### No on Measure K. the Boondoggle Tax

\$9 MILLION per year!

But no money for Lake Berryessa.

And no compelling need nor recreational benefit for Napa residents

Picking your pocket a dollar at a time.

Expanding boutique environmentalism.

No measurable impact on climate change.

"Protecting" already well-protected land - from what, for what?

Buying city votes with sales tax-funded local parks.

Boondoggle: work or activity that is wasteful or pointless but gives the appearance of

having value; an expensive program that is a waste of money, especially one using public money. Imagine kids in a candy store spending money like drunken sailors.

A burning question to many of us trying to revitalize a battered Lake Berryessa region

is why this Boondoggle Tax is being considered at all when one of the most important recreational areas in Napa County, Lake Berryessa, has been so neglected by the County. We'd like to have \$9 MILLION a year to help in the revitalization of this major resource! Real recreation for real people with real monetary benefit for Napa County. Lake Berryessa is only mentioned ONCE in passing in the ordinance itself in Section B.1.b describing "protecting" water quality by buying land. But Lake Berryessa is already the cleanest lake in northern California with no foreseeable water quality threats. Buying watershed lands which can't be developed anyway does not "protect'

The RPOSD has done little of compelling recreational or environmental benefit for Napa County residents. They claim they are "preserving" land, but they are actually just buying land that is already nearly unusable for any practical development

\$9 MILLION per year! \$45 MILLION in 5 years. \$90 MILLION in ten years. \$135 MILLION in fifteen years. Ridiculous! What could you do with \$9 MILLION per year. \$9 MILLION stolen from Napa County residents' wallets. The existing sales tax in Napa County is already 7.75 percent, with the exception of St. Helena, where it is 8.25 percent. For many people, these taxes build up and become a burden. The RPOSD needs to live on its current budget not tax, tax, tax.

The Lake Berryessa News believes the benefits of Measure K are not worth its cost.

Country Living - Beautiful With Benefits

http://steelecanvonrd.com



water quality.

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dog run, chicken coop, multiple storage buildings

9375 Steele Canyon Road Beautiful hills. Oak, pine and bay forest trees. Minutes from Steele Canyon RecArea. Outdoor Creekside Patio paradise: shooting range, trails, horse barn & arena, \$779,000

2,158 Sq. Ft. **Homes-46 Acres** 4 Water Tanks Horse Property **Main Home:** 3 Bedrms, 2 Bath Large Master Suit Home Theater Office/Den/Solar Well/Septic **Second Unit:** 1,100 Sq.Ft. **Furnished** 

Napa County - Reclamation - MPA Signing Update

According to Molly Rattigan, Deputy County Executive Officer, "We are still working within the February timeframe. We continue to work on the MPA document with BOR."



Located in the beautiful Circle Oaks neighborhood. Set among the trees, the home makes you feel as if vou are in your own treehouse. Lot is circular

Central Heat & Air - Propane Carport Indoor Laundry

1,260 Sq. Ft.

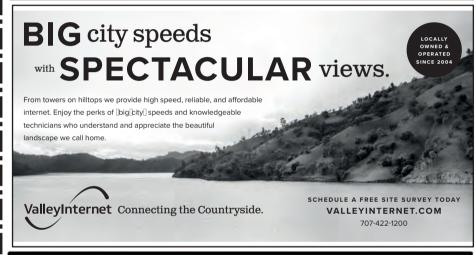
.24 Acres

Bedrms, 1 Bath

Open Floor Plan

w/ Wood Stove

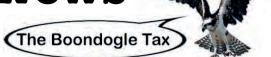
Wood Floors







February 2020



## The Four Tragedies of the Berryessa Valley: A History of Heartbreak (and Recovery?)

Berryessa from the site of the demolished Berryessa and appears (at the present Restaurant, I was struck by the many occupance, prior to the construction of

much of that history, unfortunately, was distance from the principal stream filled with heartbreak. This article is an draining the area (Putah Creek). excerpt from a book I'm writing about the Spain claimed the land that included history of the lake tentatively titled "Policy and Politics Betray the People:

The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020"

## Native American Culture

Formerly known as Talahalusi (Beautiful Land), the Napa Valley is one of After the Spanish and Mexican invasion Southern Wintun tribe survive. California's longest inhabited areas. in 1823, the tribes were nearly decimated Archaeological surveys indicate 10,000 by forced marches and smallpox. When vears of uninterrupted habitation. "It was forced to relocate to various missions for a paradise - a cultivated paradise where religious indoctrination, many fled to one only had to reach out their hand to eat. friendlier territory. A place rich in beauty, water and food," stated the oral history of Native American Elder Jim Big Bear King.

