

Visit Napa Valley Supports a "Renaissance Lake Berryessa"

Prior to the destruction of the Lake Berryessa resorts by the Bureau of Wrecklamation in 2010, the Lake Berryessa News and the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce worked diligently to have “the Napa Valley” recognize Lake Berryessa as a key piece of the economic structure of Napa County. It took several years but the Napa Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau (NVCVB) did begin to support Lake Berryessa as a vacation destination.

Later the organization became Visit Napa Valley (NVB) and continued its support of Lake Berryessa on its website (above) and visitor publications. With Napa County now managing several of the Lake Berryessa Resorts (Steel Canyon RecArea, Spanish Flat RecArea, and Monticello Shores RecArea (previously Rancho Monticello) the connections between Lake Berryessa and the Napa Valley will continue to expand leading to a "Renaissance Lake Berryessa"

Visit Napa Valley was founded in 2010 as the official destination marketing and management organization for Napa County, with a continued mission to promote, protect, and enhance the region’s position as an attractive travel destination while also enhancing its public image as a dynamic place to visit, live, and work.

The Napa Valley historically welcomes 3.85 million visitors, who spend \$2.23 billion and provide \$85.1 million in tax relief to residents. The tourism industry is the second largest employer in Napa County (after the wine industry), supporting the livelihood of nearly 16,000 people in the community, with a combined payroll of nearly \$500 million (per 2018 Visitor Profile Study).

Visit Napa Valley is the official destination management organization for the Napa Valley, with a mission to promote, protect, and enhance the region’s position as the world’s premier wine country experience and to enhance its public image as a dynamic place to visit, live, and work. Napa Valley’s rural 35-mile scenic landscape, conveniently located just an hour from the San Francisco Bay Area, consists of distinctive towns and regions, including Calistoga, St. Helena, Rutherford/Oakville, Yountville, Napa, American Canyon, and the outdoor recreation area of Lake Berryessa.

Boating, swimming, hiking and more in Napa Valley

One of the largest bodies of fresh water in California.

Lake Berryessa offers boating, water skiing, wake-boarding, tubing and other fast-paced water sports, plus quiet coves for kayaking, swimming and fishing. In the summer, the water can reach 80 degrees — the perfect cool-down after a hike or a stroll through sun-drenched vineyards.

Known for: Boating and paddle sports, swimming, fishing, hiking, camping, picnicking, cycling

Vibe: Outdoorsy, super casual, family-friendly

Population: 1,639

BERRYESSA BOAT . JET SKI . RV REPAIR & STORAGE

4420 KNOXVILLE ROAD | 3 MIN NORTH OF SPANISH FLAT RESORT

We offer quality repairs and a gated storage facility. We service all makes and models of Boats, Jet Skis, and RVs. Whether you need a basic tune up, rebuilt engine, gel coat or upholstery, we are your best choice. We are Mobile too, land or water, we can come to you! Outdoor Storage from \$50 per month is available. Our Parts Department is available to order anything you need, whether a battery or an engine. Proshop coming soon with basic boating supplies and hot new products for fun on the water!!

berryessboatrepair@gmail.com | 707.966.9954



The Lake Berryessa News

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



How Long Will It Take To Redevelop the Lake Berryessa Resorts? How Soon Will A "Renaissance Lake Berryessa" Be Realized?

Supervisors Vote Berryessa Support!

An agenda item at the last Board of Supervisors meeting showed the County's continued support of the Lake Berryessa revitalization process. It also revealed the state of play in the selection process for new companies to run the three resorts open for bid.

At the last Board of Supervisors meeting County Counsel requested approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Best Best & Krieger LLP for a maximum of \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 21-22, with two one-year renewals not to exceed an additional \$100,000 per fiscal year, for specialized legal services related to the development of recreational uses and facilities at Lake Berryessa.

This is good news for Lake Berryessa. Napa County is standing behind its commitment to redevelop the lake resorts and revitalize the lake community and its recreation potential. It also means that the County will have strong legal representation when dealing with the Bureau of Reclamation if the BOR tries to interfere, beyond the terms of the MPA, with the ongoing development process.

Perspicacious readers will notice that this public statement from Napa County implies that a single company was chosen as the winning bidder for all three resorts with an investment goal of at least \$100 million.

However, people who know the extent of the issues predict that it will still take more than a year to complete permit requirements and begin serious construction. It may take up to two years before the resorts re-open fully.

The County has asked the present concessioners for Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat if they would be interested in extending their interim contracts for another year to be able to keep those facilities open to the public through at least the 2022 recreation season.

The specific agenda item approved stated: "The County is pursuing development of recreational opportunities pursuant to the Managing Partner Agreement with the Federal Bureau of Reclamation executed last year. The County identified a potential developer earlier this year after issuing a Request for Proposals, and is preparing to negotiate the related agreements. The developer’s investment in the projects will likely exceed \$100 million.

