

The Chico Enterprise Record

1-14-1986

Ridge residents safe after night in high country

PARADISE (E-R) — Five ridge residents, including two boys ages 7 and 11, were found safe after spending Sunday night in the high country above Stirling City after their four-wheel vehicles broke down over the weekend.

Kevin Exum, Keel Exum, Rick Lanser, Jason Exum, 11, and Colin Exum, 7, all of Paradise, were reported overdue Monday morning by Lee Exum after they failed to return from a weekend trip over dirt and

snow-covered roads to the Ramsey Bar Area.

The Butte County Search and Rescue Unit ordered an aerial search shortly after 8 a.m. Monday and an all-out ground search was called for at about 1 p.m. after the fliers reported they had not spotted the five from the air.

Within 10 minutes of the time the call went out for ground searchers, the effort was cancelled after Lee Exum reported finding the quintet near the

West Branch of the Feather River. They were walking toward Stirling City from Ramsey Bar.

"They walked about 17 miles before I found them," Exum said this morning.

He said the missing men and two children were in good condition and suffered no problems because of their ordeal.

They had a mechanical breakdown and decided to spend the night in the area before walking out, he said.

Oroville Mercury Register
2-26-1986

**GOLDEN FEATHER
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH**

MORNING BIBLE CLASS: SAT. 9:30am
(Also Called Sabbath School)
Classes and Activities for all Ages

DIVINE WORSHIP: SAT. 11:00am
(Family Service)

— *EVERYONE INVITED TO ATTEND* —

Community Services Available
24 Hours A Day

533-9429 or 534-6943

ON DETLOW OFF HWY. 70

(Detlow, 1 mi. past Concow Lake turnoff)

533-3594

Reviving history

Past relived as old schoolhouse restored

by Marianne Foglia
Special to
MERCURY-REGISTER

Trying to recall the busy, bustling gold rush days may be difficult for some people, but in Oregon City, about 30 miles east of Chico and behind historic Table Mountain, the past has been revived.

The Butte County Historical Society is holding a fund-raiser Sunday to get money to complete the restoration of the Oregon City schoolhouse, which was in use until 1922.

James Lenhoff, former president of the historical society, said he "managed to persuade the Gold and Feather Elementary School District to donate the Oregon City School to the historical society." The Gold and Feather Elementary School District was short of funds, and it was threatening to tear down the landmark one-room school house that functioned from 1858 to 1922.

Oregon City was first established in 1848 by Oregon miners searching for riches in California. One of the early parties traveling to California from Oregon was accompanied by Peter Burnett, later California's first governor. Burnett estimated that two-thirds of

Oregon's 10,000-person population traveled to California that year. The 1848 miners, in contrast to later arrivals, were known for their spirit of honesty and helpfulness to each other.

From 1853 to 1856, Oregon City was a bustling community with three stores that supplied the surrounding areas. Colonel Rudolphus Derrick laid out the town site, and his wife had a glorious garden with a mist spray irrigation system.

In 1850, placer mines were rich, and the population of Oregon Township soared. Quartz mining, which allowed miners to free gold, became very popular during the early 1850s. Steam powered stamps at the Banner Mine in 1854 were crushing 8 to 10 tons of quartz per day and yielding \$200 per ton. First-class miners received wages of \$3 per day, and second-class miners averaged \$2.50 per day. One of the most profitable mines was located directly across from the school house and was named Buffalo Ledge.

Mining declined in 1857, but a core of pioneer families, most of Scottish, Welsh or Portuguese descent, stayed to continue working the nearby mines and dredges. A report filed July 1, 1869, stated that the population of the district was 600. Many of the mines were abandoned. For

example, when Banner Mine hit 200 feet and water filled the shaft, pumps were not available to handle the problem, and the mine was shut down.

The Cherokee Cemetery, north of Oregon City, and the Oregon City Cemetery contain the rustic pillar graves of these courageous pioneers.

The school district of Oregon Township was established in 1856. Two years later, Oregon City School District branched off on its own. It was titled Oregon District 2. Oregon City was considered by some to have one of the best one-room schoolhouses in the county as it was well situated and well maintained.

On July 1, 1922, the Oregon City School closed its doors after 64 years due to lack of students.

Several clubs organized by former students used the school as a social center before and after its closing.

The Enmeto Club, which in Indian means friendly place, formed May 18, 1917. Its members consisted of former pupils over the age of 21. Enmeto was followed by the Oregon City Schoolmates incorporated Dec. 20, 1954. These members consisted of younger members of the same families who founded Enmeto.

The Oregon City Schoolmates actually owned the building and property and pledged to always maintain and operate the old schoolhouse.

As the last surviving schoolmates became unable to maintain the property, it reverted back to the Gold and Feather Elementary School District, which in 1981 deeded the schoolhouse to the Butte County Historical Society to ensure that the building would be preserved. The schoolhouse was deeded with the agreement that a mini-museum filled with local history would be officially opened to the public, which it was Oct. 23, 1983.

The Clampers, an organization noted for working with old buildings, were still in the restoration process when the building was opened to the public. Since the school house had not been in operation for more than 60 years, there was a lot of hard work to do, according to Perry Hibdon, Grand Humbug of the Clampers.

With spring here, the Oregon City schoolhouse is nearly finished. Hibdon said, "It is just about as finished as it's gonna get." One side room awaits completion.

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The Clampers, Hibdon claims, did 90 percent of the work.

"The Butte County Historical Society provided the funds, and we provided the manpower. All it needed was a little elbow grease," he said.

