

DATE	NEWSPAPER	HEADLINE	CATEGORY	PEOPLE
1/1/2000	Mountain News	Over the river and through the woods	Hope Valley/Business	
1/1/2000	Mountain News	Boy have we been spoiled	Sports/Opinion	
1/26/2000	Record Courier	Even in winter, Grover Hot Springs is the place to go	Hot Springs/History	Don Moradian
2/1/2000	California Educator	Reading is the cat's pajamas	Schools/Event	Kelly Welykholowa
2/14/2000	Tahoe Tribune	Hung-a-Lel-ti: Washoe at Woodfords	Washoe	Willard Bennett, Philip Bennett
2/16/2000	Tahoe Tribune	Coming, going at Hung-a-lel-ti	Washoe/Schools	Manda Vann, Kate Macartney
2/16/2000	Record Courier	Music will be on tap at Villa Gigli	Business/Arts	
2/17/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Crime harder to pull off in tight-knit community	Washoe	Willard Bennett, Skip Veatch, Dawna Jaye Koos, Robert Jim, Daniel Cloud
2/18/2000	Tahoe Tribune	Educational programs bring hopeful future for Washoe	Washoe/Schools	Ben Blackowl, Thurman Roberts, Manda Vann, Bernie Combs, Tori Christensen, Kelly Welykholowa, Katherine Walker, Kate McCartney
2/18/2000	Tahoe Tribune	Women struggle along	Washoe	Betty Cruz, Manda Vann, Dinah Pete, Kate Macartney
2/26/2000	Record Courier	Leviatha Mine retention ponds in danger of overflowing, spilling toxic chemicals	Pollution/Mining	
3/1/2000	Record Courier	Ellen Gansberg	Obituary	Ellen Gansberg, Chris Gaansberg, Sr, Gansberg, Jr., Gaye Tyndall, Joan Chacon, Joye Reeder, Fred Gansberg
3/4/2000	Record Courier	Blue Palm brings its wacky sense of humor to Alpine County	Arts	

3/11/2000	Record Courier	Students get all dressed up for annual Block DV awards	Schools/Awards	Hunter Riddle, Kristin Lovell, Ashley Smith, Jennifer Stice, Georgie Dressler, Leah Plaughter, Kevin Rogers, Andrea Holdridge, Tyree Holdridge, Rosalinda Gabriel, Leah Orndoff, Danean McDermot, Jermaine Jim, Jessica Bennett, Emerette Frank, Ben Wood, Kaela Horse
3/11/2000	Record Courier	Markleeville's Villa Gigli profiled in Gourmet magazine	Business	Ruggero Gigli, Gina Gigli
3/25/2000	Record Courier	Pros and cons of listing Leviathan Mine as Superfund site	Pollution/Mining	David Griffith
4/1/2000	Record Courier	90 help clean, plant trees in Markleeville	Environment	Barbara Howard
4/12/2000	Record Courier	Diamond Valley School students of the month told	Schools/Awards	Georgie Dressler, Lorina Dressler, Krystal Erwin, Robert Williams, Jeremy Scherer, Jake Lovell, Ashley Smith, Shoshana Williams, Jessica Bennett, Anna-Marie Coletti, Cheryl Embry, Sharon Osgood, Lee Ann Burkwall, Kelley Welykholowa, Jackie Blaha
4/12/2000	Record Courier	Concerns raised over adding Alpine to district	Water	
4/12/2000	Record Courier	Arthur Turner	Obituary	Arthur Turner, Eita Turner
4/12/2000	Record Courier	Snowshoe Thompson ski tour to raise funds	Hope Valley/Event	
4/19/2000	Record Courier	Washoe Tribe Head Start seeks students for next year	Washoe/Schools	

4/22/2000	Los Angeles Times	Poisoned River Threatens Tribal Heritage	Washoe/Pollution /Mining	
4/22/2000	Record Courier	DVS students of the month announced	Schools/Awards	Jocelyn Myers, Shanice Lundy, Corrie McGregor, Angel Rojas, Brandon Winschell, Kasey Rogers, Macy Matlock, Cassie Hume, Stephanie Jensen, Cheryl Embry, Anna Marie Coletti, Sharon Osgood, Jackie Blaha, Lee Ann Burkwall, Kelley Welykholowa
4/28/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Carson River Resort	Business/Fishing	Brad Davis
4/28/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Workshop on smaller businesses at Sorensen's	Business/Event	
5/1/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Gag order called for in Markleeville internet case	Courts	Gregory Mason, Harold Bradford, Bob Rudden, DeAnne Jang
5/6/2000	Record Courier	DHS senior gets scholarship to youth summit in St. Louis	Schools/Awards	Thurman Roberts, Kate Macartney, David Roberts, Dolores Roberts
5/13/2000	Record Courier	Superfund listing milestone for Washoe Tribe members	Washoe/Pollution /Mining	
5/13/2000	Record Courier	Leviathan mine gets feds' listing	Pollution/Mining	
5/17/2000	Record Courier	Paint, carpet, Windows add to Alpine Museum	Museum	Dick Edwards, Ellen Martin, Steve Martin, Jeff Martin
5/17/2000	VIA Magazine	This land is whose land?	Opinion	Nancy Thornburg

				Skip Veatch, Edie Veatch, Dave Zellmer, Pat Smith, Kate Harvey, Diane Holt, Kathy Ayler, Blanca Kralik, Angie O'Neal, Patty Asay, Jeanne Turnbeaugh, Gail Day, Karen Callison-Keebaugh, Jo Daugherty, Karen Hamann, Marge Celio, Connie Kizer, Teresa Horse, Tara Skenandore, Karen Robinson, Lynda Kirby, Lisa Walsh, Galit Williams
5/17/2000	Record Courier	Alpine Children's Center to hold 20th anniversary party	Kids/Event	
6/7/2000	Mountain Democrat	EID audit eyes GM	Water	
6/7/2000	Sacramento Bee	Washoe Indians take lead mine-cleanup	Pollution/Mining	
7/1/2000	Modesto Bee	Rare owl's habitat spans crowded area north of SF Bay	Wildlife	
7/7/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Great endurance test offered at 'Death Ride'	Bicycle	
7/16/2000	Record Courier	Little Miss Washoe	Washoe/Competition	Emerette Frank
7/25/2000	WSJ	Movement Politics	Water/Environment	
8/4/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Soles for souls	Hope Valley	
8/16/2000	San Francisco Chronicle	Our Friend, Mr. Fire	Fire	
8/18/2000	Letter	Disappointed	Fire	
9/15/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Alpine County judge lifts gag on Web site	Courts	

9/27/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Shake, rattle and roll - Quake hits Alpine County	Earthquake	Elaine Klavon
9/27/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Autumn festival in Alpine County offers variety of events, workshops	Community/Events	
9/29/2000	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Celebrate fall in style	Community/Events	
11/3/2000	Calaveras Enterprise	County's water district flushes general counsel	Water	Alan Turner
11/8/2000	Record Courier	Markleeville man dies in Highway 88 accident	Accident	Clinton Bryan
11/30/2000	Alpine Enterprise	Mary Wood leaves county employment	Library	Mary Wood, Bill Colescott, Margaret Colescott, Diane Brigham
12/1/2000	Record Courier	Markleeville youth finds ballet challenging, the girls cute	Arts	Andrew Zaninovich, Karen Zaninovich
12/14/2000	Reno Gazette Journal	Roadless plan ruinous for Alpine	Roads	
12/29/2000	Calaveras Enterprise	Bear Valley woman remembered	Obituary/Biography/Bear Valley	Cecilia Oddo
1/1/2001	California Department of Transportation Journal	Scenic Route 88 An Eagle's View	Roads/Travelogue	
1/1/2001	National Motorist	The Malarkey of Markleeville	Museum/Travelogue/History	
1/3/2001	Record Courier	Keeping warm	Washoe/History	John Anthony, Wama Anthony
1/12/2001	Wall Street Journal	Losing the forest for the trees	Roads/Environment	
1/20/2001	Record Courier	Tribe opens Chevron station in north county	Washoe/Business	Ann Wade
1/27/2001	Record Courier	Alpine community is invited to hear now plan	Social Services/Kids	

1/27/2001	Record Courier	Alpine Family Support Council reaches out	Social Services/Kids	Do Daugherty, Kathy Kerr, Cheri Warrell
2/7/2001	Record Courier	Alpine school teacher is honored for innovative lessons	Schools	Kelly Welykholowa, Linda Becker, Dan Makely
2/17/2001	Record Courier	Enough!	Opinion/Business	Nancy Thornburg
3/1/2001	Trailer Life	Markleeville, California	Travelogue	Nancy Thornburg, DeAnne Jang, Warren Jang, Dean McKinley, Mario Generalli,
3/14/2001	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Failing sewage system to fail supervisor's agenda	Sewage	Robert Dykes, Herman Zellmer, Judy Jensen, Jim Goodlow
3/14/2001	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Alpine County gets temporary reprieve	Pollution	
5/16/2001	Record Courier	Hope Valley workday takes place May 26	Hope Valley/Event	
5/26/2001	Record Courier	Celebrating simple, finer things	Business/Arts	Ruggero Gigli, Gina Gigli
6/6/2001	Record Courier	Angelis takes audience on 'violin voyage' in Saturday's performance	Arts	
6/9/2001	Record Courier	Wagons Ho!	Schools/Event	Cheryl Embry, Tyree Holdridge, Scotty Auble, Ransey Horse, Galen Knapp, Dillon McLaughlin
6/9/2001	Record Courier	Celebrate Hope Valley with bluegrass, barbecue	Hope Valley/Event	
6/20/2001	Record Courier	Snowshoe Thompson festivities fill the weekend	History/Event	Snowshoe Thompson
6/27/2001	Record Courier	Discover the beauty of Hope Valley	Hope Valley/Travelogue	Judy Warren
6/27/2001	Record Courier	Alpine County gets voice in Carson River group	Water	

6/27/2001	Record Courier	Remember When? 25 Years Ago - Magazine features valley rancher	History/Agriculture	August Frederick Dressler
6/27/2001	Record Courier	A look back at Autumn Hills	Fire	
7/4/2001	Record Courier	Remember When? 50 Years Ago - Diamond drilling operations started at Leviathan Mine by Anaconda Copper	Mining	Arthur McDermont, Archie Woods, Jr.
7/11/2001	Record Courier	Comstock Cowboys bring special brand of music to Alpine benefit	Arts	
7/1/2001	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Death Riders hit the road	Bicycle	
7/16/2001	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Death Riders rise to the occasion	Bicycle	Bob Anderson
7/28/2001	Record Courier	Chase runs through the Ranchos	Crime	
8/1/2001	Record Courier	New Zealanders tackle Diamond Valley race	Bicycle	Tony Reid
8/1/2001	Record Courier	Carson Valley Classc draws top bike racers	Bicycle	
8/1/2001	Record Courier	Hearing planned Aug. 7 on Blue Lakes Road upgrades	Roads	
8/15/2001	Record Courier	Keeping leaders on board difficult for Alpine County	Government	Katherine Rakow, Dennis Crabb, Judy Molnar, Eric Jung
8/22/2001	Record Courier	Diamond Valley students earn \$5,000 grant	Schools/Award	Katy Hadley
8/25/2001	Reno Gazette Journal	Alpine faces shortage of supervisors	Government	Chris Gansberg, Judy Molnar, Tom Ward, Katherine Rakow, Don Jardine, Herman Zellmer, Dennis Crabb
8/29/2001	Sacramento Bee	Markleeville's lures include hot springs	Travelogue/Hot springs/Business	Dick Edwards, Tom Abdo, Teresa Burkhauser, Nancy Thornburg
9/4/2001	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Alpine County budget gets boost	Government	Skip Veatch, Robert Levy
9/15/2001	Record Courier	Markleeville celebrates fall with party	Community/Events	Judy Molnar

9/29/2001	Record Courier	All's Faire in Markleeville	Community/Events	Dierdre Wallace
11/16/2001	Los Angeles Times	Oil firm buys 480 acres for Tribe in settlement	Washoe/Mining/Courts	
11/17/2001	Record Courier	Washoe Tribe gets 480 acres in Leviathan Mine settlement	Washoe/Mining/Courts	
12/3/2001	Sacramento Bee	Alpine Supervisor Problem	Government/Opinion	Nancy Thornburg, Judy Molnar
12/20/2001	Reno Gazette Journal	EPA: Years more needed to clean up Leviathan Mine	Pollution/Mining	
1/12/2002	Record Courier	Alpine County (finally) gets new supervisor	Government	Mark Silverstone, Judy Molnar
1/16/2002	Record Courier	Bill in the works to protect Carson River	Rivers/Environment	Judy Molnar
2/6/2002	Record Courier	Elders host potluck, remember weddings	Seniors	Ruth Ann Edwards, Kathy Kerr, Eileen Merrill, Linda Merrill, Irving Krauss, Wilma Rule, Joyce DeVore, David DeVore
2/16/2002	Record Courier	Alpine Historical Society meets Feb. 21	History/Event	Leonard Turnbeaugh
2/16/2002	Record Courier	DeVore receives honors	Schools/Award	Katherine DeVore, Joyce DeVore, Judge David DeVore
2/27/2002	Record Courier	Hope (Valley) springs eternal	Hope Valley/Recreation	
3/2/2002	Record Courier	Attorneys vie for Alpine County judge seat	Elections	David DeVore, Harold Bradford
3/2/2002	Record Courier	Alpine dinner theater stage auditions Wednesday for late March production	Arts	
3/23/2002	Record Courier	Muench is featured Mountain Art-sit	Arts/Event	Charles Muench
3/27/2002	Record Courier	A Peek at the Past	Washoe/History	Captain Jim
3/27/2002	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Cave Rock was sacred to Washo	Washoe/History	
4/3/2002	Record Courier	Markleeville comes to life with cycles, art, music	Community/Events	

4/6/2002	Record Courier	Woodfords students win big at collaborative event at CSU, Chico	Schools/Awards	John Vann, C.J. Keith, Nicole Bennett, Matthew Rey, William Cuellar, Kaela Horse, Krystal Balckowl, DeWayne Rey, Rosie Gabriel, Danean McDerment, Lawanda Fred
4/13/2002	Record Courier	Indian Creek opens for camping season	Recreation	
4/13/2002	Record Courier	Mountain Music features Hanepen	Arts/Business	
4/16/2002	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Alpine County may split from Barton	Health	Kathy Kerr, Dr. Rick Botto, Dr. Garrett Schwartz, Debbie Cheevers
4/17/2002	Record Courier	Elder Law	Community/Events	Tim Pemberton, Dave DeVore
4/20/2002	Record Courier	New treatment method could help Leviathan Mine	Pollution/Mining	
4/20/2002	Record Courier	Schoen's sculptures at Villa Gigli	Arts/Business	
4/27/2002	Record Courier	Crudele performs at Villa Gigli on Sunday	Arts/Business	
6/1/2002	Record Courier	Cave Rock climbing could be banned	Washoe/History	
6/15/2002	Record Courier	Kirkwood kicks it up a notch with renovations, changes	Kirkwood	Tim Cohee
6/19/2002	Record Courier	Day-long event brings music, art and more to Alpine	Arts/Event	
6/19/2002	Tahoe Mountain Visitor	Markleeville, pop. 160, is Alpine County's "big city"	History/Travelogue	
6/29/2002	Record Courier	Today is a day to make a difference in Markleeville	Arts/Event	Karel Delbecq
7/24/2002	Record Courier	Alpine County hosts Bear Valley arts festival	Bear Valley/Arts	
8/3/2002	Record Courier	Markleeville man wants to go faster	Sports	Fritz Klinger

8/7/2002	Record Courier	Alpine gathers to create a vision for its children	Social Services/Kids	Sheila O'Neal, Earl O'Neal, Kate Sterchak, Adelina Osorio, Kathy Kerr, Lynette Bennett
9/2/2002	Alpine Enterprise	The Alpine Hotel...Somewhere Between a Wake and a Wedding	Business	Al Pettit, Tom Abdoo, Ruggero Gigli, Mario Generelli, Marilyn Generelli
9/13/2002	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Face-liftMarkleeville landmark	Business	Tom Abdoo, Mario Generelli, Marilyn Generelli, Dick Edwards
9/13/2002	Tahoe Daily Tribune	New director for chamber	Business	Teresa Burkhauser
9/14/2002	Record Courier	Gardnerville woman will lead Alpine County's Chamber	Business	Teresa Burkhauser, Bob Anderson
10/1/2002	Sierra Heritage	3-Day Jaunt	Travelogue/History	Dick Edwards, Ruggero Gigli, Gina Gigli, Snowshoe Thompson, John Studebaker, Kit Carson, John Muir
10/2/2002	Record Courier	Up the creek	Rivers/Event	
10/2/2002	Record Courier	New ownership brings changes for Markleeville landmark	Business	Tom Abdoo, Mario Generelli, Marilyn Generelli, Dick Edwards
10/17/2002	Alpine Enterprise	Cutthroat up and running at long last	Business	Al Pettit, Tom Abdoo
10/19/2002	Record Courier	First 5 Alpine brings Tooth Mobile to Diamond Valley	Schools/Health	Judy Martin, Bernie Combs

				Dennis John, Albert Wade, Madelaine John, Frankie John, Clayton John, Michael Wade, Darrell John, Aldon John, Camill John, Pauline John, Karen Mortimer, Carolyn McLaughlin, Vera Johnson, Carmella John, Michelle John, Cheryl John
11/16/2002	Record Courier	Dennis Albert John	Obituary	
11/27/2002	Record Courier	Off-reservation voting policy stays	Washoe/Elections	
12/7/2002	Record Courier	Sacramento woman's body discovered in Alpine	Crime	
12/14/2002	Nevada Appeal	Pesky, potentially pilfering pests pay U.S. a visit	Environment/Health	Nancy Thornburg
1/1/2003	Regional Council of Rural Counties	Sunset on Monitor Pass	Photograph	Nancy Thornburg
1/3/2003	Calaveras Enterprise	CCWD attorney named assistant manager and full-time counsel	Government	Alan Turner, Gail Steinman
1/31/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Baroque band plays Alpine County Library	Library/Arts	
1/25/2003	Record Courier	Coleman baskets display opens Feb. 4	Washoe/Arts	
2/26/2003	Record Courier	Staff reeling from tragic losses welcomes director	Social Services	Cindy Hanna, Katherine Kerr, Janice Levesque
3/19/2003	Record Courier	English author conducts personal biography workshop in Markleeville	Arts	Diana Mitzner
4/2/2003	Record Courier	Building dedicated to former director, Kerr	Social Services	Katherine Kerr, Judy Molnar, Herman Zellmer, Cindy Hanna, Don Jardine, Cami Chavez
4/2/2003	Record Courier	Season festivities begin at Villa Gigli	Business/Event	Ruggero Gigli

4/9/2003	Record Courier	People duped about economic interests of war	Opinion/War	Marie Johnson
4/12/2003	Record Courier	Jack Doyal	Obituary	Jack Doyal, Elyse Doyal, Lynn Doyal, Daniel Doyal, Dennis Doyal
4/12/2003	Record Courier	Washoe land subject of Pine Nut agenda	Washoe/Land use	
4/12/2003	Record Courier	MESA Day a success for local students	Kids/Awards	Krystal Blackowl, Jermaine Jim, Yvette Bryan, Michael Rojas, Janean Skenandore, Samuel Simmons, Benjamin Gonzales, Brandon Brown, John Vann, Lawanda Fred
4/30/2003	Record Courier	Avalanche kills man in Alpine	Accident	
5/20/2003	Record Courier	Robert Jackson	Obituary	Robert Jackson, Charles Jackson, Mary Ann Ellis Jackson, John Robert Ellis, Margaret Jones Ellis, Rosella Jackson, Codi Currence, John Jackson, Jeanne Turnbeaugh, Judy Currence, Gwen McGinley
5/28/2003	Record Courier	Birthday celebrated in Fredricksburg	Birth/Event	Vernita Sprinmeyer Smith, Hubert Bruns, Merle Bruns, Shirley Bruns, Linda Bruns, Bruce Bruns, Fritz Thornburg, Nancy Thornburg, Jenny Thornburg, Lloyd Springmeyer
5/28/2003	Record Courier	Sunny weather triggers snow melt and the season's highest flow rate	Rivers	
5/31/2003	Record Courier	Missing couple found	Search and Rescue	
5/31/2003	Record Courier	Alpine artists' show	Business/Arts	

6/7/2003	Record Courier	Merle Sheppard Bruns	Obituary	Merle Bruns, Hubert Bruns, Bruce Bruns, Shirley Bruns, Linda Bruns
6/21/2003	Record Courier	Leviatha health-Rick reassessed	Pollution/Mining	
7/9/2003	Record Courier	Road closures keep vehicles off roads for July Death Ride	Roads/Bicycles	
7/10/2003	Sacramento Bee	All too real	Bicycle	Bob Rudden
7/24/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Washoe become one with lake	Washoe/Land Use	
7/24/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Rollin' on the river	Rivers/History	
7/27/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Washoe Tribe, Rim Trail volunteers, Russians	Washoe/History	
8/1/2003	Carson Valley Almanac	Marvin Dressler	Washoe/Photogra ph	Marvin Dressler
8/1/2003	Carson Valley Almanac	There's art in them there hills	Arts	Charles Muench, Gina Gigli, Da'Chel Doyal, Mark Vaughn, Carolyn Vaughn, Wanda Coyan, Eileen Merrill, Sandy Baenan, Susan Riherd-Flakus, Sharon Lackey, Ellen Martin, Deirdre Wallace, Peter Chope, Jeff Bree's, Melissa Gregory,
8/1/2003	Carson Valley Almanac	The Death Ride	Bicycle	
8/13/2003	San Francisco Chronicle	Alpine voter: Folks in laid-back Markleeville are skipping over the recall hoopla downhill and far away	Election	Barbara Jones, Ed Moss
8/26/2003	Sacramento Bee	Keeping quiet in Alpine County	Election	Barbara Jones, Dave Peets
8/26/2003	?	Alpine County	Voting	

9/1/2003	San Francisco Chronicle	Mulling the recall in civic-minded Markleeville	Election	Barbara Jones, Ed Moss, Al Pettit
9/1/2003	Record Courier	Auntie M coffee moves to Markleeville	Business	Marsha Bennett, Ed Moss
9/17/2003	Record Courier	Woodfords hosts Faire, chili challenge	Community/Events	Skip Veatch
9/22/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Bus goes to Alpine County	Transportation	
9/22/2003	Los Angeles Times	Remote residents find they are off the radar screen	Elections	Nancy Thornburg, Fritz Thornburg, Dave Kirby, Ed Moss, Herman Zellmer, Al Pettit, Barbara Jones
9/29/2003	San Jose Mercury News	Remote view of recall	Elections	Todd Sodaro, Barbara Jones, Fornee Gustwick
10/1/2003	Record Courier	Famiy, friends celebrate Bruns' 90th birthday	Birth/Event	Hubert Bruns, Merle Bruns, Shirley Bruns, Linda Bruns, Bruce Bruns, Vernita Springmeyer
10/15/2003	Record Courier	Tour: Alpine artists open up to public	Arts/Event	Charles Muench, Gina Gigli, Da'Chel Doyal, Mark Vaughn, Carolyn Vaughn, Wanda Coyan, Eileen Merrill, Sandy Baenan, Susan Riherd-Flakus, Sharon Lackey, Ellen Martin, Deirdre Wallace, Lee Ann Burkwall, Kaye Jobst
10/15/2003	Record Courier	Shameus plays in Markleeville	Arts/Event	

				Charles Muench, Gina Gigli, Da'Chel Doyal, Mark Vaughn, Carolyn Vaughn, Wanda Coyan, Eileen Merrill, Sandy Baenan, Susan Riherd-Flakus, Sharon Lackey, Ellen Martin, Deirdre Wallace, Peter Chope, LeeAnn Burkwall, Kaye Jobst
10/15/2003	Record Courier	Alpine artists prepare for open studio tour	Arts/Event	
10/15/2003	Record Courier	Alpine proposes smoking ordinance	Laws	Rebecca Wheeler
10/15/2003	Record Courier	California's Wild and Scenic designation on Carson River being battled	Rivers	
11/9/2003	Tahoe Daily Tribune	Renowned Washoe weaver teaches other specialty; carries on a tradition	Washoe/Arts	
11/13/2003	Sacramento Bee	Folks in high country take pride in highest voter turnout	Voting	Skip Veatch, Lou Roper, Barbara Jones, Dave Zellmer, Dave Brees, Linda Merrill
11/22/2003	Record Courier	Hantavirus hits Alpine	Health	
11/22/2003	Record Courier	Alpine County food, toy drive is under way	Social Services	Cheri Warrell
11/22/2003	Record Courier	Soroptimists honors students, present award	Schools/Awards	Ray Gabriel, Lori Pasquale
12/1/2003	VIA	Sierra	Travelogue	John Brissenden, Patty Brissenden, Joyce Coker, Ruggero Gigli, Gina Gigli,
12/1/2003	Record Courier	Hot Springs still an attraction after 150 years	Hot Springs/History	John Hawkins, Daniel Hawkins, Alvin Grover

Mountain News

January 2000



*Over the river and  
through the woods...*



... to Sorensen's Resort you'll go for your fishing, skiing, hiking, biking or just plain relaxing vacation. Our cozy log cabins (just like Grandma's) are nestled in dense aspen groves. Sorensen's Country Cafe is open daily from 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. serving hearty stews and soups, seafood pastas, barbecued steak and chicken, fresh fish and sumptuous desserts. Come and enjoy our hospitality. We'll pamper you! Just 16 beautiful, scenic miles away.

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14255 Highway 88, Hope Valley, California

January 2000

# Boy have we been spoiled!

Alternative \ol-'ter-net-iv. adj: that may be chosen in place of something else.

No, not alternative lifestyles, not alternative medicine, nor alternative music, but alternatives to complaining about snow conditions.

I've had two good friends say, "I haven't done anything in three weeks!" Yikes, for someone who normally rides bikes or rides snow a lot to suddenly do nothing, that seems worse than just going out and playing on the mountain in conditions that are less than perfect. Boy have we been spoiled!

Another friend calls it attitude skiing: "If you have a bad attitude it's bad skiing, if you have a good attitude it's good skiing."

Does anybody remember the mid to late 70s? That's when I had my first season passes at Heavenly and Kirkwood. If you were skiing Heavenly then, you might recall skiing Ridge Run when the snow was about 25 feet wide, not deep, wide! There was no snowmaking and crews were out hand-shoveling snow onto the middle of the run to keep it passable. Sky Chair had a ramp covered with green plastic grass-like stuff that you had to sidestep up to load the chair.

Kirkwood was barely able to open their brand new chairs 5 and 6.

And what about snowmaking. Well, my personal vote is that it's great. The snowmaking crews at all the mountains have really gotten better at laying down some sweet snow. Way different from the days of blowing out a huge snow whale and then spreading it around. I don't know if any snowmakers read this, but a large Thanks! to you all.

So what about those alternatives. Now is when we should try something different. One of my co-workers says he and his buddies are going to do a "switch day." Everybody has to ride something different from

## The Spoke Junkie



By Gary Bell

their usual toy. What a crack-up. A bunch of cliff huckin' bump mashin' pipe flyin' hot shots rolling around on flat terrain, hoping they can make a turn!

Once people become proficient at one thing, they are afraid of the challenge of being a beginner again. I bet those guys won't be bored!

With low snow and cold temps comes all the ice games. Even though the city or anyone else can't get it together for an ice rink, there are numerous spots around for natural ice skating. There are so many lakes and ponds that freeze really well. Of course it is best to hook up with someone who knows what is in good enough shape to go out on. It would be a real drag to hear that cracking sound because by then it's too late!

The other ice alternative is of the vertical sort. Ice climbing is in great shape right now and if you climb rock in the summer you have to experience ice. Of course there are special gear needs but again, hook up with some friends that climb ice and there is usually a way to get some gear for a day. There is simply nothing you will ever try like climbing a vertical frozen waterfall.

The hiking alternative. Stand anywhere in the Basin and look north. What do you see? Brown! If you drive into the South Shore over Echo right now (January 5) there is really no snow visible, you would never know that ski areas really do have some snow. Unfortunately all anyone sees coming in that way are the south facing totally dry hills. Well that's the spot to head for

if you want some dry winter hiking. If you don't mind hiking in mixed conditions you can go anywhere because it's not really deep anywhere and the best part is there is nobody out hiking right now.

The one alternative that people are doing the most right now is mountain biking. We have done more bike business this January than I can remember ever doing in the past 20 years we've had the shop.

Some people are riding Power Lines and the Corral Loop is barely rideable but most people are going down to the Pine Nuts where the trails are in great shape. The Yuba River and the American River canyons outside Auburn are all in great shape right now, and one of my personal favorites, PiPi Valley out on 88.

Some of these are a bit more of a drive but none of them are ugly drives. More and more people have been making their own studded snow tires by putting short sheet metal screw through the knobbys from the inside. This extends the range of rideable terrain a bit more but still doesn't help much when it's deeper snow. Dress warm and go for an adventure!

Good old Mom Nature, she sure likes to keep us guessing, what exactly is winter supposed to be like, if my friends were as unreliable as she can be, I'd be looking for new friends. Instead we will just look for alternatives.

All this said, I look out the window and there are some of those white flakes floating around. What are those anyway?

See ya out there.

# EVEN IN WINTER, Grover Hot Springs is the place to go

by Nancy Hamlett  
Staff Writer



Very few places have the diverse day trip opportunities as the Carson Valley, and one of the most enjoyable days can be spent just minutes from our back door.

Grover Hot Springs, part of the California State Park system, is an easy 30-minute drive from downtown Gardnerville.

A first impression may be that it is too close to consider a day trip, yet even in the wintertime there is a wealth of activities to round out the day, both at the hot springs and the neighboring community of Markleeville.

Once the home to the Washoe people, the hot springs became popular to Europeans for the restorative powers of the minerals in the water. In the 1890s, a three-story hotel was built on the fringe of the springs, and travelers from all over the world soaked in the curative springs.

Unfortunately, the hotel burned down in 1905, but the springs kept attracting visitors. In 1956, the purchase of the springs was approved by the California Legislature, with the official purchase of the property in 1959.

Today, the hot springs continues to cater to visitors from all over the globe, with 100,722 visitors in fiscal year 1995-96. But the best-kept secret is that most of these visitors travel to the hot springs in the spring and summer. During the winter, you can almost be guaranteed of a relatively empty facility.

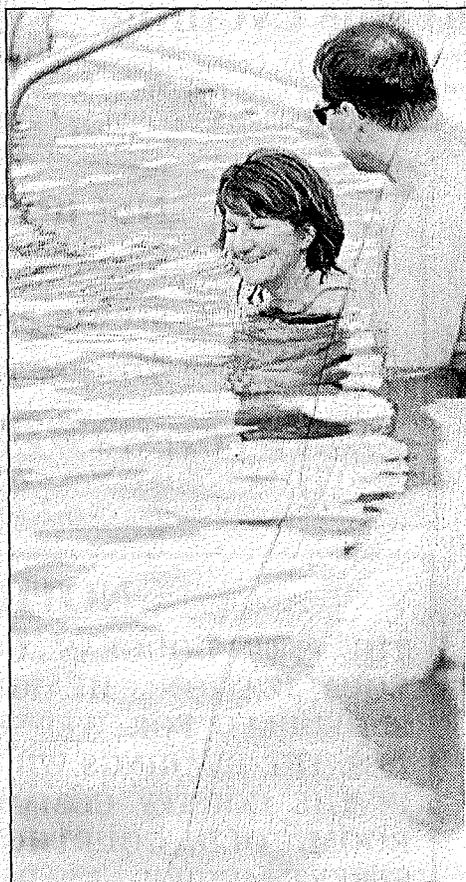
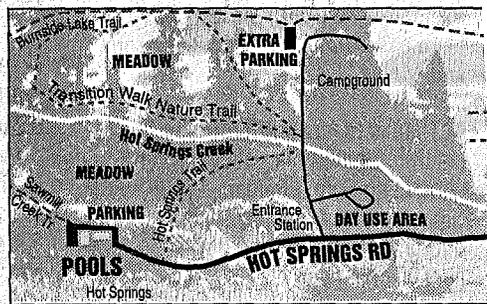
The springs are at the edge of an alpine meadow at 5,900 feet of elevation, and surrounding peaks jog to over 10,000 feet. The view is spectacular, and the meadow is home for many species of wildlife.

The California State Division of Parks and Recreation meticulously cares for the pools at the hot springs. Water from the springs is cooled to 102 to 104 degrees before it is piped into the 25x50-foot pool.

The cold water pool is the same size, and the temperature is a brisk 75 degrees or cooler in the winter. Clean changing facilities and restrooms are available on site. The fees are reasonable, \$4 for adults and \$2 for children 18 and under. Bathing suits and towels can be rented at the lifeguard station for \$1 each.

Before or after a soak in the

# TRIP



**Private joke:** Mike and Teri Fleming  
Above, a map of Grover Hot Springs.



**Burgers:** Guests stop at Alpine Restaurant for

**BELINDA GRANT PHOTOS/CHRIS C**

Jan 26, 07  
RECORD COURIER

# YS PS

springs, take a short hike around the compound to the source of the springs and learn about the mineral content of the water. For the more adventurous, the trailheads for several hikes originate from the meadow or on the road leading to the springs.

Head lifeguard Don Moradian said that the hike to the waterfalls is spectacular during the winter as the over-spray freezes into intricate patterns. More information about the hikes is available from the state park ranger or the Alpine Chamber of Commerce located in Markleeville.

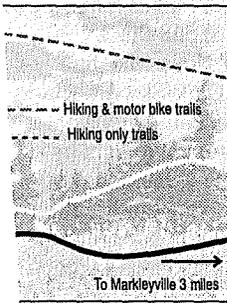
Grover Hot Springs State Park also hosts several cross-country ski trips and snowshoe adventures during the winter. (See page 4.) All trips start at 10 a.m.; however, they can vary from three to six hours in length. Since the pool is open until 9 p.m. daily, follow up the adventure with a soak in the hot pool.

Even during the winter months, the road into the hot springs is plowed and part of the campground is open. Pack your favorite picnic if the sunshine cooperates, or enjoy one of the coffee shops or restaurants in Markleeville for a mid-day or evening break.

Although activity in neighboring Markleeville slows during the winter, you can always get a great meal at the Alpine Hotel's Alpine Restaurant. Villa Gigli serves wonderful Italian dinners every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and M's Coffee Shop on the road leading to the hot springs serves tempting coffees, lattes and espressos — take a lap robe and sit on the deck while you sip your coffee, as the Carson River runs right below your feet and the clean air is crisp with flavors.

The museum in Markleeville is closed until Memorial Day, but the outside stamp mill and jailhouse exhibits are open all year long.

For outdoor adventure, relief for aching muscles, or a trip back in time along Markleeville's historic streets, spend a day at Grover Hot Springs State Park.



share a laugh.

## How to get there from here



or lunch or dinner.

■ To reach **Grover Hot Springs** from Minden, travel south on Highway 88 to the Markleeville turn-off (Highway 23).

Turn left (south) and continue to Markleeville. In the center of Markleeville, turn right (west) on Hot Springs Road.

The turn is clearly marked. The park is approximately 4 miles down the road.

**Total mileage:** 27 miles

**Total driving:** less than 30 minutes.

**SEE SPECIAL EVENTS OFFERED AT GROVER HOT SPRINGS ON PAGE 4B**

**PLESEN GRAPHIC**

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

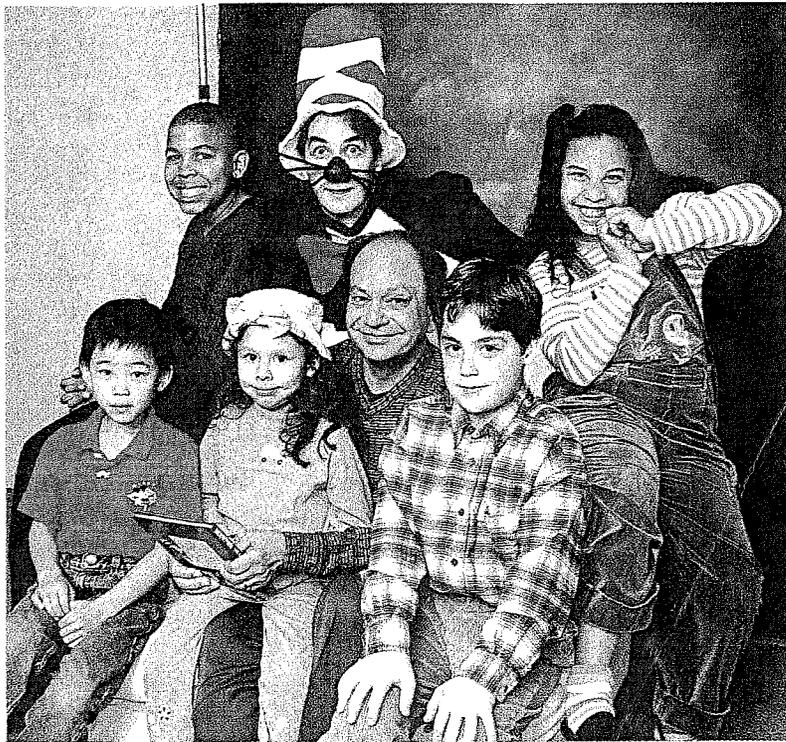


Marisa Landes, a student at Spring Valley School in Millbrae, presents CTA President Wayne Johnson and the Cat in the Hat (Marc Murai) with a platter of green eggs and ham (top) during a photo session with actor Cheech Marin, the honorary chairperson for California's Read Across America celebration (center, below). Marin, who stars in the television show 'Nash Bridges,' has recorded three public service radio spots to promote the reading campaign for CTA. In addition to Landes, who's seated on Marin's lap, are (clockwise from Landes) Bay Area schoolchildren Kevin Jeung, Mathias Jones, the Cat, Resa Jones and David Kirsch.

## Reading is the cat's pajamas

If her first-graders finish reading 1,000 book pages in time for the March 2 kickoff of Read Across America, Kelley Welykholowa will dye her hair purple.

"Yes, I will dye my hair purple and wear blue leopard pajamas to school," says the Diamond Valley Elementary School (Markleeville) teacher. Welykholowa, a member of the Alpine County Education Association, says, "Coloring my hair purple was the kids' choice. When I agreed to do it, they just cracked up. My students are very motivated now. By Christmas, they were up to 700 pages, which is a lot of reading for first-graders."



She has also promised her students a breakfast party with (naturally) green eggs and ham, blue pancakes and multi-colored milk.

And to lend an air of adventure to the day, she will bring five kayaks and two tents onto the campus for students to read in.

"I'd like to make it a really cool day," says Welykholowa.

Throughout the nation, lots of activities will be taking place March 2 to celebrate Read Across America, which, in California, continues through May 2.

March 2 commemorates the birthday of the late Dr. Seuss.

In addition to tasting green eggs and ham, students throughout California will be participating in "read-ins" with celebrities and politicians, holding pajama parties, sharing favorite books with fellow students or seniors, and otherwise taking time to embrace the joys of snuggling up with a good book.

Last year, it's estimated that the program reached 1 million children statewide, 20 million nationwide. This year's state goal is to reach 2.1 million children.

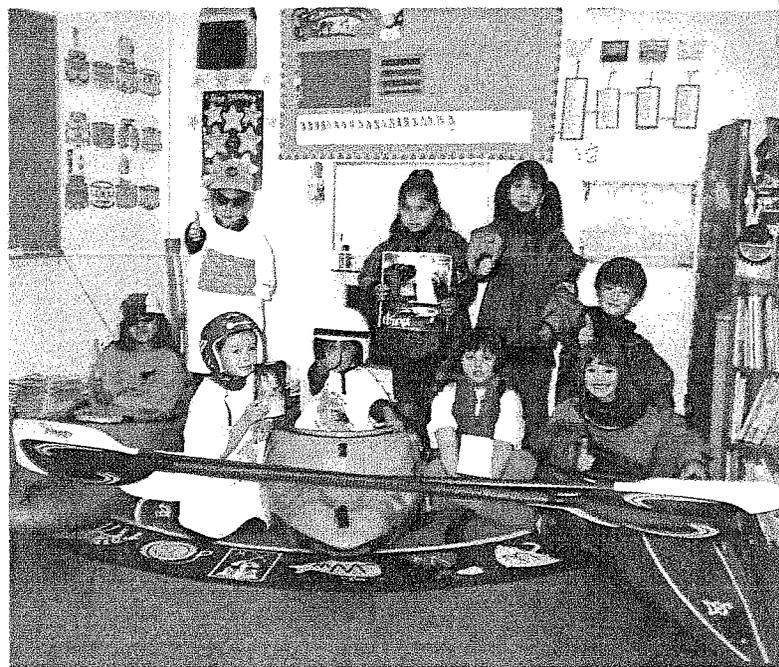
Local associations are being encouraged to include Read Across America in their plans to organize activities around the effort to increase school funding. Because reading is so important, Read Across America can be used to highlight efforts in student achievement and the need to bring California per-pupil spending to at least the national average.

CTA is inviting Gov. Gray Davis and legislators to take part in a read-in at the Capitol. The organization is also inviting professional sports teams and firefighters to "team" with schools and kids to read and promote the fun and importance of reading.

Local businesses are being encouraged to form partnerships with teachers to organize events such as breakfasts and guest readers. Partnerships can also include high schools, community colleges and senior groups (with kids reading to seniors and seniors reading to kids). Participating chapters may wish to invite book authors and other guest readers, and devise presentations, activities and contests.

The Newspaper Association of America Foundation's (NAAF) Newspaper in Education Program is sponsoring the "Write What's Right" essay contest with the NEA. NAAF is urging its 750 members to participate, and estimates that at least a third will do so. For more information, visit the Web site [[www.nea.org/readacross/teachingtolerance.html](http://www.nea.org/readacross/teachingtolerance.html)].

Sponsors and teachers can order hats, buttons, stickers, posters, bookmarks and balloons or donate books for the school library. For information on ordering Seuss paraphernalia online, visit



Kelley Welykholowa is getting her first-graders in the mood for Read Across America by promising to dye her hair purple and wear leopard pajamas to school; she also plans to bring kayaks to school like she did for last year's first-graders (pictured here).

NEA's Web site [[www.nea.org/readacross](http://www.nea.org/readacross)].

For more information on California observances, schools can contact Pat Rucker at CTA [(650) 552-5403] or visit the CTA Web site [[www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)]. Community groups and businesses wishing to participate should contact Sheri Tovar at CTA [(650) 552-5186].

## Seuss is on the loose for Read Across America

Planning a whale of a celebration in conjunction with Read Across America? Here's a chance to get some press for your event. Post your plans on NEA's Web site [[www.nea.org/readacross/pledge.html](http://www.nea.org/readacross/pledge.html)]. NEA is encouraging local and national media representatives to visit the pledge site to find out what's going on in their locale.

The Cat in the Hat has been invited to ring the bell on the New York Stock Exchange on Feb 29. He'll be joined by some heavy hitters: AOL Executive Bob Pittman and the "top dogs" from Random House and First Book. Traders are expected to wear stovepipe hats. AOL will be advertising Read Across America on its Web pages.

Saturn is encouraging its local dealers to get involved in Read Across America. The company helped in five states last year and is anxious to expand its involvement. This year it is offering to host birthday bashes at local stores, provide awards for reading contests, distribute books to kids, and adopt classes. For more information on



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Hung-a-lel-ti is located South of Gardnerville in the community of Woodfords.

# Hung-a-lel-ti: Washoe at Woodfords

*Editor's note: This is the first of a five part series on Hung-a-lel-ti, the Southern Washoe Tribe at Woodfords.*

**By Lauren Theodore**  
Tribune Staff Writer

Driving Southeast in Alpine County on sagebrush-lined Diamond Valley Road, a sign whips back and forth in strong gusts of wind.