Native Americans lived peacefully in pole houses, using clamshell beads and magnesite cylinders for money and jewelry. They processed obsidian into shafts, spears and arrowheads, which were used for hunting and export. Acorns, perennial grasses, wild berries, freshwater shellfish, salmon, fowl and game were their diet. These huntergatherers lived in a rich environment with a capacity for a dense, socially complex population of 35,000-40,000 people. They established large permanent villages with nearby seasonal resource and task-specific camps.

In 1976 an archaeological survey of lands slated for development for recreational

As I stood with Brian Hackney of KPIX's discovery of a number of prehistoric California, then, became a territory of the homesteaders, was not recovered when Eye on the Bay (see the interview on the artifacts along the shoreline of Lake U.S. In 1850 California was admitted to the cemetery in Monticello was relocated M Lake Berryessa News web site) looking Berryessa. Although the study area the Union as a state and stayed in the to Spanish Flat. Sisto lies beneath the out at the fantastic view of Lake (Oakshores Park) is contiguous to Lake Union during the Civil War. Steele Park Resort's Boathouse time) to be a favorable place for human California? Who were they, where did levels of history we were witness to. And Monticello Dam it was a considerable over time? Particularly what of the

> called by the Mexicans to distinguish it acorns which normally grew abundantly. from Baja California.

#### The Second Tragedy: The Destruction of Spanish Culture

Alta California stayed in Mexican hands until an infamous incident in 1846. John C. Fremont led a group of American adventurers and earlier American immigrants in an uprising to try and free Berryessa and two of his nephews.

This "republic" only lasted until 7 July 1846. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

purposes (Oak Shores) resulted in the ceded northern Mexico to the U.S. body, unlike that of many of the other

What, though, of the people of Alta The Third Tragedy: The Destruction of they come from, and how did they change people of Berryessa Valley?

California in about 1530. It stayed in Southern Wintun tribe. Up until about the valley, along Putah Creek. The valley Spanish hands until Mexican 1800 members of the Southern Wintun itself was flat and fertile and was independence in 1821 when it became tribe lived in a village in Berryessa considered to have some of the best soil in K: The First Tragedy: The Destruction of part of Mexico—Alta California as it was Valley named Topai. Their main diet was the country. Unfortunately, no members of the

> The next known inhabitants of the valley were two Mexican brothers, the Berryessas (Berryessa is a corruption of their actual name—Berelleza). Berryessa brothers, Sisto and Jose received the valley as part of a land grant to them in 1843 from the newly independent Mexican government When California became a state in 1850 the Berryessas petitioned to have their land grant recognized by the United States government.

Alta California from Mexican hands. On However, by the time Lincoln finalized 14 June 1846 Fremont and company the Berryessa brothers' right to the land declared California to be an independent almost none of the land was still in state: the Bear Flag Republic. What so Berryessa hands. The Berryessas had stains the Bear Flag Republic is the sold the vast majority of the land in order killing by some of Fremont's men, lead to cover their plentiful debts, particularly by the famous Kit Carson, of three gambling debts. It seems that Sisto and innocent Mexicans—Jose de los Reyes Jose were overly fond of Three Card Monte and horse racing. In 1879, the last Berryessa homesteader, Nicholosa Higuera, wife of Sisto Berryessa, died ended the Mexican-American war and Her husband died the year before in 1878. Both were buried in the valley. Sisto's

waters of Lake Berryessa even today.

## Rural Culture

The town of Monticello was born the next vear, 1867, when B.F. Davis built a blacksmith shop. It became the center of The first people known to reside in the a prosperous agricultural community and valley were American Indians from the was located somewhat in the middle of

(Continued on Page 2)



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#### Four Tragedies (Continued from Page 1)

community telephone switchboard operator, notary public, crop insurance Putah South Canal. man as well as the person to go to for free farming and income tax advice. He was a man who wore many hats. Monticello became a popular venue for rodeos, baseball games, and "cow roasts" drawing people from miles around.

the first community in the state to have a telephone system installed (around 1905). In 1896 the famous Monticello Bridge over Putah Creek, was built. It was considered the grandest stone masonry of three 70 foot spans. Some claim it was the largest stone bridge in the Western United States. The Bridge is the only thing carted off.

