

Lake Berryessa Mobile Boat, Jet Ski, & RV Repair

New Marine Technician With 20 Years of Experience

Land or Water - We Come To You!

(707) 966-9954



Engine Rebuilds
Houseboat Repair
Electrical & Water Pumps
Prop & Skag Repair



Full Tune-Ups and Repair on All Makes and Models!

Insurance Work

Spring “De-Winterization” and Maintenance Specials!
Serving Lake Berryessa, Napa, and Vacaville 6 Days a Week!

Schedule an appointment at (707) 966-9954

Jet Ski Maintenance • Boat and Jet Ski Accessories • Fiberglass & Gelcoat Repair • 15% Off All Boat Covers



We Repair Everything Inside Your RV

Trailer Repair & Trailer Brakes
Polylift Installation & Repair
Stereo Installation & Repair
Boat Detailing



SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA

A Privately-Owned Park Within Walking Distance to Beautiful Lake Berryessa

Homes For Rent - Affordable Opportunities

1 Bdrm, 1 Bath - \$600 per month plus utilities

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath - \$675 per month plus utilities

Homes For Sale - Great Location



\$14,995

Refurbished 2 bdrm, 1 bath
57' x 10' - \$575/mo rent



\$29,500

New 1 bdrm, 1 bath,
36' x 14' - \$550/mo rent



\$13,995

Refurbished 2 bdrm, 1bath
52' x 12' - \$550/mo rent

100% owner financing with approved credit plus one year lease

Within the
Park:

Pool

Laundry

Lake Access
Trail



Within Walking
Distance:

Cucina Italiana
Restaurant

Spanish Flat
Country Store

707-966-1124

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats..
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food..
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair..
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts..
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground...
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

1615 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!

May 2, 2012

Applehood and Mother Pie!

What's Right, What's Wrong, and Why

By Peter Kilkus

In a letter of opposition to the creation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area I used the term “applehood and mother pie” statement. We are all used to hearing “moth-erhood and apple pie statements” which tend to be "feel good" platitudes about a worthy concept with which few people would disagree.

But I've noticed that many of these statements are being slickly twisted by wordmeisters to convey something they were never meant to mean. Words can be strung together like beads on a necklace to achieve a desired affect. Sometimes comments almost seem to make sense until you scratch through that mother pie crust and find out for yourself what they really say.

Examples of this are common in politics (right and left) and from the more radical exclusionist groups - think NCA. If you hit all the right hot button words, even without any specified plans or supporting analysis, people are happy to do what you want and stop thinking for themselves (thinking is hard, I know).

In dealing with the Bureau of Reclamation for fifteen years I've gotten used to the frustration of hearing “applehood and mother pie” statements from them rather than facts and evidence. The present sad state of affairs at Lake Berryessa, unfortunately, shows how effective they were at deploying those tactics – and still are.

Local residents, businesses, and Lake Berryessa recreationists are extremely disappointed in both the Bureau of Reclamation and Pensus for the lack of progress in redeveloping the resorts. Right now Summer 2012 appears to be a repeat of Summer 2011 with minimal facilities available at the Pensus Berryessa Shores Resorts.

The major responsibility for this

lack of progress must be attributed to the Bureau of Reclamation. After they got what they wanted through their disastrous Visitor Services Planning process – a single company to run most of the Lake Berryessa resorts – they seem to be doing everything in their power to slow the process down and drive Pensus out.

Is it simply their passive aggressive response to some Pensus plans they no longer agree with after having approved them – slow them down to make them change? Anyone who has had to deal with Reclamation knows they are neither a recreation nor customer service oriented organization.

But Pensus bears its share of responsibility for the lack of progress. They seem to have seriously underestimated the complexity of translating their paper plans into on-the-ground results. It appeared that their company policy was to go it alone despite the offers of advice and assistance from local people with years of operational experience at the lake.

Their liaison and information-sharing with local residents was minimal – sometimes because they were in negotiations with Reclamation. Pensus always publicly stated that they wanted to be a partner with Reclamation and establish a good working relationship. But although they've lost a lot of local support, they can be assured that almost everyone wants them to succeed.

Which is why the actions of the Bureau of Reclamation and of our local politicians still seem suspect to many. Despite a letter from the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce and one from the Lake Berryessa News requesting that Congressman Thompson take some action to encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to expedite their decision-making process to help Pensus make progress,

Reclamation instead wrote a letter of non-compliance on February 27 to Pensus - further slowing things down!

Pensus responded with a longer letter describing their solutions to Reclamation's perceived problems. Now Reclamation wants to take time to analyze and respond to each of the Pensus responses. Will Reclamation's Hall of Mirrors fiasco never end?

The Lake Berryessa News obtained a recent letter from the Pensus attorneys to the Bureau of Reclamation dated April 27 which included a previous letter on April 6 laying out some of the ongoing issues and requesting action. The April 6 letter is printed on Pages 4 and 5 of this issue and makes for very interesting reading. You be the judge. Both letters will be published on the Lake Berryessa News web site.

Unfortunately, it seems that there's no one in charge at the BOR. With the recent resignation of the Park Manager and two other key managers all decisions are being bumped up the chain of command – but still no one seems to know what to do.

The appearance of the orange fencing and danger signs is a case in point. The Bureau of Reclamation cordoned off large areas of Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove with orange fencing and danger signs.

The fences are far from the shoreline and eliminate dozens of previously approved camp sites. Apparently a drunk-as-the-proverbial-skunk crazy woman had slid down an embankment at Chaparral Cove and injured herself.

Per Reclamation: “Until Pensus develops a plan for more permanent barriers, we are obligated to provide a temporary safety barrier. We have determined that it is more cost effective to barricade off the general area temporarily than to do specific site analysis and design barrier protection at each

Lake Berryessa - The Map - Page 6

Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals



Newest & Most Dependable Equipment

**Ski & Wakeboard Boats - 340 HP
with Towers & Bimini Top**

**Party Boats - BBQ Grill & CD Player
2 & 3 Seat Waverunners
& Jet Skis - 65 MPH**

16' Aluminum Fishing Boats

**We also rent Tubes, Wakeboards
Skis, & Kneeboards**

10% - 20% Local Discounts

7 AM - 8 PM Weekdays

8 AM - 8 PM Weekends

www.lakeberryessaboatsandjetskis.com

Reservations Recommended

Call Marty

Ph: (707) 966-4204

**Markley Cove Resort
7521 Highway 128, Lake Berryessa
Napa. CA 94558**

Cabin Rentals Markley Cove Resort (707) 966-2134

site. Pensus is developing plans for more site-specific protection, and Reclamation's fencing will be removed when this is in place.”

“Cost-effective” meant “cost-free” to Reclamation (except for the cost of fencing and signs - many signs). Reclamation made Pensus design the barriers and do a GPS site analysis along the actual edge of the shoreline. Pensus wants its campsites back. No response yet from Reclamation to the Pensus application because, apparently, no one there knows what is required and is afraid to make a decision.

“Applehood and Mother Pie” - tonight's **WORD!**

2 NBRID Protests Water Board’s Unjust \$330.00 Fine (Excerpts)

“This is not a typical enforcement action before the Regional Water Board. The District does not dispute that violations of its waste discharge requirements (WDRs) have occurred in the form of unauthorized releases of treated wastewater. The parties agree that future violations will only be prevented through design, financing, and implementation of a comprehensive long-term improvement project. The District Board and its residents are committed to the long-term solution.

Where we differ is on the question of whether the imposition of a \$330,000 penalty is necessary or appropriate under the particular and unique circumstances faced by the District. Given the various financial, physical, and other constrains on the District's ability to control these discharges, the District believes that the penalty in thiscase is both punitive and unnecessary.

Moreover, even if a penalty in some amount were appropriate under the circumstances, the proposed \$330,000 penalty is excessive given the absence of any meaningful economic benefit to the District as a result of these alleged violations and the District's demonstrated inability to pay such a penalty.

This penalty, if imposed, represents a fine of nearly \$1,000 on each customer in the District, a significant amount for an already disadvantaged community to pay. Moreover, the water and sewer rates in NBRID are already far above regional averages (approximately \$250/month combining water and sewer).

Most importantly, imposition of this penalty will hinder, not help, the District's ability to achieve the primary objective of financing and constructing the necessary improvements to its system, a process which is already underway and, in some respects, ahead of schedule.

It is the District's view that the proposed penalty will unfairly burden the residents of this small community, who will already be shouldering the multi-million dollar costs of the system upgrade. The

District urges the Regional Water Board to reject the proposed ACL, and instead direct Regional Water Board staff to undertake an alternative approach that will avoid the harsh impact of the penalty on the District's residents, provided the District accelerates its implementation of the long-term solution.

After many years of false starts and a disappointing lack of progress, the District and the Regional Water Board are working toward the common goal of bringing the community's wastewater system into compliance. Progress is being made. The District hopes the Regional Water Board will agree that the proposed \$330,000 ACL is not necessary for deterrence or to capture economic benefit.

Indeed, such a sizeable penalty would be counterproductive by further burdening the small ratepayer base at a time the District is finally making strides toward addressing the issues and must ask the residents to pay the entire cost of the assessment in order to complete the needed improvements.” (Note: These are excerpts fro a 62 page letter to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Download the full response: www.LakeBerryessaNews.com)

Napa Supervisor Diane Dillon testifies against fire fees in rural areas.

Diane Dillon, Napa County Supervisor and Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC) immediate past chair, testified on behalf of all California counties and the RCRC regarding the State Responsibility Areas (SRA) fee, also known as a "fire fee."

Dillon first testified before the Assembly Appropriations Committee on AB 1506, which would repeal AB 29X, the bill that established the SRA fees. Dillon expressed her support of AB 1506, stating that the state would end up spending more and be liable for far more than an SRA would ever generate.

"The upfront costs of implementing the SRA fee are staggering - \$15.3 million for a maximum possible collection of \$84 million," Dillon said. "Spending that kind of money from the state General Fund to add 86 new positions at the Board of Equalization and CAL FIRE at a time when the state faces a multi-billion dollar hole doesn't make fiscal sense."

The bill was forwarded to the committee's "suspense file,"

a compilation of bills that have been deemed to add costs to the state.

Dillon also testified before the Assembly Budget Subcommittee, which deals with the CAL FIRE budget. Gov. Brown's Administration asked the Legislature to appropriate money for CAL FIRE to ramp-up SRA fees administration.

Dillon suggested the committee look at a broader, long-term view, questioned the practice of spending money the state doesn't have and pointed out SRA fees may be struck down in court.

Assembly members Rich Gordon (D-San Mateo) and Brian Jones (R-San Diego), members of the Budget Committee, question the administration on the fee, including concerns of the potential increases in liability this fee may create for the state and regarding the effective loss of any return-to-source from the fee.

The Legislature enacted AB 29X as part of the 2011-2012 state budget, which levies fees on structure owners living in the SRA. In January, the State Board of Forestry adopted emergency regulations to impose these fees on owners of "habitable structures," with most owners paying \$115 per structure.

During the passage of AB 29X and at each opportunity before the Board of Forestry, RCRC representatives expressed opposition to the fees.

Napa County Budget Impacts Berryessa

Napa County should be able to maintain a balanced budget over the next five years. The latest forecast projects the county general fund’s available balance at the end of the fiscal year 2017 to be in the range of \$54.5 million, which is 1.4 percent lower than that fund’s beginning balance of \$55.3 million for fiscal year 2011-2012.

A forecast in January projected an 11 percent increase in the fund’s balance. Forecasters attributed the change to:

- revised estimates that predict less property and sales tax revenue will be brought in this year,
- new methods of charging for information technology services to be instituted next year that will increase the general fund’s portion of the costs,
- an assumption that the general fund would annually carry \$200,000 in ongoing costs for homeless services, which is currently paid for out of the affordable housing fund,
- an ongoing \$150,000 annual loan for the Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District to cover an operating shortfall,
- a \$200,000 increase in Health and Human

Services cost assumptions because of increased costs for in-home supportive services providers.

The baseline scenario of a \$54.5 million ending balance at the end of the fiscal year in 2017 assumes:

- the general fund won’t support increases in staffing beyond the current fiscal year,
- most employees would receive a 1.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment from 2012 to 2014, and salary costs would increase by 3 or 4 percent annually after 2014,
- most retirement costs would increase by 2 to 6 percent annually,

• employee medical insurance costs would decrease from 9.5 percent this fiscal year to 8 percent in 2017, reflecting projections and an agreement with the two county unions that employees would take on a greater share of cost,

• \$2 million in loans to the Napa Berryessa and Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement Districts wouldn’t be paid back by 2017. \$150,000 would be loaned to the district annually; this scenario doesn’t factor in additional loans would be issued to cover the \$927,000 in total fines recently slapped to the districts by a regional water quality control board, which the districts are contesting.

• no general fund contributions to the construction of a new jail, or the Health and Human Services campus,

• \$200,000 annually for costs to implement updates to the general plan and housing element

• \$200,000 in annual money for homeless services from the general fund,

• \$200,000 more for increased costs of in-home supportive services providers,

• the county won’t spend more than \$932,000 in general fund money for roads, contrary to comments from Supervisor Bill Dodd, who’s said the county would need to increase that contribution, particularly if voters pass a countywide half-cent sales tax for road repairs this fall to take effect in 2018,

• property tax revenue will slowly grow, likely by 2 to 3 percent over the five-year period, although it will get an extra \$600,000 annually from the dissolution of the Napa Redevelopment Agency, and

• sales tax and transient-occupancy tax revenue will grow by 4 percent annually.

Event Calendar

May 6 - Sunday: Pope Valley Ropers and Riders invites you to attend our three 2012 Arena Events - MAY 6 ~ JUNE 10 ~ JULY 8. Come to ride - Come to watch – or just join us for a lunchtime hot dog or burger. Registration opens at 7.30 am. Competition begins at 9 am. Lunch is between 12 noon & 1 pm. To Pre-Register to ride, and for any questions, contact Mary Burton at : 707-965-2476

May 19 - Saturday: Senior Center Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. 8:30 - 11 AM. Included bacon, eggs and pancakes. \$5 - Adults, \$3 - Children. Bingo after (if sufficient people). Cards 3 for \$6 or 6 for \$12 Horseshoes also available. 707-966-0206

May 27 - Sunday: Barn Dance. Senior Center parking lot from 5PM - 10 PM. With hay bales and a cowboy theme. There will be music to match the crowd and a BBQ. Proceeds will be divided evenly to the Senior Center and the Monticello Veterans Memorial.

