

# The Mountain Messenger

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

VOL. 168, NO. 35 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022      DOWNEVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA      ESTABLISHED 1853 SINGLE COPY 50¢ tax included

## Success in the Sierra: French Meadows Partnership Completes Third Season of Work

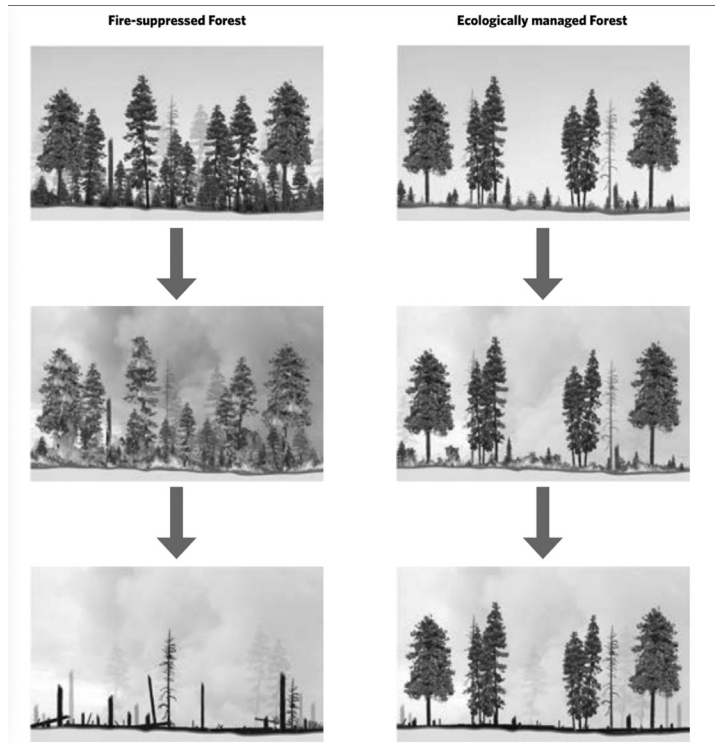
by YubaNet  
January 27, 2022

FRENCH MEADOWS, Calif. — For the third consecutive year, partners of the French Meadows Forest Restoration Project (“Project”) have wrapped up another season of forest treatments in the Tahoe National Forest. Despite the challenges of an extremely dangerous fire season in 2021, the French Meadows Partnership (“Partnership”) safely treated roughly 1,000 acres using a combination of mastication, mechanical thinning, hand thinning, and prescribed fires. A portion of this acreage is on private land owned by the American River Conservancy, who has independently raised funds and treated 1,345 acres over several years. Combined, this all-lands collaborative watershed management project has treated in excess of 5,200 acres over the past three seasons.

“Despite another severe fire season, partners pulled together to initiate several important elements of our restoration plan,” said Kerri Timmer, Regional Forest Health Coordinator with Placer County, who coordinates the stewardship agreement with the Tahoe National Forest.

One Project element implemented for the first time this year was the use of prescribed fire to help clear understory vegetation. With support from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy, the United States Forest Service expertly treated over 130 acres of difficult terrain with prescribed fire. Using fire as a treatment method has historically proven to be an effective wildfire management tool and is a crucial component of the Partnership’s ecological forestry model. When the 2021 Caldor Fire erupted in the El Dorado National Forest, areas managed similarly to the French Meadows Project were found to slow the fire’s progression, lessen the fire’s severity, and provide refuge for firefighters and wildlife.

As part of this season’s efforts, the Partnership also reforested 95 acres within the footprint of the devastating King Fire to reestablish the Siera Nevada’s mixed-conifer ecosystem. The reforestation involved planting approximately 200 trees per



acre of one-year-old ponderosa pine, sugar pine and incense cedar seedlings in areas prepped in 2020.

To help offset the Project’s restoration costs, the Partnership brought in more than 1.5 million board feet of overstocked timber fuels to a local mill, and more than 195 tons of biomass to local renewable energy facilities. Additionally, the Partners repaired over four miles of roadway and culverts to reduce sedimentation. Overall, this year the Project employed up to 20 local contractors.

“Year after year, this Project continues to demonstrate its merit not only in the improvements made to the land, but in the benefits to the community,” said American River District Ranger Mary Grim with the United States Forest Service. “This Project is a reminder of what can be accomplished with a shared sense of stewardship of our forests and natural resources.”

The catalyst of the French Meadows Forest Restoration Project was the 2014 King Fire, which burned over 97,000 acres in the American River watershed, much of it at high intensity. Eager to reduce the risk to hydroelectric assets, water quality, and biodiversity from future fires, Placer County Water Agency (“PCWA”) joined with Placer County, The Nature Conservancy (“TNC”), the United States Forest Service (“USFS”), American River Conservancy (“ARC”), Sierra Nevada Conservancy (“SNC”), and the Sierra Nevada Research Institute (“SNRI”) at the University of California, Merced, to form the French Meadows Partnership. The Project spans more than 22,000 acres of federal land, nearly 7,000 acres of private land, and is a test case for the Partnership’s effectiveness in improving fire resilience and the overall health of the watershed.

To learn more about the French Meadows Forest Restoration Project, visit and tour the Project’s story map <<https://maps.arcgis.com/stories/3cf1ddb68e34c59a5326e61e05d304b>>.

Links are also available at the partners’ respective websites.

## PG&E Exits Federal Probation Despite What Judge Calls Five-Year "Crime Spree".

By Dan Brekke, KQED/San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — PG&E officially completed five years of criminal probation last week despite widespread concern — and anger — over the company's record of starting wildfires that have devastated communities across Northern California.

U.S. District Judge William Alsup of San Francisco declared the period of court supervision a failure at rehabilitating PG&E and said the utility represents an ongoing danger. “In these five years, PG&E has gone on a crime spree and will emerge from probation as a continuing menace to California,” Alsup wrote in a report last month reviewing his oversight of the utility.

Of particular concern to Alsup, wildfire victims and others critical of the company's safety performance is the annual occurrence of catastrophic fires involving the company's equipment.

Those blazes include fires that broke out Oct. 8, 2017, as high winds raked Northern California. Among the 22 people who died in fires sparked by PG&E equipment were four who perished in the Cascade Fire in the hills northeast of Marysville. They also include: the 2018 Camp Fire in Butte County that killed 84 people and nearly wiped out the town of Paradise and nearby communities; the 2019 Kincade Fire in Sonoma County; the 2020 Zogg Fire in Shasta County, which killed four people; and last year's Dixie Fire, which burned nearly 1 million acres of northern Sierra Nevada forest.

All told, fires the company started while on probation have killed at least 111 people.

PG&E's conduct prompted its court-appointed monitor to raise alarms about the utility's wildfire prevention efforts in a final report filed in November. Although the report said the company's natural gas operations have improved significantly, it spoke bluntly about the company's poor record of wildfire safety.

"We doubt anyone would seriously contend that PG&E’s performance has been even adequate, or that substantial improvement is not still imperative, given the staggering losses of life and property caused by recent wildfires for which the company has either pleaded guilty criminally or otherwise been determined responsible," the report said.

The report credited the utility with making some progress on wildfire safety, but added "there is a long way to go. Sustained, focused, and unwavering commitment in the future will be required to achieve stated goals."

But the report questions whether PG&E is ready to make that commitment and urged the company to both improve the quality and accelerate the pace of its safety work.

