

THE Camptonville Courier

*Connecting the Community
Since 1997*



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Welcome New CVFD Fire Chief 6300 – Danny Rasmussen

By Donna Tate, CVFD Auxiliary

The Camptonville Community Services District (CCSD) and the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary (CVFD) are excited to announce the selection of **Danny Rasmussen** as the new Fire Chief. As a lifelong member of our community, Danny brings not only a wealth of firefighting experience, but also strong local knowledge and a deep commitment to the community. We are excited to see what Chief Rasmussen's leadership will bring to the department and the community it serves. His immediate vision is to move the department forward focusing on safety, integrity, and professionalism.

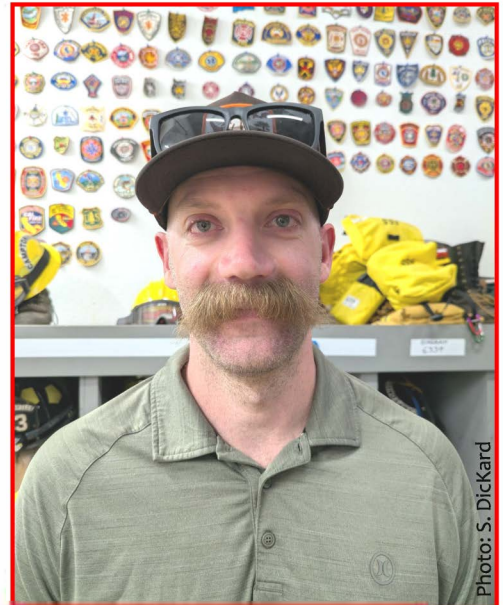


Photo: S. Dickard



Rasmussen Family Photo

Danny's background is one of dedication and loyalty on and off the fireline. Danny was born and raised in Camptonville and in 2012, he married his elementary and high school sweetheart Krystal Gross (also a Camptonville native). They are blessed with four beautiful daughters, Kinley (10), Kennedy (8), Danika (5), and Maddie (just shy of 2). Danny's faith, love of his family, and the importance of community are some of the values that will help him excel as Chief.

Danny began his firefighting career with the US Forest Service in 2009, where he completed the Federal Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Academy. Over the next 13 years, he worked on both wildland fire engines and hand crews, supporting both the Tahoe and Plumas National Forests.



In 2022, Danny took his knowledge and firefighting expertise to PG&E as an All-Hazard Analyst, where he supports critical infrastructure and emergency response planning. Throughout his career, Danny has built strong working relationships across federal, state, and local agencies. These connections will directly benefit CVFD through expanded training opportunities, improved coordination, and access to additional funding and resources.

Chief Rasmussen is already taking action by identifying new training opportunities with local Forest Service fire personnel.

Welcome Chief! The community is lucky to have you. Thank you for stepping up to provide such a valuable service.



Photo: S. Dickard

New Fire Chief at Monday night training

From the Editor

– Shirley DickKard, Senior Editor

AI is not the voice of the community.

I love that almost everything in *The Courier* is written by folks in the greater Camptonville area. We consider *The Courier* a “Voice of the People.” Each issue reflects things we care about, written in various unique and sometimes imperfect human voices.

Which brings up the topic of AI – artificial intelligence. AI is not a community voice. In keeping with the changing times, we've recently updated **Submission Guidelines** to preserve the unique ways people think and write.

We will not accept submissions that are AI-Generated (AI created the main content). So writers: please credit the source of anything you did not actually write yourself, such as taken from websites or other writers. AI can be helpful for fact research or for grammar checks (AI-Assisted – but you are the primary author). Just don't let AI write your articles for you. Thank you!

The new Submission Guidelines are posted at www.camptonville.net, along with *The Courier's* Mission, Editorial Guidelines, the Ad Rate Sheet and every issue archived from the first *Courier* in 1997.



Hop on Down for the Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 5th!

By Lindsay and Rochelle

Join the Easter Bunny at the Camptonville Community Center for a fun family event on **Sunday, April 5th from 9:30 am to 1 pm. The Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10.**

There will be a Bounce House! Games! Snacks! Parachute! and Egg Dyeing! The **1,2,3 Grow** team will have special activities for the littles.

After the hunt, Renee invites you down to the Mayo for free soft serve ice cream!

This is a free event sponsored by the CCSD and hosted by Hippie Haven. As always, donations are greatly appreciated.



2024 Easter Egg Hunt

- Photo by Rod Bondurant



Remember!

Come join CCP at the Community Center for the **Community Town Hall Meeting Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm**

Come hear about CCP programs and give your input towards improving the quality of life in Camptonville!

New Book Club in Camptonville! April 4th

By Katie and Mike Kelly

Are you a book lover? Would you like to share your enthusiasm for books with others? Well, we'd like to start a Book Club in Camptonville!

Come to our first meeting on **Saturday, April 4th, from 12:15 to 1:15 pm**, right after the usual Coffee and conversation at The Center. We'll be discussing what we would like to do as a Book Club, and your input would be greatly appreciated! Bring a book to share if you'd like!

Hope to see you there!



