

The BEAR FACTS

A publication of Mountain C.A.R.E. (<http://www.mtncare.net>)

Summer 2023 Volume 17 Issue 2

Supervisor Announces Availability of FEMA Aid

by the County Supervisor Dawn Rowe's Office (edited)

Supervisor Dawn Rowe announces availability of FEMA and other Federal and State Aid to Mountain Communities. Mountain residents, property owners, and businesses affected by the late winter blizzard are now eligible for assistance from state and federal agencies, including FEMA, that's to the efforts of Board of Supervisors Chair, Dawn Rowe, and various County agencies who advocated and worked closely with state and federal decision makers to secure aid for local communities.

Acting on a county emergency declaration made under Rowe's leadership and then a request by the Governor, FEMA added San Bernardino County to the Presidential Major Disaster Declaration approved by the President. Providing San Bernardino County residents, property owners, and businesses with access to additional state and federal aid and recovery resources.

"I am pleased that the state and federal governments have acknowledged the magnitude of this disaster," said Chair Rowe, whose Third District includes the areas that were hit the hardest by the winter storms. "I will continue to do everything I can to advocate for our mountain residents and businesses as they try to recover." FEMA's Individual Assistance program makes affected residents eligible to apply for grants to help pay for temporary housing and essential home repairs as well as other serious disaster-related needs, such as replacement of damaged personal property and expenses for transportation, childcare, moving and storage.

Homeowners and renters seeking assistance are encouraged to begin the process by registering with FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, at <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/>, through the FEMA mobile app, or by calling the FEMA helpline at 1-800-621-3361.

Applicants receiving an initial rejection are encouraged to visit the soon-to-be-established Disaster Recovery Center (DRC). The DRC will open at a location in the mountain communities and have representatives from a full slate of state and federal agencies who will help residents and property owners, including those who are



initially rejected, with any and all forms of assistance available to them. The location and operating hours of the DRC will be announced when a site is secured.

Businesses and nonprofit agencies, including churches, are encouraged to register with the U.S. small Business Administration at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Residents and businesses are advised that state and federal resources will likely not provide 100 percent coverage for damage and other losses. It is important for property owners to work with their personal insurance companies.

Dawn.Rowe@public.govdelivery.com

Thu, Apr 20, 2023

The Rowe Report STORM RESPONSE FEMA Assistance Still Available for Mountain Residents FEMA Mobile Registration Intake Centers are available: Crestline Library – 24105 Gregory Drive in Crestline Hours – Monday – 11 am to 7 pm, Thursday – 10 am to 6 pm, and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm.

Hootman Senior Center – 2929 Running Springs Road, Running Springs

Hours – Sun through Friday – 9 am to 7 pm

The deadline to apply for FEMA assistance is Monday June 5, 2023. For more information about the services offered at these locations, please visit <https://disasterassistance.gov/> or call 1-800-621-3362.

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Mountain C.A.R.E. President's Message

by Debi Welch



Hello Friends and Neighbors,
Congratulations! If you're reading this you made it through "Snowmageddon 2023" Or what we in the eighties called Winter. It was a fun and challenging season, I had to remember/relearn many skills not used in a long time in order to comfortably thrive on the mountain. Sadly, it was achieved without the benefits of the webcam, but we made it! In keeping with this thought, please bookmark the new MTN C.A.R.E. website: mtncare.net ...This links to the web cam for easy access.

As always the glory of the mountain in the Spring never disappoints. Lilacs starting to bloom in town, Scottish broom and lilacs off highway 38. My favorite part is the sound and size of Mill Creek Creek (every day when I drive through the water on the way to/from my work and home I feel like an adventurer.) After this Winter I think we all may be a little bit of adventurer to call this special place home.

It also reminds us, our gentle creek can turn into a raging river in a short amount of time and to never take her for granted.



Bear at Falls pool photo by David Russell

Bear season is upon us, so please do your best to be bear smart and safe...love your neighbors and that includes the 4 legged ones as well. My simple tip is lock the doors on your cars, after confirming there is no food, not even a breath mint or stick of gum in the glove box or your car could be easily destroyed. This alone has saved me heartache for many years after learning the hard way in 2012, when my 4Runner SnowWipe was fodder for a hungry bear.

Please embrace that in this small town we depend on each other, especially in times of need and natural disasters. Meet your neighbors, swap keys, names & numbers. This could make such a big difference in your comfort level when, not if, a disaster happens. We help each other out, that is what makes our homes so much better than life off the mountain.

Lastly it is fire season...pack a go bag and have a plan of action in case you cannot make it home, this is when having neighbor's numbers to check on each others pets can really help!

Hope you all have a good Summer and we will see you Sunday July 2nd at the Big Falls Lodge for the Jamboree!

From the (New) Editor

by Marianne Belletini



Hello Angelus Oaks, Forest Falls and Mountain Home Village as well as the supporters who live outside of these communities! It is my pleasure to update all, with regards to the Bear Facts as your new editor, me, Marianne Belletini! This will be my first edition, as editor for the Bear Facts, and I am working diligently to make sure we serve all, who subscribe or receive, the Bear Facts News Letter.

Some background information on me, I have lived in Forest Falls since 2000. Moving back to California from the Midwest has given me the opportunity for growth in all aspects of my life. Renting then owning my own home while living in Forest Falls has been a wonderful and exciting journey. I love telling those who ask about the wonderful seasons, (even though unpredictable), and the enjoyment of living in a small mountain community.

Weather

So, the locals say the four seasons are, "Fire, Floods, Snow/Mud and Earthquakes". Have to love seasons that bring anything but seasonal weather! I know I have experienced all of the above living in the community. We all know what it is like to be stuck in Mentone when the 38, our route of travel, is off limits due to hazardous circumstances.

