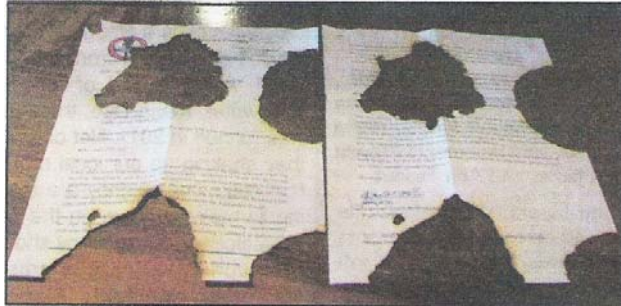


## County, 1-4-5 Club at odds over ADA compliance

*The Valley Springs News*, Friday, August 2, 2013



*What's left of a code compliance request letter, above, has sparked a controversy between the Calaveras County Building Department and owners of the new 1-4-5 Club Steakhouse regarding whether an ADA ramp should be added to the front door of the establishment, center, after one was added to the side entrance, far right.*



**By Nick Baptista**

Calaveras County's Building Department says the 1-4-5 Club Steakhouse opened prematurely and still has code issues that need to be resolved.

The 1-4-5 Club Steakhouse and Lounge opened its doors July 17 and a week later received a letter from county Building Official Jeff White saying the establishment was not in full compliance with the American With Disabilities Act of 1995.

1-4-5 Club owners Deanna Cabilo and Lee Godfrey have decided to keep the business open and Calaveras County Supervisors Cliff Edson, Darren Spellman and Chris Wright reportedly are trying to resolve the issues.

Edson told *The Valley Springs News* he was meeting Thursday with building officials and county counsel and hoped a solution could be found.

A restaurant owner himself, Edson said he would support the 1-4-5 Club owners "as much as I can legally."

"I feel she (Cabilo) has made a pretty good effort to do what's right."

The main issue seems to be a second ADA-compliant ramp into the club. Cabilo and Godfrey have a ramp leading from the parking lot to the club, but say county building officials insist a second ramp should be added to the California Street entrance.

They have looked into renting a temporary ramp, which would cost \$900 a month, or building a permanent ramp at the cost of \$11,000.

“That’s just out of our range right now,” Cabilo said. “We’re not trying to buck the system, but we’ve spent our last dime on food and supplies, and we built the new ADA ramp at the side and two ADA-compliant restrooms.”

The building had been vacant since the closure of the Valley Inn Saloon, Bar and Grill in early 2010. It is on the site of the original Valley Springs Hotel dating back to 1885. According to local historian Sal Manna, fires gutted the original hotel and a rebuilt. The structure there today dates back to 1897 and was located on Laurel Street before being moved to the California Street site in 1953.

The owners spent nine months preparing the club for opening and said they were led to believe the single ramp was sufficient.

Delaying the opening was not a choice, Cabilo said. “We had just bought \$6,000 of food, everything would have gone bad.”

Cabilo has a half-burnt compliance request letter in the bar. She would only say it was a county official, not her, who put a lighter to the letter from White.

Several people who wish to remain anonymous say Supervisor Spellman put the lighter to the letter. Calls to Spellman to confirm or deny the incident went unanswered.

White would not elaborate on the situation, saying only there are code issues that have not been taken care of so permits cannot be finalized.