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PO Box 32, Camptonville, CA 95922 * EMAIL: camptonvillecourier@gmail.com

Senior Editor: Shirley DickKard (530-288-3479) Editors: Janie Kesselman, Wendy Tinnel

Copy Editors/Proofreaders: Yakshi Vadeboncoeur, Jimbo Garrison, Linda Brown, Janie Kesselman

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Editorial Advisory Staff: Rod Bondurant, Rita Ortega

Folding and Distribution: Rochelle Bell

Finances: Shirley DickKard, Corrin Burdett/CCP

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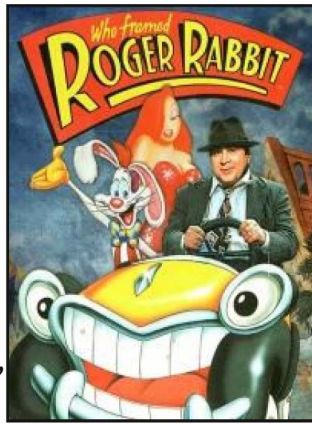
Read *The Courier* online (in living color) at: www.camptonville.com

Free to Camptonville residents; Subscriptions: \$16 yr. **Tax-deductible donations are appreciated!**

Movie: "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" on Sunday, April 12th

By Jesse Golden

It's April, and we've got bunnies on the brain! Bring the family and join Timberline Theatre Movie Matinee host Pam on **Sunday, April 12 at 3 pm** for "Who Framed Roger Rabbit."



When a cartoon rabbit is accused of murder, he enlists the help of a burnt-out private investigator to prove his innocence. From 1998, rated PG, 1 hour 44 minutes. Doors open at 2:30 pm; have some popcorn and throw \$2 into the pot!

Notice to Camptonville Water Customers: Public Hearing on Water Rate Increase Saturday, April 18th

By Jody Deaderick, CCSD Board President

A corrected Proposed Water Rate Increase letter was sent to customers on March 17, 2026. The overage fee for both Residential and Commercial accounts had been listed incorrectly in the original letter. The revised letter is now posted at the Community Center and the Post Office. We are sorry for any confusion or worry this may have caused!

Please join us for the Public Hearing at the Camptonville Community Center on **Saturday, April 18 at 12:30 pm**. The CCSD board will be there to talk about why the increase is necessary for the sustainability of the Water Department and its ability to continue to provide water service to its customers. Attendees may ask questions and express concerns. Water customers may protest the increase by sending a letter to CCSD, PO Box 327, Camptonville, CA 95922. The deadline to send in a written protest is May 2, 2026. The CCSD board will meet after the deadline to vote on implementing the new rates.

The next regular CCSD board meeting is Monday, March 30th at 6 pm at the Camptonville Community Center. Our meetings are always open to the public and there is opportunity to speak to the board during the public comment portion of our agenda.



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- Bring your own basket

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Wild West Karaoke – April 24th

By Sonja Rice, Camptonville Christmas Club

One again it's time to polish your boots and dust off your hats! The Christmas Club will be hosting its annual Karaoke Fundraiser on **Friday, April 24th, 5:30-10 pm** at the Community Center.



Admission with dinner of an ultimate baked potato bar and salad is \$10/adult and \$7/kids 4-10 years. Entrance fee alone is \$5 per adult. Drinks and desserts will be available for additional donations. This community fundraiser is so much fun – we can't wait to see you there!

Organizing to Support Seniors in Camptonville

By Jesse Golden

The Aging in Community Action Team (ACAT) will give a brief presentation of our vision and plans at CCP's upcoming Town Hall, **Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm** at the Community Center. In addition, interested folks are invited to our next meeting, **Thursday, April 9th at 4:30 pm** at the Community Center.

The Action Team's vision is to provide programs and services that help seniors to thrive in the Camptonville area, in line with the five goals laid out in the Yuba-Sutter Local Aging and Disability Action Plan (LADAP) 2025–2030:

- Increase affordable, accessible housing, and emergency preparedness
- Enhance transportation and community mobility
- Expand access to health care and caregiving support
- Improve food security and nutrition availability
- Strengthen social participation and community engagement

Our vision is to develop multi-unit senior housing in Camptonville, offering long and short-term independent living and care services in a supportive, resident-led community, including on-site housing for one or more care workers, and serving as a hub for senior services, emergency preparedness, transportation, food access, and social participation.

For more information, reach us through the CCP office at 530-288-9355, or email jessi@theccp.org.

From the Aging in Community Action Team: Cathy LeBlanc, Jesse Golden, Jessi Mullins, Yana Slade, Lora Miller, and Cara Olson.

Camptonville Plant Sale and Market – Saturday, May 16th, 9:30 am-1:30 pm at the Lost Nugget Market Field

By Jesse Golden, Volunteer

Sure, the **Saturday May 16th Plant Sale and Market** features plant starts.



BUT ALSO – what a great opportunity to clean out your closet or garage and sell some treasures – or perhaps some hand-made crafts or art! A 12'x12' space costs only \$20, and proceeds benefit the Camptonville Community Center.

To be a vendor or request an information table, go online to bit.ly/plantsaleinfo26, read the vendor information there, and follow the link at the bottom to sign up; or, email cvilleplantsale@gmail.com, or call 530-288-5016 and leave your name, phone, and email or mailing address. Pay for your space(s) the day of the sale.

Look for flyers and updates at the Lost Nugget Market, the Post Office, the Community Center, and online at facebook.com/camptonvillecc.

This year's event coordinators are Diane Neubert and Mackenzie Garrett. They would welcome more help! Email them at cvilleplantsale@gmail.com or leave a message at 530-288-5016 - thanks!

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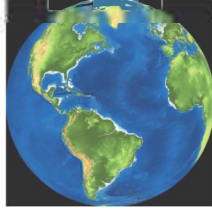
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Camptonville Centers Itself In a Wide World of Circles: Earth Ceremony, May 3rd

By Yakshi Vadeboncoeur

The Circle of Life upholds and enfolds us and this place on earth – the Camptonville community, Yuba Watershed, Tahoe National Forest, Sierra Foothills – this place on earth where we center the various circles that define us, here where we celebrate our interconnections.



