

Record Courier 5/31/92



From left to right: Pam Gilmartin, Jacks Valley Elementary School; Leigh Luce, Carson Valley Middle School; Laura Parsons, C.C. Meneley Elementary School, co-countywide teacher of the year Edna Doornink, Scarselli Elementary School; co-countywide teacher of the year Gaye Tyndall, Douglas High School; Cathy Ricioli, Kingsbury Middle School; Al Haas, George Whittell High School; Laurie Long, Zephyr Cove Elementary School; Linda Bell, Gardnerville Elementary School. (Gansberg)

Record Courier 6/4/92

Diamond Valley track squad sets records

A contingent of 18 Diamond Valley Elementary School athletes returned home with five school records and 16 personal records from the Tah-Neva League track and field championships last Wednesday in South Lake Tahoe.

The list of records was led by Greg Masse, a 6th grade student who placed second in the boys 7th grade division long jump with a school and personal record mark of 14-8. The leap was a personal best by 10 inches for Masse.

That was only part of a good day for Masse, who was second in the triple jump (29-7-1/2), fourth in the 200 (28.41) and fourth in the 400 (1:08.2).

Another school standard was established by Nathan Lake, who cleared 4-8 to place third in the 7th grade boys high jump. The effort was impressive, considering it was only his second attempt at the high jump, according to Diamond Valley coach Anthony Davis. Lake also placed fifth in the 400 (1:10.68)

and sixth in the 1,600 (6:19).

There were three other school record setting performances. Jana Martin set a mark in the 8th grade girls 1,600 with a third-place run of 6:36.12, David Wright in the 8th grade boys 100-meter dash with a non-placing time of 13.01.

Diamond Valley had other highlights on the day. Rende Johnson won the 7th grade girls shot put by five feet with a throw of 29-3-1/2, in addition to placing third in the 400 (1:12.67), fourth in the 800 (3:01) and sixth in the discus (50-6). Brienna Cross was sixth in the 7th grade girls 1,600 (7:03, her time at that distance), Sarah Morgan was sixth in the 200 (31.16) and Kendra Raqueno hurled the discus 51-8. The Diamond Valley 7th grade girls finished fifth in the team standings.

In the 7th grade boys division, Daniel Crawford placed fifth in the shot put (28-6-1/2), while Jason Vaughn threw the discus 72-10 and ran 1:12.4 in the 400.

Alpine voters approve 51st state

by KURT HILDEBRAND
Staff Writer

Alpine County voters are in favor of forming their own state.

According to a spokeswoman in Assemblyman Stan Statham's Redding office, early returns show the 51st State initiative is doing well in the 31 rural California counties where it appeared on the ballot.

Alpine voters approved dividing California into two states 306-191.

Supervisors approved putting the advisory question on the Tuesday's ballot in December.

Meanwhile two Supervisor

aces will go to a runoff in November.

Cameron Craik and Garth McCormick will vie for Supervisor John Brissenden's District 2 seat after a close vote in Tuesday's balloting.

Craik received 56 votes and McCormick received 53 votes in the three-way primary race. Alpine County resident Jim Merlin received four votes for the seat. Craik narrowly missed receiving the 50 percent plus one margin he needed to win the seat in the primary.

Incumbent supervisor John Brissenden is in trouble in the Dis-

trict 5 race.

Planning Commissioner Pierre "Pete" Blum received a majority of the vote in that race with 56 votes. Brissenden received 41 votes and James Cone received 25 votes.

Blum and Brissenden will face off in the November election.

In the race for Superior Court Judge, incumbent Harold Bradford received 253 votes in his bid to hold onto the seat. District Attorney Hank Murdock received 152 votes and Justice Court Judge Thomas Kelly received 124 votes.

Bradford, who was appointed

Continued to page 6

Record Courier 6/4/92

Alpine elections: Voters approve 51st state

Continued from page 1

by Governor Pete Wilson in January after Judge J. Hilary Cook retired, and Murdock will oppose one another in the general election in November.

Unopposed supervisor C. Ann Wade won a new term in District 3.

While California's division into two states is not in the hands of voters, this vote will show whether residents are in favor of the plan.

Thirty-one, mostly northern, counties have placed the 51st State initiative on their ballots.

Statham is planning to introduce a bill to the State Legislature if a majority of citizens approves dividing the state. If approved in the legislature, the bill would go to the

U.S. Congress for final approval.

If Congress approves the bill, commissions in both northern and southern California would form to determine details of the formation of the new state.

In arguments for dividing California Statham says he represents nine counties while 28 assemblymembers represent Los Angeles County alone.

Southern California doesn't understand the rurality of northern California, he said.

"People of all types of backgrounds tell me they are tired of too much government and feel government is out of control," Statham said.

Statham complained about state government include programs

which are expanded rather than improved when they fail and lead to increased taxes for residents.

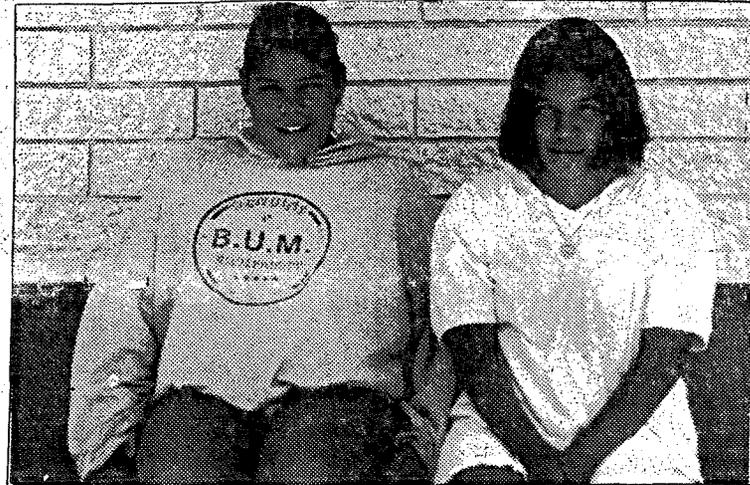
"Last year the Legislature shoved through the biggest permanent taxes in California history while no government cuts were made," he said.

Statham cited the Department of Education's 1990-91 operating budget of \$159 million of which northern California school children received less than \$20 million while \$56 million was spent on Los Angeles County school children.

"In 1990, over \$73 million was spent [by the government] in 10 southern counties and \$70 million was spent in 48 northern counties," he said.



LINDSAY JONES and FRANK PITTS



CARRIE PITTS and NICOLE CRAWFORD

Youths honored at special events

Record Courier 6/4/92

Native American students awarded

by LINDE PIRTLE
Staff Writer

The Washoe Tribe honored outstanding students at three recognition events held last month.

The fourth annual high school student recognition dinner was held in Carson Colony on May 7, honoring Frank Pitts and Lindsay Jones, the two high school students of the year.

Pitts, a Gardnerville resident, was recognized for academic skill, varsity football achievements, including team captain, as well as participation in varsity basketball and baseball.

* Jones, an Alpine county resident, received the honor for "outstanding effort, and excellent social skills," according to Sherry Smokey, Washoe Tribe Education Director. Jones is also articulate concerning current affairs, Smokey said.

The keynote speaker at the function was Eugene Paslov, Superintendent of Public Instruction for the state of Nevada. Paslov personally awarded plaques to Pitts and Jones, as well as Carson High recipients Leonard Osorio and Annette Johnson.

Speakers included Lenora Kizer, Washoe Tribe vice chairman, A. Brian Wallace, Chairman of the Washoe Tribe for California and Nevada, Jim Parsons, Superintendent of Alpine County Unified School District, F. Gregory Betts, Superintendent of Douglas County School District, and Jim Parry, Curriculum Director of Carson City School District.

On May 15, the Indian Awards Assembly was held at Meneley Elementary School, honoring students and awarding scholarships to two outstanding eighth grade students, Carrie Pitts and Nicole Crawford.

The assembly was attended by Native American families as well as MES staff. Students in tribal dress received awards from their teachers for outstanding achievements and performed on stage. Performances included a saxophone recital and dancing.

The Dresslerville Theatre Troupe performed the traditional Washoe tale: "How Pinenuts Came to Nevada."

At the end of the assembly, the whole audience participated in a Round Dance, a traditional dance of the tribe.

Meneley Principal John Soderman congratulated the parents on their involvement with their children. Parent involvement is one of the most important ingredients for children's school success, Soderman said.

* The first Woodfords community student awards assembly was held at Turtle Rock Park on May 22.

Awards were distributed to students for outstanding achievement by Clare Ellis, Title V tutor and Kate Macartney, Woodfords Indian Education Center Director.

Russ Redner spoke to the students and their families about tobacco control. The title of his speech was "Smoking — A Gateway to Drugs and Alcohol."

The awards dinner was sponsored by Washoe Housing Authority, Tobacco Control, Woodfords Washoe Community Council, Woodfords Indian Education Center and Washoe Tribe Education Department Title V.

Businesses contributing to the door prizes awarded at the May 7 high school awards dinner included: Joyce's Antiques, Aladdin, Carson Valley Inn, Burger King, Heidi's, McDonald's, Sharkey's Casino, Domino's Pizza, Pizza Barn, Arby's, Washoe Trading Post and Wendy's.

Diamond Valley athletes place at Junior Olympics

Record Courier 6/7/92

Diamond Valley Elementary School enjoyed some highlights last weekend, including Jason Vaughn's discus victory, during regional Junior Olympic track and field competition in Sparks.

Vaughn, a Diamond Valley Elementary School 6th grader, captured first place in the midget boys (10-11 year olds) division in only his third attempt at the discus. He

won with a throw of 76-7-1/2 at Reed High School.

Diamond Valley also got a second-place performance in the midget boys 400-meter dash from Gregg Masse. Masse ran the one-lapper in 1:02.42, just one-half second behind Richard McCormick from Richmond, Calif., in a duel for first place the age group race. Both runners dipped under the previous meet record for midget boys in that event.

Masse also posted a mark of 14-5 to place fourth in the midget boys long jump, an event in which he advanced to the Junior Olympic national meet as a 9-year-old.

Another highlight in the same race was supplied by Vaughn, who blazed to a personal best time of 1:11.94. Vaughn also ran a personal best 2:51.38 in the 800 to round out a successful weekend.

Kindra Requeno and Rende Johnson gave Diamond Valley second-place finishes in the shot put. Johnson was a runner-up in the midget girls event with a throw of 28-3-1/2 and Requeno was second in the youth girls (12-13 year olds) division with a personal best throw

of 23-3-1/2.

Sarah Morgan and Johnson placed sixth and seventh in the midget girls 400 with near identical times of 1:15.09 and 1:15.11. Johnson had a fifth-place run of 31.22 in the 200 as well.

There were other place finishes for the Alpine County contingent.

Dee Shaughnessy and Sheila Crawford placed fifth and sixth in the midget girls discus with respective throws of 43-7-1/2 and 38-1. Shaughnessy's mark was a personal best.

Jenny Vaughn placed sixth in the bantam girls (8-9 year olds) 100 in a lifetime best time of 17.35 and she was sixth in the 200 in 36.74.

David Wright placed sixth in the youth boys 400 with a personal record dash of 71.71. He also had a seventh-place effort of 35.71 in the 200-meter low hurdles to his credit.

Though he didn't place, Daniel Crawford posted a personal best of 17.79 in the youth boys 100, plus throws of 30-0 in the shot put and 67-0-1/2 in the discus.

Amber Shaughnessy had a personal best 38.17 in the bantam girls 200 and she ran 17.53 in the 100.

Fly fishing seminar planned

Record Courier 6/7/92

World renown fly fishing expert Jack Dennis will bring his art to Alpine County for a seminar Saturday, June 13.

The seminar, hosted by Monty Wolf's Trading Post & Lodge, will begin at 8 a.m. at Diamond Valley Elementary School in Woodfords. Dennis will give a slide presentation and also have books and videos available. The seminar will shift outdoors

in the afternoon for a demonstration at Pleasant Valley.

The cost of the seminar is \$3 with pre-registration and \$5 at the door. An assortment of prizes will also be given away.

For more information, call Monty Wolf's (916) 694-2201 or Judy Warren at the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce 694-2475.

Fly a kite

Record Courier 6/7/92



Bobbi Mortimer of Woodfords flies a kite at Diamond Valley School in Alpine County Friday. The Alpine County Tobacco Control Program sponsored the kite flying, in which children learned how to make and fly their own kites. Proposition 99 placed a 25-cent tax per pack on cigarettes, beginning in 1988. R-C photo by Robert Daniels

Alpine County schools face cuts

Record Courier 6/14/92

Funds will not come from state

Alpine County Unified School District may face major cuts in programs because of new cuts in state funding.

According to Jim Parsons, district superintendent, just before the June 9 Alpine County School Board meeting, the administration received word from Sacramento that funding payments scheduled for the end of the year would probably not be made.

It is unlikely that the cuts will be paid back in the future, he added.

"This would represent a loss to the school district," said Parsons.

The news came just as the school district approved the continuous payment of benefits to all employees, an action that represents a \$26,000 increase to the budget, he said.

Parsons said the board wanted

to pay the benefits to show good faith to employees as a new style of contract negotiations begins, but the action could place the current projected budget in jeopardy if spring revenues are not received.

Representatives of the board, administration and the teachers will attend a special budget briefing in Sacramento July 8.

After the briefing, adjustments to the new budget will be announced.

Parsons said that efforts to deal with the budget crisis would include the involvement of the total staff in the school district as each decision has to be made.

The district is still using attrition to help cut the budget from year to year, but new state cuts may force the district to cut some programs, Parsons said.

Parsons added that he is "very concerned that the state budgetary problems will continue and force the district to then cut personnel."

Record Courier 6/18/92

Obituaries

Charles W. Johnson

Charles "Chuck" W. Johnson, Jr., a four year resident of Dayton died Sunday, June 14 at Washoe Medical Center. He was 73.

Johnson was born in Redford Michigan to Charles W. Johnson, Sr. and Blanch H. McDowell.

He attended school in Michigan before serving in the U.S. Air Force during World War II as a liaison pilot in Europe. He followed a career as a pilot for various corporations.

Johnson lived in Gardnerville

for three years before moving to Dayton, where he lived for four years. He was a member of the Radio Control Model Airplane Club in Carson City and Gardnerville.

Johnson is survived by wife Dorothy Johnson of Dayton; sons Jim and Tim Johnson of West Sacramento; daughters Mae McKemy of Reno, Barbara Johnson of Livermore, Calif., and Betty Seidl of Stockton, Calif.; brother Dick Johnson of Wilton, Calif.; sister Frances Holser of Torch Lake,

Mich.; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 17 at Walton's Chapel of the Valley Cemetery and Mausoleum at 1 p.m.

The burial followed with full military honors at Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, Nevada affiliate, Northern Division, 1135 Terminal Way, Suite 105, Reno, Nv. 89502-2114.

(was Alpine Co. resident for years)

Volunteers search for missing boy

by MIKE TAUGHER
R-C News Service

Record Courier
6/28/92

About 30 volunteers from Oakhurst, Calif., arrived by bus to join 150 searchers looking for a developmentally disabled boy who became separated from his parents in the Carson Pass area.

Kenny Miller, 12, was last seen late Tuesday morning playing in a creek off the Pacific Crest Trail near Meiss Meadows.

His parents left him for just a couple of minutes to look at a cabin about 100 feet away, authorities said. When the parents returned, the boy was gone.

As of Saturday afternoon, he has spent four occasionally rainy days and nights in what was described by Alpine County Sheriff

Henry "Skip" Veatch as "some real rugged country."

The area has seen heavy rain, lightning and hail since the boy became lost.

Some of the crews worked until 1:30 in the morning Thursday before the full-scale search was halted until daybreak.

Some crews worked until midnight the previous night until heavy rain stopped them then.

Searchers uncovered no sign of Miller. Footprints that were detected on Tuesday have been washed away by rain.

"He could have traveled a long way," said Veatch, adding that the developmentally disabled youth "does not have the capacity to care for himself."

The sheriff said the boy requires

medication for seizures, and without it, the situation was "getting critical."

A search and rescue command post was set up at the California Department of Transportation station near Caples Lake and Kirkwood, southeast of the search area.

The foot-searchers, along with horse teams and dog teams, were concentrating in the area where the boy was last seen, near Meiss Meadows at the headwaters of the Upper Truckee River, and outward through drainages, Alpine County Sheriff's Deputy Steve McEwen said. The total search area is about 100 square miles.

Three helicopters are helping the search, and a fourth is being used to ferry foot-searchers around.

Boy is still missing in Alpine

Record Courier 7/2/92

R-C News Service

The search for lost 12-year-old Kenny Miller, like the winter weather conditions in the Sierra Nevada, has been in progress for more than a week with few hopeful signs.

Bleak weather with wind-blown snow reaching down to 8,000 feet has slowed the search for the Oakhurst, Calif., boy, who disappeared in a rugged area along the Pacific Crest Trail in the Carson Pass area.

Alpine County Deputy Sheriff Steve McEwen declined to discuss the realistic hopes of finding the developmentally disabled boy alive after a week in the wilderness. He said a total of 250 searchers and three helicopters are pressing onward today in a large triangular area encompassing Meiss, Woods and Caples lakes.

McEwen did say, however, that a consensus may be reached soon on whether to scale back or discontinue the search.

"A decision somewhere along the line is going to have to be made," he said.

Drizzle, flurries and biting winds invaded the region on Monday after three reports that the

youngster might have been spotted. Those were tarnished with the discovery of a group of Boy Scouts camping in the same region.

"We just go on the assumption that he is alive and kicking," said Randy Peshon, an El Dorado County deputy sheriff and one of the search leaders.

Some ground searchers saw a person Sunday evening they thought might be Kenny Miller running from tree to tree some distance from them, McEwen said. That came on the heels of a young girl's report she might have seen Kenny Miller Saturday afternoon. A cabin owner thought he saw the boy on Sunday.

McEwen said all the sightings occurred near Woods Lake, not far from the spot where the youth wandered away from his family during a day hike on the Pacific Crest Trail.

About midmorning, he said searchers found a group of scouts camping in the region, casting some doubt on whether it was the missing youngster who was seen over the weekend.

McEwen said searchers were stopped Sunday night by darkness and the rocky, brush-covered ter-

rain, but set up a perimeter around the area where the boy was seen in an effort to keep him from slipping out before they could resume the search at daybreak Monday.

Kurt Thompson, a volunteer with the El Dorado County Search and Rescue team, said tracking is difficult because few signs are left on the granite mountainsides and both weather and terrain are working against the volunteers.

"The snow was pretty much horizontal and the gusts must have been up to 60 mph," Thompson said Monday. "I was going through bushes taller than I am."

Although the mood at base camp is somber, nobody has given up hope. Sharon Miller, Kenny's mother spends her time serving food to search teams while her husband, Bob Miller walks the woods with search parties hoping to spot his son.

Kenny, who has the mental and emotional capacities of a 4-year-old, was last seen on Tuesday throwing pebbles into a small stream near Caples Lake by his parents and 10-year-old sister.

Temperatures have been in the mid-30s and 40s at night in the area near Kirkwood Ski Resort in northeastern Alpine County.

Exciting archeological find in Alpine County

By Nancy C. Thornburg

The Alpine County Museum recently announced the completion of a new exhibit featuring artifacts and interpretation from the archeological project at Gabbott, Spicer and Sapps meadows in Alpine, Tuolumne and Calaveras counties on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. The exhibit features the portion of the project which was primarily in Alpine County and is known as the Upper Mountain Locale.

The cultural resources studies were carried on by Peak and Associates, Inc., a Sacramento-based consulting firm specializing in cultural resource management work, and were part of the environmental studies required for the North Fork Stanislaus River Hydroelectric Development Project. This project is managed and funded by the Northern California Power Agency and the Calaveras County Water District.

In 1981 test excavations were conducted, and the team identified and recorded a very large cultural resource in the Gabbott Meadow area. Later, in 1986, this site yielded information of great significance to the reconstruction of Sierra Nevada prehistory. Eight sites in the Upper Mountain Locale

area were selected for data recovery through large-scale archeological excavations, and field work was conducted between 1985 and 1988. The project included specialists in palynology, geomorphology, mineralogy, radiocarbon dating, obsidian analysis and osteology.

Perhaps the most significant discovery was the remains of a structure with a compacted clay "floor" surface, a rock feature and a hearth containing charcoal which dated to approximately 9800 years ago. The feature was found at a depth of 220 cm. and has been assigned one of the two oldest dates for human habitation in the Sierra Nevadas. Also significant was the discovery nearby of a petroglyph, a form of rock art which is not common in the high Sierra. Analysis of the structure remains, the petroglyph and the numerous artifacts which were recovered has given new insight into the late-Pleistocene Paleoindian culture.

In 1991 the Stanislaus National Forest agreed to the request by the Alpine County Museum for permission to curate the collection from Upper Mountain Locale. The exhibit preparation has been under way for nearly a year. Much of the cost of



The compacted floor surface, hearth and rock feature discovered at the Upper Mountain Locale. Carbon dating indicates that this is the earliest known inhabited structure in the North American continent.

preparing the exhibit is being funded by the Northern California Power Agency and the Calaveras County Water District.

The museum is located in Markleeville, California and will be open from Memorial Day through October, every day except Tuesday, from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free; donations are

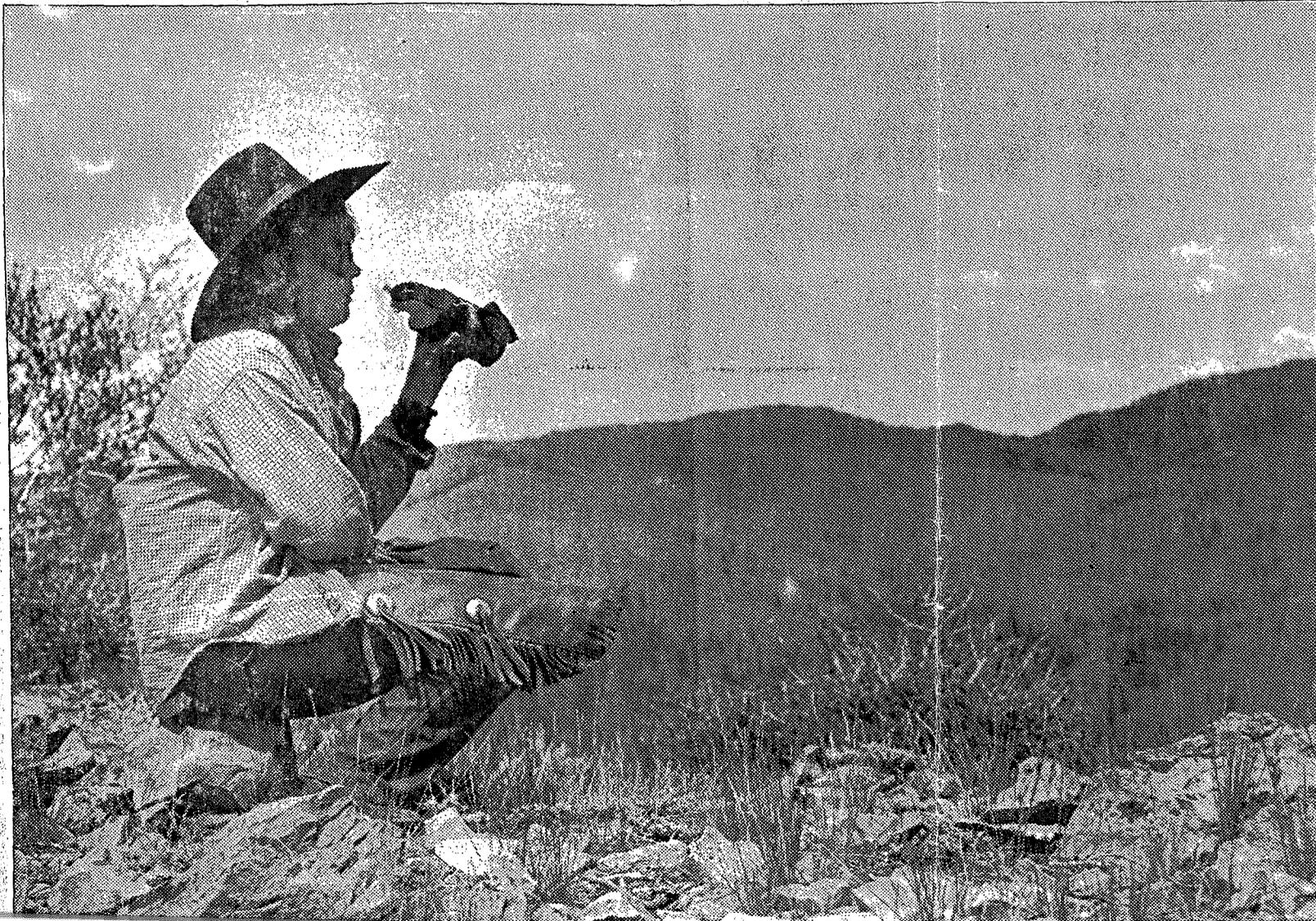
encouraged. A special Open House will be held Friday evening, May 22, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a no host bar, and refreshments will be served.

For further information contact Nancy C. Thornburg, Director, at P.O. Box 24, Markleeville, CA. 96120, or call (916) 694-2317 or (916) 694-2102.

EXTENDED BY

Builders Carpet Supply Inc.

People



JUDY HABBESHAW takes a long needed break after spending 2-1/2 hours on horseback on Saturday. She is looking over Bagley Valley. Below, Guy Pence explains grazing rights in Bagley Valley and other Forest Service lands.

ON HORSEBACK THROUGH THE SIERRA

If there is such thing as earthquake weather, horses would definitely know it. I recently had the opportunity, courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service, to go on a three-day horseback trip.

We tromped through the Sierra on our equine friends. Our destination was beautiful Soda Springs, Calif.

We had no idea at the beginning of our trip that the earth would start to rumble and roll Monday morning in southern Calif. We awoke to find the wind howling and the horses feisty. We had no communication with the outside world except for a Forest Service radio. There was no way to know that earthquakes had been happening.

As we wound our way up the rocky trails with drop-offs sometimes as high as 250 feet, we were apprehensive, but we were not as frightened as we would have been had we known of the turmoil be-

neath the earth.

The group I was with consisted of Forest Service personnel, District Ranger Guy Pence, Public Affairs Officer Karen Baggett, Fire Management Officer Mike Dondero, Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor Melody Mobley, some members of their families, and the press.

Our trip began early Saturday morning. We headed out by vehicle to the trailhead, Wolf Creek, where we met our horses. I made instant friends with Chico, the horse I was designated, with the carrots and sugar cubes I had brought along with me.

We saddled up and spent four hours on horseback riding through the Carson Iceberg Wilderness. I was amazed at the startling beauty around me, but evidence of the drought and fires have scarred the land.

The balance of nature is slowly being destroyed by humans. The

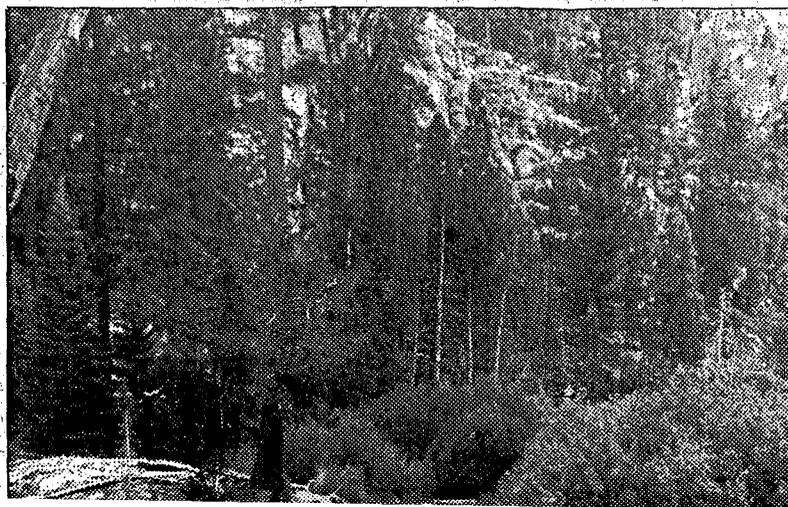
positive control of fire burning off the underbrush has been hindered because of the safety of man and his dwellings. The underbrush is building up and the fire danger is extremely high.

