

Column: Nothing fishy about the sale of the Steelhead Lodge

May 12, 2022



Some people misinterpreted my comments last week regarding the non-controversy about County Supervisor Susan Masten's sale of the Steelhead Lodge in Klamath Glen to the Yurok Tribe.

Or, maybe I should say, I did not adequately put to rest that non-story in a way that was sufficiently clear to some people.

Let me make it clear now. There's nothing fishy about Masten's sale of the Steelhead Lodge to the Yurok Tribe. It's a nothing-burger.

By way of explanation, on page one of last week's Triplicate, the teaser "skeleton" photo, headline and article were intended to be read together, then only to stimulate further reader interest in my commentary on page four. Apparently some readers never got that far.

I am reminded that each element of a news story carries its own independent significance. The headline, photos, captions and the text of the story itself each must stand alone. Some readers may not get past the headline; others may look only at the pictures. And, many may never read all the way to the end of my long-winded articles.

Supervisor Masten is seeking election in her own right to the District 5 seat on the board of supervisors. She had been appointed by Governor Newsom to fill the remaining term of the late Bob Berkowitz.

Any candidate for supervisor who attempts to use the Steelhead Lodge story to advance his or her own political prospects must not have much to offer the voters.

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Remembering and recognizing one's mother or mother-in-law need not be a complicated ordeal. Buried in a story this week about an SUV full of poodles are a few paragraphs about how an autistic adult son caring for his dementia-afflicted mother was inspired to create a service that brings specially trained dogs to autistic children and others with special needs. It is a short, but moving story that touches on the love between a mother and her son.

Remember, Mothers Day is Sunday, May 8. She'd love a phone call or a visit.

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The Triplicate is pleased to welcome Jessica Robin as our newest columnist. Her column, entitled "Building Historic Del Norte," will explore how the many wonderful architectural and historic buildings in Del Norte County shaped what our community has become today.

Jessica brings an understanding and sensitivity to her writing that is influenced by her background in environmental design, real estate, economics and fiscal policy. She is a financial analyst for the City of Crescent City.