



Serving our community for 37 years!  
Alta Dutch Flat Gold Run  
**COMMUNITY**

Volume 37 – No. 2 PUBLISHED BY THE DUTCH FLAT COMMUNITY CENTER WITH MEMBER SUPPORT Summer 2026

## Alan and Connie Gulling to Serve as Grand Marshals of July 4th Parade

By Laura Glassco



Photo by Laura Glassco

### Longtime Dutch Flat residents and community volunteers, Alan and Connie Gulling

The Gullings are longtime residents of Dutch Flat. They live in the Gulling family home on Stockton Street. If you walk by their home, you'll find a beautifully tended garden, which has been featured in the Colfax Garden tour. Alan was born in Portola and moved to Dutch Flat in 1959. Connie was born in Seattle and moved here when she and Alan married in 1972. The Gullings were married at the Dutch Flat Methodist Church and held their wedding reception at the Dutch Flat Community Center.

Connie and Alan raised their three children in Dutch Flat who have blessed them with three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and another one on the way! The Gulling family enjoy the great outdoors. They loved to camp, fish and hunt. Connie played in a fast pitch softball team that went on to the Nationals three times. Alan coached men's fast pitch softball and was the equipment manager for twenty years at Colfax High School.

While raising three active children, both Alan and Connie worked. Alan, a Marine veteran, was a bus driver, logger, worked

for NID and was a short haul truck driver. Connie was a secretary for the State of California for thirty-five years at various locations, including the Gold Run CHP office.

Connie has played an active role in various community boards – Dutch Flat Water Company, Alta/Dutch Flat School, Dutch Flat Community Center and is currently on the Golden Drift Museum board.

Besides raising a busy family and participating in many community services, Alan and Connie enjoy being pet owners. They have owned many dogs over the years and currently are the owners of an adorable Havanese girl named Lilly.

Please join the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade gathering and help welcome our 2026 Grand Marshals, Connie and Alan!

**Dutch Flat Independence Day Parade**  
Saturday, July 4th  
Line up at 10 am  
Parade starts at 10:30 am

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## Mayor's Race

The race to become Dutch Flat's Honorary Mayor for the 2026-2027 term is on. The candidates are: Roxane Bertell, who "Always Signs In", Blanch, whose slogan is, "No pot for this chicken, make them call foul", Bullet, who wants to "Make Dutch Flat Pawesome", Cajun, the "Ragin' Cajun", Bob Ewing, "Well known to our city, 95 and still witty", Hank, "A mayor whose not afraid to make some noise!", Jim Johnson, "Did You Sign In?", Titus, who's "Fetching for a Better Future" and Ivan Von Staich, "A Man on a Mission."

Vote at the Dutch Flat Trading Post as many times as you like. Each vote is \$1. Voting closes at 6 pm on July 3. This is a fundraiser for the Dutch Flat Community Center and all proceeds will benefit the Center.

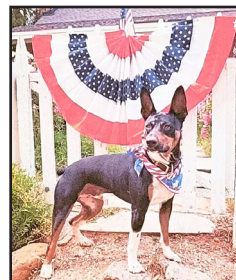
The new Mayor will be notified at 8 pm on July 3, receive a medal and ride in the Independence Day Parade.



**Roxane Bertell**  
"I always sign in"



**Blanch**  
"No pot for this chicken, make them call foul"



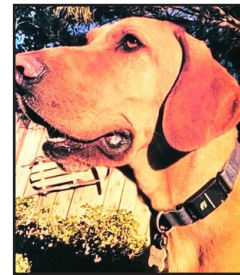
**Bullet**  
"Let's make Dutch Flat Pawesome!"



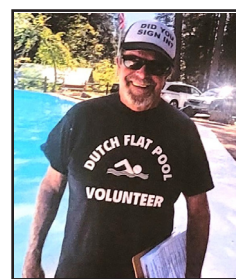
**Cajun**  
"The Ragin' Cajun"



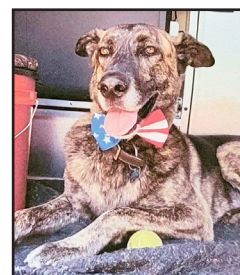
**Bob Ewing**  
"Well known to our city, 95 and still witty"



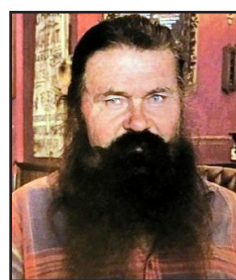
**Hank**  
"A Mayor who is not afraid to make some noise!"



