

# THE Camptonville Courier

*Connecting the Community  
Since 1997*



VOLUME 28

AUGUST 2023

NUMBER 8



## Bird's Eye View of High Water Level at Bullards Bar Reservoir Dam

Photo by Alex Boesch, Yuba Water Agency, July 2023

## *Keep the Color?*

**By Shirley DickKard, Senior Editor**

How do you like the new vibrant color on the front and back pages? We sure do!

We'd love to keep printing these in color, but the cost is an additional \$100 per issue.

Can our 100% volunteer-run paper do it with our small budget? We can, but only with your help.

**To vote for COLOR**, please send a donation (tax deductible) to:

"Camptonville Courier" (with COLOR in the memo), PO Box 32, Camptonville, CA 95922.

Or hand your donation to any of our editors: Janie Kesselman, Marcy Risque, Sandy Ross,  
or Shirley DickKard.

With your continued support, we can enjoy community members' beautiful photographs  
and art in their true colors. *Thank you!*



## From the Editor

– Shirley DickKard

### Dreaming in Color

I've longed to print *The Courier* in color, but at nearly five times the cost, it's been simply unaffordable. One color issue would eat up 25% of our annual budget!

Every time someone submits a gorgeous sunset, dreamy watercolor, or floral bouquet, I sigh, then print a reminder to go online (Camptonville.net) and enjoy it in living color.

With this August issue, we're going to take a leap and try printing just the outside covers in color. It's a bit of a stretch, but we're hoping readers will continue to support us with extra donations to cover the additional \$100 cost per issue, \$1,200 per year. Ways to donate are listed on the front cover.

**With our readers' support, we can all dream in color!**



## Gardeners' Market Opens August 5th

By Jimbo Garrison

Hello dear friends. It's time for the official opening of the 2023 Camptonville Community Gardeners' Market. Woo hoo! It is held at the Camptonville Community Center on **Saturdays starting August 5th, from 10 am-Noon**, and runs til the gardening season has run its course, sometime in October.

Diane and Terry from Pike will be there again this year with their spectacular produce, along with other local gardeners and various vendors of local crafts and wares. You never know what delights you might find!

**Editor's Note: The veggies couldn't wait until August 5th, so the market was started early! Here are photos from the July 22nd market.**



Photos: Shirley DickKard

You will also find Coffee@TheCenter happening at the same time, so this is the place to be on Saturdays. It's truly the social hub of our community! Come on by and meet your neighbors, make new friends, and get the best of local goodies. Part of the proceeds from the market go to the Community Center to help keep this wonderful meeting place thriving.

If you are interested in selling your goods, produce, or otherwise, please call Rochelle at 530-288-3550 or Diane at 530-648-8032.



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For information, contact:  
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The views expressed in *The Courier* do not necessarily reflect those of *The Courier*, its staff, advertisers, or donors

**Read *The Courier* online (in living color) at: [www.camptonville.com](http://www.camptonville.com)**

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

## Local Job Opportunity!

– Executive Director at CCP

By the CCP Board of Directors



The Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) is hiring an **Executive Director**. The successful candidate will be a self-starter who can dedicate themselves to supporting the well-being of the Camptonville area and its residents. The job includes pursuit and development of grant opportunities, fundraising, liaising with a range of regional organizations, and staff supervision. The Executive Director will work closely with a group of supportive board members. Strong communication skills and the capacity to manage formal written reports are a must.

CCP is a non-profit organization whose primary work is the support and expansion of sustainable local economic activities, the enhancement of the lives of local residents with a focus on children and youth, and cooperation with regional partners to promote a healthy economic, social, and natural environment. We have a commitment to doing work that is integrated into the broader community's needs on many levels. We engage in fire protection work, run the local school readiness and parent participation program, provide youth enrichment and social programs, are developing a forest biomass business center that will enhance regional fire safety as well as provide good local jobs, and host town hall meetings to gauge community interest in various areas and to seek guidance in our activities. The Executive Director will have scope to develop other projects.

