

ALPINE

Wild and scenic river open houses next week

Staff Reports

Trout Unlimited and California Trout are having two open houses in Markleeville and South Lake Tahoe to discuss a locally based proposal for wild and scenic river designation for the Upper Truckee River in Meiss Meadows.

The South Lake Tahoe open house is 4-7 p.m. Tuesday at the El Dorado County Library, 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd. The Markleeville open house is 3-6 p.m. Wednesday at the Alpine County Library, 270 Laramie St., Markleeville.

Trout Unlimited and California Trout believe the Upper Truckee River running free through Meiss Meadows is worthy of wild and scenic river designation under the Wild and Scenic River Act of 1968.

The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and Pacific Southwest Region of the United States Forest Service currently recommend Wild and Scenic designation for the Upper Truckee in a 1990 management plan and subsequent 1999 report.

The Upper Truckee River has a special mix of recreation, scenic, and historic values that are all considered outstandingly re-

markable. The largest watershed feeding Lake Tahoe, annually supplying between 20-30 percent of all flowing water, it has scenic landforms, attractive meadows, and easy access, attracting various backcountry users.

In addition to these values, self-sustaining populations of Lahontan cutthroat trout and highly valued early summer deer fawning habitat provide for special natural values.

The combination of these values indicates that this stream can clearly be considered a candidate representing eastside Sierran streams and a worthy addition to the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Guests of the open houses will learn more about this campaign, ask questions and provide feedback. Trout Unlimited and California Trout's goal is to make this process as inclusive and transparent as possible, and they want to incorporate all the needs and concerns that residents of El Dorado and Alpine Counties might have with such a designation.

For more information about this topic, contact David Lass by email at dlass@tu.org, or by phone at (530) 587-7110.



Karen Ostrow/Special to the Tahoe Daily Tribune
Sue Henson is surrounded by a field of lupine and paintbrush as she points out the view near Meiss Meadow in 2008.

A young life hanging by a length of twine

Last month was calf hide and seek, this month it's tag.

I went to feed the other morning, and a calf had crawled through broken manger boards and was standing by the haystack chewing on a foot of baling twine hanging out of his mouth. Wanted to address gun control, gun violence right here, but first need to get that twine out of the calf before he swallows it all, plugging his gut. The race is on.



by Marie Johnson

He chews and runs. I run and grab. Twice around the hay stack, up and down along the manger until he figures how to climb back into the manger to the field with his mommy. His clambering

over the manger boards gives me a chance at a feeble grab at the dangling strand, pulling out a few more inches.

Following twine and calf through the boards I find myself between cows who want their breakfast. They do not move away from the manger. They are not concerned I am among them, but I am. To announce myself I calmly, quietly repeat, "nice cows, nice cows, help me catch that little guy."

Moving cautiously around the protective mothers and their huge hind legs I make a few quick discrete grabs at the slippery twine, getting enough out it now touches the ground. The calf's back hooves start to catch on it, slowing him and pulling out even more. The chase moves to the sagebrush, away from the manger.

Sagebrush snags even more twine and slows the calf. Soon I

am close enough to stomp one foot on the twine and reach down to grab a firm hold. After one missed quick back hoof kick aimed at my head as I bend over, the calf darts off leaving his twine. Tag over I finish feeding, check the ditch to break ice for cow water, then head back to the house.

There are guns in my house. They belong to my spouse and our boys. They use them for hunting, sporting clays and to warn off coyotes. Once, if I was a decent shot, I may have shot a pack of dogs taking down one of my pregnant cows. But before I could figure out loading the rifle the neighbor shot off a few rounds from his .22 scaring off the dogs.

I do not own a gun for self-defense. I do not have the mind set to kill someone with one. Which is what a person must be pre-

pared to do if carrying it for self-defense. Then arming more people with guns around children is a terrible idea. Also who protects innocents from a protector's gun when it goes bad. The former LA police officer killing his own illustrates that danger.

Do I know how to control gun violence? No. It seems to be a symptom. An extreme symptom of fear, despair, of feeling disenfranchised, of encouraged hate, of anger, frustration of not being heard, understood or respected. Maybe controlling that could control our guns.

What I do know is, nothing is served by escalating America's gun culture into a personal arms race. Now I have to fix the feed manger, and we need more snow.

Marie Johnson is a Carson Valley rancher.

Wed-Feb 13, 2013 R-C

RC - Wed. Feb. 20, 2013

Who was the greatest president?

Asked by Jim Grant
in Carson Valley



**Lindsay
Marangi, 12**
Abraham Lin-
coln. He was
honest.



**Bill Morgan,
Woodfords**
George Washing-
ton. He organ-
ized and formed
our country.



**Sherose
Renck,
Gardnerville**
Lincoln. He
made major
changes through
thinking about
them and not
just acting on
them.

SIERRA

Man who died at Burnside Lake had drugs in his system

Staff Reports

A Gardnerville resident had methamphetamine and THC in his system when he died of exposure at Burnside Lake last fall, an autopsy revealed Wednesday.



Clifton

Roderick Paul Clifton, 44, died of hypothermia according to El Dorado Pathology due to prolonged exposure.

Alpine

Undersheriff Robert Levy said that the cause of death was consistent with the scene where Clifton's body was found.

Toxicology reports revealed the drugs, Levy said.

Clifton and Gardnerville resident Paula Lane drove to Burnside Lake on Nov. 29, 2012, on their way home from a visit to California where Clifton had acquired a 1989 Jeep.

He drove the Jeep from



Scott Neuffer

The entrance to Burnside Lake Road in early December after snow storms struck.

Pickett's Junction, around a locked gate, and seven miles to Burnside Lake where the vehicle became mired in the mud just before a snowstorm struck. With no cell phone reception, the couple was trapped and no one knew

where they were.

Lane said Clifton tried to walk down Burnside Lake Road for help on the morning of Nov. 30 as snow was falling.

After spending three nights alone in the vehicle, Lane tried to walk out

through 3 feet of snow, coming across Clifton's body about a mile from the Jeep. She spent the next two nights in the wilderness until her brother commandeered a CalTrans front-loader and drove up the road to find her on Dec. 5.

ALPINE

Mushers offer tours of 6-mile Hope Valley loop

by Virginia York

After you go through Picketts Junction and over the West Fork of the Carson River, driving west on Highway 88, glance over to the right and there you may see an old truck with a blue top and a white bottom, parked perpendicularly to the road. On closer examination, you will notice that the truck has 10 dog boxes. This truck belongs to the Husky Express Dog Sled Tours owned by Dotty Dennis and Dave Beck, in operation since 1992.

Dotty and Dave and eight huskies do one tour a day, by reservation. The tour is a six mile loop in Hope Valley, takes about one hour and costs \$245, for up to two adults and one or two small children.

Recently, I was invited to ride on the back of the business' 1980 snowmobile during a tour (the other snowmobile is a 1970 which Dave uses to groom the trail, and to drag a gadget which puts in ski tracks as a service to skiers).

Preparations for the tour are a joy to behold. The huskies bark excitedly in anticipation as one by one they are attached to the lines. They run in pairs. Leaders (not all dogs want this responsibility),



Husky Express Dog Sled Tours is owned by Dotty Dennis and Dave Beck in Hope Valley, who offer winter-time tours. Special to The R-C

point dogs, team dogs, and wheel dogs nearest the sled, and then the low-gear dogs, who do the heaviest pulling. Most of the dogs are retired racers between five and 10 years old, many part greyhound for speed. Once the command ("Hike" is used rather than "Mush") is given all barking ceases and the dogs spring forward into a graceful lope, poetry in motion.

Dotty drives the sled while Dave takes the snowmobile discreetly through the trees, monitoring the progress of the team and providing poop patrol. The pas-

sengers on the tour I accompanied were Rick Jones and Sheri Lehrbaum of Carson City.

The idea of dog sledding occurred to Sheri while she was searching the internet for a special Valentine's Day activity to share with Rick and she was delighted to find Husky Express in the area.

The tour in Hope Valley is extraordinarily beautiful, surrounded by snow-covered peaks and dense forest; although there are roads on two sides of the Valley there is an atmosphere of enchanting seclusion. On that day

the sun shone from a pure blue sky onto the glistening snow. As we approached a couple of friendly cross-country skiers Dave asked them to hold their dogs while the team passed by, to ensure canine harmony. At the end of the tour the dogs rest; they eat the snow (Dave says it cleans their teeth) drink water and enjoy a cookie.

Dotty first became interested in dog sledding in Las Vegas in 1973. She raced in the three dog class with German Shepherds in Brianhead, Utah. In 1979 she worked on the Iditarod as a handler for the late Susan Butcher who won this race four times. She returned to the Iditarod in 1984, as a handler for the Norwegian, Kari Skogen. In the 1980s she raced in Oregon with six dogs and travelled with two other women and 18 dogs to races in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Dotty has a 7-year-old grandson, Zachary who is following in her footsteps. He has run in Chester where he was the only child in the race. Husky Express is a member of Sierra Nevada Dog Drivers which puts on the Chester and Truckee races and musher clinics.

In 1969, Dave was working in avalanche rescue when he was called to help find 10 Boy Scouts buried by an avalanche in the San

Bernardino Mountains. The boys died. In 1971 he went to a demonstration on avalanche dogs by Sandy Bryson, now Alpine County local. Dave was inspired by the rescue implications and within a month had his own German shepherd, Guinness; the two became extensions of each other.

He trained Guinness and all his other rescue dogs, in his own way. Dave is the father of the Sierra High Route which he created in 1975 with local contractor, Nick Hartzell, who was living in Dave's basement in Berkeley.

The route runs along the crest of the Western Divide, one of the main mountain ridges that comes into the Sierra, and goes from Mineral King to north of Mount Whitney.

It takes six days to ski. He included the route in the 1980 second edition of his book, *Ski Touring in California*, which sold 12,000 copies; the Sierra High Route became very popular. Sierra Ski Touring is a part of Dave and Dotty's business, though since Dave's recent knee surgery they have relied more on dog-sledding.

For a dog sled tour contact Dave and Dotty at (775) 782-3047 or huskyx92@gmail.com Also check sierraskitouring.com.

Wayward bull means early branding season

Branding a month early this year because Walker, our bull, walks through fences to get to the cows. Which brings calves early. Causing branding to be early March, rather than mid April. Before pulling every dollar out of a blade of grass the first ranchers here may have even branded in May. But over the last 50 years, as far back as anyone out here remembers, branding happens in April. Another change.

As the generation before us, we use a branding table. Calves can be a couple hundred pounds for it. Working bigger calf on the table can be unmanageable. While calves too young or small can get

FENCE LINES



by Marie Johnson

overly stressed, even hurt. Two-three months old and 200-250 pounds is optimal for our branding.

Part of our process when handling calves is to give them Bose to lessen the chance of white muscle disease, Vibrio to fight diarrhea, Copper, and 8-Way to prevent Blackleg, Malignant Edema, and Redwater which can come from the common bacteria in warm soil. And years ago they use to give growth hormones.

Until the birth of our sons, and then me learning to help with branding, I did not know growth hormones were normally given to calves. After participating in my first branding I asked why we were injecting implants behind the calves ears and essentially into my food supply.

Companies that sold the growth hormones to my husband marketed them saying the cost of the implants and the extra time to give them would be recouped in added weight gain on the calves.

I did not want to eat even a trace of growth hormones, marriage and pregnancy was working well on its own for me. I did not

want my new sons to either. Figured other moms didn't want their children to eat them either. So out here we quickly stopped using implants. And our calves still weigh in the 750- 850 pounds range at weaning. Little change.

We don't give antibiotics as a regular practice out here either unless a calf is so sick it will not survive without them. This year (knock on wood) we have not had to give any antibiotics, or drench. The scours that did show cleared up on their own after a few days. This year it is a 100 percent live calf crop. All of them

See Brand on page 11

RC - Wed, March 6, 2013

Brand

Continued from page 10

eating grass with their mummies out there in the field. A nice change.

In ranching changes come slow. The phrase, "If it ain't broke don't fix it," is basic philosophy. What has been working, and working

well, is hard to give up. But when you can see a shift toward a healthy, clean supply of locally grown food you think hard how you might be part of that shift. Just like "climate change," as much as some want to deny it, we are part of that shift too.

Changes will come to future cattle operations. Maybe one day we won't need to brand. Save that

stress from the calf, and the rancher. But until animals can identify themselves, find their way home after wondering through fences, and control their own hormonal urges we will brand with one eye on the future and one eye on the red hot iron.

Marie Johnson is a Carson Valley rancher.

RC - Wed, March 6, 2013

SIERRA

Small mountain stream source of life-giving water

by Chris Katopothis
Alpine Watershed Group

The West Fork of the Carson River starts as a small mountain stream flowing out of the Lost Lakes along the Sierra crest near Carson Pass, and meanders down the eastern slope of the Sierra into Hope Valley Meadow. Within the Hope Valley reach, the river has been joined by several smaller tributary streams, and can provide flows able to support the well-known trout fishery in Hope Valley. However, the river in this reach is not currently functioning at its full potential to support self-sustaining wild fish populations and adequate riparian habitat for wildlife. The upper West Fork Carson River is also relied upon as an ongoing source of abundant clean water for downstream users.

At least partly as a result of various historical land uses and ongoing recreational impacts, the stream channel in large portions of Hope Valley Meadow is incised and down-cutting the channel, resulting in loss of connection to natural floodplain areas in the meadow. Riparian vegetation is present only intermittently. This in turn results in areas of unstable banks and instream habitat that lacks complexity and provides limited cover for fish and wildlife.

In 2011, American Rivers began leading a multi-partnership effort to assess restoration needs in Hope Valley Meadow and develop designs to improve hydrologic function and wildlife habitat within the meadow. The overall goal of the Hope Valley Restoration



Workers in the watershed in Alpine County.

Project is to restore the full range of ecosystem services that this highly-visible and well-known meadow has the potential to provide including: natural water storage, flood attenuation, cooling and filtering of water, aquatic

and riparian habitat, and recreational values.

Alpine Watershed Group has partnered with Friends of Hope Valley and American Rivers to recruit and train volunteer "Meadow Stewards" who are interested in helping

with water quality monitoring, streamflow monitoring and photo monitoring in Hope Valley. Field trainings began in May 2012, with a number of outings and data collection conducted through the 2012 field season. A team of Meadow Stewards has learned to measure river flow using United States Geological Survey approved equipment, and to maintain and download data collected by digital loggers at each monitoring site. Information collected by Meadow Stewards will help to inform the restoration planning process, as well as establish baseline data for surface water characterization before any potential restorations are implemented.

The 2013 Meadow Stewards field season will begin in May/June and continue into fall, as weather and flow conditions permit. We welcome new volunteers! We can provide training for anyone interested in contributing to the monitoring efforts in Hope Valley. Join the Hope Valley Meadow Stewards team and enjoy spending some time working in this beautiful and unique Sierra Nevada meadow, while at the same time gathering valuable information as restoration planning continues.

If you would like to learn more about the project visit www.alpinewatershedgroup.org or if you are interested in volunteering in the field, please contact me at awg.chris@gmail.com or 530-694-2327.

Chris Katopothis is watershed coordinator for the Alpine Watershed Group

Special to The R-C

RC FRI, March 15, 2013

Alpine open house set for new forest supervisor

Staff Report

Alpine residents will have an opportunity to meet new Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor Bill Dunkelberger this month.

An open house will be 9-10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Markleeville Guard Station, 55 Turtle Rock Road.

Dunkelberger follows Jeanne Higgins as the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor. He previously served as the San Juan Public Lands' Associate Center Manager (Deputy Forest Supervisor and Associate BLM Manager) in southwest Colorado for four years.

In 2002, Dunkelberger became the Field Manager for the BLM Bishop Field Office with land management responsibilities in California's Eastern Sierra and coordination with adjacent Nevada

jurisdictions and stakeholders.

He also served as the Arapaho National Recreation Area Manager on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland for four years before moving to Bishop. Dunkelberger began his career with the Forest Service in 1980 as the Lead Wilderness Ranger on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe is the largest National Forest in the lower 48 states. The Carson Ranger District is one of 10 Ranger Districts for this Forest. Carson District Ranger Genny Wilson reports directly to the Forest Supervisor. The District covers about 400,000 acres, with lands in both California and Nevada.

Another open house is 4-6 p.m. Wednesday at the Galena Creek Visitor Center on 18250 Mt. Rose Highway.

Replanting begins on Alpine County burn

Staff Reports

Beginning Tuesday, replanting on 81 acres burned in the 2011 Airport fire will be replanted by local, state and federal workers.

The Bureau of Land Management, Carson City District, American Forests, Nevada Conservation Corps, and Alpine County are to reforesting areas burned by the fire. This 2011 fire burned 81 acres of BLM and Alpine County managed land located near the Indian Creek Recreation Area and Alpine County Airport.

Last fall, the BLM and Alpine County developed an agreement which allowed for consistent reforestation of the fire area across the two ownerships. The BLM will use federal fire rehabilitation funds to plant 30 acres, and the 51 acres in the Alpine County portion of the fire will be funded from American Forests' Global ReLeaf, a Grant Program.

The planting of 25,000 Jeffrey pine seedlings will be completed by a Nevada Conservation Corps crew and is expected to take two weeks, weather permitting. The crew members are AmeriCorps volunteers engaged in national service to earn money for student loans or future coursework. For many of these volunteers, this will be their first large scale reforestation project.

This project uses funds and partners to insure the reforestation of this highly visible, economically important, and ecologically challenging site, officials said. An interpretive sign will be installed at the site this summer describing the efforts between these partners in creating this future forest.

RC - Wed., March 27, 2013

TRIBE

From page 1

Dresslerville residents to prevent removal of the current tribal vice-chair based on their frivolous letter of support that the tribal council accepted without verifying signatures that these individuals were Washoe tribal members and current residents of the community," the petition said. "It is the responsibility of the Chairperson to (help) and facilitate Tribal Council meetings and ensure proper procedures are followed. Ms. Batchelor allowed both Dresslerville representatives to the tribal council to vote to prevent their removal from Tribal Council, not following protocol which is direct conflict of interest."

According to one source, Steve Jerome-Wyatt writing for the Affiliated Obsidian Nation, more than 300 Washoe signed the petition to recall Batchelor, which is more people than voted for the top three

candidates in the 2010 election where she defeated Tribal Chairman Waldo Walker 124-85 votes. Former Chairman Vernon Wyatt received 73 votes.

In addition to the handling of the Dresslerville Council, Batchelor was also accused of creating a paid position for the vice chairman even though a number of other positions were eliminated, the petition said.

Batchelor was elected to the Tribal Council as a representative from Stewart in 2006 and had previously served as the vice chairwoman of the Stewart colony.

The last election saw a significant change in the Tribal Council, returning only one incumbent.

According to the Tribe's website, it is organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934. The tribe's government consists of four community councils including Stewart, Carson, Dresslerville and Woodfords.

its

Douglas County's Hometown Newspaper since 1880

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

Washoe Tribe recalls chairwoman

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

Washoe Tribal Chairwoman Wanda Batchelor reportedly has been removed from office by the tribe after a meeting in Woodfords on Monday night.

Batchelor, who was the first woman elected to lead the tribe, was the subject of a recall petition after she allegedly quashed an effort to recall two members of the Dresslerville Community Council, according to a copy of the petition obtained by The Record-Courier.

No comment has been released by the tribe on its website. An attempt to reach Batchelor at the tribal offices on Tuesday was unsuccessful, as was an attempt to contact someone with the tribe to confirm Batchelor had been removed from office.

The petition said that Batchelor

vetoed the council's action and then denied community council members' attempt to be heard at a tribal council meeting.

"Ms. Batchelor has a special interest with a small group of

TRIBE, 4

Chairwoman responds to claims

by Kurt Hildebrand

khildebrand@recordcourier.com

Former Washoe Tribal Chairwoman Wanda Batchelor said she resigned on March 22, before a meeting in Woodfords on Monday night to discuss a recall petition.

"I resigned Friday," she said "I was not removed through a recall. At 5 p.m. Friday I submitted my



Batchelor

wrong.

Batchelor said she just returned

resignation to human resources, and emailed the tribal council."

She said that reports she was recalled from office at the Monday meeting were

from her brother's funeral on Tuesday, but that she was told the council accepted her resignation on Monday.

"There was a recall petition," she said. "I understand they did not hear it on Monday night, and accepted my resignation. In it I declared I stand proud, I never did anything wrong. I've always done the best I can do."

Batchelor was the first woman elected to lead the Washoe Tribe in 2010. She said the tribal council approved or backed her in the things she was accused of in the petition.

"Every issue on that recall petition was done with the tribal council," she said. "I have the minutes

RC - Fri., March 29, 2013

CHARGES

From page 1

and the tribal resolutions to prove it. It's sad that a small group used politics to drag our Washoe Tribe through the mud."

Batchelor, who served as Stewart council chairwoman, said she's been in politics for 35 years.

"I've been working since I was 11 years old," she said. "I didn't resign because I did anything wrong. I resigned because I was tired of fighting the battle with blackhearted people."

Batchelor provided The Record-Courier with a nine-page letter from her attorney, Robert Story, dated Saturday, that was sent to the tribal council as an e-mail.

In the letter's conclusion, Story called the petition's accusations largely inaccurate.

"Moreover, individually or cumulatively, the allegations against Chairwoman Batchelor are insufficient to constitute grounds for removal of a council member in accordance with the constitution and bylaws because the allegations do not amount to 'improper conduct' or 'gross neglect of duty,'" he said. "Finally, since the entire Washoe Tribal Council participated in every action that is now alleged to be grounds for removal, the entire (council) must be removed from office

if the Washoe Tribal Council finds that the allegations constitute 'improper conduct' or 'gross neglect of duty.'"

Story characterized the petition's allegation as a difference in opinion on how the tribe should be governed.

"The allegations constitute nothing more than a few tribal members that appear to have a different perspective on how they would govern," he said. "The appropriate action is for them to field a different candidate for the chairmanship in the next general election."

The document concludes with a quote from Batchelor regarding the petition and the council.

"Your life is the culmination of all the choices you have made regarding your many life experiences, your aboriginal origins, and vast capabilities," she said. "By choosing, exercise the core responsibility of being yourself and of unfolding your love of life into external manifestation. Choosing is an opportunity to influence the direction of your life. Saying 'no' is often the right choice, you have the right to disallow or defend against anything that is wrong for you or harmful to your well-being. No is not a popular word, but then making the right decision is not about popular consent."

The tribe will have to call a special election to choose a new chair.

Go High to Have Fun, Fish and Stay Cool

Fishing the California
Alps 2013

By Don Quilici

If you're someone like me, summer's sweltering heat is not much fun.

I do not like the summer months, as an outdoors person who dearly loves the cold, frost, ice and snow of winter, I absolutely wilt at this time of the year.

I am miserable and grouchy during hot weather months, especially August.

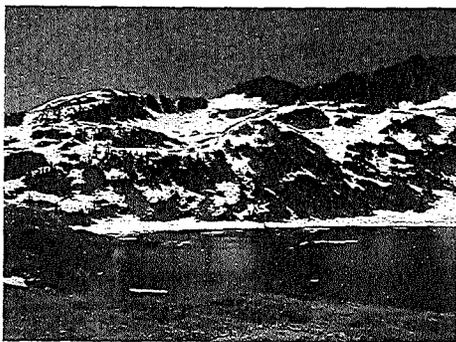
To be honest, I dislike the weather anytime it gets past 80-85 degrees.

So, when it gets hot, I either hide under shady trees in our backyard, stay indoors where it is delightfully air conditioned or go high in the Great Outdoors to avoid the miserable summer heat.

Where do I go, when I go high in the Outdoors?

Well, I'll tell you about some of my favorite locations; and then if you also don't like this summer heat, pick one or more of them and try to temporarily escape the heat of summer.

Here are some suggestions for a combo of going high to have fun, fishing for trout and staying cool in the Great Outdoors for a short period of time.



Looking toward the back shoreline and the islands at Winnemucca Lake in the early summer. Photo by Elaine Quilici

Winnemucca Lake:

This scenic lake is located in the Moke-lumne Wilderness Area of California, and it is my all-time favorite, walk-in, trout fishing destination.

Winnemucca is a large, deep, crystal-clear, ice-cold, high-mountain lake, which is reached by an easy, two-mile hike from the U.S. Forest Service parking lot at the top of Kit Carson Pass on S.R. 88. Be advised that you need to pay a U.S. Forest Service parking fee when you park at the Pass.

Winnemucca Lake contains Brook Trout and Kamloop Trout, and you can quickly tell the difference between the two species when you catch one.

The Brook Trout will fight your line deep in the water, while the Kamloop Trout will jump, tail-dance and splash across the top of the water.

Shore fishing (bait, lures or flies) is normally rated as slow, but you can do very well by fishing from a float tube or inflatable raft, especially in the area on the backside of the lake between the islands and the shoreline.

Fish in that back area by slowly trolling with a combination of small flasher blades and small lures or with your choice of artificial flies.

That means that you will have to carry your float tube or inflatable raft for about two miles while hiking at an altitude of about 8,500-9,000 feet, so you would be well ad-

vised to be in good physical shape.

You should plan to fish early in the morning, because when the wind comes up (almost every afternoon), it can become very fierce and you will be blown off the lake for the rest of the day.

Frog Lake:

If you're lazy and don't want to hike all the way into Winnemucca Lake, then stop at little Frog Lake, which is only about a half-mile hike from the parking area at Kit Carson Pass.

Don't let its small size fool you because it contains Rainbow Trout that can go up to 18 inches in length (I've caught them that large!).

Frog Lake can be very productive for shore fishermen with bait, lures or artificial flies. We have had great success in the past by spincasting with small red/white striped lures or with red Salmon eggs on the bottom.

This lake, unlike Winnemucca Lake, does not get hammered when the afternoon winds come up.

As a bonus, if you go to the side of the lake opposite the hiking trail, you can walk to the top of the ridge and get great photos of Red Lake, down below.

Kinney Reservoir, Lower Kinney Lake and Upper Kinney Lake:

These three bodies of water are located just off of California S.R. 4.

Kinney Reservoir is near the top of Ebbett's Pass.

Upper and Lower Kinney Lakes are a short walk from the reservoir.

Be advised that route S.R. 4 is very narrow, steep and winding; and if you are someone who does not like that combination or if you are afraid of sheer drop-offs, you better go somewhere else.

Kinney Reservoir:

It is next to the highway and contains Brook Trout and Rainbow Trout.

If you want to fish from a boat, you will need a small, light boat that can be hand-launched from shore as there are no boat launching facilities.

If you fish from shore, a good location is way around on the other side of the reservoir in the far back corner. Bait fishermen have had good success in those two areas with inflated nightcrawlers or Power Bait.

If you fish from a float tube or inflatable raft, try trolling with flies or small lures, along the highway side of the reservoir, at that same far end.

This reservoir is also prone to getting

windy in the afternoons, so fish early, and then spend the rest of the day hiking and sightseeing in the area.

Lower Kinney Lake:

This is a short and a little bit steep, half-mile hike from Kinney Reservoir. Just walk across the dam and keep going on the old dirt road. When you reach the fork in the road, the right-hand fork takes you to Lower Kinney Lake and the left-hand one takes you uphill to Upper Kinney.

At Lower Kinney, if you are a fly fisherman, use a float tube or inflatable raft for a chance at nice-sized Cutthroat Trout (up to 20 inches in length). Paddle up and down the south side for best results.

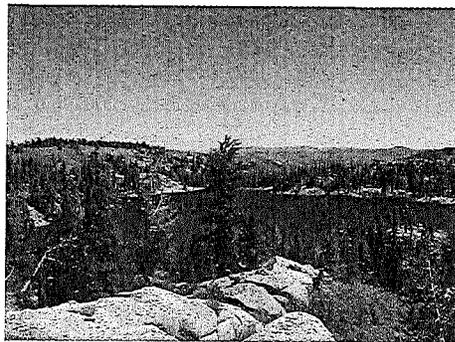
Upper Kinney Lake:

It is a short, steep walk from Lower Kinney Lake on the old dirt road or a very short, very steep hike along the stream that flows into Lower Kinney.

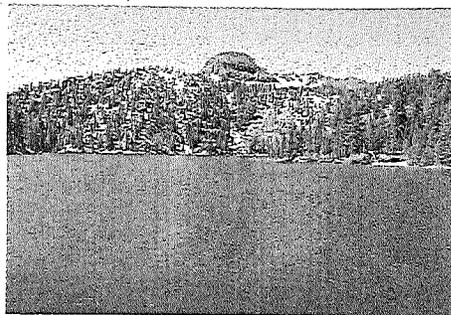
If you fish from shore, try the east side and use small lures or Power Bait.

If you are a fly fisherman, take your float tube for a chance at nice-sized Cutthroat Trout (also in the 20-inch class).

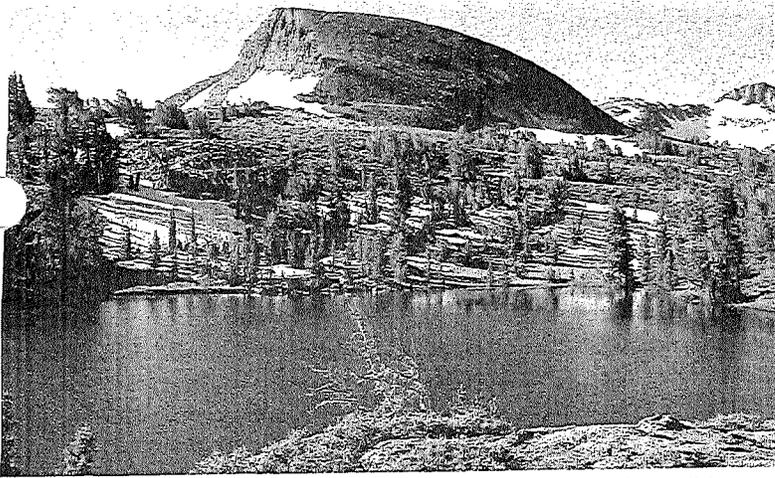
As a bonus, from the dam, you have great photo opportunities of Upper Kinney, Lower Kinney Lake and the countryside way off in the distance.



*Lower Kinney Lake as seen from Upper Kinney Lake.
Photo by Elaine Quilici*



*Looking across Kinney Reservoir from the dam.
Photo by Elaine Quilici*



Frog Lake with Elephant Back Mountain in the background. Photo by Elaine Quilici

You will be at very high altitude (from 9,700' to more than 11,000'), so be sure to take it slow and easy when you are hiking.

The Virginia Lakes Canyon has ten crystal-clear, alpine lakes, some containing Native Brook and Brown Trout along with stocked Rainbows.

Little Virginia, Big Virginia and Trumbull Lakes are stocked with Rainbows, and also have Brook and Brown Trout.

Moat Lake has Brookies and is the only lake in the drainage that has a few remaining Golden Trout.

Fly fishing from float tubes is extremely popular in this entire area.

For fishing or camping information, call John and Carolyn Webb of the Virginia Lakes Resort at (760) 647-6484.

There you have it:

Some selected locations for staying cool during the current hot weather.

Pick one or more and go have fun in the high country!

And, you don't have to be a fisherman to enjoy the higher elevations.

Just pack a picnic lunch, load everyone into the family vehicle and then spend the day enjoying the Great Outdoors. It sure beats the valley heat!

Bet Your Favorite Pigeon

Bet your favorite pigeon that he can't tell you about a special lake between the Virginia Lakes complex and Summit Pass.

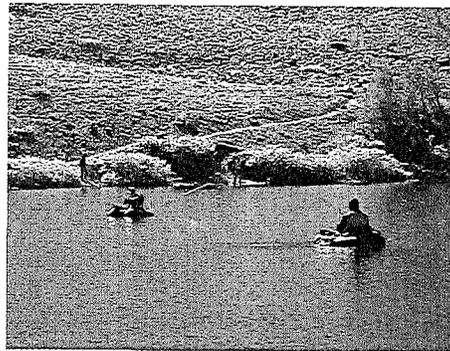
If he grins and says, "It is Burro Lake, which is reached by a very steep hike on loose shale, south of the Summit Pass Trail," he could have been one of the persons who hiked in with me to fish for Brook Trout.

When you are done fishing, it is an all-downhill hike back to your vehicle.

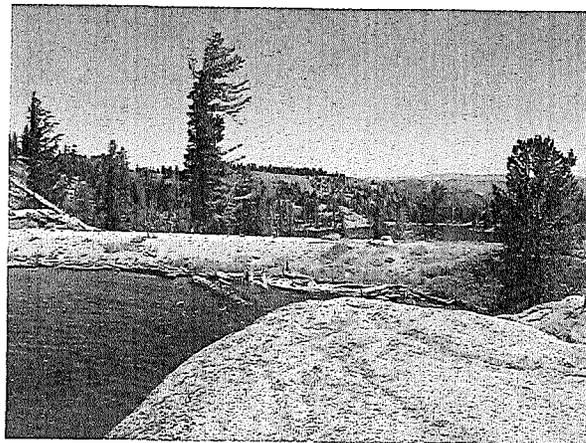
Virginia Lakes:

A complex of lakes (including Big Virginia, Little Virginia, Trumbull, Red, Blue, Cooney, Moat and Frog, all connected by

Virginia Creek) that is located about seven miles west of the top of Conway Summit on U.S. 395, which is approximately 15 miles south of Bridgeport, Calif.



Shore and float tube fishermen at one of the Virginia Lakes. Photo by Elaine Quilici



Don Quilici of Carson City on the dam at Upper Kinney Lake with Lower Kinney Lake in the background. Photo by Elaine Quilici

Ice Fishing the Tahoe Area!

By Victor Babbitt
Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters

Just about when our lines are starting to freeze while fishing the rivers and streams around the Tahoe area is just about the time we start thinking about Ice Fishing! Red Lake, Caples Lake and Silver Lake are within a 40-60 minute drive of Lake Tahoe. They tend to freeze enough to be fished through the ice some time in December and usually just about the time the holiday break is upon us and occasionally lasting until the end of April. This string of lakes is located around the Carson Pass area along Highway 88 and just beyond the Kirkwood ski area.

Depending on if you can find a hole that was drilled the day before or you're willing to beg, borrow or steel an Auger from someone already there, you will need a tire iron or something appropriate for breaking the ice that forms overnight in the hole. So an Ice Auger and a tire iron are a good idea but you will also need a strainer to clean out the slush that builds up in the hole, a shovel to remove snow from the area and or for building a wind block or an Ice Chair. You will need a sled to carry your items out on the lake. A good chair is wonderful, a rag for grabbing the fish and a stove for making hot chocolate!

As far as fishing equipment goes, it will depend on the method of fishing you choose to try. You can jig or you can mooch bait! For jigging you will want to have a rod that is a bit stiff and for mooching just about anything will work. A traditional Ice Fishing rod is short and works great for soaking bait but I like a longer rod for jigging which I think makes for a better action on the jig and better for setting the hook. 6-10 pound test fishing line works best unless you fish on Caples or Silver

Lake and you want to land one of the Mackinaw that have been caught through the ice which can be upwards of 10-20 pounds! You might want to consider using 12-20 pound test line if that is your goal... Caples and Silver Lake have Rainbow, Brown, Brooke and Lake Trout in them and Red Lake has Cutthroat and Brooke Trout!



Ice Fishing On Red Lake

The best jigs I have used are the Kastmaster Lures in a 3/8 ounce or a 1/4 ounce and the Gold color tends to work just fine. Some anglers like using various painted versions of the Kastmasters and I suppose we all have our favorites! Try putting some kind of scent on your jigs for better attraction. If you are going to fish with bait there are numerous options! Power Bait tends to be the easiest as well as Meal Worms, Night Crawlers, Bay Shrimp and Maggots if you can find them. Use a small piece of bait on a size 6, 8 or 10 single bronze hook. A split shot helps get it down and a Deep

Bob Indicator keeps you at the right depth and doubles as a bite indicator. Fishing a few feet above the bottom and sometimes just under the level of the ice works as well!

Ice Fishing is a great family experience; if the kids don't have the patience to fish they can always play in the snow! Hot Chocolate is a must and a BBQ is not bad either... Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters offers Ice Fishing Trips all Winter! Let us drill the holes, flip the burgers and bait the hooks, Guided Ice Fishing is a

lot of fun! For further information on local Ice Fishing or to book a Guided Adventure, give us a call at 530-541-8208 or stop by the shop for all the needed supplies and we will send you in the right direction. We are located in the South Shore of Lake Tahoe on Highway 50 at 2705 Lake Tahoe Blvd. www.tahoe-fly-fishing.com



Red Lake Ice Fishing



Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve

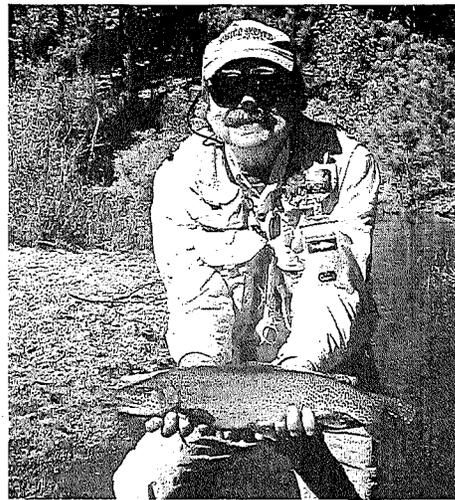
By Liz and Don Weirauch

Nestled, almost secretly, under the craggy snow wrinkled spires of Raymond Peak, lies a valley with its own incredible panorama that feeds the viewers eyes. Settled in the mid 1800's and still privately owned, Pleasant Valley is a working cattle ranch with what many have called the home of one of the best freestone trout streams for hundreds of miles around.

The family who settled and still ranches Pleasant Valley, created trails to run their cattle to Summer feeding pastures in Indian Valley and a portion of these trails are now used as part of the Pacific Rim Trail on Federal land. Pleasant Valley, located just southwest of Markleeville about 15 years ago became a managed, private fishery, available for Catch & Release Fly Fishing, or known better as a Pay-to-Play. For those hikers that are reading this article, access to the trails on Forest Service/BLM property is not available through this private property.

If you want to see fish behavior, Pleasant Valley Creek will afford you that. To see a fish swim 6 feet to take a size 18 Elk Hair Caddis, only to refuse it at the last micro-second, will make you rethink your choice of size or color.

I first fished PV many years ago, after it became a private fishery. Amazed at its gin clear water, I found myself struggling to entice the fish that I sighted to take my fly. They, happily sipping at the light gray mayflies floating down to them, I, having the matching pattern, still, could not get them to take. Shaking off my disappointment I sat down and thought back to my learning and knew I'd have to use the lost unaccustomed fly fishing techniques. I quietly picked myself back up, traveled up stream to the next bend, and hunkering low, stealthily approaching made my cast with the whisper of a moth. I now found myself in a mental predicament. FABULOUS! I have got it! DANG! Now what? This all would find me hooked into a 4 pound red-cheeked monster, the brightly colored rainbow, fighting my barbless hook in her lip, intent on reaching the twisted rootball of the ancient pine tree across the 6 foot wide creek to break me off. Not only was the fish hooked, so was I. I



Jim Crouse manager of Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve and owner of Alpine Fly Fishing.



Liz fishing at Pleasant Valley Creek with Jeff Davis Peak in background.

promised myself that I would fish here, for my own good at least once a year. A treat for myself and also, to humble myself, for the fish and the stream at Pleasant Valley will surely humble many anglers.

Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve, managed by Jim Crouse, owner of Alpine Fly Fishing, is available to limited rods each day through the California fishing season. In a normal snow-pack year, we recommend booking in mid June, the snow-pack runoff has subsided, the fish are done with their spawn and the valley itself is magnificent in it's beauty. If any earlier in the season the

Forest Service road that meets the private property road is most likely gated and closed due to snow or is a muddy rutted mess.

This private water runs about 3-1/4 miles through the ranch and has all the waters that a fisherman enjoys. With it's tumbling boulder strewn pocket water to open meadows with cut banks, where the 'big ones' hide. These trout, safely tucked against sage & willow roots dart out to take a tasty grasshopper who made one jump too far. Several pools of clear turquoise water, hold fish in numbers that make a fishermen get 'buck fever'. As a staff guide

at Pleasant Valley, I always mention to my clients, at least 200 yards ahead of reaching the stream, that they must be patient, that they will have to try to hold themselves back from immediately making a fast cast into the pools..... "buck fever" will set in!

During the season at Pleasant Valley my box is filled with caddis pupa, copper johns in red and black(16/18), buggers in black, brown and olive, bubbleback midges and rainbow warriors (18/20). For my dries, I'll have para tent wing caddis (size 14/16), Para Madam X in chartreuse (size 12/14),

Continued on page 16

Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve

Continued from page 15

EHC tan or olive (14) para adams (16/18) and of course some good sturdy hopper patterns that I drop hare's ear, FB pheasant tails or black brassie off of about 12". Later in the Fall I start changing out my colors to the browns, rusts and oranges. Of course, each year is different, some years we have a fabulous Mahogany Mayfly hatch there and

other years a prolific black caddis hatch. In some circumstances, I'll even pull out one of my 'big uglies', a size 4 hook, rabbit fur, rubber legs and mean looking thwumping fly. Sometimes when the fish are picky, getting a reactionary strike is just as fun!

A dry line on a 5 weight rod and a 9' 4X or 5X leader to start, and then a 12" section of Fluorocarbon helps hide the rig from persnickety fish. Most of the time you can see the flash of the fish or the take without the use of a strike indicator; but the indicator does help keep a constant level for the drift.

A pond is located on the property, in the Spring and early Summer the fish are there, and it's a good place to go with a beginner.

Angler's choosing to book a day with one of the Preserves staff guides will enjoy a reduced rod fee for the Preserve. Alpine Fly Fishing is equipped with resident Staff guides who are intimately familiar with the Preserve and the fishery. They are available for 1/2 day or full day trips. You can call Alpine Fly Fishing at 530-542-0759 or The Angler's



Don Weirauch with first time fisherman (client with big hat)

Edge 775-781-7112 to schedule your day.

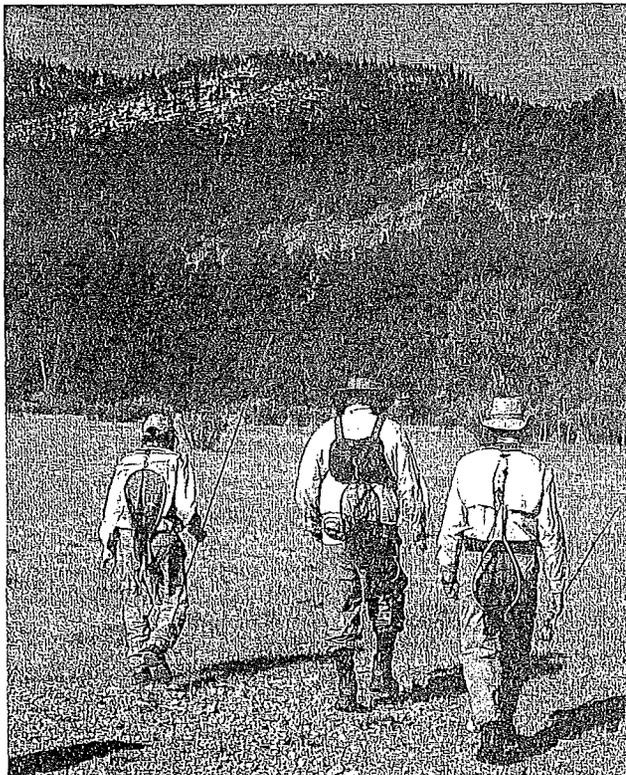
For more information on Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve, you can access www.alpineflyfishing.com. The Preserve allows only 6 rods per day on the water or a group of 8 or more can reserve the Preserve for Fly Fishing Clubs or Corporate Retreats.

Along with their guide staff who are permitted on waters from the Truckee to the Owens, Don & Liz Weirauch are professional, licensed and permitted guides and instructors and own *The Angler's Edge Fly Shop*, the only dedicated shop in the region. Specializing in Catch & Release, feel free to call them for a day on their several Private Water venues or any

of the other fabulous waters in Alpine, Mono, Inyo Counties and in Nevada! Daily Fishing reports on Facebook! www.facebook.com/theanglersedge 775-781-7112.



Their new location is 1598 Esmeralda Ave., in old downtown Minden.



Staff guides at preserve

Fishing the
California Alps
2013



Photo of Hot Springs Valley waterfall before spring run-off. Waterfall is located a short distance outside of park on the Waterfall Trail on U.S. Forest Service land.

GROVER HOT SPRINGS STATE PARK

In 1854 rancher John Hawkins took up squatter's rights for Hot Springs Meadow. In 1878, Hawkins sold out to the Grover family, who maintained a dairy there and ran the old Fisk Hotel in Markleeville; the hot springs became a resort for hotel customers. The land twice changed hands in the 1800s—its old-growth pine and cedars were clear-cut—and it was purchased by the State for inclusion into the park system in 1959 for about \$62,000.

The Washoe Indians of antiquity, American pioneers and today's campers have all sought the curative powers and therapeutic effects they believed existed in the hot springs water. The water's mineral content is 74.4 grams per gallon—mostly calcium carbonate, sulphate and chloride. Unlike most hot springs, Grover's contains practically no sulphur.

Leaving the ground at 148° Fahrenheit, the water is cooled to 102–104°.

The complex also includes a full-sized cold pool for cooling off or lap swimming. The pools are closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day and also two weeks in September for repairs.

Pool fees are \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids aged 16 and under. You get in and out privileges for the same day, if you receive a hand stamp. You must wait in line to re-enter.

Several trails leave the park, taking you through forests of Incense Cedars, Jeffrey Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Sierra Junipers and Quaking Aspen. Fishermen and cross-country skiers also find plenty to do within the park.

Dogs are welcome in the park, but must be on a leash at all times.

During normal budget years camping is available year-round. An off-season camp-

ground is in operation from late fall to late April; water & flush toilets are available, but showers are open only during the summer months. During the winter, maximum length for trailers and motor homes is 18'. There are no RV hook-ups or dump stations in the campground.

This year both loops of the campground will be open May 18, 2013. Reservations are recommended from Memorial Day thru Labor Day, and can be made up to seven months in advance. To make reservations call Reserve America at 1-800-444-7275 or go to www.reserveamerica.com. After Labor Day weekend we are off the reservation system. At this time, until budget information is released, it is unknown how long the campground will remain open after Labor Day weekend.

The new Visitors Center near the campground entrance is anticipated to open at the same time as the campground. It will be open daily, hours have yet to be determined. Interpretive & other items will be available to purchase. For more information call: (530) 694-2248 or contact the Bodie Foundation at: www.bodiefoundation.org

Grover Hot Springs has many activities available to the public on a weekly basis, starting usually around June 30th each year and extending through Labor Day.



For Pool Hours Call (530) 694-2249

The pool closes for maintenance and repairs some time in September—call before you come.

Alpine County Fish and Game Commission

2,000 Fish per square mile and you!

Greetings from Alpine County! We encourage you and your family to come enjoy the beauty and fun activities our county has to offer.

Everyone is welcome to fish our area lakes, reservoirs and down stream from Hangman's Bridge all the way to the Nevada State Line all year long. Hangman's Bridge is the only stretch of river open all year and is located just two miles south of historic Markleeville. Keep in mind that this stretch is catch and release, barb-less hooks, flies and lures only!

The 2013 fishing season will be in full swing starting Saturday, April 27, 2013 thru Friday November 15, 2013. Make sure to stop in Markleeville or Woodfords for your 2013 fishing license. And lets not forget the handful of dining and lodging options and stores filled with all your camping and fishing necessities. Also mark on your calendar California free fishing days! July 6, 2013 and September 7, 2013. NO license is required for sport fishing on these days ONLY and all regulations still apply. For the other 199 days of fishing everyone over the age of 15 years old need to obtain a 2013 fishing license.

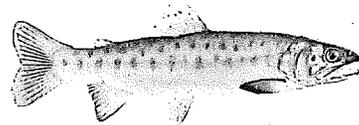
The Alpine County Fish and Game Commission provides a variety of activities throughout the season. The KID'S free fish-

ing day is June 8, 2013 at Indian Creek Reservoir. You can contact the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce at (530) 694-2475 or log onto www.alpinecounty.com and click on our events for more information.

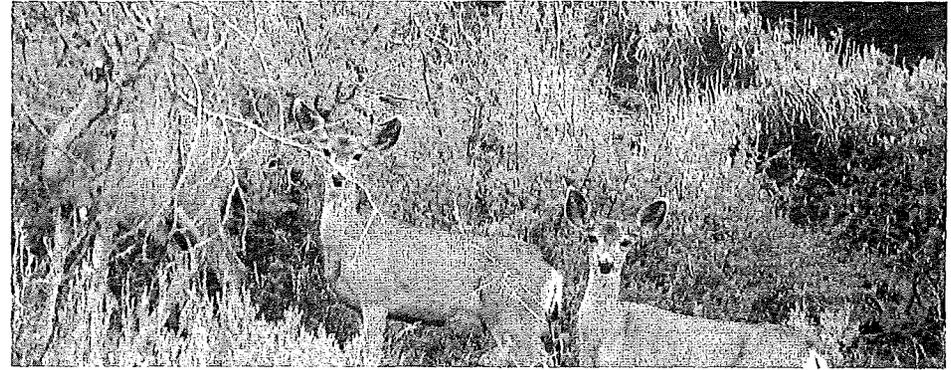
Alpine County Fish and Game Commission along with South Tahoe Public Utilities District and the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce join together to fund several fish plants throughout the season in our lakes, streams, rivers and reservoirs.

Come join the fun and serenity of Alpine County! For any additional information on fish plant schedules feel free to call (530) 694-2114

Dave Zellmer, Chair - Alpine County Fish and Game Commission.



Painted Cutthroat Trout



What are you looking at? Photo courtesy of Sonny Hollett

* * * * * California Fish and Wildlife News * * * * *

CDFW Offers Recovering Service Members Reduced Fee Licenses

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is now offering reduced-fee sport fishing and hunting licenses to recovering military service members. Senate Bill 1287 was signed Sept. 20, 2012 by Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., authorizing the CDFW to issue reduced-fee sport fishing and hunting licenses to service members who are recovering from service-related injury or illness.

"This new law gives our injured and recovering service members the opportunity to enjoy California's natural resources at a reduced cost," said CDFW Director Charlton H. Bonham. "This is a small thank you for the sacrifices our service members make."

Recovering service member licenses are issued to service members who may have a

temporary injury or illness. A recovering service member is defined as a member of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserve, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy and is in an outpatient status while recovering from a serious injury or illness related to the member's military service. Applicants must submit an application and a letter from their commanding officer or from a military medical doctor verifying eligibility as a recovering service member.

The recovering service member licenses are available now only at CDFW license sales offices statewide. These licenses will not be available at license agents.

Recovering service members can be residents or nonresidents. Hunting licenses still require all the normal pre-requisites including proof of hunter education and all normal fishing and hunting regulations apply.

For complete license information see <http://dfg.ca.gov/licensing/>

STPUD AND ALPINE COUNTY - A RELATIONSHIP THAT WORKS

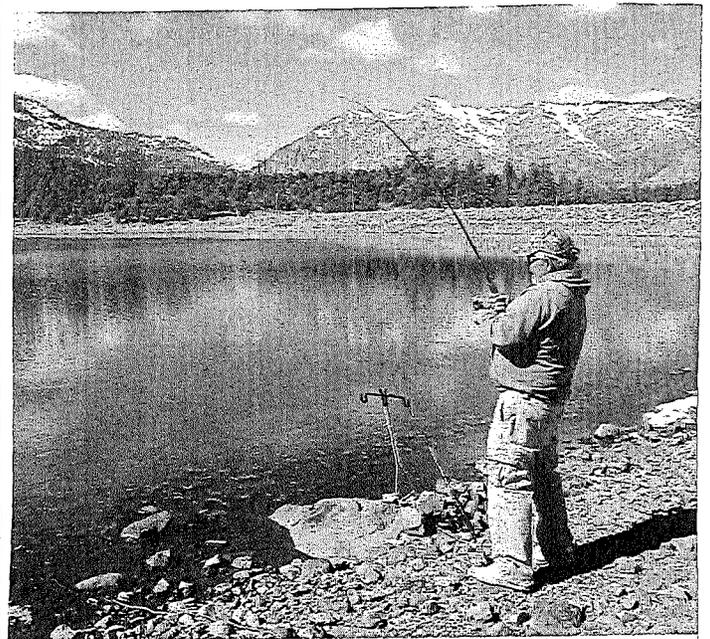
By Dennis Cocking - Public Information Officer

In 1968, California passed the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, considered by many to be California's premier water quality legislation. Provisions within this act require all wastewater, regardless of the level of treatment, to be exported out of the Lake Tahoe Basin and, in the District's case, pumped to a storage reservoir in nearby Alpine County. The District was the first Basin agency to comply with this regulation necessary to protect the water quality of the "Jewel of the Sierra" - Lake Tahoe. Recycled water began to flow into Alpine County on April 1, 1968. Dr. Charles Goldman, UCD Researcher and renowned expert on Lake Tahoe, has cited the District's 26-mile export system the "most significant environmental project ever undertaken to protect Lake Tahoe's legendary clarity." Although this partnership was not without critics, the District and Alpine county have grown to become trusted friends.

Each year, nearly 2 billion gallons of highly treated recycled water are pumped 1,200 feet over Luther Pass and into the District owned and operated Harvey Place Dam and Reservoir located near the Diamond Valley near Woodfords, CA. This recycled water is stored during the winter months and delivered to ranchlands, under contract, during the summer months in this water scarce part of the eastern Sierra.

