

You can still apply to these schools for fall

As the school year comes to a close, seniors can finally turn their sights on grad parties and summer. For many it is a welcome relief after having to go through the heart-wrenching machinations of deciding on which college to attend by May 1. For those who have happily settled on your future plans, a huge congratulations!

Unfortunately, though, some seniors are not as smitten with their college options and may even be eagerly awaiting some good news about getting in to their first-choice schools off a waitlist. Since this may or may not turn out favorably, I wanted to highlight a possible alternative route.

Just as there are students who may not feel their colleges are right for them, there are colleges that did not get their admission numbers right — and these colleges have



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space available!

As I have written about in previous columns, colleges admit students based on meeting admissions criteria but have to estimate who will actually commit to attend. Sometimes colleges end up with a higher-than-expected yield, meaning more students choose to attend than what had been predicted.

Remember what happened with UC Irvine and Cal Poly SLO last year, where more students accepted than the schools could easily manage? In such instances, colleges have to scramble to accommodate a large bulge of freshman which puts pressure on classes, housing

and other campus resources in general.

Conversely, sometimes colleges do not hit their marks and do not have enough students to fill their freshman classes. Hence space is available at these colleges next year!

National Association for College Admission Counseling, or NACAC, collects information from its members about this situation. Colleges and universities can upload their data into an online database starting after May 1; the information is continually updated as they adjust their admissions data.

Formally called the “Space Availability Survey,” it is now called the “College Openings Update: Options for Qualified Students.” It is a voluntary listing of “NACAC member postsecondary institutions that are still accepting

applications from prospective freshman and/or transfer students for the upcoming fall term.”

Check out this wonderful resource for students who may want to adjust their college options at <https://bit.ly/2qoGNcD>.

How does it work? Go online and peruse the database to see if there are any colleges that you know you want to attend, then check to see if they have space for freshmen (or transfers if that is your situation). Also, it is helpful to download the list and explore colleges with space that you may not have heard of but may be a good fit. You can search by state and even by country.

At the time of writing this column, there are 17 colleges in California with space available for freshman of which three I would like to highlight as possibly being of interest to local students: Azusa Pacific, in Southern California, and Dominican University and Mills

College in Northern California.

The first two are located in small cities, in suburban settings with about one-third of their undergraduates majoring in a health-related field. Azusa Pacific is considered a medium-sized college whereas Dominican is a small private school.

Mills College is a small liberal arts women’s college in Oakland that has the added bonus of allowing students to cross-register and take classes for credit at other Bay Area colleges and universities such as UC Berkeley and Saint Mary’s.

A few things to keep in mind if you choose to go this route. First, you will lose your deposit at the college you previously committed to attend.

But, hey, that may be a small price to pay to switch to a college now that is a better fit than have to transfer later, which can be expensive in terms of time and money.

Also regarding finances, there is a high likelihood that schools on the NACAC list have already awarded much of the merit money they have to give. But then again, if schools need to fill their freshman class, they may have to be more generous to do so.

Second, please formally decline the offer to the original school so that another student can earn that spot.

And, finally make sure to jump on getting housing and signing up for orientation at your new college so you can hit the ground running.

With that I will sign off for the summer. Best of luck to you all!

— Jennifer Borenstein is an independent college adviser in Davis and owner of *The Right College For You*. Her column is published monthly. Reach her at jenniferborenstein@therightcollegeforyou.org, or visit www.therightcollegeforyou.org

Hitting the rails for good wine and cool breezes

I’m always surprised when I talk to a Davisite who has never boarded the Capitol Corridor train. My favorite get-out-of-Davis excursion is a care-free day that begins and ends at the historic Davis station. The ride itself is a joy — I can read the morning *New York Times*, work on a column, start a new detective novel, or just sit back and take in the green hills and bay waters that line the route west.

Sometimes I get off at Richmond and take BART to the Big City or downtown Berkeley; most times I get off at the Berkeley station on Fourth Street and make my way on foot to Cafe Tomato or The Cheese Board or any number of distinctive morning hang-outs.

After breakfast, the possibilities are numerous — a stroll along the Berkeley Marina, a long walk to Elmwood, an afternoon in the Gourmet Ghetto with a stop at the Arts and Crafts Co-operative. Solano Avenue always has something new to offer, and the varied UC campus landscape offers great scenery and things to do.

