

President's Message



Gloria Beverage

Magical. That's the best way to describe Rocklin Historical Society's first Heritage Street Faire held on Front Street on Saturday, May 3.

Our vision was to host an event highlighting Rocklin's history – past and present. Our team of volunteers devoted months to planning the event – sharing ideas, making phone calls, sending emails, posting on social media, creating displays, organizing locations of booths and tables, renting a stage for the dance performances.

Kudos to our event chair Don Callahan, the Fix-It Team and the members who spent countless hours organizing and setting up the street faire. The behind-the-scenes list of preparations seemed endless.

There were also moments of panic, the “what ifs.” What if it rained? Worst of all, what if, after all our planning, no one shows up?

As I sat in the information/welcome booth, I watched as Historical Society members put the finishing touches on displays focusing on Rocklin's heritage (rocks, rails and ranches). Joining us were groups showcasing their heritage and culture (Buffalo Soldiers, Sikh community, Asian American Pacific Islander) as well as non-profits (South Placer Rotary Club, Placer County Friends of the Library, Roseville Roundhouse Model Railroad Association, California Railroad Museum) sharing the work they do on behalf of the community.

Even the Rocklin Police and Fire Departments supported us by setting up displays, including emergency vehicles.

As the day progressed, I watched as performers drifted in headed for the stage where they would present dances significant to various cultures (Irish, Aztec, Chinese lion dancers, Hula, African



Sacramento Lion Dance

Aquila Lyndie



IDAC Senior Collective doing a Scandinavian dance nicknamed “Fly girl”.



Buffalo Soldiers

Kimberly Olker

Quarry Quarterly

Visit our website:



Our History Our Heritage Our Community

ROCKLIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

May, 2025

Kent and Anne Dazey presented Ruhkala Award for fight to save historic downtown



Photo: Ronna Davis

Anne Dazey and Mayor Jill Gayaldo look on as Kent Dazey speaks at the city council

By Gloria Beverage

Longtime Rocklin Historical Society members, Kent and Anne Dazey were presented with the Ruhkala Pioneer award last month. The award was given in recognition of the couple's successful challenge against PG&E in 2001, laying the foundation for revitalizing Rocklin's historic downtown

and maintaining its charm for future generations.

Kent Dazey was scanning the Placer Herald in October 2001 when he happened upon a legal notice outlining PG&E's plans to construct a four-mile stretch of high voltage towers, ranging from 75- to 110-feet high, starting in Roseville and following the railroad tracks through

[*\(See RUHKALA AWARD, pg. 6\)*](#)

drum and dance). Inside Old St. Mary's Chapel, a Japanese Koto musician played for visitors.

Around lunchtime, our volunteers were treated to sandwiches generously provided by Chick-Fil-A!

Throughout the day, more than 40 high school students as well as community volunteers roamed the street, offering help at booths, picking up trash, clearing tables.

Many of the folks who stopped by the information booth shared their

memories of growing up in Rocklin while others expressed a desire to learn more about our community.

In the end, the day was truly magical. We accomplished what we set out to do. We engaged, educated and entertained the community. Hopefully, we also inspired them to learn more about Rocklin and join us in working to preserve our hometown.

See more beginning
on page 2



Rocklin Heritage Street Faire brings culture, history, and community together

As seen through the eyes of the organizers



By Linda Wampler

The streets of Rocklin came alive on May 3, 2025, as residents and visitors gathered to celebrate the Rocklin Heritage Street Fair. With colorful performances, engaging conversations, and a diverse array of cultural and historical exhibits, the event marked the beginning of a cherished tradition—one that fosters connection, learning, and a deep appreciation for heritage.

The phrase “This really has a hometown feel” wafted through the street like freshly baked apple pie. Unlike commercial events, where transactions often take center stage, this fair had no sales—aside from food trucks—and families could focus on the true meaning of the event: community, culture, and heritage. This purpose by design strengthens Rocklin’s *sense of place*, reinforcing the idea that a town is more than just buildings, streets and commerce. It is the shared stories, traditions, and connections that bind people together, creating a space where residents feel a sense of belonging.

One way this sense of place was reinforced was with the diversity of cultures. As, Matt Burks, founder of Creative Reality AI says, “I have been pretty blessed to do some traveling and experience other cultures (the love of that keeps me going back for more), and the same feeling that I’ve had getting exposure to those other cultures - the wonder, the excitement, the awe, the tastes...I saw that in people’s eyes, especially the kids. I also saw that the people performing, and their families, have so much pride being able to share their dance and their dress and their stories,” Burks reflected. “Not everyone will experience travel in their lives, and this event brings the travel to them, here in Rocklin.” Shirley Espley, concurs. “I so enjoyed talking to Heritage Faire visitors about their ethnic backgrounds and customs,” she says. “It confirms my belief that it truly is a ‘small’ world!” Bonnie Neu-

mann added, “What a wonderful day! We had so many visitors who came into our booth and seemed to truly want to learn about Rocklin’s history. And that’s what the Historical Society is all about.”

Event chair Don Callahan shared his appreciation for the dazzling performances that captivated audiences, as well as the quiet spaces. “The entertainment amazed everyone, with the street and performance areas becoming a bright, colorful swirl of dancers’ costumes. But if one needed a respite from the drums and cymbals, one could find sweet violin and guitar duets in Old St. Mary’s,” Callahan remarked.