Indian Creek Reservoir, a favorite destination for high Sierra anglers, was originally used for storage of recycled water however, is now a fresh water recreational lake including scenic campground, day use facilities, and boat launching facility. In addition to these facilities, the District also provides funding to stock over 15,000 pounds of fish in Indian Creek reservoir and other Alpine County waters every year. Indian Creek Reservoir and its associated facilities are consistently one of Alpine County favorite visitor destinations.

The District also monitors the safety of its facilities in Alpine County, including the dam structures, irrigation ditches, and diversion structures. The dams are inspected annually by the California Division of Dam Safety for structural integrity. For years to come, the District plans to be an active partner in conservation and recreational opportunities for visitors and residents in the breathtaking corner of California.

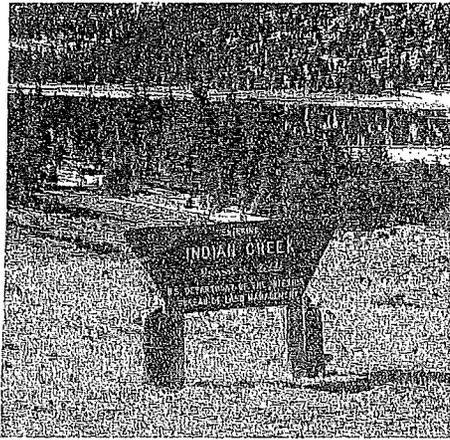


*Steve Lightfoot of Douglas County catching one of his trout.
Photo by Don Quilici*



Having Fun at Indian Creek Reservoir

By Don Quilici



The BLM sign along the dirt road to Indian Creek Reservoir. Photo by Don Quilici

On February 28, Doug ("Mack The Naw") Busey of Douglas County and I spent a very enjoyable day, fishing at Indian Creek Reservoir in Alpine County, Calif.

Indian Creek Reservoir (ICR) is a man-made reservoir located in the backcountry between Woodfords and Markleeville. ICR and its surrounding area is managed and maintained by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The reservoir can be reached from two different directions: A paved road from S.R. 89, near the Turtle Rock Campground or a dirt road from Diamond Valley.

We went to the reservoir via the dirt road, it was clear of snow for that time of the year, but in places the road is corduroyed and in other places, rocky and bumpy.

It is a good dirt road that you can drive with any 2WD vehicle, just take it slow and easy in the corduroyed and rocky areas.

If you like to fish, you just might want to consider ICR as it contains Cutthroat, Brown and Rainbow Trout plus even some Bass.

The reservoir is in California, so obviously you will need a California fishing license, as one dummy found out, the day that we were there.

The game warden arrived in mid-afternoon, checked all of the fishermen and wrote a citation for the one individual who did not have a license. Geez, dumb is dumb!

Doug and I had planned to fish there on Thursday, thinking we would probably have the reservoir mostly to ourselves, but boy oh boy, did we get a surprise!

At one time in the afternoon, we counted more than 30 shore fishermen, two float tubes and one boat, plus most of the fishermen (including the two of us) were fishing with two poles...it was a busy fishery.

When we arrived at the reservoir, we drove down to Doug's favorite fishing spot on the near side of the dam, and we found two longtime friends of Doug: Steve Lightfoot (who I have known for many years) and Steve Brower (who I met for the first time),

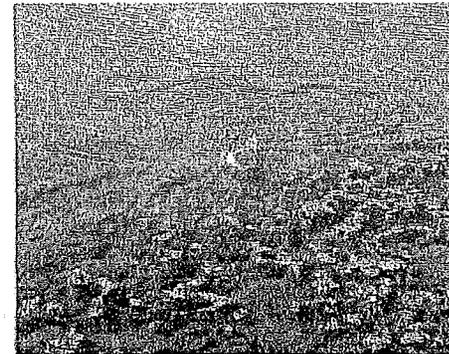
both of Douglas County, already there, ahead of us.

I told Doug, "Let's fish next to them, then have fun, picking on them all day long."

He grinned and replied, "Let's do it," and we did, but we also found out that they had lots of fun picking on us...it was a two-way street!

I told Doug, "Let's fish next to them, then have fun, picking on them all day long."

He grinned and replied, "Let's do it," and we did, but we also found out that they had lots of fun picking on us...it was a two-way street!



Busey's rainbow that was caught and released. Photo by Don Quilici

Fishing for the entire day for all of the fishermen at ICR was a little on the slow side but surprisingly steady.

Our particular foursome had numerous strikes and caught and released a good number of Rainbow Trout in the 10-14 inch class.

The area where we were fishing was shallow which ruled out spincasting with lures, so I fished with a nightcrawler on one of my two poles and orange-colored Power Bait nuggets on the other.

While waiting for a strike, the four of us sat in comfortable folding chairs, enjoying the warm and gorgeous weather, while joking and kidding with one another.

After catching and releasing one of my Rainbow Trout, I walked over to the two Steves and volunteered to give them a fish catching lesson at \$37.50 per person.

Sigh, they snickered and said bad things to me.

So much for trying to be a good neighbor and a nice guy.

When I brought in one of my "Monster-Sized" (AKA 12 inches long) rainbows, Lightfoot asked how big it was.

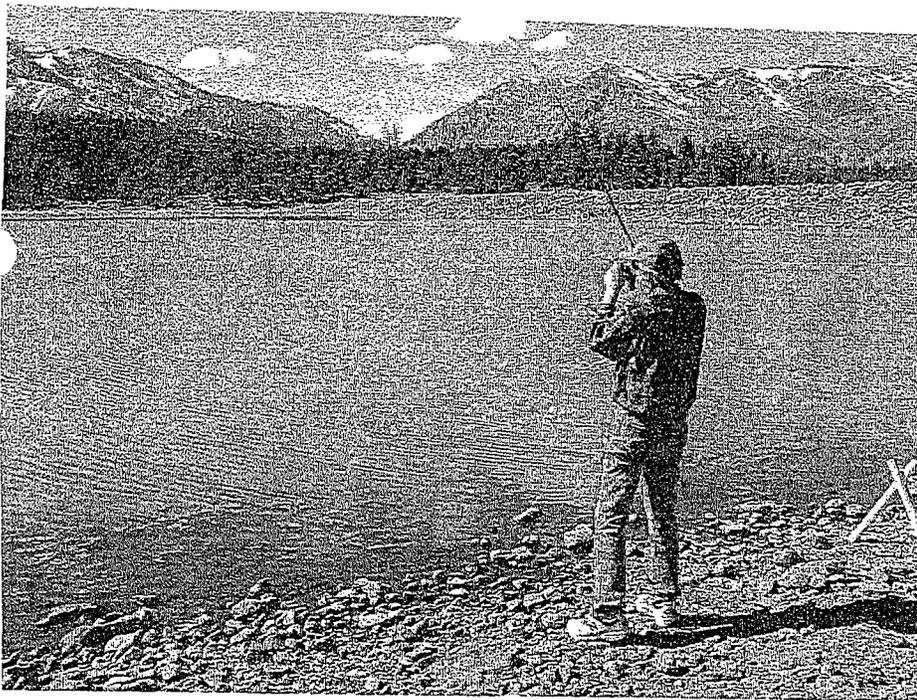
When I replied, "Gosh, it looks like it is about a 12-pound rainbow," he snickered and said that liars will make up any kind of story for attention.

Oh well, that "mean-spirited" remark will

Fishing the California Alps 2013



A warm, gorgeous day at the reservoir. Photo by Don Quilici



Fish on for Doug Busey of Douglas County. Photo by Don Quilici



Two die-hard fishermen remaining at the reservoir near the end of the day. Photo by Don Quilici.

prove costly to him, as I have now removed him from my Christmas card list. I'll show him!

A fun-filled day of fishing with friends, and as a bonus, the weather was great.

It doesn't get much better than that!

Then, about 3:00 p.m., the wind began to blow and the four of us reluctantly packed up all of our gear and returned back home.

Finally

If at some point in the future, you should decide to travel to Indian Creek Reservoir, remember this very important item:

Be darn sure to have a valid fishing license if you are fishing and the "Friendly Old Game Warden" shows up.

If you don't have a license, he ain't gonna be happy nor will the judge nor will you.

Bet Your Favorite Pigeon

Bet your favorite pigeon that he can't tell you about a special feature at the BLM campground at Indian Creek Reservoir.

If he grins and says, "When it is open for the camping season, it is one of a very few campgrounds in this entire area that offers hot showers," he could have camped there in the past.

Note: When you can take a hot shower at the end of the day, especially if you are in a tent, that is camping in style and comfort.



The 4 Seasons of Highway 4

By Adam Washam

Having lived in Alpine County for quite some time its amazing how you see different areas in different ways depending on the season. Here in the sierras we get all four seasons, though sometimes mother nature throws a curve ball and we seem to skip over the one we expect and slide into the next one these last few years.

During the winter I love to stay in shape by walking. One of my favorite places is Ebbetts Pass. In the winter both Ebbetts (Highway 4) and Monitor Pass (Highway 89) close, making them great places to snowshoe, day hike, cross country ski, and snowmobile depending on the weather.

Please remember to never block a road with your vehicle, even in the wintertime. Sometimes I see people parking their vehicles in front of the gate at Ebbetts Pass (Highway 4). This is not o.k. Parking is available at the old town site of Centerville. This is now a no fee campground operated by the U.S. Forest Service. Most people park their cars and snowmobile trailers there or on the side of the road on the dirt.

There is nothing like the solitude of going behind a closed gate and hiking on the hard packed snow track left by the snowmobiles, even a walk on the highway can be worthwhile, up past Silver Creek. The road leads past Chalmers Mansion, then to Scossa Cow Camp and beyond.

Winter has its own charms. A partially frozen Silver Creek keeps you company along your trek, with only running water showing up here or there. It is not really a dormancy, but more of a promise that nature is re-charging its batteries once again for an abundant Spring.

Of course you have to be careful, dress warmly in layers, ski pants or overalls are my personal favorite to keep warm and dry. A hat and gloves are also a necessary item. I always plan on having lunch somewhere along the way so I carry that as well as a water bottle. Always let someone know where you are going so that if you get lost or injured, people know where to look for you.

Watch for oncoming snowmobiles as you walk on the hard packed snow left by these

machines, you can usually get pretty far up the mountain pass. Even walking with two canes as I do I get so excited by the views I have to remind myself to leave enough time for the trip back to the car before daylight runs out.

After a while you notice along the way that there is still life here, bird and rabbit tracks cross the road. Also coyote, and the occasional track of predators such as the bobcat. There is a quiet stillness around you, punctuated by the sound of snowmobiles coming towards you from higher up, or newcomers from behind you. It is a simple matter to walk to the side of the road and let them pass. Be sure not to get in softer snow, or you will surely sink, or if using skis or snowshoes give yourself plenty of time. I always assume that a fast moving vehicle traveling on snow definitely has the right of way.

In the Spring, Summer and Fall my thoughts turn to other pursuits such as fishing, overnight hiking, and camping. Once again Ebbetts Pass answers these needs in the same way it has for so many visitors over the years.

Being a high mountain pass the opening date for the highway can vary. Please call the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce at: (530) 694-2475 to find out the date.

If you are coming from the direction of Markleeville or traveling over Monitor Pass (Highway 89) be aware that Ebbetts Pass (Highway 4) is a steep, curvy, nearly one lane road for a long distance. In fact, once you pass Monitor Pass and continue on Highway 4 you come to a yellow road sign which states: **24% steep winding narrow road vehicles over 25ft not advised next 25 miles**. Many turns on the road are "hair-pin" in variety and the speed limit is 15 miles an hour. Even in a car or cab-over camper it is a much more enjoyable ride if you take your time and enjoy the excellent views.

If you are traveling the road with the goal of reaching Bear Valley, come from the direction of Dorrington or Arnold and you will have no problem with a larger vehicle.

Centerville Campground at the base of



Silver Creek at bridge below Chalmers Mansion.

Ebbetts Pass (Highway 4 and Wolf Creek Road) is a large flat area that can accommodate tent camping as well as larger trailers and R.V.'s. It has fairly new pit toilets located there. But no water or dump station. The East Fork of the Carson River runs along the backside of the campground and is only a short drive to access it as it runs along the highway back towards Markleeville. I have been fishing it for a long time. Whether you use bait such as: Pautske's, Uncle Josh, Powerbait (my favorite is green with "flecks"), Nightcrawlers, or lures such as: Panther Martins, Yellow Rooster Tails, Mepps or Fly Fish, you can't go wrong. Rainbows and Cutthroats abound along its length. From Hangmans Bridge upstream to Ebbetts Pass

it is 5 fish limit, regular fishing regulations.

From Hangmans Bridge downstream to Nevada it is catch and release (0 fish limit, barbless hook or fly).

Silver Creek is a place I've always had good luck when fishing. I've had luck downstream from the bridge up past Chalmers Mansion, all the way up to the old townsite of Silver Mountain City and beyond.

Silver Creek Campground just a little further up is a great place to camp. The campground is on both sides of the road. Camping is \$17.00 a night and \$5.00 for extra vehicles. Some campsites can be reserved. To make reservations call: 1-877-444-6777.

Continued on page 32

The 4 Seasons of Highway 4

Continued from page 31

Continuing the adventure you come to Kinney Reservoir on your right, good fishing is available here and if you walk around the reservoir on the dirt road, you can reach Lower and Upper Kinney Lakes. Both of these are worth your investigation. If you are either fishing or going for a day hike.

After driving past Kinney Reservoir you will come to a parking area on your left. This is where the Pacific Crest Trail crosses the road.

Once you reach the top of Ebbetts Pass and start heading down the other side you will come to Highland Lakes Road on the left. Please check to see when this road is open. Early season it can still be closed due to snow. This paved road turns to dirt, and will take you to some great fishing early season, along the North Fork of the Mokelumne River, out to Highland Lakes. If you want to camp, day hike, overnight hike, or just check things out, it is worth it to explore this area.

Established campgrounds as well as primitive camping is available. I have places I still want to check out here in the future, such as Upper Gardner Meadow.

Further down you come to Hermit Valley. The North Fork of the Mokelumne flows along to keep you company. When we were young kids in our cab over camper, we would always stop here to fish. Climbing thru the "Boot" of our truck to reach our "creels" and poles in the back, we were so excited to put our lines in the water. As I recall, we caught some big Rainbow Trout here in the past. Even today, when I drive by it brings a smile to my face and an urge to stop and try my luck once again.

Upper and Lower Mosquito Lakes are literally right next to Highway 4 at approximately 8000 Ft. in elevation. Rainbow Trout are present in good numbers. I have good luck with Night Crawlers, Mepps, or Yellow Rooster Tails. A small tent camp-





A father and son fishing at Mosquito Lakes.

ground with 11 campsites, tables, vault toilets, and no water is available for camping.

Lake Alpine at 7,320 Ft. has Rainbow Trout in abundance. It is a man made lake that used to be a meadow. It was constructed in 1885. It has 4 developed campgrounds in the area. It also has many day use areas and trailheads worth exploring. Interpretive programs are offered to those who are interested. A paved access trail runs along the lake and provides access to those who are disabled. Accessible campsites for those who have disabilities are available at Lake Alpine and Pine Martin Campgrounds.

Last year, during late spring we decided to visit Bear Valley. We stopped for lunch, saw a few people we know, and it was so beautiful that we looked at each other and said: "What next?" What next ended up being a trip beyond Bear Valley to Spicer Reservoir. A place I highly recommend you visit.

Traveling West on Highway 4, leaving Bear Valley after about 1/2 a mile you cross the Calaveras County line. After about another 3 1/2 miles turn left on Spicer Meadow Reservoir Road (7N01). This is a well maintained, paved road which can easily accom-

modate R.V.'s, trailers, and boat trailers. A quarter mile down the road on the right is the Spicer Reservoir Road Sno-Park (\$5.00 per day parking). This is for snowmobiles during the wintertime.

On the day we went it was a warm, sunshine filled day with spring in the air.

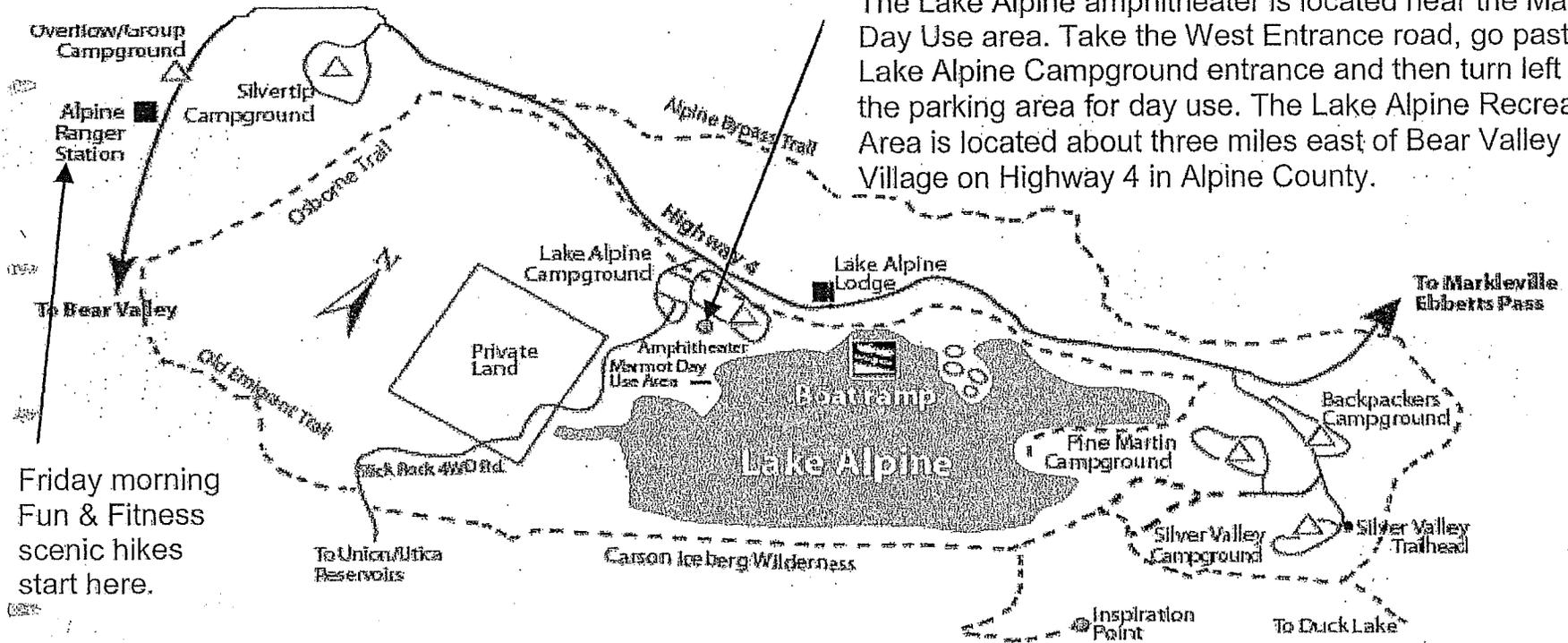
Pretty soon you will come to a sign which tells you how far you have to go on the right hand side of the road. There is so much to see and do out here, whether you want to fish, boat, camp, hike, horseback ride or ride a bicycle. After 3 miles you come to the North Fork Stanislaus River Campground. This river has populations of Rainbow,



Just how far you have to go.

Lake Alpine Interpretive Area Map

The Lake Alpine amphitheater is located near the Marmot Day Use area. Take the West Entrance road, go past the Lake Alpine Campground entrance and then turn left to the parking area for day use. The Lake Alpine Recreation Area is located about three miles east of Bear Valley Village on Highway 4 in Alpine County.



Map reprinted courtesy of *Three Forests Interpretive Association*.

For more information on interpretive programs offered please contact the *Stanislaus National Forest Headquarters* at (209) 532-3671. They will be able to direct you to the appropriate *Ranger District Interpreter* in your area to discuss their programs.



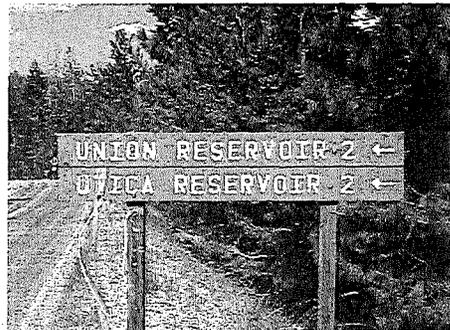
North Fork Stanislaus River Campground

Brown and Eastern Brook Trout. The campground has 30 campsites and hand-pumped potable water and vault toilets. Several of the sites are disabled access. This campground is operated by the U.S. Forest Service for a fee of \$8.00 a night.

As you continue on the journey around the next few turns look thru the thick pine trees on your right. Some of the best places to stop and picnic aren't developed. We stopped and just had to take a look at this large, lush, green meadow. Remember to leave no trace and if you come when we did, bring mosquito repellent. I could just picture Grizzly Bears in the old days foraging thru this meadow.

Driving on you will come to a brown wooden sign which says: Union Reservoir 2 miles and Utica Reservoir 2 miles. This

Forest Service dirt road forks a little ways up. 7N17 takes you to Utica and 7N75 takes you to Union. These two reservoirs are much more quiet than Spicer Reservoir. Developed facilities are under construction. The area is popular for day use as well as



Sign for Union and Utica turnoff.

dispersed camping. Fire permits are necessary. A primitive boat launch for small boats is available at Union Reservoir. Maximum boat speed is 5 miles an hour. Utica Reservoir is for non-motorized boating only. Rainbow Trout are present in both bodies of water. A hiking trail takes you from Union Reservoir to Elephant Rock Lake.

Staying on the paved road to Spicer Reservoir (7N01) after you pass the wooden sign to Union and Utica, the road makes a sharp right around a bend. On your left is a wooden sign to Elephant Rock Lake (4 miles) and Summit Lake (3 miles). This is (7N29Y). This is a 4 wheel drive dirt road. No motorcycles and no cars etc. Rainbow Trout are present and stocked by the Department of Fish and Wildlife each year at Elephant Rock Lake.



Sign for road to Elephant Rock Lake and Summit Lake.

Eventually after driving along Spicer Reservoir Road (7N01) you will see a sign that says you have arrived at Spicer Reservoir Recreation Area. You have gone approximately 10 miles since leaving Highway 4.

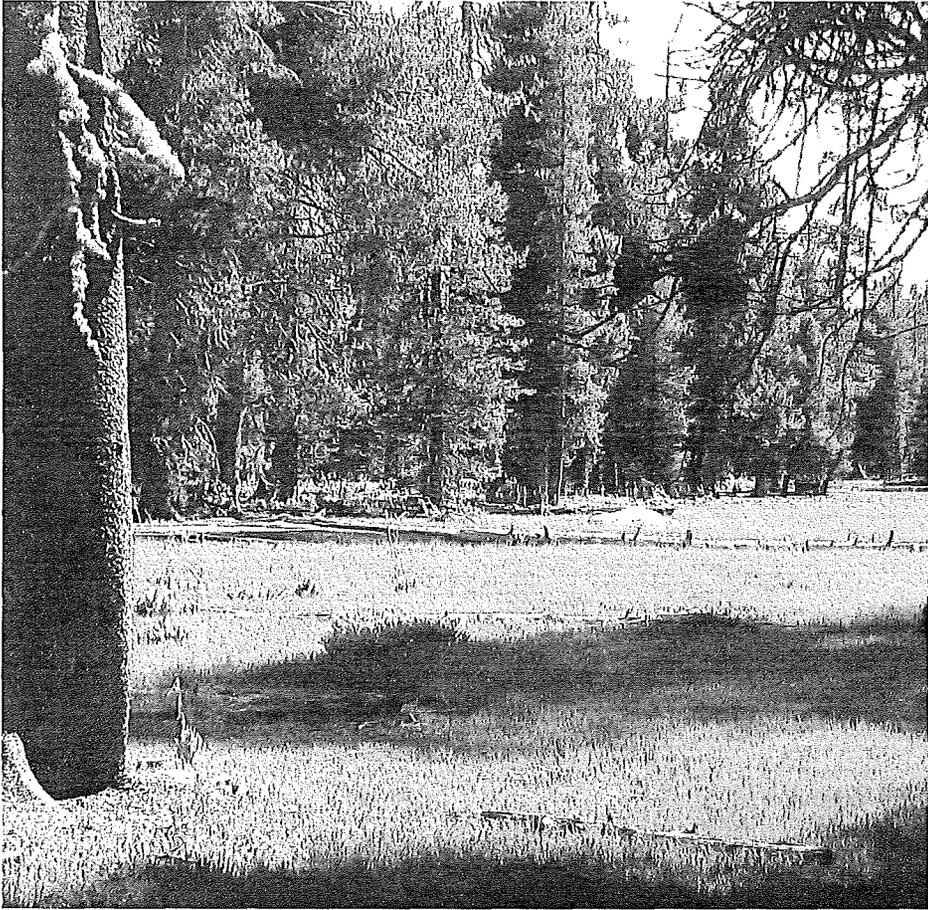
We were very happy to have finally made it. It is such a breathtakingly beautiful place. As we drove past an overlook we saw a white boat cruising by with people fishing off of it.

Spicer Reservoir has Rainbow Trout, German Browns, and Catfish. Planting of trout supplements the population during the fishing season. There is a boat launch available. No motorized boat traffic is allowed on the eastern half of the reservoir. Please check a map to see the appropriate area. Maximum speed on the lower portion of the lake is 10 miles an hour. The upper portion is surrounded by the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness. It is for kayak and canoe boating only. The scenic campground is managed by Sierra Recreation Managers at: (209) 296-8895. Some campsites are first come first served. Some are by reservation. It costs \$22.00 a night for individual sites or \$140.00 a night for group sites. The campground has potable water, vault toilets, tables, fireplaces and food preparation areas. It also has a primitive amphitheater and parking for group use. The boat ramp is about a mile away. The Campground may accommodate up to 50 ft. R.V.'s. Disabled campsites are available. It also has a paved trail to the boat launch for disabled access.

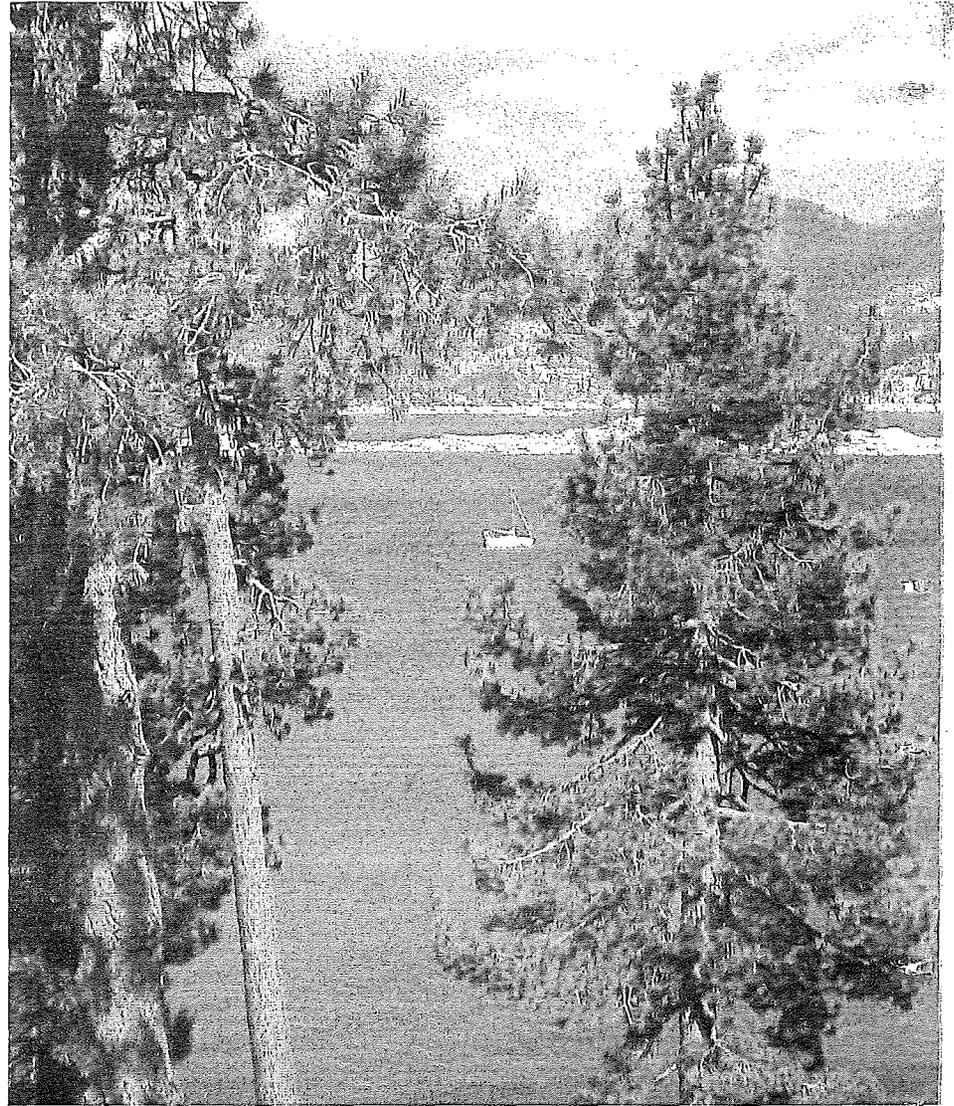
Pull thru double sites are also present. As you drop down into the campground you will drive past the camp host site on your left and the fee area information on your right. If you have any questions stop by and talk to them. We found them very helpful and informative. Approximately 60 campsites are available.

When Summer slips into fall and the wildflowers start to fade, the rivers and creeks drop down there are still things to see. Don't forget that Ebbetts Pass still has one more show in store for you. That event is the Fall colors as the Aspens turn from green to gold. Its worth the drive! Contact the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce to narrow down the dates at (530) 694-2475.

Have fun and keep exploring, a Topographical Map and Compass can be a close friend on the trip.



Lush, green, meadow on right.



White boat on beautiful Spicer Reservoir



Pg. 6

Take a Tour of Silver Mountain City

By Karen Dustman



There's little left to mark the site of old Silver Mountain City, the 1860s-era silver mining town that put Alpine County on the map. With not a single intact building remaining, it's easy to miss this historic townsite along Highway 4.

But every fall, old Silver Mountain City comes to life again through a tour offered by local historians Karen and Rick Dustman. "In its hey-day, Silver Mountain was home to over a thousand hardy souls," notes Karen. "And hardy they had to be! Winter snows were often five to six feet deep, and the town itself would be cut off from the outside world for several months at a time."

Early assays from the nearby silver mines looked promising, and the success of the nearby Comstock Lode raised both expectations and capital. Unfortunately, much of the lucre generated from Silver Mountain came from mining investors' pockets. Still, from about 1862 through the late 1870s, Silver Mountain remained an

FASHION SALOON

Corner of Main and Fourth streets,
SILVER MOUNTAIN.

The BAR is stocked with the BEST WINES,
LIQUORS & CIGARS.

THE FIRST CLASS BILLIARD TABLES are
connected with the saloon.

M. T. GREENEYARD

A "rushing trade" was done by Silver Mountain saloons.

active mining town — with its own unique cast of characters.

"Through pictures and old records we've been able to piece together many of the town's stories and figure out where the original buildings once stood," says Dustman. "On our tour, we point out the site of saloons like the 'Forty Drops' and the spot where Erik Errickson was shot in the back by a jealous husband — a murder that gave Hangman's Bridge its name!"

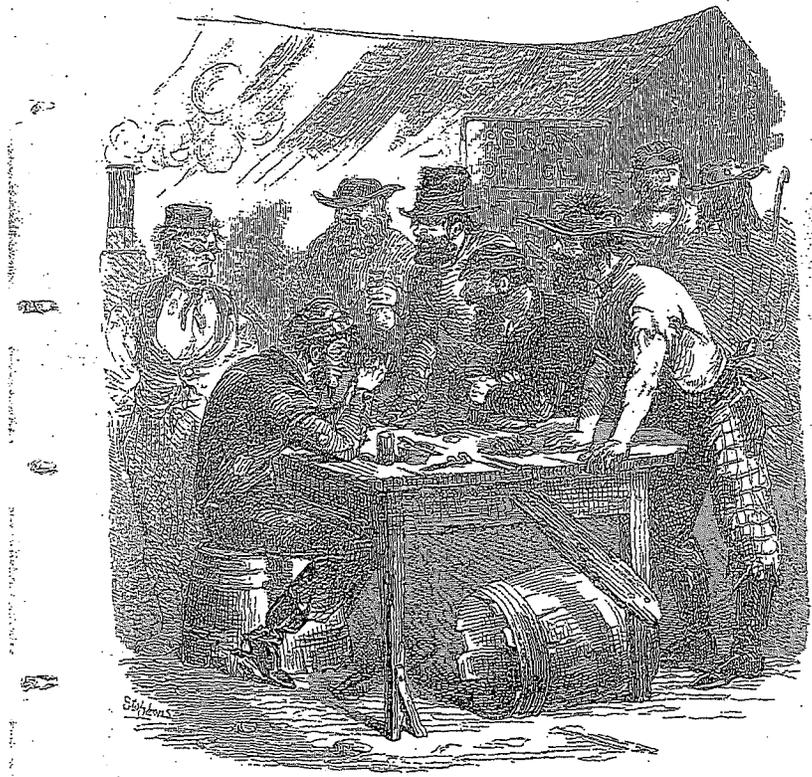
Over the years, the Dustmans' passion for this "ghost of a ghost town" was transformed into an annual Silver Mountain tour, narrated by these hosts in period garb. The tour takes a little over an hour and involves an easy walk along Highway 4. Comfortable walking shoes and a sweater are encouraged. There is no charge for the tour, although the Dustmans do encourage donations to the Alpine County Historical Society.

If you'd like to be notified of the date of the next Silver Mountain City tour (generally a Saturday morning in September), just drop an email to kdustman@gbis.com. Or read more about the history of this special town in the book, "Silver Mountain City: Ghost of the Sierra," available at the Alpine Museum or Chamber of Commerce.

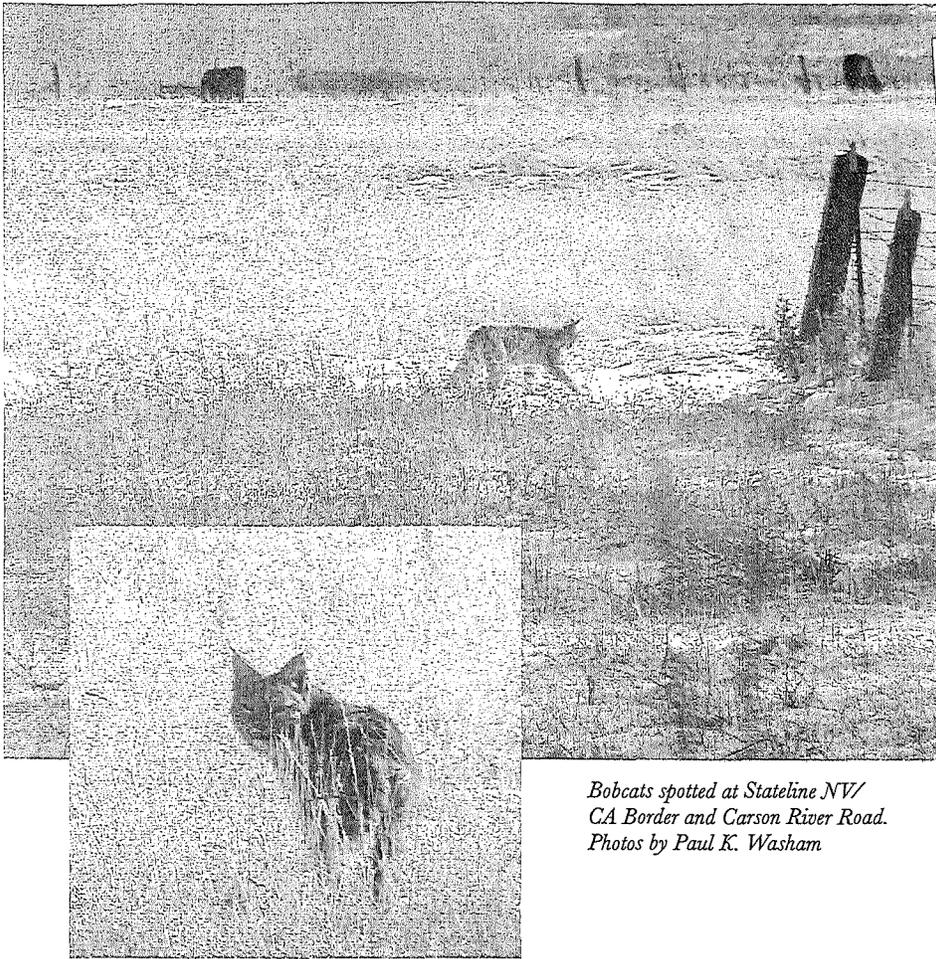
I. S. POWERS.
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing,
HARDWARE,
Boots and Shoes, Furnishing Goods,
Chairs, Bedsteads, Beds and
BEDDING,
Mining Tools, Powder, Fuse, &c.
MAIN STREET,
SILVER MOUNTAIN.

Agent for the HAZARD POWDER COMPANY, and prepared to sell low for cash.
Goods delivered in Monitor, Mogul and intermediate points.
June 1, 1865n2ff

Remote though the town was, Silver Mountain City stores sold an astonishing range of goods.



Silver "fever" gripped Silver Mountain-ites just as tightly as speculators in nearby Virginia City.



*Bobcats spotted at Stateline NV/
CA Border and Carson River Road.
Photos by Paul K. Washam*

* * * * * **California Fish and Wildlife News** * * * * *

Department Name Change Effective January 1, 2013

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) will become the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), effective Jan. 1.

The new name was mandated by AB 2402, which was signed Sept. 25 by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. and is one of numerous provisions passed into law during 2012 that affect the department.

“The name of the department was changed to better reflect our evolving responsibilities,” said Department Director Charlton H. Bonham. “As our role has grown to meet 21st century expectations, we remain committed to our traditional responsibilities and to honoring our deep roots in California’s natural resources legacy.”

Traditionally known as game wardens, the department’s law enforcement staff will

now be called wildlife officers.

Californians will notice new Internet (www.wildlife.ca.gov) and email addresses for CDFW employees. The old URL and email addresses will continue to work indefinitely.

Many department materials will continue to bear the old name because AB 2402 reduced the cost associated with the name change by preventing CDFW from undergoing a wholesale turnover of materials, including signs, uniforms and supplies.

The mission of the department continues to be “to manage California’s diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.”

In furtherance of that mission, the department carries out numerous responsibilities related to the commercial, recreational, educational and scientific use and enjoyment of California’s natural resources.

Discover Alpine's Local History - And a Mystery

By Karen Dustman



Many of Alpine's early historic sites have nearly vanished, although traces still remain if you know where to look. Now you can discover Alpine County's history for yourself with "Historic Alpine," a self-guided driving tour that takes readers to over three dozen historic spots in Woodfords, Diamond Valley, and Fredericksburg - with easy directions, photos, and a short history of each site.

Featured sites include the homestead of Snowshoe Thompson, Alpine County's famous early "mailman on skis." As the book



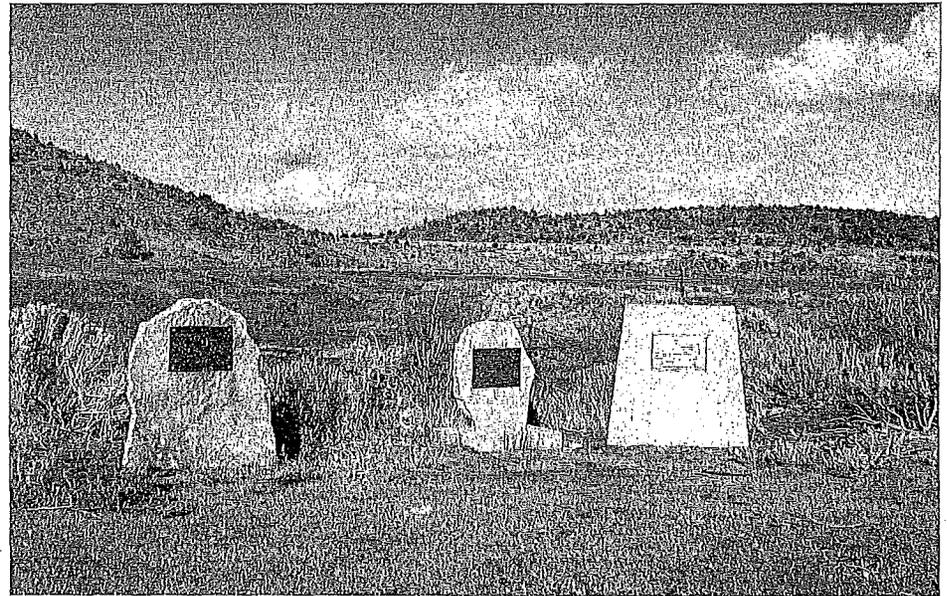
"Snowshoe" Thompson reportedly carried loads of 60 to 100 pounds at a time on his back, using a single pole for balance.

explains, Thompson may have arrived in the Carson Valley as early as 1853, and by 1858 he was operating a local stage service. Thompson homesteaded his ranch in Diamond Valley about 1860, raising oats, wheat, hay and potatoes - and boarding horses and cattle as well for extra money.

Most famous for his years of tireless (and unpaid) service carrying the mail over the Sierras on skis, Thompson also played an important role in local Alpine politics, serving as a county supervisor from 1868 to 1872. Thompson died right here at his Diamond Valley Ranch in 1876, at just 49 years old.

Not far from Thompson's homestead you'll spy a mysterious old rock wall - overlooked by most visitors to Diamond Valley, but still plainly visible winding its way up a nearby hillside. Was this rock wall constructed by local Indians to channel the movement of game, or was it built perhaps by Snowshoe himself as a cattle fence or property line marker? For now, this old rock wall remains a local mystery!

Discover these sites and many more in "Historic Alpine" - all within an easy one hour drive. Copies available at Sorensen's Resort, the Alpine Museum, and the Alpine Chamber of Commerce.



Three "dueling" historic plaques vie for the honor of commemorating Snowshoe Thompson's homestead. Snowshoe died here at his Diamond Valley ranch in 1876.



The origin of this old rock wall in Diamond Valley remains a mystery.

LARGE CATCH OF TROUT.

A. Askey, George Durham and Charley Brown returned last Saturday from a three weeks' trip in the mountains. They caught altogether in twelve days fishing in the brooks of Faith, Hope, and Charity valleys, Alpine county, 1800 trout. In the lakes the fish do not bite well, but in the streams fishing is very good. -- Amador Ledger

Alpine Argus newspaper of September 12, 1885.

Courtesy of the Alpine County Museum

Fishing the California Alps 2013

JOHNSON

From page 10

house. But at his traditional home in the province where his family is from one can have cows and the chief of the village will let your cows eat the grass on all the land of the village. And if a real man has four cows, he can get married.

Tipo mentioned he was thinking of buying two cows and over a year his cows would grow and he may have four cows and then he may marry.

He continued to explained in his culture a man can have as many wives as he wants, as long as he takes care of all of them. If he can have four children with his first wife, he can have five children with his second wife, seven children with his third wife and eight children with his fourth wife. He can even have five wives if he wants. But you must take care of them all, he stressed with concern.

My husband, taken with Tipo's enthusiasm for having many wives and the responsibility of taking care of all of them, shared that at one time he had 138 cows, but has only had one wife.

Tipo feeling compassion said "Yes. You must ask your first wife if you can have more wives." Where I politely interjected I did not want my husband to have more wives right now. Tipo understood. He said yes the first wife would like you to spend time with her, and so would the second wife and so would the third wife, sometimes there is fighting among the wives. But quickly dismissed this concern by adding, "But that is what happens."

And so for the rest of the informative taxi ride we learned of Tipo's culture, his desire to have cows, the trouble with living in the city and his understanding a man who once had 138 cows, but unfortunately only one wife.

How many cows could result in many wives

"A real man has cows." So says Tipo our taxi driver, adding, "any man can marry, but a real man has cows."

Tipo was answering questions my husband and I were asking during our long taxi ride from our hotel in Nelson Mandela square, Johannesburg to the O. R. Tambo airport, South Africa, where we were spending part of our spring break. Tipo working and living in Johannesburg was from a providence far northeast of the city. We were leaning forward



**Marie
Johnson
Fencelines**

in our seats with rapt attention to his outlook on life.

He complained that in the city you can not kill any real animals. You can not even have any real animals. Yes, you can have a dog or a cat, but they are what you call pets. You

cannot have cattle. No sheep. No goats. Nothing. And if you want to celebrate Easter you can not even kill a goat.

He explained in his culture they don't really celebrate Easter either, which is a really big holiday in South Africa. His culture does not have churches, They celebrate ancestors with killing a goat. But they do not eat the goat all at once. First they eat the legs. Then he went on in clear detail what other parts were eaten during what parts of the day.

Listening so attentively I did not think to get my notebook out to record the process accurately. So not wanting to misrepresent Tipo I will have to leave off the details. But he explained quite clearly it was very important how one prepared and cooked the goat as well as how one ate it.

He also added before we reached the airport that in town you don't own any real land. You only have your

JOHNSON, 11

RE - Fri., April 5, 2013

Any volunteers? Alpine seeks helpers

by Virginia York

Remember in our younger years when the teacher used to ask: "Any volunteers?" a multitude of hands would shoot up? "Oh, please choose me," the unspoken words of every child.

As we grow older, more and more responsibilities creep into our lives claiming most of our waking hours and sometimes we groan inwardly when asked to make a donation of that most precious resource: time.

The other day an acquaintance who works in Markleeville walked by my house with a dog I recognized as belonging to an elderly woman. My acquaintance had volunteered to walk the dog in her lunch break. This kind act reminded me that the spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in Alpine County. It needs to be.

Alpine residents, 1,175 of us in 2010, 2.73 percent fewer than in 2000, are spread thin to cover the growing need for volunteers.

Those I have interviewed have waxed eloquent on the joys of volunteering. Some years ago a friend who had fallen on hard times volunteered to teach English to Iraqi torture victims. Knowing that his skills were needed gave him a feeling of self-worth and helped restore a positive outlook on life. In volunteering it is impossible for the giving to be one way; we teach and are taught. Bonds of friendship, business and even romance can be formed. Volunteering in the area in which one is trained (eg. teaching) can lead to employment.

Where monetary gain is not involved there is a special spirit of commitment and fun. My old friend Mabel Reed, former resident of Alpine County and a volunteer for most of her life,

including five years abroad, said simply: "You start volunteering because you want to help and you finish up having the best time."

Children, and teenagers can work at some of the events. There are different levels of commitment so you can donate your time as you choose, for events or projects as they arise or for regular duties.

ALPINE CHRONICLE: Deirdre Wallace, 694-0045, alpinechronicle@gmail.com Contribute articles on any subject to our new, local, online newspaper.

ALPINE KIDS: Edie Veatch, 694-2934.

Drive families on Alpine Kids outings; work at the annual blood drive and annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

ALPINE WATERSHED GROUP: Sarah Green: 694-2327, watershed@alpinecountyca.gov

Be a water monitor! Assist with restoration projects; help maintain healthy watershed

systems.

DEATH RIDE: Teresa, 694-2475, www.deathride.com see the volunteer page or fill out a form at the Chamber of Commerce office.

Work on our annual 129-mile endurance bicycle ride, second weekend of July, on a rest stop, warehouse.

DIAMOND VALLEY SCHOOL: Laura Parks, 694-2238 Volunteers require a T.B.

test and fingerprinting. Call ahead to help with ski trips, yard duty, reading, teaching a skill in the after-school program.

PARENTS' GROUP: Kim Jackson, 694-1144.

Fundraiser for the school; help with school events.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Terrance Hughes, Station 92, 694-2223. Be a firefighter. Eastern Alpine Fire Department meets every Tuesday 6-9 p.m., Woodfords Fire House.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Library Staff, 694 2120.

Help with projects and events (eg. Teddy Bear Parade,

Music in the Park, Wine in the Garden)

HOME HEALTH AND

HOSPICE: Chaplain Al Vacek (530) 543-5581

Enquire about training. Be a companion to the patient to provide breaks for caregivers. Requires help of several hours/week. Alternatively, work in the office.

HUNG-A-LEL-TI: Amy Broadhurst, 694-1730 x3.

Tutor at the Education Center; cook a lunch for the Friday Create the Good meeting; assist at adult socials.

MENTORING PROGRAM

(local branch of Tahoe Youth and Family Services) Betty Hathaway, (530) 694-9459. You will be trained then matched with someone aged 4-18. A commitment of at least 4 hours a month is required to spend involved with activities of interest to both of you.

MUSEUM: Wanda Coyan, 694-2317, 694-2454.

Work on projects including restoration of the cemetery.

VACANCIES IN ALPINE COUNTY COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES: County Clerk's Office, 694-2281.

Applications on-line or pick one up and return it to: P.O. Box 158 Markleeville, CA 96120.

■ Alpine County Child Abuse Prevention Council

■ Alpine County Mental Health Board

■ Board of Appeals

■ Children and Families Commission-First 5 Alpine

■ Economic Development Advisory Committee

■ Child Care Planning Council

■ Markleeville Design Review/Historic Committee

■ Social Service

Transportation Advisory Council

■ STPUD Contract Commission.

Please volunteer and contribute to the quality of life in Alpine County. And a big "thank-you" to all who do volunteer.

Markleeville founder finally gets his due

by Karen Dustman

Poor Jacob Markley. May 14th this year marks 150 years from the day the founder of Markleeville was shot outside his humble cabin, and much of his life still remains shrouded in mystery. But this year, at least, Markley will finally get a bit of recognition.

Born on March 6, 1821, in Dundas, Ontario, Canada, Markley emigrated with his family to Virginia as a youth. In the late 1840s, he arrived in Taylors Falls, Minnesota, and married Sarah Ambrosia DeAtley, the daughter of a local carpenter. Markley was apparently struck with wanderlust once again about 1860. Leaving his wife and children behind in Minnesota, he set out to seek his fortune in California.

We don't know much about Markley's westward travels, but we do know that on September 12, 1861, he staked out a 160-acre land claim just east of the Sierra summit. There he built himself a little 16' x 20' cabin, and covered it with sugarpine shakes.

Markley's timing would prove spectacular. Just a few miles up the trail, the mining camp at

Silver Mountain began to boom soon as prospectors found rich silver leads. Suddenly Markley's homestead became extremely valuable – as much for the toll road running through it as for the property itself. And before long a tiny settlement sprang up at this new “terminus of yee-haw navigation”: the place that mule teams ferrying goods and supplies were forced to stop.

Markley was quick to realize there was money to be made selling homesites. There was only one small problem: a man named Talcott Gould claimed half-ownership of Markley's land.

It seems that Markley had signed a scrap of paper in November 1861 granting Gould a half-interest in – well, something. Markley claimed he sold Gould only a half-interest in the toll road. Gould, however, noted that the handwritten deed mentioned the “Merky claim,” and argued that this meant the townsite, too.

On May 14, 1863, Gould's friend Henry Tuttle confronted Jacob Markley at his cabin, and as one source delicately put it, “an altercation ensued.”

Tuttle left for a short time, then returned with Gould, who “laid violent hands upon Markley.” Markley managed to throw Gould and Tuttle out of his cabin. But in an instant of bad judgment, Markley buckled on a pistol and followed. The argument resumed – now over whether Tuttle had ever repaid Markley some money he had borrowed. Exactly who pulled a gun first remains unclear. But at some point in the dispute Tuttle “stepped back, drew his revolver, and shot [Markley] dead.”

For a while, nobody was quite sure whether the shooting had occurred in California or on the Nevada side of the border, and Tuttle managed to escape prosecution until that fundamental issue was resolved. But in December, 1863, a California grand jury finally indicted Tuttle for murder, and he was brought to trial in Amador County, California the following March.

Witnesses testified, lawyers argued, and a jury of Tuttle's peers rendered a clear verdict: NOT guilty. Here again the historical trail goes cold as the actual records from Tuttle's trial are missing from Amador County's

archives. The verdict, however, suggests that the jury was convinced that Tuttle acted in self-defense or in defense of his friend Gould. That pesky gun that Markley buckled on must not have helped the prosecution.

Markley's body was buried “on a little eminence” overlooking “a fine stream,” close to the new town of Markleeville. While the exact location of his grave remains a mystery, it is just possible that Jacob Markley became the first person to be buried in today's Markleeville Cemetery.

Markleeville's founder may not have gone down in history for his fine temper and genial disposition. But he will be warmly remembered for his excellent choice in real estate.

On May 18, 2013, the town of Markleeville will celebrate “Jacob Markley Day” – nearly 150 years to the day from Markley's shooting.

Jacob Markley Day Celebration is May 18, 2013, from 10-4, Alpine County Chamber

Special Re-Enactment Play at “high noon”. Hear “Jacob” describe the early town of Markleeville, and watch his killer brought to justice (or not! We won't give away the ending.)

Monitor Pass reopens

Staff Reports

Monitor Pass opened Monday, the earliest it's been cleared of snow since 2008, according to the California Department of Transportation.

Road crews cleared the pass of snow, debris and made repairs to the pass in time for it to open at 11 a.m. It closed on Dec. 18.

None of the other Sierra passes that are typically closed during the winter have reopened. Last year Ebbetts Pass on Highway 4 didn't open until May 11. The earliest it has opened was May 8, 2009.

According to Natural Resources Conservation Service telemetry, there were 55 inches of snow at Ebbetts Pass on March 1. Since then the snow depth's dropped to 44 inches.

Sonora and Tioga passes typically don't open until May. Last year, Sonora Pass opened on May 4 and Tioga opened on May 7.

