

# T Calistoga Tribune

Jan. 19, 2018

Independently owned and published in Calistoga for Calistogans since 2002

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## Council OKs Grant Street housing plan

**By Kim Beltran**  
Tribune Editor

A 50-unit condominium project likely to be one of the most “green” residential projects in the state was approved for construction by the City Council on Tuesday.

Calistoga Vista, proposed by longtime property owner the Peter Gumina family, will replace a large storage barn at 1408 and 1506 Grant Street.

According to Planning and Building director Lynn Goldberg, the proposed project meets all land use and zoning requirements under the city’s General Plan with two exceptions – maximum building height and minimum parking supply.

Because the project is providing eight deed-restricted, low-income units, however, it qualifies under state law to exceed both the city’s height limit and parking requirement, she said.

The project, being developed for the Guminas by Healthy Buildings of Napa, will be comprised of 46 residential condos and four small live/work townhomes, all of which – initially at least – will be rentals. Under the agreement with the city, the owners have the right to sell the units in the future.

Forty-two units will be rented at market-rate while the eight affordable units will be deed restricted for 55 years at 80 percent of the Area Median Income. Four of the condo units are two- and three-bedroom while the remaining 46 will be a mix of studio, one-bedroom and one-bedroom/flex room units.

According to a December 2017 Planning Commission staff report and based on the AMI at that time, rent for a one person household

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## Playin’ with the big dogs

Calistoga photographer finds himself in enviable position at first pro game

**By Clark James Mishler**  
Tribune Photographer

To our delight, our kids gave Mitzi and me tickets to a Golden State Warriors game for Christmas. Almost immediately, I began to wonder how I might find a way to photograph the game. As a photographer, I had photographed hundreds of NCAA basketball games and, perhaps, 40 NCAA tournament games but never had I attended, let alone photographed, a professional basketball game.

I knew that to get my cameras into the game I would need a story connection and a press pass. Hadn’t several players and the Warriors organization donated thousands of dollars to fire victims and recovery efforts? I hoped Warriors management would go for it. To my surprise, the marketing manager returned my email and informed me that my pass would await my arrival. I was in!

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PHOTOS BY CLARK JAMES MISHLER

**Top:** The Golden State Warrior Girls perform for the crowd during a pre-game show at Oracle Arena in Oakland on Jan. 10. **Above:** Golden State forward Kevin Durant looks to the basket during the game, in which he scored 40 points and reached a career milestone 20,000 points. The Warriors lost to the LA Clippers 106-125.

## City reviewing water rate plan, citizens’ input

**By Kim Beltran**  
Tribune Editor

The city’s plan to raise water and wastewater rates by more than 50 percent over the next five years dominated Tuesday night’s City Council meeting as a large crowd of residents protested, asked questions and offered suggestions for lowering or discarding the increases altogether.

For its part, the city assured its citizens that their concerns had been heard – at Tuesday night’s meeting as well as a Jan. 2 public hearing and a Jan. 10 community forum – and that it is analyzing each of their proposed ideas for saving money.

“At the community forum, there were a lot of really good questions and ideas that came up,” city manager Dylan Feik told council members. “It takes time to put all that

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## Berry St. bridge delayed a month

**By Kim Beltran**  
Tribune Editor

The new bridge over the Napa River on Berry Street, originally scheduled to open at the end of this month, is about 30 days behind schedule, Public Works director Mike Kirm reported Tuesday.

The October fires and several wet winter days have delayed completion of the new structure until about Feb. 20, said Kirm.

The Lincoln Avenue bridge replacement project, which began last June, is on a much lengthier timeline and isn’t expected to be complete until 2019.

A temporary pedestrian bridge located on Berry Street will be moved once that span is open. The city plans to put the pedestrian bridge over the river behind the Community Center.

## Coffee with a Cop: Meet-and-greets foster good relations

Lisa Gift (left) discusses traffic in her North Oak Street neighborhood with Calistoga Police officer Laertis Moraitis, California Highway Patrol Sgt. William Bradshaw, retiree Gerry Turgeon and Calistoga Police officer Samantha Arlen during Wednesday’s “Coffee with a Cop” event at Bella Bakery in Calistoga.



PHOTO BY CLARK JAMES MISHLER

**By Granville Fox**  
Tribune Reporter

Three members of the Calistoga Police Department and a California Highway Patrol officer converged at a local business Wednesday morning but it wasn’t a crime scene and they weren’t arresting anyone.

Instead, the law enforcement officials were buying coffee for residents who stopped by to meet them and ask questions or discuss concerns.

“One of the important things is being accessible to the community,

giving them an opportunity to ask questions, address issues, sometimes make complaints,” said Calistoga Police Chief Mitch Celaya. “It’s about being proactive and having a community-oriented police service.” he said.

Although just a handful of residents came into Bella Bakery specifically for “Coffee with a Cop,” as the event is known, others stopping by to purchase coffee or baked goods chatted with the officers as well.

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