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Lorraine's Lowdown: Cleaning trash and finding treasure

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These members of the Wolf Creek Community Alliance and Bear Yuba Land Trust, whose identities remain unknown behind their masks, joined forces to remove several hundred pounds of garbage along Wolf Creek during the 23rd Annual South Yuba River Cleanup.

Submitted to The Union



Twice each day, Kevin Cantrell walks the round-trip from Road to the Corner Market at La Barr Meadows. Cantrell enforces officers with encouraging drivers to slow down.

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Numbers Tell the Trash Tale. More than 764 people signed up for last month's 12-day, 23rd Annual South Yuba River Citizens League cleanup, despite the pandemic. "A lot of volunteers registered themselves, then brought up to 10 more family, friends, and neighbors in their 'Quaran-teams,'" says SYCRL Community Engagement Manager Daniel Belshe. "We had more first-time cleanup volunteers than ever before." During the self-guided cleanup, volunteers working at 16 sites hauled away more than 6,800 pounds of garbage along the Yuba River, Bear River, Deer Creek, Wolf Creek, and Tahoe National Forest...

Some Winners of this year's "Trash or Treasure Contest" were a creepy clown for "Most Unusual." "Most Useful" went to a beer keg (a nod to when it was full), and the "Most Fashionable Find" was a pair of socks embroidered with marijuana leaves – to which a volunteer quipped, "Do these socks make me look hungry?" Next year's event is scheduled Sept. 18, but SYCRL hopes to offer cleanup opportunities year-round...

He Elicits Smiles with a Wave of His Hand. Twice each day, Kevin Cantrell walks the round-trip from his place in Alta Sierra along Dog Bar Road to the Corner Market at La Barr Meadows. His arms are as busy as his legs, because Kevin waves at every car. Kevin has walked the route consistently for the past several months, and his strolls often occur during the morning and evening commutes. "People seem to love it," says Kevin. "They'll honk or wave back." Once, while at the market, Kevin says he was approached by two law enforcement officers. "They asked me if I was the guy who waves all the time, and I said yes," recalls Kevin. "They said, 'We can't thank you enough. Your waving has a tendency to make drivers slow down and drive safer.' I told them, 'Glad I can be of assistance...'"

Happy Birthday to KNCO 830AM announcer Tom Fitzsimmons. Tom is the cornerstone who keeps our beloved radio station on the air (his many talents, plus a little duct tape and baling twine). Recently, when Tom volunteered to host yet another nonprofit fundraiser, the adjective used to describe him was "The Legendary Tom Fitzsimmons..."

Cathy Anderson-Meyers Has Been Fighting Alzheimer's since her dear husband of 36 years, Geno, died from the disease Oct. 2018. Earlier this month, Cathy inspired friends and family to bicycle in the annual Alzheimer's Association Ride to End ALZ. Cathy and Team Geno – comprised of friends and family across two states – rode more than 250 miles in one day and raised nearly \$3,500. Donations are accepted through Nov. 11 ([Act.ALZ.org](https://www.act.alz.org)). "Cyclists across the nation were riding to end Alzheimer's, and the only that stands between us and a cure is funding," says Cathy, who cycled more than 25 miles around Chicago Park. "Every dollar counts..."

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