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City of Tehachapi seeks CA grant funds and needs you!
Read more on pg. 18

Vol. 26 #9

Your Hometown Community News & Local Happenings May 10 ~ 24, 2014

Joshua Trees are 'Splitting Up.'



See Page 23 for more on Mark Fisher's take on this 'break' in the family.
Picture by Nick Smirnoff (NPAA)

Look
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See article page 25 • Farmers Market Begins Thursday, June 5

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THE LOOP

Our next issue will be on stands: Saturday, May 24, 2014

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THE LOOP has been East Kern's guide to entertainment and local news since 2001. It is picked up and read by over 10,000 readers (20,000 monthly) and delivered to over 250 locations, two times a month. Subscriptions are available for price of mailing.

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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Meet Dr. Tom of Oriental Massage

Business Spotlight

"Doctor Tom", as he is called by his clients, is the owner of Oriental Massage off of Tucker road in the Albertson's shopping center (785 Tucker Rd. Ste. J).

Originally from China, "Doctor Tom" received his degree from there in the various massage modalities and is proficient in the following oriental therapies: Cupping, Acupuncture and Tui Na as well as all Chinese, Japanese and Korean massage therapies.

If you haven't heard of it before, cupping is a form of alternative medicine in which cups are placed on the skin to create suction. The suction is created using heat, usually fire, or can be created mechanically by hand or with electrical pumps. Cupping therapy supporters believe that it removes harmful substances and toxins from the body and promotes healing.

Acupuncture involves the insertion of extremely thin needles through the skin at strategic points on the body. As a key component of Traditional Chinese Medicine, acupuncture is most commonly used to treat pain. According to TCM, acupuncture is a technique for controlling the flow of energy or life force which is believed to flow along pathways through the body. This energy is known as qi or chi (pronounced CHEE). The needles are inserted into specific points along these pathways and practitioners believe that the energy flow will re-balance.

Tui Na is the form of Asian bodywork which is most similar to conventional

western massage. Despite its similarities to Swedish-style massage, Tui Na is intended to be more therapeutic than simply relaxing. Tui Na sessions use rhythmic compression along the energy pathways of the body, as well as a variety of techniques that manipulate and lubricate the joints. Also, like acupressure, Tui Na sets out to directly affect the flow of energy by holding and pressing the body at the acupressure points.

See "Doctor Tom's" ad for Oriental Massage below this article for contact information and a special offer.



"Doctor Tom" with Kristina Wolfe one of his clients. Photo by Harriet Clendenin.

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Conductor David Newby and Concert Master Gayle Pitchford, at the October 2013 concert.
Stock photo by Nick Smirnoff (NPPA).

Tehachapi Symphony Concert

Artist Spotlight

The Tehachapi Symphony, directed by Dr. David Newby, will perform on Sunday, May 18, 2014. The concert begins at 4 p.m. in Country Oaks Baptist Church, located at 20915 Schout Rd., Tehachapi, CA. This year's Young Artist Competition winner will perform Bloch's "Nigun" from "Baal Shem". The Tehachapi Symphonic Chorus and director Kathy Kelly will join the symphony for Brahms' "Love Song Waltzes". Brahms' Symphony No. 4 in E Minor will also be performed.

The program begins with selections from Johannes Brahms's Liebeslieder Walzer, or Love Song Waltzes, which were composed in 1868-9 and were premièred in Vienna the following year by Brahms and Clara Schumann. Most of the songs, modeled after music Brahms had loved throughout his life, are quite short and explore the excitement that mirrors the eagerness, anxiety, and hopefulness of new love. The lyrics for the Liebeslieder come from Georg Friedrich Daumer's Polydora collection of folk songs and love poems. From simple to sophisticated, the lyrics are sung by The Tehachapi Symphonic Chorus and director Kathy Kelly.

Bloch composed his Baal Shem Suite in 1923 and was inspired by two charismatic personalities: Israel ben Eliezer of Miedziboz, better known as Israel Baal Shem Tov, the founder of modern Hassidism and Swiss violinist André de Ribaupierre. The centerpiece of the Suite, Nigun, means "tune", but in the Hassidic context refers to a genre usually composed by holy men for the purpose of transporting both performer and listener to transcendental realms of spirituality. The

opening and closing sections of Nigun provide the soloist with fiery flights of temperament, requiring great technique but also inviting passionate, soulful commitment. The contrasting section is more in the nature of an intensely measured folk-dance.

After the intermission, there will be a drawing for the yearly fundraiser, for which tickets may be purchased from any Tehachapi Symphony member, board member or Tehachapi Symphonic Chorus member.

Brahms composed Symphony No. 4 during the summers of 1884 and 1885 and is his only symphony to launch directly into the principal theme of its first movement. Its' two-note figures merge and expand to form a long, expressive melody. Brahms uses the theme of the second movement to create surprisingly beautiful melodic variations. Brahms described the scherzo as "noisy, with three timpani, triangle and piccolo" and is possibly Brahms most animated and energetic music. The finale, which introduces the dark, forceful sound of trombones, irrefutably confirms the tragedy of the work. With the theme-and-variation structure (32 variations in all), Brahms offers a constantly evolving drama encompassing a range of emotion.

There is a reception following the concert, so that community members may meet the Young Artist competition winner, as well as symphony and chorus directors and members.

Admission is always **free** to the community. For more concert information call 661-821-7511 or go to the website tehachapiorchestra.com.

New Owner of the Grooming Spot

Congratulations, Caitlin Roberts. Caitlin adds diversity as she grooms all breeds of dogs, small to large and cats on a case-by-case bases. She is a friendly and professional groomer with a special way with animals.

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Caitlin...can be reached at (661) 717 9543. I really like her and think you will too. People have been very happy with her work.

Thank you so much for everything, it's been wonderful!
Love, Sharon



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Pay Attention to What Matters Most

by Tammy Engel, Mortgage Advisor

My client was adamant that she wanted to buy her next home with 20% down on a 20-year loan. After an hour's consultation, we didn't end up anywhere near that. Why? She told me what was important to her, so we arranged her financing to match what matters most.

For context, she'll be buying a home for \$140,000 and may move in the next three years. With 20% down on a 20-year loan, she'd be spending about \$32,000 cash to acquire the property with a monthly expense of around \$913. When I ran an amortization of the 20-year plan, at the end of year three she would owe around

\$101,000.

We talked about her deep mistrust of the financial markets, and about how much she hates that her 401k has to be invested there. She's been buying and stockpiling gold, and keeps a substantial amount of cash hidden in her home. She has owned a home before, so she has seen how market values can be way up or way down – something she has no control over.

As part of any consultation, we look at different ways to use money to be certain we have all the data needed to make a sound decision. One of the contrasting plans was to put just 5% down and take a loan without paying mortgage insurance. Under this scenario, the client would spend total cash of about \$12,000 to have a monthly payment of about \$916. In three year's time, the loan balance would be around \$126,000.

Are you catching this?! For the same monthly payment, she's spending \$20,000 less cash at close ... and the difference in her equity three years out is \$25,000. Given her distrust of the financial markets, she much prefers keeping personal control of her \$20,000 (and keeping it liquid in case of emergency). The difference in her upfront down payment and her eventual equity were close enough for her comfort level and not having to tie up so much cash during that period.

To boot, there is far greater tax write-off on the larger loan with a slower amortization.

In this case, we had eight loan scenarios to choose from. Some were very obviously do-able but not financially sound. In taking the time to know what really matters to this client, the better financial plan became evident.

When you are ready to talk about financing, be sure you are working with a local professional who has the tools, experience, and knowledge to help guide you to the plan that fits you best.

Tammy Engel is your local Mortgage Advisor and has been working for your best interest since 1990. Contact her for help with purchase, refinance, and reverse mortgage at 661/822-7325.



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Meet Your New Neighbors

by Pat Doody

First of all, I want to wish a "Happy Mother's Day" to all mothers everywhere from Hilltop Welcoming Service. I hope all of you have a very special day.

Over the years, **Roberta and Dennis Springer** loved coming up to Tehachapi from the Antelope Valley to visit Roberta's sister, Cristina McKee, a local artist who at the time was associated with Gallery and Gifts. In December 2013, they finally had the opportunity to move here and found their home in Sand Canyon. They are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year and what better way to celebrate than with a new house.

Dennis is a truck driver in the very specialized field of hauling hazardous materials, a job he has held for 25 years. He was born in Downey and raised with a brother and sister in the Antelope Valley. His brother is also a hazmat hauler who, according to Roberta, saves money on rent by living in his truck. In his free time, Dennis builds "chopper" motorcycles which he sells and also likes to work on computers. Both Dennis and Roberta enjoy "rock-hounding" when they get the chance. Their new location is perfect for that hobby.

Roberta is currently a full time student at Antelope Valley College and plans to work in Tehachapi in the near future. She was born to a military family and spent many of her early years in places like Spain and Iceland. She says she was primarily raised in Europe but her family finally settled in the Antelope Valley. Her mother still lives in Lancaster as do her brother and sister. Her brother is with the Sheriff's Department. When she is not working or in school, Roberta manages her little farm. Her animals are her primary hobby. On my arrival, I was greeted by three energetic pugs – Rieu, Peace Pilgrim and Marlow. They also have a mutt named Dude, a pot belly pig appropriately named Pork Chop and two goats named Ruby and Snow.

The Springers have two grown sons. Sean (24) lives in Pearblossom and Zach (23) lives in Lancaster which is still close enough for family visits. Welcome to Dennis and Roberta and I know you will enjoy your country-style living.

Affordability was the main reason **Dan Olson** was originally attracted to Tehachapi.

He is now spending all of his rare free time making his new Bear Valley house into a comfortable retreat from his hectic work schedule. Dan spends most of his week on the road. He has worked

for Computer Sciences Corporation since 2005, maintaining gunnery simulators for all branches of the military. Since corporate offices are in Orlando and his supervisor is in Fairview, Ky., Dan's local office is in his home. His territory includes Corona, Riverside, Ontario, Apple Valley, King City, Madera and even Reno and North Las Vegas. He calls the simulators a "two million dollar Nintendo game" and says that he and his associates have, on occasion, met in the middle of the night to trade parts. He has studied electronics since he was 12 years old and claims that, over the years, he has been "mentored by the best".

Dan was raised in the Los Angeles area with an older brother. His family moved around a lot during his early years. At one time or another they lived in Sun Valley, Pacoima, Colton and Azusa. In fact, Dan says that he attended 17 elementary schools which made it difficult to develop close friendships. It was not until 2001 that Dan discovered that he had a half-brother who had been given up for adoption in infancy.

After high school Dan spent two years as an Army Ranger during the Vietnamese War, spending time in both Viet Nam and Germany. During our conversation, he let it slip that he had been decorated for valor and then explained that a "hero" is just a regular guy who finds a way out of a tough situation.

I would best describe Dan as an "information sponge". He can talk at length on almost any topic and holds a very high value on life experiences. It is this set of values that he is trying to teach his son, Justin, who will be entering high school this coming fall. Welcome to Tehachapi Dan and Justin!



'Easy-peasy' Yard Shape Up

by Sheila Zanghi

Spring is here, so no more clinging to the remote saying, "I'll go out as soon as the snow melts."

he snow has melted and now it is yard shape up time. The first look at the yard after winter is sobering. It is brown and untidy, but it doesn't take much to get it back in shape. Remember, it's only eight weeks until the Fourth of July and having the best yard for the BBQ is a priority.

At Pioneer True Value Home Center we have what you need to revive your lawn, fix your sprinklers, replant bedding areas and add new trees and shrubs. We have the green goods, bagged and bulk soil amendments, bulk decorative rock and weed preventers. More importantly we have the gopher baskets to protect your new shrubs and trees and a selection of products to control all kinds of pests. My personal favorite is the electronic pest chasers. They have saved my garden from rodent ruin by keeping the rabbits and other critters out. I like to use layers of protection so I combine it with a repellent to increase its effectiveness. I also use snake repellent to discourage rattlers from our yard. Before we started using the repellent I had the "snake guy" on speed dial. He was picking up a rattler about once a week. This became a major concern when we were hosting a wedding at the house four years ago and we had to keep these uninvited guests out. The repellent worked like a charm and we continue to use it.

Pioneer Home Center

I have found an "easy-peasy" way to get the yard back in shape quickly and without breaking a sweat. First, Don and I make a list of what needs to be done. Second, we go over the list and get our game plan laid out. Then we get into our work clothes, shoes, and gloves and get the appropriate tools and equipment for the job. We make sure we have the fuel for the lawn mower and weedeater. We get an early start—no later than 8 a.m. – and encourage each other to "Get it done!"

This is the best part. About 8:15 I tell Don I am going to start lunch and trot off to the house and take off my gloves and grab a cup of coffee. I sit enjoying my coffee while listening to the faint whine of the weedeater. I serve him lunch at 12:30 and, just like magic, the yard already looks great. I'm not even winded! After lunch I put on my gloves, grab a rake, and work for another 15 minutes. "Time to start dinner now", and I take off for the house. That is my "easy-peasy" way to get lawn work done. It's been working for forty years, and it's only a matter of time before Don catches on.

At Pioneer True Value Home Center we have the parts, products, and advice that will make your job easy. Remember, before the BBQ, to bring your knives here to be sharpened. A gorgeous yard and a sharp knife to cut steak make for a perfect Fourth of July.

Start right. Start here. Pioneer True Value Home Center in Old Town.

Welcome!

If you have moved to the Greater Tehachapi Area within the last six months and would like to know more about your new community, call 661-822-8188. We will be happy to make an appointment for a hostess to come by and give you lots of helpful information, some valuable coupons, gifts and much more. Many families and individuals who come to the area are pleasantly surprised with the amount of knowledge they gather about their new home. Publishing your welcome article is completely voluntary and is not a requirement of being welcomed.

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Pat Doody
Community Welcome Hostess

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Daycare Stories

by Liz A. Kover, Animal Assisted Activities Director
Marley's Mutts Dog Rescue

My supposed-to-be-ticking motherly stopwatch seems to have cool jets for a woman of 30. I suppose my biological instincts to coddle and coo are aptly fulfilled through my job: I work at a daycare center, and once you read the following list of "notable events" from my day today (and typical of most every work day), maybe you'll understand why I have decided I don't necessarily need kids of my own.

Dudley was running to catch a ball I threw to him and tripped over his own goofy feet, landing in something wet that had been spilled by one of the others earlier in the day. His bangs are so long he can barely see, and he must have two left feet, because I've never seen a boy so clumsy! We had to clean him up then for about the third time in one morning!

Lilly and Murphy each independently decided that one particular toy was the one they **had** to have, so they fought over it like dogs over a bone until I had to confiscate it from both of them. Lilly cried and pouted, while Murphy – knowing from behind my back that I was preoccupied and thus wouldn't see him – attempted to jump up and get the toy off the shelf I had set it on. In so doing, he managed to bring the entire shelf crashing to the floor, smack dab in the middle of naptime. Of course, then all the babies woke up; receiving the cue from their elder examples, they all began to wail and whimper until the entire center was ringing with ear-piercing screeches and moans.

