

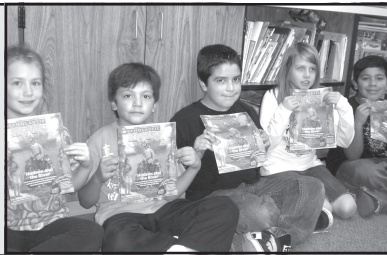
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CLOVERDALE



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REVEILLE

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Autumn leaves turning is a welcome vista for many wine country visitors.

Cloverdale is a Mecca for those seeking a special Wine Country experience

Spectacular wineries, wonderful history that also includes some ninety year old grayevines

By Noel V. Bourasaw

As I returned from California earlier this summer via Amtrak, I once again met someone who conversed well and asked excellent questions about travel. Like me, she enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere of the Spanish Talgo lounge car so much more than being wedged into an airplane coach seat. As we compared travel, we each had a glass of 2006 Chateau Ste. Michelle Merlot from Washington State. Where would you prefer to travel at rush time in the vineyards and in the fall, she asked. Without hesitation, I told her: Sonoma County on California's coast.

Like many travelers, she was mostly familiar with Napa County, so I reviewed for her a sampling of the Zinfandel of Alexander Valley, the Sauvignon Blanc of the Dry Creek Valley, the Pinot Noir of Carneros and the beautiful Chardonnays and Cabernets of the Valley of the Moon, west of Sonoma, the city, with autumn leaves scampering among the vines. Intrigued, she asked where I would stay. Again, the answer came easily: the Vintage Towers Bed and Breakfast in Cloverdale, at the north end of the county.

Vintage Towers was my home for four days in May and as we chatted on the train, I could still feel the mattress cradling me after the first day of touring some of the world's loveliest vineyards. Don and Mary Stuart have done something exceptional to this oddly shaped house with its towers sprouting up like sunflowers around the roof. The Stuarts surrounded the turn-of-the-20th-century house

with gardens, of both flowers and vegetables. Mary often picks the latter to follow one of her rules for cooking her spectacular meals: freshest local ingredients when available, including sometimes their own.

Merchant and mining-executive Simon Pinschower built the Victorian house with its signature towers in 1901 in the Queen Anne style; it was designed by noted Petaluma architect Brainerd Jones. I waited for my tour guide the first morning in their beautiful wooden gazebo, which is covered by vines and flowers in the northwest corner of their property. I was full and smiling after a wake-up breakfast of Mary's Basil and Artichoke Frittata and cherry scones. Pretty soon I felt as comfortable under the round wooden top as Harold Hill waiting for Marian the Librarian in Music Man.

My guide soon appeared in the form of Greg Martin, a dear friend of nearly 40 years. He has a special perspective on the Alexander Valley, as we will soon note. He knew the exact spot where I wanted to go, but we ambled around on the way. South of Cloverdale on Highway 101, we turned off just north of Lytton Springs and headed to Geyserville, so I knew we were going to visit the vineyards of Souverain. I remembered as if it were yesterday the unique building that resembles a hop kiln and was designed in 1973 by architect Marsh Davis for the North Coast Grape Growers Association, an association of vintners that was originally formed in 1964.

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City of Cloverdale files brief in casino lawsuit

By Roberta Lyons

The City of Cloverdale, along with Petaluma and Sebastopol has filed a "Friend of the Court," or Amicus brief with the Ninth District Court of Appeals in regard to a lawsuit filed by the Stop the Casino 101 Coalition: *Stop the Casino 101 et al v. Salazar et al.*

According to City Attorney, Eric Danley, the case involves a lawsuit brought by the Stop the Casino 101 Coalition against Secretary of the Interior, Kenneth Salazar, which was dismissed in the Ninth District Court and is now being appealed to the Ninth District Court of Appeals.

The lawsuit challenges the decision to place land into trust for the purpose of gaming. The Stop the Casino 101 Coalition is opposed to the Graton Rancheria's attempt to acquire land in Rohnert Park for the purpose of building a casino, and is suing the federal government challenging its right to remove land from California State sovereignty.

The decision to file the brief was made in closed session at the end of a recent City Council meeting, and was reported in the minutes. According to Danley, legal issues are traditionally done in closed session and are expressly permitted by the Brown Act, the California open meeting law. He explained that a Friend of the Court brief means that a party (the city) is offering information to the court that it believes is important. "Amicus briefs don't re-argue the case, but make the

court aware of policy implications so they help provide additional perspective for the court. It helps to support the lawsuit," he explained.

"We're very grateful that these cities have shown such vision and leadership. Federal land grabs like the Graton Rancheria [attempt] wreak havoc on local government's efforts for orderly, planned growth, and these cities get that," a press release from the Stop the Casino 101 Coalition noted.

