The Lake Berryessa News

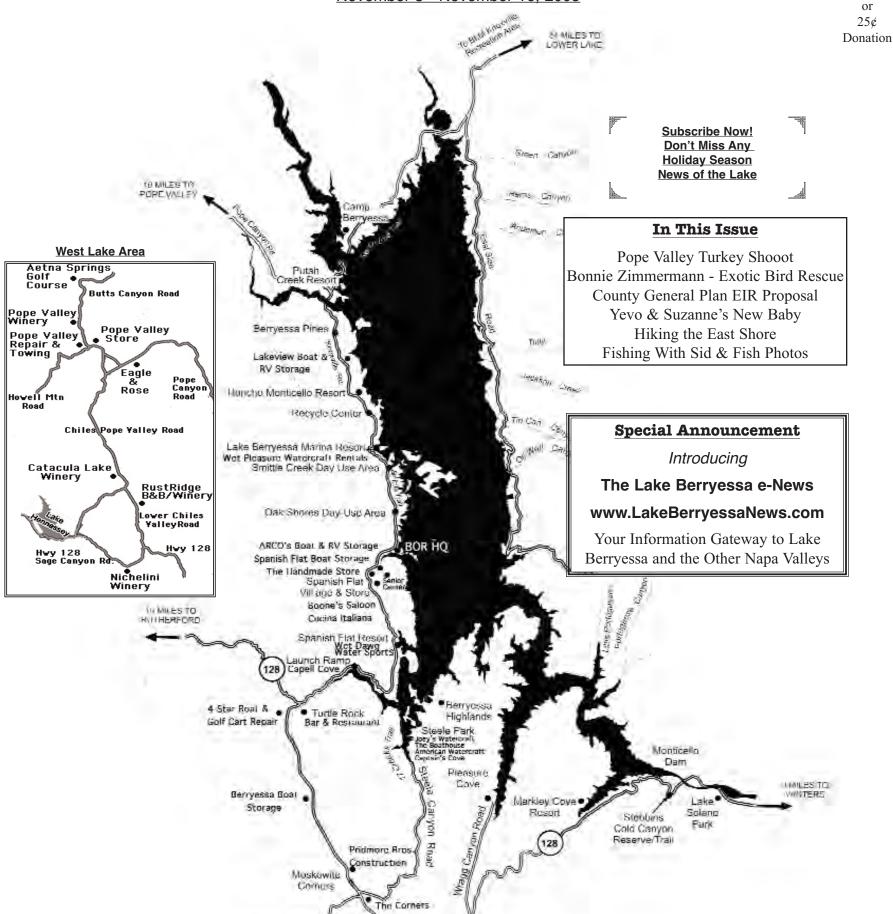
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The Lake Berryessa News

An Independent Community Newspaper

Published the first and third Thursday of each month.

Owner& Editor Shirl Katleba

Co-Editor & Writer
Peter Kilkus

<u>Director of Circulation</u> David Rutter

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From the Editor

There is an announcement from the County at the top of the next page requesting comments by Dec. 12 regarding proposed alternatives to be studied in an environmental impact report to be prepared for the County General Plan. This report will be incredibly important to the future of the Lake Berryessa region and everyone needs to understand the issues and make comments. We didn't have room to print the whole announcement but here's a tidbit from one alternative: "would also include enhanced economic development activities such as policies and zoning to support sustainable commercial "nodes" in Oakville, Rutherford, Pope Valley, Angwin, and Lake Berryessa." There will be much more to come on this in our next issue and on our web site: www.LakeBerryessaNews.com.

To the Editor

Dear Congressman Pombo,

It is our understanding that as Chairman of the House Resources Committee, you have jurisdiction over the policies of all agencies under the U.S. Department of the Interior and more specifically over policy decisions of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

The Bureau of Reclamation is currently in the process of developing new policy for Lake Berryessa. The City of Winters is known as the Gateway to the Monticello Dam and to Lake Berryessa. Many of our businesses greatly benefit from lake visitors who travel through and stop to buy food, gas, sporting goods, etc. On weekends up to 6,000 people pass through our community on the way to lake activities. Many of our constituents use the lake on a regular basis and our youth work in the many businesses which operate there. Finally, throughout the region, there are boat sales and service, sporting goods retailers and a variety of other businesses that depend on Lake Berryessa for a sizable share of their income.

Our concern is simple........ The Lake Berryessa Re-Use Plan represents the economic equivalent to a military base closure to our community.

The Winters City Council is concerned about the economic stability of Lake Berryessa. From a practical sense, the re-use plan under consideration presents a real threat to the overall economic stability of our community. Specifically, we are concerned about the following:

- The significant reduction in the number of users is of a major concern of our City. Non-motorized uses (kayaks, sailboats, etc) would change the Lake immensely. Fewer visitors to the Berryessa means fewer visitors to Winters.
- The plan calls for a significant departure from the current motorized use of the Lake. Markley Cove, the closest proximity to our community, would change to a less dense use, switching from motorized boats to houseboats.
- Markley Cove is a very important Winters business. The operators are superior members of our community and are a wonderful employer to many of our residents.
- The plan fails to recognize that Lake Berryessa as a spring/summer lake, not year round as projected in the economic reports.

We feel this economic stability could very well be created or destroyed by the policies the Bureau of Reclamation chooses and your committee authorizes in the coming months. We respectfully request a town hall meeting with the Bureau of Reclamation staff and our community so that we may voice our concerns and ideas regarding the current policy alternatives under consideration by the Bureau of Reclamation.

We are specifically concerned with the following:

- The potential reduction of long-term use at Lake Berryessa.
- These users are being treated as the "bad guys" when in fact they have provided economic stability at the lake for years. We feel this use should be given consideration as a viable "multiple use" just as convention hotels or boating or cattle grazing are given consideration as uses on federal land.
- The "zoning" of the lake to drastically restrict motorized watercraft uses.
- The upcoming "Concession Bid Process."

We are aware that all the concession agreements will go out to bid. This is a part of doing business on a government property. However, we hope the federal government will handle this transaction in a fair and equitable manner. The worst economic nightmare imaginable would be.

