

The Lake Berryessa News

4th of July, 2025

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE UNITED STATES

“The Star Spangled Banner”

Francis Scott Key (1814)

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly
we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming. Whose broad stripes and

bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming.

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!



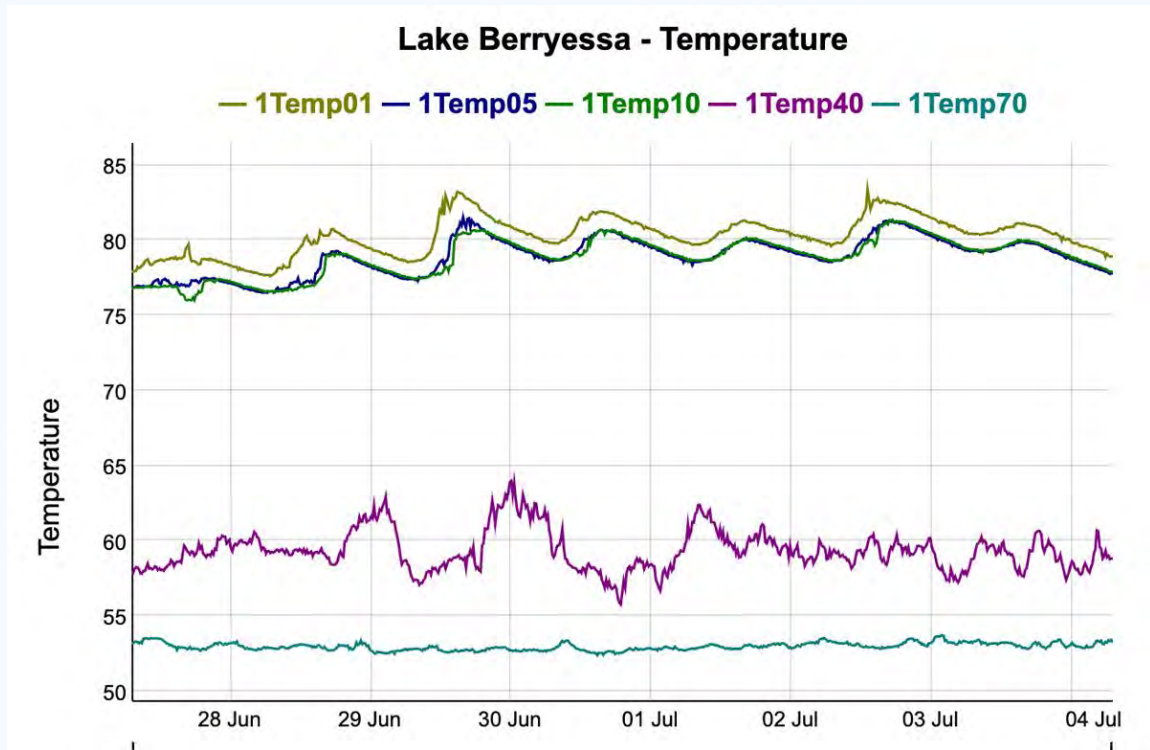
Lake Berryessa Statistics (7/4/25)

The Lake Berryessa water level is at 435.9 feet, 4.1 feet below Glory Hole.

Lake capacity is at 95.1%

Lake surface temperature is 80 degrees from the surface to 10 feet down.

The new rainfall year started on July 1 at 0 inches.



4th of July at Steele Canyon Campground!

90 degrees with a breeze. The weather could not be much better.

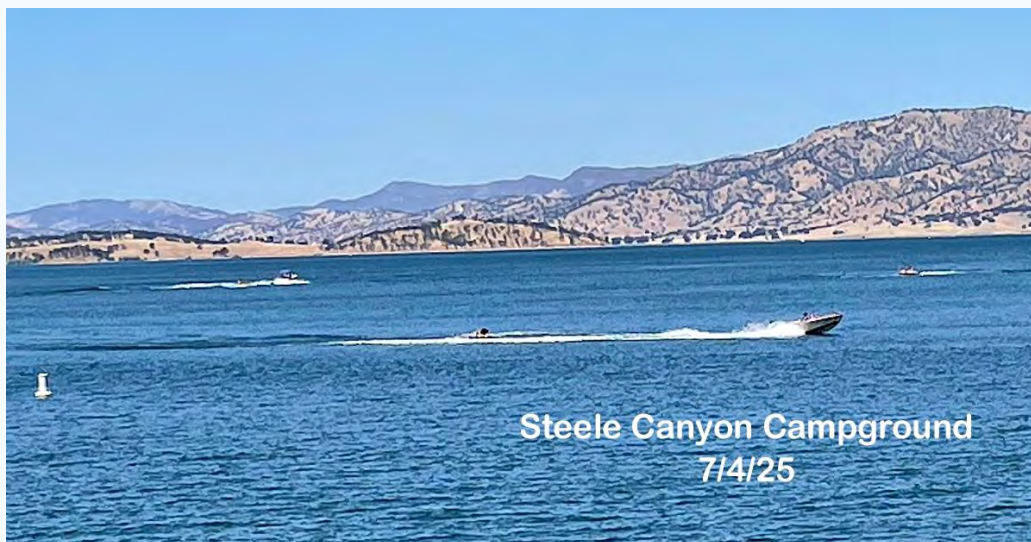




Steele Canyon Campground
7/4/25



Steele Canyon Campground
7/4/25



United State Founding Documents (plus one)

For your reference. Most of us have read them at least once.
But modern politics shows that not many folks understand them.

[Declaration of Independence](#)

[US Constitution](#)

[Bill of Rights](#)

(First 10 Amenedments to the Constitution)

[Amendments to the US Constitution](#)

(There are 27!)

[Economic Bill of Rights, 1944](#)



National Survey Finds Just 1 in 3 Americans Would Pass U.S. Citizenship Test

We may have a lot of "Immigrants", but we have many more native-born "Ignorants".

Only one in three Americans (36 percent) can actually pass a multiple choice test consisting of items taken from the U.S. Citizenship Test, which has a passing score of 60, according to a national survey. Only 13 percent of those surveyed knew when the U.S. Constitution was ratified, even on a multiple-choice exam similar to the citizenship exam, with most incorrectly thinking it occurred in 1776. The United States Constitution was ratified in 1788. It was written in 1787, but it took until 1788 for the required number of states to approve it, with New Hampshire being the ninth state to ratify it on June 21, 1788. The Constitution officially went into effect once nine states ratified it.

More than half of respondents (60 percent) didn't know which countries the United States fought in World War II. And despite the recent media spotlight on the U.S. Supreme Court, 57 percent of those surveyed did not know how many Justices actually serve on the nation's highest court. Seventy-two percent of respondents either incorrectly identified or were unsure of which states were part of the 13 original states;

Only 24 percent could correctly identify one thing Benjamin Franklin was famous for, with 37 percent believing he invented the lightbulb. Only 24 percent knew the correct answer as to why the colonists fought the British. Twelve percent incorrectly thought WWII General Dwight Eisenhower led troops in the Civil War. 6 percent thought he was a Vietnam War general. While most knew the cause of the Cold War, 2 percent said climate change.

Surprisingly, the poll found stark gaps in knowledge depending on age. Those 65 years and older scored the best, with 74 percent answering at least six in 10 questions correctly. For those under the age of 45, only 19 percent passed with the exam, with 81 percent scoring a 59 percent or lower. And the Department of Education is being shut down!

Civics (History and Government) Questions for the Naturalization Test

There are 100 civics (history and government) questions and answers for the naturalization test in this link: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/find-study-materials-and-resources/study-for-the-test/100-civics-questions-and-answers-with-mp3-audio-english-version>.

The civics test is an oral test and the USCIS Officer will ask the applicant up to 10 of the 100 civics questions. An applicant must answer 6 out of 10 questions correctly to pass the civics portion of the naturalization test. Here are the first 20 questions with acceptable answers. How many could you have gotten right?

1. What is the supreme law of the land?
the Constitution

2. What does the Constitution do?
sets up the government
defines the government
protects basic rights of Americans

3. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?
We the People

4. What is an amendment?
a change (to the Constitution)
an addition (to the Constitution)

5. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?
the Bill of Rights

6. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?
speech
religion
assembly
press
petition the government

7. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
twenty-seven (27)

8. What did the Declaration of Independence do?
announced our independence (from Great Britain)
declared our independence (from Great Britain)
said that the United States is free (from Great Britain)

9. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?

life
liberty
pursuit of happiness

10. What is freedom of religion?

You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.

11. What is the economic system in the United States?

capitalist economy

market economy

12. What is the “rule of law”?

Everyone must follow the law.

Leaders must obey the law.

Government must obey the law.

No one is above the law.

13. Name one branch or part of the government.

Congress

legislative

President

executive

the courts

judicial

14. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?

checks and balances

separation of powers

15. Who is in charge of the executive branch?

the President

16. Who makes federal laws?

Congress

Senate and House (of Representatives)

(U.S. or national) legislature

17. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?

the Senate and House (of Representatives)

18. How many U.S. Senators are there?

one hundred (100)

19. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?

six (6)

20. Who is one of your state’s U.S. Senators now?

Answers will vary. [District of Columbia residents and residents of U.S. territories should answer that D.C. (or the territory where the applicant lives) has no U.S. Senators.]



United States Flag Code: Public Law 94-344

The Federal Flag Code, contains rules for handling and displaying the U.S. flag. The US Flag Code outlines rules for respecting the American flag, and violations generally involve improper display or use of the flag. Common violations include using the flag as clothing, bedding, or drapery, displaying it in a way that could cause damage, or using it for advertising purposes. While there are no federal penalties for most violations, the code emphasizes proper respect and etiquette for the flag. However, recent political controversies have led to the desecration of our flag with versions of political statements imprinted on it. They violate this section of the code: (g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

United States Flag Code
Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1
§ 8. Respect for flag

No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

- (a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.
- (b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.
- (c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- (d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free.
- (e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.
- (f) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
- (g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

- (h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.
- (i) The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkin or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.
- (j) No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica, should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.
- (k) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. (Disposal of Unserviceable Flags Ceremony)

I used the following image because it was colorful and happy. It does include two errors (?). One is an obvious violation of the flag code above. The other is the inclusion of a familiar building that does not reside in the United States. (Hint: The illustration is from a website titled Celebrate 4th of July: Exploring American English & Culture)



July 2025 Horoscopes

Aries (3/21-4/19): You will be shocked to learn that, due to a legal fluke, your long-term houseguest is now your common-law wife.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): True self-reflection can be painful, but it's important not to look away from that photo of your hair from behind.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): You really shouldn't have done that...That's unfortunately as specific as the stars can be.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Your marriage will soon erode to the point where you'll be sorely tempted to turn her in for the reward money.