June 2 - Saturday: Lake Berryessa Open Water Swim 2012. Oak Shores Park at Lake Berryessa. www.damfast.org/berrywelcome.htm. Patricia Price, DAM Race Director. E-mail: plprice@ucdavis-alumni.com

June 3 - Sunday: Lake Berryessa will celebrate World Environment Day June 3 with a group clean-up of the lakeshore followed by a picnic lunch complete with cake and a raffle for all participants. The event begins at 9:30 a.m., with the clean-up event slated to run from 10 a.m. until noon. Post-cleanup festivities will take place at a lake cabin in Markley Cove Resort. All participants need to wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots and bring work gloves if possible. Everyone who pre-registers by May 27 will get a free World Environment Day shirt. For more information or to sign up, contact Marianne.Butler@Solanorcd.org or 301-5778.

June 16 - Saturday: Senior Center Wine, Cheese, and Olive Oil Tasting. 4 - 7 PM.

June 30 - Saturday: ALS Association’s 8th Annual Napa Valley Ride to Defeat ALS and Walk, Yountville Veteran’s Home, 6 AM to 2 PM. Diane Viodes, Dviodes@alssac.org (916) 979-9265. www.ridetodefeatsals.org or www.alssac.org The 8th Annual Napa Valley Ride to Defeat ALS and Walk is a one-day, fully-supported cycling event that raises funds to support the mission and vision The California Chapters of The ALS Association

July 21 - Saturday: Senior Center Casino Night. Free pasta dinner and big raffle.5:30 - 10 PM. 707-966-0206

August 18 - Saturday: Bring Your Own Meat BBQ, Berryessa Senor Center, 5 PM, 966-0206

Ongoing Events:

Exhibit honors Monticello Valley: A free exhibit, honoring the people of Monticello Valley, which was flooded in 1956 to create Lake Berryessa, is open at Spanish Flat Village Center, 4318 Knoxville Road, Lake Berryessa. For information, call Carol Fitzpatrick at 287-3708 or e-mail pumpkinridge@ymail.com.

2011 Berryessa History Calendar Now Available. Printed by the Berryessa Senior Center with great historical photos. Available at the Montiello History Exhibit and the Country Store. Proceeds support the Senior Center.

Dam Level Update as of Monday, 4/30/12

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is **440** feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had **19.46** inches of rain since July 1, 2011.

The water is now **8.55** feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
4/16/12	431.36	0.17	78	41	0.00
4/17/12	431.39	0.19	76	44	0.00
4/18/12	431.42	0.10	76	45	0.00
4/19/12	431.44	0.15	77	50	0.00
4/20/12	431.48	0.12	81	54	0.00
4/21/12	431.49	0.20	88	54	0.00
4/22/12	431.50	0.15	90	54	0.00
4/23/12	431.54	0.24	92	52	0.00
4/24/12	431.51	0.18	71	51	0.00
4/25/12	431.50	0.11	75	56	0.00
4/26/12	431.50	0.08	73	53	0.16
4/27/12	431.48	0.16	67	41	0.02
4/28/12	431.46	0.11	75	47	0.00
4/29/12	431.45	0.19	83	49	0.00

Fishing With Sid

Back at Berryessa last weekend I went out with my buddies Albert and John. The water was very clear and we could see bass in the shallow water but they weren't biting. We tried everything and almost the kitchen sink to no avail. I believe the bass will spawn around May 5th.

This past weekend my friend and neighbor Bob went out with me for a few hours. The opposite of last weekend occurred - we couldn't see any bass but we caught some which I liked better. We fished in approximately 2.5 to 4 feet of water and no visible signs of fish. We used larger plastic baits like the brushhog and zipper crawdad. We both landed good size bass after working this area for a while.

On our way back to the Ranch house we saw a ball of bait boiling on the surface so we turned the boat into the boil and trolled through it and Bob landed a nice 2 pound trout. After trying some top water lures with no luck at all I changed Bob's lure to a "Rattle Trap" and as soon as he cast it out he was hit hard by this 3 ounce bass ;>). We had a great day. Looking forward to next weekend till then..... good fishing!!!

www.fishingconnection.net If you have any questions or stories to share please email me at bestguide@hotmail.com or call me at 650-583-3333.

N I C H E L I N I
F A M I L Y W I N E R Y

EST. 1890

5 generations 1 passion

Open 11 AM to 5 PM Weekends
2950 Sage Canyon Road (HWay 128)
Or by appt 1-800-WE-TASTE

May Birthdays

Marlyn La Rosa 5	Michael Wright 23
Bill Hughes 5	Jerry Rehmke 25
Anglea Carstens 10	Sally Burch 29
Ken Becker 10	Rosemarie Wilson 29
Marjorie Pridmore 13	Linda Tschida 30
Jim Edmondson 23	Jim Lucas
Shelly Ashley Cox 22	

Community Church of Lake Berryessa

Located at 6008 Monticello Road
(Moskowite Corners)

For information please contact Bob Lee

Phone: 707-252-4488
Email: terribob@lakeberryessa.net

For the first time Reclamation has published all the approved rates for resort services. This one-stop-shopping document allows visitors to compare rates versus amenities without having to call every resort first. This document is available for download on the Lake Berryessa News web site or on the Reclamation Berryessa page: www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/berryessa/

One odd element of thtite rates is the Annual Launch Pass difference among resorts. Markley Cove is authorized to charge \$300. Pleasure Cove Marina is authorized a \$285 rate. But Pensus is only authorized to charge \$225 (which they have declined to offer).

When questioned about this Pensus discrepancy, Reclamation claimed it was because Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove do not provide enough amenities compared to Markley Cove and Pleasure Cove. When pressed for specifics Reclamation was unable to provide any. Since the only thing Markley Cove has after you go through their gate, besides limited parking and a tight launch ramp, is a gasoline dock, this reasoning appears suspect. Is gas the deciding criterion? (Applehood & mother pie?)

Both Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove have extensive parking and a wide launch ramp. Hundreds of potential customers have signed a petition to the BOR stating they would be willing to pay \$300 for a launch pass at Lupine Shores because of its ease of use.

Pensus has applied to Reclamation for a modification to this rate but has not received a response.

Invasive Mussel Concerns at Lake Berryessa Are Increasing as Summer Approaches

Inspection and Education Come First; But \$1,000 Penalties Will Be Emphasized

The Bureau of Reclamation, Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership, Solano County Water Agency, and CA DFG are increasing their educational outreach and physical inspection of boats launched at Lake Berryessa. Educating the public on the mussel threat through signage, brochures, illustrative displays and direct contact is actively pursued at the lake.

Screening of watercraft for mussels takes place at the concession operated marinas and boat launch ramps. But every launch ramp is not monitored every day. The fear is that an out-of-state boater or fisherman fresh from an infested Arizona lake, for example, may unknowingly, hopefully not knowingly or out of simple ignorance, transport an invasive mussel to Lake Berryessa.

CA FISH AND GAME CODE: SECTION 2300-2302

2301. (a) (1) Except as authorized by the department, a person shall not possess, import, ship, or transport in the state, or place, plant, or cause to be placed or planted in any water within the state, dreissenid mussels (Quagga and Zebra mussels).

(2) The director or his or her designee may do all of the following:

(A) Conduct inspections of conveyances, which include vehicles, boats and other watercraft, containers, and trailers, that may carry or contain adult or larval dreissenid mussels. Included as part of this authority to conduct inspections is the authority to temporarily stop conveyances that may carry or contain adult or larval dreissenid mussels on any roadway or waterway in order to conduct inspections.

(B) Order that areas in a conveyance that contain water be drained, dried, or decontaminated pursuant to procedures approved by the department.

(C) Impound or quarantine conveyances in locations designated by the department for up to five days or the period of time necessary to ensure that dreissenid mussels can no longer live on or in the conveyance.

(D) (i) Conduct inspections of waters of the state and facilities located within waters of the state that may contain dreissenid mussels. If dreissenid mussels are detected or may be present, the director or his or her designee may order the affected waters or facilities closed to conveyances or otherwise restrict access to the affected waters or facilities, and shall order that conveyances removed from, or introduced to, the affected waters or facilities be inspected, quarantined, or disinfected in a manner and for a duration necessary to detect and prevent the spread of dreissenid mussels within the state.

(f) (1) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates this section, any verbal or written order or regulation adopted pursuant to this section, or who resists, delays, obstructs, or interferes with the implementation of this section, is subject to a penalty, in an amount not to exceed **one thousand dollars (\$1,000)**, that is imposed administratively by the department.



Kitchens and Baths

Kitchen and Bath Remodels & General Construction Services
by the folks at Little Fish Enterprises!

Phone: 415-308-2173 ~ Fax: 650-365-1576

Email: littlefishenterprises@yahoo.com

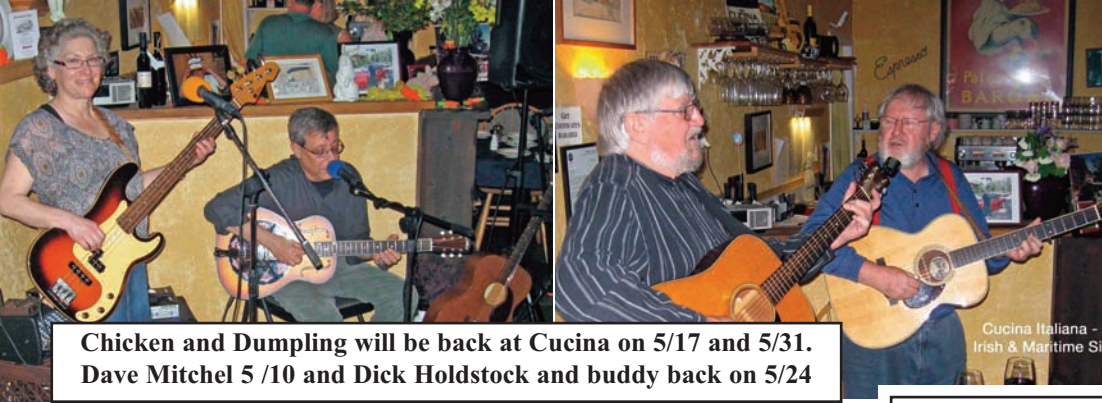
General Contractor License# 967066

General Construction

Boating Safety for Kids

1. Kids should help out the "captain" by watching out for other boats in the area and submerged objects or floating objects in the water.
2. Make sure your boat has all required and recommended safety equipment on board. Make a checklist of equipment so you can run down the list before each boating outing and be sure you have everything you might need.
3. Stay seated in the boat especially when the boat is moving and turning.
4. Never sit on the edge of the boat or lean over the boat. Do not drag your hands or feet in the water if the boat is moving.
5. Wear your PFD and make sure it fits properly. Also be sure all PFDs are accessible and easy to locate in an emergency. Have everyone have their own PFD fitted for themselves you can even have them put their initials on theirs.
6. Notify the "captain" of the boat if you see bad weather, rain, or lightning approaching. Head for shore immediately and put on your PFD.
7. Know where the fire extinguisher is located and learn how to use it.
8. Have the owner of the boat or your parents show you the basic operating procedure of the boat and the controls in case you ever have to operate the boat in an emergency especially the on/off switch in case someone falls overboard and you need to stop.
9. Know where the first aid kit is located, what its contents are used for and how they are used.
10. When launching the boat and backing down the ramp, assist the driver by staying clear and watching for people or obstacles in the way.
11. When boarding a boat: keep your balance, alert those on board you are about to board, keep you weight low and to the center of the boat have another person assist you if possible, and only one person board at a time.
12. When debarking, remember only one person debarks at a time, when unloading equipment be sure to hand the equipment to a person on shore or place it on the dock, do not attempt to carry anything while getting off the boat and be sure the boat is secured to the dock.
13. Make sure you get out of the boat when refueling.
14. Notify the “captain” of the boat if you hear a horn, blast or noise coming from another boat.
15. Know how to throw the seat cushion or ring buoy to someone who has fallen overboard. Know where they are located and keep them accessible.
16. When pulling skiers behind your boat help the "captain” by keeping watch around you for other boats coming your way or for dangerous objects in the water.

NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer



■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■

CUCINA ITALIANA



AT THE
SPANISH FLAT VILLAGE
Fabulously Fresh Italian Food!
Napa County’s First Certified Green Business Restaurant
707-966-2433 (CHEF)
Special Events Catering - Fresh Boxed Lunches To Go
4310 Knoxville Rd • Lake Berryessa

■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■ • ■

Summer Hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 11:30 AM to 9:00 PM.

Music Every Thursday: 6 - 8:30 PM. (See photos at left.)



RUSTRIDGE



*Rustridge Ranch & Winery is open 7 days a week.
Bring the family and explore the backroads of the Napa Valley.
Come picnic under the ancient oaks while tasting our award winning estate-bottled wines. Tour the winery and learn about thoroughbred racehorses.
There is something for everyone at RustRidge.*



RustRidge B&B / Winery
2910 Lower Chiles Valley Road
St. Helena, CA 94574
1-800-788-0263 or (707) 965-9353
RustRidge@RustRidge.com



4 Pensus Requests Timely Responses from the Bureau of Reclamation

(The Lake Berryessa News obtained the following April 6th letter from Pensus attorneys to the Bureau of Reclamation which illustrates some of the obstacles faced in dealing with that agency.)

Dear Mr. Finnegan:

On March 29, 2012, Pensus Lake Berryessa Properties LLC (Pensus) provided a final response to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) February 27, 2012 letter entitled "Notification of Noncompliance with Concession Contract Number I 0-LC-20-0184, Lake Berryessa, Solano Project, California and Opportunity to Cure" (Noncompliance Letter). The response cured or provided pathways to cure all alleged deficiencies in the Concession Contract's administration.

Assuming that USBR agrees that those issues are resolved or on a pathway to full resolution, Pensus respectfully asks Reclamation to address specific open issues to continue moving the project forward prior to resuming any direct talks on global Concession Contract matters. To that end, this letter seeks additional specific details on USBR's expectations for decision-making on critical path matters that must be completed to fully implement the Pensus CFIP and IMP schedules for 2012, 2013.

As next steps Pensus's March 29 letter outlined six specific discussion topics for USBR's consideration and action: (1) No Wake Zones; (2) Willi's Ski School; (3) houseboat allocations; (4) the results of Pensus' initial marketing of marina services; (5) unisex toilets and showers; and (6) the change of circumstances at the Manzanita Canyon concession area. The March 29 response highlighted specific examples of inefficiencies in Reclamation's administration of the Concession Contract, including a 6-month delay for Pensus to obtain USBR permission to move a single utility pole six feet. Specifically, Pensus asks for USBR's commitment to mapping out the steps and decisions required to obtain timely approval on these and all other issues pending before it, so that we may mutually set and keep a schedule consistent with the goals of the Concession Contract. An illustration of these issues is provided below.

