

# Washington Township Historical Society



## JULY - AUGUST 2018

VOL. 42

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**MEETING DATE: MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018, 7:00 PM at  
FREMONT MAIN LIBRARY, 2400 STEVENSON BLVD. FUKAYA RM**

Washington Township Historical Society Editor: Al Minard

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and friends of Washington Township Historical Society,

We will be meeting at the Fremont Main Library at 2400 Stevenson Boulevard at 7:00 on Monday, July 23. We have good news about our plaques with all of the text and pictures being approved. We did not participate in this year's Fourth of July Parade, because I did not make the necessary arrangements with the Ford F-150 Truck Club or the parade organizers. We have some issues coming up that need your attention. 1) Ohlone College is proposing a development along Mission Boulevard in front of the college that may endanger the historic olive trees along Mission Boulevard. 2) Cloverleaf Bowl is sitting on property that has been purchased by a developer that wants to completely demolish all of the businesses in that area of Grimmer and Fremont Boulevard and put in high density housing. The current plans include the demolition of Cloverleaf Bowl which is historically significant and is the last bowling alley in Washington Township. 3) The Peterson Farm in Union City has the proposed East-West connector from Paseo Padre to Mission Boulevard going in front of Peterson Farm but on later drawings it shows the Peterson Farm being developed into a Gateway Site with housing replacing Peterson Farm. This property has been reviewed three different times by three different historical architects and each time has been found eligible in two criteria for the California and Federal Register of Historic Places. What concerns us is that Union City has not protected other historic sites within the City. 4) The Irvington BART station has had a couple of public meetings and there is one more public meeting planned but with no date or location. This involves access to BART, protection of the Palmdale Winery remains, and housing in the immediate area.

We hope to see you at our Monday, July 23 meeting at the Fremont Main Library in the Fukaya room.

*Al Minard*

*"To Collect, Preserve and Diffuse Information Relating to the History of Washington Township"*

# MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

*Tri-City Voice*, May 22, 2018, Al Minard wrote that Grace Rankin, historian of the Fremont Art Association would be the featured speaker at the Washington Township Meeting on Monday, May 28 at the Museum of Local History, 190 Anza Street.

*Tri-City Voice*, May 22, 2018, Shape our Fremont writes that there are several projects being considered in the Fremont area. One is the Irvington BART station, which has access issues and parking issues as well as preservation of the Historic Palmdale Winery ruins. The second is the Ohlone Frontage project that proposes to build 258 apartment units and have 13,000 square feet of commercial space along Mission Boulevard which may endanger the historic rows of Olive trees. Three is the East West Corridor connector connecting Mission Boulevard with Paseo Padre near Isherwood Avenue, although this would be primarily a road project there is some discussion about additional housing at the Peterson Farm site. Fourth, Silicon Sage Centerville project is planning on building 54 flats, 72 townhouses and 25,000 square feet of commercial on the corner of Fremont Boulevard and Peralta, the big discussion is how to handle the historic Centerville Fire House.

*Tri-City Voice*, May 29, 2018, William Marshak writes in an editorial about CEQA, which is good to identify impacts of projects in an area, but does not consider multiple projects in the same area for their cumulative impacts and does the last project pick up all of the problems from the earlier projects?

*Tri-City Voice*, May 29, 2018, Victor Carvellas writes about Music for Minors II, who held a family music festival in the Niles Town Plaza. This is a great organization that brings music to children in all of the elementary schools in Fremont and Newark.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 12, 2018, Pat Kite Examines Eucalyptus. Pat says that many people are leery of planting eucalyptus because of the fire danger, but they are a very aromatic plant in flower arrangements. Pat notes that there are over 700 varieties some only grow to 33 feet tall others grow to over 200 feet tall. They were brought to California during the Gold Rush of the 1850's for Railroad ties, but the Blue Gum which most were have a twist in them that is not suitable for railroad ties.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 12, 2018, The Washington Township Historical Museum of Local History invites everyone to a walking tour of Irvington. The tour will cover much of the area in the Irvington Historic District and take a little over an hour.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 12, 2018, The Hayward Area Historical Museum announces some of the programs they have scheduled for the summer, including "Toddler Time" on weather and seasons, McConaghy house tours, two current exhibits, one on the Japanese Internment camps and the other "Black and White in Black and White" an exhibit on the diversity, hope and dignity in America.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 19, 2018, Elaine Vargas Rodgers celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Irma Louise Vargas a long time member of Washington Township Historical Society who now lives in the Brookdale Care Facility on Paseo Padre in Fremont.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 19, 2018, Joseph Ehardt writes about a bus tour of historic sites in Milpitas this is a free tour of historic sites in Milpitas which ends with a tour of the Silva Apricot Orchard. This is arranged by the Milpitas Historical Society.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 26, 2018, Jeff Barbosa writes about the Regan Nursery who recently received an award as the Small Business of the Year by State Senator Bob Wieckowski (D Fremont). Regan Nursery is on land owned by the City of Fremont and was almost bought by a developer a few years ago, but the deal fell through so Regan Nursery is still providing flowers, plants and education on planting and growing plants.