Leo (7/23-8/22): If there is more to life than fishing, you don't want to know what it is. This will help explain your death from malnutrition and dehydration next week.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Remember: Always be thankful for all you have. And vengeful for all you've lost.

Libra (9/23-10/22): This month might bring more funerals than weddings, but keep in mind that they can both be fantastic Herbalife networking opportunities.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Your uniqueness as a human being is threatened when you find a person who enjoys ham just as much as you do.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): A true friend will thank you for speaking your mind, but everyone else in the movie theater actively hates you.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Sorry, but this horoscope isn't from the stars. It's from the law firm of Duchler, Hann & Associates. Capricorn—you've been served.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): After 14 long years, you will be admitted to the Baseball Hall Of Fame when you finally come up with the \$11.50 admission price.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Treat every day like it's your last—especially this one. Not for any particular reason...Seriously, everything's fine. You're being paranoid.

The English Language Is Hard To Learn: Can We Hit The Nail With Our Head?

English is considered a difficult language to learn to read and speak. At least it uses the same letters as many languages. Can you imagine learning Japanese where Hello = Kon'nichiwa = □□□□□; or Thai - Hello = Sŋāsdī = สวัสดี; or Russian - Hello = privet = привет!

One of the most difficult part of learning any language is becoming familiar with its idioms. An idiom is a phrase or expression that has a figurative meaning that's different from the literal meanings of the words in the phrase. They are second nature for us since we grew up absorbing English idioms from our environment.

They're an important part of English and often come from history or culture. These special phrases can be hard for non-native speakers, but they're very useful for natural communication. Learning these expressions will help non-English speaking folks communicate more naturally and understand English-speaking cultures more.

Here are 30 useful English idiomatic expressions, their meanings and examples of how to use them. See how easy it is for us to use them without "blinking an eye". Now slow down and consider what they mean to a someone learning English for the first time.

"Break the ice" Meaning: To start a conversation or make people feel more comfortable.
Example: "To break the ice at the party, I said hello to the person next to me."

"Cut corners" Meaning: To do something in the easiest or cheapest way, often badly.
Example: "The company cut corners on safety to save money, which caused problems."

"Hit the nail on the head" Meaning: To describe something exactly right. Example: "You've hit the nail on the head with your idea about the problem."

"Piece of cake" Meaning: Something very easy to do. Example: "The test was a piece of cake; I finished it very quickly."

"Cost an arm and a leg" Meaning: To be very expensive Example: "That new phone costs an arm and a leg; I can't buy it now."

"Bite off more than you can chew" Meaning: To try to do more than you can manage.
Example: "By agreeing to do two big projects at once, I bit off more than I could chew."

"Beat around the bush" Meaning: To avoid talking about what's important. Example: "Please stop beating around the bush and tell me what happened."

"Cry over spilled milk" Meaning: To be upset about something that has already happened and can't be changed. Example: "Don't cry over spilled milk; let's focus on fixing the problem."

"Get your act together" Meaning: To organize yourself and improve your behavior.
Example: "You need to get your act together if you want to pass this class."

"Kill two birds with one stone" Meaning: To solve two problems with one action. Example: "By walking to work, I kill two birds with one stone: I save money and get exercise."

"Let the cat out of the bag" Meaning: To reveal a secret by mistake. Example: "I let the cat out of the bag about the surprise party when I asked her what cake she likes."

"Pull someone's leg" Meaning: To joke with someone by telling them something that isn't true. Example: "Don't worry, I'm just pulling your leg; I didn't really sell your bike."

"Burn the midnight oil" Meaning: To work late into the night. Example: "I've been burning the midnight oil to finish this project before the deadline."

"Bite the bullet" Meaning: To do something difficult or unpleasant that you have been avoiding. Example: "I finally bit the bullet and went to the dentist after waiting for months."

"Break a leg" Meaning: A way of wishing someone good luck, especially before a performance. Example: "You're going to do great in the play tonight. Break a leg!"

"Call it a day" Meaning: To stop working on something. Example: "We've done a lot of work on the report. Let's call it a day and continue tomorrow."

"Steal someone's thunder" Meaning: To take attention away from someone else's achievement. Example: "I was about to share my good news, but my sister stole my thunder by announcing her engagement."

“The ball is in your court” Meaning: It’s your turn to take action or make a decision.
Example: “I’ve made my offer; now the ball is in your court to decide.”

“Throw in the towel” Meaning: To give up. Example: “After trying for hours to fix the computer, I threw in the towel and called an expert.”

“Under the weather” Meaning: Feeling slightly ill. Example: “I’m feeling a bit under the weather today; I might stay home and rest.”

“Speak of the devil” Meaning: Said when someone appears just as you’re talking about them. Example: “Speak of the devil! We were just talking about you when you walked in.”

“Once in a blue moon” Meaning: Very rarely. Example: “I only eat fast food once in a blue moon; I usually cook at home.”

“Catch someone red-handed” Meaning: To catch someone while they are doing something wrong. Example: “The teacher caught the student red-handed trying to cheat on the test.”

“Barking up the wrong tree” Meaning: To look for something in the wrong place or to blame the wrong person. Example: “If you think I took your book, you’re barking up the wrong tree. I haven’t seen it.”

“Jump on the bandwagon” Meaning: To join an activity that has become popular. Example: “When healthy eating became popular, many people jumped on the bandwagon.”

“Like two peas in a pod” Meaning: Very similar or close. Example: “Those best friends are like two peas in a pod; they do everything together.”

“Ten a penny” Meaning: Very common and not special or valuable. Example: “Empty promises are ten a penny; I need to see real actions.”

“Go the extra mile” Meaning: To make an extra effort. Example: “Our teachers always go the extra mile to help students understand difficult topics.”

“Straight from the horse’s mouth” Meaning: Information from the person who knows best. Example: “I heard about the university’s new policy straight from the horse’s mouth – the vice-chancellor told us herself.”

“Take with a pinch of salt” Meaning: To not completely believe something. Example: “You should take his stories with a pinch of salt; he often exaggerates.”

How to Avoid Mixing Your Metaphors

It's not rocket surgery.
First, get all your ducks on the same page.
After all, you can't make an omelette
without breaking stride.

Be sure to watch what you write
with a fine-tuned comb.
Check and re-check until the cows turn blue.
It's as easy as falling off a piece of cake.

Don't worry about opening up
a whole hill of beans:
you can burn that bridge when you come to it,
if you follow where I'm coming from.

Concentrate! Keep your door closed
and your enemies closer.
Finally, don't take the moral high horse:
if the metaphor fits, walk a mile in it.

July 2025 Headlines

BREAKING: The White House was evacuated today after a suspicious package arrived. It turned out to be a copy of the U.S. Constitution, which none of them had seen before.

RFK Jr.: Vaccines No More Effective Than Drinking Horseshoe Crab Blood Straight

Driving Surges In Popularity Thanks To 'F1' Film

Area Man On Minimum Wage Supports Tax Cuts For Billionaires Because Fox News Told Him To

Supreme Court Postpones Further Rulings, Needs More Ink For Rubber Stamp

Canada Debates If Immigrants From The US Should Be Given Refugee Status

CEOs To Declare Their Bonuses As Tips To Avoid Taxes

Jeff Bezos Shares It Was Stressful Deciding Which Islands To Buy For Honeymoon

Grand Canyon Sick Of People Thinking God Built It

Corvette-Driving Bakery Owner Refuses To Make Ferrari Birthday Cake

Heartless Dad Actually Turns Car Right Around

Vending Machine Can't Believe People Buy This Junk Either

Aging Grandfather Clock Telling Same Time Again And Again

Politicians Totally Outraged By Bill They Did Not Read And Voted For

A.I. Names Chinese Restaurant 'Lucky Sky Moon Palace Opium Pipe' To See If Anyone Paying Attention


POTUS Signs An Executive Order To Replace The "Department Of Education" With The "Department Of Gullibility," Promises To Make America Gullible Again (MAGA)


Beautiful Library Behind Clara In Zoom Meeting Fooling No One

Congress Passes Historic "No Taxes On Insider Stock Tips"

Nestled in the beautiful Berryessa Pines Community
181 Berryessa Drive
<https://181berryessadr.com/>
\$469,000

Embrace a lifestyle of tranquility and natural beauty.
This home offers a serene lakeside living experience,
Picturesque lake view. Single-family home with 3 bdms, 2 bath
property sits on a generous lot of about 7,405 square feet.
The third bedroom is used as an office or den, providing flexibility.
New dual-pane windows, new HVAC system, Access to a spacious deck
offering stunning views of Lake Berryessa.
Ideal for relaxation and entertaining.



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www.amberpayne.net

1300 Steele Canyon Road

<https://1300steelecanyonrd.com/>



1300 Steele Canyon Road, Napa

\$649,000

corcoran

4 3 2,443

ICON PROPERTIES

Sunsets, Space & Style This Lakeview Property Has It All! Perched on a corner lot with stunning lake and sunset views, this one-of-a-kind custom home blends charm, flexibility, and function. The main house offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, soaring ceilings, Brazilian cherrywood floors, and a beautifully updated kitchen with quartz counters, soft-close cabinetry, and a large island open to the family room with fireplace. The luxurious primary suite features a jetted tub, heated floors, and French doors leading to a covered porch with lake views. Need more space? Use the home as a 4BR/3BA or enjoy a detached ADU above the garage with its own bedroom, full bath, and kitchenette perfect for guests, rental, or multi-gen living. Outside, the professionally landscaped lot features custom brick patios, terraced gardens, RV/boat parking with electrical hookup, and even a generator & SOLAR. Whether you're entertaining under the stars or unwinding in total privacy, this home has everything you need and then some!