**Jim Johnson**  
"Did you sign in?"



**Titus**  
"Fetching for a better future"



**Ivan Von Staich**  
"A Man on a Mission"

# 4TH OF JULY 5K RUN

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH A FUN RUN THROUGH DUTCH FLAT

## JULY 4 AT 8:00 AM

RACE STARTS AND FINISHES AT THE DUTCH FLAT COMMUNITY CENTER  
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\$25 RACE ENTRY + TSHIRT BEFORE JUNE 27  
\$30 RACE DAY REGISTRATION

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AGE ON RACE DAY: \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  MALE  FEMALE

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRT SIZE:  XS  S  M  L  XL  XXL

I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity, which could cause injury or death. I will not enter and participate unless I am medically able and properly trained, and by my signature, I certify that I am medically able to perform this event, and am in good health, and I am properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to any aspect of my participation in this event, including the right of any official to deny or suspend my participation for any reason whatsoever. I attest that I have read the rules of the race and agree to abide by them. I assume all risks associated with running in this event, including but not limited to: falls, physical contact with other participants, volunteers, race personnel, contract service providers, employees, and spectators including the potential contraction of a communicable disease resulting from contact with other participants, volunteers, race personnel, contract service providers, employees, and spectators. I assume all risks including: the effects of the weather; high heat and/or humidity; traffic and the conditions of the road including surrounding terrain. I assume all such risks being known, appreciated, and accepted by me.

I understand that bicycles, skateboards, and roller skates or inline skates, are not allowed in the race, and I will abide by all race rules. Having read this waiver and knowing these risks and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Dutch Flat Community Center all event sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though that liability may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. I understand that this event does not provide for refunds in the event of a cancellation, and by signing this waiver, I consent that I am not entitled to a refund if the event is cancelled before or during the event.

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO SHARAH BROWN PO BOX 234 DF, CA 95714

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN IF UNDER 18: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: / /

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

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

We welcome contributions from readers. Submission deadline for the next issue:

**September 10, 2026.**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**The Attic:** Thursdays, 10 am - 1 pm.

**Dutch Flat Community Center Board of Directors Meeting:** 2nd Mondays, 6:00 pm. Location varies. Contact Laura Glassco, 916-778-8308.

**Dutch Flat Community Center Potluck:** 3rd Thursdays. 6:00 pm. Bring a place setting, your own drink, and a dish to share.

**Golden Drift Historical Society Board Meeting:** 1st Monday of February, April, June, August, October and December, 7 pm. Golden Drift Museum, Main Street. Contact Sarah Fugate, 530-210-5085.

**Golden Drift Museum:** Open through September. Regular hours: Friday through Sunday, noon until 4 pm, and holidays.

**Odd Fellows Pancake Breakfasts:** Sundays, April 5, May 24, July 5, and September 6.

**Pioneer Union Church, Gold Run:** Worship Service, Sundays, 10 am.

**Sierra First Baptist Church, Alta:** Sunday School, 9 am. Worship Service, Sundays, 10:30 am. 33990 Alta Bonny Nook Rd., Alta. Contact 530-389-2168.

**Sierra First Baptist Church Bible Study:** Mondays, 8:30 am.

**Sierra First Baptist Church Community Lunch:** Mondays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Free.

**Sierra First Baptist Church Food Pantry:** Thursdays, 10 am - 12 pm.

**A Message from the DFCC President**

By Doug Hughs

It's been a busy last few months at the Community Center. Starting off with our Annual Easter Egg hunt, followed with our Spring Social in mid-May, and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade Graduation Ceremony and party the last week of May. The Ceremony took place in the large upstairs room with the stage, instead of the Alta Dutch Flat School, due to rain. It was very special to see the Center full of young kids and their parents just as it was in its early days as the Dutch Flat Grammar School.

The Spring Social on May 16<sup>th</sup> was a big hit. The theme this year was "Gold Rush Revisited" and the Center was transformed back to its early days of the Gold Rush era along with a working sluice box in the front of the Center, running water and all! So many got into the spirit of the night, dressed in their best Gold Rush era attire. Our silent auction was a great success with many items available to bid on from cords of firewood to a White-Water rafting trip and everything in between. Many thanks go out to 1849 Brewery, located in Grass Valley, that donated the wonderful beer at our no host beer and wine bar. Their name, of course, being very fitting for the event in place. And for those that missed the amazing dance party put on by our live local band Malarkey in the upstairs stage room, you missed a grand time!! Many thanks go out to Malarkey for stepping in for the event.

Our monthly Bingo, put on by the Rebekahs, has been going on, as well as the potlucks on the Third Thursday of each month. What was added a couple months ago is our Thursday night line dancing in the upstairs room. Fortunately for us, we have a local line-dance instructor who has taken the Herculean job of rounding up 25-30 amateurs and leading them through the steps. Thank you, Fred Young, for taking this on. It's held on the first Thursday of the month and the cost is only \$5.00. It has been a blast and a really good workout. We have many beginners, myself included, so don't be shy to come on out and give it a try!

A couple of new things have transpired out on our tennis/pickleball court and tot lot area. Placer County has just added some shade sails above the tot lot. Anyone who



Photo by Doug Hughs

**Ryan Whitman and Carlos Ortiz from Placer County Parks department installing the shade sails**

has been there at high noon knows it's close to unbearable in the summer heat down on the play area. This should be a huge help in the summer heat. We've also just received word from Placer County that they have approved funds for repair/resurface work on our tennis/pickleball courts. No timeline on this work at this time. This was great to hear since several members of our Board and Pickleball group have been working tirelessly with the County to make this happen.

