

# Amargosa Valley Newsletter

“All the news that’s fit to print (maybe)”

Published monthly by Town of Amargosa Valley, Nevada

August 2011

## **Back to School News!!!**

by Diane George

It is hard to believe that school will be starting already at the end of August. Since education budgets were hit hard again, it would be helpful to make sure our students get the supplies that they need to succeed this school year. Here is just a small list of essentials: **Every student needs pencils/pens and paper or notebooks, and a backpack.** Younger students also need **crayons, scissors, glue, and a box to keep supplies organized.** Teachers can use any of the supplies mentioned before and more: **Copy/printer paper (white & colored), construction paper, rulers, markers (dry erase or permanent), colored pencils, and tape (masking, scotch & packaging).** Please feel free to donate any supplies to the school, nothing will go to waste. Thanks! See you soon!!!

## **THE VALLEY CAN USE YOUR HELP!**

**Anyone interested in taking an EMT Basic Class, please contact Amargosa Ambulance at 372-5656 or Pam Everett at 372-5562.**

**Volunteering only 12 hours a week can be very rewarding and beneficial to your community .**

There is an opening on the Amargosa Valley Town Board. Since the Town Board is in the process of becoming a true Board of Trustees, the Governor will be appointing the new member. Please notify one of the present Board members if you are interested in applying.

## **A.V.I.A**

Amargosa Valley Improvement Association

We are inviting you to come join us. We would like to see our community get back to the way it once was. We plan on doing a lot of fun things for the community and would like to see every one come out and help. If interested please contact Danny mills at 323-541-5667 or our meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 6 pm located at the A.V.I.A building.

## **News from the Library**

*By Jean Adams*

This will be my last newsletter article as Director of the Amargosa Valley Library as I will be retiring (again) effective June 30, 2011.

I would like to congratulate Leslie Scott; she was appointed Director effective July 1, 2011. She has been running the library under my direction and has been doing a wonderful job. I hope you will continue giving her and Osvaldo your support and take advantage of all the library has to offer. We may be small, but we are very personable and offer a lot of services.

There will be more changes in the future. We have received a grant and finally got new computers and are in the process of getting a new server and a new circulation system. Leslie will keep you informed.

The library is also collecting paperback books, especially if they are current, we would appreciate any donations.

Don't forget snacks are available for sale and if you are out and about stop in and cool off, and while you're at it check out a good book.

## **To my Friends and Neighbors of Amargosa Valley**

I have decided finally to address a number of rumors and flat out lies that are running around the valley about me and Death Valley Junction.

For starters we have had a former café manager embezzle a large amount of money from us and is currently being investigated, for prosecution, by the Inyo County DA. Some people claim to have a lease on our café. They went as far as, to forget the director of operations signature on this fake lease. The café is a part of the Amargosa Opera House and always has been.

We have also had a performer whom quit because she wanted a lot of money for her shows and made a demand for more money. When I refused she quit and became very remorseful about her decision. She started a campaign of lies and deceit over the internet and hijacked our corporate "Facebook" page making outlandish claims about my well being and care.

It is unfortunate, that instead of people contacting me or my staff they chose to believe rumors and continued to spread them.

It really started about 15 months ago; I was hospitalized with a broken hip. It was Rich and Mary-Lee that kept the DVJ running while I was in the hospital. Once I was home and recuperating my, so called, friends tried to take advantage of me. Trying to confiscate my property and vote me off the board of directors. In my condition, I could not fight back. This is when Richard Regnell and Mary-Lee Chavez came forward to intercede on my behalf. My so called friends, then took it upon themselves to slander Rich and Mary-Lee through the internet, newspaper, and rumors by saying that they starved me, fed me only bread and water, stole money from me, kept me locked up so no one could visit me and numerous other accusations, too many to list here. All of this slander was very damaging to us and the Opera House. It even reached the East coast where people called to see if I was all right.

I would really like for you to all know that I trust my new board of directors and those in charge explicitly. I also would like you to know that Rich and Mary-Lee will be here for a very long time to

move DVJ, my vision, and my legacy into the future.