One dead in accident over embankment at Caples Lake

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

California authorities are investigating a fatal accident at Caples Lake Dam after a vehicle was found over the embankment on Monday evening.

The vehicle ended up about 25 yards below the dam, and the driver was ejected, according to Alpine County Undersheriff Rob Levy.

Levy said no one witnessed the accident when it happened. It was about 5:30 p.m. that someone spotted the vehicle and reported the incident. Levy said the victim was obviously dead.

Rescuers worked to recover the

body and the vehicle as snow fell during the evening.

Levy said the identity of the driver had yet to be determined on Monday night. Alpine County will be in charge of the autopsy while the California Highway Patrol is in charge of investigating the accident.

Chains or snow tires are required on all vehicles except four-wheel drive from Silver Lake to east of Woodfords.

■ In an unrelated incident, the occupants of two pickups involved in a head-on collision near the intersection of Highway 395 and Riverview Drive on Sunday afternoon escaped with non-life threatening injuries.

The accident occurred at 1:37 p.m. and shut down the highway's southbound lanes for about an hour.

The accident involved a 2011 blue pickup driven by Michael Lightfoot, 38, of Gardnerville and a 2000 white Ford Ranger driven by a 17-year-old Gardnerville girl.

Two juveniles in the Ford Ranger were taken to Carson Valley Medical Center as a result of the accident.

A phone box was damaged in the accident. Anyone with information about the accident is asked to contact the Nevada Highway Patrol at 775-688-2500 and refer to case No. 130413870.

Indian Creek campground opens April 26

Staff Reports

Indian Creek Reservoir campground will open for the season 10 a.m. April 26 according to the Bureau of Land Management.

Dubbed one of the best campground values in the Sierra Nevada with hot showers, flush toilets, an RV sanitary dump station, paved roads and parking sites, and bear-proof storage lockers available at each site, the campground features a BLM maintenance technician and camp hosts on-site.

Other facilities at Indian Creek Reservoir include a boat launching area, day use picnic area, three loop interpretive trail system and over eight miles of hiking trails.

The following fee schedule shows the fees for the 2013 camping

season:

- RV/Tent Single Site (13) \$20/night
- RV/Tent Double Site (6) \$32/night
- Tent Area Single Site (6) \$14/night
- Tent Area Double Site (4) \$20/night
- Group Area \$50/night
- Sanitary Dump Station \$10/vehicle/use

The main camp area has 19 sites that accommodate RV and tent campers on a non-reservation basis. Six of these 19 sites are considered "double" occupancy sites since they have two parking spots, two tent pads and two picnic tables. This area has flush toilets, hot showers and drinking water.

The walk-in tent area, located south of the main camp area, has 10 sites that can accommodate up to 15 tents on a nonreservation basis.

Four of the 10 tent sites are considered double occupancy sites since they have two tent pads and two picnic tables. Sanitary facilities in this area include vault toilets and potable water.

With advanced reservations, a group of up to 40 people may camp

in the group campsite that accommodates tents only.

To make a reservation at the group campsite, or for more information, contact the BLM Carson City District Office at 775-885-6000.

Marine ID'd as victim in Caples Lake fatal accident

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

A 25-year-old Marine who served overseas was identified as the person killed at Caples Lake on April 15.

Benjamin Keith Rauschenberger, 25, of Elwood, Ind., was travelling on Highway 88 and went over the edge of the roadway, landing 25 yards from the road, according to the Alpine County Sheriff's Office.

Rauschenberger was stationed at Pickel Meadows Mountain Warfare Training Center.

The accident occurred at about 4:45 p.m. during a snowstorm. No one saw the accident occur. A California Highway Patrol officer on routine patrol spotted the accident scene at about 5 p.m., according to CHP spokesman Jeff Gartner.

He said Rauschenberger was driving a 2010 Toyota Tacoma pickup west when he failed to negotiate the

sharp corner on the north side of the lake.

According to the report, there was snow on the roadway when Rauschenberger left the roadway and traveled up a dirt embankment.

"He was going too fast when he hit a tree, a signpost and then a gate post and was ejected," Gartner said. "The vehicle ended up hitting a tree."

The vehicle ended up 25 yards down the embankment. The accident occurred before chain controls went into effect.

A posting on Facebook by Rauschenberger's family said he'd served in both Afghanistan and Iraq.



Rauschenberger

Alpine County Library and Archives: Read On...

by Virginia York

On April 6, Todd Borg, author of the award-winning Tahoe Mystery Series, gave a free talk at the Alpine County Library to an enthralled group of Alpiners. Todd, who lives at Lake Tahoe, spoke in a lively, encouraging way about writing and publishing. One of his rules of thumb is to write books which his mother would recommend to her friends; violence happens mostly off-stage and there are only suggestions of sex. His 11th book in the

series, "Tahoe Trap," will be coming out in August.

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS: Mark your calendars

Saturday 1-3 p.m. Celebrate National Library Week with the Teddy Bear Parade. Alpine Kids will host a free barbeque. Miss Honey Bear will lead the parade around the park at 1:30. Other community organizations will sponsor craft tables and activities for children. Everybody is welcome at this free event.

Saturday May 11, 9-11 a.m., at the library,

LifeStory Writing Workshop. Karen Dustman, freelance writer and local historian, will be teaching this free workshop which will get you started on writing your own life story or that of a family member. To take part, contact Karen at 694-2122 or kdustman@clairitage.com.

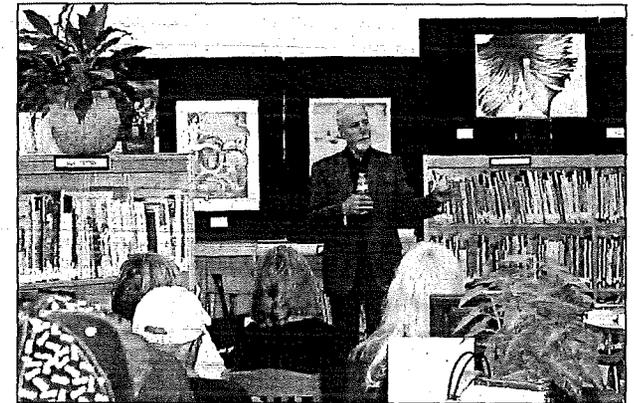
One Saturday a month the library, in partnership with Choices for Children, presents a children's storytime. Rachel Brothers, of Choices for Children, provides a story and craft; The Friends of the

Library fund a healthful snack and supplemental supplies. Check with the library for dates and times.

On June 29, 4-9 p.m. The Friends of the Library will be hosting their annual Wine in the Garden fundraiser at the Mountain and The Garden, 150 Old Pony Express Road, near the Woodfords junction of highways 88 and 89. Come and imbibe fine, donated wines and relax in the company of your friends and neighbors. There will be live music. Tickets, available from the library or at the entrance, are \$20 each, \$35 for two. There'll be a raffle, too. Prizes include wine tastings at nearby wineries, nights and meals at our inns and restaurants and the beautiful work of local artists.

OTHER LIBRARY NEWS:

■ On March 19 the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to reinstate



RITA LOVELL/SPECIAL TO THE RC

Mystery writer Todd Borg addresses an Alpine crowd.

the county librarian as a department head. This restores the library's seat at the county table.

■ In February the Library was awarded \$18,500 by California State Library for the "Pitch an Idea" grant. The winning idea is to create a digital learning center in the library called "The Alpine Digital Bridge."

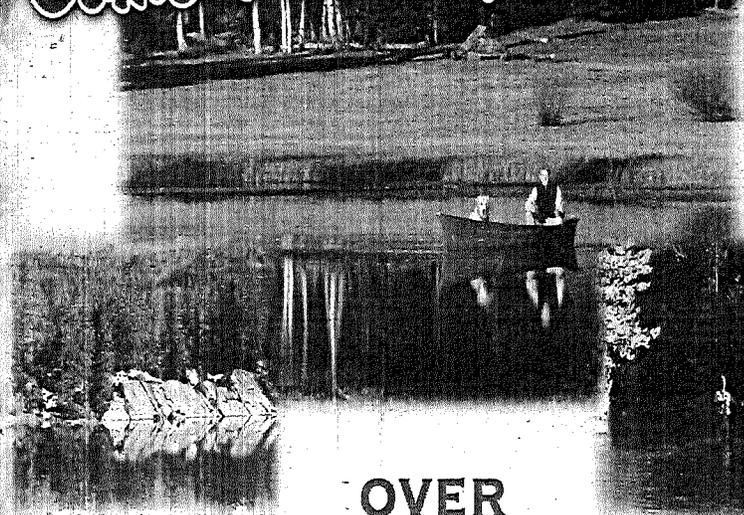
A local artisan is generously donating time to make furniture for this project from locally grown woods. The library plans to

open the center in July.

■ The Library was also awarded a grant (\$1,340) to attend the California Library Association meeting in Long Beach in November. The meeting is mandated for county librarians.

■ In February the county hired a part-time Bookmobile driver, Sherry Sellars, to provide service to Diamond Valley School. The Diamond Valley School Site Council agreed to a proposal to fund the restoration of this position in November.

Come Visit Alpine County



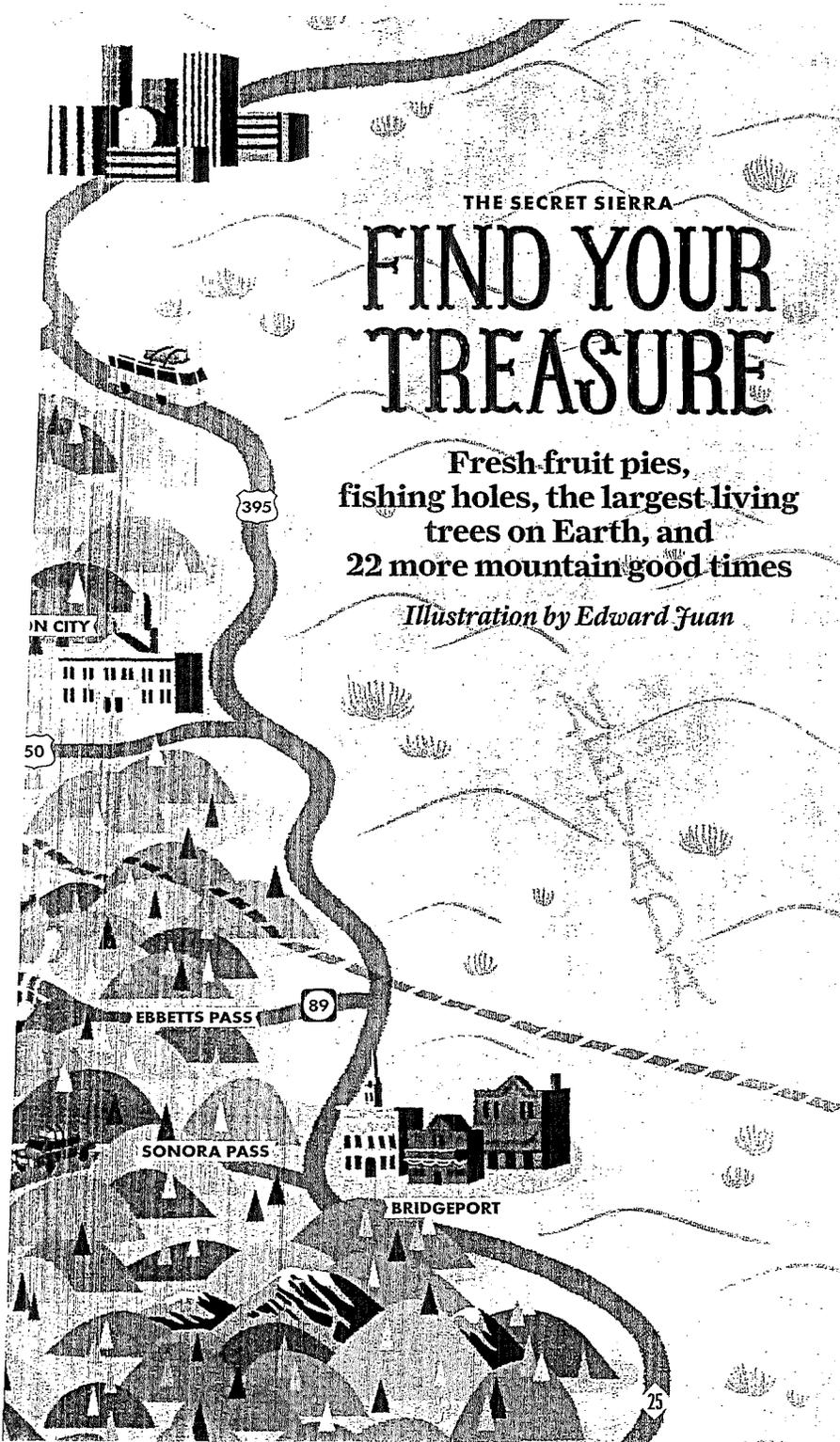
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RC - Fri. April 26, 2013



THE SECRET SIERRA

FIND YOUR TREASURE

Fresh-fruit pies, fishing holes, the largest living trees on Earth, and 22 more mountain good times

Illustration by Edward Juan

NORTH OF TAHOE

1 COFFEEBAR How can one grind be so much better than the rest? Somehow, it is. In Truckee, perfect lattes, baked goods, and gelato. coffeebartruckee.com.

2 LOST TRAIL LODGE Near Truckee, off-the-grid lodge accessed by foot or (in summer and fall) car. Mountain bike (BYO), then Jacuzzi to your heart's content. From \$198; losttrailodge.com.

SOUTH OF TAHOE

3 WRIGHTS LAKE TRAILHEADS Hike into Desolation Wilderness from the west. Great camping too. (530) 644-2349.

4 HOPE VALLEY CAFE In a roadside shack, owner Leesa bakes superior fruit pies (good breakfasts and lunches as well). \$; (530) 694-2323.

5 GROVER HOT SPRINGS STATE PARK Two family-friendly pools—one hot and one cool, and both sulfur-free (no rotten-egg smell). \$7; parks.ca.gov.

CENTRAL & SOUTHERN SIERRA (WEST SIDE)

6 CALAVERAS BIG TREES STATE PARK Stroll through North Grove—the first stand of giant sequoias visited by non-Native Americans. \$10; parks.ca.gov.

Tent cabins from \$350, including 2 meals/day; visitsequoia.com.

14 MORO ROCK About 400 granite steps ascend 6,725-foot Moro Rock—like Half Dome without the cables and the long hike. \$20/vehicle; nps.gov/seki.

15 REIMER'S CANDIES Classic sweetshop in Three Rivers, because no summer trip is complete without fudge. reimerscandies.com.

EASTERN SIERRA (BISHOP/MAMMOTH AREA)

16 MOSQUITO FLAT The 10,300-foot trailhead at the end of Rock Creek Road is the Sierra's highest: From here, hike through Little Lakes Valley. fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home.

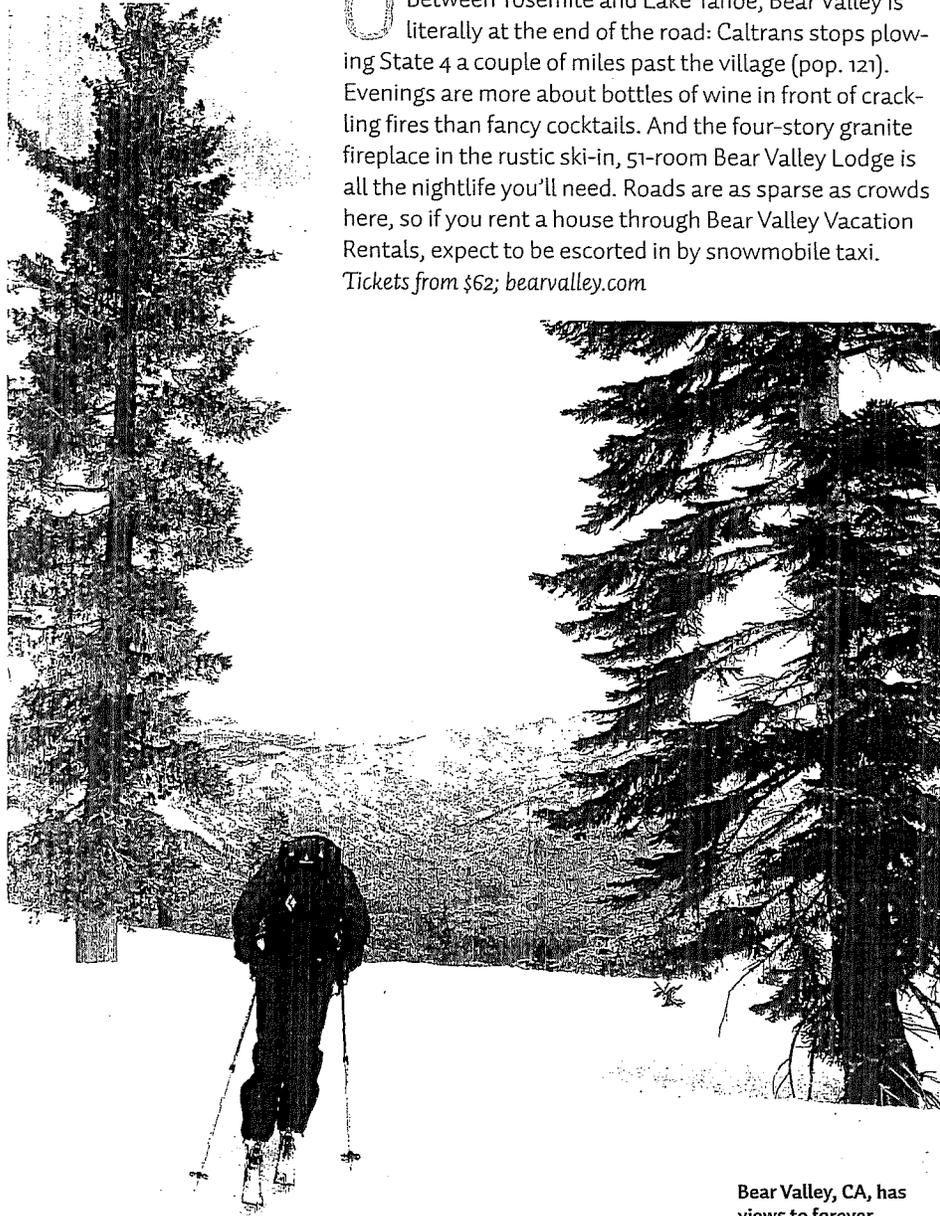
17 PIE IN THE SKY CAFE Fresh pies at 9,700 feet. Get there early; the King family's legendary slices (from \$7) sell out by midday. rockcreeklake.com.

18 RESTAURANT AT CONVICT LAKE Beef Wellington and bananas Foster at a rustic fishing resort south of Mammoth Lakes. \$\$\$; convictlake.com.

19 DEVILS POSTPILE NATIONAL MONUMENT Geology meets geometry in a massive rock formation of hexagonal columns formed by an ancient lava flow. From \$7; nps.gov/depo.

5 NEAR ARNOLD, CA
Off-the-grid Bear Valley

Between Yosemite and Lake Tahoe, Bear Valley is literally at the end of the road: Caltrans stops plowing State 4 a couple of miles past the village (pop. 121). Evenings are more about bottles of wine in front of crackling fires than fancy cocktails. And the four-story granite fireplace in the rustic ski-in, 51-room Bear Valley Lodge is all the nightlife you'll need. Roads are as sparse as crowds here, so if you rent a house through Bear Valley Vacation Rentals, expect to be escorted in by snowmobile taxi. Tickets from \$62; bearvalley.com

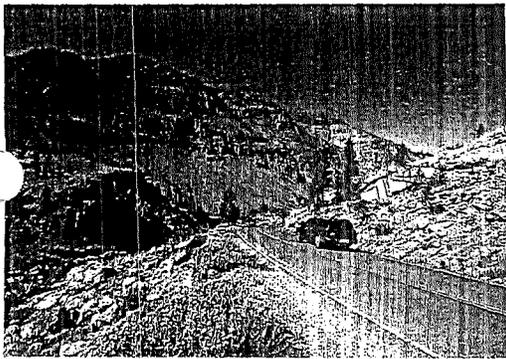


Bear Valley, CA, has views to forever.

6 NEAR SALIDA, CO
Real snow at Monarch Mountain

This south-central Colorado resort, built by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression, doesn't do manmade snow. Nor does it do attitude: Venture into the terrain park, and others will cheer you on even if you never break out of a snowplow. For a taste of the local laid-back flavor, head to Salida, 25 miles east of Monarch Pass, where Wood's High Mountain Distillery hopes to open this season, with small-batch gins and whiskeys. Tickets from \$52; skimonarch.com ■

DAVID FENTON



SIERRA SECRET

BEST MOUNTAIN DRIVE Sonora & Ebbetts Passes

Only a few roads cut through the Sierra from west to east. If speed's your goal, set cruise control and take I-80 over Donner Summit. But locals argue about which other mountain pass boasts the best scenery. Which is why you shouldn't drive just one. Instead, take a weekend for a road trip on States 4 and 108.

Day 1: From Arnold, drive State 4 to Bear Valley. Just beyond, Lake Alpine Resort serves up a hearty trout-and-eggs breakfast, and rents kayaks. Heading east, 4 curlicues up and over Ebbetts Pass's 8,732-foot summit. Two right turns take you first over State 89's Monitor Pass, then south on U.S. 395 through the rugged Walker River canyon. For dinner and a motel room, Bridgeport (see p. 61) is your best bet.

Day 2: From Bridgeport, State 108 runs west to climb steep switchbacks past thick stands of aspens and craggy volcanic outcroppings to the 9,624-foot Sonora Pass. West of the summit, Kennedy Meadows Resort has hamburgers and horseback rides. At Donnell Vista, walk the path that shows off the Yosemite-like gorge of Donnell Reservoir. Cap off the trip with a swim at Pinecrest Lake, and dream of doing it all again in reverse. **Passes (call for opening date):** (800) 427-7623. **Lake Alpine Resort:** from \$150 (open May 24); lakealpineresort.com. **Kennedy Meadows:** from \$68 (restaurant open mid-May); kennedy-meadows.com. **Pinecrest Lake:** fs.usda.gov/stanislaus. —A.M.B.

Valley in a sheer 3,000-foot wall that shouts, We are what mountains are all about.

As for McGee Creek Pack Station, it's a tidy 90-year-old scattering of wooden buildings set beneath cottonwood trees. I stroll down to the corral, meet owners Lee and Jennifer Roeser, and exchange good mornings with the other blue-jeaned, sunblocked clients.

One of the wranglers leads a string of chestnuts and roans, and matches mount to rider. Up I go on Lance, with wranglers shouting advice: "Sit up tall. Heels down, legs straight. Weight on the balls of your feet."

The pack station sits at 7,600 feet. Our destination, Big McGee Lake, is 3,000 feet higher. This gets at an essential fact of the Eastern Sierra Nevada: It is very steep. The tectonic science is complex, says Moores, who roamed the range with John McPhee for the writer's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Annals of the Former World*. The Sierra and California's Central Valley ride on their own microplate, which is performing a geological minuet with the North American and Pacific plates. The dance has lifted a mountain range that is like a giant hinge at its apex, with a gentler western slope and a steeper slope on the eastern side. Indeed, the Sierra Crest is still growing, says Moores, "a couple of millimeters a year."

Now, riding Lance, I'm clomping pretty much straight uphill. This, of course, explains the appeal of the pack trip, a Sierra tradition that dates back to 19th-century surveyors, miners, and anyone who needed to haul stuff: It's better to have a four-footed animal lug you and your gear upward than it is to carry it all on your own two feet.

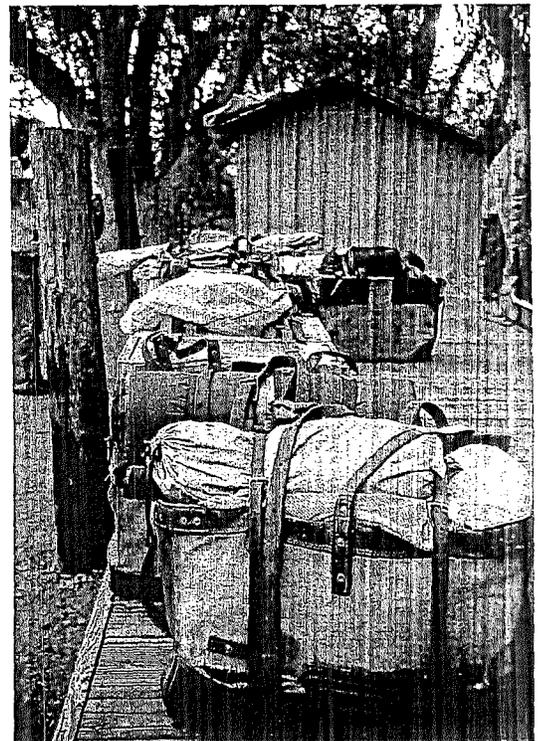
When our posse of riders passes a couple of backpackers, burdened by everything they'll need for the weekend, I think I should feel guilty, but feel triumphant. We carry nothing. The Roesers' mules and horses—general rule is horses carry people, mules carry stuff—lug us and all our gear.

Lee Roeser's family has been leading tourists through the Sierra, in addition to other packing work, since the 1950s. He was raised at a station one canyon north. Jennifer grew up on horses—"my first babysitter was a quarterhorse named Toby"—and began working pack stations in her teens. They have the tanned good looks of models in an outdoor-clothing fashion spread, and have made their lives in these mountains, sharing them with others. "I never take the Sierra for granted, but it's a good place to introduce people to the wilderness," says Jennifer. "It's a gentle mountain range."

As we continue up the canyon, I agree. The air has warmed up and the peaks glow with midmorning sun. Wildflowers—paintbrush and monkshood—are firecrackers of color. For all their ruggedness, these mountains aren't brooding. McGee Canyon, especially, is welcoming: Each turn of the trail brings a new view, as if the Sierra were saying, You thought that was pretty, now look at this.

And yet. There's a paradox to the Sierra.

McGee Creek's packers take pride in neatly stowed provisions, tied to mules with elegant hitches.



BEST MOUNTAIN LODGE

Kit Carson Lodge

The perfect Sierra lodge should at once give you lots of things to do and make it hard for the outside world to annoy you. Karen and Mike Riddle's version of this ideal retreat sits on Silver Lake—a sapphire blue lake where you can swim, or rent a kayak and paddle out to the lake's Treasure Island. A short drive away is all the hiking you'll ever need: Easy treks include the 1-mile trail to Granite Lake. For the more ambitious, a 3.6-mile trail ascends Thunder Mountain.

Then there's the lodge parlor, which has knotty pine walls, a stone fireplace, and landscape paintings by local artists. Comfy chairs and small tables invite protracted games of cribbage. Seclusion? Most cell phones don't work, although they'll let you use the house phone if you need it. And don't forget your French press: Though fixed up in 2011, the lodge still has generators that don't tolerate electric coffeemakers in the otherwise well-stocked cabin kitchens.

Still, you'll feel like you're in the hub of it all on Sundays, when the lodge's chef caters an outdoor barbecue with sticky slabs of pork ribs and roasted chicken. Like the Kit Carson itself, they're perfect. Rooms from \$130, cabins from \$180; kitcarsonlodge.com. —A.M.B.

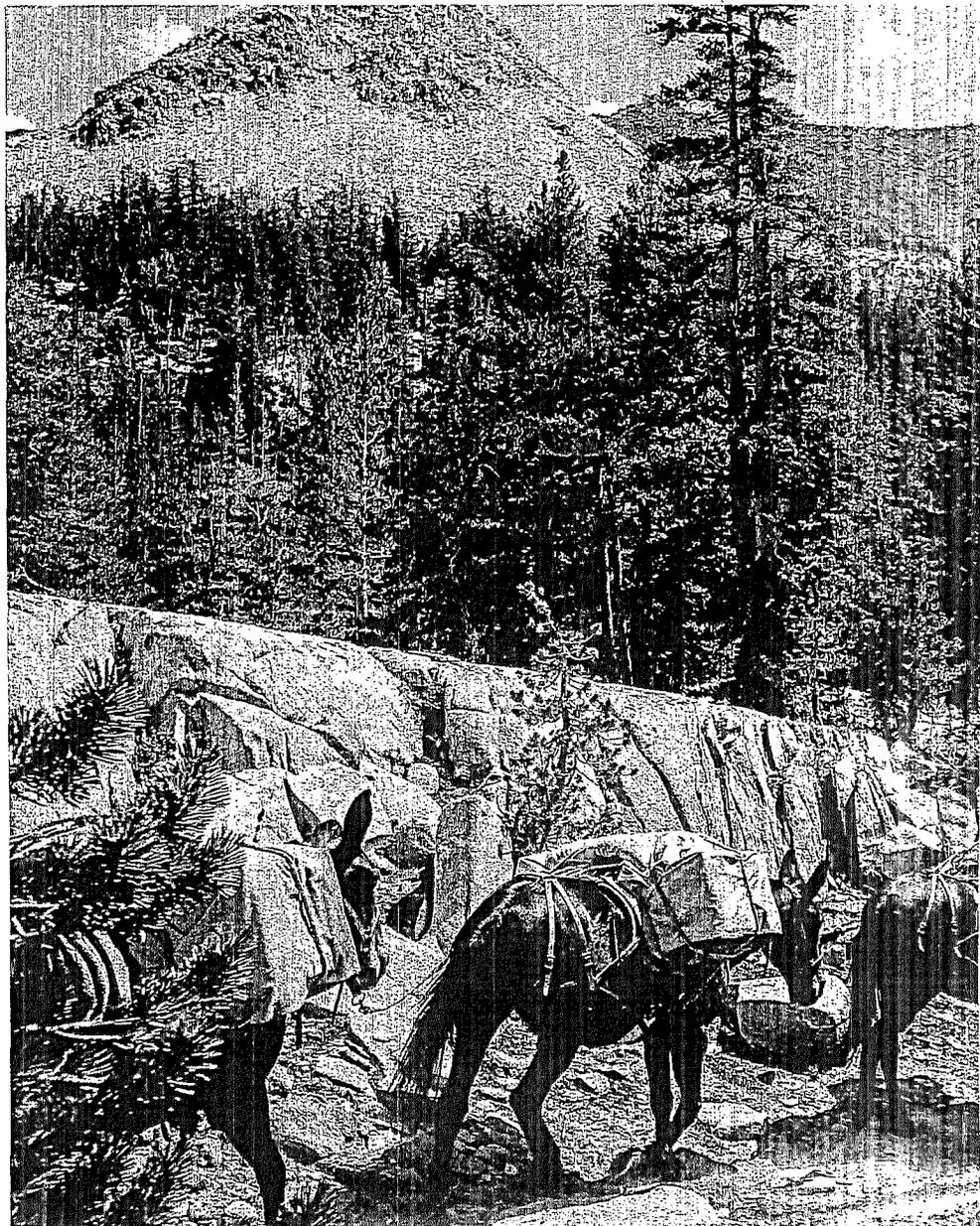
People collide with it. Even conservation icon John Muir, who came as close as any human could to fully knowing this place, was humbled and stunned by it. In the summer of 1911, when he first reached the Sierra's crest, he began almost to babble, saying the mountains made people feel “dissolved and absorbed and sent pulsing onward we know not where.”

Or take Cheryl Strayed in her best-selling memoir of hiking the Pacific Crest Trail, *Wild*. On her first night in the mountains, she recalls, she “stared out over the land in a demolished rapture, too tired to even rise

and walk to my tent.”

Or me, for that matter. My first High Sierra experience was hiking up Mt. Whitney at age 16. My father and I were joining some of his Lions Club friends, none of them hikers. I'd never been above 5,000 feet. We hiked through rain, hail, lightning, and altitude-induced nausea. All of my dad's buddies gave up and turned back. When he and I reached the summit, I was for some time too sick to notice. Eventually I recovered, and looked out from 14,505 feet at the spiky line of Sierra peaks that stretched north and south with the rest of the North American

Sierra mules are typically loaded with as much as 150 pounds of gear.



Sunset May 2013

continent spreading out below. Wow, I remember thinking, so this is what the planet can do.

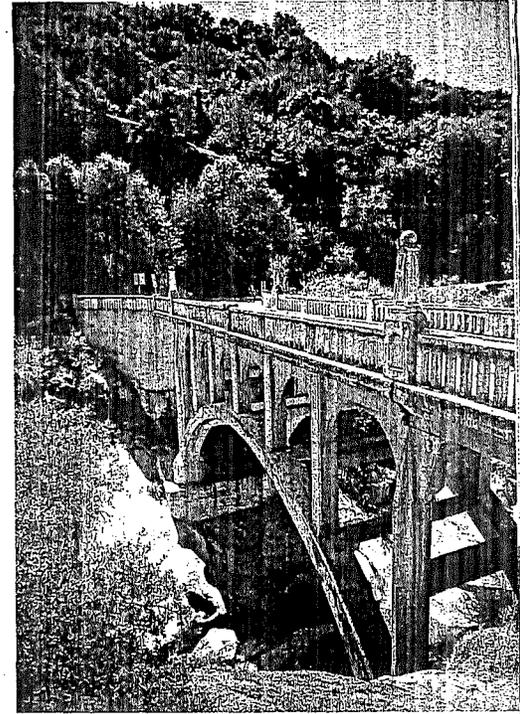
IT'S NOON WHEN we reach Big McGee Lake, set in a green damp meadow and, despite its name, smallish. The air smells of sunlight, lake water, and horse. Wranglers tie up horses and mules, unload camp stoves and sleeping bags: This is camp. I climb off Lance onto solid ground, feeling sore already.

I look up at the surrounding peaks—Crocker, Red and White—which I now know from Moores are infinitesimally taller than

when we started out this morning. It's a view that can make somebody tremble, not just from horse-weary muscles but from the sense of arriving at the summit of a growing, beautiful world.

That's the real secret of the Sierra, I realize. Big McGee Lake, Mt. Whitney, the meadow where you saw your first bear, the granite sparkling in the sun: They all loom as large in reality as they do in your mind. And they've been waiting for you all this time.

McGee Creek Pack Station: All-day trail ride \$125; pack trips from \$200; mcgeecreekpackstation.com.



SIERRA SECRET

Best alpine valley **MINERAL KING**

Part of the drama of Mineral King comes just from getting there. The 25-mile, nearly 7,000-foot climb starts innocently enough in Three Rivers, one of Sequoia National Park's gateway towns. But before you know it, Mineral King Road is leading you on a succession of twists and blind corners with drop-offs above a seemingly bottomless canyon. And farther up, through forest where massive, cinnamon-hued trunks of giant sequoias dwarf the surrounding trees.

A few miles past Silver City Mountain Resort, the only non-camping option along the way, the road rounds the last of its nearly 700 turns then dead-ends at Mineral King Valley.

At this point, it's fine to gasp, but you're not done. The glacier-carved valley is the jumping-off point for hikes in meadows of wildflowers, along creeks that tumble through stands of aspen, up to alpine lakes with views of cascades down mountain faces. Those 700 turns? Worth it, every one of them. *Mineral King Valley: \$20/vehicle (open May 22); nps.gov/seki. Silver City resort: From \$100 (open May 24); silvercityresort.com. —Matthew Jaffe*

Enjoying fruits of a self-sown garden

by Karen Dustman

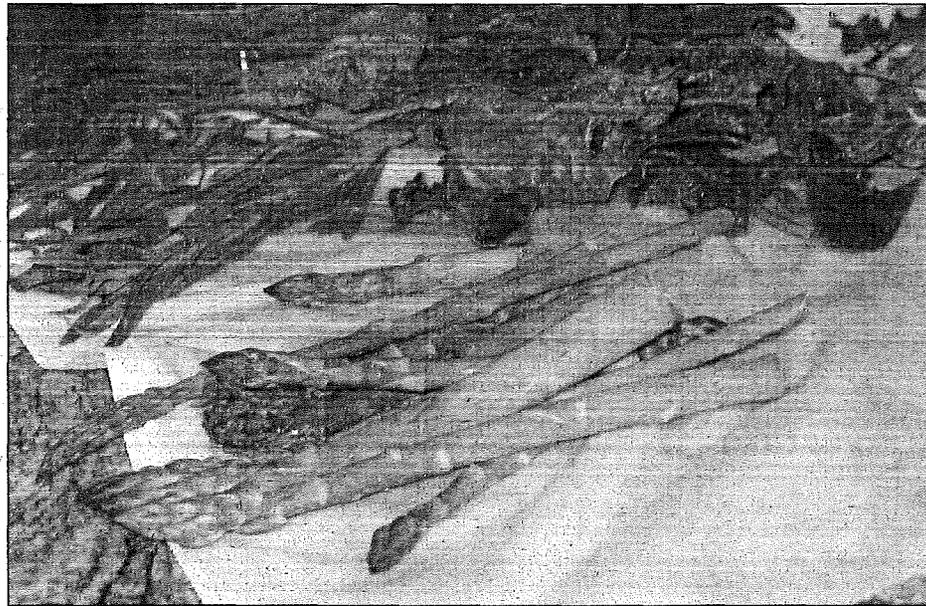
It's the best time of the gardening year: enjoying the fruit of things you never planted.

While my husband is out in the greenhouse toiling away (40 flats of carefully-planted seeds, and counting), I'm already reaping an early harvest from last year's garden. The spinach is up all over, scattered wide by the wind. Asparagus, too, is ready for picking, with not an ounce of my effort toward this delightful crop. The large tarragon plant that resurrects itself every year has already put out six inches of new growth.

Best find of all: a veritable green carpet of cilantro, trying hard to preempt the spot where the tomatoes will soon go. It's just two inches high so far, but immune to cold nights and making the most of these the much-warmer days. And if I don't pick it now it will soon get tilled under, along with the occasional weed sprouting companionably along with it.

And what do to with this first harvest of the season? Spinach and asparagus are easy. There's not enough of those to last long, anyhow.

For tarragon and other herbs, my dad taught me an easy trick: just wash, pat dry,



Self-sown asparagus from Karen Dustman's self-sown garden.

then pop it in the microwave on a paper towel until the leaves are crispy (roughly a minute). For some reason the color stays much greener with microwave drying, unlike traditional air-dried herbs. I save my tiny harvest in glass jars and use it all

winter long, savoring memories of days like today.

Best of all is the early cilantro harvest. Some of it, of course, makes its way into fresh salsa. The microwave trick also works well for drying this aromatic herb,

though it's never quite as flavorful as when fresh-picked.

But even with the small early crop, it's easy to find yourself with way too much cilantro on your hands. My favorite solution: a frozen cilantro pesto. Plastic ice cube trays make it easy to pop out the right amount for future use. And the flavor stays nearly as good as when fresh. Another wonderful treat from your un-sown garden for the middle of winter.

CILANTRO PESTO

Wash cilantro well, and remove the largest stems. Pat dry.

Place a generous bunch of cilantro in food processor or blender with:

- ½ c. olive oil
- 1-2 Tb. lemon juice (to taste)
- pinch of red pepper
- ½ tsp. salt

Blend well.

Fill plastic ice cube trays with mixture, using rubber spatula to press into cells.

Freeze until solid, then remove individual cubes. Store in the freezer in plastic freezer bag until ready to use. Defrost as needed.

Serving suggestion: Top black beans and rice with spoonfuls of Cilantro Pesto; garnish with diced tomatoes.

SPECIAL TO R-C

Remembering those who came before

April, this side of the valley, was a long, very cold drink of much needed irrigation water. The season's first is always the longest with shoveling out clumps and bunches of sticks, weeds and what not that flow into the ditches. You have to adjust all the boxes, fix any that blow out. Fill in squirrel holes. Dig some new trenches. Shore up banks worn down over winter. Thankfully there was plenty of water the first run while repairs were made. Water is going to be tight.



Marie Johnson
Fencelines

But for now May is coming on nice and green making cleaning the cemetery a little more pleasant.

Fredericksburg cemetery, just up the hill, is where I am supposed to be buried after

my run here. Years ago, as a bride for less than one year, my husband came home one afternoon with a sheet of paper showing we now owned an eight-person burial plot. At the time barely knowing a single soul buried there, I certainly had no idea who would be the other six sharing our plot.

For six generations my husband's relatives have gone to the cemetery before Memorial weekend to clear out tumbleweeds, pull fresh weeds, trim

bushes, fill in squirrel holes, collect bits of trash, wipe dust off head stones, and tell stories to remember people I never met, and some I did.

There are war veterans, decorated with flags each Memorial Day, throughout the place. As well as long-married couples. Beloved wives and mothers. Loving fathers. Small granite markers with "baby" carved in block letters, and a date. There are simple

BEFORE, 1

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BEFORE

From page 10

flat stones, dried wooden markers, huge ornately carved family monuments. All finding rest.

This quiet cemetery is on a couple of acres donated years ago by the Bruns family. They also voluntarily turn on the water spigots early May and turn them off again before winter freeze. There is no power, so the flag, also donated each year, on the flag pole, thanks to the work of the Bergevin/Dressler family, and all those who dug the hole and poured

the concrete, only has solar powered lights, also donated, shining on it at night.

Headstones, some with names of the first immigrant families to settle in Carson Valley, don't want to be vandalized, taken or shown on television. If you could ask individuals under these stones they would probably say don't make a big fuss about us. Do the best you can, work hard, get things done. Make things better. And pretty sure, from the people I know buried there, the better would not just be for immediate gratification, but for generations

to come.

Last year people geocached items in Fredericksburg cemetery, causing a man to visit it. While hunting for the geocached things this man also found a civil war veteran marker and an elderly gentleman cleaning a family plot. The geocacher noticed other plots needing a good cleaning, so he contacted me offering extensive help sponsored by his employer. Thanking the man, but explaining the simple workings of the cemetery and its very limited budget, the cemetery board declined additional landscaping and decorative

improvements that would need to be taken care of for perpetuity.

Kinda sorry I deleted the geocacher's information. The cemetery could always use help before Memorial Day to tidy things up. Don't mind the dust, weeds, and lizards. Bring your own shovel and gloves. You won't get much recognition. Maybe a little personal gratification for a necessary job well done. Like some early residents might have felt before settling here for good.

Marie Johnson is a Carson Valley rancher.

Watershed Group seeks coordinator

Staff Reports

The Alpine Watershed Group is looking for a new watershed coordinator to manage the organization's water quality monitoring programs and watershed restoration.

The coordinator also assists with office management and organizational fundraising, and reports to the senior watershed coordinator. This is a contract position at 30-40 hours a week with an initial contract period of six months. Compensation will depend on experience.

The position is based in Markleeville.

The Alpine Watershed Group preserves and works to enhance the natural system functions of Alpine County's watersheds for future generations.

The group monitors water quality, assists with restoration projects and engages community participation in order to help maintain

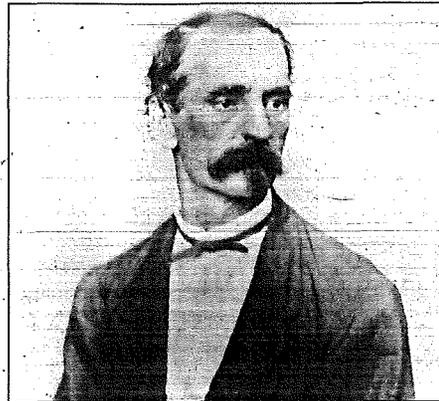
healthy watershed systems projects in the headwaters of the Carson, Mokelumne, Stanislaus, American and Truckee River watersheds.

The watershed coordinator position is supported by funding from the California Department of Conservation, Carson Water Subconservancy District and the Alpine County Resource Advisory Committee.

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in environmental science, natural resource management, or related field and experience with water quality monitoring and data analysis. Restoration experience is also preferred. Three to five years demonstrated experience in project management in an environmental or conservation position is desired.

Anyone interested should contact the group at 530-694-2327 or watershed@alpinecountyca.gov for a complete description of duties, qualifications and application process.

Alpine remembers founder



A tintype of Jacob Markley from the Alpine County Museum. Markleeville's founder was killed May 14, 1863.

Staff Reports

Tuesday marks 150 years since the founder of Markleeville was shot outside his cabin.

Jacob Markley moved to California to seek his fortune in 1860 and staked out a claim where the town of Markleeville now stands. A dispute over a partnership agreement led to Markley's untimely end in 1863.

At high noon on March 18, Markleeville residents

will re-enact the untimely death of town namesake Jacob Markley at the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce.

Actors will include Supervisor Don Jardine as Markley, Supervisor Ron Hames as the Constable, Steve Hibbs as the shooter, and a cast of other locals. The chamber will be serving cookies and punch, and crafters' booths will also be on hand to help celebrate the first Jacob Markley Day.

Forest Service to close recreational area

Staff Reports

Plans to reduce fuels from the Nevada state line to Cascade Lake will close the popular recreational area through June starting this month.

About 280 acres between Golden Bear Estate off Pioneer Trail and Sierra Tract is among the areas slated for work this year.

The project includes the thinning of trees and brush to reduce the risk of wildfire and improve forest health, according to a statement.

The Forest Service will officially close the area for about two months due to the hazards posed by heavy equipment operation and falling trees.

After work is completed,

the Forest Service will restore official trails, but will not restore user-created trails.

As the field season progresses, thinning may also take place where conditions allow, including Christmas Valley, Fallen Leaf Lake, Meyers, the Highway 89 corridor, Gardner Mountain and the Pioneer Trail side of Trout Creek.

TRIBE

From page 10

our homeland. This was natural leadership, dahtohmusheh, like the elders before us, had been.

What you, the council admits, is that you have no knowledge of, and are in need of education about the invasive species of plants and animals, like those Asian clams now surfacing on Tahoe shores.

The constitution the Washo adopted in 1934 needs to be designed to meet the values and principles of that Washo system, which was given to the Washo people to do just that. Self-determination, self-governance, and these words are the traditional Washo ways, so why isn't it working for us? Why do we have homeless and hungry?

We have to start with a think tank using

Washo brain power to make constitutional changes, which in all aspects of the Washo world are customs, traditions, beliefs. It makes sense because that has checks and balances of that fail safe system that we need to get back to, unlike this constitution that currently dictates a design to our failing system.

Washo custom is to stop and listen to those who are there to help strengthen, include insight to be more prepared for a better outcome, for tribe.

The job of a good leader is to surround himself with competent individuals, people who can provide the professional skills, a good education to carry out the daily responsibilities. I look around, and see some very competent individuals who would make good employees of the tribal organization. I would give full support to give

those an opportunity to show what can be offered, just as I'm asking you to give me the chance to show you all that I can do this job. That makes for good service and production in those fields of expertise of the Washo people's business cooperation, known as the Washo Tribe of Nevada and California.

You may not like me, or are jealous in some shape or form. That keeps you, and the Washo people from going forward. The old hatefulness that now has divided us since 1859. Grudges that were before our time must end sometime. I say tonight's the night it gets done.

As your next chairman, I will provide the strength in leadership that this council needs, requires to be protected and provided for, and securing the people's business so that it protects and provides for them.

All of you stated you couldn't fill the shoes

of the leaders before you. Well if you asked me if I could do the chairmanship job, I would say I was born to do this job. Yes I could, and would do that job proudly, with all the powers of Washo way. I would do it for the return of the Washo. I would be there for what I've been told, taught, instructed to do, through oral tradition. Like the old people told me as I was growing up, "when you get there, if our offspring make it, could you tell them what we would've wanted them to know?"

I replied always, "Yes I would," and here we are 43 years later, and I'm asking you to let me show you what the old people wanted you to know. Pick me to be Washo tribe chairman. You'll not regret it.

Art George prepared this statement for his candidacy for Washoe Tribal chairman. ②

Tribe must return to the Washo way

What would I do as Washoe tribal chairman?

Let me give an example.

When I asked Vice Chairman Darrell Kizer what sacred geometry was, he said to me "That's where we're different. Knowing Washo and not knowing Washo."

And that's what qualifies me — knowing our Washo knowledge.

When I met with the vice chair he said that 90 percent of the council members had no clue what I said about the sacred

Art George Guest Opinion

estates document, or the DRIP document, or nonproxies at the last meeting in Woodfords, and that I needed to put it in laymen's terms.

This why I need to be the chairman. For you, for the people, for the return of natural leadership, bringing Washo traditional values into our organization.

Make me the chairman, and

I will educate each one of you on the settled laws of the Washo people. We will learn together the commercial and corporate laws that affect us together, so we may all be knowledgeable.

There are parts of the criminal activity, ignorance, and negligence. These are charges of crimes that have already been committed, and are on record, which all this council is being incriminated, or being pointed at, in newspaper, by the last tribal chairperson's attorney.

Second is the clarification

of where we stand, financially and legally. As a people and in business, I will provide the answers, clarification, in areas of Washo ranches, clinic, housing, social services, environmental department, allotments, burial grounds, court and law enforcement, to name a few.

And a big part of this order is our culture and beliefs, family ways of Washo, the return of an organization that existed before dahbohohs came to our land,

Friends of Hope Valley work day and benefit concert

Staff Reports

Friends of Hope Valley's annual workday is 9 a.m. June 8. Participants will meet at Pickett's Junction at highways 88 and 89 in Hope Valley and join in a work party of their choice.

Projects include watershed habitat improvement, general clean up and some fence repair. Bring work gloves, shovels, and fencing pliers.

There will be a general membership meeting at noon.

The watershed project will consist of planting willows along the West Fork of the

Carson River.

"This ongoing successful project has seen a positive effect on the river," organizers said. "The banks once denuded of vegetation are now lined with willows to stabilize the banks, preventing further channeling of the river and reducing sedimentation."

Hope Valley is a pristine valley in Alpine County. The West Fork of the Carson River runs through the middle of the valley serving as a focal point. Hope Valley is known for its varied recreational opportunities. It's a popular fishing area and wildlife is abundant throughout the valley.

The Friends of Hope Valley is a nonprofit

organization whose members share a deep affection for the unspoiled beauty of the Sierra's Eastern slope in Alpine County. Formed in 1985 in response to a proposal to run power transmission line through Hope Valley, the Friends have been successful in their ongoing protection efforts, including preserving more than 25,000 acres of open space in Hope Valley in eastern Alpine County.

On June 9, "The Back Forty" bluegrass band will return for a Friends of Hope Valley benefit concert this year. This event will take place at Sorensen's Resort located on Highway 88 in Hope Valley. The day will include music and food from the Sorensen's Cafe.

Accompanying "The Back Forty" will be Larry Nair and Beth Oliverto of "Ten Dollar Pony." Based in Gardnerville, they play a blend of original and cover tunes encompassing many styles including folk, pop, blues, and country rock to name a few.

"Spend an afternoon in a beautiful setting at Sorensen's Resort. Good music and good food will be guaranteed," organizers stated. "Sorensen's Resort is generous enough to host this event and match the funds raised."

A \$10 donation is requested for the no-host barbecue.

For more information email, info@hope-valleyca.com.

R.C. Fri., May 31, 2013

Bistate grouse rules announced

Staff Reports

Both the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service issued records of decision to protect bistate sage grouse habitat, they announced on Friday.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest has published its bistate sage-grouse record of decision. The decision provides consistent management direction across the Forest to conserve, enhance, and restore sagebrush and associated habitats to provide for the long-term viability of the greater sage grouse bistate distinct population segment.

The species of grouse lives along the Nevada-California border from the Pine Nuts in Douglas County south to Mono Lake.

"The U.S. Forest Service, BLM and our stakeholders have been actively conserving BSSG for many years following a set of science based management practices," said Bill Dunkelberger, Forest Supervisor for the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. "Our plan amendments formally establish many of those management practices and ensure that BSSG conservation efforts continue far into the future."

The forest service manages 426,809

NEW RULES

When projects are proposed the forest will determine if it is consistent with the forest plan. If it's found to be inconsistent, officials can decide whether to analyze it further, modify it so it's consistent with the plan, determine if there are valid existing rights, determine alternatives, and if warranted authorize. The decision includes standards that prohibit activities that by their nature would have adverse effects on habitat. There are also guidelines that allow projects to be designed so they won't cause a disturbance. Human caused disturbances will affect 1.5 percent of the habitat within 4.7 miles of active and pending leks in the Pine Nut Mountains. No tall structures that could serve as predator perches with four miles of an

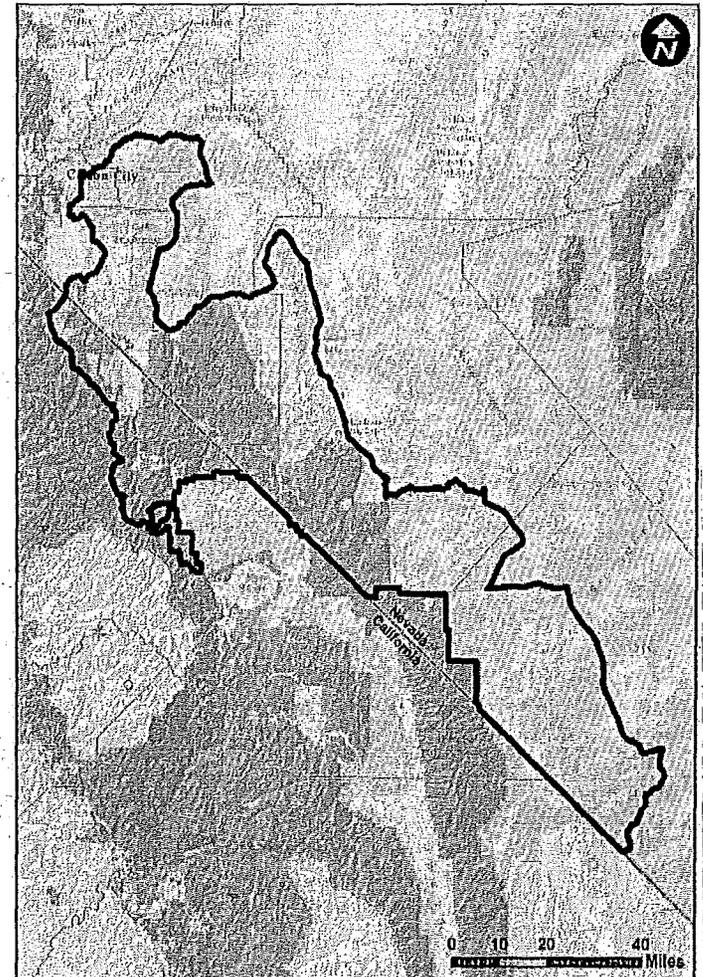
acres of bistate grouse habitat. The overall area includes 1.7 million acres. The BLM's final plan to conserve, enhance and restore sagebrush and associated habitats to provide for the long-term viability of a small but distinct population of greater sage-grouse on public lands in Nevada and California.

