

Sign on...

I have to say- I don't know what Eureka is coming to! Each day's Times-Standard is full of shootings, kidnappings, and many other kinds of lawlessness and disruption. Just the other day, a couple of blocks from my house, some folks were refused admission into a house and one kid pulled up a shotgun and shot the house member in the arm. Having been a hunter most of my life, I know what kind of damage a shotgun, at close range, can do to flesh. I don't know what the underlying cause for this action was, but no matter what-a shotgun? by a juvenile at point blank range? The house is owned by a well known local landlord, or should I say "Slumlord"? According to the Newspaper, the assailants ran right in front of my house as they disappeared into the brush.//Another incident involved some crumballs stealing donated "Toys for Tots" from a spot on the Bayside Mall. How low is that?// The list goes on and on and on! Being a policeman in this area must be very scary, knowing that there are so many weapons floating around in the hands of even juveniles. As I said before, I have been a hunter and responsible gun owner since I was about twelve years old. Consequently, I am not in favor of overly tight gun laws and restrictions. As I see it, those restrictions only make it tough on responsible gun owners. The criminals or irresponsible ones don't pay any attention to the rules or laws anyway.//Speaking of that-I was watching some programs on channel 123 (Andy Griffith Show, and others) and the bad example they put forth if someone not familiar with weapons were watching and handled weapons the same way. I had a gun go off accidentally once as a result of carelessness on my part (I was about twelve years old). Fortunately, no one was injured, but it taught me an important lesson- You never

can be too careful around weapons!!*//Again, I have to say goodbye to a couple of friends-one is my neighbor, Cindy Hill, wife of James Hill, a local trucker, who passed away after a long battle with an illness. Then, there was Greg Susich, who passed away while duck hunting according to the paper. Finally, we have Judge Harold Neville, whom I hadn't seen for a while, and didn't know real well. Harold was a man of few words, with an imposing presence. I never faced him in court, but I could just see him sitting up there, with that stone face, facing a criminal, wondering if he was going to put him or her away forever. Harold told me about one time he was fishing and some guy started hasseling him. He carried a small handgun in his fishing bag, and when the guy got louder and louder, he pulled out the legally registered hand gun, and the guy disappeared instantly.* So, to the families of these friends who are gone, my condolences.//and, with that- I'll wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!