Several years ago a Wineaux reader asked if I’d ever been to The Spanish Table on San Pablo Avenue. Well, I thought, that’s just a short(ish) walk from the train station and, even better,



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very near Cafe Leila with its welcoming patio and delicious, creative breakfasts.

The Spanish Table (1814 San Pablo Ave) did not disappoint. All manner of Spanish and Portuguese goods line its shelves — from beautiful pottery to squid ink to clay tagines to chocolate bars to Aleppo pepper flakes to books. And wine, of course, including unusual bottles that you might not find anywhere else.

On my birthday, some friends broke out a bottle of Spanish red that I loved. When I tried to find a source for it, the only one that came up was The Spanish Table. A perfect excuse for to revisit this enticing shop.

The wine? Dattera Viticultores Portela do Vento. It’s a blend of mencia and garnacha and has a story that’s as intriguing as the wine itself. Winemaker Laura Lorenzo decided on her profession when she was just 16, loving as she did the wines she tasted growing up (imagine a culture

where children are introduced to good wine). She has since made a name for herself in Galacia for her innovative winemaking (meaning old-fashioned winemaking) — with organically raised grapes, native yeast and minimal manipulation. In other words, she’s one of the many young makers of “natural” wine.

Laura calls this particular bottle her “glou-glou” wine, the wine she shares with friends over a casual meal. It’s appropriately young, spicy, patently alive, and impossible to resist. At least for me — I refilled my birthday glass entirely too many times. You can practically taste the slate soil of the region and the olives, lavender and thyme that flourish in the rugged, rivered Quiroga-Bibei, where Laura has just a few acres of grapes. She tends them lovingly, so that they “let us know where the wine wants to go.”

This bottle is wonderfully food-friendly, too. At just 12.5-percent alcohol, it won’t overwhelm your grilled anchovies or eggplant but won’t be overwhelmed by your grilled lamb chop. It was perfect with the homemade birthday pizzas that kept coming out of son-in-law Heath’s new portable pizza oven.

What’s “glou-glou” for Laura, however, is a splurge for me at \$30 — but well worth it.

Given that dent in the budget, at my next stop, Vintage Berkeley, I searched for a less-expensive wine. Not hard, since VB specializes in small production, under-\$25 bottles. VB is in the Gourmet Ghetto, just a block from The Cheese Board, Chez Panisse and numerous other spots of gastronomic fun.

Its shelves are filled with helpful information about each wine — information that, along with the comments of the knowledgeable staff, seldom steers me wrong. My only hesitation in recommending a particular wine from VB is that the lots are so small that by the time the column comes out, the recommended wine might be gone forever.

I’m hoping this won’t be the case (I want more!) with my \$16 bottle of 2013 Val de Mer Bourgogne Blanc. It comes from winemaker Patrick Piuze, who also makes premier cru and grand cru Chablis. The Val de Mer is a close cousin. In fact, I liked this clean and pure but entirely approachable wine more than many Chablis I’ve had of late. Aged in stainless steel and long-fermented with native yeast, it, like the Spanish wine, has a firm sense of place.

I served it with a huge bunch of escarole that I had very slowly sauteed with anchovies, garlic

and shallots for over two hours. Its velvet texture with the characteristic slight bitterness of the greens contrasted beautifully with the minerality and sharp acidity of the wine. If you think chardonnay is boring, you need to try this. And with hot days on the horizon, you’ll be happy for a Bay Area respite.

Two bits: With the Co-op’s Julie Loke, I’m doing a wine tasting tomorrow, June 7 at 5 pm — The Wild World of Pinot. From Oregon to Austria to Chile, from white to rose to red, we’ll see what’s being done with this great, if persnickety, grape. Appetizers, too. \$15 for Co-op or I-House members. Come join us.

June 11 is the beginning of National Prosecco week. My response: always take advantage of silly advertising gimmicks to drink good wine. Instead of the usual OK-but-boring bottles, try one of the delicious new small production, hand-crafted Proseccos like Alice (Co-op, \$20), made by two multi-award-winning sisters-in-law or the Asolo Col Fondo (Valley Wine Company, \$22), which is fermented in the bottle like real champagne. You might decide you prefer one of these to their \$60 sibs. They’re that good.

