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## Applications Sought for Resource Conservation District Board

December 31, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is seeking applications from people interested in serving as a director of the local Resource Conservation District.

The district's seven-member board of directors has three members whose terms expired during December. Applications are due by Jan. 10, 2003.

The RCD is a special district that assists supervisors in resolving natural resource-related issues, developing recommendations for erosion and sedimentation control, watershed studies, flood mapping for emergency-service plans, review of environmental impact reports and design review.

The district's board normally meets at 4 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

For application forms or more information, call 530-889-4020. <u>Application forms also are available on the county's Internet web site.</u> Applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603.



### **Tips for Winter Emergency Preparedness**

December 17, 2002

As winter storms sweep through Placer County, from the valley to the Tahoe area, bringing wind and heavy rain and snow, county officials remind residents of the need to stay prepared to cope with winter storms and the inconveniences or problems they can bring, like power outages or road closures.

Good ongoing emergency preparedness can help you and your family stay safe and healthy, regardless of the situation.

- Turn on your radio or television and tune to a local broadcast channel for current emergency information. Post the frequency of a local broadcast radio station near your radio. These stations have agreed to carry emergency information:
  - o KAHI AM 950 (broadcasts from Auburn)
  - KFBK AM 1530 (broadcasts from Sacramento)
  - o KNCO AM 830 (broadcasts from Grass Valley)
  - o KOWL AM 1490 (broadcasts from South Lake Tahoe)
  - KOH AM 780 (broadcasts from Reno)
  - Local television stations and other radio stations will likely also have emergency information
- Put together a household emergency kit. It should include a flashlight for every member of your household and a portable radio, with extra batteries for these things. Include drinking water for your household members for two or three days (1 gallon per person) and a water purification kit (like iodine tablets), matches and/ or a butane lighter, food which can be eaten without heating for two or three days, a non-electric can opener, a first aid kit, and warm clothing and blankets. You can also use the radio in your car for emergency purposes.
- Include supplies for infants or household members who have special needs.
- Keep a little extra cash on hand, about what you'd have for a long holiday weekend.
- Camping equipment like propane cooking stoves or lanterns can be handy but must be used in a well-ventilated area. Don't use them inside, in an enclosed room. Don't use a natural gas or propane stove or oven as a heat source during a power

outage.

- Be very careful if you use candles for light during a power outage. Use nonflammable candle-holders, like glass or metal, and don't leave candles burning in unoccupied rooms of your home, or where children are alone. A good source of light would be a battery-operated fluorescent camping lantern. Many of these use rechargeable batteries, so keep extras on hand.
- Keep small extra supplies of essential medications on hand, enough for three or four days.
- Don't forget your pets or livestock. Be sure to have extra water, food, and necessary medication on hand for them, too.
- Make an emergency plan with your family or household members. Agree on someone outside the area who can help relay phone messages from all household members, should you become separated. Agree on a location away from your home where you will meet, in case of an emergency. The Red Cross has an excellent guide for creating a family disaster plan available online (http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/familyplan.html) or by calling your local Red Cross office (Placer County 530-885-9392).
- Help guard against frozen water pipes by wrapping them. Power outages can make this problem work.
- Stay off the roads in bad weather unless you really need to travel. Avoid driving through standing water which may be deeper than you think.

The county Web site has much more information on emergency preparedness - www. placer.ca.gov/emergency - with specific steps you can take. Preparing for emergencies takes a little time and effort, but it's worth it when the need arises. Plan ahead, to help protect yourself and your loved ones.



#### **Emergency Information Added to County Web Site**

December 13, 2002

Emergency information available on the Placer County Web site (www.placer.ca.gov/emergency) has been greatly expanded to help residents be more prepared.

The Office of Emergency Services pages now contain more information about how to cope with probable scenarios, such as heavy winter storms and small stream flooding, as well as information about possible terrorist concerns, such as smallpox or radiation incidents.

"Current international events only serve to remind us that being well-prepared for emergencies always offers the greatest protection in keeping your family safe," said Mike Boyle, Deputy County Executive Officer, Office of Emergency Services. "It is one of Placer County's highest priorities to keep the public informed during emergencies. People make wise decisions during emergencies when they have clear and accurate information, such as we have added to our Web site. Our goal is to make it easy for residents to be informed about even difficult issues, such as smallpox threats."

Additionally, the County will begin adding information on the county Web site about current emergency situations whenever the County is involved in response. For site visitor convenience, there are also links to other key responding agencies, such as to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the U.S. Forest Service, in the case of fires.

The Web site contains locally-generated information, and links to important state and national sites, such as the Centers for Disease Control, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"When there's an emergency, we will provide information in several ways, through news media, by our Public Information hotline number, and now through the Web site," Boyle said.



## Marriage Licenses Offered Through Tahoe Health and Human Services

December 11, 2002

North Lake Tahoe residents now can get marriage licenses from the Placer County Health and Human Services Department's offices in Carnelian Bay.

Located at 5225 North Lake Blvd., the department also can provide residents with forms for fictitious business licenses and passports.

Marriage licenses can be processed through the department, acting on behalf of the County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar Department. The marriage license services are available by appointment from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. To set up an appointment or get more information, call 530-546-1900.

Marriage license services in the area were offered until recently by the Placer County Superior Courts.



#### **Board of Supervisors to Review Teichert Project**

December 10, 2002

Teichert's plan for opening an aggregate mining operation north of Lincoln will be reviewed by the Placer County Board of Supervisors during a meeting in Auburn Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Supervisors will meet at 9 a.m. in the county's administrative center at 175 Fulweiler Ave. They will hold a public hearing on the proposed aggregate mine at 10 a.m.

Sacramento-based Teichert has submitted an application to establish the mining operation on part of a 3,455-acre site located about four miles north of Lincoln. The site is bounded by Riosa Road on the north, Gladding Road on the east, Chamberlain Road on the south, Highway 65 on the southwest and Nader Road on the west. The company has proposed removing an estimated 37 million tons of sand and gravel and 34 million tons of granite bedrock from 696 acres over 40 years.

The county Planning Commission held public hearings on the project Nov. 7 and 12, voting unanimously to give its stamp of approval to the project and recommend board approval.

Supervisors will review a proposed development agreement with Teichert and a rezoning application. In addition, they will consider an appeal filed by a group known as Western Placer Citizens for a Rural Environment (WPCARE) challenging all of the commission's actions.



### **Chief Probation Officer Resigns**

December 6, 2002

Citing "personal and family reasons", Joseph Warchol has resigned as Placer County's Chief Probation Officer, effective by the end of December, 2002.

Warchol assumed responsibilities for the post in September, leaving a similar position in El Dorado County.

"During his service to Placer County, Joe has improved services and programs for juveniles," said Jan Christofferson, County Executive Officer. "He has been a tremendous resource, a person we will certainly miss."



Joseph S. Warchol (larger image available)

Warchol created a family reunification program which works through the County's Juvenile Hall, rather than sending young offenders with significant problems to group homes outside the area. "This structured program helps families re-establish lines of communication prior to having these young people end up at home with the same family problems they had before," he said.

He has been working with the courts to establish electronic monitoring for juveniles, which can be used as a consequence of wrong behavior, one that still allows them to attend school. Juvenile work programs are also in planning phases.

Chief Probation Officer Resigns -- Placer County, Calif.

The Personnel Office will begin efforts immediately to identify candidates to fill the vacant position.

The County Executive Officer makes this appointment in consultation with the Placer County Superior Court and the Board of Supervisors.



### **County Wins Governor's Award for Placer Legacy**

December 5, 2002

Placer County's open-space program has received the state's most prestigious environmental honor from the Governor's office.



Back row, L-R: Winston Hickox, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency, Loren Clark (Planning), Melissa Hugenberger (Planning), Kelly Berger (Planning) Christopher Schmidt (Planning), Jim Saver, President, Sierra Business Council

Loren Clark (Planning), Melissa Hugenberger (Planning), Kelly Berger (Planning) Christopher Schmidt (Planning), Jim Sayer, President, Sierra Business Council.

Front row: Supervisor Harriet White, Supervisor Robert Weygandt, Joanne Neft, Mary Nichols, Secretary, California Resources Agency, Steve Frisch (Sierra Business Council), Fred Yeager (Planning Director)

The Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program has earned a Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award. Ceremonies took place at the headquarters of the California Environmental Protection Agency on Wednesday evening, December 4.

"Placer Legacy represents the best way to protect Placer County's tremendous natural beauty," said Placer County Supervisor Robert Weygandt, who accepted the award on behalf of the county. "Legacy is a cutting-edge, state-of-the-art program developed with the collaboration of many diverse groups."

The governor's annual awards are regarded as the state's highest and most prestigious environmental honors. They recognize individuals, government agencies, other organizations and businesses that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made notable contributions to conserving the state's precious resources, protecting the environment and building public-private partnerships. Winston Hickox, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency, and Mary Nichols, Secretary, California Resources Agency, made the presentations.

"The Governor's Awards honor those who are working to build an economically stronger, environmentally sustainable, and resource rich state on behalf of current and future generations," Hickox said.

In 1998, the Board of Supervisors recognized a need to balance economic growth with a proactive conservation effort and began developing Placer Legacy to protect the county's open space and farmland. The program's goals include:

- Protecting areas that are scenic or historically important;
- Providing more large public parks with land left largely untouched for such pursuits as hiking, biking and horseback riding;
- Creating open-space buffers between growing communities;
- Protecting endangered, special-status and other species of plants and animals; and
- Helping maintain agriculture as a viable part of the county's economy.

"By adopting a comprehensive open-space and agricultural-conservation program, Placer County can retain its unique natural heritage, minimize conflicts between conservation and economic development and enhance the prosperity of our current and future residents," Weygandt added.

"Placer Legacy provides a very important model for other rural and suburban counties on how they can cooperatively plan for their future, protect their natural resources and grow their economies," said Jim

Sayer, President of the Sierra Business Council. The business council was a major private-sector partner in the county's bid to create Placer Legacy.

Placer Legacy is a voluntary program that depends on willing buyers and sellers. When supervisors created the program, no land-use, zoning or general plan changes were needed and no new regulations were adopted.

Placer County's nomination for the award was supported by the Trust for Public Land, a nonprofit land-conservation group.

"Placer County has done an exceptional job in developing and implementing the Placer Legacy Program," wrote David Sutton, director of the group's Sierra Nevada Program. "As a result, residents are learning that they do not have to choose between economic well-being and open-space protection."

The program's accomplishments include planning for a new regional park; the purchase of conservation easements to protect pivotal properties from development in western Placer County; planning for improvement of seven watersheds in the western part of the county; and a coordinated effort to seek grant funding, voluntary donations and public-private funding partners.

This year's awards program sponsors are the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund, Keep California Beautiful Inc. and the California Foundation for Commerce and Education.

The Sierra Business Council is a nonprofit association of more than 600 businesses and individuals committed to protecting the economic, social and environmental health of the Sierra Nevada.



#### Gift Ideas Offered for Animal Lovers

December 2, 2002

Giving a cute, cuddly puppy or kitten to someone as a holiday gift may seem like a great idea, but Placer County Animal Services warns against this well-intentioned thought.

In fact, the holidays may be the very worst time to bring a new pet home, even to a home where other companion animals already thrive. "The holiday season is filled with excitement, visitors, noise and general chaos," said Rich Ward, Placer County Animal Services Manager. "An animal, with all its special needs, may be an added burden instead of a welcome addition to the family. In all the confusion, young children may treat the puppy or kitten as just another toy. If the family and the pet get off to a bad start together, there's a greater chance they won't stay together long."

Instead, Ward advises, give a gift certificate so the recipients can choose their new dog or cat friends after the holiday crush has passed. Many shelters would allow you to pay the adoption fees up front as a gift.

Animal shelters, including Placer County Animal Services, also appreciate gifts, named in honor of friends or family, which help them provide comfort and care to homeless animals. In Placer County donations can be given to the Placer County Trust Fund for Animals and Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters. Bags of dog and cat food, plus old towels are usually welcomed as well.

Placer County's Animal Shelter in Auburn is being upgraded to improve services to homeless animals. So far, a concrete slab has been added in the back which improves cleanliness, and drainage into the back pasture has been improved. A new modular unit provides a much-needed quiet space for staff to complete paperwork. Work is now underway to enlarge the cat holding areas. "We hope soon to have an in-house clinic which will help improve the health and care provided the animals at our animal care center," Ward said.

Several new kennel doors, funded by donations made through Friends of Placer County

Animal Shelter, are making it easier for homeless dogs to meet potential families hoping to adopt. More doors are still needed, and donations for this project are welcome.

Planning Commission Canceled, Martis Valley Discussion to be Rescheduled -- Placer County, Calif.



## Planning Commission Canceled, Martis Valley Discussion to be Rescheduled

December 2, 2002

A Dec. 12 meeting of the Placer County Planning Commission that was to include a discussion of the Martis Valley Community Plan has been cancelled.

The county Planning Department will reschedule the meeting in the near future.

The commission already has held two hearings on an ongoing community plan update. Topics at the Dec. 12 meeting were to include discussion of a new alternative plan with a reduced build-out capacity.

Planning staff is busy working on the new alternative analysis, which will be addressed in a recirculated alternative chapter of the plan's environmental impact report. The alternative analysis will be introduced to the commission at the rescheduled meeting.



# Restoration Work Makes Big Difference at Miners Ravine

November 27, 2002

A stretch of Miners Ravine that has been restored by Placer County to look much as it did before gold miners arrived in 1848 is once again open to the public.

The area in question is part of the Miners Ravine Nature Reserve, a 24-acre passive county park located at 7530 Auburn Folsom Road in Granite Bay.

The focus of the county's stream-restoration project was the stretch of Miners Ravine that runs along the park's northern edge. A fence was put up around the area when work got under way in September, but was removed recently to give the public access once again.

County officials hope the project will serve as an example for similar efforts throughout the Dry Creek Watershed.

"This project provides a number of benefits to the community, including the restoration of native plant life," Supervisor Ted Gaines said. "It's interesting to note that most of the silt buildup was a result of mining that occurred more than a century ago."

The project was partly a response to erosion and other changes that date back to the arrival of miners during the Gold Rush.

In the first phase of the project, Rocklin-based Habitat Restoration Contractors was hired to remove blackberry bushes, pampas grass and other species of plants that aren't native to the area.

The company also lowered the stream's banks, a move that will reduce erosion and help protect the surrounding area from floods by increasing the nature reserve's usefulness as a flood plain.

In recent days, the company has been busy planting several hundred valley oaks, willows,

cottonwoods and other native trees. Along with newly planted shrubs, the trees will help stabilize the stream's banks and create a better riparian habitat for wildlife.

Loren Clark, the county's principal planner for natural resources, emphasized the work is a pilot project that could serve as an example for similar efforts throughout the Dry Creek watershed.

The county will pay the Rocklin company \$98,700 for the restoration work and \$20,000 to monitor and maintain the project for three years.

Funding for the project came from a \$605,400 grant the State Water Resources Control Board awarded the county in 1998 to develop management and monitoring plans for the Dry Creek watershed and to undertake a restoration project along Miners Ravine.

The project has been coordinated with the state of California, the Dry Creek Conservancy and the Dry Creek Watershed Council. A second phase of the project may be to remove a barrier to migrating salmon and steelhead that have been historically known to use Miners Ravine.

After leaving the nature reserve, Miners Ravine links up with Dry Creek and ultimately the American River in Sacramento.



# Supervisor Bloomfield to Meet with Public in Auburn December 9

November 27, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will host a coffee klatch in Auburn Dec. 9 where constituents can discuss county issues with him in an open, informal setting.

The meeting will take place at 9 a.m. in the Beecher Room at the Auburn-Placer County Library, 350 Nevada St.

The supervisor regularly holds informal meetings in communities throughout his district where residents can sip coffee while talking to him about county issues. The meetings give residents a chance to voice their opinions and Bloomfield an opportunity to update the public on county projects and programs.

Bloomfield represents the 5 <sup>th</sup> District, an area that stretches from north Auburn to Lake Tahoe.

The supervisor encourages north Auburn residents to attend the Dec. 9 meeting, as well as monthly meetings of the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council.

The council normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Planning Commission Hearing Room, which is located at the intersection of Richardson Drive and B Avenue in the DeWitt Center.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010 or by visiting the county's Web site at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/bos.">www.placer.ca.gov/bos.</a>

Supervisor Bloomfield also invites constituents to contact him on any subject <u>by e-mail at bos@placer.ca.gov</u>, by mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603, or by phone at the board office, 530-889-4010.

Supervisor Bloomfield to Meet with Public in Auburn December 9 Placer County, Calif.		
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# Applications Sought to Fill Seat on North Auburn Advisory Group

November 19, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is looking for people interested in filling a vacancy on the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council.

The seven-member advisory body currently has one vacancy. Its members are volunteers who serve two-year terms.

No deadline has been set for submitting applications, but supervisors hope to fill the vacancy soon.

Commonly known as MACs, the county's 13 advisory councils advise the Board of Supervisors on issues of public interest in unincorporated areas. The councils are charged with gathering public comment on a range of topics, including land use, public works, recreation, law enforcement and public health and safety.

The North Auburn MAC has discussed such issues as connector roads in the North Auburn area and the proposed Silverwood and Home Depot projects.

The North Auburn MAC normally meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings typically are held in the Planning Commission Hearing Room, which is located on Richardson Drive between B and C avenues in the DeWitt Center.

For application forms or more information, call 530-889-4020. Application forms also are available on the county's Internet web site at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/applications">www.placer.ca.gov/applications</a>.



#### **Gold Run Cemetery Committee Has Vacant Seat**

November 19, 2002

Placer County is seeking applications from people interested in being a member of the Gold Run Cemetery Committee.

This is an excellent public-service opportunity for anyone interested in the community's colorful Gold Rush history.

The committee consists of seven at-large members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Each must have a family member buried in the cemetery or be a resident, property owner or business owner in the Gold Run area.

Members have several responsibilities, including coordinating the volunteers who help maintain the cemetery, providing advice to county staff on contracts for cemetery services, supervising burial arrangements and notification, and maintaining necessary records.

The committee also is responsible for providing the county with documentation required by state law.

To get an application or more information, call 530-889-4020. Applications also can be downloaded from the county's web site at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/applications">www.placer.ca.gov/applications</a>.



# Local Officials Plan for I-80 Winter Closures at Applegate Exit

November 19, 2002

Though sunny skies continue to hang over Placer County most days, stormy winter weather is at hand.

With that in mind, Placer County officials met with several other government agencies recently to coordinate planning for the arrival of the blustery, snowy days that cause delays and closures on Interstate 80.

The main topic of conversation was the Applegate interchange, the spot where eastbound traffic often is halted due to accidents or poor visibility. Authorities emerged from the meeting with several messages for the public:

- New residents in the Colfax area need to know and old-timers need to be reminded there are ways to avoid the long lines of traffic that sometimes back up on Interstate 80 during bad weather. They should settle on alternative routes now, rather than wait until they're about to be caught up in traffic backups.
- Colfax area residents can take advantage of a sticker program offered through the Colfax Chamber of Commerce if they must travel eastbound on the freeway at times when most traffic is being turned around at Applegate.
- Area residents need to remember there will be times when all eastbound traffic has to turn around at the Applegate exit. That's sometimes necessary when accidents are blocking the eastbound lanes or there are extreme weather conditions ahead.

The Placer County Public Works Department coordinated the recent planning meeting. Representatives from the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, California Department of Transportation and city of Colfax also attended.

Further tips for local residents include:

• When Caltrans uses the electronic message sign east of Bell Road to let motorists

know that traffic restrictions are in place or the freeway is closed at Applegate, the best bet for local residents is to leave the freeway and take county roads home, so they don't get caught in the traffic snarls.

 A backup option for local residents is leaving Interstate 80 to avoid traffic backups and using county roads before getting back on the freeway at the Applegate onramp.

Authorities caution that motorists seeking to re-enter the freeway at Applegate may get caught up in traffic, noting the top priority is getting vehicles backed up on the freeway moving as soon as possible. For that reason, local residents who want to get back on Interstate 80 sometimes have to wait until authorities get a chance to halt backed-up traffic that's trying to leave the freeway.

To use the second option, motorists will need to show they live in the Colfax area. They can rely on identification and stickers available from the Colfax chamber. The cost of the stickers is \$10 apiece. Delivery-truck drivers will need to show invoices to CHP officers verifying they're headed for the Colfax area.

When Interstate 80 is closed to all traffic, the CHP asks even local residents to turn around. Authorities urge motorists to obey without question, noting that traffic backs up on the freeway each minute a CHP must spend talking to a driver.

At the planning meeting, CHP Commander Rick Ward announced he intends to have a snow team again this winter.

"The snow team is a group of officers who will be assigned to the highway closures at Applegate each time the highway is closed," he explained." This will ensure consistency and increase efficiency."

The CHP created the snow team last year. It was deemed a success, because the agency received far fewer complaints from motorists than in previous years.

Other CHP officers will patrol surrounding roadways to enforce parking violations, and direct truckers back to the Gold Country Fairgrounds in Auburn to wait out storms.

Caltrans will display a message for truckers on the overhead freeway sign at Newcastle when Interstate 80 is closed at Applegate. The message will alert them to turn radios to a station that will direct them to the fairgrounds. The alert will give drivers time to leave the freeway before they get caught up in traffic backups.

Caltrans also will hand out informational fliers directing truckers who continue to the Applegate exit back to the fairgrounds. This will encourage them to return to Auburn,

Local Officials Plan for I-80 Winter Closures at Applegate Exit -- Placer County, Calif.

rather than park illegally along Lake Arthur and other county roads.

During the planning meeting, Caltrans agreed to look into posting road-condition updates on Interstate 80 electronic message signs as far away as Dixon and Fairfield. The hope is that many Bay Area motorists will postpone trips to the Sierra Nevada if they know the freeway is closed ahead or delays are extreme.



# Supervisor White to Meet Constituents in Newcastle December 4

Nov. 14, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will be in Newcastle Wednesday, Dec. 4 to discuss county issues with the public.

She will be available to meet with constituents from 2 to 3 p.m. at Newcastle Fire Station #2. The fire station is located at the intersection of Auburn Folsom and Shirland Tract roads.

Supervisor White regularly holds informal meetings throughout the 3rd District where the public can sip coffee while talking about county issues with her.

"These meetings are a great chance for people to let me know what's on their minds, and help me stay in touch with the public's thinking on important issues," she said.

Supervisor White emphasized both the informal get-togethers and monthly meetings of the Newcastle-Ophir Municipal Advisory Council are good opportunities for residents to present their views and stay up to date on county issues.

The council generally meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings are held in the United Auburn Indian Community Center, 661 Newcastle Road, Suite 1.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010 or by visiting the county's Internet web site at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/bos">www.placer.ca.gov/bos</a>.

White also welcomes email at <a href="https://hww.nca.new.nca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave. Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet her in her office at the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler.

Supervisor White to Meet Constituents in Newcastle December 4 -- Placer County, Calif.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



### Innovative Urban-Improvement Project Wins Caltrans Award

Nov. 13, 2002

A \$12 million project that made Tahoe City more pedestrian-friendly earned Placer County and several partners an Excellence in Transportation Award from the California Department of Transportation recently.

Completed in 2000, the Tahoe City Urban Improvement Project helped make the community more pedestrian-friendly for local residents and tourists, reduce dependence on automobiles and strengthen the community's commercial corridor.

Caltrans created the annual awards program 17 years ago to recognize outstanding work in transportation design, construction, operations and technology.

Placer County's award was presented to the Board of Supervisors Nov. 12.

"This 10-year project happened due to the strong commitment from many community members and county staff, who never gave up and overcame every obstacle along the way," Supervisor Rex Bloomfield said. "Everybody involved with this partnership deserves to be congratulated for a job well done."

The award singled out two county employees for their individual contributions to the project: Public Works Director Tim Hackworth and Tahoe area Public Works Manager Bob Costa.

Others who received individual recognition included Ken Foster of K.B. Foster Civil Engineering, Craig Parmley of Harris & Associates, and Linda and Randy Burdick of Burdick Excavating Co.

Also recognized were Bob Lourey of the Tahoe City Public Utility District; Phil McKinney of the Tahoe City Beautification Committee; Peter Wurtz of Landesign Landscape Architecture, and Ron McIntyre of the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association.

The project earlier had won a Best in the Basin Award from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

Funding came from 15 different sources, including the county Redevelopment Agency, the resort association, Caltrans, U.S. Forest Service, California Tahoe Conservancy, commercial property owners and individual donations.

"This project provided sidewalks in the small Lake Tahoe village of Tahoe City to encourage pedestrian access where no designated or continuous corridor had previously existed," Caltrans explained in a recent publication announcing the award winners.

Before the project began, pavement that extended from storefronts to Highway 28 was used for parking, drainage, pedestrians and bicyclists in a haphazard manner.

"Parking has been improved by designating parallel spaces and constructing two off-street public parking lots," Caltrans noted. "This project enhanced bicycle travel by providing additional paved shoulders. It also provided seat walls and large boulders for resting, lighting for nighttime safety and convenience, and bollards to designate space for vehicles and pedestrians."

Drainage improvements keep parking lot and highway runoff from flowing into Lake Tahoe. The runoff is collected and piped to a treatment basin and wetland. Once suspended solids and other pollutants are removed, the water runs into the Truckee River.

Tahoe City is a small, unincorporated tourist-oriented community on the western shore of Lake Tahoe. It's located at the junction of Highway 89 and 28. The community's commercial district is composed mostly of specialty shops, restaurants and other small businesses that front on the highways.



### Public Health Preparedness Plan To Be Submitted to State

Nov. 6, 2002

Placer County's Health and Human Services Department (HHS) has prepared a plan to submit to the California Department of Health Services which would strengthen Placer County's preparedness to counter local infectious disease issues or respond to a bioterrorist threat.

Placer County Supervisors reviewed the plan on Tuesday, Nov. 5. So far, \$400,000 has been allocated to Placer County from the state Department of Health Services from the Centers for Disease Control specifically for local public health preparedness. This funding is separate from other funding being made available to first responders and hospitals for their preparedness planning.

Placer County efforts will help meet state goals to improve response planning and coordination. If implemented, the plan will strengthen the local public health system to accurately and rapidly detect, control, and help prevent the spread of illness. Another goal will be to develop a seamless emergency response plan that includes public health, medical care and emergency/disaster management systems. Rapid and secure communication links among public health and private sector providers will be improved. The plan will add necessary staff, equipment, and supplies to perform duties related to public health preparedness.

Integrating staff into Community Health will also strengthen the overall public health infrastructure to respond to any other situations involving infectious diseases or naturally-occurring disasters.

The events of 9/11 have created new roles and responsibilities for the public health staff to ensure public safety. To accomplish these tasks, the plan calls for Placer County to hire an additional public health microbiologist, a program supervisor, two public health nurses, a communicable disease epidemiologist, and an administrative technician, to provide additional health educator support, and to purchase necessary equipment.