The topics of the agreements may include, but not be limited to, site investigations, CEQA and NEPA studies and reports, public improvements, and development, operation, and maintenance of concessions, lodging, and other recreational amenities.

Multiple agreements will be needed because the County cannot commit to development of new facilities without prior completion of the CEQA and NEPA processes, and there are up to three different sites that may be approved for recreational uses."

Historical Irony

The irony here is that these sites have been open for more than 50 years. Numerous environmental studies have been completed. All construction was done to Napa County codes. Every site has undergone significant impacts including excavation, road, structure, and launch ramp construction. The BOR itself funded what were called "60% Design Plans" to allow winning bidders to begin development immediately without lengthy permit process delays.

Previous archeological studies have found that there are no significant Native American cultural sites anywhere around the lake. This should allow the State Historic Presevation Agency (SHIPA) to fast track their requirements.

The BOR demolished all roads and launch ramps at Spanish Flat. They also demolished perfectly good lunch ramps at Rancho Monticello (now Monticello Shrrs). The new concessioner must now re-apply for "Section 404" launch ramp construction permits from the Army Corps of Engineers. The problem is not that the permits might not be issued but that the bureaucracy may take many months to finally approve them.

Environmental Irony BOR-Style

All this concern with environmental impacts and studies which may be required neglects the BOR environmental precedent when it destroyed the resort facilities in 2009. Reclamation demolished more than 1,000 mobile homes and resorts facilities, - digging and scraping away at the remaining residue, without any substantive environmental or historical studies to support their actions. Instead they used a "Categorical Exclusion".

"Reclamation has determined that the proposed action is appropriate for Categorical Exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act based on the following information:

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

Further, Reclamation has reviewed the proposed action and determined that there is no effect to Federally-listed species or critical habitat.

A consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office has concluded that there are no affects to cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act."

See what happens when the winners re-write the "history"?

BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS

NOW RENTING TO CUSTOMERS 18 YEARS & OLDER! Newest & Most Dependable Equipment!

We Also Rent Tubes, Wakeboards, Skis, Wake Surfboards & Kneeboards

4420 Knoxville Road
Next to the Spanish Flat Village Center

Reservations Recommended
707-966-4204
lakeberryessaboats.com

2 **Lake Berryessa Redevelopment Should Be On A Fast Track**

Here are three excerpts from my book: Policy and Politics Betray the People: The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020. They support my contention that any required reports and permits for the redevelopment of the resorts should be fast-tracked because they have all been done before.

Did You Hear the One About...
...how many bureaucrats it takes to screw in a light bulb? No, not that one – the one about how many Reclamation officials it takes to dig a one-foot diameter hole only four feet deep? Witnesses at Chaparral Cove (formerly Putah Creek) last month say it was four – and it took six hours! The hole was for a PG&E pole. They would dig six inches down, then sift the dirt for Native American artifacts.

As silly as this may seem to some, there is often a good reason (and some legal requirements) to exercise care when excavating in areas that may potentially contain Native American cultural artifacts. But from a scientific point of view, the areas inside the resort boundaries, and even areas outside them, around Lake Berryessa are not of significant cultural value.

This excessive bureaucratic oversight is not justified based on previous archeological studies done above the 440 foot lake level. Any delays in redevelopment such as requiring hours to dig a hole are just nonsensical academic exercises for the Reclamation participants. Especially considering Reclamation approved the "grind it to the ground" approach originally.

Historical and Cultural Artifacts

Two archeological studies have been done in the past confirming that there are no significant cultural artifacts at the lake:

"Milling Stone Cultures in Northern California: Berryessa I (1979)" and "Archaeological Investigations at Lake Berryessa, California: Berryessa II (1985)". Both documents are available on the Lake Berryessa News website.

The basic conclusion of the UC Davis investigators was: "Although the study area (Oak Shores Park) is contiguous to Lake Berryessa and appears (at the present time) to be a favorable place for human occupance, prior to the construction of Monticello Dam it was a considerable distance from the principal stream draining the area (Putah Creek), and would not usually be considered a very likely place to search for or find substantial evidence of prehistoric occupation.

Thus, when the Bureau of Reclamation requested the Oak Shores survey, it appeared that it would be yet

another public archaeology project in which the primary value would be the exercise gained by the surveyors.

In sum, although the situation was difficult to accept in view of our general notions about resource exploitation and prehistoric space utilization, we had to face the fact that a careful survey over a substantial territory had produced no tangible evidence of occupance or utilization. It was agreed at that point that a short report was in order pointing out that the survey had been accomplished and that the planned Oak Shores Campground development would not impact any known cultural resources."

The Lake Berryessa News believes any further requirements by the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) in the redevelopment areas should be eliminated.