Discover your Private Lakeview Retreat on 10+ Acres

1081 Steele Canyon Road

<https://1081steelecanyonrd.com/>

\$895,000



Escape to your very own private oasis where comfort & breathtaking lake views await. This custom 2 story home offers an unparalleled living experience within the exclusive, gated community of Oakridge Estates. The expansive 10-acre property features a natural spring and well-appointed outdoor entertainment area, creating the ideal backdrop for hosting gatherings or simply soaking in the stunning surroundings. Gourmet kitchen, complete with a Viking stove and a center island. Living room with a woodstove adds warmth and ambiance, family room offers versatility with its own woodstove, bar area, and direct access to a backyard perfect for entertaining or unwinding. Steele Canyon Recreation Area is only a few minutes away. Nature lovers will delight in the easy access to Lake Berryessa's recreational activities.



Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Redevelopment Opportunity | Spanish Flat – Lake Berryessa

<https://spanishflatctr.com/>

Unlock the visionary potential of Spanish Flat—an exciting and strategic redevelopment opportunity in Napa County's scenic Lake Berryessa corridor. This rare offering spans approximately 18.38 acres across two adjacent parcels with a County zoning overlay to allow for commercial and housing uses, including an affordable aspect. Whether you're a developer, investor, or planner with a creative vision, this property is primed for transformation.

\$995,000



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www.amberpayne.net



1011 Steele canyon

<https://1011steelecanyonrd.com/>

4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 10 acres

\$1,195,000

Exceptional Lake Berryessa Estate - Premier Peninsula Location. Discover unmatched privacy with the shoreline just steps from your door. As the only residence on this secluded stretch, it truly feels like your private lakeside retreat. The property attracts diverse wildlife, with visits from bald eagles, ospreys, deer, and foxes. The home features an open floor plan with high ceilings and expansive windows creating a bright atmosphere. Interior finishes include tile, laminate, and carpet flooring with a cozy fireplace. Minutes from the Steele Canyon Recreation Area.

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244

707-235-1124

amber.payne@corcoranicon.com

www.amberpayne.net

259 Sugarloaf Drive

Lot 51 - APN#s 019-322-004 - 259 Sugarloaf Drive
Offered at \$68,900
Spanish Flat Woodlands

1013 Arroyo Lindo Court

APN# 019-441-004 - .224+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$69,999
Mostly flat then upslope.

1268 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019-432-001 - .21+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$47,000
Flat Space with a hill at the back of the lot

Live Oak Lane #21

APN# 019-331-008 - .47+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$48,600
Extra Large Lot

814 Bahia Vista Court

APN# 019-452-004 - .32+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$29,500
Mostly Flat Then Downslope

1053 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-482-011 - .27+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$65,000
Mostly Flat Then Upslope

1121 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019-442-004 - .31+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$15,000
Flat then downslope

611 Noah Court

APN# 019-422-012 - .33+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$49,500
Flat then downslope

#17 Rimrock Drive

APN# 019-590-017 - 60.69 +/- Acres
Offered at \$350,000

201 Mulford Drive

APN# 019-322-008-000 - .52+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$35,000
Corner Lot

1187 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019-451-024-000 - .34+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$16,000
Flat Then Downslope Lot

1183 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019-451-023-000 - .35+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$16,000
Flat Then Downslope Lot

1100 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-504-006-000 - .24+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$125,000
Flat Improved Lot

1084 Eastridge Drive

APN# 019-504-005-000 - .25+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$60,000
Flat Corner Lot

1016 Overland Drive

APN# 019-402-019-000 - .23+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$39,000
Flat Then Upslope Lot

1026 Arroyo Lindo Court

APN# 019-441-014-000 - .27+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$43,000
Flat Then Upslope Lot

422 Woodhaven Court

APN# 019-504-013-000 - .33 +- Acre
Offered at \$85,000

1078 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-332-003-000 - .59 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$25,000
Upslope Lot

817 Bahia Vista Court

APN# 019-451-012 - .28+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$29,500
Flat Then Downslope

1075 Rimrock Drive

APN# 019-4362-025-000 - .42+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$99,000
Flat Then Downslope Lot

1078 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-432-010-000 - .23 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$50,000
Flat Then Upslope Lot

231 Mulford Drive

APN# 019-332-003-000 - .59 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$18,000

<https://lakeberryessaland.com/>



Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
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Coming Soon:
1149 Rimrock Drive
4 Bedroom 2.5 Bath, Lake View
Stunning outdoor spaces
\$630,000



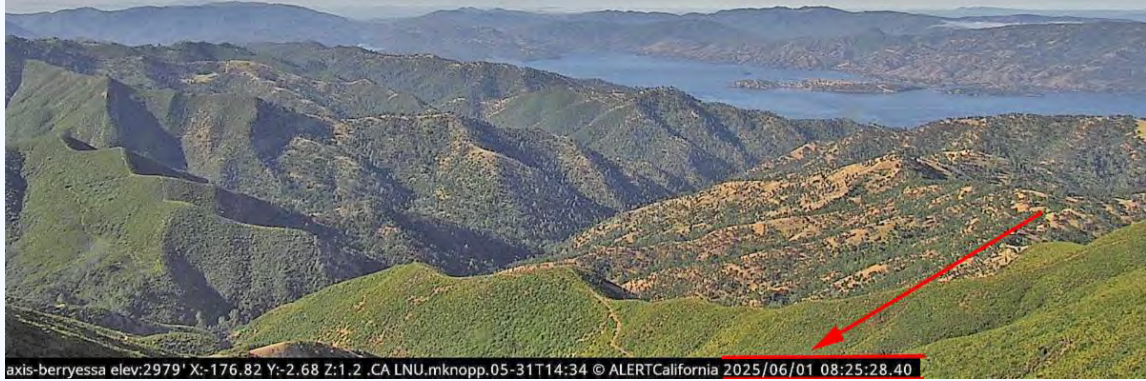
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[Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras](#)

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>

Berryessa Peak Fire Lookout 6/1/25



Steele Canyon Campground Inc.
1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Office: (707) 966-9410
Camp, Boat, Picnic, Hike or Bike...
Enjoy the great outdoors and beauty of Lake Berryessa.
<https://campsteelecanyon.com/>



Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals

Take advantage of our low off-season rates through May 17th

Wakeboard/Ski Boats, Pontoon Boats

Jet Skis, Fishing Boats, Kayaks & Paddleboards

We include the gas in all our rentals. Which will save you \$\$!

All boats are launched from Spanish Flat.



4420 Knoxville Rd. (.9 mile north of Spanish Flat Campground)

707-966-4204 or 707-966-4205 www.lakeberryessaboats.com

Call or go online to book now



707-966-9954
4420 KNOXVILLE RD. NAPA, CA 94558
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SERVICE, PARTS, & SALES



MERCURY
Authorized Dealer
Service, Parts & Accessories



TOHATSU



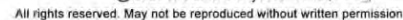
MERCURY
MerCruiser

WE WORK ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF ENGINES, BOATS, AND JET SKIS.
WE SELL MERCURY, MERCURISER, VOLVO-PENTA, AND TOHATSU ENGINES
707-966-9954
FOR STORAGE, DETAIL, & CONSIGNMENT
707-480-3157

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

To BLM Knoxville OHV &

34 Miles to Lower Lake



The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands
Drive | Napa, CA 94558 US

The Lake Berryessa News

July 13, 2025

A Lake Berryessa Midsummer Night's Dream (With Apologies to William Shakespeare)

By Peter Kilkus

I had a memory the other day of tubing and jet skiing on Lake Berryessa with friends and family. For a break we'd drift in to the Big Island Lagoon at 5 mph to float quietly with the other folks on patio boats, houseboats, or even some in kayaks. It was a quiet, safe place to float or even to put your deck chair on a sand bar and kick back in six inches of water while kids splashed around you. Later it was time for prime rib or pizza at the Steele Park Boathouse Restaurant savoring one of the most beautiful views on the lake.

But then I had a nightmare that a Dark Force swept down on Lake Berryessa and destroyed our homes and resorts, tearing up launch ramps, demolishing restaurants, eliminating access to the lake for years – even denying entry to the Big Island Lagoon to everyone except some phantom kayakers who never showed up.

But then, this being mid-summer, I had a comforting Midsummer Night's Dream. I saw myself sitting at a beautiful floating marina restaurant and bar, sipping a margarita, with my trusty low-emissions, quiet, environmentally-friendly jet ski at my side. Happy families were once again drifting slowly into the Big Island Lagoon for a rest stop. New resorts were providing launching and pleasant new facilities to visitors from all over the Bay Area. Just before I woke up I was once again looking out at that fantastic Steele Park view, but now it was from a brand new restaurant at the Camp Margaritaville Resort!

A Shakespearean tragedy is defined as a dramatic work in which the main character is brought to ruin or suffers extreme sorrow, often involving a heroic struggle, especially as a consequence of an admirable but flawed character or inability to cope with unfavorable circumstances.

This describes decades of struggle between the Bureau of Reclamation on one side and previous resort owners in cooperation with Task Fore 7 at Lake Berryessa, mobile home owners, local businesses and residents on the other. Reclamation won that struggle and the tragic results are obvious.

A Shakespearean comedy is defined as a dramatic work that is light and often humorous or satirical in tone with a happy or cheerful ending in which the central motif is the triumph over adverse circumstances, resulting in a successful conclusion.

This hopefully describes the present Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program being managed by Napa County for rebuilding Lake Berryessa to a superior state of recreational elegance. But that won't happen without strong management and the support of all parties involved. Unfortunately, there will always be some obstacles to overcome, even in a comedy with a happy ending. The important thing is the happy ending!

