



**A-2 Nature Path Master Plan**



**A-4 CERT Class**



**A-5 Helmet Safety**



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## New CSD General Manager!

By Linda Coverdale

August 23, 2018 – At the second Board meeting in August, the Board was happy to approve the employment of a new General Manager, William J. Malinen. Legal Counsel Don Davis provided some particulars on this new hire. Malinen has considerable experience as a city manager for large cities in several states such as Minnesota, Washington, California, and Missouri. He has been offered a five-year term, and will have a \$500 monthly car allowance and a salary of \$175,000. Malinen hopes to live in Bear Valley, and perhaps, purchase a home. The staff has already met with him. Board and staff are unanimously enthusiastic about his hire. Malinen's starting date is September 10th.

While the employment of a new General Manager brings great news, the board meeting was mainly held for another great accomplishment: adopting the resolutions concerning the budget.

The Board and staff had put in hours of preliminary work on this. All that remained was to approve all aspects and move on—which they did.

Realizing these achievements is a great way to begin the new Fiscal



**JA Fenwick Box 730½** - This mailbox, belonging to Jack and Carol Fenwick (Bay Court), is one of the original BVS mailboxes. It was originally located at the corner of Bear Valley and Cummings Valley roads. The Fenwick's were the third residents of Bear Valley Springs; George and Anne Steele (Coyote) were the first residents and Herb Deekes and his daughter Lynn where the second residents (Buttercup). On August 31, 2018, Carol Fenwick celebrated 46 years of living in Bear Valley Springs. Photo By Nick Smirnoff (Nppa)

Year 2018/19. It's important to note, too, that the Board is working on completing other goals. Wildan is working a three-phase effort to finish the projects on their contract. Director Roberts, having been in the construction industry, felt strongly that too much has been put into their hands. He mentioned that more projects could go to local contractors.

Regarding the Board of Directors election, one seat is now up for grabs, the two-year term, and two contenders are vying for it: Current

VP, Jane Baron, and newcomer, Katherine Govoreau. The other seats will go to current directors Steve Roberts and Greg Hahn, since there were no contenders for those. Terry Quinn was the only contender for the seat that President Gil Grace is vacating.

Note: The CSD will hold only one general meeting in September, on the 27th, due to absentee directors and legal counsel, Don Davis. They also felt it would give the new General Manager time to get acquainted with the district.

## 25 Water Leaks and Counting...

By Faith Green

From August 3 through August 24, 2018, the District had 25 water leaks to address. Water leaks are a common issue in Bear Valley Springs. The former General Manager, David Edmonds, once said that water leaks were a weekly, if not a daily, occurrence.

With a limited budget and staff, the public works department is forced to address the most significant leaks first. The Roads crew has also been hard at work, alongside Public Works, digging, filling, and repairing roads, and providing traffic control. Interim GM, Jeff

Kermode, commented, "Though we are short-staffed, we have a great team. They know what they're doing and work extremely hard." The Public Works and Roads crews share one supervisor, Will Parks. With only three full-time road crew members and five full-time water crew members, the crews had tackled seventeen water leaks by August 24. At times, the crew also borrows staff from the General Services and Waste Water departments.

It is no secret that the aging infrastructure needs desperate attention. That is the main reason the District is having a water rate study performed. The demands summer water needs place on our aging infrastructure could likely be a cause for the leaks. Additionally, during the summer, soil dries and contracts, which results in more space for pipes to move. The more they move, the greater the possibility for cracks and leaks. The District needs to determine the valleys water needs, how to distribute that water across the valley to each property,

and provide for maintenance and capital replacement of our pipes, wells, and pumps.

Unfortunately, three of the major leaks in August occurred on Cumberland Road, just one year after the new road was laid. However, this was a risk that was discussed many times over. The public complained about the roads, even so much as to file lawsuits against the District for vehicle misalignment, worn tires, etc. The District addressed some of the infrastructure concerns before the road rehab project commenced, but they could not predict when and where all pipes and joints would break down.

With the reality of knowing more breaks and leaks are to come, Bear Valley should expect an increase in the base water rate by mid-winter to address ongoing operational expenses, since water fund expenses exceed revenues. Funding for a capital improvement plan will most likely take longer. Maybe the new General Manager will have some ideas to help address this issue now and in the future.

Mailing Permit



# BVS Nature Path Master Plan

By Fiona Nelson-Hahn

The BVS Nature Path Master Plan (NPMP) is a proposal generated by BVS Cycle Club President, Zack Crum, and Cycle Club members to address road safety and recreational opportunities for the growing bicycle community in Bear Valley Springs. Crum has built multiple trails in other locations, such as Mammoth Lakes, and has a degree in Public Administration. Crum presented the NPMP at the August CSD Liaison Committee meeting, where it was the only item on the agenda.

Bike trails in BVS are a highly emotive topic. In past meetings, members have been known to interrupt, speak out of turn, and/or heckle when this topic was

discussed. CSD President Gil Grace requested everyone to act in a civil manner during the meeting. He continued to say that “listening” to the presentation was the purpose and that no decisions would be made.

The NPMP has three sections: Roads Maintenance Procedures, an Informational Campaign, and a Recreation Plan. Crum explained the plans verbiage may seem complex, but is standard for these kinds of projects.

There are three road classifications. Class I, a Multi Use Path, provides a completely separate right of way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians, with cross-flow minimized. These are the safest option. Class II, Bike Lane, provides a striped lane for one-way bike travel on a street or highway. Class III, Bike Routes, are normal roads with signs posted identifying them as bike routes. These are termed ‘share the road’, which currently applies to all BVS roads. These are the least safe option as motorized traffic, cyclists, equines, walkers, hikers, etc. all share the road. The intention of the NPMP is to convert Class III roads, over time, to Class I or II, thereby making roads safer for all non-motorized users. Space for bike lanes, locations, and who would make decisions were debated.

Road safety for both cyclists and equestrians was discussed. Comments were made that the high speed of vehicles on BVS roads is a serious safety issue for all. It was stressed that lower speed limits would make roads safer for everyone. Another suggestion was to promote road safety awareness and provide relevant training. Cyclists spoke of dangerous encounters with vehicles, some of which may stem from ignorance of bicycle laws. Some cyclists stated their desire to make cycling safer with or without additional amenities for bikes.

The second part of the NPMP addresses the need for digital trail maps and accurate signage to ensure

clarity and avoid confusion. There is currently a lack of awareness and knowledge about accessibility on trails within BVS, particularly with regard to the routes or rights of way through properties adjoining BVS. Crum believes previous property owners adjoining BVS made agreements regarding access and rights of way, so these need to be researched and the legal position ascertained. Then an accurate digital repository of information can be formulated indicating where residents can and cannot go.

The third and final section of the NPMP is the West BVS Recreation Plan, identifying a region of BVS common land that is recreationally underused. The proposed area for the bike amenity is in this area, situated west of 4 Island Lake. The Plan incorporates connection paths to 4 Island Lake from the existing Nature Path, behind the Beaubien Field, as well as, paths from Lower Valley and Pinedale Drive to the recreation site.

Public safety, wildfire risks, and liability issues were discussed. The terrain in this area is steep and potentially very hazardous. Additional apprehensions about bicycle and equine interactions were voiced. Crum explained that one of the reasons this particular area was suggested was because it is as far away from the equestrian trails as possible.

Funds to build and maintain the NPMP were discussed at length. Potential funding sources include: private donations, matching funds, and state or county grants. It was mentioned that one organization gave \$100,000 to Golden Hills for bicycle lanes, while, in another case, Tahoe received \$9 million for bike trails.

Who would administer grants, the protocols for how grant applications and funding might be handled and processed were also explored. Crum suggested that grant responsibility could be assigned to a member of

the CSD staff. Interim General Manager, Jeff Kermode, explained that the CSD is short-staffed and has a heavy workload, so it would be impractical for a CSD employee to undertake this responsibility. A further consideration is that the CSD is the only body that can receive grants. The Association cannot be awarded grants for maintenance.

Crum explained that the BVS Cycle Club is looking to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This would be a non-binding document allowing the Cycle Club members to try to raise funds for the NPMP. He explained that Club members did not want to put in hundreds of hours working to obtain funds and grants if the CSD and BVSA do not approve of the Plan. The project can, however, be broken down into segments, and each one can be tackled in turn. A member of the audience commented to separate the two different goals of the NPMP: 1) to bring BVS up to date on safe bike transportation and 2) to create recreational bike amenities. Crum was asked if the Cycle Club would consider doing the first of these without the last section. He replied that he can take this suggestion back to the Club and ask them. He reaffirmed that one of the Club’s goals is roadside safety.

Finally, cyclists asked the community to work together. It was mentioned that animosity by opposing parties does not help. Everyone was invited to provide suggestions. It was also emphasized that a great deal of money is spent every year on equestrian trails and amenities, and none on cycling safety or facilities. One member of the audience quoted the metaphor that “we are all crayons in a box: different sizes, different colors, some sharp, some not, but we all have to live together in the box”.

The NPMP will be given further consideration by both the CSD and BVSA Boards.



The BV CUB is an independent, privately held enterprise, published monthly, and circulated throughout Bear Valley Springs, Tehachapi, and across the USA. The BV CUB is committed to providing news relevant to the community of Bear Valley Springs. We are the **People’s Voice; the People’s Choice.**

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# CSD Board Meeting Summary

By Linda Coverdale

The meeting of August 9th had a very small turnout from the citizens. It was brought to order shortly after 6 p.m., with all members of the Board present, along with the acting GM Mr. Kermode, Legal Counsel Don Davis, Administrator Hamed Jones, and Police Chief, Tim Melanson.

In Closed Session, they interviewed candidates for General Manager, but had no reportable action as yet.

During Public Comments Ginny Tunks addressed the issue of the mailboxes and asked, among other things, if the Board had any interest in going forth with this. They did not have an answer at this time. But members of the Board also felt they had given their all in the past with no good result. VP Baron commented that it had been forwarded to the Budget Session which would take place August 13th. She also said that the time and effort the citizens had put into this was appreciated, and it would be on the next agenda.

