

St. Stupid's Day and the Dumbing Down of America
 Although April 1st is usually referred to as April Fools Day, the date has also become a holy day for some churches such as the Church of the Last Laugh in San Francisco. Each year on April 1 they sponsor a St. Stupid's Day Parade.
 St. Stupid is the patron saint of religion, politics, and the Internet. He and his followers are responsible for the dumbing down of America by the methodical destruction and purposeful elimination of the means by which a society educates and enlightens itself.

Historically there have always been stupid people, but the trend seems to be accelerating with attitude triumphing over substance in so many areas of modern culture – especially lately in politics and on various social media (another major source of blatant stupidity)
 Although April Fools Day celebrates sly wit and twisted humor, it also inadvertently highlights the serious lack of scientific and mathematical knowledge of the American public as well as a complete lack of the ability to think analytically on the part of many. Remember, if you read it in The Lake Berryessa News April 1 Special Edition it must be true?

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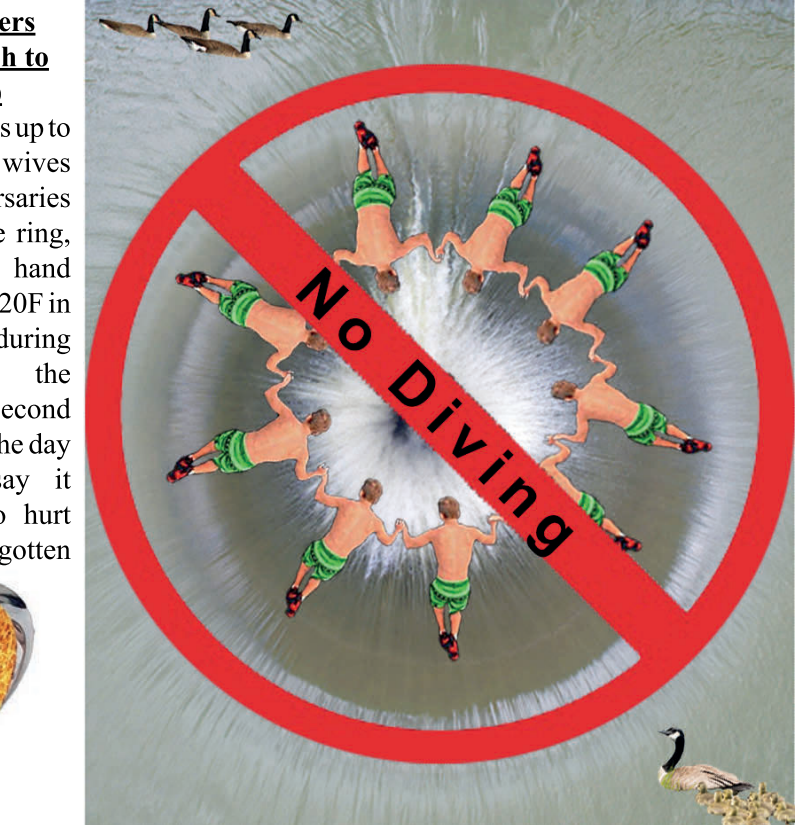
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 A special ring that heats up to remind husbands and wives of wedding anniversaries has been created. The ring, heats up from hand temperature to 115F-120F in a 10-second bursts during the week before the anniversary, and 1-second bursts to 200 degrees the day before. Designers say it could put an end to hurt feelings over forgotten dates.

"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."
 Martin Luther King,



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The Lake Berryessa News

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April 1, 2019 - America's Favorite Holiday

Solano County Water Agency Introduces the CORK Water Saver

There has been a consistent rumor over the years that there is a plan to raise Monticello Dam. It never happened and never will. A simpler approach to storing more water in Lake Berryessa would be to raise Glory Hole itself by installing movable gates that could be raised and lowered as necessary to impound more water during the rainy season.

Raising Glory Hole by 5 feet to 445' would increase Lake Berryesssa storage by approximately 100,000 acre-feet without significantly affecting facilities along the shoreline. The highest the lake level has ever reached was 446.7 feet in 1983, and it has exceeded 440 feet only 26 times during the last 60 years. According ro rhe Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) this is not often enough to justify the expense of installing this type of control device on Glory Hole.

However, sources tell the Lake Berryessa News that the Solano County Water Agency, in cooperation with University of Lake Berryessa engineers, has developed a simpler alternative - the Circular Output Restrictor Kit - easier to use and more in keeping with the wine country vibe of the area. The Lake Berryessa News has obtained a photo of the new device which may be introduced on April 1.