"While we remain optimistic that bioterrorism will not affect Placer County, we must be as prepared as possible," said Ray Merz, HHS Director. "In the process we will be strengthening our resources to help the community on a daily basis, particularly when there's a public health issue unrelated to terrorism.

"For example, several times in recent years, our public health staff has mobilized to assist several hundred parents when cases of meningococcal disease occurred in local schools," he noted. "In other cases our lab staff has had to respond quickly when a rabid animal has potentially threatened residents. Strengthening our public health resources is an excellent investment, with or without a terrorist threat."

Board Reviews Homeless Census Survey, Directs Staff to Work with Community -- Placer County, Calif.



# Board Reviews Homeless Census Survey, Directs Staff to Work with Community

Nov. 5, 2002

Today, Placer County Supervisors heard a presentation by Sergei Shkurkin and Associates describing a study on homelessness in Placer County, and directed staff to continue to work with the community to help develop solutions.

The City of Roseville and Placer County Health and Human Services commissioned the "2002 Homeless Census - Data for Services Planning", a report to support the Placer Collaborative Network's goal of creating a "Continuum of Care" approach to housing.

The study was done as part of a city-county application to the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) for funding for homeless programs.

Placer County's Consortium on Homelessness and Affordable Housing and other interested citizens also provided comments to the Board, and spoke in favor of cooperative planning.

The Board action also directed staff to support comprehensive planning efforts that include stakeholders and representatives of the incorporated cities to research the best ways to prevent homelessness, to address long range funding and service management issues, and to develop a long range plan.

Conducted under guidelines defined by HUD, the point-in-time 2002 Homeless Census took place March 24-30. It was not expected to locate or interview all who were homeless.

The survey counted as "homeless" those living in places not meant for human habitation, such as parks or cars, as well as people who were living in housing such as emergency shelters and transitional living sites. It did not seek to identify the local resources which are currently available to help people who are homeless through government and private agencies.

For local planning purposes, the survey further distinguished those homeless people who have safe, acceptable living arrangements such as transitional housing ("sheltered") from those living on the streets (unsheltered).

A total of 405 people were identified as homeless. Of the 271 adults interviewed, more than half were being sheltered, usually in transitional housing.

The census did not include the North Lake Tahoe area because the HUD deadlines came during a period of inclement weather. However service providers acknowledge that homelessness exists there also, and a census should be conducted.



### **Granite Bay MAC To Get Transportation Update**

Nov. 1, 2002

The Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Council will get an update on transportation planning in their community during a meeting to be held Nov. 6.

The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in the Eureka School Library, 5477 Eureka Road.

During the meeting, the Placer County Public Works Department will give council members an overview of plans for updating the traffic circulation element of the Granite Bay Community Plan.

Assemblyman Dave Cox, R- Fair Oaks, will be at the meeting to give the council an update on state legislation.



## CIMBL to Clean Up Trash Along Sierra College Boulevard

Oct. 29, 2002

CIMBL will need an army of volunteers to complete an ambitious undertaking on Saturday, Nov. 2: cleaning up trash alongside all 15 miles of Sierra College Boulevard.

The group's volunteers will meet at 9 a.m. in a parking lot at Sierra College that is next to the boulevard.

"It's one of our biggest cleanups of the year, and we need all the help we can get," said Hal Albertsen, the group's founder.

He estimated at least 50 volunteers will be needed if the group is to finish all 15 miles of the roadway.

With support from Placer County, CIMBL has cleaned up trash along 1,983 miles of roadway since its creation eight years ago. A single road that long would reach from Auburn to near Chicago.

Group members have filled more than 18,000 bags with trash and found about 1,800 abandoned tires over the years. County road maintenance works pick up the trash bags and tires.

New volunteers always are welcome. High school students who participate may be eligible for public-service hours.

On Saturday, cleanup workers should bring hats and work gloves. The group provides supplies and safety vests.

For more information, call Hal Albertsen, the group's founder, at 916-645-3599.



### Supervisor White to Meet with Constituents in Auburn

October 23, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will discuss county issues with the public during an informal meeting to be held in Auburn Oct. 30.

The meeting will take place at 2 p.m. in the Beecher Room at the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada St. Refreshments will be provided.

Supervisor White regularly holds informal meetings throughout her district where constituents can say what's on their minds. The meetings also are a chance for the supervisor to answer questions and update the public on county projects and programs.

"Some people are comfortable speaking at board meetings, but others prefer small, informal gatherings," she explained. "Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another."

Supervisor White represents the 3rd District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

She encourages Auburn area residents to attend the meeting, as well as the monthly meetings of the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council.

The council generally meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held in the Planning Commission Chambers at Richardson Boulevard and C Avenue in the DeWitt Center.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

White also welcomes email at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave. Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet with her at her office in the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler.

Supervisor White to Meet with Constituents in Auburn -- Placer County, Calif.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



### **Public Works Employee Wins Film Industry Honor**

October 18, 2002

A 32-year veteran of Placer County's Public Works Department received a prestigious film-industry award this month.

Clark Newton, an engineering technician in the department's Road Maintenance Division, was named County Employee of the Year at the eighth annual California On-Location Awards ceremony in Marina Del Rey Oct. 13.

He was honored for his help with filming of "XXX", an action movie starring Vin Diesel that was one of last summer's big hits.

It featured a spectacular scene where a stuntman rode atop a Corvette as it hurtled off the Foresthill Bridge, then plunged into the American River Canyon 730 feet below. The stuntman parachuted to safety at the last second.

Public Works, the Sheriff's Department and other county departments get involved to make sure film companies follow county regulations and protect the public safety when they close local roads, control traffic intermittently, use county bridges, set off explosions or take other steps that could be dangerous or inconvenient to the general public. Film companies pick up the tab for costs rung up by government agencies.

Director Beverly Lewis of the Placer-Lake Tahoe Film Office nominated Newton for his honor.

"Clark Newton never sees problems. He sees solutions," Lewis wrote. "He is one of those people the crew might not notice as he stops by to see if all is going well, but everyone would turn to him screaming if he wasn't there from the beginning to make sure everything is done right. No one has ever screamed."

Lewis emphasized Newton worked closely with Revolution Studios on engineering specifications and other details to make the bridge stunt possible. When production

vehicles began losing traction because of heavy rainfall, Newton quickly came up with a solution: he had a crew from his department lay gravel along the roadway.

"It was accomplished in 15 minutes with no disruption to the shooting," Lewis explained.

"It really was a team effort," Newton said after winning the award, emphasizing his department's sign-crew and road-crew workers deserve much of the credit.

He noted the department helped the film crew by putting up signs to control traffic and removing guardrails to accommodate large trucks that were having a hard time getting to filming locations.

Public Works Director Tim Hackworth said Newton is a deserving award recipient, emphasizing he's an employee who's always ready to lend a hand.

"He is just a helpful, very positive-thinking person," Hackworth said.

The awards program is sponsored by the California Film Commission and Film Liaisons in California Statewide, a group composed of the state's 57 local film commissions. A panel of industry professionals picked the award winners.

The program honors people in the still, commercial, television and feature-film industries for outstanding on-location work, as well as county, state and federal government officials for support that goes beyond the call of duty.

Two years ago, Capt. Kent Hawthorne of the Placer County Sheriff's Department won the County Employee of the Year award for his help with filming of "The Deep End" at Lake Tahoe.

Placer County's Office of Economic Development contracts with the Placer-Lake Tahoe Film Office to oversee film permitting within the county's borders.

Attracting the film industry is important to the county because it helps promote the area as a scenic wonderland, and gives the local economy a boost.

Lewis noted a film crew spent about five days shooting in the Auburn area for "XXX," pumping about \$300,000 into the local economy by staying at local motels, eating at restaurants and patronizing other businesses.

The crew spent an estimated \$200,000 more while shooting near Lake Tahoe. Much of that money went for helicopters, snowmobiles and other expensive props.

Last year, film companies spent more than \$3.2 million in Placer County while filming movies, commercials and print pieces.



### **Board Plans Meeting at Granlibakken**

Oct. 16, 2002

On Tuesday, Oct. 22, the Placer County Board of Supervisors will meet at Granlibakken in North Lake Tahoe, beginning at 9 a.m.

Acting as the Placer County Redevelopment Agency, Board members will consider allocatating up to \$250,000 to the Commons Beach Lake Access Enhancement Project.

At 10 a.m., there will be a public hearing to consider establishment of the Downtown Tahoe City Property and Business Improvement District. Votes will be counted during the meeting, and results made available that day.

Supervisors will also consider a plan to increase compensation for county poll workers. Each year more than 1,000 workers are hired to staff county polling places on election day.

Also proposed is an authorization to negotiate a new contract with the Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal.

The proposed Tahoe City Intermodal Transit Center Project is not on this agenda; it will be discussed on a future meeting.

The complete agenda will be available online at <a href="www.placer.ca.gov/bos">www.placer.ca.gov/bos</a> by Friday, Oct. 18 at 5 p.m., or you can receive it by automatic fax beginning on Thursday if you call 530-889-6800. A complete copy of the Board's agenda will be available in the Tahoe City branch of the county library, likely by Saturday.



### **Meetings Scheduled to Discuss Teichert Project**

October 15, 2002 - updated 7/21/03

Placer County will hold four public meetings over the next few weeks on an aggregatemining operation Teichert Inc. wants to open four miles north of Lincoln.

Two county municipal advisory councils have scheduled special meetings where the public can obtain information and testify about the project.

The Rural Lincoln MAC will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28 in Mt. Pleasant Hall, 3333 Mt. Pleasant Road, in Lincoln and the Sheridan MAC will convene at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30 in Stewart Hall, 6005 Camp Far West Road, in Sheridan. The Lincoln MAC will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, Oct. 21 as previously announced.

The County Planning Commission has scheduled two public hearings on the project. The first will take place at **6 p.m.**, **November 7 in the Lincoln High School Theater**, **790 J**St. The second is set for 4 p.m. November 12 at Mt. Pleasant Hall in Lincoln. Public testimony will also be welcomed in these public meetings. The Board of Supervisors will ultimately consider whether the project should be approved.

The Sacramento-based company wants to mine sand, gravel and crushed rock from 696 acres of farmland over 40 years. It has proposed aggregate mining on approximately 20 acres at a time. Reclamation of the aggregate area will occur simultaneously with the mining activities.

The proposed mining site is part of a 3,455-acre property Teichert owns east of Highway 65 between Riosa and Chamberlain roads. In addition to the mining, the balance of the property would be used for open space, wetlands, wildlife habitat and farming.



### **Applicants Sought for Meadow Vista Advisory Group**

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is looking for people interested in serving on the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council.

The seven-member advisory body currently has one vacancy. Its members are volunteers who serve two-year terms.

No deadline has been set for submitting applications, but supervisors hope to fill the vacancy soon.

The advisory council is charged with gathering public comment on a range of topics, including land use, public works, recreation, law enforcement and public health and safety.

In recent months, for example, it has dealt with parking issues and code-enforcement violations. The council also reviews plans for development project such as the proposed Meadow Vista community center.

Commonly known as MACs, the county's 13 advisory councils advise the Board of Supervisors on issues of public interest in unincorporated areas.

The Meadow Vista MAC normally meets on the first Thursday of each month. Meetings typically are held at 7:15 p.m. in Room 22 of Placer Hills School, 16801 Placer Hills Road.

Its members are nominated by 5th District Supervisor Rex Bloomfield and confirmed by the entire board.

"The MACs play a crucial role keeping the board in touch with how the public feels about important issues. We listen to what they have to say, and take their advice seriously," Supervisor Bloomfield said. "For members, being on a MAC is a great way to serve their community."

Applicants Sought for Meadow Vista Advisory Group -- Placer County, Calif.

For application forms or more information, call 530-889-4020. Application forms also are available on the county's Internet web site at <a href="www.placer.ca.gov/applications">www.placer.ca.gov/applications</a>.



### **Grand Opening Planned for Sheridan Tot Lot**

Oct. 8, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Robert Weygandt invites Sheridan residents to join him Thursday, Oct. 17 at a grand opening ceremony for a new tot lot in Sheridan Park.

The ceremony will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the park, 6005 Camp Far West Road. Cookies and refreshments will be served. Parents are encouraged to bring their young children to play on the new equipment.

The tot lot is one of three being installed by Placer County with bond funds. The other two are in Loomis and Sabre City.

Supervisor Weygandt and officials from the county's Parks and Grounds Division will be on hand for the October 17 celebration.

"I'm hopeful to see the public join us in the celebration," Supervisor Weygandt said. "It's rewarding to see this project and the efforts of so many come to fruition, but most rewarding is the enjoyment it will bring to the Sheridan community."

Designed and installed by a company called All About Play, the tot lot replaced old, worn out playground equipment in the park. As part of the project, the county also paved part of the park's parking lot and installed a concrete sidewalk so the facility will be accessible to disabled residents.

The total price tag for the project was about \$80,000. Approximately \$30,000 came from park-dedication fees paid by developers and the rest was state money from Proposition 12, a measure also known as the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000.



# Supervisor Bloomfield to Meet Constituents in Tahoe City

October 4, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will host an informal meeting in Tahoe City Oct. 15 to discuss county issues with constituents.

The meeting will take place from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Tahoe City Library, 740 N. Lake Blvd. It will be a chance for residents to sip coffee while discussing county issues with the supervisor.

At 10 a.m., Supervisor Bloomfield will attend a voter-outreach program at North Tahoe High School in Tahoe City.

He also plans to attend the Oct. 17 meeting of the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council. It will take place at 6 p.m. at the North Tahoe Conference Center in Kings Beach. That meeting originally was to be held Oct. 10, but has been rescheduled for Oct. 17.

Supervisor Bloomfield regularly holds informal meetings throughout his district to hear what constituents have on their minds and to update them on county projects and programs.

"I encourage North Tahoe residents to attend the Oct. 15 meeting, because it will be a great chance to let me know what they're thinking," the supervisor said. "I look forward to such get-togethers because they help me stay in touch with my constituents."

Supervisor Bloomfield encourages residents to attend monthly meetings of the advisory council. It normally meets on the second Thursday of each month. Meeting locations vary.

The public can verify meeting times and locations by calling the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.

Supervisor Bloomfield also invites constituents to contact him on any subject by e-mail at rbloomfi@placer.ca.gov, by mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603, or by phone at the board office, 530-889-4010.



# CIMBL to Clean Up Dry Creek Road in North Auburn Saturday

October 3, 2002

CIMBL volunteers will gather Saturday, Oct. 5 to clean up trash alongside Dry Creek Road in North Auburn.

The cleanup drive is scheduled to last from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will assemble at Dry Creek and Richardson Drive next to Auburn District Regional Park.

With support from Placer County, CIMBL has cleaned up trash along 1,957 miles of roadway since its creation eight years ago. A single road that long would reach from Auburn to near Chicago.

Group members have filled more than 18,000 bags with trash and found almost 1,800 abandoned tires over the years. County road maintenance workers pick up the trash bags and tires.

Today, CIMBL has approximately 400 members, and more than 100 people who participate actively.

New volunteers always are welcome. High school students who participate may be eligible for public-service hours.

On Saturday, cleanup workers should bring hats and work gloves. The group provides supplies and safety vests.

For more information, call Hal Albertsen, the group's founder, at 916-645-3599.

Fire Forces Temporary Closure of Health Facility -- Placer County, Calif.



### Fire Forces Temporary Closure of Health Facility

Sept. 24, 2002

A fire Sunday evening has forced the temporary closure of the Placer County Health and Human Services facility located at 100 Stonehouse Court in Roseville. Roseville Fire Department responded to the fire. There was some minor structural damage and several rooms in the facility were also damaged.

The entire facility will be closed until Thursday, and a portion of the building will be closed for two to three weeks for repair and restoration. Staff who normally work in the facility have been temporarily reassigned to work in other county facilities.

Local residents who need essential services Tuesday and Wednesday should call the Auburn Health and Human Services office at 530-889-7612. HHS officials expect to be able to provide services again at the building by Thursday.



# Bloomfield/Owens Seek Agreements to Improve Air Quality

September 24, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield and Truckee Vice Mayor Ted Owens have cooperatively asked both the Placer County Air Pollution Control District Board and the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District Board to consider supporting stronger efforts to reduce the air pollution, particularly in the Martis Valley.

The County of Placer is one of the few jurisdictions which currently requires new development to pay air quality mitigation fees. On the other hand, the Town of Truckee recently mandated a "point of sale" policy which requires that old wood stoves be upgraded when homes are resold.

Bloomfield and Owens believe that both jurisdictions have good ideas, and hope both will expand their efforts.

Specifically, letters to the Boards from Supervisor Bloomfield and Vice Mayor Owens have suggested that Boards support having Truckee adopt a higher air quality mitigation fee policy such as Placer County has, and having Placer County require that older polluting wood stoves be replaced whenever residential units are sold, just as Truckee does. Air quality mitigation fees could be used to help pay for new stoves, Bloomfield suggested.

"Pollution resulting from older wood-burning stoves could be greatly reduced if the units were replaced," noted Bloomfield. "We need so badly to clean up our air; these changes could make a dramatic difference, particularly in communities where residents rely on wood stoves for heat. I hope these Boards will consider supporting our proposal."

"Pollution knows no boundaries," Owens said. "Since the Truckee air basin straddles the Placer County and Truckee common boundaries, it made sense to me to create uniform air quality standards. Supervisor Bloomfield and I agreed to work together to raise these standards which ultimately will be a great step in improving air quality in the Martis

Bloomfield/Owens Seek Agreements to Improve Air Quality -- Placer County, Calif.

Valley."



#### Source of Oil at Atwood Road Pond Identified

Sept. 18, 2002

The oily product found in a North Auburn pond on Monday, September 16, came from a Placer County facility at the nearby DeWitt Center, officials from Placer County and the California Department of Fish and Game said today.

Two days of investigation have shown that a waste mixture including water and hydraulic fluid originated from a drainage basin leading to the pond located near Richardson Drive and Atwood Road.

"Our investigation has determined that a sump pump in a maintenance garage bypassed our special oil separator system," said Ken Grehm, Assistant Director, Placer County Public Works Dept. "We have shut down the suspected pump and will audit all of our systems to ensure all materials are undergoing proper treatment and also conveyed to the correct location." The special separator system is designed to separate petroleum products from waste for proper disposal.

Staff from public agencies had responded quickly on Monday to the incident after a passerby called 9-1-1. Responders included the Placer County Sheriff; Placer Consolidated Fire District; Placer County Office of Emergency Services; the Placer County Multi-agency Hazardous Materials Team; other county staff from Environmental Health, Public Works and Facility Services; the California Department of Fish and Game and the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Environmental Protection Agency were also notified through the State Office of Emergency Services. There is no threat to human health in this situation, according to Placer County Environmental Health.

Staff from Placer County Animal Services also came to rescue 26 domestic geese and seven mallard-hybrid ducks with help from the Gold Country Wildlife Rescue, the Sheriff's Department and other staff. Dr. Virgil Traynor of the Edgewood Veterinary Clinic assisted, and now the International Bird Rescue Research Center staff are cleaning and caring for the birds. The birds are expected to recover.

Responders immediately placed booms and absorbent pads on the water to contain the spill, including oil in the drainage ditch on the DeWitt side of Atwood Road. The California Department of Fish and Game assumed command of the incident in the early afternoon, overseeing investigation and later, environmental clean up, which will continue through the rest of this week.

"No fish were killed, and no migrating water fowl were affected," said Lt. Emmett Lenihan, Incident Commander, California Fish and Game. "First responders who quickly placed the booms prevented the oily materials from creating problems down stream."

"However cleaning up the area is very important, and will require cleaning or removing some vegetation," he said. "The department has concerns with issues affecting reptiles and amphibians as well as macro invertebrates which form the food chain."

So far, the petroleum product has been vacuumed from the pond and drainage ditch, and vegetation has been flushed. RAH, an environmental firm, has been performing clean up under the direction of California Dept. of Fish and Game.

"I'd like to thank Placer County staff and the property owner for cooperating in our investigation, and for taking action as needed," Lt. Lenihan said. "This cooperation has made our investigation and clean up efforts so much easier."



### White Reappointed to Serve on National Steering Committee

Sept. 17, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White was recently named to serve on a steering committee of the National Association of Counties.

Association President Kenneth Mayfield selected Supervisor White for a second term as a member of the Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee.

"I'm honored to serve, and excited because the committee deals with many issues that are important to Placer County," the supervisor said. "As a member, I will be able to ensure the committee takes into account the county's interests during its deliberations."

Issues that fall under the committee's purview include: air, water and noise pollution; solid and hazardous waste management; water resources; energy; and the use of land resources.

The association's 11 steering committees serve as its policy-making arms. More than 3,000 counties belong to the National Association of Counties.

Each committee has 60 to 100 members from across the country. They meet several times each year to examine issues critical to local governments.

Each steering committee's recommendations on legislative policies and goals are presented to the association's membership during its annual conference. If approved, the recommendations become part of the American County Platform, which the association uses as a reference point in its efforts to represent counties before Congress and the White House.



### **Supervisor Plans Coffee to Meet with Residents**

Sept. 16, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will meet with constituents in Loomis Sept. 25 to hear what they have to say about county government.

The meeting will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive.

Supervisor White regularly holds informal meetings throughout her district to answer questions, hear what constituents have on their minds and update participants on county projects and programs.

She represents the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

Supervisor White also encourages residents to stay informed on county issues by attending meetings of the Horseshoe Bar Municipal Advisory Council. It generally meets on the third Tuesday of every other month in the Loomis Library.

The schedule changes occasionally, so times and dates should be confirmed online at www.placer.ca.gov/bos or by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

The supervisor also welcomes email at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet with her at her office in the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler Ave.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



### Local, State Agencies Respond to Hazardous Materials Incident

September 16, 2002

At 10:35 a.m., the Placer County Sheriff's Dispatch Center received a call from a local resident reporting an apparent hazardous materials spill at a privately-owned pond on Atwood Road, near Richardson Drive. The Placer County Sheriff's Office and Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District responded immediately and were first on the scene, and Sheriff's Deputy Jim Hudson became the incident commander. Responders discovered what appeared to be used motor oil in the lake, and took immediate steps to contact the appropriate agencies to identify and contain the material. Patrol Lt. Emmett Lenihan, of the California Department of Fish and Game, later assumed command of the incident.

The material had affected some domestic geese and ducks, so responders contacted the Placer County Animal Services Department, to rescue the birds. Other agencies responding to the incident included the California Department of Fish and Game, the Placer County Office of Emergency Services, Placer County Fire/CDF, the Placer County Multi-agency Hazardous Materials Response Team, the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy, and the county departments of Environmental Health, Public Works, and Facility Services.

By 2 p.m., the material had been contained and clean-up had begun. The source of the material is unknown and an investigation is under way by Fish and Game. They and Environmental Health personnel identified no threat from the spill to local residents.

Assisting in the bird rescue were several volunteers from the Gold Country Wildlife Rescue organization. About thirty birds were captured and taken to the animal shelter or to local veterinarians' offices.

"The volunteer help our Animal Services staff got in capturing the birds today from Gold Country Wildlife Rescue, the Sheriff's Office, and others at the pond was vital to the birds' well-being." said Animal Services Manager Richard Ward. "Oil clean-up with birds

Local, State Agencies Respond to Hazardous Materials Incident -- Placer County, Calif.

is a labor-intensive job, so and we certainly could use more volunteer help with their clean-up from now through Thursday. Volunteers should call 530-886-5500 for more information."



# Public Invited to Attend Recovery Happens Event Sept. 21

Sept. 13, 2002

Good food, live music and fun for children await the public Sept. 21 at Recovery Happens 2002, a celebration that will acknowledge people who are on their way to overcoming alcohol or drug dependency.

Open to the entire community, this free event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Auburn's Recreation Park, 123 Recreation Drive. The park is south of Old Town west of Auburn Folsom Road.

#### The schedule is:

- 10 a.m.- Keynote speakers and testimonials;
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.- free barbecue; and
- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.- live music, games, crafts and other fun for the entire family.

Attractions for children will include fun jumps, wall climbing, face painting, piñatas, egg tosses, relay races, a dunking booth and puppet show.

For the second consecutive year, several programs in Placer County's Health and Human Services Department are organizing the event in cooperation with other local social-service agencies. It's part of a nationwide celebration that supports people seeking to recover from substance abuse and recognizes some of their many success stories.

"Overcoming drugs or alcohol can be a long, arduous process, but recovery does happen. It's important for us to remember that," said Placer County Drug and Alcohol Administrator Maureen Bauman. "This event is a great chance to hear uplifting stories of recovery and to acknowledge the importance of support from family members, friends and professionals."

The celebration also seeks to spotlight the many prevention, treatment and recovery

programs that are available in Placer County.

At its Sept. 10 meeting, the county Board of Supervisors proclaimed September to be National Alcohol & Drug Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Month in Placer County.

County staff told supervisors that experts estimate each \$1 spent treating Americans who suffer from alcoholism, substance abuse or addiction saves about \$24 in lost productivity, law enforcement, health care, justice and other costs.

Experts also report that treatment for addiction is as effective as treatment for other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure, but only 20 percent of the people who need treatment are getting it.

The most powerful testimony to the board came from Leonard Brown, a drug and alcohol counselor who was an addict for 37 years.

"I had bought into the idea that once an addict, always an addict," he said. "No one had told me different."

He began to turn life around after going through a county drug court. Eventually, he went back to school intent on becoming a counselor.

"Addiction is disabling, but recovery is enabling," he told the meeting. "Recovery happens, and thank you for being on my support team."

Organizers of Recovery Happens include three county programs: the Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program, Children's System of Care and Adult System of Care.

Other sponsors include the Eagle Counseling Center; Hope, Health and Healing; New Leaf Counseling Service; Progress House; Rocklin Community Counseling Center; Sierra Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence; and Sierra Family Services.

For more information, call Becca Bettis of the Placer County Health and Human Services Department at 530-889-7221.



### **Proposed Final Placer County Budget Reviewed**

Sept. 12, 2002

Placer County's proposed 2002-03 Final Budget remains "healthy", considering the State's budget problems and slow economy, Assistant County Executive Officer Gloria Coutts told the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

Supervisors reviewed proposed final adjustments to the \$423 million spending plan and heard public comments. Final approval is expected to come on Tuesday, September 24.

"Investment is the key to our future success," noted Assistant County Executive Robert Bendorf. "This budget incorporates effective planning and investment decisions with an eye to the future, by constructing much needed facilities, investing in significant technology projects, and affording a level of protection to the local economy and county service levels by setting aside reserves."

The full impacts of State budget actions on the county budget are not expected to be clear until December or January, and major state budget shortfalls are expected to linger for another three to four years. The Board may need to finetune its budget later this year.

