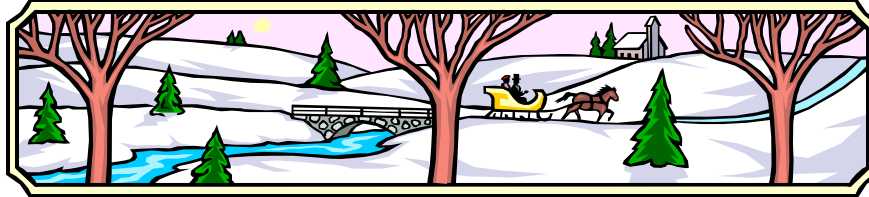


Camptonville Community



Courier

March 2004

Circulation 485

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CERT training underway

By Audrey Bowman

Community Emergency Response Team training is off to a great start. Twenty-nine residents of Camptonville and the North San Juan/Ridge areas are participating in the program enabling them to act as members of CERT. Topics covered so far include: fires, home safety, and triage. We will be earning or renewing our first aid and CPR certifications on February 29th.

Upon completion of CERT training, two teams will form: One in Camptonville and one in North San Juan. We have eleven people from Camptonville with most of us residing on Moonshine Road. During disasters, such as fires that can overwhelm local emergency personnel, Camptonville CERT will be there to offer immediate assistance to family members and neighbors. While people in Camptonville will respond to others in need without the training, the goal of the CERT program is to help them do so effectively and efficiently without placing themselves in unnecessary danger. Camptonville CERT will be working with the American Red Cross, Western Nevada County Chapter, to maintain our team skills. We will be taking refresher courses, participating in disaster simulation exercises, and increasing our skills by taking additional certification courses to better prepare ourselves to assist in disasters.

For more information regarding CERT, please contact AmeriCorps Member, Audrey Bowman, at the Resource Center 288-9355



Sticks and stacks March 7

Cemetery clean up has been postponed until Sunday March 7th at 1pm. Hopefully the weather will be better then. We will have snacks and hot beverages to keep you going. For further info you can call Rod or Rochelle at 288-3550.

Twilight School

By Paula Sweeney

A very warm thanks from February's Twilight School goes out to Leland Pauly and Stephanie Korney for their participation in the Camptonville's History class; to Joan Journey for always sharing and caring in the Hospice Health class; to the Camptonville Buddies Relay for Life team-members for coming and showing videos and sharing information (if you'd like to get involved with the Relay for Life team, please call Judy at 288-1228); and lastly to Shirley DickKard, Rita Ortega, Cathy LeBlanc, Jeannie Costa and Connie Gross for all of their support (and patience)!

We had a very good attendance for February's Twilight School and I would like to thank everyone who showed up! We can't do this without each of you.

The next Twilight School is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13th, from 6pm to 8pm. Our focus will be on gardening and getting ready for spring planting. We're planning an open forum for this class (sounds more like a social event) and so far we have a few local talents willing to share their successes and failures. There will also be items for sale such as garden stepping-stones made by The Camptonville Roots & Shoots group and of course plants! If you're interested in sharing your knowledge or selling garden items, please call me, Paula @ 288-0909 or The Resource Center @ 288-9355.

And of course, if there's any other class you're interested in attending and or volunteering, please call us!

See you April 13th!

You can help

By Judy Morris

Help with what? Help find a cure....for ALL Cancers. That's what Relay For Life is all about. Saturday & Sunday, June 5th & 6th for 24 hrs. Camptonville Buddies will walk and party around Nevada county Fairgrounds raising money for the American Cancer Society. We need your help to beat this disease. Yes, we need your money, (whatever donation you can make) AND we NEED **YOU**. Camptonville Buddies needs and wants more team members.

Unfortunately we all know someone who has had cancer or is currently fighting this disease. Let's help them and ourselves by supporting Relay For Life & Camptonville Buddies. Help us raise money to find an end to this disease. A motto of Relay is, "There is no finish line until we find a cure," when that happens we all will WIN.

Call Judy at 288-1228 or email owlsneagles@netzero.com for further information.

Hospice

BY Rod & Rochelle

At last month's Twilight School we were stimulated by the intimate and thought provoking discussion with Joan Journey, family members, and clients concerning our hospice and the care for those in need. We are so fortunate to have Joan and her husband in Camptonville providing this great service. Please remember to keep filling those donation jars at our local businesses.

Published by the Newsletter Committee of the CCSD Auxiliary.

