

Calistoga Tribune

Independently owned and published in Calistoga for Calistogans since 2002

\$1

April 30, 2021

NEW USE ACCEPTED ▶

Planning Commission approves
new use for Brannan's building

PAGE 6



PHOTOS COURTESY SOLAGE RESORT

Above, a newly-expanded patio area between the resort's SolBar restaurant and its 130-foot main swimming pool connects guest experiences in an inviting way. Below, one of the resort's newly-remodeled guest rooms that feature relaxing earth tones and organic materials, such as Italian linens and pebbled shower floors, as well as private outdoor patios – all emblematic of the “open-air living” theme that guided the resort's makeover.

Solage unveils \$30-million makeover

By Sterling Shore

Tribune Intern

When it comes to Napa Valley getaways, Calistoga's Solage resort and spa stands out for its luxurious wine-country style, world-class cuisine and superior service.

But greatness is not maintained by resting on one's laurels.

This month, Auberge Resorts Collections, which manages Solage and 18 other luxury vacation properties around the world, is upping its game with a \$30-million makeover of the 22-acre Silverado Trail retreat.

Construction began last September and is on track to end by May 5, just in time for a Cinco de Mayo party to celebrate the opening of one of the renovation highlights – the resort's second restaurant, PicoBar.

The unveiling of the revamped resort also coincides with what is looking more and more like the state's economic and societal comeback from the coronavirus pandemic. Gov. Gavin Newsom has set a target date of June 15 for a full reopening of the state if COVID-19 cases remain low and manageable.

Despite the construction and Napa County's COVID-19 status bouncing between the state's Red and Orange recovery tiers, Solage was still a much sought-after destination over the past year. Its open-air design with no lobbies or small, shared spaces such as stairwells or

See **SOLAGE** on page 5



County to repair Garnett Creek bridge, closed since 2014 earthquake

By Pat Hampton

Tribune Publisher

Tear it down, rehabilitate it, replace it with a modern one or make it a pathway for pedestrians and bicyclists. Those were the four options county officials gave neighbors four years ago for dealing with the historic 117-year-old stone bridge on Greenwood Avenue that was closed after being damaged in the 2014 Napa earthquake.

County Public Works director Steve Lederer said this month that the county will rehabilitate the 32-foot span across Garnett Creek. The bridge has been closed to vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle

traffic for the past seven years. Cement barricades closed the crossing after a 6.0 temblor struck the Carneros and Napa areas the afternoon of Aug. 24, 2017 causing more than \$350 million in damages.

The bridge, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was one of 10 county bridges that was severely damaged, Lederer said at a 2017 meeting with nearby residents. At the time, the bridge was the county's most northerly damage from that earthquake. He said that the county originally had a list of nine bridges to fix or re-

See **BRIDGE** on page 4



The stone bridge on Greenwood Avenue built in 1904 has been closed since 2014 when it was damaged by the Napa earthquake. The county plans to repair it but maintain its original architecture.

FILE PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Concerts in the Park set to return July 22

■ Pandemic protocols, such as limiting crowd size, being developed, officials say

By Pat Hampton

Tribune Publisher

Concerts in the Park will return this summer under the shady trees of Pioneer Park when National Park Radio band opens the five concert series on Thursday, July 22 at 6:30 p.m. with its bluegrass tunes.

Hosted by the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce, the popular summer concerts draw scores of people, children and pets to the Cedar Street venue for live music, dancing and picnics.

Pandemic worries earlier in the year had the event, which normally begins in June, on hold, said chamber CEO Bruce Kyse, but the city issued a permit Tuesday to allow the concerts.

“We have no doubt that we will have to control the size of the crowd,” Kyse said via email. “Probably no more than 200-300 people. There are several options to accomplish that goal, so we will decide how to do that as we get closer.”

See **CONCERTS** Page 4

County revising vaccine scheduling to reach more unimmunized residents

■ A walk-in vaccine clinic will be held at Calistoga High School May 6 from 5-8 p.m.

By Kim Beltran

Tribune Editor

In line with Napa County's new strategy to inoculate more residents against COVID-19, Adventist Health/St. Helena Hospital Foundation will host a walk-in vaccine clinic next Thursday evening in Calistoga.

In a written report to Napa County Supervisors this week, public health officer Dr. Karen Relucio said a big drop-off in the number of residents signing up for vaccine clinics prompted officials to change things up in an attempt to reach more residents.

“We just want to try to remove any potential barriers that are keeping people from getting a vaccination,” Napa County spokesperson Janet Upton told the Tribune on Wednesday. Upton said county officials and its vaccine partners believe moving the

See **VACCINES** page 3