

Autumn Hills: Still recovering from fire

Continued from page 1
thing," said Howard Herz. "The aftermath is forever. We have been through five years of agony because of the fire."

The Herzes live in Winhaven. Though they rebuilt their Foothill-area home after the fire, a dispute with a contractor led to lawsuits, and a complaint to the state contractor's board that hasn't been resolved.

Johnson says her reaction to news of wildfires is to pace the floor.

"I have to consciously calm myself down," she says.

The Johnsons' home has an asphalt shingle roof and more landscaping - what's called "defensible space -" greenery that is more resistant to fire. The house that burned had a shake roof.

Kregg Herz said she grew nervous when a fire started recently near the top of Kingsbury Grade.

"I can't even imagine going through this again," she said. "That is just not anything I would wish on anyone."

Howard Herz is conscious

of the Foothill area's vulnerability to fire, and wonders if firefighting strategies have been fine-tuned.

"They still have a situation up there," he said. "They (residents) don't understand how fast and how hot a fire can be. Even if they got a moderate-speed fire, they could lose 90 percent of the houses in the foothills."

All say they have forgiven the boys who started the Autumn Hills fire.

"From the beginning, I didn't have a problem personally with either one," said Kregg Herz. "If they had never apologized, I wouldn't hold it against them."

"Even looking back now, I don't think of them and fire together. So many people ask us that, and I say I don't know. We don't dwell on it."

"There's no use in grieving about it," said Gabe Herz, now 16 and looking forward to his junior year at Douglas High School.

"I didn't hold a lot of anger for those kids," said Johnson. "They made a big mistake,

but nature took it from there. It was a devastating experience to lose your home, but put it in perspective and move on."

Not everyone was as forgiving. As the summer of 1996 progressed, emotions ran high. Standing-room crowds packed District Judge Dave Gamble's court room to watch proceedings involving Jason Williamson and Sean Bell, who each admitted to one count of cruelty to animals and one count of destruction of property by fire resulting from gross negligence.

Gamble warned the observers against threatening or harming the boys, then both 14, or their families. Williamson's family, which lived in the Autumn Hills subdivision, relocated. Bell, who was visiting when the fire started, returned to Oregon.

The boys could have been sent to the Nevada Youth Training Center at Elko, but were given probation. To meet the probation terms, they were ordered to complete 500

hours of community service, personally apologize to everyone whose property was damaged and earn \$5,800 to go into a county fire restoration fund. Additionally, their families were to pay \$10,000 each, to be divided among the fire victims.

Gamble said Bell has completed his restitution payments and been released from probation. Williamson is still on probation.

And the Johnsons and the Herzes are moving on. Johnson's sons are preparing for college.

"We've recovered well. No one was hurt, and our animals survived," said Johnson. "I'm glad to see the vegetation coming up and the trees getting big enough to matter."

"We live more for the moment now," said Kregg Herz. "We realize how fast things can be taken from you."

"It teaches you a really strong lesson about possessions," said Howard Herz. "It teaches you what you can endure."

50-YEARS AGO

The Record-Courier
July 6, 1951

Diamond drilling operations started at
Leviathan Mine by Anaconda Copper.

Diamond drilling has been started in
the Leviathan Mine area.

R.S. McClintock, Diamond Drill Co., of
Spokane, Wash., is doing the work for the
Anaconda Copper company.

Arthur McDermont and Archie Woods, Jr.,
are employed as helpers on the project.

In recent weeks, there have been numerous
rumors concerning the operation of the
Leviathan Mine with some reports hinting at
widespread and intensive activity.

Officials of the company have been reticent
to discuss any plans but the reports are that the
mine is to be reopened on a large scale in con-
nection with the development of copper hold-
ings of the Anaconda Company in the
Yerington area.

There also have been reports that Anaconda
has located a valuable copper deposit in the
vicinity of the Leviathan mine and that it will
be developed to the fullest extent.

Record Courier July 4, 2001



Submitted photo

Arts commission: Comstock Cowboys play a benefit performance for Alpine County Arts Commission, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 14 in Markleeville.

Comstock Cowboys bring special brand of music to Alpine benefit

Come on down to Alpine County for the unique country, western and cowboy sound of David John and the Comstock Cowboys.

Presented by the Alpine County Arts Commission, this outdoor concert will take place July 14 at Laramie Park, on the corner of Montgomery and Laramie streets in Markleeville.

Take beach chairs, dinner and dancing shoes.

David John and the Comstock Cowboys have become one of the most popular bands in the western states during

the four years of their existence, playing their own special brand of western music for friends from all over the world.

They have been named the official western band of the state of Nevada.

Michael Martin Murphy holds these boys in very high praise, inviting them to perform with him at many of his shows, including his famous "West Fest."

David John and the Comstock Cowboys have recently shared the stage with Doug Supernaw, Eddy Raven, Merle

Haggart, Juice Newton and Lacy J. Dalton. David John's original song "Outlaw" is on Dalton's latest CD, "Wild Horse Crossing."

Dressing in 19th century western attire, this group presents an image that audiences find unforgettable.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m., July 14. Ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

Tickets are available at the Alpine County Arts commission or the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call (530) 694-2787.

Death Riders hit the road

By Susan Wood
Tribune staff writer

Some may think Dr. Paul Rork should get his head examined, living up to challenges as if his patients' lives depended on it.

Take the South Lake Tahoe man's entry into Saturday's Death Ride, a grueling 129-mile ride that separates the serious cyclist from the weekend warrior. This year's race sold out in five days in April.

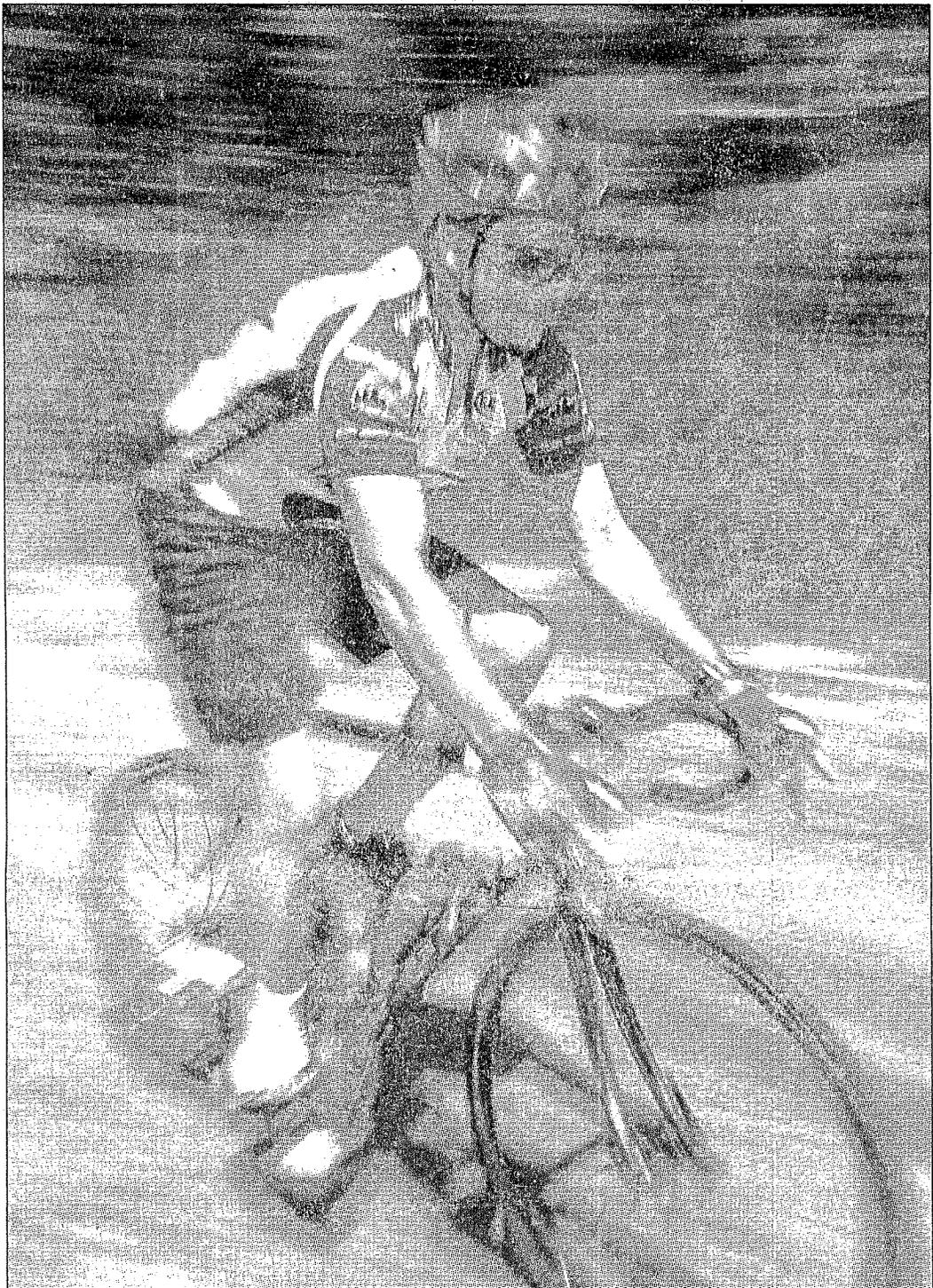
Six months ago, a knee injury forced Rork to trade running for cycling. Barton Memorial Hospital medical staff presented him with a \$2,600 GT bike, when he left the chief of staff post. A dare by a fellow doctor sent the 54-year-old Tahoe Family physician to enter the ride that takes cyclists over five mountain passes, and more than 16,000 feet in elevation. Rork will join more than 2,700 cyclists riding the high-altitude course which starts and ends at Turtle Rock Park north of Markleeville.

Rork's only been training consistently for about two months. But having endurance is par for the course for the ultra-runner.

Rork began his undaunted quest for physical fitness and the mind-over-matter aerobic burn a quarter century ago when he competed in the Run for the Nuts in Colorado.

Doctors in Fort Collins and Greeley — where Rork lived at the time — raced to a bar on the 15-mile course to eat Rocky Mountain oysters. Otherwise known as beef testicles.

So when orthopedist and fellow cyclist Terry Orr challenged Rork to take on the Death Ride he knew his friend wouldn't back down. Part of the challenge requires Rork complete all five mountain passes Saturday. This would



Jim Grant / Tahoe Tribune

Ultra runner Dr. Paul Rork will be cycling in his first Death Ride on Saturday.

be a personal best for Orr, who has run in cycling circles for years. He's participated for seven years.

"Paul's pretty amazing. He took the (idea) head on. He's so strong from years of running. His transition (into cycling) has been remarkable," Orr said. "We're going to try to ride together, but I think he'll be faster. We'll make him do it twice, if he's too fast."

It takes more than a fit body to complete the Death Ride, which reports no fatalities but a number of dehydration cases. It takes a zen-like mind-set that Rork is familiar with.

This is a guy who has competed in the Quadruple Dipsea, a 28.4-mile trail run that requires scaling Mount Tamalpais four times between Mill Valley and Stinson

Beach, Calif.

Rork — who may have weeks in which he's on call for 80 hours — uses these events and the training leading up to them for stress reduction.

On four occasions, Rork ran in the Western States 100, a century-long foot race in the Sierra Nevada that most people couldn't fathom in their dreams.

"There's no race in the world like the Western States," he said nostalgically. "I like the camaraderie."

Like many runners who love the endorphin rush of the sport, Rork misses pounding the pavement. His knee gave him signals in the last few years that it had other ideas for his future.

Rork recalled seeing an X-ray of a banged-up knee in

Orr's office.

"I asked, 'Who does this belong to? This guy's in bad shape. He'll never run again,'" Rork said. "They said, 'Guess what? That's yours.'"

He had surgery in September, and his own recovery involved overcoming the mental anguish of the loss.

Even the people in his life noticed how difficult it was for Rork to give up running.

"It's the only time I've seen Paul speechless. They knew how much running meant to him," his wife Cookie said of the hospital staff's gift of a racing bike.

Rork sees his life in an upward swing now though, enjoying the scenery of Alpine County in his Death Ride training.

See **Death**, Page 15A

Death

Continued from Page 1A

weekend's ride is simple.

"I have a choice. I can either live in the Hermit Valley for the rest of my life, or I can go up the hill," he said of the plateau west of Ebbett's Pass on Highway 4.

Addicted to the rush

Personal bargains and pleas to God are not uncommon among veterans of the Death Ride. In its 20th season the ride has about a 40 percent return rate for riders. They just can't get enough.

"I've had times when I've thought, 'why am I doing this?'" said Ross Johnson, who's participated eight times.

Rainstorms, especially those involving lightning, appear to be the biggest test of will.

In one of his earliest years since he started in 1987, Ross said cows crossed the road after a downpour. The mess on 8,732-foot Ebbett's Pass made for a cow-patty soup that gave many riders unwanted green skunk tails down their backs.

His strategy for completing this

Then there is the 1989 ride, when lightning struck too close for comfort.

"I was so tired that I took the attitude, if God was going to strike me down, that would be OK," he said.

But the bucolic scenery, Alpine County road conditions and friendly volunteers make this event worthwhile for the 46-year-old South Shore rider, a member of the Alta Alpina Cycling Club. The club, with the help of the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce, organize the event that has attracted riders from 34 states and four countries.

"I've done a lot of centuries, and the Death Ride has the reputation for being the best supported," Johnson said.

His wife, Jackie — who's coordinated the event for the second year — said that is the first aspect of the ride people comment on.

The ratio speaks for itself. There are 600 volunteers to handle the whims of 2,700 cyclists riding to 12 rest stops. This year, their ages range from 9 to 79.

The Death Ride starts at 5:30 a.m. with the first wave of cyclists, and the course closes at 7 p.m.



Jim Grant / Tahoe Tribune

South Lake Tahoe resident Ross Johnson has competed in numerous Death Rides.

Death Riders rise to the occasion

By Susan Wood
Tribune staff writer

Streaks of lycra covered Alpine County roads Saturday, as 2,700 Death Ride cyclists attempted to ride five mountain passes.

Organizers reported no serious medical cases, with more than half of the participants completing the entire 16,000-foot elevation gain.

The ride signed up more first timers this year than ever before at almost 40 percent, said Alpine County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bob Anderson.

In the ride's 20 years of operation, no more than 15 percent usually brave all the

climbs and distance. Most riders elect to do two or three passes, Anderson said. This year the chamber and Alta Alpina Cycling Club created a Web site for the ride. The ride's \$50,000 in proceeds pays half of the chamber's yearly operating costs.

"When we went online, the playing field (to sign up) was essentially leveled," Anderson said.

Among those who completed all five passes, Dr. Paul Rork of Tahoe Family Physicians said Sunday that he "slept really well" the night before. He started pedaling at 5:30 a.m. and wheeled into Turtle Rock County Park more than 12

hours later, despite a hole in his tire that kept deflating his tube along the way.

Rork was accompanied halfway through the 129-mile ride by fellow doctor and cyclist Terry Orr, who also rolled over five passes when he wasn't attending to his own flat tires. The two men, riding on a challenge made months ago, received a pin that recognizes the accomplishment.

Participants collect stickers on their bibs for each mountain pass. Completing five earns them a pin that "some people would die for," Anderson said. He recalled an Australian cyclist calling from his homeland to get another

when he declared he lost the one issued.

The pins are exemplary of a lot of hard physical work and dedication from supporters, who were out in full force from early Saturday morning to early evening.

Tracy Dominguez of Reno parked her truck on Highway 89 north of the park's staging area to catch a glimpse of her husband Frank, who awakened at 3:30 a.m. to a flat tire before he even arrived at the starting line.

"I hope he makes it this far," she said, waiting with the couple's Akita dog Kodi.

See *Ride*, Page 4A



Chris Wellhausen/Tahoe Daily Tribune

A bicycle pack of three friends give each other support as they venture the Death Ride Saturday morning. Record Courier July 16, 2001

Ride

Continued from Page 1A

Closer to the park's entrance, Trudy Shenk waited under a sun umbrella for her husband Terry of Las Vegas, who was participating for the fifth time. Shenk was attempting to complete all five passes, but his wife said their house-remodeling job kept him from training as much as he had planned.

Still, she's 100 percent supportive.

"I thought my car wasn't going to make it up the road," she said of the couple's scouting trip up Monitor Pass.

The route required the riders go out and return from Monitor, then Ebbetts and on to Carson Pass on the far end of the course.

Signs like "Way to Go"

RC July 16, 2001

and "Stanley rocks" urged the riders on between the 12 rest stops.

The police presence, emergency crews on hand and heightened awareness among motorists made for some of the safest cycling conditions a rider could ask for, said Billy Richmond, of San Jose, Calif., as he took a break at Picketts Junction.

Tail winds on Carson Pass blew riders in to the finish line. Many, like massage therapist Alan Fong of Maui, opted to hit the line of massage tables waiting.

Waiting for the dinner feast, riders littered the park grounds. As the live band was setting up on stage, from a radio or CD player the sounds of Chumba Wumba filled the air.

"I get knocked down, but I get up again. You're never going to keep me down."

Record-Courier

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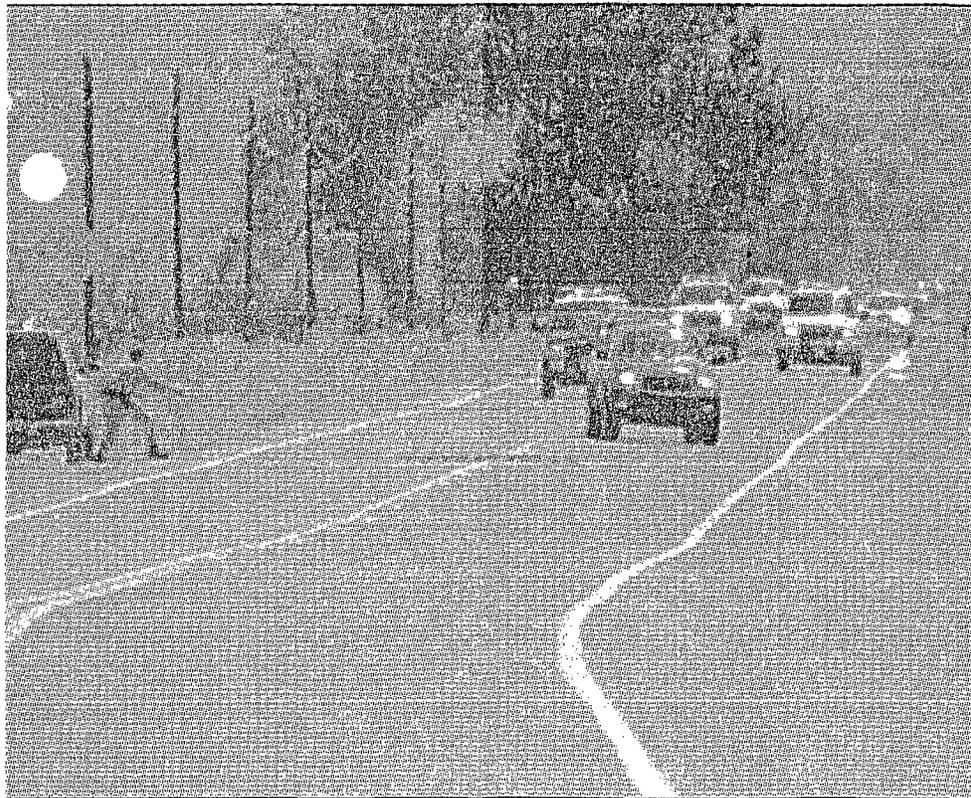
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GARDNERVILLE, NEVADA

Chase runs through Ranchos



BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

A Douglas County sheriff's spike strip on Highway 88 in an

effort to stop the red truck. The driver swerved around the strip and continued into the Ranchos.

Authorities trying to determine identities of driver, companion

by **Scott Murphy**
Staff Writer

Details are still being sorted out from Thursday's two-hour, high speed chase that began and ended in California, but twisted through the Gardnerville Ranchos for nearly 30 minutes.

The California Highway Patrol said Friday the driver's name is Kenneth Cadwallader, 49, and the woman is 39-year-old Nicole Rhiley.

Both are listed as transients and the Toyota Tacoma truck, which had false New Mexico plates, was allegedly stolen from a car dealer in Henderson.

Previous police statements identified the driver as David Scott Shipp and the female passenger as Wanda Johnson.

A 10-year-old girl was also detained after the chase. She was placed in custody in El Dorado County.

The truck was nearly totaled during the

See **Chase** on page 12

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The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

SATURDAY

July 28, 2001

The Record-Courier

DOUGLAS COUNTY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1861

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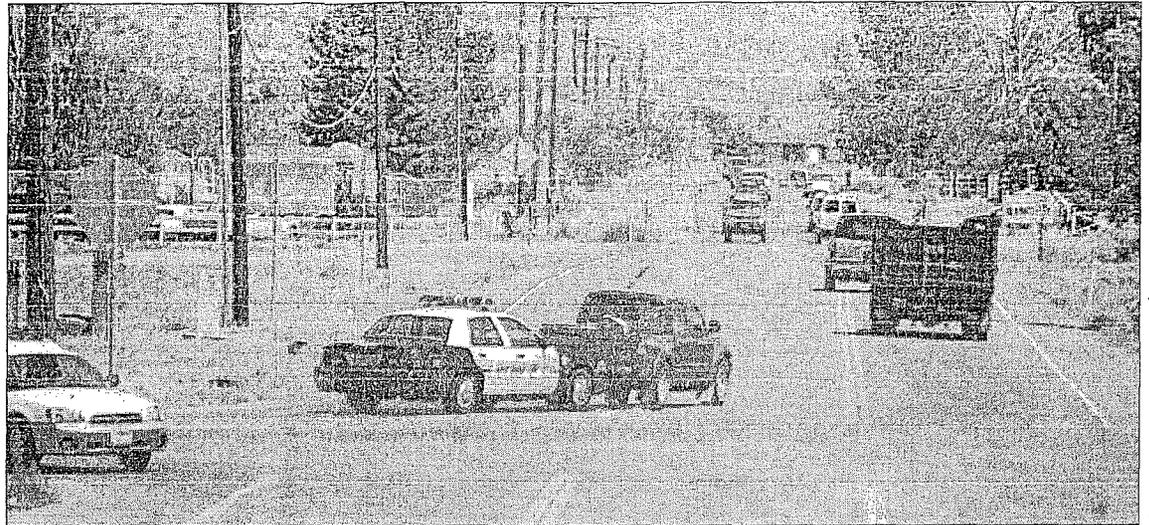
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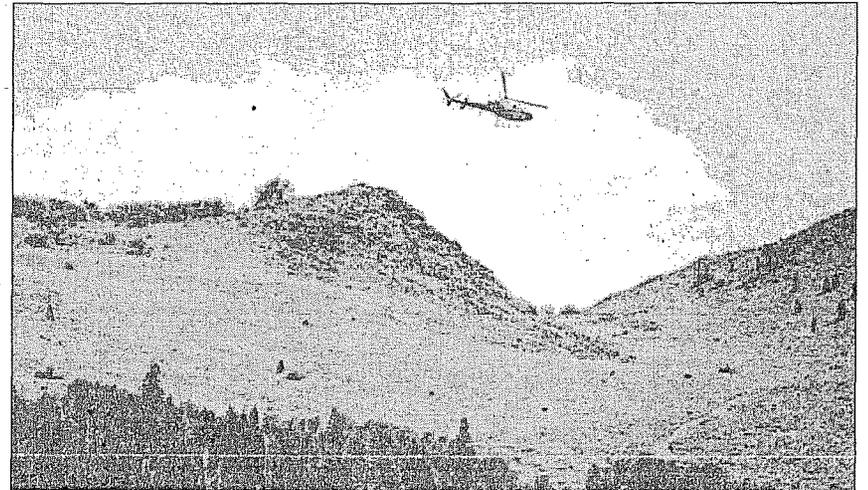
BELINDA G

Coming through: A Douglas County sheriff's deputy deploys a spike strip on Highway 88 in an

effort to stop the red truck. The driver went around the strip and continued into the



Clockwise from top: Deputies search the driver of a Toyota pickup truck who allegedly led officers on a two-hour chase that covered four counties in two states Thursday. Above right, the vehicle turns left from State Route 756 onto Dresslerville Road in the Gardnerville Ranchos. Right, a helicopter searches for the driver and passengers after the suspects crashed the truck near Monitor Pass and began running. Below right, the truck's passenger peers from the seat of a patrol car after being searched by officers. Below left, an officer removes handcuffs from a 10-year-old girl who was also in the truck. The girl was taken into protective custody by child welfare officials. The pursuit started in Meyers, Calif., when the driver allegedly took a camera and nearly struck a store manager with the truck. The driver drove Luther Pass on Highway 89 to Woodfords and continued on Highway 88 into Douglas County. He avoided a spike strip on Highway 88.



Chase: Investigators still checking suspects

Continued from page 1

crash, said Douglas County Sheriff Ron Pierini.

The truck's driver side was almost completely caved-in, he added.

Both are being held without bail in the El Dorado County Jail on felony charges of burglary and assault with a deadly weapon. Also, Alpine County, where he was ultimately arrested, charged him with felony willful cruelty to a child and evading a police officer.

Rhiley faces felony burglary and assault with a deadly weapon charges in El Dorado County. She is also charged with misdemeanor drug possession, said an El Dorado County jailer on Friday.

Alpine County charged Johnson with felony child endangerment.

Pierini said he has asked the Douglas County District Attorney's Office to review the case and wants a charge of felony assault with a deadly weapon against Cadwallader after the suspect allegedly collided twice with Deputy Joe Sanford's car during the chase.

Sanford's car sustained \$3,000 in damage, Pierini said.

The incident began Thursday at Staples in South Lake Tahoe. A digital camera was allegedly stolen by the couple and after being confronted by the store's manager, Cadwallader allegedly struck him with the truck, Pierini

'We were very concerned about the speed.'

Ron Pierini
Douglas County Sheriff

However, Cadwallader used the roads' shoulders to avoid the spikes at least once, he said.

Pierini said deputies slowed their pursuit several times in the Ranchos because of safety concerns.

However, the suspect continued to drive about 85 mph, Pierini said, throughout the chase.

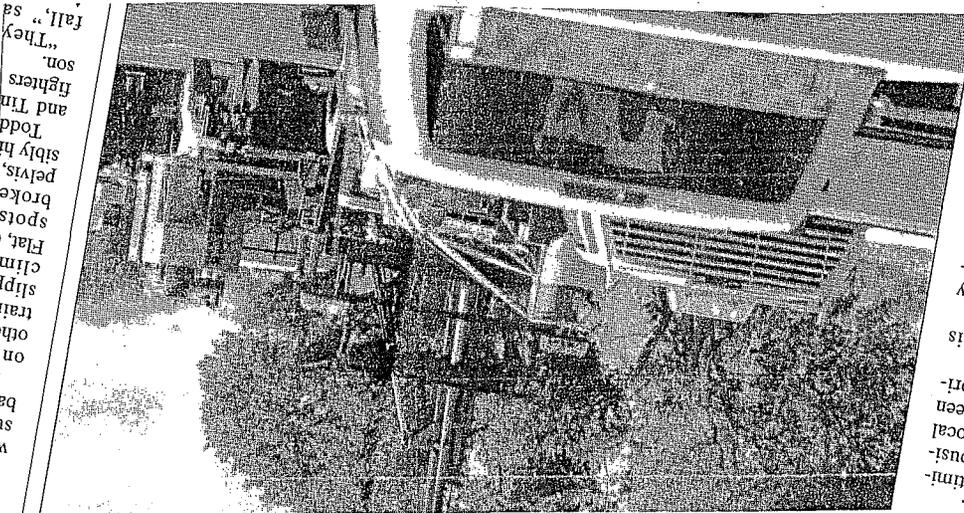
"We were very concerned about the speed," Pierini said.

Later on Highway 395, as Cadwallader drove south toward Topaz Ranch Estates, speeds were estimated at 110 mph.

After leaving Douglas County, the chase ended near Monitor Pass after the driver wrecked the truck into some aspen trees.

The suspects were arrested about 25 minutes later after a foot chase.

Pierini commended all the agencies involved including the Nevada Highway Patrol, the California Highway Patrol, Washoe Tribal authorities, Washoe County Sheriff's Office



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These workers are intimi-
dated," said Skip Daly, busi-
ness manager for Labor Local
169 Union in Reno. "It's been
a growing problem, due pri-
marily to road rage.
"The veneer of society is
wearing thin.
"They're impatient, or they
don't care. They want every-
one to get out of the way and
a hagger is just another obsta-
cle to be avoided."
The union supervises about
80 percent of construction
flaggers in the Reno-Carson-
Douglas area.
Daly said Interstate and
freeway work is the most dan-
gerous due to the speeds, but
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New Zealanders tackle Diamond Valley race

by Dave Price
R-C News Service

Lisa Savage may feel more comfortable on a mountain bicycle, but on Sunday morning, she seemed to be right in her element riding on the roads through Diamond Valley.

Savage, 31, from Nelson, New Zealand, emerged from a pack of seven riders in a sprint to the finish to win the women's Category 1 race at the Diamond Valley Road Race, the final day of the Carson Valley Classic.

Savage finished second Saturday at the Minden Criterium. That was the first criterium she had ridden in, but the 38-mile road race was a different story. After all, she is spending the summer in the U.S., along with four other riders from New Zealand, to prepare for the World Mountain Bike Championships in Vail, Colo., Sept. 8-16.

"I felt really good today," Savage said. "There were some strong women out there today, and I loved the experience. The group was very organized, which was great because that helps everyone."

Kim Vandersyde finished second, Erin Kassoy third and Eryn Hanna of the Alta Alpina Cycling Club was fourth. Fourteen-year-old Amber Ramos of South Lake Tahoe was sixth.

Savage even felt at home a little bit on a windy day.

"The conditions today were kind of like back home. It gets windy back home, so I'm used to it," she said.

John Hunt, coming off a victo-

ry in the criterium, was even more impressive in Sunday's race as he basically rode solo over the last two laps and won the race by some two minutes.

Perhaps even more impressive was Paul Wolfe from Arizona, who won the masters 45-and-over race and then doubled back to win the 35-and-over event.

"That was totally amazing," race director Keith Hart said. "He is an awesome rider."

Two Alta Alpina riders, Tony Reid of Kirkwood and Pike Reardon of Stateline, finished first and second respectively in the men's category 4-5 masters 35-and-over event.

The two-day Classic attracted nearly 500 cyclists, mostly from around Northern Nevada and California.

A group of five riders from New Zealand were also on hand — Savage, Rebecca Rose, Brenda Clapp, Paul Bishop and Dean Hill — on the last day of a month-long visit to the Carson Valley. All are gearing up for cross country competition in Vail.

"It's been awesome," said Bishop, who finished second behind Hunt in the road race. "We've been able to ride the whole area. We went up to Ebbetts Pass the other day. We wouldn't be able to do any of this back in New Zealand; just before I left, it was raining and really, really cold."

In addition to escaping New Zealand's winter season, they've also hit some favorite trails around the region.

"We've been based in Gardnerville for the last month to



BRIAN CORLEY/R-C news service

On the road: This group of mountain bikers from New Zealand wrapped up a month-long stay in the Carson Valley Sunday when they competed in the Diamond Valley Road Race:

train for the world championships," Savage said. "This is a great spot. We can go up to Tahoe and do a little altitude training and then come back down and recover. It's quite nice to be at altitude and yet be able to

ride comfortably.

"It's beautiful training for us. We've done all sorts of things. We've been up and done Mr. Toad's Wild Ride ... the Flume Trail," Savage said. "Rebecca's done Mr. Toad's twice, she

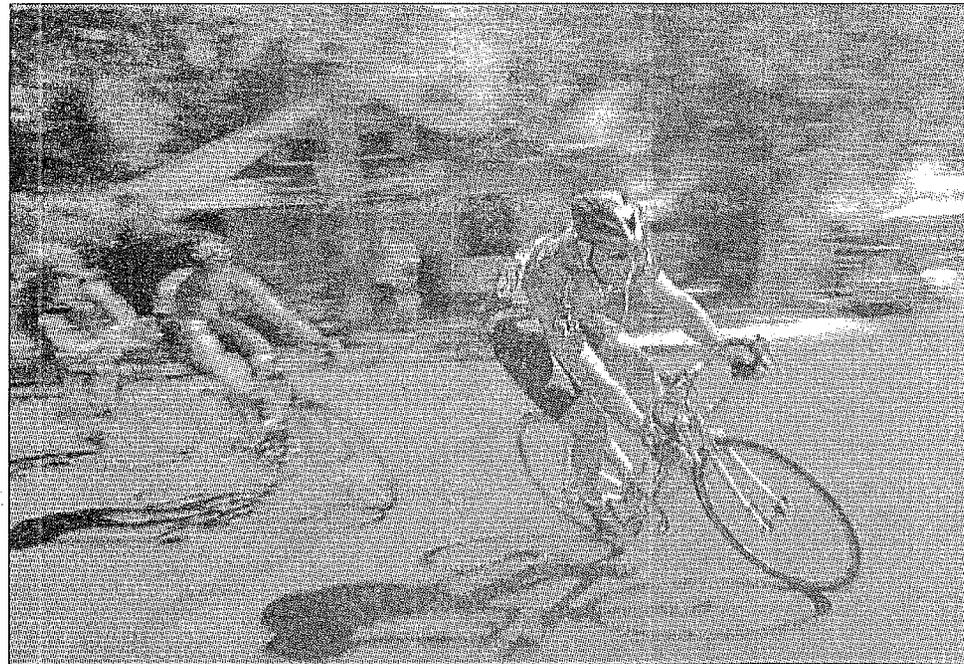
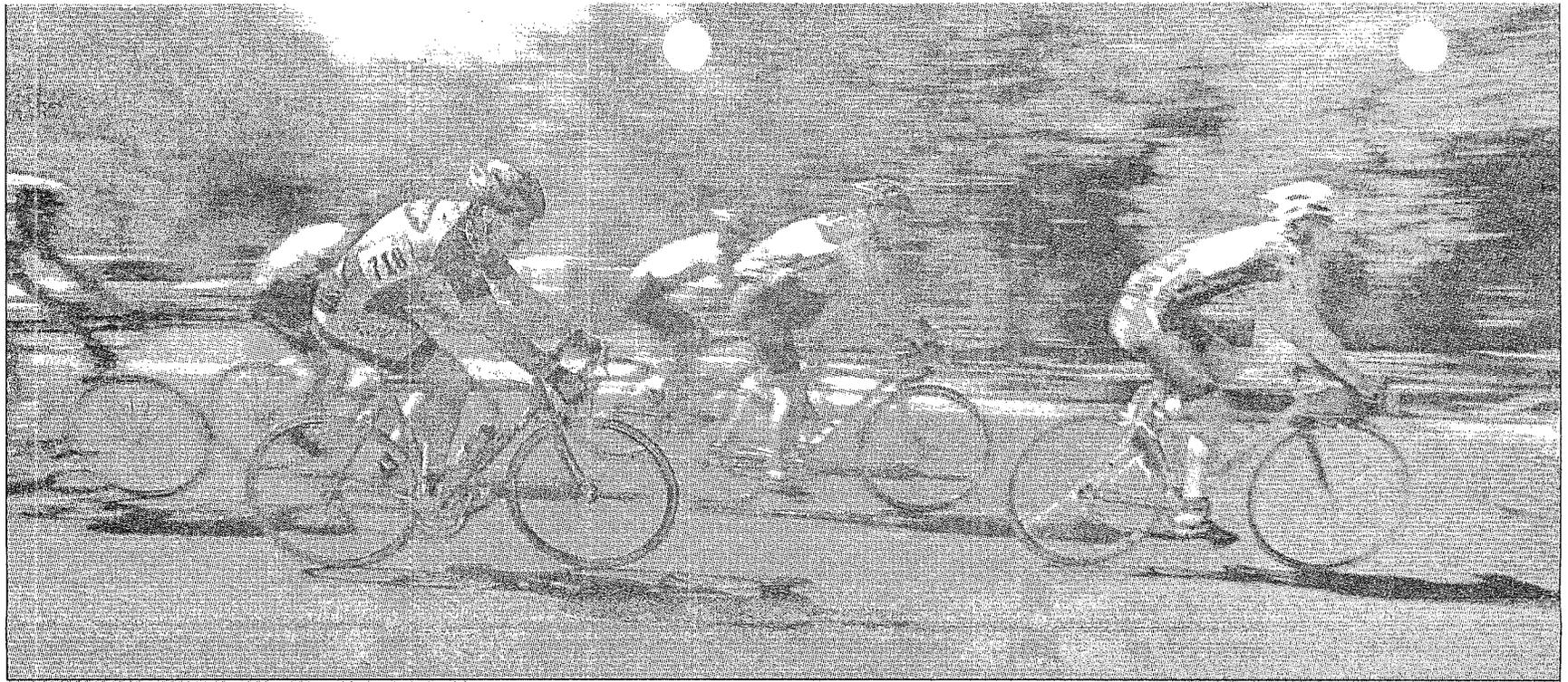
(from the left) Brenda Clapp, Paul Bishop, Rebecca Rose (seated), Dean Hill and Lisa Savage.

enjoyed it so much."

