

December 2009 Circulation 500 Vol. 13 No.12

Secret Santa Dinners

By Barbara Mueller – Hogan Outreach Worker /Camptonville Community Partnership

Dear Camptonville Residents.

The Outreach Program at the Resource Center has joined together again this year with the kids from Camptonville School, the Dobbins Food Bank and the North San Juan Churches, to offer help to anyone and EVERYONE who may need a holiday dinner in December.

If you or anyone you know could use this help, please call Barbara at the Resource Center – 288-9355. Please leave your name, phone number and the number of people in the family. You will be contacted as to the time and place to pick up the food box. THERE WILL BE NO DELIVERY AVAILABLE THIS YEAR – SORRY.

If you would like to make a food donation this year (or money, make a check payable to CCP with the notation "Secret Santa Dinners") – food can be dropped at the Resource Center – Monday through Thursday. mornings from 8:30 – 12:00. There is a canned food bin in the school hall from now until December 16th as well.

All donations will be very much appreciated. This project is sponsored by the Camptonville Community Partnership at the Resource Center.

With the blessings of the season and a very big THANK YOU.

Holiday Craft Faire & Children's Secret Shopping Center By Rita Ortega

On Sunday, December 6, 2009 at the Camptonville School Gym, CCP will sponsor the 2009 Holiday Craft Faire from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Artisans from the local area will display their wares for a fun-filled shopping event. Children will have an opportunity to shop for their families with the help of some special elves. Most gift items in the Secret Shopping Center are priced so that children can buy everyone in the family a gift for less than \$10.00. Rain or shine, come enjoy an afternoon with fellow community members, help support this wonderful local shopping event and start the holiday cheer with us.

Santa is coming to C'ville

Mark your calendars! Santa will be at the Camptonville School Gym on Saturday, December 19th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Join your friends and neighbors for some hot chocolate and let the kids tell Santa their wish lists!

There is still time to help. Donation cans are placed around town or you can donate directly at the school. This event is sponsored by the Christmas Club. Call Georgette for more info: 530-288-3429.

Food Bank

By Dick Dahms of Dobbins

The Dobbins Food Bank continues to give out food to needy families every Thursday at the Grange on Texas Hill Road in Dobbins. Healthy mostly organic food is distributed at 1pm until food runs out on all Thursdays except the third. On the third Thursday of the month the food bank opens at 9am for the usual government surplus food bank. Camptonvillians are welcome.

C'ville Holiday School Program

Don't forget the Winter Program at the school. Thurs. Dec.10th at 7:00pm

C'ville Toys for Tots!

The CVFD is collecting toys for their annual toy drive. Bring new unwrapped toys and games to either of the two drop off boxes located at the Lost Nugget Market and the Rebel Ridge Market. Make a difference in a child's world this holiday season and give to others in need.





123 Grow Parents Busy Raising Funds

By Birdsong Sundstrom

Parents and staff of Camptonville's early childhood education program have been hard at work getting terrific handcrafted items ready for the Camptonville Holiday Craft Faire on Sunday, December 6. Even the children have gotten involved, making ornaments. Preschool teacher Susan DeLisle has also crocheted a rainbow afghan (the picture below will look better on our www.camptonville.com website – look for the latest issue of the Courier). which will be raffled off at the Winter Program on December 10th; opportunities to purchase tickets will be available before then at the Holiday Craft Faire and at local stores. Our program is partially funded by Yuba First Five, but donations and our fundraising efforts make up the rest of the annual budget, and allow us to offer the program to the community free of charge. Please come out and support us this month while also doing your holiday shopping!





Christmas Craft Fairs:

C'ville Craft Fair & Kid's Holiday

Shopping Area Sunday, December 6 from Noon – 3:00pm in the C'ville School Gym. Come join your neighbors for some fun holiday shopping. Kids will have a special shopping area to buy affordable gifts for family and friends. Sponsored by the CCP.

North San Juan Christmas Crafts

Fair Saturday, December 5.

Put this one your shopping list for unique homemade items, well priced stocking stuffers and for those gift getters who have everything. Starts at 9am until 3pm at Old Fire Station #1. There will be homemade soup, chili, hot dogs and a bake sale with all the profit going to the North gold Senior Mountaineers, better known as the senior center.

