

Future flag flying run up the pole

Manager will return with policy of flags on city poles

By Pat Hampton

Tribune Publisher

A new city flagpole at the community center could be used to fly non-governmental flags in support of non-profits and local cultural celebrations, city councilmembers suggested this week.

First a draft of guidelines for policy consideration will be returned to the council by city manager Richard Spitler before any formal action is taken. The discussion on flag flying was the only general government item on this week's agenda, and brought no comments from the few audience members on hand.

The policy discussion comes from a minor flag flap last year when resident Scott Klinepier requested the rainbow flag fly for Napa County Gay Pride Week at the May 7 council meeting during public comment. While no vote was taken, there was no objection made by councilmembers.

The flag flew for three days before a public records request by Kurt Larrecou about the rules for flying flags brought the flag down. Larrecou said he wanted to find out if any flag could fly on the city's flagpole in front of city hall. Because there was no existing policy, Spitler, after consulting with the city attorney, had the flag lowered and removed.

Tuesday, councilmembers asked for a draft policy they could

review that will include giving the mayor authority to order the U.S. and state flags lowered to half mast if a Calistogan of importance died as well as outline what kinds of flags will be unfurled on city property.

Spitler said private donations have been offered to pay for the installation of a new flagpole to fly non-governmental flags like breast cancer awareness, Girl Scout month, Cinco de Mayo or

See COUNCIL page 11

Leak closes Teen Center indefinitely

Leaking roof forces rec offices out of Monhoff too

By Claudia Aceves

Tribune Cub Reporter

A roof leak was discovered in the Monhoff building Thursday morning, dripping into Calistoga's Recreation offices and through the carpet into the Teen Center on the first floor, causing sufficient damage to close the building.

The leak, which was dripping almost a gallon a minute, seeped through the carpet on the second floor overnight and flooded the Teen Center below with about an inch of water before it was discovered.

The roof was first patched with tar on Thursday without success, so the building was deemed unsafe for occupancy by the city building official and fire chief. It was covered entirely with a tarp on Friday. The Recreation and Teen Center staff was forced to evacuate.

A restoration company is currently on site doing remediation work and results determining the total damage should arrive within two to three weeks.

See CENTER page 11

New kitchen, band room open at CHS

Culinary arts classes part of future curriculum

Soroptimists feed 1,300 lbs of crab to 405 diners



Auctioneer Chris Canning encourages bidders for a birthday cake delivered by the Calistoga firefighters at Saturday's Soroptimist

Crab Feed. On stage and part of the "Some Like It Hot" package were (left to right) Jaimie Orozco, Eric Paine, Chief Steve Campbell, Darren Hill, Andrew Saldona, Kris Breiner, Jason Tamagni and Jeremy Campbell. The winning bid was \$1,600 by Gena Welsh.



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

Soroptimist Jessica Khoury shuttles a platter of crab legs to a table of hungry Calistogans during Saturday's fundraiser.

Crab Feed crowd spends \$78,000

By Pat Hampton

Tribune Publisher

A packed house and open wallets brought a record-breaking \$78,000 night to the Soroptimist Club of Calistoga when 405 people sat down and ate 1,300 pounds of crab and bid on live and silent auction lots.

It was a lucky year, the 13th, for the service organization that served crab, salad and bread to ticket holders at the Tubbs Building.

Auctioneer Chris Canning cajoled \$22,000 from bidders for 10

See CRAB FEED page 6

By Claudia Aceves

Tribune Cub Reporter

Calistoga High School celebrated the opening of its new multipurpose building Monday afternoon, followed by the monthly school board meeting.

"There's really not much to say other than 'here we are," said Calistoga Joint Unified School District Superintendent Esmeralda Mondragon.

The new building is fully equipped with a serving and eating area, stage, music room and commercial grade kitchen. According to Mondragon, the new kitchen will allow for the development of a culinary arts program in the curriculum of the Junior/Senior High School.

See CJUSD page 7