

The Mountain Messenger

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

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DOWNIEVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Photo contributed by Jeff Milliken

SIERRA CITY SCRIBE #21

By Stephen Kulieke

Sierra Snow Falls This Week During an Erratic 2021-22 Winter

First, we had the snowiest December on record. Then a record-setting mid-season stretch without precipitation. Early this week, a cold-weather front brought welcome snow, more than a foot at higher elevations.

What exactly IS going on this winter?

To answer that question, The Mountain Messenger contacted the experts at a research field station near Donner Pass that is “one of the best instrumented snow study sites in the world”: the University of California at Berkeley, Central Sierra Snow Laboratory (CSSL).

Located at 6,894-foot elevation in Soda Springs about 73 miles southeast of Downieville, the snow lab has been the site of the study of snow processes—a critically important issue in the State of California—for more than 75 years. The Sierra snowpack has been described as California’s largest storage reservoir, upon which our water-hungry state is highly dependent.

On Wednesday, The Mountain Messenger spoke to Andrew Schwartz, CSSL’s lead scientist and station manager, right after he gave a tour of the lab and grounds to a camera crew from the Weather Channel.

Schwartz characterized the current extremes as “weather whiplash. We do have years where we see very little snowfall and others where we see huge amounts. But the difference is the frequency in which it is occurring. Month-to-month we can go from one extreme to the next. It’s what we can expect with climate change effects on natural variability.”

Schwartz, who grew up in Colorado and got his Ph.D. from the University of Queensland in Australia, was in an upbeat mood when we spoke. This latest storm brought 15.9 inches of snow to the lab. Based on the initial models “we got more than expected,” he said.

Schwartz and his colleagues report the latest snow updates with photos and video at CSSL’s fact-filled Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UCB.CSSL>

The snow lab’s page has provided a fascinating account of this winter’s highly changeable patterns.



Photo by Jeff Milliken

Their January 1 “Happy New Year” post confirmed what many of us sensed: The last month of 2021 was the snowiest on record, with 214 inches (more than 17 feet) at the lab, demolishing the monthly record of 179 inches set more than half a century before.

Just six weeks later, however, a February 15 post expressed gratitude for a small amount of snow overnight (1.6 inches) that ended the longest recorded streak of days (37) without measurable precipitation at the lab during “meteorological winter”—December through February—typically the coldest and wettest months in California.

Schwartz explained that those examining snow and water issues look at a lot of variables. “It all comes down to having the best data on what the environment currently looks like,” he said. “It’s like a crime scene [where you consider] a lot of clues.”

Factors include the widely publicized El Niño and its cooler sister La Niña—the ocean temperatures off the west coast of South America that affect precipitation. We’re currently in a La Niña pattern, although Schwartz said its effect on Central Sierra snow likely is not great. He noted that an additional impact comes from Pacific Decadal Oscillation, a ten-year pattern of warm or cool waters in the Pacific Ocean at higher latitudes east of Asia and off North America. “Overall trends in ocean temperatures really do impact our weather,” he said.

The one unmistakable trend through the years is the overall shortening of the snow season, a characteristic of climate change, said Schwartz. In 1970, the lab used to see overnight temperatures in May and October below freezing but those minimum daily temps are now well above that. What used to be an eight-month snow season is now six months and in the next decade could shrink to four months. “The window of winter precipitation is definitely shrinking,” he said.

Where does our snowpack stand after this week’s storm? About 93% of the median over the years—effectively just below average. We’re at 70% of what we’d expect for our absolute peak, which happens in late March or early April when mountain snow is typically at its deepest.

If we’re going to get where we would like to be, the snow will have to come in the next few weeks. According to the Na-

Missing Men Located in Plumas County

By Duncan A. Kennedy

QUINCY – The remains of two individuals reported missing in the Plumas County area were located in two different parts of the Feather River Country on Sunday, February 20th. These discoveries conclude two separate multi-week-long Search and Rescue efforts in the snow-covered Plumas backcountry.

The first of the two men to be located was local James Thornton, 52, who was last sighted on January 17th and was reported missing on February 7th. A family member reported that he had last been spotted near Canyon Dam after his car had broken down, reportedly on the way to Portola. It is suspected that he attempted to continue on foot after his vehicle’s abrupt failure. One month after his disappearance, on February 17th, Search and Rescue learned of a piece of property Thornton owned near the North Arm of Indian Valley.

After several more days of search operations from both air and ground, during which personal items of his were found in the area, Thornton was located deceased in a remote part of Keddie Ridge, north of Greenville. An autopsy will be conducted to determine cause of death and aid in the investigation. Thornton was located by local law enforcement and Search and Rescue forces with the aid of the California Highway Patrol’s Northern Division Air Operations and the California Rescue Dog Association, among other mutual aid providers.

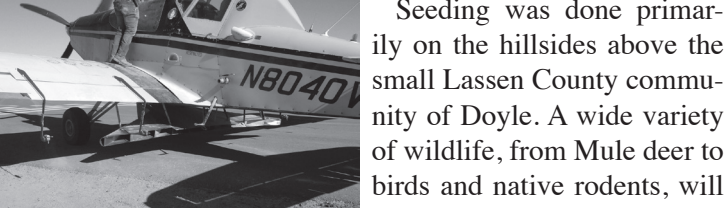
This was followed later on February 17th by a CalFire report of a deceased individual in Rock Creek just north of Highway 70 near the Butte County line. Two days later, on February 22nd, the body was identified as that of Frank Christopher, 53, of Orland. Christopher was first reported missing on January 30th in the area of the Rock Creek drainage by a family member. High water and strong currents from snowmelt complicated Plumas County Search and Rescue’s efforts, which were aided by mutual aid responders from a multitude of Northern California county governments and emergency response agencies.

A large-scale Search and Rescue effort was conducted along Rock Creek for nine days, from January 30th to February 8th. Multiple personal items of Christopher’s were located in the drainage by emergency responders suggesting he was likely trapped in the water somewhere in a remote and difficult to access part of the Rock Creek drainage. Search and Rescue responders hailed from Butte, Marin, Trinity, and Nevada Counties, while the California Air National Guard and Butte County Sheriff’s Offices aided from the air with helicopter flights. Drones also proved invaluable in the aerial search efforts for Mr. Christopher.

We here at the Mountain Messenger offer our sincere condolences to the friends and family of both men. May they rest in peace.

BLM Disperses Native Seeds Across Land Ravaged by Last Summer's Beckwourth Complex Fire

SUSANVILLE — Staff based at their Eagle Lake Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) launched an aerial assault of sorts earlier this month, when a contracted airplane placed more than 9 tons of shrub and grass seed on rugged, largely inaccessible, wildlife habitat burned in the 105,000-acre Beckwourth Complex lightning-caused wildfire in Plumas and Lassen counties.



Seeding was done primarily on the hillsides above the small Lassen County community of Doyle. A wide variety of wildlife, from Mule deer to birds and native rodents, will benefit from the regrowth of the antelope bitterbrush and native grasses seeds dropped on more than 2,300 acres, just under half of the BLM-managed lands impacted by the fire. Next, the staff will work on planting seedlings of Lassen County bitterbrush, a species endemic to the high desert lands between Susanville and Sierra County.



The Beckworth Complex burned from late June until September 22 last year. It destroyed 33 homes in the community of Doyle in addition to impacting national forest lands, public rangelands and private property.

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the outlook for spring is drier than average conditions.

Still, Schwartz is not ruling out a strong finish to our snow season. The Christmas-New Year blizzards “effectively came out of nowhere and were a pleasant surprise,” he said.

Looking ahead at the next few weeks, Schwartz remains hopeful. “I have my fingers crossed.”

How California Is Making A Rural Housing Crisis Worse

By Lee Adams, Sierra County Supervisor

The recently released state budget proposal solidified a long-standing trend in California: the prioritization of housing development resources away from rural communities and toward the urban core. Encouraging urban growth may lessen development pressure in wildfire-prone areas and reduce vehicle miles traveled for environmental benefit. But the reality is that rural counties need significant housing development resources to sustain their local workforce. As in urban areas, dwindling housing supply has sharply increased prices in many rural counties.

Nevada County experienced more than 20% increases in housing prices, among the largest in California. Compounding this issue is the significant growth in the use of properties as short-term rentals for visitors.

An eastern Placer County study found that short-term rentals accounted for roughly 28% of housing stock, leading the county to consider a new ordinance capping this growth and mitigating neighborhood impacts. Short-term rentals place a drain on an already limited housing supply. The result is a slow loss of workforce, as housing barriers hinder residents of all income levels from continuing to live in the community in which they work.

