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### Medical Staff: A Doctor's cane

Morbid: A higher offer

Outpatient: A person who has fainted

Rectum: Nearly killed him

Tumor: One plus one more



Saturday, June 4, 2022 www.damfast.org/Lake-Berryessa-Swim

DAM's Annual Lake Berryessa Swim is one of the longest running open water swim events in America. Started in 1981 as a friendly lake swim. this event now attracts more than 500 swimmers each year to the shores of Lake Berryessa at Steele Canyon Recreation Area,

#### **Agnorant**

Definition: people who are extremely ignorant yet are simultaneously extremely arrogant.

Example: people who think they know more about science than scientists.

#### **Alternative Medical Dictionary**

Artery: The study of paintings

Bacteria: Back door to cafeteria

Barium: What doctors do when patients die

Benign: What you be, after you be eight

Caesarean Section: neighborhood in Rome

Catscan: Searching for Kitty Cauterize: Made eye contact with her

Colic: A sheep dog

Coma: A punctuation mark

Dilate: To live long

Enema: Not a friend

Fester: Quicker than someone else

Fibula: A small lie Impotent: Distinguished, well known

Labor Pain: Getting hurt at work

Nitrates: Cheaper than day rates

Node: I knew it.

Pelvis: Second cousin to Elvis

Post Operative: A letter carrier

Recovery Room: Place to do upholstery

Secretion: Hiding something

Seizure: Roman emperor

Tablet: small tab

Terminal Illness: Getting sick at the airport

Urine: Opposite of you're out.



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1013 Arroyo Linda Ct, \$89,500.00 259 Sugarloaf Dr. \$87,500.00

208 Manzanita Ln. \$139.000.00

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1268 Steele Canyon Rd, \$75,000.00

1057 Arroyo Grande Dr, \$175,000.00

1121 Steele Canyon Rd, \$44,000.00

817 Bahia Vista Ct. \$59.000.00

1014 Arroyo Linda Ct, \$39,000.00

1122 Rimrock Dr, \$49,900.00

1119 Headlands Dr. \$95.000.00

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#### **California Native Plant Society Sale**

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10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22. More than 1,000 hard-to-find native plants, more than

100 species, available for sale at Napa's Skyline Park, 2201 Imola Ave, Napa, CA.

Experts will be on hand to answer your questions and to help with plant selection. Experience the rich diversity of California's native ground covers.



## The Lake Berryessa News

Without THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS there would be no Lake Berryessa news!

May 2022

Memorial Day: May 30, 2022

## **Open the Door to Summer Fun at Lake Berryessa!**

#### Things are a bit quiet here at the lake.

But more and more folks are starting to camp and enjoy boating as the weather gets better.

Steele Canvon and Spanish Flat RecAreas.. business again. Here's a basic history.

vour reservations now.

Markley Cove Resort, Pleasure Cove Marina, and Putah Canyon Recreation Area are fully open. Monticello Shores Recreation Area (formerly Rancho Monticello Resort) is still closed but under contract to Sun Lake Berryessa.

Berryessa Point Recreation Area (formerly Berryessa Marina Resort) is closed, but the bids for its operation have been received and reviewed.

Napa County supervisors have held closed session discussions of potential bid winners and contract issues. Sources say that the final results will be positive.

#### What's Happening (or not) at **Moskowite Corners?** by Peter Kilkus

Moskowite Corners has gone through ended with him.

