



Community

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Spring, 2016

LET YOUR INNER LEPRECHAUN OUT



The 4th annual corned beef and cabbage dinner sponsored by the Dutch Flat Community Center in conjunction with the Alta Volunteer Fire Department, will be held on **Saturday, March 12, 2016** at the **Alta Community Center** on Alta Bonnybrook Road. We will be serving Joanne Blohm's delicious corned beef, cabbage, ginger carrots and parsley potatoes. There will also be homemade bread and desserts.

Doors and the bar will open at 5:00, dinner will be served at 5:30. We will also have live music that won't interfere with your conversation. This year we are making sure to have plenty of food so we don't run out as in previous years. We will also have two serving lines so the wait to eat will be shorter but, please, no seconds until 6:45.

The bar will be run by the Alta Volunteer Fire Department and no outside alcohol is allowed. The raffle will start at 6:45 and you must be present to win. Tons of great raffle prizes will be available

Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$7 for children 12 and under. They can be purchased at the Alta Store, Dutch Flat Trading Post and C and J Cafe in Alta. Since we sold out last year and due to limited seating, there is a strong possibility no tickets will be available at the door.



Happy St. Patrick's Day

FREE EASTER EGG HUNT



Warm weather, flowers and Easter egg hunts are always a sign of Spring in Dutch Flat. This year's annual free Easter egg hunt will be held on **Saturday, March 26th**, starting at **11:00 at the Dutch Flat Community Center** on Stockton Street. Volunteers led by our own Easter bunny, Debby McClatchy, make this event fun for kids of all ages, hiding eggs around the property and serving lunch to everyone. Prizes are given to everyone for participating but you must have a good time. The event will be held rain or shine so plan accordingly.

We also need decorated eggs to be donated that we can use for the hunt. You may have already received a call asking for donations. If you can find the time to decorate a dozen (or more eggs), please leave them before March 26th at the Dutch Flat Trading Post for storage and we will pick them up to hide the day of the event.

PLACER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGREE TO REGULATE MEDICAL MARIJUANA

PLACER COUNTY WEBSITE, DECEMBER
08, 2015

The Placer County Board of Supervisors approved the development of a comprehensive medical marijuana regulatory framework for the unincorporated areas of the county.

The Board's decision does not specify standards for the regulation of medical marijuana cultivation and distribution, but it does allow county staff to work with the community to begin to define what the regulation should look like.

"What we discussed today was putting in a placeholder legislation in January that would preserve our right of jurisdiction over

what happens in Placer with regards to cultivation, land use, location, manufacturing – all of the components that come with medicinal marijuana use," said District 1 Supervisor Jack Duran. "And provide us the opportunity after January to then really put the meat on the bones in crafting an ordinance that suits our needs for passage later in the year."

In 1996, the electorate enacted Proposition 215, or The Compassionate Use Act, which allowed patients and primary caregivers to obtain and use medical marijuana, as recommended by a physician.

On Oct. 9, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law the California Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act. The MMRSA is a package of three separate bills (Assembly Bills 243 and 266 and Senate Bill 643) that established a comprehensive regulatory framework for the cultivation, production, transportation, testing, sale and taxation of medical marijuana. Among its provisions, the act sets a deadline of March 1, 2016 for local jurisdictions to have land use regulations or ordinances regulating or prohibiting the cultivation of marijuana - or choose not to administer a conditional permit program pursuant to AB 243 - or the State "shall be the sole licensing authority for medical marijuana cultivation applicants."

To date, Placer County has not enacted any ordinances that regulate it. Since County zoning ordinances prohibit activities that aren't expressly permitted, this has effectively banned medical marijuana in the county's unincorporated areas.

County staff advised the board that not regulating or banning medical marijuana will continue the risk of criminal activity and environmental damage. Having a clear, enforceable legal framework around medical marijuana, they advised, reduces the incidence of crime and revenue to criminal gangs and cartels. Regulations are also expected to diminish illegal grows, which often use water and chemicals improperly, degrading the environment through pollution and erosion.

County staff suggested that comprehensive regulation is in the public interest because it legally serves the needs of medi-

Marijuana continued on Page 5

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This newspaper is published quarterly and distributed to Dutch Flat Community Center members and to residents of the Center's service area from Gold Run to Emigrant Gap in Placer County, California.

We welcome contributions from readers. Submission dates for upcoming issues:

Summer 2016 - May 15
Fall 2016 - August 15
Winter 2016 – November 15
Spring 2017 - February 15

Views expressed in letters, guest opinion pieces and other contributions do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, the Dutch Flat Community Center or its Board.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, March 5, 2016 - 4:00 PM. Alta-Dutch Flat School Chili Cook-Off and Pie Bake-Off. Dutch Flat Community Center, 933 Stockton Street, Dutch Flat
Saturday, March 12, 2016 - 5:30 Corned beef and cabbage dinner, Alta Community Center. Doors open 5:30.
Saturday, March 26, 2016 - 11:00 annual Easter Egg hunt, Dutch Flat Community Center
Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016 - 7:00-11:00, IOOF Lodge pancake breakfast
Saturday, April 30, 2016 - Dutch Flat Methodist Church Annual Western Night. Dutch Flat Community Center
Sunday, May 29 - 8:00-11:00 - IOOF Lodge pancake breakfast

ONGOING EVENTS

Alta Attic - Thursdays 10:00 - 1:00
Bingo, Alta Community Center, 1st Fridays, 7:00 PM - proceeds benefit the Alta Volunteer Fire Department.
Dutch Flat Community Center Board of Directors meeting 2nd Mondays, 6:00 PM - location varies (or contact President Marybeth Blackinton, 530-389-8393)
Dutch Flat Community Center potluck 3rd Thursdays. Sept. - June, 6:00 PM - . Dutch Flat Community Center, 933 Stockton St. Bring a place setting and a dish to share.
Dutch Flat United Methodist Church - 2nd Saturdays, 8:00 AM -10:00 AM- pancake breakfast
Dutch Flat United Methodist Church - Sundays Fellowship Dinner, 5:00 PM and Worship Service, 6:00 PM
Historical Society Board Meeting Golden Drift Museum 1st Mondays - .
NFARA board meeting 3rd Tuesdays, 7:00 PM - , locations vary. For more, call Jim Ricker, 530-389-8344
Pioneer Union Church, Gold Run Sundays, 10:00 AM - , Sunday Service
Sierra First Baptist Church, Alta Sundays, 11:00 AM - , worship service
Sierra First Baptist Church bible

study, Mondays 8:30 a.m., 33990 Alta Bonny Nook Rd., Alta. Bible study, For more, call 530.389.2168

Sierra First Baptist Church, free community lunch Mondays 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 33990 Alta Bonny Nook Rd., Alta. For more, call 530-389-2168

Sierra First Baptist Church Food Pantry, Thursdays 10-Noon, 33990 Alta Bonny Nook Rd., Alta. For more, call 530-389-2168

ALTA-DUTCH FLAT SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, March 16 - Spring show
Monday-Friday, March 21-25 - Spring break
Wednesday, April 27 - Minimum day (students out at 12:00)
Friday, May 6 - Spring Spruce-Up Day

COLFAX HIGH SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, March 11 -Teacher In-service day, no students
Monday-Friday, March 21-25 - Spring break
Monday, March 28 - Student recess
Friday, April 29- Student recess
Tuesday, May 3 - Blood drive

2016 COUNTY AND STATE OFFICE CLOSURES

Friday, January 1 - New Years Day
Monday, January 18 - MLK Day
Friday, February 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 15 - Presidents Day
Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day
Monday July 4 - Independence Day
Monday September 5 - Labor Day
Monday October 10 - Columbus Day
Friday November 11 - Veteran's Day
Thursday November 24 - Thanksgiving Day
Friday November 25 - Thanksgiving Holiday
Monday December 26 - Christmas Day



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN
BY MARYBETH BLACKINTON

Spring is just around the corner and all the projects that we haven't been able to do during the winter have worked their way to the top of our priority lists. The Community Center is no different. We hope to finally be able to get some of the outdoor projects off our "to do" list.

The winter rains showed us that our

wonderful new tennis court surface is not level and does not drain properly. It is very disappointing to have spent so much money and not have it be right. Unfortunately we now find out we didn't pay for a guarantee of proper drainage and are faced with what we can do to fix it. It could be that with the drought in the past few years, the water table under the court diminished and caused the ground to sink. If there's any good news to come out of this, it's that the court will be great to use during the dry months.

Plans for the sidewalk and playground installation by the County progress. At the time of printing this issue, work has begun but the completion will be weather dependent.

