

**Welcome to the Latest Lake Berryessa News Newsletter.**

**Sunday, October 3, 2021**

I've stopped publishing the print version until April 2022. I plan to publish this email newsletter twice a month until then. You can also get the latest in news about Lake Berryessa by checking my website regularly.

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>

Also follow my Facebook page for regular updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/>

Please forward this email to anyone you think may be interested. To be added to my mailing list please send an email to me at: [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com).

Remember: "Without The Lake Berryessa News, there would be no Lake Berryessa news."



**The Sunday Funnies**

Check out this website for all the best free comic strips:

<https://comics.azcentral.com/>

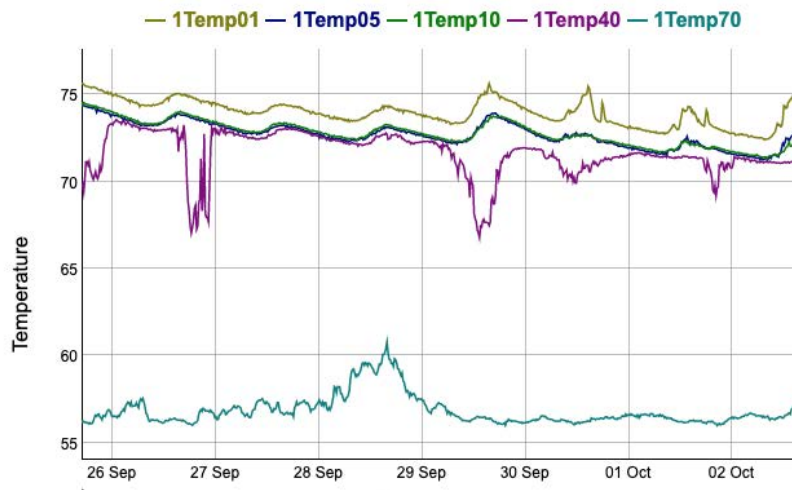
One of the original billboards advertising that new recreation destination - Lake Berryessa!



### Lake Level as of October 3, 2021

The Lake Level is at 402.1 feet, 37.9 feet below Glory Hole. Rainfall this season is at .05 inches. Water temps have dropped below 75 degrees

### Lake Berryessa - Temperature



### Hello Friends of Lake Berryessa

Just a note to let you know that just about everything you want to know about Lake Berryessa can be found on this Lake Berryessa News website. I often see questions on The Lake Berryessa Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/](https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/)) and the Lake Berryessa Facebook page that have answers on this Lake Berryessa News website. This website has hundreds of photos and videos along with many interesting articles and reports. Explore it.

For example, "As Lake Berryessa Flows: A Combination of Science, Engineering, and Natural Beauty" is a detailed look at how the lake and Monticello Dam work. You can download it at:

[www.lakeberryessanews.com/special-publications/as-lake-berryessa-flows/as-lake-berryessa-flows.pdf](http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/special-publications/as-lake-berryessa-flows/as-lake-berryessa-flows.pdf)

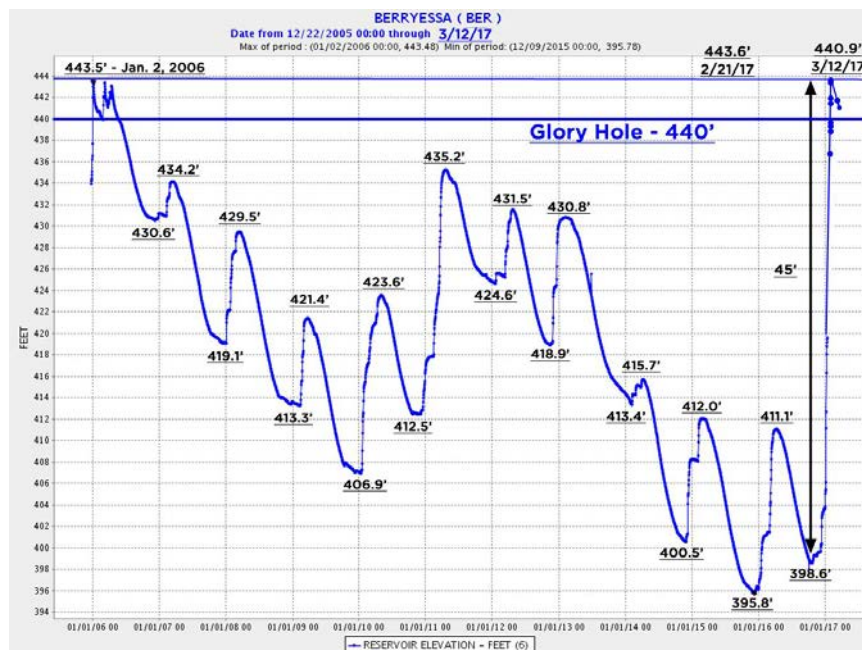
In this report I describe lake level rise per inch of rainfall. Most of us have heard of the rule of thumb that Lake Berryessa rises 1 foot for every 1 inch of rain. As with most rules of thumb, this is not accurate. Lake level rise depends on many variables like the actual lake level when it rains and how saturated is the ground.

It usually takes about 3 inches of rain on dry hills before there is any appreciable runoff into the lake. Also the lake is roughly like a V-shaped bowl, so the lower the level to start the faster it rises per inch of rain. Conversely, higher the level to start, the more rain it takes to make the lake rise even further.

So at the present level on Sept. 28, 2021, (402 feet, 38 feet below Glory Hole) once the ground is saturated and runoff begins (after 3 inches of rain) the lake will rise about one foot per inch of rain. But once the lake level reaches 420 feet and above (20 feet below Glory Hole) the lake will rise about 0.7 feet (8 inches) per inch of rain.

So approximately how many inches of rain will it take to overflow the Glory Hole again? Approximately - 3 inches to saturate, 20 inches for the first 20 feet, 14 inches for the second 20 feet. About 37 - 40 inches of rain. This happened in 2017 - 45 feet rise on 40 inches of rain. 2017 rainfall hit 47 inches total.