September 2008. April 2009: Mike Schildknecht and Jim

a community gathering place for nearby 2016. residents. The business became the

unexpected death on June 9, 2009, left improvements. Unfortunately, he had not

environmental permitting processes for various owners tried to make it a viable family took the business over under lease upgrade to the wastewater system run by from Keller and opened the Crossroads at the owners of the Capell Valley Estates Both resorts have been spruced up for RV 2007: Ron Watt opened the Corners Café Lake Berryessa. They had a great pizza across the road which declined to do so. and tent camping, but the results are still and Shopping Plaza. The owner was one shop and restaurant and remodeled the Under a special California law that rudimentary. However, lovers of Lake of the co-owners of Spanish Flat Resort, bar. Unfortunately, they did not have a allowed liquor to be served in brew pubs. Berryessa are filling up both sites so make Lee Johnson. The business was liquor license and could only serve beer he was able to open a full bar. Despite some unsuccessful. Ron Watt went on to run and wine. After a couple of years of hard good bands and great times, he was forced the Berryessa Quick Stop in the closed work, with no help from the delayed to close the Steele Canyon Saloon before gas station across the Steele Canyon rebuilding of Steele Park Resort by the end of 2016. Road from the Corners. It too was Pensus, the Crossroads closed in March,

2008: Jim Keller bought the property in a In 2011 Jim Keller listed the Crossroads bankruptcy sale for \$1.1 million in at Lake Berryessa for sale for \$1.29 million but was unable to find a buyer. After the Winchell family there was no interest until Yevo Jeworowski opened a Keller hoped to make Berryessa Corners brew pub, Steele Canyon Saloon, in early

Berryessa Corners in January 2009; the Yevo had previously run Boone's Saloon restaurant and the bar were all open by in the Spanish Flat Village Center. He May, 2009. Mike's sudden and invested tens of thousands of dollars in brewing equipment

the whole Lake Berryessa community in factored in the new state water quality shock. The Berryessa Corners enterprise regulations that had been passed regarding beer brewing systems. His effluent would Sun Lake Berryessa is still working on the several changes during the last decade as In August 2010, Jim Winchell and his not pass the new standards without an

Continued on Page 2...

# **BOAT & RENTALS**





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#### **Moskowite Corners History** Contiued from Page 1

After the demise of the Steele Canyon Saloon, the Corners site remained closed with no buyers in sight.

On January 11, 2019, Moskowite Corners was sold by Jim Keller to Thuyen Tran of Oakland for approximately \$699,000. Tran, who comes from the restaurant industry, said he bought the parcel because he has great confidence he can create a destination for both locals and visitors. Jim Keller carried the financing on it, but it took so long

to revive after the pandemic, fires and closure of Lake Berryessa resorts, that Tran decided he didn't want to move forward and essentially he gave it back to Keller. Today, the former Moskowite Corners property and

building needs updating. A potential sale to Tran fell through a couple of months ago when the buyer found out how much it would cost to bring the site up to the latest code requirements.

Keller recently listed the property for sale for \$649,000. He said that to bring it up to current standards, it would cost probably half a million to a million dollars depending on what the buyer wanted to do there. He said he doesn't see anything really happening for another two years with that property until new concessioners start building their resorts.

Napa County in October decided to negotiate with Sun Communities to redevelop and run Spanish Flat, Steele Canyon and Monticello Shores resorts.

The Corners was still a happening place when I first bought my mobile home at Steele Park Resort in 1997, However, the success of the Corners has always been tied to the success of Lake Berryessa as a recreation destination. TheSun Lake Berryessa revitalization of Steele Canyon Recreation Area is scheduled for 2024.

#### A Father's Hope for Mother's Day!



#### A Mother's Day Special Report for Father's Day (June 19) Festivities

Nine tips for taking care of your husband (taken from a 1950s home economics book)

The goal "Try to make your home a place of peace and order where your husband can renew himself in body and spirit."



#### 1. Have dinner ready

"Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal on time. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home, and the prospect of a good meal are part of the warm welcome needed."

#### 2. Prepare yourself

"Take 15 minutes to rest so you will be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people. Be a little gay

and a little more interesting. His boring day may need a lift "

3. Clear away the clutter Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives, gathering up schoolbooks, oys, paper etc. Then run a dust cloth over the tables. Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order, and it will give you a lift

4. Prepare the children "Take a few minutes to wash

the children's hands and faces (if they are small). comb their hair, and if necessary, change their clothes. They are little treasures and he would like to see them playing the part." 5. Minimize all noise

"At the time of his arrival, eliminate all noise of washer, dryer, dishwasher or vacuum. Try to encourage the children to be quiet. Be

happy to see him. Greet him with a warm smile and be glad to see him.' 6. Some dont's

"Don't greet him with problems or complaints. Don't complain if he's late for dinner. Count this as minor compared with what he might have gone through that day."