NEPA, CEQA, COULDA, WOULD, SHOULD
Although the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the California Environmentals Quality Act (CEQA) have been raised as issues which could slow down the redevelopment process, it is not clear why this should be an impediment since a new concession company will simply be replacing the old facilities with new environmentally-friendly construction. Any delay because of NEPA/CEQA is even more puzzling since the demolition of the old resorts was accomplished with a minimum of environmental oversight. Let's hope we will not be facing another "They're Off Like a Herd of Turtles!" moment as perpetrated against Pensus by the Bureau of Reclamation in 2010.

Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in the Vacaville Reporter

Thanks to Richard Rico, former publisher of The Vacaville Reporter, for this nice article about the Lake Berryessa News. Excerpt below.

"PETER Kilkus had me at, "Without The Lake Berryessa News, There Would Be No Lake Berryessa News." That's the subtitle of his focused newspaper of the same name. I get that. There was a time when I could have claimed the same of The Reporter, for Vacaville.

For much of the past 20 years, Lake Berryessa News has been Kilkus' paper, and his voice. He is and has been a Berryessa advocate, a gatekeeper and very likely a thorn in the side of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as pertains to its position on mobile homes on the lake rim.

Feds have long chafed at mobiles that they claim give the public limited access. Years ago it ordered the removal of more than 1,000. Kilkus and like-minded lakers under the banner of Task Force 7 argued to the Bureau, via petitions, that the resorts needed that mobile home

revenue to pay their bills.
Kilkus is from San Anselmo in Marin County where he served as city councilman, and mayor. Early on, he visited the lake, loved it and bought a mobile home so he could visit often. Now, the Berryessa panorama is outside his door, on Headlands Dr. He has earned a reputation of being the last word on all things Berryessa. He writes of lake status (the level is 33 ft. below the Glory Hole) and Monticello history in his paper. Kilkus has chronicled his version of botched planning in a book, "Policy and Politics Betray the People—The Lake Berryessa Saga, 1958 – 2020."

When we talked, he had just returned from "my 150-mile paper route," which is what he calls his monthly trip to a valley newspaper plant that prints his 8-page editions. Afterward, he drops them off at 10 locales. They're free, but it doesn't stop supporters from offering donations. They like the fact he is holding the Bureau's feet to the fire.

Meanwhile, Kilkus is hopeful that Napa County and the BOR will soon announce successful bidders to redevelop three lake shoreline resorts. He will no doubt have his articulate say about that, too. It's no wonder he has a big Facebook following."

2005 History: New Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce Elects Board Members

July 25, 2005 saw the rebirth of the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce. Members of the new Board of Directors are:

- Yevo Jeworowski - Boone's Saloon
- Shirl Kattleba - The Lake Berryessa News
- Jeff Parady - Pope Valley Repair and Towing
- Gil Pridmore - Pridmore Bros. Inc.
- Sharyn Simmons - Cucina Italiana
- Linda Tschida - Squeaky Clean - Secretary/Treasure
- Bob White - Rancho Monticello Resort

One purpose of the Chamber is political: to provide a unified voice for the community when dealing with Napa County government regarding issues that affect the region. A second purpose is to assist in the economic revitalization of the area. To those ends the Chamber has joined the Napa Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau.

2021 Update: Our Chamber still exists although smaller due to the destruction of our recreational community by the Bureau of Wrecklamation in 2009 and the disastrous fires of 2019. However, the Chamber intends to paricipate fully in the revitalization of Lake Berryessa under the new management by Napa County.

Barry decides to visit his doctor...

I don't know if I want to stick to my doctor. He isn't very good. If you tell him you want a second opinion, he will go out and come in again.

He treated one woman for yellow jaundice for three years before he realized she was Chinese.

While he was talking to me his nurse came in and said, "Doctor, there is a man here who thinks he is invisible." The doctor said, "Tell him I can't see him."

Another time a man came running in the office and yelled, "Doctor, doctor, my son just swallowed a roll of film." The doctor calmly replied, "Let's just wait and see what develops."

One time I came in and said, "Doctor, I have a serious memory problem." The doctor asked, "When did it start?" I replied, "When did WHAT start?"

I remember one time I told my doctor I had a ringing in my ears. His advice: "Don't answer it."

My doctor sure has his share of nut cases. Someone said to him, "Doctor, I think I'm a bell." The doctor gave him some pills and said, "Here, take these. If they don't work, give me a ring."

Another guy told the doctor that he thought he was a deck of cards. My doctor simply said, "Go sit over there. I'll deal with you later."

When I told my doctor I broke my leg in two places, he told me to stop going to THOSE places.

Finally, my doctor can be so frustrating. I waited a month and a half for an appointment, and he said, "I wish you had come to me sooner."

Alphabet Description...

After being married for thirty years ... I asked my husband to describe me.


He looked at me slowly ... then said, "You're A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J and K."