In the nursery, little Louie was inconsolable, so I picked him up and rocked him until he finally began drifting back to sleep. Knowing that Louie was at peace, Baxter, Logan and Ellie followed me around whining – forcing me to pick each of them up one at a time and rock them until their eyes once again became heavy.



A Dog's Life

Although they are small, they each seem to weigh a ton. Even though my better judgment tells me not to reward whining, I must admit that sometimes I do it just to stop the noise!

Forgive me Dr. Spock!

Meanwhile on the big kids'

playground, Jack bit Lola – actually drawing blood. Newman taunted us adult supervisors with inappropriate language, and pretended not to hear us when we told him more and more firmly to knock it off! Clyde flirted relentlessly with all the girls, causing them to argue over who saw his pretty eyes first. Charlie bullied Sandy into a corner on the playground until she shook, and actually lost control of her bladder. Lexie missed her mom and dad so much that she occupied the opposite corner of the yard and wouldn't budge, no matter how emphatically we tried to persuade her. By midday, it was pouring so hard we had to shuttle everyone inside – wet, hyper and anxious from the thunder and lightning – and come up with activities to keep everyone busy for the long remainder of this rainy summer day.

For clarification, I should tell you that Dudley is an enormous English sheepdog with paws bigger than my hands, and so much hair in his face he can hardly see where he's going. Lilly is a Bichon-poodle mix; Murphy is a Jack Russell terrier with an endless reserve of energy and stubbornness, and is too smart for his own good! Louie is a Shi'tzu. Baxter's an old, long-haired dachshund who wants nothing more in life than a good belly rub. Logan's a stubby little spaniel mix with a mischievous streak. Ellie's a skinny little Vizsla (I call her Ellie Bean). Jack is a rambunctious yellow lab, Lola a bulldog with a pink studded collar. Clyde is a beautiful golden lab with eyes the hue of

amber, and a smile that could melt the polar ice caps. Lexie is a portly beagle who sleeps the day away on a little doggy-cot, pining for her people to come and take her home.

Like I said, I'm not sure I want kids.

Give me dogs instead.

Dog speed,
Liz Kover

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The Loop's 'Adopt A Pet'

Franci

Franci is a 4 yr. young (F) Purebred Jack Russell waiting to jump into your heart and melt you away with her cuddles kisses and life happiness! Franci is wonderful with his playmates, housebroken, always completely happy with all of life around her and loves to run and share family activities together as part of your shared lifetimes complete with happy JR jumping who can make anyone smile and a magical dog treat TV commericals!



Thumper

Thumper is a 1 yr. young Poodle (M) Mix angel happy sweetheart who loves to love, play with his playmates, snuggle/cuddle and share his loving heart with your family. Perfect for all types of families with older children or full time retired mom/dad, Thumper needs a family to help his confidence building but will always have his happy tail wagging to share his loving heart.



Caile

Caile is a 1 yr. young (F) 7-8 lb. Yorkie/ Maltese Mix angel who is the complete cuddle bug, devoted sweet & loving companion who is perfect for a full time retired family, Her new family must make sure not to spoil her since she is very picky about eating and uses her total cuteness to get her way using her eyes to melt into your heart to win her way!



Rainbow Rescue is a no-kill 501(c)3 dog rescue located in California City specializing in puppy rescue. Your donation toward our high puppy vet bills will make their life rescue through our Paypal account to make their true life differences possible. Our available adoptable pets can be seen at rainbowrescuepets.com adoption page or private appointment by calling (760) 373-2907. So many sweet puppy kisses waiting to share with you!

Gypsy Rose



This is **Gypsy Rose**, one of the Magnificent 7 dogs dumped and abandoned on South Street in an equipment yard. This little girl is a genuine

character, with lots of personality and energy. We guesstimate her to be under one year old. She weighs 8 pounds and is more Terrier than anything else. She is working at housetraining and leash walking and doing quite well. Contact: haveaheart@bak.rr.com

Vastra



Vastra and **Strax** are most likely a Pit/Lab blend, approximately 8 weeks old. These adorable babies were abandoned in a Mojave home and just got really lucky that they were found. This dynamic duo is now in a loving foster home where they are thriving and learning good puppy behavior. Pet mixes are naturally wonderful family dogs, it's only bad people who make them mean. Contact: haveaheart@bak.rr.com for more info.

Strax



We're the proud sponsors of Tehachapi's Low Cost Spay, Neuter and Vaccination Clinics. Clinics are funded by donations and grants. Our goal is to make Tehachapi the first No-Kill community in Kern County. Spaying & neutering pets helps stop them from getting out and running the streets and it's the **only** way to stop the mass killing of pets in Kern County. 20,100 dogs and cats died needlessly in 2012! The clinics can only continue as long as there are funds to support them. If you're interested in donating toward a clinic, want to help our foster pets, would like to receive our fabulous newsletter, email haveaheart@bak.rr.com. We also invite you to visit our webpage at "<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/CA1573.html>" or join us on Facebook.

Brain

Brain is a ten week-old, purebred pug. He was purchased from a backyard breeder and sold to an unsuspecting family that was told his baldness was due to minor allergies

Once they discovered that he actually had Demodex mange, his family decided they would not be able to care for him, and surrendered him to Marley's Mutts.

He is currently being treated for the mange and once it is cleared up, will be neutered and available for adoption. Adoption applications can be filled out at www.marleymutts.com.



Murray

Meet **Murray**. This old fella is just happy to be—wherever he is. He's a stray that ended up at the Tehachapi Vet Hospital, which is good for him because they worship him over there. Murray is a senior at about 10 years old. He is a gentle, block-headed black lab and weighs in at an impressive 106lbs, but he can get around very well and literally shoots up like he's sitting on a spring when the staff readies him for a walk. You can find adoption applications for Murray at www.marleymutts.com!



Marley's Mutts Dog Rescue

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was created to find homes for dogs in high risk shelters that may not otherwise get a second chance at life.

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All Dobie SOS dogs are neutered/spayed, vaccinated, micro-chipped, and have received a veterinary exam. All adopted dogs come with one free bath at Canine Creek and one free grooming at Tehachapi Pet Lodge.

You can see all of the Dobie SOS dogs waiting for homes at www.dobiesos.org. 661-886-1721 dobiesos@earthlink.net

Rocket



Rocket is a big, handsome 7 year old red male with upstanding natural ears and a docked tail. He is very strong and active and energetic. He has a great temperament, so with lots of exercise and a little time and training he will be a fun companion. He lives happily with any female dobie and he loves people. The more we are around this dog the more we like him; he's got loads of potential. Rocket does have an auto-immune disease called Masticatory Muscle Myositis: a disease that targets the jaw muscles. When active, this painful disease causes the victims to lose the ability to open their mouth. The treatment is corticosteroids to inhibit the immune system. Rocket has reacted well to the treatment and he is symptom-free on a tiny dose of Prednisone given twice a week. He does need a home that is willing to deal with the disease should it reoccur although it may never flair again. Rocket is crate-trained.

Please visit www.dobiesos.org and click 'Adopting' for more adoption information.



Phone: 661-823-4100 (Menu 2 Dogs / Menu 3 Cats); E-mail: contact@thetoppers.org
Mail Address: 785 Tucker Rd, Suite G, Box 460, Tehachapi, CA 93561
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Rocky

Rocky is a tan colored 9 month, 8 pound male Terrier mix puppy who likes kids and plays well w/ others. To adopt playful Rocky in to your heart and forever home, wait no further: Call Aleshia, 661-750-1409, or Save Tehachapi's Orphaned Pets (STOP) at 661-823-4100, menu #2. (Special \$50 Adoption Fee (to qualified applicants))



Rocky is a tan colored 9 month, 8 pound male Terrier mix puppy who likes kids and plays well w/ others. To adopt playful Rocky in to your heart and forever home, wait no further: Call Aleshia, 661-750-1409, or Save Tehachapi's Orphaned Pets (STOP) at 661-823-4100, menu #2. (Special \$50 Adoption Fee (to qualified applicants))

Scout

Scout is an adorable 9 month, 9 pound male Terrier mix puppy with a beautiful black silky coat, likes kids and plays well w/others . To adopt your loyal friend, Scout, wait no further: Call Aleshia, 661-750-1409, or Save Tehachapi's Orphaned Pets (STOP) at 661-823-4100, menu #2. (Special \$50 Adoption Fee (to qualified applicants))



Betty Davis

Betty Davis Eyes is 2 year young, 10 pound gentle, sweet female Jack Russell Terrier mix, who is waiting just for you to provide her with a well-deserved 2nd chance at life. To adopt sweet Betty, call Aleshia, 661-750-1409, or Save Tehachapi's Orphaned Pets (STOP) at 661-823-4100, menu #2 (Special \$50 Adoption Fee (to qualified applicants)).



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(select menu #5 for dogs & #6 for cats)

All animals are living with foster families and are only available for visits by appointment. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as we can.

Spencer

Spencer is a cute little bundle of fur. He is very young so will not be ready to go to his new home for several weeks. If this is might be the kitten for you, we hope you will come and meet him. A deposit will hold him for you until he is neutered, wormed and current on inoculations.



Logan is not afraid of dogs and is very friendly and outgoing. He will be a marvelous addition to any household.

Scruffy



Scruffy is a Wirehaired Doxie/yorkie mix. He has been neutered and is micro chipped. He is current on all of his shots, house trained and crate trained. He walks on a leash and is good in the car. He gets along with all of his foster sisters and brothers, and loves to be held and brushed.

Savannah

Savannah is a very dark chocolate point Siamese s/f 6 years. She was abandoned in the local high school. She was probably a senior's pet and something happened to them. She is very low energy and should probably be the only pet . She loves to be brushed, and has beautiful blue eyes that are crossed sometimes. She is really a great cat and very beautiful.





Community Clean-up Day 2014 a Success

by MaryBeth Garrison

On Saturday, May 3, Tehachapi area residents cleaned out garages, sheds and backyards during the Second Annual Community Clean-up Day.

Hundreds of local folks brought in sofas, hot water heaters, washers, dryers, computers, TVs and boxes of documents for shredding to one of four locations in Bear Valley Springs, Golden Hills, Stallion Springs and the City of Tehachapi.

According to Neil Agness, with Alianza (Electronic Waste) Recycling, "People brought in hundreds, maybe thousands, of old computer monitors, televisions sets, computer towers, speakers and laptops to be legally and securely recycled. Each location was extremely busy."

The amount of E-Waste, brought in for recycling, topped last year's event.

Alianza Recycling transported the E-Waste to its recycling facility in Bakersfield where Agness' staff will disassemble the items and recycle nearly every component.

Benz Sanitation provided roll-off bins and paper shredding service for residents in Bear Valley Springs, Stallion Springs and in the city of Tehachapi.

All three communities experienced good participation however, per capita, Stallion Springs cleaned up the most.

"Stallion residents were lined up at 7:30 a.m. and filled up four roll-off bins

in three hours. It was a big, big clean-up day for Stallion Springs," said Stallion Springs volunteer Lewis Brown.

The roll-off bins were taken to the recycling facility where Benz staff separated out recyclable materials.

The remaining trash will be taken, without cost, to the Tehachapi Landfill. The Kern County Waste Management Department waived all landfill fees typically associated with disposal.

Golden Hills' residents filled four bins and four large containers of electronic waste.

Roll-off bins, for that community, were donated by the new waste hauler in Golden Hills: J Torres Co. "The morning began slowly but picked-up considerably after 10 a.m.," said Golden Hills General Manager Bill Fisher, "in the end, we finished strong."

In addition to large item collection and disposal, volunteers picked up litter in the city and in Stallion Springs.

Bags of litter, at the easements of vacant land, could be spotted throughout the day. Staff retrieved the bags and added them to the bins.

The Community Clean-up Day 2014 was supported by the city of Tehachapi, Golden Hills CSD, Bear Valley CSD, Stallion Springs CSD, Benz Sanitation, Alianza Recycling, J. Torres Co. Inc. and the Kern County Waste Management Department.

What's Up in Stallion Springs?

by Ed Gordon

Police Chief Mike Grant made a presentation, Gangs 101, to Neighborhood Watch group on Wednesday, April 23. In addition to gangs locally, Grant detailed the various gangs on the west coast, how to spot them and their organizational structure. He noted that most gang members are quite passive to the general public so as not to attract attention. However, they can become aggressive if provoked. Currently there are no major gang problems in Stallion Springs but it is always good to be vigilant.

Note was made of the KCFD Fire Prevention Event to be held at Meadowbrook park in Golden Hills on May 17. Tehachapi Crime Watch will be holding a Child ID event for the "Take 2" Project, part of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The SSPD will be represented at the event.

The PAL open house resulted in 16 new members for Neighborhood Watch.

A National Night Out for Stallion Springs is in the planning stages by Neighborhood Watch. The tentative date is Tuesday, Aug. 5. There were 45 residents in attendance.

Property Owners Association

The Property Owners Association held its annual dinner dance on Saturday, April 26 with 80 people in attendance. The dance and auction raised \$1,500 toward the POA Scholarship Fund for two high school seniors that are Stallion

residents.

Police Report

Stallion Springs Police have issued a Scam Alert, reminding residents to not respond to mail or telephone demands from collections companies. Investigate first or file an electronic report with SSPD at www.mysccsd.com.

Grant reminded the group the police are dispatched through the Sheriff's department. On 911 calls you should note that you are in Stallion Springs and non-emergencies should be reported to Sheriff's dispatch at 661-861-3110 to help expatiate service and so that a record of the call is on file.

Upcoming events

Friday, May 16, 7 p.m. at the community center, **free** Movie Night "The Little Rascals"

Saturday, May 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Houchin Blood Drive at the Community Center.

Tuesday, May 20, 6 p.m. CSD Board of Directors meeting in the CSD Board room.

Monday, May 26, scheduled opening of the community pool

Saturday, May 31, Stallions Springs 5K Color Run/Walk at the Community Center. Come dressed in white. Registration is \$15 before May 16 and \$20 the day of the event.

Sunday, June 15, State of CA deadline to clear your property of weeds and tall grass for fire abatement.



Police Chief Mike Grant presented a class on gangs to the Stallion Springs Neighborhood Watch group

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11:00 am Program and Ribbon Cutting
11:30 to 3:00 pm Public Open House and ACCAPS Meet & Greet
Refreshments will be served
(Second Chance Tour June 28th 9:00 am to Noon)

The Resilience of Being a Mom:

A Thank You to My Mom, Evelyn



(below) Evelyn at a young age. (above) Evelyn gazes out on the homestead. Photos provided by Linda Carhart.

I recently saw an ad video on Facebook that was a bogus job listing with video interviews. As you heard the description of job requirements, lack of pay, ridiculous hours and the applicant’s reaction, it seemed like an impossible position to fill. Of course by the end you learned that it was the job of being a Mom. My daughter sent it to me as a way to say “Thank you, for all that you’ve done in my life”. Well, I would not be half the mom I am if it was not for the role model of my own mother.

Although she is very private about the difficulties she faced as a child, I know that even from a young age she had to adapt, protect herself and her emotions and learn to be self sufficient. She was somewhat lonely in her early years, because of that loneliness it was always her desire when she married to have a large family. She wanted twelve kids, but after six her body could not handle any more.