- Starting Salary Range: \$36,000 to \$60,000, dependent on qualifications and experience.
- Time commitment: Approximately 30 hours/week
- For more information about the position, about CCP, and about Camptonville, please leave a message for Rita Ortega at 530-288-3421.
- To apply for this position, please email a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to Board President Jimbo Garrison at BOD@theccp.org .
- **Applications must be received by 9 pm on August 15th.**



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Located at our **Family Resource Center** behind Camptonville School  
**Monday thru Friday 8:30am – 12:30pm**

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### Highlights of our community-driven activities in the Yuba County foothills:

- Youth enrichment and skill building projects
- Family Resource Center
- Community Health Action Plan
- 1, 2, 3 Grow Parent participation child enrichment for 0-5 year olds
- The Camptonville Courier

#### Development of:

Community-scale forest biomass to energy facility and business center

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## Proposed Fee Increases at TNF



By Lauren Faulkenberry, Public Affairs Officer

Tahoe National Forest is proposing a change of recreation fees at some developed recreation sites, including the fire lookouts and cabins at Calpine, Sardine Peak, and Grouse Ridge. The public is invited to give comment on proposed fee changes through September 15, 2023. For more information, visit the Tahoe National Forest website at: [www.fs.usda.gov/tahoe](http://www.fs.usda.gov/tahoe)



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## You Won't Want to Miss These in September!



### CVFD Community Picnic – September 9th!

By Donna Tate, CVFDA

The Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is excited to be hosting the 29th annual CVFD Community Picnic on **Saturday, September 9th!** It will held at the **Lost Nugget Field from 2-10 pm** (food will be served from 2 pm-7 pm). Dinner will be our time-tested menu: Choice of tri tip, chicken, or hamburger, served with a baked potato, salad, and bread, all for a \$15 donation. We are working hard to line up some local entertainment, and are thrilled that “Sons of Boogie” is returning for our evening entertainment!

Raffle tickets will be available at the Lost Nugget: \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You may even find some of our awesome auxiliary members there to greet you and provide your tickets personally! We are working on a list of our amazing raffle prizes which will include a \$500 grand prize!

As always, we could not do this without your support.

#### Here are some of the ways you can help us:

1. We always need great raffle prizes
  - We would love to see some treasures from our local entrepreneurs and crafters!
  - Any ideas on raffle items would also be appreciated
2. We need-need-need volunteers in the following areas:
  - Setup and tear down
  - Serving food (usually two-hour blocks, but we will take what you can give)
  - Selling beer, dinner, and raffle tickets

If you are interested in helping in any way, feel free to contact Rita or Donna:

- Donna Tate donnaleetate@gmail.com, 530-288-1225 (please leave a message, cell service is iffy)
- Rita Ortega ritaortega4@gmail.com 530-288-3421



Photo by Christina Ledson

Broken Compass at a SYRCL fundraiser

### Broken Compass Bluegrass and Makena at the Community Center – September 22nd

By Christina Ledson

Broken Compass Bluegrass is back at the Camptonville Community Center with special guest Makenna Prince warming up the stage! Broken Compass emerged as a band in 2021 as a trio with Camptonville’s very own Kyle Ledson, Mei Lin Heirendt, and Django Ruckrich. With Sam Jacobs joining on bass in 2022, they have been busy playing music all over Northern California. They just released their debut album this March and are already gearing up for the second one. You do not want to miss this band!

In just two short years they have found their way to the stages of many iconic music festivals including High Sierra, Strawberry, Hogfarm Hideaway, Winter Wondergrass, Hangtown, and The Northwest String Summit.

Makenna Prince will open up the evening with her beautiful song writing and amazing vocals. An 11 year old student at Camptonville School, her future is looking very bright.

This event will be in the backyard at the Community Center.

Doors open at 5 pm, Makenna starts at 5:30, and Broken Compass takes the stage at 6:30 pm. Bring a chair and/or blanket. Beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be available and Lynn will also be serving up a taco bar.