Sunday May 3rd, 4 pm at the Community Center, we have the opportunity to acknowledge, celebrate, and strengthen our relationship to each other and to this our place on earth. I have known Diane Pendola for almost 50 years. It was her friendship that brought my young family to Camptonville and rooted us here in the foothill soil that her family had lived upon for generations. She is wondrously skilled at community building, creating and holding a space where sharing food, song, and ceremony can release its healing energy in a fractured world.

Bring yourself as you are and a potluck offering, and let’s make a sacred circle that honors the earth, air, rivers, and neighbors (human and animal) with whom we share the place we call home. A small donation is requested to cover Community Center costs. No one will be turned away.

Earth Day: Improve / Enjoy

By Jesse Golden

Earth Day – April 22, 2026 – now a 30 year old celebration, makes me think of the trenchant E.B. White quote, *“I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day.”*

Most days, of course, we can do both. **Want to improve the world?** Why not visit earthday.org and read a fact sheet or take a quiz on climate change, food systems or plastic waste? If you're over sixty, take a peek at thirdact.org to join in taking actions such as changing to banks and credit cards that don't fund fossil fuel extraction. If you're under forty, you might want to join up at sunrisemovement.org. If you're in between, well, I'm pretty sure that neither organization would turn you away.

Want to enjoy the world? Check out bearyuba.org for local trail info, or come to their **Naturefest on April 25th**; or, at GrowOrganic.com, you can learn about growing native plant pollinators in the Sierra Nevada Foothills. If you keep a sharp eye on middlemountainhikes.org, you might snag a space on one of their hikes and see the interior of the Sutter Buttes, the world's smallest mountain range.

It's a beautiful world - let's love and protect it!



2026 Hotshot Half Marathon

Hosted by the Tahoe Hotshots as a fundraiser for the Wildland Firefighter Foundation which supports firefighters and their families during unfortunate tragedies. **Starts promptly at 8:30 am Saturday, April 18th.** Information: www.hotshothalf.com.

Spanish Chicken with Olives

By Debbie Seyms



Ingredients:

- 4 skinless, boneless, chicken breasts or thighs
- Olive oil
- 1 medium onion sliced thin
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1 15 oz can crushed tomatoes
- 1/2 cup sliced pitted green olives
- 1/4-1/2 cup sliced black olives
- 2 Tbsp capers
- 2 Tbsp lemon zest
- 1 tsp dried oregano

In a large skillet, brown chicken in hot oil just until there is a nice color. Remove from heat and set chicken aside . Add onions to the pan and cook over medium heat until lightly brown, about 10 minutes. Add garlic the last minute and stir. Add the remaining ingredients and place chicken on top of mixture. Bring to a boil then reduce heat to a simmer and cover for about 20 minutes or until chicken is done . Serve with rice and a green salad .

Spring Fever and New Beginnings at Moonshine Family Farm

By Candace DeMaranville

At Moonshine Family Farm, spring isn't just a season – it's a marathon. While our 20 year old gardens are currently a seed of trays and soil, the real start of the week has arrived on four wobbly legs.

We are thrilled to welcome our first Nigerian Dwarf kids of the year! One of our two expectant does recently delivered a beautiful doe and a spirited buck. There is truly nothing that brightens the farm quite like bouncing newborn kids. These little ones represent the future of our dairy herd, and we are hovering over them (and the remaining expectant mom) with plenty of alfalfa and head scratches.



They share the spotlight with some of our favorite characters like Tink our beautiful, retired, Gypsy Vanner show horse who enjoys a slower pace of life now; our sheep including Journey,



our bottle fed ram, who will be 10 this year; Jellyroll, our resident Kunekune pig, who maintains our whole orchard; and The Flock made up of a busy mix of chickens, ducks,


and sometimes turkeys that keep the farm humming.

While the farm is noisy, the green house is focused. This month, we are deep into seed starting and transplanting peppers, tomatoes, and greens. To give our vegetables the best possible start, we have moved away from store bought bags and are mixing our own specialized soil. By blending our own dirt with farm made compost, we ensure our starts have the exact nutrient density they need to thrive once they hit the garden. Between the new arrivals and the thousands of green starts reaching for the sunlight, the farm is buzzing along with life.



Keep an eye out in next month's Courier! We have been working on a secret project that involves our high butterfat goat milk, our heritage lard, honey, and our garden herbs. We can't wait to share how we're turning this farm magic into something you can take home.

Photos by Candace DeMaranville



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Photo by Kimberly Frost



Photo by Shirley DicKard

Camptonville School's Production of Winnie the Pooh – May 13th

By Kimberly Frost, RSP Teacher

Winnie the Pooh is celebrating its 100th birthday this year! What better way to celebrate the honored classic than to share with the community Camptonville Drama Club's production on **May 13th at 5 pm**. Since January, 16 of our 3rd through 8th grade students have been working hard to memorize lines, learn and plan choreography, and develop this truly heartwarming and timeless story for the stage. The students practice twice a week and are developing into some amazing actors with the support of **Sara Spiers** and **Kimberly Frost**. We also have some amazing volunteers that are helping with stage design and costumes. Music and the arts have been a great opportunity for our students at Camptonville Union Elementary School to showcase their talents.

