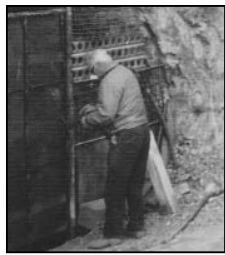
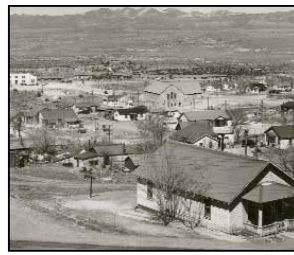




**Pioche Walking Tour**  
Page 4



**The Wilkin Family Legacy**  
Page 10



**Labor Day Then**  
Page 12



**Labor Day Now**  
Page 13

# TREASURE HILL CHRONICLES

Summer, 2011

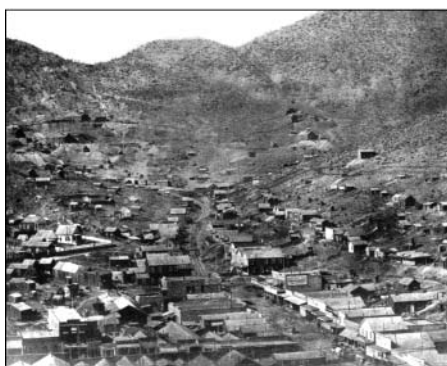
PIOCHE THEN AND NOW



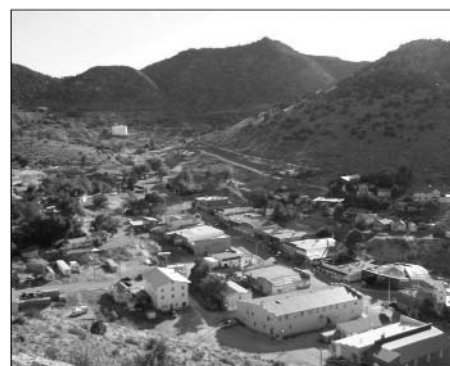
Moon rolling off the Tram Station.

## Welcome TO OUR TOWN

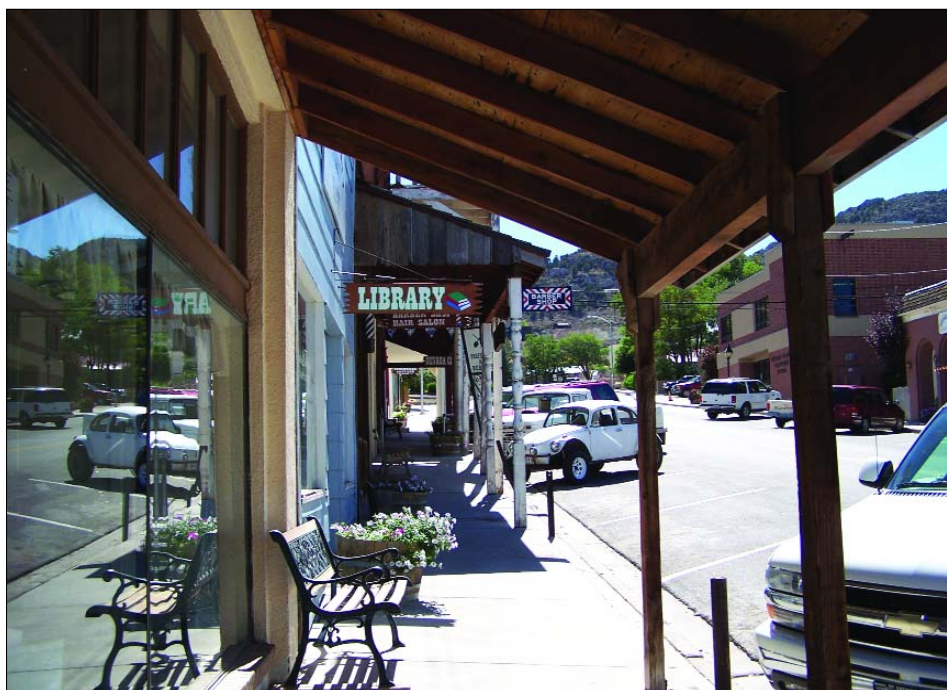
Before you set out to explore the town and its surroundings, please take a few minutes to browse through this informative little paper. You will find a tour of the uptown historic district, a brief overview of life in a boom town mining camp miles from mainstream America that is in stark contrast to the present day village. We are surrounded with what is probably our biggest asset, the natural World of the high desert of southeastern Nevada. You will find a description of our state parks, nearly endless public lands, the wildlife viewing, hunting and fishing possibilities. For those that want to stay a while, our businesses are advertising their services and for those that might be tempted to permanently join us for a more laid back lifestyle, we have included a relocation section with a listing of community services, fees, etc. Lastly, we have included a bibliography for further reading and internet browsing.



Pioche in 1870 before the big fire



Pioche in 2009 taken from Lime Hill



Looking south up Pioche Main Street.



By Roscoe Wilkes

In Pioche, Nevada, proceed to the old Million Dollar Courthouse on LaCour Street, then cross the street to the east and look down over the embankment. Below you will see the general area where the mine was or should have been or might have been had intervening circumstances not occurred.

Ma Steward was, grossly understating and treating the matter with great gentleness and kind disposition, a character, topping the list of Pioche characters of which there were in the late 1920's and 1930's more than just a few.

When I knew Ma, I would think her to be in her 50's, a portly woman most always attired in Levis and with a self-rolled Bull Durham cigarette dangling from her lips. On Labor Day she strapped a six-shooter on each hip to complement the dozen or so plastic bracelets, each a different color, on her wrist and arms. Ma was friendly, outgoing, outspoken, more manly in her walk and actions than feminine. She marched only to her own drum and took nothing from anyone when her point of view was placed in question. She was the mother of five boys; particularly there was Jack - Jack Steward.

As Ma was not your usual person, so, in a different way was Jack. He was a very interesting boy, especially to those two or three years his junior. At 15 he was very innovative, and no challenge was too big for him to tackle. He made his own skis, and from scratch put together a Model T Ford from parts scrounged from anywhere and everywhere. That car was thinly spread, consisting only of a radiator, an engine, a frame, wheels, gas tank and steering wheel. It ran sometimes blindly and foolishly up and down the town's streets.

Other boys followed Jack around. His energy was boundless, never a dull moment. He got things done now, not later. These attributes and his personality caused many of us to find him captivating. He was flat out interesting and fun to be around, a leader.

We lived and were growing up in a small mining town 6000 feet above sea level. Mines and mining were a significant part of our lives and often had a place at dinner table and other conversations. It was not an unnatural development when Jack and several more of us decided one day that it would be very nice to have a mine of our very own - - - let's do it.

Step one: With a pick, shovel and bar we dug a square-shaped hole down about one foot deep. Every mine must have a hoist.

We found a windless, an apparatus operated by hand and often used for bringing dirt out of a digging. It consisted of a 12 inch round log drum upon which was wound a rope attached to a five gallon Bucket.

In one corner of our shaft was an upright 2 x 4 on top of which we placed a cow bell and a sturdy string. When the miner working in the shaft had filled the bucket, he would pull the string and ring the bell once. The hoistman on top would operate the windless, pull the bucket to the surface where the "top man" would empty it and ring the bell twice, the signal for the hoistman to lower the empty skip (bucket) down into the mine again.

These procedures were religiously followed until that mine achieved a depth of a little over three feet. Those participating paid no heed to the fact that the underground miner could at any time, if he chose to do so, reach over and personally shake hands with the hoistman or the top man. No,

this was a mine, and proper procedures must prevail, one bell for up, two bells for down. There could be no other way.

When the depth of our mine reached about three and a half feet, bad luck struck. We hit a rock. Trying to dig around it and then pry it out didn't succeed. The rock was too big, about the size of the entire bottom of the shaft.

Jack says, "We're going to have to drill, and then blast it to ever get it out, but we ain't got no drills, and we ain't got no powder. We're stuck. Winter will be coming along soon anyway. So, let's shut her down until spring. Maybe by then we can come up with an answer." We shut her down temporarily.

Fast forward: Six months later I said to Jack, The weather is good again. Why don't we start up our mine?"

"We can't do it, we can't."

"Why I pleaded, "you said we could, why not?"

"C'mon, I'll show you." We walked to the mine. I couldn't believe my eyes. There, square on top of our mine stood a two-hole outhouse, a privy.

"Who did that?"

Jack: "Ma did it." I felt distinctly prevailed upon. "She can't do that; it's our mine."

"Ya, well, why don't you tell that to Ma?"

It was over; I knew it — fini - caput. No way was I going to lock horns with Ma. It was over.

*From High Desert Tales from the Not So Wild West. Copyright 2010 Roscoe H. Wilkes*






# LINCOLN COUNTY GOLF COURSE

By Peggy Decker

First, we would like to give a little information about our course to readers that may not have read previous issues of 'Treasure Hill Chronicles'.

The 2011 Golf season is now in full swing at the Lincoln County Golf Course located on Pioche Parks & Recreation land off SR322 at mile marker 2 (there is also a sign at the road entrance). Association Membership is \$25 a year, everyone is welcome and encouraged to play. There is no set fee, but a suggested minimum donation of \$5 per round will be gladly accepted. We have no paid staff; therefore the course is improved and maintained completely by volunteers. All donations and fund raising go entirely into these efforts.

The course is a 9-hole executive course with seven par 3 and two par 4 holes (Par 29) with a total length of 1,656 yards. All greens and tee boxes are of artificial turf with five of them surrounded with an artificial fringe, the other four have landing zones of grass. This grass is maintained by a gravity flow sprinkling system. We may not have the fanciest or most beautiful course in the world, but we do have the most unique - just come out and play a round and you will have the time of your life.

The goal for our course is to be a model for what low maintenance golf can be without just playing on dirt. Constructing and maintaining grass greens and tee-boxes is prohibitively expensive and labor intensive for small, remote communities, so we settled on a nine-hole executive course with the latest technology in artificial turf greens.

We have special rules for the dirt fairways: mats or tees are allowed and winter rules are in force. The ball can be moved up to two club lengths in the rough (which is really rough), but no aids such as tees or mats can be used, although if a handy weed or tuft of grass happens to fall within those two club lengths, the players are allowed to place the ball upon them.

The course is a work in progress, and we are so proud of our accomplishments to date. This year (2011), our goal was to get power and water to our main site and this is well on its way.

We now have drinking water piped to the site where the area is being prepared for a permanent facility. Land has been cleared to bring power to the site and as soon as the Utility Company can start putting the line in, that task will be complete.

These are major improvements and ones that we have been working on for



years. Since there is still a lot of work remaining to be done, if any of you reading this article feel like you can help in any way - a donation of money, material, or a few hours of work, anything will be appreciated very much. If you would like any information about the course please call 775-962-1107 or 775-962-2616, Peggy or Dick will help you out. Thank you!

Labor Day is fast approaching and the Association is planning their 10th annual 'Do It In The Dirt' golf tournament on Saturday, Sept. 3. It will be a four-man scramble with tee times at 7 & 9 AM with

a fee of \$20.00 per person. In addition to your round of golf, you will receive a special t-shirt. If you are interested in joining us this year, please call Peggy at 775-962-5206 or 775-962-1107 for your tee time (past years' tee times have been filled so please call early). First, Second and Third prizes will be awarded and a great time will be had by all. We are also planning our annual auction on Sunday, Sept. 4. This has turned out to be an eagerly anticipated event that is enjoyed by all ages. All items are donated and are usually of fine quality; there is something for everyone.

## Treasure Hill Chronicles

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Lincoln County



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See more of Pioche at [www.piochenevada.org](http://www.piochenevada.org)

## Group Visits to Pioche —

The Pioche Chamber of Commerce welcomes your group to our town. In addition to the varied outdoor recreation available in Lincoln County, the Chamber is pleased to provide the informational tours and possible discounts for your group.