Events coming up in July are, of course, the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, as well as, the 5k fun run. We are also having the July 4<sup>th</sup> Mayors race. This is a great fun way to raise funds for our Community Center. See Page 1 for the nine candidates. Voting for the candidates is only \$1 per vote and can be done online or in person at the Trading Post. If voting online, one can do it using Venmo, PayPal or Zelle. Please get out the vote and vote as many times as you like!! Also, please remember that our next couple of potlucks in July and August will be held at the picnic area of the Dutch Flat swimming pool, which is always a beautiful spot for a potluck. Then, on Labor Day weekend, we will host our White Elephant Sale at the Community Center which is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We will also be hosting it the following weekend on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Please come and find that item that you can't live without while supporting our Community Center in all its grandeur. See you all around town and at our many events!

**2026 White Elephant Sale**

By Shelley Willsmore

Planning season for this year's White Elephant Sale is in the works. A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM at the Center. This fundraising opportunity needs volunteers to make it the success it has always been. If you cannot attend the meeting but wish to volunteer, please call the center at 530-389-8310 and leave your name and contact information so we can contact you about the volunteer opportunities.

Volunteers do work very hard but we also have FUN! The White Elephant Sale takes place on Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend, which this year is September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, and the following weekend, September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 2 PM. It has become the traditional "farewell to summer" event in Dutch Flat, a time to connect with friends and neighbors, share a simple lunch and hunt for bargains!

Every Wednesday and Saturday in August, donations are accepted at the Center from 9 AM to noon. I repeat, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 AM to noon in August, to

bring in your "gently used" and preferably, "cleaned up", donations. We need volunteers to accept donations, distribute the items to the appropriate departments and set up the areas, as well as helping on the sale days, which is really fun. So, please consider coming in on any of the donation days to pitch in.

Now is the time to begin going through your homes, identify things you wish to donate to a very good cause—your Community Center, clean them up and put them aside to bring to the center any Wednesday or Saturday from 9 AM to noon during the month of August. Please be aware that some items may not be acceptable such as cloth furniture, used mattresses, large appliances, hazardous waste, and anything that might be unsaleable. It would cost us to dispose of these unwanted items, so please be discerning about your donations. We do appreciate the generosity of our community to provide the wonderful donations we receive. You must come to the sale, or volunteer, to see the treasures that show up at the White Elephant Sale!

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References Available **530-401-1570**

jeriwohn85@gmail.com Check out our Facebook page

# Notes from a Small School

By Shana Brown



This year, it rained. And then it rained some more. Alta-Dutch Flat School's graduation ceremony is traditionally held outdoors with the beautiful pine trees near our playground field as the backdrop. And this year, it rained. While I remained ever positive throughout the week leading up to graduation, ignoring the weather app on my phone as well as all the naysayers asking where we were going to hold graduation, it became increasingly clear that we were going to have to find another venue. We hold our graduation dance, attended by all our sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, at the Dutch Flat Community Center. After much discussion, we decided to move the event to the Dutch Flat Community Center. And it was amazing! The auditorium was a very special space for our graduates and their families. Our setup was easier since there is already a stage and chairs and a podium set up. It was much easier to hear everyone speaking and felt like a very intimate night overall. The old school felt very happy to be full of children and celebration. A huge thank you to the Dutch Flat Community Center Board who very graciously allowed us to pivot quickly and accommodate all of our graduates and their families.

Congratulations to our 8th grade graduating class: Tiernan, Luna, Karly, Grayson, Addison, Alivia, Holly, Cody, and Emily. We had two valedictorians this year, Emily and Holly, who tied for the highest GPA. We also, uniquely, had two

salutatorians this year, Karly and Alivia. Our students earned awards, many kindly presented by our community organizations and members who also provide a monetary prize.

Veteran of Foreign Wars Award to Grayson Poertner

Rebekah's Lodge Golden Rule Award presented by Heidi Suter to Cody Ricks

Oddfellows Lodge Award for Exemplary Character presented by Rachel Currie to Emily Snider

Soroptimists of Colfax Award presented by Dale Shuttleworth to Addison Froke

Friends of the Dutch Flat Pool Association Award for Scholar Athlete presented by Paul Thompson to Alivia Wood

Alta-Dutch Flat School's Faculty Award presented by Kacee Stetler to Luna Miller-Cerecedo

Dutch Flat Community Center Award presented by Doug Hughes to Tiernan Moran

Alta-Dutch Flat School's Parents' Club Award presented by Brianna Harback to Luna Miller-Cerecedo

American Legion Award presented to Karly McKelvey

President's Award for Educational Excellence presented to Holly Shrimpton, Emily Snider, Alivia Wood, Karly McKelvey, and Cody Wood

Congratulations to all of our graduates! We are so proud of you and can't wait to see what you accomplish next.