Lake Berryessa Glory Hole Swallows Senior Center Gambling Bus

For more than 25 years, the Lake Berryessa Senior Center and Community Hall social group has made its yearly trip to the Cache Creek Casino. This trip, like so many in the past, was filled with singing and good humor for the seniors on board the bus.

But not long into the latest trip along Highway 128, the bus was run off the road by a herd of tourists just as it approached Lake Berryessa's famous Glory Hole lookout area. Despite bus driver Soddy McWombat's best efforts, the bus veered off the road and tumbled down into the famous landmark known the world over as the Glory Hole.

One lady said, "We had just finished listening to our favorite band, Queens of the Stone Age, and were ready for another round of a hundred bottles of beer on the wall when our driver yelled "Blimey, mate!" and we slid off the road."

Even though the bus flipped on its top as it made its way terrifyingly down the Glory Hole, the veteran bus driver, McWombat, saved the day. He came on the loudspeaker and told them "No Worries". Soddy knew from reading the Lake Berryessa News, that the Glory Hole tunnel was 28 feet in diameter so the bus would be able to go right through it with no problems if he could keep it upright.

According to a report filed by the Napa County Sheriff, Soddy managed to steer the bus down the tube, roller-coastering through the curved tunnel at the bottom, then out through the spillway on the other side of the dam. The bus became lodged at the exit of the tunnel, sparing its riders a bus-boat ride to Winters.

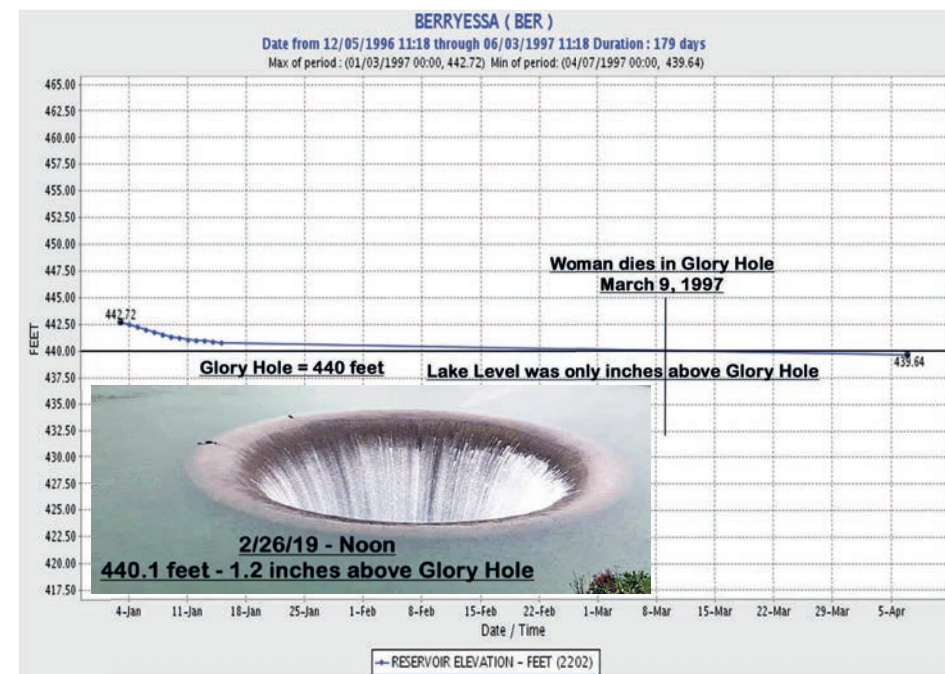
"It seemed like we were in the hole for a long time," continued Theodore Kerabatsos. Driver McWombat said that although he was as cross as a frog in a sock that the accident happened, he knew that everything would turn out fine, fair dinkum.

Although word has gotten out to the water bird thrill-seeking population that the Glory Hole Water Slide is really dope, actual people should avoid it.

2 **Glory Hole: Awesome, Frightening, But Dangerous?**

People often question the safety of Glory Hole. There is no access from the land side. The water side is protected by a buoy line and large warning buoys which can be seen in the photos. Only one person has died by falling down Glory Hole. She was not “sucked in” as the news story from 1997 below headlined. Sensationalistic reporting always has a longer lifetime than a fact-based story. It appears to have been a suicide since the water was only a couple of inches deep at the top of the spillway at the time (See chart below.).

It's difficult to get close to the Glory Hole at any time due to the barriers in place. And only a fool would cross the buoy line to get close to it when it's flowing strongly four feet over the edge. The Glory Hole has only previously spilled 25 times in 60 years. This year is the 26th. But back in 1997 a woman did die when she “fell” in.



