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Berryessa Corners Store is open from 6 AM until 9 PM every day.

Coffee & muffins for your morning wake-up. Large selection of groceries and cooking items.

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at
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SPECIAL**

**We will pick up and
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from Markley Cove
or Pleasure Cove.
Only \$50.00 with
work scheduled by
May 20.**





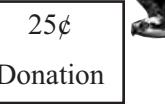
The Lake Berryessa News

Community News Makes a Better Community

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!

May 7 to May 20, 2009

 25¢
Donation



Bureau of Reclamation's Final Plan for Lake Berryessa

Summer 2009 - Hold the Line

**3 Resorts with Launching & Some Lodging, 1 Public
Launch, 2 Public Parks with 100 Public Campsites**

Mike Finnegan, Bureau of Reclamation Area Manager, described Reclamation's present position and future plans for Lake Berryessa to the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce at a meeting last week. Janet Rogers, Lake Manager, and Supervisor Diane Dillon were also present.

Mr. Finnegan said the new Bid Prospectus is scheduled to be released by May 11, which would be earlier than anticipated although that date is not guaranteed.

A site visit by prospective bidders will be scheduled within weeks of the release. Prospective bidders will have 90 days to respond. He was hopeful that contractor selection would be complete by the end of 2009 and that all resorts would be open by the 2010 summer recreation season with basic services in place.

Mr. Finnegan explained that the contract problem that stopped the negotiations surfaced during the final legal review – after more than 6 months of negotiation. It has to do with the “Anti-Deficiency Act” which requires the government to have a defined source of funds before they contract for a possible outlay of those funds.

The fact that the new contracts would have 30-year terms with an implication that the government might pay for some of the capital improvements at the end of the contract although there was no formal Congressional budget appropriation, raised the red flag with federal attorneys and the process was stopped.

Regarding the four closed west shore resorts (Putah Creek, Berryessa Marina, Rancho Monticello, Spanish

Flat), Mr. Finnegan was firm and clear that none of them will be open for the 2009 summer season. Reclamation has required all four resorts to remove their personal property and permanent facilities (launch ramps, buildings, water and sewer systems, etc). Reclamation has “court-tested the property issues” and is confident that they will be able to move forward with the removal of the facilities.

At the present time they are respecting the property rights of the previous contractors whose property still remains on the resort grounds. However, those previous contractors are required to remove their property and Reclamation will pursue that action in the courts. Putah Creek and Berryessa Marina are in bankruptcy, which complicates the situation at those resorts.

He said that the basic concern of prospective bidders is that they would be required to buy existing facilities which did not have the 30-year economic life-time of the proposed contract. Reclamation intends to provide clean sites for the new contractors.

The Bureau of Reclamation will receive \$4.4 million in stimulus funds for clean-up, remediation, and other transition activities at Lake Berryessa. Mr. Finnegan believes these funds will be sufficient to accomplish three clean-up objectives: debris removal, removal of abandoned infrastructure, and removal of permanent facilities and property owned by former concessionaires.

Some of the stimulus funds must be kept in reserve. An example is the remediation of contamination at Putah Creek Resort. The contamination

plume has spread under the Putah Creek Store and the store would have to be demolished to reach the contaminated soil. However, the resort is in bankruptcy so the store cannot be touched at this time. Reclamation estimates that more than \$1M of the stimulus funds would be needed for that project alone.

Stimulus funds will be used for eight to twelve additional labor positions, heavy equipment operators, and three to five demolition and hauling contracts. A contract for an environmental consulting company may be needed due to remediation issues with asbestos in the old trailers and other structures.

Security has become a serious concern with vandalism occurring at several closed resorts. Reclamation hopes to use stimulus funds to contract with the Napa County Sheriff's Department for security services at the resorts and at Oak Shores Park.

The Stimulus Bill requires full and open competition for the funds. Although Reclamation would prefer to recruit from the local community first, all hires and contracts must be through competitive bidding and follow the law. They will begin hiring during the next several weeks.

Reclamation supports the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District (NBRID) and agrees that any new contractor for Steele Park must be part of the NBRID. Although this will put an additional financial burden on the company which wins the Steele Park contract (and may discourage bidders), Reclamation has provided a 5% special surcharge incentive in the

The campsites will require reservations, but Reclamation will not manage that process. Markley Cove Resort and Pleasure Cove Resort are in the process of bidding on a contract to provide reservation services.

(Continued on Page 3)

Napa County Supervisors Should Approve the Lake Luciana Golf Course Project

One of the most important goals of local government is to create social and economic assets which support the future of a community. The Lake Luciana Project is an extraordinary opportunity to create a long-term social and economic asset in our greater Lake Berryessa region, beyond even its major positive impacts on Pope Valley itself.

The success of the new resorts at Lake Berryessa will depend heavily on partnerships between them and the other recreational resources in the Napa Valley itself, such as wineries and hotels. The Lake Luciana project, and the Aetna Springs Golf Course and resort restoration, will become two of those partners. Lake Berryessa will provide recreational opportunities such as boating, houseboating, water-skiing, kayaking, and other amenities to the guests and residents of the Lake Luciana project and Aetna Springs.

The County Supervisors should support the benefits of the Lake Luciana project to the local community and to the Lake Berryessa Region as a whole.

All environmental impacts are mitigated as verified by County staff and their experts. There will be no use of groundwater to irrigate the course.

The project restores wetland, grassland, and streams while estab-

lishing permanent wildlife corridors. It protects open space in perpetuity.

It allows no ridgeline development and creates local jobs and revenue.

It provides low cost Pope Valley and reduced-price Napa golf memberships, ensuring long-term access for the local community to the golf course and its amenities.

It creates opportunity for a public trail, called for in the General Plan, that is lost forever without project.

The County Supervisors should recognize that the approval of the project will prevent the loss of investment capital and the potential loss of the Aetna Springs resort restoration.

This is important because Aetna Springs is a significant historic resource that should be preserved.

The Lake Luciana and Aetna Springs investors have said that they will not move forward with the Aetna Springs restoration without Lake Luciana. No other investor will spend any money pursuing Aetna Springs because they cannot trust the process. They may be wrongfully denied even after following all of the rules, as has happened to the Lake Luciana group.

A denial when the rules have been followed weakens investor confidence in Napa for other investments, including vines, industry, hospitality, and housing.

The County Supervisors should acknowledge that there is no impact from this project on agriculture or the viewshed.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Ron Cox	22nd
Jim Edmundson	23rd
William Hughes	22nd
Jerry Rehmke	25th
Linda Tschida	30th
Rosemarie Wilson	29th

The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

Published the first and third Thursday of each month.

Owner/Editor

Peter Kilkus

415-307-6906 (Cell), Email: PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net

Subscribe for only \$25 per year. Send check or money order with your name, address, and email address to:

The Lake Berryessa News - Peter Kilkus
1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

Agriculture is not harmed by the project. The 226 acre site is not viable for agriculture. It has already seen failed vineyards.

It is within a larger agricultural area where virtually every plantable acre is already in vines or planned for vines. The loss of this acreage to vines will not negatively affect the local grape-growing economy.

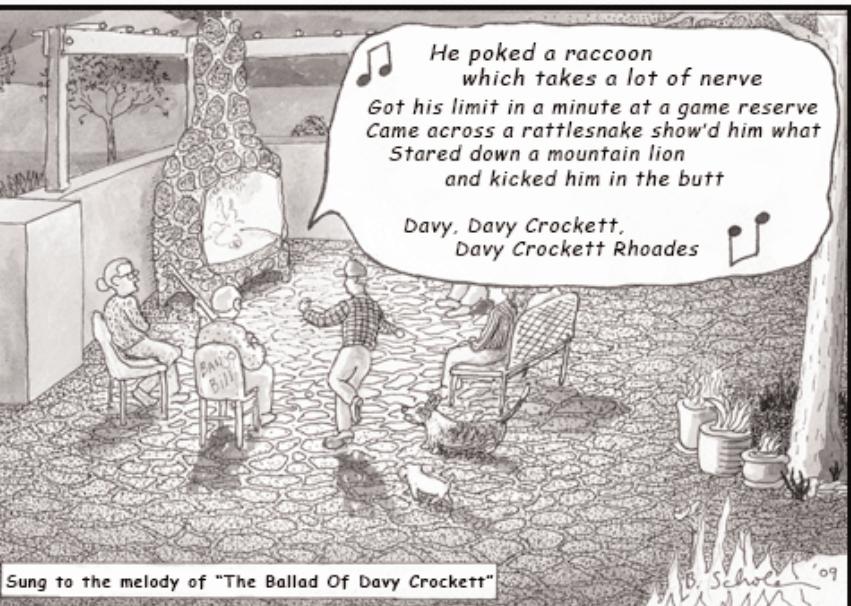
This location will not be replanted in grape vines whether there is a golf course or not.