North Columbia School House

Craft Fair Saturday & Sunday, December 5 & 6. Check out the wonderful handcrafted gifts by local artisans in the historic N. Columbia School House located at 17894 Tyler Foote Xing Rd. Warm tasty food available as well. 10am-4pm.



530-692-3200 Info@BullardsBar.com PO Box 480 * Dobbins, CA 95935 WWW.BullardsBar.com





Christmas in the Foothills

The 17th annual Christmas in the Foothills will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 and 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A variety of businesses are participating in this year's tour, with locations in Browns Valley, Brownsville, Dobbins, and Oregon House. Each location is marked with a bright sign and maps are available at each site.

This annual event, sponsored by Yuba Feather Communities Services and the Rabbit Creek Journal, provides foothill merchants and organizations with an opportunity to display their wares. The holiday shopper who takes advantage of this event gets a chance to shop without traffic or crowds in picturesque locations.

The businesses participating in this year's Christmas in the Foothills are:

- 1. **Fletcher's Tuff Stuff Beef Jerky**, 7155 Marysville Road, Browns Valley.
- 2. **Foothill ACE Hardware**, 13860 Willow Glen Road, Oregon House.
- 3. **Dobbins School**, Dobbins School Lane (off Marysville Road), Dobbins.
- 4. Collins Lake, Collins Lake Road, Oregon House.
- 5. **Enchanted Forest,** 16849A Willow Glen Road, Brownsville.
- 6. **Bonnie Lou's Café**, 8570 LaPorte Road, Brownsville.
- 7. **Destination Whimsey**, 16838 Willow Glen Road, Brownsville.
- 8. **Books 'n More,** 16850 Willow Glen Road, Brownsville.
- 9. **Brownsville Post Office**, Willow Glen and Frenchtown roads, Brownsville.
- 10. **Video Busters,** 16900 Willow Glen Road, Brownsville.
- 11. **Lucero Vineyards/Winery**, 10654 Texas Hill Road, Dobbins.
- 12. Foothill Fire Department Auxiliary Thrift Store, Willow Glen Road. Brownsville.
- 13. **Dobbins/Oregon House Fire Auxiliary Thrift Store**, 9162 Marysville Road, Oregon House.
- 14. **Oregon House Farms,** 14582 Indiana School Road, Oregon House.
- 15. **Browns Valley Mercantile,** 5545 Marysville Road, Browns Valley.

The Relicensing of New Bullard's Bar Reservoir By Wendy Tinnel

For many of us in Camptonville, Bullard's Bar Reservoir, the Yuba River and many other tributaries surrounding our beautiful mountains are single handedly the very reason why we live or moved here.

Did you know the Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) 1s starting a process to renew its water rights license? This only happens every 30-50 years.

The YCWA was established in 1959 by Yuba County. It owns and operates the Yuba River Development Project. In 2016 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for this project is up for renewal. Here is some of what this extensive renewal project includes: Our House Diversion Dam, Lohman Ridge Diversion Tunnel, Log Cabin Diversion Dam, Camptonville Diversion Tunnel, New Bullard's Bar Reservoir, New Bullard's Bar Dam, New Bullard's Bar Spillway, New Colgate Power Tunnel and Penstock, New Colgate Powerhouse, Recreation Facilities and, the Narrows 2 Development.

According to Article 61 written by Joseph Gutride, the secretary for FERC, the licensee (YWCA) shall construct, maintain and operate or shall arrange for the construction, maintenance and operation of such recreational facilities including modifications, such as launching ramps, beaches, picnic and camping areas, sanitary facilities and utilities.

The relicense process will allow all community members to get involved in this project happening right in our own backyard. The YCWA is asking for written statements from the community of any concerns or issues.

Don't feel like writing a statement is the only thing you can do. You can also attend upcoming meetings and bring yourself to the discussion table.

Here is what recent YCWA FERC meetings have included: Background information on the process of relicensing, a Dam Tour, October 1st that took us around to view the Our House, Log Cabin, and Bullard's Bar dams and the Colgate Powerhouse and Penstock. About 30-50 people from many different organizations such as:: the Yuba County Water Agency, USFS, Department of Fish and Game, SYRCL, Foothills Water Network, Fly Fishing Organizations, Social Alliance Network.

