierras, there is not enough fresh water from rivers and streams emptying into the Delta to keep brackish water from damaging the environment.

If the rock barriers are put in place, Kirn said, NBA intake

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CUPS OF GOLD



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON AT RIVERLEA SQUARE

The California poppy was designated the state flower of California in 1903. Also known as the flame flower and cup of gold, the poppy grows wild throughout California. California Indians valued the poppy as a food source and for the oil extracted from the plant. Every year, April 6 is California Poppy Day and May 13 - 18 is Poppy Week.

City asks for \$106,427 for new pathway along river

A new pedestrian/bike pathway connecting Lincoln Avenue to the city parking lot could be built with state funds if the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) approves Calistoga's application.

The city council directed city manager Richard Spitler to apply for \$106,427 in Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article

3 money designated for pedestrian and bicyclist projects. Last August the city council approved a plan to install a pathway between the red brick building and the waterway when AT&T stabilizes the area between its Lincoln Avenue building and the Napa River.

The city will add decking, a six-foot security fence and a guardrail along the path.

Easter egg hunts on for tomorrow

Children will have two opportunities for traditional Easter egg hunts tomorrow:

■ *The annual Calistoga Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt takes place at Logvy Field at 10 a.m. sharp, for pre-schoolers and kids in grades K-4.*

■ *Sterling Vineyards is hosting an egg hunt at the Dunaweal Lane winery at 9:30 a.m. Bring a canned food donation. For kids ages 2-12.*



Mount View Hotel receives liquor license permission

■ Guests will be able to buy beer, wine at poolside

By Pat Hampton
Tribune Publisher

Caught between two restaurants that serve alcohol to its customers, Mount View Hotel will now get to serve beer and wine to its own guests.

Hotel owner Michael Woods was granted permission from the city council to apply for a permit from the state Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) for selling alcohol for on-site and off-site consumption.

Since 1998 businesses seeking an alcohol permit must first find favor with the city council before the ABC will consider the license, said senior planner Erik Lundquist.

He said the state determined there is an over concentration of businesses selling alcohol in Calistoga, and it wants city approval before an applicant files for a state license.

Woods applied for an application on Feb. 26 to receive a Type 70 license which allows the sale of beer, wine and distilled spirits to overnight guests.

Lundquist said the Mount View Hotel, which has been in existence for 100 years, is situated between two restaurants that also serve food and drinks, and that "they

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