With the wild and snow/mud filled year we have had our sorrows and gratitude. The creeks this Spring really started running from all the snow melt! If you have not had the opportunity yet visit the Falls at Momeyer, at the top of Forest Falls, or you can now view Monkey Falls, at the entrance off the 38 to Forest Falls, as it is also flowing with joy, down the mountain side. In addition, be careful when traveling Valley of the Falls as other creeks are showing their snow melt by running across the road. Be kind and slow down when an oncoming vehicle is approaching at these spots, as you and the other vehicle could be playing who gets the most water splashed!

For those in Angelus Oaks, the 38 has been shut down man times for rock/mud/snow slides, so always be prepared and check the road conditions when the weather is on the lousy, not sunny side!

Wildlife

With all the abundant snow fall, received this past winter, we will surely see new blooms, animals and who knows what will pop in to visit! The local bears are already out and looking for their opportunities to find an easy meal! Remember we lock our doors, cars and house, for the active wildlife! This allows us to ensure our safety as well as there's from not breaking in and creating damage.

As we enter into the warm summer month's we now must prepare for the onslaught of the little bugs that bite! Look around your property and remove, if possible, any stagnant water containers or other items that would allow for the mosquitoes to flourish in.

Future Editions

As this is my first run as editor, I am very thankful for the assistance from those who have been involved with the publishing for a long time. For the Fall and Winter editions this year I have some ideas in mind. *(continued on the top of the next page)*

From the (New) Editor *(continued)*

continued from previous page / column

Here is what I am thinking about adding to future editions:

Editor's Column – To discuss any questions/concerns about the Bear Facts publications.

- Book Review column – I have read previous columns which are great for the book readers.

- Film/Movie Review column- I have read previous columns which are good for those who love movies/films.

- Poetry column – for the poet's at heart!

- Angelus Oaks article – something unique to the AO community

- Mountain Home Village article – something unique to the MHV community

- Local Government – Page/Column -keeping us all informed and up to date on government activities that pertain to our communities.

Currently Active, in the Bear Facts:

School Articles;

CERT & Emergency Preparedness Articles;

Garden Club Articles;

Community Calendars

Valley of the Falls Community Center – Updates/Articles/etc.

Adds which support our newsletter along with your donations, please, keep them coming!

These are great topics, keeping them moving forward is the plan, into this new year and new beginnings for all. In addition, any other columns/articles that maybe helpful to our readers, is great appreciated!

If you have an article you would like to submit for publication, please use the Beaefactseditor@gmail.com account or bfeditor2023@gmail.com. You can find The Bear Facts information needed when writing your article and view previous versions of The Bear Facts at, <https://mountaincare.net>.

Daily, I log in to check the mail, to ensure that any article/question/notification is responded too. I will apologize in advance if I don't respond in a timely fashion. I probably just left town to re-energize the batteries!

A few have asked about subscribing/donating to the Bear Facts. The cost is \$15.00 dollars per year. You can submit your contribution/donation at <http://mtncare.net>.

Wishing all a great summer season filled with abundance of laughter and joy.

Your New Editor, Marianne Bellettini

Check out the town & road conditions on the

Mountain C.A.R.E. Web Cams




<http://mtncare.com/web-cams/web-camera-index>

Considering Books

by Katherine Bird

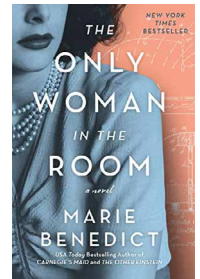
THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM

by Marie Benedict



Mussolini, SS Officers, Hitler, a woman fleeing from the castle of her wealthy husband where she was sometimes locked in and watched by a servant; a woman smoking on the balcony behind a wall listening to secret plans discussed by important men after a dinner party; a film screen star, a movie called ecstasy; and (what???) a scientist; meet Hedy Lamarr, *The Only Woman in the Room*.

My mother adored Hedy Lamarr, her life and her movies. After watching a movie together on Turner Classics, mom told me that “Hedy Lamarr’s stunning beauty was a farce. Her real beauty was her mind!” Then she asked me if I knew that Hedy was a scientist and may have contributed to our communication technology today. My mom was a reader, and I donated many books to Smiley Library and CSUSB’s Library which included several books about, guess who? The book by Benedict justified my mother’s suggestion about Lamarr’s stunning and clever mind!



Benedict’s novel is considered Historical Fiction. She rotates facts into telling a good story based on a true story. For instance, Lamarr had an idea that might tumble the nazi’s. But (think about this after reading the book) there was an active war going on! This glamorous, innovative Hollywood icon who refused to be pushed aside, solidified my mother’s words. “Lamarr’s beauty WAS a farce. Her real beauty WAS her mind.”

Benedict’s book is a page turner and gives the reader motivation to research further about Hollywood’s screen star, Hedy Lamarr. Benedict writes the scenario of a famous, complicated woman who was a genius, an astounding and venust figure prominent in history and a legend in Hollywood. The author’s note in the back states, “We hold a piece of women’s history in our hands every day. I do not mean this in a metaphorical sense but quite literally. Every day, nearly every one of us holds a piece of history created, in roundabout fashion, by Hedy Lamarr.”

Here is a quote from the New York Times book review:

“In Marie Benedict’s telling, the story is a ready-made thriller as well as a feminist parable as well.”

This book motivated me to 1) watch the documentary on Netflix called *Bombshell* which is narrated by her children 2) read *Carnegie’s Maid* and *The Other Einstein*, both by Benedict and 3) I just bought *Lady Clementine*. This book is about Winston Churchill’s wife also by the same author. I am hooked.

I hope this review motivates you all to a good summer read and to become the “only READER in the room.”

