



## Face of Fillmore

*By Sherry Shepard*  
July 8, 2020

Summer with all of its outdoor activities seems to be the prime time of year for accidents. Hiking, climbing, ATVing, boating, horseback riding, and sports of all kinds appear to be the place most of them happen. While we hear about the results on the television news and read about them in the newspapers, most holiday weekends like July 4<sup>th</sup>, are often followed by reports of mishaps.

Just a week ago while exploring the mountain east of Fillmore with family members, we were nearly to the top of the Paradise Trail. This one is narrow and steep and provides little room for passing another vehicle. As we neared the top, a narrow side-by-side was having trouble squeezing through the 50” barrier. Then he noticed us and attempted to pull over to the side, since vehicles going uphill have the right-of-way to keep up their momentum. Pulling onto the berm on the side of the trail, he began to tip at a precarious angle. His wheels came back down on the trail for a second, then he made a second attempt to get out of the way, this time tipping even farther. I think it was only Divine Intervention that kept him from rolling down the mountainside. What a relief to have all of us on all four wheels and safely to our destination. A near miss!

In a newspaper article dated May 2, 1913, we read of an early day accident in Fillmore. (I am always fascinated in the difference of the descriptions between older articles and the ones we read today.)

“On Saturday last, while out on a pleasure ride, the horse ridden by Miss Jane McBride, daughter of Jack McBride, suddenly became unmanageable and after running for over a block,



Unknown woman riding side saddle

jumped sideways at the ditch in front of Milo Warner's place, throwing Miss McBride heavily to the ground.

The young lady sustained a broken shoulder and it was at first feared that she was injured internally, but Dr. Stevens, who set the fracture. Says that with care she will soon be alright again. Miss McBride deserves great credit for sticking to the horse as long as she did, and we do not doubt that she would have eventually brought the animal under control again in a short time if he hadn't come to this ditch and become further unmanageable."

Whether you are astride your favorite horse or straddle of your motorized toy, be careful. You don't want to read your name in the paper.