"This plan strikes a balance among public land uses and users and offers

active or pending lek. All new fences should be at least 1.2 miles from active and pending leks. New fences must be necessary for safety or environmental protection reasons. Mark fences in sage grouse habitat. Limit offsite noise to less than 10 decibels two hours before sunrise and two hours after sundown during active breeding season. New roads will be authorized only when needed for public safety, administrative or public need to accommodate valid existing roads. No off-highway evens that pass within four miles of an active or pending lek will be allowed between March 1 and June 30. Dates could shift based on observations. No off-highway vehicle events in winter habitats Nov. 1 to March 1. No new recreation facilities in habitat.

a workable solution to protect natural and cultural resources as well as the socio-economic fabric of the bi-state region," said John Ruhs, BLM Nevada State Director.

In developing the plan amendments, the forest service sought to provide regulations that would serve as conservation measures to prevent the listing of the BSSG. It was not warranted for listing in April of 2015.



Bi-State Sage Grouse Amendment Boundary Planning Map

Legend:
 - BLM Sage Grouse Amendment Boundary
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Forest Service

6/1/16
R-C

Mono, Alpine pet vaccinations this month

Staff Reports

Mono and Alpine counties will be hosting annual pet vaccination and licensing clinics this month.

Carson Valley Veterinary Hospital will be conducting vaccination clinics June 15 for northern Mono

County residents.

The clinic will be at the Walker Fire Hall 8:30-11:30 a.m., and at the Animal Control Building in Bridgeport 1-3:30 p.m.

Rabies vaccination are \$6. Licenses for dogs that have been fixed are \$10.

For more information,

call (760)932-5284.

The Alpine County Sheriff's Office will host an annual pet vaccination and licensing clinic 4-6 p.m. June 18 at the Woodfords Firehouse on Diamond Valley Road at Highway 89.

Reduced cost

vaccinations will be available as well as the dog licenses required for Alpine County residents.

Proof of rabies vaccination must be shown in order to obtain a dog license.

For more information you can call 530-694-2231 ext. 330

RC. Fri, June 7, 2013

Finding the Witness Tree

by Karen Dustman

History buffs always love a good mystery. Especially when you find a treasure in the end.

Our first clue in the mystery of the Witness Tree came in the shape of a map. Not just any map, mind you; this was a typewritten list of landmarks, arranged in the order that a traveler would find them. Compiled more than 50 years ago by Woodfords resident Grant Merrill, this "written map" contained a number of fascinating tidbits. Woodfords, for example, once was home to an old cooper shop and an "Indian ball park." Who knew?

But it was one cryptic reference that especially caught our eye. Sandwiched between the entries for the old Lincoln Schoolhouse and Snowshoe Thompson's Diamond Valley home was a notation: "Latter Day Saints' Baptismal Pond." What was the meaning of that? And most of all, where was it?

Yes, indeed, many early settlers in Diamond Valley during the 1860s and '70s were Mormons, local historian Laurie Hickey confirmed. Rancher Henry Wells, for example, was known to have carried a Mormon Bible with him through the Civil War. And other Diamond Valley families of the Mormon faith included the Singletons, Vallems, and Trimmers. The reference to a baptism site began to make sense. But where in the vast expanse of grass could it have been?

A second clue emerged

unexpectedly months later: another map. This time, a friend with an interest in local history found a sketch by her grandfather in the back of an old book, and immediately recognized its value. The sketch had been drawn by Harry Hawkins, a life-long Woodfords resident. And it, too, offered a small glimpse of Diamond Valley in days gone by. Featured prominently were the roads to Clogston's Ranch and Markleeville – and a small, branching icon marked "Witness Tree."

Clearly, this tree had been an important Diamond Valley landmark. Our friend, who has hiked nearly every inch of the area over the years, knew right away which tree must have been the mysterious Witness Tree. And she recalled there had once been a pond right beside it.

And so one recent morning we drove out to see for ourselves. There on the south side of Diamond Valley Road, just past the cluster of trees on the north marking the Ellis and Johns homesteads, one solitary tree stands out. This is more than a tree; it carries itself with silent dignity. Here was our Witness Tree.

Just to the south are remains of an earthen dam, built to channel and contain the water. And under the tree, the outline of a good-sized pond remains visible. We'd found the long-ago baptismal pond! For all the sea of grass, this small piece of history was still there.

Karen Dustman is an Alpine County resident.

R.C.

PEOPLE



Send the bears
Valley woman tries to get bears to Oklahoma
Page 5

Markleeville senior reaches out to tornado victims

by Caryn Haller
challer@recordcourier.com

Markleeville resident Gwen McGinley needs help getting some plush toys to Oklahoma.

The 99-year-old heard about businesses sending toys to survivors of the recent tornado, and wanted to help. Unfortunately, she's having trouble connecting with them.

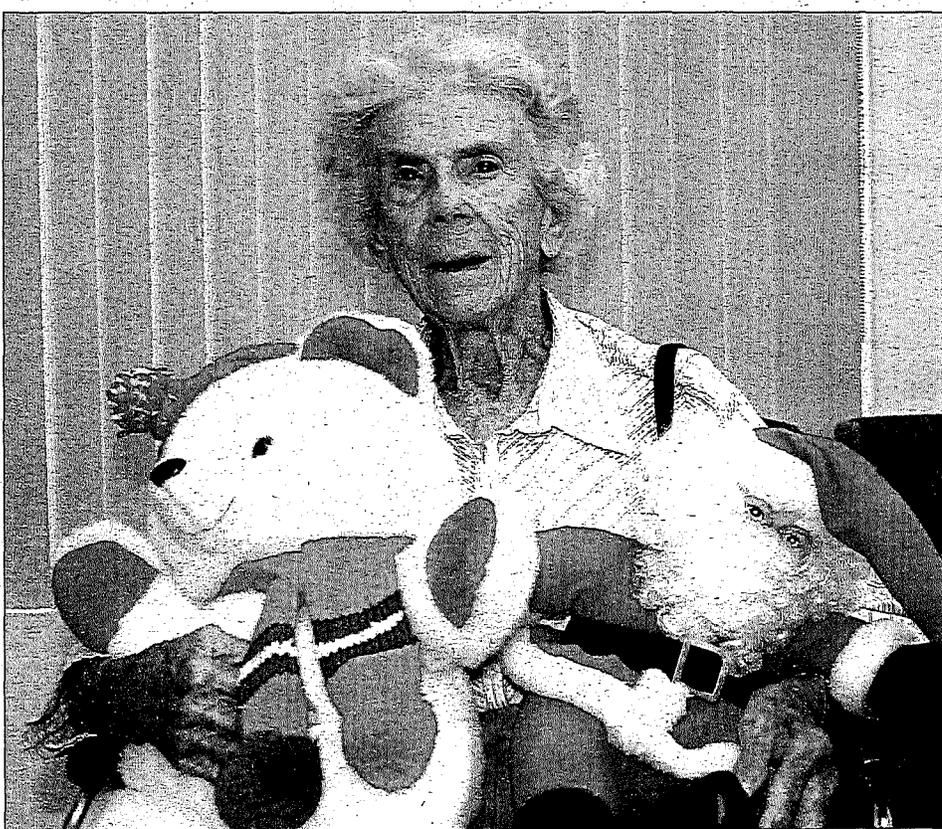
"I think somebody should have them that needs them," she said of her Christmas teddy bear and Santa Claus doll. "The people of Oklahoma need them."

McGinley was born April 6, 1914, in the Markleeville Hotel, now named the Wolf Creek Restaurant and Bar.

"My grandfather owned it, and my mom and aunt ran it," she said. "I helped in the hotel, and waited tables."

When she was 10, her family moved to San Pedro, Calif., where she eventually met and married her husband, and raised a family working as an office manager for Golden State Creamery and Chicken of the Sea.

After the death of her



CARYN HALLER

Gwen McGinley is trying to send plush toys to children in Oklahoma.

husband, John, she decided to move back home to Markleeville.

Being mostly blind,

McGinley lives with her daughter and son-in-law.

If anyone knows about a group collecting toys

for Oklahoma children, contact Diana Mitzner at (530) 694-9691, or come by The Record-Courier,

Honoring America's founding farmers

Five days driving east in our son's very small economy car, affectionately called the Clown Car, gets us to Richmond, Va. His new school prompted the drive to Virginia, but the amazing amount of early American history here keeps my husband and I driving around in it. So we're not home to verify what is happening in Carson Valley. But since it is June, I can assume hay season is in full swing. Irrigation water still flowing across uncut fields. And hay equipment is moving up and down the roads.

Driving up and down the roads in Virginia gets one to Mount Vernon, George Washington's estate. After a brief tour of only a few acres of this once 8,000-acre plantation, one can discern Washington was before, and after his presidency, a successful farmer and businessman. An information board located near re-enactments of early American agricultural practices stated Washington hoped American would one day be the cradle of agriculture for the world.



**Marie
Johnson
Fencelines**

Mount Vernon gives insight into Washington as a person, making him more real, but nothing unexpected is revealed. However at Jefferson's Monticello plantation there is something unexpected.

Jefferson is known as a free thinker, an appreciator of philosophy and the sciences, a promoter of the importance of an educated populace to govern its own free country. Public education is a prevailing theme. His very home could be considered a museum of natural history in the foyer alone.

Entering Monticello manor, the guide explains the foyer would have been much more cluttered when Jefferson was alive. Even so there were mastodon bones, teeth and jaw,

excavated from diggings in Tennessee, laying on tables around the room. White busts of men he admired, but did not necessarily like on the walls. Numerous large mounted animal horns. A multitude of Indian artifacts, arrows, quivers, clothing, animal skin drawings on display, hanging from railings. Large mounted wall maps of all the discovered continents of the time. There was a clock indicating date and time with bowling ball sized iron balls hanging from a pulley system. Stuff of all nature was everywhere. And this was still considered tidier than when Jefferson lived at Monticello. But this was expected of the man. He had a lot of ideas and wanted to share knowledge.

What was unexpected was the importance of Uriah Philip Levy. Jefferson, famous for his views on religious freedom, his actual public declaration of religious freedom touched Levy profoundly. Levy a successful military man of Jewish faith so admired Jefferson's philosophy

of religious freedom, that when Jefferson's estate and slaves were being sold to pay Jefferson's debts, Levy purchased Monticello to preserve it. The Levy family has a burial place there, recognizing the importance of preserving Jefferson's Monticello.

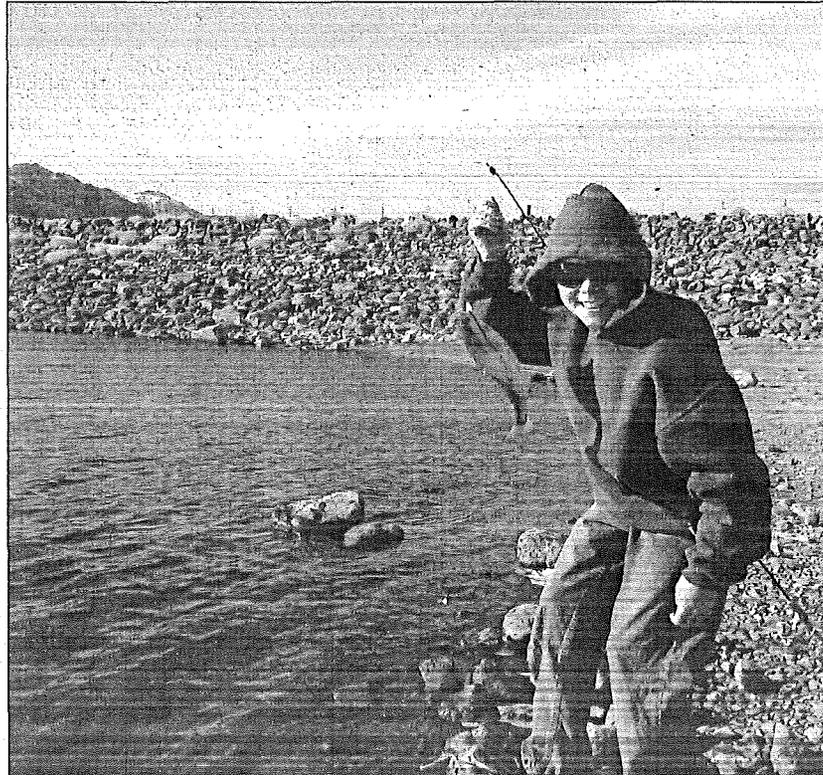
Religious freedom, a public declaration of freedom, is very important in American independence. Freedom from any prescribed, popular, unpopular, common or uncommon religious faith. Levy's family gravesite at Monticello then should not be unexpected after all. It is appreciated.

Another interesting fact my husband gathered after visiting Washington's and Jefferson's estates, was that both men had married healthy, wealthy, widows. An idea he has been mulling publicly as we drive around in the little clown car, as a guiding principle for a successful man.

Marie Johnson is a Carson Valley rancher.

RC. Wed., June 12, 2013

BIG CATCH



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Carson Love caught this fish at Indian Creek Reservoir recently. At left, Tiffany Lambert caught this 6-pound, 5-ounce Alpers trout on yellow glitter power-bait on June 2 at Little Virginia Lake.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Mitchell Levy is attending the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., Aug. 4-9.

by Caryn Hailer
challer@recordcourier.com

Alpine County resident Mitchell Levy is a typical 10-year-old boy who lives on a ranch, tends to his beehives, collects eggs from the chicken coop each day and helps out during planting season. He also has long conversations with his grandmother about quantum physics, national politics,

genetics and geology.

"When he was younger he asked me to write a letter to NASA about a concept he had about reverse gravity," his grandmother Arlene Levy said. "Mitchell is one of the brightest kids I've known in a long time."

NASA never wrote him back.

It was for his intelligence and maturity that the Scarselli Elementary

School sixth-grader was nominated by his teacher to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., Aug. 4-9.

"The advantage this program has for Mitchell is he's going to see kids who are more like he is," Levy said. "He will be able to take a look at how other kids like him think."

This program is meant to show fifth through

eighth grade students leadership through the lens of history.

There will be many speakers throughout the program some of them are congressmen, governors and other politicians. They will also be visiting the Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson memorials, and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

"At first I was nervous about not going with

my parents, but when I learned more about it, I was really excited to go," Mitchell said. "I am looking forward to the whole conference, but to be specific, all the memorials and learning leadership at the conference."

In preparation for the conference Mitchell is required to write an essay on his definition of leadership.

"A leader is a person who can help people through charity, and just earn their trust without bending them to your will," Mitchell said. "You don't want to be a dictator. You want to be a leader."

Scarselli teacher Chelsey Hawkins nominated Mitchell and three other students for the program. Ivy Barkdoll will also be attending.

"Mitchell, Ivy, and the other two candidates I nominated are future leaders because they exhibit good moral and ethical character, responsibil-

ity, kindness, strength, and perseverance. They are leaders who will help others succeed," Hawkins said. "Ivy and Mitchell are both very gifted students that excel in most if not all academic domains. They both are kind and charismatic young people full of great potential. Ivy and Mitchell are also very respectful of those around them. They do not have to struggle in school like some students, and yet they are both willing to help those around them to do their best."

The total cost including airfare to Washington D.C. is around \$3,000, and Mitchell said he is halfway there.

"People can donate by check or cash either directly to me or to the conference in my name. If you decide to do the latter please notify me because I am keeping track of all the money that has been donated to me," he added. "I don't have a way of handling credit, debit cards. I would also like the donor to give me their

address, because I would like to mail thank-you notes."

Donations may be mailed to Mitchell at 420 River Ranch Road, Markleeville, CA, 96120.

For more information about the Junior National Young Leaders Conference, visit the website <http://www.cylc.org/jrnylc>.

PAU-WA-LU HONOR ROLL

This is the honor roll for spring 2013 as submitted by Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School

Grade point average 4.0-3.81

Alexander, Wesley Joseph
Angelo, Kaehler Louis
Basche, Isabella Lorraine
Battcher, Kaycee Makaela
Bellik, Mychael Hannah
Bickmore, Lilyanne Jaide
Brees, Samuel Wilson
Brooks, Grace Lily
Brown, Holly Lily
Brown, Kenneth Connor
Buck, Peri Jo
Bunn, Sierra Winters
Clark, Sydney Ryan
Cottrill, Tara Dean
Coziahr, Kari Lynn
Coziahr, Kylie Danielle
Cronin, Alessandra Zephyr
Deitch, Sarina Lynn
Dragoo, Justin Ray
Dunkelman, Sean David
Forvilly, Kaela Christine
Frankiewicz, Leah Lynn
Garrison, Mikayla Rae
Gnaiting, Rebecca Merralee
Gomez, Kelly Jean
Grisell, Hanna Rose
Grove, Taran Bryce
Hallinan, Benjamin Joseph
Hillman, Danner Nicholas
Howe, Carly Elaine
Hurson, Lauren Ashliegh
Johnson, Samuel Raymond
Jordan, Madison Janara
Keasling, Ann Elise
Koontz, Shelby Lynn

Kyle, Logan Baines
Landerfelt, Madelyn Claire
LeBerth, Meagan Marie
Littrell, Sasha Johanna
Long, Ryan William
McGillivray, Kelsey Starr
Miller, Angela
Marie-Kotchkows
Miller, Dalton Robert
Morgan, Jasmine Cassandra
Muller, Emily Kate
Munoz Robles, Cristina
Alejandra
Nelson, Hallie Serina
Palmios, Jillian Sophia
Peters, Mackenzie Drew
Peterson, Isabelle
Petri, Tatianna Marguerite
Pisciotti, Shyla Rose
Ponsness, Lars Alan
Prudhomme, Emilie Grace
Putansu, Audrey Michelle
Ramm, Charlie William
Ramos, Cheila Esperanza
Raper, Corley Jo
Romanowitz, Matthew James
Sizelove, Hannah Eleanor
Stein, Angelina Paige
Stiles, Ivy Ariana
Tahti, Olivia Delia
Tholl, Kaelynn
Trivitt, Spencer Joseph
Horsley
Usher, Ethan Edward
Voss, Andrew Cathcart
Voss, Jordyn Lindsey
Ward, Kassidy Jordan
Weston, Macey Lou
Whiteley, Landon Reed
Wolfkiel, Sean Patrick

GPA 3.83-3.8

Anderson, Lillyan Eyulisa
Buckingham, Hannah Kelly
Cervenak, Nicolett Millie
Coleman, Desyrae Lyn
Cotton, Sydney Rose
Craik, Mackenzie Skye
de la Torre, Aurora Anahi
Donaire, Carlee Marie
Donat, Mitchell Franklin
Duarte Cortes, Maribel
Edis, Trevor Lee
Frels, Kathryn Marie
Garcia, Miguel Angel
Grove, Sarah Lynn
Hill-Holeman, Clinton Nolan
Hinnant, Kyla Marie
Hulley, Alissa Renee
Hudnall, Lindsay Eliza
Jackson, Talyn Ashlee
Kobold, Hunter Michele
Lowther, Jason Mark
Melhus, Mason Jonathan
Melhus, Samuel Krist
Morgan, Cassidy Nicole
Morlan-Tabor, Chance
Andrew
Process, Amanda Faith
Rothfusz, Brynn Judith
Ruppel, Jonathan Herbert
Shuman II, Jerit Troy
Sides, Savannah Ciera
Snooks, Trenton Lavoy
Souza, Tanner William
Spaniol, Mary Leann
Swart, Lindsey Grace
Teeuwen, Ashlee Michelle
Thompson, Claire Margarita
Torres, Genesis Leaza
Vicente Becerra, Maria
Guadalupe

Westre, Alexander Evan
Zivkovic, Cheyenne Michael
Perry, Gavin Lane

GPA 3.67-3.50

Ashbaugh-Komp, Madison
Gale
Bailey, Jenelle Cathryn
Chen, Ryan
Forbes, Hannah Jean
Futch, Tristan Andrew
Harmon, Rowan Bryanne
Hoggard, Cora Lynn
Hone, Emily Margaret
Ingrey, Zachary Tobias
Jacobs, Eric Oliver
Jacobsen, Joseph Gilbert
Kaufmann, Spencer Grant
Kelly Jr, John Paul
Martin, Rebecca Riley
McLaughlin, Brady Ryan
Montanucci, Fallon Taylor
Moore, Jade Gloria Elaine
Morton, Rebecca Sue
Northcutt, Cameron Matthew
Oakes, Jasmine Santana
Parmeter-Jones, Paige Lynn
Peck, Casey Marie
Phillips, Cody Lane
Phillips, Justin Ryan
Sperry, Emma Elizabeth
Tewalt, Annie Isabella
Vicente-Garcia, Jose Alberto
Adams II, William George
Adams, Ryan Phillip
Brooks, Colin McCarthy
Caughron, Taylor Shay
Chieffo, Rebecca Jean
Cockman, Dawson Edward
Craig, Peyton Hyland
Demus, Lukas Philip

Dittberner, Jayme Arlene
Faith
Downes, Sarah Marie
Gold, Christopher Allan
Hernandez, Brian Lopez
Hollis, James Riley
Hoyopatubbi, Kane
Jackson, Tre Andrew
Johnson, Amber Alene
Johnson, Michael Anthony
Leitenbauer, Tomas William
McNalley, Madison Grace
Murray, Blake Allen
Peters, Madison Grace
Rao, Thomas James
Rickard, Ethan Andrew
Rogers, Cristina Michelle Ann
Rose, Laura Danielle
Ross-Dee, Breanna Cheyenne
Smith, Leeland Matthew
Stamper, Emma Kate
Swearingen, Olivia Lorene
Tierney, Trevor Richard
Trauner, Jordan Victoria
Vega, Samantha Marsol
Wilkinson, Riley Shane
Wright, Patricia Ann

GPA 3.43-3.33

Angelo, Mark Mathew
Kulik, Katherine Elise
Gallagher, Parker Thomas
Agner, Fannie Margarette
Allen, Brittany Suzanne
Allmett, Taryn Elyse
Bertolone-Smith, Everett
Scott
Brewer, Cory Daniel
DelPrete, Lauryn Olivia
Diaz Gomez, Karina Briseida
Dorius, Drew Taylor

Edge, Aspen Aleshannah
Evans, Kelly Marie
Flores, Jennifer Hernandez
Foster, Jayden Clay
Gasper, Taylor Elizabeth
Gold, Stephanie Ann
Gonzalez, Kelly
Hansen, Christian Taryn
Hart, Jace Raymond
Hedwall, Peyton Rae
Isham, Kindel Patrick
Javier, Christian Blaize
Jensen, Joshua Michael
Jordan, Nischelle Ann Marie
Komp, Angelle Leigh
McDonald, Dale Patrick
Medicine Crow II, Beau
Mehoves, Madelynne Kristina
Miller, Sidney Nichole
Mora, Hannah Sophia
Neese, Shyla Marie
Pierce, Kaylee Ann
Rieman, Rosealee Ally
Rouse, Jake Carlton
Ryan, Brianna Marie
Satterfield, Alyssa Nicole
Smokey, Tahomah Hugh
Sosa Hernandez, Alejandro
Still, Madison Jordon
Swab, Cassandra Marie
Thompson, Samuel James
Walker, Amy Kathrine

pg 2

Another skirmish on the varmint front

by Karen Dustman

The Rabbit Wars have begun. My husband's pellet gun is propped menacingly by the back door. And that familiar set to his jaw has returned: the one that says, "Anything with ears bigger than mine is a goner."

Early spring brings the Vole Wars. As the snow melts off, temperatures rise inside the house as well. "Did you see that?!!" The voice isn't a sonic boom, but it's close. "They've been busy ruining my lawn all winter!" Khrushchev would have been pounding his shoe.

Out come the mousetraps. Voles, I have learned, are creatures of habit. Once they've constructed their tunnels under the snow they keep using them, even when that protective snow covering is gone. A properly laid mousetrap doesn't even need bait; voles only have a taste for tender roots anyway. Snap!

As the vole body-count

mounts and our lawn begins to recover, things settle back down. But only temporarily.

Next come the Blackbird Wars. The worst thing about blackbirds is we're basically at their mercy. They stuff nests in every available bush and tree and before you know it, every corner of the yard is filled with bobbing, begging baby bird heads. Momma and poppa go on permanent patrol, yapping at any misguided human daring to set foot outside, and dive-bombing if you didn't get the message.

They're a nuisance, but even my husband can't bring himself to rip out inhabited nests. Next year, he swears, there'll be better reconnaissance for nests under construction.

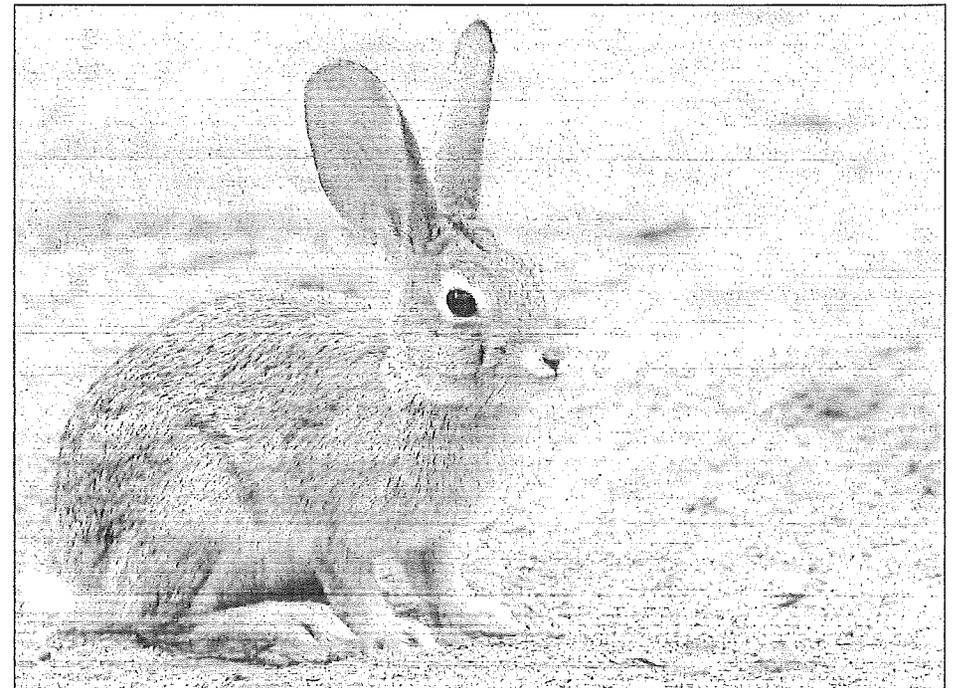
About the same time as the Blackbird Wars heat up, a side skirmish begins with the Groundsquirrel Wars. It's not much of a competition; groundsquirrels don't stand a chance against poison pellets. I'm not quite

sure how many bait stations we're up to now. Four? Five? A hundred? All I know is the stuff isn't cheap. But hey, it's one war we can win. Cost is no object, right?

Once the garden is freshly planted, the Mole Wars commence. Moles, not to be confused with voles, also live underground. They're after bugs, not roots, but their tunnels wreak havoc on lovingly-raised baby plants.

This is another war that can decimate the bank account. We've tried solar-powered ground thumpers (the noise is supposed to chase them away). If there's a mole-snicker, we've heard it. We've used smokers to stink them out (yawn). For a while, the garden was decorated with sharp-toothed metal traps, poised to launch themselves downward to spear tunnelers. Nah.

Finally, my husband discovered an underground gun – yes, a gun. It's



SHANNON LITZ/RC FILE PHOTO

Rabbits are common critters in Alpine and Douglas counties.

supposedly air that does the trick, not a bullet, but it was just the type of high-tech weapon that could take on these cunning enemies. "Only" a hundred bucks. This is war, right? Body

count from Big Bertha: two mole casualties so far. By far the most successful mole strategy my husband discovered purely by accident: wait for the ground to move, and flip them over

the fence with a shovel. Wallet damage: zero.

This week the Rabbit Wars have commenced. Battalions of bouncy jacks

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Continued on next page

VARMINT

From page 8

and platoons of frisky cotton-tails have staked out their positions beneath the nearby sagebrush, ready to descend en masse onto my husband's perfectly-manicured lawn when he's not looking. Worse yet, they've developed a taste for flowers. Traps are useless. Bait won't attract them. And no matter what my husband says, they're cute as the dickens.

The pellet gun came out this week. No truce is possible. But they have sheer numbers on their side.

So far, at least, the rabbits are winning.

Karen Dustman is an author and a Markleeville resident.

Friends of Library host fundraiser

Staff Reports

Markleeville's Plein Air event will wrap up Saturday with a reception at noon for the 20 participating artists at Markleeville Art and Soul.

That evening, in Woodfords, the Friends of the Library will be hosting their fifth annual "Wine In the Garden" fundraiser 4-8 p.m. at the Mountain Garden Bed & Breakfast.

Linda Merrill, owner of the B&B is hosting

the event on her property located at 250 Old Pony Express Road in Woodfords.

Raffle tickets are \$3 each or four for \$10 for a chance to win free wine tastings at area wineries and free accommodations, meals, and crafts from Alpine businesses and artisans.

Tickets are \$20 each, or \$35 for two, and come with a crystal wine glass. All proceeds benefit the Alpine County Friends of the Library. For more

information, or to make a donation, call the Library at (530) 694-2120.

For additional information about the Plein Air event, contact Markleeville Art and Soul at (530) 694-2787 or visit the website markleevilleartandsoul.com, where you will find a complete schedule of activities and more information about each artist. To contact Evelyn Yonker call her home studio (530) 694-2750 or email evelynyonker@gmail.com.



SPECIAL TO THE RC

Wine is served at last year's Friends of the Library summer fundraiser in Woodfords.

Get out and about, but clean up after yourself

Hello fellow anglers.

The fishing as well as the weather is heating up for this weekend. Summer has finally found us.

It is time to get out the camping gear and head out to higher grounds to beat the heat, and enjoy some good fishing. This weekend you will find Renee and I out all over Alpine County. We will be camped out at Indian Creek Reservoir and head out from there.

We plan on fishing Silver Creek, the east and west fork of the Carson River and might even make it up to Caples Lake. Meteorologist Mike Alger says it will only be in the high 80 to 90 degree range in the higher elevations.

Much cooler than our home, which is to be over 100 degrees. Remember to bring a few things with you if you venture out this weekend. Plenty of sun screen SPF-50 and bug repellent as the mosquito's are out.

When venturing out try to remember the seven principles of leave no trace, No. 1: plan ahead and prepare, No. 2: travel and camp on durable surfaces, No. 3: Dispose of waste properly, No. 4: Leave what you find. No. 5: Minimize campfire impacts, No. 6: Respect wildlife, No. 7: Be considerate of other visitors. You can find more information by Googling "leave no trace." Now for



**Doug
Busey
Mac-the-
Naw**

your fishing report.

LAKE TAHOE: Mackinaw action has been very good in the early morning hours. Last week I joined Gene St. Denis, Paul and Turner Crain from Sacramento, Calif., and Tim and James Dondelinger of Dayton.

We fished the north side of the lake starting out in 120 feet of water with a dodger and a minnow. As the morning progressed we fished deeper water up to 200 feet. We landed 10 mackinaw trout from 2 to 5 pounds and lost 6 others. The lake was like a picture post card with only a hint of wind. Tim told me he wanted to fish Tahoe for a long time and had plans to rent a boat for him and his son to fish. I suggested hiring a guide for your first trip. He told me that was the best decision he has ever made. Fishing Lake Tahoe takes many years of experience, it is not like fishing on Caples or Topaz Lake. I highly recommend a guide for your first adventure. You will also find it is less expensive to hire a professional fishing guide than to rent

a boat to fish on Lake Tahoe. For more information, call Blue Ribbon Charters 530-544-6552.

SILVER LAKE: The water level is up and the fishing has been good. The lake was recently planted by the Kirkwood PUD with 674 lbs of trout. 66 percent are catchables and 34 percent are trophy trout 2.5 pounds and bigger.

CAPLES LAKE: The lake level is almost at capacity. Fishing has been good. Angela Lalum caught a 3 pound mackinaw on a rapala. Matt Martin caught a 3 pound mackinaw with a dodger and a crawler. 13 year old Grace caught a 3 lb rainbow trolling an orange and white Rapala. Last Monday the lake was planted by Kirkwood PUD with 2,425 lbs of catchable rainbow trout, and 800 lbs were 2.5 lbs and bigger. Shore anglers have had success with inflated crawlers by the spillway or off the dam. Boat rentals are available at the Caples Lake General Store and marina. For more information, call the Caples Lake Resort at 209-258-8888.

WOODS LAKE: Located just east of Caples lake on Highway 88. The lake was planted by CDFG this week.

RED LAKE: I have received three reports and all were the same, very slow to nil.

CARSON RIVER: The water

levels have come down and the fishing has picked up. Most anglers have been using salmon eggs. Chad reported many limits of catchable sized rainbows coming in. Last week Alpine County planted some nice trophy sized rainbows. A word to wise, don't fish by the bridges, move down stream a hundred feet or so and you will find more fish. For more info call the Carson River Resort at 877-694-2229.

BLUE LAKES: Reports of pan sized rainbows have been caught with powerbait or night crawlers. The campground is open. Make sure you bring plenty of mosquito repellent. No plants from CDFG yet this year.

INDIAN CREEK RESERVOIR: Anglers have been hot or not. One angler and his two sons caught a good stringer of rainbows off the dam using night crawlers. But then said the bite shut off as fast as it came on. The campground and boat ramp is open. Maybe we will see you out there this weekend. Fly fishing in the evening on a hot summer day is like being in heaven.

FLY FISHING REPORT: East Walker River Catch & Release: The flows are very inconsistent. Dries that have been producing a few fish are small hopper patterns, yellow sallies, PMD's all in a size 14. Nymphing has been

producing the most with Golden stones, yellow stones, Hot Pink San Juan's and Rainbow Warriors. We're guiding and instructing new Fly Fishers daily down on the bountiful Catch & Release waters of Rosaschi Ranch and California waters, feel free to call the shop and make an appointment to learn.

East and West Carson: Flows have come down and temperatures are perfect for trout. Alpine county has stocked this past week. Orange or yellow stimulators with a drop of a red copper john, size 14 flash back pheasant tail or prince will give you a great chance to get a hit. Nymphing rig would consist of a rubber legged golden stone, caddis pupa in olive or cream and a bubbleback midge. Catch and release area is doing slightly better, though to get into the wilds, you'll need to walk a little more down stream. Watch for the snakes, they'll hang along the river to cool off when the temps come up. For more information call the Anglers Edge Fly fishing shop at (775) 781-7112.

Hope your next adventure is a great one. If you get a picture of your catch, send it to khildebrand@recordcourier.com. If you have any question in our local fishing world call the Naw line at (775) 267-9722. Good fishin' and tight lines.

Silver Mountain City provides window to the past

by Virginia York

During a recent visit to the Alpine County Museum, I was fascinated by the new Silver Mountain City two-case display of artifacts, photographs and written accounts all carefully selected to transport the viewer into the world of the mining town. From the journal of William H. Brewer, "Up and Down California" (entry for Aug. 4, 1863) one reads:

"Silver Mountain...is a good illustration of a new mining town. We arrive by trail, for the wagon road is left many miles back. As we descend the canyon from the summit, suddenly a bright new town bursts into view. There are perhaps forty houses, ... as bright as new, fresh lumber, which but a month or two ago was in the trees, can make them. This log shanty has a sign up, 'Variety Store'; the next, a board shanty the size of a hogpen, is 'Wholesale & Retail Grocery'; that shanty without a window

with a canvas door, has a large sign of 'Law Office'... The best hotel has not yet got up its sign, and the 'Restaurant and Lodgings' are without a roof as yet, but shingles are fast being made....There are town lots and streets, although as yet no wagons."

A brief history of the Big Tree road is given:

"In 1862, the Big Tree & Carson Valley Turnpike Co. was incorporated with \$4,000 raised by a group of Murphy's men...The road folled the "old trail ["Emigrant Road"] from Big Tree to Hermit Valley, veered east to Highland Lakes, went over Ebbett's Pass to Silver Creek, then continued on through Markleeville. Oxen were used to construct the road at first, but then horses were substituted."

After financial problems and voluntary help from miners, the wagon road was finally completed to Silver Mountain in the summer of 1864.

Who knows who the Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F) were? I

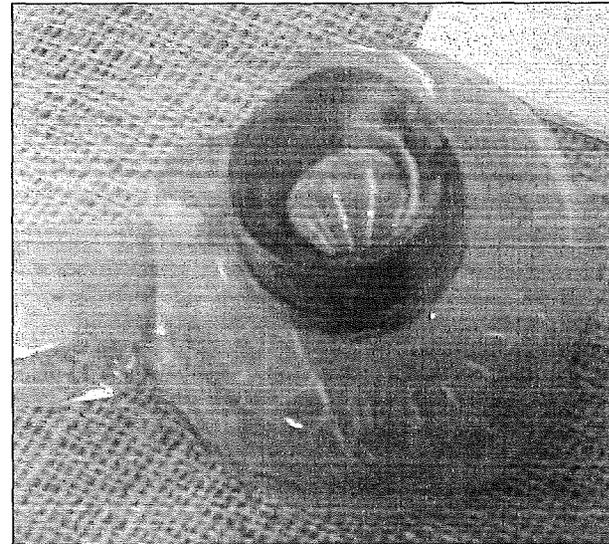
didn't until I read how it came into being:

"...life was tough, often lawless and desperate... Life expectancy was about 45-50. There were lots of sickness, orphaned kids, widowed mothers, and many people could not afford to pay a decent burial for the dead. So, ordinary people...found it necessary to group together as brothers and sisters and contribute some of their hard-earned wages to a common fund which they could use for unfortunate times, such as sickness, losing a job, and even death..."

(Independent Order of Odd Fellows website.)

"Miners may initially have joined the Odd Fellows for the camaraderie... but later found refuge in an Odd Fellows Home. 'The Homes provided relief for people who didn't strike it rich in California' (Saratoga I.O.O.F. Cemetery History).

Artifacts include: a pocket pistol, tiny enough to be stored in a pocket and a finger lamp, a small kerosene lamp which could be carried by hooking a finger through the loop on



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

A finger-lamp is on display at the Alpine County Museum in Markleeville.

the side, a light source in the days before electricity. There is also a collection of photographs which would have been used in a stereopticon, a form of the magic lantern which would use two photographs with slightly different perspectives to produce a three dimensional image when seen through a viewer.

When I visited Karen Dustman* who created the display with her husband, Rick, it was embarrassing

to ask: "Where is Silver Mountain City?" The abbreviated directions are: Go through Markleeville (courthouse on your left) on Highway 89/4; drive past the Monitor Pass turn-off (Highway 89) and keep going straight on Highway 4. At 8.7 miles from Markleeville you will pass a tall brick chimney on your right (next to Chalmers Mansion). At 10.3 miles, you will cross a bridge over Silver Creek. Slow down and watch for the Forest Service sign on your left marking the old jail site at Silver Mountain

City.

Now enclosed in a chain link fence, eighteen inch thick stone blocks are all that remain of the jail, and it seems, at first glance, all that remain of the city that once had a population of over a thousand. However, on closer examination one discovers sites where buildings stood, fragments of glass and tin, and trails that suggest old streets.

In the fall, Karen and Rick Dustman conduct a free tour of Silver Mountain City. Participants are introduced to Silver Mountain's people and history, a thrilling experience by all accounts. The next tour will be 9 a.m. Oct. 5. Meet at the jail. Wear layers and comfy shoes. The terrain is flat so the walk is not strenuous. Donations to the museum will be greatly appreciated.

*Author of Ghost of the Sierra: Silver Mountain City, Clairitage Press, 2011, very highly recommended, available at the Museum, Chamber of Commerce and the Library.

MUSEUM HOURS

Thursday through Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Memorial day weekend through October. Phone: (530) 694-2317.



Maynard W. Rakow
Sep. 21, 1943 - July 3, 2013

Maynard W. Rakow, 69, passed peacefully on July 3, 2013. He is the son of Frederick and Carmelita Rakow.

He is survived by his brothers, Arnold, Elwood, Rodger and Knox Rakow. Maynard was a resident of Alpine County after returning from 12 years in Hawaii. Maynard was a mechanic by profession and an avid hunter and fisherman. Maynard worked for Don Garcia and the asphalt plant in Lake Tahoe in the 70s and 80s. He served in the U.S. Navy and was discharged honorably. Numerous nieces and nephews miss him dearly.

Viewing will be Tuesday July 9th from 6-8pm at Fitzhenry's Carson Valley Funeral Home in Gardnerville, Nevada. A graveside service will be held Wednesday July 10th at 12 pm at the Fredericksburg Cemetery.

We love you uncle.

RC. Wed. July 10, 2013

Lighting up the Fourth then and now

"Mom would drive. We'd meet the train in Wadsworth, pick up our fireworks at the station. We ordered the fireworks from a catalog. The catalog came folded up like a map. Unfolded it was about the size of a movie poster. We kids always had 20 to 30 things circled on it. It came from the Dakotas. As kids it seemed reasonable what we wanted of course mom made suggestions, and the final decision... I never drove to get the fireworks... By the time I was old enough to drive we didn't do that any more. UPS delivered them, then didn't. Can't remember when it stopped that was a long time ago."

My husband drops this little



**Marie
Johnson
Fencelines**

bit of history in my lap as we drive through Wadsworth past a stationary train car painted with the words Cloud Line in large white letters. Looked as if the car had not moved in a long time.

Back in time his family ordered fireworks all the way from the Dakotas, even got them delivered by UPS for a while. Then a mother of five, would drive about an hour each way in

the middle of summer, without air-conditioning, to pick up a station wagon full of fireworks for the Fourth of July. How safe was that trip home? Seat belt laws weren't enforced in the early '60s. The speed limit in Nevada was rather lenient. Fireworks were unstable. Some risks are worth taking.

Small town girls, though, in the middle of the Midwest, were pretty sheltered. We were only allowed to hold long thin sparklers, bought in town, to write our names in light on dark summer nights. Dad held the firecrackers he let us light with our sparklers he would then throw in the air. Bottle rockets and screaming whistlers going

off from neighbor's yard. Not until I was in college did I see huge colors burst overhead.

Then there were reports of kids' fingers being blown off by firecrackers, eyes damaged, fires started. After a while restrictions were put on who could buy, sell, and even what type of fireworks could be available to the public.

Laws created to save us from ourselves, or at least the lives and fingers of children not closely supervised by parents. Like laws limiting pollutants in our water and air for our health and safety.

The years when our own boys

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LIGHTING

From page 14

were growing up on the ranch we had sparklers and little whistlers, and access to firecrackers. But loud rockets and colorful explosions spooked the cattle. Causing them to push hard against the fences. And if the summer was dry with brown grass, a fire could quickly do damage. So to Lake Tahoe we'd go to see fireworks. Loved it. Still do. A heartfelt thank you to every agency, individual, business and organization that puts together

the Stateline's 4th of July celebration.

And a big thank-you to all who protect why we celebrate the Fourth, the military, the ACLU, the letter writers, the public protesters, the activists, the investigators, the whistleblowers. The defenders of our Constitution, which was written to guarantee freedoms, not safety. So be vigilant in protecting your freedom, as well as your fingers. Always looking forward to the fireworks.

Marie Johnson is a Carson Valley rancher.

Markleeville as it was before the fire of 1885

by Karen Dustman

Like many pioneer towns, Markleeville faced its share of fires.

The worst conflagration of all struck on Aug. 2, 1885, when flames swept down Main Street.

Among the businesses turned to ashes were John Weis's store with \$4,000 in contents; Henry Morrison's saloon and its expensive billiard table; and Harvey and Rask's butcher shop.

Dozens of homes, stores and outbuildings vanished in the flames, and losses topped \$11,000 – all of it uninsured.

The citizens of Markleeville were quick to rebuild.

But just how Main Street looked before the fire was lost forever — or so we thought.

Over the past winter, a researcher thumbing through old newspapers chanced upon a story about a “fine painting” of Markleeville.

The old news column reported that a painting had been created by A.J. Chalmers for Judge N.D. Arnot, showing the town's wooden courthouse and other buildings on Main Street.

And the date of the article was June, 1885, just weeks before the fire.

It was only a brief mention.

But it was enough to get

IF YOU GO

The Alpine County Museum is located atop Schoolhouse Hill in Markleeville.

Summer hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday through Sunday.

museum curator Wanda Coyan curious.

Could the old oil painting of Main Street still exist?

And might it even be tucked away among the museum's collection?

Sure enough, with a quick check of the museum's records Coyan was able to identify that very painting tucked away in an inconspicuous spot on the wall.

“This is a painting that's

been hanging on our wall for years, so it was exciting to learn more about the history of this particular painting,” said Coyan. “But it is even more exciting to realize the significance of just what this picture shows. It gives an extremely detailed view of Markleeville's Main Street as it looked just weeks before the town burned in the Great 1885 Fire.”

Clearly depicted are Judge Arnot's old frame

house, one of the earliest homes built in Markleeville.

Just across old Webster Street stands the town's original two-story wooden courthouse.

And a bit farther down dusty Main Street are the twin roofs of the Barnes Hotel, with a false-fronted butcher shop across the road.

The reporter who described the painting in 1885 was obviously smitten.

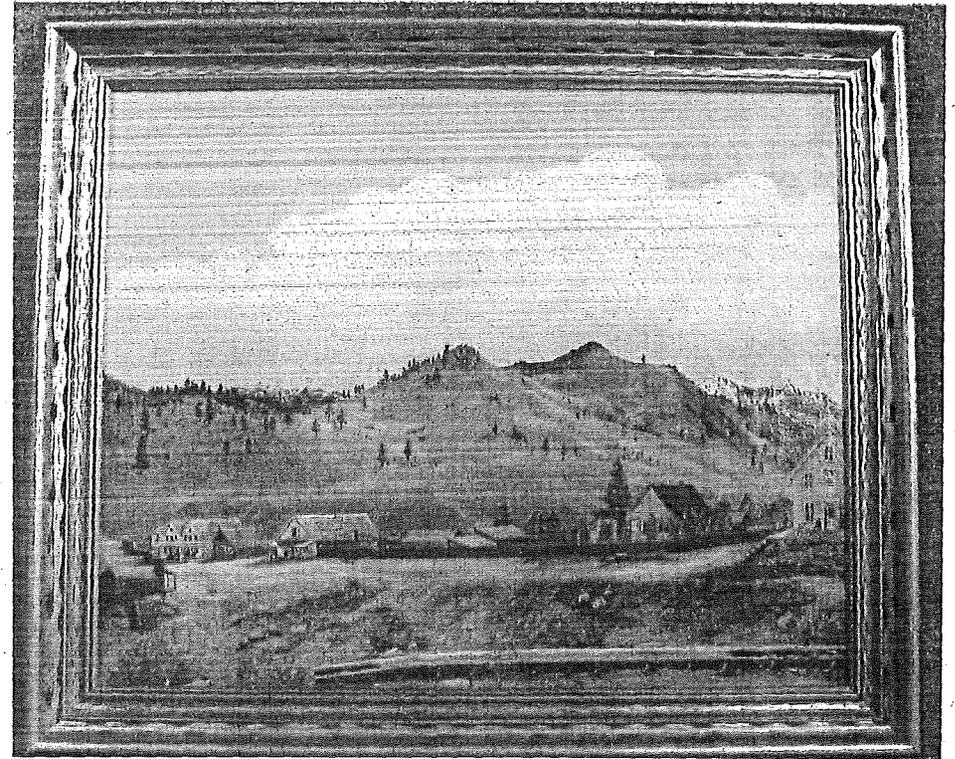
“The various tints of the

landscape are brought out by the artist with beautiful effect, and they give the picture a most pleasing yet natural appearance,” he wrote.

Finally, visitors can gaze back in time at Markleeville's Main Street just as it once was in the early 1880s

For those who love history, it was a treasure hidden in plain sight.

Karen Dustman is a Markleeville resident.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Two-story building at the far right is the old wooden courthouse, with Judge Arnot's house adjacent. On the left is the white Barnes Hotel. The art work was painted in 1885 for Judge Arnot by Alex Chalmers, son of Lewis Chalmers.

Man faces burglary, robbery charges

Staff Reports

A man who's facing a dozen criminal charges waived his right to a preliminary hearing in 15 days on Wednesday.

Waylon Curtis Dondero, 30, faces charges of battery that constitutes domestic violence, resisting a police officer, two counts of burglary, battery with intent to commit a crime, robbery, and assault on a police officer.

Defense attorney Derrick Lopez sought a delay while he worked with the prosecutor to resolve the case.

Perkins granted a delay but warned attorneys he would not do so continuously.

"I don't have much appetite to keep bouncing this case down the road," he said.

Dondero is being held on \$28,920 bail.



Dondero

Death Ride through the California Alps

by Caryn Haller
challer@recordcourier.com

Cowbells and applause rang out from spectators and volunteers Saturday morning with each cyclist arriving at the Woodfords aid station.

Approximately 3,000 riders tested themselves in the 33rd annual Death Ride against 16,000 feet of climbing over five passes.

John Culligan of Salinas, Calif., accepted the challenge for the first time this year, stopping for a short break in Woodfords before starting the 15-mile climb up Carson Pass and back.

"It's going good. I'm a nut who likes to ride his bike all day," he said. "This is absolutely the best supported ride I've ever been on. I've just got to make my way up the mountain here, and I'll be

home free."

The course covers both sides of Monitor Pass, both sides of Ebbetts Pass, and the east side of Carson Pass.

The Woodfords stop was one of 13 set up along the 129-mile route.

Al Moss and 30 other volunteers helped the riders make repairs, refill sports bottles or hold their bikes while they grabbed a bite to eat.

"We've been doing this aid station for six years," the Woodfords resident said. "We like it because we're a bunch of old folks who can't ride it, but like to be involved in it."

Alamo, Calif., resident Becky Barron was a few miles ahead of her 71-year-old father who has finished the Death Ride five times.

RIDE, 5

Pg. 1
Continued

Death Ride

continued



Death Ride cyclists enter the Woodfords rest stop Saturday before starting up Carson Pass.

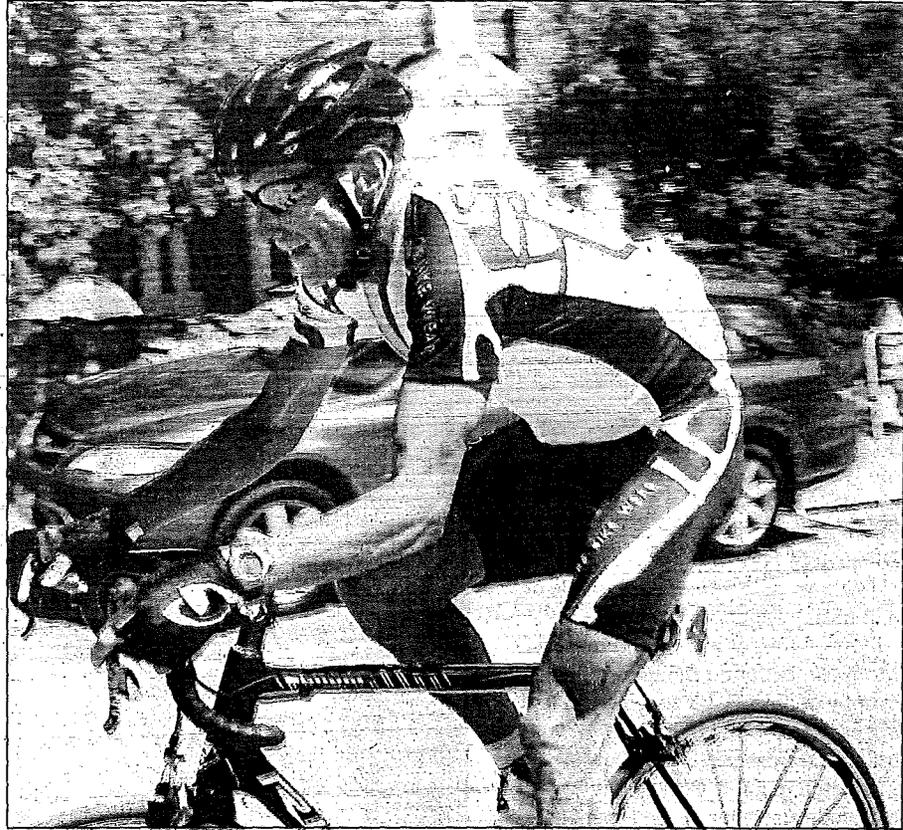
CARYN HALLER

Death Ride
continued



CARYN HALLER

A volunteer cools down a cyclist at the Woodfords rest stop. At right, a cyclist participates in Saturday's Death Ride.



RIDE

From page 1

"The hardest part was Monitor and Ebbetts Pass. People were flying down the hills pretty fast on Monitor," Barron said. "It's going good and the weather has been nice. It's beautiful country, and the support is great."

Tyler Toulouse of Reno said his first Death Ride wasn't as hard as he thought he would be.