Jim Nelson also commented during Public Comments to give kudos to Director Carlyn for recent National Night Out. Director Carlyn immediately passed the credit to his wife, Lorrie, and also Patti Stevens assisting, who, he said, were the driving forces in the event.

Miles Coverdale asked if there was any news of past GM Edmonds, but so far, no progress.

Item A on the Action Items list was to approve an addendum adding certain facilities to a lease with the BVSA, particularly the Kawaiisu Preserve, the School Museum, the Nature Path next to Beaubien Field, and the drainage by the golf course. It was passed and approved unanimously.

Item B related to Jack's Hole. The BVSA has asked if they could use the water for free next year during June and July. This was also approved.

Item C concerned wells 1 and 2. Director Roberts would like to see these wells producing, as they have been very productive in the past. Wells 5 and 6 are good producing wells. He felt that the more we could do here locally, the less we would have to purchase from Cummings Valley.

Item D involves the attendance of a member of the Board at the California Special District Association Conference. Director Hahn expressed interest in attending, and it was passed and approved that he should attend.

During Discussion Items IT upgrades have begun, and soon the CSD will be in the twenty-first century with speed and accessibility. Backup hardware and software have been installed with a completion date by the end of September.

Mr. Kermode caught us up on capital projects, including the water study and traffic study. A water rate increase is certainly in the offing to be able to afford the water project. Without our water, we have nothing.

Wildan is also moving forward with more striping projects and

replacing reflectors. The manhole project includes redesign, as our current ones are below grade. They will bring them up, level with the pavement.

As far as the waste facility goes, it turns out that not that much redesign was necessary, and that it will look pretty much as it is, except for the recycle area, which will be between the current pit and the green waste area.

The entry gate project has been frozen due to discussion on well 25. Viability of it has not been confirmed, and it needs to be closed down to make the parking lot more accessible. President Grace said that shortage of water is not an issue, but VP Baron would like to make sure that it is not viable. She posits that our water supervisor says it is able to be rehabilitated. Committee member, Kathy Carey suggested that we need to be conservative with our gate project, as people will think the CSD has lots of money and vote down the water bond.

In the Finance Committee report, Director Carlyn commented that a volunteer has resigned, leaving an opening. They reviewed the legal bills and found no issue.

During the Infrastructure Committee report, VP Baron stated that the mailbox committee has given its second presentation, and it will be covered at their budget meeting.

During the Liaison Committee report, we found out that the pump in Cummings Valley will likely cost more than the \$75,000 to repair, but the CSD will cover the difference. They do appreciate the financial boost from the BVSA.

During the Public Safety report it was stated that a vacancy exists on the committee. Director Hahn somehow coaxed attendance from the Firefighters at their committee meeting. A Neighborhood Watch meeting will take place August 22 at 6 pm at the Whiting Center. Jim Nelson pointed out that the Neighborhood Watch program will need a strong person to run the program and keep it on track.

During Board comments, Director Carlyn thanked Chief Melanson for having the police department out in full force the evening of National Night Out. He also thanked Kristy McEwan for the attractive flyer that accompanied the water bill for each household.

They addressed the campaign signs regarding size and time allowed. Signs must be removed immediately after the election is over, and cannot exceed three feet by three feet.

Director Hahn stated that the fire department has assured him Bear Valley has accomplished fire clearance compliance.

Director Roberts would like to see the outside of the CSD office repainted. Also, we are constantly having water breaks. He felt we need to purchase equipment so that the water department can do their job. Some can actually be leased short term.

Our Administrative/Finance



### CSD Monthly Meeting Schedule

CSD meetings are held in the CSD Board Room, unless otherwise specified. The following schedule is for regularly planned monthly meetings. There may be instances when a meeting may need to be changed. To receive notifications of any changes and receive agendas on meetings, visit the CSD office and sign up for advance notifications. If you choose not to do so, contact the CSD prior to any meeting for proper verification.

- ❖ Administration Committee: 2nd Thursday, 1:00 p.m.
- ❖ Communication Committee: 1st Tuesday, 3:00 p.m.
- ❖ Infrastructure Committee: 2nd Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.
- ❖ Finance Committee: 2nd Thursday, 2:30 p.m.
- ❖ Liaison Committee: 2nd Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Public Safety: 3rd Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

### Here's a look at the forecast, but this IS Tehachapi, the sometimes unpredictable Land of 4 Seasons!



## AccuWeather

### Bear Valley Springs, CA

						SAT 9/1 88° Plenty of sun
SUN 9/2 90° Plenty of sun	MON 9/3 91° Plenty of sun	TUE 9/4 91° Sunny	WED 9/5 87° Sunny	THU 9/6 88° Sunshine	FRI 9/7 84° Mostly sunny	SAT 9/8 88° Sunshine
SUN 9/9 85° Abundant sun	MON 9/10 86° Mostly sunny	TUE 9/11 86° Rather cloudy	WED 9/12 85° Sunny	THU 9/13 86° Sunny	FRI 9/14 86° Sunny	SAT 9/15 85° Clouds & sun
SUN 9/16 85° Sunshine	MON 9/17 84° Sunshine	TUE 9/18 82° Sunshine	WED 9/19 80° Abundant sun	THU 9/20 76° Mostly sunny	FRI 9/21 75° Brilliant sunshine	SAT 9/22 74° Sunny
SUN 9/23 82° Sunny	MON 9/24 84° Sunny	TUE 9/25 84° Sunny	WED 9/26 83° Partly sunny	THU 9/27 82° Sun and clouds	FRI 9/28 81° Sun and clouds	SAT 9/29 81° Abundant sun
SUN 9/30 80° Abundant sun						

Manager, Hamed Jones handed kudos to the staff for a great job getting ready for the audit. The auditors said it was well done and accurate.

Interim GM Kermode commented that several repairs of hydrants have been necessary on Coral Springs, Horizon, Skyline, and Saddleback.

Chief Melanson said that we have two police vacancies, but two candidates are in background checks. The GPS is finally functional. And the really good news, no significant crime took place the past month, and only one mail theft. But that could be because some victims did not report theft. The VIPS have put in 132.5 hours of work, which included National Night out. And lastly, the previous thief has been sentenced to

four years of prison.

GM Kermode gave kudos to the staff, especially Hamed Jones and Kristy McEwan for a good job the past several weeks. And with that, the meeting was adjourned.



*This column is a summary of the discussions held at the CSD Board Meeting. For complete details, visit [www.bvcsd.com](http://www.bvcsd.com) to view a recorded video of the meeting. You may also contact the CSD office and request a copy of the video and/or audio.*

# BVSA Board Meeting Summary

By Fiona Nelson-Hahn

Board and staff reported that the BVSA had a good start to the new fiscal year. In particular, assessment interest charges are better than budget, as the payment plan is reaping good results.

The Oak Tree Saloon and the Muligan Room are performing significantly better than budget. Both have outpaced expectations. Kudos was given to the employees for producing such great results.

Total income was up by 3%. Increased guest fees and service charges helped. Snack bar sales, mostly from the pool, were \$25K. There are some empty stalls in the East Barn at the Equestrian Center, but more horses are coming, so the barn is expected to be full in a month or two. Golf cart rentals were down. Payroll expense was down. Fixed expenses were also down.

Food and beverage came out \$14K better than budget. Their payroll increased slightly, but there was increased business. Meals served increased by 380 from June. Brunch attendance was only 64, which was down from the previous month. The new 2018-2019 banquet menus have been completed.

The parks were very busy over the July 4th celebrations. The Sunday and Wednesday activities attracted about 2,100 people. The Moonlight Movies continue to be very popular. The Park Rangers have issued a few citations at the lakes and golf course, including loose dog and fishing permit violations.

Fifty-six Tehachapi kids took part in this year's summer Baseball Camp. They were taught by 28 UCLA Baseball alumni. The caliber and success of this camp are largely due to the efforts of BV resident Gary Adams, a former professional Baseball coach who organizes the camp.

The pool had over 7,000 swimmers in July. The campgrounds were also busy. Golf rounds were slightly down from June, but there were zero days when the course was closed.

A resident requested that his property, which is too small to be registered as a 'horse property', have its status altered to make it easier for him to sell it. The request was denied. This same request was brought before the CSD Board with the same result.

The Eclectic Book Club was granted recognized status.

The Board approved to incorporate the historical BVS Schoolhouse, Kawaiisu Preserve, Nature Path, as well as a drainage area within the golf course, into the BVSA/CSD Lease Agreement.

A resident complained about the new \$14 fee for assessment payments made by credit card. It was pointed out that the information had been available from a number of sources. The resident said The Cub provided incorrect information regarding this. (After the meeting, the Cub verified records in the June issue and found that the resident was mistaken in this assertion.) She also enquired where the 'profit' from these transactions was going to be spent. It was explained that there was no profit from this new system. The benefit to the community is that the BVSA will make a savings of around \$50,000 per year by not having to pay for the assessment payment credit card transaction fees. This translates into a savings of around \$20 per household each year.

Wesley Shryock, BVSA Assistant General Manager and Controller, mentioned that all residents are entitled to see the BVSA financials. He added that he is happy to go through the financials with anyone, explain about them, and answer questions.

Another resident commented that she pays her fees monthly in advance. She asked if it would be possible to encourage more members to pay in this manner. Shryock stated that this was a great point. However, he explained that this money has to be handled separately from other funds, and is treated differently on the balance sheet, because it has to be held for a while before it can be spent.

A resident addressed the Board that the interruptions and heckling at recent BVSA meetings could be influencing decisions regarding which amenities are being allowed in BVS. He had only spoken a couple of sentences before he was heckled by

members in the audience. He waited until the Board restored order before proceeding. He stated that the most recent survey of horses in BVS (from the BVSA Equestrian Emergency Plan) shows that equestrians make up only 15% of the total population of residents. Despite this, their attendance and behavior at recent BVSA meetings give a false impression of the wants of the majority of residents. He asked the Board to be wary of the possibility of being swayed by tactics of pressure and intimidation.