Camptonville Community Partnership, Camptonville Community Service District, took part in the tour.

On October 14th everyone agreed that all meetings would be held on Wednesday or Thursday the second week of the month. At the most recent meeting, held on November 12th, Tom Johnson, Lower Yuba River Accord River Management Team Consultant, discussed the project operations.

We were also given a presentation by Alan Lilly, YCWA legal counsel, regarding water rights. All meeting and background data, including presentations can be found on the website at www.ycwa-relicensing.com. Look for the Preliminary Information Packet (PIP), this very extensive packet has a lot of information for this project.

If you would like more information (including meeting schedules), regarding the Yuba River Relicensing project, please call Cathy or Wendy @ the Camptonville Resource Center 288-9355 or E-mail cathy@cville.k12.ca.us or wtinnel@cville.k12.ca.us.





CHIEFS REPORT

By Alan Kinne, Chief CVFD

As of September 21, I have assumed the duties of Chief of the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department. I would like to take this time to thank Lee Brown for his service as Chief over the last year. Lee will continue with the Department as one of our drivers and also as our Liaison Officer. Being that he seems to know almost everyone in Northern California, he will be a great asset in getting the Department financial and other support that we need.

Now that you have read of the adventures we had with the Water Tender during the Yuba Fire, I am happy to report that the Tender is back in service. Dents repaired, broken parts replaced and new paint where needed. Many thanks to the folks at Celestial Valley Towing in Grass Valley for their efforts in getting this vehicle repaired. Also kudos to CalFire for footing the bill and their assistance from the time of the accident. Made things a lot easier for us.

The Fire Department will be collecting toys that will be given to the folks who put on the Christmas party at the school each year. One of our firefighters, Tom Sargent, came to me with the idea and asked what I thought. Sounds good to me!! He is going to try to get some sort of barrel to put the toys in. Drop off points are The Lost Nugget Market, Rebel Ridge Market and I believe the Post Office. There are flyers on the counter of the markets that explain the program. We hope you can help us out with this and make it a good Christmas for the kids of Camptonville. As usual, we will be transporting Santa to the School on December 19th. Hope to see you there.

With the holiday season coming, decorations are the order of the day. Here are a few tips for you:

- 1. When buying a live tree, look at the needles. If they are brown or break easily, choose another tree. Test for freshness by bending a few needles in half. If the needles snap in two, the tree is drylook for a tree with needles that spring back to their original shape.
- 2. When you take your tree home, put it in a sturdy, non-tip stand filled with water.
- 3. Give the tree plenty of water. Dry trees can catch fire easily.
- 4. Make sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from any flame or heat source.
- 5. NEVER put candles on or near your tree.

- 6. Put your tree near the electrical outlet. Do not block the exit.
- 7. Before you put the lights on the tree, look at every bulb. If the string of lights does not look perfect, throw it away and get new ones.
- 8. Lights do not last long. Replace your lights as you see any signs of damage.
- 9. Look on the box for a mark that says ETL, UL or CSA. This means the lights have been tested for safety.
- 10. Read the directions. Only use as many strings of lights as it says is safe to use. Usually, no more than 3 strings in line.

The Department had 7 calls during Sept: 2 vehicle accidents, 3 medicals, 1 public assist and 1 smoke check. During Oct., 4 calls: 2 vehicle accidents and 2 medicals.

BEST WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US AT THE C'ville VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Jessi's Garden

By Jessi Mullins

Hello everyone!!! It is strange not seeing all of your familiar faces around the nursery. I know it has been quite some time, but the remodeling is going wonderfully. The few small changes we've made to the store area have sure made it much cozier for both, our new expected arrival in January and you, the customers. I hope everyone will be amazed and pleased with what we have done.

The winter gardens should all be planted, and all those greens should be thriving, garlic and onions should just be hanging out in the soil waiting for that very first sign of spring to sprout. There is always something to do out there in the jungle of the yard or the veggie garden, but December is a slower month. So let's take the month off and just enjoy all the hard work we have all done for the whole year and just admire our winter gardens, since they tend to care for themselves.

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas! We will keep you all updated on our re-opening. Please keep an eye out for flyers and a blurb in next month's courier.