[www.lakeberryessanews.com/past-stories/glory-hole-overflows.html](http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/past-stories/glory-hole-overflows.html)



See chart below for the 24 year history of rainfall and the date of the first rain each year.

Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31)	First Rain	Total By 1/1 (At Dam)	Season Total (At Dam)
97-98		10.77"	46.26"
98-99	11/10/98	7.18"	23.46"
99-00	10/30/99	6.5"	26"
00-01	10/20/00	4.54"	24.7"
01-02	10/29/01	15.73"	23.38"
02-03	11/7/02	19.34"	31.6"
03-04	10/31/03	12.01"	25.64"
04-05	10/19/04	15.55"	36.36"
05-06	9/26/05	17.4"	40.56"
06-07	10/3/06 - .22"	5.36"	12.7"
07-08	9/19/07 - .1"	4.48"	25.32"
08-09	10/3/08 - .2"	6.6"	23.96"
09-10	9/14/09 - .24"	6.5"	26.41"
10-11	10/18/10 - .21"	12.62"	37.92"
11-12	10/4/11 - .2"	3.04"	19.56"
12-13	10/22/12 - .73"	17.97"	20.65"
13-14	9/22/13 - .43"	1.88"	13.69"
14-15	9/19/14 - .11"	13.34"	19.56"
15-16	10/2/15 - .68"	6.23"	24.57"
16-17	10/4/16 - .04"	8.8"	47.55"
17-18	10/20/17 - .21"	3.41"	14.89"
18-19	10/2/18 - .51"	7.28"	40.53"
19-20	11/27/19 - .73"	7.14"	10.93"
20-21	11/15/20 - .09"	1.92"	<b>9.21"</b>

File: Rainfall Summary 24 years 6/2/21

#### **Lake Berryessa Revitalization Update: September 25, 2021**

Napa County has informed the Spanish Flat Partners that the County will not extend their interim contract to manage the Spanish Flat Recreation Area past October 31. Spanish Flat Partners had previously been asked by the County if they would be willing to operate Spanish Flat Recreation Area under an extension to their present interim agreement. They had said they would be willing.

Suntex/Pleasure Cove had also been asked by the County if they would be willing to operate the Steele Canyon Recreation Area under a new interim agreement. They declined.

Spanish Flat Partners was then asked by the County if they might be willing to also operate Steele Canyon Recreation Area under a new interim agreement. Spanish Flat Partners evaluated that business opportunity but declined to pursue it.

The result is the potential closure of both Steele Canyon Recreation Area and the Spanish Flat Recreation Area on October 31 for an indefinite period while Sun Communities has their plans for the future redevelopment of Steele Canyon, Spanish Flat, and Monticello Shores reviewed and approved.

One alternative to any rumored closures is for Sun Communities to run both areas at a minimum function for anglers, boaters, possibly tent and RV campers, during the winter.

There has been no official statement from Napa County at this time.



*"Honey, come look! I've found some information all the world's top scientists and doctors missed."*

### **Logic Can Be Studied and Learned!**

The cartoon above is emblematic of the anti-vaxxer/QAnon disease affecting our country and the world. Why are so many people so proud of their ignorance? When I was in high school we took a Logic Class. One exercise was to bring in editorials from the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun Times and dissect them for the logic of their arguments. I'm not sure any high schools teach logic (or critical thinking) any more. This editorial by Sean Scully describes the problem.

### **From the editor: Hunting for logical faults**

Sean Scully, Napa Register

[https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/columnists/from-the-editor-hunting-for-logical-faults/article\\_5921b03c-faa1-5c24-a5fd-737501de6c96.html](https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/columnists/from-the-editor-hunting-for-logical-faults/article_5921b03c-faa1-5c24-a5fd-737501de6c96.html)

Even if you've never heard of these things, you've certainly encountered logical fallacies. They are common fallacies or flaws in arguments and debates — so common that they have names.

For example, the "Ad Hominem" fault involves attacking the integrity or character of your opponent rather than the substance of his argument. "Your argument shows your level of intelligence ..."

The "Straw Man" fault involves distorting your opponent's position and then proceeding to demolish his supposed argument. "My opponent hates America..."

The "False Dilemma" fault involves suggesting that there is an either-or proposition with no possible compromise or gray area: "If you don't support tight restrictions on immigration, you are in favor of open borders..."

The "Red Herring" fault involves subtly changing the topic or reframing the debate with some distraction. "My guy may have done something bad, but what about your guy..."

The "Appeal to Authority" fault involves invoking the name of someone famous or knowledgeable as a substitute for concrete evidence to support your position. "As Thomas Jefferson said..."

On the other end, there is the "Appeal to Ignorance," which involves casting doubt on an argument because we don't know everything about the topic, or using the very absence of concrete proof as evidence to support your own position. "We don't know how the Egyptians managed to build the pyramids; we cannot discount the possibility that aliens helped them..."

As you can probably see, these faults sometimes bleed into one another. It is perfectly possible to have several logical faults wrapped into a single argument, or even a single sentence.

None of these are new — in fact, many of them were well-known and described by Greek philosophers. They have been part of arguments, debates, political conversations, bar-room



banter, and pretty much every form of human communication for as long as humans have been talking to each other.

But logical faults seem to be having some sort of golden age lately. Why? Because we're in a golden age of mass media. From talk radio to Congressional debates on C-SPAN to talking heads on cable news, you can get a 24-hour-a-day diet of slippery arguments and fallacious rhetoric.

Now social media has brought this to the masses. Fallacious arguments that used to be conducted among a handful of people at the coffee shop or on barstools now can be spread to hundreds, thousands, even millions in a keystroke on Facebook and Twitter. Pretty much every person on Earth has the opportunity to broadcast his or her own logical faults to the masses.

All this brings me to two of my favorites, both of which I have learned about fairly recently, but now that I know them, I see them everywhere on social media.

The first is called a "negative meta-induction," which basically means because we've been wrong before, we must be wrong now. This underlies lots of current discussion: for example, experts told us that Thalidomide was safe, so why should we believe them that vaccines are safe?