#### 7. Make him comfortable

Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or suggest he lie down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him. Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes. Speak in a

low, soft, soothing and pleasant voice. Allow him to relax and unwind."

#### 8. Listen to him

"You may have a lot of things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time.

Let him talk first."

#### 9. Make the evening his

"Never complain if he does not take you out to dinner or to other places of entertainment. Instead, try to understand his world of strain and pressure, his need to come home and relax."



#### What Do Hummingbirds and Rattlesnakes Have In Common? Basically Nothing Except Being Out **And About Now!** Every Spring I publish my ratlesdnake story below to

warn folks to watch out for them. This year I'm adding an interesting story about humming birds. Many of us have humming bird feeders since the humming birds are fascinating to watch. This year I learned something new about hummingbirds' tongues from a story first published by Susan Holloway in the Environmental Forum of Marin's Notebook. See the full story and photos at:

#### https://marinefm.org/EFM-Notebook/10709025

The description of a humming bird's tongue was new to me. A hummingbird's tongue wraps around the inside of its skull. Before we geek out on hummingbird anatomy, let's review the basics about what these little birds need to consume in order to keep up all their activity. Hummingbirds feed on nectar from flowers and feeders, as well as on small insects and spiders. They catch flying insects on the wing, and they pluck spiders and trapped insects from spider webs. They also visit sapsucker holes and feed on sap and insects attracted to the holes.

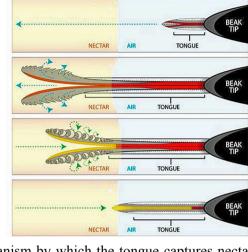
than their insect competitors.

Given the exigency of their quest for nourishment, they The tongue starts out in a tube-like conformation. The are very lucky to have the most amazing tongues in the two tips are close together. When the tongue touches animal kingdom.

encircles the eye cavity. They share this feature with the lamellae compressed together to contain the nectar woodpeckers, whose tongue mitigates potential brain The topic of hummingbird feeders is somewhat damage caused by incessant pecking. But the precise







mechanism by which the tongue captures nectar has been the focus of much scientific debate. Until recently, ornithologists thought the tongue functioned like a tiny, static tube, drawing up floral nectar via Hummingbirds need a lot of calories to fuel themselves capillary action. However, ground-breaking research and must eat several times their weight every day. They conducted by Alejandro Rico-Guevara at the feed on nectar about 5-10 times per hour for 30-60 University of Connecticut has shown that the tongue tip seconds each time. They have good eyesight, and they is a dynamic liquid-trapping device that changes its can see brightly colored red and orange flowers better configuration and shape dramatically as it moves in and out of fluids.

the nectar, little structures called lamellae unfurl and Hummingbirds have a long thin tongue that darts into the tips separate. When the tongue withdraws from the the flower's corolla for nectar. When retracted, the nectar, the lamellae roll inward, trapping the nectar as hummingbird's tongue is curled up in the skull and if into little cups. The tongue goes back in the beak with

controversial, but red plastic feeders filled with sugar water are OK. Just don't add red dye to the nectar and be sure to keep the feeders filled and clean

You don't need to buy nectar; it's easy to make it because the only ingredients are sugar and water - 1 part sugar to 4 parts water. (1 cup sugar to 4 cups water). I have only 2 feeders but more than a dozen birdsat a time.

Sugar goes fast!