The monitor noted that even a single mistake in assessing potentially dangerous tree or the failure to replace hardware like the corroded C-hook that snapped and started the Camp Fire in 2018 "can be death and destruction."

"Currently," the report said, "the company is making too many missteps."

Given PG&E's record, Judge Alsup asked both federal prosecutors and company lawyers in 2019 to weigh in on whether he could extend the company's probation.

He raised the idea again during a hearing earlier this month held to consider allegations PG&E had violated probation by starting the Kincade and Zogg fires.

When PG&E lawyers formally denied the charges, Alsup told Assistant U.S. Attorney Noah Stern he would consider extending probation, but only if prosecutors asked him to.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in San Francisco declined to file such a motion. Instead, it told Alsup that PG&E's term of probation was already the maximum allowed under federal law. Even though there is no binding legal precedent, the prosecutors said, they would not seek an extension given the "unique history and circumstances" of the PG&E case.

The utility was sentenced to five years of probation in January 2017 after a federal jury convicted it on five counts of violating federal pipeline safety laws and one count of obstructing a National Transportation Safety Board probe.

Those charges were the result of a federal investigation that followed the San Bruno natural gas pipeline explosion in 2010 — a disaster that killed eight people, injured dozens of others and gutted a suburban neighborhood.

Catherine Sandoval, a professor at the Santa Clara University School of Law and a former member of the California Public Utilities Commission, faulted federal prosecutors for backing away from trying to extend the probation.

She was also critical of the U.S. Attorney's Office decision not to pursue an evidentiary hearing to prove the allegations that PG&E had violated its probation by igniting the Kincade and Zogg fires.

"I think that's disappointing because for basic respect for the law here, you have a felon who has already admitted to 85 felonies during their probation," Sandoval told KQED. "And then they're charged with more probation violations and the U.S. attorney doesn't even want to hold a hearing to determine whether or not there was a probation violation."

"That's just not consistent with the respect for the law I believe that we need, especially for, unfortunately, a recidivist felon, PG&E," she said.

See **PG&E Crime Spree**  
Continued on Page4

Sourdough  
Jack Sez...





## Katie's Sightings

Taken with permission from northyubanaturalist.blogspot.com

KATIE O'HARA KELLY



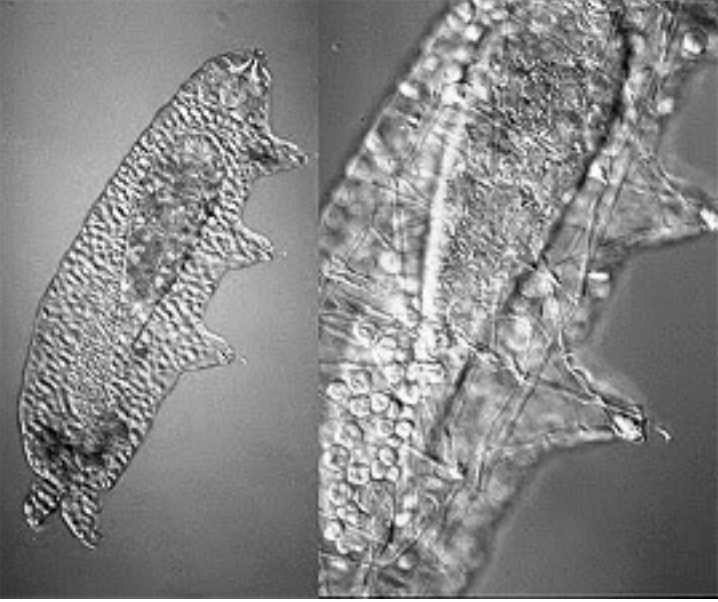
Icicles on Dendroalsia Moss

Once again icicles are hanging from some of the mosses in our neighborhood! The reason why the moss itself doesn't freeze, is that during winter moss has a natural anti-freeze (glycerol, sucrose etc.) in its cells! This lowers the temperature at which water freezes, so the plant cells aren't frozen and damaged. Lots of plants use this anti-freeze technique to survive the winter, including most evergreen shrubs and trees, some ferns, succulents, and liverworts!

In our area, among all the moss, ferns, and lichens, Pacific Stonecrop, a succulent, grows profusely! In addition to the aforementioned "anti-freeze" strategy, these succulents go dormant in the winter, and enter into a state of temporary metabolic inactivity or minimal activity. They are in the Crassulaceae family of plants that have thick succulent leaves, a thick waxy cuticle and Crassulacean Acid Metabolism. The thick leaves provide storage areas for water during dry conditions. The thick waxy cuticle helps keep the plant from drying out or freezing.

The Crassulacean Acid Metabolism is a modified form of CO2 fixation and photosynthesis that takes place at night. Instead of the stomata being open during the day, in succulents the stomata are open at night. As a result, the loss of water (transpiration) during the day is minimized and carbon dioxide (CO2) uptake occurs in the dark.

Also living among the moss and lichens are one of my favorite tiny critters, the Moss Piglets or Tardigrades. I have



Tardigrades

written about them in previous blogs, but just had to mention them again because they are so cool! They are active in the damp, wet time of the year, and dormant in the hot and dry seasons. They are usually clearish and can be seen with a dissecting microscope, but not with your naked eye. They have eight legs, with three claws each, and two cell piercing stylets which they use to suck the juices out of plant cells, nematodes, and rotifers. They have nervous and digestive systems, but no circulatory or respiratory systems! The following detailed information about them is from the website at <<https://infinitespider.com/tardigrades-introducing-moss-piglet-water-bear/>>. This website also has directions on how to collect and observe Tardigrades if you're curious!

*"Tardigrades belong in the phylum Tardigrada. They're aquatic invertebrates commonly found in the base of mosses and lichens; though they can also be found around the world, from the heights of the Himalayas to the depths of hot springs. They are known as extremophiles, meaning that they can live in places on Earth that most creatures couldn't handle. They can endure temperatures of absolute zero, pressure higher than that of the deepest oceans, radiation that would kill all other animals, and they can go without food or water for more than 10 years!"*

*If their little ponds or the water around the base of the mosses where they live dries up then the tardigrades undergo ANHYDROBIOSIS or life without water. The water bear injects sugar into its cells to replace water loss. It then pulls in all its legs, curls into a barrel shape called a 'tun', and enters a death-like state. This can last up to 10 years (but they can also revive with water in about an hour)! Water bears can also enter cryobiosis (dormant state due to cold), osmobiosis (dormant state due to solutes like salt in water), and anoxybiosis (dormant state due to lack of oxygen).*

## Letters to the Editor

### Vintage Gal Antiques

It is with great sadness that I announce the closing of my shop, Vintage Gal Antiques in Downieville. Growing up around antiques, it was a natural step for me to open a shop 17 years ago after retirement from county government. I've loved Vintage Gal and it has been my "fun job" and a grounding focus for me since my husband's death. I've enjoyed welcoming back so many returning summer customers and friends that have supported me over the years.

My landlord, an out of county property owner, has demanded that I must vacate and it is my understanding that the building is for sale. I don't know the fate of Boomtown Lounge, the wine bar, or Cold Rush Ice Cream, also in the building.

Thank you for your support over the last 17 years. I truly appreciate it.

Cherry Simi  
Downieville, CA

## Tahoe NF soliciting input on OHV grant funding

Tahoe NF to submit annual California state grant application for trail funds

Feb. 1, 2022, NEVADA CITY, Calif. – The Tahoe National Forest will host a virtual presentation 6:30 p.m. February 10 for those interested in providing input on California OHV grant applications.

