

BASS LAKE BULLETIN

Vol. XX No.2

The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

February 2022

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

BASS LAKE REGIONAL PARK FISHING RESUMES

REMINDER TO VISITORS - KEEP DOGS LEASHED

	JANUARY <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing CLOSED for Migratory Bird Season	FEBRUARY <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED until February 15th for Migratory Bird Season OPEN February 15th - March 31st	MARCH <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN through March 31st	APRIL <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED all month for spawning season
	MAY <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN all month **Dependent on water levels and temperatures	JUNE <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN all month **Dependent on water levels and temperatures	JULY <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED due to seasonally low water levels and high temperatures **Closed through February	NOTES: December - February is Migratory Bird Season

image courtesy El Dorado Hills Community Services District

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDH CSD) shared the news of fishing activities resuming at Bass Lake in a Social Media Post on February 18, 2022.

“Bass Lake is now open for fishing! Mark your calendar and be sure to save this post! Here is this year’s fishing schedule. We have gathered information from El Dorado County Fish and Wildlife representatives to create a schedule that is good for both residents and our local wildlife.”

The included Fishing Calendar is a great guide to remind residents of the fishing schedule that the EDH CSD has adopted to protect resources at Bass Lake. Migratory Bird Season at Bass Lake will result in no fishing from December through mid-February each year. Fishing activities will open from February 15th through March 31st.

In April, Fishing closes for the month, for spawning season. In May and June fishing is open depending on water levels and temperatures. Fishing closes in July due to low water levels and high temperatures.

Fishing resumes the following year in mid-February.

Fishing in Bass Lake remains Catch and Release only.

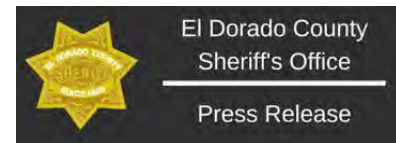
The EDH CSD advises NO LIVE BAIT - "For the health and wellness of our fish, we ask that no bait be used. Please use artificial lures when fishing Bass Lake Regional Park."

Fishing in Bass Lake requires a California Fishing License.

The EDH CSD also reminds those visiting Bass Lake Regional Park that Dogs are allowed in the park, but must ALWAYS BE LEASHED. Several residents report dogs off leash at the park chasing migratory birds, and harassing leashed dogs, and park visitors. Dogs must remain on Levee trails only.

To report illegal fishing activities, unleashed dogs, visitors or dogs in the lake, or visitors after park closure, contact the EDH CSD at 916-933-6624, or for Emergencies, 916-825-6690. ~

SHERIFF CITIZEN ACADEMY



The El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office Citizens’ Academy is now taking applications for enrollment.

The academy aims to familiarize El Dorado County residents with different aspects of law enforcement and the role the Sheriff’s Office plays within the community.

In 16 weeks of classes, participants go behind the scenes and get hands-on experience that engages and educates. The weekly classroom setting builds momentum as participants meet various instructors and the course eventually ends with an opportunity to play the role of these everyday heroes.

Those enrolled in the Citizens’ Academy also get an opportunity to take a ride-a-long with a deputy and an in-depth tour of both the Sheriff’s Office headquarters and the Placerville jail.

The academy is free and enrollment is limited. Two academies will be offered in 2022; the first begins March 3 and the second Aug. 4. Classes are held Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.

For more information or to apply to attend go to tinyurl.com/78vkunma or call or email Det. Sean Fitzgerald at (530) 621-5714 or fitzgers@edso.org.



WILLIAM ALEXANDER LEIDESDORFF. JR.

By Kathy Prevost

Have you ever wondered where the Leidesdorff Street name in Folsom or Leidesdorff Plaza originated? Many of our streets and roads have an historical background and there is, also, a street with his statue by the same name in San Francisco as well.

William Alexander Leidesdorff, Jr., was an important pioneer in San Francisco during the founding of the city and contributed much to the early growth of what was then called Yerba Buena, a sleepy village of about 30 Mexican and European families at the time in Alta California which was under Mexican rule.