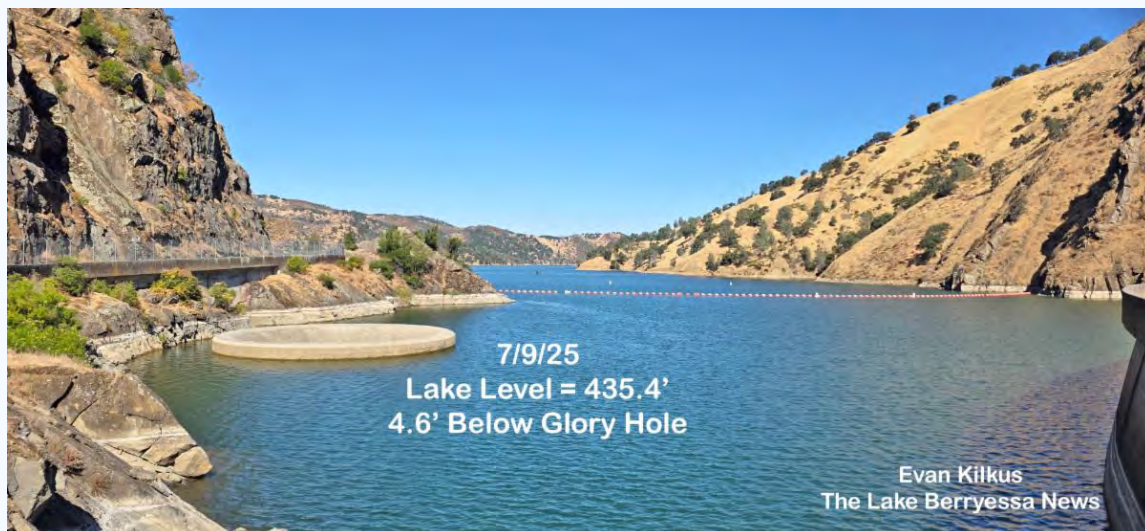
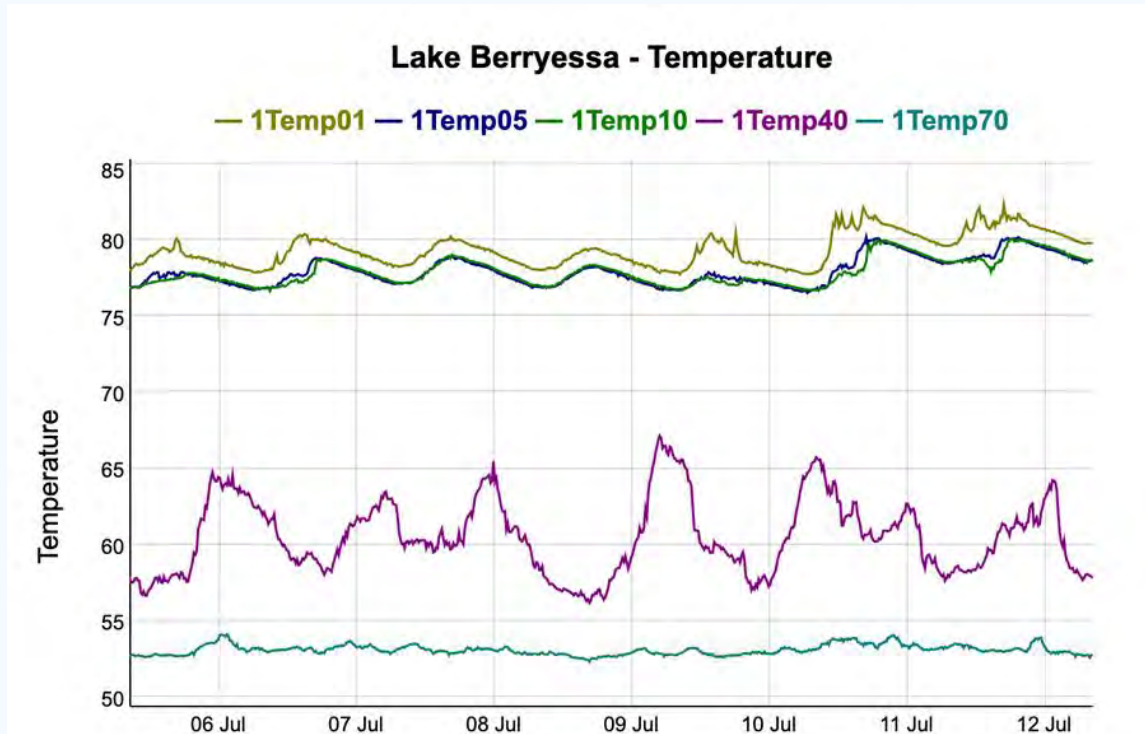
Lake Berryessa Statistics (7/13/25)

The Lake Berryessa water level is at 435.2 feet, 4.8 feet below Glory Hole.

Lake capacity is at 94%

Lake surface temperature is 80 degrees from the surface to 10 feet down.

The new rainfall year started on July 1 at 0 inches.



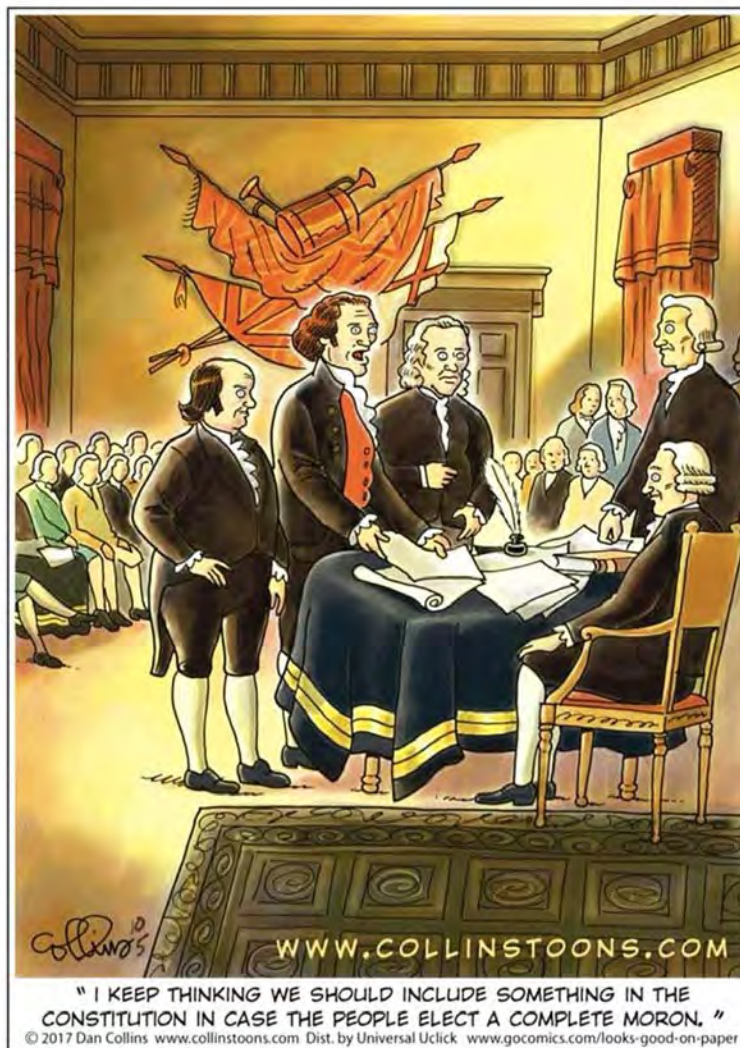


Hanlon's Razor

In philosophy, a razor is a principle or rule of thumb that allows one to eliminate (shave off) unlikely explanations for a phenomenon, or avoid unnecessary actions. Most people are familiar with Occam's Razor. Occam's razor, or the principle of parsimony, tells us that the simplest, most elegant explanation is usually the one closest to the truth.

Hanlon's razor is a philosophical razor stating, "Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity." It suggests that when considering the reasons behind someone's actions, one should prioritize incompetence, ignorance, or accident over deliberate malevolent intent.

While Occam's razor focuses on simplicity in general, Hanlon's razor specifically targets the assumption of malice.



This Bud's for you (and from you), Lake Berryessa!

By Peter Kilkus

Lake Berryessa Means Clean Water

Unfortunately, during the controversial Bureau of Reclamation Visitor Services Plan process, which led to the present multi-year shutdown of Lake Berryessa, it appears that some folks consciously tried (and still do try) to promote the concept that the resorts had polluted the lake.

The Big Lie: "The Lake Berryessa resorts, especially the mobile homes in the resorts, discouraged the general public from accessing the lake, prevented the public from using the best parts of the shoreline, and also polluted the lake."

[Policy and Politics Betray the People: The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020](https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=sr_1_1?)

https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=sr_1_1?

They were so successful, with the help of local elitist, psuedo-environmental exclusionist groups, local media, and others that people would call the Bureau of Reclamation headquarters at Lake Berryessa and ask if it were safe for their children to swim in the lake!

Despite "The Big Lie" still parroted by opponents to the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program, now managed by Napa County, Lake Berryessa has always been the cleanest lake in California. That's why the Budweiser plant in Fairfield only uses Lake Berryessa water in its brewing process. Anheuser Busch wrote a letter during that period supporting their long-standing scientific analysis that Lake Berryessa water was pure - contradicting the pollution story.

Scientific data from other sources, including local water agencies and the Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership also corroborated this assessment. There has never been any documented evidence – ever – that Lake Berryessa water purity has been compromised.

Reliable water is rare in California and one of the most important elements in many manufacturing, food processing and biotechnology companies. When Anheuser-Busch was looking for a West Coast home for its Budweiser distilling vats, it tested the water in Solano County and stipulated that it would move to Fairfield if the city could guarantee to provide only Lake Berryessa water. Decades later, the Fairfield brewery uses more than 1,500 acre-feet of Lake Berryessa water per year to brew more than 4 million barrels of beer annually.

From a 2001 Sanitary Survey, "Generally speaking, untreated (raw) Lake Berryessa water meets primary and secondary public health drinking water standards (F. Morris, Lake Berryessa/Solano Project Watershed Sanitary Survey 2001 Update)." Translation: If you swallow Lake Berryessa water while your swimming or boating, you won't get sick.

I attended a meeting of all the Solano County water quality managers a few years ago who again confirmed the fact that Lake Berryessa water meets all drinking water quality standards. There had been an alert after the Markley Cove when 23 boats and jet skis burned and sank, releasing gasoline and oil into Markley Cove. Measuring stations downstream of Monticello Dam sampled the water from the lake for several months during which no contamination from the fire was found in the water.