Please contact John W. Donlevy, Jr., City Manager at 530-795-4910 Ext. 110 to schedule this meeting.

Sincerely,

Dan Martinez, Mayor, City of Winters

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Napa County is undertaking the first comprehensive update of the Napa County General Plan since 1983, and will be the lead agency for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the General Plan Update. We need to know your views regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. See: www.napacountygeneralplan.com/library/files/NOP.pdf

Written comments can be submitted at any time during the notice period which begins October 21 and ends at 4:45 PM on December 12, 2005. Letters should be directed to: Napa County General Plan Update, Attn: Patrick Lowe, EIR Task Manager 1195 Third Street Napa, CA 94559 (or e-mail to info@napacountygeneralplan.com)

In addition, oral comments will be accepted at the following meetings:

Northern Napa County: 6:30 PM on November 9, 2005 at St. Helena Fire Station, 1500 Main Street, St. Helena.

Daytime Meeting: 1:00 PM on November 10, 2005 Napa City-County Library, 580 Coombs Street, Napa. (Targeted for Public Agency Staff)

Southern Napa County: 6:30 PM on November 10, 2005 at Napa Valley Unified School District (Education Center) Board Room, 2425 Jefferson Street, Napa.

New Arrival at Boone's Saloon!

Chamber of Commerce Board member Yevo Jeworowski & Suzanne have a new bundle of joy.

See party announcemt below. Come on down to help them celebrate.



BOONE'S SALOON

Restaurant * Bar * Live Music Kids of all ages welcome!

Saturday, November 12 - Autumn Barn Dance
Cowboy steak bar-b-que 5:00pm-9:00pm
Musical guest Way Out West will play from 8:00pm-Midnight

Thursday, November 24 - Closed for Thanksgiving

Saturday, December 3 - Holiday Celebration

Join us to celebrate the addition of our newest family member, Suzanne's birth day and the start of the holiday season.

New Years Eve Party...start planning ahead now

Ring in 2006 with Boone's Saloon where there is sure to be a night of dancing and celebration!

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday open at 5:00pm for Dinner Clased Wednesday

Saturday open at 12:00am for Lunch and Dinner Sunday open at 11:00am for Lunch and Dinner

4370 Knoxville Road (Spanish Flat Village Center at Lake Berryessa) (707) 966-2420 vvvv.Boones-Saloon.com



CUCINA ITALIANA will have new Winter Hours beginning in November. See the ad above for details. They will also be available for special events, catering services, and private parties throughout the holidays. Cucina will be closed for Thanksgiving, but open on November 25th, 26th, & 27th. They will also be closed December 23rd, 24th, & 25th. Sharyn & Stefano are currently taking reservations for New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31st. There will be an early and late seating featuring a special menu. Also check out the "Flaming Stefano" video in the Lake Berryessa e-News www.LakeBerryessaNews.com.

Calendar of Events Around Lake Berryessa

Senior Center Crafts

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month - Call Betty at 966-2254

Every Monday – Bingo – 1 PM til??

Every first Monday is Bingo Pot Luck – Starts at Noon.

Seniors Pot Luck - Every 3rd Friday Night – bring a dish.

Senior Center - Call 966-0206

Valley Christian Church

Weekly Bible Study on Monday nights, 7:30 until 8:30 PM.
Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call 257-0527. Weekly Berryessa Youth Meeting on Wednesday nights, 7:00 PM at the Vol. Fire Station. For more information call Gina Hamilton, 966.2816

Sufi Center ~ Meditation & Healing Circle - Pope Valley

Every Thursday - 7pm ~ Every Sunday - 6pm 1st Sunday of every month - Pot Luck - 4pm to 6pm Info - Call 707-965-0700, 2950 Pope Valley Canyon Rd.

Get your event on the calendar by calling 966-3806 or 287-6240 Email shirllake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.

Pope Valley Turkey Shoot

Thousands of clay pigeons met their end flying through the air! Hundreds of turkeys were won. Many pounds of barbecued tri-tip sandwiches were consumed. And the weather was great. Supervisor Diane Dillon, Sheriff's candidate Doug Koford, former supervisorial candidate Brad Kirkpatrick, the official Boss Turkey (see photo), and many other active community members were there.

The Pope Valley contest is one of the largest benefit turkey shoots around and supports the Pope Valley Fire Department and local Pope Valley school. It deserves major recognition by the National Rifle Association. Next year the Lake Berryessa News staff will field a team - once we (at least one of us) learns how to hit more than 1 out of 50 clay pigeons! With more than 2,000 shooters, family, and friends, it was a unique social event and very enjoyable tradition.

We would like to thank the following for their donations: Mr. Bill Berglund - Location Chappie Campbell Napa Valley Printing & Graphics Johnny-On-The-Spot - Outhouses **Upper Valley Disposal** Rich DeVita - Boss Turkey **Betty Wilms** Leo Perry Tom Woodworth Hector Honduras Family Dave Heide & Friends Marsha Bettinelli Clark-Claudon Vineyards Angwin Fire Department Pope Valley 4-H Club Greg Morris oreg morrs Judds Hill Winery – Wine Billett Transportation – Wine & Our Community Voluntee

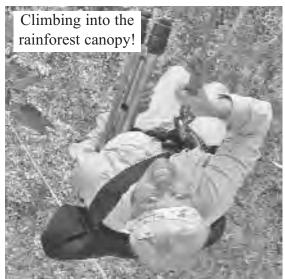


Lions Club Bicycle Rodeo Winners at the Pope Valley School: Yesenia Montanez (Kindergarten), Justin Portue (1st grade), Chrisofer Martinez (2nd grade), Cathlina Ramirez (4th grade), Mariana Maldonado (5th grade), Courtney Brown (7th grade), Morgan Stipanovic (8th grade).