I asked, "What does that mean?"

He said, "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Foxy, Gorgeous, Hot."

I was delighted. I smiled happily and said ... "Oh, that's so lovely ... but what about I, J, and K?"

He said, "I'm Just Kidding!"



Amber Payne
Senior Sales Associate
CalDRE#01302244
amberpaye@corcorangl.com
Thinking of BUYING or SELLING?
www.AmberPayne.net

www.lakeberryessalots.com/
253 Sugarloaf Dr., \$87,500.00
1312 Steele Canyon Rd. #6, \$57,000.00
1140-1144 Steele Canyon Rd., \$89,000.00
1013 Arroyo Linda Ct., \$89,500.00
1122 Rimrock Dr., \$49,900.00
259 Sugarloaf Dr., \$87,500.00
1036 Eastridge Dr., \$100,000.00
1082 Rimrock Dr., \$102,500.00
1076 Rimrock Dr., \$94,500.00
208 Manzanita Ln., \$149,000.00
319 Black Oak Ln., \$79,000.00
1102 Arroyo Grande Dr., \$48,999.00
1268 Steele Canyon Rd., \$75,000.00
817 Bahia Vista Ct., \$49,000.00
814 Bahia Vista Ct., \$79,000.00
1068 Eastridge Dr., \$130,000.00

Obituaries Aren't Cheap!

Given the rising cost of living, including obituary notices, consider:

A woman from the most southern part of South Carolina goes into the local newspaper office to see that the obituary for her recently deceased husband is written.

The obit editor informs her that the fee for the obituary is a dollar per word. She pauses, reflects and then says, "Well, then, just let it read, 'Billy Bob died'."

Amused at the woman's thrift, the editor says, "Sorry ma'am there is a seven word minimum on all obituaries." A little flustered, she thinks things over and replies, "In that case, let it read,

'Billy Bob died - Red truck for sale'.

Onion Headlines
Americans Who Still Haven't Made Up Their Mind Gather In Massive Demonstration To Express Ambivalence
Freak Actually Knows How Big An Acre Is
God Regrets Never Learning Spanish
Organized Crime Syndicate Condemned For History Of Nepotistic Hiring Practices
Everyone On Camping Trip Just Gets Out Of Way While Friend Who Knows What He's Doing Takes Care Of Everything
Congressional Democrats Put On Elaborate 4th Of July Pageant To Teach Republicans Importance Of Democracy
Water Canons Used to Disperse Water Shortage Protest
Scientists Make Groundbreaking Discovery: The Size of Your Forehead Depends on How Much Hair Covers It
Experts warn that 100% of internet traffic may be advertisements by 2022.
Giant Panda Removed From Endangered Species List, According to China, Moved to Permanently All Dead List.
NRA Report: Inadequate safety training and poor trigger discipline responsible for thousands of juvenile accidental shooting deaths.
School Curriculum Put Into Question As Female Students Continue To Be Taught That Men Are Mind Readers
Here's our analysis of how the mice lobby always manages to put hands on the latest most cutting-edge medical advancements ahead of the rest of us.
Progressive Activists Outraged At Trans Fat Ban
The GOP unveils new bill requiring classrooms to teach the building of the pyramids without using the words/phrases "slavery", "slave", or "let my people go."
Revolutionary New Study By Economists Reveals Problems With Cigarette Costs Can Be Alleviated By Not Smoking
Florida Man Attempts To Rob a Gun Store With a Switchblade
FedEx To Offer Same-Day Delivery For Both Thoughts And Prayers

6
August 2021 Horoscopes
Aquarius (1/20-2/18): You overcome your old paper eating addiction. Yay! Instead, you become addicted to saying jokes, and everyone thinks you're hilarious.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Your best friend convinces you to quit your job so you can both run away and become ballerinas. Due to your inborn grace and natural beauty, you will become the most famous ballerina in the world.

Aries (3/21-4/19): You will get promoted. As the big boss, you will set new rules for the office. Casual Friday will mean going drunk at work, wearing a robe, flip flops, and a tiara. Mondays will be forbidden.

Taurus (4/20-5/20): One day, as you walk through your favorite supermarket, listening to your favorite supermarket playlist, and pushing your favorite supermarket shopping cart, a movie director notices your looks and offers you a part in a movie. You become a celebrity, and the paparazzi start following you everywhere!

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): You have an inventive mind and are inclined to be progressive. You lie a great deal. You make the same mistakes repeatedly because you're stupid. Everyone thinks you're a freaking jerk.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): One day, during a BBQ party, a scientist notices you and invites you back to his lab for some tests. His research shows that you're the most intelligent person on Earth, and they give you a document stating that you're always right.

