

Camptonville Community Courier

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Christmas Feast

By Rochelle Bell

The rain held off till the food was brought in and the guests assembled for the first annual Christmas dinner hosted by Ron and Diane of the Pelton wheel café. Over 50 people choose to share their Christmas dinner with other community members in our Masonic lodge. What fun we had, looking at all the historic photos and Lester Pelton's first water wheel. The food crowded the longest table we could find and still we had to find more space for the many dishes that flowed in from the community. We enjoyed meeting new and old friends. Some folks brought their holiday guests and everyone brought their smiles and gratitude for a sensational meal. One guest from Sacramento was so moved by the Christmas spirit she headed for the piano and entertained us. We want to thank the members of the Mountain Range Lodge # 18 for their generous offer of the building for our dinner. And a big thank you to Ron, Diane and all those who helped make this a delightful dinner.



More photos of the Christmas Dinner are printed throughout this issue. Photos by Rod Bondurant.



Bake Sale Tuesdays

If you want a yummy and easy way to support YOUR *Camptonville Courier*, you'll be able to stop by the Pelton Wheel Café in downtown Camptonville anytime on Tuesdays through the winter and buy some hand crafted cookies and other fresh baked goodies. The Pelton Wheel Café will donate money from the sales of all baked goods sold on Tuesdays that will help your local newsletter! The cost will be moderate so buy some to take home or donate whatever you can; all proceeds will benefit The Courier.

Movie Night!

Join your friends and neighbors the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month for Camptonville Movie Night! The Pelton Wheel Café is hosting free bimonthly Movie Nights from 7pm-9pm. Proceeds from dessert sales will benefit the Camptonville Historical Society. Donations welcome! Call Diane for more information 288-3410.

Save the Date: School Fundraiser

On February 12, 2011 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm the Parent Club and the 5-8th grade students will host a Casually Elegant Dinner in the school gym as a fundraising event. Look for reservation cards in January around the community, along with flyers giving more details. We can only accept the first 60 reservations so don't wait to put your parties names on the list. We look forward to seeing you there. You decide what the event is worth; dinner tickets will not be on sale. TIPS are greatly appreciated!

Let's Play Ball!

The North Yuba Little League is currently accepting sign ups for the spring baseball season. On January 15th and 22nd, 2011 you can sign your child up to play. Sign ups are at the Ponderosa Community Center in Brownsville and NYLL Baseball Field from 9:00am to 1:00pm. You must bring a birth certificate and three proofs of residency. The costs to participate are:

\$60.00 first player
\$35.00 second player and
\$25.00 third player
\$120.00 maximum per family

If you have any questions please contact Gene Weckman at 675-3625. There has been a lot of interest from parents at the school, please do not allow transportation difficulties stop you from signing up. I am sure those of us who can, will gladly carpool so our kids can play. If transportation is a difficulty please call Stephanie to discuss further at 288-3463.

Gift Bag Collection

The Parent Club at the school is collecting gently used Christmas gift bags for next year's Secret Shopping event. If you have any you would like to donate please leave them with Pam Wilcox, school secretary and parent club member, in the office. Thanks!

*A happy New Year! Grant that I
May bring no tear to any eye
When this New Year in time shall end
Let it be said I've played the friend,
Have lived and loved and labored here,
And made of it a happy year.*

~Edgar Guest

Twilight School With Twist!

By Cathy LeBlanc

Reminder! Every Thursday Evening 6-7:30 - Meet at Camptonville School Gym. Fun and Fitness for Everyone! Exercise! Dance! Family Games! Health Education! Join a Weight Loss Team! We will compete for Biggest Loser prizes!

Camptonville Community Partnership hosts this weekly event. In December, we had a blast and we wish to thank Traci Martin of Willow Creek Campground who taught us the Cupid Shuffle line dance. The Outreach team, Jean Black and Barbara Mueller-Hogan, led family games including a dodge ball-like game called MEDIC. Team member Susan DeLisle hosted the Baby Fit class. Cathy LeBlanc helped community members visualize the severity of our nation's obesity epidemic with an opening presentation that showed 30 years of vital statistics in five minutes. Everyone was amazed at how widespread and fast growing this epidemic has become. Did you know it is so severe, that for the first time in history, parents in the U.S. may have longer lives than their children? The presentation also showed a more positive side, highlighting how Camptonville is working to improve our health.

