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Odes to Modern Politics
"It was miraculous. It was almost no trick at all, he saw, to turn vice into virtue and slander into truth, impotence into abstinence, arrogance into humility, plunder into philanthropy, thievery into honor, blasphemy into wisdom, brutality into patriotism, and sadism into justice. Anybody could do it; it required no brains at all. It merely required no character."
- Joseph Heller, Catch-22

The Oak Woodlands Initiative:
An Anti-Growth Attack On Rural Property Rights
Masquerading As Environmentalism
This proposed Napa County watershed measure qualified for the June ballot, but all is not as it seems. In 2005 a similarly specious initiative called the "Stream Setback Ordinance" was defeated by the voters. This new initiative attempts to resurrect the previous stream setback goal while adding onerous rules regarding tree-cutting without real environmental benefits.
It then obfuscates its main goal within a forest of words designed to appeal to environmentally-unsophisticated voters in the urban areas where the majority of the votes exist.

Any rural property (and even some urban lots) can be declared an "Oak Woodland" since "Oak Woodland" is defined in the initiative as an oak stand with a greater than ten percent canopy cover. An oak stand consists of **at least two (2) oak trees of at least five (5) inches in diameter, measured at 4.5 feet above mean natural grade.** A parcel may contain one or more "oak woodlands".

It retroactively establishes a 795 acre limit, as measured from September 1, 2017 on removal of oak trees in the Ag Watershed, and requires a County permit for further removal of oaks after the limit is reached. .

This initiative is really just an anti-vineyard move by its proponents. It will require permits for "tree removal" which means causing the death or removal of any living tree of any species that is **five (5) inches or more in diameter, measured at 4.5 feet above mean natural grade,** by cutting, dislodging, poisoning, burning, topping or damaging of roots.

Stay tuned for more analysis as the election draws closer

The Lake Berryessa News

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

February 2018

February 2017 **February 2018: What A Difference A Year Makes!**

25¢ Donation

Politics Watch History (February 2017)
Napa County is considering whether to take over managing the Bureau of Reclamation's stalled effort to redevelop five Lake Berryessa resorts. The County is working with consultants from Ragatz Sedgwick Realty which was chosen for its knowledge and experience in developing hotels, resorts and recreational opportunities.
Sedgwick Realty will assist the County in identifying interested concession partners by marketing the opportunity to the resort community and performing a feasibility analysis to determine the best use of each site. Richard Ragatz has been in Napa touring the closed resorts, gathering information, and meeting with, among others, the Bureau of Reclamation, Visit Napa Valley staff, and members of the Board of Directors of the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce.

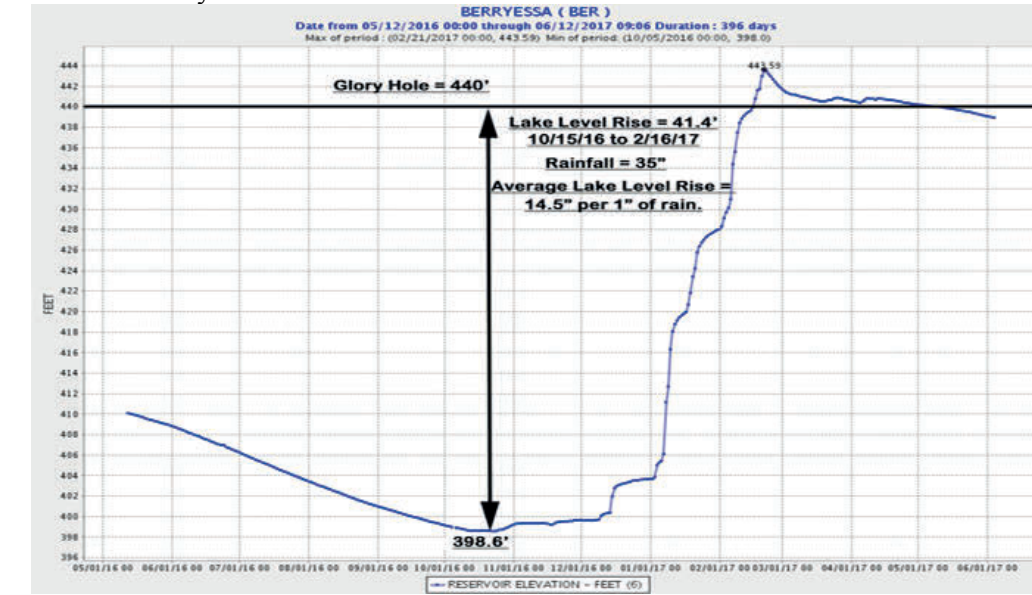
Glory Hole Level Watch History (February 2017)
Lake Berryessa water washed over and into the Glory Hole on Feb. 12, 2017 at 1:45 PM for the first time in 11 years! Granted it was helped by California Marine Sports wakeboard boats on a beautiful, clear sunny Sunday, but before anyone objects that this doesn't count, we were MAKING history.
It was REAL Lake Berryessa water flowing over the lip of Glory Hole. And it was also a bit of good fun the large crowd on hand. Feel the Lake Berryessa spirit after all these years of government turmoil.