The site is in a unique recreational location. The golf course can't be replicated locally and is not a precedent for more golf courses in the region.

The site is not visible from most roads and most of Pope Valley.

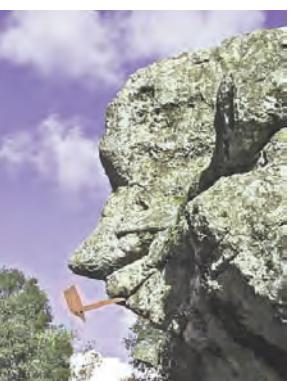
NAPALACHIA

by Bill Scholer



I encourage you all to support the project and send your letters to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible.

Peter Kilkus, Owner/Editor



Go to www.LakeBerryessaNews.com to hear the lyrics in the cartoon below sung by a band of angels! Just another fun night in the Berryessa Highlands!

New Generation at Turtle Rock!

Congratulations to Pete and Chavonne on the birth of their son Elijah Wei Kai Leung. Another new generation hits Turtle Rock. Thanks to Bill & Sherry White for the story below from the 1988 edition of their paper, Berryessa: Past, Present, and Future. I scanned it in so it may be a bit hard to read, but catch the line about 11 year-old Pete, Jr. helping out! The proud parents didn't have time to send me a baby picture so I created a scientific simulation of what Elijah may look like - below.

1988 BUSINESS OF THE WEEK
Turtle Rock

Every Tuesday night during the winter the parking lot at Turtle Rock is full to capacity. The reason is that Pete and JoAnn Leong, owners of the place, are in there cooking up wonderful Chinese cuisine.

Turtle Rock home of the Lizard Races, is not just a bar, but also a cafe, gas station, and general grocery and bait store. And the patrons of Turtle Rock feel right at home there. Everybody is "family", so to speak. It's just one of those places people can go to relax and be themselves.

Pete and JoAnn have owned Turtle Rock for almost 8 years, now. Prior to that Pete Managed the 300 club at the Bel Aire Bowl in Napa for 16 years and JoAnn worked there for 13 years. The couple have two children, daughter Dene, 15 and son, Pete, Jr., 11. Both can be found helping mom and dad out with the business during their spare time.

The Chinese dinners on Tuesdays will stop with the onset of summer (Memorial Day Weekend) and will resume again after Labor Day in September. But you can stop by on the weekends and have a good old home-style breakfast prepared by Madilene, or enjoy burgers from the grill before 6 p.m., 7 days a week.

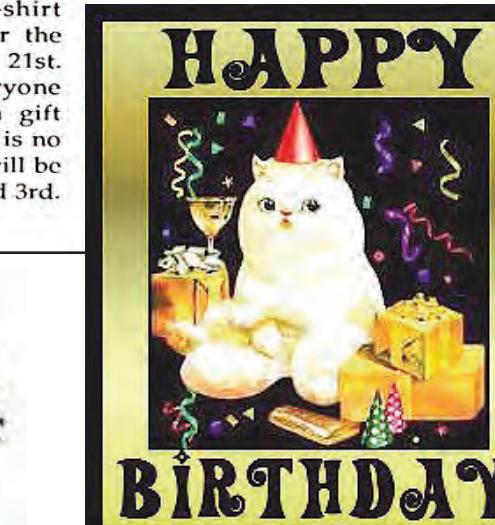
This year, to celebrate the lizard races, Turtle Rock is sponsoring a wet T-shirt contest to be held after the races on Saturday, May 21st. (in the evening). Everyone entering will receive a gift from Turtle Rock. There is no fee to enter and prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd., and 3rd. place winners.



Turtle Rock Bar & Cafe.



Pete serving up BBQ to customers.



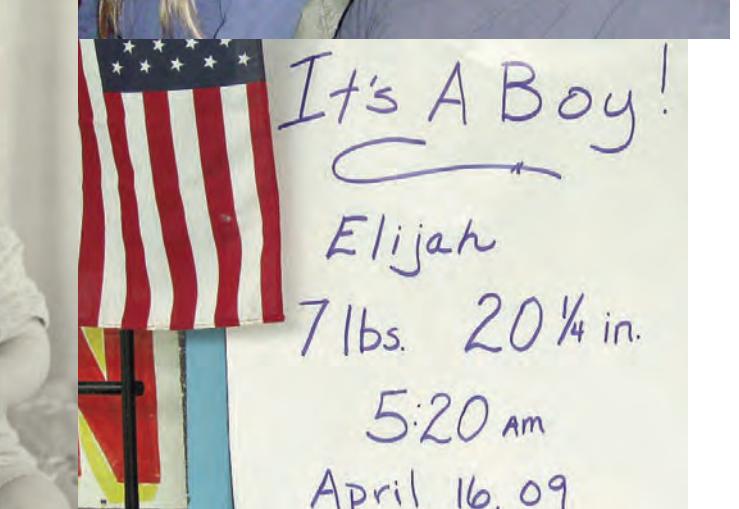
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**20 Years Ago at Lake Berryessa
by Bill White, from Berryessa -
Past, Present, & Future (1988)**

I've only lived in the area for the past three decades, but in that time I've seen and heard a lot. With the help of my memories and the stories handed down from local "oldtimers" I will try and tell a few of the stories I've heard.

Before Lake Berryessa (1951) my family had a home and ten acres of land along Capell Creek, just across from the present "Free Boat Ramp". The house, had it been left standing, would not have been flooded. But it was removed as part of the government's "Take Line" survey.

"The old cabin", as family members called it, was a small house. Most vividly I remember that one wall in the living room was made entirely of creek stone and sported a fine fireplace. Memories of birthdays and Christmas are recalled each time I drive by the area. Living on the property was a kind of caretaker, handyman and family friend named Fred Carpenter. "Uncle Fred" to the children.

Uncle Fred was in his seventies at the time. My father worked in the bay area at that time and Uncle Fred would take care of things while the family was away. Uncle Fred would always make out a grocery list which dad would fill and bring back on weekends. Uncle Fred would stockpile the basic staples and it never seemed strange to anyone for Fred to have lots of flour, beans and sugar on

Hear & see more on May 24 at the Berryessa Valley Exhibit at the Spanish Flat Center. See Page 11

Memorial Day 1988

BOR reports that the visitor count reached 61,872. This was a car count with counters placed at every entrance to the lake.

The count on the same weekend in 1987 was 51,000 and back in 1986 it was 54,000. The drop in 1987 was attributed to the big celebration for the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco on the same weekend.

A flyover of the lake indicated a boat count of 2,644 which is the second highest weekend count at the lake. Also law enforcement was busy issuing 162 citations and making 15 arrests.

hand. Why not? If that's what he wanted Dad or Uncle Fred had use for the sugar. Oh yes indeed. For upon the hill above the old cabin, in the bushes, overlooking a small pond was his whiskey still ...and a darn good one to. Fred manufactured his own "White Lighting" from an age old recipe handed down thru generations, brewed thru copper tubing. But, the still would come to be Uncle Fred's worst nightmare in the end.

One day Uncle Fred went to Monticello for a drink. He had already had a few of his own making, but wanted some company. At a local tavern he was refused service because of his impaired state. Not to worry Uncle Fred told all. "So what", I'll go drink my own" and let it slip that he produced his own "squeezins". Within a few days this information traveled across the mountains to the authorities and the old cabin property was raided by then local Sheriff John Clausen along with Federal Agents (at the time of the raid Uncle Fred was alone on the property).

