

# Treats, No Tricks . . . Alpine County Halloween Is So

By MIKE DUNNE  
Bee Correspondent

MARKLEEVILLE — Dangling dollar bills and an innovative couple have solved the problem of too few houses too far apart for trick-or-treating youngsters in this Alpine County community.

"It was disappointing to the kids," said Rita Keebaugh, whose family previously lived in San Jose, with its sprawling suburbs of abutting houses, which may well constitute a child's concept of Halloween heaven.

After the family moved to Markleeville, where neighborhoods tend to be scattered in isolated pockets of four to six homes, Halloween just sort of lost the glitter, Mrs. Keebaugh said.

But Chuck and Dorothy Johnson, proprietors of Brown's Motel and Restaurant, saw an answer.

It was planted when an old-timer sitting at the bar suggested that the townsfolk throw a Christmas party for the local kids, a custom that apparently flourished at one time and then died.

The Johnsons decided there was

enough happening during Christmas, but they realized that Halloween could use a shot in the arm.

They are the sparkplugs behind a community Halloween party which has virtually replaced trick-or-treating with a costume parade, a hot dog and doughnut feast, a haunted house and a pumpkin carving contest.

And the way they get the money to buy all these Halloween goodies is evident to anyone who walks in the Brown's restaurant and bar: dollar bills and business cards adorn the place.

Local business people and visitors who stop by the restaurant and bar during the year for a meal or a drink often end up tacking a dollar bill or two to the wooden canopy above the bar.

Currently, an estimated \$250 in currency dangles like leaves from the canopy.

The bills are held in place with thumb tacks and business cards from communities throughout the West, including South Lake Tahoe, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Lodi and British Columbia.

"Some person will be sitting here

having a drink and suddenly notice a friend's card, so he will pull out his own card and put it up with a buck," said Mrs. Johnson.

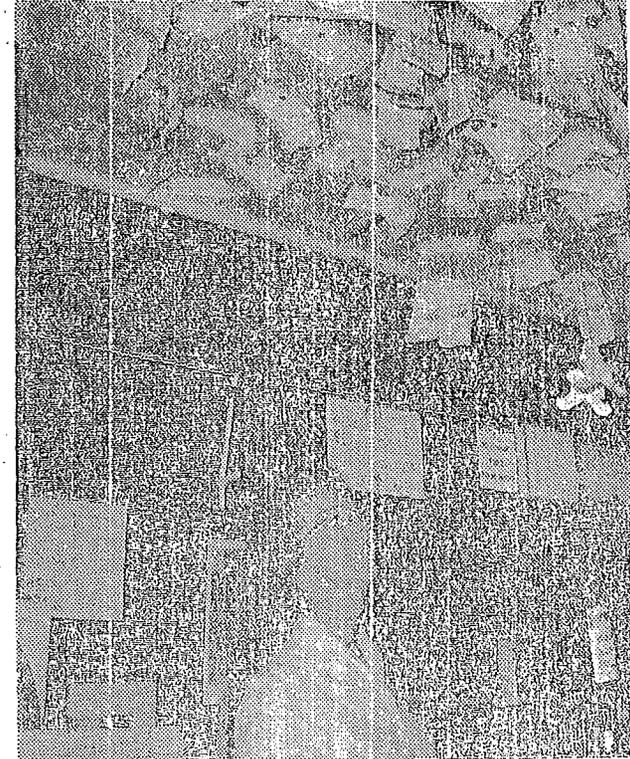
At first she was concerned that someone might break into the bar some night and steal the money, but she has since given up that fear.

After spending two hours removing the tacks and retrieving the \$243 that was donated last year, she decided it would be too much of a chore for anyone after an easy take.

Some 80 children participated in last year's party, and more than — 100 — from Markleeville and other Alpine County settlements like Bear Valley, Woodfords and Kirkwood Meadows — are expected to join in the activities this year.

The Johnsons will close their restaurant at 2 p.m. on Halloween and prepare for the four-hour party that begins at 5 p.m. with a parade of the costumed youngsters.

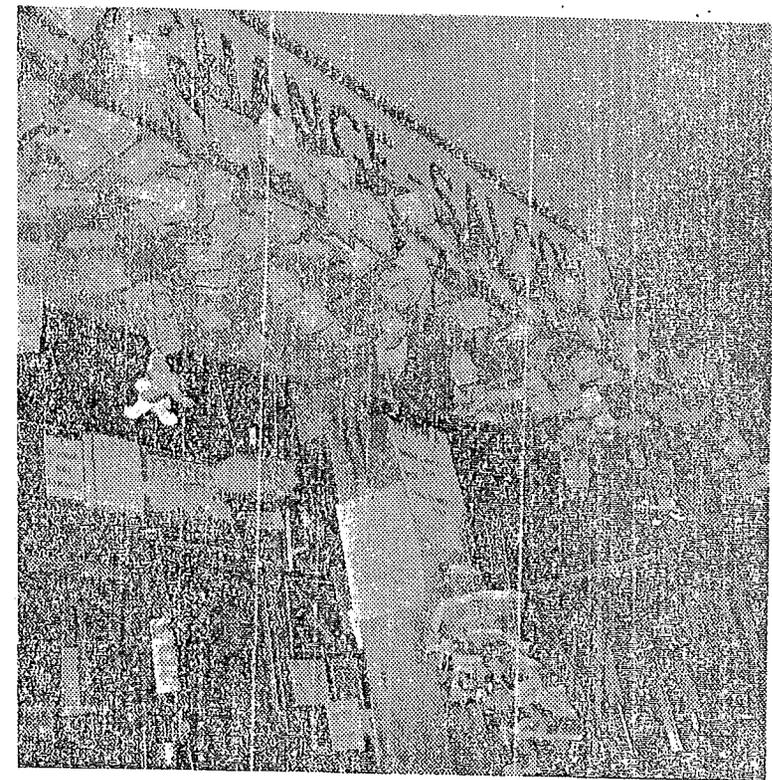
But it's not only for the children. "The kids are looking forward to it," said Marge Purdy, mother of two young boys. "We adults are, too. We're all for it."