The other one I find even more common. It is known as "naive cynicism." There are several related meanings for this phrase, but the one that is most relevant to social media is, roughly, a reflexive tendency to be skeptical or cynical about an issue or person you know very little about. Think "All politicians are on the take ..." or "All the city cares about is tourists ..." or "Bureaucrats are just in it for a cushy job and a fat pension ..."

Once you know about these faults, it becomes kind of a sport to spot them and analyze them. Make a game of it as you're slogging through yet another social media debate.

#### **Lake Berryessa North End Trail opening on National Public Lands Day, September 25**

National Public Lands Day is a nation-wide annual event that promotes volunteerism and stewardship on public lands. I attended a pleasant event at the Eticuera Day Use Area at the north end of Lake Berryessa. The celebration was sponsored by Tuleyome and the Bureau of Reclamation to mark the dedication of the North End Trail. The trail had been refurbished and improved as a joint project by Tuleyome and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Margaret Bailey, Reclamation's Lake Berryessa Manager, hosted the event. Speakers included Napa County Supervisor Diane Dillon; Lee Mao, Reclamation Deputy Area Manager; Andrew Fulks, Tuleyome Board member; and Carol Kunze, Tuleyome Trails Coordinator.







**Bill Ryan, author of "Fishing Is My Day Job" column since 2002, died last week.**

It is with sadness that I report that I report Bill's death. Bill was a vocal supporter of Lake Berryessa and often quoted Lake Berryessa News items in his column. He also had many suggestions as to how to improve the lake to attract the big money bass tournaments that usually went to Clear Lake.

He wanted any new company that took over the Lake Berryessa resorts to make bass fishing a priority in their plans to revitalize the lake. One of his ideas was to make Lake Berryessa attractive to more bass tournaments by catering to the families of the anglers by offering superior lodging and recreation amenities only a half hour from the world famous Napa Valley. In one note to me he said, "Berryessa is still one of the top rated bass waters in America by Bassmaster Magazine. Nearby are Clear Lake (top rated) and the Delta (also highly rated). So professional anglers know how to get here... BUT, they quit on Berryessa because it was a dull place with nowhere to eat or sleep – or recreate. Nobody said, "Welcome, we're glad you're here..."

Bill was also a proponent of attracting more high school and college bass fishing team tournaments to Lake Berryessa. I was surprised at how many of those actually exist.

Hopefully Bill's goals will be included in Sun Communities' plans for the renovation of Steele Canyon RecArea, Spanish Flat RecArea and Monticello Shore RecArea.





**Book Sale - Price Cut**

**Paperback was \$7.99 - now \$4.99**

**Kindle Price: \$2.99**

**[Conspiracy Theory or Automatic Pilot:  
The Economic Roots of Environmental Destruction](#)  
by Peter Kilkus**

The last few months and years have brought economic issues to the forefront of our lives. There is blithering, blathering, and bloviating going on in Congress right now. We've been shown how little most Americans understand about economics. How much do you personally really know and understand?

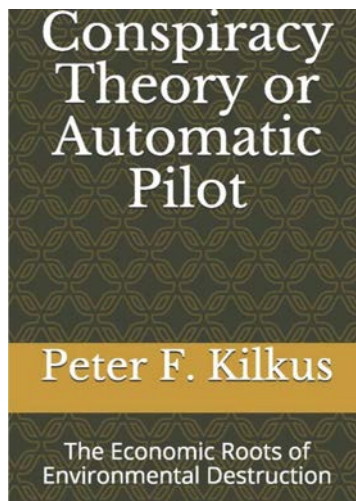
My book, "**Conspiracy Theory or Automatic Pilot: The Economic Roots of Environmental Destruction**", attempts to explain basic economics in a clear way. This book is not meant to be an academic or scientific exercise for economists or policy makers. The concepts discussed are easily accessible to thoughtful readers.

For example, one of the primary myths that has been debunked by the COVID 19 crisis is that the stock market plays some part in the basic economy. Links to example chapters from my book are:

**[The Stock Market Is Not The Economy, Stupid!](#)**

**[Where Does Money Really Come From?](#)**

**[What is Interest and Why Do We Deserve It?](#)**



Here's a vintage photo of Sugar Loaf Park (now Arco's Storage). Those old Cadillacs with the spear rear fenders were a danger to us kids riding bikes on the streets of Chicago. Many other car models had those sharp things aimed at us as we zipped by.



### Where does Lake Berryessa water go after being born as a rain drop?

Here's an amazing visualization tool! Click to drop a raindrop anywhere in the contiguous United States and watch where it ends up!

<https://river-runner.samlearner.com/?fbclid=IwAR1KlpIYKH0g5yfmG-hJAhuHelKtTYwkRzdDPZ3IYG95tiS3WPimtMD8-QU>

This link is of the path of a raindrop flowing through Lake Berryessa to the Bay.

<https://river-runner.samlearner.com/?lng=-122.35407380109801&lat=38.83456484232542>



### New Fishing Website: Your Bass Guy

<https://yourbassguy.com/>

Here's a link to a well done "How To" article about trout fishing. The editor states that: We're trying to get the word out that Your Bass Guy isn't just a bass site, by contributing diversified content (like trout articles) to other websites while bringing value to their readers.

<https://yourbassguy.com/trout/rainbow-trout-fishing/>



## Rainbow Trout Fishing for Beginners

By Wesley Littlefield  
Last Updated on July 28, 2021





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**EVAN KILKUS**

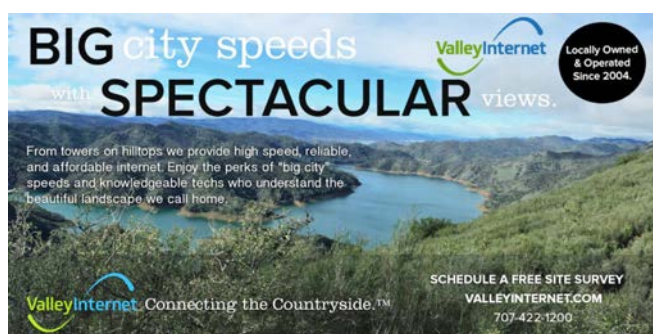
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Complete Wildfire Defense website: <https://completewildfiredefense.com/>



#### **October 2021 Horoscopes**

**Aquarius (1/20-2/18):** Remember: God means something different to everyone, but only you, and those who agree with you, are right.