Positions become difficult to fill as locals, particularly younger generations, must look for housing elsewhere. Meanwhile, a shortage of housing stock makes it challenging to recruit talent from other locations to meet labor demands.

In the small communities within Sierra County, the top three employers are in health care, government, and school districts. These industries are essential to the health and well-being of the public and yet filling vacant positions is a struggle because of limited housing availability.

Because housing needs exist everywhere in California, the state requires that all communities plan for the building of new homes, known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. Rural local governments have worked diligently to establish zoning attractive for housing development, and typically have permitting requirements that are substan-

tially less complex and costly than urban areas.

However, the primary issue here is a lack of funding. Building housing in rural California is particularly expensive. Topography and lack of necessary infrastructure increase the price of development significantly. To reduce costs and limit sprawl, the state encourages the construction of high-density housing, requiring multiple units on small lots.

In lower population counties, developments tend to be smaller than in urban areas, with lesser economies of scale that ultimately discourage private investment. Consequently, local governments must seek out public funding. These funds are limited and complex, forcing small counties with minimal staffing to acquire and expertly braid together multiple sources.

However, current state and federal programs are also very competitive, with formulas that favor projects in more urban areas and require established infrastructure. Even California’s Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, which includes set-asides for rural housing, uses such a broad definition of “rural” that parts of large urban counties, like San Diego County, will qualify. The program also favors developments near amenities such as public transit that are far less common in truly rural areas.

Many rural counties are simply unable to compete. To sustain the workforce, rural counties need adequate public funding for construction and infrastructure development of housing for all income levels. This funding should include rural set-asides that recognize the unique topography and populations of small communities in their allocation formulas and encompass a more realistic definition of “rural.”

All Californians benefit from the work performed in rural communities, which includes providing essential services for those recreating in rural communities, agriculture, forest conservation, and water storage and delivery. These essential workers need workforce housing which will require greater state and federal investment, not less.

This opinion piece first appeared in the Sacramento Bee on February 16, 2022.

Sourdough Jack Sez...



Katie's Sightings

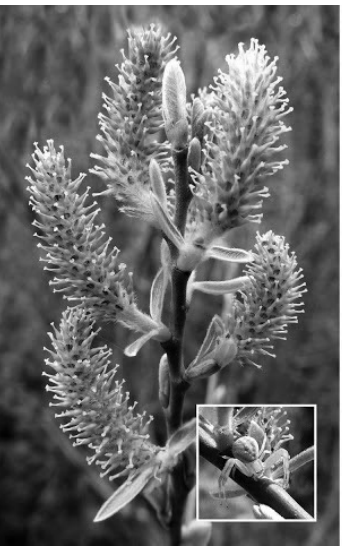
Taken with permission from northyubanaturalist.blogspot.com

KATIE O'HARA KELLY



Pussy Willows - Salix sp.

In January, the local male willows started making their flower buds or "pussy willows". These buds stayed fuzzy and gray for weeks, until the weather warmed up. Right now they are in full bloom throughout our area! Willows are dioecious, having separate male and female plants. Once they bloom, the male and female plants are easy to distinguish from each other.



Willow Catkins with inset Crab Spider photo (female-male) - Salix sp.



Willow flowers are arranged in "catkins".

The Britannica online dictionary states,

"A catkin is an elongated cluster of single-sex flowers bearing scaly bracts and usually lacking petals. Catkins may be erect or pendulous and are often somewhat inconspicuous. Many trees bear catkins, including willows, birches, and oaks. Wind carries pollen from male to female catkins or from male catkins to female flowers arranged in a different inflorescence form (e.g., in spikes). Depending on the species, a catkin-producing plant may be monoecious (both male and female flowers are present on a single individual) or dioecious (female and male flowers are borne on separate individuals)."



Male Willow catkins - Salix sp.

Each male willow catkin has 270 flowers with 2 stamens each! Each stamen is loaded with yellow pollen which is windborne to the female catkins. They are so beautiful!

Each female willow catkin has 142 flowers with 1 pistil each! They are greener and less feathery in appearance than the male catkins.



Female Willow catkins - Salix sp.



White Alder with inset photo of an Anna's Hummingbird - Alnus rhombifolia - Calypte anna

The local White Alders also have blooming catkins right now. In contrast to willows, alders are monoecious, having both sexes on one plant. The beautiful tassel-like hanging catkins are male catkins producing pollen.



The female part of the alder is a cone, not a catkin. Most people are familiar with the little, dry, brown cones on alder trees. This year's tiny, new, female cones, that will grow into full-sized cones, can be seen just above the male catkin!

Letters to the Editor

Boy Scout Requests Assistance with Memorial

Hello. My name is Nate Smeltzer. I am 17 and am in Scouts. I'm working on my Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank you can get in Scouts. One of the requirements for this rank is a service project. My project is to make memorial banners of all those in the armed forces from our community who gave their lives for their country. These banners will be hung up on Main Street in Loyalton. I have collected the names of 16 people from Sierra County so far. They are:

1. James Alexander WWI
2. Edmond Bony WWII (need picture)
3. George Chaffee WWII (need picture)
4. Ward Church WWI
5. Hugh Frye Jr. WWII
6. William Lavery WWII
7. Norman Lund WWII
8. Normand Mancock WWII (need picture)
9. Myron McClelland Vietnam
10. Robert McCune WWII
11. Kenneth Mcpheeters WWII
12. William Prunty WWII (need picture)
13. Eldred Schroeder WWII (need picture)
14. Arthur Shelton Vietnam
15. Harry Thomas WWI (need picture)
16. Lucius Turner WWII (need picture)

Here's where I need your help:

- Of these 16 veterans I only have pictures for 9 of them. I would like to find pictures of the rest.
- If there are others you know who lost their lives in one of our nation's wars, please let me know so they, too, will have their memorial banner.
- Each banner costs \$115 to make. I have made 9 so far. To make the remaining 7, I need help with \$805. If you would like to contribute to this effort you can reach me at (407)946-0169, by email at biglittynate@gmail.com or by mail, PO Box 551, Loyalton, CA 96118. Any size contribution will be greatly appreciated. I can receive donations through Venmo or Zelle (text me for details). Checks are also welcome at the above address. Thank you!

Let's honor those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom.



Pulling Together

I was just watching the start-up of a Wright R3350 Duplex Cyclone (3700 hp) engine on a B-29 during WWII on YouTube when I realized how great the United States could be. The extremely complex engine, designed without computers, just slide rules, and installed on thousands of airplanes, was a combination of intellect and brute strength.

Of course, at the same time many young men were soldiers, leaving much of the war effort dependent upon the labor of women, older men, and people from every race and ethnic group. Yes, Americans all pulled together and collectively stopped the Axis leaders in their tracks with the help of Canadians, French, English, Scandinavians, and Russians.

By using socialist economics the US was able to do a rapid, massive build up to war production that is unprecedented to this day. Marginal tax rates were 91%, Harry Truman lead a war profiteering commission in the Senate, and there were wage and price controls as well as rationing of food, gasoline, and all other products deemed essential to the fight against the totalitarian Axis.

I look at today's anti-vaxxers and anti-maskers screaming bloody murder as their "freedom" is being taken away in the fight against an invisible enemy, COVID, a disease having killed upwards of 900,000 American, so far, and I think of the more than 400,000 men and women who sacrificed their lives to preserve the health and safety of our nation during WWII. America will never be great again until we can overcome the stoopid, selfish nature infecting us today.

Don McKechnie
Sierraville

Poetry Corner

About this poem:

About this poet:

PRE-BID NOTIFICATION SIERRA BROOKS - SMITHNECK WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (Sierra Valley RCD) will offer the "Sierra Brooks – Smithneck WUI Fuels Reduction" project for bid during spring 2022. The primary purpose of the Project is to improve forest health, increase forest resiliency, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire adjacent to the community and provide for future opportunities to manage fuels using prescribed fire.

This Project includes 723-acres of mechanical mastication upon lands owned by the United States Forest Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Project is located near Loyalton, California, in the vicinity of the Sierra Brooks residential area. Funding for this project has been provided by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, an agency of the State of California.

NOTE: A mandatory bid tour will be required to bid on this Project, and will be scheduled following snow-melt this spring.

If you would like to be placed on the Sierra Valley RCD's Vendor List for this project, or if you have any questions, please contact Victoria Fisher, SVRCD at (707) 337-7610 or sierravalleyrcd@gmail.com.