Rose nodded in agreement. "I liked Mr. Toad's," she said. "The one at Truckee — Hole in the Ground — that's even better. It's all pretty amazing." After leaving the Carson

Valley, they will spend time traveling around the U.S. and Canada before competing in Vail.

"It's an adventure and we always love adventures," Savage said, flashing a smile.



BELINDA GRANT/R-C photos

Bike ride: Races compete in the Carson Valley Classic's Minden Criterium on Saturday. On Sunday, the event concluded with the Diamond Valley Road Race.

Carson Valley Classic draws top bike racers

by **Dave Price**
R-C News Service

Not surprisingly, Debbie Allen was out front on her bicycle in the Category 1 women's race at the Carson Valley Classic's Minden Criterium on Saturday afternoon. What was surprising, virtually no one else was in sight on the homestretch as Allen won her second straight title and third in four years.

The criterium was the first leg of the Carson Valley Classic, a two-day event that has attracted entries from as far away as New Zealand. The Classic concludes today with the Diamond Valley Road Race, starting at 8 a.m. from Diamond Valley School near Woodfords, Calif.

ON PAGE 3

■ Diamond Valley Road Race has New Zealand flavor.

Allen, a 37-year-old school teacher from Fair Oaks, Calif., broke away early and never looked back to win the 45-minute race that looped through downtown Minden. By the three-quarter mark of the race, she had built a lead of 32 seconds over the rest of the pack on a hot and windy day.

"Krystyna (Kras) and I attacked a couple of laps into the race; we had a good gap, but it was way too early and the pack caught us," Allen said. "You never know how the field is going to react, so you just kind of try things. I've been

the inside →

See **Bike** on page 2

Record Courier 8/11/01

Bike: Minden race

Continued from page 1

doing this for 10 years; you get an idea of team tactics and you get an idea what will work and what will not."

Back-to-back preme laps early on changed the complexion of this race.

"It was a back-to-back preme, I rolled to the back and when we were on the backside, I just took her up with me. I took the preme and then we just kept going."

Allen, Kras and Eryn Hanna of Stateline surged to the front after the preme laps.

"After a couple of laps, Krystyna couldn't hang in there, then the Alta Alpina rider dropped off, and there I was out there by myself," Allen said.

Allen gave credit to her Webcor teammates for helping her maintain the lead.

"The team did a great job blocking for me and controlling the pack, that enabled me to stay out for what seemed like a very long time," she said.

Among those teammates helping out was 45-year-old Linda Elgart, who won the masters women 45-49 age group criterium at the national championships three weeks ago in Spokane, Wash.

"It's really, really fun to block for your teammates," said Elgart, who finished sixth on Saturday. "I was staying in second position and every time someone would go, I would jump on them over and over again. I just wouldn't let them get up there."

Allen finished 19 seconds ahead of the pack. New Zealand's Lisa Savage and Rebecca Rose finished second and third respectively.

Savage, Rose and Brenda Clapp have spent the past month in the Carson Valley preparing for the UCI Uncle Ben's World Mountain Bike Championships Sept. 8-16 in Vail, Colo.

"It was a workout, part of our training," said Savage, 31, who lives in Nelson, N.Z. "It was

great. We really enjoyed it."

The criterium was a new experience for both Savage and Rose.

"This was the first crit we've ever done. We really didn't know what a crit was," Savage said, flashing a smile. "It's a lot of hard work, 45 minutes, it's very fast, and we're going in circles."

Hanna finished 10th in the race for Alta Alpina and 14-year-old Amber Ramos of South Lake Tahoe was 11th.

Allen is certainly familiar with the Minden course.

"I like this course and I like this race," she said. "The heat wasn't too bad, but it was windier today than I've seen before. It was real hot the first year I won here. I remember that."

Allen won the 1998 Minden Criterium just 11 months after giving birth to her first child.

"Pulling a burly trailer is good training," Allen said. "I'm still pulling the burly trailer and she'll be 4 next month."

In other races on Saturday ... John Hunt and Matt Dubberly finished first and second in the men's pro race. Rinaldo Bullentini of the Alta Alpina Cycling Club was 11th and Rick Vandenaarke of the Reno Wheelman took 12th ... Sean Robins of Encino, Calif., won the men's Category 3 race, followed by Russell Harding. Bruce Thomas of Alta Alpina finished fifth and Keith Hart 10th ... Jeff Poulsen won the Masters 35 race and Bubba Melcher was second. Melcher, who formerly played tight end at the University of Nevada and later served as head football coach at Galena High School, won a national criterium championship in the men's 35 age group 1-2 pro class earlier this summer ... Glen Winkel won the Masters 45 race while Tom Regan and Pete Alexandre of South Lake Tahoe and the Alta Alpina Cycling Club took fourth and sixth respectively.

Hearing planned Aug. 7 on Blue Lakes Road upgrades

The Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands Highway Division, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, Alpine County and the California Department of Transportation, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed improvement of California Forest Highway (FH) 134, Blue Lakes Road.

A public hearing concerning this improvement will be held Tuesday, Aug. 7, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Turtle Rock Park, 17300 SR 89, Markleeville.

The proposed improvements begin at the junction with California State Highway (SH) 88, about 9 miles southwest of the community of Woodfords, Calif.; and proceeds in a southerly direction for 11.6 miles, terminating at the entrance to Lower Blue Lake Campground.

The existing paved surface is deteriorating, and current conditions of the remainder of Blue

Lakes Road include a native soil roadway surface, inadequate drainage features and numerous safety deficiencies for improving the road.

The proposed improvements consist of rehabilitation and resurfacing of the portion between SH 88 and MP 7.1, and reconstructing the remainder of the road to the Lower Blue Lake Campground.

The goal for the first portion of the project is to extend the service life of the road by resurfacing the existing pavement.

The proposed lane width for the reconstructed portion of the project is 11 feet (plus 1-foot shoulders) except for the last mile, which would have 10-foot wide lanes (plus 1-foot shoulders).

The proposed action would also include the construction of a paved vehicle turnaround loop and information station at MP 0.3 and realignment of the roadway north of the existing align-

ment from MP 11.3 to 11.6, together with a paved parking area and information station.

Copies of the EA are available for public review at the Alpine County Department of Public Works, 50 Diamond Valley Road, Markleeville, Calif.; Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks; and Eldorado National Forest, 100 Forni Road, Placerville, Calif.

Comments may be sent to the attention of HPD-16, Environment at the Central Federal Lands Highway Division at 555 Zang Street, Mail Room 259, Lakewood, Colo. 80228. Comments received by Aug. 24 are considered to be within the official comment period. For questions, contact Stephen Hallisy, Environmental Protection Specialist at (303) 716-2140.

Record Courier Aug. 1, 2001

Record Courier, Aug. 15

12-A ■ Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2001

Keeping leaders on board difficult for Alpine County

**Latest resignation leaves
two of five seats empty
on county panel**

by Susan Wood
R-C News Service

The smallest county in California has a bigger problem keeping its supervisors than attracting them.

Katherine Rakow, who was unavailable for comment Friday, resigned her Alpine County supervisor post effective Aug. 1 "for personal reasons," said Dennis Crabb, Alpine County counsel. Rakow's district included the Washoe Tribal-Woodfords area.

This leaves two vacancies on the five-member board, as the county has been waiting for a governor's appointment to fill its Bear Valley ward that was vacated February 2000. Two qualified candidates vie for the Bear Valley seat.

Crabb and Judy Molnar, county assistant to the supervisor's board, suggested the possibility of filling both seats in a consolidated election in March.

In the meantime, the panel may vote on many items. But about 30 items ranging from declaring a county emergency and conducting budget trans-

fers to adopting zoning ordinances and creating a wildlife preserve require a four-fifths vote.

At the present time, a 2-1 vote is valid but may be challenged judicially.

Crabb and Molnar explained it's difficult to maintain supervisors for a number of reasons.

First, there's a challenging commute — particularly from far-flung Bear Valley to Markleeville. The commute factor becomes more difficult in the winter, with snowstorms making the roads treacherous.

Eric Jung, a former Alpine County supervisor, even turned up missing in February 1998 on his way from his Bear Valley home to a board meeting. He was unaccounted for over a period of two days. He was later spotted in a diner, Molnar said.

Secondly, it's fairly common for a supervisor with a business to operate in a small, rural area to run into conflicts of interest, Crabb added.

Then there's the money. The salary amounts to \$1,500 a month, Molnar pointed out.

"They should be commended for what they have to do," she said, empathizing. "It's hard because the salary is typically lower and the hours are typically longer."

RC

10-A ■ Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2001

Diamond Valley students earn \$5,000 grant

With just 114 students, Diamond Valley Middle School out read the entire state of California.

By participating in the Governor's Reading Award program for two years, the middle school students read enough pages to earn their school a \$5,000 grant.

Principal Katy Hadley said she received a letter from California Gov. Gray Davis last week commending the students at the school near Woodfords for "achieving excellence in reading."

"I'm really proud of the students," Hadley said. "There were some kids who read 1,000 pages."

The students have been keeping reading logs of how many pages they read.

Parents signed a sheet verifying the pages read at home and teachers kept track of the number of pages read in class.

Hadley said she has not received the guidelines yet of how the grant money can be used, but if there are no guidelines she said it will be a staff and parent decision.

"We could use it to purchase books for the library or for a reading-related field trip or even to purchase books for kids to use at home," Hadley said.

The school had assemblies acknowledging the students reading but Hadley said earning this grant will really excite them.

"I think it will create pride and excitement for reading," she added.

The money will be used during this school year.

Reno
Gazette-Journal
Sat. Aug. 25, 2001

Alpine faces shortage of supervisors

By **Andy Bourelle**
RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

The government of California's least populated county is facing an unusual problem.

The 1,200-resident Alpine County, south of Lake Tahoe and bordering Nevada's Douglas County, has barely enough supervisors to hold a meeting.

And it could be awhile before the two vacancies on the five-member board are filled. A mixture of state regulations, a meager population from which to find new members, the county's mountainous geography and even California's energy woes make it difficult to fill out the Alpine County Board of Supervisors without an election.

"It's ridiculous to try to do any kind of business. It's really bad," Chris Gansberg, vice chairman of the board, said Friday. "A board is a consensus of five opinions. Some of us have strong opinions about some things, and we usually talk about it and come to some agreement. When there's only three people, the pressure is on."

Gansberg, who is in his fourth nonconsecutive term on the board, said he doesn't remember this happening before. In fact, the board members usually considered it a "sin" just to miss a meeting, Gansberg said.

"This is not common," agreed Judy Molnar, assistant to the board.

But, she added, many factors make it difficult to

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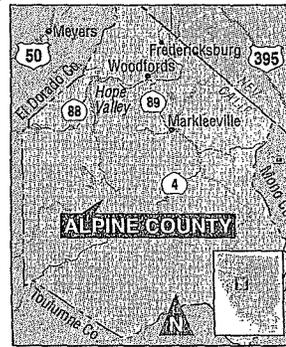
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Alpine County is 467,840 acres of mountainous, forested land, of which most is managed by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. With 95 percent

See **ALPINE** on **3C**

Alpine/County has supervisor shortage

From 1C

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So what are the drawbacks of having only three board members?

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"The law in California — and there's only one case, so it's not like there's a wealth of case law on this — says a 2-1 vote can be

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arrested when the couple, wanted for
chased questioning in a shoplifting
irs and incident at a Staples store in
South Lake Tahoe was dog were also in the pickup.
The chase reached top
speeds of 110 mph, looping

separately with seven identical
charges.

Rhiley pleaded guilty to
one count of robbery involving a stolen digital camera and one count of possessing false identification for having 30 identifica-

tion, causing substantial
bodily harm, and one count
of evading police. He faces a
maximum of seven years and
eight months.

The couple's lawyers, Lori
London and Simon Harvey,
declined to comment.

Reno Gazette - Journal

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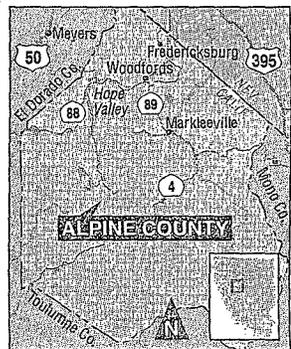
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House

From 1C

service, will be on display. Also, her 1884 diploma from Copper School of Medicine, now Stanford University, will be on view.

The home was in the Park-Hansen family for several generations. Upon Cook's death in the 1940s, her cousin Dave Park continued to live in the house. He died in the 1960s.

Hickey said Toussau, a Lake Tahoe dentist, acquired the property about 1968. The Hickeys bought the land on which the house sat earlier this year.

Although the house has been remodeled with indoor plumbing and a modern kitchen, Hickey said it retains much of its historic

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She was preceded in death by her parents.

Surviving are her husband of 50 years, Kenneth Bell; daughter, Lisa Milke and son-in-law, Gary Milke of Reno, Nevada; sisters, Doris Backlund of Sun Valley; Marge Young Lanam and husband, Joseph of Reno; three grandchildren, Kaitte, Jill and Paul Milke all of Reno; brother-in-law, Oscar and wife, Veta Bell; sister-in-law, Cleo and husband, Chuck Tribbett; brother-in-law, Frank and wife, Cathy Bell; sister-in-law, Dorothy and husband, Bud Powers; numerous nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews.

It was Mrs. Bell's request that no services scheduled. Inurnment will be at Mountain View Cemetery.

Arrangements under the direction of Walton Funeral Home, Reno, with Cremation by Sierra Crematory.

Henry (Hank) Gerd KRUGER

Hank, a long time resident of Hawthorne, Nevada, passed away at Northern Nevada Medical Center on Wednesday, the 22nd of August 2001. Hank was born in Crook County near Aladdin, Wyoming on October 12th, 1918.

Hank rode his horse, Old Coalie, to a one-room schoolhouse through his freshman year. The last three years of high school he had to board out in Belle Fourche, South Dakota to finish. He stayed out of school for a year to help out on the ranch and graduated in 1937. Hank also attended Spearfish State Teacher's College in South Dakota for a short time but chores came first. He worked on ranches putting up hay, herding cattle and sheep, etc. In 1938, he joined the Civilian Military Training Corps. After completing CMTC training he returned to the homestead and worked until 1942. At the outbreak of World War II he enlisted in the Marine Corps and was sent directly to the South Pacific Islands after six weeks basic training. He spent nearly two years before being sent back to San Diego to a hospital and then on to Hawthorne for recuperation. He was honorably discharged from the marines in the fall of 1945 and immediately sent to work at NAD, Hawthorne. Hank met Clysta in 1950 and they were married in the summer of 1952. He loved gardening, fishing, hunting in the fall and a trip to Wyoming and South Dakota every other year. Hawthorne was the largest Naval Ammunition Depot in the world and Hank was very proud to make his supervisory grade at the base in the electrical field. This was a big step in his life! He retained this position for over 23 years. Hank retired in 1974 after

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RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

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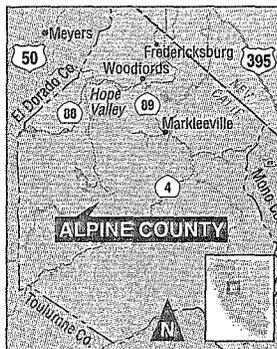
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house and a visit by a former player.

nine-day trips are available for all ability levels.

wheel and receives feedback from the school's instructors.

can hit speeds of up to 18 knots when heading downwind.

can take lessons. Rates for outdoor courts start at \$16 per hour. Indoor rates start at \$32. Private lessons cost \$75 and up.

package that includes guaranteed tee times, lodging and some meals.

Cost	\$5,000	\$3,198 to \$5,298, depending on length of trip	\$2,895	\$1,980 for a four-hour charter	Rates for outdoor courts start at \$16 per hour. Indoor rates start at \$32. Private lessons cost \$75 and up.	Four-night packages start at \$1,867
Information	(312) 674-5396	(800) 462-2848; www.backroads.com	(800) 733-0345; www.espnussellracing.com	(800) 644-3454; www.nextlevel-sailing.com	(718) 760-6200; www.usta.com	www.oldcourse-experience.com

Source: USATODAY.com

Sacramento Bee

The Sacramento Bee August 29, 2004

Markleeville's lures include hot springs

By Allen Pierleoni
BEE STAFF WRITER

CALIFORNIA GETAWAY

MARKLEEVILLE - Labor Day weekend is on the horizon once again, marking the traditional end of summer - but not just yet. Vacationers are still pouring into the Lake Tahoe Basin for boating and hiking adventures, along with adventures of a different kind inside the casinos, showrooms and restaurants.

Of course, side trips are a big part of adventuring - in this case, to such destinations as historic Virginia City; the Ponderosa Ranch in Incline Village, complet-

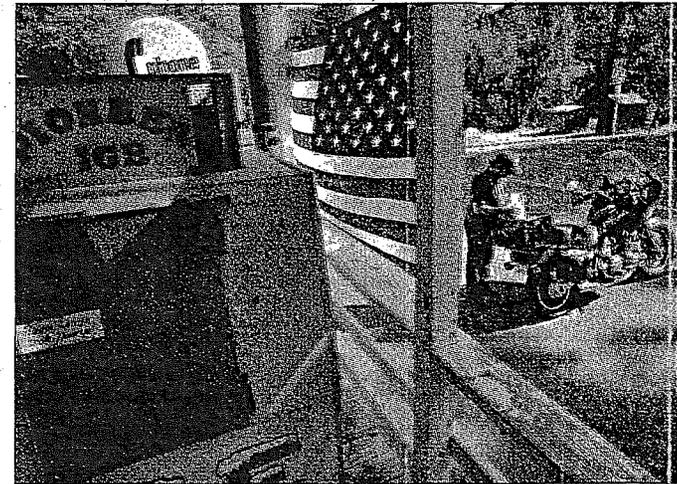
ing its final season after 37 years; Vikingsholm on the shores of Emerald Bay; and the Tallac Historic Site (aka Valhalla) near Camp Richardson, 74 acres of quiet woods that is the site of the old Tallac Resort Hotel and three private summer estates built in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

There's another side trip worth a drive as well - the town of Markleeville, southeast of Lake Tahoe off Highway 88 near an area of the Sierra known as the California Alps.

Markleeville is the seat of California's least-populated county, Alpine (only 1,100 souls), settled in 1861 by Jacob J. Marklee.

When we visited a few years ago, a tipsy vendor was selling grilled beef ribs and corn on the cob along the main street. Crowds of people gathered at corners to munch lunch and drink beer. Rock 'n' roll poured out of the storied Cutthroat Saloon, whose ceiling was festooned with brassieres donated by women inspired by too many shots of tequila and cheered on

► MARKLEEVILLE, page M6



Sacramento Bee / Bryan Patrick

Vacationing cyclist Bill Stone of Railroad Flat loads a few groceries from the general store in Markleeville. The little mountain town on Highway 89 makes a good side trip from Lake Tahoe.

Markleeville: Locals fear 'gentrification'

► FROM PAGE M1

by the rowdy bikers who hung out there.

On a recent visit, we discovered the Cutthroat has been transformed into the well-mannered Wolf Creek Restaurant and Cutthroat Bar next door to the refurbished Creekside Lodge. Missing was the old jukebox, along with George Thorogood and the Destroyers' raucous "Bad to the Bone," the saloon's old theme song. Replacing it was a Bob Dylan tape playing quietly in the background: "Take me disappearin' through the smoke rings of my mind / Down the foggy ruins of time ..."

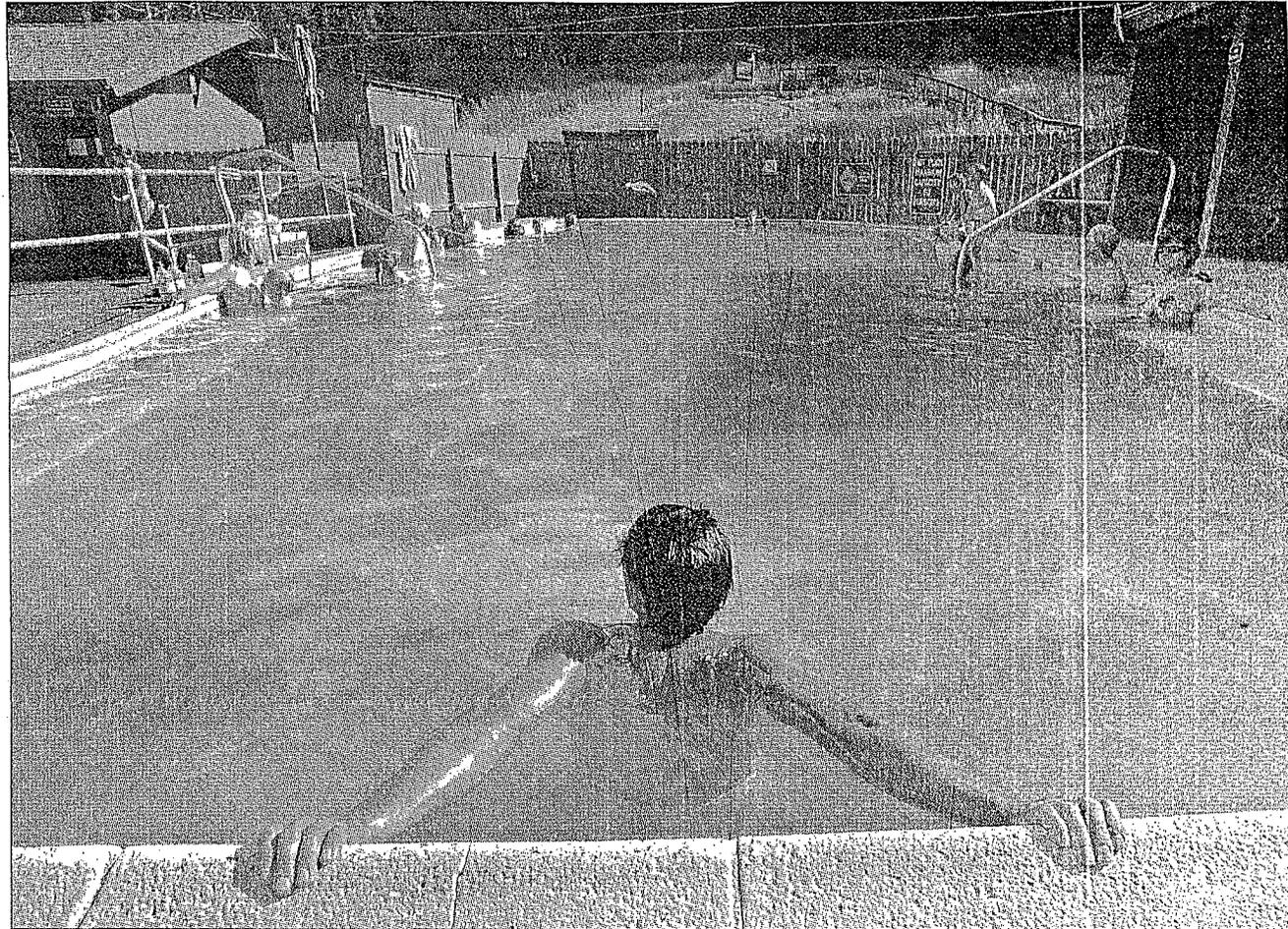
The motorcycles parked out front were not the "Easy Rider"-type choppers of days gone by but Harley-Davidsons in the \$10,000 to \$20,000 range, parked neatly and legally out front.

We sat at the bar and examined a lunch menu that included crab cakes and escargot - snails in the mountains! - on the "pub grub" list, alongside chicken wings and jalapeño poppers. Clearly, the tone of the town had changed.

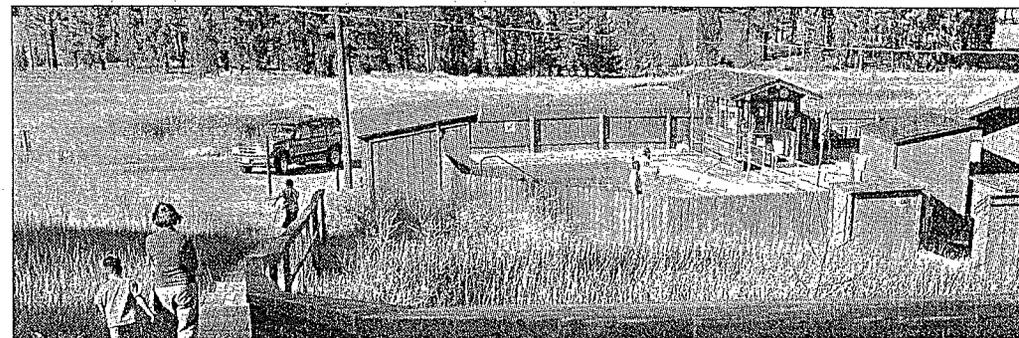
After some reminiscing and a couple of beers, we visited Markleeville's two other main attractions. One is the Alpine County Museum, just down the street and up a hill, and Grover Hot Springs State Park, a curvy drive outside of town.

The museum is a fascinating place, filled with odd artifacts and period clothing from the days of the Washoe Indians, through the pioneer and silver-mining years and into the early part of the 20th century. It's a showcase of local history.

Next to the museum are an old iron jailhouse and a wooden schoolhouse. The jail is a grim place, small and dark and hot as hell, filled now with antique saws and other farm tools.



Sacramento Bee / Bryan Patrick



At Grover Hot Springs State Park, visitors can soak in a spring-fed pool for \$5, above. The water temperature hovers at 104 degrees, after it's been cooled from its natural 145-degree temperature when it bubbles up from the ground. Park visitors who want to see where

BUDGE

Las Vegas seems playing its cards

By Arth
KING

You might you might loathe it, to Las Vegas at a life - it's that cor-ible, a sight that simply has to be fered greatly in t Sept. 11, 2001, a ing a slow recov 2003, Las Vegas erupted to undre activity, putting amazing 38 milli

Who gets the c bers? In this tow people rave abou attorney, Oscar L was recently re- 86 percent of the

He is a gushin and energy, dete city even more, development of town area (away the chief means dozens of new d are either just o- tion or announce- tural arts center, emporium, a me- restaurants and

The most succ town project is a record sales and moth Las Vegas - which has 130 sl campus-style ma

Museum just down the street and up a hill, and over Hot Springs State Park, a curvy drive outside of town.

The museum is a fascinating place, filled with odd artifacts and period clothing from the days of the Washoe Indians, through the pioneer and silver-mining years and into the early part of the 20th century. It's a showcase of local history.

Next to the museum are an old iron jailhouse and a wooden schoolhouse. The jail is a grim place, small and dark and hot as hell, filled now with antique saws and other farm tools.

Inside the restored 1880s Webster School, the original desks are lined up in rows, each with an old book sitting on top, and a mannequin dressed as the schoolmarm waits patiently for class to start.

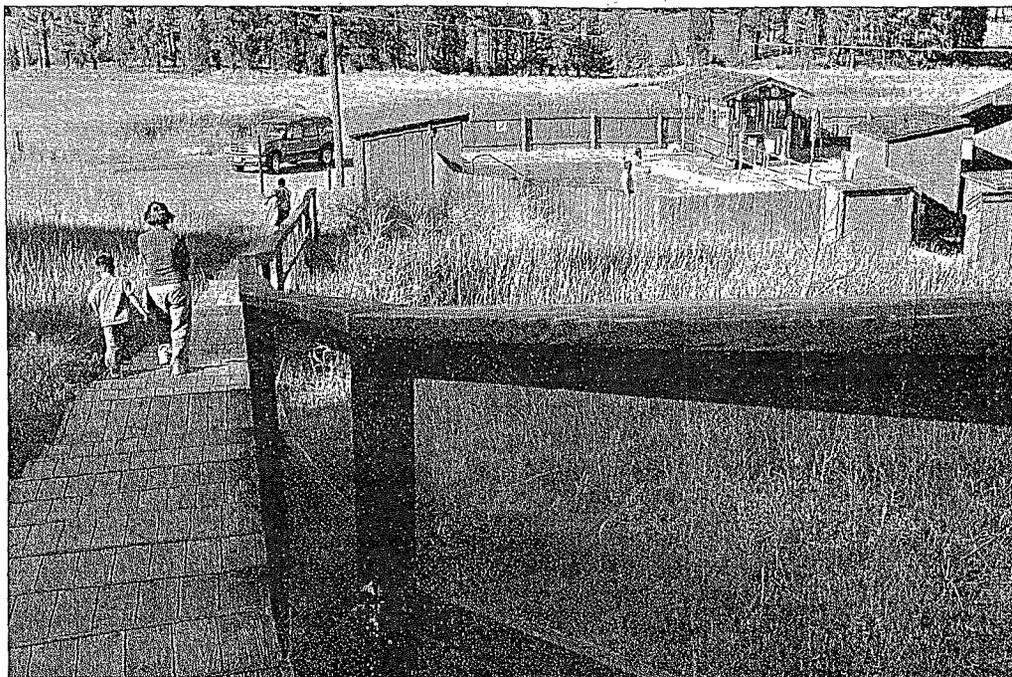
Over at the 700-acre Grover Hot Springs State Park, you can stroll up a boardwalk to one of the actual hot springs and see it at its source. A crack in the earth pulses out 148-degree mineral water, which is cooled to 104 degrees and channeled into a cement pool. When you've had enough of a hot soak, you take a plunge into the cold-water swimming pool. Yow!

Across a sloping meadow is Cutthroat Creek, where last spring I watched a fisherman pull out two 14-inch trout in 20 minutes. He used salmon eggs for bait.

Aside from a rich history, there's not much else to Markleeville – the Toll Station restaurant and hotel, M's Coffee House and bed-and-breakfast, an old-fashioned general store – and that's the way many locals like it. But everything could soon change, as the winds of development are on the verge of blowing the sagebrush out of town.

That gust is coming from developer Tom Abdo, owner of the Wolf Creek Restaurant (which took a \$500,000 remodel), the Creekside Lodge and many acres of land in town.

Abdo's most ambitious plan is the construction of 70 fractional-ownership condominiums "spaced out over 25 acres. We're still trying to get final approval from the county. Assuming we do, we'll begin construction immediately," he said.



At Grover Hot Springs State Park, visitors can soak in a spring-fed pool for \$5, above. The water temperature hovers at 104 degrees, after it's been cooled from its natural 145-degree temperature when it bubbles up from the ground. Park visitors who want to see where the hot springs flow out of a crack in the ground can take the brick path, at left, up from the pool.



On one hand, the seven-member

Burkhauser, the chamber's executive director. "We believe it would improve our economic fortunes."

Longtime resident Nancy Thornburg takes issue with that. She is the spokeswoman for the Friends of Markleeville, an "informal group of concerned citizens," as she put it.

"We want the county to see that the laws that are in place for this type of (development) are followed to the letter," she said. "Our second concern is we think (the condo development) would be overwhelming for a town this size."

Dick Edwards, director of the Alpine County Museum and a park ranger for 36 years, also has concerns about the condominiums.

"We have no vandalism or crime here now, but you add that many people from other communities and they'll bring the problems they have in the city to the country," he said.

"Another concern is the fragile environment. The hills (behind the mu-

catrophe. Somewhere along the line, the people of the community deserve to be heard."

Abdo is acutely aware of the debate his project has generated.

"Some people think I'm the greatest thing since sliced bread, and others think I'm the Tasmanian devil," he said. "I will say that we've increased their property values in town dramatically."

Could Markleeville possibly become another Carson Valley, where the locals have been priced out of the housing market and million-dollar homes dot the landscape?

"Not at all," Abdo insisted. "I would fight that myself. All I see is a quaint little mountain town confined to its existing boundaries. I think it will be an attractive vacation spot for people from throughout the Bay Area."

One last thing: Abdo recently bought a house in the exclusive Christmas Valley on the Upper Truckee River, just outside South Lake Tahoe. It's a long commute to Markleeville.

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The most success town project is al record sales and p moth Las Vegas P which has 130 sh campus-style mal tition for the casin alternative recrea have no interest in

Even more sign opening July 16 o monorail that tak down the Strip fo for less per ride o pass). No longer o foot from place to desert sun. You ju lessly from the M Caesars Palace, f Bellagio to Circus

The keys to pla a group of Web si extensive and eff found on the Inte city. They includ and www.lasvega (which makes Ve tions, and also fo bling aspects of the news of tourname special casino pro gies for beating th

Actually, all th hotel reservation produce more top gains for their cit the nationwide si www.vegas.com www.lasvegasad offer rates for a d as \$19 (Palace St. sino), \$21 (Fitzg Palms Resort & C (Four Queens Ho

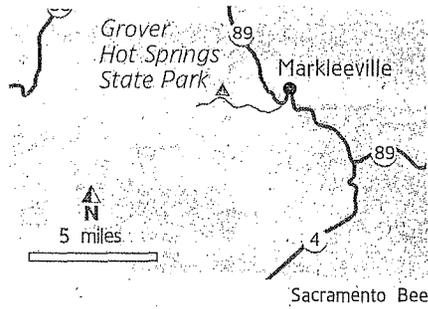
If you can simp tables (where yo lose money), you Vegas for some o

developments are on the verge of blowing the sails out of town.

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Abdo's most ambitious plan is the construction of 70 fractional-ownership condominiums "spaced out over 25 acres. We're still trying to get final approval from the county. Assuming we do, we'll begin construction immediately," he said.

The condo issue is the biggest hot potato in Markleeville's recent history and has caused a rift in the community.



On one hand, the seven-member chamber of commerce board of directors "voted wholeheartedly to support the growth and development that Mr. Abdo is doing," said Teresa

size

Dick Edwards, director of the Alpine County Museum and a park ranger for 36 years, also has concerns about the condominiums.

"We have no vandalism or crime here now, but you add that many people from other communities and they'll bring the problems they have in the city to the country," he said.

"Another concern is the fragile environment. The hills (behind the museum) are where (Abdo) wants to put his condos and remove the pinyon and pine. To cut roads into the hillside and remove the trees is really going to be a

market and million-dollar homes dot the landscape?

"Not at all," Abdo insisted. "I would fight that myself. All I see is a quaint little mountain town confined to its existing boundaries. I think it will be an attractive vacation spot for people from throughout the Bay Area."