Town Tour – Guided tour of Pioche

A local resident will meet your group of 10 or more at different locations in town to provide information and answer questions. There is no charge, but donations are always gratefully accepted at both the Lincoln County Museum on Main St and the Courthouse Museum. Note: the Chamber cannot provide transportation.

Discounts – Retail businesses may provide discounts especially for your group.

Golf – Pioche has an executive length 9 hole golf course, par 29 with two par 4 holes and 7 par 3 holes. The course has dirt fairways and golfers can use mats or tee up to avoid damage to clubs. Two riding carts are available for rent, and a few pull carts may be available (advance notice required for both). Mats and scorecards are provided. A minimum \$5 donation is requested to play. (Some visitors scoffed at the rustic course, but later found they really enjoyed it.) Here is a link for more information:

<http://golf.travelnevada.com/destination/lincoln-county-golf-course.aspx>

# THOMPSON OPERA HOUSE

## Town working to maximize use of historic building

By Les Derkovitch

The Pioche community is working to maximize utilization of the historic Thompson's Opera House since its extensive renovation. One way to do that was originated by the Pioche Chamber of Commerce. The idea was to move the headquarters of the Chamber from its old Cottage building on upper main street into the lower floor of the Thompson's Opera House.

By relocating the visitor center here, the hope for a two for one effect was realized. Now the Thompson's Opera House is open on the week-ends when we have volunteer workers to both answer questions for tourists regarding things to see in the area, plus to show the Opera House to them.

The Opera House has since its reopening seen usage for business meetings, wedding receptions and parties, one prom and various other smaller events.

The County, as well as the Pioche Chamber of Commerce, is hoping to further expand usage. We're still looking for the first time a "show" schedules



here to help recapture the reason for the Opera House's origin. When visitors pop in for tourist help or want to see the Opera House, they always express how interesting the building is, and do want to learn about some of the unique utilization it has had in the past.

The Opera House has just had wireless Internet installed in the building, which is expected to help improve interest by groups and businesses needing to rent it for workshops and training sessions, where use of the Internet is necessary to conduct business.

The Chamber is working to increase the display of artifacts that were part of the building during its earlier life, as well as setting up displays to further show off its history.



To date, it seems that the idea of moving the Chamber of Commerce office to the Thompson's Opera House has been a success, as there has been a significantly larger influx of people stopping in for information about the area now as opposed to the original location.

Currently it is necessary to staff the building with volunteer help and, with the current state of the economy, it appears that it may be that way far into the future.

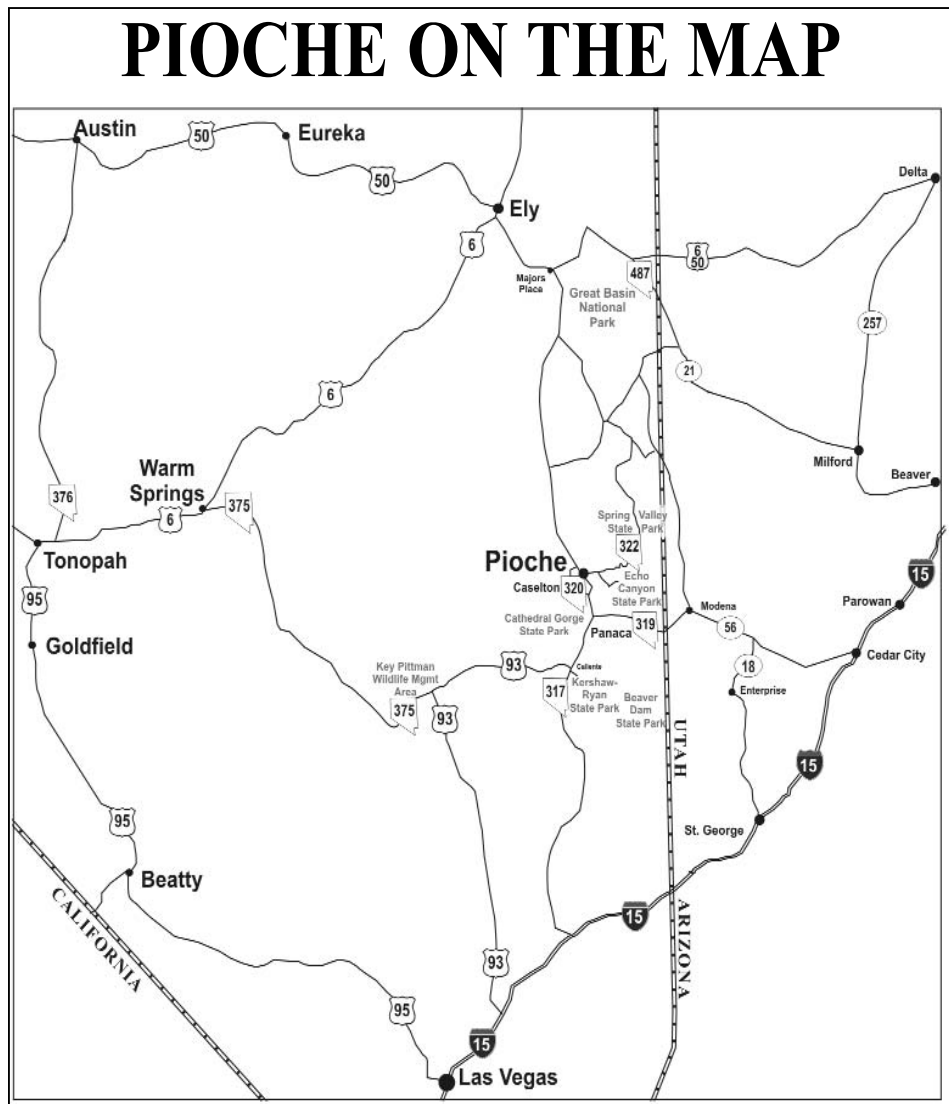
Here in Pioche, as well as the rest of the country, the practice of volunteering some time in your community seems to be losing favor.

The hope is that we can find more people to staff the building, to the point

where it is open seven days a week. We hope to find some young people who have a need to volunteer some time, and want to help promote the town of Pioche, as well as the Thompson's Opera House to tourists.

Summer residents are most welcome to volunteer. If anyone has a successful plan to staff with volunteers, let me know the secret please, as finding additional help is a difficult task.

When you are in Pioche, please stop in to see us at the Thompson's Opera House. Other points of interest not to be missed are the Million Dollar Court House, Boot Hill, Lincoln County Museum, and a walk uptown on Main St. All are part of Pioche's colorful past.



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# PIOCHE, NEVADA

## WALKING TOUR



### 1. The Million Dollar Courthouse

The Million Dollar Courthouse was designed by Edward Donahue and was built in 1871. It is constructed of brick and stone and borders on the "Classic Revival" style of architecture with its detailing and proportion. The Courthouse originally cost \$16,400, and the jail an additional \$10,000, for a total of \$26,400. Due to "cost over-runs" at the beginning of the project by politicians, and delayed payments with mounting interest, the price soon ballooned to nearly 1 million dollars (\$800,000) by 1936 when it was finally paid off.

### 2. The Mountain View Hotel

The Mountain View Hotel was built in 1895 by the Ely Valley Mines to house their guests. It is a combination of styles including "Shingle" style and early 1900's "Classic Box". The building is presently in need of restoration.

### 3. St. John's Masonic Lodge

St. John's Masonic Lodge has been in continuous operation since 1873, making it one of Nevada's oldest lodges. It is constructed of stone and brick, and is a typical "False Front Pioneer" style.

### 4. The Miner's Market

The Miner's Market is located north of the Silver Café, on the corner of Main St. and LaCour Street. The store opened in 2008 and is operated by Debbie Sandoval and her son Dee. The town had been without a grocery store since the closing of the last one in 2002. In earlier days, the building was the site of Amsden Garage, Foglianis car dealership, Orr's garage for almost 30 years, and Alfano Brothers' The Workshop (custom woodwork).

### 5. The Commercial Club/Amsden Buildings

The Commercial Club/Amsden Buildings, built about 1865, are located at the junction of

Main and LaCour streets and were once the hub of community activity. Pioche's old Fire House is adjacent to the Amsden building, and it served for nearly 40 years as the fire house and apartment for the fire chief. Attorney A. L. Scott owned the Commercial Club Building for almost 50 years beginning around 1916. He conducted his law practice on the first floor and lived in the basement area.

### 6. Historic Silver Café

Historic Silver Café, located north of the antique store has been in business for 103 years under several owners. It is one of the oldest continuously operated businesses in the state. Sisters Judy Kwiatowski and Julie White have owned and operated the restaurant for the past several years. They expanded a few years ago with the opening of the adjacent Silver Mine Gift Shop.

### 7. Purple Onion Antique Store

The antique store was first Welland's Mercantile, then Gottfredson's Dry Goods, followed by Cowley's Drug Store and later, the Baptist Church-Treasure Chest. Corbett's Antiques opened in 1993 but has been closed the past few years. Leo & Dee Schafer opened Purple Onion Antiques & Collectibles in May 2010 on a part time seasonal basis.

### 8. The Lincoln County Market

The Lincoln County Market housed the Navajo Bar before being converted into the Stop and Shop grocery market, which was closed in 2002. The building is being offered for sale by owner Jim Vincent.

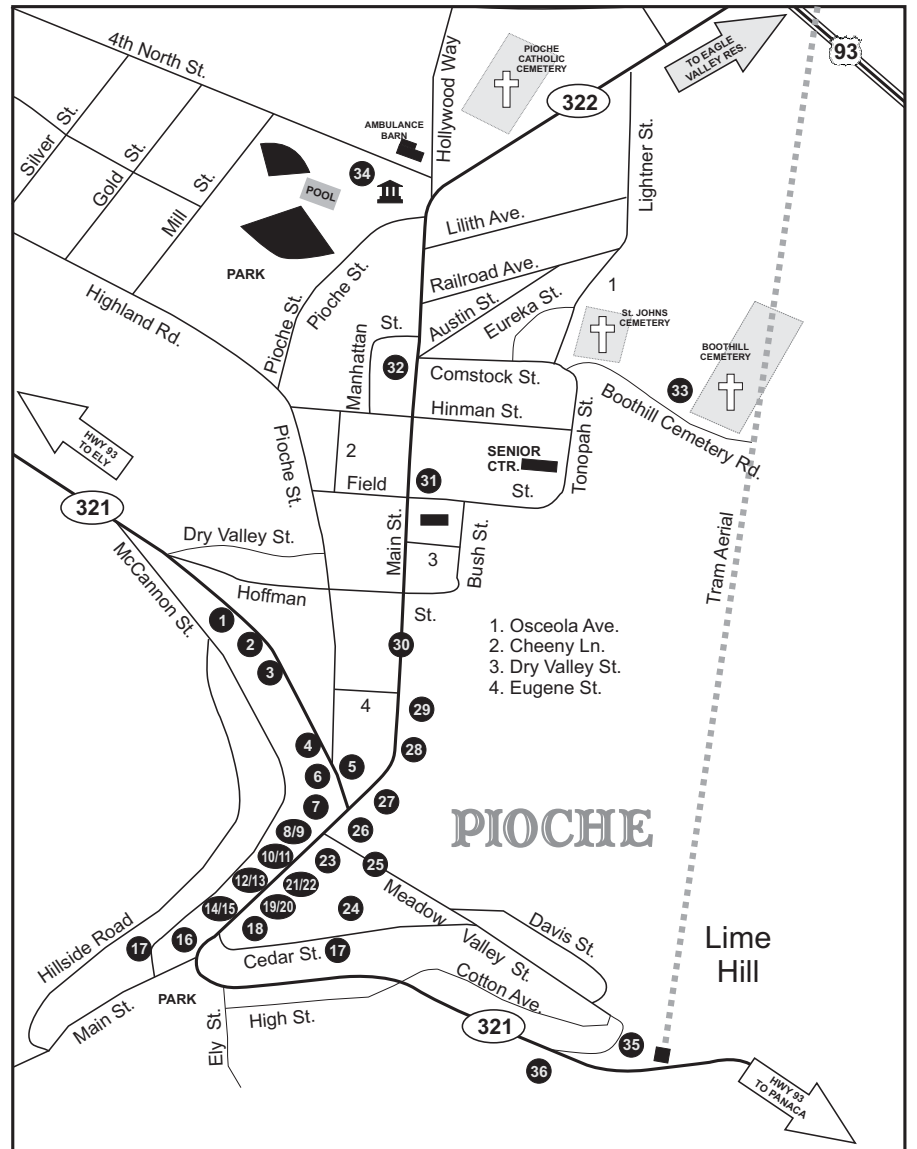
### 9. Dougherty's Fine Jewelry

John Dougherty opened Dougherty's Fine Jewelry in 2009. It previously was a deli and part of the Lincoln County Market.