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: RIVER PINES RESORT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Full name of registrants: Leslie Ann Ross, Revocable Trust
Registrant Address: 312 Lundy Lane, Blairsden, CA 96103
Business location: 8296 Highway 89, Blairsden, CA 96103
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1784, Blairsden, CA 96103
Phone number: (916) 201-1545

This business is being conducted by: Trust
/s/ Leslie A. Ross

This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder on: January 21, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000018
Published in The Mountain Messenger: March 3, 10, 17, 24 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: RIVER PINES PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, RIVER PINES REALTY, RIVER PINES RESORT

Full name of registrant: Leslie A. Ross
Business address: 8296 Highway 89, Blairsden, CA 96103
Phone number: (530) 836-2552

This business is being conducted by: Corporation
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 10/15/2020
/s/ Leslie A. Ross

This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 21, 2022 FILE NO: 2020-001830
Published in The Mountain Messenger: March 3, 10, 17, 24 of 2022

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Sheriff's Log

By Jen Henneke

Monday, February 14

00:56 - In Sierra City, a 911 call with static on the line. This is an ongoing issue.
04:31 - In Sierra City, another 911 caller with static on the line.
05:32 - In Sierra City, a request for an ambulance.
08:03 - In Sierra City, once again, the 911 static caller has struck.
13:38 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.
17:23 - An erroneous 911 call from Border Town.
17:57 - In Sierra City, one more 911 call with SEVERE static on the line. A deputy cleared the call.
21:23 - In Loyalton, some roommates had a verbal dispute.

Tuesday, February 15

00:16 - In Sierra City, same 911 caller with static. That line really needs to get fixed!
00:20 - A report of a potential suicidal individual.
05:52 - A non-injury vehicle accident occurred.
10:01 - In Verdi, a USFS truck got stuck but had resources nearby to assist with getting unstuck. SCSO was not needed.
18:50 - In Sierraville, an ambulance was requested.
20:52 - In Sierra City, that damn 911 call with static on the line came in again.

Wednesday, February 16

00:59 - In Sierra City, the individuals at Clark Station really need to get their phone line fixed so it stops making false 911 calls.
07:32 - In Downieville, some family members were having a verbal dispute.
10:19 - In Sierra City, the fake 911 caller strikes again.
11:09 - In Sierra City, a suspicious man was carrying a blow torch. That’s not a sight you see everyday.
11:12 - In Downieville, a civil standby was requested.
12:00 - In Loyalton, a man wanted information regarding the restraining order against his live-in lover.
15:14 - In Sierraville, a fire was reported.
17:59 - In Sierra City, it’s time to take the phone off the hook so it stops dialing 911.
18:07 - In Loyalton, a resident requested information regarding a restraining order on their landlord.
21:12 - In Loyalton, a resident wanted clarification regarding an order they were served. The deputy advised the individual to contact the courts.

Thursday, February 17

04:49 - In Sierra City, the 911 hang up saga continues into another day.
09:02 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.
10:56 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.
11:08 - In Portola, an agency assist was requested.
13:52 - In Downieville, Deputy Rust reported that a passenger had a valid license and will continue driving and the subject had a temporary registration.
15:53 - In Sierra City, an ambulance was requested.
16:46 - In Downieville, the Probation Department requested assistance with an ongoing fraud case.
17:21 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.
18:16 - In Loyalton, there was an animal issue.
18:49 - In Verdi, a report of an out of county traffic collision. CHP was aware of the issue.
18:55 - In Loyalton, a report of a family fight. The deputies were able to separate the individuals for the night.

Friday, February 18

05:04 - In Loyalton, a medical issue was reported.
10:51 - In Loyalton, some vandalism was reported at the Sierra Brooks Lodge.
11:26 - In Loyalton, a civil standby was requested.
11:37 - In Camptonville, a tree was down on a county road.
14:32 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested to help someone get up.
17:45 - In Sierra City, large rocks were on HWY 49.
22:29 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance helped someone get up.

Saturday, February 19

01:24 - In Sierra City, a dog was running loose.
16:12 - In Sierra City, some more rocks were on HWY 49.
17:58 - In Goodyears Bar, some individuals were riding their dirt bikes in a reckless manner. The deputy issued a warning.
21:38 - In Verdi, it was reported that someone was possibly driving drunk.

Sunday, February 20

19:26 - In Verdi, a 911 caller hung up.
19:42 - In Loyalton, Eastern Plumas Health Care Ambulance was requested.
20:02 - In Camptonville, an ambulance was requested.
20:14 - In Calpine, there was a 911 open line. The deputy checked on the caller and everyone was safe and sound.

Total Reports: 65

Total additional fake 911 calls from Sierra City: 15

NOTICE OF ELECTION AND FILING DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with the provisions of the California Elections Code, that the Statewide Direct Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 and the Plumas County central counting place will be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m through 8:00 p.m. on that day. All registered voters of Plumas County will be mailed an official ballot and postage paid return identification envelope for return of the voted ballot. Ballots can be mailed, dropped in the ballot return box located at the front entrance of the Courthouse or delivered to the Elections Department in Room 102 of the Courthouse located at 520 Main Street in Quincy.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that forms for eligible candidates desiring to file for elective offices may be obtained from the office of the Plumas County Clerk at the Courthouse at 520 Main Street Room 102, Quincy. Candidates’ Declarations shall be accepted for filing from February 14, 2022 through March 11, 2022, at the hour of 5:00 p.m. unless extended.

Offices for which candidates are to be nominated at the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election are:

Governor
Lieutenant Governor
Secretary of State
Controller
Treasurer
Attorney General
Insurance Commissioner
Board of Equalization Member District 1
United States Senator – Full Term
United States Senator – Partial / Unexpired Term
United States Representative - Congressional District 3
State Assembly Member - District 1
Superintendent of Public Instruction
County Offices:
Plumas County Supervisor District 3
Plumas County Supervisor District 5
Assessor
Auditor-Controller
Clerk-Recorder
County Superintendent of Schools
District Attorney-Public Administrator
Sheriff-Coroner
Treasurer-Tax Collector

Qualifications for office are available at the office of the County Clerk at 520 Main Street, Room 102, Quincy, CA 95971. Candidates must meet and provide their qualifications to run for office.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Logic and Accuracy testing of election equipment will be conducted on April 28-29, 2022 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Room 112 of the Plumas County Courthouse, 520 Main Street, Quincy, CA.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that ballot processing will be from May 9, 2022 through June 7, 2022 at the central counting location at the Plumas County Courthouse, 520 Main Street, Room 102, Quincy, CA.

ALL VOTED BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JUNE 7, 2022.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Official Canvass for the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 520 Main Street, Room 112, Quincy, CA.

Additional information may be obtained at: (530) 283-6256 or 844-676-VOTE or at www.plumascounty.us on the County Clerk-Recorder Elections page.

Marcy DeMartile
Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters

Dated: January 10, 2022

Published in The Mountain Messenger on Jan. 13, Feb. 10 & 24 of 2022

Notice Of Sale

In accordance with the provisions of the California Uniform Commercial Code & section 798.56a(e) of the California Civil Code, there being due & unpaid storage for which Arlington Heights MHC, LLC (Arlington Heights Manufactured Housing Community) is entitled to a lien as Warehouseman on the 1973 Champion Manatee mobile home, Decal Number LAC6873, Serial number S5049, located at 1377 Arlington Rd. #23, Taylorsville, CA 95983, held on account of Ashley Wraa [REGISTERED OWNERS, LEGAL OWNERS, JUNIOR LIENHOLDERS] & due notice having been given to the parties known to claim an interest therein & the time specified in such notice for payment of such charges having expired, notice is hereby given that the 1973 Champion Manatee mobile home will be sold at public auction on March 7, 2022 at 10:00 AM at 1377 Arlington Rd. #23, Taylorsville, CA 95983. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that payment must be made by certified funds within seven (7) days of the date of sale, & at the time the mobile home is removed from the premises. The mobile home & contents must be removed from the premises within seven (7) days of the date of sale. Any purchaser of the mobile home will take it subject to any liens pursuant to Health and Safety Code §18116.1.