"It's not too bad. It's hard, but not outrageously hard," he added. "I feel I'm doing pretty well, ahead of most of the group at least."

Jeff Spronk of Sacramento enjoyed the weather more this year than last year. The temperature in Markleeville was in the mid-80s by noon.

"It's great, nice and cool compared to last year," he said. "They paved the back side of Ebbetts which made it a smooth ride."

Jeannine Kechely of Carson City waited with

her family in Woodfords for her husband, Mike, and 16-year-old nephew Michael, to come through.

"My husband and nephew trained together to do this ride. It's my husband's fifth year, and Michael's first," she said. "They started at 3 a.m., and are doing all five passes. They're going for it."

Michael's mother, Diana Dittimore, said her son

got into cycling two years ago.

"He hasn't ridden a lot, but he did track this year so that was good training," she said. "He was a little nervous, but psyched."

Michael and his uncle arrived at Woodfords just before noon to the smiles and cheers of their family and friends.

"It's been fun, tiring, but fun," Michael said of his

first Death Ride. "So far the back side of Ebbetts was the hardest."

Uncle Mike was proud of how well his nephew was doing.

"He's doing great," Mike

said. "He actually was ahead of me over both sides of Monitor, so I had to smoke him pulling into here."

For more information, visit www.deathride.com.

Woodfords basketmaker learned from the best

By Karen Dustman

Artists are a different breed. True writers just write, whether anyone reads their words or not. And Paula Pennington makes baskets – beautiful ones.

No, they're not for sale, although upscale shops would die for them. This Woodfords resident only makes baskets for friends and family. She makes them to use. And she makes them because – well, basketmakers make baskets.

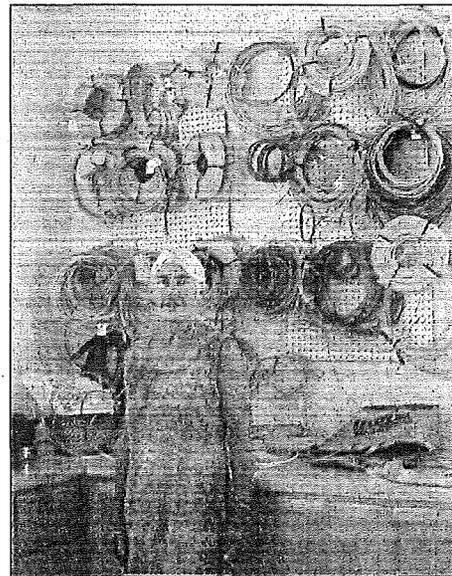
"I've been doing this for 20 or 25 years," Paula confesses. "Baskets have always fascinated me."

That fascination first began when Paula met Elaine Christensen, a native Washoe basketmaker.

"She was extremely skilled, and willing to teach anybody who showed an interest," said Paula. "So a friend and I began learning from Elaine and from Goldie Bryant." But when those two special teachers passed away, Paula put aside her basket-making for several years. "We lost our teachers, lost the impetus," she said.

After retirement, Paula reconnected with her love of baskets through the Great Basin Basketmakers in Reno. The group hires well-known basketmakers from around the country to teach workshops, and also offers classes by local members.

"You get to learn new techniques or styles," Paula explains. "I've always found

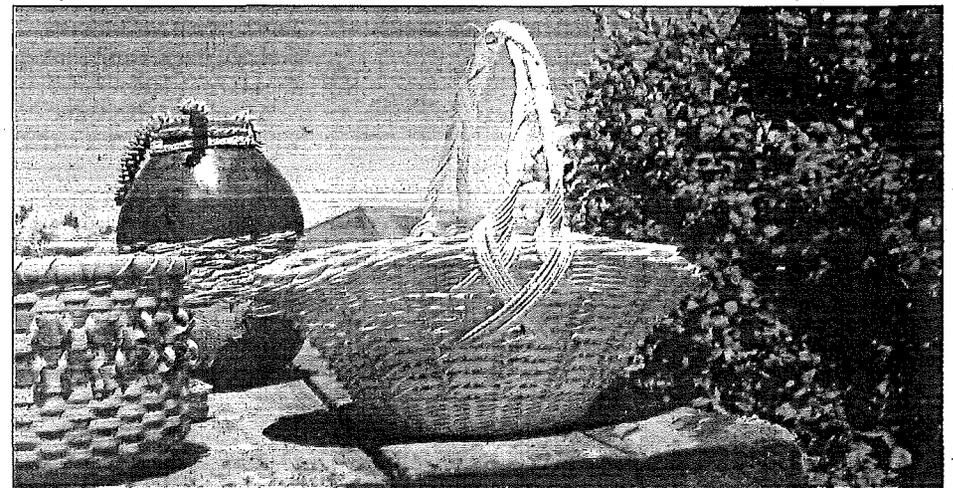


SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Paula Pennington and the material she uses to weave her baskets.

that if you go to a group, someone will have one good tip that's not in a book. It can make a big difference; you say, 'Oh, that's the trick I needed on my last five baskets.'"

Paula has experimented with materials for her baskets ranging from traditional pine needle or willow to purchased reed and even grape or clematis vines. Lately, she has been working on woven creations



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Baskets by Paula Pennington.

featuring gourds and deer antlers.

Since basketmaking is a messy operation, Paula corrals her working materials in an upstairs loft. In wintertime, she sometimes spreads out in a downstairs sunroom with a tiled floor, making clean-up a snap.

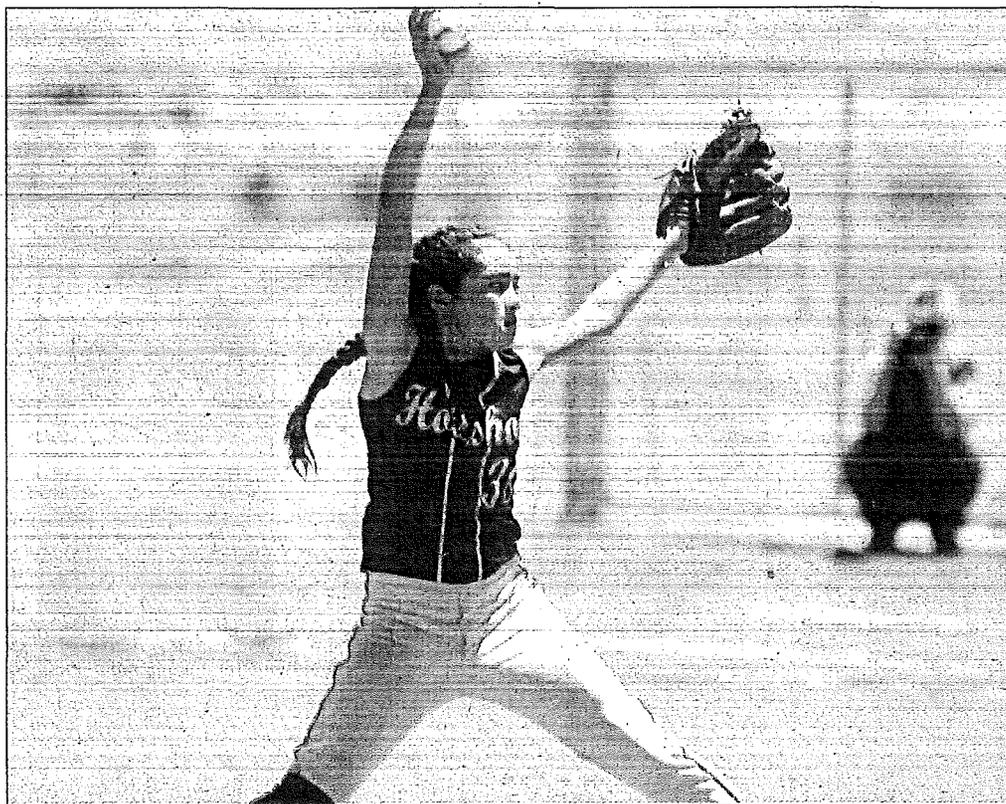
What gets her going on a new project? Having a purpose for the basket, she says. Paula's baskets are on display throughout her home, both as ornamental objects and as practical containers holding mail and other items.

There can be a risk to making such

beautiful things. When Paula's sister asked for a fruit basket recently, Paula found herself making three. "The first two she said were too pretty to cover up with fruit, so she hung them on the wall instead."

But for Paula, it's a combination of passion and purpose. "It's just fun," she smiles. "And after all, isn't that what life's about. Doing what you love to do."

For more details about the Great Basin Basketmakers group, including information on basketmaking classes, go to www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org.



Jailene Salciedo pitches against the Nevada Sharks on Friday afternoon at Stodick Park.

Four Carson Valley teams dominate state softball tournament

by Jamie Craig
Special to The RC

Four Carson Valley softball teams made it all the way to the championship games, Sunday, during the Northern Sierra Fastpitch State Tournament at Stodick Park, Gardnerville. The 8U, 12U and 14U HotShots of the Carson Valley Girls Softball Association, and the 10U Bloodline, also from the Carson Valley, all battled for state titles. In the 8U division, the HotShots took second place, falling to the Nevada Sharks of Carson City. In the 10U division, Bloodline edged out the Nevada Sharks for the top seed.

The 12U and 14U HotShots continued their winning seasons with first place finishes. The 12U HotShots defeated the Fallon Force in the championship match. A mid-game rally sealed it for the 14U HotShots, who beat out Elko Inferno.

In the 18U division, the Nevada Sharks topped All Out Envy of Reno for the state title.

"All in all, it was a great tournament," said CVGSA President Joey McNinch. "It's special for our league to have three teams in the running for state titles.

We are also happy for Bloodline. Many of the girls on the team play in our recreation league, so it's nice to see them get a win."

Markleeville resort gets green light

Staff Reports

The way is clear for the construction of a 35-acre project in Markleeville that will take its theme from American Indian culture.

Alpine County supervisors approved the final map for the Mahlee Resort project being proposed by Tom Abdo.

"A paragon has been set in how native heritage, health and wellness, technology and environmental sustainability can come together in support of a highly conscious and active community," Abdo said in a release. "We're inspired by the farm to plate movement, experiential learning centers, applied arts of the American Indians, holistic medicine and LEED building standards, and have made them the

core for how Markleeville's Mahlee Resort development will unfold."

A feasibility analysis prepared by Ragatz Associates for the resort said that it would fill a void in the marketplace.

"Results of our feasibility analysis were very positive ... being a master-planned destination resort in an idyllic setting with a wealth of year-round on-site and nearby family-oriented amenities and attractions," said firm founder Richard Ragatz. "Mahalee Resort should gain wide recognition as satisfying today's consumers and users of high quality unique resort properties."

The approved final map encompasses a downtown business center that will include 49 fractional cabins and a resort lodge.



SHANNON LITZ

Steven James talks about the impact of the Bison fire in the Pine Nut range on tribal allotment land.

Fire takes toll on tribal lands

by Sheila Gardner
sgardner@recordcourier.com

“All of our history lies in our land. The things that went with it (the fire) are all gone.”

Steven James
Washoe Elder

At age 80, Washoe elder Steven James doesn't expect to live long enough to see the return of the pine nut crops destroyed in the wildland fires that scorch ancestral homelands.

The recent Bison fire consumed 24,000 acres — more than 3,000 acres of Washoe allotment land — destroying historic pine nut areas, animal habitat and other plant life.

“It's a terrible, terrible loss,” James said in a recent

interview. “A lot of the Washoe culture is about the land. All of our history lies in our land. The things that went with it (the fire) are all gone.”

James enumerated the cost to the Washoe Tribe.

“Our pine nuts for one thing, probably some of the other kinds of food are all destroyed — berries, plants, different kinds of animals — it's going to take a long time. It will be years — years

— before it comes back,” he said.

Monitoring the fire and protecting resources is the job of Darrel Cruz, head of the Washoe Tribe cultural resources department and a retired wildland firefighter.

When the fire started on July 4, Cruz was immediately in touch with Tribal Chairman Darrell Kizer, Marie

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continued

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TRIBE

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Barry, tribe environmental director, and fire suppression agencies, putting to work his expertise in wildland firefighting and cultural resources.

"The next day, I met with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and fire officials in the Indian allotment," he said.

"It's been our policy to do minimal damage to these resources, but at the same time protect them. We understand the need to stop the fire. It's kind of a balancing act, but all the fire officials understand it," Cruz said.

Allotments are federal properties held in trust by individual family members.

Cruz said few outbuildings were lost, but damage to the land resources was devastating.

The land has been used by generations of Washoe families to gather pine nuts and firewood, and for hunting.

Once the fire is extinguished, and the damaged assessed, rehabilitation begins. Cruz is concerned about erosion and the potential for runoff.

"The priority is to stabilize areas prone to erosion," Cruz said.

Aerial seeding is anticipated with a native seed mix, but Cruz said, with the extensive damage, seed banks are low.

Of primary importance is



SHANNON LITZ

Darrel Cruz talks about the impact of the Bison fire on tribal land on July 18.

stabilization of the riparian areas.

"Those are the water courses," Cruz said. "That will always be important because everything depends on water and stream zones."

He and James expect displaced animals to try to reclaim their former habitat from human occupation.

"The animals will be pushed out to new areas," James said.

Cruz stressed the importance

of the archeological sites.

"For the Washoe, you get an association with a certain place, it says something is happening here. For a lot of the archeological sites I find, it's a feeling," Cruz said. "It's our story, the story of us. It says 'we were here, and this is what we were doing.'"

"It's important to us — and the country as a whole — to maintain our history," Cruz said.

Despite the devastation, Cruz sees hope.

For the past six years, he's been monitoring recovery efforts from the 2007 Angora fire that consumed 3,100 acres and 250 homes south of Lake Tahoe and east of Fallen Leaf Lake, through ancestral tribal property.

"It's coming back," Cruz said. "I am just glad to see the land is recovering and the forest is regenerating."

Man seeks funding for defense

Staff Reports

A 44-year-old Topaz Ranch Estates man accused of attempted murder is to appear Aug. 13 in District Court to obtain funding for resources to aid in his defense.

Lawyer Jamie Henry asked Wednesday for a conditional waiver of Gary Wesley Wilson's preliminary hearing in East Fork Justice Court set for Aug. 30.

Wilson is charged with attempted murder with use of a deadly weapon in the July 11 shooting of an acquaintance who suffered a superficial shoulder wound.

The charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison upon conviction. Wilson is in Douglas County Jail on \$250,000 bail.

He is accused of shooting the victim with a .22-caliber rifle loaded with birdshot as the man sat in his vehicle, and attempted to drive away.

According to reports, Wilson and the victim had both been in a dating relationship with another woman.

Reports indicate the suspect broke the windows out of the victim's vehicle, and fired at him nine

times.

The victim had injuries to his left shoulder and the back of his neck. Authorities recovered the weapon which was a Henry lever-action .22-caliber rifle. Wilson turned himself in July 12 after a 26-hour search by law enforcement personnel.

■ A 56-year-old woman on probation for drug possession pleaded guilty Wednesday to misdemeanor theft from Walmart.

Adelina Osorio and her son were observed July 9 acting suspiciously, according to store personnel. They were selecting DVDs, and placing them in the bottom of a reusable shopping bag.

They paid for food items, but left the store without paying for the other objects. Store personnel stopped the suspects outside and recovered 18 stolen DVDs, razors and refills valued at nearly \$175.

Osorio is on probation for a felony possession after admitting she smuggled methamphetamine into Douglas County Jail in a body cavity.

"We went into Walmart," she said Wednesday. "My son took some stuff. He walked out of the store. I was at the cash register."

East Fork Judge Tom Perkins sentenced her to time served on the theft charge. She is to be released on her own recognizance after she appears Monday in District Court for a probation violation. "If I see you again, bring your toothbrush," Perkins said. "I am not messing around."

■ A 23-year-old South Lake Tahoe man was sentenced Monday to four years probation, which includes six months in Douglas County Jail, for possession of a controlled substance for sale.

District Judge Michael Gibbons told Kyundai Dion Nielsen-Martin he needed to get approval from Parole and Probation before he moves back to South Lake Tahoe.

Nielsen-Martin was arrested April 29 after authorities found marijuana, methamphetamine, scales and other paraphernalia in his vehicle which was stopped at Highway 395 and State Route 756 in Gardnerville.

In his guilty plea, the defendant agreed to serve six months in jail.

He also asked the judge if he could buy back his 1998 vehicle which was forfeited as part of the agreement.

Gibbons directed him to have his attorney, Kris Brown, find out the procedure.

Archeologist leads excavation at Stewart

by Nicole Shearer
University of Nevada, Reno

An archeological dig is under way at the 110-acre Stewart Indian School, located in southern Carson City.

"It is important to consider the Stewart Indian School's complicated history through a collaborative effort," said Sarah Cowie, a University of Nevada, Reno, assistant professor of anthropology. "Working at this site is a wonderful opportunity for us all to learn from each other, since we all bring something different to the project. As a non-native archaeologist, myself, I know I will learn a lot about indigenous heritage from native colleagues and students."

The university's Department of Anthropology, in partnership with the Nevada Indian Commission and the Washoe Tribal Historic Preservation Office, is conducting the excavation at the site, which is home to 50 historic buildings.

The excavation also serves as a summer field school that teaches students about archaeology and historic preservation. This collaborative project combines the efforts of professional archaeologists, Native American specialists



JEFF DOW/UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Patrick Burt, a member of the Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada, assists University of Nevada, Reno assistant professor of anthropology Sarah Cowie in sifting through their archeological findings at the Stewart Indian School in Carson City. Cowie is leading a field school this summer that teaches students about archaeology and historic preservation.

in heritage, and students from diverse backgrounds.

"The district is on the National Register of Historic Places and is deteriorating rapidly," Sherry Rupert, executive director of the Nevada Indian Commission, said.

"Many of the historic buildings were built in the early 1900s and sit unoccupied, adding the urgency to protect these buildings."

The Stewart Indian School was open from 1890-1980 with a federal mandate to

educate American Indian children, initially from the Great Basin Tribes (Washoe, Northern and Southern Paiute, and Western Shoshone), but eventually accepting children from tribal nations of the region. The intent of the

Indian boarding school was not to prepare the American Indian children for higher education, but to educate them enough so they could work in the dominant society, away from their culture and traditions.

Stewart alumni have told Washoe Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Darrel Cruz that in early years, young native children were forcibly removed from their homes to live on the Stewart Indian School campus. This practice was well-documented at other Indian schools around the country and resulted in a traumatic time for both the children and their parents. However, in later years attendance at Stewart was optional, and alumni from that period say it was good for some. It provided an avenue for the native population to learn a skill that would allow gainful employment.

The Nevada Indian Commission, a state agency, has been the lead on efforts to preserve the history and legacy of the school. The commission has worked with

stakeholders, including the school's alumni, to identify potential cultural tourism use of the buildings and campus.

"We are extremely pleased that the University of Nevada, Reno, has chosen the site of the historic Stewart Indian School for their field school," Rupert said. "It is refreshing to see a change in the way new archaeologists are being taught, with the culture and people in mind. The university students, both native and non-native are learning about the school and its importance to Nevada's history and future."

Although the Stewart Indian School site is now owned by the state, it is located on the traditional homelands of the Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada. The school is located at 5500 Snyder Way in Carson City. The public is welcome to visit the site while the team is working there, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. They expect to conclude their work Aug. 13.

For more information, call (775) 687-8333.

Summer time for kicking back

"Your brother and your dad are in the cow pasture with a kite, pair of snow skis, skiing across irrigation water," was the text I sent to our younger son. "Does that make us hicks or rednecks? No beer involved if that is important,"

Our younger son, in Virginia, knowing these things replied in his text. "Hicks. Rednecks would have been drinking."

I love my family. He included a smiley face emoticon. Hick is not a word for civil discourse, but it does describe what summer brings out in us. Summer is not meant to be proper. It is time to relax, reflect, rest. Break a bedtime rule. Eat messy food with your fingers. Wear casual clothes. Sleep outside. Read trash. Regroup. Here we do things like hike mountains. Kayak rivers. Swim Tahoe, until sunset. Ride bikes in early morning, before the wind comes up. Or ski across irrigated pastures after the winds do



**Marie
Johnson
Fencelines**

come up. At night we sit around a backyard fire. Or sit in wicker chairs on the front porch, looking at the stars, until the big raccoon walks up to the porch. Then one of us lazily gets up, shuts the front door, which was left open to let in the cool evening air, so the raccoon does not walk into the house. The raccoon, shy, walks to the closest tree and scratches until we lose interest in watching him.

The bear that comes usually climbs up the smaller apple tree closest to the garage. He is big enough to break off branches, two inches in diameter, reaching for small green apples. He is

doing a terrible job pruning, and the tree is showing stress. But there is little we care to do against the hungry bear. Hicks enjoying summer. The coyotes stay out a ways at night. Can hear them clearly yelping over their dinner. But occasionally, during the day, one will walk close enough while I hang out laundry I can holler, "get out of there" to make him stop. Then he look towards me. Stomping my foot and clapping my hands lets him know I mean business. Off he trots a little faster, but not much. It's summer, he is hot and in no hurry.

The baby skunk that was living in the irrigation pipe hasn't been seen since the raccoon showed up. Not sure if there is a correlation. Not going to fuss if there is. The hay pasture was cut and bales stacked under the pole barn without missing a rotation of water. That is very important with it getting so dry

and water so low. Brown is coming, but our grass is still fairly green.

The bull hasn't wondered far off, either. Been able to collect him from most places he has wanted to go, but wasn't invited. He pushed against a couple days worth of fence repair looking for fresher grass. Made one of us begrudgingly take on the project of slowly putting up an electric fence in the hot sun. The calves are growing, sleek as their fat mothers, whose black hides shine glossy in the sun. Fat rolls on their tail heads. They eat in the early morning and cooler evenings, rest in shade during the heat.

All in all summer on the ranch is good. Enjoying the last of it, wishing the rest of the world could.

*Marie Johnson is a Carson
Valley rancher.*

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Aug. 7, 2013

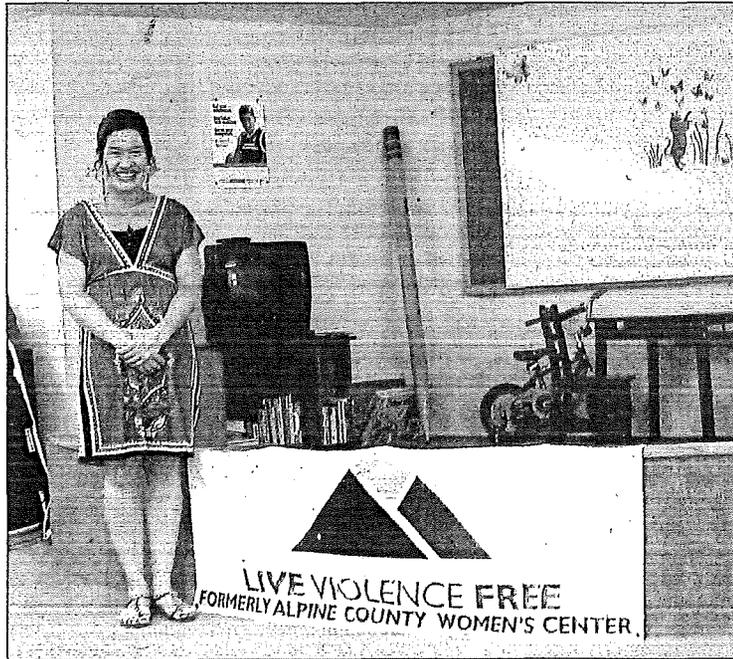
Local group works to end violence in Alpine County

by Karen Dustman

The name over the door says it all: "Live Violence Free." Formerly the Alpine County Women's Center, this nonprofit group changed its name a year ago to emphasize its dedication to all victims of violence — male and female, young and old.

"One in six men have been sexually assaulted, versus one in four for women — and that's just the numbers that are actually reported," noted Heather Knox, the Alpine coordinator for the nonprofit group Live Violence Free. "Violence is an equal-opportunity crime. It doesn't matter what your age or income level is, or where you live. Our mission is working to end all violence."

For survivors of domestic battery, sexual assault, and child abuse, Live Violence Free offers a broad range of assistance. "We have a 24-hour hotline, if people just want to talk. We offer individual counseling. We offer emotional support and options to survivors, whether they're still in the relationship or not," explained Knox. "And we have emergency



Heather Knox, the Alpine coordinator for the nonprofit group Live Violence Free

shelter available, when that is needed."

Challenges for those in Alpine County wishing to leave an abusive relationship can include lack

of transportation, lack of employment, and lack of child care, said Knox. "This is such a small, rural community, it can be frustrating," she noted. "For people who want

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The "Live Violence Free" Center in Alpine County is located in the old church near the Early Learning Center at 100 Foothill Road, Markleeville (Woodfords). Use the rear entrance, as the front steps are currently under repair. Advocates are frequently out in the community, so call (530) 694-1853 for each day's scheduled office hours. Or call the 24-hour crisis line: (888) 750-6444 to talk to an advocate.

to make a change but feel stuck, we are able to help with employment options and finding a place to live."

The light and airy LVF Center is also well-stocked with clothing, emergency food supplies, and hygiene products. "Survivors often leave with nothing," Knox said. "If they have pets, we have 'foster pet families' who can take animals on an emergency basis, so the survivor doesn't have to worry about their pet."

Knox knows the trauma of domestic violence first-hand. "I'm a survivor myself. I almost died

— my abuser tried to kill me," she said. "I was banging on my neighbor's door, trying to get away from him, and they said 'We don't want to get involved.' He came out and dragged me back inside. I know how alone you can feel."

Knox found help through agencies like LVF that work to assist survivors — and is grateful she now can "pay it forward" by helping others facing similar difficulties. She emphasizes the need to be non-judgmental. "We never tell people what they should or shouldn't do," Knox added. "And we take our duty of confidentiality extremely seriously."

For those who find themselves in a difficult relationship, Knox cautions that violence can flare "whenever there's increased stress — during the holidays, when finances are difficult, or when there's work-related stress." And for people concerned about a family member or friend who might be enmeshed in a harmful relationship, Knox has this advice: "Acknowledge what they're saying. Express concern. Offer unconditional support. And tell them to call us."

Man dead in Ranchos shooting

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

One man is dead and his wife injured after a domestic dispute turned violent in the Gardnerville Ranchos on Monday night. According to the Douglas

County Sheriff's Office, the incident occurred in the 1400 block of Angora Drive at about 9:40 p.m. when the couple were arguing in front of their home.

The man, identified as David Woffinden, 37, went back into the home and obtained a handgun,

and then shot Kimberly Woffinden once in the leg.

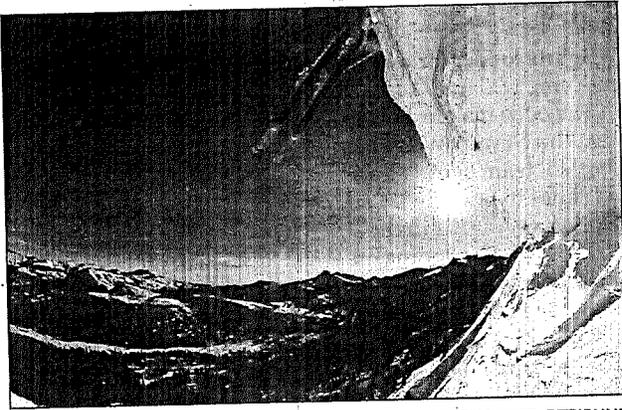
Sheriff's Spokesman Sgt. Pat Brooks said investigators believe Woffinden then turned the gun on himself and fired one shot into his chest.

Deputies found Woffinden lying

dead in his driveway at the home.

Mrs. Woffinden was transported by paramedics to the Carson Valley Medical Center where she was treated for her injury.

The couple have lived in the home since 2002.



COREY RICH PRODUCTIONS / SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Former Kirkwood ski patroller Hazel Birnbaum is full steam ahead after she qualified for the Freeride World Tour. Birnbaum skied in El Colorado, Chile, on Aug. 9 and 10.

Kirkwood skier chases World Tour dream

ing of playing in the Rose Bowl. He's going to show USC and UCLA they made a huge mistake by not grabbing him out of high school. Yahoo.com recently did a story on what it believes are the Top 25 most intriguing quarterbacks in the nation and they failed to even mention Fajardo (Hundley was on the list). Fajardo, who just might be the best kept secret in college football, will emerge as a national star on Aug. 31.

Of course, the overall success of the Wolf Pack this season hinges on whether or not they can actually stop someone. The defense was abysmal last year and it turned a team that should have gone 10-3 into a 7-6 disappointment. With a tougher schedule this year, if the defense plays like it did last year the Pack is likely looking at a 5-7 season at best. Take away the defensive front and the Pack defense is filled with freshmen and inexperience. Hundley could jump to the top of the Heisman list by Sept. 1. But still take those 19 or 20 points. This one looks like a 55-54 triple overtime track meet.

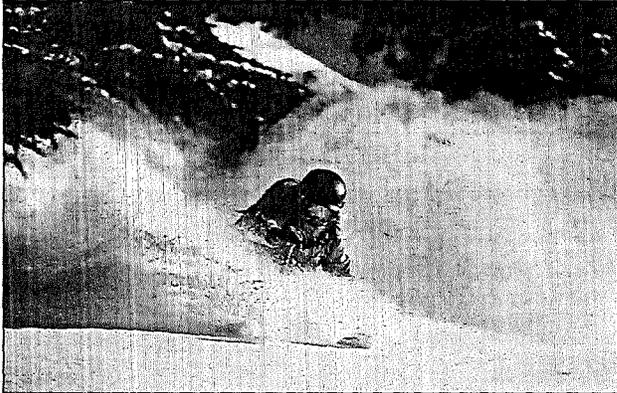
The difference between football players and baseball players? Former major league baseball player Jack Clark said on his St. Louis radio show recently that former St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols has used performance enhancing drugs. Pujols then threatened to sue Clark and the radio station and the radio station then fired Clark and his co-host. Minnesota

the university going to take a dozen or so political science or history majors to Italy for a free 10-day trip? You don't have to join the navy to see the world anymore. All you have to do is play for the worst basketball team in the Mountain West. The trip, though, does serve a purpose.

It might be time major league baseball considers killing off two teams. There is obviously not enough big league talent to fill 30 teams. Get rid of the Florida Marlins and Houston Astros. The Marlins don't have any fans or money and wouldn't be missed at all. Major League Baseball is nothing more than Triple-A baseball with a handful of stars thrown in for flavor.

Does it seem like NFL players are getting hurt and suffering more injuries in training camp these days? Don't believe it. All of the silly injury reports that seem to occur every 90 seconds or so are due to Twitter, the internet and 24-hour sports channels which feel the need to flood our football consciences with every meaningless detail that takes place. The sports media feels pressure now to report everything its sees, hears, touches or eats the moment it occurs. Tom Brady goes down in a summer scrimmage and all of New England goes into mourning. Every twisted ankle in training camp is treated like Jack Tatum drilling Darryl Stingley. Here's the deal: Players get hurt in training camp. They live to practice another day.

continued



COREY RICH PRODUCTIONS / SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Hazel Birnbaum, of Meyers, must finish top three in points overall in the five Freeride World Qualifying events she plans on competing in this season.

SKIER

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venue.”
Birnbaum’s final run earned her the coveted Backcountry.com Sickbird Belt Buckle.

“It is a major honor to be the third women ever to win the Backcountry Sickbird Award,” Birnbaum said.

Repairing the confidence that was shredded with her torn ACL, MCL and meniscus was the tough part for Birnbaum.

“I went through physical training, therapy and that whole thing, and I trained really hard prior to every ski season, but it took me a whole year to mentally get back to where I was. It took me a year to just be confident in my ability,” she said. “Things happen, but you can’t let them define your skiing career.”

Continuing on the women’s freeski podium in second place was Laia Castellarnau Plaza of Spain. Plaza earned a total score of 142 and 1,400 FWQ points. Alaina Huetis out of Snowbird, Utah, landed in third with a total score of 135.67 and 1,100 FWQ points.

Among the men’s freeskiing competitors, Jim Sorbe of France claimed first place when he was the only male competitor to attempt and successfully hit a mandatory 25- to 30-foot air at the bottom of the venue, earning a cumulative score of 145.67 and 1,800 FWQ points.

Andrew Rumph of Aspen, Colo., took second and Zeno Cenon of Italy landed the third podium position.

Mountain Sports International, Inc. contributed to this report.

Kirkwood connecting to the power grid

by Dylan Silver
dsilver@tahoedailytribune.com

Those random lift stoppages at Kirkwood Mountain Resort may be a thing of the past. A project is under way to connect the rural Alpine County resort and surrounding community to the electrical grid.

"Power will definitely be consistent and reliable," said Sandy McKay, out-valley project coordinator for Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District. "The only time it will go down will be when PG&E has a problem."

Crews have begun laying a 25-mile-long underground transmission line from Bear River Reservoir to Kirkwood. That line will be connected to the existing PG&E Salt Springs-Tiger Creek substation and through two new substations. The entire project is estimated to cost \$30 million and is funded by a U.S. Department of

Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Loan.

The project will improve the air quality, reduce emissions and help stabilize rates for customers, according to a document released by KMPUD.

In the past, Kirkwood Mountain Resort, the ski area's lifts and the housing in the area have been run on diesel generators. After the project is finished in November 2014, the generators will move to a redundant role in case of power outages, McKay said.

The district is not sure if the new power source will increase or decrease rates for residents of the area, McKay said.

Without a grid connection, prices for power in the area fluctuated with the cost of diesel.

RC Aug 16, 2013

Alpine boy brings new eye to old things

by Karen Dustman

At 10 years old, Leo Coyan is the youngest docent at the Alpine County Museum – and possibly in the entire state of California.

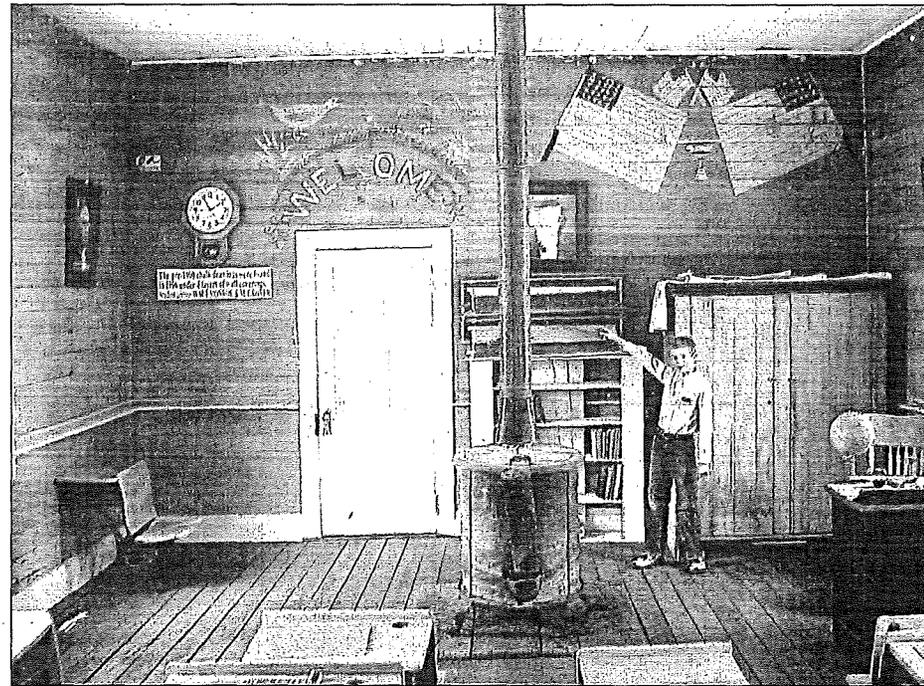
So how did a kid who loves video games but isn't especially fond of history get started as a docent? "He just started doing it," his grandmother Wanda Coyan explains. "I would see him taking people all around the museum and showing them things. Now he watches to see people getting out of their cars, and he'll go out and greets them."

You might say Leo has grown up at the museum, although he's still not quite full-grown. His grandmother is museum curator and his father is a frequent visitor. So it should come as no surprise that one day Leo opened the drawer of the big front desk, pinned a "Volunteer" button on his T-shirt, and began leading visitors on tours.

He starts visitors out at the old wooden jail, demonstrating the squeak of the prisoner's bed by bouncing lightly on the edge of the old metal bedframe.

Next comes a visit to the old hay thresher. "Hold this up and don't stick your hands inside," he admonishes, as he opens a panel. Then he demonstrates how the vintage machine works by turning a handle on the side.

The old snowplow and antique fire hose reel are next. Then it's off to the stamp mill, where I learn that the old diesel engine that turns



Leo Coyan is the youngest docent at the Alpine County Museum.

SPECIAL TO THE R-C

the stamps is a "sipper," because the heavy fly-wheel is so big and only a small amount of fuel is required to keep it turning.

Off in the carriage shed, the old red fire engine takes on new meaning as Leo explains:

"My poppy used to drive this one" – he thinks it was in the 1940s. "You know how on today's cars the speedometer goes up to 120? Well, on this one, it only goes up to 80 on the gauge. So 20 miles an hour – that was normal speed for

The Alpine County Museum in Markleeville is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, through late October. To find out when Leo is leading tours (Saturdays), call the museum at (530) 694-2317.

this engine."

At the old Basque bread oven, Leo opens the metal door and encourages a visitor to "stick your head inside." Sure enough, that solves the riddle of the sandy dome on top. It's not a solid heap of sand at all, but merely a covering that follows the natural curve inside the oven.

"Watch your step," he cautions as we reach the old schoolhouse stairs. Sure enough, that first plank is loose. Inside, he points out drawings on the walls made by long-ago children, and demonstrates how to pull the rope to ring the old school bell.

As for how Leo has learned so much about the artifacts he demonstrates, well, he read the plaques. "And I listened to my grandmother and to Rick Dustman and other people who come up to the museum."

I confess I saw things on Leo's tour that I've never seen before in the hundreds of times I've wandered the museum. And Leo's excitement was just plain contagious.

Not long ago, a happy visitor offered Leo two fresh dollar bills in appreciation for his wonderful tour. "He said thank you very much," Wanda recalls, "and went over and put the money directly in the donation box."

Man faces prison in robbery

Staff Reports

A 30-year-old Alpine County man faces up to 15 years in prison at sentencing Oct. 15 after he pleaded guilty to robbery.

Waylon Kurtis Dondero admitted Tuesday that he and another suspect robbed the 40-year-old victim. The men reportedly were looking for money to gamble. The victim, who was beaten in the robbery, lost \$78.

In exchange for Dondero's guilty plea, no other charges will be sought, including a habitual criminal enhancement.



Dondero

Dondero also agreed to make a truthful statement to authorities about the May 24-25 incident prior to entering his plea. He told Judge Tod Young that he had completed the requirement.

Dondero said he committed the offense with codefendant Miguel

Rubio.

Rubio faces similar charges, but his arraignment was continued after he notified Young on Tuesday he was hiring lawyer Joe Laub to replace court-appointed attorney Kris Brown.

Rubio's next court appearance is Sept. 17. Both men are in Douglas County Jail.

The state has agreed to recommend a 5-year maximum sentence for Dondero which would make him eligible for parole after serving two years in prison. He is also eligible for probation, according to the plea agreement.

The sentence is up to the judge, no matter what the agreement is.

Dondero also is to plead guilty to an unrelated domestic battery case in East Fork Justice Court.

Alpine

775-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

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Goats make great mountain haulers, neighbors

by Virginia York

In the summer of 2007, I had 12 gallons of paint and no way to transport them to my home in the mountains at 6,800 feet, accessible only by trail. Help from a friend and her llamas was not available at the time. I was pondering this question of paint conveyance when, providentially, I met my neighbor, Wanda Coyan, and told her of my quandary.

Wanda suggested that she and her friend from Fallon, Charlie Goggan, provide a team of goats for the job. So on the appointed day, after breakfast at Wanda's, cooked by her husband Gary, three women, Charlie's two daughters, two dogs and six

big goats proceeded to the trailhead. When the goats were saddled up (one could become quite sentimental on the subject of goat saddles) they warmed to the task of carrying two gallons each. No harnesses or ropes were required. The goats followed the humans and each other in a perfect line. One got stuck in a bush and after trying to free himself was content to let a human sort out the tangle. They strode over the creek without stumbling and maintained a good pace up the hill, showing no sign of strain. The journey was remarkably easy and the cloven hooves left little impact on the trail. That night, humans, dogs and goats slept outside for safety in numbers; mountain lions

and other predators would have found those plump goats hard to resist.

Wanda, curator of Alpine County Museum and a plain dressing conservative quaker, grew up in a country area of Tennessee. The house had no electricity or running water. Water for baths was heated on the wood stove. They kept food cold in their root cellar. When she was four years old she was the only child at home. They had a cow and Wanda would churn butter for hours. Her best friend was Nanny, the goat. (Wanda points out that, strictly speaking, female goats are called does and males, bucks). They would play endless games of hide-and-seek, Wanda in her cowboy boots and little else. Wanda would peek around a corner of the house then Nanny would do the same. Together they used to climb a big oak tree with thick, spreading branches. Most children sport scarred knees, but Wanda had scars on her stomach where Nanny would butt her when she got mad (does as well as bucks have horns).



Wanda Coyan's goats.

SPECIAL TO THE RC

continued on next page

Goats make great mountain haulers, neighbors

When Wanda and Gary's four sons were growing up they had a cow to provide fresh milk for them all. As the boys grew older they no longer needed such quantities of milk so Wanda decided to keep goats which produce less, more digestible milk.

Goats went out of Wanda's life again when she was busy with nursing school and work. When the boys left home she was revisited by the old hankering. She contacted Charlie of Fallon who persuaded her to accompany her on a goat packing trip. Wanda was reluctant, thinking that she only wanted goats for milk but she agreed to go and became hooked. She now has three pack goats, two wethers and a doe, and one milk goat, all with distinct personalities. Three are Saanens, from Switzerland, bred for cold weather and one is a Nubian, bred for the desert. In some years there is enough delicious milk and cheese for neighbors; my daughter used

to drink most of our quart before we'd walked home.

A familiar sight on our street is the herd of goats being led to pasture by Wanda and Gary. The goats keep the grass down around the sewage pond and in the pasture opposite the library.

Observing goats at play one is reminded of the George Bernard Shaw quote "We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." One is swept away by their joie de vivre, their incessant chasing, climbing, leaping off rocks and spinning in mid-air. Wanda maintains that goats and grandchildren are an excellent match. When her grandson, Leo, was little

the goats would follow him; he would lie down and they would jump onto his back. The goats have led to a closer connection with nature; a family of swallows lives at the top of one of the stalls. The four babies stand on the edge of the nest feeling quite safe being handled by the humans. Every night birds and goats are locked up together, the knotholes allowing bird access to the outdoors.

Wanda and Gary also have seven banty hens and a rooster, a garden with flowers, vegetables and herbs and a greenhouse. Wanda and two friends are writing a book on wild edible plants of the Sierra.

Los Angeles Times

Poisoning a Sierra stream to save the world's rarest trout

Officials pour poison into Silver King Creek, killing nonnative trout species, in order to make a home for the Paiute cutthroat trout.

September 02, 2013 | By Louis Sahagun

Email Share  7 Tweet 0

WALKER, Calif. — State fisheries biologist Dave Lentz poured poison into a remote High Sierra stream and watched quietly as every rainbow and golden trout in the water turned belly up.

After the rotenone spread along 11 miles of Silver King Creek last Wednesday, other biologists poured in a neutralizing agent, making the river again habitable — and a suitable home for the rarest trout in the world.



Rachel Van Horne, a biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, lugs a bucket... (Louis Sahagun, Los Angeles...)

Kneeling beside a small brass spigot that dripped the milky white toxin into a pool edged with alders, Lentz, a conservation coordinator for native trout with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, smiled and said, "Looks like everything is working as intended. The Paiute cutthroat trout belongs in this stream, not the nonnatives in here now."

The Paiute trout is native to the Alpine County stream in the Eastern Sierra's Carson-Iceberg Wilderness of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. But it had been squeezed out by rainbow and golden trout, which are not native to this portion of Silver King Creek.

The plan to restore the Paiute trout had been held up in federal court for more than a decade by opponents who believe that poisoning a stream is about the worst thing that could happen in a designated wilderness. They also question the safety of rotenone and worry about its possible long-term effects on wildlife and regional water supplies.

Biologists say rotenone is a natural poison derived from peas that breaks down rapidly and poses no threat to water supplies.

After the poisoning, biologists in waders sloshed in knee-deep water, using nets to scoop up the trout and place them in buckets. The remains were to be tossed into the forest as an unexpected banquet for insects, birds and mammals.

Alpine County Supervisor Don Jardine is among the critics of this recovery effort by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Jardine first fished this wilderness with his father more than half a century ago.

"I have a basic philosophical objection to anyone polluting a natural waterway," Jardine said. "Beyond that, these agencies are taking the easy way out. They could have used less obtrusive alternatives such as electroshock, but that would have required more time, money and manpower."

Jardine also pointed out that rotenone is banned for use in U.S. coastal waters and banned entirely in Europe. Also, some rotenone treatments have flopped.

In 1992, an estimated 1,000 trout were accidentally killed along a different stretch of Silver King Creek when state wildlife biologists mistakenly used excessive amounts of potassium permanganate to neutralize rotenone.

In the late 1990s, state wildlife authorities laced the Sierra reservoir of Lake Davis with rotenone as part of an effort to eradicate northern pike, an invasive saw-toothed fish that had been ravaging the lake's trophy-size trout. The pike returned in 18 months.

In May, however, a U.S. District Court judge green-lighted the Silver King Creek project. It is intended to create a self-sustaining population of about 2,500 Paiute cutthroat in seven to 10 years, making the species eligible to become the first fish ever removed from protection under the Endangered Species Act.

"Rotenone is as close to a silver bullet as anything we have in that it hardly impacts anything but fish," said Dan Duffield, a U.S. Forest Service fish biologist. "In this case, we're using it to restore an extremely rare fish in an area where it evolved with other creatures such as mountain yellow-legged frogs."

Since the 1960s, mountain yellow-legged frogs have been decimated in the Sierra Nevada by predators including nonnative fish.

The historic range of the Paiute cutthroat is thought to have been limited to about 9 miles in Silver King Creek. By the early 1900s, the species was in danger of extinction through interbreeding with hybridized nonnative trout.

The Paiute cutthroat's range was extended into the upper reaches of Silver King Creek — inaccessible to nonnative trout — via unofficial transplantation of the fish by Basque sheepherders in 1912. The Paiute descendants are the only known pure strain of the iridescent purplish trout.

Because the Paiute cutthroats readily take a lure or a fly, Silver King Creek was closed to fishing in 1934.

If the recovery effort is successful, the creek could be reopened to angling for native trout in less than 10 years.

"One reason it may take that long is that there aren't many pure Paiute trout left to draw stock from," said Jim Harvey, forest fisheries biologist for the U.S. Forest Service. "Once this stream is ready, our plan is to stock 50 to 100 Paiute trout at a time.

"In the meantime, we have to make sure that there isn't a single nonnative trout, or even their eggs, left alive in this stream," he added, scanning the eddies for dead fish.

louis.sahaqun@latimes.com

California SRA fire fee flap flares up again

by Matthew Renda
mrenda@theunion.com

As the second wave of state responsibility area fee bills are poised to be released to California residents, officials representing rural counties are reiterating their steadfast opposition to the policy.

"I think we fail to see any benefit whatsoever to rural counties," said Nevada County Supervisor Ed Scofield.

The money being generated isn't leading to increased protection for any county residents, Scofield said — instead, he said, it is being used to backfill a budgetary hole created years ago on the backs of rural Californians.

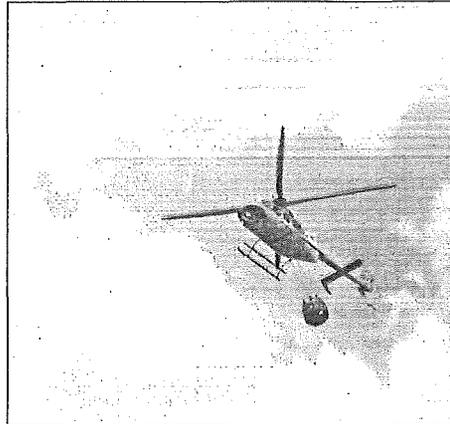
The SRA fee was created by California Assembly Bill 29, approved by the Democrat-dominated legislature in 2011 and subsequently signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown.

The law imposes a fee of either \$115 or \$150, with property owners already covered by an existing fire protection district paying the lesser fee.

"It is bad public policy, and unfair to rural homeowners," said Kevin Cann, board chairman of the Rural County Representatives of California and a Mariposa County supervisor. "We will continue our efforts to repeal this fee and relieve rural homeowners of this duplicative tax."

Bills have been mailed to Alameda and Alpine counties and hit mailboxes in Nevada County on Thursday.

State Sen. Ted Gaines, who represents Nevada County, has long maintained that the fire fee not only places an undue financial burden on rural homeowners but is



KURT HILDEBRAND /R-C FILE PHOTO

A firefighting helicopter carries water to the Centerville Flats fire in Alpine County in 2009. California is charging rural residents a fee to pay for firefighting efforts.

fundamentally illegal.

"This \$150 fire tax is illegal and unfair — plain and simple," said Gaines. "My goal with these bills is to offer some hope and support to Californians who are still facing a 10 percent unemployment rate and struggling just to make ends meet."

Gaines introduced three bills this year to mitigate or overturn the fire fee; two were defeated before making it out of committee.

The remaining bill exempts California residents with an annual income of less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level and is expected to be taken up next year, Gaines said.

The most promising avenue for repeal of the fire fee is the class action lawsuit spearheaded by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers

Association, Gaines said.

The suit argues the so-called fee is actually a tax, which should have required a two-thirds vote instead of the simple majority vote it received.

A Sacramento Superior Court Judge ruled that four co-plaintiffs to the lawsuit could not collect refunds due to their failure/refusal to submit a "petition for re-determination" — the form that indicates an individual is paying a bill under protest.

The state sought to have the case dismissed, said David Wolfe, the association's legislative director, but the judge ruled it could continue.

The Superior Court, which is backlogged, will likely take up the issue toward the end of the calendar year, Wolfe said.

Calfire maintains the charge on rural residents is a fee because residences within the SRA area derive specific benefits from the fire agency.

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office recommended that the state collect money from homeowners who directly benefit from the state's firefighting efforts.

However, Jason Flores, fire chief of the North San Juan Fire Protection District, said the constituents in his district have received zero benefits as a result of legislative policy.

According to a news release issued by the Rural County Representatives of California, Calfire expends more money for fire suppression in highly urbanized areas, not rural areas.

Furthermore, the first round of bills mailed to residents cost the state \$15 million to implement and was plagued by inefficiency and errors, the release states.

George Runner, District 2 representative of the California Board of Equalization, said implementation was poorly executed because the State Responsibility Area was not intended to function as a tax jurisdiction.

"It will continue to be problematic," Runner said. "We may clean it up a little bit, but it will continue to be far from fixed. It's just an unfair way to tax. Period."

Statistics show that only 88 percent of those levied with the fee have responded with 12 percent not complying either due to the general air of protest surrounding the issue or due to procedural errors such as bad addresses or multiple bills sent to the same address.

Gaines said it is crucial for individuals to pay their bills under protest if they want to receive a refund should the lawsuit prove successful.

Not paying will result in 20 percent increases on an annual basis and will disqualify individuals from the refund process, Gaines said.

Calfire said it needs the approximately \$84 million in annual revenue to maintain the current levels of service.

In 2012, Calfire spent \$148 million on large, out-of-control wildfires, said spokesman Daniel Berlant in a previous report. That exceeds the \$93 million allotted for such fires in the state budget, and the balance will come out of the state's reserves.

"The fee provides a much-needed and stable funding source to prevent these devastating wildfires, especially like those we've seen this year," he said. "Preventing fires saves lives and homes ... know that this funding is essential."

Grapes give out fruit and shade

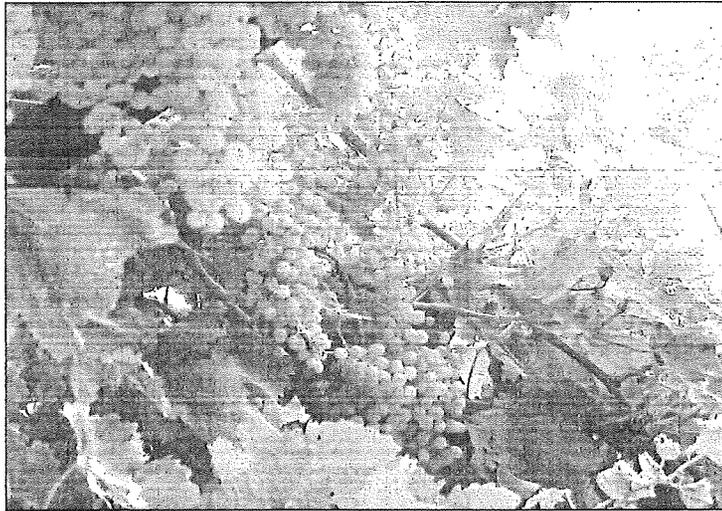
by Karen Dustman

There's something about grapevines that's pure magic. The way fresh leaves shine with almost an inner glow. How tendrils coil around any object in their way, including other tendrils. The energy of new shoots stretching happily for the sun, as if they could wind around the air itself and climb all the way to heaven.

There's something just plain happy about these ancient plants; they're so clearly excited about living. But what can you do with grapevines, besides wait impatiently for the grapes?

For starters, grapevines make a great garden arbor. Hardy enough to withstand our blustery Sierra zephyrs and cold-tolerant enough (with the right variety) for high desert winters, grapevines can be slow to get started but a joy once established.