The Hearse House is suffering from the ravages of time. We are looking to do some renovation work so it is more "user friendly" with better signs, parking and access. It is somewhat hidden behind a tree and located at a curve in the road that requires a drivers attention to be devoted to driving and not sight-seeing. With better signage, visiting pedestrians would know to stop and look inside.

If you haven't been lately, we'd love to have you join us at one of the monthly potlucks. We have a Potluck Committee comprised of volunteers to set up and decorate, sell raffle tickets and clean up afterwards. The Committee is headed by Laura Glassco (lauraglassco@yahoo.com or 916-778-8308) and Betty Fetherston (kefetherston@gmail.com or 530-525-5165). They are always looking for folks to help them. While we don't always have speakers or a program, it's still good to re-connect with, or meet for the first time, your friends and neighbors. It's what makes our small communities such a great place to live. Remember, if you don't live in the area full time, but happen to be here, you are always invited to join us - they are held on the third **Thursday of every month** (except July and August when we are setting up for the annual White Elephant Sale). Plus the food is always bountiful and delicious. The December Holiday potluck is especially fun with Debby McClatchy leading the crowd in an animated audience-participation version of The Twelve Days of Christmas (see some pictures on the back page).

The membership renewal request letters went out at the end of January and we have received quite a few renewals as well as NEW memberships. It is gratifying to know we have gained your trust and appreciate your donations. If you haven't renewed yet, please try to do so at your earliest convenience.

LIVING MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Dutch Flat Community Center Board of Directors has wanted to establish a nice park-like setting with a perimeter walking trail and landscaping on the grounds of the Center. Due to the drought we've been having, we are reluctant to try and establish anything new until the water supplies increase.

However, with the loss of several of the prominent civic leaders of our community in the past year, the Board decided to establish a Living Memorial garden on the grounds as part of a landscaping project.

When Doug Ferrier passed away a year ago, the Center received a live dogwood tree that will be planted this Spring. As a tribute to Eleanor Bridges, a rose garden will be planted around the flag pole.

We are offering the opportunity to anyone who would like to donate live perennial flowers, a shrub or tree in their loved one's memory to plant it on the property for future generations to enjoy. You can do this in any number of ways:

- 1) Buy the plant(s) yourself and plant yourself at the location of your choice.
- 2) Buy the plant(s) yourself and have it planted by a professional at the location of your choice.
- 3) Donate money to the Community Center to purchase the plant(s) of your choice and we will have it professionally planted.

The Center currently has a drip watering system to care for the ornamental plants we already have and hope to extend that system out further as we receive additional plants.

The potential for expanding the appreciation and usefulness of the grounds is an exciting prospect to our Board members. With your help, we're hoping to receive ideas and plants to enhance the community's use of the property.

SPRING SPRUCE-UP AT ALTA-DUTCH FLAT SCHOOL

BY TOM MCDONNELL

A school-wide service day will be held on Friday, May 6 at the Alta-Dutch Flat School. Students will rake, plant, paint, weed and also give the baseball field some much-needed attention.

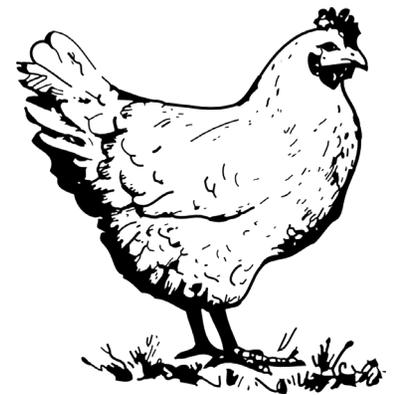
After a morning of projects on the grounds, a BBQ lunch will follow at noon. The community is invited to join students and staff for lunch at 12:00 and check out how the school is doing.

FROM "RECIPES & REMEMBRANCES", PUBLISHED IN 2002 FOR THE DUTCH FLAT COMMUNITY CENTER
(BOOK IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE CENTER FOR \$5)

CHICKEN WITH ARTICHOKE HEARTS MARILYN PRINCE (PAGE 45)

3 lbs chicken pieces	1/4 tsp rosemary
4 Tbl butter	1 (16 oz) can
1/4 lb sliced fresh mushrooms	artichoke hearts (drained)
2 Tbl flour	salt
1 C chicken stock	pepper
3 T sherry	paprika

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Dust chicken pieces with salt pepper and paprika. Melt butter in heavy skillet and brown chicken on both sides. Remove to a casserole with a cover. Add mushrooms and gradually add chicken stock and sherry. Season with rosemary. Arrange artichoke hearts among chicken pieces; pour sauce over and cover. Bake for 40 minutes or until chicken is tender.



POPPY SEED BREAD ELEANOR BRIDGES (PAGE 63)

1 C sugar	1 C flour
1 C cooking oil	2 tsp baking powder
2 eggs	1/4 tsp salt
1 C evaporated milk	1 tsp vanilla
1/4 C poppy seeds	

Combine oil, sugar, eggs and milk. Mix on medium speed until well blended. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Add flour mixture to egg mixture. Mix a few minutes on low speed. Add vanilla and poppy seeds. Mix until smooth. Pour batter into greased 9 x 5" loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes at 350 degrees. A crack will form on the top.

CHILI COOK-OFF AND PIE BAKE-OFF

The Alta-Dutch Flat School Parents Club will be hosting a chili cook-off and pie baking contest at the Dutch Flat Community Center on **Saturday, March 5 at 4:00 PM.** Local residents will be making their best chili recipe. \$5 entry will get adults and children three sample taster cups, a bowl of chili and a piece of cornbread. The chili entries will be judged by a panel of five people from the community.

For an additional charge, you will get to taste some delicious pies that will also be entered in to a separate contest. The evening includes beer and wine for sale as well as live music performed by local musicians.

ANNUAL WESTERN NIGHT BY JOE HOFFMAN

It's time to strap on your spurs and saddle up for the 27th annual Western Night sponsored by the Dutch Flat United Methodist Church. This year's event will be held on **Saturday, April 30** at the Dutch Flat Community Center, 933 Stockton Street, across from the church. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under with a family cap of \$44 for parents and children under 12. Tickets are available for purchase at the Dutch Flat Trading Post and after Sunday morning services at the both the Methodist church in Colfax and Meadow Vista. Reservations are limited so get your tickets early.

Dinner will be served at 5:30. The menu this year is similar to the previous

years and includes barbequed tri tip, chicken, side dishes and fresh baked pies.

There will be a door prize and raffle drawing for lots of great prizes provided by local merchants.

Live entertainment will start at 6:30. It will consist of an old-time cowboy sing along with Sheridan rancher, Joe Kintz, who is a talented cowboy poet and singer.



For more information, contact Joe Hoffman at 530-389-8718.

SWIMMING POOL NEWS

Do you want to be a lifeguard at the Dutch Flat Pool this summer? First you have to take a required Lifeguard Training class with Title 22 First Aid. That course is being offered through Auburn Recreation District. The course will certify students in Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR for Professional Rescuers. In addition to first aid and CPR, the class covers water rescues, professionalism, prevention and other topics to prepare you for a job as lifeguard. Also covered is Title 22 which is required by the State of California for all lifeguards.

HURRY – THIS IS A POPULAR CLASS!
AGE REQUIREMENT: You must be 15 years or older to take this course (a pre-course swimming test must be passed).
LOCATION: Sierra Pool, Recreation Park, Auburn
INSTRUCTOR: Kathee McCarl
FEE: \$230 for ARD resident, \$235 for non-resident. Books and related material must be purchased from Red Cross prior to the class (Red Cross: 530-885-9392).
Class Dates: Friday, March 18 3:30 – 7:30
 Saturday, March 19 9 – 5
 Sunday, March 20 2 – 6
 Monday, March 21 3 – 7
 Tuesday, March 22 3 – 7
 Thursday, March 24 3 – 9
 Friday, March 25 9 – 5
 Saturday, March 26 9 – 5

For more class information, contact Auburn Recreation District offices at 530-885-8461.

Details about hiring for the lifeguard positions at the Dutch Flat Pool will be put out soon. Placer County Personnel Office and Parks Department are in charge of hiring for the positions and will advise when you will be able to apply.

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Care Credit Pet Insurance Payment Plans (OAC)

Marijuana continued from Page 1

cal marijuana patients and their caregivers. The state allows for the collection of fees and taxes that could offset the cost of regulation and enforcement.