Arlington Heights MHC, LLC
6653 Embarcadero Drive, Ste C
Stockton, CA 95219
/s/ Bruce Davies
Bruce Davies, Authorized Agent

Published in The Mountain Messenger on February 24 & Marech 3 of 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: HIGH SIERRA GAS
Full name of registrants: Eric Brunn
Business location: 73769 South Delleker Road, Portola, CA 96122
Business mailing address: 73769 South Delleker Road, Portola, CA 96122
Phone number: (317) 818-5030
Registrant Address: Golden Bears Propane, LLC, 10201 NB Illinois St., Suite 200, Carmel, IN 46290
This business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Partnership
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 7/15/2021
/s/ Bill Ruisinger, Chief Financial Officer
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: February 8, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000036
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3 & 10 of 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: LAWLESS BOTANICS
Full name of registrants: Aurora Wellise
Business location: 113 S. Lincoln St., Sierraville, CA 96126
Business mailing address: P.O. Box 63, Sierraville, CA 96126
Phone number: (646) 591-3348
This business is being conducted by: an Individual
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/1/2020
/s/ Aurora Wellise
This statement was filed in the office of Heather Foster, Sierra County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 31, 2022 FILE NO: 2022001831
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 3 of 2022

At the Firehouse

By VICTORIA TENNEY

ALLEGHANY: February 19th—Title 22 Refresher class, in Pike City.

DOWNIEVILLE: February 14th—The ambulance responded to Sierra City for a person who was ill, and transported to the hospital in Truckee. February 15th—Responded to a Medical Urgent Care incident. February 16th—Responded to five Medical Urgent Care incidents; COVID-19 testing at the Community Hall; Board of Commissioners meeting. February 17th—The ambulance responded to Sierra City for an ill person who was airlifted to the hospital in Reno; firefighters trained. February 19th Responded for a smoke check, turned out to be a controlled burn.

LOYALTON: Monday, 2/14/22, 1:39PM, lift assist, south of Loyalton. Wednesday, 2/16/22, 3:20PM, mutual aid for structure fire, Sierraville. Thursday, 2/17/22, 9:02AM, medical aid, Loyalton; 10:55AM, older female sick, Loyalton; 5:20PM, older male with heart problems and difficulty breathing, south of Loyalton. Friday, 2/18/22, 2:30PM, lift assist, south of Loyalton. Sunday, 2/20/22, 7:43PM, older male fell and cut hand, Loyalton.

PIKE CITY: February 19th—Title 22 Refresher class.

SIERRA CITY: February 14th—Responded for an ill person, who was transported to the hospital in Truckee. February 16th—Responded for three unattended burn piles - they were extinguished. February 17th—Responded for an ill person, who was air lifted to the hospital in Reno.

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

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 **2:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, March 8, 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 PU2022.5.6.A Roofing**. 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 PU2022.5.6.A Roofing”**. 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

The successful bidder shall commence work on or before **May 2, 2022**. All work shall be completed within **75 calendar days and not later than August 19, 2022**. There will be a pre-bid walk at **Chester Elementary School, 158 Aspen St, Chester, CA, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 28, 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.

All contractors and their employees are subject to COVID-19 testing and vaccine verification per PUSD Appendix B – Health and Safety Protocols. The document can be viewed here:


https://www.dropbox.com/s/5kxge925pncf5rq/PUSD%20Appendix%20B%20Public%20Health%20ORTS%20QA%201_18_22.pdf?dl=0

All contractors will be **required** to obtain Department of Justice fingerprint clearance prior to beginning any work on-site.

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: **California General B license in good standing.**

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

Printed in the Mountain Messenger February 24 and March 3, 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
Loyalton, CA 96118 Fax (530) 993-1239

Help Wanted

The Mountain Messenger

We are seeking reporters who can file stories concerning items of local interest happening in Alleghany, Pike, Goodyears Bar, Downieville, Sierra City, Calpine-Sattley, Sierraville, Loyalton, Vinton-Chilcoot, 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.

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 California's oldest, continuously published weekly newspaper.

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

The following registrant is doing business as: HEART ROOT YOGA
Full name of registrants: Monica M. Sanford
Business location: 330 Bonta St., Blairsden, CA 96103
Mailing address: P.O. Box 741, Graeagle, CA 96103
Phone number: (530) 470-3807
This business is being conducted by: an Individual
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 8/23/2021
/s/ Monica Sanford
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 11, 2022 FILE NO: 2021-000021
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 3 of 2022

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
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: PROPERTY MAINTENANCE SERVICES
Full name of registrants: Brandon Moffet
Business location: 220 Spring Street, Quincy, CA 95971
Business mailing address: 220 Spring Street, Quincy, CA 95971
Phone number: (530) 616-0398
Registrant Address: 220 Spring Street, Quincy, CA 95971
This business is being conducted by: an Individual
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/24/2022
/s/ Brandon Moffet
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 24, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000021
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3 & 10 of 2022

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

The following registrant is doing business as: SOUL SHIP HERBALS
Full name of registrants: Aurora Wellise
Business location: 113 S. Lincoln St., Sierraville, CA 96126
Phone number: (646) 591-3348
This business is being conducted by: an Individual
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 11/30/2020
/s/ Aurora Wellise
This statement was filed in the office of Heather Foster, Sierra County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 31, 2022 FILE NO: 2022001830
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 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: Feb. 3, 10, 17, & 24 of 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: CONTROL FREAK
Full name of registrants: Millard Ralph
Business location: 320 Moody Meadow Rd., Chester, CA 96020
Mailing address: P.O. Box 326, Chester CA 96020
Phone number: (530) 941-3900
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/ Millard Ralph
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 3, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000002
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 3 of 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: HEART ROOT YOGA
Full name of registrants: Kiana Bohm
Business location: 330 Bonta Street, Blairsden, CA 96103
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1922, Portola, CA 96122
Phone number: (530) 420-6585
This business is being conducted by: an Individual
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/11/2022
/s/ Kiana Bohm
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder on: January 11, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000011
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 3 of 2022

Para más información sobre esta audiencia pública, y cómo este cambio impactará su factura, llame al 1-800-660-6789. 若要了解更多關於這項變更對您的月付款有何影響，請致電 1-800-693-9555.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC FORUMS (PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS): PG&E'S 2023 GENERAL RATE CASE APPLICATION A.21-06-021

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?
Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) would like to hear from you. You are invited to participate in a remote public forum, also called a Public Participation Hearing, about PG&E's 2023 General Rate Case (GRC) application. At the hearing, you can make comments, raise concerns, ask questions, and speak with the CPUC's Administrative Law Judge overseeing this application.

WHERE AND WHEN WILL THESE PUBLIC FORUMS BE HELD?
In compliance with the Governor's directive and the CPUC's ongoing efforts to protect customers and community members, the hearings will be held via remote participation.

MARCH 2022	MEETING DETAILS
March 1 March 10* March 22 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.	Webcast: www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/ Phone number: 1-800-857-1917 Passcode: English-6032788# Spanish-3799627#

The Public Forum can be viewed via internet, or listened to via phone, with the information above. If you wish to make a public comment, please participate by phone using the phone number above and pressing *1. Your participation by providing your thoughts on PG&E's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

*The March 10 hearing is open to all customers; however, it will be structured to include a focus on feedback from San Joaquin Valley customers and communities.

Written public comments may also be provided at any time during the proceeding in the "Public Comments" tab of the Docket Card for A.21-06-021, available at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2106021.

Please note: Spanish language interpreters will be available at each hearing for those who need them. If you need a different language interpreter, contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office using the contact information at the end of this notice at least five business days before the hearing.

WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?
Every four years, PG&E is required to file a GRC application with the CPUC to propose rates that reflect the projected costs to safely provide service, maintain infrastructure, and make needed system improvements.

To address increasing energy challenges, PG&E is proposing to adopt innovations and new technologies, and to make targeted investments to provide for a safe, reliable, and clean energy future for the 16 million people the utility serves across Northern and Central California.

Investments are being proposed across the electric distribution system (including critical wildfire mitigation, reliability, and safety improvements), gas distribution, transmission, and storage systems (including reliability, safety, and seismic improvements), and power generation assets (including reliability and safety improvements at natural gas, hydroelectric, solar generation, and Diablo Canyon Power Plant facilities).

This application also addresses ongoing operational and workforce costs to ensure PG&E can continue providing safe and reliable service and exceptional customer care. These costs include maintaining a dedicated and trained workforce, insurance, and resources to support PG&E's Customer Care, Shared Services, and Information Technology organizations.

If approved by the CPUC, PG&E's request would result in a revenue increase of approximately \$3.56 billion for 2023 and additional increases of \$930 million (2024), \$590 million (2025), and \$381 million (2026).

HOW COULD THIS AFFECT MY MONTHLY BILL?
ELECTRIC RATES:

Based on rates currently in effect, the bill for a typical non-CARE bundled residential customer using 500 kilowatt-hours per month would increase from \$138.86 to \$164.05, or 18.1% if the GRC is approved as filed.

Direct Access (DA) and Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) customers only receive electric transmission and distribution services from PG&E, and distribution rate charges for these customers would increase by 21.5% if the application is approved as filed. DA providers and CCAs set their own rates, so customers are encouraged to check with your DA provider or CCA to see how this would impact your overall bill.

