

# THE Camptonville Courier

Connecting the Community  
Since 1997



VOLUME 23

APRIL 2019

NUMBER 4

## When The Circus Came to North San Juan

By Les Wolfe

About 1949, give or take, a traveling circus came to North San Juan, and word got out that if any boys wanted a free pass to the circus, they should arrive the next morning and help set up the tents. Well, that sounded really good to the Crawford brothers Donald, Richard, and me, seeing as how our pockets didn't do much jingling.

We talked things over and decided joining the circus was a better choice than going to school. We showed up for work bright and early, eager to earn a free pass for the evening, and worked alongside other boys and the roustabouts and performers alike.

After working our tails off, we received our free pass. That evening, we approached the ticket-master at the Side Show. He informed us that our "free pass" was only good for the circus, and if we wanted to see what's behind the curtain, it would cost us hard cash. Well, curiosity got the better of us, and we divvied up the amount necessary to see what was there. What a disappointment! We saw everyone in the Side Show while setting up the tents. The exception was the one young man, the sword swallower/fire eater, who had our attention.

As we approached the exit, the barker held up a piece of yellow construction paper about the size of a post card. In the middle of the paper was a solid black picture of a keyhole. His pitch was: for one dollar, if you held this paper up to your eye and looked through the key hole, you would be able to see what Johnny saw on his sister's wedding night. Well, we didn't have a dollar between us, but a few of the other boys came up with the dollar. Right away one of the boys yelled out "Hey, I don't see anything!" to which the barker replied "That's what Johnny saw!"

It didn't get any better under the Big Top. The elephant trainer put a young elephant through a routine of simple tricks, a couple of clowns did some slapstick humor, and there were some of the usual simple circus routines.

At the end of the show, the man who seemed to run things offered anyone who wanted to help with the tear-down 25 cents an hour. Even though a young roustabout begged us to stay, we opted out. He told us he was paid \$25 a week and was fed beans three times a day.

What impressed me most were the sword swallower/fire eater, the side show barker fleecing young boys out of a couple of bucks with a picture of a keyhole (I still have to smile about that), and that young roustabout for whom I felt sorrow.

Later on Mr. Williams, the principal of our school, took all the school kids down to Sacramento to see a real circus, and it was fantastic! Mr. Williams was really good about things like that; we made field trips to the State Fair and Sutter's Fort also.

I never once, after that experience, entertained the thought of running off to join the circus! However, skipping school to earn a free pass wasn't the worst or the last choice I had to live with; they were all learning experiences, an important part of life I wouldn't have missed for the world.



Master magician David Hagerman performed his science-based magical wizardry at Camptonville School last month, to the delight of the children and their teachers. Photo: Sandy Ross

### Come Celebrate New Beginnings - April 6th

By Jesse Golden, Camptonville Community Center Advocates



On the first new moon of Spring,  
bring the hopes that you brought into the  
new light of Winter Solstice into the  
warming soils of your inner and outer gardens.



Hosted by local non-profit Skyline Harvest, we will mark this  
Spring Renewal with ceremony, music, and poetry.

Bring something for the center of our circle that represents what is germinating inside you.

We will have a potluck meal after the ceremony, so bring a nourishing dish to share.

**Camptonville Community Center, Saturday, April 6th, from 4-8 pm**

*(Please note that this event is happening a day later than previously announced.)*

Donation requested, to benefit the Camptonville Community Center.

## Editorial Team Needs One More!

- Janie Kesselman, Alternate Editor

Springtime brings ruminations on the blessings of pregnant buds in the orchard as well as the blessings of my own pregnant daughter, due later this month. What delights await me!



Working on the Courier, I find myself worried about the fate of the monthly I've counted on over the years to inform me about all-things-Camptonville-ian. One valorous person has started to learn the ropes, but we can use another to step up to the fun role of editor, giving each of us just three issues a year to assemble.

Shirley and I will happily guide a new recruit through the details of creating our beloved Courier. There are other crucial members of the team who support the editors in their work, taking care of proofreading, subscriptions, advertisements, and distribution, and those who show up for the monthly folding party.

Won't you join us? Feel free to contact Shirley at 288-3479, me at 288-3600, or camptonvillecourier@gmail.com if you think you might be a good match for this enjoyable endeavor.

## Free Fire Films - April 10th

By Cathy LeBlanc

The Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council (YWP&FSC) will present the films "Wilder Than Wild: Fire, Forests, and the Future" and "Your Home Can Survive a Wildfire" to the Camptonville community on **Wednesday, April 10th at 6 pm at the Camptonville Community Center.** After the film, Dr. Kate Wilken of UC Davis Extension will be available for questions and answers. For more information, please contact Steve Andrews of YWP&FSC at 530-913-6455.

## Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour!

By Christina Villegas, Harmony Health Medical Clinic and Family Resource Center

Harmony Health is grateful to be able to host the "1 Earth Wild & Scenic Film Festival" on **April 20th from 3-7 pm at the Yuba College Theater in Marysville.** We hope the films will increase understanding of our planet and of our role as stewards to keep it healthy for future generations.