If you do start an arbor, be prepared: you'll find yourself pruning, clipping and sometimes just plain chopping to keep your arbor in shape. It's tough to be ruthless with something



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Grapevines have a variety of uses.

so beautiful. But think kudzu: those vines will take over if you let them.

There's a plus to all that pruning: cuttings make a wonderful accent for flower arrangements. Brilliantly emerald, graceful vines can make the simplest bouquet snap. Just toss in a few fresh clippings and wait for compliments.

Grape leaves can be a treat in their own right, too. Roll them with rice for a Greek savory called dolmas. Tender leaves can be frozen in spring for cooking all year round. And grape-leaf tea is reputed to have a wide range of properties, from improving circulation to relieving chronic fatigue syndrome. (Just be sure

not to pick where plants have been sprayed).

Best of all, this is the time of year when the grapes themselves arrive — a not-to-be-missed harvest. Plucked fresh from the vine, chilled in a salad, or frozen for a cool summer dessert, grapes make a no-guilt treat. All that taste and hardly any calories? Now that's magic.

GRAPEVINE GROWING TIPS:

■ Read labels; for Sierra winters, be sure to choose a cold-tolerant variety.

■ Pests love sweet grapes, too, unfortunately. Keep yellow jackets away with a hanging trap or two.

■ Grapes are slow to leaf out in the spring and may be weeks behind other plants in your garden. So don't give up and yank them out prematurely. Be patient, and they'll reward you.

DOLMAS RECIPE:

For a tasty stuffed grape leaf recipe including instructions on how to roll the grape leaves, go to:

<http://whatscookingamerica.net/Vegetables/StuffedGrapeLeaves.htm>.

Trails group starts in Alpine County

Staff Reports

The Alpine Trails Association is a group of local outdoor enthusiasts working in cooperation with county, state, and federal agencies to improve nonmotorized access to public lands in Alpine County.

Participants are currently looking for people who are interested in maintaining and creating a network of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails in the county.

Organizers extended an invitation to anyone who is interested in joining, or who has an opinion about the organization, or to attend meetings held monthly at Turtle Rock Park. The next meeting is 9 a.m. Thursday at the Turtle Rock Park Community Center. Many volunteer opportunities exist for those who are interested.

For more information, visit www.alpinetrails.com or contact one of the organizers listed on the website.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Markleeville Courthouse's future

Editor:

In response to a petition totaling nearly 100 signatures by citizens of tiny Alpine County, the Board of Supervisors has granted the public's request for a special meeting to discuss the courthouse's future. It will be 1 p.m. Friday at the Administration Building in Markleeville. Petition proponents are hoping that maybe, just maybe, the board will reconsider proposed changes to the old courthouse that many residents fear would irrevocably damage the historic integrity of the building.

Opponents of the alterations believe that ADA issues with the current courthouse can be solved far more simply, and far more cheaply, by putting in a ramp or a lift at the existing front entrance. While expressing no opinions on ADA or other considerations, the judges have indicated that many of the security concerns could be addressed by an alternative to the present plan. Local law enforcement officers have also indicated that security concerns could be addressed in other ways.

According to one local contractor, doing away with the proposed connector could actually save the county money (potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars, according to this contractor's guesstimate).

Please plan to attend the public meeting on Friday and bring like-minded friends. This is your last chance to make your voices heard about the value of preserving this beautiful old historic building, intact, for future generations.

Nancy Thornburg, Wanda Coyan, Karen

RC-Wed, Sep 7, 11, 2013

Dustman
Markleeville

Continuum of Care coming to Inyo, Mono and Alpine

Advocacy group hopes to harness funds for homeless

Register Staff

Inyo, Mono and Alpine residents are joining resources to help serve one of the most at-risk groups in local communities.

On Wednesday, Aug. 29, more than 30 homeless-prevention stakeholders met at Bishop City Hall to discuss a collaborative relationship to address homeless issues in the Eastern Sierra.

Participants decided to work together to establish and operate a Continuum of Care Program for Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties. The CoC will be composed of community advocates that promote, fund and implement programs to assist homeless individuals or those at risk of becoming homeless.

According to IMACA Director of Housing and Development Larry Emerson, creating a CoC will open new avenues for local agencies and

organizations to access funding to provide care and assistance to the homeless community.

The program provides funding opportunities from state and federal sources that are currently unavailable to homeless service providers in this region. Emerson explained that the U.S. Department of Urban Development and others have funds reserved specifically for CoC groups and currently, there are no approved CoCs operating in the Eastern Sierra.

To that end, stakeholders are seeking additional CoC members from local businesses, non-profit homelessness assistance providers, victim services providers, faith-based organizations, local governments, public housing agencies, school districts, social services providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, organizations serving veterans, homeless or formerly homeless individuals and other homeless service advocates.

Before it can be officially recognized as a CoC, the group will be required to create a database, or "Homeless Management

Information System," elect a board of directors and develop a plan for services.

And Emerson said the group hopes to accomplish all that within the next two months.

"The goal is to get this CoC up and running as soon as possible to qualify for the next round of funding," he said, explaining that he hopes to have all the requirements met by October or November.

After meeting the requirements, Emerson said the CoC will be able to provide local communities "a wide range of services" ranging from hospital funding, rental assistance and more.

The next Eastern Sierra CoC meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2 at Bishop City Hall. Emerson said the group will be discussing governing board membership, current funding opportunities and the state and federal certification process.

For more information on this program or to be placed on the mailing list for notification of future meetings, contact Emerson at (760) 873-3021 ext. 5 or email lemerson@imaca.net.

The INYO REGISTER SAT., SEPT. 14, 2013

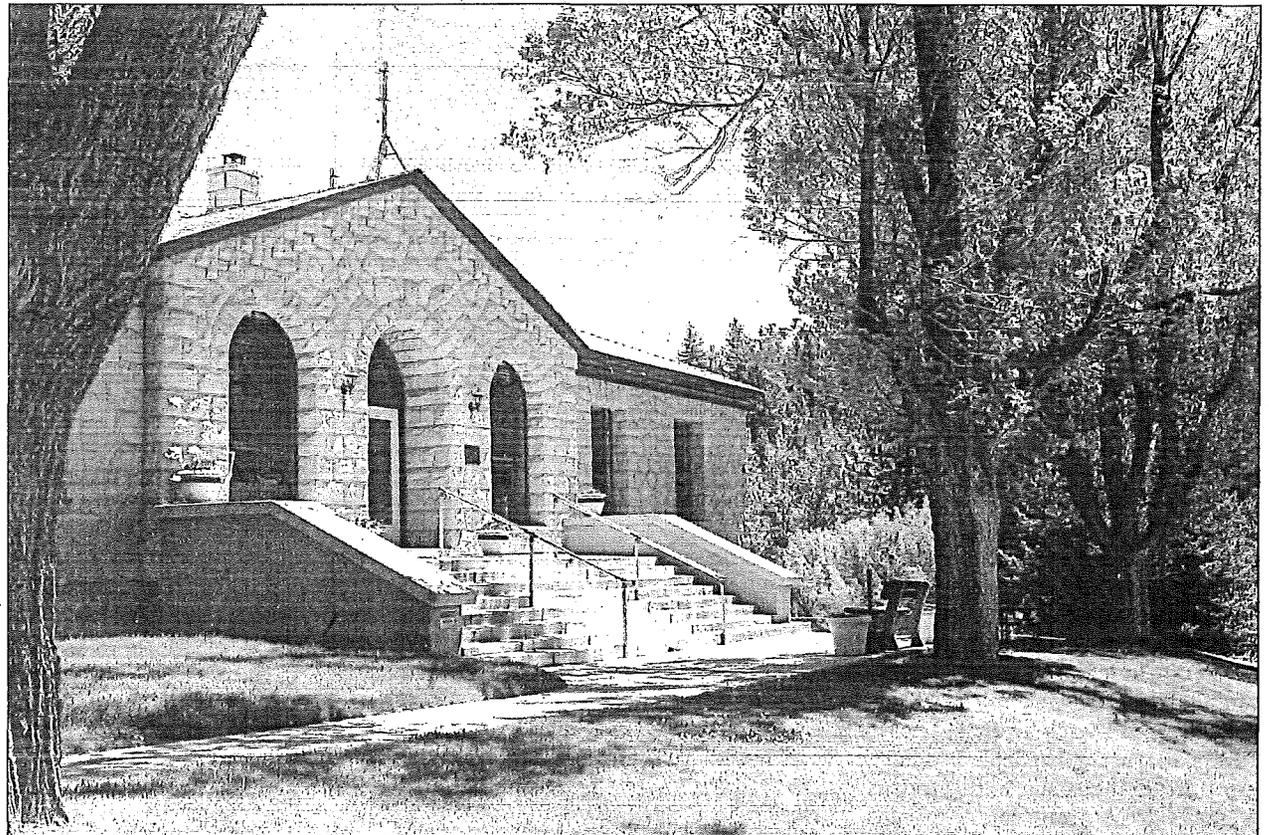
Alpine

775-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

The Record-Courier | Wednesday, September 18, 2013 | 11

Alpine to look at courthouse alternatives

continued on next page



SHANNON LITZ/R-C FILE PHOTO

The historic Alpine County Courthouse in Markleeville was designed by Fredrick DeLongchamps, who also designed the Minden courthouse and Douglas County High School, which now houses the Carson Valley Cultural Center & Museum.

Friday the 13th was lucky for supporters of preserving the Alpine County Courthouse when supervisors voted 5-0 to pursue alternatives to a plan to revamp the 85-year-old building.

A proposal to build a glassed-in hallway from the west end of the administration building to the judges' chambers in the rear corner of the courthouse would prompt several changes that residents felt would affect the historical character of the building.

According to Markleeville resident Nancy Thornburg, that would have resulted in a domino effect of moving both judges' chambers to the opposite end of the building, "flipping" the courtroom, and eliminating the historic courtroom furniture and the stairway to the basement where plans are to put the District Attorney's office.

"What the public had learned only recently was that this would also have severely limited access into the Courthouse by the general public," she said. "And that was just all too much for the citizens of Alpine who have loved and protected this historic building for almost a century and wanted to keep their right to enjoy its beautiful interior and show it off to visiting friends and relatives."

Alpine to Look at Courthouse Alternatives

On Friday the Alpine County Board of Supervisors held a meeting to discuss the planned changes to the Alpine County Courthouse and administration building. The hearing room was packed with every seat taken. There was standing room only and overflow out into the foyer of the administration building.

A petition had been circulated and signed by 99 residents and submitted to the board opposing the plan. People came to the hearing from Markleeville and Woodfords as well as from Carson Valley and beyond.

"Many spoke against the plan, supported alternative ideas for ADA access and court security and privacy, and strongly urged the board to consider other options," Thornburg said. "Speaker after speaker expressed how important this

building is to Markleeville and the community at large. One historian pointed out, 'When it's gone, it's gone!'"

After two hours of public presentation the board adjourned into executive session for about 20 minutes. When they emerged into open session they voted 5-0 to pursue alternative plans and to abandon the connector idea. The audience erupted in applause.

"Many from the audience went forward after the meeting to compliment the board members for listening to community input and reaching out for an alternate solution which would preserve their beloved courthouse," she said.

The courthouse was built of quarried native rock in 1928 and was designed by Frederick de Longchamps. It is on both the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register.

Plans to build a new Alpine County Courthouse were cut in 2011 after the California Legislature redirected \$310 million in courthouse construction to the general fund to balance the state budget.

The proposed Alpine courthouse would have cost \$26 million to build and would have been built in a different location.

According to a letter written in 2011 by Alpine County Judge David DeVore in support of the new courthouse, security and safety are two major issues with the old courthouse.

"Most of the records are in a rented storage facility in a Nevada town some 25 miles away," DeVore said. "The upstairs entrance requires navigating two separate sets of steps and an uncovered walkway which is impossible for those with disabilities under any circumstances."

DeVore called trials "security nightmares," in his letter.

"Our building and courtroom do not accommodate the number of jurors we must summon for even modest matters, and the parking is inadequate to handle their cars, which requires us to rent from the county a meeting hall several miles away where we must set up a rough courtroom using folding chairs and tables, and additional security for the remote and vulnerable setting."

Between 2009 and 2011, more than \$1.1 billion in funding originally designated for courthouse construction has been borrowed, swept to the general fund, or redirected.



Luetta Dressler Bergevin September 6, 1921 - August 24, 2013

Luetta (Lue) Dressler Bergevin passed away peacefully on the morning of August 24, 2013, surrounded by her family. She was 91. Her husband, Louis, Carson Valley rancher and long-time state Assemblyman, preceded her in death.

Luetta D. Bergevin, a fourth generation Nevadan, was born on September 6, 1921, on the Dressler Home Ranch, to Fred H. and Anna (Neddenriep) Dressler. Luetta was the last baby delivered by her great great aunt Dr Eliza Cook, Nevada's first woman physician. She developed an early appreciation for the beauty of the outdoors, having spent the first years of her life on the family cattle ranch that encompassed parts of Carson Valley and Alpine and Mono Counties in California.

At the age of seven, she boarded in Centerville at the home of John and Mildred Drendel in order to attend the Centerville School. Due to consolidation, she continued her education the following year at the Minden Grammar School where she graduated from the eighth grade in 1936 as Valedictorian of her Class.

She graduated from Douglas County High School, Gardnerville, Nevada, where she was an active member of the class of 1940. Luetta served as Secretary of the Student Body, Editor of the Garminada, and was a member D.C.H.S. Girls Basketball Team. She continued her education at the University of Utah where she received her B.S. degree in Nursing Education and her degree as a Registered Nurse from St. Marks Hospital School of Nursing in Salt Lake City. She was a member of Delta, Delta, Delta Sorority and was active in campus life.

During World War II, she worked as a U.S. Naval Cadet Nurse at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Seattle, Washington. Following V.J. Day she returned to St. Marks in Salt Lake City, where she passed her state boards with honors, and was employed as the Head Nurse on the Orthopedic Floor.

In June of 1946, she returned to Gardnerville and in August married her high school sweetheart, Louis Bergevin. They were married in the old Lutheran Church near Gardnerville by Pastor Paul H. Felten. Following their marriage they lived near Mesa, Arizona, where her husband was a Captain in the U.S. Airforce at Williams Field, Arizona. After his discharge as a Major, they moved to Reno. While in Reno, she worked as a Head Nurse on a surgical floor and then as O.B. Supervisor at the Washoe Medical Center (now Renown). In time they moved to the Dressler Ranch and Carson Valley where they would raise their family. After the move, Luetta did private duty nursing at the Carson-Tahoe Hospital for Dr. Ontie Hovendon and Dr. E. G. Hand. She volunteered at Health Fairs and assisted in giving the first polio injections in Carson Valley. She served on the board of the First Carson Valley Emergency Medical Center. Later she served as a nurse at the Lake Tahoe 4-H camp.

Following her retirement from nursing, she revived her interest in art. She was a member of the Carson Valley Art Association and the East Fork Gallery, serving as President in each. She was also a charter member of the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City. She loved to paint and worked in oil and watercolor with watercolor being her favorite. She was a self taught artist until her first painting lessons from Geraldine Lawrence. In 1981 she travelled to China with a group of artists who took every opportunity to sit down and paint or sketch while on the trip. They met with Chinese artists and exchanged ideas and techniques. It was an experience she never forgot. Over the years she painted numerous landscapes, florals and other varied subjects. She sold several of her works and her family members each have a favorite.

Aside from her paintings, Luetta was an avid gardener, an incredible cook and a beautiful seamstress. She enjoyed hiking, especially in the mountains of Alpine County and outlying areas of Nevada. On these hikes she would collect numerous photos that would later be inspirations for many of her paintings. She was never inactive and her involvement in community life included membership in the Carson Valley Literary Club (Past President), the Nevada State Cattlewomen (formerly Cowbelles) (Past President), Douglas County Republican Women, Parent Teachers' Association, 4-H Leader, 4-H chaperone on educational trips, and she was a lifetime member of the St. Mark's nurses' association. She also served on the Nevada Historical Commission, Nevada 4-H Foundation, Douglas County Historical Society Board and was chairman for the National "Beef for Father's Day" campaign. She enjoyed working with people and put in many hours assisting her husband in his many campaigns for the Nevada State Assembly. She was a lifetime member of Trinity Lutheran Church and was a substitute organist for Ruth Felten at the old church and often taught Vacation Bible School.

In April of 2010 she moved to Merrill Gardens Gardnerville where she enjoyed much love, friendship and attention. The family would like to thank all of the wonderful staff at Merrill Gardens along with Linda from Gentiva and Brian from Vista Care Hospice for all of their kindness, efforts and care in making Luetta comfortable.

She is survived by her son, Lee (Sharon) Bergevin and his family: Debbie Curry Flaherty (Amber & Chris Weller, Jordan Flaherty), Greg (Jennifer) Curry (Kaitlyn, Joshua & Julianna Curry), Lynda Curry, Shannon Bergevin (Al) Garner (Abigail & Genevieve Garner), Andrew Bergevin and Erin Bergevin; her daughter, Jeanne (Todd) Russell and her family: Matthew (Carolyn) Russell (Nathan & Charles Russell), Timothy (Cassidy) Russell (Brynn & Larkin Russell); her brother Frederick Dressler; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her husband, Louis, Luetta was preceded in death by her parents. A Celebration of Life will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1480 Douglas Avenue, Gardnerville, Nevada, on September 14, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Luetta would be happy to know that she inspired donations in her name to the Douglas County Historical Society, 1477 Hwy 395, Suite B, Gardnerville, NV 89410 or the East Fork Gallery, 1503 Hwy 395 N, Suite K, Gardnerville, NV 89410.

Gilbert Carl Gilcher, 89 of Gardnerville, passed away on September 8, 2013. Autumn Funerals & Cremations is trusted with the arrangements, (775) 888-6800.

RC. Wed, Sept. 18, 2013

Abuse prompts Markleeville outrage in 1874

by Karen Dustman

Horses and buggies and dirt streets may have gone by the wayside. But dallying spouses and irate neighbors – well, some things never change. And one sad story from 1874 has an all-too-modern ring.

When Emily Jane Palmer married Alfred Bates in February, 1868, the pair was destined for anything but wedded bliss. The newlyweds moved from Mono County to the mining town Silver King where, according to the *Alpine Chronicle*, Mrs. Bates found a new “affinity.”

An all-too-predictable confrontation ensued between Mr. Bates and his rival. In July 1874, guns were drawn and blows exchanged. The “affinity” wound up cooling his heels for 60 days in Silver Mountain’s cold stone jail, for battering Bates, while Bates too found himself in trouble with the law for drawing a deadly weapon. Emily, meanwhile, high-tailed it out of Silver King and promptly replaced both beaux with a new “affinity” in nearby Markleeville.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Silver Mountain City from the cover of Karen Dustman’s book “Ghost of the Sierra: Silver Mountain City!”

But if it weren’t for bad luck, Alfred Bates must have had no luck at all. A month later, the jilted husband was crushed by a mule falling backwards upon

his body. After “intense suffering,” the ill-fated Bates left his worldly troubles behind.

With Emily’s first husband now conveniently gone, the

dallying widow quickly tied the knot with her latest love, Andy Grow. But just a few days after the wedding, Emily’s baby daughter passed away. This

time, the death was hardly an accident; the cause of the child’s passing was “cruelty and neglect.”

The citizenry of Markleeville decided it was time to intervene. A “committee” was formed and paid a vigilante-style visit to the household. There, they advised Grow in no uncertain terms to “settle up his business” and skedaddle out of Alpine County within the next five days.

But while they were there, the intervening neighbors stumbled upon another sad fact: the couple had been “in the habit of beating the surviving daughter,” three-year-old Helen Belle, who they discovered was “sick unto death.” The local paper deemed it an “outrage.”

The citizens didn’t bother with judges or legal niceties. They simply scooped up little Helen and took her away with them. A rancher’s wife brought the child into her home, tending to her needs as well as anyone could. But a happy ending was not to be. Little Helen died Sept. 26, 1874.

Fall brings color and artists to Markleeville

by Joyce DeVore

Fall color is just beginning to transform Alpine County into its celebrated and breathtaking season: It should be ideal for this year's Markleeville Artists Autumn Open Studios 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 5-6.

Eleven artists will participate this year, marking the 11th year of the studio tour.

Local artists open their home studios to the public for those two days, while guest artists, who reside near Markleeville, bring their works to downtown Markleeville for the public's convenience.

Register at the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and pick up a free color map with directions to each art site and contact information for the artists.

Within walking distance, you will find four studios. Noel and Linda Bottoms will be at Intero Realty, where they will display hand-crafted jewelry set with semi-precious stones, photography, and cards. Erik Holland, a masterful plein-air painter and a true fan of the Markleeville area, will have his oil paintings on display at the Markleeville Library.

Holland will only be available on Saturday, although the library display will be open both days.

The fourth downtown studio is especially important this year because the artists have dedicated this year's event to Peter Chope, the prominent water color artist and graphic designer who lost his life to cancer last April. Hosts Sandy and Patt Baenen will have a variety of items crafted with contemporary fabrics; while showcasing two previously unviewed watercolor paintings by Peter Chope. At 5 p.m. on Saturday, join the artists in a toast to Chope on the back deck of his studio at 279 Montgomery St.

The next group of artists are located a short distance down Hot Springs Road. On Raymond View Drive, you will find Charles Muench, whose talent and passion for the outdoors have combined to make him a world-class artist. Muench strives to understand what he paints, immersing himself in the setting to listen, feel, and see the lonely Sierra landscapes he loves. Muench was the featured artist in Southwest Art magazine, April 2013. His recently published book

Markleeville Memories: Paintings of a Sierra Town will also be available.

Markleevillage, just across from the Muench studio, has four studios. Russel Ketenjian, on Timber Lane, has beautiful oil paintings of the Sierra and creative pottery. Just around the bend, Carolyn and Mark Vaughn have exquisite creative pottery, Raku pottery, and functional

ware. Also showing at the Vaughns' studio, Reena Spansail explores her interior landscape in oils and glass. Richard Shokouh's studio features his magnificent stained-glass pictures as well as his oil paintings.

Perhaps after a refreshing beverage and a bite to eat in Markleeville, visit the local art shop and then head toward Woodfords to

visit Evelyn Yonker's home studio. She will be showing sculpture, plein-air paintings, abstract art, pastels, as well as hand-painted silk scarves.

The event is funded by local sponsors: including wonderful dining spots such as The Deli, Sorensen's, Hope Valley Café, The Toll Station, CJ's Woodfords Station, and The Wolf

Creek restaurant; and businesses Markleeville Art & Soul, Intero Real Estate Services, Markleeville General Store, Markleeville Gas, Alpine County Chamber of Commerce, and Alpine County Friends of the Library.

Thank you for your past support of the studio tour and we hope to see you this Oct. 5 and 6.

Man sentenced to 15 years for robbery

by Sheila Gardner
sgardner@recordcourier.com

Waylon Dondero was sentenced Tuesday to 15 years in prison for robbery, with a promise from the visiting judge that he would attend the defendant's parole hearing in five years.

Senior Judge Charles McGee, sitting in for Judge Tod Young, told Dondero that he could be a leader in prison, for good



Dondero

or evil.

"My deal with you is this," McGee said. "From the crossed pictures I get of you, you are a leader. At the commencement of your 59th month in prison, if somebody tells me you are a leader, I will go to your parole hearing and make a recommendation as your sentencing judge."

Dondero, 30, pleaded guilty to robbery, admitting he and another suspect robbed the 40-year-old victim of \$78 in their search for money for gambling. In exchange for his guilty plea, no other charges were sought, including a habitual criminal enhancement. He received the maximum sentence of 15 years with parole eligibility in five years.

Co-defendant Miguel Rubio pleaded not guilty and is set for trial.

Dondero's lawyer,

Derrick Lopez, presented several letters in support of his client.

Lopez said he had experience with Dondero dating from the early 2000s.

"This event, he had been on the run from domestic battery and committed the robbery. He had been using drugs," Lopez said. "Sober, he is an amazing person. He is viewing this time (in prison) as something given to him by a higher being, as time to reflect on freedom."

He said Dondero planned to take advantage of prison programs to deal with his addiction and anger issues. Dondero told McGee that he knew inmates "on the straight and narrow," and planned to "keep them close to me" while he's in custody.

McGee offered to purchase two books for Dondero he recommended the inmate read in prison, author Barbara Kingsolver's "The Bean Trees," and "Pigs in Heaven."

"It's about being a proud Native American," McGee said after questioning Dondero about his heritage.

Dondero thanked McGee for the books, and the vote of confidence.

"I look forward to seeing you outside those (prison) gates when you come pick me up," Dondero said.

He gave Dondero credit for 91 days in custody.

Cristina Basagoitia, 30, of Gardnerville, who helped



Basagoitia

Rubio avoid arrest by driving him from the crime scene and lying about his whereabouts, was sentenced Monday to three years probation.

She pleaded guilty to accessory to a robbery or battery causing substantial bodily harm.

District Judge Michael Gibbons sentenced her to 30 months in Nevada state prison, suspended, and placed her on probation.

She must perform 50 hours of community service, maintain full-time employment, abstain from drugs, alcohol and intoxicating substances, and undergo intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment. She must pay \$226 restitution.

She is forbidden to have contact with Rubio — her former boyfriend — or Dondero.

"You have a chance here to do exactly what you said you want to do," Gibbons said. "If you don't stick with it, you will go to prison."

She faced up to five years in Nevada state prison and a \$10,000 fine at sentencing Sept. 30.

Basagoitia said she drove Rubio, and codefendant Dondero from the scene of

an assault that took place late May 25 on Genoa Lane.

The victim attended Basagoitia's sentencing, but declined to make a statement.

Prosecutor Tom Gregory said he agreed to the plea bargain because there was no evidence Basagoitia was a principal in the robbery, and because she was forthcoming in her statement to authorities.

He said he had concerns about Basagoitia's criminal history.

Gregory said he had hoped Basagoitia would do more with her time after she was released from jail and prior to Monday to indicate how she would perform on probation.

Basagoitia's attorney, Jamie Henry, said her client had obtained full-time employment for the first time in more than a year and had negative drug tests.

She said Basagoitia was also attending 12-step programs regularly.

"She knows what she did was wrong, but she didn't know exactly how wrong it was. She is trying to do the right thing," Henry said. "She wants to be clean and sober. She is ready for it."

Autumn weather is here, and fishing's great

Hello fellow anglers!

Just got back from a 1,200-mile trip up the coast and into Oregon to fish and enjoy family. Renee and I enjoyed all the rivers on the way. The Russian, Klamath, Eel, Illinois, Chetco, Smith and the Rogue. We caught a few fish and had a great time.

While in Gold Beach, Ore., we received more than 2 inches of rain in one afternoon. We left on our trip in shorts and came home to winterizing the house and wearing a jacket.

We are not the only state that has strange weather. The last night in Grants Pass, they had a snow advisory down to 5,000 feet. So we high-tailed it over the Siskiyou mountains before it snowed on us.

We ended up that night in Mt. Shasta City, Calif., where we stayed at the Cold Creek Inn, located at the base of Mt. Shasta. When we woke the next morning, Mt. Shasta was covered in snow, so we packed up and headed home, where we enjoyed the last few days fishing with friends in our local area. In this report you will read of those areas:

LAKE TAHOE: With the cooler temps, the fishing has picked up a bit for long lining rapalas. The best areas have been Camp Richardson to and past the mouth of Emerald Bay.



**Doug
Busey
Mac-the-
Naw**

Here you can pick up some nice rainbows, browns or mackinaws. Deep lining has been productive off the Tahoe Shelf on the northwest side. Anglers have been using flashers with a live minnow 12 inches behind. This weekend is the Fall Festival, formerly known as the Kokanee Festival. I still remember every year my mom and dad would take us kids to Taylor Creek to watch the salmon run up the stream. I highly recommend seeing this spectacular site. Taylor Creek is located on Highway 89 about three-quarters of a mile north of Camp Richardson on the lake side of the highway. Here you will enjoy the stream profile chamber with a wooden walking path through the meadow and along Taylor Creek. I would recommend you leave the fishing poles at home for this great adventure, as the streams leading into Lake Tahoe closed to all fishing on Sept. 30. But if you are in the fishing mood, call Blue Ribbon Fishing Charters at 530-544-6552.

CAPLES LAKE: Water level is still dropping as it does this time every year. The EID boat ramp is scheduled to be open until the first snow. The resort and general store will remain open until the end of October. The boat launch is closed but they have boat rentals available. Fishing has been rated as good for shore and boat anglers. Scott Liu took a rental boat and trolled a Thompson spoon behind flashers and caught a 4-pound rainbow. Nick Burruel was floating a night crawler near the spillway and caught a nice 2-pound rainbow. Dan Foley and his two boys, Seth and Caleb, were trolling powerbait (mice trails) near Woods Creek and caught a nice stringer of rainbows up to 2 pounds. The cooler it gets the better the fishing will become. November is one of the best months for big browns and mackinaws. For more info, call Caples Lake Resort at 209-258-8888.

WOODS LAKE: Fishing is slow, but a great place to spend the day. There is camping near the lake, and many hiking trails to enjoy to other higher lakes in the area.

BLUE LAKES: The roads are still open to the area. Fishing has been fair for small rainbow trout. Salmon eggs or inflated night crawlers have been most

productive.

BURNSIDE LAKE: The road was still open to the lake this week, however, beware of sudden weather changes in this area. The gate may be open but weather can change the road driveability quickly.

CARSON RIVER, east and west forks: The west was planted twice over the last two weeks and the east fork planted last week by the CDFG. The west fork water level is very low. Fish the deeper sections and let no eddy be overlooked, 3 inches of water can hold some big fish. I like to walk the Woodfords Canyon area. Fish away from the bridges and you will find some nice trout. On the east fork, the water levels are still flowing nicely. Geary Ness from Minden, Renee and I fished the high section last weekend. Geary could not stop catching nice pan sized rainbows while standing only feet from us. Renee caught one 3-pound rainbow and I caught a 2.5-pound rainbow. Chad at the Carson Resort told me the fishing is the best it has been all year. For more info call The Carson River Resort at 530-694-2229.

HEENAN LAKE: Open only Friday, Saturday and Sundays through the last Sunday of this month. Catch and release artificial lures or fly with barbless

hooks. We all ventured up to shore fish the lake last Saturday and it looked like a tilted bowl of Cheerios. All the float tubers were on the east side of the lake. Not having our float tubes, we shore fished. The good warden recommended gold kastmasters or gold spinners. After walking halfway around the lake with no hits and 10 pounds of weeds, we decided to leave and return another day with flotation devices.

TOPAZ LAKE: Closed to fishing on Sept. 30, to open on Jan. 1, 2014.

UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER, TROUT CREEK, TAYLOR CREEK: All streams that lead into Lake Tahoe closed to fishing on Sept. 30, to open on July 1, 2014.

If you are an angler or just an outdoor enthusiast, you have to get out to Alpine County to see the fall colors. Highway 88 from Woodfords to Caples Lake or Highway 89 through Markleeville up and over Ebbetts or Monitor passes. Always remember, where ever you travel in the high country be prepared for extreme weather changes and make sure to tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return. If you have a question or a report in our local area, call the Naw Line at 775-267-9722.

Good fishin' and tight lines!

RC Oct. 4, 2013

Paranormal investigators roll into Markleeville

Staff Reports

On Saturday, Northern Nevada Ghost Hunters and Afterworld Paranormal will be coming to Markleeville for a real ghost investigation at the Alpine County Historical Complex.

Fully equipped with cameras, meters, recorders, and all the tools used by paranormal investigators, they will investigate the museum, historic Webster School and the jail.

Organizers claim several unexplained events have happened over the years in the complex.

"A good sized statue of an eagle that was sitting on top of a bookshelf at closing was found the next morning on the floor about six feet away," organizers said. "If the eagle had simply fallen off the shelf it could not have rolled that distance because of the out stretched wings."

Light tinkling of metal has also been heard from the antique work desk where Harry Hawkins repaired clocks.

Several workers after closing and locking the front door have heard the buzzer that sounds when someone enters the museum. Going to the front door of the museum they find no one has entered, they check the door again to make sure they locked it. The door is always locked.

One worker reported the paper of the guest register being lifted up as if someone was looking at the pages, when no one was there.

"There must be a logical explanation, an open window, heater vent blowing air," organizers said. "No logical explanation could be found, no open window, no vent blowing air that was enough for her. She locked the door, alarmed everything and went home."

Another incident involved a speaker on a shelf high on the wall found on the floor broken.

"They had been listening to '80s rock the day before," organizers said. "I guess

IF YOU GO

What: Paranormal investigation

When: 8:30 p.m. Saturday

Where: Alpine County Historical Complex, Markleeville

Info: (530) 694-2317

someone doesn't like '80s rock."

It's not just inside the museum where the unexplained has happened. A contractor working on the south exterior of the museum heard voices, he went to tell them the museum was closed. He could find no one. This reportedly happened three times.

Northern Nevada Ghost Hunters conducted a pre-investigation at the end of August to get readings to compare against what they may find on Saturday. They picked up voices on the recorders in different locations in the jail, school house, and museum.

"These are still being evaluated and will be available for ticket holders on Saturday. These will be played, plus camera footage from the pre-investigation," organizers said. "Plus, film footage from other investigations in Nevada and California."

Northern Nevada Ghost Hunters and Afterworld Paranormal are nonprofit groups with a desire to understand the world of the paranormal. All their service are provided free of charge.

The investigation starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person at the Markleeville museum. Guests need to dress warmly, and bring a flashlight.

A meet and greet with the Northern Nevada Ghost Hunters and Afterworld Paranormal is 6-8 p.m. at the Alpine Hotel, Wolf Creek Restaurant. Wolf Creek Restaurant will offer a 10 percent off food items with each paranormal investigation ticket.

All proceeds benefit the Alpine County Historical Society. Tickets are limited, so early purchase is recommended.

For tickets and information call the museum at (530) 694-2317.

Reno artist displays work at Markleeville Library

by Virginia York.

Reno artist Erik Holland is currently displaying 24 paintings at the Alpine County Library in Markleeville. His reception will be 11 a.m. - 5p.m. Saturday in the library, as part of the Open Studios event. The library will be closed on the Sunday of Open Studios but the exhibit will be open for viewing during library hours throughout October.

All the paintings are of California, about half of them landscapes of the Markleeville area. His book, "Outback Cartoonist," is for sale at the library for \$10. I intended to give it a glance but was compelled to read it cover to cover.

Holland, who was raised in Chicago, recalls that his passion for painting goes back to when he was 10 years old, lying under a Christmas tree looking at a book of paintings by American realist, Edward Hopper (1882-1967). He thought, "I want to draw like that." Soon afterwards, he prevailed upon his father to drive through the rough neighborhoods of Chicago, like Stony Island Avenue, where the Black Panthers hung out, instead of going on the freeway. In the exhibit, look for the old man on a bench; the ability

to communicate emotional content is reminiscent of Hopper.

Holland studied at the Chicago Academy of Fine Art, the Art Students' League of New York and San Francisco Academy of Arts. He paints every day; his day jobs, which have ensured that he pays the rent, have always been secondary to his art. Currently he teaches art part-time at Rain Shadow Charter Community High School. Art is his main source of income.

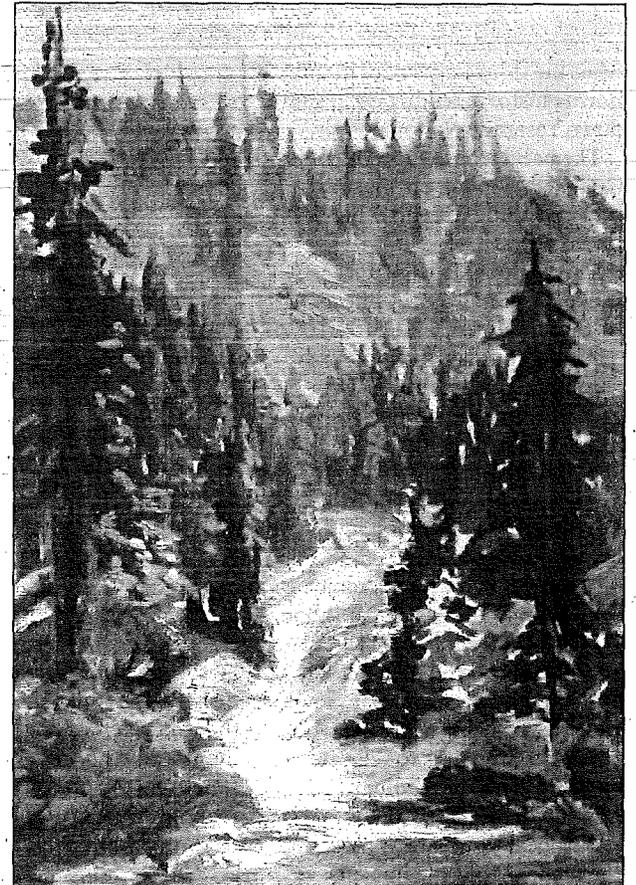
At San Francisco Academy of Arts, Holland took a class on how to do an oil painting in about two and a half hours. He found that this style of painting (alla prima) loosened him up, and he decided to have a shot at earning his living painting outside in San Francisco (the plein air movement was gaining in popularity). He enjoyed meeting people who stopped to watch him and buy his paintings. One of his customers was singer Rosemary Clooney. Three years ago, Evelyn Yonker, former owner of the Markleeville Art Gallery, invited Holland to take part in the Markleeville Plein Air event. He's been coming ever since.

Holland recalls: "I started cartooning in Alaska...I sat in on forestry meetings ... that discussed 'how' we were going to clear-cut the boreal

forest. I decided to ask, 'Why?' His pattern has been to make money on art and blow it on political causes. In 1996, having just made \$15,000 on painting murals, he ran for state legislator in Alaska, opposing clear cutting the boreal forest. In 2006 he ran for mayor of Reno, when Reno was trying to annex Winnemucca Ranch to create a community of 12,500 people, 10 miles from where the pavement ends, just over the mountain from Pyramid Lake. He spent about three years working on that issue. Although he was not elected in either case, Holland notes that the boreal forest still stands in interior Alaska and the "Pavement Ends" sign still stands where it did in 2006.

At the peak of his political cartoonist career in Nevada, Holland self-syndicated to eight newspapers. He now has two accounts, "Nevada Rancher" and "The Record-Courier" whose editor, Kurt Hildebrand, finds Holland's work: "Entertaining, insightful and occasionally hilarious." In 2007 Holland won second place from the Nevada Press Association for his cartoon work.

If you have questions on Holland's art and for information on commission work: erikreno@att.net.



'An October Snow in the Sierra' by Erik Holland

Fake officer pulls over, attacks woman in Alpine

Staff Reports

A woman who thought she was being pulled over by a law enforcement officer was attacked by a man on Highway 88 near Woodfords Junction on Monday night.

According to the Alpine County Sheriff's Office, the woman said she saw a white truck parked near the junction. As she passed the truck westbound, it began to follow her into Woodfords Canyon.

She told deputies she saw a single red light shining from the truck and pulled over thinking it was an officer.

A man wearing dark clothing and a badge walked up to her vehicle and asked for her information before ordering her out of her vehicle.

As she exited the vehicle, the man grabbed her and threw her to the ground. She managed to fend off the man, get back into her vehicle and escape.

The man was described as white with a stocky build, 40-50 years old, 6-feet 2 inches tall, weighing about 225 pounds, with dark hair and a bushy mustache. He may have

sustained injuries in the fight.

The pickup was a white diesel with aftermarket custom rims.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Alpine County Sheriff's Office at 530-694-2231.

In other law enforcement news:

■ Sheriff's deputies are seeking help from the public in locating David Gomez, 31, who is wanted on a warrant for drug trafficking.

Gomez was at the Douglas County Judicial & Law Enforcement Building on Oct. 1, but left just before court.

Senior Judge Charles McGee issued a warrant later that day.

A Secret Witness reward is being offered for information leading to Gomez' arrest.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to call DCSO Investigations at 775-782-9905 or Douglas County Secret Witness at 782-7463.

■ The Douglas County Sheriff's Office is investigating a pair of break-ins reported Saturday that targeted

unlocked vehicles in Chichester Estates.

A resident of Chichester Drive reported her rear vehicle door was ajar early Saturday, and she noticed her laptop, satellite radio receiver and hands-free adapter were missing.

She said the laptop was worth about \$700, and she used it for work. The other items were worth about \$110.

A next-door neighbor reported nothing was missing from his unlocked vehicle.

A second Chichester Drive resident said the dash was torn apart, and the faceplate of the receiver with a Bluetooth attachment was missing. He estimated the loss at \$200.

Sgt. Pat Brooks advised always leaving vehicles locked to protect against thieves who might be targeting unsecured vehicles.

"More than likely there were more, but other victims did not report it, or do not realize that they are victims," Brooks said.

He recommended that anyone who may be a victim call DCSO dispatch at 782-5126.

Remembering a friend, Dave Zellmer

Hello fellow anglers; I would like to start out by telling you of a friend of mine, David Zellmer, who passed away on Sept. 16.

I started writing this column in 1992. I had my many sources of information from local law enforcement to departments of fish and game in the two states that I wrote about. The most influential and most informative was Dave Zellmer from the Alpine County Fish and Game Commission. Dave kept me informed from fish plants to concerns I could pass along to fellow anglers in regard to our local lakes and streams.

I was privileged to volunteer with him at the kids fishing derby at Indian Creek Reservoir, which he has done for so many years. He has given so much of himself to help others in the Alpine County community. Right now Alpine County has a large void in its heart. I know I have one in mine because Dave was a friend, and a fellow angler. We will miss you deeply.

On Oct. 19, at 1 p.m., a memorial and celebration of Dave's life will be held at the Woodfords Fire Station on Highway 89. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in David's name to the Woodfords Volunteer Fire Dept Association, 60 Diamond Valley Rd. Woodfords Calif., 96120.

On this day I will gladly hang up my pole to spend time with you.

In other news in our fishing world, you might want to check ahead of time before you set out to camp or fish. Our government shutdown has come to impact even the anglers.

The Caples Lake and Silver Lake boat launches have been closed. The Caples Resort launch is open to small aluminum boats or kayaks. Woods Creek and Caples



**Doug
Busey
Mac-the-
Naw**

Lake campground are on 48-hour notice. They are only accepting overnight campers for now. When, or if, they get the notification, they will shut down immediately. Indian Creek Campground has closed as well as the launch ramp. You can use the unimproved launch ramp on the other side of the lake for small boats.

An angler came in to see me at work the other day. He told me his friends were fishing from a boat at Frenchman's Reservoir when they were approached by individuals that told them they must get off of the lake because the campground and ramp were closing immediately. Markleeville Campground has been closed for a couple weeks due to the end of the season. If you plan on camping before the end of the year, I would suggest call ahead. Both the BLM and the U.S. Forest service offices are closed. Do not rely on the web for information of closures as most have not been updated.

There are many places in our local area that you can go to camp and fish. You might want to leave the boat at home on the next trip.

On a happier note, while volunteering last Saturday with the Lowes Hero's project at Baily Pond, I met Art Garza from Carson City. He was fishing Baily pond and caught a nice 3.5-pound rainbow trout. (and yes there are more in there).

See you on the waters. Good Fishin' and tight lines.

Markleeville hosts ghost walk on Saturday

Staff Reports

If you are looking for cheap thrills, join the Alpine County Historical Society in Markleeville on Saturday at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. for the Ghosts of the Sierra Ghost Walk.

Ticket holders will travel down Main and Montgomery streets meeting residents from Markleeville's past at historic sites along the way.

Simon Newman, store clerk and eventual store owner will tell the story about the fire of 1867.

If you have an aversion to knives and cleavers, you might want to cover your ears when butcher M. Peltier tells his gruesome tale.

Every mining town had working girls and Markleeville had its share.

"Please do not fall for the cheap drinks scam, you will only get a glass of air, remember she is a ghost," organizers said.

Guests might come across Judge N.D. Arnot, a lawyer who came to Silver Mountain to oversee the construction of a stamp mill for Lewis Chalmers. Arnot practiced law in Silver Mountain married his wife and moved to Markleeville.

"We bet the judge has a few stories to tell about the good old days," organizers said.

Meet newspaper man Robert Folger, proprietor of the Chronicle which was the first newspaper on the eastern slope of the Sierra. If guests are lucky and he is not fishing, they might meet Judge Price, the superior court judge famous for his water rights decisions and re-doing the town map of Markleeville.

The focus of the Ghosts of the Sierra Ghost Walk is the history of the town, its buildings and people, but who knows who and what guests will encounter along the way.

All proceeds from the ghost walk will benefit the Alpine County Historical Society.

Organizers recommend to dress warmly with hat, coat, gloves, and bring a flashlight.

Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the museum, or 6 p.m. on the night of the tour at the corner of Main and Montgomery streets.

For information and tickets call 530-694-2317.



CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY PHOTO

Upper Lost Lakes, with a view of the Pacific Coast Trail.

Dam fees drain subconservancy

by Karen Dustman

When the Carson Water Subconservancy purchased the Lost Lakes water rights in 2001, they hoped to remain good stewards of its 219-acre-feet for decades to come. But that was before cash-strapped California quadrupled its dam safety inspection fees. Subconservancy General Manager Ed James shared that bad news at a community meeting in Alpine County last month. Over a four-year period, California's mandatory dam inspection fees have jumped from \$1,192 in 2003 to over \$5,000 for the pair of small dams at Lost Lakes. And that's a heavy hit for a government group like the Subconservancy.

"We spent \$330,000 to acquire the water rights, and have already spent another \$116,000 since we've owned them," noted James. And while that total has included costs to correct the license and perform work on the dams, rising inspection fees are becoming increasingly difficult for the subconservancy to support. The subconservancy uses its Lost Lakes water to benefit

the Carson River Watershed, keeping the water in the lakes for recreational purposes during the summer, and releasing it from the dams in the late fall each year. This release helps to maintain flow in the West Fork of the Carson River when natural runoff is at its lowest. That benefits not only fish and wildlife but fishermen and recreational users of the river as well.

The annual Lost Lakes water release is "essential to the West Fork of the Carson River," said Judy Wickwire, a member of Friends of Hope Valley and Alpine Watershed Group. "Without it, we'll be in a lot of trouble here in Alpine County, both economically and restoration-wise." But at present, California does not offer a reduced fee for environmental dam operators.

"Unfortunately, we don't qualify for the farming and small business entity exemptions," observed James. "These state inspection fees help fund lots of programs, but they're programs that we don't use."

So, how can the subconservancy cope? Options presented at the recent

community meeting included transferring all or a portion of the Lost Lakes water rights to downstream operators, or selling the water rights to another agency like California Fish & Wildlife. While such transfers would save costs for the subconservancy, they would also halt the current benefit to the waters of the West Fork.

For community members at the meeting, however, it was the possibility of a legislative solution that sounded most promising. If the California legislature could be persuaded to lower inspection fees for dams which provide environmental benefits, the subconservancy could continue to fund the Lost Lakes dam operation — and its fall addition to the West Fork waters of the Carson. Both the subconservancy's board and the Alpine County Board of Supervisors may be asked to weigh in soon. And after that, the rest of the story would be up to California lawmakers.

Will Lost Lakes' water keep flowing, or will rising fees be too much to swallow? Stay tuned.

Record-Courier Oct 16, 2013

ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

Woman recants fake police officer attack story

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

A woman who claimed to have been pulled over by a man pretending to be a law enforcement officer retracted her story, Alpine County Undersheriff Rob Levy said Saturday night.

"The victim changed her story," Levy said. "She wasn't attacked in Alpine County and there was no one posing as a law enforcement officer."

The woman was severely beaten, and that investigation is still ongoing, Levy said. He didn't release any details about what she said did happen.

"We've been getting calls and we want to assure women that they are safer than they've been led to believe," he said.

The woman was the subject of a Facebook post on Tuesday detailing the attack that allegedly occurred Monday night. Alpine County investigators interviewed her and she allegedly told them that a man in a white pickup shined a red light at her vehicle and she pulled over.

Alpine

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A new superintendent of schools for Alpine County

By Virginia York

Physically fit and energetic may well be the descriptors that spring to mind on first meeting our new superintendent of schools, Dr. Patrick Traynor. Traynor makes healthy living a high priority in his life. He received his bachelor of science degree in nutritional science (and entomology) His diet is mostly vegetarian with occasional fish, some of which he catches on his annual fishing trip. He commends Diamond Valley School for serving generous portions of fruits and vegetables at the salad bar at lunch and at the after school program.

His chief interests include: education, skiing, backpacking, hiking, camping, tennis, ping-pong, bicycling and playing the trumpet. When living in Sacramento and Irvine, bicycling was his main mode of transportation within the cities. Now, living on River Ranch Road and working in Diamond Valley, he has his shortest commute in 10 years and looks forward to cycling to work.

Traynor, born in Bakersfield, Calif., took vacations in Tahoe from the age of 10 and became an avid skier. When he was in his teens his parents bought a cabin in South Lake Tahoe. He eventually became a certified ski coach. He has two sons, Patrick, 19, a sophomore at the University of California, San Diego, and

Christopher, 17, a senior in high school; both boys have been skiing since age 2, and their father took them both through ski team from age 4. Traynor introduced his sons to camping and backpacking; the older one is now an Eagle Scout and the younger one soon will be.

Since his childhood Traynor has been playing the trumpet which he practices daily. He participates in open mic blues jam sessions in Reno and Carson Valley. His son, Christopher, shares this passion for music; he is the drum major (student conductor) of his high school band. Traynor acknowledges the importance of music in the school curriculum and would welcome the return of a music program to Diamond Valley School. He says that this is being discussed by the leadership team. Here's hoping.

Traynor has masters degrees in computer education and educational administration and a PhD in educational administration. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on classroom management. He is a published author and has had articles on classroom management published in various educational journals.

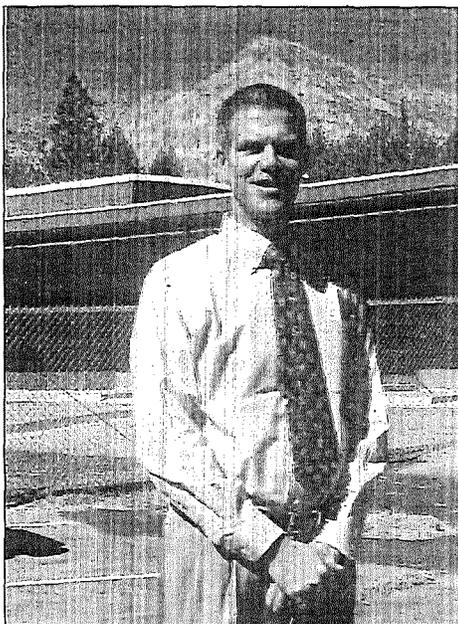
Traynor's experience in the field of education includes: high school science teacher, teaching vice principal, assistant principal of a middle school, elementary school principal, director of English learners, director of assessment and

Pg 1

continued

continued

New superintendent of schools for Alpine County



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Dr. Patrick Traynor is the new superintendent of schools for Alpine County.

evaluation, assistant superintendent of student accountability and assessment, and director of state assessment.

As the superintendent of schools, Traynor oversees The Alpine County Unified School District which consists of: Alpine County Office of Education, Diamond Valley Pre-School, Diamond Valley Elementary School (K-8), Community Day High School, opportunity school and after school program.

Since the Kirkwood school closed, students (one this year) come to Diamond Valley School, and since the Bear Valley School closed, the six students attend school in Calaveras County.

Prior to joining our school district, Traynor's most recent position was director of assessment development and administration for the California Department of Education in Sacramento, which involved, partly, the development

of tests for grades K-12.

In defense of testing, Traynor notes that tests have evolved and are no longer the multiple choice variety considered by many to be mindless.

He asserts that tests currently in use, taken on computers, elicit the same quality of thinking elicited in a classroom by a challenging teacher.

The modern technology requires students to use creativity in solving problems.

For example, students may be asked to draw a line across the screen to demonstrate their knowledge of graphs, to drag items across the screen in answering math problems, and to type in answers to questions regarding a reading passage.

He explains how automated scoring handles these answers; perhaps a hundred tests are graded by humans to set the parameters.

He assures us that there is a high degree of reliability in the scoring. He is quick to point out that testing is only one way of evaluating students and acknowledges that the stress that tests can produce is detrimental to performance. Testing, he says, helps to evaluate instruction by highlighting areas which need improvement.

Traynor affirms that we have a natural motivation to improve, that education, formal and informal, is happening for the whole of one's life, and that a nurturing environment fosters creativity.

Traynor has always wanted to be a superintendent, and is delighted to have this position in his beloved Sierra Nevada.

He finds the school district staff, in all departments, positive and supportive and the school board pleasant and cohesive.

"I am just so happy to be here," Traynor said.

RC Oct 23, 2013

1, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

El Dorado investigating beating case

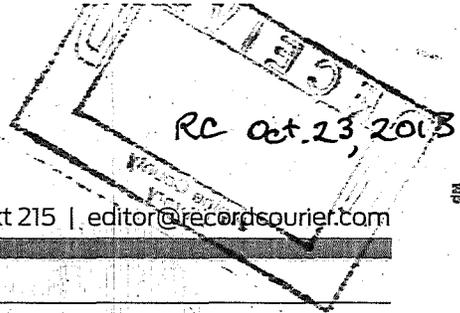
Staff Reports

A woman who was severely beaten and originally claimed to have been injured by a man who pulled her over in Woodfords Canyon, now says the assault occurred near Meyers, or in in South Lake Tahoe. The El Dorado County Sheriff's Office is investigating the attack. They say the original account may have been due in part to the injuries the victim suffered.

