Mass Casualties: Just a Drill
By Stephanie Ruff

Downieville Senior Jacs Jacona, who is active in both the Downieville and C’ville VFD, spent a lot of time preparing for her senior project. Mentored by Char Sanders (EMT for C’ville), Jacie Epperson (EMS Supervisor for Western Sierra), and Mark Jokerst (C’ville Fire Chief), Jacs organized a Mass Casualty Drill to test Western Sierra County’s response to a Mass Casualty Incident. In other words, a test of our local emergency crews in the event of a crisis involving many people. The drill took place at Convict Flat on April 30th. The scenario was a school bus accident caused by the “simulated” heart attack of the bus driver, Tessa Jordan. Local Downieville students realistically portrayed the accident victims. VFDs from Sierra City, Camptonville, Downieville, NSJ, Pike, Allegany and the U.S. Forest Service were involved in the drill along with the CHP. The goal was to find the victims scattered about a wide area, assess them and take action within the so-called “Golden Hour”, when prompt medical treatment may most likely prevent death—the core principle of rapid intervention in trauma cases. Victims in the most serious condition were to be transported first. After the drill was completed, the crews enjoyed a BBQ lunch back at Convict Flat. More photos on page 9.

VFD Pig Roast

Get Ready for the Camptonville VFD Pig Roast! Mark your calendars!! Don’t miss this benefit for our fabulous fire department. June 11, 2011 from 4pm to 9:30pm. See the enclosed flyer for more exciting details!

Thank You!
The Courier Staff would like to thank Birdsong Sundstrom and Janie Kesselman for all their hard work proofing and handling advertising for the past several years. Your dedication was much appreciated.

We’d like to welcome Yakshi and Diane Winslow on board who will be filling these positions.
Twilight School With a Twist!
By Barbara Mueller Hogan

Twilight school has been enjoying some fine spring weather with games outside on the playground. May saw our Country Potluck, Pie Auction and Dance lightly attended, but we raised $300.00 toward our Summer Rec. Swim Days Program. We will offer a day each of the last two weeks of June and the first two weeks of July, dates and time to be announced. Thank you to all who cooked pies, including the kids who attended Patsy Prout’s “Teach Kids to Cook” class, and, of course, to all who came and very generously bought those homemade pies.

A big thank you also goes out to Lucille who offered 2 beginning yoga classes at our Thursday night Twilight School with a Twist. (Lucille also offers a weekly Tuesday evening class at the school (you may call her at 798 6778 for more details).

During May we also held a Garden Forum with Jessie Mullins of Rebel Ridge Organics, Jimbo Garrison of Camptonville Gardeners Market, and Jeff and Christina Ledson of the Ledson Family Farm, a local CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). We had a great turn out and shared many gardening tips such as: how to rid your garden of earwigs using diatomaceous earth or using New Dr. Early to help with peach tree leaf curl.

On June 23rd California Rural Legal will give us a Free Debt Consolidation class as part of our Health Educator series of Twilight School with a Twist.

Remember each Thursday evening 6:00-7:30 we offer games on the playground, tennis courts are available, walk the track or play basketball! Come join us for the fun.

BBQ Picnic Open House

Western Sierra Medical Center is having a BBQ Picnic Open House at the Downieville location June 2 from 4:30-6pm, and all are invited.

It’s Here...........
By Paula Goodman & Judy Morris

Nevada County’s 12th Annual Relay For Life event. Need plans for this weekend—June 4th & 5th?? Come join Camptonville Buddies and 33 other community teams Sat. & Sun. at Nevada County Fairgrounds. Participants will walk or jog around the track for 24hrs Fighting Back against cancer. This event is FREE and is a celebration of life. You’ll also be able to obtain information on the programs that the American Cancer Society provides to cancer patients & their families at no charge. It’s 24 hrs. of FUN, entertainment with various raffle opportunities and great food & drink. Join the Camptonville Buddies local team or stop by June 4th to help us celebrate cancer survivors and remember those loved ones we have lost to this disease. Log onto www.relayforlife.org/nevadacountyca. Scroll down the right side, click on View All Teams, click on Camptonville Buddies, and then join the team or donate to help find a cure. Call Judy or Paula at 288-1228 or email owlsneagles@inreach.com for more information. Look forward to seeing you June 4th.