### 10. Grubsteak Dinner House (formerly known as part of the Bank Club Building)

In the Bank Club Building, former businesses Lincoln County Market and Treasure Chest have weathered the storms of Main Street, including fires and mining boom and bust cycles. Many businesses have come and gone in these buildings. John Valenti operated the Bank Club bar and café for many years and 1996, it was remodeled into the Grubsteak Dinner House, which closed in 2001. It reopened in spring 2010 as the Grub Pub and Deli and closed in September 2010.

## Walking Tour Map and Legend



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. The Million Dollar Courthouse                 | 19-20. Commerce Cottage & Pioche Hotel             |
| 2. The Mountain View Hotel                       | 21-22. Nevada Club & Pioche Odd Fellows Hall       |
| 3. St. John's Masonic Lodge                      | 23. Lincoln County Museum                          |
| 4. The Miner's Market                            | 24. Miner's Union Hall                             |
| 5. Commercial Club/Amsden Building               | 25. Meadow Valley Street                           |
| 6. Silver Café & Silver Mine Gift Shop           | 26. Leader Store Building                          |
| 7. Purple Onion Antiques                         | 27. Overland Bar & Hotel                           |
| 8-9. Lincoln County Market & Dougherty's Jewelry | 28. Brown/Thompson Opera House                     |
| 10-11. Bank Club Building & Pioche Mercantile    | 29. Orr Garage                                     |
| 12-13. Pioche News Stand & Stever's Store        | 30. Main Street                                    |
| 14-15. Alamo Club & Rainbow Cable                | 31. Pioche School                                  |
| 16. Stockum House                                | 32. Pioche Town Hall                               |
| 17. McCannon & Cedar Streets                     | 33. Boot Hill                                      |
| 18. Pioche Record                                | 34. Lincoln County Court House                     |
|  | 35. Pioche Aerial Tramway                          |
|  | 36. Treasure Hill (Nevada Centennial Marker No. 5) |

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### 11. The Pioche Mercantile (Buggy Whip)

The Pioche Mercantile was originally known as Hodges & Cook Mercantile. The Christian Brothers, Edwin and Lloyd, operated the store for about 40 years, following the death of their father in about 1925. For years they handled groceries and would order any amount of needed mail order supplies that you would want. The business was acquired from Edwin Christian by Jerome and Tom Sears, descendants of J. L. Sears, a telegrapher that came to Pioche around 1873 from New York. Tom sold the business in 2001. Ted Daskas is the present owner, and it is now a second-hand store.

### 12. The Pioche News Stand (presently occupied by The Rag Doll)

The Pioche News Stand was originally built in the 1860's, and was partially burned then rebuilt in the early 1870's and in 1919. The false front "Pioneer" style and treatment of the fake brick tin appears to date from the early 1900s. The first telephone system was operated from this building and was owned by J. W. Christian. For many years, part of this building was used as the Pioche Post Office. The Rag Doll gift shop now occupies this area. The News Stand and Phone Company area is now used as storage by the owners, the Christian family.

### 13. Stever's Store and Beauty Shop (presently owned by SNWA)

Stever's Store and Beauty Shop, originally built in the late 1860's, was partially burned and then rebuilt several times. It served as Stever's Apparel Store and The Garden Bar from 1934 until 1997, when the Stever family sold the business. It has gone through several hands since, and the current owner is the Southern Nevada Water Authority.



### 14. The Bank Club (formerly known as the Alamo Club)

The Alamo Club was originally built in the mid 1800s and was The Pioche Bank. It is noted for the large bank vault in the rear of the building. Throughout the years this business has hosted many notables and derelicts alike. Ernie Ferri operated the Alamo Club bar and gambling business for about 30 years, and upon his death, his wife Lena continued to run the business. The Ferris owned the oldest continuous gaming and liquor license in the state of Nevada for many years until the 1988 sale. The current owner, Jim Marsh, purchased the building and business from Shirley Scott and renamed the bar to "The Bank Club" in 2003.

### 15. Pioche's First U.S. Post Office and Western Union Office (presently Rainbow Cable)

Pioche's first U.S. Post Office and Western Union Office building was constructed in 1864 of stone to resist fire. The

post office was established on August 17, 1870. Western Union service commenced in 1873. The front was later remodeled and modernized several times, but in 1985 the owners, the John Christian family, had the front rebuilt to its original design. Over the years, it has served as a café and has housed many other businesses. It is presently used by Rainbow Cable and Cell Phone Sales, a division of the Lincoln County Telephone System network of services.

### 16. The Stockum House

The Stockum House is one of the rare survivors of age and fire in this part of Main Street. It was built in 1866 and has been used as a residence, boarding house, hotel, church and once housed the Francois L. A. Pioche Art Gallery. It is presently a photography portrait studio.

### 17. McCannon/Cedar Streets

McCannon/Cedar Streets are where the first prominent families built prestigious homes, some of which are still in use today. Several of the homes were built by mining bosses, while others were occupied by doctors and lawyers. These streets were considered to be the fashionable place to live in early day Pioche.

### 18. The Pioche Record (presently Peggy's Store)

The Pioche Record is the second oldest continuously printed weekly newspaper in the state, which was started in May 1870. Through the years it has changed owners and editors many times. The newspaper office was located for many years in the current Peggy's Store at 768 Main Street, a building that appears to date from the early 1900s. The Pioche Record is now known as the Lincoln County Record and is headquartered at 197-A Clover Street in Caliente. Two of its most notable editors have been E. L. Nores, who bought the paper about 1920 and ran it for many years; and Thos L. Clay, a retired attorney, who bought it about 1970 and ran it until his death in 1979. More recently, Connie Simkins was the editor for 28 years, from 1979 to 2007. Stephens Media acquired The Record from owner/publisher Raymond Thompson in the fall of 2010.



### 19. The Commerce Cottage

The Commerce Cottage was one of several lending libraries in Pioche that was operated by commercial establishments in the late 1800s. In 1940, the Lincoln County Library system was started with the purchase of this building which had been a jewelry store. It served as a library for 10 years. After a number of years of neglect, this building was refurbished in 1984 to become the Pioche Chamber of Commerce "Commerce Cottage" and Information Center. The Chamber moved to the first floor of the Thompson's Opera House in 2011 and will utilize the Cottage for inventory storage.

### 20. The Pioche Hotel

The Pioche Hotel dates from the turn of the century. The hotel was operated by Virginia Cottino and family until the mid-1950s. It is now a private residence.

### 21. The Nevada Club

The Nevada Club generally dates back to the early 1900s. It is on the site of the original Pioche assay office that had been destroyed by a fire. The present structure is constructed of brick, concrete and stone to reduce the fire hazard potential. The present owner is Larry Gearhart who purchased the bar in 2010.

### 22. The Pioche Odd Fellows Lodge

The Pioche Odd Fellows Lodge was built in 1872 and was originally J. J. Halpin's Hardware Store before he moved his business to Silver Reef, Utah. It has been used for many lodge functions, community dances, parties and social gatherings. The building most recently was purchased in 2010 by Richard Bohlke.

### 23. The Lincoln County Museum

The Lincoln County Museum is housed in the building built by A. S. Thompson around 1900. A victim of fire, it was rebuilt once, then later remodeled in 1929 to make it more modern. Upon the death of Charles Thompson, Sr., the building was sold to James Gottfredson, Sr. and he operated a mercantile and clothing store for a time. Later, the store was closed and the Gottfredson family donated the building to Lincoln County in 1962, to become a museum. Over the years, it has evolved into one of the best museums of its kind in the state of Nevada.

### 24. The Miner's Union Hall

The Miner's Union Hall is presently the Episcopal Church. It is a 3-story wood framed structure with a gable roof. This building was built to fit into landscape and is a typical example of "Plain Early" 20th Century style. The Miner's Union was a center of social activities in this community for nearly 50 years.

### 25. Meadow Valley Street

Meadow Valley Street was the original entry street from Meadow Valley to the south of Pioche's business district. Many of the miners' cabins were located on the southeast end, and businesses flourished on the northwest end. It was one of the main business streets with the Catholic Church, Hanley's Opera House, two livery stables, blacksmith's shop, bakery and dentist office being some of the first businesses located here. A few of these buildings were moved to Delamar in 1894 when that town started booming.

### 26. The Leader Store Building

The Leader Store building is the impressive building on the northeast corner of Meadow Valley and Main Street. It was owned for many years by the Ben Cohen family and operated as a dry goods store. It now houses a used merchandise business. Next door is a massive stone building once used as a bar, the Allen's Cash Store, and a warehouse for the Leader Store business.

### 27. The Overland Bar and Hotel Building

The Overland Bar and Hotel building was constructed in 1940 by Bob Free. It has been burned and rebuilt several times over its colorful past. It originally had a bowling alley in the basement, and the west half was rented to the Allen's Cash *Walking Tour, continued on Page 6*

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**Walking Tour, Continued from page 5**

Store for more than 30 years. This part is now a dance hall, with an antiques shop up front. Candice and Ron Mortenson have owned the Overland since 1995.

**28. The Brown/Thompson Opera House**

The Brown/Thompson Opera House has survived from its 1873 construction date and was recently extensively renovated. It is entirely constructed of wood and has a classic revival style combined with an early pioneer board construction. It was built by Aleck Brown in March of 1873 and renamed the Thompson's Opera House in April 1892. It was later used as a movie theatre. The Opera House is currently owned by Lincoln County and will be used for public meetings and can be rented for private use. After the new movie house was built, the Gem Theater, the Opera House was used for weekly dances for many years. The Gem Theater showed movies until 2003, when high winds blew the roof off. The roof was repaired, but the owners decided not to reopen because it was more of a community service than a viable business.

The Pioche Chamber moved to the Opera House in 2011 to help staff the facility with tours and rental information, as well as continuing to provide tourist area information and souvenirs for sale.

**29. The Orr Garage**

The Orr Garage was built in the early 1870's and was constructed of stone. Its original use may have been as a blacksmith shop or harness shop. In later years, from about 1915, it was used as an auto repair garage.

**30. Main Street**

Main Street runs from the famous Treasure Hill to the current Lincoln County Courthouse. From the days of mud and ruts to its present day concrete walks and asphalt

paving, there have been thousands of exciting, tragic, happy, and wonderful events that have occurred along this Main Street. People from all over the world have traversed this small area and were charmed by its charisma. Some have stayed. Many have returned again and again. With its gun fights and killings, Pioche became known as the roughest, toughest mining camp in the West. Most of this happened on Main Street.

**31. Pioche School**

Pioche School was built in 1909 in a "Mission" style of architecture. This was the oldest continuously used school building in the state of Nevada in 1999 when it was abandoned for a new building, built on the northwest side of town by the Pioche Division of Forestry Honor Camp. The original school building was sold and is now privately owned.

