NEWS FROM AND FOR NORTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA

# The Mountain Mezzenger

California's Oldest, Locally Owned, and Continuously Published Weekly Newspaper

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# Effects of Holiday Snowstorm Still Being Felt

BY STEPHEN KULIEKE



Snow blower clearing the pathway for traffic on CA-49 below Yuba Pass after the worst of the latest storm was over.

SIERRA CITY— week and a half after electric and telephone outages swept through the region following days of blizzard conditions over the Christmas-week holiday, more than 500 residents in Sierra County on January 4 were still without power.

spoke this week to two county officials-Office of Emergency Services Coordinator Lee Brown and Sheriff Mike Fisher-for their assessment of the continuing effects of the snowstorm. We also contacted PG&E for comment on the damage to lines and equipment in the utility's Sierra Division and anticipated local restoration of electrical service. "It was absolutely a big storm, going back [to the type] we got when I was growing up in Downieville but haven't had in a while," said Sheriff Fisher. "We first had that big rainstorm, which softened up the ground quite a bit, and then the big snow, toppling over trees left and right." Last month's Sierra snows, in fact, were of historic proportions: The UC Berkeley Central Snow Lab reported its snowiest December ever, the 214 inches (18 feet+) breaking the previous record for the month of 179" set in 1970. The lab is located 14 miles west of Truckee off Highway 80 in Soda Springs. Office of Emergency Services Coordinator Lee Brown identified the five areas of the county where electricity on Tuesday was lagging: Pike; Goodyears Bar; Indian Valley; between Downieville and Sierra City (including Fournier Ranch); and east of Sierra City to Yuba Pass (including Bassetts and Greene Acres). Brown said some of the county customers still awaiting power lost electricity on Dec. 26, others on Dec. 27. Downieville and Sierra City both had outages during the storm but came back online through diesel generators in

nd both towns.

According to Brown, PG&E has indicated they are bringing in additional crews and resources January 6 via mutual aid support from other utilities.

PG&E spokesperson Megan McFarland confirmed that The Mountain Messenger in an email to The Messenger, saying "we have reached out to more than 100 other utilities" as far away as New Mexico "to help bolster our forces in the field" and "to support customer restoration as soon as possible." As damaging as the intense storm was in Sierra County, it was even more so in Nevada County where those without electricity on Tuesday (10,800) comprised more than half of the 21,000 PG&E Sierra Division customers without power. "In Nevada County alone, we have identified more than 1,214 instances of damage," said McFarland, including: 307 power poles,

ferred call on his cell phone at 6:50 a.m. and was able to dispatch a fire/medical response.

Also, the department's VHF radio system service has been intermittent after the radio repeater site at Cal-Ida was damaged by falling trees. "Technicians are going above and beyond, snowshoeing through a jungle of trees and we're hoping by this afternoon to have it running fully," Fisher said on Tuesday. The sheriff's department has been utilizing other agencies' radio systems until repairs on the department's system are completed. Fisher said that the major road issues arose when "masses of people" took to various highways in the region (49, 70, 89) in "twowheel drive Toyota Corollas" to try to circumvent the closure of I-80 due to the snowstorm. "We wrote a lot of tickets to people ignoring and driving around a 'road closed' sign," he said. Every winter his department and Washoe County, Nevada agencies contend with drivers stranded on Dog Valley Road out of Verdi, a dirt road which is snow plowed. "There are permanent signs affixed that it is not an alternative route and to not follow your GPS, as well as a lighted sign on the Washoe side. We'd like to put a gate up but that would restrict access for snowmobilers and the use of public lands, " he said. Fisher gives "big props to Washoe Search and Rescue who shuttle people out of there for us." For the Sierra County Sheriff's Department, stuck vehicles on a snowy, impassable road said Fisher "are a big drain on resources in a small county like this." The department has to send at least two deputies out in an ATV equipped with snow tracks. "If a fire or true emergency breaks out, it could be an extended ETA to get a deputy on the scene," he said. "That's my biggest gripe."

# Much Done in Little Time by Sierra County Board of Supervisors on January 4

#### By CARL BUTZ

DOWNIEVILLE— The initial meeting of the Sierra County Board of Supervisors for 2022, held this past Tuesday, on January 4, probably did not set a record for brevity. But, lasting for only 1 hour and 46 minutes, the meeting must be one of the institution's shortest sessions.

After Board Chair Supervisor Lee Adams called the session promptly to order at 9:00 AM, Supervisor Peter Heubner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Then Heather Foster, County Clerk-Recorder, performed the Roll Call, and we learned Supervisor LeBlanc was absent.

Next, the Board proceeded to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board for 2022. Moving with alacrity, Supervisor Sharon Dryden nominated Supervisor Paul Roen for the Chair position, and Supervisor Huebner seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Adams asked Foster to call the roll and, by a unanimous vote, Roen's election became finalized less than two minutes after the meeting began.

Thirty seconds later, following Huebner's nomination of Dryden to become Vice-Chair and Roen's seconding the nomination, the Board selected Dryden to be the Vice-Chair, again by a 4-0 vote.

With the gavel now in Roen's possession, the Board approved, without discussion, a Consent Agenda containing only one item: an \$8,080 invoice from Freon Free, Inc. for the service of removing mercury switches from 23 vehicles, 148 refrigerators, 25 window air conditioners, 72 washers, 71 stoves, 86 dryers, one furnace, 57 water heaters, and 32 dishwashers before the company took the items from the Loyalton Landfill to a metal recycler.

Next, after the Clerk-Recorder informed the Board the closed Labor Negotiations planned to follow the public session had been canceled, Roen asked if anyone wanted to make a public comment. With no one stepping forward, he asked for any Committee reports. Again, his request was met with silence. Ranger for the US Forest Service's Sierraville District, told the Board she had nothing to report other than the agency's efforts to ensure conditions were safe for snowmobiles using trails extending out from the Little Truckee Summit and Yuba Pass snow-parks.

Following Hutchinson's lead, Lon Henderson, Ranger for the Yuba River District, also kept his remarks brief, saying communication remains difficult on the western slope due to cell towers being overwhelmed with traffic, the public should report any problems they observe on public land due to downed trees, and only 4 out of his 68 staff members have electricity service at their homes.

Next, the Board heard a COVID-19 update from Vickie Clark. She noted how the latest variant of the virus, Omicron, is spreading very rapidly in Southern California. Thus, if history is any indicator, we can expect it to become prevalent in Sierra County in about three weeks. The main problem with Omicron, she said, is not a drastic increase in hospitalizations or deaths. Instead, this variant is forcing many businesses to close simply because their employees are too ill to function at work.

As for Sierra County, she said Sierra County is doing well but not great, with 24 new cases here in November and 25 more in December. Moreover, the number of deaths recorded in the county has remained unchanged since jumping from two to four in early December.

She also noted her staff is receiving lots of inquiries about over-the-counter test kits. They have already distributed over 500 test kits within the county, and another 1,260 kits are now present for ordering online. As for isolation guidelines for those contracting the disease, she said the CDC revised their recommendation recently. Instead of the 14-day quarantine specified originally, the guidelines now call for five days of isolation for anyone who tests positive for COVID, whether they are symptomatic or not. Celia Sutton-Pado, Public Health Officer for Sierra County, added to Clark's remarks, stressing the need to follow-up 5-day isolations with "diligent masking" since people are most contagious in the two days before symptoms appear and from three to five days afterward.

507 locations where the conductor or the line needs repair,

171 crossarms,

70 transformers

OES Coordinator Brown said that beyond the power issues, his office also got calls from county residents about delayed or suspended propane deliveries and difficulty in obtaining gasoline for generators—with Sierraville, Camptonville, and North San Juan the closest locations with gas stations and travel on roads difficult.

Sheriff Fisher described the holiday week snowstorm as a challenging one, particularly when the department's phone server went down, temporarily interrupting the ability to answer 911 calls in Downieville. The interruption made it "a little exciting for a few minutes" that morning, he said. Calls quickly however were forwarded to Nevada County and other cooperating public safety agencies who passed on 911 requests to Fisher and his team. He himself got an emergency transVickie Clark did respond when Roen asked

if any Department Managers had a report for the Board. She informed them the county's Dept. of Social Services and Public Health had "finally received a bid" for a new vehicle, and the Subaru Outback they are buying will cost less than the amount budgeted for it.

Moving on, Rachael Hutchinson, the Acting

Continued on Page 5...

# **PG&E Commits to Jan. 11** or Earlier Restoration Date

BY YUBANET

PG&E's evening update for their Sierra Division has set a Jan. 11th or earlier date for the restoration of utility power to the remaining 18,350 customers in their Sierra division. The assessment of damages is now complete, according to the news release, and the latest updates to customers should be firm restoration dates, allowing people to better plan for the future. The release reads, in part:

"As of 3 p.m. this afternoon, PG&E crews have essentially completed their assessments in Sierra County, Nevada County, Placer County, El Dorado County and a portion of Yuba County. Assessments allow us to create Estimated Times of Restoration (ETOR) that account for amount of damage, equipment and materials needed to make repairs, available resources, hours of daylight and other factors. Based on what we've found, we are starting to communicate more accurate estimated times of restoration to customers. Many customers will be restored in the coming days and we can commit to an ETOR of Tuesday, Jan. 11 for customers. To be clear, many customers will be restored earlier, but we wanted to share this Jan. 11 ETOR date to give customers a line of sight into the next period of time."

Other details included in the release: "More than 2,000 personnel working on assessments and restoration across our service area, including 1,200 lineworkers. 280 team crews that are currently supporting the Sierra Division. 14 teams are en route and will arrive tomorrow and 14 more crews are scheduled to arrive on January 6."

Currently, there are 427 separate outages impacting 10,490 customers in Nevada County.







In the old days, before "smartphones" made people so stupid, they stayed at home and waited out snow storms in front of their fireplace.

# Katie's Sightings

Taken with permission from northyubanaturalist.blogspot.com



Over the past week we received 10.65" of precipitation, and ended up with three feet of snow on the ground! Up in Sierra City they got five to six feet of snow! The Lakes Basin must be buried! The power went out, the roads closed, and the temperatures dropped. It was quite a mess! We haven't seen a snowfall like this in years and years!



