



PHOTO BY GENE DUFFY JR

- ▶ **BIKE PATH MEETING**
Vine Trail wants to talk about connecting us to St. Helena
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Firefighters douse fire on shoulder on Tubbs Lane
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Softball and baseball teams play strong on diamond
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City applies for funds to replace 49-year old water tank

■ Feds, state say city may be eligible for \$1.8 million

By Pat Hampton
Tribune Publisher

A new million gallon water storage tank could replace the one built in 1966 that is inefficient and hazardous, tucked away in Feige Canyon.

Built in 1966, the Feige tank is in desperate need of rehabilitation or replacement said city public works director Mike Kirn. The Feige tank has had virtually no maintenance for the last 47-years because the city's

water system couldn't operate without the storage tank. A new 1.5 million gallon water tank was completed atop Mt. Washington, which could allow the Feige tank to be taken off-line and repaired or replaced.

A 2013 Kennedy/Jenks report determined that the existing welded steel tank has significant structural/seismic deficiencies and is not mechanically anchored to the ground.

Kirn said the cost for a new tank was \$2.4 million, but representatives from the State Office of Emergency Services (OES)

and FEMA urged Kirn to apply for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Funds were made available because of the August 2014 earthquake in Napa.

In January, a notice that funding was available was sent to Kirn who told both agencies that Calistoga was interested in replacing the Feige Canyon water tank. Kirn submitted a letter with supporting documents about the condition and cost of the tank's replacement.

Last week Kirn was told that Calistoga met funding criteria and was told to apply for the grant. The OES would grant \$1.87

million to the project if the city would commit to matching funds of \$625,000.

Councilmembers approved the project Tuesday night at the council meeting, directed Kirn to send in the supporting paperwork for the grant and a commitment of matching funds by the city.

Kirn reported the lifespan of a rehabilitated tank would be 40-years; a new tank, which is only a little over \$300K more expensive, will last closer to 100-years, two-and-a-half times longer. The new tank must be completed by Sept. 11, 2018, according to the agreement.

HAPPY 1st DAY OF SPRING!



PHOTO BY LINDSEY OLSON

Elementary school teacher and photographer Lindsay Olsen shared a photo he took as Spring approached the Napa Valley. Today, March 20, is the first day of Spring. The word equinox is derived from the Latin words meaning "equal night." All over the world, days and nights are approximately equal. Today, the sun rises exactly in the east and sets exactly in the west.

City council supports bocce courts

■ Rotary Club says it is a community service

By Pat Hampton
Tribune Publisher

The Calistoga Rotary Club asked the city council this week if it could build four bocce ball courts in Logvy Community Park near the Napa River.

Ed Johnson, the club's community services chair, in a letter to city manager Richard Spitler, said the club members would build the four courts themselves and then turn them over to the city for upkeep.

Johnson said he understood that a 500-foot walkway allowing access to the courts and new handicapped parking would be required to meet ADA standards and wondered if those projects could be the city's responsibility.

Spitler said there were issues with the project that need to be worked out, including trash collection, a drainage holding area, picnic tables and a storage shed. He said the council should approve the plan in concept, but to allow time for city staff and Rotary members

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Vine Trail meeting will explain how it will connect Calistoga to St. Helena

■ Vine Trail meeting Monday to share plans

By Amanda Rhodes
Tribune Staff Writer

An informational meeting on the proposed Vine Trail portion of the bike/walk pathway connecting Calistoga and St. Helena will be held Monday, March 23 at the

Calistoga Community Center from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Vine Trail staff and consultants will present an overview of the project that will ultimately provide nine continuous miles of scenic walking and biking trails connecting the two cities.

The Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition, a nonprofit organization The Vine Trail, through a grant from an anonymous donor, has been working for the past two years with the city of Calistoga, Napa County and Caltrans to develop a route to connect Bothe-

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Vine Trail to provide nine continuous miles of scenic walking and biking trails connecting Calistoga and St. Helena.