In the story from SFGATE below you can see that the water was not very high if she were able to grip the top for so long. Data shows that the lake level was only a few inches above the lip of the spillway. There was speculation at the time that she had purposely pushed herself over the edge, not been "sucked" in. Witnesses had tried to talk the lady for many minutes to convince her to swim to shore, but she refused. She was never “sucked” into the spillway. Her body was found several hours later in Lower Putah Creek.

Original SFGate Story: Woman Sucked Into Lake Berryessa Spillway
(Wednesday, March 12, 1997)

Emily Schwalek, 41, of Davis was killed Sunday when she was sucked down a spillway at the Monticello Dam at Lake Berryessa. The spillway, which drops straight down more than 200 feet, is known as the Glory Hole. It routes excess water from the lake into a 72 foot diameter entrance structure known as the Glory Hole down to a 28-foot-wide exit pipe.

Authorities said witnesses reported seeing Schwalek swimming toward the spillway at about 6:30 p.m. Sunday. The woman dropped out of sight after gripping the edge of the hole for about 20 minutes, witnesses said. The body was found Sunday about three hours after she vanished. There has never been a documented case of anyone else falling through the Glory Hole, said Don Burbey of the Solano Irrigation District.

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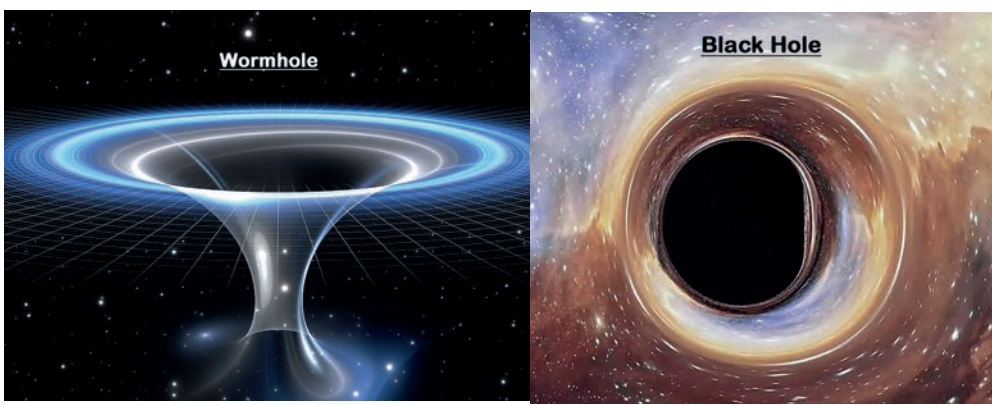
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Is Glory Hole a Black Hole or a Wormhole - Or Both?

Quantum entanglement, a perplexing phenomenon of quantum mechanics that Albert Einstein once referred to as “spooky action at a distance,” could be even spookier than Einstein perceived. Physicists at the University of Lake Berryessa believe the Glory Hole phenomenon at Lake Berryessa might be intrinsically linked with wormholes, a hypothetical feature of space-time which could provide a much-faster-than-light shortcut from one part of the lake to another - or to a different universe altogether.

If two black holes were entangled, a person outside the opening of one would not be able to see or communicate with someone just outside the opening of the other. The way they could communicate with each other is if one jumped into his black hole, then the other person must jump into her black hole - then the interior world would be the same (and they could kiss?). Therapists in ULB’s Psychology Department have already begun to use this analogy to develop a whole new marriage counseling paradigm.



April 1, 2019: Bureau of Reclamation Announces Management Training Program

The organization that knows how to not get something done announces a management training program for special employees in how to handle complex projects and unruly crowds while delaying actions into the future.

Push on a Rope (Team Building Exercise)

Designed to give insight into deflecting criticism from local community groups.

Small groups will tie a rope to an object on a table and all push on the rope to see how far and fast they can move the object.

Local example: Create a Lake Berryessa Community Forum. “The Bureau of Reclamation announces the Lake Berryessa Community Forum Coordinating Team.” The Community Forum is comprised of representatives from eleven stakeholder groups and is designed to promote public input regarding recreation opportunities and services at Lake Berryessa.”

Paper Bag Punch (Individual Exercise)

Designed to give insight into deflecting criticism from individual community members. Staff members are covered with custom-designed large paper bag and directed to punch their way out.

Local example: Entice a local community member or community group (see “Push On A Rope exercise described above) to assist in developing a strategy for the creation of a special program to establish guidelines for future strategic planning sessions which encourage local participation in information-gathering activities which further the goals of a strategic plan, yet to be scheduled, to develop positive alternatives for future action.

Sincerity Seminar (Senior Staff)

Designed to give upper level managers insight into deflecting criticism from local Boards and Commissions

Members will practice speaking before simulated Board of Supervisors meetings. This intensive seminar will focus on the importance of feigned politeness and respect, the ability to string together several misleading assurances of future results, and the importance of a simulated self-deprecating tone while admitting past errors in judgment. Includes a review of successful video exchanges.