**Monticello Store** 

The Solano County Irrigation District was Lake Berryessa. When I explain what attending numerous meetings held by Monticello was always a fairly small from a proposed multiple-purpose Solano can't believe the government could have but, in fact, were treating the residents and

or removed from the valley in preparation the revitalization of Lake Berryessa. for its inundation. Because the land was Twelve years ago, the Bureau condemned, compensation for people's Reclamation (BOR) promised property was minimal. The town enjoyed the distinction of being

Lake Berryessa Family Recreation

The Bureau of Reclamation and their supporters destroyed family recreation at that remains of Monticello beneath the Lake Berryessa for a generation of waters of Lake Berryessa—everything families, children, and friends. Many else was either burnt to the ground or people ask me about the history of the At first, the community vehemently Berryessa, for realizing that a diamond is process that led to the present situation at protested the closing of the resorts, a chunk of coal that stuck to its job.

formed in 1948 to obtain irrigation water happened most become incredulous and BOR, who promised they were listening. Project and included the damming of done something so stupid. "How could visitors like a piece of "coal" instead of the Berryessa Valley at Devil's Gate. Shortly they have gotten away with that?" they "Diamond In The Rough Lake" as thereafter Bureau of Reclamation exclaim. So I'm writing a book to explain, previously described, hoping the residents included the Solano Project as part of its The goal of my new book is to provide the plan to develop water resources in the history and the context within which such an incredibly destructive course of action

> Thanks, Supervisor Pedroza Stu Williams, Lake Berryessa

other structures were dismantled, burned, Alfredo Pedroza for all his hard work for of the revitalization of the lake a lost cause. residents of Lake Berryessa, and the The Dam was completed in 1957 and the million visitors a year to Lake Berryessa.

leading the efforts of the county to create the New Cappell Fire Station. Supervisor

**Steele Park Restaurant** 

**Proverbs Across Cultures** All human beings are essentially the same despite being

slightly biologically different due to evolution. The human brain is physically the same in all humans. Concepts may be expressed differently in different languages due to the range of human experience around the world, but they are founded on the same perceptions and mental processes. Here are some interesting African proverbs that may sound familiar anywhere. If you pick up one end of the stick you also pick up the other

If you do not have patience you cannot make beer. Ovambo Even the best cooking pot will not produce food.

Ashes fly back in the face of he who throws them.

He who is unable to dance says that the yard is stony. Anger and madness are brothers.

Hurry, hurry has no blessings.

If you want to go quickly, go alone. To go far, go together. No matter how good you are to a goat, it will still eat your yam.

You cannot beat a child to take away its tears.

A fight between grasshoppers is a joy to the crow.

We desire to bequeath two things to our children; the first one is roots, the other one is wings. Rain wets the leopard's spots but it does not wash them off.

No matter how beautiful and well-crafted a coffin might look it will not make anyone wish for death.

Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable.

The lion that prowls quietly doesn't mean it's intimidated.

The length of the rope determines the movement of the goat A flea can trouble a lion more than a lion can trouble a flea.

To run is not necessarily to arrive.

Where a woman rules, streams run uphill.

By the time a fool learns the game, the players have dispersed.

A child who is carried will not know how far the journey is.

A happy man marries the girl he loves, but a happier man loves the girl he marries.

If you close your eyes to facts, you will learn through accidents

Life is lived forward, but understood backward.

Do not look where you fell but where you slipped.

A bird with fire on its tail burns its own nest.

One who has been bitten by a snake lives in fear of worms Those who move are the ones who see the lion's footprints.

What you help a child to love can be more important than what you help him to learn.

To get lost is to learn the way.

**Onion Headlines** 

TV Character Knows All This Hardship She's Experiencing Now Will One Day Be Nothing More Than A 'Previously On' Clip

Eminem Terrified As Daughter Begins Dating Man Raised On His Music

Man Assumed Being Heartless, Egotistical Maniac Would Have Made Him Richer By

National Association Of Corpses Express

Outrage At Still-Living Actors Getting

Taking Break Halfway Through

Cadaver Roles On 'CSI,' 'Law & Order Aging Tom Cruise No Longer Able To Climb Outer Wall Of Skyscraper Without

Republican Senators Maintain They'll Weigh All Evidence Before Carrying Trump Out On Shoulders

Fan Wishes Team Was Sponsored By A

Cooler Corporation

Self On TV

Referee Reviewing Replay Excited To See

Self-Conscious NFL Referee Practices Raising Both Arms In Front Of Bathroom Mirror Before Game

Researchers Discover Referees Evolved Stripes To Warn Predators Against Pass Interference

Gravitational Waves Found By LIGO Determined To Be The Start Of Existence Going Down The Drain.