I would love to hear your comments after reading this book. And, I thank the Bear Facts for asking me back. Retirement and Indiana has grown my library so I have a plethora of books to review.

Wild Winter Brings Woes to Snow Canyon

by Dave Druck, Fallsvale Service Co. Director

As you're reading this it's getting warmer and you're probably trading your snow boots in for sandals. Creeks are flowing better than ever and there's an abundance of fresh green growth in our canyon. This is great for our mountain, but it wasn't this way a couple months ago. As we all know, mother nature came in full force this year holding zero punches. So much so, in the first week in March we had a very large avalanche come down Snow Canyon. For those not familiar, Snow Canyon is located just East of Spring Lane in upper canyon. This area is also the present location of several water tanks and source infrastructure for the Fallsvale Service Co. Water is sourced through a horizontal well



Station 99's Snow CAT examines debris field



Snow Canyon avalanche debris field with 70 ft of snow above ground

drilled into the hog back just below Yucaipa ridge just shy of 7000 feet elevation. From there on down it's all gravity fed to our town and service lines. Pretty amazing feat if you think about it. On approx March 1-2nd a large avalanche came down the West Chute which had no other place to travel but down Snow Creek Canyon

proper. It took out the water supply lines and tossed and rolled the 20,000 gallon tanks like they were nothing. It sloughed up to our 140,000 gallon main tank burying it like it was nothing and in turn damaging the surrounding steel panels of the tank. Fire station 99 escorted the water company board members, county officials and firefighters via snowcat for an assessment on the task ahead. It was devastating to see the damage that occurred and it was declared a disaster with the County almost immediately. So much snow had come down there is still an ongoing mission to get all the damage assessed while I write this. In the coming months, the board and the water crews will be working diligently to get our Snow Canyon feeds back up and running. In the meantime, we are pumping off the vertical well at the top of Island drive and have contingency plans in place for any speed bumps that may arise. We are also working with officials for financial help/reimbursement as we don't want the burden on our share-holders anymore than we have too. In closing, i want to thank all of our share holders for your great understanding of the situation and if anyone has any questions you can contact any one of us board members.

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On Being Prepared

by Frank Sexton of Mill Creek Canyon CERT



The past couple of years have been a challenge for us all, to say the least. Your Mill Creek Canyon C.E.R.T., which comprises all of Forest Falls and Mountain Home Village, is no exception. With the support of the

V.F.C.C.i. (our parent organization) we see exciting times ahead.

We hope to take delivery of a new storage container to add to the one currently at the Big Falls Lodge very soon. This will allow V.F.C.C.i. to have more space, which is badly needed, for their event gear and materials, while still having room for all of our emergency supplies.

CERT member, Theresa Stirewalt, will be needing volunteers to help her inventory all of our equipment in storage in the coming months. From that, we will develop a contents list/goal for each individual container. Our intent is to be able to help clothe, provide first aid, and even to provide some shelter or sleeping supplies for displaced residents in the event of a major disaster.

The team will not be providing a "Basic C.E.R.T. Class" this year however. We will be focusing on bringing all of our current and past members up to speed with refresher training and bringing all of the necessary personal information and certification(s) current.

Any questions about our vital effort on behalf of our community please do not hesitate to reach out to me. fyermannn@yahoo.com

Local Beauty

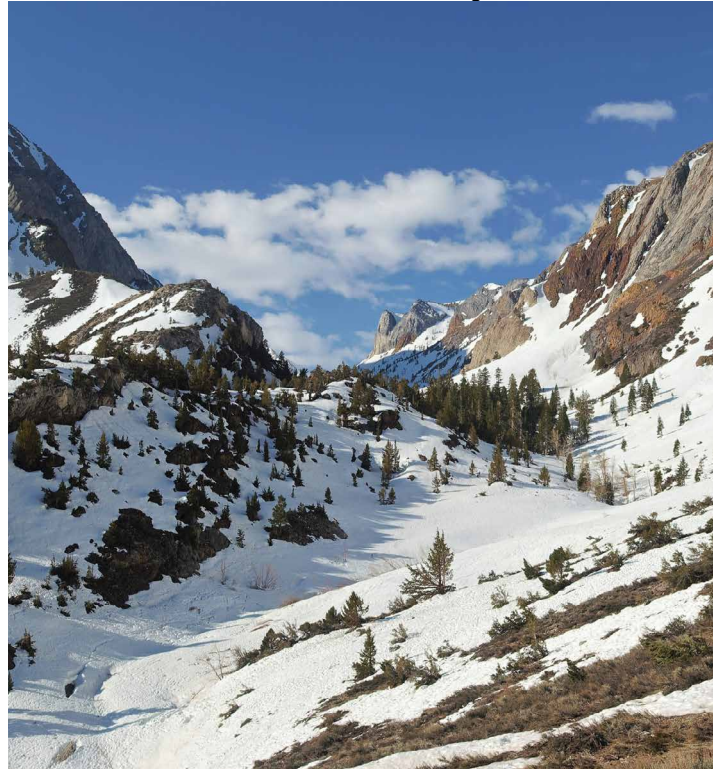


photo by David Lyons

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LOCATED IN FOREST FALLS

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SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH
 IN WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Saturday Services

40551 Valley of the Falls Dr.
(Next door to the Post Office)

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Musical Praise Service 11:00 a.m.
(Musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments)

Worship Service 11:30 a.m.

Weekly Potluck Fellowship Dinner 12:45 p.m.