2/16/17: Lake Berryessa "officially" hit 439.9 feet - 1 inch below Glory Hole at 7 PM! Wind pushed some small waves over the lip.
2/17/17: Lake Berryessa OFFICIALLY HIT THE TOP of the Glory Hole Spillway, 400.0 feet, at 1 A.M! It was stable at 440.0 feet as of 6 A.M.
2/21/17: Lake Berryessa hit 443.6 feet, 3.6 feet above Glory Hole, the second highest level in history.

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Politics Watch History (February 2018)
The County received nine responses to the Request for Information and Interest. Given that the proposals contain proprietary information that may be used in a formal Request for Proposal process, they will not release the details of the respondents or the responses. Neither the names of the submitting firms nor the specific sites will be made public until an Intent to Award notification is published in the later RFP process. Discussions continue with the BOR and County staff will report to the Board of Supervisors in the coming months.

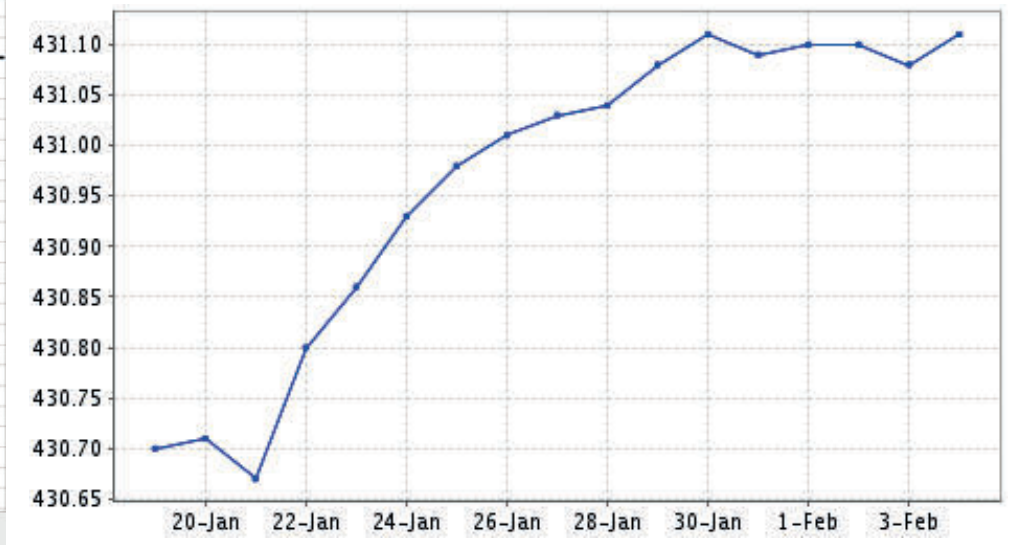
The reason for not releasing this information is that it could give an advantage to a submitting firm in the RFP submittal and negotiation process. If, for instance, a submitting firm knows who else submitted and that other particular firm specializes in only one service, they could tailor their RFP submittal to just barely outdo that firm, and not necessarily propose services that are as plentiful as they could be otherwise. Or conversely, they may assume their company cannot compete with "the other folks" and decide not to submit a RFP response at all.