Bee Photo by Mike Dunne

Dorothy Johnson surveys party money

# n Is Something Special



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party money pinned above her Markleeville bar.

# Long Tenures

## Alpine Supervisor Bruns Is Known As Record Setter



Hubert Bruns . . . 'It's easy to look back.'

By **MIKE DUNNE**  
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**FREDERICKSBURG, Alpine Co. —** Short term commitments have a way of stretching on and on for Hubert Bruns.

When he first ran for Alpine County supervisor in 1940, he pledged he would serve no more than two terms. Four terms and 16 years later he recalled the promise and voluntarily declined to seek re-election a fifth time.

Four years later, in 1960, however, he again was elected to the board. Now, after another four terms and 16 more years, he is preparing to retire. The 32 years he has been a supervisor constitute the longest tenure of any board member currently serving in the state, said a spokesman for the County Supervisors Association of California.

Then, there is his service on the California-Nevada Interstate Compact Commission, the group formed in 1955 to divide the waters of the Lake Tahoe Basin among the two states and a half dozen counties in each of the states. When he was appointed to the commission at that time, Bruns was told that it would probably take five to seven years to amiably settle the matter.

"I remember thinking then that seemed like an awful long time," he recalled. Now, however, 21 years later, the commission still is attempting to resolve the issue, which has bogged down over questions concerning water rights for Pyramid Lake. "We know what we've completed is good and wouldn't hurt anybody, not even Pyramid Lake," said Bruns, uncertain what will become of the proposed compact.

Although he will step down from the Alpine County board at the end of the year, Bruns will continue as a member of the commission and as a director of the Lahontan Region of the State Water Quality Control Board.

A cattle rancher for many years, Bruns also has become a respected water authority during his long service with the three entities. As such, he counts among his major accomplishments while a supervisor, an agreement between Alpine and El Dorado counties to export treated effluent from South Lake Tahoe to a reservoir near Markleeville.

The pact, which helped preserve the sparkling blue beauty of the lake while providing irrigation and recreation water for Alpine County, led to the formation of Indian Creek Reservoir. Although the reservoir is an economic boon for the county, Bruns is especially proud to have had a hand in safeguarding Lake Tahoe, where he spent many a summer Sunday swimming during his youth.

The negotiations which led to the agreement, however, were marked by some of the tougher decisions he had to make as a supervisor. "A lot of people didn't want somebody else's sewage in their backyard," he recalled. "To explain this (project) to people who didn't know the background was most difficult.

"Some local people said nobody would fish in a lake of effluent when we have so many fresh water lakes around here, but it is probably the most fished lake in the area today," he added. Bruns predicted that the arrangement eventually will be copied in other areas of the country. "It's got to be. It's the best way to use treated effluent."

During the past three decades he also successfully worked for numerous highway improvements in the county, including completion of Highway 89 over Monitor Pass, and he has helped oversee the development of major new ski resorts at Bear Valley, Mt. Reba and Kirkwood Meadows.

He said that throughout his tenure he has attempted to "take each problem individually and apply the best possible reasonable judgment to it," striving to come up with a solution that would "benefit most of the people."

"You don't want to be overbearing. You should stay in the background, giving a nudge here and there," he

added in discussing the day to day operation of county government. "You should never try to throw your weight around and be a big shot."

Bruns learned the lesson from experience. When he first took office in 1941 he was just 26 years old, full of energy and brimming with ideas for reshaping and redirecting county government. "I soon found out that no one individual goes in and reshapes county government. Government is pretty much run by the people, so you do what they want," he recalled. "No one person comes in and successfully changes county government, which is like a person. It has its own personality."

As most of the public it serves, Alpine County's governmental personality is friendly, informal, independent-minded, fiscally conservative, helpful and personal. "A local resident should be able to go into a county office and be received as he would be in a neighbor's house. That's the way we've tried to operate Alpine County," said Bruns, a rangy man partial to concise comment that is presented with the lilting drawl of a sagebrush rancher. "We don't want regimentation."

Bruns also noted, however, that the county's casual style of governing does not sit well with everyone, particularly some of the newer residents from such urban centers as San Francisco and Stockton who are settling at Bear Valley and Kirkwood Meadows. "There are new people who would like our government to operate like a big county, but Alpine is a rural county," he commented. "We operate it businesslike, but not as a big business. It's not Los Angeles.

"They think we're kind of behind the times. They would like more benefits from county government than we do. They expect more from government than it can give," he added.

Bruns is not critical of their demands, indicating that they are the normal "growing pains" of persons who move from metropolitan complexity to mountain simplicity.