Local examples: Presentations by Bureau of Reclamation Area Manager, Mike “Seamless Transition” Finnegan before several meetings of the Napa County Board of Supervisors.

Onion Headlines

Study Reveals That Girls Who Play Princess Grow Up With Skewed Perceptions Of The Role Of Modern Monarchy In A Democratic Society

Serta Wholesaler Lets Customers Cut Their Own Length Of Mattress

Experts Caution New Car Loses 90% Of Value As Soon As You Drive It Off Cliff

Literary Historians Uncover Collection Of Breezy, Upbeat Edgar Allan Poe Writings Penned After Author Took Up Jogging

Scientists Discover Dangerous Link Between Book Learnin’, Back Talk

Lose Twenty Pounds A Week With This Revolutionary New Air and Water Diet - Learn How Inside

Fox News Issues Apology, Fires Political Correspondent, After Fact Checking Reveals Widespread Inaccuracies In Multiple Reports

Florida Man Disappoints Entire Community By Doing Nothing Out Of The Ordinary

Local mechanic faces battery charges.

Oklahoma Ranked Among the Top 50 States Last Year

Colorado, After Legalizing Marijuana, Establishes Constitutional Right To 24/7 Availability Of Snack Foods

Arizona Woman Sues Zoo For Injuries Suffered After Climbing Three Barriers For Selfie With Jaguar

FOX NEWS ALERT: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Photographed Exhaling Carbon Dioxide

STUDY: Metal detector owners 600% less likely to accidentally step on a landmine

Woman Who Breaks Literally Every Other Biblical Law Every Day Argues That The Bible Forbids That Thing You Do

Person About To Accuse Several Wealthy People Of A Heinous Crime Unfortunately Commits Suicide By A Gun Shot To The Back

Respectful Exchange Of Political Views Between Users With Opposing Viewpoints Causes Entire Twitter Platform To Self-Destruct

REPORT: You Have Gotten So Big, Reports Nation's Grandmas

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Twitter Reaches Maximum Tweet Capacity

Twitter announced today it unexpectedly reached the maximum number of tweets. The popular social networking service can no longer accept new posts from its users. Twitter's technical team has issued an official statement saying, "The system is full."

When asked how this happened, Twitter co-founders said they vastly underestimated how often people would post updates on Twitter. "We designed Twitter as a platform for sharing profound thoughts and ideas," they said. "We had no idea people would publish updates about the sandwiches they are eating, their dog’s birthdays, or their bizarre political ramblings - especially since 2016." Unimportant tweets now make up 99.98% of all traffic on Twitter.

While engineers are unable to expand Twitter's capacity, they are working on other ways to alleviate the problem. Some are considering deleting old tweets. One technician even suggested deleting the entire database. "After all, what would really be lost? #nothing," he remarked.



The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

Peter Kilkus

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there would be no Lake Berreyssa news.
pkilkus@gmail.com

Bird Goes Over the Glory Hole Waterfall Without A Barrel

People of a certain age will remember the fad of daredevils going over Niagara Falls in a barrel. The first person to do it and live to tell the tale was a widowed teacher named Annie Taylor. Taylor was struggling financially when she seized upon the idea of riding over the falls in a barrel to secure fame and fortune. She used an oaken barrel with a crudely cushioned interior, which she tested by sending it over the falls with a test cat stuffed inside - it survived.



On Oct. 24, 1901 Taylor climbed inside her barrel. Less than twenty minutes later, she was recovered from the bottom of the falls, bleeding from the head but otherwise uninjured.

A Facebook video was posted at the end of February, 2019 showing a cormorant swim over the edge of Glory Hole and disappear. The video went viral spawning many social media comments and local news stories. One of the better stories was done by a local CBS News channel and is available at: www.lakeberryessanews.com/bird-video.html

Niagara Falls is only 167 feet high compared to the Glory Hole's total 245 feet total, but Glory Hole has a much smoother exit tunnel, which starts at only 150 feet below the spillway, compared to the rocks below Niagara Falls. Survival of the Glory Hole Bird was a hot topic for days.

On Monday, March 18, 2019 I spoke with Rick Fowler who is interviewed in the video. He said the video was taken at the highest level of the lake this year (444.1 feet on February 27).

Coincidentally, I was delivering the March issue of the Lake Berryessa News on Friday, March 1, when I stopped at the Glory Hole. I talked to a couple who had just seen a bird which they described as a grebe swim right over the edge of the Glory Hole. They were actually a bit distraught because they thought they had seen the death of the beautiful creature. Apparently this is not a rare event.

