



# BASS LAKE BULLETIN

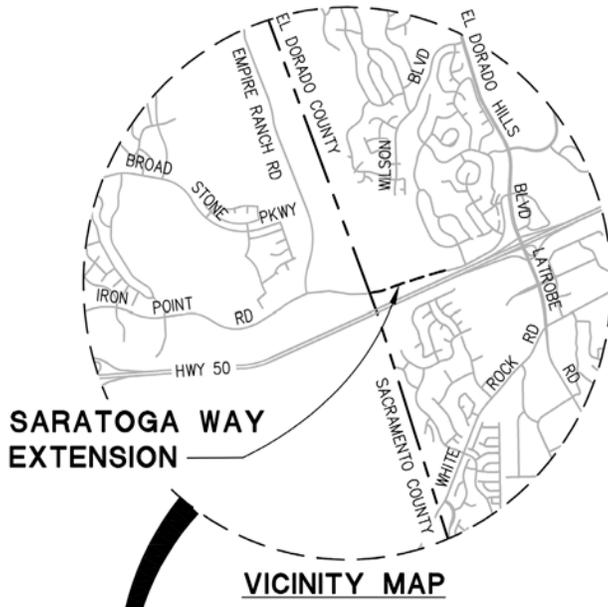
Vol. XIV No. 7

The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

July 2016

[www.basslakeaction.org](http://www.basslakeaction.org)

## SARATOGA WAY EXTENSION MOVES FORWARD



Road Seen as vital link to Folsom

The long-awaited extension of Saratoga Way, which would connect Folsom and El Dorado Hills along the north side of Highway 50, may be completed in the relatively near future. Completion of the roadway has always been a condition of any development in that area north of the freeway.

Project applicant Renasci Development has proposed to construct a 317-unit residential development on a 121-acre site in El Dorado County between La Cresta Village and the Sacramento County line. The single-family, detached residential units would be constructed on individual lots generally ranging in size from approximately 6,000 to 9,000 square feet. Larger lots (up to approximately 19,000 square feet) would be located at the eastern project site boundary that abuts La Cresta Village.

According to the March 2016 Draft Environmental Impact Report, the project would include extension of Saratoga Way to Iron Point Road and extension of Wilson Boulevard to Saratoga Way, thus completing the east-west road connection between El Dorado Hills Boulevard and Iron Point Road in the City of Folsom.

The developer will also be required

to pay Traffic Impact Fees to mitigate the impact of the development on local intersections, including El Dorado Hills Boulevard at Saratoga Way/Park Drive, and Latrobe Road at Town Center Boulevard.

Prior to issuance of occupancy permits, the applicant shall (1) coordinate with the County to improve the El Dorado Hills at Saratoga Way/Park Drive intersection by adding a southbound right turn lane and re-allocating the traffic signal green time, and (2) improve the Latrobe at Town Center Drive intersection by (a) restriping

of the westbound Town Center Boulevard approach to include one shared through/left-turn lane and two right-turn lanes, (b) adding a right-turn overlap signal phase for the westbound right-turn, and (c) adding a component of Second Phase improvements at the adjacent Highway 50 interchange with El Dorado Hills Boulevard/Latrobe Road.

The developer will also be required to prepare and implement a signal timing plan for the intersections along the El Dorado Hills Boulevard/Latrobe Road corridor from Saratoga Way and Park Drive through Town Center Boulevard to provide an acceptable level of service in the morning and evening peak hours. The fee amounts are to be determined by the County, and all fees are to be paid at the time of issuance of the building permits.

Based in Agoura Hills, California, Renasci Development recently opened models for three new neighborhoods in the El Dorado Hills area: the Willows at Treviso, and the Elms and the Oaks at Promontory. The company recently broke ground for The Overlook, which is located on the north side of Green Valley Road, which will include 28 large lots with all single story homes. ~



## BLAC TO HOST CANDIDATE FORUM FOR MEMBERS

*Gaines, Hidahl at August Meeting*

Beth Gaines and John Hidahl, the two District 1 county supervisor candidates, will participate in a candidate's forum for BLAC members at the Bass Lake Action Committee Board Meeting on August 1st.

Current members of BLAC will receive personal invitations to the event. Seating is limited, so members must RSVP if they wish to attend.

For further information, contact BLAC Public Affairs Officer, Vice President Kathy Prevost, at 530-672-6836. ~



## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS OFFICIAL

On July 1, the El Dorado County Elections Department released its Final Official Report on the recent primary election.

*El Dorado County Supervisor District 1*

With the official final tally in, it is apparent that El Dorado Hills Fire Board Director John Hidahl and District 6 Assemblywoman Beth Gaines will face off in November for the El Dorado County District 1 supervisor seat. The election report shows Gaines coming in first with 3,181 votes (25.54%) and Hidahl close behind with 2,924 (23.47%).