The same resident was also concerned with a resistance to change. During recent discussions, some were in favor of "keeping things the way they are". He felt this stance could be interpreted as bias towards a particular sect of the community. He asked at what point should development of new amenities be halted? He continued that if our amenities had not evolved on an ongoing basis to cater to the changing demographic, we would not have the community we have today.

Finally, this resident mentioned that over \$200,000 per year is spent on the equestrian facilities to accommodate 15% of the population, whereas the budget allocated to bike related activities is currently zero. Today there are over 50 miles of equestrian trails in BVS, but only 2 miles of trail where bikes can ride off road.

Another resident spoke saying he had read the Cycle Club's Nature Path Master Plan (NPMP) proposal, but found it very confusing. He stated that he supported increasing bike trails, but wanted to make sure BVS kept control. If the proposal were clearer, he asserted that he could support it.

One resident remarked that there is an interesting point about the NPMP, which he described as a hybrid document. The first part comes under the

See **BVSA**, page A-6

## C.E.R.T. Class Begins September 10!

By Jim Nelson

A new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) basic class will start on September 10, 2018. This 20 hour, 8-week program will teach how to survive a disaster by taking care of yourself, your family, and your neighbors. You will learn about the community hazards, fire safety, emergency medical, organization, psychology, basic search and rescue and terrorism. You can be part of a neighborhood

team or just have the information for your own welfare.

Sign up by calling Jim Nelson at 821-5205 or come to the first class on September 10 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Classes will be held at the Bear Valley Church, 26180 Plateau Way, and run each Monday for 8 weeks, concluding on October 29. Except for voluntary donation, there is no cost to the student.



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# BE PREPARED

By Fiona Nelson-Hahn

## Is Your Brain Worth Protecting?

Using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when taking part in recreational activities is like using a seatbelt when travelling in a vehicle; you don't need it until you need it. Most of the time, seatbelts play a passive role, but their primary function is to prevent death or ameliorate injury when an accident occurs. So, they really only come into play when something goes wrong. The same is true of recreational PPE. Many leisure activities have their own specialized PPE, designed to mitigate the dangers specific to that particular pastime.

Some examples of PPE are: life jackets/flotation vests, football helmets, shin guards, knee pads and hockey gloves. Helmets of various kinds are a very common form of PPE, for both leisure and work pursuits. There are good reasons for this. We are all cognizant that firefighters, football players, construction workers, and many others use helmets for protection at all times when on the job. Interestingly, the ancient Egyptians, despite having a very sophisticated civilization, thought that the 'gray matter' contained within the skull was of little importance. Nowadays, of course, we are keenly aware of just how important our brains are and how serious any injuries can be. Brain injuries do not heal like broken bones do. Seemingly insignificant head injuries can have serious long-term effects. Even when minimal, repeated trauma to the head can cause cumulative brain damage. After an initial injury, subsequent accidents can enlarge the area of original damage, and the brain is not able to recover 100% from the injuries.

Horseback riding carries a higher injury rate per hour of exposure than many other activities including: downhill ski racing, football, hang-gliding and even motorcycle racing!

The University of Connecticut tells us the following seriously concerning statistics: 70,000 people per year are treated in emergency rooms because of equestrian related activities, head injuries are the most common reason for horse-related hospital admissions, and 60% or more of horse-related deaths are caused by head injuries. Helmets can help reduce this outcome by 70-80%. The American Medical Equestrian Association asserts that ASTM/SEI approved helmets have reduced all riding-related head injuries by 30%, and severe head injuries by 50%. (See below for explanation of ASTM/SEI standards.)

It seems wise to use helmets when taking part in any activity which may result in sustaining a head injury. Many governing authorities have mandated that children must wear helmets in order to take part in such sports as baseball, football, and hockey – to name a few. In the equestrian world, participants in US Pony Club (USPC) activities also have to wear helmets. To paraphrase USPC regulations: wearing a properly fitted, certified, equestrian helmet, securely fastened is required to participate in any USPC activities. This rule applies whether actually riding or just working around a horse or pony.

Do these safety measures work? Before the increased use of ASTM/SEI standard helmets, the highest head injury rate was among the youngest riders. Now that many more children and youngsters are using certified riding helmets, this alarming statistic no longer applies to youngest age group, but instead now applies to the group of people aged between 22-35 years old.

Why do all riders not use them? One friend recently said that "American riders don't use helmets because they are stubborn." Moreover, a few weeks ago, I was discussing

this same topic with another friend. She said, for her, it seemed that if an equestrian used PPE it was because they were "not a good enough rider." In other words, PPE was only used by less competent riders. Whilst PPE is crucially important for less experienced riders, it is also essential for world class riders, too.

No one would think of Olympic riders as 'not good enough' – they are the cream of the crop – and they have to wear helmets to compete. Horseracing is a global sport, and all racing jockeys wear helmets. Eventing and endurance riding are two more of the most challenging and tough fields of equestrian endeavor. Most endurance riders wear not only helmets, but body protectors, as well. Eventers have to wear both during the cross country section – the most hazardous part of their competition. It seems that, in direct opposition to my friend's belief, the best equestrians in the world use helmets for protection. Most equestrian governing organizations – including the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI), which is the world governing body of equestrian sport - mandate helmet use in competition or on show grounds. On an ongoing basis, rules are continually moving in the direction of requiring helmet use. Many also specify the standards which the helmets must meet.

For me personally, using a helmet, as well as wearing a body protector, gives me increased confidence. I know that, if I am involved in an accident, it is highly likely that I will escape sustaining serious injury, and it is probable that I will avoid suffering any pain. Twice horses have, through no fault of their own, fallen over while I was riding them. Wearing PPE, I am sure, helped prevent any grave injury both times. In one case, I was riding my mare, who stands 16 hands high (tall for a horse), when she was charged by a couple of dogs. In pure fear, she reared straight up on her hind legs. Unfortunately, we were on a concrete ford that sloped across a streambed at the time. While at the apex of her rear, her hind feet slipped out from under her and down we came. We plummeted to the ground and, as my head smashed onto the concrete with a resounding crash, I clearly remember thinking how glad I was that I was wearing a helmet! I believe that wearing PPE was the reason that I suffered neither injury nor pain.

Perhaps the legacy of the cowboy tradition influences current equestrians, so that many riders wear cowboy hats rather than helmets. The cowboy hat is an all-American symbol. It was an intrinsic part

of the pioneering lifestyle. It is part and parcel of this country's heritage. Cowboys riding across the plains alongside majestic masses of bison, or moving vast herds of cattle along the trail wore cowboy hats, not helmets. They are a direct link with American's history. Not something that can easily be given up. But perhaps riders could consider wearing helmets while mounted, and their cowboy hats when on foot? Alternatively, they could purchase one of the cowboy hat style of helmets, which meet the ASTM/SEI standards which are currently available. To quote one person who provided online feedback about why she purchased one of these cowboy hat helmets, "After witnessing a co-competitor be thrown in a Western class and sustain a concussion, vanity took a back seat and wisdom moved to the forefront!"

Readers might remember the pushback when seat belt and motorbike helmet laws came into force. There was great opposition at the time, but we are all now aware of the savings to life, limb and property, not to mention the financial savings, which have resulted since these laws were enacted. Across the USA there is now a gradual groundswell movement to make wearing helmets compulsory when horseback riding.

The University of Connecticut explains that "The ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) is an organization comprised of thousands of skilled volunteers including doctors, engineers and physicists. It is the job of the ASTM to set standards for many types of safety equipment. The ASTM has created criteria for horseback riding helmets to adhere to. These standards are summarized in ASTM F 1163. The SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) is an independent laboratory that tests helmets to be sure they meet the ASTM standard.

All helmets not manufactured to ASTM/SEI standards carry a label or insert stating that the helmet is an item of apparel only and will provide no protection to the wearer from a fall or impact. Non-ASTM/SEI certified helmets offer no protection whatsoever and are strictly for cosmetic purposes."

*Much of the information in this article is derived from the Center for Disease Control and the University of Connecticut websites. For further information, checkout their websites:*

*<http://animalscience.uconn.edu/equine/helmet-safety.php>,  
[www.cdc.gov/headsup/pdfs/helmets/headsup\\_helmetfactsheet\\_equestrian\\_508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/headsup/pdfs/helmets/headsup_helmetfactsheet_equestrian_508.pdf)*

### Greater Tehachapi Valley CERT invites you!



Join our Bear Valley team of volunteers! Learn about disaster preparedness and get trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

**We are in need of vari kennels/crates and hex pens for dogs and cats. If you have any you are willing to donate, please contact us. We really appreciate your support.**

**For more information about CERT,**  
contact Jim Nelson at 821-5205.

# Equestrian Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

By Fiona Nelson-Hahn

August 6, 2018 - The Equestrian Center finished the fiscal year better than budget by nearly \$30K. This was mainly due to savings in staff wages, as there were number of vacancies that were not filled.

Butch Bolterman, the Equestrian Center Manager, said that he was hoping work on the High Country trail could start soon. He is looking to do this in the fall because of the risk of fire, and the fact that there will be lots of slash to be taken away. It would be good to mow the meadow again, but due to the high risk of wildfire, no more weed whacking will be done until conditions change. All other equestrian trails are passable, although some need some maintenance.

Kathy Underwood is the new BVS Horsemen's Club EAC representative.

The Snake Guys are up to a total of 87 snakes caught this summer so far.

The hay storage area has been

completed.

There was discussion about whose responsibility it is to trim trees that hang down and interfere with riders on the equestrian trails. It depends upon whether the tree is on private property, in an easement, or in a road right of way. If private property is involved, before any work can be done, the property owner needs to be contacted and permission obtained first before any trimming can be done.

BVSA General Manager, Cheramy Krueger, remarked that there is no alteration in the status of the concrete in the road right of way on Bear Valley Road. This is not an equestrian easement and the CSD is focusing on the equestrian easements, and those in the works are with legal.

The Carriage Club representative asked if a connection could be made from north Lower Valley to Cub Lake. Church Trail and the main valley are currently the only

places suitable for driving carriages. Bolterman said he would look at that easement and go one step at a time to see what they may or may not be able to do.