**Pisces (2/19-3/20):** Remember, the slow cycle of sun, wind, and rain can sunder even the hardest stone, so whatever you do, don't go outside.

**Aries (3/21-4/19):** Don't sink to the level of those who would drag you down with their judicious criticism. Instead, listen to those who praise you indiscriminately no matter what.

**Taurus (4/20-5/20):** Patience will see you through life's most harrowing times. Plus you can fake patience by just sleeping constantly.

**Gemini (5/21 – 6/21):** You've tried everything you can think of to stop yourself from gaining weight. Unfortunately, you have your best ideas while eating entire coconut-cream pies.

**Cancer (6/22-7/22):** You will experience unbounded happiness and success in every area of your life this week, unless of course there is something fundamentally and irreversibly wrong with you.

#### **Onion Headlines**

Breaking: All Of World's Problems Solved Overnight While You Were Sleeping

Nurse Carefully Weighs Whether She Better Off Getting Vaccine Or Losing Job And Dying

Unvaccinated United Flight Attendant Confident She Can Get Work On Medieval Plague Ship

Hospital ICUs At Capacity With Reporters Covering Anti-Vaxxers Dying From Covid

Experts Confirm Functional Democracy Generally Requires At Least One Party To Care About Voting Rights

New Texas Law Allows Private Citizens To Hold Pregnant Women Hostage Until Birth

Child Who Just Lost Balloon Begins Lifelong Battle With Depression

Iran Starts Stockpiling Strontium Just To Stress Out U.S. Intelligence

Poll Finds Most Americans Would Swap Democracy For \$100 Best Buy Gift Card



Leo (7/23-8/22): Your life story will bring much-needed happiness and laughter to the world, especially the hilarious ending.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): You will slowly come to appreciate the value of silence when everyone seems to want to say things you do not wish to hear.

Libra (9/23-10/22): More and more, you're beginning to suspect your nickname might be pejorative.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): The human mind is a thing of startling beauty. Unfortunately yours is mostly filled with old phone numbers and minor celebrity trivia.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Fear and Jealousy will soon tear you apart, which is rather unfortunate, as Fear and Jealousy are the two pitbulls that live next door.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Any hope you once had of aging with grace and dignity will be dashed this week, when you turn 25.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Remorseful Poster Deletes Comment  
After Accidentally Telling Wrong  
Stranger To Kill Self

Man Up-Sold By Dentist Leaves With  
300 Extra Teeth

Nation Doesn't Understand How  
Someone As Cool As Kyrsten Sinema  
Could Fight For Corporate Interests

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Most editions of The Lake Berryessa  
News since 2005 are available as  
downloadable, searchable PDF files at:  
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Lake Berryessa News Special Edition!

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Napa County Releases Sun Communities Development Plans for  
Steele Canyon Recreation Area, Spanish Flat Recreation Area,  
and Monticello Shores Recreation Area

Below are a series of pages from the report.

Download the full document with detailed plans and financial projections at:

[www.lakeberryessanews.com/sun-lake-berryessa-master/sun-proposal-detailsr.pdf](http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/sun-lake-berryessa-master/sun-proposal-detailsr.pdf)

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT: Property Descriptions

RFP SECTION 7a

**Concept Overview:**

Sun is pleased to propose 3 complimentary resort properties; each with its own distinct personality, amenities and activities.



AT STEELE CANYON

A family and pet friendly marina-based rustic glamping resort, packed with activities, dining, and retail for guests of all ages.



AT SPANISH FLAT

A luxury glamping resort with world-class amenities, relaxing activities, and intimate experiences with nature.



AT MONTICELLO SHORES

Two resorts in one: a family-friendly resort and adult-secluded retreat with RV camping options, luxury villa-pods, and stunning shoreline access throughout.

Protecting the environment while making nature more accessible, these properties are designed to stand on their own or to be experienced together.

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT: Steele Canyon

RFP SECTION 7a

**THE LAUNCH**  
AT STEELE CANYON

**WAYS TO STAY:**  
RV, HOUSEBOAT, GLAMPING

**GETTING AROUND:**  
Kayak & Canoe Rentals, Boat Launch & Marina, Ferry & Water Taxi

**PROPERTY FEATURES**  
Safe Harbor Full-Service Marina  
Steele Canyon Provisions: Grocery  
PADI Dive Center  
Forestry & Conservation Center

**AMENITIES**  
Boardwalk: Dining and Retail  
Steele Canyon Provisions: Grocery & Marketplace  
Craft Brews Restaurant  
Old Fashioned Ice Cream Shop  
Pasta & Pizza Carryout  
Container Coffee Cafe  
BBQ & Picnic Pavilion  
Full Service Marina & Boat Storage  
Dive Center & PADI Certification  
Leisure & Activity Pool  
Floating Fitness Center  
Forestry and Conservation Center

**ACTIVITIES**  
Glow-in-the-dark Mini Golf  
PADI Certification  
Sunken Ship Guided Dive  
Snorkeling  
Boat Rentals  
High Ropes Course  
Sugar Sand Beach  
Floating Obstacle Course  
Kayak, Canoe, & Paddleboard Rental  
Hiking & Nature Trails  
Conservation/Forestry Workshops  
Swims to Spanish Flat

**SAFE HARBOR** **HORNBLOWER** **PADI**




## DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT: Spanish Flat

RFP SECTION 7a







**WAYS TO STAY:**

RV, GLAMPING, PARK MODELS

**GETTING AROUND:**

Kayak & Canoe Rentals, Ferry & Water Taxi, EV Golf Carts

**PROPERTY FEATURES**

Sailing School  
Picnic Shop  
Outdoor Pizza Kitchen  
Floating Entertainment

**AMENITIES**

Boardwalk Dining & Artisan Retail Shops  
Clubhouse with Bowling Alley, Arcade, & Leisure Pool  
Floating Music & Movies on the Lake  
DIY Pizza & Pasta Workshops  
Outdoor Pizza Oven Kitchen  
Grab & Go Picnic Shop  
Sculpture Garden  
Wildflower Hill  
Activity Rental Dock  
Sailing School  
Electric Vehicle Rental Center