**32. The Pioche Town Hall**

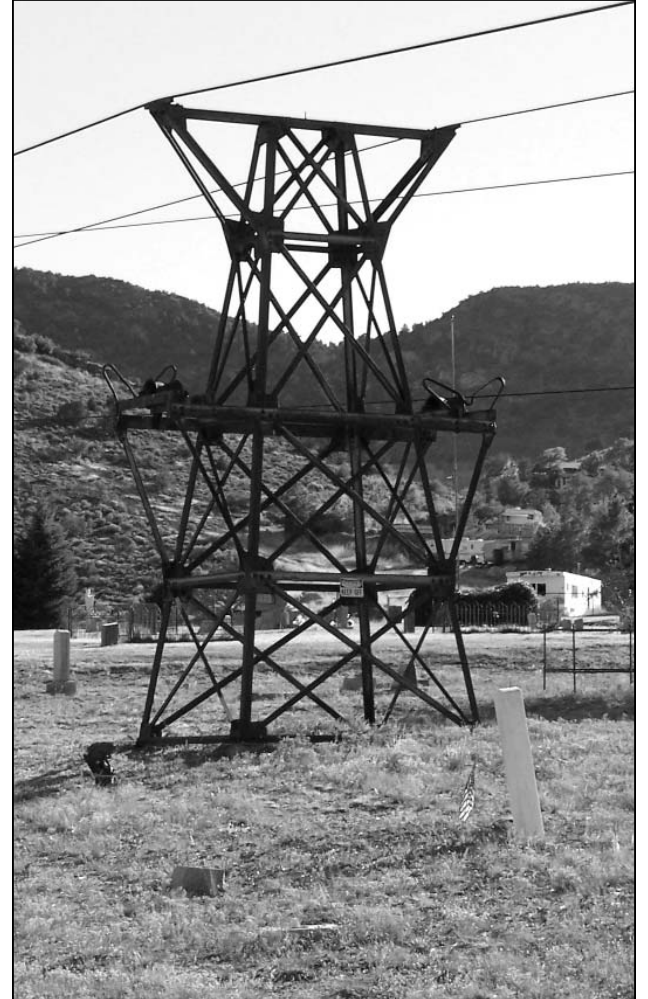
The Pioche Town Hall was built in 1936-37 by the Mormons with donated labor, material and money as the first LDS meeting house in Pioche. It was dedicated in 1950 when it was completely finished and paid for. In 1986 when the new LDS chapel was built, the old building was sold to the Town of Pioche for a public meeting place. Now known as the Pioche Town Hall, it serves many organizations for weekly or monthly meetings, plays, and social events. A noteworthy activity held here is the Labor Day Craft Fair.

**33. Boot Hill**

Crime was rampant in Pioche in the early 1870's. During the first settling of Pioche, it was said that 72 men "were killed with their boots on" before anyone died a natural death. Many of these men are buried in the "Old Boot Hill" Cemetery. A monument commemorating Boot Hill was built and donated by E. Clampus Vitus in 2009.

**34. The Lincoln County Court House**

The Lincoln County Court House was constructed in 1938 to replace the historic courthouse on the hill. It is a simplified version of the Modern Art-Deco style, and it continues to house most all of Lincoln County's government functions. The Sheriff's Office and Jail have been moved north of town off S. R. 322. Excellent park facilities are located adjoining the courthouse with a swimming pool, ball fields, horseshoe pits, playground and picnic areas.

**35. Pioche Aerial Tramway**

The aerial tramway operated in the 1920s and 1930s carrying ore from the mines on Treasure Hill to Godby's Mill in the valley. Built by the Pioche Mines Company, the tramway was mainly gravity powered with the aid of a 5 horsepower motor. The ore in the full buckets rolled toward the mill and provided the momentum to return the empty buckets to the bin. In 1928, the cost of delivering ore to the mill via this tramway was six cents per ton.

**36. Treasure Hill (Nevada Centennial Marker No. 5)**

Silver ore was discovered in this range of mountains in 1864, but no important developments took place until 1869 when mines were opened and the Town of Pioche appeared. Pioche soon became the scene of a wild rush of prospectors and fortune seekers and gained a reputation in the 1870s for tough gunmen and bitter lawsuits. Over 5 million dollars in ore was taken out by 1872, and by 1900 Pioche was nearly a ghost town. Designated the seat of Lincoln County in 1871, Pioche survived hard times as a supply and government center for a vast area. In later years, notably during World War II, Pioche was a major producer to the war effort and many men were transferred here to mine the lead and zinc deposits.

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# GHOST TOWN GAZETTE

Travel • Resorts • Old West • Ghost Towns • History • Legends

## MURDER IN PIOCHE AT CHINATOWN

Pioche Weekly Record  
October 7, 1873

**ANOTHER MAN KILLED** — On Sunday morning at a quarter to 3 o'clock Antonio Cardinos, a Mexican, was shot and killed by Charles Peasley, in the Union Saloon, lower Main Street. The Union Saloon is a place frequented by people of all nationalities and colors, and is situated in that part of Pioche known as Chinatown. Thither our reporter went Sunday about 12:00 o'clock. In front of the saloon were seated perhaps half a dozen men, while one or two others stood up. Opening the door, he entered a small bar room, part of whose walls had been bespattered with blood. There was also dried blood upon the floor, and the card table. Behind the bar stood a barkeeper who was at the time attending to a thirsty customer. Several men stood at and around the bar and toward the rear of the room, which appeared to be about 15 feet long lay the dead man, with a napkin or handkerchief over his face, but with his person exposed to the waist. A fellow countryman sat near the head of the corpse, and fanned it in order to keep off the flies. Our reporter accosted the gentleman behind the bar, Joseph Leflower, who, upon learning what was wanted, politely told him the following story: The names of the parties are Charles Peasley and Antonio Cardinos. There had been some little trouble

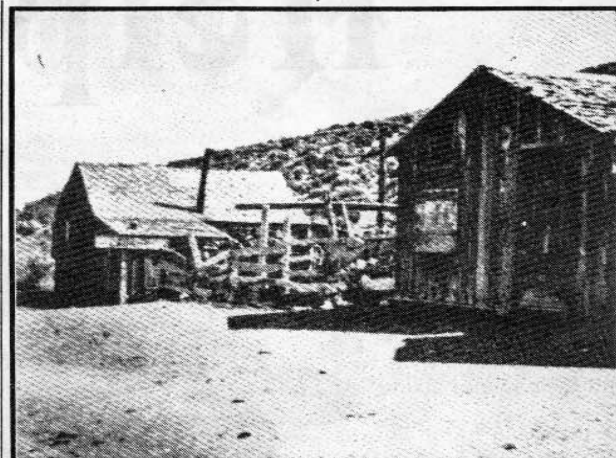
between them, but not enough I thought to cause them to shoot. They had been scuffling a little and Cardinos was very insulting, although Peasley tried to evade the quarrel. Peasley was standing with his elbows upon the counter at the end toward the street. Cardinos was standing half way down the counter (which is about eight feet long) toward the back door from Peasley. Jim Moran was standing between the two. Cardinos called Peasley a coward and dared him to go into the street and fight. Peasley said, "We are old friends and why should we quarrel," speaking in a gentlemanly way. Antonio continued to abuse, I said, "Come and take a drink. There's no use of you, old timers in Pioche, wrangling about this little thing." The four of us had a drink. Moran said, "They're both fools. I don't see any cause to quarrel." I said, "Come, go home; I want to close up. I don't see any money in this." I asked them to take another drink, which however, they did not do. Cardinos asked Peasley why he (Peasley) talked about him behind his back. Peasley said, "I don't talk about you. What are you down on me for?" Antonio remarked, "I don't like you no how," or words to that effect. "I knew Tom Peasley. He was a man—a fighter; but you are a cur, and dare not go out a hundred yards—out on the street—and fight me. You are a cur and a G—d—s—of a b—." Peasley asked

him two or three times, "Why are you down on me for?" Then Antonio said, "I'd like to fight you and you're no man!" and stepped out from the counter about four feet. All this time he had been standing with his liquor in a glass in his left hand, his right hand behind him on the right side, under his coat. Peasley immediately pulled out a pistol, stepped around the counter and forward, and put the weapon nearly up to his neck and shot. In the first wrangling Antonio told him, "I'll kill you yet." There was no evidence that Antonio had a pistol or a knife. I always thought the two men were very friendly. Peasley was a very quiet man; the other was quarrelsome. I know nothing of the cause which led to the quarrel. From other parties it was learned that Peasley had remarked on one occasion sometime before the shooting, to a friend, that the worst trouble he ever had was with Antonio, who had threatened to kill him, and that he (Peasley) was afraid of him.

A gentleman working in one of the mines informed our reporter that at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning he saw and recognized two men, one of whom was Peasley; and the other man handed Peasley something, he could not tell what. It was reported that Peasley had left the saloon, procured a pistol and returned. Some say that Cardinos usually carried a pistol; whilst others deny it. It seems to be

When Cardinos was shot he staggered back into a chair, and leaning upon a table, died a few minutes later. The blood spurted from the wounds, and flowed copiously, entirely covering the table. The carotid artery on the right side was cut by one of the balls; and the other bullet passed in just where the neck joins the chest, both wounds being in front.

Cardinos was buried yesterday. The preliminary examination of Peasley will not take place before tomorrow. The coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that Cardinos had died from the effect of gun shot wounds inflicted by



Chinese Laundry on left. Building on right could've been the bar where Cardinos was killed in Chinatown, Pioche.

Photo courtesy, Lincoln County Museum

Charles Peasley. De-Durango, and between 38 and 40 years of age.

Articles and advertisements on this page are reprinted from the Ghost Town Gazette.

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### What It Costs

The Pioche Record  
Friday, November 11, 1921.

According to figures just given out it is going to cost each citizen of the United States the sum of \$82 to keep the government running next year. That doesn't mean that every man and woman in Lincoln County for instance, will pay that sum, because not all are taxpayers. But it means that those who do pay taxes will have to make up an amount equal to \$82 for every man and woman living in this country. This is based on a budget of \$6,500,000,000, which would mean a per capita of about \$60. But state and county taxes average up another \$22, so it really means a tax of \$82 on every citizen to run this government one year. It's a lot of money, there's no getting away from that fact. But when you compare the advantages of living in the United States with the advantages enjoyed by residents of other nations, you'll have to agree that it's worth it.

## ATTACK GRANDMA FROM PANACA

They haven't quit running for two miles. Sitting by the cold water of the Panaca Spring waiting to catch their breath they looked back toward the small settlement of town. "My hand hurts like hell," one Indian told the other.

The other just sat there by the water holding a handful of wet mud to the side of his head.

The newly-arrived Mormon settler's relationship with the Piute Indians of the area wasn't the best in 1864.

One day when all the men folk were away building a new irrigation ditch, Grandma Lee was alone in the family dugout when she first saw the two Indians. She wasn't too afraid—they only had bows and arrows with them. She thought to herself they probably only want something to eat or drink.

But when the Indian pointed to the gun leaning in the doorway of the cavelike shelter and said, "Me want gun," Grandma Lee knew

she was in for trouble. Where are the men when you need them, she thought. But little did the Indian know that they were up against an "attack Grandma."

"No gun, no gun," Grandma said. Just then one Indian made a dash for the weapon which was just a short distance away. With the agility of a cat, Grandma quickly jumped to her feet and grabbed a long piece of firewood that was nearby. Every muscle of her body was working like a fine oiled piece of machinery in one desperate move that was sparked by panic and fear. It was a move that only a pioneer woman can have. She swung the log just like she was chopping the branch of a tree.

The Indian head sounded like a hollow melon when Grandma hit it with the cord wood branch. The brave rolled over and over on the ground trying to regain what sense he had left. Finally he staggered to his feet grab-

ing his head. Just then, she noticed the other Indian starting to string an arrow and again she swung the axe-like club hitting the warrior on the knuckle, breaking his bow and arrow, and making kindling of them. The Indian danced and howled like a baby coyote bit by his mother.