"Fortunately, the Board of Supervisors and staff saw the recession coming last fall, and postponed discretionary expenses, resulting in budget savings," Coutts said. "Also, we projected our revenues very conservatively, and therefore we received more money than we had budgeted."

Major expenditures for capital facilities are consistent with plans adopted several years ago by the Board. Nearly \$300 million worth of new facilities are needed by 2010 to serve a growing population and to replace inadequate structures like the 60-year-old DeWitt Center. Projects currently on the drawing board include the South Placer Justice Center, the Auburn Justice Center and a Land Development building, plus initial funding for a Children's Emergency Shelter and a new Animal Shelter.

"Meeting our need for facilities to provide services will be possible only if we continue to

spend general fund money each year and receive facility impact fees on new development, as has been approved by the cities and Placer County. Community resources, such as grants, will also be important," Coutts said.

In this year's budget, staff recommended spending another \$3 million dollars for public safety in addition to the \$2.5 million increased General Fund support included in the interim spending plan approved in June. This funding will make up for a statewide shortfall of public safety sales tax which helps fund Sheriff, District Attorney, Probation and Public Defender. Placer County is facing increased public safety costs, primarily because of opening a new jail housing unit and employee retirement benefit changes.

State budget changes have so far meant that Health and Human Services has borne the brunt of reductions. Staff is recommending that \$2 million in the General Fund be set aside if needed to help prevent service reductions. Services to medically indigent adults will also receive additional county funding.

Trust funds will be used to help County Clerk Recorder Registrar purchase one touch screen voting machine per precinct, with state funds covering most of the costs. An automated permit tracking system will help both residents and staff in processing home improvement and land development permits more conveniently and efficiently.

The budget includes funds set aside for contingencies, for economic uncertainties, and to upgrade technology and communication equipment.

"Our proposed budget will help us prepare for the future, providing services, facilities and technology to serve a growing population, yet remaining flexible and cost-conscious to meet the challenges which lie ahead," Coutts said.



### **Granite Bay Couple Contributes to Local Parks**

September 10, 2002

A Placer County park has new swings, slides and other playground equipment worth almost \$14,000, thanks to the generosity of a Granite Bay couple.

County Supervisor Ted Gaines met with Steve and Renee Nash recently to personally thank them for their donation, saying he hopes their generosity will serve as an example to other residents anxious to see park projects completed ahead of schedule.

"I think we all agree how important parks are in our community," the supervisor said.
"Working together, local governments, homebuilders and residents can build better parks and complete them more quickly than when government must work alone."

He noted Granite Bay residents demonstrated their dedication by approving a park assessment last year. Money from the assessment will primarily go for park maintenance, but some will be available for construction of parks, trails and other open space.

The assessment will be \$58 per year for most homeowners. That's a big help, but county and school officials still can't fund all the park projects waiting in the wings.

That problem will be lessened if other residents go beyond the call of duty to help get projects completed sooner, as the Nashes did.

The object of their generosity was Treelake Village Park, 5255 Parkford Circle.

The county put in a baseball diamond, soccer field and large sports court for tennis and basketball. Its plans also included playground equipment, but that project was on hold for two to four years because of budget constraints.

The Nashes didn't want to wait that long.

"We can't always expect government to pick up the tab," Renee Nash said, explaining

Granite Bay Couple Contributes to Local Parks -- Placer County, Calif.

why they decided to get involved.

Their reward is seeing kids going down the slide or playing on the swings.

"Every time we drive by, we see a ton of kids playing," Renee Nash said.

Katie, the couple's two-year-old daughter, is among the beneficiaries. The Nashes also have triplet boys who are 8 1/2 months old.

County officials plan to officially acknowledge the couple's generosity with a plaque that will be installed on a boulder near the playground equipment.

The family also has donated \$10,000 in cash for Granite Bay Community Park. It will be developed on 16.3 acres at Douglas Boulevard and Barton Road beginning next spring.

Supervisor Gaines pointed to the new 4.5-acre Douglas Ranch Park in Granite Bay as another example of how the public benefits when the county teams up with partners on park projects. He also singled out the proposed Twin School Park as a case where government officials can use the public's help.

Douglas Ranch Park was a joint endeavor of the county and Southfork Partnership, the developer of the Douglas Ranch residential subdivision. Southfork initially was required to set aside 1.5 acres for a neighborhood park and to build some of the recreational facilities.

The developer and county, however, worked out a deal in which Southfork agreed to make 4.5 acres available for the park and to construct facilities that normally would have been the county's responsibility. In return, the county agreed to pay the developer \$156,000 for its extra commitments.

The agreement saved the county about \$250,000 and allowed the park to be completed earlier than otherwise would have been the case.

Twin School Park will cover 18.4 acres between Granite Bay High School and Oakhills Elementary School. The county Board of Supervisors has set aside \$435,000 in park-dedication fees to help the Eureka Union School District finance the project.

In addition to the county contribution, an estimated \$1.8 million is needed to complete the project. Little League baseball, youth soccer leagues and other community groups and individuals have offered to help as soon as grading work is completed.

"We're going to have to do it in phases," Supervisor Gaines said, thanking district

Granite Bay Couple Contributes to Local Parks -- Placer County, Calif.

Superintendent Ron Feist and the district's Board of Trustees for keeping the project on track.



### Placer County's Exhibit Was a State Fair Favorite

Sept. 6, 2002

Visitors to the California State Fair selected Placer County's exhibit to receive the People's Choice Award this year.

The county exhibits are a popular attraction at the fair year after year, and the award is a sought-after honor because it goes to the exhibit that receives the most votes from fairgoers.

This year, the public was captivated by a colorful collection of bees that were the focal point of "Placer County-A Wonderful Place to Bee," an exhibit that extolled the county's recreational virtues.

The county also was one of 11 counties to receive a Gold Medal Award from judges. Other participating counties earned either silver or bronze awards.

"We're really proud of the county employees and volunteers who devoted countless hours to make this exhibit a success," Placer County Supervisor Ted Gaines said. "Our state fair exhibits have become a source of local pride, and are a great way to let people throughout the state learn about what the county has to offer."

The exhibit featured bees camping, boating and enjoying other recreational pursuits.

As in past years, this year's exhibit was created by a team of volunteers, county staff and local sponsors, with minimum-security jail inmates doing much of the construction work under the supervision of staff.



# Volunteer Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council Members Sought

Aug. 30, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is looking for people interested in serving on the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council.

The seven-member advisory body currently has one vacancy. Its members are volunteers who serve two-year terms.

No deadline has been set for submitting applications, but supervisors hope to fill the vacancies soon.

Commonly known as MACs, the county's 13 advisory councils advise the Board of Supervisors on issues of public interest in unincorporated areas.

The Meadow Vista MAC normally meets on the first Thursday of each month. Meetings typically are held at 7:15 p.m. in Room 22 of Placer Hills School, 16801 Placer Hills Road.

Its members are nominated by 5th District Supervisor Rex Bloomfield and confirmed by the entire board.

"The MACs play a crucial role keeping the board in touch with how the public feels about important issues. We listen to what they have to say, and take their advice seriously," Supervisor Bloomfield said. "For members, being on a MAC is a great way to serve their community."

The councils are charged with gathering public comment on a range of topics, including land use, public works, recreation, law enforcement and public health and safety.

Responsibilities of MAC members include:

Volunteer Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council Members Sought -- Placer County, Calif.

- Reviewing written materials;
- Visiting project sites when necessary;
- Listening carefully to public comments; and
- Participating in discussions and votes on action items.

For application forms or more information, call 530-889-4020. Application forms also are available on the county's Internet web site at <a href="www.placer.ca.gov">www.placer.ca.gov</a>.



### **Placer County to Dedicate Liberty Elm Memorial**

August 27, 2002

On the day before the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Placer County Supervisors will pause to dedicate a Liberty Elm to honor the emergency workers who gave their lives to save others.

The elm is planted at the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District station, 11645 Atwood Road, in North Auburn, at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Residents are encouraged to attend the short ceremony on the front lawn of the station.

The dedication ceremony will include a presentation of colors by the Sheriff's Honor Guard, ringing of the fire bells by Placer Consolidated fire fighters, bagpipers and a moment of silence. Simple refreshments will be available afterwards.

Supervisor Harriet White, who led the effort to acquire the Liberty Elm and plan the dedication, called the gesture "a constant reminder of our country's precious freedom, and our responsibility to protect it."

The memorial will include a special plaque commemorating those who lost their lives on September 11, and recount the history of Boston's Liberty Elm, an American elm which was the rallying place for the Sons of Liberty in the American Revolution. It was funded by the County with a matching grant from the nonprofit Elm Research Institute which is helping communities plant disease-resistant American Elms to commemorate the country's founding and its freedoms.

According to the Elm Research Institute, the Liberty Tree, an American elm, was one of this country's first symbols of freedom. On the morning of Aug. 14, 1775, the people of Boston awakened to discover two effigies suspended from an elm tree in protest of the hated Stamp Act. From that day forward, that elm became known as the "Liberty Tree." For the next 10 years, it was used for countless meetings, speeches and celebrations, and often served as the rallying point for the Sons of Liberty. In August of 1775, as a last act of violence prior to their evacuation of Boston, British soldiers cut it down because it bore

Placer County to Dedicate Liberty Elm Memorial -- Placer County, Calif.

the name "Liberty."



### **Miners Ravine Creek Improvements Planned**

August 27, 2002

A stretch of Miners Ravine that runs through Granite Bay soon will look much like it did before gold miners arrived in 1848, thanks to a stream-restoration project being undertaken by Placer County.

Work is scheduled to get under way this week at Miners Ravine Nature Reserve, a 24-acre passive park located at 7530 Auburn Folsom Road.

Miners Ravine runs along the northern edge of the park.

In the first phase of the project, Habitat Restoration Contractors will remove blackberry bushes, pampas grass and other species of plants that aren't native to the area. County officials expect that work to be completed by Oct. 1.

The company also will lower the stream's banks, a move that will reduce erosion and help protect the surrounding area from floods by increasing the nature reserve's usefulness as a flood plain.

The company also will plant and irrigate more than 200 trees and shrubs. The new vegetation will stabilize the stream's banks while creating a better riparian habitat for wildlife.

The restoration project is partly a response to erosion and other changes that date back to the arrival of miners during the Gold Rush.

"It provides a unique opportunity to evaluate how flood control improvement projects and habitat restoration projects can work in concert with each other, instead of at cross purposes," Principal Planner Loren Clark said.

On Aug. 20, the Placer County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to hire Habitat Restoration Contractors, a Rocklin-based company that specializes in habitat restoration.

The company is contracted to do the work for \$98,700 and to monitor and maintain the project for three years for \$20,000.

"If it's successful, this pilot project will lead to other restoration and flood-control projects throughout the Dry Creek watershed," said board Chairman Ted Gaines. "As Placer County continues to grow, it's imperative that we preserve the balance of the natural resources that make this area such a special place."

Funding for the project will come from a \$605,400 grant the State Water Resources Control Board awarded the county in 1998 to develop management and monitoring plans for the Dry Creek watershed and to undertake a restoration project along Miners Ravine.

After leaving the nature reserve, Miners Ravine links up with Dry Creek and ultimately the American River in Sacramento.

At the Aug. 20 meeting, Clark told supervisors that county staff held an informational meeting for nearby residents in June and presented project plans to the Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Council on Aug. 8.



## Supervisor Issues "Call to Arms" Regarding Regional Air Quality Problems

August 20, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield called Monday for cities, counties and air pollution districts throughout the Sacramento area to attend an air quality summit in Auburn next month.

"I am right now issuing a regional call to arms," Bloomfield told his colleagues on the county Board of Supervisors, saying a united front is needed to attack the problem.

The supervisor's announcement was prompted by pollution readings that have hovered near record levels in the foothills over the last nine days.

"I haven't seen such bad air since I was a child living in L.A.," Bloomfield said. "There is no more basic need than for clean air."

Air quality in communities such as Auburn and Colfax often is particularly bad because pollution from throughout the region is trapped in the foothills on hot summer days when there is little or no wind.

Bloomfield emphasized that communities in the Sacramento region that have relatively clean air nonetheless have a big incentive to help tackle the problem, noting the entire region could lose federal transportation money if more isn't done to combat pollution.

"If the problem isn't cured, everyone loses funds," he said.

No date has been announced yet for the summit yet, and other details still are being worked out. Bloomfield stressed that quick action is needed because the entire region is in the midst of an air-quality crisis.

Over the past two weeks, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District has repeatedly issued health advisories warning that young children and the elderly should not go

outdoors between noon and sunset. On two days last week, all residents were urged to stay indoors.

Experts say pollution can aggravate cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses, reduce resistance to infections and cause eye irritation, wheezing, chest pains, headaches and nausea.

County Air Pollution Control Officer Tom Christofk said, while regional agencies are still assessing air quality data gathered during the past week, the bad air quality was due to several factors, including the region's geography, a strong inversion layer with little wind, and temperatures. Mobile pollution sources such as automobiles and construction equipment account for approximately 88% of the emissions while industrial and other sources added 12 %.

Bloomfield told his board colleagues some steps can be taken immediately, but added that the entire Sacramento region needs to work together in the air-pollution battle. Other supervisors pledged their support.

"It is a very serious health issue, as well as an aesthetic issue," Supervisor Robert Weygandt said.

One of three supervisors who sit on the air district's board of directors, Bloomfield noted the district already has taken many steps to safeguard the county's air quality and will spend almost \$1 million this year in the battle against pollution.

He gave two examples of steps cities and counties in the region could take to improve regional air quality.

The first would be to add a condition of approval for construction projects requiring heavy construction equipment to stop work from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on days when the air quality index reaches 150 unless the equipment meets the best available emission standards or uses other low-emission fuels.

The second measure would be to require all land-use projects to provide full mitigation for their projected impacts on air quality. According to Bloomfield, a zero net emissions policy would greatly improve regional air quality.

"This isn't just a problem for foothill residents, it affects everyone who lives, works or travels through Placer County and the region," said Bloomfield. "I see its effects on children in my work as an elementary school teacher. We're in a position to lead efforts to improve air quality, and that's our responsibility."

Supervisor Issues "Call to Arms" Regarding Regional Air Quality Problems -- Placer County, Calif.

The Sacramento region currently does not meet federal ozone standards.



#### **New Chief Probation Officer Appointed**

August 20, 2002

Joseph S. Warchol has been appointed as Placer County's new Chief Probation Officer. He will assume the responsibilities in mid September.

Currently serving as the Chief Probation Officer for El Dorado County, Warchol has 30 years experience in the field of probation, working for El Dorado and Orange Counties, and in a two-year assignment as Field Representative for the State Board of Corrections. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Long Beach State University.

Warchol will assume responsibility for the department from Chief Deputy Probation Officers Jennifer Keck and David Peden who have served as interim directors following the retirement of Norma Suzuki.

"Joseph Warchol brings considerable experience to this job, and will be a tremendous asset to Placer County," said Jan M. Christofferson, County Executive Officer.

"Additionally his broad experience at the state Board of Corrections will help us understand requirements, legislation and funding issues regarding probation."

"I am impressed with Placer County's very positive attitude in dealing with its youth, taking a proactive approach," said Warchol. "The Placer County Probation Department also models excellent collaboration with law enforcement, health and human service agencies and the courts. That spirit of cooperation is very attractive."

In Placer County, the Chief Probation Officer oversees an annual budget of approximately \$13 million and a staff of about 136. The department supervises approximately 3,300 adults placed on probation by the courts, and provides a full range of services to the courts. The juvenile division reviews more than 1,500 cases, and supervises more than 400 minors. Over a year's time, about 1,000 juveniles are housed in the Juvenile Detention Facility, last year for an average stay of about a month. Young offender diversion services are provided to several hundred youth and their parents. Through the community corrections program, more than 4,300 adult and juvenile offenders perform

more than 10,000 hours work in the community. The Chief Probation Officer also oversees the county food services program, which prepares an average of 51,000 meals per month to serve people who are detained in county adult and juvenile institutions.

The County Executive Officer makes this appointment in consultation with the Placer County Superior Court and the Board of Supervisors.



### Placer County Exhibit Wins Gold Medal at State Fair



August 20, 2002

A colorful collection of fun-loving bees helped Placer County continue its awardwinning ways at the California State Fair.

The animated bees are the focal point of the county's eye-catching state fair exhibit: "Placer County - A Wonderful Place to Bee."

The exhibit recently won a Gold Medal Award from fair officials. Only 11 of 50 participating counties got Gold Medals. The rest earned either silver or bronze.

"I'm pleased with the award, because it recognizes the many, many hours of work put in by my staff, volunteers and a host of other people," county Facility Services

Director Tom Miller said. "Building the exhibit is a labor of love for them, and they deserve all the recognition they get for their outstanding work year after year."

This year's exhibit displays a host of bees camping, boating and enjoying other recreational pursuits offered by Placer County. Forty-two of the 62 bees are animated, and there are four special effects. Animation has long been a hallmark of Placer County displays.

The fair opened Friday and is scheduled to run through the Sept. 2 Labor Day holiday. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day. On other days, its doors will open at noon and close at 10 p.m.

Each year, the county exhibits are a popular attraction at the state fair, with perhaps half a million visitors coming through. Placer County's exhibits promote tourism by helping to introduce thousands of fairgoers to the county's recreational wonderland that stretches from the Sacramento Valley to the High Sierra.

As in past years, this year's exhibit was created by a team of volunteers, county staff and local sponsors, with minimum-security jail inmates doing much of the construction work under the supervision of staff.



# Supervisor Bloomfield to Host Coffee in Applegate Aug. 27

Aug. 20, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield is inviting constituents to meet with him over coffee in Applegate Aug. 27.

The meeting will take place at 9 a.m. in the Applegate Library, 18018 Applegate Road.

Supervisor Bloomfield regularly holds informal meetings in communities throughout his district where residents can sip coffee while discussing county issues with him. The meetings give residents a chance to voice their concerns and Bloomfield an opportunity to update the public on the status of county projects and programs.

At the Aug. 27 meeting, he will be particularly interested in discussing two topics: air pollution and the Weimar-Applegate-Colfax community plan update.

"These meetings are very important to me, because they allow me to stay in touch with how the public views pivotal issues," Supervisor Bloomfield said. "I hope residents will take advantage of them."

He also encourages Applegate residents to attend monthly meetings of the Weimar-Applegate-Colfax Municipal Advisory Council. Its meetings generally are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Meetings take place in the Colfax Veterans Memorial Hall, 22 Grass Valley St. West.

Schedules change occasionally, though, so the public should verify times and dates of MAC meetings by calling the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.

Supervisor Bloomfield also invites constituents to contact him on any subject by e-mail at rbloomfi@placer.ca.gov, by mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603, or by phone at the board office, 530-889-4010.



#### **Supervisor White Holds Newcastle Coffee**

Aug. 15, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will hold an informal meeting in Newcastle Aug. 28 where constituents can sip coffee while discussing county issues with her.

The meeting will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in Denny's Restaurant, 681 Newcastle Road.

Supervisor White regularly holds such meetings throughout the 3 <sup>rd</sup> District to update the public on county projects and programs, answer questions and listen to constituent concerns.

"I'm very pleased so many people have been showing up at my meetings in Newcastle," she said. "They're a great chance for people to let me know what's on their minds, and for me to stay in touch with the public. Some people are comfortable speaking at board meetings, but others prefer small, informal gatherings."

Supervisor White emphasized both the informal get-togethers and monthly meetings of the Newcastle-Ophir Municipal Advisory Council are good opportunities for residents to present their views and stay up to date on county issues.

The council generally meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings are held in the United Auburn Indian Community Center, 661 Newcastle Road, Suite 1.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010 or checking the MAC meeting calendar on the county's Web site at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/bos">www.placer.ca.gov/bos</a>.

White also welcomes email at <a href="https://hww.nca.new.nca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave. Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet her in her office at the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.





#### **Auditor-Controller's Office Honored**

Aug. 15, 2002

The Placer County Auditor-Controller's Office recently received the highest honor bestowed upon government agencies for financial reporting.

The honor came from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, which recently awarded the Auditor-Controller's Office a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The award recognizes the outstanding work the office did on Placer County's comprehensive annual financial report for 2000-01.

"I am very proud of the time and effort my staff put in to achieve this award," Auditor-Controller Kathy Martinis said. "We plan to continue to submit future reports to the certificate program as part of our on-going commitment to excellence."

Martinis learned of the honor in a recent letter from Stephen Gauthier, director of the association's Technical Services Center.

"We hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting," he told Martinis.

An impartial panel evaluated the county's financial report, concluding it demonstrated a constructive spirit of full disclosure while clearly communicating the county's financial story in a way that will encourage people to read the report.



#### **Progress Made on Granite Bay Traffic Projects**

Aug. 14, 2002

Placer County completed several road projects in Granite Bay this summer, while moving ahead with plans for widening Auburn-Folsom Road from two to four lanes.

Earlier this month, the Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Council got an update on plans for widening a two-mile stretch of Auburn-Folsom.

The county's Public Works Department currently is putting the finishing touches on preliminary design work for the project and is in the midst of the environmental review phase. Construction work is scheduled to start in the spring of 2004.

Auburn Folsom will be widened from the Placer-Sacramento County line to Fuller Drive just south of Douglas Boulevard.

The project is one of many the county has undertaken or has waiting in the wings to provide the traffic infrastructure Granite Bay will need as it continues to grow.

"I have been working really closely with Public Works to see that our infrastructure needs are met," explained Supervisor Ted Gaines. "I am so pleased to see a higher level of service going out to Granite Bay and District 4."

Progress was made on several fronts this summer:

- The county synchronized the traffic signals on Douglas Boulevard where it intersects Sierra College Boulevard and Cavitt Stallman Road South, so traffic would move more smoothly during peak hours.
- Shoulder improvements were made on a 2.5-mile stretch of Eureka Road between Auburn-Folsom Road and Carriage Drive to provide more room for bicyclists, pedestrians and equestrians. As part of that project, a slurry seal was added to help maintain the road.
- Twelve parking spaces were created along Wellington Way next to Granite Bay

Progress Made on Granite Bay Traffic Projects -- Placer County, Calif.

High School as part of a joint effort between the high school and Placer County to increase traffic efficiency.



# County Child Support Services Recognized by State as Most Improved

August 7, 2002

Placer County's Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) has been recognized by the State of California for outstanding overall improvement in federal fiscal year 2001. Placer County has moved from being 30th in overall performance to 14th statewide.

In a report by the California Department of Child Support Services, Placer County achieved the best overall percentage score increase from federal fiscal year 2000to 2001 when averaging the following four performance measures: collections on current child support; cases with collections on arrears; establishment of legal paternities and child support cases with established court orders.

"Placer County's achievement as 'most improved in the State' is an illustration of what we're trying to accomplish in the statewide effort to improve child support services at the county level to better serve our families," said Curt Child, Director, California Department of Child Support Services.

Placer County was one of the first 11 counties in the state to transition to a new local child support agency (LCSA) to assist families in receiving court-ordered child support payments. The transition for all 58 counties was completed on July 1, 2002, six months ahead of schedule.

Placer County's good news was noted in a letter to Director Carl DePietro from Susanne M. Hughes, Regional Administrator, California Department of Child Support Services. "This is a significant accomplishment and clearly demonstrates what strong leadership, commitment and plain hard work can achieve," Hughes said.

On Tuesday, the Placer County Board of Supervisors declared the month of August as "Child Support Awareness Month" in recognition of the role child support plays in assisting children and promoting stronger family ties.

"Child support is all about our children," declared Rex Bloomfield, Vice Chairman, Placer County Board of Supervisors. "The County's job is to assist both parents in supporting their children. A child's life is so much richer when he or she is supported both financially and emotionally by two parents."

Since its transition in December of 2000, Placer County's Department of Child Support Services has focused on improving programs and customer service to families, including both custodial and non-custodial parents. Program responsibilities were modified to add additional child support caseworkers within the department's existing budget in order to improve customer service. A toll-free telephone number, an informational web site, extended office hours, a payment drop-box, and an online, automated payment system have all been created.

More improvements are underway or planned for the coming year. Recently DCSS created the Life and Employment Assistance Program (LEAP) to guide non-custodial parents in finding good jobs. The Golden Sierra Job Training Agency will be a partner. Through the program, the parent may be eligible for employment counseling, resume assistance, information and community service referrals, English assistance, and possible referral to job training.

Also planned are an employer forum in October, video conferencing capabilities to make it easier for clients in Tahoe to meet with staff, and improved telephone technology to make it easier for families to reach staff. DCSS also hopes to have caseworkers in Roseville soon.



### Anniversary Clean Up Celebrates Half-A-Continent of Roadwork

August 6, 2002

Citizens Involved Means Better Living will celebrate its eighth birthday Saturday, August 10, by returning to the place of its birth.

At 8 a.m., members of the group will gather in the Lincoln area to clean up rubbish alongside Virginiatown Road.

Commonly known as CIMBL, the group made Virginiatown its first target eight years ago when it set out to clean up trash along county roads.

"We do it every year around the first part of August," explained Hal Albertsen, the group's founder.

On Saturday, volunteers will gather at Fowler Nurseries, 525 Fowler Road, in Newcastle.

About a dozen volunteers showed up for the first cleanup. Today, CIMBL has approximately 400 members, and more than 100 people who participate actively.

With support from Placer County, CIMBL has cleaned up an estimated 1,910 miles of roadway since its birth in 1994. A single road that long would reach from Auburn to near Chicago.

The group's members have filled about 17,650 bags with trash and found almost 1,700 abandoned tires. County road maintenance works pick up the trash bags and tires.

Albertsen said Saturday's work crew will start out on Virginiatown, and pick up trash on Hungry Hollow and Fowler roads as well if enough volunteers show up.

CIMBL members gave Albertsen much of the credit for the group's success, saying he's its heart and soul. They lauded him as a good organizer who always makes sure

refreshments are ready when workers need them.

"I just thought it was a good project," said 84-year-old Chuck Gibson of his decision to join CIMBL about six years ago.

He knew Albertsen, and had high regard for him. And, he wanted to stay busy after retiring in 1992. Gibson was named Farmer of the Year by the Placer County of Commerce in 1968. A retired turkey farmer, he at one time had 15 percent of the nation's turkey breeding stock.

Cleaning up roadside trash is hard work, but Gibson is convinced it's worth the effort. His reward is hearing people comment about how clean county roads look.

John Huls, a retired tunnel-construction worker, joined CIMBL after reading about it in a local newspaper. The 83-year-old Auburn resident likes the camaraderie that keeps CIMBL members coming back.

"And you feel like you're doing a little good," he explained.

CIMBL always welcomes new volunteers. On Saturday, cleanup workers should bring hats and work gloves. The group provides supplies and safety vests.

For more information, call Albertson at 916-645-3599.



#### **National Night Out, Volunteers Reduce Crime Locally**

August 2, 2002

Tuesday's National Night Out will be an important chance for Placer County to spotlight the valuable role played by volunteers in local crime-fighting efforts.