1. No Wake Zones: California law requires that a 200-foot "no wake" zone be established around boat docks, launch ramps, and other facilities that hold boats or provide passenger transport to boats.

Additionally, boats operated by machinery are required to maintain speeds of less than 5 miles per hour in this zone to assure no wake effect. As part of its CFIP submission, Pensus provided USBR with drawings depicting proposed no wake zones to support marina operations at Mahogany Ray, Lupine Shores and Chaparral Cove, which comply with, and in some cases exceed, state law requirements. The mitigating impacts of these no wake zones on potential shoreline erosion and visitor safety were discussed in the Pensus Draft Environmental Assessment provided to USBR on March 29, 2012. It is essential that the areas depicted be established as no wake zones to protect against damage to the marina structures and watercraft occupants and to assure proper protection against personal injury. These no wake zones are also consistent with the direction provided in the 2006 Record of Decision for the Visitor Services Plan: Future Recreation Use and Operations of Lake Berryessa (VSP ROD).

USBR has authority to approve these proposed no wake zones. In an effort to move forward, please provide Pensus with information concerning how it may obtain final approval of these no wake zones, as well as any timelines involved.

2. Willi's Ski School: Waterskiing historically has been a popular recreational pursuit on Lake Berryessa. USBR agreed that waterskiing should continue in its comprehensive recreation plans for Lake Berryessa. In fact, Alternative B, the Preferred Alternative recommended by USBR in the 2005 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Visitor Services Plan/Future Recreation Use and Operations of Lake Berryessa (VSP EIS), acknowledged water skiing as an appropriate use of the lake's water resources.

The VSP ROD5 adopted this alternative with minor modifications irrelevant to waterskiing. In light of the VSP EIS and VSP ROD's recommendations and authorizations, Pensus seeks the opportunity to develop the Willi Ellemeier Championship Water Ski Training Facilities (Willi's Ski School) at the Foothill Pines concession area. Development of the ski school is a unique opportunity for Pensus and USBR. As you know, Willi Ellermeier is a world-famous ski instructor and has been providing services at Lake Berryessa for over 30 years.

The Pensus GANT Chart provided as Attachment B to the March 29 response provided for a list of necessary development activities to occur in April and May

2012 to permit the ski school to become operational during the 2012 summer season. These activities include submission to USBR for a ski school as an approved service, USBR approval of service and USBR rate approval, Pensus submission of design criteria to USBR, USBR approval of design and installation, Pensus installation of training facilities improvements, and commencement of ski school operations.

As evidenced by this list, Pensus and USBR must adopt a coordinated plan and approach for timely decisions to make this recreational opportunity a reality. To develop the ski school, Pensus seeks specific guidance and timely action from USBR. First, Pensus seeks clarification on whether USBR will require the ski school proposal to be reduced to a Project Statement. Second, because the Concession Contract does not provide for sub-concessions for the provision of visitor services, Pensus needs to work with USBR to add Willi as an employee. Third, Pensus seeks clarification on whether USBR will require Pensus to file an employment agreement that requires USBR's approval, and whether this proposal may be contained in a Project Statement.

With these questions answered in a timely manner, the project can move forward without delay. Pensus is confident that working with USBR, this important visitor service can be implemented quickly.

3. House Boat Allocations: House boating is an important recreational resource at Lake Berryessa. In February 2011, USBR completed a comprehensive Houseboat Capacity Analysis for Lake Berryessa, which concluded that Lake Berryessa has an overnight mooring capacity of 175 houseboats. Pensus is required to provide houseboat rentals at its six concession sites as part of the Concession Contract, and is authorized to provide up to 70 houseboats. In the CFIP, Pensus proposed to provide houseboat rentals as follows: Ten (10) at Lupine Shores, ten (10) at Chaparral Cove, and fifteen (15) at Mahogany Bay.

To date, USBR has not authorized Pensus to issue permits for the use of houseboats on Lake Berryessa. Pensus and USBR must adopt a coordinated plan and approach for timely decisions to make this recreational opportunity a reality. At your earliest convenience, please inform Pensus of the timing and the steps required for Pensus to obtain authorization from USBR to issue a reasonable number of houseboats permits.

4. Marketing of Marina Services: Pensus began its initial marketing of marina services on March 21, 2012. Community responses to the marketing plans have been positive and enthusiastic. Given the importance of recreation to the local economy, neighboring residents and visitors are excited by the plans proposed by Pensus. To date Pensus has received over 40 signed contracts for wet slips. The preparation of the area for construction of wet slips which has an existing concrete slab and asphalt surfacing, and assembly of equipment for construction is underway at Lupine Shores and construction of slips should start on or about April 21, 2012. Project statements with detailed plans and specifications for the marinas were sent by FedEx for delivery to your offices on Thursday, April 5, 2012.

Pensus anticipates receiving approval for installation of marina slips from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by April 30, 2012 and would like to make installations immediately thereafter assuming that approval has also been received from USBR. Going forward, Pensus and USBR must adopt a coordinated plan and approach for timely decisions to make this recreational opportunity a reality.

As such, it is important that USBR and Pensus are on the same page concerning the full breadth of marina services that Pensus intends to provide under the Concession Contract. The Concession Contract codifies the proposals set forth in Pensus Group's initial Proposal to Operate: Water based Recreation Support and Associated Hospitality Services and Facilities within the Concession Areas at Lake Berryessa (Proposal). The Proposal outlined quite extensively marina services Pensus planned to offer.

Specifically, in addition to physical facilities, Pensus proposed a village concept at the marinas with restaurants, convenience and gift stores, clothing boutiques, fuel docks and tour boat docks. The revised concept plans that were adopted by USBR in February 2011 now show the restaurant, convenience store and gift stores and clothing boutiques located on land with the exception of Mahogany Bay.

From one or more of the marinacomplexes, Pensus will provide boat and watercraft rental operations ranging from water-skis to 75-foot long houseboats, along with fuel docks. Pensus will also provide a tour/shuttle boat service between resort areas.

(Continued on Pg. 5)

House to Rent

3 bedroom, 2 bath home with extensive decks

Appliances included. (No dogs)

\$1,700 per month. 707-966-9196

Another House to Rent!

2 bedroom, 1 bath (No dogs)

\$1,000 per month. 707-966-9196

Spanish Flat Village Country Store & Deli

Open 7 Days a Week: 6 AM to 6 PM

Deli: Chili Dogs, Hamburgers & Fresh Breakfast Sandwich
General Store: Beer ~ Wine ~ Bait & Tackle

Owner - Marcia Ritz
707-966-1600
FAX: 707-966-1602



Marcia Ritz - Artist
www.MarciaRitz.com

4318 Knoxville Road in the Spanish Flat Village Center

Pope Valley Repair & Towing ***Auto, Agriculture & Truck Repair***

Custom Fabrication & Welding - Manufacture of Hydraulic Hoses

All Brands of New Tires

Light, Medium, &
Heavy Duty Tow
Trucks



Jeff Parady
707-965-2302
707-965-2332 fax

Available 24 Hours!



Pridmore Storage

Boats ~ RVs ~ Trailers

Dry Storage Available

1305 Capell Valley 707-224-0682

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, "You stay here; I'll go on a head."

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, "No change yet."

A backward poet writes inverse.

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.

My favorite quote of the month from Hype Creations: A blog by Graham Howes.

"Promoting social imagination & making sure the Internet doesn't suck."

<http://grahamhowesmedia.wordpress.com>

Helping Hands at Lake Berryessa

The Community Church of Lake Berryessa will be holding its third annual Helping Hands Charity Event on Saturday, May 12. Proceeds from the different fundraising activities will be donated to the Chris Williams Memorial Fund. Chris recently died after a year-long battle with lung cancer. We are raising money to donate to a family who've very recently lost a loved one (wife/mother) to cancer. The brave battle she fought made a huge impact on their finances, and they could really use our help.

The event starts at 10:00 am and concludes at 4:00 pm. We will have a bake sale, car wash, and food will be available for sale. We will also be having an old-fashioned rummage sale. Community members can rent a 10' by 10' space for just \$25. The cost for a covered space (pop-up canopy provided) is \$35.

Participants keep their profits and take their left over items with them. This is an excellent opportunity to do some spring cleaning and earn some extra cash at the same time. Space is limited, so call now to reserve your spot.

A Grand Prix (think pinewood derby) event will also be held involving our AWANA Children's Ministry and any other local kids who would like to participate. We are selling the unassembled car kits for \$5.00.

At last year's event we raised more than \$600. Half of the money was donated to the Capell Valley Community Garden. The other half of the money is being held to use for expenses related to the formation of the Capell Valley Community Center. For information contact Terri Lee at the church phone 707-252-4488. The event will be held in the church parking lot which is located at Moskowitz Corners, 6008 Steele Canyon Road.



8. **The Baby Name Buzz Report: April, 26, 2012**
By Laura Wattenberg

If you want to know which baby names are hot today, you can check the popularity stats. But what does the baby name future hold? Which names have the buzz among moms-to-be, pointing to name trends ahead?

Nobody has a perfect crystal ball. Some look to celebrity babies as trendmakers, following past examples like Shiloh and Kingston. That's a fuzzy forecast, though, as less influential celebrity sibling names Pax and Zuma show.

Others have tried tallying the most-searched names online, but that turns out to measure something quite different: the names in the news that make us go "Huh? What IS that, anyway?" (This year's top "Huh?" name is Katniss from The Hunger Games; last year's was Sookie from True Blood; even Voldemort has made the grade in the past.)

Each year, hundreds of name-savvy readers enter my Baby Name Pool, trying to guess the hottest rising names of the past year. While the Pool is theoretically a look backward, the entries as a group are an incredible snapshot of the name zeitgeist. I'll gladly pit the collective wisdom of my readers against any would-be trendspotter.

So let's meet the "buzziest" names of the year. This year, a big three of girls' names totally dominated the Pool: Adele, Pippa and Harper.

Behind those leaders, honorable mention goes to Mason, Amelia, Asher, Henry, and Mila.

Drink in those names, everybody, because they're the sound of the times.

The big three all took their 2011 punch from celebrities. Adele was the year's breakout singer, Pippa Middleton was the talk of the royal wedding, and David and Victoria Beckham welcomed a new daughter Harper. Intriguingly, all of the above are British celebrities. Get on the ball, Hollywood, you're losing your name mojo!

The honorable mentions include some current hits that still have tremendous upward momentum, particularly Mason and Amelia. And Mila is on my shortlist for "names of the future."

You can divide the buzz names into three rough categories.

- Surnames (Harper, Mason)
- Names popular a century ago that are making a comeback (Adele, Amelia, Henry)
- Names that have never traditionally been common in the U.S., but are simple and fit familiar sound patterns (Pippa, Asher, Mila)

Those three categories have a lot in common. None of them were popular during the great style dead zone of 30-70 years ago. Chances are you don't personally know a living adult with those names. (Well, maybe Henry. Maybe.) Yet none of the names sound aggressively modern or exotic because they're rooted in the familiar, and easy to spell and pronounce. That's your recipe for the names of this moment, and most likely the next.

Names are such a complicated things, but to pick a name off the most popular name list just strikes some people as lazy. Think outside the box! Did you use a top name for your baby?

Most Popular Names of 2010:

1. Aiden /Sophia
2. Liam /Charlotte
3. Noah /Ava
4. Jackson /Addison
5. Ethan /Olivia
6. Caden /Amelia
7. Mason /Lilly
8. Logan /Isabella
9. Landon /Chloe
10. Oliver /Bailey

When it comes to names, everybody's got an opinion. But while figuring out what names people like is pretty simple -- the U.S. Social Security Administration keeps a list of the most popular baby names each year.

The most commonly cited name that put people's teeth on edge was Nevaeh, or "heaven" spelled backward. That name didn't exist until the 1990s, but it took off in popularity in 2003, shooting from the 150th most common baby name in that year to the 31st most popular in 2007 (as of 2009, it stood at No. 34).

Most Popular Names of 1950:

1. James / Linda
2. Robert / Mary
3. John / Patricia
4. Michael / Barbara
5. David / Susan
6. William / Nancy
7. Richard / Deborah
8. Thomas / Sandra
9. Charles / Carol
10. Gary / Kathleen

Here's the list from 2008:

1. Jacob / Emily
2. Michael / Isabella
3. Ethan / Emma
4. Joshua / Ava
5. Daniel / Madison
6. Christopher / Sophia
7. Anthony / Olivia
8. William / Abigail
9. Matthew / Hannah
10. Andrew / Elizabeth

Check out baby naming websites like www.baby-namewizard.com



SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA

The Only Privately-Owned Park within Walking Distance to Lake Berryessa

This small, well-run park combines affordable vacation spaces with permanent homes in a safe, attractive setting.

Year-Round RV Spaces and Manufactured Home Sites Available

Within the Park: Pool, Laundry Facility, Lake Access Trail



Within Walking Distance:
Cucina Italiana Restaurant,
Spanish Flat Country Store

For application, please call

707-966-1124



ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS



1305 Capell Valley
Napa, California 94558
PBCEstimating@gmail.com

707-224-0682
Fax 707-224-8104
Licence 384371

Viking Propane, Inc.

“Where Service Always Comes First”

Karah Erickson, Manager

17834 Railroad Street (530) 666-6996
P.O. Box 70 Toll Free 1-800-621-8221
Madison, CA 95853 Fax (530) 666-6435
www.vikingpropane.com vikingpropane@sbcglobal.net
Home - Farm - Commercial - Industrial

**At the Volunteer Fire Station
Next to Capell School off Hwy 128**



Valley Christian Church is a Safe & Healthy place to learn about God's plan for your life. Camping, Boating, Fishing

Please come as you are and worship Jesus with us.

Sunday Service at 10 A.M.
Sunday School for the Children.
Pastor Randall Roach (707) 718-0995

Pensus Letter (Continued from Pg.4)

In addition, Pensus proposed a Marinas Concierge Services Department to provide a full range of services including launch and retrieval, boat mechanical, structural and aesthetic repair and maintenance, washes, details, galley stocking of requested food items, stocking of other necessary items, fueling, effluent tank pump out, piloting and 24 hours emergency response (accidents, breakdowns, fuel deficiency, inability to drive one's craft due to inebriation or other mishap) or any other reasonable need that is necessary to enhance the public's enjoyment of the lake and their chosen recreational activity.

Assuming that USBR agrees with this scope of service, Pensus wants to develop an agreement on what USBR wants to review and approve, the form that Pensus submissions should take, and the expectations for timely approvals.