Free Music at The Library

by Paul Tetreault

How do you like your music? Well if you like it LIVE, and with a bit of cultural significance, then you gotta check this out! The Smiley Library in Redlands has a cool little indoor stage just behind the Lincoln Memorial shrine and they are putting on a heck of a once a month music series for FREE! For almost a year now and continuing through this summer at least, Smiley LIVE, their FREE live music program is bringing a great variety of performances to the community.



the Honey Buckets

Last month I saw an amazing “One Mic” Bluegrass band called, “the Honey Buckets”. They’re referred to as a one mic band because all the players are acoustic and they, in turn, step up to the one mic to feature their individual lead part and sing their harmonies with gusto.



Mike Penny on Shamisen

Other acts I have caught in this series include a virtuoso on the Japanese Shamisen, a three string instrument with that distinctive Japanese aesthetic, it was beautiful. Next there was a guitar Maestro who played classical guitar as interpreted through the ages showing the difference in Baroque, Renaissance, and Romantic periods. I caught one of my

favorite local rock bands, “The Dangers” playing there but with a cool twist where they showed the audience the inspirational elements that went in to their song writing. One of the best “Behind the scenes” peek at the craft!

The Smiley Library is located at 173 South Eureka Street in downtown Redlands, their “Contemporary Club Theater” is just south of the main Library building, it has its own parking



The Dangers

and very clean bathrooms! Don’t miss out on the rest of the series. This program series has their own Facebook page where you can find more details. Here is what’s up next...

- June 28th: Jerry Waller - Jazz/ Blues on Steinway
- July 19th: The Citrus Sisters - Folk – 3 members
- August 23rd: The Faragher Brothers - Family soul

MAY
28
Sunday

Join us

Downtown Forest Falls
11:00 am 3:00

CHILI TASTING
BEER GARDEN
RAFFLE
MUSIC
KID AND PET PARADE
ANIMAL RESCUE
FUN KIDS ACTIVITIES
TOWN PHOTO

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For More Info Please contact President of Mountain Care
Debi Welch at 909-260-0215

www.ffchilicookoff.com



Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club
A non-profit organization established in 1980

“Gardens of the Heart”

Plant Sale

Saturday, June 3, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Big Falls Lodge Community Center
41303 Valley of the Falls Drive
Forest Falls, CA

- This yearly event is our only fund raiser.
- Our purpose: gardening education and the beautification of our communities.
- Serving the mountain communities of Angeles Oaks, Mountain Home Village and Forest Falls.
- We sell a variety of plants that are appropriate for our mountain communities, gardening tools and decorative items.
- We also hold a raffle for items related to gardening.

Plant Sale



Bake Sale



Raffle



Please Join Us!

Community Events & Activities Calendar

Angelus Oaks - Forest Falls - Mountain Home Village

Summer 2023 Special Events

| When | What | Where | What else? |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| May 28th | Chili Cook-Off | Downtown Forest Falls | from 11 am-3 pm, with a town photo at 3pm, call 909-260-0215 to sign up as a cooker. Enjoy Chili tasting, Music, Dunk Tank and more |
| June 3rd | Garden Club Annual Plant Sale | Big Falls Lodge | 9 am to Noon, Sponsored by the Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club |
| Thursdays thru Aug | Farmer's Market Night | Big Falls Lodge | sellers get your 10x10 space for \$10, Shoppers, no charge just shop! |
| June 6 & 13 | Mindful Art Nights | Big Falls Lodge | Kid Friendly Art, Cultural Stories, Snacks \$10 Dollars per person or \$25 per Family. for questions or to sign up call, 909-213-4859 |
| July 1st | Search & Rescue Pancake Breakfast | Big Falls Lodge | 7-11am, breakfast is \$8 for adults, \$3 for kids under 12, Big Raffle Cool Rescue Trucks, rope display, rescue essentials display |
| July 2nd | Mountain Jamboree | Big Falls Lodge | from 12 - 7pm Live Music, Craft Fair, Food & Fun. Town Photo at 4:30 |
| Sep 2 | Forest Falls Firefighter Dinner | Big Falls Lodge | at Big Falls Lodge from 5-7 pm |

Regularly Scheduled Events

| What | When | Where | What else? |
|---|--|--|---|
| Angelus Oaks Fire Department | 2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month at 6pm | Angelus Oaks Fire Station (98) | |
| Forest Falls Fire Department | Tuesdays at 6:30pm | Forest Falls Fire Station (99) | 909-794-4413 |
| Angelus Oaks Fire Safe Council | Meets periodically | Angelus Oaks Fire Station (98) | Dates announced on the A.O. FSC Bulletin Board in the Angelus Oaks Post Office. |
| Supper Night at Big Falls Lodge | 2nd Thursday of every month 5-7 pm | at Big Falls Lodge | a community "Potluck Dinner" every month providing Baked Potato or Salad with fixins. You bring side or dessert and your own dinnerware |
| Valley of the Falls Church Youth Group | Wednesdays 6pm-8pm. | Valley of the Falls Community Church | Ages 12-18 welcome. |
| Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club | 3rd Monday each month 11:30 am - 1:30 pm | at Big Falls Lodge | All are welcome. |
| Music Night in Forest Falls | Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm | at Big Falls Lodge | All Musicians, all styles, all levels are welcome, anyone can come play or just come to listen. |
| The Needlers Knitting Group | Tuesdays 9:30-11:30 am | 7th Day Adventist Church, Forest Falls | All are welcome., Contact Denise Reid 794-5130. |

Valley of the Falls Community Church

Worship Each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. followed by Fellowship Time

Youth Ministry Thursday Evenings at 4:30 p.m. with a Fellowship Meal

Thom Wellman, Pastor

Dr. Paul Reed, Teaching Pastor (909) 794-3189

40262 Valley of the Falls Drive, Forest Falls, CA 92339

Follow us on Facebook @forestoffthefallscommunitychurch

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Valley of the Falls Community Center Inc.