Some of our students wanted to share why they love being part of our school's afterschool drama club program:

- "I like being in drama club because I love acting and doing plays with my friends" - **Hazel Musa** (4th grader)
- "I love drama club because I love to act and this extracurricular activity that I get to do with friends allows us to put on a play for our families, friends, and community." - **Sasha Salganik** (5th grader)
- "I like drama club because it allows me to connect with others in a different environment and lets us put on a play for friends and family."- **Olivia Olson** (4th grader)
- "I like drama club because I am working on my acting resume for my future career. It's also really fun and I get to sing, act, and eat yummy snacks!" - **Kinley Rasmussen** (5th grader)

So Much New at the Community Center!

By Richard DicKard, CCCA

Mo' betta' yet! We are making more improvements to the Pocket Park at the Camptonville Community Center.

Over the next few months, water faucets, a fence around the new propane tank, storage sheds, outdoor LED solar lights, benches, umbrellas over the outdoor tables, an outdoor LP gas firepit, string lights in the stage area, and a disc golf basket will be installed. Inside the Center, we'll improve the lighting and make the rooms more comfortable with wall fans. Plans for this summer include a garden and a simple children's playhouse.

Folks are already using the volleyball court, including the US Forest Service crew. There's even talk about a volleyball tournament! Many children and some adults have been enjoying swinging on the new swing set. **Please be careful at our little park. Use it at your own risk.**

Email me with questions or ideas at:
rjdickard@gmail.com



Camptonville Elementary School



530-288-3277 — cville.k12.ca.us



Prepare for Evacuation Before It's Needed!



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

At the last Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council Community meeting, I was introduced to “Lardis.” It is a technological platform that specializes in real time disaster risk management, and it helps local teams, like our Yuba County Office of Emergency Services to analyze, prepare, and respond to emergency situations, like fire in our foothill community.

- If you have not already done so, or need to update your information, go to www.BePreparedYuba.org and register with **Zone Haven** so your location and contact numbers are known by the Yuba County OES.
- On April 15th a new app called **Sentinel** (for both iPhone and Android users) will be rolled out. In the event of a fire, it will utilize data from Lardis to help identify and direct evacuations for Yuba County residents. This will use real time information to make alerts and evacuation orders as precise as possible, and will be particularly helpful for those who live in areas with limited options for evacuation routes.

My best advice would be to attend the **April 15th Emergency Preparedness Fair at the Foothill Lions Club in Loma Rica** and visit the Yuba County OES table where staff will be ready to help residents download the new app, sign up for the alerts if you don't have a smartphone, and get first-hand information about how the new system will work. The Fair is from 5-7:30 pm. YWP&FSC will be there to help with evacuation information.

Also consider contacting OES and planning a local meeting to discuss evacuations – great for Firewise Communities.

An evacuation, even with the very best alerts, can be quite scary, so the more you know, the better equipped you can be if and when the time comes. Check out the Evacuation Checklist on the back page of the 2026 Fire Safe Calendar for steps to take BEFORE a potential evacuation situation occurs.

If you need a calendar, contact the YWP&FSC or go to YubaFireSafe.org to see Evacuation information.



To Assist you in
Fire Readiness,
Here are two Fun,
Family, Informative Fairs:
April 15th - Loma Rica
May 2nd - Penn Valley



Yuba County Be Prepared Fair
Wednesday, April 15th, 5 to 7:30 pm at
the Foothill Lions Club, 5667 Fruitland
Rd., Loma Rica, CA

Hey Yuba County, get your family wildfire-ready at the exciting 6th Annual Be Prepared Fair!

What can I expect?

- Tour our emergency vehicles (including the REACH helicopter!)
- Meet and greet first responders and experts
- Watch emergency demos (including an aerial water drop!)
- Collect free preparedness swag and your very own starter go-bag
- Stay for dinner with our food truck partners

Wildfire Ready Festival and Expo
– Nevada County

May 2nd, 11 am to 5 pm, Western Gateway Park, Penn Valley

- Fire Safe Homes – home hardening materials and services
- Wildfire-Ready Landscaping and Gardens
- Fire Safety Alley – fire and emergency response
- Fire Tech Showcase – for homeowners and residents, like spray-on retardant gel
- Tools for Fuels – fuel reduction and tree services and equipment
- Firewise Pavilion – hands-on educational booths by Firewise communities, like what's in your Go-Bag
- Resources for Residents – agencies and organizations that support fuels and land management, home hardening, fuelbreaks

Highlighted activities:

- Food Trucks • Wildfire-Ready Bingo • Evacuation Contests
- Smokey Bear • Fire Muster • Fuel Munching Goats • Burning Mulch Demo • and more!

Spring has Sprung at 1,2,3 Grow

By Tyann Jordan, CCP



During Spring Break, April 5th–11th, we will be taking time to refresh and remake our classroom and outdoor yard spaces through thoughtful spring cleaning and reorganization. This seasonal reset will help us create a welcoming, safe, and engaging environment. By clearing, organizing, and refreshing our learning areas this spring, we are making room for growth, exploration, and new learning opportunities.



Spring is upon us and what better way to celebrate than with decorating Easter eggs? Meet us at the **Easter Egg Hunt on April 5th** as 1,2,3 Grow pops up in our community. Pop-ups are one of our favorite ways to serve our youngest community members. It's fun to see kids of all ages, and some adults too, joining in the ooey gooey fun.

Families are also invited to celebrate the **Week of the Young Child with us April 14th, 15th, and 16th** at the Community Center from 9:30 to 11:30 am each day. Join us for *Tuneful Tuesday* with music and movement; *Ooey Gooey Wednesday* filled with hands-on sensory fun and a big welcome to **First 5** who will be joining us with car seat safety tips and tools; and *Family Fun Thursday* with games and activities for all ages. This event is free for everyone, and all families with young children are welcome to attend and enjoy time together.