Uncle Fred was subsequently arrested and the still was destroyed. Uncle Fred spent one year and one day at McNeil Island Federal Prison in Washington State for his crime.

Uncle Fred lived several years after his prison term and tragically, if not ironically died from drowning in a boating accident while fishing. I remember Uncle Fred.

Between October and May the temperatures are pleasant and the

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- Corner Lot

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**Key Knoxville Ranch Acquired
for Fish and Game**

The Napa Land Trust and the Wildlife Conservation Board completed an extraordinary 15-year effort to purchase the 738-acre Todd Ranch in December. The property has now been transferred to the California Department of Fish and Game and incorporated into the Knoxville Wildlife Area in far north Napa County.

A key feature of the Todd Ranch is its abundant springs, which are a vital water source for wildlife and their habitat. The property also includes the Todd residence as well as the striking roundhouse building familiar to Knoxville Road motorists and large equipment shed - infrastructure that provides the Department of Fish and Game with a much needed residence for its personnel and a base for other maintenance operations.

These lands fall within the vast 800,000-acre Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area, which spans Napa, Lake, Colusa, and Yolo counties, and represents one of the largest expanses of conservation properties in the Bay Area.

The Knoxville Wildlife Area is open to the public, except for the headquarters buildings and some other limited spots. New parking turnouts along Knoxville Berryessa Road have improved public access for hunting, hiking, bird watching, and wildflower viewing.

To sign up for the fun, go to www.v-o-cal.org. or call 650-298-9774.

BOR Plans (Cont'd from Page 1)

Although the proposed campsite permits will require sign-off at the highest levels and the Federal contracting process is slow, the fact that this action uses stimulus funds helps add a sense of urgency. Mr. Finnegan assured attendees that the seriousness of Lake Berryessa situation has reached the highest levels in the Department of the Interior in Washington.

Reclamation is researching requirements to add a fuel station at the north end of the lake, but permitting requirements make this option unlikely. Unfortunately, Camp Berryessa, the old Boy Scout camp, will not be available due to safety and other concerns.

Reclamation is also negotiating interim contracts for summer operations at Markley Cove, Pleasure Cove, and Steele Park. There is no official word on the results of these contract negotiations yet.

The final part of the meeting was devoted to how Reclamation and the Chamber can work together as partners in promoting Lake Berryessa. Reclamation asked the Chamber for assistance in providing information about the opportunities at the lake that would encourage companies to bid. Reclamation will provide the names of potential bidders and industry organizations. The Chamber will develop an outreach package of information to be sent to these contacts.

On a more serious note, Mr. Finnegan stated that he believes there is too much inflammatory language about the Lake Berryessa situation on the Internet. Reclamation will take action to protect its employees. Free speech will be accepted, but threats or language inciting illegal activity such as cutting locks and breaking into federal property will not be tolerated.

Camping and meals are provided for volunteers throughout the weekend. Come for a day or stay the weekend. Come one day or all three.

What YOU get:

Free Food, Free

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On-Site Training,

Meet

New People,

Project Memento,

A

Great

Workout,

A Sense of

Accomplishment

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Berryessa Corners: BBQ & Bikes

Mike Schildknecht has been working hard for months to get Berryessa Corners fully re-opened. "We are after all, the gateway to Lake Berryessa", he says. "We are the first impression that most people get when driving up here to go to the lake. So it's important to make that a good impression."

The Berryessa Corners store has been open for several weeks while the restaurant - Mike's BBQ - opened last week to good reviews for the ribs. The bar is scheduled to open in mid-May.

Mike says he's here to cater to the locals and not so much the tourists. That means having a well-stocked grocery store where residents can buy not just chips, soda and beer, but all the items for fixing a home-cooked meal. Shoppers will now find shelves of pastas, soups, bread, fresh vegetables, eggs, milk and more.

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On May 16, Mike has offered his parking lot to the Davis Bicycle Club, which is sponsoring a 200 mile ride originating in Davis. (See inset on right.)

Some 700 riders will be passing the Corners between 7:30 - 9 A.M. Since this is a ride, not a race, there will be no road closures, but drivers are asked to exercise caution. Dan Shadoan of the DBC praised Mike's friendliness in offering Berryessa Corners as the first rest stop. The second rest stop is the Pope Valley Farm Center.



Valley Christian Church

Come join us for our Outdoor Worship Services on June 7th, 14th, 28th and July 5th

Senior Center Parking Lot

June 21st, our Annual Fathers Day Service and Cookout will find us at Oak Shores

Camping, Boating, Fishing
Please come as you are and worship Jesus with us.

Sunday Service at 10 A.M.
Sunday School for the Children.

Pastor Randall Roach
(707) 718-0995

Davis Bike Club Presents
40th Annual Davis Double Century
Saturday, May 16, 2009

Ride with cyclists from all over the U.S. and Canada on this nationally acclaimed 200 mile, one day cycling event. Start time is between 5:15 and 5:45am. For info go to: www.davisbikeclub.org/

Contact Pastor Randall B. Roach
(1-707-718-0995) for further information.

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Fresh Maine Lobster! Wednesday through Sunday**



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Dear Capell Families,

Thank you for helping to prepare your child for state testing that will be held now until May 14th. Encourage them to do their best, read questions carefully and double-check their answers. Ensuring students have a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast has been proven through research to have a positive impact on results. Thank you for partnering with us especially during this time of high stakes testing.

We continue to struggle with budget issues at the district and state levels and are still not certain about which staff positions may change for next year. We have applied for stimulus funding and are in conversation about how to use these funds to sustain revenues over time. It appears that the budget woes could be even worse next year. Much will depend on the outcome of the May ballot initiatives.

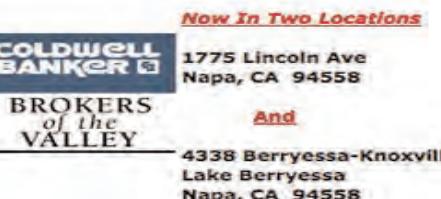
Our gardens are in! If you would like to help your child and their garden, you may come in at any time and work in it! 2nd Grade state testing will run the week of May 4-8. Kinder and 1st Grade students will also be doing assessments during this week. Please make sure your student gets plenty of rest and eats a healthy breakfast each morning! Ask your child about their larvae/cocoon/butterfly! They are hatching! We will set them free as needed to free up space in the net!

May 29: Field Day 2009. Capell Valley Campus will host this year's Field Day. We will also provide lunch prepared by our own students. Wooden Valley School will be leading the physical activities for the day and Pope Valley School will be our guests for this very special day
Capell Valley School Administrator & Teachers



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*74 acres (2 parcels) w/spectacular Lake views, easy-gated access. Priced to sell at \$349,000

*52 acres w/ building sites that maximize the never-ending Lake Berryessa views.....\$349,000

Vacation get-a-way opportunities tucked behind Spanish Flat Village Center in Spanish Flat Mobile Villa - an "all ages welcome" park. Walk to stores & Berryessa Senior Center..

*Like New, 3br/2ba, double-wide...\$62,500

*Better than New, 1 br/1ba, corner lot...\$29,500

*Need to sell now, 2 Br/1ba, refrig, washer & dryer...\$18,900

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Spanish Flat Village Country Store & Deli

Open 7 Days a Week from 6 AM to 6 PM

Deli: Chili Dogs, Steak Sandwich & Breakfast Egg Sandwich
General Store: Beer ~ Wine ~ Bait & Tackle



Marcia Ritz - Artist
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4318 Knoxville Road in the Spanish Flat Village Center

Berryessa Valley Exhibit

Sunday, May 24th, 2009

Join us for a look into the past
as we celebrate Monticello Days.

Hear Stories... Learn History...
Share Photos & Memories.
Pass it on... Keep the story alive!

2:00 pm Opening Ceremony for the
'Berryessa Valley Exhibit'.

