

Waiting For Spring

By Stephanie Ruff

We are in the midst of yet another power outage as I finish up April's Courier. I don't know about you but I'm ready for some sunshine!

The big storm of 2011 that hit at the end of February brought 3 feet of snow to C'ville, along with many broken power poles. We got to witness PG&E in action trying to restore power. With the use of helicopters and brave men they got the job done. We witnessed helicopters dangling men, poles with cross arms and transformers to reach hard to access areas.

This current storm wasn't as severe but still managed to knock the power out. The last message I got from the PG&E outage line (800-743-5002) tells me they have no estimated time of restoral. Hmm, not sure I like the sound of that message-is it any better than the previous message that told me to be prepared to be out of power for an extended period of time? Yep, some sunshine would be nice.

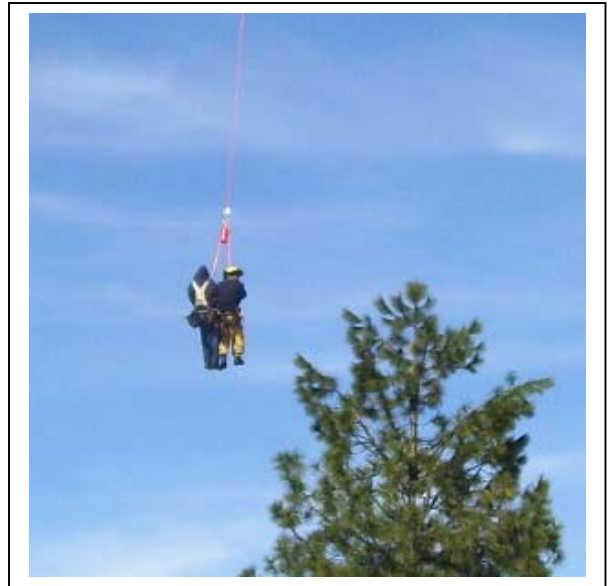
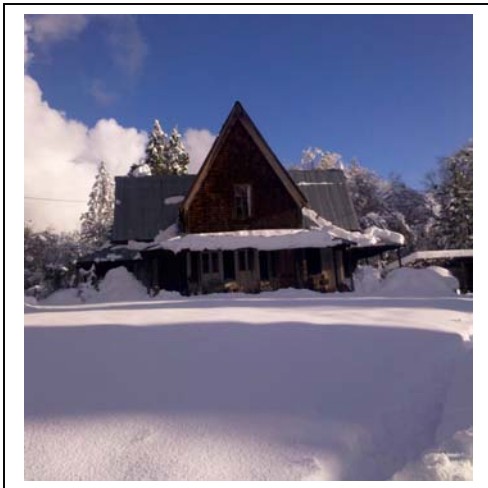


Photo by Liam Ruff



*Camptonville's Historic Captain Brown House
Photo by Birdsong Sundstrom*



Photo by Morgan Hainline

Healthy Babies Program

123 Grow will be hosting Healthy Babies, Healthy Parents, a 5 week playgroup/information program sponsored by First Five Yuba on April 7, 14 and 21 and May 5 and 12. Meetings will be held in Camptonville School's Library Annex from 9:30-11:00 AM, and will repeat the very successful series offered at Twilight School back in January. Playgroups are FREE for all parents and their child age 3 and under. Children play while parents discuss concerns, share ideas, and receive both up-to-date information around nutrition and physical fitness. Special gifts are given to those that attend. Families do not need to be 123 Grow participants to attend. Call 288-9355 for more details.

Cemetery: Buried Under Snow

By Rod Bondurant

Even though the cemetery lilies were thinking it was spring, and tentatively poking their noses above ground, they disappeared along with spring when another storm covered them with a white blanket. As a result, the annual cemetery cleanup sponsored by Friends of the Cemetery has been rescheduled to a hopefully better clime on Saturday April 2nd at 10am. If perchance, there is another storm, we will delay once again, to the following Saturday. We will have a lot of work to do as some very large branches came down from the previous storm.