Thank You for staying loyal customers, I promise we will be back and re-opened for the busy, busy early spring rushes.

Local Physician Receives Statewide Recognition

By Krishna Dewey

Dr. Peter Van Houten, Sierra Family Medical Clinic (SFMC) physician and founder received a California State Rural Health Association "Rural Champion Award" at the Sacramento Convention Center November 20. This is an honor for Dr. Van Houten, SFMC staff and our whole community here on the North San Juan Ridge.

He was the only physician to receive the award among four other rural health innovators, including Senator Lois Wolk, Assembly member, 1st District Patty Berg, Hermann Spetzler, Executive Director of Open Door Community Health Centers for the critically ill in Arcata CA and David Yarbrough, CEO of Biggs-Gridley Memorial Hospital.

The CSRHA "Rural Champion" award says, "In recognition of your significant contribution to the health and well-being of rural residents in your community. Your achievements inspire us all."

Dr. Van Houten and SFMC staff have gained recognition primarily for the pioneering work integrating mental health services into the primary health care setting. You can be referred, often within the same day, between medical, dental or mental health care in the same location.

Dr. Van Houten and Director of Behavioral Health Jennifer Sale have mentored many clinics statewide in integrated behavioral health care. Services offered at SFMC to treat depression, anxiety, and many other conditions is a robust mental health alternative that dramatically improves the quality of healthcare and patient satisfaction. It's also a boon for patients wanting to make a lifestyle change such as loosing weight, stopping smoking, or exercising more, because there's a trained behavioral therapist on site to help them with the medical providers recommendations.

Dr. Van Houten says, "Despite being a moderate sized clinic in an isolated rural area we've gained significant statewide and even national recognition for our work. We've also helped pioneer telespsychiatry utilizing psychiatrists throughout the state via the telemedicine internet connection for consultations with our patients who have diagnostic challenges. It's a fabulous use of modern technology, to abolish distance and still offer university medical center level care, such as UC Davis and others."

Dr. Van Houten accepted the "Rural Champion

Award" by stating, "The future of medicine lies in the integrated health model and I'm proud to be a part of this new wave in healthcare."

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer or give a donation call SFMC at (530) 292-3478

Website: http://www.sierraclinic.org/

E-mail: info@sierraclinic.org



SFMC Staff at Rural Champion Award Ceremony L to R: Patricia Hall, Jennifer Sale, Dr. Peter Van Houten, Chandra Phillips.





Sweetland Garden Supply Darlene Markey

29435 State Hwy 49 North San Juan, CA 95960

> 530-292-9000 Fax 530-292-9001

Serving your indoor & outdoor gardening needs!

Yuba River Ranger District By Betty Leffew

CDF has officially ended fire season so dooryard burn permits are no longer needed. You must still call in to see if it is a burn day. During business hours, call the Yuba River Ranger Station at 288-3231. After hours or on weekends, please call the appropriate county:

Sierra County: 289-3662 Nevada County: 274-7928

Yuba County east of Bullards Bar (Camptonville)

289-3662 or 274-7928

Yuba County west of Bullards Bar 743-1189

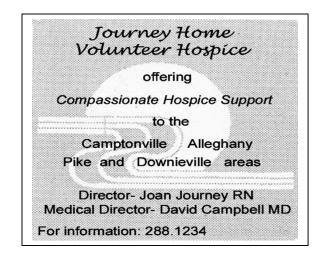
All campgrounds are now in winter status but offer no amenities, such as water and garbage service, and there are no fees. We have plenty of winter recreation maps. Be sure to stop by and pick up one.

As of November 18th, we have received 4.89 inches of rain for the year. Last year at this time we had 8.41 inches. We are lagging behind.

As the holiday season approaches, just a reminder that the Tahoe National Forest does not have a Christmas tree cutting program. The Plumas National Forest has Christmas tree cutting permits available. For information, please call the ranger station in Quincy at (530) 283-0555 or in Blairsden at (530)836-2575. It is great family fun picking out a tree and playing in the snow.

Merry Christmas!









GET UP TO SPEED. GET IT FAST!

DigitalPathTM is rapidly expanding in the Camptonville area! Call 530-675-2770 or 800-953-1919 to see if service is available.