Think
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for your next event...



**Craft Fairs, Potlucks, Breakfast with Santa, CERT Training,
Garden Club Meetings, Music Night, Search & Rescue Breakfast, Movie
Night, Game Night, Weddings, Memorials, Birthday Parties ...
- How many of these have YOU attended?**

www.VFCCi.org

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* open positions *
2 Member at Large
Also New Treasurer needed

Hello Friends and Neighbors! Now that Snowmageddon has passed us by and we can once again visit our Community Center, it is time to have some spring and summer fun as a community. Now that the snow has melted, we can finally put the grant funds to use. Let's thank Supervisor Dawn Rowe, who helped us with attaining county grant funds. With those funds we were able to replace our outdated tankless water heater with a new one. The next stage of our renovation project will be announced soon.

Given its age, the Community Center still needs a lot of care. We rely on fundraising because those grant funds do not cover our operational expenditures.

For those who do not know, VFCCi is the non-profit 501c3 which owns and operates "Big Falls Lodge," your community center. It is an excellent place for meetings, classes, and private events. Our board of directors is made up of neighborhood people who volunteer their time and expertise to keep the doors open to everyone. Whenever a crisis occurs, VFCCi supports outside groups who come to our aid. If you have a strong passion, please share it with us so we can work together to make it a reality. We are always open to new ideas for how to use the building. In the Winter 2022 volume, we mentioned that for 2023 we would be implementing some long overdue contract changes. Well, that time has come! Moving forward, we will be working towards putting specific procedural protocols in place for the best interest of VFCCi and its entirety. We also want transparency and fairness to all community members and guests. We want to continue to put a lot of effort into making the building accessible to everyone, and

we hope you value having such a magnificent building in your neighborhood. Due to increased costs, we also need assistance with our current fundraising efforts and suggestions for brand-new initiatives. Don't forget to tell your friends and family about Mountain Jamboree, which will be held on SUNDAY, JULY 2nd of this year. In order to make the day enjoyable for everyone, we could use some assistance with the food, setup, clean-up, and kids games. So do not be shy, get out and attend some community events and meet and greet with your fellow neighbors and community. Joining a CERT program is yet another fantastic opportunity to get engaged. The Community Emergency Response Teams are a great resource for learning survival skills, local history, and what to do in case of local emergency. VFCCi is the fiscal sponsor and patron of our local CERT program for Forest Falls and Mountain Home Village, we work closely together. A website, that few may be aware of, with live updates and a huge amount of local information for emergency preparedness, is vfccibeprepared.info – check it out. Other groups in town that use Big Falls Lodge for their purposes include Fallsvale School Booster Club, San Geronio Search and Rescue, Forest Falls Firefighters Association, Mountain C.A.R.E., Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club. These are all great groups to get to know. If you want to learn more about VFCCi, attend a board meeting, schedule an event, or be added to our mailing list, please email director@vfcci.org or call 909-389-0585. Visit our website at vfcci.org, or find us on Facebook. If you'd like to support us with a donation, contact a board member, Paypal to donate@vfcci.org, or send to VFCCi/PO Box 41/Forest Falls CA 92339. See you at the Lodge!

Valley of the Falls Community Center News

New Market Night is a Hit!

There is a new reason to gather at the Big Falls Lodge (our local community center) these days. The folks at VFCCI, who manage and care for the building and grounds, are bringing back an event that benefir us all in a variety of ways. I'm talking about the all new Farmer's Market Night, which is slated for every Thursday night from 5-7pm through August. The first Farmers's Market Night was hit with all kinds of goodies



& vintage items including purses and clothes, jewelry, crocheted goodies, candy, candles, eggs, Jessica's Treasures had an assortment of gifts, wood works, & more. Treefairie Sarina Kemp invited all to come out and see her new crystals

and all the awesome vendors! We want thank all the vendors who came out to support our first Farmer's Market; and hope to see you next week. Jodean, from vendor Jessica's Treasures, said

"Michelle Macri excellent job! Very organized! Jessica's Treasures had a great time at Market Night and looking forward to doing the event again. Good job!" One of our residents commented "It was really old time fun for friends. Food was great."



The great food was from the monthly Supper on the Hill night! May was Mexican themed food, join in next month at Supper on the Hill on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Since this new event is



EVERY Thursday evening, through August, once a month both Supper Night and Market Night are happening simoultaneously. If you plan to eat at Supper Night please bring something to contribute to the dinner as it is a Pot

Luck community affair. The hope is that these two events can help each other to succeed, but if Market Night attendees eat at Supper night without contributing to the offerings, one or the other will probably cease to exist.

Those wishing to sell goods and wares at Market Night can rent their 10 x 10 space for \$10 and must bring their own table, chairs and shade structures such as EZ-Ups. Market Night is intended for residents of our three village communities but is open to all who venture up our way on a nice cool mountain evening. That includes both sellers and shoppers.