Grandma knew that she if she was going to survive, she was going to have to attack. Both Indians were now on their feet—one holding his sore melon and the other his skinned hand and purple knuckles. They both backed up looking at this old squaw in a dirty black dress wheeling a large war club.

Grandma Lee advanced for the final kill, eyes meaner than a she wolf.

Just then, a yahoo was heard down the wash and a small outline of a man on horseback could be seen.

The Indians took one more look at Grandma and then at the approaching man and decided they'd better

run for it. And run they did!

The Indians lived to fight another day, but never did they bother Grandma Lee.

Grandma Lee's ability

with a length of limbwood became a tribal legend among the Indians of Southern Nevada.

### Caliente News

Many years ago, Mrs. Frank Pacer's little dog ran into a mine and fell into a shaft.

The owner of the mine tried to keep the shaft boarded up, but the mine was so close to town that people kept stealing the timber for firewood.

The shaft was shored with timber across the center. Mrs. Pacer said she heard the dog hit the braces on the way down and she said if it cost her \$500.00 she would get her dog out, dead or alive.

People all over town were busy finding enough rope to lower someone into the shaft. Finally a small boy was tied to a rope and lowered down the hole. Rocks could be heard hitting the water as the small boy was

lowered, but caution had to be taken if the dog was still alive. At the 250-foot level, a partial bulkhead had been put in. Over the year people had dumped trash down the shaft and a mattress had gotten wedged on one of the cross timbers. The dog had somehow landed on the mattress and was unhurt.

The boy brought the dog up and set him on the ground. And Mrs. Pacer whistled and the dog ran to her. Everyone had tears in their eyes.

We don't know if the boy got the \$500.00.

If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face—forever.

—George Orwell, 1984



Kershaw-Ryan State Park

# STATE PARKS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

By Barbara Rohde



Lincoln County is blessed with some of the greenest scenery in Nevada, and within a 50-mile radius of Pioche, also has one of the largest concentrations of Nevada State Parks. In 1935, wanting to diversify Nevada's economy beyond mining and agriculture, the State Legislature created the State Park System, and in 2010 the Nevada State Park System celebrated its 75th year. Residents of Lincoln County

were pleased that three of the first four State Parks were in their own back yard: Cathedral Gorge, Beaver Dam, and Kershaw-Ryan.

Cathedral Gorge, located 10 miles south of Pioche right along U.S. Highway 93, dated back even further, however, having been declared a "State Park and Wildlife Refuge" by Governor James Scrugham in 1926. This scenic canyon park had been a favorite among Lincoln County residents from the 1890's, when its name was changed from "Panaca Gulch" to "Cathedral Gulch" by the wife of Pioche mining engineer William S. Godbe. Mary W. Godbe sometimes accompanied her husband on his trips to Bullionville, and she would ride her horse and buggy just over the hill to explore the eerie rock formations along the base of the eastern-most cliffs of the gorge. She exclaimed "Why, this is like God's own Cathedral," and she extolled the scenic qualities of the gorge to anyone who would listen. As it turned out, a lot of people listened, and started visiting the gorge, to explore the slot canyons (nicknamed caves), and enjoy a pleasant Sunday outing in the natural setting. During the 1920's, many open-air pageants and plays were put on in the Gorge, and in 1964, the Nevada (and



Cathedral Gorge State Park

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Panaca's) Centennial Pageant was produced with the backdrop of the Gorge, in the area where the 1930's C.C.C.-constructed picnic ramada still stands. Over the years, improvements were made, including a 22-unit campground and a nice tree-shaded group area, along with the Regional Information Center at the park's main entrance. A network of trails provides access to the park's features, and back-country.

Beaver Dam State Park (35 miles east of Caliente) was also established in 1935, having been "just off the main road" for the earliest years of its use. The little community of Clover Valley (Barclay) was established in 1864, at the same time as Panaca, and families from both of those towns would often go to visit families that lived in Beaver Dam Wash. They would go fishing along the natural stream that was dotted with beaver dams, or just enjoy a picnic under the native cottonwood and willow trees along the stream. The "Acoma-Shem Highway" was the first "all-weather" road from Lincoln County into Utah, and it passed only a few miles from Beaver Dam Wash. It was a "natural" to become a Nevada State Park; although the 1935 Civilian Conservation Corps crews spent a lot of time constructing camping and picnicking facilities at Beaver Dam, the floods in 1937-38 destroyed most of their work. A man-made dam in 1961, Schroeder Dam, controlled the floods, and provided a small lake for fishing; but severe floods in 2004-2005 breached the dam and led to its destruction. The area once again is a natural setting for primitive camping; two developed campgrounds with 30 sites are set among the pinyon and juniper forested setting of Beaver Dam canyon, and a network of trails offer exploration opportunities.

Kershaw-Ryan State Park (2 miles south of Caliente) was the third park established in 1935. The Samuel Kershaw family had homesteaded this little canyon in 1870, and had an orchard and garden that was watered by the natural springs that emerge from the base of towering igneous-rock cliffs. After 30 years (and Mr. Kershaw's demise), the canyon was sold to James and Martha Ryan, who did not actually live in the canyon. During their years, local residents would come to picnic and enjoy the shady canyon, and the Ryans decided to donate Kershaw Canyon to the State of Nevada in 1934, to be made into a public park. The C.C.C. companies developed camping and picnicking sites, a wading pond (from one of the springs), and a caretaker's cabin. The City of Caliente generously provided a caretaker during the years that Nevada's State Parks were not funded by the Legislature; and when funds became available in the early 1960's, a 12-unit campground with

Kershaw-Ryan State Park.



Spring Valley State Park

modern toilets and showers was built in the area surrounding the wading pond. Floods in 1984 destroyed most of the manmade features of the park, and it was a 13-year struggle to rebuild and reopen the park in 1997. In 2009, the long-awaited new campground opened, located well away from the flood channel.

Spring Valley State Park (18 miles east of Pioche) started as a county park, when Eagle Valley Dam was built in 1965. Eagle Valley Reservoir once covered 65 acres, but has shrunk a little over the years.

It provides a good trout fishery, with deep and cold waters that fill the canyon at the southern/western end of Spring Valley. Water is released for ranching in Eagle Valley and Rose Valley, for natural irrigation of the pastures.

A campground in Horsethief Gulch was built at the same time as the dam, and the campsites are tucked among the pinyon and juniper woodland. In 1969, Lincoln County turned over operation of the park to the Nevada State Park System, and it was renamed as Spring Valley State Park, though locals often just call it "Eagle Valley." The park now includes the pastures, and several

of the homesteaders' homes in Spring Valley-proper. One of these, the Stone Cabin Living History Museum, is available for tours, having been renovated in 1995 to its original appearance. There is a trailhead at the Stone Cabin for a 2-1/2 mile trail that ends at the "Ranch Campground," a 6-unit "dry" campground near the park headquarters, the old 7-L (Hollinger) Ranch.

The graded gravel road continues beyond the 7-L Ranch to become the "Mt. Wilson Back-country Byway," which loops back around to Highway 93 about 60 miles later. High-clearance vehicles may enjoy this road in the summer months; it is often snowed in by November.

Echo Canyon State Park (12 miles east of Pioche) also started as a county park, when Echo Canyon Dam was built in 1969. Its campground amenities were identical to those at Spring Valley, except for lacking showers in the restrooms, or power to keep the restrooms heated and open through the winter months.

After completion of the dam and campground, the county turned over operation of the park to Nevada State Parks. An ongoing problem since the dam's first years, is the loss of water through the gravel lakebed (which was not "sealed" when the dam was built). Echo Canyon dam was built in "Dry Valley," which the pioneers named for the habit of the Meadow Valley Wash (stream) going underground at this point, and re-emerging from springs a few miles further south.

However, the lower water level of the lake makes it an ideal "warm water" fishery, for bass and crappie, and also a good loca-

tion for finding "trophy size" bullfrogs (when the Great Blue Herons don't beat you to the catch). Another feature of this park is that all portions of the shoreline may be reached by vehicle (Spring Valley has only one side of the lake accessible by car, and by scrambling down a hillside). It is also less crowded than Spring Valley, and is the best location near Pioche for seeing ducks and shorebirds.

The newest addition to the State Park System in Lincoln County is the Elgin One-Room Schoolhouse State Historic Site. This original schoolhouse was restored by the family whose members built it in 1922 to educate the schoolchildren of ranchers and railroad workers in lower Rainbow Canyon. At this time, there was no "bus service" as we know today, and the children needed to be educated closer to their homes.

By the 1960's, bus service was increasing, and the number of families living in Rainbow Canyon decreased – so the school closed after the last Bradshaw child finished 8th grade. In 1998, one of the Bradshaw family members decreed in his will the wish to see the schoolhouse restored; and in two short years, it was dedicated by the Bradshaw families and friends that funded the restoration. In 2005, the Bradshaws donated it to the Nevada State Park system for operation and maintenance. The flooding down Rainbow Canyon in January, 2005, has had limited access for quite some time. Repairs on State Route 317 were made, but checking the road condition is always advisable.

We welcome you to explore and enjoy the Nevada State Parks!

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# THE *Wilkin* FAMILY LEGACY OF MINING

By Barbara Rohde

Young David Wilkin was born in Ireland in 1819, and his family moved to Scotland around 1833. When missionaries from the new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints came to Scotland in 1840, he was one of the first 80 converts baptized in Scotland.

He married while in Scotland, and then immigrated to the United States with his young bride. They moved west with the "Mormon Battalion" (in which David fought for the U.S. against Mexico in the

war of 1846), and they wound up in the Great Salt Lake valley just 5 days after Brigham Young's party arrived there.

David and Isabella lived in the growing Salt Lake City until they moved to Nevada in the spring of 1860, taking their family of three children with them.

He became the proprietor of a boarding house in Carson City, and then moved to the new mining camp of Pioche in 1870 where he built a saloon and a residence on LaCour Street. In 1882, he sold this building and property to the Keystone Chapter Number 6 of the Royal Arch Masons and it



Bob Wilkin locking up dynamite and drilling equipment in cage at mine

is still in use today as the Masonic Lodge.

In 1880, he moved to Panaca where he bought a home and property from his niece-in-law Pamela E. Thompson after her husband David Wilkin Thompson had died in 1878.

In Panaca he owned a general mercantile store until his death in 1891. He left behind many descendants, among them son Joseph David, and grandson Robert David Wilkin, born in 1900.

Robert David had moved to Summit,

Utah, in his early years, but after he married Della White from Summit, their children included Joseph, Bruce, June, Faye, Markley, Helen, and James. He also had Grey, Howard, Joyce and Paul Lamar from a previous marriage. Robert and Della moved back to Pioche in the mid-1930's, where he went to work at the Pioche mines.

### Fast-forward to the 1950's

Robert David Wilkin (nick-named "Hand-me Bob" by his close friends) and Rod Truman worked in the Pioche mines which were going at the time. They were approached by Bill Gillean to mine the Mackie Perlite claims, which were in the igneous rocks around Lincoln County.

In 1951, they started mining the ores and crushed them in Caliente, then sent the crushed perlite by railcar to Paramount, California, where it would be processed further.

After a few years, Bob bought out Rod's interest in their business and started his own small mining business.

Joseph D. Wilkin returned to Pioche after serving in the Navy, and he bought into the company, becoming a partner with his father to create Wilkin Mining and Trucking in 1958.

Bob worked the perlite mine up until his death at age 82. Joe then purchased his parents' interest in Wilkin Mining (his mother, Della, had done all the bookkeeping) and continued the business.

In 1975, he decided to pursue his education and became a medical doctor – and returned to Lincoln County to practice in a small clinic just outside of Panaca. Being committed as a General Practitioner kept Joe quite busy and tied down, but he had a dream to build a facility in Caliente to produce the largest expanded Perlite in the world.

