



# THE GOLD COUNTRY TIMES

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FREE

## Concurrent Resolution Press Release

*House of Representatives Resolution First Step in Addressing Crisis in Caregiving*

A concurrent resolution that has passed unanimously in the U.S. House of Representatives is an important first step in addressing the looming age wave crisis that could jeopardize the independence of millions of older adults, according to senior-care industry and Congressional representatives.

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## Chairs for Charity coming January 30, 2010

Garden art is the theme of the second annual Calaveras Chairs for Charity fundraiser on Jan 30 at the Native Sons Hall in Murphys. The unique event begins at 5 p.m. and features art, music, food and philanthropy fun with live and silent auctions of unusual chair art by professional artists, community groups and individuals.

Rousing rounds of Xtreme Musical Chairs, a crowd-pleaser at the Inaugural Chairs event in January 2009, will again entertain the crowd. Tickets are \$25 and go on sale in November. Three community non-profit groups are joining forces again to present Chairs for Charity. Building on the success of the original event, the Calaveras Community Foundation, Calaveras Arts Council and Soroptimist International of Calaveras County have expanded the evening to include dinner and are inviting a broad range of artworks beyond the event's namesake chairs.

Entries are not limited to actual chairs this time although decorated outdoor chairs and benches are expected to be the most popular entries. Also welcome are artworks of chairs in

SQUAW VALLEY - Secretary for Natural Resources Mike Chrisman announced the launch of a new environmental license plate campaign to support projects that benefit the Sierra Nevada. "This is an opportunity for all Californians to show their support for the Sierra Nevada, and at the same time help fund meaningful projects to improve watershed health, reduce fire risk, protect our open spaces, and promote recreation in the Region," Chrisman said.

"Everyone loves the Sierra for their own reasons, and now we have a way of showing our support. I urge every Californian to consider making a pledge in support of the Sierra Nevada."

Chrisman announced the license plate campaign during a Board meeting of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), held as the Conservancy marks its five-year anniversary. Governor Schwarzenegger created the SNC on Sept 23, 2004 when he signed bi-partisan legislation drafted by former Assemblymen John Laird (D) and Tim Leslie (R).

The new plate features a collage of mountains, streams,

## New Sierra Nevada License Plate Launched



Protect natural habitats with this special license plate. Photo courtesy to the Gold Country Times

blue sky, and a bear. The DMV will issue plates as soon as the first 7,500 are sold. The new plate can be purchased at [www.sierralicenseplate.org](http://www.sierralicenseplate.org). "This license plate campaign will fund actual projects, not operating expenses," said Jim Branham, Executive Officer of

the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. "Proceeds will directly fund the Conservancy's efforts to protect and restore the majestic landscapes in the Sierra, which includes its rivers and streams, lakes, meadows and forests, farms and ranches, and rural towns and communities." Addi-

tionally, funds will allow the SNC to continue its work to protect watersheds, reduce the risk of natural disasters, and aid in the preservation of working landscapes, and so much more. To date, the Conservancy has awarded some \$20 million in projects.



Connie Strawbridge submitted the first chair for this event. Courtesy Photo

garden settings – including paintings, sculptures, prints, photographs, and more. Artworks will be judged prior to the event to select ten items for the Live Auction. Other entries will be featured in the silent auction.

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## Mother Lode's only African-American Civil War Veteran to be Honored for the first Time

BURSON, CA – The soldier believed to be the only African-American Civil War veteran buried in the Mother Lode will be honored in Calaveras County at a special ceremony at his gravesite for the first time. At 10 a.m., Saturday, November 7, the weekend before Veterans Day, the Society for the Preservation of West Calaveras History (SPWCH) will commemorate the service and heroism of Sgt. John W. Dawson, Co. C, 22nd U.S. Colored Troops, as well as all of the county's long-forgotten Union Civil War veterans.

The event, which will include a "tolling of the bell" and a bugler's playing of "Taps," will take place at the Jenny Lind Cemetery (Baldwin St. off Jenny Lind Rd.). Also participating will be Sylvia Roberts, executive director of the Sonora-based Mother Lode Black Heritage Foundation and author of *Mining For Freedom: Black History Meets The California Gold Rush*.

The public is invited. Along with Sgt. Dawson, honored at the ceremony will be the 27 Calaverasites who died in uniform fighting for the Union during the war (none of them buried in the county). Sgt. Dawson, a freed slave from Virginia, reportedly

received a commendation for bravery from President Abraham Lincoln for his actions at the Battle of Petersburg.

Today, his name can be seen among those of more than 200,000 other African-Americans inscribed on the Wall of Honor at the African-American Civil War Memorial in Washington, DC. Historian and author Manna added that there are more than 553 Calaveras Union veterans; his research continues. A project covering the Confederate veterans of Calaveras has also begun. For info, contact [sal@calaverashistory.org](mailto:sal@calaverashistory.org) or [spwch@ourvalleysprings.com](mailto:spwch@ourvalleysprings.com).

**Sacred Heart's Schola Cantorum** and Conductor Donald Kendrick will collaborate in a special concert-recital with internationally renowned Organist Dr. Roger Nyquist at Sacred Heart Church, 39th at J Street, Sacramento, on Sunday, October 18th at 3 PM. The program will feature this 34 voice choir in works spanning three centuries. Schola Cantorum has recorded six CDs and has appeared in concert throughout the West Coast and in England, Spain, Italy, Austria and Canada. Schola performed at the Vatican in Rome for the Pope during their 2007 concert tour to Italy.

*In This Good News Issue ...*

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