Growing up, I lived in an atmosphere of love, respect, support and understanding. Mom was a great listener and philosopher. She could find that fine balance between supporting and deterring. Even when you made mistakes, Mom could admonish you but it was always in a way that helped you to realize how your decision affected you and others in a negative way and made you think about making better decisions in the future.

Our family had to deal with the heartbreak of losing my brother, her son. I can’t imagine the pain and heartache of knowing you will never see a child again. Although my Mom was lost to us for a short time as she grieved in her room, it was not for so long that we were floundering. She knew that the rest of us needed her and so she pulled herself together to be there for us.

It was so difficult for my Mom to leave her dream home when my Dad retired. She was the matriarch of the family and was always the host for family get-togethers for the holidays, birthdays or any number of occasions. Our home had been open to grandparents when they were failing in health, to friends of ours if they were struggling or lost, for grandkids when things were rough. I always felt that my childhood home was my home no matter where I lived or who I was with. The invitation to live at my parent’s home was always an open one if you hit hard times or were in need, so leaving that home and that position was extremely difficult. However, after six kids, several heartaches and working hard his entire

Mother’s Day

by Linda Carhart



life, my dad felt he deserved a quieter, more comfortable life with the woman he loved, so she gave it to him.

We were not a perfect group of people, but we have very strong family values. Dad has been gone for 19 years now, but Mom’s strength of character and love of family continues to drive her to be there for each and every one of us. It’s been a lifelong commitment and she has been incredibly resilient throughout.



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Mother’s Day

by Cathie Sibley

Ahhhhh, Mother’s Day is here again, the one day a year when we celebrate our mothers. Really...that’s all we get?... One Day? Well that’s better than zero days isn’t it.

I think mothers should be celebrated every day – not just because I am one, but because they are the heroes of our lives from the beginning to the end.

Whether we are talking about stay at home Moms or working moms, new moms or old moms... they are all heroes on a daily basis, doing the things no one else will do, the things no one else thinks of. This is not meant to disparage dads in any way, dads are the cake... moms are the frosting. However, with the rate of single mothers ever rising, moms are the cake and the frosting in many children’s lives.

Worldwide around sixteen percent of children are raised by a single parent, with over 81% of those households being led by a single mother. That is astonishing to me. In the United States those numbers are slightly higher with around 20% of households being run by a single parent.

In the U.S. alone we have over fifteen million households led by single mothers and about five million by single fathers. Even though the total number of homes led by single mothers is around 15% of the total U.S. households, the total number of U.S. children in those households is just over one-third. That’s over fifteen million American children being raised by a single mother with one-fourth of those living below the poverty line. Only about 38% of single parent households actually receive all of the child support ordered by the courts, leaving a huge financial gap in the lives of millions of children. These numbers are staggering. Today one of every three children in the United States lives without a father in the home, a number that has doubled since 1960.

This Mother’s Day article is for all the single moms out there. Those moms are the super heroes of the world, many times holding down more than one job to support their children, while still doing the cooking, cleaning, nursing, and fixing. Those mothers are too often called to stay at home and nurse sick children, losing valuable and necessary paid time at work.

I’ve witnessed firsthand how single mothers torment themselves about the choices they must make between earning money and being there to give their children the nurturing they so desperately need. Single motherhood is so rarely a conscious

Taste of Italian

choice made by a mother, but more often is the result of circumstances such as divorce or abandonment by a partner, sometimes the death of the other parent, and many times the result of a momentary lapse in judgment. Only a miniscule percentage of these super heroes have consciously chosen this difficult path, however, a huge percentage of them rise to the occasion, doing whatever it takes to handle the difficult daily tasks of being both mother and father to one or more children.

Let’s face it. It’s hard enough to survive the early years of motherhood with all your faculties intact when you have a partner to help you. I cannot fathom doing it alone and ending up with a modicum of sanity left. Single mothers have no reprieve, no time to recoup their much needed energy and sanity, because there is no one else to pick up the slack.

I am humbled by the single mothers I know. I am humbled by the way they go through each day full of unrelenting demands of being both parents with a smile on their faces and such love and dedication to their children.

I wish a Happy Mother’s Day to all the wonderful loving moms out there, and an extra special Happy Super Heroes Day to all the single moms out there. You rock!

Peace and blessings to all!



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City Adopt-A-Flag Program is Back

TEHACHAPI, CA – In 2012, the City of Tehachapi introduced a sponsorship program that allowed businesses, organizations, families or individuals to sponsor an American flag in downtown Tehachapi.

The sponsorship program, known as the "Adopt-A-Flag" program, gives Tehachapi and its residents an opportunity to show off their pride and patriotism for America. The City has approximately 100 decorative light posts on Tehachapi Boulevard, Green Street, "F" Street, Curry, Robinson, and the Mill Street corridor right off Highway 58 that will be available for Adopt-A-Flag sponsors. The program will offer sponsorship for a term commencing Memorial Day and ending Labor Day, approximately 14 weeks.

For \$50.00, sponsors can adopt a

flag at an available spot of their choice. In exchange for sponsoring the American flag, a personalized decal will be placed on the decorative light post to display the name of the participating sponsor or to indicate a dedication to a certain person or party per your request. Logos made available (in pdf format) are encouraged as well and may be submitted with your sponsorship form or emailed to gbenedict@tehachapicityhall.com.

Please call Grace at 661-822-2200, Ext. 103 for more information or feel free to stop by City Hall at 115 South Robinson Street to pick up an application today! Applications will also be available on-line at www.tehachapicityhall.com.

[The Loop participates in this program and we get a flag right in front of our office.]

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Flag Retirement Ceremony

Friday, June 13th, 2014 ~ 5:00 PM

Coy Burnett Stadium ~ 126 Snyder Ave

Please join us for a patriotic Flag Day as we properly retire our nation's flag and enjoy music, displays, demonstrations, special guests and the spoken word.

Flags in need of retirement can be dropped off at the following locations

- Kern County Fire Station ~ corner Curry and Valley Blvd
- Kern County Sheriff ~ West Golden Hills Station
- VFW ~ West Tehachapi Boulevard

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Talk It Up!



A monthly brief helping to keep you informed and keep in touch.

May 2014

115 South Robinson Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561
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POLICE

- TPD has completed its first promotional process for police sergeant. Denise Brown (*photo right*) was promoted on April 26th. The efforts of Christie Copus to coordinate the process are truly appreciated.
- Senior Officer Scott Ketcham, SRO Zach St. John, and Sergeant Kevin Paille received awards at the annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Awards Luncheon. The event was held on April 17th at the Bakersfield Marriott.
- A new volunteer Police Cadet has begun working at TPD. Andreas (Andy) Atencio will be assisting with office duties, handling vacation checks and minor code violations in the field, and training to handle minor counter reports. Welcome to the team Andy!



Public Works

- » Began installing Airport Park wharf head water line.
- » Held Emergency Evacuation Safety Training for City Employees.

AIRPORT

- » The "Friends of the Airport" committee met to further explore the Hangar 1 Restoration Project, Warbird-Fly-In & Learn to Fly program.
- » FAA environmental inspection and land acquisition grant approved.
- » Attended meeting with the school district regarding the "Learn to Fly" program.

Engineering

- » The department welcomed its newest staff member, Jason Wyatt!
- » Working on several Active Transportation Program grants.



UPcoming Events

May

National Bike Month. Consider commuting to work or just going for a fun ride!

May 17

Warrior Boosters Reverse Drawing

May 17

Kids Day at the Tehachapi Museum

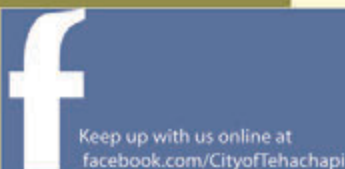
May 31

Run with the Wind 5k by TVRPD
www.TVRPD.org

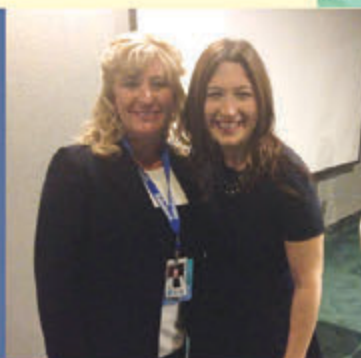
June 6-8

TVAA Springtime Fair at Railroad Park

City Council meets at 6pm on 1st & 3rd Monday at the **Wells Education Center** at 300 S. Robinson St.
Next UP: May 19th and June 2nd.



Right: Met the keynote speaker for the Bakersfield Women's Business Conference Author Randi Zuckerberg, former Marketing Director of Facebook!!



Differentiated Product Portfolio



Left: With a booth at the Nation's largest Wind Energy Conference (AWEA), staff is seeking to entice new industrial support businesses to expand and relocate in Tehachapi.

Below: Tehachapi Cyclist Cory Lockwood represented our community at the San Diego Gran Fondo!



Left: The Tehachapi Police Department's Mounted Posse came out to interact with the community at Home Depot's Customer Appreciation Day and the Grand Opening of the new Tractor Supply Co.

Business Spotlight

Congratulations to Hall Ambulance who recently opened a second station in the City of Tehachapi. Post 11, located on Pinon Street across from Tompkins School, will allow for faster response times and additional support to our community. We're glad you're here Hall Ambulance!



American Legion Auxiliary

by Mary Clyde, Wordsmith

Nonprofit Highlight



Pictured is our local American Legion Auxiliary with the National Presidents Award for Excellence which was awarded for their food bank on Tuesdays to help feed the veterans attending Airstreams. Pictured are Gwladys Peterson, Brenda Wright, Guest DeeAnn Graham, Paula Raboy, Harriet Clendenin, Beverly Hagan, Linda Carmichael, Pat Gracey, Charlene Sherman and Sandy Phillips. Photo by Sam K. White

Hip Hip Hooray! They're Coming Home!

A problem has arisen as a result of the drastic cuts the government has chosen to make by discharging great numbers of our military: coming home may not be as exciting as it used to be. Of course, coming home to family has got to be one of the greatest feelings in the world to both military personnel and their families. At some point a cold hard fact rears its ugly head for many: You don't have a job once you get home! OMGG (oh, my goodness gracious), what do you do?

The American Legion Auxiliary Tehachapi Unit 221 (supported by the American Legion Post 221) together with Airstreams Renewables Inc. (better known to many in Tehachapi as Airstreams Wind Turbine, hereafter Airstreams) are joining forces to offer our veterans a light at the end of the tunnel.

The American Legion Auxiliary (hereafter Auxiliary) has been in Tehachapi since 1932 and is no stranger to our military in need. Whether it be legislative support or a place where our service men and women know they can rely upon for information, referrals to services available to our veterans, or even a helping hand.

Airstreams was founded in 2003 by Dave Schulgen and Jeff Duff, longtime Tehachapi residents. It began as a wind energy consulting company but quickly ventured into technical training for those in the "wind" business. Since its beginning, Airstreams has grown into one of the most successful wind energy technician training schools in the nation and recently has earned the State of California Approved Post-Secondary Vocational Training accreditation.

What better "partnership" for our returning veterans than the Auxiliary and Airstreams? From all accounts, it's a perfect marriage for veterans wanting a new career and needing a helping hand during their six weeks of training.

"Veterans are helped via use of their GI bill for tuition and housing, but that still leaves them needing groceries while they are away from home," shared Harriet Clendenin, just one of the Auxiliary members setting up the veterans' food bank every Tuesday evening. "Students come from all over the

country for this specialized training and 95% of them are veterans," she added. "They are looking for a career, not just a job, and Airstreams provides the needed training, not only in the wind turbine industry but also in the oil and telecom areas as well.

"Presently there are two classes going at a time and we are expecting a third class to be added in the not-too-distant future, so our need to keep our food bank full will be expanding as well," Harriet said. "We see both men and women in the training classes and most of them are in their twenties. Some are really desperate and need the help our Auxiliary can provide. The numbers vary each week, but usually we see about 20 students per class.

"Airstreams is providing a tremendous opportunity for veterans," Harriet shared. "One of the recent students is here from Tennessee and he mentioned that a new business opened up near his home town. They were looking to fill 300 job positions and 5,000 folks applied. The competition for even minimum wage jobs is frightening all over the country. With the military discharging so many, Airstreams is a welcome and much-needed opportunity.

"Another great thing the Auxiliary provides to our veterans are connections to various other resources they may need," interjected Pat Gracey, another of the wonderful smiling faces seen at the Tuesday food bank. "We are able to point them in the right direction for the types of needs they may have.

"The Tehachapi program has received recognition from the national American Legion," Harriet added. "It's a great honor to have gained their attention. We've discovered that not every community has an Auxiliary like ours here in Tehachapi," she said.

The Auxiliary has their fingers in many pies

throughout the community. "We give two \$500 scholarships to Monroe and Tehachapi High School; we have a very active children and youth program; We actively support local, state and federal legislation as it pertains to the American Legion and we hold Poppy week every year. Poppy weeks this year is from May 10 through the 17th and you'll see our ladies out in front of Albertsons and other locations as well.

"We don't ask for donations," smiled Pat. "But the donations come with lots of smiles from our generous community. The Auxiliary also helps host veterans holidays, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and Veterans' Day," she added.

"And, the City has asked the Auxiliary to take over the Wall of Valor display in the gazebo in the park where pictures of our local military who currently are service are displayed," Harriet added. "We are also active with our Blue and Gold families."

The Auxiliary also supports many City activities, Sheriff's Department functions and even the VIPs of Tehachapi's local Police Department. They are truly a "behind-the-scenes," community-minded organization and, at the height of the need for care packages going overseas to our military, they were able to send 70 - 80 packages at a time. "That need has diminished recently, but we were honored to be able to participate when we could," shared Harriet.

"And, when invited, we will go to the home of a veteran returning from duty and supply flags and yellow ribbons," Harriet said with a big smile. "The motto in which we believe is 'service, not self,' and what better way to serve not only our community but our returning veterans as well?"

On Memorial Day, May 26, after the parade, you will see the American Legion Auxiliary serving hot dogs and water in Central Park. Be sure to stop by and say hello - and, of course, enjoy a tasty hot dog while you're at it.

Donations are always welcome as the Auxiliary is anticipating needing \$6,000 - \$8,000 for their food bank to get them through the up-coming training classes

The Auxiliary organization is open to wives, mothers, daughters, granddaughters, etc., of any veteran who has served during a time of war.

Harriet explained, "We meet once a month on a Tuesday evening and if you'd like more information, please give me a call at 661-822-1014."



USMC Sergeant Adam Phillips was welcomed home from Afghanistan by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 221 on October 11th. Another one of the fun things they get to do. Photo by Nick Smirnoff

This page has been sponsored by Airstreams. See pg 26 for how to be a sponsor.



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Spring Cleaning Your Debt

It's springtime--time for you to take stock of your surroundings and get rid of the dirt and clutter that you've accumulated during this past year.

In addition to typical spring cleaning tasks, you may want to take this time to focus on your finances. In particular, now may be as good a time as ever to evaluate your debt situation and try to reduce and/or eliminate any debt obligations you may have. The following are some tips to get you started.

