

BASS LAKE BULLETIN

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The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

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www.basslakeaction.org



TREE TRIMMERS AT WORK County workers trim overhanging tree limbs away from the roadway along Bass Lake Road. The work, which took place in the last week of April and required one-lane traffic control during the days, cleared many tree branches that threatened passing traffic. ~

BASS LAKE - SIENNA RIDGE - SERRANO INTERSECTION RECONFIGURED

The intersection of Bass Lake Road, Serrano Parkway and Sienna Ridge Road has been reconfigured to designate the Bass Lake Road northbound auxiliary lane as "right turn only."

The previous configuration allowed northbound motorists in the auxiliary lane to either turn right or continue northbound, which generated complaints from many residents who regularly use that intersection. Their complaint was that the road narrowed precipitously on the other side of the intersection, making a traffic hazard.



Representatives of Bridlewood Canyon Homeowners' Association and Bass Lake Action Committee applauded the reconfiguration, and complimented the county Department of Transportation for their swift action once the problem was brought to their attention. ~



COUNTY AWASH WITH CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

El Dorado County election hopefuls are in the process of adding to their war chests using cash and in-kind contributions, fund raising and loans to finance their campaigns.

In the June primary election, a candidate wins an office if he or she garners at least 51% of the vote; otherwise, the two candidates who get the most votes go on to compete in the general election in November.

For some county offices up for grabs, June will see a number of disappointed hopefuls.

As of March, here are the candidates and what they have raised and spent according to filings with the California Secretary of State or the El Dorado County Elections Department.

Elected Department Heads

In the race for District Attorney, candidate Judson Henry raised \$4,218 and spent \$3,600. He has since withdrawn from the race. Unopposed incumbent DA Vern Piereson has raised \$3,700 and spent \$3,668.

In the race for Auditor-Controller, challenger Mike Owen has raised \$6,721 and spent \$4,799. Incumbent Auditor-Controller Joe Harn has raised \$43,920 and spent \$20,204.

In the race for Clerk-Recorder, challenger Chris Amaral has raised \$2,000 with his only expense being the filing fee. His sole contribution was a \$2,000 loan to himself. Incumbent Clerk-Recorder Bill Schultz



EID RESTRICTS WATERING DAYS

The El Dorado Irrigation District Board of Directors, responding to the signs of impending drought, has implemented mandatory watering restrictions that went into effect on April 22. Without significant

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello All,

I was surprised to see that the average American household uses 320 gallons of water per day. About 30 percent is devoted to outdoor use. More than half of outdoor water is used for watering lawns and gardens. Nationwide, landscape irrigation is estimated to account for nearly one-third of all residential water use. No wonder EID is after us to curb our use of irrigation.

Also, outdoor water use varies greatly depending upon geographic location. In dry climates a household's outdoor water use can be as high as 60 percent. In addition, some experts estimate that as much as 50 percent of water used for irrigation is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff.

After looking at EID's irrigation guidelines, it's good to know that it's usually not necessary to water grass every day. You can test your lawn by stepping on a patch of grass; if it springs back, it doesn't need water. You can increase your water savings by using native plants to create a water-smart landscape that is both beautiful and efficient. Once established, they require little water beyond normal rainfall.

Fran and I have given up lawns. We just have plants, and we try to stick to drought-resistant plants. That's sometimes not easy to do, and at times like this it's hard to see plants wilt and die because they need a lot of water, which we don't have.

We can only do the best we can to conserve water in these dry times.

Sincerely,
John E. Thomson
 President

EID (continued)

conservation efforts, the District says it cannot meet its goal of ensuring its water customers an adequate carryover of water supply if we have another dry year in 2015.

The watering schedule would apply to all rate classes, including residential, recycled, commercial landscape, small farm, and recreational turf water customers. Any exemptions from the restrictions, to commercial users such as golf courses, would be allowed provided they submit a plan for a 30 percent water saving. Serrano Country Club was able to obtain an exemption after they demonstrated that they were implementing such a water-saving plan.