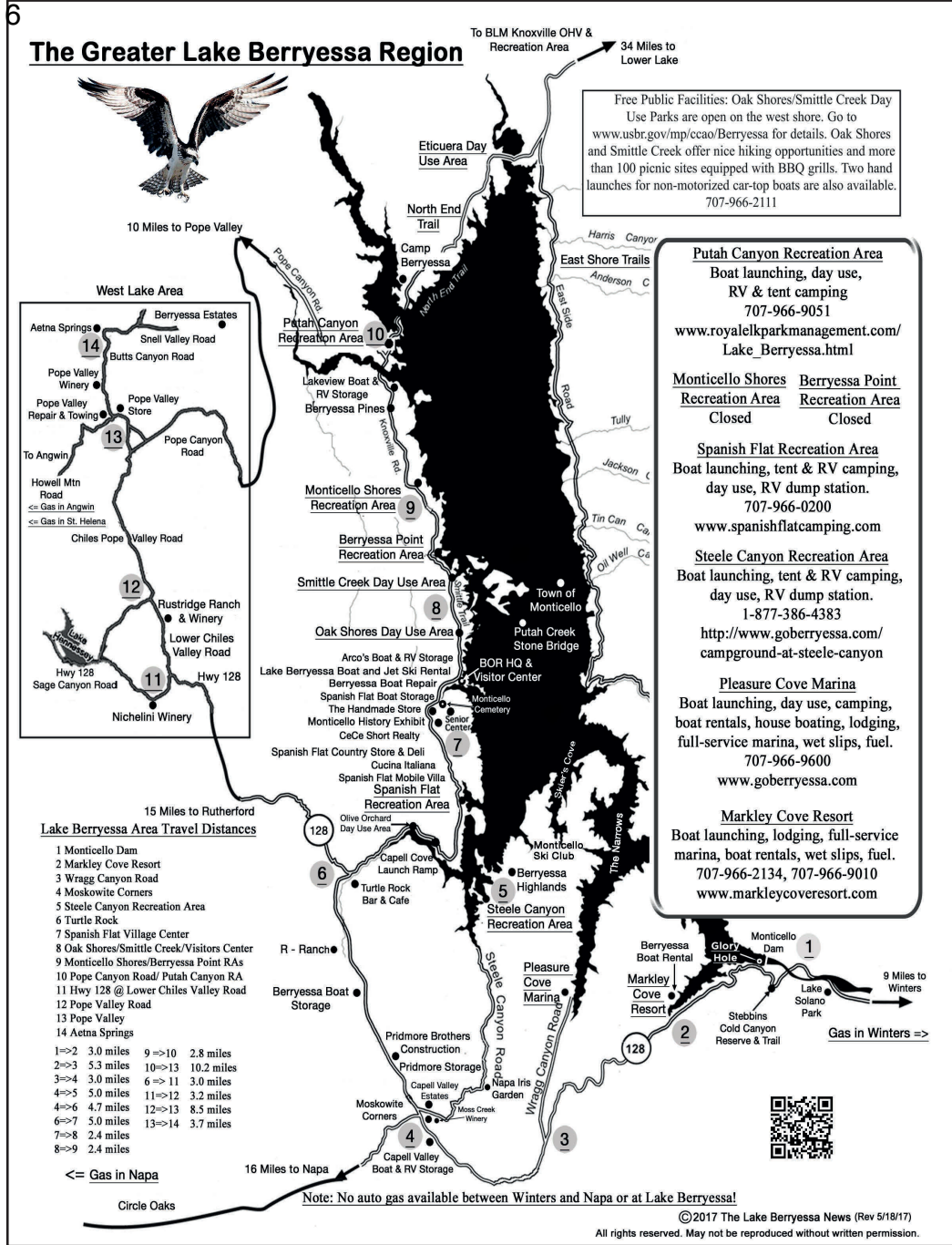
Additionally, if a firm knows no one else is interested in a particular site, their RFP proposal may not be as competitive in either services offered or other elements of financial package offered, as it might be otherwise.

Next Steps: April, 2018 - MPA Authorization; May, 2018 - RFP Release

Glory Hole Level Watch (February 2018)
As of 2/8/18 the lake has stabilized at 431.1 feet - 8.9 feet below Glory Hole. Rainfall total is now at 7.44 inches. No rain since January 26 and none expected for the next week or so.

What a difference a year makes! Last year at this time the lake was at 429.7 feet - 10.3 feet below Glory Hole - and still rising fast. Rainfall was already at 28.7 inches.





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Henry's Humor The "Oh No" Jokes

What did one strawberry say to the other strawberry?
"If you hadn't been so fresh last night, we wouldn't be in this jam today!"

What did the hat say to the hat rack?
"Now you stand here and I'll go on a head."

Why does a milking stool only have 3 legs?
Because the cow has the udder.

What do you call a cow with no legs?
Hamburger.

What do you call a cow spying on another cow?
A steak out.

What do you call a cow standing on the side of a hill?
Lean beef.

How do you get six elephants in a Volkswagen
Three in front and three in back.

How can you tell if there are six elephants in church on Sunday
morning saying their prayers?
There's a Volkswagen parked out in front.

(Note: The Lake Berryessa is not responsible for this content. Read at your own risk. Author is hiding out somewhere in the Berryessa Highlands.)