One reason is the old saying, "The solution to pollution is dilution." Another is the fact that most components of gasoline and motor oil are "volatile organic compounds" which means those components evaporate into the air and do not dissolve into the water. That's why the rainbow oil slick you see if you spill a little gas in the water soon evaporates into the air.

Much good work has been done to protect the lake water quality over the decades by various organizations such as the Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership (LBWP) of which the Lake Berryessa News has been a member and supporter.

They originally focused on preventing oil and gasoline spills from the thousands of boats using the lake. Recently they have transitioned to the Lake Berryessa Boater Outreach (LBBO) Program responsible for preventing the introduction of invasive mussels into the lake as well as continuing their educational efforts to prevent oil and gasoline contamination. Visitors may have seen the interns inspecting boats at the various launch ramps, including their Bilgee the Bilge Pad mascot.

Recently the City of Fairfield released its annual water quality report which once again

proves that Lake Berryessa is not now, nor ever has been, a source of water pollution.

<https://www.fairfield.ca.gov/government/city-departments/public-works/water-division/water-reports-plans#!/>

"The City of Fairfield proudly announces the release of its 2024 Consumer Confidence Report, providing transparency on the quality of your tap water. Our water meets or exceeds all State Water Resources Control Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards.

Where Your Water Comes From: Lake Berryessa and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Our water is treated at the Waterman and North Bay Regional water treatment plants, ensuring it is safe and clean for you and your family."

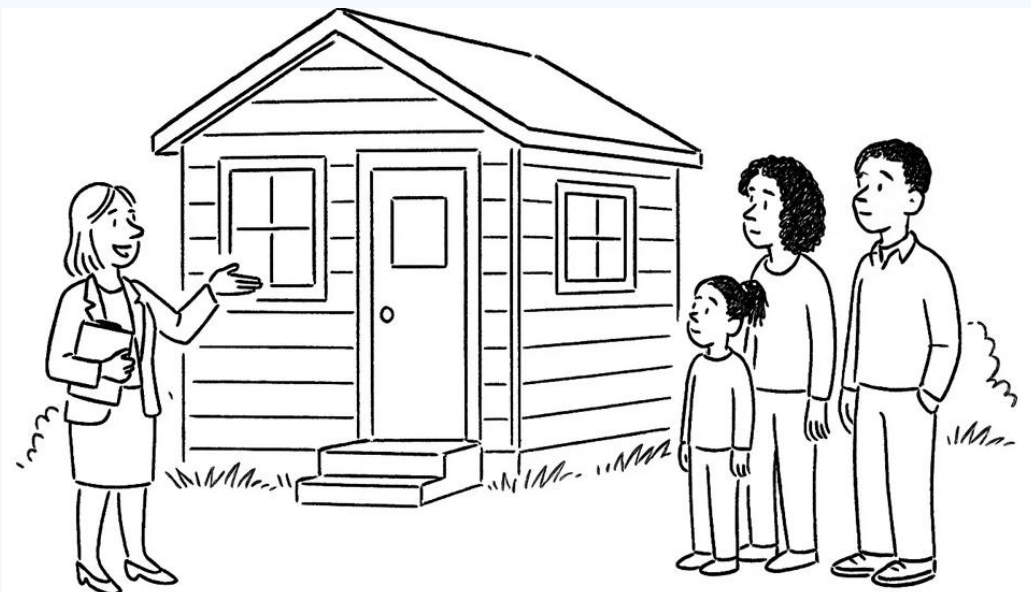
Affordable Housing in Napa County?

In another excellent analysis, Tim Carl in Napa Valley Features (The Lake Berryessa News is a subscriber.) examined the region's economic slowdown in "Under the Hood: More Signs Napa's Economy Is Stalling."

https://napavalleyfocus.substack.com/p/under-the-hood-more-signs-napas-economy?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email

He outlined three key shifts - weakening real estate returns, flatlining job growth and declining consumer resilience - that suggest a structural, not cyclical, downturn. Carl reported that Napa's home prices now far exceed local earnings, job creation in hospitality has stalled below pre-pandemic projections and visitor spending in tasting rooms is falling. He argued that relying on tourism and speculative real estate is no longer sustainable, urging a pivot toward stable, well-paying jobs to secure the region's future.

Editors note: Napa County seems to have missed the opportunity to attract high tech industries that Marin County and Sonoma County both excelled at recruiting. That's one reason that American Canyon is considered the "bedroom community" (workforce housing) for Marin and Sonoma County businesses.



"And this unit qualifies as affordable if you make six figures and never eat out."

Napa Valley Features Illustration

Whose Rights Are Really Right?

I received many positive comments about my 4th of July newsletter in which I included Franklin D. Roosevelt's Economic Bill of Rights. Roosevelt had successfully led the country through the Great Depression and the Second World War. His administration created the critical Social Security safety net for the country in response to the events of those dark years.

In general, liberal and conservative approaches to economics differ significantly regarding the role of government, taxation, and social safety nets. Liberals generally favor government intervention to address social and economic inequality, while conservatives tend to prefer limited government intervention and free markets.

The only negative comment came from George Bachich of Napa whom I regard as a thoughtful, principled conservative. He specifically criticized the Economic Bill of rights.

Although The Lake Berryessa News does not usually write about politics, except as it relates to the future of the Lake Berryessa region, I thought our readers would be interested in George's comments, with which I disagree, as illustrative of a conservative world view in opposition to the seemingly benign propositions in the Economic Bill of Rights.

The Economic Bill of Rights

Franklin D. Roosevelt (Jan. 11, 1944)

It is our duty now to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people — whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth — is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, and insecure.

This Republic had its beginning, and grew to its present strength, under the protection of certain inalienable political rights — among them the right of free speech, free press, free worship, trial by jury, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. They were our rights to life and liberty.

As our nation has grown in size and stature, however as our industrial economy expanded — these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "Necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

In our day these economic truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all - regardless of station, race, or creed.

Among these are:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation;

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;

The right of every family to a decent home;

The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident, and unemployment;

The right to a good education.

All of these rights spell security. And after this war is won we must be prepared to move forward, in the implementation of these rights, to new goals of human happiness and well-being.

America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried into practice for our citizens.

An Alternate View from George Bachich

The only problem with the economic bill of rights is that they are rights to products, services, or subsidies that someone else has to provide. Those "positive rights" amount to a claim on the property and service of others, willing or not. Using the force of law to impose those duties and burdens on the unwilling is the opposite of freedom. It is tyranny and a form of slavery.

The economic bill of rights could be rewritten in a way that honors the goals implicit in each of the rights without imposing mandatory burdens on others, simply by not guaranteeing the result. Such rephrasing would guarantee the right to compete for each of those resources on a level playing field, free of discrimination.

For instance, instead of a right to a job, one should have a right to compete for jobs without facing any kind of racial, ethnic, sexual or religious discrimination. The alternative, guaranteeing a job, forces some employer to hire someone who does not possess the experience, talent, skills, or abilities the employer needs, which is an unreasonable and unfair burden to impose.

Each of the rights in the economic bill of rights suffers from the same kind of defect, and

guaranteeing any of those rights would result in the same kind of injustice. The road to socialist utopias guaranteeing these rights is paved with the blood of dissidents and the world is littered with the failed remnants of societies that tried these schemes and failed. To date, they have succeeded only in establishing totalitarian governments as required to impose the burdens of guaranteeing those rights, and in making nearly everyone equally miserable and poor rather than equally happy and prosperous.

The economic bill of rights as written is a trap. It promises everything for nothing, but can only end up sacrificing everything for nothing. I hate to see this garbage displayed alongside the truly great founding documents of our country.

Editor's Note: In the months prior to the July 1940 Democratic National Convention, there was much speculation as to whether Roosevelt would run for an unprecedented third term. The two-term tradition, although not yet enshrined in the Constitution, had been established by George Washington when he refused to run for a third term in 1796.

Below is an election flyer from the "good ole days". Today the rich in the U.S. (as in most other developed countries) have trained the middle & working classes to hate the poor because "they get too much free stuff".

Don't Be Fooled by Figures

I. SPENDING UNDER REPUBLICANS

Under Hoover the national debt rose 3½ billion (net). In the last 2¼ years the gross debt increased nearly 5 billions. **Yearly Deficits Were 59 Per Cent of Expenditures in 1932; 46 Per Cent in 1933.**

WHAT DID PRESIDENT HOOVER BUY?

A six-billion-dollar loss in farm income, bank failures, foreclosed homes, shut-down factories, government bonds at low levels, national panic. The depression was bought and the people sold.

**Our Yearly National Income Dropped 40 Billion
Our Federal Revenues Fell 2 Billion**

THIS WAS REPUBLICAN PROSPERITY

II. SPENDING UNDER DEMOCRATS

Under President Roosevelt the gross national debt has increased about thirteen billion (including the 2 billion bonus). Against this, however, the Government has 2 billion in gold profit, a 2 billion increase in the General Treasury Fund, and another 2 billion investment in bank stocks, loans and other repayable assets so that the *net* increase is cut down to 7 billion. It costs less to carry this heavier debt because easier credit and able treasury financing have saved approximately 1 per cent in interest rates.

Yearly Deficits Were 56 Per Cent of Expenditures in 1934; 48 Per Cent in 1935

WHAT HAS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT BOUGHT?

A 1935 gross farm income of over 8 billion—a 2.8 billion rise since 1932.

Reemployment of 5 million workers. A payroll gain of 59 per cent since 1933.

The highest volume of industrial production since 1930.

Less than 50 bank failures in 1935 compared with more than 1,400 in 1932.

1936 dividends at a 5-year peak.

Government bonds at their top prices, the best test of treasury soundness.

**Our National Income, as Estimated for 1936, Will Have Grown Some 21 Billion in 4 Years
Federal Revenues Are Running More Than Double the Receipts in 1933**

THIS IS DEMOCRATIC PROSPERITY

III. BALANCING THE BUDGET

When President Roosevelt took office he faced a grave national crisis. He could stand on his platform and cut expenditures. Or he could draw heavily on government funds to feed the starving and aid banks and business. He chose the latter course as *the only road to recovery*. If the Government could shoulder a war debt of 25 billion to save Europe, President Roosevelt felt that it must use its credit even more freely to save its suffering people in a national catastrophe. Had government help come sooner and on a more adequate scale, it would have taken less spending and lending to stop the depression.