On Sunday we rode out to Carson Falls. We parked the horses and hiked over boulders to see it. It was pretty dangerous in some spots, and I thought, "Boy if I lose my foothold, I'm GONE!"

After holding onto many a branch, I got there safely and was awed at the sight of the falls. The water is not as abundant as it has been in the recent years, but the rain we received on the way back to camp was a hopeful sign.

I came away from this trip feeling that, if we do not take better care of our planet, it will not last forever.

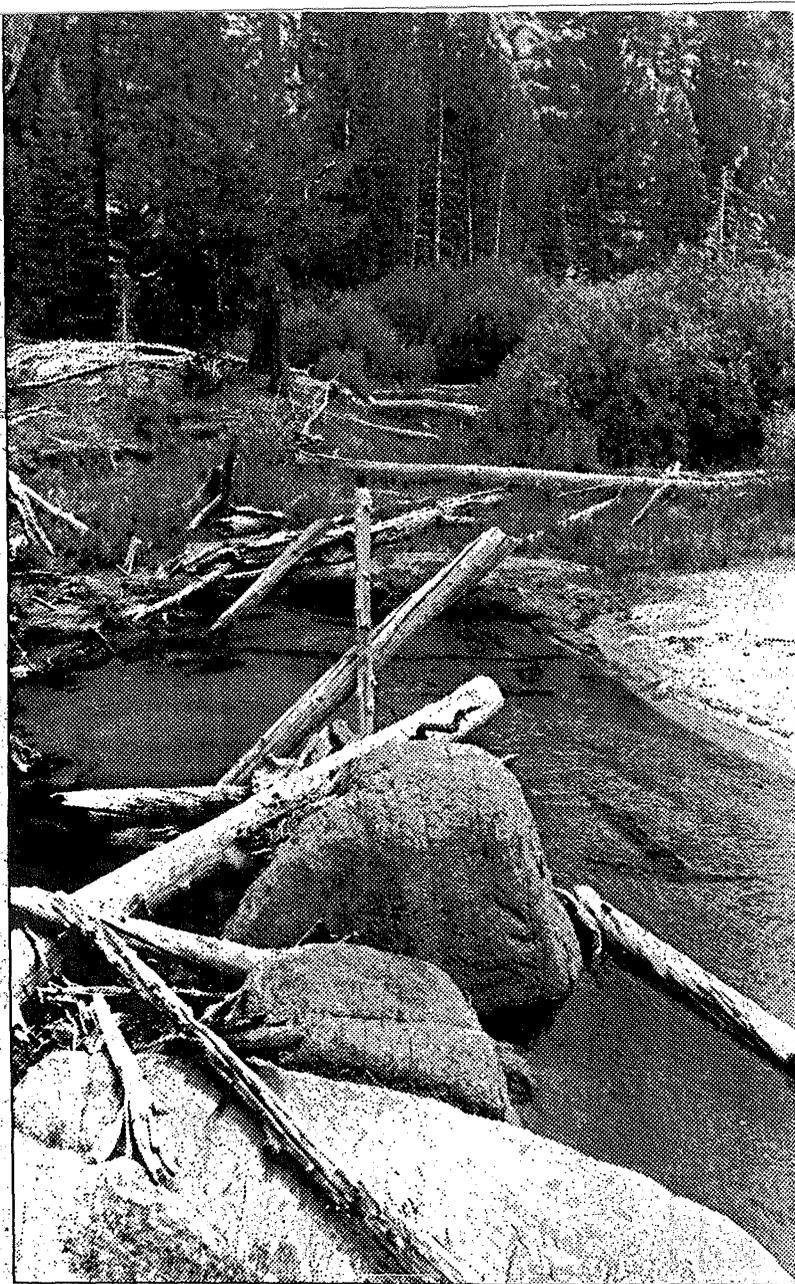
If you have any questions about the U.S. forests and the wilderness areas, contact the Forest Service at 882-2766.



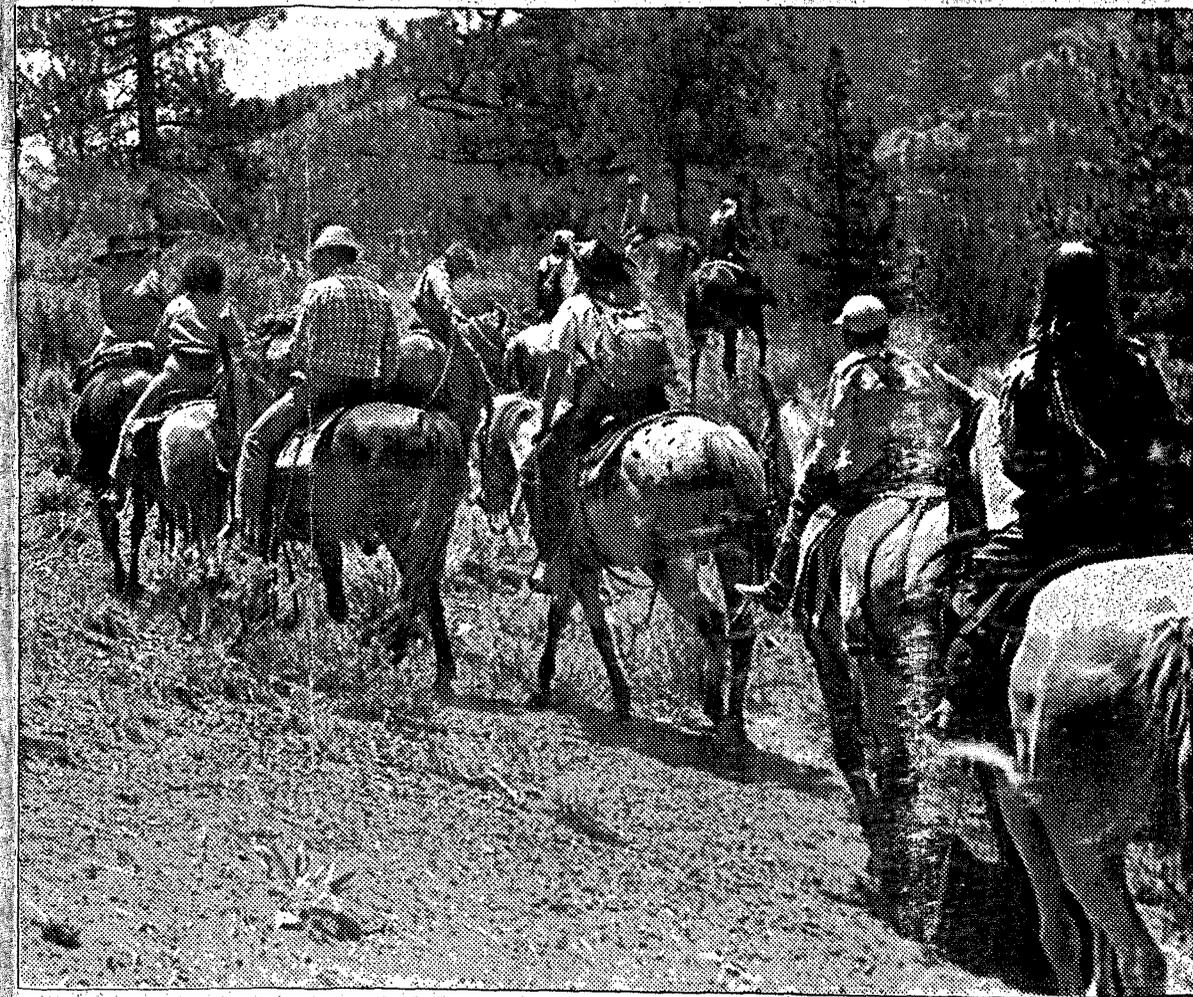
PHOTOS
AND STORY

BY
BELINDA ROHLER

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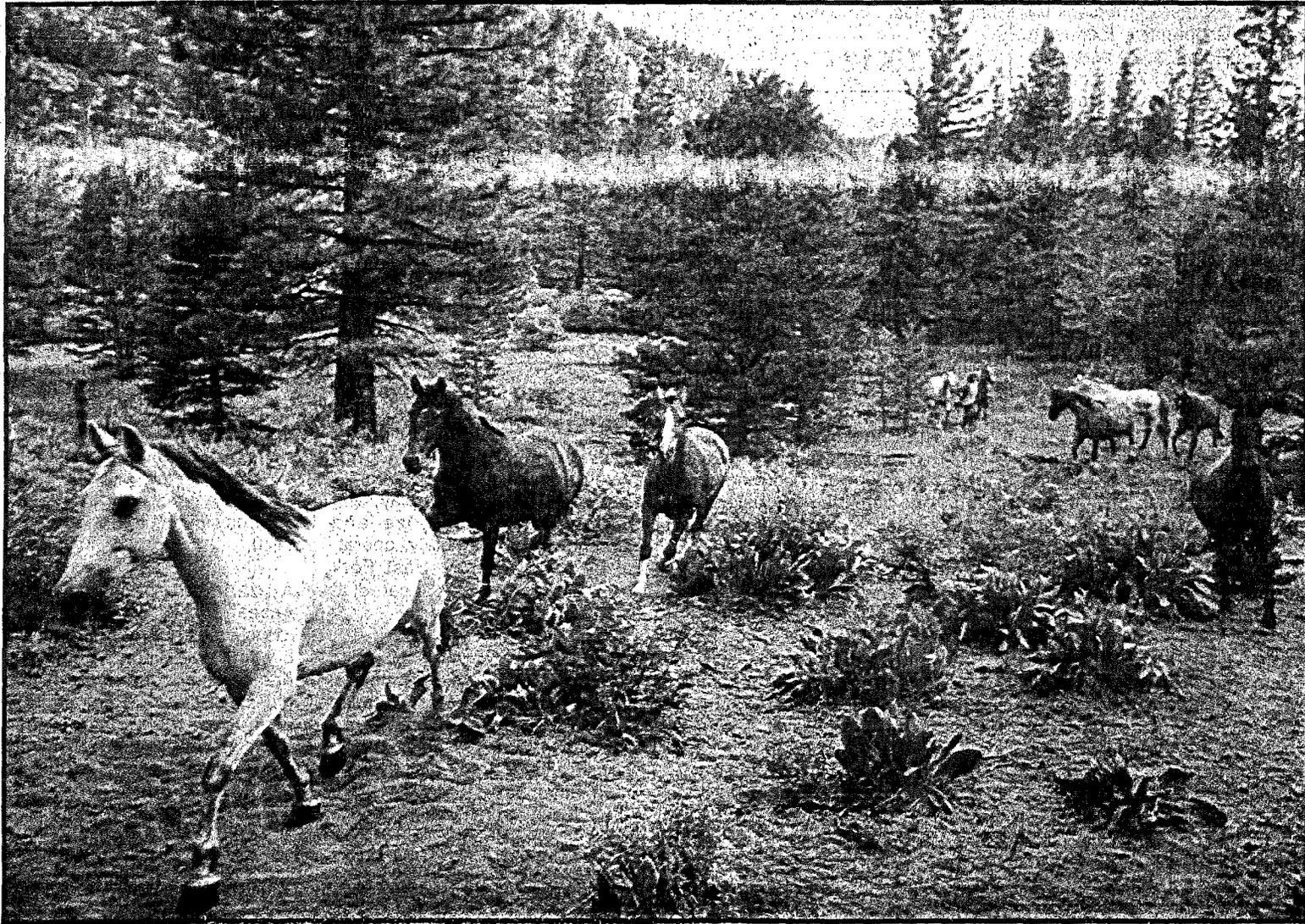
AT LEFT is Carson Falls, which is beautiful even during this 6th year of drought. Above is the east fork of the Carson River on the way to the site of the falls.



GOING UP THE TRAIL is a long line of horses and their human friends. The horses were fidgety and restless. Cut off from the outside world, those on the trail had no idea that an earthquake had hit southern California. Some think that the horses could sense it.

Stampede

Record Courier 7/5/92



Horses used to transport members of the press and Forest Service officials on a three-day journey through the high Sierra are corralled for feeding time Sunday morning. See story and photos on page 7. R-C photo by Belinda Rohleder.

Missing youth feared dead

Searchers scale back effort

R-C News Service
Record Courier 7/5/92

The massive search for a developmentally disabled boy lost in the Sierra was scaled back Wednesday, with frustrated officials conceding Kenny Miller may be dead after nine days in harsh and often winter-like conditions.

"This stage of the search for Kenny will be suspended," Alpine County Sheriff Henry "Skip" Veatch said in a statement Thursday morning.

"The search will continue on a smaller scale and possibly the National Guard will be able to help us," Veatch said.

Kenny Miller, 12, was last seen tossing pebbles into a stream near Caples Lake while on a family hike on the Pacific Crest Trail.

His parents and sister walked about 100 feet away to look at a cabin and when they returned a few minutes later Kenny was gone.

At the time he was wearing only a blue T-shirt, pants and tennis shoes.

The boy's parents, Sharon and Bob Miller of Oakhurst, Calif., said Kenny has the mental and emotional capacities of a 4-year-old and must take medicine three times a day to prevent seizures.

It was not known whether he could survive without the medicine.

Bob Miller made a statement Wednesday thanking the approximately 300 people from throughout the state who volunteered to help find his son.

Though he will remain on the search, his wife and daughter returned home to Oakhurst and are preparing fliers with Kenny's picture to distribute in the area in case someone spots the boy.

They urge anyone who may have seen Kenny to call the Alpine County Sheriff at 916-694-2231 or a special phone line with a message recorder at their residence, 209-683-3691.

Alpine County Sheriff's officers today were closing the search command post at the Caltrans maintenance station on Highway

88 at Carson Pass.

Sheriff Veatch said the search will continue on a smaller scale in specific areas as manpower is available.

The county is considering calling in National Guard units to conduct tight grid searches in certain high-probability areas.

According to the sheriff, the search had begun to take a toll on the volunteers, who were faced with exposure, freezing temperatures, 60 mph winds, difficult brush-covered terrain, rain, hail and snow.

Some had begun to suffer injuries, including a dog handler who reportedly broke his arm Tuesday night while leading his pack on a scent trail.

Amazingly, thorough and repeated searching of a 100-square-mile area from Echo Summit to south of Caples Lake turned up no solid clues to Kenny Miller's whereabouts.

Searchers scoured the area to no avail on foot, horseback and motorcycle, with four-wheel-drive vehicles and helicopters, and with the aid of dog teams and even a Reno psychic.

Death Riders to take charge of roads

Record Courier 7/5/92

Bicycle riders will take charge of Alpine County highways Saturday for the 11th annual Tour of the California Alps — The Death Ride.

A total of 2,500 riders are entered in the event, which sponsored by the Alta Alpina Cycling Club and Alpine Chamber of Commerce. Another 2,000 entries were turned away, according to Death Ride officials, who emphasized that unofficial participants will not be welcome.

"We want to discourage ride crashers. The reason we have a limit is to preserve the quality of the ride, and secondly, because of safety and liability reasons," said Alta Alpina Cycling Club spokesman Curtis Fong.

He pointed out that law enforcement agencies will be on hand to restrict the route on Highways 89 and 4 to official Death Ride entrants.

Highway 89 over Monitor Pass will be

closed to automobile and other non-Death Ride traffic between 6 a.m. and noon. Highway 4 over Ebbetts Pass will be closed from 6 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The total mileage for all five passes is 128.5 miles, though most riders opt for the shorter one-, two-, three- or four-pass tours. Riders will begin departing at 6 a.m. from Turtle Rock Park, located between Woodfords and Markleeville.

No awards are given for speed. Instead,

participants are encouraged to pedal at their own pace.

"It's a leisure ride where you see something from 12-year-old kids to 70-year-old men and women," Fong said.

There is one basic goal for the Death Ride.

"We basically want to have the Death Ride continue to not live up to its name. In other words we don't anticipate anybody should die," Fong said.

Gailson wins Markleeville 10-K

Record Courier 7/5/92
John Gailson and Bill Devine seem to make a habit of leading the Markleeville 10-K.

Gailson and Devine have combined to win the event in each of the last five years, and last Sunday they got together and ran 1-2 at the 14th annual Markleeville race.

Gailson, 38, of Caples Lake, led start to finish and turned back a challenge from Devine in the final two miles to break the tape in 33:40 on a course that runs from Markleeville to Grover Hot Springs State Park (an approximate 500-foot vertical climb) and

returns. Devine, of Incline Village, finished second in 34:15.

The Markleeville victory was the third in four years for Gailson, including a course record effort of 32:39 in 1989. Devine previously won the race in 1991 and 1988.

Dan Yarborough ran 34:58 for third overall and first-place in the men's 18-29 age class, just ahead of Minden's Brian Buscay in 35:56.

Ryan Bentley, who just ended his freshman year at Douglas High School, was first in the boys 17-and-under age division with a

38:24 clocking.

The first overall woman was Gwen Gallanty of South Lake Tahoe in a time of 41:19 and Deb Devine was second in 44:20. Gallanty and Devine finished second and third respectively in last year's race.

Mike Grundstaff finished first in the childrens one-mile run with a time of 8:13. Aaron and Brian Sandov finished second and third with respective times of 8:48 and 8:59.

A record field of 102 entries ran in the race.

Record Courier
7/9/92

Remember when?

100 YEARS AGO
The Genoa Courier
Friday, July 8, 1892

THE WOOD DRIVE. The rear of the wood drive was brought from Markleeville to the boom in five days — the fastest time ever made. The rear was light and the water high and everything was lovely. The boom was cut Sunday and it is expected that the 11,000 cords will be cleared out of the jam by next Sunday.

25 YEARS AGO
The Record-Courier
Thursday, July 6, 1967

ALPINE COUNTY TO HOST SKI RACES. A new ski development in Alpine County, Bear Valley-Mt. Reba, has been named as the site for the 1969 national ski championships.

It is the first time the championships, which attract skiers from throughout the world, have been awarded to a California ski area and it is also the first time they have been awarded to a ski area that is not even open.

WNCC kids' theater does 'Charlie and Chocolate Factory'

Western Nevada Community College's Jackrabbit Children's Theatre presents the children's classic, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," in four performances as part of its 1992 summer musical repertory theatre. This amazing story of Willy Wonka and his chocolate factory will be performed at the Carson City Community Center at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 10 and 11, and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, July 11 and 12.

The show, directed by Robert Grant, presents the comic tale of five children who win passes to Willy Wonka's wacky and wonderful candy factory, run by the hard-working Oompa-Loompas. Mysterious fates await children who are spoiled or greedy, with special surprise coming to those who know how to behave. Morals are mixed with laughter in this charming presentation, providing excellent entertainment for family audiences.

The performances feature young actors and actresses enrolled through the College for Kids program at Western Nevada Community College. Tyler Rork plays Willy Wonka, and Charlie is

played in alternate performances by Charles Abbott and Steven McCord.

The spoiled Veruca Salt is played in alternate performances by Rachael Austin and Delilah Longhofer. Greedy Augustus Gloop is played by Ramon Cabauatan and Sean Sullivan. Gum-chewing Violet Beauregarde is played by Natalie Gardner of Gardnerville and Brooke Yerke, and Mike Teavee is played by Nicholas Allen.

"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" is one of two musicals presented in repertory by Western Nevada Community College this summer. The following weekend, July 17, 18 and 19, the WNCC adult theatre troupe will present "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

Tickets for both musicals may be purchased at the Community Services Office on the WNCC main campus, 2201 West Nye Lane, Carson City. Individual tickets may be purchased for single performances, or discounted repertory tickets are available for both shows.

For more information, call 887-3153.



IN REHEARSAL. Kindra Raqueno of Markleeville, as Mrs. Bucket rehearses with Steven McCord of Carson City, who is Charlie in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" presented by Western Nevada Community College's Jackrabbit Theatre this weekend. WNCC photo by Don Edgington

Youth's body discovered by hikers

by TIM WILLIS
R-C News Service

Record
Courier
7/9/92

Hikers on Saturday found the body of a developmentally disabled boy near Stevens Peak in Alpine County, nearly two weeks after he was lost during a family outing.

Kenny Miller, 12, of Oakhurst, Calif., had been missing since June 23.

The group of hikers found his body at around 12:30 p.m. on a ridge near Steven's Peak, east of the Meiss Lake area where the boy was last seen, said Alpine County Deputy Sheriff Steve McEwen.

The body was found at an elevation of around 9,800 feet, about 1,400 feet above the Meiss Lake area.

McEwen said he did not know how far away the boy's body was found from Meiss Lake.

A California Highway Patrol helicopter tried to land to recover the body but was thwarted by high winds.

A team of deputy sheriffs and search-and-rescue volunteers then went into the rugged country on horseback and retrieved the boy's body later Saturday.

Kenny's father, Bob Miller, had remained in the area to continue looking for him, McEwen said.

He was notified of the discovery of his son's body after one such hike Saturday, McEwen said, and has since left to join the rest of the family in Oakhurst.

Authorities said it was too early to determine how long the youth had been dead.

Sheriff Skip Veatch is expected to issue a statement on the latest

developments of the case sometime this week.

Kenny was last seen throwing pebbles in a small stream during a family day hike on the Pacific Crest Trail. His parents left him for a few minutes while they took a look at a nearby cabin and returned to find him missing, authorities said.

Hundreds of volunteers combed the rugged countryside looking for Kenny, but their efforts were hindered by cold, rainy and snowy weather.

The sheriff's office even accepted an offer of assistance from a Reno psychic.

They also raced against time since Kenny, who had the emo-

tional and mental capacities of a 4-year-old, had to take medicine three times a day to prevent seizures.

The massive search efforts were scaled back last Wednesday after more than a week of looking turned up no solid clues about Kenny's whereabouts.

The boy's parents, Sharon and Bob Miller of Oakhurst, Calif., said Kenny had the mental and emotional capacities of a 4-year-old and must take medicine three times a day to prevent seizures. It was not known whether he could survive without the medicine.

Bob Miller thanked the approximately 300 people from throughout the state who volunteered.

Little League Pirates repeat

by DAVE PRICE
Sports editor

Record
Courier 7/9/92

This has been the year for repeat champions. The Duke Blue Devils... Chicago Bulls... Pittsburgh Penguins... And now the Carson Valley Little League Pirates.

Bruce Jacobsen wasn't ready to include his club in the above company Friday afternoon, but the manager was elated nonetheless after the Pirates nailed down their second straight Valley Little League majors title with a 14-4 win over the Alpine County Giants at Lampe Park.

"Back to back is tough to do in Little League because you're losing half your team every year," Jacobsen said. "Last year was a special team, and the veterans we have now learned a lot from being on that team. They learned how to win."

The Pirates weren't in an enviable position June 11 after dropping a 7-5 decision to the Orioles. At that point of the season, the Dodgers were 12-0 with a seemingly comfortable lead over the 9-3 Pirates.

"We just kept playing and kept playing; we needed some help and we got the help," said Jacobsen, whose club finished its season with a six-game win streak.

The leaders remained tied until Thursday, when

the Yankees used a seven-run first inning to knock off the Dodgers, 13-5.

That set the stage for the Pirates to clinch the title outright Friday against the Alpine County Giants. The chore of winning was not a simple one, either, because the Pirates had only squeaked out a 2-1 win over Alpine County earlier this season.

The rematch was actually a close affair until the fifth inning, when the Pirates erupted to score seven runs. Matt Stangle tripled, while Brett Goles and Hugh Smokey doubled to highlight the big inning.

Incidentally, Bruce Jacobsen Jr. and Smokey connected for back-to-back home runs earlier in the

week in the Pirates' 19-4 win over the Yankees. Smokey and young Jacobsen finished with five home runs each for the season.

Incidentally, the Pirates clinched their 1991 championship by beating the Yankees in a final-game showdown.

The Carson Valley Little League will send its all-star team into Nevada's District I tournament in Reno. The Valley club opens Monday with a 5:30 p.m. game against Valley Providence at Swope Middle School. The winner of that game will move on to play host-Reno National in the 14-team district tournament.

Record Courier 7/9/92

Gailson wins the Alpine 10-K run

John Gailson and Bill Devine seem to make a habit of leading the Markleeville 10-K.

Gailson and Devine have combined to win the event in each of the last five years, and last Sunday they got together and ran 1-2 at the 14th annual Markleeville race.

Gailson, 38, of Caples Lake, led start to finish and turned back a challenge from Devine in the final two miles to break the tape in 33:40 on a course that runs from Markleeville to Grover Hot Springs State Park (an approximate 500-foot vertical climb) and returns. Devine, of Incline Village, finished second in 34:15.

The Markleeville victory was the third in four years for Gailson, including a course record effort of 32:39 in 1989. Devine previously won the race in 1991 and 1988.

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Mike Grundstaff finished first in the childrens one-mile run with a time of 8:13. Aaron and Brian Sandov finished second and third with respective times of 8:48 and 8:59.

A record field of 102 entries ran in the race.

Death Riders pack Alpine highways

Death Riders took to the highways of Alpine County yesterday.

Nearly 2,500 bicyclists descended on Markleeville for one of the most brutal bicycle races in the United States.

Riders in the 11th annual Tour of the California Alps better known as The Death Ride set off on the 28-mile course yesterday morning.

The ride features 15,000 vertical feet of climbing to the top and down five mountain passes.

More than 300 volunteers will

smooth the way for cyclists this year.

Three of the five mountain passes used for the ride will be closed to vehicle traffic.

The Death Ride is not a race, but a tour, according to Alta Alpina Cycling Club Course Director Curtis Fong.

Cyclists of all ages and abilities participate in the annual event.

Organizers fear people who have not registered for the ride might try to crash the event, Fong said.

"The ride has been sold out since June 2," Fong said.

"The Alpine County Chamber of Commerce has returned an estimated 2,000 applications."

Fong said law enforcement agencies handling security for the tour will turn away all non-registered riders for safety reasons.

"It's unfortunate we can't accommodate more riders, but rider safety and maintaining the quality of the event are the most important factors for limiting the number of participants to 2,500."

Death ride

Record surier 7/12/92



More than 2,000 bicyclists took off yesterday morning for the 11th annual Markleeville Death Ride. Riders who make it through the entire ride will have gone 128 miles and over five high mountain

passes adding up to a 15,000-foot change in elevation. Alpine County authorities had their hands full controlling traffic and helping riders in trouble. R-C photo by Belinda Rohleder

Record Courier
7/16/92
People

**Remember
when?**

100 YEARS AGO
The Genoa Courier
Friday, July 15, 1892

* **GOOD FISHING.** Fishing is good at Hope Valley and other points in the mountains. Frank Walker caught 37 fine trout at Markleeville yesterday morning and the evening before.

25 YEARS AGO
The Record-Courier
Thursday, July 13, 1967

* **CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON EFFLUENT PIPELINE.** Construction began yesterday morning on the South Tahoe Public Utility District pipeline that will transport effluent over Luther Pass to Indian Creek Reservoir in Alpine County. The STPUD pipeline through Alpine County is the first substantial move toward solving the effluent problem plaguing the Lake Tahoe south shore.

Record Courier
July 16, 1992

Rain greets Death Ride participants

This past weekend's Death Ride didn't live up to its name, but stormy weather was the cause for at least 10 cases of hypothermia afflicting bicyclists were reported.

Heavy rains and cold temperatures awaited 2,500 participants during the 11th annual Alpine County event. Some of the participants were riding as far as 128 miles over a course that included climbs to the top of Monitor (twice), Ebbetts, Luther and Carson passes.

"Temperatures at the top of Ebbetts were right around 50, but when you combine that with wet clothing and the flow of air associated with going downhill, that makes it pretty cold," said Curtis Fong of the Alta Alpina Cycling Club, co-sponsor of the event with the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce.

Paramedic Robert Lekumberry said the event resulted in only two minor bicycle accidents.

Most of the hypothermia cases were minor, he said. Hypothermia is a subnormal body temperature.

"A couple of the cases were severe, but we were able to re-warm them," Lekumberry said. Bicyclists were treated at medical stations along the course or taken to a health clinic set up at the site.

Volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer firefighters worked along the entire stretch.

"I was very impressed with the way they covered the event as far as emergency medical services. It went very smoothly," Lekumberry added.

Some of the participants had their ride cut short when officials of the event moved the cutoff time for reaching the top of Carson Pass to 4 p.m. because of thunder and lightning.

