

Berryessa Highlands Inventor, Garth Patterson, Wants to Protect Vineyard Workers

After watching grape harvesters toil in the vineyards on a summer day without shade, Garth Patterson was inspired to get them some relief wherever they happened to be. He created a towable trailer with an aluminum canopy that provides first aid and relief from heat stress. Patterson's trademarked "Cooling Station" runs on a generator and features NFL-quality misting fans that can reduce surrounding temperatures by 25 degrees. It seats 12, holds up to 300 gallons of water, and features an emergency shower.

"It has huge potential in farming, construction and emergency services," said Patterson. "It allows them to sit in the shade and cool off." Patterson said he hopes to fill a need as California officials debate the best rules for protecting laborers from heat illness and death.

In May 2008, a pregnant teenager, Maria Vasquez Jimenez, died from heat stroke as she pruned grapevines for more than nine hours in nearly triple-digit heat. This year inspectors found dozens of laborers toiling in the fields with little or no shade or water during a heat wave. Eight farm labor contractors were shut down for violating heat-illness prevention rules. Since 2005, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health has confirmed 12 cases of farm workers dying from heat-related stress.



Patterson characterizes his trailer as an "asset protection tool" for businesses whose employees labor in the sun because the penalties for failing to properly care for workers can far outweigh the Cooling Station's \$20,000 price tag. He also is making sales pitches to home builders, emergency first responders and movie-production crews. The Cooling Station was named as one of the top 10 products of 2010 by World Ag Expo in Tulare County for its potential to advance agricultural production. Last summer, Patterson's invention was a finalist at the University of California Western Agriculture Health and Safety for "outstanding achievement in farm safety." See it on the Web at <http://www.heatreliefsolutions.com>.

The first blonde joke of 2010

In a fancy Paris restaurant, there is a magical wish-granting mirror. But it only grants wishes if you tell the truth -- if you lie, you disappear.

One day, a blonde, a brunette, and a redhead enter the restaurant and decide to try out the mirror.

The brunette goes first. "I think I'm the smartest woman on earth." "POOF!" She disappears.

The redhead goes up to try. "I think I'm the prettiest woman on earth." "POOF!" She disappears.

The blonde goes up and says. "I think--" "POOF!"



12/02/2009

Here's some philosophy for 2010 from the old Melanie song that seems to describe the attitude of too many people nowadays.

The Nickel Song

Well you know that I'm not a gambler,
but I'm being gambled on.
They put in a nickel and
I sing a little song.

Well I don't mind that they're lucky,
but it seems like they always win.
And gambling is illegal in
the state of mind I'm in.

And if I had a nickel for each time
that I've been put on,
I would be their nickel man,
and I'd sing a little song.

You know they're only putting in a nickel
And they want a dollar song, oh
They're only putting in a nickel
And they want a dollar song

They're only puttin' in a nickel
To get rid of a lot that's wrong
They're only puttin' in a nickel
And they want a dollar song



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January, 2010

Happy New Year From Lake Berryessa!



Special Report (Page 6): Is Lake Berryessa Headed for Another Ten-Year Drought or a Thousand-Year Flood?

The Millenium Bug died ten years ago. But a new problem in 2010 is raising fears in the computer community - the 4110 Bug. The Millenium Bug caused unanticipated problems with dates in old computer programs. The 4110 Bug may actually cause serious problems in the way financial transactions are handled and how electronic money is protected. A special study has been commissioned by the government and is scheduled for release on April 1, 2010 prior to income tax day.

January is Crab Feed Month!

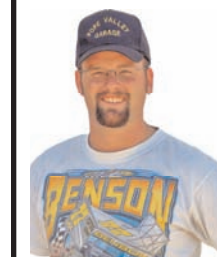
BERRYESSA SENIOR CENTER CRAB FEED
JANUARY 23, 2010
\$40.00 PER PERSON
NO HOST BAR 5:30 pm
DINNER 6:30 pm
MENU: SALAD, BREAD, PASTA, CRAB & WINE
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
NO TICKETS AT DOOR
SEATING IS LIMITED

Tickets Available @ Turtle Rock & The Country Store
 707-966-0206 or 707-966-0357

Pope Valley School Crab Feed Fund Raiser
Saturday, January 30, 2010
Pope Valley Farm Center
Doors open 5:00 p.m.
Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Silent Auction- 5:00 - 8:00
Tickets \$40.00/person
(limited availability - call 965-2402 to order)
Don't forget to bring your crab tools

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Jeff Parady to Run for Napa County District 3 Supervisor

Jeff Parady, a Pope Valley resident and business owner, announced his intention to run for Supervisor for District 3 against incumbent Diane Dillon. A life-long resident of District 3, Parady has a platform that he hopes, if elected, would bring a more practical spirit to the Board of Supervisors as a whole.

"Napa Valley cannot prosper without cooperation from a majority ruling for the good of all."

Jeff Parady is a seventh generation descendent of the Stice family and a native to the Napa Valley. His ancestors date back to before the Donner party in 1845 and he has learned from his family that hard work is the key to sustaining his future and preserving the rich heritage of District 3 for all.

"I consider District 3 the pioneer of Napa County's rich heritage. The unique characteristics which make our district thrive must be preserved for its continued success."

Jeff knows that the key to our future is to enhance and conserve what we have, to insure reasonable growth, and ensure his continued support for all current residents and businesses of District 3. Jeff also believes that it is not in the best interest of a Supervisor to have a personal agenda. By not siding with special interests, Jeff will consider any action item before him with a common sense approach to achieve a solution that will be fair and unbiased.

"I would always respect all pertinent criteria and public testimony presented before me as a supervisor and take time to do my own parallel determination before I could consider a logical vote on any matter before me."

"I have a broad based coalition of supporters from Napa, St. Helena, Calistoga, Deer Park, Angwin, Pope Valley, and the entire Lake Berryessa region. My decision to run was made both by my own observations, and the urging over the past 18 months from many residents and business owners of the District 3 region as a whole."

Jeff will have a broad based interpretive campaign website, (www.jeffparadyforsupervisor.com) up and running for January, 2010. Please feel free to contact him by e-mail at the website or call him directly at (707) 965-1199.

Partial Biography

Jeff was born April 19, 1978 at the St. Helena Hospital. He attended St. Helena schools and continued his education at Universal Technical Institute in Phoenix, AZ. where he graduated with an Associates degree in Business and Automotive & Diesel Technology. For the past six years he has owned and operated Pope Valley Repair & Towing Inc. He is a proud member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, the St. Helena Historical Society, the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce and the Napa County Farm Bureau.