This fundraiser benefits R-Spot, a youth group for ages 10-18. Our activities include organic cooking, science experiments, gardening, and arts and crafts. R-Spot kids help with the planning, so they know their voice matters and they can develop leadership skills. We hope you can come. For more info and tickets, go to [www.myharmonyhealth.org](http://www.myharmonyhealth.org).

## Earth Day Celebration at Oak Tree - April 20th

By Diana Pasquini, San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center

On **Saturday, April 20th, from noon – 6 pm**, the San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center (FRC) will host its 4th annual free EARTH DAY CELEBRATION on the beautiful Oak Tree Campus (18847 Oak Tree Road). Our EARTH DAY is a joyous gathering to celebrate life. It doesn't matter if you consider global warming to be a hoax or a fact, or believe that you reside on a disc or a sphere. What matters is that you are here now and are part of, not apart from, Planet Earth.

There will be Native American drumming and song, music, food, vendors, children's games and activities, a raffle, bake sale, and more. In association with the San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association, Cathé Fish (master gardener, passive solar instructor, and permaculture educator) will present a talk from 3-4 pm in the Lodge: "Defensible Space Can Be Beautiful -- How Permaculture Protects Forests."

In addition to being a fundraiser for fun, inclusive summer camps for children on the Ridge, this gathering is a celebration of the great beauty and diversity of life that is all around us. Happiness is good for us and good for the Earth!

If you would like more information, have a donation for our raffle, or would like to sign up as a vendor or volunteer, please call the FRC at 292-3174. We welcome your support!



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**Published Monthly by Courier Volunteers as a Program of Camptonville Community Partnership, 501(c)3**

**P.O. Box 32, Camptonville, CA 95922**

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The views expressed in *The Courier* do not necessarily reflect those of *The Courier*, its staff, advertisers, or donors.

**On-Line Courier Newspaper:** [www.camptonville.com](http://www.camptonville.com)

**Free to the community; Subscriptions: \$15 yr. Tax-deductible donations are appreciated!**

## Lions and Lambs and Thank You Galore!

By Yakshi Vadeboncouer, 1, 2, 3 Grow



The March lion roared in cold, wet, and boisterous. It got sunny and spring-like in the middle, only to return to wet and rainy on the way out – although, I do admit, the wet and rainy was a bit warmer and less ferocious leaving. What it all means for April, however, is beyond my forecasting abilities, but here at 1, 2, 3 Grow the class garden is calling to us.

During the wonderful interlude of sun, we had opportunities to romp on the playground, get out the bikes and scooters, visit Teacher Yakshi’s yard to look for signs of spring, – crocus and daffodils and hyacinth, oh my! – and Dr. Pfaffinger came to visit our school to check everybody’s teeth for signs of good dental care. We also had our wonderful and raucous annual CCP fundraiser, the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Dessert Auction. Thank you one and all who contributed your fabulous confectionary creations! And thank you playful/serious competitive bidders who always make the auction such fun and such a successful fundraising event. Many, many seriously fought-over delights were then passed around the room for everyone to share a tasty morsel.

We do know that **Aa** is for **April** means **Alphabet** and **Art Adventures** in the classroom, and that, thanks to a *First5Yuba* mini-grant, we have a brand new **Alphabet** rug to help with those **Adventures**. **April** also means **Asking** questions and looking for **Answers** inside and outside the classroom. We have a new water/sand table from the same *First5Yuba* grant, and some of us are very excited to see it move with its cargo from the classroom out into the garden. Thank you, *First5Yuba*, for your ongoing support and for the classroom laptop computer that was also part of this latest grant. Teacher Christina is hard at work learning new computer skills.

April also means 3rd quarter Milestone Reports are due. So, of course, there’s paperwork for parents and teachers alike (Teacher Christina can do hers on her new computer!) As always, we are looking for a few sentences (or even a whole paragraph) from parents on how 1, 2, 3 Grow positively impacts your child and family. These are gathered together and shared in a section known as Family Success Stories. So thank you 1, 2, 3 Grow families for all you do to keep our classroom vibrant, our snacks delicious and nutritious, and Milestone Reports turned in on time. And again, thank you to the wider community, to Dr. Pfaffinger, and to our *First5Yuba* sponsors for the support that makes our program possible, keeps our smiles bright, and our



The Kendall Twins with bent metal chair

## Take Part in a History Show-and-Tell at “Bring Your Objects Day” - April 7th

By Stephanie Korney, Camptonville Historical Society

What objects, heirlooms, and treasures tell your Camptonville story? Join the Camptonville Historical Society (CHS) at our “history show-and-tell” event on **Sunday, April 7th, 1-4 pm** at the Camptonville Community Center. Become a part of our year-long project “Camptonville: A History in Objects” by bringing a treasured heirloom/artifact that represents your connection to Camptonville and sharing a story about it with us. We will take photographs of the objects and record the stories to be included this summer in a CHS museum exhibit. The April 7th event will include a display of items from pioneer John Hanson, whose family was established in Camptonville in 1853.