"This is the first time it's rained like this all day," Fong said.

Madera County to get bill for costs incurred in search for missing boy

BY BRIAN MAFFLY
Tribune Staff Writer

Tahoe 7/21/92
Tribune

Sheriffs from Alpine and El Dorado counties are calculating what they spent in their intensive search last month for a missing boy who died in the wilderness of the Carson Pass area. Much of the cost will be passed on to Madera County where the boy lived, officials say.

Meanwhile, the Alpine sheriff has yet to receive the boy's autopsy report, which was expected early this week.

Kenny Miller, a 12-year-old developmentally disabled boy from Oakhurst, Calif., disappeared while on a hike with his parents on the Pacific Crest Trail June 23.

Hampered by the rugged terrain and unseasonably wet, cold weather, an eight-day search involving hundreds of personnel failed to yield a trace of the missing boy. Hikers found his body on a rocky ridge near Stevens Peak - located about two miles from where he was last seen - a few days after the full-scale search was called off.

"The county of the victim's residence is responsible for the majority of the expenses incurred in the search," Alpine Sheriff Henry "Skip" Veatch said.

Numerous agencies participated in the search on a mutual basis, but the cost of supplying them was borne by the local

Please see SEARCH, Page 7A

Search

Continued from Page 1A

sheriff's office, according to Veatch. The sheriff expects to conclude his expense calculations this week and then bill Madera County.

The Alpine sheriff's office provided fuel, meals and batteries to the searchers from throughout Northern California, and "incurred a myriad of other expenses," Veatch said. While the bills continue to pour in, the Alpine sheriff estimates the Alpine and El Dorado offices spent approximately \$40,000 in the search. El

Dorado will bill Alpine for its expenses, which, in turn, will bill Madera County.

El Dorado County Undersheriff Jim Roth said his office sometimes finds its budget burdened by the costs associated with searches and rescues of El Dorado residents in other counties.

The vast majority of the 700 searchers were volunteers, which cut the cost of the Miller search significantly, sheriff's officials noted. Veatch said that between 100 and 270 personnel were deployed on each day of the search, which was scaled down significantly on July 1.

The Record-Courier • Thursday, July 23, 1992

Remember when?

50 YEARS AGO
The REcord-Courier
Friday, July 24, 1942

BIRTHDAY. Mr. and Mrs. M. Sorensen entertained thirty-five of their friends at a party at their resort in Hope Valley Saturday evening, in honor of their son, Milton, who celebrated his birthday anniversary.

*Feeling the heat? Take a hike!

Record Courier 7/26/92

Flee the heat of the summer's sun to hike the mountains of the Toiyabe National Forest. Trail and meadow flowers, cool mountain breezes, cascading waterfalls, and the shade of aspen groves and pine forests await you in Charity Valley and on the trail to Snow Valley Peak.

Wednesday, July 29, the Charity Valley hike will begin along the bench meadow, then drop to follow the creek to the Burnside Lake Trail. From there, it is another two miles to Grovers Hot Springs. This area has excellent wildlife habitat, and we may see several species of birds in particular. Grovers Hot

Springs has two pools, one which a constant 103 degrees and does wonders for stiff and sore muscles; the other pool is a regular swimming pool, to cool off at the end of the hike. The hike will be a moderate one, walking six miles downhill, ending at Grovers Hot Springs pool parking area. Bring water and lunch, and wear comfortable shoes.

Meet Interpreter Shirley Pollock at 9-9:30 a.m. at the Grovers Pool parking area; begin the shuttle to the Charity Valley Trail from there. If hikers are interested in returning along the same route, Pollock can be met at the Charity

Valley Trail on the Blue Lakes Road in Hope Valley. Grovers Hot Springs is located west of Markleeville, Calif. via the Hot Springs Road. Markleeville can be reached from Highway 88, then south on Highway 4 at the Woodfords turnout.

Saturday, Aug. 1, will be the Tahoe Rim Trail north to Snow Valley Peak. The hike will expand views of the Sierra, as the breathtaking expanses unfold before you as you move up the trail. Excellent views abound, and the fresh air is invigorating all the way to the top! This is a moderate to strenuous

Continued to page 5

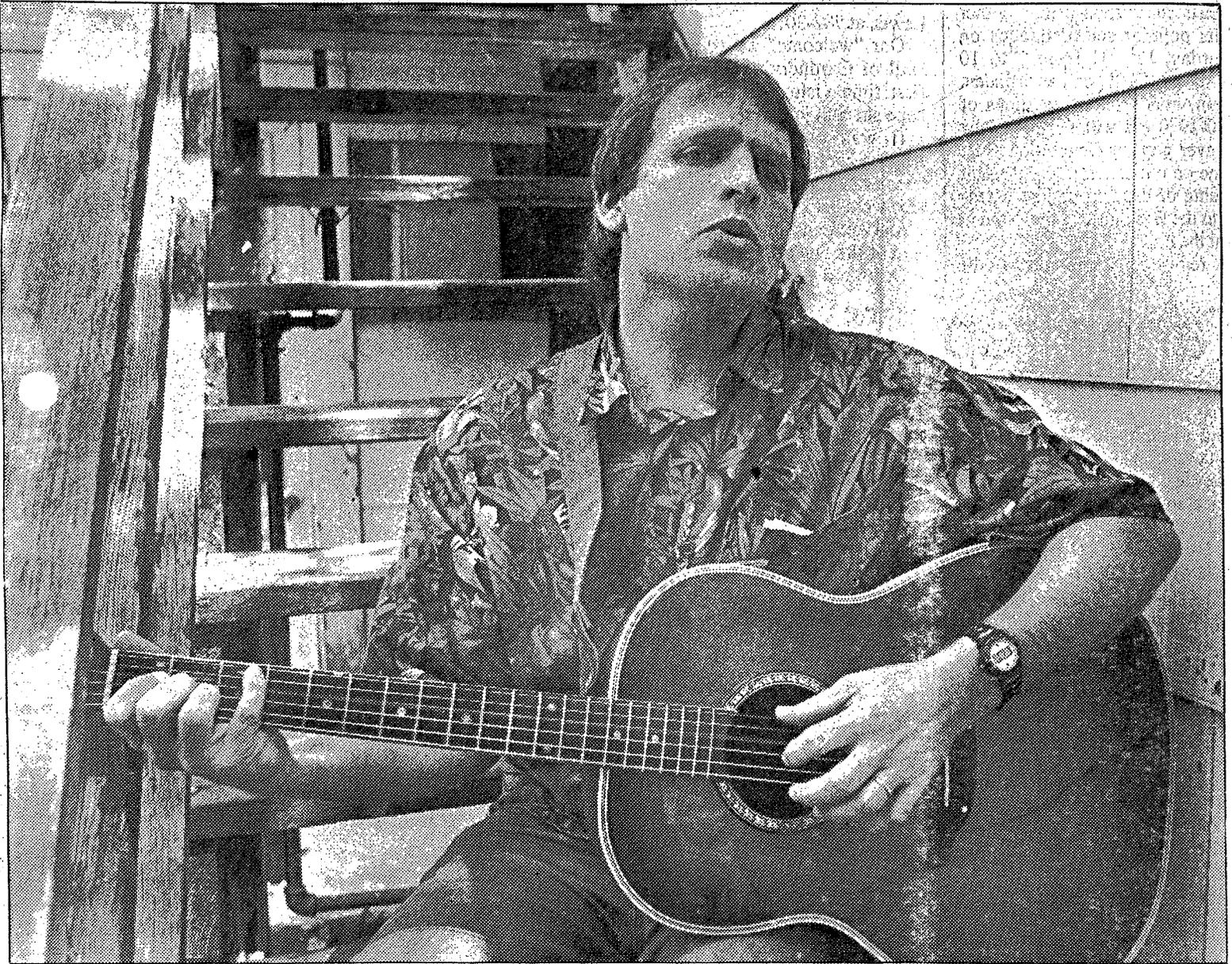
Hikes: Day trips

Continued from page 4

hike which is 10 miles round trip. Bring water and a lunch or snack, good hiking shoes for the rocky ledges, and a daypack with a raincoat and light jacket. Meet Interpreter Shirley Pollock at 9 a.m. at the Tahoe Rim Trail on Highway 50, near Spooner Summit. Spooner Summit has a parking area for the TRT on the north side of the road, in the trees.

Day walks/hikes are within short distances of the Reno, Tahoe, Carson City and Gardnerville areas. For more information on the adventures scheduled throughout the summer, contact the Carson Ranger District of Toiyabe National Forest at (702) 882-2766.

People



Concert at Turtle Rock

David Burns, the popular troubador from Sorensen's Cafe, will be giving a concert at Turtle Rock Park in Markleeville, Thursday evening, July 30, at 7 p.m., sponsored by the Alpine County Arts

Commission and admission will be \$2 at the door. Children 12 years old and under will be admitted free. R-C photo by Belinda Rohleder

Area waters have been planted

by DOUG BUSEY
R-C News Service

Hello fellow anglers. Here once again is Mac-the-Naw with your bi-monthly fishing report.

South Shore Tahoe: Fishing has been fair off Ski Run Point and the Keys. Most anglers have been going to the Sugar Pine Point area for mackinaw. For shore anglers, Cave Rock is doing very well for rainbows and an occasional brown.

North Shore Tahoe: Mackinaw fishing is still productive 200 to 400 feet down, with the average

fish 4 pounds.

Fallen Leaf Lake: Action is still good for mackinaw during early morning or sunset. Morning anglers are fair for rainbows and browns with rapalas. Kokanee are being caught with blades and a Red Magic, anywhere from from five to seven colors.

* **Caples Lake:** Slow for shore anglers but should pick up with calm weather. Recently 7,000 pounds of rainbows were planted. Trollers have been doing very good with blades and crawlers. Mackinaw fishing is fair to slow, but an 8-pounder was pulled out

last week.

* **Blue Lakes:** Both upper and lower were planted with catchable size rainbow trout. Fishing for boat and shore anglers has been good.

* **Red Lake:** This lake was recently planted with rainbow trout. Although both boat and shore fishing are slow, some fish are being caught, but with good weather it should pick up.

* **East and West Fork Carson River:** Although rainbow trout have been planted, fishing has been slow due to low water and high temperatures.

Good fishing, and remember, if you have a photo of your fishing trip, send it to Mac-the-Naw, P.O. Box 2795, Stateline, 89449. If you want your photo returned, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. You too can be in the Mac-the-Naw Hall of Fame.

And don't forget: If you want to become a member of one of the best fishing organizations in Lake Tahoe, call Rick Bartoni, president of the High Mountain Anglers at (916) 544-4502. Don't miss their next fishing tournament at Sly Park, Aug. 15. Until next time, good fishing!

Editor's note: Doug Busey writes a bi-monthly fishing column for the Tahoe Daily Tribune.

People

1892: Death of Joe Giardelli

100 YEARS AGO
The Genoa Courier
Friday, Aug. 5, 1892

DEATH OF JOE GIARDELLI Joseph Giardelli died at his residence in Genoa Sunday afternoon, after a lingering illness.

Deceased was a native of Switzerland, aged 61 years, being born on the 21st of April, 1831, and was one of the oldest residents and an industrious and upright citizen.

He was an unusually hard working man and it was no doubt that the over-taxing of his physical powers

*Record
Courier
8/6/92*

Remember when?

shortened his years.

Mr. Giardelli leaves to mourn his loss a widow and five small children, besides a step son and step daughter, Jimmie and Mary Gonsalli.

* **TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES AND TROUT.**

School teachers should bear in mind that applicants for certificates will be examined at Markleeville next Thursday, August 11th. This is a good chance for teachers to rusticate in the mountains, take the examination during the day and go trout fishing in the evening. The people of Markleeville are very hospitable and always make it pleasant for visitors, especially teachers.

aug. 6, 92

Residents, Forest Service swap charges afterward

As attacks against the 6,550-acre Acorn fire ended Sunday, criticism of fire-fighting practices in the Eastern Sierra seemed to spread as fast as the wind-whipped blaze did a week ago.

Federal agencies who spent five days battling the brush and timber fire found themselves on a different defensive front by Monday, responding to both fire victims and long-time Valley residents who accused them of forgetting the basics.

Several people who gathered this week praised individual firefighters but railed against "the system" and "chain-of-command" used today for attacking this region's major forest fires.

It's a system that devotes too much time organizing area agencies and too little time attacking a fire in the first crucial minutes, residents said.

The U.S. Forest Service also turns away landowners whose property is threatened, according to residents, although they have years of experience fighting fires and are more familiar with the area.

These critics went head-to-head with state and federal fire crews Monday when all were called together in Minden. A public hearing also was held before Alpine County supervisors Tuesday.

In the wake of these and other accusations, U.S. Forest Service officials in command of last Wednesday's fire said some problems do exist in initial response for this area.

However, they also pointed to the increasing number of homes built in remote timberland and the need for residents and local governments to take an active role in clearing brush from structures and taking other fire preventive steps.

With new homes in the path of fires, federal and state fire crews have to give greater priority today to the protection of lives and structures, according to Terry Randolph of the Toiyabe National Forest.

"It's probably something we need to work out," he said Monday about the initial two hours of a fire. "However, by 5 p.m. (Wednesday) 80 engines, who knows how many Cats (bulldozers) and other equipment converged."

Because the fire was so large and spread so fast, it was a real problem assigning equipment and trucks gathered on the area roads, according to Randolph.

"We did have a man in control of the fire. But as rapidly as events were unfolding, things were changing. Granted, some things fell through the cracks."

Firefighters also were hampered in securing air tankers for the initial attack because of construction going on at the Douglas County Airport, Randolph said.

As a matter of routine, the U.S. Forest Service and other agencies expect to critique the first two hours of Wednesday's blaze, which destroyed 24 homes near Woodfords and caused considerable damage to several others.

It will be several days before that critique is completed, they said.

"I feel pretty bad about the loss of homes," Randolph said. "But I'm proud we were able to save 103. A lot of fine, young people busted their butts and put their life on the line."

But residents who are mad about seeing three major fires in Alpine County during the past four years said problems stem from the initial attack and bureaucratic regulations.

Many are talking of a class-action suit against federal agencies, and others said they may request congressional investigations. The Alpine Board of Supervisors is considering separate action.

Throughout the Woodfords community this week, people said the good firefighters' hands are tied by bureaucracy. Others went as far as saying some agency firefighters stood by the road and watched a once-small fire get out of hand when they could have put it out with shovels.

"They have to go through this long chain of command before they can even pump water," said Bob Stephens, a volunteer firefighter of some 14 years and owner of Woodfords Auto.

He said some agency firefighters told him as the fire was raging that they weren't authorized to pump water on structures.

"The Forest Service has too many in command," he said. "They have some really good men, but by the time they go

Continued to page 7

Residents: Leaders criticized for

Continued from page 1 through the chain of command it's too late. They're too busy assessing the fire and not fighting the fire."

Some Woodfords Fire Department volunteers also were mad that they were sent home after being one of the first to respond to the scene.

Woodfords Fire Chief Dave Zellmer said he's conducting his own interviews and investigation into what more could have been done initially.

"It's normal procedure when guys get on the fire to make a judgment of whether it's a volunteer-type fire or a Forest Service fire," Randolph said, adding that volunteers may be needed elsewhere if another fire breaks out.

"This was on a cliff with 7-10 mile-an-hour winds. We didn't know it would kick up to 35-mile-an-hour winds. The weather changed."

Lyle Smith, a retired U.S. Forest Service worker of 34 years, said he's watched the agency in the past 10-15 years "centralize" with policies that get further away from the local community.

"When we were fighting fires we never had any days like this," said Smith, who was near the fire scene Wednesday when it first started. "Maybe we didn't have as many people living in different areas, but when we hit a fire, we hit it with everything we had."

He added that federal agencies actions today are based on a fear of liability instead of giving everything they've got in attacking small blazes.

But according to Randolph, his district has tackled some 120 fires this season and only two got away from agencies.

Residents suggested the agency go back to a policy of actively seeking out local residents with firefighting resources before the fire season reaches its peak.

Wednesday's fire, which officials say was started by human negligence, caused the most property damage in recent years. Total damage estimates have reached \$5 million.

This fire met the starting point of last year's Fredericksburg fire, which burned 3,500 acres. Three years ago, the Indian Creek fire in Alpine and Douglas counties burned 17,000 acres.

RANCHERS UPSET

Clarence Burr of the Diamond Valley Ranch, a fourth-generation rancher, reported a loss of 275 prime acres zoned for single-family homes. He estimated his loss at about \$1½ million.

"I told them three years ago if they didn't change their policy

they would burn me out," he said this week. Burr also saw his property damaged in two previous fires in the past few years.

Burr and other ranchers who own large amounts of land in both Carson Valley and Alpine County complained they were at first barred from the area and then delayed from attacking the fire's eastern flank.

Burr, Fred Dressler, Larry Pedrett, Mel Schwake Jr. and Kenneth Hellwinkel said their actions finally saved the Diamond Valley School and Woodfords Indian Colony.

They had started clearing a fire line near the school until Douglas County crews arrived to back them up, Burr said.

But delays — when they were

more than the individuals," Burr said.

"Before, it would be up to us people — no questions were asked; we worked together. The important thing was to save our property."

Among those outraged this week is 89-year-old rancher Fred Dressler, who owns some of the largest land-holdings in both Carson Valley and Alpine County.

Dressler said he was almost arrested for acting without federal authority when he tried to enter with a bulldozer and a hand-picked crew of local residents. He said those residents have been fighting fires for years.

"In my days, whoever got to a fire first was the boss," Dressler said, adding that landowners were never held back from protecting property.

At Monday's meeting, Douglas County Sheriff Jerry Maple suggested that landowners who have equipment and know how to fight fires be issued an I.D. card so they can quickly cross roadblocks and help protect their property.

He said not all emergency personnel brought in to work on a major disaster would know Fred Dressler or other ranchers well-known to the community.

Police had to order residents to evacuate for their own safety on Wednesday, Maple added.

KINGSBURY THREAT

Both Driscoll and U.S. Forest Service officials said the more-populated Kingsbury Grade is as much at risk with decaying vegetation and drier conditions that helped fuel last week's fire.

Randolph said local governments as well as residents should be willing to spend the money toward fire preventive steps.

"We're going to be talking about this situation again," Randolph warned. "We need to take a look at a cooperative effort for such things as greenstripping and fuel breaks. We need to get people to get rid of those damn shingle roofs and clean up vegetation."

"It will give you an edge. It will cost money but this has cost us money and a lot of heartache. There are some things we have to do for ourselves; government can't do it all."

He said Driscoll has talked for some time about the dangers threatening Kingsbury Grade.

"Have you been listening to him?" Randolph asked. "We've been crying out in the dark."

Smith, also a Douglas County planning commissioner, said he has never seen Forest Service personnel show up at a meeting offering fire safety tips.

“
We need to take a cooperative effort for such things as green stripping and fuel breaks. We need to get people to get rid of those damn shingle roofs and clean up vegetation.
”

held back at roadblocks and questioned because their private bulldozers for clearing brush weren't properly authorized — cost another hour or more that could have saved Burr's property, according to the ranchers.

The ranchers said they spent even more time trying to find out who the person in charge was so they could get that authority.

They finally received at least one OK from East Fork Fire Chief Bill Driscoll who, out of his jurisdiction, said he would take responsibility for their unauthorized bulldozer to go to work. Driscoll told them the paperwork could be worked out later, the ranchers said.

"A lot of paid firefighters stood by the side of the road; if one of them wanted to show initiative, then it would come down on them. It's the system

HOT CAR.
found by p
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WRECKAGE
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HOT CAR. This is really a hot car, a Porsche found by photographer Jay Aldrich and his "tourguide," Sgt. Leo Johnson, of the Washoe

Dotthe Cohen's Car
Tribal Police. This was a fickle forest fire, bur-
ning to the ground some cabins and leaving
others untouched only a few yards away.



WRECKAGE: A partially standing garage door
is one of the only recognizable features of this
Alpine Village home while another house only

a few feet away remains standing. Several
houses were lost in this neighborhood south
of Highway 89. R-C photo by Treva Zeller

Arts & Enterte

Basketweavers of Washoe Tribe honored in Lake

by JOYCE HOLLISTER
Staff Writer

Her words spoke to the sacred waters of Lake Tahoe and the renewal of spirit to be had by its shores as Dresslerville native Theresa Jackson gave the blessing on Saturday for a celebration of Native American culture.

Introduced by her sister Joann Martinez, Jackson gave the blessing in Washoe. The Lake setting was appropriate, for Lake Tahoe was the home of the indigenous peoples of this area for thousands of years.

The Washoes annually camped at Tahoe for the summer, fishing and gathering with friends and relatives.

Dressed in their best, four elder basketweavers of the Washoe Tribe were the stars of the last weekend's first Festival of Native American Arts and Cultures at the Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe.

The festival was called "Wa She Shu Edeh (Washoe People's Land)" and was "a tribute to the elder women of the Washoe Tribe."

It was sponsored by the Tahoe Tallac Association, which manages the site on Highway 89, and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.

Following the blessing, the Dresslerville Players presented enactments of three traditional tales. "How the Pine Nuts Came to



BASKETWEAVERS. Joann Martinez weaves during the Native American arts and cultural festival last weekend. At far left is Lucille Morris; in the middle is Florine Conway. R-C photos by Joyce Hollister

century.
Native American festivities

Nevada." "How the Rabbit Changed" and "Pawetsile and Damollale."

Lori Pasqua, director of the plays, introduced the children and talked about how she remembered grandparents telling her stories when she was a child. Instead of watching television for entertainment, kids would listen to tales of the past and tales of creation and morality.

"I've had all positive comments on our little ones," Washoe Tribe education director Sherry Smokey said. "They performed Friday and Saturday nights."

"Everyone I've talked to of the organizers said it went very well for the first year," she added.

A Carson City area Native American youth group camped over the weekend.

The celebration took place over the entire Tallac Historic Site, which is made up of several restored homes and outbuildings which date back to the turn of the

have been presented at the Tallac Site for several years, but this was the first time it had used the entire area, according to coordinator Carol Spain.

"The goal is to become bigger and better," Spain added, "and for the first full-site event, we're just enormously pleased."

"The response was marvelous. People just loved it."

Spain said the the Washoe Tribe was extra-supportive of the events.

"They put their full-hearted support behind it and helped to promote it among their people," she said.

Artists and craftsmen displayed and demonstrated their work in cabins on the site, and the presentations of the Players, Native American dancing and singing, hand games and storytelling took place on the lawn at the main building, Valhalla. Indian tacos were especially popular, and the Washoe Tribe Gift Shop sold items.

California Native Americans



RABBIT LOSES TAIL. Becky Montgomery as the rabbit loses her tail when it is pulled by Ron Falcon who plays the young man caught in quicksand in "How the Rabbit Changed."

Entertainment

Lake festival



THE YOUNGER generation of basketweavers was also represented. Above, Celia DeLorme.

were also invited, as were other Nevada native peoples, including the Norm and Bernadine De Lorme family, Northern Paiute/Washoe/Shoshone from Reno. They showed their beaded baskets and demonstrated their techniques.

The De Lormes said they thought the event was very nice and the Tallac Association was especially accommodating to the Native Americans who participated. Participants were able to camp for free during the festival, which lasted July 31-Aug. 5.

Other artists to take part were Richard Servilican, Jean LaMarr, Adam Fortunate Eagle, Jack Mallotte, Frank La Pena, Dugan Aguilar, Kevin Jones, David Ipina, Stan Padilla, Guy Jurado, Arnold Aragon, Bill Snyder, Laurette and Charlie Wilson as well as basketweaver Goldie Bryan and some of her basketweaving students of Alpine County.

Snyder, a jeweler from Stockton, Calif., called the festival "great" and hopes to come back next year for an even bigger event.

A private collection of baskets was the focus of a display inside the restored Valhalla hall. The well arranged and lighted baskets set the tone for the festival, which was designed to show that Indian basketweaving is not a lost art, according to Spain.

"Sixty years ago, Yosemite Field Days produced many of the finest baskets ever woven. We hope to begin to recreate that environment at Lake Tahoe, home of the Washoe, among whom were some of the most outstanding basketweavers of the last century,"

Tahoe Daily Tribune 8/7/92

Teen-age boy dies in Alpine County crash

BY BRIAN MAFFLY
Tribune Staff Writer

A 13-year-old boy was killed Thursday afternoon when the vehicle in which he was riding flipped on a remote Alpine County road.

Miles Viduya of North Highlands,

Calif., was pronounced dead at the scene. The vehicle's 17-year-old driver, also of North Highlands, was seriously injured and transported by Careflight to Washoe Medical Center in Reno, the California Highway Patrol reported. His condition was unavailable this morning.

CHP Officer Bob Lillywhite declined

to name the driver because of the "good possibility criminal charges will be filed." The wreck remains under investigation and it is suspected alcohol was involved, Lillywhite said.

The accident occurred at 4:15 p.m. on

Please see **CRASH**, Page 10A.

Crash

Continued from Page 1A

Blue Lakes Road approximately eight miles south of State Route 88, according to Lillywhite.

The vehicle, a 1986 Chevrolet Blazer, was heading north down a steep section of the dirt road when its right tires went onto the

shoulder, Lillywhite said. The driver overcorrected causing the Blazer to roll 1 1/2 times, coming to rest on its roof on the road.

None of the car's three occupants was wearing a seat belt and each was ejected.

Paramedics treated and released a second passenger, 18-year-old Brian Montano of Sacramento.

Boy killed in Alpine accident

Record Courier
by BRIAN MAFFLY 8/9/92
R-C News Service

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MR. AND MRS. JEFFREY PALMER JR.

Pine-Palmer vows told

Diana Raychel Pyne of Gardnerville was married to Jeffery Lee Palmer Jr. of Woodfords at Bently Science Park on July 25 in an afternoon ceremony.

Both are 1991 graduates of Douglas High School.

The bride, the daughter of George and Deborah Pyne, is currently attending Western Nevada Community College and is employed by Bently Nevada Corporation.

The groom is employed by H & E Construction.

The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Pete Nelson and was followed by a reception with a buffet, attended by 225 people, at the Science Park.

The maid of honor was the bride's cousin, Candice Pendleton of Genoa, and the best man was Matthew Miller, a friend of the groom from Woodfords.

Other members of the wedding party included JoLynn Dickerson, Ann Mueller, Mary Jo Rodalfo, Justin Joyner, Marcel Balda and Tony Valenti.

The flower girls were Alison Pyne, sister of the bride, and Lindsey Geirrine, sister of the groom, and the ringbearer was Travis Pyne, brother of the bride.

The bride was given away by her father.

The couple took a wedding trip to Disneyland and Santa Cruz, Calif., and now reside in their home in Gardnerville.

Record Courier 8/13/92

Nine injured: Four accidents mar weekend

Continued from page 1

Ranch.

The driver, a 17-year-old female, lost control of the pickup, overcorrected and the pickup rolled.

Two other people were injured in the accident, a 17-year-old Gardnerville youth and 20-year-old Charles Murphy of Camp Antelope, Calif.

All four people walked to a nearby home in the Ruhenstroth

area to report the accident.

* Four teenagers received minor injuries near Blue Lakes Road when the driver of their car fell asleep at the wheel.

According to the California Highway Patrol, the 17-year-old driver of the 1992 Geo Prism was westbound on Highway 88 about one mile west of Blue Lakes Road when she drifted off the left shoulder and hit a snow stake, a tree and the dirt bank. *

A 30-year-old Vacaville man was injured in a diving accident above the Old Power Dam on the Carson River Saturday evening.

Roger Bastien was injured when he hit his head on a rock on the Carson River above the power dam near Yannigan's Rock.

According to the East Fork Paramedic's District, Bastien was taken to Carson Valley Health Center where he was treated and released.

Record Courier 8/13/92



Camp

Kids constructed a willow sunshade, learned the Washoe language, played handgames and did traditional crafts at the Woodfords Youth and Community Culture Camp last week at the

Woodfords Indian Community Center. At left is Angelo Burris, who works with fellow students to erect a sunshade. R-C photo by Robert Daniels



CANDIDATE. Former San Francisco Mayor and California candidate for Senate Dianne Feinstein visited Markleeville in an 11-county sweep Friday. R-C photo by Kurt Hildebrand

Feinstein visits Alpine County

by KURT HILDEBRAND
Staff Writer

California Senate candidate Dianne Feinstein visited Markleeville during an 11-county campaign sweep Friday morning.