New NCAA Ruling Forces Trump To Bill LSU Players For Celebratory White House Fast Food Dinner, \$83.

Astrophysicist Experiences Corona Mass Ejection After Drinking Too Much Mexican Beer

Area Man Wonders Why Local Newspaper Writes So Many Headlines About Him



Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity. Steven Wright





ALSO, THE BRIDGE IS OUT AHEAD

town, usually two to three hundred residents. The town at different times had a hotel, a school, two gas pumps, a general store, a community hall, and a bar (a roadside spot called "The Hub"). McKenzie and Sons store (originally Central Valley Basin of California. McKenzie and Cook) was a center point In 1953 construction began on Monticello took place. The book is dedicated to for much of the activity in the town. Albert Dam. The rest of the Solano Project documenting this final tragedy - and, McKenzie, who ran the store for many includes a diversion dam on lower Putah hopefully, the promised revitalization.

years, was the grocery clerk, postmaster, Creek (creating Lake Solano) and an open waterway stretching 33 miles named the I would like to thank, on behalf of the Lake do, and would do nothing. By 1956 all the trees, homes, barns, and Berryessa community, Supervisor

former valley, now a reservoir, filled that this beautiful "Diamond In The within two years leaving no clues that Rough Lake" would experience a Monticello and Berryessa Valley were "seamless transition" after the closing and

demolition of the five resorts at the lake. bridge ever built in California, consisting The Fourth Tragedy: The Destruction of This promised transition resulted in the finalized in February 2020, closing of our local schools, the closing of investments. many local businesses and loss of jobs, and accounted for the loss of value in local real estate, and very substantial increases

in water and sewer rates for lake residents.

Pedroza, using his banking background, worked with the BOR, creating the Managing Partner Agreement, to be concession revitalization of the Lake.

Supervisor Pedroza, thank you for vourperseverance on behalf of Lake

including

for

agreements.

would tire of protesting. We listened

hopefully to the BOR's illusory promises

that they understood what went wrong

with the original transition promise, and

they would spend millions of dollars to

study what went wrong, only to be finally

told a dozen years later, that they were

only in the water business, and couldn't fix

the situation, and they didn't know what to

Three years ago, our local supervisor.

Alfredo Pedroza, decided to confront this

situation, after many skeptics considered

Supervisor Pedroza started working to get

our fire insurance rates stabilized, by

#### 6 Berryessa Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Shelly van Rijn Berryessa CERT is comprised volunteers who live in the Circle Oaks,

Berryessa Highlands, Capell Valley, Spanish Flat and Berryessa Pines Long Pants communities. Our first Berryessa CERT training meeting was on CERT go bags. We had

received a CERT helmet. CERT vest. work gloves, goggles and training materials from Napa County CERT upon Utility Shut Off Wrench completion of our training. After Hand Sanitizer, Small Tissue Packs reviewing the hazards that we may face in Whistle, Latex Free Gloves our local area, what other items might be useful in our gear bags? We had fun Helmet Headlamp, Extra Batteries comparing items from all of our gear bags Caution Tape, Triage Tape (Red, and it was a great way to learn about new Yellow, Green, Black) things we had never thought of.

Following is the list that we came up with. Collar) Ihope all of you find something useful you 16" Glow Stick can apply to your own emergency Folding Shovel/Pick Combo preparedness kits! Everything on this list Pocket Knife (4" Or Less) would make a great kit to keep in your home or car, ready to grab at a moments notice if a disaster strikes or you've told to evacuate. I know in the last few times I've had to evacuate due to a wildfire, my prepacked CERT go bag came in handy more Glow Sticks - Red, Yellow, Green With than a few times. I've also made a paired Strings down version of this kit for my daughters Emergency Blanket, Wool Blanket