Departing Load customers do not receive electric generation, transmission, or distribution services from PG&E; however, these customers are still required to pay certain charges by law or CPUC decision. On average, these customers would see a rate increase of 7.6% if the application is approved as filed.

Actual impacts will vary depending on usage.

GAS RATES:
Based on rates currently in effect, the gas bill for a typical residential non-CARE customer averaging 33 therms per month of gas usage would increase from \$59.92 to \$70.73, or 18%.

Actual impacts will vary depending on usage.

HOW DOES THE REST OF THIS PROCESS WORK?
This application has been assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt PG&E's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding will review PG&E's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information, please call 1-415-703-1584, email PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov, or visit PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.

Your participation by providing your thoughts on PG&E's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?
CONTACT PG&E:
If you have questions about PG&E's filing, please contact PG&E at 1-800-743-5000. For TTY, call 1-800-652-4712.

If you would like an electronic copy of the filing and exhibits, please write to the address below:
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
2023 GRC Application (A.21-06-021)
P.O. Box 7442
San Francisco, CA 94120

More information, including PG&E's application and supporting documents, is available at pge.com/grc.

CONTACT CPUC

For additional information and any updates on the hearings, please visit cpuc.ca.gov/pph.

If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:

Phone: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-2074
Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
Email: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov

Please reference PG&E's 2023 General Rate Case (A.21-06-021) in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.

PUBLIC NOTICE ** PUBLIC NOTICE AMENDED 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-White. Proposed name: Flori Ruth 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. via Zoom, Superior Court of California, County of Sierra, Department 1, 100 Courthouse Square, Downieville, CA 95936

/s/ Charles Ervin, Judge of the Superior Court

Date: February 7, 2022

Published in The Mountain Messenger on Feb. 10, 17, 24 & Mar. 3 of 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following registrant is doing business as: MOUNTAIN PILATES
Full name of registrants: Elizabeth Cota & Doug Cota
Business location: 49 E. Sierra Ave., Portola, CA 96122
Business mailing address: 49 E. Sierra Ave., Portola, CA 96122
Phone number: (775) 200-8068
Registrant Address: 768 Wolf Ave., Portola, CA 06122
This business is being conducted by: a Married Couple
The registrant commenced to do business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 1/31/2022
/s/ Elizabeth Cota and Doug Cota
This statement was filed in the office of Marcy DeMartile, Plumas County Clerk-Recorder, on: January 31, 2022 FILE NO: 2022-0000030
Published in The Mountain Messenger: Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3 & 10 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: Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24 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.

Calpine Elks—Bingo Second & Fourth Saturday from 12-4 p.m. at Calpine Elks Lodge (72182 Hwy 70, west of Portola, next to the Chalet View).

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) 862-1475 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.

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

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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GREG.BULANTI@GMAIL.COM
DRE# 0129422

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SIERRA CITY - 4BD. 2 BATH TWO-STORY HOME WITH PLENTY OF PARKING ON A HALF ACRE LOT. \$299,000.

SIERRA CITY - 2BD. 1 BATH VICTORIAN-STYLE HOUSE ON THE RIVER.

SIERRA CITY - LEWIS TRACT LOT. SEPTIC IN. \$125,000.

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Sierra City, Ca. 96125



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HELLER CONSTRUCTION

SIERRA CITY 862-1820
TRUCKEE 587-4827

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Don Russell, DVL

(530) 289-0332

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.

All contractors and their employees are subject to COVID-19 testing and vaccine verification per PUSD Appendix B – Health and Safety Protocols. The document can be viewed here:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/5kxge925pnf5rq/PUSD%20Appendix%20B%20Public%20Health%20RTS%20QA%201_18_22.pdf?dl=0

All contractors will be **required** to obtain Department of Justice fingerprint clearance prior to beginning any work on-site.

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: **California General B license in good standing.**

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

Printed in the Mountain Messenger February 24 and March 3, 2022

LEGAL NOTICE ** LEGAL NOTICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following registrant is doing business as: MICHELLE RIDLEY COUNSELING 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: Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24 of 2022

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: Feb. 3, 10, 17, & 24 of 2022

LOST NUGGET MARKET

Open **everyday** 8 to 8

Mike and Randy
welcome one and all

WE OFFER: Batteries, beer, bread, milk, eggs & plenty MORE at the last gasoline station service for east-bound motorists for 38 miles!!!

On Highway 49 at Camptonville (530) 288-3339



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 Wednesday, March 8, 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 PU2022.5.6.A Mechanical**. 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 PU2022.5.6.A Mechanical"**. 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

The successful bidder shall commence work on or before **April 18, 2022**. All work shall be completed within **15 calendar days and not later than August 19, 2022**. There will be a pre-bid walk at **Chester Elementary School, 158 Aspen St, Chester, CA, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 28, 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

Sierra Country Store

New Hours: Open Tuesday - Saturday
10 am - 5 pm

UNLESS Larry has something else to do ~
like to go buy more supplies.

When you catch him, the Deli will be open for
Great, Hot Food!!!!

Breakfasts, Lunches, and Early Dinners

GROCERIES? YOU BET!!!

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Downieville River Inn

121 River Street
Downieville, CA 95936

"The One With The Pool"

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Family Owned and Operated

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ADVERTISE HERE

California Hay Report - 2/18/2022

Compared to last week: Prices are steady to last week with new crop alfalfa being cut and moved into the dairy and export markets. The Producer Price Index for final demand increased 1.0 percent in January, seasonally adjusted, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported February 15, 2022. This rise followed advances of 0.4 percent in December 2021 and 0.9 percent in November. On an unadjusted basis, final demand prices moved up 9.7 percent for the 12 months ended January 2022.

Volume - California			
Tons of Hay:	This Week	Last Reported (1/31/2022)	Last Year
	2650	4890	61000
Bales of Hay:	375	75	0
North Inter-Mountain Hay (Conventional)			
No Report			

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News - https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2904.pdf

COMMODITY PRICES				
	Feb. 16 USD	Feb. 23 USD	Weekly Change	YTD Change
Gold USD/Troy Oz.				
Silver USD/Troy Oz.				
Lumber USD/1000 BdFt.				
Live Cattle USD/100 Lbs.				
Crude Oil USD/Barrel WTI				
Propane USD/Gallon				
CRB Index Index Points				

Elements

Night Sky: Colorful Start

A quick glance at the starry night shows us an array of stars in the Milky Way Galaxy, with a variety of brightness. But a closer look shows some variety of color as well.

Take the winter constellation Orion the Hunter. Above and below Orion's belt are two bright stars. The upper star denoting his shoulder is red. And the lower star by his knee is blue. Stellar colors indicate relative temperatures, like a red, yellow, orange fire is warm to sit near, but a strong, hot blue flame from a stovetop is better for cooking.

The red star Betelgeuse (say it three times and Michael Keaton appears) is a red giant, a dying expanding star more than 100 times larger than the Sun. The blue star Rigel is a blue giant, also larger than the Sun and fusing matter at much higher energies.

What other colors can you see in the night sky?
Keep looking up! — Collin O'Mara-Green