At his election night party at The Purple

*(continued on page 5)*

## ELECTIONS *(continued)*

Place Hidahl said that he thinks his stance, on the fate of the former Executive Golf Course, that is, his wanting to preserve it as open space, is one of the main reasons he resonates with voters.

Hidahl thanked his “entire family” for their support and said he “look(s) forward to running a good, clean campaign,” adding, “Communicating with the public is what my platform is all about.”

As he turns his focus now to a single competitor, Hidahl said the distinction between him and Gaines is clear. “This will be a contest between someone who understands El Dorado Hills, its history and community and someone who doesn’t,” he said, adding, “I appreciate the work a lot of people have done to make El Dorado Hills what it is.”

“Name recognition is key,” Hidahl explained, stating he wasn’t surprised Gaines came in first with that boost. “A lot of people in District 1 are Sacramento-county based with their work and recognize the Gaines name.” “I hope to start seeing Beth Gaines at county meetings,” Hidahl said. “She needs to be engaged. If she doesn’t get involved, it shows she’s really not interested.”

As to why she earned the most votes, Beth Gaines said, “My positive campaign and my commitment to our community, keeping our open spaces beautiful, resonates with people. It’s important we have strong representation moving forward.” On why she hasn’t been as visible as other candidates — she posted limited signs, didn’t participate in candidate forums or interviews — Gaines said “scheduling conflicts” as assembly-woman are to blame. “There’s no way I’d campaign instead of fulfilling my legislative duties,” she explained. “I need to represent El Dorado County at the state level. It’s my priority and what I was elected to do. We need to pass a budget by July 1 and in August we’ll start hearing trailer bills to vote on.”

Beth and Ted Gaines recently moved to El Dorado Hills while John Hidahl has been an active force in the community for 38 years.

### ***El Dorado County Supervisor District 2***

Incumbent Shiva Frenzen garnered over half (60.11%) of the votes in the District 2 race, which automatically gives her a second term. She won her first term in a special election in 2014, in an election called when the then-elected supervisor was removed from office.

### ***State Assembly District 6***

In the crowded District 6 Assembly race, with eleven candidates vying for the seat being vacated by Beth Gaines, Democrat

Brian Caples and Republican Kevin Kiley emerged as the contenders for the general election in November. Though showing well in El Dorado county, current District 1 Supervisor Ron Mikulaco finished in eighth place overall after the votes in Placer and Sacramento counties were tallied.

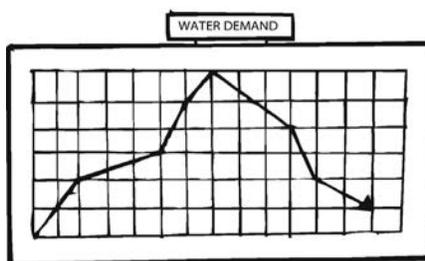
### ***State Senate District 1***

Senator Ted Gaines, who fought off a Republican challenger for his seat, will face Democrat Rob Rowen in the fall.

### ***Fourth Congressional District***

Incumbent Tom McClintock breezed to an easy victory to retain his seat in the Fourth Congressional District, amassing about 60% of the vote. ~

*Credits: Julie Samrick, Dawn Hodson, and Andrew Westrope, reporters for their respective newspapers.*



## EID FUTURE WATER DEMAND REVISED

Population growth and water use projections were lowered by the El Dorado Irrigation District Board of Directors as it recently reviewed an updated Urban Water Management Plan.

The plan, which water suppliers must prepare every five years for the state, reflects revised growth projections based on those issued by El Dorado County. The plan also includes updated district-wide demand factors for each customer type, water supply and demand forecasts and updates on the district’s progress in reducing water consumption by 20 percent by 2020. The reduction is mandated by the Water Conservation Act passed by the Legislature in 2009.

The plan also projected the growth in water demand out to the year 2045, taking into account new building codes and ordinances as well as conservation efforts by the public. Future water use forecasts also take into account the growth rate in the county, which has been reduced.

Water demand by 2020 is expected to be 43,647 acre-feet, which is projected to rise to 51,290 acre-feet by 2030 and to 62,179 acre-feet by 2045. An acre-foot is the amount of water that covers an acre at a depth of one foot. ~



## PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Independence Day. Fran and I had friends and family over and we all enjoyed a festive barbeque.

I have noticed that there have been quite a few accidents lately at the sharp curve on Bass Lake Road. Since we live near there, we can sometimes hear the screech of tires, and then the sirens of the emergency vehicles hurrying to the crash scene. Please be careful as you near that curve.

On a lighter note, I think that most of you are aware that a portion of the original Lincoln Highway, one of the earliest transcontinental highways for automobiles, still exists in El Dorado Hills. I believe it is the longest continuous section of the road still in existence.