# Marthine Brown



Marthine Amber Brown passed away on April 22, 2026, in Auburn, California. She was born in Reno, Nevada on June 28, 1937, to Henry and Mable Beed, and was the youngest of four children. Marthine attended Chico State University, where she pursued a career in education. It was there that she met her future husband, Boris Brown. They were married in 1959. Their daughter, Lorene, was born in 1960, followed by their son Matthew in 1964. Marthine loved children and taught at Colfax Elementary School, American Cooperative School in La Paz, Bolivia, and Alta-Dutch Flat Elementary School. She primarily taught first grade, and sometimes affectionately referred to her students as her "can of little wiggle worms." She always enjoyed seeing her former students around the community. She maintained many cherished friendships with fellow educators.

She loved cats, gardening, reading, bird watching, and quilting. She participated in several birdwatching, book and quilting groups over the years, making many lasting friendships. Marthine was a member of Pioneer Union Church in Gold Run, CA.

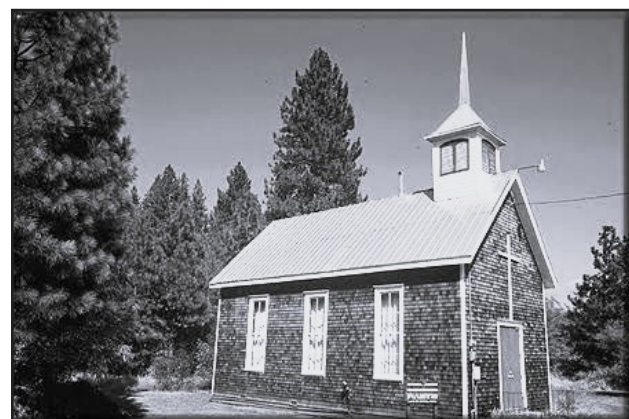
Donations can be made in memory of Marthine Brown to the Pioneer Union Church (PO Box 221, Gold Run, CA 95717) or Partners in Care Hospice ([www.pichospice.com](http://www.pichospice.com)).

# Andy Bolender



With heavy hearts, we mourn the loss of our dear friend, Andy Bolender who passed away on June 9th. Andy brought music, kindness, laughter, and warmth to everyone who was fortunate enough to know him. His friendship was a gift, and the music he shared at the Alta Attic was a blessing to many. His gentle spirit touched countless lives. He was a veteran and we thank him for his military service. Though deeply missed, Andy's memory will live on in the hearts of family, friends, and all whose lives were enriched by his presence. We are grateful for the time we shared and will cherish those memories forever. Rest in peace, dear friend, you will never be forgotten.

This remembrance tribute is from the Ladies Auxiliary, aka, "The Ladies of the Attic".



Pioneer Union Church  
PO Box 221  
Gold Run, CA 95717

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# Miner's Spring Social - Gold Rush Revisited



Bob Beane, Bill Gallaher, Alan Willsmore and Bill Charles (L-R) in their Gold Rush best



Roxane Bertell and Shelley Willsmore representing Chinese Pioneers of DF



Tom and Sarah Fugate as George Towle and a Saloon proprietor



Diane Star, Nancy Gallaher, and Dee and Bob Beane

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Jeanne McSorley, Sharon Alves, Joy Hughs and Deb Harris. Deb and Sharon are to thank for the food, decorations and making the night possible.

**Dawn M. Anderson, D.D.S.**

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# Dutch Flat Cemetery Clean Up

By Mia Monroe and Sarah Fugate



CalFire NEU crew with volunteers (L-R) Debbie Lund, Caroline Harrod and Mia Monroe

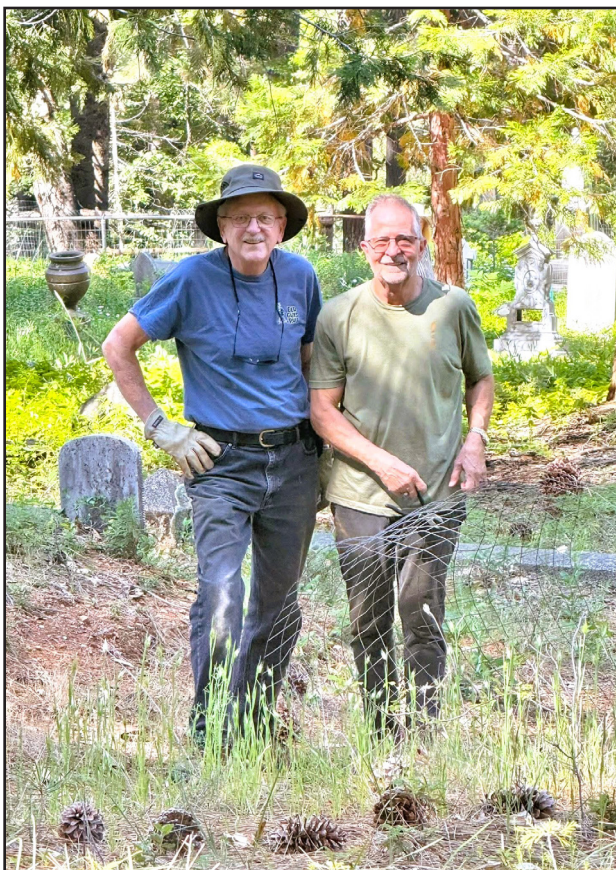
Dutch Flat Cemetery was established in 1851. The grounds contain separate sections managed by the Odd Fellows, Masons, Placer County Parks, Golden Drift Historical Society and Chinatown History & Culture Association. For many years, local volunteers and CalFire have actively worked to protect the grounds from wildfires, clear overgrown paths and restore historic fencing.

