It was with mixed emotions that I learned of the sale of the National Hotel. I’m glad Tom Coleman found a buyer who will respect the hotel’s history but wish it had happened 10–12 years ago so that he and Ernie (Ernestine Kehn) could have jumpstarted their retirement.

New owner Jordan Fife has ambitious plans for the Grande Dame of Broad Street and will begin by replacing the old gal’s aging infrastructure, top to bottom. I wish him great success.

Although touted as “The Oldest Continuously Operating Hotel West of the Rockies,” (in continuous operation since its doors opened in 1856), there was a fire in 1863 that leveled much of downtown Nevada City and forced a temporary closure. But, what the heck; the Holbrooke Hotel in Grass Valley claims it operates “The Oldest Bar West of the Mississippi.” Maybe, they forgot about Prohibition?

Among several colorful “facts” used to promote the National Hotel over the years has been a claim that Lola Montez stayed there, but Lola left Nevada County in 1855 and never returned. And while notorious highwayman Black Bart is reputed to have been a guest, I’ve always wondered under what name he registered.

And as for a recent press release announcing the sale and mentioning that Presidents Grant, Cleveland, Garfield and Harrison had been guests at the hotel, well, sorry, it never happened.

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New owners breathe new life into longtime bar

In the summer of 1936, you might have been tempted to beat the heat by riding over – either in car or on horseback – to the Dew Drop Inn, a former stagecoach stop between Grass Valley and Auburn. They were just opening their new “plunge,” a 65-foot by 85-foot stream-fed pool with 6,000 feet of “sparkling river sand beach.”

The admission price was 25 cents (35 cents if you rented a swimsuit and a towel), and if you were there on opening day you could also have a full chicken.

See Dew Drop Inn on back page.

Chapa-De fills major need in area

Health care centers seeing 24,000 low-income patients

Finding affordable health care has been an ongoing challenge for many area residents. Many go without care because of the cost.

With the advent of the Affordable Care Act and California’s Medi-Cal expansion, low-income patients may have modest means to pay for services, but they face the challenge of finding health care providers in the area. This is where Chapa-De Indian Health has stepped in with facilities in Grass Valley and Auburn.

Originally established for American Indian and Alaska Native people by the United Auburn Indian Community, the organization also offers health care services to non-Indian, low-income families and individuals and Medicare recipients in Placer, Nevada and Sierra counties.

The Grass Valley facility was built in 2008 and is located on East Main Street. Its unique architecture reflects the traditional “Roundhouse” shape, with an entrance oriented due East to catch the spirit of the rising sun.

Patients can find a full array of services ranging from dental and optometry to behavioral health and pharmacy services.

“The Roundhouse was the social and spiritual center of the community,” said Lisa Davies, Chapa-De Indian Health.

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World’s Most Popular Musical
The National: Fact, fiction, the future
Looking ahead
Jordan Fife talks about his vision for The National Hotel
— page 3

Dew Drop Inn still making a splash

New owners breathe new life into longtime bar

In the summer of 1936, you might have been tempted to beat the heat by riding over – either in car or on horseback – to the Dew Drop Inn, a former stagecoach stop between Grass Valley and Auburn. They were just opening their new “plunge,” a 65-foot by 85-foot stream-fed pool with 6,000 feet of “sparkling river sand beach.”

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See Dew Drop Inn on back page.
Annual Hospitality House event set for March 17

Tom Durkin
Nevada City Advocate

“I threw a lot of clay this year,” Yvon Dockter of Nevada City noted with a weary grin.

Dockter is one of the most prolific ceramic artists who donate yearly hand-crafted soup bowls to the Empty Bowl fundraiser for the Hospitality House homeless shelter (aka Utah’s Place).

Over the years, Dockter has thrown hundreds and hundreds of bowls—but she hasn’t decorated them all.

About eight years ago, she converted her living room into an ad hoc art studio and invited her artist friends to come over and paint her bare clay bowls.

Dockter has since moved her bowl-painting gatherings to the Curious Forge.

This year, she has had several work parties at the Forge involving 18 different artists whose talents ranged from amateurs to professionals. Dockter cheerfully mentors the less confident artists.

Feb. 22, Dockter worked with three first-timers and one acrylic artist who was adapting her skills to ceramics.