The oldest son of four children of a Danish sugar plantation manager, Leidesdorff was born in Christiansted on Saint Croix in the Virgin Islands which was under Danish rule. His father, Wilhelm Alexander, (called Alexander) Leidesdorff, was reportedly of Jewish descent and was from Altona, Hamburg and his mother, Anna Marie Sparks, was believed to be of African and Spanish descent. Alexander had first migrated to North America and later to the Caribbean to build his merchant career.

He and Anna Marie had lived in New Orleans when it was under Spanish rule before the Louisiana Purchase and he worked as a sugar factor.

Intelligent and fairly well educated, William spoke several languages. Migrating to New Orleans, he was naturalized as a United States citizen and became a wealthy cotton broker holding various positions with firms that were associated with his father or his mentors before working as a ship captain and/or master from 1834 to 1840.

A family inheritance enabled him to purchase the Schooner Julia Ann which he sailed from New York to Yerba Buena in 1841, via Panama, St. Croix, Brazil, Chile, the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii), Sitka (Alaska), and on to California by following the Pacific Ocean currents. Settling in California at 31 years of age, he arrived at Yerba Buena Cove to find a very sparsely populated village of marshes, muddy streets, and makeshift homes which he could see had a great potential to be a thriving seaport and trade center. He developed a very profitable export import trade route between San Francisco and Honolulu selling hides and tallow which were California's principal exports during that time.

Leidesdorff continued expanding his businesses by opening a warehouse (which is on the present day Embarcadero), a general store, building ships and establishing a lumber yard near the corner of California and Montgomery

which is now marked by Leidesdorff Street, and in 1847, he built the City Hotel, which was the first in Yerba Buena on the corner of Clay and Kearny Streets.

The Sitka, a 37 foot long steamboat, which he purchased in Alaska, (and is on our California state seal), became the first one to operate on San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River. He had real estate holdings throughout Louisiana, Alaska, New York, Hawaii and California and developed extensive commercial relations throughout Hawaii, Alaska and Mexican California.

Very active in his civic life, he served on the inaugural Town Council and acted as City Treasurer and he sat on the first state's school board and donated the land for the first public school in California when Yerba Buena became San Francisco.

Having built a large house called the Cottage where the Bank of America tower stands today on California and Montgomery Streets close to what was the Waterfront, he often played host to visiting diplomats as a community leader. He was known for hosting lavish gatherings and showing off the only flower garden in the area while serving the finest wines and cuisine. He, also, organized the first horse race in California which took place near Mission Dolores where he is now buried.

Leidesdorff obtained a large land grant next to John Sutter's grant in 1844, from the Mexican Governor Micheltorena for 35,521 acres on the South Bank of the American River which he named Rancho Rio de los Americanos. It was near what is now the City of Sacramento and included the present-day cities of Rancho Cordova and Folsom extending from Bradshaw Road and John Sutter's boundary eastward to the present city of Folsom. Rio de los Americanos was the name of the American River during the era of Mexican rule.

The terms of the land grant required him to build a residence on his property which he did, however, his primary focus remained on the growing community of San Francisco and he never lived in the house. He, also, became a Mexican citizen and converted to Catholicism in order to obtain the land grant. An added stipulation to his land grant was that he would allow the native populations to remain undisturbed on a significant portion of his ranch.

The shared boundary between the Sutter property and the Leidesdorff property was marked by an oak tree and a boundary sign with "Sutter" on one side and "Leidesdorff" on the other side. They were friends and neighbors who enjoyed each other's company socially.

He built four adobe dwellings on the site of today's Riverbend Park near Bradshaw Road and Folsom Boulevard in the city of Rancho Cordova and hired a ranch manager -

continued on page 3

STREET RACING IN THE BASS LAKE AREA

By John Davey

Residents in Woodridge, Bridlewood Canyon, The Hills of El Dorado, Hawk View, and Serrano villages have been reporting speeding cars and drag racing along Bass Lake Road, Silver Springs Parkway, and Serrano Parkway in recent weeks. This seems to occur after sunset, and continues off and on into the evening.