From 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesday, the Sheriff's Department will celebrate the 19th annual National Night Out with more than 20 Neighborhood Watch groups in such communities as Auburn, Loomis and Granite Bay.

Sheriff Ed Bonner told the Board of Supervisors recently the event is a big help in highlighting the importance of volunteers, noting his department is in the midst of a recruitment drive for its volunteer programs.

"Residents can be the eyes and ears of the Sheriff's Department, tipping us off to keep crime from happening," he explained recently, saying he hopes to see the Neighborhood Watch program spread throughout the county.

The program already has more than 200 groups in unincorporated areas of the county. With guidance from Bonner's department, members are trained in home-security techniques, observation skills and crime reporting. Homeland-security issues will be addressed through a series of community forums this fall.

The Board of Supervisors got behind the recruitment drive July 23, voting unanimously for a resolution supporting Tuesday's event, and urging residents to get involved in volunteer organizations such as Neighborhood Watch and the Sheriff's Team of Active Residents.

Known informally as STARs, the latter program's participants are trained volunteers who help department employees both in the field and behind desks.

In the field, participants help with traffic control, abandoned vehicles, vacation checks, community events and the like. In the office, they perform such tasks as handling

telephone calls, fingerprinting, and doing public relations work at community events.

Board Chairman Ted Gaines said he's an enthusiastic supporter of volunteer programs such as Neighborhood Watch and STARs.

"They have proven their worth in Granite Bay, and elsewhere throughout the county," he said. ""The volunteers perform a vital service to their communities, one we appreciate very much. We hope to recruit more, because we recognize they can help in so many ways."

The Sheriff's Department created STARs in 1994 and added field responsibilities two years later. The program currently has approximately 70 volunteers who work at substations and service centers and about 30 who help in the field.

The department estimates STARs volunteers have donated more than 50,000 hours over the years, freeing up department personnel to focus their energies elsewhere.

The department's Community Services Division offers two educational programs to help prepare the public for volunteer work: a Citizen's Academy that gives an inside look at how the department works and a Volunteer Academy that details the duties and responsibilities of volunteers. To be accepted into the latter, a person must first complete the Citizen's Academy.

Both academies are offered in October and March. The next Citizen's Academy will meet from 6 to 9 p.m. on seven Tuesdays beginning Oct. 1. The Volunteer Academy lasts for four consecutive days.

National Night Out is an event created to heighten awareness of crime-prevention efforts, strengthen law enforcement-community partnerships and generate support from local anti-crime programs. It also sends a message to criminals: communities are fighting back to help protect themselves.

In Placer County, a convoy of sheriff's vehicles will visit the more than 20 parties planned by Neighborhood Watch groups. Other scheduled activities include flashlight walks and youth activities.

For more information about starting a Neighborhood Watch group or participating in programs such as STARs, call 889-7873 in the Auburn area. In South Placer, call 916-652-2400.



#### **New Redevelopment Staffer to Aid Local Businesses**

July 31, 2002

Ron Yglesias is a man with a mission.

As Placer County's new senior redevelopment specialist in the Office of Economic Development, he's charged with overseeing efforts to strengthen commercial districts in North Auburn and the Lake Tahoe area, and is part of a team promoting development of the Sunset Industrial Area north of Roseville.

It's a big job, but one Yglesias is looking forward to.

"I like going out and knocking on doors, and informing people about the programs we have," he explained, pointing to the many business-assistance programs offered through the Office of Economic Development.

The county, for example, makes low-interest loans available to businesses for such purposes as buying property, paying development fees and acquiring working capital. Loans range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Through another loan program, the county helps businesses that are renovating their facades, doing other remodeling work or expanding. Loans range from \$500 to \$15,000, and don't have to be repaid if the recipients maintain the properties for at least five years and meet other requirements.

In cooperation with Sierra's College's Small Business Development Center, the Office of Economic Development also can offer technical assistance.

To Yglesias, such programs are tools he will use to administer a county strategic business plan for the Highway 49 corridor in North Auburn that will be completed later this year and adopted plans for business districts in the Bowman area, Kings Beach, Tahoe Vista and Tahoe City. The plans were created through input from businesses in these areas.

The county created his position so it would have someone whose primary responsibility is administering the plans and assisting the business communities in those areas.

"We're going to be depending on Ron a lot," Economic Development Director Ed Graves told the Board of Supervisors recently.

Supervisors approved strategic business plans for Kings Beach and Tahoe Vista on July 23. Plans already are in place for Bowman and Tahoe City, and a similar strategy is being drafted for the Highway 49 corridor.

Located between Roseville and Lincoln, the Sunset Industrial Area has more than 1,000 acres of undeveloped land zoned for industrial uses. Officials expect it to be the focal point of future industrial development in Placer County.

Yglesias spent the last four years as a senior economic development specialist for Indio, a city located southeast of Palm Springs. Earlier in his career, he spent 11 years working for the Los Angeles County redevelopment agency.



#### **Supervisor White to Sponsor Animal Services Forum**

July 29, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will host a community forum regarding animal services in Placer County on Wednesday, August 7, beginning at 6 p.m. The forum will take place in Board Chambers at the County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Avenue in Auburn.

Staff from Placer County Animal Services, Health and Human Services, Facility Services and the County Executive Office will be on hand to describe a number of planned improvements to the Placer County Animal Shelter in Auburn. They will provide information about planning for a new animal shelter. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

"Companion animals enrich our lives and deserve good care, particularly when they are lost or homeless, and end up in our shelter," said Supervisor White. "I hope residents interested in animal services will come, hear about our plans, and share their thoughts."

Originally scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, the meeting had to be postponed because it conflicted with several other community events planned as part of National Night Out, sponsored locally by the Placer County Sheriff's Department and local police departments.

Earlier this spring, Placer County Animal Services, Placer SPCA, Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters and Auburn Area Animal Rescue Foundation hosted a day-long brainstorming session at Del Oro High School to discuss animal services. An evening meeting was held later in North Lake Tahoe. The notes from these events are available on the County's web site, www.placer.ca.gov/animal/animal.htm.



#### **New Clerk of the Board Named**

July 29, 2002

A changing of the guard is about to take place in one of Placer County's vital, but little-noticed management posts.

On Sept. 6, Clerk of the Board Antoinette "Noni" Sharp will retire, ending a county career that began in 1963 just after she graduated from Placer High School. Her successor will be her long-time chief assistant, Supervising Board Clerk Ann Holman.

"The Clerk of the Board plays a critical role in keeping supervisors and the public informed," Board Chairman Ted Gaines said. "We're sad to see Noni leave after almost 40 years of county service, and very much appreciate her dedication and outstanding work. We're fortunate to have someone with Ann's talent and experience to fill Noni's shoes."

Sharp is conspicuous at Board of Supervisors meetings, because she sits at the foot of the dais where supervisors are seated and starts each meeting by reading the statement of meeting procedures.

Her most important work is done far from the public spotlight, but is critical to public participation in county government. The clerk of the board organizes board agendas and background reports, keeps detailed records of board actions and makes them available to the public, and maintains records on the proceedings of county committees and commissions.

Typically, Sharp's staff comes to the aid of people who call the county's main switchboard or show up looking for help at the county's administrative center in Auburn, 175 Fulweiler Ave.

"I have enjoyed working with Noni over the years, and realize that replacing her won't be easy. She and her staff go beyond the call of duty in helping the public," said Board Administrative Officer John Marin. "Fortunately, Ann is the right person to take over the position, and I look forward to working with her on a variety of programs she wants to

New Clerk of the Board Named -- Placer County, Calif.

establish."

Sharp went to work for the assessor's office in 1963 at a time when most departments had offices in or near the county's Historic Courthouse in Auburn.

She joined the county counsel's office full-time in 1976 and became supervising board clerk in 1981. She had a chance to take over as clerk of the board later that year, but declined because she had a young child at home.

In 1998, she took the job when it was offered again.

Holman went to work for the county in 1976, joining the clerk of the board's office about two years later. The two women have worked together ever since.

Sharp applauded the decision to name her long-time colleague as her successor.

"I think she'll do a terrific job," Sharp said.

"I am excited about my appointment and look forward to serving the board in this capacity," Holman added.

After she retires, Sharp wants to spend more time with her mother and eight grandchildren, do volunteer work and perhaps go back to school. She also plans to do plenty of traveling on her Honda 1100 Sabre motorcycle. She's a member of the Gold Country Riders chapter of Women on Wheels.

"I want to explore every state in the union," she explained, acknowledging that getting her motorcycle to Hawaii might be a challenge.



#### **Supervisors Support Pledge**

July 29, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors sided with the U.S. Congress July 23 in the debate over the Pledge of Allegiance, agreeing that a federal appellate court erred when it declared the pledge unconstitutional.

At issue is the pledge's reference to "one nation, under God."

Supervisors agreed unanimously that the words should stay.

"The Pledge of Allegiance has been a tradition in American that has passed the values of freedom, liberty, unity and justice to each generation. In these modern days, it is important for the preservation and future of our nation that these values and traditions are protected," said board Chairman Ted Gaines in a memo to his colleagues.

"The Pledge of Allegiance is a recognition of the fact that many people believe in God and that our culture has traditionally placed value on the role of religion in our nation's formation."

He noted the pledge is statement of historical beliefs, not a religious prayer.

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield emphasized the United States was founded on the principle of religious tolerance, noting that many early settlers came to the country seeking freedom from religious persecution.

"Our Constitution protects our freedom of religion, and our pledge needs to respect the rights of those who do not have similar religious beliefs," he said.

Bloomfield supported the resolution, but warned the board of some consequences of the current wording.

As an elementary school teacher, Supervisor Bloomfield noted he had one deeply

religious student who refrained from reciting the pledge because he believed it put allegiance to the nation ahead of God. Classmates would constantly bring attention to the fact the child wasn't reciting the pledge. To ensure that classmates didn't harass the student because of his beliefs, the supervisor would ask the student to take the daily attendance record to the school office shortly before the pledge was recited.

Gaines brought the issue before the board, asking his colleagues to join him in approving a resolution comparable to one adopted by both houses of Congress. The resolution stresses that people who don't share beliefs expressed in the pledge have a right to refrain from reciting it.

"I respect all religions," said Supervisor Bill Santucci.

In June, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled the pledge unconstitutional, saying the reference to God violates the First Amendment's separation of church and state. A day after the ruling, one of the court's judges issued a stay preventing the ruling from being enforced pending the outcome of anticipated appeals.

In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the mere mention of God in a public setting is not contrary to any reasonable reading of the First Amendment.

At the July 23 meeting, supervisors said they believe the Supreme Court will reaffirm its 1963 decision if it is asked to review the appellate court ruling.



## Work Delayed on Roads in Kings Beach, Roseville Areas

July 24, 2002

Roadwork on Regency Way in Kings Beach and Baseline Road west of Roseville has been postponed for three weeks because of construction work on Interstate 80.

Regency and Baseline are scheduled to get asphalt concrete overlays this summer as part of Placer County's annual summer road maintenance work.

The new schedule calls for repaving all 1.4 miles of Regency Way from Aug. 5-7.

If everything goes as planned, work on a one-mile stretch of Baseline Road between Brewer and Locust roads will start Aug. 12. The repaying work on Baseline will be done at night, because traffic is so heavy during the daylight hours.

No road closures are planned during work on the two roads, but traffic may be delayed for brief periods in some cases.

Repaying work on Regency and Baseline was postponed because of difficulties transporting materials to the Kings Beach site from a Sparks, Nev. supplier.

Long traffic delays are being experienced on the freeway east of Truckee because of bridge construction and other roadwork being done by the California Department of Transportation.

Work will start on Baseline as soon as Regency is completed. Baldwin Contacting Co., the firm doing the work, is required by contract to pave Regency before Baseline.

The new schedule is tentative, because roadwork sometimes is delayed by other factors such as weather and equipment problems.

Placer County is spending \$1.4 million this summer to add asphalt concrete overlays to

four roads. The overlays will make rides smoother for motorists and will extend the useful lives of the roads by several years.

Repaving work already has been done on a 1.4 mile-stretch of Humphrey Road between the Loomis town limit and English Colony Way and a three-mile stretch of Sierra College Boulevard between Delmar Avenue and Highway 193 near Loomis.



### **CIMBL Plans Saturday Cleanup**

July 23, 2002

Citizens Involved Means Better Living will hit the streets once again Saturday, July 27 to do what it does best: clean up county roadways, with support from Placer County.

The group is asking cleanup volunteers to meet at 8 a.m. at the corner of Taylor and King roads in Loomis.

Commonly known as CIMBL, the group plans to clean up King Road and tackle part of Taylor if it has enough time and volunteers.

CIMBL welcomes new volunteers.

"We always can use all the help we can get," explained Hal Albertsen, the group's founder.

Cleanup workers should bring hats and work gloves. The group provides supplies and safety vests.

Since CIMBL was created in 1994, its members have cleaned up almost 1,900 miles of roadway. A single road that long would reach from Auburn to near Chicago.

The group has filled more than 17,500 bags with trash and found more than 1,600 abandoned tires. County road maintenance workers pick up the trash bags and tires.

For more information, call Albertsen at 916-645-3599.



### Supervisor White To Hold Community Forum on Newcastle Project

July 23, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will host a community forum July 31 on Kelshire, a residential project proposed for the Newcastle area.

The forum will be held at 6 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Ave., in Auburn.

"This forum will be a chance for Kelshire's neighbors to get an update on various elements of the project, particularly road access, and to voice their concerns," Supervisor White explained. "I want to make sure the public has ample opportunities to express its views early on, so they can be taken into account as the project proceeds through the review process."

Kelshire would be built on 79 acres located on the north side of Powerhouse Road about 100 feet west of Auburn Folsom Road. Newcastle Powerhouse LLC of Carmichael has proposed dividing the site into 24 residential parcels.

The project currently is in the county's environmental site assessment process. It will go to the Newcastle-Ophir Municipal Advisory Council for review and then to the Planning Commission for a decision on the project's subdivision application.

The public can e-mail comments about the project to Supervisor White at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> or call her at 530-889-4010.



### **Supervisor White Hosts Coffee in Auburn**

July 23, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will hold an informal meeting in Auburn July 31 to talk with constituents about county issues.

The meeting will take place at 2 p.m. in the Beecher Room at the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada St. Refreshments will be provided.

Supervisor White regularly holds such meetings throughout her district to update the public on county projects and programs, answer questions and listen to what constituents have on their minds.

"I find these meetings very helpful, because they're an opportunity for people to let me know what they're concerned about," she said. ""Some people are comfortable speaking at board meetings, but others prefer small, informal gatherings. Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another."

Supervisor White represents the 3 <sup>rd</sup> District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

She encourages Auburn area residents to attend the meeting, as well as the monthly meetings of the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council.

The council generally meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held in the Planning Commission Chambers at Richardson Boulevard and C Avenue in the DeWitt Center.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

White also welcomes email at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Ave. Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet with her at her office

Supervisor White Hosts Coffee in Auburn -- Placer County, Calif.

in the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



#### **Rabid Bats Cause Concern**

July 18, 2002

Some young bats, found on the ground under the old Foresthill bridge (near the confluence of the American River) and turned over to the Placer County Health and Human Services Department, have tested positive for rabies. Therefore, anyone who may have had direct physical contact with bats recently in that area should call the local health department as soon as possible.

"These bats were handled by several people and ultimately turned in to the Health Department," said Mark Miller, Communicable Disease Control Director in Placer County's Public Health program. "Our concern is that others may have had direct physical contact with these bats earlier. They could be vulnerable to rabies and not know it. Rabies is preventable if treated early, but 100 percent fatal if left untreated until symptoms develop."

The old Foresthill bridge near the confluence of the north and middle forks of the American River in the Auburn State Recreation Area is a popular spot for recreation enthusiasts. The bats were found last Friday evening, July 12. Bats typically pose no harm to humans. Overall, only about one percent of the bat population carries rabies, according to Miller. No other similar incidents have been reported in the park.

The river is the normal habitat for bats, which eat the many insects in the area during the night. It is unusual for them to be on the ground, as they normally roost up underneath the bridge during daylight hours.

Placer County Public Health is contacting all who are known to have handled the bats. Those believed to be at risk are being referred to treatment. "The treatment has been used extensively and has improved from past treatments," said Miller. Rabies can be spread through a bite, or by saliva through a break in the skin or through a mucous membrane such as the eye or mouth. It is not transmitted by air or through urine or feces.

Skunks are the most frequent carriers of rabies in the foothills, followed by bats and

occasionally other wildlife. Domestic animals, such as dogs, cats, cattle or horses, are vulnerable, too, "The best way to prevent exposure to rabies is to vaccinate your pets, and avoid contact with wild animals," said Miller. "Children should be taught never to touch wildlife, dead or alive. Pet owners should be very cautious about interaction between their pets and wildlife.

You should also cleanse any animal bite with plenty of soap and water and seek medical treatment."

Anyone who believes they may have had direct physical contact with a bat recently near the old Foresthill bridge at the confluence of the American River should call their local health department.

Placer County Public Health - 530-889-7141
Sacramento County Health Dept. - 916-875-5881
El Dorado County Health Dept. - 530-621-6100
El Dorado County Health South Lake Tahoe - 530-573-3155
El Dorado County Health after hours - 530-295-4188
Nevada County Health Dept. - 530-265-1450



# Placer County Supervisors Workshop on Martis Valley Community Plan in Tahoe

July 15, 2002

An overview presentation of the Martis Valley Community Plan will take place at 11 a. m., Tuesday, July 23, during the meeting of the Placer County Board of Supervisors in Kings Beach. The Board meeting begins at 9 a.m. at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd. No action will be taken regarding the plan.

For three and a half years, an appointed citizens committee and staff have met more than 30 times with residents as part of the process of updating the 1975 Martis Valley General Plan. The plan's vision statement recognizes that the Placer County portion of Martis Valley is not a separate community, and identifies the Town of Truckee as the urban core of the region. Placer County's portion of the Valley would provide enhanced opportunities for summer and winter recreation, first and second homes, and to a lesser extent, workforce housing. Improving transportation facilities is also seen as a priority.

As currently written, the draft plan would revise downward the number of potential dwelling units by 22 percent, from 12,000 in the 1975 Plan to 9,220 in this plan. Based on historic growth rates, full build-out of the plan would not be expected to occur for 20 to 30 years.

It would also require new or expanding resorts in the Martis Valley to provide employee housing equal to 50 percent of the housing demand generated by the projects. The housing would be intended to serve employees with lower or moderate incomes.

The Martis Valley Community Plan Public Review Draft and the Draft Environmental Impact Report are available online (www.placer.ca.gov/planning/projects.htm). Both are also available in CD format or as hard copy for review at the Tahoe City, Truckee and Auburn-Placer County Libraries; the County Administrative Center at 565 West Lake Blvd. in Tahoe City and the Planning Department in Auburn, 11414 B Avenue, DeWitt Center. The Public Review Draft of the plan is also available at no cost through the Placer County Planning Department.

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## Construction Work on Granite Bay Community Park Scheduled for Fall

July 9, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors recently paved the way for the project to proceed, approving plans and authorizing county staff to seek bids from contractors interesting in building the park.

The 16.3-acre park is to be built at the intersection of Douglas Boulevard and Barton Road. The county acquired the site in 1992.

County Parks Administrator John Ramirez said he expects to open bids next month. If everything goes as planned, construction will begin this fall and be completed next spring.

The park plans include two baseball-soccer fields, a playground, picnic areas and a snack bar building with restrooms. The plans call for preserving an oak woodlands and wetlands on the site.

"I'm very pleased we're moving so quickly to provide more parks in Granite Bay," said board Chairman Ted Gaines, the supervisor who represents the community. "Just two months ago, we celebrated the grand opening of Douglas Ranch Park. Soon, two more will be ready for public use: Twin School Park and Granite Bay Community Park."

The 4.5-acre Douglas Ranch Park is at 5250 Sterling St. in the Douglas Ranch neighborhood.

Twin School Park will cover 18.4 acres between Granite Bay High School and Oakhills Elementary School. On June 11, the board set aside \$300,000 in park-dedication fees to help the Eureka Union School District finance construction of that park.

County officials have set aside almost \$1.7 million for construction of Granite Bay Community Park, including park-dedication fees, countywide trail funds, lighting and landscape assessments and park bond funds.

The county is asking contractors to submit base bids covering most of the park's proposed amenities and supplemental bids for the snack bar building, playground structures and second baseball-soccer field. That approach will give the county flexibility to proceed with the base improvements while analyzing whether it has enough money now for the additional three amenities.

Royston, Hanamoto, Alley and Abey Landscape Architects, a company hired by the county to design the park, estimates the base improvements will cost almost \$1.3 million and the three options would total slightly less than \$300,000.



## Supervisor Bloomfield Holds Coffee in Colfax July 16th

July 8, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will hold a coffee klatch in Colfax July 16 to talk with constituents about county issues.

The meeting will take place at noon in the Colfax Library, 2 Church St.

The supervisor regularly holds informal meetings in communities throughout his district where residents can sip coffee while discussing county issues with him. The meetings give residents a chance to voice their concerns and Bloomfield an opportunity to update the public on the status of county projects and programs.

"These meetings are a great chance for me to learn what's on people's minds, and to answer their questions about what the county's doing," Bloomfield said. "I encourage residents to take advantage of them."

At the July 16 meeting, the supervisor will be prepared to discuss such issues as:

- Fire safety;
- A county computer system that allows authorities to quickly notify residents by telephone during emergencies;
- A new county hotline for residents who want to report urgent, but nonemergency situations after normal county business hours; and
- The Weimar-Applegate-Colfax Community Plan update.

Bloomfield represents the 5th District, an area that stretches from Lake Tahoe on the east to north Auburn on the west.

Supervisor Bloomfield Holds Coffee in Colfax July 16th -- Placer County, Calif.

For more information, call the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.



### Meeting Planned to Review Proposed Kings Beach Improvements: Parking

July 8, 2002

Placer County has scheduled a workshop on Thursday, July 25, to update the community on the status of the Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement project. In particular, the topic of this workshop will be public parking within the limits of the commercial core project area.

When approved and built, the project will add highway drainage, parking, and corridor beautification improvements such as sidewalks and bike lanes along Highway 28 through Kings Beach from Chipmunk St. to Hwy 267.

The meeting will take place at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center in Kings Beach at 7:00 p.m.

Although this meeting will primarily focus on needs and proposed locations for parking, updates on other project elements, including the alternative traffic configuration of three lanes with roundabouts at the Bear, Coon, and Fox Street intersections rather than traffic signals (discussed at our May 21, 2002 meeting), will be also be discussed.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Rebecca Bond, Placer County Public Works Dept., 530-889-7615.



# Land Development Workshop Recommends Changes in Process, Technology & Facilities

June 25, 2002

Placer County Supervisors agreed today to improve staff's ability to coordinate the county's land development processes by incorporating technology and developing a facility which makes one-stop permit shopping far easier.

The initiative would also foster greater communication and education with the community, and develop teams and training which improve staff's ability to resolve issues more effectively.

Placer County is the fastest growing county in the state, and has changed dramatically from being largely rural to a county where the majority of residents live in urban areas, primarily in South Placer cities. By 2020, more than 400,000 people are expected to live in Placer County, up from 257,000 today.

"Recognizing that this growth will occur, our challenge is to make sure services and infrastructure are available to serve both new residents and existing residents, and that Placer County is able to protect the quality of life we all cherish," said Holly Heinzen, Deputy County Executive Officer, who made this presentation with staff from collaborating land use departments. "We're examining the most effective ways and processes for development in the unincorporated areas to be considered, and particularly, assuring meaningful opportunities for public input."

Cities make land use decisions about growth within their boundaries, while the County makes decisions about growth within the unincorporated areas. The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) ultimately decides whether land remains unincorporated or becomes part of a city.

"As the region continues to grow, we'll need to work ever more closely with Placer County cities, special districts and other public agencies to improve the coordination between city and county land development processes, and to assure that comprehensive long-range planning takes place," Heinzen added.

Staff from Planning, Public Works, Environmental Health, Economic Development, Building and Facility Services have already made a number of improvements to improve permit processing and communication. "We are getting a positive response from our customers, and that's what this is all about," Heinzen said.

The new initiatives seek to ensure a fair, efficient and timely process with reasonable standards for new development, to accommodate quality of life issues, and to provide meaningful opportunities for public involvement in the land development process.

New projects highlighted today, some of which are still under review, include:

- Evaluating critical land use processes and working with a consultant to identify possible improvements. This evaluation will focus on improvement plans, final map and environmental review as departments work together on these issues.
- Developing a land development issues oversight committee and interdepartmental land development teams, with regular briefings on key issues;
- Training and cross training for new tools and processes;
- Greater public outreach and education;
- Using new technology including on-line permitting, expanded use of graphic information systems, and greater use of the County web site (significant information already in place);
- Assuring that the new land development building being designed for DeWitt Center improves coordination between departments and better resource sharing. Currently residents must visit several buildings to obtain a permit.

Supervisors unanimously declared their support for the actions staff is taking.

"I believe you are headed in the right direction," said Supervisor Bill Santucci.

"Thanks, you are doing a great job," said Supervisor Harriet White. "I am very very impressed."

Chairman Ted Gaines liked what he heard, particularly "best practices". "The more we can bring clarity to the applicants, the better," he said. He also noted the need to be careful to meet the needs of individuals versus professional land developers, and commended staff for "all your efforts."

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield, himself a homeowner-builder in the past, noted staff efforts to be "customer-friendly, with high level service. Staff need to be applauded," he said.

Voting 4-0, with Supervisor Robert Weygandt absent while testifying on legislation in Sacramento, Supervisors also authorized up to \$50,000 to be spent for evaluation and recommendations related to critical land development processes.



### **New County Hotline in Effect**

June 25, 2002

#### **New Hotline Service during non-business hours**

- In Auburn area 530-889-4000
- Toll-free in Placer County outside the Auburn area -- 800-488-4308

A new County Hotline has been put in place for residents who wish to report urgent but non-emergency situations after normal county business hours. Placer County Supervisors unanimously approved the system today following a successful test period which began on May 23.

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield, who had sought creation of the hotline through the County Executive Office, called the hotline "a multi-departmental effort to provide much better service to our constituents."

Prior to today's approval, residents could obtain emergency assistance 24 hours a day by contacting Placer County Sheriff's Dispatch (9-1-1), but reporting other types of problems was more complicated. Dispatch staff did relay important information to departments such as Animal Services and Public Works, but the new system will expand problem notification to more departments.

Calling the Hotline service will be free within Placer County. The new Hotline service uses the regular county switchboard number (530-889-4000) for the Auburn area, and the county toll-free information line (1-800-488-4308) outside Auburn. During business hours, these two numbers are answered by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office.

