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Palisades students celebrate graduation at Hans Fahden Below
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County tracking three suspected norovirus cases

■ St. Helena schools nurse sends letter telling of possible outbreak

By Kim Beltran
Tribune Editor

County health officials are investigating three suspected but unconfirmed cases of norovirus, a nasty bug that causes severe gastrointestinal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

“We have had three gastrointestinal outbreaks in a school setting that are likely to be norovirus but have not been confirmed as such yet,” said Cara Woolledge, spokeswoman for the Napa County Public Health Division.

“The cases are currently under investigation, and we are not disclosing the schools at this time,” said Woolledge.

However, last week, St. Helena Unified School District parents received a letter from nurse Barbara Dondero warning that an outbreak of “a stomach illness” is likely norovirus.

“Pope Valley School District is experiencing the same illness,” she wrote. “We are experiencing new cases every day, which makes it likely to be norovirus. We will keep you updated as we learn more from Napa County Public Health.”

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Etched in stone

Calistoga resident B.J. Hopgood, above, with the help of her grandson-in-law Mario Sculatti, places a brick at the Veterans Memorial at Logvy Park commemorating her late husband Arthur Hopgood’s service in the Army Air Force during World War II.

Looking on are veterans and American Legion Post 231 members Frank Bruno and Jim Barnes, who helped place a total of eight new bricks at the memorial last Saturday. Bruno’s family also placed a memorial brick in his honor on Saturday.

After his military career ended, Hopgood, who repaired damaged aircraft and taught math to young soldiers during the war, worked as a high school teacher in San Mateo County for 28 years. He died in 2011 at the age of 93.

Other members of Hopgood’s family in atten-



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dance Saturday were his granddaughter, Katie Sculatti, his son, Scott Hopgood, and his daughter-in-law, Wendy. For information on Monday’s Memorial Day services in Calistoga, see News Briefs on Page 2.

Summer kids club cancelled, reinstated

■ Boys & Girls Club program moves to CHS

By Claudia Aceves
Tribune Reporter

Calistoga parents whose children attend Boys and Girls Club summer programming will still have the service available to them after a dust-up that threatened cancellation of the local option.

The seven-week long program for kids is usually held at Calistoga Elementary School but due to construction scheduled at the site will instead take place this year on the high school campus.

“The simple truth is, this is the last time we’re going to have to deal with this,” said Boys and Girls Club board president Josh Clark because the new Calistoga club building on North Oak Street between Logvy Park and the fairgrounds is set to open in October.

Told by Calistoga Unified School District superintendent Esmeralda Mondragon that the club would not be able to use the elementary school site this summer due to major construction both on

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PHOTO BY KIM BELTRAN

Palisades High School’s 2017 graduation was held Wednesday night at Hans Fahden Winery. Graduates were, back row left to right, Cesar Ruiz, Tyler Sparks, Alejandro Sanchez and Rigo Avina. In front left to right are Andres Carrillo, Robert Lee, Rufino Hernandez and Anthony Vega.

Palisades graduates looking to the future

By Kim Beltran
Tribune Editor

Eight young men were the center of attention Wednesday night at their Palisades High School graduation ceremony, held on the beautiful grounds of the Hans Fahden Winery on Petrified Forest Road above Calistoga.

The graduates, adorned in vibrant purple caps and gowns, were all smiles as they gathered under an arbor watching guests arrive and waiting for the start of the commencement ceremony.

“We’re excited,” said Robert Lee, who, in addition to completing his studies, worked part-time at Bosko’s restaurant and Hans

Fahden Winery. For the immediate future, he said, he plans to work full-time this summer.

Alejandro Sanchez, born and raised in Calistoga, said he will begin taking health, fitness and kinesiology classes at Santa Rosa

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Second full-time position added to recreation staff

■ Help needed to run both existing and new programs coming online

By Claudia Aceves
Tribune Reporter

Calistoga is adding a second full-time employee to its recreation services department, a position that is needed as programming expands and summertime arrives, said recreation manager Rachel Melick.

Melick said the department originally included herself and two part-timers, but one of those, Megan McCaffrey, recently left to pursue other interests.

“At that point I saw the need to have someone supporting all the department needs and programs,” Melick said.

The full-time position’s salary range is from \$45,089 to \$54,806 annually. The city is recruiting internally for the spot and the

application deadline is today.

The new full-time recreation coordinator should be on board prior to the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30.

The recreation coordinator will help to organize some programs new to the department this year, as well as ongoing activities that have become increasingly difficult to manage between two part-timers.

Among the new activities is a walking group in partnership with St. Helena’s Rianda House Senior Activity Center that kicked off April 19.

The walks will occur once a month through August. This month, participants toured Chateau Montelena Winery’s gardens.

Remaining walks include the Vine Trail, Town Tour and Oat Hill Mine Trail on June 7, July 5, and Aug. 9, respectively.

“It’s geared toward seniors and getting them out to enjoy the fresh

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