Determine whether it makes sense to refinance

If you currently have consumer loans, such as a mortgage or an auto loan, take a look at your interest rates. If you find that you are paying higher-than-average interest rates, you may want to consider refinancing. Refinancing to a lower interest rate can result in lower monthly payments on a loan and potentially less interest paid over the loan's term.

Keep in mind that refinancing often involves its own costs (e.g., points and closing costs for mortgage loans), and you should factor them into your calculations of how much refinancing might save you.

Consider loan consolidation

Loan consolidation involves rolling small individual loans into one larger loan, allowing you to make only one monthly payment instead of many.

Consolidating your loans into one single loan has several advantages, including making it easier to focus on paying down your debt. In addition, you may be able to get a lower interest rate or extend the loan term on a consolidated loan. Keep in mind, however, that if you do extend the repayment term on a consolidated loan, it could take you longer to get out of debt and ultimately you may end up paying more in interest charges over the life of the loan.

Look into taking out a home equity loan

If you own a home and have enough equity, you may be able to use a home equity loan to pay off your debt. The interest on home equity loans is often lower compared to other types of loans (e.g., credit cards) and is usually tax deductible.

Home equity loans can be an effective way to pay off debt. However, there are some disadvantages to consider. If you end up having an available line of credit with a home equity loan, you'll need to be careful not to incur any new debt. In addition, when you take out a home equity loan, your home is potentially at risk since it serves as collateral for the loan.

Evaluate whether you should invest your money or pay off your debt

Another effective way to reduce your debt load is to take cash that you normally would put toward certain investment vehicles and use it to pay down your debt. In order to determine whether this is a good option, you'll have to

Jennifer's Thoughts...



Jennifer Williams

compare the current and anticipated rate of return on your investments with interest you would pay on your debt. In general, if you would earn less on your investments than you would pay in interest on your debts, using your extra cash to pay off your debt may be the smarter choice.

For example, assume that you have \$1,000 in a savings account that earns an annual rate of return of 3%. Meanwhile, you have a credit card balance of \$1,000 that incurs annual interest at a rate of 19%. Over the course of a year, your savings account earns \$30 interest while your credit card costs you \$190 in interest. In this case, it might be best to use your extra cash to pay down your high-interest credit card debt.

Come up with a payment strategy to eliminate credit card debt

If you have a significant amount of credit card debt, you'll need to come up with a payment strategy in order to help eliminate it. Some options include:

Making lump-sum payments using available funds such as an inheritance or employment bonus

Prioritizing repayments toward cards with the highest interest rates

Utilizing balance transfers

Whenever possible, make additional payments

Making payments in addition to your regular loan payments or the minimum payment due can reduce the length of the loan and the total interest paid over the life of a loan. Additional payments can be made periodically and at a time of your choosing (e.g., monthly, quarterly, or annually).

Making more than the required minimum payment is especially important when it comes to credit card debt. If you only make the minimum payment on a credit card, you'll continue to carry the bulk of your balance forward for many years without actually reducing your overall balance.

Please call me to find out more information, Jennifer Williams, President J. Williams Personal Financial Planning: 413 S. Curry St, Tehachapi, California Office Phone 661-822-7517 Office Email: jennifer.williams@npbfg.com Jennifer is a Registered Financial Consultant. She has over 20 years of experience in the industry.

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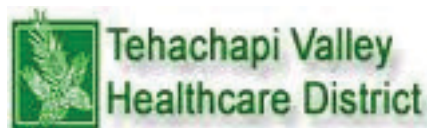
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Announces Dignity Health Memorial Hospital as Telemedicine Stroke Partner

In recognizing May as Stroke Awareness Month, at the Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District's (TVHD) Board of Directors April 30 meeting, CEO Evan Rayner announced that TVHD will be partnering with Dignity Health Memorial Hospital (DHMH) for stroke telemedicine services to be launched for the Tehachapi community at TVHD's emergency department. "We are very excited and honored to have this partnership and utilize this innovative technology with Dignity Health Memorial Hospital to support stroke victims in our community and enhance the overall quality of life for our district," said CEO Rayner. Every 45 seconds someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke and every three minutes, someone dies from that stroke. Currently, it is the fourth leading cause of death and the leading cause of adult disability. Time is of the essence in treating stroke. Bringing innovative professionals and telemedicine technology together in real time to offer life-saving treatment within minutes of presentation to the hospital can make a real difference in the lives of patients and their families. Dignity Health Memorial Hospital CEO Jon Van Boening stated, "These partnerships enable us to assist in expanding our expertise and technology to the outlying communities we serve and are delighted to partner with TVHD and save lives."

Through the use of telemedicine, emergency department physicians will have the ability to access a board certified neurologist 24/7 to evaluate a patient in real time and advise on a treatment plan.

Treatment options do exist, but they must be started within three to four-and-a-half hours of onset of stroke symptoms. Prior to the use of telemedicine, rapid neurology evaluations were not available and patients most likely would go untreated. Early treatment can help minimize the devastating effects of stroke such as paralysis, speech impairment and, most important, death.

"Our timeline for this program is to be operational in approximately 60 days. We look forward to working with Dignity Health Memorial Hospital and their assistance in TVHD becoming a primary stroke certified hospital in approximately one year to one and a half years" said CEO Rayner.

In honor of Stroke Awareness Month, the Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District and Dignity Health Memorial Hospital will be offering a complimentary educational Stroke Awareness session on May 20, 2014, 6 p.m., at the Tehachapi Area Association of Realtors Office, 803 Tucker Rd., Tehachapi, CA 93561, to educate the general public on symptoms of stroke and stroke awareness. Please call 661-823-3006 for more information on the education class being offered.

Tehachapi hospital is a 25 bed, general acute care hospital located in Tehachapi, CA. Dignity Health Memorial Hospital is a 426 bed, general acute care hospital located in Bakersfield, Calif. and is part of Dignity Health, which owns and operates twenty-five acute care hospitals throughout California and Nevada.

STROKE AWARENESS EDUCATION SESSION

Please join us for a free stroke awareness education session brought to you by the Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District and Dignity Health Memorial Hospital

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MAY 20, 2014

6:00PM

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Tehachapi Hospital Rehabilitation Center

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661-823-3090 (Fax)

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Safe Routes to Schools

SRTS GAP CLOSURE PROJECT
PROJECT VIGNETTE MAP
EXHIBIT "A"

Warrior Park

WARRIOR PARK TRAIL PROJECT
PROJECT LOCATION MAP
EXHIBIT "B"

Mill Street Overpass

MILL STREET OVERPASS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
PROJECT LOCATION MAP
EXHIBIT "C"

Tehachapi City Engineer Jay Schlosser and city staff are seeking residents' comments as they work frantically to meet a May 21 deadline to submit applications for state Active Transportation Program grants for non-motorized transportation. If successful, the grants will remedy several major mobility problems and improve safety for children walking to and from school.

The projects include a quarter-mile track at Warrior Park, complete with exercise nodules; improvements that will keep students off the dirt and off the streets in their walk to school; and a major overhaul of Mill Street bridge, which, in its current traffic configuration, is a scary place for pedestrians and cyclists.

"We are desperately looking for your comments and support," Schlosser said. Residents can make a real impact by sending emails or letters to him, which he

will include in the applications. In a blitz of presentations to civic groups beginning May 5 at the City Council, Schlosser said that it's good to include personal experiences related to the applications.

The state rolled out the program – which makes available an unprecedented pool of \$360 million – on March 21. Training was available on April 21 and the completed applications are due May 21. "I will be starting production by May

15," he said. "I need all the comments by Wednesday [May 14] or Thursday [May 15]. Tehachapi, as a rural community with lower-than-average income for the purposes of the applications, qualifies for 100 percent funding.

Email jschlosser@tehachapicityhall.com or drop off a letter at City Hall, 115 South Robinson St. For more information, see the city web site, www.tehachapicityhall.com.

23rd annual Kiwanis Prayer Breakfast a memorable event

Speaker Russell O'Quinn's touching address at the 23rd Annual Kiwanis Prayer Breakfast was a fitting kickoff to the May 1, 2014 National Day of Prayer.

O'Quinn shared his experiences as a test pilot and aviation entrepreneur after the participants at the early-morning event enjoyed the professionally catered breakfast by Linda Pettitt and her Mill Street Kitchen crew.

The breakfast, attended by civic leaders, featured readings and prayers by pastors Dr. Marvin Slifer of Mountain Bible Church, Bert Roper of the United Methodist Church and Brent Whitney of Country Oaks Baptist Church. Albertson's donated the flowers.

Top left, O'Quinn; top right, Pettitt arranges fruit cups; lower right, Don Stephens, Tehachapi Police Chief Jeff Kermode and Ben Graham; left, the scene at McMullan Hall, St. Malachy Catholic Church.

Shedding light on local issues.

Articles and photos by Tina Fisher Cunningham
FisherFordeMedia.com
fordefiles@aol.com © Tina Fisher Forde 2014



A MOUNTAIN OF GOLD

Left, Soledad Mountain rises above a sea of wind turbines in Mojave, seen from Oak Creek Road. The barren, rugged mountain harbors veins of gold and silver that individual miners and companies have dug for more than a century. With modern extraction techniques, the Golden Queen Mining Co. Ltd. will commence industrial-scale mining in 2015, providing 140 to 150 jobs. "The Next California Gold Producer," says the company's web site of its Soledad Mountain Project. "The project will use conventional open pit mining methods and the cyanide heap leach and Merrill-Crowe processes to recover gold and silver from crushed, agglomerated ore." Construction has started on site. The director and president is Canadian H. Lutz Klingmann, who has developed six mines and who has had operating experience in Africa, Venezuela and Canada in addition to the United States. Investor information and current stock prices ore on the web site. See www.goldenqueen.com.

Photo by Tina Fisher Cunningham.

Forde Shorts



Lawman in the air – The Tehachapi Police Department outfoxed several men who thought it was amusing to shine a laser light at a pilot landing at Tehachapi Municipal Airport on the evening of Sunday, May 4. The pilot was temporarily disoriented by exposure to the laser, which bounces around the cabin and creates upheaval. He contacted Tehachapi police.



TPD Officer Chris Boston went aloft with the pilot in an attempt to draw the laser. After 20 minutes, the laser again targeted the aircraft. TPD officers were able to pinpoint the source of the attack to a residence on the 1400 block of Cimarron Court. With a search warrant in hand, officers searched the residence at 3:20 a.m. on May 5, recovering the laser and, according to a report by Police chief Jeff Kermode, "approximately a half pound of methamphetamine with a street value of \$20,700, \$1,400 in cash, scales and other drug sale-related paraphernalia, and an 8 mm Mauser rifle and ammunition (see photo). Tehachapi resident Daniel Roy Mahler, 47, was booked at Kern County Jail on charges of discharging a laser at an occupied aircraft, possession of a controlled substance for sales, and maintaining a drug house. Tehachapi resident Mario Guillermo Manero, 52, was

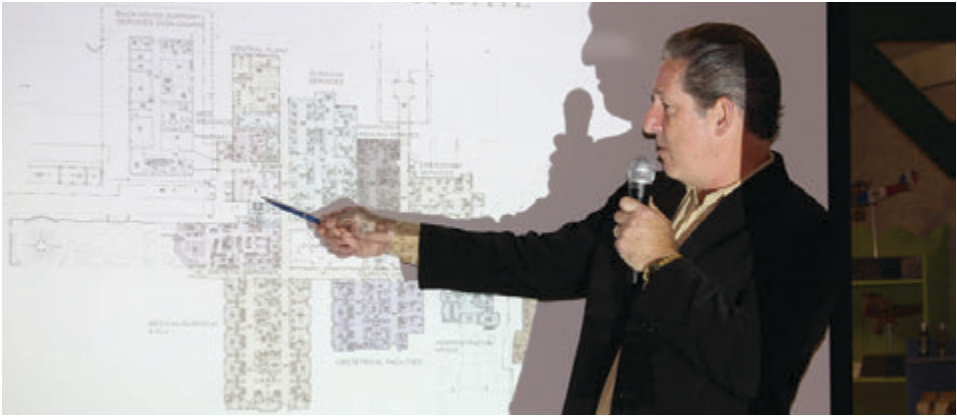
booked at Kern County Jail on a charge of discharging a laser at an occupied aircraft. **Uh-oh** – California Correctional Institution Public Information Officer Brian Skaggs told the Greater Tehachapi Economic Development Council at the Original Apple Shed Restaurant on May 7 that a parole sweep in California City of 32 houses by combined team of gang unit and other officers yielded seven arrests and four rocket launchers. **Supreme Court squeaker** – The May 5, 2014, Supreme Court decision to allow opening prayers to continue being said at public meetings met with approval from Tehachapi Council member and former mayor Ed Grimes. "It was the right decision," Grimes said. Several years ago, an anti-prayer group from Wisconsin approached Tehachapi with a warning that the city would be sued if prayers were continued. The City Council assured them that all religions are welcome, and did not budge.

California City Council Chambers



"We told them, 'We have rights too,'" Grimes said. "Everything is fine. You're in Wisconsin. This is Tehachapi." Mayor Pro-Tem Susan Wiggins said, "It's about time. We want to exercise our religious freedoms and let other people exercise their freedoms." The town of Greece, NY (population 96,095) took on the challenge and prevailed in the 5-4 decision. Had the decision gone the other way, the California City Council Chambers might have had a big job removing their sign "In God We Trust." The letters are about a foot high and spread across the entire raised desk area.

New hospital 35 percent complete



Tehachapi Hospital Interim CEO Evan Rayner points out sections of the Replacement Hospital at the Greater Tehachapi Economic Development Council on May 7. He said the heli-stop (not "port") is fully poured and that he is concentrating on beefing up services prior to opening the new facility. The Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District chose Bakersfield Memorial as its stroke partner.

Eve Geisler is Distinguished Kiwanian



The Kiwanis Club of Tehachapi named Eve Geisler (center) the recipient of its 2014 Distinguished Service Award, honoring her work as long-time treasurer and board member. Geisler is an author of mysteries and inspirational books, and is a certified instructor on living with diabetes. Geisler acts as treasurer for a number of other service organizations in the area, notably the Hospital Guild and her church. She lives in the Tehachapi home that she and her late husband Bob hand-built when they moved here. At their Wednesday luncheon meetings at Pacino's, members look forward to Geisler's really corny jokes that are measured on a 1 to 10 "groan factor." Club President Donna Fischman (left) and Division 33 Lt. Gov. Fushia Ward presented the award to Eve Geisler.

'Because No One is Above the Law!'

by Stephen F. Attorney at Law

The title of this story is the motto for Judicial Watch. You will see this tagline under the Judicial Watch logo on their website. The first paragraph of the Judicial Watch mission statement reads:

Judicial Watch, Inc., a conservative, non-partisan educational foundation, promotes transparency, accountability and integrity in government, politics and the law.

Through its educational endeavors, Judicial Watch advocates high standards of ethics and morality in our nation's public life and seeks to ensure that political and judicial officials do not abuse the powers entrusted to them by the American people. Judicial Watch fulfills its educational mission through litigation, investigations, and public outreach.