Alex Shadle, Director of the International Dance Arts Collective (IDAC) (www.peacethroughdance.org), organized the entertainment for the day. “Alex is an amazing host and commentator each of the performing groups was recognized and the unique nature of their performance explained!” Susan Brooking said.

RHS volunteer Ronna Davis noted, “I was impressed by the versatility of Colin Radmacher, the young guitarist who accompanied Anna Rowe, the violinist in the chapel, then went outside, joined a dance group, and danced beautifully. He would return to the chapel and play the guitar again. Once he emerged in a tuxedo, he did a formal dance outside, then changed back to his country clothes and returned to the chapel. He did this all day!”

Beyond the lively entertainment, the fair was also an opportunity to learn about Rocklin’s rich history. Royce Ann Ruhkala expressed admiration for how the event intertwined history with culture. “A beautiful day. Lots of wonderful entertainment, so much Rocklin history, and so many learning about Rocklin. Very friendly people and great food,” she said. Booths with Rocklin’s theme of



Daryl Stinchfield

Four of the fantastic student volunteers

Rocks, Rails and Ranches highlighted Rocklin’s early history, while others demonstrated Rocklin’s continuing evolution.

The dedication of volunteer organizers

and student volunteers was another key ingredient in making the fair a success. According to Cyndy Godfrey, “I was very proud of all our volunteers and the extra effort that they all put in. I loved the dancing and booths, and it was so refreshing to have only cultural and historic booths,” she noted. “In the end, I was completely delighted with the event—and completely exhausted!” Susan Brooking concurred, “Thanks to the student volunteers! They were so enthusiastic and willing to

help in any way possible.”

Organizing volunteer Brenda Kokatan recalled this incident: “At one point in the morning I walked down to the Farron street end to straighten out our sandwich board sign. I noticed some random teenagers hanging about. About that time a FedEx truck that had taken a wrong turn ended up on front street blocked in by our barricades. The teenagers quickly moved the barricades aside to let him pass. Then I realized “oh snap! Those are our student volunteers!” They all did a great job and were very respectful!” As if in reply, Jim Hammes noted, “One item a



Ronna Davis



Ashley McBrayer

“I saw it in their eyes”



Ronna Davis

Steamer Trunk from Spain,
early 20th century

(Continued on pg 3)

few of us suggested was a way to identify the volunteers for visibility in the event area!”

As always, Callahan was a force of energy throughout the day. RHS President Gloria Beverage recounted his hands-on approach: “Our fearless leader Don Callahan roamed the street throughout the day—checking on vendors, performers, volun-

teers. He did take brief breaks in the welcome booth. Every time he headed out, though, I’d jokingly remind him to breathe.”

For Rocklin residents, the Heritage Street Fair is more than just an event—it’s a celebration of diversity, unity, and the enduring value of history. Floy Taylor noted, “Many attendees of the Rocklin Heritage Street

Faire exemplified their love of Rocklin and a thirst for learning more about its history.

Many people expressed their appreciation thanking us for having the Faire.” As attendees and organizers alike look forward to future fairs, the spirit of the occasion continues to bring people together, one story at a time.



Kimberly Olker

The atmosphere of the fair was as stunning as its message of inclusivity. Entertainment director Alex Shadle captured the magic of the setting, saying, “The day was absolutely perfect- not too hot, not too cold and a perfect blue sky with fluffy clouds. Seeing the dancers with the beautiful sky in the background was truly aesthetic. The performers of all ages were so grateful to represent their cultures and be included in something bigger than their own respective groups and ethnic/cultural communities. There was truly a spirit of sharing, connection, diversity, and community. The audience was engaged and smiling. So many people came to talk to me and thank me for this wonderful event in Rocklin. They loved the performances, the booths, and the overall feeling of community and celebration of diversity.”



Ronna Davis

“I’d never seen Lion Dancers in person,” said Susan Brooking. “The gongs, drums and cymbals really built anticipation of what was to follow. The dancers were so graceful and athletic. The excitement generated was palpable. It was hard to decide between watching the dancers or watching the audience - everyone was enthralled.”



Daryl Stinchfield

Thank you to those volunteers who made this event possible

Twiana Armstrong	Kent Dazey	Nancy Lohse
David Baker	Carole Durbin	Bonnie Neumann
Gloria Beverage	Dan Durbin	Doug Osella
Brandon Bickford	Shirley Espley	Patsy Pattison
Natalie Bickford	Jacob Gamble	Haley Reid
June Blackburn	Cyndy Godfrey	Royce Ann Ruhkala
Susan Brooking	Jim Hammes	George Salgado
Matt Burks	Eric Herlow	Alexandra Shadle
Don Callahan	Pepe Hernandez	Floy Taylor
Raul Campos	Gene Johnson	Linda Wampler
Patrice Cardott	Kim Kaplan	Sarah Wilk
Kenny Clark	Brenda Kokotan	
Ronna Davis	Hank Lohse	

(Continued on pg 4)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Wally's Cafe, Chick-fil-A, Food in the Hood, Randy Peter Catering, Bill Halldin Rocklin Councilmember, Cante Vinho, Save Mart, Safeway, The Rocklin Heritage Street Faire, Pottery World, Ocean Shore Printing, Snow King.