## **CERT Gear Bag Required** Cert Hard Hat & Cert Vest Safety Goggles, Knee Pads Leather Work Gloves

Sturdy Closed Toe Shoes Flashlight, Extra Batteries

Note Pad. Pen. Pencil. Black Sharpie Fog (Field Operating Guide)

**Suggested Supplemental Items** 

**Items:** 

N95 Mask

**Bottled Water** 

Triage Tape Holder (Snap Buckle Dog

Rain Poncho, Sunglasses, Bandana First Aid Supplies Gallon Ziplock Bags

Multi Tool, Duct Tape

\*\*\*\*

Travel Hairbrush/Mirror Combo

Latest CERT Graduates

Tarp, Collapsible Water Bottle

Lumber Cravon

Zip Ties

Ear Plugs

Hand/Face Wipes

Crank Emergency Radio

Spanish/English Dictionary

2 Pairs Of Extra Underwear

Cell Phone Charging Stick

Signal Mirror, Compass

Maps Of The Area

Lighter Weight Work Gloves

Luci Inflatable Solar Lantern

Extra Black Sharpie

Water Purification Tablets Or Filter

Sunscreen, Chapstick With Sunscreen

4 Large Garbage Bags Rolled Up &

Reflective Rain Jacket Or Rain Gear

Green Laser Pointer, UV Pen Light

Nylon Braided Rope, LED Flares

Rechargeable Batteries & Charger

Extra Cell Phone Charging Cord

Deodorant/Toothbrush/Toothpaste

Long Sleeve Shirt, 2 Pairs Of Socks

**Nice to Have Extra Items** 

Secured With Thick Rubber Bands

Lighter, Snacks (Non-Perishable)

**Napafirewise Chipping Program** Mark your calendars for the reopening of the Chipping Program in March. The The free chipping service is for residential Napa County Fire Department (NCFD) use only and not for a commercial provides a free chipping service to all enterprise. Napa County residents who live in a designated fire hazard zone (rural area), in order to help residents stay safe with appropriate defensible space on their property. To learn more about the program, visit https://napafirewise.org/ programs/chipping/

#### Program Criteria The maximum individual pile size is 50

can have chipped in a season. Each pile

feet long, 6 feet high by 10 feet wide. There is no limit to the number of piles one

requires a separate chipping request, even if being requested at the same time, to enable tracking of material volume chipped and labor hours. All piles must be placed along a road accessible by truck and chipper. Piles

must also be safely accessible by the chipping crew; far enough away from a main road, highway, and moving traffic for the chipping crew to safely work. Piles are required to remain on the home

roadways. Piles should be stacked cut end (butt) towards the road for ease of grasping for chipping

owner's property and not on public

Stem diameter is limited to a maximum of 6 inches.

No mechanically piled brush by tractor or dozer will be chipped.

Piles must be limited to brush and tree limbs from the property iteself. Stringy vine type brush, such as poison oak, construction materials, leaves, grass clippings, etc. are not allowed as they may foul or damage the chipper.

If you need assistance in preparing piles to be chipped, it is recommended that you contact a tree service or landscape maintenance company.

#### Manfree Challenging Pedroza for Lake Berrevssa Votes Pedroza's broad political experience, financial expertise, and

Aguarius (1/20-2/18): Advances in science will support for Lake Berryessa's revitalization vs. Manfree's scientific expertise, land use concerns, and support by slow growth advocates who show no support for Lake Berryessa's future. The Lake Berryessa News endorses Alredo Pedroza.



## **Presidential Primary Election**

The Napa County Election Division invites the public, the media, members of the Grand Jury, political party organizations and anyone interested in the election process to observe all aspects of the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. All processing and counting will take place at the Napa County Election Division 1127 1st St., Ste E, Napa.

"We welcome observers to this fundamental cornerstone of our democratic process," announced Napa County Registrar of Voters John Tuteur, "Those who wish to observe the election should contact us 24 hours in advance so that we can facilitate the observation process.

You can call the election office at (707) 253-4322 or toll free (Upvalley and American Canyon) 1-888-494-8356, or send an email to elections@countyofnapa.org. Observers must sign in and receive appropriate identification.

Logic and accuracy testing of the ballot tabulation equipment begins on January 28, 2020, at our central office. Vote-by-mail ballot processing will begin Friday, February 28, 2020 at 8 a.m. and continue Saturday, February 29, 2020, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Counting of ballots processed through Friday, February 28, 2020 will begin 9 a.m. Saturday, February 29, 2020 and continue through Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

Results from processed vote-by-mail ballots are available shortly after 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Counting will resume on Friday March 6, 2020.