You can help the Historical Society create a fuller, more personal picture of Camptonville and its residents. For more information, call Stephanie at 701-6378 or Rochelle at 288-3550. Refreshments provided. (Project made possible by a grant from California Humanities, a non-profit partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. [www.calhum.org](http://www.calhum.org).)

<p><b>Cemetery</b> Wendy Tinnel 277-6737</p>		<p><b>CAMPTONVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT</b></p>
<p><b>CV Fire Department</b> Chief Brandi Dudek 288-3303</p>		<p><b>Water Plant Manager</b> Mark Jokerst 288-9320 <b>District Agent</b> Tedd Sapp 288-3328</p>
<p><b>District Secretary</b> Pam Wilcox 288-3676</p>	<p><b>Emergencies Dial 911</b> <small>Lester Pelton U.S. Patent 233,692 Oct. 26, 1880</small></p>	

## Rally Point Youth Connection

By Cathy LeBlanc, CCP



Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) staff has connected with students 10-15 years of age at four local schools to invite their interest and participation in Rally Point nights. Rally Point takes place on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 5-7 pm at the Camptonville Community Center**. Local homeschoolers are welcome as well.

We've had an average of 12-15 kids in attendance plus high school volunteers. Joel Williams, Camptonville 7th grader, has decided to develop a brief newsletter as his service-learning project, which he will contribute to the Courier and all the participating schools.

At Rally Point everyone gets a chance to share his or her ideas and to learn something new. The highlights include learning about interesting careers, building their vision of the future, and learning advocacy skills. All of these skills will be utilized to share their "rural youth" story with decision makers. In March, US Forest Service personnel shared a little about what it's like to be a fire fighter and how to sign up for the Youth Conservation Corp.

If you'd like more information, need to pick up a permission slip, or have an interesting career you'd like to share, please call CCP at 288-9355 or email project coordinator Cathy Balan at [balan@theccp.org](mailto:balan@theccp.org).



Male (staminate) willow catkins/Female (pistillate) willow catkins (Salix sp.)

## Early Bloomers!

By Katie O'Hara Kelly, North Yuba Naturalist

After many months of having colorful but bare branches, the local willows have burst into bloom! Willows are dioecious (they have separate male and female plants.) Right now both male and female plants are in their "Pussy Willow" stage. Their soft silvery hairs help keep the developing reproductive parts of the plant warm.

Unlike most "non-attractive" (not bright in color) flowers, willows are insect pollinated. The female flowers will produce a large amount of strongly scented nectar, and the male flowers will produce a ton of pollen. We'll just have to wait and see what insects they attract!

Alders are monoecious (they have both male and female parts on the same tree.) The long dangling catkins are the male flowers of the alder. The tiny cones on top are the female flowers of the alder. Unlike the willows, alders are wind pollinated, and do not depend upon insects for their pollination.

Alders live in a symbiotic relationship with the bacteria *Frankia alni*. This bacterium lives underground, in the root nodules of the Alder. The bacterium absorbs nitrogen from the air and makes it available to the Alder. In turn, the Alder provides sugars which it produces through photosynthesis to the bacterium. Thus, this symbiotic relationship improves the fertility of the soil.



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# 5th Annual Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt – April 20th

By Christina Ledson

Join us on **Saturday, April 20th at the Camptonville Community Center** for some Easter fun. The hunt will start promptly at **9:30 am for 0-5 year olds, 9:45 am for 6-9 year olds, and 10 am for 10-12 year olds**. Remember to bring a basket for collecting eggs!

Breakfast will be served from 9:30-11 am or until we run out. Breakfast will include french toast bake, meat and veggie quiche, breakfast casserole, and fruit salad. The food is \$10/person, and kids 12 and under eat free. The Bloody Mary Bar is also making a return this year.

This event is rain or shine, so please dress appropriately. For questions, or if you'd like to help with the event, please call 288-5016 or email christinaledson@gmail.com.

## Do You Have Defensible Space?

By Jessica Prince, Yuba River Ranger District



After this long and wet winter, it seems hard to think that fire season is just around the corner, but hot and dry conditions will be here again before we know it. Defensible space is required by law and is the best way to start protecting your home from wildfire. Take a look around to see if you have a 30 foot "Clean and Green" zone around your home and outbuildings as well as an additional 70 feet of reduced fuel for a minimum of 100 feet of clearance.

Spring is a great time to start cleaning up trees and brush. Burn Permits will be required on May 1st, at which time pile sizes will need to be restricted to four feet in diameter. If you have larger piles to burn, I encourage you to burn them soon, depending on whether it is safe to do so and whether it is a permissible burn day. Please call your appropriate Air Quality Management District for burn day status.

As always, feel free to call or stop by the Yuba River Ranger Station for more information. Remember, you are ultimately responsible for your fire, so please stay in attendance until you are sure it has been completely extinguished. More information on defensible space and safe debris burning can be found at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov).