Leo (7/23-8/22): You wake up one morning and decide to quit your job and pursue your childhood dream of becoming a pirate. You buy a talking parrot, start wearing an eye-patch, and grow a mustache. Your family doesn't approve at first, but they change their minds when they see how happy you are.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): After you drink ice water too fast, you get a brain freeze, and you start to like bad music. No one even notices at first, but then you start wearing sandals with socks, and you get a belly button piercing. Your family throws you a surprise party, which turns out to be an intervention.

Libra (9/23-10/22): You will receive the heartwarming news that your family is about to grow with one extra member. You are getting another cat.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): You will win the lottery. Your winning numbers are 2, 3, 6, 7, 23, 67. You will win the jackpot and share your winnings with the Bouncy Mustard family because that's what you do when someone tells you the winning numbers.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): You will go on a cookie diet and become very, very sexy. You will win the prize for the sexiest person on Earth, and they'll send you to Mars to compete for the title of the sexiest person in the Universe. You lose, as the winner from Uranus bribes the jury.

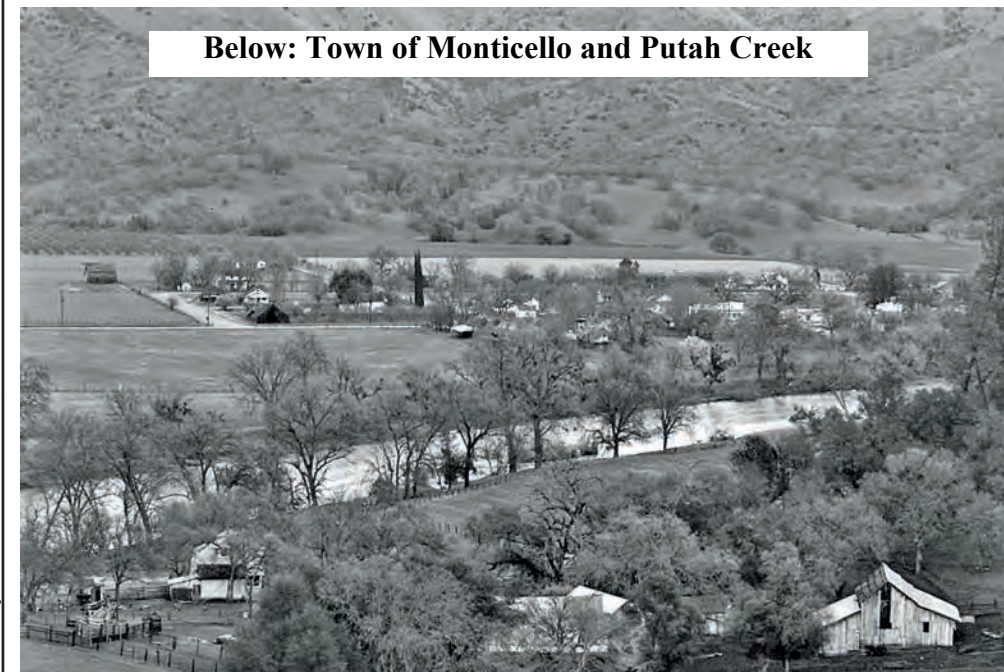
Capricorn (12/22-1/19): You discover that you've got healing powers. With just one touch, you can heal stuttering, hick-ups, and bad breath. People come to see you from all around the world, and you are forced to open a drive-thru healing touch & go center.

Berryessa Valley Historical Photos Archive

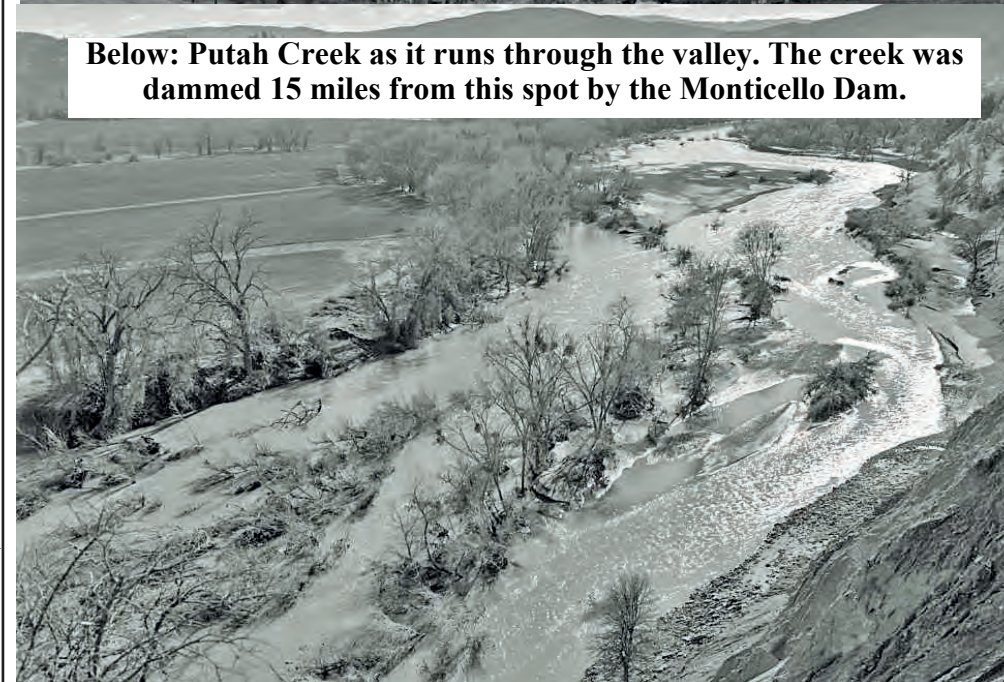
For those of you interested in the Berryessa Valley and the Town of Monticello before the construction of the Monticello Dam and the filling of Lake Berryessa, you can find many old photos on the Lake Berryessa News website, www.lakeberryessanews.com/photo-album/berryessa-valley-history, and the Berryessa Valley Exhibit Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BERRYESSA-VALLEY-EXHIBIT-767097649995856/photos/.

