

Was Hawthorne A "Legitimate" Child?

Although diligent research fails to produce a bona fide birth certificate for the Town of Hawthorne, Nevada, the date of April 14, 1881, is accepted, Nunc Protunc (or otherwise), as the birthday of the little community that has survived 100 years -- and intends to be around a few, or many, more.

The Mineral County Independent-News priding itself in being a "family newspaper" has no intention of raising a question of "legitimacy" about Hawthorne, but, in order to promote the general welfare, protect the rights of property owners, and clear the record, we call upon all and sundry state officials who are accountable for the maintenance of accurate records to clarify a few points of legal history.

It is no secret that Hawthorne was a creation of D.O. Mills, major stockholder in the Virginia & Truckee (V&T) Railroad, and his superintendent, H. M. Yerington, who was the head honcho of the Carson &

Colorado Railroad Company, and who had a supernumerary, subordinate and sidekick name W.A. Hawthorne (Some early records show Hawthorne without the "e" and others Yerington with two "rs".)

What disturbs them is the record of land acquisition that preceded the establishment of our town. It was on "the Twelfth (12th) day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty one" that two "indentures" were made -- one between George W. Richard of Ormsby County, Nevada, and C&C Railroad Co., the second between Eugene F. Pierce of Ormsby County, Nevada, and C&C Railroad Co.

Each man, for the sum of "One Dollars, gold coin of the United States of America, to him in hand paid by the said party of the second part, etc., etc., granted, bargained, sold, alienated, conveyed and confirmed in fee simple absolute unto the said party of the second part, and to its successors or

assigns forever, all that certain real estate, lying and being in the County of Esmeralda, State of Nevada and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: RILCHARD - The East Half of Section Twenty-Seven in Township Eight, North of Range Thirty, East Monte Diablo Base and Meridian (Containing Three Hundred and twenty acres of land more or less).

PIERCE - The West half of Section Twenty-Seven in Township Eight, North of Range Thirty East, Monte Diablo Base and Meridian (Containing Three hundred and twenty acres of land, more or less)".

So far, so good. One was unable to determine whether Massrs. Richards and Pierce might have been employees of Carson & Colorado Railroad Co., who might have been "Speculating" in land for a few days, or were just doing the boss a favor by selling them the two half sections that became the Town of Hawthorne.

But -- and it is a big But --



Hawthorne's main street, officially designated E Street, but also called Sierra Way, as it appears in 1981.

how and when did Richard and Pierce acquire those two half sections? According to records they have been able to obtain, both Richard and Pierce did obtain title to the land described above "according to the approved

March 5, 1873." The land "patent" was signed by J.W. Adams, Governor, on March 8, 1883.

The governor of Nevada at the time Richard and Pierce assigned their interest to Carson & Colorado Railroad

Co. in 1881 was John H. Kinkead.

Oh, well, what is a year or two in the life of a wonderful community? Hawthorne, no matter who your parents might have been, we love you.

SCHOOL

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children may enroll in school, and may enroll their children in a class as well.

As you continue to look at the logo, inside the wheel is the school mascot, the night owl. This tells the students that they will learn the ability to make proper decisions when confronted with several choices. Mr. Augsburger noted that, "If students are to accept their responsibilities as members of our society, they must be trained as decision makers."

To compliment this goal, school attendance, class scheduling, personal conduct, and transportation are responsibilities that must be handled by every student.

In the upper right hand corner of the logo is a computer which represents the computer age, and suggests that we live in an ever-changing, fast moving society. New and innovative teaching techniques are employed in basic computer literacy classes. From this experience, students may move on to vocational training offered in hotel and front desk operations, as

well as other simulated leisure and hospitality day-to-day operations.

The young adult center's initials are represented in the logo, and provide evidence of the program opportunities offered to young parents who want to know more about child care for both their own experience and for vocational opportunities. A partnership program exists between Sunset High School and Women's Hospital, which provides vast first-hand information about both of these programs activities. Finally, the logo provides a picture of a diploma, the ultimate goal for students at Sunset High School.

LEROY PARKER

LeRoy Parker, counselor at Sunset, explain, "Our students come from all socio-economic levels. Some are already living independently, and some have their own families, but all understand the need to obtain a high school diploma and Sunset High School proudly offers that opportunity."

The move from Valley High School to Las Vegas High School, and now to 900 Hinson Street has not deterred the staff or the

students. There is a high degree of motivation and acceptance by the students for their role and responsibility. While school districts have provided only one type of comprehensive high school program, the Clark County School District has provided many different educational program opportunities. Sunset High School is an evening school operating as a special school meeting special needs for a group of very special young people.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

It is always a pleasure to listen to school personnel talk about students and their accomplishments. Is was rewarding to listen to the staff at Sunset High School who mentioned Gerald Hardwick who is a senior and will be graduating in November. Gerald works and attends school, and has achieved success, as has Aretha Huges, whom the staff described as a determined student. Angela Lopes was the third student mentioned and was discribes as a good student and one who actively participates in the school program.

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