Through the lens at the Rocklin Historical Street Faire



Ronna Davis



Ashley McBrayer



Ashley McBrayer



Ronna Davis



Daryl Stinchfield



Matt Burks



Ronna Davis



Daryl Stinchfield



Daryl Stinchfield



Daryl Stinchfield



Ronna Davis



Ashley McBrayer



Ronna Davis



Aquila Lyndie

Row 1: Hula, by Halau Hula Pono; Giddha, by Virsa; petting the dragon

Row 2: Pearly Shells Hula by IDAC Elementary Collective; Fenix Drum and Dance, including IDAC director Alexandra Shadle; CA State Railroad Museum

Row 3: Granite splitting by Ken Clark; Spanish Waltz—Civil War era dance by IDAC; Ukrainian Character Dance by IDAC's Foundations Collective

Row 4: Ocelotcame; Valicha from Peru by IDAC's Junior Collective

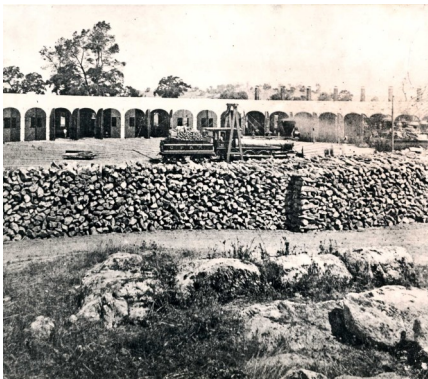
Row 5: Chinese calligraphy activity; Tahitian Dancer from Halau Hula Pono; Hoedown "Barn-raising Dance" by IDAC's Senior Collective; Gene Johnson's restored 1947 John Deere tractor at the farm exhibit

A new vision for Dazey: Rocklin Roundhouse Park and Chinese “Joss House” Cultural Center

By Kent Dazey

Rocklin is a treasure of history. Significant portions of Rocklin's history have been preserved, due to the tireless efforts of the Rocklin Historic Society and City Council. Notable achievements include Finn Hall, the History Museum, St. Mary's, Quarry Park, the Fire House. However, some of Rocklin's history is not widely known and merits recognition. Rocklin's Roundhouse is one of those stories worth telling.

As a vital part of the Transcontinental Railroad, connecting the frontier West by rail to the civilized East, Rocklin's thriving quarry town grew into the national spotlight when the Central Pacific Railroad chose Rocklin as the site for its roundhouse operations. Built in 1867, two years before the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, and just two years after the Civil War, Rocklin's Roundhouse provided the extra “helper” engines necessary to power the trains over the Sierra Nevada mountains which made the Transcontinental Railroad possible.

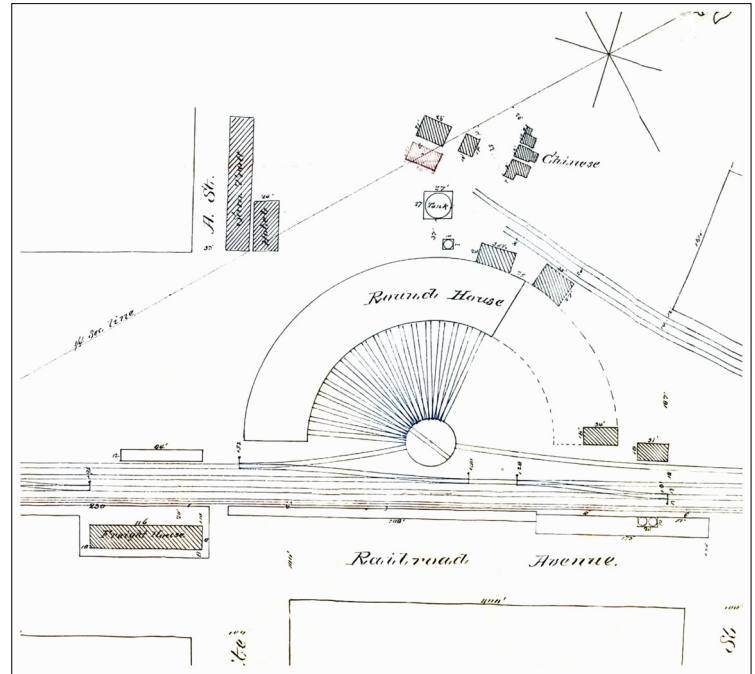


Overcoming the Sierra Nevada was one of the most difficult challenges in building and operating the Transcontinental Railroad. The construction was hard, and the Central Pacific Railroad owners, in addition to using “helper” trains from Rocklin, looked to the Chinese to provide the labor needed

to lay the rails and bore the tunnels over the Sierra. Both the railroad and the Chinese made the Transcontinental Railroad possible, and both are bookends to this story. Many books have been written about the conquering of the Sierra, and this has become part of the folklore of American history, and the folklore of Rocklin's history as well.

Situated just north of Rocklin Road and Front Street, the City of Rocklin beautifully developed the southern section of the Roundhouse site for the public to enjoy. The foundation stones from the original 1867 Roundhouse remain in full view, and a plaque designates the Roundhouse as an Historic Site by the State of California. This is a solid beginning, but there is more to share.

Needed is an informational kiosk which shows historic pictures and provides narratives that will tell the story of what happened here (this is being finalized). Additionally, installing a visitor walkway with smaller “markers” to highlight select roundhouse features, Chinatown, the Indian



grinding rocks and the granite aqueduct would be helpful as well.