It reads Hung-a-lel-ti — Washoe Indian language for the Southern Washoe people.

The name of the road leading to the Washoe colony could have derived from Washoe legend.

It is rumored that the first boulder turned to begin construction on the community commonly known as Woodfords, unearthed a den filled with diamondback rattlesnakes.

From the road, the 62-home community is a forgotten corner of California, an



isolated place situated in the stubbled shadow of the Sierra.

Two brown water tanks that blend into the backdrop of the community's highest hill are the first landmarks of Hung-a-lel-ti. A closer look reveals "native pride" sprayed on the tower alongside a more profane version.

Populated by 402 residents, the reservation extends a mere 80 acres. Hung-a-lel-ti is one of four Washoe communities located in Carson City, Douglas and Alpine counties.

The traditional homelands of the Washoe people exceeded 1.5 million acres. Today the Washoe have reclaimed 70,000 acres of its ancestral land. Members of the tribe believe their people have lived in the Lake Tahoe area for 10,000 to 15,000 years with a population of 3,000 to 5,000.

There are 1,700 members today.

There is no industry in the Woodfords' colony. Only a quarter of the residents have phones.

There is not one fluorescent sign to attract travelers on the lonely road to pump gas or feed an empty stomach.

See *Washoe*. Page 2A

2-14-2000

## WASHOE

Continued from Page 1A

There are no accommodations — no place for residents to get a carton of milk in the middle of the night; no way to get fast food unless fast is measured by a car's racing speedometer as it hurries down the road to nearby Douglas County.

There is no medical center in the area. It, too, is down in the valley.

"The only problem we have is getting down the hill," said Willard Bennett, community council vice chairman. "We're kind of stuck in here."

Approaching the reservation, the only visible signs of life are dusty dogs with layers of matted fur who happily roam the streets. There is an outdoor basketball court and a gazebo that looks like it's on its last legs.

Old newspapers, faded Pepsi boxes and various pieces of litter wallpaper the wire fences of identical housing that are sometimes shaken by 80-90 mph winds.

"It feels like it's going to shake your house apart," said Bennett. "I've wondered if the roof would blow off."

Every structure has sterilely white propane tanks hooked up in the yard that oddly contrast with the cluttered surroundings. It seems that there are tires in nearly every yard and at least one spare car which barely runs, if it does at all.

The first landmark of the community is a 5-year-old canary yellow firehouse with slightly discolored blotches that hide the spray-painted tag markings on the side of the building. It is the only two-story building in the community.

The firehouse is the community center.

Once inside, it becomes evident that the garage is absent a fire engine. It is used as a children's recreation facility. In place of the fire truck are pool, air hockey and foosball tables, and a free-weight collection.

There is also a multi-purpose room used for church, day care and a summer food program.

The second floor of the firehouse is the community council meeting room where Willard is in charge while his brother, council chairman Philip Bennett, is ministering in New Zealand for three months.

Willard Bennett grew up on the reservation and remembers his childhood days when he and his family and friends were able to roam the land. Groups of 50 men would go hunting and fishing together.

"We were told shoot straight or behind, not down the lines," Bennett said. "We'd come home and skin anywhere from 150-200 rabbits."

"All of a sudden there were barbed wire fences and 'no trespassing' signs," he recalled.



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

### A lifelong Hung-a-lei-ti resident Willard Bennett has seen freedom disappear.

When he was 16 Bennett was hunting in an area he had hunted in all of his life when he heard the voices of other hunters and decided to duck behind a bush. Two white men from the Sacramento-based Apache Gun Club were also hunting. They saw Bennett and confronted him.

"They said I couldn't hunt there," he said. "The hardest thing was losing freedom. We never locked our homes. Guns were on racks inside homes and fishing poles and refrigerators were on the outside."

Bennett is concerned about the tribe's future. "In the name of progress everything is being subdued," he said, "Everything is disappearing."

Tahoe Daily Tribune 2/14/2000



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Manda Vann and Kate Macartney in the Woodfords Indian Education Center's new library facility.

## Coming, going at Hung-a-l-el-ti

*Editor's note: This is the third of a five-part series on Hung-a-l-el-ti, the Southern Washoe Tribe at Woodfords.*

**By Lauren Theodore**

Tribune Staff Writer

Manda Vann is one of the few people in her community lucky enough to walk to work. The rest of her neighbors commute an average of 10 miles to jobs in neighboring towns.

The 22-year-old was born and raised in Hung-a-l-el-ti. She has no intentions of leaving.

"Most of the kids here want to leave," Vann said. "I never wanted to live in the city."

Vann's parents have been together for 24 years, but they haven't been formally married.

"They still call it a trial marriage," she explained.

Her father works for the public works road department. Her mother, Katherine Walker, is chairwoman of the advisory parent committee at the Woodfords Indian Education Center where Vann works.



Vann, a program assistant at the center, has dedicated her life to her work.

"I go wherever I'm needed," she said.

Program director Kate Macartney is grooming Vann to take her place. To extend her education, Macartney takes

Vann to education conferences in Sacramento and Reno and has placed her in charge of the center's new library.

"All the kids are literate, but they're below their grade level," Vann said. She believes that with a little bit of encouragement the children can graduate from high school and go on to college.

"You can do anything if you want it badly enough," she said.

See **Hung-a-l-el-ti**, Page 2A

*Handwritten signature: Lauren Theodore*

2-16-2000

# Hung-a-lel-ti

Continued from Page 1A

Vann and Macartney see the center's future in the children's success.

"People will come and take over where Manda left off," Macartney said.

Graduating from Douglas High School in 1996, Vann moved to Kansas to attend Haskell College, an American Indian school.

"It's fun out there, but I like living somewhere small," she added.

Vann remained close with high school friends that stayed close to home, but nothing stays the same.

"Most high school kids spread out," she said. "Your friends change, you know."

"We claimed college friends as brothers and sisters."

At Haskell, Vann participated in clubs distinguished by tribe and learned the differences between the cultures.

"In Alaska I have a friend who whistled at night to bring out the aurora borealis," she said. "For us, we don't whistle at night. It brings evil."

Dating in college was a new experience for Vann, who didn't date in high school and who was forbidden from dating within her own tribe.

"Elders tell (community members) to go find spouses elsewhere," she said. "We can't date our own Indians."

Vann started a relationship with a man who eventually moved back to Hung-a-lel-ti with her. She was able to rent a home through the housing authority since she moved in with her boyfriend. Common-law marriages are nothing new among the Washoe. Vann's parents' union of 24 years is a prime example.

Vann's relationship ended on a

sour note and was related to her boyfriend's behavior when he drank. Vann remained in her house which she shares with her sister and cousin.

"Me and my sister are probably the only young people to have a house," she said.

"As far as I know (Vann and her sister) are role models and live sober lifestyles," Macartney said.

"We rent movies, stay up late and girl talk," Vann said. The family time offsets her otherwise hectic schedule.

Neighborhood kids, most of whom are related to Vann, flock to her house.

"When we cook we have to buy economy-size everything," she said. "We never know who is going to drop by."

In the summertime, Vann buys 10-pound bags of sugar to support the Kool-Aid habits of all the kids.

"All the kids come over and sit on our porch and tell us about their problems. The kids know that alcohol is not allowed.

"They just need someone to listen to them."

Vann remembered when she and her friends wore out 15 decks of playing cards.

When Vann and her roommates get the opportunity to use a car, they drive to Reno or Sacramento. She can laugh at stereotypes people try to place on her and her friends, mainly those of alcohol addiction and criminal behavior.

"When we go to Reno, we'll go to Pinion Plaza and we'll come walking in with Slurpees," she said.

Lack of access to a car, considered a necessity by most, doesn't faze Vann at all.

"It's always been if I need something like McDonald's, I know I can do without it," she added.

*Washoe Daily Tribune 8/16/2000*

2/16/00

The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville,

## Music will be on tap at Villa Gigli

In celebration of the Presidents' Birthdays weekend, Villa Gigli Trattoria in Markleeville will present dinner music both evenings, with Phil Gitelman and Margaret Craig.

Gitelman will strum the guitar in his experimental style, as guests enjoy a "pasta repast" Saturday evening, Feb. 19. Returning by popular acclaim for the Sunday family-style seating, Craig will sing country western ballads, accompanying herself with her guitar.

For reservations or further information, call (530) 694-2253.

# Crime harder to pull off in tight-knit community

**Editor's note:** This is the fourth of a five-part series on Hung-a-lel-ti, the Southern Washoe Tribe at Woodfords.

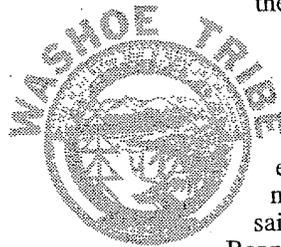
**By Lauren Theodore**  
Tribune Staff Writer

The only visible evidence of crime in Hung-a-lel-ti are the "Native pride" taggings on the water tower.

It's hard to get away with things in a community where everyone knows everyone else. No one locks his doors, and residents share a sense of security.

Still, there are concerns.

Alcohol use and gang association among



the reservation's youth population represent an inward struggle.

"They don't even know what native pride is," said Willard

Bennett, community council vice chairman, referring to the water tower graffiti.

"Alcohol is a problem," Bennett said, adding that the reason he and his brother Philip ran for community council was to

ensure sober leadership in government.

Hung-a-lel-ti youths don't know their identities and sometimes copy the Mexican gang look, according to Bennett.

"It's expressing themselves by how they dress," explained Bev Jeans, principal of Douglas High School. "It's like any other teen trying to find their place."

"There are some young people (in Woodfords) who are experimenting with gangs," Alpine County Sheriff Skip Veatch acknowledged. "Gang affiliations do exist."

Jeans recalled an incident where trouble

See **Washoe**, Page 2A

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# Washoe

Continued from Page 1A

between the Indian and the Hispanic teen-agers had started over a weekend. By the time the Monday school bell rang the problem had escalated and Jeans said there was an element of danger. She met with the sheriff and called the parents and the problem was resolved before anything happened.

There is a great deal of support behind the kids in Hung-a-lel-ti, Jeans said.

Veatch attended a recent meeting at the Woodfords Indian Education Center where Jeans was a guest speaker. In response to school shootings across the country, she made a presentation informing parents about the types of dangerous profiles they should look for in their teen-agers.

"I thought it was a great meeting and the parents probably got a lot out of it," Veatch said.

Veatch has lived in Alpine County since the reservation's inception and not-

ed that Hung-a-lel-ti is not a high-crime area.

Both Washoe Tribal Police and the Alpine County Sheriff's Department respond to calls made from the reservation.

Three years ago the state didn't allow tribal police to patrol the area. But a new California law changed that. The code states that Washoe tribal law enforcement officers shall have the right to travel to and from tribal lands within California in order to carry out tribal duties.

Now the tribe is applying for a grant that would employ two police officers who could respond to Hung-a-lel-ti, Veatch said.

The only notable crime in the Woodfords colony was a 1988 homicide. Veatch referred to it as an isolated incident.

Hung-a-lel-ti resident Dawna Jaye Koos 24, was killed by her common-law husband after he discovered her with Robert Jim, 24, inside their shared home. Koos had been at a party with Jim.

Koos' common-law husband, Daniel

Curtis Cloud, 27, stabbed himself in the stomach with a 13 inch butcher knife professing his love to Koos before turning the knife on her. After repeated stabs to her stomach, Koos died at the scene from multiple stab wounds including a laceration of the liver.

Jim struggled with Cloud and received minor cuts to his wrists and hands. Both were treated at Carson-Tahoe Hospital.

"The victims were folks who were well-known in the community," Veatch said.

On August 29, 1989, Cloud was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter. He was sentenced to eight years at Deuel Vocational Institution in Tracy, Calif.

Hung-a-lel-ti residents say their community is a safe place and that they don't worry about the history of one homicide. But, like families everywhere, they worry about their children. To combat outside influences, parents and educators are working together to teach tolerance.

"Life is about a lot of ethnicities coming together," Jeans said.

Tahoe Daily Tribune 2/17/2000

# Educational programs bring hopeful future for Washoe

**Editor's note:** This is the final story of a five-part series on Hung-a-lel-ti, the Southern Washoe Tribe at Woodfords.

By Lauren Theodore

Tribune Staff Writer

Basketball in Hung-a-lel-ti is played without the luxury of uniforms or even a gym.

White T-shirts turned inside out — the numbers drawn on with permanent markers — substitute for uniforms.

A concrete half-court is their playing field.

Residents of Hung-a-lel-ti are searching for ways to outfit their children in new jerseys so they can look like other kids when they play inside their soon-to-be-built gymnasium.

"It's been a dream of ours for years," said Manda Vann, program assistant at the Woodfords Indian Education Center. "All of our kids love sports."

According to Vann, the community council requested funds for a family wellness center because, as she said, "No one funds gyms anymore." The project topped the council's list of priorities. "Even the elders graciously allowed their projects to wait," said Kate Macartney, program director at the Woodfords Indian Education Center.

The community has already received a

\$550,000 grant to build a gymnasium (wellness center), but discovered the amount only paid for a concrete playing floor without bathrooms. An additional \$70,000 would replace concrete floors with vinyl and provide bathrooms. Vann said the community is contacting the Nike foundation to ask for help to complete the project.

Children represent the heart of Hung-a-lel-ti. Conversations with community members often turn toward the education center. The building houses both the Headstart program, which helps prepare children for kindergarten. It also provides a location for tutoring, various academic programs, and computer and library facilities for students.

"We wouldn't be here without the education center," Vann said.

"We're really cut off, that's why this program is really vital here," said Bernie Combs, Headstart teacher.

A large multi-purpose room filled with toys and three computer terminals are put to constant use by the Headstart children. Combs said the program works largely because it relies heavily on parent involvement.

"The ideal would be that I am an American Indian, but on the other hand I'm a Caucasian and I care about them," Combs said. "We

See *Washoe*, Page 2A



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Ben Blackowl, 14, left, studies for a health test with the help of Thurman Roberts, a Douglas High School senior who tutors at the educational center.

## Washoe

Continued from Page 1A

emphasize differences and similarities."

"I hope they all make it through high school and go on to college," Combs added.

Diamond Valley Elementary School is the next stop for Hung-a-l-el-ti youngsters.

"They're doing their job down (in Woodfords)," said Kelly Welkholowa, the kindergarten teacher at Diamond Valley.

Vann's mom Katherine Walker, works with seventh-, eighth-, and ninth-graders on a portfolio project that helps parents and students track grades and areas of concern.

Vann and Macartney said that 10 years ago the high school graduation rate was 10 percent. The last three out of four years that rate has soared to 100 percent.

"When everything isn't handed to you on a silver plate it's hard," Vann said.

Wanting to pursue her college career, Vann is researching online degree programs that others could access. Being far removed from institu-

tions of higher education poses a problem to Hung-a-l-el-ti residents who don't have transportation.

"We want to provide choices," Vann said.

Bev Jeans, principal at Douglas High School, said the Hung-a-l-el-ti children offer diversity to what would otherwise be a mostly white school.

"They are great kids," Jeans said. "I am happy they are here."

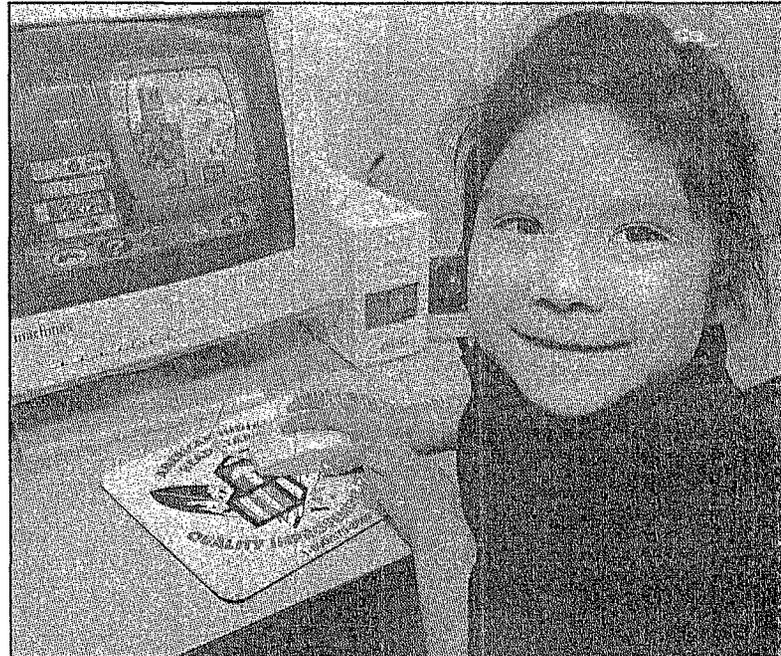
To have an all-white school would be a disaster, according to Jeans.

"We are pleased to have a diverse makeup," she said. "We teach tolerance and respect for differences."

Jeans goes to the reservation every six weeks to interact with parents. She discusses proficiency tests and identifies areas of study their children should be concentrating on. Jeans wants to send the message, "I care enough about your kids to come to you."

"That way if there is a problem (the parents) will come here," she added. "While I am there I learn about their culture. I am treated with nothing but respect."

"There is tremendous support from the tribe to help (the children) be suc-



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

### Tori Christensen works on a computer in the Headstart classroom.

cessful."

Every spring the Washoe tribe holds a special dinner to celebrate its students education.

"In interacting with them, they are a tribe; because of that they support each other," Jeans observed. "We as white people don't have that."



"They know what they see and what they feel. Now (racism) is worse."

— Betty Cruz  
Washoe Indian

## Women struggle along

**Editor's note:** This is the second of a five-part series on Hung-a-lal-ti, the Southern Washoe Tribe at Woodfords.

By Lauren Theodore

Tribune Staff Writer

Betty Cruz remembers the curfew bell.

Its chimes marked the difference in freedom between her people and the world they lived in. Only 40 years ago the bell's peals could be heard at 6 p.m. throughout the Minden-Gardnerville area. The sound was the signal that Washoe Indians had to get out or be chased out of the small rural community. An area that, before dreams of gold and silver drew white settlers, was theirs alone.

Women in Hung-a-lal-ti have come a long way since the 1960s' curfew bell.

Cruz said things have changed, but there is still a long way to go for the easement of racism toward American Indians.

"While we were growing up here, there were the people who were really prejudiced against us and then there were those who didn't like us but they left us alone," she said.

Cruz said there are still community elders who won't speak to white people because of their mistrust.

"Most of the older people never got over their fears of white people," said Willard Bennett, community council vice chairman.

"They know what they see and what they feel," Cruz said. "Now (racism) is worse. I shop at Raley's and (non-Indians) take their carts and push mine aside in front of my grandson."

But she refuses to walk away from a situation where she has been treated rudely. She makes sure to inform people of their wrongdoings. She wants her grandson to learn that people should be treated with respect.

Manda Vann, a 22-year-old resident of the community, said she has also received unfair comments and looks from people when she takes her nephew through a store.

"I get treated different," she said. "Automatically, I'm the teen-aged mother."

People still hold onto perceptions that all Indians live in tepees.

"Our (Washoe) tribe never lived in tepees," Cruz said.

She and her Caucasian husband were visiting her husband's aunt years ago when stereotypes hit her full on.

"My husband's aunt said, 'I thought you were going to show up with feathers in your hair and a buckskin dress on,'" Cruz said.

Cruz is an evolved Washoe woman. She is petite, but confidence exudes from her eyes and her smile fills a room. Cruz thinks the reservation has a positive future largely because of the support the community lends to its young people. She serves on the parent advisory committee.

"Only this year we have working communication with the schools," she said.

Cruz has unpleasant memories of her childhood. She had a scarring memory of a teacher who used to lock her in a dark closet. Even now she makes sure that doors remain open.

Her six sons were raised in Woodfords

See *Women*, Page 2A

# Women

Continued from Page 1A

and now live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"All my kids went to school here," she said. "I had to go to school and fight for my kids all the time."

She attributed much of their success to sports which kept them out of trouble, but emphasized, "Education is more important than sports."

"They tell me, 'You made us (play sports) and I am glad you did, otherwise we wouldn't be what we are today,'" Cruz said.

Cruz drives trucks for a catering company that serves meals to people who participate in strikes and forest fires.

"I've met people from all over."

It's a job Cruz enjoys and one that pays well. It also gives her time to spend with family.

"Sometimes in two days you'll get your 40 hours," Cruz said.

Dinah Pete is another Washoe woman who loves living in her community. "I really enjoy this place," Pete said about the home she's lived in for 20 years. She is currently in Round 2 of parenting, raising her four grandchildren, ages 9 to 20.

"My grandkids are the ones who keep me going," Pete said. "They are my life."

Pete has raised her 20-year-old grandson since he was 7 years old, "Now he's got to take care of gram," she said.

"Dinah is sort of the grandma to the community. Everyone calls her 'gram'," said Kate Macartney, education director for the Woodfords Indian Education Center.

"You can always ask Dinah to do a convocation (at the education center) and she'll do it," Macartney said.

Pete has been honored by the California Indian Education Conference for her outstanding commitment.

Pete said she continues to keep the Washoe culture alive through speaking and teaching the Washoe native tongue "to renew our language" and through the art of weaving baskets from willow trees.

"I was taught (basket weaving) when I was a young girl," Pete said.

She said it is difficult now to find willows that are free of pesticide sprays. "It's hard for me when (willows) are sprayed," Pete said. "I use my mouth and teeth to split the willows in three directions."

Pete occasionally sells her baskets, but primarily makes them for family members.

Both Pete and Cruz enjoy their lifestyles in the Woodfords colony and are optimistic about the future.

"Everything is improving all the time," Cruz said.

Tahoe Daily Tribune 2/15/2000

Good source 2/26/2000

# Leviathan Mine retention ponds in danger of overflowing, spilling toxic chemicals

by **Andy Bourelle**  
R-C News Service

Despite efforts by the state of California last summer, acidic water polluted with toxic metals probably will overflow from five retention ponds at the Leviathan Mine this spring, continuing pollution of creeks that flow into the Carson River.

While it's possible millions of gallons of polluted water could pour into Leviathan Creek, the amount likely will pale in comparison to past years when little or no work was done to stop the overflow.

"It should be about 5 million gallons less than it would be if they hadn't done anything up there, and that's a good thing," said Kevin Mayer, Superfund project manager for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "I think we're really learning what it's going to take to stop the ponds from overflowing in a typical year. We — ARCO, the (Lahontan) regional board and EPA — are starting to realize what we need to accomplish to prevent acid mine drainage from getting into the creek."

Twenty-five miles south of Gardnerville, six miles east of Markleeville and described as a

**'We might just get lucky. But I think it is probably one extreme edge of optimism that there won't be any overflow.'**

**Kevin Mayer**  
Superfund Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

giant white scar in the mountains of Alpine County, the Leviathan Mine is an inactive sulfur mine now contaminating nearby Leviathan Creek with acid mine drainage — acidic water containing dissolved toxic metals such as iron, copper, aluminum, nickel and arsenic.

Leviathan Creek, which has been discolored and cannot support aquatic life, runs into Bryant Creek, a tributary of the East Fork of the Carson River.

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board bought the mine in the 1980s, and state officials estimate it has taken care of 70 percent of the problem. Runoff

of the polluted water now is diverted into five evaporation ponds. Together, they hold about 16 million gallons of toxic water.

Historically, however, there have been problems because only a few million gallons evaporate in a year. When 6 or more million gallons are created each spring runoff, there has been major overflowing.

Lahontan officials last summer built a \$1 million system for treating the contaminated pond water in order to create capacity for more runoff.

From the ponds, the system pulled out the acid mine drainage, took out the acidity and toxic metals, and returned the cleaned water into Leviathan Creek.

EPA and ARCO — which purchased the one-time owner of the mine, Anaconda Co., that was responsible for the contamination — attempted to build similar systems the two previous years without success.

Lahontan treated about 4.5 million gallons of polluted water in 1999, and nearly that amount evaporated, leaving 9 million gallons of capacity to catch runoff in the winter and spring of this year.

The problem now, however, is that only about 2.7 million gallons

of capacity remain, leading officials to believe overflow again is probable.

"It's not a done deal that they will overflow," Mayer said. "We may get an early summer. We might just get lucky. But I think it is probably on the extreme edge of optimism that there won't be any overflow."

At the beginning of the winter in 1998, the ponds had 3 million gallons of storage capacity. Between January and June of 1999, however, 8.8 million gallons overflowed.

Lahontan wasn't able to get the system operating until late August last year, and because of the weather at the 7,000-foot-elevation mine, officials had to stop work in October. Mayer said plans this year are to get the system running earlier.

"We need to get probably 12 million gallons of capacity, ideally even more, for the ponds to not overflow next year," Mayer said.

EPA last year proposed to list the mine as a federal Superfund

site. The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Alpine County, Douglas County and the Carson City-based Carson Water Subconservancy District, which are concerned about the quality of water in the Carson River, support the listing.

Mayer said the listing could become official as early as April. Superfund status would provide money and resources for cleanup, but also mark the 250-acre site as one of the most polluted places in the country.

The overflowing ponds are not the only sources of contamination to the creek; underground seeps also put pollutants into the water. Officials don't know exactly how much pollution is coming out of the Leviathan Mine, and they don't know if the acid mine drainage is having a detrimental effect on the Carson River.

"The ponds, as we've known, are really just part of the problem," Mayer said. "We need to get a more complete understanding of

what's going on."

The Leviathan Mine, which has been closed for nearly 40 years, was first mined in 1863 for copper sulfate to process silver in Virginia City.

Early mining activities did not harm the water quality of the region.

However, a mining business called Anaconda Co. purchased it in the 1950s and used it as a sulfur mine. Anaconda constructed an open-pit mine, a type of operation known for causing water quality problems.

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## Come In From The Cold...

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## Obituaries

### Ellen Gansberg

A memorial service for Ellen H. Gansberg, 84, was held yesterday, February 29, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Gardnerville.

Mrs. Gansberg died on Feb. 25 at her Fredericksburg, Calif., home.

She was born on Dec. 28, 1915, in San Diego, Calif., to John and Gladys Bitson Hutchinson.

She received a bachelor of education degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1938 and a bachelor of sociology degree in 1939.

In 1939, she moved to Alpine County to teach school, and in 1940, she married Chris Gansberg.

Mrs. Gansberg also worked as the Alpine County Welfare Director and a librarian.

She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Minden Fortnightly Club.

Predeceasing Mrs. Gansberg was her brother Emerson Hutchinson, M.D.

Survivors include her husband Chris H. Gansberg Sr. of Fredericksburg; son Chris H. Gansberg Jr, also of Fredericksburg, and daughters Gaye Tyndall of Gardnerville, Joan G. Chacon of Reno and Joye G. Reeder of Brigham City, Utah; brother-in-law Fred H. Gansberg of Plymouth, Calif., and Fredericksburg; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be sent to Trinity Lutheran Church, 1480 Douglas Ave., Gardnerville 89410.

Record Courier March 1, 2000

# The Arts

## Blue Palm brings its wacky sense of humor to Alpine County

### Duo will offer original 'Millennium Stories' at Turtle Rock Park March 4

Blue Palm, the dance/theater duo of Jackie Planeix and Tom Crocker, will perform their original work, "Millennium Stories," a series of satiric, romantic and life-altering encounters in March in Alpine County.

The Alpine County Arts Commission will present the quirky skits related to and laughing at Y2K by one of America's premiere funny couples. The show will take place on Saturday, March 4, at the Turtle Rock Park Community Building on Highway 89, just two miles north of Markleeville, at 7:30 p.m.

Ticket are \$6 for adults, \$3 for

children and are available at the door.

The duo met when soloists with the Bejart Ballet. Crocker grew up in the Bay area, while Planeix was raised in France. They met at the MUDRA Arts Institute in Brussels, directed by French choreographer Maurice Bejart.

Since forming Blue Palm in the 1980s in L.A., they have gone from being dancers who use words to writers who use dance. They study human nature and, with a large dose of humor, portray the quest for truth and understanding in the idiosyncratic behavior of the dual American and French cultures they share.

"Millennium Stories" consists of vignettes beginning at midnight on Dec. 31, 1999. A lawyer, about



Blue Palm

to announce his engagement to the senior partner's daughter, gets stuck in a Manhattan elevator with a very pregnant cleaning lady. At a mosque in Ankara, a woman who gets her "religious philosophy from 'The Lion King'" confronts an academic Muslim who wonders "why you Westerners call it the millennium and you expect the rest of the world to do the hokey-pokey."

While in a telegraph office on the Normandy coast, a French woman and a British man mourn the death of dash-dot and the rise of dot-com. And two young lovers, one in Berkeley and one in Berlin, wax poetic on a limited vocabulary. These riffs will have you smiling at chaos, even yours.

For further information, call (530) 694-2787.

## Students get all dressed up for annual Block DV awards

by Terrie Peets  
Special to the R-C

The students were all dressed up, and the parents were very proud during this year's Diamond Valley School's Block DV award celebration. Seventeen students from the Diamond Valley School were presented this award on Thursday evening, Feb. 17, at 6:30 p.m.

During the celebration, each student was honored individually with a speech about his or her accomplishments and total points earned.

The students who received the award were Hunter Riddle, Kristin Lovell, Ashley Smith, Jennifer Stice, Georgie Dressler, Leah Plaughter, Kevin Rogers, Andrea Holdridge, Tyree Holdridge, Rosalinda Gabriel, Leah Orndoff, Danean McDermot, Jermaine Jim, Jessica Bennett, Emerette Frank, Ben Wood, and Kaela Horse.

The Block DV Award is Diamond Valley School's highest award, available to 4th through 8th grade students who are considered "well rounded."

These students must earn points in the areas of curricular, co-curricular, service and leadership, athletics and citizenship. A mini-



LEAH ORNDOFF photo

**Danean McDermot** was among those to be honored.

gram, the students, parents and teachers each play a vital role in the Block DV process. Students must become familiar with the criteria of the categories for the award. Parents encourage and help their children as they decide on their goals for the year to achieve the Block DV award. Teachers provide information and explain the program to the students and their parents.

This award is designed to motivate students to become active participants in the activities of their school and community. It is

# Markleeville's Villa Gigli profiled in Gourmet magazine

by Teya Vitu  
R-C News Service

Gourmet magazine writers go to cool places like Paris and Rome and even San Francisco, but Markleeville, Calif.?

And why not? The tiny town in the tiniest California county is picturesque and lively. And it has, among other well-patronized dining establishments, Villa Gigli.

Villa Gigli, operated by Ruggero and Gina Gigli, is featured in the December issue of Gourmet, much to the delight of its owners.

"It's hard not to imagine you're somewhere in the hills of Tuscany," freelance writer Laura Fraser wrote in the magazine. "Authentic antipasti — say, fagiolini (little white beans) and garlicky artichoke crowns with spicy young olive oil — add to the illusion."

The current issue of Gourmet devotes page 46 to Ruggero and Gina Gigli's weekend restaurant that serves a wide variety of pastas and breads crafted in Ruggero Gigli's hands.

The magazine's contents page teases to the Villa Gigli as "a secret mountain restaurant." Oddly enough, the restaurant isn't that much of a secret.

Ruggero Gigli, the chef, figures nearly a third of his diners venture over the Sierra from the Sacramen-

to area and Bay area to secluded Alpine County. In June, July and August, he easily fills the 75 indoor and outdoor seats.

"We refuse an average of 30 people every day," he said.

Gigli said he doesn't need publicity for the summer months, but he acknowledged more diners would help business in January to May. Villa Gigli is closed November and December.

"We do not advertise," said Gina Gigli, who is responsible for the paintings on the dining room walls. "It's word of mouth. It's usually outdoors people."

She said people meeting on wilderness trails pass on word about Villa Gigli. Bicycle club members and people in the wine business recommend the restaurant. Ruggero Gigli said Soar Minden guides pilots to Markleeville.

Ruggero Gigli takes pride in his variety of pasta and sauces.

On Sunday evenings, starting Jan. 2, Villa Gigli will offer mountain music by guitarist and singer Margaret Craig, a favorite among the restaurant's regular customers.

A family-style dinner will be offered in one seating only, Gina Gigli said. Music will be 5 to 6 p.m., and dinner seating will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The following are Crostini Tre Colori, or little toasts in three col-

ors, which serve 24, courtesy Ruggero Gigli.

## ■ Salsa Verde

- 1 bundle fresh basil, chopped
- 6 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 lemon, juice and grated peel
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup jack cheese, grated.

Mix all ingredients together and spread over 24 square slices, 2 by 2 inches — more or less — of toasted Pane Campagnolo or country-style bread.

## ■ Salsa Rossa

- 1 red bell pepper, very finely chopped
  - 1 cube unsalted butter
  - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
  - Pinch of pepper
  - Dash of Amaretto
- Slowly saute red pepper in butter 10 minutes; remove pan from

heat and stir in other ingredients. Spread over 24 squares of toasted country-style bread.

## ■ Salsa Nera

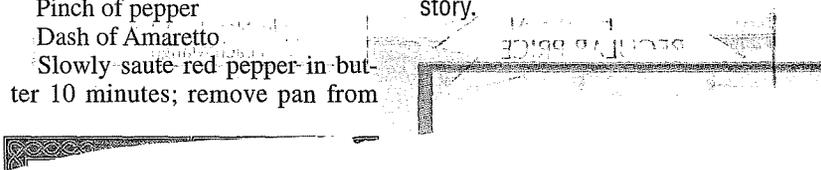
- 1 3.8-ounce can sliced black olives, drained and very finely chopped

- 1 2-ounce can fillets of anchovies, drained and chopped
- 6 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil

Mix all ingredients together and spread over 24 squares of toasted country-style bread.

Arrange crostini in alternating rings of green, red and black on a round plate, fringed by herbs and flowers and serve to paesani.

■ Joyce Hollister contributed to this story.



# Pros and cons of listing Leviathan Mine as Superfund site

by David Griffith

Written comments on the proposal to list the Leviathan Mine as a Superfund site were submitted by three parties. All were highly critical of the EPA's use of old data that reflected the site conditions prior to Lahontan's work to reclaim it, instead of using current conditions. Evidence was also presented that showed that Leviathan Creek never had a viable fishery, contrary to the EPA's assertion.

Whether or not the EPA decides to declare a Superfund site, nothing will change over the next two to three years while additional studies are done. The budget for most of the ongoing work was approved by the state of California in 1998, and the program is funded until 2003.

The scientific studies to date show that apart from Leviathan and Bryant Creeks, there is no evidence that the Leviathan Mine is having any significant detrimental effect on the environment, the East Fork Carson River, the Carson Valley water supply or human health.

Nevertheless, the Washoe Tribe, that owns land along Bryant Creek, has the right to expect that either the creek should be returned to its previous condition or they should receive compensation.

Should this be a Superfund site? Even if it is totally reclaimed, it is likely that fish will continue to avoid Bryant and Leviathan creeks.

How much is it worth spending

## Guest opinion

to reclaim the Leviathan Mine? The ultimate cost of reclaiming the Leviathan Mine cannot be estimated until the required studies are completed and it is agreed how clean is clean. It is likely to be in excess of \$20 million and could be much more, depending on what standards are set for Leviathan and Bryant creeks.

The reasons it should be a Superfund site are:

■ With the designation, there is secure funding to reclaim the Leviathan Mine, although it will not happen quickly.

■ Politically, it is more correct. Nevada politicians from Senator Bryan down to the Douglas County Commissioners are on record favoring a Superfund site as long as it is restricted to Alpine County.

The Washoe Tribe has worked hard to get the EPA involved in the process and presumably has great faith in the EPA's abilities.

The reasons it should not be a Superfund site are:

■ Based on the scientific studies to date, there is no justification for making the Leviathan Mine a Superfund site.

■ The EPA and ARCO may not be able to agree on the solution, how much it should cost or how clean is clean. This will delay any ultimate cleanup and may lead to

litigation delaying cleanup for many years.

■ With a Superfund site designation, the EPA has complete and final decision-making authority. Alpine County already has a difficult relationship with an other federal agency, the Forest Service. Douglas County, which already has some experience with Superfund, gave the EPA its blessing, with the proviso that the Superfund site be restricted to Alpine County.

■ The EPA has a poor record cleaning up acid mine drainage in the western states. The EPA does not appear to have in-house expertise to deal with this type of problem.

Based on the above, the Alpine County Board of Supervisors will consider rescinding their motion supporting the Superfund site at a special meeting March 29 at 6 p.m.

If the Leviathan Mine is not designated a Superfund site, where will the money come from to clean it up or compensate the property owner on Bryant Creek? California and ARCO together have funded the work done to date. However, there is another party that has been escaping its responsibilities and ought to start contributing its share.

Although the Leviathan Mine is located in California, the vast majority of the economic benefits went to Nevada. The open pit mine was designed and managed by engineers from Reno and Yerington. It was constructed by a

Reno construction company. During the early phases of construction and operation, there were up to 144 people working on site, with at least 134 of them being Nevada residents.

Buses took the employees from Carson City, Minden and Gardnerville to work, and at the end of shift, after they had dumped waste into Leviathan Creek, the buses took them back home to Nevada.

The foremen, engineers and managers were all Nevada residents. Without the Leviathan Mine, the Yerington Mine would not have had its oxide copper operation because the Leviathan Mine was the only source of sulphur with costs low enough to allow the Yerington Mine to operate its oxide copper plant.

Nevada received almost all of the economic benefits of the mine and all the benefits of the cleanup, without contributing.

It is time that Nevada owns up to its responsibilities and starts paying its share. A cost-effective solution could be arrived at much faster if those who were doing the finger pointing were paying part of the bill.

■ David Griffith lives in Alpine County and is a mineral exploration geologist. He is a graduate of the University of British Columbia and has worked as a geologist and in mine permitting in western Canada, the western United States and Mexico. He is a registered geologist in the State of California.

4-1-00

## 90 help clean, plant trees in Markleeville

Ninety people turned out in Markleeville last Saturday to help restore Markleeville Creek.

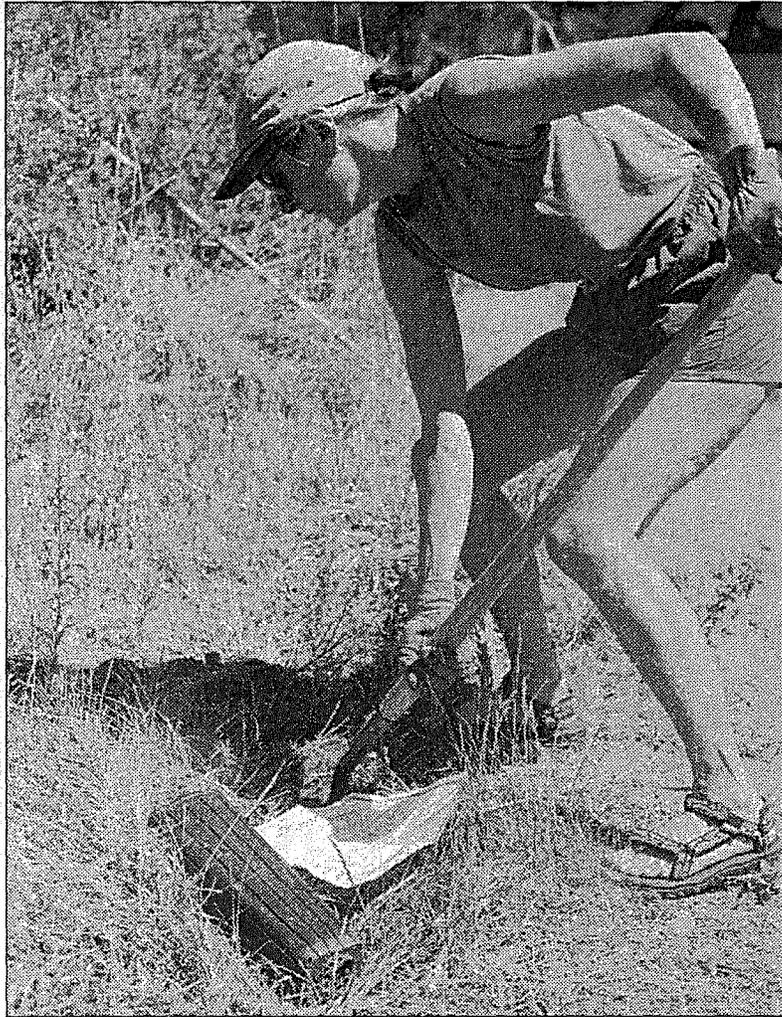
They planted 300 native shrubs, including pine, bitterbrush, hedgerose, alder and willow, along the banks of the creek. These plants will provide shade to keep the water cool, provide food and habitat for fish and protect the banks from further erosion.

By participating in Markleeville Creek Day, a 16-year-old participant learned that "restoration is important because human intervention in an environment has damaged and disrupted habitats so that they no longer function and eventually degenerate. Restoration restores a habitat to its former healthy condition."

Smaller children had fun participating in lessons on bugs and water quality. They also were able to fish for some trophy trout that were planted in the stream for Markleeville Creek Day.

After the restoration and kids' activities, everyone enjoyed a free tri-tip or hamburger barbecue from Mehrten Springs Barbecue.

"A special thank-you goes out to the citizens who participated and to the businesses of

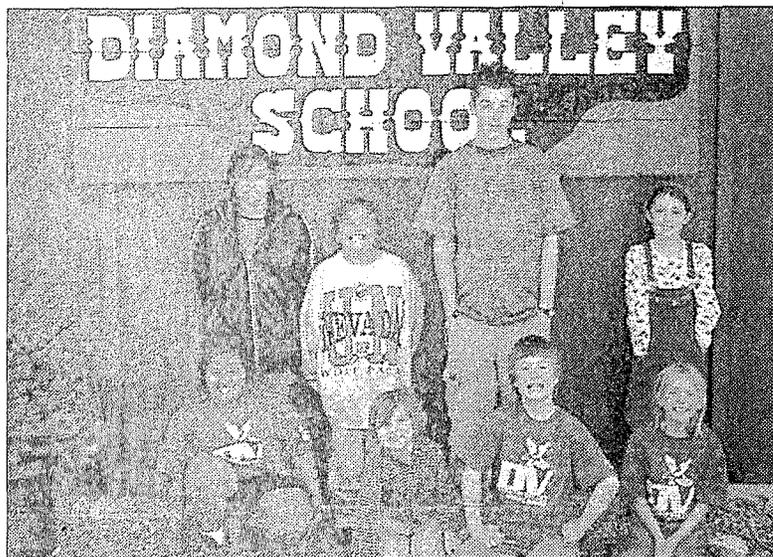


SHANNON HALL/The R-C

**Creek day:** Barbara Howard digs a hole for a plant during the Markleeville Creek cleanup operation last weekend.

Markleeville who helped ensure that the day was a success," said

Kelley Moore of the Sierra Nevada Alliance.



RUTH DOTY photo

**Students of the month:** From left are Georgie Dressler, Lorina Dressler, Krystal Erwin, Robert Williams, Jeremy Scherer, Jake Lovell, Ashley Smith and Shoshana Williams. Not pictured, Jessica Bennett.

## Diamond Valley School students of the month told

The March students of the month at Diamond Valley School in Alpine County, Calif., have been busy this month, visiting Washington, D.C., cross country skiing, swimming, visiting Sly Park and going to the theatre.

Eighth grader Jeremy Scherer has improved in all academic areas. He enjoys snowboarding and math. Jeremy just returned from the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., and said his favorite museum was the Holocaust Museum.

Seventh grader Lorina Dressler enjoys playing basketball and listening to music. She participates well in class, reports teacher Cheryl Embry. Lorina is looking forward to her trip on horseback with the 7th grade in May.