Joan and Guy (who is a monitor at Hospitality House) Trtorici of Grass Valley both said they were relying on what they learned in high school ceramics to decorate their bowls. Jessica Cymbalski of Grass Valley revealed she was new to the Curious Forge and was just beginning to “dabble in clay.”

Acrylic artist Liz Conley, visiting from out of town, said this was her second year of painting bowls with Dockter for the Empty Bowl.

“She’s taught me so much,” Conley said of Dockter.

The 12th annual Empty Bowl event will be held Saturday, March 17, at the Peace Lutheran Church in Grass Valley. For $25, guests get to choose a unique, hand-crafted bowl to take home after they’ve enjoyed a community meal of gourmet soup and bread.

For more information, visit hhshelter.org or call 530-615-0852.

Tom Durkin is a freelance writer and photographer in Nevada County. Contact him at tdurkin@vfr.net or www.tomdurkin-writer.net.
Jordan Fife has large footprints in Nevada County. His father was from here. His grandfather was a barber in Grass Valley. His wife grew up across the street from his grandparents. So, it only makes sense that Fife, who was aiming to purchase a hotel in a small Americana town rife with history, would zero in on one of the area's most iconoclastic Gold Rush landmarks.

Fife has memories of visiting the Big A drive-in, the Del Oro Theater and growing up with his best friend, who is now his wife. His father in law became terminally ill when the couple was searching for a hotel to buy. They came to Nevada County to help him out.

“We like to think he had something to do with the serendipity of buying the National,” Fife said. “We fell in love with the notion of what we could do with place. You could have had a corporate group take out the soul of the site,” he added.

“It will be more like an ode to the Rector Brothers,” he said referring to Baylis and John, who acquired the property in the 1880s and expanded the facilities during their 44 years as owners. “It's an amalgam of what it has become.”

Fife said he plans to use the property’s charm and authenticity, but with a hip, trendy vibe “inspired by what this building is,” he said.

Listed in the National Register of Historic places, The National Hotel is a 40-room property with a pool and restaurant. It was built in August 1856 and is said to be the oldest, continuously operated hotel west of the Rockies.

The National Hotel is now the flag-ship property in what the National Exchange Hotels plan as a small number of lodgings in distinctive, quirky places. “We are about historically accurate and architecturally significant properties,” Fife said. “This is our business model. We are hip. But we are a famil-ly friendly company and we understand how important it is to have local busi-ness. Without the community, the busi-ness wouldn't survive.”

Among the plans for remodeling in-clude moving the dining room to the ve-randa level, the pool area will be upgraded and the rooms given a facelift and bath-rooms.

Fife said his is a family business. “We understand how important it is to have local business,” he added. “Without the community none of it will work, we wouldn't survive.”

In addition to a new dining room and pool area, Fife said the bar will be getting a refresh.

“Part of the charm of the bar is it's a little seedy,” he said. The saloon style will remain, but there will be part of karaoke and local music.

“The building is part of a living or-ganism,” Fife said. “That’s the history that we want to preserve with the build-ing.”

League to examine money in politics

Money in politics and its effects on de-mocracy will be the topic at this month’s 2nd Saturday program sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Western Ne-vada County.

Three speakers will lead the discus-sion that goes from 10 a.m. to noon on March 10 at Peace Lutheran Church at 838 West Main St. in Grass Valley.

LWV California Government Direc-tor Lee Lawrence will address voter sup-pression, California’s DISCLOSE Act (“Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light On Spending in Elections,” which passed), the California Petition Disclose Act (SB 651), the Federal Disclose Act (S 229), spending limits in local elections (California AB 1089), and efforts to pro-vide public financing of elections.

Jerry Silverman of represent.us will discuss the proposed Anti-Corruption Act, which focuses on lobbyists, the “re-volving door,” politicians fundraising during work hours, super PACs, gerry-mandering and the Electoral College, as well as proposed solutions such as rank voting, public funding of elections, and immediate online disclosure of political money.

Charly Price of Move to Amend will address the 2010 Citizens United Su-preme Court decision, which established money as speech and that corporations are persons with civil rights, as well as its precedents, effects on elections and ef-forts to overturn it.