Currently, the Historic Society provides tours for Rocklin's Third Graders who visit the site annually as part of their local history curriculum. However, it would be safe to say that the general population remains unaware of the history that took place on this roundhouse site.

As part of an ultimate buildout that could take decades, revitalizing the broader 7.81 acres site could give Rocklin the opportunity to build a living history of the railroad and the quarry industry, along with the history of the Chinese migration and accomplishments. A children's train could narrate the Transcontinental Railroad construction story. A plaza could be used for public events and celebrations.

Revitalizing Roundhouse Park might also help heal wounds from Rocklin's tragic 1877 expulsion of the Chinese. The late Donna Trumbo, former President of the Placer Branch of Asian American Pacific Islanders association, had a vision to build a Chinese “Joss” house on the roundhouse site as a reflection center. Her dream may come true.

These are some ideas to consider for a potential buildout vision for Roundhouse Park, aimed at revitalizing the unused land along the railroad tracks. It has a rich history worth preserving. It has a great story to tell.

(RUHKALA AWARD, con't from pg.1)

The Dazeys led a community effort

downtown Rocklin.

Kent and his wife, Anne, then living in the Delano Way subdivision, realized the towers would not only significantly impact the safety of the residents, but would also threaten the quality of life of historic district residents and businesses.

"We used to take morning walks around the neighborhood," Kent recalled. "The neighborhood was unique."

At the time, the city of Rocklin had started renovations throughout the historic district by repaving streets, upgrading streetlights and building new landscape medians, Kent recalled, adding that additional updates were still needed.

When a letter announcing a public information meeting about the proposed upgrade arrived, the Dazeys realized they had to take a stand.

"We had three weeks to respond," Kent recalled. "We walked the neighborhoods. Handed out flyers. Set up a table at Albertson's. Got people to sign petitions."

Local TV news crews interviewed Kent three times, reporting on the effort to stop the project during their morning and evening broadcasts.

At the initial public hearing (at the beginning of the critical response period), Kent argued that PG&E was using a 40-year-old map of the area – one that did not show the growth in the community. While he pointed out the detrimental impact the overhead transmission lines would have on Rocklin, Kent also realized he needed a stronger argument to convince the judge to order PG&E to place the power lines underground. He needed a "smoking gun."

Just days before the final deadline for filing a response, Kent decided to stop at Kinder Morgan, the tank farm at the corner of Rocklin Road and Sunset Boulevard. He learned that Kinder Morgan is one of the largest energy infrastructure companies in North America. They operate approxi-

mately 79,000 miles of pipelines transporting natural gas, gasoline, crude oil, and carbon dioxide throughout the U.S. Terminals, including the one in Rocklin, store and handle these fuels and other petroleum products.

Kinder Morgan was the "smoking gun," he realized. If PG&E proceeded as planned, the power lines would have been placed in the narrow strip of land between the railroad tracks and the tank farm – within falling distance of the storage tanks if a train derailed. The Dazeys submitted a 120-page brief, relying heavily on Anne's law school experience, to the judge. With the events of 9/11 fresh in everyone's minds and the prospect of what could happen if the jet fuel in the tanks caught fire, the California Public Utilities Commission judge issued a preliminary judgement in the Dazeys' favor.

PG&E immediately appealed, however, launching a potential legal battle. Undaunted, the Dazeys and one other family put up their houses up for collateral to cover the cost of what they expected to be a lengthy fight, including the need to hire legal and expert witnesses.

After months of waiting for a court date, Kent learned the judge had resolved the case privately, ruling that PG&E's plan was a "per se" violation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and directing PG&E to issue a revised plan.

As a result of the mandated revision, PG&E was compelled to reroute the power lines over the railroad tracks and into the field – avoiding the tank farm. Additionally, the power lines were placed underground from south of Sunset Boulevard to north of Midas Avenue at a cost of \$6.2 million.

The following year, the Dazeys were invited to join the Rocklin Historical Society in its efforts to preserve and restore Old St. Mary's Chapel.

The Delano Way residents who fought PG&E

Kent and Anne Dazey
Dave and Lyn Rafferty
Melissa Merrill Netzel
(now living in Bandon, Ore.)

Kerry Rasmussen
Joel Short
Robin Leporati
Ron Talmidge (deceased)
Jim and Sophia Epp
Bill Hintzman

"If you did this to PG&E, would you be interested in helping with the hustle to preserve the historic building," Kent recalled being told by Gene Johnson and Gary Day.

He agreed and, by the time the chapel was completed, Kent was hooked.

"I found kindred spirits in the Rocklin Historical Society. I love working toward something new," he said.

His current project focuses on the former roundhouse site on Rocklin Road next to the tracks. He is heading up an effort to expand the site by adding information kiosks explaining Rocklin's role in the building of the Transcontinental Railroad as well as sharing the story of the Chinese workers who lived on that site.

Thanks to the advocacy of the Dazeys and their Delano Way residents, the safety and historic integrity of Rocklin's historic district has been preserved and protected.

[*\(Return to page 1\)*](#)



PG&E prepared simulations of what the powerline would look like if installed above ground. Left is the view from Railroad Ave. towards the depot and Old St. Mary's. Right is Front Street closer to Farron.