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Davis High senior off to Air Force Academy

Enterprise staff

Lauren Aquino of Davis was among a group of 10 students who were honored by Rep. John Garamendi, D-Walnut Grove, for their admission to service academies. She will attend the Air Force Academy in Colorado and will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. Aquino currently attends Davis High School.

The candidates were selected by an independent panel of distinguished veterans and educators after an exhaustive interview and application process. The ceremony was hosted at the Veterans Memorial Theater in Davis.

“These 10 incredible students have decided to make a career out of service to their nation, and I couldn’t be prouder of them for that decision,” Garamendi said.

Every year, Garamendi has the honor of nominating a limited number of people to four of the five service academies. The honor of attending a service academy comes with an obligation and commitment to service in the



COURTESY PHOTO

Rep. John Garamendi, D-Walnut Grove, presents Davis senior Lauren Aquino with a commendation for being admitted to the Air Force Academy.

military for at least five years upon graduation.

Christina Stokke, RN, became a member of the Woodland Healthcare Foundation’s Board of Trustees in early 2018. Stokke was a nurse at Woodland Healthcare for nearly 20 years in the Emergency Department, Catheterization Lab, Quality Program and as the Coordinator of the Chest Pain Center before she left

in 2014 to open Nouvelle Medical Aesthetics in Davis.

At Woodland Healthcare, she spearheaded the effort to obtain hospital accreditation as a Chest Pain Center. Stokke will use her many years of expertise to enhance the efforts of Woodland Healthcare Foundation to improve and maintain high quality at every level of Woodland Healthcare, from physician retention to equipment upgrades.

NAME DROPPERS

UC Davis alumna Mallory M. O’Connor won first prize in fiction from Northern California Publishers and Authors for her debut novel, “American River: Tributaries, Book One of the American River Trilogy.”

O’Connor’s historical fiction trilogy follows the interwoven stories of the descendants of three immigrant families as they struggle to build their legacies in California during the turbulent 1960s. In “American River: Tributaries,” O’Connor unwinds a compelling yarn about the pursuit of art, music, culture and love, and captures the essence of the 20th-century American dream.

“The experiences of the 60s that I wrote about in this trilogy are things I observed first-hand — the Civil Rights Movements, the Women’s liberation Movement, the United Farm Workers Movement,” O’Connor said. “I watched John Kennedy’s funeral on TV, worked in the Bobby Kennedy presidential

campaign and protested the Vietnam War. Interesting times — and all are referenced in ‘American River.’”

O’Connor is a writer, art historian and professor of art history emerita for Santa Fe College. She holds master’s degrees in American history and art history from Ohio University. She attended UC Davis from 1961 to 1963. She grew up on a walnut ranch in Carmichael and has continued to maintain connections in the area through classmates from La Sierra High School and UC Davis. She currently resides in Gainesville, Fla. To learn more, visit www.mallorymconnor.com.

The late Dr. Wim van Muyden, OB-GYN, was honored on Dec. 15 with a new plaque in the Family Birth Center of Woodland Memorial Hospital. In addition to his decades of caring for expectant mothers and their newborn children, Dr. van Muyden and his wife Pauly also gave generously through Woodland Healthcare Foundation.

A kind and caring physician, Dr. van Muyden was personally and professionally dedicated to the well-being of our community. He delivered more than 3,000 babies in Woodland during his career. In addition to his practice, he served as Chief of Staff at Woodland Memorial Hospital and a prominent member of the Woodland Clinic Medical Group. He was also a generous trustee of the Woodland Healthcare Foundation board.

Before he passed in 2009, Dr. van Muyden ensured that his support for the hospital and the community he loved would continue into the future through his estate plan. Woodland Healthcare Foundation is deeply grateful to Dr. van Muyden and his wife Pauly for their outstanding commitment to our families and our community.

— Do you know of someone who has won an award or accomplished something noteworthy? Email it to newsroom@davisenterprise.net or send it to Name Droppers, The Davis Enterprise, P.O. Box 1470, Davis, CA 95617