New at Twilight School for January: Staci Howell, Early Care & Education Consultant will offer a special class **Healthy Babies, Healthy Parents-** Playgroups are FREE for all parents and their child age 3 and under. Children play while parents discuss concerns, share ideas, and receive up-to-date information around nutrition and physical fitness. There will be fun incentives and prizes for the families attending her class. Also, don't forget you can lose those Holiday pounds! Stay fit, have fun and win prizes! JOIN a weight loss team! Learn healthy eating habits, trade recipes! Monthly Health Education classes! Community Dances and healthy potlucks every other month! (First one will be February 24th). All ages are welcome. Children under high school age must attend with an adult. So grab the family, a friend or come solo, either way it's a fun way to get fit! See you there! Any questions or suggestions call Cathy at 288-9355. Watch for more detail in future fliers!

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*The merry year is born
Like the bright berry from the naked
thorn.*

~Hartley Coleridge

Chief's Report

By Alan Kinne

This will be my last Chief's report as I am stepping down as Fire Chief effective January 1, 2011. My wife and I have decided to sell our house and become fulltime RV'ers. There is a lot of this country that we want to see and feel that this is the best way to do it. It has been an honor and a privilege for me to serve as Chief of the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department. I have seen this department grow not only in the number of volunteers, but also in the depth and quality of training that has been accomplished. A lot of work and effort has been put forth to give Camptonville a Fire Department that it can be proud of and count on. We have a dedicated core of individuals who give of their time to make this department what it is today. Other departments in the area have seen this transformation and know that we will be there to assist them if called upon. A lot of the credit for this improvement can be attributed to the man who will be taking over when I leave, Assistant Chief Mark Jokerst. Mark was the long time Chief of the Pike City Fire Department. While in that position, he also filled in as Acting Chief of Camptonville for a period of time, while we were in the rebuilding stage. He has been the main source of our training at our Tuesday night drills as well as our lead EMT. Without a doubt, I am leaving the department in good hands.

I will not be cutting all ties with the department. It is my intention, and hope, that while traveling around the country, I can still help with some of the paperwork that has to be done with the help of email and the Internet. Of course, I will continue to try to add to our patch collection. Anytime I am near a fire station, I intend to try to con them out of one of their patches! Our collection has grown to over two hundred patches, with more on the way. We will be coming back to the area on a regular basis. There are a few events that take place each year that we don't want to miss. Our coming adventure is going to be

both exciting and scary.

On December 18th, our department was honored to provide transportation for Santa Claus to the Camptonville School. Despite rainy weather, we got him there safely and on time. It was a great turnout as usual. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves and the kids that were there got some great presents. The Fire Department helped collect toys for the event and we wish to thank all those who donated. We can always count on the good people of Camptonville to help out when the need arises. On a side note, as of January 1, 2011, you can call Santa "Chief", if you get my meaning!!

On December 18th & 19th, the department hosted a Title 22 class at the school. This is a class that all firefighters need to have. It is a more advanced First Aid class than most people take. Assistant Chief Mark Jokerst and EMT's Char Sanders and Brandi Dudek taught the class. Many thanks for their time and effort.

As usual, winter brings a slowdown in the number of calls we get. That is not true for some of the departments around us, but is the norm for Camptonville. In November we had 6 calls, and as of December 19, we have had only one call for December. I couldn't be happier about this. We want everyone to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

On a final note, I want to take this time to publicly thank the members of the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department for their support during my term as Chief. It hasn't always been easy, but I knew when the chips were down, I could count on them to do their job. Thanks again for your efforts in making this a great department. I leave with a sense of pride that will stay with me from now on and wherever I go.



CAMPTONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
"WE STILL MAKE HOUSE CALLS!"

Yuba River Ranger District

By Annie Prout-Garcia

Season's Greetings!

All campgrounds are in winter status, which means no services and no fees. For up to date information on the status of the snow trail system feel free to call the ranger station, (530) 478-6253. We have plenty of free Winter Recreation maps to help you enjoy some winter fun.

Fishing in Sierra County rivers and streams closed on November 15, 2010. Fishing in the lakes and reservoirs is open year round. Brochures are available at the ranger station.

Burn permits are no longer needed for dooryard burning. You do still need to check with the Department of Air Quality for burn day status. During business hours, you can call the North Yuba River Ranger Station for burn status information. After hours or on weekends please call the appropriate county:

Sierra County: 289-3662

Nevada County: 274-7928

Yuba County east of Bullards Bar (C'ville):
289-3662 or 274-7928

Yuba County west of Bullards Bar: 741-6299

As of December 20, 2010, the Yuba River Ranger Station has received 34.81 inches of rain. Last year at this time we were only at 12.18 inches, so we have seen some big changes this year.

Have a Happy New Year!

*Snow lands on red leaves
The last of winter held tight
Now is frozen white*

By Shirley Dickard

Holiday Fair a Great Success!