He also holds a patient and tolerant attitude toward the developers of the Bear Valley and Kirkwood Meadows resorts, whose property tax delinquencies have been blamed for the county's financial woes. (In recent months the supervisors have raised taxes, frozen wages, trimmed budgets and borrowed \$160,000 to continue providing services in the face of the delinquencies.)

To critics who argue that county officials should have been more strict with the developers to prevent the financial problems, Bruns says, "Perhaps some portion of the blame rests with county officials, but it is a God-given right for those people to come in and develop. There was no way we could prevent it (Bear Valley) from developing. But then the financial burden got too big and they couldn't meet it. Mt. Reba, which is right next to it, is definitely in the black and is doing a fine job.

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"People say you shouldn't have let them do it, but this isn't Russia, you know."

Growth and development of the county is inevitable, remarked Bruns. Recreation and agriculture will remain the county's economic mainstays, although more and more people will make Alpine County their home while commuting to jobs in Carson City, South Lake Tahoe, Gardnerville and Minden, he believes. The county's climate is too severe for the area to be attractive for many retired persons, he added.

"It's anybody's right to live here," he remarked. "All we can do is keep it clean and well regulated."

Bruns said he is retiring at this time because he has "been in so long and it takes so much time and plenty of other people can do the job.

"It's time to give up and stay home and take care of the ranch."

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## Gillings Offers Advice

MARKEEVILLE—San Joaquin County Posse Comitatus organizer Francis Gillings told Alpine County supervisors Thursday "its about time this county took charge of things and ran them according to the law of the land."

Gillings, who has been spending an increasing amount of time in Alpine County, made the remark during a special meeting of supervisors at which they were discussing their county's fiscal crisis.

As the supervisors voted to borrow \$163,000 to replenish the county's general fund, Gillings, who with his son, David, was sitting in the audience, asked to speak.

Stepping to the microphone, Gillings stated, "Me and my son own property in this county, and I op-

pose the borrowing of the full amount of \$163,000 for a full year."

First, he said, the supervisors should ask the county's taxpayers to pay their November tax installments early.

"You'd be surprised how helpful people can be if you ask them," he said.

"You give me three days out here with your taxpayers and this county won't have to borrow a dime."

Then, Gillings, who said he has been conducting a business analysis of some property in Bear Valley for an unnamed firm, offered to pay his taxes now for the coming year.

"In fact, I'll do better than that—I'll pay next year's taxes too," he said.

## Alpine's Missing Voters

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Secretary of State March Fong Eu says several hundred of the 652 voters in Alpine County might be illegally registered there.

But Alpine County Dist. Atty. Thomas Kelly said Thursday that two of the 317 persons on Ms. Eu's list are county supervisors.

Ms. Eu said it's a list of people who are registered to vote in Alpine County, but have neither a driver's license nor an auto registration giving an Alpine County address.

The permanent population of the county, in the Sierra, is 810, swelled in the summer by outsiders who own cabins.

Kelly and the supervisors requested the list. They suspected some summer residents of voting in

Alpine County because their votes count heavier than at home.

In January, former Supervisor Jack Doyle was recalled in an election decided by 40 absentee ballots. He was defeated again in June on a 69-64 vote.

An aide to the secretary of state, Caren Daniels, said some on the list might not own cars or have drivers licenses, and some might have moved since their last transaction with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Kelly said some of the persons on the list are from Bear Valley, which "for some reason" the DMV has been mistakenly putting in Calaveras County recently.

Bear Valley is in Alpine County about 100 yards from the Calaveras County line.

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# Mono, Alpine elections

Supervisor  
races  
and  
recall  
question

Requests for absentee ballots in Alpine County are running in the moderate-to-heavy range, and county clerk Joan Chacon says that indicates "a pretty good" turnout is in store when voters in the California county go to the polls Tuesday.

Only one local measure is on the Alpine ballot—the recall of county school superintendent Richard Martin.

Voters will also cast ballots in races for U. S. Senate, House of Representatives and both state senate and assembly.

Ms. Chacon said there's really no way she can predict a percentage of turnout on Tuesday, but indications are the voters will go to the polls in large numbers.

The recall question has generated some controversy. At a recent school board meeting, a citizen read a three-page statement denouncing what he called "serious inadequacies" in the school system.

Early this week, the newly-formed Alpine Teaching Association endorsed Martin and urged that the recall be defeated.

California voters will get a chance to vote for a

(see page 16)

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## --Alpine voters

(from page 1)

presidential candidate, as will those across the nation. Along with candidates Ford and Carter and the lesser-known figures from minority parties, Californians have the opportunity to write in the name of their own favorite. Eugene McCarthy, former Minnesota Senator and past Democratic hopeful, is the most widely-known figure seeking presidential write-in votes as an independent.

In the race for U. S. Senate, Republican challenger S. I. Hayakawa hopes to unseat Democrat John Tunney. The race has generated lots of excitement among fans of the political wars. Hayakawa, a Japanese-American, gained fame as the battling president of San Francisco State College when he took on anti-war demonstrators in the late 1960s. Tunney is a liberal in the Kennedy mold and the son of one-time world heavyweight boxing champ Gene Tunney.

John Garamendi, another colorful Democrat, is battling Republican Bob Whitten for a seat in the California Senate. Garamendi is a state assemblyman representing Alpine and other counties.

Norman Waters, Democrat, and Dan Parises, Republican, are fighting to fill Garamendi's seat in the 7th Assembly District.