Rick said that he ran to the other side of the observation area as soon as he saw the bird go down. He made it to a

point right above the Glory Hole output where he claims he saw the bird pop out and recover. Although you can't see the output structure itself, you can easily see the turbulent white water coming out of it.

My calculations show that the water falling to the bottom of Niagara Falls is moving at about 70 miles per hour when it hits the river and rocks below. This is about the same speed as the water into Glory Hole when it hits the smooth ninety degree curve which begins about 150 feet below the lip of the spillway and begins to turn turbulent.

Water weighs 8 pounds per gallon so it can create a significant force if it hits a stationary object. Imagine someone throwing a 5 gallon (40 pound) bottle of water at you to catch. (Author's Personal Health Note: To anyone 40 pounds overweight, say 240 pounds when you should be 200 pounds, I hope you understand that this is the same as carrying around a 5 gallon bottle of water in your arms.)

But that's not what's happening inside Glory Hole. Remember when you were body surfing in big waves at a beautiful beach somewhere? You moved with the waves and tumbled around in the surf when the wave broke. If you've gone river rafting, you probably have not been torn up by the current, but floated along on top of it at the same speed as the water.

When my boys threw me out of a raft on the American River in some turbulent white water and I surfaced under the raft, I was not "torn to pieces" by the flow. I simply floated along through the rapids. An object falling into Glory Hole is doing the same thing - falling at the same speed as the water then bouncing along floating in the white foam to the exit.

The "Glory Hole Bird" was actually a cormorant. Cormorants feed by diving and swimming underwater.



They are very light and buoyant. They can dive to depths of 5 to 60 feet below the surface and stay under water up to 70 seconds. The Glory Hole cormorant would be traveling at the same speed as the water when it reached the "water slide" at the bottom and was enveloped in severe turbulence.

Then it and the water slowed drastically and it would be washed away horizontally through a smooth concrete tunnel to the output. Although it would have to swim through a lot of turbulence, there is no real "pressure" at the bottom - it's not like being 200 feet under water.

The bird wouldn't "hit" the "bottom" at high speed as if it had jumped from a 245 foot building. And it would not have been "torn to pieces" as some speculated. The Glory Hole is essentially a circular waterfall. Theoretically, the bird could have survived.