### **May Headlines**

Vladimir Putin arrested in Russia after accidentally calling the Special Military Operation a "war"

New international sanctions against Putin's allies target Deutsche Bank, Tucker Carlson, and former President Donald Trump

Ukrainian drone strike destroys Russian tank tops

Man Shopping For Cheap Sunglasses Troubled By Reviews Calling Sunglasses Cheap

Education Report Finds American Children Severely

Behind In Age Florida Legislature Removes "Insurrection" From

School Vocabulary, Makes Its Use By Teachers A Felony

Texas Bans Consensual Sex

Florida Bans Education Florida Modifies "Don't Say Gay" Law To Permit Use

Of Word As An Insult Tennessee passes law to legalize child brides, as long

as they're not for gay marriages Frustrated CEO Stuck In Dead-End 7-Figure Job

Twins Switched At Birth In Meaningless Mix-Up

Health Insurance Plan Only Covers Random Hippopotamus Attacks

'Real Housewives' Faces Backlash Over Decision To Film In Misogynistic, Homophobic New Jersey

NFL Satisfies Outraged Fans With New Overtime Rule That Both Teams Win

Pan Of Brownies Cornered Out Of Existence

"Algebra comes from where?!" screams Florida as it bans 54 mathematics textbooks

Lauren Boebert Submits Scientific Proof That There Is No Vaccine for Stupid

Turns out plants have souls. What now, vegans?

Putin Begs China And N. Korea To Lend Their State Sanctioned Slaves To Fight For Russia

Bathroom Mirror Tired of Young Women Taking Photos of Him Without His Consent

Trump says 3 million illegals voted in Academy Awards ballot and that he actually won "Best Male Actor" and "Best Director"

Putin Adopts Peacemaker Approach, "I Cherish Peace With All My Heart. I Don't Care How Many Men, Women, And Children I Need To Kill To Get It."

#### **Husband 1.0 Upgrade**

Aries (3/21-4/19): God will sincerely apologize to below (about her relationship to her husband) presumably the rest of the hemisphere this week, explaining the did it as a joke. Then she got a reply that was way too good snowstorms were the only way to prevent you from to keep to herself. The tech support people's love advice was hilarious and genius! \*\*\*\*\* Dear Tech Support, temperatures may not have been that impressive. but this week's alien zombie invasion should make Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and

noticed a distinct slowdown in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which

operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0. In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5,

and then installed undesirable programs such as: NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and House cleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system.

Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail. What can I do?

\*\*\*\*\*

Signed: Desperate

**April Horoscopes** 

wearingthose awful sandals.

Taurus (4/20 - 5/20): Okay, the stars realize that

last week's prediction of increasingly lower

up for it.

Gemini (5/21 - 6/21): You're not the kind of

person who likes to ask for help, but for Christ's

sake, that's an overturned city bus you're trapped

Cancer (6/22-7/22): You're getting better at

figuring out what your dreams really mean

However, all that stuff that happens when you're

awake is still pretty baffling.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Although it's true that violence

never solves anything, it turns out it's just fine for a

quick temporary fix in many situations.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): They say that it's not how well

the bear dances that's impressive, but that the bear

can dance at all, which is kind of insulting

considering the number of hours you spent

teaching it.

Libra (9/23-10/22): You'll soon provide proof that

a small, dedicated group of people can change the

world by accidentally driving a rented moving

truck into a petroleum storage facility.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Your biggest mistake

wasn't assuming there was some kind of secret to

life. It was assuming that it was the kind of secret

that would make your life better.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): While it's true that only

God can judge you, it also won't take Him more

than a couple seconds.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): In the end, you won't wish

you'd done anything differently; you'll just wish

you hadn't had to do anything.

thermometer.

failure, and cardiac embolisms

The response that came weeks later out of the blue...

Dear Desperate, First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment

Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System. Please enter command: I thought you loved me.html and try to download Tears 6.2. Do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

However, remember, overuse of the Tears application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download Snoring Loudly Beta version.