The Tahoe NF is preparing its annual application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. The annual application requests funding for trail maintenance, law enforcement, education and safety, development of trails and facilities, and restoration of existing trails.

The hour-long meeting will allow the public to learn more about the grant process and how to provide input.

The meeting will be hosted via Microsoft Teams. (Those interested in attending do not need a Teams account to access the presentation; simply direct your internet browser to <<https://go.usa.gov/xtVbh>> and you will be redirected to the USFS press release containing the link to the meeting.)

"I encourage anyone interested in the OHV program to join in this presentation by the forest and district trail managers, and provide their ideas on these proposals," said Trails Program Coordinator Joe Chavez.

The annual grants provide important funds for the Tahoe NF to develop and maintain trails and trailheads. This includes repairing winter storm damage, restoring trailside environments, covering patrol units, educating trail users and monitoring OHV areas.

When finalized, the grants will be available for public review and comment on the State of California's website from March 8, 2022 to May 2, 2022.

Comments can be submitted during the meeting via the Microsoft Teams chat function, or via email to [joe.chavez@usda.gov](mailto:joe.chavez@usda.gov).

Comments can also be mailed to the following address prior to February 24:

Joe Chavez, Forest Trails Program Coordinator  
Tahoe National Forest  
631 Coyote St.  
Nevada City, CA, 95959

## Poetry Corner

### The Song of the Smoke

By W.E.B Du Bois

I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am swinging in the sky,  
I am ringing worlds on high;  
I am the thought of the throbbing mills,  
I am the soul of the Soul toil kills,  
I am the ripple of trading rills.  
Up I'm curling from the sod,  
I am whirling home to God.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am wreathing broken hearts,  
I am sheathing devils' darts;  
Dark inspiration of iron times,  
Wedding the toil of toiling climes,  
Shedding the blood of bloodless crimes,  
Down I lower in the blue,  
Up I tower toward the true.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am darkening with song,  
I am hearkening to wrong;  
I will be black as blackness can,  
The blacker the mantle the mightier the man,  
My purpl'ing midnights no day dawn may ban.  
I am carving God in night,  
I am painting Hell in white.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am the smoke king,  
I am black.  
I am cursing ruddy morn,  
I am hearing hearts unborn;  
Souls unto me are as mists in the night,  
I whiten my black men, I blacken my white,  
What's the hue of a hide to a man in his might!  
Hail, then, gritty, grimy hands,  
Sweet Christ, pity toiling lands!  
Hail to the smoke king  
Hail to the black!

This poem is in the public domain. Published in Poem-a-Day on January 16, 2022, by the Academy of American Poets.

**About this poem:** "The Song of the Smoke" appeared in The Crisis VII, no. 3 (January, 1914).

**About this poet:** William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was



born on February 23, 1869, in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Raised primarily by his mother, he was an African American writer, civil rights activist, sociologist, historian, educator, and poet. He received a BA from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee and a PhD from Harvard University.

As a civil rights leader, Du Bois founded both the Niagara Movement in 1905 and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909, striving for equality in America for the African American community.

As a trailblazer for sociology, he conducted several social studies on the Black communities of Southeast America under the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in the late 1890s, introducing the importance of statistical analysis in sociological studies.

His many books include Darkwater: Voices from within the Veil (Dover Publications, 1920), an autobiographical collection of essays and poems, and the novel Dark Princess: A Romance (University Press of Mississippi, 1928), and his most prominent book The Souls of Black Folk: Essays and Sketches (1903), among other works. Du Bois died on August 27, 1963, in Ghana.

## The Mountain Messenger

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# Sheriff's Log

By Jen Henneke

Monday, January 24

05:53 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.  
12:46 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested again.  
13:00 - In Loyalton, some dogs were loose and barking. The deputy made contact with the owners of the frolicing dogs and gave them written notices.  
15:02 - In Loyalton, someone’s firearm was stolen and missing for six months. Should have reported this months ago!

Tuesday, January 25

10:50 - In Alleghany, an abandoned trailer was reported on Ridge Road just past the transfer site. CHP was notified but were unable to check the status due to the road being inaccessible.  
11:30 - In Downieville, two pigs were frolicing on Brandy City Road. Fish and Wildlife was notified.  
14:44 - In Loyalton, a 911 caller dialed in error. Caller was trying to call their neighbor.  
17:46 - In Sierra City, some tree limbs were close to the roadway. CHP and CalTrans were notified.  
22:01 - On HWY 395, CHP made an arrest for a DUI.

Wednesday, January 26

01:19 - In Downieville, CalTrans reported a miniature donkey and a miniature cow frolicing on HWY 49. The owner was contacted to pick up their mini animals.  
09:46 - In Pike City, a vehicle and contents from a vacant rental property were stolen. CHP responded to the vehicle theft and Sierra County Sheriff’s Office responded to the theft of the contents stolen from the rental property.  
10:11 - In Sierra City, a 911 call with static on the line. Deputies were unable to check the area due to it being inaccessible.  
17:17 - In Loyalton, a dog was in the Sheriff’s yard.

Thursday, January 27

10:16 - In Verdi, a driver was being reckless. Call transferred to Nevada Highway Patrol.  
13:44 - In Sierra City, a 911 caller hung up with static on the line.  
18:54 - In Loyalton, a caller requested medical assistance for a neighbor that was refusing assistance.

Friday, January 28

09:34 - In Verdi, a citizen requested assistance backing down an icy road. Caller was able to back down without assistance from the Sheriff’s Office.  
09:52 - In Downieville, a possible suicidal subject was heading to Downieville. The subject was later located in Nevada County.  
14:55 - In Sierra City, someone stole some lumber. With the price of lumber these days, that could almost be considered grand theft!  
16:44 - In Truckee, a stranded motorist was not requesting assistance. Umm, okay.  
21:42 - The Susanville CHP arrested a subject for a DUI out of county and the Sheriff’s Office assisted.  
22:41 - In Sierra City, a 911 hang up. There were problems with the phone lines.  
22:51 - In Downieville, a possibly intoxicated man was walking on Main Street. At least he wasn’t driving.

Saturday, January 29

14:02 - In Loyalton, Sergeant Crawford responded to a report of the theft of a pressure washer.  
15:15 - In Sierra City, a large boulder was broken into pieces on the highway.  
15:43 - In Camptonville, a request for agency assistance with a fleeing vehicle.  
22:42 - The Sierra County Sheriff’s Office assisted with a male in the middle of the highway that turned into an arrest for Lassen County for disorderly conduct, a controlled substance and illegal possession of a firearm.

Sunday, January 30

16:12 - In Loyalton, someone needed help getting up. Loyalton Fire and Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance responded.  
17:34 - In Loyalton, another person needed help getting back up. Again, Loyalton Fire and Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance responded.