Organized this year by Caroline Harrod, who has family plots in the Cemetery, CalFire Alta Station crew showed up and got to work on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend (May 24, 2026). The hard working team was Company Officers Mitchell Schwegler and Stephen Pappas with crew members Braden Nelson, Daniel Belville, Zach Hillums, and Ben Cornejo. They will be returning to clean up mulch, chip downed wood and more.

Volunteers Caroline and Mike Harrod, Mark and Debbie Lund, as well as Mia Monroe worked nearby to clean trash, manage weeds and cage the rare Humboldt Lily (to protect from hungry deer...We hope for blooms this summer!).

Please take a contemplative walk to see the difference. Many thanks to the CalFire Alta crew and a tip of the hat to those who've been doing this work for years.

Official Statement from CalFire: CalFire/Placer County Fire Department firefighters from the Alta Station 33 proudly participated in the Annual Dutch Flat Cemetery clean-up, helping preserve one of the community's most historic landmarks while demonstrating the importance of maintaining shaded fuel breaks for wildfire protection. Crews worked alongside community members to clear vegetation and reduce fire hazards surrounding the cemetery, helping safeguard the historic plots and the rich history they represent.



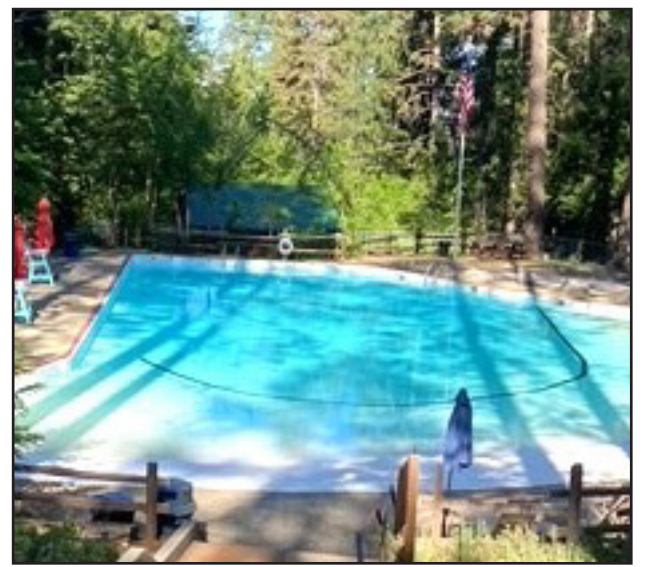
Mark Lund and Mike Harrod



Caroline Harrod and Mia Monroe

# Are you ready for Summer?

By Paul Thompson



The Dutch Flat Swimming Pool has entered the 2026 season with a splash. May was all about getting the Pool in shape for the summer. We began with repainting much of the Pool bottom before filling it. A main valve in the pump room was badly leaking last year and needed to be replaced. Fortunately, the County guys were able to get the part and replace it with ease. The Pool cleanup day brought plenty of help from our community and we made short work of raking, repairs to picnic tables, painting of the lifeguard chairs and placing furniture on the deck just in time for the Memorial Day weekend opening.

We have a full complement of lifeguards with hometown local Amanda Ames taking the lead lifeguard role organizing shifts and training. In line with our commitment to water safety and recognizing swimming as an essential life skill, free swim lessons will be offered soon for our local community youth.

This year the annual Pool barbecue is scheduled for August 1st. There will be a Hawaiian theme this year so break out your most obnoxious Hawaiian shirt for the event. At the barbecue, there will be a special unveiling of a memorial honoring Mike Mutto. Tickets will be on sale shortly at the Dutch Flat Store, the July 4th Parade, as well as from individual Pool Board members.

We are very excited to announce that plans are in the works to replace the swimming pool deck. Your donations, plus supplemental funding from the Placer County Board of Supervisors has allowed this deck replacement to begin. The Pool Board is currently coordinating with Placer County Parks in the preparation of construction drawings. Next steps include County approval of plans with contract bidding to follow. It's anticipated construction could begin in the fall of 2027.