EXCEL	EXPRESS
\$39.95	\$49.95
3000k	6000k
768k	1000k
\$250	\$250
	\$39.95 3000k 768k

VIDEO BUSTERS

YOUR ONLY LOCAL DIGITALPATH™

DEALER

16900 Willow Glen Road

Brownsville, CA 95919

News from the School Board

By Ruth Schwartz

November's meeting was a very interesting board meeting. (Is that an oxymoron?) First I gave the board my resignation effective December 31, 2009. Seriously folks, this school board needs more parents involved. Having a stake in the game is a powerful part of directing good policy. Call me if you want more information about volunteering. The following is what was discussed at the meeting:

*The board gave permission to Skyline Harvest (represented by Roger Rapp) to use the school library and software to catalog their collection of Raimon Panikkar publications.

*Mr. Kelly told us about necessary school repairs being finished and the bus passing inspection by a rep from CHP. Good news.

* Most of the meeting was devoted to a discussion regarding declining enrollment and thus Sierra County's School Board of Trustees announcing that they are denying all requests for interdistrict transfers. There were a couple of concerned parents and Birdsong Sundstrom representing 123 Grow to join in on this conversation with the board. One of the points brought up was that Camptonville School District has no intention of denying requests for interdistrict transfers away from our school to another, and respects parents' right to choose what is best for their child or family situation.

Some of the problems for rural population discussed included:

Lack of social opportunities for kids Reductions in services Lack of after school activities High travel times and costs

We discussed how there are many other options for parents to chose besides interdistrict transfers: homeschooling, online/distance learning, charter school (which doesn't require requesting a transfer from the local school), etc. All of these options make the reason for declining enrollment at a local school greater than just population changes. There is such a serious decline in public school population that each of these rural districts needs to start thinking in new ways.

Some possibilities include:

A combined district between N. San Juan, Camptonville and Downieville.

Camptonville Elementary School becoming a charter school.

Camptonville Elementary School becoming a K-5 school.

Camptonville Board members interacting with Sierra County board members, which is planned for the SPJUSD Dec. 8 meeting in Downieville).

These are all serious ideas that require much thought, research and planning. Therefore, further discussion is on next month's (Dec. 9th) agenda and probably many more meetings after that. Please come be a part of this conversation.

Ruth Schwartz ruth@vandermeer4.com 288-0816

Glen's Handyman Services Reasonable Rates

No Job too Small Electrical, Plumbing, & Carpentry Weed eating & Mowing Clean-up & Hauling



R&C Wenger Construction

General Contractor

SCL 523559 Handiest Handyma Electrical, plumbing, carpentry Rich Wenger

122 Old Schoolhouse Rd, Pike, 95960

288-0933

The Ones That Count-Money Wise

By Paula Goodman & Judy Morris

Recycling Bins at Rebel Ridge are being utilized by many community residents and by store users just stopping in for a quick snack. This program has been a BIG success for both our community and for Camptonville Buddies Relay For Life team. We want to thank all of you whom drop off and are "sorting" your recyclables in the bins.

We are providing the list below to give you a guide of what is **ACCEPTABLE** to recycle in these bins. This recycle program is primarily a fundraiser for our community's Relay For Life team, which provides money to the American Cancer Society (ACS) allowing them to develop services and programs that are FREE to all. Yes all of the items we find in the bin, (at least most of them) are recyclable BUT not for money---that is our goal.

The **ACCEPTABLE** items to be put in the bins, that will raise money for ACS-Relay For Life are:

PLASTIC: Water bottles (clear or opaque), Soda Bottles, Juice bottles

GLASS: Soda Bottles, Juice Bottles, Tea Bottles, Beer Bottles

ALUMINUM CANS: Soda Cans, Beer Cans

Items **NOT ACCEPTABLE** for this recycling program are: Ensure bottles; WINE Bottles; Champagne Bottles; Liquor Bottles; Milk Cartons---plastic or carton; **Any Food** container glass or plastic. Yes these items are recyclable but do not raise any money. They need to be in with your other recyclables like newspapers & tin cans and taken wherever you recycle them.