Total Reported: 29



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

The following registrant is doing business as: MILLIE’S ICE CREAM & COFFEE COMPANY  
Full name of registrants: Margaret Smitten  
Business location: 7512 Highway 89 House #121, Graeagle CA 96103  
Mailing address: 304 Lundy Lane, Graeagle CA 96103  
Phone number: (775) 426-9621  
This business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/24/2022  
/s/ Margaret Smitten  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 24, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000022  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: CAMERON CUSTOM CLEANING  
Full name of registrants: Cynthia D. Cameron  
Business location: 2257 Sugar Pine Circle, Quincy CA 95971  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1386, Quincy CA 95971  
Phone number: (530) 394-0212  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/1/2022  
/s/ Cynthia Cameron  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 25, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000026  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Plumas Unified School District (“District”), acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the DISTRICT will receive up to, but not later than **2:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, February 15, 2022**, sealed bids for the award of a contract for the **Plumas Unified School District (PUSD) Building A & B Modernization Project at Chester Elementary School - Bid Package PU2022.5.24.A Abatement / Demo**. Bids shall be received at the Plumas Unified School District office located at 50 Church Street, Quincy, CA 95971 and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above-stated time and place. Responses must be sealed and clearly marked **“Building A & B Modernization Project at Chester Elementary School- Bid Package PU2022.5.24.A Abatement / Demo”**. Facsimile copies of the bid will not be accepted.

Each bid must conform and be responsive to this Notice to Contractors, the Information for Bidders, and all other documents comprising the pertinent Contract Documents. All interested parties may obtain a copy of the bid package from the Plumas Unified School District office located at 50 Church Street, Quincy, CA 95971 or via email request to [kevin@crmgrouppca.com](mailto:kevin@crmgrouppca.com)

The successful bidder shall commence work on or before **March 7, 2022**. All work shall be completed within **9 calendar days** and not later than **March 15, 2022**. There will be a **mandatory** pre-bid walk at **Chester Elementary School, 158 Aspen St, Chester, CA, at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 7, 2022**.

In contracts involving expenditures in excess of \$25,000.00, the successful bidder shall file a payment and performance bond issued by an admitted Surety authorized to conduct business in California, in the form set forth in the Contract Documents. A payment bond may be required for contracts involving smaller expenditures at the option of the District.

All forms must be completed, signed, and returned with the bid. The contract award will be based on the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The lowest bid shall be the lowest total of the bid prices on the base contract. Minority, women, and disabled veteran contractors are encouraged to submit bids.

The contract is for a public work. Contractor and any subcontractor shall pay all workers on the project at least the general prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations (“DIR”) pursuant to Labor Code section 1770 et seq. Prevailing wage rates are available from the District or online at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>.

No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal or awarded a contract for public work unless currently registered with the DIR pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the DIR.

Each bidder shall be a licensed contractor at the time of bid pursuant to the Business and Professions Code and such license(s) shall remain in active and good standing for the duration of the contract. The bidder shall be licensed in one or more the following classifications: **CDPH trained and certified to perform the lead abatement work; B-ASB licensure or its equivalent is required to perform the asbestos work on this project. DOSH registration must also be current.**

Signed: D. Kevin Nolen, Construction Manager for  
PLUMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
50 Church St., Quincy, CA 95971

Published in The Mountain Messenger on February 3 & 10 of 2022

## PG&E Crime Spree

Continued from Page 1

—PG&E said in its own final report to the judge in November that its electricity grid is “fundamentally safer” now than in January 2017.

The company acknowledged it has "more work to do to meet the extraordinary challenges" it faces and said it's "committed to taking bold actions to combat the threat of wildfires faced by the communities it is privileged to serve."

The company also pushed back against criticism — and potential prosecution of — company employees and contractors. “Vilifying them and threatening to criminalize the exercise of professional judgment or the making of honest mistakes serves neither safety nor fairness, and instead severely detracts from PG&E’s efforts to bring the skills of the best and brightest to bear on stopping wildfires,” PG&E lawyers wrote.

But Sandoval, who as part of the CPUC had a hand in overseeing PG&E from 2011 to 2017, said the company has repeatedly failed to learn from its mistakes.

She said company management "needs to stop making excuses" and "get real about what's going on" with the utility's safety performance.

"PG&E said more than once in their pleadings and the criminal probation case, 'Oh, it's counterproductive to criminalize our behavior there,'" Sandoval said. "They're failing to recognize that things like involuntary manslaughter, it's a criminal offense."

After the Camp Fire, PG&E pleaded guilty to 84 counts of involuntary manslaughter and to one count of unlawfully starting a wildfire.

The company faces further criminal charges for both the Kincade and Zogg fires. Butte County prosecutors are now determining whether to charge the company with arson in the Dixie Fire, a decision due by July.

Article reprinted courtesy of KQED/San Francisco.



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

The following registrant is doing business as: LAKES BASIN CONSTRUCTION  
Full name of registrants: James Lind  
Business location: 518 Brady Dr., Sierra City CA 96125  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 156, Sierra City CA 96125  
Phone number: (415) 302-3661  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 8/27/2020  
/s/ James Lind  
This statement was filed in the office of Heather Foster, Sierra County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 26, 2022 FILE NO: 2022001829  
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# At the Firehouse

By VICTORIA TENNEY

ALLEGHANY: All's quiet....no training, no meetings, & no emergencies....

DOWNIEVILLE: January 24th — Eleven Medical Urgent Care responses. January 25th — Responded to a Medical Urgent Care incident. January 26 — the Eleven Medical Urgent Care responses.; COVID -19 Testing at the Community Hall. January 27th — EMS Training at Station #1. January 28th — Responded for a Public Assist, someone fell; responded for twelve Medical Urgent Care incidents. January 29th — Responded for a Public Assist, someone who fell & needed help.

LOYALTON: Monday, 1/24/22, 5:52AM, older female possible stroke, Sierra Brooks; 12:58, fall victim with possible broken ankle, Loyalton. Sunday, 1/30/22, 4:13PM, lift assist, south of Loyalton.

PIKE CITY: January 28th — Mutual aid response to North San Juan, for a structure fire - cancelled.

SIERRA CITY: January 26th — Firefighters trained at the Sand Shed.

SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: (CALPINE, SATTLEY, & SIERRAVILLE): All's quiet....no training, no meetings, & no emergencies....

### Do You Have News For Our Readers?

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

### Sabrina's at the Forks

Desserts will be provided by  
"Butter Me Up Bakery"

## Happy VALENTINE'S Day

Entree	Starch	Vegetables
Smothered Pork Chops	Whipped Potatoes	Roasted Tri Colored Carrots
Blackened Cat Fish	Seasoned White Rice	Roasted Seasonal Veggies
Desserts		
Heart Shaped Trussardi		
Heart Shaped Carrot Cake		

All Entree come with an Aphrodisiac sweet starter, accompanied by a bread basket, salad.