The Development Plan in the Concession Contract as well as the Operating Plan, Exhibit G, provide for the types of services outlined above. While USBR retains authority to approve specific services and rates charged to provide them to the public, it is unclear how much detail USBR seeks to review and the appropriate form of submission by Pensus to USBR for timely action. For example, Pensus has reached an agreement in principle with Marty Rodden (currently at Markley Cove) to serve as its boat rental manager at all concession sites where boat rental may be provided. Initially boat rental will be operated from Lupine Shores only but other locations may be added depending upon market demand.

This type of service lies at the heart of a successful marina and will be an important step in assuring the public a level of continuity of service that will bring credit to both USBR and Pensus. That said, how much of that relationship does USBR want to review and approve? Marty will clearly be a Pensus employee, so will it suffice to submit the details of Marty's operations and services for approval or does USBR expect to see and approve greater details of that service? These details are important to resolve at the outset, because Pensus must obtain USBR's approval for all advertisements and public information created for the concession facilities and Pensus wants to continue its marketing campaign in synch with USBR.

5. Unisex Toilets and Showers: On January 25, 2012, Pensus provided USBR with designs for a unisex shower and toilet unit for Lake Berryessa to be installed at all

concession sites where RV and Tent Camping is operated. The unisex facilities were proposed because of their environmentally smaller footprint and Pensus's experience with the use of shower and toilet facilities at marina locations.

USBR indicated some reluctance or dissatisfaction with the design, but has provided no formal feedback and no suggested alternatives. Pensus is preparing, and will submit within 7 days, new concept design drawings that have been revised and notated to address the concerns of Reclamation informally provided by Peggi Brooks on March 15, 2012. If, after review, USBR has no further objections to the revised concept design drawings, Pensus seeks clarification as to when USBR will approve the plans so that Pensus can proceed with preparation of engineering designs and detailed specifications in accordance with the GANT chart (cited above). In addition, Pensus seeks clarification on who at USBR has authority for final approval of the plans.

6. Manzanita Canyon Concession Area: As Reclamation is aware, a February 12, 2012 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Laguna Hermosa Corp. v. U.S., clarified Pensus' and Reclamation's rights to use existing facilities at the Manzanita Canyon concession area. The court affirmed an earlier finding that the past operator of Manzanita Canyon abandoned improvements made under their lapsed contract, and is not entitled to compensation from USBR or Pensus. The CFIP submitted by Pensus on February 10, 2011 stated that all materials left at the Manzanita Canyon concession area would be removed by Pensus. However, the Laguna Hermosa decision changes earlier assumptions that all facilities had to be removed from the area before development.

Pensus's current plans for Manzanita Canyon, as set forth in the Draft 2013 IMP submitted as Attachment B to the March 29 response, waits until 2014 to construct improvements at Manzanita Canyon, limiting use of the area to primitive camping in 2012 and 2013. The result of this decision is that either USBR or Pensus can use the remaining facilities without payment to the former operator, and that facilities could be used on an interim basis to promote greater use of the concession area at an earlier date.

In light of the decision, Pensus seeks guidance from USBR on how to move forward with developing a new plan for Manzanita Canyon that incorporates existing facilities. With cooperation from USBR, there is real opportunity for Pensus to offer

The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 19): You're the kind of boring person doomed to be alone while trying to solve all the problems instead of hanging out with the cool people while assigning blame.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): In outer space there is in fact no such thing as "up" or "down," so it's not clear if you'll be falling forever or rising forever through the universe.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You're a firm believer that travel broadens the mind, which is one reason why you haven't been outside of Missouri in more than 15 years.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): It's rare that people can live a happy, healthy life without friends, so the crushing depression you're feeling is perfectly normal.

Leo (July 23-August 22): Your health continues to decline as your skin becomes too sensitive to endure sunlight and your soul remains too sensitive to endure dark, smoky bars.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): While you admire his technical execution and admit he had a nice gimmick going, you have no idea who Michelangelo's target market was supposed to be.

Libra (September 23-October 23): You've read the instructions on how it's made, talked to people who claim to have made it, even seen videos of people making it, but you can't shake the feeling that when it comes to toast the toaster does all the work.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21): Just as you're coming to terms with the challenges and rewards of living alone, you begin to suspect someone else is still alive out there in the radio-active rubble.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Sometimes you feel like the whole world is spinning, spinning, spinning at a dizzying rate, causing the passage of day and night as well as fearsome Coriolis winds in the tropical regions.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): The universe, in all its wisdom, has a plan for everyone. Strangely, you're supposed to be the nun who holds up a distributor cap and winks while the Nazis try to start their car.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): That person you've been seeing will finally introduce you to her friends, so it's a good thing you have an appreciation for taxidermy.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): You'll revolutionize the dating industry when you combine advanced physics, chemistry and genetics to ensure that you are in fact the last man on Earth.

added services at Manzanita Canyon at an earlier date.

The items discussed above are just a sample of the outstanding issues facing Pensus and USBR. It is our hope that in developing and adopting a coordinated plan and approach for timely decisions on these matters, we will be simultaneously developing a business process that will help make recreational opportunity at Lake Berryessa a reality.

Very truly yours,
Steven Richardson
Emily Pitlick
Jeffery Winmill

Attorneys for Pensus Lake Berryessa Properties LLC

Morton's Urban Pest Management

Serving Napa, Contra Costa, & Alameda Counties
Since 1983

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL
Craig Morton (510) 236-7006
Owner / Operator (707) 966-3007

SERVICE FIRST FORKLIFT



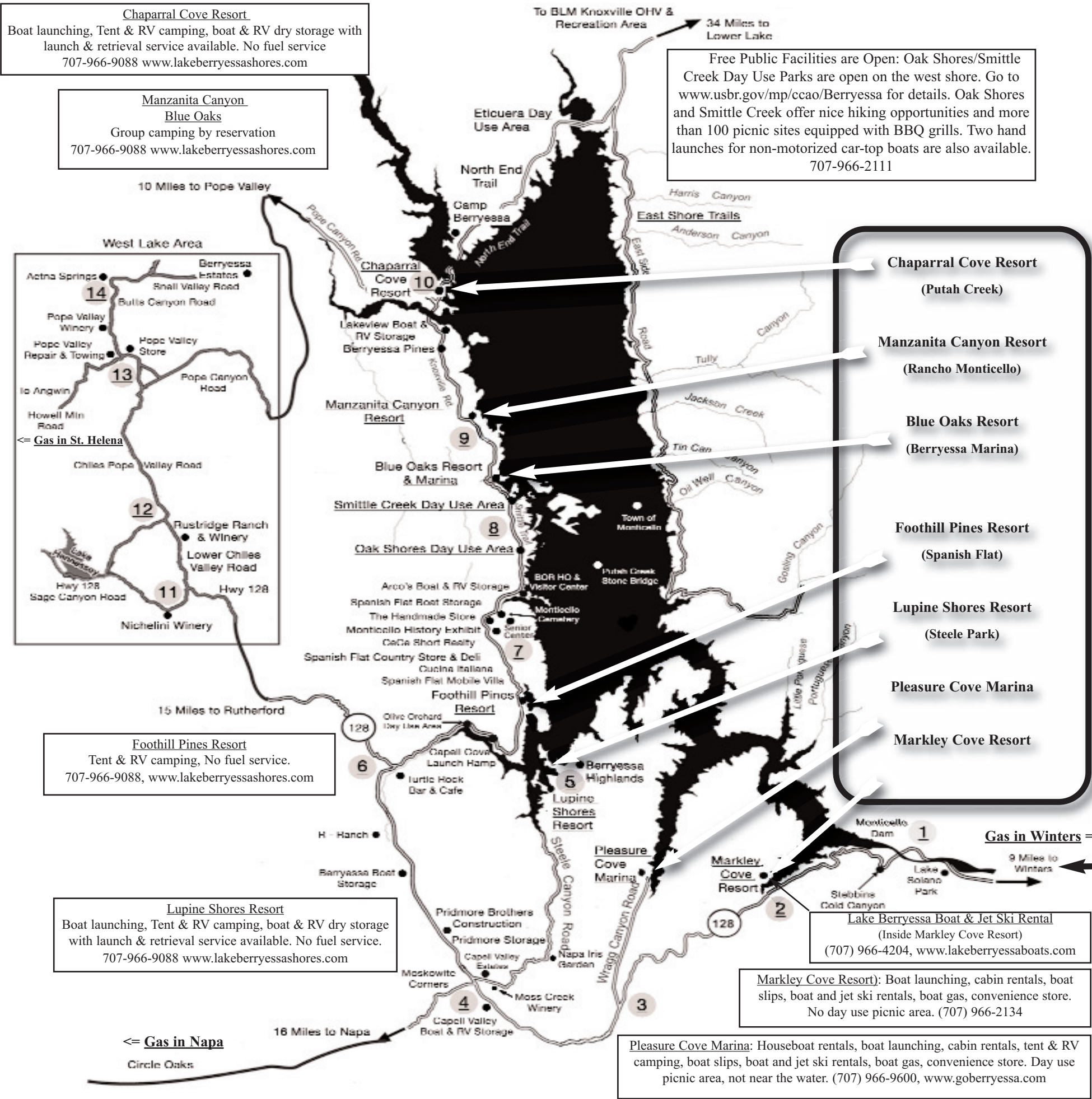
Ed Berg
P.O. Box 4871
Petaluma, CA 94955

Sales/Service
(707) 775-1723
Fax (707) 769-1994

Chaparral Cove Resort
Boat launching, Tent & RV camping, boat & RV dry storage with launch & retrieval service available. No fuel service
707-966-9088 www.lakeberryessashores.com

Manzanita Canyon Blue Oaks
Group camping by reservation
707-966-9088 www.lakeberryessashores.com

Free Public Facilities are Open: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/Berryessa for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available.
707-966-2111



Kayaking Along Lake Berryessa's North End
Up Putah Creek With a Paddle

By Glenn Brank (www.norcalyak.com)
Pope Creek came on the kayak touring radar only because a paddling pal used to go bass fishing there years ago. He wanted to recall fond memories of the trophies he took home – some nice T-bone steaks.

But that's a minor detail. This turned out to be a perfect spring kayaking destination – beautiful weather, gorgeous wildflowers, and a tranquil paddle. Very quiet on this feeder creek at Lake Berryessa, though power boaters and jet skiers are already dusting off their gear.

Still, some good paddling opportunities lie ahead in the tributaries and in Berryessa itself, said a very helpful park ranger. Best of all, she noted plans for free, guided kayak tours this summer. T-bone steaks? Free kayak tours? Face it, you're hooked on this tale. Time to reel you in.

Our Pope Creek venture took us around the western shore on Knoxville Road. It's a narrow, winding, scenic byway through green pastures and under oak canopies shrouded in Spanish moss. A scenic spring drive to complement the kayaking.

Pope Creek Bridge is a ten-minute drive past the Oak Shores day use area. Huge boulders flank the graffiti-tattooed bridge. The north end features a large, open parking lot and no fee. The downside – literally – is a dirt path that descends about 80 yards and winds under the bridge to the shoreline. With three of us doing sherpa duty carrying boats, not too bad a hike.

Once on the water, we had the broad creek virtually to ourselves. A gentle breeze fanned our backs as we followed the rocky hillside and glided along pastel fields of lupine and poppies. A couple of blue herons squawked and flapped ahead as we headed upstream about 2.5 miles before reaching the first shallows, just beyond a beautiful, deep pool nestled into rocky hillside. And one small landing beach. Lunchtime!

And time to chew over the T-bone fishing story. In his youth, my pal hiked into the canyon to fish for largemouth bass. He hauled the lunkers to a certain ethnic market where the proprietor eagerly swapped live bigmouth for beef, not exactly legal but very tasty. Of course, he is older



and wiser now (my pal, not the fish) and he long ago gave up any fishy business. But he hangs around with NorCal Yak, so his character remains somewhat questionable.

A few days after our pleasant, five-mile-roundtrip paddle, NorCal Yak contacted Lake Berryessa Park Ranger Victoria Bevolden to talk about more kayaking options. Late in March, as a test run, Berryessa had announced a free guided kayak tour. To Bevolden's surprise, about 90 paddlers signed up and a second shift had to be added. Then bad weather rolled in that day, and only a dozen showed up, so "it worked out perfectly," she said with a laugh.

Based on that response, Bevolden said more guided kayak tours will be conducted this summer after the rangers add seasonal staff. Plus, kayaker groups may begin contacting Bevolden now to arrange their own tours – again, no charge. And there's ample free parking. (Details in "launch lines".) It's a sharp contrast to our state park system, which is raising fees and struggling to keep many parks open.

Lake Berryessa is owned by the federal Bureau of Reclamation and managed for flood control and drinking water. But it's also developed an excellent nature program for school classes and the public.

And there's a lot for people to see. Every year, the park staff adopts a "serpent ambassador" – a gopher snake named "Capone" last year – plus hikers and paddlers often spot bald eagles, golden eagles, osprey, geese and other wildlife.

In fact, said Bevolden, the Pope Creek area where we paddled has mountain lion sightings. T-bones did not come up

in our coversation, as I was unsure about the statute of limitations for transporting bass across steak lines.

During our visit, the lake level was down about ten feet from optimal levels, and the water is expected to begin dropping to summer levels soon. Bevolden encouraged kayakers not to let that – or power boat traffic – discourage them from visiting. But as the weather warms, she recommends paddling early in the day, and on weekdays if possible.

She also sent NorCal Yak a kayaker map and the following narrative:

"Among the areas highlighted on the map, Pope Creek and Putah Creek are great places to explore," said Bevolden. "They get kayakers off the main body of the lake and are navigable quite a long way upstream. Eticuera Creek at the far north tip of the lake is also another good option. There's a large 'lagoon' type of area that is fun to explore, and the creek goes another two miles or so. Once the water drops, this is the first area that ceases to be navigable so it is a good early-season option.

"Oak Shores is open every day of the year from 7 a.m. until sunset. It has free parking and two concrete hand launch ramps to the water, and people can pretty much launch anywhere they're willing to carry their boat. That no-wake zone is definitely helpful to cut down on the boating speed, if not the number of boats...there's a non-motorized zone just north of Oak Shores near Big and Small Islands," so it's a prime paddling area, she said. (See map.)

Guided kayak tours are not limited to clubs – others may arrange tours as well. You must provide your own boats and gear, and the optimal group size is about a dozen paddlers, but smaller and larger groups can be accommodated. Aim to arrange your date a month in advance. Call Ranger Bevolden at 707-966-2111, ext. 113, or email vbevolden@usbr.gov, and allow a few days for a response due to limited staffing.