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."
— Oscar Wilde

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."
Indira Gandhi

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Berryessa Highlands Neighbor Next Door Supports Community

Berryessa Highlands Neighbor Next Door has been active for four years and is made of a diverse group of people. Every person brings a different perspective and voice. We cherish this diversity, but with so many voices, there may not always be harmony. If you choose to express your ideas in forums, here are some good guidelines to follow:

Do NOT be:

- snarky, sarcastic and mean, negative for the sake of negativity;
- disrespectful;
- critical without being constructive;
- Referring to specific people, addresses, or other personal issues;
- Prying, nosey, gossipy, involved in others' personal business

Positivity and Pride: There is already plenty of negativity in the world. Berryessa Highlands NextDoor is a positive force. Be part of that.

Does your post or comment add value? Is it kind? Does it come from a good place? What you say represents you as a person. Be proud of what you post. Two weeks from now, two years from now, will you be proud of what you said?

Respect: You deserve respect. So does everyone else.. Insulting someone else doesn't make them look bad. If you bully, harass, or insult another member, you're disrespecting not only them but the space we all share.

Pause: Take time to read over and revise your post. This might help you get your point across more clearly and respectfully. Never promote or glorify hatred, violence, or illegal activities. Detrimental comments based on race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation are not OK. Don't be sarcastic and mean. Don't bully, harass, or bait other members into breaking the Forum rules. Don't threaten anyone or anything.

Ideas, Suggestions, and Criticism: Gentle criticism and sharing ideas can be super productive. Help someone be a better neighbor. Good criticism is constructive and well intentioned. Bad criticism, criticizing without being helpful, and being overly involved is just rude. Debate is healthy and makes for good discussion, and it often leads to the discovery of new ideas. It may be reasonable to ask if you can offer an opinion prior to doing so. Don't make it personal. Separate the idea from the person behind the idea.

Avoid posting when...

- You're getting angry.
- You're typing with that "now I'm going to tell them" feeling.
- You will feel vindicated after posting.
- You're using sarcasm or snark to deliver your message.

The last thing I will add is that the vast majority of us use the site properly. I am happy to have met many of you out there in the community face-to-face after meeting you first on NextDoor. I think the net result of Nextdoor has been positive for the community, and it's worth working on to make sure it continues to be positive. I am asking for your help to make sure it stays positive for us all to use.

Thanks, Debra Healer

February 2018 Horoscopes

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): When the stars told you this was a good time to start new projects at work, they certainly didn't expect you to put Vaseline on the stairs and then pull the fire alarm.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): You refuse to buy into society's petty, narrow-minded definitions of good and evil, or at least that's what you tell people when they notice you're a lousy tipper.

Aries (3/21-4/19): You'll be doing a lot of traveling in the near future due to your inability to dribble a basketball effectively.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): There will come times in life when you find it impossible to tell the dancer from the dance. Be advised the person is the dancer and the dance is the series of motions being made.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): You've always detested clichés, tired old jokes, and easy irony, which are three more reasons why you're going to hate being killed by a falling safe.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): While "To thine own self be true" is wise advice, it was intended for someone whose own self didn't sit on the couch eating beef jerky and watching car-auction shows.

Leo (7/23-8/22): You'll be devastated by the news that you could have stopped a major tragedy in Nigeria if you had only answered their pleading emails in time.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Your eyes will be a little too big for your stomach next week when a sudden, hideous allergic reaction causes your eyes to swell six times their usual size.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Home is where your heart is, and your lungs and liver too, but despite a month-long search they'll never find all of you.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): You can't help but feel that if there were something you could do to stop being such a wishy-washy, passive, indecisive loser, you would have done it by now.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Sometimes there is just no way to say you're sorry, but the rest of the time you should probably try just walking up to the person and saying "I'm sorry."

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): You try to be a decent person with a good perspective on life and a firm view of right and wrong, but you'll soon find yourself ordering something called a half-caff skinny maple soy latte.

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Lake Berryessa Watereshed Partnership introduces the "NEW Bilgee"

4 **Atlas Fire Follow-Up: Triumph Over Catastrophe**
Thanks to Community
by Evan Kilkus

In all the chaos of the wildfires last October, miraculously only one house was lost in the Berryessa area. Despite this misfortune, more than 500 families in the region, who had feared the imminent loss of their own homes which in the end had not been touched, experienced immense relief. Immediately following the wildfire, that relief turned into action to help their neighbor recover. And that they are doing, remarkably faster than many.

When word spread about the loss, the community jumped to do what they could to help this family of four get back home. With the combined effort of all, the Hauck Family has been “comfortably” living on their property in a travel trailer since December, with 2 storage sheds, a landscaped and fenced in yard, pets, farm animals, a cleaned-up home site, and building plans submitted so they can start rebuilding this spring.