ORDINARY EXPENSES MET

In no fiscal year have the ordinary expenses of government under President Roosevelt exceeded revenues. Increases have been caused by farm aid, new construction and additions to regular recurring items such as veterans' benefits, pensions, national defense and the like.

EMERGENCIES BROUGHT RISE

RELIEF is the great human cost which has run

up government expenses. As good times return, this item is being lowered.

DECREASING THE DEFICIT

President Roosevelt's program calls for a steadily decreasing deficit each year. In 1935 the deficit was 400 million less than in 1934; had it not been for the soldiers' bonus and the loss of AAA taxes, the deficit would have declined again in the fiscal year 1936. For 1937 there will be a drop below 1936, as estimated by the Treasury, of over 3 billion (to \$2,675,700,000).

The gross national debt per capita was \$250 after the war. Today it is \$255 (including a bonus charge of over \$15 apiece). We reduced the debt then. We can do it again.

The First Step to Reduce NATIONAL Debt is to Lighten PERSONAL Debt

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1078 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-332-003-000 - .59 +- Acre Lot
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[Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras](#)

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>

Berryessa Peak Fire Lookout 6/1/25



axis-berryessa elev:2979' X:-176.82 Y:-2.68 Z:1.2 .CA LNU.mknopp.05-31T14:34 © ALERTCalifornia 2025/06/01 08:25:28.40



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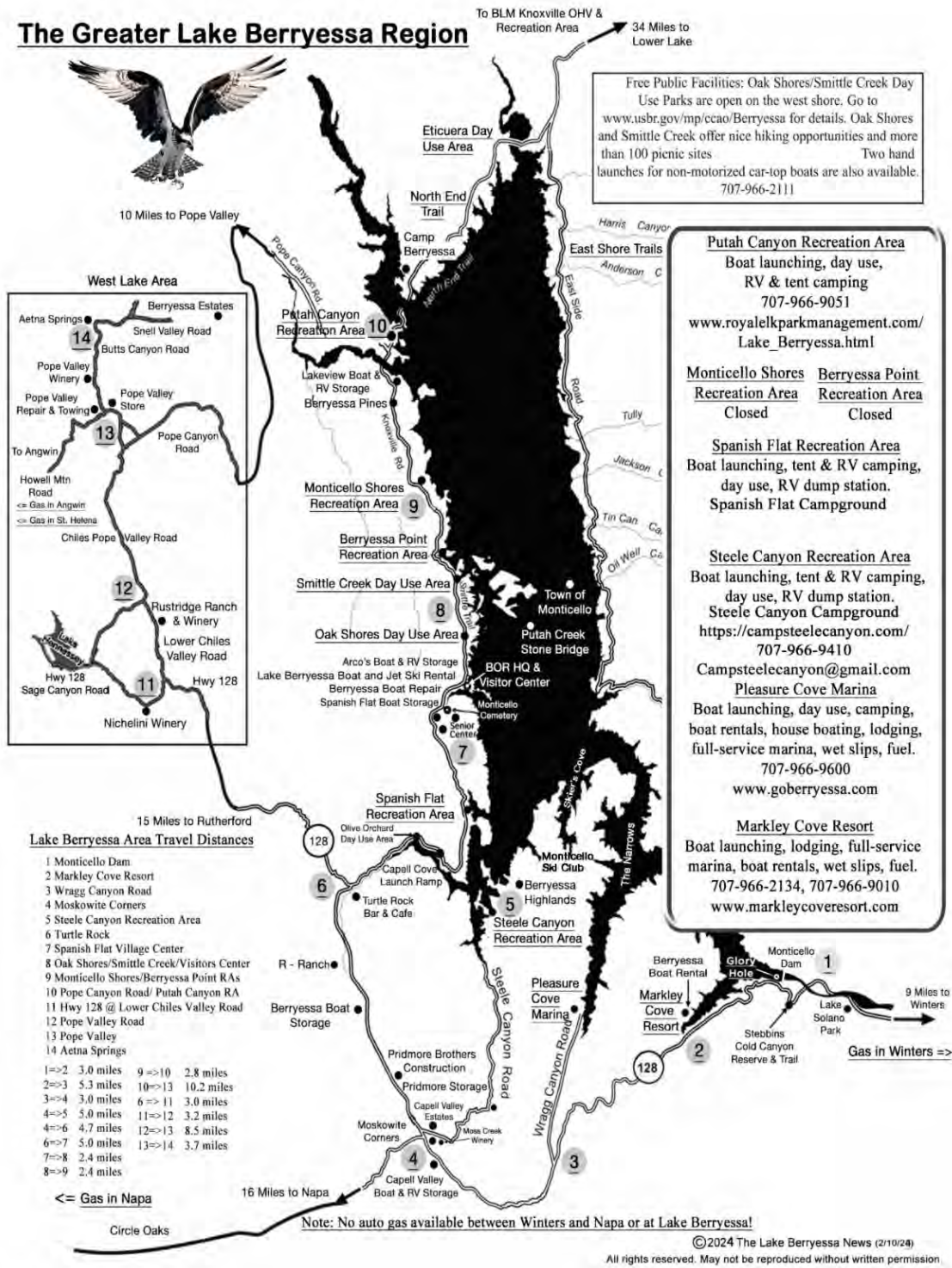


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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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The Lake Berryessa News

July 26, 2025

Another "Happy Birthday" Rolls Around!

by Peter Kilkus

Friday, July 25th, was my 81st birthday! Not sure why turning 81 should elicit expressions of joy from family and friends, when I just think, "How did I get so old?" And I was reminded on a great boat ride Thursday with family and friends on a gorgeous day on Lake Berryessa that I was, sadly, not even one of that famous group called Baby Boomers.

"Senior Citizen" generally refers to individuals aged 60 and above. "Super Senior" is used to further categorize individuals, specifically those aged 80 and above. In the context of health and longevity studies, a "super senior" typically refers to individuals aged 85 years and older who have remained remarkably healthy, long-lived with no history of cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, dementia, or major pulmonary disease. I would actually call these folks "Super Duper Seniors".

Personally, I consider those folks such as myself, "Miracle Seniors"! A "Miracle Baby" typically refers to a child born after overcoming significant pre-natal challenges or medical complications. The term emphasizes the unexpected and extraordinary nature of the baby's survival or birth, often evoking a sense of wonder and hope. "Miracle Seniors" are also imbued with that emphasis on the unexpected and extraordinary nature of our survival, often evoking a sense of wonder and hope!

A "Generation" is defined as all of the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively. It also is "the average period, generally considered to be about 20–30 years, during which children are born and grow up, become adults, and begin to have children".

"Generation" is also a synonym for birth/age cohort in demographics, marketing, and social science, where it means "people within a delineated population who experience the same significant events within a given period of time."

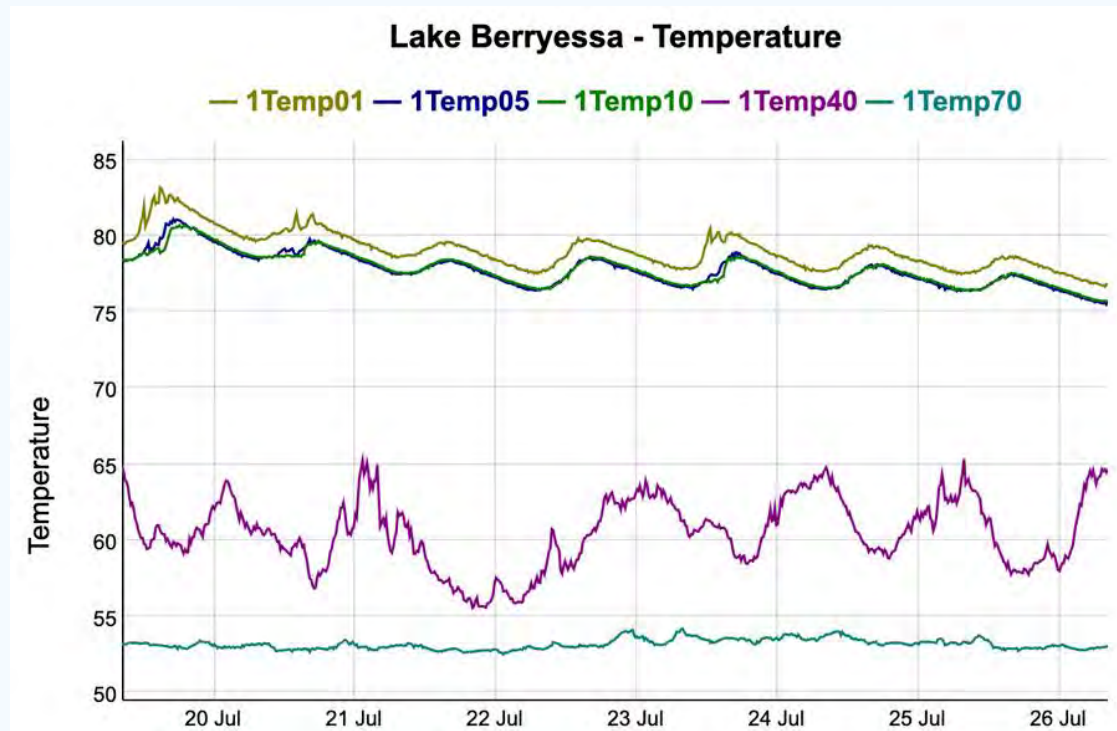
Baby Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, are currently between 61 and 79 years old. In 2025, their ages range from 61 to 79. While they were once the largest generation, they are now outnumbered by Generation X (born 1965-1980) and Millennials (born 1981-1996), but remain a significant force in society due to their sheer numbers and economic influence (and inflated egos?).

Unfortunately, I happen to be a simple Post War (born 1928-1945) two years too early outlier - not famous at all (sigh).

The Lake Berryessa water level is at 434 feet, 6 feet below Glory Hole.