The selection process for the risk-limiting audit required under the California Election Code will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday March 2, 2020. The risk-limiting audit will begin on Thursday March 12, 2020 and continue until certification of the election.

Pursuant to California election law, the Registrar of Voters has 30 days after the election to certify the election results. Observers are also welcome at any of our 9 vote centers.

## February 2020 Horoscopes

soon allow man to travel to the most distant corners of the universe. Still no word, however. on it being able to get you off that couch. Pisces (2/19-3/20): If someone had told you 30 years ago that you'd end up an insurance

salesman, you probably would have laughed. Then again, you would've been 6 months old at Aries (3/21-4/19): You will give birth to a beautiful, bouncing baby girl this week, moments after going into labor inside that giant

tear you apart, which is rather unfortunate, as Fear and Jealousy are the two pitbulls that live next door. Gemini (5/21-6/21): Use the watering-can of

inflatable castle

Faurus (4/20-5/20): Fear and Jealousy will soon

good intentions to nurture the fig tree of expectations. There, enjoy figuring that one out, vou jerks. Cancer (6/22-7/22): You claim that nobody

understands you, but then, the strange white men in lab coats are doing the best they can. Leo (7/23-8/22): Investigators on the scene of the accident will say there was nothing you could have done, unless you count not stomping on the gas and driving straight into the huge tanker truck.

both sides cooperate in hunting you down and trying you for war crimes. Libra (9/23-10/22): You will find yourself los in a strange new world in which the hairless, vaguely simian natives seem to be trying to

Virgo (8/23-9/22): There will be a brief cease-

fire in the age-old war between the sexes as

communicate with you. Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Don't worry if you don't understand the complex, yet seemingly effortless, unfolding of the universe. After all, you're stupid.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Enough about you. This week, Virgo will be unable to shake the feeling that you never listen to her

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): It's getting harder for your loved ones to believe that you never have any spare change.

**Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser** 

Saturday February 29, 2020

Social: 5:30 PM

Lake Berryessa Senior Center

& Dessert

Silent Auction, Door Prizes

Dinner: 6:30 PM \$ 50.00 Per person Feast on "All You Can Eat Fresh Crab" Pasta, French Bread, Salad

No Host Bar No Outside Beverages/Alcohol

> Credit Cards Accepted Tickets call: 707-966-0206 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Rd.

FROG PARKING IF YOUR CAR RUNNING ALL OTHERS I'M VOTING WILL BE TOAT FOR IT WHAT HAPPENS IF I WANT TO GROW YOU GET SCARED MY DWN FOOD HALF TO DEATH BUT I CANT FIND TWICE? BACON SEEDS MY WIFE SAID I THIS IS MY STEP LADDER NEVER LISTEN TO I NEVER KNEW HER, OR SOMETHING MY REAL LADDER LIKE THAT WaltingfordSign.rom IS THERE EVER I CHECKED INTO THE HOKEY POKEY A DAY THAT MATTRESSES **CLINIC & I TURNED** ARE NOT ON SALE? MYSELF AROUND ₩ WalingfordSign.com 🔮

LET'S EAT GRANDMA LET'S EAT, GRANDMA

**PUNCTUATION** SAVES LIVES.

#### **Socially Responsible Investing:**

#### An Oxymoron?

noticed how many corporations are marketing their conversion to climate change advocacy the "greening" of their companies. Most of this advertising is still in the category of "greenwashing"

Greenwashing is the process of conveying a false impression or providing misleading information about how a company's products environmentally Greenwashing is considered an unsubstantiated claim to deceive consumers into believing that a company's products are environmentally

People who have amassed large fortunes through hard work or inheritance can, and should, make a significant contribution to society. Many do - Warren Buffet and Bill Gates are prime examples. There's even an organization named Responsible Wealth (www.responsiblewealth.org) whose brochure states that: "We are business leaders and wealthy individuals, among the top five percent of income earners and asset holders in the U.S. We are concerned about the rise in powers of large corporations and the growing gap between the rich and everyone else."