With the new Hotline service, when county offices are closed, callers may select from a number of options to leave a message with a specific department for response or action, like Animal Control or Public Works. Or the caller may speak directly with a county representative. For example, a critical call might be to report suspicious tree removal activity, suspicious grading, a complaint about a swimming pool, illegal dumping of trash,

or a traffic signal that isn't working correctly. The Hotline will take advantage of the County's current voicemail and Sheriff's Dispatch systems.

The County will inform the public about the new Hotline at regularly-scheduled Municipal Advisory Council and other public meetings, county publications, and on the county Web site, www.placer.ca.gov.



#### **Placer County Wins Economic Development Award**

June 18, 2002

Placer County's Office of Economic Development won a statewide award recently for having an outstanding electronic-marketing program.

The California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) presented its Award of Excellence to the county at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

"Placer County stands heads and shoulders above others in economic development efforts," CALED President Wayne Schell told supervisors. "This award and your success are a testament to your investment in economic development."

Placer County was among 28 applicants for the 2002 award.

County Director of Economic Development Ed Graves reported that electronic marketing is the key to his office's business retention effort – keeping Placer County businesses in Placer County.

The program relies heavily on the county's web site, which is continually updated with economic, demographic, employment and business-support information. The site's address is <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/business">www.placer.ca.gov/business</a>.

Working with Fresh Air Media, the office also has produced a CD-ROM that links users directly to the web site and provides 18 videos on the county's communities, recreation, entertainment, schools and youth activities. It was initially created to aid businesses considering moving to Placer County, also family members of those owners.

The CD-ROM also contains an economic and demographic profile of the county, as well as information on real estate, the labor market and business opportunities.

A monthly e-mail newsletter called In-Progress Online goes out to more than 3,000 primarily business subscribers. Businesses and others who are interested can use the web

Placer County Wins Economic Development Award -- Placer County, Calif.

site to sign up for free subscriptions.



# Proposed Martis Valley Community Plan Draft To Be Reviewed in Community Meeting

June 10, 2002

A public review draft of the proposed Martis Valley Community Plan will be discussed at a meeting to be held in Truckee June 17.

The meeting will be a chance for both the Community Plan Citizen's Committee and public to comment on the draft plan. The Placer County Planning Department will be on hand to present the plan to the committee.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the Truckee Town Hall, 10183 Truckee Airport Road.

The draft plan is similar to an earlier version distributed in January, but contains changes made in response to comments received from a large number of people.

The public can review the draft plan on the county's Internet web site at <a href="www.placer.ca.gov">www.placer.ca</a>. gov , in the department's Auburn offices at 11414 B Ave., or in the Tahoe City offices at 565 West Lake Blvd. To request a copy by mail, call the department at 530-889-7470.

Also available for public review are three maps from the draft plan that show proposed land-use designations; traffic circulation; and parks, trails and other recreational sites. The maps are very large and may take some time to download from the web site.

For more information about the June 17 meeting, call Principal Planner Bill Combs at 530-889-7470.

The Placer County portion of the Martis Valley generally is the area bounded by the Tahoe Basin on the south, Nevada state line on the east, the town of Truckee and Nevada County line on the north and Truckee River corridor on the west.

Proposed Martis Valley Community Plan Draft To Be Reviewed in Community Meeting -- Placer County, Calif.

The committee was created in 1997 to work with county staff on an update of the 1975 Martis Valley General Plan.

After the committee completes its deliberations, the draft plan will go to the county Planning Commission for review and the Board of Supervisors for final action.



#### **Squaw Valley Park Moves Forward**

June 10, 2002

Placer County plans to start construction later this month on a 30-acre park in Squaw Valley.

If everything goes as planned, the first phase of the project should be completed by October.

The park site is at the southwest corner of Squaw Valley Road and Highway 89. A soccer field and other amenities will cover about eight acres of the site. The remaining 22 wooded acres will feature hiking trails.

"After ten years of working with every governmental agency imaginable, Squaw Valley will finally get its park," Supervisor Rex Bloomfield said. "Placer County staff and community members have put in a Herculean effort to overcome every obstacle and finally have their park built. Kudos to everyone who helped to make this a reality."

On May 28, the Board of Supervisors awarded a \$1.16 million contract for the first-phase work to Edward Navickis of Penn Valley, the contractor who submitted the lowest bid.

The first phase of the project will include:

- o A rough-graded soccer field;
- Two tot lots;
- o A trail staging area;
- An unpaved trail that will connect to the Western States Trail, as well as a proposed Sacramento-to-Tahoe trail;
- A paved bicycle trail that will link up with existing bike trails between Squaw Valley to Tahoe City;
- o A bus stop;
- o Picnic areas; and
- o Vehicle parking.

During the second phase of the project, a grass-like synthetic turf and perimeter fence will be added to the soccer field. The synthetic turf will help the county avoid the need for water, fertilizers and other chemicals and will greatly reduce maintenance requirements. County officials plan to do the second-phase construction work next year if funding is available.



### **Supervisor White To Host Constituent Meeting**

June 10, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will hold an informal meeting in Loomis on Wednesday, June 26 to hear what her constituents have to say about county government.

The meeting will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive.

Supervisor White regularly holds informal meetings throughout her district to answer questions and hear what constituents have on their minds. The meetings also give her a chance to update people on county projects and programs.

She represents the 3 <sup>rd</sup> District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

Supervisor White also encourages residents to stay informed on county issues by attending meetings of the Horseshoe Bar Municipal Advisory Council. It generally meets on the third Tuesday of every other month in the Loomis Library. Its next meeting is scheduled for July 16.

The schedule changes occasionally, so times and dates should be confirmed online at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/bos">www.placer.ca.gov/bos</a> or by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

The supervisor also welcomes email at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet with her at her office in the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler Ave.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



#### **County Employees Honored for Service**

June 6, 2002

Director of Health and Human Services Ray Merz and one his top public health officials were among the winners at the sixth annual Placer County Employee Recognition Awards Program June 4.

Merz received special recognition for his leadership of the Health and Human Services Department over many years and his guidance during 2001, a particular challenging year.

He also had the honor of presenting a leadership award to one of his employees: Mark Miller, Director of the HHS Public Health Laboratory.

Other individual award winners were Darrell Hendricks, Senior Utility Worker in the Facility Services Department; Greg Currier, Telecommunications Technician in Administrative Services; and Jack Edstrom, a planner who works at the county administrative office in Tahoe City.

Nominations for the prestigious awards are made by other county employees to recognize leadership, innovation, dedication, commitment, and overall service to the public.

Teams from HHS, the Assessor's Office and County Clerk-Recorder's Office also received group awards during the noontime picnic at the DeWitt Center in North Auburn.

Under Merz's leadership, several separate agencies were merged to create a seamless service team, now "an effective, comprehensive service agency which is a model of excellence within the State of California," noted County Executive Jan Christofferson during the awards ceremony.

Merz was also a key player in improving worker safety in HHS, establishing a new facility in Roseville to provide mental health services, and providing overall leadership following the terrorist threats.

Mark Miller has been a key player in local response to citizen concerns about potential anthrax exposures following the Sept. 11 attacks. He worked closely with the Office of Emergency Services, the Sheriff's Department, other local agencies and the FBI to do follow up on local potential incidents.

Working with Public Health Officer Dr. Richard Burton, Miller also developed materials to help medical and emergency responders know what they should watch for and how they should respond if a bioterrorism agent is suspected. "By using our laboratory to analyze suspicious substances, Mark has helped to calm fear in the community," noted Merz.

Hendricks earned the Innovation Award for creatively solving an ongoing problem of grease build up and odors at the County's 33 sewage-pumping facilities. The solution in use caused corrosive side effects to the pumps and cables. Darrell found a more environmentally friendly, low-tech solution that resulted in a net savings of \$297,000. Facility Services Director Tom Miller made the presentation.

Currier's work overseeing the County's audio and video systems, earned him a Dedication and Commitment Award. "Greg's often first on the scene and the last to leave," noted Rich Colwell, Administrative Services Director. "He supports his customers with a high level of skill and a high level of enthusiasm, takes great pride in quality presentations, and always goes the 'extra mile' to meet or exceed the needs of his customers."

In addition to researching the best ways to meet customers' technological needs, Currier often finds lower-cost alternatives such as renting equipment for occasional use.

Edstrom was honored with a Public Service Award. Under an unusual arrangement created by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and Placer County, Jack is responsible for evaluating construction permits for compliance with TRPA regulations.

"Since he's been in this role, Jack has been able to provide much better service in North Lake Tahoe than what was previously available," noted Planning Director Fred Yeager. "Previously people had to wait four to six months for feedback on a TRPA project, and plans then often had to be changed to meet a requirement the applicant was unaware of. Jack has reduced that waiting time to one or two months.

"Additionally, he is able to provide good information to residents as they seek their permits. By streamlining the permit process in this way, Jack cleaned up a six month permit process backlog in his first six months on the job, and has greatly improved service to residents."

The Assessor's property appraisal, assessment, resource and planning team garnered

group honors for innovation by developing a faster and more accurate method of printing business property statements. Assessor Bruce Dear presented the team award to Kristin Spears, Pattie Prouty, Louise Carmichael and Julie Myiagi.

Also honored was the ACCESS team working in Roseville, which provides 24-hour a day crisis response to cases such as child protective service or mental health emergencies. Thirty-one members of the ACCESS team earned the team award for dedication and commitment for their excellent service to the community and their reliable, efficient operations, even while they lacked a permanent supervisor.

The County Clerk-Recorder's Office received a team award for excellent customer service. Team members developed new ways to schedule time at counters and away from phones to assure they could meet the service needs required for filing of documents received by mail or in person. At one point they had managed to mail 22,600 documents in just 11 days.

William DeCamp from the Northern California Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (NAPCO) presented an organization award to Diane Perriraz, for Technician/Technical Class Award of the Year for her exemplary services as a system analyst for Placer County Dispatch.



#### **Todd Valley Pond Park - Ready for Public Use**

June 6, 2002

Placer County has turned a pond long known to fishing aficionados into the centerpiece of a new park in Todd Valley.

Until a few months ago, the hard-to-get-to pond tended to attract only hardy souls who didn't mind navigating a narrow trail overgrown with a dense mix of poison oak, manzanita and other brush.

The county Parks and Grounds Division took care of that problem, spending several days clearing away the brush so the public would have easy access to the pond from Foresthill Road.

Workers also cleared brush around the pond, creating an easy-to-navigate trail along its banks.

County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield took members of the Foresthill Forum on a tour of the park June 3 before the group's regularly scheduled monthly meeting, hoping to raise awareness of the park and encourage people to use it.

"It's more than just fishing down here," Bloomfield told about a dozen people who joined the outing, noting the park is a good place for picnics and hiking. "This is something the whole community can really use."

The park is located south of Foresthill Road east of Happy Pines Drive. A small creek feeds the pond, which is located in a tranquil, tree-covered valley.

The county installed signs recently alerting people to the location of the pond and the park surrounding it, and installed barriers so motor vehicles couldn't use the park's main trail.

To turn the 26.7-acre property into a park, county officials also needed permission for the trail to cross a neighbor's property.

The county plans to put in several picnic tables and benches purchased with a grant from the California Department of Conservation. Generally, though, the park will be a passive facility with an emphasis on fishing and hiking.

Bloomfield got the idea for turning the little-known property into a park recently when he and county Parks Administrator John Ramirez met with a property owner who wanted access across part of the site.

"I thought: why don't we make this a park for the community's use?" Bloomfield explained.



#### **Todd Valley Pond Park Get-Together Planned**

May 31, 2002

The public is invited to attend a get-together to be held Monday, June 3 at a Todd Valley pond that is the focal point of a little-known park owned by Placer County.

The event is scheduled to take place at 6 p.m. Todd Valley Pond Park is located south of Foresthill Road east of Happy Pine Road. Balloons will be placed Monday at the entrance to the 26.7-acre park so the public can find it more easily.

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield is organizing the get-together, hoping to raise awareness of the park and encourage people to use it.

The pond has long served as a local fishing hole. At the urging of Bloomfield, the county's Parks and Grounds Division cleared manzanita and other brush from the surrounding land recently, so the park site would be more accessible. Signs also have been installed to let the public know about the park.

The county also plans to put in several picnic tables and benches purchased with a grant from the California Department of Conservation. Generally, though, the park will be a passive facility with an emphasis on fishing and hiking.

Bloomfield has invited members of the Foresthill Forum to attend Monday's gathering before their regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in the Foresthill Community Center, 24580 Main St.



#### **Commemorative Coin Program Is Approved**

May 31, 2002

Placer County Supervisors have started a program to recognize outstanding citizens through a Commemorative Coin program, the first in the State.

Spearheaded by Chairman Ted Gaines, the Coin program will provide Supervisors the unique opportunity to honor extraordinary acts of heroism or longstanding service to a local resident or to Placer County. Each Supervisor may award up to two Coins per year at a Board ceremony, the first of which will be held in December.

On the face of the coin will be an image of the Placer County seal. The Placer County Arts Council has agreed to coordinate an art competition to attract professional graphic design proposals for the image on the opposite side, which should compliment the county seal and purpose of the award.

"Placer County is fortunate in having residents who care deeply about their community, who give unselfishly, sometimes facing great danger, with no thought of recognition or reward," Supervisor Gaines said. "This Commemorative Coin program allows us to honor their commitment, to thank them publicly. Drawing attention to their good deeds may inspire others to get involved."

Coin recipients must meet one of the following criteria:

- Offered contribution of longstanding service to Placer County or a resident thereof;
- Sacrifices a combination of time and talent to Placer County or a resident thereof;
- Went beyond the call of duty to save a life;
- Voluntarily performed the act of heroism and was not paid for the act;
- Participated in a rarely told ore reported feat;
- Dramatically improved and/or impacted a life.

Residents who wish to submit a nomination are encouraged to contact their district

Commemorative Coin Program Is Approved -- Placer County, Calif.

supervisor. The first award ceremony will take place in December, with up to two ceremonies per year planned.

Coins issued to individuals through the military have been highly valued.



#### Improving Animal Services: Help Us Plan

May 29, 2002

Residents are invited to play an important role in helping to improve services for dogs, cats and other companion animals through Placer County Animal Services and its programs.

On Wednesday, June 12, Placer County Animal Services will join Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters, Wylie Animal Rescue Foundation (WARF), and Placer SPCA in hosting a community event to explore future paths for animal care in the community.

Participants will discuss the question "what are the issues and opportunities facing us as we develop strategies to provide services for our domestic animal population and our communities?"

"We'll try to envision the day when all people are responsible to the animals in their care, when all animals are treated well, and when every companion animal is assured of a good home and humane care all its natural life," explained Richard Ward, Placer County Animal Services Manager. "This event will give people a chance to talk about what's needed to move toward these goals." Participants will focus on their interest, whether it's spay-neuter or humane education, animal sheltering facility issues, helping families to train their dogs, developing greater collaboration between animal welfare organizations or addressing another of the many issues related to animal care, protection or control.

The event will take place at North Tahoe Community Conference Center in Kings Beach, 8318 North Lake Blvd., from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The format will be an Open Space Technology format where individuals brainstorm and help develop workable ideas. "We hope participants will stay through the event to help us gain the greatest value from their input," Ward noted. Refreshments will be served.

"Support from groups like the Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters, and input from the community will be very important as we face the challenge of improving animal care together," Ward said. "We are grateful for their support and dedication to animal care Improving Animal Services: Help Us Plan -- Placer County, Calif.

issues."

For more information, call Placer County Animal Services, 530-886-5537, or WARF at 775-831-1730 or 833-2319.



#### Transit Center Meeting Is Planned

May 29, 2002

Placer County officials will hold a meeting in Tahoe City June 10 to update the public on nine potential sites being considered for a transit center and on the criteria that will be used to evaluate the sites.

The meeting will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. in the boardroom of the Tahoe City Public Utility District, 221 Fairway Drive.

This meeting is being held to provide information to the public on alternative sites being evaluated and to solicit feedback from the public. Environmental Sciences Associates of Sacramento, a consultant hired to help with the site study, will be on hand to answer questions.

The county has made no decision on where to put the project, which is known formally as the proposed Intermodal Transit Center. The center would serve as a transportation hub for bicyclists, pedestrians, buses, park-and-ride commuters, ski shuttles and other types of transportation.

A 64-acre Tahoe City property owned by the U.S. Forest Service has been the main focus of attention, but the county Board of Supervisors asked staff last fall to consider alternative sites. At that time, the board also directed staff to consider building the center's 130-space parking lot in phases.

County staff hopes to present the board with a completed site study and a staff recommendation sometime this fall. A public hearing will be held during the board deliberations.

The nine sites being studied include two located on the 64-acre property, which is located on the west side of Highway 89 south of Fanny Bridge. The proposed transit center would need about three acres of the property.

The county Planning Commission approved the transit-center project and its environmental impact report (EIR) last year, but those decisions were appealed to the Board of Supervisors. At the second of two public hearings held to review the appeal, the board directed staff to conduct a comprehensive study of potential alternative sites.

When the study is completed, it will be incorporated into the project's existing EIR and the EIR will be recirculated for public comment.



#### Supervisor Bloomfield To Hold Coffee in Tahoe City

May 28, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will hold an informal meeting in Tahoe City June 4 to discuss county issues with residents.

The meeting is scheduled to be held at 9 a.m. in the Tahoe City Library, 740 North Lake Blvd.

Bloomfield regularly holds informal morning meetings where residents can sip coffee while discussing county issues with him. The meetings give him a chance to listen to the concerns of residents and update the public on the status of county projects and programs.

Bloomfield represents the 5 <sup>th</sup> District, which stretches from Lake Tahoe on the east to north Auburn on the west.

For more information, call the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.



#### **New Air Pollution Control Officer Named**

May 24, 2002

Tom Christofk has been named Placer County Air Pollution Control Officer, the top administrative and regulatory post at the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (APCD).

He replaces Richard Johnson, who retired in January 2000. After Johnson's departure, Christofk served as district general manager and Principal Air Pollution Control Engineer Todd Nishikawa agreed to be acting air pollution control officer.

The board didn't fill Johnson's position immediately because it was considering long-range options for the district's future, including the possibility of a merger with another air district in the region.

Before his reassignment to the APCD, Christofk was emergency services coordinator in the county's Office of Emergency Services. He has worked for the county since 1995. Prior to coming to the county, Christofk served in the U.S. Marine Corps for eight years, was a small business owner and worked as a program manager for Ford Aerospace.

The APCD is a special district created by state law to enforce local, state and federal air pollution regulations. Under state law, the head of each local air district is given the title air pollution control officer.

Michael Storz, the district board's chairman, called Christofk "an effective administrator who has been able to maintain essential services while cutting costs and looking for creative ways to raise revenue."

"Tom takes a businesslike approach, and is a very creative thinker in terms of looking for solutions to resolving our issues," Storz said.

As part of its mandate, the district monitors county air quality, controls air pollution from stationary sources such as factories and service stations, responds to and investigates

citizen complaints, regulates open burning, reviews land-use development proposals for potential air quality impacts and prepares long-term plans for attaining state and federal air-quality goals.

The board of directors makes district policy and fiscal decisions. The district's staff are county employees. The board is composed of three county supervisors and three representatives from local cities.

The supervisors who currently serve on the district board are Ted Gaines, Rex Bloomfield and Robert Weygandt. The city representatives are Lincoln Mayor Pro Tem Michael Storz, Roseville Councilman Richard Roccucci and Auburn Mayor Jodie Hale.

Away from work, Tom's a horse enthusiast who participates regularly in the Tevis Cup 100-mile endurance ride and works with wife Laura to organize the annual ride and tie championship race held near Truckee. Ride and tie is an event that combines trail running and endurance riding. Each team is composed of two people and one horse.



#### **Constituent Meeting Planned**

May 20, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will meet with constituents Wednesday, May 29, in Newcastle to share information about ongoing district issues, to hear what they have to say, and to answer their questions.

The meeting is scheduled to take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Denny's Restaurant at 681 Newcastle Road.

Harriet regularly holds informal meetings throughout her district to answer questions and hear what constituents have on their minds. The meetings also give her a chance to update people on county projects and programs.

"I look forward to these meetings, because they help me stay in touch with what residents in my district are thinking," Supervisor White said. "Some people feel comfortable speaking in board meetings, but many others feel more comfortable talking in smaller groups. Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another."

White represents the 3 <sup>rd</sup> District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

She also encourages residents to stay informed on county issues by attending meetings of the Newcastle/Ophir Municipal Advisory Council.

The council normally meets on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the United Auburn Indian Community Center, 661 Newcastle Road.

The schedule changes occasionally, so times and dates should be confirmed online at <a href="https://www.placer.ca.gov/bos">www.placer.ca.gov/bos</a> or by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

The supervisor also welcomes email at <a href="https://hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a> and mail at 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603. Residents also may make appointments to meet with her at

her office in the county's Auburn administration center, 175 Fulweiler Ave.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



#### Park Opening Celebrated in Granite Bay

May 8, 2002

Placer County officials and Granite Bay residents got together recently to celebrate the grand opening of Douglas Ranch Park.

More than 50 people were on hand for a May 1 grand-opening ceremony at the 4.5-acre park. It's located at 5250 Sterling St. in the Douglas Ranch residential subdivision.

"Over the years, many residents of Granite Bay have imagined a community in which they and their children could enjoy many attractive park facilities," said Chairman Ted Gaines of the county Board of Supervisors. "Construction of Douglas Ranch Park is the first step in providing several new parks which will bring that dream to reality."

He noted that construction is scheduled to get under way later this year on two other Granite Bay parks: Twin School and Granite Bay.

Douglas Ranch Park features a full-sized field for baseball and softball, tot-lot playground, picnic areas and restrooms. It's located next to a site where the Eureka Union School District is building a new elementary school.

A joint-use agreement is in place that will allow the public to use school buildings and recreational facilities and school children to use the park.

The park was a joint endeavor of the Parks and Grounds Division in the county's Facility Services Department and Southfork Partnership, the developer of the Douglas Ranch subdivision.

Southfork was required to set aside only 1.5 acres for a neighborhood park and to build some of the recreational facilities.

The developer and county, however, worked out a deal in which Southfork agreed to make 4.5 acres available for the park and to construct facilities that normally would have

been the county's responsibility. In return, the county agreed to pay the developer \$156,000 for its extra commitments.

"So, instead of a tiny 1.5-acre park, we have a 4.5-acre community park which is much more useable for everybody," said Russ Kelley, a member of the county Parks Commission. "This shows what can happen when the public and private sectors work together and find solutions to problems that are mutually beneficial."

County officials also noted the agreement saved the county a considerable amount of money and allowed the park to be completed earlier than otherwise would have been the case.

The Park Committee of the Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Council helped lay out the park's recreational facilities.

Other groups that helped with the park-planning efforts included the Granite Bay Community Association and Lakeside Little League.



### **Bell Road Widening Project To Begin Soon**

May 3, 2002

Late-night motorists may encounter some traffic delays on Bell Road between Highway 49 and Interstate 80 in the coming weeks.

Traffic shouldn't be disrupted much, however, during daytime hours, weekends and holidays while Bell is being widened to four lanes.

The \$4.5 million project is a critical part of Placer County's efforts to improve traffic circulation in north Auburn, because Bell is one of the area's few major transportation routes that provides direct access to Interstate 80. The project will give Bell extra capacity to handle future traffic increases and help relieve existing congestion on Highway 49.

Funding for the project is coming primarily from county traffic-mitigation fees. The fees are paid by residential and other construction projects built in unincorporated parts of the county.

County officials are working with Teichert Construction to keep traffic problems to a minimum.

"The construction work may be a bit inconvenient for motorists over the next year, but traffic circulation in north Auburn will be much better when the project is completed," said county Public Works Director Tim Hackworth.

Teichert, the project's general contractor, will sometimes need to limit traffic to one lane between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. on weekdays. Flagmen will be used to stop traffic in one direction while motorists proceed in the other direction.

The company also has the option of closing Bell between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. weekdays, but must seek the county's approval first. That option would require a detour plan and public notification at least a week before a proposed closure.

Teichert officials will take steps to ensure construction work won't interfere with rush-hour traffic from 6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. weekdays. The work also won't disrupt traffic during weekends, holidays and Fridays before holiday weekends.

Between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, motorists may occasionally encounter delays for short periods while equipment is moved across the roadway. Traffic also may be slow because travel lanes frequently will be narrower than usual during construction work.

Teichert plans to maintain access to driveways, parking lots and businesses along Bell at all times, although unrestricted access may not always be possible.

"Motorists do need to be extra cautious and slow down while Bell Road is being widened," said county Senior Civil Engineer David Bingen. "We will do everything we can to keep Bell Road safe during the construction work, but we need motorists to cooperate."

Bell will be widened to four lanes from the Wise Canal near Highway 49 to Interstate 80.

The project will give the 2.5-mile stretch of Bell two 12-foot travel lanes in both directions, a painted median with left-turn pockets at intersections and high-use driveways, and eight-foot shoulders on both sides. Existing bicycle lanes will be maintained in the roadway's shoulders.

Work is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2003.

West of the Wise Canal, Bell already has four lanes as far as Professional Drive

On Wednesday, Teichert began installing concrete barriers known as K-rails on the south side of Bell. The barriers will protect workers by separating them from traffic.

Teichert hopes to start soon on reconfiguring lanes at the east end of Bell to accommodate the construction work.

Some trees have been removed to make way for the project, but county officials are working with Teichert in a bid to preserve several large oak trees near the edge of the road slopes.



#### **Hometown Hero Is Honored**

May 3, 2002

A hometown hero was recognized at a meeting of the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council May 2 for saving a woman and her three dogs earlier this year.

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield organized the recognition ceremony, presenting Fred Habenicht with a proclamation recounting how his bravery and quick action saved the unidentified woman and animals.

"We really appreciate having a hometown hero," Bloomfield said.

Habenicht was on hand with 10-year-old son Ryan to accept the honor.

"I did what I think anyone would have done," Habenicht said afterward.

Believed to be a Southern California resident in her late 20s, the woman was visiting friends in Meadow Vista on Feb. 27 and apparently got lost while on a morning walk with the three dogs. Hoping to rescue a dog that had fallen into the Bear River Canal, she jumped into the cold, rushing water and her other two dogs followed suit.

A landscape-construction worker, Habenicht said he's not normally at home on weekday mornings, emphasizing he has only worked through the night three times in his life, but one was the night before the rescue.

As a result, he was sleeping that morning when he heard his dog barking loudly. Checking on the dog, he heard a woman's scream in the distance.

He called 911 to alert authorities, then rushed outside to see if he could help. By the time he arrived, the hysterical woman had been in the water more than 15 minutes and was clinging to a branch while holding the dogs.

Habenicht estimated the canal is about 15 feet wide and 8 feet deep. Getting out is a

challenge because of its steep slopes.