The El Dorado County Sheriff's office isn't responsible for traffic enforcement in unincorporated El Dorado County, that function falls to the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

As area residents heard from CHP representatives at the B.L.A.C. sponsored Community Traffic Meeting in the Bass Lake Villages in May 2021, the CHP wants to know about traffic safety issues in our community, and would like to hear from the public. Residents are encouraged to contact the CHP at the Placerville CHP Non-Emergency line 530-748-2450. If you observe details like the time of day, the vehicle types, colors, license plates of vehicles, or driver descriptions, make sure to note those for the CHP when reporting.

Residents that have indicated that they have observed local teens in some of these racing activities. If you know these teens, the CHP has suggested the following:

Inform parents if kids are speeding - most parents will want to know. Ask young drivers to slow down - but don't yell at, or challenge kids, let the parents address it. If they do not, contact the CHP Placerville Office (530-748-2450).

Have respectful conversations with neighbors about speed concerns. If neighbors don't want to engage in a calm manner, don't escalate, report the speeding issue to the CHP Placerville Office (530-748-2450).

B.L.A.C. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DRIVE CONTINUES

By John Davey

2022 Bass Lake Action Committee Membership renewal letters were mailed via the US Postal Service in early February. Membership dues remain at \$10 per member for the year.

Please return your renewal form and dues in the included envelope.

We welcome any residents of the Bass Lake community seeking to join the Bass Lake Action Committee as members. Use our online membership form here <http://basslakeaction.net/members>, email basslakemembers@gmail.com, or contact Vice President John Davey at 530-676-2657. ~

LEIDESDORFF *(con't)*

- for the enormous cattle and wheat ranch compound.

In 1845, Leidesdorff was appointed to be the Vice Consul to Mexico by Commodore Stockton, the U.S. Military Governor of California.

The Americans raised the Bear Flag in the historic rebellion in Sonoma in 1846, and Yerba Buena became San Francisco. Property which Leidesdorff had owned in Yerba Buena was claimed for the United States that year, and the next year renamed San Francisco. He continued to purchase lots in San Francisco and shortly after he completed building his adobe on the Rancho near Bradshaw in 1848, Marshall discovered gold in February constructing a tail race at Coloma for Sutter.



Photographed By Folsom History Museum

William Alexander Leidesdorff

By March of 1848, the California Star reported the total non-native population of San Francisco was 812: 575 men, 175 women, and 60 children.

In April, Sutter, who had been in communication with Leidesdorff, sent him a letter making him aware that gold washing on the upper part of his property looked very promising. Consequently millions of dollars of gold were taken out of Rancho Rio De Los Americanos lands with hydraulic mining. As in other towns, many of the men left San Francisco for the American River gold fields in May of 1848, with the hope of striking it rich.

Leidesdorff, unfortunately, became ill suddenly and died of typhoid fever on May 18, 1848, at the age 38, the day before the public announcement of the gold rush. The town was in mourning the day of his funeral and flags were flown at half mast, business was suspended and the schools were closed. He was interred near the front entrance of the Mission Dolores that same day.

During his residency in California he was considered to be "liberal, hospitable, cordial, confiding to a fault" and had a very high reputation for integrity and enterprise.

In his short life, he was an entrepreneur and a public servant who helped to create the public school system and Treasury. Unfortunately,

he was not able to see San Francisco grow to the great city it became.

While Leidesdorff became one of the wealthiest men in California and the value of his property rose dramatically to a million dollars when gold was discovered along the American River above his ranch shortly after he passed away, he had never married and died without a will and had incurred \$50,000 of debt. His entire estate, including the Rancho Rio de los Americanos and his San Francisco holdings, were sold for \$75,000 to Captain Joseph Libby Folsom.