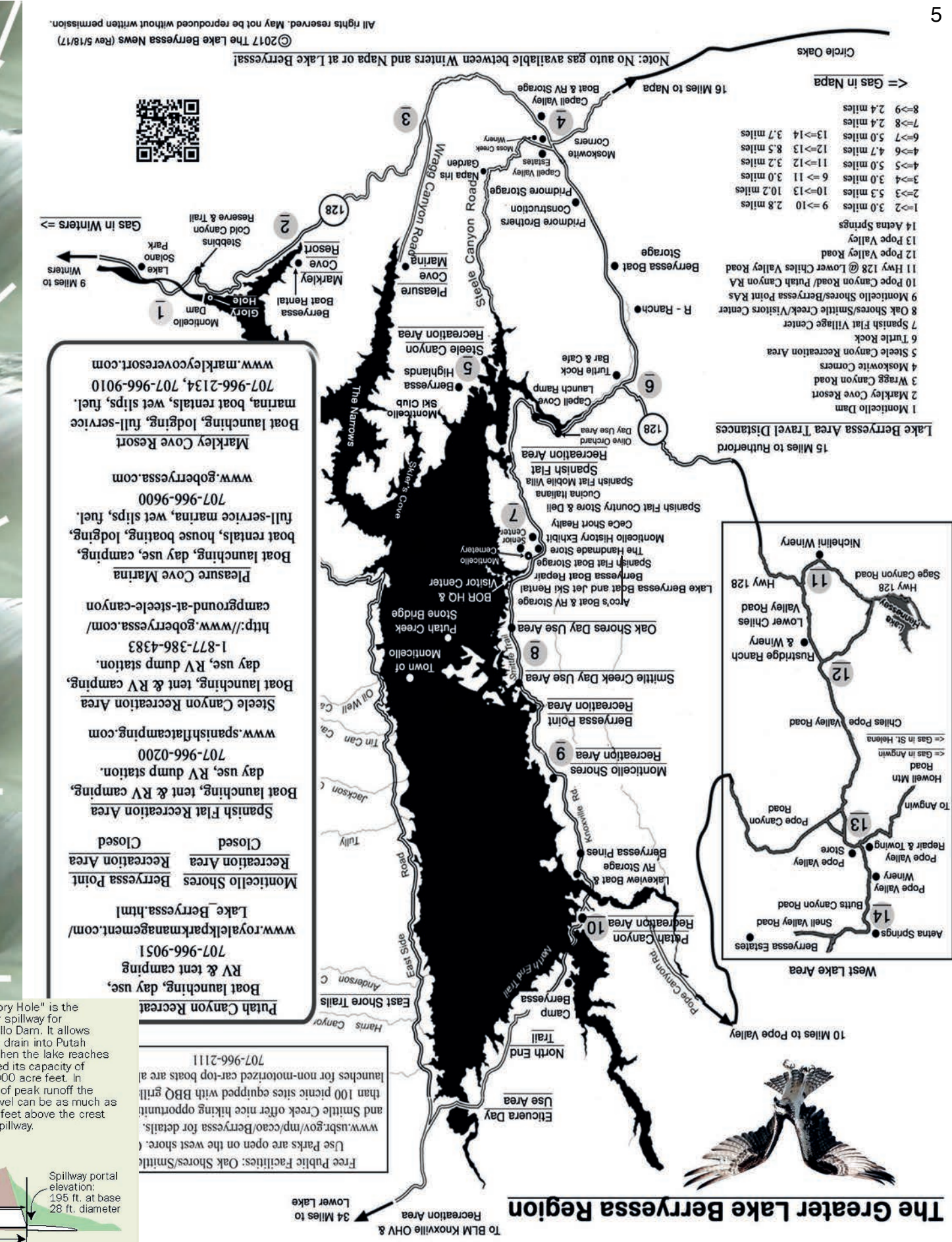
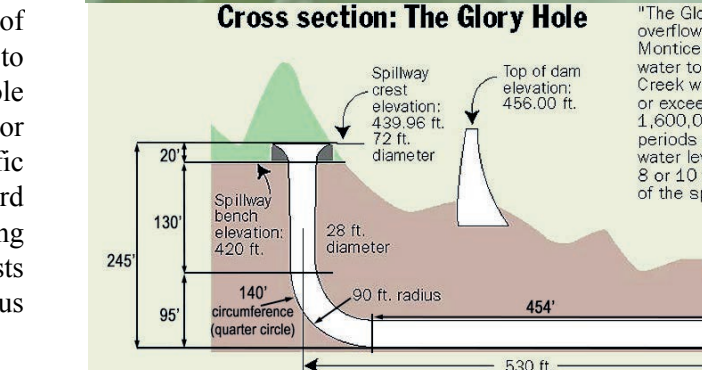
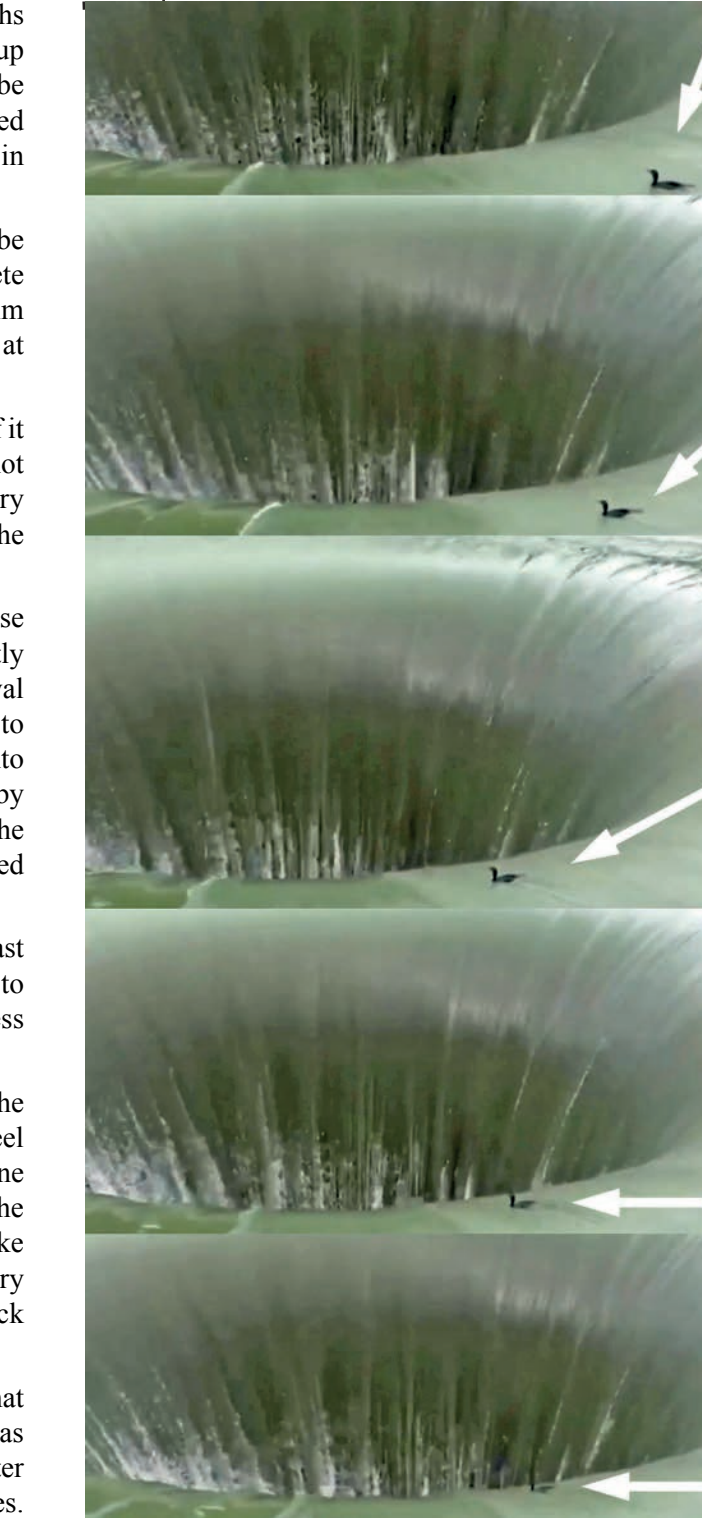
Rick Fowler believes the cormorant did survive because he saw it. A local ornithologist Rick spoke with recently also believed survival was possible. I also think survival was possible. To actually determine the time from input to output a light, bright object would have to be tossed into Glory Hole and the input-to-output time measured by observers. An object which included an accelerometer the g-forces experienced by the object as it was bounced around on its trip. Time for a science experiment?