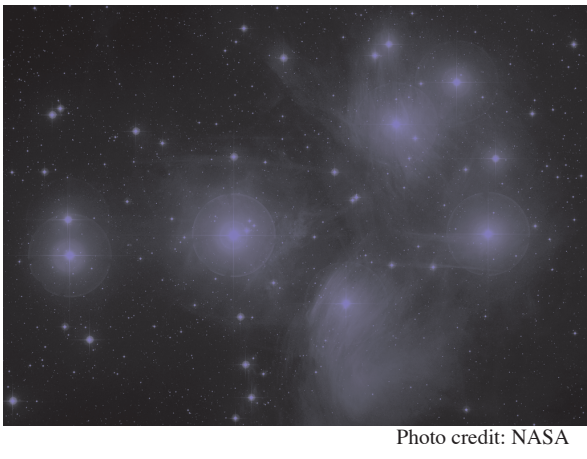


Photo credit: NASA

Sun & Moon

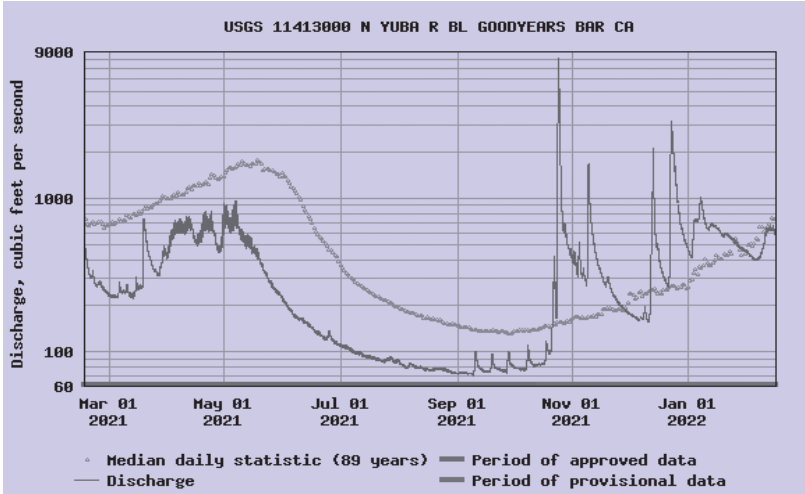
Date:		Thu. 2-24	Fri. 2-25	Sat. 2-26	Sun. 2-27	Mon. 2-28	Tue. 3-1	Wed. 3-2
Sun	Rise:	06:41	06:40	06:38	06:37	06:36	06:34	06:33
	Set:	17:48	17:49	17:50	17:51	17:52	17:54	17:55
Moon	Rise:	01:51	03:02	04:07	05:03	05:49	06:26	06:57
	Set:	11:17	12:10	13:14	14:25	15:40	16:54	18:05
	Illumination	42.5%	31.0%	20.5%	11.7%	5.1%	1.3%	0.2%

Source: <<https://www.timeanddate.com/>> using Calpine as a reference point. M = Moon does not pass the meridian on this day.

Local Road/Trail/River Conditions

Water Flow on the North Yuba River

February 23, 2021 - February 23, 2022



Last Week's Weather

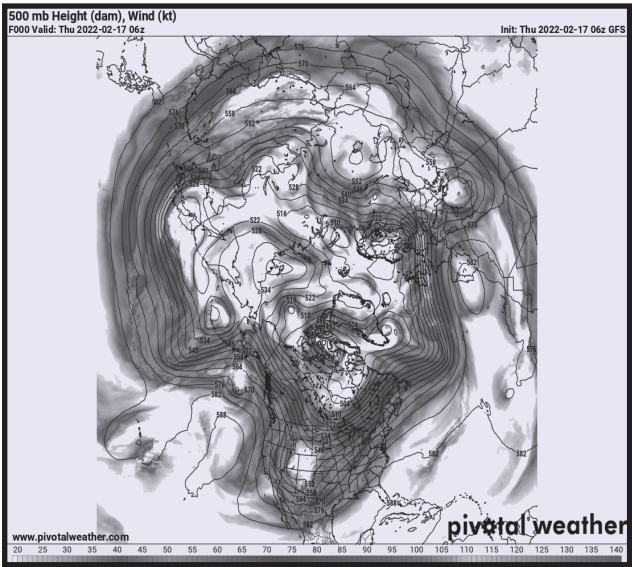
Courtesy of the Grubstake Saloon

Date	Hi	FE	Lo	FE	Precip.	Snow
Feb. 15	48	-11	28	0		-
Feb. 16	56	+6	33	+4		-
Feb. 17	63	M	27	-2		-
Feb. 18	68	+12	27	-5		-
Feb. 19	66	+10	29	-4		-
Feb. 20	59	+1	31	-3	0.12	-
Feb. 21	45	-6	28	+1	0.21	1"
Forecast Error (FE) is found by subtracting the forecasted temperatures from the day's recorded value. M = Missing.						
Seasonal Precipitation						
July 1 to date						46.21
To-date last year						25.16
Yearly average						65.28

7-Day Local Forecast

Towns	Info	Thu. 2-24	Fri. 2-25	Sat. 2-26	Sun. 2-27	Mon. 2-28	Tue. 3-1	Wed. 3-2
Downieville	High/Low (°F) Cloudiness (%): Wind (mph): Humidity (%): Chance of Precip.							
Loyalton	High/Low (°F) Cloudiness (%): Wind (mph): Humidity (%): Chance of Precip.							
Quincy	High/Low (°F) Cloudiness (%): Wind (mph): Humidity (%): Chance of Precip.							

Source: <<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/wxtable>> [National Weather Service WFO STO 02:21 AM PST Thursday Feb. 24, 2022] M=Missing



Jet Streams: February 24

Source: <<https://www.pivotalweather.com/model.php>>

Game Corner

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

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 O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **M** equals **L**

SJJM SGJJ HN JFTNQ HZJ
ZJPMHZSAM KGPWHLWJ NS
GJPBLFO MJBNFV NG NGPFOJV,
LS QNA VN TALWJ.

Last Week's Answers

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

CryptoQuip

Group of children proficient in a certain computer language: The Little Pascals.

BOWLES	ACCEPTED	WHISK
MARIAH	VINROUGE	HENIE
WHENRESIDENTSOF	OATER	
SUNG	RESET	OCT SATURN
	OTRA	ISAIAH SIRE
COP	WISCONSIN	CAPITAL
OKAPI	LRON	MULAN
HAVETOPUTSOME	INKPAD	
NYET	NUBS	ERECT ALA
MASUR	WINGER	BFILM
THERAPEUTICS	SOLUTION	IN
HANDY	STADIA	SHORT
EAT	START	ALTE
ANSELM	THEIREYES	SWHAT
	SOUSA	SCTV
DOYOUTHINK	THEYUSE	PSY
ERAT	TERESA	BEDS
CAMEBY	MAD	NOFEE
ATARI	MEADISON	DROPPERS
NOHIT	SITS	SINON
TRACE	GLOSSARY	FLABBY

ACROSS

- 1 Sci-fi zapper
10 "Flashdance" star Jennifer
15 1,152, to Caesar
20 Stateside
21 U-shaped bend in a river
22 Protest shout
23 Gave spirit to
24 Chicago airport
25 See
42-Across
26 Bad grade
27 Causes wonder in
28 Subcompact car of the 1980s
30 Naughty kid
31 Saroyan's "My Name Is —"
32 Mex. miss
33 Abate
34 HarperCollins or Simon & Schuster
40 — Antonio
41 Suffix with Brooklyn
42 With
25-Across, Czech tennis great
43 Crude dude
44 Gallery stuff
46 Film director Preminger
47 Holiday song
49 Optimistic attitude
55 Give and take
57 False appearances
58 Flaky dessert
59 Restricted entry
62 USMC rank
63 Frat dude
66 Soon-to-be adolescents
67 Inquire into
69 One of 100 in D.C.
70 Monk's title
71 Stuff applied to the wall of a room
76 School org.
77 Certain Ukrainian
78 Fine riverbed sand
79 Athlete's advantage
84 1836 Texas siege site
87 Abbr. on a phone dial
88 Sgt., e.g.
89 Must-have
91 In a bit, to bards
92 "— a snap!"
93 Took a chair
95 Features of many limos
100 Sue Grafton's "— for Noose"

DOWN

- 1 Told a fib
2 Hathaway of "Ocean's 8"
3 Store lure
4 Bygone U.K. record label
5 Make over
6 Bar with beermaking facilities
7 Berlin article
8 Masters
9 Ticked off
10 "Awright!"
11 Dig out from the ground
12 Impose — on (outlaw)
13 Some nobles
14 Affirms
15 Suburb of D.C. in Virginia
16 Wheat — (cereal)
17 Judge of the O.J. Simpson trial
18 Owing
19 "Don't worry, things are going to work out"
28 60-min. periods
29 "Give — whirl!"
30 "You're preaching to the choir"
31 Lung cell
32 Pen maker
35 Egg cells
36 Boat-rowing guys
37 Style of jazz
38 Bathtub sponges
39 Great reviews
45 Scale notes after dos
46 Bullring cheer

PROGRAM FINALES

- 48 Library penalty
50 Old railroad watchdog
51 — Bo (exercise system)
52 Age-verifying cards
53 Top dentures
54 Food fish from Africa
56 Eye squintingly
59 A DJ might spin them
60 Furiousness
61 Gene stuff
62 Co. big shot
63 Gold-winning figure skater Brian
64 Hoffoot it
65 Slugger Mel
67 Burned a bit
68 Sentimental pop songs
71 Dostoyevsky novel, with "The"
72 Ida, neighbor
73 China's Lao- —
74 Suffix with Brooklyn
75 Comedian Gilda
76 "Ask Me Another" ailer
77 Available without an Rx
79 Occur at the same time
80 Acquired the film rights to
81 Army meal companion
82 As a team
83 "So yucky!"
85 Do some lawn work
86 Add- — (peripherals)
90 Pupil-widening drug, e.g.
93 Young salmon and sea trout
94 Clerk on "The Simpsons"
96 Tristan's love
97 Surgery assistants
98 TV magnate Turner
99 Olympic athlete, e.g.
102 She sang "Hello"
106 Strategize
107 Stand by
108 Sub shop
109 Part of 62-Down: Abbr.
110 El —, Texas
111 Almost like
112 Departed
115 — de plume
116 "— So Shy"

True Tales of the Timber Industry as assembled by Cynthia Anderson

From the Woods — Clay Allen, Part 5

Clay Allen's death-defying dozer stories are continued in this week's "From the Woods".