Alpine County residents packed the administrative building to hear Democrat Feinstein talk about her campaign.

The former San Francisco mayor is stumping to finish out the final two years of former Senator Alan Cranston's six-year term.

Feinstein faces Republican Jonn Seymour, who was appointed by Gov. Pete Wilson 18 months ago to fill Cranston's seat.

She and Representative Barbara Boxer (D-San Francisco) have both taken their party's nomination and are currently

ahead in the polls.

If both were elected, it would double the number of women holding seats in the Senate.

Feinstein said the United States is going to have to re-invest in the nation's internal infrastructure.

"We have to put people back to work," she said. "We spend \$75-\$100 billion to defend Europe and another \$20-\$30 million to defend South Korea and Japan. The time has come for our allies to pay for their own defense."

She presented her five-year "Invest in America" plan which would use the peace dividend to rebuild the nation's infrastructure.

Feinstein said she is 100 percent pro choice when it comes to abortion.

"I've yet to meet the public figure I would trust my daughter's reproductive system to," she

said.

Feinstein said women rose up after the Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings.

"An all-male Judiciary Committee didn't even know what questions to ask," she said.

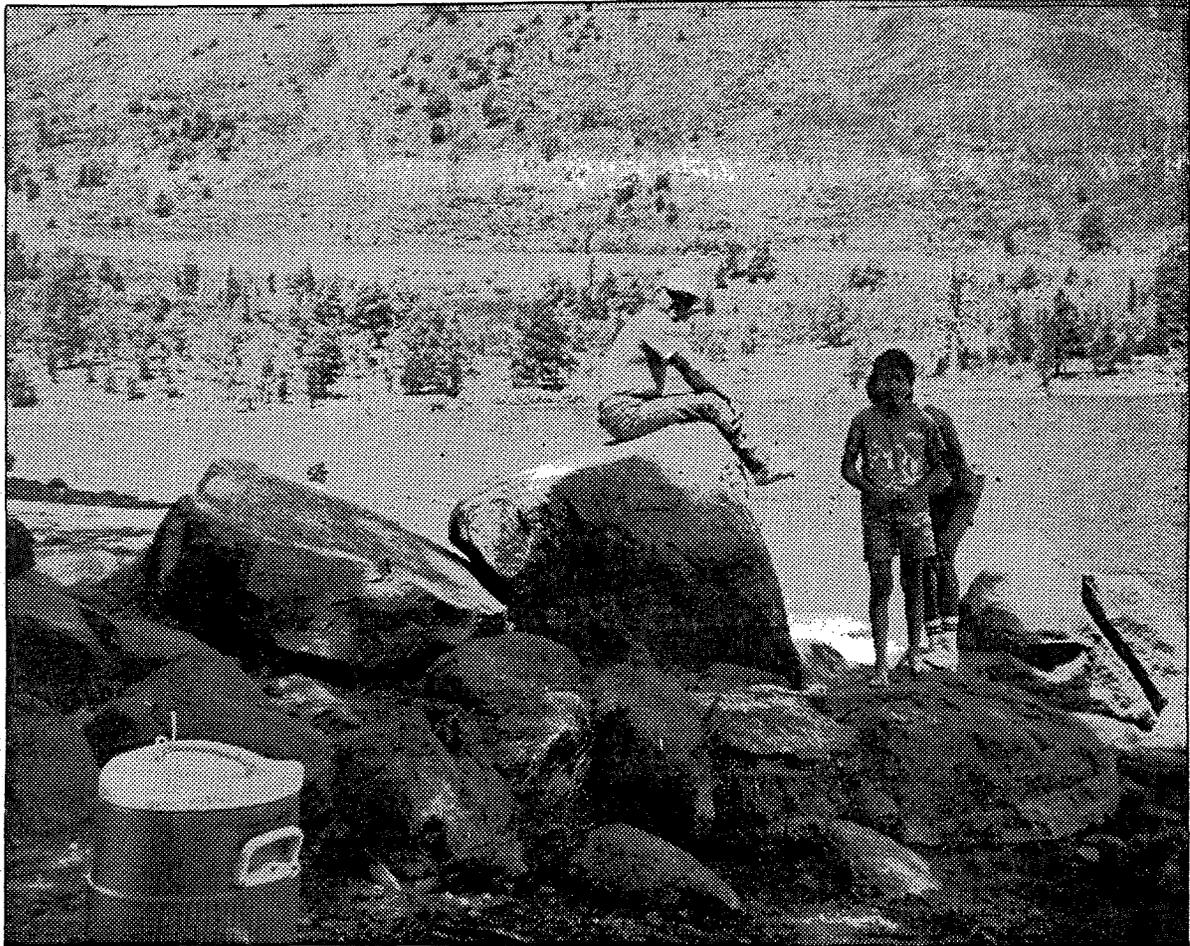
"Two-percent may be good for the fat content in milk, but it is not good for representation in the U.S. Senate."

Feinstein observed some of the damage the drought has done to the Sierra.

"We've been making the rounds in a small plane," Feinstein said. "I can see how dry this state is. It looks like a tinderbox."

Feinstein said that if elected she would not take the perks offered Senators.

"I will be a 100-percent perkless senator," she said. "I think people are disaffected when their public officials go back to Washington and accept these perks."



KIDS AT the Washoe Culture Camp. Washoe Tribe photo

Washoe Culture Camp ends

by MANDA VANN and
COLETTE CLARK
Special to the R-C

Moko, dangal, tsigayak, hinayaugi, mekedidi ... these are some of the things learned about by Woodfords youths and elders, at Culture Camp July 27-31.

Facilitated by Lana Hicks, this event provided the opportunity for community members to participate in practical, traditional skills. Lori Pasqua and Eric Smokey taught

how to make moccasins, while Katherine Vann showed how to bead them. David Roberts instructed the kids on building a model willow shelter. In the afternoons, participants, we learned more Washoe language from Belma Jones and Marvin Dressler.

A very popular event with the kids was the La Crosse game, supplied and coached by Yvonne and Lorna Christen. Similar to hockey, this game utilizes poles to carry a braided cloth from the center of

the field to one's goal line. The younger kids also had the opportunity to learn the rules of handgame and to compete — thanks to Norman DeLorme.

Acorn and pinenuts were a staple of the Washoes; however preparation is very time-consuming and specific. The group was fortunate to have available ladies who are skilled and in the preparation of both. After Dinah Pete demonstrated winnowing pinenuts. Students were allowed to practice this technique with her winnowing basket. The young people also now have a greater appreciation for the effort involved in cleaning pinenuts and acorns.

Taking time out to travel here, Melanie James spoke to youth about issues both important and interesting to them.

Organizations that helped fund this event included the CADPE program, Native America Tobacco Control, Save the Children Fund, Title V program, Woodfords Community Council and Woodfords Indian Education Center.

The purpose of Culture Camp is to impart knowledge and appreciation for the unique and rich heritage of the Washoe culture. Thanks goes to all who cared enough to give their time, this goal was accomplished.

Tahoe Daily Tribune 8/18/92

Exposure killed lost 12-year-old

MARKLEEVILLE, Calif. (AP) — An autopsy has confirmed that a 12-year-old California boy who wandered away from his parents during a family outing near the Carson Pass in June died of exposure, the sheriff said on Monday.

Alpine County Sheriff Skip Veatch said Kenny Miller of Oakhurst probably died within a day of his disappearance June 23, since his body still contained therapeutic levels of a medication he was taking.

The boy, who was developmentally disabled, disappeared as his parents stopped to look at a cabin in the Upper Truckee River Canyon during a day hike.

A massive search of the rugged, rocky area near the Meiss Meadows turned up no sign of him. His body was found 11 days later at the 9,800-foot level of the mountains, about 1,000 feet above where he started out.

The sheriff said at the time the body was recovered that he believed the boy had died of exposure within a short time after his disappearance because he was wearing only a T-shirt and long pants and the area was swept by wind, rain, snow and temperatures near freezing the first night he was gone.

Veatch said the cost of the search official search is estimated at \$45,000 and will be billed to Madera County under a

Please see **AUTOPSY**, Page 7A

Autopsy

Continued from Page 1A

California law that allows one jurisdiction to seek reimbursement from another government agency for a search made for a person missing from that area.

Veatch added that he did not

know if Madera County would be able to pay the bill, which includes overtime costs for Alpine County and the mutual aid received from El Dorado County and the Naval Air Station at Fallon, Nev., given California's budget crisis.

The sheriff estimated the cost of up to 250 volunteers a day who

took part in the search, including feeding them and giving them some form of shelter, at \$300,000, which he says would not be recovered.

He said two other hikers had since disappeared in the same general area, but were found safely.

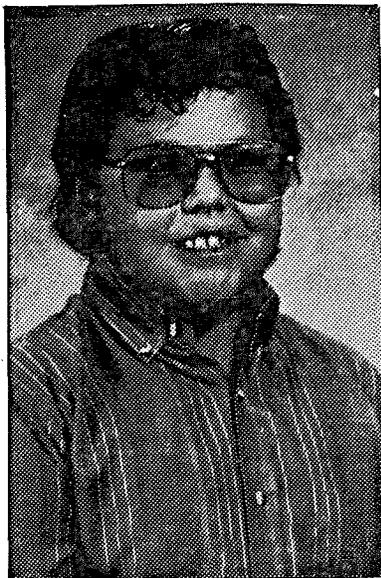
Washoe student in UC program

Raymond E.F. Payne, son of Ray and Marilyn Payne of Markleeville, graduated from the University of California at Irvine's Summer Preparatory Program on Aug. 8. Maternal grandparents are Edgar Dutchy and Caroline Gutierrez and paternal grandparents are Hazel E. Payne and the late Frank Payne.

Raymond Payne was sponsored by the Washoe Trial Education Program, Sherry Smokey, Education Director.

This summer program provides 150 gifted and talented Native American students the opportunity to participate in a six-week residential learning program. The program is offered to high achieving students from all tribes throughout the United States.

Raymond was recommended by



RAYMOND PAYNE
his math teacher, John Falkenhagen and English teacher,

Mary Ann Miller, from the Carson Valley Middle School.

The object of the program is to provide academic and culturally enriched experiences that will enable, motivate and encourage Native American students to gain access to higher education programs at prominent colleges and universities.

He attended the program June 27-Aug. 8.

His interests include computer design and programming, laser studies and the study of languages.

Raymond is a 13-year-old Washoe tribal member from the Woodfords Indian Community, eldest of two children, and will be a student in the eighth grade at the Carson Valley Middle School in the fall.

Thousands flee Gold Country fires

Reno Gazette 8/21/92

Seek shelter in Sierra town as flames consume foothill homes

By Scott Thomsen
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

MARKLEEVILLE, Calif. — Californians continued to scurry from their Gold Country towns Thursday, grabbing what they could carry and praying flames that scorched nearly 18,000 acres of forests behind them would miss their homes.

By late evening, the Old Gulch Fire destroyed 57 structures, including 41 houses.

■ **Seeking refuge:** A steady stream of evacuees filed down California's two-lane Highway 89 through Markleeville to purchase gas, food and supplies.

John Muller, a 36-year-old dentist, was forced from his Forest Meadows home Wednesday night when a 300-foot wall of flames began to swallow more than a dozen houses in his neighborhood. He didn't know whether his survived.

"It was ominous. It was right across the street and it was moving like a freight train," he said.

The forests looked "like a war zone," Muller said. More than 3,600 firefighters, including a five-man engine company from Douglas County, Nev., battled the 5-day-old blaze in helicopters, with heavy equipment and on foot.

A third of Calaveras County residents — up to 14,000 people — fled their homes.

Markleeville's three motels filled and its community center was opened as a shelter. Townfolks welcomed evacuees into their homes or to camp in their yards.

"We have a lot of friends on both sides of the fire so we're really concerned," said Judy Warren, executive director of the Markleeville Chamber of Commerce. "Every time there's an emergency or a fire we all pull together, we pull up our sleeves and work," she said.

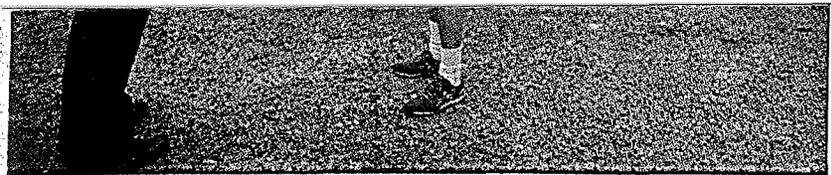
■ **Evacuees:** Worry hung on the face of Shannon Dixon as heavy



Associated Press

FLEEING FLAMES: John O'Hara, San Francisco newspaper photographer, runs Thursday as fire spreads in Avery, Calif.





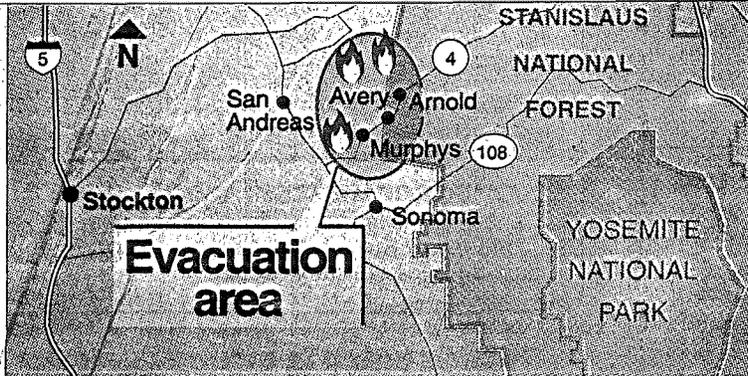
David Parker/Gazette-Journal

CAN'T GET THROUGH: Carl Allen of Vacaville talks to Alpine County Sheriff Skip Veatch on Thursday in Markleeville after he was told he couldn't retrieve valuables from his Arnold cabin in the Old Gulch Fire zone. Allen decided to return to Vacaville and hope for the best.

More on pages 4, 5A:

■ **80% contained:** California's worst fire in five years could double in size before it's put out.

■ **Flames ravage history:** Gold Rush towns threatened; tales of battles.



Dave Hardman/Gazette-Journal

■ *"Those trees go up just like that. It's sudden. The flames are huge."* **Mark Aston**, firefighter

as the smoke filling this town where ash fell like snow.
"We haven't seen the sun for three days," said Dixon, 17 of Camp Connel, Calif. "(The fire) is so big, you can't believe it. I've never been evacuated and had to pack up my things and leave my home before."
Tessa Carson, 17, had time to grab clothes, music tapes, photos, a few family mementos and her favorite white teddy bear before leaving her Arnold home Tuesday. All that was left to do was wait, watch the smoke and wonder what was left of her hometown.
"I'm scared. I am really scared," Carson said. "We saw all these flames coming over the ridge. Just waiting for it to come is the worst. It's like the end of the world or something."

Little Miss Washoe crowned at the Washoe Tribe picnic

Record Courier 8/23/92

Nearly 500 people were on hand to see the crowning of the new Little Miss Washoe at the recent Washoe Tribe annual picnic at Stewart Indian Museum grounds near Stewart Colony.

Little Miss Washoe for 1992-93 is Lyla Pete, a 10-year-old resident of Dresslerville Colony. She will represent the tribe at various functions in the next year, from parades and pow wows to

festivals and any social gathering, according to picnic organizer Sherrada Kizer.

First runnerup was Sari Payne, 9, of Woodfords; second runnerup, Sierra Murphy, 9, of Carson Colony; and third runnerup, Leeja James, 5, of Dresslerville.

They all were given trophies and flowers, Kizer said, and Lyla was presented with the crown which will be hers for the year.

"She'll become our 'official ambassador,'" Kizer said.

Escorts for the girls were Shane John of Dresslerville and Freddie Fred of Woodfords, both 10 years old.

The barbecue featured pit-barbecued beef, beans cooked by Carson Colony and the Senior Center at Dresslerville, and salads and rolls brought by the picnickers.

"We kind of make it a festival time," Kizer said of the barbecue with booths and games.

The men's tug of war was won by Mark Kizer's team, and the women's tug of war was won by his sister Millie Kizer's team.

There were a handgame tournament and various children's games, plus a horse shoe tournament organized by Lance Astor, retired executive director of the

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada.

Helping Kizer organize the event were Astor, Thelma Tripp, Millie Kizer, Norm de Lorme, Sylvia Simmons, Carolyn Kenton, Rosaline Carcin and Bob Wyatt. She thanked them for all their help.

This year a new award was made.

"We established the Harold Wyatt Memorial Outstanding Cit-

izenship Award, and gave it in recognition to his family," Kizer said. The family in turn donated a large picture of the late Washoe leader, who had been with the Inter-Tribal Council for many years. The plaque and the photo will hang at the tribal headquarters in Gardnerville. Next year, Kizer said, the award will be made to an outstanding citizen at the annual picnic.

Record
Courier 8/27/92

Obituaries

Hank T. Gutierrez

Hank T. Gutierrez of Woodfords died Aug. 21 at the Veterans' Hospital in Reno. He was 76.

Mr. Gutierrez had been a Woodfords resident for the past 23 years. He was born in Santa Ana, Calif. on July 16, 1916 to Manuel and Emilia Martinez Gutierrez.

He was a construction worker and a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Caroline, and daughter Nelaine Sam Gutierrez, both of Woodfords; sister Anita Vargas of Los Angeles, Calif.; two stepsons, 7 stepdaughters, 23 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews in southern California.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Aug. 29, at Calvary Assembly of God, 974 Tillman Lane, at 10 a.m. Cremation will follow at Sierra Crematory in Reno.

Walton's Chapel of the Valley, Cemetery and Mausoleum was in charge of arrangements.

Record Courier 9/3/92

Cook offers hands-on demonstration

Florentine Chef Ruggero Gigli will celebrate "Merenda in Markleeville" with a hands-on cooking demonstration Sept. 25, 7-9 p.m. at the Villa Gigli Collection gallery cafe in Markleeville, 145 Hot Springs Road.

The demonstration menu for the evening is based on the Italian "merenda," or light supper, and will include mountain antipasto, lasagne al forno, insalata, pane

campanuolo, or country bread and zabaglione, or cream-based dessert. Wines to be served will be the 1988 Chardonnay and 1986 Cabernet Sauvignon from Napa Valley's Chateau Beaucannon.

Participants will learn to make their own Italian country bread from ingredients locally available.

Also on display will be a three-dimensional still life from Gina and Ruggero Gigli's intaglio print "Merenda," composed of candle,

pane campanuolo, wine bottle and glasses and grapevine leaves.

The cost of the demonstration and supper is \$25 and attendance is limited to 20 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis.

With the exception of this special event, the Villa Gigli Collection gallery cafe is open Saturday and Sunday only, from noon to 8 p.m. For more information on the "merenda," call (916) 694-2253.

Record Courier 9/3/92

Cash reserves save Alpine

California gets final budget

by TREVA LIND
Staff Writer

Cash reserves have bailed out Alpine County during California's long state budget stalemate, but the lack of incoming funds is taking its toll.

The state has issued more than \$35,000 in IOUs to Alpine County for the welfare program, a child abuse grant program and social services administration.

No funding or IOUs have come in from the state for trial court services, according to Alpine officials, who are covering the shortfall with reserves. Alpine gets \$250,000 annually for trial court operations in quarterly payments.

Reserves also are paying the salaries and benefits of county employees.

"It's been a balancing act of using reserves and paying them back as revenues come in, said Jeanne Lear, county administrative coordinator.

"Alpine County has been able to withstand the lack of funding from the state because we have some reserves," said Lear.

However, she added, "Those reserves can only be counted on to hold out for so long."

Gov. Pete Wilson signed a final budget this week, following a long legislative battle on how to close an \$11 billion deficit.

California has been without a budget since the fiscal year began July 1 because the Republican governor and the Democrat-con-

trolled Legislature were at odds over how to close the gap, caused mostly by the recession.

The question remains whether the state will fund cash soon to Alpine County's Aid to Families with Dependent Children welfare program, according to Lear.

The Alpine County Board of Supervisors decided to pay the AFDC out of reserves if cash doesn't come in, "but that decision may have to be revisited in September," Lear said.

"We have an extreme cash flow problem," she said.

"Property taxes don't come in until December. The board probably in September will be looking at restricting expenditures by departments. It's difficult for the county to move forward on projects.

"We are anticipating having ongoing cash flow problems throughout the year."

Even with the final state budget approved, it will take at least a month or two to get large-sized state payments straightened out, according to Lear.

The county has used general fund reserves and savings from mitigation fees paid by South Lake Tahoe Public Utilities District for effluent storage.

Before it started dipping into reserves, Alpine County had about \$600,000 built up from STLPUD fees and about \$100,000 in general fund reserves, Lear said.

Sales and hotel room taxes have remained steady, added Lear.

Reaction among some Alpine County residents includes anger at state politicians, according to county officials.

"Mostly it's anger with state politicians for not doing their job on time because by law they're supposed to have a budget by June 1," Doranna Tognotti, Treasurer-Tax Collector, said. She added that many people consider the impasse personal political bickering among Republicans and Democrats.

Many state employees in Alpine County and throughout California have received IOUs from the state for their salaries.

Other workers such as those with Caltrans, the state highway maintenance department, have received regular paychecks because it has its own funding, said Don Jardine, a Caltrans heavy equipment operator and Alpine County supervisor.

"We have had employees, though, who can't cash checks, but they are switching banks," said Jardine, who added that many Carson Valley banks honor the paychecks.

Carson Valley Inn has cashed the IOUs of some state workers, a casino manager said.

"This affects other counties far worse than us because Alpine County has been fairly conservative," Jardine said. "Businesses in Douglas County have been real understanding in these hard times."

Bing Materials and other businesses have hauled material to Alpine with the understanding they would be paid at some future date, Jardine added.

* copy article on

THURSDAY

September 5, 1991

**New Faces At
Lake Schools**

PAGE 3-A



The Record

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Gardnerville, Nevada • The Voice of I

Record Courier 9/5/91

Bruns' gravel pit is revoked

by LEE ANN FLEMING
Staff Writer

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The board voted 3-2 to approve an appeal by homeowners over the Planning Commission's recent 3-2 decision that Hubert Brunns, the owner of the pit, should be allowed to begin mining operations again.

Brunns has signed a lease with Granite Construction, Inc., which

would allow the Nevada-based company to mine gravel from the pit. There has been no mining operation at the site since 1985, and no stockpiled material removed since 1988.

The decision to revoke the permit came after more than two hours of debate by residents and attorneys for both sides.

Woodford's attorney Tim Pemberton, who put this case together on his own time, told the board the permit for the gravel pit was never officially filed, even though a list of 15 conditions for operating the mining operation was attached to the 1973 application.

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Continued to page 8

Crowded class



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Continued to page 8

8-A The Record-Courier • Gardnerville, Nev. • Thursday, Sept. 5, 1991

Bruns' gravel pit: Permit is revoked

Continued from page 1

very casual at the time, and maybe the application was treated as a use permit. But even if it is...it never got off the ground, because the conditions were violated outrageously from the very beginning," Pemberton said, going through the listed conditions and presenting evidence that all but five had been violated.

Pemberton used letters and reports written about the pit and its conditions by state, local and federal inspectors through the years.

"This makes conditional permits a joke," he said.

"Why even issue conditional use permits? There can't be a better example of flagrant violations than this."

The violations included failure to comply with environmental regulations ranging from water quality, waste containment and air quality, road maintenance and financial assurances to the county.

In response, Bruns' attorney Jeff

Rahbeck told the board those conditions were "on-going" and would be met before Granite Construction began digging on the site. The violations occurred while no activity was going on at the pit, he said.

"I'm perplexed as to why Mr. Bruns has to come before you at all," he said. "What we have here are members of the public opposed to Mr. Bruns working on his own property."

He told the board the special use permit for the pit's operation was a property right and required protection by the county unless there were a clear safety hazard at the site.

"You can't decide this by a popularity contest," he said. "You can't look at this as a new project. You issued this permit in 1973."

Supervisor Eric Jung expressed irritation at all parties in the dispute, including the county itself.

"Alpine County has been pretty lax in monitoring this thing. It's

been a rubber permit. I would like to see the process started over," he said. "I don't know that I'm against a pit but...it's appropriate to go for a new use permit."

Supervisor John Brissenden, who owns property adjoining Bruns' land, said the pit was a "trauma to the whole county," and moved the appeal be approved after Supervisor Don Jardine's motion to deny the appeal died for lack of a second.

Brissenden said he did not feel he had a conflict of interest regarding the pit, although his wife, Patti, testified during the hearing that the pit's reopening would hurt their business.

"I believe this is an overriding concern for the entire county," Brissenden said.

Alpine County's income is tourism-based and the pit operation could drive tourists away, Patti Brissenden said.

Area resident Dorothy Heise urged the board to revoke the pit

permit.

"If this isn't a public nuisance I don't know what is," she said. "Don't delude yourself into believing this is good for Alpine County. You will have your broken roads and you will have mad tourists because of the traffic and the dust and the noise."

"This is benefitting Herbert Bruns and Granite and no one else."

Supervisor Jardine and board chair C. Ann Wade voted to uphold the permit, while supervisors Brissenden, Jung, and John Bennett voted to revoke, based on findings of past violations, questionable permitting in the first place, and lack of "diligent" operation at the site for six years.

Bruns may sue the county over the revocation, or he may file a new application for a special use permit, Rahbeck said.

Bruns said following the meeting that it was too soon to say what he would do.



RICK GUNN/Tahoe Tribune

GOING HOME: Kim Summerhill and her son Dwayne, 8, return home Tuesday after a brief evacuation alert.

Critical fire battle was in the sky

By BRIAN MAFFLY
Tribune Staff Writer

Air support provided the punch for an early knockout of this week's wildland fire near Markleeville, fire officials battling the blaze say.

Within minutes of the fire's discovery Monday afternoon, helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft were orbiting the fire's growing plume, dumping water and slurred retardant chemicals onto the flames.

"Without the helicopters, we'd still be chasing it," Markleeville Fire Chief Wayne Thomson said. "The helicopters made the difference."

Helicopters ferried water and supplies to the burning hillside in Thornburg Canyon Monday afternoon and all day Tuesday.

Were it not for the quick and intensive aerial bombardment, fire officials suspect the fire may have blossomed beyond the grasp of fire crews working to build a containment line around the drought-parched burn area. The crews completed the fire line Tuesday.

Aircraft are playing a growing, although somewhat expensive role in fire suppression, according to Cheryl Davis.

Please see AIR, Page 10A

Tahoe Tribune 9-9-92

Air

Continued from Page 1A

an air support coordinator with the multiagency Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators.

Because of their ability to pinpoint deliveries of supplies, water and fire crews, helicopters are very strong tools for surgical assault of fires, fire officials say.

"A lot of these areas are inaccessible to engines so the helicopters have turned out to be a second key," Davis said.

In this week's fire, three air tankers, known as "slurry bombers," pounded the burning manzanita and pine trees Monday afternoon with 2,000-gallon doses of chemical fire retardant.

A fourth airplane led the three tankers into the battle zone, directing them where to drop their red-colored payloads, Davis said. The purpose of the red coloring is to indicate to pilots the spots that have already been hit with retardant.

Poor visibility made flying too hazardous for further slurry bombing Tuesday. Smoke from the 3,000-acre Sonora fire was the culprit behind the low visibility.

In a meadow one mile west of Markleeville, firefighters set up a helicopter landing zone, where a 5,000-gallon portable reservoir — dubbed "the great pumpkin" because of its bulbous squash-like shape — stored water for air transport to the fire. The helicopters filled their dangling 350-gallon buckets by dipping them into the reservoir. Turn around time was approximately seven minutes per water run.

Ground crews near the fire directed the water drops by radio, while local volunteer firefighters manned the reservoirs as well as crash rescue teams for quick response in the event of a helicopter accident.

One of the helicopters using a smaller bucket pulled its water from Pleasant Valley Creek.

At its immediate disposal for initial attacks on wildfires, the Sierra Front maintains two air tankers for slurry bombing, two helicopters and three light airplanes, which are used for guiding the tankers, according to Davis. Light planes are also used for reconnaissance, particularly after lightning activity, and the helicopters are used to ferry fire crews into otherwise inaccessible areas.