Don't Try This At Home

By Judy Morris

During the last storm, I was able to run our small generator. Saved the food this time. I was really good at checking oil before starting it. But for some reason (stress from no power & phone?), as the generator was running I doubled checked the oil level---before you know it I had black "stuff" spraying all over the place. I shut down ASAP. Spitting oil out of my mouth. Thank goodness I had a pair of glasses on as well as a raincoat & pants-now referred to as "the oil clothes". Not a real wise thing to do and I'm still not sure why I did it. Very unsafe task, so kids don't try this at home. Never check the level of oil while the engine is running.

Community Easter Brunch

Come out to Pelton Wheel Café for a **FREE** Easter Brunch Sunday, April 24th from 10am-noon. What a great way to spend some time on Easter Sunday. Call Diane for more information 288-3410.

RISING STAR TALENT SHOW

By Cheryl Durrett

Club Live at Camptonville School is hosting a spring talent show and grand raffle. All community and school members are invited to share their talents. This will be a judged event with cash prizes for first, second and third place winners. The Rising Star Talent Show will take place on April 15 in the School Gymnasium at 6:30 PM. All interested performers should contact Cheryl Durrett or Pam Wilcox at 288-3277 to pick up an entry form. Deadline for entries will be April 1. Backstage people are also needed to assist in the production. Along with the talent show this year, there is an AWESOME raffle.

Prizes to date are: a portable Webber bar-b-que with stand, a \$270 value, a Pecky Cedar Coffee Table from Moonshine Forest Products, \$300 value, a Maple Cutting Board from Spiers Wood-n-Things, value \$50, a \$50 Gift Certificate from Rebel Ridge Organics. There will be many more prizes. A big Thank You to all who donate their time, products, talent and money to help out our kids. Raffle tickets are on sale now; a dollar each or 6 tickets for \$5. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Club Live trip to the REACH program in Chico.



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TWILIGHT SCHOOL

By Barbara Mueller-Hogan

We have had so much fun at Twilight School with a Twist! We are all having a great time attending our Thursday night sessions from 6:00 -7:30 at Camptonville School sponsored by Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP).

Our "Winter Fiesta Potluck and Dinner" was fabulous with good food, good music, the Limbo, the Cupid Shuffle and the "Stuffed with Fluff" piñata. Thanks to Patsy for helping us provide the wonderful chicken enchiladas casserole, much thanks to the many others who showed up with gourmet delights; everyone ate healthy and hardy creative dishes with a Mexican flair. Congrats to the winners of our raffle, Traci, Miya, Joey and Makaela – Joey and Makaela attended most of the Thursday night sessions and it paid off! We started a new batch of "red" tickets with our March 10th session, so come and attend and stuff the jar with your own tickets and see if you might win at our next potluck dance. We'd like to thank all our volunteers and Angela O'Rourke of UC Cooperative Extension for being our health educator for the month of March. We learned how to "Re-think Our Drink". This program taught us what is really in many of the beverages we consume.

April will bring another potluck dinner and dance on Saturday the 30th from 6:00 till 8:00 with a down home "country" theme. The **"Country Potluck and Pie Auction"** will help CCP fundraise the monies for the Summer Recreation Program. Bring your favorite healthy, country home-style recipe plus **BAKE AND DONATE A PIE** - then come for the fun, dancing and good food! Included in April's line-up: family games, the "back by popular demand" Zumba Dance, fitness and aerobic stations. Our weight loss teams are still losing pounds - it's not too late to join! On April 21st Wendy Tinnel and Rochelle Bell will be our health educators and offer a presentation on First Smiles Dental Program. This will be a presentation of the new dental paradigm that shows the true cause of dental carries (cavities). Hope to see you all on the Thursdays in April. If you would like to volunteer to teach a class or offer any exercise suggestions, contact us at the Resource Center – 288-9355.

Fundraiser for 123 Grow Program

By Birdsong Sundstrom

Watch for fliers announcing a special program in late April about Baby Signs, with sales of books and toys to benefit the 123 Grow Program. Just because babies can't talk doesn't mean they have nothing to say. Now, thanks to a revolutionary breakthrough in parent-child communication called the *BABY SIGNS* Program, children from 6 months to 30 months can use simple signs to, as Newsweek Magazine put it, "communicate their joys and fears without tears."