Jessica Bennett, 6th grade, just returned from a 6th grade trip to Sly Park to an environmental learning facility. Jessica has really improved in many areas, according to Anna-Maria Coletti, her teacher. Jessica likes sports and lifts weights. She participates in wrestling tournaments.

Georgie Dressler and Ashley Smith are the chosen 4th grade students of the month. Georgie is an enthusiastic student. She has improved in reading, having read almost 1,500 pages since Septem-

ber. Georgie was awarded the Block DV award in February and participates in MESA. Ashley is an outstanding student with excellent attendance. She is on the honor roll and also a recipient of the Block DV award. Her teacher, Sharon Osgood, says Ashley likes to help others and often helps with the kindergarten.

Third grader Shoshana Williams and kindergartner Robert Williams are brother and sister. Shoshana enjoys jazz dance, drama and gymnastics. Shoshana has a positive attitude. She writes creatively and has clever ideas, says Lee-Ann Burkwall, her teacher. Kelley Welykholowa, Robert's teacher, reports that Robert is doing a fantastic job in class. He is an excellent helper with a positive attitude. Robert also enjoys dance. He loves math and computers.

Second graders Krystal Erwin and Jake Lovell are both in Jackie Blaha's class. Krystal collects Pokemon cards and likes to play Nintendo. Krystal has improved in math, reading and spelling. She has a great imagination and is a wonderful artist. Jake likes to go snowboarding. Jake is an enthusiastic student who does well in science, writing and math. Jake reads with expression and writes well.

## Concerns raised over adding Alpine to district

by **Christy Chalmers**  
Staff Writer

Douglas County leaders aren't opposed to letting Alpine County, Calif., into the Carson Water Subconservancy District.

They're just not heralding it.

The Subconservancy District includes Carson City, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill counties and addresses Carson River watershed management. Churchill County, where the river ends, was added in 1999 and that expansion spurred talk of including Alpine County, Calif., where the river's two forks originate.

Lawyers for the Subconservancy District and Alpine County have been talking, and both sides agree Alpine is a logical addition. But Subconservancy district manager Ed James said the leaders of the Nevada counties want assurance they won't surrender their power, give up water rights or create an administrative nightmare like the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

■ **What are benefits?** "They have questions. They want to know what the true benefits would be," said James.

"Everyone says they want to see the actual language" that will create what would be an unprecedented bi-state river management group, he said.

Many of those questions were raised April 6 when James and



**Don Miner**

addressed the Douglas County Commission.

Lawson says he understands the concerns.

"There's no carte blanche," he said. "Nobody wants to go into this blind."

Especially Douglas County leaders, who say they want proof of what Alpine's membership could accomplish.

"What are the true benefits? Change for change's sake doesn't excite me at all," said Commissioner Don Miner. "It has to have a significant public benefit."

The Douglas commissioners also want to know how much expanding the Subconservancy again would dilute the county's power. Before Churchill was added, Douglas representatives occupied five of the nine seats on the board. With Churchill, they still have five of 11 seats, but an Alpine addition could mean a five of 13 ratio.

James and Lawson said a bi-state board could mean more

Charlie Lawson, a Lyon County representative who serves on the 11-member Subconservancy District board,

power for the district and a better chance to defend the Carson River's water from outside interests, like thirsty California communities.

■ **Unity strengthens voice.** "If we have unity, we tend to have a better voice," said James.

"I think we could forestall any overt actions by the federal government to try to control that water," said Lawson. "If we do this voluntarily and we're all talking off the same page, the federal people are going to back off."

James said some of the counties' questions have already been answered. The Alpine Decree, a federal decision on water management, will continue to govern use of the Carson River. And while the Subconservancy District can collect taxes to support itself and its work, it doesn't actually have any regulatory power, so a TRPA situation is unlikely.

Douglas Commissioner Jacques Etchegoyhen, who also serves on the Subconservancy board, said the support of Carson Valley ranchers will be crucial because they will want assurance Alpine's membership won't threaten their water claims.

James said any agreement adding Alpine will address all of those issues. Action isn't likely before 2001, when Nevada's Legislature meets again and a bill could be sought to expand the district.

13, at 1 p.m. at Walton's Chapel of the Valley in Carson City. Following will be at graveside service at Mt. View Cemetery in Reno at 3 p.m.

Visitation is today from noon until 8 p.m. at Walton's Chapel.

Mr. Turner died on April 4 in Vista, Calif.

He was born in Foster, R.I., on Sept. 20, 1908, to Arthur and Mercy Hopkins Turner.

At the start of World War II, Mr. Turner opened the Killingly Coach Lines to shuttle wartime workers to the Pratt/Whitney plant in Hartford, Conn. In July 1943, he joined the 1897th Aviation Army Engineers and was sent to the South Pacific. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, along with his company. He received three commendations for excellent work and efficiency.

He retired from the Hawthorne Naval Ammunition Depot after 23 years.

A Markleeville resident since 1978, Mr. Turner was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Preceding Mr. Turner in death

were his brother Frank Turner and sister Gladys Mercy Turner Hadwin.

Surviving are his wife Elta Turner, son Larry Bettis of Las Vegas and daughters Niki Cupples of Fairfield, Calif., Nancy Brown of San Diego, Calif., Jean Atkinson of Reno and Joan Tsang of Piedmont, Calif.

Walton's Chapel of the Valley handled arrangements.

Record Courier April 12, 2000

**Arthur Turner**

A service for Arthur Almon Turner, 91, will be held tomorrow, April

## Snowshoe Thompson ski tour to raise funds

### Hope Valley Outdoor Center offers event on Sunday

For a special treat, the Hope Valley Outdoor Center and the Greater Genoa Business Association are teaming up to sponsor the Snowshoe Thompson Family Tour on Sunday, April 16, in memory of the legendary Snowshoe Thompson, the mountain man who carried mail across the Sierra every winter for 20 years.

This year, the tour fees will be

collected and donated by the Hope Valley Outdoor Center as a fundraiser for placing a statue of Snowshoe Thompson, created by sculptor Don Budy, in downtown Genoa.

The cost is \$30 per person and includes equipment rental; \$20 without rental equipment.

The tour can be done on cross country skis or snowshoes. The event is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and participants should meet at the Hope Valley Outdoor Center.

The center's expert Norwegian skier, Nina Vingo, will lead this guided tour. A reception will follow at 2 p.m.

Frank Tortorich, a renowned Sierra historian and historic Emigrant Trail guide, will start out the day with an introduction and interesting stories about Snowshoe Thompson's life and adventures.

For reservations and information, call Hope Valley Outdoor Center, (530) 694-2266.

Record Courier 4/12/00

## Washoe Tribe Head Start seeks students for next year

Washoe Tribe Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2000-2001 school year.

All low-income children, ages 3-

5 years, including those with disabilities, are eligible to apply.

Children may enroll in one of three centers, Dresslerville, Stewart

or Woodfords. Head Start is a free developmental child care program.

For details, call Head Start Director Dorothy M. McCloud at 265-4191.

*Record Bureau 4/19/00*

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# Poisoned River Threatens Tribal Heritage

■ **Pollution:** Old mine taints waters that flow into Nevada. California owns site, complicating cleanup effort.

By JOHN M. GLIONNA  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

DRESSLERVILLE, Nev.—Just as he has for most of his 67 years, Steven James stands on the river's edge and watches the springtime come roaring into the Washoe Indian reservation here in the foothills of the eastern Sierra.

Each April, the east fork of the Carson River flows with greater fury, fed by snowmelt from the towering mountain peaks. For generations, the Washoe have viewed the seasonal runoff as a spiritual force sent down from the heavens.

But now the Carson's thundering cascade strikes fear into the tribe. Please see MINE, A28



PAUL MORSE / Los Angeles Times

Washoe tribal elder Steven James, beside east fork of Carson River, says poison from Leviathan Mine has ruined once-pristine waters.

## MINE: Abandoned Site Taints Tribal Waters

Continued from A1

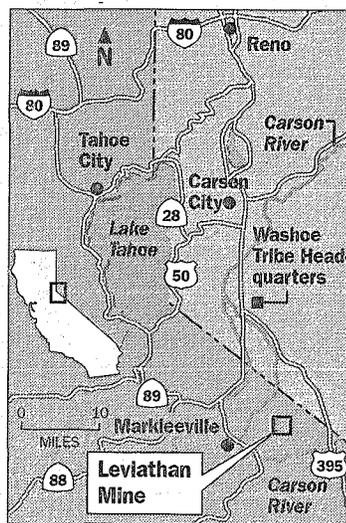
The river carries a poisonous sulfuric acid discharge from the abandoned Leviathan Mine just across the California line in wooded and remote Alpine County.

"As a boy, I carried this water up to my house by the bucketful," James shouts over the river's din. "But nobody would dream of drinking it today."

The mammoth job of cleaning up Leviathan has been complicated by the defunct copper sulfate mine's odd notoriety: It is owned by the state of California.

State officials purchased Leviathan in 1983 as part of the arduous process of plugging its odorous acid drainage—a toxic stew that stings the skin and turns clear-running mountain streams sickly shades of yellow and red.

Asked to intervene by the Washoe two years ago, the federal Environmental Protection Agency as early as next month may place the 150-year-old mine on its Superfund list—a move that would establish the site as among the 1,400



REBECCA PERRY / Los Angeles Times

most polluted places in the nation.

Leviathan is among thousands of abandoned mines—many dating back to the Gold Rush days—that continue to pollute 15 Western states, prompting local residents such as the Washoe to call for the federal government to clean them

up. Although it may bring long overdue funding for the mine cleanup effort, officials say federal involvement could further complicate California's role as both a regulator and a legally responsible party for Leviathan's chemical mess.

In purchasing the mine, the state Regional Water Quality Control Board made what one Nevada official called "a deal with the devil." Arco, a former owner of the mine, agreed to pay \$2.3 million in cleanup funds, and in return state officials freed the company from any future liability.

However, in designating Leviathan a Superfund site, federal officials are expected to name both Arco and the state as responsible for the \$25-million cleanup, sending all parties scrambling to consult their lawyers.

"You've got polluted water from one state flowing into another," said Kevin Mayer, the EPA's project manager for Leviathan. "You've got a state wearing two hats, acting as both mine regulator

and owner. You've got Arco's involvement. It's a complicated picture."

Federal officials say the move would call much-needed attention to the mine and ensure the flow of money to conduct long-term health studies and finally solve the seepage problems.

More immediately, however, state officials are working to keep millions of gallons of acid-tainted spring snowmelt from rushing into Leviathan Creek.

The Washoe say such seepage has already killed fish, made some tribe members sick and turned an upstream mountain refuge once held sacred by the tribe into a scarred no-man's land. Their concerns are echoed by residents across western Nevada, who say Leviathan's dirty flow of water must be stopped at any cost.

"It just flabbergasts me that California would ever buy such a polluted mine and then let a multi-million-[dollar] company like Arco off the hook for the cleanup," said Douglas County Commissioner

Jacques Etchegoyhen. "But the good news is that with federal help, we can get Arco back on the hook. All we want is for this mess to be cleaned up."

For its part, Arco says the issue of liability for Leviathan is clear.

"We have a strong legal opinion that indeed the state has taken liability," said Sandy Stash, vice president for environmental cleanup for Arco. "But having said that, we're realists. We plan to work together with the state and let any long-term who-pays-for-what issues be worked out later."

Closed for 38 years, Leviathan remains a legacy of strip mining practices that date to the 1950s, when the Anaconda Mining Co. dumped 22 million tons of waste rock into the meandering Leviathan Creek while trying to unearth the buried metals below.

## Mine Created to Serve Silver Industry

Opened during the Civil War and named after a nearby mountain peak, Leviathan was originally mined for copper sulfate used to

process silver ore in Nevada. After years of inactivity, the 250-acre site was purchased in 1951 by Anaconda, which soon employed open-pit mining methods that tore a hole in the pristine landscape—creating a chasm 2,000 feet long and 400 feet deep.

Over the years there have been several major fish kills due to surges of acid runoff, state and federal officials say. Sulfide from the mine turns into sulfuric acid when it comes into contact with water and air. The acid then dissolves arsenic, aluminum and calcium to create more pollution.

Leviathan was closed in 1962. Anaconda merged with Arco in the 1970s.

In a move that has been second-guessed ever since, state officials bought the property in 1983, reasoning that they could qualify for federal assistance designated for owners of polluted properties. The state paid \$54,500 to a private owner who had recently bought the mine site from Arco.

Harold Singer, executive officer of the Lahontan region of the California Regional Water Quality  
**Please see MINE, A29**

# MINE: Poison Taints River That Tribe Depends On

Continued from A28

Control Board, said the state never actually received any federal money. But he said officials wanted the mine anyway to ensure quality control for their self-funded cleanup project.

"It's hard to know what people were thinking," Singer said, adding that Leviathan is the only mine in state hands. "People do things that seem like the right decision at the time. Then circumstances change and it becomes the wrong decision in hindsight. And we've taken our lumps. But my question is: What would this place have looked like if we hadn't gotten involved?"

Back then, officials say, the site was an otherworldly scene as a red-colored Leviathan Creek ran through a barren, foul-smelling landscape—waste rock left dumped beside the mammoth mine pit.

The state has spent \$7 million—including Arco's contribution—and officials say they have made improvements to reduce the acid flow. They have pushed waste rock back into the pit and have rerouted Leviathan Creek to avoid the mine. Workers have replanted trees and constructed five large evaporation ponds to catch the acid drainage.

Singer says the state has consulted Arco engineers and academic experts from local universities on water treatment plans. But Nevada residents in neighboring Douglas County, which receives the bulk of the runoff, say California has done too little, too late.

Nevada officials say that Alpine County—California's smallest and poorest county—lacked the political clout to persuade Sacramento lawmakers to fund a timely cleanup or even the necessary health studies for those living downstream from the mine.

If this were the Owens Valley with water flowing toward Los Angeles, Nevada residents say, the mine drainage would have been stopped long ago.

"The state of California has screwed this up for the last 20 years," said Douglas County Commissioner Don Miner. "Meanwhile, their dirty water continues to run into our county, and we're just sick and tired of it. We say to hell with California and their mine cleanup. Let's bring in the feds and do the job right."

In Alpine County, where a strug-

gling blue-collar economy has long been reliant on mining, and where pickups display such bumper stickers as "What Isn't Grown . . . Must Be Mined," the Board of Supervisors has supported bringing in the federal government.

Across the state line, the Washoe remain doubtful that the toxic leak will ever be plugged.

"That water flows first through Indian land, and it's easy to write off our concerns," said Brian Wallace, chairman of the local Washoe tribe. "We're a low priority."

The Washoe have complained that no comprehensive health studies have ever been conducted and say they are counting on the federal government to conduct such research.

Wallace said the acid runoff has scarred not only the landscape but also the Washoe's fragile sense of cultural identity. For hundreds of years, he said, the Carson River and its upstream tributaries have provided the tribe a living—long before men began to mine the earth below.

Tribal members still harvest herbs on the river's banks for food and medicine and use the willow stalks growing wild there to weave handmade baskets.

"Water is sacred to the Washoe; it's central to our culture because it breathes life to everything around it," Wallace said. "But now that water is poisonous, and that's just painful to us."

## Some Indians Have Moved Away

Afraid of the water and its potentially hazardous effects, several Washoe families have moved from Dresslerville, an Indian community of about 3,000 people, Wallace said. Teachers at a local tribal school said a dozen students became sick last year after a field trip and picnic on the banks of Leviathan Creek.

Tribe members have caught discolored and deformed fish. And one woman blistered her mouth when—as part of the traditional basket-weaving technique—she used her teeth and lips to split a willow harvested near the Carson River.

"Why haven't there been any studies on the long-term effects of this water?" Wallace asked. "We had to assert our domain and

threaten a lawsuit just to get the federal government involved. It angers us to know there are more toxins than ever in that water and that we have to deal with the downstream impact of that poison every day of our lives."

Singer said he sympathizes with the tribe. "The expectations of the Washoe and other Nevadans living downstream have not been met," he said. "The conditions here at the mine are simply unacceptable."

Surveying one of the mine's acid runoff pools, he added: "Could we have responded a little faster here? That's a valid criticism.

"We're still many years and millions of dollars away from being able to close the door on this mine and say we've solved the problem once and for all," he said.

That saddens Washoe tribal elder James, a proud man who has spent most of his life on the Washoe reservation.

He knows he will probably never again see unsullied woods near the mine, a place the Washoe traditionally call "where the frogs make a lot of noise" and where they once picked pine nuts, fished for cut-throat trout and hunted for deer.

"For the Washoe, it's like losing Yosemite," James said. "Those woods up there were our national park."



Susan Hunt holds her dog, Zeus, as a truck passes on road made of waste rock from Leviathan Mine. She has expressed concern that dust from the road may be toxic.

PAUL MORSE / Los Angeles Times





The tainted, cloudy waters of Leviathan Creek, left, join another creek on the way to the Carson River. Below, Washoe Indian children watch the east fork of the Carson flow past as a friend plays.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Photos by PAUL MORSE / Los Angeles Times

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April 22, 2000

## DVS students of the month announced

by K. Hadley

Special to the R-C

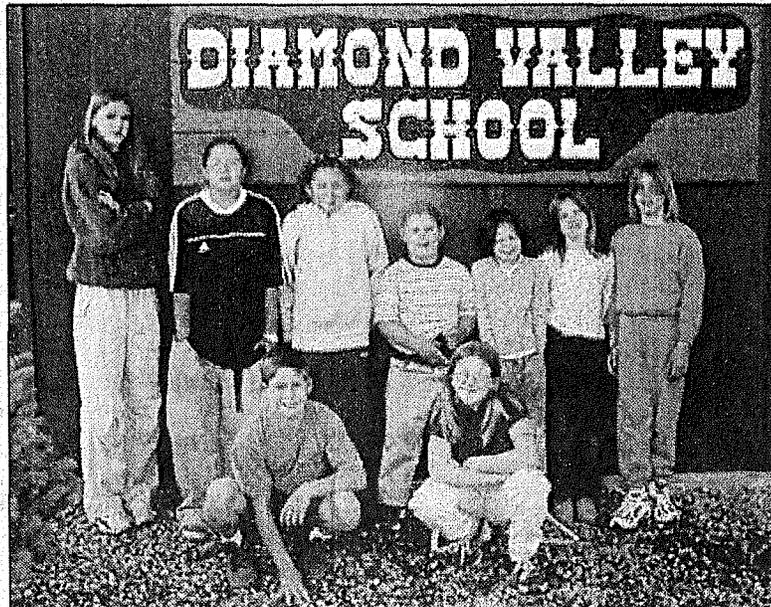
Spring is here, creating cheer, and so are the students of the month at Diamond Valley School in Alpine County, Calif.

Shanice Lundy and Jocelyn Myers are 7th and 8th grade students. They are working hard and have improved in all areas. Ms. Embry, their teacher, describes these students as having a positive attitude and a pleasure to have in class. Shanice likes to spend her time playing sports, especially basketball. Her favorite things at school are science and seeing friends. Jocelyn enjoys basketball as well. She enjoys PE at school.

The 5th and 6th grade students of the month are delightful students, report their teachers, Ms. Coletti and Ms. Osgood. The fifth graders are Kasey Rogers, Angel Rojas and Stephanie Jensen. Sixth grader Corrie McGregor joins them.

Kasey is an outstanding 5th grader. She has had perfect attendance and nearly a perfect record of turning in homework. She is helpful and loves to participate in all school activities.

Angel Rojas is an active and helpful 5th grader. She participates in MESA, and enjoys playing softball. Angel likes to help at school in the cafeteria, performing



RUTH DOTY photo

**DVS students:** From left are Jocelyn Myers, Shanice Lundy, Corrie McGregor, Angel Rojas, Brandon Winschell, Kasey Rogers, Macy Matlock, Cassie Hume, Stephanie Jensen.

on DVTV.

Stephanie is a very positive student who works hard. She volunteers to help in class and is on task.

She has improved in math this year and does well in reading. Stephanie likes riding horses and playing soccer. Corrie is a great science student, and did an excellent job on a pulley structure. He is polite and helpful. Corrie enjoys riding four-wheelers and playing golf.

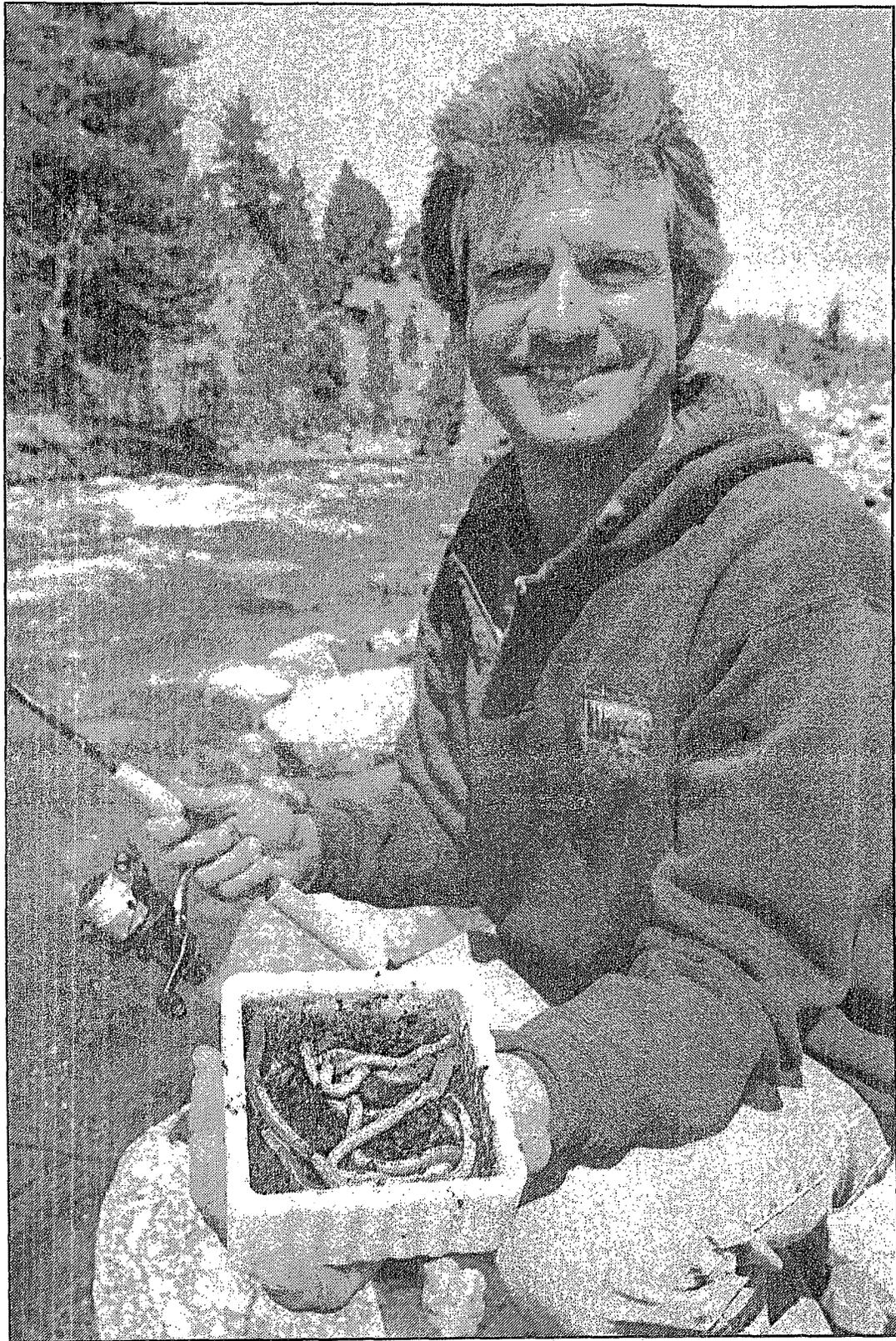
The Mag A and Mag B teachers, Mrs. Blaha and Mrs. Burkwall, have chosen Cassie Hume and Macy Matlock as the 3rd grade students of the month. Cassie is working very hard in all

academic areas. She keeps trying even when things get tough. Cassie is a good friend and listens. She likes bike riding and math.

Macy has worked hard in class this month academically. Macy is also a good friend and it shows in her actions. She likes collecting American Girl dolls, riding her bike and playing with friends.

Kindergartner Brandon Winschell is a good listener, a great friend, and helpful to others. Ms. Welly says Brandon has really improved his math and reading skills.

His favorite subjects are math and computers. Brandon collects Pokemon cards.



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

**Carson River Resort managing partner Brad Davis displays an unusual bait for fishing on opening day — fluorescent green night crawlers.**

# Fish on — oh yeah — fish on

## Season opens Saturday; Rivers looking good

By Lauren Theodore  
Tribune Staff Writer

Lakes and streams are chock-full of hungry fish waiting to bite the bait.

The snow has melted and cleared the way for fishermen to drop their lines in hopes of the big one. The general fishing season opens Saturday.

This is the general opening which means it is still off limits to fish in Lake Tahoe's tributaries. The tributary opening is July 1. Getting caught by the Fish and Game warden before then will result in a poaching violation.

Friday will be the last day the river banks and lakes will be empty until summer ends.

"You see 'em almost like a fencepost lined up, it's so busy," Sal Disalvo, a Gardnerville resident and avid fisherman, said about the East Fork of the Carson River which was amply stocked this week. He spends his time at the Carson River Resort, located a mere stone's throw from the river.

This is the first year that the stretch of the river from Hangman's Bridge to the state line has been designated a catch-and-release area. It excites the residents who claim that even county and state stocking can't always keep a high level of trout in the river.

"Carson is still the best river that I can find," said the 78-year-old who spends the winter skiing and the summer fishing. Disalvo has fished at

### Cast members

Fishing licenses and regulation booklets are available at most grocery and fishing outfitter stores.

To encourage those who have never fished before, the state Department of Fish and Game offers two free fishing days per year. For 2000, California's free days are June 10 and Sept. 23.

### California license

- A resident annual license is \$28.10.
- A nonresident annual license is \$75.85.
- A 10-day nonresident license is \$28.10.
- A two-day license is also available for \$10.25.

### Nevada license

- A resident annual license is \$26.
- A nonresident annual license is \$56.

the resort for more than 20 years.

Brad Davis, the managing partner at the resort, said he enjoys Disalvo's company and does everything he can to accommodate him and those who come to fish or raft on the East Fork. Sitting on a 160-acre parcel, the resort's general store offers bait, tackle, food, beer and wine.

See **Fish**, Page 2A

Call 541-3880. Surf the news — and a lot more! [tahoe.com](http://tahoe.com)

## Can you find the fish?

Fish of the Lake Tahoe Basin, as provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Rainbow** — The trout gets its name from the rainbow of colors on its side. The fish feed around the clock, but feeding is more intense at dusk.



■ **Brook** — A red, yellow or blue spotted fish that can tolerate colder water than any other regional trout. Feeding takes place primarily in the early morning and evening hours.

■ **Brown** — Identified by its red and black spots along the body.

They tend to be more secretive than rainbow trout and less vulnerable to fishing pressures.



■ **Mackinaw or Lake Trout** — Thought to be the catch of Lake Tahoe. Records at Tahoe include fish that were over 3-feet long and weighed in at 20-pounds.

■ **Lahontan Cutthroat** — A native fish to Lake Tahoe that was named for its yellowish to red slash-

es on the under side of the jaw.

■ **Golden Trout** — One of the prettiest trout, its lower sides are bright gold with splashes of red and yellow. Its back is olive green.

■ **Kokanee salmon** — Accidentally introduced in 1944 when holding ponds by Tahoe City, overflowed in a rainstorm, these relatives of the oceanic sockeye salmon turn a deep red color when they reach three years of age.

### Alpine County Chamber of Commerce Catch-and-Release tips

- Keep retrieve time to a minimum. Use stronger tippets and leaders to decrease retrieve time.
- Keep Lahontans in the water to release, gravity can damage a fish's internal organs.
- Hold fish by lower bony jaw with index finger and thumb, do not put fingers in gills. Keep hands wet if handling is necessary.
- Revive exhausted fish until they struggle before releasing.

The state Department of Fish and Game has contracted with Nextlink to give California residents 1-800-ASK-FISH. Calls are limited to five minutes, but provide callers with a wide variety of fishing information.

## Fish

Continued from Page 1A

"The hottest item is the fluorescent green night crawlers," Davis said pointing to the squirming worms which look like they have been dunked in radioactive waste.

"They ought to work like a charm," Disalvo said, "because (the trout) go after green power bait."

Even the typical orange power bait has been glamorized this year. Jars of sparkle nugget bait in bright pink and green hues sit on the shelves.

"We try to keep up with the latest innovations," Davis joked.

Victor Babbitt, 17-year South Shore resident and owner of Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters, is also ready for the season to begin.

"(Tahoe) should have a big opening," Babbitt said, adding that his

Hello, fellow anglers

Mac is back . . . **Sports**

store does all it can to market the fish season to San Francisco visitors as well as those who live here.

"It's a great business," Babbitt said of the job that is more like a hobby to him.

People have been pouring into the store this week, stocking up on fishing equipment and purchasing licenses so they will be prepared when Saturday rolls around.

Babbitt said that the early snowmelt means clear water fishing conditions. "The rivers are in a lot better shape than the previous four or five years," he said.

He only fishes catch-and-release because he thinks that the wild salmon that survive without the help of stocking, need all the help

they can get to procreate. "A place like Tahoe should really be protected," he said.

The catch-and-release method takes some education and practice to get it right, Babbitt said. The trick is to de-barb the sharp end of fish hooks so the hook can be easily slipped out of the fish's mouth. He recommends releasing the fish and watching to make sure it swims away because people unknowingly throw dead fish far back into the water.

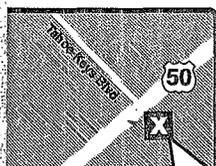
"If (the fish population) had some pressure taken off of it, it would come back spectacularly," Babbitt said.

The true fishermen don't mind getting away from the popular spots, Babbitt said, and they don't mind catching smaller fish.

"I prefer solitude and being out in the woods," Babbitt said. "It's just nice to be in the outdoors."

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South Lake Tahoe, Calif.

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## Workshop on smaller businesses at Sorensen's

How does a person finance the start-up or expansion of a small business? The answer would be of interest to people who are thinking of going into business or considering the possibility of expanding their existing business.

The intricacies of small business finance will be addressed at a panel discussion sponsored by the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce. The event will take place May 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sorensen's Resort on State Route 88.

The old saying, "It takes money, to get money, to make money," is as true today as it ever was. Whether a person plans on using their own money from savings or the equity in their home or going to traditional lenders such as their bank, the Small Business Administration or private lenders, they must prepare ahead of time to void the many pitfalls that stand in their way to entrepreneurial success.

The Alpine County Chamber of Commerce has invited three experts to help show the way. Bob Porter of the Bank of the West Small Business Loan Department, Bob Blaney of B&C Mortgage and Ron Mittlebrun of the Amador County Small Business Development Center will give hints to simplify the process. They also will be available for questions after their presentation.

A registration fee of \$15 includes lunch. Space is limited and the deadline is May 1. To make a reservation and for more information call (530) 694-2475.

Tahoe Daily Tribune April 28-30, 2000

# Gag order called for in Markleeville Internet case

By Bradley Foster  
Tribune Staff Writer

Carved from the rough Sierra Nevada by miners more than a century ago, the quiet town of Markleeville has become the center of a noisy conflict over how people can use the Internet in the next century.

For the moment a gag order has quieted both sides of a lawsuit that has fallen into a legal black hole, according to Internet experts who said the case could establish a precedent for free speech in cyberspace.

Gregory Mason, a CHP officer based in South Lake Tahoe, brought a defamation suit against Judy Hoelscher and her husband in 1998 for disparaging him on a Web site called Small Town Justice.

Mason arrested Hoelscher in 1993 after a high-speed chase on U.S. Highway 395 which reached speeds of 140 mph, according to the ar-

*"This is such a small town that everybody knows everybody's business. If they were out talking about the case it would be impossible to find a jury."*

— DeAnne Jang  
Owner of The Deli in Markleeville

rest report. Hoelscher was convicted of speeding and evading arrest two years later, but insists that she was running from Mason because he had previously harassed her on the side of the road.

Mason is asking for damages and that the site be taken down, which could have a dramatic effect on the future of the Internet.

Until the gag order was issued last month, Hoelscher's Web site told her side of the story and included personal information about Mason.

The site has also been the basis for insults traded by James Mason, the attorney representing Officer Mason, and the Hoelschers, who are representing themselves. In letters the two sides have called each other juvenile and deceitful, and at the preliminary hearing last year a judge had to tell them to stop arguing.

In Markleeville, which clings to Highway 89 as it runs through Alpine County — the smallest

See **Internet**, Page 2A

Tahoe Daily Tribune 5/1/2000

## Internet

Continued from Page 1A

county in California with a population of only 1,200 — most residents think the gag order is a good idea.

"This is such a small town that everybody knows everybody's business," said DeAnne Jang, who owns The Deli in Markleeville. "If they were out talking about the case it would be impossible to find a jury."

The Hoelschers had asked the judge to move the case to El Dorado County or to Orange County, and are afraid they cannot get a fair trial in Alpine County where officer Mason lives with his wife.

Because of the small population, people in Alpine County are called for jury duty at least

once a year, said Jang, who had an employee taken from work one afternoon still wearing her apron.

"I you live here you know that you are going to be on a lot of juries," she said.

While some think the case is based on "out-of-town weirdness," many people in Markleeville are only vaguely aware of the lawsuit.

Bob Rudden, who owns the Markleeville General Store, said he is not paying much attention to the suit despite the attention paid by national media, such as the New York Times, The Today Show and Good Morning America.

"We have movie people in here all the time so that is no big deal," he said.

"It hasn't been talked about much," agreed Jang, who said that Markleeville is an odd

place for such a big trial. "Here we are, this small town, and we are one of the first places to have an Internet case. That is really strange to me."

No matter where it takes place, the Hoelschers said in a letter to Mason's attorney written in February that they are not afraid of a public trial.

"It is (James Mason's) dishonesty and deceitfulness that has caused at least a year in delays already," the Hoelschers wrote.

No date has been set for the trial.

"My husband and I feel we have the right to free speech, and we are being harassed for speaking out," Judy Hoelscher told the Tribune before the gag order was issued. "In this country we have the right to criticize government officials. They don't want the truth to come out. That is what they are afraid of."

Tahoe Daily Tribune 5/1/2000

## OUTSTANDING LEADER

# DHS senior gets scholarship to youth summit in St. Louis

**T**hurman Roberts, a senior at Douglas High School, earned a scholarship to attend the Ryan White AIDS Foundation National Youth Summit in February and presented what he learned at the summit at a Tobacco-Free Community Potluck and Raffle at the community firehouse in Alpine County last month.

Roberts was also selected to attend the 23rd annual California Indian Education and Youth Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif., April 13-15, but was unable to attend because he was in a track meet the same weekend.

Roberts has been accepted at Cal Poly, where he will major in

**Thurman Roberts:** Woodfords resident accepted to Cal Poly; hopes to become teacher, counselor, coach

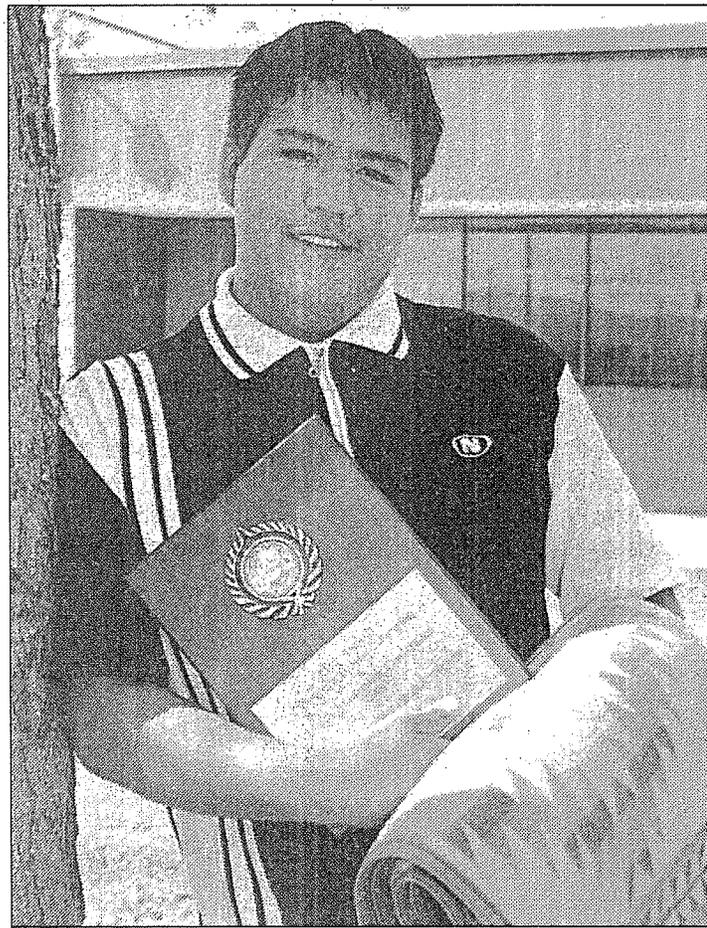
engineering; however, he said he would like to continue on to Humboldt State University and go into the teaching program. He would like to be a teacher and counselor and also coach track.

He has been a member of the DHS track team since he was a freshman.

Thurman was nominated for the Ryan White AIDS Foundation scholarship by Kate McCartney, director of the Woodfords Indian Education Center, and Toni Hall, the HIV/AIDS community outreach worker for the Alpine County Health Department.

According to McCartney, Roberts has demonstrated leadership since he was a small boy.

See **Roberts** on page 2



**BELINDA GRANT/T**

**Winner:** Thurman Roberts is shown with a plaque and blank was awarded recently.

Record Courier 5-6-00

## Roberts: DHS senior wins summit scholarship

Continued from page 1

He was middle school student of the year at Diamond Valley School and recently team leader for the Statewide Youth Indian Leadership Project, where he and his team developed, organized and presented their own health education curriculum to Native American 7th and 8th graders at DVS.

According to Hall, who interviewed Roberts after his return from the Ryan White conference, the DHS senior is eager to impart knowledge he learned in St. Louis, saying that AIDS is increasing in

incidence among young adults and youths of color.

Prevention to control the spread of the virus was one of the major topics discussed at the conference.

"We need young people with communications skills and a devotion to their communities to continue to spread the word about this disease," Hall said.

She said Roberts hopes to educate people and help them realize that though Alpine County is small, HIV can affect people in the area as easily as it does in big-

ger communities.

Roberts is the son of David and Delores Roberts of Woodfords, Calif.

## Superfund listing milestone for Washoe Tribe members

by Sheila Gardner  
Staff Writer

Washoe Tribal Chairman Brian Wallace said Thursday he is encouraged by the federal government's decision to put more money and the clout of the Environmental Protection Agency behind efforts to clean up the abandoned Leviathan Mine, high in the mountains of Alpine County, Calif.

Contamination from the 250-acre abandoned sulfur mine flows eastward through the Toiyabe National Forest, through Washoe Tribal land and into Nevada.

"We've been dealing with the impacts for decades," Wallace said. "This is definitely a good sign. In this particular area, the impact of mining activities and drainage have significantly altered the landscape and the landscape of the Tribe in a cultural way. To be Washoe in that part of Washoe territory is hazardous and toxic."

Wallace thanked Felicia Marcus, regional administrator for the EPA Region 9, for her efforts in getting the Leviathan listed on the Superfund. The designation also targets the mine as one of the most polluted sites in the country.

"We see this as a repudiation of the status quo," Wallace said. "It's been a situation that everyone has been ignoring and looking the other way."

"The ongoing drainage is something we live with every day in the places we thought were the safest. The day of reckoning is coming. Eventually, it is going to be in everybody's lap. It is in ours right now," he said.

The Tribe requested the Superfund listing several years ago.



Brian Wallace



Sen. Richard Bryan

"This is noteworthy for the whole community, not just the Tribe," Wallace said.

"Unfortunately, the Indian people had to be the tripwire for the wellness of the bioregion. The real reason we're doing this is to protect our future and allow us to

have a responsible role in raising a generation of children to match these mountains with the understanding that they are a fundamental part of the stewardship of this place they call home."

Superfund status means the EPA will come out with remedial investigation and feasibility studies, Wallace said, a scientific effort to deal with drainage and mitigation and the longterm goal of restoration of the site.

"It's still somewhat out of focus," Wallace said. "There are still some very serious unknowns about the groundwater."

Wallace said cleanup may take a generation, but the Tribe won't give up.

"Any effort is worth pursuing when you have the health and welfare of children and elders at stake," he said. "It may be late, but it is certainly not too late."

# Washoe: Trend favors tribal land stewardship

Continued from page A1

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The Washoes' entry into the issue of toxic mine drainage is part of a broad and relatively new tribal campaign to reassert stewardship of the water, wildlife and land in the tribe's ancestral territory, 14,000 square miles of alpine and sagebrush country with Lake Tahoe at its heart.

"Who's to say that the Washoes don't have the silver bullet in what it would take to restore it?" said Brian Wallace, the tribe's 42-year-old chairman.

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Leviathan Creek enters the 7,000-foot-elevation mine site clear and flush with trout, including hybrids of the threatened Lahontan cutthroat. The stream then funnels into a bypass channel built by the state's Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board 15 years ago as part of a project to control the mine drainage.

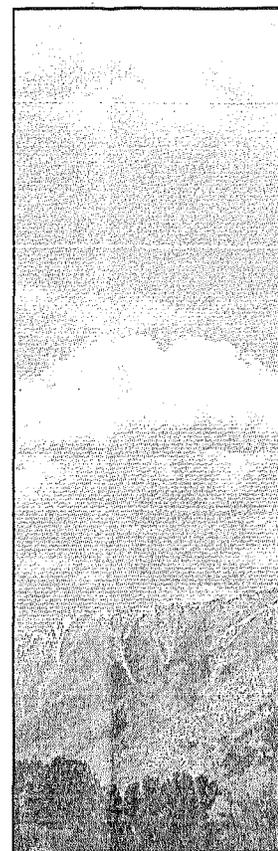
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The women are among those who tell those stories to children, but the stream is no longer alive with the birds and animals in those tales.

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Associated Press photograph

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## Watershed of Leviathan Creek

The Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California has persuaded the federal Environmental Protection Agency to make the Leviathan Mine a national priority for cleanup. Last month, the EPA designated the 250-acre mine in Alpine County a Superfund site



Source: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

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# Leviathan mine gets feds' listing

by Christy Chalmers  
Staff Writer

The man who will be overseeing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to clean up Leviathan Mine says the agency has a few things to learn.

"We're experienced with cleaning up hazardous materials, but we're not experienced at living in the Carson Valley," said project manager Kevin Mayer. "We're going to learn from the community, and we want to let the community know that they've got a role in this."

"This" is the designation of Leviathan Mine as a federal Superfund site. U.S. Sen. Richard Bryan announced Wednesday that the now-closed mine, located in Alpine County, Calif. approximately 25 miles southwest of Gardnerville, was chosen for Superfund status. The move means federal resources will be available for cleanup, but it also marks the 250-acre site as one of the most polluted in the country.

The mine operated intermittently from 1863 to 1962, producing copper sulfate and sulfur. Water that leaches through the tailings produces sulfuric acid, which in turn dissolves minerals such as aluminum, copper and arsenic. The runoff has decimated Leviathan and Bryant creeks, which drain into the east fork of the Carson River.

See **Mine** on page 11

## INSIDE

**Washoe Tribal chairman says Superfund status is a move in the right direction**

See page 11

# Mine: On Superfund list

Continued from page 1

The EPA has scheduled an informational meeting May 24 in Gardnerville to discuss plans for cleaning the site, which could take years.

Mayer said EPA scientists will be studying all impacts as they decide on a cleanup strategy.