Refreshments will be served starting at 9:30 a.m. For more information, visit lwvnw.org or email president@lwvnw.org.
Habitat gets $280,000 donation

Nevada County Habitat for Humanity recently received $280,000 after it sold a home given to the organization by an anonymous donor. It was the largest single donation in the nonprofit’s history.

“This transformative gift couldn’t have come at a better time,” said Debbie Arakel, Habitat’s executive director. “This timely income will help us start an entirely new neighborhood. We are currently inviting prospective homeowners to attend application orientation meetings and have over 200 registered already, which demonstrates the tremendous need here in Nevada County.”

Last year, Habitat purchased a parcel for a Habitat neighborhood of four to five homes. The $280,000 donation will help with land, infrastructure and impact fees, which are among the organization’s most challenging expenses.

“It is because of the generosity of this community that we can build as we are now, but with extraordinary legacy gifts like this we have a chance to accelerate our work, build our capacity and help more people,” said Gordon Beatie, a Habitat board member and Fund Development Chair.

For information on how to donate, call Development Director Lorraine Larson at 530-206-8100 or email lorraine@nchabitat.org. For more information on Habitat programs, visit nchabitat.org.

Booktown Books to hold anniversary party March 17

Booktown Books will celebrate its 20th anniversary on St. Patrick’s Day.

The cooperative of independent book sellers will hold its anniversary party and sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at 107 Bank St. in Grass Valley.

Marilyn Tabbs, a longtime member, said the event is a tribute to the longevity and success of the business.

“It is exciting to see our initial vision of the Booktown cooperative concept grow from a few sellers and a handful of customers each day to the bustling book hub it is now downtown Grass Valley,” she said.

In 1997, Eric Torme launched Booktown Books in a small space on Maltman Drive in Grass Valley. It started with 10 independent booksellers, including some of whom are still actively involved while many others have come and gone, including Torme.

Booktown Books’ members manage their own booths and inventory while taking turns working in the store during the week. Some are experts on books about the military, science, music, comics and science fiction, but most members offer a wide variety of choices, including contemporary fiction, non-fiction and old dime-store paperbacks. LP’s, CD’s, audio books, DVDs and children’s books are also available. The store’s Rare Book Room features reasonably priced collectible editions.

Elks to hold western memorabilia show

The fifth annual Antique Western Memorabilia Show will be held Friday, March 9, and Saturday, March 10, at the Nevada City Elks Lodge at 518 Highway 49 in Nevada City.

The two-day show features firearms and gold mining, Native American, railroad, gambling and other western collectibles. In addition, author Richard Hurley will do a presentation about his new book, “California and the Civil War” and local author Bruce Bradley will be signing his new book on Black Bart.

Experts and vendors will be on hand to answer questions about Western-era items brought by those who attend.

The show goes from noon to 5 p.m. March 9 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 10. Admission is $5 and children under 12 can attend free with an adult. Early Bird entries, from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, are $25.

Proceeds will be used for the Nevada City Elks Lodge’s scholarship program. For more information, call 530-272-5371.

Richard Hurley will be at Antique Western Memorabilia Show to talk about his new book, “California and the Civil War.”

Ukulele band coming

Hawaiian ukulele jam band Kanekoa will perform on Sunday, March 25, at The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley. The band has been playing together since 1999, melding elements of Hawaiian, rock, folk, blues, reggae and improvisation. To purchase tickets, call 530-274-8384 ext. 14 or visit thecenterforhearts.org.
The KARE Crisis Nursery will hold its first ever Jambalaya & Jazz Night from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, April 6, at Foothills Event Center in Grass Valley.

The fundraising event will feature live entertainment by Ludi Hinrichs, Cassidy Joy and Karen Woerner and George Cutter & Friends; professional dancing by Truth or Dare; live and silent auctions, the organization’s Wheel Of Fun, and food with a New Orleans flair.

The proceeds will benefit the KARE Nursery, which provides emergency and respite care for young children whose families need assistance. Tickets are $30 and available at Eventbrite.com, SPD in Nevada City, The Bookseller in Grass Valley or by calling the KARE Nursery office at 530-265-0693. The Foothills Event Center is located at 400 Idaho Maryland Road.

A restoration crew works on a rail line for the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum.

Volunteers will be at the open house to discuss what they do with those interested in joining the team. Docents will lead a tour of exhibits, the railyard and restoration shop. Weather permitting, the popular railbus will be in operation that day.