**ACTIVITIES**

Lawn Games  
Bocce Ball & Horse Shoes  
Sailing Classes & Sailboat Rentals  
Kayaks, Canoes & Paddleboard Rentals  
Electric Bike & Scooter Rentals  
Outdoor Pizza Classes  
Rainy Day Indoor Activities  
Nature Walks & Hikes  
Shopping & Dining  
Sandy Beach  
Picnicking

**HORNBLOWER**



**AT MONTICELLO SHORES**



**LODGING**

A: RV Campsites    B: Glamping Pods

**DINING & RETAIL**

A: Boardwalk    B: Italian Restaurant  
C: Container Cafes    D: Artisan Shops  
E: Grab & Go Picnic Shop

**AMENITIES**

A: Sailing School    B: Beach & Swim Cove  
C: Floating Stage    D: Clubhouse  
E: Game Lawn    F: Ferry Dock  
G: Gym    H: Wildflower Hill  
I: Rock Formation    J: Hillside Pizza Ovens  
K: Leisure Pool    L: Activity & Rental Docks

**OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE**

A: Entrance Gate

## LOCAL ENGAGEMENT: Sustainability

RFP CRITERIA E

Sustainable design is at the heart of each of Sun Outdoors' resorts. We are deeply committed to the preservation of the natural world, and strive to do everything possible to offset our collective carbon footprint and protect the one planet we call home. We have implemented a wide range of energy, water, and environmental design strategies to keep our footprint small, and we consistently use sustainable building materials and practices both at Outpost as well as at each of the other hotels in our family of sustainable brands.

By encouraging guests to travel between resort properties via ferry, water taxi, and electric boats we aim to reduce auto traffic in the region while encouraging an intimate and one-of-a-kind multi-property experience for guests.





Our community engagement strategy is focused across 3 key areas:



#### CONCEPT FEEDBACK SOLICITATION

Sun will proactively communicate with local residents and stakeholders throughout the design and approval process to build community consensus around the proposed development plan



#### HIRING VENDORS AND KEY PERSONNEL FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Every effort will be used to engage the local community and source talent to support the construction, maintenance and ongoing management of all aspects of the property.

- Construction and Maintenance
- contractors
- vendors/suppliers
- team members



#### COLLABORATIONS WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES, WINERIES, LOCAL CHEFS, GALLERIES

- excursions to neighboring wineries will be offered at each property
- wine and cheese tastings in conjunction with wineries
- visiting chef dinners
- local produce providers
- artisans and manufacturers
- Steele Canyon Provisions marketplace will be stocked with local products

Sun has been committed to partnering with Napa County to develop the concession areas since the original RFI was released in 2017. Sun responded enthusiastically to the RFI information request with interest in developing all 5 sites offered at that time. Sun remains fully invested in the opportunity transform the Lake Berryessa community and we believe our proposal today only expands upon the vision initially expressed in our RFI Response.

## SECURITY SERVICES

Sun is committed to ensuring a safe, secure and healthy environment for our guests, team members and community. Sun will at a minimum provide for the following Security protocols:



Properties will be developed with guard gated access points to screen and limit access to the Property.



Sun will provide 24 hour a day roving ranger staff and a Manager that lives onsite.



Sun will install state of the art security and surveillance equipment for monitoring the property.



Sun will ensure detailed emergency preparedness plans are developed for each site and will train staff members on emergency response protocols.



Sun will undertake to comply with any health safety precautions and/or regulations regarding COVID-19 as are published, from time to time, by the County Health Officials.



Sun will work with Napa County to determine impacts on public services including law enforcement and will work with the County to provide collaborative solutions as part of the contract negotiation.

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**berryessboatrepair@gmail.com | 707.966.9954**



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Complete Wildfire Defense website: <https://completewildfiredefense.com/>

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**Welcome to the Latest Lake Berryessa News Newsletter.**

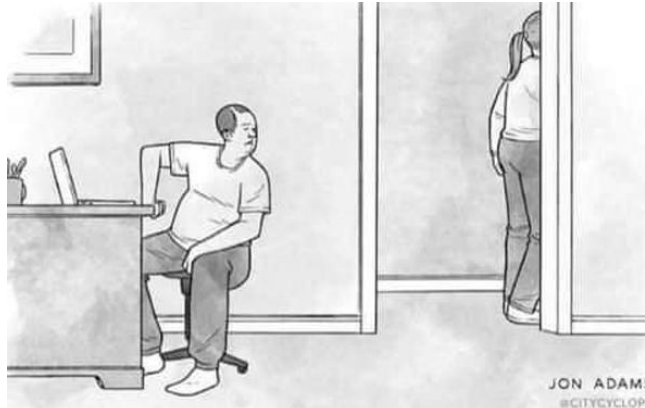
**Sunday, October 17, 2021**

I've stopped publishing the print version until April 2022. I plan to publish this email newsletter twice a month until then. You can also get the latest in news about Lake Berryessa by checking my website regularly.

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>

Also follow my Facebook page for regular updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/>



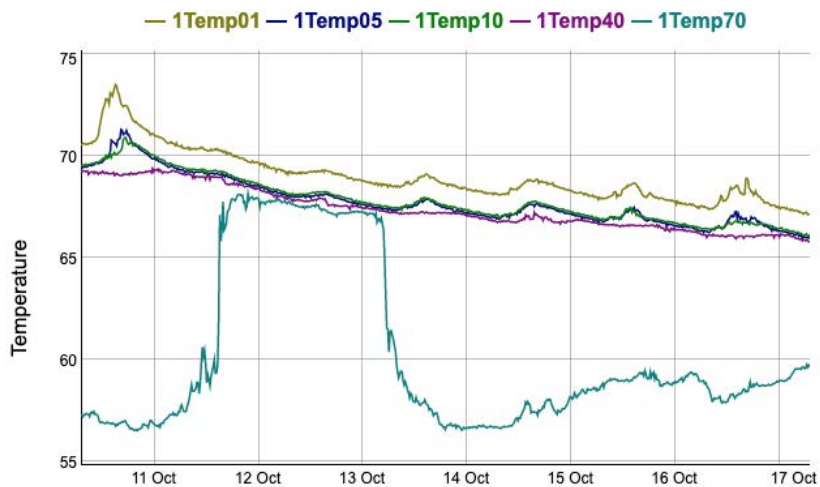
***Honey, come look! I've found some information  
on the Lake Berryessa News website that  
I couldn't find anywhere else on the internet.***