Your donations have allowed us to upgrade our Pool through the years including new state-of-the-art bathrooms, a grass volleyball/badminton court, a horseshoe pit, a water bottle filling station, and plans for future upgrades. The Pool Board and the Friends of the Dutch Flat Swimming Pool would like to thank our Community for their support.

**Susan Winje**  
(530) 389-8000

**Lynn Oliver**  
(530) 305-8290

**Karen Calvert**  
(530) 906-2336



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## Michael Chlarson



Michael Dennis Chlarson, 83, of Dutch Flat, California, entered peacefully into the presence of his Savior, Jesus, on May 2, 2026. Michael lived a life firmly rooted in faith, prayer, and service to others. He loved the Lord deeply and believed that faith was something to be lived out daily, through generosity, humility, and service. Whether serving his church, PUCO (Pioneer Union Community Outreach), Teen Challenge, or helping a neighbor in need, Michael sought to reflect Christ in all he did.

He was born in San Diego, California, on August 15, 1942, and graduated from San Diego State University with degrees in civil and structural engineering.

Michael started out with general engineering companies in the San Diego area, later in the development of Mission Viejo Community in Orange County, and a sister community in Colorado. Eventually, he opened his own firm in Auburn, California. Working with Caltrans, he especially enjoyed designing and retrofitting bridges in both Northern and Southern California. Donner Summit Rainbow Bridge and the Folsom Truss Bridge over the American River were two of his favorites.

In retirement, he became recognized by his famous walking stick, looking slightly like the shepherd-King David whom he spent much time studying and then sharing with the Teen Challenge men at Emigrant Gap. Referring to those suffering, especially with cancer, as his "fellow travelers," he built up a community of prayer warriors. Michael enjoyed fishing, especially with his grandchildren, and his storytelling imagination was loved by all.

Michael shared 43 wonderful years of marriage with his beloved wife, Joan, and together they built a blended family. He is survived by his wife, Joan, his children, Aimee and Emilie; stepchildren Martin, Kent, Julia, and Christopher, along with 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Though he will be deeply missed this side of eternity, his legacy of faith, love, and serving others will continue through all who knew him.

## Mike Jager



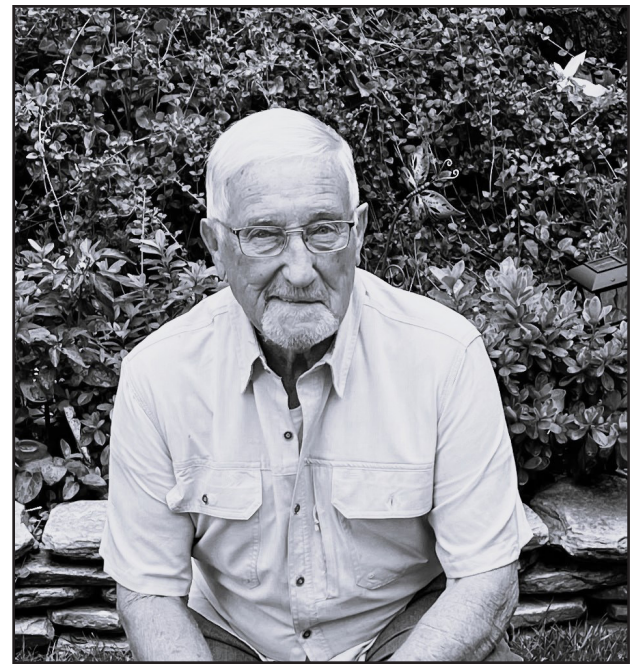
Mike absolutely loved his summers in Dutch Flat. For more than twenty years, he and the love of his life—his wife of seventy-one years, Margie—planned and looked forward to each visit months in advance. Margie's parents, George and Dorothy Hahn, purchased the house on Main Street in 1939, where they spent decades of summers. Their love of Dutch Flat has trickled down through four generations, all of whom remain ever grateful for this treasured place where family can gather. The beauty and quiet of Dutch Flat offered a welcome change from the hustle and bustle of Southern California. Mike regularly held court from their front porch or from the hammock under the cherry tree, which overlooked the vegetable garden. Ultimately, it was Mike's love for the Dutch Flat community that made their summers so special. He cherished his daily interactions, whether chatting with Abe at the general store, visiting dedicated postmaster Shelley, making daily porch rounds with Cecil Lane, or embarking on great adventures with Kim and Laura Glassco. There are many wonderful friends Mike was hoping to catch up with this summer, but he has instead set off on his next adventure. If you listen carefully, he will be telling you all about it.

Born on February 16, 1932, and raised in Hollywood, Mike graduated from Hollywood High in 1949 and Stanford University in 1954. He began working as a geologist for Richfield Oil Company in Ojai, before serving in the U.S. Air Force until 1957. In 1959, he began working in Newport Beach building tract homes. After twenty years, he went on to own an air taxi service in McCall, Idaho, and a land company and farm in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

He and Margie moved to Elk Point in Lake Tahoe in 1979 and spent the next twenty-three years dividing their time between Lake Tahoe and the Newport Beach home they built in 1963.