Don't miss out on this month of fun and community connections. Spread the word, bring a friend. Contact us for more details as the month unfolds, 123Grow@TheCCP.org.

1,2,3 Grow is an Early Childhood Parent Participation Program sponsored by Camptonville Community Partnership, funded through **First 5** Yuba County. If you are interested in learning more about our program, contact the Family Resource Center at 530-288-9355.

25 years ago in the Courier (April 2001):

- **Heather Newell** commends the work of the Crabapple Gang, 29 volunteers planting 7,300 seedlings in the Pendola Fire area, where 11,700 acres burned in October 1999.

- **Tonie Hilligoss** reports that, thanks to the work of Rita Ortega, the Camptonville Community Partnership has attained tax-exempt status.

- **Shirley Dickard's** report on Action Teams includes the kickoff of 1,2,3 Grow with Americorps volunteer **Pam Wilcox**, the Tuesday Evening Recreation team, and **Bob Mumm's** prototype model for a Community Center.

Find back issues of the Courier chronologically at bit.ly/courierpast or search by keyword at bit.ly/courierdigital.

Dancing Into Spring with Rally Point

By Amber Mehrmann, CCP

Rally Point began March with a really fun dance lesson with **Deborah Skinner**. We learned and discussed the importance of movement in our lives. Dancing helps us gain muscle, enhances flexibility, and improves balance and coordination. It was neat to learn also that a lot of athletes take dance lessons to help improve their skills in the sports they play. It was fun to pick out some music, put together some steps, and be able to do a line dance.

On St. Patrick's Day we gathered for some games of capture the flag and kickball. The youth had a meeting of play, connection, and delicious snacks made by **Lynn**.

For the last meeting of March, the CalEPIC Van came and taught the youth about jobs in the green career industry. They focused on electric vehicles and solar power possibilities which are in the forefront of our world today. The youth enjoyed working on some STEM projects and getting a hands-on experience of what is possible for the future of green energy.

This month, there will be only one Rally Point due to everyone being out for the week of Spring Break. On **April 21st**, we will be hosting our Italian Cuisine Family Dinner night. The youth will be hosting, preparing, and serving a dinner "restaurant style" to their families. We wish you all a Happy Spring!

Rally Point is a Youth program, open to those youth 10-18 years of age. If you have any questions, please contact Amber Mehrmann at 530-288-9355 or e-mail amber@theccp.org.



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When is the time for MAiD right?

By Mary Abbott, End of Life Choices California

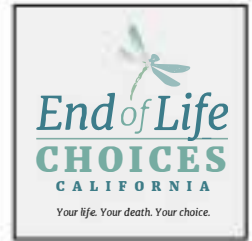
Dedicated, trained, End of Life Choices CA (EOLCCA) volunteers attend and support clients through the whole process of getting and using medical aid in dying – MAiD. When possible, we will do home visits if requested, be available by phone as things progress, sit bedside, and coach a client and their circle of care on what to expect. When the time comes, we can be there to mix the medicine, freeing loved ones to focus on the impending loss rather than managing the technical details of a day of death.

When I first started, I had certain expectations of what condition, or stage of illness a client might be in to actually use MAiD. I was sure we would find our clients bedridden, very close to death with very little capacity. Imagine my surprise, well, shock if I am being honest, when I entered the home of the first death I attended, and saw our client sitting at the kitchen table chatting with his wife and daughter. To all appearances, here was a guy who wasn't so 'bad off.' I was wrong. I had a lot to learn about all of this. This was his day to die, and he had the deeply loving, fully-supported presence of his wife and daughter.

Only a client who is ill and has received a medical prognosis of six months or less to live is the one who actually knows when the time is right for a death with dignity. S/he may not look as ill as s/he is. Those of us who are not ill cannot know how a decline is experienced. If someone is unsure that "it's time," it's not time. After sitting bedside for eleven deaths now, I have seen clients arrive at a certainty that cannot be questioned. I have seen intense eagerness to move forward – because it is time and there is no time to waste. Declines can happen fast and unexpectedly. Waiting too long might cause a client to lose capacity to ingest the medicine on their own.

In our bereavement groups, we often hear the ones left behind lament "Why couldn't they have given us two more weeks?" "Didn't he love me enough to stick around longer?" "She could have kept going." That's what it can feel like to us. I think it is important to remember that this is not the case for the one who is experiencing the march to the end. They are looking forward to finally easing the daily struggle and the suffering and the inevitable worsening. As tough as it is to accept, we need to trust that they are the only ones who truly know which day will be their last day. They will be making that tough decision based on their physical condition, not their fear and sadness of leaving those they love to fend for themselves.

Are there questions around any of the end-of-life options that you would like me to address in this column? Email me: mbabbott@endoflifechoicesca.org or you may go to the EOLCCA website (endoflifechoicesca.org) or call 760.636.8009 anytime to request referrals to doctors, hospices, or answers to questions.



**"Ralph Waldo Emerson once asked
what we would do
if the stars only came out
once every thousand years?**

**No one would sleep that night, of course.
The world would become religious overnight.
We would be ecstatic, delirious,
made rapturous by the glory of God.**

**Instead the stars come out every night,
and we watch television."**

(Quote from Paul Hawken's Commencement address, 2009)

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Nature-like Fishway Project in Lower Yuba River

By DeDe Cordell, Yuba Water Agency Communications Manager

Teichert Construction will build the Nature-like Fishway around Daguerre Point Dam on the lower Yuba River, a multi-benefit project among Yuba Water Agency, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

“Even as we pump the brakes on other spending while we recover from the recent penstock incident, it’s important that we continue moving forward with projects that deliver long-term benefits for the Yuba River and the communities that depend on it,” said Yuba Water General Manager Willie Whittlesey. “This project builds on years of collaboration and investment to improve fish passage while maintaining reliable water deliveries for local agriculture. Delaying it would risk losing critical funding and the momentum we’ve built, and it would have real consequences for both fisheries and the agricultural community in Yuba County.”