#### Saddleback Mountain

Unfortunately our power is STILL out and it doesn't look like it will be back on anytime soon. Since we are using a small generator to provide power to our house, my computer time has become quite limited. So, I can't post a new blog this week. However, I have been out walking several times a day, and have seen a lot of wildlife! Check back next week to see what I observed! Hopefully the power will be back on by then! Fingers crossed!

#### **Damp Earth Art**

With the 10.65" of precipitation that we received this week, our water year total (since Oct. 1, 2021) is approximately 40"! Yahoo! So we are more than half way to achieving our average rainfall total of 60+"! WOW!!! More rain and snow are predicted for the coming week! My fingers are crossed that we get lots of precipitation! In the meantime, I'm continuing my constant hope for rain (or snow!). Please join me! Perhaps our collective efforts may help it happen. I'm going to keep posting rain inspired writings, art, etc. on my blog at dampearthart.blogspot.com. Any submissions would be greatly appreciated. In the meantime pray/wish/hope/dance for rain!

## Dale Albert Church 1952 - 2021



Dale Albert Church passed from this life on December 17, 2021, at his home in Sattley, CA, after an extended illness. Having been born on December 17. 1952, in Portola, CA, he was the great grandson of Sattley's founders, Isaac Sattley Church and Sarah Ellen Geer, and the son of Gordon Kent Church and Evelyn Dorine Gere Church. After graduating from Loyalton High School in 1971, he attended a technical school in Portland, OR, where he learned the skills necessary for opening and operating Dale's Television and Radio Service in Loyalton for several years. As a youth, he participated in Sierraville Little League and Loyalton High School football. He is predeceased by both parents, and survived by brothers Randall George (Patricia) of Westwood, CA; Wayne Gordon (Delores) and Robert Charles (Lorrain) both of Sattley; and by sister Carolyn Diane Ferguson (James) of Medford, OR; and by numerous nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

# Letter to the Editor

#### Dear Editor:

My recent experience confirms the benefits of living in Downieville and knowing all your neighbors. Two trees fell on my home on Wednesday, 12/29/21 at 0400. I called the Sheriff's office at 0415 to notify them. Much to my relief, at 0815, Steve Folsom arrived and pulls his trusty chain saw from the back seat of his vehicle. Next, Johnny Misita, our wonderful tree man arrives, followed by Gregorio Nevarez and Jessie Folsom. My son, Keith, had been keeping the snow shoveled around the house. Out came ladders, chain saws. ropes, a tarp and plywood. One tree had speared the roof leaving a hole. It was cleared, the trees dispatched and the roof covered. Off they went at 1030. The next day, Greg Johnson patched the hole. On Sunday Billie Epps took a load of branches to the dump. I want to thank everyone who came to my assistance. What a wonderful place we live with wonderful people being available when problems arise. Thanks

# **Poetry Corner**

#### Now Winter Nights Enlarge

By THOMAS CAMPION Now winter nights enlarge This number of their hours; And clouds their storms discharge Upon the airy towers. Let now the chimneys blaze And cups o'erflow with wine, Let well-tuned words amaze With harmony divine. Now yellow waxen lights Shall wait on honey love While youthful revels, masques, and courtly sights Sleep's leaden spells remove. This time doth well dispense

With lovers' long discourse; Much speech hath some defense, Though beauty no remorse. All do not all things well: Some measures comely tread, Some knotted riddles tell, Some poems smoothly read. The summer hath his joys, And winter his delights; Though love and all his pleasures are but toys They shorten tedious nights.

This poem is in the public domain. Found on <https://www.public-domainpoetry.com>

About this poem: Thomas Campion, The above poem is often titled by its first line. It appeared in Campion's The Third and Fourth Booke of Ayeres in 1617.

About this poet: Thomas Campion, Born in London on February

12, 1567, to John and Lucy Campion, Thomas Campion was a physician, a composer, and a poet. Campion also wrote a number of libretti for masques performed in King James' court, including Lord Hay's Masque (1607) and The Squire's Masque (1614).These works, commissioned by King James,



allowed Campion to associate with many of England's artistic and aristocratic elite. Campion died on March 1, 1620, in London, probably of the plague, and was buried at St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, Fleet Street. He never married and died with only twenty-three pounds to his name.



What mammals are around?

What birds are around?

What else is inhabiting the damp rocky slopes in our neighborhood, besides the ferns, lichen, and moss?

Check back next week for the answers to these questions and more.

Your questions and comments are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to email me at northyubanaturalist@gmail. com. Thanks!

again!

Sincerely, Sandra Loving

# **In-Person Wild & Scenic Film Fest Postponed**

BY YUBANET

NEVADA CITY - SYRCL has made the difficult decision to postpone the in-person component of this year's Wild & Scenic Film Festival due to concerns over community safety given the recent rampant spread of the Omicron variant and limited rural medical infrastructure.

The persistent power and internet outages due to recent storms has also played into the decision. Though many residents have had power restored, 10% of the county is still waiting for service to return. The SYRCL office had to close during the storm and many of the staff went over a week without power, making coordinating an event of this scale impossible; the office is again without power or internet and many of our staff members' homes are still without power.

"With Nevada County in a state of emergency and COVID rates rising, we felt postponing the in-person Fest was the most responsible thing to do so as not to burden the County's infrastructure with our event," said Melinda Booth, SYRCL's Executive Director. The online component will run as scheduled January 13 through 23.

"We are so grateful to the community and all of our sponsors for helping us get to where we are and will miss seeing people in person next week," said Booth. "Once we determine it is safe to hold the in-person component, we will announce the dates."

Those who have already purchased tickets have the option of exchanging their in-person tickets for virtual passes or receiving a credit for the postponed event.

For more information, updates, and online ticketing, please visit www.wildandscenicfilmfestival.org



**Do You Have News For Our Readers?** 

If so, contact The Mountain Messenger Phone: (530) 289-3262 E-mail: info@themountainmessenger.org

#### 20/20 Hindsight

In accordance with general newpaper practice, The Mountain Messenger corrects factual errors appearing in its columns. Errors spotted by readers may be reported to the paper's staff either by calling 530-289-3262 or by sending an email to <info@themountainmessenger.org>.

# <u> The Mountain Messenger</u>

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### On the Shelf By Paul Guffin

#### Merry Christmas!

Let me be among the first to wish you a "Merry Christmas" in 2022. And, no, I'm not almost 12 months early in doing this. Actually, I'm talking about what is happening this very week — on January 7, to be specific.

But first, it might be helpful to give a bit of background. The Christian Church is divided into three main branches: Eastern Orthodox; Protestant; and Roman Catholic. Within each of those, there are also several divisions of various types. Two of those branches, Protestant and Roman Catholic, celebrate Christmas on December 25. That date was established in the early fourth century CE, corresponding to the date of the winter solstice on the Roman (Julian) calendar. When the Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1582, these two branches of the Christmas.

However, when the new Gregorian calendar supplanted the older Julian calendar, the original December 25 became January 7. And, it is that date which the Orthodox branch of the Christian Church still celebrates as Christmas. In other words, it might be argued that the entirety of the Christian Church celebrated Christmas on December 25 - just using two different calendars to do so.

So, if you have friends or neighbors who are members of the Orthodox branch of the Christian Church, be sure to wish them a Merry Christmas this Friday. Or, if like myself, you have a friend who is an Orthodox Christian, but lives in a country where Christmas is generally celebrated in December, you have two opportunities every year to extend Christmas greetings.

#### **The Month of January**

In addition to New Years Day and the Orthodox celebration of Christmas, January has several other observances and celebrations. Here are some of them, beginning with **monthlong observances**:

Alzheimer's Awareness Month (Canada)

Dry January (United Kingdom)

National Mentoring Month (United States)

Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month (United States)

Some moveable observances during January:

First Friday: Children's Day (Bahamas)

Second Saturday: Children's Day (Thailand)

Second Monday: Coming of Age Day (Japan)

Sunday closest to January 22: National Sanctity of Life Day (United States)

Third full week: Hunt for Happiness Week (International) & National Non-Smoking Week (Canada)

Third Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (United States) Friday between January 19-25: Husband's Day (Iceland) Last Saturday: National Seed Swap Day (United States) Last Sunday: Liberation of Auschwitz Memorial Day (Netherlands)

January 30 or nearest Sunday: World Leprosy Day Last Monday: Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day

#### A few fixed observances:

#### Jan. 1: Global Family Day

Jan. 4: Day of the Fallen against the Colonial Repression

# **Sports**

By TESSA JACKSON

This week is the last week of the regular NFL season. Week 18; that feels strange to say. Usually there are only 17 weeks; this year they added an extra game. Why did they do this? Well, there is really no reason other than money. Everyone involved, from the TV channels to the players, should get a lot more money. This also means the Super Bowl will be a little later this year; February 13. This week we have no Thursday Night or Monday Night Football but we will have two games on Saturday. Both the San Francisco 49ers and The Las Vegas Raiders have a chance to make the playoffs. The 49ers have to beat the Los Angeles Rams and the Raiders have to beat the Los Angeles Chargers. The 49ers could still potentially make the playoffs if they lose and the New Orleans Saints also lose to the Atlanta Falcons and the Philadelphia Eagles lose to the Dallas Cowboys. Obviously, they don't want to have to rely on either of those things happening, so they are going to be bringing their A game. The 49ers have a good record against the Rams but the oddsmakers are favoring the Rams by 4. As for the Raider game, the Chargers are favored by 3. The Raiders are going to have their tight end, Darren Waller back by this game and I can't wait to see what he can do. Both of these games are sure to be exciting.

I got all three of my bets right last week, woohoo! That puts my record at 28-22-1 with only one week left, unless I decide to continue picking through the playoffs. This week I'm going to pick both the Saturday games, just because they are closer and it makes those days more exciting. First up we have the Kansas City Chiefs at the Denver Broncos. The Broncos have been exceptionally bad, and the Chiefs haven't locked in that top spot in the AFC yet (and this year, only one team is going to receive a bye for the first round of the playoffs) so they still have something to play for. Chiefs -10.