Please call to reserve your table  
Limited to reservations only  
925-815-6025 or 509-730-8970

14 February, 2022

## Music at the Pines

CABIN FEVER CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS:

# J & J Music Co.

TWO OF SO. LAKE TAHOE'S ELITE AMERICANA MUSICIANS

**Jon Sills**  
Electric Cello

**Josh Sweigert**  
Guitar, Mandolin, Vocals

**Sierra County Arts Council**

**Sunday, Feb. 6, 3-5pm**  
(Doors open @ 2:00)  
@ Sierra Pines Resort in Sierra City  
\$25 Admission includes:  
One Happy Hour Beverage, Bottomless Snack Bar & Soup du Jour  
**For Reservations and Info:**  
**Call Chris Stockdale (530) 862-1076**

## Food Assistance

### Food Bank / Commodities Contacts

Community	Contact	
Alleghany/Pike	(530) 287-3040	Once a month
Calpine	(530) 616-0630	
Chester/Lake Almanor	(530) 258-2345	
Chilcoat-Vinton	(530) 283-3546	
Downieville	(530) 289-3250	
Greenville	(530) 284-6353	
Loyalton Senior Center	(530) 993-4770	5 days a week
Loyalton/Sierraville	(530) 384-5718	
Portola	(530) 283-5515	
Sierra City	(530) 862-1052	
Sierra Valley	(530) 993-1110	



## Help Wanted

### Job Opportunity:

Downieville School  
Secretary 5 hours Daily  
Secretary 2 hours Daily (may be combined)

For more information visit [www.edjoin.com](http://www.edjoin.com) for applications  
or call (530) 993-1660 x 151

### 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](http://sierracounty.ca.gov/jobs) for full description and qualifications. Completed applications and resumés will be accepted until the position is filled.  
Please submit via email to [jbehлке@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:jbehлке@sierracounty.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

## The Mountain Messenger

We are seeking reporters ("Stringers") who can file stories concerning items of local interest happening in Alleghany, Pike, Downieville, Sierra City, Calpine-Sattley, Sierraville, Loyalton, Vinton-Chilcoat, Verdi, Graeagle, Portola, Quincy, Taylorsville, Chester, Westwood, Susanville, Doyle, Nevada City, Grass Valley, and Truckee.

We are also seeking an individual who is experienced with electronic spreadsheets and Quickbooks to assist with billing our customers and paying our vendors. This part-time job involves 10 - 15 hours a week.

We also want to hire a person with the skills and experience required to maintain our website. We estimate this job will involve approximately 6 hours of work a week.

We also need a person who can collect the newspaper each Thursday morning and distribute it to sites in Quincy, Graeagle, Portola, Loyalton, Sierraville, and Calpine.

If you are interested in any of these positions, either visit our office at 313 Main St. in Downieville or call (530) 289-3262 to discuss the terms of employment here at

The Mountain Messenger.

Founded in 1853, California's oldest, continuously published weekly newspaper.

# PEACE

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

The following registrant is doing business as: THE ELEGANT FARMER  
Full name of registrants: Joseph Barnes & Lynn Wimer  
Business location: 525 Main St., Chester CA 96020  
Mailing address: 1117 Peninsula Dr., Lake Alamanor CA 96137  
Phone number: (925) 787-5776  
This business is being conducted by: a General Partnership  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 12/20/2021  
/s/ Lynn Wimer  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: December 20, 2021 FILE NO: 2021-0000299  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: QUINCY HOME MEDICAL SERVICES  
Full name of registrant: Brian Walmer  
Business location: 211 Lawrence St., Quincy CA 95971  
Mailing address: PO Box 1310, Quincy CA 95971  
Phone number: (530) 927-7087  
This business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/5/2022  
/s/ Brian Walmer  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 5, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000004  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: MURPH  
Full name of registrants: Duane Murphy  
Business location: 461 Lassen St., Chester CA 96020  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 2095, Chester CA 96020  
Phone number: (530) 816-0523  
This business is being conducted by: An Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 8/24/2021  
/s/ Duane Murphy  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: August 24, 2021 FILE NO: 2021-0000215  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 10 of 2022

### For Sale

### 7.5 HP 24” Ariens Snowblower

Electric Start — \$300 obo

Don Russell, DVL  
(530) 289-0332

#### PUBLIC NOTICE \*\* PUBLIC NOTICE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner Flori Ruth Yarbrough filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Flori Ruth Yarbrough. Proposed name: Flori Yarbrough.

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: March 25, 2002 at 10:00 a.m., Superior Court of California, County of Sierra, Department 1, 100 Courthouse Square, Downieville, CA 95936  
Date: January 28, 2022 /s/ Charles Ervin, Judge of the Superior Court

Published in The Mountain Messenger on February 3, 10, 17 & 24 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: SABRINA'S AT THE FORKS  
Full name of registrants: Sabrina Smith  
Business location: 308 Main Street, Downieville CA 95936  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 84, Sierra City CA 96125  
Phone number: (916) 730-2070  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 10/1/2016  
/s/ Sabrina Smith  
This statement was filed in the office of Heather Foster, Sierra County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 21, 2022 FILE NO: 2022001828  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: MICHELLE RIDLEY CONSELING SERVICE  
Full name of registrants: Michelle Lynn Ridley, MS, ACGRMS  
Business location: 95512 Chilcoat Avenue, Chilcoat CA 96105  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 326, Chilcoat CA 96105  
Phone number: (530) 249-7792  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/3/2022  
/s/ Margaret L. Ridley  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 21, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000019  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: GRIZZLY TRANSPORT  
Full name of registrants: Paul Harris, Jr.  
Business location: 1572 Stampfli Lane, Greenville CA 95947  
Mailing address: 1572 Stampfli Lane, Greenville CA 95947  
Phone number: (530) 394-4131  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/7/2022  
/s/ Paul Harris, Jr.  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 7, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000007  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 of 2022

#### LEGAL NOTICE \*\* LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2022-0000025

The following person(s) is doing business as:  
Scratch, 225 S Lake Avenue, Suite 250, Pasadena, CA 91101, County of Los Angeles.  
Mailing Address: 225 S Lake Avenue, Suite 250, Pasadena, CA 91101  
SCRATCH FINANCIAL, INC., 225 S Lake Avenue, Suite 250, Pasadena, CA 91101  
This business is conducted by a Corporation.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/15/2021  
/s/ Caleb Morse, COO  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Plumas County on January 25, 2022.  
Marcy DeMartille, County Clerk  
By: Kari Capella, Deputy  
2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24/22  
CNS-3548905#  
THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

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

The following registrant is doing business as: INDIAN VALLEY TIRE AND LUBE  
Full name of registrants: Kirsteb Working  
Business location: 16254 Highway 89, Crescent Mills, CA 95934  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 605, Greenville, CA 96103  
Phone number: (530) 260-7810  
This business is being conducted by: an Individual  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/10/2022  
/s/ Kirsteb Working  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 10, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000010  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 27 & Feb. 3, 10, 17 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: THOMPSON TRACTOR & SNOW REMOVAL  
Full name of registrants: Stanley P. Thompson & Debra L. Thompson  
Business location: 2070 Blackbird Way, Clío CA 96106  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 332, Graeagle CA 96103  
Phone number: (530) 836-7252  
This business is being conducted by: a Married Couple  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 11/12/2021  
/s/ Stanley P. Thompson  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 12, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000012  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 10 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: RICO'S MEXICAN FOOD, LLC  
Full name of registrants: Francisco J. Carillo  
Business location: 222 E. Sierra Ave., Portola CA 96122  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 198, Portola CA 96122  
Phone number: (530) 832-4017  
This business is being conducted by: an LLC  
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 12/1/2011  
/s/ Francisco J. Carillo  
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 3, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000001  
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 10 of 2022