Along with his family, friends, sailing and the beach, Mike loved skiing, fly fishing, and flying. In 1980, he and Margie even flew around the world in their single-engine Beechcraft Bonanza. His was a life truly blessed and well-lived; he will be dearly missed.

## Cecil Lane



Cecil Boyd Lane of Dutch Flat passed away peacefully at home on March 23, 2026 at 91. Cecil was born in Fort Blackmore, Virginia on January 5, 1935 to John Wesley Lane and Maggie Bagley Lane. Cecil was the husband to Bonnie A. Lane who passed away May 23, 2022. He was the father of two children. Theresa Lane Lail, who passed away April 12, 2024 and Cynthia D. Cassidy. He had four grandchildren. Bobby Lee Lail, Terri Christine Wilson, Nicholas Edward Cassidy and Christopher John Cassidy. Cecil had eight great-grandchildren: Bryce, Emily and Hunter Wilson, Aiden, Evelyn, Axle and Ellie Cassidy, and Ada Cassidy.

Cecil was honorably discharged in Sacramento, California after eight years of service in the Air Force. He was well-known throughout the Sacramento and Placer County for his knowledge of raising and breeding Chinchilla's for many years in Loomis, California. Cecil retired after 20+ years with the Placer County Parks Department. Cecil was an avid treasure hunter who liked to look for buried treasures of any kind, and a published author of two books. His last book is Moonshine and Maple Syrup about his life growing up in the back hills of Virginia. Cecil and Bonnie loved to travel all around the United States in their fifth wheel, visiting family and friends for many years. Cecil loved the small town of Dutch Flat where he and Bonnie retired in their prime.

## Rob Shaw



Pastor Robert (Rob) Jason Shaw, 55, unexpectedly graduated to Heaven on May 6, 2026.

Born near Manchester, England, on January 7, 1971, Rob earned a scholarship to America to study theology and music at Elim Bible College, where he met his beloved wife and ministry partner, Shicara Kostick.

An ordained minister, Rob served churches on both coasts, spent the last 11 years as pastor and worship leader at Pioneer Union Church in Gold Run. A gifted musician, preacher, and teacher, he was known for his beautiful singing voice, anointed piano worship, contagious joy, and wacky sense of humor.

Rob loved God and loved people. Next to Jesus, his family was the love of his life. He is survived by his devoted wife, Shicara; children, Jason and Sarah of Alta, CA; mother, Yvonne; and brothers, David and Jon of England.

A celebration of life was held June 14th at Pioneer Union Church.

## Steve Schnobelen



Steven Allan Schnobelen passed away peacefully on May 9, 2026, at the age of 76. Steve was born September 29, 1949, in Iowa City, Iowa, and grew up in California.

From a young age, he embraced adventure, service, and community. As a child, he was deeply involved in the YMCA and Boy Scouts of America, earning the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout in 1965.

Steve graduated from San Jose State University, where he competed on the legendary 1969 San Jose State track team, later inducted into the SJSU Hall of Fame alongside three Olympic medalists. His drive, discipline, and love for teamwork carried into a lifelong career in law enforcement.

In 1972, Steve became an officer with the California Highway Patrol, serving communities

throughout the Los Angeles & Bay Area. In 1977, while on a ski trip in Banff, Canada, he met the love of his life, Deanna. They were married on October 14, 1978, and shared 47 wonderful years together.

In 1983, Steve and Deanna made their home in Dutch Flat, California, where they spent more than 40 years building a life centered around family, friendship, and service to the community. During his career, Steve dedicated 34 years to the CHP retiring as a sergeant and an additional 10 years serving part time with the Placer County Sheriff's Office.

Outside of work, Steve found joy in traveling, spending time in the mountains, skiing, camping, hiking, and most of all, showing up for every possible event involving his grandchildren. He found humor in everything, always carrying a sparkle in his eye and a readiness for a little hi-jinx.

Steve was a pillar of the Dutch Flat community. Beyond being the local CHP officer, he served as a Scout leader, basketball coach, soccer coach, school board president, and active member of Pioneer Union Church. He touched countless lives through his leadership, kindness, humor, and unwavering presence.

Steve is survived by his beloved wife, Deanna; three children and eight cherished grandchildren. After more than four decades in Dutch Flat, Steve spent his final year in Rocklin, California, near family he loved dearly.

He will be deeply missed not only by his family, but by the many friends, neighbors, coworkers, and community members whose lives were made better by knowing him.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to Pioneer Union Church, P.O. Box 221, Gold Run, CA 95717.

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# Golden Drift Historical Society has been preserving and promoting our unique history for 40 years!