Approaching from the east, it may take a good 45 minutes to drive from the spillway around to the Oak Shores and Pope Creek Bridge areas on winding Knox Road. It's a popular route for bicyclists and motorcycle groups. So slow down, enjoy the view, and watch out for the other guy.



Lake Berryessa Mobile Boat, Jet Ski, & RV Repair

New Marine Technician With 20 Years of Experience

Land or Water - We Come To You!

(707) 966-9954



Engine Rebuilds
Houseboat Repair
Electrical & Water Pumps
Prop & Skag Repair



Full Tune-Ups and Repair on All Makes and Models!

Insurance Work

Spring “De-Winterization” and Maintenance Specials!
Serving Lake Berryessa, Napa, and Vacaville 6 Days a Week!

Schedule an appointment at (707) 966-9954

Jet Ski Maintenance • Boat and Jet Ski Accessories • Fiberglass & Gelcoat Repair • 15% Off All Boat Covers



We Repair Everything Inside Your RV

Trailer Repair & Trailer Brakes
Polylift Installation & Repair
Stereo Installation & Repair
Boat Detailing



The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

1615 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94658

Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!

25¢
Donation

May 18, 2012

Memorial Day 2012: History and Memory at Lake Berryessa

Welcome to Summer!

The theme of this issue is history and memory. It includes stories, photos and events. Some stories are more historical than others. Some, such as the one on this page, may require you to search your memory.

A big history event is coming to the Spanish Flat Village Center and Berryessa Senior Center on Sunday, May 27.

First comes the Monticello History Event at Spanish Flat Village Center.

Old timers and their families from the Town of Monticello will meet at the cemetery around 11 AM. to visit and talk about old times and pay respects to friends and families that have gone before them. There is a pot luck lunch.

At about 2 PM there will be an open house event at the Monticello History Exhibit. New pictures and items will be on display. There will be a chicken poker game for \$5 dollars a card - chance to win \$100 dollars. Ice Cream Cones for all visitors....meet with old timers....

Around 2:30 PM the scuba divers of the Berryessa Bridges Project (see story on Page 7 of this issue) will put on a presentation with photos and video about their search for the Putah Creeek Stone Bridge and their actual adventure dive to the bridge itself.

Then in the Senior Center parking lot from 5PM - 10 PM. there will be a Barn Dance with hay bales and a cowboy theme. (See Page 5) There will be music to match the crowd and a BBQ.

Proceeds will be divided evenly between the Senior Center and the Monticello Veterans Memorial Wall at the Monticello Cemetery next to the Senior Center. (See Cemetery story and photos on Page 8.)

Better Late Than Never!

Congressman Mike Thompson and Supervisor Diane Dillon sent letters on May 11 to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar strongly criticizing the mismanagement of Lake Berryessa by the Bureau of Reclamation. Read their letters on Page 2.

When History Does Not Exist We Must Use Memory!

Perhaps sometimes people don't believe me when I express frustration with the Bureau of Reclamation. My latest encounter is a real life example. For a history article I planned to write I simply asked for the names of all the Lake Berryessa Park Managers and Concession Managers since the lake was formed.

They said I had to write a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) letter to formally request this information. Silly me - I thought they could just access a personnel file and send me the data. Here is the actual response from Reclamation:

“This letter is in final response to your FOIA request, dated May 4, 2012, for release of information from the files of the Bureau of Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Region. You requested records relating to the Park and Concessions Managers for Lake Berryessa since 1958.

The FOIA and 43 CFR § Subpart A provides procedures by which the public may obtain copies of Reclamation records. The request asked for records of the names and tenure dates for Lake Berryessa Park Managers and Concession Managers since 1958. No such records exist.

The request asked for records that identify the previous job held and the next job held by each of the managers. No such records exist.

A search of our records utilizing the information you provided revealed no records responsive to your request.

Please refer to 43 CFR § 2.7(c) and 2.7(d)(1). The act does not require Reclamation to answer questions that may be asked in a FOIA request. Further, there is no obligation for Reclamation to create or compile a record to satisfy a FOIA request.

The Central California Area Office, the Mid-Pacific Regional Library, the Mid-Pacific Regional Public Affairs Office, the Reclamation Historian in Denver, and the Lake Berryessa Resources Branch confirmed that no such records exist.

This "no records" response can be considered a denial of your request. You have a right to appeal.”

I still intend to write this story, but I must appeal to all of you to send me any information and anecdotes about the Lake Berryessa Park Managers and Concession Managers that you may remember.

Fun with Recent History:
2004 Resort Financials reported by the Bureau of Reclamation

Lake Berryessa Marina: \$2,075,262

Markley Cove: \$1,014,854

Pleasure Cove: Not Reported

Putah Creek: \$990,168

Rancho Monticello: \$3,438,028

Spanish Flat: \$2,155,433

Steele Park: \$2,921,515

Grand Total: \$12,595,260

Grand Total Franchise Fee paid to Reclamation in 2004: \$354,091

Any guess as to what the Lake Berryessa revenues are now?

Lake Berryessa - The Map - Page 6

Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals



Newest & Most Dependable Equipment

Ski & Wakeboard Boats - 340 HP with Towers & Bimini Top

**Party Boats - BBQ Grill & CD Player
2 & 3 Seat Waverunners
& Jet Skis - 65 MPH**

16' Aluminum Fishing Boats

**We also rent Tubes, Wakeboards
Skis, & Kneeboards**

**10% - 20% Local Discounts
7 AM - 8 PM Weekdays
8 AM - 8 PM Weekends
www.lakeberryessaboatsandjetskis.com**

**Reservations Recommended
Call Marty**

Ph: (707) 966-4204

**Markley Cove Resort
7521 Highway 128, Lake Berryessa
Napa. CA 94558**

Cabin Rentals Markley Cove Resort (707) 966-2134

If you've been following my stories about the Bureau of Reclamation, and especially after you read this issue and the letters on Page 2, you may want to express your own opinions to the BOR:

Mr. Donald Glaser, Regional Director -USBR
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mike Finnegan, Area Manager
916-989-7200, mfinnegan@usbr.gov

Peggi Brooks, Chief, Recreation Resources,
916-989-7128, PBrooks@usbr.gov

PLAY of Words...

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's SYNCING now.

When chemists die, they BARIUM.

Jokes about German sausage are the WURST.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can STOP any time.

How does Moses make his tea? HeBREWS it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it DAWNED on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herBIVORE!

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it DOWN.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a PLAY on words.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a TYPE-O.

Why were the Indians here first? They had RESERVATIONS.

We're going on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no POP quiz.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it GREW on me.

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her PUPILS?

Broken pencils are POINTless.

I tried to catch some fog, but I MIST.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A THESAURUS!

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a LIVERpool.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost INTEREST.

I dropped out of communism class because of lousy MARX.

I got a job at a bakery because I KNEADED dough.

Haunted French pancakes give me the CRÊPES.

Velcro - what a RIP OFF!

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are SKETCHY.

Venison for dinner again? Oh DEER!

The earthquake in Washington obviously was the government's FAULT.

I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm NOT SO SURE .

I do not enjoy computer jokes. Not one BIT.

I have the right to remain silent, but I don't have the ability.

Roses are red violets are blue, I'm schizophrenic and so am I.

To find out a girl's faults, praise her to her girlfriends.

People will believe anything if you whisper it.

I tried to hang myself with a bungee chord. I kept almost dying

If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

If the number 2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still number 2?

"Sarcasm is the lowest form of wit" as said by those incapable of its proper application and as such suffer from it a lot.

Letter to the Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, from Congressman Mike Thompson dated May 11, 2012

I am writing to express my utter displeasure with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) at Lake Berryessa in Napa County, California. This public access lake has been mismanaged by BOR for years and it has become increasingly evident that the process for bidding concessions, providing oversight of third party contractors, and taking corrective actions is completely broken.

In 2007, BOR began the bidding process for third party management at Lake Berryessa. However, BOR took almost two years to conduct the selection process, a process that was fraught with missteps. BOR then announced that the bid process was flawed and began the entire process again. Soon after the concession contract was finally awarded in January 2010, it became clear that the terms of the agreement would not be met. The blame for this can be borne by many, but BOR is the responsible agency and they conducted an inefficient process, provided lax oversight, and refused to take action in a timely manner despite constant requests from me and my staff. Now, BOR is taking steps to end this third party contract, which includes even more time to dispute the termination.

Not only has this process been grossly mismanaged and has been an embarrassment to the federal agency, it has negatively impacted the residents of my district. Recreational use of a federal resource has been stifled, local businesses have been smothered, and local water district decisions regarding water and sewage treatment are being impacted. Small, local businesses have paid the price for the mistakes of BOR and will continue to feel the effects for many years to come.

I have heard endless assurances from BOR at every turn that they are handling this situation and that a plan is in place to move forward. However, these assurances have never come to fruition and it is difficult for me to believe they will now. Reassurances and placations are no longer enough. The residents of Lake Berryessa

deserve to have this situation fixed in the timeliest manner possible and work will need to be done to regain their trust in the federal agencies.

I expect the Department of Interior to take immediate actions to right these wrongs. As a part of a longer term solution, I believe there needs to be a complete overhaul of the process and I will pursue that legislatively. Please keep me apprised of all developments as you move forward to repair the damage that has been done to the people and businesses of Lake Berryessa. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Letter to the Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, from Supervisor Diane Dillon dated May 11, 2012

I am writing this letter to formally request that you take whatever actions are necessary to immediately implement a change in the management of visitor services at the Lake Berryessa reservoir, the largest federally managed body of water in California. It is located entirely within Napa County, California (and my supervisorial district), and currently managed by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

History: The Lake was formed in the 1950s. In the late 1960s, BOR contracted with seven concessionaires to provide visitor services there. In anticipation of the expiration of those contracts in 2008-2009, BOR began developing a new Visitor's Service Plan in 2000 and issued a Record of Decision in June 2006. BOR ultimately entered into new concession contracts.

Specifically, after a protracted Request for Proposal (RFP) process in 2006-2007, BOR selected Pensus Lake Berryessa Properties, LLC (Pensus) as the contractor for six of the seven concession areas at the Lake. It is now my understanding that the BOR has taken steps to terminate its contract with Pensus. This will no doubt be a protracted negotiation process with no clear end in sight.

During the almost decade-long process described above, Napa County stood as a willing partner in BOR's attempts to develop future Lake recreation operations. This

was in spite of the fact that the residents and local businesses at the Lake were suffering through the closure of the concession areas, not knowing what the future would hold, and were always being asked by BOR to rely on its plans. Our support for BOR was also in spite of the fact that Napa County was excluded from the concessionaire selection and contract negotiation process, and actually prohibited from communicating with Pensus after it was selected as the contractor.

Current Situation: Since 2009, the Lake has almost fallen off the map in terms of recreational opportunities for visitors, and BOR has completely lost my trust as well as that of my constituents. With the latest news, it now is clearly evident that BOR is unable to effectively manage a project of the scope, magnitude, and importance of visitor services at this large public body of water located within 60 minutes of two major metropolitan areas (Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area). The impact of this mismanagement has led to reduced recreational operations, failure of local businesses, and general demise of a once flourishing economic component of our County. The residents of the communities surrounding Lake Berryessa have paid the price for the mistakes of BOR and will feel their effects for many years to come.

Berryessa Highlands: One residential area, the Berryessa Highlands community, has been particularly hard hit. This is because one of the concession areas included in the Pensus contract is part of a water and wastewater district known as the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District (NBRID), and one-third of NBRID's revenue historically was paid by that concession.

When BOR closed that concession in fall 2009, NBRID lost that revenue. The remaining service area consists of approximately 350 homes and 212 vacant parcels, occupied or owned by retirees and average working Americans. In 2006, the state regional water control board imposed a building moratorium on the vacant lots until sorely needed improvements could be made to the water and wastewater facilities. In 2007, the property owners committed to

an approximate \$17,000 assessment on their parcels, to pay for those improvements. They did so with a verbal commitment from BOR that the concession area contractor would pay its fair share of those improvements.

While the property owners have waited all too patiently for Pensus to go "on line" and commit to paying its fair share, the state regional water quality control board has not been as patient. It has now forced NBRID to ask each property owner for permission to impose an assessment of approximately \$19,000 on each parcel, to pay for the facility improvements without any expectation of a contribution from the concession area contractor. The residents are committed to this increased cost, recognizing that it is necessary. But they also know that the increased cost to them in these poor economic times is not their doing, but rather the consequence of BOR's poor selection and worse supervision of a concession contractor.

Conclusion: What is happening in Berryessa Highlands is but one example of how the mismanagement coupled with the unfulfilled promises from BOR for redevelopment at the Lake have caused homeowners to have their properties devalued, smothered recreation, killed local businesses, and left the water/wastewater district in the lurch, with a direct increase in cost to private property owners. These are not the results of the recession; they are the direct consequences of Lake Berryessa mismanagement by a federal agency, the BOR.

It is high time that things change. I concur with the statements made by Congressman Thompson in his letter to you of even date. It is appalling that local government has not been kept any better informed and included in Lake decisions that directly affect us, than a member of Congress. Please accept this letter as a formal request to expedite development activities at Lake Berryessa, take whatever actions are necessary to immediately assure the residents that their best interests will remain at the core of any future decisions, and include the County as a partner in future endeavors.

Event Calendar

May 19 - Saturday: Senior Center Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. 8:30 - 11 AM. Included bacon, eggs and pancakes. \$5 - Adults, \$3 - Children. Bingo after (if sufficient people). Cards 3 for \$6 or 6 for \$12 Horseshoes also available. 707-966-0206

May 27 – Sunday: Monticello History Event at Spanish Flat Village Center. Old timers and their families from the Town of Monticello will meet at the cemetery around 11 AM. to visit and talk about old times and pay respects to friends and families that have gone before them. There is a pot luck lunch.

At about 2 PM there will be an open house event at the Monticello History Exhibit. New pictures and items will be on display. There will be a chicken poker game for \$5 dollars a card - chance to win \$100 dollars. Ice Cream Cones for all visitors...meet with old timers....

Around 2:30 PM the scuba divers of the Berryessa Bridges Project will put on a presentation with photos and video about their search for the Putah Creek Stone Bridge and their actual adventure dive to the bridge itself.

May 27 - Sunday: Barn Dance. Senior Center parking lot from 5PM - 10 PM. With hay bales and a cowboy theme. There will be music to match the crowd and a BBQ. Proceeds will be divided evenly to the Senior Center and the Monticello Veterans Memorial.