## The Mountain Messenger Local Calendar sponsored by The Buttes Resort

**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.

**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.scfswc.com).

**Sierra County Democrats**—Meetings held last Sunday of each month. Call (530) 862-1475 for time and location.

**Sierra County Fish & Wildlife Commission**—Meets 4th 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](mailto: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	283-1100
California Highway Patrol - Grass Valley	477-4900
City of Loyalton	993-6750
CalTrans Downieville Maintenance Station	289-3214
Quincy Maintenance Station	832-4911
Sierraville Maintenance Station	994-3410
Downieville School	289-3473
Downieville Volunteer Fire Department	289-3333
Health & Human Services Dvl	289-3711
Loyalton	993-6700
Loyalton Elementary School	993-4482
Loyalton City Hall	993-6750
Loyalton Cop Shop	993-4479
Loyalton High School	993-4454
Loyalton Volunteer Fire Department	993-6751
Mental Health Services, Loyalton	993-6700
PG&E report outages	800-743-5002
Plumas Ace Hardware, Portola	832-5208
Plumas County Clerk-Recorder	283-6218
Plumas County Sheriff's Office (Front Desk)	283-6375
Sierra County Sheriff's Office—non-emergency	289-3700
Sierra County Clerk-Recorder	289-3295
Sierra Hardware, Downieville	289-3582
Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital	274-6000
Sierra Valley Home Center, Loyalton	993-4331
USFS Beckwourth Ranger District	836-2575
Sierraville Ranger District	994-3401
Yuba River Ranger District	288-3231
Western Sierra Medical Clinic	289-3298



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## S&P 500 Market Movers - 1/26

- Top Gainers

  1. Alphabet Class A (GOOGL) \$2,960.00 +7.524%
  2. Alphabet Class B (GOOG) \$2,960.73 +7.367%
  3. Constellation Energy Corp (CEGVV) \$53.01 +6.489%

Top Decliners

  1. PayPal Holdings (PYPL) \$132.57 -24.59%
  2. CH Robinson Worldwide Inc (CHRW) \$92.54 -11.504%
  3. ETSY Inc (ETSY) \$138.04 -9.28%

## NASDAQ Market Movers - 1/26

- Top Gainers

  1. Alphabet Class A (GOOGL) \$2,960.00 +7.524%
  2. Alphabet Class B (GOOG) \$2,960.73 +7.367%
  3. Qualcomm Inc (QCOM) \$188.20 +6.6%

Top Losers

  1. PayPal Holdings (PYPL) \$132.57 -24.59%
  2. Lucid Group (LCID) \$27.68 -7.6%
  3. Netflix Inc (NFLX) \$429.48 -6.049%

COMMODITY PRICES				
	Jan. 12 USD	Jan. 19 USD	Weekly Change	YTD Change
Gold USD/Troy Oz.	1815.96	1807.37	-0.5%	0.2%
Silver USD/Troy Oz.	23.30	22.619	-2.9%	-0.8%
Lumber USD/1000 BdFt.	1008.70	979.90	-2.9%	-16.2%
Live Cattle USD/100 Lbs.	138.05	141.125	2.2%	1.2%
Crude Oil USD/Barrel WTI	86.68	87.70	1.2%	14.7%
Propane USD/Gallon	1.16	1.32	13.8%	26.9%
CRB Index Index Points	264.49	273.02	3.2%	9.8%

## Popsapalooza Brings Harp and Piano Concert to Plusas Sierra Fairground on Saturday, February 5

QUINCY — It may be cold, but it will be toasty this Saturday night in the Tulsa Scott Pavilion at the Plumas Sierra County Fairgrounds. Experience a “Musical Journey Through Time” with harpist Marina Roznitovsky-Oster and pianist Nataly Roznitovsky. Dubbed as the “Key to my Harp Duet”, these splendid musicians have planned an evening of exquisite masterpieces. They will be performing work from no less than Bach, Handel, Debussy, Franck, Salzedo and throw in a few pieces by Leonard Bernstein and Rodgers & Hammerstein to boot. The pair has performed internationally and have probably only dreamed of coming to Plumas County!

This concert is another in the Popsapalooza concert series at the Fairgrounds, presented by the Fair’s non-profit organization; PSCF Foundation. Along with trying to bring high

level arts to Plumas County, the Foundation wants to show the versatility and relevance of the Fairgrounds to our community. Tickets are available at the door for only \$20 and students with an ID can come for only \$10. Those with tickets from postponed concerts from 2020 or this past summer, can use those tickets for this or any future concerts, regardless of what performance is shown on the ticket. Doors open at 6:30pm and the performance begins at 7 pm. COVID protocols of distancing and mask wearing are observed.

Marina is a native of Ukraine and raised in Israel, where she started musical training at the age of five. She focused on the harp at the age of twelve, giving her first concerto performance just a year later. She has performed with many professional orchestras in Europe and in the US, and some of her

performances were broadcast on national Israeli and US television and radio. She studied with several world-known harpists and received her BM, MM degrees and a Performer Diploma in Harp from Indiana University.

She is currently teaching harp at the University of Nevada Reno and is a principal harpist with the Reno Chamber Orchestra and the Reno Philharmonic.

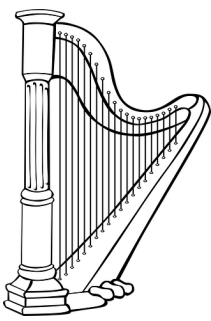
Nataly received her MM in piano performance and pedagogy at Nikolayev’s Pedagogical University, in the Soviet Union. She worked as an accompanist at the Nikolayev Ballet school and then continued that line of work at Haifa School of Dance, Israel. Nataly is passionate about teaching piano and has operated a large private studio since 1980. She speaks English, Russian, Hebrew and Arabic.

Nataly taught music therapy in a special educa-

tion school for over twenty years in Israel. She also enjoyed performing in a hotel lobby for 20 years, in the only hotel in Haifa that had live music. During that time, she produced three solo albums. Since moving to Reno, NV in 2017, she continues teaching and performing regularly in our region as well as dedicating time to her two lovely granddaughters.

Many people never get the opportunity to experience a harp and piano concert, don’t let this chance pass you by!

Press Release contributed by John Steffanic





True Tales of the Timber Industry as assembled by Cynthia Anderson

## From the Woods — Clay Allen, Part 3

*As in previous weeks, this week's edition of "From the Woods" features the continued adventures of Clay Allen, his trusty bulldozer, and Calamity the dog - this time with heart attacks and mine shafts.*

She had gotten hit about 200 yards further down the road, so when I pulled up there that morning my headlights hit her and I thought, that can’t be my dog, but you know, sure as hell it was! The left leg was broke and all the skin on the right front leg was peeled clear up to her shoulder. Even so she came running to me because she knew that truck, and so I put her in the truck. I went on to the job because there wasn’t no way I could get her to the hospital in the morning.

But I blew a hydraulic hose about 11 o’clock, so I had to go get a new hose, so I was able to take her to the vet. He pulled the skin back down on her leg and sewed it up, then put a cast on the broken leg and told me in about three days to come and get her—and I got her and she lived to be 17 years old.

When she was 15, she died again on me. I was up at the Diamond Creek road off of Highway 20. There is a road off to the right that went back into this clearcut unit. The day before this happened, I was eating my lunch and she was sitting on this stump and looking at me. I would always give her a can of dog food at lunch, too. She had eaten and she was over at that stump looking at me and she let out a bark and it didn’t dawn on me that she was trying to tell me something. The next day we come to work and I took off and she was out there chasing ground squirrels in this little thicket, when all of a sudden she come running out of there.

I had already made a bunch of brush piles, she is running from pile to pile, and I stopped the Cat and hollered for her to get up on the Cat, so she jumps up on the Cat and she is sitting there, and she is really disoriented and jumps off the Cat and makes a

bee line for the timberline to get out of the clearcut.