"We're focusing on the activity at the mine, but we're looking at the response of the stream system all the way down the system," said Mayer. "We will be trying to let people understand the pieces that we have to put together to reach an eventual cleanup of the site and also to discuss the role that the community plays, helping us to identify all the pieces of the puzzle."

News of the Superfund designation was welcomed by U.S. Sen. Richard Bryan and Douglas County Commission Chairman Jacques Etchegoyhen.

Bryan and the county commission had urged EPA officials to put Leviathan on the Superfund list.

"I can finally see a little light at the end of the tunnel," Bryan said. "We are finally going to get this mess cleaned up, once and for all."

Etchegoyhen said he hopes the designation brings meaningful progress.

"I hope this is not a make-work thing for consultants and lawyers," he said. "I think over the decades there's been enough finger-pointing. I hope this time

## DETAILS

**What:** Informational meeting on Leviathan Mine cleanup

**When:** Wednesday, May 24, 7 p.m.

**Where:** Carson Valley Middle School, 1477 Highway 395, Gardnerville.

**Information:** Kevin Mayer or Vicki Rosen at the U.S. EPA, 800-231-3075.

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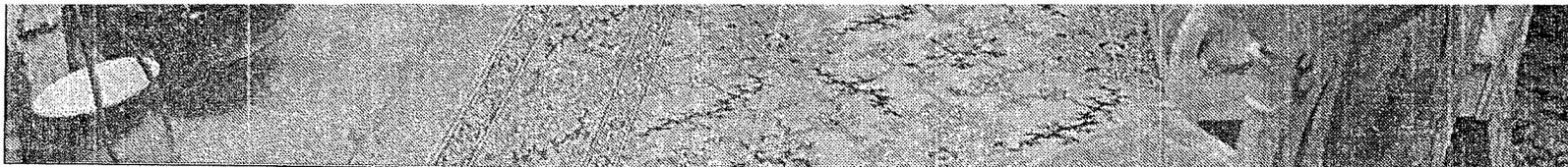
Etchegoyhen said the return of trout to the affected waterways would be a good barometer for progress. He also predicted the coming summer months will show how serious mine runoff contamination is, because the Carson River will probably be lower than in the past few years.

"It will be quite noticeable in a year like this when the river will be down to 20 cubic feet per second and one cubic foot of that may be from Leviathan Creek," said Etchegoyhen. "This year, we'll notice it."

Mayer said the EPA will probably hold at least one other public meeting once a cleanup strategy is determined.

"We would probably want to come back to the community and let them know what we've found, and possibly open it up for questions and a dialogue," he said. "We like to have periodic updates."

Record Carrier  
May 13, 2000



DERRIK BRYANT/R-C photos

**Parlor gets rearranged:** The red wallpapered parlor area has seen some major change in design but not in theme, says Dick Edwards.

## Paint, carpet, windows add to Alpine Museum

**Season opening is planned for May 27 with Indian tacos, sales**

**N**ew windows, new carpet, new paint and plenty of enthusiasm will welcome visitors to the opening of the Alpine County Museum May 27.

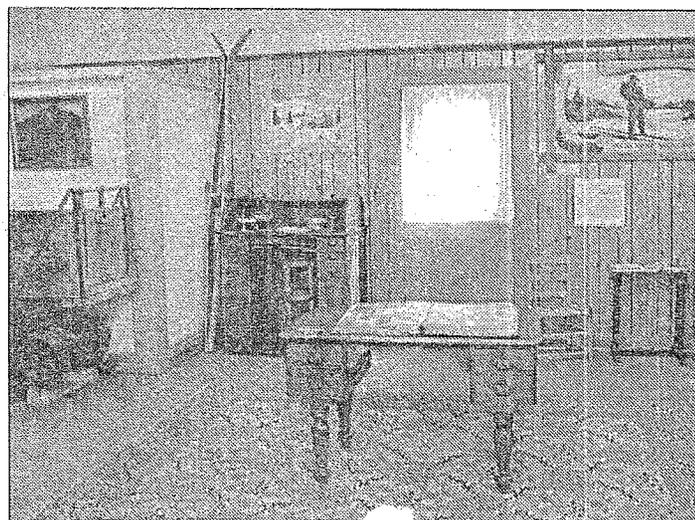
Taking advantage of the fact that displays had to be moved to allow for the refurbishing, exhibits have been moved, changed and updated, according to museum director Dick Edwards.

Ellen Martin and Edwards spent a lot of time during the off-season cataloging and photographing the museum collection with the help of Jim Lyons.

They used a new digital camera and museum program. The job will take several winter off-seasons to complete, according to Edwards.

The blacksmith shop was removed and will be placed in a shed outside; however, the shed needs to get a concrete floor, a project planned for later in the summer. The blacksmith shop setup will have to be done over the winter as well.

Inside the museum, various exhibits have been moved around to better show them off, a job that was



### **Post office, store:**

The post office and general store exhibits at the Alpine County Museum, above, were left untouched in the recent recarpeting and repainting project. At left, the Snowshoe Thompson display was moved into the main room of the museum, which opens May 27.

accomplished with volunteer help from Steve and Jeff Martin, Ranger Mark Pupich and Lyons.

The new carpet reduces the sound indoors, Edwards said, and the new windows are ultraviolet-filtered to help protect the collections.

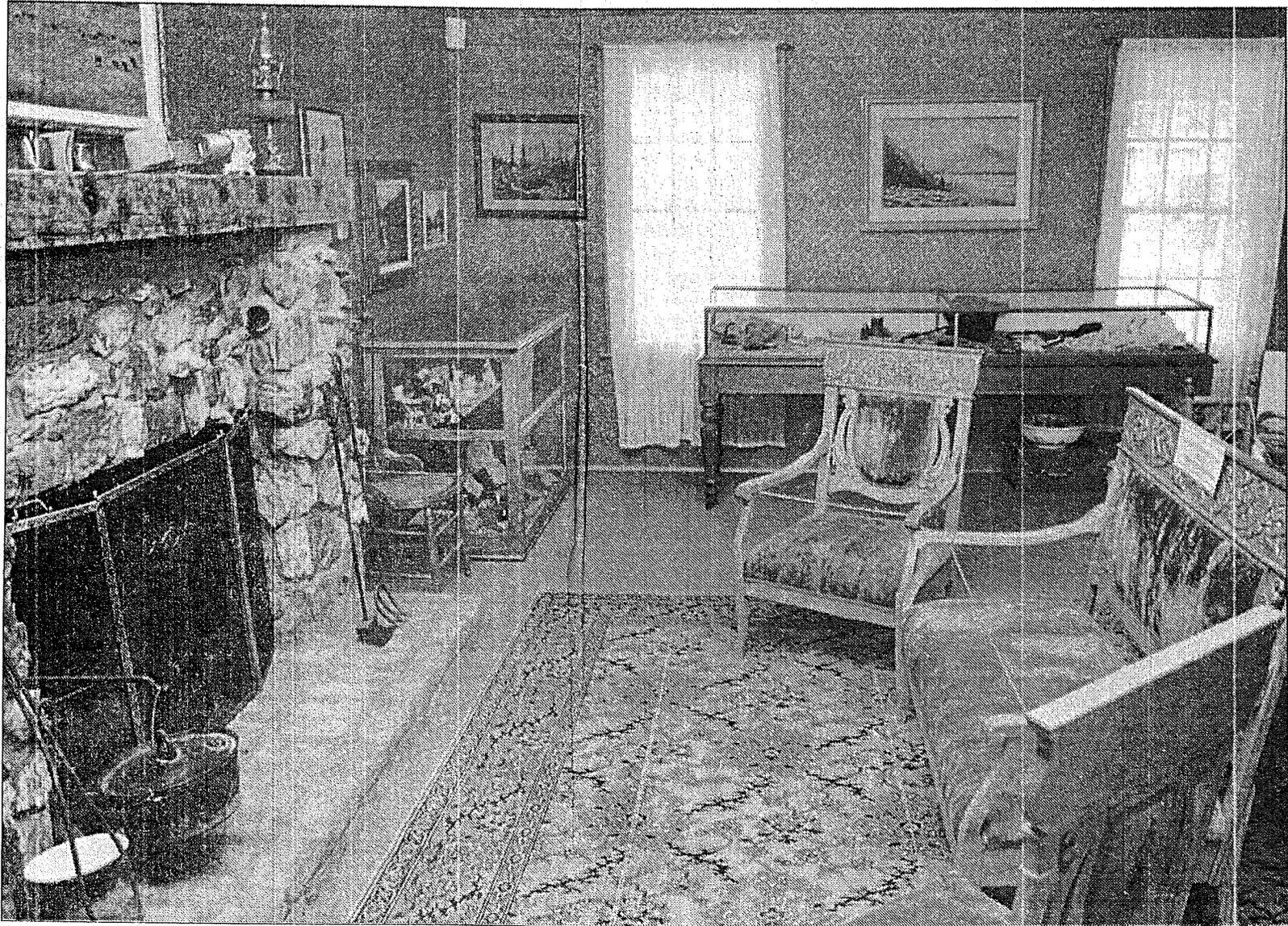
"All in all," Edwards said, "this year's opening day should furnish the local community with something new and different in their museum while still providing the out-of-town visitor with a comprehensive study into the history of Alpine County."

The museum will be open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 27 and will feature an Indian taco sale provided by the Mother's Club of the Hung-a-lel-ti Community.

All items will be on sale at the museum store, except Washoe bead work, with a 10 percent discount for all visitors and a 20 percent discount to members of the Historical Society of Alpine County.

The museum is located on School Street, off Highway 89 heading toward Grover Hot Springs State Park, in Markleeville.

## NEW LOOK IN MARKLEEVILLE



DERRIK BRYANT/R-C photos

**Parlor gets rearranged:** The red wallpapered parlor area has seen some major change in design but not in theme, says Dick Edwards.

### **This land is whose land?**

We are surprised and not a little offended to find that *VIA* has joined the media feeding frenzy by giving support to placing more Western land in "public" ownership, generally with the common thread of restricted access. Fifty million or 60 million acres to roadless. A few million to natural conservation areas. A few million to national monuments. Oust the motor vehicles. Oust the cows. Oust the miners. Soon it will be oust the hikers and skiers. We who live in rural areas wonder where, or whether, it will stop.

We have been AAA members for over 40 years and this is the first time I have been offended by an article in your magazine. Frankly, this article belongs in *Sierra* or *Nature Conservancy* or some such magazine. The role of AAA's magazine is to print articles that simply describe wonderful places to visit without taking a political position on whether they

need "protection." The radical environmental movement is not about the environment at all. It is about controlling the land.

*Nancy C. Thornburg*  
*Markleeville, California*

*VIA MAGAZINE*  
*MAY-JUNE 2000*

May 17, 2000

The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

## Alpine Children's Center to hold 20th anniversary party

The Alpine Children's Center turns 20 this month, and a gala free dinner with entertainment will be offered Monday, May 22, at Turtle Rock Park on Highway 89 between Woodfords and Markleeville.

Dinner begins at 5 p.m. with short performances by children attending the center at 5:45 p.m. Skip Veatch and Dave Zellmer will play some of the old songs heard at many a fund-raiser in the past.

"This is not a fund-raiser," however, said Edie Veatch, executive director.

"It is free. Alpine Children's Center wants to say 'thank you' for giving us the opportunity to serve children and families of Alpine County for the past 20 years."

Articles of incorporation were signed by Pat Smith, Kate Harvey and Diane Holt May 16, 1980. Other active members were Kathy Aylor, Veatch, Blanca Kralik, Angie O'Neal and the first teacher, Patty Asay.

To get the center going, Smith wrote a grant for AB 90 funds, and at an Alpine County board of supervisors meeting, she said that if the board would just fund the center \$10,000 to get it started, she wouldn't ask for anything more.

Nowadays, the center receives about \$100,000 a year in grant funding administered by Alpine County.

Veatch left the project and went to work in Gardnerville, and Jeanne Turnbeaugh, Gail Day and Karen Callison-Keebaugh joined the group. Veatch returned to the board in 1986.

In 1983, Jo Daugherty, also

known as Jo Jo, was hired as a part-time teacher's aide. The program expanded into after-school child care and a new building arrived along with a latchkey program grant in 1989.

In 1990, Karen Hamann, now officer manager, was hired to help with paperwork. In 1991, Veatch was hired.

In 1993, bankruptcy came knocking at the door for various reasons and staff members were laid off and part-time children and all children under 2 had to find child care somewhere else. The Sierra Health Foundation made a grant to the center and Marge Celio, Daugherty's mother, lent the Alpine Children's Center money to bring a delinquent account with the state department of education current. Slowly the center worked itself out of the red.

In 1998, a community resource center was added, and in 1999, Lyn Snyder started with the home visitor program.

"Now as we enter our 20th year," said Veatch, "we are going to try infants again. We will license for only three."

The center is licensed for 52 children. The teachers are Connie Kizer, Daugherty and Teresa Horse, with an infant teacher and preschool aide to be hired. The cook is Tara Skenandore. A literacy program for children and adults should start in July, Veatch said.

Board members include Lynda Kirby, Karen Robinson, Lisa Walsh and Galit Williams.

For information, call the center at (530) 694-2390.

# EID audit eyes GM

By JONATHAN  
SCHWARZBERG  
Staff writer

Phase I of the El Dorado Irrigation District audit has been completed by the Barrington-Wellesly Group and will be heard by the EID board of directors Monday. The auditors will seek to evaluate the general manager.

The EID board of directors will also vote on continuing Phase II of the project. The board approved the outside audit 3-2, with Directors Dirk Gillmeister and Richard Akin dissenting, to look at all areas of the district.

"After only one week, I can tell you that we believe there are substantial opportunities for improvement that will benefit the employees and customers of the district," stated John Conley, managing director of the audit, in a letter to the board.

The letter explains that instead of the working hypotheses the group was originally slated to submit, they would like to provide these in a list of "questions to answer." The letter states that the group would like to do more research before making any definitive statements.

"One thing that became very important to us during our week of interviews and document reviews is that we do not wish to add to the current state of confusion about the proper solutions to long-term district issues by making definitive statements, based on only preliminary information," stated Conley.

Among the questions are:

- Does the public dissension within the board of directors adversely impact the productivity and morale of staff? If so, what steps can be taken to instill professionalism and respect among the directors?

- Does the general manager respond in a timely manner to questions or issues brought before him for direction or approval? If not, how does this lack of responsive-

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ness impact the effectiveness and productivity of the organization?

Other questions cover the water operations, water quality, wastewater operations, recreation, engineering and hydroelectric. Each of the questions should be answered during Phase II of the audit. The questions cover a broad range of topics.

During Phase II, all EID manage-

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ment and other employees will be interviewed, as well as the members of the board and recent retirees. Local groups such as the Chamber of Commerce will be interviewed. Regulatory personnel, such as the Regional Water Quality Board, Department of Health Services, Forestry Service, and others will also be interviewed.

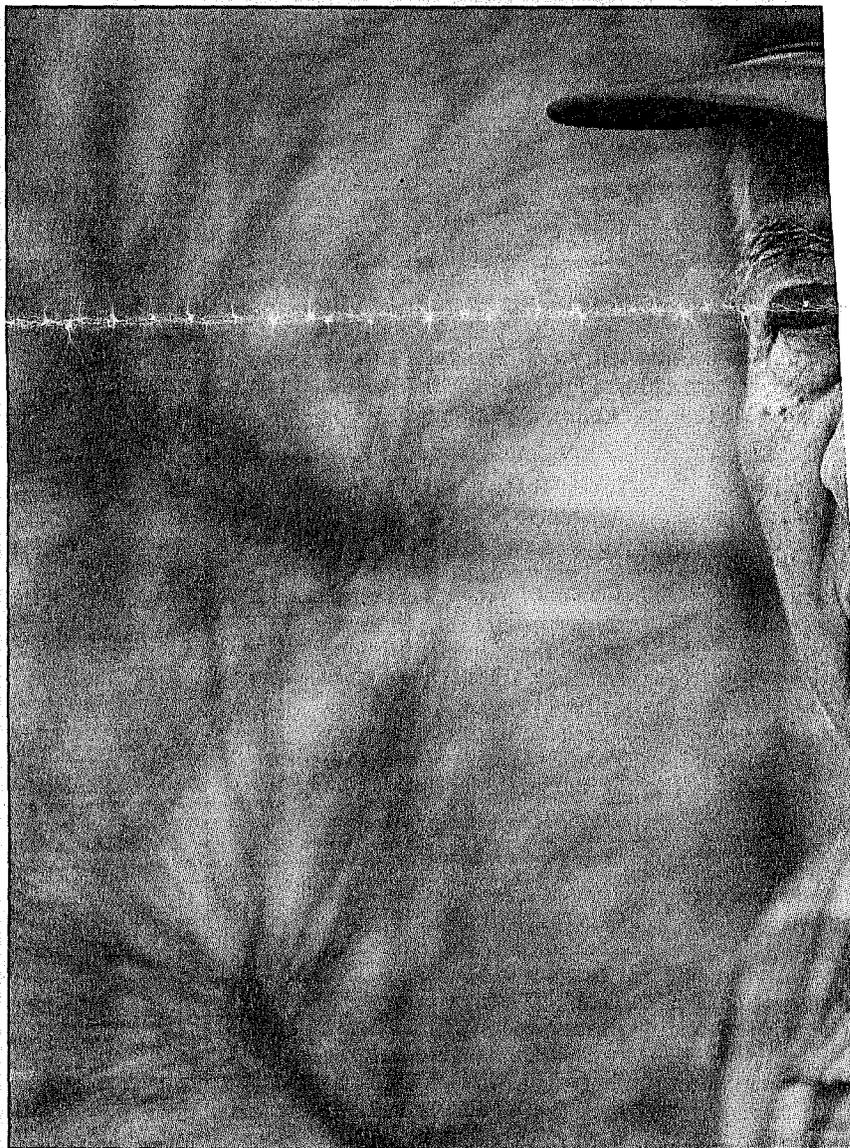
A draft report for Phase II should

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be available by Aug. 4 and a final report by Aug. 15. The phase should cost \$66,200.

The letter also states that the Barrington-Wellesly Group is planning to add Dr. Mohamed El Gassier, an expert in hydroelectric operations and in the operations of the State Power Exchange, to their team.

Elsewhere on the agenda, the board will reconsider the approval of Kessler and Associates Consultant Proposal. The board voted to hire Kessler and Associates as consultants.



Steven James, a Washoe tribal elder, says the Leviathan Mine has brought

# Washoe Indians take lead mine-cleanup role

By Chris Bowman  
Bee Staff Writer

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DRESSLERVILLE, Nev. – For nearly 50 years, Leviathan Creek has flowed opaque orange on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada through the semiarid land of pinyon pines, gray willows and wild onions that has been the home of the Washoe Indian Tribe for more than 10,000 years.

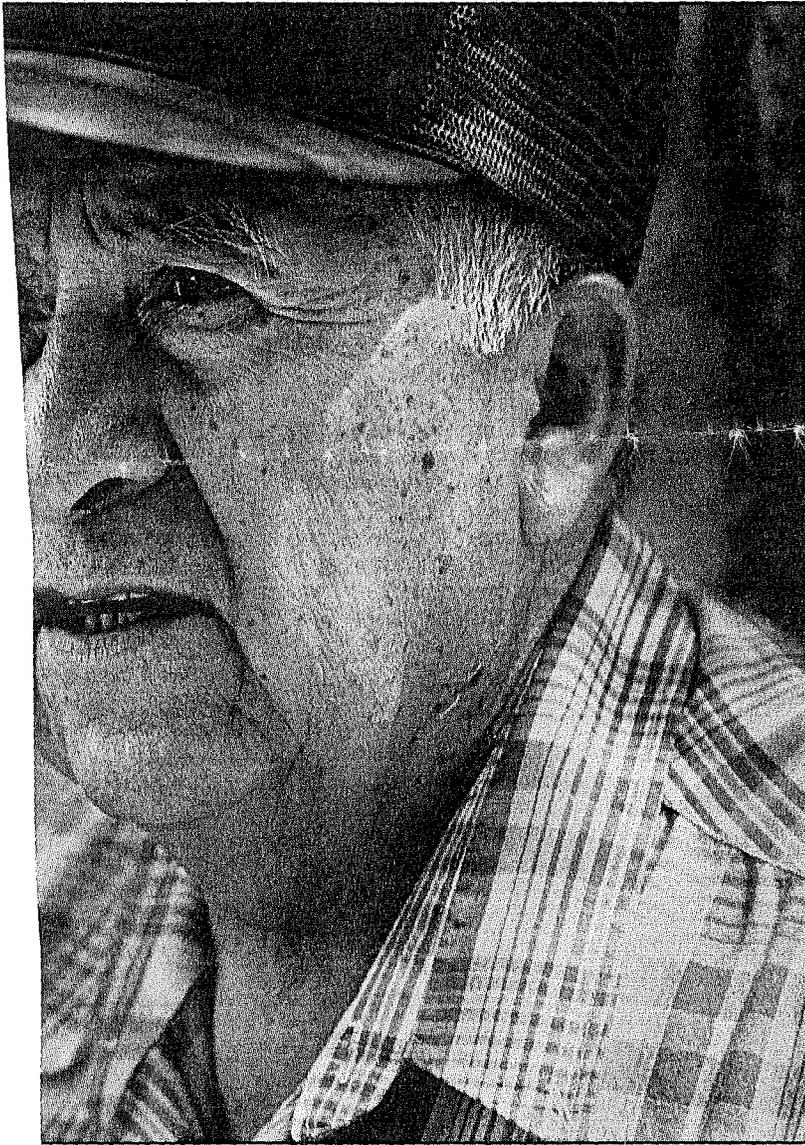
The discoloration begins at an abandoned sulfur mine six miles east of Markleeville, where the unearthed rock turns rainfall and snowmelt into an acidic stew of toxic metals that drains into the creek.

When trout started dying downstream, in the 1950s and '60s, California Department of Fish and Game officials – not the Washoes – raised a stink. And when the state bought the 250-acre site in the early 1980s and spent millions of dollars to stop seepage into the creek, the tribe was mostly quiet.

Now the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California is speaking out, and its voices have the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

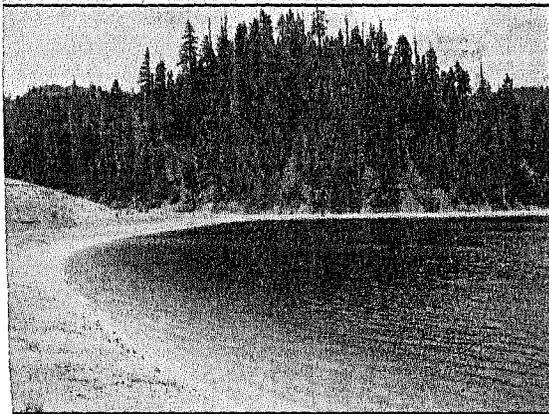
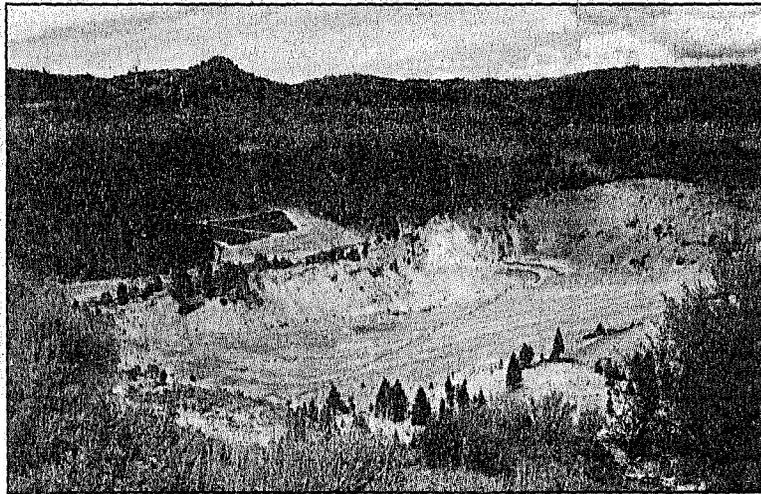
The Washoes, with 1,500 members, persuaded the EPA to make the Leviathan Mine a national priority for cleanup. Last month, the EPA designated it a Su-

Please see WASHOE, back page, A14



Bee photographs/Laura Chun

environmental disaster to his people's ancestral lands.



**The Leviathan Mine complex covers 250 acres near Markleeville in the eastern Sierra Nevada, above. At left is one of its toxics-filled runoff holding ponds.**

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Continued from page A1

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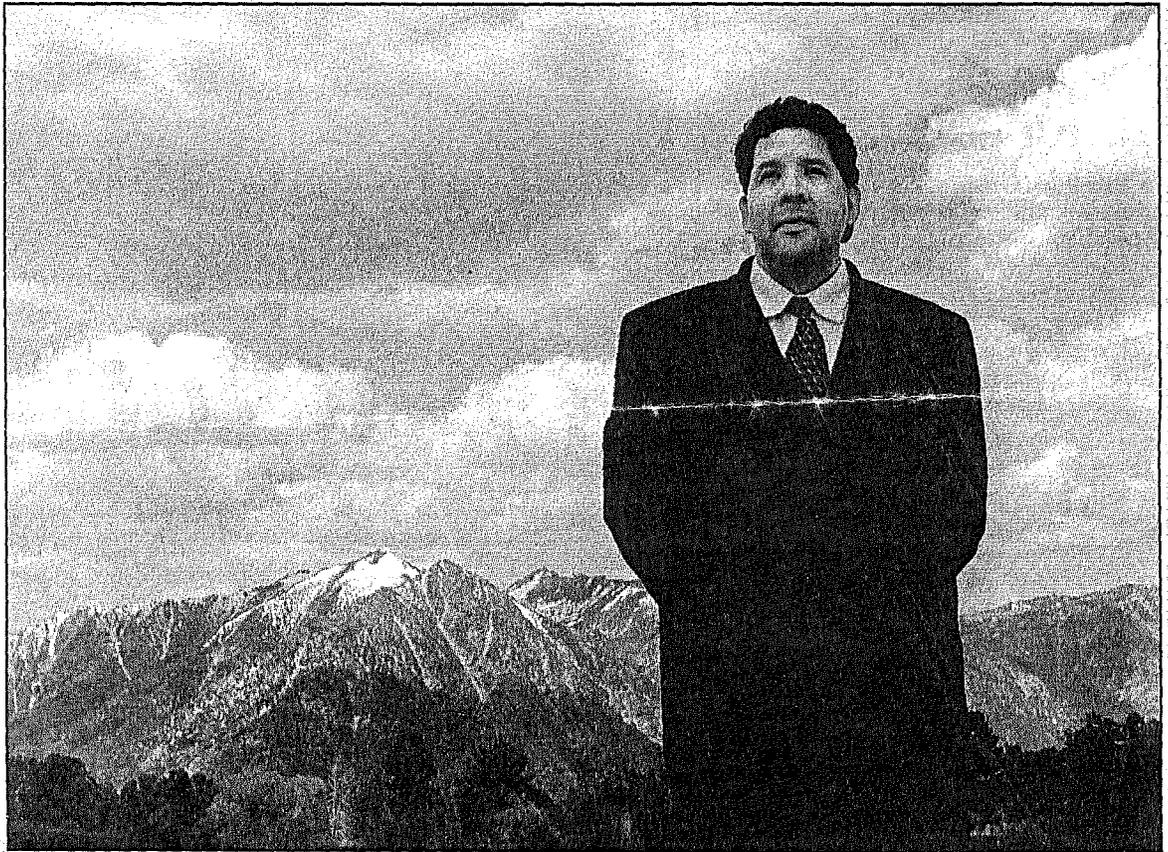
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Associated Press photograph

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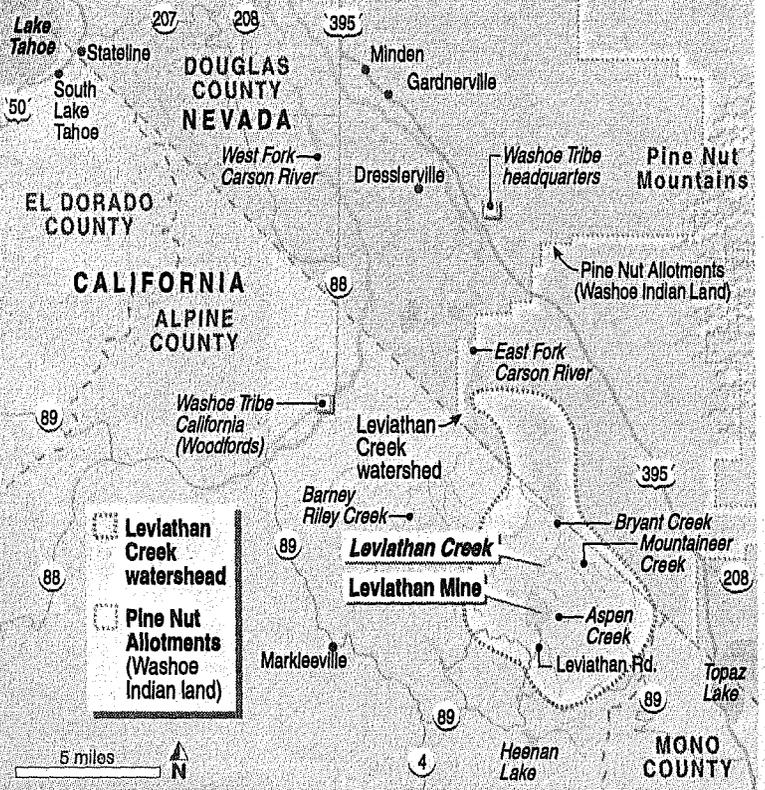
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"Given an opportunity, that area might come back," Wallace said. "It might take a long time. But we've been here for 10,000 years."

## Watershed of Leviathan Creek

The Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California has persuaded the federal Environmental Protection Agency to make the Leviathan Mine a national priority for cleanup. Last month, the EPA designated the 250-acre mine in Alpine County a Superfund site



Source: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

Bee graphic

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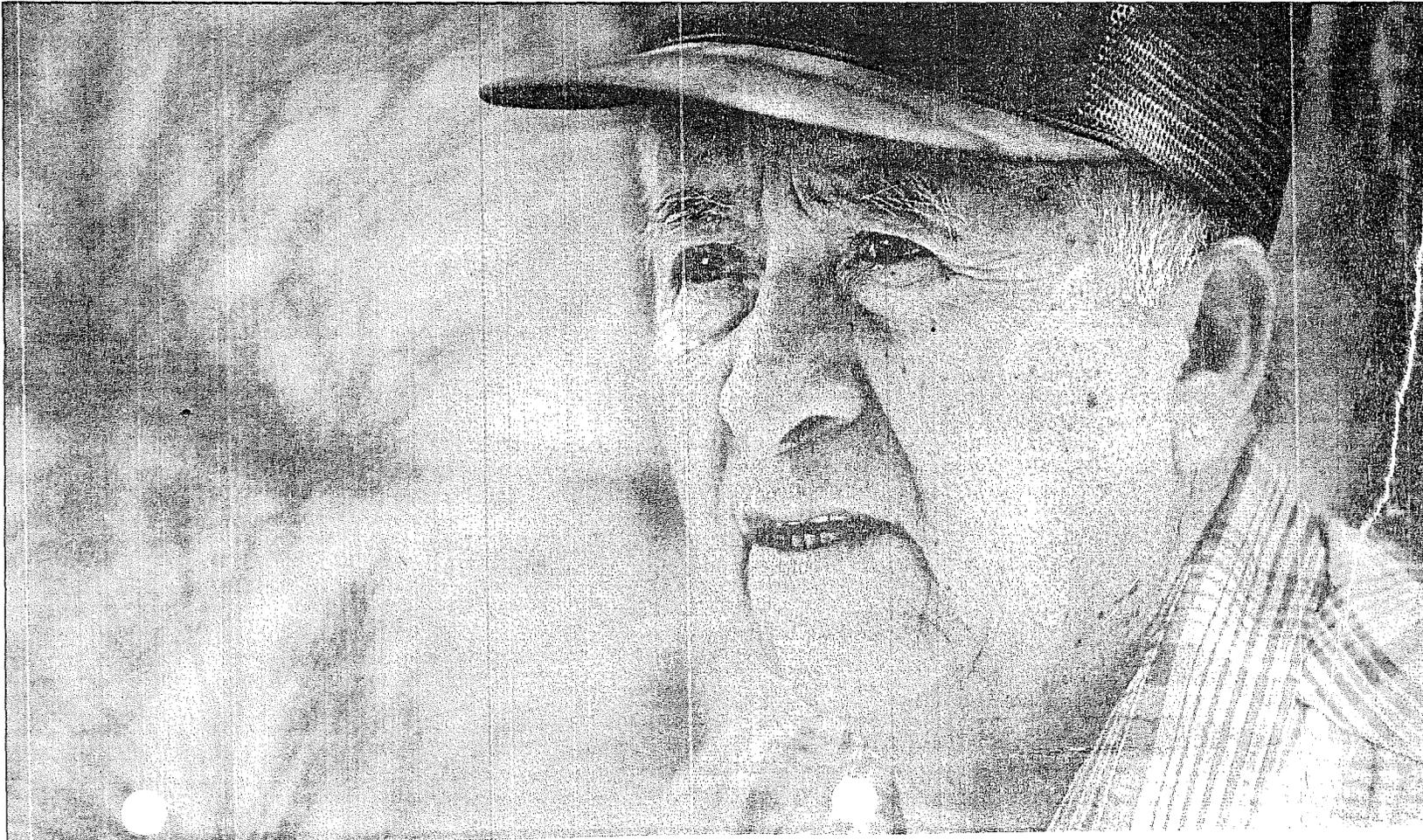


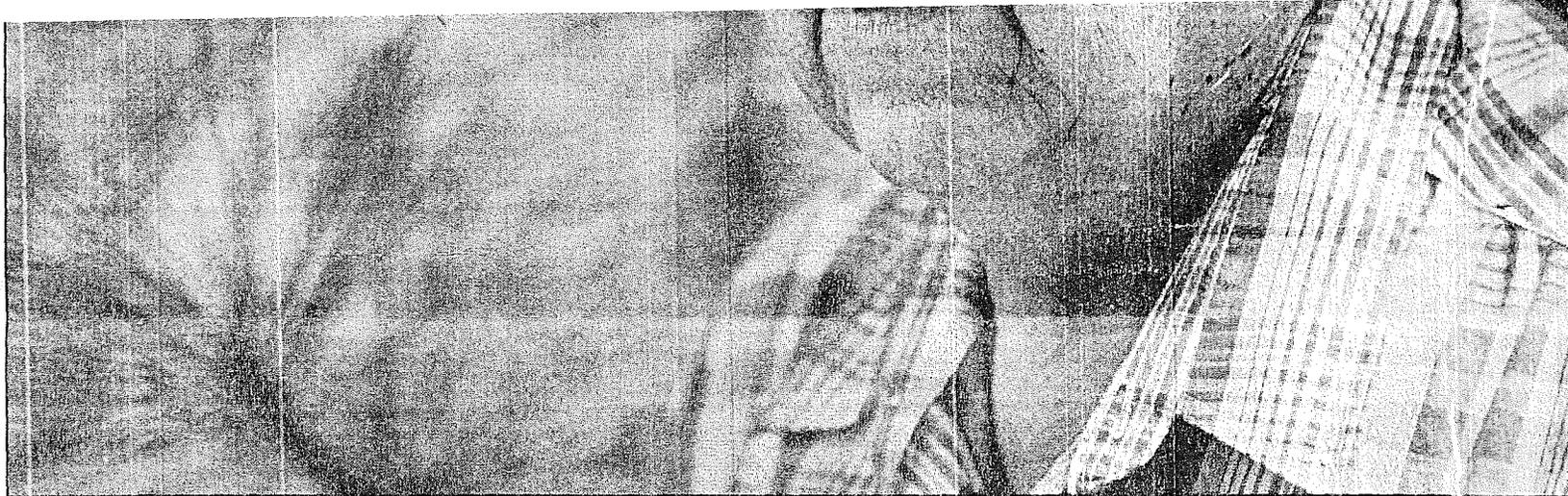
# The Sacramento Bee

WEDNESDAY

June 7, 2000

[www.sacbee.com](http://www.sacbee.com)





Bee photographs/Laura Chun

Steven James, a Washoe tribal elder, says the Leviathan Mine has brought environmental disaster to his people's ancestral lands.

## Washoe Indians take lead mine-cleanup role

“  
We are very familiar with what biological catastrophe means. We've lived through it. We almost didn't.

”  
Stephen James  
Washoe tribal elder

By Chris Bowman  
Bee Staff Writer

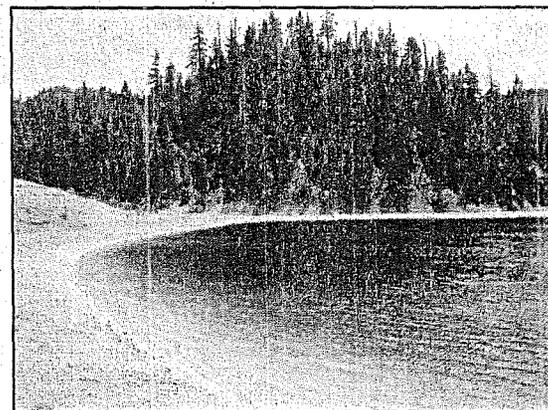
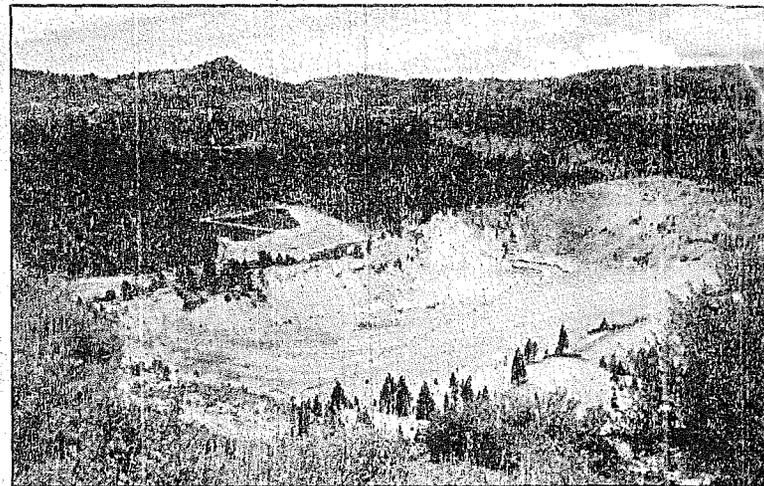
DRESSLERVILLE, Nev. — For nearly 50 years, Leviathan Creek has flowed opaque orange on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada through the semiarid land of pinyon pines, gray willows and wild onions that has been the home of the Washoe Indian Tribe for more than 10,000 years.

The discoloration begins at an abandoned sulfur mine six miles east of Markleeville, where the unearthed rock turns rainfall and snowmelt into an acidic stew of toxic metals that drains into the creek.

When trout started dying downstream, in the 1950s and '60s, California Department of Fish and Game officials — not the Washoes — raised a stink. And when the state bought the 250-acre site in the early 1980s and spent millions of dollars to stop seepage into the creek, the tribe was mostly quiet.

Now the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California is speaking out, and its voices have the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Washoes, with 1,500 members, persuaded the EPA to make the Leviathan Mine a national priority for cleanup. Last month, the EPA designated it a Su-



The Leviathan Mine complex covers 250 acres near Markleeville in the eastern Sierra Nevada, above. At left is one of its toxics-filled runoff holding ponds.

Please see WASHOE, back page

Madoslo Bee  
7-1-2000

# Rare owl's habitat spans crowded area north of SF Bay

By JANE KAY  
SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

SAN FRANCISCO — The northern spotted owl, poster bird for the campaign against logging in national forests, is thriving in its most southerly range.

National Park Service biologists have found 50 pairs nesting on public land in Marin County, including the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Muir Woods National Monument and Point Reyes National Seashore.

The news is significant because this is the first census undertaken by the federal scientists in Marin County, the southern edge of the California, Oregon and Washington range. They were surprised to find so many healthy birds producing young here in a wide array of habitat.

## Close quarters

Yet the rare owl, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, is more at risk from development than from timber cutting, say the scientists who seriously started tracking its whereabouts three years ago.

Nesting in Douglas firs, bishop pines, coastal redwoods, remnant old-growth stands and even California bay trees, they have a more ready food supply than their Pacific Northwest counterparts.

But in crowded Marin County, just north of San Francisco, they have less space to live, the scientists say.

"They appear to be occupying all of the evergreen forested habitat that there is whether it's conifer or hardwood. We looked in places we didn't expect to find them, and we found them," said Daphne Hatch, Golden Gate

National Recreation Area wildlife biologist.

"The kinds of threats that they're subject to in Marin are quite different than in the Pacific Northwest. But they're as real," Hatch said. "It could be development along the urban boundaries of public lands or disturbance from the incredible amount of people using their habitat every day for recreation."

Hatch is heading the study with Sarah Allen, the science adviser at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Muir Woods park ranger Mia Monroe, who is assisting with the study, started tracking the northern spotted owls in the mid-1980s.

## Surprising number of sites

By 1997, the park service had found more than 85 sites used by the owl on public lands in Marin County, and began long-term monitoring at about half of them.

In 1998, the park service started banding owls on the three Marin County national parklands.

This year, preliminary analysis showed 37 pairs, two single owls, five unoccupied sites and two sites of undetermined occupancy. In three years, 50 pairs have been found.

Scientists are pleased with the number they have found. Yet they wonder how the apparently isolated Marin County population can survive without recruits from elsewhere.

"They seem to be very isolated from owls to the north in the Russian River area. Maybe this is a remnant population left from when there was more habitat in the past," Hatch said.

In addition, the spotted owls don't have land on which to expand.

Tahoe Tribune: 7-7-00

# Great endurance test offered at 'Death Ride'

By Robert Stern  
Tribune Staff Writer

On Saturday 2,700 extreme cyclists will test their endurance by riding 129 miles and climbing 16,000 vertical feet over five mountain passes, with an optional sixth.

The 19th annual Death Ride: Tour of the California Alps in Alpine County, Calif., begins at 5:30 a.m. and includes both the front and back sides of Monitor Pass (8,314 feet), Ebbett's Pass (8,730 feet) and the east side of Carson Pass (8,580 feet).

Their prize for conquering the beautiful and unforgiving course: rights to sign the Death Ride poster and possession of the coveted Death Ride pin.

This is not a race, but a test of endurance. Just completing the course is considered a phenomenal feat.

Those with a passion for personal pain can take on the optional Pacific

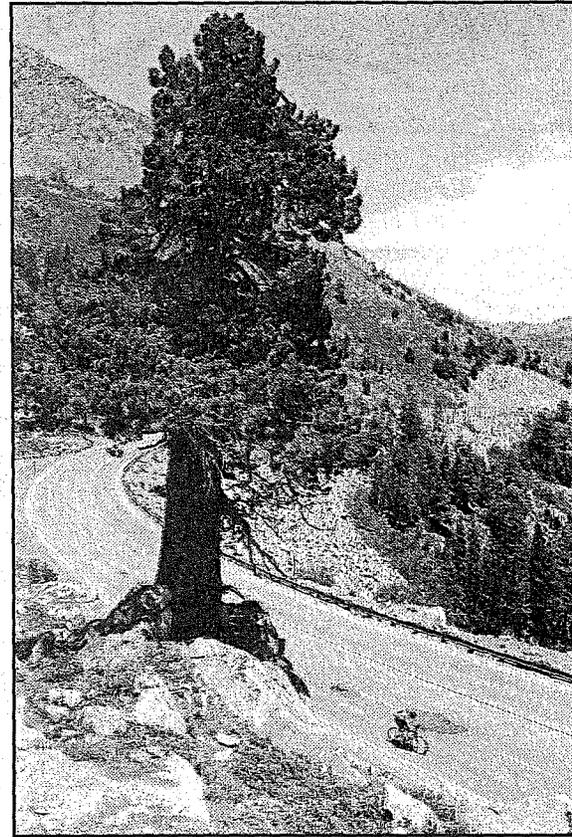
Grade climb to Mosquito Lake, which boasts a 24-percent grade.