Neighbors in Capell Valley were able to help right away after the fire, in giant ways. First, a neighbor fostered the families pet geese, a somewhat simple act of kindness, but one that makes their property feel like home now that they are all back.

Second, neighbors were able to set them up with a reliable local contractor, American Canyon Builders, who was able to clear the hazardous material and install necessary infrastructure hook-ups to allow the trailer to be lived in per county codes.

Then, to make sure the property felt livable and not like a disaster zone, three separate times groups of ten Berryessa Highlands neighbors showed up to clear burned trees and brush, and help set up a new yard for the family that wasn’t just scorched earth.

Crown Hill Stone Supply generously donated a full truckload of Cedar wood chips, so in a matter of hours, the dirt around their temporary travel trailer became a yard. And all it took was some great neighbors and 150 hours of volunteer work to make it happen!

Also there was the GoFundMe page that raised more than \$3,000 for the Hauck Family, the donation drives and huge donation from the Bay Area Diesels Car Club, the pile of toys from the Capell Valley Volunteer Fire Department Annual Toy Drive, and coming up soon, the Hauck’s are looking forward to extra hands from the local 4-H kids to rebuild the animal pen.

The moral of this story is simple... it turns out that an actual house is not necessary to feel at home. Just Community.

Please consider making a donation of any size for the next family we will be helping to clean-up so they can rebuild. We’d love to buy them a storage shed and fencing too!

Donate here: <https://www.gofundme.com/NapaFiresBerryessaHelp>



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Pasote Tequila & Berryessa Bass Tournaments
Super Bowl Sunday

Wow! 40 Teams fished the Fourth Event of the Pasote Tequila & Berryessa Bass Tournaments Circuit for the 2017-2018 Season on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4, 2018 hosted by Markley Cove.

Great support again everyone! We had a clear & safe blast off with four flights, including 5 youth teams! The morning was clear and warm, the moon was just past a Blue Moon, and the fish were chewing! Felt like a spring day.

The lake is still fishing really well with a jig bite. The large mouth have been chewing good for two months now, the water temperature never got cold. You just have to find the key areas. Some teams had reported that they had a tough day again, and most teams had a limit.

Water temps are on the rise, might hit 60 degrees real soon! Teams reported catching their fish on Shaky head, Glide Baits, Huddleston’s, Jigs, and a few on the A-rig. Most teams are fishing in the main lake and Narrows!

In the Youth Division, First Place with 10.42lbs went to Jeff & Chris Hardin. In Second Place, James Vella & Luke Lipanovich weighed a sack of 9.54lbs. In Third Place, Dario Fernandez and Eric Perkins weighed in 8.57lbs in their bag.

First Place with all the cash went to Chris Franks with a beefy sack that weighed 24.17lbs and anchored with an 8.98lb kicker for 1st Place Big Fish. Second Place went to Ron & Lesa Tobey who brought in a sack that weighed 19.82lbs and with a 6.85lb kicker caught by Lesa. Third Place went to Frank Ono and Billy Hines with a 5.89 kicker that anchored a sack that weighed 19.65lbs.

With a Fourth Place finish, Brandon Jones and Matt Moreno weighed in 18.97lbs. and had a 7.55lb kicker for 2nd Place Big Fish. In Fifth Place, a sack of 18.33lbs was weighed in by Matt Hamilton and Scott Smith. Sixth Place went to Phil Garcia and Roy Desmangles Jr. with a sack of 17.20lbs. Seventh Place went to John Ewing and Dennis smith with 16.10lbs.

Zach Ploeger and Brandon Hansen weighed in 15.56lbs for Eighth Place. Ninth Place went to Berryessa Bass Tournaments newest young guns Joe and Jack Mariani with a sack of 15.19lbs. anchored with a 4.83lb kicker. Tenth Place went to Kelly Oward and Matt Waddlington with a sack of 14.29 lbs.

See you all on March 4, 2018 (Sunday)! Email or call office phone if you have any questions (530)794-6085.

Thanks for the Support!!! berryessabass.weebly.com

Duke---<)Xx<

Aztec were among the most loyal, ferocious fighters in history. Victories and sacrifices were celebrated by drinking the sacred agave plant. This pasote spirit lives on in our matchless Jalisco Highlands tequila. Distilled with pure rainwater, natural spring water and agave grown personally by our master *tequilero*, this liquid art is distinctively herbal and incredibly pure. From the *guerreros* who guard each bottle to the exacting effort put into its content, we are certain you will revel in our tribute to warriors everywhere.