The suspect is described as a white male adult, late 40s to 55 years of age, 6 feet, 1-2 inches tall, with a stocky build. Unknown hair color, shaggy moustache, brown with some silver coloring. Facial skin has deep pores, pitted, with reddish hue. The Lake Tahoe Secret Witness program has authorized a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest of the suspect. Call Detective Paul Kuhn at 530-573-3022, or Secret Witness at 530-541-6800 with information.



Beating
suspect



-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordsourier.com

REMEMBER WHEN?

Bear caught in Hope Valley

120 YEARS AGO

October 27, 1893

A half-grown cinnamon bear was captured in Hope Valley this week and brought down to Woodfords, where it is in the keeping of Wm. Merrill. He is especially pleased with the fishpond in Merrill's lawn and apparently is contented with his new quarters.

RC Oct. 25, 2013

Early Learning Center offers room to grow

by Karen Dustman
R-C Alpine Bureau

It's another busy day for teachers Tracy Ikemire and Amanda Craft at Alpine County's Early Learning Center. On the agenda for their preschool class today: baking muffins in the morning, followed by painting in the afternoon. And don't forget the opening circle song and chores like folding laundry.

Nestled among the pine trees near the Diamond Valley Elementary School, the tiny Alpine preschool serves children 3-6 years old, five days a week. In addition to the school's spacious classroom, students enjoy an enclosed outdoor play area. The product of a recent nature walk hangs over a classroom table: a whimsical assortment of leaves, sticks, and feathers, fashioned creatively into a mobile.

"I've tried to combine my Waldorf teaching experience with my public school experience in early childhood education," says Ikemire. That translates into a practical approach that uses context to help teach ideas. So when the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' was read aloud, students did more than just listen: they also dressed up as the storybook characters and got to taste a real bowl of porridge.

Even preschool meals become an opportunity to teach social skills. "One dad recently told me, 'I can't believe my 3-year-old has learned such beautiful table manners,'" Ikemire notes. "As a parent, you don't always have time to teach that. But here, there's no rush. Meals are a nice time to just sit and talk."

And for traditional playtime activities like painting and crafts, the emphasis is simply on exploration and enjoyment. "We let them be kids," says Ikemire. "It's okay to make a mess. It's okay if something doesn't work. We have patience, we have time."

Currently in its eighth year, the Alpine



Tracy Ikemire waits for the children to arrive at the Early Learning Center in the morning.

SPECIAL TO THE R-C

ELC program has paid noticeable dividends for the children it has served.

"Our elementary school has noticed a big difference in their kindergarten population," says Ikemire. "When our kids arrive, they've learned not only their numbers and letters, but also a lot about social roles and cues. So they're ready to start absorbing information in the

classroom."

With just four students currently enrolled, Ikemire hopes the Alpine preschool will continue to grow as more parents hear about the program. Families who either live or work in California may be eligible for free or reduced tuition.

"We'd love to welcome students from Gardnerville or Tahoe families as well as

Alpine County," notes Ikemire. "Maybe the parents are working, or they're just looking for something a little different in a preschool. We're small, and offer more of a home-like environment. We have the time and patience to meet the needs of young children a little differently."

For more information, or to take a tour call Ikemire at (530) 694-2230 x 285.

RC Oct 30, 2013

Autumn fishing conditions are ideal

Hello, fellow anglers. I've got to tell you, I love this time of year. Cool crisp mornings and nice afternoons is a perfect recipe for fishing.

Last week, Renee and I invited Geary and Deanna Ness to camp with us on the east fork of the Carson River. We packed all the coveralls and the long johns, ready for a cold four days of camping and fishing. We stayed at the Carson River Resort RV park. We had all the comforts of home, as the resort has full hook ups there. We even watched John Wayne movies after a nice evening around a camp fire.

Each morning we got up early to find new fishing holes. We had our best luck 2 to 7 miles up river. Over four days we caught approximately 60 rainbow and cutthroat trout ranging from 12 inches to a few pounds. We even kept enough to have a "Naw-B-que" one day and a few to take home. We released the rest to catch another day.

We met a wide variety of campers, some fished and some just enjoyed the great outdoors. I met 15-year-old Tristen Whitaker and his grandfather, Brian Sherwood, from Stockton, Calif. One morning as we were leaving to go fishing, they were just coming back from a successful hunting trip. Tristen had got his first buck deer, a nice 3x4 he had shot at 65 yards while in a standing position.

As a note, the Carson River Resort is open all year for cabin rentals. They have a full-service RV park and a campground right on the river. They have a general store for all the food and fishing items you may have forgotten to bring. The campground and RV park does close during winter season, but fishing season is open until Nov. 15. For more information, call the Carson River Resort at 530-694-2229. You still have time to get one last camp trip or two.

Other waters in our area are also fishing well:



**Doug
Busey
Mac-the-
Naw**

as of last Wednesday. The campground is closed for the season. Use caution when you venture back in this area this time of year. The weather can change on you very quickly. Also in this area is Tamarack Lake, Upper and Lower Sunset lakes. Salmon eggs or small spinners are most productive.

UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER, TROUT CREEK AND TAYLOR CREEK: Closed to all fishing for the season. Will reopen July 1 2014.

CARSON RIVERS ALPINE COUNTY: Both rivers have been planted by the CDFG and the Alpine County Fish Commission on Oct. 13. Salmon eggs or yellow power bait was the most productive. If you are a fly angler, I had the most fun throwing an elk hair Caddis or an Adams fly. Both were tied by Bruno Huff from Alpine County. If you are not an angler but enjoy the most fantastic fall colors, you have to take a trip up Highway 89 or Highway 88 to believe a tree can turn that color of red and yellow gold.

INDIAN CREEK RESERVOIR: The water level has dropped a little. I talked with Chelsey Kendall last week after she took her family up to enjoy a nice day of fishing. They were fishing with power bait near the dam and caught a few nice rainbow trout. Small boats can be launched on the unimproved ramp on the east side of the lake. Boaters and tubers reported good fishing throwing Thomas Bouyant spoons. The campground and boat launch on the east side of the lake are closed for the season.

Continued

Autumn fishing conditions are ideal

LAKE TAHOE: Mackinaw action is still doing good ranging from 2 to 6 pounds, with a few in the 7- to 15-pound range. Anglers have been fishing 150 to 200 feet of water with a dodger and a live minnow 12 inches behind it. Bets areas have still been the Tahoe City shelf and Dollar Point. Topliners have been doing good for small rainbow trout 10 to 16 inches. They have using a Seps Side kick in a watermelon pattern followed by half of a night crawler. Best areas have been Eagle Point, Sand Harbor and Logan Shoals area. For more information, call Blue Ribbon Fishing Charters at 530-544-6552.

CAPLES LAKE: Water levels are down, the EID boat ramp is closed. The Caples Lake ramp is open for small boats to launch on their dirt ramp. Rental boats are still available through Oct. 27 and the store is open from 8 to 5 every day. Nick Burruel caught a 2-pound rainbow from the shore while Jeff Bovero caught his limit fishing off the dam area. This time of year is good for browns and mackinaws. For more info call Caples Lake Resort at 209-258-8888.

RED LAKE: A couple anglers have reported fair fishing for brookies and rainbows off the dam. They were throwing Kastmaster lures or salmon eggs.

BLUE LAKES: The road is still open

WOLF CREEK AND SILVER

CREEK: Located on Highway 4 past Markleeville. Anglers have done fair for small rainbow trout. They had to do a little walking to find where the fish were holding. Best areas were in the faster waters and not the slow moving pools.

TOPAZ LAKE: Closed to fishing until Jan. 1 2014. To those people fishing on the California side off of Highway 395 last week, you need to read your regulations more closely. That is a hefty fine and you could lose your fishing privileges. As of last Wednesday the lake has received more than 10,000 pounds of rainbow trout from The Nevada Department of Fish and Game. And they plan to put more in before opening day.

HEENAN LAKE: Located on top of monitor pass on Highway 89. This is the last weekend it will be open to fish until next year. Open Friday through Sunday catch and release only. You can only use artificial lures or fly with barbless hooks.

NDOW PLANTS: Last couple weeks. Baily Pond, Mitches Pond and Hinkson Slough.

CDFG PLANTS: Last couple weeks has been East and West Carson River forks in Alpine County.

Good luck on your next fishing adventure. If you have a question in our local fishing world call the Naw Line at 775-267-9722. Good Fishin and tight lines.

A Successful, Rainy 14th Annual Markleeville Creek Day

By Sarah Green, Alpine Watershed Group

The 14th Annual Markleeville Creek Day was held on Saturday, September 21. A total of 33 volunteers participated in five different stream cleanup and restoration projects throughout the Upper Carson River watershed.

Three rained-soaked hours of hard work resulted in the following accomplishments:

- 60 feet of stream bank stabilized,
- 20 feet of stream channel reinforced,
- 150 willow stakes planted,
- 25 Aspen trees protected,
- 400 pounds of invasive weeds eradicated, and
- 200 pounds of garbage removed.

Many thanks go out to all of the volunteers who participated. We also want to thank the local partners that led projects and activities for the event - Alpine/Upper Carson Weed Management Association, Friends of Hope Valley and the California State Parks.

This event was made possible with funding and support from the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce, California Department of Conservation, Carson Water Subconservancy District, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

We appreciate all of the community support and involvement which helped make Markleeville Creek Day 2013 a huge success!



Volunteers stabilizing the river bank on the Carson River in Hope Valley.

OUR TAKE

Opinion

Grousing about the grouse

The listing of the bistate sage grouse as endangered may not bode well for efforts to keep the greater sage grouse from being listed despite what the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service says.

There are about 5,000 bistate grouse living along the Nevada-California border.

The specific species has been separated from its brethren for about 10,000 years, when Nevada was a much wetter place.

So we get that it's a separate species, and it makes sense that the fewer members of that species there are, the greater the danger of extinction.

Nevada has been working to try and prevent a listing for the sage grouse for a long time.

Ranchers, miners, and federal representatives of the Forest Service, BLM and Fish & Wildlife actually came to a conclusion that would have avoided a listing, only to have the entire effort torpedoed in federal court.

With the process starting all over again, we'll just have to see if the courts agree that the species are "as different as ants and elephants," for the purposes of the law, as explained by a Fish & Wildlife Service spokesman.

The listing could require additional hoops for ranchers and miners to hop through, despite the additional flexibility built into this particular listing.

No one wants to see the sage grouse go away, but ranching is also an endangered activity in this country.

We believe efforts that brought rangers and miners together with state officials and experts to find the best plan to preserve the grouse and conduct business were a far better means of protecting both species.

RC
11/1/13

November lecture features Silver Mountain City

If you have lived here for any length of time, you know that in Nevada it can snow any month of the year. Last Monday we woke up to snow covering trees which hadn't lost all their leaves yet.

Snow or no snow, our next event is our Historical Lecture on Nov. 14. Karen Dustman will speak on the history of Silver Mountain City. Join us for the 7 p.m. lecture. Doors will open around 6 and our bookstore will be open for your browsing and shopping. Admission is free for DCHS members, \$3 for non-members. And DCHS members always get a discount in the bookstore.

Our December Historical Lecture will be on Dec. 12. Laurie Hickey will speak about James Wallace Haines who was a prominent figure in the history of both California and Nevada. Born in Canada, by 1861, he had a butcher shop in Carson City, had purchased Moses Job's ranch at the base of Job's Peak. He was a delegate to the Nevada State



Ellen Caywood
Main Street Moments

Constitution Convention in 1863 and served several terms as a State Senator from Douglas County. The Haines's home located just outside the town limits of Genoa has a bit of its own history involving movies and television.

Throughout the month of December our Main Street Bookstore will offer a 20 percent discount off all regularly priced items. Plus, there will be a special bookstore sale on Dec. 12 after the historical lecture. Bookstore hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

We have spoken with the chairwoman for this year's Gallery of Trees and she says we need more trees. We have several groups signed up, but we want more. If you would like to be a part of our Holiday Gala and show off your tree decorating

talents, please call to request your application. The deadline for applications is 3 p.m. Nov. 28, with no entry fee required. Trees may be set up 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. between Nov. 30 and Dec. 6. Public viewing and voting on the trees will take place Dec. 7-31. For questions or to receive an application, stop by the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center.

All monies donated to DCHS are 100 percent tax deductible and go to keep our doors open. The Douglas County Historical Society receives only occasional financial assistance from our county and state governments. We are here solely to preserve the history of this wonderful valley and to make sure you have the opportunity to enjoy it. If you have any questions about anything mentioned here, please call the Douglas County Historical Society at 782-2555.

Contact Ellen Caywood by email at in2my2cats@yahoo.com.

Sierra

8 | Friday, November 1, 2013 | The Record-Courier

Alpine Fire Safe Council poster contest winners

by Joyce DeVore
R-C Alpine Bureau

The Rim fire showered Alpine with heavy ash for weeks: a reminder of the damage wildfires create. Our local Fire Safe Council works to educate the public about wildfires.

One way they do that is by holding an annual poster contest at Diamond Valley School. The contest is co-sponsored by Cal Fire and Fire Wise, which operates under the U.S. Forest Service.

Initially, Council Member Shirley Taylor coordinated with the Alpine Parents Club and school representative Dawn Riddle, to set a theme for the project.

This year's theme is "Big Fires Start Small."

Since the Rim fire smoke and ash directly affected the schoolchildren, the older grades were scheduled to add research elements before starting the posters. Posters were completed at school and sent to the Fire Safe Council for judging. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Kris Hartnett announced the winners at an assembly on Oct. 18 at Diamond Valley School.

Winners of the contest received certificates for purchasing books and educational games at the school's book fair. On Tuesday, winners will be recognized by Alpine Supervisors in Markleeville. Parents are encouraged to attend.

The Fire Safe Council is also sponsoring a biannual defensible space clean-up program, which is a biomass pile located at Turtle Rock Park. There is no charge to residents or business owners to bring pine needles and downed fuel to the above location.

CONTEST WINNERS

Kindergarten

1st: Aubrie Washam
2nd: Raelynn Horse
3rd: Tanner Galvez

1st Grade:

1st: Laura Klingler
2nd: Callen Broadhurst
3rd: Camryn McLelland

2nd Grade:

1st: Isaac John
2nd: Eli Sargent
3rd: Allen Baker

3rd Grade:

1st: Emma Klingler
2nd: Logan Aros
3rd: Patrick Riegel

4th Grade:

1st: Antonia Burt
2nd: Alyssa Mortimer
3rd: Nikoyah Leggett

5th-8th Grade:

1st: Courtney Brothers
2nd: Crystal Bennett
3rd: Morgana-le-Fae Veatch

The program, which offered free curbside chipping of downed fuels, was successful this year. The council also awarded two scholarships to firefighters for completion of the fire academy: Mason Jackson and Drew Hughes were the recipients.

The Fire Safe Council meetings are held 6 p.m. the last Monday of each month, at either the Markleeville and Woodfords Fire Station. For information contact Hartnett at (530)694-1710.

November lecture features Silver Mountain City

Staff Reports

Karen and Rick Dustman will speak at the Douglas County Historical Society's Nov. 14 lecture.

Their topic is Silver Mountain City.

Today just a "ghost of a ghost town," Silver Mountain once was home to thousands of eager silver miners.

But until recently, much of Silver Mountain's history remained an undiscovered treasure.

Local historians, the Dustmans were captivated by Silver Mountain City more than a decade ago.

"Silver Mountain was the reason Alpine County itself was formed. But when we first began researching, there was very little written about this special mining settlement," said Karen. "I began to pore through the old newspapers, and it was as if an entire town sprang to life."

Following years of careful research, the Dustmans published a history of this Comstock-era mining boomtown in their book, "Silver Mountain City: Ghost of the Sierra."

The Dustmans conduct free walking tours of the site every fall, and enjoy sharing tales of this long-lost mining town with audiences in California and Nevada.

The lecture starts at 7 p.m. at the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center located at 1477 Highway 395 N. in Gardnerville.

Admission is \$3, or free to members of the historical society.

For more information, call 782-2555.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Karen and Rick Dustman will discuss Silver Mountain City on Nov. 14 for the Douglas County Historical Society lecture series.

State, feds announce burn plans

Staff Reports

Nearly 300 acres on state and U.S. Forest Service land will see prescribed burns in the mountains around Carson Valley during November.

The Nevada Division of Forestry will be conducting prescribed burns in North Canyon, near Spooner Lake, in the Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park backcountry throughout the month, weather permitting, state officials said Tuesday.

Signs will be posted throughout the area when burns are being conducted. Nearly 150 acres will be treated in five separate treatment units.

Weather patterns will be monitored for smoke management prior to and during burns. The timing of the burns depends on optimum weather conditions and steps will be made to minimize the impact on park visitors.

Three project areas near Carson Valley have been scheduled for pile burning on the Carson Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National.

Burn areas include 88 acres near the old Clear Creek Highway and Spooner Summit, 40 acres near Markleeville and 10 acres behind Jobs Peak Estates.

"Pile burning is an efficient way of removing woody debris and forest litter, while providing ecosystem benefits, and reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire and risk to firefighters in the event of a large-scale fire," said Steve Howell, Carson Ranger District fuels



DYLAN SILVER/TAHOE DAILY TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

A firefighter tends to a prescribed fire near Kingsbury Grade in December 2011.

specialist. "Benefits of these burns will also improve forest health and wildlife habitat."

Fire personnel are currently monitoring weather conditions to identify optimal timeframes for effective prescribed burning conditions, officials said. Prescribed burn notices have been posted near homes near the project area notifying them about the upcoming prescribed burn. Visitors and

residents can expect to see smoke when the burns are occurring, he said.

"This project may have some short-term impacts on air quality levels, but air quality levels will comply with all state and federal air quality regulations," he said. "Any burning activity will be accomplished during weather conditions that would minimize impacts of smoke on communities.

All burning is done within parameters set forth in an approved burn plan and conform to the location's respective county's and state's Air Quality District."

Officials asked visitors to stay out of the area due to prescribed burning activities and equipment working near the burn.

Residents can expect to see and smell smoke during the burning activities.

Record-Courier
Nov. 8, 2013

Christmas tree cutting starts Nov. 22

Staff Reports

Christmas tree cutting permits will be available starting Nov. 22 and ending on Christmas Eve, or until 4,000 permits are sold by the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Carson Ranger District.

Federal offices are closed on Thanksgiving. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$10 each in designated cutting areas for white fir, incense cedar, Jeffrey, and

lodgepole pine trees.

Two trees may be cut per household, permits are nonrefundable and nontransferrable, and are valid through Dec. 25. Maps of cutting areas will be provided with Christmas tree tags. Permits sell out quickly, so officials urge people to get them early. Tree cutters should have their own saws, warm clothing, a first-aid kit, extra food and water, shovel, and a heavy rope or chain, in the event of bad road conditions or inclement

weather. Some cutting areas may be inaccessible after snowfall, so it is advisable to cut trees early in the season. Carry tire chains in all vehicles, including four-wheel or all-wheel drive vehicles.

Permits must be purchased in person with cash or checks (credit and ATM cards are not accepted). Phone, mail, or email permit requests cannot be processed.

Tree permits are available at:
■ Hope Valley Café and

Market, 14655 Highway 88, Woodfords Canyon 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. seven days a week. Information, 530-694-2323.

■ Markleeville General Store, 14799 Highway 89, Markleeville 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Information, 530-694-2448

■ Carson Ranger District Office, 1536 S. Carson St., Carson City, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Information, 882-2766

Building the library of the future in Alpine County

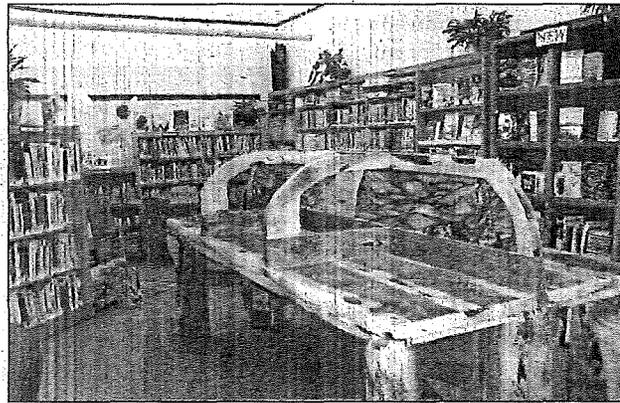
by Virginia York
R-C Alpine Bureau

Last March, Don Hittenmiller, local woodworker and veterinary surgeon, overheard a conversation in the library between librarian, Rita Lovell, and a library patron. While immersed in writing a grant for a new computer center, Rita was bewailing the dearth of inspirational furniture. She was searching for an alternative to the standard particle board cubicle.

Don spoke up.
"I can make something," he said.

This was the beginning of something beautiful. Every year the California State Library invites librarians to "Pitch an Idea" with a view to receiving a grant to implement it. At the end of 2012, Rita pitched her idea: "The Alpine digital bridge."

She requested \$17,100, for six new computers and installation, integrative software and new furniture. Her plan for Alpine was to "position the Library as a community



DON HITTENMILLER

A piece of custom furniture designed for the Alpine County Library.

facility that provides computer education for residents on a consistent and ongoing basis."

In 2011, using the Eureka! grant (also provided by the state library) she created computer classes for adults which were immensely popular. The classes were held at Diamond Valley Elementary School's computer lab. The disadvantage of using the school facility was that the classes had to be planned around the school schedule

which did not suit all students. In her proposal for the "Pitch an Idea" grant, Rita wrote: "A crucial component of the Alpine digital bridge project is to provide computer instruction within the library that meets the needs of residents and staff. Even though this would be a mini version of the computer lab with fewer computers, I feel we can reach more people with more flexible scheduling."

Rita was awarded the grant with an additional \$1,400 to

buy instructional materials to enhance the computer technology section of the library. After Don's generous offer to create furniture for the computer center, he and Rita worked together on design. Don waxes lyrical on the virtues of juniper, the knots, the grains, the colors: reds, blacks, purples, blonds. Juniper is a hard wood. Like redwood and cedar it is fire and bug resistant. When the bark is chiseled off a beautiful live edge is exposed. The edges of the table top are live edges. He uses diseased, local trees to save the transportation costs, a sound environmental practice.

In creating the library furniture Don's intention was to make it inspirational. Surrounded by natural beauty, the computer user is more likely to aspire to higher levels in his/her search for knowledge than he/she would if locked into the sterile environment of a standard cubicle.

Because Don made the table in two halves, to be

separated to provide space for library programs, the table has eight legs; each pair joins together looking like one leg, an advantage of the live edge. Hidden casters provide mobility. The table's central panel is stained glass which appears to be three dimensional. This was created by local artist Richard Shokouh who displays art in the Art and Soul Gallery in Markleeville. The panel affords privacy, but lets in the light. The side panels of the stations are archways, cunningly designed to offer views of the central panel and give more light, but to block the next person's computer screen; the stained glass panel gives the impression that there are no walls.

Sit on one of the new chairs and you will not want to budge. The chairs are designed for gluteal and lumbar support; without effort one maintains the perfect posture desirable for study. The seats are covered in buffalo hide which has an old look and a soft feel and is as hard-wearing as cow hide. Don's

furniture is built to last. He used to repair antique furniture and developed a method of joinery far stronger than the traditional.

We are privileged indeed to have in our small community a librarian passionate about computer technology education and a wood artisan of extraordinary talent.

Currently classes are on a drop-in basis; staff addresses the individual needs of each student. Sign up in the library for upcoming computer classes beginning in January. Classes will accommodate six students and last approximately eight weeks. For more information contact the library at (530) 694-2120.

Custom woodwork: Don Hittenmiller, (530) 694-2359, ctvh2006@yahoo.com. Custom stained glass: Richard Shokouh, (818) 482-7846, ras@richardshokouh.com.

The grand opening of the Alpine digital bridge is 1-3 p.m. Nov. 16. There will be live music and refreshments by the Friends of the Library.

Sierra

775-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

10 | Wednesday, November 13, 2013 | The Record-Courier

New food, facilities to be featured at Kirkwood

by Griffin Rogers
griffin@tahoedailytribune.com

The countdown to ski season has officially begun, but it's no time to relax for Kirkwood.

The resort's employees worked all summer to prepare for the 2013-14 season, and more projects are planned through its Nov. 22 opening.

"At the end of the season, the checkered flag goes up," said Dave Myers, director of mountain operations. "But then the

green flag goes up again to prepare for the next season."

Kirkwood has taken on several projects since its doors closed last season, including a new bar, food choices and mountaintop facility. Some were completed before the season begins, but others will continue over the next few weeks.

At the top of Chair 10, a new two-story building was constructed this summer to store a vehicle used for clearing snow. The previous facility — built

around the time of the chairlift in 1984 — didn't offer a place for storage, and the machine was left outside during storms.

Without having to conduct frequent vehicle repairs, crews can now clear snow at a faster pace, spokesman Kevin Cooper said. They can also use the facility as a place of refuge, protecting them in the events of large storms.

"By having this facility up there," Cooper said, "it's really going to add to our ski patrol and mountain operations efficiency."

Overall, it allows guests of the resort to start skiing and snowboarding as soon as possible, he said.

Additionally, the resort will set up a facility at the base of Chairs 5 and 6. That building will house K-Bar, a full bar and gathering center with indoor and outdoor seating for guests, Cooper said.

The facility is currently being built in Switzerland, but it should be shipped to Kirkwood in the next 20 days.

"It's going to be a great, new, center hub," he said.

Kirkwood is also remodeling Cornice Grill, a sports bar previously known as Bub's across from Chair 6. Aside from aesthetic changes, the resort is adding large screen TVs and more food choices.

"It's going to be a great, fun place to go," Cooper said.

Myers said the resort plans on holding a grand opening ceremony for its many projects later this year.

With opening day less than two weeks away,

Kirkwood was busy making snow this week. The process started Sunday, but stopped later in the week after temperatures warmed.

Cooper said the resort is currently on track to reach the amount of snow needed for a Nov. 22 opening. But, if enough natural snow arrives before then, officials could open Kirkwood earlier than that.

"We just want to make sure we're providing a quality surface to slide on," he said.

Alpine Marine included in honor flight

by Nancy Thornburg
Special to The R-C

Born and raised in Alpine County, retired Marine Glen Kanig was recently honored by being included in an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

Kanig said there was an enthusiastic send-off by a big support group including military, civilians (including kids) in San Diego where he now lives. They flew to Baltimore where they received a water cannon salute and an enthusiastic crowd cheering as they landed. They were bussed to the Baltimore Hilton where everything was set up including dinner, speakers, and breakfast.

Then came a bus tour to Arlington Cemetery and to the Iwo Jima Memorial. Kanig said he was the only Iwo veteran in the group. They then went to the Korean Memorial and the Viet Nam Wall and the



SPECIAL TO THE R-C
Glen Kanig served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1945 until 1967.

World War II Memorial.

"Everyone was giving slaps on the back everywhere we went," Kanig said. "It blew us away!"

They were then taken to the Navy Yard and the National Navy Museum and then back to the hotel for a big dinner. They also saw the Changing of the Guard and the Laying of Two Wreaths.

"There were so many

younger people going around, young families with young kids showing us their support."

Kanig said they were interviewed by three members of the media.

They were then flown back to San Diego where there was another big reception with water cannons, music.

Traveling with Kanig was his son, Ed, who is a veteran of Viet Nam. Ed stayed in Washington for a reunion of his group after Glen returned home.

Glen was interviewed last year by the San Diego Union-Tribune. Included in the interview was this information.

"It's been 67 years since Glen Kanig landed on Iwo Jima as a 21-year-old Marine Corps corporal. But he'll never forget the intensity of that battle.

"You have some ghosts who come back with you," he said.

Kanig, 88, told his war story Tuesday aboard the

carrier Midway, as part of the U-T San Diego's series, "The Legacy of WWII."

"His company hit the beach on this volcanic Pacific island with 270 men. When the battle ended five weeks later, only 28 men were present – and many of them had been wounded.

"Kanig, for instance, had shrapnel in his right temple. It remains there, an enduring reminder of the hell he endured on Iwo Jima."

Kanig's videotaped interview was posted at www.utsandiego.com

Kanig entered the Marine Corps in 1942. He was deployed to Iwo Jima in 1945, to Korea in 1952-1953, and placed on the Retired list in 1967. He received many medals including the Purple Heart.

Kanig will be 90 this month.

For more information about the National Honor Flight Organization go to www.honorflight.org.

This is a poem Glen Kanig wrote in 1985

An Alpine Homecoming

Now the old man stands where he
Had stood when he was but a boy.

And as he gazes at the mountains
Splendor it fills his heart with joy.

When he was but a lad he was long
And lank and lean.

The indians called him pellou
Jack rabbit is what that mean.

Like the long eared jack he roamed

The country far and wide. And there
Was nowhere in the mountains
Where anything could hide.

He caught the mighty cutthroat,
The brown and eastern brook.
And sometimes he caught them
with
His hands when he didn't have
a hook.

He caught the flashy rainbow
And the golden from Raymond
Lake,
But never did he take them just
for
The taking sake.

Now once again he feels the
thrills
That he felt there long before.
Like the day his country
Called for him to go to war.

They told him about far off
places,

With names he had never heard
before.

And then they sent him to land
On Iwo Jima's bloody shore.

It was later in the battle when
He had to make another stand
that
He lay there bleeding in that
Black volcanic sand.

He thought that maybe his time
had come,
That he had run plumb out of
luck.
And then he thought of the big
bear
Spring and that big old six point
buck.

Altho' that old buck had been
wounded
It seemed to know just what to
do.

And if that old buck could make it
Then by god he would make it
too.

Now he stands there gazing
With a tear drop in his eye
At the mountains glory
As they reach up to the sky.

He thinks of all the places
Both here and across the foam
And now he knows that there is
none
Quite as good as home.

Now when his time on earth is
over
And he meets his judgment day
He will say just take me home to
alpine
And there lord let me stay."

R-C
12-15-13

Bear shooting not a violation

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

The killing of a bear cub by a Markleeville resident was determined not to be a violation by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife.

The shooting occurred early on Nov. 3, when a homeowner was awakened by the sound of a mother bear trying to break into his garage.

The bear's two cubs had managed to get inside the garage. The homeowner grabbed the keys to the garage and a shotgun. He opened

two garage doors, and tried to frighten the bears away by firing into the air. He fired four times, but the bears wouldn't leave.

"He didn't shoot the bears, but he was fearful for his safety," fish and wildlife Lt. Patrick Foy said.

The bears eventually left the garage, but they didn't leave the area. The homeowner said he then heard six gunshots coming from his neighbor's home. The neighbor told a game warden that he heard the commotion, came outside and was confronted by the

bears. One of them started in his direction, and he opened fire, killing a 65-pound cub. The incident was reported to fish and wildlife.

"We confirmed there was damage to the area where the bears were trying to tear into the structure," Foy said. "There was garbage and debris all over the place."

The department issued a depredation permit after the fact.

"A seasoned game warden investigated the incident and everything added up, so we found no violation," Foy said.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Amy Mecak and her son Owen at the Hawks of the Month breakfast.

Diamond Valley students recognized

by Courtney Brothers

On Nov. 8 at Diamond Valley School there was a celebratory breakfast to recognize all of the Hawks of the Month in August, September and October.

Hawks of the Month are

the students who earned the most hawk feathers in that month. They earn the feathers every time they are Honest, Accountable, Wise or Kind.

The Hawks of the Month and their families were invited to have a buffet breakfast at the school. They were also recognized and given a certificate for being a HAWK.

This plan has been

put into action by the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports team at the school. The PBIS team is working on increasing a more positive mood in school by correcting the students with positive words and encouragements.

Courtney Brothers is student body president for Diamond Valley School.

Kirkwood kicks off ski season

by Griffin Rogers
griffin@tahoedailytribune.com

Ask a snowboarder or skier about opening day at Kirkwood on Monday, and you might hear the words “awesome,” “beautiful,” “warm” or “sick.”

As far as first days go, many riders seemed to enjoy the snow conditions and weather — sunny, 50-degree temperatures with 15 mph winds that seemed almost nonexistent at chairlift 5.

A mix of man-made and natural snow covered pretty much all of the two runs open to the public, which were Outlaw and Lower Zachary.

Josh Daiek, a Christmas Valley resident and veteran skier, said he was excited to see good skiing conditions this early in the season.

“It’s awesome, man,” he said. “For not really having any snow yet this year, it’s fun.”

Daiek is a professional big-mountain freeski-er who won the Subaru Freeskiing World Tour at Kirkwood last year. He’s known in the ski world for jumping off cliffs. On Monday, he was simply



GRIFFIN ROGERS / TAHOE DAILY TRIBUNE

Josh Daiek, who won the 2012 Subaru Freeskiing World Tour at Kirkwood Mountain Resort, skis Kirkwood on the first day of the season Monday.

getting some turns in at one of his favorite resorts, he said.

“Just being at the mountain again and seeing all those familiar faces and friends,” Daiek said, “It’s a good spot to be at.”

South Lake Tahoe resident Tim Roberts was also on the mountain Monday. He’s been going to

Kirkwood for opening day every year for the past 15 years, he said.

“Kirkwood never gets crowded on opening day,” Roberts said. “It’s good to get the legs underneath you and get some turns in.”

Roberts, a big-mountain snowboarder, rides almost exclusively at Kirkwood, he said. At the beginning

of the season he suggests sticking to the trails, as the ungroomed portions can be “a bit punchy and sketchy” during the first week.

But with more snowfall anticipated soon, Roberts said he’s looking forward to snowboarding the rest of the mountain.

“There really is no part



A little girl skis to a lodge at Kirkwood Mountain Resort on Monday.

of the mountain that isn’t fun to ski,” he said. “And when it starts to open up, everyone takes different trails and you don’t even see anyone on the mountain.”

Kirkwood is “working with Mother Nature” to get more runs open to the public as soon as possible,

spokesperson Kevin Cooper said, including some terrain for beginners.

Heavenly also has similar plans, spokesperson Sally Gunter said in an email Saturday.

“The resort plans to open additional terrain this next week, conditions permitting,” she said.

Local ski resorts mostly measuring up environmentally

Tahoe Mountain News
December 2013

MOUNTAIN NEWS ENVIRONMENT

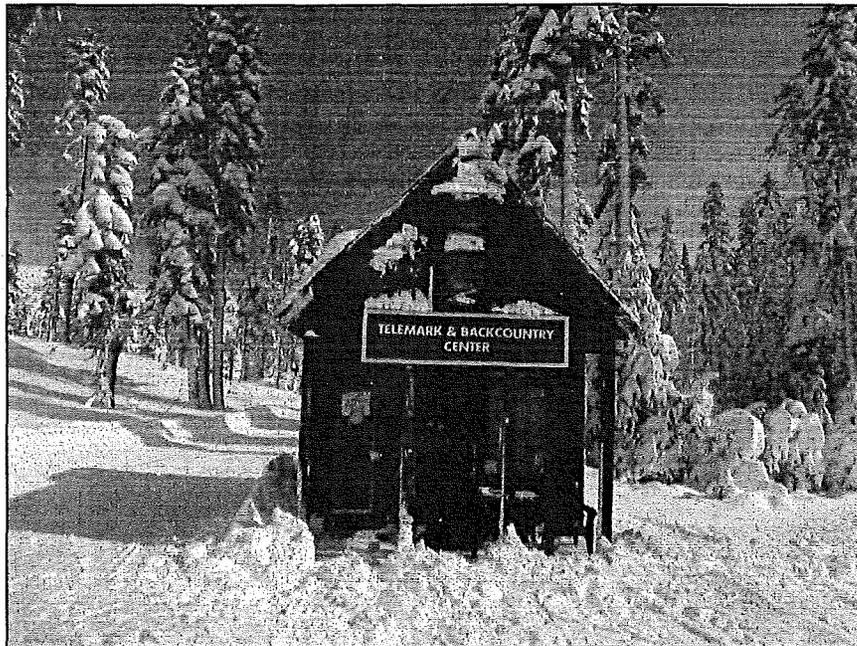


Photo by Taylor Flynn

Sierra-at-Tahoe received an "A" on its environmental report card, scoring high on habitat protection among other areas. Sierra's quaint backcountry shack (above).

By Heather Gould

South Shore ski resorts are doing well overall, though they are not doing enough to address global climate change, according to a ski area environmental report card issued by the Ski Area Citizen's Coalition. The report card is prepared by Sierra Nevada Alliance and supported by a consortium of conservation groups. SACC graded all Western U.S. ski resorts.

While Sierra-at-Tahoe,

Heavenly and Kirkwood all scored relatively highly in the areas of habitat and watershed protection, they all fell down in the area of combatting climate change, according to the report card.

Gavin Feiger, senior program associate with the Sierra Nevada Alliance, said the report card is based on plans and information submitted to the U.S. Forest Service, which oversees most resorts which are primarily located on public land, as well as self-reporting surveys from the

Continued

resorts themselves or other publicly available information. About half of the 84 resorts evaluated by SACC responded to the survey this year, according to Feiger, though none of the three South Shore ones did. The report card is shared with local conservation groups in each area prior to publication to screen for any "glaring errors," said Feiger. Additionally, he said, the group's data has been relied upon for several academic studies.

Sierra-at-Tahoe received a grade of A and was ranked fifth in California out of 19 ski resorts studied. The resort received a 99 percent for habitat protection, preserving and protecting the environment and the ecosystem, and a B for environmental policies and practices. SACC gave it a D in the area of climate change. Among other things, the resort has failed to issue a statement in support of the Kyoto accords or other major climate change agreements, failed to conduct a greenhouse gas inventory, failed to generate renewable energy on-site and failed to provide

incentives for carpooling, according to SACC.

While Sierra-at-Tahoe may not engage in some of the exact activities or meet some of the exact standards listed on the report card, it is doing plenty in the environmental arena, said spokesman Steven Hemphill, from on-mountain environmental education programs to refining vegetable oil used for food preparation into biodiesel fuel to power its equipment to recycling to providing complimentary shuttles and information on carpooling on its website to changing to energy saving LED lighting and more, some of which it did receive credit for from SACC.

The resort would like to generate more renewable energy on-site, but that would require construction of some new facilities, said Hemphill. Sierra-at-Tahoe is working on that with the U.S. Forest Service which governs activities at the resort, he said. Sierra-at-Tahoe takes a "big approach" to environmental issues and works on "as many levels as possible," said

Hemphill.

In terms of supporting environmental accords, Sierra-at-Tahoe is represented by the National Ski Area Association, said Hemphill, the majority of whose members have signed on with the national Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy program, according to the NSAA website.

Heavenly, which received a grade of B overall and was ranked tenth in the state, earned an A for watershed protection and Bs for habitat protection and environmental policies and practices. It, too, received a D for combatting climate change, receiving zero points on the SACC report card for the generation of on-site, clean renewable energy, for retrofitting its heating and lighting to make it more efficient and for carpooling incentives. Heavenly was also dinged for using too much water in its snowmaking operations.

Heavenly issued a corporate statement from its parent company, Vail, calling the survey "non-scientific" and too focused on

development. None of the South Shore resorts were particularly downgraded for development, but Vail owns other properties throughout the country, some of which it is actively engaged in developing. Vail stated it actively pursues environmental practices such as clean water and water conservation measures, waste reduction and recycling, energy conservation, habitat protection and education and referred to the company's environmental website, vrecho.com.

Kirkwood, which is owned by Vail Resorts, as is Heavenly, received a B overall, placing eighth among California ski resorts, earning an A for habitat protection, a 100 percent for watershed protection and a C for environmental policies and practice-

es, but it also tanked when it came to climate change measures, receiving a D on its report card for failing to perform a greenhouse gas inventory and failing to provide clean, on-site renewable energy, failing to employ energy efficient retrofits and not implementing a no-idling policy, according to SACC.

Kirkwood issued an identical statement to Heavenly's.

The report covered 84 ski resorts total, with Sierra-at-Tahoe ranking 17th, Kirkwood ranking 33rd and Heavenly ranking 38th. Stevens Pass Ski Area in Washington state was named the best ski resort by SACC while Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park, also in Washington state, came in last.

To view the full reports and find other information about the scorecard, visit www.skiareacitizens.com.

Early Christmas news for anglers

Hello fellow anglers; I hope your Thanksgiving was a grand memory. I spent my Thanksgiving day, fishing in the morning and enjoying family the rest of the day. I do have a special early Christmas present for you all later in this report.

But first, I would like to thank all the anglers who have called the Naw line or have shared their fishing adventures this year. I hope I have answered all your questions, and you have educated me as well. We all like to brag about our fishing adventures, but some of the stories I have heard would make a game warden look at you in a different light.

Example: An angler boasted about catching seven trout in one day and giving them away so he could keep on fishing. First of all, the limit is five fish. Second thing, when you catch a fish and give it away, it is still considered part of your daily limit. Only if you catch and successfully release your fish, may you continue to fish. I enjoyed many days this year where we had 15-fish days. I also have had to stop fishing early in the day because I had caught and kept my limit before my friends had. That was partial torture right there. But we must all be accountable for knowing the laws while we fish.

So, please keep the stories and reports coming. But think first, would you share this with a game warden?

Both of our states have a tip line when you see people taking fish or game illegally. California is Cal-Tip at 1-800-952-5400. In Nevada call Operation Game Thief at 1-800-992-3030. We all make mistakes, and we all need education and reminders of these laws.

Now let's check out our local fishing report:

LAKE TAHOE: Mackinaw action has been rated good to excellent. Most success has been at Dollar Point or Sugar Pine Point. Anglers have been fishing right on the 150-200 and even the 220 foot mark. They have been using flashers and live minnows. Chrome Flatfish have been successful in these same areas. The average fish has been 2 to 6 pounds, with a few in the 7- to 9-pound class. December has been a good month for larger fish in shallower water.

Opeliners have been doing fair using a small dodger or Sidekick in a watermelon pattern, both followed with a half of a night crawler.

Keep an eye on your pole as the fish have been hitting light. Most fish have been just on the lip. The best areas have been Logan Shoals, Skunk Harbor and Sand Harbor. Rapalas are also good this time of year. For more information, call Blue Ribbon Fishing Charters at 530-544-6552.

CAPLES LAKE: The resort will have open cabins on Dec. 20, just in time for ice fishing. As of last Wednesday the lake had started to ice up. There were some small areas of open water, so for now, stay away and

off the lake. I am personally looking forward to January to safely ice fish on it. You can call the Caples Lake Resort to check their message at 209-258-8888.

RED LAKE: As of last Wednesday the lake was iced over, just not enough to fish on. Here again, I will wait until the end of December to venture out on safe ice. I like to have a minimum of 8 to 10 inches before I go out. I will keep you updated on its condition.

CARSON RIVERS: All are closed to fishing, with the exception of the East Fork from Hangman's Bridge to the Nevada state line. This section has restrictions: Catch and release only, artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks. This is located on the California side. On the Nevada side, the Carson River is open to fishing all year long.

INDIAN CREEK RESERVOIR: Here is your early present: The Alpine County Fish Commission has planted the lake this week with 1,800 pounds of nice rainbow trout. The lake level has dropped down about 10 feet, which means getting to the dam area is much easier. A few anglers have been calling about their success this week, including the two Steves — Brower and Lightfoot — who said they were surprised and delighted that the fishing was back the way it used to be. Lightfoot also asked me why I did not tell him when they were planting. Simple answer: It would not be fair if I told them before I told all anglers. Merry Christmas, a little early. And a special thank you to Alpine County for another successful year of great fishing ...



**Doug
Busey
Mac-the-
Naw**

TOPAZ LAKE: Fishing season opens Jan. 1, 2014. I will get you updates on the Topaz Lodge Fishing Derby as I get them.

TROUT PLANTS: Nevada has planted Baily Pond and Mitch Park Pond. As the year progresses, The Nevada Department of Wildlife moves its planting to the southern portion of the state.

ROAD CLOSURES: As of Thursday, all passes are open with no controls. That will change soon with a cold front moving our way, which will make our high temperatures lower than our now low temps. In Alpine County, Burnside Road and Blue Lakes Road are closed for the season. All others are open, but can close in a minute's notice this time of year.

Good luck on your next fishing adventure. Any questions or reports in our local fishing world. Call the Naw line at 775-267-9722. Good Fishin' and tight lines.

Sierra

8 | Friday, December 6, 2013 | The Record-Courier

Watch for falling mice

by Karen Dustman
R-C Alpine Bureau

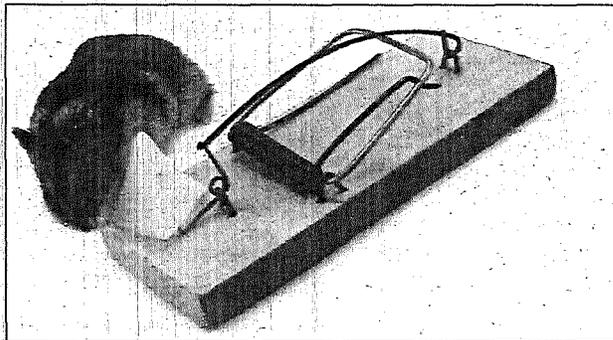
Forget a return of alien space invaders. Big yawn about zombie undead. It's the season that strikes real terror in the hearts of the home-bound. It's winter. And the critters are coming.

Already, they've attacked a friend's car in Markleeville. Total dark-of-night damage: \$1,050. And ravenous rodent rodeo has hardly begun.

Been there, done that; my husband's new truck was attacked several years ago by hungry mice who apparently like their wiring *al dente*. Their handiwork discovered when the truck would no longer start, the mice departed unscathed – but made our mechanic several hundred dollars happier.

Until now, some anti-mouse angel has been with me. But a few weeks ago I opened my glove-box to discover a veritable masterpiece of a mouse nest under construction. It was fluffy. It was puffy. And it was artfully constructed out of available materials: dainty, bite-size pieces of my registration and insurance cards.

Out went their penthouse production with a flurry of whisk broom. But by next morning, it was clear they were baaack. This time the mouse house was a fluffy,



puffy tangle of colorful string – and all the fringe from the hatchback's throw rug was missing.

My husband – that great crusader against varmint invaders – began prowling the big box aisles for armament. A few futile forays followed with traditional mousetraps (body count: zero; mashed finger count: four). Then he stumbled upon the Nuclear Anti-Mouse solution. Yes, Virginia, someone really has come up with a better mousetrap.

This white plastic marvel looks for all the world like a miniature albino version of the cuspids in *Jaws*. A delicate little cup holds an alluring dab of peanut butter. It's as easy to set as a clothespin. And those jagged plastic teeth would take a bite out of the national deficit.

Shock waves of fear promptly set in in mouse-world, and a full-scale retreat has ensued. We know this because there have been no bodies whatsoever

in the legion of traps now deployed in both vehicles and arrayed across the garage floor. So far, both vehicles are still starting. Our mouse-fingers are crossed.

This morning, however, the husband beckoned. "Come here," he growled. Coffee cup in hand, I dutifully followed him outside. There in the margin of the lawn was a small hole. Then another hole. And a third, and a fourth...

The good news: the gophers, it seems, have moved on for friendlier territory. The bad news: a small army of voles has now moved into those charmingly vacant tunnels, and is making themselves warm and comfy for winter. Soon, the tunnels will be covered by snow, letting them eat, sleep, and swell their numbers into a grass-guzzling army by the time spring snow-melt arrives.

It's back to the big box store tomorrow.

OBITUARY

R-C 12-6-13



JAMES WALLACE AHLNUND January 22, 1947 - November 27, 2013

James Wallace Ahnlund passed away on November 27, 2013 at Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto, CA from complications after open heart surgery. Jim was born on January 22, 1947 in San Jose, CA to Dr. Nels W. Ahnlund and Stella Kindem. He graduated from Buchser High School in San Jose, CA in 1965. Jim joined the United States Army, serving in Vietnam from 1966 to 1969. He was attached to the MAC-V Advisory Team 86. After military service, Jim returned to San Jose and worked at Tire Service.

Jim attended the University of Wyoming and studied wildlife management. In 1978, he started a career in banking at Franklin Savings and Loan in San Francisco, CA, where he met a new accounts clerk named

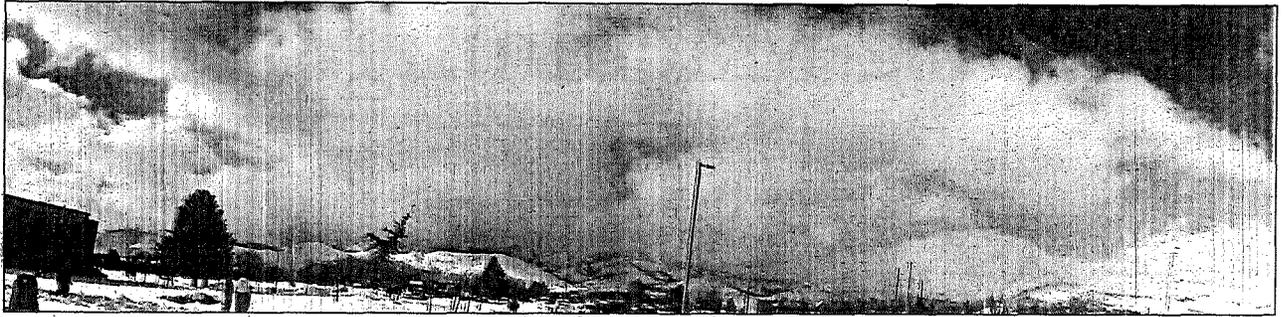
Elise Hilbert. A construction job opportunity at Kirkwood Ski Resort in October 1981 allowed him to leave the big city and move to Gardnerville, Nevada where he would be closer to his favorite hobbies, hunting and fishing. He convinced Elise to join him and they married in Fredericksburg, CA in an old school house at the end of Fredericksburg Road. Their son, Rob was born in August 1982 followed by a second son, Nels in April 1984. Family was important to Jim and to be able to grow together as one in his favorite area was his deepest satisfaction.

Jim returned to banking in 1983 to 1991 when he worked in branch management at both Sierra Savings and Loan in Minden, NV and Nevada Federal Credit Union in Stateline, NV. He found his greatest work satisfaction at Stor-all self storage in Gardnerville, NV. Jim worked for the Whear family for the past 22 years as a Senior Facility Manager. He understood all facets of the storage industry including customer service, unit maintenance and application of NRS statutes. He enjoyed customers and liked solving their storage problems. The kindness of the entire Whear family, his Stor-all family, during his illness will not be forgotten.

Jim loved Northern Nevada and was proud to call it his home for the past 32 years. He took full advantage of its many outdoor activities, from deer hunting in the Jarbidge to fishing at Blue Lakes Reservoir to skiing at Lake Tahoe. Jim loved to end those days with time around the campfire, swapping stories about the big catch or the buck that got away. His home, aka "The Ahnlund Inn", was always open to friends and family who wanted to enjoy Nevada along with him.

Jim is survived by his wife of 31 years, Elise; a son Rob of Reno; a son, Nels of Gardnerville; his mother Stella of San Jose, CA; a brother Kent (Diana) of Auburn, CA; a sister Lynne (Dick) of San Diego, CA; a brother, Rob of San Jose, CA; a sister Carol (Keith) of Marina, CA, a sister Mary (Larry) of Hollister, CA and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by his father, Dr. Nels W. Ahnlund and a brother, Jon. A celebration of life will be held at Valley Christian Fellowship, 1352 US Highway 395 North-Suite No 109 A, Gardnerville, NV, 89410 on Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 2:00 pm. A dessert reception will follow the service. Cremation services were provided by Spangler Mortuaries, Los Altos, CA with final burial at Eastside Memorial Park, Minden, NV.



ADAM TRUMBLE / ATRUMBLE@NEVADAAPPEAL.COM

This panoramic photo taken at Carson High School, and made on a cell phone, shows the clouds over Carson City at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Skiers rejoice for fresh powder

By Martin Griffith
Associated Press

RENO — A storm dropped up to 3 feet of snow in the Sierra Nevada, helping build up the slopes and giving a fun run to skiers and snowboarders Saturday.

In Carson City, 6-7 inches of snow was reported.

Around Lake Tahoe, Kirkwood resort reported getting 2 to 3 feet of snow over a 24-hour period ending Saturday morning. Heavenly resort reported 24 inches to 30 inches of new snow, and Squaw Valley resort saw 20 inches.

"This is setting us up for a great holiday season," Kirkwood spokesman Kevin Cooper said Saturday. "Our mountain operations teams are out on snow now preparing to open more terrain and lifts tomorrow."

While most major Sierra ski resorts have opened for the season, they need more snow to swing into full operation. On Saturday, two of 15 lifts were operating at Kirkwood, seven of 29 lifts were open at Heavenly and 11 of 30 lifts were active at Squaw Valley.

The storm also slowed traffic on mountain highways, including Interstate 80 over Donner Summit, as motorists were required to either have snow tires or install chains on tires.

Along the eastern Sierra, the storm left from 1.5 to 6 inches of snow around Reno; 6 to 10 inches in Mammoth Lakes, Calif.; and 10.5 inches in Truckee, Calif., according to the National Weather Service.

Tips to staying safe during very cold weather

The American Red Cross has the following 10 tips for people to follow so they can stay safe during the deep freeze:

- ▶ Wear layers of lightweight clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.
 - ▶ Bring pets indoors. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm and that they can get to unfrozen water.
 - ▶ Protect your pipes. Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent your pipes from freezing. Open the kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Keep the garage doors closed if there are water lines in the garage.
 - ▶ Keep the thermostat at the same temperature day and night. Your heating bill may be a little higher, but you could avoid a more costly repair job if your pipes freeze and burst.
 - ▶ If you are using a space heater, place it on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away — things such as paper, clothing, bedding, curtains or rugs. Turn off space heaters and make sure fireplace embers are out before leaving the room or going to bed.
 - ▶ Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.
 - ▶ If you are using a fireplace, use a glass or metal fire screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs.
 - ▶ Use generators correctly — never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage.
 - ▶ Don't hook a generator up to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator.
- To prevent pipes from freezing:
- ▶ Keeping garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.
 - ▶ Opening kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals up out of the reach of children.
 - ▶ When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe — even at a trickle — helps prevent pipes from freezing.
 - ▶ Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
 - ▶ If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

Source: American Red Cross, www.redcross.org

Douglas girls club unbeaten in tourney

Staff Reports

No team is going to complain about starting the season with a five-game win streak. Then again, the Douglas High girls basketball team was hardly ready to celebrate even after sweeping to four straight victories over the weekend at



Leonna Mortimore

the High Sierra Winter Challenge.