Debbie Swarens, of the BVS Pony Club, thanked everyone who turned up and helped at the recent Mule Show. In particular, the Pony Club wants to thank all of the equestrian clubs for their support. There was plenty of support from non-equestrian clubs as well, such as the Gardening Club. They decorated one of the competition jumps gorgeously. Kathy Carey also beautifully decorated her sponsored jump.

Everyone involved in organizing the show also expressed huge thanks to Bolterman and all the Equestrian Center staff members. They worked tirelessly to assist and troubleshoot during the entire three days of the show. Their help was invaluable and greatly appreciated.

The Mule Show featured additional driving, packing, and horse type

classes this year. Total entries were up from last year, and included many last minute entries, which meant that some of the classes ran a little over time. At one point, the front parking lot at the Equestrian Center was completely full! Everyone had a great time and the show was successful beyond the Pony Club members' wildest dreams.

As Labor Day clashes with the next scheduled EAC meeting date, the meeting will be held on September 10, 2018 in the Equestrian Center Lounge at 9 a.m.



*This summary outlines some of the items discussed at the Equestrian Advisory Committee Meeting. Regular Committee meetings are held the 1st Wednesday at 9 a.m. in the Equestrian Center Lounge.*

## BVSA contd from page A-4

jurisdiction of the CSD. The following sections fall under the BVSA's purview, so he understood why the Cycle Club had approached the CSD first. He commented that everybody who attended the recent Liaison meeting had realized that there was a lot that could be done by the CSD, if it were financially possible. Due to current financial constraints, however, it seems unlikely that sufficient funds would be available for this section of the NPMP, which leaves only the section for the bike amenity in the canyon at the west end of BVS to be considered. The question was asked if BVSA legal counsel had been consulted regarding the legal definition of 'vehicles' as mentioned in the C&Rs, as different opinions had been expressed regarding vehicle classification in connection with po-

tential bike trails. The response was that counsel has not been consulted for clarification.

There was discussion regarding the request to change the Dog Park hours of operation in the BVSA Rules. BVSA General Manager, Cheramy Krueger, explained that CSD ordinance dictates that public parks are closed between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. of the following day; therefore, this item does not need to be acted upon. Anyone wishing to have the opening hours altered would have to take the matter to the CSD Board.

The new Dog Park tags are now available at the BVSA office. Anyone who wants to use the Dog Park must obtain a tag for any dog prior to using the facility.

The following purchases were

approved:

- New banquet tables, as existing ones are old and heavy, and some are delaminated, damaged, and warped. The new tables will be made of aluminum; light, but strong, and styled to ensure the comfort of diners. There are also carts to move these tables easily and more efficiently, so staff members do not have to carry them individually.

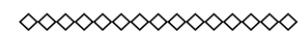
- Trex Deck to replace the current decking. The BVSA Maintenance Crew will do the work in house.

- Playground fill for Cub Lake, 4-Island Lake, and the Whiting Center playgrounds - The fill has to be topped every 2 to 3 years depending on weather. The depth has to be monitored and maintained for safety requirements.

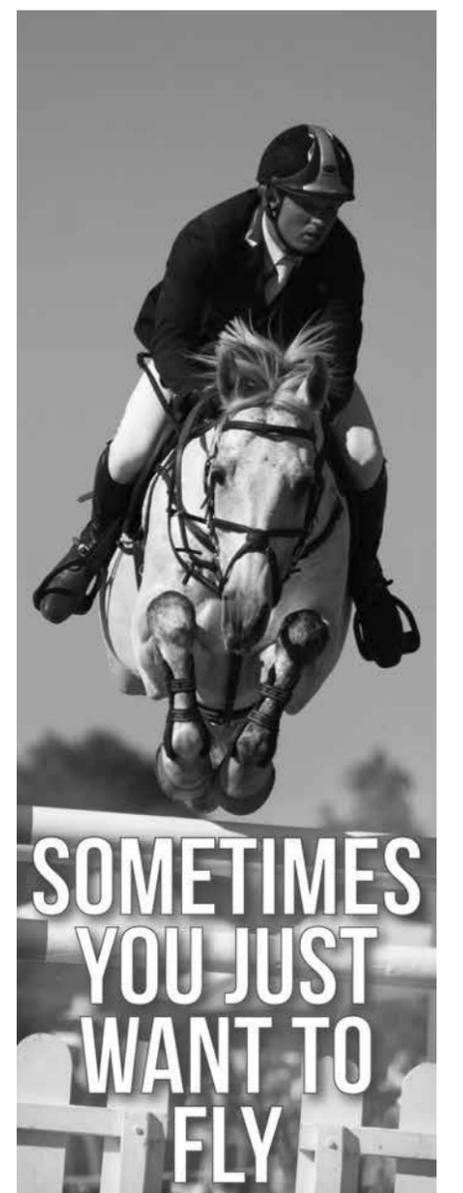
- New Exit Signs with Emer-

gency Lights to meet Kern County standards.

The next BVSA Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, in the Oak Tree Country Club at 6 p.m.



*This summary outlines some of the items discussed at the BVSA Board Meeting. Regular Board meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the OTCC.*














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0 Cumberland Road-10.03 .....	\$125,000

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**Terri Juergens**  
CalBRE#00841071

# Bear Valley Bits

## General Fund

The final CSD budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19 adds \$313,048 to the General Fund reserves after transferring funds to Roads, Water, and Waste Water for the Capital improvement plan. This is a huge turnaround from prior years where the District had to take money from the Reserve Fund to cover expenses. This surplus is due, in large part, to the release of the Dispatch department, as well as the closure of the Postal Unit. The District originally predicted they would see a savings of \$300-\$500K after the closure of those departments.

## Crime & Neighborhood Watch

Crime in Bear Valley Springs is still quite low in comparison to surrounding areas and larger cities. Some believe the crime is a result of individuals entering Bear Valley illegitimately. However, the Bear Valley Springs Police Department has confirmed that recent arrests for reported and investigated mail theft and theft of items in vehicles are linked to Bear Valley residents and individuals who legitimately received a gate pass. This is why it is important to get involved with

Neighborhood Watch. The District just launched the Neighborhood Watch program in Bear Valley Springs. It's important to get involved and sign up to be an active member of a watch group. Get to know your neighbors and be mindful of who you allow through the gate on your behalf. To sign up or obtain more information, visit the CSD Office at 28999 South Lower Valley Road in Bear Valley Springs.

Property owners can also add a passcode to their tract and lot numbers with the CSD. In doing so, requests for gate passes will be required to furnish the passcode. This will prevent individuals from calling in a pass without the property owner's knowledge. To add a passcode to your tract/lot, contact the CSD at 821-4428.

As always, if you are a victim of or witness a crime, please contact the BVPD and file a report. The BVPD cannot investigate a crime and prevent further incidents if they no one speaks to them. Social media is not a report. If you witness a crime in progress that is a present risk to public safety, call 911. If you are reporting a crime that has already occurred or does not pose immediate danger, call the non-emergency line at 661-868-3110.

# 2018 SEPTEMBER OBSERVANCES

## National Observances

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 - VJ Day, WWII     | 17 - Constitution Day    |
| 3 - Labor Day        | 21 - POW/MIA Day         |
| 9 - Grandparents Day | 22 - Autumnal Equinox    |
| 11 - 911 Remembrance | 28 - Native American Day |

## This month is

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| ◆ Baby Safety Month        | ◆ Chicken Month                        |
| ◆ Better Breakfast Month   | ◆ Classical Music Month                |
| ◆ Fall Hat Month           | ◆ Hispanic Heritage Month              |
| ◆ Honey Month              | ◆ International Square - Dancing Month |
| ◆ Little League Month      | ◆ National Courtesy Month              |
| ◆ Nat'l Blueberry Popsicle | ◆ Self Improvement Month               |
| ◆ National Piano Month     |  |

## Flower

Aster

## Birthstone

Sapphire

## From Around the Globe

Did you know that every month, there are several monthly, weekly, and daily tributes? Some are Serious while others are Bizarre, but all are Wonderful observances you **May** or **May** not have known about...

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Emma M. Nutt Day           | 16 - Mayflower Day            |
| 1 - Nat'l Cherry Popover Day   | 16 - Mexican Independence     |
| 2 - International Bacon Day    | 16 - National Play Doh Day    |
| 3 - Skyscraper Day             | 16 - Working Parents Day      |
| 4 - Newspaper Carrier Day      | 17 - Citizenship Day          |
| 5 - Be Late for Something      | 17 - Constitution Day         |
| 5 - Cheese Pizza Day           | 17 - Nat'l Apple Dumpling     |
| 6 - Fight Procrastination Day  | 17 - Wife Appreciation Day    |
| 6 - Read a Book Day            | 18 - Nat'l Cheeseburger Day   |
| 7 - National Salami Day        | 18 - Yom Kippur               |
| 8 - International Literacy Day | 19 - Int'l Talk Like A Pirate |
| 8 - Nat'l Date Nut Bread Day   | 19 - Butterscotch Pudding     |
| 8 - Pardon Day                 | 20 - Pepperoni Pizza Day      |
| 9 - Teddy Bear Day             | 20 - National Punch Day       |
| 9 - Rosh Hashanah begins       | 21 - Miniature Golf Day       |
| 10 - Nat'l Pet Memorial Day    | 21 - World Gratitude Day      |
| 10 - Sewing Machine Day        | 21 - Int'l Peace Day (UN)     |
| 10 - Swap Ideas Day            | 22 - Oktoberfest begins       |
| 11 - Make Your Bed Day         | 22 - Business Women's Day     |
| 11 - No News is Good News      | 22 - Elephant Appreciation    |
| 12 - Chocolate Milk Shake      | 22 - Hobbit Day               |
| 12 - Nat'l Video Games Day     | 23 - Checkers Day             |
| 13 - Defy Superstition Day     | 23 - Dog in Politics Day      |
| 13 - Fortune Cookie Day        | 23 - International Rabbit Day |
| 13 - National Peanut Day       | 24 - Nat'l Cherries Jubilee   |
| 13 - Positive Thinking Day     | 25 - Nat'l Comic Book Day     |
| 13 - Uncle Sam Day             | 26 - Johnny Appleseed Day     |
| 14 - Cream-Filled Donut Day    | 27 - Crush a Can Day          |
| 15 - Make a Hat Day            | 28 - Ask a Stupid Question    |
| 15 - Felt Hat Day              | 28 - Nat'l Good Neighbor      |
| 16 - American Legion Day       | 29 - Confucius Day            |
| 16 - Collect Rocks Day         | 30 - National Mud Pack Day    |
| 16 - Step Family Day           |                               |