The agency also contracts with other aircraft on an as-needed basis through prearranged agreements with private companies, Davis said. The pilots must meet rigorous experience standards and are allowed in the air for only limited periods of time while fighting fires.

Chief Thomson expressed frustration that funding for air support in fire suppression is being cut back in California as a result of the state's budget crunch.

"Air support saves lives," he added. "Without it, it's like our hands are tied."

Fire crews douse Markleeville blaze

120-acre Thorn fire cooled with quick response

BY BRIAN MAFFLY
Tribune Staff Writer

Firefighters are stamping out today the smoldering remnants of a 120-acre blaze near Markleeville which was reportedly triggered Monday afternoon by a week-old lightning strike.

The quick use of aircraft was credited with an early containment of the fire that forced the brief evacuation of residents and campers near Grover Hot Springs State Park and threatened to engulf the drought-stricken area.

On Tuesday, a fire line was completed around the burn area, a southeast facing slope in Thornburg Canyon, located less than five miles southwest of Markleeville. No property damage or injuries were reported, but firefighting costs are expected to total \$250,000, according to U.S. Forest Service officials.

Scorching an old burn site, the fire fed on pine trees, some dead wood from the previous fire, and high manzanita. The entire burn area is within the Mokelumne Wilderness Area.

Firefighters spent much of Tuesday extinguishing "spot" fires sparked by wind-borne embers just north of the fire line, while helicopters continued dropping water on hotspots, according to Erin O'Connor-Henry, a spokeswoman for Toiyabe National Forest.

Airplanes were not used Tuesday because of poor visibility caused by the dense smoke choking the area, O'Connor-Henry said.

Known as "slurry bombers," a small squadron of planes dropping a red-col-

Please see FIRE, Page 10A



Tahoe Tribune 9-9-92
Rick Gunn/Tahoe Tribune

IN FOR A LOAD: A helicopter with water bucket comes in from the Thorn fire for a load of water, as a firefighter mans a water tanker filling a small water basin.

The Turtle Rock campground was used as a main staging area, where firefighters ate, rested and showered. Crews were bussed from the staging area up Sawmill Creek to a trailhead, and from there it was a two-mile hike to the fire line.

As breezes continued to fan the flames Monday afternoon, Alpine County sheriff's deputies went door to door in the subdivisions west of Markleeville, advising residents to pack and be prepared to evacuate on a moment's notice, according to Alpine County Sheriff Henry "Skip" Veatch.

Approximately 80 residents in the Shay Creek and Marklee Village areas were directed to an evacuation center established at Diamond Valley Elementary School.

Resident Kim Summerhill took the sheriff's advice and packed her car with a few essentials Monday and left them overnight in town.

"I didn't really care about anything except for clothes for my children," Summerhill said as she returned to her home Tuesday afternoon with a carload of belongings.

The evacuation alert was lifted Monday night after the fire was corralled away from the threatened neighborhoods.

Fire

Continued from Page 1A

ored, slurred fire retardant played a pivotal role in the initial assault on the fire, according to fire officials at the scene.

The bulk of the smoke keeping the aircraft at bay, however, was not a product of the Markleeville fire, but rather was blown in from a 3,000-acre fire raging near Sonora, according to Forest Service personnel.

It was Sonora smoke that also browned the skies over Lake Tahoe.

The Thorn fire was discovered by Toiyabe fire management officer Mike Dondero at 2 p.m. while doing reconnaissance on the ground.

The first ground crews to attack the fire were four firefighters from the Markleeville Volunteer Fire Department and another four from the U.S. Forest Service.

The fire spread from two acres to 20 acres in a matter of 20 minutes, and by 4 p.m. spot fires were erupting one-fourth of a mile from the main fire, according to Markleeville Fire Chief Wayne Thomson.

In the initial attack, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management firefighters fought the main fire, while local firefighters from the Woodfords and Markleeville fire departments — both 15-member volunteer outfits — attacked the spot blazes, Thomson said.

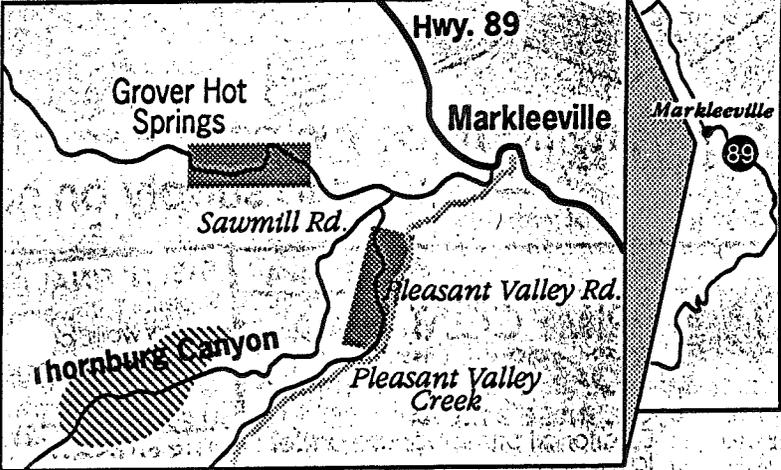
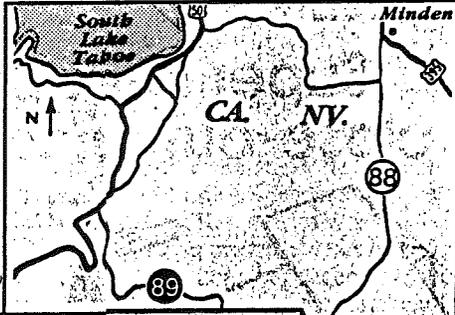
As the day wore on, 300 to 400 additional firefighters from both California and Nevada forestry departments and numerous other agencies poured in to fight the fire.

"The night crews did a fantastic job. It was a good mutual aid



RECOVERING: Exhausted firefighters get some rest, above, at a shelter set up at Turtle Rock County Park on Highway 89 Tuesday.

Tahoe
Tribune
Tribune photos
by
Rick Gunn



LIFTOFF: A helicopter prepares to return to the fire with a load of water from the "great pumpkin" portable reservoir, foreground.



BEHIND THE WHEEL: Jon Houk, left, of the U.S. Forest Service naps in his truck after a hard day on the fire lines.

Family sat tight during fire

by TREVA LIND *Record*
Staff Writer *Courier*

9/10/92
Nancy Thornburg's home sat directly in the path of Alpine County's Thorn Fire, yet her family didn't have to evacuate.

Just outside her house were about 150 firefighters using the Thornburg Meadow as a staging area.

"Other than the firefighters we're about as close as you can get," Thornburg said Tuesday. Flames came within two and a half to three miles from her home.

Fire crews had built a fire line around the blaze by Tuesday, but officials were still concerned

about winds carrying flames over the break, said Thornburg, who spent a restless Monday night in her home dealing with smoke and nerves.

Bags were packed and ready to grab in a minute.

"You can see the action right outside our window," she said.

"We could see flames last night and it was really smoky this morning. It was very quiet in the meadow last night. People slept and came and went, but I couldn't sleep because of the smoke and worry."

The meadow, about 30 acres, is located two miles west of

Continued to page 5

Family: Residents watch firefighting efforts

Continued from page one
Markleeville between the town and Grovers Hot Springs. Fifty to 100 fire trucks and equipment are being stored in the meadow for firefighters deployed to the fire.

Helicopters have used a specially built pool in the meadow to fill water buckets to dump on the fire. The pool is filled by a tanker truck, which is getting water from a nearby stream, Thornburg said.

"We have three helicopters going back and forth over the house," she added.

"It's like a war zone, but we have no problem with that. They hit this fire hard and fast with everything they had."

She and her husband, Fritz, live

in the home. A daughter and her husband came from Woodfords Monday night to help them move household items if necessary.

Thornburg said she received many calls from neighbors offering help. They packed belongings onto a truck once but then unloaded them.

"I'm still pretty nervous, but my husband feels confident and he knows more about this than I do. The last three years we have done all we could to protect our home. We cut down a lot of trees and created a break because of the dryness. Our land borders the forest."

If the blaze jumped over the fire break, prevailing winds would carry it to the Thornburg home, she

said.

The closest development to her is Markleeville Village, which was evacuated briefly Monday.

Nancy Thornburg's husband is an equipment operator. He and his 22-year-old daughter spent part of Monday fixing his broken back hoe. It's now ready to help protect the home, Thornburg said.

400 firefighters battle Alpine County blaze

Record Courier 9/10/92

Two fires' smoke fills Valley

by KURT HILDEBRAND
Staff Writer

A thick layer of smoke socked in the Carson Valley Tuesday and Wednesday.

Reduced visibility due to smoke from a larger fire in the Stanislaus National Forest hindered firefighters efforts to battle a blaze in a canyon above Grovers Hot Springs.

Despite the smoke, the Markleeville fire was contained Tuesday night and firefighters expect to have it completely out and mop-up operations underway by this morning.

According to Sierra Front Wild Fire Cooperator spokeswoman Carol Burcell, nearly 400 firefighters battled the 120-acre blaze in the steep country above Grovers Hot Springs to a standstill.

Investigators believe lightning caused the fire which sprang up Monday afternoon.

Air activity over the fire was at first limited by smoke from another blaze on the west slope of the Sierra.

Smoke from a 3,400-acre brush fire near Sonora made air operations over the Alpine County blaze, located on the eastern edge

Continued to page 5



LANDING. Forest Service personnel give a helicopter clearance to land at a spot above Markleeville. Five helicopters doused a 120-

acre blaze with water Tuesday afternoon to help bring it under control. R-C photo by Belinda Rohleder

Smoke: Firefighters battle Alpine blaze

Continued from page one of the Mokelumne Wilderness, difficult.

Mike Dondero of the U.S. Forest Service said heavy underbrush and dry conditions made firefighting difficult.

"The manzanita was eight feet tall," he said. "It is extremely dry up there. Every place a spark landed the fire would just start going. It was running about one-quarter of a mile ahead of us."

Crews had to be helicoptered into the fire and then hike another half-hour before they reached the actual site of the blaze.

The fire was reported at about 2 p.m. Monday. Campers at Grovers Hot Springs were asked to evacuate. About 80 people living in the Shay Creek area were evacuated Monday afternoon, but they were allowed to return to their homes later that night after firefighters got a line built around the blaze.

Firefighters usually consider a blaze with a fireline built around it contained.

However, several hotspots were found outside the line during an infrared pass over the fire Tuesday morning and firefighters dealt with those before calling the fire contained.

"We would have been in better shape if we had been up in the air earlier," Burcell said.

There was still an active fire in the center of the contained area Wednesday morning, Burcell said. However, most of the nearly 400 firefighters who battled the blaze should be demobilized by today.

Once the smoke cleared enough for air operations, five helicopters swung into action over the fire using water buckets to douse flames.

Burcell said nearly 4,000 feet of hose was used by firefighters to run water from Sprat Creek to the fire.

"We've got water all the way around the fire now," Burcell said Wednesday.

The thick layer layer of smoke which obscured much of the Carson Valley Tuesday and continued into Wednesday should be clear by today.

According to the National Weather Service, smoke from the fire in Sonora should begin to clear out.

A Weather Service spokesman said an inversion layer which kept smoke in the Valley lifted yesterday afternoon.

Winds from the east will then clear out the smoke. However, winds are expected to shift back to the southwest by this morning.

If the Sonora fire is not out, Valley residents can expect to see more smoke this morning.

Burcell said the Sonora fire is expected to be out sometime today.

Female inmates help battle Markleeville blaze

■ **Early reviews:** Women from Nevada's Silver Spring Conservation Camp did well.

By Scott Thomsen
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

When a smoldering ember from a lightning strike set the Toiyabe National Forest near Markleeville, Calif., ablaze weekend before last, about 400 firefighters from Nevada and California rushed into the rugged terrain to stamp it out.

For one group of firefighters, the fire was a test. This was the toughest

assignment yet for about 80 women from Nevada's first female inmate firefighting crew based at the Silver Spring Conservation Camp. Early reviews gave them high marks for their work.

"The work is hard. I'm very proud of the ladies," said Robert Merideth, the Silver Spring fire crew captain. "We're showing them that the girls can do the work and do it well. I don't care what nationality you are or what you've done, you come up here and fight fires, you've got my respect."

■ **Tough job:** Controlling the fire meant cutting fire breaks around the flames, digging trenches to keep burning pieces of wood from rolling into untouched forest and dousing any remaining hot spots with water. It was hot and heavy work that left the women's faces covered in sweat-streaked

soot.

Inmates were not allowed to be interviewed about their work on the firefighting crews. Nevada Department of Prisons officials cited concerns for inmate privacy for refusing to allow interviews or photographs that showed an inmate's face.

About 700 Nevada inmates are working on fire crews this summer. Silver Spring is the only women's facility in the state that supports a firefighting program for the Nevada Division of Forestry.

■ **Good workers:** On the job, the women inmates do not have the physical strength or stamina of male crews, but often they are more meticulous, said John Houk, the Silver Springs camp supervisor. "The job done by the female crews will be about the same at the end of the day in terms of quality

and quantity as the male crews'. That's what everybody's after: getting the job done."

■ **Not the first:** Female inmates have been used to fight 14 fires in Nevada and California, including the Peavine Peak fire that burned 2,300 acres in July. But the Toiyabe Forest fire was their first experience with a heavily wooded area of steep terrain filled with snags and underbrush.

When the firefighters arrived at Toiyabe, they faced 100-foot-tall flames roaring through dry trees, temperatures from the flames up to 200 degrees Fahrenheit and winds gusting up to 15 miles per hour. Winds and rugged terrain forced the firefighters to hike as long as 90 minutes to get to the fire. By the time crews controlled the wildfire, about 120 acres of pine trees had been reduced to

smoking ash.

"Whole trees exploded at once," said Michael Dondero, a U.S. Forestry Service fire management officer. "They're just black toothpicks sticking out of the ground. This is tough firefighting."

■ **Injuries sustained:** Two of the female inmates were hurt during the fire. One injured a leg when burning debris fell on top of her from a tree. Another bruised a knee when she fell trying to get out of the way of other flames.

Inmate firefighting crews are formed using minimum security prisoners. Before they are sent to a fire, they must complete a two-day course on basic firefighting. Additional training, including chainsaw instruction, is given by crew supervisors during work projects such as trail building, trash pickups and cemetery maintenance.

While working a fire, the inmates receive 80 cents to \$1 an hour, compared to \$3 a day for other work duties.

■ **More than money:** Besides the extra pay, working on a fire crew develops a sense of pride and self-worth in the inmates, Merideth said. But few have expressed interest in a fire prevention career after they complete their sentences, he said. "Many have said they'd never do anything to put themselves in this position again."

When Nevada decided to start using female inmates to fight fires, some officials doubted whether they could physically handle the work or how they would get along with male firefighters, Houk said. "There were some doubts I'm sure. They knew they had to prove themselves. And they have."



Battling a brush fire

INFRARED DETECTION

Aerial or hand-held infrared devices get accurate view of fire for establishing "hot spots" and for mapping fire lines through dense smoke.

BACKFIRES

Brush is cleared under controlled circumstances in an attempt to "starve" the main fire from fuel it would otherwise use to continue its path.

Methods for setting backfires:

- Helicopters drop ping-pong ball-like objects filled with two chemicals that ignite moments later.
- "Helitorch" drops sterno-type flammable jelly that ignites from flame dangling from chopper as it is dumped.
- Firefighters use fuel cans with torches.

CONTAINMENT LINES

Most firefighters clear brush to create areas where there is no fuel available to feed an advancing fire.

Methods used:

- Most brush is cleared using hand tools—mainly shovels, saws and Pulaskis, a combination mattock and ax.
- Bulldozers knock out heavy brush and large trees when terrain permits.

Pulaski

DOUSING

Aircraft concentrating on fire's "hot spots" dump water and pink flame retardant. Firefighters soak trees and brush at edge of containment line to diminish fire's intensity.

Brush

Containment line

HOMES

Residents soak rooftops to prevent flaming sticks, hot embers and ash from igniting roof.

ON THE LINE: Silver Spring is the only women's facility in Nevada that supports a state firefighting program. *David Parker/Gazette-Journal*

Drought • Nevada so far escapes major wild land threat

Record Courier
Frances Snooks 9/17/92

Frances Snooks, 82, of Markleeville, Calif., a lifetime resident of Carson City and Carson Valley areas, died Sept. 11 at Carson-Tahoe Hospital in Carson City. She was born Aug. 28, 1910 to John and May Longbough Anthony. She attended the Stewart Indian School in Stewart, and married Jackson Snooks in 1948 in Yerington.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband,

Jackson, in 1984.

Mrs. Snooks was a homemaker and fishing was her hobby. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include her son, Wayne Snooks of Gardnerville, and daughter Vern Fronz of San Bernardino, Calif.; brothers Gonnies Anthony of Rhonert Park, Calif. and Ernie Anthony of Smith River, Calif.; sisters Pearl Crawford of Gardnerville, Evelina

Stone of Big Pine, Calif., Carmelita Rakow, Rena Anthony, Ning Anthony and Madelina Henry, all of Markleeville; and numerous grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Burial was held at the Happy Hunting Ground Cemetery in Gardnerville following services Monday at the Chapel of Faith, FitzHenry's Funeral Home and Crematory in Carson City.



FAST BIKE. Fritz Klingler hopes to ride his Harley Davidson into the Bonneville record book. R-C photo by Dave Price

Klingler eyes motorcycle speed mark

Record Courier
9/29/92

Try to imagine riding a motorcycle at 160 mph.

Fritz Klingler of Woodfords is going to give it a try Thursday when he puts his Harley Davidson on the track for a world land speed record attempt at Bonneville Salt Flats.

The goal is to surpass the existing modified push rod A gas class record of 158.903 held by Dave Feazell. This will be his fourth trip to Bonneville in the last two years.

Klingler's first attempt on his Harley Davidson resulted in a 118 mph. Then he hit 138 before his engine blew up. He returned with a rebuilt engine in July and increased his speed to 149.5.

"I think I can get the record this time; it's running really well," Klingler said.

This kind of speed is easier said than done, according to Klingler.

"Racing on the rough wet salt at 6,000 feet was not as easy as I thought," he recalled. "The first two runs just shocked me. All the elements the racer is up against are amazing."

Klingler has enjoyed motorcycle racing since he was a youth in Southern California in the 1960s.

"All my life I have enjoyed motorcycles; riding cross country, touring, and most of all, watching Harley Davidson races," Klingler said. "Back in the '60s, I first got involved in racing at Lion's Drags in Long Beach. I went every Wednesday and Saturday until most of the drag strips were closed down."

Counties battling for water in Sierra

El Dorado seeks rights to lakes

By Nancy Vogel *Sacramento*
Bee Staff Writer *Bee 9/23/92*

In a pattern of water battling as old as California, fast-growing El Dorado County has moved to capture the water of three Sierra lakes, sending adjacent Alpine and Amador counties scrambling to protect their own supplies.

The El Dorado County Water Agency has applied to the state for rights to all the water in Caples, Silver and Aloha lakes — three natural lakes with small dams that drain into forks of the American River.

Agency General Manager Robert Reeb said El Dorado County would not pull water directly from the lakes but instead would divert water downstream near Kyburz. The lakes would supply between 17,000 and 33,000 acre-feet a year to the El Dorado Irrigation District — enough water to satisfy demand in the Highway 50 corridor from El Dorado Hills to Pollock Pines until the year 2010, he said.

The water agency will not drain the lakes, Reeb said. In fact, he said, the agency's plans would not change the way the lakes have been dropped each fall for decades by Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

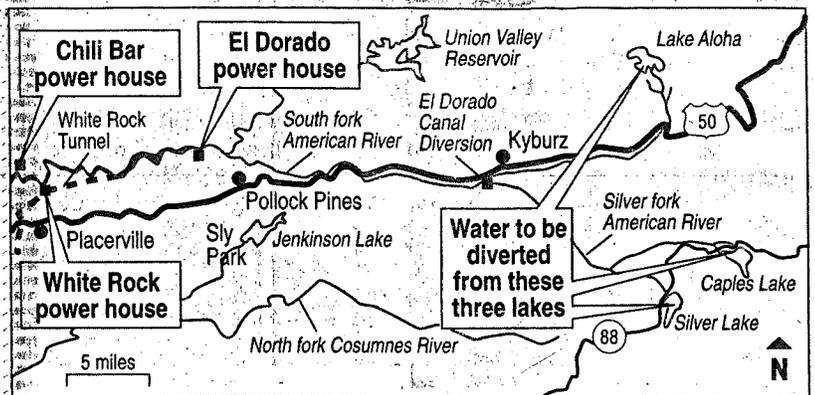
PG&E holds the non-consumptive water rights to the lake's water, and El Dorado County is seeking the consumptive rights.

PG&E uses the water to generate power downstream. Under the company's license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, it cannot drop 21,000-acre-foot Caples Lake below 2,000 acre-feet. FERC has set no minimum pool for 7,500-acre-foot Silver Lake or 5,350-acre-foot Lake Aloha.

An acre-foot is enough water to cover an acre of land a foot deep.

A study of the environmental impact of the El Dorado plan is

Please see LAKES, back page, A12



Bee graphic

Lakes: Cabin owners oppose plan

Continued from page A1
scheduled for release next week, and within days, the state Water Resources Control Board will begin accepting formal protests to El Dorado's water-rights application. Cabin and resort owners, hikers, owners of the Kirkwood ski resort and others who use the lakes for recreation have banded together to fight the plan. They call their group the League to Save Sierra Lakes and boast a mailing list of 900, said treasurer Norm Rupp.

"Their demand is really in excess of what the lakes can provide," said league member Michael Griffith, a San Francisco

dentist who has vacationed at his family's Silver Lake cabin since the 1940s.

Lake Aloha, north of Highway 50 at Twin Bridges, is in the nation's most heavily used wilderness area. Silver and Caples lakes are so popular visitors are turned away from campgrounds there for weeks every summer. League members say lower lake levels will degrade the beauty, harm ducks, geese and fish and worsen Delta salinity problems downstream.

Alpine County, home of Caples Lake, and Amador County, home to Silver Lake, worry, too, that El Dorado will usurp water they may need someday. This summer, each filed competing water-rights applications for the water in their lakes.

"We need to look to the future so we have some protection for the Kirkwood community," said Alpine County administrator Jeanne Lear. She said the county has no problem with PG&E's use of the water to generate electricity, since the company does not start to lower the lake until after Labor Day, when fewer people visit. She and Amador officials want a guarantee that El Dorado will not drop the lakes beyond a certain level in the summer.

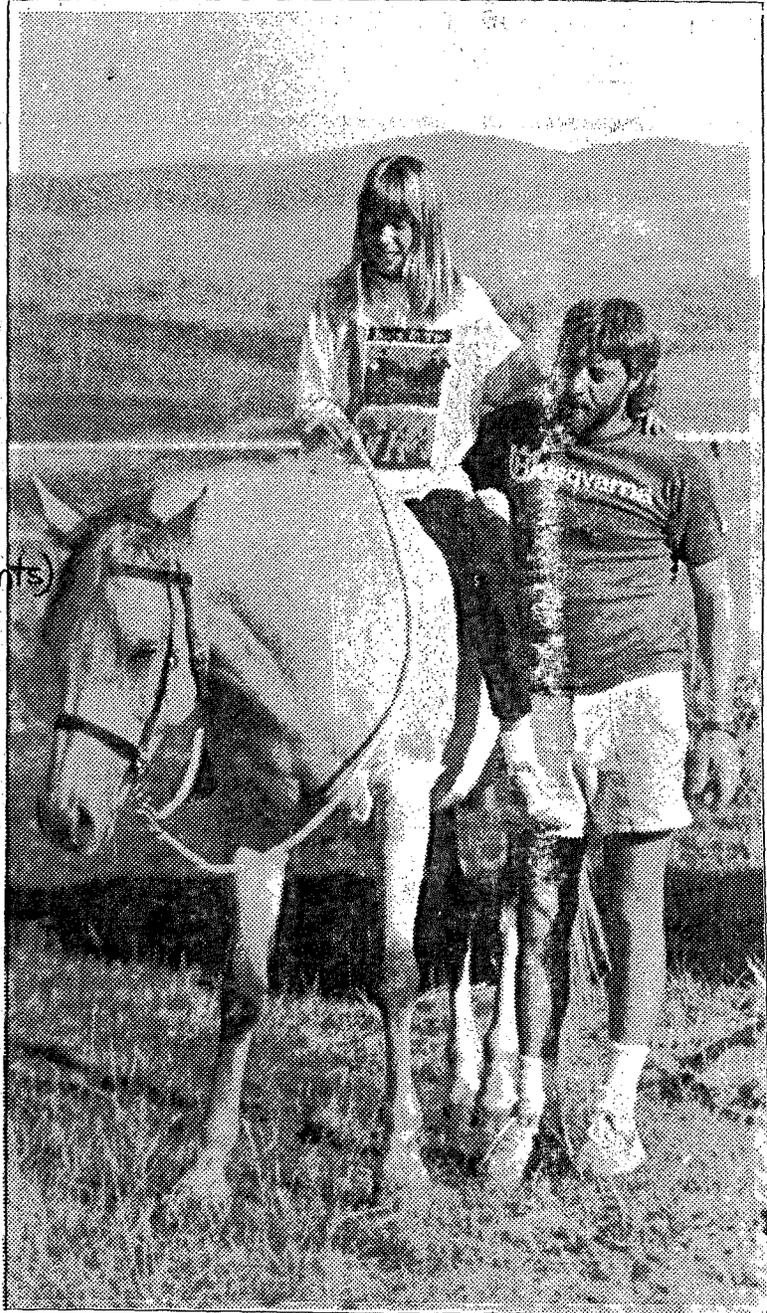
SETTING IT STRAIGHT

Accuracy is a fundamental of journalism. It is The Bee's policy in this standing feature to promptly acknowledge errors. Mistakes should be called to the attention of the editors involved by calling (916) 821-1001.

Ride and tie

(Woodford's residents)

Shasta and Gary Ceragioli finished second in both the man-woman and pro-am divisions last Saturday at the Bloomfield Ride & Tie near Nevada City, Calif. The father-daughter team, and their 13-year-old Arabian, Sid, completed the 26-mile test in approximately three hours, good for seventh-place overall in a field of 38 teams. They missed first place in the pro-am division by 30 seconds to the team of Tom Johnson (Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run course record holder) and Robin Heinrich. Shasta Ceragioli, an 11-year-old Gardnerville Elementary School sixth grader, also received an award as the event's youngest participant. R-C photo by Dave Price



Alpine County General Information

10/92

SIZE

Total Area: 465,030
726.6 square miles
Land Area: 462,720 acres
723 square miles
Water Area: 2,310 acres
3.6 square miles
Rank 8th smallest of California's 58 counties

OWNERSHIP

Grover Hot Springs State Park: 539 acres
U.S. forest land: 423,520
Washoe Tribal land: 689
Private ownership: 36,794
Other: 39,680

ELEVATION

Highest point: 11,459 feet Sonora Peak
Lowest point: 4,860 feet Highway 88 at Calif/Nev Border
Markleeville: 5,501 feet
Woodford: 5,660 feet
Kirkwood: 7,800 feet
Bear Valley: 7,120 feet

CLIMATE (from Woodfords Climatic Station 1951-1974)

Record high temperature: 98
Record low temperature: -10
Record one day precipitation: 6.19"
Record snowfall depth: 44"
Annual mean rainfall: 20.88"
Annual mean snowfall: 89.6"
Annual mean temperature: 62.6 degree maximum
36.5 degree minimum

Seasonal mean high and low temperatures

Winter (January): 43.5 degrees and 23 degrees
Spring (April): 58 degrees and 32 degrees
Summer (July): 85.1 degrees and 53.3 degrees
Fall (October): 65.2 degrees and 38 degrees

GOVERNMENT

5-member board of supervisors
Markleeville, county seat
Memberships:
Golden Sierra Job Training Agency
Central Sierra Planning Council
Central Sierra Economic Development Council

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Alpine County Sheriff's Department: 13 members
California Highway Patrol based in South Lake Tahoe (one resident officer lives in Woodfords)

FIRE PROTECTION

Volunteer Fire Departments:
Markleeville - volunteer chief, + 15 other volunteers
Woodfords - volunteer chief, + 15 other volunteers
Bear Valley - paid chief, + 15 volunteers
Kirkwood - volunteer chief, + 15 other volunteers

LIBRARIES

Alpine County Library
Markleeville (main facility)
Bear Valley (branch)

EDUCATION

Alpine Unified School District
Elementary schools:
one at Woodfords, one at Bear Valley
High Schools:
Markleeville, Woodfords and Kirkwood students attend Douglas High School in Minden, Nevada; Bear Valley students attend Bret Harte in Angels Camp, California.