The Board is expected to take up the issue again in January 2016 with an initial ordinance to assert the county's authority to regulate, and staff will begin developing recommendations for a comprehensive regulatory structure for further board consideration over the next few months.

PLACER APPROVES PLACEHOLDER MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE

FROM PLACER COUNTY WEBSITE - JANUARY 05, 2016

No permits will be issued just yet. But regulation of medical marijuana sales and cultivation in Placer County moved forward today after the county board of supervisors voted to enact a placeholder ordinance asserting the county's authority to regulate them.

The Board voted in December 2015 to move forward with regulating medical marijuana in unincorporated areas of the county and directed staff to develop comprehensive regulations for their consideration. The California Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act identifies a March 1 deadline for asserting local authority over medical marijuana regulation, otherwise the state assumes control.

Today's action only reserves the County's authority to regulate medical marijuana while County staff work to develop future regulations that will follow after a detailed public involvement process. It also affirms that the county's permitting process will mirror the state's and establishes the Agricultural Commissioner's Office as the lead County agency for medical marijuana regulation.

The County has identified a series of broad goals for staff to consider as it moves forward with developing the framework. Those goals include:

- Promoting public health and safety
- Reducing the size of the illicit market for cultivation and retail sale
- Preventing non-medical access and use by youth
- Reducing environmental harm to water, habitat and wildlife
- Providing clear criteria for responsible businesses and patients who wish to operate within the law

- Developing a fair system of regulation and taxation that supports public purposes
- Providing flexibility and authority for modification or adoption of additional measures into the regulatory process to ensure effective implementation

The County will host a series of public meetings in the coming months and seek broad community input to help shape the future regulations.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE

FROM PLACER COUNTY'S WEBSITE

On Jan. 5, 2016, the Placer County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that asserts Placer County's authority to regulate medical marijuana in unincorporated areas of the county. This action establishes that Placer County maintains local authority to regulate marijuana consistent with the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act of 2015. It also designates the county's Agricultural Commissioner's office as the lead agency for this issue, and puts in place a set of preliminary rules to govern the medical marijuana industry. However, the board of supervisors' approval does not yet provide any sort of mechanism by which Placer County could issue permits for the cultivation, transportation, distribution or any other activity related to medical marijuana.

County staff are now working to propose a comprehensive medical marijuana regulatory framework for the board's consideration in the coming months, and will seek the community's input to help inform those recommendations.

Opportunity for Public Input: The following community meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to provide input on Placer County's current efforts to regulate medical marijuana cultivation, processing, and distribution.

Placer County Medical Marijuana Community Input Opportunities:

Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Meetings

March 9, 6:30 PM

North Auburn Town Hall
BOS Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Ave,
Auburn

March 10, 6:00 PM

North Tahoe MAC
Tahoe City Public Utilities District, 221
Fairway Dr, Tahoe City

March 16, 6:30 PM

LAW OFFICE OF JOEL C. BAIOCCHI

JOEL C. BAIOCCHI
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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530-389-9175 · 530-389-9176 FAX

South Placer Town Hall
Rocklin Event Center, 2650 Sunset
Blvd, Rocklin

March 21, 7:00 p.m.

Rural Lincoln MAC
3333 Mt Pleasant Rd, Lincoln

March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Horseshoe Bar/Penryn MAC
Loomis Library, 6050 Library Dr ,
Loomis

April 13, 7:00 p.m.

West Placer MAC
Creekview Ranch Middle School
Library, 8778 Cook Riolo Rd,
Roseville

Planning Commission Meetings

March 10, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Chambers,
3091 County Center Drive, Auburn

Although Placer County does not permit medical marijuana at this time, prospective growers can begin to educate themselves right now on a number of requirements designed to protect the environment as related to medical marijuana cultivation. **Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements**

California Department of Pesticide Regulation Guidance Regarding Pesticide Use on Marijuana

CDFA Medical Cannabis Cultivation Program

State Tax Information for Commercial Medical Marijuana Sales

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PCWA BOARD COMMITS TO WATER RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP

AUBURN, CALIF. (FEBRUARY 19, 2016)

In a show of good faith and commitment to water resources stewardship, the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) Board of Directors adopted a resolution directing staff to take the necessary actions to achieve PCWA's state-mandated conservation target, despite recovering local supplies. The action followed the Board's decision to rescind the Agency's declared water shortage emergency, which has been in effect since February of 2014.

"As an agency governed by the California Water Code, we are required to rescind our emergency declaration when local supplies have been replenished," PCWA General Manager, Einar Maisch said. "However, the statewide system has not fully recovered from the drought. As a result, we are seeking continued cooperation from our customers to conserve."

In 2014, PCWA customers voluntarily cut back water use by over 20 percent. Since June of 2015, under order by the State Water

Resources Control Board, PCWA customers have reduced water use in excess of 30 percent, vastly surpassing the State mandate during the summer months. The Board recognized customer efforts have benefited California's environment.

District 2 Director, Primo Santini, noted, "Our customers have done a tremendous job and will no doubt continue to meet conservation targets for the greater good of California."

Because the state's largest reservoirs, Shasta and Oroville, continue to sit below their historical averages, the State Water Resources Control Board extended its emergency water conservation mandate through October of this year. At the urging of PCWA and other water providers, the regulatory agency agreed to review water conditions in May, when a clearer picture of state supplies will be available. The extended regulation contains credits for climate and population growth; PCWA expects a 4 percent credit that can be applied to its current 32 percent conservation requirement.

NEW HEALTH DASHBOARD HELPS PLACER 'BE WELL'

February 10, 2016

Placer is California's second healthiest county, but today county staff introduced a new tool they hope will help Placer on the road to claiming the first place spot.

Interactive and user-friendly, "Be Well Placer" (www.placerdashboard.org) is an online community health dashboard, a one-stop-shop to explore a wide array of data about the health of Placer County so county staff and partner agencies can provide the right services where they're needed most.

As a health leader in California, the dashboard's green-to-red rating system shows Placer as green in most areas, though a number of challenges remain.

The Public Health Division launched significant efforts to increase immunizations last year, and Placer's Kindergarten vaccination rate increased from 86.4 percent to 88.8 percent for the 2015-2016 school year, according to a recent report from the California Department of Public Health. Kindergarten personal belief exemptions are also down from 8 percent to 5.96 percent, one of the most significant improvements in the state. Increasing vaccinations and implementing the new State law that abolished the personal belief exemption remain a Placer priority for

2016.

Placer's handling of travelers returning from Ebola-impacted countries during the Ebola outbreak stands out as a success, with public health officials carefully monitoring returning travelers with excellent customer service while being careful not to cause unnecessary alarm.

According to Placer County's Public Health Officer, Dr. Rob Oldham, "There's a whole community of people involved in any one person's wellness, especially for those who suffer from mental health or substance abuse issues. We need to continue working toward coordinating all the services they receive in a 'whole person' care model, so we can work collaboratively to keep our community members healthy - and keep smaller health issues from becoming big ones."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CALIFORNIA'S ROAD CHARGE PILOT PROGRAM

CONTACT: TAMIE MCGOWEN
(916-657-5060)

SACRAMENTO - Report outlines statewide pilot to study potential long-term replacement for the state's gas tax

California is actively seeking 5,000 volunteers to take part in a free study that could shape the way drivers are charged for road usage. Called for by the Legislature in 2014, the Road Charge Pilot Program will produce information for further study on the concept of a "road charge" program. State officials aim to recruit a large number of volunteers reflective of the vast geographic and socioeconomic diversity of the state.

The California Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee released its final recommendations for the statewide road charge pilot study—a system where drivers could pay for road maintenance and repairs based on the number of miles they drive, rather than how much gas they consume. Senate Bill (SB) 1077, signed by the Governor in September 2014, called for the pilot program. The free pilot program will inform the Legislature's decision on whether moving forward with a full-scale permanent road charge program, potentially replacing the gas tax, is worthwhile. The state's current transportation funding system relies on revenue from fuel taxes, which continue to decline with fluctuating gas prices, increased use of hybrid and electric vehicles and overall improvements in new vehicles' fuel economy.

Volunteer participation and feedback will be vital in fine-tuning the proposed program that could eventually tie highway funding with road usage rather than gas tax proceeds. Volunteer drivers will be able to choose from one of several mileage reporting methods that California will be testing. Volunteering is free and no actual money will be exchanged. Participants will have the choice of submitting mock payments via mail or a secure website for testing purposes. Volunteers can enroll at www.CaliforniaRoadChargePilot.com.