Riders each pay \$55 to the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and the Alta Alpina Cycle Club, which in turn use the entrance fees and merchandise sales to make charitable donations to groups such as Emergency Medical Services, Search and Rescue, Children's Center, and the Volunteer Fire Departments.

The event has attracted such famous riders as Tour de France Champion Greg LeMond, triathlon star Mike Pigg and the woman's winner of the Race Across America, Elaine Mariolle.

State Route 89 will be closed on Ebbett's Pass from 5:30 a.m. until noon, and State Route 4 will be closed over Ebbett's Pass from 5:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

For more information call the Alpine Chamber of Commerce (530) 694-2475.



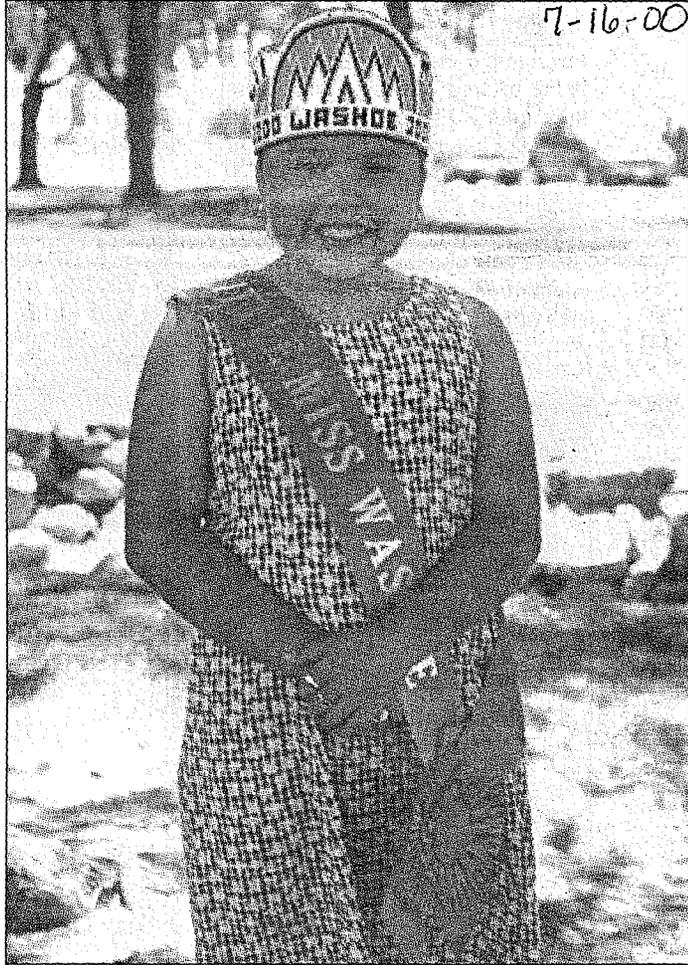
Tribune file photo

Death Ride: It's hard work with a nice view.

More local news — every day! Only \$8.90/month to subscribe. Call 541-3

**LITTLE MISS WASHOE** *Record Courier*

7-16-00



**SHANNON HALL**/The R-C

**At picnic:** Emerette Frank, 10, was named Little Miss Washoe at the Washoe Tribe's picnic held Saturday at Lampe Park. She is shown wearing her crown and sash.

## REVIEW & OUTLOOK

### Movement Politics

The Sierra Club's endorsement of Al Gore yesterday wasn't quite the equivalent of a tree falling in an empty forest, but it wasn't far off. Still, Mr. Gore badly needed this endorsement to prevent further defections by environmental voters to Ralph Nader's candidacy. The softness at the environmental margins of the Gore candidacy has to be troubling, given his efforts to claim full title to this voting constituency. If nothing else, all this activity suggests the extent to which this subject—the protection of the environment—may now be regarded as totally *political*.

This, too, is a legacy of the Clinton (and now Gore) notion of the Presidency as a “permanent political campaign.” Environmental policy has been all but separated from scientific evidence and is now achieved through administrative fiat to sate activists who themselves can no longer be bothered with letting science get in the way of what they want. Mr. Gore is willing to be their kind of leader, and recent actions by the Administration have certainly enhanced his credentials as a do-what-I-tell-you environmentalist.

Most recently the EPA, in defiance of Congress, pushed through stringent new clean water rules that will affect about 20,000 bodies of water. The new rules, which greatly expand the EPA's regulatory authority, are being hailed by the Administration as “the single most important action in a generation.” It was battered through despite an act of Congress.

When Congress tried to kill the new rules in an appropriations rider, Mr. Clinton delayed signing the bill and ordered his aides to first finalize the rules. Showing some extra flare and bravado, EPA head Carol Browner added a provision that gives Congress 60 days from the rules' adoption to pass a resolution rejecting them. Ms. Browner, a former Gore aide, twice challenged Congress to “a debate which we welcome.” Of course she knows that “clean water” is a subject long departed to demogoguery heaven.

Earlier in the summer the EPA restricted a useful chemical that has

Perhaps the crudest politicization of the environment has been the immense land grab undertaken by the Clinton-Gore Administration. Using the 1906 Antiquities Act, Mr. Clinton has set aside more federal land than any other President. The law, which allows the President to unilaterally designate federal lands as national monuments, was used effectively in 1996 against Bob Dole to help secure Arizona by creating the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The famous Clinton-Gore photo-op at the Grand Canyon provided a perfect backdrop against which to marginalize Republicans on environmental issues.

So of course this gambit is back. In January, with the Vice President headed into the primary season, Mr. Clinton locked up large new monuments in California and Arizona. In recent months Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt has proposed a menu of new recommendations to set aside hundreds of thousands of acres of Western lands as national monuments.

Still, if history has taught us anything about the left it is that giving it what it wants is never enough. Environmentalists more or less in the mainstream, such as the Sierra Club or the League of Conservation Voters, not surprisingly are going to support the Vice President. But movement solidarity is fraying. David Brower, a prominent environmental activist, resigned from the board of directors of the Sierra Club over that group's decision to support Mr. Gore. Radicals, such as members of Earth First!, are also unwilling to compromise; members of that famously radical environmental group stormed Mr. Gore's Knoxville headquarters, dancing in his foyer and calling him a “corporate whore.”

To be sure, there are serious-minded environmentalists in the electorate, but the ones we know tend to regard the private sector as part of the solution and not anathema. Here, however, is Sierra Club head Robert Cox yesterday on Governor Bush: “We could face what the people in Texas are

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Earlier in the summer the EPA restricted a useful chemical that has never been proved harmful in humans—the pesticide chlorpyrifos. Sold under the trade names Dursban and Lorsban, the chemical is used to guard against termites, and is found in roughly 800 products.

The chemical escaped an outright ban; its producers reached a "voluntary" agreement with the EPA to halt its use in households or anywhere a child might play. But it will be barred from its most useful commercial applications. To reach this point, the EPA had to disregard three separate human tests of the chemical, which validated the product as safe, dubbing them unethical.

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To be sure, there are serious-minded environmentalists in the electorate, but the ones we know tend to regard the private sector as part of the solution and not anathema. Here, however, is Sierra Club head Robert Cox yesterday on Governor Bush: "We could face what the people in Texas are facing now, air pollution, water pollution, toxic waste, a record number of violations of our clean air and clean water standards, environmental laws unenforced and corporate polluters unchecked and out of control."

This is the voice of a political organizer. It's the voice of a movement that tries to get what it wants, not with argument, but with political muscle. Serious environmentalists have always claimed to be about goals more noble than this, but this is what their movement in the Clinton-Gore years has become. The Administration has done a lot lately to appease them. We'll find out in the fall whether it was enough.

# SIERRA SCENE

# IC

South Lake Tahoe, Calif.

Tahoe Daily Tribune

Weekend edition, August 4-6, 2000

Photography by Jim Grant  
Story by Gregory Crofton

## Soles for Souls

Hiking alongside the west fork of the Carson River it's difficult to want to be any place else in the world.

The sky was blue, an intermittent breeze helped cool the sun on our backs and the only job of our small group was to walk the dry land and relish the beauty of Hope Valley.

We studied plants, read poems to each other and walked barefoot across the river feeling cold stones and snow-melted water. No one worried about anything. That was the point.

It was "Soles for Souls," a hike hosted by Sorensen's, a resort in Hope Valley, "to bring peace to your mind and relax your body through experiencing the beauty of nature."

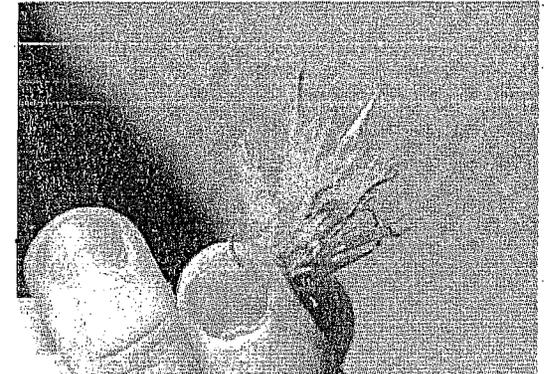
On the hike were Stuart and Christina Schneck and Stephan, their 15-year-old son; Steve Fargan, a second-grade teacher from Gardnerville; and Goshka Tita, a Polish woman who lives in Meyers during the spring and summer.

"I thought it was going to be kind of weird but it was fun," said Christina Schneck, who lives in Piedmont, Calif., but was on vacation with her family at Lake Tahoe Basin. "The countryside was so beautiful."

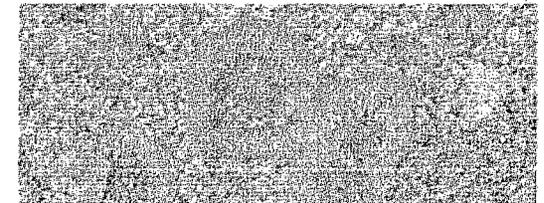
Before we hit the trail, Erin Kelly, one of our guides, reminded us to relax. She said her dog Hogi would warn us of any approaching mountain lions or bears, and her knowledge, gained from being part of Alpine County's volunteer search and rescue team for the seven years, would help keep us on track.

### *A stretch by the river*

We spread out into a strange sort of circle, stood on uneven ground and slowly stretched our limbs. We took deep breaths and made sure we exhaled. Michele Nelson, another guide, read a nature poem. With our muscles a little looser and our minds accustomed to the grass beneath our feet, we stood to-



Indian Paintbrush is many of several plants seen while on the nature hike.



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## A stretch by the river

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## Roger's rock

The hike was on, but we were still looking for Steve Fargan. He and his dog Sputnik were late so we had started without them. About 20 minutes into the hike we spotted his dog bounding in the grass on the opposite side of the river. Steve wasn't far behind. He whipped off his shoes and splashed across the water with Sputnik way ahead of him. We convened at Roger's Rock, a huge stone at a bend in the river. Erin told us it was a popular swimming hole because the water was particularly deep for a river. As we stood there staring at the brownish water, we spotted two trout near the river bottom. They were difficult to see, but everyone seemed pleased once they locked their eyes on the fish. But we moved on, it was time kick up dust on the trail and learn about plants.

## Medicinal plants

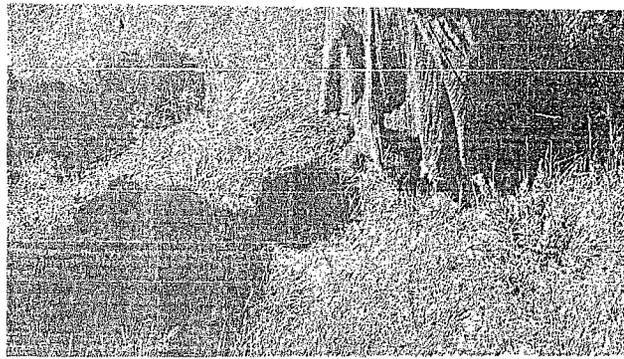
A woman who knows about plants and has an immense love of nature is Goshka Tita, a 52-year-old with a thick accent and a broad smile. As soon as our journey began she darted from plant to plant appreciating and explaining. If a big pile of snow suddenly fell on us she told us we'd have no problem finding food. We could pull bark off a pine tree, scrape the back of it and chow down on the nutritious harvest. Goshka said many settlers survived winters eating pine bark. She next spotted small willow leaves. A chomp on those produce a bitter taste, but the leaves also act as a pain killer. Mugwort was the most curious plant we found. Goshka dashed across a river bed to pluck a green stalk of it. She called it "dream herb," a plant that can make a person's dreams more vivid.

"Put it under your pillow and ask the universe for something," she said. "Sometimes it takes a few nights but then you get it. In olden times people had Mugwort tea or they'd put it in their shoes when they walked."

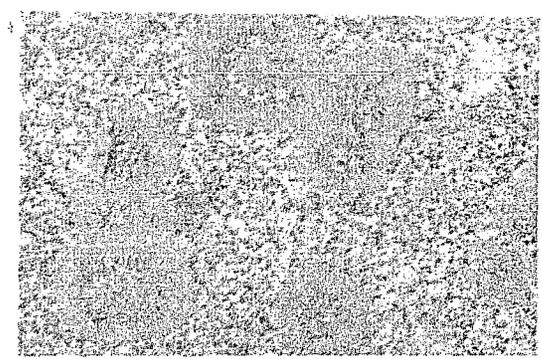
Erin told us that Mugwort is easy to spot at night because the underside of its leaf shines when moonlight hits it. Indian Paintbrush was the next plant we tripped over. Its flower was burnt orange and it looked like it belonged at the end of tranquilizing dart. Goshka told us Indians used it to wash away venereal diseases. That gave us all pause. We looked at each other, laughed and hiked on. Finally we spotted Yarrow, delicate plant that blooms bunches of small white flowers.

"Stick it up a bloody nose and Yarrow will stop the bleeding," Goshka said. "A Yarrow bath makes you pure and wonderful," she said. "Sometimes I make a wreath from Yarrow."

Michele added that a little Yarrow on the skin soothes a mosquito bite. Plant tips are good, but how can you figure out which plant is Yarrow on your next hike? Goshka told us the best way to remember a plant is to smell it. She also warned that certain plants and herbs aren't good for everyone. "You take



Goshka Tita teaches the group about the medicinal properties of plants just after plucking some Mugwort from a bank in the river.



A short detour leads to the discovery of a large rock covered with lichen. The orange, grey and black slow-growing mold formed unusual circular patterns.



The hike begins with breathing and stretching exercises along the bank of the west fork of Carson River.



or small white flowers.

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### *Aspen grove*

"Listen guys I think there is some fresh bear around here," Goshka said. We all saw the divots a bear had left with one of his claws 20 feet up a tree. Sap was oozing from it. The marks reminded us that we weren't at the mall, we were in a place where black bears thrive. But we had comfort in numbers and we realized the land was also territory for humans when we spotted a tree carving. About 7 feet up one Aspen it read "91 R.P." Everyone agreed the carving dated back to 1891 and was probably made by one of the many shepherds who worked in the area years ago. Goshka topped off our time in the grove by finding a bunch of gooseberries. We ate the very small green grapes and they were tart with a hint of sweetness.

### *Lightning strikes*

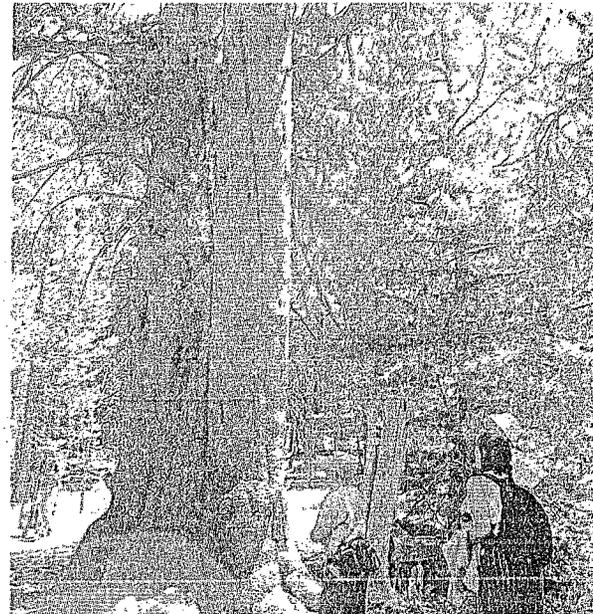
Just before spreading open our picnic lunches, which we all seemed anxious to do, we encountered two pine trees that had been struck by lightning. One towering pine, really three trees grown together, had scars to prove it had been hit four times. The lightning sliced, in a spiral motion, about an inch into its bark. Since then the small crevices had filled with resin. "This is big hot spot," Erin said. "See the slashes coming down. When lightning strikes it arcs and spirals around the tree. I think there's a lot of heat under this area that draws the lightning. Alpine County gets more strikes than any place west of the Mississippi." Michele told us that the tree was lucky to be alive. The neighboring pine did not fare as well. It was slanted at 45 degrees and a 25-foot chunk had been ripped out near the trunk. Apparently the lightning strikes next door traveled underground through a root system and ravaged it.

### *Across the river*

After a quiet lunch during which we passed the "talking stick" and shared quotations and insight, it was time to cross the river and head back toward civilization. One problem: the land on the other side of the river wasn't dry. So we ended up hopscotching the rest of the way, jumping to avoid small rivers hidden in the grass and walking on the very bank of the Carson in hopes of finding drier earth. The highlight of the return might have been the family of ducks we saw or maybe it was seeing Hogi march in the river water. At one point he was trapped by the river's steep bank and Michele had to yank him back to dry land. With both dogs intact we gathered one last time on the side of State Route 88 near our cars. We all exchanged hugs and thanks, glad to have shared peaceful time with each other. As a final gesture, our guides gave us a rock necklace kit and a poem by Anne Frank. It pretty much summed up the trip: "The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel all that is as it should be . . . amidst the simple beauty of nature."



Christina Schneck reads a spiritual poem to the group after lunch.



Hikers view the spiral scars in the bark of a large pine tree left by lightning strikes.

"Baptism by nature," the guide told the group. The hikers cross the Carson with barefeet and begin their journey back to Sorensen's.



**JON CARROLL**

## Our Friend, Mr. Fire

**I**F YOU HAVE been following the coverage at all, you may very well believe that the West is entirely ablaze, a great curtain of flames extending from Mexico to Canada. It's a wonder that refugees from Boise and Reno are not clogging the oceanfront cities of the Pacific.

Part of it is the standard distortion of media, so that one homicide turns into a crime wave. Some of it is that many urban reporters don't have a real sense of how darned big the Great Basin is.

Here's a live report: Last Thursday, I drove from Las Vegas to Ely. I spent a lot of time in the Snake Range between Ely and the Utah border. I saw two fires. Mostly, though, I saw blue skies, green valleys, dramatic desert landscapes, townspeople going about their daily business with hardly a single mark.

*A small  
report  
from Ely,  
pronounced  
E-lee, on  
the state of  
the burns.*

It is a bad wildfire season, that's true. The firefighters risking their lives daily demonstrate heroism and stamina beyond human comprehension. But: Mostly the forests are not on fire. Mostly things are merely hot and

dry, after the manner of inland areas in the summertime.

Planning a trip? Do not delay. The Railroad Museum in Ely alone is worth a drive across 50 or up 93. Heck, the Silver Cafe in Pioche is detour-worthy all by itself.

**R**EPUBLICAN GOV. MARC Racicot of Montana decided to use the fires to bash the Clinton administration. If only it had supported the U.S. Forest Service, he said, then resources would have been at the ready to combat this big blaze. If it had only listened to the timber interests, then there would be fewer old-growth forests to burn so merrily.

It is true that clear-cutting is a solution to the wildfire problem, in the same sense that infanticide is a solution to the child hunger problem.

But for Racicot to suddenly come all over weepy about the poor beleaguered USFS is disingenuous. The conservative constituents of all Western governors view the Forest Service as the enemy. It is the USFS that prevents hunting in certain places; it is the USFS that closes backcountry roads or fails to clear them.

Like-minded politicians routinely bash the USFS, hinting darkly that Forest Service regulations are the first step on the road to the black helicopters herding dissidents into backcountry re-education camps.

But now it's fire season, and all of a sudden the understaffed firefighting teams are the fault of the Clinton administration. Nothing like a natural disaster to bring the opportunists out of the woodwork.

**B**UT THERE IS a more important point. Wildfires are a part of the natural ecology of the West. Wildfires renew the wild forests, create an environment for new trees to sprout, renew the land with the nutrients left behind.

There have always been summer thunderstorms in the American West; there have always been lightning strikes; there have always been wildfires. The landscape has adapted to that reality. It is a mistake to think of wildfires as a problem that must be solved.

Fires destroy animal habitats, and that's regrettable. But of course the biggest destroyer of animal habitats is man, the bulldozing animal. As long as we keep breeding and building, we are not part of the solution. No wildfire in history has done more environmental damage than the Gulf War.

Of course, firefighters will still be used to protect homes and other structures. A callous person might argue that, if you build your home in the middle of a forest, you should probably expect to be burned out every century or so. You gambled and you lost; welcome to your local ecology.

But heck, I'll be right down there at the FEMA office when the Hayward Fault decides it's time for the Big Shudder. I'm loyal to my species, no matter how rapacious it gets. But it's useful to spend just a little time seeing the earth from the earth's point of view.

8-16-00

**Nancy Thornburg**

---

**From:** "Nancy Thornburg" <nthornburg@gbis.com>  
**To:** "Jon Carroll" <jrc@sfgate.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2000 8:29 AM  
**Subject:** Disappointed

My husband and I, who are long-standing fans of your writing, are profoundly disappointed that you have contributed your time and effort and credibility to perpetuating the myth that the current situation in western forests is natural and that these wildfires are a healthy and necessary part of the natural ecology.

There is a great deal of reliable scientific information out there which proves that the opposite is true, and there is common sense information concerning what must be done. This information comes from many sources OTHER THAN the forest products industry. I refer to you Prof. Emeritus William McKillop, Berkeley, 94720-3114, for one, and to Dr. Thomas Bonnicksen, a forest ecologist, formerly of UC Berkeley and Texas A&M although I do not know where he is currently. He has done a great deal of research and writing about this and related subjects. I also refer you to an article in the Aug. 9 issue of the "Washington Post" by Robert H. Nelson, Professor at the School of Public Affairs at the Univ. of Maryland and senior Fellow at Competitive Enterprise Institute. It is an excellent and very informative article and sums up the situation rather nicely.

Man has created an unnatural situation in our western forests, and he must do what is necessary to return it to what is being called its "pre-European" condition. This will not happen by turning our backs and walking away and "letting nature take its course". And in many, if not most, places it will not happen by simply using "prescribed fire". There is just too much fuel out there, and more Los Alamos catastrophes will inevitably happen. I know this first hand: the Forest Service land which adjoins ours is a disaster waiting to happen. We have done everything reasonable that we can to "fireproof" our property, but we have been unable to do anything about the threat from the federal land. Mechanical means must be used to reduce fuels and thin overstocked stands, not just here but all over the intermountain west, and, contrary to what the radical environmentalists say, this can be done in an environmentally sound manner.

Please, Jon, read and study on this issue and learn the truth. It would probably be enlightening to go beyond Las Vegas and Ely and travel through New Mexico and Arizona, Montana and Idaho. And then use your power of the pen to accurately inform your readers. The well-funded and powerful environmental groups, mostly urban based and with little or nothing to lose, are running the entire show and getting nearly all of the media coverage. We in the rural west, whose vote is written off and whose voices are not heard, can only watch helplessly while our environment and our economies are destroyed.

Thank you.

Nancy Thornburg, PO Box 156, Markleeville, CA 96120  
phone/FAX: 530-694-21102

8/18/00

# Alpine County judge lifts gag on Web site

By The Associated Press

MARKLEEVILLE (AP) — Alpine County Superior Court vacated a gag order Wednesday which had required that court documents be removed from the Web site of an Alpine County couple who spent the last seven years deriding a local law enforcement officer.

It all stems from a curious case involving a man, a woman and a Corvette.

In 1993, Judy Komaroni said she thought a California Highway Patrol officer had made a lewd comment about her at a rest stop. She got in her car, followed him and videotaped the officer as he ticketed another motorist down the road.

The CHP officer immediately began to follow Komaroni, who initially refused to stop and drove away at speeds up to

## Web address

Alpine County Superior Court judge vacated a gag order for this Web site

**Where:** [www.smalltown-justice.com/](http://www.smalltown-justice.com/)

140 mph along U.S. Highway 395, until she was finally stopped and arrested by several CHP officers.

She was convicted of speeding and evading arrest and served four months in jail, with five years probation. While in jail, Komaroni's husband posted documents about her case on a Web site and chastised the CHP and the way the case was handled by the criminal justice system.

See **Web site**, Page 2A

More local news — every day! Only \$

Tahoe Daily Tribune  
9-15-00

## Web site

Continued from Page 1A

The Alpine County Superior Court vacated the gag order prohibiting the posting of the documents after an appellate court agreed to review the constitutionality of the order if it was lifted.

Wednesday's ruling means those

documents can stay online for those who care to read them.

The American Civil Liberties Union calls the ruling a victory for free speech on the Internet.

"It is extremely important that public discourse on matters as important as these not be limited," said ACLU Ann Brick.

# Shake, rattle and roll – Quake hits Alpine County

By Robert Stern  
Tribune Staff Writer

An earthquake shook the Lake Tahoe Basin Tuesday morning at 12:20.

The quake which started about 2 miles Southeast of Topaz Lake, Nev., was recorded by the Nevada Seismological Laboratory at a magnitude of 4.7.

The quake was felt in places such as Markleeville, Wellington and the Minden-Gardnerville area, but no injuries or damages were recorded, according to South Lake Tahoe Police Officer Chuck Owens.

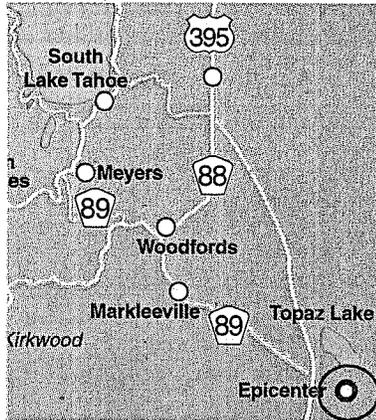
There was a 3.0 foreshock just seconds before the main earthquake, and a 3.6 aftershock occurred at 12:35 a.m., according to Pat Jorgenson, U.S. Geological Survey Menlo Park spokeswoman.

"The 4.7 reminds us that all along the Eastern Sierra there is a potential for earthquakes in this region," said John Louie, associate professor of seismology at the University of Nevada, Reno.

The earthquake took place in a region known as the Double Spring Flat Seismic Zone, he said.

"It's a fault below the ground that we can't see at the surface," he added.

"There is very little potential for danger," Louie said. "It is very unusual for earthquakes of this magni-



tude to generate any damage."

Most people who felt the earthquake at the Topaz Lodge and Casino in Topaz were not bothered by the quake.

"Most of them just kept playing," said Wayne Kantley, bar supervisor. "Most of our customers are from California, and they are used to it."

Elaine Klavon, support services coordinator for the Alpine County Sheriff's Office in Markleeville, said she received a few calls Tuesday from concerned residents.

"I am getting some inquiries, but there's not a whole lot of talk about it," she said. "We don't have anybody absolutely excited about it."

Douglas County Sheriff's Sgt.

See **Quake**, Page 2A

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## Quake

Continued from Page 1A

Lance Modispacher said the Douglas County Sheriff's Office took a few calls, but there were no reports of damage.

The last quake felt in Lake Tahoe was in 1994 with a reading of 6.0. It was also centered the Double Spring Flat Seismic Zone which is considered a moderately active seismic zone that has produced three

earthquakes in the last 10 years.

"I can't tell when an earthquake is going to strike," Louie said. "But within the next 50 years, there is a 50 percent chance we will see a magnitude 6.0."

He said that this is an active seismic region and that beneath Lake Tahoe are two fault zones. Scientists believe these fault zones have the potential to cause a tsunami on Lake Tahoe that could be 3 to 10 meters high with waves continuing for hours.

## Autumn festival in Alpine County offers variety of events, workshops

This year, to help celebrate fall, the Alpine County Arts Commission and the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce plus several countywide organizations are joining together for AutumnFest, a celebration of color and activities. AutumnFest began Sept. 15 and runs until Oct. 17 and takes place throughout Alpine County.

An old-time country fair will be

the theme on Saturday, Oct. 7, in downtown Markleeville. The Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and the Arts Commission join together to present the Alpine Country Fair from noon to 6 p.m.

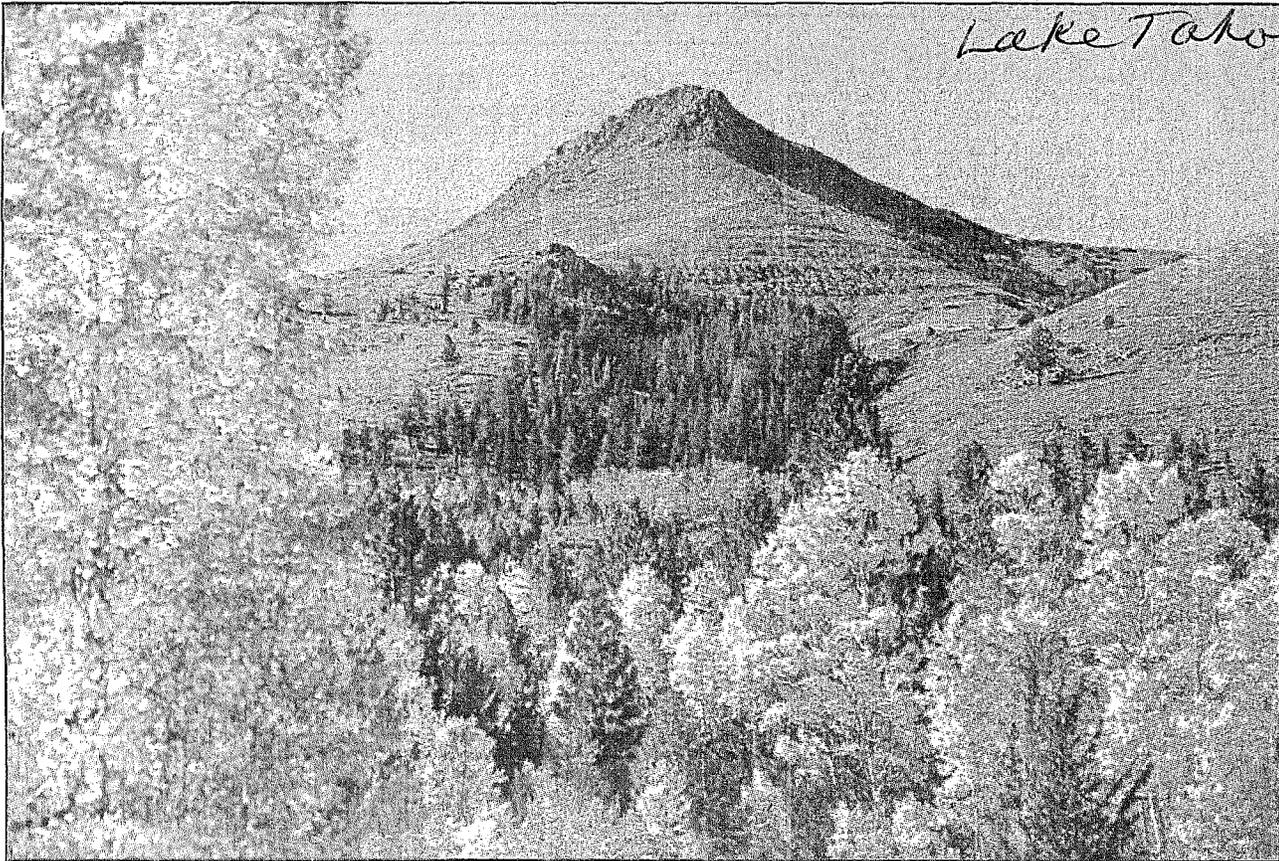
For more information, call the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce at (530) 694-2475 or the Alpine County Arts Commission at (530) 694-2787.

*Tahoe Daily Tribune  
9-29-00*

# Autumn colors coming

Sept 29, 00

Lake Tahoe Tribune



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Looking west in Hope Valley, this file photo shows the impressive colors that are expected to come this year.

## Celebrate fall in style

### Alpine County Autumn Fest kicks off Saturday

By Emily Aughinbaugh  
Tribune Staff Writer

Alpine County's version of Oktoberfest will be kicked off Saturday at Kirkwood Mountain Resort.

The event is one of three autumn festivals to benefit the Alpine County Arts Commissions' education efforts.

Phylise Walker, director of the arts commission, said the festival is in its second year, but she expects the turnout to be much greater this year with the help of Kirkwood.

"(The autumn fest) provides an alternative to some of the other stuff that's going on," Walker said. "People get to participate in a fun event and have a beautiful drive."

Kirkwood representative Nicole Belt said

the festival will help to promote summer activities at the ski resort.

"This will let everyone know there's something out (at Kirkwood) in the summer," Belt said. "We realize the potential for the autumn colors along the whole corridor of 88 is beautiful."

The Lazy Eights, a band from Reno, will be playing at the Plaza in the Mountain Village at Kirkwood. For \$20, participants can listen to the four-man band's eclectic stylings, nibble hors d'oeuvres and sample at least nine different beers from seven-ounce glasses, including Gordon Biersch, Sierra Nevada, Full Sail and Lagunitas.

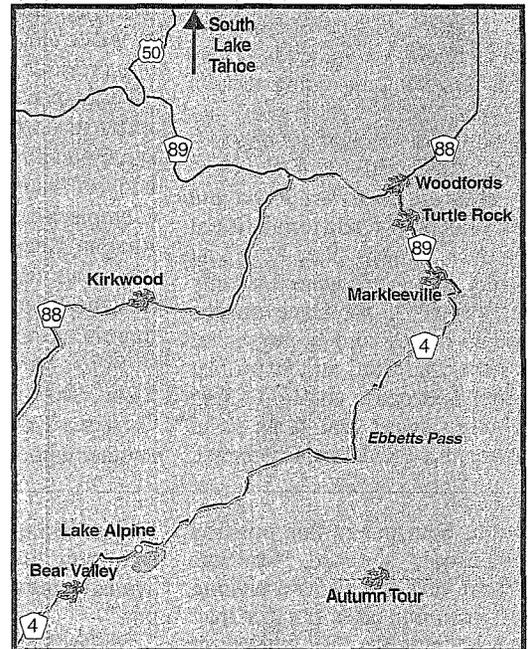
Craft, art and food booths will also be set up.

Belt said the festival is designed to be a family event and she advises people to take a scenic tour of Woodfords, Turtle Rock and Bear Valley before coming to the resort.

"It's really an array of colors up here," Belt said. "The trees just started changing colors about two weeks ago."

The event is primarily sponsored by the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce to promote the fall colors of the county, ac-

### Alpine County Autumn Celebration



According to executive director Bob Anderson.

"For years people have been coming to Alpine County for the aspen trees," Anderson said. "We wanted to put together some events for people to come up and enjoy themselves."

### Autumn Fest

September closes out bringing annual festival

**What:** Alpine County Autumn Fest

**When:** 3-6 p.m. Saturday

**Where:** Kirkwood Mountain Resort

# County's water district flushes general counsel

Calaveras  
Enterprise  
11-3-2000

Will hire lawyer who is also Alpine County's district attorney

By Mike Taylor

The Calaveras County Water District has hired a new general counsel to replace Ruthann Ziegler of Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann and Girard, who was hired just 2½ years ago.

The new general counsel for the district will be Alan Turner, who is also district attorney for Alpine County.

The change of attorneys was reported in a summary from the district's Oct. 19 meeting.

The board approved the recommendation of its Legal/Litigation Committee to obtain Turner's services as general counsel, according to the summary, subject to the terms of a contract to be brought to the board at its Nov. 15 meeting.

CCWD board member, Jeff Davidson said in an interview Thursday that he and fellow board member Charles Hebrard met the newly hired attorney while in discussions with the East Bay Municipal Utility District on the joint powers agreement for the Mokelumne River Project.

"He brought some very level-headed things to the table," said Davidson.

Board member Dick Weinkle said he and Hebrard, as the litigation committee, were asked to interview both existing counsel and others by the CCWD board. He said they talked to three other attorneys, as well as Ziegler.

"Maybe we'll see an end to some of the garbage going on," said Davidson, referring to what he feels were some potential conflicts of interest with the replaced counsel.

*"We've spent millions in legal fees, and seen nothing for it,"*

— Jeff Davidson  
CCWD Board member

He said he felt a lot of cases were given to Ziegler, only to have them referred into the law firm she worked for.

Davidson said the tab for legal fees the district has been paying are around \$40,000 a month. "We've spent millions in legal fees, and seen nothing for it," he said.

"Our prior counsel was competent," Weinkle said, "but I think we're getting the same product at a reduced price. I think it's about \$6,000 a month."

In March of 1998, CCWD demoted their then lead counsel, Chris Williams, and replaced him with Ziegler. In a memo sent to Williams from CCWD General Manager Simon Granville, the district offered Williams the chance to "assist the Board with local County matters... if that's acceptable to you."

Williams resigned his post, calling the actions of the Board a "low blow," an Enterprise article from April 3, 1998 states.

When asked Thursday if that move had been a mistake, Granville said the "use of the current firm offered more depth than Williams."

Weinkle says the new counsel "appears very knowledgeable, yet relatively low-key."

"I'm looking forward to having a fresh set of eyes look over some of our cases, like the Meyers case," said Davidson.

Record Courier 11-8-00

## Markleeville man dies in Highway 88 accident

A Markleeville man was killed Friday after his car struck another truck waiting to turn off Highway 88.

At 6 p.m., Clinton Bryan, 79, was killed when the 1979 Chevy pickup truck collided with a 1998 Dodge pickup and trailer driven by John Marchini, 32, of South Lake Tahoe, according to the California Highway Patrol.

**79-year-old dies when truck collides with vehicle stopped to turn on roadway**

Marchini and a passenger were driving west on Highway 88 past the California line when they attempted to turn onto River Ranch Road. While waiting for traffic to clear, Bryan's truck could not stop in time, hit the right side of the trailer and overturned several times.

All parties were wearing their seat belts and no citations were issued.

A memorial service for Bryan will be held at the Genoa Commu-

nity Church Saturday at 11 a.m.

Bryan was retired from the California Department of Transportation.

He was an expert in avalanche control, and avid outdoorsman and sportsman and he spent much of his life exploring in the Sierra Nevada.

He also was a retired veteran who served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.



## MARY WOOD LEAVES COUNTY EMPLOYMENT

*By Nancy C. Thornburg*

After seventeen years employment with the Alpine County Library, Mary Wood resigned effective October 15.

Mary, daughter of Bill and Margaret Colescott, graduated from Douglas High School and married Russel Wood in 1981. Mary and Russ have two children, Bridget, born in 1984, and Ben, born in 1987.

She worked as a Park Aide at Grover Hot Springs State Park and as a teller at Bank of America before taking a job as extra help in 1983 at the Alpine County Library. In 1986 she was hired as a permanent employee to work half time on the Archives project with Project Archivist Inez Prinster, and half time Library Assistant. She gradually rose from Library Assistant I to II and III, and in 1996 the position of Information Access Coordinator was created and Mary was assigned to it. She took odds and ends courses at community college, she says, in various aspects of library and computer work and web design. Mary also gives much credit to the two County Librarians she worked under, Dianne Deadrich-Rogers and Diane Brigham, for encouraging her to learn as much as possible about library work, and for sharing the depth of their knowledge and experience with her.

The Coordinator position was created because the library was becoming computerized with the assistance of the InFoPeople (Internet for People) project, a federal grant to enable public access to the Internet. Working with Librarian Diane Brigham until last summer, and then also filling in as the interim Library Director herself, Mary put together three public computer workstations in Markleeville and two in Bear Valley, computerized the library catalog and made it available on line, and improved the collection. With financial assistance from Friends of the Library, a new magazine display rack was purchased and the size of the McNaughton collection (best sellers which are leased) was increased, as was the audiobook collection. During the past ten years, the County provided new furniture and lighting, air conditioning and heating, and new shelving for the children's books.

Mary designed and maintained the County's web site which has been on the Internet since March 1999 and which had been averaging 5,000 visits per month at the time Mary left. She had just begun to post Board of Supervisors agendas and minutes, and various departments sent information to post regarding job openings and requests for proposals. There have been no updates to the web site since Mary left, and it is unclear what will become of it in the future.

"There have been many changes in the last five years in making information available to the public", Mary said, "and in computers and current technology. I very much enjoy library work and feel that I have matured and that it has become a part of me. I will miss this library and its patrons very much, but this is a change I feel I have to make."

Mary has accepted a job with the Douglas County Library in Minden. There has been no indication from the Board of Supervisors as to whether they intend to fill the vacant position.

Librarian Diane Brigham left County employment in August 1999 and, so far, has not been replaced.

[Home](#)

Record Courier 12/100

# Markleeville youth finds ballet challenging, the girls cute

## Andrew Zaninovich will dance in "Nutcracker" in Reno

by Linda Hiller  
Staff Writer

Ever since Andrew Zaninovich was 5, he wanted to be in the "Nutcracker Ballet." This weekend, the Markleeville 10-year-old will be dancing the part of Fritz in the Nevada Festival Ballet production in Reno.

"When Andrew was 5, I took my mother and my family to see the 'Nutcracker' in San Francisco," said Andrew's mom, Karen Zaninovich, who works at Nutrition Unlimited in Gardnerville. "Andrew sat on the edge of his seat the whole time. Afterwards, he said that when he turned 16, he wanted to play the Cavalier."

At the time, Andrew had been taking dance lessons from the recreation department, along with his older sister,

Courtney, and younger brother, David, Karen said.

Andrew stuck with ballet and is now at the intermediate level at the Academy of Dance Arts in the Gardnerville Ranchos with instructor Kelly O'Fallon. There are 10 to 15 other male dancers at that school, Andrew said.

"What I like about ballet is that it's challenging, and, even though most boys think it's not a guy thing, this

See **Youth** on page 11



Andrew Zaninovich will portray Fritz. The Markleeville youth has wanted to be in the ballet since he was 5 years old. He also plays baseball, soccer and basketball

KAREN ZANINOVICH  
photo

## Youth: Finds ballet challenging, the girls cute

Continued from page 1

kind of dance actually helps with sports," he said Tuesday from his grandmother's house in Reno, where he is in rehearsal all week. "For example, I play soccer, basketball and baseball. For baseball, the ballet makes your arms stronger and you can hit a lot harder than usual. Also, I can run the bases faster because my legs are stronger."

■ **Nice role.** Andrew tried out for the "Nutcracker" along with many other ballet students from around Reno, Karen said. He was initially hoping to at least be one of the party boys, but when he got the role of Fritz, the little brother who actually breaks the nutcracker, he was thrilled.

"He actually has to do some acting," she said. "Of course, since it's a ballet, no one talks,

but he has to act with his face and his body."

"I like playing Fritz, because at home I'm usually the naughty boy, and in the ballet, I get to be bad and break the nutcracker," Andrew said.

Andrew will be on stage for at least an hour during each of this weekend's five performances, he said, and this week's rehearsals have really brought the cast together.

"It's much better than when we first started," he said. "Everything is really coming together now. My favorite scene is the one where I'm in candyland."