Conceived in 1912 and formally dedicated on October 31, 1913, the Lincoln Highway ran coast-to-coast from Times Square in New York City west to Lincoln Park in San Francisco.

This year the Clarksville Region Historical Society will be holding its Inaugural Historic Lincoln Highway 8K Run/Jog/Walk on Saturday morning, October 1, 2016, with most of the way being on the old Lincoln Highway. The course will start at EDH Farms, will go to the Old Red Barn in Clarksville, and will return the same way. For those wishing to just go half-way, transportation will be available back to the starting line.

It looks like it will be a fun event, so mark your calendars now. I will have more information in coming issues of the Bulletin.

In the meantime, I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

*John E. Thomson*

President



## CALIFORNIA CROOKS GET OUT EARLY, AND CRIME GOES UP

In 2011, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law California Assembly Bill 109, a piece of legislation designed to relieve overcrowded prisons in accordance with a Supreme Court decision. AB 109 enshrined “realignment” into law – a plan to place supposedly “non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenders” in county jails rather than state prisons. In other words, local governments were handed the problem of prisoners the state didn’t want to hold.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation called the realignment plan “historic legislation that has helped enable California to close the revolving door of low-level inmates cycling in and out of state prisons.” But in reality, more criminals, more crime. Realignment has created a revolving door for criminals: they cycle in, they leave, and they harm innocent citizens across the state. Overall, California’s recidivism rate (the rate at which persons re-lapse into criminal behavior following their release from prison), which has long been among the highest in the country, remains stuck at about 67 percent.

Recently released crime statistics compiled by the California attorney general’s office show that violent crime in the state increased by more than 10 percent in 2015. There were 151,425 total violent crimes in California in 2014, and 166,588 total violent crimes in California in 2015.

It was a similar situation in the four-county Sacramento region, where violent crime – defined in the data as homicides, forcible rapes, robberies and aggravated assaults – increased by an average of about 9.4 percent last year. Some agencies’ increases exceeded the state average while others trailed it. Sacramento, Yolo and Placer counties had increases, while in El Dorado County the numbers fell.

Some observers credit El Dorado County’s decrease as due to the number of county residents that are licensed to legally carry firearms. Concealed weapon permits are on

the rise in the region, and about one in 60 people in El Dorado County have a CCW permit to carry a concealed weapon — 2,500 at the end of 2015, according to reporting by the Sacramento Bee. That compares to one in 110 in Placer County and one in 135 in Sacramento County. ~



## PG&E NATURAL GAS RATES TO JUMP

*Hike approved to allow renovation of gas pipes*

Pacific Gas & Electric customers must brace for a double-digit increase in their monthly gas bills after state regulators Thursday approved a program to pay for upgrades to the utility’s aging pipeline system in the wake of the deadly San Bruno explosion.

By 2018, monthly bills for natural gas will be 11.6 percent higher than they were in January 2015, according to estimates provided during a recent meeting of the state Public Utilities Commission.

The rate increases are scheduled to begin August 1. “The PG&E gas transmission and storage system is a massive and aging system,” PUC Commissioner Carla Peterman said before the PUC’s 4-0 vote to approve the new financing program. The push for improvements to the system has intensified in the wake of the PG&E-caused explosion in September 2010 that killed eight people and leveled much of a San Bruno neighborhood.

PG&E customers can expect an increase of roughly \$5.90 a month in their gas bills, according to an estimate provided by Peterman, who crafted the rate-increase proposal. As of January 2015, monthly average residential bills were \$50.89, Peterman estimated. By 2018, the average monthly gas bill for residential customers would rise to \$56.79. Those estimates are based on the PUC’s rate models, Peterman added.

“This decision, while a substantial increase, will improve safety,” PUC Commissioner Diane Randolph said.

The PUC ruling requires PG&E to undertake numerous programs to increase

the safety and reliability of its gas system. PG&E must:

- Conduct hydrostatic testing and high-pressure tests of 680 miles of pipeline by 2018. The tests can identify hazards such as weak seams or faulty welds in pipes.

- Replace 60 miles of aging pipelines with new pipes that use updated and safer technologies. This is the start of a program that eventually would replace 370 miles of pipes by 2025.

- Begin an upgrade of 4,273 miles of pipelines so they can be inspected by robots that travel through the pipes, a program that would be completed within 12 years.

The San Bruno explosion put a spotlight on PG&E’s shoddy maintenance efforts and neglect of its vast web of pipelines in Northern and Central California.