**"Without The Lake Berryessa News  
there would be no Lake Berryessa news."**

**Lake Level as of October 17, 2021**

The Lake Level is at 401.4 feet, 39.6 feet below Glory Hole. Rainfall this season is at .05 inches. Water temps are nearing 65 degrees. Looks like a small amount of "turnover" took place last week due to the recent heavy winds. "Turnover" is official when the temperature of the water is the same from bottom to top.

**Lake Berryessa - Temperature**



**Lake Berryessa Revitalization Update: October 17, 2021**

Short Term

Most people are not aware that Napa County has been formally in charge of Steele Canyon Recreation Area, Spanish Flat Recreation Area, and Monticello Shores Recreation Area since November 2020 per the Managing Partner Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. Since that time Napa County managed Steele Canyon Recreation Area through an interim agreement with Pleasure Cove (Suntex). Napa County also managed Spanish Flat Recreation Area through an interim agreement with Spanish Flat Partners, a group of local investors.

Those interim agreements are coming to an end. Per Napa County both recreation areas will cease operations on October 31, 2021. The present operators will have until November 30, 2021 to remove all of their personal property and equipment.

There has been no word from Napa County as to what happens at those recreation areas after November 30. One reasonable scenario is for Napa County to sign interim agreements with Sun Lake Berryessa LLC to operate the two locations with some minimum level of services.

#### Long Term

The future of Lake Berryessa has long been shrouded in a cloudy crystal ball of policy and politics. The last two years have brought some clarity to that crystal ball and this week brings even more reason for optimism. Although Napa County chose Sun Communities as the new concessionaire to redevelop and operate Steele Canyon Recreation Area, Spanish Flat Recreation Area, and Monticello Shores Recreation there has been little public information provided about the details of the proposed new developments. With the release of the latest documents by Napa County that will not change soon, but there will be a firm agreement on the future negotiation process resulting in Disposition and Development Agreements (DDAs).

The Lake Berryessa resort lands have been NEPA'd, CEQA'd, environmentally-assessed, and culturally-prodded for fifty years. Nothing of significance has ever been found. The Bureau of Reclamation demolished the resorts in 2009 with no study at all - just a simple Categorical Exclusion, CEC 743, which stated:

"The removal of all existing trailers and associated appurtenances within existing and developed sites at Lake Berryessa resorts involves only minor construction activities on previously disturbed land and there will be no impacts to waters of the United States.

Because of the massive volumes of previous studies, all of which are available to any new developer, the Lake Berryessa News has always been a proponent of an expedited approach to the redevelopment of Lake Berryessa. The present projected date of July 2024, for the reopening of the new resorts just seems too far in the future.

#### However...

Sun Lake Berryessa LLC (Sun Communities) is a billion dollar company with hundreds of recreation properties across the country. For them, strategically, Lake Berryessa is a major entry into the internationally-famous Napa Valley market. They will be investing a minimum of \$100 million with a fifty-five year horizon. Their due diligence will be professional and profound. It is understandable that they wish to start from scratch and follow the old quality motto:

"Do It Right The First Time."

I guess I can wait until 2024 for my first margarita at the Steele Canyon Resort restaurant and bar overlooking beautiful Lake Berryessa.

So what may we expect to see as amenities at the new resorts? Definitely not a zip line between Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat nor a roller coaster at Monticello Shores. But there will be modern full-service marinas, new launch ramps and roads, stores, snack bars and restaurants, tent camping, modern RV camp sites, various types of modern lodging and glamping, family-friendly facilities, children's attractions, shuttle boats between resorts, tour boats around the lake, and more... The intent is to attract a wide range of recreationists, not to turn it into "rich persons" resort area.

Sun Communities is also dedicated to corporate responsibility and environmental sustainability. Their commitment is outlined in their Environmental, Social and Governance Report. The full report is available at:

[Environmental Social and Governance Report](#)



"In this report we describe how sustainability is an integral part of our corporate strategy and business activities. Our responsibilities and values are reflected in our dedication to Sun's core values of commitment, intensity, empowerment, accountability, and service to all our communities and stakeholders including team members, residents and guests, and shareholders. These set out the basic rules we follow to make sure we maintain the highest standards of conduct. This report presents some key performance measures, and shows how we endeavor to put our principles into practice."

The following are the agenda items for the Napa Supervisors Meeting this Tuesday, October 19. You'll notice the item about going out for bid for the Berryessa Point Recreation Area (formerly Berryessa Marina Resort).

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Board of Supervisors Agenda 10/19/21

B. County Executive Officer will provide an update of activities at Lake Berryessa and requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the following agreements:

1. Exclusive Negotiation Agreement with Sun Lake Berryessa LLC (Sun Communities) to conduct environmental studies, site investigation and due diligence, prepare environmental documents, and enter into negotiations for a long-term agreement for development and operation of resort concessions at Steele Canyon, Spanish Flat, and Monticello Shores concession areas; and

2. Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 170664B-17 with Ragatz Realty increasing the amount by \$15,000 for a new maximum of \$140,000, extending the term through June 30, 2022, and amending the scope of work to include identification of eligible bidders for Berryessa Point. Excerpts from the Exclusive Negotiation Agreement (The full agreement is available for download at: [Exclusive Negotiation Agreement](#))

The County and Concessionaire agree for the period set forth below, to negotiate diligently and in good faith, pursuant to this Agreement, to prepare one or more Disposition and Development Agreements or other management or concessionaire agreements ("DDAs") to be entered into between the County and Concessionaire with respect to the Properties, generally as set forth in the proposals submitted by Concessionaire.