The next game up is the Dallas Cowboys at the Philadelphia Eagles. These are divisional rivals who have both already clinched a spot in the playoffs but there is a chance for both teams to move up in seed if they win. The Eagles are at home and they are on a winning streak right now; it could also be possible that I am just a fan of the Eagles quarterback, Jalen Hurts. Eagle +7.

It was super fun watching the Cincinnati Bengals beat the Kansas City Chiefs in Kansas City last week. The Bengals are looking really good; Joe Burrow threw for 446 yards and four touchdowns. They've clinched the top spot in the AFC North and still have a small chance of earning the number one spot in the conference. They are taking on the Cleveland Browns who have been eliminated from the playoffs altogether and who have also announced that their quarterback, Baker Mayfield, is out for the game and will have shoulder surgery. I'm surprised that the spread on this game is not bigger, and it probably will be by game time. Bengals -3.

#### CAL FIRE Investigators Determine Cause of the Dixie Fire

BUTTE COUNTY – Last year's Dixie Fire in Butte, Plumas, Lassen, Shasta, and Tehama counties started on July 13,

# Here Back East By LENNY ACKERMAN

#### **Couples Meet**

I sat across from a lovely couple last week at a friend's birthday party, in a private room at a local club. The couple were acquaintances, my having met them on several previous occasions socially, but this was our first opportunity to get to know each other more personally. In the course of our conversation—the usual background enquiries and more—I casually asked how they met. Their story made me realize how fortuitous it is when couples meet and truly live happily ever after.

Harry and Miriam had met at Purdue University where they both were teaching in the mathematics department. A mixer for single faculty members was planned, and they were each prompted by colleagues to attend. At the event, the two met and seemed to click right away, to the point that Harry, the senior professor, was comfortable enough in asking Miriam, the young associate professor, "Do you plan on having children?" She laughed and responded, "Of course and many!" That sealed the deal and shortly thereafter they became a couple. They have been calculating the algorithms of their large family and careers ever since.

After hearing their story, I was intrigued enough to ask the question of other couples Patti and I know. Their answers have been wide ranging, yet all the stories seemed to share the element of fate in common. Meetings took place early on in childhood, at high school, at Hebrew School, on holidays, during family events, at college and more currently on Match. com.

Especially interesting meets included one at a camp in the Adirondacks, where families went in the 1940's to escape New York summer heat, while another was a beach romance in the south of France, where two families reconnected after the War. Then there was reunion of two 80-year-olds prompted by the obituary column in the local paper. Both lost their spouses at around the same time and saw each other's name, as survivors of the deceased, in print on the same day. They connected for the first time since graduating high school together in Palm Beach 60 years earlier. Many of the meets are instant attraction, even as youngsters, yet what emerges afterward creates the connection. Words like "open" "friendly" "easy to talk to" and "always laughing" are often used to describe the attributes drawing two people closer together.

I met my late wife when I was in the 9th grade and she was in the 8th. I originally had a crush on her sister, Harriet, who was in my grade, but Harriet was more interested in older boys. She wisely offered to introduce me to her younger sister, Judie, whose locker happened to be across from my own. And this is where we first met, Judie and I, a bit awkwardly, in the halls of Benjamin Franklin High School. The awkwardness very quickly gave way to a mutual attraction that sustained our relationship for the next 63 years, until her passing in 2017.

Recently, there was another meet in my life, but this time it was a gradual one. There were no claps of thunder or love at first sight moments, but a somewhat distant friendship of 30 years turned into something more meaningful two years ago. It happened over a few shared meals and through the encouragement of mutual friends, and now Patti is my new

(Angola) & World Braille Day
Jan. 5: National Bird Day (United States)
Jan. 8: Typing Day (International)
Jan. 11: Children's Day (Tunisia)
Jan. 12: National Youth Day (India)
Jan. 15: Teacher's Day (Venezuela)
Jan. 16: Teacher's Day (Myanmar & Thailand)
Jan. 19: National Popcorn Day (United States)
Jan. 20: Cheese Day (United States)
Jan. 21: Grandmother's Day (Poland)
Jan. 22: Grandfather's Day (Poland)



#### NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on May 3, 2022, within the boundaries of the Peninsula Fire Protection District, to approve a measure for the purpose of obtaining voter approval, by a two-thirds majority vote, of the following measure:

"Upon a two-thirds vote of approval, shall the Peninsula Fire Protection District be authorized to levy a special tax of \$442.50 (Improved) \$394.50 (unimproved) per year per parcel to an indeterminate period of time with no predetermined expiration date within the District, excluding those parcels exempt from County property tax, to replace the current special tax of \$292.50 (Improved) \$277.50 (unimproved) per year per parcel authorized by the voters in 2014, to be collected and apportioned with the Plumas County property taxes beginning in fiscal year 2022/2023 and continuing each year thereafter with the proceeds from such taxes to be used for the sole purposes of supplementing the funding of services for emergency medical services, fire protection and prevention; with approval of the special tax also being for the purpose of raising the District's appropriations limits (spending limit) by the amount of the annual proceeds from this special tax, shall continue to be deposited into a specially-created account on which an annual report shall be made as required by Government Code Section 50075.3?"

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the dates for filing arguments for or against the measure is January 5, 2022 through January 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Arguments may not exceed 300 words each and must be accompanied by a "Form Statement" available at www. plumascounty.us, signed by each author. Rebuttals to arguments in favor or against the measure may not exceed 250 words and must be filed with the County Clerk by January 27, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The office of the Plumas County Clerk Elections Division located in the Courthouse at 520 Main Street, Room 102, Quincy will be the processing place for all ballots from April 4, 2022 through May 3, 2022. Equipment testing will be March 24, 2022 and is open to the public. For more information, call (530) 283-6256.

Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder Registrar of Voters Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 6, 13 of 2022 burned a total of 963,309 acres, destroyed 1,329 structures and damaged 95 additional structures.

CAL FIRE investigators were dispatched to the Dixie Fire and began working to determine the origin and cause of the fire. After a meticulous and thorough investigation, CAL FIRE has determined that the Dixie Fire was caused by a tree contacting electrical distribution lines owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) located west of Cresta Dam.

The Dixie Fire investigative report has been forwarded to the Butte County District Attorney's Office.

All inquiries regarding the Dixie Fire investigative report will be referred to the Butte County District Attorney's Office at (530) 538-7411.

Californians must remain vigilant and be prepared for wildfire. For more information on how to be prepared, visit www. readyforwildfire.org or www.fire.ca.gov.



#### Western Sierra Medical Clinic

Serving the Sierra County Community Since 1975 Primary Care, Immediate Care and Dental Services 209 Nevada Street, Downieville (530) 289-3298

- All ages welcome
- Veterans welcome!
- Medicare, Medi-Cal, Uninsured, Commercial Insurance, Sliding Fee available for qualified patients. Insurance counseling available.
- Primary care, same day immediate care, physicals and annual wellness exams
- Immunizations/vaccinations
- Illness, colds, flus
- Minor injuries, sprains and strains, cuts, burns, allergies

Primary and immediate care Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by appointment or walk-in. Telehealth appointments available on Fridays.

On call medical provider available after hours and on weekends by calling the number above.

Preventive and Repair Dental by appointment or walk-in (Thursdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Emergencies call 911.

partner in life.

It was touching to see the academic couple who, when sharing their story, spoke to each other – not over each otherwhile she lovingly lay her head on his shoulder. Meets that lead to lifelong relationships are like that star forever in the sky that lights up every cloudless night.

#### SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

Sierra County Fire Protection District #1 has approved the surplus of the following items located in Sierraville, CA:

1) A 1983 Chevrolet 4x4 one ton utility truck to be sold "as is, where is" for a minimum bid of \$500.00 (with known deficiencies: exhaust leak, coolant leak, occasionally overheats and needs a fuel sending unit).

2) A hose washer and stainless-steel hose dryer to be sold "as a set, where is, as is" for a minimum of \$200.00. Interested parties must submit bids via email or mail to the District Clerk no later than 11:00 A.M. on Monday, January 17, 2022. Bids must include the amount of the bid, name, and contact information including telephone number.

Clerk Phone: (530) 604-4013 Email: sierracountyfire1@gmail.com Mail: PO Box 255, Sierraville, CA 96126

#### LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: SUGAR PINE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC Full name of registrant: Curtis Nugent Business location: 515 S. Lincoln St., Sierraville CA 96126 Mailing address: PO Box 23, Sierraville CA 96126 Phone number: (831) 535-2165 This business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 4/1/2020 /s/ C.J. Nugent This statement was filed in the office of Heather Foster, Sierra County Clerk-Recorder, on: November 29, 2021 FILE NO: 2021001825

 Clerk-Recorder, on: November 29, 2021
 FILE NO: 2021001825

 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan. 6 of 2022



#### Sierra Safe

A program of the Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center (PCIRC)

OFFERING SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24hr Crisis Line # 1-877-757-0029

513 Main St.,	(530) 993-1237
P.O. Box 207	Fax (530) 993-1239
Loyalton, CA 96118	Pax (330) 773-1237

# Sheriff's Log

#### By Jen Henneke

#### Monday, December 27

05:46 - In Downieville, request for a welfare check on a person stuck in the area. The caller later contacted SCSO and had been in contact with their son.

07:01 - In Loyalton, a semi-truck was blocking one lane while delivering to Lenoard's Market. A deputy was sent to respond but was unable to locate the delivery truck.

13:27 - In Downieville, a vehicle was hindering snow plow efforts. The owner was eventually located.

18:06 - In Alleghany, phone lines were down across the roadway hindering more snow plow efforts. AT&T was notified to come fix their lines.

18:15 - In Downieville, someone requested that the county clear snow from their parked vehicle. This one made me seriously laugh out loud! Everyone must clear their own snow. 19:05 - In Downieville, a tree fell on a phone line. That isn't good considering the cell service isn't worth much either.