Working on having American Cancer Society--Relay For Life added to the list of "automatic" agencies that people can have their monies from recycling donated to. So when you are in town & recycle at all the shopping center parking lot recycle barns or at Loma Rica Works—Waste management, you simply tell them American Cancer Society and the monies you earned will automatically go to that agency. As soon as this feature is available we will let Camptonville Residents know, until then continue to use the bins at Rebel Ridge with the **Acceptable** listed items above. We appreciate your support and your wish to keep our community clean.

Please call Paula or Judy at 288-1228 or email at owlsneagles@inreach.com with any questions or concerns about Relay For Life. Log onto www.relayforlife.org/nevadacountyca to join Camptonville Buddies Team or to simply make a donation to the American Cancer Society.

The Courier Needs Help:

The Camptonville Courier is looking for a person or a couple of people to help the paper with subscriptions. The job takes about ten hours per month. You need to have a computer and some experience with word and excel. All supplies are provided. This is a voluntary position and a great way to help out your community. Interested people please call Joan Carpenter at 288-1616.

REBEL RIDGE MARKET

Camptonville, CA, 288-3650

¹/₄ mile off Highway 49 on Marysville Rd.

Owners Tari and Rovillia invite you to come check out the great selection of...

Fresh Produce! Groceries! Cornish Pasties! Cold Beer!

Open 7 days a week! 7am-7pm 288-3650

FOR SALE

Firewood: Dry Oak. You pick up and load:

\$200. Delivered: \$275.

Bread Machine: Breadman, Trillium TR500,

makes a 2lb loaf: \$30

Grain Mill: Lehman's Best, non elec (new \$160)

used twice: \$100

Knives: Lehman's Old Hickory- set of 5, 3 1/4"-

8" blades \$20

Photo Printer: Epson Stylus R320: \$20

ANTIQUES:

Granite-ware: 8 items (9x14 bkg pan, 7" coffee pot, 7" pan, 9" pan, 1 C meas, 1 qt. meas,

and 2 unusable pans for decor.): \$50 **Corn Planter:** rusty, needs repair: \$10 **China Plates:** hand paint. 2 for \$10

Aladdin Table Lamp: brushed alum, 21c, has opal 10" hobnail shade. Needs chimney &

mantle: \$75

Rocking Chair: 'ladies nursing', new caning,

needs a little gluing: \$75

Haviland China: 1895-1910 over 50 pieces:

\$950

Ice Cream inner cylinder: rusty, for decor: \$5 Singer Sewing Machine: iron base only: \$50

Call Margaret and Albert 288- 9330 or 263-4449 (cell)

LOST NUGGET MARKET Gas, Bait, Videos & more Cold Beer!

16448 Highway 49 Camptonville, CA 95922 288-3339

Smile Secret #6

Baby Teeth are very important.

Children need their teeth for:

Smiling, Talking, and Eating

The Whole family must help take care of teeth.

Brush Floss and Pick daily! Don't smoke-Do see a Dentist

Fit, Flexible and Fun By Shirley DicKard

I'm just back from the fitness and yoga class at the North San Juan Senior Center, and feeling all energized. Two years ago, I thought I'd check it out. I was looking for something near by that would help me stay flexible and get a decent workout. Two years later, I'm still attending. Sometimes half the class is from Camptonville and Pike.

Classes are Mondays and Thursdays (except 2nd & 3rd weeks are on Fridays) 9am-10:30am. Bring a mat and blanket and comfy clothes. Suzi leads aerobic dancing, then gentle yoga, weight lifting, waist exercises and cool down meditation – as a senior, she's quite an inspiration! Cost is by donation.

Another option is Lucille's Yoga class at Camptonville School on Tuesdays at 5:30. Lucille is an exceptional teacher and very encouraging to people of all abilities. With all the concern about our national health care system, I think the best approach is to put our effort into staying healthy!