One last thing: Abdo recently bought a house in the exclusive Christmas Valley on the Upper Truckee River, just outside South Lake Tahoe. It's a long commute to Markleeville.

□ □ □

The Bee's Allen Pierleoni can be reached at (916) 321-128 or apierleoni@sacbee.com.

gains for their city the nationwide site www.vegas.com and www.lasvegasadv.com offer rates for a double as \$19 (Palace Station), \$21 (Fitzgerald Palms Resort & Casino) (Four Queens Hotel). If you can simply lose money), you Vegas for some of meal, sight-seeing in America.

Arthur Frommer's www.frommers.com

Fullwood: Exhausted crew, dirty tables among complaints

► FROM PAGE M1

straighten out the misunderstanding. Little did they know.

The first sign that all was not right aboard the 2,000-passenger ship came on Day 1, when family members had to wait until 11 p.m. to be admitted to their staterooms because of house-keeping delays. (Normally, cabins are ready for passengers upon boarding.)

Things went downhill from there, Himenes said, citing a litany of unmade beds, three-hour waits for dinner, dirty tables in the cafeteria, food shortages, bars that closed at 10:30 p.m. — and breakfasts served on paper plates.

"We didn't pay all this money to eat off paper plates," he says.

The ship obviously was short-staffed, he said, and the young American crew members appeared "so exhausted they were like zombies. ... There were no smiles, no 'good mornings,' just long faces."

Adding insult to injury, when the Himenes clan went to settle the bill at the end of the cruise, there it was: a daily service charge of \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, due immediately — along with an unexpected \$5 per person mandatory donation to the Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

"We got double billed, no two ways about it," Himenes says. "There was no remorse, no apology, and nobody onboard had any authority to refund anything back to us."

Himenes said family members were told by the disgruntled crew that the company

"We got double billed, no two ways about it. There was no remorse, no apology, and nobody onboard had any authority to refund anything back to us."

Al Himenes

about his experience on Norwegian Cruise Line's Pride of Aloha

have affected some of Pride of Aloha's guests." The company said it is taking "aggressive actions to address specific issues" on the ship.

The Los Angeles travel agent who booked the Himenes family's cruise asked not to be identified in this column. But she confirms the "miseries" the passengers encountered, and she is following up on the party's plight.

"NCL ruined their experience, so do you really think they are about to use the credit extended them to rebook with NCL? Not in my lifetime," she said.

What's clear from all this is that NCL is taking a lot of heat for what amounts to a back-door price hike. And while an American-crewed ship might sound like a commendable endeavor, it's a risky one. Several previous ventures in Hawaii have failed in the wake of labor issues and complaints

night.

NCL isn't giving up. The line says it is committed to "delivering a high-quality and unique vacation experience in Hawaii" and expects the "experience aboard Pride of Aloha will be very quickly up to the company's high standards."

It remains to be seen how the mandatory service charge will play out on NCL's 12 other ships: The line apparently isn't waiting until its stated timetable of summer 2005 to impose the charge fleet-wide.

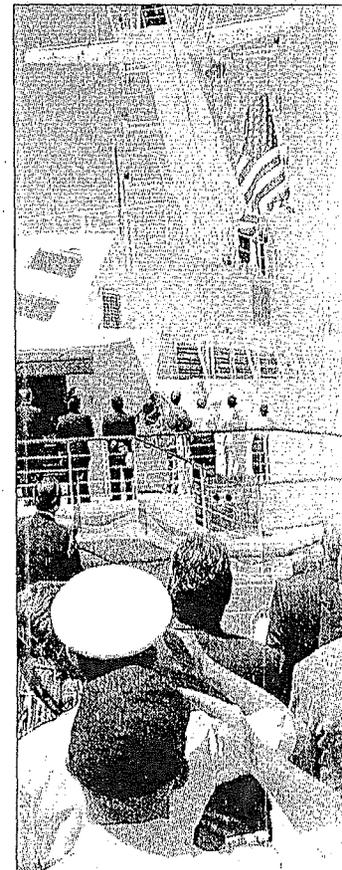
Earl Worley of Sacramento has already received his documents for an October cruise out of Baltimore aboard NCL's Norwegian Crown. He learned about the charge ("For your convenience, NCL now automatically applies a service charge to your shipboard account ...") at the bottom of page 10 of the "Welcome Aboard" booklet enclosed with his ticket.

"I was taken aback by it, because I had paid the full price of the fare already and didn't think there was any basis for charging extra," he says.

The cruise booklet takes a decidedly vague stance in describing where the passengers' \$10 a day goes. "All of the service personnel onboard receive gratuities from this service charge, and there is no need for you to think about additional tipping," it reads.

The next sentence: "Separately, a 15 percent gratuity is included in bar tabs and spa services."

Worley said he has written the cruise line's president suggesting a change in the policy.



Alpine County budget gets boost

Lake Tahoe Tribune 9/4/01

By Michael S. Green
Tribune city editor

The Alpine County Sheriff's Department has a \$500,000 problem: How to deal with a new influx of state cash.

The extra money was contained in the California Legislature's July budget compromise, which saw rural Republicans voting with Democrats. Assembly Bill 443, authored by Chico Republican Sam Aanestad, was signed into law Aug. 27.

The bill commits \$500,000 annually to the state's smallest 37 counties, including El Dorado and Placer counties. That's a big chunk of change in Alpine County, effectively boosting

In Markleeville

What: Alpine County Board of Supervisors

When: Public workshop, 1:30 p.m., Tuesday

Where: 99 Water St., Markleeville

Details: 530-694-2231

Sheriff Henry "Skip" Veatch's budget by 50 percent, so the department is seeking input through a public workshop before the Board of

See *Alpine*, Page 4A

Call 541-3880. Surf the news — and a lot more! tahoe.com

Alpine

From Page 1A
Supervisors.

"How the funds are spent is at the discretion of the sheriff," said Assistant Sheriff Robert Levy. "However, we're interested in partnering with the board and the community in identifying agency needs and how to spend that money to best serve Alpine County."

Levy said the department is looking at everything from personnel to facilities, and will probably present multiple options to the Board of Supervisors. The department has 13 sworn officers, including Veatch, three reserve deputies and four administrative personnel.

"Rural law enforcement in California has lagged behind their counterparts in the bigger counties," Levy said. "This was the Legislature's attempt to bring some parity to how law enforcement operates statewide."

The El Dorado County Sheriff's Department is compiling a "wish list" to present to supervisors in upcoming budget hearings. On the South Shore, the money could help add beds and staffing to bring the jail to full capacity, Undersheriff Jeff Neves said.

Currently, the jail holds 126 beds, though it was designed to hold 170 inmates. Adding beds would reduce the need to shuttle inmates between the South Shore and the main jail in Placerville.

"We're trying to get our facilities to a level where they serve their independent communities," Neves said.

The impact of \$500,000 won't be as great in Placer County, which has a law enforcement budget more than 100 times as big. Sheriff's Capt. Rick Armstrong said the extra money will help boost coverage in rural areas, including the West Shore.

"If we can add four or five personnel and three or four cars to the patrol force, that's significant," Armstrong said.

Markleeville celebrates fall with party

The small town of Markleeville plans to celebrate the coming of fall with an Autumn Party in the Community Park on Saturday, Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Complimentary hot dogs, hamburgers and ice cream will be served, and a band from Lake Tahoe will entertain.

The development of the Community Park has been the 5-year project of the people of Markleeville and the Friends of the Library under the leadership of Judy Molnar. A

sunny half-acre featuring children's play equipment, space for community activities and a future ramada, the park features a charming view of Markleeville Creek, Raymond Peak and the old Webster schoolhouse in the museum complex.

A short distance from State Highway 89 (on the corner of Laramie and Hot Springs Road), the Community Park lies adjacent to Markleeville Public Library. Both town courthouse and library were built in the 1920s from rhyo-

lite tuff quarried from Silver Mountain City. Markleeville is the county seat of Alpine County, the smallest county in California, with a population of 1,208.

Booth volunteers will accept donations to the ongoing Community Park expansion fund and sell flower bulbs for community park planting or take-home purposes.

Everyone is welcome to this event! To volunteer as a helper or for further information, call (530) 694-2120.



SHANNON HALL/The R-C

All's **Faire** in **MARKLEEVILLE**

Dierdre Wallace, above, is busy putting the final details on next

As a member of the Markleeville community, Dierdre Wallace has her fingers in many pies. She is an educator, running a reading recovery program at Diamond Valley School.

Markleeville Merchants Association (she runs it), will feature arts and crafts booths, music by The Fiddletown Band, Living Picture Show and Night Hawks. "I live Berkeley (Calif.) 13 years and was very active in civic organiza-

course, the music – and a lady just called and there will be a trampoline exhibition." She also mentioned the ecology aspect of the creek work day, as well as the surplus sale hosted by Alpine County. "Everyone has jumped in and it has

All's **Faire** in **MARKLEEVILLE**

Dierdre Wallace, above, is busy putting the final details on next Saturday's Markleeville celebration that includes food, games, music, bargains, crafts and more.

As a member of the Markleeville community, Dierdre Wallace has her fingers in many pies.

She is an educator, running a reading recovery program at Diamond Valley School.

She is an activist, a business owner and, for the moment at least, the lead organizer for the town's second annual Markleeville Faire.

In its second year, the event promises to be well-attended. Last year, the faire, though planned in a last-minute fashion was attended by nearly 1,000 people. Attendance this year is expected to be even higher.

The day-long festivities, sponsored by the Alpine County Arts Commission (Wallace is co-chairman), the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and the

Markleeville Merchants Association (she runs it), will feature arts and crafts booths, music by The Fiddletown Band, Living Picture Show and Night Hawks.

"I lived in Berkeley (Calif.) 13 years and was very active in civic organizations and local politics," Wallace said, from the front half of her store, Wild Wools. "I swore when I moved I wasn't going to do that again."

But old habits die hard and despite her best efforts to stay uninvolved, Wallace and her little mountain community are welcoming everyone to come play with them.

There's going to be something for everyone here next weekend," Wallace said. "This is a real community activity with kids' games and crafts and non-profit informational booths and, of

course, the music – and a lady ju and there will be a trampoline exhibition."

She also mentioned the ecology of the creek work day, as well as plus sale hosted by Alpine Count

"Everyone has jumped in and i become an event that combines s much," she said.

Faire-goers will be offered a variety of food – everything from burgers, hot dogs and several bar – to beer and wine will be sold by restaurants, including The Deli, M fee House, the J. Marklee Toll St Grover's Corner, Rudden's Gener Store, the Alpine Hotel Restauran Villa Gigli.

For booth sign-up or for further information, call (530) 694-0045.

Other Markleeville, Woodfords happenin

Creek work day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Markleeville Creek Work Day 2001, a volunteer effort to "Care for the Creek," will be Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Alpine Community Park, in Markleeville next to the library.

It will be a day of good fun. Come ready to plant willows, cottonwoods and other native plants along the banks of the creek and the East Fork. New vegetation will help to slow stream bank ero-

sion and keep water clean, cool and full of food for fish. The schedule is:

■ 9 a.m., opening of events, including volunteer sign-in, a light breakfast and work site assignments

■ 9:45 a.m., collect equipment and leave for work sites

■ 10 a.m., begin work

■ Noon, break for lunch

■ 1 p.m., return to work sites to finish up and collect equipment

There will be activities for the kids, too.

■ 9 a.m. to noon, supervised child care, paint a river rock

■ 9:45 a.m., help place bat boxes

■ 10:30 a.m., water conservation talk

■ 11 a.m., discover the creek
For more information, contact Kim Hansen at the Alpine Resource Conservation District, 782-3661, or Phil Chang at the Sierra Nevada Alliance, (530) 542-4546.

Benefit surplus sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Woodfords

The Alpine County Family Support Council will hold a surplus sale Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Public

Works parking lot at the co Diamond Valley Road and way 89 in Woodfords.

The items for sale include plus desks, chairs, tables, c etc. from county offices. R from the sale will help fund Holiday Food and Toy Drive needy children and families which last year provided fo kets to 60 families and toys area children. Christmas ba for men and women from A County in the armed service overseas will also be funded the sale.

Shoppers should take a tr because delivery and late pi will not be available.

B8 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2001

IN BRIEF

Los Angeles Times

ALPINE COUNTY
Oil Firm Buys 480 Acres
for Tribe in Settlement

Arco has purchased 480 acres in the Sierra Nevada for the Washoe Tribe as part of a settlement over pollution from an abandoned sulfur

mine in rural Alpine County.

The settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency resolves Arco's liability for failing to prevent ponds of acid mine drainage at Leviathan Mine from spilling over and contaminating the Carson River watershed in 1998.

The property, purchased for \$720,000, is north of Stampede Reservoir in Sierra County.

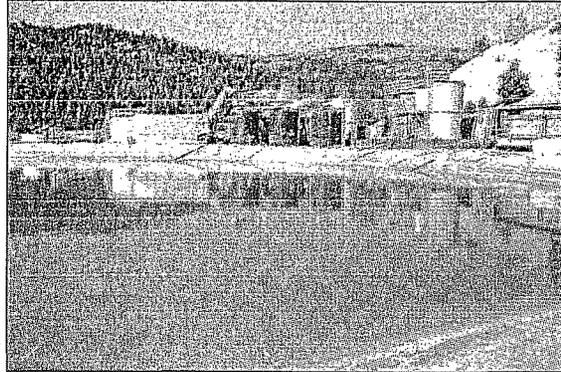
Washoe Tribe gets 480 acres in Leviathan Mine settlement

by Kurt Hildebrand
R-C News Service

A 480-acre parcel in Sierra County will be turned over to the Washoe Tribe as part of a settlement paid for a spill from Leviathan Mine in Alpine County.

According to Environmental Protection Agency attorney Josh Wirtschifter, Atlantic Richfield Co. paid \$720,000 for the parcel, located in the Bald Mountain Range near Babbitt Ridge.

"We thought it was appropriate to have some property and streams in the Eastern Sierra protected that was most like that damaged by the runoff, had the same kind of fish, flora and fauna," Wirtschifter said. "We also thought it was appropriate for the Washoe Tribe to manage the land, since their community was most damaged by the runoff from Leviathan



BELINDA GRANT/R-C file photo

Superfund site: Holding ponds at Leviathan Mine are filled with toxins that have overflowed and poisoned two creeks.

Mine."

Wirtschifter said the settlement is only for runoff from the mine during the winter of 1998-99, because ARCO breached an agreement to keep the ponds at Leviathan Mine from overflowing.

"They were supposed to treat the ponds during the summer so they wouldn't spill over during the winter," he said. "We had ARCO search for the property that could be purchased for the price and some of the fea-

tures we were looking for. This was the best property we found."

Wirtschifter said the property was owned by a family who used it for recreational purposes and had been used for grazing in the past.

Tim Seward, general counsel and acting environmental director for the Washoe Tribe, said the tribe, the EPA and The Nature Conservancy have been working on the deal for some time.

"The project has its origins in an agreement between ARCO and the EPA," he said. "The EPA and ARCO both viewed the Washoe Tribe for a number of reasons."

Seward said the tribe will accept stewardship of the property as part of its ongoing efforts to preserve the Washoes' ancestral lands.

"We see this as being part of the tribe's overall efforts to restore, protect and repatriate

the land that was part of the ancestral homeland," he said.

Over the years since the Tahoe Summit, when federal land at Meeks Bay and Skunk Harbor was turned over to the tribe, the Washoe have been returning to several areas they once roamed freely.

"As traditional stewards of the land for thousands of years, the Washoe are viewed as ideally suited to take care of some of the land people want held as conservation and preservation parcels."

The property is located near Babbitt Peak Research Area in the Toiyabe Forest north of Stampede Reservoir.

Work to clean up Leviathan Mine, located in Alpine County, is continuing, according to Wirtschifter.

Mining at Leviathan began sporadically in the 1860s. From 1951 to 1962, the mine was owned by Anaconda,

which pulled high grade sulfur out of the open pit. In 1962, Anaconda sold the mine.

Runoff from the mine turns Leviathan and Bryant creeks orange and has killed off fish and insects.

The creeks drain into the East Fork of the Carson River.

Wet winters in 1987, 1988 and 1989 sent runoff from the five ponds at the mine into the creeks and the river.

The mine has been named a Superfund site and ARCO, which took over Anaconda's interest in the mine, is working with the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the University of Nevada, Reno on a way to clean up the site.

Presently, the ponds are being treated with lime to neutralize the acids.

Nancy Thornburg

Sac REC 12-3-01

From: "Dan Walters" <DWalters@sacbee.com>
To: "Nancy Thornburg"
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2001 10:17 AM
Subject: RE: Re: Alpine Supervisor problem
HEAD: By word and deed, politicians show disdain for ordinary people

Occasionally, a real person-defined negatively as someone who's not a lobbyist, a politician, a staffer, a campaign contributor, a member of a special interest group, nor a journalist-enters the Capitol in the naïve belief that he or she should participate in government.

Should the visitor actually try to do something-such as testify before a legislative committee-the reaction is, as often as not, as if some alien creature has landed in a spaceship. Some lawmakers take malicious glee in putting such interlopers through the mill, sniping at them for their ignorance of the Capitol's arcane ways, asking them detailed, unanswerable questions, or just ignoring them.

The syndrome, well known to anyone who habituates the Capitol, exemplifies the proprietary attitude that the insiders maintain. It is, they seemingly believe, their building, and anyone who doesn't meet the unwritten criteria, such as being a campaign money source or the representative of a large voter bloc, doesn't count. Indeed, when the FBI conducted an undercover investigation into Capitol corruption in the late 1980s, one veteran lawmaker, while not implicated, complained publicly about the feds' invasion of "my house."

A classic example involves California's impoverished Indian tribes. For decades, when tribal leaders approached the Capitol for relatively minor forms of aid, they couldn't even get the time of day, since they possessed neither campaign money nor voter clout. But once the tribes began pulling countless millions of dollars into their casinos, hiring political consultants and lobbyists, and distributing lavish campaign checks, they began receiving red carpet treatment. No request is too trivial now as legislators line up to carry tribal bills.

The "my house" phenomenon permeates legislative and congressional redistricting plans enacted by the Legislature and Gov. Gray Davis in September. While lip service was paid to public input, the lines were drawn to execute a deal between the two major parties and to meet the purely political needs of politicians who had the ear of legislative leaders. The district lines swoop and dip in ways that are only explainable in political terms, since they violate any rational notions of compactness and common interest. Even small cities find themselves sliced up or connected to distant communities through narrow corridors.

Under the plans, voters are just chattel, to be traded back and forth for the convenience of the politicians drawing the lines, rather than real people with a real interest in deciding who should represent them in state and federal legislatures. The 2001 redistricting process is a powerful argument for taking this decennial chore out of the hands of legislature, whose self-interest is so obviously dominant, and giving it to more disinterested parties.

The disdain that the Capitol's professional politicians display for ordinary Californians is found in myriad other actions and inactions-with Gov. Gray Davis' tardiness in filling long-standing vacancies on rural county boards of supervisors being a small but stark example. Alpine County, with just 1,200 residents, has had one supervisorial vacancy since September, 2000, and another since last August, due to resignations, while Siskiyou County has been without one supervisor since the incumbent died on Christmas Day, 2000.

Davis' office has ignored numerous requests from county officials to fill long-standing vacancies. Alpine County, with two empty seats, cannot even conduct some kinds of county business, such as spending contingency funds, that require super-majority votes. Judy Molnar, the aide to Alpine County's supervisors, says the governor's appointments office "doesn't even return my calls." Clearly Alpine and Siskiyou counties, with their scant populations, don't rate much attention from Davis, who has plenty of time for photo-ops and fundraisers. A Davis spokesman insists that appointments are "in the pipeline," but if it were a plum supervisorial appointment in a big county, one is certain that Davis would move quickly.

-----Original Message-----

From: Nancy Thornburg [<mailto:nthornburg@gbis.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2001 9:18 AM

12/6/01

To: Daniel Walters
Subject: Re: Re: Alpine Supervisor problem

Well, I finally found it on the SacBee web site but I have to pay \$1.95 to download it. Sure not as "reader friendly" as most newspapers I've searched.

But anyway, I really would appreciate it if you could email it to me. We didn't get papers here on Monday due to the snow. Such is rural life.

Many thanks for the article and the work. Appreciate it!

Nancy Thornburg, Markleeville

----- Original Message -----

From: "Daniel Walters" <dwalters@sacbee.com>

To: <nthornburg@gbis.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2001 5:41 PM

Subject: RE: Re: Alpine Supervisor problem

>

> Column ran Monday. If you can't locate it let me know and I'll

> email to you

>>--- Original Message ---

>>From: "Nancy Thornburg" <nthornburg@gbis.com>

>>To: "Dan Walters" <DWalters@sacbee.com>

>>Date: 12/5/01 9:44:11 AM

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EPA: Years more needed to clean up Leviathan Mine

By Tim Anderson
RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Progress was made last summer, but developing a long-term plan to deal with acid drainage from the Leviathan Mine site in Alpine County that has polluted the area for more than half a century will take at least four more years, an Environmental Protection Agency official said Wednesday evening in Carson City.

"At the moment, we're using temporary methods to help mitigate problems. We're hoping a plan that looks at long-term solutions can be in place by 2005. But that would be the earliest it would happen," said Kevin Mayer, the federal agency's San Francisco-based project manager. EPA and California officials have not provided any estimates on when the site can be adequately cleaned up.

The flow of toxic materials, including heavy metals, have long concerned Nevada and California officials, local governments and the Washoe Tribe. Major pollution problems have been identified in Leviathan Creek that flows into Bryant Creek, a Carson River tributary.

Mayer, updating the

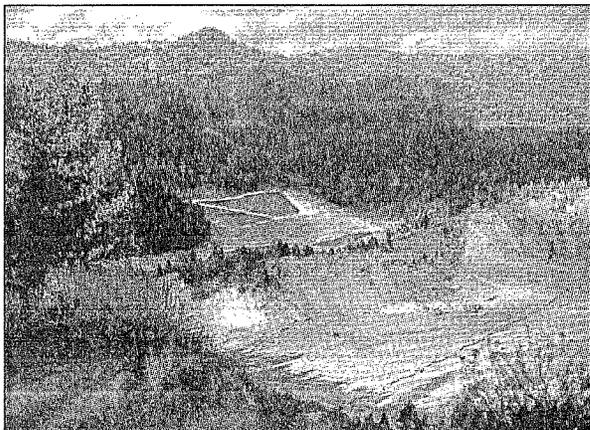
Carson Water Subconservancy District board on cleanup activities at the Superfund site, said California's Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board successfully used a lime neutralization method last summer to treat four million gallons of highly contaminated water.

The water, stored in 12 acres of evaporated ponds, had become extremely concentrated with contaminants. Mayer said the water was treated to meet EPA standards before being discharged into Leviathan Creek.

Another one million gallons of mine drainage produced since January of this year but not highly concentrated with metals was treated separately.

Meanwhile, Mayer said the Atlantic Richfield Company—the mine owner before California acquired the site in the 1980s—tested a system to capture and treat contaminated groundwater. After nearly 1.5 million gallons were treated during August and September, Mayer said the water quality of Leviathan Creek improved significantly.

See **MINE** on **9C**



Associated Press file

NEAR GARDNERVILLE: Mountains of mine tailings, lower right, from the Leviathan Mine stand in contrast to the otherwise picturesque view of the Sierra Nevada in this October 1997 file photo.

Mine

From 1C

“Many problems remain. One of the biggest roadblocks is not being able to start working at the site until late in the year,” Mayer said.

He said the large equipment needed to deal with the mine cleanup can’t even get to the mountainous site until August.

Still, getting treated water out of the ponds so they won’t overflow is a big accomplishment. The evaporation ponds can store

up to 15 million gallons but in wet years they have overflowed, leading to major difficulties.

The combination of the new treatment process with several dry winters during the late 1990s helped the situation, Mayer said.

He said other alternatives are being explored. For example, University of Nevada research scientists, along with ARCO and EPA, are preparing to expand a biological treatment system that Mayer said has shown great promise.

The Carson River water

board, frustrated by the lack of progress in getting the 250-acre mine site cleaned up, lobbied a few years ago for the EPA to take control. The mine was declared an EPA Superfund site — identifying it as being among the nation’s most hazardous waste sites — in May 2000.

“A few years ago this was a very scary situation. This is the water we drink,” said board member and Douglas County Commissioner Jacques Etchevoyhen. “But we’re making progress. We’re headed in the right direction.”

Alpine County (finally

by Colin Hupp
R-C News Service

Alpine County now has four of its five supervisors.

Mark A. Silverstone was appointed last week by California Gov. Gray Davis to lead District 4.

The District 3 seat remains vacant.

It took the governor's office 500 days to fill the vacancy, so the county is not holding out much hope that he will appoint anyone else soon, said Judy Molnar, assistant to the board.

While it always had a quorum consisting of three out of five voting members, some county business requires a four-fifths vote to be approved, Molnar said.

The list of issues requiring a four-fifths vote includes budget transfers, unanticipated

'I think the learning curve will be short, but as the new person, I know I have things to learn. I have a good sense of what's going on regionally, and I know I'll be able to get up to speed quickly.'

Mark Silverstone
New Alpine County supervisor

revenues, appropriations for emergency funding, certain planning matters and public

works issues involving contracts.

"It's better to have a unified group if you want to move forward with issues," she said.

Silverstone previously chaired the Planning Commission and his family has been in Alpine County since 1971.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Santa Cruz in environmental planning and has worked in the ski industry since 1991.

Silverstone is employed as a photographer at Bear Valley Mountain Resort, where he anticipates future growth.

"Kirkwood seems to be moving right along," he said. "That can be a model for development at Bear Valley."

Silverstone said part of the supervisor's responsibility involves management of public land, which comprises 96

RC 1-12-02

) gets new supervisor

percent of Alpine county.

Silverstone feels recreation and tourism are the backbone of county businesses, with employee housing and seasonal labor problems as the two biggest challenges facing the

ski industry.

Silverstone said he will be able to get started right away working on Alpine County issues.

"I think the learning curve will be short, but as the new

person, I know I have things to learn," he said.

"I have a good sense of what's going on regionally, and I know I'll be able to get up to speed quickly."

Bill in the works to protect Carson River

by Jeff Munson
Staff Writer

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer plans to submit a bill later this year that could give wild and scenic status to the upper Carson River.

In the works for more than a year, the proposal would include protection of 47 miles of the river, from its point of origin in the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness area to the California-Nevada state line.

"We've made an extended effort to work with as many leaders and elected officials as we can, and we're making progress," Tom Bohigian, deputy state director for Boxer, D-Calif., said.

The bill would target several rivers for protection in California, including the Carson River. Wild and scenic status would

Protection:
Bill would provide upper Carson River with wild and scenic designation

REN COURIER 1-16-02

protect the river from damming and diversions and provide a 1/4-mile buffer zone on both sides of the river.

"There are very few large rivers that are free-flowing in California, and the Carson River is one of them," said Steve Evans, conservation director of Friends of the River, a Sacramento-based conservation group, said.

However, an effort to extend the federal designation into Nevada is now dead because of

See **River** on page 7

River: Protection offered by senator

Continued from page 1

Nevada is now dead because of what Evans calls "political reasons."

The Carson Water Subconservancy District, which monitors the Carson River watershed in Northern Nevada, successfully urged the U.S. Forest Service to exclude the Nevada side in a comprehensive study of the river, Evans said.

District Director Ed James said the Subconservancy has been looking into ways that would help the river through years of drought and has developed models that would allow

the river to flow continuously.

The problem with extending wild and scenic status into Nevada is that the Carson River is a main source for agriculture water use in region, James said. While the intention may be good, the federal status would prohibit future work on the overall watershed, he said.

In August, Alpine County supervisors met with Bohigian and the Forest Service to discuss the protection plan and received a lukewarm response.

"The board hasn't taken a formal position; however, they've expressed concern about who

benefits from the designation," said Judy Molnar, assistant to the Alpine County Board of Supervisors.

Because Alpine County shares similar uses of the river with Douglas County, including irrigation, supervisors are reluctant to take a position, she added.

"We don't want to take a position that conflicts with Nevada's position," Molnar said.

The wild and scenic protection plan, however, has been endorsed by the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce.

Elders host potluck, remember weddings

The Alpine County Elders group meets for its monthly potluck Wednesday, Feb. 13, from noon to 2 p.m. at Turtle Rock Park.

The gathering will feature a round table sharing of wedding photographs and memories, led by Ruth Ann Edwards, owner of Woodfords Antiques, 290-A Pony Express Road in Woodfords.

ACES, a peer group of people over 50, has been offering potlucks since 1997, when it was established by Kathy Kerr as a way for county elders to gather on a monthly basis.

Recent programs have included an Elder Hostel presentation by Eileen Merrill, a program about massage and relaxation techniques by Linda Merrill and a Thanksgiving dinner created and contributed to by members.

There are no charges or fees for the event.

For more information and/or to register as an Alpine Elder, call Kathy Kerr at Alpine County Health and Human Services, (530) 694-2235.



Submitted photo

Wedding day: Joyce and Judge David Devore of Woodfords on their wedding day, 1972 in San Diego.



Submitted photo

1950: Irving and Wilma Kraus married in Virginia City and now live in Woodfords.

Alpine Historical Society meets Feb. 21

The community is invited to the quarterly membership meeting and pot luck of the Alpine County Historical Society Thursday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m. at Turtle Rock Park.

The program, "The History of Trapping in Alpine County," will be presented by Leonard Turnbeaugh.

2/16/02 Record Courier

DeVore receives honors

by **Claudia Conlon**

Special to the R-C

Katherine L. DeVore, daughter of Joyce and Judge David DeVore of Woodfords, has recently been recognized for a trio of honors. "Kate" is a fourth-year student at the University of California, Davis, where she was recruited for her academic standing and her volleyball prowess.

After an intense recruiting from both Fordham in New York and Belmont in Tennessee, Kate signed a scholarship letter with Davis because she was impressed with the college-town atmosphere in Davis.

UC Davis is also impressed with Kate. She has played her position on the volleyball team so well that she was selected as an All Conference Honor Player this year. This quarter, she made the Dean's Honors List, maintaining a 3.6 average in a rigorous political science/history course of study.

Since she has achieved both academic and athletic success, a third honor has recently been awarded to Kate, the prestigious Alfred J. Hoefler Memorial



Katherine DeVore

Scholarship, which awards a substantial fund to the volleyball program in recognition of her accomplishments as a leader on the campus.

This quarter, Kate was selected to be an intern in Washington, D.C., where she is gaining insight into the working of our federal government.

After she returns to UC Davis this spring, she will lead a group of high school students on a tour of France and Spain for two weeks in the summer.

Kate hopes to spend the remaining weeks of summer as an outdoor adventure guide in the Sierras. She will graduate from UC Davis in 2003.



JIM GRANT/R-C News Service

Mush: Bay Area resident Patty LaCava returns to the staging area after a Saturday run.

Record Banner 2/27/02

Hope (Valley) springs eternal

by William Ferchland
R-C News Service

Alpine County is the home of sweeping mountain vistas and desolate backcountry, attracting sports from dog sledding to cross country skiing to snowmobiling during the winter season.

Dave Beck is a partner in the Husky Express Dog Sled Tours located off Highway 88 about one mile east of Blue Lakes Road. The 10:30 a.m. dog sledding tours are popular. A reservation a week prior to sledding is needed, he said.

"On a Saturday, we're booked all the time," he said.

As Beck was milling around his truck, Patty LaCava slid to the metal green gate with the help of her four husky pullers.

LaCava, 42, from San Francisco, is associated with the Bay Area Siberian Husky Club. The club rescues Siberian Huskies

and malamutes for adoption.

She unstrapped the harnesses from her dog team and her son Nathaniel led them to a steel bowl of water.

"I find as far as coming to the snow with kids (for dog sledding) that kids have more fun than going to the ski resorts," LaCava said. "It seems like when you take the kids to the ski resorts you have to rent equipment and after the day they want to go home."

Nathaniel, 12, attempted skiing but found he couldn't find a way to stop. He now gets his kicks on a dog sled, he said.

"It's fun," he said. "Sometimes they go fast but not really."

Down the highway at Blue Lakes Road, 14-year-old Deven Hall just finished a ride on his grandpa's snowmobile. The teenager from Anacortes, Wash., has never been to Hope Valley but admired the terrain during a sun-

splashed afternoon.

"I like it a lot," he said after pulling off his helmet. "I like how they have a lot of tree runs."

Hall's grandfather, John Hall, 64, drives from Tracy, Calif., to Hope Valley more than 10 times a season to snowmobile.

John Hall has been snowmobiling for seven years in such places as Idaho and Utah.

"Hope Valley is nice in that it's a good place for introductory skiing," he said. "You can choose your riding from road riding, hill riding, trail riding to drag racing."

The elder Hall prefers to snowmobile — or as he calls it, sledding — during the weekdays but doesn't mind when the road is full of snowmobilers' trucks and trailers.

"(Hope Valley) has a little bit of everything," he said. "It's good to see people enjoying themselves."

Region

Attorneys vie for Alpine County judge seat

by Gregory Crofton
R-C News Service

A South Lake Tahoe attorney wants to be one of the two Alpine County judges.

Amy Z. Tobin, an attorney at South Lake Tahoe since 1983, is running against David L. Devore in the primary election March 5.

Devore was appointed in June by the governor. He replaced Thomas Kelly who retired in May 2000.

Tobin, 51, has had a private

law practice in South Lake Tahoe since 1983. She is the Alpine County attorney for Child Support Services and has also worked as a public defender in Alpine.

"I've spent thousands of hours appearing in court," she said. "All of my experiences in the law have taught me what it takes to be a good judge — being even-handed, following the law and respecting all those who come before you."

By law, Tobin does not have to reside in Alpine County to



South
Lake
Tahoe
attorney
Amy
Tobin

work there as a judge. But she says she hopes to move there permanently.

Right now, she is renting a home in the county.

Devore, 57, passed the bar in 1970.

He has lived in Alpine County for more than three years.

Devore began his career as a public defender in San Diego where he was appointed chief trial attorney.

In 1997, he was hired by the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office as a deputy. He was quickly promoted to assistant district attorney.

Three years later, he too



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started a private firm and helped run it until he became judge last year.

"I love the work — it's very rewarding, very satisfying," he said.

"It's an opportunity to touch people's lives in a significant way. My emphasis is to treat everybody well in court so the experience is not unpleasant. The results are dictated by the law."

The presiding judge of the Alpine County Superior Court is Harold Bradford, 67.

His term is up for election in 2004.

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The president of Alpine County is Harold Bradford.

His term is until 2004.

Alpine County judge seat

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Alpine dinner theater stage auditions Wednesday for late March production

On Wednesday, March 6, at 6 p.m. in the Alpine Hotel Café, the Alpine County Arts Commission will hold auditions for four male and eight female roles in Lucille Fletcher's one-act ghost thriller, "The Hiker."

A one-night-only staged reading with volunteer cast will take place in late March as part of an evening of Dinner Theater at Turtle Rock Park, and proceeds from the dinner and performance will go to further theater projects in Alpine County.

"The Hiker" has the quality of an anecdote out of American

folklore, drawing as it does on the local color and place-names of the United States. It is the tale of Ronald Adams, an average motorist, who sets out to drive from Brooklyn to California, and early on in his journey, he begins to encounter a strange and inexplicable hitch-hiker. His efforts to explain, then avoid and finally destroy the constantly appearing figure along the highway carry him through several episodes and many states until the adventure finally culminates in an amazing and terrifying climax in

New Mexico.