I think she was having a heart attack, and when she got to the timberline she went down on her side like a sack of flour, like somebody had shot her. I knew she was dead. I got off my Cat and walked over there, her tongue was hanging out, her eyes are glazed over, and I knew that dog was dead, so, it was right by a big Doug Fir that was about six foot through, and I thought this would make a good headstone.

I started back to my Cat to get the shovel. I got about half of the way back to my Cat and I thought, I want to try something, so I went back over and grabbed the dog by the rump and the nape of the neck and I shook her for about a minute. She jerked, and jerked one more time, then she started panting real fast and started breathing! She lived two years after that, but she was never the same. She had a heart murmur before that incident, the vet had told me. That dog had been through a lot, jumping on and off of that Cat. When we were on a hillside like 35 de grees she would jump off of that Cat in one leap off of her tool box, and would be airborne for 25 yards because it was so steep. She would land and come up with dust all over her, but she was my partner. When I would go to Robinson’s yard and work everybody would call her “Mrs. Allen.”

She got bit on the nose by a rattlesnake the first week I took her into the woods. She came back and her nose was swelled up and she had the two fang marks on her nose, so you could tell she had been snake-bit. She got bit twice by a snake, but it never bothered her, she was a tough little dog.

*"You'll Learn"*

We were working on this job in Georgetown and I was backing into some of this tar weed and it was as high as the tracks on my D7. I was backing up and there was this solid-rock vertical mine shaft; it was a deep

shaft. I backed into that hole with that Cat. I am going along and it took the grapples and everything and it just went down just like the Titanic.

It went up and then straight down. It started to cook going down that hole, and went down about three foot from the top of that hole until the blade got wedged on the side of the mine shaft. It jammed that Cat in there and that Cat weighs about 35 tons. It just jammed it in that shaft, and all these rocks started coming straight down on top of me from the lip of that shaft.

I had to get up on the uphill side of my brake pedals so that I wouldn’t get hit by the falling rocks. I had to get away from my seat, because the rocks were hitting the seat. I was able to get up on the brake pedals and up against the firewall of the Cat. These rocks were coming down and the ones that weren’t hitting my seat were going clear to the bottom of the mine shaft. It was deep and just solid rock—those miners meant business, they were hungry. I could hear those rocks hit bottom, but just barely, just faintly, hearing those rocks hit. I stayed there for about 15 minutes and the rocks quit coming down, but I was afraid to stick my head up. You know, you are sitting there like you are getting ready to take off in a rocket. I finally got up so that I could see. I had to reach for the exhaust pipe of the Cat and I had to take my coat off and stand up in the seat. I had to throw the coat around the stack because it was so hot, and I had to pull myself up to the stack and my coat would keep me from burning my arms.

Then I had to get on the uphill of the stack with my back and I had to get ahold of the blade. It was pretty hairy. I knew if I slipped I would have gone to the bottom of that mine shaft. I got out of that hole finally. It took me about 20 minutes—what an adrenalin rush! I walked down over the hill and I told Jerry J., my boss, that I have a problem up there.

Cory Peterman's Historical Corner

## Marble Hot Springs

Many residents and visitors of Sierra Valley may be familiar with Sierra (Campbell) Hot Springs near Sierraville, but may not realize that over 50 years ago, another natural mineral spring formation in the valley, known as Marble Hot Springs, that rivaled the hot springs in Sierraville, was open to “public” use (I use the term “public” loosely - you’ll see why shortly). Though the Marble Hot Springs are technically in Plumas County, they were important to the residents of Sierra County and should be written about. This article was at the suggestion of John Ponta, who inquired with me on the closure of the Marble Hot Springs.

The hot springs are named after Solomon Marble (1837-1904) who owned the ranch where the springs were first located. Many sources state “*He heated his large, two-story home from the steaming spring water, and the house was a popular gathering place for nearby ranchers.*” One of Solomon’s sons, Harry, built another house nearby, where Harry’s daughter Alice Marble (1913-1990) was born. Alice later became a famous tennis player that won eighteen Grand Slam championships. However, she did not learn tennis at the ranch, for when she was five years old, her parents sold the place and relocated the family to San Francisco.

The following owners of the ranch included the McKissick Cattle Company, James L. Humphrey, then Frank P. Carmichael, who closed the hot springs down in 1972. Up until its closure, the Marble Hot Springs was open to the public, despite being on private property. The *Feather River Bulletin* of June 14, 1956 reported “*Two versions of a story have been in circulation for over 30 years to the effect that the public has free access to the springs. One version says that the Marbles gave the spring outright to ‘the people.’ One version says that in*

*transferring title to the land, the Marbles included in the deed a reservation to the effect that the public was always to have access to the water, even though the actual property would be privately owned.*

*Both Jim Humphrey and Frank Carmichael have been quoted to the effect that no such provisions exist, and a search of county records back to 1919 show no reservation of any kind in any deed concerning the area where the springs are located.”*

Over the years since the Marble family left the property, several structures, including a bath house, were built by visitors to the hot springs, along with chutes and pipes to direct the water, which is said to be 120 degrees on the surface at its coolest. Users of the springs came from all over the country.

Unfortunately, visits to the springs didn’t go well for everyone. The *Portola Reporter* of September 12, 1940 reported the following: “*Indian Drowns While Bathing at Marble Hot Springs - An aged Indian drowned this week at Marble Hot Springs while bathing in a run-on ditch, about 500 feet from the hot well. The Indian, James Edwards, was 86 years of age and a member of the Kancow tribe.*”

For many years, the grounds were kept up well at the springs. It was reported “*The steam and bath rooms and the grounds are, according to a neighbor and long-time resident, ‘kept up by everybody and nobody.’ The buildings were built and are kept in repair by those using the facilities.*” However, clashes began in the early 1970s between the Hippie subculture and the traditional users of the springs. Ranch owner Frank Carmichael was quoted as being caught between the two factions and wanted to get out, refusing “*to discuss anything on the subject except to say he was sued... by someone claiming to have been injured at the springs.*”

The *Sacramento Bee* of March 23, 1972 reported “*Hippie*

*Squabbles Close Plumas Spa - Marble Hot Springs, scene of recent squabbles between hippie-type young people and the more conservative users of the mineral waters, has been closed and the area posted against trespassers.*

*Owner Frank Carmichael, plagued with repeated reports of partying youths at the natural health spa, tore down the four crude shacks which house the steam room and baths. Carmichael would not comment on the closure and posting of the area other than to say he is protecting his property.*

*During the last year or so, many of the middle-aged and elderly users of the natural sauna, who have been coming to the springs for decades to soak out aches and other miseries, have complained of the takeover by hippies who they say indulge in wild parties and frolic in the nude. Several times last summer sheriff's deputies arrested partying youths at the spa, charging them with drug violations.*

*The closure has brought protests from those who have long frequented the baths as a health spa. Others, however, feel the springs draw an unsavory group to the area and that the closure is long overdue.”*

At least residents and visitors of Sierra Valley still have Sierra Hot Springs to enjoy!

*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!*



70 YEARS AGO

# The Mountain Messenger

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ESTABLISHED 1853

DOWNIEVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY SEAT, CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 27, 1952

**BORN** – To Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Lavezzola of Downieville, Sunday, January 20, 1952, at Auburn, a daughter, Pamela Antoinette, weighing 6 pounds 8 ounces. Mother and daughter are reported doing well. It is their first child who is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Antone Lavezzola and Mr. and Mrs. Chester P. Butz of Downieville.