Thanks to research by Drs. Linda Acredolo and Susan Goodwyn, much of it funded by the National Institutes of Health, we know that the *BABY SIGNS* Program is not only fun, but good for babies. Why? Because it reduces frustration and tantrums, increases adults' respect for babies, enriches the parent-child bond, helps babies learn to talk sooner, jumpstarts intellectual development, promotes early literacy, fosters positive emotional development.

Nikki Sander, a Baby Signs consultant will bring a fun and free introductory program to Camptonville for parents and other interested folks. Nikki holds a BS in Child Development and has used signing with infants and toddlers in child care settings for the past eight years.

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Limberlost Iris Farm: Open House

If daffodils are the harbingers of spring in Camptonville gardens, for Limberlost Iris Farm, the hundreds of outrageously flamboyant giant bearded iris, during their peak blooming season in May, is the main event.

Tucked away in a forested corner of Camptonville, our irises have been blooming their heads off for over six years. This year we are inviting our friends and neighbors to join us in enjoying this psychedelic show.

On Saturday, May 14, from 10:00 a.m. 'til 3:00 p.m., we'll host our first annual open house. To celebrate this special occasion, a light luncheon and wine bar will be served. Demonstrations on cultivation and hybridizing are offered twice during the day.

Today's giant bearded irises are a far cry from the simple nineteenth century iris that early gardeners called "flags." Many of us have iris of the traditional yellow or purple variety gracing our gardens. But the new giant hybrid iris, whether ruffled, flounced or fringed, striped, stippled, or simply vividly vibrant, is huge and spectacular.

Although we've had more rain than sunshine this year, with the flowerbeds mounded under snow, we still hope for a great blooming season. Come and join us on May 14. Many potted iris will be available for sale. Our iris can also be purchased at Rebel Ridge Organics on Marysville Road.

You Are Invited



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Saturday, May 14
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Pig Roast and Karaoke?

By Donna Tate

The Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary are planning a fund raising event for early summer. The Lost Nugget Market has volunteered their field to host what we hope to be an annual event to kick off the summer season. The tentative date is June 26, 2011 in the late afternoon. The plan is to roast a pig or two, add some wieners and a few side dishes and top of the day with some awesome local entertainment... Karaoke!

For those of you that have been around town for while may remember a similar event that was held at Doc Willy's in the late 90's. We threw a pig in the ground, served up some beans, salad and bread. It was a very successful event that we had hoped to make an annual event. But with the sad parting of Doc Willy's, went the passing of the annual pig roast. So come help us start a new Annual tradition! Stay tuned to future Courier Articles for more information.

New Dental Outreach Educator

By Rochelle Bell

A pilot program for the prevention of Early Childhood Caries (cavities) in children aged 0-5 was developed by The Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) in 2007. With the professional oversight of Dr. Richard Dickard and Rochelle Bell, Wendy Tinnel was trained as the dental outreach worker for the "First Smiles" program. The 1,2,3 Grow program was the perfect site to start "First Smiles." The moms and other caregivers came together and through discussions led by Wendy the pilot program became a success.

We helped families find dental care and for some, insurance to fit their needs. The parents became more knowledgeable about what causes decay and how to avoid getting cavities by making better food choices and learning how to keep teeth clean from the very first time they appear. The program, which was funded by the First Five Commission of Yuba County, was so successful that we were able to receive an extension of our funding to take the program countywide.

Wendy has become so busy with the county program that she can no longer head the Camptonville group. Susan Delisle a parent of two small children herself offered to take on the Camptonville "First Smiles" program. Susan is one of the preschool teachers and is in the process of getting her degree in Early Childhood Development. Wendy has been training Susan in the new dental paradigm. Now that she is back from her maternity leave Susan is going to begin working with parents in the 123 Grow program. The first of the parent dental discussion groups will be starting this month. Susan would like everyone to know they can call her at the resource center if they have any dental questions. 288-9355.