Whatever you do, DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Mother-In-Law 1.0 as it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources. In addition, please do not attempt to re-install the Boyfriend

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Mercury rising in your sign indicates that things are getting hotter, as the 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will mercury has expanded, causing it to rise up the crash Husband 1.0. In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have Pisces (2/19-3/20): You thought there was nothing limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. in life that the music of Al Green couldn't fix, but You might consider buying additional software to improve then you found out about reactor meltdowns, crop memory and performance. We recommend Cooking 3.0.

Good Luck, Tech Support

The young woman who submitted the tech support message

My science alter-ego could not pass this up. It's like playing the old Trivial Pursuit game for science and engineering grads! I hope you get them or go back to your high school science book to figure them out. Responses to an invitation for a rather

unusual REUNION of all-time greats: Ampere was worried he wasn't current enough though alternately none were.

Archimedes said it was his bath night Archimedes was buoyant at the thought

Aryabhata said there were zero chances of him

Dr. King dreamed this would be happening.

showing up. Boyle said he was under too much pressure. Darwin said he'd wait to see what evolved

Edison stole Tesla's invitation. Edison thought it would be illuminating and he'd call back.

Einstein said it would be relatively easy to Galileo wanted to know who the star attraction

would be

Harry Potter said he'd come for a spell. Hertz said he planned to attend with greater frequency in the future.

Marconi said he'd listen to the it on wireless Morse said, "I'll be there on the dot. Can't stop now, must dash."

Newton said he'd drop in. Ohm resisted the idea.

through the right angle. Schrodinger said he would both be there and not be there, unless someone saw him.

Socrates said he'd think about it. Tiger Woods said he might swing by.

Volta was electrified at the prospect. Wilbur Wright accepted, provided he and

Orville could get a flight.

scarce attention that matters; it's the continual chipping-away of During the 1980s, political journalists focused heavily on the trust. An autocracy can deploy propaganda or use fear to relationship between conservative Republican President Ronald motivate the behaviors it desires, but a democracy depends on

stressing that for all their disagreements, they were genuinely fond of one another and managed to find common ground. Such an alliance is hard to imagine in the deeply divided America of the 2020s. The word "tribalism" has often been used to describe the United States' deep political and social divisions, but in an essay for The Atlantic, social psychologist Jonathan Haid argues that the United States' divisions are even worse than tribalism. Haidt uses the story of Babel in the Old Testament to describe modern-day America in his article, which was published on April 11. And he certainly doesn't mean it in a good way. "The story of Babel is the best metaphor I have found for what happened to America in the 2010s, and for the fractured country

wrong, very suddenly. We are disoriented, unable to speak the

Why overwhelming 'stupidity' and 'fragmentation' have

taken over American life

Reagan and liberal Democratic House Speaker Tip O'Neill -

voice of the moderate majority.... Political extremists don't just same language or recognize the same truth. We are cut off from one another and from the past." Haidt continues, "It's been clear for quite a while now that Red America and Blue America are becoming like two different countries claiming the same territory, with two different versions

of everything. It's about the shattering of all that had seemed solid, the scattering of people who had been a community. It's a lamenting the rise of QAnon and Trumpism on the right as well metaphor for what is happening not only between red and blue, but within the left and within the right, as well as within universities, companies, professional associations, museums, and even families."

tendency to split apart as they grow," Haidt notes. "But what is Hollywood, art museums, advertising, much of Silicon Valley, it that holds together large and diverse secular democracies such and the teachers' unions and teaching colleges that shape K-12 and France?"

Haidt adds, "Social scientists have identified at least three major forces that collectively bind together successful democracies: social capital — extensive social networks with high levels of Haidt ends his essay on an ominous note, warning that unless the trust — strong institutions, and shared stories. Social media has U.S. finds new ways of "building trust and friendship across the

shoot darts at their enemies; they spend a lot of their ammunition targeting dissenters or nuanced thinkers on their own team. In this way, social media makes a political system based on compromise grind to a halt.... By giving everyone a dart gun social media deputizes everyone to administer justice with no of the Constitution, economics, and American history. But Babel is not a story about tribalism; it's a story about the fragmentation Haidt is critical of both the left and the right in his essay as what he views as intolerance on the left.