In 1849, Folsom who had taken charge of the estate until an administrator was found, took leave from the U. S., Army and traveled to the Virgin Islands to locate and purchase the property from property from Leidesdorff's mother, Anna Marie Sparks. He signed a note to purchase her son's estate for \$75,000, for the title including all of Leidesdorff's real estate holdings in San Francisco and the 35,000-acre Rancho Rio de los Americanos. Folsom agreed to pay her a deposit of \$5,000, and the balance was to be paid in two installment payments.

Soon after the agreement was signed, Anna realized that the estate was worth far more than the \$75,000 agreement but after ten years of legal battles, the estate was ultimately awarded to Folsom shortly after he had passed away in 1855, at the same age as Leidesdorff. Folsom had named a part of the Rancho the "Granite City" and the executors of his estate renamed the town Folsom in his honor.

Sadly, the discovery of gold did not make him wealthy but rather hastened his demise. Reportedly, he had not been a good businessman and the gold rush brought the abandonment of his projects by laborers who left to work the mines which were followed by a rush for his property, both land and belongings.

In 2011, the California state legislature recognized William Alexander Leidesdorff, Jr., as the African Founding Father of California during the United Nations International Year for People of African Descent.



Photographed By Syd Whittle, October 4, 2009

Rancho Rio de los Americanos Marker

Other honors have been:

Fifteen miles of U.S. Route 50 was dedicated as the [William Alexander Leidesdorff, Jr. Memorial Highway](#) along the boundary of the "Historic Leidesdorff Ranch", his 35,000-acre cattle and wheat ranch along the southern banks of the American River Parkway in Sacramento County.

The 25th Anniversary of the federal holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the CORE, New York City, New York Gala honored the Leidesdorff Legacy.

Leidesdorff Exhibit, Mission Dolores Basilica, San Francisco, California, May 1–31, 2010

Leidesdorff Bicentennial Celebration - "Golden Legacy of William Alexander Leidesdorff, Jr.," October 23, 2010, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

References:

<https://www.folsom.ca.us/residents/names-about-town>

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/leidesdorff-william-alexander-1810-1848/>

<http://www.sfmuseum.net/bio/leidesdorff.html>,
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rancho_Rio_de_los_Americanos



(W A Leidesdorff Statue stands near the entrance to the alley named after him. (Kevin N. Hume/The Examiner)



Leidesdorff Street, in Historic Folsom CA. (image credit Google Maps)



From The BLAC Board

President's Letter February 2022

Our beautiful weather seems to be bringing us an early spring which we all have been very much enjoying. I particularly welcome the first daffodils and their happy yellow blooms. This year, the spring or vernal equinox marking the astronomical first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, and the start of the spring season will occur on Sunday, March 20th.

Following this date, the northern hemisphere will begin to become more tilted towards the sun which will result in something we all really look forward to, more daylight hours and warmer temperatures.

A spring equinox can happen on March 19, 20 or 21 and the last time it was on the 21st occurred in 2007, and it will happen again in 2101. An equinox occurs at the exact instant when the sun is directly over the equator and the Earth's rotational axis is tilted neither towards nor away from the Sun. Because of the different time zones, the equinox may occur a day earlier at locations that are behind UTC (Coordinated Universal Time - the most common 24 hour time standard across the world).

Areas that followed UTC had a March 21 equinox in 2003 and 2007, however, there has not been a March 21, equinox in the mainland United States in the 21st century. A March 19th equinox will happen every leap year between 2020 and 2048 in the Central, Pacific and Mountain Time zones in the United States. For the same period of time, the years between leap years will have a March 20 equinox.

Iran, India and Turkey celebrate the New Year on spring equinox.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center La Nina Forecast

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center (NOAA CPC) forecast which was released February 10th, -

(continued on page 5)

EDH CSD AND WALK WITH AUSTIN TO HOST FUNDRAISING EVENT AT BASS LAKE

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District & Walk With Austin will be hosting a Community Wide fundraiser for the All-Abilities playground at Bass Lake Region Park at 9AM on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Sellwood Field.