See color photos at www.lakeberryessanews.com



A Human Link Between Exotic Wines and Exotic Birds



When Bonnie Zimmermann, manager of the Pope Valley Winery, drove up to Northern California from Hollywood juggling three cell phones and two pagers while organizing a bigname philanthropic event for the Gorbachev Foundation in San Francisco, she knew her stress levels were peaking. Being a television line producer for commercials, documentaries, and TV shows like Murder She Wrote had given her the experience to branch out into producing rock band tours like the

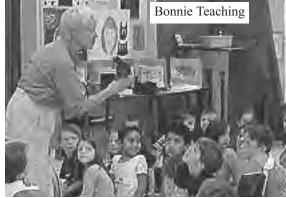
Who's Quadrophenia. But now evolving into the producer of high-profile, high-pressure socio-political gatherings, she had one of those "Northern California Moments" so common among Napa County residents. She fell in love with the area, abandoned her killer schedule, and moved to Calistoga to get into the wine business.

But killer schedules didn't seem to disappear for long. Like others who decide it's time to give back to the planet, Bonnie got involved in the protection of exotic birds. She founded The Wild Connection (www.thewildconnection.org) whose

main goals are: 1) the survival of parrot species in the wild; 2) Enhancing the health and welfare of companion birds everywhere; and 3) protection of tropical habitats and their indigenous communities. She is also the Associate Director of Project Bird Watch



(www.indonesian-parrot-project.org).



Bonnie loves her work at the Pope Valley Winery which is why she can put in the long hours and 7 day weeks there. But she also loves research projects in places like the Peruvian Amazon where in 2002 she was a Guacamayero or Macaw Cowboy! Because of her vast knowledge of exotic birds, especially parrots, she received a request to assist in a

project in Indonesia. After an intense month in the Indonesian jungle, the project

directors were so impressed with her survival abilities that they prevailed upon her to start leading ecotours!

As Bonnie became more and more involved in the Indonesian Parrot Project she got deeper into the management of it. A research and ecotourism facility was built. The goal is to work with the indigenous people, including identified trappers and smugglers,



to change the economy of the area to one based on ecotourism rather than the smuggling of birds and

> primates. Bonnie says that the project is having success as documented through undercover monitoring of the known trappers and smugglers and the measured increase in the bird populations.

Bonnie leads two ecotours per year to Indonesia and travels there twice more per year in her Director's capacity. But the rest of the year she is focused on producing some outstanding exotic wines at the Pope Valley Winery. Coincidentally, those of you who have used the excellent Lonely

Planet Guides in your travels will be pleasantly surprised to know that the Pope Valley Winery is actually listed in the Lonely Planet Guide to the Napa and Sonoma Wine Country!

The winery's web site -www.PopeValleyWinery.com - has much local history to enjoy. The winery was constructed in 1897 from massive timbers moved down from the Oat Hill Quicksilver Mine. It was a three story gravitational flow winery, with hand dug cave. The cave took over 9 years to dig, and the winery was bonded in 1909.

After almost a century of mixed fortunes, long time Pope Valley residents Jim, Sam & Henry Eakles, Ralf Gerdes, Manny Gomes and Rodney Young joined together to purchase

this historical winery in 1998 and bring new life back into it. Bonnie Zimmermann is helping do that in some exotic ways.







East Shore Wildlife Area Hiking

The east shore of Lake Berryessa is an undeveloped wildlife area backed by cattle ranches. The well maintained gravel East Shore Ranch and Fire Acess Road allows public access for almost six miles of the shoreline starting from the Knoxville-Berryessa Road and extending south to a turn-around loop. The area between the road and the water is the East Shore Wildlife Area. The road provides public access to the Wildlife Area as well as ranch and fire access. The Wildlife Area extends south from the end of the gravel road to the dam and is accessible by foot

There are two pedestrian access gates through the fence that runs on the lake side of the road. The first gate (labeled E1) is 0.2 miles from the Knoxville-Berryessa Road and allows access to the northern end of the Wildlife Area. Parking is available across the gravel road and a short distance to the north of the gate. The second gate (labeled E14) is 5.5 miles from the Knoxville-Berryessa Road and allows access to the middle of the Wildlife Area. Short trails lead from each gate to the shore. A large variety of raptors and water fowl may be viewed from the trails including White Pelicans, Golden and Bald Eagles, Western Grebes, Cormorants and many species of ducks.

Note: the north pedestrian access gate was damaged by the Rumsey fire in October, 2005. Subsequently, someone sealed the damaged entrance with barbed wire. Until the foot entrance is repaired and the barbed wire removed, hikers and paddlers may climb over the metal gate next to the foot entrance to gain access to the lake.

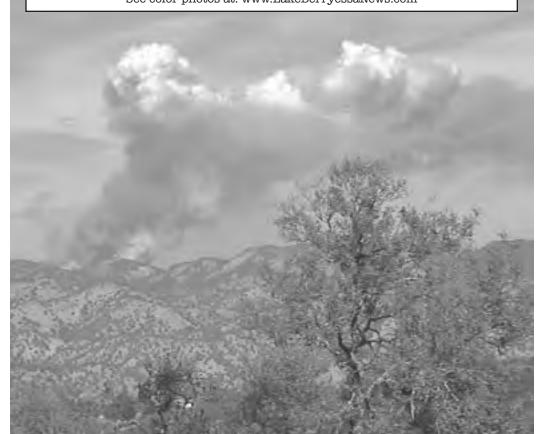
While the entire Wildlife Area is open to hikers and bird watchers, visitors should be aware that rattlesnakes inhabit the tall grass and thistle that cover much of the area. Signs posted on the fences give regulations governing the Wildlife Area. There are 15 numbered metal gates (labeled E1 to E15) along the public access road. Hikers may climb over any of these gates to access the Wildlife Area.