Sam Flacks' love of Clover Valley leads to Cub Reporter job for RHS

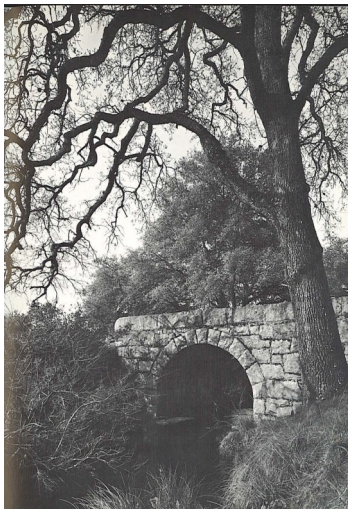
By Sam Flacks

My name is Sam Flacks, and I am honored to be invited to be a "cub reporter" for the Quarry Quarterly. I am 8 years old, and I have lived in Rocklin for the last five years. We live in the Clover Valley neighborhood, and my brother, my sisters, and our friends, love to play and hang out in Clover Valley Park. However, on March 26th, I am sad to report, a huge oak tree in the park fell down in the wind. I think the tree must have been damaged by all the flooding in the park over the last few years, and it finally gave out. But that tree must have stood in that spot for over a hundred years! It was probably there in the 1880's when Joel Parker built one of the "12 Bridges" that still crosses Clover Valley Creek at the south entrance of the park. That's the bridge that Ansel Adams, the famous photographer, took a picture of when he was hired to take photos for the planned development of Sunset City, in the early 1960s. As reported in the Quarterly before, Ansel Adams' favorite photo subjects were oak trees and granite, and the Clover Valley Bridge setting provided both! When Ansel was taking photos in Rocklin, according to the previous Quarry Quarterly article, "He would pick a scene and then observe it from dawn to dusk, finding the precise sun angle that suited his eye;...he was struck by the beauty of the property." The tree that fell down looked as old or even older than the smaller, thinner tree in the photo. I can imagine old Ansel finding some shade under the bigger tree when he was waiting for just the right light to shine on the granite bridge so he could take his photo.

I can also imagine all the times native Americans (Nisenan) used those trees for shade and food. My third-grade class at Rocklin Academy Turnstone just finished a study unit on Native Americans. We visited the Maidu Museum in Roseville, and, when I learned about Maidu food, I was reminded of Clover Valley, and all the oak trees and acorns in the park. That's one reason I got involved with my mom's and dad's efforts with the Clover Valley Foundation to "Save Clover Valley". To me, oak trees and the oak woodlands they form, are more valuable than a few houses. As I told the Rocklin City Council on January 28th, when they were deciding to donate \$2 million to save Clover Valley, where will the beavers, and the deer, and the hawks live, if all the land is taken up with homes for people? I am very happy to report that the Council voted yes

on this, and so did Placer County Office of Education and a bunch of other smart people led by the Placer County Land Trust, and now there are hundreds of oak trees in the Valley that will never be cut down—at least not by humans!

So I am sad the big old oak in Clover Valley Park fell down. I took a chunk of bark from the wreckage to help me remember that tree forever. It was a great hiding spot when my friends and I played hide-n-seek in the park, and Cooper's Hawks and Northern Flickers loved to perch in it. But I am



Ansel Adams's photo of the Clover Valley Park bridge



Sam Flacks stands by the fallen oak in Clover Valley Park

happy that all the other trees in the preserved land will get to live long lives and produce lots of acorns for the animals. I guess it's all part of the cycle of life! Oak trees connect me both to the history and the future of Clover Valley, and I'm honored to share this news—both good and bad—with readers of the Quarry Quarterly.

Editor's Note: It was so important to Sam that Clover Valley be saved that he spoke at the City Council meeting. It was captured in an on air interview with Channel 13 News on Feb. 10, 2025:

LOCAL NEWS

Rocklin boy, 8, donates birthday money to help save local nature area



By Dominic Garcia
February 10, 2025 / 6:42 PM PST / CBS Sacramento



Time is running out to save a large plot of open space in Rocklin. Big organizations are raising money to save the Clover Valley Nature Area, but so is one impressive 8-year-old boy who took his case to city council.

Third grader Sam Flacks said every little bit counts. Most adults don't like public speaking, but for Flacks, it was nothing. This is a fight to save something he loves.

"When I sometimes hike on a hill or something, I just look down and see how beautiful it is," he said. "And I just don't

(See [INTERVIEW](#), pg.8)

Clover Valley Permanently Protected for Conservation

Historic local effort saves 402 acres in Rocklin from development

Placer Land Trust, Jessup University, and project partners are pleased to announce the permanent protection of 402 acres in the heart of Clover Valley for conservation, education, and public benefit.

Clover Valley represents of the last remaining intact sections of oak woodlands in western Placer County, and the last significant open space left in the City of Rocklin. The valley is home to a wide variety of ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and cultural resources.

"The protection of Clover Valley holds so many benefits to our community and the environment," said Jeff Darlington, Executive Director of Placer Land Trust. "From habitat for rare and threatened species, to historic Native American heritage sites, this land is truly unique to Rocklin and our region. This project has met with many challenges, but we've always felt that it was vital to pursue its protection — no matter how long the odds. The unprecedented collaboration of so many local supporters and partners shows just how much Clover Valley means to our community."

Clover Valley has been under intense pressure from development, with approvals and entitlements in place for 500+ single-family homes and a roadway across the valley floor. For decades, community members rallied together to oppose the construction of roads and subdivisions in the valley.