We are yelling at him, “Joe, get off there, get off there!” and he’s yelling, “I can’t, I can’t!” Suddenly there is a little hole in the reproduction and he was able to jump off the Cat. That D8 Cat was probably doing 45 miles per hour down the hill on its own after it broke the bull line on Pat’s Cat. We are just standing there waving good by to that D8. That Cat went all the way to the cliff and the brakes locked up on their own again on the edge. We thought for sure that thing was gone, but it stopped right on the edge of the canyon!

We all went and got our boss, Jerry J., and we told him what was going on with this Cat. So, we went and got it back up the hill and took it back to the yard. Those Cats have hydraulic brakes, and I guess that one of the O-rings had blown on it. It would let the oil pass where it needed to be to make the brakes stop. That was real close for me and it almost killed Joe S. too. That was another, what do they call it, “dodging the bullet.” That was pretty wild. People don’t realize what you do and how you live through some of these things. Joe and Pat are still alive, they can testify to all this stuff and that it is true.

Fighting Fire

This next story takes place on a Sterling City Fire. PG&E had this guy pile a bunch of piles for them on some of their property above Sterling City, and he piled it real dirty, meaning there was a lot of dirt in it. When they burned the piles and you have dirt in your piles, it settles on top of your embers. It laid down there for about a month and a half.

Once in awhile you will have a statewide wind event and they will blow for a week—these are 90 mile-an-hour wind gusts. PG&E had called Joe G., and he sent me over there with this little D6D just for safety measures, because PG&E knew that they had trouble coming. That wind

started to come up around 4 p.m. The wind got so powerful it started blowing the dirt off of these piles and reigniting them. It is just like taking a drag off of a cigarette, and it was pumping these piles up. They would get hot and then they would back down and the wind got so intense that the whole unit exploded because all of these piles together were breathing all at once. The whole unit just exploded with this fire! There were just two of us out there: me and this guy from PG&E.

The fire blew out of the confines of the unit. I tried to put a fire line across the top of it, but there was no way, because the wind was blowing too hard, it was too hot, and so we went down below it. It was getting into some timber from some outfit out of Roseburg, Oregon, who owned the timber rights next to it. I found an old logging road down below it and it was about 3 o’clock in the morning and I just had my headlights going. I figured this old logging road was my last effort to try and stop this thing. When I headed down this road the fire was just aglow in the distance, it just looked so far away, you know. I got down in there about an eighth of a mile and I wasn’t paying attention and all of a sudden this fire was right over me, right next to my Cat!

It was cold, it was almost 10 degrees, it was cold. My stocking cap caught on fire. I said, what the hell man! So, I pulled it off and then my beard caught on fire, this big bushy beard. I was trying to get my beard out and the fire was right there. I said let’s get out of here.

If I would have been on the D7, I would have burned up, but I was on the D6 and a 6 is faster than a D7. I put it in third gear reverse and I took off away from that fire. The fire was blowing over in front of my blade on the Cat as fast as I could back out. Back then we didn’t have the romex, we didn’t have fire wraps, it was old style firefighting, I think I was like 34.

Now it is all coordinated, you have radios, romex, fire wrap. You need this stuff. I almost got burned to death that night. After I got my beard and stocking cap out, I went up on the flat. Me and this guy from PG&E were going to give it one more try—we didn’t know when to give up.

The smoke from the fire came in on me and it was going around in a circular pattern, and it got up in me and I couldn’t breathe or see, and I got scared! I couldn’t see, I couldn’t breathe (this is what kills these guys fighting fires). I jumped off my Cat, I was airborne and hit the dozer arm. When I jumped off I hit the PG&E guy and knocked him down because I couldn’t even see him. You couldn’t see your hand in front of your face. It was a one in a million shot that I would run into him. I grabbed him by the arm of the coat and he grabbed me and we took off running. Another 30 seconds and we would have been dead, we needed air. When we got into fresh air, we both hit the ground and were sitting on the ground and we both said, “That was close!” He looked over at me and asked, “What were you, a lead man in Vietnam?” That was close.

But the next day the State came up and had to contain this fire. One of the big shots from the State came up and he jumped in my face. He said, “Don’t you ever try a one-man attack on a fire again, because in this wind, you’re not going to stop nothing!” I tried to explain to him that PG&E hired me to watch this area. He told me to shut up and listen to him and said, “Don’t ever try this again, because there was no way you were going to stop that fire.” At the time you don’t think about that because you were sent up there to do a job and I have always done my job—always the hard way, it seems.



Cory Peterman's Historical Corner

Black Pioneers of Sierra County - Part 3

During the time of the Civil War and for a long period thereafter, Sierra County was home to a generally pro-Union populace. Historian Bill Copren writes “*Sierra County went for the Union Party candidates by majorities of two to one or larger during these years. Thirty out of thirty-six precincts gave Lincoln and Johnson a majority in 1864... It was also during these years and those immediately following, that the town of Smith’s Neck changed its name to Loyalton and the streets in Sierraville were renamed Lincoln, Grant and Meade.*”

Rather ironically, despite the anti-slavery, pro-Union Republican sentiment that dominated the county, it was reported in the *Mountain Messenger* of October 28, 1865 the following: “*Negro Suffrage. — The fact has just come to light that John Black, a colored barber at Howland Flat, was elected at the last general election to the responsible position of Constable on the Democratic ticket. The Board of Supervisors have issued his certification. The Union party ran no candidate for the position.*” This news also reached other newspapers, including the *Gold Hill Daily News* in Nevada, and other California newspapers including the *San Francisco Call*, the *Petaluma Weekly Argus*, the *Napa Valley Register*, the *Santa Cruz Weekly Sentinel*, and Stockton’s *Daily Evening Herald*, which reported “*We think the Democrats there have rather got their foot in it in running a negro as a candidate, particularly since he was elected. The Messenger says the new constable paid its sanctum a visit, and he both reads and writes; and it likes John Black’s appearance, who he says ‘is in grave doubt as to whether his reputation will suffer or not in accepting office at the hand of the Democratic party.’ We think the Democracy of Howland’s Flat had better bag its head, after this effort.*”

Unfortunately, I have no

additional information about John Black (or Block, as his surname is spelled in other sources) other than that he had a barbershop in the Sierra County town of St. Louis that was destroyed in the Great Fire of July 1862.

In the book *Like a Leaf Upon a Current Cast* (which I have quoted many times in this series), author Katie Willmarth Green relates that for a newspaper operating in the 1800s, the *Mountain Messenger* hinted “*of a nascent groundswell of humanitarian feeling and awareness.*

For instance, the Mountain Messenger in 1859 quotes from the Hydraulic Press about ‘some very bad actions which lately disgraced [North] San Juan.’ These consisted of ‘four or five white men, who would feel insulted were their respectability called in question, [who] went under cover of darkness to a cabin tenanted by three Negroes, drove them over two miles out of town in the direction of Freeman’s Crossing, tied them and whipped them on the bare back with a raw hide... It would make us sick to record such horrible cruelty, did not a just indignation take the place of every weaker feeling. It makes one ashamed of human nature — or rather of creatures who thus debase it by their brutality.’ And in April of 1866, shortly after the Civil War ended, The Messenger reprinted an editorial in favor of extending civil rights to blacks so that they might own and inherit property. The editorial stance was more doubtful about intermarriage, and miscegenation debates were followed closely.”

A Black California pioneer who can be credited with assisting in the settlement of the Sierra Valley in Sierra County is no other than James Pierson Beckwourth (c. 1798 - c. 1866), a man who was born into slavery in Virginia to a Black slave mother and her white owner, Sir Jennings Beckwourth. After moving the

family to Missouri, Jennings eventually freed his son, who would become a prominent mountain man, trapper, and explorer. However, he is probably most notably known for his living and interaction with the Crow tribe, and for his personal embellishments. Many aspects of his life are the source of controversy.