Litigation is one means that Judicial Watch employs on behalf of their mission.

One particular case that I have been following is the Sturgeon v. Los Angeles County taxpayer lawsuit. In brief, my interest in that case arises from another suit. The complete back story to that interest exceeds the space and time available here. Suffice to say that taxpayer fraud, waste, and abuse lawsuits in Los Angeles County are lost more often than one would expect compared to other jurisdictions.

The main issue is that in addition to the judges State pay the county was providing the judges in Los Angeles with generous additional pay and benefits.

In total those payments amount to about 25 million a year of county taxpayer money. The heart of the issue is that "in 1998, the state of California took over funding of all state trial court operations, including, responsibility for payment of salaries and benefits to trial court judges."

Despite the law, judges in Los Angeles received in addition to the compensation package as provided in State Constitution (Article IV sections 19 and 20 of the California Constitution) they also received generous compensation from Los Angeles County.

Judicial Watch in April 2006, representing taxpayer Harold P. Sturgen, brought a complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief. Basically, this citizen-taxpayer's lawsuit sought to have the County payments declared illegal and to cease. The Los Angeles County court that heard the case and upheld the payments.

Know the Law

Judicial Watch timely appealed in 2008.

As stated in that Fourth Appellate District decision:

"Because the benefits provided by the County are compensation within the meaning of section 19, article VI of our Constitution, and because this record does not establish those benefits have been prescribed by the Legislature, the trial court erred in granting the County's motion for summary judgment."

The California Supreme Court denied review Dec. 23, 2008 leaving the Appellate decision to stand.

In December of 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger called the Legislature into a special session to address the issue of judicial payments. In February 2009, the California Legislature passed a bill signed into law by the Governor temporarily authorizing the County payments on an interim basis until a comprehensive response to the lawsuit could be enacted. Senate Bill No. 11 (2009-2010 2d Ex.) at the last minute was inserted into the budget act and passed the same day. There were no public hearings. This bill also included a section to immunize the judges who have received supplemental payments.

However, that section was determined to be unconstitutional on "Separation of Powers" by the Commission on Judicial Performance.

Back in court on remand, the trial court granted the County's motion for summary judgment.

Judicial Watch then challenged whether the legislature sufficiently "prescribed" the payment of the supplemental benefits (Sturgeon II.) The Court of Appeals upheld the legislation, noting that it was not permanent. The Court found it a measure "to preserve the status quo" while the legislature adopts "a compensation scheme that deals with varying economic circumstances in an equitable and efficient manner."

On April 1, 2014 Judicial Watch filed a motion in Los Angeles County for declaratory and injunctive relief (Case # BC541213.)

As noted in the papers filed, it has been five years and the legislature has not provided a state wide scheme for supplemental compensation.

The case is not over yet.

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Fun Day for Kid's Day at the Tehachapi Museum – May 17

photos courtesy of the Tehachapi Heritage League



Three girls, dressed in vintage summer outfits, visit the Errea House Museum and learn about how children lived in the 1900 to 1930 era.

To celebrate National Museum Day, the Tehachapi Heritage League is sponsoring "Kid's Day at the Museum."

This free event will be held on May 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Tehachapi Museum and the Errea House Museum at 300 S. Green St.

All the Tehachapi Museums will be open so that area children can learn about Tehachapi's history and see historical items from the past.

Activities for children of all ages will be ongoing with prizes awarded for various contests.

Many service groups will be on hand including the Tehachapi Library, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Kern County Sheriffs Department, Scouts, Tehachapi Valley Recreation and Park District and others.

There will be demonstrations of woodcarving, origami, robotics,

skateboarding, badge-making and more.

Some of the contests for kids of all ages include: hula hoop, basketball hoops, beanbag toss, panning for gold and scavenger hunts.

There will be several antique vehicles on display and our storyteller, Bob Reynolds, will be reading stories for the younger children in the Errea Garden.

The kids can prepare freshly popped corn.

Bring the family and don't miss the fun.

Down the street, the Railroad Museum at the Depot will also be open, so while you are in the historic downtown area, stop by the Depot on the corner of Green Street and Tehachapi Boulevard.

For more information, call the Tehachapi Museum at 661-822-8152.

Honoring Mothers: To The Brave

by Kele Main

Every year we celebrate the month of May by honoring our Mothers. Motherhood by my opinion is the most important, influential, underestimated, heartwarming, job known to mankind. Mothers have the power to change the world through the parenting of their children, either positively or negatively. As one quote states; "A Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible." — Marion C. Garretty.

Please join with us as we celebrate the "Brave Mothers" of Family Life Pregnancy Center. The staff, board and volunteers are proud of you, always here for you, and excited to see you flourish in 2014! If you should need to contact the Center for needs or questions, please do so at 661-823-8255 or stop by at 112 S. Curry St. Here are some thoughtful and funny motherhood quotes that might make you smile!

A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie.
— Tenneva Jordan



Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children;

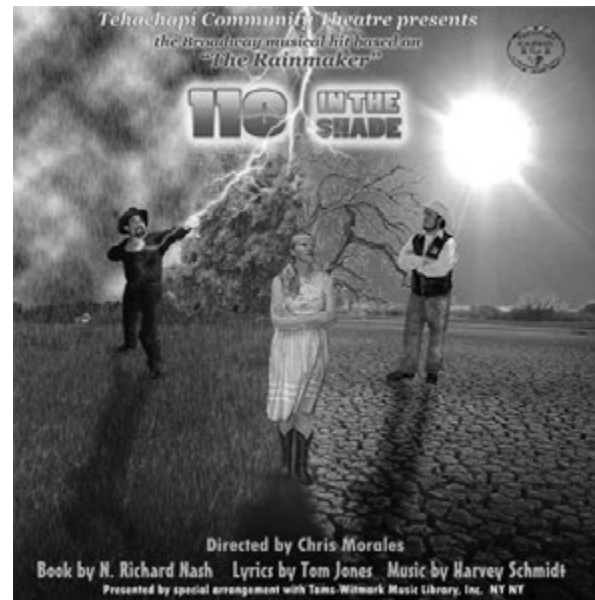
now I have six children, and no theories.

— John Wilmot

A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials heavy and sudden, fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts.
— Washington Irving

110 In The Shade Opening June 6

A TCT Production, Directed by: Chris Morales



Randy Kitt.

If your not sure what "110 In The Shade" is all about, then let me just start with saying it is the musical adaptation of the well known movie "The Rainmaker" starring, Katherine Hepburn and Burt Lancaster.

Synopsis: A small town, present day, much like Tehachapi, in a drought. A man named HC lives on his ranch with his three children. Lizzie, Noah and Jimmy. Lizzie is the oldest and has never been married and has lived her whole life taking care of her dad and two brothers. Noah, the oldest son, he runs the ranch and is a hardworking man. Jimmy, well he's the youngest, he's fun, lovable and but just not to bright.

Life is difficult during the

drought, until one day along comes a stranger. A man who calls himself, Starbuck. He tells the people of the town, that for one hundred dollars he'll bring rain. The only person willing to give this con man a chance is HC, so HC pays Starbuck one hundred dollars and hopes that he just bet on a man that can do just that.

Everything seems to be going well for Starbuck, until File, the Sheriff of the town, lets everyone know that there is con man in the area. File lives by the letter of the law; he's also been telling everyone for awhile that he is a widower.

In fact, his wife left him a few years ago. File hears about HC giving Starbuck one hundred dollars and is dumbfounded by this. He can't believe HC would do such a thing, or that Noah would allow it, or that Lizzie, whom File secretly is fond of, would sit back and let her family throw away a hundred dollars on a stranger.

As the play unfolds, we begin to see the plain awkwardness of Lizzie change as she gets to know the charismatic, storyteller Starbuck. We also see the relationship between Lizzie and File grow into an unexpected love.

With a fun fresh set design by Jason Johnston and Leslie Reynolds, music arrangements by Gary Mazzola, Cambria Hynes, Guy Martin and Greg Hahn and wonderful dance numbers, that will get you up out of your seats, clapping and stomping, "110 In The Shade" brings more than just TCT's summer musical, it brings a **rain** of pure fun and enjoyment.

Check the TCT website, www.tctonstage.com for show dates and ticket availability.

I think it was stated so well when Betty Davis said, "Hold on it's going to be a bumpy ride."

I had no idea just how true this statement would be for the cast of "110 In The Shade" and all of us directing, assistant directing, musical arrangers etc.... This is my first musical to direct and all though I come from a long line of theatrical talent, I never anticipated all this but, as Tom Hanks put it, "If it were easy everyone would do it, it's the hard that makes all worth it." Let me tell you, this show is more than well worth it.

This musical also brings a lot of "firsts" to TCT stage; this will be my very first musical that I have directed. This will also be the first time a truly talented choreographer, Sara Morris, will be making her debut with TCT. We also welcome to the stage making their theatrical debut with TCT; Anna and Bella Dohnke, Ana and Merrick Lathrop, Greg O'Brien and Yolanda Martinez. With all these wonderful first time additions, I am truly thankful I have an assistant director, Ruthanne Jennings, who has been supportive and open to my directing ideas and creativity.

Now let me introduce to you the cast of "110 In The Shade."

Lizzie Curry - Opal Lawler, HC - Kenny Chugg, File - Thae Irvin, Jimmy - Kasey Brockelsby, Snookie - Heather Simmons and Starbuck - Guy Martin. These talented lead actors are supported by a truly talented cast of "110 In The Shade" townspeople: Anna Dohnke, Ana Lathrop, Leslie Reynolds, Elmer Acevedo, Greg O'Brien, Ava Daniels, Spike Daniels, Bella Dohnke, Lily Bonham, Sophia Bonham, Gabby Kreager, Yolanda Martinez, Merrick Lathrop, Sean Lamonte and

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Memorial Day and Memories

by Mary Clyde, Wordsmith

Your writer remembers (years ago) when Memorial Day (before it became just another three-day weekend celebrated on the last Monday in May rather than May 30 as it had been for years) was set aside for special events and services honoring our various branches of military who had died. It was a big deal.

In more recent times it seems that we just get too busy to remember what Memorial Day really is all about. But, if you ask someone who has served their country, it still is a big deal to honor the lives of those who fought and died in their efforts to keep America free.

We often recall clichés like “war is hell,” “freedom really isn’t free,” “America, the land of the free because of the brave” etc. But how often do we stop to consider that wars aren’t won by planes and tanks alone – it takes “boots on the ground,” some filled by men, some filled by women and some of the four-legged variety to win the war? Your writer spoke recently with two of our WW II veterans here in Tehachapi and you bet your bottom dollar they remember!

Glen Jackson, now 90, but then was a young lad of 18. He joined what was then the Army Air Force. He was only 19 when he went overseas to be stationed in Peterborough, near London, England. Glen was a radio operator gunner and fought the war from the lofty heights of a B-17 bomber.

“I remember our first mission,” he said quietly. “It was over Berlin. We were a new crew and had never flown together before. But we had the best pilot there, Bill Brackby. Most of us were only 18 or 19 and certainly were impressionable. While we didn’t fly every day, remember London was being bombed, so we also saw what the Germans were doing to the country on the ground. We were lucky and only lost one man, Harry Bernstein, during the 33 missions we flew.”

“Each time we went up we just hoped we’d make it back. We were scared s...less.

Highlighting Our Heroes

Every flight was memorable. I can remember our crew ‘retired’ one bomber. When we got back we all got out and kissed the ground. One of the wings was so badly shot up we stood under it and pushed it up and down – just like a big bird flying. Needless to say, we were pretty happy to be back on the ground!”

“We had a good crew and in the air we functioned like a well-oiled machine. But once back on the ground we fought amongst ourselves but also fought for each other when we had to. I remember thinking that the English people weren’t terribly friendly to us. They seemed to resent us ‘yanks’ coming over to fight. One woman even asked me ‘What are you doing here?’ And, of course, being young and a bit brash, I replied ‘Saving your ass.’”

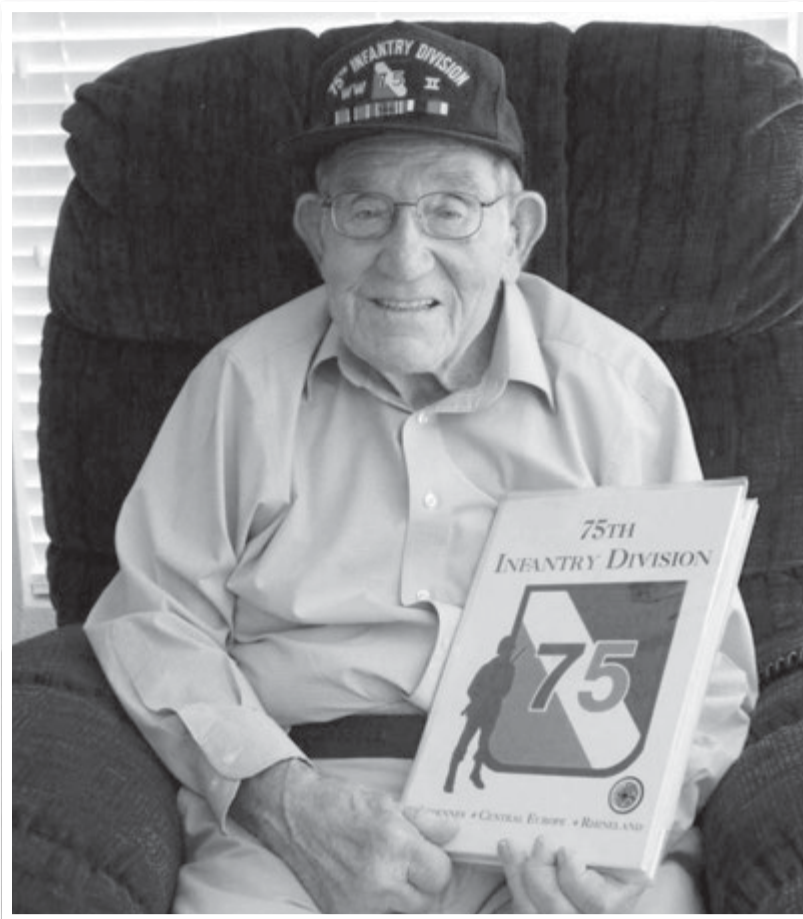
“I remember one of the local pubs had a sign outside that said ‘No dogs or Americans allowed.’ However, we did get served when we suggested we’d tear the place apart if the sign meant what it said,” he laughed.

Glen, like many servicemen of his time, doesn’t speak much about his experience. “If asked, I’ll answer questions,” he said, “but it’s not something I go around bringing into a conversation. I was only there for six months but I was proud to be there. I was also glad I didn’t see any more action than I did and was very grateful to come home in one piece.”

Glen will be traveling to Washington, D.C. with the Honor Flight on May 6 to see the WW II memorial.

Another of our local WW II veterans, Emery Hubbard (who will be 90 in May) fought at the Battle of the Bulge during the same time Glen was flying the skies. Emery saw the war from a totally different view: from the ground and in shoes and leggings because his feet were too wide to fit in regular combat boots.