"Jessup is grateful for the tremendous support we have received from our private and public partners in this endeavor," said Dr. John Jackson, Jessup's President. "We believe the preservation of Clover Valley will have dynamic generational impact."

Hundreds of people wrote to elected officials or spoke at public meetings advocating for saving Clover Valley.

After this multi-year effort, earlier this month Placer Land Trust recorded a perpetual conservation easement on the 402-acre property, permanently prohibiting subdivision and residential development and guaranteeing that the heart of Clover Valley will remain protected open space – forever.

"Being able to save this valley from subdivision and development is a huge win for our environment, our community, and for current and future generations," said Darlington. "Placer Land Trust is so grateful to our everyone who helped protect the heart of Clover Valley forever."



Clover Valley will provide a valuable learning resource for students of all ages in Placer County. As an outdoor classroom, the valley offers opportunities to learn about local Native American history, study nature, conduct research projects, and much more. This world-class outdoor education space will inspire curiosity, learning, and stewardship among students for years to come.



Home to Native Americans for over 7,000 years, Clover Valley was a major tribal center, and contains over 30 known significant cultural resource sites. The valley also contains critical foraging habitat for the threatened Swainson's hawk, and another rare and threatened bird species, the California black rail, has been observed in the wetlands along Clover Valley Creek.

Placer Land Trust and Jessup are working with key partners on plans for stewardship and for educational and recreational access, which is required by the terms of the public funding agreements. When guidelines are established for safe, legal and compatible public access, and when additional funding is secured to develop and manage such access, the public will enjoy visiting Clover Valley in ways that align with the protection of the natural and cultural values of the land. In the meantime, Placer Land Trust plans to offer docent-led tours in the newly protected valley later this year.

(INTERVIEW. Cont. from page 8)

want anything to happen to it."

A developer owns the 400-plus acre open space but has agreed to sell it for \$16 million. A number of groups, including Jessup University and the Placer Land Trust, are now working to raise the money, but they only have until the end of March. Flack is now putting his money where his mouth is, donating the \$85 he received for his birthday.

"All those animals...I want to help them have a home," he said.

Flack is hoping more people chip in before it's too late.

"If you have a place that you love, you can do anything you want to try and save it," he said.

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to view the February 10th Channel 13 segment on Sam's efforts to save Clover Valley.



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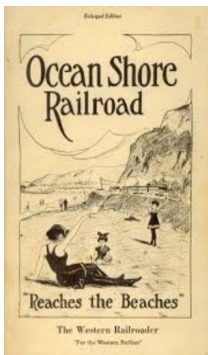
Behind the Scenes

OCEAN SHORE PRINTING

In this edition of our Behind-the-Scenes feature, we're putting the spotlight on chief creative curator/owner Mollie Maillard and her brother, customer service ninja Jared Maillard at Ocean Shore Printing. Over the years, this Rocklin business has gone above and beyond for the Rocklin Historical Society. We're especially grateful for their support of our first Heritage Street Faire.

When and why did you join Ocean Shore?

Mollie: This is a family owned and operated business. I am the owner, and my brother Jared manages most of the bindery and after-print-production. I can't say it was always our dream to work at the print shop, but more of an opportunity/blessing. I personally explored a lot of other career options but felt like I ultimately belonged in the family business. Technically, I started working here in 2000, and Jared joined in 2012. Our parents officially retired in 2018; that is when I purchased the company from them.



Jared: I started working here in 2012 after I



Jared Maillard

had moved back home from San Jose. My parents gave me a part time job, and I never left!

How long has Ocean Shore been serving Rocklin? What inspired the name of the business?

Mollie: We have been serving Rocklin since 1990, and at that time there were two locations: the original location in Half Moon Bay plus this one in Rocklin. When my parents purchased the company from my grandparents they changed the name from "Copy Print Company" to "Ocean Shore Printing." It's easy to say the name came from their prime location on Main Street in HMB, but the story goes deeper than that. My Dad is very passionate about trains, and we are named after the Ocean Shore Railroad, which ran from San Francisco to Santa Cruz. It's no longer active, but we have the original sign in our lobby that shows the rounding Devil's Slide. It really is a piece of art.

Fun fact: the artist who designed that logo worked for Bill Graham Presents. The moment the sign was being installed was when the Loma Prieta earthquake struck.



Mollie Maillard with her fur babies, Ryer and Shasta

What do you enjoy most about your jobs?

Mollie: I get to do the graphic design which I love. Helping someone bring their idea to life is very fulfilling to me. I also love that every day is a new adventure around here. There is rarely a dull moment!

Jared: I enjoy working with my sister, and the small freedoms that come along with working at a small, family-owned business. I also enjoy meeting interesting people and seeing the varied printing projects brought in.

Where did you acquire the skills needed to run a print shop?

Mollie: We were both quite literally raised in the business. I'm not sure there is a "print shop 101 class" that would have helped anything. While I was trained in-house at every level, I also went to college to learn more about graphic design and the tools needed to be successful at it. With how technology is changing so quickly, I feel like I'm learning something new every day. In-house design service wasn't always offered here, so I'm proud to be able to help the shop expand in that respect.

Jared: I was born and raised in printing, so the knowledge has always been there, but the actual running of the business has been something I've been picking up along the way.

What did you do before joining the business? Your previous lives?