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**LAND VALUES**

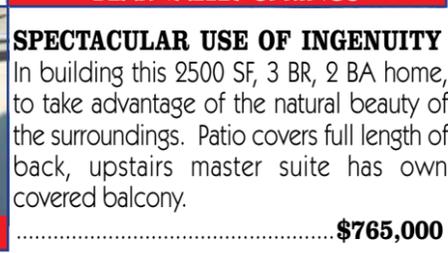
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 DEERTRAIL DR.</b> Multiple building sites, plans. 6.70 Ac. <b>\$150,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>28451 DEERTRAIL DR.</b> Peaceful, private seclusion in a gated community. 1.20 Ac. <b>\$64,950</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 FOX RIDGE CT.</b> Overlooks Four Island Lake. 1.88 Ac. <b>\$90,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 HORIZON CT.</b> Surveyed, oaks, pines, views. 10.6 Ac. <b>\$279,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 JACARANDA</b> Rare find w/oaks & almost all usable. 1 Ac. <b>\$80,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>25717 JACARANDA</b> Water meter at lot. Views. 1.25 Ac. <b>\$89,900</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>25920 JACARANDA DR</b> Majestic Views, water & power available. 4.13 Ac. <b>\$79,900</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>25921 JACARANDA DR</b> Privacy, pines and meadow view. 1.31 Ac. <b>\$53,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 OAKFLAT DR</b> Very buildable, valley views. 1.37 Ac. <b>\$159,500</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 PARAMOUNT</b> Special view of Bear Valley Springs. 10.25 Ac. <b>\$70,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 PARKE CT</b> Mtn. views from valley. 1.34 Ac. <b>\$149,000</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>0 SHEEPTRAIL CT.</b> Views of four island lake, lots of Oaks. <b>\$149,900</b>
 BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS	<b>27380 STIRRUP WAY</b> Very pretty lot. Pine trees, rolling hills. 1.04 Ac. <b>\$49,000</b>

**"WE SELL BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS"**

**ALL THE RIGHT TOUCHES** Charming 3 Bd 2.5 Ba 1885 Sq. Ft. Home is wonderfully appointed in split wing design, stacked rock fireplace, open great room & lots of tile and granite counters in the kitchen. 1.35 Ac.  
.....**\$387,000**



**SPECTACULAR USE OF INGENUITY** In building this 2500 SF, 3 BR, 2 BA home, to take advantage of the natural beauty of the surroundings. Patio covers full length of back, upstairs master suite has own covered balcony.  
.....**\$765,000**



**Suzi McReynolds** x241 • cell phone (661)331-4747 • 2006 Top Listing Associate

**GREAT LOCATION, NICELY KEPT.** This 3 Bd, 2 Ba 2831 Sq. Ft. Home in Bear Valley Springs is everything you could hope for. Xtra Lrg Mstr Bd w/ balcony, walk in closets and jet tub in Mstr Ba. Cozy den with fireplace. Must see!  
.....**\$469,900**



**LIVE THE RESORT LIFE!** This beautifully appointed 3 Bd., 1.75 Ba. 1660 sq. ft. home is in like new condition. Perfect for a first time buyer or retirement ready. View of the golf course, a block from the lake and all of the BVS amenities.  
.....**\$315,000**



**IT'S COOLER ON THE MOUNTAIN!** Beautifully designed brand new 4 Bd., 2 Ba. 2264 Sq. Ft. split wing home with lrg great room, fireplace in Master, walk in closet, jetted tub, and separate shower. Magnificent kitchen with all the details.  
.....**\$399,900**



**Darlene Carpenter's** x 238 or cell phone (661)972-8077

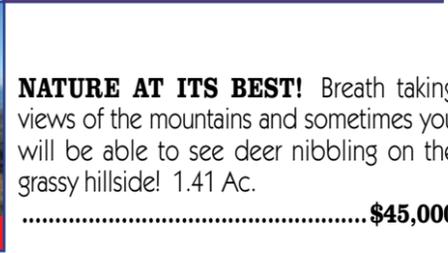
**EXCEPTIONAL DESIGN** and unique touches mark this 3 Bd., 1.75 Ba., in 1224 Sq. Ft. on .33 ac. Hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen w/ silstone counters & garden window. Vaulted cedar ceiling w/ large rock face fireplace. The list goes on!  
.....**\$275,900**



**PEACEFULLY PRIVATE** Yet so close to town! 2.84 Ac of excellent horse or private ranch property with views of mountains all around. Topography is flat with easy access. Property is completely fenced.  
.....**\$175,000**



**NATURE AT ITS BEST!** Breath taking views of the mountains and sometimes you will be able to see deer nibbling on the grassy hillside! 1.41 Ac.  
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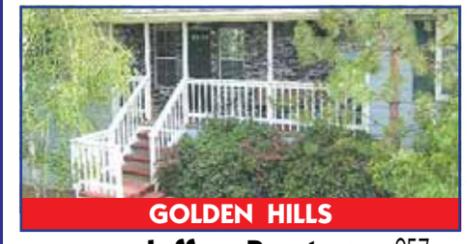
## VALLEY SPRINGS

**BEAR VALLEY BEAUTY** Spacious 4 Bd, 2 Ba. in 1819 Sq. Ft. close to the Golf Course, features lots of built in extras. Hutch, Bay window w/ storage in master, walk in closet w/ modular shelving.  
.....\$325,000



**BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS**

**Anne Mulkins** x246 • cell phone (661)340-2349 • 2006 Top Producing Associate



**GRACIOUS "ESTATE QUALITY" HOME** BVS quality w/ Golden Hills convenience! Comfortably spacious 4 Bd, 2.75 Ba 2990 Sq. Ft. home nestled into and around huge Oak trees. Beautiful interior details and many windows afford an abundance of light throughout. Virtual Tour at [www.realestateshows.com/186263](http://www.realestateshows.com/186263)  
.....\$439,000 or \$147. per Sq. Ft.

**GOLDEN HILLS**

**Jeffery Prestage** x257 • 972-5225 Cell • 2005 Rising Star

**SPLIT LEVEL ON THE 8TH FAIRWAY** fantastic 4 Bd, 2.75 Ba 2350 Sq. Ft home features formal living /dining rooms, granite countertops in the kitchen and beautifully landscaped front and back yards.  
.....\$379,900



**BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS**

**MAKE THIS YOUR SPECIAL HOME** 2788 SF, 2.5 BA, 4 BR plus den (or 5th BR) and built in 2006. Kitchen w/granite counters, island & lots of cupboards. Large master w/oval tub, walk-in closet with windows. Landscaped front & back.  
.....\$399,900

**TEHACHAPI CITY**

**CITY CONVENIENCE, COUNTRY COMFORT** 3 Bd, 1.75 Ba in 1320 well used Sq. Ft set back from the street, features creative kitchen with granite countertops and oak cabinets. Beautiful landscaping in the front and back.  
.....\$224,500



**TEHACHAPI CITY**

**Carol Chase** x222 • cell phone (661)301-3387 • Multi-million \$ Producer



**EXQUISITE EQUESTRIAN SET UP.** Beautiful open floor plan, vaulted ceilings & wonderful fireplace highlight this 3 Bd 1.75 Ba 1832 Sq. Ft. Custom Ranch home. 6 stall show barn, hay storage, workshop & guest quarters on stately oak covered acreage.  
.....\$460,000  
Virtual Tour [www.realestateshows.com/17663](http://www.realestateshows.com/17663)

**BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS**

**Marsha Moore** x229 • cell phone (661)304-3606 • 2005 International Sterling Society

**TUSCAN RESIDENCE** 5 BR, 4 BA, 3475 SF home, on 1 acre. Family, formal living and dining rooms, office/den and guest quarters. 1200 SF enclosed flagstone covered courtyard w/FP and 2 built-in seating hearths.  
.....\$1,075,000



**STALLION SPRINGS**

**Theresa Mann** x230 or cell phone (661) 205-4088



**IMAGINATIVE BUYER** 1715 SF, 2 BR, two .75 and one .5 BA home, on 2.5 oak covered acres. View home has deck, guest house, terraced garden, high output well, barn for horses or workshop and two-hole golf course!  
.....\$479,500

**COUNTY**

**Mary Lou Priest** x268 or cell phone (661) 345-3189

## BEST BUYS

**CAN WE JUST SAY WOW!** Custom built 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2653 SF, split wing design home on 8.75 acres. Dbl oven, island & granite in kitchen, Lrg family and dining rooms for entertaining. Master bdr has dbl sided fp w/ jet tub, walk-in closet. Outstanding views. Priced to sell now!  
.....\$445,450 or \$156. per Sq. Ft.



**BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS**

**GREAT VALLEY FLOOR LOCALE** 5 BR, 2.5 BA, 3750 SF home, on 1.28 acres of horse property, at end of a cul-de-sac. Island kitchen, huge master suite, large laundry/craft room. BIG bedrooms! Not far from gate. Hurry!  
.....\$495,000 or \$132. per Sq. Ft.



**BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS**

**WILDLIFE VIEWING!** Lovely log home in the Alpine Forest area, just minute from town. 2 Bd., 1.75 +.50 Ba and 2191 sq. ft. Spacious open floor plan, WBS in lg room, tiled kitchen w/ lrg walk-in pantry. Decks all around for wildlife viewing, and stargazing.  
.....\$325,000 or \$148. per sq. ft.