The Nature-like Fishway is a channel resembling a natural river that salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and lamprey can follow to get around the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Daguerre Point Dam to reach more than 10 miles of healthy, cool-water spawning habitat in the lower Yuba River. In addition to restoring safe fish passage, the fishway includes a modernized water diversion in the channel that will protect fish while ensuring irrigators continue to have access to the surface water needed to maintain South Yuba County’s agricultural economy, a major economic engine in Yuba County and for agriculture statewide.

An initial \$1.42 million will support final design and pre-construction services, with total construction costs to be determined once design is complete. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has committed \$30 million to support Yuba Water in funding the project. **For more information, visit yubawater.org.**



A rendering of the Nature-like Fishway around Daguerre Point Dam on the south side of the lower Yuba River. This view shows the existing intake area, which will be restored to a seasonal floodplain and the new intake and protective fish screens on the upstream entrance of the fishway. The outer wall of the fishway is designed to be flood resilient. The bridge over the fishway is an access bridge for operations and maintenance.

Continued Progress Following the Penstock Incident

By DeDe Cordell, Yuba Water Agency

Yuba Water reports on an update on recovery efforts following the February 13th rupture of its penstock pipe above New Colgate Powerhouse. Crews have completed the cleanup of oily debris at Englebright Reservoir, which is now reopened for recreation. Additionally, truck access is now restored down Lake Francis Road, allowing teams to access the powerhouse, where they have begun sediment removal and restoration work. Yuba Water staff continue coordinating closely with state and federal regulators as recovery work moves forward. Follow Yuba Water’s recovery efforts at engage.yubawater.org.



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Fisheries • Recreation



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YubaWater.org

JON A. MESSICK
Supervisor 5th District

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Cell: (530) 812-5416
Fax: (530) 749-7353
E-mail: jmessick@yuba.gov



A New Era for Northern California Agriculture

By Cara Olson – Rural Health Advocate, CCP



The Camptonville Community Partnership is honored to serve as an Ambassador for several impactful projects funded by We Prosper Together (CA Jobs First), spanning eight counties across Northern California. One of the exciting collaborations currently underway is with the City of Colusa – Colusa USDA and CDFA Certified Meat Processing Facility located at 50 Sunrise Blvd in Colusa.

I recently had the opportunity to tour the site, and the progress is nothing short of impressive. This facility is set to become a USDA and CDFA certified harvesting and processing hub, filling a critical gap in our regions local food infrastructure.

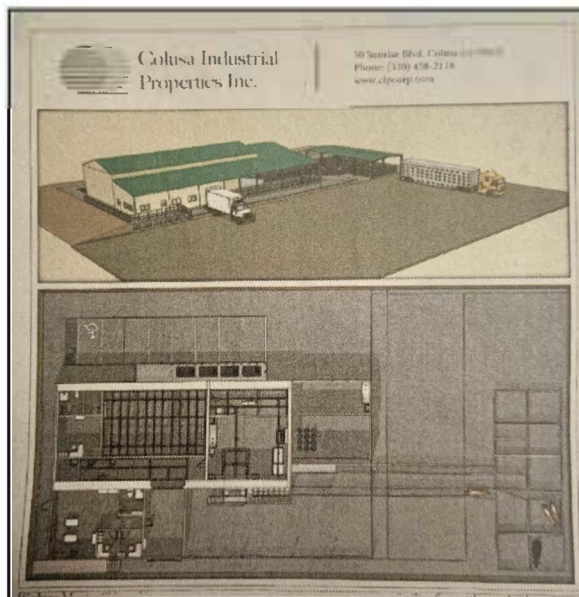
The project was born from a pressing need for state-of-the-art, energy-efficient processing options in our region. Here is what the new facility will bring to the table:

- Capacity: The site is currently 80% complete.
- Services: It will offer processing for sheep, goats, pork, and cattle.
- Scale: Services are designed to support both small-scale and large-scale farmers.
- Facilities: The 3,600-square-foot space includes holding pens, processing zones, coolers, a loading dock, and office space.
- Timeline: The team is aiming to be fully operational by September 2026.
- Quality and safety are at the forefront of this operation.

The facility will be managed by a full-time operator leading a team of approximately three certified meat inspectors, each bringing years of industry expertise to the floor.

During my visit, the energy was palpable. Local farmers expressed a shared sense of relief and excitement, eager to utilize a facility that promises such a high level of professionalism and technical skill. It is wonderful to see this vision finally coming to fruition for our Northern California farmers.

If this is anything you would like to know more about, or if you would like information on future scheduled tours, feel free to reach out to Andy at Andy@cds.consulting.




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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

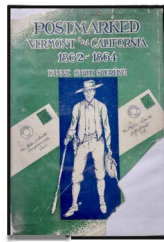
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1864: Letters Home from Camptonville
 Transcribed by Jennifer Nelson, Camptonville
 Postmistress



Camptonville, Cal. March 21st, 1864. My Friend Addie,

This has been a rainy, wet day with snow and wind. I was out all day and was some cross and tired as usual. Then the stage came we had very heavy mail and your letter stared me in the face when I untied the Atlantic package. I carefully perused its contents and as usual enjoyed it much.