Spanish Flat Village Center
4318 Knoxville Road
Lake Berryessa

Fun! Refreshments! Music! Friends!

For more information call
Carol Fitzpatrick 707-287-3708 or Donna DelBondio 707-927-6196
email: pumpkinridge@ymail.com



Dave Horning of EnviroSports leads barefoot swimmers to the Triathlon starting line.

The Lake Berryessa News

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Fill in the missing spaces so that each row, column and 3x3 block have all the numbers from 1 to 9.

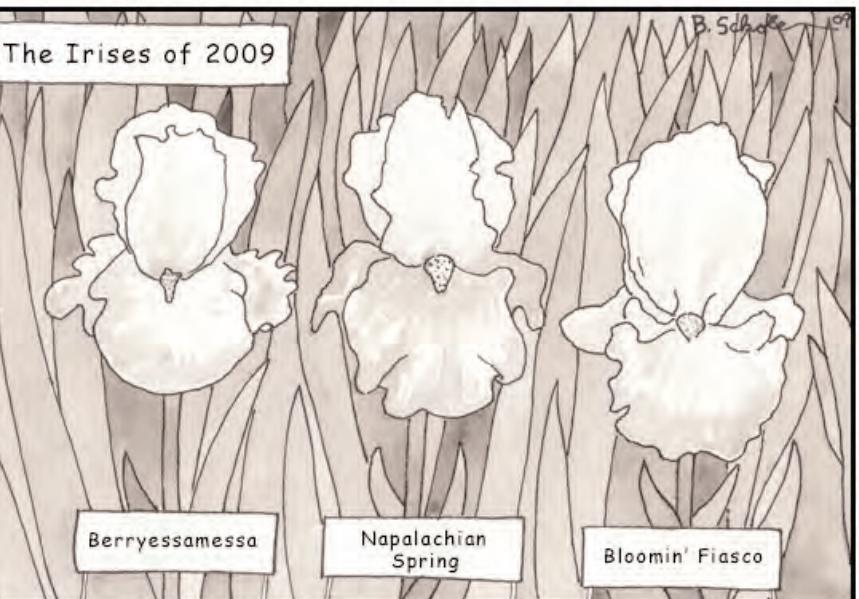
Difficulty Level: Difficult

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6			5	4	3	9		

Puzzle No. 6—Look for the solution on another page in this issue.

NAPALACHIA

by Bill Scholer



Napa Iris Garden, 9087 Steele Canyon Road, www.napairis.com
The garden bloom is progressing nicely and the best bloom will be during the first two weeks in May. Open to the public Fri., Sat., & Sun. 10am to 5 pm.

Community Church of Lake Berryessa

Located at 6008 Monticello Road
(Moskowitz Corners)

For information please contact Bob Lee

Phone: 707-252-4488

Email: terribob@pacbell.net

Mother's Day Service at Community Church of Lake Berryessa

All women, whether they're moms or not, are invited to join us on Sunday, May 10, as we celebrate Mother's Day with a special service and message just for them.

In honor of this special day a free car wash will be available for all women from 12:30 to 2:30, compliments of the men of Community Church.

2009 Lake Berryessa Calendar

May 3: Winters Farmers Market. Every Sunday, 8 AM - 1 PM. Rotary Park, Winters California
 May 8: Capell Valley School 5th Grade Outing to UC Berkeley
 May 9: Capell School School Car Wash. Proceeds will go to fund this year's Outdoor EducationProgram.
 May 9: Trout Derby, Spanish Flat Country Store and Deli, 707-966-1600
 May 10: Mother's Day. Community Church of Lake Berryessa Special Service for Mothers. Free car wash for all woment from 12:30 - 2:30 PM, compliments of the men of Community Church.
 May 14: Capell Valley School field trip to Jack London State Park
 May 15-17: Moore Creek Open Space Work Party. See story on Page 10.
 May 16: Davis Bicycle Club 40th Annual Double Century bike ride. Berryessa Corners is the first rest stop between 7-9:30 AM. See article and inset on Page 3.
 May 17: Angwin Fire Department Flea Market
 May 21: Watershed Symposium Napa Elks Lodge, 8:30 am-4:00 pm
 May 24: Berryessa Valley History Exhibit. 2 P.M. Spanish Flar Village Center. Hear Stories-Learn History-Share Photos & Memories. See flyer on Page 9.
 May 26: Capell Valley School filed trip to Napa Land Trust's Archer Taylor Preserve.
 May 29: Field Day 2009. Capell Valley Campus will host this year's Field Day. They will also provide lunch prepared by their own students. Wooden Valley School will be leading the physical activities for the day and Pope Valley School will be the guests for this very special day!
 May 30: A NCSC Sidecar Event at will be held at Acorn Beach in Oak Shores Day Use Area. The two shade shelters and parking lot are reserved for this group.
 May 30: Bass Tournament, Angler's Choice, Markley Cove
 May 30: "SPRINGTIME IN THE VINEYARD" at Berryessa Gap Winery, 11:30 A.M.to 3:30 P.M. (530) 795-320, valerie@berryessagap.com.
 June 6: 27th Annual Lake Berryessa one-mile and two-mile swim races, Davis Aquatic Masters, Oak Shores Park, <http://www.damfast.org/berryapplication.htm>
 June. 13: Trout Derby, Spanish Flat Country Store and Deli
 June. 15: Quilt Festival, Downtown Winters, 530 795-2580
 June 20: Berryessa Seniors Wine, Cheese, and Olive Oil Tasting, 4-7 PM
 July 18: Senior Center Casino Night/Pasta Dinner/Big Raffle. 5:30-10 PM.
 August 19: Capell Valley School All Day Kindergarten Begins
 August 25: Berryessa Seniors BBQ. Chef Paul will cook. 4 PM.
 Senior Center Bingo, 1 PM (Every Monday); Cards & Movie 7:30 PM (Every Fri.) 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road, 966-0206
 To list your event, contact Peter Kilkus at PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net or call 415 307-6906.



EnviroSports Triathlon swimmers in the rain at Oak Shores on May 3. Note the bare feet!

Fishing Without Sid (but with a story from a friend)

Hi Sid,

Saturday, April 18, 2009, I took my 5 1/2 year old grandson fishing down to the Lake. We got there at 5:30 pm and fished until 8:30 pm. Daniel caught a 1.5 lb Spotted Bass on his trusty Spiderman reel and rod I had bought for him at Wal-Mart for his 4th birthday last year.

It was rigged, Texas Style, with a Watermelon Zoom Brush Hog and a 3/8 oz bullet weight on 6 lb test line. The fish was caught at 6:50 P.M. in the cove at the Marina. The one closest to the Swimming Pond near dock #3.

The water was clear at 60 degrees. Little Daniel was so excited about catching the fish I thought he was going to speak in tongues. Needless to say, I was one proud Grandpa.

Best Regards, Albert Brown



Next Spanish Flat Center Trout Derby is on Saturday May 9.

You don't need a boat to catch fish at Lake Berryessa! Walter Bennett on the left with his son-in-law, Ben Barnard, and Ben's daughter Alexis. This was a stringer of trout caught on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Capell Cove launch ramp. No boat was used for this catch. They were caught with Live Minnow Bait purchased from the Spanish Flat Country Store! 707-966-1600



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Philosophy on a Starbucks Cup: The Way I See It #76

The irony of commitment is that it's deeply liberating – in work, in play, in love. The act frees you from the tyranny of your internal critic, from the fear that likes to dress itself up and parade around as rational hesitation. To commit is to remove your head as a barrier to your life.

Ann Morris, New York City

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Home: \$18,000**

1976 Suncrest 40' x 24', 2bdrrm/2bath plus bonus room. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer, dryer, wood stove. Central air and heat. Newly painted interior. New carpet and kitchen linoleum. Family park with pool and clubhouse. (Park not affected by resort closures) Small pet OK.