The EDH CSD will provide trail safety and etiquette information.

Participation is free, and donations are encouraged. Proceeds will go towards building the all-abilities playground at Bass Lake Regional Park.

The after-event party will feature: music, light refreshments, give-a-ways, and other family-friendly-activities.

Visit the EDH CSD website for more information – <https://edhcsd.org>

SATURDAY MARCH 19
9AM • Bass Lake @ Sellwood Field
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Community wide fundraiser for the ALL-ABILITIES playground at Bass Lake Regional Park.

The CSD will be providing trail safety & etiquette information.

Participation is free, donations are encouraged. All proceeds will go towards building the all-abilities playground at Bass Lake Regional Park.

After event party will include:
• Music
• Light Refreshments
• Give-A-Ways
• Family-Friendly Activities

VISIT www.edhcsd.org for more information

This event is presented by Walk With Austin in partnership with the El Dorado Hills Community Services District.

WALK WITH AUSTIN
EL DORADO HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

EASTBOUND BASS LAKE ROAD-US50 ON/OFF RAMP SIGNALIZATION PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

By John Davey

The El Dorado County Transportation Department has indicated that the eastbound Bass Lake Road US50 on/off ramp signalization project is waiting for inspections from PG&E, tentatively scheduled for the first week in March.

If the project passes PG&E's inspection, PG&E will schedule an energize date for the traffic signals. The signals may be operational by the end of April.

The traffic signals are an attempt to move east bound off ramp traffic off of US50, as afternoon commutes frequently results in off ramp traffic backing up onto the US50 traffic lanes. In the afternoons, motorists should expect that the offramp will have the green signal more often to accomplish this goal.

The east and west bound Bass Lake Road – US50 on ramp metering signals are a separate Caltrans project.

SIENNA RIDGE ROAD CLOSURE CONTINUES

By John Davey

The road closures for Hawk View Road at Bass Lake Road, and Sienna Ridge Road from Bass Lake Road north to Bronzewing Place remain in place. The El Dorado County Transportation Department reports that the dry weather has allowed construction to resume, and that they expect to repave this section of Sienna Ridge Road in March, and will be able to reopen the road to the public in April. This schedule will be dependent on weather.

Hawk View Road from Bass Lake Road to Sienna Ridge Road will remain closed while construction continues for utilities and the reconfigured roadway which will provide for a more direct connection to the new Hidden Ridge (90 home Bass Lake North) development on the east side of Sienna Ridge Road. Hawk View Road in this area is planned to be renamed to North Silver Dove Way, and will be reopened later. This is planned as build out of the Bass Lake Hills Specific Plan progresses.

There are currently three existing sections of Silver Dove Way, none of them connecting to each other, on the west side of Bass Lake Road. The longest existing section of Silver Dove -

(continued on page 5)

February 2022

President's Letter - (con't)

- La Nina is anticipated to be around for a little while longer and a transition returning to neutral conditions will most likely be taking place later in the spring. There is approximately a 77% chance that La Nina conditions will continue through March into May. Forecasters are giving a 57% chance to a transition back to neutral occurring from June to August.

Unfortunately, this usually means below average precipitation for Southern California during its wettest months and would be the second consecutive winter with a La Nina event. This is what happened last year, as we all know which was one of the driest years ever recorded.

While it is not unusual for La Nina events to happen back to back, the experts are looking ahead for the possibility of conditions to develop for a third straight year.

According to Emily Becker of NOAA's CPC, "we still don't have a very clear picture of that," Becker wrote. "By fall (September - November), neutral still has the edge, but forecasters can't currently give any category a strong chance." (ENSO Blog)

Last September, when a La Nina condition started to develop, the agency predicted the climate pattern with a 50/50 chance of continuing into spring which seems to be coming to fruition.