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## Camptonville COMMUNITY CENTER Events!



By Jesse Golden, CCC Event Manager

There's so much going on in April at the Camptonville Community Center, starting with Parent Club Bingo on Friday, April 5th, and celebration of New Beginnings with Skyline Harvest on Saturday, April 6th. Yoga with Lucille is every Thursday morning, and Coffee @ the Center provides tasty treats and good company each Saturday morning.

Sunday afternoon, April 7th, the Camptonville Historical Society invites you to bring your historic objects; on Wednesday, April 10th, come to a program of Firesafe Films with a panel of experts to answer your questions; on the 11th and 25th, teens gather for Rally Point Youth Connection; and on Saturday morning, April 20th, come eat breakfast and enjoy the annual Easter Egg hunt!

If you'd like to plan or help out with an event, please contact Jesse Golden, Event Manager, at 288-5016 or write [cvillecommunitycenter@gmail.com](mailto:cvillecommunitycenter@gmail.com). Many thanks to our members, donors, and volunteers for making it all happen!

*Spring has returned.  
The Earth is like a child that knows poems.  
∞Rainer Maria Rilke∞*

## Hotshot Half Marathon is Coming Up April 27th!

By Izaya Lewis, Yuba River Ranger District



The Hotshot Half Marathon race will be held on **April 27th at 8:30 am** along the scenic Bullards Bar Reservoir trail network. There will be hot food, a spirited celebration at the finish line with lively aid stations throughout the course, and campgrounds free of charge for anyone wanting to stay the night. So come out, support, and feel free to contact us at 288-3232 for volunteer opportunities.

As the sun comes out and things start to dry up, the Forest Service is getting ready for another fun summer season. Bullards Bar campgrounds and day use areas will open up April 15th. The campgrounds along Highway 49 will start to open up in May as the weather allows.

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## St. Patrick's Day *Thank-You*s

By Cathy LeBlanc, Executive Director, CCP

There was definitely a good time had by all, as Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) held its 7th annual corned beef and cabbage fundraiser dinner, followed by an energetic dessert auction. A huge thank-you goes first of all to the community who came to this event snow, rain, or shine.

CCP thanks SPD Market for donating produce and Grocery Outlet for a \$15-off coupon. Special big thank-you goes out to CCP board member and fundraising coordinator Barbara Ramirez, CCP's 1, 2, 3 Grow instructor Yakshi Vadeboncoeur for organizing the desserts and bakers, CCP board members Sidonie Christian, Stephanie Williams, Rita Ortega, and Jimbo Garrison, and everyone else who helped prepare and clean up for the event.

About 60 people attended and showed their support. Many commented on the deliciousness of the dinner. Before we knew it, it was dessert auction time! We were pleased that so many people donated their baking talents to provide 40 delicious, delectable desserts for the auction. There were cookies, cakes, pies, and more. The dessert auctioneer, CCP's Executive Director Cathy LeBlanc, just about lost her voice as she revved up the crowd during the fun and always-competitive bidding!

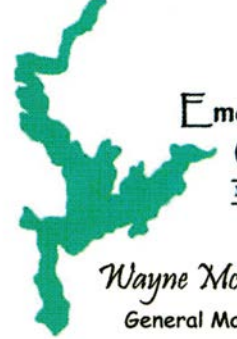
CCP thanks every person who donated their hard earned cash to Camptonville Community Partnership. The evening brought in over \$1,300 (very much appreciated) that will be used to reinforce our ongoing efforts to support the community. Whether it's for the Resource Center, 1, 2, 3 Grow, or to help with general operating expenses, CCP appreciates everyone's patronage.



The auctioneer! Photo: Shirley DickKard



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## Mark Your Calendar! Plant Sale and Flea Market - May 18th

By Carolyn Mumm

Camptonville's annual plant sale and flea market will be  
**Saturday, May 18th, 9:30–2:30 pm** (rain date May 25th).

It will take place at the **Lost Nugget field,**  
**16448 Highway 49 in Camptonville.**


For vendor information, call the Camptonville Community  
Center at 288-5016, or email [cvillecommunitycenter@gmail.com](mailto:cvillecommunitycenter@gmail.com).

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## Spring Time Is Baby Bird Time!

By Ann Westling, WR&R

Spring is here and so is baby bird season. If you find a bird in distress, Janice Barbary, Songbird Rehabilitator for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release (WR&R), suggests the following steps people can take to increase the chance of the bird's survival.

### 1) What do you do if you find a baby bird on the ground?

If a baby bird is on the ground, this may or may not be normal. WR&R recommends calling their Intake Center for advice (see below). A baby bird without feathers or feathers not fully grown in should not be out of its nest. Sometimes nestlings can be placed back in the nest, but a grounded nestling requires a thorough exam first to make sure the bird is not injured or sick. Often slightly older, juvenal birds leave their nest before they can fly well. It takes a week or so for them to practice flight skills while receiving food from the parents. These birds should be left alone unless they are in immediate danger from outdoor pets.