1.3 Period of Negotiations. The Parties agree to negotiate one or more DDAs for the Properties for a twenty-four (24) month period ending on October 18, 2023 ("Negotiation Period"), commencing on the Effective Date. If the Parties have not reached agreement on DDAs for one or more of the Properties at the end of 24 months, then this Agreement shall automatically terminate as to those Properties where agreement has not been reached...The Negotiation Period (consisting of the Investigation and Approval Periods described below) may be extended by Sun for up to six (6) months by delivering written notice thereof to the County, but any further extensions will require the mutual written agreement of the Parties. The Negotiation Period shall consist of two periods, an Investigation Period and an Approval Period.

1.3.1 The "Investigation Period" shall be four (4) months starting on the Effective Date and ending on February 18, 2022. The County shall use reasonable efforts to assist Concessionaire in obtaining copies of all written reports, studies, investigations, information or material in the BOR's possession or control and not previously delivered to Concessionaire relating to the condition or development of the Property (the "Documents"). By way of example, without limitation, the term "Documents" shall refer to surveys, topographic maps, engineering plans and specifications, soil boring tests, soils analysis, environmental reports, water table analysis, pending litigation and/or claims, and related correspondence. During the term of this Agreement, Concessionaire shall have full access to inspect the Property, perform all testing, and inspect all records relating to the Property, without unreasonably interfering with ongoing concessions activity or BOR operations...

1.3.2 The "Approval Period" shall be twenty (20) months starting on February 19, 2022 and ending on October 18, 2023 to complete the environmental analysis documents in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") and secure all necessary permits, licenses, governmental approvals, including rezoning, if necessary, approval to extend utilities to the boundary of the Property, and all other governmental approvals, permits and licenses required for Concessionaire to commence and

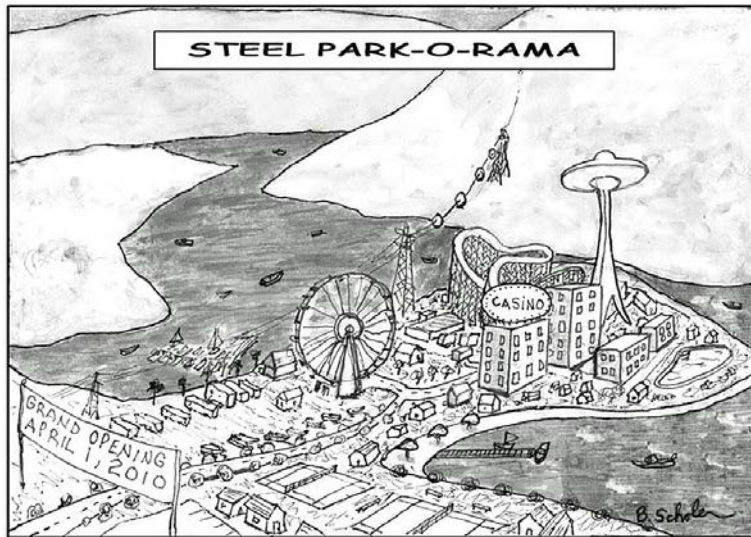
complete the development of the Property (the "Governmental Approval"). Concessionaire will use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the Governmental Approvals...

2.1.8 Concessionaire will need to contribute towards the cost of improvements to local water and sewer facilities, in addition to capacity and connection fees, in order to ensure reliable service to the Properties.

2.4 Environmental Studies. Concessionaire shall prepare all required environmental analysis documents in accordance with the CEQA and NEPA at its own cost and expense... If the quality or pace of environmental review is inadequate as reasonably determined by the County CEO, then the County shall so inform Concessionaire and Concessionaire shall inform and direct its consultants to devote additional resources and/or correct the deficient work, but the cost of the consultant shall remain the Concessionaire's expense...

## NAPALACHIA

By Bill Scholer



### **Bass Fishing is great at Lake Berryessa!**

Just got a note and some photos from Don Paganelli, long-time Lake Berryessa supporter: The bass fishing has been great the last few weeks using Blade Runner spoons. We are fishing over large schools of bait (shad) and the Bass are feeding, getting ready for winter.

Donald Paganelli's Bass Fishing Experience

<http://www.guidebass.net/>





### **We all pay when newspapers die**

This insightful Napa Register editorial by Sean Scully applies to the Lake Berryessa News as well. We have few advertisers and no software to be able to manage subscriptions. Last year I did a fundraiser to be able to keep publishing the print version. Thanks to our donors we were able to print six summer issues. I'm not sure what I'll do this year - GoFundMe? It is annoying and embarrassing to beg for money.

The Lake Berryessa News email newsletter goes out to more than 500 people. Our Facebook page has almost 24,000 followers. Our website hits average hundreds per day. Explore our website. There is nothing like it anywhere.

There are only three basic news sources for Lake Berryessa and Napa County. The first is obviously the Lake Berryessa News. The largest is obviously the Napa Register. The most unique is Paul Franson's NapaLife: "For those who live in Napa Valley –and those who wish they did."

Paul's detailed weekly newsletter includes everything entertainment and wine-related that is happening in the Napa Valley. Paul's newsletter is by subscription. A sample can be seen at <http://www.napalife.com/6122.html>.

Please read Sean's editorial, excerpts below. See the full editorial at:

[https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/columnists/from-the-editor-we-all-pay-when-newspapers-die/article\\_faa76f9a-ad6b-5f02-beab-98c4143f456f.html](https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/columnists/from-the-editor-we-all-pay-when-newspapers-die/article_faa76f9a-ad6b-5f02-beab-98c4143f456f.html)

Ask yourself the following questions:

What would you do if the Lake Berryessa News simply disappeared tomorrow?

What would you do if Paul Franson's NapaLife simply disappeared tomorrow?

What would you do if the Napa Register simply disappeared tomorrow?

### **We all pay when newspapers die Sean Scully, Oct 16, 2021**

It's always sad when a beloved local business closes. We all have memories of our favorite long-gone restaurant, or of shopping with our parents at some defunct department store. Usually, however, the direct financial and social effect of a business going under is confined to the owners, employees and most loyal customers.