INDUSTRIES

Cattle
Recreation and tourism
Mining
Timber

UTILITIES

Electricity: Bear Valley - Pacific, Gas & Electric
Markleeville/Woodfords - Sierra Pacific
Kirkwood - private generator
Propane Gas: Bear Valley - Ebbetts Pass Gas
Markleeville/Woodfords - M&E, Turner Gas
Water: Bear Valley - Lake Alpine Water Company
Markleeville - Markleeville Water Company
Kirkwood - Kirkwood P.U.D.

Alpine Village Water Company (all others on wells)

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio: none based in county
Television: only cable service based in county
Markleeville/Woodfords - Rubicon Cable
Bear Valley - Dickinson Communications
Kirkwood - Volcano Cable
Newspapers: no daily or weekly published in county
monthly - Alpine Enterprise
metro dailies delivered in county:
Sacramento Bee
San Francisco Chronicle

TRANSPORTATION

Highways: State Routes 88, 89, 4, 207
Bus Service: none
Railroad: no freight or passenger service
Airports: Markleeville/Woodfords, runway: 4,400 feet

HEALTH FACILITIES

Alpine County Health Department
Markleeville (mini service only)
East side residents use: Gardnerville Emergency Center
Carson Tahoe Hospital and South Lake Tahoe Emergency Clinic
West side residents use: Mark Twain Hospital in San Andreas and Sonora Community Hospital in Sonora

Record Courier 10-1-92

100 YEARS AGO
The Genoa Courier
Friday, Oct. 7, 1892

* ROBBERY. Last Thursday George Frevert and

Remember when?

another boy, by name of Wadkins, started for Jackson, Cal., going by way of Woodfords Canyon. They were proceeding a short distance above the old saw mill when they were stopped by two men who tied barley sacks over each of their heads and robbed them of \$190 in coin. The robbers left them with their heads tied up sitting in the buckboard and told them if they moved for half an hour they would return and shoot them. Mike Fay, who was on his road to Faith Valley, came along about five minutes after the robbers had left and the boys were released. Wadkins had a fine gold watch which was not taken. The Frevert boy was forced to take his shoes off but the other boy was not molested.

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A different California



By **JOEL BLAIN**

Toto . . . I don't think we're in California anymore.

ALPINE COUNTY — California is big. This county isn't. The entire population is 1,220. The county seat here, Markleeville, numbers 185.

California is oriented toward the future. This county isn't. Never again would Alpine County be as large (at least 5,000 miners) or as rich (silver) as the year (1864) it was formed. The ink was hardly dry on the county charter before the mines gave out and the population dropped to what it is today, the smallest of the state's 58 counties.

California is urban sprawl. This county isn't. There are no cities here, not one. Everything is unincorporated. Virtually everything (93 percent) is public land.

If all that were not un-Californian enough, there is this: This part of California, located south of Lake Tahoe, regards itself as no more than semi-California. Most of Alpine County looks to Nevada.

Markleeville students go to Douglas High in Nevada. Alpine is the only California county that doesn't have its own high school. But only a stranger thinks this reliance on an out-of-state school is odd. That's just the way it's done. Curricula differences get worked out. Alpine graduates of Douglas go to the University of

Nevada as if they were Nevadans. Going to Nevada, in fact, is what is done when one lives on Alpine's eastern slope.

The county has no supermarket, no department store, no theater — most heretically, no mall, no fast food. For routine shopping, there's Gardnerville, 22 miles up the road; but as a young Alpiner put it, to "shop-shop," an immediately

Alpine County

The writer is the Editorial Page editor of The Press-Enterprise.

understandable phrase, you go to the bright lights of Reno, three times as far.

Markleeville itself serves simpler needs. There is a general store, post office, about a dozen businesses — including espresso at the Tiers of Joy Coffee Bar and Gallery. Two minutes are sufficient to walk Main Street, top to bottom, before it turns back into Highway 89. Highway 89 is the town's window on the world, enabling one forester to say: "We're not remote. We're inconvenient, but not remote."

It's a rugged land, the California Alps. Snow averages 90 inches a year. In winter, the southern passes are closed; in summer, residents gird for fires. (Handwritten signs around town say: "Thank you, firefighters.") It's also a beautiful land. Expansive meadows break the forest line,

and the leaves are turning as yellow as the road's center line. It is clear why people are protective of their lives here.

Their children want to stay as well, but the jobs aren't here. Retirees and government are major payrollers. Skiing and tourism, now necessary industries, are off. Like people elsewhere, the bedrock concern is the economy. They're hurting.

The state is often blamed. They think we in Southern California have the power. We don't — else the world would be remade to our liking — but at least our complaints are not ignored. We are big enough to get attention. Alpine isn't.

They might settle for a little understanding. They want it understood that life here can be hard. They want it understood that they have everyone else's problems — the county has programs on sexual abuse, welfare fraud, mental health — plus some of their own: If the state makes Markleeville's two gas stations dig underground tanks, they're out of business. And where will the tourist trade be then?

Other problems are homegrown. Bear Valley ski country, on the western slope of the Sierra, is condos and A-frame vacation homes and newcomers. They are Californian to the core and want services accordingly. East slope, west slope have their differences, and when those differences become political, they can get personal.

You don't deal here with faceless bureaucrats and obscure politicians. You

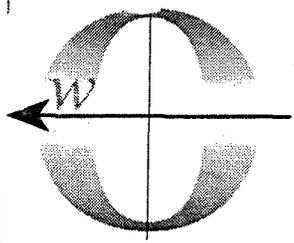
know them, their wives and husbands, their kids, and maybe their dogs. When it appeared that the county might cut off ambulance service for the eastern slope, a meeting drew 80 people. That's the equivalent of 80,000 turning out in Riverside County. Alpine's brand of participatory politics is not what we're used to in mass-market, mass-media California.

What else is out of sync with California? Alpine County generates zero tons of toxic waste and has zero defense contracts. No one slips into town: A suit who came into the cafe and asked the way to the courthouse was immediately — and, as it turned out, correctly — pegged as a lawyer. There's not much crime: They caught someone from Orange County fishing out of a cutthroat breeding pond, and they are not going to put up with that.

Were we to start all over again, Alpine County, CA, probably would be Alpine County, NV. This silver county, then, is something of a Golden State happenstance. We're big, they're small. We're urban, they're rural. We're possessors of the once and future California dream, they're not so sure. But California does not have to arrange itself uniformly.

You're told in Markleeville to "enjoy our nice little town." That's easy to do, not least because this county is the exception from so much of California. Good for Alpine. Not everything and everyone has to come out of the same cookie cutter.

Riverside Press-Enterprise
10/14/92



DESTINATIONS

Grover Hot Springs soaks you in scenery

Camping at Grover

Getting started

Grab your swim suit for a soak in the hot springs pool. The \$4 fee is good for all day long, so bring a lunch. If you go during the week, you'll avoid having to stand in the line that builds during holidays or ski weekends.

A short day hike to waterfalls on Hot Springs Creek begins at the extra vehicle parking lot.

Experienced

Pitch your tent for a weekend. Before soaking, hike a few miles into the mountains. Two popular day hikes begin inside the park — one to Burnside Lake, the other up Chariety Valley Creek to the headwaters of the West Carson River.

A third trail leaves the pool area up Sawmill Creek. It wanders into the hills a few miles, then disappears.

Expert

Combine fishing, hiking, camping and soaking for a week or so. One afternoon is well

By Nancy F. Peek

I drove into Grover Hot Springs State Park near Markleeville, Calif., expecting the worst. Reports of a recent fire had described how dozens of campers had been evacuated and that the park had been in jeopardy of burning.

To my great relief, I found no sign of fire. The cozy campground was exactly how I remembered it — pine-covered and peaceful. Park personnel assured me that the nearby fire had been a couple of miles southeast and that the situation had been volatile, but the park had never closed and no one had been evacuated.

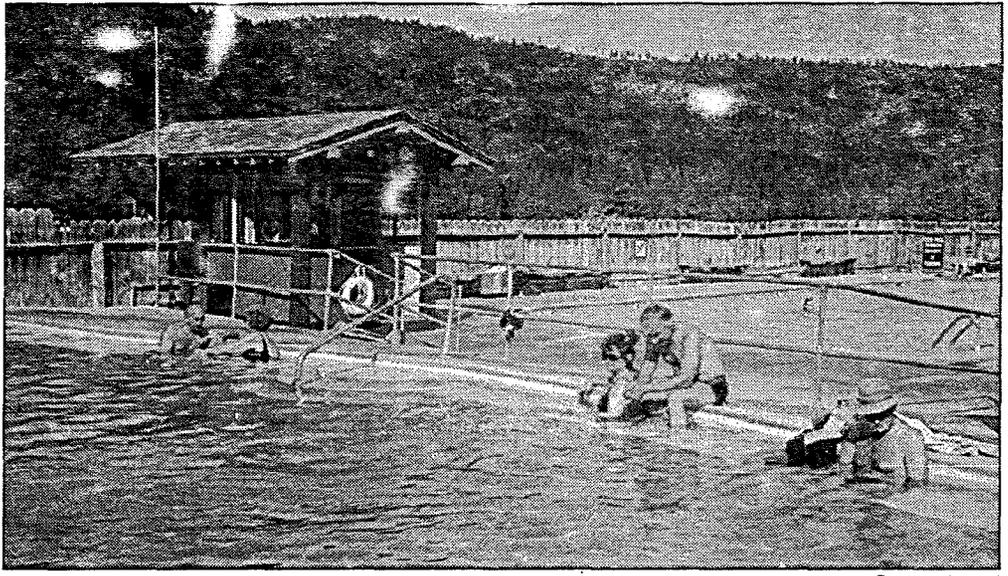
Grover Hot Springs State Park is located in the mountains of Alpine county, south of Lake Tahoe and about 75 miles south of Reno. It's a wonderful place to climb a pass, meander in a meadow, set up camp or soak your bones in the natural hot springs.

In one campsite, Don and Barbara Martin of El Sobrante, Calif., sat near their tent, totally absorbed in a game of Scrabble. In the two days they'd been there they'd taken a couple of short hikes, done some sight seeing and lazily soaked in the springs.

"This is our first time here — it's delightful — and there are very few people this time of year," Don said. "It's the cleanest campground I've ever been in and there are no mosquitoes."

Grover's charm is not new. In 1854, rancher John Hawkins took up squatters' right for Hot Springs Meadows. About 25 years later, the Grover family, who maintained a dairy and ran the old Fisk Hotel in Markleeville, bought the hot springs. It became a resort for hotel customers. The land twice changed hands in the 1900s — it's old-growth pine and cedars were clear-cut — and it was purchased by the state of California for a park in 1959.

Through the years, Washoe Indians, American pioneers and today's campers have all sought the curative powers and therapeutic effects believed to exist in the



TAKING A TUB: Campers enjoy the natural hot springs at the state park.

Gazette-Journal

hot spring water. Its mineral content is 74.4 grams per gallon — mostly sodium carbonate, sulphate and chloride. Unlike most hot springs, Grover's contain practically no sulphur, so there is none of the common "rotten egg" smell.

Leaving the ground at 148 degrees Fahrenheit, the water is mixed with cold water to flow into the hot pool at 102 to 105 degrees. An adjacent full-sized cold pool is for cooling off or for swimming.

The outdoor hot springs looks like a local "plunge," with wooden fence, pumphouse and dressing rooms. But surrounding it are dramatic mountains, thick forests and a beautiful meadow with Hot Springs Creek flowing through it.

The area is also a favorite for fishing enthusiasts. Rangers assured me that trout are plentiful in the park's Hot Springs Creek or nearby Carson River. Lahontan cutthroat spawn at Heenan Lake about 15 miles away. But rangers warn anglers that game wardens are very active and they do patrol. Required California fishing licenses can be purchased in Markleeville.

Camping is available year-round. An off-season campground operates from Oct. 15 to late April. Water and flush toilets are available, but showers are open only during summer months. No RV hookups are available in the campground.

Nancy F. Peek, a Reno-based free-lance writer, is a regular contributor.

ville, three miles away. In addition to tiny stores, restaurants and saloons, the Alpine County museum complex displays Washoe Indian basket weavings, mining equipment, a reconstructed blacksmith shop, an old country store and clothing and trappings of the settlers.

Get a schedule of hikes from the Sierra District of the California Department of Parks. They have organized treks nearly every weekend — some are quite strenuous. Call (916) 525-7232.

— Nancy F. Peek

GROVER HOT SPRINGS STATE PARK

- **Fees:** Range from \$10 to \$14 depending on the season, with a 12-day limit.
- **Information:** Call MISTIX, 800-444-PARK.

Grover Hot Springs State Park



Mark Nowlin/Gazette-Journal

Record Courier

Klingler short in record try

26-4-01

Fritz Klingler fell short of his bid to set a world land speed record on his Harley Davidson motorcycle last week. But, the Woodfords man says he'll be back.

Klingler hit 151.4 mph Thursday at the Bonneville Salt Flats, shy of his goal for a world record in the modified push rod A gas class. The class record of 158.903 is held by Dave Feazell.

This was Klingler's fourth Bonneville trip in the last two years, and the fourth time he has improved his speed.

"I'm in the 150 mph club which makes me happy, but I'll keep striving for the record," Klingler said.

A stroke of misfortune may have cost him the record last week.

"I burned a valve testing. There wasn't anything I could do about it, so I went ahead and ran it anyway," he said.

"I'm back trying to put it back together for one more try. I have one more chance to get the record this year (Oct. 16-18)."

Klingler added he has benefitted from a lot of support from the Alpine County, Carson Valley and Lake Tahoe communities.

"I would not be going for the record without the help of my friends and community," Klingler noted.

Water rights battle may be settled out of court

by TREVA LIND
Staff Writer

Record
Courier
10-4-92

A battle over water rights once held by a large Carson Valley ranch moved closer to an out-of-court settlement Thursday with Douglas County's acceptance of a legal agreement.

The agreement details how

much water can be diverted from the west fork of the Carson River by Aqueduct I, a Colorado-based limited partnership. Aqueduct I plans to transfer the water into storage for an eventual sale to municipal users such as Carson City, Reno or Sparks.

Aqueduct I bought the Dressler Ranch straddling the Nevada/Cali-

fornia border in 1989 for \$4.9 million, and it sought to transfer 1,932 acre feet of water from 773 acres of the ranch.

"It's a sad day when that water doesn't remain in its historic use," said County Commission Chair Mike Fischer, referring to the ranch pasture land that has been a part of Carson Valley's history for

more than 100 years.

However, commissioners said the settlement offered the best terms possible for allocating water rights among Carson River users, even during dry years.

The county also saves legal costs if the issue is removed from litigation, Commissioner Bob

Continued to page 5

Water: Litigants may settle

Continued from page 1
Pruett said.

Lyon County and the Carson Water Subconservancy District must give their approval and are expected to review the agreement by mid-October. If they agree, a stipulation will be filed in federal court. The court would then issue an order.

Under terms of the agreement, Aqueduct I would divert water based on priority, acreage and duty if the water flowing through the west fork of the river is below 240 cubic feet per second.

The rate will be measured at the Woodfords gauging station.

When flow is above 240 cfs, Aqueduct I wants to use a 40-40-20 schedule, meaning the partnership could take 40 percent of its water in April, 40 percent in May and 20 percent in June. This schedule falls under the Alpine Decree, a bi-state compact governing the Carson River.

Also under terms of the agreement, Aqueduct I has agreed to a five-year monitoring program after which the 240 cfs trigger could be adjusted.

Attorney Don Springmeyer, who represented a coalition of ranchers and local governments, said this overall stipulation addresses some of the concerns of downstream users. It should protect them even in dry years, he added.

In addition, the five-year monitoring program would offer extra protection, he added.

"The 240 cfs is really based on the best data we have," he said. Installation of some additional water gauges for the five-year study will provide even more accurate data, which all parties agreed is needed, according to Springmeyer.

The federal lawsuit emerged when a coalition of ranchers and local governments including Douglas County protested the Aque-

duct I transfer.

However, other issues will need to be solved via the state water engineer before any transfers are allowed. The issue of "stacking" water rights is still under dispute and a state ruling will determine the amount of water Aqueduct I is entitled to take.

Aqueduct I holds additional water rights for water in Mud Lake in Nevada and Red Lake in California.

The issue that will be decided by the state engineer is whether those rights are merely supplemental to the irrigation rights and therefore cannot be counted separately, as the coalition contends, or, whether those storage rights are in addition to the irrigation rights.

"We should know by the middle of October whether this will fly, Springmeyer said. If so, it will end the legal battle, but he added, "It's not the end of the story."

On Thursday, commissioners also acted on:

Record Courier
Glenn Kelley 10-11-92

Glenn W. Kelley, 57, a Gardnerville resident for the past month, died Oct. 5 at his home.

He was born Dec. 7, 1934, to Lyle and Berdena Hill Kelley in Florence, Ore.

Mr. Kelley had previously lived in Woodfords, Calif. He was a senior stock clerk at Bently Nevada Corp. He served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

He preceded in death by a brother and a sister.

Survivors include his wife Katherine Kelley of Woodfords; stepson David Cogley of South Lake Tahoe; stepdaughter Amina Cogley of Concord, Calif.; brother Clyde Kelley of Oregon; sisters Verla Ramirez of Yakima, Wash. and Valma Abarr of Springfield, Ore.

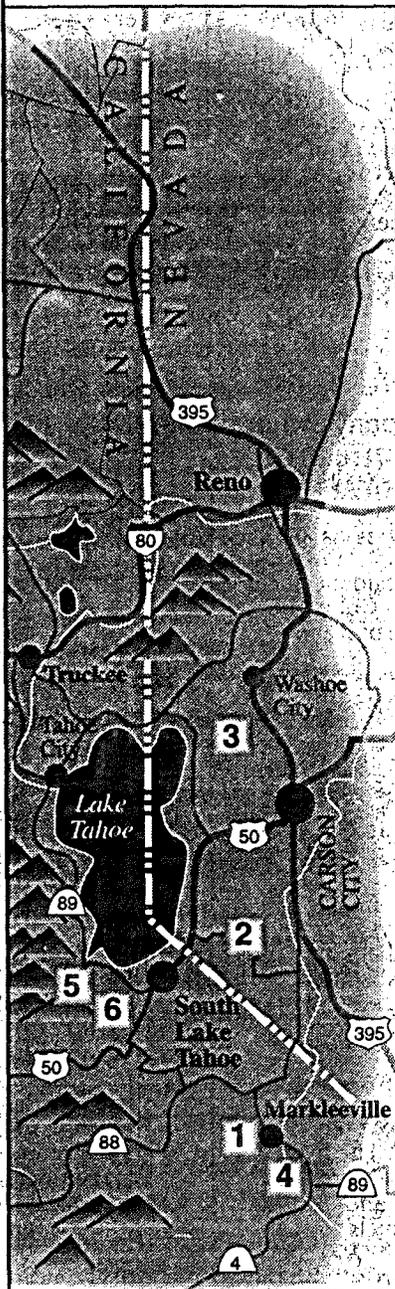
A memorial service was held at Lampe Park in Gardnerville Oct. 10 with Pastor Al Moak officiating.

Private cremation took place at Sierra Crematory in Reno. Memorial contributions may be made to one's favorite charity. Walton's Chapel of the Valley was in charge of arrangements.

Dead Trees

Eight salvage timber cuts to remove dead and dying trees are under way or planned for this fall and next spring in the Sierra Nevada.

1. Alpine salvage sale west of Markleeville, Calif., near Marklee Village. Michigan-California Lumber Co. of Camino, Calif., purchased 258 acres of dead trees for \$141,000. About half of the project is finished.
2. Douglas County near the Kingsbury Grade. Michigan-California Lumber purchased 117 acres of dead trees for \$173,000. Cutting could start in the spring.
3. Franktown salvage sale in Washoe County's Little Valley on the west side of Washoe Valley. U.S. Forestry Service is advertising 125 acres of dead and dying timber for \$162,000.
4. Alpine County, Calif., three miles south of Markleeville. U.S. Forestry Service plans to sell 800 to 1,000 acres of dry trees.
5. Lake Tahoe South Shore, near Spring Creek summer homes on Highway 89. About 95 acres of trees are to be sold as fuel wood and wood chips. U.S. Forestry Service is requesting \$14 to \$20 for every 100 cubic feet of wood chips brought out of the site. The sale could raise as much as \$54,000.
6. Lake Tahoe South Shore near Fallen Leaf Lake along the Angora Ridge. Three timber cuts totaling 4,000 acres are planned for next spring.



Mark Nowlin/Gazette-Journal

ENVIRONMENT

Reno Gazette
10-12-92

Salvage cuts may become common in Sierra forests

Few complaints: Residents, loggers pleased with thinning, which can reduce fire danger.

By Scott Thomsen
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Stumps are all that remain from many of the trees that lined 125 acres of hills west of Markleeville, Calif., but few people are complaining.

The firs and pines were dead long before lumber cutters with chain saws and axes felled them in an effort to reduce fire threats.

"We're either going to thin it or burn it," said Nancy Thornburg, a writer who lives in Thornburg Valley near the logging site. "We're not talking clearcutting. There's a lot of trees in there, they're just not as thick as they once were."

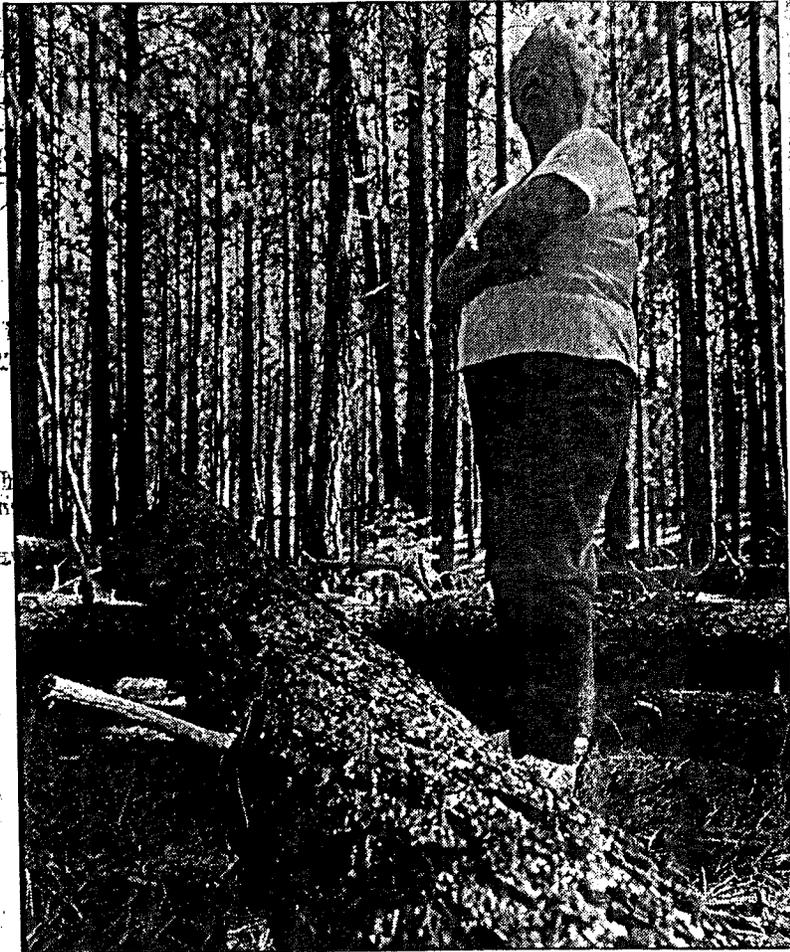
Bush order: Such cuts could become more common following President George Bush's order Sept. 9 for the U.S. Forest Service to expedite salvage logging of dead and dying trees in the West. The cuts are designed to lessen fire danger and increase lumber production. Besides the Markleeville, Calif., cut, seven others already are planned for the northern Sierra Nevada this fall and next spring.

"The fire danger is higher than it's been in some time," said Roland Shaw, U.S. Forest Service timber management assistant in Carson City. "We're trying to get as much dead material out as we can. It gives us a fighting chance."

Fire threat: Fire threats are widespread throughout the Sierra. Drought-ravaged pines seem

See **TREES** on page 4B

Too close for comfort



Craig Sallor/Gazette-Journal

FIRE THREAT: Nancy Thornburg stands among trees bordering her property. She wants to see the dead trees cut down.

Trees

From page 1B

to disappear into red rock valleys and ridges. Their rusty needles cap dead trunks and branches like sulphur atop a line of matches, waiting for lightning or a carelessly tossed cigarette to start a blaze like the recent fire that scorched thousands of acres near Kyburz, Calif.

Bush's order could help reduce that danger, but it doesn't throw environmental regulations out the window, said John Swanson, Forest Service fire management officer and timber manager in Lake Tahoe. "It's certainly not going to unleash the bulldozers."

■ **Salvage cuts:** In salvage logging, lumber companies pay to cut dead and dying trees that might fuel a fire, hoping to extract enough usable lumber, firewood and wood chips to profit.

"But we'll need a lot more than salvage logging to restore the health of the forests," The Wilderness Society's Assistant Regional Director Louis Blumberg

said from his San Francisco office.

Salvage cuts cover too small an area to benefit fire prevention and debris piles left behind are concentrated fire fuel. Also, he said, some loggers illegally mark live trees and cut them too.

But loggers say the Forest Service must be freed from excessive restrictions. Properly managed logging then could thin overgrown forests benefiting trees and humans, said Henry Alden of Michigan-California Lumber Company.

"People need and use wood. We provide lumber because people want houses."

■ **Environment:** Wildfire Commission Chairman Neil Sampson said salvage logging must be backed up with tree trimming, thinning, erosion control, stream improvements and re-planting. "Doing what needs to be done is different than simply removing the economic product."

The goal should be healthy forests where growth is controlled by nature, Blumberg said.

WOODFORDS/ACORN WILD FIRE

It will smolders 5 years after blaze

By Courtney Brenn
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

As October's devastating forest fire still smoldered near Kyburz, Calif., hand-made signs praising fire crews started appearing along the highway.

Messages like, "We love you, firefighters," and, "Bless you, firefighters," dotted the roadway on California Route 49 leading into Placerville. Though 40 homes were lost to the 24,000-acre Cleveland fire, no one blamed the people fighting it.

■ **Different story:** That's a far cry from the lingering sentiment in a community 50 miles to the east, where residents are still recovering from a similar fire that roared through their region five years ago.

"There's still a lot of bad feelings toward the (U.S.) Forest Service over this thing," said James Shinn, whose home in Woodfords was one of 26 that burned to the ground in 1987. "It was a bad situation up here and it didn't have to be."

Shinn, 72, said he and his wife, Carolyn, lost their life savings and their home of 25 years to the Acorn Fire. Because the couple couldn't afford to rebuild, they moved into their small guest cabin, which inexplicably escaped the worst of the fire even though it was right next door.

■ **Court action:** A group of homeowners in 1990 filed a class action suit alleging the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management didn't follow guidelines and didn't respond to the fire in a timely manner. The 36 people whose homes were damaged or destroyed are seeking compensation for nearly \$4 million in property damage and emotional distress.

Disgruntled homeowners charged that the agencies misjudged the fire from the beginning, accelerated its spread by setting ill-timed backfires and that crews refused to help citizens trying to

RENO GAZETTE 10/12/92

Woodfords fire

From page 1A
save their houses.

■ **Agencies respond:** BLM and Forest Service officials have disputed all the charges, saying crews responded effectively and appropriately and that unexpected winds caused the fire to roar out of control.

The U.S. District Court case goes to trial in six weeks.

Shinn never joined the lawsuit, though he had unsuccessfully tried to recoup some of his \$117,000 loss through the Forest Service's claims program.