19:21 - Near Verdi, three individuals were stuck in the snow on the eastern segment of Henness Pass Road. Washoe County was able to find the individuals and transport them to Boomtown.

#### **Tuesday, December 28**

08:24 - In Loyalton, a trailer was blocking access to Garbage Pit Road. The owner was contacted and moved the trailer.

10:05 - In Alleghany, a power line was down and active. Fire dispatch forwarded the information.

12:50 - In Calpine, there were some cars impeding snow removal efforts.

18:33 - In Calpine, there was another parking issue.

#### Wednesday, December 29

04:53 - Between Pike and Alleghany, a fallen tree was blocking the road. The road department was notified.

05:01 - In Downieville, a tree fell on a home. The Downieville Volunteer Fire Department assisted.

07:09 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was dispatched to assist with an injured left foot.

07:33 - Near Sierra Shangri-La, a tree fell across HWY 49. CalTrans was notified to clear the road.

11:28 - In Sierraville, a possible hit and run to a property. CHP to handle.

13:37 - In Pike, a caller requested a welfare check on an elderly individual. CHP made contact and reported that family members would be at the residence soon.

13:39 - In Downieville, a semi-truck was driving through road closures. CHP notified.

17:16 - In Downieville, a test call.

18:45 - In Sierra City, another vehicle was supposedly impeding plow efforts. The deputy was unable to locate the vehicle.

19:17 - In Pike, a power line was down.

20:19 - In Alleghany, the road department requested assistance closing Ridge Road.

20:40 - In Sierra City, some folks who were going to need rescuing actually made it to Loyalton without rescuing.

#### **Thursday, December 30**

07:47 - In Alleghany, there was a fire alarm at the AT&T building. Fire Dept reported back, no fire or alarm. AT&T notified that there was no fire.





The dates for the 2022 edition of the Plumas Sierra County Fair have been set! After two years of cancellations, it only seems normal that the traditional dates would have to be put aside to accommodate this "new normal". In 2022, the fair in Quincy will be held July 28-31. This is two weeks earlier than has been the tradition, but as mentioned, things have changed.

A major consideration was having a carnival. With the pandemic, smaller carnivals throughout the country have closed up shop. Fortunately, the carnival that has served the Plumas Sierra County Fair for nearly two decades is still standing, but had to make changes to survive. With the cancellations of two fairs, Wold Amusements had to scramble to find another place to serve, and went all the way to Oregon to make that happen. Economically, this was beneficial to their operation, but made coming back to Quincy difficult. Efforts were made with the Trinity County Fair and Lassen County Fair to align fair dates so Wold Amusements could cut travel costs and commit to these three fairs if they ran on consecutive weekends. All three fairs were

in similar situations and it only made sense, for this year and years to come, to put together this solution to the problem. This means all three fairs can count on a full carnival in exchange for shifting dates a week or two.

The next big consideration was the annual Junior Livestock Show and Auction. While it was appealing to give a little more time between the end of the fair and the beginning of school, there are many moving parts. Would our normal auctioneer be available? Would we be able to find a meat processor for the new dates? Would the amount of product from three fairs so close together overload the processors who commonly serve these fairs? The first choice is to have the Livestock Show align with the fair, so it was great news when Junior Livestock Chairperson, Megan Neer was able to get all those moving parts to come together. Change is never easy, but it is a fact of life.

Of course, there was always the alternative to have the fair on the traditional dates with the livestock show, and no carnival. The Plumas Sierra County Fair Board considered all alternatives and acknowledged that



Sierra County Adult School is offering an EMT Refresher Course, January 17, 2022 ending February 5, 2022 and an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Course, Starting Feb. 7, 2022 ending March 18, 2022, at the Loyalton Campus located at 605 School Street, Loyalton.

## At the Firehouse By VICTORIA TENNEY

**ALLEGHANY:** December 30—Responded for an alarm sounding at the Alleghany A.T.& T building.

**DOWNIEVILLE:** December 27—Three Medical Urgent Care responses. December 28—Responded for a live, downed power line - PG&E was notified. December 29—Responded to remove a tree from a resident's roof. The roof was patched up. December 30—Two Medical Urgent Care responses. December 31—Responded for a person who was possibly having a heart attack and was transported to SNMH. January 1—Responded for a Medical Urgent Care. January 2—Responded for an ill person who was air lifted to SNMH; Medical Urgent Care response.

**LOYALTON:** December 29—Responded for individual with injury from fall; lift assist. December 31—Responded for person with difficulty breathing, Sierra Brooks; January 2—Lift assist.

#### PIKE CITY: All's quiet...

SIERRA CITY: All's quiet...

**SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**: (CALPINE, SATTLEY, & SIERRAVILLE) December 31— Responded for an ill person in Sierraville, who was transported to the hospital; responded for a non-injury vehicle accident on Hwy. 89 south of Sierraville.

the annual fair serves many different people, for many different reasons. By moving forward without a carnival, it would certainly affect attendance by people without a connection to the livestock aspect of the fair. That attendance dip would affect how many food vendors and non-food vendors would set up shop at the fair. That, along with no carnival revenue, would affect the finances of the fairgrounds. It was decided that the prudent thing would be to move the fair forward two weeks. There is always the unknown of how this change could affect any part of the fair experience, but with what we know now, the Board is confident with its de-

Now the issue is do we remember how to have a fair?! The Board also decided to keep

cision.

the unused theme from 2021; "Celebrating Fairs Past", so we can keep some of the work already done regarding displays and activities surrounding that concept. Look for the Exhibit Guide to be released sometime in January. All that is asked of the public is to think of things that can be entered in the fair in July. Pictures, food, flowers, crafts... anything that is made, grown or raised in Plumas and Sierra Counties. The fair staff will do the rest. If you paid for entries in 2021, you can roll those over to 2022. If you bought carnival tickets for 2021, those will be good in 2022. It's time to get our lives back, and one of the best ways to do that is to come to the 2022 Plumas Sierra County Fair on July 28-31 in Quincy, California. See you there!

**Confirmed Rabies in Grey Fox in Sierra County** 

Loyalton, CA – December 30, 2021: The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory has confirmed the detection of rabies virus in a grey fox from Sierra County. The fox was collected near Sierraville on December 13, 2021, following a report to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) that it was observed behaving abnormally. CDFW isolated the fox, which was displaying neurologic signs until it died on December 15th. Lab analysis was conducted and rabies virus confirmed on December 29, 2021. It is believed that there were no

#### Friday, December 31

08:18 - In Loyalton, a 911 request for Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance.

10:13 - In Sierra City, an abandoned vehicle was once again causing problems with snow removal. CHP was notified.

12:18 - In Sierraville, a 911 request for an ambulance.

13:48 - In Downieville, a tree fell and was blocking someone's driveway and the road. Sierra County Road Department was notified to clear the downed tree.

17:04 - In Sierraville, CHP responded to a non-injury vehicle accident. Only property damage was sustained.

17:13 - In Goodyears Bar, a possible heart attack victim was transported to Sierra Nevada.

17:14 - In Sierra City, there were some skiers on the highway refusing to move their parked vehicle on the highway. Deputies were unable to locate the skiers.

21:08 - In Loyalton, someone was celebrating the new year a little early with fireworks. Deputies checked the area but were unable to locate the source of the fireworks.

#### Saturday, January 1

00:06 - In Loyalton, many folks were celebrating the new year with fireworks. Deputy was unable to locate any specific addresses for the source of the fireworks.

00:48 - From Calpine to Downieville, it was reported that subjects were possibly driving while intoxicated. Deputy was unable to locate anyone in the area.

03:35 - In Loyalton, more fireworks were going off. Go to bed already!

08:00 - In Sierra City, two vehicles were towed for hindering CalTrans' ability to remove snow. Not a good start to the new year for those folks.

11:55 - In Sierra City, a 911 call with static on the line. Deputy completed an area check.

#### Sunday, January 2

12:04 - In Loyalton, the Loyalton Volunteer Fire Department provided a lift assist.

15:20 - In Loyalton, there was a juvenile problem.

17:06 - In Loyalton, a vehicle was illegally parked.

17:11 - In Loyalton, a dog was loose. When the deputy located the dog, it apparently knew it was in trouble and ran all the way home. Good dog!

20:46 - In Loyalton, someone lost a duffel bag. Contents unknown.

#### **Total Reported: 42**



The EMT Refresher is for all currently certified EMT's and will count as CE's. This is a 24 hour intense course (16 hours didactic and 8 hours lab).

The Emergency Medical Responder Course is 120 hours combined didactic and labs. This is an entry-level course that can help you decide if you want to pursue other health careers.

EMR's are usually the First Responders to a medical or trauma event. They are able to do an emergency assessment and use life saving skills to intervene in a medical or trauma emergency until EMTs, Paramedics, Nurses or Doctors are able to get to the scene.

The EMT Refresher fees are \$180.00 for the text (if you don't have it) and \$60.00 for the lab consumables.

The EMR Course fee \$140.00 for the text and \$60.00 for lab materials.

Both courses will be held at the Loyalton Campus in Room 2, on Mondays, Wednesdays, some Fridays, and a Saturday.

EMT Refresher dates and times: January 17, 2022 through February 5, 2022; Monday and Wednesday 2PM – 5PM, and Saturday Feb. 5, 9am to 4pm.

EMR Course dates and times: February 7, 2022 to March 18, 2022; Mondays and Wednesdays 2PM - 5PM and Fridays 2PM - 6PM.

The instructor will be Corina Tidwell, Paramedic. The courses are open to everyone and our communities desperately need your help and your skill. You can take the EMR course if you just want to better understand your body and your health for personal or family reasons.

If you are interested in more information or have questions, please contact Wendy Jackson at (530) 993-4953 or email at wjackson@spjusd.org. You can also register online at <thescsa.org>. We will also be offering a variety of CPR/ FirstAid/AED courses. Please call for details.



bites or other contacts of concern between the fox and members of the public, the wildlife rehab center, or CDFW staff.