Remember there is no finish line until we find a cure! Relay on……………….
Learning - Your Way
By Kathy Kunde and Richard Dickard

Does your family want a better way to educate your family at home? Do you want to save money by not driving out of Camptonville for independent schooling? Do you need to make academic progress toward graduation here in Camptonville?

Our Camptonville Elementary School together with our charter school, The Camptonville Academy (TCA), is pleased to announce a new educational choice for the 2011-2012 school year. The two schools have worked together to offer what they feel will provide a better way to accomplish your family’s educational needs.

Who is The Camptonville Academy? TCA is a public, fully accredited charter school hosted by the Camptonville Elementary School District. TCA offers Independent Study with an emphasis on personalized learning. Credentialed teachers partner with parents and students, K-12, to design a custom learning program for each student according to his or her specific strengths and needs. This design might include a mix of online and text based curriculum, enrichment activities, community instruction, tutoring, field trips and ready resources to make learning meaningful for each student.

Throughout the year, a Personalized Learning Teacher from TCA meets with students and parents at the Camptonville Elementary School campus to plan, strategize, monitor, and provide support. In between meetings, learning is accomplished right at home with an attending parent who supervises and provides daily instruction. A “home school” affords opportunities for parents to learn alongside their children, time and freedom to explore student interests, skills, and talents, and possibilities for high school students to become involved in internships, which can foster post-secondary vocations as well as earn credits toward a diploma. These are just a few of the benefits to “learning your way”.

You can explore what TCA offers at their website: http://www.coretca.org/
What's 'Growing' On Here
By The Ledson Family

Hello, my name is Jeff Ledson. My wife, Christina & I are somewhat new to the Camptonville area. We've been here for a few years now, settling into this great community slowly. We've met some wonderful people here & feel special that we've found our new hometown & a place to raise our 9-year-old, mandolin-strumming son, Kyle.

Our family has been enjoying the process of growing food in the summer months here & has been building a new CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Farm, which was introduced last season. Our farm, the Ledson Family CSA Farm, had over 20 families as members in 2010, and we all--farmers & consumers--enjoyed the process immensely.

We grow a variety of vegetables from tomatoes to peppers, melons to squash, lettuce to beans to cucumbers to berries. Everything tastes levels above what we find in the grocery stores since, as we know, their produce is grown for transport & shelf-life. Last fall, we were lucky enough to time the purchase of our new property along highway 49, which is where we are now busy relocating & rebuilding the CSA Farm. All those raised garden beds you can see from the road have been one of many projects we've been working on.

A CSA works by selling seasonal memberships at the beginning of the year to cover farm costs. What our members get in return is a weekly share of the garden harvests for the entire season. We all share the risks together and we all reap the benefits of a plentiful harvest. Supporting a local CSA keeps your economy local. It reduces impact on the planet while providing ultra fresh produce from farmers who are accountable—not anonymous. We were surprised to hear that the "SafeWay Local Farmers" section covers the 7 western states! We don't feel that is truly local, how about you? Do you know your farmers? You should.

Getting involved with a CSA breeds an intensely positive vibe between farmer & consumer, garden beds & dinner tables. We LOVE working in the dirt & our family feels that wealth is not measured in paper money but rather happiness, health & positivity. The world could all use more of that these days. Our goals for establishing the CSA Farm is to help keep small towns small while building stronger community, friendships and family; to encourage local sustainability; to offer safe, healthy, fresh local produce to our neighbors, and to bring a local food source to the community.

Our dream of running an Earth-friendly micro-farm is slowing coming true. We want to stay small, allowing us to give each plant daily hands-on love and to know all our members on a personal level. The more locally grown produce, the better. It just helps keep our small town sustainable & diverse. Hopefully our farm will help bring some backyard homegrown food to your dinner table this summer. Like last year, we will grow extra shares so we can participate in the Camptonville Gardners’ Market this summer, so look us up there or consider giving the CSA a shot this season. We look forward to a weekly pickup day at the farm for local member's shares—it's a great way to keep up with the news & updates on the farm, chat about the garden, and to help "grow" this community.

If you see us working away, you are welcomed to stop by and say hello. Meet your local farmers. Check out the farm. Consider joining our CSA. A community farm needs community support to operate. Our memberships are limited so don't wait too long. We have been spending our entire life savings on building this dream & hope we can gain the trust, support & love from our local community here in Camptonville. We hope we can carry last year's positive momentum into the 2011 summer harvest season. If you'd like more information on our farm or how a CSA works, head over to our website at www.soilstock.com. Have a farm-fresh week!