Amateurs, professionals and former professionals from the local and surrounding area are all urged to attend. The Alpine Café – normally open only on weekends during the winter – will be open for this occasion, offering a special thespian menu.

Bring family and friends to try out, sign-up to help with the production, have dinner as a theater family and be part of the fun. For information, call Claudia Conlon, (530) 694-1700 or (530) 694-2787.

Record Courier 3/2/02

Muench is featured Mountain Art-ist

Villa Gigli Trattoria and Galleria on Hot Springs Road in Markleeville features recent landscapes of plein air (paint-on-site) artist Charles Muench Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. A wine tasting of 1980 Inglenook Napa Valley Chardono, 1997 Villa Gigli Vino Bianco and 1999 Pedroncelli Zinfandel will be held concurrently. Cost for the tasting is \$5.

Neither the snow falling from the sky nor from the pine trees onto his palette keeps Markleeville resident Muench from painting his oil landscapes. In fact, he is happiest when, warmly dressed, he braves blizzard conditions, sets up his French easel and arranges his oil colors on the palette.

"For me, painting outdoors is engaging in a conversation with nature. As the dialog goes on, I'm offered ideas and inspiration," Muench said. "I try to capture the evanescent qualities of the time and place I'm painting, be it a frosty winter morning in the high Sierras or a balmy coastal scene, I want something from that day, that moment of existence, to be expressed in my



Submitted photo

Plein air: Markleeville artist Charles Muench paints outdoors during all kinds of weather in an effort to truly capture the moment.

painting."

Muench recently received word that one of his desert paintings has been chosen to be reproduced as the poster for next year's Desert Plein Air event in La Quinta, Calif. To see a selection of his paintings and learn

more about a landscape painting workshop to be offered June 5-8, visit the artist's Web site at www.charlesmuench.com.

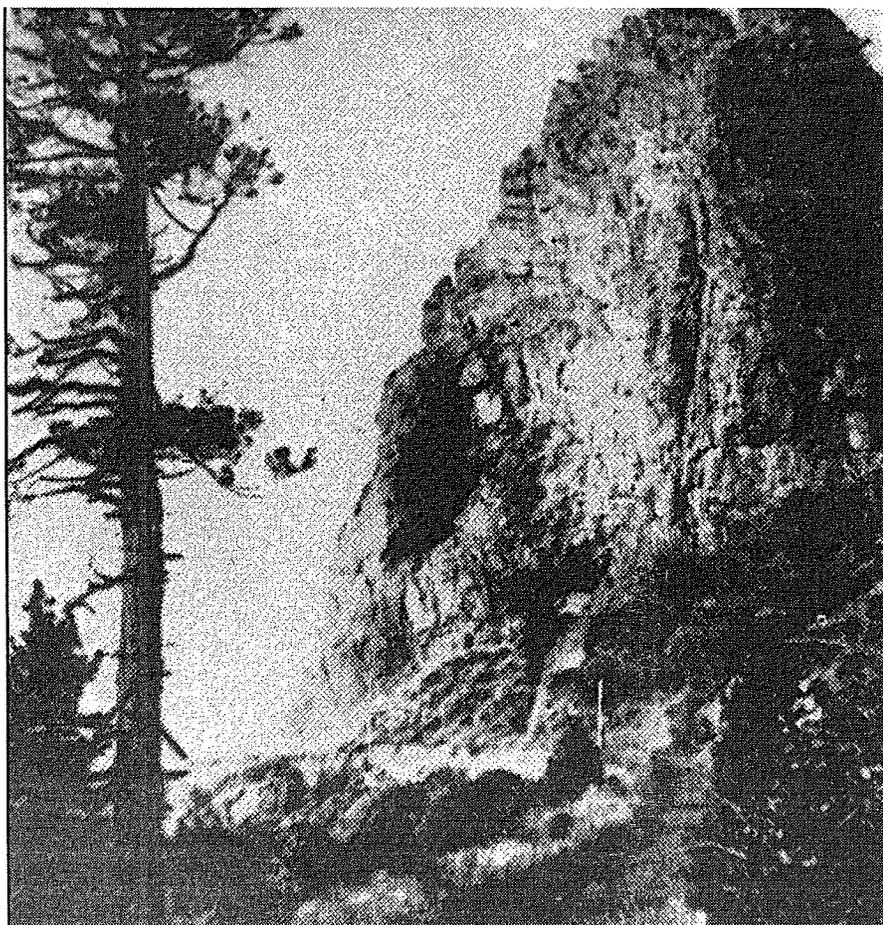
Reservations are not required for the Mountain Art exhibit, but for further information, phone (530) 694-2253.

A PEEK AT THE PAST



CARSON VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY photo

Early lobbyist: Above is Captain Jim of the Washo, prior to a trip to Washington, D.C., in 1895. The photo is featured in the Carson Valley Historical Photo Album. For information, call 782-2555.



Tribune File Photo

Cave Rock, as it looked before a road was tunneled through it in 1931, juts out of the landscape.

Cave Rock was sacred to Washo

■ By Sally Taylor

The Washo tribe holds Cave Rock sacred.

"Only the shamans went into that area. It's a spiritual place, not for everyone," said Sherry Smokey, education director for the Washo. She compared the site to a place where religious people go to be cleansed and purged. "No one would boldly walk into the area."

Inhabiting the water around Cave Rock are powerful spirit beings called water babies. Many Washoe legends warn about the dire consequences if someone intrudes or trifles with them.

The Washo stay away from Cave Rock to appease the water babies, said Smokey.

Only the shamans, sometimes called medicine men, approached the rock. They gathered there to commune with the spirit world.

To become a shaman was a gift. From an early age, elders looked for signs that a boy had

the characteristics indicating a call to the life of a shaman. Young boys were handpicked for training and trial to determine their fitness to lead the tribe in that special capacity.

While Cave Rock is particularly sacred, Lake Tahoe as a whole also held spiritual significance to the Washo. Even today the elders get excited about a good winter and a lake full of water, Smokey said.

"Water represents life itself," she added.

Modern Washo feel a great sense of loss toward Lake Tahoe.

The treatment of Cave Rock is particularly distressing. Chiseled stone and girders from an old road still wrap around the rock. Two roads pierce through the body of Cave Rock and handholds carved by climbers pock its face.

"The lake was the center of their spiritual home," said Smokey. Its loss "represents the decline of everything valuable to them, everything on the wane."

Markleeville comes to life with cycles, art, music

Wanted for event: artists, volunteers, participants

The first special event in Alpine County to celebrate both art and motorcycles will take place on Saturday, June 29, at Turtle Rock Community Park in Markleeville, Calif., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Taking their cue from the Guggenheim Museum's successful Art of the Motorcycle exhibit in New York and other cities, the Alpine County Arts Commission has organized a day for artists, motorcycle enthusiasts and the general public, including families, to view the motorcycle with new, more appreciative eyes.

The festival opens at 10 a.m. with arts and crafts booths dedicated to motorcycle art in all its forms. Exhibits, which must be related to motorcycle culture, fashion or lifestyle, will be juried by a panel of local artists. Artists and crafts people are urged to contact the Arts Commission at (530) 694-2787 for application and information about deadlines and booth fees.

As part of the festival, bikers participate in a 5-stop Poker Run through some of Alpine County's most scenic and beautiful highways. Participants present their potentially winning hand at the registration booth in Turtle Rock Park and enter their bikes in a drive-through art competition.

Participating judges will be local and area artists with an appreciation for motorcycles.

Entry fee of \$35 includes participation in the Poker Run, entrance to booths and classic motorcycle gallery, drive-through Bike Art competition, a concert with three bands (Skinny White Samoans, Crazy Texas Gypsies with very special guest artist Red Dawn, and the Ravens), steak dinner, limited camping privileges, motorcycle parking and commemorative Markleeville Motorcycle Arts Festival run pin.

The general public can purchase tickets separately on the day of the event for the following prices: music/exhibit/camping (\$10, chil-

dren under 10 free), dinner (\$10) and vehicle parking (\$5).

Proceeds from the festival will go to arts and music programs for Alpine County children.

The Alpine County Arts Commission is funded, in part, by the California Arts Council (CAC) and CAC's State-Local partnership.

To purchase tickets and T-shirts in advance, download an application on-line at www.alpinecounty-ca.com/Arts or contact the Commission at (530) 694-2787, e-mail alpinearts@gbis.com or Google.com search, keyword "Alpine County," will also take you to the Web site. Scroll down and click on "Alpine County Arts Commission."

Record Cover

April 3, 02

Woodfords students win big at collaborative event at CSU, Chico

by Lawanda Fred
Special to the R-C

On Saturday, March 23, the Woodfords Indian Education Center sponsored 10 students to participate in a Preliminary Mesa Day at California State University in Chico, Calif. The Woodfords team was one of six other teams participating in this event.

Mesa/Success Through Collaboration (MESA/STC) is a partnership with California-based American Indian Tribes, American Indian Education Centers and the California Department of Education. The primary focus of MESA is educational enrichment and support for its participants to succeed in mathematics and science and to go on to college.

The participants in this event were junior high and high school students. They participated in events ranging from constructing egg containers consisting of raw



Submitted photo

Winners all: Participants in the Preliminary Mesa Day event in Chico were, front row, John Vann, C.J. Keith, Nicole Bennett, Matthew

Rey, William Cuellar, Kaela Horse and Krystal Blackowl; back row, DeWayne Rey and Rosie Gabriel; not pictured, Danean McDarment.

eggs and promoting engineering to sustain breakage when dropped from 72 feet to building gliders of balsa

wood to see how far they could fly. This experience was both fun and education-

al.

John Vann and DeWayne Rey, sophomores at Douglas

High School, both earned five medals and ribbons. They placed first in the egg drop and foil boats. They also obtained honors in straw towers and balsa wood glider.

Nicole Bennett, a ninth-grader at Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School, received honors with a third-place finish in the mathematics test.

C.J. Keith, a tenth-grader from Douglas High School, placed third in the balsa wood glider event.

Matthew Rey, Krystal Blackowl, William Cuellar and C.J. Keith also won first place in the straw tower event.

William Cuellar, an eighth-grader at Diamond Valley School in Alpine County, also placed first in the junior

high egg drop, as well as taking a third-place finish for the junior high mathematics test.

He summed it up well, saying, "I did not expect them to call my name... that was awesome."

This event has built self-confidence many of these kids may have forgotten about.

Finally, Kaela Horse, Danean McDarment and Rosie Gabriel also received honorable mention for their participation in the straw tower event.

I am very proud and honored to have the opportunity to work with these kids.

■ Lawanda Fred is the Mesa Coordinator at the Woodfords Indian Education Center.

It's not if you will retire

Indian Creek opens for camping season

Indian Creek Campground, Alpine County, Calif., will open at noon Friday, April 26, the Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office, announced. Paved access is provided by Airport Road, off Highway 89, midway between Woodfords and Markleeville, Calif.

The main campground has 19 sites and is next to Indian Creek Reservoir.

The sites are suitable for recreational vehicles up to 30 feet or for tents. The restroom has flush toilets and hot showers. Drinking water and a sanitary dump station are provided.

A second area, designated for tent camping, has 10 sites. A day-use area has 10 picnic sites, a boat ramp, large parking lot and restrooms with flush toilets.

Groups of up to 40 people may, with advance reservations, camp in a special group tent area.

Fees for the 2002 season are \$12 per night for the main campground; \$8 per night for walk-in tent sites; and additional vehicles

using a parking space are charged \$5 per night.

The group tent campsite fee is \$35 per night with a 40-person maximum and no camping allowed in the parking area.

The group tent campsite must be reserved in advance by calling 885-6000.

No reservations are accepted on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends or between July 4 and July 14, when the group tent campsite is used on a first-come, first-served basis for overflow camping.

The campground will remain open through mid-

October.

The camp site fees are used to maintain the recreation area. Persons 62 and older with Golden Age Passports are entitled to a 50 percent reduction in camping fees.

Passports are available from the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and USDA Forest Service for a one-time charge of \$10.

For more information, contact the BLM, Carson City Field Office, 885-6000, or check out the BLM Web site at www.nv.blm.gov/carson.

Mountain Music features Hanepen

By popular demand, guitarist George Hanepen will return to the deck of Markleeville's Villa Gigli Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. for a Mountain Music performance.

DETAILS

What: Mountain Music presents George Hanepen

Where: Villa Gigli in Markleeville

When: Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m.
Info: (530) 694-2253

One member of Hanepen's audience last Sunday observed, "I think that George's universal appeal to all types of music enthusiasts is attributed to his presentation. While I consider myself to be a jazz-lover, I get lost when I listen to wild riffs that go on and on, seemingly without any construction. George's style of jazz starts with his playing a recognizable melody, inserting variations on that theme and returning to the original tune."

While listening to Hanepen's acoustical guitar, rosemary focaccia will be served to accompany three tastes of California wines.

The cost for Mountain Art and Wine Tasting is \$5 per person. Reservations are not necessary, but for further information, phone (530) 694-2253.

Record book
4/13/02

Alpine County may split from Barton

By Susan Wood
Tribune staff writer

Alpine County and Barton Memorial Hospital may part ways next month, as the county reassesses its health care needs.

The Board of Supervisors may decide today to end the two-year contract with the South Lake Tahoe-based health care organization May 31, which will consequently close the community clinic in Woodfords. Meanwhile, the public health officer announced his resignation April 9.

In a mutual decision, the two entities have determined the clinic isn't profitable, county Health and Human Services Director Katherine Kerr said Monday.

The county, which absorbs expenses for the clinic, stands to save about \$55,000 a year with

the clinic closure. Barton Memorial Hospital Management Services is not expected to sustain a loss.

The clinic staffs a nurse practitioner and public health officer, Debbie Cheevers and Dr. Garrett Schwartz, respectively.

"They helped us when we needed it," Kerr said.

The county is expected to discuss recruitment of someone to fill Schwartz's position. He wants to dedicate more time to his medical practice that includes two offices at South Lake Tahoe and Gardnerville.

Schwartz, who works at Job's Peak Primary Care, wants to focus his energies on building his medical practice.

Three years ago Dr. Rick Botto resigned as public health

See *Alpine*, Page A4

Tahoe Daily Tribune, April 16, 2002

Alpine

From Page A1

officer, and the county held public forums on how it could best serve the needs of its residents. It came up with a part-time clinic, which had its hours whittled down through time.

Kerr is recommending the supervisors perform another needs assessment.

The clinic has been serving about 50 regular patients, with about 20 percent who have transportation problems to get adequate health care. The county provides a shuttle service for those who need it.

"In the interim, we're going to make sure we have the continuum of care for these people," Kerr said.

The population has become stagnant in the county, with options flourishing off the hill.

The Washoe Tribe broke ground last month in the Carson Valley on a \$2.2 million health care facility that the county expects will pick up most of the tribal members in the Markleeville-Woodfords area.

Tahoe Daily Tribune
4/16/02

ELDER LAW

Alpine County seniors enjoyed a presentation on elder law at their monthly meeting April 10. Speakers were attorneys Joe Tilson and Tim Pemberton and Judge Dave Devore. Lunch was provided at the courthouse.



SHANNON HALL/The R-C

New treatment method could help Leviathan Mine

by Geoff Dornan
R-C News Service

A team of University of Nevada, Reno scientists has developed a new system of neutralizing poisonous discharges from Leviathan Mine they say is much cheaper and more effective than traditional methods.

Chemist Glenn C. Miller said Tuesday the system relies on a chain of chemical reactions to reduce the acidity of toxic waste spilling out of the mine site a half-dozen miles inside California.

That toxic waste has been the source of major pollution spills into the Carson River for years. The Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada finally got the federal government to force parties into fixing the spills several years ago.

Miller outlined a complex series of chemical interactions he says allows conversion of the sulfuric acid leaching metals out of the ground at Leviathan into hydrogen sulfide — rotten-egg gas.

‘We’re not producing drinking water. It smells terrible and it’s not good water, but fish can live in that water.’

Glenn Miller
Chemist

Once the acidity of the water is reduced, the dangerous heavy metals in the waste water precipitate out, leaving much cleaner water.

“We’re not producing drinking water,” he said. “It smells terrible and it’s not good water, but fish can live in that water.”

He said the system has been tested at the mine site for several years now as he, fellow scientist Tim Tsukamoto and others worked out the kinks in the system.

The toxic yellow runoff from

the mine is mixed in a tank with a form of alcohol and organic materials such as manure. After a few days, the result is smelly, black water with much less acid in it and almost none of the aluminum, copper, arsenic, nickel and other dangerous metals leached out of the ground.

What’s more, he said, he believes the acidic sludge that’s left could be safely added to normal soil in other parts of Nevada to reduce the amount of alkali and balance its pH level for crops.

He said the dead zone of Leviathan Creek is shrinking, indicating that the water is much less toxic than in the past.

“It’s actually working pretty spectacularly,” he said.

Best of all, he said, the system will cost far less than the traditional method of adding huge quantities of lime to the runoff to cut its acidity. That, he said, would cost ARCO upwards of \$500,000 a year. The bio-reactors, he said, could cost less than \$75,000 a year and require much less intensive

monitoring.

He said Tsukamoto was talking to officials at ARCO, which owns the mine site, and California Tuesday about the project to construct the system.

“It is going to be constructed this spring,” he said.

Leviathan began as a copper mine in the 1860s. Later, it became a sulfur mine, but it hasn’t been active for 45 years. For years, the ponds at the site would overflow, sending a huge plume of toxic, yellow water downstream into the Carson River.

Miller said work at the site has prevented those spills for the past three years. He said the new system for neutralizing the toxicity of the water could go a long way toward fixing the problem.



Schoen's sculptures at Villa Gigli

South Lake Tahoe artist Catherine Schoen will be exhibiting her clay and bronze figurative sculptures at Villa Gigli's Mountain Art exhibit on Sunday afternoon, April 21, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Markleeville.

Along with the art exhibit, a wine tasting of three California wines will be presented (\$5 per person).

Schoen, with a degree in environmental engineering from Cal Poly and five years of art and sculpture study at Lake Tahoe Community College, credits her elementary school art teacher in Monterey as art mentor.

"When I was in sixth, seventh and eighth grade in Elkhorn Elementary School, Mrs. Bowling taught us the fundamen-

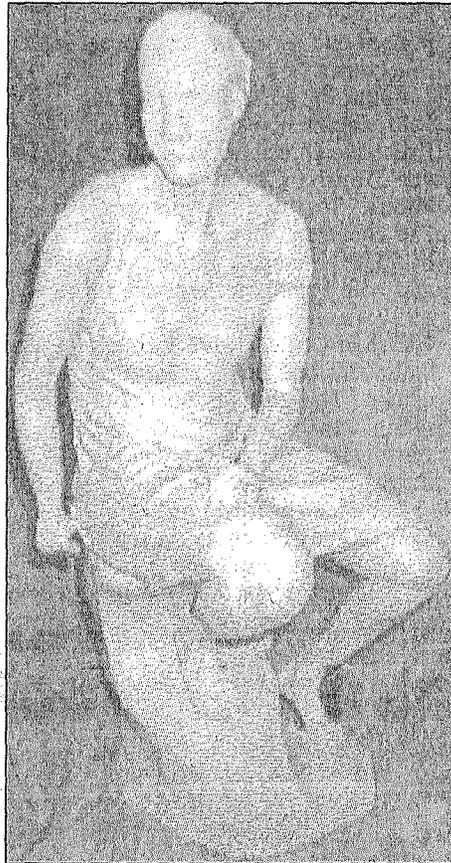
als of design, color and composition," she said. "She introduced us to the great masters as if they were alive."

About switching from engineering to art, Schoen explains, "Sculpture allows me to practice my problem-solving skills.

"I like capturing the soft roundness of the human form with dramatic angles, and sculpture allows an infinite number of perspectives."

Reservations are not necessary for the Mountain Art exhibit, but for further information, phone (530) 694-2253.

The restaurant gallery is located at 145 Hot Springs Road (follow signs to Grover Hot Springs State Park) in Markleeville.



April 20, 82 Record Courier

Crudele performs at Villa Gigli on Sunday

South Lake Tahoe musician Vince Crudele will be playing his keyboard during the Sunday afternoon Villa Gigli Mountain Music and Wine Tasting, 3 to 5 p.m., April 28, in Markleeville. Chef Gigli's rosemary focaccia will accompany three tastes of wine, and the cost per person is \$5. Vino Bianco, the restaurant's own label of Fume Blanc produced by Pedroncelli, will be the first wine poured, followed by a potpourri of older reds.

Vince Crudele, a professional musician his entire adult life, has performed as solo pianist and band leader. Playing in East Bay nightclubs at the tender age of 14, he continued his education and graduated from San Francisco State.

Continuing to balance dual careers in education and music, Crudele is past owner of Music Land in Concord, music teacher in the Richmond School District and entertainer in San Francisco's hotels and nightclubs.

Villa Gigli is located at 145 Hot Springs Road in Markleeville. Reservations are not necessary for Mountain Music, but for further information, call (530) 694-2253.

4/27/02 Record Courier

Cave Rock climbing could be banned

by **Darin Olde**
R-C News Service

RC 6-1-02
Some of the hardest rock climbing routes in North America – and the biggest concentration of hard routes at Lake Tahoe – may soon be closed at Cave Rock.

The U.S. Forest Service, which oversees the property, is changing its management plan to emphasize preservation over rock climbing. Putting up new routes at Cave Rock has been banned since 1997.

The Access Fund, a non-profit agency based in Boulder, Colo., opposes the ban, and says a compromise that would allow climbing to continue still needs consideration.

The final plan will be released in two to three months, Forest Service officials said this week.

Officials with the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit say they are acting based

on comments received by the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.

Those entities say fixed rock-climbing equipment adversely affects the property as a historic and cultural resource. By allowing rock climbing to continue, they claim, the Forest Service violates its own Forest Plan and guidelines set by the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1996, Cave Rock became eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a “traditional cultural property.”

The new plan “will be pieces and parts that people already had a chance to comment on. It’s not a wholly new idea,” Maribeth Gustafson, forest supervisor for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, said.

The original plan called for continued rock climbing with the removal of some routes, mostly for health and safety reasons stemming from the nearby roadway.

The alternatives now being reviewed include a phase-out in three to six years or an immediate halt to rock climbing.

Gustafson added that she can’t disclose details of the final plan until it is released. The draft plan is available for review at the Forest Service station at 870 Emerald Bay Road.

“Climbers from all over the world know about Cave Rock and go there because it has some of the most difficult climbs in the nation,” said Paul Minault, an attorney with the Access Fund. “We would be willing to modify climbing use in any reasonable way to show respect to the tribe and the tribe’s value of the rock.”

Kirkwood kicks it up a notch with re

New amenities part of plan to turn Highway 88 properly into overnight destination

by Gregory Crofton
R-C News Service

Take about a 40-minute drive from South Shore down Highway 88, through Alpine County, to find something smack in the middle of a growth spurt — Kirkwood Mountain Resort.

Under construction right now: a swimming pool and gym, an ice rink and three multi-family residences. A 200-space parking lot is planned to go in this summer.

Housing at the resort is also being built at a blistering pace. Between last December and the coming one, 93 new housing units will have been built. Overall, plans call for the Kirkwood Village to expand from about 59 housing units to 250.

Tim Cohee, president of Kirkwood, said the economic boom in the late 1990s created a great demand for housing at the resort. The pace of construction at Kirkwood since then has been furious.

"You're seeing the more rapid development happening now because there's been a fairly good demand," he said. "The mid- to late '90s was a rocket ride.

"If (we) keep up the pace, we'll complete the whole project, mountain and private development, in about seven to 10 years."

Expansion plans

Kirkwood aims to become more of an overnight destination resort, so it's focusing on providing more housing, restaurants and other facilities, such as a gym, an outdoor wedding site and a new restaurant atop Caples Crest.

About 80 percent of its guests are day visitors, while 20 percent of skiers and riders

spend nights at the resort. Cohee said the goal is to raise the number of overnight visitors to 40 or 50 percent.

A plan approved in 1972 that allowed construction of Kirkwood limited its capacity to 10,800 visitors and 6,500 overnight guests. Those numbers will remain unchanged, according to Cohee.

A peak day at the resort draws more than 7,500 skiers and riders. What will change, in addition to ski-in, ski-out housing on the mountain and expansion at the Village core, is chair-lift capacity. A plan to expand facilities on the mountain calls for a 60 percent increase lift capacity.

New lifts

The mountain plan, now under review, would add a triple chair at Thimble Peak to access Thunder Saddle and another lift from the base of Kirkwood to the top of Caples Crest, a gateway to the back side of the mountain.

The plan also calls for upgrades at seven lifts and three new surface lifts: one to access Red Cliffs (off the Whiskey Slide trail), one at Lookout Vista (to access the east side of Thunder Saddle) and Covered Wagon (south of The Wave).

"We have one of the lowest trail densities anywhere," said Ed Morrow, planning director. "The new lifts will keep it at its current level or lower it a bit. We're adding 700 acres of new terrain. It's terrain people already ski on, but right now they have to hike to it."

Morrow said 2004 is the earliest a new lift will be built at Kirkwood. But lift improvements will likely begin before then.

The first lift to be upgraded is Hole 'N' Wall (No. 7). A high-speed quad may be installed there in the summer of 2003. It would cost about \$2.5 million, and increase capacity to 2,400 people per hour from about 1,200.

But what about a lift near Glove Rock? Plans developed 30 years ago called for a Martin Point lift, which would run from Timber Creek to the far north side of the mountain, about a mile northwest of the top of the Cornice Express. That lift is not included in the mountain plan.

"That's way out in the future," said Dave Myers, director of mountain operations. "It's very low on our radar screen now."

Resistance to change

Expansion plans at Kirkwood have drawn the attention of the public. In November 1999, public comment sent the resort back to the drawing board. People pointed out that the plan to develop the mountain was not integrated with the plan to develop housing.

The result is the Kirkwood Specific Plan, a report still under review that reflects what impacts the different development plans would have on each other. Friends of Kirkwood, a group of homeowners at the resort, were vocal during the 1999 review process. Two members of the group, Reid Bennett and Standish O'Grady, could not be reached for comment for this story.

"In fact, we have people who have written letters of support who are members of the Friends of Kirkwood," Cohee said. "But there is always going to be a person or small group of people who just don't want it to happen. We'll deal with that just like we deal with everything else."

The Specific Plan presents a number of alternatives for development. Kirkwood now supports Alternative E. It would scrap plans to build a golf course, which, according to Cohee, would have been woven into ski runs near Timber Creek.

'We think it does the best job balancing quality of life issues as well as quality of community. The vast majority of people want more facilities and better facilities. It's development that's largely going to pay for that.'

Tim Cohee
President, Kirkwood

The alternative also eliminates any parking north of Highway 88 and would decrease the amount of commercial space allowed at the resort from 215,000 square feet to 195,000 square feet.

The preferred plan also would delete plans to build single-family homes on a ridge above 88. A cabin resort similar to Sorensen's Resort is still expected to be built along Highway 88.

"We looked long and hard and as a concession to environmentalists and anti-development interest (we support E) to show a cooperative spirit to everyone interested," Morrow said.

Cohee echoed his sentiment. "We think it does the best job balancing quality of life issues as well as quality of community," he said. "The vast majority of people want more facilities and better facilities. It's development that's largely going to pay for that."

Renovations, changes

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Stockton man built Kirkwood

by Gregory Crofton
News Service

In the 1960s, a team from the U.S. Forest Service first skied slopes that would eventually become Kirkwood Associates.

Bud Klein, a Stockton, Calif., resident, took the cue from the Forest Service and delivered mountain master plans to the agency in 1968.

Klein made money as an agriculturalist in the Central Valley. Contacts in the business world allowed him to form an investment group called Kirkwood Meadows Inc., which supplied money to build the resort.

So skiers could actually get to Kirkwood, Klein set out to make Highway 88 an all-weather road. By 1971, two state maintenance stations opened, which enabled the road to stay open when it

snowed. The same year, the Forest Service issued Klein a special-use permit that allowed the construction of a ski resort on public land. Then the building started.

Kirkwood needed power, water and a sewer system before it could operate. With those facilities in place, Klein built four chair lifts: Snowkirk (No. 1), Caples Crest (No. 2), Iron Horse (No. 3) and Sunrise (No. 4). Red Cliffs Main Lodge, employee housing and private housing were also constructed, and the resort opened in 1972.

More than 20 years later, after bad drought years, the resort heeded the advice of its bank and reorganized its finances in 1994.

"(19)91, '92 and '93 all were poor years and put the company in pretty deep financial trouble," said Kirkwood

See **Kirkwood** on page 13

Kirkwood: History

Continued from page 12

President Tim Cohee. "I arrived in May of 1993 and my role was twofold: to resurrect skier visits and refinance the company - sell it or find a partner."

After exploring many options, Kirkwood decided in 1995 to partner with Chuck Cobb and the Telluride Ski and Golf Co. Cobb, who also owned part of Telluride, bought out Telluride's interest at Kirkwood in 1997.

"They had spent some many years building Telluride and they knew Kirkwood was a long-haul project," Cohee

said. "They decided they didn't want to do it, but Chuck said, 'Well, I'll do it.'"

Today, about 80 percent of Kirkwood Mountain Resort is owned by Cobb, and two business partners, Gary Engle and John Temple. Klein still owns about 20 percent.

Klein, who is in his 70s, is vice chairman of the Kirkwood Board of Directors. He also owns a Sonoma County winery, Rodney Strong Vineyards.

■ Gregory Crofton can be reached at (530) 542-8045 or gcrofton@tahoedailytribune.com.

Driving force

Cohee, a former triathlete, is clearly a high energy person. Father of five boys, last winter he was up by 5 a.m. every day recording the Kirkwood snow phone report.

"This is my first year in my 23 years of this business I've done it every single day," he said. "I believe I've recorded well over 5,000 snow reports. I

don't know a more critical form of communication than making sure people are given accurate information; so that's what I do."

Cohee, 46, said when he heads out to ski Kirkwood, he often heads to the Wall.

"My favorite terrain is groomed with a relatively steep pitch," he said. "On the very best days, I head to the Wall and Olympic."

Markleeville Motorcycle Arts Festival

Day-long event brings music, art and more to Alpine

Art and motorcycle fans are invited to share a day of mutual appreciation at Turtle Rock County Park on Saturday, June 29, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the inaugural Markleeville Motorcycle Arts Festival.

As part of the festivities, a morning poker run will send participants (any kind of bike, any kind of car) to scenic Alpine destinations such as Kirkwood, Woodfords Canyon and Diamond Valley Road and in to Genoa in pursuit of a Nevada wild card. Five hundred run pins are offered on a first-signup basis.

Back at Turtle Rock, art and motorcycle-related booths will open, selling posters, jewelry, tattoos, books and fashion accessories; shipping containers will be available as well as a booth for kids to produce bike posters.

Snacks and beverages will be available throughout the day, and entertainment starts at noon with M.C. Jim McMonagle of Engine Dynamics Company in Minden introducing five bands, a fashion show, raffle winners and the winners of the drive-through Bike Art Competition.

Raffle items include tickets to Bear Valley Music Festival's Blood, Sweat & Tears and Sha Na Na concerts July 27 and 28, a gift certificate at either

Katie's Country Kitchen, Fiona's Bar & Grill or Michael's at the Carson Valley Inn and a selection of jackets, T-shirts and caps from the Los Angeles Love Ride donated by Glendale Harley-Davidson.

Live music starts at noon with The Tattoo Blues Band, an acoustic band with a one-of-a-kind folk rock blues twist headed by John Chance. Chance, alias Dr. Skinz, is a singer/songwriter, blues harmonica, mandolin and guitar player, touring through the '70s with the Southern rock band, Doc Holliday. The band also includes vocalist, actor, writer and drummer David Crome, former drummer with Bo Diddley; Kurt Cellers on mandolin and saxophone, formerly with John Hammond and .38 Special; and special guest base guitarist Preston Harrison, who will sell copies of his CD, "Contemporary Werewolf."

Also on board will be South Lake Tahoe's local favorites, the Blue Turtle Seduction, a "High Altitude Bohemian Tribal Funk Grass" band, whose work can be sampled at www.blueturtlese-duction.com.

Following the Bike Art Competition, expect a popular Truckee blues group of 20 years duration, the Skinny White Samoans, followed by a fashion show pre-



CLAUDIA CONLON photo

Ready to ride: Local arts patrons Joe and Ronnie Duncker pose with their American iron.

sented by Road Rider of Reno Ltd., makers of several fashion lines for motorcycling and casual wear. Outfits are all leather and designed to fit every woman.

Fashion models, volunteers all, include Hoppe, from

Gardnerville, Karel Delbecq, features and events editor of The Record-Courier, Carson Valley artist Carol Foldvary-Anderson, and Fran Reynolds of Dayton.

Following the fashion show, expect The Crazy Texas Gypsies, starring Kenny Williams on

guitar and vocals. Williams, described by bluesman Joe Louis Walker as "the kind of guitar player that comes along once in a lifetime," plays a clean fender style with "a good dose of snotty Southern fried attitude that just cuts right through you."

Other heart and soul Gypsy bluesmen include native Milwaukee base player and backup vocalist Kevin Fraser, Sacramento drummer Jerry Coleman, and New York keyboardist Bob Cancro.

The Ravens are set to perform at 7 p.m., following a steak dinner, with a program of road songs, jazz, blues, classic rock and original material.

The band was founded nearly eight years ago by plastic surgeon Edmond Zingaro, who started with classical piano at seven years old and is the group's bassist and vocalist.

A diverse Bay area group with fans all over Carson Valley, The Ravens are comprised of 12 musicians, including a horn section with Russell Peterson on trumpet, and one of the most sought-after female vocalists in the Bay area, Joni Max.

Proceeds from the event support arts and music for Alpine County children. The Alpine County Arts Commission is funded, in part, by the California Arts Council (CAC) and CAC's State-Local Partnership. To sign up in advance, visit www.alpinecountycyca.com/Arts or contact the Commission at (530) 694-1700 or alpinearts@gbis.com. alpinecountycyca.com/Arts

Markleeville, pop. 160, is Alpine County's "big city"

By Catherine Abel

Markleeville, just a short scenic drive over Luther Pass, has been a lively place since it was founded in 1861 by Jacob Marklee, who promptly threw a toll bridge across the creek in case any silver miners or settlers happened by. Just two years later, Marklee was shot and killed during an argument (history doesn't record whether it was about paying a toll charge), but he left his mark in the name of the young settlement.

By 1864, during the height of silver fever, Markleeville had a population of more than 2,600. That's nearly 20 times the number of people who live there now, which is 160 or 163, depending on whom you ask.

Driving into Markleeville on the wide main drag, a visitor could be forgiven for thinking this is just a sleepy little village. One sees a quaint general store, its front porch built for lounging; a car repair shop that would have looked modern, perhaps, in the 1930's; a small antique shop.