To accomplish this dream, in 1982 he invited his daughter Amelia and her new



Bob Wilkin and son, Joe, at mining event.



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husband Dennis Sonnenberg to join him and build a "popping" plant (as the perlite is super-heated, it expands, or "pops"). They retained the family name of Wilkin Mining & Trucking, and expanded the business to build a crushing and heat-expansion plant at the northern boundary of Caliente. Their product, Pahroc Giant Perlite, is now sold from Florida to Hawaii at gardening stores and to commercial growers.

Youngest son James (Jim), brought up in a mining family, followed the tradition and started his own business in 1972, Jim Wilkin Trucking. He specialized in crushing rock for gravel used in highway construction or decorative uses, and also started a cement business.

Jim Wilkin Trucking is the largest private employer in Lincoln County today. The company employs crusher and equipment operators that crush and stockpile aggregate product, and truck drivers that take this product all over the state for highway building contracts. In Clark County, gravel mines were greatly curtailed during the late 1980's due to perceived disruption of Desert Tortoise habitat. Having no Desert Tortoise in this portion of the state, Wilkin Mining expanded to fill that void. In 2011, they opened a new cement plant and office just south of the Panaca junction.

Both of the businesses are successful today, and a new generation is becoming



Left to right, Joe, Betty, Helen, Bobby, Della, Robert (Bob), David, Keith, Markley at Wilken's Mining office (kitchen).



involved in their family businesses. Lorin, Jim's son, works with his father to expand Wilkin Trucking into a business that travels all over the state. Devin and Travis Sonnenberg work for their dad in Wilkin Mining, and daughter Camille even spent a year working in the crushing & expansion plant.

Another of Robert David's children, June Wilkin married Alvin Cox and had several sons with him before their divorce; her son Burt Cox started a blasting and drilling business (ELBE) and his son Kyle started the "Rockscape" decorative gravel business.

With the number of people building homes in Highland Knolls, Indian Ridge, and the Beaver Dam Estates, having to drill their own wells for water has become an important local business. And with many people now opting for "desert landscaping" to conserve on valuable drinking water, "Rockscape" has become an important part of the Lincoln County landscape.

While none of these mining businesses are as "glamorous" or high-dollar as silver or gold mining, they are "rock-solid" mining businesses that provide much-needed products for our everyday lives.

David Wilkin would be proud to know that his descendants have carried on in Pioche for 140 years after he moved there!

At left, Robert (Bob) Wilkin running loader at mine site.

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# Labor Day fun a grand tradition in Pioche



*Editor's note: This story was originally published in the Summer, 2010 Treasure Hill Chronicles*

**By Roscoe Wilkes**

By this paper there is no intent whatsoever to deride Labor Day as it is celebrated today. In fact, to me the ones in charge are doing a great job. My purpose is only to go back, way back, and refresh recollections as to how it was then in the late 20's and early 30's.

Pioche, Nevada in 1929 was a unique town of 600 people. It was different, as it is yet today. After Pioche was made the mold was thrown away. There is no other place in this wide world quite like it, and to those who "really know" Pioche love it. It has a charm, hard to explain, but definitely a charm.

In 1929, give or take a few years either before or after, Pioche celebrated Labor Day with an intense vigor, the effort was all out, no holds barred. I hope I can describe it accurately. It deserves an honest portrayal. To give it less would be a travesty, if not a crime. As one of the very few people remaining from back then I will give it my best shot, bear with me.

It always started with the "Sunrise Salute." I will not hazard a guess as to how many sticks of dynamite or perhaps boxes Theodore Johnson took to the top of Lime Hill and set off as dawn was breaking. He took enough that the vibrations shook the town, and I don't mean figuratively, I mean literally. You could feel it as your bed shook, and the sound, it was there in full force. There was no doubt in anyone's mind it was "Labor Day."

I do not recall there being community breakfasts as done today. If there were such, I don't recall it. In mid-morning there were children's sports followed by adult sports all taking place on LaCour Street from the corner garage to the courthouse.

Did the town's boys and girls look forward to the "Children's Sports"? I will say that they did and with a passion. There were so many events and for all ages from the very small to the upper teens. Dive into tubs full of white flour to retrieve the quarters, nickels and dimes in the bottom of the tubs. Then with face covered with white flour go to the pie eating contest where a juicy blueberry pie awaited your fast eating, so long as no hands were used. The winner got a quarter, all others got a dime. There were no

losers. There were foot races, three-legged races, pillow fights and more. All that was necessary was to participate, and a boy or girl could come away with a handful of coins, this whether you won anything or lost.

The adult sports were also varied. My recollection brings to mind two events that stood out, the 100 yard dash and the women's nail driving contest. A good footrace is always of interest. Glen Roeder won it for some number of years in a row,

he was fast. Then Sam Graham came to town and took Glen down by a couple of yards. Time, out of shape and age caught up with Glen. He ran no more.

*Grand Tradition, continued on Page 14*

## Official Program September 1, 1941 Labor Day

*Pioche Welcomes You to its \$2000 Celebration*

### PROGRAM

6:00 a. m. Salute to Labor Day  
8:00 a. m. Machine Drilling, Main st.  
1st prize \$60 plus entrance fees  
2nd prize \$60 3rd prize \$30

Jack Hammer contest  
First prize \$30 plus entrance fees  
2nd prize \$25—3rd prize \$20

To each winner of First prize in all mining contests there will be an extra award of one (1) case of Old Milwaukee Beer

8:30 a. m. Band Concert

9:30 a. m. Parade—1st prize \$25 2nd prize \$15 3rd \$10

10:15 Mucking Contest at Ball park  
First prize \$30, plus entrance fees—2nd prize \$30  
3rd prize \$15

**Children's Sports, 10: 30 a. m.**  
Hand and Foot Race for Boys 11 to 13 ..... 50c—25c  
Siamese Race for Girls 11 to 13 ..... 50c—25c  
Contest: Best Music Played on any  
Kitchen Utensil ..... \$1 for Team

Stocking Race for Boys  
Put on Lady's Stocking and Garter  
and Return to Starting point. Bring  
your own stocking ..... 50c—25c

Balloon Race for Boys  
Age 7-10, Blow up Balloon and Return..... 50c—25c

Balloon Race for Girls

### PROGRAM

**Men & Women General Sports 1:00 p. m.**  
Women's Mucking Contest ..... \$15 in prizes  
Wheel Barrow Race for Men ..... \$13 in prizes  
Foot Race for Ladies ..... \$6.25 in prizes  
Hat boxing contest for Men ..... \$13 in prizes  
Wheel Barrow Race for Ladies ..... \$10.50 in prizes  
Wind-Jammer Contest for Men ..... \$8 in prizes  
Balloon Bursting Contest for Ladies ..... \$6.25 in prizes  
Rooster Fight for Men ..... \$8 in prizes  
Egg Race for Ladies ..... \$6.25 in prizes  
Cradle Race for Men ..... \$8 in prizes  
Throwing Contest for Ladies ..... \$7.50 in prizes  
Pillow Fights for Men ..... \$8 in prizes  
Stout Ladies Race ..... \$6.25 in prizes  
Balancing Contest for Men ..... \$8 in prizes  
Potato Relay Race for Ladies ..... \$10 in prizes  
Stout Men's Race ..... \$8 in prizes  
Potato Peeling Contest for Ladies ..... \$6.25 in prizes  
Tug of War for Men ..... \$15 in prizes  
Tug of War for Ladies ..... \$15 in prizes  
Horseshoe Pitching Contest for Men (double) \$6. in prizes  
Horseshoe Pitching Contst for men (single) \$4 in prizes  
Slow Car Race ..... \$10 in prizes

### PROGRAM

Wheel Barrow Race for Boys ..... \$1—50c  
Three-Legged Race for Girls ..... \$1—50c  
Shoe Race for Boys and Girls ..... \$1—50c  
Balloon Race for Girls ..... Blow up Balloon  
Tie to leg, first to get over line with  
whole Balloon is winner ..... \$1—50c  
Same For Boys ..... \$1—50c  
Other events will be given if time permits  
**Additional \$40 Given away**

12:00 Noon Free luncheon at IOOF hall and Independent Office

1:30 p. m. Gem Theatre—Free Picture show for children under 15 years of age

2:30 Beer Drinking Contest—Meadow Valley at Main Old Milwaukee Beer

3:00 p. m. Baseball Game—Pioche vs. Caliente

6:00 p. m. Band Concert—Lincoln County Band

7:00 p. m. First aid contest—Legion Stadium  
3 Teams  
1st Prize \$42  
2nd Prize \$24  
3rd prize \$12

7:45 p. m. Public Speaking: Congressman J. G. Scrugham, Nevada Labor Commisisoner H. R. Gibson  
Hon George Marshall

8:00 p. m. \$500 FIGHT CARD—Legion Stadium  
Double Headliner  
Cecil Dalton-Pioche vs. Gene Pierce-Salt Lake City  
Art Kinder-Pioche vs. Jess Christie-Salt Lake City

10:00 p. m. Grand Ball—school gymnasium

## Remember when?



# Pioche celebrates 106th annual Labor Day

By Don Shanks

Welcome to the Labor Day issue of the Treasure Hill Chronicles. This coming Labor Day weekend will mark our 106th anniversary of this event. Pioche's Labor Day celebration has been continuous through good times and bad and has experienced many changes, but it is always eagerly anticipated by Lincoln County's present and former residents, especially those in and from Pioche. Several things have been continuous over many of the years, you might say a tradition, such as the sunrise salute to literally shake people out of bed on Monday morning, mining events, various sporting events, kids games, the fireworks, the Labor day Parade and great meals. Roscoe Wilkes has contributed a story about Labor days past, see p.12. We have included a schedule of the numerous events that start on Friday night, September 2nd and continue through Monday afternoon, September 5th.

## Friday

Things get going on Friday evening, September 2nd with the start of the softball tournament. This attracts teams from all over the region and lasts through Sunday. Amazon Ranch in nearby Dry Valley features a Kids Horse Camp, with a trail-ride, sleep-over, Dutch-oven dinner and breakfast. Pioche Chamber volunteers host the final fundraiser for this year's fireworks with Bingo in the new Fire Hall on Airport Rd., 7 to 9 PM.

The busiest day with the most things on the agenda is Saturday, so if you can only spend one day, this is probably the one to pick. If you are staying over, it pays to get here on Friday and find a place to camp or stay. Hotel/motel rooms are hard to come by because those in the know book them a year ahead, but there are three full-service RV Parks in the vicinity and a free town RV park that provides water only and there is lots of open space for those that are self-contained. A couple of suggested trailer overflow spots are in front of the Catholic Cemetery and the parking lot of the Lincoln County Golf Course (this has porta-potties).

The following organizations provide meals at the Ramada in the Town Park: The Masonic Lodge provides breakfast Saturday, Sunday 7-10 and Monday 6-9; the Pioche Chamber of Commerce sponsors a dinner on Saturday at 5 PM until the food runs out, catered by Great Basin Foods in Caliente; The Pioche Firemen and their wives provide dinner from 4 to 6 PM on Sunday and the Catholic Cemetery Ladies run a Taco Stand on Monday from 11 AM until they run out (this is very popular, so it doesn't take long).