“Our recommendations reflect the input we received from hundreds of stakeholders and individuals that represent every region of the state,” said Jim Madaffer, Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee. “While this endeavor has been rigorous, it resulted in the unique opportunity to examine a per-mile road charge mechanism as a potential long term solution to the issue of declining transportation revenue facing California.”

Caltrans maintains 50,000 lane-miles of highway and nearly 13,000 state-owned bridges. However, the state’s current fuel excise tax is sufficient to fund only \$2.3 billion of work, leaving \$5.7 billion in unfunded repairs each year. If this trend continues, the transportation funding gap will continue to grow and road maintenance and repair needs will continue to escalate.

“The gas tax is outdated and no longer capable of meeting all of our future transportation revenue needs,” said Will Kempton, Executive Director of the California Transportation Commission. “The pilot is an excellent opportunity to study road charging and should provide the Legislature the data it needs to better determine whether and how this idea might work in California.”

At the conclusion of the pilot, the California State Transportation Agency will issue a report with its findings to the Legislature, the Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee, and the California Transportation Commission. Following receipt of that report, the Commission will make its recommendations regarding the pilot program to the Legislature, which will consider whether to proceed with implementing a road charge system in California.

More information about the California Road Charge Pilot Program and participant volunteer information is available at www.CaliforniaRoadChargePilot.com.



GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

WE’VE HEARD YOU, LOUD AND CLEAR.
FROM PLACER COUNTY WEEKLY NEWS-
LETTER

In Placer County, we are committed to making it easy for you to have the information you need to be our partner in making this the greatest place on earth to live, work and play. And you shouldn’t need a PhD in government speak to know what’s going on.

This transparency site is a launching pad for you to find many of the things we know our citizens are looking for. From here, you can access our financial information in an easy-to-understand graphic format, you can find out about our elected officials and the meetings they run, contracts we’ve issued, job classifications and employee compensation and much more.

While this will always be a work in progress, we are passionate about improving the ease and functionality of these pages (and the rest of our website, for that matter) so that you can find what you’re looking for quickly and easily. Our hope here is to not only inform you, but also to empower you – so we can work together to build a better future.

Financial, Taxes and Budget Analysis - Open government budget information, financial reports, audits and property tax assessment information

Elected and Appointed Officials - County administration, appointed department heads and elected officials

Public Records Request - How to request the opportunity to inspect or receive copies of public documents

Procurement - Current contract bid opportunities, surplus items for sale, vendor and purchasing information

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County Code, Charter and Legislative Platform - Governing documents, laws and current legislative priorities

Jobs and Salaries - Information on Human Resources, current job postings, position descriptions and employee benefits

Boards, Committees and Commissions - Information about the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, Municipal Advisory Councils and other public meetings, meeting agendas, videos and archives of past meetings, as well as volunteer opportunities to serve the county on a board, council, committee or commission

Permits, Land Sales and Electronic Documents - Building, planning, engineering, sewer and public works permits, current or archived permit records, upcoming public auctions for tax-defaulted land, and other electronic documents

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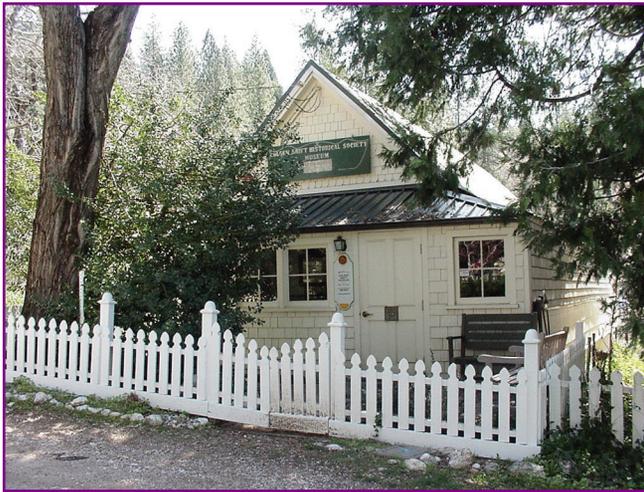
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NEWS FROM THE GOLDEN DRIFT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY ANNE HOLMES



We all know and enjoy our wonderful local apple and pear orchards, many of which were planted by miners and early settlers. The Felix Gillet Institute of Nevada City, an organization dedicated to the preservation and spread of edible and ornamental plants in the Sierra, has contacted the Historical Society, the GDHS, about preserving heritage fruit trees in the Dutch Flat area. An Institute representative, Amigo Bob, has taken time to show our gardener how to prune trees on museum grounds. Amigo Bob also presented information on the Institute's work at the February Community Center potluck dinner. We learned that Felix Gillet, a Frenchman, settled in Nevada City in 1858 and started a nursery in the early 1860's. He is credited with introducing the nut and fruit trees to California and the Pacific Northwest that lead to the rise of the agriculture industry. The Institute is interested in identifying heritage trees and helping to preserve them by careful pruning, and by taking cuttings for propagation. The Institute also sells heirloom fruit and nut trees. Find more online at www.felixgillet.org.

Museum hours this year will change. Because Wednesday visits have been slow the last few years, the museum will now be open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. The County Museum Department, which manages the museum, requires the museum to be open three days a week. As it doesn't matter which days of the

week the museum is open, we will try Fridays for two years and see if it increases museum visits.

The Golden Drift Museum is blessed to have a wonderful group of 28 docents who keep the doors open to the public. The community is very fortunate to have so many willing to help. We have 7 new docents that joined us in the last two years, which makes a big difference in scheduling docents to staff the museum. Most docents work once or twice a month, others more. We always welcome new docents. If you are interested in joining in, please call Anne Holmes at 530-823-1341. You don't have to be an expert in local history to be a good docent. You only need to love our area and enjoy talking with people as you help them explore what the museum has to offer. The county and the GDHS provide docent training.

In the past, if we couldn't answer a question on the spot, we referred it to Doug Ferrier. We sorely miss Doug, our expert and skilled researcher, who passed away last year. He answered many such questions. Now we refer those questions to the County Museum Archives in Auburn. Doug accumulated and created many files of information in his 30-plus years of research and collection of local historical items.

The Society will create a storage area in the museum basement for Doug's collection of files. Along with Doug's files, the GDHS has its own collection of books, data and pictures useful for historical reference and research. The GDHS has named its collection of books and materials the Doug Ferrier Memorial Reference Library. The Society is grateful to our founding members, to Doug Ferrier, and to the wonderful families who have shared their historical accounts, books, pictures, and memorabilia.

Placer County owns and maintains the Golden Drift Museum, and the Golden Drift Historical Society runs the volunteer docent program and the museum store. All items on display in the museum are part of the County's collection. The County allows the Historical Society to have an office and storage in the building.

NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER ALLIANCE

BY ROBERT SUTER

American River Headwaters Acquisition by ARC - As reported in the last issue, The American River Conservancy (ARC) completed its acquisition of 10,000 acres near the headwaters of the North and

Middle Forks of the American River. Prior to the onset of winter ARC initiated field work for the decommissioning of several logging roads and for the construction of a hiking and equestrian trail from Talbot Campground east of French Meadows Reservoir into Granite Chief Wilderness Area. NFARA contributed to this acquisition and continues to support these efforts to improve public access to these forested lands.

Water Issues - Because of efforts by the State of California to construct new water projects that may affect the American River drainage, NFARA has joined over 100 groups in asking the State Water Quality Board to update its water quality plan.

Despite the fact that the Bay-Delta's water quality is seriously impaired and its fisheries are collapsing, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has refused to significantly update the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary (WQCP) for twenty years, even though state and federal law requires them to do so every three years.

NFARA believes it is imperative that the State review and update its water quality plan prior to undertaking new water development.

Another water related issue that NFARA is following is the proposed Centennial Dam near Meadow Vista and Colfax. The Centennial Dam (aka Parker Dam) is planned for the Bear River. While this project will not directly impact the North Fork American, it will have major impacts on the region. The dam, proposed by Nevada Irrigation District (NID), will be located between Lake Combie and Rollins Lake. The dam will be larger than Rollins Lake and will put the Dog Bar Bridge and the Bear River Campground under approximately 150' of water. New roadways will need to be constructed which will most likely bring residents into Placer County via the Meadow Vista area.

The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) is hosting a series of local meetings in early March to ask the public for input on the Centennial Reservoir Project as they announce the first steps in planning, financing and construction with the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

The proposed reservoir is designed as a storage recovery project that involves the construction of a new 110,000 acre-foot reservoir on the Bear River as well as construction of a new dam and associated facilities. The Centennial Project will extend upriver from just above the existing Combie Reservoir for slightly more than six miles to a point west of the Town of Colfax, approximately two miles downstream of the existing Rollins

Dam. It is anticipated the project will cost between \$200-\$300 million.

