

A scenic photograph of a river with large, smooth rocks. The water is a mix of blue and yellow, reflecting the sunset. Two people are fishing in the river. The title 'Mountain Views' is overlaid in white text at the top.

# Mountain Views

A Boice Countryside, Realtors Quarterly

First Quarter 2004

## Village at Northstar - Launch a Huge Success

On April 3, 2004, East West Partners hosted a successful Grand Opening in San Francisco for the new Village at Northstar.



Over 75% of the properties sold in just 4 hours. A select number of premier three and four bedroom residences are still available for purchase.

Construction of the Village will begin April 18th with scheduled completion in December 1005.

## Gray's Crossing - Approved

We are pleased to announce that Gray's Crossing was recently approved by the Truckee Town Council.

Gray's Crossing will have approximately 400 homesites located near the neighborhood village, scheduled for construction in 2005. The first 100 of these homesites will be available for purchase later this summer and construction of the Peter Jacobsen designed championship golf course is scheduled to begin in 2005, with an anticipated opening in the summer of 2007.

Owners at Gray's Crossing will have the opportunity to join the Tahoe Mountain Club. Membership provides golf privileges at three championship courses, access to an Alpine Club in the new Village at Northstar, special privileges at Wild Goose at Lake Tahoe and much more.

For more information on these communities, please contact Boice Countryside, Realtors at (800) 545-7955.

## Truckee Legacy Trail Update

In 1997 the Truckee Rotary Club moved to support a long-term comprehensive project for the enhancement of and access to the Truckee River, to be named the Legacy Trail. As the vast majority of people surveyed cited, trails and bikeways along the Truckee River are a top recreational priority.

Phase I was finished in the Fall of 2001. It runs from the stoplight on Brockway Road to the bridge at the end of East River Street. It's a multi-purpose trail designed to connect with a future Town of Truckee trail system and possibly with Donner Lake, Tahoe City, and beyond. It is also an environmentally sensitive trail designed to connect residents and visitors with the Truckee River.

The design and alignment for Phases II and III (East River Street footbridge to Glenshire subdivision) has been proceeding via the Town of Truckee and their consultants since Spring of 2002. Phase II of the project is planned to begin this summer.

For more information on the Truckee River Legacy Trail, please contact Andy Otto at (530) 587-1163.

## Homeowner Strategies

### Defensible Space

California Public Resource Code (PRC) 4291 requires that anyone who owns, leases, or rents any building or structure within a mountainous area must clear all flammable material within 30-100 feet of the structure lying on the property or to the property line, whichever is closer. While fines can range from \$100-\$500 for failure to clear defensible space, the increased risk of a fire destroying your home far outweighs that cost. Contact the Fire Safe Council at (530) 470-9193 for more information.

### Cross Ventilation

When you consider how many months your mountain home sits under snow banks, it's easy to imagine how much moisture can collect under the house. We recommend opening your foundation vents to allow ventilation, which helps to avoid problems that could arise from dampness. Call us to get information about service providers who can open the vents under your home.

## Tahoe Ski Trivia

Q: On what ski run was the Bobsled built for the 1960 Winter Olympic Games hosted by Squaw Valley?

Interested in more Tahoe Ski Trivia? Get this fun new game by emailing to [tahoetrivia@yahoo.com](mailto:tahoetrivia@yahoo.com).

A: Red Dog

Photo courtesy of David Wright



## Where are we?

Hiking to the top of a well known West Shore Lake Tahoe Peak affords some of the best views around. Among these views is this small lake. What is it called?

Correctly identify this mountain lake by sending in the correct answer on the reply card and be entered to win a dining gift certificate!

## From Past to Present, Sugar Bowl Celebrates Famed Silver Belt Race

### Then...

From 1940 to 1971 Sugar Bowl's Silver Belt race was one of the world's premier skiing events. The winners of the event took home a coveted silver-studded belt with a silver buckle, a tradition borrowed from a popular longboard race held in the 1850's by miners in nearby Plumas County. The historic giant slalom began at the top of Mount Lincoln. Up to 100 racers descended from a steep start, then pointed their skis 1,300 feet straight down through a large gully and into a sheltered natural basin. Eventually, the course would be officially rated the steepest race terrain in California and the fifth most difficult in North America. All competitors arrived at Sugar Bowl a week prior to the race and came by invitation only.

“The course was very European in design, meaning that it followed the actual terrain of the mountain”, explains Olympic Bronze medallist and 1975 Silver Belt winner Greg Jones. “It offered a lot of variety. It was also difficult to prepare for, since it ran through a gully and over a steep face. In later years, even modern grooming machines had a tough time trying to maintain the course.”