**GOLDEN HILLS**

**DOUBLE PLEASURE DBL FUN** 5 BR, 3 BA, 3257 SF home, on .76 acre. 2 kitchens, family areas, heating units, central air & water heaters, septic tanks, washer dryer hookups & 2 patios. Virtual tour @ [www.rtpix.com](http://www.rtpix.com) MLS#9953674.  
.....\$429,900 or \$132. per Sq. Ft.



**GOLDEN HILLS**

**PRIVATE SANCTUARY** This beautifully maintained 3 Bd., 1.75 Ba. 1652 Sq. Ft. home is a retreat from the world. Trees, rocks, water features and sitting areas in the backyard and a spa right outside the Master Bedroom.  
.....\$259,900 or \$157. per Sq. Ft.



**TEHACHAPI CITY**

**NEAR PERFECT!** Beautiful 1 year new 4 Bd., 3 ba. 2536 sq.ft. home is ready and waiting for new owners. 66k in upgrades at original purchase means move in ready! upgraded cabinetry, granite countertops & Fully landscaped yards.  
.....\$369,900 or \$146. per sq. ft..



**GOLDEN HILLS**

**WONDERFUL DETAIL/WOODWORK** 5 BR, 3.5 BA, 3532 SF, 3-story home, on .58 acre. Open kitchen, formal living & dining room & lots of storage. Manicured yard, lavender lined walkway, covered patio, fenced backyard, views.  
.....\$499,950 or \$141. per Sq. Ft.



**GOLDEN HILLS**

**TWO HOMES ON 2+ ACRES** 2 stunning new stick built, ranch style view homes on 2.4 Ac. Main house is appx. 2684 Sq. Ft., "guest house" is appx. 1197 Sq. Ft. Both are completely self sufficient w/ new well, Solar w/ battery back up and wind turbines. Incredible opportunity!  
.....\$550,000



**MOUNTAIN MEADOWS**

**FABULOUSLY PRICED** Under construction new home has 3 BR, 2 BA, 2007 SF and is on .37 acre. Split wing floor plan, 2x6 construction, central air, granite counter tops and tile floors. Large master suite has huge walk-in and bath.  
.....\$270,000 or \$135. per Sq. Ft.



**STALLION SPRINGS**

**FABULOUS PRICE FOR A BRAND NEW HOME** 3 Bd 2 Ba 1989 Sq. Ft. construction. Central air, granite floors. This home should be sold in July, there's still time to choose paint & carpet  
.....\$260,000 or \$131. per Sq. Ft.



**STALLION SPRINGS**

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**TEHACHAPI CITY**

# Faithfully Frugal

By Faith Green

## Books... Books... Books!

Our family loves books! For the frugal-minded, books are an affordable option for entertainment, passing time, and learning how to do things on your own so you can save money in other areas. While books can be expensive, they are also easily obtainable in different forms, at different locations, and

many times at a lower cost. Here are some tips on getting great deals on your books:

- **Go to the Library!** You knew this would be on the list. The local library is an excellent source to read a book for free, for a period of time. The library even has other items available to check out

for free: games, movies, videos, and more. Kern County libraries are part of the San Joaquin Valley Library System, which gives members access to books and media throughout the San Joaquin Valley – from Yosemite and Fresno to Los Banos to Taft to Boron and Rosamond. Most materials can be requested through the library system and delivered to another library in the system that is closer to you. This gives members more options and availability. According to their website, SJVLS “moves over 1 million items per year between member libraries”. If a far-reaching library system weren’t enough, the library also offers “Friends of the Library” sales. These are books that are donated to the library to sell. These sales offer great deals, and helps the library, so keep your eyes peeled!

- **Amazon, Half.com, eBay, and other Online options** – Amazon offers new and used books, as well as, books on Kindle. Many Kindle books are offered at no cost. Kindle books can be used on most iPad’s or tablets. There are also other online options where you can buy, sell, and trade books. Paperbackswap.com is one such site. In addition to saving you money, trading books is also a great way to keep your home

clutter free.

- **Thrift stores and Yard Sales** – While you really have to do some digging, thrift stores and yard sales are a great place to purchase new and used books. I always peruse through books, because you never know what gem you might find. I’ve found everything from do-it-yourself books, novels, biographies, science fiction, thrillers on different subjects, old and new. Many times you can purchase a stack of books for a \$1 bill. Books for school are a little different, especially if you’re going to college. The high cost of textbooks - on top of tuition, parking, transportation, and other fees – can easily drain the checking account, leaving you stressed out. Statistics show that students who pay for school on their own, without any outside financial help, are more likely to drop out. 60% of students worry that they won’t have enough money to finish. Knowing where to purchase textbooks and what to do after you use them can help.

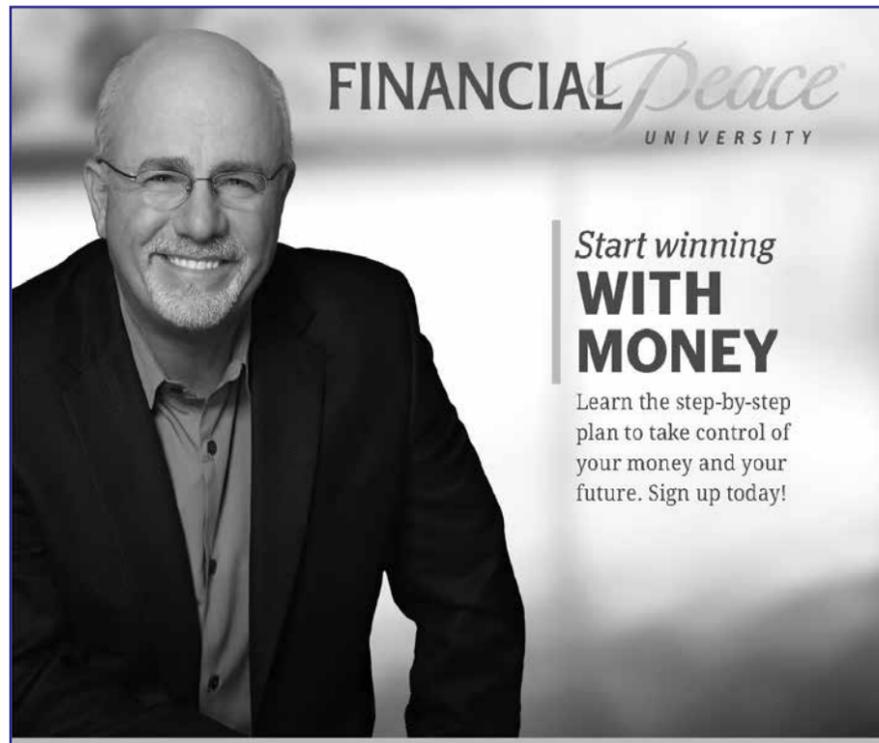
- **Library & Online Sources** - The university or college will have a library where you can check out some books and even request books from other libraries. Some textbooks are also available on Amazon, eBay, and other online sources.

- **Older Books** - Consider purchasing older versions of the same book. Many times, there is very little that has changed from year to year. If you are willing to take a risk, make a friend in class and compare content from time to time just to be sure you don’t miss something important.

- **Share!** If you have a friend taking the same class at a different time, consider sharing the book. Not only will you both save some money, but you’ll have a built in, accountable study partner!

- **Sell!** If you purchase a book, make sure you sell it and get some money back. If you bought it used, many times you can sell it for the same amount you paid for it. If you keep it, you’ll just have an expensive paper weight.

- **Rent** – The jury is still out this one. Some say renting your textbooks is worth the money, others say you pay too much. Just know the option is out there and make sure you weigh the cost. If you decide to rent, make sure you return it. Like most rental options, there’s a hefty fee if you don’t. Rental sources include the university or college bookstore, other well-known bookstores, such as Barnes & Noble, and online sources, including Amazon and Campusbooks.com.



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# Wisecracks: Tidbits to mentally munch on!

By Robin Ray, Leadership Instructor and Writer



## Attitude of Gratitude

We humans have a want... a need... a desire to be appreciated. We will even put up with a bad job or situation sometimes if we are receiving genuine appreciation. Having someone show us gratitude for something we have done, actually feeds a psychological human need.

Gratitude works like a magnet, the more we respond positively and the more we feel appreciated, the more likely we are to repeat our behavior that gave us the warm feeling of gratefulness. It also motivates us to "Pay It Forward," a phrase inspired by the title of a 2000 iconic American film.

With that being said, why do some of us forget to show appreciation? This goes for home life as well as work life. Throughout my research, I found that people who forget or don't show gratitude may have fallen into the self-indulgent feelings of discontent. They feel the sting of disappointment and that infuses their thought process. Sometimes the disappointment is with the

choices made in the past or by circumstances beyond a person's control. While most of us have felt these disappointing moments, a sure cure for those feelings is to find something for which we can be grateful.

We all know we can't control other people, and we certainly cannot control some things that happen in our life. But we can stop and 'smell the roses' or find something to be thankful for. Even in the most dire type of situations, finding something to be grateful for relieves us of the burden to carry on the unhappiness. This is a good thing, even if it is a small amount of relief. This is true



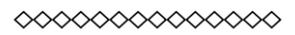
whether it is at home or at work.

In work situations, most people know it is difficult to put up with a horrible boss. They even have a few movies about it. In reading more about happiness in the work place, it looks like people want to work with a company that has similar values as they do. In addition, happy workers have a desire to work in a culture at work that they enjoy being in and feeling appreciated.

Harvard Business Review says 'People leave jobs, and it's up to managers to design jobs that are too good to leave.' This doesn't always equate to more money. I did a

survey of 45 people. I asked them "Would you rather make a little more money or get some genuine appreciation from your boss and/or the people you work with?" Every single one of them said they would rather be genuinely appreciated at work than get a small raise. This is good news!

So, my friends, whether you are at home or at work, you will get more "bees, with the honey of appreciation," so take the time to say "Thank you!" and find a way to show genuine appreciation. Smile often and have a Grateful Day!