Andrew performed a lesser part in a smaller production of the "Nutcracker" when he was 6, but said he won't be too nervous this weekend.

"I'll only be a little bit nervous, since I've performed in

front of people before, especially at recitals at my dance school," he said.

■ **Will continue.** Andrew said he can see himself continuing with dance — he takes jazz lessons also — into adulthood and perhaps into a professional career.

"I also want to maybe get a master's in business so I can work for a really big company and make a lot of money or start my own business," he said.

In his non-dancing time, Andrew likes to spend time with his friends, playing tag, riding bikes and just "hanging around."

One of the benefits of being a boy ballet dancer has not eluded Andrew.

"There are cute girls," he said.

■ **About the ballet.** "The

Nutcracker Ballet," with music by Tchaikovsky, debuted on Dec. 17, 1892, in Russia at the Mariinsky Theatre, the home of the Kirov Ballet.

It was not performed outside of Russia until 1934 when it came to England, and in 1940, a short version of the ballet came to the United States.

In 1954, Kirov-trained George Balanchine staged the first full length "Nutcracker Ballet" in the U.S.

Performances of the Nevada Festival Ballet in downtown Reno's Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts will be Friday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 16, at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 17, at 2 and 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 and up, with family rates available. For more information, call (775) 785-7915.

# Roadless plan ruinous for Alpine

Despite intense involvement by Alpine County officials and citizens, the recently released final environmental impact statement for Clinton's "roadless initiative" confirms that nothing we said made one whit of difference, that the entire process was a sham.

The "roadless inventory" which was done for the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Alpine County was done in secret with no local notification or participation. Although the Forest Service claims that "over 250 people from public, state and county governments, civic and special interest groups, and the Forest Service participated in the inventory process between August 1997 and January 1998," Freedom of Information Act requests for a list of participants has produced statements that either the list is "secret" or that it no longer exists.

Before Alpine County officials even knew that an inventory had been done, both the California Wilderness Coalition and the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club had copies of both the inventory and the map. A prominent member of the Sierra Club publicly stated that "We hired [the mapping of the Humboldt-Toiyabe]" although the Forest Service denies this.

Alpine's primary concern is that the inventory contains numerous significant errors. We have repeatedly complained to Forest Service officials about the inaccurate inventory. They have assured us that they would work with us on correcting the errors. But

## YOUR TURN

NANCY

**THORNBURG**

OPINION

now we understand that the final record of decision which will be handed down from the Washington office this month will probably allow no changes to existing roadless inventories even if they are not accurate.

Alpine County is 95 percent publicly owned, and 40 percent of that is already wilderness. If the roadless inventory is implemented, over 70 percent of the county will be managed as wilderness. Environmental groups have been open about their intention to see that all identified "roadless" areas are given official wilderness status or managed as "de facto" wilderness. Our fragile economy is almost totally dependent on recreation. More wilderness will inevitably lead to escalating resource damage as recreation activities are squeezed into smaller and smaller areas. Wilderness management trends indicate more restrictions on "passive" forms of recreation such as hiking, horseback riding, fishing, etc. The Forest Service will be very limited in its ability to build additional picnic areas or campgrounds. Most forest management activities will cease.

Is this what the public really wanted when they allegedly sent overwhelm-

ing support for "protecting over 50 million roadless acres" nationwide? Were they aware that many of these areas are not roadless, that they are popular areas for recreation which are dependent on motorized access, that the only real threat to these areas is not logging but fire? Were they aware that most forest roads, unlike Interstate 80, for example, do not, in fact, fracture ecosystems? And were they aware of the "unintended consequences" that will result from locking these lands up, from failure to manage them wisely, to reduce fuels and the likelihood of stand-destroying fire? I doubt it. The media didn't get that information out, nor did the environmental groups, nor did the Forest Service.

The Forest Service and the administration should be ashamed of their obscene disregard for the democratic process and the "cooperation and collaboration" that they continue to promise but fail to deliver. And the public should be furious at the manner in which the truth has been manipulated and misrepresented. If this all goes through as it appears that it will, the environmental and economic results will haunt us for decades.

*Nancy Thornburg has lived in Alpine County for over 40 years and has been involved in local forest issues for over 25 years. She is a free-lance writer and a retired museum director. Her husband, Fritz, is a third generation "Alpiner."*



Cecilia Oddo was an avid skier and well-known around Bear Valley.

### Cecilia Oddo, 21, killed by suspected drunken driver

By Craig Koscho

Hundreds of friends and family members celebrated the life and mourned the loss of Bear Valley resident Cecilia Oddo during a Tuesday memorial service in the Bear Valley Resort Sun Room.

Ms. Oddo, 21, died after being struck by a car early on Dec. 22

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*"She was one of Bear Valley's children. Born and raised here."*

— Andrea Young  
Bear Valley Resort marketing director

---

while visiting friends in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

"There was just an amazing outpouring from the community," said resort spokeswoman Andrea Young. "She was one of Bear Val-

ley's children. Born and raised here."

An expert, avid skier, Ms. Oddo had friends in the sport throughout the country, said Young.

At the conclusion of the memorial service, about 40 friends rode to the top of the mountain, then skied and snow-boarded down in a torchlight procession.

"It was beautiful," said Young. Born Oct. 19, 1979, in Sonora,

see **Oddo**, back page

## Oddo

*continued from A1*

Ms. Oddo was a lifelong resident of Bear Valley.

A 1997 graduate of Bret Harte High School in Angels Camp, Ms. Oddo was a senior at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she was studying biology.

She also was a member of the Professional Ski Instructors Association. Friends and family remember she loved the outdoors, particularly the mountains.

She was killed Dec. 22 after she

was hit by a 1991 Ford Explorer on Highway 22 near the town of Wilson, Wyoming at 1:10 a.m.

The driver, Christopher Simmons, 27, from Victor, Idaho, was charged with aggravated vehicular homicide, according to Lt. Dave Schofield with the Wyoming Highway Patrol, who added the driver allegedly had been drinking at a bar earlier that night.

Simmons is being held in the Teton County Jail on \$50,000 bond, said Schofield.

After striking Ms. Oddo, Simmons's vehicle then struck a 1996 Volkswagen parked on the side of the road, pushing that car 112 feet

into a 1995 Mazda in a parking lot, according to Sharon Harrison, Wyoming Highway Patrol dispatcher.

There were no other serious injuries.

Blood alcohol tests of both Ms. Oddo and Simmons are pending.

Ms. Oddo was out with a friend that night, said Schofield, and was on her way from a private party to a local tavern at the time of the accident.

According to the Jackson Hole News, Schofield testified that Ms. Oddo and friend Dustin Gardon were walking westbound on the south side

of the highway when Gardon warned Ms. Oddo about the vehicle coming up from behind.

Ms. Oddo was moving to the other side of the highway, said Schofield, when Simmons's vehicle struck her.

Schofield added that motorists following Simmons said he drove in the wrong lane at times, almost hit another vehicle before striking Ms. Oddo, and was speeding at the time of the accident.

Simmons originally was arrested for driving while under the influence after failing a field sobriety test, according to Schofield's statements in

the News.

If convicted on the aggravated homicide charge, Simmons could face 20 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Ms. Oddo was not the only member of her family involved with the Bear Valley Resort. Her parents, too, work there.

Lynne Oddo is the lift ticket operations manager and Chris Oddo, a contractor, helps out occasionally, said Young.

For many years Ms. Oddo was on the Bear Valley racing team, said Young, and learned to ski at such a young age she began working as an

instructor at the age of 12, teaching the Skiing Bears program for children.

Ms. Oddo is survived by parents Chris and Lynne Oddo of Bear Valley; brother Ryan Oddo of Reno, Nev.; and grandparents Frank and Josephine Oddo of Yountville, and Margaret Eadie of Pacific Grove.

Graveside services were held Wednesday at Buena Vista Cemetery in Murphys.

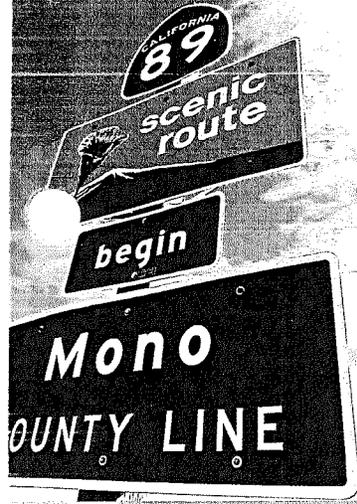
Contributions may be made to the Women's Crisis Center, 1658 Soquel, Suite A, Santa Cruz, CA 95602; or to the Women's Crisis Center, P.O. Box 623, San Andreas, CA 95249.

Angels Memorial Chapel in An-

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Journal

January-March 2001 Volume 1 Issue 3



SCENIC ROUTE 89

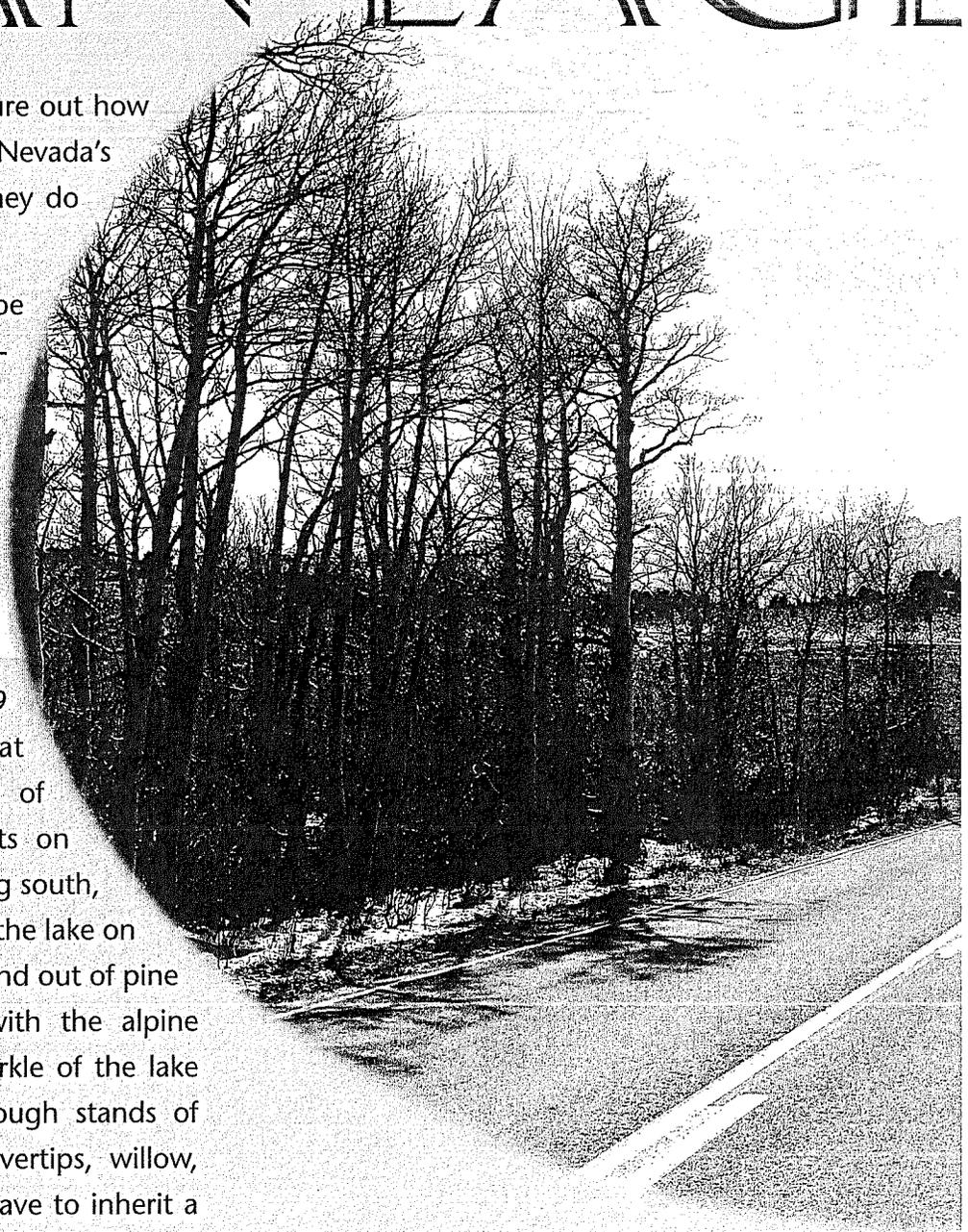
# AN NEAGIL

Some day, someone will figure out how to capture and sell the Sierra Nevada's high mountain air the way they do spring water.

And when they do, they'll be probably set up the condensers along State Route 89, the scenic route that runs through El Dorado and Alpine counties.

But they'll never be able to nab the views.

From the north, Route 89 becomes a scenic route at Tahoma, a funky collection of cabins, stores and restaurants on the shore of Lake Tahoe. Going south, it rides along the west side of the lake on a roller coaster that ducks in and out of pine forest to play peek-a-boo with the alpine treasure. Along here, the sparkle of the lake tantalizes as you thread through stands of Douglas firs, sugar pines, silvertips, willow, alder and manzanita. You'd have to inherit a bundle to get your hands on the ritzy houses that nestle beneath the shoulder of the road



*Photos by Don Tateishi*

*...groves of golden aspen look as if  
a painter had splashed the hills  
with a delicate brush.*



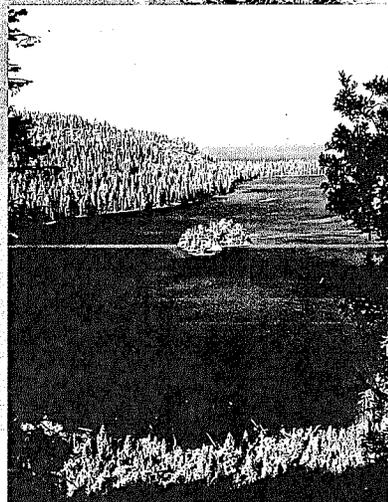
# THE VIEW

below or stack like tiers on a wedding cake on the cliffs above in Meeks Bay, Glenridge, Rubicon Bay and Tahoe Hills.

Every once in a while, you burst onto the outside of a curve and the lake flashes its full beauty on you: a transmutation from aquamarine at your feet to cobalt blue as it stretches away. Farther out there's a field of shimmery silver in the morning sun, then a thin platinum line on the opposite shore, over where the towers of Stateline lurk.

A few miles down the road dwells the most splendid view of all: Emerald Bay, whose southern vista point surely can't be topped on any road anywhere. At a breathless drop below you lies the bay, its middle dotted by piney green Fannette Island. On the beach to the left is Vikingsholm, built in 1928 by a wealthy widow who somehow got her hands on about 100 ha (200 acres) of land so she could create a fantasy Viking castle.

*Emerald Bay, whose  
southern vista point surely  
can't be topped on any  
road anywhere.*



## SCENIC ROUTE 89

# AN EAGLE'S VIEW

You can't help but wonder how she ever got title to that incredible piece of land below you.

The vista point is chock full of interesting information: the road around Emerald Bay was built in 1913; before that, people had to be rowed across on a boat by an intrepid boatman who eventually got lost in a storm and ended up at the bottom of the lake.

South of Emerald Bay, Route 89 sluices down the ridge in a series of neck-jerking switchbacks that must raise the hair of any bicyclist shuddering down or laboring up them. You descend back to lake level, past Camp Richardson, which bills itself as "historic." Actually, its history dates only to 1924.

Well, maybe they packed a lot in.

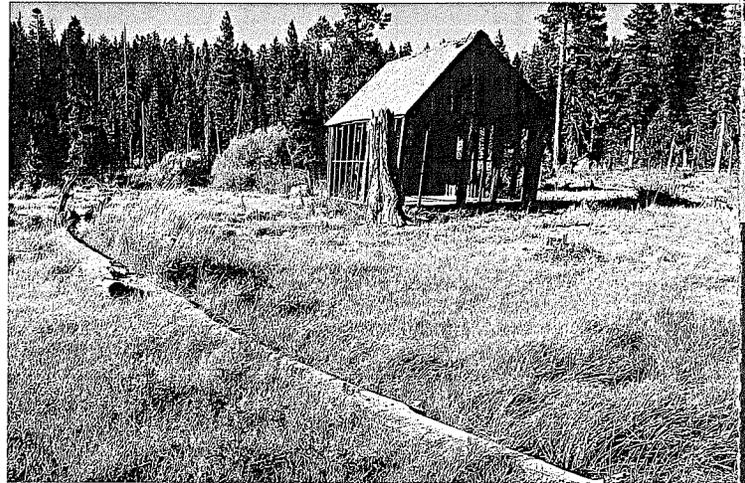
*The Cutthroat would be just any old mountain tavern if it weren't for dozens of . . . uh . . . women's foundation garments hanging from the ceiling.*

Route 89, now four lanes, approaches the outskirts of South Lake Tahoe. You pass Jacuzzi tubs, scooter and horseback rides and the Hunan Garden, reminding you that there is not a single town of any size

in America without a Chinese restaurant.

At the famous "Y," the gaming action of Stateline beckons you from Route 50, but Route 89 takes the road less traveled, off toward Myers then up the magnificent box canyon on whose cliffs above you Route 50 perches. Riding Route 89 into the Toyabe National Forest and up toward Luther Pass, you realize that this landscape could work as an annual color calendar: yellow and orange in fall, white in winter, reds and pinks during spring blossom time, and green in summer. Away from the crest of the Sierra, the land turns arid, even after a healthy fall storm. As Route 89 drops down to the serene Hope Valley, it meets up with Route 88 and together, heading east, they wind through quaking aspen stands to Woodfords Canyon.

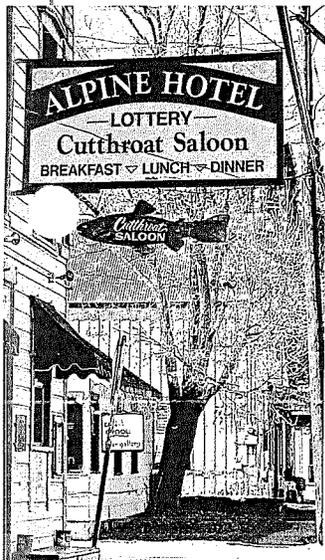
*An aging barn accents  
a bucolic meadow  
near Woodfords*



At Woodfords, Route 88 heads off for Minden and Gardnerville, leaving Route 89 to course through sagebrush, scrub pine and chaparral for the Monitor Pass, but first, there's Markleeville. Markleeville is home to the Alpine County courthouse and 165 souls, making it the smallest county seat in the country.

Markleeville was founded by one Jacob Marklee in 1861. He built a bridge across the middle fork of the Carson River (now Markleeville Creek) and made his living, before getting shot in an argument over property, by charging tolls to cross it. Markleeville was helped out in a perverse way when the demonetization of silver imploded Silver Mountain City just up State Route 4. A number of the buildings, including the Alpine Hotel, were disassembled and moved from Silver Mountain City to Markleeville.

There wouldn't be enough of Markleeville to make it charming if it weren't for the Alpine Hotel, whose bottom floor is taken up by the Cutthroat Bar. Run by Mario Gennerelli – too young to be a codger but too sassy to be anything else. Mario bought the Cutthroat 22 years ago after retiring from the pinball and jukebox business in Menlo Park. On any given weekend, you'll see 200 to 300 motorcycles in front of the Cutthroat.



The Cutthroat would be just any old mountain tavern if it weren't for dozens of . . . uh . . . women's foundation garments hanging from the ceiling. Mario says it started spontaneously one evening when a lass who was particularly proud of her charms whipped off her top for all to see. This act, impressive enough to cause the bartender to nail her brassiere to the ceiling, has prompted hundreds of women to do the same in the ensuing years. "I must have 300 of them in the store room," Mario says. "You just never know when it's going to happen."

Hangman's Bridge is just down the road from Markleeville. It got its name after a murder in town. With public opinion pretty much solidified on the accused's guilt, his lawyer got a change of venue to Mono County. For impoverished Alpine County, an out-of-town murder trial could have meant bankruptcy. (Mono County coveted the eastern portion of Alpine and wanted to annex it, and would have if the county treasury had dwindled any further.) To preserve the exchequer, a group of solid citizens apprehended the sheriff and the accused at the bridge; hence, Hangman's Bridge.

One hates to leave history like that behind, but we must, heading for the end of Route 89's scenic designation at the Mono County line. Halfway up the hill, there's the Leviathan Mine, mined first in 1863 for copper sulfate to process silver in Virginia City, then as a dedicated copper mine until 1869. Today, water traveling through the mine mixes with sulfur and lowers its pH level, making it acidic. The acidic water then leaches copper, iron, aluminum, nickel and—the most hazardous of the bunch—arsenic—into the ground. The resulting solution, as one official describes it, is "acidic metal-laden bad stuff" that really messes up creeks and rivers.

Officials from Lahontan Irrigation District, which bought the mine in the early 1980s, think a new treatment system will soon assure that no acidic, toxic water leaves the site.

The next 15 km are as scenic as anything on any scenic highway. You climb and climb and the air gets purer and purer with each turn of the road. Ahead, groves of golden aspen look as if a painter had splashed the hills with a delicate brush. At the top of Route 89, an inscription

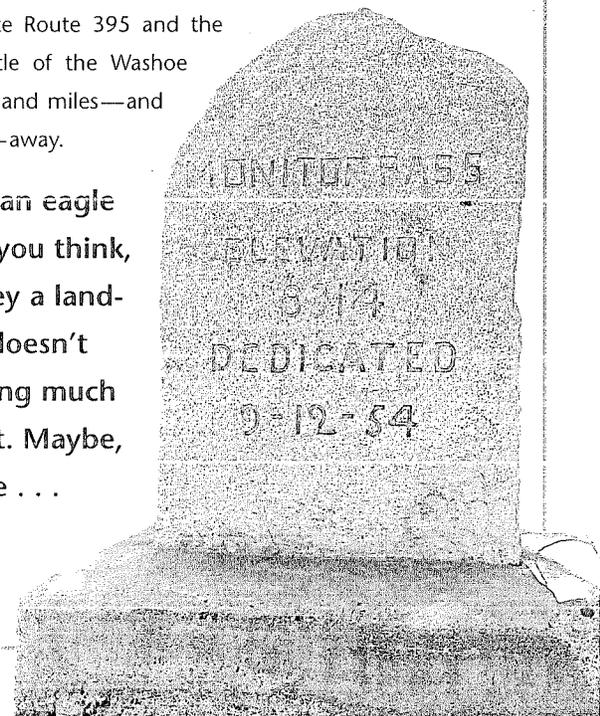


*Markleeville Creek's pure waters flow serenely along Route 89.*

scratched into a stone tablet tells you that you're at Monitor Pass, 2535 m (8,314 feet) altitude. The trees that have managed to eke out an existence up here are gnarled and twisted and the vegetation, on this November day, has already reduced itself to its most defensible state in anticipation of winter.

Below you, State Route 395 and the hustle and bustle of the Washoe Valley are miles and miles—and a busy lifestyle—away.

**This is how an eagle might feel, you think, as you survey a landscape that doesn't have anything much but you in it. Maybe, in a next life . . .**



# Sierra Passes

Annual Opening  
Presents Difficult Job

THE ANNUAL spring opening of those Sierra Nevada highway passes regularly closed by snow during the winter months is either under way or has recently been completed. As this article goes to press crews are busy removing snow drifts and fallen trees, replacing washouts and slipouts and putting these mountain pass roads in shape for summer traffic.

Except for the main transcontinental U. S. highways and the Red Bluff-Susanville lateral, which carry a relatively large volume of winter traffic and are kept open throughout the year, all other Sierra passes are closed by snow from late fall until early summer. Closing of these mountain roads usually occurs with the first major winter storm, and no attempt is made to reopen them until the following spring.

## Passes Closed Annually

Following is a list of various Sierra Nevada passes which are closed to traffic for a period of approximately six months during the winter season.

	Elevation
Sonora Pass .....	9,626
Carson Pass .....	8,573
Tioga Pass .....	9,941
Ebbetts Pass .....	8,730
Monitor Pass .....	8,314
Luther Pass .....	7,740
Lassen Loop Highway.....	8,512

As *California Highways and Public Works* went to press, all the Sierra passes were open.

The actual point of closure on these routes is determined mainly by the location of towns and recreational areas, traffic demands at various locations along the route, and to some degree, by the type and extent of improvement of the roadway section. The elevation at the point of closure varies from about 5,000 to 7,000 feet. As a safeguard to public traffic, locked gates are usually placed across the roadway, and advance road signs are installed to notify the traveling public of the fact the road is closed and of the location of the gates.

The job of opening these mountain passes is not only slow and tedious but requires skill, experience and good judgment in the operation of snow removal equipment. In late

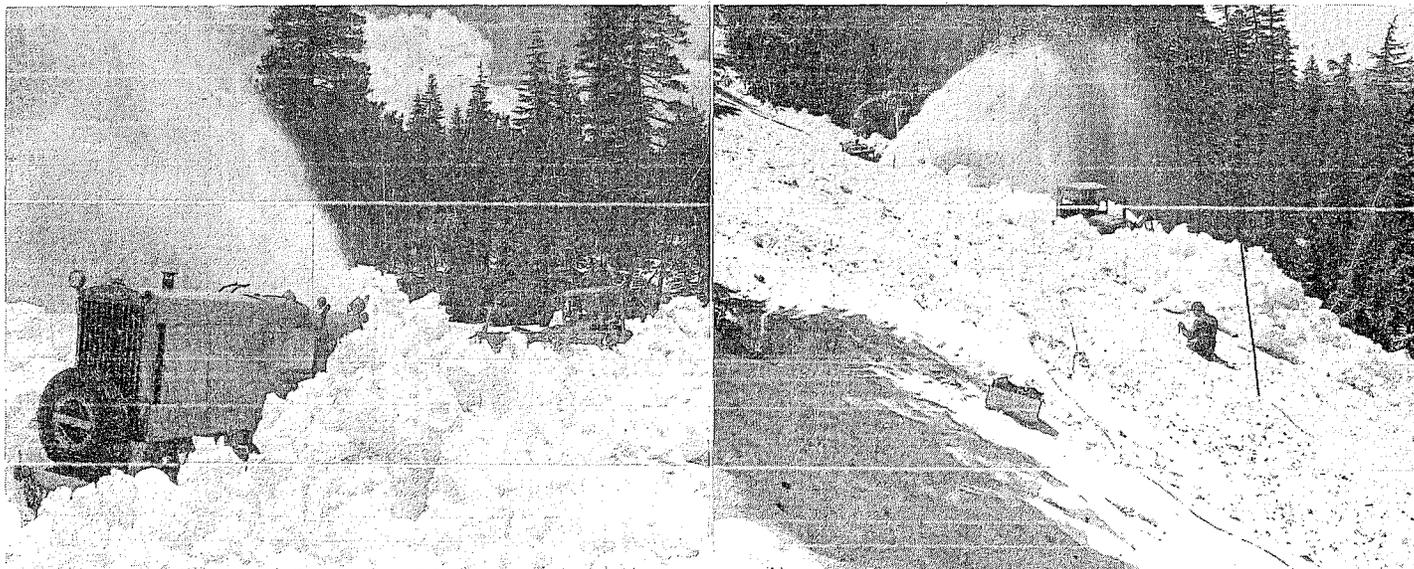
spring as the snow pack begins to melt, a survey is made of snow conditions over the passes, and a determination is made of the dates on which to start the annual spring opening.

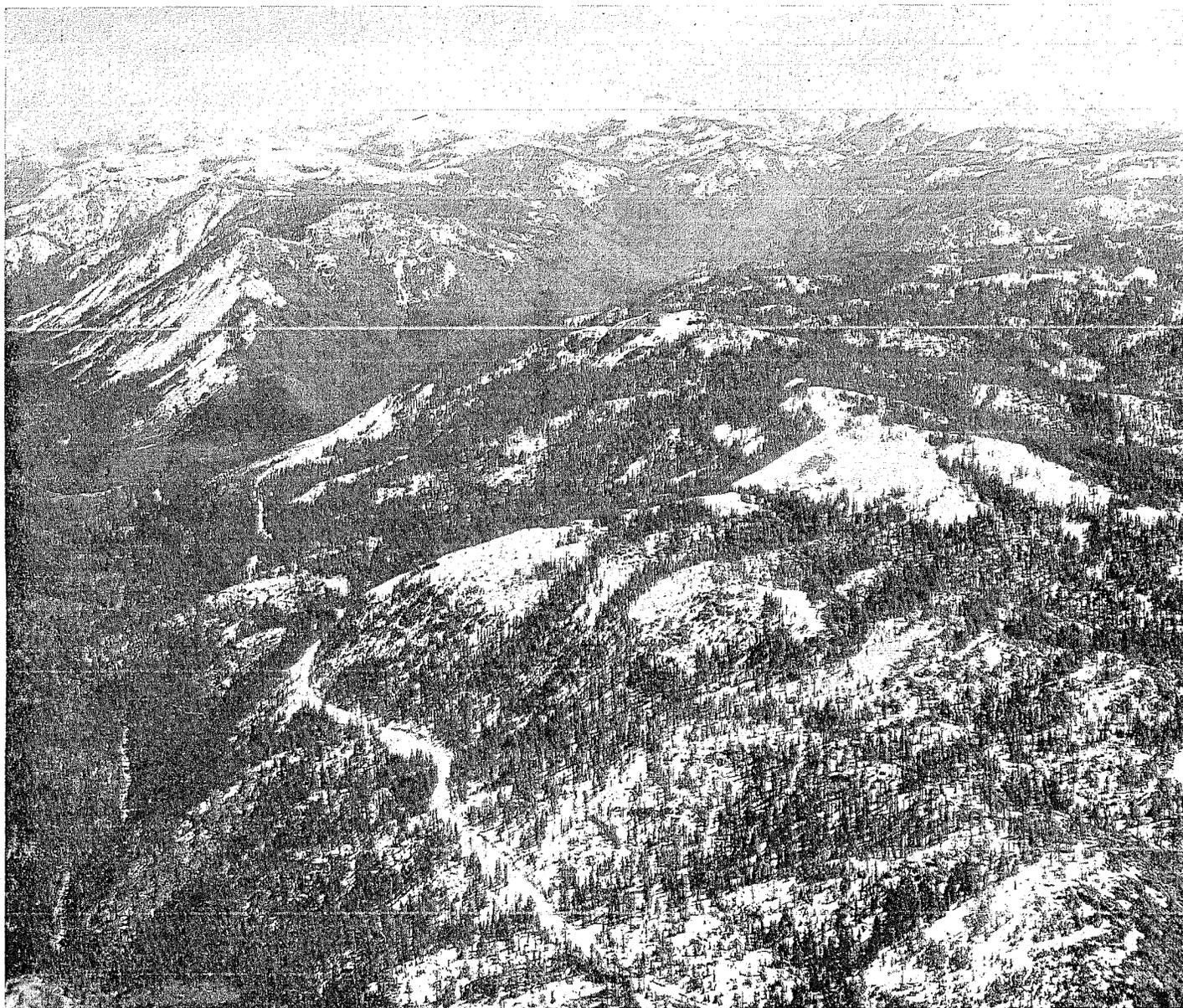
At the start of operations, good progress is generally made because of the lighter snowpack at the lower elevations, and under favorable conditions as many as seven or eight miles of road may be cleared in a single day. However, as the crews work their way into higher elevations the snow pack becomes harder and deeper, and it sometimes becomes necessary to employ the use of a bulldozer to break the snow pack and to feed the rotary plow. In extremely heavy drifts where the going is tough it may also be necessary to blast the snow pack ahead of the bulldozer. Under such difficult snow conditions as these where the pack is fairly deep and frozen hard, a single day's progress may not exceed one-half mile.

## Crews on Alert

During snow removal with a rotary plow, the crew must be constantly alert for such hidden obstructions as rocks, fallen trees, washouts and slip-

LEFT—Tractor bulldozing snow to rotary plow on Carson Pass Highway. RIGHT—Tough going on Carson Pass Highway showing tractor breaking up snow and ice pack for removal by rotary in background. Man in foreground preparing to loosen pack by blasting.





*This aerial photo shows rugged terrain through which Sonora Pass Highway runs*

outs that might damage the equipment or result in a serious accident. The rotary plows are equipped with replaceable shear pins that are designed to break when a solid object such as a rock or small log is accidentally picked up in the rotating blades. Some delay is caused by replacing these pins when plowing through a slide area where fallen rocks are a common occurrence.

Where small washouts or slipouts are encountered it is sometimes necessary to make minor temporary roadway repairs so that the snow equipment can proceed past the damaged

area. In the few cases where major washouts or slides occur and a detour is not available it is necessary to curtail snow removal work and concentrate on repairing the damaged road.

The usual practice in opening up a road is to plow a single pass through the snow for a distance of perhaps 10 to 12 miles before widening to full width is undertaken. This allows the snow to melt along the sides of the cut and gives the subgrade a chance to start drying out.

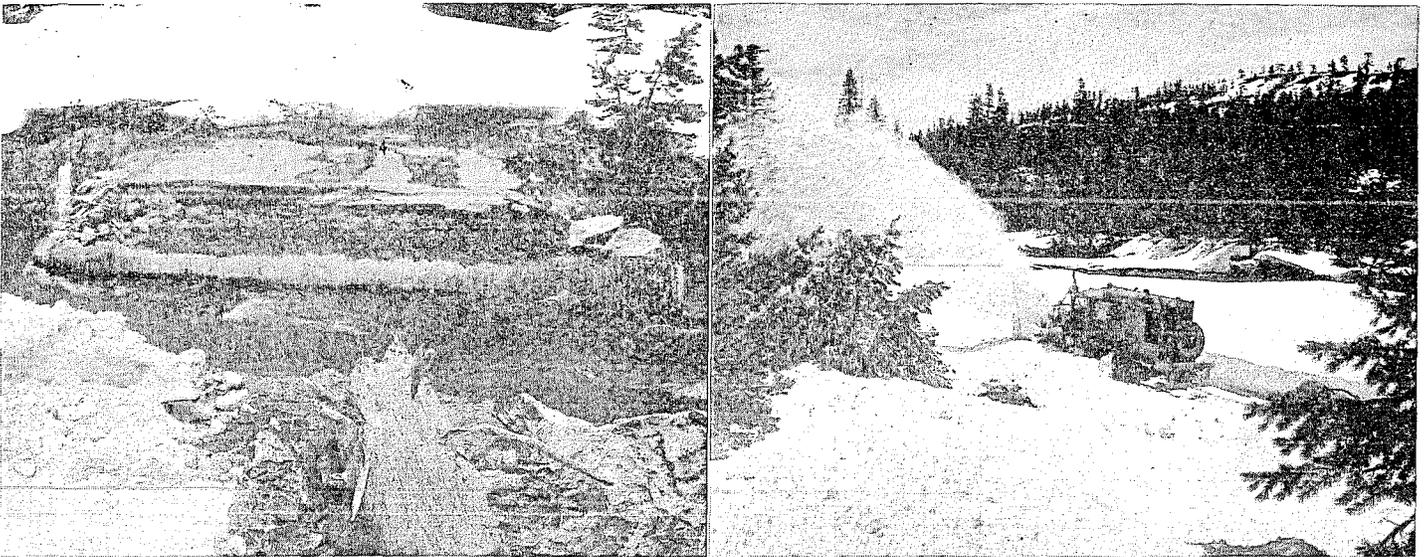
One of the heaviest snow passes in the State, the Lassen Loop Highway through Lassen National Park, is

opened and maintained by the National Park Service. Drifts in excess of 16 feet in depth have been measured on this road.

#### **National Park Work**

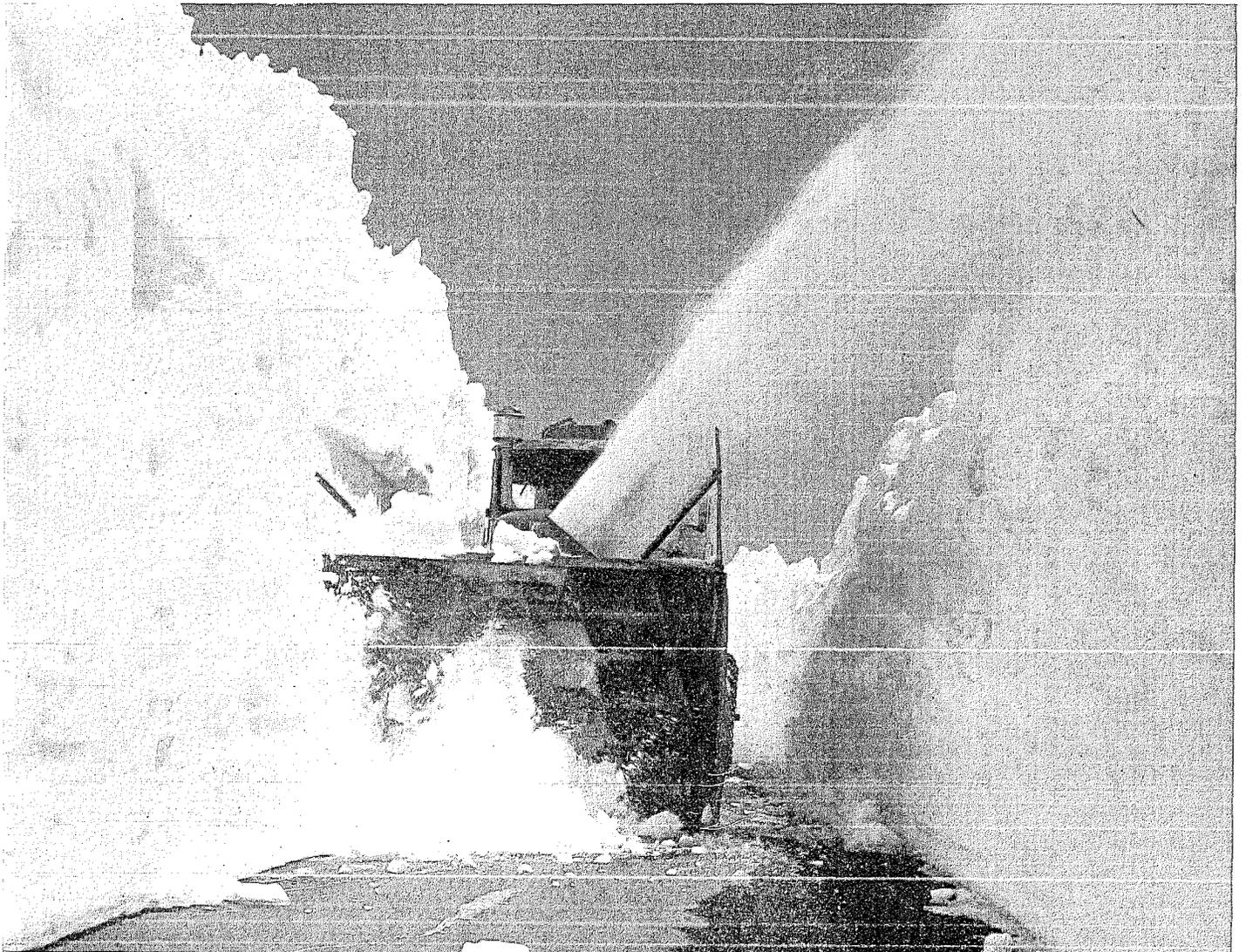
The portion of the Tioga Pass Road within Yosemite National Park is, like the Lassen Loop Highway, opened and maintained by the National Park Service. The portion of this route from the park boundary to the junction with US 395 near Leevining is perhaps as difficult to open as any pass on the State Highway System

*... Continued on page 54*



*LEFT—Photo showing typical damage due to heavy spring runoff on Ebbetts Pass Highway. RIGHT—Rotary plow in operation on Ebbetts Pass Highway.*

*U. S. Park Service equipment working heavy drift to open Lassen Loop Highway in Lassen National Park*



# THE OPEN ROAD FOR MOTORISTS IN CALIFORNIA

California motorists taking to the open road this summer will find significant improvements in the State's 14,000-mile highway system since this time last year.

The State's accelerated highway construction program, supplemented by increased federal aid, has added 210 miles of multi-lane, divided highway construction during the past 12 months, bringing the present total to 1,700 miles completed. Other construction now under way will bring this total to more than 2,000 miles.

Of added significance is the fact that of the additional 210 miles, nearly half of it is full freeway with no intersections at grade and all cross traffic handled by interchange or separation structures. California now has 353 miles of these full freeways, with another 260 miles under construction.

## Northern California

### TRANS-SIERRA ROUTES

**M**OST SPECTACULAR of the new construction which will confront the motorist in Northern California this year will be along the major trans-Sierra routes, especially US 40, where sections of highway are being four-laned and where, because of the precipitous nature of the terrain, he may find himself subject to some delays.

However, a little forbearance and scheduling on his part this season will be rewarded by future sections of divided, four-lane roadway through some of the ruggedest and most scenic country in the State as, for example, the 5½-mile job now under way along the Truckee River Canyon between Floriston and the Nevada state line which will be completed by summer of next year.

This project is subject to being closed to traffic on weekdays during the summer for a maximum of four two-hour periods spread throughout the day.

Other projects now under way on US 40 will provide freeway and expressway for 12 miles through the Colfax area between Heather Glen and west of Gold Run. These two projects will connect with existing four-lane, divided roadway between Auburn and Heather Glen, giving a continuous stretch of expressway and freeway 23 miles long.

Along another important trans-Sierra route, US 50, work now being carried on by the United States Bureau of Public Roads is widening the highway to four-lane divided standards along the steep slopes bordering the South Fork of the American River between Pacific House and Riverton in El Dorado County. This job, too, because of the precipitous terrain, may subject the motorist to delays of up to 30 minutes during weekday mornings and afternoons, with longer closure periods during the nighttime after 9 p.m. Again, however, the result will be a fine stretch of divided roadway through scenic country for his future pleasure.

Another US 50 project, State-financed, is construction of four miles of divided roadway between Five Mile Terrace and east of Camino. Just east of Sacramento, work started this month on widening a 14-mile section of US 50

## Southern California

### LOS ANGELES METROPOLITAN AREA

**A**S IN the past, much of the more spectacular new freeway construction confronting the motorist in Southern California is through sections of the larger cities. In the Los Angeles metropolitan area great strides have been made in the freeway construction program. To date, more than 200 miles of freeways have been constructed of which 24 miles were completed and opened to traffic during the past 12 months. In addition, construction is under way on other major freeway contracts totaling more than 40 miles.

Chief among these major completions and going contracts might be mentioned:

. . . A one-mile extension of the Hollywood Freeway from Lankershim Boulevard to Moorpark Street, which will be completed late this year.

. . . Along the Santa Ana Freeway, three major jobs totaling 15 miles, now under construction between Buena Park and Santa Ana in Orange County. Completion of these projects, plus a fourth project between Laguna Canyon Road and El Toro Road on which construction has recently been started and by the end of 1958 will provide a stretch of unbroken freeway 43 miles long all the way from the Civic Center in downtown Los Angeles to the junction with the San Diego Freeway near El Toro.

. . . On the Los Angeles County portion of San Bernardino Freeway, recent completion of the last five mile gap between West Covina and Pomona.

#### Harbor Freeway

. . . Extension of the Harbor Freeway four miles southward to 88th Street, recently completed. Major construction work now under way will extend it another 2½ miles all the way to 124th Street.