### 2) Keep the bird Warm, Dark, and Quiet

If the bird is injured or no parents are tending it, keep it in a WARM, DARK, and QUIET place. "To a tiny injured or baby bird, you look like a predator," cautions Barbary. She advises folks to put it in an appropriate size box with small air holes and a lid; line the box with white paper towels adding crumpled paper towels around the edge to support the bird and keep it quiet. Do not handle the bird. Do not give it anything to drink or eat, as improper feeding techniques or the wrong food can kill it. Keep children and pets out of the area. While transporting to WR&R's Intake Center, turn off any air-conditioning and the radio.



Pacific Slope Flycatcher being fed



A nest of babies!

Photos: Ann Westling

### Additional Concerns

Cat-Caught Birds Need Care Immediately - It is especially important to know if there were cats in the vicinity and if the bird could have been "cat-caught." Cat saliva contains a bacteria that is lethal to birds. Even if a bird escapes from the cat, it will likely die from infection or injuries unless treated quickly with antibiotics. During the spring, it is especially important to keep cats indoors to prevent predation on baby birds or small mammals.

Window Strike Injuries - If a bird flies into a window and is alive, but stunned, call WR&R immediately. Head trauma may be the result and medication to reduce/prevent swelling may be given before the bird is released.

### WR&R Needs Volunteers! Rehabber Trainings on April 6th & 7th

A training for songbird care will be held **April 6th from 1-3 pm** at WR&R's Intake Center (address below), and another for new at-home small mammal rehabbers will be held on **Sunday, April 7th from 1-4 pm**. The latter will be an interactive training complete with orphaned squirrel babies! Contact Bev Myers: 805-404-1008 or Paula Elliot: 530-263-1970 to reserve your space.

Every year, hundreds of injured or orphaned birds and mammals received care from WR&R. "Thank you to all the finders who brought songbirds into the Intake Center last year or called for assistance. We treated 419 songbirds last year, thanks to caring and concerned residents and our volunteers," concluded Barbary.

Starting on April 15th, WR&R's Intake Center will be open from 9-5, seven days a week, to care for injured or orphaned songbirds and to provide advice on what to do if you find a bird in distress. Before April 15th, call WR&R's hotline at 530-432-5522. After the 15th, call 530-477-5774 for more information. The Intake Center is located at 809 Maltman Drive, Grass Valley.



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## Yuba Water Agency News

By Alex Boesch, YWA

Yuba Water Agency (YWA) has presented a detailed plan to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to improve fish and wildlife habitat conditions in the San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary watershed (Bay-Delta), including fishery enhancement measures on the lower Yuba River. The agreements therein represent a collaborative plan designed to contribute to the recovery of fish and wildlife species, and are an alternative to the SWRCB's proposed one-size-fits-all requirement to release massive amounts of flows in an attempt to improve Bay-Delta fisheries.

"Our alternative provides a more comprehensive environmental benefit than just higher water releases proposed by the State Water Board's staff," said Curt Aikens, YWA's general manager. "Our proposal is more holistic, ensuring increased flows, but also habitat restoration, funding for a river science program, and collaboration among local, state, and federal agencies, as well as conservation groups."

Yuba Water Agency's proposal includes a base contribution of 9,000 acre-feet released for Delta outflow in above-normal, below-normal and dry years. The agency only takes about one-third of the total amount of water diverted from the Yuba River Watershed. \$7.8 million is also included in the YWA proposal to fund a river science program for use in the Yuba River Watershed to complement ongoing science studies on the river and provide a forum for collaboration.

If the voluntary settlement agreement is approved by the SWRCB, the agency plans to use the money to pay for the agency's share of habitat as well as to help fund a new, \$160 million secondary spillway at New Bullards Bar Dam. This key infrastructure project will significantly reduce the flood risk to Yuba and Sutter counties, while greatly enhancing the safety of the dam.

"Yuba Water Agency's voluntary settlement agreement is a collaborative, interest-based, science-driven initiative that can achieve and implement the SWRCB's coequal goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration," said YWA Board Chairman Brent Haste. "Our success in executing projects like this has been proven over the last 10 years since we developed the Yuba Accord, which brought 18 different interests together and achieved results that benefited the environment, our local farmers and the people of Yuba County."

Scientists at the University of California, Davis and researchers with the Public Policy Institute of California cautioned publicly that the SWRCB staff's flow proposal would not address key factors critical to the Delta's ecosystem health, such as food and habitat availability, or predation by other species. The Yuba Water Agency proposal does address some of those crucial factors, and can help fund research to determine the best way to address habitat needs for fish and wildlife in the Bay-Delta.

**Additional information can be found at [yubawater.org](http://yubawater.org).**

## Friend Or Foe? Musings on Fire

By Robert Mumm



The flames dance along the small logs in my fire, and with some deep satisfaction I watch. First morning chores are done, and I have settled with coffee cup in hand to pause a while before going on to other things. The dancing flames hold my attention, almost hypnotically, but I soon think of other things I should be doing, pleasant reverie cut short. But wait... in that moment, in the spell of dancing flames, time and space were bridged and my thoughts went back to some very early ancestor who watched the flames as I was doing.