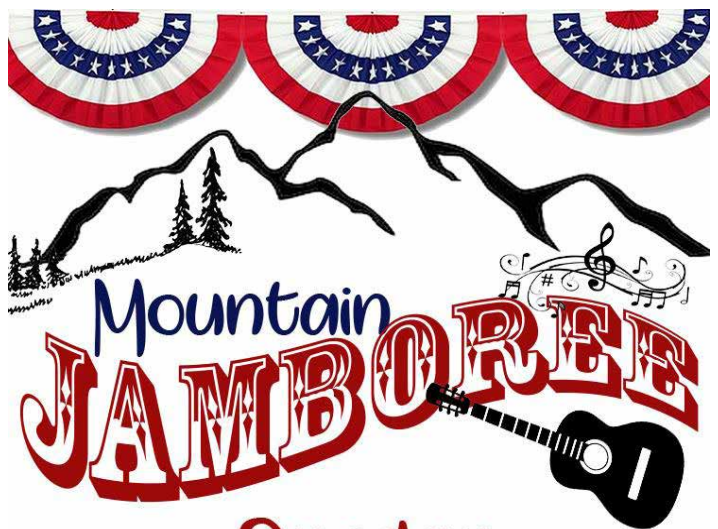
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Thanks Michelle & the VFCCI Brunch team



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The regular schedule for the Bear Facts submissions and issue "in mailbox" dates are as follows:

| | Submission Deadline | MtnCARE.com post Date | In the Mail Issue Date |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Issue 1 Spring | Feb 1st | Feb 20th | Mar 1st |
| Issue 2 Summer | May 1st | May 20th | Jun 1st |
| Issue 3 Autumn | Aug 1st | Aug 20th | Sep 1st |
| Issue 4 Winter | Nov 1st | Nov 20th | Dec 1st |

Please make sure any ad artwork, articles, calendar updates, and photos are sent to bearfactseditor@gmail.com on or before the submission deadline (all submissions digital and layout ready please). For questions call the editor, send an email to bearfactseditor@gmail.com.

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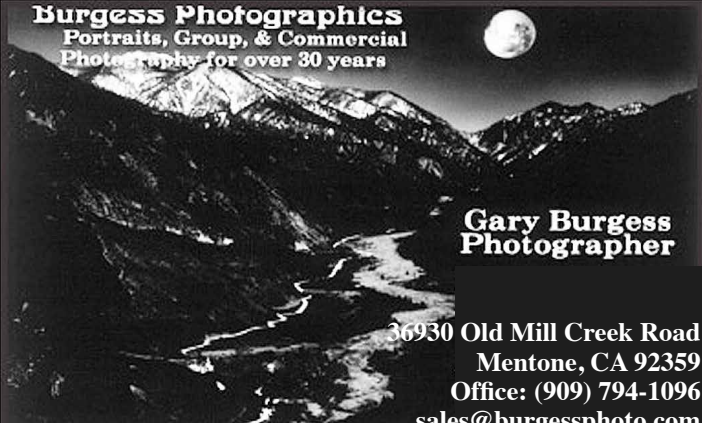
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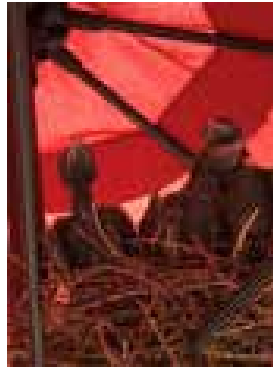
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Birds of a Feather!

by Marianne Belletini

Now that we made it through a very snowy and long cold winter, the season is definitely showing changes. About two weeks after the weather began to warm, the Mountain Blue Jays began their nest building ritual. They chose an interesting spot . . . well at least better than 2018 for this year's nest.

Back in 2018 they decided that my umbrella, on my front deck was the perfect spot. Even though I tried to stop them by closing the umbrella up, once I saw what was going on! After two weeks of the umbrella being closed up, I reopened it. To my amazement, the Blue Jays, came right back to work on the nest build! The Blue Jays definitely won. Once the nest was complete, the umbrella table, was out of use for about 2 months. This began in April of 2018 and ended with the nest built and eggs laid late May of 2018.



Three baby Blue Jays were hatched! They thrived in the umbrella location, away from critters who would like to snack on them. They also had the perfect roof to keep the weather off!

This brings us to today April 25, 2023. This morning I looked at the nest that was being built under the front eave on top of our motion light. As you can see in the photo momma has laid her egg/eggs and is patiently sitting awaiting the arrival of her baby/babies! Look closely she is the black figure on top of the nest!

I guess this Blue Jay, maybe she is one of the babies hatched from 2018? Like a roof over their nesting home!

Seeing this sight today, gives me comfort, in realizing, we all have moved on from the cold hardy winter! The birds are ready to start their new families with the new summer season, arriving to us all!

Remember:



both current & prior issues are online with color pictures and live links at:

<http://www.mtnicare.net>

Award Winning Fun

by Beth Tetreault



The Gerber's winning entry, "The Henderson Homeplace"

She's always been a Maker (new, hip term for a Crafter) and he's a creative engineer. Together, Laurie and Gene Gerber, can do most anything. Most recently they were awarded the grand prize for the Traditional Farmhouse Challenge contest by Real Good Toys. This is not your average dollhouse. Meet the Henderson Homeplace – a replica of Laurie's great grandparent's home in Michigan. The farmhouse was originally built in the 1880's and Laurie has photos of it during her grandfather's era. Did I mention that Laurie also loves to research and discover family stories? What a great way to bring a family story into reality

All entrants started with the same unfinished farmhouse kit; a 1" to 1' scale. And then ... the creative juices flowed. Laurie and Gene choose to recreate the farmhouse to its full glory. They worked together and furnished, in miniature scale, 2 bedrooms, a bathroom, family room, kitchen and even added electricity. Yes, each room can be viewed at night. Laurie wallpapered, made curtains, wove rugs (from embroidery thread). Gene used his skills to replicate the curved front porch, create a galvanized roof and rock foundation.

You can see why the Henderson Homeplace is an award winner.

Additional general information can be found at:

| | |
|--|--|
| www.AngelusOaks.info | www.forestfalls.com |
| www.ForestFalls.info | www.fs.usda.gov (UFSF) |
| www.MountainHomeVillage.info | www.MtnCARE.com |
| www.Socalmountains.com | www.VFCCI.org |

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The Propagation of Plants

by Romina LaBerteaux of the Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club

I have always loved to propagate plants. The main reason why I love it is because my birthday gifts and other occasion gifts to my friends are from my propagated plants. I learned how to use the water method because my mother always did it that way. She did it with fruit trees and is still doing it.