Opportunities are available for docents, restoration shop crew members and gift shop helpers. No experience is required; just a positive attitude and a willingness to get involved. Training will be provided and volunteer shifts of as little as three hours per week can be arranged.

For more information, visit ncngrrmuseum.org or call 530-470-0902. The museum is located near the intersection of Bost and New Mohawk.
One of the most noteworthy banquets held in the original second-floor dining room occurred September 6, 1871, when Nevada City resident Aaron Sargent, one of only three California congressmen at the time, anxiously awaited telegraphic returns of that day’s statewide election.

Joining Sargent at the head table was Abraham Lincoln’s first vice president, Hannibal Hamlin, then a senator from Maine. Hamlin had traveled to California in mid-August to campaign on behalf of Republicans, ending his three-week swing through the state as Sargent’s guest in Nevada City.

When telegraphic reports received during the banquet confirmed that Hamlin’s effort on behalf of Republican candidates had been an overwhelming success, the former vice president stood and proposed a toast to future U. S. Senator Aaron Sargent. Additional toasts followed.

On March 4, 1873, Congressman Sargent did, indeed, become Senator Sargent. Five years later, he introduced a bill giving women the right to vote, but it took until 1920 before his unaltered words were ratified as the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

The National Hotel was my primary place of employment in 1977-78, 1980-81, and 1991-2010. I started as a night bartender when Dick and Nan Ness were the owners and later served as Tom Coleman’s beverage manager. My final several years were spent at the registration desk, although I continued to pull some shifts behind the bar as well.

In 1977 when Mr. Ness hired me, the hotel was the hub of community social life. The regulars were men and women who had doggedly survived some tough economic times in the 1950s and ‘60s and helped shape what became the town’s 1970-80 renaissance.

They had survived the freewheeling Napa Valley, countywide mine closures, and a diminished logging and lumbering industry. They shared their memories, boasted of Nevada City’s fascinating history, and made me feel at home the first time I stepped behind the bar. And they were damn good tippers to boot.

But that was then, and this is now.

Happy retirement, Tom and Ernie. Welcome aboard, Jordan.

Steve Cottrell is a historian, former city councilman and mayor and a longtime Nevada City resident. He now lives in St. Augustine, Fla. He can be reached by emailing exnevada_citymayor@gmail.com.

When the renovated National Hotel reopens, the exterior will look essentially the same although dramatic changes are planned for inside the landmark building.

Hannibal Hamlin, who was Abraham Lincoln’s vice president from 1861-65, attended a celebratory 1871 banquet at the National Hotel in Nevada City as the guest of Congressman Aaron Sargent.

Our History: Many fond memories

‘South Pacific’ to be shown at Nevada Theatre

Rodgers and Hammerstein’s ‘South Pacific’ will be shown from April 12 to May 5 at Nevada Theatre in downtown Nevada City. The Community Asian Theatre of the Sierra, or CATS, is putting on the production.

It is being directed by Jeffery Mason and Susan Mason and includes a live orchestra. The ambitious production has a cast of 23. The play is set at an island paradise during World War II where two parallel love stories are threatened by the dangers of prejudice and war.

The show starts at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays; 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and 2 p.m. Sundays. For ticket and more information visit cats-web.org.

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Emery taking Cohen show to Sacramento

‘A Thousand Kisses Deep’ set for March 17

"A Thousand Kisses Deep: The Songs of Leonard Cohen," a reprise of Paul Emery’s triumphant tribute to one of the most captivating and enigmatic singer/songwriters of all time, will be held Saturday, March 17, at The Crest Theatre in Sacramento.

Named in honor of the late Emery, KVMR’s news director and pioneer George Holden who created the concept and led the project, the show is the creative production of Emery and KVMR’s volunteer and musician who died in 2016 at the age of 82, will be part of the mix.

New to the production will be San Francisco light show pioneer George Holden who created light shows at the Fillmore and Maritime Hall behind the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, Quicksilver Messenger Service, Santana and others. More recently, he was a featured artist in May 2017 at the Pacific Film Archives "Headlights" concert as part of the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love.