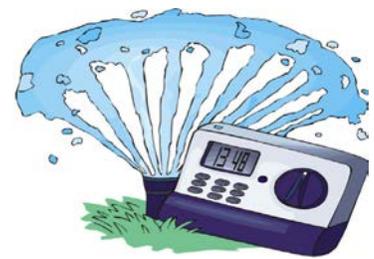
Consumer groups lambasted the decision, saying the PUC enabled PG&E to extract money from customers for upgrades that the utility already should have conducted.

“PG&E let their pipes rust for years,” said Thomas Long, legal director of The Utility Reform Network, a consumer group. “Now PG&E wants customers to pay, again, for maintenance that should have been done all along, but wasn’t.”

PUC officials conceded that the pending rate increases could be a tough burden for consumers to shoulder.

“The residential bill impact poses challenges for California families who rely on gas for cooking, heating and hot water,” Peterman said.

*Credit: George Avalos, Bay Area News Group, San Francisco*



## REMINDER: RESET YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM TIMER

Remember that EID has put in place the summer irrigation schedule.

Homes with odd street numbers may water on the odd days of the month.

Homes with even house numbers may water on the even days of the month.

This fall in October EID will issue us a new schedule for irrigation, ~

## LOCAL POET FEATURED THIS MONTH

The poem we feature this month, "Bass Lake Road," was penned by local poet Dylan Musgrove.

Dylan has lived in Rescue for most of his life. He went to Ponderosa High School, graduating in 2015. While at Ponderosa he participated in marching band, track and field.

Dylan also competed in the Academic Decathlons, and was the highest-scoring Decathlete during the 2014 and 2015 competitions, and medaled gold in eight out of ten events for honors in 2015.

He is currently studying at U.C. Davis, where he is majoring in music and managerial economics.

Dylan plans to get a teaching credential after college, so he can continue to serve the local community as an educator.

Many of Dylan's poems can be found at [dlmusgrove.deviantart.com](http://dlmusgrove.deviantart.com). ~



Bass Lake Road

A rural and suburban one-lane road  
That winds around a quiet man-made lake—  
Around the curve along the waterfront,  
One must remember to apply the brake.

Sienna Ridge is now the former route;  
Serrano pulled the road a little west.

The fire station serves the weeds and homes;  
The sloping foothills give us peaceful rest.

If going north, you get to Cameron Park,  
And Rescue if you travel east from there,  
And if you turn around and travel south,  
You'll get to Highway Fifty if you dare.

But if you want to stay on surface streets  
And park and watch the distant city light,  
Just turn on Country Club and take a left  
And climb Tierra de Dios for a sight.

Before you leave the top of holy land,  
Enjoy the view and sit there, all content.  
The valley down below is filled with life;  
Out there you see the Blessed Sacrament.

—D.L.Musgrove



## MYSTERY BOOMS PERSIST

A series of loud booms heard on the afternoon of July 7th has El Dorado Hills and other county residents again speculating about the source of the resonating noises. No one has admitted causing them, but they are a repetition of what folks have heard before.

Over the last few years, people from all over the county reported hearing booms, sometimes several times a week, and there were many theories on what caused them.

The rolling foothills of El Dorado County make it difficult for anyone to tell where the noises are coming from.

People who live near Pleasant Valley reported their days were at times interrupted by loud booms, shaking the floor beneath them.

Officials say any miners or quarry owners would need government permission before they could set off any explosives.

Some have thought that the booms are from nearby wineries using propane cannons to scare away birds, but the wineries say not.

Fallon Naval Air Station has said any supersonic flight operations they do are only allowed over Dixie Valley, which is hundreds of miles away.

It remains to be seen exactly what is causing these loud booms. Until then it appears that we will just have to speculate. Perhaps it's just old Rip van Winkle and his friends playing at nine-pins. ~

Bass Lake Action Committee  
501 Kirkwood Court  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762



## BLAC BOARD SETS FORUM AND MEETING DATE FOR AUGUST 1

The next meeting of the Bass Lake Action Committee Board of Directors will take place on August 1, 2016, at 6:00 PM.

The meeting will start earlier than usual so as to accommodate the Candidate Forum slated for that evening, which will feature District 1 supervisor candidates Beth Gaines and John Hidahl.

The meeting will be held at the home of John and Fran Thomson, 501 Kirkwood Court in Woodridge, El Dorado Hills, 530-677-3039.

The forum will be followed by the regular board of directors meeting. For further information about BLAC meetings and membership, please contact Vice President Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~

The Bass Lake Bulletin is published monthly by the Bass Lake Action Committee, El Dorado Hills, California.

Copyright © 2016. Permission to reproduce unabridged articles is granted if appropriate attribution is given to the Bass Lake Bulletin.

John E. Thomson, Ph.D.  
President and Editor  
doctorjet@aol.com  
530-677-3039

For additional information see our website, [basslakeaction.org](http://basslakeaction.org) or contact

Vice President Kathy Prevost  
blacinfo@aol.com  
530-672-6836