



# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **CATT Community Project and Mountain Forge Continue Platform at Kids' Railroad**

Members of Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe Community Project (CATTCP), Mountain Forge, Inc. employees, the Truckee Donner Railroad Society, and the Truckee Donner Historical Society are planning a dedication for the SF Bay Bridge Train Depot, which is nearly completed at the Truckee River Regional Park. The team will celebrate their success and recognize the many volunteers and donors who made the SF Bay Bridge Train Depot at the Kids' Railroad a reality.

The project, dubbed "Bridging Communities", started in late 2016, when Anton "Toni" Standteiner of Mountain Forge, a 50-year-old family owned and operated blacksmith shop located here in Truckee, was awarded 8 tons of steel from the original East Span of the San Francisco Bay Bridge. Of 50 artist applicants, Toni was one of only 12 to be awarded this precious commodity. Toni approached Bob Bell, president of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society with the intention of constructing and donating a Train Depot for the Kids' Railroad at the Truckee River Regional Park on Brockway Road.

Jennifer Standteiner, also from Mountain Forge, approached Daniel Fraiman of Daniel Fraiman Construction to act as the General Contractor for this project. Plans were drafted and donated by Linchpin Structural Engineering. Once the Town of Truckee, Truckee Donner Recreation and Parks Department, and the Truckee Sanitary District approved the plans, Ruppert Inc excavated the site, Bobby Jones Concrete poured the footings and Root of Design Electric ran conduit to eventually illuminate one of the warning lights from the Bridge that Toni was also awarded. Johnson Iron worked directly with the Toni as the artist, to set the 8 tons of SF Bay Bridge Steel in its new home. Additional materials and labor were donated by PDM Steel Service Centers, Inc and TNT Materials; and Mt Lincoln Construction, Inc donated much needed roof material.

With the structure nearly complete, Mike Nethersole of M.D. Construction and Consulting, Inc has volunteered to create a 20" x 30" steel plaque recognizing the many businesses and individuals who have supported this project. A celebration, to which all are welcome, will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the SF Bay Bridge Train Depot during the Railroad's 150th anniversary Old Timers' Picnic. Special thanks to the Truckee Tahoe Airport District for a Community Sponsorship award supporting this "Ribbon Cutting" event.

The images of the completed project, as well as the names of all the project donors, will be on permanent display at the Oakland Museum of California. All twelve SF Bay Bridge Salvaged Steel winning artist's projects will be highlighted through this museum exhibition.

“The platform is important for several reasons,” explains Toni Standteiner. “First, the steel has historic significance – The direct connection of Interstate 80 and the railroad to the Bay Area creates a strong kinship between these two areas. Due to its relatively close proximity, many citizens of the greater Bay Area frequent the Truckee/Lake Tahoe area for recreation and second home ownership. This project brings some of the old Bay Bridge steel from “down the hill” into the center of our town recreation park area. The symbolism further connects our areas with iconic materials from our shared Interstate 80 linkage.” Bob Bell, Truckee Donner Railroad Society President, adds that the platform enhances safety for the young riders when loading and unloading the train. “The platform facilitates better crowd control, line safety and safe passenger loading/unloading. And, finally, it delights the children who visit it.”

C.A.T.T. Community Project Chairman Dave Rhoden (Caseywood) sums up: “Obviously, we are very proud of this accomplishment. Our special thanks to Jennifer Standteiner of Mountain Forge, Inc, for leading the project, Erin Broomhall of Linchpin Structural Engineering for her crucial work on engineering the plans and a huge thank you to everyone who donated time, materials and skilled labor.”

*C.A.T.T. Community Project is a 501c(3) non-profit, charitable organization established in October 1999 as a sponsored arm of the Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe. C.A.T.T. Community Project provides design and construction assistance to other non-profits and governmental agencies as a way of “giving back” to the community.*

*C.A.T.T. Mission Statement: To be a conduit for funds, materials, volunteerism and project coordination towards the restoration or construction of selected structures that are deemed beneficial to the community.*