Wonder if it would interest you to read of some of my friends. Well, I will tell you of Mr. Groves of Brandy City. Mr. Groves is a butcher. His wife is a small woman. They have a little boy about six years old. I am often invited there for dinner. Mr. Groves is a quiet man, as all men have to be when their wives talk all the time, but he always seems to enjoy hearing her chatter. Allow me to subscribe myself as I sincerely hope to be. Your true and accepted lover, Rollin C. Smith

Camptonville, Cal. April 5th, 1864. Dear Father,

Well we got our rain at last, and snow too. Nearly all the boys are at work now and the Hydraulic Diggings run night and day. It is a beautiful sight to see a man holding a pipe that throws a stream of water against a bank of gravel with such force as to turn over cobblestones which weigh over 200 pounds. At one set of diggings there is a pressure of 210 pounds that will throw a stream a hundred and fifty feet through a three-inch nozzle, and you have no idea how hard it will strike against a bank of gravel which is so hard that a man can not dig up more then 2 bushels a day with pick and shovel. Seems to be a kind of cement. After it leaves the diggings, it runs over half a mile of sluice boxes paved with cobblestones. The boxes are about 6 feet wide and 2 feet high and run full of water and gravel, which we call "tailings." They run over several falls about 20 feet high, striking either side on solid rock or paved bottom, so they get well smashed up and nearly all the gold is out before it leaves the boxes. These claims are very rich and hard to work. It has cost a small fortune to fit them up, and last spring there was a mortgage of ten thousand dollars on them, but they will soon clear that off. It costs seventy dollars a day to work them. Truly yours, Rollin

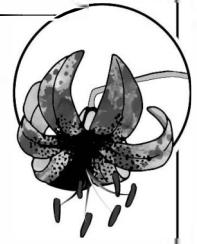
10 years ago in The Courier (April 2016):

- **Sage Po**, harpist, reflects on "Returning Home to Camptonville" and on her musical education, starting with piano lessons with **Kristin Mumm**.
- **Tonie Hilligoss** celebrates the new Community Center wall, made of "the rocks that so many of us helped to gather," and the cement work accomplished by **Chris Dozier, Cliff Hilligoss, Keith Montgomery, Ted Ness, and Steve Shappert**.
- **Cathy LeBlanc** reports on the Town Hall Meeting convened by the Camptonville Community Partnership, with breakout groups on Economics, Recreational Opportunities, Services, and Community Culture and Connectedness.

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920 Chestnut Street, Yuba City
 Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 WALK-INS WELCOME (established patients only)

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 NSJ Community Center, 29190 Highway 49

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 SJR Family Resource Center, 18847 Oak Tree Road

2ND/4TH FRIDAYS:
 Camptonville Community Center, 15333 Cleveland Ave

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New CCSD Website Coming Soon!

By EZ Zapata, CCSD Administrative Assistant

We are working on a new website for the CCSD. There will be individual pages for CVFD, Camptonville Water, the Community Center, and the Cemetery. I will post agendas and minutes there.

- The Camptonville Water Department page will have photos of the facilities and online capacity for both donations and water payments.
- The CVFD page will have photos and a donation button.
- The Cemetery page will have photos and information.
- The Community Center will have photos and information on upcoming events.

I will also have a "contact me" link so community members can send me images, etc. that you would like posted. I will not have a chat window, but I will read every email.

I don't want to promise a specific date, but BOLO over the new few weeks. (BOLO is "Be On the Lookout")



Scenes from CCP's St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dessert Auction March 14th

Photos by S. Dickard

5 years ago in the Courier (April 2021):

• After a long COVID break, **Jocelyn Rapp** suggests it's time to get Saturday Coffee@theCenter going again, noting, "however, it is not possible to continue hosting Coffee without a larger group of volunteers who are committed to opening the doors and brewing the coffee. It's not a very hard task and it is usually very rewarding to serve and to be served by your friends and community members."

• **Allison Thomson** of SYRCL writes about "Earth Day 2021: Restoring Our Forests and Air with Biomass Energy," describing Camptonville Community Partnership's effort to develop a five-megawatt community-scale bioenergy facility, fueled by the byproducts of ongoing forest restoration activities. Find back issues of the Courier chronologically at bit.ly/courierpast or search by keyword: bit.ly/courierdigital.



Katie O'Hara-Kelly's fascinating talk - "Animals in Winter" March 21st



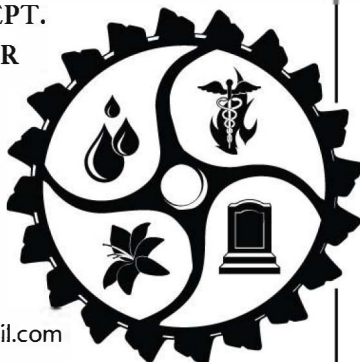
CAMPTONVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
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CONTACT INFO

CCSD Secretary,
Pam Wilcox
boardsecretary.ccsd@gmail.com
530-391-8887

Administrative Assistant,
Elizabeth Zapata
camptonvilleassistant@gmail.com
Water Billing: 530-513-1834



CCSD
PO Box 327
Camptonville
CA 95922

Your Input Needed on CCP's Monthly Food Distribution in Camptonville



Jessi Mullins – Executive Director, CCP

Hello Camptonville Community! CCP is hosting a monthly food distribution at the Community Center and currently serving 32 families. Over the last few months, these families have signed up to receive a box full of food once a month. We are at capacity. Reaching capacity brings mixed emotions for CCP. We are grateful to be meeting the needs of 32 families in our community, but it is difficult to place additional families on a waiting list. This means the need is greater than what we are currently able to provide.