What happens, though, if the closure of a business goes on to have an effect on everyone, to change the very way a community works? There's a growing body of evidence that this is exactly what happens when a newspaper closes.

As is well known, newspapers – and other traditional media outfits, too – are suffering a prolonged economic crisis. It isn't that people don't read or want news, but rather there have been profound changes in the advertising market that used to bankroll most of the expensive

process of collecting and presenting news. In the case of newspapers, this is particularly a problem with the formerly lucrative classified ad market, which was devastated by the internet.

A 2020 study by the Hussman School of Journalism and Media at the University of North Carolina found that about a quarter of all newspapers in the U.S. had closed completely since 2005, about 300 total. For the rest of the newspapers that survived, including the Register and its weeklies, the story was one of reduced staff and consolidated services. In the 15 years covered by the report, about 6,000 newsroom jobs disappeared at newspapers, and that doesn't count the jobs lost in advertising, production, circulation, and other functions.

You might well ask: So what? Businesses close all the time in the face of competition and changing consumer tastes and behavior. That's just the nature of economics. A 2018 study from Notre Dame and the University of Chicago suggests that a lot more is at stake...

A 2010 study from MIT and Stockholm University, meanwhile, showed a clear connection between the level of press coverage and the engagement and knowledge of voters. Voters in such areas were "less likely to recall their representative's name and less able to describe and rate him or her," the authors wrote. "Congressmen who are less covered by the local press work less for their constituencies..." That has real-world effects, including lower overall federal spending in a congressional district that lacks robust news coverage, the study found.

Similar effects have been noted in the behavior and budget priorities of local officials, who are less responsive and more willing to raise taxes or even their own salaries when there is little coverage of their actions.

An interesting recent study showed a less predictable result of the decline of local coverage: an uptick of corporate misbehavior...

In all these cases, the question of "why" remains open, but the authors speculate that is as simple as the fact that nobody is watching the politicians and companies, that projects that are funded by bonds aren't written about or familiar to the public...

All this is to say that local news matters in a real and tangible way. A lack of local news coverage will cost you money in ways you might not have predicted.

The Napa Valley Register has been hit by the same negative economic forces as the rest of the industry. We're not in any danger of going out of business anytime soon, but our resources are definitely more strained than they ever have been.

Demand remains high for our news, however. If you combine print and digital subscriptions, we actually have more subscribers now than we did when I started as editor in 2014. It's just that the changes in the ad market have shaken up the traditional method of financing our business. That's why I talk so often about the support of subscribers. It's largely up to our readers to make sure that we and other remaining newspapers can survive well into the future.

So, as always, if you are a subscriber, we thank you for your support and your faith in us as a reliable source of local news. If you're not a subscriber, but you find value in what we do (and you don't want all those bad things researchers found to happen here), please visit [napavalleyregister.com/members/join](https://napavalleyregister.com/members/join) and consider becoming a member today.

Every member of this community, whether they know it or not, has a stake in making sure our local newspapers survive.

#### **A Personal PSPS Survival Story (PPSPSSS)**

by Peter Kilkus

The recent 36 hour Public Safety Power Shutoff on October 11 - 12 was very annoying but necessary. As someone who needs electricity to run my medical equipment, much less worrying about how long my refrigerator will remain cold, a PSPS is more than an inconvenience. I know that there are others, especially seniors in the Lake Berryessa region, who depend on electricity to power their medical equipment. They should take advantage, as I did, of the PG&E Medical Baseline Program.

The PG&E Medical Baseline Program, also known as Medical Baseline Allowance, is an assistance program for residential customers who depend on power for certain medical needs.



To qualify for Medical Baseline Program, a full-time resident in your home must have a qualifying medical condition and/or require use of a qualifying medical device to treat ongoing medical conditions. Eligibility for Medical Baseline is based on medical conditions or needs, NOT on income.

Apply for the Medical Baseline Program today.

[https://www.pge.com/en\\_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/medical-condition-related/medical-baseline-allowance/medical-baseline-allowance.page](https://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/medical-condition-related/medical-baseline-allowance/medical-baseline-allowance.page)

As part of their support for medical baseline customers, PG&E recently launched a program to further enhance safety when the power goes out for customers that depend on life saving medical equipment. PG&E's Portable Battery Program (PBP) provides no-cost backup portable batteries for eligible income-qualified customers who live in high fire-threat districts and are enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. Working in coordination with Community Based Organizations (CBOs), PG&E has identified approximately 10,500 customers who could qualify for this program. The CBOs then deliver the batteries to the homes of these qualified customers, set up the batteries, and educate customers on how to safely operate and maintain the equipment.

Since I qualified for this program I received my backup battery just two weeks before the latest PSPS. The battery is a lithium-ion unit with several AC and USB outputs. It charges from 0 to 100% in less than two hours. It can keep necessary medical equipment running for days.

The unit I received is the EF ECOFLOW Portable Power Station DELTA available on Amazon for \$1,199. See photo below.

It was like a generator in a box with no gasoline. It did more than run my medical equipment. It ran my coffeepot, toaster, and electric frying pan. Without electricity, I have no heat - and those PSPS nights were quite cold. I do have a propane fireplace, but it needs power to operate. I plugged the fireplace into this unit and had as much heat as I needed. Without electricity we had no internet. But this unit easily ran my iMac so with my AT&T cellphone' mobile hotspot application I had full access to the internet - and to my medical contacts and appointments.

Clearly this type of backup is only for short term power outages of a day or two. We all need gasoline or propane generators for longer term outages. We lived on generator power here above the Berryessa Highlands for six weeks after the last fire - no fun.

Please pass this information on to anyone you know who has a need, especially seniors in our area. The local contact for the battery program is:

North Coast Energy Services Inc.  
(707) 463-0303  
[www.nces.org](http://www.nces.org)

NCES is currently working with PG&E to try and assist clients by providing no-cost backup portable batteries for eligible income-qualified customers who live in high fire-threat districts and are enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (707) 463-0303. We service Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties.

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**berryessboatrepair@gmail.com | 707.966.9954**




**EVAN KILKUS**

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