Gertrude Bartley, whose father and grandparents attended the school, estimated that the historical society spent approx-

imately \$14,000 for the 2½-year job. The Clampers donated some money and materials towards the project, and they also had a "real good time" restoring the old school house, according to Hibdon. Everything from the front porch to the old chimney had to be fixed.

"We must have had nearly 120 people at one time out there,"

Hibdon said. Men, women and children all pitched in, and they enjoyed several large cookouts at the end of a hard day's work. Trees were cut down, and manzanita underbrush was cleared to provide travelers with a place to picnic and barbecue.

"Table Mountain really needed somewhere for people to stop," Bartley said. She has taken a special interest in the restoration project and has written a book for herself about the project.

A fund-raiser sponsored by the Butte County Historical Society is scheduled for Sunday, and the public is welcome. A slide show of the restoration will be put on, and there will be plenty of food and drink for everyone, Bartley said.

Proceeds will go towards finishing one side room of the schoolhouse that has yet to be restored. Hibdon said he thinks the money will be raised, and the schoolhouse completed.



Everything from the front porch to the chimney of the Oregon City schoolhouse had to be fixed

The Chico Enterprise Record

7-10-1986

Jarbo Gap Cafe leveled by 2 a.m. fire

JARBO GAP (E-R) — A fire reported just after 2 a.m. today leveled the three-story Jarbo Gap Cafe, doing an estimated \$140,000 damage to the building and its contents.

The fire was reported to the California Department of Forestry by Don Fokhee, a tenant in the cafe building.

He said he was awakened by a barking dog and discovered the building was on fire.

Foshee dashed around the cafe, alerting the other two or three tenants in the building.

Mike Nimz, another tenant, suffered a cut hand when he jumped out of a window. That was the only injury reported.

The Jarbo Gap CDF Fire Station is across the street from the cafe, and firefighters from the station called in a second alarm immediately on receiving the first call.

According to the CDF, the cafe was engulfed in flames when the first report came through.

Besides the building, three vehicles, apparently belonging to the tenants, were also consumed by the fire.

No cause has been determined as yet, and as of 9 a.m. there were still crews mopping up the fire scene.

Ray and Sandra Taylor, who live in a mobile home near the cafe, are listed as owners, but the cafe had been leased to Barbara Kester of Oroville.

About 55 firefighters, including volunteers from the Butte College and Concow fire companies, and California Conservation Corps handcrew, were called out to battle the blaze. ■

Oroville Mercury Register

9-23-1986

Lake Concow use tops planners' agenda

by Erin Kennedy
MERCURY-REGISTER

Butte County Planning Commission will decide Wednesday whether to allow a recreational vehicle campground on Lake Concow after the health department ruled it unsanitary.

The campground, operating since 1950, was found in violation of sanitation and zoning regulations in March 1986. The health department ordered it abandoned after it was reported that trailers and campers were being used as dwelling units.

Richard Holland of Six Associates has asked for a use permit for a 38-space campground to continue the park on 72.6 acres along Lake Concow, west of Concow Road and 2 miles south of Camelot Road.

County departments say they would approve of a campground on the site if a public road is constructed, adequate storm drainage is provided and vault type toilets and recreational sewage dump is installed. County Environmental Health has asked that the campground be restricted to self-contained rec-

reational vehicles if a use permit is granted.

Although residents in the area have expressed concern about groundwater contamination, Thermalito Irrigation District officials have said they do not think the proposed campground will impair water quality of Lake Concow.

The matter is scheduled for 9 a.m. The Planning Commission meets at 9 a.m. Wednesday at 25 County Center Drive. Also on Wednesday's agenda:

•A 1:30 p.m. public hearing on

proposed changes in the home occupation and livestock maintenance codes. The changes are part of a revision of countywide zones.

The livestock maintenance code limits the number of certain types of animals to parcel size and prohibits livestock in certain residential and commercial zones.

The home occupation code would put limits on advertising, lighting, types of businesses and space used for home occupations.

11-15-1986

Tenants to be offered 10- to 20-year leases

Press Coastal Monmouth Bureau

MANASQUAN — Tenants renting beachfront property owned by American Timber Co., of Sea Girt, need not worry about where they'll be living in the future.

The company plans to offer its tenants 10- to 20-year leases, according to Catherine A. Yard, one of the company's owners.

Tenants were concerned over whether the death of Carl Yard Sr. on Oct. 19 would affect their leases. The leases have been year-to-year leases for the past 20 years, Ms. Yard said, but her father intended to extend the length of the leases before he died.

"Dad felt strongly they should be protected," Ms. Yard said. "We make enough money on it. There is a certain amount of feeling for keeping it as it is. If you went for top dollars, you'd have condominiums there."

The family owns most of the beachfront property in Manasquan, from Ocean Avenue to Riddle Way, bordered by Second Avenue. It also owns property along the beachfront from Brielle Road to the inlet and a 420-foot strip between Third Avenue and Deep Creek Drive.

Yard's wife, Dorothy, inherited most of the property, but each of the Yards' seven children own shares in the company.

The leases on 325 properties were automatically extended in October, Ms. Yard said.

The company gets about 3 percent of the assessed value of the properties each year from rentals, Ms. Yard said.

"We're not opposed to making money," she said. "On the other hand we don't need to go out and become self-made millionaires either."

Henry Yard was a mining engineer associated with the Western Pacific Railroad. In the early 1900s under Yard's supervision, the railroad acquired large amounts of land to secure the route through the Feather River Canyon. The Yard family's personal land holdings were very extensive in their home state of New Jersey.