Please feel free to share this information. Search for me on Facebook under RobinRayWriter and you can hear some of the stories in audio on YouTube: Robin Ray Writer.

## National Night Out, 2018

By Linda Coverdale

It has become a National Event—a night out for the family in neighborhoods all across the United States. Tehachapi held one in town, and we held one at Cub Lake on August 7th. The turnout was inspiring! Organizers estimated over two hundred in attendance. It is sponsored by the local police department, and a lot of the organizing went to our VIPS—most notably Lorrie Carlyn and with an assist by Patti Stevens.

Nearly twenty different organizations had booths—outfits like RACE, CERT, Have a Heart rescue, K-9 Companions, the Veterans, Red

House BBQ (because people need to eat), our Snake Guys with a live snake, and even the local school district. As well, Cub editor, Faith Green, had a booth with Legend, the Canine Courthouse Dog.

This truly was a family event. DJ Jamie had dance lessons for kids, including the hokey pokey, where they learned what it was all about. A flashback to the 50s included the hula-hoop, and then, more current, a line dance called the Cupid Shuffle.

A craft table was set up with a coloring contest. Local merchants, such as The Hitching Post Theater, gave a \$10 gift card, Darlene's

Swell toys offered a \$10 gift card, and Carlos's Donuts donated a prize of a dozen donuts. The youngsters were divided into three different age groups for the coloring contest. Ten children were in the 4, 5, and 6 age group. Six children entered the 7, 8, and 9 age group, and another six entered the senior group, with kids ages 10, 11, and 12. The winner from each group is honored by their prize-winning effort hanging in the police station lobby for a full year. Drop by and look at them one of these days.

RACE had a dunk tank in which local dignitaries, such as our police chief Tim Melanson, CSD Director

Steve Roberts, interim CSD GM, Jeff Kermode, and BVSA GM Cheramy Krueger all took a turn at the chance to get dunked by some sharpshooters. They said the water was a little chilly! At 8:30 p.m. a movie in the park, Ready Player One, closed off the evening.

A special thank you and kudos for a great job to all responsible for this enjoyable event. It is a terrific opportunity to get out and connect with your friends and neighbors, and to learn more what your community offers.

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By Chief Melanson

## Greetings Bear Valley!

For this CUB article, I'd like to cover a few Public Safety-related topics: mail theft prevention, reporting drunk drivers, and bicycle safety.

### Mail Theft Help

During the month of July 2018, the Bear Valley Police Department received only one report of mail theft. While this is an encouraging statistic, it takes only one thief to send those numbers soaring. There is one way to help protect you from mail theft, and it's free. The United States Postal Service offers a program called Informed Delivery.

Informed Delivery is a service from the USPS that scans the outside of your envelopes, magazines, and larger mail items, and sends you an email each morning which shows you images of your incoming mail before the mail is actually delivered. While you won't be able to see the inside of your mail until it arrives, it can be helpful to know if an important letter is being delivered later today or not.

For Bear Valley, the Informed Delivery program does not yet include packages. Carefully tracking your package through UPS and FedEx can help minimize the opportunity a thief has to steal your package. You can also contact the USPS and schedule the delivery of your package for further convenience.

To sign up for this program, go to <https://informedelivery.usps.com/box/pages/intro/start.action>

All package and mail thefts should be reported to the Bear Valley PD.

### Drunk Driving

The Bear Valley Police department has responded to two incidents during the month of August of vehicle collisions where the drivers of each were ultimately arrested for drunk driving. In both cases, the vehicles left the roadway and crashed.

Community members are urged to call 911 when they see, or are otherwise aware of, a drunk driver on our streets. Signs of an impaired driver include:

- Failure to turn on headlights at

night

- Illegal or sudden turning
- Turning within an unusually wide radius
- Nearly striking other cars or objects
- Sudden or erratic braking
- Drifting, swerving or weaving
- Driving with the face close to the windshield
- Drinking alcohol in the vehicle
- Driving much slower than the posted speed limit
- Rapidly accelerating
- Tailgating
- Driving in the middle of the road, or with the left tires on the center line
- Responding slowly to traffic signals

When calling, be prepared to provide a vehicle description, license plate if possible, location, direction of travel, and what the driver is doing.

### Bicycle Laws

I was asked recently about laws pertaining to bicyclists. The issue

of bicycles in Bear Valley is controversial, but one thing is clear - it is important for all users of the roadway to be aware of basic California laws related to bicyclists. Other laws can be researched in the California Vehicle Code.

- Bicyclists fall under the same obligations of the vehicle code that apply to other motorists. Thus, they have to follow all the traffic rules like any other vehicle.

- A bicyclist must ride in the same direction as traffic, on the right side of the roadway.

- Bicyclists under 18 must wear a helmet.

- Bicyclists are not allowed to cover both of their ears with a headset or to wear ear plugs in both ears, which can prevent them from hearing traffic or police and ambulance sirens

- At night, bicycles must have a front and back light and reflectors.

*As always, be safe.*

## Bear Valley Police Department Volunteers in Police Service

We are currently accepting applications for community minded individuals interested in providing service to the residents of Bear Valley Springs.

**Get involved in Vacation House Patrol Checks. Traffic Control. Patrol Community Events. Work the front Counter. Assist with the Challenge the Bear cycling event**



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**July 2018 Public Safety Staff Report**

**General Department Update**

Staffing for Police Department includes three (3) of the five (5) sworn police officer authorized positions filled, leaving two (2) positions vacant. Full-time officer

staffing continues to be supplemented by one part-time police officer. Interviews to fill the two (2) vacant police officer positions were held in early July. Background investigations have been initiated on two of the applicants. Recruitment for Reserve Police Officer positions is ongoing.

Kern County Sheriff's Information Technology staff installed programming on Bear Valley PD's Mobile Data Computers (MDC's). These devices are currently functional and being used by BVPD officers on patrol. In the coming months, BVPD will move toward maximizing features on the new mobile system for generating crime reports and statistics.

**Significant Crime Information**

There were no significant crime inci-

dents this month.

**Arrests and Other Activity**

There were 618 total incidents handled for the month of July, compared to 706 in June. Staff conducted 241 Senior Welfare Check phone calls during the month of July. Officers conducted 46 traffic stops and wrote 11 citations including six infractions and five misdemeanors.

For the month of July, officers made four misdemeanor arrests and no felony arrests.

There were two reported non-injury traffic collisions for the month, on par with last month with two.

**Volunteer Activities**

There are currently 12 active members in the Bear Valley Volunteers in Police Ser-

vice (VIPS) program. Over the past month, the VIPS donated a total of 132.5 hours of service in July. Their activities included: National Night Out - 4 hours and 3 volunteers; PD Admin Support - 5.5 hours and 1 volunteer; Transportation - 6.5 hours and 1 volunteer; Special Assignment - 1 hour and 1 volunteer; VIPS Monthly Meeting - 7.5 hours and 5 volunteers.

**Community Activities and Special Events:** July 4<sup>th</sup> Events - 64 hours and 9 volunteers; Challenge the Bear Bike Ride - 12 hours and 2 volunteers.

As always, the Police Department is extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication of its Volunteers. They continue to help the department fulfill its mission of serving the Bear Valley community.

**Neighborhood Watch Introduction**

By Linda Coverdale

Over the past few years, a fair amount of interest has been displayed in building a neighborhood watch in our community, especially in view of increasing crime. The Public Safety Committee worked with the BVPD to bring in an introductory speaker, Ashley South from the Crime Prevention Office, to give us some pointers on building a network here.

Some interested citizens attended, and more need to be made aware of this worthwhile program to lessen criminal opportunities on both an individual and neighborhood level. If neighbors work together to keep

an eye on the community, challenge unknowns in the community, and get to know neighbors and their habits, this goes a long way toward reducing and even stopping crime.

A lot of it boils down to personal safety habits. South could not stress enough that we need to lock up, everywhere, at all times. The recent spate of thefts from cars targeted all unlocked cars. Over twenty cars were hit and none of the thefts had to use forced entry. So, lock your car at night. Especially if it is outdoors, but even in the garage, and lock the door to your garage.

Never leave belongings in your

car. Do not leave your car running to "warm up" with the keys in it.

If you are away from home, make your home look occupied. Most criminals do not want to enter an occupied home. Make sure your home is well lit, both interior and exterior. If you are away from home, leave on a loud radio or tv. Use randomized light timers. Ask a neighbor to get your mail or newspaper. Motion lights are valuable. Keep your landscaping maintained so people cannot easily look into your windows or hide.

Neighborhood Watch groups should be small enough that every-

one can see each other's home. It is who you can see, and who can see you.

The event was a great view of the value Neighborhood Watch can bring to our community. In addition, the Bear Valley Police Department issued approximately 100 child identification cards, finger printing each child.

As always, report any and all crimes to law Enforcement. For life or death, call 911, but for non-threatening events, call 661-861-3110 (dispatch). Most importantly, do not put yourself in danger.

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# Groundwater Basins – The Final Chapter

By Norwin Huckabay, BVS Resident

I really didn't expect to write three articles on water, so this is the last one. Let's start off by saying that I am not a water expert, but rather a person that sees what is happening in the community and talks to people who seem to know what is going on. I had a good talk with Mr. Souza, of Souza Family Vineyard, last month. He recently sold his vineyard that he has been running for decades. I asked him how his water situation was at his vineyard, since he probably uses a lot of water to grow all his grapes. He said that there is plenty of water under his property that he is tapped into. Mr. Souza said that under Cummings Valley there is an aquifer that has three underground rivers that run into it. How much water from three rivers flows into the aquifer? Maybe our local Watermaster, Tom Neisler, can answer that for us.

To give you an example of how much water an underground river can generate, let's look at the underground river that supplies water to Scotty's Castle in Death Valley. When I went

on their tour a few years ago, the tour guide said that the underground river generates 10,000 gallons of water an hour and has done so for decades. What I thought was interesting about the Castle, is the huge double pool that Scotty built. He built such a huge pool, because he has plenty of water to fill it with all day long. Unfortunately, Scotty's Castle is closed down until 2019 for repair because of damage caused by a flash flood (too much water at one time).