Director Greg Prada favored allowing watering three times a week for April through October, but received no support from the rest of the board. He then said that residential customers have saved 18 percent from 2011-2013, but small farm customers haven't gone down. "You'll find residential ratepayers have really chipped in. Why should we be sending price signals to 33,000 residential users? Send price signals to those using. We need a program that focuses at where the water users are: recycled water, small farm, even agriculture," Prada said.

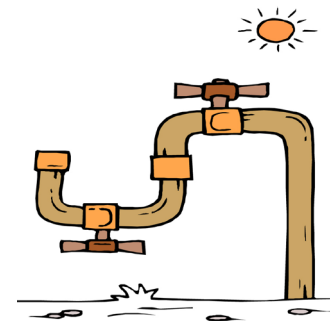
The board declined to impose drought rates to encourage conservation. However, if conservation does not significantly increase, the EID board said it would consider imposing drought rates.

The watering restrictions ultimately adopted by a 4 to 1 vote by the board are generally outlined below. Detailed information on the watering schedules are available on EID's website, eid.org.

Beginning April 22, twice-a-week watering is allowed until June 15. For customers with addresses ending in even numbers (0,2,4,6,8), watering is allowed on Wednesday and Sunday only. For customers with addresses ending in odd numbers (1,3,5,7,9), watering is allowed Tuesday and Saturday only.

Beginning June 16, three-times-a-week summer watering is allowed through September 15. For customers with addresses ending in even numbers, watering is allowed on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday. For customers with addresses ending in odd numbers, watering is allowed on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

In all cases, outdoor irrigation is limited to the hours of 7:00 pm to 10:00 am, irrigation systems must be turned off during rain events, and no irrigation, on any day, is permitted between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm due to high evaporation potential. ~



WATER CONSERVATION HINTS

Using conservation devices in your home is commonly overlooked but is something that can be quite beneficial. Often, small inexpensive modifications of equipment can mean long term savings. Several inexpensive water-saving devices can be easily installed in your home.

Consider using conservation devices such as toilet tank displacement devices such as dams or bottles, low-flow showerheads or shower flow restrictors, faucet aerators or flow reducers, low water consumption toilets, flow restrictors in garden hoses, water efficient washing machines, drip irrigation systems for landscaping and gardens, timers on sprinkler systems, and swimming pool covers to reduce evaporation.

Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets! Dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day.

Stop Leaks

A simple way to check for a toilet leak is to remove the tank cover and place food coloring in the tank. This should be done when the toilet will not be used for several hours. If the color seeps into the bowl, the flush ball needs to be replaced.

Faucet leaks are easy to see and normally easy to repair. In most cases, the entire fixture does not need to be replaced. Installing replacement washers and/or valves will usually correct the leak.

Other Helpful Hints

When using automatic dishwashers and washing machines, run FULL loads only. When washing dishes by hand, fill the sink to wash and rinse instead of running water.

Always turn off running water when it is not needed! For instance; brushing your teeth and shaving or cleaning produce. Change this simple habit and you can save over 100 gallons a week!

Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speeds are the lowest. ~

ELECTION *(continued)*

has raised \$200 with his sole expense being the filing fee plus \$50. The \$200 is a loan he made to himself.

In the race for Treasurer-Tax Collector, challenger and Board of Supervisors member Ron Briggs has raised \$3,000 so far in the form of a loan to himself which he used to pay his filing fee. As of April 10, Briggs said he had done no other fund raising. In addition Briggs has an open election committee from when he last ran as county supervisor in which he made a loan to himself of almost \$75,000. However, his campaign disclosure statement only shows a cash balance of \$33.45. Incumbent Treasurer-Tax Collector Cherie Raffety has raised \$22,000 and spent \$3,172. The \$22,000 consists of loans Raffety has made to herself.