James P. Beckwourth is credited with the 1850 discovery of the pass that bears his name, the lowest mountain pass in the Sierra Nevada, and the 1851 improvement of a Native American trail that became the Beckwourth trail. This trail ran from Truckee Meadows in Nevada, through Sierra Valley, along the ridge between the forks of the Feather River, through the northern California gold camps, and on to Marysville. Thousands of settlers followed this trail to central California, and many permanently settled to pursue ranching in Sierra Valley, thus increasing the population of Sierra County and its agricultural worth.

I would like to thank Katie Willmarth Green for providing me pages from her book regarding the Black pioneers of Sierra County (I have limited sources for my articles since I live in Italy), and I hope my readers enjoyed this series on an underrepresented group of California history.

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!



90 YEARS AGO

The Mountain Messenger

VOLUME LXXVIII NOS. 37-38 ESTABLISHED 1853

DOWNIEVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY SEAT, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 27 & MARCH 5, 1932

Mine Blasts Reverberate, Recalling Chinatown Fire

A couple of loud blasts Wednesday startled a number of people, who wondered if hostilities had broken out between Japan and the United States. There being no smoke visible and no further “attack” by the enemy, householders returned to their duties after peering out of windows and doorways. The noise proved to be blasts in a nearby mine tunnel where extremely hard rock had been encountered.

The blasts brought to mind some of the older residents when Chinatown burned in 1896 and the buildings were dynamited to keep the fire from spreading and destroying the whole town. At that time every window in Mrs. Lizzie Denmire’s house was shattered, and a fine spring in her yard dried up.

Anna Costa Enjoys Birthday Party

Anna Bernice Costa has just experienced another of those very pleasant happenings in a young girl’s life—a birthday party. This particular one was given at her home on Commercial Street in celebration of her 14th birthday on Sunday, the 21st. A chicken dinner was served to a number of her classmates. The long table was beautiful with its center piece of Martha Washington geraniums and ferns.

Anna Bernice was the recipient of many nice gifts, among them being a gold ring set with her birth stone. Those who attended were: Marjorie Taylor, Helen Sutton, Katie Smith, Anita Coupe, Minnie Tucker and Frances Cook.

Depot Hill Mine Carries On Hydraulic Operations

A thrilling sight to travelers

on the Yuba Pass Highway right now is the mining being done at Depot Hill by F.J. Joubert.

The road follows the high rim of the pit for a considerable distance, from which one can look down upon the big monitors throwing large streams of water with tremendous force against the high banks.

To old-timers, it swiftly takes them back to the pre-antidebris days, when such scenes were common on North San Juan, North Columbia, North Bloomfield and particularly in Sierra County from Indian Hill and Brandy City to Port Wine and La Porte.

But one of the most consistent producers in Sierra County since the ‘50s has been the Depot Hill Mine, which has been in the Joubert family all that time, and which is being operated at the present time by a son of the original operator.

This is always one of the first mines to start piping because it is the first to get water. It is worth a trip to Depot Hill to view this inspiring sight—a present-day scene of early-day history.

Yuba River Hatchery Expects Successful Season

Approximately a million fish will be the output of the Yuba River Fish Hatchery at Indian Valley this year, according to Superintendent Guy C. Tabler.

Although it is a comparatively small hatchery, it is one of the most successful in the State, owing largely to the favorable conditions present. The climate conditions and temperature of the water as it comes from Fiddle Creek were found to be particularly well adapted to the hatching and raising of fish to a stage where they could reasonably be expected to live

when turned loose in the streams of this section.

There are a present 600,000 eggs and young fish at this hatchery, Mr. Tabler says, with enough more coming from other places to raise the total to 1,000,000. These fish comprise three varieties, the Loch Leven, Rainbow, and Eastern Brook. The Eastern Brook eggs are shipped here from Montana, the Loch Leven eggs come from the Mt. Shasta Hatchery, and the Rainbow eggs come from Idaho. Requests for young trout to stock the streams of Sierra County will be well taken care of this year, assured Mr. Tabler.

S.H. Van Gilden of Sacramento arrived at the hatchery last week to assist in the spring work there.

Mr. Van Gilden has had many years’ experience in hatching and rearing fish.

State Forester Favors Burning

Systematic burning of certain areas has proved to be one of the most practical solutions of the hazards of brush fires, M.B. Pratt, state forester, told the California Association of Fire Wardens recently. As a result, Pratt said, the state board of forestry has been committed definitely to a policy of burning off certain brush, forest and grass areas rather than permit dense growths of vegetation. He described experiments made in Sonoma, Humboldt, Mendocino and Lake counties last year where he said 12,534 acres were burned including 330 acres of woodland, 744 acres of grass and 330 of manzanita.

Lion Serenades Townsfolk

Had Jay Bruce, the State lion hunter, been present to listen to the informal serenade given by a friendly mountain lion last Saturday night he would

necessarily have had to change his assertion that lions do not make noises. A number of young folks who had been out quite late to a party had just got to bed, about 2 a.m., when the big cat started “singing.” The noise was described as resembling that of a child screaming when being punished, although the sounds were extremely weird, half human and half animal. The lion was thought to be on the ridge just back of the F.O. Richardson residence on Lomita place, and it was heard by three people.

Billy Burns – Requiem

So, Billy Burns is dead—Billy Burns, who was as much a part of Downieville as its quaint old houses, its narrow streets, its rivers or its hills.

Billy Burns – if Diogenes in his search for an honest man had met him, he need go no farther. Billy was honest, true blue. He never lied, never stole, never bore false witness against his neighbor, never voted, never – no, it isn’t true that he never worked. Always he lent a willing hand; when there was a load of hay to be unloaded for his friend Al Meyer, or to help with a load of freight for Homer Gould, he was there to do his share.

Some years ago, a famous artist painted a picture of Downieville’s Main Street. The painting now hangs in the Palace of Fine Arts in Boston. Billy was in that painting. His figure belonged in the picture of the old pioneer town. No more will his pleasant face be seen, no more his voice be heard; but many will miss him as a part of a picture incomplete.

Oak Valley Pioneer Passes

Mrs. Mary Ann Godfrey, a resident of Camptonville section for more than 75 years,

passed away at her home at Oak Valley, near Camptonville, early Wednesday morning. Her death was caused by the infirmities of old age, she being past 86 years old.

Born in Manchester, England, July 18, 1845, she came to California across the plains in 1854 and the family settled in Camptonville. On January 24, 1859, she became the bride of Silas Godfrey, and the young couple went to Slate Range to reside, where they lived until 1860, and then removed to Oak Valley and that has been her home ever since.

Five children were born to the couple, three of whom, Mrs. John Ramm and Frank Godfrey of Camptonville and Henry Godfrey of Berkeley, survive. There are also four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Mr. Godfrey passed away a number of years ago. Mrs. Godfrey was a typical pioneer woman. She came to the Camptonville section in her early girlhood, and she grew up with the country, exemplifying the virtues of the pioneer mothers who shared with their neighbors the joys and sorrows, too, of pioneer life.

Whether she was spoken of as Aunt Mary Godfrey or Grandma Godfrey, it was always with the greatest of honor and respect, as she possessed a sterling character and disposition so often associated with the early-day pioneers. As a mother, she reared her family in a very creditable manner, and as a neighbor she was always willing to stretch forth a helping hand and do her part in her community. She was of a kindly nature and well-liked by all her friends. Her passing will create a

vacancy long to be noticed.

The body was prepared for burial by the Holmes Funeral Home, and the funeral was held in Camptonville Friday afternoon at 2 o’clock from the Masonic Hall.—Morning Union.

Gold Plate Mine Makes Steady Progress

The Gold Plate Mine on Ramshorn Creek, which is being developed by Kretz & Davis, holds considerable promise for the operations, as indicated by surface showings. A tunnel about 110 feet long has been run toward the vein, with 40 feet more to go. The ledge will be crosscut to ascertain its width and values carried, when drifting will begin. The footwall is porphyry, with a slate hanging wall and serpentine contact. The quartz also carried amphibolite schist. This property is in the St. Charles Hill section, a highly mineralized district.

Bigelow Mine to Open Soon

Arrangements are under way to start hydraulic operations on the Bigelow property at Sierra City, which is a quartz property that carries a great deal of gold in the surface loam.

The plan to wash off the topsoil, which will start within a few weeks, will serve also to expose a number of quartz veins that lie close to the surface. A 300-foot pipeline and sluice boxes will be installed immediately. A permit for storage of tailings has been obtained and surveys have been completed.

Experiments on a new milling process are being carried on for the reduction of ore that is already blocked out. The property contains a ten-stamp mill. F.T. Smith and M.C. Dutton of Los Angeles are the operators.