Rabies is a severe infection of the nervous system caused by a virus that is most often transmitted through the bite from a rabid animal. It is nearly always fatal once someone develops clinicals signs, but it can be prevented with prompt medical attention and prophylaxis following a possible exposure. People should avoid contact with wild animals and seek immediate medical care if they are bitten by a wild animal.

Rabies is prevalent throughout California, mostly in bats and regionally also in skunks. Occasionally spillover of rabies virus from these species is seen in other wild animals, including foxes. "Earlier this autumn, we identified three rabid foxes in Plumas County – all were infected with bat strains of rabies virus. It is likely that this fox was similarly exposed" according to State Public Health Veterinarian, Curtis L. Fritz.

With the onset of cold winter temperatures, most bats have migrated or are hibernating, so the risk of additional transmission is negligible. However, there may yet be another fox or more incubating rabies from exposures that occurred 1-2 months ago. Therefore, the public should be aware of the risk posed by foxes and other wild mammals, and cautioned to avoid contact, and alert appropriate animal control or wildlife officials if they encounter any animal displaying strange behavior.

The last rabies detection in Sierra County was a single skunk in 1994. Nevertheless, residents should remember that there is always a risk of contracting rabies from both wild and domestic animals.

Sierra County Public Health officials are advising residents to take the following measures to protect themselves, their pets, and livestock from rabies:

• Avoid contact with wild animals, like foxes. Rabid animals may appear aggressive, docile, or injured. Do not approach any wild animal or attempt to feed or capture it.

• Discourage wildlife from being around homes by collecting uneaten pet food and keeping garbage bins covered and secure.

• Consult with your veterinarian to ensure that dogs and cats are up to date on rabies vaccinations and consider vaccinating horses and other livestock.

• If you observe wild or stray animals that are behaving unusually, contact Sierra County Environmental Health at 530-993-6716 or the Sierra County Sheriff's Office at 530-289-3700 after business hours. P.O. Box 7, Loyalton, CA 96118 [] (530) 993-6700 [] www. sierracounty.ca.gov

• If bitten by an animal, it is important to contact animal control authorities to catch the animal so it can be determined if the animal has rabies. The Sheriff's Office may contact Fish and Wildlife to assist with the capture of certain wildlife.

• Seek immediate medical care if you are bitten by or have direct contact with an animal that draws blood. Your healthcare provider will provide wound care and determine whether rabies post-exposure prophylaxis is needed.

For more information, please go to: Rabies | CDC Email: EnvHealth@sierracounty.ca.gov Phone: (530) 993-6716

#### JANUARY 6, 2022 • THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER • PAGE FIVE

# **Help Wanted**

#### **DRIVERS WANTED**

Golden Rays Public Transportation is looking for two part-time drivers to start driving right away. Must pass a drug test, be fingerprinted, provide your DMV driving record, and have a valid Driver's License.

If you need any further information, you can call Joyce White @ 530-289-3250. Mail your resume to Golden Rays, P.O. Box 532, Downieville, CA 95936

#### **Job Opportunity:**

Downieville School Secretary 5 hours Daily Secretary 2 hours Daily (may be combined) For more information visit www.edjoin.com for applications or call (530) 993-1660 x 151

#### Seeking

Saw Mill Production Supervisor Eastern Sierra County Text Resumé to Saw Machine Integrators LLC 610-587-5948

#### SEEKING IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEERS FOR GRAND JURY SERVICE

The Superior Court of California, County of Sierra needs citizen volunteers to serve immediately on the Sierra County Grand Jury. The service may extend through December 31, 2022. A shorter term may be available for those who are able to serve from now until mid-2022.

In order to meet the minimum qualifications for service on the Grand Jury, applicants must be United States citizens who are 18 years of age or older and must reside in Sierra County for a minimum of one year immediately prior to becoming a grand juror. Service on the Grand Jury requires an investment of time, usually 6-12 hours per month. For convenience to the grand jurors, remote appearance technology will be available for correspondence and meetings. COVID-19 protocols will be followed as necessary and appropriate during grand jury sessions.

Please contact the Grand Jury Coordinator directly at (530) 289-2930 for further information.

#### **Board of Supes Continued...**

Recognizing how some county employees have already exhausted their sick leave during the pandemic, Supervisor Adams suggested Cline and County Counsel David Prentice meet to develop a method for preventing county employees from working when they should be isolating themselves.

Next, the Board reconsidered last month's decision to reopen their meetings for public attendance if conditions permitted. Given the anticipated spread of Omicron, however, they decided to continue live, audio broadcasts of their sessions from Downieville for the next 30 days. If February's circumstances prove to be less risky, they will return to hybrid sessions where the public can be present in person or through a telephone/internet connection.

As for the Board's committee assignments, after thanking Supervisors Adams and Roen for their excellent service on the Finance Committee for the past several years, Supervisor Huebner expressed his opinion the membership of this very important committee should rotate each year. Thus, he suggested the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board serve on the Finance Committee. While Adams and Roen agreed with Huebner's concept, Supervisor Dryden demurred. Being in her first term, she did not feel ready for the assignment. Therefore, in 2022 Adams and Roen will remain on the Finance Committee. But, we can expect Huebner's idea to be implemented in 2023.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) selection of Gold Lake Road for rehabilitation and safety improvement was the next item on the agenda. In the material provided to the Board by Tim Beals, we find the estimated \$20.2 million total project cost will be covered by \$13.4 million available from the Federal Land Access Program (FLAP), \$2 million from Caltrans, and \$0.6 million from Plumas and Sierra Counties. Shares of the Counties contribution will be based upon a detailed cost estimate of the work in each County. The USDOT's November 24 letter to Beals and his cohort in Plumas County announcing their application for the project had been "short-listed" and is "no longer competing against other applications." The letter also mentions how rehabilitation of 0.5 miles of Sardine Lake Road, 1.45 miles of Salmon Lake Road, and 3.87 miles of Packer Lake Road has the potential to be added to the project's scope. To feed at this trough, the conditions of the FLAP legislation require each County to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) establishing the project's scope, roles, and responsibilities. They also must transfer \$10,000 to the USDOT by January 21, 2022. Following Beals' presentation of this information, the Board voted 4-0 on a resolution giving their Director of Transportation to execute the required documents.But, no one needs to worry about travel delays any time soon. No construction work is planned to begin until 2029.

Approval of a license agreement with PG&E to open a "Warming Center" at the Downieville Community and in Alleghany at the Emergency Services-Road Department Building was the next topic for the Board to consider. In the agreement submitted to them by Tim Beals (wearing his Public Works, Transportation, and OES hats), PG&E will pay \$500 per day to use these facilities between December 31, 2021 and January 6, 2022. However, the agreement also states, "PG&E anticipates that it will use" these facilities "on an occasional basis." Specifically, during any "Emergency Event," be it an earthquake, a wildland fire, heat or cold waves, a period of high winds, and "other events of this scale." So, the contract seems to be a boilerplate, something where the dates and rate are the only things to be changed when an emergency arises. After thanking Beals for taking the initiative to e-sign the agreement on New Year's Eve, at the tail end of the "Snowmageddon" event, the Board voted unanimously to approve the license agreement. Beals will report at their next meeting on why PG&E canceled the planned "Warming Center" in Alleghany during the recent emergency.



12 Step Meetings—Downieville, Tuesdays, 5:15 P.M. at 320 Commercial Street.

**Open AA Meetings**—Pike City, Thursdays, 5:30 P.M. at the Pike City Fire House on Ridge Road.

Closed AA Meetings-Sierra City. For information, call (530) 862-1193 or (530) 862 1332.

Open NA Meetings-Downieville, Wednesdays, 6 P.M. at the Library.

AlAnon Meetings-Downieville, Tuesdays, noon, in the back room of the Masonic Hall.

Alleghany County Water District-Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6 P.M. at the Firehouse. 105 Plaza Court. alleghanywater.org

Alleghany Volunteer Fundraising District-Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 P.M.

Calpine Community Fire Association—Meets 1st Tuesday of each month, 6:30 P.M. at the Calpine Community Center. For information, call (530) 320-0764

Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department Training-Thursday evenings, 6 P.M. at the Mill Street Fire Station.

Downieville Lions Club-Meets 3rd Monday of each month, 6:00 P.M. at the Masonic Hall. For more information, all (530) 289-3632.

Downieville Fire Protection District Board-Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:30 P.M. at the Community Hall. Downieville Fire Protection District-EMS Training 4th Thursday of each month, 6 P.M. at the Community Hall; Fire Personnel Training for New & Ongoing Fire Fighters 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month, 5:30 P.M. at Station 1 (next to the Community Hall).

Golden Rays-Morning Yoga, Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 A.M. at the Downieville Community Hall. Bring a mask and a mat.

Gold Nugget Republican Women Federated-Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month from April through October, 11 A.M. Venue varies each month. For further information, please contact Mary Ervin, President, at (916) 549-4905, or Candy Corcoran, Membership Chair, at (530) 993-4633.

Pliocene Ridge Community Services District-3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30 P.M. Alternates between Alleghany and Pike. plioceneridge.org Pike City and Alleghany Fire Departments train Mondays, 6 P.M. Volunteer Firefighters needed, training and gear provided. Send an email to: plioceneridge@gmail.com for more info.

Plumas-Sierra Cattlewomen-For info contact Flinda France, (530) 258-6522

Sierra County Fire Safe & Watershed Council-Meets quarterly, 10 A.M. to noon. Location to be announced at www. scfswc.com.

Sierra County Democrats-Meetings held last Sunday of each month. Call (530) 862-1379 for time and location.

Sierra County Fish & Wildlife Commission-Meets 4th

## **Administrative Secretary Needed**

The Sierra County Road Department is recruiting for an Administrative Secretary III. Full Time Position with Benefits Salary \$3,400.01-\$4,132.73 Monthly DOQ.

