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\$3.00 | THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026 | MARINIJ.COM

## Strawberry housing plan clears hurdle to approval

Marin planning commissioners advance project at seminary site



Developers aim to overhaul the former Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary campus in Strawberry with more than 300 residences. PHOTOS BY ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

By Richard Halstead RHALSTEAD@MARINIJ.COM

The Marin County Planning Commission is recommending that county supervisors approve the development of the former Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary site.

In the works for over a decade, the plan for the 127-acre site in Strawberry calls for 336 residences with 859 bedrooms that would replace 139 of the existing 152 housing sites. Seventy of the new dwellings would be reserved as below-market-rate housing.

The plan also envisions a 267,354-square-foot residential care center that would contain 100 independent-living apartments, 50 assisted-living apartments and memory-care apartments and a 20,000-square-foot building for a preschool and fitness center.

Planning commissioners forwarded an environmental impact report and several other vital permits to county supervi-



The 127-acre property sits in a neighborhood of about 5,000 people and has views of Richardson Bay, San Francisco and Mount Tamalpais.

sors with their recommendations for approval on Monday. These included a master use permit, a master plan, design review and a vesting tentative map.

However, the commissioners rejected a request from the developer, North Coast Land Holdings,

that they recommend approval of changes to the Strawberry Community Plan. The requested alterations would have eliminated requirements that North Coast make a certain number of the dwellings affordable to very-low-income households and provide

90 to 100 student apartments.

Another community plan change requested would have eliminated a housing restriction in an area of the site known as Chapel Hill. The area on a prominent ridge with expansive views of Richardson Bay, the San Francisco skyline and Mount Tamalpais.

"I feel like community plans are these special things that ought to be hammered out in a community process specific to them," commissioner Margaret Curran said.

Commissioner Margot Biehle said, "Community plan amendments need to be born out of a community process, not attached to a developer's proposal and hammered through."

The commissioners voted 6-0 to reject the request.

County staff, however, noted that North Coast will be able to obtain all three changes regardless, through concessions and waivers it will be entitled to under state density bonus law.

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## Support grows for paper at Redwood

School brass accused of meddling in editing

By Keri Brenner KBRENNER@MARINIJ.COM

Redwood High School teachers and parents are accusing the school administration of interfering with the award-winning student newspaper, the Bark.

English teachers at the Larkspur school submitted a letter to the editor last month decrying the treatment of student journalists. The students' adviser abruptly announced a leave of absence last month.

"In over 150 years of collective teaching at Redwood, we don't recall a time comparable to now when the school and district administration tried to override the editorial judgment of The Bark in ways that raise concerns under established student press law," said the March 22 letter, signed by 10 English teachers at the high school.

Susan Harris, a parent of a Bark staff member, submitted a similar letter signed by more than 300 parents and community members, to Tamalpais Union High School District trustees at a meeting on March 24.

"We are concerned by recent pressure surrounding lawful student reporting," Harris told trustees. California education code "protects students' right to publish lawful content, even when it is controversial," she said.

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## Clarity still elusive in Trump talk on Iran war

By Will Weissert, Jon Gambrell and David Rising THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said U.S. forces will "finish the job" in Iran soon as "core strategic objectives are nearing completion," offering a full-throated defense of the war Wednesday night in his first national address since the conflict began more than a month ago.

Trump got a wide audience and a chance to articulate clear objectives for the war after weeks of changing goals and often contradictory messages about whether he's winding down or ready to escalate military operations — even as Iran kept up its attacks on Israel and Persian Gulf neighbors and airstrikes pounded Tehran.

But he spent much of his time repeating some of the same things he said in recent weeks, while also suggesting that the U.S. was close to meeting its major military objectives in Iran and his estimated timeline for concluding operations within two to three weeks. He promised U.S. forces would continue to hit Iran very hard.

"For years, everyone has said that Iran cannot have nuclear weapons. But in the end, those are just words if you're not willing to take action when the time comes," Trump said.

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## Justices hear case on birthright citizenship

By Abbie Vansickle THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — A majority of the Supreme Court appeared skeptical of President Donald Trump's efforts to limit birthright citizenship during arguments Wednesday.

Key conservative justices raised doubts about the constitutionality of the president's executive order that would end automatic citizenship for children born on U.S. soil to immigrants in the country illegally and some temporary foreign visitors.

But in an argument that lasted more than two hours, several of the court's conservative justices

also asked tough questions of a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, which brought the legal challenge, making the outcome of the legally complicated and hugely consequential case not fully clear.

In an unprecedented move and a signal of the stakes of the landmark case, President Donald Trump attended the first part of the argument, watching from a public gallery as his solicitor general defended the policy. Trump had been railing against the court on social media in the days leading up to the argument.

A ruling in favor of the Trump administration could redefine what it means to be an American. It could also have sweeping prac-

tical consequences, stripping citizenship from more than an estimated 200,000 babies born in the United States each year to immigrants who are in the country illegally.

The executive order, which was blocked by lower courts and has never gone into effect, would affect only babies born in the future. Opponents say a decision to uphold it would create chaos and uncertainty for newborns and their parents, and cast doubt over the status of millions of people who have already benefited from birthright citizenship.

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Protesters gather outside the Supreme Court on Wednesday, when the court heard a landmark case on automatic citizenship for nearly all children born in the United States.

ANNA ROSE LAYDEN — THE NEW YORK TIMES

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