According to Haidt, "Social media has both magnified and

weaponized the frivolous.... It's not just the waste of time and

widely internalized acceptance of the legitimacy of rules, norms,

and institutions. Blind and irrevocable trust in any particular

individual or organization is never warranted, but when citizens

ose trust in elected leaders, health authorities, the courts, the

police, universities, and the integrity of elections, then every

decision becomes contested; every election becomes a life-and-

The "ascendancy" of former President Donald Trump on the

right and the "great awokening" of the left, Haidt adds, were

encouraged by social media — which intensified culture-war

politics and promoted "stupidity." As Haidt sees it, "America's

key institutions" became "stupider enmasse" thanks to the

and voice to the political extremes while reducing the power and

death struggle to save the country from the other side."

weaponizing of social media.

we now inhabit," Haidt explains. "Something went terribly Haidt writes, "The dart guns of social media give more power

"The Democrats have also been hit hard by structural stupidity,

though in a different way," Haidt argues. "In the Democratic

Party, the struggle between the progressive wing and the more Technology, Haidt laments, has played a major role in the moderate factions is open and ongoing, and often, the moderates "fragmentation" of the U.S. Historically, civilizations have win. The problem is that the left controls the commanding relied on shared blood, gods and enemies to counteract the heights of the culture: universities, news organizations,

as the United States and India, or, for that matter, modern Britain education. And in many of those institutions, dissent has been stifled: When everyone was issued a dart gun in the early 2010s, many left-leaning institutions began shooting themselves in the

political divide," things will only get worse. As social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter evolved in "We cannot expect Congress and the tech companies to save us," the 2010s, Haidt argues, they "trained users to spend more time Haidt argues. "We must change ourselves and our communities.

Party line telephones Telephone numbers with a word prefix Newsreels before the movie 45 & 33 RPM records Reel-to-reel tape recorders Green stamps Roller skate keys Hula hoops Washtub wringers 35-cent a gallon gasoline

**Blonde Men Jokes** A friend told the blond man: "Christmas is on a Friday this year." The blond man

15-cent McDonald hamburgers & 10-

cent fries

5-cent packs of baseball cards with that

slab of pink bubblegum

You Might Be Old If You

Candy cigarettes

Soda machines that gave glass bottles

Diners with tableside juke boxes

Metal ice cube travs with levers

Remember.

then said, "Let's hope it's not the 13th."

A blond man spies a letter lying on his

doormat. The envelope says, "DO NOT

BEND ". He spends the next 2 hours

trying to figure out how to pick it up. A blonde man was driving home, drunk

as a skunk. Suddenly he has to swerve to avoid a tree, then another, then another. A cop car pulls him over, so he

tells the cop about all the trees in the road. The cop says, "That's your air freshener swinging about!"

A blonde man 's dog goes missing and

An Italian tourist asks a blonde man: "Why do Scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?" To which the blonde man replies: "If they fell forward, they 'd still be in the boat."

(This one actually makes sense.)

he is frantic. His wife says "Why don" you put an ad in the paper?" He does

Two weeks later the dog is still missing "What did you put in the paper?" his wife asks. "Here boy!" he replies.

Pavlov positively drooled at the thought Pierre and Marie Curie radiated enthusiasm

Planck was a constant nuisance.

Pythagoras refused because he thought that the organizers were not looking at the reunion

weakened all three."

performing and less time connecting" — and that "encouraged What would it be like to live in Babel in the days after its

dishonesty and mob dynamics" as well as plenty of amplified destruction? We know. It is a time of confusion and loss. But it is also a time to reflect, listen, and build.

#### Rattlesnakes: Friend or Enemy - or just a primal fear?

By Peter Kilkus

Above the Berryessa Highlands we've regularly had close encounters with rattlesnakes in spring and summer. We had an adventure getting one out of our kitchen a couple of years ago. One just slithered between our friends on our shooting range last weekend. There's nothing quite like walking down a trail and coming upon a coiled rattlesnake looking you in the eye—the cold flash of adrenaline you feel.