NFARA will attend these scoping sessions:

Grass Valley
March 9, 2016
6:00-8:00 p.m.
 Holiday Inn Express
 121 Bank Street

Auburn
March 10, 2016
6:00-8:00 p.m.
 Forest Lake Christian High School
 12515 Combie Road

NID is accepting written comments through March 17, 2016. Comments can be sent to NID Board Secretary Lisa Francis Tassone, 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

SPRING HIKES

On **Saturday May 21st** NFARA will lead a hike to Green Valley on the North Fork American River where we will visit many of the sites in Green Valley. The all day hike will start at 8:30 AM from the Euchre Bar trailhead at Iron Point. While the hiking in Green Valley is moderate, the trail in and out of the valley is steep in sections and the hike should be considered moderately strenuous. And, of course, there will be poison oak. Bring your lunch along and we will have lunch by the river. If interested in joining us, please contact **Catherine O'Riley at canyonspirit@yahoo.com** for additional information and directions

to the trailhead.

Green Valley, just up canyon from Giant Gap, is an unusual wide part of the North Fork canyon that is narrow for many miles from its upper basin to Folsom Lake. It is one of the old mining camps that was reported to have a population of nearly 2,000 at its peak during the Gold Rush. This wide part of the canyon has many ditches, obscure trails and mining sites to enjoy as well as views of Lovers Leap and Giant Gap.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

BY KEVIN HARBACK,
 INVESTMENT ADVISOR

A Few Life Events Which May Warrant Consulting a Financial Advisor

There are certain major events in our lives where a solid financial plan may be worth the extra effort. Sometimes the greatest and most life changing moments, like a birth or buying that dream home you have always wanted, requires some solid financial planning. Here is a list of a handful of life's greatest milestones which may call for consulting with a financial advisor.

1. Your employer has given you a raise in compensation.

A pay raise is rewarding, both professionally and financially (we are sure you deserved it too!). This sudden increase in income is often wasted away each month. The old saying of, "we live within our means", is a testament to this phenomenon. There

is good reason to do planning to determine, whether you would be better off paying down high interest consumer debt, or bumping up your retirement savings.

2. You received an inheritance.

A large windfall of money is certainly something for which a financial advisor can help you build a plan. For some, a sudden lump sum of money can be overwhelming. Concerns of what to do with the money arise, as well as questions about possible tax concerns, the urge to spend frivolously, and charitable giving intentions. A financial plan may help guide you through some of the common pitfalls.

3. You have recently welcomed a new child/grandchild into your family.

Along with the new bundle of joy, baby names and car seats, comes a timely opportunity to consult your financial advisor. Your existing life insurance may no longer be adequate. Parents, grandparents, and friends might want to start saving for a future college education.

4. You are getting married.

For younger couples who are tying the knot, the combining of finances is typically straight forward, unless one brings a significant amount of wealth, or debt, to the partnership. For those who are getting married later in life and/or are bringing existing children into the mix, consulting a financial advisor and estate planner might save them from misunderstandings down the road. Financial matters are a common source of contention

Dollars and Sense continued on Page 13

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MURDER BY CLICHE

BY DEBBY MCCLATCHY

CHAPTER 11

Here's a re-cap of the cast of characters:
 Constable Charlie Cummins - new on the force; young but keen
 Emily and Walter Cummins - his parents
 Mr. Clarence Warrington - the town curmudgeon
 Carole Thorpe - police station receptionist; a motherly type
 Detective Sergeant Ray Thorpe - her son, the police chief
 Hugh Shallows - Welshman, recently bought local hotel
 Molly Shallows - his daughter, the hotel's chef, and Charlie's secret love
 Tom Clark and Brad Feeny - local farmhands and pranksters
 Gloria and Laren Evans - spinster cousins and gossips
 Lord Calvin Commander - Lord of the Manor
 Lady Casey - his American wife
 Corrine Commander - his eldest daughter
 Juliet Commander - his youngest daughter
 Lord George Commander - his grandfather
 Denton - his butler
 Alan deLay - the butcher with extracurricular activities
 Lara deLay - his wife, also with sidelines
 Carstairs - the blacksmith and motor mechanic
 John and Mary Tadbourne - farmers
 Mike Tadbourne - their son, loves Juliet
 Valerie Givens - artist who rents cottage for the season
 Connie - barmaid at the Endeavor
 Madge - Lindenmouth's telephone operator
 Celeste Woodward - town's premier literary recluse
 Manning - her live-in staff
 Roger Smith-Robbins - Celeste's ineffectual nephew
 Sharon Woodward - Celeste's ward
 Marcy Wallace - millinary clerk, loves Roger
 Sir Mathew Broadstairs - town barrister
 Dr. McKnight - town physician
 Vicar Constanton - elderly clergy
 Cornelius Spanner - owns antique shop
 Art Friendly - hardware shop
 Sarah Daley - lace and notions shop
 Tom's Friend and the Older Couple - seaside visitors?
 Horace Green and Carrie Thompson - victim

of pranks

Detective Babbitt - Exeter police

Autumn, when most residents repaired and regrouped, and Winter, a sleepy time in Lindenmouth, had both approached and passed by without further incident. Even though the Spring Fair was months away, the committee was already meeting, planning, collecting jumble, and organizing new volunteers. Now that Celeste was gone, a somewhat embarrassed feeling of relief was tempered by the knowledge that a lot of work, previously done by Celeste, now had to be delegated to the remaining members. No one person had come forward to be in charge, but a general chaotic consensus among the group, most of whom were old friends, propelled the planning ahead.

Carrie Thompson had been unofficially chosen to spearhead the jumble. She gathered a helpful group the next Sunday and headed out to the Manor. Sarah Daley, her notions shop closed for the day, had volunteered along with Sharon, still engaged and jubilant, and Madge on break from the telephone exchange. Valerie Givens, the new woman in town, was along as a nervous inexperienced worker. Whether she had offered out of perfectly altruistic reasons, or just to work her way into their circle, she was welcome as another pair of hands.

They went around to the side door on the three story building. Well-spaced stone steps took them down another level to the service door. Their knock seemed to echo through the long corridor beyond. It took a while, but finally a small tweenie came along and let them in. She showed them the linen room, obviously knowing their purpose, and offered to bring tea. They gratefully accepted and surveyed the space.

A long pine table, scrubbed down about an inch from generations of laundry maids with soap and brick, took up the center of the room. Four wooden chairs were pulled up on one side, one occupied by a white capped girl. Along three walls were deep linen closets, full of piles of Indian cotton and silk sheets, bath cloths, pillow cases, and other household linens. Many were edged with lace and covered with embroidery.

The girl was silently sewing on a huge sheet of thick cloth, checking every stitch in a plea for perfection. She jumped up, meaning to leave, but was restrained by Carrie, who asked, "Please, Miss, would you mind staying and helping us to chose which to take? Lady Commander has invited us to take a dozen of the older pieces for our jumble sale, but we're not sure which ones. You could be a great help."

The girl stammered and shook. No one had ever talked to her with such civility, and she was terrified to respond. At this point the tweenie brought in the tea tray, and Carrie offered her a cuppa. This was too much; she ran from the room in a panic. Carrie shook her head in amazement, then bent to the task at hand. They would just have to use common sense.

Sarah found herself a fifth wheel, and stepped out to look around. Heat from the boilers and laundry permeated the area, and many doors were open to the hallway. She noticed small vignettes of under-stairs life, the housekeeper relaxing in her personal lounge, a coal fire amazingly roaring in her grate. The butler was in his pantry, decanting the red wine for that night's dinner, and the junior footman was blackening a pile of boots. Delicious smells of roasting venison and leeks wafted around the corner from an unseen kitchen. Sarah smiled in appreciation and soon returned to their project.

Valerie had dressed in comfy old clothes, a man's pair of cotton pants, held at the waist with a rope, a large colorful shirt with many pockets, and her hair tied back with a paisley scarf. She had added bangle earrings and a plethora of beaded necklaces that jingled as she unfolded and checked tea towels for those slightly worn. Valerie was an artist who couldn't make up her mind. Should she pot or paint, sculpt or conceptualize? Should she live in a trendy loft in London, or suffer for her craft in a country cottage? Widowed, with a generous pension, she could afford either. This year she had decided upon watercolors in Devon, and Lindenmouth, with its stark white cliffs on one side and red tumbling abutments topped with green grass and darling sheep on the other.