California temperatures have been below average for this time of year since the start of winter according to NOAA. While our winter began with a very promising series of storms which replenished the Sierra Nevada snowpack and improved the overall drought outlook for the state, with (except for a storm in Southern California this past week) a lack of rain in January and February, the snowpack is below normal again for this time of year.

Reference: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.shtml

Farmer's Almanac Spring Predictions

While we have been experiencing a relatively mild winter so far and Southern California has had unusually warm weather, much of the rest of the United States has been experiencing cold temperatures with snow and ice and is looking forward to spring. The -

(continued on page 6)

SIENNA RIDGE ROAD CLOSURE (con't)

- Way and measures about 3700 feet, and connects to the westside of Bass Lake Road on the south side of El Dorado Hills Fire Department Station 86. From there it continues west for 1000 feet, wrapping around a private residence, then continues south for 1700 feet serving at least two other private residences.

The second longest section of the existing Silver Dove Way is a 500-foot gated gravel road that connects to the west side of Bass Lake Road 900 feet to the south, and stops at a private residence.

The third section of Silver Dove Way is approximately 600 feet long, connects to the north side of Old Bass Lake Road/Tong Road, and serves a private residence. ~



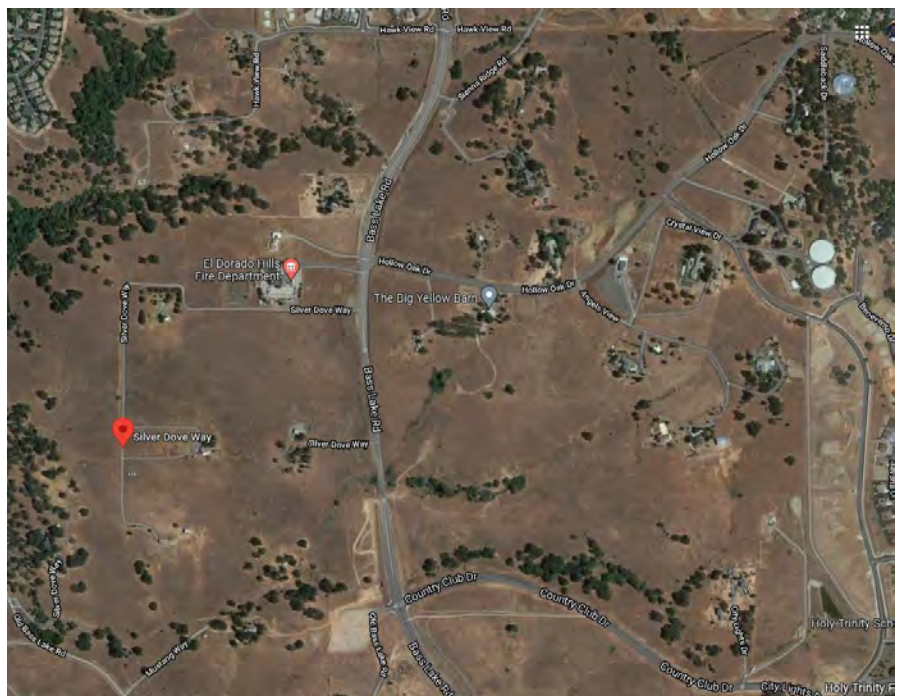
Sienna Ridge Road, currently closed from Bass Lake Road in the south, to Bronzewing Place in the north



Southern Terminus of Sienna Ridge Road at Bass Lake Road



Sienna Ridge Road at Bronzewing Place



Three existing sections of Silver Dove Way -
1) South of EDH Fire Station 85 at Bass Lake Rd.
2) Gated gravel road at Bass Lake Rd (center photo)
3) Private gravel road at Old Bass Lake Rd (bottom left)

February 2022

President's Letter - (con't)

- Farmers' Almanac, who accurately predicted the winter weather, released their latest weather forecast recently which is calling for a "backward temperatures" or a "reverse" spring this year. From a meteorologist stand point, the year is divided into four seasons with spring beginning on March 1 and each season being 3 months long rather than the astronomical seasons beginning with equinoxes and solstices.