"A Thousand Kisses Deep: The Songs of Leonard Cohen" is the creative production of Emery-er, KVMR’s news director and a promoter and musician who lives in Nevada City.

In 2011, the musicians and others. More recently, he was a featured artist in May 2017 at the Pacific Film Archives "Headlights" concert as part of the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love.

"A Thousand Kisses Deep: The Songs of Leonard Cohen" is the creative production of Emery, KVMR’s news director and a promoter and musician who lives in Nevada City.

In 2011, the musicians performed for three sold-out shows at the Center for the Arts in Grass Valley and later took to the stage at the Nevada Theatre in Nevada City and the 24th Street Theatre in Sacramento. They have since done 14 shows, selling out 11 times.

The eight-piece band and six singers bring the instrumentation of Cohen’s last touring band with woodwinds, strings, guitars and keyboards and back-up singers.

"For some people Cohen’s music is just beginning to resonate," Emery said. "His melodies are timeless. His poetry is deep and profound and constantly offers new insights and reactions years after their first hearing. The lyrical depth and beauty of Leonard Cohen’s music is an endless well of inspiration to those who love his music. The songs never grow old and each performance reveals a new layer of inspiration to the audience and players alike."

The idea to organize the tribute show came to Emery after traveling with McCann to see Cohen on his 2010 World Tour.

“Paul and I had both just seen his live show where you could say he quite literally levitated his audience," said McCann, who sings “Dance Me to the End of Love” and “Joan of Arc” with Emery.

Emery would spend months in rehearsals and on stage through his 2010 World Tour.

"His music has a richness that stirs the soul," said Bass, who adds, “His music and band, specifically Cohen’s use of a variety of singers. Bassist Pat Jacobsen became the show’s music director and took leadership of charting the arrangement and arrangements of the music and band, specifically Cohen’s use of a variety of singers. Bassist Pat Jacobsen became the show’s music director and took leadership of charting the arrangements and leading the band in rehearsals and on stage through more than 17 of Cohen’s songs, including “Suzanne,” “I’m Your Man” and “Hallelujah.”

"His music has a richness that stirs the soul," said Bass, who sings in the show. “For me, it’s the way he looks at the world and our humanness, our nakedness in this harsh yet beautiful world.”

Tickets for the Paul Emery and Swell Productions show are $35 for premium reserved seating and $25 for general admission. They can be purchased by calling 916-344-0110 or visiting crestsacramento.com. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. The Crest Theatre is located at 1013 K Street in Sacramento.
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Nevada City Advocate
More National memories 

Last month, the Nevada City Rotary Club celebrated the end of an era at The National Hotel, where for more than 80 years it held forth at the historic hotel during weekly lunches. The club was founded in 1935 at The National and after 39 years as its longest owner, long-time Rotarian Tom Coleman shared fond memories and stories of the rich history and their legacy at the club’s February 15 meeting.

Club members presented Tom with an original painting of famous hotel by local artist Betsy Lombard, which was purchased at The Alexander Gallery. For the next month or so, the Club will be checking out sites for its new home base. Last month, the club met at Trolley Junction for lunch.

The group encourages guests and visiting Rotarians to participate at the meetings, which are held on the first and third Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.; second and fourth Thursdays are 12:15 p.m. lunch meetings.

Scientology memoir


Hall reveals what drew her into the religion – what she found intriguing and useful – and how she came to confront its darker sides. She will celebrate her new memoir at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at the Stone House, 107 Sacramento St., Nevada City. For more information, email yubalit@gmail.com.

NCTV tackling issues

Where Do We Go From Here? is a series based on local and national issues that will NCTV will explore on Monday nights. It is produced and funded by Lew Sitzer, Stifel Financial and friends. Al Dover, Eric Tomb and Sitzer are the hosts. Topics include homelessness, local judges, CoRR, Bost House, Cliff Newell and Sierra Roots. For a schedule, visit nevadacountytv.org. For more information, call 530-272-8862.

Tom Coleman and his partner Ernie Kehn hold a painting of The National Hotel that was done by Betsy Lombard. The painting was presented at a Nevada City Rotary Club meeting at the hotel.

Karen Newell Young & Stacy Drake

Around Town
March is Women’s History month. Its roots are found in the first International Women’s Day, which was March 8, 1911. In 1978, a school district in Sonoma spent the week of March 8 celebrating the achievements of women. The idea caught on and in 1980 President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the week of March 8 National Women’s History Week.