Please visit sierracounty.ca.gov/jobs for full description and qualifications. Completed applications and resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

Please submit via email to ibehlke@sierracountv.ca.gov or mail to Sierra County Human Resources P.O. Box 513 Downieville, CA 95936

For more information, please call Judi Behlke at 530-289-2879

#### **LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE** FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT

The following registrants have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: THE HUB COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER Full names of registrants: Chad Hermann, Renee Hermann Business location: 15 W. Sierra Avenue, Portola CA 96122 Mailing address: PO Box 511, Portola CA 96122 Phone number: (530) 832-1781 This business was being conducted by: a married couple The registrants commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/30/2019

/s/ Chad Hermann

This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: November 23, 2021 FILE NO: 2019-0000031 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan. 6 of 2022

#### **LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE** FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: SPLASH N DASH Full name of registrant: Kyle Quain Business location: 165 North Pine Street, Portola CA 96122 Mailing address: 1870 Vassar St., Suite 1, Reno NV 89502 Phone number: (530) 832-1000

This business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 11/24/2021

#### /s/ Kyle Quain

This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County FILE NO: 2021-0000282 Clerk-Recorder, on: November 24, 2021 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan. 6 of 2022

#### **LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE** FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT OF **ABANDONMENT**

The following registrants have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: PORTOLA'S SPLASH-N-DASH CAR WASH Full names of registrants: J. Keven LaPlant, Gloria S. LaPlant Business location: 165 N. Pine Street, Portola CA 96122 Mailing address: 1122 Cortez Lane, Gardnerville NV 89410 Phone number: (530) 832-1000 This business was being conducted by: a married couple The registrants commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 9/10/2019 /s/ J. Kevin LaPlant, Gloria LaPlant This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: December 2, 2021 FILE NO: 2019-0000231 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan. 6 of 2022 Editors note: Once again, there's more to the story but space constraits means the tale will continue here next week.

#### LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: SIGNATURE LANDSCAPES Full name of registrant: Western Landscape Construction Business location: 4021 West Carey Avenue, Las Vegas NV 89032 Mailing address: 4021 West Carey Avenue, Las Vegas NV 89032 Business Phone number: (818) 737-2635 Registrant Address: 980 Jolly Road, Suite 300, Blue Bell PA 19422 Registrant Phone Number: (844) 235-7778 This business is being conducted by: A Corporation The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 3/1/2021 /s/ Thomas Kuehn, Assistant Secretary This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County

Clerk-Recorder, on: June 29, 2021 FILE NO: 2021-0000179 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 23, 30 of 2021; Jan. 6, 13 of 2022

#### **LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrants are doing business as: THE HUB COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER DBA CHAD & RENEE HERMANN DBA COUNTRY BREEZE CLEANING Full names of registrants: Chad Hermann, Renee Hermann Business location: 15 W. Sierra Avenue, Portola CA 96122 Mailing address: PO Box 511, Portola CA 96122 Phone number: (530) 318-3186 This business is being conducted by: a married couple The registrants commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 11/15/2021 /s/ Chad Hermann This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: November 23, 2021 FILE NO: 2021-0000280 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan. 6 of 2022

#### **LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE** FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: TWISTED ROOTS Full name of registrant: Renee Balderas Business location: 7797 Buck Brush Drive, Portola CA 96122 Mailing address: same as above Phone number: (530) 414-5800 This business is being conducted by: an individual The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 10/28/2021 /s/ Renee Balderas This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: October 28, 2021 FILE NO: 2021-0000265 Published in The Mountain Messenger: Dec. 16, 23, 30 of 2021 & Jan, 6 of 2022 Tuesday of each month, 5:30 P.M. (except December). Call for location (530) 993-6051

Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District—Meets 1st Wednesday of each month, 10 A.M. Call (530) 993-6051 for location.

Sheriff's Search and Rescue – 2nd Saturday of each month, 10 A.M. at Sheriff's Office. Call (530) 289-2890 for information.

Tai-Chi-Sierra City, Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. at the Community Hall. Dee Wallace, (530) 862-1332.

Western Sierra Residential Center-Board meeting, 2nd Tuesdays of each month, 10 A.M. at the Transportation Center (Tommy's parking lot), Downieville. (530) 289-3250

To rent the Downieville Community Hall, call (530) 289-5110 or Email: DownievilleCommunityHall@gmail.com.

To rent the Sierra City Community Hall, call (530) 862-1580 during the evening.

To rent the Vinton Grange, call (530) 993-4839.

To rent the North San Juan Senior Center, call (530) 415-9705

#### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

In case of emergency, dial 911	
California Highway Patrol - Quincy 2	283-1100
California Highway Patrol - Grass Valley 4	77-4900
City of Loyalton 9	93-6750
CalTrans Downieville Maintenance Station 2	289-3214
Quincy Maintenance Station 8	32-4911
Sierraville Maintenance Station 9	94-3410
Downieville School 2	289-3473
Downieville Volunteer Fire Department 2	89-3333
	289-3711
Loyalton 9	93-6700
Loyalton Elementary School 9	93-4482
Loyalton City Hall 9	93-6750
Loyalton Cop Shop 9	93-4479
Loyalton High School 9	93-4454
Loyalton Volunteer Fire Department 9	93-6751
Mental Health Services, Loyalton 9	93-6700
PG&E report outages 800-7	743-5002
Plumas Ace Hardware, Portola 8	32-5208
Plumas County Clerk-Recorder 2	283-6155
Plumas County Sheriff's Office (Front Desk) 2	283-6375
Sierra County Sheriff's Office-non-emergency 2	289-3700
Sierra County Clerk-Recorder 2	289-3295
Sierra Hardware, Downieville 2	289-3582
Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital 2	274-6000
Sierra Valley Home Center, Loyalton 9	93-4331
USFS Beckwourth Ranger District 8	336-2575
Sierraville Ranger District 9	94-3401
-	288-3231
Western Sierra Medical Clinic 2	289-3298

# **Business Directory Services**



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# **MARKET NEWS**

#### **By NICK SPANO**

The startup space was sizzling in 2021; over the past year, funds have been flowing into seed-stage and early-stage startups. In fact, a record amount of money (\$93 billion) was invested in early-stage companies last year.

From web3 to educational technology, capital from V.C. firms inundated a variety of sectors in 2021. Since the pandemic's beginning, techbased startups have provided many early-stage investing opportunities so innovative and enticing to investors that the median valuation of most seed or early-stage startups ballooned last year. In 2021, the median valuation of an early-stage U.S. startup was \$26 million; in 2020, that median valuation was \$16 million.

As many notable venture capital firms rake in some of their best returns since the dotcom bubble, investors are beginning to question the sustainability of the postpandemic startup explosion. A partner at Bain Capital Matt Harris, Ventures, commented "It's going too well. I'm not actually that smart. It can't continue like this." An unprecedented 42% of Harris' portfolio companies IPO'd in 2021.

According to Pitchbook and

the WSJ, the value of U.S.based/VC-backed companies that publicly listed or were acquired in Q3 of 2021 totaled \$582.5 billion, compared to just \$289 billion in 2020. Additionally, the unrealized gains of international V.C. portfolios increased to \$1.33 trillion in March 2021, up from \$803 billion in Q4 2019.

Many industry veterans recognize that macroeconomic factors such as bond yields and tech adoption may fuel startup valuations. Still, sky-high boosts to early-stage valuations don't come without the risk of a 'bubble burst.'

The future is coming, and it's coming quickly. The e-dollar is becoming a staple in China, and something similar may be coming to the U.S. China has already processed more than \$5B in e-renminbi transactions. In contrast, the U.S. has fallen behind in plans to develop its own central bank digital currency (CBDC). Fed Chair Powell could have updates in the coming months.

Establishing a digital dollar has been on the Fed's radar for more than a year, and it announced in May it would launch a deeper examination into the issue with a paper to follow.

The Boston Fed has taken

point on the project, joining with MIT in an initiative on whether the central bank should establish its own digital coin targeted at making the payments system more effective.

Speaking of the future, Silicon Valley is not satisfied with solving problems like how we get around and talk to each other. Longevity research is now its new pet project. In 2013, Google founded Calico, a biology company with the stated goal of "solving death." A quick glimpse at the company's website shows that since its inception, Calico researchers have been embroiled in what longevity scientists have been doing for decades: testing specific types of molecules on non-human species to see if they extend the organisms' lives.

Others concern themselves with treating chronic diseases to help humans live longer, better lives. Human Longevity, Inc. uses algorithms to predict an individual's risk of cancers or a genetic condition based on a genetic test. Verily, another Google subsidiary, creates devices that improve people's quality of life with chronic illnesses like diabetes and Parkinson's.

No, the future doesn't stop at trying to live forever. We also

have to see how much we can change everything on the way. As CRISPR gene-editing tech improves, scientists are working on ways to grow spicy tomato-chili pepper hybrids, breed faster racehorses, make hypoallergenic food, and bring woolly mammoths back from extinction.

Scientists in Brazil and Ireland use CRISPR to turn on nascent spicy genes within tomatoes. Tomatoes already carry many of the genes needed to produce capsaicin, the compound that makes chili peppers spicy. With tweaks from CRISPR gene-editing technology, the researchers have been able to give tomatoes the missing genes to make them spicy.

While this may seem extremely trivial, chili peppers are extremely hard to grow and have a much lower crop yield than tomatoes. Turning to a humble gene-edited tomato as the source of our hot spices could mean a more sustainable and efficient use of resources.

Who knows what the future may hold, but if things stay the way they are, we might have spicy tomatoes and digital dollars before you know it.

