

# CVPA NEWS

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P.O. Box 1020, Tehachapi, CA 93581 (661)822-3478

No. 44 March, 2002

## SUPERVISOR CANDIDATE FORUM HUGE SUCCESS

The candidates forum sponsored jointly by CVPA and AAUW on February 7 drew a crowd of approximately 130 interested persons. Second Supervisorial District candidates Mac Askari, Mary Beth Garrison, Bernita Jenkins, Don Maben and Linda White were on stage in the new Cummings Valley School multi-purpose room to answer questions and tell why they were most qualified to be our next supervisor. There were few real differences in the candidates' responses to questions except for variations in approach to reaching the goals which, with a couple of exceptions, were generally agreed on. However, the forum provided the opportunity to see differences in personality, style and their understanding of the realities of County government.

The forum, which was expertly moderated by The League of Women Voters, was acknowledged by the candidates to be the best such event they had attended anywhere in Kern County. Our thanks go to Irma Carson and Lois Watson of the League for their help in making this event a success. We give a big thanks to Bugs Fontaine who did the over-all organization and to AAUW President, Kathi Hinkle for their contribution including great refreshments.

As we now know, Don Maben and Linda White will be in a run off election in November. Our District Supervisor is the person most important in addressing local issues important to the County in general and our Tehachapi area in particular. We all need to keep a close watch on the two candidates' campaigns between now and November. CM

### APRIL 4 MEETING

The upcoming meeting for Thursday, **April 4** will feature a presentation by Bill Hample of the Kern County Historical Society on "**The Baby Aircraft Carriers of WW II.**" This should be of particular interest to those of us old enough to remember the war or to have served in it, but will have some interesting little known stories for all ages.

Bill Hample is a Kern County historian of note, having authored a book entitled "*Historical Site Markers - Kern County*". Bill made a presentation to CVPA several years ago which some will fondly remember.

### TRASH PICKUP

It will soon be that time of year again, and Carol Wein has again graciously consented to organize a roadside trash removal effort on Saturday, **May 18**. Members of the faithful core group will be called with particulars, but we desperately need some new helpers in order to cover all the roadsides in the two or three hours allotted. New volunteers please call Carol at 822-3155 or Chuck at 822-3478 to offer your help and get details. Remember, the work ends at noon with a picnic of Subway sandwiches, drinks and desserts.

*HELP KEEP OUR BEAUTIFUL VALLEY BEAUTIFUL!*

# CUMMINGS VALLEY WATER

By the time this newsletter is received work should be underway on a new pipeline system to distribute State Project non-potable water to farming operations in northeast Cummings Valley. The goal is to preserve potable ground water for domestic use by Bear Valley Springs, CCI and any other domestic users in this part of the Valley. Co-operators in the project are Tehachapi Cummings County Water District, Bear Valley CSD, CCI, Tehachapi Turf, Grimmway Farms and Pacific Sod.

Planning and supervision of the pipeline installation will be by TCCWD. This is a major project with a 21 inch buried line from the main State Project line in central Cummings Valley along the western boundary of CCI property to Giraud and Bailey. The line will drop to 18 inch where it crosses to the west side of Bailey ( to avoid the fiberoptic cable on the east side ), and will continue to Cummings

Valley Road where it will turn easterly to Tehachapi Turf. A 12 inch line will be installed along the northern dirt extension of Bailey up to the BVS tank and pump station for future non-potable uses in Bear Valley.

In what might seem to be a conflict with the project, CCI plans to drill two new wells along the north boundary of its property. These wells will be to fulfill potable water needs of the prison, and in order to protect its aquifer supply CCI will contribute to the cost of supplying State Project water for farming.

This appears to be a beneficial project that will help to allay concerns about over drafting of this part of the Cummings Water Basin.

The earthen reservoir recently constructed on the east side of Bailey near the CCI boundary is for tail water recovery from the organic vegetable fields, and is not part of the new distribution system. CM

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## JUNE 6 MEETING

Addressing a topic close to home and close to our hearts, Jeff Huckaby, Farming Manager for Grimmway Farms, will make a slide illustrated presentation on the organic vegetable farming in Cummings Valley. Jeff will discuss and answer questions on such issues as water usage, dust control and what it is we occasionally see them spraying. Of special interest will be his discussion of what vegetables, what it takes to grow them and where they go to market.

This is also our Annual Meeting where a slate of nominees is presented and voted on.