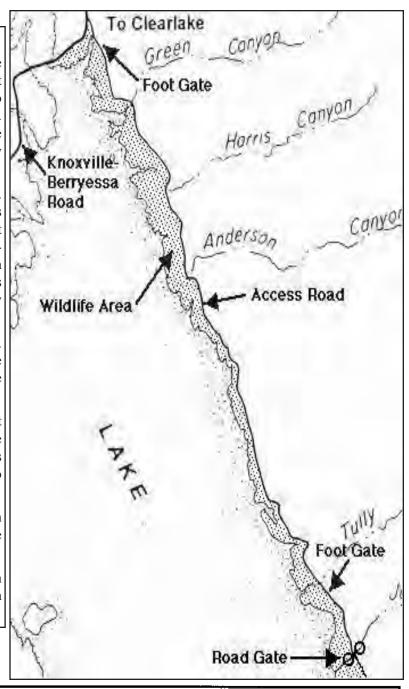
Note that the somewhat confusing "Closed Area" signs mean only that the area behind the sign is closed to off-road vehicle use. Unless otherwise noted, foot access is allowed and hikers are welcome.

All of the land to the east (away from the lake) side of the road is private property and not open to the public. The ranch houses are not appropriate sources of information, water or bathroom facilities; contact the ranchers only in case of a real emergency.

Another fire popped up on the east side of the lake north of the Narrows on Thursday, Oct. 20th about 2 P.M. but only lasted about 3 hours before it went out.

See color photos at: www.LakeBerryessaNews.com





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Fishing with Sid

Fishing at Lake Berryessa was grrrrreat this past weekend!!! The weather was perfect, the water was calm and clear and the fish were co-operating. My wife and I went to the vineyards on Friday and wormed for bass in shallow water. We had a very successful time.

Saturday we decided to troll for awhile towards the ranch house. We hit two large salmon and a couple of trout on the surface. Then my wife landed a 6+ lb bass. Saturday evening I took out Kevin and Steve to show them how to catch bass trolling. In twenty minutes they caught four bass so we headed back in before it got to dark.

Sunday morning I met them and we went out for an early bite. Once again trolling was successful. Fish are breaking all over the lake. Sunday early afternoon I took my wife out and we caught a few bass and salmon. Then my wife got a huge hit and landed what we first thought was a catfish but turned out to be a monster squawfish - also known as Sacramento pike. This weighed in at 12 lbs and she used 6 lb P-line. It gave her quite a fight.

At least there is one less squawfish in the lake now. Whenever you catch a squawfish you should destroy it and leave it on shore for the birds or take it home. Just never put it back in the water because it is a predator and feeds on the other fish. All in all this was a perfect fishing weekend.....til next week.......good fishing!!!! www.fishingconnection.net. If you want to email me with any fishing stories.... bestguide@hotmail.com or call me at 650-583-3333





Fishing Putah Creek and Lake Berryessa

Cold water is released from the bottom of Berryessa Reservoir to flow downstream for about eight miles before it is diverted into the Putah South Canal, with a small amount also allowed to continue downstream. Because water demand is greatest in summer when farmers in Solano County are irrigating their crops, the creek has much higher flows in summer than in winter. When flows are low in winter, air temperatures are cool, so the between-dam creek stays cold year-round. This means that the reach is really good habitat for trout and it supports one of the best trout fisheries in the region. In the winter, the stream is given over to catch-and-release fly fishers. They pursue brightly colored wild rainbow trout that hang out in the deep pools and runs. Some of these fish are over two feet long. The trout move up to spawn in the gravel beds just below the dam, where they can be observed mid-December through early January.

In summer, the main anglers are fishing from the bank, using marshmallows and worms for bait, for hatchery fish planted by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG),. These fish are domesticated animals conditioned to taking pellets of food from the surface. They are likely to die of starvation and predation if not caught in a couple of weeks. The fishery is very popular, especially with kids, because catching is easy.

Alien fish do, however, dominate Lake Berryessa, an alien habitat. They are symbolized by the large common carp, native to Europe, which you can often see if you peer through the fence down into the water near the dam. They will be cruising about or browsing on the bottom with their fleshy lips. One of the main fisheries in the reservoir is for warmwater panfish: various kinds of bass, sunfish, and catfish that readily take baited hooks or lures. There is also a fishery for rainbow trout. Hatchery rainbows find life in the lake easy compared to life in the stream below, and they quickly learn to feed on abundant forage fish, mainly threadfin shad, a small herring.

In recent years, CDFG has been planting surplus juvenile chinook salmon which can also feed on shad and grow rapidly. These fish are unlikely to reproduce in the reservoir although steelhead-like rainbow trout do spawn every year in Putah Creek and other tributaries to the lake. These fish may be descendants of steelhead that got trapped above the dam and learned to complete their life cycle without going to sea.

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West Lake Area

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In This Issue

Bureau of Reclamation's Lake Plan County General Plan EIR Comments Town Hall Meeting in Winters



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Special Announcement

Introducing

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Your Information Gateway to Lake Berryessa and the Other Napa Valleys

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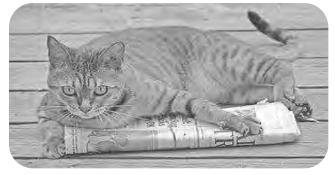
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From the Editor

There are some issues of extreme importance to the Lake Berryessa community that need to be closely followed by Lake Berryessa and West Lake area residents. The most critical, of course, is the BOR's newly released FEIS for the Visitor Services Plan. It was a big disappointment to supporters of a rational, inclusive plan for the lake. There is more about this in the following pages.

Even the meetings on Saturday, Nov. 12, the BOR sponsored at resorts around the lake, to introduce the FEIS were disappointing to the attendees. In meetings at which they believed they would be given some actual facts determining their fate and the fate of their property, all they got was "we did our job, now it's up to the people above us to make the decision, so we really don't know what to tell you". That may not be all bad since clearly someone with a bit more pragmatic common sense needs to get involved at the Department of the Interior and in Congress. This is what the Town Hall Meeting in Winters on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 1 P.M. at the high school gym is all about.

For those who did not attend, the BOR rolled out the big guns; Mike Finnegan - Mid-Pacific manager at Folsom, Rick Johnson - Folsom coordinator, Pete Lucero - Lake Manager, and Jeff McCracken - Public Relations officer, accompanied by four Sheriff's Deputies (no comment)! They tried their best to answer all the inquiries, but were frequently unable to explain how they will go forward from here. Comments from those who did attend indicated the meeting was frustrating and basically a waste of time.