By Ernie and Nancy Bullard

The idea of a museum to serve the area of Dutch Flat, Alta, Gold Run, Baxter, and adjacent communities, is an old one. Several attempts were in fact made over the years to create such a museum. The establishment of the present Golden Drift Historical Society and museum began with informal discussions in the summer of 1985. As before, the first major stumbling block proved to be the problem of finding a home for the museum. A breakthrough occurred when Evelyn Johnson, President of the Dutch Flat Ladies' Aid, raised the possibility that the Ladies' Aid building might be used for the museum.

On November 14, 1985, a meeting was held at the Dutch Flat Community Club. Preliminary plans for an historical society and museum were announced, and volunteers were invited to serve on an exploratory steering committee to take the initial steps. The first meeting of this committee was held on November 21, 1985, and was attended by: Betty and Matt Bailey, Sally and Nicolaas Pansegrouw, Eleanor Bridges, Ruth and Paul Cassady, Julianne and Eric Smith, Bill Hughs, Nancy and Ernie Bullard, Mary Anne and Don Marker, and Carol and Rick Barber. Matt Bailey was elected to serve as chairman of the committee.

Under the leadership of Evelyn Johnson, the members of the Ladies' Aid generously agreed to the proposal to allow the museum to use its building, thereby making it possible to transform the old idea of a museum into a realistic plan. It was agreed, in principle, that the Ladies' Aid would be willing to transfer the ownership of the building to the historical society while retaining the right to use the building for their own purposes. Use of the Ladies' Aid building by the museum began in September 1986.

A small committee (consisting of Bill Hughs as chairman, Eleanor Bridges and Margaret Stewart) was assigned the task of finding a suitable name for the proposed historical society. It was agreed that the name should not be tied to a single community in the area, but should rather reflect the history of the area in general. A

list of possible names (including Blue Devil, Nary Red, Pug Ugly, Bogus Point, etc.) was presented to the steering committee, and the name Golden Drift was selected. The society was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation under the laws of California on August 20, 1986.

The possibility arose early that the proposed museum might become a part of the Placer County Museum system. In exploring this possibility, the help and encouragement of Dave Tucker, director of County museums was provided.

The Historical Society and museum held an opening reception at the museum on October 25, 1986. For this occasion, the Historical Society mounted its first exhibition of historical photographs and artifacts. This was the culmination of a major effort, coordinated by Nancy Bullard and Sally Pansegrouw, and involving contributions of a considerable number of members both of the Historical Society and of the Ladies' Aid in categorizing the many donated artifacts and setting up the displays.

The Golden Drift Historical Society was formally organized at a meeting held at the museum on November 8, 1986. On this occasion bylaws were adopted and the first Board of Trustees was elected. The length of service of individual members, staggered over three years.

The members of the first Board (with the officers elected by the Board) were as follows: Matt Bailey, President (to serve three years), Paul Cassady, Vice-president (to serve one year), Nancy Bullard, Secretary (to serve three years), Julianne Smith, Treasurer (to serve two years), Harry Edwards (to serve one year), Nicolaas Pansegrouw (to serve two years), Marilyn Prince (to serve three years), Evelyn Johnson (ex officio representative of the Ladies' Aid).

Many community members have contributed their talents to the museum including: Katie Hall & Shirley Beedy who created the bird's eye map of the town that is displayed in the Museum. The Evans and Hanson families who developed the plan for the grapevine arbor. Nicolaas

Pansegrouw who, with the help of Rick Sims, led the charge to acquire the Dutch Flat Hotel. Over \$70,000 was raised, but the amount was insufficient and the attempt was abandoned. Matt Bailey and Jim Ricker who started and conducted the 'Walking Tour of Town', and both served as Presidents of the Historical Society (Jim twice). Both worked with Placer County to become part of the County Museum system (1990), and to enclose the museum porch with solid walls (1992) to provide additional space for hanging pictures and displays. Bill Hughs who, with the help of Phyllis Young, catalogued the gravestones and Hearse House records to create a complete listing for the cemeteries, and served as President of the Historical Society. Doug Ferrier who researched and documented the history of many of the homes in Dutch Flat, and later served as President of the Historical Society for 15 years. Anne Holmes, who contributed numerous photographs currently on display, coordinates Heritage Trail Day's events, and served many years as docent coordinator. Debbie McClatchy who surveyed, mapped and conducts a Dutch Flat cemetery tour, the video of which is now available on our website. Sarah and Tom Fugate who have reached out to the Chinese Communities in Sacramento and San Francisco, obtained significant funding for the Chinese Cemetery Project, and encouraged their active participation in yearly festivities.

Under current President Sarah Fugate, there have been several major milestones: a 'Walking Tour of Dutch Flat' brochure was developed. Informational signs were placed in front of historic buildings and sites. Enhanced Railroad and Chinese History displays were placed in the Museum. The Chinese Cemetery was cleared, gravesite locations were identified, and a funerary burner built. The Hearse House and Hose Shed were restored and display added.

The Golden Drift Museum is open Memorial Day weekend through September, plus holidays, noon until 4 pm, Friday through Sunday.

# Bob Hampshire



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