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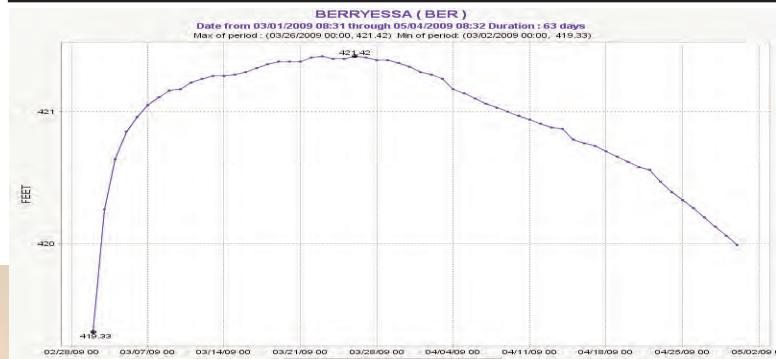
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- *Cucina Italiana Restaurant*
- *Spanish Flat Country Store *
- *Cantina Bar & Restaurant*

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Dam Level Update as of Monday, 5/4/09

The elevation of the spillway (Glory Hole) at Monticello Dam is **440** feet
Lake Berryessa has had **20.1** inches of rain since July, 2008
The water is now **20.1** feet below the top of the spillway
(20.1 twice above is not a typo, it's a mystical coincidence!)

Date	Elevation	Evap	High	Low	Rain
4/13/09	420.88	0.14	76	41	0.00
4/14/09	420.87	0.12	76	38	0.00
4/15/09	420.79	0.12	61	34	0.00
4/16/09	420.76	0.10	67	35	0.00
4/17/09	420.74	0.15	75	37	0.00
4/18/09	420.70	0.16	82	41	0.00
4/19/09	420.66	0.16	85	49	0.00
4/20/09	420.62	0.16	86	47	0.00
4/21/09	420.58	0.16	94	49	0.00
4/22/09	420.56	0.18	94	49	0.00
4/23/09	420.47	0.26	95	48	0.00
4/24/09	420.39	0.16	69	45	0.00
4/25/09	420.33	0.14	69	39	0.00
4/26/09	420.27	0.16	71	39	0.00
4/27/09	420.20	0.14	71	37	0.00
4/28/09	420.13	0.21	66	34	0.00
4/29/09	420.06	0.09	66	37	0.00
4/30/09	419.99	0.13	68	36	0.00
5/1/09	419.97	.08	67	38	0.00
5/2/09	419.94	0.02	64	52	0.55
5/3/09	419.91	0.04	61	52	0.19



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Puzzle No. 6 Solution

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4	1	5	9	3	2	6	7	8
3	2	6	8	1	7	9	5	4
1	6	9	4	2	5	3	8	7
2	3	8	1	7	9	5	4	6
7	5	4	6	8	3	2	9	1
5	9	3	7	6	8	4	1	2
8	4	2	3	9	1	7	6	5
6	7	1	2	5	4	8	3	9



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The Lake Berryessa News

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Your Best Source for News of Lake Berryessa and our Napa Back Roads!



Special Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce Summer, 2009 Edition

Markley Cove Resort is Open!*

The closest resort to Monticello Dam, Markley Cove offers cabin rentals, a convenience store, food service, marina services, boat slips, boat and jet ski rentals, boat gasoline. No day use picnic area.
(*Final interim contract pending.)

(707) 966-2134

Pleasure Cove Marina is Open!

Pleasure Cove Marina operates from the south end of the lake just off Hwy 128 and offers houseboat rentals, cabin rentals, tent & RV camping, boat slips, boat and jet ski rentals, boat gasoline. No day use picnic area.
(*Final interim contract pending.)

(707) 966-9600

Steele Park Resort Is Open!*

Steele Park Resort at 1605 Steele Canyon Road provides marina services, boat slips, boat launching, boat gasoline, RV sites, and a convenience store. No day use picnic area.
(*Final interim contract pending.)

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Cabin Rentals Markley Cove Resort (707) 966-2134

No matter how you access Lake Berryessa, you'll come through beautiful valleys. At the north is Pope Valley where you'll find the historic buildings of Aetna Springs, and Litto's Hubcap Ranch, California Landmark No. 939. From the west you'll pass through Chiles Valley or Capell Valley. And from the southeast a must see destination is the Monticello Dam.

To learn more about the area and for contact information visit the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce website:

www.LakeBerryessaChamber.com

Discover the Beautiful Backroads of Napa.

Nestled between Blue Ridge and Cedar Roughs, just 16 miles northeast of the city of Napa, Lake Berryessa and the surrounding area-the Backroads of Napa-offer year-round fun and recreation for all ages.

- Spectacular vistas
- Great fishing
- Miles of nature trails
- Quiet coves for kayaks & picnics
- Warm summer water for swimming, boating, wake-boarding, jet skiing, and water skiing

Lake Berryessa is one of the largest bodies of fresh water in California. It's approximately 26 miles long, 3 miles wide, with 165 miles of shoreline (that's more shoreline than Lake Tahoe!) Come and enjoy the waters of Lake Berryessa for boating, fishing, and swimming.

Spend the day exploring the beauty of the area. Stay for a while at a lake front resort. Rent a houseboat. Taste award-winning wines. Enjoy dining at one of the local haunts.

Come for the day and enjoy a scenic drive with a stop for food

and wine. Or spend a day on the water swimming and boating. Better yet, plan to stay for a while at one of the lakeside resorts or at the bed and breakfast within a vineyard and ranch. There is something to entertain everyone.

Water Sports, Boating & Fishing

The best way to appreciate the lake is from the water. Launch your own boat, or rent from one of the three lakeside resorts. The water is 75° warm in the summer, and the scenery is spectacular all year. You'll find many quiet coves to enjoy swimming and relaxation. Or take to the open water for tubing and skiing.

Bring your kayak or canoe and cruise along the shore or around one of several islands. There are a dozen different points around the lake with public access from the road for paddle launch.

The fishing at Lake Berryessa is rated as some of the best in the state. Anglers enjoy fishing for both cold and warm water species including bass, catfish, bluegill, rainbow trout, kokanee and crappie. Knowledgeable fishing guides are available year round. Contact the resorts for more information,

or launch your boat at Capell Cove.

Wildlife & Hiking

Hike one of the trails around the lake and go bird watching to see osprey and bald eagles as they catch "the one that got away" from the angler in the boat. Look for nesting eagles in the fall and winter months, along with geese, ducks, pelicans, loons, hawks and numerous other species throughout the year.

You might also see fox, bobcat, mountain lion, or snakes. Information and maps are available at trailheads or the Bureau of Reclamation Visitors Center.

Wineries

Leave the congested Napa Valley and visit our award-winning and historic local wineries. You'll discover why they have achieved cult status among discerning wine lovers.

Stop by and you'll often get to speak directly with the wine makers and learn more about the local vintage and viticulture. Plus, be sure to take in the beauty of the surrounding oak-studded hills and acres of Napa's most spectacular agricultural land and open space.

Welcome to the Summer 2009 Special Edition of the Lake Berryessa News

Lake Berryessa is a special place of beauty and relaxation. Despite the recent turmoil resulting in the closure of several west shore resorts, the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce wants you to know that there's still a lot to do out here, with many facilities and businesses ready to serve you.

Lake Berryessa is a manmade lake created to provide water for irrigation, municipal and industrial uses and flood control protection. Under the waters of Lake Berryessa lie ghost roads that once led to ranchers, farmers, miners, Native Americans, and Mexicans.

If it ain't true, it oughta be...by Bill White

I remember my father (William C. White retired park ranger from the Berryessa boat patrol) telling the story several times about boaters on Lake Berryessa saying that when the Lake levels are low you can still see the old Church steeple protruding from the Lake water. One fisherman even said that he had tied his boat off to the old, steeple and fished away the afternoon.

Well let's straighten this out once and for all. There is no Church under Lake Berryessa. There was no Church in Monticello. Regardless, everything over six inches high was knocked down and burnt before the Valley was flooded. It is just a tall tale...Folklore of the area.

Why I remember back in 1969 I was scuba diving in the area of the Monticello Dam and saw catfish the size of Volkswagens in that deep dark water. It's true.