## Saturday

The goings on at the Town Park on Saturday include the aforementioned softball tournament starting at 7AM; a chili cook-off, 9 to noon, and farmer's market 9:30-11:30 AM; a Hay Scramble (money is hidden in the hay and kids frantically search for it) and Cake Walk (the participants walk to music on numbered squares and when the music stops, the person on the winning number receives a cake; this continues until the cakes are all claimed)-these events are held at the T-Ball Field at the bottom end of the Town Park at 10 AM; the kids can all swim for free at the Pool from 12 to 2 PM. Children's mucking starts at 1 PM (they are timed on how fast they can shovel a pile of muck (dirt) into a small wheelbarrow); Singles Horseshoes starts at 2 PM and usually lasts until late because this is a very popular event and there are many participants. The adult mucking starts at 2:30 PM (contestants are timed on how long they take to fill an ore car, level to the top, with a pile of muck). Also at 2:30 PM is the Grudge Match Softball Game between the Pioche and Caliente Fire Departments. A hilarious and popular new game has been added in recent years and this is called Chicken-chucking (a shovel is used to toss a rubber chicken over the shoulder as far as possible). This event comes off at 3:30 PM.

## — 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS —

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

6:00 pm Softball Tournament  
6:00 pm Friday to 11:00 am Saturday  
Kids Horse Camp (Trail-ride, Sleep-over, Dutch Oven Dinner, Breakfast)  
www.amazonranch.us/~ (775) 962-5676  
7:00 - 9:00 pm Bingo, New Fire Hall

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

7:00 am-10:00 am Masonic Lodge Breakfast (Town Park)  
7:00 am Softball Tournament  
1st Round-Pioche Ball Park  
7:00 am Golf Tournament  
1st Flight-Lincoln County Golf Course  
8:00 am Turkey Shoot (Rod & Gun Club) Shooting Range  
9:00 am Golf Tournament  
2nd Flight-Lincoln County Golf Course  
9:00 am-5:00 pm Craft Show (Town Hall)  
9:00 am-Noon Chili Cook Off & Judging (Town Park)  
9:30 am-11:30 am Farmers Market (Uptown Pioche Park)  
10:00 am Hay Scramble/Cake Walk  
T-Ball Field, Town Park  
12:00 to 2:00 pm Kids Free Swim (Town Pool)  
1:00 pm Children's Mucking (sign up by 12:30)  
Town Park  
2:00 pm Singles Horseshoes (Town Park)  
2:30 pm Adult Mucking (Town Park)  
2:30 pm Fireman's Softball Grudge Match  
Town Park  
3:30 pm Chicken Chucking (Town Park)  
5:00 pm Dutch Oven Dinner (Town Park)  
7:00 pm Street Dance (Headz or Tailz)

Uptown Pioche  
9:15 pm Night Parade (Uptown Pioche)  
After Parade Street Dance Resumes

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

7:00 am-10:00 am Masonic Lodge Breakfast (Town Park)  
7:00 am-2:00 pm Eagle Valley Resort Fishing Derby  
Spring Valley Reservoir  
7:00 am Softball Tournament (Town Park)  
9:30 to 11:30 am Farmer's Market (Uptown Pioche Park)  
11:00 am Golf Auction (Town Park)  
12:00 pm Doubles Horseshoes (Town Park)  
12:00-2:00 pm Kids Free Swim (Town Pool)  
12:00-3:00 pm Thompson's Opera House Open House  
1:00 pm Adult Mining Events (Town Park)  
1:00 pm Pet Show (Next to T-Ball Field)  
2:00 pm Lawn Mower Races (Horse Arena)  
4:00 pm Dutch Oven Dinner (Town Park)  
9:00 pm Fireworks (Town Park)

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

6:00 am Sunrise Salute  
You'll Hear It and Feel It  
6:00 am-9:00 am Masonic Lodge Breakfast (Town Park)  
8:00 am 10K Fun Run (Starts at Town Park)  
10:00 am Labor Day Parade  
Main St., Pioche  
Announce Button Number Drawing during Parade  
After Parade Kids Games (Town Park)  
11:00 am Taco Stand (Town Park)

There are several other popular events on Saturday at scattered venues. They include the Lincoln Links Golf Tournament at the Lincoln County Golf Course, start times at 7 and 9 AM, see P. 2. 8 AM is the Turkey Shoot at the Rifle Range (just below the golf course on SR322), sponsored by the Pioche Rod and Gun Club.

An always popular craft show at the Pioche Town Hall on lower Main Street runs from 9 AM to 5 PM and overflow crafters may be set up on upper Main St. The final event of the evening is the Night Parade and

Street Dance on Main Street uptown. The dance goes from 7 PM until midnight, featuring Headz or Tailz band. The dance is interrupted at 9:15 for the Electric Light Parade and resumes after the parade.

## Sunday

Sunday starts at 7 AM with the resumption of the softball tournament and the Eagle Valley Resort's Fishing Derby out at Eagle Valley Reservoir. The Farmer's Market continues from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Town Park.



There is a Golf Auction at the Ramada in the Town Park at 11 AM (they auction off serviceable donated items to raise funds to improve the golf course). The Doubles Horseshoe Tournament starts in the Town Park at noon and usually lasts all afternoon. The kids free swim continues from Noon to 2 PM.

There will be an open house at the newly renovated Thompson's Opera House from Noon to 3 PM. The Adult Mining events will be held at 1 PM and will be held at the Town Park to allow for more out of town participants. Events include Liner and Jack-leg and cash prizes will be awarded. Also at 1 PM is the Pet Show next to the T-ball field. Returning this year are Lawn Mower Races, being held at 2 PM at the Horse Arena down by the Honor Camp. The evening ends with the most popular event, the Fireworks. These start at 9 PM and attract residents from throughout the county. We take a back seat to no one when it comes to our pyrotechnics; they are spectacular.

## Monday

Finally comes Monday, and we make a special effort to get the weary celebrants out of bed at the crack of dawn with the Sunrise Salute, you don't just hear it, you feel it (several sticks of dynamite set off one right after another for several minutes).

A 10K Fun Run departs from the Town Park at 8 AM, followed by the Labor Day Parade on Main Street at 10 AM. This year's theme is "The Land of Make-Believe" and all the floats are judged with that in mind. After the parade, everyone that isn't bolting for home heads for the Taco Stand and the Kids Games in the Town Park.

Be sure to stop by our stores and Chamber of Commerce while you are here. We have Labor day shirts, Labor Day buttons and other mementos. Just a gentle reminder; you are subject to be thrown in the Hoosegow on Main Street if you are not wearing a Labor Day Button. These only cost \$1 and there are numbers on the back for a cash prize drawing during the parade.

## Early Transportation



A truck loaded with goods comes to Pioche

# TOWN TURNS OUT FOR LABOR DAY FUN

## Grand Tradition, Continued from page 12

The women's nail driving contest caught my eye. A large timber about 12 inches square and 10 feet long was placed on saw horses. Each lady was given five long nails and a regular hammer: Who would drive all five nails into the timber first? It was no contest. Ma Steward swung her hammer much like a professional carpenter, with weight from her shoulders landing force to every swing. Ma had all her five nails in deep while the other ladies were tap, tap tapping away at No. 1.

Pioche being a mining town, pure and simple, the Labor Day mining events held a prominent spot in the day's program and were much anticipated and eagerly watched. There were several events, two of which commanded wide interest: "mucking" and "single jacking".

If you are uninformed "mucking" means "shoveling". A one-ton ore mining car was placed in a prominent spot for viewing. Alongside of the mining car was a substantial pile of muck, consisting of mixed sand, gravel and dirt. Each contestant was, in his turn, given an empty mine car, a shovel and the muck pile. Rex Bentley stood by with a stopwatch in hand, close by and watching. At the ring of the starting bell, the mucker, usually with shirt off, attacked the muck pile in deadly earnest, shovel full after shovel full as fast as his energy level and strength would permit. As the muck in the ore car was getting to the nearly full level, Rex would with his right hand smooth it out level to make sure the car was level full when he clicked his stopwatch. This event required great endurance and strength. The contestants had it, obtained by their every day doing so down in the mine.

The single jack contest. Again if you are uninformed, a single jack is much like an ordinary hammer except that the head is a "sledge", a large piece of "heavy" forged steel with a wooden handle inserted. For the contest, along with a single jack, was a large piece of granite rock about 4' x 6' x 6', mounted on the back of a truck or a to-boy and a piece of one-inch diameter octagonal steel about eighteen (18) inches long. The steel was sharpened, like a chisel, on one end. The other end was flat to be pounded on by the single jack.

The contestant, with the steel in one hand and the single-jack in the other, would pound the steel into the granite rock against the stopwatch, i.e., being timed. So you know, with each blow of the single jack, the steel would need to be rotated with the other hand so as to chip out little pieces of the granite. When the allotted time was up and the stop bell was rung, the hole would be measured for depth to ascertain the winner.

I can see it now. Owen Walker would at the start strike the steel into the rock dry for



Looking down Main Street, circa 1940.

maybe a dozen or so blows. He would then say: "Water." A man standing by with a hose would commence the, running of a small amount of water into the hole. With each blow, at the beginning, water would splash onto Owen's shirt and face, not important, the heavy blows would continue, each blow accompanied by a noticeably loud grunt from Owen. Owen Walker hit that steel hard and fast. It took great strength to keep it going. Owen had it. He was "all man." No one ever beat Owen. With others the completed hole might measure 8 to 10 inches. With Owen it was more like 12 inches. He was never defeated.

At noon or thereabouts one would see Claude Cole behind a little counter cutting beef from a big roast and making generous sandwiches on buns. Additions were there as one chose. All of it free, no charge, and come back again if you could handle more. All in all a delicious treat and a break during a busy, busy day.

Early afternoon- saw the start of the baseball game. I recall several Pioche vs. Panaca games. Pioche had' Speck Dolan who as the team's pitcher had a fast ball, immense. It was fast enough that Tuffy Cline, catcher, would buy a piece of round steak, place it in his left hand before slipping it into the catcher's mitt, this to keep his hand from being burned or beat up. I recall players, Dan Franks, Ikey Orr and others.

Yet in spite of Speck's fast ball they were not a match for Panaca. That Panaca outfit was just plain flat out too tough. They

## A TRIBUTE TO FRED REGETZ 'The Button Man' 1934-2011

Fred was no stranger to the community of Pioche and throughout Lincoln County. Fred earned the nickname as "Button Man" for his persistent and untiring efforts of delivering buttons to merchants for Pioche's Labor Day Celebration for at least ten years.

Some may wonder what a "Button Man" is. Each Labor Day Celebration held in September has a unique theme for the 3-day weekend. That theme is printed on buttons and sold to residents and visitors to help sponsor prizes and fireworks for the celebration. During the Labor Day weekend, the consequences for a local or visitor not wearing a current button is a visit to our "hoosegow or pokey" (fun jail) on Main Street.

Fred's preparation to deliver buttons would begin 3 months in advance of Labor Day as he would spray paint flats to display the buttons. He would then distribute these flats with buttons for sale to business in Pioche, Eagle Valley, Caliente and as far south as Alamo. His task was not only a one-time drop to businesses, but required many additional trips to replenish the buttons sold, as over 2,000 are sold each year.

Fred's attire was never complete without his felt or straw hat adorned with as many buttons as would fit. His positive attitude and casual demeanor was welcomed by all. He so enjoyed good conversation with locals and tourists as well. And as each Labor Day would come to a close, for the rest of the year whenever we would see Fred our salutation was hello "Button Man".

Hats off to you Fred, you'll always be remembered as "The Button Man".

had the Ronnow boys and the Lee boys and others. Bud Ronnow was their left-handed chucker with Kenneth Lee behind the plate (catcher). Don't try to steal 2" base on Kenneth, you won't make it. Adding Bill Ronnow, Charlie Ronnow, Lorrin Ronnow, Keith Lee and Ted Deck made for a formidable bunch.

I must mention Ted Deck (1st base), Ted was a man of good size, handsome as all get out, a neat man, and how he could clobber that ball. Most every game I ever saw with Panaca in it, Ted put one "out of the park". Big and strong Ted swung hard every time. Ted left some grandsons who have carried on those athletic traits, the Rippetoe boys of Panaca.

