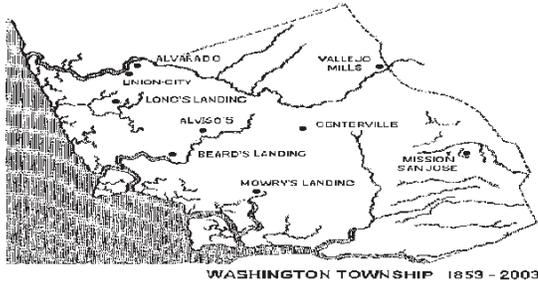


# Washington Township Historical Society



**MAY - JUNE 2018**

VOL. 42

NO. 03

PRES.: AL MINARD

(510) 552-4839

V.P.: JOHN WEED

(510) 651-2482

REC. SEC.: TIM SWENSON

(510) 489-8944

TREAS.: DON BARSII

(510) 342-8355

**MEETING DATE: MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018, 7:15 PM at  
MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY, 190 ANZA STREET, FREMONT**

Washington Township Historical Society Editor: Al Minard

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I attended a workshop put on by the Conference of California Historical Societies of which we are a member. I learned some things about creating an umbrella agency that oversees and co-ordinates activities within the area's historical community. I need to do more research on this to see if it is something we might want to consider in the future.

I am working with Grace Rankin our Guest Speaker in May to select slides to show the WTHS members and friends of the Fremont Art Association photo albums.

I was unable due to prior commitments to attend the Washington Township Museum of Local History Potluck on May 20, since that is the same day that the Shinn House is open and I needed to be there to provide docent led tours of the house.

We have gotten approval of the text file for the Bronco Billy Pizza restaurant in Union City, so now we only need the Women's Club building on Parish Avenue and the Church in Union City and we can get our plaques made. Thank you everyone for the hard work you all have done to make this happen.

*Al Minard*

## Guest Speaker, Grace Rankin on Fremont Art Association

Grace Rankin has been a member of the Fremont Art Association for many years and over those years has held every position on the board. Grace is the current Historian for the Fremont Art Association. She will bring stories of her own painting experiences and also those of the Association. We will be showing slides from some of their historical photo albums. Grace worked as a Registered Nurse at Washington Hospital on a part-time basis for nearly 20 years, then Grace and her husband bought a 7-11 convenience store and ran that for many years and finally retired and travelled all over the country in their motor home visiting large and small town art museums.

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

# MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Victor Carvellas writes about the docent program at Coyote Hills. This gives children and adults an opportunity to learn about the history of this area and the Ohlone Indians who lived here for thousands of years.

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Arathi Satish writes about the high-caliber photography show at the Fremont Main Library. We all change but photos never change.

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Pat Kite writes about the wise old owl. From Pat's internet research she learned that owls are less intelligent than pigeons. Due to head size and eye placement they look smart.

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Kelsey Carmello writes about the Plein Air artists that met at the Rancho Higuera Adobe to make paintings of the area.

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Kelsey Carmello and Patricia Schaffarczyk wrote about Elizabeth Lowrie an early Pioneer in Washington Township. Kelsey and Patricia also told about Elizabeth's farming history in this area.

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Michelle Smith McDonald reported on Alameda County History Day for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary students, 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> junior high students and 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> senior high students who competed in the Alameda County National History Day competition. Michelle listed the students who were advanced to the California State History Day competition on May 5-6, 2018.

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** The City of Fremont announced winners in the California Park and Recreation Society competition, including Dr. Joyce Blueford of the Math-Science Nucleus Museum in Fremont. Congratulations Dr. Blueford.

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Shape our Fremont reports that post World War II buildings may be historically significant and deserve preservation, and included in Fremont's historical resource list.

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** The Citizens for a Better Community (CBC) celebrated the year of the Earth Dog, one community and one world. They also recognized Mary Lynn Pelican as Volunteer of the Year.

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Kaiser Permanente of Fremont reminded us that spring is here which means the Farmers' Market at their hospital is again open for business on Thursday's, from 10 am to 2 pm.

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Mia Mora reports

that the late frost killed many of their seedlings, which have now been replanted and ready for purchase on Earth Day, April 22. There LEAF. garden is at the California Nursery in Niles,

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Pat Kite wants to celebrate Artichokes. Pat says that if you want home-grown artichokes you have to cut them off before they reach maturity. Pat says that each little pointy piece is actually a flower bud and if you let it grow too long that is what it becomes a purple flower.

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Kelsey Carmello, reports that Tim Swenson will lead a one-half mile history walk in the Alvarado area. The walk will take about 90 minutes so you know that Tim will tell a lot of the history of this area.