What are the three types of propagation?

Cuttings involve rooting a severed piece of the parent plant; **Layering** involves rooting a part of the parent and then severing it; and **Budding** and **Grafting** is joining two plant parts from different varieties.

How can you propagate?

You can propagate with seeds or roots, but the easiest and most common method is by cutting, or transferring a piece of a mature plant into water or soil and letting it grow a new root system. To propagate plants you can do it by water or soil. In my personal experience, I have been doing it by water only, which works especially for my indoor plants. Also, I have done

it many times with my geraniums. This time I'm trying by soil. I got 2 Rosemary stems and 2 Morning Glory leaves. On Monday April 17 at the Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club meeting, we had a Master Gardener, Maggie O'Neill, talk about propagation. She explained about using the soil and an appropriately sized pot. She also recommended a plant hormone to assist root growth. A PowerPoint presentation from Maggie is posted on our Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club Facebook Page. Feel free to look for it; propagation info starts about slide 13.

Where do you cut for propagation?

Using a sharp knife (or pruners) cut **just below where a leaf attaches to the stem (the node)**. Roots grow easiest from this location. If you leave a section of stem below the node, it often rots. Remove the lower leaves but leave the top two or three. If the stems have bark, scratch the bark, because roots will only come from where there isn't bark.

Can all plants be propagated?

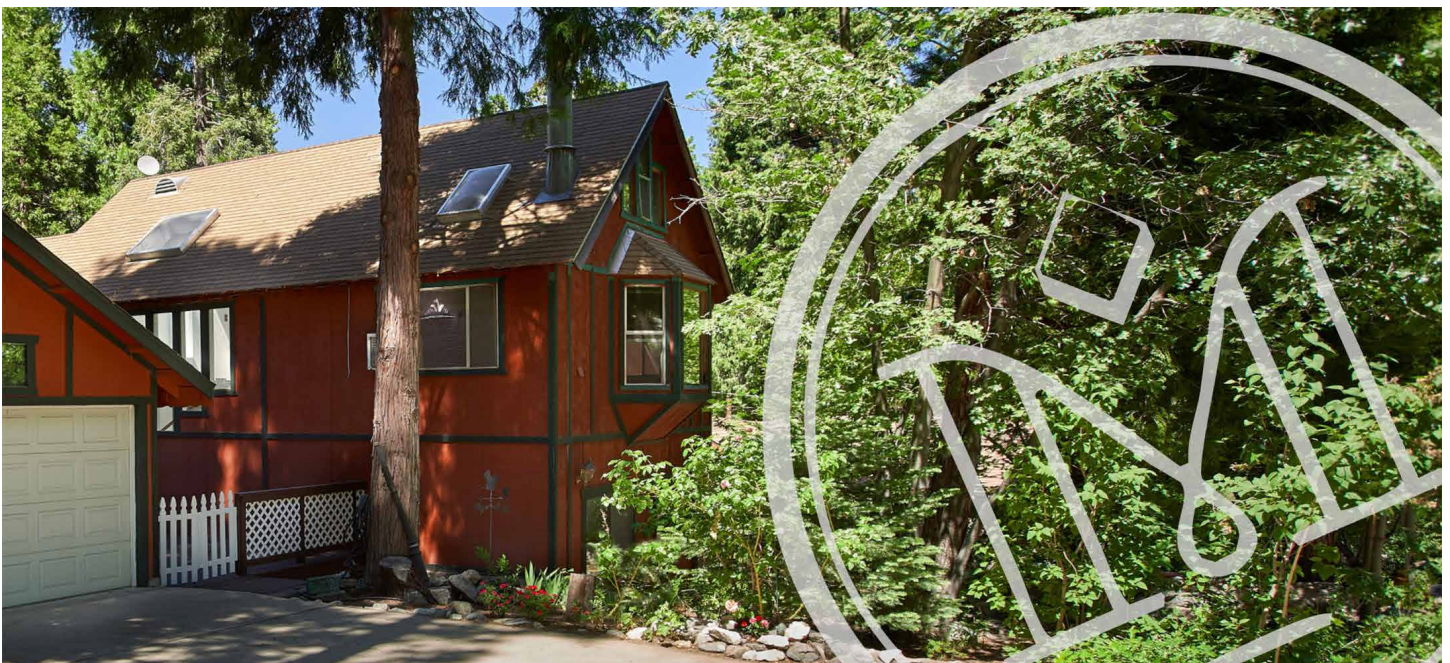
Some, but not all, plants can be propagated from just a leaf or a section of a leaf. Also, almost any garden plant that produces stems can be propagated via stem cuttings: Perennial flowers, vines, shrubs, and even trees are all great candidates! Now that we have general information about propagation, we can have more of our favorite plants. Good luck in propagating.

Other resource info: Growing plants from cuttings

https://ucanr.edu/sites/EDC_Master_Gardeners/files/175642.pdf

Propagating CA natives:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmg2014conference/files/200427.pdf>



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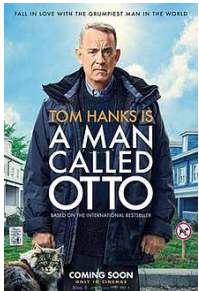
Have You Seen It?

by Sharon Cady



Usually, for the Summer Edition of *The Bear Facts*, I write about Oscar nominees/winners from the previous year so you can rent or stream them if you choose. In the last *Bear Facts*, my husband, Steve, wrote about our favorite film of 2022, *The Fableman's* which was nominated but didn't win for Best Picture. "*Everything Everywhere All At Once* (EEAAO)" won Best Picture of 2022. Steve and I viewed EEAAO as a unique, surreal and chaotic movie, more confusing than enjoyable. Our son, age 42, thought it was about the best movie he has ever seen! So, I'll write about movies we've seen at the theater in 2023 that we really liked and recommend to our friends. Now that streaming access to recently released movies is common. I don't need to focus on movies to rent. (In fact, NETFLIX announced in April that it's ceasing its DVD business as of Sept. 2023.)