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Fire Safety

By Jessica Prince

Fire Prevention Technician
Yuba River Ranger District

Spring is here and with the wild weather we received this winter, it has taken a toll on everyone's property. Now is the time to start working on your defensible space before summer arrives. As the weather begins to clear up, it is the optimal time to cut up those fallen trees, create and burn piles as well as working on your 100 foot clearances. Take advantage of this wet ground to get your piles burned, but do implement safe burning practices, as **you** are ultimately responsible for your fire. Here are some things to remember:

Maintain adequate clearance around your piles.

Have water and tools near the site.

Always be sure that your piles are dead out!

Never burn on dry and windy days, regardless of burn day status.

Keep in mind that April is the last month where burn permits are not required, so stop in at the Yuba River Ranger District to get your burn permit before May 1, 2011. Be safe while clearing and burning your property and always remember to ensure that it is a permissive burn day. As always, feel free to contact me at (530) 288-3231 or visit us at the Yuba River Ranger Station.

Local Hero

This letter was sent to the Courier on March 8th. We thought we'd share it with you.

Dear Chief Kinne, Camptonville Fire Department,

My elderly grandparents live in the Rebel Ridge Mobile Home Park and I am writing you to commend the heroic actions of one of your firefighters. During the recent snowstorm, the park was without power and the roads were impassable. No one could get in or out due to more than three feet of snow on the road.

On Saturday morning, February 26, several people noticed a strong smell of propane in the park. Many trees had fallen from the large snow fall and it was suspected one had landed on a gas tank. The gas company would not come out due to the road conditions. Fortunately, one of your firefighters lives in the park and noticed the smell also. He found the source of the propane leak by house number 12. A tree had fallen on the meter next to the house and the gas line was cracked. Propane was hissing out rapidly filling the air and surrounding homes with highly flammable propane.

Your firefighter, Mr. Tom Sergeant, acted swiftly and without hesitation. Without regard for his personal safety, he moved the tree from the utility meter and was able to close the valve and stop the release of propane. He was nearly overcome from the fumes.

My family is most grateful for his initiative and prompt actions. His intervention prevented a serious and potentially deadly situation. He is an asset to the Camptonville Fire Department.

Please convey our gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Sergeant.

Very truly yours, Melissa Gomes



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Yuba River Ranger District

By Annie Prout-Garcia

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.

Bullards Bar Reservoir Campgrounds will be opening April 15th and most campgrounds along Highway 49 will be opening the last weekend of April at the latest.

Fuel wood season will begin on May 11th this year. The prices will remain the same as last year, \$10 per cord with a minimum of three cords.

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 still not needed at this time, but will be required as of May 1st this year. 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 count:

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 741-6299

As of March 18th, 2011, the Yuba River Ranger Station has received 59.41 inches of rain. Last year at this time we were only at 36.63 inches.

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CCSD News

By Pam Wilcox

The **Camptonville Community Services District** (CCSD) is the governing body for the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department, the Camptonville Water District and the Camptonville Cemetery District.

The Board consists of 5 members: The President is Skip Ness; the other members are Rita Ortega, Wendy Tinnel, Sandra Ross and Dick DickKard.

The Board is currently working on the following issues:

1. **The relicensing of Bullards Bar Dam.**

CCSD is representing the interests (socio-economic, historical and environmental) of Camptonville. The positive and negative impacts and their mitigation will be studied. This process begins later this year.

2. **The Water District** is looking into a grant or some other type of funding to install another 100,000 gallon water tank for the town of Camptonville.

3. **The Fire Department** has submitted a proposal to the Yuba County Water Agency to place six 10,000-gallon water tanks for Fire Suppression around the Camptonville Fire District.

4. **The Cemetery District** now has a committee, Friends of the Cemetery, which oversees the Cemetery and reports to the Board. CCSD has hired a maintenance person that will do most of the clean up. The Friends will be scheduling a clean up day (to be announced); they will be asking for volunteer help. Watch for more information on this.

5. At the last meeting we found out some **good news** for Internet users. AT&T U-verse (**High Speed Internet**) is now available for most of Camptonville and some outlying areas. Call 1-888-777-4558 or go online at <http://www.att.com/u-verse/shop/index.jsp>. You can find out the different types of services available and if you can get high speed internet at your house.