*Tri-City Voice*, June 26, 2018, Timothy Swenson wrote a letter to the editor responding to several other letters about the Peterson Farm. Tim states that the Peterson Farm has been reviewed by three different Historical Architects and found to be eligible for the California and National Register of Historic Places. He comments that he hopes the Union City recognizes the importance of this the last remaining Farm House in Union City.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 3, 2018, Nate Ivy writes about Fremont students taking the Bay Area Maker's Faire by storm. Students built all kinds of things including robots that did amazing things and the Fremont students won lots of awards for their work. Congratulations.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 3, 2018, The Niles Canyon Railroad invites everyone to roll through history on the Historic rail bed of the Transcontinental Railroad and sample some great wines as you travel the rails. You not only learn about the Historic scenery and rail road but also learn about wines from the Livermore Valley Wine region.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 10, 2018, The Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum invites everyone to come down to the Essanay Silent Film Museum and learn about Charlie Chaplin and the making of Silent films. They are also including some walking tours of Niles.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 10, 2018, Ohlone College invites everyone to learn about the plans for Mission Boulevard in front of Ohlone College. Everyone will be encouraged to comment on the plans for what Ohlone calls "Mission Walk". The next opportunity to become involved in this process is Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at Ohlone College, Building 7, first floor.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 10, 2018, Pat Kite writes about the Swallows. Pat mentions that there are several species here in the area but 75 species worldwide. Swallows have good omens about them and generally considered good luck.

**Speaker for our July meeting is  
Patricia Schaffarczyk of the Washington Township Museum of  
Local History.**

Patricia will present a slide show on Lorin Hansen's last Book on the Mormon historical sites in this area of Alameda County. Lorin passed away on June 21, 2018 and his son John and Carol (Lorin's wife) plan on attending this event. Many of the Mormon's in the area are also planning on attending this event. The book will be available for purchase, but there is no fee to attend this meeting or to see the show. Our business meeting will happen shortly after the talk and slide show.

# ARTS & CRAFTS IN SHINN PARK

1251 Peralta Boulevard, between Mowry and Robert Fisher Dr. in Fremont.



SUNDAY,  
AUG. 19, 2018  
10 AM - 4 PM

In August the gardens at Shinn Historical Park are very beautiful. We will have Local Artists display, demonstrate and sell their art work. There will be some historic crafts people that will have some of their work for sale. We plan on having Music For Minors II, and another musical group, We will be selling hot dogs, popcorn, sodas, water and tours of the historic Shinn House. We have invited the Fremont Cultural Arts Council to have a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) booth set up with college students directing the activities for everyone to enjoy.

**FREE Admission to the grounds.**

**No Charge for enjoying the art, music, dancing or view.**

Historic Shinn House tours, after 12 Noon, are \$5 adults, \$2.50 for children age 5-12, Free under 5

Hot dogs, popcorn, soda and water will be available after 12 Noon and very reasonably priced.

We ask you to come out and enjoy this wonderful park, to look at the Art and if you like it, purchase it and support our local artists. Tour the House, and enjoy the music. We ask only for you to have a great time at a wonderful park.

This event is sponsored by the Fremont Cultural Arts Council, Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, The Fremont Art Association, Boy Scout Troop 447. and Jack in the Box. Profits will be used for historical preservation and restoration by Mission Peak Heritage Foundation. Mission Peak Heritage Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

**For more information contact Al Minard at: (510) 552-4839**

**or e-mail: "Alminard@comcast.net"**

*Guide to Mormon Historical Sites in Washington Township,  
Alameda County, California* by Lorin K. Hansen



The story of the Mormon settlement of the Tri-city Area (Washington Township) begins with the arrival of the ship Brooklyn at Yerba Buena. In his booklet, Lorin Hansen identifies specific local landmarks, gives the history of individual families, and includes then-and-now photographs of many sites. Enjoy a photographic journey through these important historical landmarks!

**Book launch & discussion**

**Monday**

**July 23, 7 p.m.**

**Fremont Main Library**

**2400 Stevenson Blvd.**

**Fremont, CA**

Join the Washington Township Historical Society and Washington Museum of Local History to discuss and learn about Lorin Hansen's new *Guide to Mormon Historical Sites*. The booklet will be available for purchase.

Phone 510-745-1401 or TDD 888-663-0660

The library is wheelchair accessible.

An ASL interpreter will be provided for this program if requested at least 7 days in advance.

all library programs are FREE  
[www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org)

Alameda County  
**LIBRARY**  
...Infinite possibilities

JULY - AUGUST Newsletter; JULY meeting on July 23, 2018, starting at 7:00 PM at the Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fukaya Room, Fremont. We will present Lorin Hansen's book on the Mormon influence in Southern Alameda County. Everyone welcome to attend this free event.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 per year

PATRON MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00 for one year

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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