In the race for U. S. Congress, long-time incumbent John J. McFall is challenged by Republican Roger Blaine. McFall is the majority whip in the U. S. House of Representatives.

The U. S. Senate race has been joined by several minority party candidates in California, including Jack McCoy of the Independent American party, Dave Wald, Peace and Freedom, and Omari Musa, Independent.

# The Sierra resorts grid for a busy year

The Sierra Nevada. The beautiful, yet formidable, range dubbed "snowy mountains" by the Spaniards. The same range that sent shudders through the likes of such stalwart men as John C. Fremont, "Snowshoe" Thompson, and George and Jacob Donner. Who among these pioneers of the 1800s could have imagined what the desolate, snow-driven, eerie winter wasteland of the Sierra would become in little more than a century?

Could Gen. Fremont have anticipated the Battle of the Lift Lines, with thousands of people massing toward hundreds of chairlifts, cable cars, and gondolas?

Would Snowshoe Thompson have laughed away the image of the mail trucks whizzing up and down Interstate 80?

Would the Donners' ill-fated band of pioneers have been able even to comprehend the tremendous whoop of joy that an eight-foot deep snowfall in late October would cause to rise from the populace throughout northern California?

The transformation of one of the most frightening collection of mountains in the world to one of the nation's busiest winter playgrounds has happened with lightning speed. And continues unabated.

The outlook for this winter season is for a busier playground than any season before.

Here is a brief look at what's new and what's happening in the Sierra this winter.

Downhill skiers will find several new lifts and a good deal more terrain this winter but no new ski areas. Squaw Valley now has 25 lifts with the addition of its Newport and Solitude chairs. The Newport chair (2150-foot long, 465-foot vertical rise) opens up new intermediate terrain, running from near the bottom of the Gold Coast chair, up and across the Siberia chair, to the base of Siberia bowl. Solitude (2400-foot long, with a vertical rise of 750 feet) opens up new intermediate "deep snow" terrain between the bottom of the Shirley Lake chair and an area east of the Links chair.

Squaw Valley has also begun construction on its new "High Camp" restaurant-bar-restroom complex at the upper cable car terminal. "The Summit" is expected to be in operation by ski season.

Heavenly Valley continues to extend its Nevada empire with completion of its Stagecoach lift located on the northeast side of Boulder Peak. The 6200-foot-long lift rises up 1500 vertical feet from a base elevation of 7500 feet and provides skiers access to a number of Nevada runs — the men's and women's Olympic Downhill Runs, Galazy Run, Toiyabe Trail, the East Peak lake area and East Peak lift. Heavenly Valley also spent some time this summer reshaping the California Trail, which links the area's California and Nevada sides, and also adding an "on-ski" nursery.

Kirkwood Ski Area, south of Lake Tahoe on State Route 88, has added a seventh chairlift, Hole-in-the-Wall Chair, in its Sentinel Bowl area.

Also new this season is the 1000-foot-long Hay Flat beginners' platter pull. Kirkwood has also added substantially to its base facilities. The main Base Lodge has been expanded by 6,000 feet to accommodate more cafeteria patrons, and has 2500-square-foot addition to the sundeck. An entirely new base lodge — Hahnenkamm Lodge — has been built at the bottom of the new Hole-in-the-Wall lift. The 3200-square-foot lodge houses rental and retail shops, a cafeteria, bar/restaurant, restrooms, lockers, and sundeck.

Even the 112-year-old Kirkwood Inn, at the entrance to Kirkwood on Highway 88, has undergone a facelift this summer. The bar area has been enlarged, and a general store has been added.

Farther south, Dodge Ridge has also been improving base facilities. Longtime Dodge Ridge patrons will notice the disappearance of the old wooden entrance tunnel to Chair No. 3. And the original lodge continues to grow with the addition of a game room and expanded snack facilities.

## Alpine Teachers Organize Group

MARKLEEVILLE — To improve communication, discuss professional issues and work toward quality education, Alpine County's 11 teachers have formed the county's first teacher organization, the Alpine Teaching Association.

Ann McGuinness, a special education teacher, was elected the group's chairperson; Bill Duncan, upper grade teacher at the Bear Valley school, was elected secretary-treasurer; and Catherine Parker, a primary teacher at the Diamond Valley School, was elected acting secretary.

Alpine County has two elementary schools, one at Bear Valley and the other at Diamond Valley.

## Alpine

MARKLEEVILLE — The only local issue which will face Alpine County voters Nov. 2 is the proposed recall of Richard L. Martin, the county's superintendent of schools.

Five persons who circulated a petition to recall Martin charged that his performance "has not been in the best interest" of the county, that "his attitude toward certain teachers and employees has seriously reduced the effectiveness and efficiency" of the county's schools and that "his knowledge of and management of school budgets has not been in the best interest" of the county's taxpayers.

In reply, Martin listed 14 educational accomplishments in the county during the past year, ranging from the start of a counseling program for Indian students to the paving of entrance roads at the Diamond Valley and Bear Valley schools. He also noted that a special education class has been started, that one of the schools is open for community use five nights per week and Saturday mornings, that an early childhood education program was developed and that a new reading program was initiated in the upper grades.

Martin was elected to a four-year term in 1974.

# School recall question generates controversy

Whether the Alpine County School District is being run "inadequately" by school superintendent Richard Martin, is in issue that will be decided in Tuesday's election.

