

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gold Discovery Days

State Park Holds 50th Anniversary Celebration in the Cool of Plumas County

July 18 and 19

JOHNSVILLE, CA – Cool off, camp and sample the life of a gold miner this summer during Gold Discovery Days at Plumas-Eureka State Park.

This year, California State Parks, the Plumas-Eureka State Park Association, and the Johnsville Historical Society are hosting an extra special celebration marking the parks' 50th Anniversary on July 18th and 19th from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. both days.

"We have two reasons to celebrate this year." said Pam Armas, Sierra District Superintendent. "The gold discovery 158 years ago, and the establishment of this property as a state park 50 years ago."

Along with a barbecue lunch, visitors will get to meet characters from the old west as volunteers will be dressed in period costume performing their roles as the mine's blacksmith, assayer, mill operator, and town residents. Self-guided tours and guided tours are also available, including the guided tour of a 19th century miner's cottage, exhibiting what life was like for a family in the mining era. A guided architectural tour of Johnsville will be available on Saturday afternoon. The Johnsville Historical Society's church museum will be open both days, and they will have a bake sale on Sunday. Horse and buggy rides will also be available through town.

Features available through out the year will also be available including gold panning in a trough. The park museum and store will be open, a barbeque lunch will be available, and Sunday morning is the park's annual pancake breakfast..

Visitors who reserve a campsite early can stay overnight not far from the fun in one of the park's 67 camps sites in the forested canyon along Jamison Creek. Then, on Sunday, they can wake up to the smell of pancakes being served on the outdoors on the lawn behind the museum for anyone who wants to come.

For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: <<http://www.parks.ca.gov>>



The park is located off of the beaten path just three hours from Sacramento, or 1 ½ hours north of Truckee.

The Plumas-Eureka area was mined heavily beginning in 1851, following an initial gold strike in that year. Several townsites were established to support the mining operations which continued until 1943. In 1959, the State of California established the park on lands that had been acquired after the mining operations dissolved. Today, the park features over 5,000 acres of forested, high Sierra terrain. Several old mining ruins remain, including the Mohawk Stamp Mill and the miner's bunkhouse, which now serves as the park's museum and ranger station.

The event is free and open to the public. Meals are available for a donation both days. Barbecue lunch starts at \$5. Pancake Breakfast: \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 10 and under. Proceeds will benefit the non-profit Plumas-Eureka State Park Association which is dedicated to the interpretation and education of the park's rich cultural and natural history.

Camping reservations in the Upper Jamison Creek Campground can be made by contacting Reserve America at 1-800-444-7275 or at www.reserveamerica.com.

For more information on the event, please contact the park at (530) 836-2380.

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