Babette Haueisen, former Northstar instructor, remembers barreling

down the 1955 Silver Belt race course. Tucking through a flush transition (three gates set close together requiring the best of skiing technique), she swept toward the smooth-sloped meadow and the finish. The precocious, twenty-five year old, who had been skiing for only four years, vaulted into first place, surprising spectators, competitors and race course officials alike.

With the start of the World Cup competitions in 1967, the Silver Belt was soon faded out of the upper tier race circuit. Revisions in scheduling, a new amateur point system and increasing costs eventually lead to its demise after 1971, with one final race in 1975.



Babette Haueisen drinking celebratory champagne out of her trophy in 1955. Photo courtesy of Coldstream Press.

### Now...

This past March 26th - 28th the Silver Belt Race, sponsored by Red Bull, returned to Sugar Bowl Resort in Norden, CA. The country's top skiers revived the tradition by competing on the steep and all natural terrain. The winners of this year's race were Brett Fischer of Boulder, Colorado for the men's division and Aleisha Cline of British Columbia, Canada, also a four-time gold medalist at the Winter X Games, for the women's division.



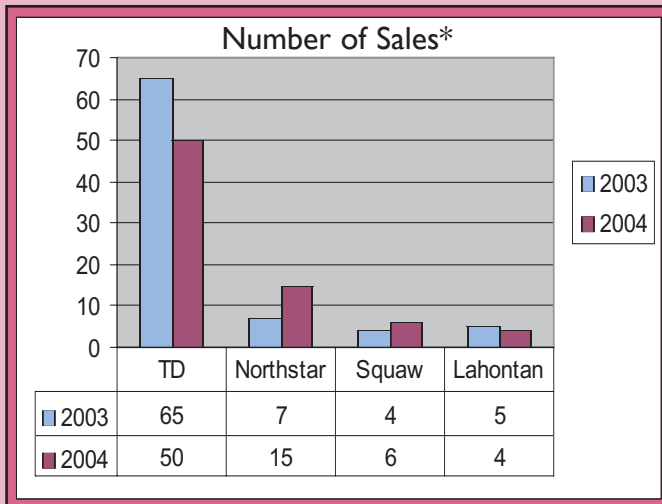
Skiers race down the course in this year's Silverbelt Race. Photo courtesy of Court Leve.

The historical text for this article was excerpted from *Skiing with Style: Sugar Bowl 60 Years* by Robert Frohlich and S.E. Humphries and published by Coldstream Press. This book and *Mountain Dreamers*, another ski history book by Robert Frohlich, are available at the Bookshelf in Truckee and Tahoe City, from Amazon.com or from the publisher's website at [www.coldstreampress.com](http://www.coldstreampress.com).

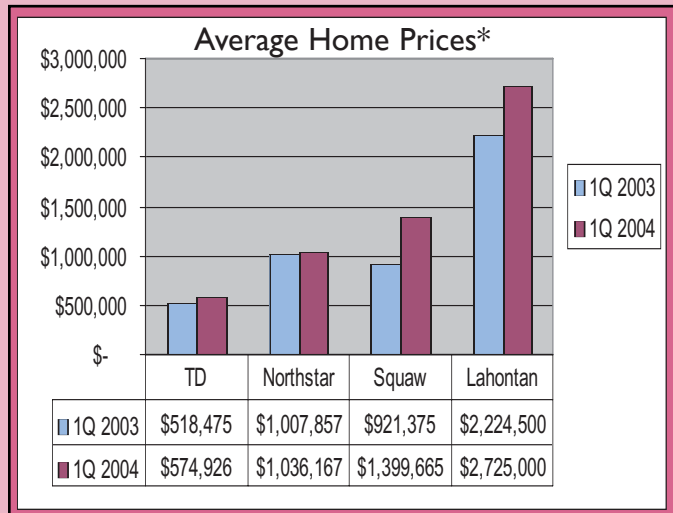
## Market Stats - 1Q2004

The real estate market in the Truckee-Lake Tahoe area continues to see a lot of action. The quantity of new listings and the rate at which they go into escrow have reconfirmed that property in this area is a profitable investment, aside from being a refuge and getaway from the metropolitan areas.

The prices, not surprisingly, continue to go up. For instance, Tahoe Donner, which comprises the majority of home sales in the Truckee-Lake Tahoe area, has seen an 11% increase in average home sales price. This is a great indicator for property owners who can recognize increased equity on their vacation homes and upsize to newer, larger properties, while buyers can still get loans at near record low interest rates.



\*Statistics based on MLS data for Single Family Homes



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With the additional inventory from new developments coming into the Truckee market, such as Old Greenwood, the Village at Northstar, and recently approved Gray's Crossing, home prices will see an increase in surrounding communities like Tahoe Donner, Northstar, Lahontan, Sierra Meadows and Ponderosa Palisades.

Contact Boice Countryside, Realtors to learn more about the current values of your Truckee property. We can do a comparable analysis of properties in your area so you know exactly what your home is worth.