Address all correspondence for the Camptonville Courier to:

PO Box 32 Camptonville, CA 95922

Contact: Rod 288-3550, or Cathy 288-0913

Your Camptonville Newsletter Committee

Roger Rapp (world correspondent), Cathy LeBlanc, Bob Carpenter, Rod Bondurant, Joan Carpenter, Rochelle Bell, Yana Slade

Remembering mom

By Cathy LeBlanc

On February 13th, 2004 at 6:30pm Elsie LeBlanc took flight. I guess I could say my Mom died but that doesn't describe the experience. Death for mom, as Emmanuel's Book says, was "like taking off a tight shoe". At that point it was more like freedom. My sisters, Jen, Jessa, Ruby and I were there during her transition and feel very thankful to Journey Home Hospice, which made the experience of mom having her last days at home, possible for us.

We also felt that she wanted to be with Dad for Valentines Day. He took flight in '98. They had a love affair that lasted since 1943, before that actually. As kids they lived up the road from each other. My Dad would play Harmonica on his front porch. He also fibbed to her would-be suitors that she was planning to become a nun to eliminate the competition. My sisters Sharon, Susan, Gail and I are the product of that love.

Elsie, born Alzeda Costa, March 25, 1918 in New Bedford, MA was 85 at her passing. By all accounts she had lived a wonderful life. She touched many, many souls with her kindness and delicious cooking.

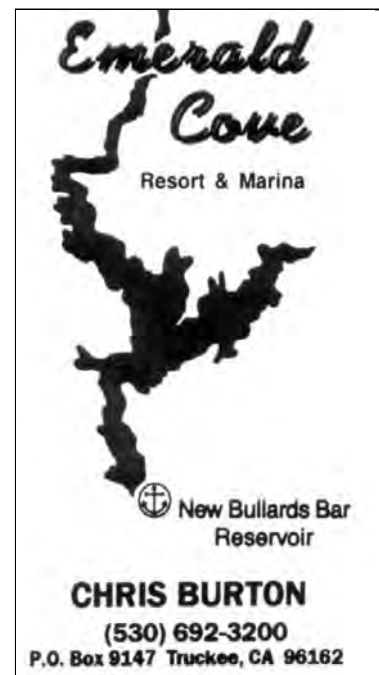
Mom had countless stories to tell the grandkids, these were stories I remember as a kid too, let me share a few. She had owned a restaurant in the 1950's called E & L's Café, there her customers were privy to her special sense of humor. There was a fellow who ordered oatmeal every morning with a pat of butter on top and would not eat until the butter had melted. One morning Elsie prepared his breakfast with a rubber pat of butter on top of the oatmeal. You would not believe how long he sat and waited and waited for it to melt. Much closer to home at Doc Willy's HA Bar and Grill, Maggie (the proprietor) and mom used to have a great laugh with her homemade "farting machine" which was a device made from a piece of bent wire, a metal washer, and rubber bands. She would sit next to someone wind up her gadget and let her rip, then smile and look innocent. Afterward she and Maggie would laugh so hard they'd have tears in their eyes.

Mom we love you always and we'll miss you forever. Thanks can never be enough for all you've given me. I can only hope I remember your wisdom and sense of humor in my own journey as a mom. I'll try not to be so serious, take time out to have a laugh and have fun.

We will be having a memorial for Elsie Saturday March 20th 11AM at St. John's Church in North San Juan. A gathering will follow at Elsie's house afterward where we can share our memories. It will be a potluck and all of her friends are welcome.

Yoga in Camptonville?

We're looking into having yoga classes in Camptonville. We have a certified yoga instructor available and are trying to determine how many people are interested in coming to yoga classes. Please call Audrey Bowman at the Resource Center 288-9355 if you are interested in participating. We hope you'll join us!



Good news for teeth

From the tooth fairy

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting the dentist who will be working at the two new dental facilities in our area. Dr. David DeAinza will start working at a clinic for children 0-18 years in Grass Valley. All children will be welcome for care (regardless of ability to pay). This clinic is scheduled to start in mid-March.

The other clinic will include adults as patients. The Sierra Family Dental Clinic on Tyler Foote Road is busy finishing up work on the facility so they can open in late March or early April. I hope to have more specific information next month. Until then, brush, floss, and eat healthy foods!



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Transitions

Elsie LeBlanc, born Alzeda Costa, March 25, 1918 in New Bedford, MA died peacefully on February 13, 2004, surrounded by loved ones, at her home in Camptonville where she had been a resident for 24 years. Elsie was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years Ernest LeBlanc.