Fire must have been a magical thing then: it could be fed and kept alive but had no substance, yet it consumed things like wood and grass, leaving no trace but soft ash. It could be seen and felt and even heard, from the soft hiss of a tiny flame to the frightening roar of a full-blown blaze.

To be able to start fire would have been a fundamental game changer. It would have brought fire out of being a rare thing that must be tended to keep it alive or be forever lost, to something that could be brought to life on demand: still magic, but controlled magic – mostly controlled, that is, as our control of fire is still sometimes faulty...

As I watch the dancing flames and dream a bit, I feel a kinship with so many others who have drawn close to our little fires and enjoyed a space of calm and warmth, a space of dreams and speculation. And wonder too, for even though I understand that fire is a process, somehow it is still magic that this wood, holding the energy of sunlight gathered in the leaves of an oak tree perhaps a hundred years ago, can now produce these dancing flames that enchant me.

My stove contains this little fire with safeguards such as the special tempered glass through which I watch the flames, but I know and understand the beast within. Like many others, I live in a place where it is foolish to be, for deep forest surrounds me, all fuel for hungry flames. These little flames seem less friendly now.

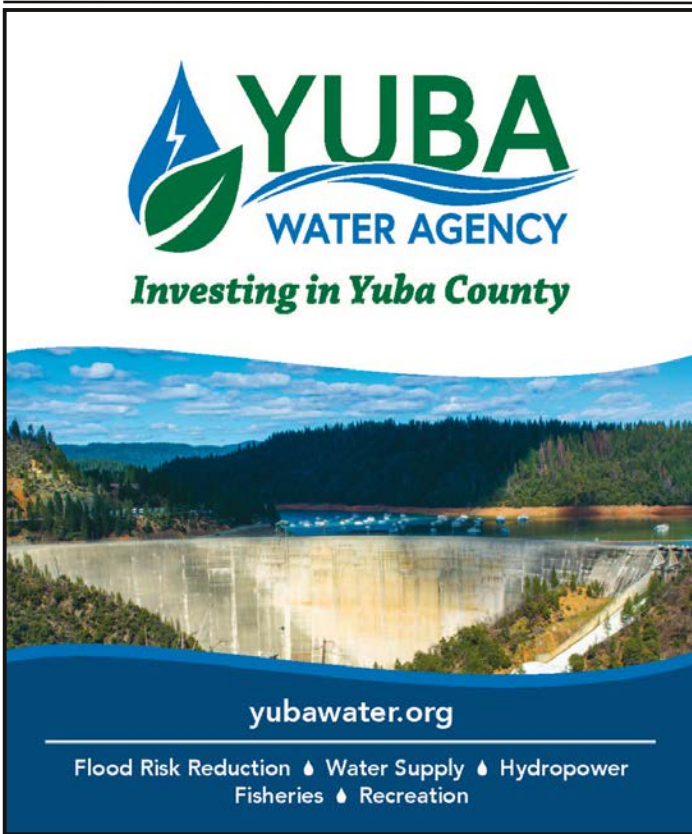
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## Water in Yuba County - Leaving No One Behind

By Curt Aikens, YWA General Manager

Most of us take it for granted that when we turn on the tap our water will reliably be there, and that it will be safe to drink. Scattered throughout California, however, are small communities who can't rely on their water systems for safe drinking water. Compounding the problem, these are often disadvantaged, low-income communities without the resources to repair or improve their systems to provide safe water supplies.

Between 2008 and 2014, Yuba County residents living in one such disadvantaged community of 84 homes east of Marysville faced this problem head-on. The water in their only storage tank ran dangerously low. In 2014, after years of worry and searching for solutions, this community's groundwater levels dropped roughly 182 feet in just three months, substantially reducing their water supply. This prompted Yuba County to declare an emergency.

At the time, there was no system redundancy - no backup wells to meet demand and no redundant water storage

capacity to mitigate an emergency such as extremely hot weather, a pump malfunction, damage to a hydrant, or a fire. And even worse, the local community services district was dissolved due to insolvency, which left Yuba County with the problem. So, the local community turned to their neighbors for help. Yuba County, with support from Yuba Water Agency, stepped in to help improve residential drinking water supplies and a failing wastewater system. Using a combination of local, state, and federal funds, the agencies secured more than \$4 million for a series of engineering studies and projects to provide the residents of this community with a safe and reliable drinking water supply and wastewater management.