However, there is another treasure trove of historical photos in the archives of the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC). These archives include almost 2,000 photos of Berryessa Valley life before the dam. Many of the photos are included on the two local sites mentioned above. But there are many more to explore. The photos include those taken by Pirkle Jones and Dorothea Lange from "Death of a Valley"..

The archive is available at: https://digitalcollections.library.ucsc.edu/catalog?locale=en&page=78&q=Berryessa&search_field=all_fields



Below: Town of Monticello and Putah Creek



Below: Putah Creek as it runs through the valley. The creek was dammed 15 miles from this spot by the Monticello Dam.

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

By Peter Kilkus

Even after 20 years at Lake Berryessa, the Budweiser recycling joke still makes me smile. You remember it, right? Lake Berryessa is now, and always has been, the cleanest lake in Northern California.

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

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

Anheuser Busch – Fairfield Brewery wrote a letter during that period supporting their long-standing scientific analysis that Lake Berryessa water was pure - contradicting the pollution story.

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

Reliable water is rare in California and one of the most important elements in many manufacturing, food processing and biotechnology companies. Thirty years ago, when representatives from the Anheuser-Busch Inc. were looking for a West Coast home for its Budweiser distilling vats, it tested the water in Solano County and stipulated it would move to Fairfield if the city could guarantee to provide only Lake Berryessa water.

The Fairfield brewery now uses more than 1,500 acre-feet of Lake Berryessa water per year to brew more than 4 million barrels of beer annually.

Anheuser Busch is also a major financial supporter of the Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership (LBWP). Several times, on World Environment Day, Fairfield brewery employees have joined the LBWP for a cleanup along the Lake Berryessa shoreline.

According to a spokesperson for the Fairfield Brewery, "Water is vital to plant and animal life and it's a key ingredient in brewing beer, and one of five key ingredients used in the making of Budweiser – that's why they are committed to water conservation both inside and outside our breweries. Lake Berryessa is a consistent, high quality water source for our brewery. As with all our breweries, we carefully monitor our source water on a regular basis. The water we receive is tested and goes through additional purification processes to meet the exacting standards of our brewmasters.

Water is not only a key ingredient in beer, it's also important in many other areas of a brewery. The majority of water used in a brewery is for cleaning, rinsing, heating, cooling and various other process areas. That's why we have long understood the importance of conserving water, and at the same time adhering to our strict quality standards. In fact, our U.S. breweries are some of the most water efficient in the world. Here in Fairfield, we've reduced our water use by 32 percent in the past 3 years."

The Anheuser Busch brewery opened in 1976 and employs about 460 people. It is Fairfield's single biggest user of water at about 2 million gallons daily, 7 percent of the entire city's consumption. All of this is Lake Berryessa water. Brewery officials don't think the city's Delta water is good enough for Budweiser.

New equipment, including a bio-energy recovery system reclaims water from the brewing process. The bio-energy system also generates more than 15 percent of the brewery's fuel needs by capturing the nutrients in brewing wastewater for conversion into biogas. Use of the renewable fuel enables the brewery to decrease its use of natural gas.

Honored more than a dozen times for waste reduction, the Fairfield facility recycles more

than 99 percent of its solid waste, including scrap aluminum and metal, glass, cardboard, wood, brewing grain, beechwood chips, stretch wrap, labels, electronic equipment and batteries, according to the firm. Anheuser-Busch has been salvaging material from its brewing process since the late 19th century, when the company started offering used grain as cattle feed.