“I was 19 and at Visalia Junior College when I was drafted,” Emery recalls. “I



Emery Hubbard, soon to be 90, shares memories of his 75th Infantry Division experiences during WW II and the Battle of the Bulge.

trained with the 65th Infantry Division in Mississippi. But I was hurt during training and spent seven weeks in the hospital. By the time I recovered, the 65th had already deployed and I ended up being transferred to the 75th Division.”

Emery’s unit didn’t have a direct route across the “Pond,” he remembers. “We had to zig-zag across because we were dodging German subs,” he said. “We finally landed at Liverpool and then went on to Le Harve, France. I remember having to transfer from one ship to another on the water. It was stormy and rough and the rope ladders weren’t easy to navigate. One of our guys fell off between the ships and was killed when the ships smashed back together. We got off to a rough start.”

“Once on the ground we had another situation. It was cold and windy and there was snow on the ground. One of the guys built a fire – unfortunately right on top of an unseen bomb. And, of course, the bomb exploded and sent shrapnel flying. Many of the guys were injured before we really got to where we were going.”

“We were called the ‘Diaper Division’ because we were all so young and new to the area. Despite our nickname, we took our job of stopping the Germans very seriously.”

While Emery suffered only from a frost-bit leg, there were 290 from the 75th who were either killed in action or later died of the wounds they received. “It’s hard to talk about,” he shared. “I think more so now than it was when I came home.”

Emery served in a cannon squad and didn’t have warm, safe accommodations when night came. “I remember it was really cold. We’d sleep in the snow with our cannon and didn’t often have access to showers etc. I remember once being in the same clothes for four weeks before we got relieved to make it back to camp. We just took the clothes off and threw them away,” he said. “We spent the night and then were ordered out again the next morning.”

Emery was never hit by gun fire or rockets, but he did have some close calls and

saw a lot of casualties “But I think hearing them call for help was even harder,” he said emotionally. “You couldn’t go out in the dark and help them because you never knew if you might step on a land mine. It was really difficult.”

Emery, like Glen, was really glad when everything was over and he was able to come back home. Glen and Emery both agreed: “We had a job to do and we did it. Our job was to stop the Germans, and we did.”

Check below for more information on the Memorial Day Parade.

Memorial Day Parade

Tehachapi Valley Recreation and Park District Memorial Day Committee is proud to present a commemorative event on Monday, May 26, 2014.

Memorial Day will be observed with a parade at 10:15am. The parade will begin staging at K-Mart Parking Lot and ends at Central Park. The parade participants will march down E. F Street and will continue to Davis Street, turning south on Davis street, and continuing one block, turning east on E Street. The parade will pass in front of Philip Marx Central Park.

The Memorial Day Ceremony will commence at 11 a.m. in Philip Marx Central Park. Following the ceremony there will be Service Organization Information Booths, free hotdogs and drinks will be served to the public. If interested in participating in the parade or an information booth please contact the TVRPD District Office at 661-822-3228.

TVRPD would like to thank the Memorial Day Committee Members Organizations: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 221, American Legion Post #221, Tehachapi Mountain VFW Post #5948, Major Jason E. George VFW Post #12114, and Tomo-Kahni Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.



Glen Jackson, 90, pictured with his dog Tawney, shares memories of his WW II tour of duty as a crew member on a B-17 bomber over Germany.

Splitting Up

by Mark 'Doc' Fisher

I recently spent a day out at Joshua Tree National Park. I was participating in a writing workshop. They included a Ranger in just about every activity, and they told some interesting facts about the Park. This time the Ranger had some information about Joshua Trees. One of the first items was that the biologists are splitting the Joshua Tree in to two species.

If you've paid attention, then you may have noticed that the Joshua Trees around here, like the ones that dominate Joshua Tree National Park, look different that those you might see as you drive through the Eastern Mojave, perhaps on your way to Las Vegas. The eastern species (currently *Yucca brevifolia* var. *jaegeriana*) branches more readily than the local ones (*Yucca brevifolia* var. *brevifolia*). Now species tends to be a fuzzy concept, but it's generally accepted that if two things cannot have fertile offspring then they are different species.

Well, the Ranger informed us that the two types of Joshua Trees have different species of moth that do their pollination, and the moths are sufficiently different – that they are different species. The thinking goes that the two types of Joshua Trees are different species too. Now it will be some time before this starts turning up in books about the wildflowers of the Mojave, but botanists are starting to think about the trees as different kinds.

Which is going to make conservation of the Joshua Tree even more complicated, and the Joshua Tree is in need of protection. Climate change is making the local desert warmer, and Joshua Trees need to have cool temperatures so that they can bloom. They just need a few nights with below freezing temperatures, but those are getting to be more rare.

Now one possibility for the Joshua Tree

Lost in the Stars

is to move its range northward, but the Joshua Tree doesn't have its seeds dispersed over long distances by birds. Currently the main way that they have their seeds dispersed is by rodents. The kind that make caches of seeds, like pack rats. However these generally don't have large ranges and don't move seeds very far.

Now in the past, say about 10,000 years ago when the last Ice Age ended, the Joshua Tree had its seeds dispersed by one of the ground sloths that were in the area at the time. In fact, undigested seeds of the Joshua Tree forms a great deal of the fossilized droppings of those sloths. Ground sloths, being large, covered large territories so they could feed, so the seeds were dispersed over large areas.

Those sloths are no longer around. They were too big and ate in the open so were too tempting of prey for the humans that had moved into the area at about the same time as the end of the ice age. They went extinct, victims of climate change and human actions.

Today the Joshua Trees can only move around very slowly, so may not be able to move northward fast enough to save themselves. (The speed of the current climate change is unprecedented.) The fate of the Joshua Trees, a symbol of our local desert, may be determined by the actions of humans today or more likely our inactions.

Send me an email at mathnerde+loop@gmail.com. Or you can comment on my blog at <http://mathnerde.blogspot.com/>.



Nuttin' but Fun

by Shirley Given

True, Gilroy has the Garlic Festival, but Bakersfield is hosting the Second Annual Nut Festival, Saturday, June 7, at the historic Kern County Museum. In 2009 Bob Price, an editor with the Bakersfield Californian, wondered why Kern County, a major agricultural area, did not have an agricultural festival. The seed was planted (yes, pun intend) and a group of local businesses and civic leaders met to discuss the possibility, but plans were shelved due to economic hard times.

Sheryl Barbich and Betty Pandol, members of the Kern County Museum Foundation, took the plans off the shelf in 2012 and the project caught like wildfire, this time. Organizations, groups, companies and individuals set up committees to organize the Nut Festival. There are now over 85 individuals on festival committees.

One of the top agricultural counties in the nation, Kern County leads in the nut production of almonds, pistachios and – to a lesser degree – pecans and walnuts. Millions of dollars are generated annually and thousands are employed by the nut industry in Kern County.

The primary beneficiary of the festival revenues are the Kern County Museum Foundation, supporting the historic Kern

Out 'n' About

County Museum.

The Festival begins at 9 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m. Cooking demonstrations, nutty concoctions, music, dancing, crafts, art, games, contests, agricultural exhibits and other “nutty” activities, will go on throughout the day.

Adult tickets are \$10 and children are \$5. Tickets may be purchased on the museum website. Free parking will be available and the GET bus will operate service from various locations. The General Information page for the Kern County Nut Festival has information regarding parking, getting to the festival and festival guidelines. The Museum is located at 3801 Chester Ave. For further information call 661-437-3330 or visit the website at kcmuseum.org. Vendor applications are still being accepted.

For a “Shell of a Good Time” get crackin’ and mark you calendars, June 7 for the Second Annual Kern County Nut Festival at the Historical Kern County Museum.



Lauraine Reads: Modoc

by Lauraine Snelling

All hail to the upcoming summer. I love watching the sun rise over the eastern hills. It is moving farther north every day and is almost beyond the cedar tree barrier in my yard now. The trees are more leafed out and with the sun sparkling on them, their greenness brightens each new day. Can you tell spring is my favorite season? This spring in Tehachapi has been glorious.

With the onset of gardening, I have less time for reading; a yearly trade off that I always try to pretend does not exist. However, when I find a book like *Modoc: The True Story of the Greatest Elephant That Ever Lived* by Ralph Helfer, I ignore all else and let myself be caught up in the story. The cover art caught my eye and insured I would buy the book. Printed in intense sepia, it is the photograph of the back of an elephant perched on a circus stool and a young boy sitting beside the huge beast, with one hand and arm stretched across the animal's back. Unfortunately the book got put on my shelf until just recently when I saw it again and started to read and did not want to stop reading. What a magnificent story and it is true. No fiction writer could possibly make up this elephant's life; and editors would shake their head and say, “sorry, not believable.”

On the same day that Modoc was born, elephant trainer Josef Gunterstein celebrated the birth of his son Bram. Joseph believed in the mystical links of humans and animals, especially elephants, and passed them down to his son. Modoc and Bram grew up together and

Readin' & Writin'

developed ties to last a lifetime in spite of a world war, an ocean to cross and the vagaries of the circus industry.

During her lifetime Modoc crossed the world, once nearly dying on a sinking freighter. She not only managed to survive but to save Bram and others until they were picked up and brought to India, where she regained her health. She became famous there, saved lives during the war, until she and Bram were brought to star in a New York circus in the 1940s. Known for her extreme brilliance and reasoning power far beyond many humans, Modoc carved a place for herself and became known as the greatest elephant that ever lived. Sadly due to abuse and misadventures, Modoc was forced from the circus ring, eventually spending her final years at an animal farm in Southern California owned by Ralph Helfer, where she became the inspiration for this book.

How I wish I had seen Modoc and met Bram. How grateful I am to have been able to read their story. May we all be blessed by the animals in our lives and enjoy their stories, where glimpses of their greatness bring us wonder and delight. May you enjoy Modoc's story as much as I did and happy reading and writing to all.



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Community Happenings

May 17, Summit Singers Concert

by Corinne Stone

How this year has flown! It's time for the final Summit Singers concert of the year, and it's all happening this Saturday, May 17, at the First Baptist Church, 1049 S. Curry, at 7 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased from any of the Summit Singers, or at one of the following business locations: Apple Shed, Books & Crannies, Mountain Music, and Tehachapi Furniture. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Ticket prices remain unchanged, at just \$10 per adult, or \$25 for a family children, which includes two adults and all the minor children. We hope you'll come and enjoy a lovely evening, and help support your local choral organization. We love making music for you!

Weekly Storytime

Enjoy Storytime every Thursday afternoon from 3:10 to 4 p.m. at Darlene's Real Swell Toys. Children of all ages are welcome.

Darlene's is located at 103 W. H St. in Downtown Tehachapi.

Jazzercise Classes at E.M.B Martial Arts Studio

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First class is free!

Jazzercise, one-hour classes

M-F 8:30 a.m. (every weekday)

MWF 7:15 a.m. (three days a week)

GTCC May Mixer

Please join the Greater Tehachapi Chamber of Commerce at our May Mixer hosted by Linda's Cakes n Things and Margret's Catering at Mill Street Kitchen on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Mixers are a great opportunity to meet your business neighbors and community members in an informal setting. These events are a great way to share information about your business and learn about other members.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Mill Street Kitchen is located at 208 S. Mill St, Tehachapi, CA 93561. For more information call 661-827-7558.

Golf Tournament, June 28

The Fourth Annual Relay for Life Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 28, at The Horsethief Country Club in Stallion Springs. The format this year will be a two-person scramble. Shotgun start will begin 9 a.m.

Cost is \$35 per player for HTCC members and \$65 per player for non-members – includes green fees, cart and lunch. Have fun and support a worthy cause at the same time!

For more information or to sign up, contact Bill Duggins at 661-972-4077 or 661-823-8170

Beekeeping Workshop, May 24

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about why bees are so important and how to get started in Beekeeping.

Les Crowder has been beekeeping and teaching others about it for over 30 years. He travels internationally sharing his love of bees. His website www.fortheloveofbees.com tells you more about him. He believes in using natural techniques without chemicals. Les prefers the topbar hive method but this workshop applies to all methods of beekeeping. The two day workshop May 24th and 25th 10:00 - 5:00 is \$120.00 per person. If you are interested, please contact Liz Wolfe at 822-5892 or liz.wolfe1@gmail.com. This is a "hands on class so you must have protective bee gear to fully participate.

Friday, May 23 will be a free presentation to the public by Les. We will meet at 6:00 pm at Tehachapi Community Theater's Second Space at 431 J. St. If you have questions, call Liz Wolfe at 822-5892 or liz.wolfe1@gmail.com

Defense Against A Bully Class

Fri., May 16 5 to 6 p.m. This class is designed to assist five- to 12-year-old students. Deadline for Sign-ups is May 9

Cost \$25, Sign-up at Tehachapi Martial Arts Center 20418 Brian Way, Suite 6, for more information, call 661-823-0621.

Eighth Annual Self-Defense Seminar for Ages 13 and up

No Experience Necessary
Realistic techniques to help teens, women, men, law enforcement, security and others defend themselves.

Limited Space available - Combat Hapkido Seminar - Saturday May 17, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Lunch included.

Hosted by Tehachapi Martial Arts Center 20418 Brain Way, Suite 6. 661-823-0621

Climate Change Information

Climate change is the subject of the next meeting of American Association of University Women. The public is invited to attend the 4:00 p.m. meeting on Wednesday, May 14, at Tehachapi Community Church, 100 East E Street.

Melanie Grune from Duluth, Minnesota, is the speaker. She became concerned about climate change and decided to learn what she could about it by training in Chicago with the Climate Reality Project.

Grune, daughter of Jan and the late Paul Combs, learned from her parents that worrying about something does not make it better. Taking action is what is important, and that is what she is doing. She became a Certified Climate Leader and made a commitment to have conversations with people about global warming. She will explain the urgency of the problem and give ideas about what each person can do to combat the situation.

AAUW promotes education and equity for women and girls. Membership is open to men and women with a two year or higher college degree upon payment of \$85 dues. For further information, call Susan at 821-6008.

Tehachapi Senior Center Weekly Activities

Lunch at Noon on Weekdays

Bingo Closed Until Further Notice

Monday

10:30 a.m. – Tai Chi

12:30 p.m. – Mexican Train (Dominoes)

1 p.m. – Line Dancing

Tuesday

10 a.m. – Pinochle/Cards

10 a.m. – Club Strength & Wood Carving

1:30 p.m. – Grief Support

Wednesday

10 a.m. – Zumba Gold

11 a.m. – Tai Chi

12:30 - 3 p.m. – Poker

1:30 p.m. – Caregivers Education (1st Wed.)

1 p.m. – Early Stage Dementia/

Recipients (Second Wed.)

1 p.m. - Poker on the Green Felt

Thursday

10 a.m. – Club Stretch & Bridge/Cards

1 p.m. – Knitting and Crocheting

1 p.m. – Caregivers Support (4th Wed)

Tehachapi Mountain Quilters have three scholarships available to qualifying students. Graduating seniors from Tehachapi HS, Monroe HS and Tehachapi Charters schools can apply. The applicant must be heading into the ARTS. Fine arts, graphic design, fashion design, craft and architecture are all qualifying fields of study. The prospective student must be accepted or waiting for acceptance, to the 2014 fall college semester. Adult, returning students will also be considered. Contact Eve Hall, 822-3281 or Anna DeGraff, 822-9414 for more information by May 17.