Six years later, Congress voted to expand the honor for the entire month of March. At Yubadocs, we are especially grateful to women who have made an impact in medicine. The first woman to earn a medical degree in the United States was abolitionist Elizabeth Blackwell, who graduated from Geneva Medical College in upstate New York in 1849. Finding it difficult to work in the field because of the prejudice against women in medicine, Dr. Blackwell opened the New York Infirmary for Indigent Women and Children with her sister Emily, the third woman to graduate from a U.S. medical school. California pioneers include women like Lucy Field, MD, who in 1876 became the first woman to graduate from a medical school in California. Drs. Charlotte Blake Brown, Sara Brown and Martha Bucknell established Children’s Hospital of San Francisco in 1875. And Dr. Emma Willits, one of the first female surgeons in the country, was the first to head a department of See Health on back page.
Chapa-De: Opiates, diabetes among challenges

Continued from page 1

chief executive officer of the Grass Valley facility. “When our architect and former CEO got together, they intentionally designed it as a Roundhouse, which we call pods.”

“Our previous CEO, Carol Ervin, was with the organization for 25 years, and this clinic was kind of her legacy,” she added.

“So much detail went into this building … and we want it to be as welcoming as possible.”

Davies, who has been CEO since 2010, started at Chapa-De in 2002 as a compliance director. Chapa-De was founded in 1974.

A study was done in the late 1960s and early 70s by the state that evaluated health care for American Indians in California. One of the big things it learned was that many people on Rancherias had never been to a dentist, Davies said.

The study also revealed a higher incidence of diabetes, depression and substance abuse, as well as higher rates of infant mortality. Davies said the American Indian community then came together and applied for federal and state grant funding.

“A group of American Indians in Auburn, who later became the United Auburn Indian Community, got together and opened a part-time dental office with one dental chair. Those were our beginnings,” she said.

Today, Chapa-De’s two private, non-profit community health centers serve more than 24,000 patients, with about 29 percent being American Indian.

“In 2012, our board looked out and saw the Affordable Care Act coming and looked at our communities and saw a population of Medi-Cal patients of maybe 30,000 or 40,000,” Davies said. “And there are few providers that take Medi-Cal.”

The board, she said, decided to “expand to meet the need. So that’s what we did. We changed our practices and have expanded to about 230 employees between the two centers.”

Medical Director Dr. Tracy Thompson has been with the organization for over a year. He previously served for more than 20 years in several clinical facilities for the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. He said that Chapa-De focuses on an integrated patient-centered model that stresses not only medical care but preventive health education, from prenatal to older patients.

“Whenever patients come in for their visits, such as child visits, along with their treatments we give the parents information about diet, safety and what they can do at home. It really starts with our prenatal program and continues on through childhood,” Dr. Thompson said. “As we age, and you continue to see us, we are on that journey with care and education.”

Davies said that there is a team approach to preventive care and treatment in healthy eating, smoking cessation, behavioral health, diabetic education and treatment, and opioid abuse.

“There is a major opiate problem in Nevada County, and we have two programs that address that,” Davies said. “One is called PACE, and it’s a program for people who have been prescribed opiates. They go through that program first, learning strategies to manage pain. An adjunct to that is the use of buprenorphine for managing pain. It’s a replacement to help folks get off opiates. We have a whole program for that and it’s pretty intense, with classes managed by an RN.”

The biggest treatment challenge coming through the door, however, remains related to diabetes.

“It’s so rampant, and it’s related to our population being overweight,” Dr. Thompson said. “You could almost call it the silent killer, because many people don’t know they have it.”

Mental health is also an ongoing problem.

“We do have a psychiatrist at this facility, and therapists also, but I think it’s such a problem because people don’t want to talk about it, it’s kind of a taboo subject,” he said.

Working as a team, Davies said doctors and therapists talk to each other and make recommendations for patients. The facility also limits its provider load to 16 patients per day, so more time can be spent with patients.

“There’s a famous saying that the ideal health care system is not one that profits from the patients, but connects with them,” Davies said. “And that’s totally what we are after here.”