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

www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives

An advertisement for ValleyInternet. It features a scenic view of a lake and hills. The text "BIG city speeds SPECTACULAR views." is prominently displayed. Below it, a smaller text reads: "From towers on hilltops we provide high speed, reliable, and affordable internet. Enjoy the perks of 'big city' speeds and knowledgeable techs who understand the beautiful landscape we call home." In the bottom right corner, it says "SCHEDULE A FREE SITE SURVEY VALLEYINTERNET.COM 707-422-1200". The ValleyInternet logo is in the top right corner, and a circular badge says "Locally Owned & Operated Since 2004."

ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS



1305 Capell Valley
Napa, California 94558
PBCEstimating@gmail.com

707-224-0682
Fax 707-224-8104
Licence 384371

Pope Valley Repair & Towing

Auto, Agriculture & Truck Repair

Custom Fabrication & Welding - Manufacture of Hydraulic Hoses

~ All Brands of New Tires ~

**Light, Medium, & Heavy
Duty Tow Trucks**

**Jeff Parady
707-965-2302
707-965-2332 fax**



Available 24 Hours!

Lost Beneath Lake Berryessa
Excerpts from a fascinating article by Joy Lazendorfer published on December 16, 2020
(www.altaonline.com/dispatches/a5701/lake-berryessa-dorothea-lange/)

Beneath the tranquil waters of Lake Berryessa lies the village of Monticello. The community was sacrificed as part of the Solano Project, which created the Monticello Dam in the 1950s.

Goat Island in Lake Berryessa pokes up from the water like the crown of a hat. Beyond it, the hills are unusually triangular, coming to soft peaks instead of rolling mounds. Standing on the shore, I tried to imagine the island as it had been 62 years ago: not an island at all but the top of a hill.

The idea that there's a town under a lake in Napa County, an hour-and-a-half drive from my house, was intriguing. Add to that the fact that Dorothea Lange, whose photographs humanized the Great Depression, shot a series on the flooding of the valley and the town, and I knew I had to see Lake Berryessa.

Berryessa Valley was named after Jose Jesus and Sisto Berryessa, two brothers who obtained a Mexican land grant of about 36,000 acres in 1843. They built a 90-foot adobe and raised cattle and horses, but had to slowly sell off the land to pay gambling and other debts. In 1860, the last plot was auctioned off for \$1,653. Monticello was founded six years later. In the 1950s, when the dam was being built, the town had a hotel, a general store, a restaurant, two gas pumps, and a cemetery.

Around 300 people lived there, mostly ranchers and farmers, many of them related. While Napa wasn't yet known for wine, by all accounts the soil was remarkably productive. Locals grew alfalfa, grain, grapes, pears, and walnuts. By the time the dam opened in 1957, crops had been torn out and residents forced from their homes.

Today, Monticello Dam provides water to Solano County. Historic documents call what happened to the valley "orderly destruction—scheduled down to the last fence post." Everything was removed. Houses were relocated or burned. Concrete structures leveled. Trees were cut down, bushes dug up, grapevines removed. Lange and Jones photographed it all.

In 1956, Life magazine paid Dorothea Lange \$1,000 to shoot a series on the flooding of Berryessa. With Berryessa, she wanted to emphasize the toll the dam would take, not only on people, but on the environment, too. Lange enlisted fellow photographer Pirkle Jones to accompany her to the valley. They made multiple trips in 1956 and 1957. The resulting 175 photographs were rejected by Life, which instead published a piece about a flood in Texas. In 1960, the Death of a Valley series was printed in Aperture, a magazine

devoted to photography that Lange, Ansel Adams, and others founded.

The series moves fearlessly through the destruction. There are the before pictures: a woman in a field of poppies extending her arm for a handshake, a white farmhouse with a vibrant, blooming garden. Visible changes came slowly and quietly. There was packing, selling, moving. Families disappeared, melting away, emptying the valley.

The human impact is also evident. In one photo, a tractor drags a white house on a rolling platform through a field. In the foreground, two men in cowboy hats are turned away, as if they don't want to watch. Their body language is bent, resigned, sad. In another photograph, a couple walk through the cemetery with their backs to the camera. The woman appears to be holding flowers. Soon the graves will be dug up and the bodies moved to a new cemetery.

As the "government men" came in, the demolition sped up. Catastrophe came to the old Berryessa Valley. Fires burned. Dust and smoke filled the air. The valley was black at night. Lange's portrait of a bulldozer highlights the blades in front so that, gleaming, it emerges from the dust like a monster.

Another photograph shows desolation—a pile of debris in an empty field, three figures barely visible in the distance. Then the rains came, and Jones and Lange were there, photographing water creeping over the bleak landscape. Lange's picture of 304-foot-high Monticello Dam is taken at night from far away. It's lit up so that it seems to glow with malevolent light.

Berryessa Valley has a history of displacement. At least 12,500 Native Americans lived in the area before European contact, according to the Bureau of Reclamation. These early inhabitants were driven out by settlers, sent to California missions, or sickened by smallpox and other diseases.