I'm sure Rick will forgive me for mentioning that his last name may indicate some deeper spiritual connection to our feathered companions which allowed him to witness this unique event.

Who knows what strange electromagnetic signals fill the air when water is flowing through Glory Hole with its steel internal structure and unique chemical composition? One scientific study being pursued by scientists at the

University of Lake Berryessa is whether Glory Hole is actually a Black Hole or a Worm Hole.

However, it does seem that that Glory Hole's signal has beckoned to gathering water birds of all types. Apparently the thrill ride of what has become known to them as the Glory Hole Water Slide is now a major attraction on the Pacific Flyway, fostering bird traffic jams approaching those of human tourists gaping at the famous spillway.



**Global Climate Change Report:
Sea Level Rise May Be Due To Huge Amazon Lake And Sinkhole.**

Although many scientists believe that most sea level rise is due to warming of the global atmosphere accompanied by the melting of glaciers and polar ice, another potential source may have been discovered in an unexplored plateau in the central Amazon jungle. The area is usually shrouded in thick clouds, but scientists got a break when the clouds parted for a few hours. They discovered a huge hundred square mile inland lake at about 10,000 feet in altitude. The surprising feature of the lake was a huge circular waterfall which had apparently opened over a subterranean tunnel that connected it to several mid-continent rivers, including the Amazon. The lake had been storing huge amounts of water for several thousand years. Scientists speculate that only during recent decades had it started to drain slowly through a sinkhole opened by seismic activity. Observers commented on the circular waterfall's remarkable similarity to Lake Berryessa California's internationally famous Glory Hole. The full report is due to be made public on April 1, 2019.



Profiles in Smartyness: Science Cats at the University of Lake Berryessa

As described in another story in this issue, a cat was used to test the survival odds of going over Niagara Falls in a barrel more than 100 years ago. Cats have long been employed in science pursuits. The Ancient Egyptians held cats in the highest esteem, the penalties for injuring or killing a cat were severe. Without them, civilization as we know it might have never survived! Photo below shows one of the science cats employed at the University of Lake Berryessa's laboratories beneath Big Island. The other photo shows an example of a science cat at ULB studying the forces of gravity as applied to falling mice. The final photo is of a science cat leaping into Glory Hole to determine if it is a black hole or a wormhole.



**An April 1 Manifesto: The Elements of Critical Thinking
Critical Thinking is the Basis for Human Civilization**

Critical Thinking is the intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication, as a guide to belief and action. Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and rationally about what to do or what to believe. It includes the ability to engage in reflective and independent thinking. Someone with critical thinking skills is able to do the following :

- understand the logical connections between ideas
- identify, construct and evaluate arguments
- detect inconsistencies and common mistakes in reasoning
- solve problems systematically
- identify the relevance and importance of ideas
- reflect on the justification of one's own beliefs and values

Critical thinking is not a matter of accumulating information. A person with a good memory and who knows a lot of facts is not necessarily good at critical thinking. A critical thinker is able to deduce consequences from what he or she knows, and knows how to make use of information to solve problems, and to seek relevant sources of information to inform himself.