## ANNUAL FALL BARBEQUE

Mark **September 21** on your calendar for our yearly barbeque which will again be hosted by Bob and Patty Souza at their beautiful ranch in north Cummings Valley. More details will be

announced in a subsequent newsletter.

## BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In years past we had a Board Advisory Committee of up to a half dozen members that attended Board meetings to offer a wider range of views and ideas for consideration. It was a good thing, and your present Board would like to reactivate the committee. Any member who would like to be involved please call Chuck at 822-3478 or Jo Anne at 822-6589.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee consisting of Chuck McCollough, Ben Bennett and Al Sanbrano is seeking nominations for officers for the July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003 year. Call Chuck at 822-3478, Ben at 821-5080 or Al at 822-3881.

## TRAIL TALES

As our lead story of last issue questioned "CUMMINGS VALLEY DUST STORMS CONTROLLED?", the answer was not too long in coming. The forceful east winds of several weeks ago revealed just how clever they are simply biding their time until the farmer must plow the cover under and fertilize to prepare for the next crop. I wondered if the precursor to the event was not that big red breasted, loudly singing robin who proudly appears at my back window early every spring just before the blow. He then apparently vanishes with all his kin, not to be seen again by me until next year just before the big east wind blow. I can understand that since his favorite food, as I recall as a child in Illinois, was earthworms, something we have precious few of in this currently arid clime.

But, not always, here, has that been so. Have you heard the story of the worm invasion through this area sometime last century, I believe. Evidence of the invasion can be seen at some excavation sites for new construction deep footings and septic tanks which lie in the path (on the trail) of the invasion. The worm tunnels are about 1/4 inch in diameter and may have a concentration as great as 200-500 tunnels per square foot of cross section. The

construction site I visited about 15 years ago was perhaps 1800 feet north of Highline Road and west of Tucker Road. The tunnels, although rather winding, had a generally east-west direction (possibly indicating the trail) and could be seen as deep in the soil as the bottom of a septic tank excavation. One can assume they went even deeper. The concentration was not at all uniform of course, and there were tunnels to be seen even just 6 inches below the soil surface. I recall in 1974 having been warned by a contractor when we were lot searching for our "retirement" homesite that the worm invasion had made good soil compaction very difficult in some areas of Stallion Springs. He recommended concrete slabs a minimum of 6 inches thick with lots of steel in those worm invasion areas.

Now that I think of it, perhaps the hungry Robin appears when the farmer plows the field, thereby exposing earthworms for his feasting. The quiet east wind, which is always waiting for the bare field, then powers up and I mistakenly relate the appearance of the robin to the violent east wind instead of the plowing of the fields. That does not explain why the robin vanishes from my viewing for the rest of the year, however.

JM

### Cummings Valley Protective Association Membership Application - - July 1 through June 30

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(If not same as local)

Check Appropriate Area

- |  |  |                                       |   |                                |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alpine Forest Park  | <input type="checkbox"/> Country Oaks    | <input type="checkbox"/> Hidden Oaks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sand Canyon      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bear Valley Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> Cummings Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Hills | <input type="checkbox"/> Stallion Springs |                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brite Valley        | <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Hills    | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Town     | <input type="checkbox"/> TEHACHAPI        |                                |

e-mail addr: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$12 per Family per year

\$12  One Year    \$24  Two Years    \$36  Three Years

Mail with your check to:

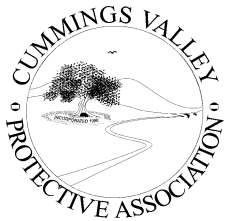
**Cummings Valley Protective Association**  
P.O. Box 1020  
Tehachapi, CA 93581

# MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Cummings Valley Protective Association offers each member the opportunity to participate in efforts to maintain the quality and beauty of Cummings Valley. The strength of CVPA is in its membership actively defending and protecting this area of rural beauty. But even if you cannot actively participate, if you agree with our purpose, your membership can be of significant value to the Association to allow our voice to be heard. With the valley left unprotected - zoning changes, strip malls and commercial development appear to be untamed consequences of population expansion. Your membership, at \$12 per family per year strengthens our ability to be heard and effectively interact with County government and potential developers.

We need your strength! If this newsletter copy was sent to you, check your membership expiration year in the middle of the first line on your newsletter address label. If it is 2001 or earlier, your dues are in arrears ; renew now! If you are not a member, but agree with our purpose, join now. Please use the application on the previous page. Because CVPA is a tax exempt California nonprofit public benefit corporation, your contributions may be tax deductible.

Thank you for your support!



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