Now, he wonders if he made the wrong decision.

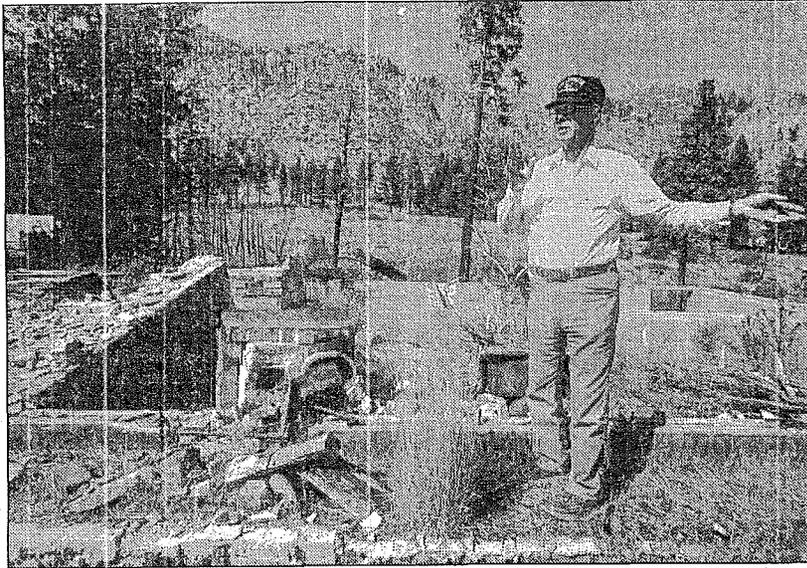
"I'm just not one to complain," Shinn, 72, said as he gazed at the empty lot where his two-bedroom redwood house once stood, near the bank of the West Carson Fork.

When residents complained early on about how the fire was handled, Shinn said he was surprised the two federal agencies denied any liability. In his view, the mistakes made the day of the fire were obvious.

"I'll tell you how simple this is," he said, pointing toward the scarred hillside. "The fire started one mile from here at 11 in the morning. My house didn't burn until 5 o'clock that night."

Shinn said he'd been on his roof, soaking the shingles with a garden hose, from that morning until authorities ordered him to evacuate at 4 p.m.

"When I left, fire trucks were lined up down the road, but not



Craig Sailor/Gazette-Journal

VICTIM: James Shinn's home in Woodfords burned to the ground in 1987.

one of them was put down here to protect homes," he said.

■ **Critical move:** Some volunteer firefighters said they were on the scene when the fire was still tiny — consuming a few square feet of brush in the Toiyabe National Forest about a mile from Woodfords. They said they were sent away by a Forest Service crew that arrived a few minutes later.

The Forest Service disputes that charge. Their records show volunteers were fighting the fire for more than an hour before the forest service sent them home.

■ **Other reasons:** But not everyone in this mountain community blames the fire crews or holds a grudge. Some chalked the disas-

ter off to the hazards of living in the wilderness, and local firefighters have mended fences with the Forest Service.

"Everybody's getting along with the forest," Woodfords volunteer Bobby Stevens said. "We've got good relations now, and people here are a lot more aware of fire danger. They keep their property clear of brush, things like that."

Most of the Acorn Fire's victims have long since cleaned up the rubble and rebuilt their houses.

But one reminder of the devastating property damage lies just a few yards from Shinn's front door. A former neighbor left the burned-down home behind, and the stone foundation littered with crumbled brick and twisted metal remains undisturbed. A rusted washer and dryer still sit in the small basement exposed within the wreckage.

The house had belonged to George Abbott for 30 years, but he moved away after the fire, saying there was nothing left to keep him in Woodfords.

■ **Forest changed:** "It's not the same place," said Abbott, an attorney now living in Minden.

"The part of the forest I'd decided to live in was gone. There were 60, 70, 80-foot trees. They're all gone and the reason's I'd wanted to live there were gone too."

But Shinn is more optimistic. The red cedar and jeffrey pines he planted on his property are now 6 inches to a few feet tall. Some day they'll replace the 80-foot-tall trees that graced his property before the fire.

Just across the river, a forest of blackened, barren pines — some as tall as 80 feet — dots the steep mountainside. But the terrain is also covered in a blanket of green and yellow grasses — five years of growth from a seeding project begun shortly after the fire.

With the loss of so many of its majestic trees, the Woodfords scenery will never look like it once did, but many believe it can still look good.

"It's a different beauty," Stevens said. "There's no more trees, but you should see the flowers in the spring."

NV. Appeal 10-13-92
Unusual sound of chainsaws echoing in Sierra

RENO (AP) — The uncommon sound of chainsaws is echoing in parts of the Sierra, where logging normally is forbidden. The lumber cutters have been given the go-ahead in an effort to thin dead and dying trees before they're hit by fire.

"We're not talking clearcutting," said Nancy Thornburg, a writer who lives in Thornburg Valley near the logging site west of Markleeville, Calif. "There's a lot of trees in there. They're just not as thick as they once were."

Six years of drought have either

killed the trees or weakened them to beetle attacks that often finish the job the lack of water began.

President Bush ordered the U.S. Forest Service a month ago to expedite salvage logging of the stricken trees in the West to lessen fire danger and increase lumber production.

In addition to the Markleeville

cut, seven other areas of the northern Sierra are targeted for thinning by next spring from south of Markleeville through the Tahoe Basin north to Little Valley just west of Washoe Valley.

"The fire danger is higher than it's been in some time," said Roland Shaw, the Forest Service's timber management assistant in Carson

City. "We're trying to get as much dead material out as we can. It gives us a fighting chance."

10-15-92

100 YEARS AGO
The Genoa Courier
Friday, Oct. 21, 1892

SHOT BUT NOT KILLED. Last Sunday afternoon Joe Lynch of Genoa and Dan Hern (commonly known as "Tex") had trouble in the saloon at Wellington and in the scramble both got behind the bar, when Hern shot Lynch, the bullet passing clear through his body. Two shots were fired but only one struck Lynch. The shooting was done with a forty-four caliber Colt, which shoots about as wicked as a Winchester rifle. Lynch did not have a pistol.

Record
Courier

**Remember
when?**

Dr. Luce states that there is no immediate danger from the wound but in case of inflammation the result may prove fatal. News came in yesterday afternoon by stage that Joe is getting along very well.

* **SCHOOL.** Henry Tillman will soon open a night school at Fredericksburg and has secured a class of young men, too old to attend the public schools, and young Germans who are desirous of learning our language. These young men quickly acquire American ways and customs. They make excellent and worthy citizens and we wish there were more of them. Carson Valley has homes and to spare for a large number of families from the Mother Country.

Smog era strikes 4 Sierra counties

By Ron DeLacy
McClatchy News Service

SAC BEE 10/16/92

SONORA - The mountain counties of Tuolumne, Calaveras, Mariposa and Alpine may soon have to impose pollution-reduction programs common in smoggier parts of California.

The state Air Resources Board's staff has recommended classifying the counties as exceeding the allowable levels of ozone. The board will decide after a public hearing in Sacramento Dec. 10.

All four counties currently have an unclassified status, so they don't have to take any formal steps to reduce smog. If they are reclassified as "non-attainment areas" for ozone, as the board's staff recommends, they would have to start anti-pollution efforts for the first time.

Jerry Benincasa, Tuolumne County's air pollution control officer, said Thursday he will attend the hearing to argue against reclassification.

"If we had conclusive evidence that we should be deemed non-attainment, I wouldn't have a problem," he said. "But those people are proposing this change based on some pretty damned sketchy stuff."

He said the state has been monitoring ozone in Sonora since Aug. 1, and twice it has slightly exceeded the state's limit. But both times there was heavy smoke in the air from forest fires.

Benincasa added that even if the mountain counties do exceed state standards, most of their smog gets blown in from the valley below. The state is studying that "transport" problem now, he said, and should wait for the results before reclassifying the mountain counties.

"We're going to have to impose multimillion-dollar regulations on people, and at best they will provide only a minor reduction," he said. "There's only so much source here. Hot air rises, and all that valley s--- comes up here."

In Mariposa County, supervisor Art Baggett told his colleagues this week, "This is going to hit every business in the county, every hotel, every household."

To get an idea of what they might have to do, the supervisors met with officials of the San Joaquin Valley's new air quality control district.

The mountain counties might have to require regular smog checks on cars as is done in all valley counties now, officials said. The valley district also regulates business emissions and is considering restrictions on water heaters and fireplaces in new homes.

But Katie Bearden and Bob Dowell of the air quality district

said that despite such restrictions, the San Joaquin Valley leads the state in growth. Some think that's a major part of the reason for increased smog in the adjacent Sierra.

"I don't think the regulations you'll have to deal with will be doomsday," Bearden said.

The state is scheduled to release a technical report on the sources and levels of smog in the mountain counties on Oct. 26. The state board could order both the valley and mountain counties to clean up the air if significant problems are found.

"Welcome to the land of air pollution plans," Dowell told Mariposa's supervisors.

- Bee news services contributed to this report.

Klingler blazes to world speed record

Record Courier 11/1/92

Fritz Klingler finally succeeded in his attempt to break into the Bonneville World Finals record book on Oct. 18. But it was close.

Klingler, of Woodfords, came in just under the wire as he posted a mark of 163.3 mph on his Harley Davidson to break the modified push rod A class record. He set the record on the final day

of qualifying for 1992 at the Bonneville Salt Flats near Wendover, Utah.

"I actually beat the record a couple of times but I was disqualified. The first time I didn't have my feet on the pegs and since this is a street class, I was DQ'd for that. The other time, I was DQ'd for taking the bike to the wrong impound area," Klingler recalled.

Klingler got everything right on the final day. He made the first pass in a time of 161.2 mph, then made the return trip in 165.4. This time, he was the beneficiary of some good luck.

"Afterward, we found out the rear chain broke. I figure it must have broke when we were coasting to a stop; if it had broken sooner, I wouldn't have gotten the

record," Klingler said.

"You might say we won by a link," he added with a laugh.

Klingler added mention for the assistance he received from his crew, including mechanics Charlie Hamilton and Jim Converse from Lake Tahoe, as well as his brother, Larry Klingler from Irvine, Calif.

"I had a lot of help from them, and

from my wife, Xochi. She stuck with me through all the hard times," Klingler said.

He already has plans for the future, too. "I had thought about building a streamliner, but I think I'll stay with this class," he said. "I'll come back and try to beat my record next year. Or if somebody else beats the record, I'll try to get it back. Having a world record is very special."

Record Courier 11-8-92

Gang activity to be subject of Alpine workshop

Dennis Slater of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office will speak on gangs and gang recruitment at Douglas High School Nov. 9, Turtle Rock Park, Highway 89 between Woodfords and Markleeville. A free dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Child care will be provided at the Alpine Children's Center, 49 Hawkside Dr., Woodfords, next to Diamond Valley School. The event is sponsored by the Alpine County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission, Alpine Children's Center and Alpine Kids.

For information, call Edie Veatch, (916) 694-2712.

Court Report

DUI

A 31-year-old Markleeville man pleaded guilty Tuesday to felony drunk driving.

Clint Everett Dick said he had been at a party in Double Springs where there was a lot of beer be-

fore his Sept. 6 arrest on Highway 395 near the Stratton Center in Gardnerville.

Dick's blood/alcohol was tested at .16, more than one and a half times the legal limit in Nevada.

Dick faces a maximum of six years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. The minimum sentence is one year in prison with no probation and a \$2,000 fine for felony DUI in Nevada.

Dick has two prior DUI convictions within the past seven years making this offense a felony.

A witness told authorities he saw Dick drive across the center line on Highway 395 south of Gardnerville forcing a motorhome off the road and narrowly avoiding an accident.

Sentencing is set for Jan. 12.

Rec. Courier
11-12-92

Record
Courier

11-19-92



SARI PAYNE

Sari Payne selected as Miss Wa-She-Shu

Sari Payne, daughter of Raymond and Marilyn Payne, was selected as the first Miss Wa-She-Shu, on Oct. 30, at the first annual Wa-She-Shu Pow Wow, Carson Colony Gym.

Sari, 10, is in the 5th grade at Gardnerville Elementary School. She is her class representative to the Student Body Council.

She is the paternal granddaughter of Hazel and the late Judge Frank Payne. Maternal

grandparents are Caroline Gutierrez and Edgar Dutchy. She is the great-granddaughter of well-known basketweaver, Margie George, and the late Omby George, all of Woodfords, Calif. Sari was also selected as the first runner-up for the Little Miss Washoe contest.

She will be attending various pow-wows and other Native American gatherings as Miss Wa-She-Shu.

Record Courier 11/29/92

Engagement announced

Bryan Sparks of Markleeville, Calif. and Wendy Arnold of Coplay, Penn., recently announced their engagement.

The bridegroom-elect is the son of John and Cheryl Sparks of Markleeville and a 1989 graduate of Douglas High School.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Barbara and Erwin J. Arnold III of Coplay.

Both are attending Johnson

and Wales University in Providence, R.I.

Sparks received his associate in arts degree in culinary arts and will earn his bachelor's degree in food and beverage management in May 1993.

Arnold received her associate in arts degree in food and beverage management and will earn her bachelor's degree in hospitality management in May 1993.



BRYAN SPARKS and
WENDY ARNOLD

Two-day banjo workshop planned at Sorensen's Resort this weekend

Record Courier 12/3/92

Banjo aficionados will be happy with a two-day workshop at Sorensen's Resort in the high Sierra scheduled for Dec. 4-5 and featuring banjo expert Pete Pardee.

The weekend is geared for those who appreciate and want to know more about the history of this fine instrument and will also offer

instruction to those who already play.

On Friday, Dec. 4, a musical slide show and lecture will be presented from 8-10 p.m. On Saturday, an instructional workshop (\$20 per person) will be held from 1-4 p.m. Pardee will also perform two Saturday evening dinner

concerts. His repertoire will include banjo productions from bluegrass, fiddle tunes, Irish tunes, folk, popular and classical instrumentations.

Pardee grew up in California and Nevada. The music groups like the Weavers and the Kingston Trio fascinated him, and he was

especially attracted to the banjo. In 1973, he began teaching banjo for a living.

Hosting this event is Sorensen's Resort in Hope Valley.

To make reservations or for more information, call Sorensen's Resort at 1-800-423-9949.

Fire district hopes to annex Alpine strip

Record Courier
by BRIAN MAFFLY 12/3/92
R-C News Service

Lake Valley Fire Protection District is hoping to keep the \$106,000 in annual property tax revenue it recently lost to the state by annexing a narrow strip of land along State Route 89 in neighboring Alpine County.

Such a move will trigger a clause exempting "multicounty districts" from the tax shift worked out in the California Legislature this year to alleviate the state's budget crunch, according to the proposal's architect, Lake Valley Fire Chief John Ceko.

Sacramento's 1992 budget agreement diverts hundreds of millions of dollars from local governmental bodies to the state education fund. This move translated into painful budgetary hits to numerous Tahoe utility and fire districts, the revenue-generating abilities of which have been severely eroded as a result of Proposition 13 limits on property taxation.

El Dorado's share of the shift represented a \$5.1 million hit, which included lost revenue totaling \$1 million to the South Tahoe Public Utility District, \$343,000 to the city of South Lake Tahoe and \$2 million to the county's general fund, according to El Dorado County Controller Larry Klaus.

Lake Valley's \$106,000 hit represents 7 percent of its \$1.5 million budget. Ceko said he fears the tax shift will result in a funding crisis for fire districts in coming years.

"It's getting to the point where we have to decide whether we want to have a fire department," the chief said.

He explained that Lake Valley may be forced to close its Golden Bear Trail station if the district is unable to preserve its revenue levels.

This will leave a populous segment of the district with reduced service at a time when a seventh year of drought threatens to leave Tahoe forests ripe for a destructive

wildfire.

"Are we going to just live here naked and just hope [California Department of Forestry] comes through and helps out?" Ceko said. Lake Valley proposes annexing bands of land on both sides of State Route 89 from the county line at Luther Pass to Pickett's Junction, located about three miles into Alpine County.

Although Lake Valley is an El Dorado County district, its firefighters often respond to accidents on this stretch of highway, which has few structures and is owned entirely by the U.S. Forest Service, Ceko said.

Klaus believes that if the Lake Valley annexation is completed by the end of fiscal year 1992-93 — on June 30 — the small district will be exempt from the tax shift.

But the controller raised the possibility that the Legislature might eventually redefine the multicounty exemption so that an expanded Lake Valley district will not qualify.

Storm: Snow blasts Valley, mountain areas

Continued from page 1
bury Grade contributed to driving hazards Wednesday morning. Authorities turned motorists without chains around at the base of the mountain.

*** POWER OUTAGES**
Power outages left Kingsbury, Lake Tahoe and Alpine County residents without electricity early Wednesday morning.

According to Sierra Pacific Power Co. spokesman Karl Walquist, about 300 customers in the Markleeville area weathered the early morning hours without power.

He said power went out at about 4:30 a.m. and was restored at 9 a.m.

Residents in the Grovers Hot Springs area were still without

power on Wednesday morning, he said.

Walquist said crews were working to restore power in the lower Kingsbury Grade area.

No information was available on how many homes were affected by that outage.

In all, two storm fronts buffeted the Carson Valley over the last week.

The first one rolled in over the weekend and left a blanket of snow over the Valley floor Monday morning.

Tuesday evening, a second front rolled into the Valley bringing rain and warmer temperatures.

A third front is expected to strike Northern Nevada tomorrow or Saturday, the National Weather Service predicted.

Record Courier

12/13/92

Sports

It's a real storm

All the praying and car washing the past couple of weeks has paid off with a real winter storm for a change.

Enough natural snow for Kirkwood to open its slopes this past Tuesday. They had received a solid 3 feet and up to 4 feet of new snow on top from the storm system that came through early last week.

"We're glad to receive the snow, it's

Let's go skiing

by CURTIS N. FONG

come just in time for our 20th anniversary and to assure skiing for the holidays," said Greg Murtha from Kirkwood's marketing department. "Even resorts with snowmaking are glad ... There's no substitute for the real thing."

Kirkwood plans to have most, if not all, of the mountain open for its 20th anniversary weekend which concludes today. The schedule today features a complimentary continental breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and a fun obstacle race for kids in the Mighty Mountain area from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Happy 20th anniversary, Kirkwood!
For more information call 209-258-6000.

Aqueduct I agreement approved

by MELANIE SUPERSANO
Staff Writer

12/13/92
Record Courier

The final seal was put on the Aqueduct I water transfer settlement agreement Wednesday night, with Douglas County Commission Chairman Michael Fischer expressing his distaste for the transaction.

"I think it's a morally bankrupt thing," said Fischer at a meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District.

"I'd hate to validate it by voting for it," he said, indicating why he abstained from the 6-0 vote to approve key provisions in the agreement.

Aqueduct I, a Colorado-based limited partnership, formed with the intent of purchasing agricultural water rights and selling them to urban users, bought 2,776 acres of the Dressler family ranch for \$4.9 million in October 1989.

The purchase included the water rights appurtenant to the land, which straddles the California/Nevada stateline near Highway 88.

The Dressler family has lived and ranched in the Valley for more than a century.

Fischer explained that his objec-

tions to the transfer have nothing to do with the settlement agreement.

"The legal aspects are the best we could probably hope for and should be supported," he said.

"It's a moral position," he said, noting that the transfer of water off the former ranch will effectively "dry up" the land and will affect the character of Douglas County forever.

"The water was on the ground. The water did lots of good things. It recharged the aquifer here, and now its going somewhere else potentially.

That's an adverse impact on Douglas County."

The subconservancy board approved three key provisions of the settlement agreement.

Under the agreement, Aqueduct I would divert water based on priority, acreage and duty as if it were agricultural water if the flow through the west fork of the Carson River is below 240 cubic feet per second.

The rate will be gauged at the Woodfords gauging station.

When the flow is above 240 cfs, Aqueduct I will be allowed to take water on a 40-40-20 schedule, meaning the partnership could

take 40 percent of its water in April, 40 percent in May, and 20 percent in June.

A five-year monitoring program will be undertaken to determine if the 240 cfs figure is appropriate. According to initial computer generated data, the figure is the cutoff point where downstream users are affected by the transfer.

In addition, the federal water master will determine where these additional monitoring stations will be and Aqueduct I has agreed to pay for and maintain them.

The transfer has been in federal court since a coalition of ranchers and local governments, including Douglas County, protested it two years ago.

The issue of "stacking" water rights will not be settled by the agreement, but will be determined by the state engineer.

Aqueduct I holds additional water rights for water in Mud Lake in Nevada and Red Lake in California.

The issue before the state engineer is whether those storage rights are merely supplemental to the irrigation rights and therefore cannot be counted separately, or whether they are in addition to the irrigation rights.



People are active in the Carson Valley

Record
Courier
12/31/92

Photos taken over the past year show what a busy community Carson Valley really is. From the very top left and down are Jerry John of Alpine County with a visiting sled dog licking his face; Savannah Gray in the mask that she made at the Magic of Recreation event held last spring; the Fish Spring Volunteer Fire Department waterfight team photographed by Fish Spring correspondent Linda Monohan at Carson Valley Days; and Ted and Ann Thompson, who were often seen skating with daughter Ejon in Minden. In the large photo in the middle are students at Scarselli Elementary School celebrating Chinese New Year with a dragon parade. At the immediate left is Jessica Schroeder getting her face painted at the Genoa Candy Dance. Below, Del Duboraw gets ready for the Young at Heart Senior Center's annual senior art show.

Snowfall buries Carson Valley; more on the way

Record Courier 12/31/92

Storm brings welcome relief from six years of drought

by MELANIE SUPERSANO
Staff Writer

The storm that hit northern California and the Sierra Nevada this week caused avalanches on Kingsbury Grade, closing the road, but it was a welcome relief from six years of drought.

The winter weather is expected to keep on hammering the area, with snow anticipated through Saturday, according to the National Weather Service. While the sun shone in the Carson Valley yesterday, breaking nearly steady precipitation since Monday, a second storm gathering off the California coast was expected to cause snowfall last night and today, with flurries from yet a third more intense storm lasting past New Year's.

Localized blizzard conditions caused white-outs, snarling traffic and causing fender benders. But motorists escaped major accidents, said Sgt. Bob Rudnick, of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office.

Two men driving up Kingsbury Grade from the Valley were temporarily trapped Tuesday about 10 a.m. by an avalanche that buried their Jeep Wagoneer, Rudnick said.

Sheriff's personnel were able to free the men, whose names are not known. The men were not injured and the car was dug out without incident Rudnick said.

Two other avalanches on the Valley side of Kingsbury Grade caused havoc, but not harm by blocking motorists temporarily until the road could be cleared.

"Everything went fairly well, considering," Rudnick added.

The weather caused the road to be closed on the Valley side Tuesday. Highway 395 north remained open, despite some white-out conditions, but was closed from Walker to Mammoth Lakes to the south.

Highway 50 over Echo Summit in California was closed, but the road remained open in Nevada, according to Rick Nelson, district engineer for the Nevada Department of Transportation.

The Douglas County Search and Rescue team has been at the ready, preparing emergency shelters and gearing up in case they are needed, Rudnick said.

His advice to drivers: Give yourself some extra time, going to and from. Only travel if you absolutely need to. Carry extra provisions. Be aware of the conditions around you. Are the roads icy? Is there a driver coming to an intersection who might not be able to stop? Be on your toes. Drive defensively. And absolutely, don't drink and drive.

The storm boosted the mountain snowpack to above-normal conditions, a relief to weather

watchers weary of six years of drought.

Two feet of snow dumped on the Topaz area by yesterday morning, blocking some residents' driveways, effectively stranding them.

Minden got 14 inches of new snow, which did not, however, break the record of 37 inches in December 1941, according to National Weather Service observer Ted Hendricks. This month, Minden has had 19.3 inches of snow total.

Weather stations showed 18 inches of new snow at Sheridan Acres and 12 inches at Centerville by yesterday morning.

Gail Durham, of the Soil Conservation Service, said the Carson River watershed's snowpack is 138 percent of normal, as measured by the water content in the snow.

"This was a big storm. In the Carson River basin a number of our sites picked up between four and five inches of snow water. That's pretty significant," Durham said.

Measuring the water content of the snowpack is the most accurate way to determine the amount of runoff that will flow into streams and ultimately reach the Carson River next spring.

The Walker River snowpack is

Continued to page 11

ONE JOB LED TO ANOTHER

Nancy Thornburg organized Alpine County's history

by Joyce Hollister

Nancy Thornburg turned her interest in genealogy into a part-time job — one that affords her immense satisfaction as well as performing an important service to Alpine County.

A member of the Alpine County Museum board since the 1960s, she helped organize the Alpine County Museum, the restored log jail and Old Webster School. These three buildings form the Alpine historical complex which draws up to 6,000 visitors a year.

It was the researching of her own family's history and that of her husband, Fritz Thornburg, that led to a complete reorganization of Alpine County artifacts and records — and her part-time job.

"I got into the genealogy of my family in the early '80s," she said. "I learned how to duplicate photos and take care of them archivally."

The museum owned hundreds of photos that badly needed organizing.

"They asked me," Thornburg said, "if I would catalog and categorize and store their photo collection archivally."

"When I got through with the photo collection, I started looking around. The whole museum needed cataloging and describing. I've made a data base and it's all computerized."

Last year, an addition was added to the museum where new displays are set up and she has an office for her work, plus a basement for storage.

In the addition are some new exhibits. One of them chronicles an archeological dig done on the west side of Alpine County in 1986-88.

The site was remote, and archeologists had to pack in their equipment by horseback for six miles.

"They discovered eight sites dating back 10,000 years," Thornburg said. "And they found the oldest known structure on the North American continent, which puts what they call 'paleo-Indians' in the High Sierra about 8,000 years further back than they had previously thought — right after the last Ice Age."

The Alpine County Museum is housing the archeological collection from that dig in cooperation with the Stanislaus National Forest.

In display cases are artifacts from each of the sites excavated, along with drawings of the site, maps, grinding stones, pestles, photographs of archeologists at work and a large number of "points," or



Nancy Thornburg is shown next to the doctor's buggy, beautifully restored for the Alpine County Museum. Belinda Rohleder photos

arrowheads.

How items are dated and how archeologists work are explained.

"They found that this was a trade route from the east side to the west side. They [paleo-Indians] were trading obsidian and pine nuts to the west slope Indians for acorns and baskets," Thornburg said.

In three locally made glass cases are Thornburg's other new displays. These depict the geology of the area, the prehistory of the Washoe people and their yearly cycle of living and food-gathering in Alpine County in the winter months and at Lake Tahoe in the summer, and a display that celebrates the fine art of Degikup, or Washoe basket-making. In this last case are a number of fine Washoe baskets.

Thornburg's job is what she calls a "50 percent time employee" — half of her time is paid for by the county. Though the museum was developed originally by volunteers who put in

long hours, nowadays it is run by Thornburg and a summer person, Memorial Day through October.

"The volunteer spirit has just sort of died out, as it has in many places," she said.

People still come through when asked, however, and last year a fund-raiser was held. This summer, Thornburg will oversee the building of a shed to house old vehicles — especially a lovely old doctor's buggy which was restored and is now "taking up a lot of space in the main room."

The museum is filled with items donated by Alpine residents, from Mary Small Thornburg's gray silk wedding dress worn in 1882 to a replica of a tombstone of a member of the Chalmers family.

The tombstone was made following a photograph and rubbing of the original. The original tombstone was carved for Lewis Chalmers, who was born in 1851 and who died in 1872.

It and all the other tombstones in the Chalmers' family cemetery at their ranch near Ebbett's Pass were stolen, Thornburg said.

The Markleeville Post Office's ornate metal post boxes [in use 1863-1974], each adorned with a stylized eagle, sits in the corner of a mocked-up store. The store contains scores of old food canisters and boxes, scales and grinders and a desk donated by residents. The actual sign for the Silver Mountain City store forms the front of the display.

Also on display are a Victorian parlor, an early day kitchen, a mining cart [mining figures largely in the history of Alpine County], a collection of paintings by a local self-taught artist, and much more.

And this is just in the main building.

The Old Webster School is fitted out just as it must have been like when it was a one-room schoolhouse.

Thornburg is also chairman of historical records for Alpine County and with a federal grant organized the county's historical archives.