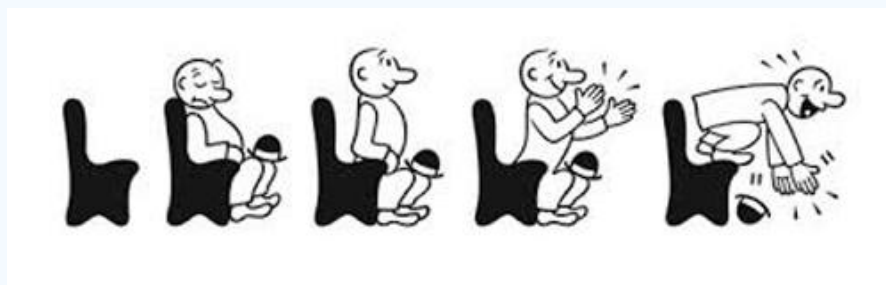
Lake capacity is at 93%


Lake surface temperature is 77 degrees from the surface to 10 feet down.



Paul Franson: Napa's Big Little Man vs the SF Chronicle's Little Man

Decades ago, he was the most controversial, closely watched guy in show business. Or at least at The San Francisco Chronicle. He was feared, vilified and embraced. He had the power to make strong folks cry (mainly actors, directors and producers). He could wreck careers or launch them. He wields his life-or-death power without uttering a word. He is the Little Man. In official Chronicle-ese, the Little Man poses are called Wild Applause, Polite Applause, Alert Viewer, Snoozing Viewer and Empty Chair.




BILL GRAHAM PRESENTS

BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE Fri. Sept. 8th HUMBLE PIE	AT WINTERLAND Fri. & Sat. Sept. 15th & 16th JEFFERSON AIRPLANE
Sun. Oct. 1st GEORGE CARLIN	Fri. & Sat. Sept. 22nd & 23rd QUICKSILVER
Mon., October 2nd CAT STEVENS TWO SHOWS — 6 & 9 P.M.	Sun. Sept. 24th PINK FLOYD
Sun. Oct. 22nd GORDON LIGHTFOOT	Fri. & Sat. Sept. 29th & 30th JOHN MAYALL ALBERT KING
Tues. Oct. 24th SAVOY BROWN	Fri. Oct. 12th T. REX POCO DOOBIE BROS.
SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS Sat. Sept. 9th HUMBLE PIE ELVIN BISHOP <small>Tickets \$4.50 advance, \$5.50 at door</small>	Sat. Oct. 14th BEAUTIFUL DAY POCO LIGHTHOUSE
SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS Sat. Sept. 23rd PINK FLOYD <small>Tickets \$4.50 advance, \$5.50 at door</small>	S.F. CIVIC AUD. Mon. Sept. 25th JOE COCKER

ALL SHOWS — 8:00 P.M.

Winterland Tickets \$4.00 in advance, \$4.50 at the door. Civic Aud. Tickets: \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50. Berkeley Tickets: \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.50. Tickets are now on sale for all shows at Ticketron outlets including Downtown Center Box Office, Neil Thrall's Box Office at Breuners in Oakland, J&S Sears, Montgomery Ward, and Emporium stores. SSC service charge. For info call 693-2921.

Those of us of a certain age will remember when the Sunday Chronicle was one inch thick and took a whole morning over coffee to read. My favorite part was the Pink Section covering the whole range of entertainment news in the Bay Area. The Little Man was the primary arbiter of what was good and, maybe, not so good.

Napa County has its own weekly source of everything entertaining. Paul Franson is the Big Little Man of local journalism. He is not to be confused with Dustin Hoffman's character in Little Big Man, although he does have a passing resemblance to Hoffman. His publication reminds me of the "good ole days" of the Chronicle's Pink Section.



Paul is the publisher of: NapaLife: An Insider's Look at Napa Valley: "For those who live in Napa Valley – and those who wish they did." He is the source of everything in entertainment and more in Napa Valley. If you want to plan your entertainment week, you should consider subscribing. <https://www.napalife.org/>

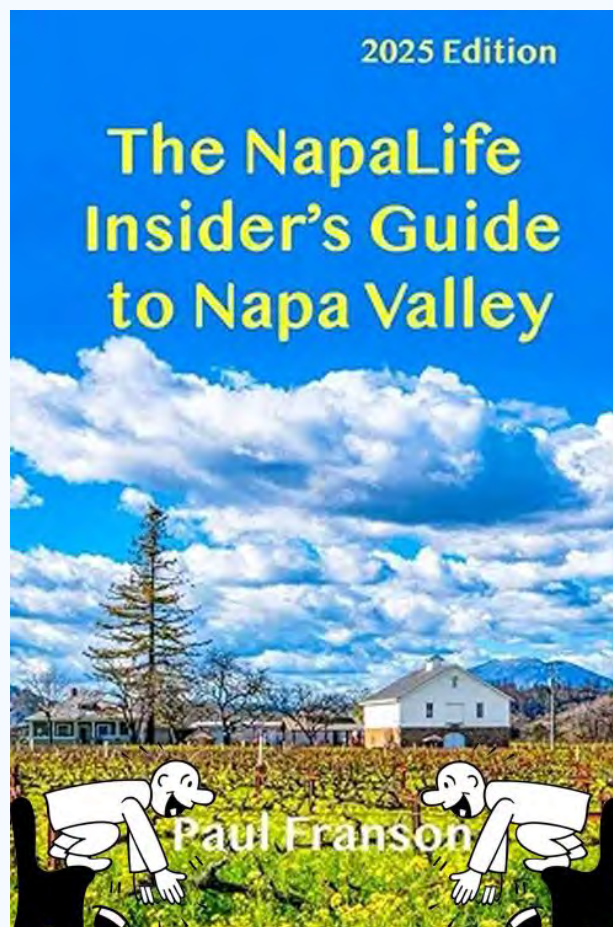
See a sample issue at: <https://www.napalife.org/7516.html>. The newsletter contents below are for just one week!

Monday, July 21, 2025: Dear NapaLife reader, here are some of the news and events in Napa Valley this week:

Palm Tree Music Festival Napa coming in October
Napa Free Folk Festival in August
Napa Valley News Group launches American Canyon Current
Napa Town & Country Fair announces local lineups
Tour de Vine Trail Passport Weekend
SoFi Battle of the Bands
Napa Valley Puppetry weekend
Arts Council announces Community Fund grant recipients
Shakespeare Stroll at di Rosa: A Midsummer Night's Dream
Valley Players present comedies and dramas
Pop-up art at Oxbow Public Market
Opening reception for Reid Yalom and Emil Yanos at Jessup
Napa Valley Writers' Conference public events
Sourdough & Co. is open
Good Pantry coming to Food City
Lil Sista's Goody's liquor license
Winston's Wok Chinese-American food
Calistoga Harvest Table tickets
Uncork local perks with Napa Neighbor program
NVC Estate Winery fall Friday Tastings
Festival Napa Valley Arts for All Gala raises record \$5 million

PGA Procore Championship returns to Silverado Resort
St. Helena community concert with Dustin Saylor
Locals night: Back pOrchEstra at Blue Note
Broadway and Vine with Alisan Porter
Sol Flamenco at Blue Note
The SteelDrivers at the Uptown Theatre
Napa County Farm Bureau Summer barbecue
Napa Friday Nights in the Park
Matt Schofield at the Blue Note
Marty Stuart at the Uptown Theatre
Yountville Summer Concert features Traveling Wilburys Revue
Chris Botti at Blue Note Summer Sessions
Ashley McBryde at the Uptown Theatre next Monday

Paul is another "Miracle Senior", a couple of years older than I. This year is the 20th anniversary of my role as publisher of The Lake Berryess News. Paul tops me in that his claim to fame is that he has been publishing NapaLife for more than 20 years and has never missed a Monday deadline for his newsletter! He has also written several books, available on Amazon.

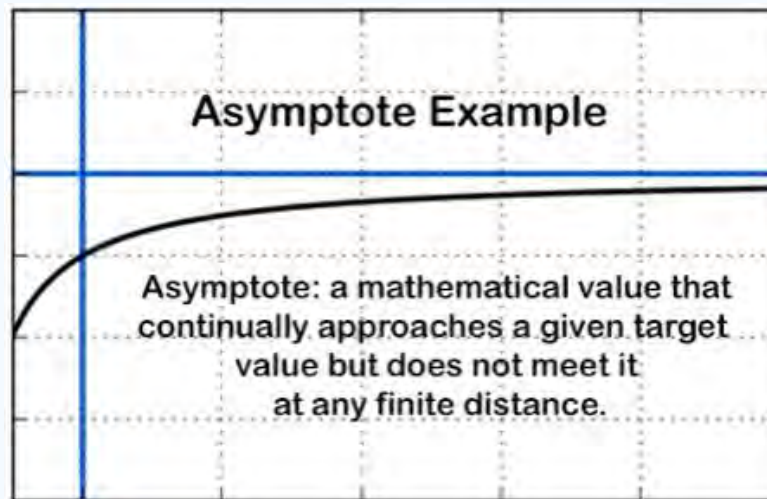


Quantum Theory of Aging

Why Do Your Children Catch Up To You As You Get Older?

Einstein's Theory of Relativity is an important illustration of an Asymptote. The faster you go towards the speed of light (186,000 miles per second) the slower time progresses (lazy

people), the more massive a body becomes (fat people), and the more length contracts (short people). Besides Einstein's Theory of Relativity creating short, fat, lazy people, Einstein's Quantum Theory of Light also explains why, as you get older, it feels as if your children rapidly catch up to you in age.



Mathematically, the equation for this phenomenon is your age (X) minus your child's age (Y) divided by your age (X) equals how fast your child is catching up to you (Z). As an equation this is: $Z = (X-Y)/X$, which turns out to be an asymptotic relationship.

For example, if you are 20 years old (X) when your child is born, your child will be 5 years old (Y) when you turn 25. $Z = 0.8$.

Your child will be 10 years old (Y) when you turn 30. Your child to parent ratio (Z) is now .67. When you turn 40 (X) your child turns 20 (Y) and Z becomes .5. Carrying that on for many years into the future shows that Z rapidly closes toward your age. The older you get the more rapidly that ratio becomes smaller. Psychologically, that feels like your child is catching up to you. I know it does for me.