Significant accomplishments of this locally led partnership solution include:

- Constructing a new 250,000-gallon potable water storage tank
- Implementing a rebate program to replace turf lawns with xeriscape and low-efficiency fixtures and appliances with high efficiency ones to reduce demand and lower costs
- Constructing well improvements to provide a reliable water supply
- Improving operation and maintenance of the water distribution system
- Constructing a new wastewater treatment plant

The people affected by this were our coworkers, our neighbors, our friends, and our family. This is a good example of people working together at the local level to provide a safe drinking water supply for the community. Knowing that this problem is continuing in disadvantaged communities throughout California, I am honored that the Yuba Water Agency was able to help in Yuba County, and I believe other agencies can and do step up when their own communities are in need.

Today, the aquifer serving the people of Gold Village appears stabilized, and although they are still painstakingly conserving water, the residents are slowly being allowed to return to some of the pleasures of life, like having a drip irrigation system to water plants and trees. Compared to the dry alternative faced by so many other California communities today, the people of Gold Village are well on the road to recovery, thanks to a community rising up to support their neighbors.

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## Foothill Food Pantry Spring Fundraiser – April 27th

By Lisa Baker, Director - Foothill Food Pantry

Foothill Food Pantry of Dobbins is gearing up for our annual Spring Breakfast fundraiser. Held at the Alcouffe Community Center, 9185 Marysville Road in Oregon House, this year's breakfast will be on **Saturday, April 27th, from 8:30-11 am**. Adults are \$8; kids 11 and under are \$4.

Our popular bake sale table is back with homemade goodies for great prices, and we have three wonderful raffle prizes this year. Local hog grower KMZ Heritage Acres (Brownsville) is donating a whole pig and two halves, all raised on non-GMO feed. Winners pay cut/wrap. Raffle and breakfast tickets will be sold at the door, or can be purchased at the pantry on Thursdays during our weekly distributions (see our schedule on this page for the dates).

About the pantry: last year we provided over 4,100 food boxes to foothill residents, many of whom are from Camptonville. We also coordinate with the Yuba Foothills Agricultural Communities Association (YFACA, formerly the Lake Francis Grange) on the Christmas Family Food Box program, for which Barbara Hogan sends us names of Camptonville families who could use a box.



## Food Distribution in the Yuba County Foothills

### The Foothill Food Pantry:

Located at the Lake Francis Grange in Dobbins  
**Thursdays 12–1:30 pm**  
 (Except we're *closed* the week of USDA distributions)  
**APRIL 4th, 18th, and 25th**  
**MAY 2nd, 16th, 23rd, and 30th**

### The USDA Commodities Food Bank:

Located at Willow Glen Restaurant, Oregon House  
**The 2nd Friday: 9-10:30 am**  
**APRIL 12th and MAY 10th**  
 Distributed by The Gleaners.

### Also in Nevada County:

Food Bank at the North San Juan Community Center  
**The 3rd Thursday, 8 am**

## BINGO Night Benefit - April 5th

Camptonville School's **Parent Club BINGO Night** is just around the corner.  
 Come to the Camptonville Community Center on **Friday, April 5th at 5 pm for dinner, BINGO, and prizes.**  
 Games start at 6.  
 Dinner and first BINGO card are \$10.  
 All proceeds benefit the Parent Club.

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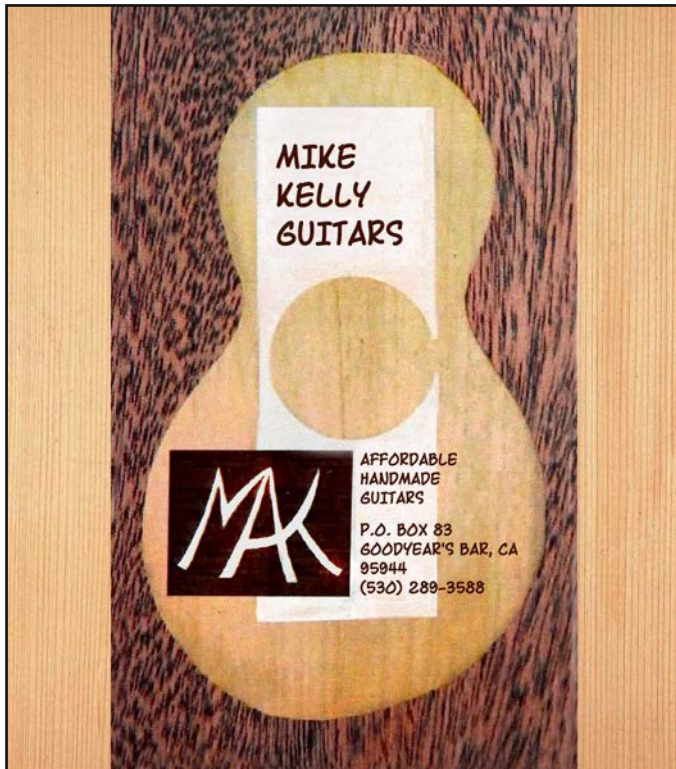
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**SANDY ROSS**  
 Superintendent/Principal