June 2 - Saturday: Lake Berryessa Open Water Swim 2012. Oak Shores Park at Lake Berryessa. www.damfast.org/berrywelcome.htm. Patricia Price, DAM Race Director. E-mail: plprice@ucdavis-alumni.com

June 3 - Sunday: Lake Berryessa will celebrate World Environment Day June 3 with a group clean-up of the lakeshore followed by a picnic lunch complete with cake and a raffle for all participants. The event begins at 9:30 a.m., with the clean-up event slated to run from 10 a.m. until noon. Post-cleanup festivities will take place at a lake cabin in Markley Cove Resort. All participants need to wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots and bring work gloves if possible. Everyone who pre-registers by May 27 will get a free World Environment Day shirt. For more information or to sign up, contact Marianne.Butler@Solanorcd.org or 301-5778.

June 16 - Saturday: Senior Center Wine, Cheese, and Olive Oil Tasting. 4 - 7 PM.

June 30 - Saturday: ALS Association's 8th Annual Napa Valley Ride to Defeat ALS and Walk, Yountville Veteran's Home, 6 AM to 2 PM. Diane Viodes, Dviodes@alssac.org (916) 979-9265. www.ridetodefeatal.org or www.alssac.org The 8th Annual Napa Valley Ride to Defeat ALS and Walk is a one-day, fully-supported cycling event that raises funds to support the mission and vision The California Chapters of The ALS Association

July 21 - Saturday: Senior Center Casino Night. Free pasta dinner and big raffle.5:30 - 10 PM. 707-966-0206

Ongoing Events:

Exhibit honors Monticello Valley: A free exhibit, honoring the people of Monticello Valley, which was flooded in 1956 to create Lake Berryessa, is open at Spanish Flat Village Center, 4318 Knoxville Road, Lake Berryessa. For information, call Carol Fitzpatrick at 287-3708 or e-mail pumpkinridge@ymail.com.

Dam Level Update as of Monday, 5/14/12

The elevation of (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is **440** feet (msl). Lake Berryessa has had **19.46** inches of rain since July 1, 2011.

The water is now **9.15** feet below the top of the spillway.

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
4/30/12	431.42	0.16	84	52	0.00
5/1/12	431.41	0.26	87	46	0.00
5/2/12	431.38	0.20	77	47	0.00
5/3/12	431.33	0.19	74	49	0.00
5/4/12	431.31	0.05	62	45	0.00
5/5/12	431.26	0.15	72	47	0.00
5/6/12	431.20	0.26	77	49	0.00
5/7/12	431.18	0.27	83	47	0.00
5/8/12	431.13	0.17	90	46	0.00
5/9/12	413.08	0.22	91	48	0.00
5/10/12	431.02	0.26	91	50	0.00
5/11/12	430.96	0.24	85	47	0.00
5/12/12	430.90	0.23	90	47	0.00
5/13/12	430.85	0.23	89	54	0.00

Old Town of Monticello Street



Burning Down the House - the End of Monticello

The Lake Berryessa News

Owner/Editor: Peter Kilkus

415-307-6906, PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net
Subscriptions - \$35 per year.

The Lake Berryessa News - Peter Kilkus
1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

How about some computer history?

Wife by text to husband at work: "Windows at home frozen - what will I do?"
Husband : "Spray some de-icer, if that doesn't work pour on hot water!"
Wife a few minutes later : "Done that, now computer won't work at all".

Dumb History Jokes

1. "What did George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Christopher Columbus all have in common? They were all born on holidays."
2. Did the Native Americans hunt bear? Not in the winter!
3. What was the greatest accomplishment of the early Romans? Speaking Latin !

N I C H E L I N I
F A M I L Y W I N E R Y

EST. 1890

5 generations 1 passion

Open 11 AM to 5 PM Weekends
2950 Sage Canyon Road (HWay 128)
Or by appt 1-800-WE-TASTE

Community Church of Lake Berryessa

Located at 6008 Monticello Road
(Moskowite Corners)

For information please contact Bob Lee

Phone: 707-252-4488
Email: terribob@lakeberryessa.net

In a stealth move that has already upset many local residents and visitors, the Bureau of Reclamation recently resurrected a sign that has been in storage for the last four years. The problem with this story is how do you oppose something without seeming mean or petty. I knew Cleve Dufer. He was a pleasant fellow who raised dogs and fell off a ladder. Unfortunately for Lake Berryessa he was also the Concession Manager for many years.

I’m reprinting a story below from that period which describes the issue in more detail. Nothing has changed in the last four years except the advanced destruction and disaster here. There is no relevant reason for Reclamation to take this action again. The following email is a sample of the local reaction to what is deemed by many to be an insult to the local community.

“The BOR seems to think we have all gone away and it is O.K. to rename the Visitors Center again. I seem to recall that they tried that before and had it pointed out to them that Dufer thought the best way to care for the lake was to put a fence around it. Now they think everyone has gone away via their shut down and have once again put out the sign that renames the point.

About two months ago we had relatives visiting from out of state and took them to the Visitors Center, where they have Cleve’s Ranger Hat framed in his memory. We asked the Ranger on duty what happened to him and why there was this honor for him on the wall. The answer was, "I don't know". Wow, you would think that there would be a great story here about someone who died that young and did enough in their short life to have a Visitors Center named after them!”

If you would like to express your opinion about this action please write or call Mike Finnegan and Peggi Brooks at:

Mike Finnegan, Area Manager	Peggi Brooks
916-989-7200	916-989-7128
mfinnegan@usbr.gov	PBrooks@usbr.gov

Dufer Point returned to “Official” Name (3/31/09)

Local residents and recent visitors may have noticed that the big blue “Dufer Point” sign has been removed from Knoxville Road at the Bureau of Reclamation’s Visitor Center less than a year after it had been erected. In a closed private ceremony last year with family and friends, the Visitor Center apparently was renamed Dufer Point as a memorial to honor Cleve Dufer, long-time BOR Concessions Manager. Cleve died in a tragic accident when he fell from a ladder at his home.

Although Mr. Dufer was generally well-liked as a person, many local residents and resort mobile homeowners considered him instrumental in the deterioration of the lake resorts which led to the present disaster at Lake Berryessa.

Several people questioned the appropriateness of renaming the Visitor Center, a federal facility, without formal public notification or public comments. Don Lombardi, Chairman of Berryessa for All, raised the issue to the highest levels of the Department of the Interior.

Research into how a name is attached to a federal facility shows that there are no strict rules but that it is usually done by an act of Congress. Typically there is a sponsor, but Congress has few rules and less restraint. It helps to be important in the Federal Government, having made major contribution to the goals of an agency, and to have died recently.

Despite months of requests, the Bureau of Reclamation would not answer questions in any detail. There seemed to be a disconnect within various levels of Reclamation’s bureaucracy. Finally, in a terse comment, Pete Lucero, Public Affairs Officer of Reclamation responded with the following statement:

“The Lake Berryessa Visitor Center signs will be replaced with signs that state the OFFICIAL name of the visitor center as the Lake Berryessa Visitor Center.”

Pope Valley and George Washington: A Historical Connection?
Bill Eaton is a retired statistician turned screenwriter. He has been connected to Pope Valley for years since his spouse, Florence Eaton, is the Superintendent of and teacher at the Pope Valley School.

Granddad and George Washington
by Bill Eaton

Warton is not the sort of place you’ll find on a tourist map. It’s just a one street village with a pub and a post office about 10 rural miles north of Lancaster, itself remotely located in North West England. I was bred (and buttered) in Lancaster, some 60 years ago and left, in my youth, to seek fame and fortune in the colonies, eventually arriving in the largest and most successful one – the USA.

Despite its insignificant size Warton has a unique claim to fame. The main street houses the ancestral home of the Washington family. Lawrence Washington arrived in Warton around 1300 and his great grandson Robert helped build St. Oswald’s church at the end of the village. The church flies The Stars and Stripes every July Fourth using a flag donated from the Capitol Building in Washington DC.

Inside the church is the coat of arms of the Washington family (three stars and two bars). The crest is time worn but the reproduction shows a startling resemblance to a familiar friend - the Stars and Stripes!

The Washington family tree is also on display showing links to both the Winston Churchill and the Spencer families – ancestors of Princess Diana. Close by lie the ruins of the old rectory which dates from the same epoch.

Further along the main street is the original Washington house, dated 1612 although the President’s forbears left there around 1620 to settle further south in England before making their momentous voyage to the new American colonies.

Directly across from the Washington house is the local Post Office where my grandfather was the Post Master around 1920. So I can legitimately claim that my granddaddy was a neighbor of the first American president separated only by several generations over 300 years.

When you have finished your exploration of this fascinating little village, unknown to almost all Americans it’s time to retrace your steps and take a refreshing pint of English ale in the village pub, called – what else? – “The George Washington”.

Washington House in Warton on Google Earth: 54-8-44-06N, 2-46-6-57W



Kitchens and Baths

Kitchen and Bath Remodels & General Construction Services
by the folks at Little Fish Enterprises!

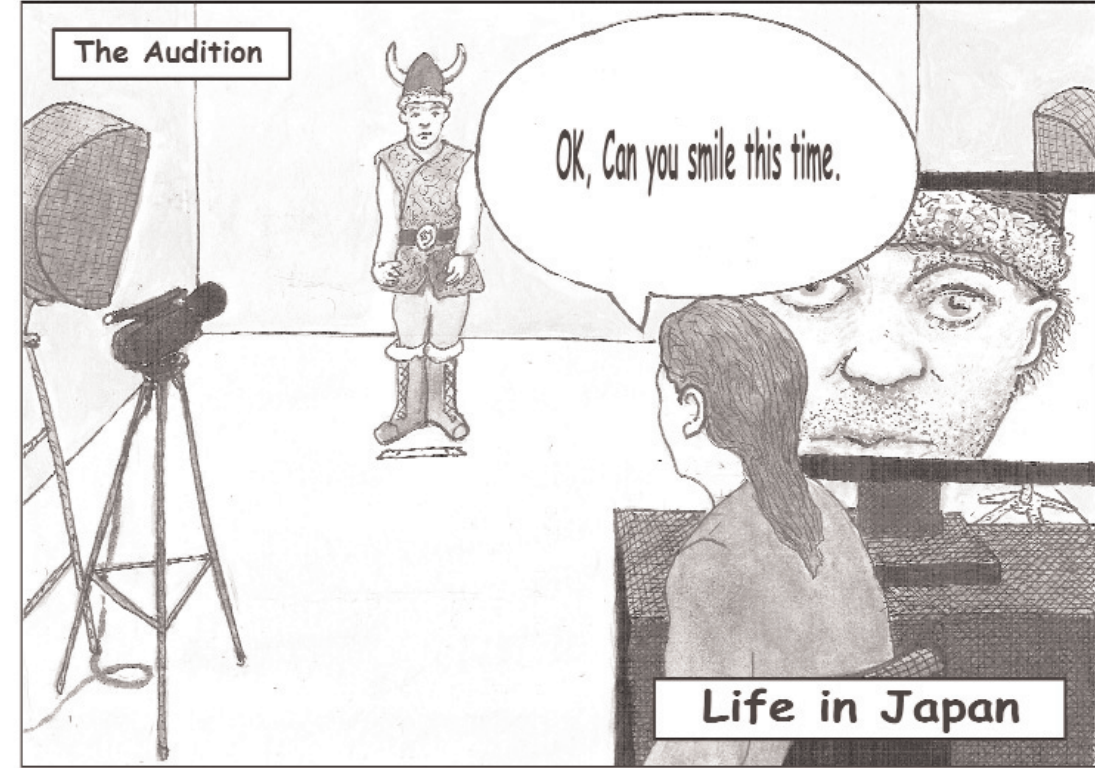
Phone: 415-308-2173 ~ Fax: 650-365-1576

Email: littlefishenterprises@yahoo.com

General Contractor License# 967066

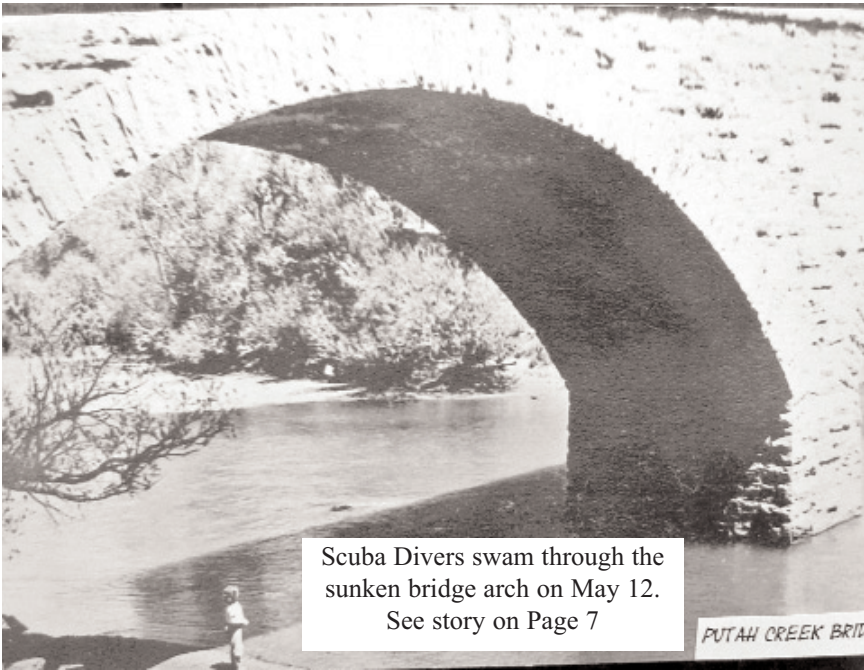
General Construction

NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer



Japanese Adventure Continues!

Bill had another chance to appear in a Japanese commercial as a Viking. But he had a hard time doing the big glowing Japanese smile. He had to say a still-secret word (until the commercial airs in Japan), once with a serious expression, then smiling, then with a big smile. Unfortunately he didn’t get the part. Bill and Karla return to Lake Berryessa for a visit at the end of June. Then we can all hear him sing and play again at Cucina Italiana. He does really have a cute smile!



3

• • • • •

CUCINA ITALIANA

AT THE SPANISH FLAT VILLAGE

Fabulously Fresh Italian Food!

Napa County’s First Certified Green Business Restaurant

707-966-2433 (CHEF)

Special Events Catering - Fresh Boxed Lunches To Go

4310 Knoxville Rd • Lake Berryessa

• • • • •

Summer Hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 11:30 AM to 9:00 PM.

Music Every Thursday: 6 - 8:30 PM. (See photos at left.)

