

Community Coordinator Report

Sierra County
JULY – SEPTEMBER
2015

New Restaurants in Town



Sierra County has had two new businesses open within the last few months. Both are restaurants that employ six to eight Sierra County citizens.

Pop Pop and GG's Bakery & Café

Pop Pop & GG's Bakery and Café opened their doors looking forward to the summer crowds. They are located at 700 Main Street, Loyalton, CA. This lovely café is open for breakfast and lunch from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, serving a variety of dishes, not to mention the delicious doughnuts created by Kenn Bennett. Pop Pop & GG's Café and Bakery is owned by Christy Jordan and her mother Sandy. If you have sweet cravings or want a home style lunch, stop in and say hi, you won't be disappointed!

The Fork and Horn Restaurant

The second restaurant to open is The Fork and Horn. They proudly opened their doors on July 4th, 2015. You will find this eatery located at 101 Main Street, Sierraville and is owned by Kasandra Martinetti. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, for breakfast and lunch. They whip up tasty sandwiches using homemade breads from a local baker, fresh ingredients, and have specialty soups throughout the week. Their menu items consists of all homemade items. If you can't make it into Loyalton for some sweets, The Fork and Horn will bring them to Sierraville, compliments of Pop Pop & GG's Café, in Loyalton.

August 2015 Employment Snapshot

Sierra County
Unemployment Rates
(Unadjusted)

Sierra
6.5%

Labor Force
1,520

People Employed
1,430

People Unemployed
100

**Source California Employment Development
Department*

Labor Market Information Division

Magnificent Youth Continued.....



You may remember our magnificent youth Madison Snider, as she was the in-school youth senior student who had chosen "Auto Body Restoration" for her Senior Project. Madison graduated from Sierra Pass High School on June 6, 2015. She, like many youth, was not sure on the path she would take after graduation. She had thought about many options some of them included college or maybe a job.

Madison worked diligently with her youth case manager and discussed areas of interest and where Madison thought she wanted to be in a few years. Madison did some career interest assessments through Onetonline.org, mynextmove.com, and careerpath.com. She found out some interesting information that gave her valuable personal insight. Madison determined that working right now would work best to help her achieve a self-sufficient life. Finding employment was a challenge, since she didn't have work experience, but Madison was determined to find the right job that suited her needs. Madison decided to attend workshops at the Sierraville Business and Career Network (BCN). The workshops provided her with new tools and she felt confident to apply for several positions in Loyalton. Although Madison was looking for work she still was interested in pursuing her education at Feather River College (FRC) when she becomes ready. She feels this would open many doors for her in the business management field.

On August 12, 2015 her Career Center Advisor (CCA) met with her and took her on a field trip to Leonard's Store to introduce her to Sherri the manager. Madison handed in her application with her updated resume attached. It went very well that day with Sherri, as she appeared to be impressed with Madison and after a brief conversation regarding availability, she set up an interview with Madison for the next day. Soon after Madison received an employment offer and started her grocery clerk career on August 19, 2015. Madison has been employed with Leonard's Store for over a month now and she is very happy. Madison feels that with this new career and the skills she is learning, her next move will be to attend business management classes at FRC, which she hopes to do next year.



AFWD America's Job Center of California Statistics

Sierra County Visitors

110

AFWD Business Services

Business Served	436
Service Provided	1,303
Positions Filled	343
Training Assistance	71

Program Services

Total enrollments

Adult	92
Dislocated Worker	63
Youth	24
Employed	87

Unemployment Rate

Butte	6.9%	Nevada	5.2%
Lassen	6.4%	Plumas	7.6%
Modoc	7.3%	Sierra	6.5%

National Emergency Grant – Temporary Job Creation Drought

For California and the northern counties the drought has hit hard. People have not been able to get jobs as easily. This drought effects the tourist season and some have been laid off due to the drought and others have had their hours reduced. In the month of July, Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) was awarded a part of the National Emergency Grant-Temporary Job Creation (NEG-TJC) to provide public and non-profit entities temporary workers for drought related projects. AFWD recruited temporary workers to assist these entities with drought related projects. Eligibility requirements included layoffs, hours reduced due to the drought conditions or having been unemployed 15 out of the last 26 weeks and living in a drought affected area.

Alysia Massey and Rachel Lapp, both of Sierra County, were unemployed for over 5 years. Alysia was referred to the NEG-TJC Drought program through the Human Services Department in Loyalton. The AFWD Career Center Advisor (CCA) at the Sierraville office reached out to Rachel, as she had recently been in the office inquiring about employment in the area.

The City of Portola was one agency that requested employees for their Temporary Maintenance Worker positions. Alysia and Rachel were given applications, which they filled out and returned with their resumes. A few days later it was our pleasure to call and inform them that they had been accepted to start their new job as Temporary Maintenance Workers. They both attended an orientation about safety and were provided information about the position and what it entailed. The position included performing brush removal, pruning, landscaping, clearing dry areas, removing invasive brush and fire reduction clearance to reduce fire hazards thus reducing the need for water for fire suppression.

Both Alysia and Rachael have been working for the City of Portola for over a month. They agree that the job is very physical, but they are both really enjoying the work experience and having a paycheck. This job has enabled both Alysia and Rachel to earn an income and increase their skills and experience to assist in finding further employment.

Rachel stated that this job through the TJC program appeared at the right time, since she was not sure what was going to happen if she did not find employment soon. She knows that this position is temporary, but she is now more hopeful that she will find full time employment with the skills she is receiving.

Alysia commented that this job has helped her very much. She recently got married and it was particularly hard being a one income family. Now that she has been employed and helping with the bills, the pressures have lessened. “Thank You Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc, for this opportunity!”



This Quarter's Success Story

Kenn Bennett, Doughnut Maker Extraordinaire



Kenn Bennett became a client of the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) in our Sierraville Business and Career Network (BCN) in March 2015. Kenn had been unemployed for about 4 years and had not been able to find self-sufficient employment. Kenn's past work experience was in truck driving and as a pipeline layer, which is a challenging field to find employment in, especially in the Sierra County area. Career Center Advisor (CCA), Kayte Pucket, discussed the services available and determined he would benefit from the program. Kenn was assisted with creating a resume and worked on his interviewing skills. He utilized the job wall and the computer lab, getting assistance from the Sierraville team. During Kenn's interaction, it was discovered that he was interested in the restaurant and baking industry along with the customer service field. This information directed Kenn to explore outside his box. He began researching culinary classes at Feather River College (FRC).

Kenn attended Career Development Workshops and was dedicated in his job search. Christy, the owner of the new café & bakery Pop Pop and GG's in Loyaltan, called the BCN office asking if there was someone who was a cook, baker, or a doughnut maker and could start immediately. While discussing this, the CCA mentioned that there was a gentleman by the name of Kenn Bennett who was looking for a job and although he had no experience, was interested in learning how to cook and bake. Christy asked CCA, Kayte to have Kenn come in to pick up an application and apply. Soon after Kenn received an interview and was hired, thereby starting his new career as a doughnut maker! Kenn was able to attend a food handler's class, which was sponsored by Sierra County Human Services in which he achieved his Managers Food Card and started work, ready for the summer season. Kenn has stated that the combination of his resume, obtaining the managers food card, and the interview workshops all played a huge part in his achievement and finding new employment.



Way to go Kenn, Job Sweetly Done!