Critical thinking should not be confused with being argumentative or being critical of other people. Although critical thinking skills can be used in exposing fallacies and bad reasoning, critical thinking can also play an important role in cooperative reasoning and constructive tasks. Critical thinking can help us acquire knowledge, improve our theories, and strengthen arguments. We can use critical thinking to enhance work processes and improve social institutions.

Some people believe that critical thinking hinders creativity because it requires following the rules of logic and rationality, but creativity might require breaking rules. This is a misconception. Critical thinking is quite compatible with thinking "out-of-the-box", challenging consensus and pursuing less popular approaches. If anything, critical thinking is an essential part of creativity because we need critical thinking to evaluate and improve our creative ideas.



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They Walk Among Us?

I just found this message from 18 years ago in my old files. Somehow it seemed appropriate for my April Fool's Edition. I never learned the identity of American Canyon Girl, or whether this was a spoof. On other occasions I've received comments from anonymous folks who blame an evil spirit for the unfortunately regular deaths by drowning at the lake.

amcyngirl said on: March 21, 2010, 10:29 am

It's unfortunate that this ever happened! Lake Barryessa has taken so many peoples lives! Regardless of the nature of the accidents, people are always dyeing there. The news paper does not have all the facts as well as the cause, so in my oppinion, the paper adds "being under the infulance" in attempt of blaming the cause of the accident on that reason. "Dont want to scare people form going there".

What I think the reason is for all the casualties at Lake Barryessa is the simple fact that the lake is angerly haunted and very hungry. I am aware of the existing town that was flooded and the cemetary which remains under water. There seems to be angry energy distroying many happy peoples lives in retaliation.

I forbid my children to go there and avoid the area completely. As beautiful as it appears, it is very hungry, waiting for an oppertunity to take another life...and more! Why doesn'e the Register do a census or stitistic on the casualties at that lake instead! Save a life!

Chocolate For Everyone on April 1, 2019!

Heinz will launch the world's first chocolate mayonnaise. Burger King will introduce a Chocolate Whopper. Coca-Cola will begin distributing chocolate flavored canned drinks.

April 2019 Horoscopes

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Advances in science will soon allow man to travel to the most distant corners of the universe. Still no word, however, on it being able to get you off that couch.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): You thought your new sports car could do everything but love you, so its declaration of devotion will come as quite a shock.

Aries (3/21-4/19): You're starting to think that maybe the funny nose and glasses won't actually be enough to hide you when Jesus returns in all his glory.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20: Remember: The patient raindrops can eventually wear away even the hardest stone. Don't let them get to close if you value your life.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): The events of next week will closely mirror all the other events in your life up to that point.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Do not believe those who tell you they can see your future. They are merely preying upon your ignorant, fearful, superstitious nature.

Leo (7/23-8/22): The kinds of changes that await you this week can be readily found within the pages of most high school chemistry books.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Your two-pack-a-day habit will finally kill you this week, but then, that's a lot of wolves to fight off.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Fear and Jealousy will soon tear you apart, which is rather unfortunate, as Fear and Jealousy are the two pitbulls that live next door.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Use the watering-can of good intentions to nurture the fig tree of expectations. There, enjoy figuring that one out, you jerks.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Your life will soon be divided into Pre-Angering-Of-The-Ants and Post-Angering-Of-The-Ants eras.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): There will be nothing you can do to avert the disaster of next week, although there will be plenty that a reasonably bright and competent person could do.

**University of Lake Berryessa Study Finds:
Stupidity is Orgasmic**

Scientists have been perplexed for decades as to why raw stupidity is so prevalent among human beings. They're not talking about ignorance here. Ignorance simply implies lack of knowledge or awareness about something which can be fixed by learning more.

Stupidity is a lack of intelligence, mental capacity, understanding, reason, wit, or common sense. Stupid is knowing the truth, seeing the truth, but still believing the lies. As the saying goes, you can't fix stupid.

If you participate much in social media sites like Facebook orTwitter it's hard not to feel like being lost among the clueless - but the clueless seem to be having a darn good time expressing their opinions.

According to Prof. Noah Fence, "The problem with most stupid people is that they don't know they're stupid. Many like to think of themselves as "contrarians" who know more than anyone else and want you to know it too. But the key element is that it feels good."

Psychologists at the University of Lake Berryessa finally asked the simple question, "Is stupidity as intoxicating as sex or food or booze?" After many years of study and experiment, they found that the answer is a resounding YES. Further study is needed to determine how to reverse the pleasure of stupidity without harming the stupid.

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