But the other ongoing process we all need to be involved in is the Napa County General Plan. The County has commissioned an Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan and is seeking comments about alternatives to be investigated. The alternatives are discussed in a story in this issue. One alternative "would also include enhanced economic development activities such as policies and zoning to support sustainable commercial "nodes" in Oakville, Rutherford, Pope Valley, Angwin, and Lake Berryessa." This should be of great interest to residents, and especially the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce. Please read the alternatives and make your comments by Dec. 12 to the County.

To the Editor

I am disturbed that Lake Berryessa is not well known in Congress and the Department of the Interior regarding the "reshaping" of the area. I have sent Secretary Norton an email over two months ago and have yet to receive a response. I am aware that many officials receive numerous emails, however, I wanted to get the message quickly to her office and was afraid the delay of US mail scrutiny (because of the anthrax issues) would take too long.

With over 17,000 petitions signed and sent to Congress and Bureau of Reclamation decision-makers, an Economic Study (paid for by the Citizens to Protect Lake Berryessa) and numerous telephone calls, I am quite surprised that little is known within the Department of the Interior and Congress regarding the take over by the Bureau.

The Bureau's continual posture of "don't confuse us with the facts, our minds are made up" discredits the government process. I am a government employee for over 30 years and am appalled of the attitude exhibited by Bureau employees and representatives.

The Bureau's plan eliminates a tried and true revenue stream, takes away usage of some of the best coves and areas of the lake for water skiing, wakeboarding, fishing or just beaching a pontoon boat and eating lunch and excludes all motorized craft from some coves. I may be totally off base but excuse me...a lake with over 165 miles of shoreline has room for ALL lake users not just a few kayakers and canoe boaters (I have a canoe myself and do not see a problem with living in harmony with my other lake users).

I urged Secretary Norton to attend (or staff person) a meeting called by the City of Winters and attended by staff from Congressman Richard Pombo and many stakeholders on November 19, 2005 in Winter's High School at 1:00 PM to get unbiased information first hand.

Please do not let government fail us.

Sincerely,

Philip Constantino, President Lake Berryessa Marina Resort Tenant's Association

To All Lake Berryessa Supporters:

<u>Stop the Bureau of Reclamation's Destructive Plan for Lake</u> Berryessa! Attend the Town Hall Meeting in Winters!

TOWN HALL MEETING 1:00 PM SATURDAY, NOV. 19, 2005 WINTERS HIGH SCHOOL GYM

The Bureau of Reclamation has released its Final EIS for Lake Berryessa. It was a rousing disappointment. It continues to promote Alternative B in which all mobile homes will be removed and the resorts completely demolished and rebuilt. It ignored all the opposing public comments, economic analyses, and common sense proposals that were made during the last two years.

The City of Winters, which will be drastically affected by the BOR proposal, has received the support of Congressman Richard Pombo, Chair of the House Resources Committee, for a Congressional Town Hall Meeting to address the concerns of Winters and the Lake Berryessa community regarding the shortcomings of the plan and the flawed process that created it. Congressional staff representatives will be there to hear you. This will be your last chance to affect the outcome.

It is of vital importance that an ENORMOUS number of Winters and Lake Berryessa supporters - businesses, residents, and permittees - turn out for this meeting. In no other way can you effectively demonstrate to the congressional representatives how important this issue is for you - and how necessary it is for them to hear the WHOLE story. While the FEIS is unyielding in its determination to remove all long term sites and radically change the lake community, only the Record of Decision will define the final plan – and it has not yet been written!

The High School Gym is located just north of Hwy. 128 and County Road 89/Railroad Ave. intersection – the only traffic light in town.

BOONE'S SALOON

Restaurant * Bar * Live Music

Kids of all ages welcome!

Happy Thanksgiving!

We will be a losed Wednesday, Nov. 23 through Friday, Nov. 25. We will reopen at 5:00pm on Saturday, Nov. 26.

Saturday, December 31 - New Year's Eve Party

Make your dinner reservations today and dine from a special menu of Cornish Game Hen. Salmon or Pasta entrees.

Dance all night to the fabulous "Ralph Woodson Trio",

enjoy finger foods from 10:00pm on, party favors and a glass of champagne or beer at midnight. \$10 cover charge gets you in to party. (Dinner purchase is additional.)

Sunday, January 1 - New Year's Day Breakfast 9am - 1pm

Come and enjoy a plate of eggs, bacon or sausage, and pancakes with an endless cup of coffee for only \$6.QQ.

Bloody Marys and other bar favorites will be available tod

Join us every Tuesday night for \$3.00 all-you-can-eat Taco Night

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday open at 5:00pm for Dinner; **Closed Wednesday**Saturday open at 12:00am for Lunch and Dinner
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Currently meeting at the Community Church across from the Corners. For more information call 257-0527.

Weekly Berryessa Youth Meeting on Wednesday nights, 7:00 PM at the Vol. Fire Station. For more information call Gina Hamilton, 966.2816

Sufi Center ~ Meditation & Healing Circle - Pope Valley

Every Thursday - 7pm ~ Every Sunday - 6pm 1st Sunday of every month - Pot Luck - 4pm to 6pm

Info - Call 707-965-0700, 2950 Pope Valley Canyon Rd.

Get your event on the calendar by calling 966-3806 or 287-6240 Email shirllake@myexcel.com or pkilkus@aol.com.



Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report regarding the Napa County General Plan

Written comments can be submitted at any time during the notice period which begins October 21 and ends at 4:45 PM on December 12, 2005. Letters should be directed to:

Napa County General Plan Update Attn: Patrick Lowe, EIR Task Manager 1195 Third Street Napa, CA 94559 (or e-mail to info@napacountygeneralplan.com)

- 1. Alternative 1 (Status Quo) This alternative would modify the existing General Plan and implementing ordinances to prohibit new parcel splits (probably by increasing minimum parcel sizes) and preserve existing land uses within unincorporated Napa County. Little new development would occur and major infrastructure improvements would not be feasible. There would be no change to the amount of land designated for industrial or agricultural use, although the present Agriculture, Watershed & Open Space (AWOS) district would be split into an AOS district and a WOS district, with the latter including areas where preservation of natural habitats would be prioritized. (This would be subject to a countywide vote under the terms of the County's "Measure J" referendum process.) The minimum parcel size for new wineries would increase from 10 to 40 acres, and additional forest protections would be included in the County's Conservation Regulations. No new sites would be made available for affordable or workforce housing.
- 2. Alternative 2 (Extension of Existing Plan) This alternative would update the existing General Plan without substantive policy changes, except that planned expansions in highway capacity would not occur. Slow housing and employment growth would continue principally w/in existing urban areas, no changes to agricultural or industrial areas would occur, and there would be no change to the amount of land designated for agricultural use. No changes to the Winery Definition Ordinance or the Conservation Regulations would occur, and no new sites would be made available for affordable or workforce housing.
- 3. Alternative 3 (Plan Update) This alternative would modify the existing General Plan and implementing ordinances by re-designating existing industrial lands for residential use (at the Dillingham & Pacific Coast sites) and commercial mixed use (at the Napa Pipe site). Slow housing and employment growth would occur w/in these areas in addition to existing urban areas, with the goal of maintaining a reasonable jobs-housing balance within the County. Incentives would be offered for on-site farmworker housing, and consistent with the City of Napa's General Plan, the County would support increased residential density within downtown Napa and encourage consideration of publicly owned sites

within the City for mixed use (including housing). Infrastructure improvements would include widening of Jamieson Canyon Road (State Hwy 12), extension of Flosden/Newell to Green Island Road, and provision of recycled water to the Coombsville and Carneros areas. Increased emphasis would be placed on alternative modes of transportation, with potential increases in trails, transit, and paratransit (i.e. van and taxi service). Re-designation of the Hess vineyard north of American Canyon from "Industrial" to "Agriculture, Watershed & Open Space" would increase the amount of land designated for agricultural use and policy changes would expand the "right to farm" to include a "right to process" (i.e. at wineries) and allow food-wine pairing at wineries. Changes to the Conservation Regulations would make erosion control plans (for vineyards) ministerial (i.e. a simpler approval process) with inclusion of effective Best Management Practices (BMPs). Affordable housing would be included as a percentage of new housing developed on industrial and publicly owned sites. No Measure J vote would be required.

- 4. Alternative 4 (Plan Update w/Enhanced Affordable Housing & Historic PreservationFocus) This alternative would include all the same changes as Alternative 3, but would also include General Plan and zoning changes required to re-designate some land adjacent to the cities of Napa and/or American Canyon for housing, as well as incentives for the reuse of historic buildings in agricultural areas such as Pope Valley, and the adjustment of urban boundaries to match zoning and uses in Angwin. (These changes would require a Measure J vote - however there would be no net change to the amount of land designated for agricultural use.) Second units would be permitted in the Agricultural Preserve (AP) zoning district similar to the Agricultural Watershed (AW) zoning district and small wineries (less than 20,000 gallons) would no longer require a use permit if they exclusively process grapes grown on site. Vineyard management companies would be permitted to locate in agricultural areas.
- 5. Alternative 5 (Plan Update w/Enhanced Transportation Focus) This alternative would include all the same changes as Alternative 3, but would also include enhanced transportation improvements including redesignating Hwy 29 around St. Helena and Calistoga (e.g. using Zinfandel Lane and Silverado Trail), extension of Napa Flosden/Newell to So. Kelly Road, ferry & light rail service between Vallejo and Napa (including Napa Pipe) & potentially between Fairfield and Napa if feasible. Policies would emphasize energy conservation and seek to increase alternative sources of energy.
- 6. Alternative 6 (Plan Update w/Enhanced Economic Development Focus) This alternative would include all the same changes as Alternative 3, but would also include enhanced economic development activities such as policies and zoning to support sustainable commercial "nodes" in Oakville, Rutherford, Pope

Valley, Angwin, and Lake Berryessa. (A Measure J vote may be required.) This alternative would also include an emphasis on economic and agricultural diversity (incl. sustainable timber harvest), a growth in service-sector employment, and policies regarding enhanced childcare services. Residential mixed-use could be considered for the Napa Pipe site. Vineyard management companies would be permitted to locate in agricultural areas and all new wineries using grapes grown on site would be exempt from use permit requirements.

7. Alternative 7 (Plan Update w/Additional Hillside Parcels) This alternative would modify the existing General Plan and implementing ordinances to preserve the agricultural character of the Napa Valley (including agricultural land within City boundaries) by permitting increased residential development in hillside areas. A Measure J vote would be required. Potential policy changes could include smaller minimum parcel sizes for wineries and residences and expansions of sewer and water infrastructure. Policies would emphasize energy conservation and seek to increase alternative sources of energy, including possible development of a cogeneration facility in the Knoxville area. Vineyards would be permitted on slopes of up to 35% (instead of 30% currently). All alternatives assume successful completion of the General Plan Update and assume that land use designations for vast sections of the County would remain unchanged.

Two priests died at the same time and met Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter said, "I'd like to get you guys in now, but our computer is down. You'll have to go back to Earth for about a week, but you can't go back as priests. What'll it be?"

The first priest says, "I've always wanted to be an eagle, soaring above the Rocky Mountains."
"So be it," says St. Peter, and off flies the first priest.

The second priest mulls this over for a moment and asks, "Will any of this week 'count', St. Peter?"

"No, I told you the computer's down. There's no way we can keep track of what you're doing."

"In that case," says the second priest, "I've always wanted to be a stud." "So be it," says St. Peter, and the second priest disappears.

A week goes by, the computer is fixed, and the Lord tells St. Peter to recall the two priests. "Will you have any trouble locating them?" He asks.

"The first one should be easy," says St. Peter.
"He's somewhere over the Rockies, flying with the eagles. But the second one could prove to be more difficult."

'Why?" asketh the Lord.

"He's on a snow tire, somewhere in North Dakota."

Bureau of Reclamation Ignores Public Comments and Pushes Destructive Plan for Lake Berryessa.