According to the Farmer's Almanac long range outlook this year, spring may take a while to arrive and the temperatures will be slow to warm. While the northern states are expected to experience near normal temperatures, the southern states may have "somewhat cooler than normal conditions". The "backward spring" is expected to come into play the second half of May when they believe it will be cool for large parts of the United States.

Their forecast calls for residents of the northeast and southwest to expect a drier than usual spring, and in general, it will be a wetter-than-normal spring for most -

(continued on page 7)

NORTHBOUND BASS LAKE ROAD RIGHT TURN POCKET AT MADERA WAY

MOTORISTS ILLEGALLY DRIVING THROUGH TURN POCKET

By John Davey

Residents continue to report that northbound motorists on Bass Lake Road are driving through the Right Turn Pocket at Madera Way (Woodridge Entrance) and continuing on to the right turn pocket at the Bass Lake Road and Silver Springs Parkway intersection.

The right turn pocket at Madera Way/Bass Lake Road intersection is a RIGHT TURN ONLY lane for Madera Way. Drivers should not drive in the turn pocket – it is for right turns only onto Madera Way.

Residents report motorists driving through the turn pocket at posted speeds of 40 MPH, and frequently faster, barely avoiding rear-end collisions with motorists who are slowing to legally use the right turn pocket. This usually involves locking brakes, or sharply re-entering the northbound Bass Lake Road northbound lane, or driving into the bicycle lane.

Motorists should note that parts of the bicycle lane, which starts at the turn pocket entrance, is painted with either broken lines, or solid lines. Broken lines allow vehicles to legally cross the bicycle lane to enter the turn pocket. Solid lines are areas of the bicycle lanes that are illegal for vehicles to occupy or drive through.

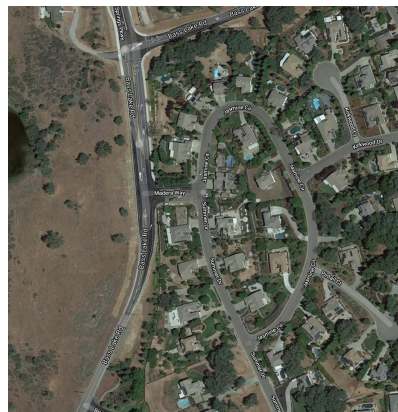
Report issues and concerns with the Northbound Bass Lake Road-Madera Way intersection right turn pocket to El Dorado County Transportation Department at 530-642-4909 or use their online form we've shared at this link on our website <http://basslakeaction.net/dot-form>.

The County Transportation Department has previously indicated that they are monitoring accident statistics at the intersection before they could explore any changes such as lane stripping or signs. Since any results for improvement could take years, it may be best to report issues and concerns regarding vehicle speeds and safety to the Placerville CHP office's non-emergency phone number 530-748-2450. Unfortunately, increased enforcement and traffic citations may be the only mechanism that changes motorists' behavior at the Madera Way turn pocket. ~



Northbound Bass Lake Road right turn pocket at Madera Way -the turn pocket is **RIGHT TURN ONLY**, do NOT travel through to the next turn pocket

Satellite image Bass Lake Road at Madera Way



Satellite image Bass Lake Road at Madera Way, Bridlewood Drive at bottom, Silver Springs Parkway at top.

February 2022

Bass Lake Bulletin

President's Letter - (con't)

- residents of the Great Lakes, Ohio Valley, Midwest and South Central states where they should anticipate more rain than usual this year.

The Farmers' Almanac forecasts areas of the Rockies and the plains may have a major storm in late April. "It will be a veritable meteorological swizzle stick," stirring up everything from snow to wind, rain and severe thunderstorms possibly even spawning a few tornadoes."