LOST NUGGET MARKET
Gas, Bait, Videos & more
Cold Beer!
16448 Highway 49
Camptonville, CA 95922
288-3339
Jesse’s Garden
By Jesse Mullins

THANK YOU to everyone who came out to the plant sale and flea market on their Sunday morning. It sure was a great success, and we at Rebel Ridge Organics certainly appreciate all the support and business. We had our best year yet. Jeanne Black and I begin the process of the veggie starts early in February; we work everyday up in the greenhouse from that initial seed sowing all the way until the big plant sale day. We love every minute of it, but it is a lot of work. But, when the community comes out all on the same day to buy for their gardens and mingle with one another all that work suddenly becomes more rewarding than ever, and Jeanne and I realize every year why we love to do this. What a privilege to provide the community with our locally grown starts for their gardens. So, thank you to everyone for all their support and their patience waiting for that special day.

Well, hopefully all your gardens made it through the cold nights; there may even be a few more coming. It sure feels like winter does not want to come to an end this year. Always be prepared for cold nights with some Ag cloth on hand. This lightweight Ag cloth row cover, also known as harvest guard material, has saved my plants multiple times. Rebel Ridge Organics has all different sizes available, for not a huge cost, and this stuff will last year after year.

Continued on page 6.

A Thank You Note to C’ville:
By Sandra Manning

A huge thank you to our Camptonville friends and neighbors for helping make Limberlost Iris Farm’s first open house such a success last month. The day was sunny and beautiful. Over ninety guests wandered through the gardens, watched intently as Robin Ecklund demonstrated her hybridizing techniques, shared a light luncheon, and hauled home over one hundred iris to Camptonville gardens. Next spring much of the town will sport a rainbow of colorful blooms. We’re all looking forward to next year’s event when we plan to expand the gardens and add a gazebo—we hope you’ll join us again.
Jessi’s Garden continued from page 5

It simply lies over your plants and gives them just a little protective layer like a lightweight blanket you would use to keep the chill off of you. It is great stuff; we actually use it up at the transition greenhouse to slowly transition all of the veggie starts out of the hot, propagation house into the open house. **We have a sale on the harvest guard cloth right now, 20% off any size.**

After your vegetable gardens are in, a great project for June is to get them set up on an automated irrigation system. Gardens that get the same amount of water, at the same time every day seem to be so much more productive than a garden going through wet and dry cycles of inconsistent watering. This is what I have experienced, having had to hand water some years verses the years we’ve had our drip system in. Our irrigated gardens always produce so much more. An irrigation system might seem overwhelming, expensive or difficult, but it just takes some time and maybe a little guidance to get you started. After that initial start, it’s pretty easy. **Continued on page 7**

No-Cost Chipper Service For Fire Hazard Reduction

1. Call our “Free Chipping” hotline @ 713-7515.
2. The chipper program operates all summer and fall.
3. Please stack brush and limbs for the chipper, so that they are close to the driveway, with ends facing toward the chipper.
4. Chipped material will be broadcast back onto your property.
5. State law and your insurance company require that you to remove dense brush within 100 feet of your home.
6. Your local fire districts provides free chipping through grant funds.

Free Chipping

713-7515

For more information on what you can do to increase your chances of surviving a wildfire, please visit Yuba FireSafe’s website @ www.co.yuba.ca.us/firesafe

Learn To Save a Life…
Possibly your own

Spend an evening meeting with personnel from American Red Cross, U.S. Forest Service, PG&E, CVFD and Yuba County Office of Emergency Services to learn and understand the steps we all can take during emergencies to help one another and ourselves. Join us **Wed. June 1st** at 6pm at the Mason’s Lodge, Cleveland Ave. Camptonville. This meeting is to let these agencies, (representatives of these agencies) know that Camptonville Residents are here and we want to help… tell us how & we’ll do it as a Community.

**Goal of meeting is:**
To help improve communications between residents & agencies responsible for providing service to our community.

**Issues to be discussed:**
* Assisting us in developing and updating a Community Directory for Emergencies with LOCAL #’s, and identifying current evacuation centers.
* Assuring more accurate information being given out when outages occur.
* Assisting elderly, disabled residents and pets during evacuations
* Learning how Homeland Securities monies are distributed----evacuation centers & resources for them.