The Bureau of Reclamation has released its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Lake Berryessa. It was a rousing disappointment. It continues to promote Alternative B in which all mobile homes will be removed and the resorts completely demolished and rebuilt. It ignored all the opposing public comments, economic analyses, and common sense proposals that were made during the last two years. There is little difference from the original DEIS released exactly two years ago on Halloween, 2003. It was a faulty plan then, even more so now, since NONE of the positive economic proposals nor common-sense plans - Alternative A+ or the Resort Operators Plan - presented by a broad range of community stakeholders - were incorporated.

The only slight modification to the original was a statement that mobile homes may be phased-out over a period of time or moved to other locations within a resort on an interim basis as the resort is remodeled in the BOR image. The full summary from the FEIS is included at the end of this article.

Another disappointment was the response of local Congressional representative, Mike Thompson. Mr. Thompson has consistently supported the BOR and ignored pleas from his local constituents, including the people of the Lake Berryessa region and the people and City Council of Winters. Other local congressional representatives who were asked to assist did not do so. They apparently felt they fulfilled their obligation to their constituents by simply sending a staff memebr to the Bureau of Reclamation to inquire about the issue. They were given misleading information and apparently accepted it.

But there is a ray of hope for rational planning in this black cloud of government abuse of its citizens. Lake Berryessa supporters' latest calls, e-mails, and letters, when combined with a formal yet impassioned request from the City Council of the City of Winters to Congressman Richard Pombo, Chair of the House Resources Committee which oversees the BOR, has resulted in Mr. Pombo's agreeing to the City Council's request for a Town Hall Meeting in Winters on November 19, 2005 at 1 P.M. at the Winters High School Gymnasium. The Mayor of Winters will chair the meeting which may include a panel of stakeholders asking pointed questions of the BOR, followed by a period for members of the public to ask questions or make statements. Chairman Pombo's staff members will attend this meeting. They will also make a visit to the lake prior to the meeting, in order to be more knowledgeable about the various issues.

The only hope of influencing the final outcome of the Record of Decision is to have Congress intercede. They must determine whether the purpose and needs of the Lake Berryessa project, under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), have been met. Is Reclamation's plan even rational, considering all the data and economic analyses that showed the DEIS to be fundamentally flawed? Why should the government spend millions of dollars on a faulty plan of its own when a detailed alternative, the Resort Operators Plan (ROP), provides all the improvements to the lake, and more, than the government plan - but at no cost to the taxpayers?

And the only way they will know the truth is to send staff representatives to the Winters meeting. Supporters of a rational planning process for the lake believe their congressional representatives owe them at least this much. They urge everyone to call their congressman's offices (both local and in Washington, D.C.) again and demand a staff representative be present for the meeting.

The BOR held informational meetings Saturday, Nov. 12 at resorts around the lake. These meetings were for the BOR to explain their plans to the public. According to the BOR, per NEPA, the minimum 30 day period between release of the FEIS and the final Record of Decision is meant to be a "cooling off" period where all parties may review the final document to make sure it contains no substantive errors. Berryessa supporters believe there are many substantive problems with the document. The NEPA process says that all deliberations are now internal to the BOR as they make a final decision. Although Reclamation states that comments will neither modify the process nor outcome, they will be attached to the final document as public information.

From the FEIS: Description of Alternative B

The focus at Lake Berryessa would be the development of new facilities and programs to better serve the short-term visitor. This alternative would permanently remove all private long-term exclusive-use trailer sites and provide increased and improved short-term use opportunities. However, potential mitigation measures could include a phase out period that could involve relocation or consolidation of trailers on an interim basis to a less intrusive, fully developed site; actions that could require additional environmental analysis. Lakeshore areas at the resorts would be restored to a more natural setting and public access to those areas would be improved. Reclamation would maintain existing day-use areas and upgrade two vehicle pullouts to improve parking and trailhead access to the reservoir.

As a general framework, additional campsites, picnic areas, and recreational vehicle (RV) sites would be provided, along with customary lodging, houseboat rentals, and food, retail and marina services. A concessionaire would manage the Capell Cove launch ramp and the Camp Berryessa group campground under a fee-for-use system. Reclamation would develop a shoreline trail system and initiate a no-impact boat-in camping program.

Under the proposed action, Reclamation would

adopt a reservoir-wide zoning classification system, the Water Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) to designate appropriate types of recreational uses and use levels for various lake and shoreline areas.

The WROS does not impose numerical restrictions on any particular type of motorized or non-motorized watercraft. The WROS process incorporates adaptive management, therefore monitoring of the land and water use classifications (zones) designated for Lake Berryessa and adapting for appropriate or necessary change will be an ongoing process.

This document amends Lake Berryessa's 1992 RAMP, which presently still guides recreation management at the lake. The proposed action is needed to remedy over four decades of management practice under which prime shoreline areas have been reserved for exclusive long-term trailer site permittees, to the exclusion of the majority of visitors to Lake Berryessa.

A company with expertise in the commercial recreation hospitality industry was contracted to provide an economic feasibility an analysis of the business potential as outlined in Alternative B. Based upon an analysis of initial "phase I" development, Dornbusch determined that Alternative B is economically feasible and provides a reasonable opportunity for a concessionaire to realize a profit. The economic analysis adopted a conservative approach because Alternative B introduces such significant transitional changes from current operations. Typically, when calculating business feasibility for the next term of a concession authorization, a major component of the work is projecting the current business. However, the current business will no longer be applicable as all exclusive long-term trailer use will eventually be eliminated and replaced with new facilities and programs that focus on traditional short-term recreation users.

Reclamation will rely on the competitive contracting process to develop and propose business models for recreation management that conform with the framework for concession operations in the VSP EIS preferred alternative and the final Record of Decision (ROD), and produce a fair and reasonable profit for the successful concession contractor.

Reclamation estimates approximately 12 - 20 instances lake-wide where retired elderly people have taken up permanent residence at various resorts. Such residency conflicts entirely with terms and conditions of existing concession contracts and existing use permits. Nevertheless, removal of these individuals from their place of residence, in most cases, could impose a significant hardship on them and/or their primary caretakers. Accordingly, as a potential mitigation measure, Reclamation may accommodate these individuals within Alternative B or any other alternative that requires re-location and/or removal of long-term exclusive use trailers.