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Mayor, Lily Mei gives her report on the state of the City. Mayor Mei says that Fremont's appeal to modern businesses continues to grow. Mayor Mei also says that Fremont has been named the Happiest City in America for the past two years by WalletHub.

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Mabel Smith reports that Alameda County Healthy Homes Department is now accepting applications for their grant funding housing repair programs.

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Margaret Thornberry talks about the beautiful Dahlia. Margaret states that there are many variations in color, size and flower.

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Dave Mason reports that Coyote Hills Park will grow from its current size of 1,266 acres by adding another 306 acres. The East Bay Regional Parks is planning improvements to Coyote Hills to make it more enjoyable for visitors.

**Tuesday, April 24, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum showed some early silent films about Railroads on Saturday, April 28, 2018 and then followed that with a train ride on the Niles Canyon Railway on Sunday, April 29.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Shape Our Fremont writes about three developments that may add 300 new dwellings to Fremont. They are located on Walnut Avenue, Fremont Boulevard, and High Street.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Rhoda J. Shapiro reports that the Alameda County Water District is installing a fish ladder to allow fish to go up-stream to spawn.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** N. Claire Napawan, asks everyone with experiences along and in Alameda Creek to send those memories to the University of California at Davis.

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Michelle Powell invited everyone to visit the Waste Water Treatment Plant on Benson Road in Union City. They are celebrating 100 years of treating waste water from homes and businesses and would like to show off their facility.

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Kelsey Carmello, reports that the Washington Township Museum of Local History held a pot-luck dinner at Swiss Park on Sunday, May 29 to honor the Museum volunteers and introduce new people to the projects the museum is working on.

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Valerie Boyle reports on Newark Mayor, Alan Nagy's State of the City address. Mayor Nagy spoke of his love of history and anything Newark. Mayor Nagy wants to preserve the small town appearance of Newark and its rich history.

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Pat Kite talks about "Hostas". Pat recently attended a Home and Garden show and was tempted to purchase some Rhizomes that were suitable for shade because that was all of the garden space she had left. Pat found that there are over 3,000 Hosta varieties ranging from small to large and with different color flowers.

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** in a letter to the editor, a Mission San Jose High school sophomore reported on his Boy Scout Eagle project to collect used eye-glasses and get them cleaned and then deliver them to poor people in developing countries that cannot afford eye-glasses. There are many drop off sites including the Fremont Main Library.

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018, *Tri-City Voice*,** Marcess Owings reports that A. T. Stephens is retiring from the position of Director of the Hayward Area Historical Society Museum effective June 30, 2018. Diane Curry long-time curator and archivist will assume the role of Interim Director until a new director can be found.

## PRIMARY ELECTION INFORMATION

Alameda County and the State of California is striving to get 70% of voters to get their election ballots by mail. In the past this meant spending sometimes more than a \$1 to mail them back to Oakland. In this June 5, 2018 election you have the opportunity to drop off your election ballots any time before the closing of the polls on June 5 at 8 PM at the following locations:

Fremont City Hall, 3300 Capitol Avenue, between city hall building A and B.

Newark residents can drop off their election ballot at Newark City Hall 37101 Newark Boulevard outside the main entrance.

Union City residents can drop off their election ballot at the Union City, City Hall 34909 Alvarado-Niles Boulevard.

Election Ballots can also be dropped off at any Polling booth on June 5, 2018, before 8 PM when the polls close.

The advantage to dropping them off early is that they will be counted before election day and reported as soon as the polls close. If you drop them off at a polling booth they may not get counted for up to 28 days.

For those of you who have not yet chosen to Vote by Mail, I strongly suggest that you do so before the General Election in November.

The primary election this year may be a little confusing in that if you are registered to vote you can vote for any candidate, from any party, for state office and the two candidates who get the most votes will compete in the November election even if they are from the same party. That is unless one candidate gets more than 50% of the votes cast, which would result in that person being elected to the position without being on the ballot in November.

The Washington Township Museum of Local History has set up several walking tours. All tours are free to the public but a \$5 donation is suggested.

**Saturday, June 16, Irvington 11 AM,** Meet at the Irvington Monument at Five Corners in Fremont. Tour will be led by Caroline Harris.

MAY - JUNE Newsletter; May meeting on May 28, 2018, starting at 7:15 PM at the Museum of Local History, 190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 per year

PATRON MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00 for one year

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL CHECK TO: Washington Township Historical Society      PO BOX 3045      FREMONT, CA 94539

**Washington Township Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 3045**  
**Fremont, California 94539**



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 1853 - 2003