WESTERN SIERRA DENTAL CLINIC

17 Front St. Downieville, CA



Low Income Programs Available Medi-Cal, CMSP Accepted Most Private Insurance Accepted

(530) 289-3199



Jack's Tax Jack Kemp

Income Tax Preparation

14621 Marysville Rd, Camptonville, CA 95922 Phone (530) 288-1011 Fax (530) 288-0626 Appointments Preferred E-Mail jackstax@hughes.net

Chicken Chronicles

By Stephanie Ruff

Things have been pretty crazy here at Rebel Hen Ranch. The saddest news is one of our little bantum hens passed away. Her name was Cinnamon and she was a real sweetie. I noticed she wasn't looking very well and she was straining like she was trying to push out an egg. We had to go to town so I made a mental note to check for egg binding when we got home. Unfortunately we got home well after dark and they were all settled in for the night. I decided to check her in the morning. It was too late. She died in the night. I figured it must have been egg binding as it kills quickly and all the other chickens seemed healthy. No coughs, sneezing or goopy eyes. I also noticed fewer eggs were being laid. When a hen gets egg bound they cannot pass the egg or defecate, which is a very serious situation resulting in death if not dealt with right away. I learned my lesson.

There's been a lot of cock fighting going on in the banty yard, as 4 out of the now 7 bantams are roosters. Gomer is obviously at the bottom of the rooster ranking as he's missing neck feathers. Even the little hens will run up to him and yank a feather out. Poor guy! I noticed he was walking a little shaky. So, he is in the hospital ward so I can keep a closer eye on him. He acts and looks healthy and really wants to get back to the flock. I wonder if he got injured in one of the scuffles? His legs are still a little shaky but they seem to be improving. Gomer is also growing his feathers back, which will help stop the feather picking!

We used to have strings crisscrossing over the hen yard to prevent wayward hens from flying out and hawks from getting in. Although Lucie knows the secret of flying out the others haven't figured it out yet and get very jealous when she does escape. The strings were getting old and breaking. It was a real mess. So we took it down. Just the other day a huge gray hawk swooped down into the yard scattering chickens everywhere. Most regained their senses and ran into the hen house but 2 flew over the fence. The bantams watched from across the yard and ran for cover into their own house. Luckily there was no free hawk dinners that evening!

Remember to keep your chicken feed and bedding dry. Wet chicken feed molds quickly and can kill your poultry and damp bedding can also cause many health issues. Keeping things dry in the coop will keep everyone happy during these rainy months. Fresh garlic will boost their immune systems and fight off colds. I've been mixing turmeric, which has anti-viral properties into their feed to help ward off the nasties as well. Happy Holidays!



Oregon House Farm Store Weekends 10am-3pm 14582 Indiana School Road Oregon House

grass-fed beef, lamb, pork, range fed eggs, local produce and food products 530-692-2564, or www.highsierrabeef.com

YUBA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION RICHARD D. TEAGARDEN, SUPERINTENDENT

935 14TH STREET MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

RICHARD(RIC) TEAGARDEN SUPERINTENDENT

Phone: (530) 749-4855

Fax: (530) 741-6500 E-mail: ric.teagarden@yubacoe.k12.ca.us

REBEL RIDGE ORGANICS

Nursery and Garden Supply

lessi Wilcox

16042 Creekside Trail Camptonville, CA 95922

Phone (530) 288-3222 rrorganics@gmail.com



December Calendar:

NSJ Craft Fair Sat. Dec. 5th, 9am-3pm Old Fire Station #1, NSJ X-mas in the Foothills Sat. & Sun. Dec. 5 & 6 10am-4pm see page 3

North Columbia Craft Fair Sat. & Sun. Dec. 5 & 6 10am-4pm North Columbia Schoolhouse

C'ville Craft Fair Sun. Dec. 6th 12-3pm C'ville School Gym School Board Wed. Dec. 9th, 6:30pm C'ville School Library Holiday School Program Thurs. Dec. 10th, 7pm C'ville School Gym

Santa Comes to C'ville Sat. Dec. 19th, 5:30pm-7:30pm C'ville School Gym

Courier Deadline Sun. Dec. 20th

CCSD Mon. Dec. 21, 7:00 pm Camptonville School
Yoga Tuesdays at 5:30 PM at the Camptonville School
Food Bank Third Thursday at the Lake Francis Grange, Dobbins

Published by the Newsletter Committee of the CCSD Auxiliary.

PO Box 32 Camptonville, CA 95922 or email:

camptonvillecourier@hughes.net Editors: The Ruff Family 288-3512

Advertising/Proof Reading: Janie Kesselman 288-3600

Additional Proofing: Birdsong Sundstrom Subscriptions: Joan Carpenter 288-1616

The Courier, including back issues, is available at: www.camptonvillle.com/the courier.html