I once chased a 3-footer off our road and it did something I've never seen. When I threw a rock at it, it gave a loud (kind of scary) rattle, then jumped into the lower branches of some tightly packed bushes and zipped away without touching the ground as far as I could follow it.

Rattlers have good vision to at least 15 feet away under moderate illumination. The eyes are set so far to the sides of the head that they have only a limited field of rocks, trees, woodpiles, abandoned buckets or tires. binocular (stereo) vision. This may result in their moving their head from side to side as they try to get a good picture of something. Rattlers are too slow to outrun or dodge even the slowest of their enemies, thus the need for good long-range vision.

Though rattlesnakes are dangerous if provoked, they are generally not aggressive, and they also provide humans with a tremendous service - they eat rodents, other reptiles, and insects, and are in turn eaten by other

A friend sent me a photo of a king snake eating a rattlesnake on the deck of neighbor's house in Wragg Canyon. The king snake was tightly coiled around the rattler and half the rattlesnake was already inside the king

The California Poison Control Center notes that rattlesnakes account for more than 800 bites each year

with only one to two deaths. About 25 percent of the bites are "dry," meaning no venom was injected, but the bites may not really be dead. Muscle contractions can still Children, because they are smaller, are in more danger if still require medical treatment.

#### Do's and don'ts in snake country:

Be aware that startled rattlesnakes may not rattle before striking defensively. There are several safety measures that can be taken to reduce the likelihood of suffered a quick death from a frantic human who has startling a rattlesnake.

Never go barefoot or wear sandals when walking other as a rattlesnake. through wild areas. Wear hiking boots.

the-ankle boots and loose-fitting long pants.

snakes may hide during the day.

Don't move planks, rocks or logs by hand - use a stick approached or crowbar until you can see under it. Do not step or put your hands where you cannot see, and avoid wandering around in the dark. Don't reach into holes in the ground,

firewood. Check out stumps or logs before sitting down, and shake out sleeping bags before.

in lakes and rivers. Rattlesnakes can swim.

Snakes like to crawl along the edge of buildings where not always developed on the young. they are protected on one side.

When you hear a rattle or loud hiss, freeze until you identify where the sound is coming from; you don't want to accidentally step on it when trying to flee.

Once you have spotted it, give it time to move away If it doesn't, move slowly straight away from it; don't walk to one side or the other as that could be perceived as threatening. Look behind you before you start to walk backwards - you don't want to trip over a rock, or another

Don't handle a dead or injured snake. Dead snakes an adult is local tissue damage which needs to be treated. cause wounds, even when handling the decapitated head bitten of a rattler.

#### Is it a rattlesnake?

Many a useful and non-threatening snake has mistakenly identified a gopher snake, garter, racer or

This usually happens when a snake assumes an When hiking, stick to well-used trails and wear over- instinctual defensive position used to bluff adversaries. A gopher snake has the added unfortunate trait of Avoid tall grass, weeds and heavy underbrush where imitating a rattlesnake by flattening its head and body, vibrating its tail, hissing and actually striking if

A rattlesnake is a heavy-bodied, blunt-tailed snake with one or more rattles on the tail. It has a triangularshaped head, much broader at the back than at the front, and a distinct "neck" region. The rattlesnake also has Step ON logs and rocks, never over them, and be openings between the nostrils and eyes, which is a heatespecially careful when climbing rocks or gathering sensing pit. The eyes are hooded with elliptical pupils.

Additional identifying characteristics include a series of dark and light bands near the tail, just before the Never grab "sticks" or "branches" while swimming rattles, which are different from the markings on the rest of the body. Also note that rattles may not always be Be careful when stepping over the doorstep as well. present, as they are often lost through breakage and are

#### What to do if bitten.

Though uncommon, rattlesnake bites do occur, so have a plan in place for responding to any situation. Carry a portable phone, hike with a companion who can assist in an emergency, and make sure that family or friends know where you are going and when you will be checking in

The first thing to do if bitten is to stay calm. Generally, the most serious effect of a rattlesnake bite to most likely to act aggressively.