Discussions about damming Putah Creek increased in the 1940s and '50s, along with the population. Solano County, on Napa's eastern border, was booming, agriculture was expanding, and the water supply was limited. Many in Napa were against the \$37 million dam, which would flood one-eighth of their county's agricultural land and yield them no water. The issue was debated for years, but then the military got involved. Solano County was home to Mare Island Naval Yard, Benicia Arsenal, and Travis Air Force Base.

One of the turning points may have been that in the postwar world, during the Cold War, the military in Solano wanted a reliable water supply. And they didn't feel like they were getting it from the groundwater and the Sacramento River delta, which can be salty. So at Travis Air Force Base, when they asked the commander, do you need a water supply, he weighed in heavily.

By the time the dam opened, an article in the San Francisco

Examiner had declared Lake Berryessa "the vacation home of thousands of sportsmen." Some 60,000 people had already visited the lake that summer, it said, and "even larger crowds are expected next season." Progress, the article implied, had been achieved.

I thought about what it means to be displaced. It often means more than losing a home. It can mean a loss of history, culture, and identity.

The following is an excerpt from the introduction to my book Policy and Politics Betray the People, The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020

by Peter Kilkus

The Five Tragedies of the Berryessa Valley: A History of Heartbreak

The First Tragedy: The Destruction of Native American Culture

Formerly known as Talahalusi (Beautiful Land), the Napa Valley is one of California's longest inhabited areas. Archaeological surveys indicate 10,000 years of uninterrupted habitation. "It was a paradise - a cultivated paradise where one only had to reach out their hand to eat. A place rich in beauty, water and food," stated the oral history of Native American Elder Jim Big Bear King.

After the Spanish and Mexican invasion in 1823, the tribes were nearly decimated by forced marches and smallpox. When forced to relocate to various missions for religious indoctrination, many fled to friendlier territory.

The Second Tragedy: The Destruction of Spanish Culture

Alta California stayed in Mexican hands until an infamous incident in 1846. John C. Fremont led a group of American adventurers and earlier American immigrants in an uprising to try to free Alta California from Mexican hands. On 14 June 1846 Fremont and company declared California to be an independent state: the Bear Flag Republic. What so stains the Bear Flag Republic is the killing by some of Fremont's men, lead by the famous Kit Carson, of three innocent Mexicans—Jose de los Reyes Berryessa and two of his nephews.

This "republic" only lasted until 7 July 1846. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American war and ceded northern Mexico to the U.S. California, then, became a territory of the U.S. In 1850 California was admitted to the Union as a state and stayed in the Union during the Civil War.

The next known inhabitants of the valley were two Mexican brothers, the Berryessas (Berryessa is a corruption of their actual name—Berelleza). The Berryessa brothers, Sisto and Jose, received the valley as part of a land grant to them in

The Third Tragedy: The Destruction of Rural Culture

The town of Monticello was born in 1867, when B.F. Davis built a blacksmith shop. It became the center of a prosperous agricultural community and was located somewhat in the middle of the valley, along Putah Creek. Monticello was always a fairly small town, usually two to three hundred residents.

The town at different times had a hotel, a school, two gas pumps, a general store, a community hall, and a bar (a roadside spot called "The Hub"). McKenzie and Sons store was a center point for much of the activity in the town. Monticello became a popular venue for rodeos, baseball games, and "cow roasts" drawing people from miles around. The town enjoyed the distinction of being the first community in the state to have a telephone system installed (around 1905).

The Solano County Irrigation District was formed in 1948 to obtain irrigation water from a proposed multiple-purpose Solano Project and included the damming of Berryessa Valley at Devil's Gate.

The Fourth Tragedy: The Destruction of Family Recreation Culture

The Bureau of Reclamation and their supporters destroyed family recreation at Lake Berryessa for a generation of families, children, and friends. Many people ask me about the history of the process that led to the present situation at Lake Berryessa.

When I explain what happened most become incredulous and can't believe the government could have done something so stupid. "How could they have gotten away with that?" they exclaim. A good question! There were times I felt what being part of an oppressed minority must feel like - ignored, lied to, and lied about by those with the power to do so. Government fails because it pays no price for failure!

The Fifth Tragedy: Fire: Opportunity, Irony, Tragedy, Recovery

On August 18, 2020 the LNU Lightning Complex fire, the largest in California history burned much of Lake Berryessa and the surrounding region. The Spanish Flat residential community had become an inferno of burning rubble. The fire soon raced around the lower part of the lake sped up Steele Canyon Road and burned down 95 of the 300 homes in the Berryessa Highlands. The area is still recovering.

With Napa County now managing some of the lake resorts instead of the BOR, a new recreation company scheduled to redevelop three of the resorts and invest more than \$100 million, the future may finally be looking brighter for Lake Berryessa.