She had rented a cottage from Hugh, who had many other irons in the fire than the hotel, and they had also hit it off. She was content, if not a little bored. Hence the volunteer offer for the fair. Perhaps there was another artistic soul hid under the practical clothing of her fellow linen sorters. She eyed Carrie, Sharon, and Sarah, and sighed. However, she felt comfortable in the company of the other women and decided to open up to them.

"So, Carrie, have you lived here all your life?" she began tentatively.

Carrie put down the sheet she was perusing, and answered easily, "Yes, all my life, and four generations before that! There's no other place I love so well, so I feel lucky to call it home."

Valerie turned to Sharon, "And how about you, girl? And congratulations, by the way. I hear you're engaged to that nice

young man. I'm sorry about your aunt." She trailed off in embarrassment, not knowing what else to say. Murder is such an inconvenience, unlike regular death, where one can make the appropriate remarks. Thank goodness it hadn't been suicide!

Sharon straightened up and looked Carrie right in the eye. Gone was the timid, shy girl held in bondage to another and in place was a newly confident and secure young woman. She had been to the Cut and Curl in Honiton, and her newly arranged hair waved attractively around her forehead. Small diamonds twinkled in her ears, a congratulatory gift to herself, and a large ruby and diamond ring graced her third left finger, an offering from a reluctant, but resigned Roger. In fact, he had been so buoyant lately, she believed he had really come around, really cared for her after all and she delighted in her delusions. She graciously averted her gaze, and replied, "Thank you for your kind words. I'm sure all who knew her well will miss her warmth and generosity."

Sharon had devised and memorized the phrase as appropriate, and smiled at her hypocrisy. She continued, "I really don't know where I come from. Celeste adopted me out of an orphanage on the Dartmoor. It was creepy and cold and we girls always worried about that hound coming up out of the gloom. I was ten when she came. It was good of her, but I never knew why she chose me."

Sarah had been watching Valerie with great interest. She almost interrupted, "What about you, Valerie? We know you're an artist and renting Gull Cottage. I don't mean to pry, but where is home?"

Valerie explained, "I'm from Honiton, went to nurses' school up there, met my Trev at a dance. What a lady's man he was, but I caught his eye, and as they say, the rest was history. No children, that's the pity, and Trev's been gone now five years and some. I've always wanted to paint, so here I am. That's my story in a nutshell."

Sarah carefully sat down. She stared at Valerie, then inquired, "And Trev, what did he do?"

Valerie also sat down. Her bangles looked a little out of place with her plain clothes and she seemed mismatched. She sadly replied, "He was a doctor, a G.P., but really good at his job. People looked up to him and he was compassionate and tireless. He was gone a lot, but basically good to me, and provided well, then and now, so I've no regrets."

A quiet fell on the room. No one knew what else to say, so the five women turned back to their sorting, bringing the conversation around to mends and tears and decisions

about what to take. Sarah also had another pile to see if Casey wanted her to sell off excess in her shop. She took off her glasses, rubbed her eyes, and looked out the doorway as a footman walked by, resplendent in the Lord's colors of garnet red and burnt yellow. How nice, in this day and age, to afford a full house of servants!

After they were finished, they went up the back staircase that accessed the main part of the house. It was time to make a courtesy call to the Commanders and thank them for their generosity. They pushed open the green baize door and stepped out into the Grand Foyer. Dusty ancestors looked down on solid mahogany furniture, resting on lions' feet and topped with finials of brass. Many rooms in the Manor had been redecorated by Casey in modern art nouveau, white and chrome and geometrical, but Calvin had insisted the foyer remain untouched.

The women silently stepped out into the space. A loud argument was coming from a room off to the left. The slightly open door almost amplified the quarrel. The women looked at each other in dismay, and stopped on the spot, not knowing what to do.

"I will not have you marry that man! I know you're of age, but he'll soon change his tune if I cut you off without a cent. That's all he is interested in, not you, just the opportunities your money can bring."

A smaller, more feminine voice answered defensively, "No, you are wrong! He loves me for me. What's so bad about me that no one can love me for myself? You are

cruel and unfair."

The door was flung open and Juliet Commander stumbled into the room. She wore her riding habit, and the high colour in her cheeks made her all that more pretty. She halted on seeing the women and pulled herself together quickly. She brushed away her tears, and with great dignity, observed, "You must want to see my mother. I'll send Marie to see if she is receiving." She disappeared through another door and the women waited self-consciously. It was only a couple of moments until Casey swept down the curving staircase and gathered them into a small, fairly sterile side room. It seemed to be functional, rather than furnished to impress, with groupings of metal and leather chairs and small tables. Tea was offered and declined, thanks were professed, and the women got ready to depart.

Casey inquired absentmindedly, "Can you find your own way out? I'm at such loose ends today." They all muttered small platitudes and walked towards the front foyer. Suddenly Carrie held up her hand and said, "I'm so sorry, looks like I left a glove below. I'll just be a sec."

Casey answered, "One of the staff can go; you needn't bother." Carrie darted to the stairs, calling out, "No problem. I think I know where it is." She disappeared through the door and Casey, shrugging her well-upholstered shoulders, went back up the stairs. The other women waited uncomfortably until Carrie returned about five minutes later.

Murder continued on Page 12



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Murder continued from Page 11

"It was under some pillowcases, and it took forever to find. My apologies."

All mumbled assurances, as they were tired, and gratefully went out the ornate red front door to the deepening afternoon.

Madge had been quiet most of the afternoon. She was used to being heard on the exchange, but not seen, as she rarely went anywhere but to a few shops. She was painfully shy in person, small and thin with pointy ears and nose, but perfectly prideful and articulate on the machine. She listened to most of the conversations with guilt, and therefore knew more about the residents than even Gloria and Lareen Evans. She knew a few secrets she would love to share, but had no friend she considered close enough. She agonized for the forbidden love between Juliet and Mike Tadbourne and longed for a fairy tale ending for them. If only there was some way she could help.

Sarah and Carrie walked back to town, quiet from long friendship. They reached Carrie's cottage first, and she suggested, "Would you like a nice cup of tea? Won't take a tick."

Sarah shook her head. "Thanks, Carrie, I'm pretty tired but still looking forward to an evening in the garden. Winter's almost done, and I have a lot to clean out. I've started the flowers in the greenhouse; they're looking just fine."

"So you're entering blooms again this year?"

"Yes, one of these times I'll get a first and Art Friendly can go to blazes, excuse my American. It was just so horrid two years ago

when those boys ruined our gardens just before the Fair. I hate to speak ill of the dead, but Tom was sure asking for it, with all of his pranks."

Carrie agreed wholeheartedly. "Yes, I was so mad I couldn't see straight. But spilled milk can go sour, so let's just focus on this year." She opened the door, gave Sarah a little hug, and popped inside. Sarah walked over to her own home just down the street.

Loud high-pitched barking greeted her as she opened the front door. The new puppy, from a chalk-cliff farmer's large litter, was straining at his lead, letting her know she was welcome and, please, was there food? She took some meat out of the ice box and they both had a late supper. She fondled his ears with joy. It had taken her a long time to get another dog after Blackie had died. He had been so special. But the new puppy, not yet named, was working out nicely.

The next day was scrubbed and fresh. Late winter storms had skidded across the sky, and small clouds, like cotton balls, were bunched up against the horizon. It was still cold in the mornings, but a few daffs and grape hyacinths were pushing up green shoots. The Manor had a small topiary garden along its left flank, and beyond, a marble folly, the only extravagance of Lord Calvin's grandfather, an otherwise unwordly and pious, penny-pinching man. This was the favorite assignation location of Juliet and Mike. They were there this morning, heads together in abject misery.

"I knew you shouldn't have told him. We just should've eloped and cut all ties. I can work as a school teacher and support us fine." Mike pushed back her hair and kissed her cheek.

She returned his kisses with nuzzles to his neck, then turned away. "But, I love my parents. To marry without their permission will haunt me forever. And while you could live on a teacher's salary, I don't know if I could. I've never been without servants or without a nice place to live. I will eventually inherit enough for both of us to live handsomely. If only we could wait." She hiccupped.

