



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

Town of Paradise Weekly Recovery Update

Events:

Fri. Sept. 20 th , 3-4:30 pm	Town of Paradise Contractors Discussion Paradise Town Hall Location: 5555 Skyway
Tues. Oct. 1 st , 6 pm`	Paradise Community Information Meeting Paradise Alliance Church Location: 6491 Clark
Sat. Oct. 5 th and Sun. Oct. 6 th	Johnny Apple Seed Days Terry Ashe Park Location: 6626 Skyway
Tues. Oct. 8 th , 6-10:00 pm	Paradise Town Council Meeting Paradise Town Hall Location: 5555 Skyway
Thursdays 6 - 8:00 pm	Paradise Community Dinner Paradise Alliance Church Location: 6491 Clark Rd

334	Building Permit Applications Received
4	Homes rebuild (Certificate of Occupancy issued)
10,671	Properties cleared of debris
7,272	Properties certified clean by County

What's new:

- The Town of Paradise may be getting an Emergency Room soon. The bill to have one built has been passed by both Houses and is now on Governor Newsom's desk waiting for approval. We will let you know when we have a final decision, but this is great news for our community.
- Local and state officials are currently negotiating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reimburse the removal of at least some of the standing burnt trees in Town. We hope to have a definitive answer soon. We know trees are an urgent concern for people wanting to rebuild.

- The Town is on track to receive 500 building applications by the end of the year! Initially, the Town expected to receive about 200 applications by December 31st, but stronger than expected interest in rebuilding has surpassed our projections.
- In order to better serve our residents, the Town will open the Building Resiliency Center (BRC) at 6295 Skyway (old Bank of America Building) in the coming months. This will be a one-stop-shop for building permits, information and housing resources. The Town is working hard to open the BRC by Nov.8th, and we are looking for funding to get the building ready after sitting vacant for several years.
- It has been nearly one year since the Camp Fire, and many events are being planned for the week of November 8th. The Town will hold several events on Friday, November 8th:
 - 11:08 am: 86 seconds of silence for the 86 lives lost, and the unveiling of the “Key Phoenix” – Building Resiliency Center - 6295 Skyway
 - 12:00 pm: Groundbreaking at Camp Fire Memorial – Skyway/Foster Triangle
 - 6:30 pm: Camp Fire Remembrance Ceremony – Paradise Alliance Church 6491 Clark Rd.
- **NEW PROGRAM:** USDA Home Repair Loan and Grant Pilot Program: This program can help with tree removal and home repairs for eligible property owners.

Eligibility:

 - Own the home and lot and occupy the house
 - Be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere
 - For grants, be 62 or older and not be able to repay a loan
 - Have a family income below 50% of the area median income. Butte County income limits:
 - 1-4 person family \$33,250
 - 5-8 person family \$43,900
- **NEW PROGRAM:** State Controller’s Office has announced applications being accepted for the Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program.

Benefit: Defer current-year payment of property taxes on their principal residence.

Eligibility:

-Homeowners who are seniors, blind, or have a disability.

-Must have 40% equity in their home AND an annual household income of \$35,500 or less to qualify. To learn more visit

https://www.sco.ca.gov/ardtax_prop_tax_postponement.html

- Ribbon Cuttings this month:
 - Bunch Electric: Sept. 20th at 164 Pearson Rd 3:30-4: 30 pm
 - DH Construction: Sept. 26th at 3851 Morrow Lane Ste 14 Chico, Ca 5:30-7pm
 - Grand Reopening of the Horse Festival Sept. 29th at PHA Horse Arena 6706 Moore Rd 10am-3pm

Weekly Q&A:

Q: Is there county or state-provided therapy available to people suffering from the trauma from the Camp Fire?

A: There are several mental health resources for Camp Fire Survivors:

The Disaster Distress Helpline

A 24/7, 365-day-a-year, national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents in the United States and its territories. Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions after a disaster. Call [1.800.985.5990](tel:18009855990) or text TalkWithUs to [66746](tel:66746) to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

California HOPE of Butte County

Through outreach and education, California HOPE empowers and restores stability to fire survivors and fire-affected communities of Butte County. HOPE Counselors meet with fire survivors and their families on the survivor's schedule, wherever they're most comfortable. HOPE counselors facilitate educational and support group meetings for survivors and provide support at community events. Call 530.966.7382 or email calhopebutte@gmail.com to connect with a HOPE Counselor today. Also, find them on Facebook [@CalHopeButte](https://www.facebook.com/CalHopeButte).

Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is offering free counseling support for Butte County Camp Fire survivors starting February 20 through May 20, 2019. This service is free and includes:

- Brief advice

- Single-session counseling support
- Information about local resources

If you would like access to these services, please dial **(707) 571-3778** and press **option 4** for advice.

Q: Is there any way to find a list of homes that are currently being/ or are scheduled to be cleared within the next few weeks?

A: The Debris Removal Operations Center (DROC) can provide information on when a property will be cleared of debris, as well as the status of erosion and soil sampling. The DROC can be reached at (530) 399-0434 or in person at 900 Fortress St, Suite 200 in Chico.