Tickets are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com>. Presale are \$10 and the day of will be \$15. Children under 12 are free.



Makenna and Kyle at the Wild Eye Pub

Photo by Tosha Prince

# If Not Now, When?

By Jesse Golden



Every morning, as I look around at towering pines, madrones, and cedars, I feel both gratitude and dread. Gratitude – for the beauty and quiet of the forest, the light glimmering through leaves, the bounty of summer after a wet winter. Dread – at the constantly increasing world temperatures, and at the prospect of animal, plant, and human death that is summed up in the words “climate crisis.”

When I feel the dread, I also feel helpless and hopeless. But the truth is, the situation is not hopeless, and we’re not helpless. We can fix this – if we persistently and relentlessly demand meaningful action from every government of every country, every state, every region. In the US, most politicians don’t believe that their constituents actually care about addressing climate change. We need to change that perception.

How can we do it? Let’s think for a moment about World War II. In the 1940s, Americans went to war to stop fascist dictatorships from world domination. We made sacrifices, churned out tanks and bombers in phenomenal numbers, and rallied to the cause, buying war bonds, growing victory gardens, and radically changing and expanding the economy. Our government gambled big and won big.

Now we need an even bigger effort to counter the attacks of climate catastrophe, a far crueler and more ruthless enemy than the Axis alliance. We need to understand that World War III is here. We need to urgently commit to winning it.

It’s too late to hope that the climate crisis will just pass us by. But it’s not too late to win the war.

**If not now, then when?**

**If not us, then who?**

– popular quote based on the writing of Hillel the Elder

*\*For a longer and more thorough analysis on World War II and the lessons for addressing the climate crisis, read Bill McKibben’s 2016 article in The New Republic, “A World at War.”*

*\* Jesse is working on ways to take action and will share more in future Courier articles*



**Are you using Inflation Reduction Act tax credits or rebates to improve your home or to purchase an electric vehicle or new appliances?**

Jesse Golden would like to share your story in *The Courier!*

Email [jessegolden@gmail.com](mailto:jessegolden@gmail.com) or speak with Jesse if you're interested.

**Sierra Family Health Center**  
is celebrating  
**National Health Center Week**  
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As part of National Health Center Week we will be highlighting the commitment and passion of SFHC staff, board members, and supporters who make it possible to provide quality, comprehensive healthcare services to our community.



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## Making Great Progress!

By Richard DicKard, CCSD



Have you seen the front of the Community Center recently?



Photo by Richard DicKard

A huge thank you to **Tony Sandner** and his awesome renovation team of **Norm Ross, Ray Crane, Keith Montgomery, Terry Neubert, and Lee Brown!**

They have now eliminated the dry rot along the front wall (left side of door), made the walls stronger, and installed new windows. Thanks also to **Grass Valley B & C Ace Home and Garden Center** for giving us a generous price on the building materials. We really appreciate their support! And last but not the least, thank you to everyone who donated to our winter matching fundraiser to make this possible!

Our next steps are to finish the walls, install insulation, re-route the plumbing and electricity, replace the old lower kitchen cabinets with new ones, and install a new, modern dishwasher, stove with hood, and an on-demand LP gas water heater. Hopefully this will be done in late August.

Watch for news of a Grand Reopening soon thereafter!

## Community Center - What's a "Member"?

By Jesse Golden

... *Get a cool title and an unusual hat? Not exactly!*

Though the Masons Hall building in Camptonville is 75 years old, the Community Center that it now houses is quite young – it was created in 2015, when the Masons donated the building to the Camptonville Community Service District. Although the building was only \$1 to buy, the costs of maintaining, repairing, and operating it are not small, so we rely on volunteers and donations.

That's why a non-profit organization was formed, the **Community Center Advocates**, which raises money for renovations and operating costs from:



- Fundraisers, such as the recent WineShine event
- Rentals – fees for use of the building
- Donations – from cash dropped into a jar, to generous checks from individuals and family foundations
- Memberships – say what? What does it mean to be a member? Is it like the Masons, where you get a cool title and an unusual hat? Well, not exactly...