On the Long Beach Freeway, recently completed construction has opened 3½ miles to traffic southerly of the Santa Ana Freeway to Florence Avenue. From the Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach, previously complete construction provides seven miles of freeway to Atlantic

about 2001

# THE MALARKEY MARKLEEVILLE

This curious Alpine County town—pop. 185—inspires tall tales  
Story and photos by Janet Van Wicklen

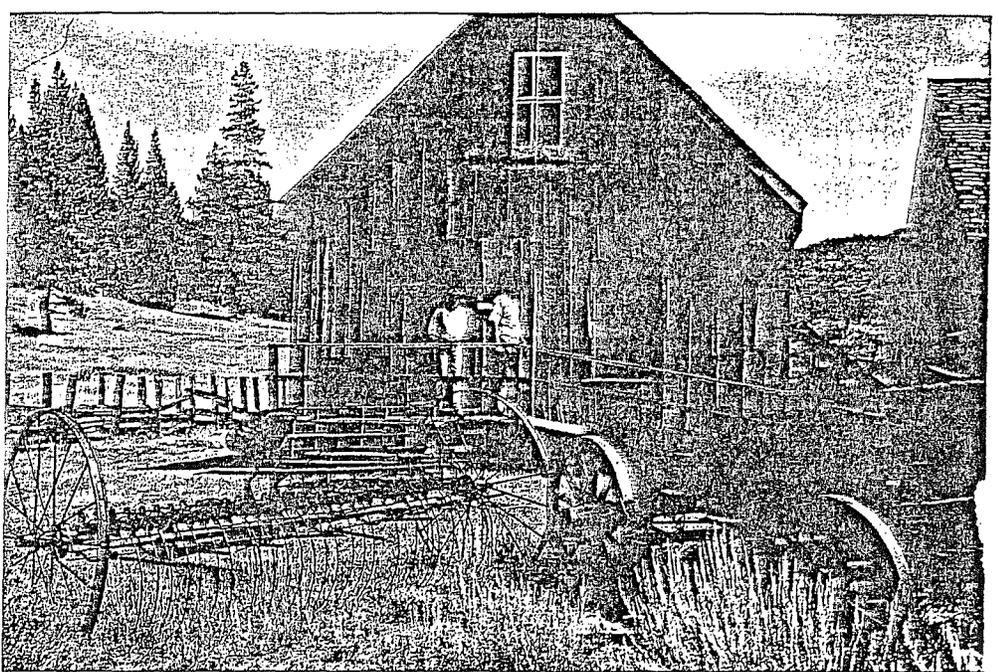
**M**arkleeville, the seat of California's Alpine County, hides in a pine-blanketed basin at 5,500 feet in elevation, about 10 miles from the Nevada border. Known by some as "Malarkey"-ville, it's a town that inspires tall tales. No doubt that's from long winters spent isolated from the rest of California by snow-covered mountain passes and because, well, not a lot really happens here.

First there's the tale of the Civil War soldier, who appears on those mountain passes in full battle regalia—Union blue, they say. After staring at you for a bit, he's said to turn slowly and walk away, thinning to invisibility before your eyes.

Then there's the story of the haunted Chalmers mansion up on Ebbetts Pass. Built by the Chalmers family between 1865 and 1870, around the time when gold fever gripped the county, it's for sale again. The latest owners tried to live there, but Mrs. Chalmers—the deceased Mrs. Chalmers, that is—sent them packing.

Finally, there's contemporary folklore having to do with the parties at the Cutthroat Saloon. Numerous stuffed deer and a ceiling full of ladies' undergarments decorate this frontier-style bar. Stand warned. The lingerie is reported to be the result of wild nights at the bar, but from the looks of it, it may have been bought from the Salvation Army several decades ago.

The Cutthroat dates back to 1862. Back then, it probably was a lively place. Markleeville was the county seat of an area beset by Gold Rush latecomers who found gold, copper, tungsten and silver in the hills close by. Mogul, Monitor, Hope Valley and Kongsberg all yielded precious metals and attracted thousands of miners. Kongsberg, which soon earned the name Silver Mountain, attracted a population of 3,000. The area flourished enough to produce a newspaper, the *Alpine Miner*, in the 1860s and '70s. But the bustle died fast, miners moved farther west and Silver Mountain



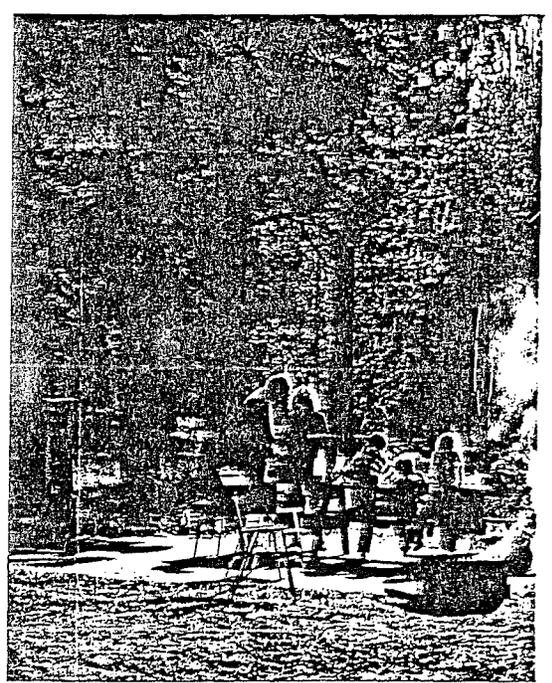
*The jail was moved up the hill from downtown Markleeville, with considerable effort, to preserve its unusual architecture.*

was abandoned in 1866. You can see the stone remains of the Silver Mountain City jail about 15 miles south of Markleeville on Highway #4 (Ebbetts Pass Road).

Stones quarried at Silver Mountain were used to build the Silver Mountain jail, as well as the fine old Markleeville courthouse and library.

Since the 1870s, the population of Alpine County has declined. A 1935 guidebook described it as the smallest population county in California. A 1961 *San Francisco Examiner* article described Alpine County as having "no doctor, dentist, practicing attorney, barber, or movie theater." Today, it still has no bank, traffic signals, garbage dump, or McDonald's. Alpine County now boasts a population of 1,200; 185 live in Markleeville.

Because Markleeville has been so quiet for so long, you'll find history everywhere. The Markleeville General Store is a classic. Its creaking porch and sagging



*Nearby Grover Hot Springs State Park provides good camping facilities.*

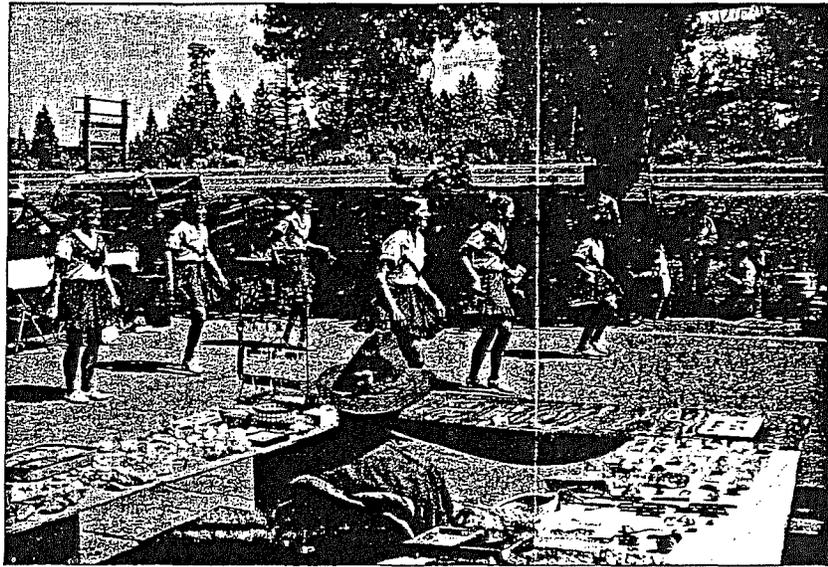
roof stand testimony to over a century of small-town life. The store was built in three stages, the first in 1865 and the last in 1955. Owner Bob Rudden says it's that new part that "leaks like a sieve." The older walls are 15 inches thick and filled with sawdust for insulation.

Perhaps the general store has seen a gun fight or two. Certainly, the town has seen its share of the wild west. Jack Marklee, the town's founding father, was killed (some say by axe, others by gun) beside where the old courthouse is located.

Today, you can stand in the middle of the street and lose yourself in conversation, without fear of gunshots or cars. "The most embarrassing thing in the world would be to get hit by a car in Markleeville," says Rudden.

Markleeville's museum presents a more organized view of the past, and a lovely view of the local countryside. The museum rests atop a knoll overlooking the valley. You can picnic here among buggy carriages, an ancient threshing machine and other old farm equipment, while you enjoy the scenery

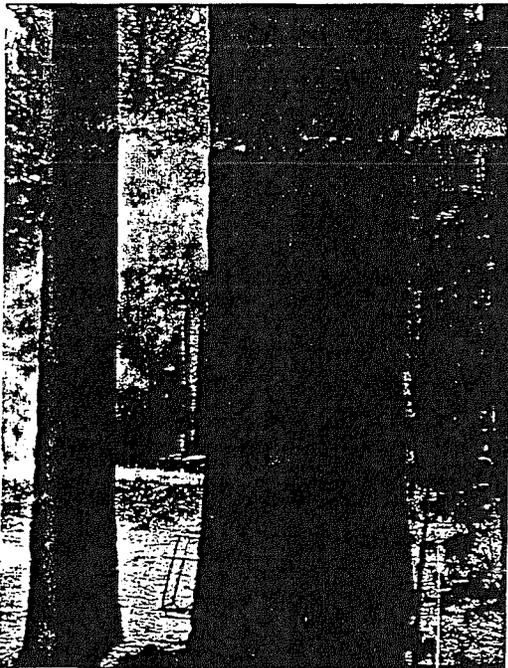
The museum's three structures include a main building, an 1882 schoolhouse and a jail. The schoolhouse displays schoolbooks from the early 1920s. The jail was moved up the hill from downtown Markleeville, with considerable effort, to preserve its unusual architecture. Its vertical logs are shaped with a tenon at the bottom to fit into a mortise slot cut in the heavy logs at the base.



The Carson Valley Cloggers perform traditional clog dances at the Chili Cook-Off and Arts Fair.



The mannequin of Markleeville Museum tends the general store.



Inside the museum's main building are displays of mining finds, a general store and a blacksmith's shop, decked out with nineteenth century paraphernalia. A mannequin poses in the general store, offering to sell candy to visitors. He's quite convincing.

In the museum, you'll also find an 1896 voting register describing Markleeville residents in quaint detail—"first finger on right hand stiff," "end of third finger of left hand off," "wen on neck." The register shows they came from Norway, Italy, Scotland, Germany, England, Denmark, Ireland and the eastern states to mine and log this land.

And the land was surely logged. In 1875, according to a State Parks representative, the area around neighboring Grover Hot Springs, four miles west of Markleeville, had not a tree left standing. "They dammed up Burnside Creek, flushed the hot springs and sent the logs down through Markleeville."

The Grover Hot Springs area is now beautifully treed and provides opportunities to hike, camp and soak in its hot mineral pools. The area around Markleeville offers other leisure attractions, particularly for the sports minded. In winter, cross-country skiers dot local slopes. In summer, cyclists pedal the mountain passes and hold a heart-stopping five-pass cycling event, call the Death Ride, in July. And the late-summer Chili Cook-Off and Arts Fair in Woodfords, six miles from Markleeville, is right for everyone.

For an evening of western ambience, there's always the Cutthroat Saloon. You might hear stories woven on a lonely winter's night about that soldier's eternal march along the mountain passes. You might hear tales of gunfights on Main Street. But take care to leave before the party gets too wild. The Cutthroat ain't for sissies.

continued on page 27

**Markleeville**

*continued from page 9*

For information about local events, call the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce: (916) 694-2475. For information about camping at Grover Hot Springs, write: Grover Hot Springs State Park, P.O. Box 188, Markleeville, CA 96120.

For more information about guided hikes and cross-country ski trips in the area, write for the Sierra District hike schedule: California Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Drawer D, Tahoma, CA 95733.

To get to Markleeville from Sacramento, take Highway 50 toward South Lake Tahoe, turning south on Highway 89 (Route E4).

*Janet Van Wicklen is a national and international travel writer who resides in Northern California.*

**Humboldt County**

*continued from page 18*

Continuing south, we stopped briefly at Arcata Redwood's sawmill, a mile north of Orick on Bald Hill Road. The mill offers tours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Before dark we arrived at Bishop Pine Lodge at Trinidad, a clean and quaint little town on the bluffs above Trinidad Head. Bishop Pine owner Steve Kopf says he tries to keep facilities up-to-date, without becoming too modern. Two of the newer cabins share a hot-tub spa, where travelers may soak away the stiffness of driving. Several others, more rustic and framed with vining roses, were filled with families who return every year.

We dined at Seascape, a dockside cafe at the base of Trinidad Head rock, watching small fishing vessels bobbing in the evening sea. When we admired the pineapple salsa served with our meal, the chef came out and presented us with her recipe.

That was the icing that topped the cake of our exploration of Humboldt County—and it served as an appetizer for what was yet to come. We had toured only part of the Humboldt coastline, and there are still Willow Creek and Hoopa over mountains to the east.

*Joyce and George Golding's previous travel articles for National Motorist have covered Queensland, Australia; and Northern California's San Mateo County coastline.*

**Flying Boat Museum**

*continued from page 15*

Irish whiskey to the coffee. After a few sips, one of the Americans asked, "Is this Brazilian coffee?"

"No," replied the chef. "This is the new IRISH coffee."

Yes, that's where it started, and now the tradition is carried on at Shannon International Airport a few miles down the road.

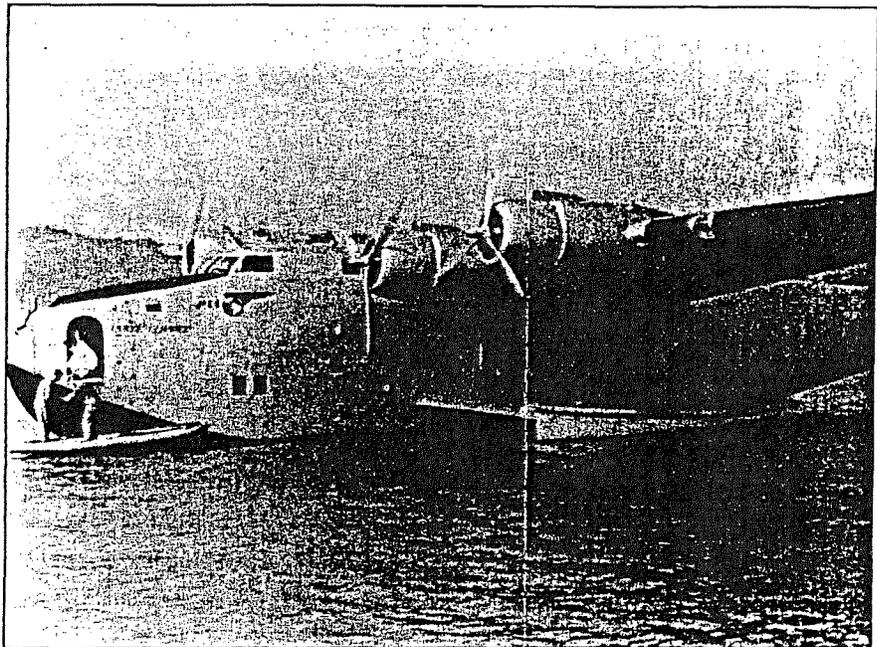
The idea of using flying boats to Europe is credited to Pan Am's president in the 1930s—Juan Trippe. He employed the aviation hero Charles Lindbergh to check the routes. It soon became clear

Irish government obviously knew what was going on, but winked at its own neutrality and waved them on their way.

So, what do we find at Foynes today? No flying boats, unfortunately, but wonderful newsreels and still photographs of the takeoffs, landings and interiors of the planes. The original terminal building is there, along with the radio and weather rooms including transmitters, receivers and Morse code equipment in ready-to-use condition.

Pilots' uniforms and all sorts of memorabilia are on display. A 1940-style tearoom is ready to serve visitors. A short walk can take you to the pier near the mooring area of the flying boats.

*photos: courtesy of Flying Boat Museum*



*Passengers take a small boat out to the Pan Am Clipper moored at Foynes.*

that while London was most people's destination, the range of these flying boats dictated a stop in the west of Ireland. Smaller planes or ships took them the rest of the way.

Pan Am and Imperial Airways began test flights in 1937, and actual service started in 1939. American Export got its license in 1940.

The planes boasted a dining room, fancy beds and bathrooms—30 to 35 luxury accommodations for those in a hurry. Among the passengers: Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Prime Minister Curtin of Australia, Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Bob Hope, Gracie Fields and Edward G. Robinson.

In wartime, many of the passengers in civilian clothes were top U.S. and British military men traveling incognito. The

**HOW TO GET THERE**—Foynes, Ireland, is close to Limerick, which in turn is just a 30-minute drive to Shannon Airport, served by many airlines.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**—Dramatic scenery and luxury rooms can be found a few miles away at Dromoland Castle. Something a bit less expensive but still nice on the Castle Grounds is Clare Inn. A half-day away is Ashford Castle, where President Reagan stayed, and where Maureen O'Hara and John Wayne spent many weeks while filming "The Quiet Man."

**OPERATING HOURS**—The Flying Boat Museum is open seven days a week from May through September, 10 a.m.—6 p.m.

*Don Mozley writes the Autotest features for National Motorist.*

## A PEEK AT THE PAST



**CARSON VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY** photo

**Keeping warm:** John Anthony and his wife, Wama, display rabbit skin blankets in this Carson Valley Historical Society photo. Reprints of this photograph and other historical pictures are available through the society at 782-2555.

# Losing the Forest for the Trees

By KIMBERLY A. STRASSEL

Last week President Clinton reached the apex of eight years of misguided forestry policy with his executive order barring road building on 58 million acres of national forests. U.S. Forest Service chief Mike Dombeck followed this week with an announcement that he will reduce the amount of timber up for auction on federal lands by another 50%.

Radicals like to frame the environmental debate by dividing people into those for nature and those against it. In fact, the divide is much more practical, between those who would manage our land and those who would not. Because we necessarily intrude upon nature, we must take it upon ourselves to manage it—through road building, fire policies and, most importantly, logging.

Mr. Clinton had confined most of his tree hugging to setting aside national lands. Because most Americans believe, for philosophical or sentimental reasons, that we have an obligation to leave someplace for the flora and fauna, presidential land orders tend to meet little opposition. Over the past 95 years, 14 presidents have proclaimed some 105 new national monuments covering more than 70 million acres. The Forest Service today presides over some 192 million acres, an area the size of Texas and Louisiana combined.

But pro-nature sentiment isn't the only reason Americans support national parks. We also love our weekend getaways. Each summer Americans rack up more than 13 million miles a day driving in national lands, and it's a rare day when there isn't a boat on every lake and a tent in every campground.

Hikers make trails and set up campgrounds, leave leftover lasagna for bears, and start forest fires with cigarettes. Roads like those in Yellowstone have been cut and paved for cars. Artificial boundaries are set not because a forest naturally

ends, but because we say it does. These things are good on the whole. The land is somewhat preserved, and we can enjoy it. But to pretend that forests are pristine ecosystems that should be left to grow wild is absurd.

This fallacy is especially dangerous when it comes to fire policy. It used to be that nature regenerated itself through fire, and we could afford to let it. But these days forests can't burn uncontrolled because they take with them lives and livelihoods.

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*By preventing logging and road-building in the national forests, Clinton makes big fires more likely.*

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Mr. Clinton's leave-it-alone policy, starting with his severe restrictions on logging, has already proved itself a failure. Eight years of neglect have allowed deadwood and undergrowth to create a tinderbox, causing the worst forest fires in history. Last year 7.4 million acres burned, almost equaling the total for 1988, the year of the big Yellowstone fire and the worst fire year since the 1950s. Forest fires in 2000 destroyed more than 800 structures and cost more than \$2.8 billion for suppression and recovery. The General Accounting Office conservatively estimates that 65 million acres of national forest are currently at high risk of catastrophic fires; one in three acres is either dead or dying.

Because our forests have grown so wild, it is difficult for authorities to practice low-intensity prescribed burns to clear out the deadwood, for fear they'll rage out of control, as they did around Los Alamos, N.M., last year. Dense forests that aren't refreshed by fire lose wildlife habitat; elk and deer have no place to graze. Trees, meanwhile, become less resilient to disease and insects.

Now, having turned national forests into kindling, Mr. Clinton has outlawed a crucial means of fighting fires: building roads, which provide fire breaks and a way for fire crews to get ahead of burns. Given all the new land Mr. Clinton is setting aside, last year's fire season might look pretty tame in a few years.

Actively managing our forests with timber harvesting and other commercial activities not only makes them healthier but provides government agencies with the funds they need to maintain the boat docks and forestry stations that keep parks functioning. By some estimates the Forest Service could make \$500 an acre selling wood that, unmanaged, might be destroyed by fire. Our national forests grow more wood annually than we come close to cutting down.

The Forest Service itself recognizes that we have too much deadwood. But instead of selling the logging rights to private companies, the government will spend as much as \$12 billion of taxpayers' money over the next 14 years, the GAO estimates, to cart off the deadwood.

A lot of people like to bring up Theodore Roosevelt at times like these. Environmentalists note that he was a Republican and chide today's party for having lost its conservationist bent. Yet Roosevelt, who created the national parks, believed in managing them. He established the U.S. Forest Service, and with it the beginning of those 380,000 miles of roads that now span our national lands. In TR's day, rangers felt that, for their own long-term good, forests should provide not only recreational opportunities but also timber. The best way for George W. Bush to honor Roosevelt's legacy would be to rescind Mr. Clinton's ban on roads.

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*Ms. Strassel is an assistant features editor at the Journal editorial page. She writes a twice-monthly OpinionJournal column.*

Jan 20, 2001

# Tribe opens Chevron station in north county

by Linda Hiller  
Staff Writer

After being vacant for nearly a year, the Chevron gas station and convenience store — Washoe One Stop — in Indian Hills has been purchased and opened by the Washoe Tribe.

“We opened at 3:40 p.m. on Thursday,” said Kurt Weissheimer, director of the Washoe Development Enterprise. “We’ll have a formal opening later, but for now we’re just glad to be up and running.”

Weissheimer said the tribe purchased the gas station in bankruptcy court for \$1.785 million. The previous owners were Kenneth and Ginger Stoner from Incline Village, who built and opened the station in mid-1997 and closed it in January 2000.

The Washoe Development Enterprise had been looking into opening a gas station at another location, Weissheimer said, but when opportunity knocked, the group decided to answer.

“We’d thought about putting it right across the street from the Smoke Shop (in south Gardnerville), but it got to be a big job, with sewer extensions and roads and all,” he said. “We were fortunate to get this, because it’s very well built. We got an outside consultant to help us run it, since

this is our first gas station.”

The station is not on Tribal land, and will generate tax revenues for Douglas County, Weissheimer said.

“We’ll pay taxes, just like everyone else,” he said.

■ **Second time's the charm?** Weissheimer said the station operators will try to keep the gas prices more in line with other Carson Valley stations. Residents complained that the previous owners had prices far above other area stations. Friday, the price was \$1.47 for regular unleaded, compared to \$1.43 down the road at the Silver City RV Park, the nearest gas station.

“We’re going to keep the prices as low as we possibly can,” Weissheimer said. “And, we’re contemplating some special promotion prices for when we have the formal opening in a few weeks or so.”

The car wash is also open, he said, with prices from \$4 to \$7 per vehicle, and the convenience store will have grocery merchandise, including Indian crafts, to serve the 870 nearby homes, as well as commuting customers, Weissheimer said.

“We’re offering a much wider range of products that are more favorably priced,” he said. “We have everything from bread, milk and eggs to all kinds of beverages and other necessities that



BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

**Station opens:** Front, from left, are Brenda Evans, cashier; Meg McDonald, assistant manager; Ann Wade, assistant director of Washoe Development Center; back, Wanda

Batchelor, tribal vice chair and grant writer; Kurt Weissheimer, Washoe development director; and Kathleen Guerra, station manager.

people might need in the middle of the night.”

■ **Hours, address.** Washoe One Stop/Chevron is located at the corner of Mica Drive and Highway 395 in north Douglas County.

The store and gas station are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“We were going to have the locks changed, and then we realized the doors will never be locked,” Weissheimer said.

For more information, call 267-0745.

# Alpine community is invited to hear new plan

by Cheri Warrell  
Special to the R-C

The first giant step in planning the future for Alpine County's youngest citizens is complete and it's time to celebrate.

On Monday, Feb. 5, at 6 p.m., the entire Alpine County community is invited to a presentation of the completed Children and Families First Commission's strategic plan.

The plan is a result of six months of hard work by many county residents. The Children and Families First Commission (funded by Proposition 10, tobacco tax money) was established in California to fund services for improving early childhood development, with the goal that all 5-year-old children will be ready for school.

In July of last year, the Alpine community came together to create a vision for

the future of children prenatal to 5 years old.

Different goal groups were formed, and through the fall, goals and objectives were put together from information gathered at the July meeting. The goal group met and compiled a strategic plan to be presented to the entire community and the Alpine County Board of Supervisors for their approval.

All residents of Alpine County are welcome to the celebra-

tion at Turtle Rock Park, between Woodfords and Markleeville. Children are especially invited, since the whole purpose of the Children and Families First Commission is to benefit young children.

Treats will be served, so bring your friends and neighbors and find out about some exciting plans for Alpine County's future.

For more information, call (530) 694-2771.

*Record/Cheri Warrell 12/20/01*

R - C ' S F E A T U R E D O R G A N I Z A T I O N  
O F T H E M O N T H

# Alpine Family Support Council reaches out

by Nancy Hamlett  
Staff Writer

The Alpine Family Support Council has administered programs for children and families in the California county for many years. However, with recent changes and far reaching goals, the council promises to broaden the scope and improve the effectiveness of its programs for the 1,200 people living in the county.

Formed when the California Legislature passed AB 1733 in the 1980s, the Family Support Council serves as an advisory body to the county's board of supervisors in determining how child abuse prevention monies are spent. The council is made up of department heads from law enforcement, social services and mental health, plus two at-large positions recruited from the general population.

Once the board of supervisors' decisions are made, it is up to the Family Support Council to administer the money that comes in from the state.

Director of Health and Human Services Kathy Kerr has chaired the Family Support Council for four years. She said that the main objective of the council is to aid children and families in abusive or neglect situations.

"There are several different vehicles already in place in Alpine County for providing these types of support, but we have barely scratched the surface of what is available," said Kerr. "We're dedicating this year to a growth year, to determine what programs will work



**'If we propose to strengthen the family, we have to listen to what parents have to say.'**

**Director Cheri Warrell**

best for us and then finding funding to pay for them."

Kerr said that hiring Cheri Warrell as Family Support's director was the first step in implementing the changes. Warrell comes with past experience as assistant director of Douglas County's Family Support Council and is an experienced grant writer.

"Family Support Council has applied for non-profit status, which will enable us to qualify for more grants in education and training," said Warrell.



**Preschool:** Jo Daugherty, preschool program, is at left,

"This will allow us to expand programs already in place and bring in different types of programs that will allow us to reach more people in the county."

Another change will be the council's structure by including more parents in the decision-making process by rescheduling meetings to 5:30 p.m. and providing child care at the meetings.

"If we propose to strengthen the family, we have to listen to what parents have to say," said Warrell. "They are the experts ... the nuts and bolts communi-



**BELINDA GRANT/The R-C**

who runs the right. The children, behind, are doing a craft Cheri Warrell, at a table.

ty members that know what they need.”

The number one problem affecting children and families in Alpine County is drug and alcohol abuse. Several programs, some funded through child abuse program funds and others strictly overseen by the council, teach children and families that tobacco, alcohol and drugs are not necessary for having a good time.

“We had a Christmas party at Turtle Rock this year that was tobacco- and alcohol-free,” said Edie Veatch, a volunteer who coordinates Alpine Kids and the

Alpine Children’s Center. “We try to be creative and reach families in different ways.

Through Alpine Kids, we offer peer group meetings and monthly outings, activities for the whole family to be involved.”

Recently, the council expanded services to Bear Valley, an isolated community in the winter when Ebbetts Pass is closed.

“Transportation is one of the key issues we will be addressing this year,” said Kerr.

“Whether you live in Bear Valley or another part of the county, unless you have a car, you

can’t utilize all of the programs.”

Jo Daugherty has actively worked with family support for 14 years. After AB 1733 passed, she attended a meeting of county department heads and interested people to brainstorm what to do with the money allocated to them.

“The first thing we recommended is that we hire another social worker,” said Daugherty. “The next thing we did was form a clothing bank. It was run with all volunteers, and any item cost 10 cents, just enough to pay for washing the clothes.”

Money from the clothing bank funded the first year’s food and toy drive.

“This year, we were able to give a Christmas to 85 children in 60 homes,” said Warrell. “We had a lot of help this year with Douglas High School and Douglas Disposal donating heavily.”

With monetary donations and discounts from Albertson’s and Kmart in Carson City, Warrell was able to stretch the dollars even further.

“We had more fun. And it was especially rewarding to find the right toy that the child wanted,” said Warrell.

The excitement at family support about the coming year’s plans is infectious. However proud it is of its accomplishments, the Family Support Council and its volunteers are ready to do even more to strengthen the family unit.

“With recent changes to our structuring and funding, things are going to happen here within the next two years that are going to blow people away,” said Kerr. “I can’t wait to see them happen.”

Feb. 7, 2001

# Alpine school teacher is honored for innovative lessons

by Nancy Hamlett  
Staff Writer

Last year, Kelley Welykholowa dyed her hair purple, wore blue leopard pajamas to school and cooked green eggs and ham for her students to reward them for reading 1,000 pages.

This year, her classroom is morphing into a rain forest, complete with foliage, animals and tents. What will this award-winning teacher dream up

## RECORD-COURIER NEIGHBORS

for next year's students?

"New Zealand," said Welley, who uses a shortened version of her Ukrainian surname. "Last summer, I went to Borneo and thought up the rain forest theme. Next year is New Zealand, and I'm already dreaming up ways to

incorporate the theme into the classroom."

Welley, who began her teaching career at the International School in Turin, Italy, is in her sixth year of teaching at Diamond Valley School in Woodfords. Although she was raised in the Bay Area, she said that she is "positively thriving" in the small school atmosphere.

"I have a fantastic (school) district that is open to new ideas, and here we

See **Neighbor** on page 2



Kelley  
"Welley"  
tells kinder-  
gartner  
Jonathan  
Martinez  
what a  
great job he  
did on his  
moth  
picture.

BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

# Neighbor: 'Welley' is honored

Continued from page 1  
are allowed individualized instruction," said Welley. "I teach outside of the box and take my students beyond what they are supposed to know. I get encouragement every step of the way."

In January, Welley received the Audrey Sanchez Teacher Enhancement Award, the California Kindergarten Association's Award of Excellence. She shared the award with Linda Becker, who Welley considers an incredible art teacher and her mentor.

"When I was just a finalist with her was an honor," said Welley. "To win the award with her was incredible."

Alpine County School District Director of Curriculum Dan Makely nominated Welley.

"Mr. Makely was observing me all year, because of my unique reading program," said Welley. "My mother teaches piano using the Suzuki method, where you play by ear before you read music. I apply the same principles to reading."



BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

**Inside reading tent:** Kelly Welley is shown with her students.

Each letter has a physical movement to accompany the sound. Students quickly embrace the program, and Welley said that during the first year of using it, 10 out of 16 students were reading in kindergarten.

"I've had high percentages every year, and these students transition well into 1st grade," said Welley.

The rain forest theme for this year's classroom evolved out of

Welley volunteering at the 2000 Eco-Challenge in Borneo. The event, billed as an expedition race, took participants through mysterious Borneo via ancient headhunter trails, remote rivers and surrounding tropical seas.

Eco-Challenge organizer Mark Burnett held the first Eco-Challenge in New England in 1995 and designed the grueling race to provide an avenue for life improvement training as well as

raising environmental awareness. Teams of four men and women race 24 hours a day via canoes, kayaks, mountain bikes, white water rafts, horses, their feet and climbing ropes to cover a course in six to 10 days. They must also perform an environmental service project at each stage of the race.

This is the first year Welley volunteered at the event.

"Traveling is my life, and when

I heard that they needed volunteers, I had to apply," said Welley, a scholarship swimmer for the University of California at Los Angeles and a world-class kayaker. She is also fluent in sev-

translate for several athletes at the event.

When she returned to the Diamond Valley School, she painted the walls rain forest green and developed a curriculum for her students. As students learn about the rain forest, Welley incorporates other learning experiences into the program. Paper sloths inch across a vine. Rain clouds hang from the ceiling, and ceramic king cobra snakes, made by the children, slither up the walls.

"Themes are so important. Children learn without realizing it, so they learn a lot more," said Welley. "We'll continue to build our rain forest until May."

A full-sized tent in the forest holds a collection of reading books, as does every other nook and cranny in the room. Welley has 12 reading centers packed with materials.

"I open up a different reading area every day, and on Fridays all of them are open," said Welley. "Parents want me to give the children homework, but I give the

ing is so important that I tell them to read to their children every night."

When not teaching, Welley takes classes in theater and the arts. She has written several children's books and says that her latest shows a lot of potential.

"I previewed it to my students, and they really seemed to enjoy it," said Welley.

She also kayaks, although a nerve injury on a Grand Canyon expedition limited her activity for a period.

"I like the high volume water, but I also enjoy mornings on Lake Tahoe, watching the sun rise, a few ducks on the water and a hot air balloon in the air," said Welley.

In addition to the New Zealand trip, Welley's travel itinerary includes Costa Rica.

"I need more pictures for my rain forest," said Welley as she pointed to walls covered with slick prints of rain forest features and animals. "I need a picture of a sloth. I'll just have to keep trav-

# Letters to the editor

## Enough!

EDITOR:

How much is enough?

So now we're getting a "Super Wal-Mart." A regular Wal-Mart a few miles away was too far and not enough? What are we gaining except a few miles and combining a grocery store, which it seems like we already have enough of, with a Wal-Mart, which we already had. OK, we're supposedly gaining 200 new jobs and some sales tax. And, coincidentally, someone wants to build 300 new homes nearby, which will generate 3,000 more trips per day on Clear Creek Road, not to mention wherever else they're all going. And which will perhaps bring in 100 more people than there are jobs, which will mean... what? A Super Costco?

We now have Costco, Target and Home Depot. In Carson we have an Office Depot and I

think we're getting a Staples. Do we really need all these "super" stores?

We used to have Carson Valley Mercantile and Minden Mercantile, where we could get everything from produce to canned goods to Levi's to dynamite. And where we knew all the employees. And we could charge a month's supplies and get a discount if we paid by the tenth. We had a drug store with a soda fountain, a shoe repair shop, a nice little unpretentious, one-man "western wear" store with real western wear for real ranchers and cowboys. We had a five-and-dime and a hardware store. All "Mom and Pop" operations. All gone.

Well, enough of that. That's progress, they say.

But why must we join the mindless march toward the homogenization of America where every town looks like every other town? Wal-Mart, Costco, Home Depot, Target, Office Depot, Staples, Jack in the Box, McDonald's, Wendy's, Burger King, Taco Bell and on and on and on.

Why must we have 300 more homes, this time in the Jacks Valley area? Up in the trees where it's "environmentally friendly." Oh, come on. And do we really need yet another golf course?

I have my fingers crossed that the planned review of the master plan will somehow begin to

**The Record-Courier** ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

make a difference for the better for the future of Carson Valley. Access to public lands is an issue, for sure, but I just hope that retaining the agricultural integrity and open space, what's left of it, throughout the Valley is a very, very high priority issue as well. Because what is happening to Carson Valley is all too reminiscent of what has happened to much of California, the Santa Clara valley, for example, and Sacramento and Stockton and on and on. I can easily envision a day not far away where everything from the south end of Carson Valley to Reno is one megalopolis, like the Bay Area, with freeways and gridlock and air pollution and road rage and everything everyone is moving here to get away from.

I just hope Douglas County can get on top of this elusive issue of balancing uncontrolled growth with protecting property rights before it's too late.

**Nancy C. Thornburg**  
Markleeville

Feb. 14

REC.  
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# America's Outback

Text & Photos by Bill Graves

## Markleeville, California

**N**owhere in this whole county is there a high-school football game on a fall Saturday, or a basketball game when the snow flies. They don't even have a high-school prom up here. In Alpine County, kids don't get to eat a Big Mac, hang out in a 7-Eleven or go to a movie. Even if they wanted to, they couldn't see a dentist in this county.

Credit geography and blame their forefathers for this happenstance. It goes back to 1854, when they were drawing up county boundaries.

Alpine County has no high schools, theaters, golden arches, dentists, 7-Elevens, banks, ATMs or traffic lights. It's tied together by one road that goes over Ebbetts Pass, elevation 8,730 feet. The pass is closed in the winter, which can be six months. So as a county, it's split in two—economically, politically and socially. And so that's

why the county has no high schools; with the split, the halves are just too small.

High in the timber country of the eastern Sierras, it is a speck on the mammoth range that is most of California's east side. It ranks eighth in smallness among California's 58 counties (776 square miles) and first in the least number of people. A county official rounded off the population for me at 1,200. Others say that's bogus, because a third of them don't live here in the winter.

Markleeville, elevation 5,500 feet and a population of 165, is

on the west side of the pass and is the county seat. Kids here go to high school in the next county, which is Douglas, in the next state, which is Nevada. In fact, people up here do most things in Nevada. They think of it as "downtown," and speak of it as "down the hill." More than that, they identify with Nevada and many of them fervently wish that they were part it and get frustrated that they aren't.

Radio stations heard here are all in Nevada. So the talk shows rehash issues of that state and maybe national ones, certainly not those of California. Their "local" television

is from Reno, even on cable.

The *Sacramento Bee* comes in from California, but almost everybody in Markleeville reads the *Record Courier*, the daily newspaper of nearby Minden, Nevada. "How can I do my shopping without knowing where the sales are," is how one lady explained her newspaper preference.

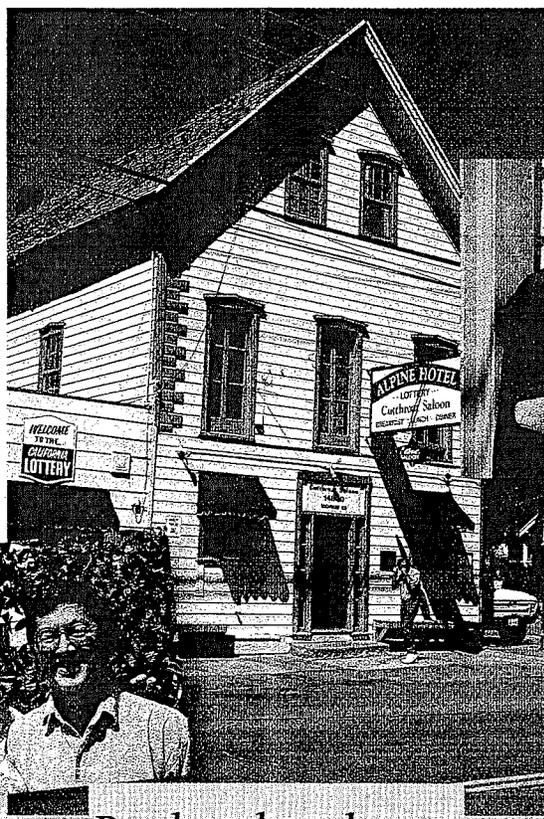
Politically, it's a media mess.

They are blanketed with Nevada politics, with lots of information coming from there, but to vote intelligently in their home state, it's a research project. Although Ronald Reagan was governor of California for-eight

years, Nancy Thornburg, 40-year resident here, admitted, "I never saw Reagan on television until he ran for president."

Nancy is the historian of the county. The magnificent museum here was her work, more her passion, since 1964. We

*continued on page 105*



*People up here do most things in Nevada*

## AMERICA'S OUTBACK

from page 122

drank ice tea together in "The Deli" (the deli's one restroom has a bathtub, because it was originally a house). Her visit was shortened by a leg of lamb. One of her three daughters was having a 30-something birthday dinner, and Nancy had to leave to get the roast in the oven.

Before leaving, she told me that Jacob Marklee homesteaded 160 acres here, ran a road through it, set up a toll station and collected money from the wagon trains that went through. It sounded to me like he was an uncharitable opportunist, but she said it was a common practice then. Wagon masters willingly paid any man who made a road for them. Apparently one person was not so willing, or at least not happy with Marklee. His enterprise ended when someone put an ax in his head. Still, his name lives on in the town he founded in 1861.

Silver mines boomed here in the late 1850s. That's why they had to create the county. They needed a place to file mining claims. Population peaked here at 5,000 in the 1860s, supported by min-

ing, logging and ranching.

Logging lasted after Mother Nature quit giving out silver and the mines closed. Eventually, logging shut down, too, not because Mother Nature quit making trees, but because politicians and environmentalists began running the timber industry. Some ranching goes on, but tourism and county government is what supports Markleeville today.

"This county is about 95 percent government land—all timber. They own it. They control what happens on it. We used to share in the revenue from logging, but that's gone and most of our tax base with it," Nancy explained.

She paused, as if to collect the right words. "The real problem—the irony of it is—Smokey the Bear has done his job too well. We have overprotected these forests to where we can't touch them. Unfortunately, we can't protect them from what they are full of—bugs and rot. That creates a dangerous fire risk that gets worse all the time."

Nancy compared her life in a tinder-

dry National Forest to that on an earthquake fault. Disaster will strike someday. The question is when. "We are surrounded by a real threat," she said. "What we need, and have pleaded for, is fuel reduction, some selective clearing and cutting. It is too explosive now."

The degree of fire danger is determined every day by the U.S. Forest Service and posted at conspicuous places. Approaching town this morning, the sign I read warned of HIGH FIRE DANGER. The next level up is EXTREME. Beyond that, there is no warning, at least on posted signs. Last year they had five days of extreme fire danger here.

The deli belongs to Warren and DeAnne Jang. They work in it all day, part of the night Saturday, and live over the general store next door. DeAnne's parents own that. They close in the winter and work in their other deli on the other side of the mountain.

Under a tack on the wall are dollar bills. "One for every year," Warren said. "The first dollar we make each season,

2

## AMERICA'S OUTBACK

we tack up there. The same customer has provided three out of the five."

At the deli's sandwich center, where DeAnne spends most of her day, the line of orders hanging on clothespins was getting longer. Assorted administrators and adjudicators of Alpine County sat under umbrellas on the deli's front deck. The county offices were closed for lunch.

The courthouse, next to the general store, was built in 1928. It's not the oldest building in town, but will be some day. Made of gray stone, it has that look of immortality, the requisite to be a county courthouse in the American West. It is definitely unlike the aged, wood-frame structures that are the rest of Markleeville—about two blocks on both sides of Highway 89.

There are no sidewalks. "It saves the trouble of rolling them up at night," Dean McKinley said, from a seat at the bar of the Cutthroat Saloon. The saloon's major business, according to Dean: "Lotto tickets! Buyers come up from

Nevada. This is the biggest Lotto place in California."

I said, "They told me that at Stateline, down on Interstate 15."

"Well, then, the second biggest."

The Cutthroat Saloon, part of the Alpine Hotel, was moved here, board by board, from somewhere in 1886. Many of its original square nails now hold it together again. This place, and Mario the owner, is popular with weekend motorcyclists. In front of the saloon, a sign reads "HARLEY PARKING ONLY."

Dean looks to be in his 40s, lives alone on some wooded acreage, seldom gets a haircut and seems to suffer little from having no visible means of support. He told me, "Next weekend is Mario's birthday. This town will be all motorcycles. Mario throws a free barbecue—biggest in the state."

He looked at me expectantly, maybe waiting to have his claim challenged.

I said nothing.

"Yep, the biggest in the state, probably anywhere," he said confidently.

Dean goes south in the winter. "I'm back in the spring, in time to see the arrival of the white license plates. They're like an invading species each summer, driving hither and thither, burning up government gas and polluting the air. They ought to be required to car pool and pick up folks hitching rides," Dean said.