By CCP Staff

Thanks to everyone who came out for the Camptonville Community Partnership's 7th Annual Holiday Fair, shopping locally and having a good time visiting with friends and neighbors while doing so. We are very happy to see this tradition continue, and relieved to have the Camptonville School Parent's Club take over the Children's Shopping Area for us. Also, help from Mrs. Carr's class, who made \$60 towards their Yosemite field trip wrapping children's gifts so they could take surprises home for their family. This is the most popular feature of our homegrown fair, setting us apart from all the other 'Christmas in the Foothills' events that take place the first weekend of December.

The Parent's Club also started a new tradition: photos with the Grinch! Their group netted close to \$500, which they will use to fund special classroom needs and field trips that aren't covered by dwindling school budgets these days, while the 123 Grow booth raised \$190 for the 0-5 classrooms. Thanks to Patsy for providing excellent eats, and to the Christmas Club who sold goodies to raise money for Santa's regular visit to town. The private vendors did well too, and we look forward every year to seeing the creativity of community members on display in their wares for our gift-giving purchases. We live in a fun and generous community!



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Some Things a New Year Brings

By Paula Goodman and Judy Morris

Wow, 2011, and we are all making resolutions to improve our health, exercise more, eat healthier, improve our language/communication skills, well gee that's some of my goals. But you know the Biggest one on my list is to Fight Back against Cancer, there are so many ways I & YOU can do that. Let me tell ya how.

1.) Improving your health, exercising & eating healthier can all be accomplished by joining the community Relay For Life team = Camptonville Buddies. Yep the team is registered for another Great Fun Year at Relay For Life, 24 hrs. of FUN, Walking, Laughing, learning about Cancer and supporting the American Cancer Society and it's many patient programs.

2.) Donate to the Camptonville Buddies Team effort to raise monies to fight this disease that has taken much too much from ALL of us. If there is anyone reading this article that has not been touched by Cancer, please call me. It's really sad to know we all have felt the effects this disease has on loved ones in our lives/community.

So now you are asking how do you accomplish the 2 ways listed above...yep you got it. Go to www.relayforlife.org/nevadacountyca and either join the team or donate to the team. There is finally a new easy way to donate and clean-up

the environment. I'm talking about all the CRV recycling we all do, which is GREAT. You can donate all your "earnings" for your CRV recycling to Relay For Life. Go to any of the recycling centers within Nevada County (Raley's; SPD NC; Savemart; Loma Rica Dr.) and tell the employees you want to donate your "earnings" to Relay For Life/American Cancer Society. Ask for a duplicate receipt & email or call us to let us know how much the donation was. It's a "Win-Win" situation. We clean up the environment and raise money for cancer research. For returning team members, you can use all your log-on info from last year.

I know there is a recession on and people are out of work, but I also know how generous this community has been in the past. Whenever this disease affects one of our own it becomes a personal fight. I want to *Kick Cancer's Butt* so no one else I know or you know has to be affected by this disease. Please feel free to give us a call at 288-1228 for more info on Relay For Life or the American Cancer Society & it's programs that are FREE to all. We hope all of you had a safe & healthy holiday season and look forward to talking with you about Camptonville Buddies & Relay For Life. Email us at owlsneagles@inreach.com for any questions you might have.

Rebel Ridge Organics

We will be closed the month of January but will be available for the sale of dog and chicken feed. Please call 288-3358 or 613-4030 for assistance.

The store will reopen the beginning of February for the sale of bare root stock and spring garden supplies.

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The Snowflake Button

This piece was written in the Winter of 2006 at a Camptonville Writer's Group. The authors are listed in order of the parts they wrote: Jenifer Bliss, Shirley DickKard, Yana Slade and Diane Pendola. It was written spontaneously as a group, each taking ten minutes to write their part.

I was looking through the box, the button box where Grandmother saved all her buttons. There were shoe buttons from Aunt Ethyl's baby shoes, and coat buttons from Grandpa Charlie's P coat that he wore in WWII. But I wasn't interested in those. No, I was looking for the silver snowflake button, polished so that it reflected light like a little mirror.

I lifted it out of the box and looked up at Grandmother who gazed at me with a knowing smile. I held it out and set it into her waiting hand.

She walked over to the soft couch near the fire and sat down. I followed, climbing up next to her and snuggling into the comfort of her open arms. She held the button up toward the firelight and I watched as the flames danced over its surface.

"Why did you choose this button, my dear?" Her voice was soft and distant and her eyes glistened in the firelight, matching the dancing flames on the snowflake button.

"It's always been my favorite," I said, trying to remember why I would spend so long searching for this particular one.

"Do you know where it came from?" She asked, as she peered down into the mass of golden ringlets on my upturned head.

"I bought five snowflake buttons to adorn the white silk cape I made to go over my wedding dress, when I married your grandfather. That was just before World War II."