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#### S&P 500 Market Movers - 12/29

#### **Top Gainers**

1. Nucor Corp. (NUE) \$122.72 +4.826% 2. Merck & Co Inc. (MRK) \$78.88 +2.42% 3. AT&T Inc. (T) \$26.21 +2.223%

#### **Top Decliners**

1. Enphase Energy (ENPH) \$157.20 -11.84% 2. SolarEdge Technology (SEDG) \$249.81 -8.528% 3. Salesforce (CRM) \$227.67 -8.28%

#### NASDAQ Market Movers - 12/29

#### **Top Gainers**

1. Mondelez International (MDLZ) \$67.41 +1.445% 2. Intel Corp. (INTC) \$53.87 +1.374%

3. T-Mobile US Inc. (TMUS) \$115.36 +1.14%

#### **Top Losers**

1. Mercadolibre Inc. (MELI) \$1129.69 -8.997% 2. Moderna (MRNA) \$215.23 -7.65% 3. Okta Inc. (OKTA) \$198.59 -7.637%

# **COMMODITY PRICES**

	Dec. 29 USD	Jan. 5 USD	Weekly Change	YTD Change
Gold USD/Troy Oz.	1804.27	1809.89	0.3%	19.3%
Silver USD/Troy Oz.	22.80	22.78	-0.1%	27.8%
Lumber USD/1000 BdFt.	1170.00	1159.50	-0.9%	186.1%
Live Cattle USD/100 Lbs.	139.40	137.25	-1.5%	8.7%
Crude Oil USD/Barrel WTI	76.47	77.19	0.9%	27.1%
Propane USD/Gallon	1.04	1.11	6.7%	122.0%
CRB Index Index Points	248.58	250.35	0.7%	27.2%

# Elements

#### Night Sky: Winter 2022

The winter season running through March brings a new cast of constellations. These familiar patterns of stars are high in the sky between 8-10PM for the next few months. No fancy equipment is needed for stargazing - just your eyes, a dark sky, and a warm jacket!

To the North, the great bear Ursa Major rises from its winter slumber. As spring approaches, the Big Dipper will rise higher north. Cassiopeia slowly sets in the NorthWest.

Low in the East, Leo the Lion will be prowling the horizon, while higher up in the sky are the Gemini Twins with bright stars Castor and Pollux.

To the South, Orion the Hunter looms high in the sky with his dogs Canis Major and Minor. Next to Orion towards the West will be five stars in a "V" shape forming the face of Taurus the Bull. The small cluster of stars next to Taurus is the Pleiades or "the Seven Sisters".

Happy New Year and Keep Looking Up! - Collin O'Mara-Green

#### Sun & Moon

	Date:	Thu. 1-6	Fri. 1-7	Sat. 1-8	Sun. 1-9	Mon. 1-10	Tue. 1-11	Wed. 1-12	
Sun	Rise:	7:22 am	7:22 am	7:22 am	7:21 am	7:21 am	7:21 am	7:21 am	
	Set:	4:52 pm	4:53 pm	4:54 pm	4:55 pm	4:56 pm	4:57 pm	4:58 pm	
Moon	Rise:	10:34 am	11:01 am	11:25 am	11:48 am	12:12 pm	12:37 pm	1:05 pm	
	Set:	9:40 pm	10:46 pm	11:50 pm	-	12:51 am	1:52 am	2:53 am	
	Illumination	23.0%	32.9%	43.2%	53.5%	63.3%	72.4%	80.6%	

Source: <https://www.timeanddate.com/

#### Local Road/Trail/River Conditions



Early on December 30th, last Thursday, the snow gauge at Yuba Pass showed about 9.5 feet on snow was covering the ground, a little more than twice the amount of snow than pictured here on the previous Thursday.

#### **7-Day Local Forecast**

#### Towns Mon. 1-3 Info Thu. 12-30 Fri. 12-31 Sat. 1-1 Sun. 1-2 Tue. 1-4 Wed. 1-5 49/34 High/Low (°F) 53/34 42/28 49/2751/30 50/30 52/31 44%94% Cloudiness (%): 84% 16% 44% 28% 44% E-S 7 mph S-SW 11 mph NE 2 mph NE 5 mph E 2 mph Downieville Wind (mph): E 2 mph NE-E mph 100% Humidity (%): 100% 94% 85% 82% 90% 84% 3% Chance of Precip. 30% 0% 1% 7% 2% 9% 51/29 High/Low (°F) 43/18 41/1741/18 41/18 43/20 M/26 Cloudiness (%): 23% 44% 41% 51% 25% 28% 38% Loyalton Wind (mph): S 4 mph SW-S7 mph E 2 mph E 4 mph E-NE 3 mph E 3 mph SE-S 3 mph 38% 87% 83% 85% 77% 77%Humidity (%): 81% Chance of Precip. 0% 23% 0% 0% 3% 1% 4% High/Low (°F) 47/30 50/3242/2644/23 46/23 46/23 47/24Cloudiness (%): 45% 72% 21% 19% 39% 25% 39% Quincy Wind (mph): S 5 mph S-SW 11 NE 1 mph NE 4 mph NE 4 mph NE 5 mph E 5 mph 99% 100% 95% 93% 91% 91% 91% Humidity (%): Chance of Precip. 4% 26% 0% 1% 3% 3% 9%

Source: < https://www.weather.gov/wrh/wxtable> [National Weather Service WFO STO 01:37 AM PST Wednesday Jan. 6, 2022] M=Missing

#### Water Flow on the North Yuba River January 5, 2020 - January 5, 2021





Median daily statistic (89 years) — Period of approved data
 — Discharge — Period of provisional data
 — Estimated discharge



Last Week's Weather Courtesy of the Grubstake Saloon													
Date	Hi	FE	Lo	FE	Precip.	Snow							
Dec. 28	33	0	30	+13	0.89"	7.5"							
Dec. 29	32	-1	30	+9	0.17"	-							
Dec. 30	37	-2	31	+10	-	-							
Dec. 31	40	+2	22	-1	-	-							
Jan. 1	36	-7	21	+4	-	-							
Jan. 2	37	-6	25	+5	-	-							
Jan. 3	40	-1	33	+8	0.96"	-							
Forecast Error (FE) is found by subtracting the forecast for each day's high and low temperature from the day's recorded value.													
Seasonal Pi	recipitat	tion											
July 1 to d	ate					45.27							
To-date las	st year					14.57							



Yearly average

Jet Streams: January 6 Source:<https://www.pivotalweather.com/model.php>

65.28

5				1			7	
	9				5	1		
		4	6			8		3
7					3		8	
	1	6	4					7
	8			2		4		
4			8		9			2
	2		5				3	
		1		7		9		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ••

♦ Moderate
 ♦ ♦ Challenging
 ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

#### CryptoQuip This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals 0, it will equal 0 throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error. Clue: U equals K VID LMBULJSDE VIZED TAXE TJHD VIDSEDPHDE JFD ZU, WAV VIDX

BZAPG IJHD WDDL IJLGPDG WDVVDF.

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Last Week's Answers

CryptoQuip All the ready to drink products in this supermarket come in bottles only. It's so uncanny.

8	1	7	5	9	2	3	4	6
3	6	9	1	7	4	2	8	5
5	4	2	3	8	6	1	7	9
7	5	4	2	1	8	9	6	3
1	3	6	9	4	5	7	2	8
2	9	8	6	3	7	4	5	1
6	7	3	4	5	1	8	9	2
9	8	5	7	2	3	6	1	4
4	2	1	8	6	9	5	3	7

# L O O T E R Z E N I M A M B O I C E R M A M D D N A M B O D N A M D D D N A M D D N A M D D D N A N D D D D D L C E R A N D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D A A N D D A A N D D A A N D

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117	118	119	109	106			120	111	112	113					121	115	108			116
	118	119	109	106				111	112	113						115	108			116

#### PAGE EIGHT • THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER • JANUARY 6, 2022

True Tales of the Timber Industry as assembled by Cynthia Anderson

#### From the Woods — Bob Sauer, Part 2

Bob Sauer concludes his story in the first "From the Woods" of the year 2022 by reminscing on his days as a logger and the times he spent with his family.

My son Ed worked with me driving truck. We used to have three or four trucks that we ran. They were usually Kenworths and Peterbilts. We also used to fall them with a hand saw because that was before they had the Mall power chainsaws. The Sugar Pine had a lot of pitch and they would have somebody there pouring kerosene or coal oil on the saw to keep the pitch from stopping the saw because you couldn't pull it. When the Mall power chainsaws came out, they had an oiler on them and that made it a lot easier.

In the early days, we didn't have stakes on the trucks, we had what they called cheese blocks. They were only about a

foot high and you could get a lot of big logs on. They had wood in the bunks because there was a certain time of the year that the bark slips on all the pine and fir trees, and it would come off by itself. The sawmills didn't want you to have any sharp steel on your truck because it would ruin the first board of molding, and that is where they made their money—in the molding.

In 1939 they had the World's Fair in San Francisco and that is when the Golden Gate Bridge was first opened. You had to be 12 to go to the Fair and I lacked a month, but they lied about my age and they didn't check on it then and I got to go to the World's Fair.

We still have about 69 or 70 acres in North San Juan, but the house is gone, it burned. There is still a small rental up there. All of my brothers except Paul worked

in the timber industry. So four of them did and one didn't. My brothers were Leonard, George, Arnold, Paul and Al. My sister Helen lives in Reno with her daughter. Helen is the oldest of my siblings, and she and I are the only ones still living. I retired from working when I was in my late 70s, maybe 75 or 76 and I am 91 now in 2019.

Thus, the story of R.J. "Bob" Sauer comes to an end. We will return next week with a new installment of "From the Woods - True Tales of the Timber Industry". Stay tuned.



*Left: R J "Bob" Sauer with his* grandson, Austin Duehring.



Bottom: A 70 to 80-foot log load, barely street legal, bound for large-scale infrastructure projects in the San Francisco Bay Area.



## H. L. Johnson Residence - Alleghany

may be hard for one to imagine that the town once featured fanciful wooden sidewalks and fences along its streets. The following photograph was reprinted in the February 27, 1959 issue of the Sierra Booster with the following caption:

"This photo was probably taken in Alleghany about 1910. It shows the residence of H.L. Johnson, owner of the old Tightner Mine, reportedly purchased by the Original Sixteen to One Mine many years ago for \$100,000. Both gold mines are still operated as one through the same portal by the management of the 16 to 1... Negative for the old photo loaned to the Booster by Fred Giles of Alleghany, developed by Millers Photo of Portola ... The home belongs to Mamie Swan, widow of the late Jim Swan, underground shift boss at the 16 to 1 for many years." H. L. Johnson is the tall man on the left in the cowboy hat.