Alpine County voters have only one local measure on their ballots. No county offices are up for grabs.

The issue has generated controversy in the tiny California county. A scathing three-page report was read at a recent school board meeting by a citizen who favors recall. This week, the Alpine Teaching Association filed an

endorsement of the superintendent and said he should be retained.

Dave Davidson of Woodfords told the school board members and audience that the school system suffers from "serious inadequacies" that need correcting. "He said his children aren't learning anything in school. 'They no longer know what respect is, nor what morality is. Our school is afraid to take the board of education and apply it to the seat of some of these children here, for fear someone might be offended.'"

Davidson said children spend too much time playing in school, and not enough time learning.

The teaching association sent out letters this week urging that Martin be retained.

"We have tried to find out what the issues are in this recall election," the letter said. "We have been unable to discover any factual basis for the charges leveled by the proponents of the recall. An overwhelming majority of the professional staff in both schools agree that Mr. Martin handles staff problems in a professional manner. He has shown, during his 21 months in office, progressive leadership in the development of relations with students, parents, community and staff."

The letter cites accomplishments made under Martin's guidance, including counseling programs for Indian students, special education programs, teacher evaluation and improving staff communications.

"This recall is being used and abused to tragically divide our community," the letter said. The association is comprised of teachers and teaching assistants.

# Doyal appeals court decision on voters

There may not be any local offices listed on the Alpine County ballots for the voters to consider next Tuesday, but one seat on the board of county supervisors is still the subject of contest.

Fritz Thornburg, who has occupied the seat since Jack Doyal was recalled from it by public referendum last January, stood for election in the June primary and won out over Doyal, who challenged him.

The June vote was close, and Doyal said a

number of people who voted in the primary were not legally qualified to do so. His challenge of some of the voters was taken to Superior Court in September, where Thornburg also questioned the qualifications of some voters. After three days of hearings, Judge Joseph Huberty disqualified some of the voters from each challenger's list, on the basis of residency. The net result was Thornburg 64, Doyal 60 valid votes.

Now, Doyal has appealed the Superior

Court decision and called for a transcript of the hearings. In addition to the court appeal, he has also asked the California Secretary of State, as the state's chief election officer, to rule as to whether Judge Huberty's ruling was correct in all cases.

"I contested 23 that I felt didn't live here, didn't work here, and whose children didn't go to school here," Doyal said this week. "The Superior Court judge ruled some of these to be legal voters in our county."

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## OTHERS' VIEWS

### No voter apathy in Alpine

A lot of good things can be said about mountainous Alpine County — its craggy scenery, clear air and winter sports; its fine fishing streams and pure water, and the pleasure of wide open spaces it affords the city visitor.

But its voting record — ah, that's another matter. In the June primary, the secretary of state's office listed 459 persons of voting age as registered in the county. In the election, 468 ballots were cast. Thus, Alpine distinguished itself with a turnout of 101.96 percent.

An enthusiastic response at the polls is not uncommon in those parts. Secretary of State March Fong Eu, who has been trying to do something about it, says that "many times in the past" the number of registered voters nearly equaled the county

population — and, she wrote the district attorney, "that population total includes children."

County Supervisor Harold Duarte acknowledges people vote there who shouldn't — mainly cabin owners who are allowed by some officials to register even though they actually live elsewhere. But, then, he says the election code is pretty ambiguous about residency requirements.

One candidate can attest the issue is more than academic. He lost the race for supervisor by a mere five votes — and who cast the deciding votes is anyone's guess. His experience should be warning enough and a prod to both state and county authorities to get at the root of the trouble before election time rolls around again.

—SACRAMENTO BEE

HISTORICAL CONTINUITY in an ever-changing world is a factor to be treasured, and the area of the Northern Mines (not the Mother Lode, which is south of Sierra county) gives Californians a present reminder of the state's past. Changing the county seat, it seems to us, would not have been wise, and we congratulate the county's voters for agreeing.

Sierra, the second smallest county in the state, can lay claim to having been one of the most important areas in California's formation in the last century, and the fact that Downieville became the county seat 124 years ago is a not unimpressive statistic.

THE CITIZENS of Sierra county, in their wisdom, voted this week to retain Downieville as their county seat. On a measure to move the seat to Sierraville, the vote was 663 opposed, 614 in favor.

Unchanged

SEE 11-4-76

Santa Barbara paper 11-76

## Alpine seat open

Applicants have until Nov. 18 to file for the vacant seat of Treasurer-Tax Collector in Alpine County, the seat vacated by Rosella Jackson when she retired Sept. 30.

County officials elected to advertise statewide for candidates to fill the seat. They appointed deputy treasurer Clyde Brooker as acting treasurer. Brooker has applied for the \$1,125 a month post.

Resumes are to be sent to Earl O'Neal, consultant to the board of supervisors, in Markleeville.

Candidates must be able to plan, direct and supervise the operation of the combined tax collection and county treasury department.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1976

## School chief beats recall

Alpine County school superintendent Richard Martin got the news at 10 p.m. Tuesday that voters liked his approach and had defeated a recall question on the ballot.

Martin said he was confident of strong support in the Bear Valley area of

the county but didn't know how the vote would go in the more populous Markleeville-Woodfords district. The final tally was 276 opposed to recall, 158 in favor. In Bear Valley, Martin's support was 94-10. In Markleeville, 182 voters

said 'No' to the recall question while 148 said 'Yes.'

