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## City council picks Petaluma for animal services contract

■ Council votes 3-2 in favor of Petaluma agency

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

f your dog is lost or your cat’s up a tree, you’ll be calling Petaluma Animal Services Foundation (PASF) for help. City council selected the agency for an animal services and shelter contract in a 3-2 vote.

With a standing room only crowd for Tuesday’s meeting, many in the audience were wearing the bright orange t-shirts of Wine Country Animal Lovers, Inc. (WCAL), which was urging the selection of PASF over the Napa Animal Shelter overseen by the sheriff’s office.

City manager Richard Spitler said the proposal was for field services as well as shelter needs. The comparison of costs brought a to-

tal of \$135,056 for the first three years with the Napa County Shelter and \$148,200 for the first three years with PASF. Spitler said the annual cost for shelter and animal services would be around \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year.

The city dropped its animal control contract with the county years ago, and has relied on local veterinarians to treat animals. WCAL has a close working rela-

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## Swimming lessons for 335 students may be cancelled

■ Lack of lifeguards, instructors force move

By Amanda Rhodes  
Tribune Staff Writer

For the past five years, the Calistoga Community Pool Project has been helping kids learn to swim by sponsoring an in-class swim lesson pro-

gram for students at the Calistoga Elementary School.

This year lessons could be canceled. City Manager Richard Spitler said the problem is not enough lifeguards. The pool relies on high school students who are certified lifeguards, but can’t commit until school is out June 5. Spitler

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## CITY-WIDE YARD SALE



PHOTO BY CLAUDIA ACEVES

Over 20 yard sales were being conducted on Saturday for the city’s annual city-wide yard sale event. A map of the houses holding yard sales was distributed through the Tribune.

## City-wide yard sale a hit with treasure hunters

By Claudia Aceves  
Tribune Cub Reporter

Some 22 Calistoga homes were part of the third annual city-wide yard sale that took place last Saturday as part of an Earth Day celebration that encouraged recycling, redoing, reusing, re-purposing, and renewing.

The city-wide sale was put on by the Calistoga Recreation Services.

Calistoga residents were welcome to include their yard sales on a city flyer at no cost. The city map helped shoppers by indicating the location of the sales stops.

However, many yard sales, though not on the



PHOTO BY CLAUDIA ACEVES

Jasmine Guinn set up a table to sell refreshments while shoppers visited her family’s yard sale.

map, were also put on that day, and were easily discovered by eager shoppers.

“I thought it was very well organized and the map was useful,” said Vilma Dodds. “I was excited to find some really good, affordable mission style leather chairs that were delivered.”

Although some locations were easily accessible and in walking distance from downtown, others were a little out of the way.

“It was fun. We did fairly well getting rid of some of our stuff but we’re located on Riverlea so we’re a little isolated,” first timer Betty Jo

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## Engage! Art Fair will showcase local artists

■ Free, two-day art event at fairgrounds

By Amanda Rhodes  
Tribune Staff Writer

From fine to performing arts, from sculptures to murals, the Engage Art Fair is expected to push the creative envelope and be a pleasure for art enthusiasts of all kinds.

More than 600 people are expected to engage this weekend during the free, two-day fair where art in every form converges under one roof.

The Engage Art Fair takes place April 25-26 in the Tubbs Building at the Napa County Fairgrounds

and will feature display works from 38 different artists who all live or work in Napa County.

“Visual art, performing art, culinary art. This is really the first time that the local professional arts community has come together to participate in one place,” Carlene Moore, executive director of the Napa County Fairgrounds, said.

The Engage Art Fair is one that saw no bounds when it came to inclusivity for the arts Moore said. Everything from sculptures made of metal, clay and resin to watercolor, silk and oil paintings to ukulele, flamenco and hula-hoop performers – all will be part of the fair.

Of the 38 featured, six are Cali-

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## Employees given 3% raise with new contract

■ Police union still on imposed contract

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

New one-year contracts for three of the city’s labor unions will give members a three percent cost of living raise by a 5-0 vote.

The raise goes back to Jan. 1, and affects the Calistoga Professional Firefighters with its three members; the Calistoga Public Employees Association (CPEA) with 17 members, and the 12 city employees, middle management and department heads, not represented by a union.

The contracts are almost identical to the agreements of 2014 that expired Dec. 31, 2014. City manager Richard Spitler said the budget had factored in a two percent raise, and that the rest of the funds

will come from health insurance savings due to lower health premiums than anticipated.

The city’s negotiating team met with CPEA three times before signing a tentative agreement on March 12.

This is the third year that the Calistoga Police Officers Association (CPOA) will be under an imposed contract after negotiations for a contract in 2011 failed, went to state mediation, and then impasse.

Under the new contracts, employees were responsible for paying 10 percent of their health care premiums, all of their share of social security costs and took a 15 percent cut in pay.

The city has promised the employees that a compensation study being conducted by Koff and Associates will be a discussion item within 30 days of its acceptance by the city council.