Our Civic Duty (abbreviated*)

By Cathy LeBlanc

As tax payers, we know tax revenues do not match up to the services being provided. School districts are continually faced with deeper cuts and projected layoffs even though education receives the greatest piece of the state budget pie. The State Senate has reviewed and recommended fewer cuts to Health and Human Service (HHS) and more to government spending. While the State Assembly agrees it could take away some funding from Redevelopment Agencies, it does not want to disassemble them. State Senator Steinberg wonders "Is this palatable for the people of California?" Some folks such as The Mommy Tsunami from Yuba City and other concerned citizens who spent over 4 days walking 45 miles to the State Capitol to protest government cuts to programs for the developmentally disabled think not.

There is a deeper national economic issue connected to California's budget crisis. Recently Phil Angelides, Chair of the Federal Crisis Inquiry Commissions, recommended that we as a nation read what has now become a national best seller: The Federal Crisis Inquiry Commission 2008-2009 Report, which was delivered to Congress January 27, 2011. He asks: "What the heck has happened to our country? This year Wall St. reports record profits and big bonuses, while 27 million Americans are out of work and \$11 trillion of household wealth has been wiped away. The rich are richer yet many are still losing their homes. There is confusion and anger from the public."

The Report concluded the crisis was avoidable, even though Wall St. says it wasn't. Angelides continues, "It was avoidable human action and inaction which included misjudgments. It was not a one in a million perfect storm scenario... There were plenty of warnings along the way that were ignored. In fact policy decisions were made that facilitated the risk to our financial system. The warnings were out there and the risks were growing every day. Two years after U.S. Government tax payers injected trillion of dollars to stabilize our financial system there is an attempt to wipe away the memory as a blip, instead of a fundamental development, bi partisan failure that developed over 15-20-30 years." You may download the report for free at www.fcic.gov.

As respected community leaders there are times we are all confronted with difficult decisions. We have learned that the way we face those decisions is a reflection of our integrity. While our ultimate duty is to fulfill the mission of our organization, is it also our civic

duty to understand and respond to the crisis issues our government tackles on behalf of our communities? I am interested in learning your opinions and actions. Please feel free to contact me: cathy@cville.k12.ca.us

*For the full text of this article please go online to www.cathyleblanc.wordpress.com

Jessi's Garden

By Jessi Mullins

Where does the time go? It's already April. John Henry, my favorite little buddy is already 1 year and 2 months old, I just can't believe it. Let's see! April seems to be a very busy month in the garden. It seems like this is the month where you try to get everything together and organized for the months of gardening that lie ahead. That is, if the weather permits you to do so. Leave it to Mother Nature to hit us with a couple feet of snow during March, but remember this is not that uncommon. I remember in previous years that March and April brought late snow to our area. When you wake to a nice, sunny day take advantage of it, begin organizing, sorting your thoughts, and shaping up your gardens for the May rush. I'm not sure about you all, but when May rolls around I always have so much to do in the gardens. I've learned to take advantage of the nice days in April to get a jumpstart. Here is what I am doing in my garden:

Pruning – Prune all your winter shrubs and vines after they've bloomed. Prune your fruit trees, if you have not done so already; new studies have found that pruning late is not so bad after all and may even be beneficial in triggering cell division.

Dormant spraying – There is still time for one more application of dormant sprays for fruit trees, especially peaches to prevent peach leaf curl. Apply dormant spray to roses, to help prevent black spot, and other common diseases.

Planting – Plant summer flowering bulbs, reseed lawns, get a bare root fruit tree planted, plant perennials, by direct seeding or established plants, plant and transplant summer annuals, keep starting your veggie starts, it is important to have your peppers and tomatoes started early this month.

Continued on page 10

Schoolboard News

By Richard DickKard

1. Many, many thanks to Mr. Steve Kelly for being the school's Superintendent! He will be retiring at the end of this school year. Mr. Kelly has given a lot of extra time and effort to keeping C'ville School running well. He will be missed.

2. And many thanks to Ruth Schwartz for her service as a school board member. Ruth handed in her resignation at the last school board meeting on March 7. She added depth and good perspectives to the board meetings. She, too, will be missed.