Recently I met a tourist fisherman at a local tavern and told him of seeing those big catfish which I swore to him weighed at least 150 lbs. The tourist then told me that he too was a scuba diver and that just that day had been at the old Church steeple diving down into the old town of Monticello.

The tourist said he had actually swam into the old general store there and was amazed at how everything was still in place after all these years. He said it was just as if the townsfolk had just walked away from it leaving all in place. He noted that even a kerosene lamp was sitting on a table in the store and after three decades the lamp was still burning!

After regaining my composure, I told him that if he would turn off that kerosene I would cut 245 lbs. off the catfish I saw. He said he would.

So, if you see a church steeple out on the Lake, please, let someone else drive.

Lake Berryessa Facts

Monticello Dam: 304 feet high, 90 feet wide at base, 12 feet wide at crest
Dam spans 1,023 feet across the canyon (Devil's Gate)
23 miles long at longest point, 3 miles wide at widest point, 165 miles of shoreline.
Storage capacity: 1.6 million acre-feet of water

Lake Berryessa Information Links

Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce:
www.LakeBerryessaChamber.com

Lake Berryessa News:
www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

Legendary Napa Valley Web Site:
www.legendarynapavalley.com/

Bureau of Reclamation:
www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/berryessa/index.html

Lake Berryessa Fishing

www.fishsniffer.com/maps/berryessa.html

www.californiagameandfish.com/fishing/bass-fishing/CA_0506_02/

www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/field_offices/lake_berryessa/fishing.html

Hiking and Paddling

Berryessa Trail and Paddle Guide:
www.berryessatrails.org/guide/

Napa Land Trust: <http://napalandtrust.org/>

Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area (BRBNA):
<http://brbna.org/>

Yolo Hiker: <http://www.yolohiker.org/>

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.

Many people quit looking for work when they find a job.

Half the people you know are below average.

Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow.

For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism.

I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.

Cinco de Mayo at Pope Valley

On May 5th the Pope Valley students and families enjoyed our annual Cinco de Mayo celebration! Under the tutelage of Mrs. Eakle, all the students performed customary Mexican dance with their classmates while dressed in traditional regalia. We also had a wonderful feast and delighted in the food that many families brought to share with the entire school.



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2009 Lake Berryessa Calendar

May 24: Berryessa Valley History Exhibit. 2 P.M. Spanish Flair Village Center. Hear Stories-Learn History-Share Photos & Memories. See flyer on Page 9.

May 26: Capell Valley School field trip to Napa Land Trust's Archer Taylor Preserve.

May 28: Pope Valley School Science Fair, 6:30 P.M.

May 29: Field Day 2009. Capell Valley Campus will host this year's Field Day. They will also provide lunch prepared by their own students. Wooden Valley School will be leading the physical activities for the day and Pope Valley School will be the guests for this very special day!

May 30: Pope Valley School's Spring Picnic BBQ fundraiser at the Pope Valley Farm Center, 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M..

May 30: A NCSC Sidecar Event will be held at Acorn Beach in Oak Shores Day Use Area. The two shade shelters and parking lot are reserved for this group.

May 30: Bass Tournament, Angler's Choice, Markley Cove

June 1 - August 7: Winters Adventure Day Camp and Fun in the Park, Monday through Friday from 9 A.M.-2 P.M., Traci Nakamura at 795-4910 x102.

June 5: Pope Valley School Kindergarten Orientation, all incoming kindergarten students for 2009-2010 are invited to spend the morning in Mrs. Eakle's classroom.

June 6: 27th Annual Lake Berryessa one-mile and two-mile swim races, Davis Aquatic Masters, Oak Shores Park, <http://www.damfast.org/berryapplication.htm>

June 7: Winters EARTH Festival, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M., Rotary Park, 795-4910 ext. 108

June 10: Pope Valley School Graduation Ceremony 6:30 P.M.

June 13: Trout Derby, Spanish Flat Country Store and Deli

June 15: Quilt Festival, Downtown Winters, 530 795-2580

June 20: Berryessa Seniors Wine, Cheese, and Olive Oil Tasting, 4-7 PM

July 18: Senior Center Casino Night/Pasta Dinner/Big Raffle. 5:30-10 PM.

August 19: Capell Valley School All Day Kindergarten Begins

August 25: Berryessa Seniors BBQ. Chef Paul will cook. 4 PM.

Winters Farmers Market. Every Sunday, 8 AM - 1 PM. Rotary Park, Winters California

Senior Center Bingo, 1 PM (Every Monday); Cards & Movie 7:30 PM (Every Fri.) 4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road, 966-0206

To list your event, contact Peter Kilkus at PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net or call 415-307-6906.

Philosophy on a Starbucks Cup: The Way I See It, #242

"Children are born with such a sense of fairness that they will accept no less than equal treatment for all. I know – I have three. I hope that as they grow, they keep that sense of justice and learn to challenge the old adage that life's not fair. It should be, in so far as we have control of it."

-- Beth Vanden Hoek, Starbucks assistant manager in St. Louis, Missouri.

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The Lake Berryessa News

www.LakeBerryessaNews.com

Published the first and third Thursday of each month.

Owner/Editor

Peter Kilkus

415-307-6906 (Cell), Email: PKilkus@LakeBerryessa.net

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The Lake Berryessa News - Peter Kilkus
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East Shore Wildlife Area

The east shore of Lake Berryessa is an undeveloped wildlife area backed by cattle ranches. The well maintained gravel East Shore Ranch and Fire Access 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 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.

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.

Identifying Poison Oak

Obviously, a big problem with getting Poison Oak is identifying the plant. If you can't spot Poison Oak a mile away, your only recourse is to never touch any vegetation at all while on the trail or doing whatever you're doing.

You can recognize Poison Oak by its trademarked 3 leaf pattern. Unfortunately, there are other plants with triple leaf patterns too. You cannot depend on the color. In some areas, the leaves remain green the entire time they are on the stem. In other areas the leaves are red in the spring.

Being a very common "shrub" in California, it must be watched for everywhere.

In the Spring, the leaves are light, bright green with whitish green flowers clustered on the stems. In the Summer, Poison Oak has yellow-green, pink, or reddish colors on some of the leaves, with small white or tan berries after the flowers of Spring. Certain times in late Summer/Early Fall and certain conditions can even cause leaves to become Yellow. The fruit becomes darker in the Fall and the leaves turn bright red or russet brown. In the Winter, the leaves and seeds fall, leaving stick or whip-like stems or climbing vines.

The Poison Oak rash is caused by a chemical called urushiol. This is present in poison oak leaves, branches, roots, everything. When you touch it, the oil is absorbed into the skin. This is a poisonous substance, and the rash is the result of your body's immune system fighting against this invader.

You can get Poison Oak by touching the plant, its leaves, roots, whatever. If an animal, such as your dog, gets in Poison Oak you can get it from petting the dog (the dog won't get the rash though). You can get it from your clothing or equipment that touches Poison Oak.

The rash doesn't appear until after the oil is absorbed into your skin, because it is caused by your body's immune system. If you think you have exposed an area of skin to the oil you can clean the area with rubbing alcohol, this may limit or even stop the oil from being absorbed. Once you get the rash, you can't spread it around by scratching. The oil that seeps from your wounded body isn't urushiol, it's secreted by your body.

The reason most people think it will spread is because of secondary infection. You touch a poison oak plant, the oil is on your hands. You rub your face, it gets there. That is how the oil is spread. Now after a while, there isn't as much oil to spread around, so some parts get hit more heavily. What this means is, the rash appears soon in some spots, and takes a couple of days in other spots. This gives the illusion that you've spread the rash by scratching.

Whenever you go into an area where Poison Oak is, as soon as you get home put all your clothes, shoes, everything in a bag, and wash it all. Only through extreme paranoia can you avoid poison oak. The alternative is to never go anywhere fun.

Rattlesnake Precautions

Rattlesnakes are easily identifiable by their broad, triangular heads, narrow necks, relatively heavy bodies and rattles on the tail, or blunt tails if the rattles are missing. Rattlesnakes will purposely attack only those animals smaller than themselves, unless they are frightened by noise, vibrations or certain odors. They are terrified by humans, mainly

because of our size, and would rather run than fight if possible.