The Ocean Shore Railroad, namesake of our local printer

(Continued on page 10)

Celebrating the legacy of the first Sikh woman in Placer County

A first-person narrative

By Kulvinder Singh

My name is Raj Kor. It is pronounced 'core' and since my name is a Sikh name we have many spellings as it means princess in Punjabi and has a different alphabet. Modern people spell Kor as Kaur. Back then, since I didn't know English, the British officials at the government office in the colony of India where I got my passport spelled my name as Raj Kor. Raj means Kingdom. Kor, or Kaur, means "princess."

I was born in British colonized India. After my husband's passing, I married his brother, Dhana Singh Poonian. In 1921, we made the brave decision to move to California with my two sons, leaving behind my daughter in Punjab. My husband found success in the nursery business in Loomis, collaborating with James Brennan, and later establishing Poonian Nursery.

Adapting to a new life in California was challenging, but we persevered. My son, Paritem, attended school and diligently worked on our family farm. By 1957, Paritem helped in establishing Poonian Nursery of Roseville, which thrived until it was sold in the mid-1960s. Poonian Nursery of Roseville, under Paritem's management, faced a disease outbreak but adapted.

Paritem needed a wife, but immigration laws made it difficult to find a Sikh bride in America. He married a young woman named Irene, and they had a son, Dalip. Sadly, Irene

left and divorced him, and the court granted me guardianship of Dalip, whom I raised as a Sikh. Despite these challenges, we thrived.

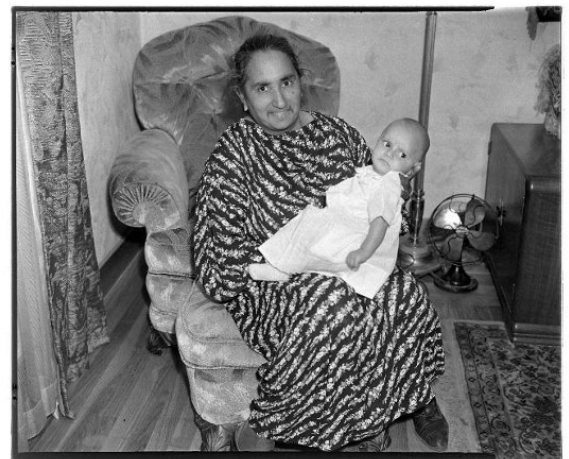
Paritem eventually remarried, and we continued our legacy. Dalip, the first Sikh child born in Placer County, upheld our family's achievements, overcoming language barriers, legal restrictions, and cultural challenges to establish a prosperous life in California.

Janie Diwan became Janie Poonian after marriage. In 1957, our family started Poonian Nursery of Roseville and had several children, including Santi Poonian. Santi married Didar Singh Bains in 1964, becoming Santi Bains. In 1966, we moved to Sutter County and sold our large house in Roseville, previously owned by the Livoli family. Didar and Santi had three children: Ajit, Diljit, and Karmdeep, who continue to make significant contributions to their community. Ajit farms over 10,000 acres in Sutter County, Diljit is a commercial real estate broker in Long Beach and owns farmland in Canada, and Karmdeep runs Bains Oil and was elected as a supervisor in Sutter County in 2020.

Our family played an instrumental role in founding the second Sikh temple in the United States, in Yuba City in 1969, with Paritem serving as the first president. Despite cultural and legal challenges, we maintained our Sikh faith and traditions while integrating aspects of Mexican



Raj Kor with her two sons and husband Dhana Singh Poonian



Raj Kor with her grandson, Dalip Raymond Poonian, the first Sikh born in Placer County.

and American cultures. Janie's influence helped keep our family rooted in our Sikh heritage.

We faced and overcame numerous challenges, including language barriers and legal restrictions, to establish a prosperous life in California. The legacy of the Poonian family is one of perseverance, cultural preservation, and community contribution.

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Mollie: I have been a barista, an administrative assistant for an Alaskan guide company, as well as holding other short-lived odd jobs. I've officially been an employee here over half of my life, which feels a little weird to say! I don't feel that old.

Jared: My last job before coming to the print shop was as a house manager for an in-patient rehabilitation center in San Jose. Before that I had worked various jobs (fencing company, forklift driver, warehouse worker) but nothing that I really

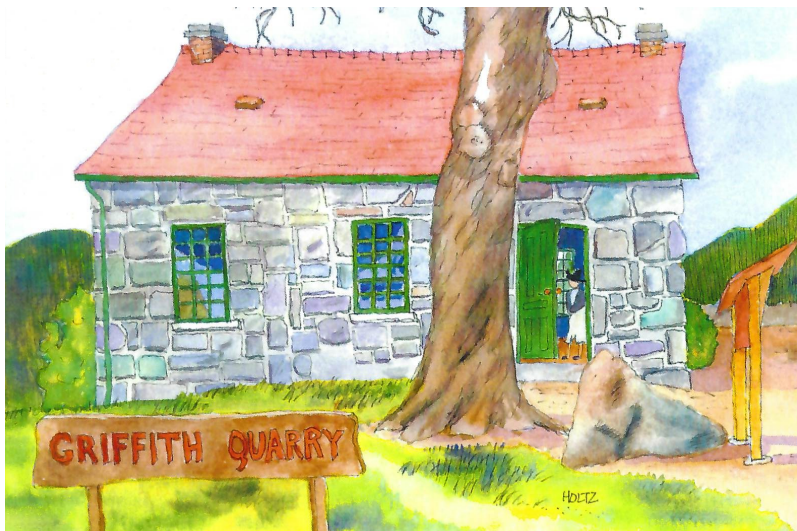
cared about until I made my way to the family business.