Incumbents running unchallenged include Assessor Rich Briner, who has raised nothing, and has only paid his filing fee; Assessor Karl Weiland, who has raised and spent \$1,278; and Sheriff D'Agostini, who has raised \$28,640 and spent \$28,049.

Superintendent of Schools Jeremy Meyers is another incumbent who is running unopposed. He has raised \$10,800 and spent \$2,053. Almost half of his contributions have come from his staff including: Francie Heim, who is a consultant and former employee of the county office of education who gave \$500; Chris Hoffman, district superintendent, who gave \$150; Marcy Guthrie, district superintendent, who gave \$150; Coleen Johnson, executive director, who gave \$500; Robbie Montalbano, associate superintendent, who gave \$1,000; David Publicover, executive director, who gave \$500; Elizabeth Blakemore, coordinator, who gave \$100; Betsy Christ, executive director, who gave \$250; Amy Anderson, director, who gave \$100; Ed Manansala, associate superintendent, who gave \$1,000; Kaye Medellin, executive director, who gave \$150; David Toston, executive director, who gave \$200; Tamara Clay, director, who gave \$200; and Logan Lemming, director, who gave \$100. Other donations came from a law office and a company.

Supervisor Race — District 4

In the race for supervisor in District 4, Scott McNeil has raised \$44,558 and spent \$38,701.

Tim Palmer has raised \$867 and has spent \$2,449.

Lori Parlin has raised \$14,129 and spent \$12,300.

Howard Penn has raised \$11,956 and spent \$10,277.

Michael Pettibone has raised \$8,175 and spent \$7,313.

Winston Pingrey has raised \$10,606 and spent \$10,120.

Michael Ranalli has raised \$19,536 and spent \$24,976.

David Souza has raised \$2,999 all in the form of contributions to himself. He has spent \$2,999.

Supervisor race — District 5

In the race for supervisor in District 5, Kevin Brown has raised \$9,713 and spent \$4,384.

Gerri Grego has raised \$10,985 and spent \$11,606.

Sue Novasel has raised \$2,800 and spent \$3,880.

Teresa Piper has raised \$3,292 and spent \$1,224.

Angela Swanson has raised \$4,462 and spent \$25.

Kenneth Curtzwiler hasn't filed any information with the El Dorado Elections Department regarding contributions or expenses as they are under the spending limit. However, in a phone call, he said he has received \$149 in contributions and has only paid his filing fee. Candidates who pay their own filing fees don't have to declare them as an expense.

Judges

Vicki Ashworth, who is running for Judge of the Superior Court, Office 1, has raised \$28,976 and has spent \$22,099.

Running against her is David Combella who has raised \$32,207 and spent \$17,971. The third contestant is Joseph Weinberger who has raised \$29,692 and spent \$23,729.

Incumbent Judge in Office 3 is Suzanne Kingsbury. Running unopposed, she has reported no contributions or expenses.

Incumbent Judge in Office 4 is Steven Bailey. Running unopposed, so far he has raised \$5,000 and spent \$4,125.

Joseph Hoffman, who is running for Judge in Office 5 has raised \$16,113 and spent \$5,534. Running against him is Dylan Mary Sullivan. She has raised \$45,082 and spent \$17,098. (These figures are for 2014 only.)

Incumbent Judge of Office 6 is James Wagoner. Running unopposed, he has reported no contributions or expenses.~

Credit: Dawn Hodson, Mt. Democrat



SILVER SPRINGS PKWY- BASS LAKE ROAD SEIR SCOPING MEETING

The El Dorado County Community Development Agency, Transportation Division (County) is preparing a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the project that will extend Silver Springs Parkway to Bass Lake Road.

A public meeting, referred to as a scoping meeting, will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at 5:30 PM at the El Dorado Hills Library, 7455 Silva Valley Parkway, near Serrano Parkway. The County will be soliciting the views of interested persons and groups on the scope and content of the information to be included in the SEIR. The County will also accept written comments regarding the scope and content of the SEIR from interested persons and organizations concerned with the project.