Don't be deceived. Markleeville is a busy place under all that old fashioned charm. Take the Hot Springs, for instance. John Fremont, that intrepid explorer credited with being the first white man to spot Lake Tahoe, also found the springs, which bubble out of the ground four miles from Markleeville at a steaming 148 degrees. Grover Hot

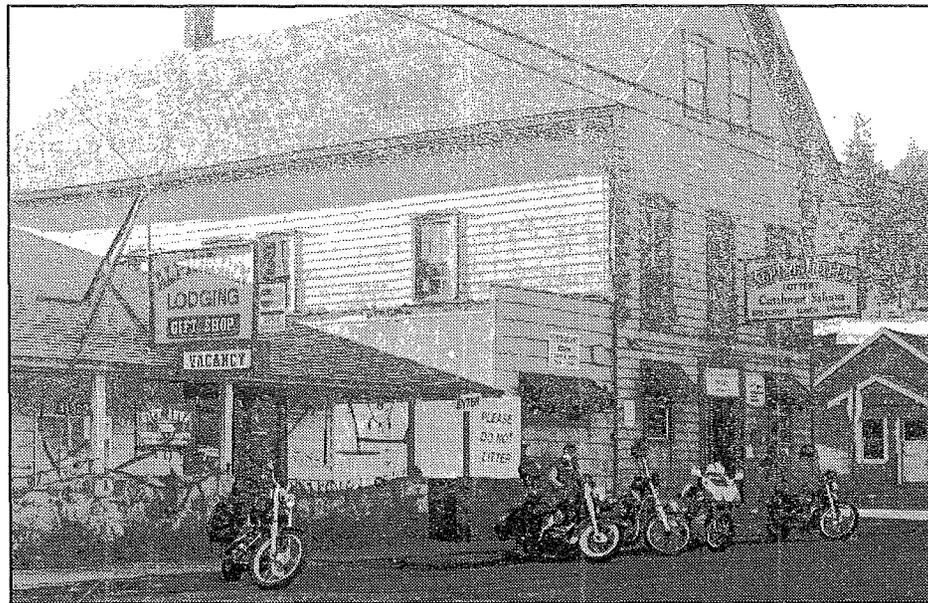


Photo by Catherine Abel

The Cutthroat Saloon is a landmark in the quaint town of Markleeville.

Springs is now a state park. Somehow visitors from all over the world manage to find it, and take delight in luxuriating in the hot pool or plunging into the adjoining cold pool.

Markleeville really livens up each July, when the Death Ride comes to town. This torturous bicycle ride over five major mountain passes attracts some 2,700 cyclists every year to one of the major events in any serious cyclist's calendar.

There's much more to do in

Markleeville and Alpine County — sled dog races, fishing in the county's 60 lakes and the well-stocked Carson River, hiking, downhill and cross country skiing. Alpine County is the home of Kirkwood Ski Resort, famous for consistently receiving more snowfall than any other ski resort in the country. Kirkwood is undergoing an ambitious building program which will complete its transformation to a year-round resort. It has a new mountain bike park, plus plenty of cross-country biking,

and hiking at the resort. Kirkwood even has a rock climbing wall. Just down the road there's always something cultural and educational happening at Sorensen's Resort such as a guided wildflower walk or a historical adventure along the real route of the Mormon Immigrant Trail.

Of course, it's also perfectly acceptable to just hang out in "downtown" Markleeville on the front porch of the general store. The 100-year-old frame store building's stock runs the gamut from canned foods, cheeses and meats to handsome rabbit fur hats, greeting cards, books and magazines, bathing suits (even in January, for use at the Springs), fishing gear and bait, camping supplies. A tourist from Anchorage, Alaska, looks around at the array with great satisfaction. "Most of these old towns are long lost in California," she remarks, "but Markleeville is still here, still the same." Meanwhile, across the street and down the block at the Cutthroat Saloon, business is booming on a mild Saturday afternoon. High on a hill overlooking the town, the museum "complex," includes the original jail house with its fearsome iron door, a schoolhouse built in 1882 and other fascinating stuff.

The 160 - or is-it 163 - people who live in Markleeville may have to travel to Carson City or Tahoe for the bright lights, but most seem to be quite content with their town just the way it is.

Tahoe Mountains Visitor

Today is a day to make a difference in Markleeville

I would like to invite each of you to an event today that began last fall as a promise.

It began first as a promise that we could find a second venue for The Ravens to play when they came to town.

It evolved into a promise to the children of Alpine County, that we would raise funds to continue bringing them exposure to arts in their schools and through community events.

That remains the focus of the first Markleeville Motorcycle Arts Festival, which takes place from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. today at Turtle Rock Park near Markleeville.

But with the budget crisis that presently exists in California, the promise has taken on greater significance.

Many people have worked diligently to bring each of you a day filled with motorcycles, fine arts and

For the record



Karel Delbecq

you are determining whether Alpine County Arts Commission keeps its doors open come July 1.

You will be helping to bridge the gap between what presently exists and what will be in the future.

I don't want to get mired in the politics of what is occurring in Cali-

crafts, fashion, food and music in an environment that fosters understanding between all people and makes each person an active participant in the days' events.

I want each of you to know that by your presence and participation,

fornia.

As background, though, the California Arts Commission has always been given grant money by the state and raised a percentage of matching funds.

The Alpine County Arts Commission (seated in the most mountainous, remote county with the smallest population in California and our very near neighbor), has managed to raise about 25 percent of its annual funding over the 23 years of its existence through community events.

The time has come though, that commissions must find ways to be 100 percent independent of needing state funding. Otherwise, programs that have been built have no certainty.

Not relying on state funding ultimately could be a good thing, in that there would be less restriction on creativity or defining the arts.

But the road to independence can

be a bit bumpy. Anyone who's survived their late teens knows this.

By participating in this event today, each of you will be helping us keep our promises.

You will also be taking a stand that says you believe in each child's divine right – regardless of ability to pay – to know the joy and fulfillment that comes from singing, dancing, painting and expressing their little hearts out.

You are saying the arts should be important regardless of what our politicians say.

It is time to stand for that which nurtures the spirit.

I invite you to stand with me and with the others who have worked to create a day that we hope honors the best in all of us.

■ Karel Delbecq can be reached today at Turtle Rock Park or by e-mail at delbecq@swiftnews.com

6/29/02 Record Courier

RC 7-24-02

Alpine County hosts Bear Valley arts festival

Come to beautiful Alpine County (home of the California Alps) in the Stanislaus National Forest of the central Sierra Nevada and enjoy a free art exhibit while taking in the wonderful vistas of the Sierra.

The 12th Annual Arts of Bear Valley Summer Exhibit takes place at the Perry Walther Building (next to the Bear Valley Music Festival tent) Saturday, July 27 through Sunday, Aug. 11 in partnership with the Bear Valley Music Festival.

Bear Valley is located on State Route 4 (Ebbetts Pass Corridor) west of Markleeville. A reception for the public will be hosted by the group from 4 - 7 p.m. on the first day of the show (July

27). The artists will be in attendance to answer any questions about their art.

Live entertainment, free wine and hors d'oeuvres will be provided at the reception.

The entertainment is co-sponsored by the Alpine County Arts Commission and is made possible, in part, by a grant from the California Arts Council, State-Local Partnership Program, a state agency.

Arts of Bear Valley is an association of more than 30 local artists whose works have won numerous awards and have been collected by art enthusiasts and published worldwide.

The organization hosts the "Art and Literature Program" for the children at the Bear Valley Library, a booth at the

Teddy Bear Picnic (free Polaroid photos of children), workshops for local artists and art grants to local schools. Arts of Bear Valley also co-hosts the Calaveras County Fair Art Show, worked with Calaveras Big Trees State Park during its Sesquicentennial celebration this year and will hold an art show in Calaveras Big Trees October 4 - 14. A raffle will be held on the last day of the show for four pieces of art donated by Arts of Bear Valley members. Raffle tickets will be on sale daily during the show. The pieces of art to be raffled include "Daisy Bouquet," an original watercolor painting by Helen Schofield; "Mother and Cubs," a ceramic tile painting by Denise Lees; "Gone Fishing," a watercolor Gicl e art print by Nancy Calhoun; and "Bonding," a watercolor print by Lura Francis.

The normal open hours for the show will be 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. on days of no music festival performances and 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. (except 4 p.m. opening on July 27 and 9 a.m. on August 3 and 10) on days of music festival performances. At least one artist is always present during show hours.

The displayed art is never the same, as artists are required to show new works each year. Therefore, even if you have seen earlier shows, you will be able to view new art each year.

Arts of Bear Valley has several new artists, offering a variety of new styles in art. Persons attending the music festival are especially urged to arrive early and view some extraordinary art. For additional information please contact me at (209) 795-0864 or e-mail djames@mlode.com.

Band

Markleeville man wants to go faster

by Rhonda Costa-Landers
R-C News Service

RC
8-3-02

Fritz Klingler doesn't have a death wish, he just wants to go fast — really fast.

In a machine he designed and custom-built himself, Klingler will attempt to break the land speed record for a Streamline Pushrod Gas style motorcycle on the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. He has five days in which to do it, Aug. 11-15, and can make as many attempts as he wants.

"Even if I break it, I can run again and try to go quicker," said Klingler, who lives in Markleeville.

The record in this division stands at 178 mph. Klingler hopes to hit 200 mph in his motorcycle he dubbed "The Shaker."

"Why do I want to do this? Because I like racing and I like going fast," he said with a broad smile. "I'm so wired up and ready to go, I could now."

Klingler posted a record in 2000 at 172 mph on a conventional motorcycle, a 1970 Harley-Davidson Shovelhead.

The motor built for this division and motorcycle is from a 1970 Harley-Davidson Shovelhead. It is a

gasoline-powered motor fueled by a carburetor, which makes it harder to obtain higher speeds. No turbos blowers are allowed. He will run 110 octane for fuel.

"I measured the body and weight of the car along with the horsepower, which is about 130, and put all the numbers through a computer and the figures show it should do 250 mph. I just wanna go 200. I'll be keeping an eye on the gauges, the tach and the fuel pump."

The motorcycle's design allows spectators to see only the rider's head, which is visible through the canopy. It is not possible to see the rider from either side. Wheelbase is unlimited, but it must make a single track. Power must be transmitted through the rear wheel only. Steering must be done with the front wheel only.

Should anything go wrong, there are safety features on the motorcycle to help keep Klingler from being injured. If the bike leans 40 degrees or more to either side, two 5-foot safety parachutes will deploy. The degree is measured by an inner mercury level, designed by Klingler.

He will also be fitted with a "kill string" attached to his wrist that will shut down the engine, should he raise

his arm.

"There's also two halon fire systems manually deployed by me if there's a fire in the engine compartment or cockpit," he said.

Klingler will first be required to do a series of test runs to ensure safety equipment is fully operational. The bike is equipped with two skids underneath for balance, which he will raise when he reaches about 40 mph.

Klingler estimates the cost of the motorcycle at \$20,000, or \$75,000 when his time and labor are added in.

"I've been working on it for three years," Klingler said.

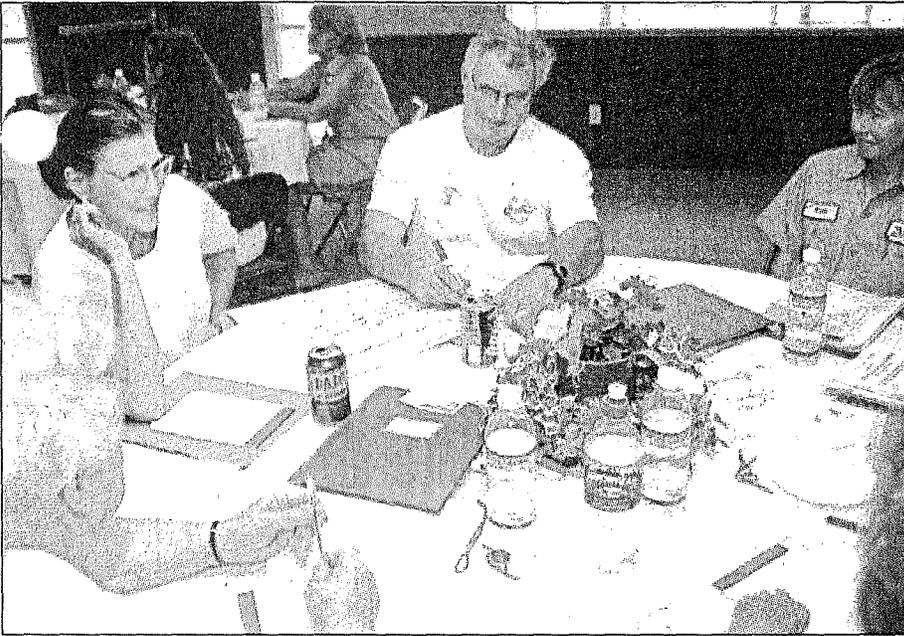
"First I designed the body of the motorcycle with paper maché; that took about a year. And I've built the frame and the motor. After I designed the body shape, I molded it from fiberglass. That took another year," he said.

When he's not working on his fast toy, Klingler, 52, can be found working as a stage tech at the Upstage Center in Carson City or the Starlight Amphitheatre in Genoa.

"I've been racing at Bonneville for about 15 years," Klingler said. "I've been racing motorcycles since I was 15 years old. It took 'em that long to chase me off the streets."

Alpine gathers to create a vision for its children

Alpine County Vision Day was held Saturday at Rock Park. This annual event encourages community members and especially parents of Alpine children to participate in creating a vision for their children that is meaningful, and which will make a difference in their overall being and development. In the photos clockwise from top left: Sheila O'Neal, Earl O'Neal and Kate Sterchak brainstorm ways to implement the ideas they've created to improve Alpine County programs; John-Hans Melcher of Reno (name Johnny-Zingo) plays drums for the children after Vision Day; Commissioners Adelina Osorio, Kathy Ker Joldersma and Lynette Bennette hold pictures of the community they hope to build. The program is funded by Proposition 13 money, raised by taxing cigarettes in California, and the county receives \$200,000 each year to fund programs for families and children. For more information, call (530) 694-1144.



SHANNON LITZ PHOTOS



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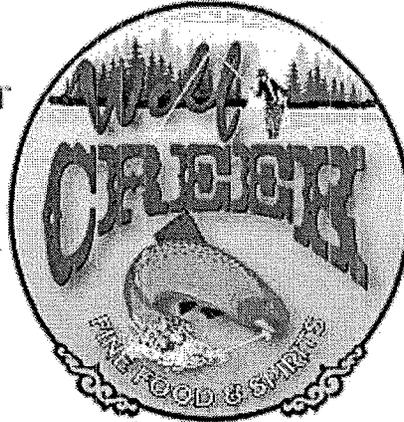
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THE RESTAURANT

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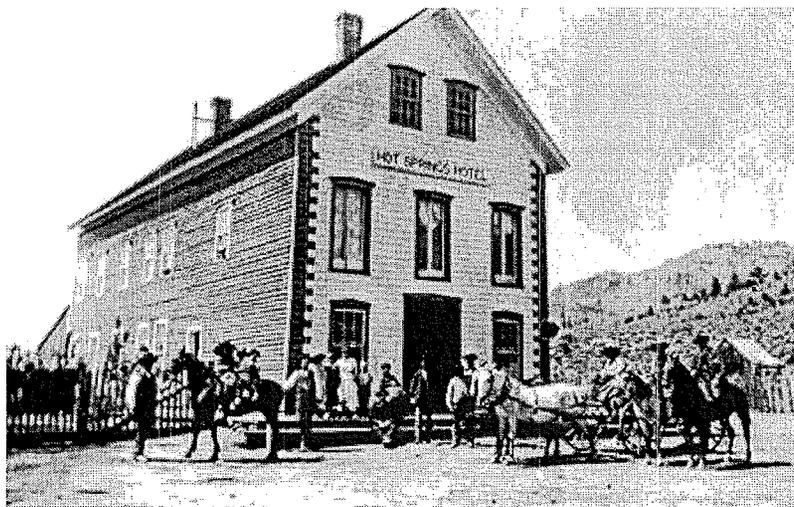
The Alpine Hotel . . . Somewhere Between a Wake and a Wedding by Al Pettit. Alpine Enterprise Newspaper

The long awaited escrow on the Alpine Hotel, Restaurant, and Cutthroat Saloon has closed and Thomas Abdo has taken ownership under High Mountain Properties, a Nevada Corporation. It seemed only hours after the transaction finalized, that teams of workman descended on the structure from roof, to siding, to flooring, surgically removing layers of roofing, old carpeting, woodwork, and eviscerating familiar memorabilia such as the hanging bras in the bar and years of the accumulated and amputated detritus from the forbidden sanctuaries upstairs. I lost track of the number of dumpster loads, but I found no unidentified bodies. But I am certain there is a homeless ghost or two, still recovering from hangovers, literal and figurative, of bygone days.

I know there will be a "wake" stage for many of us – a sort of memorabilia withdrawal. The obvious, of course, will be the absence of "bras" hanging from the ceiling, donated by patrons willing to sacrifice a bit of modesty for a free drink or a T-shirt. Two of my favorite talismans will no longer guarantee safe passage home: the stuffed and cobweb enhanced raccoon, and the skinned "anaconda" snake captured locally masquerading as a common (but very large) rattler. What will we do without the Friday night salt and popcorn fights, the messy remnants of which greeted Mario the following morning, his revenge being a challenge to the offenders to match him drink for drink with Fernet, an Italian liqueur which must have been made by Vatican Papal Nuncios for the Spanish Inquisition. Lastly, the "safety" seats. Those concave bar stools which had an inclination to tilt backward when your body became off plumb. Better than any breathalyzer, they told you it was time to summon your designated driver. Mario should have patented them. Buttalyzers?

Well, there will never be "closure" on these experiences, and there will be post traumatic stress, but, courage; fellow revelers, we must move on.

Light and early on August 13th, 2002, the Alpine County Historic Landmark Review Committee (Ruggerio Gigli, Nick Hertzell, Leonard Turbough(cheer)) and Alpine Co. Planner Brian Peters gathered inside the dining



Alpine Hotel (Hot Springs Hotel), originally Fisk Hotel in Silver City, Alpine County's former county seat, shortly after being moved to Markleeville circa 1888. The photo is part of the Coyan Collection, and was furnished by Dick Edwards, Alpine Museum Director.

As to the exterior, Abdoo is trying to restore it as much as possible to its state in the above photo. The roof is being completely replaced with black shingle. The north brick chimney will be reinforced but the other must be removed for safety concerns. The building is being painted a light gray with medium dark green trim. A second brick colored inner trim will also be added. A deck is planned for the rear of the building where drinks will be served. The chain link fence will be replaced with an attractive double wood fence and dumpsters will be replaced with bear-proof containers. In the future, Abdoo plans to add two outside restrooms for the public. The south "annex" facing Main St. added by former owner Mario Generelli will be remodeled to tie in with the historic design of the original building's front.

At this writing, the business is closed except for lottery tickets. All the work appears to be progressing rapidly 7 days a week and the bar and restaurant may be open for business in two weeks. Abdoo plans to serve three meals a day, seven days a week. The restaurant will remain informal and the menu pretty much the same with the addition of some additional varieties of salads.

The name of the building will be "Wolf Creek". However the bar will still be called "The Cutthroat", and yes, the fish, which has presided over many and various festivities, will be remounted in its familiar location atop the front entrance. This establishment has become a keystone of Markleeville's downtown economy thanks to the many years of hard work, investment, innovation, and generosity on the part of Mario and Marylyn Generelli. Let the good times roll again!

Alpine Enterprise Newspaper
Alpine County California, September 2, 2002

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W E E K E N D



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

New owner Tom Abdoo is remodeling the former Cutthroat Saloon in Markleeville and will name his new establishment Wolf Creek Bar & Restaurant.

Face-lift for Markleeville landmark

Cutthroat Saloon now Wolf Creek Bar & Restaurant

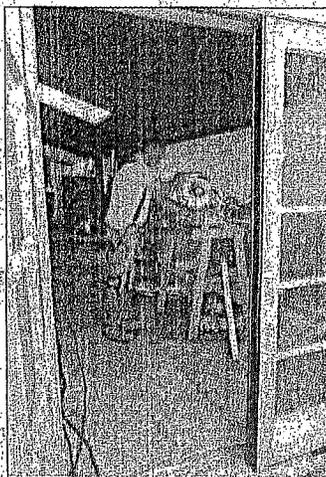
By Susan Wood
Tribune staff writer

MARKLEEVILLE — Tucked inside tiny crevices, an interior construction crew remodeling the old Cutthroat Saloon have made what amounts to archeological discoveries.

A Duke's Cameo cigarette pack from 1886, a 1903 Sacramento Bee, square nails, 2-foot-wide boards and, strangely enough, five layers of wallpaper.

But gone are the hundreds of bras that covered the ceiling of a bar known to attract motorcycle riders.

In July, Minden investor and builder Tom Abdoo bought the Markleeville landmark — built in Silver City in 1864 as the Fisk Hotel and relocated to the Alpine County seat as the Hot Springs Hotel. Mario and Marilyn Generelli sold the bar and restaurant for about \$340,000, the



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Framed by new exterior doors, carpenter Bob Hunt cuts molding for the new dining area.

Alpine County Assessor's Office reported.

Abdoo's crew of 15 workers — including bartender Ronnee Duncker — have been on the fast track of getting the new Wolf Creek Bar & Restaurant prepared to open by the end of the month. A sign with the Cutthroat name will mark the landmark.

The \$500,000 job hasn't been easy. Workers gutted the 2,500-square-foot floor, installing bathrooms compliant to the American Disabilities Act. This included tearing up six layers of formica and adding accents.

An antique mantle was set up at the bar, which was remodeled with a rosewood finish. Barnwood brought in from Montana lines the walls of the restaurant, estimated to seat 80 people.

"We're trying to keep the historical feel of the building," said Ken Smith, Abdoo's assistant, who once ran the Edible Earth restaurant in Gardnerville.

A mix of small-square tile and hardwood will cover the bar floor where the old jukebox remains. The hardwood will continue into the restaurant with carpet on half the floor.

See Markleeville, Page A7

ALPINE COUNTY

Markleeville

From Page A1

Two unusable pot-belly stoves remain for show, and two working gas fireplaces flank the restaurant behind the bar. This is where chef Patrick Henry will serve up homecooking planned for breakfast, lunch and dinner. A patio in back of the building will host barbecues and the restaurant may book live entertainment.

Abdoo hopes to employ about 30 people.

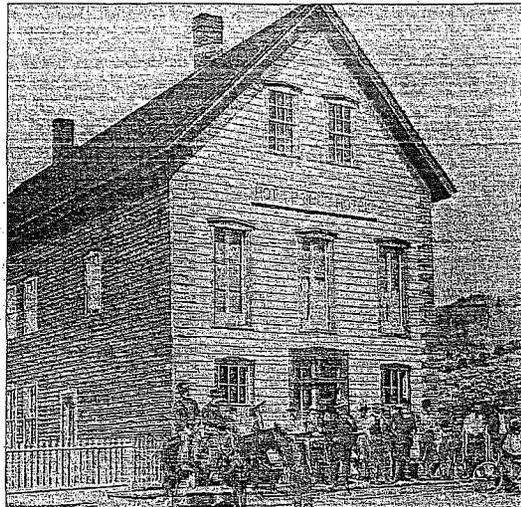
The Generellis leased the restaurant when they owned it.

"We want to make the place more family-oriented. We feel that's where the business is. My wife and I used to come down to this area all the time and go to Grover Hot Springs to get away," Abdoo said. "(Mario) appealed to bikers. That worked for him. I'm not sure it worked well for the community. But fight or wrong, it was just a perception problem."

Abdoo said it was "simple math" that piqued his interest in the rebuilding challenge. More than 650,000 people drive through the area each year, according to state figures.

"We've had absolute support from the community with the exception of a few people who are resistant to change," Abdoo said.

Upstairs, seven rooms once used in the Hot Springs Hotel are uninhabitable as living spaces, according to the Alpine County Building Department. But Abdoo wants to rent them out to artists, who may, in turn,



Provided to the Tribune

The original Hot Springs Hotel building in 1890.

show their work downstairs.

That might not be all that's presented for show.

Abdoo is toying with the idea of hanging historical pictures, setting up a memorabilia showcase and hosting events to either auction the bras or burn them during a ceremony.

Many people have drifted into the bar under construction out of curiosity. Abdoo recalled one woman who was angry she couldn't find the bra she said she hung from the ceiling.

Such is the color of the building's past.

Alpine County Museum Director Dick Edwards remembers the heyday of the oldest

building in town. He wants to maintain the name of the hotel that ran out of the second floor.

It's the bar's notorious reputation for attracting parties that he thinks the town could do without.

"People were afraid to park here. I'm happy (Abdoo's) doing something there. I would just like to see the name stay the same," he said.

The name changed from the Hot Springs Hotel in 1900 to the Alpine House, which gave way to the Alpine Hotel.

New director for chamber

By Susan Wood
Tribune staff writer

Meet Teresa Burkhauser.

The new Alpine County Chamber of Commerce executive director came on board the Markleeville office last month wanting to put the smallest county in California on the map.

She certainly holds the experience to carry out the mission.

Burkhauser, 47, worked for the Nevada Commission on Tourism for nine years, coordinating the Annual Governor's Conference for the organization.

The Gardnerville resident also worked for Caesars Tahoe, coming to Lake Tahoe 24 years ago. She left the lake for the Carson Valley right after the winter of 1982-83, a season characterized by El Niño — a tropical weather phenomenon.

"It's time for a change — a nice change of pace I didn't really pursue. But everything happens for a reason," she said.

Burkhauser replaces Bob Anderson, who went to work at Fromarc Insurance alongside his wife Tita, an agent with the insurance company.

Ironically, Burkhauser has known Anderson since she moved to Tahoe in 1978.

Burkhauser thinks it's appropriate she return to Alpine County for work, as she learned



Jim Grant/Tahoe Tribune

Teresa Burkhauser started last month as the Chamber of Commerce director.

to downhill ski at Kirkwood Mountain Resort. When she's not working, she also hikes and rides her road bike.

Burkhauser said she plans to reach out to South Lake Tahoe

business organizations like the chambers of commerce here, along with the Carson Valley chamber. She'll also review operations and try to bring back Alpine County chamber mixers. The Death Ride will remain the chamber's signature event as its sponsor, despite the ride experiencing its first death this year since its inception 24 years ago.

"I don't think we're going to make any changes right away. There are a lot of people to meet first," she said of her new job.

It's important to Burkhauser that she balance tourism-based decisions with the quality of life longtime residents have settled down for in this culturally and historically rich area.

"We need to find the right mix to make sure everybody's interests are represented," she said.

The Alpine County Chamber of Commerce receives 35 visitors a day. Burkhauser, resolved to entering the shoulder season, acknowledged that number could increase with fall-color visitors.

She's looking forward to changes happening in town, citing the reopening of the former Cuthroat Saloon planned for this month.

Gardnerville woman will lead Alpine County's Chamber

by Susan Wood
R-C News Service

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She certainly holds the experience to carry out the mission. Burkhauser, 47, worked for the Nevada Commission on Tourism for nine years, coordinating the Annual Governors Conference for the organization.

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Ironically, Burkhauser has known Anderson since she moved to Tahoe in 1978.

Burkhauser thinks it's appropriate she return to Alpine County for work, as she learned to downhill ski at Kirkwood Mountain Resort. When she's not working, she also hikes and rides her road bike.

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3-DAY JAUNT

The Journey IS the Reward in the California Alps

BY CRAIG MACDONALD



Golden aspen and evergreen, Hope Valley, Alpine Co. Photo by Carolyn Fox

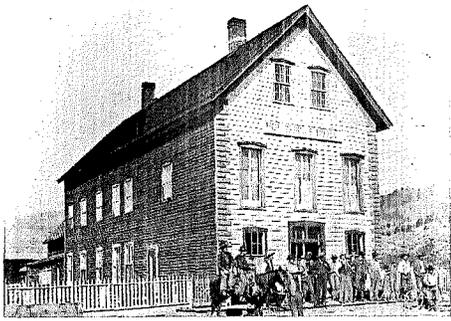
Have you noticed there are a lot more people in California lately? You see them on the roads, in the market, everywhere. Sometimes it makes you want to just get away, escape to the Sierra and find some peace of mind.

"(People) weary of the bustle, strife, noise and crowds...will wander...and be happy by the tall peaks where whispers from Heaven come down through the pines," Dan DeQuille wrote well over 100 years ago. The need for solitude then apparently is echoed again today in a much more populated state.

Wallace Stegner said, "We simply need that Wild Country available to us, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in." The place DeQuille wrote about was Alpine County and Stegner agreed it indeed would be a marvelous place to "look in" or "escape to." It will definitely give you a much needed break from the pressures of urban life.

Located in the crest of the Sierra - south of Lake Tahoe, east of Nevada and north of Yosemite - it's the perfect place to see tall trees, dense forests, high mountain lakes and deep canyons. No wonder some residents refer to it as the "California Alps."

It will refresh your soul. You can smell the freshness of the early morning and the fragrance of wildflowers. You can learn to listen to nature again - the gurgling brooks, the wind whistling through the branches. And you can see things that left a lifelong impression on John Muir, like "the sunbursts of morning on the icy peaks." Muir called the Sierra, "The most divinely beautiful of all the mountain-chains I've seen."



(Above) Hot Springs Hotel 1887
(right) Caples's Dam Construction 1910



Alpine County is still "divinely bursting" with a sincere, unspoiled beauty offering lucky viewers a refreshing step back in time when life seemed simpler and we took time to admire the wonder around us.

"We know what we've got here and we love it," shared Dick Edwards, director of the wonderful, worth-seeing Alpine County Historical Museum in Markleeville, on Highway 89 between Highways 4 and 88. "It's one of the most beautiful areas in the Sierra or anywhere," said the retired State Park Ranger. "I've lived all over but the quality of life here is just incredible. The air's good, the stress level's low and the people are friendly. We know everyone by their first names. Folks seem nicer here. They really care about you and watch out for each other. But don't come here expecting to find banks, hospitals, supermarkets, movie theaters, dentists, high schools or even traffic lights. There's not one in the entire county!"

Alpine is a county of unique but pleasant surprises both present and past. In fact, it's the least populated county in California (about 1100 residents last time anyone counted).

Named for its rugged mountains, peaks and lakes (like its European counterpart), Alpine County has over 726 square miles of mostly government-owned land. It reportedly has the fewest number of registered

vehicles (roughly 1,000) and the fewest miles of public roads in the state (less than 400, including forest service roads). Its spectacular, unsurpassed vistas - seen at elevations from 4,800 to 11,400 feet - include breathtaking scenes of snowcovered peaks, meadows, lakes and forests.

Alpine's legendary snow is in the record books. The county reportedly holds the national records for Monthly snowfall (390" Jan. 1911), Seasonal Snowfall (884" 1906-07 season) and Depth of Snow on the Ground (451" March 11, 1911). If all that isn't unique enough, few places in California have such a

diverse and fascinating history. Three of the West's most famous figures enjoyed the area as they traveled through it in the first half of the 19th Century - Jedediah Smith, John C. Fremont and Kit Carson.

The Carson Route of the Emigrant Trail (now Highway 88) became heavily used in the Gold Rush as thousands came west over it to California. Their presence can still be seen in wagon ruts and marks scraped on

rocks by wagon wheels near Woodfords.

Near Carson Pass is a turnout with a super view of Red Lake. Plaques honor Carson and Diamond Valley Resident John "Snowshoe" Thompson, who exemplified the "Alpine Spirit" by courageously carrying the mail over the Sierra for many winters.

Other Pioneer remnants include sagging headframes on abandoned mines and old foundations (at Silver Mountain where a silver stampede occurred in the 1860s).

More incredible Alpine Tidbits:

PONY EXPRESS: North of the intersection of Highway 4 and Old Pony Express Road in Woodfords, a monument pays tribute to the Pony Express Remount Station. On April 4, 1860, rider Warren Upson grabbed his mount, scaled the mountains in a blinding snowstorm and made his way down the Eastern slope of the Sierra on his way to Carson City.

MINES: Copper, Silver, Gold, Sulphur. The first copper mine in California was near Red Lake. Silver and gold mines sprung up in the diggings at Monitor, Mogul, Silver Mountain and other spots. Later, the largest open pit sulphur mine in the world operated in Alpine County.

CAMELS: Perhaps the area's most unusual guests were a herd of camels who traveled



VILLA GIGLI RESTAURANT AND ART GALLERY IN MARKLEEVILLE

Markleeville was home to the Giglis long before they decided to stop dreaming about introducing Americans to the Italian dishes Ruggero Gigli's mother taught him to cook way back in the 20th century. A decade ago they took the plunge and opened their cozy restaurant/art gallery.

During the winter months these days you can have dinner family-style inside the restaurant/gallery where grandma's Italian cuisine abounds. During summer months, the action takes place on the restaurant's spacious deck, giving visitors the chance to marvel at just not the food but at some of the most beautiful surroundings to be enjoyed anywhere.

Ruggero, chef/owner of the smallest trattoria in the Eastern Sierra in the smallest county seat of California, shares his unique pasta secrets and recipes in his first compilation of the restaurant's most-beloved dishes. Collecting the 65 recipes was the two-year project of his wife and collaborator, artist Gina, whose wine-theme paintings grace the walls of the restaurant, spill over into the minuscule gallery, and now illustrate their 200-page soft cover cookbook, "Poco Pane, Poco Vino."

Ruggero's cookbook, Gina's paintings, friendly hospitality and sumptuous Italian cuisine can all be yours at Villa Gigli - definitely worth a stop on your tour of Alpine County.

For more information call 530/694-2253 or visit online at villagigli.com.

over the Big Trees Road on their way to Nevada where they carried salt to the silver mines of Virginia City. The quite capable characters proved their value and could carry a tremendous load but their presence scared mules, horses and others, creating a controversy that led to their unfortunate demise.

JOHN STUDEBAKER: The man whose company would make the famous Studebaker autos in the 20th Century was 20 years old when he set up shop near Red Lake and fixed the iron tires of covered wagons so they could make it over the steep Sierra. He later took his skills to Placerville and made wheelbarrows for the Forty Niners before returning east with his sizeable earnings.

DRIVERS OF WOOD: During the booming Comstock Lode, there was an urgent need for timber used in the many mines and buildings. To meet the need, there were "Wood Drives" similar to "Cattle Drives." Yellow Pine and other trees were cut down in Alpine County and "washed" along the East Fork of the Carson River to Nevada each spring. Men helped guide the logs with long hooked poles. Many of the "Drivers of Wood" hired for this exciting event were French Canadians and Native Americans, who were quite skillful in guiding the logs on their journey.

NATIVE AMERICANS: The Washoe Tribe called the area home long before the Gold Rush immigrants arrived. Some became renown for their weaving skills. Dat-So-La-Lee, who was raised in Monitor, developed into one of the world's most famous basket-makers. The Washoes lived peacefully off the land and many still call Alpine home today. A census shows that nearly 26% of the county's population is Native American or Eskimo.

DOG SLED RACES: Over the years dog sled races have been held at various sites in Alpine County with some teams coming from as far away as Alaska.

One of the oddest facts about Alpine County is the unusual way it came into being. Originally part of Utah Territory, it evolved into Nevada Territory. But an 1863 Government Boundary Survey showed it to be in California. This, plus the expanding

population during the Silver Stampede, enabled Alpine County to be born on March 16, 1964. It was officially formed from parts of Amador, Tuolumne, El Dorado, Calaveras and Mono Counties.

During its heyday in the 1860s, Alpine's population exceeded 11,000. However, when the boom played out, most went elsewhere and by the 1920s only 200 resided there. Today, with State Highways 88, 89 and 4 running through it, the population increases with guests during the winter snow and summer camping seasons. In addition to fine downhill and cross country skiing at Kirkwood and Bear Valley, Alpine offers camping, hiking, cycling, swimming, fishing, mineral pools and a whole lot more. Sparkling Caples and Silver Lakes are just two of many spots with campgrounds and a variety of fun things to do. Picnicking is superb in the aptly named Hope, Faith and Charity Valleys, near the Highway 88 and 89 junction. The immigrants named the valleys after escaping the deserts and finding themselves "on more favorable ground."

For more local history, stop by the Alpine County Historical Museum in Markleeville. It's open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Monday (Memorial Day to the end of October). You'll see mining exhibits, displays on the Washoes, the actual Old Webster Schoolhouse and a real log jail, complete with hand-riveted iron cells.