The ballgame over, let us retire to upper Main street, to the area inside the turn at the top of Main. There the ring was set up for spectacular boxing. Ira "Gummie" Van Ausdale was undefeated if my memory is correct. Also worthy of mention was Art Bernard and Pat Callahan. Pat was at age 51 still punching it out with the younger bucks on an even basis. Rumor had it that Pat Callahan formerly of Butte, Montana, once lasted 7 rounds in a bout with the then light-heavyweight world champion. I remember Ma Steward in the ring vs. Daisy Cunning-

ham, two big ladies duking it out - - - would you believe it.

By the time the fights were over it was beginning to get dark and not too far away from the ballpark again and the fireworks. Ben and Joe Cohen donated the fireworks as a goodwill gesture from their "Leader Store." Their building still stands, across the street from "Tillies."

We are not through yet. At 9:30 everyone would proceed to the grade school gymnasium for the "Labor Day: Dance," a function that saw that building "packed." And why not with that outstanding Wilcox Orchestra playing all the popular tunes with a perfect beat for dancing. Frank "Prof" Wilcox, piano; Evan (Cooney) Edwards, big bass horn; Don Ashworth, drums and singing "I Cried for You." Mel Cowley was an outstanding trumpet. Carlyle Wilcox, Tuffy Cline and Glen Roeder composed a fine sax section. One woman once remarked in my presence: "Seven men who make it sound like fifteen." She was right. How fortunate Lincoln County was to have that orchestra for many years.

It would be nice to do it all again. It was a day never to be repeated in that same fun-filled way.

### Local author writes about Pioche's past....

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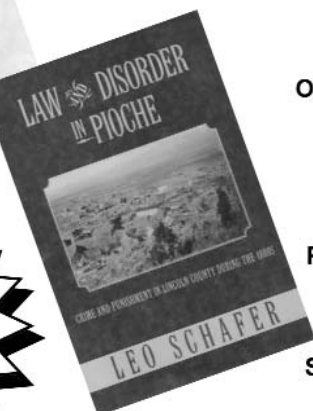
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PHOTOS COURTESY DAVE HEFNER

In days gone by, the Labor Day celebration was organized by the Union. In addition, each miner contributed a full shift's pay to go toward Labor Day cots. Today, the Chamber engages in several fund raising efforts each year. If you enjoy the weekend, consider a donation so that the many fun events and fireworks can continue.



## PIOCHE BINGO NIGHTS

By Barbara Rohde

The ever-popular Bingo Nights sponsored by Pioche Chamber of Commerce are held once a month at the Pioche Town Hall. The Bingo games are a way to raise funds for the fireworks at the annual Labor Day celebration as well as provide good clean fun for all ages.

The first round will start at 6:00 p.m., and Bingo will run until 8:00 p.m. Prizes include baked goods, donated items from local businesses, and even a cash hand or two. This year, Bingo will be offered one night a month; we invite visitors and residents from all the towns in Lincoln County to come join us, and help us raise the funds for the fireworks, parade prizes, games and mining events prizes that are given during the Labor Day weekend. Snacks and drinks will also be available for a small charge. We would also welcome any baked goods to be donated for prizes; please contact Alyson Hammond at 962-5455 if you have something to donate. After Labor Day, Bingo will resume in January.



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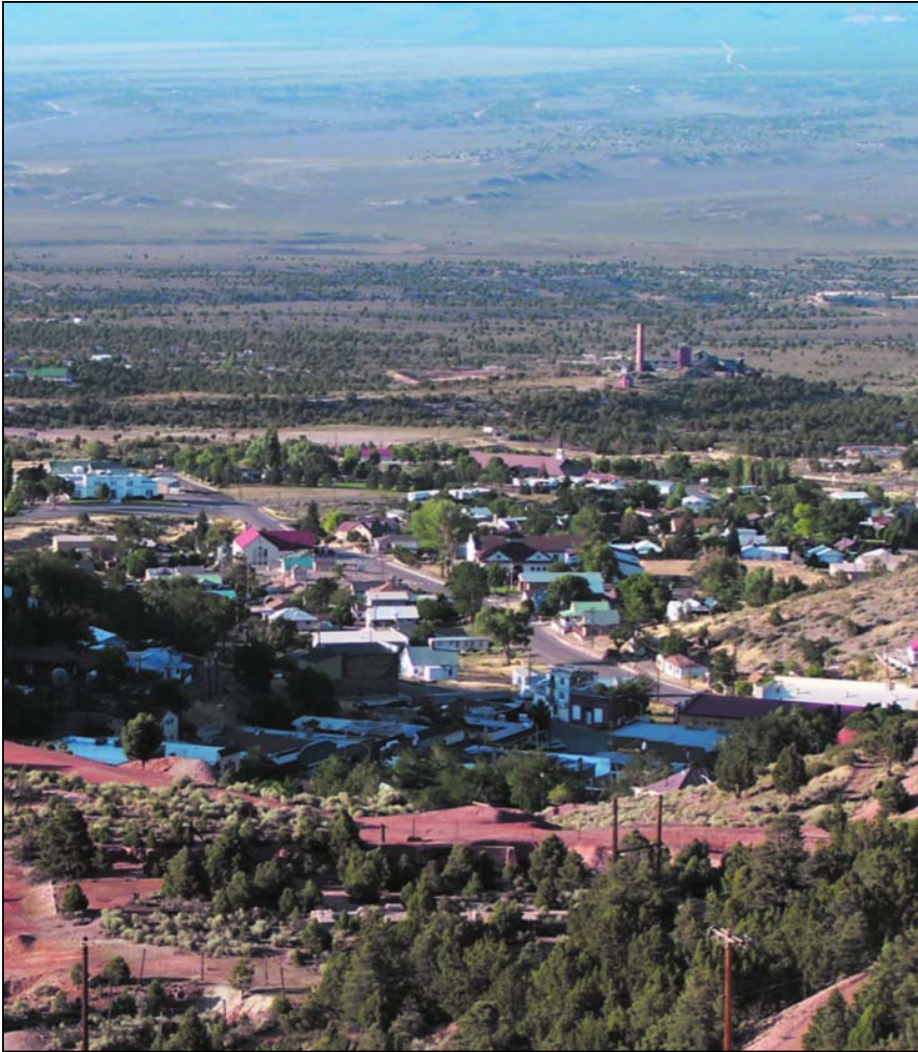
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Looking down on Pioche from the slopes of Treasure Hill.

## PIOCHE PROFILE

Much in contrast to its colorful past, today Pioche attracts new residents with its friendly, picturesque hometown appeal. Pioche is the Lincoln County seat; the courthouse is a prominent fixture of the town. With full amenities, Pioche offers good food, lodging, shopping, automotive and emergency services. The town's recreation center includes park and picnic facilities, a swimming pool and a baseball diamond. A 9-hole golf course, with artificial turf T-boxes and greens, is located 2 miles north of town at mile-marker 2 on SR322.

Pioche has two parks. The Mining "pocket" park is located at the upper end of Main Street, where the Business route from Highway 93 comes into town. It has a bandstand with a bench, overlooking a mine tunnel replica. The main town park is at the lower end of Main Street, by the new Courthouse. It has a baseball field, large grassy play area, a large picnic shelter with cooking areas, and playground equipment. This is where the Labor Day celebration events are held, including the mining/drilling competitions. The town swimming pool is located on the other side of the baseball field, and is open only during summer months.

The town's free R-V Park is located across the street from the swimming pool; six pull-through sites are available for short-term stays (less than one week). Water and sewer are available, no electricity, and a donation is requested for use. No restroom facilities are provided at this RV park. There are two commercial full-service RV parks for those wanting or requiring all the amenities.

With a population of about 800, Pioche is the northern-most community in Lincoln County. It is located 175 miles north of Las Vegas on U.S. 93 at 5,500 to 6,200 foot elevation in the high desert of southeastern Nevada. The relatively high elevation and location out of the rain shadow of the Sierra gives the town an invigorating 4-season climate. Average climate data:

- July average high, 89 degrees F.
- January average low, 21 degrees F.
- Annual rainfall average, 13.5 inches
- Annual snowfall average, 44 inches.

# COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### Restaurants

Historic Silver Café .....(775) 962-5124

### Lodging

Hutchings Motel .....(775) 962-2853  
 Motherlode Motel .....(775) 962-5159  
 Overland Hotel .....(775) 962-5895  
 Sweet Life Guest Cottage .....(775) 962-5188  
 Wright's Country Cabins .....(866) 810-7303

### RV Parks

Eagle Valley RV Park .....(775) 962-5293  
 Pioche RV Park .....(775) 962-3992  
 Roll Inn RV Park .....(775) 962-5566

### Transportation (getting here)

#### Major Highways

From Las Vegas I-15 northbound to U.S. 93 north  
 From Ely U.S. 93 southbound  
 From Salt Lake City to Cedar City I-15 southbound  
 To UT SR-56 to NV SR-319 to U.S. 93  
 Lincoln County Airport .....(775) 728-4409  
 Lighted, paved runway, 4800 feet long  
 12 miles south in Panaca

### Bus Service

Lincoln County Transportation..(775) 728-4477

### Education

Pre-school/ .....(775) 962-5832  
 Elementary School K-6  
 Junior High School .....(775) 728-4655  
 Students bus to Panaca, 12 miles south  
 High School .....(775) 728-4481  
 Students bus to Panaca, 12 miles south

### Utilities

Pioche Public Utility .....(775) 962-5840  
 Solid Waste – NWS Crestline ..(775) 728-4333

### County Government

Lincoln County Clerk .....(775) 962-5109

### Taxes

Lincoln County Assessor .....(775) 962-5890

### Police

Lincoln County Sheriff .....(775) 962-5151

### Telephone

Lincoln County Telephone Co ..(775) 962-5131  
 www.lctsys.com

WUE Inc. (cell phone service) ..(775) 962-5161

### Cable TV

Rainbow Cable .....(775) 962-5111

### Internet

Lincoln County Telephone .....(775) 962-5131

### Medical

Grover C. Dils Medical Center ..(775) 726-3171  
 25 miles south in Caliente  
 Caliente Clinic .....(775) 726-3121  
 Steven Klomp, Dentist .....(775) 728-4432  
 12 miles south in Panaca  
 Lincoln County Ambulance .....911  
 Shannon Kirches, Masseur ..(775) 728-4325  
 Panaca  
 Lincoln County Physical Therapy(775) 726-3117  
 Caliente  
 Meadow Valley Pharmacy .....(775) 726-3771  
 Caliente

### Churches

Berean Baptist .....(775) 962-5886  
 Bible Talk Comm. Church, Panaca (775) 728-4734  
 Christ Church Episcopal .....(775) 962-5835  
 Holy Child Catholic, Caliente ..(775) 726-3669  
 LDS, Pioche Ward .....(775) 962-5469  
 United Methodist Church, Caliente.(775) 726-3665

### Newspaper

Lincoln County Record .....(775) 726-3333  
 Caliente admin@lincolncountyrecord.com

### Other Community Services

Pioche Senior Center .....(775) 962-5378  
 (serves lunch daily)  
 Pioche Chamber of Commerce ..(775) 962-5544  
 www.piochenevada.org  
 Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce  
 www.lincolncountynevada.com (877) 870-3003  
 Lincoln Links Golf .....(775) 962-5206  
 Retired Senior & Volunteer Program (RSVP)  
 Volunteers always welcome. ....(775) 726-3447  
 VFW, Caliente .....(775) 726-3156

## Purple Onion

Antiques  
Vintage Items  
Collectibles



Open Memorial Day through Labor Day

683 Main Street  
Pioche, NV 89043      775-962-5000

## Overland Hotel & Saloon

662 Main Street Pioche, NV 89043



Themed Rooms, A/C & Free Wi-Fi

Slots - Video Poker - Dance Hall

*"New Gift Shop"*      *Back Bar over 150 years old*

www.overlandhotelnv.com  
 overlandhotel@lcturbonet.com (email)      775-962-5895