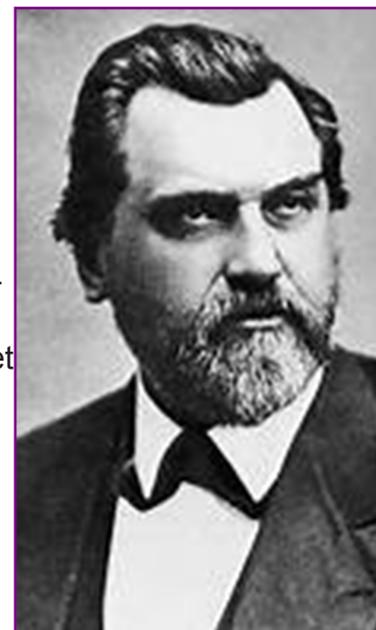
Mike was adamant. "I just can't wait. You'll see. We'll be just fine and you'll be surprised how far love can go. I just don't want to wait!" He leaped up and stormed out of the folly. There just had to be a way. He was strong and young and not used to obstacles. He kicked out at a topiary animal in progress, perhaps a frog, and dislodged a webby foot. It felt good.

THEODORE JUDAH AND THE BIG FOUR PART TWO

LELAND STANFORD

BY DEBBY MCCLATCHY

In early 1861, Theodore Judah arranged a meeting in the St. Charles Hotel in Sacramento of possible investors in a transcontinental railroad. From this group, a quartet of men, known as "The Associates" or "The Big Four", Leland Stanford, Collis Huntington, Charles Crocker, and Mark Hopkins, became the principle investors. The term, "The Big Four", coined by journalists and biographers, was inaccurate as, at different times, there were many more principles involved.



Of these men, Amosa Leland Stanford is the most remembered. At the time, many compared him to Caesar, Alexander the Great, Napoleon, Christ, and Confucius, but his partners sometimes felt him to be a "damned old fool, with apologies to God." Many detractors called him "Stealand Langford."

Stanford was born in 1824 into a New York family of farmers and innkeepers. Their roadhouse was near Troy and a route taken west by many seeking better horizons. Young Leland (he never used Amosa) yearned to follow. He was tall, large, handsome, and not afraid of hard work. His first business, with two brothers, all boys younger than ten, was to dig and sell horseradish. Later it took seven years and three schools to make him a lawyer.

In 1849 he married and moved west to Wisconsin, opening a store. When fire destroyed his business in 1852, he relocated to California, traveling through Nicaragua. His five brothers were already there. All had gone west to "dig for gold without a shovel", and were mostly prosperous store owners and real estate developers.

Stanford was twenty-eight, much older and more experienced than most men already in California. He realized there would be more profit in mercantile than in law so opened his own store, with a partner, in Cold

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Springs, then in Michigan Bluff outside of Foresthill, Placer County. He was strong from working on the farm, and easily drove a 8-10 horse team wagon to deliver goods to the miners. He was remembered as a charitable man and voted in as Justice of the Peace.

After a brief trip back to New York to bring back his wife, Stanford bought his brothers' stores in Sacramento and was phenomenally successful. He confessed that he was "fond of the substantial". In 1857, the Stanford brothers bought an oil distillery, which rapidly became the largest in the United States. They also owned profitable gold and silver mines in Bodie, California and Nevada. They all were becoming wealthy.

Leland had joined the Republican party and was rapidly rising in the ranks. He was a very poor speaker, but his slowness was mistaken for honesty and deliberation. It took two tries, but he became governor in 1861. He ran on a ticket to repeal slavery and bring in a transcontinental railroad. (He had been made president of the Central Pacific Railroad just nine days previously.) Because of massive floods from hydraulic mining, he had to be rowed to his inaugural ceremony. His mansion, considered the finest in the state, became the governor's residence. Only governor for two years, he insisted upon being called The Governor for his life.

Before the era of The Big Four, many men had tried to build a transcontinental railroad. The basic problem was proprietary conflict between southern and northern routes in a Congress so necessary to funding. Plus, many thought a wagon road to be sufficient. Riots in Central America, leaving two dozen North Americans dead, pushed Congress towards action. Finally, in 1861, with more southern states succeeding, along with their votes, Congress was able to ratify a northern route.

Stanford, as governor, was primarily a figure-head for the Railroad; a large personality, instrumental as a middle-man, promoting its interests to both political and commercial groups. He saw being both governor and president of the Central Pacific as no conflict. Huntingdon spoke for the Big Three: "Stanford's share in the building of the railroad had consisted in turning the first shovelful of earth and driving the last spike." Stanford and Huntingdon continually fought over leadership of the CP. Both were motivated and ruthless, but Stanford was more cunning and concentrated, and usually won the presidency.

As governor, Stanford was able to double profits for the railroad by offering

legislators free tickets for sympathetic votes, and to cities and counties for land and bonds. At first, he balked at Chinese immigration, but voted to open it up when their labor proved valuable. Even if funding was slow, political compliance allowed the railroad to borrow huge sums against their prospects.

Stanford's main contribution to the railroad seems to be seven acts he pushed through the State legislature, including approving sales of railroad stock, establishing rights of ways, with extra land deeded to the CP, setting up bonds and mileage rewards to benefit the CP. He was also the first to suggest using steam instead of hand drilling, and the first to think of snowsheds. He also spearheaded consolidation into CP of many sides to the trunk line. At one time he was president of twenty one railroads.

Stanford moved to Salt Lake City to better supervise the project in that area and was, therefore, the only one of the Big Four near enough to attend the celebrations at Promontory. After arguing about who should hammer in the last spike, Stanford won but missed his swing, striking the rail. The spike is now at Stanford University.

In 1885, Stanford became a U.S. Senator and remained so until his death. He did nothing there of note. Later in life he moved to San Francisco, building a massive mansion on Nob Hill next to Crocker and Hopkins. He hired a journalist at \$10,000 a year to write glowing articles about him. He championed the new cable cars, helped rebuild Sutter's Fort, sponsored Eadweard Merybridge's picture of a horse's gallop, produced excellent wine with help from Chinese laborers, raised trotters on his horse farm in Palo Alto, and went on the Grand Tour in Europe, where he and his wife visited a Turkish harem. Mrs. Stanford declared "she was not favorably impressed with the matrimonial condition of Turkish women."

Unfortunately, on the trip, Stanford's son, Leland Jr., died of typhoid fever. To honor him, in 1891 Stanford turned his horse farm into a university and lived there from that time.

As a young man Stanford had been striking and handsome, but by this time a biographer wrote that he resembled "a badly taxidermized badger". Losing the railroad presidency to Huntingdon finally in 1890 broke his health further, and he died in 1893. His finances a mess, his wife had to sell most everything to maintain the University. The three mansions on Nob Hill were almost destroyed by the 1906 quake and fire, and were either incorporated into hotels or razed to build the Grace Episcopal Cathedral.

Leland Stanford never got involved with

the daily nuts and bolts of building the railroad and, therefore, his partners mistakenly downplayed his value to the enterprise. However, without his political machinations, setting up a "floorboard" to the project, the railroad certainly wouldn't have been such a profitable windfall to its owners. Stanford would probably be pleased that, of all the Big Four, his university and name are the best remembered, and the railroad he helped to build continues daily to transport goods and passengers coast to coast.



Dollars and Sense continued from Page 8

between married couples. Planning up front might alleviate this concern.

5. You recently retired.

Congratulations! Many people have diligently saved for retirement throughout their careers. Riding out the highs and lows of the markets may have become almost automatic during the accumulation years. The new challenge may be determining a plan to distribute your life's savings in the most effective and tax-efficient way so you can enjoy the fruits of your hard work. You may ask yourself what asset allocation is the most appropriate for a distribution-focused portfolio. Budgeting will become more important, as you adjust to living on a fixed income. Now might be the time to work with a professional who can help answer your questions, and keep you on track.

These examples of major life events are just a sample of situations many of us will face through life. Let them be an opportunity to take that extra step to put together a plan that will meet the goals you have set. It is important to take a comprehensive view of your investments, asset allocation, budget, taxes, and estate plan so you can turn your focus on what brings you joy.

Kevin Harback is a Dutch Flat resident, an Investment Advisor Representative, and Insurance Agent with Ostrofe Financial Consultants, Inc. managing \$175 million in assets, with clients in 24 states. Securities and Advisory Services offered through National Planning Corporation (NPC), member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor. Ostrofe Financial and NPC are separate and unrelated companies. For questions or suggestions, visit ostrofefinancial.com. (530) 273-4425. Branch address: 565 Brunswick Road, Ste. 15, Grass Valley.

REMEMBERING



ELEANOR BRIDGES 1921 - 2015

Leanora "Eleanor" Bridges was born on March 18th, 1921, into a large Italian family in Meaderville (Butte), Montana.