**Snacks Provided by Pelton Café**
See you **Wed. June 1st 6pm Mason’s Lodge**. For more info: Call Judy 288-1228 or Diane 288-3410

Love is to the heart what the summer is to the farmer’s year - it brings to harvest all the loveliest flowers of the soul. ~Author Unknown
Jessi’s Garden Continued from page 6

There are a few key things to consider before you get started. One, does your water have heavy sediment in it or not? And two, how is your water pressure? These two things will help decide which form of irrigation material to use. There are soaker hoses, which do not work well with heavy sediment. There are ½” poly pipe systems with emitters; these need a good amount of pressure to operate properly. There is also T-tape, which performs great on level ground in a garden that has uniform row crops.

I am more than happy with helping anyone who needs some guidance with where and how to start. Simply bring in a small hand-drawn plot of your garden space and I can help you get started with your system. Just think, all that time you spend hand watering, you could spend pulling weeds, training plants up your trellises, walking around looking for pests, mulching your unplanted areas, and much more.

Drip systems also conserve water. The water is concentrated on each individual plant or garden bed and is only running, depending on your pressure for maybe 30 minutes each morning. You prevent evaporation of the water if you set it to run early morning. There is not much run off, due to it dripping or spraying right at the root zones of the plants. You will notice not as many weeds throughout your garden, because not every area it getting water. Come in with a plot of your garden, let me help you design your system and receive 20% off your irrigation purchase. It will be fun!

Our first batch of compost tea will be available Friday, June 17th. Call for more details, 288-3222. Happy gardening and enjoy yourselves, it was a pleasure providing you all with your organic vegetable starts. We have lots more.

Good for the environment, and great for your health – garden organic!
Cross word puzzle by Jimbo Garrison. Answer Key in next month’s Courier!
Mass Casualty Drill Photos

Jacs Jacona
Yuba River Ranger District
By Annie Prout-Garcia

Bullards Bar Campgrounds are open; however, most of the campgrounds along Highway 20 are still closed. For up-to-date information on the status of the snow trail system feel free to call the ranger station, (530) 478-6253.

Fuel wood season has begun this year. The price remains the same as last year: $10 per cord with a minimum of three cords.

Fishing season is open! Brochures are available at the ranger station.

Burn permits are still not needed at this time, but will be required as of May 1st this year. You do still need to check with the Department of Air Quality for burn day status. During business hours, you can call the North Yuba River Ranger Station for burn status information. After hours or on weekends please call the appropriate county:

- Sierra County 289-3662
- Nevada County 274-7928
- Yuba County east of Bullards Bar (Camptonville) 289-3662 or 274-7928
- Yuba County west of Bullards Bar 741-6299

As of May 19th, 2011, the Yuba River Ranger Station has received 75.43 inches of rain. Last year at this time we were only at 50.83 inches.

OCTOBERGANZA!

The Parent Club for Camptonville Elementary is gearing up to hold its first annual October celebration. The main events will include a Chili cook off, Pumpkin sale, Big Max growing competition, gently used children’s costume sale, silent auction, craft booths, entertainment for the kids, food, libations, and live music. This event will be held on October 8th, 2011 at the Rebel Ridge Nursery. Many of these events require some forethought. Backyard gardeners who would like to help us grow pumpkins for the sale, sign-ups to enter the Big Max pumpkin growing contest, and donations for the costume sale are all needed. The entry fee for the Big Max Contest is $5.00, and you will be provided with 5 seeds. All the seeds are from the same stock to keep things fair and competitive. We will be measuring over all circumferences to determine the winner. To enter, ask questions or to make donations please contact Christina 288-3655 or Candace 210-1251.

Carol, Lisa and Alan are returning!

So far, we have really enjoyed our new life. Yes, it's cramped, and there is no privacy to speak of, but the sights we have seen WAY outweigh the inconveniences! We started out in Arizona to pick up our coach, came back to CVille for a few short (way too short) days. We had to get out of there before the snow flew (yet again, I hear) From there, we started the trek to South Dakota to get our driver's licenses. Our trip took us up thru Oregon and Washington, where we hung a right going thru Montana and Wyoming and down to South Dakota. Alan has been doing the arrangements, but the last I heard, we should be in CVille somewhere around mid June. I am very much looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible! We will stay at least a week to take care of dental cleanings and doc appointments. I think we will be staying in the RV/ Mobile Home Park across from the old Rebel Ridge for at least a week or 10 days. Come and see us! You can't miss a 40-foot, green coach and Alan's blue truck! 'Til then, my wonderful friends, be well....and for Pete's sake...get rid of that snow and rain!!!! ;0)
Chicken Chronicles
By Stephanie Ruff

Well, things have been pretty busy around here. Can you believe I still haven’t done my major spring-cleaning on my coops yet? Every time I plan on doing it, it rains or snows! I think the girls are ready for some sun.