As we look ahead, we are asking some important questions: *How can we serve more families? How will we sustain this program when our current funding to support the food pick-ups and logistics runs out? We have some infrastructure in place (some refrigeration and storage space), but how do we grow? How do we pick up more food? How do we store more food? How can we better meet the needs we are seeing in our community?*

These are all the thoughts and questions that are circulating through our CCP staff right now. We would love any feedback, ideas, or help that may improve and/or help us build capacity and continue what we have started in our community.

Please reach out by calling: 530-288-9355, emailing: jessi@theccp.org, or coming to visit us at the Family Resource Center (behind the school) Monday-Friday 8:30 am-12:30 pm if you have any input, insight, or recommendations for us.

Or bring up at the April 2nd Town Hall Meeting! (see page 2)

- Editor



Food Distribution in the Yuba County Foothills



The Foothill Food Pantry:

Drive-through distribution at the Alcouffe Community Center in Oregon House
9185 Marysville Road (across from the fire department)

The 1st and 3rd Friday, 12:30–2 pm

April 3 and 17, May 1 and 15

Yuba-SutterFood Bank Commodities:

Located at Willow Glen Restaurant, Oregon House

The 2nd Thursday: 9-10 am

April 9, May 14

North San Juan Food Bank, Nevada County:

Located at Oak Tree School

The 2nd Tuesday, 10 am–Noon

HELP & HOPE

For emergencies first call 911.

All area codes are 530 unless otherwise specified.

CAMPTONVILLE:

- Cemetery _____ 288-3658
- Community Center _____ 288-5016
- Community Partnership (CCP) _____ 288-9355
- Community Services District (CCSD) _____ 391-8887
- 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 Business _____ 913-3501
- 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

Rev. 6.3.25

Wordsmiths & Music Makers Well Celebrated Community and Spring Renewal

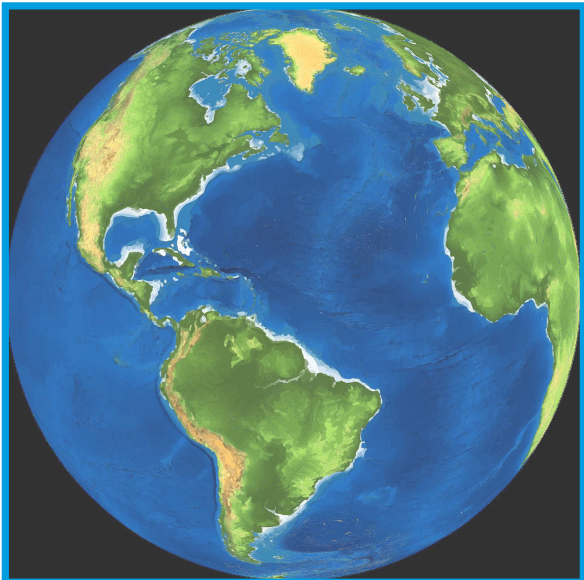
By Yakshi Vadeboncoeur

Thank you, **Pam Saporta**, who is always present and ready to make sure that things flow smoothly, and ready to seamlessly resolve any issue that comes up. Thank you, **Mary Yager**, who has arranged flowers, made food, and handed out tickets since Wordsmiths first began. We hope that Mary will soon be able to return to these roles. Special thanks to the creative spring energy that flows through fingers, across keyboards, over guitar strings, out of the hearts and mouths of all our featured artists. Thank you to everyone who took a Sunday afternoon off from life's demands to come out and celebrate local creativity and community, thereby supporting and strengthening its Center.



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With great appreciation to the **AK & CM Jennings Foundation**
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APRIL 2026 Community Calendar



Spenceville Wildlife Area - Photo by Katie O'Hara-Kelly

- April 2 Town Hall Meeting – CCP (pg 2)
- April 4 Book Club Meeting (pg 2)
- April 4 Easter Egg Hunt, OH (pg 3)
- April 5 Easter Egg Hunt, Camptonville (pg 2)
- April 9 Aging in Place Meeting (pg 4)
- April 12 Movie – Roger Rabbit (pg 3)
- April 15 Be Prepared Fair – Loma Rica (pg 8)
- April 18 Water Rate Hearing (pg 3)
- April 18 Hotshots Half Marathon (pg 5)

- May 2 Wildfire Ready Fest, Penn Valley (pg 8)
- May 3 Earth Ceremony (pg 5)
- May 13 School Play: Winnie the Pooh (pg 7)
- May 16 Plant Sale & Market Camptonville (pg 4)

(All Area Codes: 530) (CCC = Camptonville Community Center)

WEEKLY Events

All Food Banks - See Pg 15

- Mondays:** Yoga, 5 pm, School Gym, Contact: 798-6778
- Mondays** Camptonville Fire Dept Trainings, Fire Hall, 6:30 pm
 Contact: 687-6532
- Fridays:** Clinic on Wheels, 2nd & 4th Fri., 10 am-3:15 pm, CCC
- Saturdays:** Coffee@theCenter, 10 am–Noon, CCC

MONTHLY Events

- School Board** - 2nd Tuesday, 6 pm, CV School, Contact: 288-3277
- Rally Point** - April 21st only, 4-6 pm, CCC
- CCP Board** - 3rd Wednesday, 1 pm
 Resource Center. Contact: 288-9355
- Third Thursday** - 3rd Thursday, 5-7 pm, CCC
- CCSD Board** - 4th Thursday, 6 pm, CCC Contact: 391-8887