She was the daughter of Antone and Marie Costa and one of eight children. Her only living sibling is Frank Costa who resides in Arizona. She is survived by and will be missed by her children, Sharon Patterson, Susan Gardner, Gail Hystad and Cathy LeBlanc, and grandchildren Cory Patterson, Frank Stroobant, Shawna Scofield, Robert and Lori Gardner, Ruby, Dakota and Talon Cook, Jessa Bliss, Joyce, Jim and John Hystad and her many great grandchildren, nieces and nephews

We will be having a memorial for Elsie Saturday March 20th 11am at St. John's Church in North San Juan. A gathering will follow at Elsie's house afterward where we can share our memories. It will be a potluck and all of her friends are welcome.

Mervin Bowes, 72, of Lake Havasu City, AZ; formerly of Camptonville, CA., died Saturday, Feb. 7, at his home in Lake Havasu.

"Merv" was born Jan. 29, 1932, in Cumberland, Iowa, to Alfred and Violet Bowes. He graduated from Carson High School in 1949. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He married Marian McKee Feb. 19, 1952, in Carson, Iowa. After his discharge, he worked as an aircraft mechanic for many years in several states, eventually moving to California. While in California he worked for Thompson Building Materials, started his own trucking business, and worked as an electronic technician for Grass Valley Group. After living in California for 42 years, he retired to Lake Havasu City, AZ, where he has lived for the past two years.

He will be missed by his large family and many friends! Rest in Peace Merv!

Spring is coming

By Carolyn Mumm

The first Saturday in May, May 1st is our annual plant sale.

Again comes the warmer weather when everything sprouts and grows. It will be time to plant again in the sun. In Camptonville we plant in May and June and begin to pick zucchini and tomatoes in July (if the weather is favorable).

For all who start vegetable plants from seed; now, yes, now in the month of March is a good time. Try starting some seeds in small cottage cheese containers or in a planting tray available at local stores. Put your container near in a warm place perhaps near a stove. As soon as green shoots emerge, encourage growth by putting them where there is sunlight during the day.

This year, just like last year, the plant sale will be held at Rebel Ridge market and combined with a flea market sponsored by Relay for Life.

Seed starting tips

By Rochelle Bell

Carolyn has taught me to be patient, and kind to my seeds. I used to throw them in a pot, dump on some water, and wonder why nothing happened. Providing them with just the right amount of water, light, warmth, and using the right planting medium makes a difference.

I now start with a clean pot and sterile potting mix. Seeds grown indoors dry out very quickly so being careful with watering is extremely important. Too much water and they rot, too little and they dry up. It is good to cover the pots till they sprout. After they sprout give them as much light as possible. Be careful not to cook them, also, you may need to move them to a warm place at night.

Each vegetable sprouts at a different temperature and has different needs. For example, lettuce needs a bit of light to germinate so they should be pressed into the soil instead of completely covered. Check with a gardening book. (Thrift stores have lots of these.) Before moving your little plants to their new home outdoors, be sure to gradually expose them to increasing amounts of cold and sun. Join us next month at Twilight School to share gardening ideas.



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Roots & Shoots excitement

By Audrey Bowman

It is exciting to see Roots & Shoots' activities realized. We had a very successful Valentine's Bake Sale. Many thanks go to the parents and children who brought in the delicious cookies and cupcakes. We also had a few adults donate money which is helping to enable us to go on our field trip. On Saturday March 6th Roots & Shoots will travel to Folsom Zoo Sanctuary to have a special, private, behind-the-scenes tour of the animal residents. The animals at Folsom Zoo Sanctuary are all non-releaseable wild animals. Some are at the sanctuary due to injuries, others have imprinted on humans which means that they have identified with humans rather than their own kind. We will see wolves, foxes, coyotes, bears, mountain lions, eagles and many more. We will also be partnering with the Zoo Sanctuary in making bird and bat houses for them. We will return on a later date and install the houses at the Zoo Sanctuary. They are going to add plaques with Camptonville Roots & Shoots' name on them.

We have a number of other projects in the works. Sometime this spring we will be having a visit by the Bat CREW in which Lisa Windflower brings her bat ambassadors and teaches about bats. We are also getting ready to make beautiful "Poetry Stones" which we will sell to raise money for our projects. These lovely and useful garden decorations will be made to your specifications including your wording, color, and size. We're also keeping our fingers crossed that we get a five hundred dollar grant for Youth Service Day (April 16-18) when we will plant a culinary and medicinal organic herb garden outside the Resource Center at the school. We would love to see the whole community turn out to participate in and celebrate the planting of the herb garden.