Rustridge Ranch & Winery is open 7 days a week.
Bring the family and explore the backroads of the Napa Valley.
Come picnic under the ancient oaks while tasting our award winning estate-bottled wines. Tour the winery and learn about thoroughbred racehorses.
There is something for everyone at RustRidge.

RustRidge B&B / Winery
2910 Lower Chiles Valley Road
St. Helena, CA 94574
1-800-788-0263 or (707) 965-9353
RustRidge@RustRidge.com

4. Monticello Dam Replaces the Town of Monticello

Today, the Monticello Dam provides approximately tens of billions of gallons of water yearly, distributed by the Solano Irrigation District, to areas in and around Napa and Solano counties.

Lake Berryessa is a popular recreational destination, providing opportunities for hiking, water sports, weekend picnicking and more.

Underneath the lake lies an old agricultural town flooded 60 years ago to provide a reservoir for the increasing water demands of a rapidly growing region. In the autumn of 1953, construction began on the Monticello Dam that would flood Berryessa Valley, and along with it, the entire town of Monticello.

The project was proposed in the 1940s by the Solano County Water Council to meet the growing demands for water in the county and surrounding areas. The water would provide a steady source of irrigation for farmland and become a measure of flood control for Putah Creek.

“The distribution of water was a problem as more people came into California,” said Newton Wallace, former publisher of The Winters Express, who moved to Winters in 1947 and witnessed the construction of the dam. “There were demands for more water, and to store water for irrigation. In the bigger valleys below, there were demands for water for the expanding cities.”

In 1947, Congress approved the project, and plans for construction began. The winning bid for construction of the main dam was made jointly by Peter Kiewit and Sons Company of San Francisco and Parish Brothers of Benicia, for \$7.63 million.

Construction began in August 1953. On Sept. 24, 1953, then-California Gov. Earl Warren and then-state Sen. Luther Gibson moved the first dirt to begin excavation of the dam site. The first bucket of concrete was poured in 1955.

“I would go by every Tuesday to see how the dam was coming along and to see how many yards of concrete they’d poured,” Wallace said. “Along with everything else during the ’50s, it was part of my life.”

Constructed halted, however, in 1956, due to unusually heavy rains that flooded and damaged the dam and the trestle that carried the concrete for construction. Work resumed in the spring, when the heavy rains subsided. Construction was officially complete on Nov. 7, 1957.

In 1983, the Solano Irrigation District, which operates the dam, built a hydropower plant at the base of the dam. “Originally, the project called for no power plants or anything like that,” Wallace said. “But the power plant came in a good many years after the dam was built, and there was

no opposition when they finally put the power plant in.”

In order to build the dam and create a reservoir in Berryessa Valley, an entire town had to be submerged. “There was a lot of opposition, particularly from Napa County, which didn’t want to see the valley flooded,” Winters historian Joann Larkey said. The city of Winters also opposed the project at the time.

“They were pretty much against it because of the close ties to Monticello,” Wallace said. “All the kids in Monticello came down to Winters for school, and all the families were interrelated. I remember the families and

ness enterprises, and our ways of making a living. It not only completely destroys Berryessa Valley, it weakens the whole of Napa County.”

Said Wallace, “I don’t think you could build it today. There’d be too much opposition. Nobody likes to lose their land.”

The impact of the dam on Solano County was enormous. The Solano Project, of which the Monticello Dam is a main part, continues to be a crucial source of water in the area. The water released by the reservoir is treated for urban use and diverted to farmland. The dam had a huge economic impact on agriculture in the region, thanks to the large increase in water supply.

According to district engineer Jim Daniels of the Solano Irrigation District, before the dam, Solano County farmers never had an adequate supply of water. After the dam was built, “farmers were able to grow tomatoes and orchard crops,” Wallace remembered. Other major crops made possible by the water supply were corn, wheat, sugar beets, nuts and irrigated pasture, according to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. “Solano County has a thriving economy because the water is available.”

Wallace remembers big crews of construction workers, who brought their families. “There was an inflow of new families with the dam, and they all stayed,” he said.

Another impact is on Putah Creek. Before the dam, “not much water was getting to the

lower reaches,” Daniels said. “Putah Creek dried up every summer when I came here,” Wallace recalled. Now, Lake Berryessa feeds the creek year-round. The dam also provides a measure of flood control, Daniels said. An estimated \$5.015 million in flood damages were prevented due to the dam, according to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Lake Berryessa also is a huge recreational area. Its clean, warm waters make it popular for water sports, and the surrounding natural habitat makes for good hiking and wildlife-watching. The spillway, or “Glory Hole,” also is a popular attraction. Essentially a concrete funnel, the spillway forms a drain for when the level of water exceeds the capacity of the reservoir.

“The spillway is quite dramatic when it runs,” Daniels said. “It’s uncontrolled. Once the water goes over the spillway, we can’t stop it. Back in the 1980s, they had some really wet years, and the water was 7 feet over the lip of the glory hole. It actually washed away the road that goes to the base of the dam.” That road was the old road that led to Monticello, now buried under several hundred feet of water.

Boaters key to keeping Lake Berryessa free of invasive mussels

Ken Davis approached two men getting ready to launch a boat into Capell Cove at Lake Berryessa and talked about a potential threat to the well-being of the reservoir — invasive Eurasian mussels. Zebra mussel. Quagga mussel. These are the small enemies that Davis is constantly looking for on behalf of the Solano County Water Agency and hoping never to find.

Davis is an aquatic biologist, not a boat inspector who has legal power to stop boats from launching. He comes to Lake Berryessa to collect data and scan docks for signs of the mussels. He casts a net into the water that funnels water samples into a small bottle, so he can check the samples for mussel larvae.

The mussels are native to the Black, Caspian and Aral seas. They are believed to have come to the United States in ballast water and were discovered in Lake St.

Clair, Mich., in 1986. Now they have been found as close as 100 miles from Lake Berryessa, at San Justo reservoir. The effort is under way to make certain they don’t get any closer.

Davis wanted to make certain that the boaters knew that Eurasian mussels move to lakes by hitching rides on boats. Put a boat from an infested lake into Lake Berryessa and Lake Berryessa could become infested.

Should Berryessa become infested, everyone from water users in Solano County cities to recreational boaters to anglers could pay the price. Eurasian mussels could clog intake systems and other mechanisms that transport Lake Berryessa water to local residential areas such as the Berryessa Highlands and Spanish Flat, and the Berryessa Pines. That in turn could cost local water agencies money to clean out the water systems.

Lake Berryessa has high enough calcium levels to support a “moderate” infesta-

tion of the mussels. Mussels use calcium to create their shells. Mussels could also change the environment in the lake, since they filter large amounts of water. That can lead to fewer nutrients for native species, to algae blooms and to problems for some fish, such as certain species of salmon. Mussels can also clog engine cooling systems and obstruct propeller assemblies on boats.

The nearest zebra mussel infestation is at San Justo Reservoir in San Benito County near Hollister. San Justo has been closed to the public since 2008 in the wake of the infestation.

It’s illegal to transport quagga and zebra mussels. Boats found with mussels can be quarantined. Some reservoirs have mandatory inspection programs, according to the state Department of Fish and Game. But at Lake Berryessa, boaters are largely on the honor system when it comes to keeping the lake mussel-free.

Lake Berryessa has the free Capell

Cove boat launch operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, as well as boat launches at several privately run resorts. Davis is particularly concerned that the mussel could be introduced to the lake at the Capell Cove launch.

Jeff Laird, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation acting park manager for Lake Berryessa, said park rangers are at Capell Cove from about 7:30 to 9 a.m. on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Then interns take over and remain at the launch to about 11:30 a.m. to talk to boaters about the mussels and other issues involving the lake’s welfare.



Stairway (or Treadmill?) to Heaven

Tony and Yvonne were 85 years old and had been married for sixty years. Though they were far from rich, they managed to get by because they carefully watched their pennies.

Though not young, they were both in very good health, largely due to Yvonne's insistence on healthy foods and exercise for the last decade.

One day, their good health didn't help when they went on yet another holiday vacation and their plane crashed, sending them off to Heaven.

They reached the pearly gates, and St. Peter escorted them inside. He took them to a beautiful mansion, furnished in gold and fine silks, with a fully stocked kitchen and a waterfall in the master bath. A maid could be seen hanging their favorite clothes in the closet. They gasped in astonishment when he said, 'Welcome to Heaven. This will be your home now.'

Tony asked Peter how much all this was going to cost. 'Why, nothing,' Peter replied, 'remember, this is your reward in Heaven.'

Tony looked out the window and right there he saw a championship golf course, finer and more beautiful than any ever built on Earth..

'What are the greens fees?,' grumbled Tony..

'This is heaven,' St. Peter replied. 'You can play for free, every day.'

Next they went to the clubhouse and saw the lavish buffet lunch.

'Don't even ask,' said St. Peter to Tony. This is Heaven, it is all free for you to enjoy.'

Spanish Flat Village Country Store & Deli

Open 7 Days a Week: 6 AM to 6 PM

Deli: Chili Dogs, Hamburgers & Fresh Breakfast Sandwich
General Store: Beer ~ Wine ~ Bait & Tackle

Owner - Marcia Ritz
707-966-1600
FAX: 707-966-1602



Marcia Ritz - Artist
www.MarciaRitz.com

4318 Knoxville Road in the Spanish Flat Village Center

Pope Valley Repair & Towing
Auto, Agriculture & Truck Repair

Custom Fabrication & Welding - Manufacture of Hydraulic Hoses



All Brands of New Tires
Jeff Parady
707-965-2302
707-965-2332 fax
Available 24 Hours!

Light, Medium, & Heavy Duty Tow Trucks



Pridmore Storage

Boats ~ RVs ~ Trailers

Dry Storage Available

1305 Capell Valley 707-224-0682

Pope Valley Store: A Cultural Time Capsule of Local History
by Peter Kilkus

Standing at the crossroads of Pope Valley, the Pope Valley Store was the center of activities for the area's residents for nearly a century, and served as a stopover for people traveling to the mines in Lake County. It was built about 1875. In 1913 a second gable roofed building was attached. The "store" housed a post office, a saloon, hotel, and sold food and hardware. The store was bought by Thomas L.G. Neil about 1912 after his house in Berryessa Valley burned. An adjacent barn served as a garage that was one of the first AAA stations in the state.

“This was a stage stop,” says storeowner Brad Kirkpatrick. “Then for 72 years we were AAA’s number one contact station in the state.” Brad also reveals that there is a Prohibition-era brewery beneath the floor of the store he has operated since the 1950s.

When Brad took me through the building, room by room, I was amazed by the beautiful woodwork and craftsmanship displayed in its construction. But nothing grabs you like the amazing collection of old junk, I mean “antiques”, that fill every shelf and flat surface, hang from the rafters, and clutter the floor. On the recent “Pope Valley Day” hosted by the Napa County Historical Society, Napa County Landmarks, and St. Helena Historical Society, I was able to take photographs of the interior. That photo album is on the Lake Berryessa News web site.

Now that the Pope Valley Store has been approved for renovation by Napa County, Brad has put it up for sale. The yard sale of the contents will be an epic event!



The Monticello Cemetery - Old and New History

As you can see from the flyer on Page 5 of this issue, there will be Barn Dance and BBQ fundraiser on May 27th at the Berryessa Senior Center which is right next to this historic cemetery. The cemetery serves the area generally surrounding Lake Berryessa. It was relocated in the early 1950s from the inundated town of Monticello when Lake Berryessa was created. The mission of the District is to handle burial requests in accordance with District policy and maintain the cemetery grounds in an orderly fashion within budgetary constraints. The Monticello Cemetery District Advisory Committee was created on February 5, 2002. The functions of the Advisory Committee are to develop recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding the type, extent and level of services to be provided and financed by the District and other matters.



Original Monticello Cemetery Photo by Pirkle Jones



SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA

The Only Privately-Owned Park within Walking Distance to Lake Berryessa

This small, well-run park combines affordable vacation spaces with permanent homes in a safe, attractive setting.

Year-Round RV Spaces and Manufactured Home Sites Available

Within the Park: Pool, Laundry Facility, Lake Access Trail



Within Walking Distance:
Cucina Italiana Restaurant,
Spanish Flat Country Store



For application, please call

707-966-1124

Don't play stupid with me - I'm better at it.

ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS



1305 Capell Valley
Napa, California 94558
PBCEstimating@gmail.com

707-224-0682
Fax 707-224-8104
Licence 384371

Viking Propane, Inc.

“Where Service Always Comes First”

Karah Erickson, Manager

17834 Railroad Street (530) 666-6996
P.O. Box 70 Toll Free 1-800-621-8221
Madison, CA 95853 Fax (530) 666-6435
www.vikingpropane.com vikingpropane@sbcglobal.net
Home - Farm - Commercial - Industrial

**At the Volunteer Fire Station
Next to Capell School off Hwy 128**



Valley Christian Church is a Safe & Healthy place to learn about God’s plan for your life. Camping, Boating, Fishing

Please come as you are and worship Jesus with us.

Sunday Service at 10 A.M.
Sunday School for the Children.
Pastor Randall Roach (707) 718-0995

FUN - FOOD - FRIENDS

BBQ & BARN DANCE

SUNDAY, MEMORIAL WEEKEND

FUND RAISER at the Lake

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2012

5:00pm – 10:00 pm

BBQ 5 – 8pm - DANCING TIL 10PM

BERRYESSA SENIOR CENTER

SPANISH FLAT LOOP RD.

No-Host Cocktails, Beer & Wine

Music, Dancing, Raffles & Door Prizes

Come have fun and be part of helping to support our community. All proceeds benefit the “Berryessa Senior Center” and the “Veterans Memorial Wall” to honor our Veterans at the Monticello Cemetery.

\$25 Adult (BBQ & Dancing)

\$8 Children

(Children 10 and under (hot dog meal)

Tickets may be purchased at

Spanish Flat Country Store, Turtle Rock, or

Call CeCe at 707-337-0224

SPANISH FLAT MOBILE VILLA

A Privately-Owned Park Within Walking Distance to Beautiful Lake Berryessa

Homes For Rent - Affordable Opportunities

1 Bdrm, 1 Bath - \$600 per month plus utilities

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath - \$675 per month plus utilities

Homes For Sale - Great Location



\$14,995

Refurbished 2 bdrm, 1 bath
57' x 10' - \$575/mo rent



\$29,500

New 1 bdrm, 1 bath,
36' x 14' - \$550/mo rent



\$13,995

Refurbished 2 bdrm, 1bath
52' x 12' - \$550/mo rent

100% owner financing with approved credit plus one year lease

Within the Park:

Pool

Laundry

Lake Access
Trail



Within Walking Distance:

Cucina Italiana
Restaurant

Spanish Flat
Country Store

707-966-1124

The Lake Berryessa News Horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 19): You might not always appreciate the story God is using you to tell, but you have to admit He isn't afraid to kill off major characters.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): This would be a good time to start a new dietary regimen, seeing as you haven't eaten in three days.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): Sometimes the people in your life are holding you back, despite the best of intentions. Try to be patient as you inexorably drag your struggling co-workers toward the edge of the roof.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): You'll become a household name when society is suddenly in need of a term for "someone who gets hit by a bus once a week."