Four miles West of Markleeville, the smallest county seat in California, is Grover Hot Springs State Park, with its therapeutic mineral pools and charming meadow.

The adventuresome can check with rangers about hiking to the top of Sonora Peak (11,459 feet) to appreciate the red and brown volcanic rocks and panoramic views.

Every Summer, the Bear Valley Music Festival brings world class performers to the special Sierra setting in the forest.

The "California Alps" are definitely worth an escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Your Sierra sojourn will not only refresh you but provide many fond memories. As it did for Kit Carson, John Muir and Wallace Stegner, you'll learn that "the Journey IS indeed the Reward." **SH**

THE RIDGE

*It's a quiet moment
of concentration.*

*It's the thirst you earn after
18 challenging holes
and the stories you'll swap
over beer in the clubhouse.
It is the privilege of playing
as nature and Robert
Trent Jones II intended.*

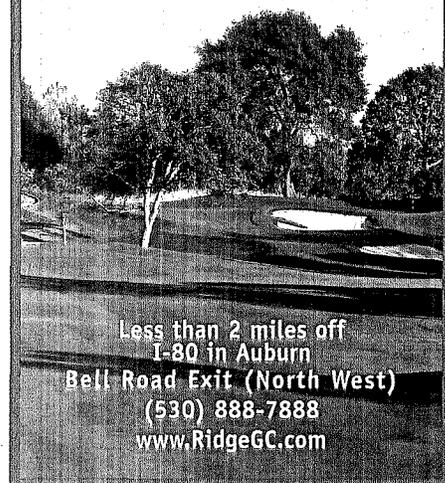


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a new experience—everyone
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Up the Creek

The annual Markleeville Creek Day was held Saturday. Volunteers gathered to do clean up, conservation and restoration work at this scenic spot in Alpine County. In the photo above, a group of people engaged in various projects at the river clean-up. At right, Jeff Haliczner of Reno, cuts away dead brush from a bush near the creek. The debris was then used to line the trail so people know where to walk so the habitat is not harmed.



SHANNON LITZ PHOTOS

New ownership brings changes for Markleeville landmark

by Susan Wood
R-C News Service

MARKLEEVILLE — Tucked inside tiny crevices, an interior construction crew remodeling the old Cutthroat Saloon have made what amounts to archeological discoveries.

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about 30 people.

The Generellis leased the restaurant when they owned it.

"We want to make the place more family-oriented. We feel that's where the business is. My wife and I used to come down to this area all the time and go to Grover Hot Springs to get away," Abdoo said. "(Mario) appealed to bikers. That worked for him. I'm not sure it worked well for the community. But right or wrong, it was just a perception problem."

Abdoo said it was "simple math" that piqued his interest in the rebuilding challenge. More than 650,000 people drive through the area each year, according to state figures.

"We've had absolute support from the community with the exception of a few people who are resistant to change," Abdoo said.

Upstairs, seven rooms once used in the Hot Springs Hotel are not habitable as living spaces, according to the Alpine County Building Department. But Abdoo wants to rent them out to artists, who may, in turn, show their work downstairs.

That might not be all that's presented for show.

Abdoo is toying with the idea of hanging historical pictures, setting up a memorabilia showcase and hosting events



New look: The Wolf Creek Bar & Restaurant's new owner Tom Abdoo is remodeling the former Markleeville, Calif.

to either auction the bras or burn them during a ceremony.

Many people have drifted into the bar out of curiosity. Abdoo recalled one woman who was angry she couldn't find the bra she said she hanged from the ceiling.

Such is the color of the building's past.

Alpine County Museum Director Dick Edwards remembers the heyday of the

oldest building in town. He wants to maintain the name of the hotel operated from the second floor.

It's the bar's notorious reputation for attracting parties that Edwards thinks the town could do without.

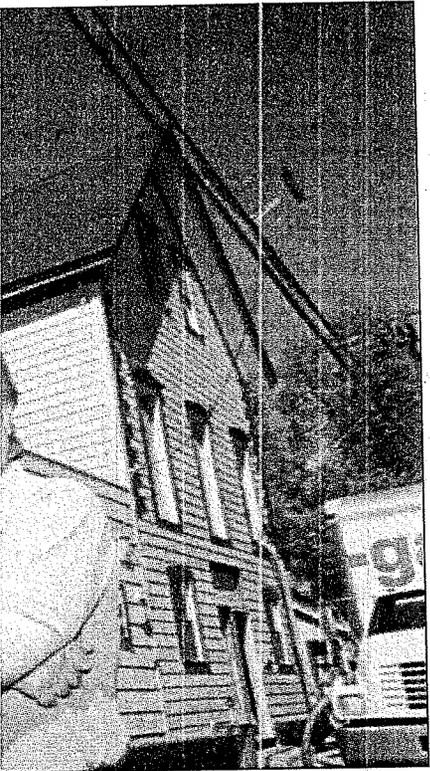
"People were afraid to park here. I'm happy (Abdoo's) doing something there. I would just like to see the name stay the same," he said.

The new Hot Springs Hotel is the Alpine way to the

Alpine door and side Lod.

He bo for about "This change,"

e landmark



Jim Grant/R-C News Service

ling the former Cutthroat Saloon in
ville, Calif.

1. He The name changed from the
ne of Hot Springs Hotel in 1900 to
n the the Alpine House, which gave
way to the Alpine Hotel.

repu- Abdoos also plans to open
s that the Alpine Inn building next
could door and rename it the Creek-
side Lodge in two months.

park He bought the businesses
oo's) for about \$155,000 in June.

re. I "This place is going to
name change," he said of the corner.



MARKLEEVILLE U.S.A.

WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU
TO A COMPLIMENTARY

WHINE AND HORS D'OEUVRES

GET TOGETHER

WHERE: WOLF CREEK RESTAURANT
WHEN: FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2004
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00P.M.

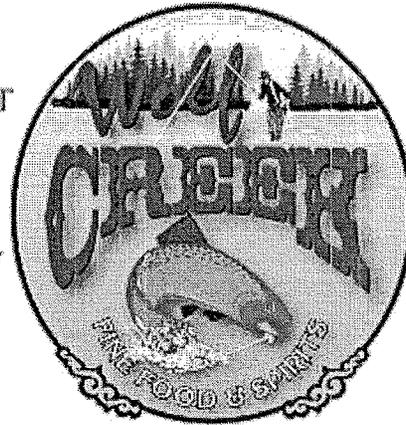
The Engineers, Architects and Planners for our Project, Mahalee Lodge and The Village will be on hand to answer all your questions. Looking forward to seeing you.

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[GUEST COMMENTS](#)

ARTICLES

Cutthroat Up and Running at Long Last by Al Pettit. Alpine Enterprise Newspaper

Cutthroat Up and Running At long last and it looks like Markleeville will be able to again provide 3 meals a day and a watering hole under one roof. The Alpine Hotel and Cutthroat Saloon, formerly owned and operated by Mario and Marilyn Generelli, has now been reborn as the Wolf Creek Restaurant and Cutthroat Bar, owned by **Thomas Abdoo** of High Mountain Properties. It is too soon to gage the new ambiance factor, but for an electronic "grand tour" and perusal of the menus, check out the business' web site at: www.wolfcreekrestaurant.com and www.cutthroatsaloon.com.

Alpine Enterprise Newspaper
Alpine County California, October 17, 2002

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[Articles](#) • [Photo History](#) • [Contact Information](#) • [Guest Comments](#)

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First 5 Alpine brings Tooth Mobile to Diamond Valley

Children ages newborn to 5 offered free dental screenings and treatment

A child's smile can brighten anyone's day, but when that smile is dulled by tooth decay, the consequences can be a threat to children's health and their ability to learn.

First 5 Alpine, formerly known as the Alpine County Children and Families Commission, is working to keep children healthy and smiling by sponsoring a visit from the "Tooth Mobile," a dental clinic van contracted through the statewide Denti-Cal program. Dental screenings are available free to local children at Diamond Valley School by appointment from Oct. 28 through Nov. 2.

"Dental health is an important part of the overall health of a young child," said Judy Martin, executive director of First 5 Alpine.

"We want to make sure our youngest children are healthy and the Tooth Mobile provides a wonderful opportunity for children to receive dental care right here at home," she said.

According to the Sierra Health Foundation, less than half of California's rural children under the age of 5 have visited a dentist.

A needs assessment conducted by the Dental Health Foundation in 1997 found that 31 percent of preschool children have tooth decay and that 80 percent of the decay remains untreated.

The need for the Tooth Mobile is especially great in Alpine County due to the

lack of dentists.

"It's important that as many of our young children as possible have a free visit with the dentist during this week," said Bernie Combs, who will serve as coordinator of the Tooth Mobile project. "We want to make sure our youngest children are healthy when they enter school, but if their teeth hurt, it is difficult for them to learn."

At the Tooth Mobile, children will receive an initial dental screening. If additional dental treatment is necessary, an appointment will be scheduled later in the week and a parent must accompany the child. The initial screening and additional treatment will be provided free of charge.

The Tooth Mobile is a non-profit organization based in Santa Clara, Calif. that pro-

vides free dental services to children and adults who otherwise could not afford dental care. The same procedures are offered in the mobile unit that are available in regular dental offices, with the exception of some specialties such as orthodontics.

For more information and to arrange an appointment, please call First 5 Alpine at (530) 694-1159 or (530) 694-1149.

First 5 Alpine was established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, placing a 50 cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, child care and other programs for expectant parents and children ages newborn to 5.

To date, First 5 Alpine has allocated nearly \$200,000 for programs that meet local needs.

Record Courier
11-16-02

bituaries

Dennis Albert John Lived in Carson Valley, Marine Corps officer

Visitation for Dennis Albert John, 54, who died Nov. 13, 2002, at Washoe Medical Center in Reno, is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at FitzHenry's Carson Valley Funeral Home, 1380 Highway 395, Gardnerville.

A funeral will follow at 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

A native of Carson Valley, he was born Aug. 26, 1948, to Albert and Madelaine (Wade) John and had lived in Woodfords, Calif for 10 years. Prior to that, he lived in Shiprock, N.M. for 24 years.

Mr. John was a mechanic of 20 years. He was self-employed as an auto salvager for 10 years.

He graduated from the Haskell Institute in 1969 and Douglas High School in 1967.

He was an officer in the Marine Corps and enjoyed fishing, collecting classic cars and encouraging children to continue their education.

Mr. John was a long-time member of the Woodfords Washoe Tribal Council.

He is preceded in death by brothers, Frankie and Clayton John.

Surviving are mother, Madelaine LaVerne John; father, Albert; brothers, Michael, Darrell, Clinton and

ons Aldon; sisters, Camill John, Pauline John, and Karen Mortimer; and companion, Carolyn McLaughlin, all of Woodfords; Vera Johnson, mother of Mr. John's three daughters, Carmella Denise John, Michelle John, and Cheryl Lynn John, all of Shiprock; and several nieces and nephews.

Burial will be at Woodfords Cemetery in Woodfords, Calif.

FitzHenry's Carson Valley Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Off-reservation voting policy stays

by Regina Purcell

Staff Writer

Results of the Washoe tribe's recent election will stand as the election department made its determination against a candidate who contested.

"My client is obviously disappointed with the decision," said attorney Karen Winters, who represents Benny Mills, a former candidate in the election for the chairman seat who was not allowed to vote.

Mills claimed the tribe's election board changed the practice of allowing off-reservation members to vote along with on-reservation tribe members. Instead, they were forced to vote by absentee ballot.

Mills said he and more than at least 20 other off-reservation members did not receive their absentee ballots in time to vote.

In its four-page decision, the election department cited elections codes the tribal council ratified in the late 1990s that determined that off-reservation members would vote by absentee ballot. It also stated that it is not its responsibility to "actively initiate voter drives or to ensure that the addresses for off-reservation members are accurate."

It goes on to state: "Even if all of the off-reservation members who were turned away from community polling places had voted for the candidate with the second highest number of votes, it would not have affected the outcome of the election."

Winters said Mills is con-



Benny Mills

templating further legal action.

"It is unfortunate the (Election department) chose to interpret and enforce those changes in their laws for the very first time in this recent election," she said. "We are hopeful, however, that the flaws in those new laws that were brought out by Mr. Mills ... will be corrected ... prior to the next election."

The hearing, held Nov. 5, was open only to Washoe Tribal members and hosted by Steve Dressler, chairman of the Tribe's Election Board.

Dressler did not return telephone calls for comment by press time.

Longtime Washoe Tribal Council Chairman Brian Wallace was re-elected Oct. 19 and starts his fourth four-year term in January.

■ Regina Purcell can be e-mailed at rpurcell@recordcourier.com

Sacramento woman's body discovered in Alpine

Staff Reports

The body of 33-year-old Amy Olsen from Sacramento was discovered by a hiker Wednesday.

According to an Alpine County Sheriff's report, her body was found outside her car, which was in a single-car accident near Airport Road off of

Highway 89 in Markleeville, Calif.

The vehicle was found down a steep wooded embankment and could not be seen from the road.

Her family reported her missing Oct. 29. Search efforts in October and November included foot and road searches and a helicopter search.

Record Courier 12-7-02

Pesky, potentially pilfering pests pay U.S. a visit

Formosan termites, which are subterranean, were accidentally introduced into port areas of the United States from the Far East. They have spread into new areas through swarming and also by the movement of infested materials, such as used railroad ties and shoring timbers being used in landscaping, recycled lumber, pallets, and bark mulch. They are a problem in railroad ties that have come from southern states such as Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

Formosan termites are considered the most aggressive and economically devastating termites in the country. Like other subterranean termites, they feed on materials that contain cellulose, but they attack a greater variety of materials more rapidly than native termites.



**joanne
SKELLY**

They also attack living trees, shrubs, and crops. They have been known to eat through noncellulose material, such as thin sheets of soft metal (lead or copper), asphalt, plaster, creosote, rubber, and plastic, searching for food and moisture.

Formosan termite colonies may contain more than 1 million individuals. When disturbed, they exude a small amount of a white, defensive secretion from a gland located on the front of the head. Formosan termite swarmer are yellowish-brown in color and about 1/2 inch long. They swarm at night and are attracted to lights.

Formosan termite soldiers are more aggressive than native subterranean termite soldiers.

Lee Lawrence, from the Nevada Department of Agriculture, does not think that Formosan termites would survive here in our cold, dry Northern Nevada climate, unless they are successful at establishing themselves in heated buildings. Then they could quickly cause a lot of damage. Formosan termites could establish in Southern Nevada.

To help protect your property from these new invaders, let railroad ties overwinter off the ground and away from the house in case any Formosan termites are present. People assume that because of the creosote, railroad ties are insect-free. But, in terms of the Formosan termites, this is not true. The termites should not survive our harsh Northern Nevada winters. With the ties above ground, they should thoroughly freeze.

If anyone finds a railroad tie with suspect termites, call Lee Lawrence, (775) 688-1182, ext. 252. He wants to see them. To facilitate correct identification, keep the specimens moist in alcohol, such as rubbing alcohol, in a container that will not leak.

Many thanks to Nancy Thornburg for bringing these potentially problematic pests to my attention. For gardening information, see www.unce.unr.edu or call your local University of Nevada Cooperative Extension office. You can also "Ask a Master Gardener" by e-mailing mastergardeners@unce.unr.edu.

JoAnne Skelly is the Carson City / Storey County Extension Educator for University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.

*Nevada
Appeal
12-14-02*



Enhancing, Preserving and Protecting the Qualities of Rural Life



2003

Key Member Services

Through its history, RCRC has closely adhered to the principle of serving its members' individual and collective needs through representation at many governmental and consumer levels. Through the last three decades the organization has developed an array of focused services designed to benefit rural counties and their citizens' needs. Five specific programs, four of them through specially-formed Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs), have evolved to make RCRC a potent force for:

Legislative Advocacy

Regulatory Advocacy/Program Support

Housing Finance

Capital Financing, and

Rural Health Care

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JAN 08 2003

ALPINE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Calaveras Enterprise 1-3-03

CCWD attorney named assistant manager and full-time counsel

By Craig Koscho

The new year brought some changes in administration positions at the Calaveras County Water District.

District counsel Alan Turner, formerly a part-time contracted employee, has been promoted to the job of assistant manager/chief counsel.

CCWD directors also authorized creation of an administrative assistant/paralegal position to assist in the district's legal work and hired Gail Steinman to fill the post.

The reorganization was approved at the Dec. 18 CCWD meeting on a 5-0 vote, Turner said.

As a contract employee, Turner received \$150 an hour, earning approximately \$72,000 a year for working about one day a week.

His new salary will be \$125,000, plus benefits.

Steinman will receive \$60,000 a year plus benefits.

Since Turner's new duties include overseeing human resources, the position of human resources director, presently held by Linda Bonnell, is being eliminated.

"While the human considera-

tions should never be ignored, there are times when the needs of the organization outweigh the impact to staff," General Manager John Stewart said in a memo to the directors. "Regrettably, this is one of those times."

Another unfilled position, assistant engineer/manager, has also been eliminated.

The net effect, Turner said, is a savings to the district of about \$47,000 a year. "Plus they get full-time counsel," he added.

An expansion of internal legal services was needed to help reduce the amount of money paid to outside counsel, Turner said.

For the last few years the district has been involved in expensive litigation requiring outside counsel. Additional outside help has been needed for special matters, such as labor law and water rights issues, he said.

The expectation, Turner said, is that more of that will now be done in-house instead of paying for additional attorneys.

Turner will be leaving his job as district attorney for Alpine County, where he has been for five years.

But he's no stranger to his new duties, having previously represented various water agencies since 1983.

"It's an easy transition to go back to that kind of work full time," Turner said, adding he finds the work more immediately rewarding than criminal law.

Turner should have no problem getting along with Steinman since he's worked with her in the Alpine County District Attorney's Office where she's been for 14 years.

For the time being, Turner said he will probably commute to work, joining some other CCWD employees who work about four days in the San Andreas office then go home for three days.

He admitted the winter drive from Alpine County is sometimes a long and arduous one, requiring him to travel north from Markleeville on Highway 89 and then west over Carson Pass on Highway 88 - when it's open.

"It can be exciting," Turner said, adding he'll take a close look at re-locating come spring.

Contact Craig Koscho at ckoscho@calaverasenterprise.com

January 31, 2003

COMMUNITY OUTLOOK

Baroque band plays Alpine County Library

Dream Spirit Baroque Band will perform a Winter Celebration Concert from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday at Alpine County Library in Markleeville.

Sponsored by Friends of Alpine County Library, the concert is designed to be a cure for the mid-winter blahs. The band performs light-hearted music in a variety of styles from many different cultures and eras. Selections include classical, baroque, Celtic, Renaissance, pop, ethnic and folk chamber music from around the world.

The four local musicians play an original mix of instruments. Performers are Jack Shipley, hammer dulcimer (sounds like a harpsichord) and recorder; Jon Smart guitar; Suzanne Stone, cello; and

Diana Woodbury, violin. Their sound has been described as "hip" chamber music.

Dream Spirit has been together for two years. They perform at local coffeehouses, art show openings, community events, and public concerts as well as private parties, weddings and celebrations.

Sponsored by Friends of Alpine County Library, a \$5 donation is suggested. Refreshments will be served during intermission.

Alpine County Library is located in Markleeville at 270 Laramie St. (From Highway 89 in Markleeville turn right on Montgomery Street for one-third mile. The library is on the left). For more information call (530) 694-2120 in Markleeville or (530) 544-7036 in South Lake Tahoe.



Chris Wellhausen/Tahoe Tribune

Members of Dream Spirit Baroque Band, from left, front row, Suzanne Stone and Diana Woodbury, and back row, Jack Shipley and Jon Smart will play Saturday at Markleeville.

visitor gets help from auto shop

To the editor:

Worst travel experience: On a chain control day earlier this month at Lake Tahoe the power

LTCC faculty at college ai

Teaching is their career, but art is their passion. The art faculty at Lake Tahoe Community College display its work each year during the LTCC Art Faculty and Staff Exhibition.

"Making art is a passion for life," said David Foster, art instructor. "As an artist and art instructor, the excitement of creating is compelling. In this exhibition my drawing, photography and sculpture present my focus on inventing and seeing."

Foster developed the art curriculum, art major and art certificate programs at LTCC.

Lynn Wright, a well-known Northern California poster print-

Coleman baskets display opens Feb. 4

The exquisite Washoe Native American basketry of Sue Coleman will be displayed at the Nevada Arts Council's office exhibition space in Carson City from Feb. 4 to March 28.

Coleman, a member of the Washoe Tribe and creator of exceptional traditional baskets, will exhibit a variety of basket types, including winnowing trays, gift baskets, seed beaters, burden baskets, and cradleboards.

"The process of making native willow baskets is long and intensive," said Jeanne H. Johnson, Folklife Program Coordinator for the Nevada Arts Council.

"Sue learned how to prepare and weave baskets from her mother. She collects the best willows - only in the fall and winter - strips the bark off and splits the willow in three to make the ads.' Threads are sometimes split again and sized to be extremely small. Only then does the actual weaving of the basket take place."

Coleman teaches children and adults of all ethnic groups about the history of Washoe weaving and how the Washoe people used the baskets. Her classes and demonstrations are in demand throughout the state. She was awarded a Folk Arts Apprenticeship to teach willow basketmaking to her daughter last year and will receive this year's Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in Folk Arts.

The 23rd Annual Governor's Arts Awards Presentation takes place Wednesday, March 5, as part of the Department of Cultural Affairs's Oasis Conference. Oasis 2003 is set for March 5 through 7 in Carson City.

Oasis sessions are designed for anyone interested in arts, education, humanities, preserva-



R-C file photo

Details: Sue Coleman demonstrates her art during an interpretive program in Genoa.

tion and history. The conference is an excellent opportunity to network and connect in what promises to be thought-provoking panels and discussions. For more information, please contact the Nevada Arts Council at (775) 687-6680.

The Nevada Arts Council is located at 716 N. Carson St. (intersection of Washington), Suite A, in Carson City. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the exhibit is free to the public. A closing reception for Sue Coleman's exhibit will be held Thursday evening, March 27, from 6 to 8 p.m., and all are invited to see the exhibit, meet the artist and enjoy refresh-

ments.

The Nevada Arts Council was founded in 1967 as a state agency charged with developing and promoting the arts in Nevada. Statewide programs include Artists Services, Arts in Education, Community Arts Development, Folklife Program, and Grants. Council funds designated to support the work of Nevada artists, arts organizations and institutions are funded by the Nevada State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and other public and private funds.

The Nevada Arts Council is a division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs.

The Department serves Neva-

da's citizens and visitors through cultural and information management, preservation and promotion of cultural resources, and education. The Department also includes the Division of Museums and History, State Historic Preservation Office, State Library and Archives, Comstock Historic District Commission, Literacy Coalition, Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy, and the Commission for Cultural Affairs. For more information, visit the department's Web site at NevadaCulture.org



Record Courier
3-28-08

Staff reeling from tragic l

by Susan Wood
R-C News Service

The first order of business for the head of Alpine County's Health Department involves healing at her office.

Cindy Hannah of South Lake Tahoe replaced Katherine Kerr as the director of the small department following the death of the popular staff member. She died in a car accident at the end of last year.

Kerr's death came two days after the office was already feeling the pain from the loss of a

colleague's husband. Dr. Steven Levesque, husband of county Public Health Officer Janice Levesque, had died in a mountain climbing accident.

"It was the week from you know what. It was very hard for the community, not just the department," said Hannah, 50, who worked a year as the family support counsel for the county's Office of Education.

She served as interim director until Feb. 1, when she took the job on a permanent basis. She reports to the county Board of Supervisors at an annual salary of



Cindy Hannah takes job that Kat Kerr held in Alpine County, Calif.

\$56,000 and manages a full-time staff of 12 people.

Hannah wanted to combine a desire to work in local government with her experience in the well-being and care of people.

sses welcomes director

Between 1996 and 2000, she worked as the social services director for Churchill County in Fallon before returning to Tahoe with her significant other, Steve Kaufman, and their dogs.

The health department director plans to launch a shuttle bus service with Proposition 10 funds that carts passengers between the Ranchos neighborhood of Gardnerville up Highway 88 to

Markleeville for \$1 a ride. Six stops are planned on the route.

The supervisors approved the estimated \$60,000 program, which now requires the OK from Douglas County commissioners, who are expected to hear the matter within a month.

Also on Hannah's agenda, the department needs to develop its state-mandated bioterrorism plan, hire a public health nurse, keep

the community clinic open in Woodfords and monitor the outcome of California's budget woes.

"Obviously, the state budget the way it is — this is the major focus this year," Hannah said.

The manager, who describes herself as a "jack-of-all-trades," received a degree from San Jose State University in physical education.

English author conducts personal t

With a focus on life planning through exploration of the seven stages of personal biography, English author and educator Lee Sturgeon-Day will lead a two-day workshop in The Mountain and Garden Bed & Breakfast in Woodfords, Friday, April 4, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

She will also be guest speak-

er at the Markleeville Writers' Circle, April 4 from noon to 1 p.m., where members and the general public are invited to attend a free presentation with a question and answer session, and brown bag lunch at the Markleeville Library.

Sturgeon-Day is the author of "A Slice of Life," a chronicle of the year following her diagnosis of breast cancer in

1987, in which she introduced a unique cancer treatment of anthroposophic medicine and therapies widely and successfully used in Europe and available in the United States.

In her workshop, the author will focus on the shared rhythms and cycles of human development from birth through maturity, showing how early cycles are mirrored in

g Guide

The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

Biography workshop in Markleeville

adult experience.

Participants learn how to chart a "Life Map" and to explore the potential meaning of the images and patterns of their personal biography.

Co-founder of the Social Development Center in England, and Life Ways For Healing Education in Detroit, Mich., Sturgeon-Day has led workshops since 1975.

She lives in Prescott, Ariz., and teaches adult development in the Waldorf Teacher Training program.

Participants are invited to call the Markleeville Library, at (530) 694-2120 to reserve a place for the Writers' Circle presentation.

To participate or learn more about the two-day seminar (\$60 registration fee includes lunch Saturday, with a 10 percent discount before Saturday, March 22), call Diana Mitzner at (530) 694-9691.

For lodging reservations, call (530) 694-0012.

Visit us on the Web at
www.recordcourier.com

Building dedicated to former dire

by Regina Purcell
Staff Writer

It was a pristine day Saturday as friends, family and coworkers dedicated the Alpine County Health and Human Services building in memory of former director Katherine Kerr.

Kerr, 44, died Sept. 13, 2002, in a traffic accident at Highway 88, just west of Crystal Springs Road. Soon after, in honor of her life, the Alpine County Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to dedicate the building in her name.

The memorial was held early Saturday morning and included Kerr's parents, Frank and Gloria Kerr, formerly of Carson City, and brother, Kenneth, his wife, Lisa and their son, Bradley, 14, of San Clemente, Calif.

Frank and Gloria Kerr moved back to Indio, Calif., following the ceremony.

"We moved up here to be with Kathy," Frank Kerr said. "I had a stroke and Kathy and her mother decided something was going to happen to me, so they thought it would be better to be closer."

After her death, the Kerr's said it has been difficult to be without their daughter, so they decided to move back to California.

"All the memories are in our hearts and mind, she will always be with us," said Gloria Kerr.

"She was a very good friend of mine, a buddy, a pal, everything you can think of," he said of his daughter.

"You just never want to experience this. Nobody does."

Kerr was director of the Alpine County Health and Human Services and was instrumental in getting a new million-dollar facility built in Markleeville, Calif., in 1998.

"She was very involved in every detail, the design, the office furniture, the colors," said Judy Molnar, assistant to the board of supervisors.

The entire facility consolidated the public health and social services departments two years after initial construction, Molnar said.

"It was a huge labor of love for Kathy," she said.

Beside the health and human service building dedication, another area was



REGINA PURCELL/The R-C

In remembrance: Members of the Kerr family, from left, father Frank, mother Gloria, and brother, Ken Kerr with wife Lisa and their son, Bradley, at dedication ceremony Saturday.

landscaped and tables and chairs were added. The area was named Kathy's Garden.

"It was a way for the staff to channel their grief," Molnar said.

On hand Saturday were many Alpine County Supervisors, including Chairman Herman Zellmer, who spoke during the dedication ceremony.

"It was such a terrible loss," he said. "She was so

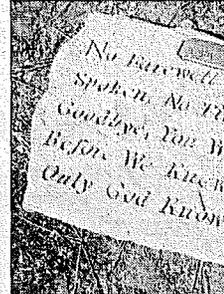
close to home.

"We not only had to refill the position, but had the terrible vacuum she left."

Cindy Hannah filled in as interim director until February this year, when she was named director, replacing Kerr.

Formerly of the Family Support Council, Hannah had worked with Kerr in the past.

"We all remember her great laugh," she said, "and



Kathy's Garden plaque

of course, her genealogy, more than 500 attended, including the Alpine County Sheriff's Office.

"Many things Kerr did are still in place," Zellmer said. "We dedicated the building to her memory and leadership and all the qualities she had."

Jardine said Kerr was a wonderful person and really says a lot for her.

Kerr's brother, Kenneth, his sister would have been with embarrassment at the dedication.

"She didn't do anything for awards or recognition," he said. "She never turned down

Building dedicated to former director, Kerr

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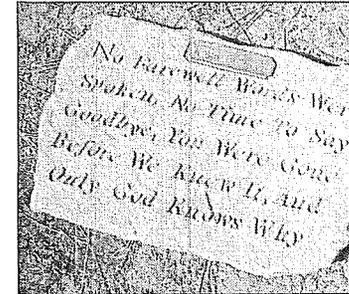
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Kathy's Garden plaque

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Her Jeep skidded in front of a semitrailer rig and hit it broadside, killing her instantly.

Building dedicated to

by Regina Purcell
Staff Writer

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Kerr, 44, died Sept. 13, 2002, in a traffic accident at Highway 88, just west of Crystal Springs Road. Soon after, in honor of her life, the Alpine County Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to dedicate the building in her name.

The memorial was held early Saturday morning and included Kerr's parents, Frank and Gloria Kerr, formerly of Carson City, and brother, Kenneth, his wife, Lisa and their son, Bradley, 14, of San Clemente, Calif.

Frank and Gloria Kerr moved back to Indio, Calif., following the ceremony.

"We moved up here to be with Kathy," Frank Kerr said. "I had a stroke and Kathy and her mother decided something was going to happen to me, so they thought it would be better to be closer."

After her death, the Kerr's said it has been difficult to be without their daughter, so they decided to move back to California.

"All the memories are in our hearts and mind, she will always be with us," said Gloria Kerr.

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"She was very involved in every detail, the design, the office furniture, the colors," said Judy Molnar, assistant to the board of supervisors.

The entire facility consolidated the public health and social services departments two years after initial construction, Molnar said.

"It was a huge labor of love for Kathy," she said.

Beside the health and human service building dedication, another area was



In remembrance: Members of the Kerr family, including Frank, mother Gloria, and brother Kenneth, and their son, Bradley, at the dedication.

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REGINA PURCELL/The R-C

he Kerr family, from left, father other, Ken Kerr with wife Lisa cation ceremony Saturday.

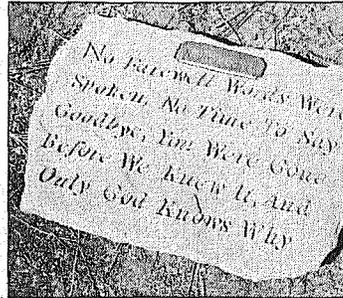
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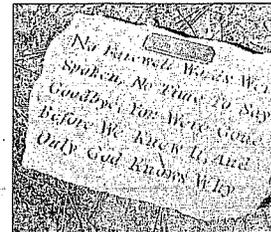
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S

Record Courier

Wednesday, April 2, 2003 ■ B4

Season festivities begin at Villa Gigli

Italian restaurant Villa Gigli on Hot Springs Road in Markleeville, Calif., celebrates its re-opening, after a long winter break, with a Pasta, Wine, and Music Weekend, April 5 and 6.

Saturday, Jim Pedroncelli, co-owner of Sonoma's Pedroncelli Winery, will introduce his just-released Sangiovese, the new table wine for Villa Gigli, along with several other wines. Ruggero Gigli will dish up portions of his lasagna, and Vince Crudele will play Neapolitan songs on his keyboard, no doubt inspiring all of the Italians and "wannabe" Italians to burst into song.

Sunday, April 6 will be a repeat of Saturday, with the exception of Jim Pedroncelli pouring the wine, though his wines will be available.

Festivities begin each evening at 6 p.m. For reservations or further information, phone Villa Gigli at (530) 694-2253 or e-mail info@villagigli.com

People duped about economic interests of war

EDITOR:

In response to some of the comments made

toward people questioning the war effort, I too feel we are being duped.

I do not agree with the president's motives for this war in Iraq. I have even considered sending him some pretzels to express my views but that would not be productive.

Lately, I have been berating myself for not being more productive. I should have spoken out more, sent more money to peaceful organizations, been more active. Maybe I could have done something more to stop this war.

But recently I read a published letter sent to President Clinton back in 1998 signed by Jeb Bush, Donald Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney and others of an organization called "New American Century," encouraging President Clinton to use military force against Saddam Hussein to "advance and secure America's interest in the new century." I'm pretty sure that means economic interests. So now I believe the die was cast as soon as the Bush/Cheney ticket was in office. War was coming and bin Laden, a Saudi national, lit the fuse to start it.

Most Americans feel we have to have moral justification for war. Fighting for economic benefit does not sit right with us. Bin Laden supplied a terrible motive to fight and we are using it to blanket the rest of the world in our security.

We read everywhere that Korea is to be considered a threat, too. What else do we have to look forward to, China? China has us by the cross hairs when it comes to economic interests. We buy all kinds of stuff from that nation and they are not so pro-democracy either. Are we going to get tough with them, too? I mean, "promote America's principles abroad to ensure our security and our greatness into the new century," another line from the "New American Century" document.

I keep wondering, is this Iraq conflict simply about oil?

Should we worry our leader believes so strongly God is on his side that he does not have to do his own research and come up with a man-made, peaceful, workable solution to this problem? He appears so pro-Heaven that he is not timid about sending people there.

As a writer, it is my job to wonder about these

things. It is your job as a human being to think about them, too. NO EXCUSES! You are not too busy to think. We have every method known to man at our disposal to get information.

We need to keep reading, openly talk and respectfully listen and discuss what is going on and why. Stay informed. Keep asking questions. We might be able to save lives in a peaceful way. Don't allow why we are supposedly fighting, a restriction of freedoms, to become who we are.

Marie Johnson
Alpine County

Record Courier April 9, 2003

Obituaries

Jack Doyal

Gardnerville resident who made new friends everyday

Jack Doyal died April 3, 2003.

He was born April 18, 1921 in Jennings, Oklahoma to Isaac Lee Doyal and Ada Mae Endicot.

Doyal was a long time resident of Hope Valley, Alpine County, Calif.

He married Bobbie Elyse Robertson on March 24, 1946.

He served on the Board of Supervisors, Board of Education, School Board, Planning Commission, and Chamber of Commerce in Alpine County.

He served in the Army Air Corp during World War II in Africa.

Doyal is survived by his wife Elyse, of Woodfords, Calif., sons Lynn, Daniel and Dennis; two brothers and two sisters; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held April 12, 2003, at 11 a.m. at the home of Dan Doyal at 34 Pine Ave, Woodfords, Calif.

RC 4-12-03

Washoe land subject of Pine Nut agenda

by Regina Purcell
Staff Writer

For the first time, three affected entities will meet to discuss the Pine Nut Management Plan and proposed off-highway vehicle regulations in the area on Tuesday.