If you have any questions or want to know more about Roots & Shoots, please contact AmeriCorps Member Audrey Bowman at the Resource Center 288-9355.

Mental health news

By Nancy Niccoli

On Wednesday, February 11th, at the LDS Church, a group of Camptonville residents and invited guests joined together to discuss "Recovery Issues in the Foothills." The Camptonville Community Partnership sponsored the informal meeting. As a group we discussed what is available now in the Camptonville area and what is needed. The group unanimously agreed on the need for a regular Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting. We are pleased to announce that the Community Resource Center will be the site for an "Open" AA meeting, every Tuesday, at 7:00 pm.

A committee was formed to discuss other recovery issues and what steps to take next. If you are interested in a particular recovery issue, and who the lead contact person is, call the Resource Center 228-9355 and watch for follow-up information.

As a reminder, Kathy Dobbins, Recovery Program Coordinator is available for individuals who are ready to work on recovery issues. Kathy serves as a resource and referral source to professional help and self-help groups in nearby towns. To contact Kathy, please call 288-9355.



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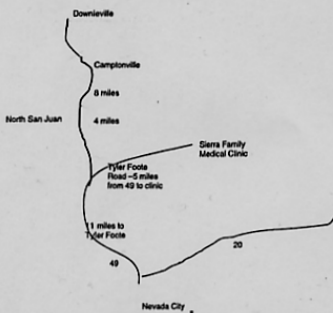
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Legal help for seniors

The Yuba Sutter Legal Center for Seniors is expanding to the Yuba County foothills. On the third Tuesday of every month, an attorney and a paralegal will be available for consultations at the Foothill Fire Department in Brownsville.

Appointments are required. If you are a senior and need help with forms or minor legal matters, please call 742-2334 to schedule an appointment.



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Sending a letter back home

By Roger Rapp

When people ask me where Camptonville is, my standard reply is "About 100 miles northeast of Sacramento. We're on some maps." The joke, of course, is about how tiny we are; but the truth is, people know more about where they live than what some dots on a map reveal.

Now everyone back home thinks Yakshi, Jocelyn and I are somewhere in Spain. And we are, sort of. But the 6 million people (14% of the country) in this part of Spain see themselves as Catalunya. The people here greatly resent the near 4 decade long dictatorship of Franco. The oppression is still fresh on the minds of everyone over 30, and many young and old alike desire to be an independent country again, as they once were for centuries. As little as we may think of our current president or about any of his predecessors, none of us who grew up in the US have ever lived under a Hitler, a Saddam Hussein or a Franco. So despite what your maps may say, Yakshi, Jocelyn and I are in Catalunya.

Franco forbade the public use of the Catala language. So the people here spoke Catala at home, but used Castilian Spanish at school, and never learned to write in their own language until Franco died in 1976. Friends have told us stories about the schools in the big cities, like Barcelona, using Castilian all the time during the Franco regime. In the countryside, however, some smaller schools would teach in Catala. Whenever the inspectors from Madrid came, there would be a mad rush to hang pictures of Franco up on the walls, hoist up a Spanish flag, separate the boys and the girls, and drag out the textbooks in Castilian. But as soon as the inspectors would leave, all that stuff went back in boxes.

Marta found us through the Center for Linguistic Normalization where Yakshi and I are taking lessons in Catala. The mission of the Center is to teach foreigners Catala, to certify native Catalans in Catala competency in order to qualify for various jobs (like civil service jobs), and offer free editing of anything anybody writes in Catala. So the best place for Marta to find foreigners and immigrants ready to cooperate in a video letter project was the Center for Linguistic Normalization.

Marta came to our flat the other day for lunch and to tape video letters. Marta was born in Columbia, studied to be a lawyer, but without her father knowing and with a clandestine blessing from her mother, she switched to journalism. Five years ago she came to

Barcelona, fell for a catalan man from the Pyrenees, and has been here ever since.

As a journalist and immigrant, Marta has undertaken a video letter project featuring a few minutes of videotape of immigrants living here in Catalunya sending a greeting and message to someone they love back home. The video letters will be sent off to intended recipients all over the globe, but they will also be on display at the "Tower of Babel" during the Festa Major of the City of Vic during July. There will be a "tower" of video screens, each playing a video letter filmed by Marta. The letters will be in Dutch and Spanish, Polish and Eskimo, Icelandic and Arabic, and yes, in English - all with Catala subtitles. Yakshi sent a video letter to her parents - including a poem of course, Jocelyn spoke to her friends at school, and Tara Tenney (visiting us here) passed her love on to her family. Tara is a Junior at Pliocene Ridge High School. She was a student in Yakshi's Spanish class and is studying the Catala language here.