We had another visit from the bear the other night. The bear, which we named “Tucky” tried to open the main door--evident from the dirty paw marks and chewed corners. The door I always thought to be kind of flimsy remained locked--whew! Seems like Tucky then ventured over the fence (really mangling it this time) to find another way into the hen house. Of course, we forgot to shut the pop hole that night and Tucky tore the darn thing right off. Tucky smashed down the ramp into the hen house, reached inside and tore out the roost as well as some of the linoleum flooring. Can you believe all eight bantams and the chicken food were still there in the morning? Tucky was most likely after the chicken food--yes, we forgot to bring in the food that night, as well. Seems like when things go well, it’s easy to slack off a bit, then you get a nice reminder lesson like this one. We were fortunate that the coop wasn’t destroyed.

As many of you readers know, we got rid of all our roosters. Except for one. He’s a handsome guy named Gimpy. Gimpy is a cripple. He can barely walk. But seems to manage quite well- he’s able to access food and water and get himself in and out of the hen house. Most folks would have culled him, but I just couldn’t bring myself to do it. He doesn’t appear to be suffering, and when some of the hens were chicks he’d get close, sit and just watch them. He’s very Zen-like and has a nice a crow. He never bothers the girls, and he doesn’t try to attack us--so he is allowed to stay.

Being that it is spring, several of the bantams have gone broody and are sitting on eggs that will never hatch. A funny thing (he didn’t think it was so funny) happened the other day when hubby was making himself a nice banty egg breakfast. After cracking the eggs into the frying pan, I hear from the other room a loud yell of disgust and see him walk outside. Wondering what the heck was going on, I look into the pan and to my horror I see a half formed chick--beak, feet and all. Not a pretty site. I even took a picture—but I thought I’d spare you the gory vision so you can still eat your eggs in peace. Needless to say, the dog gets to eat the bantam eggs these days.

Did you know that crows like eggs? Liam had just gathered eggs and set them down for a bit when much to our surprise a crow swooped down and grabbed one and flew off with it!!! That crow had better luck than the bear!

Courier Classifieds


Searching for a local piano teacher for a Pike City family. We have two children (ages 5 and 7) and possibly one parent (intermediate level). Price is negotiable as is location (your house or ours in Pike City). If you are interested, please call Regine at 288-1663.

Courier Deadline: June 20th. Send inquiries to camptonvillecourier@yahoo.com or PO Box 32 Camptonville, Ca. 95922
June Calendar:

**Save a life**                                    Wed. June 1\(^{st}\), 6:00pm, Masons Lodge, C’ville
**BBQ Picnic Open House**                         Thurs. June 2\(^{nd}\), 4:30-6:00pm, West. Sierra Med. Center, Downieville
**Relay for Life**                                Sat.& Sun. June 4\(^{th}\)-5\(^{th}\), Nevada County Fairgrounds
**VFD Pig Roast**                                 Sat. June 11\(^{th}\), 4:00pm-9:30pm, Lost Nugget
**School Board**                                  Mon. June 13\(^{th}\) (2nd Monday) 6:30pm, C’ville. School Library
**CCSD**                                          Mon. June 20 (3rd Monday) 7:00 pm, C’ville School
**Twilight School**                               Thursdays in June 6-7:30pm, C’ville School Gym
**Courier Deadline**                             Monday, June 20\(^{th}\)
**Yoga**                                          Tuesdays at 5:30 PM, C’ville School
**Food Bank**                                     Third Thursday at the Lake Francis Grange, Dobbins

Published by the Newsletter Committee of the CCSD Auxiliary.
Editors: Stephanie & Roy Ruff 288-3512
Staff: Rod Bondurant & Rochelle Bell
Advertising: Diane Winslow 288-3290
Proofreading: Yakshi
Subscriptions: Diane Winslow 288-3290
PO Box 32 Camptonville, CA 95922 or email:
camptonvillecourier@yahoo.com

*The Courier* online, including back issues:
www.camptonvillle.com/the_courier.html