Second Annual Wildfire Awareness & Child Safety Expo May 17

Presented by the Kern County Fire Department, Greater Tehachapi Crime Watch, Stallion Springs Police Department and Kern County Sheriffs Department.

Saturday, May 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Meadowbrook Park, 21750 Westwood Blvd.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this free event. There will be hot dogs and snacks, Firefighting equipment on display, take pictures with Smokey The Bear and McGruff The Crime Dog, facepainting, bounce house, and more.

Volunteers from local law enforcement agencies will be assisting the public in issuing a **free** Child ID. Greater Tehachapi Crime Watch will be handing out educational materials and holding a fundraising raffle with chances to win amazing prizes from local businesses and our generous sponsors.

For more information contact the Kern County Fire Department at 661-330-0133 or email fireinfo@co.kern.ca.us

HEARTS Connection Schedule of Events

• Playgroup for ages up to five, next

one is Tuesday May 13, 10 a.m., a special day at City/Central park. (Others in the future will be at the playroom in my office, will let you know).

• Tehachapi Mothers of Special Needs, a Mom's Pampered Brunch, Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m., RSVP for location, special brunch with some makeovers and light pampering. • HEARTS Connection Support Group for parents only (always the first Tuesday evening of each month at 7 p.m.). next one is Tuesday June 3, 7 p.m., special guest speaker on Behavioral therapies.

Send us your Community Events!

Submit them to:

articles@

theloopnewspaper.com

by Friday, May 16

Diabetes Support Group

At their May meeting, the Tehachapi Diabetes Support Group will be discussing computer nutrition apps for diabetes. The meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15, at 10 a.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 329 S. Mill St.

The group will also be having a party to celebrate their 20th anniversary.

Call Eve at 822-3517 for more information.



Programs

Have you ever wanted to take swimming lessons, learn about digital photography or attend a Summer camp?

Tehachapi Valley Recreation and Park District offers all of those activities and many more at our two community centers, public pools, Ollie Mountain Skate Park, Phillips Marx Central Park, Meadowbrook Park, West Park and in our Youth and Adult Team Sports Programs.

TVRPD now accepting online registrations for programs and classes, so go to TVRPD.org to find out more!

Upcoming Programs/Events Include:

Memorial Day Event – May 26, 2014

Run with the Wind (and under the Sun)– May 31, 2014 (Registration available online now; Race Day Registration starts at 8 a.m., and Race starts at 9 a.m.

Open Gym Basketball year-round (Sundays 5:30–7:30 p.m. and 7:30–9:30 p.m.)

Mad Science Camp (2 sessions 9 a.m.–Noon, 1–4 p.m.) June 9 – 13, 2014 (AM – FUNgineering, Mix-Ups & More! 5-12 years) (PM – Intro to Robotics. 8-12 years)

Lego Camp (2 sessions 9 AM – Noon, 1–4 p.m.) June 16 – 20, 2014 (AM – Pre-engineering. Ages 5-7) (PM – Engineering FUNDamentals. Ages 8-12)

Brew and Grill Fest Needs Barbecue Competitors

Tehachapi, Calif. – The Tehachapi Mountain Brew and Grill Fest is looking for barbecue competitors to compete for cash, prizes and bragging rights on July 19 at the Benz-Visco Sports Park in Tehachapi, Calif.

The festival is looking for teams of four people to compete in Tri-tip, Chicken or Pork categories. Judges will award First, Second and Third place awards with a Grand Champion and the public will choose who they like the best in a People's Choice award. Each team will also get discounted tickets to the event. Entry is only \$75 per team and category.

General admission tickets (\$45)

include lots of beer tastings and barbecue samplings, as well as dinner. VIP admission (\$100) includes a fully catered VIP section, wine, beer and other adult libations. Overnight R.V. parking is available, as well as shuttle service to select Tehachapi area hotels. The event is strictly for those 21 years of age or older.

Tickets and more information are available at: TehachapiBrew.com. The Tehachapi Mountain Brew and Grill Fest will donate a portion of its proceeds to local charities, including Make-A-Wish Foundation, AYSO Region 479 and more. Local vendors are welcome and may register on-site by June 23.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Main street Events!

Starting June 5 and running through Aug. 21 from 4-7 is **Main Street's Farmers Market**. It is held at Railroad Park by the water tower.

Come and stretch out on the grass and listen to Tehachapi's best bands, pig out with your favorite food vendors – featuring brats, tamales, kettle corn – and shop-till-you-drop for the best in farm fresh produce, jams, jellies and dried fare.

Unique arts and crafts and gifts are always on everyone's wish list, and Farmers Market has something for everyone!

Saturday, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., is the **Seventh Annual Chili Cook Off and Antique Car Show**. This International Chili Society (ICS) sanctioned cook off features competitors from all over the state vying for the ICS title and our own local Chili enthusiasts competing for the People's Choice title and cash prizes.

Sample tastings are available for a small fee, and this year you can purchase homemade chili served several different ways at the Main Street Chili booth. Local amateurs and restaurants will compete in separate categories.

There will also be the annual Beer Garden, so that fathers and mothers alike can rest while the children play.

The Antique Car Show features antique and custom vehicles. Music will be provided by local a local band and there will be vendors galore!

Applications can be downloaded from the website at MainStreetTehachapi.org or by calling 661-822-6519.

Tehachapi Library Big Book Sale May 14, 16, & 17

Mark your calendars for the next **big book sale** at the Tehachapi Library. Put on by the Friends of the Tehachapi Library, it will held Wednesday May 14 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday May 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday May 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will find the best prices in town and you support the many functions supported by the Friends of the Library. Donations are gladly accepted especially children's books, gardening, crafts and cookbooks. The Tehachapi Branch of the Kern County Library is located in the Tehachapi Crossing Shopping Center at Tehachapi Blvd and Tucker Road. Call 661-833-4938 for more information about this sale and other activities offered by the Kern County Library.

Catholic Daughters Hold Rummage Sale May 31

by Pat Gracey

The Catholic Daughters will be holding their Spring Rummage sale on Friday, May 31 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Saturday, May 31 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. in McMullan Hall at St. Malachy Catholic Church, 407 West E Street. Clothes, household items, furniture and tools will be on hand.

BVS Baseball and Tee-Ball Sign-Ups

Registration for Bear Valley Springs baseball and tee-ball are currently being accepted, for boys and girls ages 7-16. Regular baseball sign-ups through April 29 – June 2 - \$75. Late sign-up June 3 - 9- \$85.

Tee-Ball for boys and girls ages 4-6. Regular sign-ups start through June 2- \$55. Late sign-ups: June 3 - 9 - \$65

*Add \$20 for non-BVS resident

Player evaluations will be held on June 16. Practices start on June 30, with opening day set for July 12. League play concludes Sept. 13.

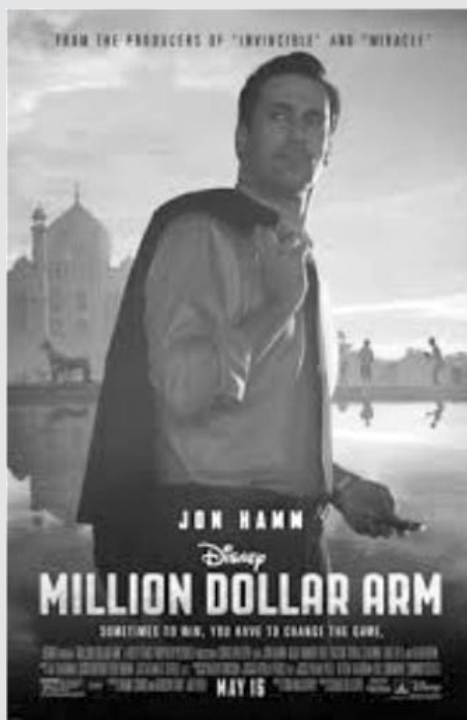
Tehachapi P.D. Crime Prevention Awareness Senior Day at the Movies

Disney's "Million Dollar Arm" Rated PG, 2 Hr, Showing at the Hitching Post Theater

May 21 (Wed)— Noon Showing

(Doors Open at 11:30 a.m. and presented in their largest theater)

Reduced Price Senior. Admission (60 and over) \$2.50
Seating is limited, arrive early for best seating



STROKE AWARENESS EDUCATION SESSION

Please join us for a free stroke awareness education session brought to you by the Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District and Dignity Health Memorial Hospital

Light refreshments served

MAY 20, 2014

6:00PM

TEHACHAPI AREA ASSOCIATION OF RELATORS

803 TUCKER ROAD, TEAHACHAPI, CA 93561

CONTACT: PEGGY MENDIBURU (661) 823-3006

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED



"Our Water Situation" Meeting - May 17

When: Saturday May 17, 2014, 10 a.m.-Noon

Where: Moose Lodge – corner of "F" and Curry Streets, in Tehachapi

The first hour will consist of presentations by John Martin from the Tehachapi – Cummings County Water District and Jim Beck (or his designee) from the Kern County Water Agency. The second hour will be a question and answer period following the presentations. Lorelei Oviatt, the Director of the Kern County Planning and Development Panel, will join the above speakers to answer your questions.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about the water issues in our community. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Janice Hagen Armstrong 661-821-0346

Tehachapi Senior Center BBQ

Burgers & Franks Dinner, May 16

Kicking off the barbeque season, the Senior Center will host a Hamburger & Hot Dog Dinner this Friday, May 16, with doors opening at 4 p.m. and dinner served at 5 p.m.

The donation is only \$8 and includes baked beans, salad and more. "These fund raisers are a mainstay in helping your center serve the community," reports TSC President Lori Powell. "And you don't need to be whatever you consider a "senior citizen" to attend. We have people of all ages come and enjoy the food, entertainment and more - our 50/50 raffle has cash prizes, a free oil change from JiffyLube and more door prizes."

The Senior Center is located at 500 East F Street and offers exercise classes, Zumba, T'ai Chi, various card playing groups and more.

BVS Mtn. Spike Volleyball Sign-Ups

Registration for Bear Valley Springs Mountain Spike Volleyball is currently being accepted for boys and girls ages 9-14. Regular sign-ups through June 2 – \$50. Late sign-up is June 3 - 8 for \$60. Add \$20 for non-BVS resident. Seven clinic-style sessions will be held on Mondays, June 9-July 29 at the Whiting Center. Beginners 5-6:30 p.m. and intermediate/advanced from 6:30-8 p.m. For more information call 661-821-6641 or email mattm@bvsa.org.

Visit Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum

Free to Public - Open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays through Mondays, at the corner of Green Street and Tehachapi Blvd.

TEXAS Hold 'Em Tournament



GOLDEN WEST CASINO

1001 S. Union Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93307

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GECA# 000371



Top 3 CASH prizes

\$100 Buy-in

2 Additional Re-buys

Saturday
May 17, 2014
2:00 pm

All proceeds benefit the
BECKAY THEATRE

EXPANSION PROJECT

Must be 21 to participate
For more information and rules, visit tctstage.com/texasoldem.html
Problem Gambling? 1-800-GAMBLER



Club Foot the Outlaw

by Susan Wiggins

While looking through files of my mother – Marion Deaver –, I found some old bulletins from the Kern Antelope Historical Society, this one from 1972. This story was a follow up from an article written by John Covington that was included in the 1965 publication of “Bears, Borax, and Gold.”

That article was about John Searles and his fight with a bear. This one is also about the same bear. John Covington was the great uncle of Dorene Settle, one of the founders of the historical society.

In the early spring of 1870, in a little valley called the Rincon, in the Tehachapi Valley, Covington recalled that his step-father Elias Dearborn built a two room cabin from oak logs. Before doors were hung, large blankets were placed over the openings.

One day the men butchered a steer and made jerky out of it. They hung the jerky way up high out of the reach of bears who frequented the forest nearby.

They placed the bones in a metal tub right inside the house by the blanket covering the door. Covington, a child then, was lying on a bed made up by his mother in the corner of the room. The embers lit the room and everyone else had gone to bed.

All of a sudden the blanket was pushed aside and the head of a huge grizzly bear poked into the room. He sniffed the bones and then pulled the tub outside and preceded to chomp down all the bones outside.

Covington said he just lay there scared, and eventually fell asleep. “That was my first introduction to Club Foot. The men checked the tracks and saw that the tracks were that of Club Foot. He had his foot caught in a trap some years before and part of one foot had been partially torn off as he escaped from the trap.

Club Foot was the most feared grizzly bear in all of the coast range. He traveled by night and was a man killer after being caught in the trap and injured. He broke

A Page of History

into corrals at night and carried off pigs and calves, tearing down the bars on the fences.

One day Covington, still a child, was left to play in a little stream by the garden while his older brother worked in the potato patch. All the dogs had gone to sleep and Covington was alone. All of a sudden his brother shouted and Covington looked up right into the mouth of Club Foot. His brother grabbed him and hit the bear with a hoe, and ran to the house and left the dogs to chase off the bear.

They did not hear from Club Foot for about a year until one night he got into the corral and was trying to steal a calf. Covington’s father shot at the bear and chased it off, but did not hurt it. The calf escaped.

Later John Searles, who discovered and developed the San Bernardino Borax Mines, was horribly mangled by Club Foot.

He offered a reward of \$5,000 which was to include the hide and all four feet. Ranchers tried all kinds of ways to hunt the bear with no luck. One old man, who called himself Colonel Norman, laid in wait for the bear and managed to shoot him as he came up a stream in the woods.

It only wounded the bear, which then started chasing Norman.

He ran around a big oak tree, about six-foot in diameter, loading his old muzzle gun and firing at the bear as it chased him. The bear, crippled and wounded, finally ran into the brush. Norman was afraid to chase him and ran back to one of the stock ranches for help.

The men saw the tracks but could never find him. Covington said they never heard from Club Foot again and the reward was never collected.

Thus was life in 1870 in Tehachapi....



The French Hotel Revisited

by Pat Gracey

I feel that, in my last column, I had done the French Hotel an injustice by somewhat skirting over its past. I had placed it, rather abruptly, on the corner of Green and F streets, without enough ceremony. A whole page of history was glossed over, and I’d like to go back and give you “the rest of the story.” As aforementioned, The Summit School was a beautifully structured building where the ancestors of early settlers studied as well as the children of an influx of Spanish and French Basque, Italian and Mexican people who came to this area to pursue the sheep and cattle business. The Basque population immigrated from the Pyrenees Mountain area. The Pyrenees range served as a border for the countries of France and Spain.

After it was abandoned as a site for the local school, and – while it was still across the tracks – the building was purchased by Louis Vidaillet. A businessman of French-Basque

heritage, he used it as a lodging house and named it The Tehachapi Hotel.

That didn’t last long and another Frenchman,

Frank DuFour – a retired cattleman –, bought it in

1894 and had it moved to the F and Green streets

location. Even though the letters on the front said

The Tehachapi Hotel, it was run by a Frenchman,

owned by a Frenchman and played lots of French/

Basque music. Voilà! The community folk called it,

The French Hotel!