### **Membership means that ...**

... you make a donation yearly, in any amount that suits you, starting with a Basic Membership of \$10. The Basic Membership doesn't go far to pay the bills, of course, but it's important to include every community member who wants to be supportive. More about the membership levels: Individual/Family Memberships (\$25-49), Violet-level Memberships (\$50-99), Morning Glory level (\$100-199), Lupine Level (\$200-299); Poppy Level (\$300-499); Tiger Lily Level (\$500 and up); Business Level (\$250).

So – when you're a member, you don't get a fancy title or a fancy hat – and there's no initiation ritual in the former Masons Ceremonial room – but you could ...

### **Come to Dinner!**

On **Saturday, September 30th**, the Community Center Advocates are inviting all members to be our guests for dinner. The event will also be a way to celebrate the extensive repairs now taking place at the Center. More information will be in the September issue of *The Courier*.

You don't have to be a member to enjoy the Center, but we hope you will, as a way of supporting this important community resource. You can become a member right now by visiting [camptonvillecommunitycenter.org/membership.html](http://camptonvillecommunitycenter.org/membership.html), or by filling out a membership form when you're at the Center and writing a check. Your membership donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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## WineShine Benefit Afternoon – Thanks to All!

By Jesse Golden

The WineShine benefit event for the Community Center on July 22nd drew a small but enthusiastic crowd, and raised around \$500 for the operating expenses of the Center, thanks to the donations of wine, food, and time by supporters.

The event included opportunities to taste many wines donated from the Sunset International Wine Competition, and those attending were able to make donations to the Center and select some amazing wines to enjoy at home.

Volunteer wine guides explained some of the mysteries and lore of wine and attendees tasted some “ice wines,” which go through a process of freezing and thawing that intensifies their flavors.

One lucky attendee went home with the raffle prize, a group of six exceptional, high-end wines.

Organizers expressed gratitude to the many volunteers, whose work included providing and arranging flowers, setting up and decorating, providing and serving delicious appetizers and desserts, as well as donating, sorting, and pouring the wines, and of course, the end-of-event cleanup – as well as to those who attended and made donations.

*The Camptonville Community Center is located at 15333 Cleveland Avenue in Camptonville and is supported solely by memberships, donations, and event income. The Camptonville Community Center Advocates is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization; donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Photos by Shirley Dickard



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# It's So HOT Out There – How Do Animals Cope?

By Katie O'Hara-Kelly, North Yuba Naturalist

It's been really HOT recently, with temps in the high 90s and low 100s! It was way too hot for us humans, and it made me wonder how wildlife copes with excessive heat. Here's what I've learned: The way that most mammals really deal with the heat is by being active at night. During a hot day, they remain inactive in the shade.

If a **Black Bear** is active during the day, its thick coat of hair can insulate it somewhat from the heat. However, if a Black Bear stays out in the sun too long it can indeed overheat. To cool off, it will retreat to the shade, possibly stretch out and lie down on its sparsely furred belly to cool off, drink from a water source, or even wade in a river like the Black Bear on the back cover.



This **bird** isn't singing or squawking in alarm, it's panting to get rid of excess heat. Like dogs, some birds do their own version of panting, called gular fluttering, to help them stay cool. It involves breathing with their mouths open while also vibrating their throat membranes. This causes excess heat to leave their bodies. Birds can also keep from overheating by seeking shade, spreading out their feathers, bathing in water, and becoming less active. It was amazing how few birds we saw, and how quiet it was in the hottest part of the day!

**Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles)** are ectotherms, and are dependent on external sources to maintain their body heat. To regulate their body heat, they will bask in the sun when it's cool and hide in the shade when it's too hot. It turns out that extremely hot temperatures can kill a snake within 10-20 minutes. So when the air temperature reaches the high 90s and into the 100s, reptiles seek out shade and wait for the temperature to drop. Reptiles like lizards and snakes might burrow underground or move under a rock or

log. Amphibians will stay in water or damp mud to keep from drying out.