Okay, now to answer some of Watermaster Tom's statements. I am glad to hear that Bear Valley has six wells in Cummings Valley. If one or all six are tapped into the aquifer, we should be set with all the water we can use for the foreseeable future.

In 1931, C.C.I. was a woman's prison (one yard) and probably had hundreds of women prisoners incarcerated with a support staff to keep them there. C.C.I. has now grown into a huge facility with five yards and the inmate population has hit over 5,000, in some years.

There are also over 1,000 Officers and support staff that work there. The water consumption daily from the 1930s to today is considerably higher.

A couple years back, the State put out a water shortage proclamation and said that everyone needs to conserve water. I am sure that was true in certain parts of the State, but it wasn't true here. Our C.S.D. board here raised our water rates and people in town were being fined for watering on the wrong day or on certain hours. After the water shortage was officially over, rates went back down to where they are today. Our water source didn't suddenly change, but only our bills did. I spoke with many retirees that are just making it here. Raising our water rates when apparently we have plenty of water in the area, I believe, is wrong.

A couple years back a friend of mine in Bear Valley wrote an article of the impending breakdown of some of our infrastructure here.

## Guest Commentary

He said that our water pipes need to be systematically replaced as soon as possible or we will be having massive breaks. This month, I think his forecast came true. We probably have had over a dozen water pipes break and one water pump went berserk, that I have heard of. Thousands of gallons (or more) have been wasted this month.

In an article I read titled, "New California Water Law Restricts How Much Water People Can Use", one expert said that some water districts lose up to 30% of their water from leaky pipes. Unfortunately, I think Bear Valley is one of those districts.

In closing, I want to mention that Jerry Brown signed into law this year a new rule on water consumption for residents in this state that will take effect in 2022. It is a pretty extreme law that I expect will be challenged in court, but that is a story for another time.

# Response to Groundwater Basins – The Final Chapter

By Tom Neisler, BVS Resident

**In an effort to answer to Mr. Huckabay's question in a more timely fashion and, thereby, provide better coverage on this topic, The BV CUB contacted Tom Neisler for a response.**

I would like to thank Ms. Faith Green, publisher of the "Cub" for allowing me to preview and comment on Mr. Norwin Huckabay's commentary that also appears in this issue. My intent is to provide

satisfactory answers to the questions he poses. I do not intend to continue an ongoing debate on Cummings Valley water issues in these pages. The topic of water in California, and the Tehachapi area specifically, is very complex. I encourage anyone who has interest or concerns to make an appointment to meet with me. I'd be happy to answer your questions. I will caution you though, I'm very passionate about these issues and you may wish you could escape before

I'm done explaining!

Regarding Cummings Valley groundwater replenishment: Cummings basin is naturally recharged via several sources. These include some underground transmission through rock fissures in the surrounding mountains. I believe Mr. Huckabay is referring to these fissures as "underground rivers". The main source of recharge is via surface runoff from precipitation that falls in the mountain areas tributary

to the valley and on the valley floor itself. Visualize standing in the middle of a mountain valley (either Cummings or Bear Valley will do for this illustration). As you look around at the mountains surrounding you, think of rain or snow falling on this huge area. While a percentage of the runoff is absorbed into the ground where it falls, most runs off towards the lowest point; where you are standing. The runoff is trapped in the low areas and percolates into the ground. Eventually, it permeates into the groundwater table. TCCWD and our hydrogeologists have scientifically modeled the characteristics of Cummings Basin several times. The latest model was completed in 2015 and is available on our website. It estimates the amount of native groundwater that the basin will annually produce that is available for pumping. It makes for great bedtime reading.

I enjoyed Mr. Huckabay's reminisces about Scotty's Castle. It is an amazing place. I'd like to put his comments about the pool and underground river into manageable terms. It's very common for people to lose perspective when thinking about large volumes of water. An average swimming pool contains about 10,000 gallons of water. Guessing (based on the picture provided and my sketchy memory), let's say that the pool at Scotty's Castle holds 100,000 or even 200,000 gallons of water. A flow rate of 10,000 gallons per hours would equate to 240,000 gallons per day or 87,600,000 gallons per year. You could easily refill the pool every day from the pumped groundwater and not run out. We measure large quantities of water in acre feet (the volume of water required to cover one acre of land, one foot deep). An

See **Response**, page A-15



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# Soil, Sunshine, and Water

By Jim Nelson

The gardeners in this community rely on good soil, plenty of sun light, and water, but without the water everything else in moot. Thanks to the availability of water from the state water project through the Tehachapi Cummings Water District, we have a reliable source of water. What we lack is a reliable water delivery system. For years the water delivered to our properties has been a bargain, but this is about to change and here are some of the reasons why.

Like most communities in this country, this community is aging and not aging well. For whatever reason past CSD Boards have failed to establish reserves for asset replacement, as a result we have little money to fix the crumbling roads and a failing water system. We can get by regardless of the condition of the roads, but we must have a reliable water source and delivery system. I will, therefore, address water.

When Dart Industries started this development, they needed approval from the County and LAFCO. They agreed to establish and be responsible for the roads, police, sewer, and

water. As a result, they cut corners on the roads (inadequate road base) and water system (substandard materials and installation), which has caused premature failures to both. We have 110 miles of water mains, about 20 active water wells, 43 storage tanks (4.57m gal total), and a like number of pumps, all of which are beyond their life span. Our 3400 lots each has a lateral to supply water. These laterals are the main source of the failures. On any given day, the water department has about 16 leaks they need to fix, so they triage and get the worst first. Add that to rising treatment costs (even potable water need chlorination), a very complicated system of pumps and tanks to get water to the upper elevations (which may need to be reengineered), increasing energy costs, environmental regulations (reduced amount of nuclides, arsenic and nitrates allowed), and you have the need for a dramatic rate increase.

Our water is a bargain. Even with the additional cost of importing about 60% of our water from the Cummings Valley, we pay \$2.44 per

unit for the first 10 (unit is HCF or 748 gal) and as much as \$10.50 for each unit over 80. The first 10 units cost \$0.003/gal. By comparison, Golden Hills just approved a water rate increase to \$27.00/unit. We bill 2937 meters per month. Each billed property pays a \$25.33 base charge, plus water usage.

There currently is a study underway to determine the current condition of the water infrastructure and the estimated cost to fix or replace. Off the cuff estimates are a \$60 million bond issue. We do not need this study to increase the water rates. The CSD has all the data necessary to compute what is necessary to keep the water system functional, while building a reserve to handle emergencies and disasters. By law, the water department cannot operate at a profit nor can they operate at a loss, but for the last several years that is exactly what has happened. Any reserves that had existed are gone to balance the new 2018/19 budget. There has not been a rate increase since 2011, so this situation is no surprise to management and board, but for some reason they have

# Guest Commentary

failed to act. Asking for more money is never pleasant, especially after getting slapped down on the police tax and locking mailboxes, but this is vitally necessary. Because there has been such a lag since the last rate increase, a very substantial increase is now required. We are a month into the new budget and it takes time to pass an increase. The amount must be computed, then put on the agenda, a public hearing held, and a written protest period allowed, all taking time. Then if finally approved, it will be a couple more months before any money is realized in the water fund. It was pointed out in a previous article that time is not our friend and when lost is gone forever. I asked about this situation at the first August regular board meeting and the answer I received was an admission that regular increases should have been imposed over the last several years, but was not and that we need to move on from here. They gave no indication when that move would start.

## Response *continued from page A-14*

acre foot contains 325,851 gallons. Given the above, Old Scotty's river produced approx. 269 acre feet of water per year. For perspective, Cummings basin is established in the adjudication to naturally recharge at the rate of 4,090 acre feet per year. TCCWD and our hydrogeologist believe that this amount is too high and are working to adjust it lower, but you can see that the scope of the issue is much greater than filling a pool.

BVCSD operating six wells in Cummings Valley is not a sign of plenty of water, in fact; it's just the opposite. The water table is lowering based on our well soundings, and more wells are required to meet Bear Valley's needs. TCCWD is tasked with ensuring that the basin remains sustainable. While we are working to provide enough water to meet every customer's needs, we are far from "set with all the water we can use for the foreseeable future."

CCI has done a remarkable job of updating their infrastructure and conserving water. Their use has decreased in the last five years from approx. 1,100 AFY to approx.

700 AFY. While I agree that use is higher than it was in the 1930's, it is less than it was more recently due to conservation measures implemented by CCI.

The water shortage mentioned is not officially over, it will never be over. The entire state of California, south of the Bay Delta area uses much more water than it produces. Most of the water used in southern California is imported from the north part of the state or from the Colorado River. We need to adopt new methods for water use and conservation, permanently. Again, we do not and will not have plenty of water. In greater Tehachapi, we import approximately one-half of the water we use. This means that we pump water that has travelled 400 miles from Lake Oroville and then pump it up the side of a mountain (3,500 vertical feet). The cost of this effort is great. The natural gas bill alone exceeds \$1,600,000 annually. The imported supply is uncertain, subject to natural disasters and ever-tightening environmental regulations. We must all work together to preserve this most precious resource.

As a 24-year resident of BVS, I'm as concerned as anyone about the state of our infrastructure. The BVCSD Board and management are working diligently on a plan to resolve these important concerns. However, Mr. Huckabay's speculation about the loss rate in the system is incorrect. The state requires public water systems to calculate and report water loss rates annually. The AWWA target is < 10% losses are acceptable. Of course, less is better; but BVCSD is nowhere close to 30%.

Lastly, we closely and continuously monitor developments in water regulations. We have a group of local water managers that meets regularly to discuss developments. The new regulations that Governor Brown signed contain little to no enforcement capability and have yet to be clearly defined. Additionally, they only address interior water use, which averages around 10% of total water use for a residential customer.

I appreciate the opportunity to clarify some of these issues. I warned you, I can go on forever on this stuff! Again, Team TCCWD is eager to answer any questions you may have. Our contact information is on our website. Thank you for your time.

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