But besides contributing to volunteer organizations, what can the more modestly financially comfortable do with their money? Socially responsible investing has its historical roots in the battle to end apartheid in South Africa. Initially, a few stock mutual funds had refused to invest in companies which dealt with South Africa. In 1982 a social investment fund was set up within the Calvert Investment Group. It was the first stock fund that tried to screen guidelines to judge whether a company was (CERES) Economies (www.ceres.org).

pools of company common stock; and they are management decisions. Shareholder advocacy

pools in a secondary market which has minimal is an important strategy for people who hold effect on the operation of companies stock in companies they're locked into, either on themselves. And do the companies really care an individual level because of tax If you follow the news and social media posts who owns their stocks or bonds? Will they considerations, or on an institutional level related to climate change, you should have become more environmentally-friendly if they because of the policy of the investment know one or the other of several ostensibly committee, or maybe on a pension plan level socially-responsible mutual funds owns the because the Employee Retirement Individual stock? This has not been the case to date. Screening sets the context for almost all social

investing strategies. The goal of social (This is an excerpt from the book, Conspiracy investing, on the screening side, is to one day Theory or Automatic Pilot: The Economic make screening a company out of a fund a Roots of Environmental Destruction by Peter punishment so high that irresponsible Kilkus) companies' stock prices would get pushed lower, and screening a company into a fund a reward such that responsible companies' stock prices would sell at a premium. Screening has created an industry of social

investment managers and research firms who are creating the infrastructure to continually advance the state of the art for evaluating companies, analyzing companies, asking them questions every year, putting the information on databases for the public, and trying to help everybody figure out, based on the information, how to make their investment decisions. Screening establishes a set of researchers, analysts, and investors who evaluate a company on its social and environmental performance.

They are there year in and year out. They don't go away. This creates higher expectations for corporate behavior and pushes companies to be better corporate citizens. Screening sets the context that makes shareholder advocacy possible in a number of different ways. Almost all of the major money managers who do screening engage in some level of advocacy to try to improve the companies they hold.

So what is the really socially responsible investor to do? And there's the catchword, "do." companies to avoid bad corporate practices To have an impact you must be active, not generally. Over the years, the search for a list of passive (with a passively clear conscience because you read the prospectus from the socially responsible has evolved into the present mutual fund). If you own stock you can attend a Coalition for Environmentally Responsible stockholders meeting. If you own enough stock, principles you can make public proposals to be voted on at the stockholders meeting.

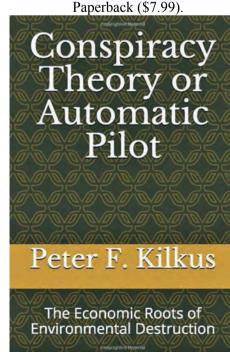
Socially responsible investing is often Even if you don't own stock you can take promoted to the conscience-stricken. But actions (boycotts, protests) that are designed to remember, mutual funds, for example, are just drive stock prices down, thus affecting

Security Act (ERISA) requirements don't allow them to divest certain kinds of companies.

Classical economics is a mythology. Predatory capitalism is a fundamentalist religion based on this mythology. Environmental destruction and income inequality are results of the practice of this mythical religion. But is the present economic and environmental situation a conscious conspiracy or an unintended consequence of simplistic beliefs supported by basic human greed?

This book provides the basics of classical economic theory and the description of the intended or unintended consequences of predatory capitalism based on this theory. It contrasts these to sustainability principles underpinning modern environmental economic theory and the various movement towards corporate responsibility.

Available on Amazon in Kindle (\$2.99) or Paperback (\$7.99).



#### Lake Level as of 1/30/20

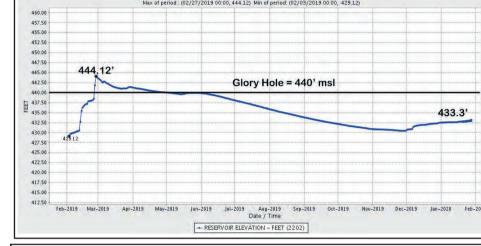
Lake Berryessa has risen to at 433.3 feet, 6.7 feet below Glory Hole.

Rainfall at the dam has reached a season total of 8.4 inches The cold air temperatures have stabilized the water temperature at 52 degrees

from top to bottom. Check real-time lake levels, water temperatures, and storage capacity at:

www.scwamonitoring.com/LakeBerryessa/index.htm BERRYESSA (BER)

Date from 02/02/2019 08:56 through 01/28/2020 08:56 Duration: 360 days



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