Leo (July 23-August 22): You must grasp that actions have consequences. Start by not throwing broken glass over your head and forgetting all about it.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): Take heart—old solutions can still work for old problems, especially if getting drunk is your solution to everything.

Libra (September 23-October 23): You'll soon move to a faraway city where nobody knows who you are, which makes it kind of odd that they're all trying to kill you too.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21): A semitruck full of dimes will hurtle down your street and crash into your house, leaving you with no dreams left to achieve in life.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): You've got tough row to hoe in front of you this week, which seems like merely a folksy euphemism until you find you've inherited a run-down potato farm.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): You are relieved to find that, although you've left the window open and pages are indeed being torn from the calendar, you're not actually hurtling though time at a breakneck pace.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Your life certainly isn't working out the way you had planned. Try to find some sort of equivalent of unplugging it and starting it over.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): You're pretty sure that if God had really meant for man to fly, he would have given us all the ability to afford our own airplanes.

Fishing with Sid - or my wife is a fish magnet!

Unbelievable fishing this past weekend and my wife was a fish magnet. On Friday I went out for a few hours with Kevin. The lake was calm what a difference from last weekend. We saw boils in the water and threw our lines into it with great success. The trout were all over the lake in deep water as well as shallow and seemed to be biting anything we threw out. We ended up with full limits.

On Saturday I fished with my pal Albert. We got an early start and fished the west side of the lake by the buoys. I threw a top water lure twenty or thirty times with no luck. We were able to see the fish but they just wouldn't bite. We decided to try our luck at trout in deeper water after talking to three other boats. I tied on an ivory PK lure and Albert cast it out letting it sink to about forty feet and we started trolling and within minutes he hooked a trout.

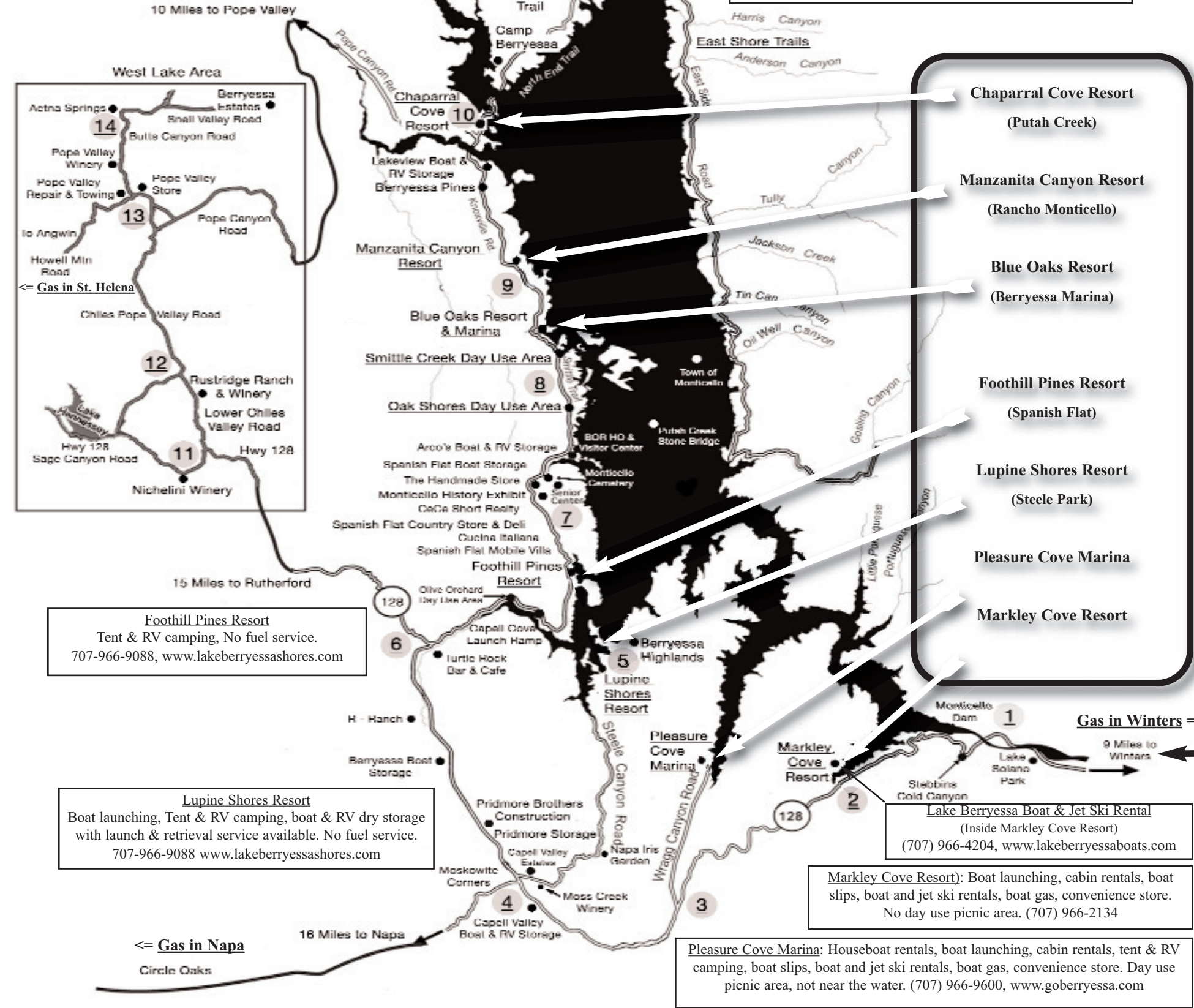
Albert wanted to use the downrigger so I set it up just as my son called to tell us lunch was ready and where his boat was. We set off to meet up with my son, his wife and my wife. When we got to their spot they told me how the fish were chasing the bait and rolling on the surface all over the area and that they were catching trout and bass left and right especially my wife.

No sooner would she reel one in and start to let her line out and she'd have another strike. They all came in with limits. On Sunday (Mother's Day) my wife had a great day again and topped it off by landing a largemouth bass that had to weigh at least 9 pounds. She was thrilled.. 'til next weekend.....good fishing!!!!www.fishingconnection.net If you have any questions or any stories you would like to share please email me at best-guide@hotmail.com or call me at 650-583-3333.

Chaparral Cove Resort
Boat launching, Tent & RV camping, boat & RV dry storage with launch & retrieval service available. No fuel service
707-966-9088 www.lakeberryessashores.com

Manzanita Canyon
Blue Oaks
Group camping by reservation
707-966-9088 www.lakeberryessashores.com

Free Public Facilities are Open: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/Berryessa for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available.
707-966-2111



Scuba Diving To and Through the Putah Creek Stone Bridge

By Sharon Eckroth
Berryessa Bridges Project

Our team has made yet another terrific SCUBA dive to the Big Stone Bridge. My partner and I performed the dive on May 12. It was in a word; amazing. The day offered the best in-water visibility we've had in the lake to date. The surface conditions were fabulous with the warm, nearly tropical sun falling on the placid teal water. A refreshing northerly breeze kept the boat deck conditions comfortable. We quickly descended to the bridge carefully arresting our decent above the road bed at about 120 feet so as not to disturb 55 years of baby powder fine silt. I tied off a safety line and we swam over the side of the BSB to locate an arch. This was truly a sight to behold, the BSB in all of her architectural splendor. The beautiful soft hues of the stone had an almost calming effect.

With lights ablaze and video camera rolling, we collected ourselves and executed the dive plan, a swim through the arch to the other side. The roadbed is roughly 27 feet in width so it was a short jaunt as underwater swims go. Although the visibility was an amazing twenty feet, the water was dark akin to a coal mine after midnight. Without artificial light the conditions could rapidly turn into one's worst nightmare. The water temperature was a comfortable 52 degrees, if you're an Eskimo!

We proved the arch is clear to a depth of 144 feet void of debris that may have submerged over several decades or washed down originally with the inundating waters. Now 27 feet doesn't seem like far until you consider the darkness, limited visibility, and potential for disorientation in an overhead environment. Suffice to say this is where specialized training comes into play

and is crucial to diver safety. We documented the condition of the arch as best possible ultimately emerging on the North side. We were promptly greeted again by the beautiful golden taupe and brown hues of the masterfully lain stone. I'm having second thoughts about which rocks are a girl's best friend!

Our time beneath the BSB arch was limited to 15 minutes. A diver's time at depth is brief due to the bodies' inert gas absorption from respiration. With that, the decompression obligation grows exponentially each passing moment so we wrapped up the video documentation and made for our first of many decompression stops. However as short-lived the time at depth was, coupled with the pending slow monotonous ascent to the surface, it was well worth the effort to visit the beautiful Monticello Stone Bridge.

It is beyond words and humbling to have had the opportunity to dive this wonderful historical site. To know the story behind this lovely productive valley and the lives of those that called Monticello home, most crossing the BSB as part of their daily routine, makes for one fabulous and enriching experience. It's saddening that the BSB is so far out of reach for the majority. Regal in its grandeur this magnificent architectural work, with its perfectly preserved golden stones and graceful lines, now lies alone, hidden and unappreciated.

Our team is thrilled, extremely proud and thankful to have been the first to touch the BSB since 1957. A special note of thanks to everyone in the community for supporting our efforts to document the BSB's condition and help preserve its memory. We look forward to sharing our experiences with the folks that remember the bridge from back in the day and hearing their stories and sharing in their memories.

Speaking of Putah Creek here are a couple of Murray Clark's wonderful stories about life before the lake.

My Dad and his life long friend, Edward McGinnis Sr. aka "The Kingfisher" had many adventures together. This one took place in the winter and Putah Creek was pretty high. This is the creek that ultimately formed Lake Berryessa and forced the Clark's and many other old time families out of the Valley. Anyway they went up the creek deer hunting.

This was before there were seasons. They were about 4-5 hours away from the house and it started pouring down rain. About half way home wet and cold, "Kingfish" reached into his saddle bags and pulled out a bottle of whiskey. My Dad's nickname was "Cap". Kingfish said Cap we better have a drink. Well he took a big drink put the cap on the bottle and threw it out in the middle of the creek.

He told Dad if you want a drink go get it. The Kingfish knew Dad couldn't swim. Dad spurred his horse into the creek, swam the horse out to where the whiskey bottle was floating, drank the rest of the whiskey and threw the bottle away. By the time they got back to the ranch there were both drunker than a skunk.

They used to run cattle in the creek bottom. One day the creek began to rise very fast. Dad headed out to get the cattle out to the creek bottom, by the time he found the cattle and headed back the creek had really got big.

He pushed the cattle into the creek headed for home not knowing his horse couldn't swim. When he got to the deep part the horse would lunge up get some air and go back to the bottom, then lunge up again. Dad was scared to death because as I said in the last story he could not swim.

One time Cap Clark was out in the middle field with a team and flatbed wagon. The lane to the house came down along the north side of the field next to a drain ditch. Something spooked the team and they ran away toward the house. Just before you get to the house there was a large area fenced off to keep the livestock away from the house. There also was a watering trough.

Dad often let the troughs run over and the overflow ran into the ditch to make a mud wallow for the pigs. The gate was a wooden gate 6 feet high and 16 feet long. Dad thought if they go through the gate it will probably kill him. He went to the back of the wagon and laid down with his legs hanging down to the ground.

The plan was to get his legs running as fast as he could then stand up before the wreck. Well when he stood up he found out he couldn't run near as fast as a runaway team. He fell down face first in the gravel road. Well he slid right up to the edge of the ditch where the hog wallow was. When he looked up the horses had run up to the gate and slid to a stop.

The tongue of the wagon went up and broke the top board on the gate. That was the extent of the damage other than skinned hands and knees.

I am sure there are many more stories but, these are some of the ones I can recall after all of these years. Of course, I think these stories are great. Mostly because they are about my family and partly because I have always been a cowboy at heart. I have driven teams mowing hay, raking hay, hauling hay and gravel. Also fed cattle with a team and wagon. I can remember the big freight wagons and all the old horse drawn farm equipment. All the historic equipment went to the scrap yard in Sacramento with the "Death of the Valley" - the coming of the Monticello Dam.

Travel Distances

1.	Monticello Dam	1=>2	3.0 miles
2.	Markley Cove Resort	2=>3	5.3 miles
3.	Wragg Canyon Road	3=>4	3.0 miles
4.	Moskowite Corners	4=>5	5.0 miles
5.	Lupine Shores Resort	4=>6	4.7 miles
6.	Turtle Rock	6=>7	5.0 miles
7.	Spanish Flat Village Center	7=>8	2.4 miles
8.	Oak Shores/Smittle Creek/Visitor Center	8=>9	2.4 miles
9.	Blue Oaks/Manzanita Canyon Resorts	9=>10	2.8 miles
10.	Pope Canyon Road/ Chaparral Cove Resort	10=>13	10.2 miles
11.	Hwy 128 @ Lower Chiles Valley Road	6=>11	3.0 miles
12.	Pope Valley Road	11=>12	3.2 miles
13.	Pope Valley	12=>13	8.5 miles
14.	Aetna Springs	13=>14	3.7 miles

County prevails in Sierra Club Lot line adjustments lawsuit
The First District Court of Appeals ruled on April 20 that Napa County's Lot Line Adjustment Ordinance is valid and exempt from CEQA purview, ending the lawsuit filed by the Sierra Club in January 2010. In 2009, the Board of Supervisors adopted a Lot Line Adjustment Ordinance that allows for sequential lot line adjustments between four or fewer adjoining parcels at one time, provided the applications meet the standards contained in the Ordinance. The Ordinance also prohibits lot line adjustments that transform non-buildable parcels into buildable ones, as determined by parcel size, shape, geographic features, legal restrictions and other factors.
The Ordinance allows lot line adjustments in which parcels have previously been adjusted and are subsequently readjusted, provided that the prior adjustment has been completed and the resulting deeds recorded prior to the sequential lot line adjustment application being filed. Before the Ordinance was adopted, County regulations were silent on whether sequential adjustments affecting four or few parcels were permitted.