**Mottinis Grandparents Twice in January**

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mottini became grandparents again, twice this month, now having 11 grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bowes of Rodeo (Betty), were parents of a son, John, born Sunday, January 13, 1952, at Vallejo. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cardoza (Wilma), also of Rodeo, are parents of a son, Stephen, born also on Sunday, January 27, 1952. The mothers are well known here, where they were raised.

**Alleghany Chronicles Recent Storms Events**

This mountain town and community is at present snowbound. In the December snow storms and cold weather the snow did not pile up much until January 10, when it began to snow and kept it up steady for six days, until 9 feet were on the ground. It snowed at such low temperatures that it was like frost, light and fluffy as feathers. A man on skis would sink deep and get worn out in a short while. One on foot would just about go out of sight.

Friday night, January 11, the power went off and there was none until January 18, at 6 p.m. when it came on again. It was off seven days and the Pacific Gas and Electric Company crew deserved credit for getting

it back on in the face of real blizzards, cold and deep, soft snow.

The town was in darkness for a week; and with snow up to and above the eaves of some houses, homes were dark night and day. Some had coal oil lamps; candles, carbide lamps, and gasoline lanterns were used. Some low houses were completely snowed under.

Dick Brooks, deputy sheriff, did his good deed and went around checking on the older folks. He found Mrs. Isabelle Bawden snowed in when her screen door was so covered up, she could not push it open. Brooks shoveled it out and propped it open. As the house door opens inwardly, no further trouble should ensue, unless a heap more snow comes. Neighbors check on each other, and other men went out, too, so no one was overlooked.

Elliott C. Hope has a short wave radio set such as police use, in his car. He contacted Nevada County traffic officers and Supervisor Ayres contacted the supervisor at Nevada City and these men consented to begin to open Foote’s Road on the Nevada County end. The Alleghany crew worked on this end taking additional men to help cut out trees. Work has been going on day and night to get the road open. The PG&E men who came last Thursday Leon Strosnider, Evan Bruning, Richard Middaugh and Merle Geoglein, were certainly welcome visitors. Others came Friday to work on the substation and lines here. Next day the power came on at 6 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Franz Wetmore are the only two inhabitants of Forest.

Tom and Hugh O’Donnell are at Kate Hardy Mine, as also are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Deal, Sr. Phillip O’Donnell and his uncle, John O’Donnell, went to Roseville and are snowed out.

**Loyalton Digs Out From Snow**

The city has finally succeeded in digging itself out of the snow and business “as usual” is going on. The first Western Pacific train in nearly three weeks got in last night, after huge rotary plows had pushed the snow from the tracks. The last train before the snow came in January 9. No mail was received in Loyalton from Saturday, January 12, until the following Saturday, when the stage brought in three bags of first class mail, after which, drifts blocked the roads again and no mail was received until January 23.

The bread truck struggled through the snowdrifts to leave a load on Sunday, the 13th, and until the road was opened the next Saturday, no supplies were received. Luckily, some supplies came in before the howling winds drifted the snow to block the roads for another three days. Supplies of bread, yeast, flour and potatoes dwindled rapidly until none were left, and Loyaltonians were eating quantities of beans and macaroni products. However, no one was known to be hungry and fortunately, no emergencies such as fires, came up.

The weight of the snow wrecked one of the large storage sheds of Clover Valley Lumber Company, causing several thousand dollars worth of damage. Employees, who had been unable to work for the past two weeks, went back to work yesterday, cleaning up

the wreckage of the storm. The building was practically a total loss, and no attempt is being made to save it. Fortunately, only a little lumber was in it at the time of the crash, and some of this may be saved.

The deep snow and high drifts finally caused Mayor Charles W. Brown to declare the city in a state of limited emergency to enable snowplows to clear the streets for possible emergency use by fire trucks or ambulances. Until further notice is given, no private cars are to be parked on city streets.

**Mrs. Sutton Dies After Illness**

Funeral services were held at the Methodist Community Church here this afternoon for Marian Sutton, wife of Dr. Carl C. Sutton. She died Monday evening about 9:40 o’clock at the Jones Memorial Hospital in Grass Valley.

Mrs. Sutton had not been in good health for some months but was confined to her home here for only about two months before her death, declining hospitalization elsewhere. She finally agreed to go to the hospital Sunday when Sheriff W. Dewey Johnson drove the ambulance with her husband and Mrs. Margaret E. Lambert and Traffic Officer Gordon Suess as escort. She lapsed into a coma, briefly regaining consciousness for a period on Monday morning, when she recognized her husband and smiled. She again became unconscious and died peacefully that evening.

Marian Games Sutton was born at St. Andrews Bay, Florida, February 10, 1891, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Games. The family lived in the East for a while, coming to Los Angeles when she was about 10

years old, where she received her education. She was married July 15, 1918, at Vancouver, Washington, and after Dr. Sutton received his army discharge, they returned to Los Angeles, where their only daughter, Helen, Mrs. Robert Hostettler, was born.

The family came to Downieville in 1929. Like her husband, she also attended the Los Angeles College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, was of considerable comfort to Dr. Sutton’s patients as she added sympathetic assistance.

Mrs. Sutton took an active part in community affairs, assisting in the Auxiliary when Harry Thomas Post American Legion of Loyalton, was the only one in Sierra County; helping Downieville Lions Club arrange meals for its meetings when it was in its organizing days. She was one of the organizers here of the Parents and Teachers Association and served two years as president of the 13th district comprising several local units. She was also president several years of the Women’s Society for Christian Service and aided materially in maintaining the local community church.

Reverend James G. Teel of Newcastle, formerly pastor here for about five years, officiated at the final rites, under direction of Bergemann Funeral Chapel of Nevada City. Miss Dorothy Hodge was soloist and Mrs. Frank G. Tabor was accompanist. The church was crowded with many friends of the couple who had ministered over 20 years to the ills of this community, who came to offer sympathy and pay her final respect. A profusion of floral offerings gave added

evidence of their appreciation.

Pallbearers were: William T. Reed, Jr., A.R. Hinton, Antone Lavezzola, Norman Costa, Duncan Cameron and C. William Robbins.

Mrs. Hostettler and husband and two children, Neva Jean and Ralph, came Tuesday from their home at San Jose. Other survivors are four sisters. An only brother died several years ago. Cremation at Marysville followed the local services.

**Miss Ayala's Bed Burned**

Fire threatened the cabin of Miss Amada Ayala on upper Main Street Friday evening about 10:30 o’clock. Sam Bekoff, going by, noticed smoke pouring from the place, investigated and called some men from St. Charles Café, who carried water from nearby homes in buckets, together with snow and had the blaze out in a few minutes. It is thought the bed was set afire by a lighted candle which caused more smoke than fire. Miss Ayala has lived there alone several years, on property owned by Peter A. Lavezzola and his sister, Mrs. Thomas W. Vilas.

Miss Ayala was unable to pass an application for citizenship several years ago. At that time, she stated that she was born in Mexico in 1872, which would make her 80 years old this spring. She came here many years ago with her mother, who died here. They earned a livelihood by laundrying and sewing. Miss Ayala has been receiving some indigent aid for several years, and Mrs. Antone Lavezzola has endeavored to assist her over a long period.

The cabin is considered untenable, and Miss Ayala was moved to the county hospital.