Photos by Katie O'Hara-Kelly


So wildlife has a variety of ways to beat-the-heat; myself, I'm headed to the river!




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# Clear Your Roadside Fuels

By Beverly Cameron-Fildes, Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council

Last month I shared my concerns regarding roadside fires as well as listing some of the most common causes: a carelessly tossed cigarette, dragging tow chains, sparking diesel under a load, even flagrant vandal behavior. What I hadn't thought of was so obvious in retrospect, I found myself doing the usual "palm to the forehead" smack.

After just a few minutes up in the Oregon Peak lookout tower we heard a report of a two-car accident on a road in Loma Rica. Within minutes the call went from an accident to an accident with roadside fire. Two vehicles had collided, with one of the vehicle's front tires breaking off and the axle dragging on the road, throwing sparks into the roadside grass. The fire started at the reporting party's property line but began to "die out," as the grass was cut to the prescribed length of four inches. It then took off into the neighboring property that had tall, uncut grass. Cal Fire arrived at the site quickly and the fire was contained at less than an acre. This was fortunate, as there were several homes along the road where the accident/fire occurred.

My reason for sharing this incident is to put a fine point on my concern regarding roadside fires. ANYTHING can start a fire! It's how the roadside fuels are maintained that makes the big difference. Creating defensible space along your property line, particularly along an active, paved road, can mean the difference between a small, easily managed fire and one that may threaten lives, structures, and livestock.

Mowing grass in a "Zone 2" area (30-100 feet from the property structure) to four inches, falls under PRC (Public Resource Code) 4291, the law that actually requires defensible space around structures. Seeing first hand how that reduced the damage from the aforementioned fire, it seems like a good law to heed! If you have a Wildfire Mitigation Review, (WMR) you will actually see that on the review form. It's not too late to request a review and let our trained advisors help you create a safe space including protection from roadside fires. To request a review, go to [YubaFireSafe.org](http://YubaFireSafe.org).



Photo by Beverly Cameron-Fildes

Creating defensible space along your property line, particularly along an active, paved road, can mean the difference between a small, easily managed fire and one that may threaten lives, structures, and livestock.

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### Camptonville Water: Where Are We Now?

By Richard Dickard, CCSD

Several years ago, Camptonville town water users didn't have enough water due to the failing, aged water system and the prolonged drought. CCSD set to work, applied and received several grants to repair and replace the water system so that town users could have safe, dependable, and adequate water.

Over the last year, CCSD has received \$1,696,181 from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to do the following:

1. Two productive wells were drilled by Peters' Drilling. Peters will also install the well pumps and connections to the water treatment plant. The wells should be in production by summer of 2024.
2. Replace the failing diversion dam on Campbell Gulch with a new dam that will last 40+ years. Permits and engineered plans for the dam are underway and should be in place in 2025.
3. Replace the chlorine contact tank to sanitize the water.
4. General improvements to the water treatment plant's operations.

Many, many thanks to the **Yuba Water Agency** and their decades-long support. They not only granted CCSD money to have the three grant applications developed by Bennett Engineering, but also gave CCSD cash flow loans at 0%! The cash flow loans are needed to pay contractors' bills within 30-60 days because DWR takes 3 to 4 months to pay for the invoices submitted.

**Bennett Engineering**, in Roseville, has been an incredible support with the planning, design, oversight, and management of the grants – and especially in handling the extensive paperwork from DWR.

And thank you to our water treatment operator, **JT Rumsey**, for his invaluable assistance in developing the many details needed for the project's success. Camptonville's water system should be fully functioning by late 2025 – we hope!



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### Food Distribution in the Yuba County Foothills

#### The Foothill Food Pantry:

At the Alcouffe Community Center in Oregon House  
9185 Marysville Road (across from the fire department)

The 1st and 3rd Friday, 12–1:30 pm

**August 4 and 18, September 1 and 15**

#### The USDA Commodities Food Bank

Located at Willow Glen Restaurant, Oregon House

The 2nd Friday: 10:30-11:30 am

**August 11, September 8**

Distributed by The Gleaners.