But they never actually catch up - especially in intelligence!

<u>X</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Z</u>
21	1	0.952
25	5	0.800
30	10	0.667
35	15	0.571
40	20	0.500
45	25	0.444
50	30	0.400
55	35	0.364
60	40	0.333
65	45	0.308
70	50	0.286
75	55	0.267
80	60	0.250

100 80 0.200
125 105 0.160
150 130 0.133
200 180 0.100
250 230 0.080
300 280 0.067
400 380 0.050
500 480 0.040
1000 980 0.020

Edible Perennials Provide Beauty and Bounty

By Aileen Carroll, UC Master Gardener of Napa County
Napa Valley Features

When most people picture a summer edible garden, they imagine raised beds overflowing with ripe tomatoes, bell peppers, juicy melons and, of course, an endless supply of zucchini. While there's nothing wrong with this classic image of abundance, you might consider a different approach — one that easily embraces beauty, longevity and low-maintenance deliciousness.

Instead of replanting annual vegetables every year, why not explore the world of edible perennials? These are plants that live on year after year, offering beauty and bounty without the need for constant reseeding or replanting. Even better, many of them double as ornamentals, making them as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate.

If the idea of wandering out into your garden and enjoying a little snack any time of day sounds appealing, read on for some of the best edibles you can grow right here, thanks to Napa Valley's Mediterranean climate.

Fuchsia plants are beloved for their bright, pendulous flowers, but they also produce edible berries. Every flower has the potential to deliver a sweet, juicy fuchsia berry. If you enjoy the gentle flavor of violet, cucumber or pear, you're likely to appreciate the subtle taste of these berries, as well. The fruits range in color from light green to deep purple-black when fully ripe.

Another lesser-known edible is longevity spinach (*Gynura procumbens*). This tropical perennial is a vigorous, low-growing plant that can trail along the ground or climb a trellis with a bit of support. Its fleshy, mild-tasting leaves are traditionally used in herbal medicine to help manage blood-sugar levels and support overall wellness.

Scented geraniums (*Geranium* species) were all the rage during the Victorian era, and it's time to bring them back into fashion. Not to be confused with the common flowering "geraniums" that are actually from the genus *Pelargonium*, these scented varieties have leaves that smell like rose, lemon, orange, nutmeg and even apricot. Unusual varieties can be found at locally owned garden centers and even at our local farmers markets.

The leaves of scented geraniums make a delightful herbal tea. Just steep them in hot water or pop a few into a jar of cold water to make a fragrant "sun tea" that you can chill

and enjoy on a hot day. The leaves also lend their delicate flavors to baked goods, sugars and syrups. Plant them in an area where you can easily caress their leaves and release the scent, such as beside a garden gate or in a container on a patio.

Pineapple guava (*Feijoa sellowiana*) is a popular choice for evergreen hedges in the Napa Valley. Most people recognize its small green fruits, which taste like a mix of pineapple, mint and bubblegum. But few realize that the flower petals are also edible — and truly delicious. They have the sweet flavor and silky texture of marshmallows, making them a whimsical and tasty garden snack.

For those interested in herbal wellness, jiaogulan (*Gynostemma pentaphyllum*) is a must-grow. This beautiful, delicate vine resembles Boston ivy or Virginia creeper but is thankfully far less aggressive. Known as the “herb of immortality” in some cultures, jiaogulan is used to make a mild, slightly sweet tea that is said to promote longevity, energy and resilience.

If some of these plants sound a little too adventurous, you can still bring an edible element to your garden through flowers. Many common blooms have edible petals that can quickly elevate an appetizer plate, salad, cocktail or dessert.

Dianthus, calendula, bachelor buttons, agastache and English lavender are just a few examples. Not only are they gorgeous, but they also provide nectar for pollinators and a touch of whimsy to your meals.



"Satoyama Flower Tart" at FARO, Ginza:
a signature floral dessert by pastry chef Mineko Kato,
layered with up to 50 different edible flowers and herbs
as a tribute to Japan's satoyama countryside.
Tim Carl Photo



A visual guide to eight edible flowering plants commonly grown in Napa Valley gardens,
fuchsia, scented geranium, pineapple guava, dianthus,
calendula, bachelor buttons, agastache and English lavender
Napa Valley Features Graphic

1300 Steele Canyon Road

<https://1300steelecanyonrd.com/>



1300 Steele Canyon Road, Napa

\$649,000

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ICON PROPERTIES

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<https://1081steelecanyonrd.com/>

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<https://1011steelecanyonrd.com/>

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Flat Then Upslope Lot

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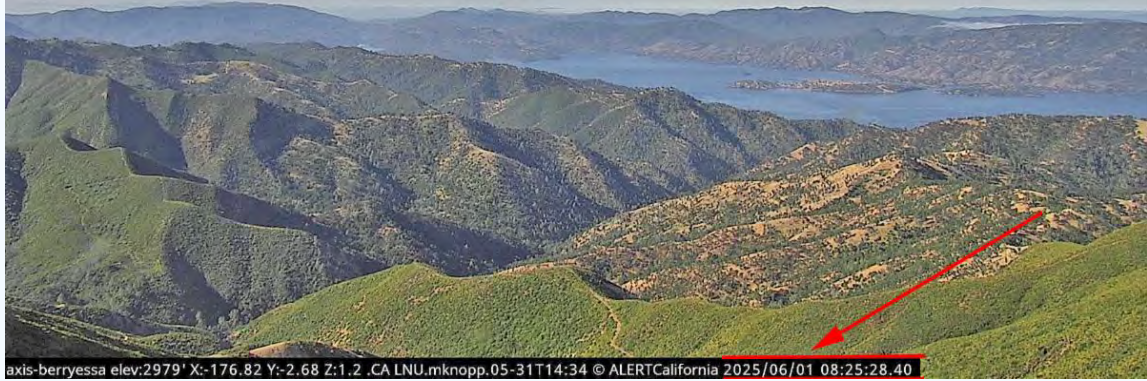
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[Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras](#)

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>

Berryessa Peak Fire Lookout 6/1/25



axis-berryessa elev:2979' X:-176.82 Y:-2.68 Z:1.2 .CA LNU.mknopp.05-31T14:34 © ALERTCalifornia 2025/06/01 08:25:28.40



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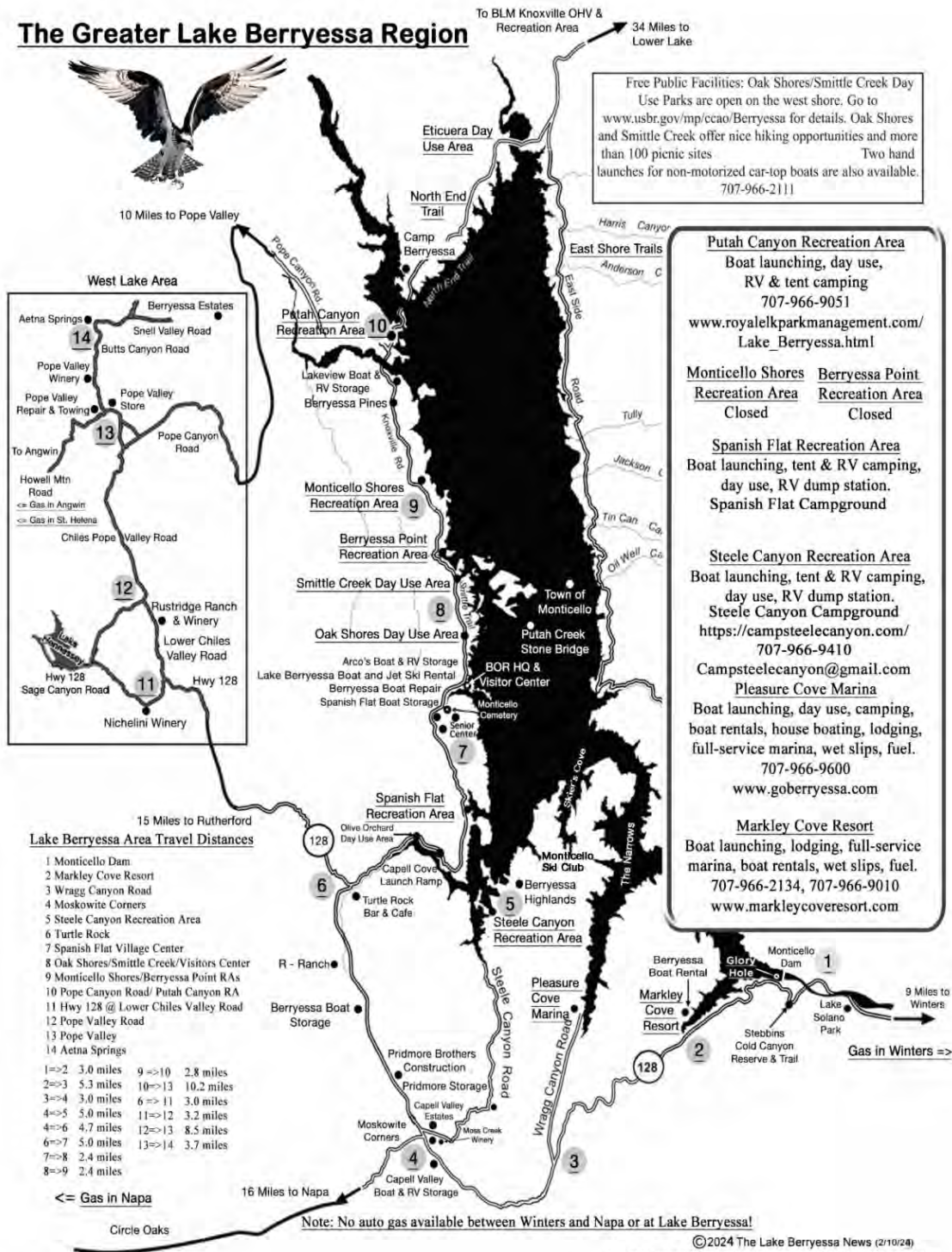


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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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