The recall petition was launched in the Markleeville area.

"We thought it would be sold solid in Bear Valley," Martin said. "I was really pleased at the way the area here turned out," he added, referring to the Markleeville count. "I've been optimistic the whole time, felt I had enough support. We started a lot of new programs, straightened out some problems, and we felt things were going good. I've had some feedback from parents that things were good."

Martin said he hoped he and his critics "can get together and go to work for the kids now." He said he didn't do any campaigning on the recall question. "I felt I had done that two years ago and won the election and if there were 50 per cent of the people now who didn't know what was going on at the school or didn't like the way it was going, then I should lose."

## Alpine County results

Voters in Alpine County turned in the following totals in Tuesday's election:

On the recall of the county school superintendent, it was 276 opposed, 158 in favor.

In the presidential race, Carter got 189, Ford got 225.

In the battle for U. S. Senate, Hayakawa got 241 votes to Tunney's 182.

John Garamendi took 250 votes to Bob Whitten's 172 in the District 13 race for California Senate.

Norman Waters beat Dan Parises 246 to 156 in the 7th Assembly District balloting.

John J. McFall, the incumbent Democratic Congressman, got 280 votes to defeat Robert Blaine, a Republican, who got 131 votes in Alpine County.

The county clerk's office had not tabulated voter turnout early Wednesday morning, nor did officials know how the rest of the state voted in comparison. Incomplete California returns indicated victories for Hayakawa, Garamendi, and McFall, with the others too close to call.

Sacto Bee

### Alpine School Chief Survives Recall Vote

MARKLEEVILLE — Richard L. Martin, the Alpine County superintendent of schools for the past two years, has been retained in office as voters rejected an attempt to recall him.

The county electorate yesterday voted 276 to 158 against the proposal.

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# Snowstorm Strands 14, But All Are Rescued

MARKLEEVILLE — The past weekend's snowstorm may have been overdue as far as Sierra ski resorts are concerned, but it took 14 persons in three groups by surprise.

The two-foot snowfall stranded the 14 in the Ebbetts and Carson Pass areas Sunday, prompting Alpine County sheriff's deputies to dispatch four-wheel drive vehicles and a helicopter to retrieve them yesterday.

Nine persons and four four-wheel drive vehicles from the Modesto area were rescued at Upper Kinney Lake, four miles north of Highway 4 in the Ebbetts Pass area, said Sheriff Stu Merrill. The deputies used three four-wheel drive vehicles to rescue the group, which included a 5-year-old child. The other eight persons were in their 20s, said Merrill.

Although the group drove into the area in four-wheel drive vehicles, it could not get out because it did not have tire chains. The nine were equipped,

however, with a citizens' band radio which got word of their predicament to the sheriff's office.

The second group consisted of two fishermen from Berkeley who were camped at Highland Lake about six miles south of Ebbetts Pass. The two were picked up by helicopter after their wives alerted the sheriff's office that they might be stranded.

The third group consisted of Marvin Schuh of Elk Grove and his sons, Dan, 15, and Dave, 12, who were camped at Fourth of July Lake about four miles south of Highway 88 in the Carson Pass area. The three attempted to hike out of the area Sunday night but were forced to return to their camp to dry out when they became drenched and cold, said Merrill. The helicopter retrieved them after they sent out word of their predicament with two other backpackers.

All 14 were reported in good condition.

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## New books at area libraries

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### DOUGLAS COUNTY LIBRARY

"Dolores," by Jacqueline Susann.

The last book by the phenomenally successful Susann is a very thinly disguised novel about the beautiful young widow of an assassinated American President. It's all there, from the Irish family to the marriage to a wealthy European for the money and security. Jacqueline Susann was the first novelist in history to have three consecutive No. 1 best sellers. This will be the fourth.

"The Golden Unicorn," by Phyllis A. Whitney.

Whitney's latest is an exciting Gothic set among the wealthy and proud old Long Island families. Courtney Marsh's quest for identity is complicated by a 25 year old murder, the only clue a pendant bearing a golden unicorn. Exciting and well written as always from this author.

"The Pride of the Peacock," by Victoria Holt.

Another entry in this fall's bumper crop of romantic suspense novels. This one by one of the most popular writers in the world, Victoria Holt. In this one, Jessica Clavering, daughter of a poor but proud family in turn of the century England, marries the owner of an opal mine. In far off Austria, she discovers a mystery centering around the greatest opal ever found, and she must confront the evil that lust for wealth brings.

"Roots: The Saga of an American Family," by Alex Haley.

One of the most eagerly awaited books in recent American publishing history, Roots took twelve years to write, and no wonder. The author, a black American journalist, actually researched the history of his family back through the years of slavery in America to its beginnings in Africa and a man called "the African."

Haley's grandmother had told him when he was a child, the story handed down to her, and to her forebears, of the man—Kunta Kinte—who was ambushed one day in West Africa and taken in slavery to the American colonies. This is a book for everyone in the family of man, for it testifies to the indomitability of the human spirit.

### ALPINE COUNTY LIBRARY

"Samain," by Meg Elizabeth Atkins.

London policeman, Inspector Henry Beaumont makes a return appearance, this time trying to find out—in the middle of occult happenings and the magic of witches—why a mysterious film director abandoned his last work.