"Your grandfather didn't return. He was lost in a battle early on. I remember opening the door to two army men, come to bring me the news, although, I already knew. Your grandfather's spirit came to me to say goodbye. I awoke one night, filled with dread. Swirling before me was an energy so bright, wrapping its love around me. I knew it was him. And then it disappeared. In

my grief, I took my wedding dress apart. Sewing pieces of it into every dress or shirt I made – keeping your granddad close to me. As the years went by, cloth fell apart, disintegrating. But the snowflake buttons still reflect the love I have for your granddad."

Snuggling next to my grandmother, into her softness, her warmth, I felt Grandpa's spirit present somehow. It was a familiar presence. And I knew that his presence had been in that snowflake button all along, calling out to me, calling me to place them into grandmother's hands, so I could hear his voice in her story. And – though I didn't know it then – so their story could weave its thread into my own.

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NSJ Exercise Class

The Exercise Class at the NSJ Senior Center on Rt. 49, No. San Juan will be held once a week, Wednesdays from 9:30am to 11am, starting in December. The class, led by Pike resident, Gail Starr, is a mix of aerobics, weight lifting, and yoga, for an over all, gentle workout. All ages are welcome. By donation. For more info: 277-0169

History of New Year's Day Celebrations

New Year's Day is said to be the oldest and most universally celebrated holiday. The tradition of celebrating New Year's Day is said to have started by Romans circa 153 BC. Romans celebrated their New Year on March 1 according to old Roman calendar. Even before the Romans, Mesopotamians are said to have celebrated new years at the time of the vernal equinox in mid-March around 2000 BC. After a series of changes in calendar, in 1582, Pope Gregory XIII instituted the Gregorian calendar still in use today, and set January 1 as New Year's Day.

<http://www.newyearfestival.com/>

We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives... not looking for flaws, but for potential.

~Ellen Goodman

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*The Old Year has gone. Let the dead past
bury its own dead. The New Year has taken
possession of the clock of time. All hail the
duties and possibilities of the coming twelve
months!*

~Edward Payson Powell

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*Be always at war with your vices, at peace
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~Benjamin Franklin

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*One resolution I have made, and try
always to keep, is this: To rise above
the little things.*

~John Burroughs

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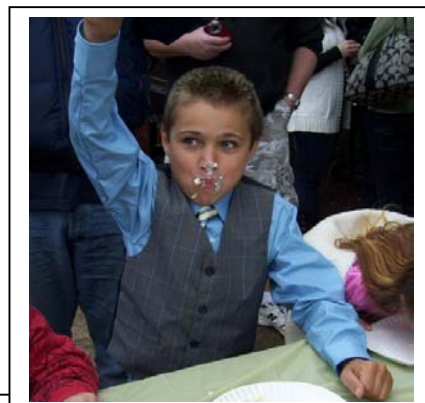
Potluck Lunch 12:00 P.M.

Sojourners Welcome!





Memories 2010



Chicken Chronicles

By Stephanie Ruff

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is ready for colder weather. The winter months are a great time to think, dream and envision what you would like to accomplish in the new year ahead. Something I would like to encourage everyone to think about is how you can become more self-sustainable. We rely so much on outside sources for things we need to survive that when we are unable to get these necessities we are out of luck. Our food source can easily be raised right here in our own backyards. Our gardens provide us with fruit and veggies but what about more protein sources? Which brings me to my thoughts on raising chickens. I think everyone can raise chickens. It's easy, fun and you get something from it-food! Not to mention entertainment! Putting a bench by your chicken yard can provide hours of relaxing enjoyment. You don't need a large flock- half a dozen chickens will provide eggs for a family and three hens is perfect for a couple or a single person. Eggs are nutritious and beneficial. If you eat chicken and can find it within yourself to butcher your own birds-

great! Now you can supply yourself with meat as well. Home raised meat is so much better for you.


This winter the Chicken Chronicles will focus on how to get your own small flock started. Planning is important, as spring will arrive before you know it and it is best to be prepared. I speak from experience-ha! Next month I will discuss housing your chickens, as that is the first step-proper shelter.

Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.

~Hal Borland

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Christmas Dinner enjoyed by the community in the Mountain Lodge.

Camptonville Community Courier

January Calendar:

Twilight School Exercise
Movie Night
Little League Sign Up
CCSD
Movie Night
Courier Deadline
Yoga
Food Bank

Thursday nights, 6-7:30pm, C'ville School Gym
Wed. Jan. 5th 7pm, Pelton Wheel Café
Jan. 15th & 22nd, see page 2
Mon. Jan. 17th, (3rd Mon. of month) 7:00 pm, C'ville School
Wed. Jan. 19th 7pm, Pelton Wheel
.Thurs. Jan. 20th
Tuesdays at 5:30 PM, C'ville School
Third Thursday at the Lake Francis Grange, Dobbins

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