The dining room

served French food laced with wine and provided

music for dancing and songs from the old country

to round off the evening’s entertainment. It was

said to be the “best place in town to eat.” One might even go so far as to say, one of the few

places to eat for the local population of no more than 500 souls.

The Basque language is not found in text books, but only in the spoken word. It was with their music; composed in the narrative, ballad form. Plaintive, nostalgic songs told of the Basque, a close-knit people who “cry for one

The Spirit of Tehachapi

another’s sorrows.” With the hotel so centrally located, residents of the tiny community were often lulled to sleep (or kept awake) by the music they heard.

In 1908 the hotel was operated by Francois (Frank) Bernard, who was a native of Taurontes, Hautes-Alpes, France. He had entered the country in 1887, coming directly to California; the place of his boyhood dreams. However well he liked the United States, he returned to France to bring home a bride, Marie Pellisson, also from the upper alps area. Her brother, Joseph Pellisson, acted as their bartender for some years. The Bernards had two children – boys – Francois, Jr. and Edward.

The hotel was so conveniently located that guests found themselves one block from the railroad depot, two blocks from the Catholic Church where most of them worshipped and just across the street and down a few doors to the grocer. By 1915, when the whole town was hooked up to the “new fangled electric lights”, they were active participants in the street dance held just outside their premises.

While nearby Bakersfield was experiencing a large scale oil strike, the French Hotel played host to stockmen, grain growers, the usual sheepmen and workers who were helping to plant scores of apple and pear orchards for which

early day Tehachapi was to become known.

The Bernards ceased management of the hotel in favor of establishing their own lodging place across the tracks – but also on Green Street –, which was to be known by a few as the French Hotel, the Basque Hotel by some and the Bernard Hotel by the majority of local residents. It stayed in business until Frank Bernard’s death in 1940.



The Loop’s Nonprofit Highlight

See page 14 for the fifth installment and we are happy to have Airstreams as this issue’s sponsor for “American Legion Auxillary”. Read about what the Legion is doing and see if you might want to participate. Thank you, Airstreams for helping educate our readers about this great organization.

We are highlighting one nonprofit, service organization or club per month when we are able to get a sponsor.

Nonprofits, service organizations and clubs are always in need of volunteers and donations. It is our hope we can help bring the exposure they need to thrive, and by being involved as a visible supporter, sponsors can show their support to the Tehachapi community.

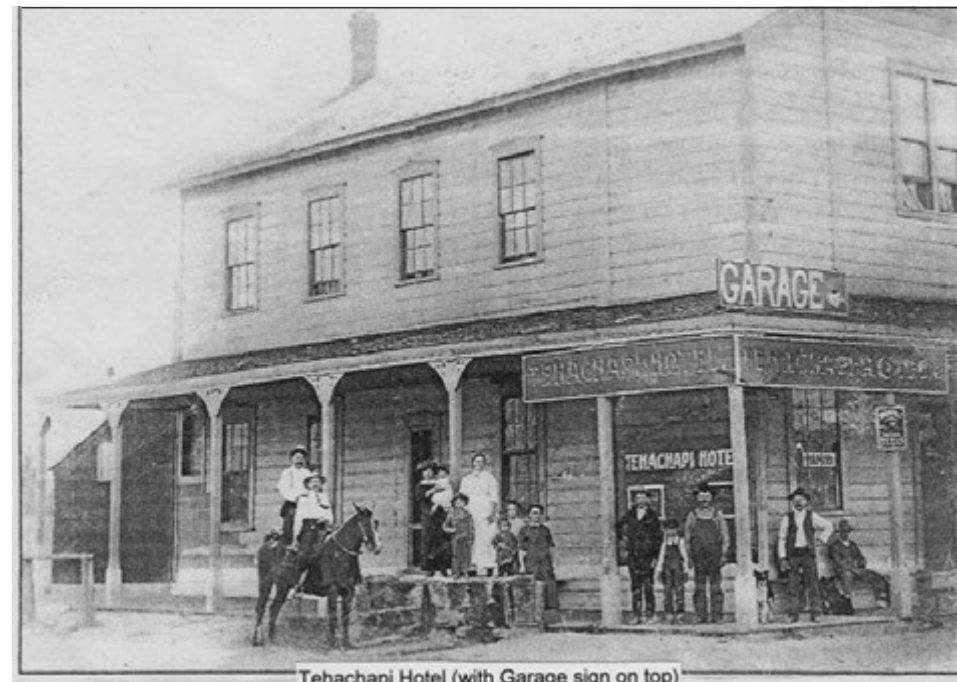
This feature will be of mutual benefit to sponsors and nonprofits alike. We are currently seeking more sponsors to champion this page in future issues of The Loop.

With this unique opportunity, businesses can address both the hearts and minds of our community.

If you are interested in sponsoring or being sponsored, please call us at 661-822-8188 now to reserve your space. Our deadline is the Friday a week before publication. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

We already have had a great response to this sponsorship page, so do not wait if you have a favorite charity that needs more attention. Call the Loop office to schedule, (661) 822-8188.

We would love to hear from our readers about this new highlight.



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

J RANCH NURSERY - J Ranch Nursery. Special Offer, 10 trees, 6ft-10ft tall for \$150. Tree's and Bushes for sale. Huge Trees for small price. Everything locally grown HWY 202 & Easy St. Tehachapi. Open 8 to 12 weekdays 8-4 Weekends 661-330-5812

COMPUTER DESK - on casters w/ printer shelf. \$30. High back adjustable office chair. \$30 661-821-1139 or 818-427-0243

CARBURETOR CLEANER-and parts dip-5 gallon, asking \$75.00 661-822-5873

MISC

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE TO - Bags 4 Kids, a non-profit organization, helping children in crisis. 760-217-0909 www.Bags4Kids.org.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE! - You can visit www.TehachapiLGBT.com. This website promotes the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and their friends and families in Tehachapi. Help Hotlines are available! Go online for information.

HELP WANTED

STYLE COUNTRY BEAUTY SALON- Booth for rent \$85 a week, next to motels and new plaza. Please call or come in 661-822-5743 or 661-747-1292

P/T CUSTODIAN NEEDED-- Entry level, M-F Call today to apply 661-822-1533

WANTED-- Someone to take board meeting minutes once a month. Flat fee or hourly. Experience required. 661-822-5438

PROPERTY

CAL CITY RENT/SALE -800 sq ft metal building w/ gated yard. 2 new swamp coolers, garage door w/ small office and bathroom. Extra yard avail. 760-223-2334

Classifieds work!
Only \$10 per 15 words
Call 661-822-8188

VEHICLES

MOTORCYCLE - 2008 Custom Suzuki Intruder, never down, garaged, near perfect, \$4600 firm 661-303-9442

2009 PRIUS - low milage, great condition, 6 CD changer, front wheel drive, \$16,500 Please call 661-399-8467 or 661-333-0035

GARAGE SALE

MAY 17 AND 18 - Branding Iron Ct. Stallion Springs 8-5 No early Birds Please

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WE BUY GOLD- local/fair/friendly. We'll test the gold & give you a quote - no cost & no pressure. aaronspawshop.com 616-823-1498

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Get Up.
Dress Up.
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And Never
Give Up.**

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HOUSE IN EAST SIDE OF CITY- three bedroom, 1 and 1/2 bath, gardener, A/C fenced yard, near schools \$1100 661-428-8522

ROOM FOR RENT-Furnished room for cable, refrigerator, microwave, W/D internet own exit \$165 a week 352-216-2452

CAL CITY RENT/SALE-800 sq ft metal building w/ gated yard. 2 new swamp coolers, garage door w/ small office and bathroom. Extra yard avail. 760-223-2334

Move in Special

Affordable 2, 3 & 4 bds
w/ 2 baths
\$99 Move In Special
Rent - \$319 to \$690
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in Mojave
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Office Hours M-F
8am-5pm

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**Tehachapi Valley
Healthcare District**
Quality healthcare. Right here. Right now.

Career Opportunities

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS

FINANCE

Chief Financial Officer = FULL- TIME

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

HIM Manager = FULL- TIME

HIM Tech = FULL- TIME

HIM Assistant = PER DIEM

IMAGING

Ultrasound Technician = PER DIEM

LABORATORY

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PER DIEM & FULL- TIME

RURAL CLINICS

Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant =

PART-TIME/FULL TIME

SURGERY

Surgical Technician = PART-TIME

Effective Date: May 6, 2014

TVHD is located at:

115 WEST 'E' STREET, TEHACHAPI, CA

TO APPLY ONLINE PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.tvhd.org

RESUMES SHOULD BE EMAILED TO sjones@tvhd.org

ATTENTION APPLICANTS

It is the policy of Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District (TVHD) to accept online applications for any position. TVHD is an EEO Employer. TVHD requires successful completion of a "drug test" and "criminal background check" by any applicant seriously considered for employment.

Our wages and benefits are very competitive!!

4th Annual Relay for Life Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 28, 2014

9:00 A.M.-Shotgun Start



HORSETHIEF COUNTRY CLUB
in
STALLION SPRINGS

Non-Club Members
\$65 Per Player

Club Members
\$35 Per Player

Price Includes Cart and Lunch

Format: 2-person Teams, 18 Holes, Scramble

Join us for golf, fun, prizes, raffles, and opportunity drawings, while supporting a great cause!

For Information and Registration, call:

Bill Duggins
661-823-8170



Roland Anderson
661-822-4251

Mojave Transportation Museum

Jim Payne - The BERLIN PROJECT - Setting Records in Argentina!

Bring the Kids!

THANK YOU TO OUR PLANE CRAZY SATURDAY GENEROUS SPONSORS:
Voyager Restaurant Radio Shack in Mojave Rosamond News
Barnett Carpet Cleaning - Rosamond Kieffe & Sons Ford - Mojave-Rosamond
Karl's Hardware - Rosamond Mojave

11A.M. - MASP Board Room - Limited Seating (48 seats) - Tickets at MTM booth
Jim Payne will share his soaring experiences in Argentina!

•Static Aircraft Display - Fly in or Drive in!
•Art & Collectibles for Sale
•Bring the Kids & a Camera!

Get Noisy about History!
www.mojavetransportationmuseum.org
Call 661.824.2481 for more information!

MTM
Mojave
TRANSPORTATION
MUSEUM

JOIN US FOR
PLANE
CRAZY
SATURDAY!
FLY-IN AND STATIC DISPLAY

When: Saturday May 17, 2014
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Free Admission!
Where: Mojave Air and Spaceport
Transient Parking Area - By Old Tower
KMBV - TWR 127.8 WX AWOX 3 (132.225) (661.824.5218)
Ground 123.9 Joshua Approach 123.65

<http://www.almap.com/airport/KMBV> www.mojaveairport.com www.mojavetransportationmuseum.org

**2nd Annual Discover Tehachapi
"Ride For Life"**

Poker Run 2014 May 31, 2014
Registration opens 8:00 AM;
Kick up your stands, feet on the pegs and RIDE!
@ 9 - 10:00 AM

Sponsored by:
Red House BBQ
Pirate Insurance
Antelope Valley Harley
Bakersfield Harley

Pre-register NOW and Support a Relay For Life Team
Celebrate, Remember & Fight Back!
Celebrating 11 Years of Relay For Life in Tehachapi!

Leave from the City of your Choice and embark on a ride through the Kern Mountains!
Lancaster
Bakersfield
Or Tehachapi

RED HOUSE
BBQ

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The Local Scene

Tehachapi Lions Club



Tehachapi Lions Club Canned Food Drive was deemed a success by program chair Nancy Overman shown here embracing a portion of the donations. The next Lions Club meeting will be May 15 at the Senior Center at 6:30 p.m. featuring Nick Altieri representing the Arts, Science & Technology Committee about the Intermediate Space Challenge.

Rotary's 'Cowboy Saturday Night'



Enjoying the evening is Jeff and Debbie Kermode, Mike Nowlan with Barbra Billingsley, Richard Traugh and Melisa Billingsley.



Dinner, Dancing, Spirits, and a little Blackjack made for a great event. And....Not a gun fight was heard anywhere. Even though one attendee was seen "packing" a banana in her holster.



Hoosegow detainee Mary Beth Garrison.

Photos By- Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)



Marshall Jerry Hildreth hands out drink and gaming tickets to first time attendees Jim and Cheryle Wiecek.

Local Business Crime Watch Meeting

Photos By Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)

On May 8 Tehachapi Chamber of Commerce, Tehachapi City Police Department and the Kern County Sheriff's Department held an informational meeting about forming a Business Crime Watch program. Some 25 business owners attended and shared ideas with local law enforcement representatives. With the information gathered from business owners they will be able to form a Business Crime Watch program. If you are interested in participating you can call the Chamber at 661-822-4180 for more information.



Photos By- Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)

Tehachapi City Clean Up Day, May 3



(above) First arrivals for the Tehachapi City Clean-Up day, Tony Macias and John Hasselbrink, getting their clean-up assignment and equipment from Michele Vance. (left and below) There were no excuses allowed for volunteer members from the Tehachapi Robotics Club. Even with a cast on, and a wheel chair at hand Robotics Member Taylor Fritz, with help from fellow Robotic Team Members members Cody Hurt and Kurt Pauer, participated in this spring's Tehachapi City Clean-Up Day.



Loop Winner

Winner of *The Loop Newspaper's* ticket give away for the Cowboy Saturday Night Rotary dance on May 3rd is Susie Buehn with her escort Kelly Saunders.

Congratulations again!



Photos By- Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)

'Make Me a Deal'

By- Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)



Vendors were plentiful and buyers were plentiful at the Bear Valley Springs May rummage sale. Held at Cub Lake the crowds enjoyed beautiful spring weather as they haggled over prices and took home new found treasures.

Bark for Life

The American Cancer Society holding its annual Bark For Life Canine Walk in Downtown Tehachapi.

Photos By- Nick Smirnoff (NPPA)



The walk this year went by the current Tehachapi Hospital. The hospital's long term care facility patients, got a bit of sun and many a lick, as walkers paused to introduce their dogs to each of the residents.

KAS-Tehachapi Chapter Hosted Fun-filled Night



Pictured in the group are: (l to r) Carol, Madi, Ellen, Bill, Deb, Rod, Kathy, Mary, Terri, David, Cheryl, Harry, Ed

On April 29, KAS-Tehachapi Chapter hosted a fun-filled night featuring a beautiful picture presentation of "Spring is in the Air" by Mary Dufrain. Our next field trip will be to Paradise Valley Rd. on Saturday May 17.

"Join KAS Tehachapi for this walk up Tehachapi Mountain in search of breeding birds. Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Band-tailed Pigeon, and Green-tailed Towhee are just a few possibilities.

Meet in the Kmart parking lot near the Burger King at 7a.m. Bring binoculars, water, and snacks. We will have lunch in town afterwards." Check-out our web-site at kastehachapibird.org

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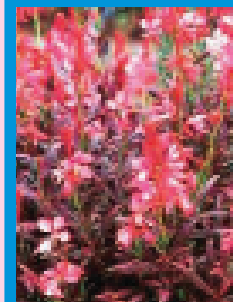
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