3. Staff and parents turned out in force at the March 7 school board meeting. The overall message to the school board was to do everything possible to keep the current program and staffing. The school board is trying to figure out how to handle a possible decrease in students from our current 50 to 38. The amount of money from the state will also decrease further. The combination of fewer students and less money per student makes for a difficult funding situation. School staff recommended that rather than try to maintain a big financial reserve for the school, the reserve should be spent. Their hope is that in 3 years when the reserve is gone, that something will come along to keep the school solvent.

4. A "hybrid charter school" within the existing school was also discussed at that meeting. The school board is just beginning to research what the possibilities are for this addition. The reasons for even considering this are: to possibly enrich our existing program and to have a means for students from outside of our school district to attend C'ville School. Currently, twenty-five percent (25%) of the students at our school have transferred in from Pike, Alleghany, Downieville and North San Juan. Like we are, the adjacent school districts are under financial pressure to keep students; next year students transferring into our school may not be allowed to come to C'ville School. This hybrid charter would be in conjunction with our school's own charter, CORE at The Camptonville Academy. CORE could provide options for enrichment. In an ideal set-up, all the students would be together 75% of the time; hybrid charter students would work with CORE 25% of the time. There are many things to be considered before creating a hybrid charter school. Feel free to voice your ideas!

5. The most difficult task at that meeting was for the school board to plan for a "worst case scenario" in the

next school year. If C'ville School has only 38 students and less funding from the state, then fewer staff can be afforded. The action for this "worst case scenario" was to let one of our teachers officially know that she may not be coming back next school year; one or two other staff members may also not be returning. The school board is researching how to NOT have this happen.

6. BOARD VACANCY! If you want to have direct input as to how your school runs, come to the next board meeting, April 11, and let us know your interest. We need you!

AND - please contact your school board and let them know your ideas! Call: Candace DeMaranville, 210-1251; Richard DickKard, 288-3479; Scott Spackman, 288-3612; or, Donna Tate, 288-1225.

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Chasing Winter Blahs away

By Judy Morris & Paula Goodman

At print time, lots of us were sitting inside staring out at Yes more snow and wet dreary weather. Well relief is at your fingertips. Log onto www.relayforlife.org/nevadacountyca. Start smiling as you read about a FREE, FUN, FABULOUS, 24 hr. event that helps everyone Smile, Laugh, Love, Hug and Remember. It's the 12th Annual Relay For Life at the Nevada County Fairgrounds June 4 & 5th. We all have been touched by cancer in some way. As you read through this website you'll also experience a "natural", warm, (during snow storms we all need warmth) "high" when you choose to Fight back against cancer. It's easy, click on Join Our Team, (our local Camptonville Buddies) or click on Donate. The feeling you'll get will melt away the snow and bring on spring before you know it.

Relay For Life is a 24 hr. FUNdraising event for American Cancer Society. The monies raised help support the many programs they offer to ALL for FREE. Such programs as: Transportation & lodging vouchers for traveling to cancer treatments; Look Good... Feel Better—a program for women going through chemotherapy; Road to Recovery—this program consists of Volunteer drivers within our community to drive patients to & from their medical appts. Locally. To find out more about these programs & others call 1-800-ACS-2345, that's 1-800-227-2345 or log onto www.cancer.org.

Don't forget to "warm up" by checking out www.relayforlife.org/nevadacountyca and start Your Fight Back against cancer. Call Judy or Paula @ 288-1228 or email at owlsneagles@inreach.com for more info.

Relay On.....

Jessi's Garden continued from page 8

Fertilizing – Give your lawn a nice feeding, something that is a little high in Nitrogen to green it up for your early summer parties, don't forget about your houseplants, give them a nice balanced feeding

Compost – Keep stirring your compost piles to get it ready for use when planting. Always keep up the composting!

Cover crop – Keep an eye on your cover crop, don't let it go to seed. Be sure to turn it under 4-6 weeks prior to planting so it can fully decompose.

*remember: as it is decomposing it is using most of the Nitrogen that is in the soil, so it can't be decomposing when you want your plants to grow.

WOW! What a list. It looks like April is going to be filled with lots of gardening chores. Make yourself a list and just start picking away it all. Rebel Ridge Organics is stocked and ready for all your gardening needs, please come visit us. Our hours for April are; OPEN Wednesday-Saturday 10-5, CLOSED Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Good for the environment, great for your health – garden organically!