Open Your Eyes - Hiking safely in rattlesnake country requires extreme vigilance. Being alert drastically reduces the chance of snake bite. Keep your eyes focused on the trail in front of you and scan your immediate area for potential trouble spots. Most hikers who end up getting bitten by rattlesnakes are preoccupied and not paying attention to where they are walking. And a startled, stepped on rattlesnake is never a happy camper! Avoiding getting bit by a snake - keep your eyes and ears open at all times.

Stay on a Clearly Marked Trail - While it can be extra fun and adventurous to veer off a clearly marked path and go trail blazing through wild brush and tall grasses, this can be a recipe for disaster. Not only do you run the risk of brushing up against poison oak, stepping in gulches and ditches, and getting lost and disoriented, but you increase your chances of stepping on and/or disturbing a rattlesnake that is nesting, sunning, or just lounging. Do yourself a favor and stay on a clearly marked trail or path!

Wear Jeans and High-Top Boots - No matter how careful and cautious you are while out hiking, there is always the small, outside chance that you might accidentally walk past, or on, a rattlesnake and get bit. Wearing a pair of rugged jeans and high-top hiking boots will reduce the chances of a rattlesnake's fangs from piercing your skin and injecting you with venom. Wearing shorts and regular tennis shoes will not offer you much protection.

Carry a Walking Stick - A walking stick is a great tool to have while out hiking. Not only will it help you to clear away small brush and/or tree branches that might be blocking your path, but you can also use it as a weapon or a shield against any type of encounter with a wild animal, including rattlesnakes.

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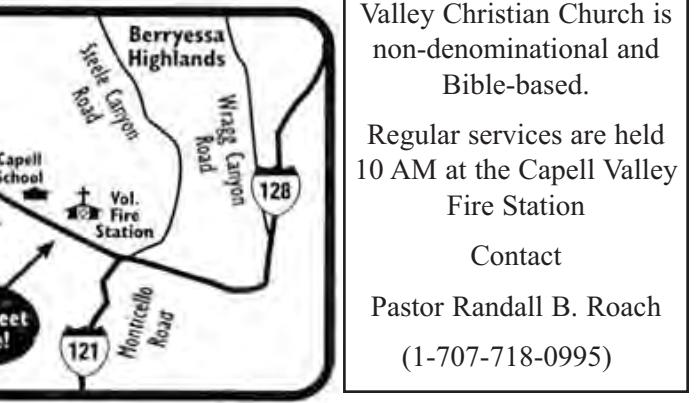


Valley Christian Church

Come join us for our Outdoor Worship Services on June 7th, 14th, 28th and July 5th
At the Volunteer Fire Station Next to Capell School off Hwy 128 Senior Center Parking Lot

June 21st, our Annual Fathers Day Service and Cookout will find us at Oak Shores Camping, Boating, Fishing Please come as you are and worship Jesus with Us.

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 the houses, the barns, the two
 churches,
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 till Time made one of his gestures;
 his nails scratched the shingled roof.
 Roughly his hand reached in,
 and tumbled us out.

by Elizabeth Bishop

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Berryessa Fishing Facts

Trout, Land-locked Steelhead, and "Trophy Trout"

Beautiful, strong, game all the way-the favorite of fisherman everywhere, and Berryessa's prime game fish. Native trout go to 9 pounds and bigger. Trophy Trout, which in less than a year have grown from an average 1/4 pounds at time of planting (under a special State of California program) to between 2 1/2 to 3 1/4 pounds are the second type of trout you'll find at Berryessa. There are also landlocked steelhead in the lake. Trout are cold water fish, so go deep in the summer when water temperatures on the surface are high. October to January, when temperatures are lower, they're closer to the surface. Primarily a lure fish at Berryessa, but also live minnows will take them.

Black Bass

Both large and small mouth bass await the Berryessa fisherman and the large mouth go to 6 pounds and bigger! Prime fishing areas are on the points of land, jutting into the main body of the lake, by shore fishermen. From your boat, plug the shorelines near moss brush or rocky points. When shad are running (a food minnow) watch for gulls, and the water's surface for signs of their schools-the bass will be nearby. In the heat of the day troll deep or bait cast deeper water; in the early morning or evening you can move closer to shore for good surface fishing. Again, a lure fish at Berryessa, but also can be taken on minnows and worms.

Blue Gill

A great fish for your youngsters' first fishing trip. Olive green with darker green vertical strips. Fish close to shore, around sunken stumps and weed beds and around dock areas. Good "old-fashioned worms" are the best bait, but they'll hit most any kind of bait-bread, cheese, salmon eggs, are all good bets. Will average 1 pound or smaller in size.

Crappie

Another game fish in residence at Berryessa. Gathers in schools (where you catch one, you'll find more) in the shelter of submerged stumps or brush heaps. Silvery with dark green or black mottling forming "stripes". Best hits are small flies, minnows, red worms and grubs. Average : 3/4 pound to 3 pounds.

Catfish

A night-feeding fish; feeds along the bottom. Prime fishing areas are the shallow waters near a creek, or tributary emptying into the lake. Bait, instead of lures are the best bet to take catfish. The most popular bait for catfish at Berryessa is clams. Other good baits are sardines, worms and minnows. Average size is 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 pounds, some going 5 to 9 pounds have been caught.

Kokanee Salmon

Stocked in the lake by the State of California's Department of Fish & Game in a cooperative program with the California Inland Fisheries Foundation and Markley Cove - when caught average around 3 pounds.

Kalling All Kayakers

2009 will be a prime summer for kayaking on Lake Berryessa. Since the Bureau of Reclamation declared the Big Island Lagoon a "non-motorized zone" there will be a lot of calm water for paddling in that area. With four major west shore resorts closed, power boat and jet ski traffic will be less than normal.

Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce members want to encourage kayakers to visit the lake and enjoy the calm waters. Come out for an evening paddle at Oak Shores. Mid-week is the best quiet time during the day. Get your supplies at a local store or end your day at a local restaurant.

Some good launch points are:

Capell Cove public boat launch: Parking lot, good beach for launching.

Oak Shores Day Use Park: Lots of parking. Two launch ramps for hand launching of cartopped boats. Boats may also be carried to the water anywhere within the park.

Smittle Creek: Easy walk from parking lot to the water.

Pope Creek Bridge: Large parking lot at the intersection of the Knoxville and Pope Canyon Road: Path down to the water.

Putah Creek Pullout: At the north end of the Putah Creek Bridge. Parking with a rough but well used trail down to the water.

Eticuera Launch: Short distance past the east end of the causeway that crosses the north end of the Lake. This day use facility offers a parking lot, restroom and a smooth path to carry or wheel a boat to the water.

For more detailed information see: www.berryessatrails.org/guide/

Lake Berryessa Area Travel Distances

- 11.8 Miles - Winters to Markley Cove
- 8.3 Miles - Markley Cove to Moskowitz Corners
- 4.7 Miles - Moskowitz Corners to Turtle Rock
- 13.0 Miles - Moskowitz Corners to Napa
- 4.4 Miles - Turtle Rock to Spanish Flat Village Center
- 14.7 Miles - Turtle Rock to Pope Valley via Chiles Valley
- 12.9 Miles - Turtle Rock to Pope Valley via Knoxville Rd.
- 13.0 Miles - Turtle Rock to Pope Canyon Rd. via Knoxville Rd.
- 10.2 Miles - Pope Valley to Knoxville Rd. via Pope Canyon Rd.
- 19.0 Miles - Pope Valley to Spanish Flat Village Center
- 3.7 Miles - Pope Valley to Aetna Springs Rd.
- 11.3 Miles - Pope Valley to Berryessa Estates
- 4.1 Miles - Pope Valley to Angwin

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All Roads Lead to Lake Berryessa!

The Lake Berryessa region, as many auto, bicycle and biker clubs know, has very scenic, winding roads that are fun to run. With so much to see and enjoy, nothing is really that far away.