According to a spokesperson for the group, Marilee Montgomery, the purpose of their lawsuit is to ask the court to determine if the mere act of taking land into trust will remove land from State of California sovereign authority. "We are protesting the actions of a federal agency," she said. The group's belief is that California Indian lands have never been under Federal control and therefore the Federal government does not have the right to exempt Indian land from state and local land use laws and policies.

Although the case was dismissed in the Ninth District Court, Montgomery said her group is confident that they will "get back into court," on this issue.

She said the objection is that Indians are exempt from local land use planning. "More and more, federal trust lands have imposed unwelcome and non-conforming development on local governments which are left footing the bills for infrastructure, social programs

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**"Protesting the
actions of a
federal agency"**

AVRMC gets \$45,000 in assistance for six months

Alexander Valley Regional Medical Center will receive \$45,000 in mutual aid over the next six months under an agreement with the North Sonoma County Healthcare District, operator of Healdsburg District Hospital.

"The money will help make up for more than \$300,000 in state grants that were cut from the AVRMC budget for this year. Those dollars are used to pay for visits and medical supplies for the uninsured," said Deborah Howell, AVRMC Executive Director.

Last year the state funded 915 uninsured visits to AVRMC. However, the medical center had in excess of 2,800 uninsured visits. In all, there were 17,000 patient visits to AVRMC in the 2008-2009 fiscal year that ended in June.

"Treating people early, before illness becomes severe and the Hospital Emergency Room is the only choice, it just makes sense," said Evan J. Rayner Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare District. "This Mutual Aid Agreement will help assure that while the Emergency Room can be used for all levels of medical illnesses, it can also be more effectively used for true medi-

cal emergencies and help maintain quality healthcare close to home for Cloverdale and Geyserville residents," he added.

AVRMC has seen an increase in uninsured patients as people lose their jobs. Under a sliding scale fee schedule, AVRMC collects a modest co-payment from the uninsured based on their personal financial situation. The co-payment helps stretch the funds from the North Sonoma County Healthcare District.

In addition to Healdsburg Hospital, the district recently purchased Healdsburg Primary Care. The hospital also operates a physical therapy and blood draw station in Cloverdale.

AVRMC provides Primary Care to more than 5,500 patients with offices at 6 Tarman Dr., corner of Cloverdale Blvd. Same day appointments for acute illnesses and 24/7 physician after hours telephone consultation is available to all community residents by calling 894-4229. The medical center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. -Mark Thayer

General Plan implementation subject of joint study session

By Mary Jo Winter

A Joint Study Session of the City Council and Planning Commission was held Nov. 3 to discuss the General Plan implementation plan.

Discussion centered on the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Ordinance and the city's goal to complete all public hearings and have the language in place by February so the Ordinance can be placed on the November, 2010 ballot.

As it stands, all areas outside of the UGB, including existing open space and agricultural space, will stay that way. While the city's Sphere of Influence is being expanded under the provisions of the UGB, no area can be developed for other purposes than those specifically designated.

During the public comment period, one local resident voiced concern over the Asti Exception Area saying she felt the city would be taking a big risk by providing water and sewer services because of the huge costs involved and the unknown return on investment.

It was explained that this is considered a traditional job creating area

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The time before Armistice Day was changed

By Marie Hill

Before World War II November 11 was called Armistice Day and was celebrated nationwide as a patriotic holiday to honor veterans of World War I. It was always held on November 11, regardless of the day of the week, and all the stores were closed so everyone could join the festivities.

In 1934 there were eight American Legion Posts in Sonoma County with over 1,000 members - Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Cotati, Sebastopol, Guerneville, Petaluma and two in Santa Rosa. These veterans groups got together and decided to have a county wide celebration for Armistice Day. Cloverdale was selected to be the host city for this first event. November 11 was on a Sunday so Monday was declared a holiday and it was a three day celebration.

The weekend started with a dance on Saturday night with music by Russ Colwell's band and there was another dance on Monday night. No dances were held on



Veterans Day observance Wed., Nov. 11 in the plaza at 11 am

Sundays in those days. Religious services were held on Sunday morning at the Citrus Fair Pavilion with a large choir performing. Monday morning there was a marathon race and Cloverdale's own William Mazzini came in second. Monday afternoon there was a football game between Healdsburg and Ukiah.

Healdsburg won 7 to 6. It took a lot of work to convert the school baseball field to a football field.

The main event of the weekend was the parade on Sunday. The 1934 parade had nine divisions. Every city in the county entered bands, floats and marching veterans. Several American Legion Posts had a Drum & Bugle Corps in the parade along with many other bands and color guards which made for a lively and patriotic march. Cloverdale's Marion Ornbaun, the county's only surviving Civil War veteran was the Grand Marshall.

The parade started at 10:30 a.m. and was halted at exactly 11:00 a.m. for a minute of silence as a tribute to the moment the peace treaty was signed at Versaille, France, at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918. At this time an aerial bomb was released that exploded into an American flag floating in the sky and then the parade continued. After the parade there were remarks from the re-

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