Representatives from the Bureau of Land Management will meet with the Washoe Tribe and the newly formed non-profit American Indian Hands of Hope and Friendship group. The latter is comprised, in part, of property owners holding Indian allotments in the Pine Nut area, south of Gardnerville.

Vince Wyatt of the American Indian Hands of Hope and Friendship group, is hoping all interested parties will attend the meeting at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 15, at the BLM Carson City Field office at 5665 Morgan Mill Road.

"This is the first time all three entities have met face-to-face,"

he said. "This plan also encompasses parts of the (Douglas County) Comprehensive Trail Plan and access to Indian lands."

The BLM will release a draft management plan for the area in June.

Last summer, preparation began for input to the BLM's revised management plan for the 362,000-acre Pine Nut Mountain Planning Area. Douglas County residents include proposals for land use, a buffer zone, land disposal, illegal dumping, public access and funding options for the planning area.

The concern is that many parcels in the Pine Nut Planning Area are owned by Washoe Indian allotments and local planners want to conserve the area from future developments.

Because it is located within a sovereign nation, Washoe property is not subject to local regulations governing land use.

RC 4-12-03

MESA Day a success for local students

by Maggie O'Neill
Staff Writer

Kids from the Woodfords Indian Education Center recently participated in Pre-Mesa Day in Lone Pine, Calif.

The Woodfords team competed against three other teams on Saturday, March 15.

MESA/Success Through Collaboration (MESA/STC) is a partnership with California-based American Indian Tribes, American Indian Education Center and the California Department of Education.

"The primary focus of iESA is educational enrichment and support for its participants to succeed in mathematics and science and to go on to college," said Lawanda Fred, MESA coordinator.

Junior high and high school students participated in egg-drop and balsa wood glider competitions.

John Vann, a Douglas High School junior won two medals. He took first place in the egg drop. Of 20 eggs that he dropped in his contraption, 15 survived the six story distance.

He received a second place medal for his performance on the advanced math exam.

Krystal Blackowl, a Douglas



SHANNON LITZ/The R-C

American Indian enrichment: Krystal Blackowl and Jermaine Jim participated in MESA Day last month, along with other Carson Valley students Yvette Bryan,

Michael Rogers, Janean Skenandore, Samuel Simmons, Benjamin Gonzales, Brandon Brown and John Vann. Area children won many medals during the events.

High School sophomore and Jermaine Jim, a Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School ninth-grader, received honors for second place finishes in math.

Both received first place in the straw tower and paper tower events.

Samuel Simmons, a PWLMS ninth-grader, also received first place in the paper tower event.

Students Mike Rojas, Yvette

Bryan, Brandon Brown, Benjamin Gonzalez and Janean Skenandore, all sixth-to-eighth graders at Diamond Valley School in Alpine County, Calif., received honors medals.

Rojas, Brown Bryan and Gonzalez and Skenandore received first place honors in the straw tower and paper tower events.

Skenandore and Bryan also received first and second place

in the crystal growing event.

Brown received a third-place finish in the balsa wood glider event.

"Congratulations to all these students on their wonderful performance," Fred said. "This event has built self-confidence many of these students may have forgotten about. I am very proud and honored to have the opportunity to work with these kids."

Avalanche kills man in Alpine

Associated Press

A snowmobiler was killed in an avalanche in a remote area of the Sierra Nevada south of Lake Tahoe, authorities said.

Louis Magnotti, 43, of Zephyr Cove, was buried by the avalanche Saturday afternoon while snowmobiling with friends near Charity Valley in Alpine County, Calif.

He was dead when rescuers reached him late Saturday night, sheriff's deputies said. The other snowmobilers escaped injury.

The avalanche was 500 feet wide and 1,000 feet long. Magnotti was swept down 600 feet from where he was last seen and found trapped under 5 feet of snow.

Witnesses said he vanished in a cloud of boiling snow. Witnesses searched for him for 45 minutes without success.

The sheriff's office launched a search after being contacted at about 6:45 p.m. About 40 volunteers assisted in the search.

The area along Blue Lakes Road east of Carson Pass is popular with snowmobilers.

The avalanche occurred after another powerful spring storm dumped up to 20 inches of snow and left some Tahoe ski resorts with record April snowfall.

RC
A-30-03

Obituaries

Robert Jackson

Alpine County, Calif., roads engineer; veteran

Robert Milton "Bob" Jackson, 91, of Minden, died May 12, 2004.

Jackson was born Sept. 21, 1912 in Sacramento, Calif., to Charles and Mary Ann Ellis Jackson. He was the grandson of Alpine County, Calif., pioneers John Robert Gills and Margaret Ann Jones, who were Diamond Valley ranchers and former owners of the Alpine Hotel.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 37 years Rosella Mildred Jackson, and granddaughter Codi Elisabeth Currence.

Jackson attended San Pedro High School and Compton Junior College. He was a lifetime resident of Markleeville, Calif.

Jackson retired in 1973 after 30 years as the Alpine County engineer. He was proud of the roads he designed including Monitor Pass, Blue Lakes Road, Mt. Reba Road and Airport Road.

He served in the Army Air Corps in 1942 and after World War II, he returned to Alpine County with his wife.

Jackson is survived by son John Jackson; daughters Jeanne Turnbeaugh and Judy Currence;



Jackson

sister Gwen R. McGinley; 10 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, who all reside in the local area.

Memorial services will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 18, at Turtle Rock Park in Alpine County.

FitzHenry's Crematory in Carson City is in charge of cremation and FitzHenry's Carson Valley Funeral Home in Gardnerville is in charge of the arrangements.

Frederick Thomsen

Gardnerville native, worked for transportation

Frederick T. Thomsen, 62, died May 10 from complications of paraneoplastic neurological disorder, an extremely rare condition caused by small cell lung cancer.

He was born Aug. 21, 1941, to Fred and Josephine Thomsen of Centerville.

He served in the National Guard and worked for 30 years at the Nevada Department of Transportation. He was a member of the 20-30 Club and was a volunteer firefighter in Gardnerville.

Preceding him in death were her sister, JoAnn Sinclair-Foster, and nephew, Michael Sinclair.

Surviving are his wife of 41 years, Carol; daughter, Kim Thomsen; daughter and son-in-law, Kellie and Todd Butterworth; grandson, Jeremy Pacheco; brothers: Bob, Roy Francis, Hank and Willie Thomsen; sisters: Betty Beck and Rosemary Laird; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be today, May 15, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City (corner of Nevada and Musser streets).

The family asks that no flowers be sent. Instead, please consider a gift to CARE Chest, 7910 N. Vir-

RECORD COURIER
MAY 2004

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Birthday celebrated in Fredricksburg

Family and friends joined together to wish a happy 95th birthday to Vernita Springmeyer Smith, Saturday, May 24.

The celebration was held at the home of Vernita's brother, Hubert Bruns, of Fredericksburg, Alpine County, Calif.

Present at the afternoon festivities were Vernita, Hubert Bruns, his wife, Merle, and their three children, Shirley, Linda and Bruce; Ida Glazier; Lester and Kay Springmeyer of Reno; Wayne Loganbill of Reno; and Fritz, Nancy and Jenny Thornburg of Markleeville.

Vernita was born in the Bruns home in Fredericksburg in 1908, attended grammar school at the Fredericksburg School, Douglas High School, and graduated from the University of California at Berkeley.

She taught school in Dresslerville and Gardnerville.

She married Lloyd Spring-



Submitted photo

Special day: Vernita Springmeyer Smith celebrated her birthday Saturday.

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In 1962 she married Ted Smith, an old college friend, and they lived in Los Angeles where she still resides.

RC 5-28-03

May 28, 2003

The Record Courier

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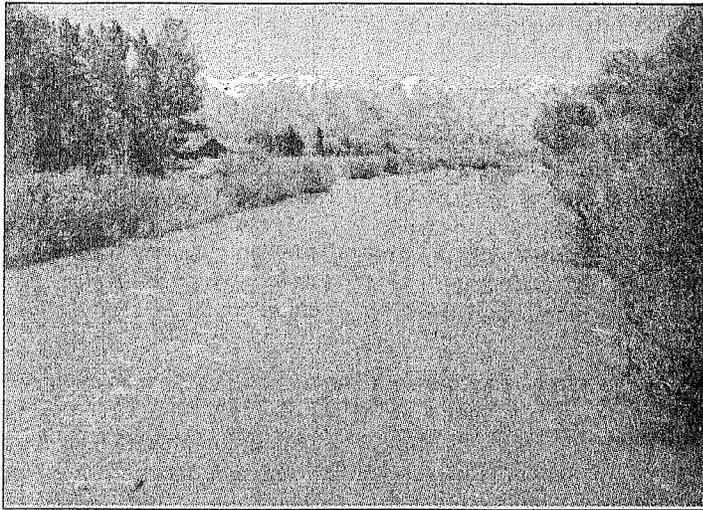
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high, fast



BELINDA GRANT/The R-C

Current flow: The East Fork Carson River runs high looking west from Lutheran Bridge on Centerville Lane near Waterloo Lane on Tuesday.

Sunny weather triggers snow melt and the season's highest flow rate

by Jill Keller
R-C News Service

Carson River reached its peak flow for the year as high temperatures melted snow, drawing fresh water to feed the valley floor.

The spring flow will be a good test for environmental improvements put in place to prevent banks from washing away and eroding into the river stream.

At 3 p.m., Saturday, the U.S. Geological Service's monitoring station near Mexican Dam recorded a flow of 2,260 cubic feet per second. Though the river was high, the flow was minimal compared to the 30,500 cubic feet per second that coursed through the same station during the New Year's Day Flood of 1997. The gauge recorded no flow on Sept. 5, 1992.

Although local, federal and state agencies and conservation

groups continue to make progress in cleaning up the river, they still face the challenge of keeping pace with development in fast-growing Douglas and Lyon counties and balancing that with environmental concerns.

The river, which runs from Markleeville to the Carson Sink east of Fallon, was identified earlier this month by the U.S. Interior Department as highly likely to experience water conflicts by 2025. Officials say if the area continues to grow at the same rate as today, it is estimated the demand for the water it provides will be exceeded by 2050.

One challenge the area faces is the lack of water storage to carry over water from an abundant spring runoff to the end of summer, for instance, when demand is high and the water is low, said Ed James, general manager of the Carson Water

See **River** on page 8

Record Courier
5/28/03

RC 5-31-03

Missing couple found

Staff reports

A Sacramento-area man and woman who had been missing since Monday were found in the Wet Meadows area of Alpine County on Wednesday.

Bill and Kathy Stayner were located by a California Highway Patrol fixed wing aircraft Wednesday afternoon.

Their vehicle was stuck in rugged terrain.

The Stayners were going four-wheeling in a 1970 Toyota LandCruiser for Memorial Weekend and were reported missing after they did not return on Monday.

The Stayners were in good condition according to an Alpine County Sheriff's Department release.

Alpine artists' show

Tables of crafts, easels with paintings, and canopies and banners will transform the serene Markleeville meadow next to Villa Gigli on Hot Springs Road Sunday, June 1, from 3 to 5 p.m. into an art faire with the Markleeville Artists group exhibiting.

The Markleeville Artists recently banded together to promote recognition of the artists living in proximity to Markleeville and to acknowledge appreciation for their scenic mountain environment. The Markleeville Artists will be displaying their work at Villa Gigli the first Sunday of every month, through October.

Visitors not only will be able to view the al fresco art, but also to listen to the music of pianist Vince Crudele inside Villa Gigli. Crudele, who has performed as solo pianist and bandleader in most of San Francisco's hotels and nightclubs, has a vacation home at South Lake Tahoe and enjoys the Markleeville ambience. Sierra Foothill wines will also be poured. For further information, call (530) 694-2253 or e-mail ginagigli@gbis.com

The Record Courier May 31, 2003

Obituaries

Merle Sheppard Bruns Married for 64 years; enjoyed family, ranch life

Merle Sheppard Bruns, long-time resident of Fredericksburg, Calif., died June 5, 2003, of complications following surgery for a broken hip.



Merle Bruns

Mrs. Bruns was born in Volcano, Calif., on Aug. 25, 1912, to George and Mary McKenzie Sheppard. The family moved to Sutter Creek when she was very young, and she graduated from both grammar school and high school there. She graduated from business school in San Francisco and worked there until she met Hubert Bruns of Fredericksburg. She and Hubert were married at her parents' home in Sutter Creek on April 16, 1939.

Mrs. Bruns participated in the Alpine Mothers' Club when her children were in school but otherwise focused her attention on her

family and the ranch in Fredericksburg.

She was preceded in death by her sisters, Gladys Sheppard Loganbill and Lucille Sheppard Delp, and her brothers, George Sheppard and Walter Sheppard.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Hubert; her children Shirley, of Sacramento, and Linda and Bruce of Fredericksburg; her sister, Elva Sheppard Busher, of San Francisco; and brother, Mervin Sheppard, of Sutter Creek.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10, at Fredericksburg Cemetery in Alpine County.

Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be sent to the Carson Valley United Methodist Church, 1375 Centerville Lane, Gardnerville, NV 89410.

RC 6-7-03

Leviathan health-risk reassessed

by Joey Crandall
Staff Writer

The Leviathan Mine area poses more of a risk to people the closer they get to it, according to a new report.

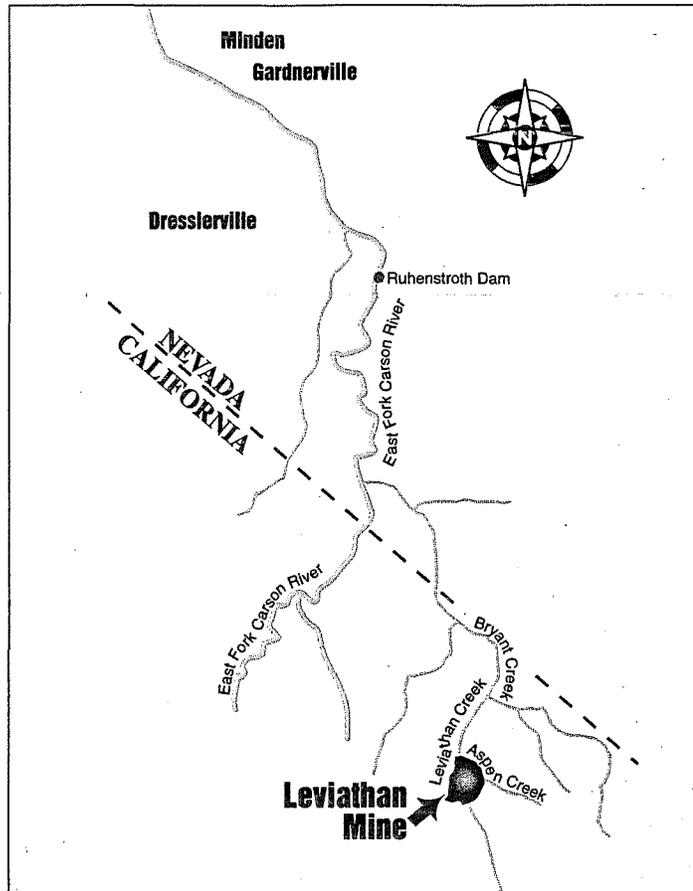
Contact with mine tailings, surface water, and eating fish caught from creeks in the area or plants grown there, pose a health hazard according to the "Public Health Assessment for the Leviathan Mine," recently released by the California Department of Health Services.

The report, made in conjunction with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, outlines current and past instances of contamination in the area of the mine and makes some consideration about future exposure.

The Leviathan Mine is a 50-acre open pit mine located six miles east of Markleeville, Calif., and 25 miles southwest of Gardnerville.

A pile of copper sulfate waste covering 26 acres and reaching heights of 130 feet in some places stands in the middle of the mine.

The site was nominated to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Priority List in 1999 and, as a results, the



CHRIS OLESEN/R-C graphic

CDHS put together the Public Health Assessment.

In the assessment, the following conclusions were made:

- Acid Mine Drainage from

Leviathan Mine has caused significant contamination to Leviathan, Aspen and Bryant creeks, as well as the River Ranch Irrigation Channel.

■ Seven contaminant metals and chemicals (aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, iron, manganese, nickel and thallium) have been detected in surface water and sediment downstream from the mine.

■ Sources of potential exposure include consumption of fish, plants and wild game collected near the mine, eating beef raised on the River Ranch, inhalation of dust near the mine and future exposure to surface water and sediments via drinking, swimming and wading in Bryant Creek and the River Ranch Irrigation Channel.

Greg Braun, who authored the report along with Dr. Marilyn Underwood and Jay LaPlante, said that part of the purpose of the report is to record the cultural implications

Braun said he would like to stay involved in posting warnings in the area in the coming years and that he would like to do more with an outreach effort to let the surrounding communities know what is going on at the site.

Requests for the full report can be made to the National Technical Information Service by calling (703) 605-6000.

July 9, 2003

The Record-Courier ■ Gardnerville, Nevada

Road closures keep vehicles off roads for July Death Ride

by Leslie Pearson
Staff Writer

An expected 3,000 cyclists will be closing down Highways 89 and 4 in Alpine County for this year's Tour of the California Alps, Death Ride on July 12, according to the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce.

The only highway that will remain open for vehicles is Highway 88, the last leg of the route.

"We leave Highway 88 open because it's a more critical road for (vehicle) traffic," Jim Degraftenreid, coordinator of Death Ride, said. "There are less riders out at that part of the ride

'We're hoping motorists will be extra careful and watch out for cyclists.'

Jim Degraftenreid
Coordinator
Death Ride

because it's near the end."

State Route 89 over Monitor Pass from the junction of U.S. Highway 395 will be closed from 5:30 a.m. to noon. State Route 4 over Ebbett's Pass will be closed from 5:30 a.m. to 3

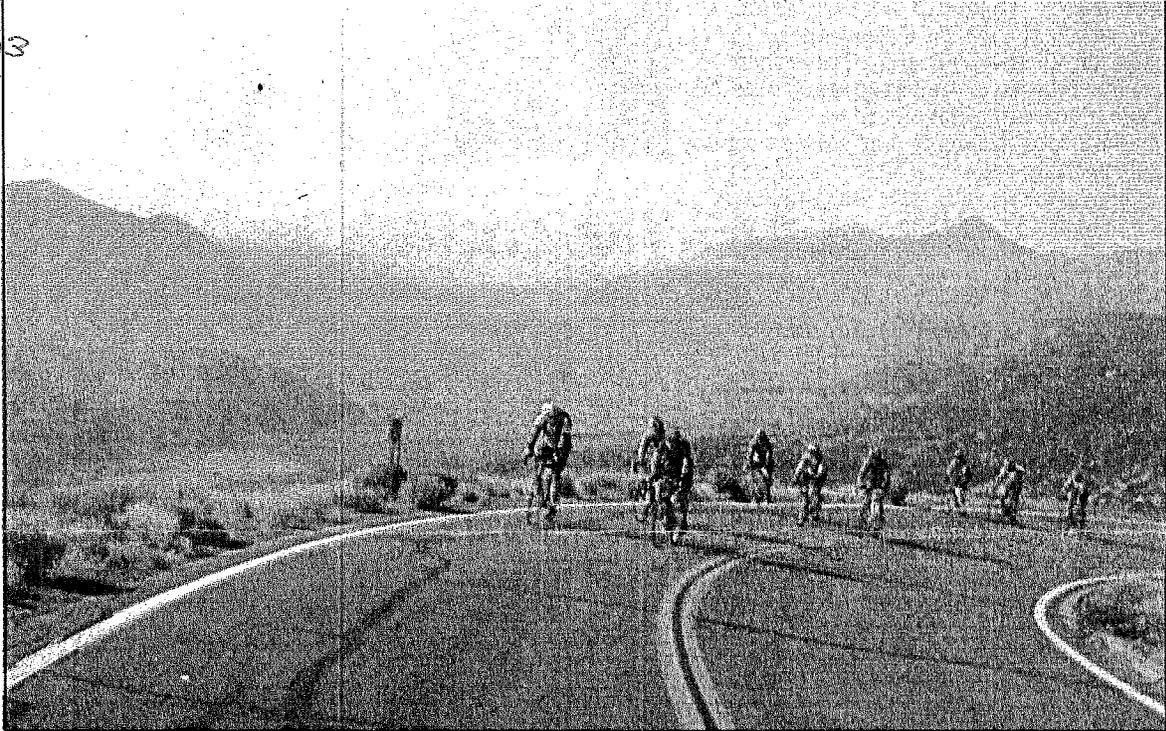
p.m.

The Alpine County Sheriff's Office will assist with patrolling the death ride and making sure both motorists and cyclists follow traffic laws, Degraftenreid said.

"We're hoping motorists will be extra careful and watch out for cyclists," he said.

There has never been a cyclist related car accident during Death Ride, Degraftenreid said.

Orange detour signs have been posted for weeks informing motorists of alternate routes, the Alpine County Sheriff's Office said. For more information on Death Ride and road closures, go to www.deathride.com.



Special to The Bee/Adam Paul

Riders in the Tour of the California Alps head up Monitor Pass during last year's event, in which Dr. Scott Lambert crashed and died. Lambert's family wants the "Death Ride" nickname and logo, featuring a skeleton, changed.

For the family of a rider killed in a major endurance bicycle race last year, the event's macabre nickname is...

All too real

By Blair Anthony Robertson
 BEE STAFF WRITER

MARKLEEVILLE — When he clicked into the pedals of his custom-made bicycle last July 13, Scott Lambert was like many of the 3,000 entrants spinning toward the base of the first mountain pass at dawn.

Middle-aged, successful, fit and well prepared, Lambert was excited about riding a 129-mile course so demanding that it was affectionately dubbed the "Death Ride."

For 20 years, the nickname seemed fitting and fun as the event gained a national reputation for beautiful scenery and sheer difficulty. Over the years, it became the ride to tackle for amateur cycling bragging rights.

Then a death hit the Death Ride, and the name suddenly didn't seem so funny or cute — at least not to the family of Scott Lambert.

Last year, Lambert, 50, had just completed a 12-mile climb up Monitor Pass and was speeding down the other side when he somehow lost control of his titanium road bike and crashed to the ground. Though he was wearing a helmet, he suffered severe head trauma and died at Washoe Medical Center in Reno.

News of Lambert's death was felt throughout sparsely populated Alpine County, where the Death Ride has been an economic boon and

social fixture for the past 20 years.

The oral surgeon and father of two loved the Death Ride, the physical struggle, the thrilling views of the Sierra, the satisfaction of conquering five mountain passes, as he had twice before.

He was photographed at the finish one year triumphantly holding his bike overhead. In the exercise room of his Granite Bay home he displayed the commemorative Death Ride jerseys.

"He was incredibly proud," said his widow, Amie Lambert.

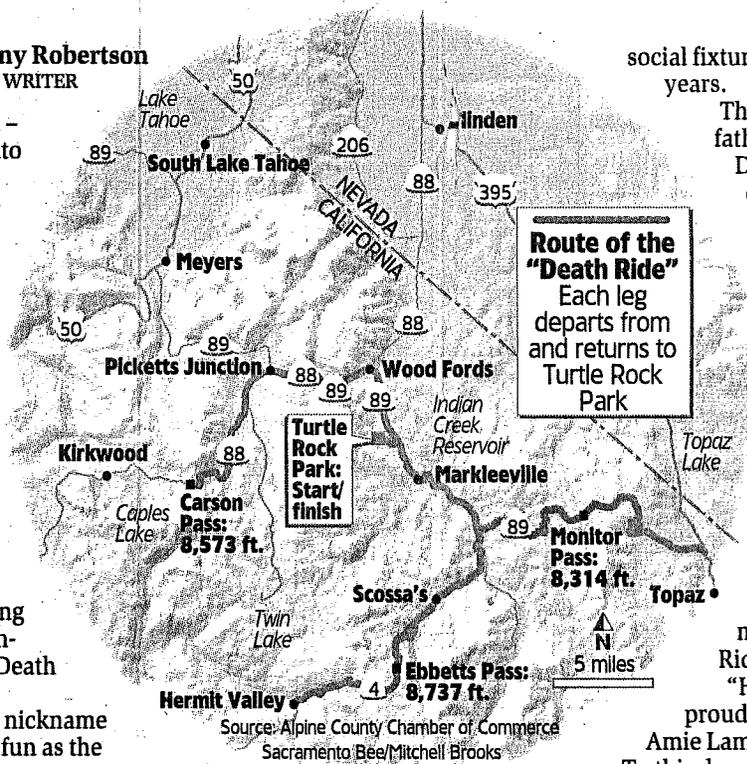
To this day, no one is certain what caused the crash.

"It has been a huge tragedy, not only for the family but for the organizers and the volunteers," said Jim DeGraffenreid, event coordinator for the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce. "We had never even had anything close to this happening before."

As this town of 150 gears up for the ride Saturday, the Lambert family has quietly struggled to face the event and figure out a way to honor their fallen loved one. One major sore spot is the "Death Ride" name and its cartoon mascot, a skeleton riding a bicycle.

The family has urged organizers to tone down or eliminate the references to death and return to the original

► RIDE, page A18



Source: Alpine County Chamber of Commerce
 Sacramento Bee/Mitchell Brooks



Sacramento Bee/Andy Alfaro
Dr. Scott Lambert
 during the 2002 ride.

Ride: Son still planning to make ride

► CONTINUED FROM A1
name, "Tour of the California Alps."

"After the ride last year, we wrote letters asking them to please consider changing the name and the mascot," said Amie Lambert. "When I came home from the hospital, it was like a nightmare seeing the T-shirt. It's in poor taste."

The couple's 10-year-old daughter, Ashley, suffered nightmares when she heard her father was going to do the 2002 Death Ride. She pleaded with him to change his mind.

DeGraffenreid said organizers listened to the family's concerns and spent hours discussing the options. In the end, they opted to keep the name but give it second billing to "Tour of the California Alps." They also kept the mascot logo, saying it is revered by participants who return year after year.

In fact, the event is so popular that this year it is limited to 3,000 riders, with an additional 1,200 on the waiting list. A training camp - the Near Death Experience - was sold out.

"It was an extremely difficult decision for us. We felt like the name really needed to stay. That is one of the things the riders really looked for, including Scott," DeGraffenreid said. "It doesn't connote that somebody is going to come to the ride and die. It's more like, 'I've done this and I feel like I'm dead.'"

In the early years, exhausted riders who completed the Tour of the California Alps dubbed it the Death Ride. The name stuck. The legend grew.

Arnie Baker, a physician, cycling author and host of the training camp, says completing the Death Ride - which can take 15 hours or more - is the equiva-

lent of running two marathons.

Volunteers are busily planning road closures, preparing thousands of meals and coordinating a variety of services for what is both the county's showcase event and biggest fundraiser for 20 area charities. Revenue from the \$80 Death Ride entry fee and the sale of merchandise accounts for 65 percent of the Chamber of Commerce's budget, DeGraffenreid said.

Along Markleeville's quiet main street, it seems most people don't want to tinker with anything to do with the Death Ride.

"The guys doing the ride like that name. That's what it boils down to," said Bob Rudden, owner of the Markleeville General Store, where an old Death Ride poster adorns the wall behind the register.

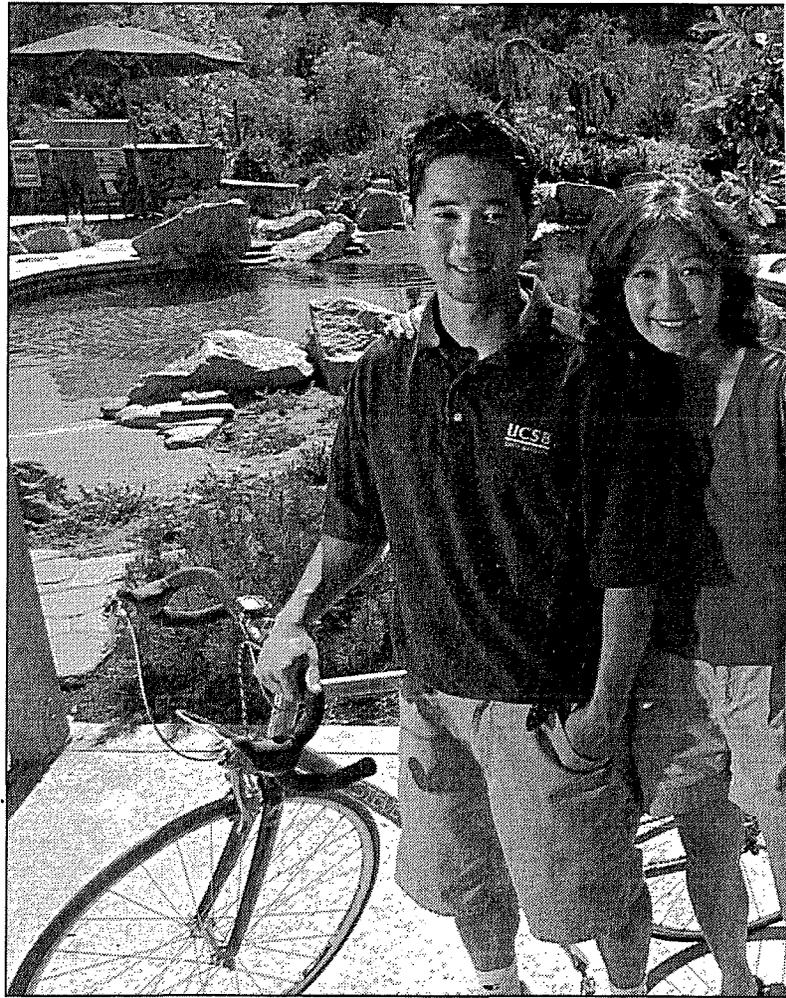
Scratching his gray beard, Rudden added, "If you're crazy enough to come up here and go (129 miles) and 16,000 vertical feet in one day, you might as well call it the Death Ride."

Emotions ran highest a few months back when the Death Ride released this year's version of Marley, the mascot logo. Instead of a riderless bike, as the family had requested, the latest logo shows Marley on the bike drinking from a water bottle. The background is engulfed in flames, a reference to last summer's wildland fire on Monitor Pass - where Lambert crashed and died.

The family was hurt and furious.

Kent Lambert, 40, of Mokolunne Hill had all along planned to ride this year to honor the older brother he looked up to as a hero, but quickly changed his mind.

"I search for what the right



Eric Morita-Lambert, left, and Amie Lambert are still trying to convince organizers that the name and logo are inappropriate after Dr. Scott Lambert's death last year. Some in-

word is, but there is a repulsion there," Kent Lambert said. "When I see the logo, I kind of twist up inside. It brings my brother's accident too close to home."

He still cannot stomach the Death Ride name even after all these months of negotiating with the event's organizers. He cringes when he catches himself using it in conversation.

"Once in awhile that slips out," he said. "I don't use that phrase. I call it 'the ride.'"

Scott Lambert's son, Eric Morita-Lambert, 26, says he, too, was disturbed by the logo. A newcomer to cycling, he is going forward with his plans to do the ride Saturday. He recently purchased a road-racing bike and has been training near his home in midtown Sacramento.

"When I saw the new logo design, I said, 'This is too

much.' It was so blatant that I had to say something. But now I'm going to leave it in the past. I'm not going to ride and be a jerk to the coordinators. I'm there to do the ride."

Scott Lambert's sister, Laura Tintane, 48, also plans to participate. Like the rest of those who awake in the local campground on ride day to a recording of Jimi Hendrix's "Star-Spangled Banner," Morita-Lambert and Tintane will face a brutal physical test.

The ride up Monitor Pass - the first climb of the day - can be excruciating even for experienced cyclists. For 90 minutes or more, riders will muscle their bikes uphill so slowly that some will tip over. At the top, the descent gradually builds speed. The views to the valley far below are so still they resemble a landscape painting.

But the ride down also can be

frightening 40 mph wind tunnel. And the five episodes

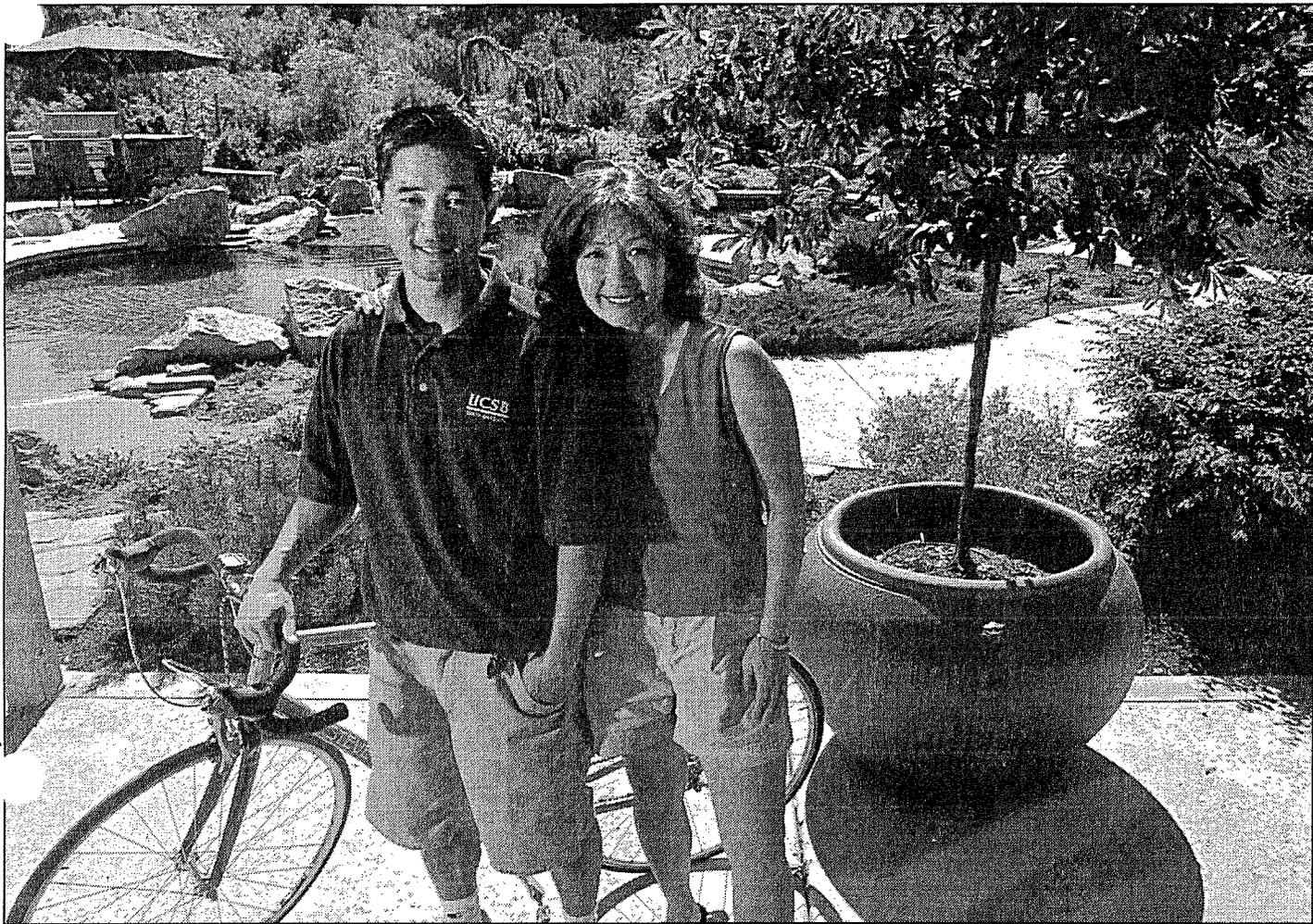
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"I'm full spe it slow



Sacramento Bee/Andy Alfaro

Eric Morita-Lambert, left, and Amie Lambert are still trying to convince organizers of the Tour of the California Alps ride that its nickname and logo are inappropriate after Dr. Scott Lambert's death last year. Some in Markleeville, which benefits from the event, disagree.