Thanksgiving Word Search



V P T U R K E Y
Y I T W K N M I
F E H O C O R N
E F A M I L Y D
A A N O W O E I
S L K F V D D A
T L S C O O K N

COOK CORN FALL FAMILY FEAST INDIANS PIE PILGRIMS THANKS *How can you make a turkey float?

You need 2 scoops of ice cream, some root beer, and a turkey.

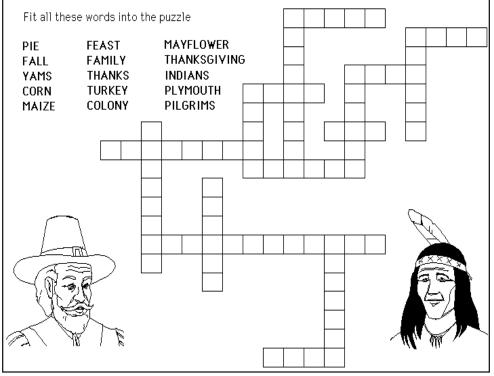
*Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?

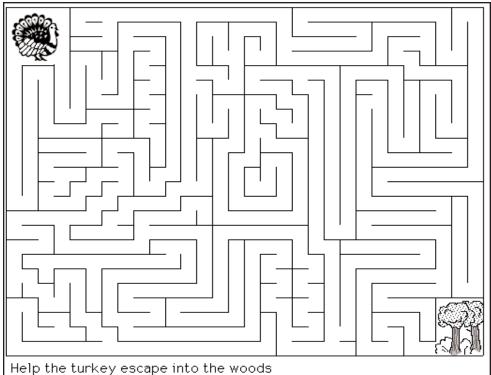
The outside

*Where did the first corn come from?

The stalk brought it.

Thanksgiving Crossword









EZIAMC **AMERICA** COLONY GG соок CORN G M 0 ENGLAND FALL **FAMILY FEAST** A S Н FREEDOM GRAVY HARVEST INDIANS MAIZE MAYFLOWER PIE PILGRIMS PLYMOUTH PUMPKIN SAIL SETTLERS SICKNESS В U SQUASH STUFFING РΟ DΥ S ITU THANKSGIVING TURKEY ALLSMAYH SHZB YAMS

*What key has legs but can't open doors? A Turkey.

*What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children? If your father could see you now, he'd turn over in his gravy!

*If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims!

*Why did the turkey cross the road? It was the chicken's day off.

Lake Berryessa Marina Resort The Family – Oriented Resort

*Camping

*Full RV Hookups

*Full Service Store ~ Gas Docks

*Cabins

*Berths Available

*Boat and Jet Ski Rentals *Launch Ramp ~ Open Daily

707-966-2161 www.lakeberryessa.com

Home Wine-Making

Time Magazine recently had a story that should be of interest around the lake. Just remember, making wine at home may be fun, but not a replacement for buying it from one of our many fine local wineries!

For Wine connoisseurs, the phrase homemade wine conjures up images of the dense, sweet plonk made in some grandfather's basement. Like bathtub gin, amateur vino is long on tradition and alcohol but generally short on finesse and taste. But taking their cues from the microbrew-beer hobbyists of the 1990s, an increasing number of oenophiles are making their own vintages that are not only refined but often also award winning.

After the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, the Federal Government changed the rules to permit every household with two adults in residence to make 200 gallons of wine or beer a year. While that sanctioned the work of immigrant winemakers - often Italians and Greeks trying to maintain a liquid connection to the land and traditions they left behind - the amateur vintners usually relied on rustic equipment and grapes they grew in their backyards. Today's garagistes (French for the home enthusiasts who make vintages where they used to park their cars) have gone upscale, using modern equipment, better grapes and juices and prepackaged kits to make their Cabernets, Sauvignon Blancs and do-it- yourself champagnes.

Creating your own winery doesn't require a great deal of expertise or expense. A starter kit that makes five gallonscosts about \$100, or \$4 a finished bottle. The kits come with basic equipment, yeasts, and juice or concentrate from fruit grown in the same places - in California, France, Italy and other wine regions - that professional wineries use. Just follow the directions, and in four to six weeks you can be uncorking wine from your own château or apartment.

To move beyond kits to get the whole grape-stomping experience, you have to spend at least an additional \$400 to buy the basics: grape crusher, strainer, press and barrel. If you prefer wine-making in a more communal atmosphere, you can sign up for one of the increasingly popular community wineries, such as San Francisco's Crushpad, or franchised clubs like Vintner's Cellar, Wine Not International, and Carafe Winemakers.

Elvis is King of Top-Earning Dead Celebrities

Forbes.com has released its annual list of the top-earning dead celebrities. For the fifth year in a row, the most grateful dead celebrity hauling in piles of cold cash is Elvis Presley.

The Top 13 DEAD Earners: Elvis Presley, Charles M. Schulz, John Lennon, Andy Warhol, Theodore "Dr. Seuss" Geisel, Marlon Brando, Marilyn Monroe, J.R.R. Tolkien, George Harrison, Johnny Cash, Irving Berlin, Bob Marley, Ray Charles



Fishing Connection Sponsors Children Connection

Fishing Connection's Sidney Silberberg, who contributes a regular fishing column to The Lake Berryessa News, also contributes his time to rescuing lost children. He is a sponsor of Project Pride (www.projectpridelostchild.com/), a non-profit organization dedicated to helping find abducted, exploited and missing children. Project Pride provides a Child's Personal Identification and Fingerprint Record which contains a home fingerprint ink strip and instructions on how to use properly plus 2 personal record folders to keep fingerprints and identification information. A police officer will be glad to assist you in fingerprinting at a police station near you. To receive a free copy of the Child Identification Kit shown on this page, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Peter Kilkus 1515 Headlands Drive Napa, CA 94558

or call Sid at 650-583-3333