From the North

From St. Helena, come over the hill past Pacific Union College through Angwin to historic Pope Valley. You can hit the Pope Valley Store for a snack. But remember that there are no gasoline stations at the lake.

You now have a choice of routes. Left a mile down Butts Canyon Road is Pope Valley Winery which is listed in the Lonely Planet Guide. The winery was constructed in 1897 from massive timbers moved down from the Oat Hill Quicksilver Mine. Staying on Butts Canyon takes you past Aetna Springs Resort to Snell Valley Road and finally to Middletown and Clear Lake. About five miles on Snell Valley Road brings you to the Berryessa Estates and the Berryessa Estates Market.

If you leave Pope Valley on Pope Valley Road south you'll reach Lower Chiles Valley Road. Turn left and in a couple of miles you'll come to Rustridge Ranch & Winery. After a bit of tasting you can make a reservation to spend time with a thoroughbred racehorse and enjoy a scenic weekend getaway at their Bed and Breakfast.

When you leave Rustridge continue left down the road until you come to Hwy 128 (Sage Canyon Road). Turn right and in a minute you get to Nichelini Winery. Turn left and few miles farther east brings you to Turtle Rock at Knoxville Road. You can stop there for a drink and a "World Famous Eggroll" before driving down Knoxville Road to the lake itself. On the right you'll pass the Capell Cove Public Launch Ramp – a favorite fishing boat launch site. This launch fills up rapidly on weekends so get there early if you want to launch.

You'll soon come to the Spanish Flat Village Center, one of the commercial centers of the community, where your lunch or dinner choice is "fabulously fresh Italian food" at Cucina Italiana. The Spanish Flat Country Store & Deli serves up great sandwiches, chili dogs, and hamburgers, as well as providing anything you need for a picnic lunch and more. Cucina Italiana also makes great box lunches-to-go with a choice of Italian panini sandwiches.

Spanish Flat Village Center is also home to The Handmade Store. Shop there for the perfect gift or treasured collectable...beautiful gemstone jewelry, hand made soap, garden art and much more. Next door is a small Berryessa Valley History Exhibit.

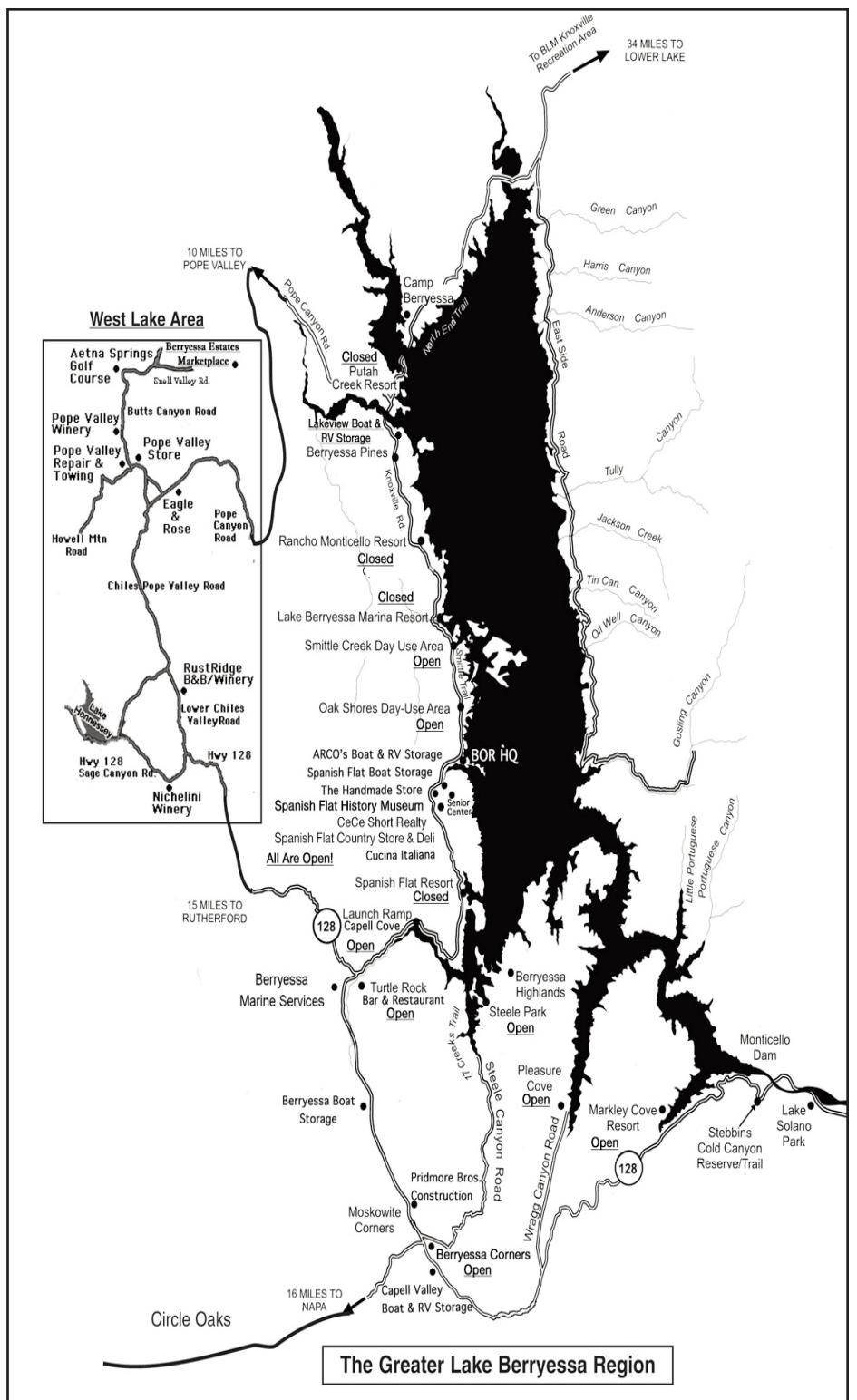
If you've fallen in love with Lake Berryessa, as so many have, stop by CeCe Short's real estate office to learn about the fantastic housing values around the lake. CeCe's office is also the headquarters of the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce, and she can provide a wealth of information about the region. The Spanish Flat Village Center also has a laundromat with public restrooms.

The Spanish Flat Village Center is located only a couple of miles south of the free Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks where you can enjoy that picnic lunch under shade shelters overlooking beautiful Lake Berryessa. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available. Smittle Creek is located two miles north of Oak Shores, and offers a more secluded day-use experience. Stroll Smittle Creek Trail. The trail wanders along the shore between Coyote Knolls and Smittle Creek. The walk is 5.2 miles round trip and offers the hiker a chance to view the natural flora and fauna of the area.

To get back to St. Helena, just drive up the west side of the lake to Pope Canyon Road. Left on Pope Canyon Road takes you along scenic Pope Canyon back to Pope Valley and home.

From the South and West

From Napa and points west take Monticello Road to Berryessa Corners at the intersection of Highway 121, Hwy 128, and Steele Canyon Road. From Fairfield and points south take Suisun Valley Road to Wooden Valley Road to Monticello Road. Right onto Monticello Road brings you to Berryessa Corners.



Berryessa Corners is another community commercial center with the Berryessa Corners Store, Mike's BBQ, and the Corners Bar. You and/or your club can get great food & drinks while stocking up on picnic supplies. If you are a boater, Steele Park Resort is only five miles up Steele Canyon Road. If you continue on Hwy 128 (Capell Valley Road) for five more miles, you get to Turtle Rock. See above for where to go from there.

From the East

Those of you coming from Winters and points east will reach Monticello Dam in about ten miles. It's worth a stop to see the dam and the impressive Glory Hole spillway. Just past the dam is Markley Cove Resort with a nice store right at the highway. Two miles past that and another three miles up Wragg Canyon Road and you've reached Pleasure Cove Marina. Continuing a few miles farther on Hwy 128 once again brings you to Berryessa Corners.

If you've read this far, it's clear that all roads lead to Lake Berryessa. Take one of these roads and experience Lake Berryessa for yourself!