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But the ride down also can be

frightening, with cyclists reaching 40 to 50 mph and gusts of wind threatening their stability. And that marks only the first of five epic mountain passes.

Wiping a tear from his cheek while sitting with his mom at the family home, Morita-Lambert said he wants to take in all that beauty and understand what his father experienced in the moments before he died.

The area where Lambert crashed is essentially a straightaway with good pavement, though there is a bump and a minor rough patch where he apparently lost control. An inspection of his bike, designed by respected Sacramento frame builder Steve Rex, shows surprisingly little damage, except for a bent front wheel and a few dings to his brake levers.

"I'm not going down the hill full speed. I'm just going to take it slow. I'll be constantly think-

ing, 'This is what my dad loved to do,'" Morita-Lambert said.

Amie Lambert says she has no choice but to support her son's efforts. Her greatest comfort these days is knowing that her husband's healthy heart was used in a successful transplant surgery for Dean Moore, a San Francisco 49ers linebacker from the late '70s. Recently, she met Moore and heard her husband's heart beating once again.

The family's mixed emotions about the Death Ride promise to remain at least until the ride is over. Organizers have retired Scott Lambert's ride number, at least for this year.

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The Bee's Blair Anthony Robertson can be reached at (916) 321-1099 or brobertson@sacbee.com.

Tahoe Daily Tribune July 24 03

Washoe become one with lake

Tribe returns to roots with land transfer

By Gregory Crofton
Tribune staff writer

GLENBROOK — For the first time since 1850, the Washoe last week walked land at the lake they now own: 24 acres along the shore of Tahoe north of Glenbrook.

The land was transferred to the tribe through a trust with the federal government when President Bush signed the bill Aug. 1. The trust ensures the land will remain in its natural state under Washoe rule.

In the Washoe language "Daw a ga" means "edge of the lake." When they speak of "the lake" they speak of Tahoe, considered the center of the Washoe world. Today the Washoe again have a home at the edge of the lake.

"This is not the end point, this is just the beginning of our journey back home," said Brian Wallace, chairman of the Washoe tribe. "We will use the land as a tool to show people the Washoe story, which is the

human story as well."

At the Presidential Summit in 1997 — the annual summit is today at Sand Harbor — state and national leaders agreed the Washoe needed a permanent home at the lake. The tribe worked with the U.S. Forest Service since then to find a spot where they can practice their methods of land conservation, conduct ceremonies and embrace their culture.

"It was hard to find an area with the attributes we were looking for," Wallace said. "We needed to find privacy and peace. Water is a sacred environment to us."

They found it. Their land runs in a strip along the shore north of Skunk Harbor. It is filled with clear-blue coves, sparkling sand and Washoe grinding rocks, evidence the tribe belongs to the land.

The plan to bring the Washoe back to the lake became legislation after the first summit. But

See *Washoe*, Page A8



Jim Gra

Brian Wallace, chairman of the Washoe tribe, walks the land of his ancestors. The land was transferred to the tribe this month by the federal government.

Page 1

Washoe

From Page A1

in reality, the tribe says it has been fighting its way back to Tahoe for a much longer time.

"Since they put a gun to our head in 1850," said Wallace, on Thursday driving a Forest Service road that winds its way to the 24 acres. "This is one of the heroic moments of the republic to be able to do this."

The Forest Service road that leads to the Washoe property will remain open to hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders. The 24 acres will be set aside for the exclusive use of the Washoes, Wallace said, but there will be no fences or barriers put up around the property. People will find signs written in Washoe that are translated into English and cedar bark huts similar to ones used by the tribe thousands of years ago.

"People will have to respect the laws of the tribe," Wallace said. "We're not going to put up a barbed wire fence. We've had enough of that in our lives."

President Bill Clinton attempted to sign land over to the Washoe with an executive order, but land transfers can no longer happen that way, said George Waters, a lobbyist who represents the Washoe in Washington, D.C.

Further delay occurred when a bill drafted to execute the land transfer fell to the way side as part of a package of land-related legislation.

"In each instance it had complete bipartisan support," Waters said. "Bizarrely, in each instance, having nothing to do with the bill itself; the bill died on the very last day of each Congress. It was just bad luck."

In the 108th Congress, which resumes next month, the Washoe bill was some of the first legislation introduced by Rep. Jim Gibbon, R-Reno, and Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev.

"Gibbons was sending a signal his shouldn't die the last day like it did in the 107th Congress," Waters said.

Wallace, who turned 46 the day Bush signed the bill, said the years of work to secure land at the lake were done for the ancestors of the tribe, for its elders and its youth.

"It chokes you up thinking about it," said Wallace, sitting on rocks listening to the water of Tahoe roll onto the shore behind him. "Many ears. We're quiet for everybody who can't be here with us. We come down here to look at each other's eyes to see what we can be, what we should be as people."



Rollin' on the river

Professional guide makes whitewater trip on the Carson River less intimidating

By Karl Horeis
The News Service

CARSON CITY — With long brown hair flowing out from under a straw sun hat, Shawnda Vacey encouraged the crew to lean into their strokes.

Vacey gave paddling instructions under Hangman's Bridge east of Markleeville before a float down the east fork of the Carson River.

"I don't want to see any lily dipping," she said with a smile.

Behind her, the swollen waters reflected sunlight around brown columns of Jeffrey pines with submerged bases. A car hummed over the bridge above.

Wearing full life jackets and neoprene booties to insulate against the snowmelt-chilled river, paddlers carried the red raft into the water. From Hangman's Bridge, it's 20 miles to the pullout at Ruhensroth Dam just south of Gardnerville.

"This water was snow last night," explained Vacey as the cold bit the crew's ankles.

This is the first year Sporting Rage — "home of shades and outdoor escapades" — has had a permit to run the east fork of the Carson.

Kevin Gallegos, owner of the sporting goods store, hired Vacey in February to do rafting trips.

"Shawnda's a breath of fresh air," he said. "She is a very, very integral part of the business now, and we're excited to have her."

Vigilantes hanged a man off the bridge when the county couldn't afford an attorney to prosecute him for killing another man, she said.

Her guidebook, "The Lore & Legend of the East Fork," published in 1982, describes the history of Capt. Jim's cave at the start of the run.

The cave, it says, is where Capt. Jim, chief of the Woodfords Washoes, made his stand against the white man's taking of land to make toll roads. In April 1864, Jim wore traditional Washoe dress, face paint and held a bow and arrows when he addressed the superintendent of roads, W.A. Johnson, from the cave.

Halfway down the run on the left bank is another area that is part of Washoe history — the East Carson Hot Springs.

After a fine lunch of turkey, roast beef or vegetarian sandwiches, chips, salsa and a cookie, the crew had a soak in a stone pool made by a four-wheel-drive club. Afterward, Vacey led a short walk up to bedrock mortars where people ground dried pine nuts.

Two miles downstream, at an altitude of 5,120 feet, the raft floated from Alpine County into Douglas County at Stateline Riffle.

Fascinating geologic formations like the Hole in the Rock Haystacks and Pachyderm's Paw Rock mark the winding river canyon from there on.

At 16.2 miles downstream, rafters can spot the rock ruins of Marshall Willard's cabin site. Willard did

Tahoe Daily Tribune July 24, C

Kahoe Daily Tribune July 24, 1981

Vacey was the leader of team-building adventure outings for Bentley Nevada until a portion of the company was sold to GE and reorganized.

She started rafting eight years ago on the Flathead River, which borders Montana's Glacier National Park.

"I sent in a hot pink resume listing all my experience waiting tables, and I got the job," she recalled.

As the raft floated into the rapids, her years of experience showed.

"All forward!" she hollered above the din as the boat dropped through a whitewater chute. Waves of ice-cold river water splashed paddlers' faces. They hooted and cheered.

"OK, very nice. Go ahead and drift," said Vacey, steering at the back.

She gave background lore on the area, such as why it's called Hangman's

hydraulic mining in that area in the 1880s and '90s.

After 19 miles, the guidebook warns of "Extreme Danger" and "Deadly Waterfall" just after the take-out ramp. That's the remains of the old electric dam at Ruhestroth. The two-story brick house with a round window built by Ida and Louis Ruhestroth around 1916 can be seen across Highway 395.

Rolling over scenic Monitor Pass in the Sporting Rage GMC Yukon, Gallegos and Vacey reflected on a sunny day on the river while the Grateful Dead's "Alabama Getaway" played softly on the radio.

"It's all in a day's work," Gallegos said.

"Yeah, a rough day at the office," Vacey said with a laugh.

W

Washoe tribe, Rim Trail volunteers, Russians

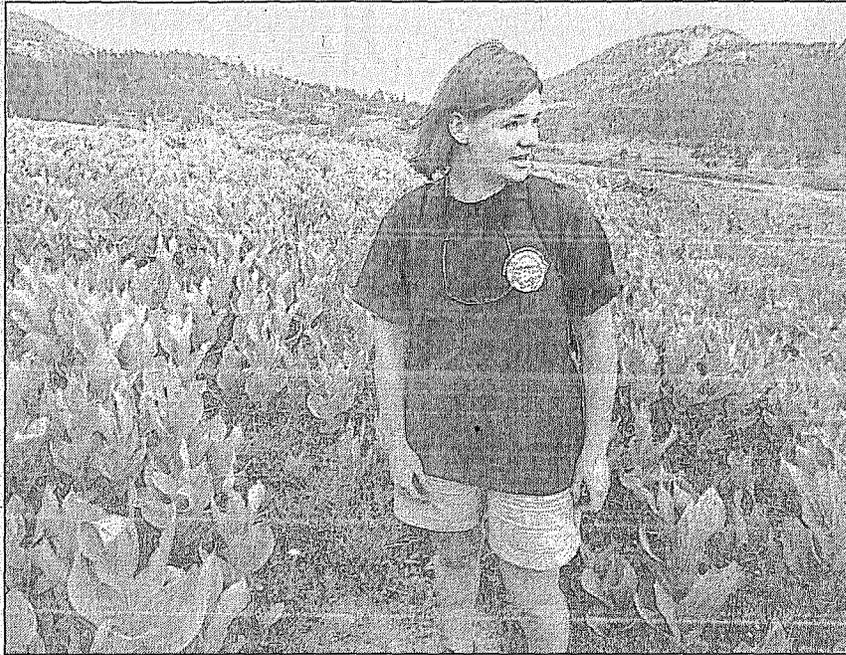
Groups meet to talk about native plant life

TAHOE CITY — About 15 Americans listened intently to Victor Nikitin, a 20-year-old Russian, as he pointed out the plants along the Tahoe Rim Trail that were used by the Washoe people hundreds of years ago.

Like the seven others in his group, Nikitin wore a blue T-shirt with the phrase "We will help each other to protect and preserve this land, water and air" printed in English and Washoe on the back.

Nikitin is one of 17 undergraduate and graduate students participating in the Tahoe-Baikal Institute's Summer Environmental Exchange Program who are at Lake Tahoe to study watershed protection basin management. Broken into four groups, Nikitin's project helped design the Rim Trail's first Washoe cultural interpretive brochure.

Leaders of the Washoe tribe, Tahoe Rim Trail Association and TBI gathered at the Tahoe Meadows Trailhead on the Mount Rose Highway to present the new brochure. During a two-week period, the Russian, Lithuanian, Canadian and Tajikistani students identified plant species around the Tahoe Meadows section of the trail and interviewed Washoe elders about their traditional uses.



Rasa Scepoviciute, who works for an environmental consulting firm in Lithuania, leads a tour of Tahoe Meadows and the plants used by the Washoe people. She was one of seven Tahoe-Baikal Institute exchange students to put together an interpretive brochure on the subject.

Keith Sheffield/Tribune News Service

The partnership between the foreign students and their Tahoe peers stems from the similarities between Lake Tahoe and Lake Baikal.

Just as Tahoe is North America's largest alpine lake, Siberia's Baikal is the world's oldest and deepest fresh water lake. At 395-miles long, 80-miles wide, and more than a mile deep, the crescent-shaped lake holds 20 percent of the planet's fresh water. Lake Tahoe could fit in one of its bays. And just as a 165-mile rim trail was recently completed around Tahoe, the U.S. Forest Service and Rim Trail Association, along with TBI, is helping to

build a 1,200-mile trail around Baikal.

Baikal and Tahoe also have another important aspect in common — they both play an important role in the culture of indigenous groups, the Washoe in Tahoe and the Buryat in Baikal. Next month, the TBI and Forest Service are taking two Washoe elders to Lake Baikal to share ideas about cultural and economic activities.

Washoe Chairman Brian Wallace said the project is important to documenting the tribe's connection to Tahoe.

Lithuanian Rasa Scepoviciute paused in front of a corn lily and explained how

the green plants' big leaves were used by the Washoe to wrap meats for cooking. A few steps later, she pointed out a willow, whose branches were used by the Washoe for basket weaving.

In addition to explaining the Washoe connection to flowers and plants, the brochure also states where they can be found, provides a map of the interpretive trail, and gives additional trivia. The brochure, for instance, tells that aspirin was first derived from willow bark.

The pamphlet breaks down the trail into three parts, describing the plants that can be found in the meadow, lower forest and higher forest.

Tahoe Tribune July 27 2003



Lawrence's
photograph of a
mare and her foal,
top, is a well known
image. Left, Washoe
Tribal member
Marwin Dressler
posed for Lawrence
in 1977.

Carson Valley Almanac
2003

There's art in them there hills

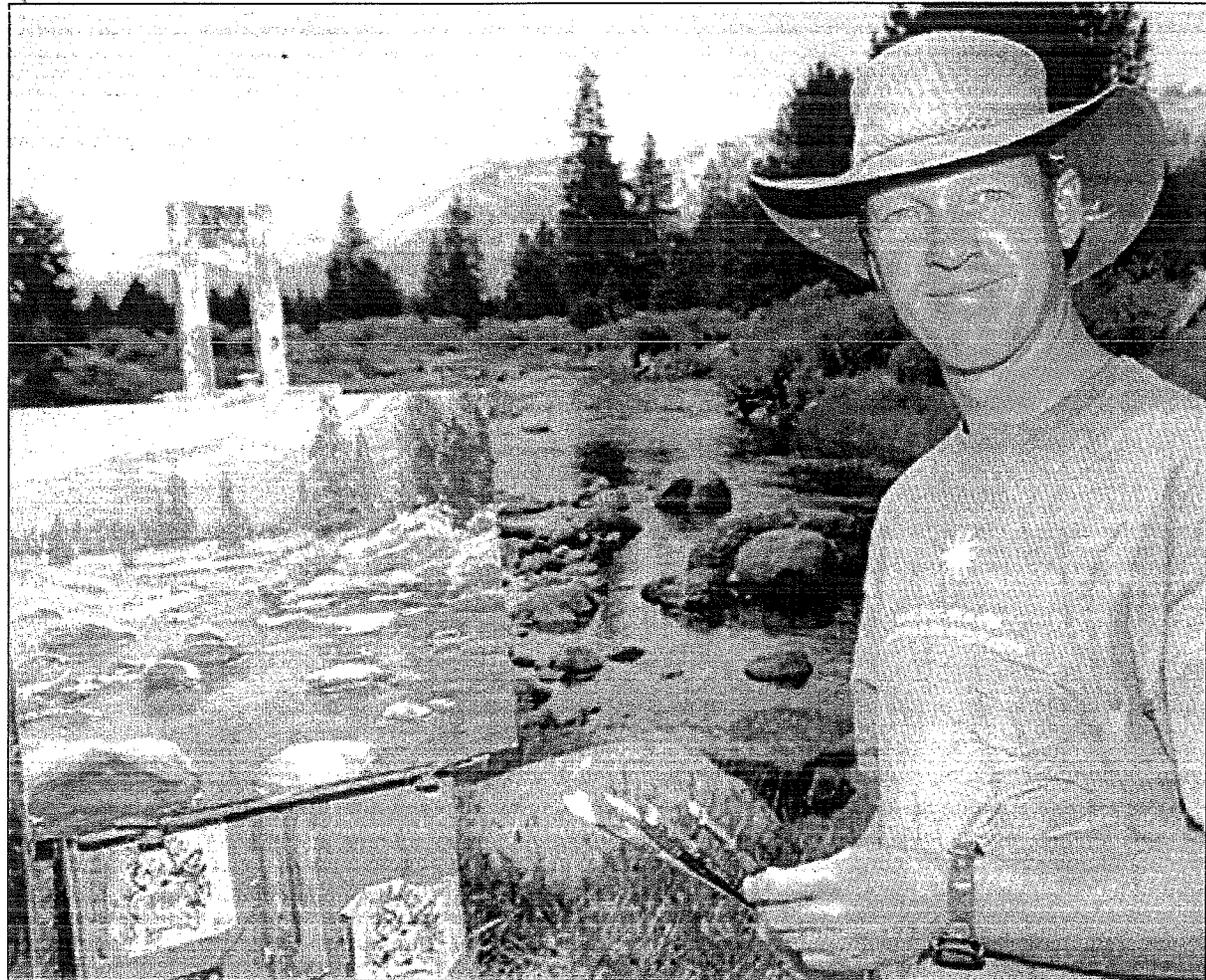
Alpine County artists
find the mountains are
inspiration for their work

BY KAREL DELBECQ

The artists of Alpine County are as diverse as their art. Some are beginners, others veterans. Some work in clay or papier maché, while others create in metals or textiles. Some paint oils on canvas, others use watercolor.

All draw from the beauty of their Sierra Nevada region for inspiration, presenting

SHANNON LITZ PHOTOS



No matter what the weather, Alpine artist Charles Muench likes to paint out of doors, a technique also known by the French term, "plein air."

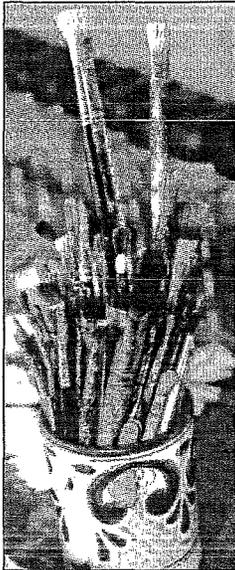
Carson Valley Almanac 2003

art in a style uniquely their own.

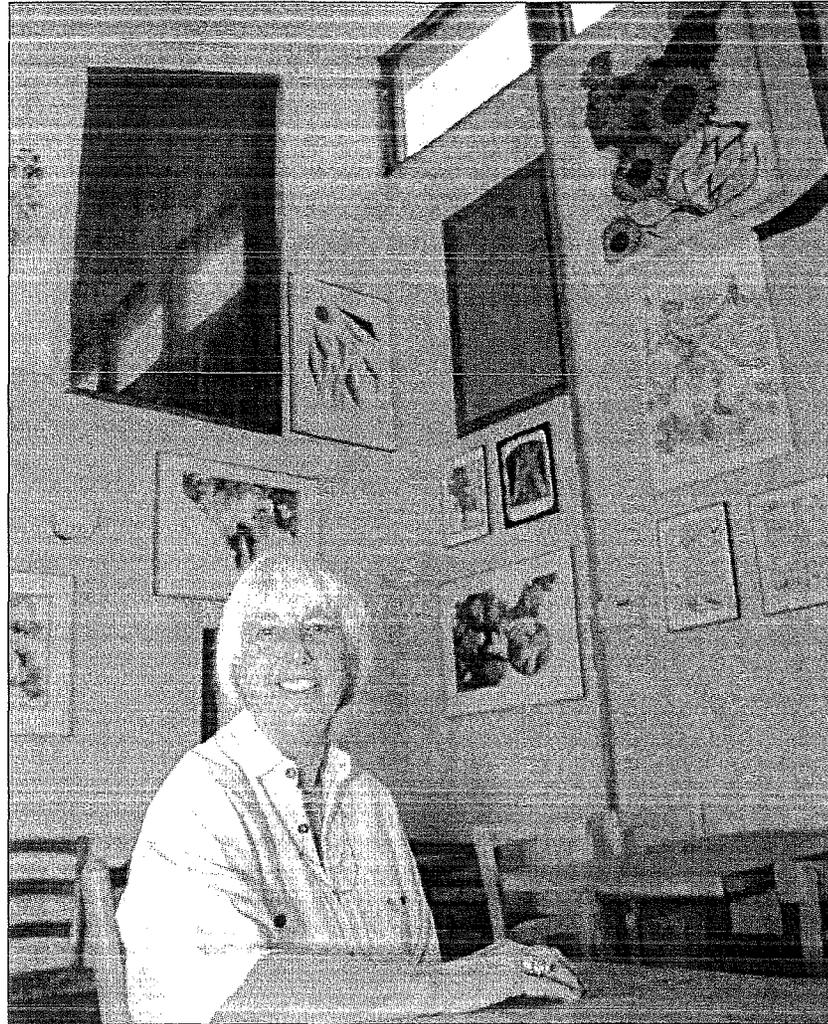
In an effort to show the world what's artistically available and possible in this tiny mountain community, artist Gina Gigli and her husband Ruggero, proprietors of Villa Gigli Ristorante, have spearheaded a more formal connection between the artists.

In mid-January, some 20 artists gathered at Villa Gigli Ristorante in the county seat of Markleeville to discuss ways to support one another and to reach the many tourists that pass through the town each year.

The hope is that one day, people will come to know Alpine County not only as a place of great natural beauty and a get-



Gina Gigli, right, at Villa Gigli. Her paint brushes, above.



away destination, but one that showcases the works of those living there.

"This is a very grassroots art community," Gina said.

The Giglis are a longtime influence in the community who see their part in promoting the arts as a way of paying back those who helped them in their younger years.

"There is a nucleus of artists surrounded by those who are striving to become artists," Gina said.

"There are very imaginative, creative people. We're inspired by where we live, and we like a certain level of solitude."

The artists range in experience from life-long veterans and teachers to those who are taking baby steps toward knowing themselves and expressing what they find in their art.

Da'Chel Doyal, once married to an artist, thought of herself only "as the crafty person who made Christmas presents for everyone."

Thanks to her new husband's encouragement and his gift to her of her own toolbox, Doyal's perception is changing.

Using lengths of wire and bits of rock and crystal, she's creating sun catchers. Adding these elements to

old funnels, Doyal has managed to take a practical item and turn it into functioning art — lamps that are whimsical and warm.

Mark and Carolyn Vaughn create ceramics using the Raku method of firing. Again, theirs is art with a purpose and function, beautiful creations that can be used in daily life.

Mark works as a ceramics instructor at Lake Tahoe Community College, and Carolyn is employed by Alpine County.

Lyn Wright, although based in South Lake Tahoe, works frequently as an art teacher at Diamond Valley School. In addition, she teaches at LTCC and is a potter, printmaker and painter. She is widely known throughout Northern California for her work.

Wanda Coyan began making pine needle baskets years ago. She has recently combined that labor-intensive art with her love of gourds, creating one-of-a-kind bowls edged in pine needle weavings.

Retired school teacher Eileen Merrill has made a commitment to herself to go outdoors every Monday and paint.

"I've always dabbled in water-



Susan Riherd-Flakus, left, and Deirdre Wallace talk to members of the Markleeville artists' group at a meeting in January at the Villa Gigli. Members are now meeting regularly to devise ways to promote art and plan events that will appeal to tourists who vacation in the mountain community.

color. It's been kind of a family thing to do," she said. Now it's something she gives to herself and to those who see her work.

Armed with a panoramic camera, Sandy Baenan has discovered that her photographs make beautiful postcards.

Susan Riherd-Flakus got her start as an artist after she had raised her children and her husband wanted her to get a job. In response, she studied and received her commercial welding certificate.

"I sucked at commercial welding," said Riherd-Flakus, who creates amazing metal sculptures. Her art incorporates beauty with function. Some pieces are light-hearted, while others are moving and insightful.

Sharon Lackey and Ellen Martin share a long history of sewing.

Lackey took up a needle when she was 5.

"I've always had an interest in fabric and the arts and a love of dolls," she said. She has combined

these loves, producing museum-quality, historically accurate porcelain dolls. She also works appraising and restoring dolls and teddy bears.

"The hardest thing is getting everything to scale," she said. "The best thing is that I've brought a lot of joy to people, and I didn't know that would be part of it."

Martin, a seamstress for 40 years, focused on alterations, but now has found satisfaction in other projects.

Her most recent work features theme dolls, such as a voluptuous and exaggerated Mae West, complete with all the accessories made by Martin.

"Right now I'm just trying to figure out my niche," she said.

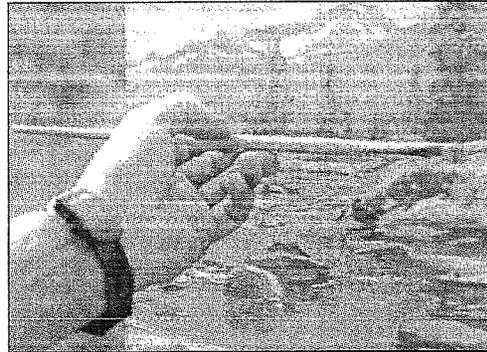
Once the owner of an ad agency, Peter Chope retired to the mountains and is now finding expression in canvas and paint.

Charles Muench, also a painter, focuses on "plein air," French for painting out of doors. And the worst weather doesn't stop him. Muench has been busy attending painting conferences and workshops as well as winning awards for his work.

"Jeff Brees (also a renowned Markleeville artist), Gina Gigli, myself and others are in the planning stages for Markleeville's first Open Studios (tour)," Muench said.

The tour, which will allow the public to see artists in their own elements, takes place Oct. 18 and 19, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

This event and the Wine Tasting and Art in the Meadow pro-



Charles Muench lays paint on a landscape, above.

gram, scheduled at Villa Gigli on the first Sunday of each month, May through October, are ways for people to enjoy Alpine art and to connect with and purchase directly from the artists.

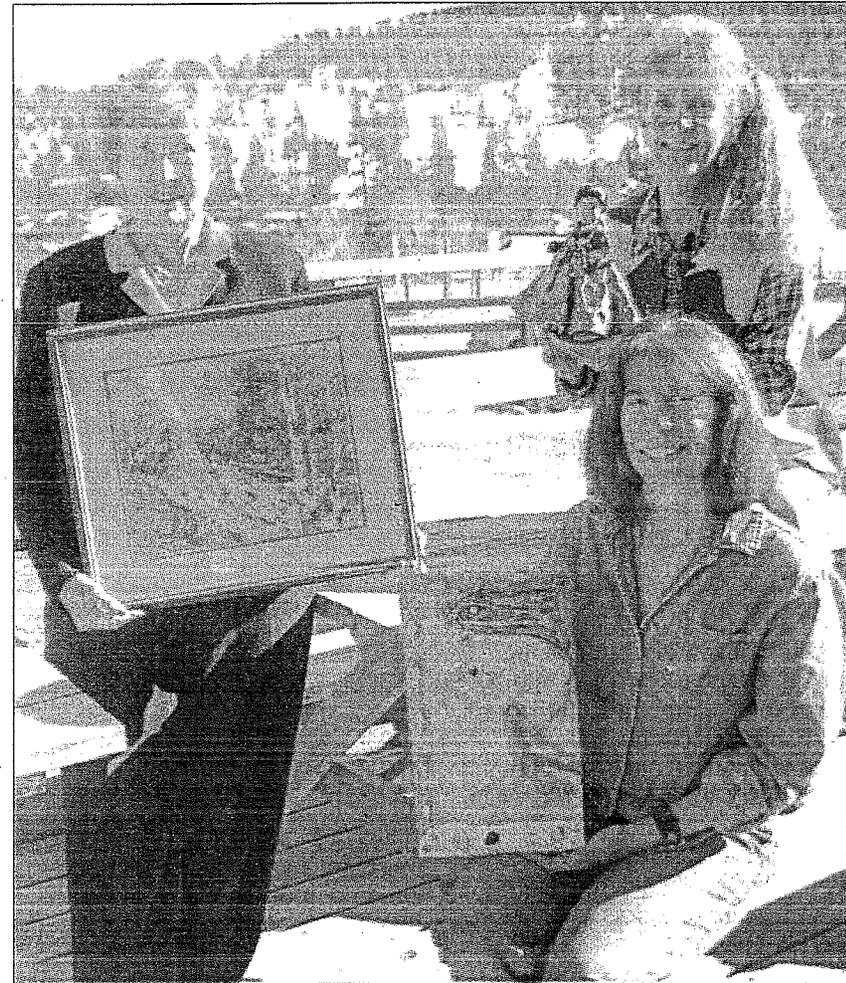
Everyone is encouraged to come see the art, Gina said, and if they'd like, taste a bit of wine, too.

For the long term, the artists are looking at other possibilities.

Dierdre Wallace, one-time owner of Wild Wools and a fiber artist, has suggested an artists' co-op that would showcase local talent and be run by the artists.

The artists agree this would be a

Eileen Merrill, left, Sharon Lackey and Melissa Gregory display their work.



A viable artist community, one that is visible and inventive, brings a different energy to an area.'

Melissa Gregory

great idea, but the limited availability of a place to set up shop poses a challenge.

Having a successful arts community in Markleeville comes down to the support the artists give each other and keeping in sight what the goal is.

"I always wanted to live in an artist's commune," Doyle said. "Then one day I woke up and realized I was already there."

Melissa Gregory, artist and mother of two little boys, sees suc-



Melissa Gregory talks to the Markleeville artists about recycled items she uses in her work.

cess in keeping things fun and inventive.

"We need to use art as a connecting point for bringing the artists and the community together," she said. "A viable artist community, one that is visible and inventive, brings a different energy to an area.

"That sense of creative energy can be tangible and inspiring, drawing people."

That last point may be the one that requires the greatest consideration.

It's the importance, Muench said, of finding balance.

"Alpine County has great potential for becoming an important source of creativity for American art," he said. "The conflict we have as artists is how to express the beauty of the area while ensuring its survival.

"As much inspiration as the land offers us, it is our duty as artists to make sure that future generations will not look at our art and say, 'so this is what Pleasant Valley looked like before the golf course and condos.'"

For more information about the artists and coming art-related events in Markleeville, call Villa Gigli at (530) 694-1700.



The Death Ride

Don't let the
name scare you.
Volunteers make
the 129-mile
tour a breeze.

BY CHRISTY CHALMERS

Every year, several thousand bicyclists vie for one of 2,700 spots available in the Death Ride, a day-long

tour that covers 129 miles and includes more than 16,000 feet of climbing over three Sierra Nevada passes.

The riders come from all over the United States, and some travel from foreign countries. The ride is not a race, and not all the riders complete all of the passes. Some are content to not complete all of the passes. Others succumb to exhaustion or mechanical problems like flat tires. The weather has been known to cut some rides short.

The one thing the Death Riders can count on, besides a grueling day, is the support of the "Skeleton Squad" — hundreds of volun-

Top, Tom Millham fills the water bottles of two riders at the Woodfords rest stop. Bottom, a pack of riders work their way up the pass.

At right, Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care were the volunteers at the Woodfords rest stop. They were decked out with their Hawaiian print shirts and decorations. Below right, Wayne Keith rides his bike through a sprayer to cool off as he comes to one of the rest stops. Below left, Brian Henderson holds a camelback water bottle while his mom, Debbie Henderson, refills it for a rider at the rest stop.



unteers who handle everything from food to communication.

In 2002, an estimated 750 people volunteered to do everything from handing out water to keeping everyone in touch.

"We have a system that works pretty well," explained Jackie Johnson, who has coordinated the Death Ride since 1999. "We have quite a reputation for support."

The ride begins at Turtle Rock Park in Markleeville. From there, the cyclists follow Highway 89 east to Highway 395 and back, summiting 8,314-foot Monitor Pass twice. The riders follow California Highway 4 over Ebbetts Pass, 8,730 feet above sea level, to Hermit Valley, then backtrack to Turtle Rock Park. Each ascent to a summit counts as one pass.

The final leg of the journey takes the riders north on Highway 89 to Woodfords, where the riders head west, crossing Woodfords Canyon and Hope Valley before they begin the final ascent to Carson Pass, elevation 8,573.

Preparing for the Death Ride is a year-round task. The Alta Alpina Cycling Club, which has 200 members, works with the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce to produce the event. The entities must get approval from Cal Trans, the California Highway Patrol and local law



enforcement to close highways 89 and 4 for part of the day.

The club relies on help from amateur radio groups for communication, which can be spotty between the peaks and valleys along the route.

Completing the entire route takes more than 12 hours for some riders, but each segment of the ride includes rest areas where participants can eat a snack, refill a water bottle or get medical attention. The rest stops are staffed by different organizations, like Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, which ran the one at Woodfords Junction in 2002. Members of the wildlife group maintained a jovial atmosphere, donning Hawaiian shirts and leis and playing Hawaiian music. They cheered the riders as they passed. Those who stopped were besieged immediately with offers of fruit, water, soda, cookies, energy bars or any of the other goodies available.

Many of the volunteers know riders, like Brianna Rutherford, 9. She and other family members were working at the Woodfords stop



while keeping an eye out for Brianna's dad, Jeremy.

Up the road at Pickett's Junction, where Highway 89 breaks north and the riders continue on Highway 88 to Carson Pass, the South Tahoe Public Utility District offered the riders respite under misters in addition to food, drinks and snacks.

"How many to the top?" asked a rider.

"Oh, you've got it made," answered a volunteer confidently.

South Lake Tahoe resident Kathy Sharp said she's volunteered at 10 Death Rides. Her husband Michael enters the event, and she has the routine down pat.

"The first thing they want is a Coke," she said. After that, the porta-potties are popular, followed by energy shots for the final push to Carson Pass.

While volunteers come from all walks of life, some put specialized skills into play. Amy Eisenhart, a nurse at Barton Memorial Hospital and a South Lake Tahoe resident, volunteers with the medical team. She said typical injuries include broken clavicles, road rash and sunburns.

Many of the volunteers are veterans like Sharp. A veteran volunteer corps helps, said Norm Champ of Sacramento, who worked at the Carson Pass rest station that was sponsored by the Kirkwood Ski Education Foundation.

"Everybody knows how to put everything together," he said. "That's the amazing part. There's no written rules. You just know what to do."

"It's a real weight off the shoulders of the coordinator," agreed Johnson, whose exposure to the Death Ride came in 1987, when she and her husband Ross came to the area on a backpacking trip.

"He said 'Do you want to go for a ride?' and essentially, in 1987, with no training, I did my first Death Ride," she said. "I was totally taken with the experience."

She completed one pass that year, and rode each of the next three years, eventually completing three passes. She started volunteering in 1991 after missing a registration cutoff.

"I decided it was my turn to volunteer," she said. Since then, Johnson has worked at food and rest stops, handled warehousing duties and done a variety of other chores in support of the Death Ride. She began coordinating the ride in 1999.

The planning pays off, not only in a smoothly run ride but in an excellent reputation.

"I love it. This is one of the best-supported rides around," said Carl Butler of Livermore, Calif., a second-time Death Rider. "The food's good, and everyone's got a smile on their face."

"They're very helpful," said Mark Reimer of Chico, Calif. He said his first Death Ride was 20 years prior, and the experience accrued in the intervening years showed.

"This makes it really safe and convenient," he said. "You just walk up, and they take care of you."

Though the coordination job is paid, Johnson says she's ready to pass it on. Her successor, however, will inherit a well-organized machine that has stable arrangements with sponsors and co-promoters, plus community groups.

"I'm really proud of that," said Johnson. "The ride is continuing to get bigger, and our sponsors like that community involvement. This is a community-based program."