"You talking about the Forest Service?"

"Well, the botanists, archaeologists, geologists and whatever-else-ists they send up here. Most of them are still wet behind the ears. They are not elected by anyone. They don't even live here. I never see 'em at night, like to talk to. Yet, they have more to say on what happens in this county than everybody else put together. Shouldn't be! Just ain't right!"

With that, Dean went out the door and headed across the street. His drink was still on the bar.

"He'll be back," the bartender said. "He just went to get his mail." TL

Bill's e-mail address: [roadscribe@aol.com](mailto:roadscribe@aol.com).

3

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# Tahoe Daily Tribune

and THE LAKE TAHOE NEWS

Wednesday, March 14, 2001  
Volume 44 • Number 53 • South Lake Tahoe, Ca

**Vikings get new football coach**

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**Navy bombing an accident**

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## Failing sewage system to fill supervisors' agenda

by Susan Wood  
Tribune staff writer

MARKLEEVILLE — A former Alpine county resident's long crusade against a trailer park owner over his failing septic system may come to a head next week.

The Alpine County Board of Supervisors may decide Tuesday during its monthly meeting whether to recommend Sierra Pines Trailer Park owner Robert Dykes for state funds from a Community Development Block Grant to replace his ailing system, which overflows on the grounds outside Woodfords.

Dykes may receive an allocation from the

\$500,000 the county may compete for.

"As far as the Dykes situation is concerned, we'd like to be able to help him if we can," Alpine County Supervisor Herman Zellmer said, adding the county has looked into the matter for a long time. "We really need to redo the thing there."

The prospect of a taxpayer handout to her former landlord has angered Judy Jenson, who has spent more than five years writing letters, sending videotapes, making calls and filing complaints to local, state and national agencies about the septic system.

"I have a serious problem with my tax dollars going to this cause," she said in a letter addressed to the board. "The idea of

allowing the 30-year owner of a property to have no responsibility for what he allowed to happen appalls me."

Rather, Jenson believes Dykes should be responsible for repairing or replacing his own septic system, which overflowed on occasion next to the trailer she lived in from 1997 to 2000.

Since she's moved away, Jenson said her stomach problems have disappeared and her children, ages 5 and 10, don't get sick as often.

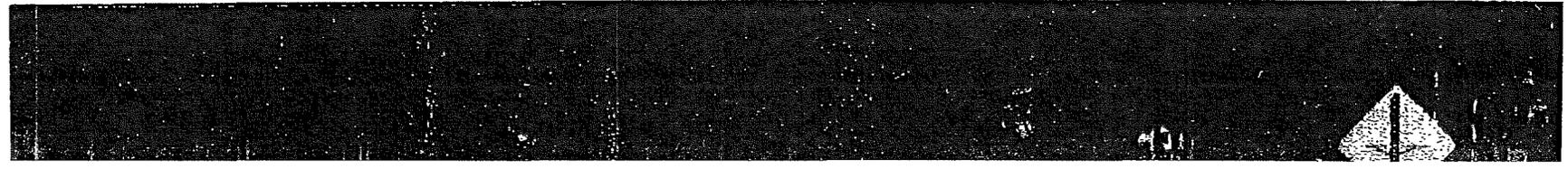
"I'm concerned about the health risks for everybody there," she said, citing several

See Sewage, Page 4A



Dan Thrift/Tahoe Daily Tribune  
Sierra Pines Trailer Park owner Robert Dykes septic system is in need of repair.

## Search goes on



Judy  
gran

No. 6417 P. 1  
Alpine County Building Planning  
Mar. 16. 2001 - 3:27PM

No. 6417 P. 2 Alpine County Building n Planning

### MARKET SUMMARY

**STOCKS (AP)** — Bargain hunters technology stocks higher Tuesday as chips struggled to remain in positivity as Wall Street attempted to turn its worst day this year.

An hour of trading on Wall Street, the S&P 500 industrial average slid 13.48 points to 4,477, adding to the 436 points it lost by trading Monday.

Stock indicators were higher. The Dow Jones composite index was up 45.90 at 11,477, while the Standard & Poor's 500 rose 1.91 to 1,182.07.

Market movement contrasted sharply Monday's session, when the Nasdaq had fallen 6.3 percent to fall below the 2,000 mark for the first time in 27 months, the index suffered its fifth-worst point drop on

record, and the S&P 500 closed in bear market territory, more than 20 percent off its high.

Analysts said more bad times could still be ahead, citing weak economic data and indications that more earnings warnings and disappointing earnings reports are still ahead.

"We've gotten down far enough that there is going to be some bargain-hunting like what we're seeing today," said Richard Dickson, technical analyst at Scott & Stringfellow. "But I don't think we've put the low on the market yet. We're clearly still correcting the excesses in some of the tech stocks."

## Sewage

Continued from Page 1A

trailers which have children living in them.

Jenson has appealed to several agencies to do something about the sludge coming out of the tanks, among other complaints she's lodged against the low-income housing.

"I can't prove it, but if I find giardia (in the water), I'm going to go for it," she said, referring to increasing the intensity of her crusade.

It may take more intervention and cooperation from agencies though.

Bud Emerson from the Lahontan region of the California Water Quality Control Board denied her request last month for additional water testing beyond those the South Tahoe Public Utility District

conducts every month. Their results are not public record.

"Right now, the tests are not going to show anything. There are microbes in the soil already," Emerson said, after the private meeting with Jenson and Dykes to find some common ground.

When there is a spill on the trailer park grounds, Lahontan ordered Dykes to resolve the problem by pouring a chlorinated solution over the spill. He is also supposed to have an action plan available to residents, so they know what to expect in the event of a spill, Alpine County Health Inspector Jim Goodlow added.

"It's an issue for us that he replace his system. But it's not an overnight fix. He needs to have an engineer evaluate the site," Emerson said.

Replacing the 35-year-old system is precisely what Dykes would like to do, but he can't

afford it, he said, while surveying his Section 8 property.

In the meantime, Dykes attaches a hose to the sewage line to divert the overflow wastewater to a spot away from the trailers.

"I was getting it away from the trailers," he said. "Every time the toilet backed up, (Jenson) called the health department."

But Jenson contends where he places the end of the hose is where children play.

"I have kids of my own," he countered. "I have tenants who have been here for 20 years. I wouldn't jeopardize their health."

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development representatives are looking into the matter.

*Susan Wood can be reached at swood@tahoe.com or (530) 541-3880, ext. 210*

## Stocks surge in I afternoon tradin

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Technology and blue chip snapped back Tuesday as gain hunters capitalized on a dam-caus Wall Street work this year.

But analysts cautioned reading too much into the advance, which came prior on heavy trading late in the session. Although the Nasdaq composite index closed above 2,000 benchmark, recovery from Monday's selloff, it remains near its lowest level more than two years.

The rebound's staying was questionable, market observers said, because the outgrowth company profits remains and investor sentiment is still, there were some that, at least for the moment stocks and stock prices are stabilizing.

## Algerian goes on trial in terror plot

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Algerian who was arrested a carload of explosives before New Year's Eve went on trial Tuesday or of plotting to bomb Seattle other U.S. cities during millennium celebrations.

The arrest of Ahmed I was "a law enforcement story, a case of a tragedy averted," federal prosecutor Gonzalez told the jury in opening statements. Defense attorney Jo A

### MARKET METALS

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Spot nonferrous metal prices Tuesday.

Aluminum - 68.8 cents per lb., London metal exchange.

Copper - \$86.00 Cathode full plate, U.S. locations.

Zinc - 82.10 cents per lb., N.Y. Merc Mon.

Nickel - 29-31 cents per lb.

Gold - 51.18-51.68 cents lb., delivered.

Silver - \$269.30 troy oz., Handy & Harman only daily quote.

Gold - \$272.30 troy oz., NY Merc spot Mon.

Silver - \$4.455 Handy & Harman (only daily quote).

Silver - \$4.409 troy oz., N.Y. Merc spot Mon.

Mercury - \$150.00 per 76 lb flask, N.Y.

Platinum - \$575.00-\$605.00 troy oz., N.Y. (contract).

Platinum - \$584.90 troy oz., N.Y. Merc spot Mon.

n.q.=not quoted, n.a.=not available.

## Alpine County gets temporary reprieve

By Susan Wood  
Tribune staff writer

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Lahontan wants Alpine County to pay \$3,000 in fines for its part in making silt deposits in the Markleeville Creek during excavation to protect the stream from erosion. A Lahontan inspector gave the public works department a failing grade for the work.

The Alpine County Public Works project sought to repair

work, although it applied for and received the permits on the job.

"They failed to follow their own plan and meet the conditions of their own permit," Lahontan Environmental Specialist Jason Churchill said. "But the agency that applied for the permits is responsible."

In placing rock on the stream bank to protect it from further erosion, the contractor knocked soil into the stream, making it murky.

"We're not asking for any alterations on the job," Churchill added. He expects nature to correct the silt deposits through the normal course of water flow.

It's still unclear how much

### NYSE CLOSING STOCK QUOTES

NYSE (AP) Tuesday's prices for NYSE listed stocks				
High	Low	Close	Chg	
53.30	49.00	49.26	-2.99	
36.00	33.19	34.30	-51	
41.20	39.21	40.70	+1.43	
23.90	22.51	23.34	+67	
20.23	19.38	20.05	+38	
48.03	46.29	47.88	+69	
23.95	22.15	23.78	+103	
37.15	35.51	37.02	+142	
37.60	35.37	37.05	+106	
40.15	39.18	39.49	-81	
35.30	33.55	33.71	-116	
17.15	16.76	16.76	-24	
41.70	40.30	41.63	+123	
40.00	38.60	39.30	+50	
58.45	56.44	58.41	+22	
39.75	37.51	37.79	+69	
FleetBot	37.98	36.00	37.80	+1.87
FordM	30.50	29.43	29.84	-1.11
FredMac	64.15	60.00	62.60	-60
Gap	23.72	22.60	23.56	-21
Gateway	15.95	14.40	15.90	+74
Genentech	46.18	44.25	45.90	+1.70
GenElec	42.99	40.75	42.33	+42.73
Goldfor	57.33	56.00	56.44	-51
GMH	22.00	21.35	21.70	-40
Glaxo	31.85	31.00	31.57	+83
GRKChs	15.50	14.30	15.23	+93
Goldmans	87.75	83.50	87.51	+5.02
HCAHld	37.10	36.00	36.70	-40
Hallmark	43.24	40.82	41.18	-1.88
HarleyD	39.80	36.52	39.66	-82
Hibbitt	14.84	13.60	14.00	-40
Hibbitt	13.75	12.98	13.25	-49

Mar. 16, 2001, 3:28PM

No. 6417 P. 1



# Tahoe Daily Tribune

and THE LAKE TAHOE NEWS.

Wednesday, March 14, 2001  
Volume 44 • Number 53 • South Lake Tahoe, Ca

**Vikings get new football coach**

**Navy bombing an accident**

Alpine County Building n Planning 3:27PM

## Failing sewage system to fill supervisors' agenda

by Susan Wood  
Tribune staff writer

MARKLEEVILLE — A former Alpine county resident's long crusade against a trailer park owner over his failing septic system may come to a head next week.

The Alpine County Board of Supervisors may decide Tuesday during its monthly meeting whether to recommend Sierra Pines Trailer Park owner Robert Dykes for state funds from a Community Development Block Grant to replace his ailing system, which overflows on the grounds outside Woodfords.

Dykes may receive an allocation from the

\$500,000 the county may compete for.

"As far as the Dykes situation is concerned, we'd like to be able to help him if we can," Alpine County Supervisor Herman Zellmer said, adding the county has looked into the matter for a long time. "We really need to redo the thing there."

The prospect of a taxpayer handout to her former landlord has angered Judy Jenson, who has spent more than five years writing letters, sending videotapes, making calls and filing complaints to local, state and national agencies about the septic system.

"I have a serious problem with my tax dollars going to this cause," she said in a letter addressed to the board. "The idea of

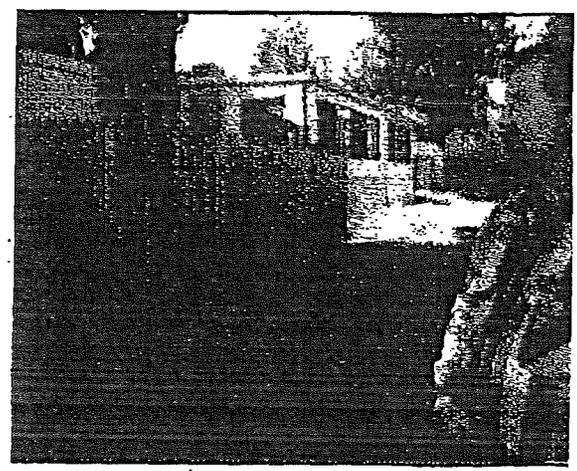
allowing the 30-year owner of a property to have no responsibility for what he allowed to happen appalls me."

Rather, Jenson believes Dykes should be responsible for repairing or replacing his own septic system, which overflowed on occasion next to the trailer she lived in from 1997 to 2000.

Since she's moved away, Jenson said her stomach problems have disappeared and her children, ages 5 and 10, don't get sick as often.

"I'm concerned about the health risks for everybody there," she said, citing several

See Sewage, Page 4A



Dan Thrift/Tahoe Daily Tribune  
Sierra Pines Trailer Park owner Robert Dykes septic system is in need of repair.

# Sewage

Continued from Page 1A

trailers which have children living in them.

Jenson has appealed to several agencies to do something about the sludge coming out of the tanks, among other complaints she's lodged against the low-income housing.

"I can't prove it, but if I find giardia (in the water), I'm going to go for it," she said, referring to increasing the intensity of her crusade.

It may take more intervention and cooperation from agencies though.

Bud Emerson from the Lahontan region of the California Water Quality Control Board denied her request last month for additional water testing beyond those the South Tahoe Public Utility District

conducts every month. Their results are not public record.

"Right now, the tests are not going to show anything. There are microbes in the soil already," Emerson said, after the private meeting with Jenson and Dykes to find some common ground.

When there is a spill on the trailer park grounds, Lahontan ordered Dykes to resolve the problem by pouring a chlorinated solution over the spill. He is also supposed to have an action plan available to residents, so they know what to expect in the event of a spill, Alpine County Health Inspector Jim Goodflow added.

"It's an issue for us that he replace his system. But it's not an overnight fix. He needs to have an engineer evaluate the site," Emerson said.

Replacing the 35-year-old system is precisely what Dykes would like to do, but he can't

afford it, he said, while surveying his Section 8 property.

In the meantime, Dykes attaches a hose to the sewage line to divert the overflow wastewater to a spot away from the trailers.

"I was getting it away from the trailers," he said. "Every time the toilet backed up, (Jenson) called the health department."

But Jenson contends where he places the end of the hose is where children play.

"I have kids of my own," he countered. "I have tenants who have been here for 20 years. I wouldn't jeopardize their health."

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development representatives are looking into the matter.

*Susan Wood can be reached at [swood@tahoe.com](mailto:swood@tahoe.com) or (530) 541-3880, ext. 210*

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May 16, 2001

The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

## Hope Valley workday takes place May 26

### Day promises to be meaningful and fun outing

The Friends of Hope Valley will hold the annual Hope Valley work day Saturday, May 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Starting place will be the new Hope Valley Wildlife Access Area just west of the highways 88 and 89 intersection in Hope Valley, Calif.

Volunteers should provide basic tools, work gloves, hat, sunscreen and jacket, in case of changeable weather, and join in a productive day of environmental restoration in Hope Valley.

Be prepared to do clean up and willow planting along the banks of the West Fork of the Carson River or raise the old rancher's barbed-wire fences and gates in key locations to prevent motorized intrusion into fragile meadowlands.

Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

"Come and enjoy a wonderful day in a beautiful place and feel good about giving back to Mother Nature," said Debbi Waldear, president of FOHV. "It's a great outing for families."

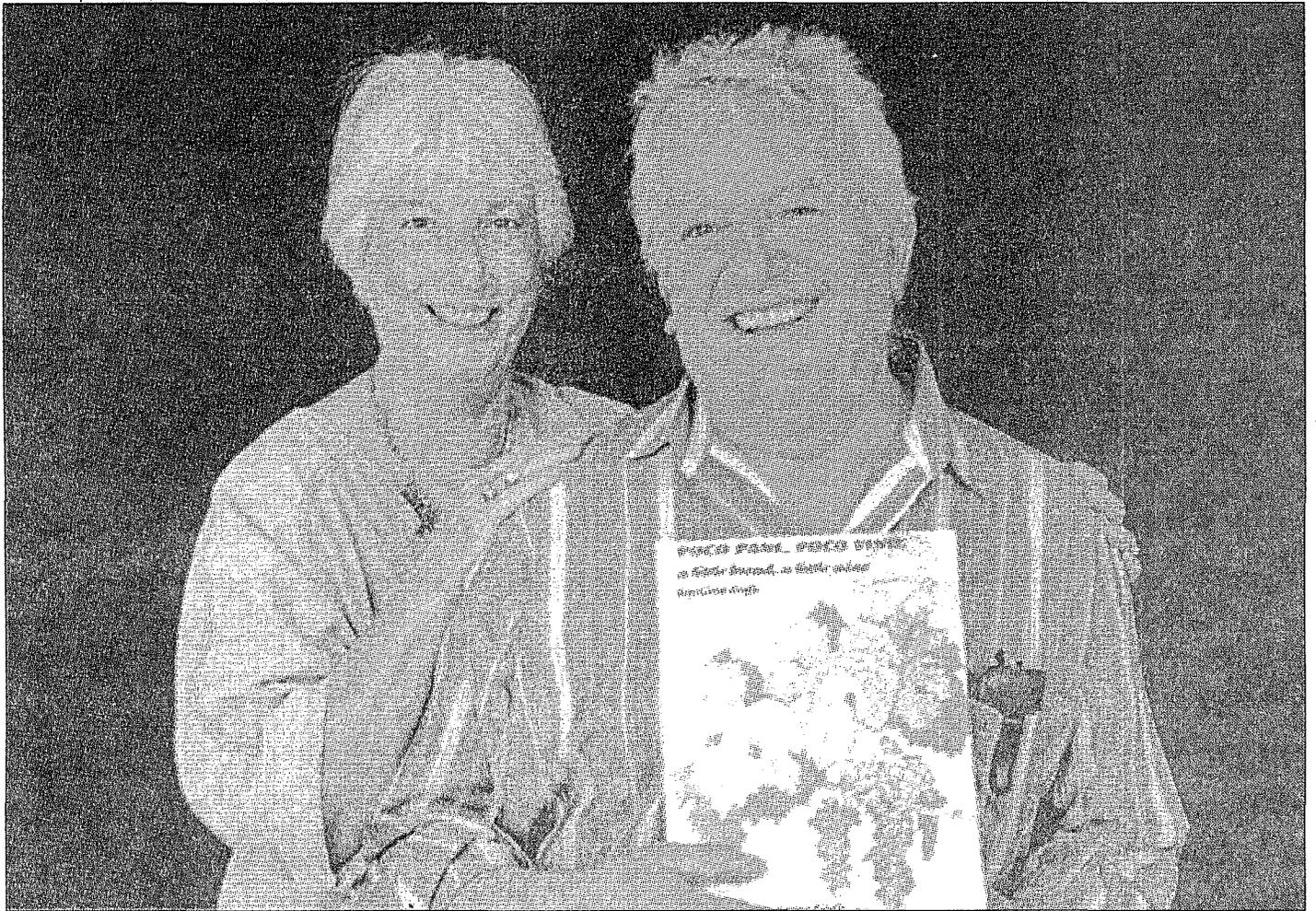
The FOHV annual membership meeting will be held at 2 p.m. at the end of the work day.

The location will be announced that day.

The agenda will include future projects Friends of Hope Valley hope to initiate, an update on actions that have occurred in the past year and updated reports on federal and state projects for the Hope Valley area.

Friends of Hope Valley, a local non-profit organization, has been instrumental in protecting and preserving this high Sierra valley just north of Lake Tahoe for more than 16 years.

For more information, call Waldear toll-free at (800) 423-9949.



BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

# Celebrating simple, finer things

by Karel Delbecq  
Staff Writer

**R**uggero and Gina Gigli complement one another just like bread and wine.

So then, it is fitting that their latest achievement, a book titled "Poco Pane, Poco Vino: A little bread, a little wine," should be a reflection of both their individual and combined talents.

The master chef and the artist cum author are known for their trattoria and galleria Villa Gigli in Markleeville.

Now, Gina has created for everyone's enjoyment a book that is refined and gracious, a book that combines the history of wine, olives and humanity, with stunning prints and beautiful menus prepared by Ruggero.

The community is invited to preview this work at a gala book signing Monday, May 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Villa Gigli.

Guests will be served a little bread, a lot of wine and have the opportunity to purchase the book and have it signed.

Ruggero was born in Borga San Lorenzo, Italy and learned much at his mother's side.

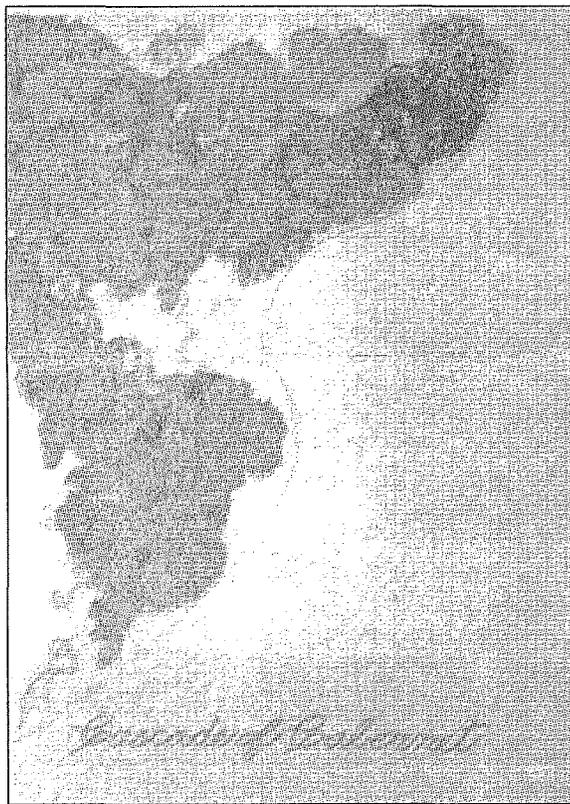
"I followed her very close, knowing I would get extra food (to eat)," Ruggero recalled.

"Extra food and extra wisdom is what Ruggero received being at his mama's side," said Claudia Conlon, long-time friend of the couple. "He got to grow up and be independent and make his own pleasures."

His truest pleasure, of course, is that thing of art — cooking.

At 11, Ruggero became an apprentice baker in Florence. After nearly eight years, he became head baker.

Ruggero said on Sundays it was usual practice for women to take meat to the bakery for roasting, allowing more room for cooking other



**Fine art:** Gina Gigli's vineyard-inspired art uses the ancient art form of intaglio printing.

things in their own kitchens.

"I would ask 'Señora, what did you use to season the meat?' then if they didn't want to tell me, I'd threaten not to cook it," he said, laughing.

"So, I know they only told me 50 percent, but it was still 50 percent that I learned."

The book came about because clients are constantly asking for recipes.

Gina wanted it to be more than a "cook-book," and, in fact, cringed when people asked, "How's the cookbook coming along?"

It was about striking a balance and finding a way to celebrate all that it does — life, food, relationship — as art.

But like those women in Florence, convincing Ruggero to reveal trade secrets was not an easy task.

"I finally got him to understand that even with the recipes out there, there's still that part of the cooking that is him, that is not reproducible," Gina said. "The recipes are very earthy and traditional, but he puts his own touch on them."

He's very secure in the knowledge that part of what brings people to Villa Gigli is not just the food, but the ambience, and, of course, Ruggero," Conlon said. "It's the confidence in himself and knowing he's not going to lose anything."

Ruggero's take is a bit different.

"I'm getting old and I'm forgetting things," he said laughing. "So, at least 99 percent is in the book...it's that other one percent."

As Ruggero grew up alongside his "mama," Gina grew up beside her father, architect Frank Green.

Her creations are refined and are an integral part of Villa Gigli. Ruggero steps in to help her with her printing process and together they welcome guests to their mountain hideaway.

"From his mama, Ruggero learned to be happy, full and comfortable," Conlon said. "From her father, Gina learned about proportion, balance, beauty and composition."

"The two of them together are a perfect balance."

To find your way to Villa Gigli, take Highway 88 to Markleeville. Turn right on Hot Springs Road and go up about 1/4 mile.

For more information, call 530-694-2253.



Submitted photo

**In Markleeville:** Violinist Kim Angelis performs Saturday evening.

## Angelis takes audience on 'violin voyage' in Saturday's performance

Join the Alpine County Arts Commission in Markleeville Saturday, June 9, on a musical adventure guided by the Violin Voyager, Kim Angelis. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. at Turtle Rock Community Building.

Angelis is an internationally acclaimed violin virtuoso and composer who has successfully transcended artistic boundaries — a free spirit blazing a melodic trail through the trails of classical, world and multi-cultured music. Her vision of a "world chamber music," liberally fla-

vored with Gypsy passion is exciting and inspirational.

A critical and National Public Radio favorite, the music of Angelis has also been heard on network TV, PBS, Voice of America and the award-winning documentary film, "Saviors of the Forest." Her 1996 CD, *Esperanza*, was selected as a "Choice Recording" by *Strings* magazine.

Angelis is joined in this concert by husband and guitarist, Josef Gault, who has devoted the past 20 years to the study of

various guitar stylings and techniques, being most profoundly influenced by the flamenco fire of Manitas de Plata and the classical mastery of Andres Segovia.

Tickets are \$8 for adults (\$6 for members) and \$5 for children (\$4 for members). They are available for sale at the Alpine County Arts Commission, the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and Wild Wools.

For more information, call (530) 694-2787.

## DIAMOND VALLEY STUDENTS REVISIT THE PAST

# WAGONS HO!

by **Scott Murphy**  
Staff Writer

**B**y pulling their way up a hill and reliving history, Diamond Valley School's 8th-grade social studies class literally has a new perspective on westward expansion.

Cheryl Embry's class project involved building a covered wagon. It culminated Thursday in a 150-pound wagon being transported 6 miles from the school to Indian Reservoir in Alpine County, Calif.

The multi-phase project involved building a wagon, complete with a quilt covering.

Each of Embry's 16 students did at least one patch for the quilt, she said.

The wagon's frame was made of PVC pipe bars. Computer technician Scotty Abule supervised much of the wagon's construction, Embry said.

The project was specifically designed to replicate the Old West experience, she said. The only items in the wagon, besides the driver, was a water cooler and lunches.

The wagon, pulled by Tyree Holdridge and Ramsey Horse, weighed about 150 pounds.

The experience took its toll on the boys, Embry said.

"They're worn out big time," she said. "They are exhausted."

Tyree Holdridge said the experience was good practice for football season.

Pulling the 150-pound wagon up and down a hill was tough, he added.

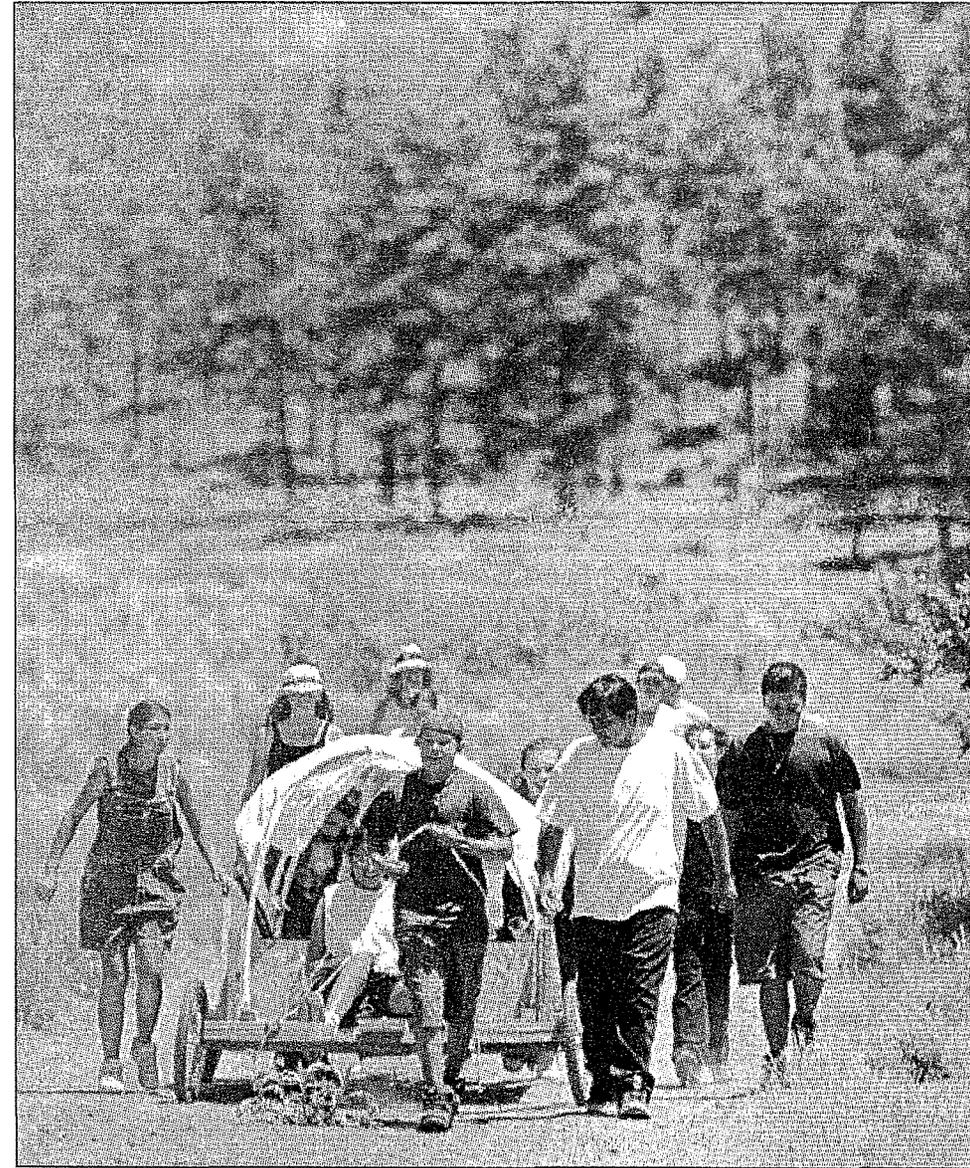
Horse said the event was fun "because we went fast."

One of the wagon's brakemen was Galen Knapp, who helped push the wagon uphill and pulled to slow down the wagon on descents.

Dillon McLaughlin, the wagon's driver, said it was fun turning the wagon with his feet.

Embry said she plans on doing a similar project next year, but with handcarts to get more students involved in the wagon moving experience.

"It was awesome," she said of this year's effort. "The kids did great."



PHOTOS BY BELINDA GRANT

these enclo...

## Celebrate Hope Valley with bluegrass, barbecue

Sorensen's Resort will host the annual Celebrate Hope Valley fund-raiser tomorrow from 1 to 7 p.m. The Back Forty Bluegrass Band will provide the music and a chicken and ribs barbecue will be featured.

The musical fund-raiser is \$5 per person; the barbecue, \$9.95 plus tax and gratuity. (No personal picnics, please.)

Homebrewed from Eagle Valley, the Back Forty Bluegrass band blends a fusion of

traditional and old-time styles to be enjoyed by all.

The group has volunteered its time and talent for many years to Friends of Hope Valley, and this non-profit organization, dedicated to the preservation and protection of Hope Valley, Calif., is proud to have the band perform once again for this occasion.

Sorensen's Resort is just east of the junction of highways 88 and 89.

RC. June 9 2001

# Snowshoe Thompson festivities fill the weekend

The Carson Valley Historical Society's 14th annual Snowshoe Thompson Festival will be held June 23-24 in historic Genoa's Mormon Station State Park.

Several Young Chatauquans will perform at the festival between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day, including Julia Miller, 9, Alice Sady, 10, and Jessi Cook, 10.

Julia, a student at Minden Elementary School, will portray Annie Oakley, because Oakley reminds Julia of herself, a confident person who does not give up.

Alice, also a student at Minden Elementary, selected Catherine the Great to portray because she likes Catherine's personality, determination and clothing tastes.

Jessi is portraying Maria Mitchell. Jessi attends C.C. Meneley Elementary. She chose Mitchell, who was proficient at mathematics and astronomy and in general was an exemplary student. Jessi noticed that Mitchell was very poised and exhibited excellent manners, and Jessi wants to incorporate those good qualities into her life.

The Snowshoe Thompson Festival features antiques and



SHANNON HALL/The R-C

**Performing:** Minden Elementary fourth-grade student Alice Sady, 10, portrays Catherine the Great; C.C. Meneley fifth-grade student Jessi Cook, 10, portrays Maria Mitchell and Minden Elementary third-grade student Julia Miller, 9, portrays Annie Oakley. They gave a presentation to the historical society and will perform at this weekend's festivities. Each of the girls chose characters who had similar traits or traits they would like to model in their lives.

collectibles and arts, crafts and speciality booths, food booths, historical presentations, Norwegian folkdancers,

hay wagon rides to Genoa Cemetery, demonstrations, ethnic foods, raffles and more.

The Carson Valley Historical Society sponsors this event to honor John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson, the

"Legendary Mailman of the Sierra" who carried 100 pounds of mail and supplies twice a month during the winter from Genoa to Placerville, Calif., for 20 years (1856 until his death in 1876). Thompson, originally from Norway, carved his own skis, and made the one-way, 90-mile journey over the mountains in three days and the return trip in two days. Thompson never received any pay promised by the U.S. Postal Service. He died at the age of 49 and is buried in the Genoa Cemetery.

## The Schedule

■ Friday, June 22, 1-3 p.m., **Tour of Diamond Valley** (Snowshoe Thompson's homesite) and the **Alpine County Museum** in Markleeville. Meet at the museum. Indian taco lunch will be available. Open to the public. Due to limited parking at Alpine Museum, car pools are suggested.

■ Saturday, June 23, 10-10:30 a.m., **opening welcome and flag ceremony** at Mormon Station State Park

10 a.m.-4 p.m., **living history presentations**, food and drink, arts/crafts/specialty

booths, antiques and collectibles, hay wagon rides to Genoa Cemetery

Noon, **dedication of the Snowshoe Thompson statue**

1-3 p.m., **Young Chatauquan** presentations

3-4 p.m., **Norwegian folkdancers** demonstration

6-9 p.m. **Western barbecue dinner** at Inn Cognito restaurant; \$15 per person; country western music and dancing

■ Sunday, June 24, 7-11 a.m., pancakes, ham and eggs **breakfast** in the Masonic Hall; \$5 per person

10:30 a.m., **opening welcome and flag ceremony** at Mormon Station State Park

10 a.m.-4 p.m., **living history presentations**, food and drink, arts/crafts/specialty booths, antiques and collectibles, hay wagon rides to Genoa Cemetery

10:30-11:30 a.m., **Norwegian folkdancers** demonstration

1-3 p.m., **Young Chatauquan** presentations

For additional information about the festival, contact Grace Bower at 265-6097, Mary Jane Harding at 265-7074 or the Greater Genoa Business Association, 782-5697.

# Day Trip

# Discover the beauty of Hope Valley

by Nancy Hamlett  
Special to the R-C

It took 13 years for a barrier-free fishing and wildlife viewing access facility to become a reality at the Hope Valley Wildlife Area, but the result is worthy of a day trip.

The State of California Wildlife Conservation Board approved a \$250,000 allocation for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and Alpine County to install the wheelchair accessible fishing platforms, information kiosk, parking area and handicapped accessible restroom.

Walkways from the parking area lead to two concrete platforms accessible for wildlife watching or fishing. All of the improvements were constructed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Judy Warren, a member of High Sierra Fly Casters who volunteered manpower to the project, said there were many people who were instrumental components to the successful completion of the project.

However, special recognition

goes to Richard Flint, California Department of Fish and Game, for pioneering the program, and the Wildlife Conservation Board for funding it!

"And Friends of Hope Valley who made sure that the project did not impinge on the beauty of Hope Valley," said Warren.

disabilities. The paved pathway is wheelchair accessible and twines through native vegetation along the West Fork of the Carson River. Beyond the fishing platform, an easy hike leads to mountain meadows and further access to the river for fishing.

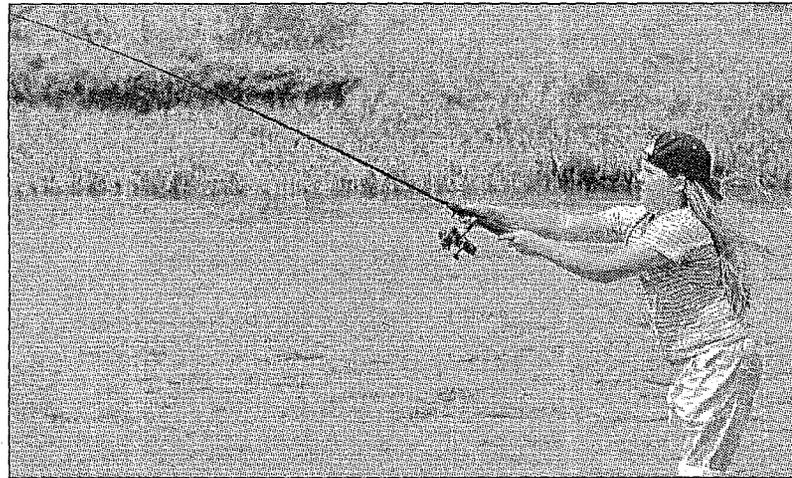
Even if fishing is not your sport,

the valley floor, providing spectacular views of the Sierra and Hope Valley.

Lunch is available at Sorensen's Resort on Highway 88 and supplies and snacks at Hope Valley Campground, also on Highway 88.

To reach the Hope Valley Wildlife Access Area travel west from Minden on State Route 88. Stay on Route 88 past the turnoff for State Highway 89. Then turn into the entrance approximately 200 yards past the intersection. The scenic drive takes less than 30 minutes, allowing a full day of alpine recreation.

**Take a look:** Clockwise from top, Shawn Heldorn with his sister Loni Ronga and their dog Romeo of South Lake Tahoe, run across a field; at left, Loni tries her luck in the river; flowers and cool cabins at Sorensen's Resort in Hope Valley; the platforms that allow for handicap access to the river; a hammock under the aspens awaits resort visitors.



The Hope Valley Wildlife Access Area is located just west of the junction of California State highways 88 and 89 and is designed for everyone's use, not just those with

a trip to the access area is fabulous for bird and wildlife watching, picnicking or just enjoying a beautiful Sierra day. An old dirt road that is now a hiking trail winds up from

*Rand Corner  
June 27 2001*

## Alpine County gets voice in Carson River group

by Nancy Dallas  
R-C News Service

A new two-state agreement will allow Alpine County a voice in matters relating to the entire Carson River and its watershed.

A 13-member board of directors, consisting of the 11-member, four-county Carson Water Subconservancy District and two members from Alpine County, will govern a new Joint Powers Authority.

Subconservancy District Manager Ed James said the new agency will operate separately from the long-established subconservancy district, but would allow the district and Alpine County to work together on issues beyond those that affect only the headwaters of the Carson River.

"In terms of dealing with water issues, this is a really unique agreement. We have two entities in two different states voluntarily working together for a single purpose," he said. "Most bi-state water agreements are forced through litigation or federal compacts. This was arranged voluntarily

at the local level. There is no federal involvement."

James said Alpine County and the Subconservancy District have signed the agreement, but final approval must be received from the Attorney General's Office before it becomes official.

Negotiations to get Alpine County involved in the business of the district began in January 2000. As opposed to the establishment of a bi-state compact, the interlocal agreement is allowed under California's Joint Exercise of Powers Act and Nevada's Interlocal Cooperation Act without legislative approval.

Both groups hope Carson River issues get stronger consideration and support from the states' congressional representatives.

A preliminary list of potential projects the joint powers authority will be pursuing includes:

- Working with the Lahontan Water Quality Control Board on the setting and implementation of total maximum daily loads for Indian Creek Reservoir.

- Working with the U.S. Forest Service on public land management issues such as abandoned mines, proposed "wild and scenic" designations, recreational opportunities, noxious weed control and watershed enhancement projects.

- Securing funding for stream bank stabilization and restoration projects along the east and west forks of the Carson River.

- Providing local funding for the Alpine Chapter of the Upper Carson River management group.

**25 YEARS AGO**

The Record-Courier  
July 8, 1976

June 7, 01

**M**agazine features valley rancher.

The lead-off story in the current quarterly issue of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame's magazine, "Persimmon Hill," features "The Dresslers of Carson Valley."

Author Tom McCann begins with the claiming of a homestead in Carson Valley in 1860 by August Frederick Dressler and carries the development of both the family and the land to the present day.

# A LOOK BACK AT AUTUMN HILLS

## Five years later, victims talk about the fire

by Christy Chalmers  
Staff Writer

Five years ago this week, Howard and Kregg Herz drove all night from Las Vegas to find a smoldering pile of rubble where their 92-year-old home had stood.

The house and three others were destroyed by the Autumn Hills fire, a wildland blaze that started on the hot, windy afternoon of June 23, 1996.

"Everything is ashes," Kregg said after she and Howard surveyed the ruins of the house Howard's grandfather built in 1904. "It looks as if somebody dropped a nuclear bomb up there."

That same week, Jolaine Johnson, her husband Jay and their sons Andy and Kelly, adjusted to losing their home especially "those few treasures,

like my grandmother's engagement ring, that we'll never see again," Jolaine said at the time.

More than 3,000 acres of forest land burned. Firefighting costs were estimated at \$2.5 million.

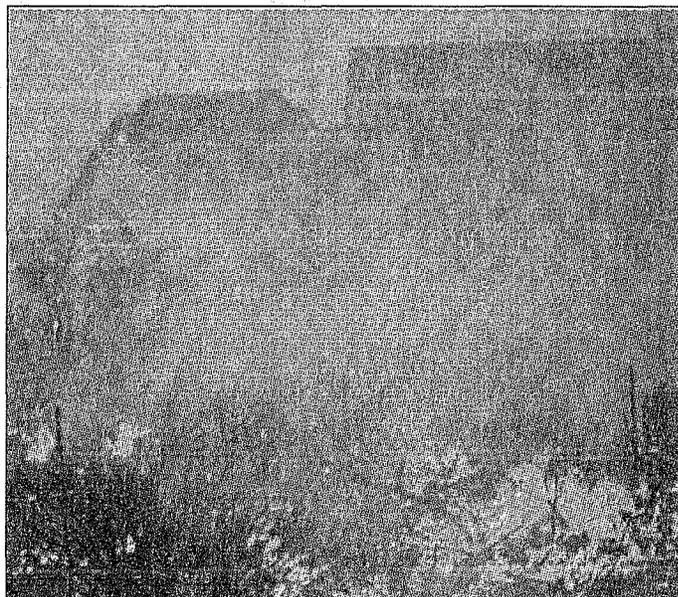
The fire was caused by two teen-age boys who dropped a lizard into a pan of gasoline and ignited it. The creature fled into the grass.

In the five years since, apologies have been offered, some restitution has been paid and houses have been rebuilt. The U.S. Forest Service and a group of homeowners have planted hundreds of seedlings to replenish the Sierra Nevada hillsides that were charred.

The blaze has lasting, possibly unknown impacts on the survivors.

"The fire is like a momentary

See **Autumn Hills** on page 7



BELINDA GRANT/R-C file photo

**Inferno:** The Autumn Hills fire destroyed four houses in the Foothill Road area, while others were spared. The fire started June 23, 1996, and took several days to contain.

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