Get to a doctor as soon as possible, but stay calm. Frenetic, high-speed driving places the victim at greater risk of an accident and increased heart rate. If the doctor is more than 30 minutes away, keep the bite below the heart, and then get to the doctor as quickly as possible.

Do not try to cut the bite wound open or suck out the poison. Wash the bite area gently with soap and water

Remove watches, rings, etc. which may constrict swelling. Immobilize the affected area

Most bites to dogs occur on the face or extremities. The rattlesnake bite is generally "hemotoxic" which means that it exerts its toxin by disrupting the integrity of the blood vessels. The swelling is often dramatic with up to 1/3 of the total blood circulation being lost into the tissues in a matter of hours.

The toxin further disrupts normal blood clotting mechanisms leading to uncontrolled bleeding. This kind of blood loss induces shock and finally death. Facial bites are often more lethal as the swelling may occlude the throat or impair ability to breathe.

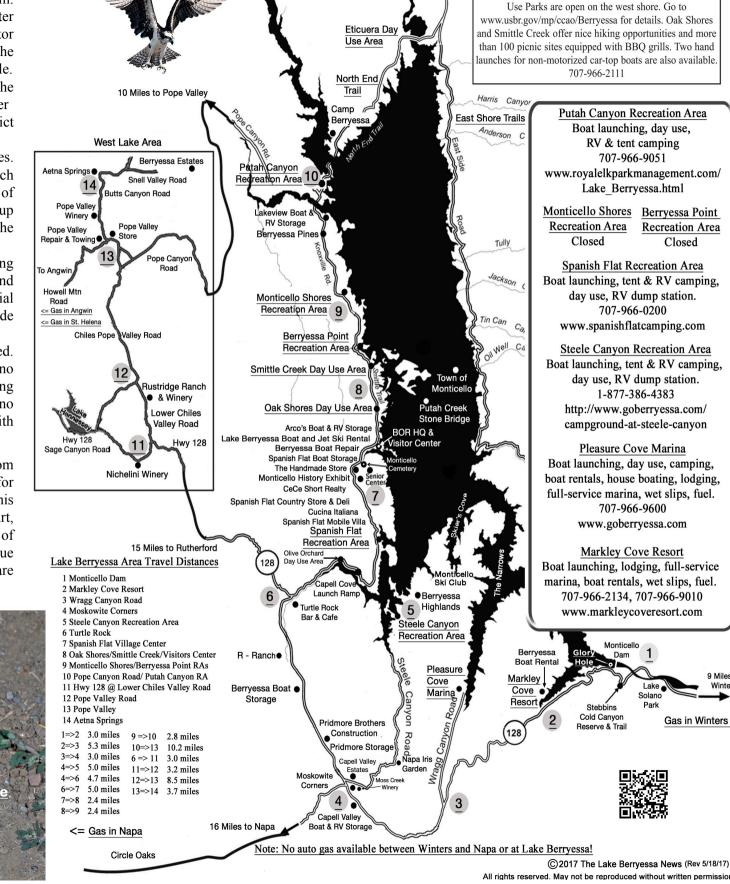
Effects depend on the amount of venom injected. Approximately 20-25% of bites are "dry" meaning no venom has been injected, 30% of bites are mild meaning they cause local pain and swelling in the bite area and no systemic symptoms, 40% of bites are severe with approximately 5% actually being fatal.

Spring is the period of greatest activity. Emerging from winter hibernation, they are hungry and looking for mates, as this is also the breeding season. During this time they will eat prodigiously, look for females to court, and will battle competing males. During these times of stress, and when trying to eat and when in their opaque stage several days before they are ready to shed, they are









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