Phone: (530)288-3277  
 Fax: (530)288-0805  
 Email: sross@cville.k12.ca.us

**April 2019 School Calendar**

- April 10 Awards Assembly, 8:45 am  
 Staff Development Minimum Day, 12:45 pm dismissal  
 Kindergarten Schedule, 8:25 am-12:45 pm
- April 10-12 Monterey Field Trip (3rd-5th grades)
- April 15-19 Spring Break (No School)
- April 24 Staff Development Minimum Day, 12:45 pm dismissal  
 Kindergarten Schedule, 8:25 am-12:45 pm
- April 25 Family Learning Night, 5:30 pm - Site Council, LCAP  
 Stakeholder Engagement Survey, & Sundaes
- April 30 School Board Meeting, Room 1, 5 pm
- May 1 Colfax Track Meet @ Colfax HS, 3:30-7:30 (4th-8th)
- May 2 Educator of the Year, Wheatland HS, 5:30-7:30 pm
- May 8 Union Hill Track Meet @ NUHS, 3:30-7:30 (4th-8th)
- May 10 Talent Show, 5 pm, Rebel Ridge Organics  
 (Alternative time and location will be announced in case of bad weather.)
- May 12 Yuba County Track Meet @ Yuba College (6th-8th)



**HELP & HOPE**

For Emergencies .....First Call 911  
 (All area codes are 530 unless specified)

- CA Rural Legal Assistance (Yuba Co) ----- 742-5191
- Camptonville:**
  - AA ----- 288-1001
  - Community Center Information ----- 288-5016
  - Elementary School ----- 288-3277
  - Post Office ----- 288-3348
  - Resource Center (CCP) ----- 288-9355
  - USFS (Yuba River Ranger District) ----- 288-3231
  - Vol. Fire Department ----- 288-3303
- CoRR (Community Recovery Resources) ----- 273-9541
- Domestic Violence:**
  - Casa de Esperanza Hot Line (Yuba Co) --- 674-2040
  - DVSA Crisis Line (Nevada Co) ----- 272-3467
- KNCO 830 AM (Nevada Co) ----- 477-5626
- KUBA 1600 AM (Yuba Co) ----- 673-5400
- KVMR 89.5 FM (Nevada Co) ----- 265-9555
- Legal Center for Seniors (Yuba) ----- 742-8289
- Mental Health 24 hr Crisis Line (Yuba Co) --- 673-8255
- NAMI -Support for Mental Illness ----- 272-4566
- OES - Office of Emergency Services (Yuba Co) 749-7520
- PG&E Outage Line ----- 800-743-5000
- Red Cross of NE California ----- 673-1460
- Road Conditions CalTrans ----- 800-427-7623
- Sheriff (Yuba Co)
  - Emergency ----- 911
  - Non-Emergency ----- 749-7777
- Supervisor Randy Fletcher (Yuba Co) ----- 749-7510  
 (Contact Editor for additions or corrections)

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Afternoon mist over Camptonville hills

Photo: Shirley DickKard

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## APRIL 2019 Community Calendar

The Camptonville Courier and Calendar are online at [camptonville.com](http://camptonville.com).

To add local events to the calendar, email [calendarville@gmail.com](mailto:calendarville@gmail.com) with event title, date, time, recurrence, location, description, cost, and contact information, or leave a message for Jesse Golden at 925-297-5375.



- April 5th – Parents Club Bingo (pg 5)**
- April 6th – Spring New Moon Celebration (pg 1)**
- April 7th – Bring Your Objects Day (pg 3)**
- April 10th – Fire Films (pg 2)**
- April 20th – Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt (pg 5)**

- April 20th – Earth Day at Oak Tree, NSJ (pg 2)**
- April 20th – Wild & Scenic Film Fest, Yuba College (pg 2)**
- April 27th – Hotshot Half Marathon (pg 5)**
- April 27th – Foothill Food Pantry Fundraiser (pg 10)**
- May 18th – Plant Sale & Flea Market (pg 6)**

### On-Going MONTHLY Events

Call first to verify meeting times before attending.

- CCP Board** – Meets 3rd Wednesday, 3 pm  
Resource Center. Contact: 288-9355
- CCSD Board** – Meets 4th Thursday, 6:30 pm, CV School  
Contact: 288-3676
- School Board** – Meets 3rd Wednesday, 5 pm, at CV School  
Contact: 288-3277
- USDA Food Bank** – 2nd Friday, Oregon House (pg 10)
- NSJ Food Bank** – 3rd Thursday, NSJ Center (pg 10)

### On-Going WEEKLY Events

- CCC = Camptonville Community Center**
- Tuesdays:** Community Lunch, 12–1 pm, NSJ Community Center  
Yoga, 5:30 pm, Camptonville School Gym  
Camptonville Fire Dept Trainings, 6–9 pm, Fire Hall
- Thursdays:** Yoga, 10 am, CCC  
Foothill Food Pantry, 12–1:30 pm, Dobbins (pg 10)  
Rally Point Teen Nights, 5-7 pm, 2nd & 4th Thurs, CCC (pg 4)
- Saturdays:** Coffee @ the Center, 10 am-12 noon, CCC