She was the fourth of six children raised in a two bedroom house during tough times, and though she

had to work hard, washing dishes at the Rocky Mountain Cafe at night at the age of fourteen, she always recalled her childhood days with fondness, telling stories of wonderful Christmases when Santa brought nuts and oranges, when she went ice-skating with her sisters, or when the family fished and picnicked in the beautiful Montana countryside.

After marrying her husband Red when she was just a teenager, she moved around in Arizona and California, until they finally settled in Dutch Flat in 1937. She and Red rented several houses around town and had their first two children, Charlie and Charlene, in the following years, but then purchased the lot on Park Avenue and built their home themselves in 1950. The following year brought their daughter Patti and the biggest snowstorm of the century, where the snow in Dutch Flat accumulated to the eaves of houses and stayed on the ground until June, a tale that Eleanor liked to recount often in later years.

Through her life, she spent many days caring for her family, others, and the community. She worked at the Dutch Flat store, at Nyack, and at The Dutch Treat. She cared for several elderly neighbors and friends, and she was an energetic and dedicated supporter of many local organizations. She served on the local school board and the DF Community Center board; she was a member and officer of the Golden Rule Rebekah's Lodge, the Ladies Aid Society, and the Dutch Flat Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. She often spearheaded community events and activities, such as the Dutch Flat Fourth of July Parade and games on the tennis court, the Easter Egg Hunt, and lodge breakfasts.

Eleanor was a valued resident of the

town, a loving friend, and a wonderful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her perseverance, dedication to others, and energy is her legacy and clearly influenced her family. She will be greatly missed.

JEAN CAROL FANNING 1930 - 2015

Longtime Dutch Flat resident Jean Fanning died suddenly at her home on Saturday, 12 December 2015. She was born on 4 September 1930 in Mitcham, Surrey, England, the only child of Sidney and May Cardew. During her lifetime she experienced the reigns of George V, Edward VIII, George VI and Elizabeth II, and retained a love of her native land and culture all her life. Like most children living in and near the London,



she was evacuated to less populated areas during the early years of World War II, living with strangers who were paid to take in the young evacuees.

After the War, while working at the U.S. Embassy in London's Grosvenor Square she met her future husband, William Fanning, who was in the U.S. Navy. They married in London in 1953 at the Church of St. James, Spanish Place. Their eldest son, Paul, was born in August of 1954; in December of that year, they left England for a posting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After a posting with the U.S. Marines in North Carolina, they returned to Pittsburgh before the final posting at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Oakland, California, where their youngest son, Neil, was born. In 1970 the family moved to Dutch Flat after visiting and summering there for several years.

A devoted wife, mother and homemaker, Jean also definitely embraced the world. From a young age into her 70's, she taught Sunday School at various churches. She was a member of various doll clubs; whilst a member of the Oakland-Bay Area Doll Club, she served as business manager for the journal of the United Federation of Doll Clubs. A teddy bear collector, she was a founding member of Teddy Bear Friends and volunteered at the International Teddy Bear Convention. From her days as a Girl Guide in her native England into her seventh decade

she was a part of the Scouting movement. Locally, she served as a Den Mother, Pack committee member, as an Assistant District Commissioner and a member of the District Committee in the Golden Empire Council. Beginning in the 1970's, she began playing Mrs. Claus to her husband's Santa Claus at schools, libraries and other community venues. In the early 2000's, she joined the Fleet Reserve Association.

Not long after moving to Dutch Flat, she was asked to take over writing the Dutch Flat Diggings column for the Colfax Record and Auburn Journal. Always interested in history, she joined Dutch Flat residents Matt Bailey and Margaret Flournoy in securing the town's place on the National Historical Register. She was the leading proponent in the successful move to establish Historic Design Control in the central historic part of Dutch Flat. Throughout the years, she led walking tours of that area and wrote and printed her own walking tour pamphlet. She was a member of the Golden Drift Historical Society, the Dutch Flat Community Center and the Ladies Aid Society of Dutch Flat. Whilst a member, in many and various ways she served the Dutch Flat United Methodist Church. In 1986 she established Runnymede Cottage Antiques in the business district of Dutch Flat and continued to run the business to her dying day.

In accordance with her express wishes, no public service has or will be held. As a friend to the friendless and the needy, she was an avid supporter of various charitable causes. She designated three charities that those who wish to honor her may donate to in her memory. These are: Shriners Hospitals for Children [visit www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org or telephone 1.866.958.6277], the Southern Poverty Law Center [visit www.splcenter.org or write to Southern Poverty Law Center, P.O. Box 548, Montgomery, Alabama 36177] and the International Campaign for Tibet [visit www.savetibet.org or write International Campaign for Tibet, 1825 Jefferson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20036].

ANDREW RESENDEZ 1944 - 2015

Andrew was born September 11, 1944 and grew up in Mentone, California in San Bernardino County. He had three brothers and one sister. His father was a hard worker and his mom was a perfect housewife. She was so good that one year she won an award for the "cleanest house" in their neighbor-

hood! Andrew was a good grade school student earning top grades. He graduated from San Bernardino Valley College with an AA degree then graduated from San Jose State College with a Bachelor of Science degree finally earning a Masters in Business Administration at Stanford University.

For several years Andrew worked in the financial district in Southern California, then moved to the Monterey Peninsula and commuted to Burlingame. Andrew met his wife Laura and her daughter, Lisa, at a mutual friend's house for a traditional Christmas Eve dinner.



Before long they were dating, and married in 1981, making plans to move to Trinidad, Ca. They settled into a wonderful house on the North Coast and Andrew opened up a local business for the Trinidad population. It just so happened the small antique store next door became available which Laura took over. They loved Trinidad but Andrew could not tolerate the dampness and his allergies became much worse. A friend who helped Laura spruce up the shop a bit told them about a little town below the Sierras called Dutch Flat where he would visit his aunt from time to time. They took a road trip to the area, drove through the town and knew they had found their new home! They lived in about 4 different houses before settling in the house on Park Avenue. Andrew loved working in the yard on the weekends with their dog, Kobe, and cats who just sort of always showed up!

At first Andrew had quite a commute to Rancho Cordova but then accepted a position as Director of Finance at the Sisters of Mercy campus in Auburn. He loved his work but after several years, the financial aspect of the Convent would be moved to Omaha, Nebraska. Andrew passed on the offer to move as they did not want to leave Dutch Flat! He continued his work with the Dutch Flat Water Co. and, at times, did some consulting work.

Family was always very important to Andrew and so it was always a joy to visit his daughter, Sydney, her husband David and grandchildren, Graham, Lidia, and Greta in the Boston area. Of course they all loved to visit Dutch Flat!

Andrew and Laura sold their house and moved to Arizona last Fall in search of medical research and aid. Andrew passed away after a short battle with cancer on December 23rd at home with his "girls", Laura, Sydney, Lisa and Carrie. Andrew's stepson

Ian was a big help with Andrew and his presence was very much appreciated.

Donations to any animal charity may be made in Andrew's memory.

RUNNYMEADE COTTAGE ANTIQUES

BY JOANNE BLOHM

With the passing of Jean Fanning, long time resident and business woman, I asked her son Neil about the future of Runnymede Cottage Antiques in Dutch Flat. Neil told me he will not be taking over the business. This means that the business and/or contents will probably be for sale.

I thought I would put the word out in case anyone in our vicinity might like to resume the operation. It would be a shame to lose another business in our community. The current owner of the building is Robin Reynolds, a local Dutch Flat resident.

If you have any interest or questions, please contact Neil Fanning at 530-389-2278.

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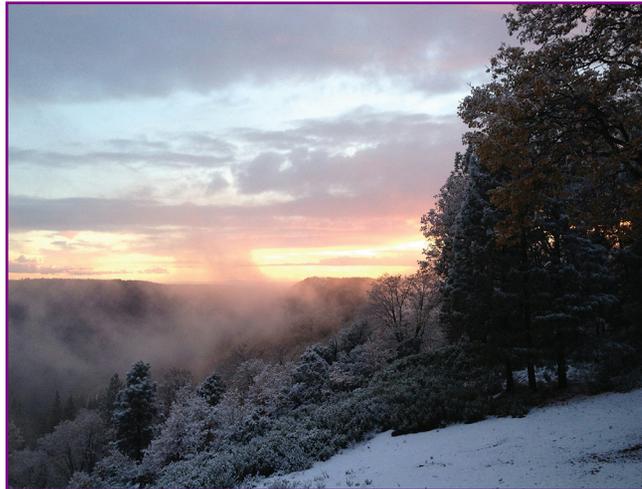
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