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Chicken Chronicles

By Stephanie Ruff

One thing I have learned from all this snow is to make sure the gate to your chicken yard swings outward not inward. When a heavy snow comes you will be unable to get into your chicken yard. Mistakes are opportunities to learn something!

So are you ready to get baby chicks? I see they are already at the feed stores in town. I like getting my chicks from the feed store. They've already made the stressful journey from the hatchery and you can pick the ones you want. Look for vitality and clear eyes. No pasty butts!

The main thing you need to remember is that baby chicks that are not being raised by a hen need a heat source. Mama hen takes care of that perfectly. I prefer to raise the chicks in the house. It's warmer, drier and safe from predators. Beware- cats and dogs love baby chick for snacks! I usually get a large cardboard box and safely clamp a light bulb to the box. Be sure to put the bulb in a metal reflector for protection. If your babies are kept outside they will need an actual heat lamp to keep warm. The chicks need to be kept warm-around 95 degrees for the first week. Lowering the temperature by 5 degrees weekly till you get to 70 degrees. If they are kept in the house I find a regular 75-100 watt bulb is sufficient. Keep an eye on the chicks. If they are piled on top of one another they are too cold or if they stay away from the heat source they are too hot.

We use pine (never use cedar as it is toxic to chickens) shavings in the box covered with paper towel to keep the chicks from eating the litter. They will learn what food is shortly. Don't use newspaper, as it is too slick and can cause foot problems. Have clean water available at all times. You can get waterers that screw on to a canning jar at the feed store. Chicks eat a lot! "Chick starter" feed (20-24% protein) should be available at all times. Keep them on this food for about 8 weeks. Then you should switch to "grower" feed.

The hardest problem for me at this time, is dealing with "pasting up." This is actually a common occurrence in baby chicks but can lead to death if not dealt with. Pasting up occurs when poop sticks to their little bottoms and dries like cement! Ugh! Eventually the chick can't relieve itself and dies. If you see this happening you need to use a warm damp cloth to clean the area.

The chicks need to be at least 6 weeks of age and fully feathered along their backs before they can be moved outside. Make sure nighttime temps aren't too low. That's it for now. Good luck!

After the Storm

By Shirley DickKard

Yesterday I heard the Osprey's call. A pair circled overhead, remembering their territory between the lake and the river; finding their ragged nest atop a pine snag. I noted their arrival – unchanged for nearly six years. The same morning I heard the melodious song of the Black Headed Grosbeak high in the canopy. They will stay out of sight for several weeks, my records note, and then come down to feed. Grosbeaks – my favorite migratory bird and herald of spring.

Last night a heavy storm whipped wind and rain through tall pines outside my bedroom window, keeping me awake for hours. Towering pines, released from their stiff postures, danced against one another, resilient and alive. I think of the osprey pair, hunkered down in their exposed nest, and the grosbeaks, huddled close to the trunk, feet clenched tight.

Rain pings, plunks, then gathers and gushes down the gutters outside my window. Someday I'll remember to save the water for dry summers. Someday....after the ospreys and grosbeaks have come and gone; after children are grown and on their own; after my body and mind have lasted as long as they can; I will have the memories of all I've seen, heard and loved.

CRAIG ROBERTSON
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Camptonville Community Courier

April Calendar:

Cemetery Cleanup	Sat. April 2 th , 10am-?, C'ville Cemetery
School Board	Mon. April 11 th (2nd Monday) 6:30pm, C'ville. School Library
Talent Show	Friday April 15 th , 6:30, C'ville School
CCSD	Mon. April 18 th (3rd Monday) 7:00 pm, C'ville School
Twilight School	Thursdays in April 6-7:30pm, C'ville School Gym
Courier Deadline	Wednesday, April 20 th
Free Easter Brunch	Sunday, April 24 th , 10am-noon, Pelton Wheel Cafe
Twilight School Potluck	Saturday, April 30 th , 6-8pm, C'ville School
Yoga	Tuesdays at 5:30 PM, C'ville School
Food Bank	Third Thursday at the Lake Francis Grange, Dobbin

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