"Ceremony of the Innocent," by Taylor Caldwell.

The story of Ellen Porter, the "niece" of a 19th century domestic in a small Pennsylvania-New York border town, and of the men who are out to get her; the lecherous minister, the jealous mayor's son, and the kind soul who transforms Ellen into the woman she's meant to be.

"Lovers and Tyrants," by Francine du Plessix Gray.

A novel following a woman's life, from her childhood in pre-World War II France, to her years of adjustment in America, and her final encounter with drugs, and an affair with a boy half her age.

"Founder's Praise," by Joanne Greenberg.

In the rugged farmlands of eastern Colorado around the turn of the century, Edgar Bisset, a farmer, founds a religious faith that is later spread by his nephew Andy, and betrayed by his grand-nephew Edgar.

"Glory Boys," by Gerald Seymour.

A young Palestinian and a member of the IRA team up to assassinate an Israeli nuclear physicist in London. It's up to British security to find and stop the pair—before the physicist becomes just another terrorist fatality.

# Five Mother Lode Counties Record High Growth Rate In Last Six Years

The five counties in the heart of the Mother Lode were among the fastest growing in the state between 1970 and 1976, according to figures just released by the State Department of Finance.

As a group, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Amador and Calaveras Counties grew 30.6 per cent.

Overall, California's population grew 7.8 per cent to 21,520,000 on July 1. On April 1, 1970, it stood at 19,971,333.

Orange County led the state in absolute growth — 328,700 persons during the same period — and Mono County led in relative percentage growth — 82.2 per cent, increasing from 4,016 residents to 7,300.

California's two most urban counties, San Francisco and Los Angeles, were the only two in the state to show a drop in population. Los Angeles remains the largest at 7,008,400, down a half per cent since 1970. San Francisco, the state's eighth largest county, has dropped 7.1 per cent since 1970 to 665,000.

Sacramento County remains the seventh most populous at 702,900, up 10.8 per cent of 68,500 from its 1970 total. Ahead of Sacramento are Los Angeles, Orange (1,749,900), San Diego (1,619,900), Santa Clara (1,197,100) and Alameda (1,094,300).

El Dorado led the Mother Lode counties, growing 44 per cent to 63,200, up 19,400 over 1970 figures. Amador County grew by 33 per cent to 15,700; Calaveras, 17.7 per cent to 16,000; Nevada, 15.9 per cent to 36,200 and Placer County, 22.5 per cent to 95,100.

## California's Population Changes Are Tabulated

Here's a county-by-county breakdown of California's population change from July 1, 1970 to July 1, 1976:

	1970	1976
Alameda	1,072,700	1,094,300
Alpine	500	800
Amador	11,900	15,700
Butte	102,500	124,300
Calaveras	13,700	16,000
Colusa	12,400	12,800
Contra Costa	557,400	597,500
Del Norte	14,600	15,800
El Dorado	44,100	63,200
Fresno	413,800	458,400
Glenn	17,500	20,000
Humboldt	190,100	105,600
Imperial	74,500	83,800
Inyo	15,600	17,400
Kern	330,700	354,700
Kings	66,700	69,300
Lake	19,800	27,600
Lassen	16,900	18,500
Los Angeles	7,017,100	7,008,400
Madera	41,600	48,200
Marin	207,000	219,600
Mariposa	6,100	8,800
Mendocino	51,300	59,300
Merced	105,000	120,200
Modoc	7,500	8,000
Mono	4,100	7,300
Monterey	247,700	276,200
Napa	79,400	91,700

Nevada	26,500	36,200
Orange	1,431,600	1,749,900
Placer	78,000	95,100
Plumas	11,700	14,100
Riverside	461,400	547,600
Sacramento	636,600	702,900
San Benito	18,300	20,500
San Bernardino	685,200	711,200
San Diego	1,366,900	1,619,900
San Francisco	712,100	665,000
San Joaquin	292,000	302,200
San Luis Obispo	106,400	133,600
San Mateo	557,200	582,700
Santa Barbara	265,700	286,500
Santa Clara	1,072,400	1,197,100
Santa Cruz	124,500	162,700
Shasta	78,100	95,800
Sierra	2,400	3,000
Siskiyou	33,200	35,400
Solano	172,400	194,600
Sonoma	206,400	252,500
Stanislaus	195,700	231,600
Sutter	42,100	47,500
Tehama	29,600	33,000
Trinity	7,600	9,900
Tulare	189,100	214,500
Tuolumne	22,300	27,000
Ventura	381,400	453,600
Yolo	92,700	104,700
Yuba	44,400	46,300
California	20,026,000	21,520,000

Colusa, San Joaquin and Yuba Counties were among the slowest growing in the state. Colusa was up 3.2 per cent to 12,800, San Joaquin, 3.8 per cent to 302,200 and Yuba 3.6 per cent to 46,300.

Sutter County showed 13.4 per cent growth to 47,500 and Yolo grew 14.1

per cent to 104,700.

State officials say California's net civilian immigration for the past three years has been 107,000, 185,000 and 175,000 respectively after lows of only 60,000 in both 1971 and 1972. Births for the past year were estimated at 322,000.

# Kelly says he won't answer letter

Alpine County Dist. Atty. Thomas Kelly said he wouldn't have any response to a letter from John Coultas, the Alpine County librarian, in which the D.A. is charged with being an illegally registered voter.