A Man Called Otto (PG13; released late 2022; 7.4/10 critics, 4.5/5 audience) This film, starring Tom Hanks as Otto, a just-retired, cantankerous, self-isolated man amidst caring neighbors. Through flashbacks (featuring Hanks' real-life son as the young Otto), the reasons for Otto's depression and anger are revealed. Otto's bleakness is countered by a new neighbor, Marisol (played by bilingual Mariana Trevito and, to me, the best character and actor in this movie). This American movie is based on the award-winning Swedish novel by Fredrick Beckman and 2015 Swedish film, both called *A Man Named Ove*..



Shazam! Fury of the Gods! (PG13; released March 2023; 6.1/10 critics, 7/10 audience) I recommend you see the first *Shazam* movie (released 2019) to better understand the background and the characters before seeing this movie, a sequel. To Steve and me, this is a family-friendly movie, as long as you have *mature* upper-elementary and above members of your family viewing. There is a lot of fantasy-like violence but also so much down-to-earth humor and character development, especially among the main characters—Foster Home teens who are able to turn into adult super-heroes.



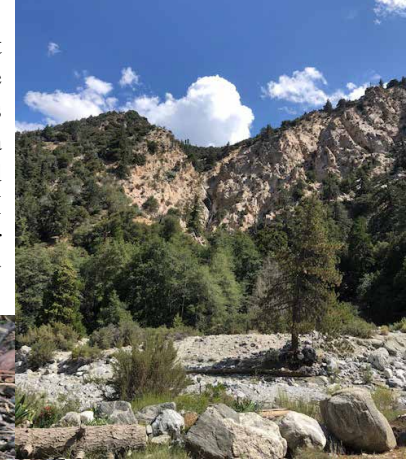
Air (R; released April 2023; 7.7/10 critics, 4.4/5 audience) This film has a great, top-performing cast, including Matt Damon, Viola Davis, Ben Affleck, and Jason Bateman. The movie centers on the emergence of basketball's Michael Jordan and Nike shoes into fame. The film does not focus on Jordan, but rather on NIKE's sports marketing man, Sonny Vaccaro (played by Damon) who realizes the greatness of the rookie Jordan and learns to be on an equal par with Jordan's mom (played by Davis). Dreams and ambitions coincide to a history-making outcome for the sports world. Another highlight of the film for us "old timers" are the 1980's soundtrack and flashing images of news, cars, toys (Remember the Cabbage Patch dolls?), etc.

The Crazy Wanderer

by Deby Anderson

We've had a family cabin in Forest Falls for almost 15 years. My brother lives there full time. Although I live in Menifee, my heart lives there full time too. You would think after all those years I would have grown tired of the same trails or at least gotten too old to keep at it. I've always wandered the forest. Part of me thinks it's because we were raised backpacking in the high Sierras, but I think there is more to it.

I'm one of those who can't sit still. I admit that. I have this strange desire to always check things out - like in a restaurant. Do I really need to use the restroom or do I want to see how clean or dirty they keep it? I really don't know.



Snow Plant

Those who know me, know I like to take the scenic route every chance I get even though we will probably get lost, which is hard to do with GPS these days. I like getting lost and seeing new things. Plus I don't mind asking for directions or where I can find a restroom.

The forest calls me in the same way. I want to know if the creek is below or above ground and if it's changed course; I'm curious if those shoes are still nailed to that tree because UPS Jose has asked about them; I'm always excited to see the Snow Plants; I wonder if I can make it up that hill without stopping to catch my breath. To be honest, I think the real reason I wander the forest is to burn off the crazy. Being in the forest brings me back to center, whatever that is. If nothing else, I feel refreshed, my "watch" is happy, and I always walk in that door knowing I spent time in nature instead of watching tv or working on some project that I keep putting off or playing a stupid game on my phone. So I guess you could say my desire to wander in the forest helps to burn off the crazy. Maybe that's the real reason I'm up there more than home in Menifee.



Local Poet Loves Our Forest

Poetry by Juan Delgado

These two poem phrases are part of a longer poem, parts of which were inspired by the author's love of living in Forest Falls. Both passages here are from "Finches in the ICU" by Juan Delgado who has given us permission to re-print them here in the *Bear Facts*:

I retrace a path. There is
 a snake road in and yellow dots the ride up,
 the glistening of flood signs.
 The canyon gathers finches in fall before winter's clinging
 and heavy branches. The cones of the sugar pines sway,
 poised to drop.

Black ants stitch a granite stone
 beside a misplaced and forgotten rake.

The bighorn sheep, wide-eyed, float among
 the mountain range, and only pebbles rolling
 down the ridge give them away before they vanish.
 Like finches, one often hears them first.

In our canyon, the coyotes are
 getting closer,
 shadows crossing the gaps of light.

They resume, voices rising,
 not a warning but a declaration
 their territory is wide.

Their searching occupies them.

With their slow yipping and falling howls,
 they gather, and there is no tricking them.

For more info & poetry about this poet, Juan Delgado, go to:
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/juan-delgado>



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~ Dave Grohl

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Summer 2023 Volume 17 Issue Number 2



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Our vision is to:

Encourage the community to recycle, reduce, and re-use;
enhance knowledge and love of the area;
and show we care by keeping personal property and
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