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"We're not into records right now, but we played well against some really good teams," Douglas coach Werner Christen said. "The four teams we played were very good. We showed a lot of energy, but now we have to turn the page and get ready for a fantastic Reed team."

The Tigers traveled to Sparks on Tuesday to face perennial power Reed (results were unavailable at press time). They play again on Dec. 20 at home against Sierra League rival Galena.

"We know it's early in the season and that we have a long way to go," Christen said. "We just want to take it one game at a time."

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GIRLS

From page 20

all-around performance against Spring Creek that included 8 points, 7 assists and 7 rebounds.

The Spring Creek game was significant since the Spartans had opened the tournament with a 50-49 win against Carson. Furthermore, the Tigers played most of that game without the services of sophomore point guard McKenna Kynnett, who

sustained a sprained ankle in the first two minutes.

Sophomore Maddy Lowe stepped into the point guard role effectively, Christen noted.

"We didn't lose a step with Maddy out there," he said. "She was steady, both on offense and defense."

Douglas came back later on Saturday to defeat a Union Mine squad that was 20-8 with a playoff appearance last season.

Mortimore scored 13 points, Jim 11 and

Katie McCullough 9 to lead the Tigers offensively.

Mortimore and Corryne Millett scored 12 points each to lead Douglas past Palo Verde, while Mortimore scored 10, McCullough 8 and Kynnett 8 against Heritage. McCulloch also contributed 9 rebounds and 4 assists against Heritage.

Christen noted that the team showed some signs of fatigue after playing five games in four days. There was never any letup on the defensive effort, however,

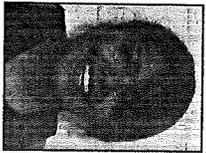
because the Tigers have only allowed an average of 27.4 points per game en route to their 5-0 start (which includes a 47-29 win over Spanish Springs on Wednesday). "In particular, the last two games were a total team effort on our part," Christen said. "The most important thing is we're rebounding and defending well. One-and-done, that's the way we have to play. We hold the other team to one shot, we get the rebound then kick the ball out and run. If we can do that, we're a good team."

R-C 12-11-13

Douglas girls club unbeaten in tourney

Staff Reports

No team is going to complain about starting the season with a five-game win streak. Then again, the Douglas High girls basketball team was hardly ready to celebrate even after sweeping to four straight victories over the weekend at



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GIRLS, 21

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R-C 12-11-13

Sports

20 | Friday, December 13, 2013 | The Record-Courier

Douglas girls still unbeaten

Staff Reports

For the Douglas High girls basketball team, it was almost like a rerun of the regional tournament opener against Reed back in February — with one major exception. This time the Tigers got over the top in their comeback bid and then held on for a 58-53 victory against Reed in Sparks.



Mortimer

By winning the Northern Division I cross-over game at Paul Kautz Gym, Douglas improved its perfect season record to 6-0 — 2-0 in the Sierra League standings — and provided a measure of redemption for a 47-43 loss to Reed in the first round of the playoffs last season. The rematch followed a similar pattern as Reed led 20-12 after one quarter and extended its lead to 13 points in the second quarter.



Millett

Douglas rallied to cut the deficit to 34-30 at halftime, then rode a third-quarter surge to take a lead they never relinquished. The Tigers led 48-42 at the end of three quarters and extended their advantage to 11 points early in the fourth period.

"This was one of those team wins," Douglas coach Werner Christen said. "We played nine and they all contributed ... everyone played their role. And they did a lot of little things right, which is something we're really preaching right now."

Leonna Mortimer scored 22 points for Douglas to hold her own in an inside battle against Reed's 6-foot-1 Nakiyah LeSure, who finished with a game-high 28 points.

"They had a real battle in there," Christen said of the opposing post players. "Morti (Mortimer) has been a pleasant surprise so far. She is tough to guard just because she's so aggressive. And she can get better."

Mortimer, a 5-8 junior, is averaging 15.3 points through six games so far this season.

Corryne Millett also scored 17 points, including a steal and free throw that extended the Tigers' lead to 57-53 in the final 30 seconds. The junior played a key role on defense, according to Christen.

"Corryne was amazing," the coach said. "She had six steals and probably caused nine or 10 more (turnovers)."

Other players contributed to the winning effort. Jessie Jim knocked down a key 3-pointer for the Tigers during their third quarter run and finished the game with 11 points. Kelly Sonnemann was solid in her role at point guard in place of McKenna Kynett, who missed the game due to an ankle injury. Cassidy Freitas also was important in her defense against Reed standout Tyler Sumpter, who scored 16 points before fouling out in the fourth quarter. And Katie McCullough dished out six assists on the night.

"Katie was like a point/post for us," Christen said of McCullough, a 5-10 senior. "She did a really good job of distributing the ball."

Reed was without star Gabby Williams, a UConn commit, who is still rehabbing from an ACL injury she sustained late in the 2012-13 season. Winning at Reed was still a significant accomplishment for the Tigers.

"Reed is a very, very talented team," Christen said. "They were happy (to win), but there was no big celebration or anything like that ... they expected to win. I mean, these kids are playing with a lot of confidence right now."

The Douglas girls now have a week off before they host Sierra League rival Galena next Friday.

South Shore area resorts open more ground

By Griffin Rogers
griffin@tahoedailytribune.com

Below freezing temperatures and a heavy supply of snow last weekend resulted in more terrain being opened at all three ski resorts in the South Lake Tahoe area this week.

Heavenly Mountain Resort is now offering top-to-bottom access on the Nevada side of the resort, following the opening of the Stagecoach Express chairlift Wednesday.

Skiers now have nine miles of Heavenly terrain available to them, including one medium size terrain park with 19 features, through eight chairlifts. According to a press release, the resort plans to open several more lifts closer to the holidays, including Olympic Express, Gunbarrel Express, Powderbowl Express, Sky Express, Canyon Express and Patsy's.

With those runs open, Heavenly will also have top-to-bottom skiing in California.

Additionally, the resort hopes to open its Boulder and North Bowl chairlifts and last base area by Dec. 21, according to the report.

Pete Sonntag, vice president and chief operating officer at Heavenly, said the ability to open more terrain quickly results from a combination of natural snow and man-made snow, which is provided through the resort's extensive snowmaking system.

"The recent snow was great," he stated in a



GRIFFIN ROGERS / TAHOE DAILY TRIBUNE

A snowboarder on Friday rides down to Stagecoach Express, a chairlift at Heavenly Mountain Resort that opened Wednesday.

press release, "and with continuous snowmaking, we are going to open a significant amount of terrain that other resorts just can't compete with."

Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Resort now has seven lifts, 29 trails, 18 groomed runs and a terrain

park open, thanks to the Dec. 7 storm, spokesman Steven Hemphill said.

"The ski season is off to a great start," he said in an email. "The last storm gave us a great base and we are optimistic that Mother Nature will deliver us some more snow

before the holiday season."

The resort will do its best to open more runs and terrain once it receives more snow, Hemphill said. For now, riders can expect groomed runs and early season conditions.

"We continue to do our snow dances," he said.

Sierra-at-Tahoe is also working "around the clock" to finish its newest facility, The Plaza.

"The Plaza is a \$5 million base area enhancement giving guests a better overall mountain experience and creating an incredible après atmosphere where they can gather and soak up the California sun," Hemphill said.

At Kirkwood Mountain Resort, visitors now have access to four lifts with top-to-bottom skiing, following the opening of Cornice Express on Saturday. More than 100 acres of terrain is now available to skiers and snowboarders.

Additionally, the Kirkwood Cross-Country Center opened Saturday, featuring 12 kilometers of skating and snowshoeing, according to a press release.

The resort will continue to work on opening more ground at Timber Creek soon, but Casey Blann, Kirkwood's vice president and general manager, said the terrain will have to meet a standard of quality.

"We won't open terrain just to open it," he stated in a press release. "We have a standard of quality that we won't compromise."

Douglas may oppose bistate sage grouse listing

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

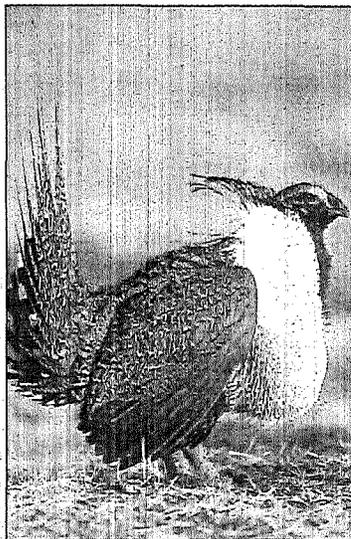
Douglas County could oppose the listing of the bistate sage grouse under the Endangered Species Act at the county commissioners meeting on Thursday.

Two letters detail the county's position on listing the subspecies of grouse that lives along the Nevada-California line from Douglas County south to Esmeralda County.

One letter, written to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell points out that parts of two critical habitat units are partially located in Douglas County.

According to the letter the Pine Nut Unit consists of 300,836 acres and extends from the Carson River south to the West Fork of the Walker River. The north Mono Lake unit consists of 853,726 acres and extends from Smith Valley to Mono Lake, with the northwest portion extending into Douglas' portion of Antelope Valley.

"Although Douglas County has one of the smallest bistate DPS populations, the service has proposed designating a



TERRY STEELE/SPECIAL TO THE R-C

The male greater sage grouse.

large portion of Douglas County as critical habitat," the letter said. "Moreover, sizeable portions of the proposed critical habitat in Douglas County are not occupied (by the grouse)."

The county is also seeking a 90-day extension of the public comment period.

According to its letter, the county does support an exception under the listing, which would allow conservation

efforts that were developed by or in coordination with a state agency.

"For more than a decade, private, local, state, federal and nonprofit partners have worked together to develop and implement the BiState Action Plan," according to the letter. "In recent years, the result has been to protect and enhance thousands of acres of bistate sage grouse habitat."

Another letter is addressed to the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest commenting on the revision of the U.S. Forest Service plan amendment dealing with the sage grouse.

The county is opposing any closure of roads or trails based on habitat designation alone.

"Douglas County requests that any road and trail restrictions be implemented only as to roads or trails that actually pass through active bistate (grouse) leks, and that such restrictions be limited and seasonal only."

Douglas County commissioners are scheduled to discuss drafts of the three letters at their regular meeting 1:30 p.m. Thursday at the Tahoe Transportation Center in Stateline.

Sierra

775-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

The Record-Courier | Wednesday, December 18, 2013 | 11

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A snowboarder on Friday rides down to Stagecoach Express, a chairlift at Heavenly Mountain Resort that opened Wednesday.



A skier waves at Heavenly Mountain Resort on Friday.



A skier rides down the Nevada side of Heavenly Mountain Resort on Friday.

PHOTOS BY GRIFFIN ROGERS / TAHOE DAILY TRIBUNE

Continued

Record-Courier
Dec. 18, 2013

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R-C
Dec. 20, 2013

Sesquicentennial

Dot-So-La-Lee Buried With Treasured Basket

Carson City Daily Appeal
December 7, 1925

Dot-So-La-Lee, weaver of the most perfect pieces of handcraft in Indian basketry, died at her home here yesterday morning and her funeral was held this afternoon at two o'clock with interment at the Stewart cemetery.

With her was buried today one of her Indian cherished baskets valued at \$1000. This was in accordance with her wishes.

She was over 90 years of age, the exact date of her birth being unknown, and for several months had been suffering from dropsy. A month ago her condition became serious and, after white physicians had treated her without a cure, Indian medicine men were called in to perform the Indian rites in effort to prolong her life. For three days the medicine man sent up incantations, but the famous old weaver was of the opinion that she was soon to die and the Indian doctor found his work unavailing.

From an improvised hut, off the Reno-Carson highway a short distance north of this city, where the Indian woman lay for three days during the wailings of the medicine man, she was moved to her home in Carson. She refused to go to the hospital at Stewart and preferred to spend

her few remaining days under the care of her faithful husband, Charley Kaiser, and her equally faithful friends, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Cohn.

Other Indians refused to go near her, being fearful that she was somewhat of a witch.

Through Saturday night the sick woman became worse and at eleven o'clock yesterday morning she began to fall into the last sleep, the end coming at about 11:30 o'clock.

Her body was prepared for burial and taken to Stewart, where the funeral service of the whites was performed.

Dot-So-La-Lee was born in Douglas county and has spent the ninety-odd years of her life in this section of Nevada. She was known in her younger days as Jennie Kaiser and there has been considerable discussion as to the origin of the name by which she is better known. The generally accepted theory is that she patterned her name after that of Dr. S. L. Lee, in whose home she worked.

For 30 years her artistry in baskets has attracted attention and has become nationally famous. Her greatest creation, "Myriads of Stars Shine O'er the Graves of Our Ancestors," was started by her on March 2, 1916, and finished just a year later.

BEFORE IT WAS HISTORY ... IT WAS NEWS

This is one in a sesquicentennial series of Nevada newspaper front pages telling the history of the state in the words of the people who were there.

Newspapers have been part of Nevada since before it was a state. They have chronicled the major events of their communities and the milestones of Nevadans' lives.

The stories reprinted here are reproduced as faithfully as possible — punctuation, grammatical errors and all — to retain the flavor of the era in which they were published.



NEVADA PRESS
ASSOCIATION



— Barry Smith, Nevada Press Association

It is in three colors, stands fourteen inches high and has 86,590 stitches. Another noted piece of her basket work is named "Our Ancestor."

She has made scores of

other baskets and it has been said that she had perfect conception of perspective.

Dot-So-La-Lee masterpieces have been purchased for exhibition in the Carnegie



NEVADA PRESS ASSOCIATION

Famed Washoe basket weaver Dot-So-La-Lee died Dec. 6, 1925.

Museum of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; the Field Museum Chicago, Illinois; and the Peabody Museum at Yale university.

In recent years she has spent her summers at "The Bicosé," a basketry

conducted by Abe Cohn at Lake Tahoe, and her winters in a cabin near the Cohn home in Carson. Her handiwork is on display at the Emporium here and is viewed annually by hundreds of people.

Robinsons bid farewell to Alpine County after 35 years

by Virginia York
R-C Alpine Bureau

Forrest and Karen Robinson met in Modesto when Karen was in high school and Forrest was in junior college. When they were going together they shared a dream: to live in the mountains. In 1978 they moved from Kernville, near Lake Isabella, to Markleeville with their four children, Clay, 18, Mark, 16, Scott, 11 and Annie, 8. Forrest had been offered a job here as supervisor for the Division of Highways, (now Caltrans). The Robinsons lived at East Fork Resort until, with the help of real estate agent, Dorothy Johnson, they found the house on the corner of Barrett and Montgomery which was their home for 35 years.

Forrest and Karen quickly felt at home in Markleeville; Karen recalls that locals, driving and walking, always greeted each other with a friendly wave. Those were the days of the Alpine Trio who performed at the quarterly community events thrown by the Native Sons of the Golden



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Karen and Forrest Robinson bid farewell to Alpine County recently.

West (of which Forrest was a member). There was a meeting, potluck dinner, bingo and, oh joy, dancing to the Alpine Trio. Says Karen: "Everybody had a good time!" Proceeds went to assist children with cleft palate.

The Robinson children used to come to the library while I was the librarian. We were happy to have these quiet, polite new library patrons. Annie

and Scott went to summer school at Diamond Valley to meet children before the beginning of their first school year here. Annie was approached by Dina Marina Gigli who asked: "Do you want to play fairies?" This was the beginning of a long friendship. Together they roller skated, rode bikes and rode Annie's two little horses, Po and Rocky. The boys played touch football with

the Coyan boys. The children waited in all weathers for the school bus at the Markleeville General Store, then owned by George and Marie Fernandez. Forrest and Karen Robinson and Ruggero and Gina Gigli met through their daughters. Karen speaks sadly of how they miss those dear friends who moved to the East Coast several years ago to be close to Dina Marina.

During winter storms our hearts go out in gratitude to the men who are clearing the roads. Forrest gives a riveting explanation of how the Division of Highways accomplished this. There was a rule that a supervisor had to be on duty at all times. At that time the Division of Highways suffered more fatalities than the Highway Patrol. In winter the Division of Highways workers were usually the first to come upon accidents. All workers had Red Cross First Aid training. Supervisors were trained to respond to an atomic attack with a radio-logical monitor, and geiger counter. The California Division of Highways was

recognized as number one in the U.S., alternating with the highways department in Ohio. People came from all over the world to learn how they operated.

Karen worked at the Bank of America with Dolores Clark in the building currently occupied by the Chamber of Commerce. She was then employed by Diamond Valley School for nine years as a teachers' aid and general helper followed by 12 years as school secretary which, she says, was "The best job in the whole wide world." She devoted many extra hours to her work and was greatly appreciated by the community. She also volunteered as secretary to the parents' group. Some hearing loss and recognition that more advanced computer skills than she possessed were required made it clear that it was time for her to retire. Karen volunteered at the library and museum where she undertook her work with characteristic conscientiousness. We are grateful to Forrest for volunteering for Markleeville Public Utilities

District and for his fifteen years of service to the Volunteer Fire Department and for other community service such as being a big brother to library staff, ensuring their safety in many situations.

Forrest and Karen have moved to be near family members in Albion, Idaho, a friendly town, with a population of 270, elevation of 4,730 feet, and a library in which to volunteer. They would like to have a couple of acres with horses and a vegetable garden. Forrest looks forward to opportunities to hunt and fish; he ties his own flies. He will continue to make beautiful, functional furniture and metal work. The railing leading to the Harveys' old house on Laramie Street is a fine sample of his work. Karen's interests include oil painting, sewing and knitting. She will continue exploring the delectable world of cooking and baking. We shall miss her legendary cookies at the library this Christmas. We wish Forrest and Karen much happiness in this new chapter of their lives.

Tigers put 6-0 record on line against Galena

Staff Reports

Off to its best start since the 2007-08 season, the Douglas High girls basketball team is looking to extend a six-game win streak tonight at home against Galena.

Douglas (6-0 overall, 2-0 league) and Galena (2-2, 0-1) square off in a Sierra League contest scheduled to start at 5:15 p.m. at Randy Green Court.

This is the first time the Tigers have played at home since their Dec. 4 season-opening 47-20 win against Spanish Springs.

Defense has been the strong suit so far for the Tigers, who are allowing an average of 31.5 points per game through six games.

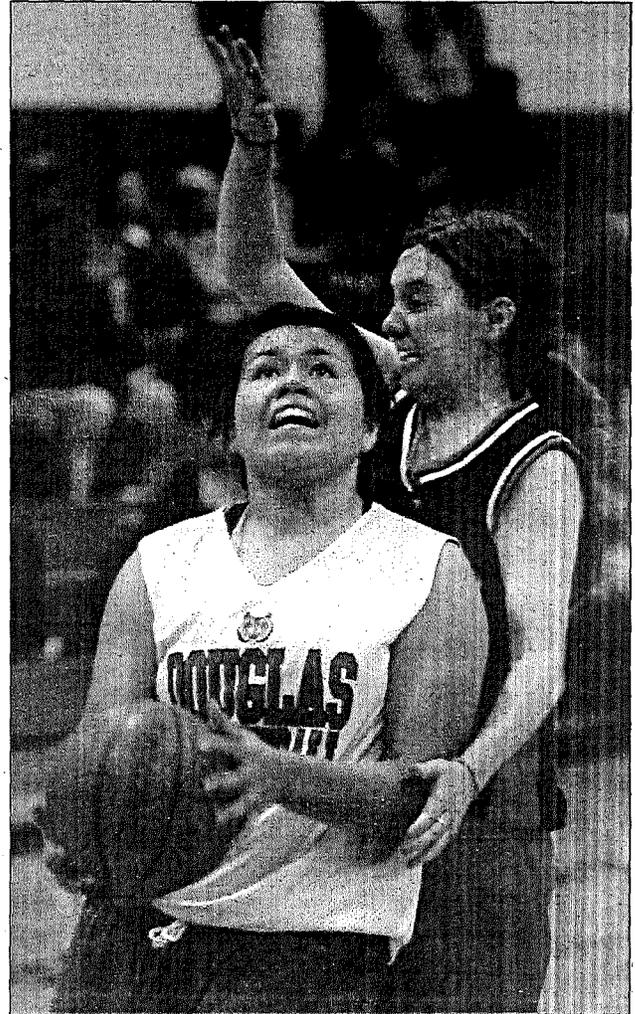
Leonna Mortimer leads Douglas offensively with

a 15.3 point per game average, including 22 points on Dec. 10 in the Tigers' 58-53 win at Reed.

Galena is led by 5-foot-7 junior guard Kaitlyn Hawthorne, who is averaging 13.8 points per game. Hawthorne, a third-year varsity veteran, earned first-team all-league and all-region honors last season.

Looking back, the 2007-08 Douglas team opened with six straight wins and went on to finish with a 21-10 season record. The Tigers' first loss that season came at the hands of a Reno team that went on to finish as the Class 4A state tournament runner-up.

The Tigers travel to South Tahoe on Saturday for a non-league contest. The Division I-A Vikings are 1-2 this season.



JIM GRANT FILE PHOTO

Douglas High junior Leonna Mortimer drives to the basket on Nov. 30 during the annual alumni game. Mortimer and the Tigers host Galena today.

12-20-13 RC
Book Club. Last Thursday
of the month at the
Markleeville Library.
Information, (530) 694-2120.

Bistate sage grouse comment period extended

by Kurt Hildebrand
khildebrand@recordcourier.com

Far from grousing about the potential that the bistate sage grouse will be listed as an endangered species, Douglas County commissioners sought a rewrite of letters commenting on the issue.

Commission Chairman Greg Lynn said that after hearing from the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, the board had "one of the best discussions we've had all year."

Lynn said he felt the tone of the drafts presented to the commission wasn't helpful, and that was borne out by the presentation at Thursday's County commissioners' meeting.

"He said we should focus on what we want to happen rather than what we don't want to happen," Lynn said on Friday.

The listing is back in play after a federal court ordered the Department of Fish and Wildlife to go back and re-examine its decision not to list the sage grouse.

In late October the department issued a notice that the bistate sage grouse is up for being listed under the endangered species act, something state, private and federal agencies, along with private individuals have been working to prevent.

So far only the bistate sage grouse, which lives between Douglas County and Bishop along the Nevada-California border, has been proposed for listing. But a sage grouse population, which occupies much larger areas of the West, may also be considered at some point in the future.

Two critical sage grouse habitat units are partially located in Douglas.

On Friday, Nevada

Senators Harry Reid and Dean Heller released a discussion draft of the Nevada Sagebrush Landscape Conservation and Economic Development Act. The proposal would conserve sage-grouse habitat in Nevada while providing economic development opportunities to industries and local governments throughout the state. Attached is a copy of the discussion draft.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced Thursday the extension of the public comment period for 45 days on the proposal to protect the grouse along the California-Nevada border as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The proposal includes a rule that would increase flexibility for land management practices that are intended to benefit the sage-grouse. The extension will also add 45 days to

the comment period on a proposal to designate approximately 1.86 million acres of habitat for the species.

Information regarding the listing will be accepted until Feb. 10, and may be submitted by one of the following methods: Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov. In the Search box, enter FWS-R8-ES-2013-0042 and FWS-R8-ES-2013-0072, which are the docket numbers for these rulemakings. Then, in the Search panel on the left side of the screen, under the Document Type heading, click on the Proposed Rules link to locate this document. You may submit a comment by clicking on "Comment Now!" Submit by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R8-ES-2013-0042

and FWS-R8-ES-2013-0072; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

A copy of the proposed rules published on Oct. 28, 2013, is available at www.fws.gov/nevada or at www.regulations.gov or by calling 775-861-6300.

The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service report 209 people attended the recent workshops in California and Nevada. Information including links to the Draft LUP/EIS, posters and materials used at the public workshops and guides on developing and submitting comments can be found at on.doi.gov/1dxWdQt. Written comments related to the sage grouse are being accepted through Jan. 29:

Eplanning website: <http://on.doi.gov/14ZD3Rb>
email blm_nv_ca_sagegrouse_eis_comments@blm.gov
mail: BLM - Greater Sage Grouse EIS, Attn: Joe Tague, 1340 Financial Blvd. Reno, NV 89502

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R-C
R-22-2013

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December 7, 1925

Dot-So-La-Lee, weaver of the most perfect pieces of handcraft in Indian basketry, died at her home here yesterday morning and her funeral was held this afternoon at two o'clock with interment at the Stewart cemetery.

With her was buried today one of her Indian cherished baskets valued at \$1000. This was in accordance with her wishes.

She was over 90 years of age, the exact date of her birth being unknown, and for several months had been suffering from dropsy.

A month ago her condition became serious and, after white physicians had treated her without a cure, Indian medicine men were called in to perform the Indian rites in effort to prolong her life.

For three days the medicine man sent up incantations, but the famous old weaver was of the opinion that she was soon to die and the Indian doctor found his work unavailing.

From an improvised hut, off the Reno-Carson highway a short distance north of this city, where the



NEVADA PRESS ASSOCIATION

Famed Washoe basket weaver Dot-So-La-Lee died Dec. 6, 1925.

Indian woman lay for three days during the wailings of the medicine man, she was moved to her home in Carson.

She refused to go to the hospital at Stewart and preferred to spend her few remaining days under the care of her faithful husband, Charley Kaiser, and her equally faithful friends, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Cohn.

Other Indians refused to go near her, being fearful that she was somewhat of a witch.

Through Saturday night the sick woman became worse and at eleven o'clock yesterday morning she began to fall into the last sleep, the end coming at about 11:30 o'clock.

Carson City Daily Appeal
CARSON CITY, NEVADA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1925

GRANT FOUND GUILTY IN ONE OF COURT'S SHORTEST TRIALS
The trial of the famous case of the... (text continues)

DOT-SO-LA-LEE BURIED WITH TREASURED BASKET
The body of the famous Indian basket weaver... (text continues)

LITTLETON SAYS EVIDENCE IS HEARSAY AND WANTS DISMISSAL
The defendant in the... (text continues)

GRAND JURY WOULD GRANT BOND TO LOUISIANA
The grand jury... (text continues)

YOUTH REFERRED TO YOUTH SOCIETY TRIAL
A young man... (text continues)

FAMILY WIFE APT
A woman... (text continues)

COULD BE WED
A couple... (text continues)

LEGION AUXILIARY MEETS AT STAGGERS THEATRE
The auxiliary... (text continues)

STATION AT SHOWS
The station... (text continues)

PERSONAL NOTES
A number of... (text continues)

HOLIDAY SPECIALS
Atlington Stationery Store
Shop Early and Avoid the Rush

NEW YEAR'S DANCE
Atlington Stationery Store

Her body was prepared for burial and taken to Stewart, where the funeral service of the whites was performed.

Dot-So-La-Lee was born in Douglas county and has spent the ninety-odd years of her life in this section of Nevada. She was known in

her younger days as Jennie Kaiser and there has been considerable discussion as to the origin of the name by which she is better known.

The generally accepted theory is that she patterned her name after that of Dr. S. L. Lee, in whose home

she worked.

For 30 years her artistry in baskets has attracted attention and has become nationally famous.

Her greatest creation, "Myriads of Stars Shine O'er the Graves of Our Ancestors," was started by her on March 2, 1916, and finished just a year later. It is in three colors, stands fourteen inches high and has 86,590 stitches. Another noted piece of her basket work is named "Our Ancestor."

She has made scores of other baskets and it has been said that she had perfect conception of perspective.

Dot-So-La-Lee masterpieces have been purchased for exhibition in the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; the Field Museum Chicago, Illinois; and the Peabody Museum at Yale university.

In recent years she has spent her summers at "The Bicoose," a basketry conducted by Abe Cohn at Lake Tahoe, and her winters in a cabin near the Cohn home in Carson. Her handiwork is on display at the Emporium here and is viewed annually by hundreds of people.

BATTLE BORN NEVADA PROUD 150th Anniversary of Statehood Before it was history

... it was news
This is one in a sesquicentennial series of Nevada newspaper front pages telling the history of the state in the words of the people who were there.

Newspapers have been part of Nevada since before it was a state. They have chronicled the major events of their communities and the milestones of Nevadans' lives.

The stories reprinted here are reproduced as faithfully as possible — punctuation, grammatical errors and all — to retain the flavor of the era in which they were published.

— Barry Smith, Nevada Press Association

A kindness that transcends generations

It was the winter of 1931 and the Great Depression had a death grip on much of our nation. Many people went hungry during this time as there was no work or money for many families. During this time, at the young age of 17, a boy named Virgil hitchhiked with his older brother Clarence from a poor rural farm in Southern Indiana to Cincinnati to find work to help support the family. Virgil was one of 10 children in the family, still living at home. The family was desperate for money for food and clothing for the cold winter. Virgil decided to make his way into the world to try to begin supporting himself.

Unfortunately for Virgil and his brother, they were both stopped by police and told that there was no work for migrants in Cincinnati and that men from all over the East were in the city trying to find work. The police officers sent the boys on their way telling them not to return to Cincinnati or they would be arrested as vagrants. Hungry and cold, they avoided the Rail Road agents and hopped a freight train back to Indiana.

Virgil and his family were so poor that they counted on Virgil many times to hunt game in the nearby woods for food. Other times they could scrape by with food grown on the farm and would try to make it through the winter on food canned or stored in the root cellar.

Virgil decided to head north alone to where all the large industrial cities were. He went to the nearest rail yard, all the while avoiding the rail road agents. He found a boxcar with the door partially open.

"Where you goin' boy" a deep throated voice called out as he hauled himself up into the boxcar and squeezed through the door. Virgil had no idea. He just needed a job.

Rob Levy
Guest Column

At that point, Virgil began months of "riding the rails" in search of work. Virgil would ride inside boxcars or on the undersides in between the trucks on the car supports. Virgil found himself riding with mostly older men, some of which were well educated. Many were tired, desperate men, in search of a job to support their families, but some were dangerous.

The hobo camps that followed taught Virgil just how hard life could be on the road. He found it odd that along the way, a friend he had made and shared a meal with was later gone. When he asked around, the other hobos told him that his friend had caught the 2:00 to St. Louis. Virgil became truly aware that he was alone and on his own.

He learned the fine art of hobo camp cooking. He would cook a can of beans and pour it into a hollowed out loaf he had gotten from a mission and used it as a bowl. He would take the bread from the hollowed out loaf and save it in his hanky for the next day. The cold and hunger would become Virgil's companions in his trek north for work.

As the fall of 1932 approached, Virgil had made his way into the Chicago area. He hoped that he would be able to work the docks, factories or stores. By now, Virgil looked like a rag-tag vagabond. His shoes so badly worn that they were worn through the bottoms his feet were exposed.

A newspaper man took pity on Virgil and offered to let him sell newspapers. He made a penny for each newspaper he sold. That was fine until winter came. The wind chill that comes off of Lake Michigan can bite all

the way through a person's clothes. Virgil's clothes were too light for the winters of Chicago that he would now experience.

He began burning some of the newspapers that he was supposed to sell. As the afternoon waned, and the temperatures began falling, Virgil began burning more papers than he was selling. Cold and shivering, Virgil wondered where he would sleep on a freezing night. He even wondered if he would make it through the night.

As with all things involving the young and puppy dogs, Angels sometimes intervene. From out of nowhere, a couple walked up and began warming their hands on the fire. They looked at this young man, dressed out of place and looking a bit scared.

"Do you have a place to stay this evening?"

"No, but I'll make due" Virgil told them, with his southern pride kicking in.

Virgil was already thinking that he would try to make his way back to the railway yard for the warmth of an empty boxcar.

The woman invited Virgil to come with them to the Salvation Army. Virgil had never met someone so kind and sweet to him.

"Come with us," she said as she took his arm and lead him away from the dying bon fire.

"You look like you could use a hot shower, clean clothes a hot meal and a place to sleep."

Virgil wasn't sure what was happening but didn't object.

He met a man outside the men's area they walked toward the Salvation Army cafeteria. His mouth watered as he smelled fresh and hot food coming from the Cafeteria. Virgil couldn't wait until he got into the chow line.

His tray in hand, he followed two men who were talking about God and how he provides if you have faith. About that time, Virgil looked up to see his own personal "Angel." She was petite with dark auburn hair and the most beautiful smile. His knees nearly buckled as she ladled soup into his bowl.

Virgil stayed at the Salvation Army for quite a while. He learned more about God and faith. His favorite part in staying at the Salvation Army was being served by his "Angel" every night at dinner. Virgil would marry his "Angel" and be with her for the rest of her life.

The Salvation Army help Virgil get a job at the American Tag Company. Virgil, through hard work and perseverance would retire after 48 years, from American Tag as a manager despite only having an eighth-grade education.

Virgil and his "Angel," Virginia would go on to raise two children and have tremendous blessed lives, because of a caring Salvation Army couple who invited a young homeless man to have supper and shelter.

Oh, by the way, the gift, well that was for me. You see, Virgil and Virginia were my grandparents. If it had not been for the Salvation Army and the services they have provided since 1865 to the many needy people in our world, My mother would likely not be here, nor me or my children.

You see, charity can transcend many generations and thus becomes a gift into eternity along with the faith the Salvation Army spreads. Have a very joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Rob Levy is Alpine County undersheriff.

Pedestrian injured in accident Monday

Staff Reports

A woman received non-life-threatening injuries on Monday morning in an accident at Mica and Haystack drives.

The accident was reported at 6:39 a.m. and involved a red van.

The 35-year-old woman was transported to Renown Regional Medical Center for medical treatment by East Fork medics, according to the Douglas

County Sheriff's Office.

The woman's condition was not available at press time on Tuesday. Neither her identity, nor the identity of the driver have been released.

■ A 10-year-old girl was reported injured in a sledding incident near Woodfords at about 4:30 p.m. Monday.

The girl hit a rock and seriously injured her leg. She was transported for medical treatment.

R-C 12-25-2013



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

The Tahoe-Douglas Elks donate to Live Violence Free. Pictured are Janel Morales, Sherri Warrell, Heather Knox (LVF), Tom Zogorski (Elks) and Becky Thornberg.

Elks donate to worthy causes

Staff Reports

The Tahoe-Douglas Elks Lodge 2670 has been busy helping others in need this Christmas season by donating to Valley seniors and Alpine County residents.

On Dec. 21, the Elks prepared and delivered 10 Christmas baskets, each with more than a \$300 value, to seniors in Carson Valley. The names of seniors who could use some extra help were provided by the Douglas County Senior Center. Included in the gift baskets were food, personal hygiene items, lap quilts

hand made by the Carson Valley Quilt Guild, knitted house slippers made by Elk member Pat Hamilton and cash donated by Elk members.

The lodge also provided Christmas turkeys, dinners, sack lunches, emergency pantry food, clothes and toiletries for Alpine County residents through the Live Violence Free office in Woodfords, Calif.

The Elks provide food for LVF clients through a community impact grant provided by the Elks National Foundation, located in Chicago.

Isiah John, Trevor Lundy, Corinne Jones, Thomas Dick and Justin Dick are some of the young artists who helped paint a mural on the Hung-a-l-el-ti water tower.

Special to The R-C

2013

Sports

16 | Wednesday, December 25, 2013 | The Record-Courier

Douglas girls move to 8-0

by Dave Price
dprice@recordcourier.com

A layup off the opening tip on Friday night gave the undefeated Douglas High girls basketball team a lead it never relinquished en route to a 46-19 Sierra League victory against Galena.

Katie McCullough scored a game-high 12 points and dished out three straight assists to start the game as Douglas surged to an early 9-0 lead at Randy Green Court. Leonna Mortimer also scored 11 points for the Tigers, who coupled with a 48-40 win at South Tahoe on Saturday, improved their overall record to 8-0 (3-0 in league).

Once again, however, offense starts with defense for a team that has allowed an average 29.1 points through eight games. In this case, the Tigers never allowed more than 6 points in any single quarter.

"That's always our goal, to hold a team to single digits in a quarter," said senior forward Cassidy Freitas. "It's just a matter of moving your feet and beating them to the spot."

Freitas drew the primary assignment of defending Kaitlyn Hawthorne, who earned all-league and all-region honors last season. Hawthorne finished her night with 5 points.

"She's our stopper," Douglas coach Werner Christen said of Freitas. "We always assign her to the other team's top scorer."

This is, nonetheless, much more than a one-person effort.

"We're supposed to play as a unit," Freitas said. "It's not one person, it's pressure from one side and support from the other."

Douglas scored off the opening tip when McCullough fed McKenna Kynett for a layup. Kynett banked in a shot off the glass, again assisted by McCullough, and then McCullough assisted Corryne Millett on a layup to make it 6-0. Mortimer converted the second of two free throws and Jessie Jim put a 3 shot over two defenders from the paint to complete the 9-0 run.

The Tigers led 15-6 at the end of the first quarter and Jim's 3-pointer from the left corner early in the second period extended the margin to 20-6. The Tigers took a 30-9 lead to the locker

room at halftime.

There was no letup after the intermission, either. Kynett and Millett fed McCullough for back-to-back layups at the outset of the third period and McCullough snapped a pass through the Galena defense as Mortimer broke free underneath the basket for yet another layup to push the lead to 36-11.

"We had a lot of layups," Christen said, noting the Tigers had 12 assists as a team. "That's just the kids doing a good job of seeing

DOUGLAS 48, SOUTH TAHOE 40

Douglas 14-10-10-15 — 48

So. Tahoe 9-11-13-7 — 40

Douglas (8-0, 3-0) — Millett 4 2-5 11, Sonnemann 1 0-0 3, Freitas 1 0-1 2, Mortimer 2 3-9 7, McCullough 2 2-2 6, Jim 4 4-6 13, Kynett 1 2-6 4, Holley 0 2-2 2, TOTALS 15 15-31 48.
South Tahoe (2-3, 1-1) — Chapman 3 2-4 9, Leonard 0 0-2 0, Griffis 0 2-2 2, King 2 1-2 6, Neiger 2 1-3 5, Dion 5 1-3 11, Barcellos 3 1-2 7, TOTALS 15 8-18 40.

DOUGLAS 46, GALENA 19

Galena 6- 3- 6- 4 — 19

Douglas 15-15- 8- 8 — 46

Galena (2-4, 0-2): Hawthorne 2 1-2 5, Giampapa 1 0-0 2, Freitas 1 0-0 2, Brown 3 0-2 7, Hoffman 1 1-1 3, TOTALS 8 2-5 19.

Douglas: Sonnemann 3 0-0 6, Freitas 0 1-2 1, Mortimer 5 1-2 11, McCullough 6 0-4 12, Jim 2 0-0 5, Kynett 3 0-0 6, Holly 1 0-0 2, TOTALS 20 5-12 46.

DOUGLAS, 17

DOUGLAS

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From page 16

the court and moving without the ball.”

Nor was there any rest for the Grizzlies at the other end of the court. Even an apparent breakaway was cut off when McCullough hustled downcourt to disrupt the layup attempt. The result was a travel call.

“She never gave up on that play,” Christen said. “She created an angle and just did a great job of cutting off the weakside pass.”

McCullough wound up with 9 rebounds and 4 assists in the game. Millett and Mortimer had 7 rebounds each and Jim finished with 4 assists.

The winning performance was significant on a week when students were busy with final exams in the classroom, Christen pointed. There is, nevertheless, still plenty of room for improvement.

“This was finals week, which is always tough. You never know what you’re going to get,” Christen said. “We were a little sloppy at times with our passing and even with our defense. But the kids did a good job of flying around and putting together some good streaks.”

DOUGLAS 48, SOUTH TAHOE 40

Douglas broke out of a

back-and-forth game in the final five minutes Saturday to win at South Tahoe (2-3 overall, 1-1 Northern I-A league).

The score was deadlocked at 33-all after three quarters and South Tahoe led by one point with five minutes to go before the Tigers took control.

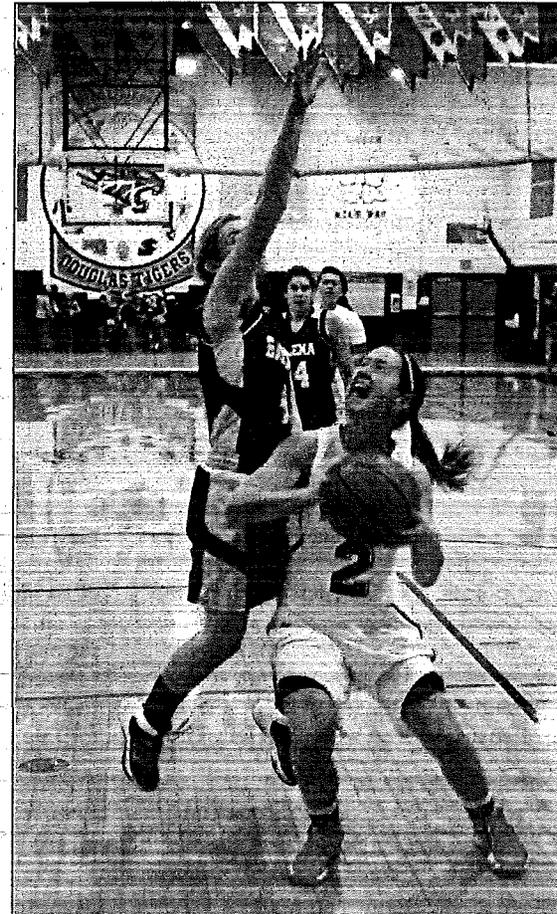
“We did some good things late defensively,” Christen said. “I think they scored one bucket in the last five minutes, so we got some stops and we did a good job rebounding.”

Jim led all scorers for Douglas with 13 points, including a key 3-pointer in the fourth quarter. Millett also scored 11 for the Tigers.

Jordyn Dion scored 11 points to lead the Vikings, who were coming off a 31-30 overtime win against Lowry at home the night before.

“Give them credit,” Christen said of the Vikings. “Mike (Neiger, South Tahoe coach) had them ready to play. If they continue to play like that, they’re going to win some games.”

Douglas opens on Friday with two games against Southern California opponents at Centennial’s Las Vegas Holiday Classic. The Tigers play at 10:20 a.m. against El Segundo, Calif. (5-3) and then at 6:20 p.m. against Culver City (6-2). On Saturday, the Tigers are scheduled to play Centennial.



SHANNON LITZ

Douglas senior Kelly Sonnemann shoots the ball over Galena’s Kaitlyn Hawthorne on Friday.

Year in Review

775-782-5121, ext 215 | editor@recordcourier.com

2 | Friday, December 27, 2013 | The Record-Courier

Looking back at the headlines of 2013

TOP 10 HEADLINES ONLINE

1. Cold Springs homicide victim identified as Lacey Shupe
2. Elderly man faces murder charge
3. Dawn Finn, 52, killed in crash with daughter on Lake Tahoe
4. Family seeks help finding missing daughter
5. Fake officer pulls over, attacks woman
6. Woman recants fake police officer attack story
7. Woman reports suspicious man at Ranchos Aspen Park
8. Smith Valley woman punishes 7-year-old with box cutter
9. Highway 395 reopened after fatal accident
10. Sunday update: Bison fire up to 9,300 acres

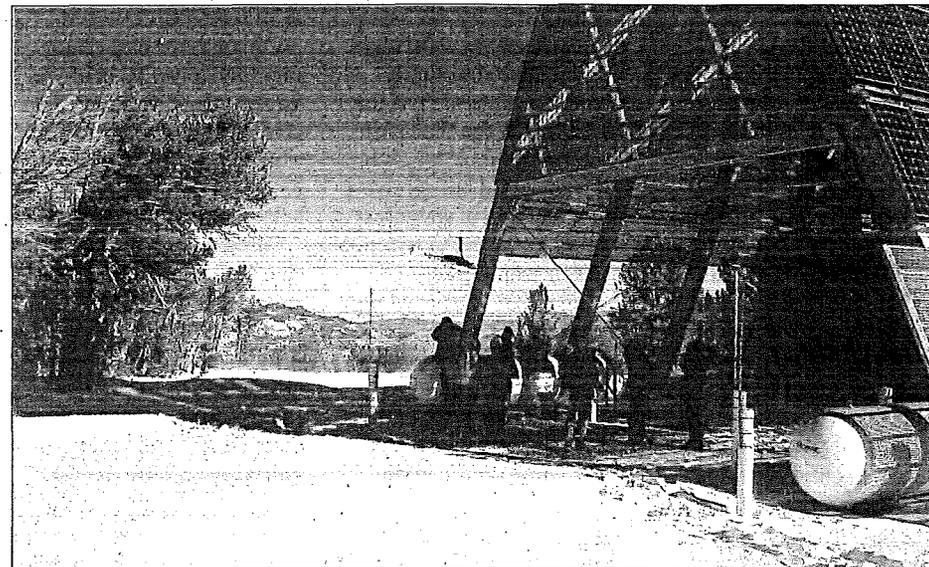
Hawkins Peak project improves Alpine reception

by Karen Dustman
R-C Alpine Bureau

You can't say Mother Nature made anything easy on the Hawkins Peak project. Start with an elevation higher than 10,000 feet. Factor in 140 mph winds, snows up to 20 feet deep, and temperatures regularly dipping into minus territory. Add zero vehicle access for eight months of the year, and a location so remote that materials and workmen had to be hauled in by helicopter.

So here's what's fantastic about the Hawkins site: a 360-degree view that's a telecommunications dream come true. And all that bedrock — perfect for rock anchors for the tower.

Hawkins Peak has been home to a forest service radio communications facility since the 1960s. But with the old site deteriorating, the Alpine County Sheriff's Office needed a better solution so they could occupy the site as well.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

A helicopter was used to get visitors to the Hawkins Peak Interoperations Communications Facility in Alpine County. The tower allows Alpine County Sheriff's deputies to communicate in remote areas of the rugged Sierra Nevada.

"Here in our mountains, large sections of Alpine County had absolutely no radio communications," notes Alpine County Undersheriff Rob Levy. "That meant we had officers in the field who couldn't radio in during an emergency in

remote areas of the county." But today, after nearly six years of planning and four years after construction was launched, the brand new communications facility is up and running. Its official name is nearly as long as the mountain is high: the

"Hawkins Peak Interoperable Communications Facility." And as a handful of visitors to the site this week can testify, the site is indeed a marvel.

Inside the generation facility, power from 240 solar panels is ferried to an army

of 460 deep-cycle batteries, with a 25 kilowatt generator as backup. A transformer steps the power up to 550 volts before sending it some 1,800 feet to the tip-top of the mountain to run the communications tower.

An inverter at the tower then steps the power back down to 48 volts, and charges another set of batteries which power the communications equipment.

Given the extreme altitude and "mission impossible" construction conditions, the ultimate price tag for the high-tech facility came to just over \$5.5 million; electronics alone cost \$1.6 million. Just one example of the obstacles overcome: all 16 yards of cement for the communications tower had to be ferried to the site by helicopter, half-a-yard at a time.

Now online, the Hawkins Peak communications system is finally beginning to strut its stuff.

Already the facility

provides much-needed emergency radio service for the Alpine County Sheriff's Office throughout the mountainous region. And there's been interest from other state and local agencies as well. The Hawkins Peak site could soon provide communications service to such agencies as the California Highway Patrol, California Department of Transportation, the U.S. Forest Service and a cellular phone carrier.

"Once the microwave system is installed, Hawkins Peak will be a link for connecting much of Northern California and across Nevada via Douglas County's microwave system," Levy said. "This gives us the ability to communicate not only locally, but with other agencies throughout the region during an emergency. And the installation's robust design gives it the flexibility to continue to operate unattended for long periods under extremely harsh conditions."

12-27-2013 R-C
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering pillar of community Luke Neddenriep

Editor:

We just lost another pillar of our community. His name was Luke Neddenriep. All we see is the birth year, a dash and the year he passed away. There is much to say about that dash.

As a boy I can remember his mom and dad running the Carson Valley Mercantile. Their torch was passed on to Luke and Jerry, their sons.

I have so many fond memories of their store.

We had a flood just before Christmas in 1953 and all the bridges in town were out except Genoa Lane Bridge.

I remember my mom and dad had to get to town before Christmas in our 1952 green Chevrolet pickup. I did not know until later the reason was to pick up my new bicycle from the Merc.

Not only did the Merc have groceries, they had everything from underwear to farm machinery.

While my parents shopped, I would go upstairs and look at all the neat stuff. From harnesses to stoves, to bolts, screws, nails and everything you could imagine. What a service they provided to Carson Valley. They even had a pump service.

A friend of mine, Alton Anker, reminded me of Luke whistling all the time while he worked.

He was always happy, and his laughter was contagious. I can still hear it as I write this.

My grandparents retired to town, and lived very close to the store.

Years later, when my parents were very old, Luke told my dad that my grandparents would come into the store two or three times a day because they'd forgotten something.

Sometimes they even forgot to pay.

For years we charged our groceries and supplies.

We only paid in fall. I'm sure interest never crossed their minds. I wonder how much money was left on the books.

Luke and Martha were quite a team. After their retirement, they loved to help

Jim Hussman (another pillar) with his cattle in the mountains of Alpine County

I think he loved that the most.

He was very active in the town of Gardnerville, and in Trinity Lutheran Church. He lived two doors down the street from the church.

People like Luke made our Valley what it is today.

Honesty and hard work were his virtues. I think what was most important to him was serving people. I think his vacation and his pleasure were his work.

Luke was taken care of by his loving daughter Katie and her husband Pete until the end.

Goodbye, Luke. Your memories will live on forever in my mind.

You served all of us well, and now you need your rest. May God reward your faithfulness and kindness.

Chris Gansberg
Carson Valley

Tis the season for ice fishing

Hello fellow anglers!

Tis the season for ice fishing. Caples Lake and Red Lake have been iced over for the last few weeks. I personally like to have at least 8 inches of ice to fish. Well, we are in luck. I spoke with Dave from the Caples Lake Resort last week. Dave reported 8 to 10 inches of ice at the dam area.

There were a few anglers out enjoying a beautiful day of ice fishing. Doug Conboy and his son, Slade, from Modesto, Calif., were fishing with grandpa John that was on a visit from Alaska. This three-generation fishing party caught a nice 10-pound mackinaw. They were using night crawlers right off the bottom.

Other anglers were catching some nice rainbows using small spoons and Kastmaster lures.

Ice fishing is a great winter sport for all to enjoy. No special equipment is needed, except for an auger to drill your hole. If you do not have an auger, most anglers I have met over the years either drill one or are willing to loan you their auger.

When I first started ice fishing I had a 5-gallon bucket to carry my gear, and it also makes a great stool to sit on.

Here is a list for the first time ice angler: Fishing pole, pinch weights, pack of hooks some worms. For those who like to use jigs, bring some small gold Kastmaster lures.

As you progress and talk to other ice anglers you will be amazed at how much stuff you will bring with you. My friends and I now have two small sleds we bring for the chairs, pole holders, snow shovel, a scoop to keep your hole clear and even a couple carpet samples we got from Lowe's to keep your feet warm and dry. No, we do not have an ice fishing shanty yet, although some anglers have brought them.

Red Lake is another good ice fishing destination. As of last week the lake had 10 inches of ice on it. Here you can catch rainbow, brook, brown and cutthroat trout using the same gear as Caples Lake. The most important thing to bring of all is polarized sunglasses and sunscreen SPF 50. The sun reflecting off of the lake is extremely strong and can cause



Doug Busey
Mac-the-Naw

12/27/13
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snow blindness (sunburned eyes) and give you a sunburn faster than any summer day.

Hope to see you on the frozen tundra this season.

For those that will be going to Topaz Lake for the 2014 opener on Wednesday, Jan. 1, here are a few things to know. The water level was up on the Nevada Park launch about 15 to 20 feet. I spoke with Chuck Fields at the Topaz Landing Marina. Chuck told me that the water was too low for him to open the launch and to put in the rental boats as of last week. This may change though as we get closer to opening day. The water level has been going up each day. For more information call 266-3550.

For the really good news, as many have read in past articles, the Nevada Department of Wildlife has planted more than 15,000 pounds of trout over the last couple of months. And last week, Topaz Lodge planted the tagged fish for this year. Each tagged fish is worth \$100 cash when you bring it to the General Store. This year, you may be surprised at the size of the tagged fish out there. They may be 10 ounces or they may be 10 pounds. Yes, Topaz Lodge has planted up to 10-pound fish this year. For more information on the Topaz Lake fishing derby call 775-266-3338. Where else can you get paid to fish?

Hope to see you on the waters or ice soon. Remember that as of Jan. 1 2014, California anglers need to renew their fishing license. A Nevada fishing license is valid until Feb. 28, 2014. As a note, either license is valid on Topaz Lake.

If you have a question in our local fishing area call the Naw line at 775-267-9722. Have a safe and a Happy New Year. Good Fishin' and tight lines.



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Slade Conboy, his dad, Doug, and grandpa John were successful in their ice fishing at Caples Lake.

R-C
12-29-13

MACKINAW CATCH AT CAPLES LAKE



SPECIAL TO THE R-C

Slade Conboy and his dad, Doug, from Modesto, Calif., caught this 10-pound mackinaw last week while ice fishing at Caples Lake. Joined by their grandpa, John, who lives in Alaska, they used night crawlers right off the bottom, according to Doug Busey, who writes the "Mac-the-Naw" fishing column for The Record-Courier.