A copy of the letter appears in this week's Record-Courier on the editorial page.

The newspaper received the letter Monday.

Kelly said Tuesday he had not received a copy of it, but he had heard from Coultas about six weeks ago. He said he threw that letter away.

"I don't answer letters like that," he said.

Coultas said Kelly earlier this year questioned

the legality of some of the county's voters. He said in the letter that Kelly's qualifications as an Alpine County voter were suspect. Coultas said Kelly lived and worked in El Dorado County, Calif., where Kelly's law offices are located.

Kelly also has law offices in Carson City, Nev.

Kelly said he is by legal definition a resident of Alpine County, where he has been the district attorney and was recently appointed justice of the peace.

He also said he was a

Nevada resident at the time he became a member of the Nevada bar. He still holds that membership.

Kelly said Coultas' letter showed a lack of research of the facts.

Coultas' letter appears in section 2, on page 2.

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## At the Alpine library

### FICTION

"Family Fortune," by Mignon Everhart.

The Chance family of West Virginia finds itself divided by the Civil War: two of Lucinda's brothers join the South, and leave her at the mercy of her older brother, who attempts to despoil her inheritance.

"Bread Of Those Early Years," by Heinrich Boll.

The work of a Nobel laureate, never before published in America, tells the story of one day in the life of a 23 year old washing machine repairman. A commentary on the conflicting claims of love and materialism.

"Under Gemini," by Rosamunde Picher.

Flora and Rose, identical twins separated from birth, meet over 20 years later. Rose convinces Flora to act as her stand-in for a visit to her fiance's grandmother, and Flora finds intrigue, suspense, and (of course) romance on the journey.

"In a Lady's Service," by Tom Ardies.

Dona Otelia's legendary ointment can cure everything—and everybody wants it, including a girl from W. H. O., two representatives from a German drug company, and a misguided gigolo who doesn't really know what's going on!

### NON-FICTION

"Kissinger: The European Mind in American Foreign Policy," by Bruce Mazlish.

Based on interviews with friends, enemies, intimates and patrons, this work analyzes the work and personality of Henry Kissinger, and relates his early experiences in Europe with the man and diplomat he is today.

"Woman Doctor," by Florence Haseltine, M.D.

The story of Phyllis Donnan's first year as an intern in an urban hospital, and her struggle to win respect and autonomy as a woman in a male-dominated profession.

# Residency rule questioned

Editor's Note: The following letter, addressed to Alpine County Dist. Atty. Thomas Kelly, is an open letter which the writer asked to have published in The Record-Courier letters column.

Mr. Thomas Kelly, District Attorney of Alpine County:

On July 21, 1976 you sent letters to persons in Alpine County calling attention to the legality of their registration. Early in November I wrote a letter to you questioning the value of such action in that you are not a legal resident of the county. In that letter I questioned your qualifications to hold office as well. You have not seen fit to respond to that letter. I must assume you do not

see the significance of your actions.

Mr. Kelly, how can you claim Alpine County residency when your family, office and home are in El Dorado County.

Your residency is further confused by your certification by the Nevada State Bar Association. In order to take the Nevada State Bar Exam one must be a resident of Nevada. At the same time you were certified by the Nevada State Bar, October 4, 1973, you were serving as District Attorney of Alpine County. Mr. Kelly, where do you reside?

Mr. Kelly, if the question of illegal voters in Alpine County is to be resolved it must begin with you.

John Coultas  
Markleeville

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## 1975-76? Alpine library hours posted

The Alpine County Library has revised its hours for the coming year. Beginning Monday, Nov. 15, the library will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday the library will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The librarian reminds residents of Alpine County that 16mm films and a 16mm film projector are available for public use.

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## **dumps public works official**

Aubrey Melton has been terminated as Alpine County Public Works Director. The county supervisors, in a four-to-one vote, took the action at their Dec. 7 meeting. The "no" vote was cast by William K. Freeman, chairman of the board of supervisors.

Earlier, in executive session, the supervisors had called for Melton's resignation with the same four-to-one vote, but Melton had refused to oblige.

In a letter to Freeman dated Nov. 10 Melton said charges levied against him by Supervisor Hubert Bruns were unfounded. The charges, not specified by either the board or Melton, were said by Melton to "cast doubt upon my engineering or administrative competency and raise questions among the other members of the board as to whether they should continue with me as Alpine County Director of Public Works."

On Dec. 6, he wrote another letter, this one to the full board of supervisors. By this time, the request that he resign had been issued, a request which Melton said posed an "extremely traumatic personal problem." He said that at first, not wanting to create additional political conflict, he had actually prepared a formal resignation.

However, he said, resigning would disavow "the fine efforts of this department over the last two and one half years." He said it would suggest that he and his staff had not performed well.

"I am therefore respectfully declining to resign as Public Works Director of Alpine County," he told the supervisors.

The Dec. 7 decision to terminate his appointment anyway set Jan. 31 as his last day in office.

## **Alpine gets new D.A.**

Alpine County has hired a new district attorney and present D.A. Thomas Kelly will assume the county justice court bench late this month.

Kelly, a South Lake Tahoe attorney, said this week that he would assume his judicial duties at the end of the year. He said it was his understanding the new district attorney would arrive in Alpine County right after Jan. 1.

The new D.A. is Christopher Smith, 54, of Los Angeles. He's a former police sergeant now working in the L.A. prosecutor's office.

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