Below: An aerial view of the Grass Valley facility shows the Roundhouse design.
Dew Drop Inn: Burlesque, karaoke now on tap

Continued from page 1

Health: Women should take care of themselves as well

Continued from page 10

Today, the pool is long-gone, filled in with a beautiful lawn area for outdoor events, but the Dew Drop Inn is still going strong and has been sitting on the site of the original pool house since 1942. It is truly an example of an original "road house," and new owners Marcus and Lori Godfrey like it that way. The couple took over the business in April 2017 and has breathed new life into the place, while keeping its traditional feel.

"The Dew Drop has been a family gathering place for my family, the Holcombs, for many years," Lori Holcomb Godfrey said. "My grandmother bartended here and my uncle played music here since the late 1960s early 70s, and I also bartended here when I first moved up here. We had our family reunion be here last year. One day I met my aunt and uncle at the Dew Drop and the old owner was showing the bar to someone, in order to sell it. Well the guy came in and wanted to tear it down."

Lori had been a paramedic for 14 years and had been looking for a career change away from the grueling emergency service.

"We had been looking for a plan in order to get her off the ambulance," Marcus Godfrey said. "When she told me the bar was for sale, I thought that was the coolest idea. I said 'That's the plan. Let's do that.' So, we came in and talked to the owner, kind of circled the wagons, and we figured a way out to do it."

Marcus also has a background in the medical field, as an ER nurse, which led to the couple's initial meeting.

"She brought me a patient at three in the morning, and I asked her out," he said with a smile. This has also led to a private joke that the Dew Drop is the safest bar in town, with two highly trained medical professionals that can answer questions while serving the cocktails.

"We may be new to the bar business, but we know the medical business," she said, laughing.

Under the guidance of the Godfreys, the bar has rapidly expanded its musical offerings, as well as other special events. A large schedule board for February shows bands twice a week, as well as nine-ball tournament (Monday), karaoke (Tuesday), 19727 Cerrito Road, Grass Valley. For information, call 530-206-1065.

"We also have the Burlesque show every fourth Saturday of every other month," Marcus said. "It's very popular with the super professional, and I think we're about to have our fifth one next month."

The Naughty Badly Revue show is put together by Bridgette von Derriere, who has a troupe of talent from all over Northern California, and each show is different from the next. She also teaches the Burlesque class at the club.

Being located north of Auburn and 10 miles from Grass Valley, the city has not seriously impacted the club's business, according to the couple.

"Our main clientele is everybody between Grass Valley and Auburn," said Marcus. "There's 85,000 people in this area, living within about 15 miles of here. Our group is the neighborhood, and the neighborhood is huge. We just hope they don’t all show up at once!"

Lori also noted that they host special events, such as toy drives and memorials, for motorcycle clubs and day riders, but it’s not a large part of their clientele.

"The Dew Drop sort of had the reputation as being a motorcycle club bar, but now it's everybody’s bar," Marcus said. "As we were buying the bar, we made a point of coming here and meeting the regulars. And we promised them we wouldn’t change the vibe of the bar, but we were going to make it more accommodating for a younger crowd, a hipper crowd. We want it to still be comfortable for the regulars. Lori's done a great job of cleaning the place up, putting a nice polish on it, and updating things."

"The Godfreys have left iconic features such as the ceiling (which sports money and other memorabilia pinned to it) and some of the original color schemes, so the locals still recognize their familiar haunt. "Everybody that walks in it's like they are coming into a place they have always known, it's home," Lori said.

Besides a full weekly schedule, the couple is planning for more special events in the future.

"We have a festival in the works for October, a country/ bluegrass concert. It’ll be outside and will have multiple stages for entertainers to play as well as jam," Lori said. "A musician came in yesterday from Jamaica, and I booked him for a reggae show on March 18, and he wants to do a reggae festival as well."

With new ideas, but keeping a traditional feel, the Godfreys are reviving a true Gold Country roadhouse and are looking forward to making more memories at the Dew Drop Inn. There may be no more 75-cent chicken dinners, but there’s plenty of good vibes and great entertainment at this historic neighborhood club.

The Dew Drop Inn is located at 19727 Cerrito Road, Grass Valley. For information, call 530-206-1065.

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In 1936, the Dew Drop Inn opened its stream-fed pool. Today, club's was the original poolhouse, and the pool a large lawn.