"That was neat," she said. "The records were all over the dungeon in the courthouse and nobody knew what was there."

Thornburg doesn't confine her interests to just the historical. She has long been active in county politics and is now a member of the Forest Lands Development Committee.

The group maintains that proper removal of diseased trees in the forests around Alpine County will lead to healthier forests in the long run. Thousands of trees are stressed from seven years of drought and a heavy infestation of the bark beetle.

"We need to have some decent timber sales where you don't take all the good stuff but you thin it out and reduce fuel loading — keeping the healthiest trees," she explained.

"We are in a severe epidemic situation [of the bark beetle] in Alpine County on the east side. You've got it down around Genoa, also. There're going to be catastrophic wildfires if something isn't done."

A freelance writer, Thornburg has been published in various newspapers, including The Record-Courier, the Genoa Enterprise, the Tahoe Daily Tribune and the Alpine Enterprise.

Last year, she developed a brochure that outlines a scenic tour through the central Sierra Nevada and Gold Rush county, featuring the nine museums and various historic places along a 260-mile loop.



In one corner of the Alpine Museum is a mocked up country store. Belinda Rohleder photo



Marie Johnson, with her baby on her back, shovels hay. Jay Aldrich photo

Neddenrieps keep the spark alive for 120 years

by Treva Lind

More than a century ago, Claus and Anna Neddenriep built a home in Carson Valley sturdy enough to last five lifetimes. Each generation left a mark: the root cellar, an upstairs addition, an enclosed porch, a remodeled kitchen, psychedelic

Sixties wallpaper.

Today, the two-story white ranch house is home to the sixth generation of Neddenrieps, three-year-old Kyle and little brother Bradley.

Their father Kent and mother Marie Johnson want the children to learn about the family's long history. Although they hold out little hope

the boys will be able to continue cattle ranching, they know the land is in the Neddenriep blood.

"We feel we are in the transitional phase," Johnson says. "We are fairly realistic that farming will not be an option for them with the development going on and the costs."

Added Kent, "We hope Bradley

and Kyle will have the opportunity to ranch if they desire to ... The land has always been important to the Neddenriep family."

Kent works full time as a civil engineer but he can't let the ranching go, Johnson added. They continue ranching as an evening and

See page 13

weekend hobby on a portion of the ranch not leased out. "The family has a real emotional attachment for the land," she said. "It draws us all together."

It all started when Claus and Anna Neddenriep arrived from Germany in 1872. They were met at a train depot in Reno by August Dressler, grandfather of lifelong Valley resident Fred Dressler.

They rode to their new home on a hay wagon. Unlike many other pioneer families, the Neddenrieps came to Carson Valley with ample means, for the family had prospered in Germany. So they almost immediately bought the 80-acre Pederson place south of Fredericksburg Lane, west of the present State Route 88.

A Neddenriep son, Henry, and a cousin had already located to Carson Valley before Claus and Anna's arrival. The two young men were called upon to return to the Fatherland and serve in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870.

Thinking Germany could not win, Henry and his cousin failed to answer the call. Germany's speedy victory made them both deserters and left them unable to ever again set foot on German soil. Fear of never seeing Henry again probably was a factor in Anna and Claus' decision to come to Carson Valley, Kent said.

The Neddenriep holdings were

expanded over the years through purchase of other land, including the Harriet Woodfords and Joseph Goodman ranches. Today, the property covers almost 900 acres, straddling the Nevada/California border near Fredericksburg.

Claus and Anna brought their daughter and son-in-law, Marie and Friedrich Bruns, and the Bruns' daughter, Minnie; their 12-year-old son, Christian Friedrich; and their 10-year-old daughter, Dora, who later married Fritz Heise. Catherine Dyer also accompanied them and she married Henry.

First things came first when the Neddenrieps arrived.

"Being the practical people they were, they built the barn first and then the house," says Johnson, who relies on detailed information kept in a family album, dating back to the 1870s.

The family at first lived in the Pederson home, which was full of knot holes and through which the wind whistled and the dust blew. According to a story Kent often heard, Anna was frying potatoes one day for the evening meal and thinking of the comforts she left in Germany. Her tears fell into the pan. She later said her tears were enough, the potatoes needed no salt, and the dust was the pepper.

The sturdier ranch home wasn't built until 1882, and it's been exten-



Lena Herbig and William Neddenriep, the third generation, were married in October, 1927.

sively remodelled over the years. The family had brought down a juniper tree from Fredericksburg Canyon and planted it west of the home site for shade. Today, the tree is more than 50 feet tall.

The house also was once surrounded by a large apple, pear and plum orchard, which provided produce to Virginia City during the Comstock days.

Claus died in 1906 at age 88, leaving behind 40 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

Claus and Anna's son Christian Friedrich (Fritz) and his wife Anna (Dreier) were the second generation to live in the home. After Fritz and Anna came their son, William, who married Lena Herbig Oct. 12, 1927. Much of the known history about the family was gathered by Lena, who put together a Neddenriep album and traced the family back to 1660 in Germany.

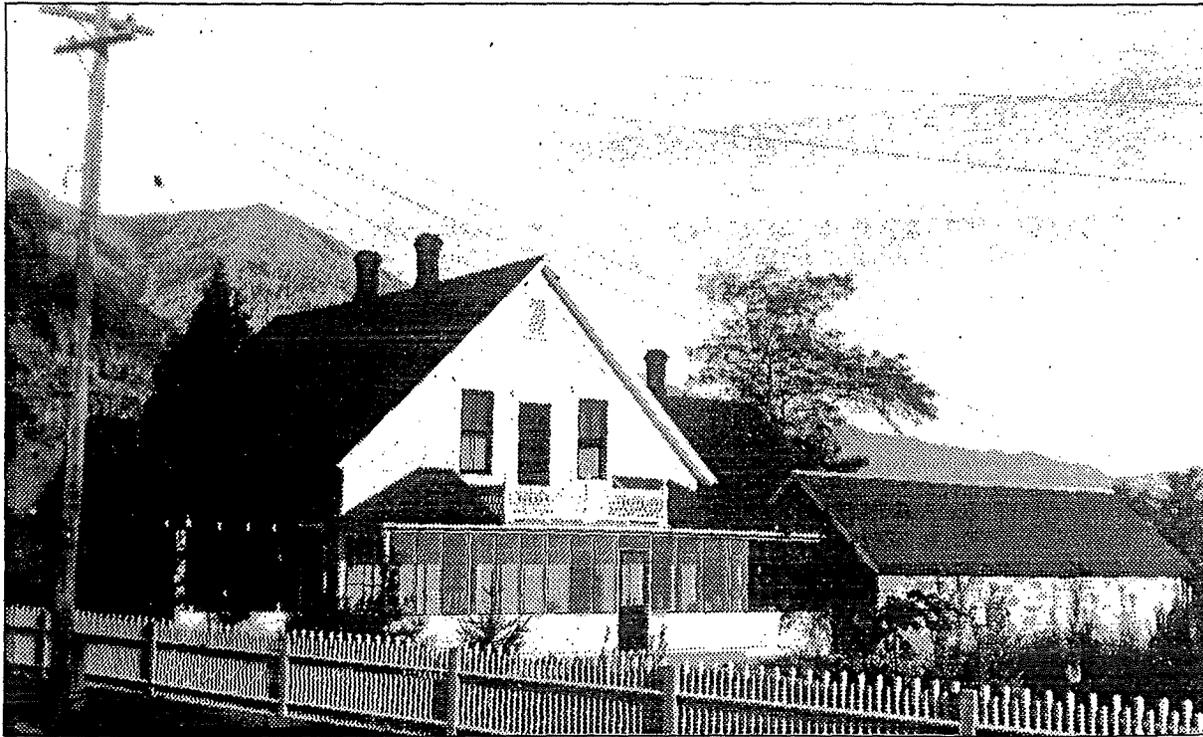
The fourth generation, Wilton and Mary Lou (Kent), were married Aug. 14, 1955. Among their five children is the eldest son, Kent, who married Marie in 1986. They have lived in the home 10 years now, with Kent overseeing the ranch operations.

Today, Kent leases out the majority of the irrigated land to someone else who runs cattle on it. Kent maintains a portion of property as a hobby ranch. On many weekends, Kent and Marie work the land together, bringing along Kyle and Bradley. They make it a family activity so they can spend more time together and enjoy the land.

The Neddenriep family has kept the pioneer spark of Claus and Anna alive for more than 120 years. Kyle and Bradley, playing today in the home envisioned by Claus, will soon write the next chapter.

Mary Lou and Wilton were married in the 1950s. They were the fourth generation to live in the Neddenriep house. It is their son Kent and his wife Marie Johnson and their children who live in the 110-year-old ranch home. Photo courtesy Kent Neddenriep



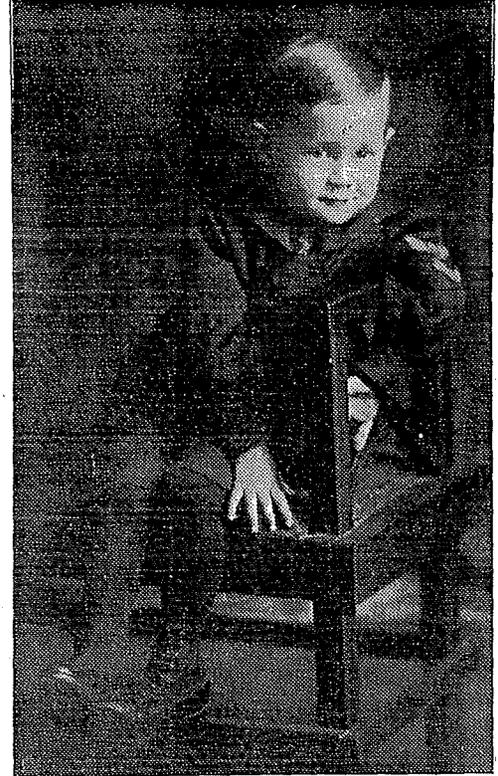


The Claus and Anna Neddenriep family house was added to over the years as the family grew. Claus and Anna came to the Valley from Germany in 1872. They built their barns first, however, and the sturdy white house wasn't begun until 1882. This photo dates from about 1910. Courtesy Marlena Hellwinkel

10 The Carson Valley Almanac 1993/1994



Above are Claus and Anna Muller Neddenriep, the first generation, with grandchildren Marie and Chris. At right are Christian "Fritz" Friederich and Anna Dreier Neddenriep, April 1888, of the second generation (courtesy Kent Neddenriep).



At left are Kent and Marie with their children, Kyle and Bradley, the sixth generation to live in the family home. On weekends and holidays, they work on the small portion of the Neddenriep ranch that is not leased. Marie and Kent want their sons to have the opportunity to ranch if they wish. Meanwhile, working their plot allows the family to spend time together and enjoy their land. Jay Aldrich photo. Above is a picture of Kent's great-uncle Fritz as a young boy.

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AND THE LAKE TAHOE NEWS

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South Lake Tahoe, California

Price 50 Cents

Two feared dead in fire

Explosion destroys Kirkwood condos

By BRIAN MAFFLY AND JEFF DELONG
Tribune Staff Writers

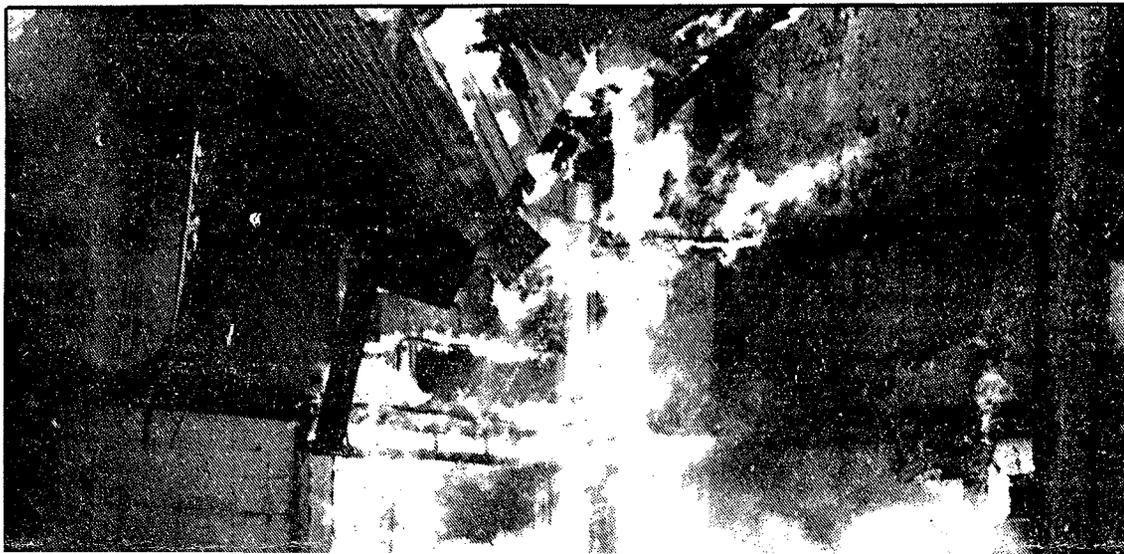
Two people are missing and another five were hospitalized after a suspected propane explosion ignited a spectacular fire that ripped through a condominium complex at Kirkwood Ski Resort Wednesday afternoon.

The latest in a string of propane-related disasters in the Tahoe area, the blaze started at 2:15 p.m. when an explosion reportedly blew out the side of the building. The resulting fire raged out of control

for more than seven hours, reducing the three-story Sun Meadows II condominium complex to charred rubble, Alpine County Sheriff Henry "Skip" Veatch reported.

Rescue workers this morning were focusing on a search for a man and his 3-year-old daughter who were believed to be in the area of the 10-unit building most affected by the initial explosion. Veatch said the search was being hampered by dangerous structural conditions.

Please see FIRE, Page 8A



DAVID BUNCE/Special to the Tahoe Tribune

HOLDING ON: Amador County Deputy Mike Ming comforts a witness to the explosion and fire at Kirkwood Wednesday.

Explosion...



MARK BOISSEAU/Special to the Tahoe Tribune

VALIANT EFFORT: A firefighter and volunteers train a hose on the condominium fire Wednesday.

Explosion was 'hairy' scene for witnesses

Battling fierce blaze difficult

By JEFF DELONG

Tribune Staff Writer

Jennifer Titilah and co-workers at the photography concession at Kirkwood Ski Resort were developing shots of skiers Wednesday afternoon when a concussive blast rocked their offices in the resort's main lodge.

"A huge blast of wind just raked through the lodge and shook all the photographs," Titilah recalled. "We're used to avalanche booms but we had never had one that had such a concussion."

Several hundred feet away, an apparent propane gas explosion had just blasted through a condominium, igniting an inferno of flames that would burn for hours.

Dave Bunce, one of the Kirkwood photographers, grabbed a camera and rushed outside.

The scene that greeted him was horrific.

Wind-blown snow was lit orange by towering flames. He saw a little boy — his face badly burned — cradled in the arms of a ski patrolman outside the blazing structure.

"I've seen fires before but nothing like this one," Bunce said. "It was very dramatic, and pretty sad."

South Lake Tahoe resident Kelly Manger was skiing at Kirkwood when the explosion occurred. She told a Reno reporter she witnessed bad-

Please see **SCENE**, Page 8A



DAVID BUNCE/Special to the Tahoe Tribune

GROUP EFFORT: People from skiers to employees to firefighters joined in the effort to extinguish the fire and aid the victims.

Fire

Continued from Page 1A

"What we have is a very dangerous roof situation over the area where we're going to search," Veatch said. "Hopefully we'll have a little better idea of how we're going to proceed a little later this morning."

Leading the search are investigators with the California State Fire Marshal's Office, who are also on the scene to probe the cause of the explosion.

"The Fire Marshal is up there and we're going to sift through the rubble and try to come up with some-

thing definitive, either find bodies or eliminate the possibility of fatalities," Veatch said.

Brian Schafer, assistant fire chief of the Lake Valley Fire Protection District, said this morning officials are assuming the father and daughter were killed in the blast.

"We really regret the loss of life," Schafer said.

Eighty firefighters from local volunteer departments and the Lake Valley and Tahoe-Douglas fire districts battled the blaze while a snowstorm whipped the flames.

"It was absolutely windy," the Alpine sheriff said. "It was blizzard

conditions the whole time.

Kirkwood officials praised the work of the fire crews, thanking them for preventing the blaze from spreading to neighboring condos and other structures.

"The firefighters' heroic efforts are credited for containing the fire during a major Sierra storm," Kirkwood marketing Director Greg Murtha said.

State Route 88 was closed on both sides of Kirkwood because of the whiteout conditions and avalanche hazards resulting from the storm, and emergency vehicles had to be escorted over Carson Pass by California Department of Transportation plows.

Two young brothers were transported to Barton Memorial Hospital with serious burns. The 7-year-old and 9-year-old boys were later sent to burn centers in Davis and Sacramento, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Another three victims were transported to Carson-Tahoe Hospital, where they were treated and released.

The ski resort, which was experiencing difficulties with its phone service as a result of the catastrophe, plans to resume limited operations today with full operation by the weekend, according to Murtha.

Scene

Continued from Page 1A

ly burned people being carried out of the condominium.

"It was pretty nasty," she said.

Witness Karin Schuller of South Lake Tahoe described towering flames and a scene of frantic confusion as Kirkwood employees and bystanders tried to do what they could to help as firefighters rushed to the scene.

One of those helping was John Coyle, Kirkwood's race director. Coyle said this morning he and other Kirkwood employees helped firefighters lay hoses once engines arrived on the scene.

Woodfords volunteer firefighter John Chavez was one of the dozens of firefighters from several agencies that responded to the emergency, driving through blizzardlike conditions and an extreme avalanche hazard along State Route 88 east of Kirkwood.

"That was a real hairy situation," Chavez said of the hurried journey through the mountain highway's channels of snow. When Chavez's fire engine arrived, firefighters from Kirkwood Fire Protection District and Lake Valley Fire Protection District were already on scene, beginning an initial attack on the condominium's third floor.

"It was a real hot fire," he said. "It was real intense."

Brian Schafer, assistant fire chief at Lake Valley Fire Protection District, said his engine crew hurried toward the fire and through the avalanche zone before a snowslide temporarily cut off access behind them.

That slide also cut off the resupply of air bottles needed by firefighters. Lack of the backup supply forced them to wage their battle



MARK BOISSEAU/Special to the Tahoe Tribune

ROOF GIVES OUT: Flames engulf the corner of the condominium as a section of its roof crashes to the ground.

from outside the structure once their bottles were sucked dry and until the structure was vented sufficiently to allow a safe re-entry, Schafer said.

Three Lake Valley firefighters were treated for smoke inhalation, one staying overnight at Barton Memorial Hospital.

"It did beat up the guys that were inside pretty bad," Schafer said. "We were all pretty well beat up."

Gusting wind had firefighters

worried the fire would spread from the burning structure to others surrounding it.

"There was a real serious danger of it spreading to other condominiums and just keep on marching from there," Schafer said.

Witness Schuller said this morning she remained shaken by Wednesday's disaster.

"It was just devastating," she said. "I'm still kind of in shock."

Local man survives Kirkwood avalanche

Tahoe Daily Tribune
1/5/93

Speedy response by rescuers, dogs credited

BY BRIAN MAFFLY

Tribune Staff Writer

After being buried in an avalanche at Kirkwood Ski Resort on Monday, a skier owes his life to the quick response of ski patrol workers and their rescue dogs, the Alpine County Sheriff's Office reported.

South Lake Tahoe resident Jeff Echland, 24, escaped serious injury in the incident which left him buried in deep snow for at least 17 minutes, according to the sheriff's report.

Echland, a Kirkwood employee, was skiing the resort's backside at noon when he was swept approximately 200 feet down the hill in a snow slide, and deposited under 5 feet of snow near some trees.

Echland's skiing companions saw the mishap and went for help. The resort's ski patrol responded quickly to the scene with avalanche dogs.

"We had 45 people on the scene within seven to 10 minutes. We mobilized our staff very quickly," Kirkwood Marketing Direc-

Please see **AVALANCHE**, Page 8A

Avalanche

Continued from Page 1A

tor Greg Murtha said.

The specially trained dogs sniffed out the buried victim in a matter of minutes and rescue workers quickly dug him out.

Echland was transported to Barton Memorial Hospital for treatment, but other than mild hypothermia and a suspected bruised liver,

he emerged from the ordeal unscathed, according to the sheriff's report.

Echland and his companions were skiing in an ungroomed area which they hiked to because it's above runs served by lifts, according to Murtha. He went on to explain that the area had been stabilized on Saturday, and the slide was the result of snow deposits from the wind since that time.

Avalanche traps man at Kirkwood

by BRIAN MAFFLY
R-C News Service
Record
Courier
1-7-93

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Record Courier 1/10/93

Supervisors respond to complaints

by JEFF DE LONG
R-C News Service

Alpine County supervisors responded to recent complaints over snow removal practices Tuesday with some revisions in policy and a reminder to residents that wintertime headaches come with the territory.

The board agreed to direct county snowplow drivers to remove berms of plowed snow from driveway entrances "as time permits" and to ensure entrances to the county's fire station remain clear of snow.

Tuesday's discussions followed numerous complaints from county residents in the wake of a series of back-to-back winter storms that hit the Sierra Nevada last week.

Public Works Director Leonard Turnbeaugh agreed to remove snow from driveway entrances whenever possible, but reminded supervisors his primary goal is to keep the county's 29 miles of road and 60 intersections clear of snow.

"It may take three or four days,"

Turnbeaugh said. "People want them [cleared] right now."

The situation can remain difficult long after a storm has stopped as blowing snow covers roadways, Turnbeaugh added. That situation is particularly acute where 1988's Acorn Fire stripped mountainsides of trees and brush cover.

During last week's series of heavy storms, Turnbeaugh said his department was taxed to the maximum.

"We put on every able-bodied person who could run a piece of equipment," he said. "I think our crew has done everything possible."

Some of the strongest criticism came from Wayne Thomson, chief of Alpine County's Markleeville-based volunteer fire department. Thomson told supervisors the doors to his fire station were blocked by 4-foot berms of snow, adding he was told by one snowplow operator that snow would only be cleared in the event of a fire or other emergency.

Fire hydrants likewise were

buried in snow, Thomson said.

The chief told supervisors there was no way firefighters could adequately respond to a structure fire under that situation.

"I feel very strongly it's only a matter of time before something bad is going to happen," Thomson said. "This is not the only year we had difficulty getting the firehouse plowed."

Turnbeaugh assured supervisors his department will work to ensure snowplows clear snow to allow adequate emergency response by the fire department.

Other county officials said residents must be aware that problems with snow come hand-in-hand with living in a mountain community like Alpine County.

Auditor-Recorder Barbara Ryan noted that many of the county's newer residents "never had winter" until this season's heavy storms.

"People that move to a mountain community have to expect some hardship," said Supervisor C. Anne Wade.

Markleeville man receives prison term for felony DUI

by MELANIE SUPERSANO and M.B. HEPP
Staff Writers

A 32-year-old Markleeville man was sentenced to two years in prison and a \$2,000 fine Tuesday for felony drunk driving.

Manual Kent Dick was weaving along Highway 395 near the Pony Express restaurant Sept. 7, 1992 and Douglas County Sheriff's officers thought he might be drunk and pulled him over.

Dick has two prior DUI convictions within the past seven years, making this offense a felony. He also was arrested for drunk driving in 1987 in Alpine County and in 1988 in Minden.

At the sentencing, District Judge Dave Gamble warned Dick he had to stop drinking completely: "You are going to go to the joint every time you drink, at least if you drive."

DELINQUENT DAD

A 32-year-old Gardnerville Ranchos man pleaded guilty Tuesday to a gross misdemeanor count of failing to provide child support.

Kevin L. Cooper was delinquent in paying his court-ordered child support payments for his three children aged 11, 8 and 4

since September 1991.

Cooper has agreed to pay off \$3,854 in arrearages and ongoing support with monthly payments of \$386.

If he successfully fulfills his obligations, the District Attorney's Office will not oppose probation.

"I was not able to pay," he said. "I did not do it willfully." He faces one year in Douglas County Jail and a \$2,000 fine.

Sentencing is set for Feb. 16.

CHEATING

A Las Vegas man admitted in District Court Tuesday that he tried to convince a gaming officer at Harrah's Tahoe that he had been legitimately playing a \$100 slot machine — not putting \$1 chips in it.

Oscar William Camlin, 24, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to cheat or defraud, a gross misdemeanor, and obstructing a public officer, a misdemeanor, in connection with the Aug. 15, 1992 incident.

He faces one and half years in jail and \$3,000 in fines.

Camlin said he lied to the gaming officer about his identity and tried to get the officer to believe he had been putting \$100 tokens in the machine, when in fact he had

been illegally playing the machine using \$1 tokens.

Sentencing is set for March 16.

FELONY DUI

Clint E. Dick, 31, of Markleeville was sentenced Tuesday to two years in prison and fined \$2,000 for felony drunk driving.

In an unusual ruling, District Judge Dave Gamble delayed Dick's incarceration until April 5 so he can help support his widowed mother and his sisters through the winter months.

Dick is currently out on \$4,600 bail with conditions that he stay free of alcohol, and on a weekly basis, attend one Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, one counseling meeting and submit to random alcohol testing each week.

"I do have a problem with alcohol. Every time I've gotten into trouble with alcohol it was when I wasn't working," Dick said.

Dick has three prior DUIs, one in Carson City in 1987 and two in Alpine County in 1991.

"You have a chance to help your family and do some things

Court Report

before you go in," Gamble said when he handed down the sentence.

FORGERY

A Stateline man pleaded guilty Tuesday to felony forgery for cashing stolen checks at the Lake.

Joseph Vrsek, 39, agreed to pay \$6,160 in restitution.

"I just needed the money at the time. I made a mistake," Vrsek told the court.

According to investigation records, Vrsek cashed several dozen checks either stolen or on closed accounts. As the result of a plea bargain, he was charged with only one count of forgery for a June 6, 1992 incident at Harrah's.

He faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Sentencing is set for Feb. 16.

He is free on \$15,000 bail.

EMBEZZLEMENT

James R. Maxwell, 23, of Concord, Calif., was sentenced to two years in prison Tuesday and ordered to pay restitution for felony embezzlement.

Maxwell stole \$1,219.50 from

Harvey's Resort Casino while working as a slot change person there in September 1990.

The former Stateline resident did not report to his supervisor after a break. He had left the casino with the money.

The defendant's attorney, Tod Young, said, "This crime began as an act of desperation. It was a crime of opportunity. He was working and had access to a large amount of cash and he took it." Young said Maxwell took the money to pay bills.

Speaking to the judge Maxwell said, "I am sorry for not showing up for my last court date. I realize that was irresponsible."

He said he wanted probation so he could help support his wife and infant son.

Maxwell was arrested on a bench warrant at the Martinez County, Calif., jail by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office on Nov. 28, 1992, more than two years after his original arrest.

He had absconded from justice after failing to appear for a court-ordered hearing.

District Judge Dave Gamble said Maxwell's sentencing would be a lesson and, "I hope this prison sentence will indeed enable you to

support your family."

CREDIT CARD

A South Lake Tahoe man pleaded guilty Tuesday to overcharging customers at Doug's Round Hill Shell station.

Although James B. Maley, 27, admitted cheating a number of customers by double billing their credit cards when they purchased gas, he reached a plea bargain with the District Attorney's Office and pleaded guilty to one count of attempted unauthorized signing of a credit card.

Maley was arrested on Dec. 9, 1992. In his explanation to the court, Maley said as an attendant at the gas station he pocketed the extra money to pay for rides to and from work.

"I know what I did was wrong and I regret it since I did it," Maley said.

He could face up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. His sentencing is set for Jan. 22.

JUSTICE COURT

The following person was sentenced recently in East Fork Justice Court for driving under the influence:

•Edward Lee Van Roy, 24, Johnson Lane area, two days' jail, \$660 fine, DUI school.

Alpine hears snow removal complaints

Record Courier 1/14/93

by JEFF DE LONG
R-C News Service

Alpine County supervisors responded to recent complaints over snow removal practices Tuesday with some revisions in policy and a reminder to residents that wintertime headaches come with the territory.

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