What are your interests outside of the business?

Mollie: I would say cooking is one of my top interests outside of the business. I think it's part of that creative/maker side of me. I also love to be outside, especially on the water, whether it's taking my boat out with my boyfriend, paddle boarding or kayaking. I also love spending time with

my two fur babies (Ryer & Shasta), who often come to the office with me – serving as greeters.

Jared: I enjoy disc golfing when the weather is nice at Johnson Springview park down the street after work. I'm a big fan of music and have recently gotten a decent turntable setup and started collecting records (big shout out to the Audio Nerd on Midas). I also enjoy fiddling with my gaming PC, playing video games, and cooking extravagant weekend meals with my wife.



Retired District 3 Supervisor Jim Holmes sent a nice note of appreciation recently. Jim served as supervisor for twenty years, ending his term on Dec. 31, 2024. We wish him a happy, healthy and fulfilling retirement.

January 25, 2025
 Dear Gloria,
 Just a note thanking you for
 the Quarry Quarterly and the
 information on new projects!
 Hope we can save Clover Valley!
 All the Best
 Jim Holmes

P.S. This card was painted by my cousin
 Nancy Holtz. ☺

Help Our Garden Grow

ROCKLIN
 HISTORICAL
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THE SECRET GARDEN PROJECT

Help turn this scrappy plot of land next to our library into a tranquil garden honoring Rocklin's first county librarian and influential civic figure, Jennie Minkinen. This unique space will also showcase the rare granite curbing once part of her father, quarryman Victor Wickman's gardens, symbolizing both her lasting legacy and the community's historic ties to quarrying.



Please support the Secret Garden by making a donation to
The Rocklin Historical Society, P.O. Box 1, Rocklin, CA 95677

You can also make a donation through PayPal or with your credit or debit card by scanning the QR code or going to our website (rocklinhistorical.org) and scrolling down to the bottom of the home page. Please indicate that your donation goes to the Secret Garden Project

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Learn more about
 Jennie Minkinen,
 Quarry Quarterly, pg. 10



www.rocklinhistorical.org

Why docents love field trips

School reaches out with lovely letter

March 21, 2025

Dear Rocklin History Museum,

Thank you for an excellent field trip yesterday! We loved that we each got our own piece of granite! Some of us are adding the piece to our rock collection, some of us are polishing it with sandpaper, and some of us are just playing with it.

Learning about Rocklin's history was really cool. It was interesting to learn about the big fire, and how all the buildings burned except those made of granite. We loved learning that the doors of the church came from Joel Parker Whitney's mansion. We can't believe those crazy woodpeckers ruined the bell tower! It shocked us that someone actually stole the bell!

We feel so lucky that we actually got to meet the King of Rocklin, Mr. Johnson! He was so kind to donate all of that

land to Johnson-Springview Park. Some of us take our Girl Scout pictures there by the creek. Our teacher's son plays Frisbee Golf there with his friends. We also love the playground and the awesome dog park. We are going to tell our siblings that we met a celebrity.

At the museum, it was interesting to see all of the tools in the basement. The chain was so heavy! We didn't realize they had a jackhammer back then. On the scavenger hunt, we saw an actual shotgun in one of the rooms. It was cool to see the mini-city and see what Quarry Park looked like before it was what it is today. It was cool to see all of the old vases and stuff they used in the olden days. It was fun to do the

scavenger hunt. For some of us, it was the best part!

The tour guides were amazing! They were so sweet and kind. We appreciate that they volunteer and don't even get paid. They spoke clearly so we could hear and they gave clear directions. It was super cool to learn about the train tracks and the round house. The volunteers were funny, too! Thank you for a fun and educational day!

Sincerely,
Jackson's Panthers
Breen Elementary School



Old St. Mary's News

By Nancy Lohse

The chapel is well known as the perfect place for weddings or memorials. While they do account for much of the foot traffic in the chapel, the biggest amount of visitors comes from the Rocklin third graders. Every year over 700 eight and nine year olds troop around Heritage Park learning about the Rocklin roundhouse, Fire Hose #1, and the chapel. They also learn about how third graders have contributed to Rocklin history.

Thanks to their yearly coin drives (this year it's #20!) Rocklin third graders have helped save St. Mary's Chapel, installed a unique fountain at the chapel, honored Joel Parker Whitney with a plaque at his pyramid, helped build a replica of Rocklin's first firehouse and placed a plaque at Meyer's Quarry at the Rocklin Library. Last year they honored the Johnson family with a plaque at Johnson-Springview Park.

This year's coin drive is going toward a bench for the Secret Garden behind the Rocklin Library honoring Jennie Mink-



Fourth graders from Sierra Elementary School, who were third graders when they attended the RHS field trip, join Gene Johnson and Otto at the plaque dedication.

kinen, the first county librarian in Rocklin.

I already had a third grader tell me that when she sits on the bench she's going to say, "This is MY bench!"

These coin drives help connect the students with the history of their home town and to feel proud of their efforts. If you have jars of coins setting around, please consider donating them to the third grade coin drive. By supporting them, you are showing the importance of preserving the history of their home town.



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