The City of Vic solicited Marta's project because at least 25% of the population now consists of immigrants, where there were practically none 10 years ago. People from all over the world have come here to work in the fields, the restaurants, the construction sites and the slaughterhouses. Some, like me, are on a cultural quest

Camptonville doesn't need to have a dot on every map. Those of us who call the foothills home know that living in Sacramento could never begin to compare with living in Camptonville.

No cultural inspector is going to come here and tell us what to think. So just turn off the TV and free your mind. There is no need to hang up a photo of the dictator or hoist up a flag. Much less is there any need to wear the brand name logos of the multinationals all over our shirts and shoes. No one is going to impose a language on us, and we certainly don't have to swallow the lies of all those elected officials who "represent" us.

More than dots, we need dedication, inspiration and continued involvement to make Camptonville a better place to live, with a sustainable use of resources and enough of an economy so that there's a place for our children to live here too, and to enjoy the beauty of the place that surrounds us.

Senior news

By Carol Wenger

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME
 The North Gold Senior Mountaineer (NGSM) Lodge is located on Highway 49 in North San Juan. We are always seeking new members to join our senior center. If you are 55 years of age or older, or 50 years of age, if disabled, you are always welcome to join us to meet new friends and neighbors and enjoy our weekly Tuesday luncheon. Please call John Skoverski at 292-3315, or stop by at the NGSM lodge any Tuesday at 12 pm to enroll.

The NGSM offers the following community events for residents to meet your neighbors, enjoy a friendly, relaxing atmosphere and a good meal in support of our local seniors.

SENIOR LUNCH EVERY TUESDAY. Lunch will be served every Tuesday at 12:00 noon. Please make reservations in advance by signing the reservation list at the front desk at the lodge, or by calling John Skoverski at 292-3315 no later than 5:00 pm the Sunday evening prior to Tuesday lunch.

On the second Sunday of every month we will be having our **monthly breakfast**. Our next breakfast will be on **March 14th**. We welcome anyone who would like to join us and look forward to seeing you.

Breakfast Menu
2 Eggs (made to order)
2 Pancakes or Waffles
Sausage or Ham
or
Biscuits and Gravy
Sausage
Orange Juice and Coffee
Donation
Adults \$4.00 Children \$2.50

SENIOR MEMBER FUN NIGHT is hosted on the last Friday of the month. Our next Senior Fun Night is Friday, March 26th. Please bring a dish for our potluck and after dinner we play cards, games or just visit.

EXERCISE WITH SUE on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8 am to 9 am at the NGSM lodge.

Courier Classified

Free classified ads. Call 288-3550 to place yours.

Couch, dark blue, 8ft long, good for naps. \$30.
 Electric dryer, Kenmore, works fine \$25. Call Roland 288-3537.

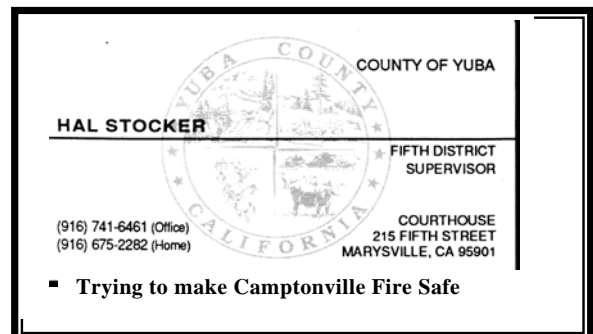
Downieville Ranger District

By Betty Leffew

Grooming has been being done in the high country since the first of the year. For up-to-date information on the status of the snow trail system, feel free to call the ranger station. We have plenty of the free Winter Recreation maps. Come in and pick one up and enjoy some winter fun. There is still plenty of snow.

Campgrounds continue to be in winter status, no services, no fee. Bullards will officially open on April 2nd. Access to the boat ramp remains open. Saturday March 20th, will be a workday on the Bullards Bar trails system. Please be aware as you use the trails.

As of February 20th we had 36.74 inches of precipitation. At the end of January our total was 29.81. Last year at this time we had 42.37 inches.



MARCH CALENDAR:

Mondays	Roots & Shoots at the school, 3pm
Sunday March 7	Cemetery cleanup at 1pm
Tuesday, April 13	Twilight School, 6-8pm (gardening and spring planting)

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