Habenicht tied one end of a rope to a tree and slid into the canal while holding the other end. He was able to pull the woman and dogs from the water and gave her first aid until a crew from the Placer Hills Fire Protection District arrived to treat the woman.

"He really initiated the rescue and carried it out himself," said Fire Chief Ian Gow, emphasizing that Habenicht acted quickly and decisively.

Gow said the woman was suffering from hypothermia when his crew arrived, but recovered.

"There's no question that the young woman very possibly would have died if he had not heard her cries," Gow said.



# Meeting Planned to Review Kings Beach Improvements

May 9, 2002

Placer County has scheduled a public meeting on Tuesday, May 21, to update the community on the status of the <u>Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement project.</u> Of particular interest is a recent preliminary analysis of a potential three-lane design alternative which would include roundabouts at the Bear, Coon, and Fox Street intersections instead of traffic signals.

The meeting will take place at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center in Kings Beach. Presentations will begin at 7 p.m. When approved and built, the project will add highway drainage, parking, and corridor beautification improvements such as sidewalks and bike lanes along Highway 28 through Kings Beach from Chipmunk St. to Hwy 267.

During a public meeting held in February, the community requested that a different highway design be considered as an alternative to the current four-lane with traffic signals configuration. By narrowing the width of the highway from four lanes to three lanes (one traffic lane in each direction with a center turn lane) and including roundabouts at the Bear, Coon, and Fox Street intersections rather than traffic signals, traffic speeds may be reduced through the commercial corridor, improving pedestrian safety and mobility. Kings Beach residents also expressed a strong interest in adding a unique and charming feel to the Kings Beach commercial core improvements, with roundabouts possibly achieving that objective.

Although the County and Caltrans completed a study of nine potential alternatives regarding travel lanes and signalization options in January of 2001, this study did not include an option of using roundabouts instead of traffic signals.

After the public meeting in February, the County, their consultant, and Caltrans traffic operations staff began analyzing the technical feasibility of three-lanes of traffic with roundabouts at the intersections on Highway 28. No conclusions have been drawn as to whether or not roundabouts should be considered as the preferred traffic configuration for

the commercial corridor. However, in order to keep the community informed with accurate information regarding this important planning process, the County and Caltrans would like to share the technical findings gathered to date. In particular, those properties at the Bear, Coon, and Fox Street intersections may be interested in attending this meeting, as the minimum roundabout diameter is 140 feet, and if this design alternative is chosen, this may substantially impact properties at each intersection.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Rebecca Bond, Placer County Public Works Dept., 530-889-7615.



# Supervisor Bloomfield Hosts Coffee in Kings Beach

May 2, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield plans to host a coffee with residents on Tuesday, May 14, at noon in the Kings Beach Library.

The coffee is an informal opportunity for residents and business owners to share their views and ask questions about County issues and plans for the future.

Additionally, residents will receive an update on projects underway or planned with the Kings Beach Action Committee. The proposed Kings Beach Improvement project, and a new teleminder emergency notification system may be of particular interest, as well as a review of upcoming County meetings in North Lake Tahoe.

ÒOur coffees have proven to be a great way for residents to let us know of their suggestions and concerns in a friendly, informal setting,Ó said Bloomfield. ÒI hope to see you there.Ó

For more information, call the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.



# Jamaican Visitors Tour Placer County Probation Programs

May 1, 2002

Jamaican government officials visited Placer County's Probation Department last week to study several innovative alternative-sentencing programs that allow low-risk offenders to maintain jobs or do community service in lieu of jail time.

An island nation in the Caribbean Sea, Jamaica is committed to giving alternative sentencing a try. An Internet search convinced government officials there that Placer County's criminal-justice system has the kinds of programs they're interested in.

So, a five-member team from Jamaica spent a week in Placer County to learn more about electronic-monitoring, community-service, work-furlough, work-release and other programs offered here.

While allowing participants to keep jobs and do community service, such programs benefit the county by significantly reducing the number of prisoners it must house.

Before they left Saturday, the Jamaican team also got a chance to do a bit of sightseeing. To say the least, the foothills offered a change of pace from island life in Jamaica.

Only Project Manager Ira Porter had visited California before, and her earlier stay was in Los Angeles. Several members of the team had never seen snow before they visited the county's facilities at Lake Tahoe last week.

"It's very quiet, just basically a comfortable place to be," said Jamaican Probation Officer Charmaine Holmes when asked for her impression of Placer County.

She felt at home partly because the foothills reminded Holmes of the hills where she lives in the interior of Jamaica.

Better known for its beautiful beaches, Jamaica is an island nation located south of Cuba

in the Caribbean Sea. A British colony for about 300 years, the country gained full independence in 1962, but remains a member of the British Commonwealth.

Jamaica's Department of Correctional Services launched a three-year pilot project recently in cooperation with authorities from the United Kingdom. The goal: to expand the use of community service as an alternative to jail time.

Porter knew California is a pioneer in the field, so she began surfing the Internet to learn more about approaches used in the United States.

She came across Placer County's web site, and soon discovered the county has the types of options her government is interested in trying, including alternative-sentencing programs and drug courts.

"It immediately caught my attention," she recalled last week.

Hoping to check out the programs for herself, Porter wrote Placer Deputy Chief Probation Officer Dave Peden, asking him to help arrange a visit for the five-person team.

"This would not only broaden our knowledge base, but also enhance the work that we do," she wrote Peden.

The latter agreed to help, and served as the group's host during their visit.

While in Placer County, the Jamaican delegation received briefings on alternativesentencing options, and visited the county's Historic Courthouse and Museum, county jail, juvenile hall and drug court.

Delegation members also had a chance to meet with Chairman Ted Gaines of county Board of Supervisors.

"We're honored they decided to visit Placer County," he said afterward. "It's nice to know our programs are so highly regarded."

Before leaving, the Jamaican delegation emphasized it was impressed with how friendly Placer County residents are, and how highly trained and hard working county staff seems to be.

"Everybody knows what is expected," explained Jamaican Executive Director of Probation Services Shirley Johnson, noting that Placer's Probation Department seems to have clear lines of authority and a team spirit.

Jamaican Visitors Tour Placer County Probation Programs -- Placer County, Calif.

Porter said she was pleased with the visit, emphasizing the delegation's members had greater access to people and programs than would have been the case if they had gone to a larger county.



### **Palm Tree Plans Considered**

May 1, 2002

The Penryn Area Advisory Council will hold a special meeting Tuesday, May 7, to hear about PG&E's proposal for removing more than two dozen century-old palm trees along English Colony Way.

While PG&E has the legal authority to remove the trees because they rest in its right of way, Placer County and the utility are exploring options to help reduce the impact, such as replacing the trees. PG&E must comply with California Public Utility Commission rules pertaining to electrical line clearances with trees.

Tuesday's meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in the Penryn Elementary School, 6885 English Colony Way.

PG&E wants to remove the trees as part of an ongoing vegetation-control program aimed at ensuring trees don't cause fires or power outages by coming into contact with electrical lines.

Interested residents are encouraged to attend.



# **Dragland Named "Prosecutor of the Year"**

April 22, 2002

Placer County Deputy District Attorney Steven M. Dragland has been selected "Prosecutor of the Year" by his peers.

On Tuesday, Dragland accepted the prestigious award from District Attorney Brad Fenocchio during the Board of Supervisors meeting in Auburn.

The annual "Prosecutor of the Year Award" is given in memory of Placer County Deputy District Attorney Anne-Marie Bourgeois, honoring her dedication to the prosecution of criminals. She died as the result of a tragic fire in her home in 1994. Each Deputy District Attorney within the office is given the opportunity to vote for the colleague they feel best exemplifies outstanding effort, enthusiasm, excellence and courage in prosecuting cases.

Prosecutor Dragland joined the DA's Office in 1989 to handle misdemeanors, but soon was prosecuting high profile felonies. In 1994 California's "three strikes" law was passed. Since then Dragland has been the primary prosecutor of "three strikes" cases, and "has prosecuted numerous serious and violent criminals, resulting in lengthy sentences," said District Attorney Fenocchio.

"Steve demonstrates overall excellence, integrity and a remarkable courtroom talent," noted Fenocchio in presenting the award. "He approaches each case with dedication, resolve and enthusiasm, often following up on nights and weekends to confirm extra bits of critical information."

In accepting the award, Dragland praised co-workers, staff and law enforcement. "The success of any case requires the efforts of many people," Dragland said, "I count on the professionalism and dedication of those who arrest, investigate and process these cases when I put on a trial. I am grateful to them, and to my peers, for this honor."



### **County Anniversary Festival Is Trip Back in Time**

Schedule of Events | Parade Route | Further Anniversary Information

April 19, 2002

Placer County is hoping people will take a trip back in time Saturday, April 27.

For a day, it wants to give the public a glimpse of life back when thousands of gold miners roamed the foothills, stagecoaches journeyed along local highways and the Central Pacific Railroad was busy laying track for the nation's first intercontinental railroad.

The occasion: the grand finale of the county's yearlong 150 <sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary celebration. The California Legislature created the county in 1851, just three years after Claude Chana discovered gold near Auburn.

County officials have more in mind than a simple birthday party.

"We want to remind the public what life was like in the old days, and show them how much fun history can be," said Museums Department Director Jerry Rouillard. "Our county has such a rich, colorful history, and much of it has been preserved in places like Old Town Auburn."

Saturday's festivities will feature a parade with a colorful cast of costumed characters representing several eras in the county's history. The parade is scheduled to begin at noon and wind its way from the Gold Country Fairgrounds to Auburn's Historic Courthouse.

Afterward, a free, family-oriented festival is planned from 12:30 to 4 p.m. in and around the courthouse.

During the festival, participants will be able to go on carriage rides, learn to pan for gold, participate in living history activities, look over transcontinental railroad artifacts and vintage vehicles, and watch an old-fashioned firemen's muster.

Officials from the Placer Herald in Rocklin will be on hand to show off the printing press the newspaper used when it started publishing in 1852. Smokey Bear also plans to be at the festival, courtesy of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Inside the courthouse museum, the public will be able to view the county's collection of real gold. Nearby, a dark first-floor cell that served as the women's jail many years ago will be open for the public to see.

Fun for children will include old-fashioned games and free photographs in historical costumes.

Musical entertainment will include historical folk songs from Patti McAdams, the vocal harmonies of the Sweet Adelines, bluegrass music from the Terry Crouson Trio and western swing songs from the Eddies.

Sheriff Ed Bonner will be master of ceremonies during an opening ceremony to be held at the courthouse's front balcony. With him will be members of the Board of Supervisors and other local elected officials.

County departments will offer practical information on such topics as registering to vote and using the Internet to look for county jobs, as well as presentations showing how officials did their jobs in the early days.

The Elections Division's booth, for example, will provide voter-registration materials, while giving the public a quick look at how much voting has changed over the years. Early in the county's history, boxes were placed in trees to collect voter ballots.

More than 50 entries have signed up to participate in the parade. Along the route are some of Auburn's most important historical buildings.

The parade will start near the Bernhard House, a building that may be the oldest wooden structure in Auburn.

Built in 1851, the building originally was a stage stop known as the Traveler's Rest. It's a museum today that depicts the lives of the Bernhard family, pioneer winemakers in the 19 th century.

After heading right onto Auburn Folsom Road, the parade will take a left turn onto Sacramento Street and head for Old Town.

On the left side of the street is the Auburn Joss House Museum and Chinese History Center. It's dedicated to preserving the history of Chinese residents in Auburn and Placer County.

In the heart of Old Town, the parade will turn right onto Lincoln Way, passing several historically significant buildings.

The Old Town Post Office has operated out of a building at 1583 Lincoln since at least 1853. It's reputed to be the oldest post office west of the Mississippi River operating continuously out of the same building.

Nearby are a newly refurbished building that served as the Union Bar during the Civil War and a

historical firehouse built in 1893 for the Auburn Hook and Ladder Co. The parade will end near the courthouse, a majestic building that dominates the skyline of Auburn. The building's cornerstone was laid in 1894 and the courthouse was renovated in the late 1980s. Today, it houses courtrooms, a historic sheriff's office and the Placer County Museum.

At the courthouse, museum docents will be ready to lead the public on walking tours of Old Town.

"We want everyone to feel like they're stepping back in time," said county Public Information Officer Anita Yoder. "Old Town Auburn is a perfect place to make that happen."

On Saturday, public parking will be free at the fairgrounds.

In addition, trolleys provided by Placer County Transit will give the public free rides between the fairgrounds and courthouse. The trolleys are scheduled to run from about 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The public also can walk between the fairgrounds and courthouse using a scenic trail that begins at 1254 High Street and ends in Old Town's Centennial Park. Signs directing the public to the trail will be posted Saturday.

If April 27 is rainy, the event will be rescheduled for the following day.

#### APRIL 27 PARADE AND FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

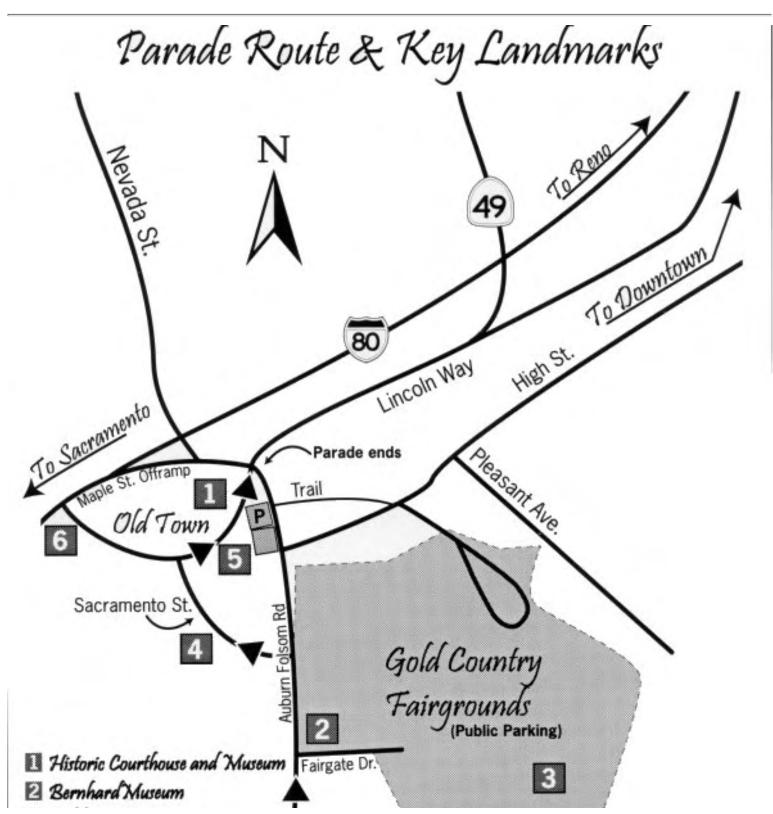
- Noon Parade begins in upper parking lot at Gold Country Fairgrounds
- 12:30 Patti McAdams performs at music stage Gold panning begins Exhibits at Historic Courthouse open to the public
- 1:00 Opening ceremony begins at courthouse
- 1:20 Terry Cruson performs at music stage
- 2:00 Firemen's muster to be held
- 2:15 Sweet Adelines perform at music stage
- 3:15 K-9 demonstration by Sheriff's Department starts The Eddies perform at music stage

### **ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

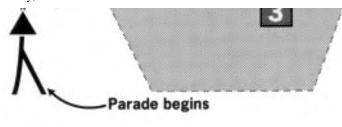
- Free pictures of children taken in old-time costumes
- Tours of women's jail and historic courtroom
- Old-fashioned children's games
- Food from local vendors
- County and parade vehicles on display

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

- Free public parking at Gold Country Fairgrounds
- Trolleys to give free rides between fairgrounds and courthouse from about 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Public can use a scenic trail between the fairgrounds and courthouse. Trail starts at 1254 High Street and ends in Old Town's Centennial Park. Signs directing the public to the trail will be posted Saturday.



2 Bernhard Museum
3 Gold Country Museum
4 Joss House Museum
5 Centennial Park
6 Claude Chana Statue





# Major McCourtney Road Clean-up Effort Planned Saturday

April 16, 2002

Hoping for sunny weather, CIMBL – Citizens Involved Means Better Living – plans a major roadside clean up for Saturday, April 20. Volunteers will meet at 9 a.m. at the intersection of McCourtney and Wise Roads.

"We expect lots of local community members to pitch in to help, and we always welcome new volunteers for CIMBL," said Hal Albertsen, founder of the organization. "We hope to clean up McCourtney Road and many of the side roads, if we have enough people turn out."

CIMBL volunteers have cleaned 1,791 miles of Placer County roads, which Albertsen compared to cleaning up a road running from Sacramento to Chicago. The trash collected has filled 16,961 bags, and volunteers have identified 1,647 abandoned tires for pick-up. Placer County road maintenance staff later collect the trash bags and old tires, for appropriate disposal.

Volunteers should wear layered clothing, and bring hats and work gloves. CIMBL will provide clean-up supplies and safety vests.

CIMBL has a message phone where volunteers can obtain current information on cleanups, and particularly important, cancellations in case of rain. Call 530-886-5250, or call Albertsen at 916-645-3599.



# Supervisors Contract for Study on Ideal Curriculum for University

April 15, 2002

Placer County Supervisors have contracted with the Sacramento Regional Research Council to prepare a study of the optimal curriculum for a proposed new university in Placer County.

While the County has received no formal proposals, two individuals have expressed interest in donating land, and both are working with local groups to attract a university to their properties. The study will help identify the disciplines and programs that, if offered by a new university, would provide the greatest benefits to Placer County students seeking an education and to other residents. It will also examine what kinds of programs would benefit the business community and the County's effort to attract primary wage earner jobs to the area.

Both potential sites proposed so far are in District 2, and both would require that Supervisors agree to make significant changes to the County's adopted General Plan for land use plans for western Placer County.

"A university would be a tremendous addition to the County if we plan intelligently and consistently within the goals of our vision for Placer County," said District 2 Supervisor Robert Weygandt. "To make the wisest possible decisions, the County needs to undertake an independent analysis, and identify the benefits and the costs thoroughly because of the land use changes which would be needed.

"I embrace the excitement of having a new university in Placer County, but I would weigh heavily two factors in making a future decision: how would this university support the county's goals of attracting and supporting primary wage earner jobs? And how would this project support our goals of protecting agriculture and other open space?"

Preparation of the optimal curricula study was recommended to the Board in a discussion paper "Implications of a Private University in South Placer County", which was prepared

Supervisors Contract for Study on Ideal Curriculum for University -- Placer County, Calif.

by Hausrath Economics Group and released recently.

Researchers for the curriculum study will survey Placer County residents regarding their educational needs, and talk with leaders in the higher education community locally, regionally and at the state level. They will study the workforce needs of employers in Placer County, the Sacramento region and the Bay Area, and review the educational demand based on local economic structure and employment needs, and analyze trends in enrollment and graduation in California universities.

Dr. Robert Fountain will lead the research team. The Sacramento Regional Research Council is a joint venture between California State University (Sacramento) and the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization.



### **Center Eases Trauma of Telling Painful Stories**

April 12, 2002

Convictions in child sex-abuse cases often hinge on what the kids themselves have to say.

With that in mind, Placer County has created a special child-friendly center that will allow children to tell their painful stories just once, and in private.

The District Attorney's Office and its partners in the project unveiled the new Placer Multidisciplinary Interview Center in the DeWitt Center in Auburn during an open-house ceremony Thursday. It replaces an older, smaller room originally established by community members ten years ago through the Child Abuse Prevention Council.

"The center reduces the number of times children must testify in sexual abuse cases, and that's less traumatic to the children," explained District Attorney Brad Fenocchio. "It's also a much better process, and an important tool which assists the legal case. But most importantly, it helps the children."

Recently, the center was repainted and refurbished with bright colorful murals, cuddly stuffed animals and soft casual furniture which help make the setting inviting to children.

When authorities suspect a child may have been sexually abused, they must ask him or her questions which may feel upsetting, embarrassing and disturbing. Since such crimes are seldom witnessed, these very young victims may be the only one who can tell authorities what happened. And often, to best serve and protect the child, several people need to learn what happened.

In the MDIC, a child can tell his or her painful story just once – in private – to a Child Forensic Interview Specialist, who is a member of a multidisciplinary team. The interview is observed via video by team members directly involved in the investigation of the case. This videotape is preserved as evidence, and its confidentiality is protected by court orders and California law. Prior to creation of the MDIC, it was common for children to be interviewed by a dozen or more people separately.

During ceremonies at the open house, the most compelling testimony about the need for the center came from a mother whose young daughter was molested by an intruder.

Referred to simply as Mrs. Doe to protect the family's identity, the woman fought back tears as she recalled how the intruder broke into the family home one night, and how her daughter bravely helped with the investigation.

After the woman and her husband called authorities, their home quickly filled with strangers investigating the attack. None, however, had to question the daughter at length, because she was to be interviewed by an expert at the center.

"And I was so thankful for that," the mother explained.

She emphasized her whole family was victimized by the attacker, but its ordeal was made easier by the way authorities handled the investigation.

"We were all hurt, and they helped all of us," she said.

Staff to the MDIC are also part of the District Attorney's specialized prosecution team for sexual assault cases. Prosecutor David Broady works with Investigator Jan Dunn and Fiona Tuttle, MDIC Coordinator and Child Interview Specialist, who works most directly with the children. Placer County Health and Human Services, the Placer County Sheriff's Department and all local law enforcement agencies including city police departments and the Placer County Child Abuse Prevention Council are cooperating partners.

Victim Witness Team members, part of the DA's office, play critical roles in meeting the needs of families facing the crisis. "Helping parents is also important because they can then better respond to the needs of the child," Fenocchio said. "We want them to be assured of our dedication and commitment; that the team understands the need to help directly or find resources to help the child and the family put their lives back together."

Placer County's first MDIC was created by the Placer County Child Abuse Prevention Council in 1992 with the help of many community partners. Last year the District Attorney's Office began moving the MDIC to its new location in the DeWitt Center. Funding for the new MDIC has come from the Placer County Children and Families Commission, DA, Health and Human Services, local law enforcement agencies, the National Children's Alliance, the City of Roseville's Citizens Benefit Fund and local civic and service organizations.

During the open house, a number of people were saluted for helping get the center under way 10 years ago, including Sheriff Ed Bonner, Fay Booth of the DA's Victim Witness Program, DA Investigator Bob Goebel, Sgt. Valerie Harris of the Sheriff's Department,

Lorna Holden of HHS, Lt. Julie Jeffs of the Sheriff's Department, Peter Kalmar, formerly of HHS, Dixie King, investigator for the DA's office, former District Attorney Paul Richardson, Diana Ryan, HHS supervisor, Det. Bill Summers of Sheriff's Department and Det. Charlie Veilleux of Roseville Police Department.

Soroptimist International of Auburn was honored for, among other things, supplying teddy bears and other stuffed animals for the center. The Placer County Children and Families Commission also was saluted for its financial support through the Tobacco Tax funds.

"We must never forget: it should not hurt to be a child," said DA Fenocchio in making the presentations.



# **Supervisor Bloomfield Hosts Coffee in Meadow Vista**

April 11, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will hold a morning meeting with constituents in Meadow Vista April 23.

The meeting is scheduled to take place at 9 a.m. in the Meadow Vista Library, 16981 Placer Hills Road, Suite B-6.

Bloomfield regularly holds informal morning meetings where residents can sip coffee while discussing county issues with him. The meetings also give the supervisor a chance to listen to the concerns of the residents and to update the public on the status of projects and programs.

At the April 23 meeting in Meadow Vista, the supervisor will have details on the county's April 27 150th anniversary celebration, new trail development and on a new computer system that will allow authorities to quickly notify residents when their homes are endangered by fires or other emergencies.

"These meetings are an invaluable way for me to keep in touch with what's on people's minds," Bloomfield said. "I hope residents will take advantage of them."

Bloomfield represents the 5th District, a sprawling area that stretches from Lake Tahoe on the east to north Auburn on the west.

The supervisor's tentative schedule includes constituent meetings in Kings Beach on May 14, Tahoe City on June 18 and Colfax on July 16.

For more information, call the Board of Supervisors office at 530-889-4010.



# **Supervisor White Hosts Coffee in Auburn**

April 11, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White will hold an informal meeting in Auburn April 24 to hear what residents have to say about issues facing county government.

The meeting also will give the supervisor a chance to update residents on county projects and programs.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. in the Beecher Room at the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada St. Coffee and refreshments will be provided.

Potential topics include the county's plans for widening Bell Road to four lanes between Interstate 80 and Highway 49 beginning next month. Supervisor White will also share information about the County's 150th Anniversary Parade and Festival in Old Town Auburn on April 27.

Harriet regularly holds such meetings throughout her district to answer questions and hear what constituents have on their minds.

"It's a big help to know what residents think about county issues," White said. "The board takes the public's views seriously when deciding what to do on controversial topics."

White represents the 3rd District, an area that includes Auburn, Ophir, Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis.

She encourages Auburn area residents to attend her meetings, as well as the monthly meetings of the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Council.

The council generally meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held in the Planning Commission Chambers at Richardson Boulevard and C Avenue in the DeWitt Center.

The council holds special meetings or changes its schedule occasionally, so dates and times should be confirmed by calling the board office at 530-889-4010.

For more information, call 530-889-4010.



### Free Job Fair Is Planned

April 9, 2002

More than 70 employers will be on hand for a job fair to be held in Roseville Wednesday, May 1.

The free event is scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Placer County Fairgrounds, 800 All American City Boulevard.

The job fair is sponsored by Placer County and other members of the Placer County Business Advantage Network, a coalition of government and nonprofit agencies involved in job-development work.

Occupations that will be represented include government, clerical, customer service, medical, merchandising, retail sales, law enforcement, training, and temporary services.

County agencies that will have booths at the job fair include the Health and Human Services Department, Personnel Department and Sheriff's 911 dispatch.

State agencies expected to be on hand are the Personnel Board, Employment Development Department, Department of Transportation and Conservation Corps.

Also planning to participate are the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army, City of Roseville, Los Rios Community College District, Sacramento Police Department and University of California at Davis.

Such major private-sector employers as Placer Sierra Bank, Bank of America, Bel Air and Raley's markets, Delta Dental Plan of California, Eskaton Corp., Oracle Corp., Surewest Communications, Nella Oil Co., Kaiser Permanente and Pride Industries are scheduled to participate.

Job seekers are encouraged to bring their resumes, because experts will on hand to critique resumes.

More information is available - call Cindy Burris (530-889-4090) or Marcy Schmidt (530-886-4641) at the Placer County Office of Economic Development.



### **Bell Road Widening Project Is Approved**

April 9, 2002

Work is slated to begin next month on widening a 2.5-mile stretch of Bell Road in north Auburn.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors paved the way for the project to begin by awarding a \$4.6 million construction contract to Teichert Construction Tuesday. Supervisors also agreed to pay URS Corp. of Roseville up to \$600,000 to manage the project, inspect construction work and test materials.

