

# Calistoga Tribune

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▼ **TRAIN RUNNING ON TRACK**  
*Sharpsteen Museum train repaired, ready for quarters*  
**Below**

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*Fundraiser pulls in \$16,000 with 4 grand prizes* **3**

► **FOOTBALL TEAM**  
*Wildcat football team traveling to Laytonville for first game.* **12**



## Tasting rooms to pair with non-wine retail

■ Council asks for new guidelines modeled on Yountville's pairing of wine tasting with retail

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

Should the city pull the cork on the number of wine tasting rooms downtown or find a formula for diversifying retail by requiring new wine shops to have part of their stores selling non-wine related merchandise?

The city planning commission and city council agree that the topic must be addressed as more applications come before the city for wine tasting venues. Currently, there are 13 downtown wine tasting shops, city planning director Lynn Goldberg reported at Tuesday night's council meeting.

Councilmember Mike Dunsford said he was in favor of limiting tasting rooms by block or linear feet, with short blocks home to one tasting room, and three on longer blocks with something like 500-feet between shops. "In principal I agree with the concern," said Dunsford. "I remember a few years ago we had a lot of vacant stores downtown," said councilmember Gary Kraus. "I don't know what

kind of revenue wine shops bring in but I'm sure it's a lot more than vacant." Jim Barnes said he was a free market advocate, and is not in favor of any regulation, that owners should be allowed to run their business without interference. Mayor Chris Canning doesn't think 13 shops is significant, but shared the position of Barnes that  
*See WINE SHOP page 11*

## City interested in alternative energy source

■ Letter to Marin Clean Energy approved

By Amanda Rhodes  
Tribune Staff Writer

The Calistoga City Council took the first step to becoming a member of Marin Clean Energy, an alternative electric energy supplier. Council directed City Manager Richard Spitler to submit a non-binding letter of membership interest on behalf of the city to Marin Clean Energy (MCE) during Tuesday's meeting. In May, city council received a presentation from the public, not-for-profit electricity provider that focuses on maximizing the use of renewable energy sources in addition to lowered energy rates, and directed staff to peruse the energy option and report back. "If the city's request is approved, the city would enter into a contract with MCE to fund preparation of a rate and services analysis," said Lynn Goldberg, planning and building director. Goldberg said that now that all other jurisdictions are interested in becoming MCE members, depending on the outlook of the analysis, the city would not be burdened with the entire cost of the analysis. The results of the study would be shared publicly with residents and city council.

*See ENERGY page 2*

## \$13,750 given to non-profits by city council

Community Enrichment Grants totaling \$13,750 will be given to six local non-profits ranging from a food bank to new bocce ball courts at Logvy Park. Requests for the cash funding totaled \$10,950 from six applications. The budget for the annual grants is \$20,000. The Calistoga Art Center will receive \$6,000; Calistoga Cares food bank, \$750; Calistoga Christmas Bazaar, \$1,500; Calistoga Rotary bocce courts, \$500; UpValley Family Center, \$2,500; and Wine Country Animal Lovers \$2,500. An additional \$2,500 is set aside for the bocce court project when a more detailed description of the project is received, said city manager Richard Spitler, bringing the total to \$16,250 with \$3,750 still available for the future.

## Volunteers needed for clean up day

■ Part of International Coastal Clean Up Day

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

Grab your gloves, tie your boots and get ready for the city's annual Napa River and Community Clean-Up day on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon. Calistoga will once again participate in the statewide California Coastal Cleanup Day, an event that supports people to clean trash and debris from the state's coast, bays, creeks, rivers and lakes. City coordinator Louise Harrison in public works said the day is part of the International Coastal Clean Up Day when thousands of volunteers in all 50 states and 90 countries take part on the largest waterway. This will be the second year for the clean up day to happen in Calistoga. Last year Harrison said 51 volunteers participated in helping clean debris. This year clean up sites include the Napa river adjacent to Pioneer Park and the Community Center; the Washongton Street Bike Path from the city corporation yard to Dunaweal Lane; the old Pacific Railroad right-of-way also known as the Fair Way Vine Trail Extension and the Oat Hill Mine Road trailhead at Lincoln Avenue and the Silverado Trail. Interested volunteers should meet at 9 a.m. in the Community Center to sign a release of liability and enjoy refreshments before heading out to clean up Calistoga. According to the California Coastal Commission, the top ten litter products by weight between 1989-2014, were: 1. Cigarette butts; 2. Food wrappers and containers; 3. Caps and lids; 4. Paper and plastic bags; 5. Cups, plates, utensils; 6. Straws and stirrers; 7. Glass beverage bottles; 8. Plastic beverage bottles, 9. Beverage cans; 10. Construction materials.

## ALL ABOARD!



PHOTO BY PAT HAMPTON

*Charles and Gigi Palmer stand with parents Abi and John Palmer and train repairman Mark Poggendorf at the now-working train diorama inside the museum.*

## Museum's train now rolling in diorama

By Pat Hampton  
Tribune Publisher

While the adults were outside holding their blue tickets for a wine raffle, Charles Palmer, 6, and his sister Gigi Palmer, were inside the Sharpsteen Museum dropping quarters into a slot and eagerly watched as the toy trains chugged their way through a

diorama of early Calistoga. The two children, accompanied by their parents Abi and John Palmer of St. Helena, are regular visitors to the museum and have always hoped to see the trains run again. It has been several years since the train has worked for more than a few days at a time,  
*See TRAIN page 11*