

# Napa Valley Register

napavalleyregister.com

**Zack Cook new girls basketball coach at Vintage High School**



**B1**

Tasty tasting menus hallmark of Calistoga's JoLe **C1**



**WEATHER:** Sunny. High: 78° Low: 46°

**B4**

**Napa Police arrest a Vallejo pair for attempted murder**

**A2**

## INFRASTRUCTURE

# Delayed bridge repair to start in August

**Trancas Street project on hold for 12 years**

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Repairs to the western pier of the Trancas Street bridge over the Napa River are on track to start this summer – a dozen years after the damage was first discovered. The project, in which workers

will fortify a bridge support scoured by half a century of flood flows, will take place between Aug. 1 and Oct. 15, according to Jack LaRoche, the city public works director.

A \$329,733 construction contract from West Bay Builders of Novato, the lowest of eight bids, received City Council approval last week.

Because the Trancas Street span connects the city with

unincorporated Napa County, both governments jointly own the bridge and will each pay 5.75 percent of the project cost, according to Mark Andrilla, a senior civil engineer for the city. The Federal Highway Administration is covering the remaining 88 percent.

The repair will target the upstream face of the western

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Register file photo

The Trancas Street bridge over the Napa River, seen here in March 2008, is on track to receive repairs this summer to a pier damaged by the scouring effect of floodwaters. A state inspection revealed the problem in 2003, but delays in gaining permits and a landowner's lawsuit delayed repairs for several years.

## PRESERVATION



Noel Brinkerhoff/Eagle

Dry Dock No. 1, Mare Island's oldest, is among the historical facilities that would be included in a new national park.

# Group looks to save Mare Island's history

**Advocates want national park status**

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MARE ISLAND — Nearly 20 years since it closed down as a shipyard for the U.S. Navy, Mare Island sits at a critical juncture. Many of its oldest facilities have been cared for by a nonprofit foundation dedicated to preserving Mare Island's historic military importance to the nation,

**“It's important because this naval base was the center of the United States Navy's presence on the Pacific Coast for decades and it's been involved in every conflict.”**

- Dennis Kelly

not to mention its economic significance to Napa and Solano counties.

But the time has come, according to the Mare Island Historic Park

Foundation, for the federal government to step in and turn Mare Island into a national park to best ensure the preservation of the former base's irreplaceable landmarks.

“It's important because this naval base was the center of the United States Navy's presence on the Pacific Coast for decades and it's been involved in every conflict,” said Dennis Kelly, a foundation board member who is leading a grassroots campaign.

“If we don't save it, all of these

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## DEVELOPMENT

# Ag committee looks at winery parcel size

**Is 40 acres better than 10 acres?**

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Napa County is exploring whether bigger is better when it comes to a minimum property size for new wineries.

The county since 1990 has required that new wineries be built on a minimum of 10 acres. That's about the size of the city of Napa's downtown Fuller Park.

But 40 acres has been mentioned as perhaps a better minimum for a county that considers agriculture the highest and best rural land use. Other ideas include having new winery construction result in no net loss of vineyards and requiring new wineries to grow a certain amount of the grapes they use.

The county's Agricultural Protection Advisory Committee on Monday wrestled with these issues. The Board of Supervisors appointed the 17-person committee to address the balance between winery tourism and agriculture.

“We're going to get a lot of fresh, new information that might alter many people's view of the situation,” committee chairman Ted Hall of Long Meadow Ranch said as he opened the meeting.

Napa County has 49 rural wineries on properties of less than 10 acres, though they are legal because they were built before the 1990 Winery Definition Ordinance. It has 91 wineries on properties between 10 acres and 20 acres, 104 on properties between 20 acres and 40 acres and 151 on properties 40 acres or larger, a county report said.

That's a total of 395 wineries. Another 50 or so wineries are in cities, towns and the county's airport industrial area.

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## DISASTER

# Napa shopkeepers monitor damage in Nepal

**Death toll from weekend quake nears 4,000**

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A steady stream of customers popped into Fairview Market on Coombsville Road Monday morning to buy milk and doughnuts, loaves of bread and other sundries.

Deepak Nepal rang up their purchases with a friendly formality, but his mind was more than 7,000 miles away, in Nepal where friends and relatives were coping with the devastation of Saturday's

earthquake.

The 55-year-old Nepal, who has been in America for 10 years, has an untold number of loved ones and acquaintances in areas rocked by the quake. As far as he knows, all are safe, but their lives are upended, he said.

Most of his family lives in eastern Nepal, away from the epicenter of the 7.8-magnitude quake. For them Saturday's jolt was something comparable to the 6.0 quake that rocked Napa last August, he said.

“Two or three people died” in Biratnagar, he said. But everyone else is emotionally torn apart by the disaster that has killed

## How to help Nepalese

The Salvation Army: SalvationArmyUSA.org  
Unicef: Unicef.org  
PayPal: PayPal.com  
Catholic Relief Services: CRS.org  
Red Cross: RedCross.org

thousands of their fellow citizens, he said.

News reports say the death toll is over 3,800, but that's far below what he's hearing, Nepal said. When authorities survey the rural villages now cut off from rescue workers, it will top 10,000, he predicted.

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Kevin Courtney/Register

Sutej Nepal, left, and his father, Deepak Nepal, are coping with the emotional impact of the earthquake devastation in their homeland, Nepal. Sutej is the owner of the Fairview Market on Coombsville Road where his father also works.

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## OBITUARIES

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