Reference: <https://www.travelawaits.com/2730871/farmers-almanac-spring-2022/>

El Dorado County Hires Covid-19 Consultant

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors recently signed a contract with a consulting firm to understand the toll of the pandemic on county communities as well as develop a five-year recovery plan. The firm is headed by Colleen Bridger, a former San Antonio City Manager and San Antonio Metropolitan Health District Director with an emphasis on high-risk and underserved community populations.

The Texas based health consulting firm contract will be effective through May 31, 2023, at a cost of \$248,864 and will be funded by the county coronavirus response and relief funds which needs to be spent before May of 2023.

Olivia Byron-Cooper, who is the county program manager and epidemiologist, noted that the primary reason for this contract is to answer some questions about the differences in how the county subpopulations, differing by age and zip code, handled any illness. In particular, Byron-Cooper listed the communities of Georgetown, Somerset and South Lake Tahoe as areas of concern. The study would assist them in understanding why there are differences and what they might be able to do about them.

Bridger was recommended by the Health and Human Services staff because of her previous work with rural counties and expertise in root/cause analysis. Byron-

Cooper stated, "I would really like this consultant to lead us through a process involving all of our partners, the board and the public in figuring out what we can do as a county to improve health outcomes of all our residents". "This is an opportunity for us to do something we have never done before."

District 4 Supervisor Lori Parlin questioned why a local consulting firm in California could not be used and Byron-Cooper was not in favor of hiring more staff for a study or the use of current staff because of the lack of "capacity and expertise". Area residents, also, wrote in or spoke during the public comment time regarding their preference for the use of a local firm.

John Hidahl, who is the District 1 Supervisor, stated that Barton Health supports the use of the consulting firm and he questioned whether the county had the ability to follow through after the one-time funding runs out. Byron-Cooper stated that local staff would need to be trained on how to perform root/cause analysis.

Wendy Thomas, current District 3 Supervisor, stated that while she still had concerns about the cost and the use of an out-of-state firm, with further information she approved of working with Bridger.

Supervisor Novasel made a motion to approve the agreement after board discussion which was seconded by Supervisor Thomas. Supervisor Hidahl made a second motion to approve a contract with the addition of Chief Administrative Officer Don Ashton to review any changes to the scope of services and agreements and to bring any contract changes to the Board of Supervisors as recommended by County Auditor-Controller Joe Harn.

Originally the contract would have allowed Health and Human Services Agency Director Don Semon to make the changes to the contract without review by the Board of Supervisors.

With both Novasel and Parlin voting No, the second motion was approved by a 3-2 vote.

Reference: <https://www.mtdemocrat.com/news/covid-consultant-hired/>

I hope all of you are enjoying our beautiful trees in bloom despite the allergies they seem to evoke for some of us!

Respectfully,
Kathy Prevost, President



**SUBSCRIBE
TO THE FREE MONTHLY
BASS LAKE BULLETIN
CLICK HERE**

OR VISIT: <http://basslakeaction.net/SUBSCRIBE>

B.L.A.C.FIRST 2022 QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Bass Lake Action Committee Board of Directors conducted the first quarterly Board of Directors meeting of 2022 virtually on Monday February 14, 2022 at 7PM.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Monday May 9, 2022 at 7PM

All Bass Lake Action Committee Members are invited to attend, and members will receive an email invitation that will include the meeting location and Zoom Link and instructions for attending the meeting.

For further information about BLAC meetings and membership, please contact Vice-President John Davey at 530-676-2657, or email basslakemembers@gmail.com. Residents can also visit our online membership form at <http://basslakeaction.net/members> ~

The Bass Lake Bulletin is published monthly by the Bass Lake Action Committee, 3907 Watsonia Glen Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762. Copyright © 2022. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any storage and retrieval system, without prior written permission from the Bass Lake Action Committee.

Editor Emeritus John Thomson Ph.D.

Editors: Bass Lake Action Committee Board Of Directors
blacinfo@aol.com - 530-676-2657

For additional information contact: Vice President John Davey 916-752-8183