The \$6.2 million widening project is a critical part of the county's efforts to improve traffic circulation in north Auburn, because Bell is one of the area's few major transportation routes.

The project will give Bell extra capacity to handle future traffic increases and help relieve congestion on Highway 49.

"This is a significant moment for me, because my goal when I first ran for office was to be able to relieve traffic congestion in the north Auburn area," Supervisor Harriet White said before joining her board colleagues in a unanimous vote for the project.

She emphasized the traffic flow in north Auburn will be much smoother once Bell is widened, and safety and operational improvement planned for Highway 49 are completed.

"They will also improve the ability of people to get to the stores and other businesses in the area, which will be an economic benefit," she said.

Supervisor Bill Santucci noted that White has pushed for the Bell widening since she joined the board in 1997.

"Harriet, you deserve a lot of credit for all this effort you've put forth," he told White.

Construction is scheduled to begin in May and be completed by the summer of 2003.

Bell will be widened to four lanes from the Wise Canal near Highway 49 to Interstate 80. West of the canal, Bell already has four lanes as far as Professional Drive.

The project will give the 2.5-mile stretch of Bell two 12-foot travel lanes in both directions, a painted median with left-turn pockets at intersections and high-use driveways, and eight-foot shoulders on both sides. Existing bicycle lanes will be maintained in the roadway's shoulders.

Funding for the project will come primarily from county traffic-mitigation fees. The fees are paid by residential and other construction projects built in unincorporated parts of the county.

Supervisors approved an environmental impact report on the project last July and gave their stamp of approval to design details on Jan. 22.



# Festival and Parade Showcase County's 150th Anniversary Celebration

April 4, 2002

Placer County's yearlong celebration of its 150th birthday anniversary will come to an end with a free, family-oriented Festival of History and Fun to be held at the Historic Courthouse in Auburn on Saturday, April 27.

The festival will follow a noon parade that will start near the Bernhard House Museum and wind its way through Old Town to Auburn's Historic Courthouse.

Organizers unveiled plans for the parade last month, hoping schools, historical societies, youth groups, service clubs, businesses, families and individuals will want to participate.

This week, organizers announced details about the festival. It will take place from 12:30 to about 4 p.m. in and around the courthouse.

"We're hoping for a large turnout, because we want the public to help us celebrate," said Ted Gaines, Chairman of the Placer County Board of Supervisors. "There should be plenty of fun for everyone, young and old alike."

The parade and festival will conclude a series of events held to commemorate the county's 150th birthday. The California Legislature created the county in 1851, two years after gold was discovered near Auburn.

Intended to be both enjoyable and educational, the festival will be a chance for people to take a trip back in time and glimpse what the county was like in its early days.

Sheriff Ed Bonner will be master of ceremonies during an opening ceremony to be held at the courthouse's front balcony. With him will be members of the Board of Supervisors and other local elected officials.

Musical entertainment will include historical folk songs from Patti McAdams, the vocal

harmonies of the Sweet Adelines, bluegrass music from the Terry Crouson trio and western songs from the Eddies.

Children will get a chance to enjoy old-fashioned games, go on wagon rides and get photographs taken while dressed up in historical costumes.

Everyone will be able to participate in costume contests, learn to pan for gold, view the county's gold collection at the courthouse museum, look at living history displays, eat birthday cake and enjoy food from local vendors.

The public also will get to view the Placer County Museum in the Courthouse, the County's gold collection, the third-floor restored historic courtroom and a dark, dreary room that served as the women's jail many years ago. The Bernhard Museum also will be open.

County departments will offer practical information on such topics as registering to vote and using the Internet to look for county jobs, as well as presentations showing how officials did their jobs in the early days.

The Museums Department will put on living history activities, and living history docents from the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma will be on hand to participate in the festivities.

The Elections Division's booth will provide voter-registration materials, while giving the public a quick look at how much voting has changed over the years. Early in the county's history, bags were placed in trees to collect voter ballots.

Local firefighters will give demonstrations of how their forerunners fought fires many decades ago and the Sheriff's Department will show off the skills of a K-9 unit.

The Placer County Visitors Information Center will staff the County's award-winning 2001 California State Fair Exhibit

Chris Graves, a member of Native Sons of the Golden West, will display artifacts documenting the critical roles Chinese immigrants and the railroads played in the county's history.

The parade will feature a colorful cast of characters representing each era of the county's history. It is scheduled to get under way at noon near the Bernhard Museum and wind up at the courthouse.

About 40 entries already have signed up to participate. They include vehicles from several

eras, including at least one stagecoach, several early fire vehicles, antique cars, and a Volkswagen hippie bus.

The deadline for submitting applications to participate in the parade is April 17.

Parade participants will start lining up at 11 a.m. in the upper parking lot at the Gold County Fairgrounds.

At noon, the parade will travel along Auburn Folsom Road, take a left on Sacramento Street, head through Old Town, turn right on Lincoln Way and end up near the courthouse.

The parade master will be John Marin, the board's administrative officer.

Parking at the Gold Country Fairgrounds will be free. Placer County trolleys from North Lake Tahoe will transport visitors free from the fairgrounds to the courthouse and back.

If April 27 is rainy, the event will be rescheduled for the following day.

For a parade application, contact the County Executive Office at 530-886-4681. More information on the parade and festival is available.



#### **Auburn Art Walk to Include Domes**

April 3, 2002

The Domes, Placer County's administrative center at 175 Fulweiler Ave., will be a stop on the Auburn Art Walk this year for the first time.

The first 2002 Art Walk will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. April 11. The free event will feature works from more than 25 artists.

A free shuttle bus will take the public to the more than two dozen participating sites, and music will be offered at some locations. The art will be posted for almost two months and can be viewed by the public during normal business hours.

The County long has been a financial supporter of the Placer County Arts Council, which sponsors the event. County officials readily agreed when the council asked to add the Domes to the list of Art Walk sites this spring.

"We're happy to let the Arts Council use our building for such a worthwhile event," County Executive Officer Jan Christofferson said.

New art will be hung for subsequent art walks to be held June 13, Aug. 8 and Oct. 10.

Art Walk maps are available from the Arts Council, 702 Lincoln Way. For more information, call the council at (530) 885-5670.



# Low-Cost Children's Immunizations During Northern California Immunization Days

March 26, 2002

"Don't Wait to Vaccinate!" That's the theme for the 6th Annual Northern California Immunization Days, when children can receive low cost vaccinations at clinics in four counties, Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado and Yolo. Placer County will offer immunizations on Monday, April 8, and Friday, May 10.

Sponsored by Placer County and Ralph's Supermarkets, these are the Placer County locations where families can receive low cost immunizations on Northern California Immunization Days.

**Monday, April 8** - Placer County Health Dept. Community Health Clinic in Roseville, <u>1130 Conroy, Suite 402-3</u>, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Friday, May 10** - Placer County Health Dept. Community Clinic in Auburn, 11484 B Ave., 1 to 4 p.m.

For information about any of these sites call **530-889-7170**; for sites outside Placer County, call **916-875-SHOT** (**916-875-7468**).

"Children need to be vaccinated against 10 life threatening diseases, yet almost 30 percent of the valley's two-year-olds are not fully protected," explained Dr. Richard Burton, Placer County Public Health Officer. "Toddlers should be fully immunized before their second birthday to protect them against vaccine-preventable diseases, like the measles, which can also make children feel so miserable."

Last year, nearly 1,300 children were immunized on Northern California Immunization Days. Between 1996 and 2001, the "Don't Wait to Vaccinate" campaign has resulted in a 16% increase in the number of immunizations given in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties. This year's four-county effort seeks to reach 2,000 children.

Low-Cost Children's Immunizations During Northern California Immunization Days -- Placer County, Calif.

Placer, El Dorado, Yolo and Sacramento County Public Health Departments collaborate to make Northern California Immunization Days successful.



### Parade and Festival to Celebrate Placer County History

March 22, 2002

A Timeline Parade of History will wind its way through Old Town Auburn on Saturday, April 27, in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Placer County. A free Festival of History and Fun will follow at the County's Historic Courthouse all afternoon.

The deadline for parade applications has been extended to April 17. Many residents and businesses have called seeking information.

The County of Placer was created by the California Legislature in 1851 almost two years after gold was discovered near Auburn, which became the County seat. Placer County's colorful history includes not only the Gold Rush, but also the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad, a booming agricultural industry which shipped thousands of carloads of high quality fruit around the world, the war years, playing host to the 1960 Olympic Winter Games in Squaw Valley and today's vibrant, golden economy. Parade organizers plan to remember Placer's fascinating past, present and future in the Parade and Festival, which cap off a year-long

#### celebration.

The Parade begins at noon in the parking lot of the Gold Country Fairgrounds, travels down Auburn Folsom Road, turns left down the hill on Sacramento Street into Old Town Auburn, turns right up Lincoln Way to the Historic Courthouse, turns right on Auburn Folsom and ends in the parking lot. It will be generally organized into decades from the 1840s and

before the County's creation, to modern times.

Local groups such as historical societies, schools, service clubs, civic and youth groups, local government agencies, bands and other musical entries, businesses and individuals are all encouraged to don costumes and join the parade.

The beautiful century-old County Courthouse, a famous landmark highly visible from Interstate 80 in Auburn, is the site of the free County Festival of History and Fun. Visitors can participate in costume contests, learn to pan for gold, view the County¹s real gold collection,

tour the Historic Courthouse and Museum, play old-time children games, learn through living history displays, and enjoy the food, the birthday cake, the music and entertainment.

"We invite you to come and help us celebrate," declared District 3

Supervisor Harriet White, who represents the Auburn Area. "Make a costume, become a character out of history, or just come to watch. We hope to see you there."

For more information, visit the County web site, <a href="www.placer.ca.gov">www.placer.ca.gov</a>, or contact the County Executive Office, 530-886-4681 for a parade application.



# CIMBL Sierra College Boulevard Clean-up Rescheduled - Placer County, Calif.

While rain may slow down the volunteers in Citizens Involved Means Better Living (CIMBL), it doesn't stop them. Last Saturday's clean-up along Sierra College Boulevard, canceled due to rain, has been rescheduled for this Saturday, March 30.

CIMBL Coordinator Hal Albertsen hopes the sunshine expected this Saturday will encourage many residents to volunteer for one of CIMBL's more important road side clean-ups of the year, 15 miles of Sierra College Blvd.

CIMBL volunteers will meet on Saturday, March 30, at the Park and Ride lot at Hwy. 193 and Sierra College Blvd. at 9 a.m.

Volunteers should bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and a hat, and CIMBL will provide the pick up sticks and bags. Placer County sponsors the program, hauling the rubbish collected to the landfill.

"It's a great spring time service project for anyone who lives here," said Albertsen. In more than seven years of community service, CIMBL volunteers have cleaned up 1,763 miles of county roads, picked up 16,675 bags of trash, and disposed of 1,617 old tires.

For more information call Albertsen at 916-645-3599. Should rain threaten, schedule information is available at the message phone, 530-886-5250.

Supervisors Extend Pay & Benefits Period for County Employees on Military Duty -- Placer County, Calif.



### Supervisors Extend Pay & Benefits Period for County Employees on Military Duty

March 19, 2002

In actions today, Placer County Supervisors extended full pay and benefits to county employees involuntarily called to active military duty as a result of the world wide terrorist crisis.

For a time frame not to exceed 26 pay periods, the employee would receive the difference between the amount of military pay and the salary they would usually receive had they worked their regular hours as a county employee. The process was made retroactive to Sept. 11, 2001.

"We support those who defend our country in time of crisis and seek to prevent financial hardship to their families," said Chairman Ted Gaines. "Through this action today, our Board honors their dedication and their sacrifice to our country."



### **Grants Offered for Cleaner Air Projects**

March 19, 2002

If your company uses on-road or off-road diesel equipment - for construction, earthmoving, agriculture, trucking, or as part of a fleet - Placer County's Air Pollution Control District has a grants program which could enable you to pilot a project using new cleaner air technologies.

The Air District will be accepting grant applications through March 22 for local air quality improvement projects, primarily those which would reduce the oxides of nitrogen (N0x) emissions from on-road or off-road diesel motor vehicles in the Sacramento region during the next two years. Public and private agencies, groups and individuals are eligible to apply.

While the grants are being made locally, most of the money will come from the Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) Air Quality surcharge on all motor vehicles in Placer County - \$4 per registered vehicle. Projects will be chosen based on their cost-effectiveness in reducing N0x emissions.

Examples of the kinds of projects being sought include:

- Engine re-powering or replacement for heavy-duty diesel on-road vehicles (such as trucks and buses), or off-road vehicles such as earth moving or agricultural equipment;
- Purchase of new, low or zero-emitting vehicles;
- Use of "cleaner" diesel fuel formulations and/or diesel emulsion fuels in place of California diesel fuel;
- Infrastructure to provide alternative cleaner fuels for vehicles or mobile equipment (such as CNG or LNG fueling stations or electric vehicle charging stations).

Projects which were approved in 2001 included re-powering two diesel-powered transfer trucks with lower-emission diesel engines; purchasing new CNG buses and refueling facilities; Spare the Air public information and an emulsified diesel fuel test project.

"This grant program is a wonderful way to try out new technologies at a greatly reduced cost," said Dave Vintze, Placer County Air Pollution Control District. For more information, call Vintze at 530-889-7131.



### Meadow Vista Library Closed Tuesday, March 19

March 18, 2002

The Meadow Vista Branch Library will be closed Tuesday, March 19, for clean-up after flooding due to a plumbing mishap. The library is normally open Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Elaine Reed, the director of library services, expected the library to be open again on Wednesday, March 20, during its normal business hours of 3 to 8 p.m.



### Supervisor Harriet White Holds Coffee in Loomis

March 15, 2002

District 3 Supervisor Harriet White is inviting residents of Loomis and the surrounding area for coffee on Wednesday, March 27, from 2 to 3 p.m., at the Loomis Library, located at <u>6050 Library Drive</u>. Supervisor White hopes residents will join her in a friendly, informal setting to discuss local issues and concerns, and so she may answer questions about projects throughout Placer County. Supervisor White also holds monthly afternoon coffees in the North Auburn and Newcastle areas.

"Some people feel comfortable speaking in Board meetings, but many others feel more comfortable talking in smaller groups," said Supervisor White. "It's also an excellent opportunity for me to clarify how decisions are made. Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another. The strength of local government, unlike state or federal government, is that you can meet and talk to us, face to face, so we can understand your views."

The coffee meetings and the regular meetings of the Horseshoe Bar Municipal Advisory Council offer good opportunities to provide information to Supervisor White and county staff, and to stay up-to-date on community and county activities. The Horseshoe Bar Municipal Advisory Council meets every other month on the third Tuesday at 7 p.m. also at the Loomis Library. The next meetings will be held March 20 and May 15. There are occasional schedule changes or special MAC meetings, so dates and times should be confirmed online at www.placer.ca.gov/bos, or by calling the Board office, 530-889-4010.

Supervisor White also encourages residents to send her email at <hwhite@placer.ca.gov>, or mail at 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603, or to meet with her at her office in the County Administration Building, at 175 Fulweiler, in Auburn. Call 530-889-4010 for further information.



## **Economic Development Board Honors Four in Annual Event**

March 15, 2002

Four civic leaders were honored today by the Placer County Economic Development Board for their efforts which have enhanced Placer County's business climate and thus contributed to the region's quality of life.

Two are private sector representatives, while two others are public employees.

Dan Cross, sales manager for Gladding McBean, was recognized for leading major change in the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce. As president, Dan has encouraged more than 60 businesses to join and assisted the Chamber in hiring professional staff. His vision and leadership have strongly promoted and supported economic development in the Lincoln community, wrote nominators Harvi Callaham, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, and Steve Art, Economic Development Coordinator for Lincoln.

Daren Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Anderson Consulting Group, also received a Private Sector Award. He has chaired the Roseville Public Utilities Commission for two years and is an active member of the Roseville Chamber's Economic Development Committee. Daron's leadership has been a key influence in the City of Roseville's improvements in project processing, including the City's hiring of a Project Process Manager, nominators wrote. "Daron's efforts have strengthened the relationship between the City and the Chamber and he has done his job with a commitment to excellence." The nomination was submitted by the City of Roseville and City Councilmember Gina Garbolino.

Mary Wollensen, Director of Sierra College's Small Business Development Center (SBDC), received a Public Sector Award. Ten years ago, she organized the SBDC to provide free business management consulting and training to prospective and existing business owners. "Under her leadership and guidance, the programs she created in just the last year helped Placer County small business create 135 new jobs, raise \$1.4 million in equity capital, qualify for \$500,000 in loans and serve more than 350 businesses in Placer

County alone," noted Doug Smith, President of Finance and Administration for Sierra College in presenting the award. "Her program serves five other counties as well." Bill Radokovitz and Sierra College President Kevin Ramirez made the nomination.

Roseville City Manager Al Johnson was honored with a Public Sector Award. Johnson is credited with a leadership role in negotiations which led to the development of the Roseville Auto Mall, the Highway 65 Joint Powers Agency, NEC, the Galleria at Roseville and many others, leading to \$2 billion in retail sales in Roseville in 2000. "Al's leadership has allowed the City to make tremendous strides in planning for Roseville's future growth and maintaining a productive environment," wrote Roseville Councilmember Gina Garbolino on behalf of the City. "Roseville is a place our children will want to return to as adults to work and raise their children."

Nearly 180 business and civic leaders attended the 11th Annual Economic Development Board Breakfast held at Twelve Bridges Golf and Country Club in Lincoln. Placer County's Economic Development Board includes representatives appointed by each city and the Board of Supervisors, plus representatives of tourism and other major market segments. County economic development staff implement the objectives of the Economic Development Board and work closely with Placer County cities and unincorporated communities for a unified effort to keep existing businesses, attract new jobs, and expand the local tax base.



### Placer County Economic Development Office Accreditation Renewed

March 15, 2002

International Economic Development Council (IEDC) has announced that the

Placer County Economic Development Office has been recognized as one of only 26 economic development organizations nationwide accredited by IEDC as an Accredited Economic Development Organization (AEDO).

"Placer County displays the professionalism, commitment, and technical expertise that is deserving of this honor," said President and CEO Jeff Finkle.

"This prestigious accreditation accurately reflects the outstanding service our Economic Development Office has consistently provided to our business community, and we're proud that the International Economic Development Council has recognized their excellent work," said Supervisor Ted Gaines, Chairman of the Placer County Board of Supervisors.

The AEDO program is a comprehensive peer review process that measures economic development organizations against commonly-held standards in the profession. The program consists of two phases: documentation review and an onsite visit. Each phase is designed to evaluate information about the structure, organization, funding, program and staff of the candidate economic development organization.

Earning AEDO accreditation tells the community and prospects that the Placer County Economic Development Office has attained a measure of excellence assuring that their trust is well-placed and their business is in good hands.

Maintenance of the AEDO status is required every three years and is accomplished through documentation submission and/or site visits by a team of the AEDO Board.

The International Economic Development Council is the largest membership association

serving economic and community development professionals in North America. With more than 4,000 members nationwide and abroad, IEDC offers the economic development profession one source for information and professional development, one voice for the profession and one force for advocacy. For more information on IEDC or the AEDO accreditation program, call IEDC at 202-223-7800 or visit IEDC's Web site at www.iedconline.org .

To learn more about the Placer County Economic Development Office, <u>visit their Web</u> page or call 530-889-4016.



### **Lincoln High School Helps Clean Community**

March 11, 2002

Roads outside Lincoln are cleaner today, thanks to 45 students from Lincoln High School who spent Saturday March 2 picking up 136 bags of rubbish and 15 old tires along seven miles of Nicolaus Road.

The students are members of the Lincoln High School CIMBL Chapter. CIMBL stands for Citizens Involved Means Better Living. The work took place thanks to the leadership of Matt Tarpley, Lincoln High School student CIMBL President, and teachers Mark Fowler, Burt Salinas and Mrs. Wyatt.

Placer County Supervisor Robert Weygandt praised the work of students. "We're proud of the work done by these young people, who obviously take great pride in their community. CIMBL Coordinator Hal Albertsen's work to create CIMBL speaks for itself, but to have young people recognize his vision and carry it forward will guarantee his work benefits citizens for generations to come. There cannot be a greater compliment."



Shown above are members of the 2001-02 CIMBL chapter at Lincoln High School. Jennifer Murphy

took this photo for the Lincoln High School. Students are shown left to right (back row, standing) Kim Medina, Karrie Stackpoole, Marissa Carrazco, Christina Perfino, Brenda Lopez, Robert Briggs, Laree Quinn, Rocio Ruiz, Mark Noyes, Daniel Tucker, Jared Schmidt, Amy DeCourten, Jennifer Rossiter, Amy Petersen, Krystal Powell, Allison Brown, Dan Martinez, Chris Krutch, Andrew Rossiter, Andy Massi; (middle row, crouching) Alyssa Bates, Kayla White, Matt Tarpley; (front row, seated) Chelsea Shelgren, Monica Bush, Whitney Shalgren, Melissa Diaz, and Betty Marquez.

The next CIMBL cleanup is Saturday March 23, when volunteers of all ages will clean Sierra College Blvd. For more information, contact coordinator Hal Albertsen at 916-645-3599. Volunteers are always needed. Meet at 9 a.m. at the park-and-ride lot at Sierra College Blvd. and Highway 193.



# Board of Supervisors To Meet Later Than Usual; Also To Hear Silver Bend Appeal

March 10, 2002

The Placer County Board of Supervisors will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12, rather than at 9 a.m., the usual beginning time.

At 2:30 p.m. the Board will consider an appeal of the Silver Bend Apartment complex, proposed to be constructed on the south side of Silver Bend Way, east of Lincoln Way, in the Bowman area. The Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit for the project on January 10, 2002 with 55 conditions of approval.

The applicant is seeking to construct 72 multi-family units in eight buildings with a recreation/community room and a swimming pool. The Raley's parking lot/service area is located on the west side of the project site.

Because many residents may wish to testify, individuals will be limited to three minutes each. Additional information is available online at www.placer.ca.gov/projects.

The Board will meet at the Placer County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, in Auburn. As usual, a complete agenda can be obtained through the County web site (www.placer.ca.gov/bos), by stopping by the Clerk of the Board's office at 175 Fulweiler Ave. in Auburn, or by calling 530-889-6800 to activate an automated fax service.



### **Improving Animal Services - Help Us Plan!**

Residents are invited to play an important role in helping to improve services for dogs, cats and other companion animals through Placer County Animal Services and its programs.

On Saturday, March 23, Placer County Animal Services will join Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters, Placer SPCA and Auburn Area Animal Rescue Foundation in hosting a community event to explore future paths for animal care in the community.

Participants will discuss the question "what are the issues and opportunities facing us as we develop strategies to provide services for our domestic animal population and our communities?"

"We'll try to envision the day when all people are responsible to the animals in their care, when all animals are treated well, and when every companion animal is assured of a good home and humane care all its natural life," explained Richard Ward, Placer County Animal Services Manager. "This event will give people a chance to talk about what's needed to move toward these goals." Participants will focus on their interest, whether it's spay-neuter or humane education, animal sheltering facility issues, helping families to train their dogs, developing greater collaboration between animal welfare organizations or addressing another of the many issues related to animal care, protection or control.

The event will take place at Del Oro High School, 3301 Taylor Road in Loomis from 9:30 to 3:30 p.m. with an "Open Space Technology" format - where individuals brainstorm and help develop workable ideas. Registration starts at 9 a.m. "We hope participants will stay all day to help us gain the greatest value from their input," Ward noted. Lunch will be provided, and reservations are required. Please call the Placer SPCA, 916-782-7722 Ext. 106.

One issue likely to be discussed is the long term need for a new Placer County Animal Shelter to replace the outdated and overcrowded shelter at DeWitt Center. The County of Placer needs nearly \$250 million to build a wide variety of facilities in South Placer, Auburn and North Lake Tahoe, including jails, court rooms, a children's shelter and others. The Board of Supervisors has funded \$300,000 in interim improvements to the

Placer County Animal Shelter at DeWitt Center, which should begin soon. However as more people move to Placer County with animals, the number of animal issues and needs continue to increase.

"Support from groups like the Placer SPCA, the Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters, Auburn Area Animal Rescue Foundation and other groups, and input from the community will be very important as we face this challenge together," Ward said. "We are grateful for their support and dedication to animal care issues."



### Celebrate 150 Years of History: Join the Parade!

March 6, 2002

Placer County's fascinating history featuring Native Americans, gold miners, railroad builders, farmers, today's electronics wizardry and youth who will be tomorrow's leaders will be celebrated in a timeline parade through Old Town Auburn on Saturday, April 27.

The Parade will be held to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the creation of Placer County by the California Legislature, culminating a year-long series of special events and focus on history. It begins at noon.

Local groups such as historical societies, schools, service clubs, civic and youth groups, local government agencies, bands and other musical entries, businesses and individuals are all encouraged to sign up to join the parade.

The parade will be roughly divided into decades. Parade organizers hope community representatives will pick a specific feature of Placer's history to highlight. Here is a general description of the timeline with ideas as to what was occurring then: 1840s and before (Native Americans), 1850s (the Gold Rush), 1860s (building the Transcontinental Railroad), 1870s (development of agriculture and water resources), 1880s (Citrus Fairs – County produce shines!), 1890s (towns are electrified), 1900s (fruit is king), 1910-20s (World War I veterans), 1920s (auto tourism and recreation), 1930s (Depression, mining and gold revivals), 1940s (World War II veterans), 1950s (developing communities and freeways), 1960s (Squaw Valley Olympics and ecology), 1970s (planning for growth),1980s (High Tech arrives), 1990s to today (Planning for the future including Placer Legacy).

"Obviously there are many other very significant occurrences in Placer County's history to be celebrated and incorporated into the parade: these ideas are merely springboards for your thinking," said District 3 Supervisor Harriet White. "Our cities and special districts also have rich histories to share. The City of Auburn has been the County seat since before Placer County was created from parts of Sutter and Yuba Counties. Some other institutions such as churches, schools and a few businesses have histories dating back to the post Gold Rush days and the late 1800s. We want the community to help us portray

this rich heritage as we celebrate together in pride."

Under current plans, the parade will begin at noon at the upper parking lot of the Gold Country Fairgrounds, travel down Auburn-Folsom Road, turn left down the hill on Sacramento Street into Old Town Auburn, then turn right up Lincoln Way to the Historic Courthouse, turn right on Auburn Folsom and end at the parking lot. The route is about one mile long.

A festival of history and fun will take place all afternoon on the lawn and surrounding areas near the Historic Courthouse following the parade.

<u>Complete details about the parade and festival</u> will become available on the County's Web site, or by calling 530-886-4681. The parade is being sponsored by the Placer County Board of Supervisors, the Public Information Office and the Department of Museums.