#### North San Juan Food Bank, Nevada County:

Located at Oak Tree School

The 2nd Tuesday, 10 am–Noon

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## HELP & HOPE

For emergencies first call 911.

All area codes are 530 unless otherwise specified.

#### CAMPTONVILLE:

- Cemetery ————— 559-1629
- Community Center ————— 288-5016
- Community Partnership (CCP) ————— 288-9355
- Community Services District (CCSD) ————— 288-3676
- Elementary School ————— 288-3277
- Family Resource Center (CCP) ————— 288-9355  
*Hours 8:30 am–12:30 pm, M-F*
- Post Office ————— 288-3348  
*Hours 11 am–1 pm, 1:45–3:45 pm, M-F*
- Volunteer Fire Department ————— 288-3303
- Water Plant ————— 775-980-7138
- Yuba River Ranger District ————— 362-8259/288-3231

- Alcoholics Anonymous: Local 24 hr Hotline — 272-6287
- Burn Day Status (www.fraqmd.org) ————— 741-6299
- CA Rural Legal Assistance (Yuba Co) ————— 742-5191
- CoRR (Community Recovery Resources) ————— 273-9541

#### Domestic Violence:

- Casa de Esperanza Hot Line (Yuba Co) ————— 674-2040
- DVSAC 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) ————— 673-8255
- NAMI -Support for Mental Illness ————— 272-4566
- 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
- Sheriff (Yuba Co) Non-Emergency ————— 749-7777
- Supervisor Jon Messick (Yuba Co) ————— 749-7510
- Yuba County Emergency Services (OES) ————— 749-7520
- Yuba County Health and Human Services ————— 749-6311

Contact Editor for additions or corrections



### Why I Wake Early

*"Hello, sun in my face. Hello you who made the morning and spread it over the fields ...  
... Watch, now, how I start the day in happiness, in kindness."* — Mary Oliver

## Ongoing Meetings and Classes in Camptonville

### MONTHLY Events

- CCP Board - August 16th, 2 pm  
Resource Center. Contact: 288-9355
- CCSD Board - Meets 4th Thursday, 5:30 pm, CCC  
Contact: 288-3676
- School Board - Meets 3rd Thursday, 5 pm, at CV School  
Call to confirm: 288-3277
- Thirsty Thursday - 2nd Thursday, 5-7 pm CCC
- All Food Banks - See above, this page

Call first to verify meeting times before attending  
CCC = Camptonville Community Center



### WEEKLY Events

- Tuesdays: Yoga, 5 pm, School Gym
- Wednesdays: Camptonville Fire Dept Trainings, 6–9 pm, Fire Hall
- Fridays: HH Clinic on Wheels, 9:30 am–3:30 pm, CCC
- Saturdays: Coffee@TheCenter, Gardeners' Market, 10 am–Noon,  
Qi Gong: 12:30-1:30 pm, CCC



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# August 2023

## What's Inside?

- Local Job Opening (pg 3)
- If Not Now, When? (pg 5)
- Renovation Progress at the Center (pg 6)
- How Wildlife Stays Cool (pg 8)
- Reduce those Roadside Fuels! (pg 9)
- Water improvements for Camptonville (pg 10)
- On-going Meetings and Classes (pg 11)
- And more!



Photo: S DicKard

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## For Your Calendar:

- August 5 – Gardeners' Market Begins (pg 2)
- August 15 – First Day of Camptonville Elementary School
- September 9 – CFVD Picnic (pg 4)
- September 22 – Broken Compass, Makena at the Center (pg 4)
- September 30 – Community Center Membership Dinner (pg 6)



**How do wildlife stay cool during a heat wave? Check out page 8**



"I spotted this Black Bear lying in the river. It was a super HOT day, and the bear was taking advantage of the cool river water. It remained in place in the river for the entire five minutes I watched from a distance!"

Photo by Katie O'Hara Kelly - North Yuba Naturalist