

# Calistoga Tribune

Independently owned and published in Calistoga for Calistogans since 2002

50¢

Friday, July 18, 2014

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## Mobile Home Park residents study revealing

■ Some 24 percent of city's housing stock is in the 556 mobile home spaces in four parks

By **Amanda Rhodes**  
Tribune Staff Writer

A study presented at Tuesday night's city council meeting gives detailed insight into the lives of those living in Calistoga's four mobile home parks, especially those residents in the three seniors parks.

Lucina Vernazza, of Vernazza Wolfe Associates, Inc., prepared the study with a main focus of gathering data in order to determine the viability of mobile home parks as affordable housing, something that has never been done in the area before.

"This is one of the most inter-

esting projects I've ever had the opportunity to work on," Vernazza said.

The City was awarded the nearly \$46,000 grant for the *Study of the Long-Term Viability of Calistoga Mobile home Parks as Affordable Housing* in 2013 after Calistoga Affordable Housing, Inc. suggested applying for the grant after increases in space rentals at the parks over the years have decreased their affordability, espe-

cially for those on fixed incomes.

Three of the four mobile parks, Rancho de Calistoga, Chateau Calistoga and Chateau Springs, are senior living parks and restricted to residents aged 55 and older. The fourth park, Fair Way Manor, is open occupancy.

According to the study, the combined 556 mobile home spaces account for approximately 24

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## Plastic bag ban goes into effect Jan. 1

■ Stores will collect a fee for recyclable paper bags

By **Amanda Rhodes**  
Tribune Staff Writer

Make a note, carry them in your car, but do what you have to do in order to remember those reusable bags.

With the volunteer approach just not having enough gusto, Calistoga is the latest city to put the kibosh on single-use carry-out bags.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015 designated businesses will begin charging customers for each recyclable paper bag in order to promote the use of reusable bags and create a more environmentally sustainable community.

The Council will decide the fee

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## State fines for water wasters

■ Allows cities to issue fines up to \$500 a day

By **Pat Hampton**  
Tribune Publisher

State water officials voted this week to allow local governments to impose fines up to \$500 a day to water wasters — those who continue to overwater lawns and gardens allowing runoff to pool on sidewalks or gutters and those who wash off driveways with scarce potable water.

The unprecedented move came Tuesday when the five-member State Water Resources Control Board voted unanimously Tuesday to approve mandatory measures to try and reach the 20 percent reduc-

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## BUSY CONSTRUCTION SEASON UNDERWAY



The two-story hotel at the old Silver Rose Inn & Winery collapses under the jaws of a backhoe last Tuesday.

PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

## Silver Rose destruction begins

By **Pat Hampton**  
Tribune Publisher

Deconstruction of the old 20-room Silver Rose Inn began in earnest last week when dozers and backhoes started crushing the few standing structures left on the 22-acre parcel on the Silverado Trail at the edge of town.

The two-story hotel at 351 Rosedale Road was the first to fall under the jaws of the backhoe operator on Tuesday, July 8 with city officials donning hard hats and taking a turn at the controls. The resort, built 20 years ago, will be replaced by a new, but as yet unnamed 84-room resort, 21 private homes, a spa and restaurant on the site.

Kelly Foster, a principal of Colorado-based Bald Mountain Development, said after the buildings are gone, grading permits received and dirt moved, construction on the new luxury resort will begin next month.

Foster said he hopes the project will be

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## Table set for 600 guests with council's blessing

■ Chamber plans Harvest Table dinner on Lincoln Ave.

By **Pat Hampton**  
Tribune Publisher

Over a dozen restaurants will set the table for 600 dinner guests down the middle of Lincoln Avenue in the town's first Harvest Table event on Sept. 7 at 6 p.m.

The dinner is being organized by the Chamber of Commerce and modeled after the successful outdoor dining experience "Savor the Summit" in Park City, Utah. Now in its seventh year, Park City hosts

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## Another water lawsuit filed against city

■ Tubbs descendant O'Gorman asks for \$10 million

By **Pat Hampton**  
Tribune Publisher

Another lawsuit has been filed against the City of Calistoga by Debbie O'Gorman alleging her claim to water rights from Kimball Creek, a waterway that feeds the city's municipal drinking water reservoir, have been denied her

as part of the inheritance derived from her pioneer grandparent, Chapin Tubbs.

O'Gorman's lawyer, Brian Leighton of Clovis, filed the complaint last month in Superior Court of the State of California, County of Sacramento, naming Calistoga and also the California State Water Resources Control Board as defen-

dants. In March 2009 O'Gorman assigned her contract rights to family friend Grant Reynolds to recover costs from the city on what she claimed was lost income from the breach of a 1938 water agreement violated by the city. Reynolds filed suit and lost the case in 2011 in Napa Superior Court.

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