### National Weights and Measures Week Highlights Local Services

February 28, 2002

Protecting the consumer to assure you are provided accurate and adequate quantity information when you purchase products is the job of a dedicated group of over 3,000 State and County weights and measures officials around the country. Locally, the Placer County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures staff protect both consumers and businesses by checking to see that grocery store scales, gasoline pumps, and other commercial weighing and measuring devices are accurate. They also help ensure that individuals who sell products and services by weight or measure follow Federal and State laws. In recognition of the important service to the community performed by weights and measures officials, March 1 through 7, 2002 has been named National Weights and Measures Week.

This year's celebration marks the 203rd anniversary of the signing of the first weights and measures law in the United States on March 2, 1799. The national theme, "'Meeting Consumers' Needs through Weights and Measures," serves as a reminder that businesses have a responsibility for providing consumers, and other businesses, with accurate weights and measures for the products they are buying.

State and County weights and measures officials also test devices such as milk meters, wire and cordage measuring devices, taximeters, parking meters, highway truck scales, farmers' market scales and cattle scales.

These officials also check packaged products to be sure they contain the quantity stated on the label. Officials take random samples of packages in stores and count the items in the package or weigh or measure the contents to see if the labeled quantity is accurate. They also check to be sure that the price charged the consumer at the store checkout stand is the same as the advertised price.

Responding to consumer or business complaints related to weights and measures is also a service provided by the Placer County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures

staff. If you think that a retailer is not providing accurate and adequate quantity information to make a value comparison, whether you are purchasing in a store, over the Internet, or by catalog, or if the gasoline pump at the corner station is incorrect, or the weight or measure of any product you buy is incorrect, you can contact the Placer County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures office at (530) 889-7372 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If the issue is beyond the scope of the County office, you will be referred to the State Division of Weights and Measurement.

You can find out how to be a smarter consumer when buying products and services by weight of measure by requesting a copy of the "Tips for the Consumer" brochure from the NIST Office of Weights and Measures, 100 Bureau Drive STOP 2600, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2600 or on the Internet at www.nist.gov/owm.



### **Supervisors Approve Road Improvement Plan**

Feb. 27, 2002

During their meeting on Tuesday, Placer County Supervisors approved plans for nearly \$3 million in surface improvements to roads in various parts of Placer County, plus another \$308,000 in shoulder improvements, and authorized Public Works to seek bids for the work.

Funding for the projects was part of last year's budgeting process. The work will be completed this spring, summer and fall, and will result in roads which ride smoother and last longer.

The Public Works Department has recommended use of a "cape seal" on many roads, a technique which will allow more roads to be upgraded this year than the much more expensive asphalt concrete overlay originally planned. "We have experienced success with cape seal in test locations, and believe we should expand its use," noted Tim Hackwork, Public Works Director. "Cape seal is five times as economical as asphalt concrete (A/C) overlay."

Cape seal is a combination of the less expensive slurry seal and chip seal. Since A/C overlay normally provides the structural component, cape seal must be applied where a stable road base already exists. "I applaud Public Works for discovering ways to do a better job with less funding," said District 1 Supervisor Bill Santucci.

Several Placer County roads are slated for improvements. Another mile of Baseline Road through western Placer County will receive asphalt concrete overlay because of its heavy usage, and shoulders will be improved along several miles. Another three miles of Sierra College Boulevard will receive asphalt concrete overlay, as will portions of Luther Road, Lincoln Way, Bowman Road and Auburn Ravine Road. Two miles of Humphrey Road will also receive this treatment, in this case as part of a Placer County Water Agency job. Road shoulders will also be improved along McCourtney Road.

Countywide, 125 road segments totaling 45 miles will receive the cape seal treatment.

The road segments are spread throughout the county, including North Lake Tahoe, South Placer, Foresthill, Colfax and the greater Auburn area.

"Long term road maintenance has been one of the Board's top priorities," note Chairman Ted Gaines. "Extending these improvements to more roads is certainly a benefit to our residents."



### **Supervisor Gaines Breakfast Meeting Planned**

Feb. 27, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Ted Gaines will hold his monthly breakfast meeting with residents on Wednesday, March 13 at Café Bernardo in Roseville.

During the no-host breakfast, he will include a county and district update, a summary of election results and an update on AB680, a piece of legislation which would redistribute sales tax growth within the Sacramento region. The Placer County Board of Supervisors has taken a position opposing AB680.

Supervisor Gaines' breakfast meetings are intended to be an opportunity for residents to communicate face-to-face with their District Supervisor in an informal setting, a chance to receive information, ask questions and share their views on local issues. He represents District 4, which includes Granite Bay and portions of Roseville.

The breakfast takes place from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Café Bernardo is located at 1563 Eureka Road, Roseville. Breakfast locations rotate monthly within District 4 and are held on the second Wednesday of each month. For more information contact the Board of Supervisors office at 916-787-8950 or 530-889-4010.



### **Supervisor Harriet White Holds Newcastle Coffee**

February 19, 2002

District 3 Supervisor Harriet White is inviting residents of Newcastle, Auburn and the surrounding area for coffee on Wednesday, February 27, from 2 to 3 p.m., at Denny's Restaurant in Newcastle, at 681 Newcastle Road. Supervisor White hopes residents will join her in a friendly, informal setting to discuss local issues and concerns, and so she may answer questions about projects throughout Placer County. Supervisor White also holds monthly afternoon coffees in the North Auburn and Loomis areas.

"Some people feel comfortable speaking in Board meetings, but many others feel more comfortable talking in smaller groups," said Supervisor White. "It's also an excellent opportunity for me to clarify how decisions are made. Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another. The strength of local government, unlike state or federal government, is that you can meet and talk to us, face to face, so we can understand your views."

The coffee meetings and the regular meetings of the Newcastle/Ophir Municipal Advisory Council offer good opportunities to provide information to Supervisor White and county staff, and to stay up-to-date on community and county activities. The Newcastle/Ophir Municipal Advisory Council meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the United Auburn Indian Community Center, 661 Newcastle Road, Suite 1. There are occasional schedule changes or special MAC meetings, so dates and times should be confirmed online at www.placer.ca.gov/bos, or by calling the Board office, 530-889-4010.

Supervisor White also encourages residents to send her email at <a href="https://www.hwhite@placer.ca.gov">hwhite@placer.ca.gov</a>, or mail at 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603, or to meet with her at her office in the County Administration Building, at 175 Fulweiler, in Auburn. Call 530-889-4010 for further information.



### **Douglas Boulevard is Next Clean-up Target**

February 19, 2002

CIMBL – Citizens Involved Means Better Living – plans an ambitious roadside clean up for Saturday, Feb. 23, beginning at 9 A.M. on Douglas Boulevard. Volunteers will meet at 8749 Auburn-Folsom Road, Bill's Donuts. Granite Bay residents are encouraged to join the effort.

"This is a very busy road and we want it looking good. We'll need many volunteers to do the job," said Hal Albertsen, founder of the organization. "We hope to clean from Auburn-Folsom Road to Sierra College Boulevard, or even beyond!"

Volunteers from CIMBL have picked up 16,255 bags of trash and 1,585 abandoned tires from along more than 1,733 miles of Placer County roadways.

CIMBL now has a message phone where volunteers can obtain up-to-the-minute information on cleanups, and particularly important, cancellations in case of rain. Call 530-886-5250, or call Albertsen at 916-645-3599.



### **Grants Offered for Cleaner-Air Projects**

Feb. 15, 2002

Placer County's Air Pollution Control District is offering grants totaling up to \$700,000 for local air quality improvement projects. Public and private agencies, groups and individuals are eligible to apply for these grants. The Air District is primarily interested in projects which would reduce oxides of nitrogen (N0x) emissions from either on-road or off-road diesel motor vehicles in the Sacramento region during the next two years.

While the grants are being made locally, most of the money will come from the Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) Air Quality surcharge on diesel motor vehicles in Placer County - \$4 per registered vehicle. Projects will be chosen based on their cost-effectiveness in reducing N0x emissions.

Examples of the kinds of projects being sought include:

- 1. Engine re-powering or replacement for heavy-duty diesel on-road vehicles (such as trucks and buses), or off-road vehicles such as earth moving or agricultural equipment;
- 2. Purchase of new, low or zero-emitting vehicles;
- 3. Use of "cleaner" diesel fuel formulations and/or diesel emulsion fuels in place of California diesel fuel;
- 4. Infrastructure to provide alternative cleaner fuels for vehicles or mobile equipment (such as CNG or LNG fueling stations or electric vehicle charging stations).

Projects which were approved in 2001 included re-powering two diesel-powered transfer trucks with lower-emission diesel engines; purchasing new CNG buses and refueling facilities; Spare the Air public information and an emulsified diesel fuel test project.

The Air District will accept applications through March 22, 2002. To obtain an application or information, contact Dave Vintze, 530-889-7131.





### Workshop on Auburn-Folsom Road Widening Planned

Feb. 14, 2002

Placer County will host a public workshop on Tuesday, Feb. 26, to gather community input on the proposed widening of Auburn Folsom Road. The workshop will take place at Greenhills Elementary School in the Multipurpose Room, 8200 Greenhills Way, Granite Bay, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Auburn Folsom Road will be widened from two lanes to four lanes from the Placer County/Sacramento County border to just south of Douglas Blvd. Three alternatives include widening the road to the west, or to the east, or widening it equally on both sides. The project will increase the roadway's capacity and safety.

This workshop will be the second meeting for the preliminary design step. The County also hopes to receive comments on the design, also the content and scope of the Environmental Impact Report that will be written.

Plans include a new traffic signal at Fuller Drive that will be electronically connected to signals at Douglas Blvd. and Eureka Road. Two-way left turns lanes and raised medians with native vegetation are also being considered. The project includes bike lanes and equestrian trail improvements; and sidewalks on the west side of Auburn Folsom Road from Eureka Road to Fuller Drive. The County is also coordinating with the City of Folsom's project to widen Auburn-Folsom Road from the Folsom Dam Road to the north.

Placer County's Public Works Department has written a newsletter which is available to anyone interested. Information is also available on the County Web site, <a href="www.placer.ca.gov/auburn-folsom">www.placer.ca.gov/auburn-folsom</a>. Contact

the Public Works Department, at 530-889-7500, or request one by <u>email at publicworks@placer.ca.gov</u> for more information.



### Meeting Planned to Review Proposed Kings Beach Improvements

Feb. 6, 2002

Placer County has scheduled a public meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 27, to update the community on the status of the Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement project. The meeting will take place at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center in Kings Beach. Presentations will begin at 7 p.m.

When approved and built, the project will add highway drainage and corridor beautification improvements such as sidewalks and bike lanes along Highway 28 through Kings Beach from Chipmunk St. to Hwy 267. Also proposed are traffic signals and parking improvements. Placer County will soon be initiating the environmental review for the project.

Planning to date has included numerous partners, including the community, Placer County, California Dept. of Transportation, California Tahoe Conservancy, North Tahoe Public Utilities District, North Tahoe Business Association, North Lake Tahoe Resort Association, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, U.S. Forest Service and California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan).

"I encourage you to listen to what's being proposed, and let us know what you believe should be considered," said Supervisor Rex Bloomfield. "The best projects take shape when residents take an active role in planning them."

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Rebecca Bond, Placer County Public Works Dept., 530-889-7615.



### CIMBL Surpasses 1,700 Miles Cleaned; Plans Clean-Up

Feb. 5, 2002

CIMBL – Citizens Involved Means Better Living – has planned a roadside clean up for Saturday, Feb. 9, beginning at 9 a.m. on Auburn Folsom Road. Volunteers will leave from the Auburn Folsom Road and Indian Hill Road in Auburn. Residents are encouraged to join the effort.

Volunteers from CIMBL have picked up 16,086 bags of trash from along more than 1,721 miles of Placer County roadways. "It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors while keeping our county beautiful," said Hal Albertsen, founder of the organization.

CIMBL now has a message phone where volunteers can obtain up-to-the-minute information on cleanups, and particularly, cancellations in case of rain. Call 530-886-5250, or call Albertsen at 916-645-3599.



### North Auburn Resident Meetings Are Planned

Feb. 5, 2002

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield has scheduled a meeting with residents in the Auburn Placer County Library on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. The library is located at 350 Nevada Street.

This over-coffee meeting gives residents a convenient opportunity to discuss local issues with their locally-elected official in a small group setting. Supervisor Bloomfield plans to make a series of short "good news" announcements, including information about the County's upcoming 150th Anniversary celebration and Placer Legacy acquisitions. He encourages residents to attend.

"The strength of county government is your ability to speak directly with your elected representatives, and to help your community develop solutions," stressed Supervisor Bloomfield. "Please let us hear from you."



### **New County Plan to Place Roadside Memorials**

Feb. 4, 2002

A new procedure for placing roadside memorials has been adopted by Placer County.

When someone is killed in a traffic accident, grieving friends and family often put up flowers, and other remembrance items at or near the roadside location. However, because these items can be a distraction and a hazard to motorists, road crews have generally had to remove them.

Recently the Board of Supervisors has agreed developed two different types of memorial signs and agreed to post them at the roadside if the family makes this request. The small blue metal signs are similar to signs recently approved for use by the California Department of Transportation on state highways. They may include the person's name and date of death, and may also remind the public "please don't drink and drive." Signs are placed only at the request of the family, with the minimal costs paid by the County, and may remain in place for three years

Board Chairman Ted Gaines praised the new plan, which he had championed after a death in Granite Bay. "These new signs honor the loved ones who have died and respect the wishes of the family, but are also designed to help prevent other traffic accidents," he said. "I'm pleased to see this important program come together."



### Free Training and Help to Control Yellow Starthistle

January 31, 2002

The Placer County Agricultural Commissioner's office is now offering free training and advice on how to control Yellow Starthistle, YST, a highly invasive and obnoxious weed which is painful to step on, harmful to horses, and takes pasture and range land out of production.

Since its introduction into California in the 1850's, this weed whose bright yellow flowers are surrounded by thorns, has spread into most counties of the state. In Placer County, it has led to declining property values, decreased production of livestock forage, diminished wildlife habitat, and reduced recreational use of property on both private and public lands.

Control measures, like mowing, grazing, hand-pulling, herbicide treatments and revegetation, can be effective in controlling YST, but the correct timing for using each control method is critical. To participate in the county's program, a property owner must develop a management plan to control the weed over a three- to five-year period. That will decrease the seed population, and the property will ultimately be free of YST. A licensed Pest Control Advisor (PCA) is now available, at no charge, to meet with property owners at their sites. The PCA will describe and recommend a variety of integrated control techniques, which can be tailored to meet specific land-use goals.

A property owner is required to take pesticide use training before receiving this free advice. The training is available by appointment only at the Placer County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, located at 11477 E Avenue, (DeWitt Center), in Auburn.

After completing the class, a participant will be assigned an operator identification number and given program materials, including a voucher to purchase supplies to fight YST. The participant also will be required to complete a survey on the plan results, late in the summer. To make an appointment, call (530) 889-7372 Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

"This is a great opportunity for landowners to learn how to fight this invasive weed,

which is a major problem in Placer County," said Christine Turner, Placer County Agricultural Commissioner. "It spreads particularly easily in soil which has recently been graded. Most animals won't eat it, so YST-infested land is of limited use. However, using a good integrated weed management plan over time, property owners can control Yellow Starthistle. Our new program was designed to help them accomplish that."

The project is presented in cooperation with the Nevada/Placer Weed Management Area (NPWMA). The area was formed through legislation passed in 1999 and 2000 as part of the state's Integrated Weed Management Plan, developed to wage war against invasive weeds in the county.

Preliminary Draft Martis Valley Community Plan Online -- Placer County, Calif.



### **Preliminary Draft Martis Valley Community Plan Online**

The Placer County Planning Department has published the <u>preliminary draft of the Martis Valley Community Plan</u> on the county Web site. Three maps from the plan are also available on the Web page.



## CIMBL Reschedules Taylor Road Clean-Up To Avoid Bad Weather

1/25/02

Originally scheduled for January 26 and canceled due to a rain prediction, volunteers from CIMBL - Citizens Involved Means Better Living - rescheduled their major clean-up along Taylor Road, from Rocklin to Newcastle for Saturday, February 2.

"We always hate to cancel a clean-up, but we don't want to have our volunteers out in the rain," said CIMBL founder and schedule organizer Hal Albertsen. "Winter weather always makes scheduling difficult, but unfortunately, trash appears during bad weather, too."

Volunteers will meet on Saturday, February 2, at 9 AM at the Del Oro High School parking lot, at 3301 Taylor Road, in Loomis. Volunteers should wear comfortable shoes, a hat, layered clothing, and gloves. CIMBL will supply safety vests, track pick-up sticks, and plastic trash bags.

With a membership of 400, the CIMBL trash collection tally to date includes 15,970 bags of trash and 1,565 tires, from clean-up projects along 1,685 miles of county roads. Last year, CIMBL won the state-wide Keep California Beautiful "Outstanding Volunteers" award. The organization has been cleaning up Placer County roads for over seven years, with support from Placer County.

For further information about CIMBL or this weekend's clean-up project, call Hal Albertsen at 916-645-3599. "We'll hope for better weather on the 2nd," Albertsen said. Again next week, in case of rain or threatening weather, volunteers should call 530-886-5250 to see if the clean-up will be held.

Congressman Doolittle Receives Emergency Communication Briefing -- Placer County, Calif.



# Congressman Doolittle Receives Emergency Communication Briefing

1/21/02

Congressman John Doolittle received a briefing on Friday from Placer County Sheriff Ed Bonner and other local officials on how \$1 million in federal funds recently approved will benefit Placer County law enforcement.

In a tour of Placer County's 9-1-1 dispatch center, the Congressman viewed maps and equipment demonstrating how new law enforcement radio equipment will help the Placer County Sheriff's cope with Placer County's very challenging geography - high mountains, deep canyons and vast open spaces – and help support regional emergency communications needs. This will help enable quicker response and more reliable communication when there is an emergency.



### County, Forest Service Win Honors for Educational Program

Jan. 17, 2002

Staff from Placer County Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Tahoe National Forest (TNF) have been honored by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for their efforts to protect and preserve the environment in the year 2000.

HHS Prevention Services staff Amy Gonnella, Shari Crow and Kara Sutter joined Tony Rodarte from the U.S. Forest Service (TNF) in accepting an U.S. EPA Region 9'sAchievement Award in San Francisco recently in recognition of the Options Career Camp 2000 co-sponsored by the two agencies. Thirteen agencies were selected for the environmental awards out of more than 100 who were nominated.

Options Career Camp offers an opportunity for Placer County youth to work with Forest Service employees on priority environmental projects in the Tahoe National Forest. During Camp 2000, youth built a fence to protect a small, wet meadow environment from cattle degradation; provided alternative watering holes for wildlife; and created a major fuel break that had fallen into disrepair on the Foresthill Divide. Youthful participants receive food, lodging, travel and experience while working with the Forest Service professionals. The local program has been in operation for eight years, providing positive activities and career exploration for youth.

"Today's honorees have applied creativity, teamwork and leadership in addressing many of Northern California's most pressing and complex environmental problems," said EPA Regional Administrator Wayne Nastri in presenting the awards. "Thanks to the efforts of these individuals, our air, water and land will be cleaner and safer for generations to come. The winners set an example for all of us to follow."



#### **County Residents to See Lower Flood Insurance Rates**

Jan. 17, 2002

Placer County residents who buy flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program will see a 20 percent reduction in the premiums they pay, effective Oct. 1, 2001.

Placer County Supervisors received this news from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) last month.

FEMA Mitigation Specialist Ken Nauman said that the cost reduction comes because of the work done by the County and residents to reduce repetitive flood damage losses. Following storm water flooding in the 1980s and 90s, Placer County obtained a FEMA grant, and assisted residents in raising the elevation of more than 40 homes located in the FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. The National Flood Insurance Program sets rates establishing the cost of insuring homes potentially subject to storm water flood damage, with rates ranging from 1 (the lowest flood potential) to 10. Recently County applied for and received a "Class 6" rating, replacing the previous "Class 8" rating and qualifying homes for lower insurance premium costs. The lowest level achieved nationwise, according to Nauman is a "Class 5."

"Reducing flood hazards and also flood insurance premiums is good news for us all," said Supervisor Bill Santucci. "Our efforts to protect homes from flooding continue to pay off in many ways."



#### **New Chairman Selected by Board of Supervisors**

January 16, 2002

Placer County Supervisor Ted Gaines was selected by his colleagues yesterday to serve as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the year 2002. Supervisor Rex Bloomfield will be Vice Chairman.

Gaines, who took office in January, 2001, represents District 4, the Granite Bay area and parts of Roseville. He replaces Chairman Bill Santucci, District 1, who represents Roseville. Bloomfield represents District 5, which stretches from North Auburn to the Nevada State Line at North Lake Tahoe.



#### Federal Funding for Walerga Road Bridge Secured

Jan. 16, 2002

An important bridge in South Placer County which has flooded many times has moved a step closer to replacement following Congressional approval last month of \$1 million toward the project.

The Walerga Road bridge across Dry Creek is part of an old rural road which is now used as a main roadway in busy South Placer County west of Roseville. Heavy winter rains often flood this bridge and adjacent roadway, creating traffic obstructions and emergency response issues, and requiring that motorists use other roadways.

"A new bridge would improve both traffic circulation and safety,"declared Placer County Supervisor Bill Santucci. "Because of regional growth, the traffic volumes on the bridge continue to increase. Replacing this bridge is important to our residents. Staff has worked hard to solve this problem, and while our work isn't over, this is certainly a marvelous step in the right direction. Our thanks to our Congressional representatives, Congressman John Doolittle, and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, who were instrumental in securing this for Placer County."

Staff estimate that up to \$7 million may be needed to complete the project. A scoping study is the next step for the project, which will likely include four vehicle lanes, shoulders/bike lanes, construction of bridgeway approaches and adequate clearance to pass the 100-year flows in Dry Creek. The proposed project will be designed to blend in with open space and greenbelt concepts in the creek and adjacent riparian areas. Local development will also contribute to the project through traffic fees.



#### **County Opposes Sales Tax Reallocation Measure**

Jan. 15, 2002

In a 5-0 vote today, the Placer County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose Assembly Bill 680, a bill under consideration by the California Legislature, which seeks to reallocate local sales tax revenues within the greater Sacramento region. This affects the cities and counties of Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, Placer, Sutter and El Dorado.

Sales taxes, which generally flow to the jurisdiction where sales occur, are a primary source of discretionary revenue cities and counties use to pay for services such as law enforcement, facilities, parks and other local services.

Assembly Bill 680 (AB680), proposed by Assembly Member Darrell Steinberg of Sacramento would establish a local sales tax base for each city and county at the end of 2002, then shift the growth after 2002. One third would stay in the city or county where the sale takes place, another third would be distributed based on the population. The last third would go into a regional pool, and be returned to the city or county where it is generated only if it met conditions of affordable housing and social services, infill development and open space planning. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments, a regional air quality and transportation planning agency, would decide how the regional pool would be spent or returned to the jurisdiction of origin.

While the bill's details are unclear, staff projects that there would be losses of tax revenues to Placer County's unincorporated areas and the region as a whole.

The Board of Supervisors expressed concern about the loss of local control of sales taxes, as well as the loss of revenue. "Imposing a 'forced regionalization' such as this harms our local initiatives to work with other communities to solve local problems," noted Board Chairman Ted Gaines. "We don't like having the state tell us what we must do. We are also concerned that this funding shift would deprive Placer County and our cities of funding they need for law enforcement, fire, parks, facilities and other services."

Supervisors voted to send a letter of opposition to Assembly Member Steinberg.

Placer County is already involved in several cooperative regional efforts. As examples, Placer County, Nevada County and the City of Truckee have developed a partnership to operate Tahoe area jail services from the City of Truckee's facilities. The County and several South Placer cities work together on transportation planning, and are developing a regional transportation fee and a joint powers agency to disburse the funds. A regional wastewater treatment plant which serves some South Placer County cities and Placer County is already constructed. Another wastewater treatment plant is being developed with the City of Lincoln which, when complete, will serve Placer County's unincorporated area, Lincoln and Auburn, replacing several outdated sewer plants and better protecting the environment.



# State and County Celebrate Improvements to Child Support Collections

Jan. 8, 2002

Child support collections have increased and customer services have improved under the partnership between the new California Department of Child Support Services (CSS) and Placer County's new **CSS** Department, according to both state and local officials. (Child support payments are usually made

by a non-



Marking Placer County's achievement in improving child support services -Placer County District 3 Supervisor Harriet White, Assemblywoman Dion Aroner, State CSS Drector Curtis L. Child, Placer County CSS Director Carl DePietro

custodial parent to help support their child.)

Placer
County
Supervisor
Harriet White
spoke at a
Governor's
Office news
conference
last Friday
lauding the
changes and
improvements
made over
the last two
years.

Placer was one of the "pioneer" counties which made an early transition to the new department. Statewide, child support collections exceeded \$2 billion in the first full year. According to state officials, Placer County increased child support collections 21 percent, an increase of more than two million dollars.

"Our families received more than \$16.7 million last year," noted White. "We hope to bring that number up to \$18 million this year."

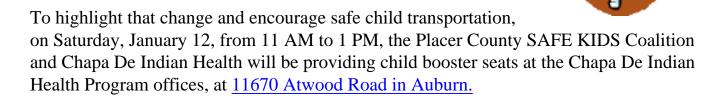
Placer County has made significant program changes this year in customer service, advocacy group participation and outreach to the community, White said. "We have extended our office hours to better assist families, provided extensive staff training, and begun a media and outreach campaign to tell families about our services. Our Child Support Services staff meet regularly with advocacy groups to improve communication and idea-sharing, and we thank them heartily for their help in this process.

"Placer County remains committed to strive for continual improvement in its programs and its customer service," White added. "We thank the State Department of Child Support Services and Director Curtis Childs for his leadership and efforts in improving child support services across the state."



#### **New Focus on Child Safety in Cars**

Because of a change in state law which went into effect on January 1, all children under 6 years old or weighing less than 60 pounds must use a child booster seat when traveling in a car. The law was changed because research showed that safety restraint systems - seat belts - didn't fit children properly unless they were in safety or booster seats. (California Vehicle Code 27360)



For a parent or guardian to receive a booster seat, the child must be present and must weigh at least 40 pounds. There are no income requirements to receive a seat. Funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety, the supply of seats is limited and they will be provided on a first-come, first served basis.

For further information about the booster seat program, call Placer County Community Health, at 530-889-7667.

Placer County SAFE KIDS Coalition members include:

- California Department of Health Services/State & Local Injury Control Section/ Vehicle Occupant Safety Program
- Buckle Up Baby
- California Highway Patrol
- Placer Consolidated Fire District
- Placer County Health & Human Services
- Placer County Office of Education
- Many members of our community