

# Calistoga Tribune

Independently owned and published in Calistoga for Calistogans since 2002

50¢

Friday, August 22, 2014

- ◀ **VERMEIL CLASSIC**  
7th annual sprint car races  
honor Louie Vermeil  
**BELOW**
- ▶ **INSTANT WINE CELLAR**  
Sharpsteen Museum's annual  
fundraiser is tonight **3**
- ▶ **'CATS ON THE GRIDIRON**  
Pre-season scrimmage for  
football team at St. Helena **12**



PHOTO BY JOHN MONHOFF

## One-day NC Fair breaks even

■ Residents invited to forum next week to discuss future fairs

By Amanda Rhodes  
Tribune Staff Writer

A Fourth of July recap and a new monthly forum are two hot topics discussed at this month's Napa County Fair Board Association meeting.

The three-hour plus meeting held Aug. 14 revealed that the 2014 one-day fair and fireworks event would nearly break even.

"The forecast, break even. That's a huge accomplishment," CEO Carlene Moore said.

The monthly meeting, which started off with a crowd of around 20 people in the audience, dwindled down to just a handful as the clock ticked past 10 p.m.

Moore presented a six-month financial review and update on the fair association's strategic goals as well as a preliminary recap of the Fourth of July event.

According to the Napa County Fair Association the total expenditures for the Fourth of July event are \$166,863, with a net loss of \$1,884.

"Sustainability is a big driver for decisions the board has to make," Moore said.

According to Moore, this year's one-day fair attendance came in at a little more than 8,000, 55 percent of those being Calistoga residents.

Moore said looking solely at pre-sale tickets, the numbers looked grim but when the gates opened, people were there and ready to celebrate.

"Are there improvements we can make? Absolutely," Moore said.

See **FAIR** page 6

## MORE JOBS THAN APPLICANTS



PHOTO BY CLAUDIA ACEVES

Arleen Hennessy, fills out an application form at Friday's job fair at Indian Springs Resort where employers were screening for 50 new jobs.

## HELP WANTED

By Claudia Aceves  
Tribune Cub Reporter

Indian Springs Resort and Spa held the first of two job fairs last Friday and Saturday in an effort to begin filling positions for the resort's new restaurant set to open in the fall.

In addition, there are several housekeeping, spa and other positions available as well.

According to human resources director Megan Arganbright, there are about 50 positions available with a majority of the jobs making up every restaurant position, including hosts, servers, bussers and cooks.

The two days combined brought in about 50 ap-

See **JOB FAIR** page 11



## B of A set to close its doors- Dec. 5

■ Unclear if ATM will stay

By Amanda Rhodes  
Tribune Staff Writer

After countless transactions, deposits and helpful employees, the Bank of America branch located at 1429 Lincoln Avenue will close its doors for good.

On Dec. 5 at 2:00 p.m., the Calistoga banking center will officially lock-up and shut the vault, Diane Wagner, Senior Vice President of Media Relations for Bank of America confirmed Wednesday.

"Customers were sent a letter 90 days prior to the closing, which offers them banking options at other Bank of America locations in St. Helena and Napa," Wagner said.

With the ability to make banking transfers at the click of a mouse and the capability of depositing a check with a cell phone snap, modern technology has changed the way many do banking.

"The decision to close locations is driven primarily by a decline in transactions, as customers increasingly rely on other channels including mobile banking and online banking," Wagner said. The banking center is currently distributing notices to customers who presently rent safety deposit boxes at the Calistoga location.

According to the Bank of America document, if you have a safe deposit box in Calistoga, the branch is asking that you visit them by Nov. 7 in order to move or collect your items. If the safe deposit box is currently empty, a signature is still required to

See **B of A** page 5

The late Louie Vermeil and John Montelli (in cowboy hat) were strong supporters of sprint car racing in Calistoga.



PHOTO BY JOHN MONHOFF

## Vermeil Classic back on track

■ Celebrating Calistoga's rich sprint car history

FOR THE TRIBUNE

Calistoga Speedway's winningest driver LeRoy Van Conett will serve as the Grand Marshall during the upcoming 7th Annual Louie Vermeil Classic held at Calistoga Speedway over Labor Day weekend.

Affectionately known as The Dragon from Galt, Van Conett has

earned 31 feature event wins at the historic half-mile speedway to go along with eight Calistoga Speedway track championships. The eight-time Northern Auto Racing Club (NARC) champion will be on hand to sign autographs from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. inside the wine and beer garden area on Saturday and Sunday.

Van Conett will also attend the Calistoga Hall of Fame dinner on Aug. 29 located at the Tubbs building.

"LeRoy was a smooth driver, a respected champion who raced clean, and dominated at Calistoga," said Calistoga track historian and announcer Bobby Gerould. "He was a man of few words but let his actions speak for themselves

See **CLASSIC** page 6