The SEIR scoping comment period began April 23, 2014, and will end May 23, 2014. All written comments should be directed to: El Dorado County Community Development Agency, Transportation Division, Attention: Ms. Janet Postlewait, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667. Individuals and group representatives are invited to provide oral comments at the scoping meeting on May 13.

Following the receipt of input during the comment period, the County will prepare a Draft SEIR that will describe the Project and alternatives (including a no project alternative as required by CEQA) and will identify the potential environmental effects and mitigation measures that may be necessary to minimize or avoid such effects. The Draft SEIR will be made available for public review and input for a 45-day review period. The County will consider all comments received and will prepare a Final SEIR which identifies any necessary changes to the Draft EIR and provides responses to all comments on the Draft EIR. The County Board of Supervisors will consider certification of the Final SEIR prior to approval of actions required for undertaking the Project.

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SILVER SPRINGS *(cont'd)*

The project will construct the southern segment of Silver Springs Parkway as a two-lane road connecting Bass Lake Road to the southern terminus of the northern segment of Silver Springs Parkway that is currently under construction. This new segment of Silver Springs Parkway is approximately 0.25 miles long. The project will also construct a new intersection at Silver Springs Parkway at Bass Lake Road and will realign and reconstruct Bass Lake Road for a distance of approximately 800 feet south and approximately 500 feet east of the Silver Springs Parkway intersection. The project includes installation of Class II bicycle lanes and concrete sidewalks on both sides of the parkway, and a landscaped center median.

Persons with disabilities that may require special accommodations at the May 13 scoping meeting should contact Janet Postlewait at the above address or by phone at: 530-621-5900. ~



The Trees

The trees are coming into leaf
Like something almost being said;
The recent buds relax and spread,
Their greenness is a kind of grief.

Is it that they are born again
And we grow old? No, they die too,
Their yearly trick of looking new
Is written down in rings of grain.

Yet still the unresting castles thresh
In fullgrown thickness every May.
Last year is dead, they seem to say,
Begin afresh, afresh, afresh.

—Philip Larkin

EPA AND CORPS CLARIFY WETLAND PROTECTIONS, AG EXEMPTIONS RETAINED

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) has jointly released a proposed rule to clarify protection under the Clean Water Act for streams and wetlands that form the foundation of the nation's water resources. The proposed rule will benefit businesses by increasing efficiency in determining coverage of the Clean Water Act. Determining Clean Water Act protection for streams and wetlands became confusing and complex following Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006.

The proposed rule clarifies protection for streams and wetlands. The proposed definitions of waters will apply to all Clean Water Act programs. It does not protect any new types of waters that have not historically been covered under the Clean Water Act and is consistent with the Supreme Court's more narrow reading of Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

Specifically, the proposed rule clarifies that under the Clean Water Act and based on the science that (1) most seasonal and rain-dependent streams are protected, (2) wetlands near rivers and streams are protected, (3) other types of waters may have more uncertain connections with downstream water and protection will be evaluated through a case specific analysis of whether the connection is or is not significant. However, to provide more certainty, the proposal requests comment on options protecting similarly situated waters in certain geographic areas or adding to the categories of waters protected without case specific analysis.

The proposed rule preserves the Clean Water Act exemptions and exclusions for agriculture. ~

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BLAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET IN MAY

The Board of Directors of Bass Lake Action Committee met at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, May 5, 2014, at the home of John and Fran Thomson. Treasurer Fran Thomson reported that BLAC membership for this year is exceeding that of last year. Minutes of the meeting will be distributed to all current members as soon as they are prepared.

The next board meeting will be held on August 4, 2014. Members will receive an agenda in advance of the meeting.

All BLAC members are cordially invited to attend all board meetings. For additional information, contact Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~

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