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# Napa Valley Register

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Friday, April 19, 2013

Year 150 • No. 243

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ON WINE — C1

Wines from Vinho Verde delight and surprise



LOCAL BRIEFS — A2

Runners sponsor fundraiser for Boston bomb victims

THE SPORTS PAGE — B1

Varsity swim teams split Big Game meet



## Road work overdue, over budget

### Wet winter and toxic well caused costly delays on Saratoga Drive

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A roadway extension and widening project that's running months behind schedule is also running over budget.

The City Council allocated more money on Tuesday to the widening of a stretch of Silverado Trail and the extension of Saratoga Drive, upping the original budget by about \$556,000.

The cost was driven up by a number of unforeseen factors, the same factors staff said that had caused the several-month delay in the project that was supposed to be completed in March.

"We've had some additional costs for engineering. We've had additional cost in our property acquisition phase and during construction," senior civil engineer Jason Holley told the council. "We've also had some addi-

tional costs for construction engineering, which is really testing, inspections and management of the construction process."

The project, which began in August, got off to a slow start due to heavy fall rains that prevented major work from being started until 2013.

"We had real significant rain



The city has increased the budget for the Saratoga Drive extension to \$6.7 million. Unanticipated expenses have included costs to improve underground utilities and property acquisition. J.L. Sousa/Register

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## IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT ONE STEP AT A TIME



Domaine Carneros Winery sustainability committee members, from left, Alfonso Rodriguez, Helene Berchin, Stacey Ellis and Norma Sotelo stand near a bin of empty wine bottles on the way to a recycling facility. The winery was recently named the Business Recycling Leader by Napa Recycling and Waste Services. J.L. Sousa/Register

## Earth Day volunteers lead by example

### Two locals make environmental activism their daily passion

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One woman helps to replant Napa County with its native plants and shrubs. Another woman leads a winery's effort not to let the smallest bit of waste go to waste.

As Napa prepares for its annual downtown Earth Day festival on Saturday, each woman has found her own way to improve the valley's environment, a step and day at a time.

A financial services worker turned landscape designer, Kathleen Chasey uses a public garden east of Napa to showcase the virtues of native plants. Seven miles to the west, Ellis, is the production manager of the Domaine Carneros Winery,

Chasey's championing of indigenous Bay Area flora will be on display during Napa's Earth Day Festival, where the California Native Plant Society's local chapter is among more than 50 nonprofit and govern-

### Napa Earth Day festival

**When:** Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Where:** Downtown Napa; valet bicycle parking at Main and First streets  
**Organizer:** Environmental Education Coalition of Napa County  
**Online:** earthdaynapa.com  
**To volunteer** with activities and setup, contact Bonnie Buss at 944-0799 or BonnieBussEvents@aol.com

ment groups planning to appear.

Surrounding the plant society's booth will be samples of about 100 plants native to the Napa Valley — the heart of what Chasey, a volunteer with the group, describes as an up-close way to convince locals of the value of local plants not only to their landscapes but their soil and water too.

"They start out asking for less cost, less water," Chasey, owner of the Down to Earth landscaping busi-

ness in Napa, said Wednesday while strolling the Martha Walker Native Habitat Garden, 3 acres of native trees and flowers at Skyline Park. "What they end up getting is more bees, more butterflies, more joy out of their gardens. It becomes a habitat beyond belief."

The Martha Walker garden, Chasey's showcase of local plant life, is a wilderness-like plot reclaimed from an old Napa State Hospital dumping ground. Spread beyond winding gravel trails are redwoods and oaks towering over dense growths of wild onion, blue-eyed grass, California lilacs and other plants, which support a variety of birds and butterflies.

As the garden's curator, Chasey uses its grounds to show visitors how native plants adapted to Napa's Mediterranean-style climate and dry summers can flourish without

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## BottleRock eases re-entry restrictions

### Protest by music fans led to policy change

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After a few days of confusion and dozens of online posts, BottleRock announced Thursday it will allow all attendees to come and go as they please during the five-day festival at Napa Expo.

Following a Monday night statement by festival co-founder Gabriel Meyers that BottleRock would not be an in-and-out festival, the event's Facebook page and the Napa Valley Register's website erupted in comments from angry ticket holders. The commenters, many of them identifying themselves as locals, questioned why people would not be able to re-enter the festival, particularly when tickets say "retain ticket for re-entry."

"As a local in a small town, you feel you should be able to traverse as you want," Jamie Brown Miller

said Wednesday afternoon after she learned that the three-day BottleRock passes she purchased did not permit her to go in and out of the festival.

"There's a lot of people who still want tickets. (My group is) definitely thinking we might not go if we're going to be locked in the fairgrounds from day to night. It's kind of silly to think people would want to stay at the fairgrounds all day long, no matter how cool they make it."

Miller was one of several dozen who posted on BottleRock's Facebook page to encourage organizers to reconsider the decision. Numerous pass holders said they'd put their tickets up for sale if they were not allowed to leave the Expo to get lunch or dinner, feed pets, check on children or grab a sweater before evening

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## Motorist to serve jail time for biking fatality

### Falling asleep at the wheel resulted in killing Napa cyclist

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A former Calistoga resident was sentenced Thursday to four months in jail in connection with last May's fatal crash that killed a Napa bicyclist on the Silverado Trail.

Cammie Mutz, who married after the crash and now lives in Provo, Utah, was sentenced under a plea agreement reached in February for vehicular manslaughter without gross negligence, a misdemeanor. The prosecution said Mutz was negligent when she killed Alfredo Pedroza on May 17, 2012, on the Silverado Trail near Yountville Crossroad. Mutz admitted she had fallen asleep at the wheel, prosecutor Holly Quate said in a sentencing brief.

As her new husband watched silently in the audience with other relatives, Mutz, 21, was ordered to surrender to the Napa County jail on Monday. She has remained out of custody on her own recognizance.

Judge Thomas Warriner also ordered Mutz to serve 240 hours of community service or work program. She also will remain on probation for three years, possibly in Utah.

On the day of the fatal accident, Alfredo Pedroza, 56, the father of Napa Councilman Alfredo Pedroza, was stopped for unknown reason on the

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## Library shuffles staff, adds children's librarian

### County spokesperson moving office to facility

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The Napa County Library is shuffling its staffing by adding one librarian to children's services, and a full-time employee for coordinating its programs and special events.

The library has also notified its partner agency in Solano County that it plans to end its contract for their online catalog, although it will continue to share resources and materials, Library Director Danis Kreimeier said Thursday.

Kreimeier said the library's contract

was set up in the late 1990s. The Napa library wants to explore its options in finding a new catalog system. The contract ends July 1, 2014.

"We just need to stop and scan the environment of what's available," Kreimeier said. "This gives us the opportunity to go out and look."

The library's partnership with Solano County will continue, allowing the libraries' branches to share books, DVDs and many other materials, she said.

"The idea of resource sharing will continue," Kreimeier said. "Fundamentally that's not going to change."

Kreimeier said the staffing changes should offer improvements to children's services and offer new programs and materials designed to help younger people learn and enjoy going to the library.

Adding the position will give other librarians in children's services flexibility to travel around to other branches in Napa County, she said.

"They're not going to be just stationed at the main branch," Kreimeier said. "They're going to be able to take their story time on the road."

Adding a full-time employee in reference services will help the

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