

Napa Valley Register



Playoff win for AmCan
Wolves rout El Camino **SPORTS, PAGE B1**

Redwood crash
Wreck closes major roadway **NEWS, PAGE A2**

PARTLY CLOUDY 71 • 47 FORECAST, D4 | **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016** | napavalleyregister.com | 50 cents



J.L. SOUSA, REGISTER

Bugler C.J. Bertagna plays "To the Colors" as the American Legion Honor Guard, Post 113, presents the colors at Veterans Day ceremonies in Veterans Memorial Park on Friday. Some 200 people attended the event which included a reading of "In Flanders Field," a speech by Mayor Jill Techel and a musical tribute. Techel joined Napa County Supervisors Brad Wagenknecht and Alfredo Pedrosa in reading a patriotic poem.

Veterans Day events attract young and old

American Legion and Napa Christian host tribute gatherings

MARIA SESTITO
msestito@napanews.com

A crowd gathered Friday morning for a community Veterans Day service in downtown Napa, while over at Napa Christian school on Pine Street, nearly 250 students and adults met for prayer, songs and a Skype chat with American troops in Iraq.

"We're celebrating the people who served our country," said fourth grader Gavinn Gibson, 10, who recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "Nifty Fifty United States" with fellow classmates.

The elementary choir charmed parents in the crowd, causing them to break out their cell phones to take photos and record video.

"I thought all of the kids did really good, especially the lit-



J.L. SOUSA, REGISTER

Napa Christian held a school assembly on Friday, in observance of Veterans Day.

ties," said senior Madeleine Carr, 18. "They're really cute."

The students had been practicing for weeks in order to honor veterans in the community, according to the school's director of development, Charlotte Henderson.

"We don't have to convince them to do this," she said. "They want to do it."

Although this was the eighth year the school held a special Veterans Day assembly, Carr said that this year was extra special thanks to a call from the troops.

During the assembly, the school connected to Pfc. Tyler Travis and other members of the U.S. Army who are stationed in Iraq. Tyler's mother, Karen Travis, acted as a liaison between the students and the soldiers, asking them questions such as "What's the food like?" and "What do you miss most from home?"

The conversation didn't last long, but several students said it was "cool" to see the soldiers and get a glimpse about how they live. It was especially impactful, though, since Tyler Travis is a graduate of Napa Christian.

"He was a senior here when I was a freshman," Carr said. "So it was really cool to see him and talk to his mom."

"I think that really brings the reality for kids," Henderson said. "He used to go to school here and now he's serving the country," she said.

Please see **VETERANS**, Page A5

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Jail grads tell stories

County program offers second chances

BARRY EBERLING
beberling@napanews.com

Thirteen graduates received certificates that are supposed to signify nothing less than a new way of life that doesn't include a revolving door at the Napa County jail.

They've had brushes with the law for crimes ranging from drug offenses to assault. Napa County's Community Corrections Service Center program is designed to help people who are ready for a change.

For about a year, these graduates went through classes addressing such topics as drug abuse recovery, job training, parenting, anger management and life skills. They showed up day after day putting in the hard work of trying to remake themselves.

"You can't just do something short and sweet and expect that the change will last for them," county Chief Probation Officer Mary Butler said.

Thursday evening's ceremony at the Napa County Office of Education provided the payoff for graduates such as Jacqueline Gelow.

"I had a drug problem," Gelow said. "I was a heroin addict. My parents helped put me in jail—which is what saved my life."

Her story includes a boyfriend who died of a drug overdose. He didn't have the chance to complete a recovery program, she said.

"I feel like I'm doing this for the both of us," Gelow said during a graduation speech that included tears, perhaps both of gladness and deep sorrow.

Creating a rebirth in her life at age 26 required making tough decisions.

"I lost a lot of friends, because I couldn't be friends with people still doing the old behavior," she said.

Please see **JAIL**, Page A5

HOUSING

Family of 9 loses apartment

Town of Yountville red-tagged triplex

HOWARD YUNE
hyune@napanews.com

A bitter dispute over conditions in a Yountville apartment building has left a couple and their seven children scrambling to find a new home.

A town order to clear out the triplex as unfit to occupy has displaced Jessica and Antonio Lopez and their children, ages 2 to 12, since mid-October, according to

To help the family

www.gofundme.com/got-red-taggedhomeless-2w32c9w?p-c=expt_em_co_share-flow_m_89_2

Jessica Lopez, her attorney and town records. Town planners imposed the sanction on the property owner Daniel Pautenis two months after receiving complaints about a lack of water service and trash pickup at the apartments in the 2100 block of Madison Street.

After the apartment building's shutdown, Jessica Lopez said she and her husband, an unemployed construction worker, dipped into their savings to stay at a Napa motel while a relative has taken in their younger children. With their funds exhausted, the couple later left the motel, with some family members staying at the home of Jessica's mother and others living with Antonio's mother, Douglas Smith, a Napa lawyer representing the family, said Wednesday.

Please see **HOMELESS**, Page A3



J.L. SOUSA, REGISTER

Tony Lopez, left, and his wife Jessica Lopez, right, are seen with two of their seven children, Josue, second from left, and Jake. The family was forced to leave their Yountville apartment in October and are having a difficult time finding housing.

OBITUARIES | PAGE D2
Elsa Vidal Emery

LOCAL BRIEFS
POLICE & FIRE
NATION & WORLD

A2
A2
D1

OPINION
SPORTS
SCOREBOARD

D3
B1
B3

BUSINESS
CROSSWORDS
COMICS

A4
C3
C4



6 84613 01615 5