Henderson L. Johnson was originally a school teacher from Ohio, who came west to mine in Colorado and New Mexico before arriving in Alleghany in 1890. He took a lease and bond on the Tightner Mine in 1903, drifting the quartz vein southward where he encountered the first high-grade pocket in 1907, amounting to nearly \$470,000 in gold. Soon after, Johnson got hold of the Red Star, Rainbow, and El Dorado claims and consolidated them with the Tightner Mine.

Looking at Alleghany today, it In 1909, the Tightner Mine was sold to the Tightner Mines Company, which produced \$3 million between 1911 and 1918. Along with his mining work, Johnson also made many improvements to the town of Alleghany, including town water and electrical systems.

The structure depicted in the attached photo is the grand home which was built for H.L. Johnson in 1906, and to this day is still known as the "Tightner Mansion." The carpenter was Fred Locey, an Alleghany resident. The Morning Union of August 7, 1906 reported Johnson was building "a new home, which will be one of the costliest in the mountains." The following year, in the edition of June 28, 1907, the same newspaper reported "At the Johnson mansion, men are at work beautifying the sidehill lawn and surrounding it with an ornamental fence. Johnson is also furnishing the city with a water system for fire protection and contemplates other improvements."

Helen Armstrong Covell wrote in 1982 "The Johnsons might be called the First Family in town as they built the finest house... All were well bred, handsome and intelligent. Their greatest fascination was their baby girl twins. He built the sump pump that fed water to the almost futile fire hose. To him is also credited the Odd Fellows Hall. They left town about the same time we did...Mr. Johnson died early of silicosis and I've been told Mrs. Johnson, who

rode in a chauffeur driven limousine in Oakland was too generous with her money for her own good. The house still stands sturdily. I was taken to see its well proportioned rooms not long ago."

Not only did the Johnsons have the finest home in Alleghany - they also had a fine home in Berkeley. The Morning Union of November 9, 1911 gave the following headline "H. L. Johnson Buys Lots at Berkeley -Will Erect Magnificent Mansion on Sightly Tract Soon - Gives Grand View of Bay Section - Johnson Family Will Have One of Finest Homes Around Berkeley." This grand house still stands in the Claremont area of town. The townspeople of Alleghany gave Mr. and Mrs. Johnson a "beautiful silver loving cup" upon their moving to Berkeley.

After Johnson's death in 1918, his widow sold their Alleghany mansion to James and Mamie Swan, and the home has had a few more owners over the years. The home still stands to this day, though the wooden fence and sidewalks are long gone.

I am always open to feedback and suggestions for my history articles. If you have a comment or a subject to propose, please email me at corypeterman3@ gmail.com, thanks!



# The Mounta



#### VOLUME 99 NOs. 51-52 ESTABLISHED 1853

#### Seeking Lost Plane in This Area

70 YEARS AGO

Possibility that an Air Force C47 plane may have gone down December 26, in this area, is being investigated by six personnel of the Army, working in the office of Sheriff Dewey Johnson at the courthouse. The plane with eight men aboard, was bound from Spokane, Washington, to Hamilton Field. Several local residents say they heard a plane which they thought was circling overhead. Jack Cook reported he heard it and what he thought was an explosion. He lives about seven miles northeast of Downieville, above Lavezzola ranch, in territory difficult to reach with mountain roads now impassable because of snow. Planes have been searching northern California for traces of the lost plane, and it is possible a helicopter will be used to search the local area in which the plane is thought to have gone down.

Included in the Army personnel here: Sergeant Lyle Crampton, PFC Dave Gordon, Corporal Stanley Monnie, Staff Sergeant Steward N. Bill, and Sergeant Horace Woodward, all of Hamilton Field, and Staff Sergeant John Driscoll of March Field.

#### **Businessmen Come Under Social Security**

"If you're in business for yourself, you came under the new Social Security Act the first of the year," George C. Hewitt, manager of the Sacramento office of the Social Security Administration, reminded businessmen in this area.

Farm owners still do not participate in the social security program, nor do members of certain professions, such as dentists, doctors, lawyers, public

accountants, and morticians. Others who are in business for themselves logging, running grocery stores, operating service stations and so on, were brought under social security on a compulsory basis the first time this year.

The self-employed will make their social security tax returns along with their income tax returns for 1951 by the middle of March of 1952. They will need social security numbers for those returns and Hewitt suggested that they apply for new or replacement social security cards through his office prior to that time.

A free booklet explaining this new social security coverage is available through the Social Security Administration 701 K Street, Sacramento, California.

#### **Costas Purchase Turner** Insurance

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Costa have purchased the general insurance business of Franklin H. Turner who was also formerly county clerk here about 18 years. He started writing insurance in Sattley about 40 years ago, and continued when he moved here about 20 years ago. Now in his late 80s, Turner is retiring.

The Costas took over the business as of December 17, and are writing renewals and new business under a state certificate of convenience to transact business, pending an examination to be held in four months. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio J. Costa, George is well known here, where he was born and raised. Mrs. Costa came here several years ago as a school teacher. They have three children.

#### **Former Sierrans Observe Golden Anniversary**

Mr. and Mrs. M.P. Fischer and daughter Miss Marcella, and Melvin Ponta, attended the golden wedding anniversary of her sister, Mrs. Joseph Erwin and husband, New Year's Day at Oakland. She was the former Lizzie Bachels, and both will be remembered by old-time residents of this section. The Oakland Tribune states:

"The Erwins, both natives of California, met in a mining camp near Downieville, where Mrs. Erwin was a cook. They were married two years later at the home of her parents in Goodyears Bar.

Erwin worked as a mining superintendent before coming to Oakland in 1913. He was employed by the P.G.E. here for 20 years. Erwin, 76, is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Forbestown. His wife, Elizabeth, 71, will be a 50-year member in May of Naomi Parlor 36, Native Daughters of the Golden West at Downieville. Both belong to Townsend Club 19 here.

They have three sons, Joseph Raymond of Oakland, Eugene of San Francisco and William of Paradise. They have five grandchildren."

#### Alleghany

A happy Christmas spirit prevailed here last week and this, and many plans were carried out.

Teenagers, boys and girls, entered into the happy spirit with zest and went around town Christmas eve singing carols at the various homes. This custom began many years ago in European countries and is a very good one. This is the first time to our knowledge it has been done in this town and we hope it will continue here.

The men of the Original 16 to

#### DOWNIEVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY SEAT, CALIFORNIA

1 Mine were given a three-day holiday and including Sunday they had four days in all. This was an incentive for many to take trips out of town to spend Christmas with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hogan and three children and her brother, Walter Johnson, went to Nevada City to have Christmas with relatives living there and with other relatives who would gather in a happy reunion.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Middaugh and two infant daughters and Mr. and Mrs. E.W. McCarroll and two infant children were weekend visitors for Christmas at the home of Reginald Clemens, parents of the wives and also with Middaugh's mother, Mrs. James Morris.

Mass was held at 8 a.m. on Christmas day by Father Gabrielli. He came in a truck from North San Juan, due to snow.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sbaffi and small sons, Mike and David, went to Nevada City Sunday morning. Mrs. Sbaffi and the children stayed with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arbogast, to be there for Christmas. One of her sisters and her family were coming by plane from the Middle East for Christmas.

Sbaffi returned to Alleghany that same night to attend his store, which he kept open Christmas eve. Then he returned to Nevada City for Christmas and brought his family back to Alleghany Christmas night.

#### **Report Floods Damage On** North Yuba River

Following is a report made by Ross F. Taylor to Sierra County Board of Supervisors, on the North Yuba River Downieville, outlining at conditions caused by the flood

of November 20, 1950. It is made from data gathered from a survey of the area in August and September, 1951, augmented by surveys made in February, 1939. Flood History

Since the turn of the century there have been five floods in the North Yuba River at Downieville, reaching their peaks January 15, 1909. May 11, 1915. March 26. 1928. December 10, 1937. and November 20, 1950.

Editor's Note: Reprinting Taylor's entire report would have consumed all of the space available for this column. Those who are interested in reading all of the report are more than welcome to visit The Mountain Messenger's office to see it.

#### **Burglary Charged to Local** Pair

Bill Hart, 30 of Nevada City, and John Russell Robbins, 51 of Burlingame are free on \$3000 bail each, after they appeared before Justice of the Peace George W. Gildersleeve in Nevada City. They are charged with assault and intent to commit robbery. The two were named by Ed Hansen of Nevada City as the pair who shot him during an attempted holdup at his home December 29. Hansen was wounded by four bullets.

Sheriff Wayne Brown of Nevada County said Hansen and his wife both identified Hart as one of the men involved. Hart was arrested there Saturday. Robbins was arrested in Burlingame and brought to Nevada City. He was taken to the hospital to face Edmund Hansen, who picked Robbins out of five men when asked which was the man he accused.

Judge Gildersleeve is to set the date of the preliminary hearing in his court next Monday.

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Hart denied any part in the holdup. According to Sheriff Brown, Robbins did not at first recall exactly where he was at the time of the holdup attempt, but he was not in Nevada City. He said he would try to find those really guilty. Mrs. Robbins, in Burlingame, declared he had been with her in that city throughout the Christmas holidays and at the exact time Hansen was shot, and that she knew her husband would be freed of the charge.

Robbins said he was selfemployed and owns a couple of mining claims in the Alleghany section, where he formerly operated a store. Hart, miner and lumber worker, is well known in this section, frequently coming in summer to peddle a truck loaded with fruits or vegetables. Both are family men.

#### **Snow 90 Inches**

A depth of 90 inches of snow measured on the measuring stick on Yuba Pass summit Tuesday morning. A depth of 57 inches of snow was measured at Little Truckee summit, eight miles south of here, Tuesday morning. It is reported the snow fall in the mountains is greater than in many years for January.

#### **Mrs. Frances Hall Dies**

News was received here this week of the death December 26, of Mrs. Frances Clapp Hall, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jack Sheedy, in Alpine. She was owner of the well-known Telegraph Mine, rated as a good gold producer until closed following an unusually wet season in 1937. The Sheedys formerly resided in Downieville, and Mrs. Hall visited during the summers.