There are many things that have been said about me, my staff, DVJ, and AOH which have been made up and these people are still trying to destroy my dream here. If you wish the truth come to the source and ask us. I still try to answer email, regular mail, and phone calls as I can or call and arrange a visit with me.

Please feel free to come and visit us, eat at our Amargosa Café, which is open daily, take the AOH tour, and see my artwork throughout the hotel.

Soon I will begin to prepare for the new season doing my "Sitting Down Show" and I am working on a new show "Life is a Three Ring Circus" which I plan to premier in February 2012.

In closing, it has taken 45 years of my life to create my Amargosa Opera House and all the many performances I created in it. To think that my so called friends would try to destroy a dream that I have made, into a reality, is unthinkable. I am well, healthy, and look forward to the new season...the show will go on.

Marta Becket  
President, Founder, & Creator  
Amargosa Opera House, Inc.  
a nonprofit corporation 501 (C) (3)  
760-852-4441

### **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

By: Ed Munton

#### **DIABETES**

In the U.S. 18,000,000 individuals are known to have diabetes. Each year over 200,000 die from diabetes complications. Blindness, limb amputations and kidney failure are the most common side effects.

Since 1991 adults with diabetes have increased by over 60%. Type II, the most common, is found predominantly in those of advanced age who are obese and lack exercise, although some teenagers are affected. Some risk factors include: over 45 years of age, obese, lack of exercise, family history of diabetes, high blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol, and vascular disease.

Diabetes is racial: African-Americans, Mexicans, Asian-Americans and American Indians, as a group, are over twice as likely to develop diabetes as Caucasians. In fact, one tribe of American-Indians has a 50% rate of diabetes.

It is estimated that well over 5,000,000 more individuals in the U.S. have diabetes, but are unaware of it.

From 3 to 4PM, August 5th, diabetic testing will be available at the Senior Center to ANY individual from our community. For those who desire to be tested, no food should be consumed one to two hours prior to testing.

(Are there any topics, you, as members of OUR community, would like to be brought up?)

## **OUT OF AFRICA**

Pat Minshall

As many of you know I spent the last 6 wks. in Africa building houses in Zambia with "Habitat for Humanity", then on to Kenya to build for "Americans for Children with Aids/Hiv"

Habitat is a wonderful organization that spans the world trying to bring safe affordable houses to low income families. These houses are not free, small loans usually interest free or very low interests are charged. You must qualify to get into the program and you also have to do "sweat equity", work on building your home. It's a hand up not a hand out.

In Zambia we were in a small village outside the capital of Lusaka. There was no electricity or running water. We slept on the floor of small huts, brought "solar water shower bags" and used a three cubicle shower stall that they had built for us out of branches and hay, a similar hut had a pit latrine.

We built 2 houses of "mud fired brick" that were village made, these were held together with cement which we with some local help mixed. Our team of 11 was divided between the two houses. The houses were fairly large about 7-800ft. with 3-4 rooms. We finished one home but a death in the family stopped work on the other house that was 1/2 finished. The man of the family I was building with said, "I love it, white people building my

were many hugs, thanks and songs for our departure.

The next time you get into a shower, turn on the tap, your house", it was said with fun and joy and we all really got a kick out of it.

The women (who do so much of the work here) cooked our meals, washed our clothes, filled our solar showers and carried all the water in 10-15 gal. plastic cans on their heads from wells that could be 1/4 to 1 mile away. These people are "subsistence farmers" and although poor we did not see malnutrition. They are very clean as are their clothes so obviously carry a lot of water. Every morning they sweep the area clean around their homes from the droppings of chickens, ducks etc. Their homes have been small round mud brick huts with conical thatched roofs which I really loved. The new houses are rectangular, larger with aluminum roofs.

Daylight is from about 6AM to 6PM as they are so close to the equator so it was fall/winter there, days were warm and sunny nights chilly. In the evenings we were entertained with music and dancing around a small fire. We had "the roosters from hell" waking us at 3:30 to 4AM, we are hoping some didn't survive the cooking pot.

In Mombasa, Kenya we built a house for a girl named "Zwadi", she is a "total orphan" her parents died of Aids and her aunt and uncle are raising her, and 4 cousins. Just a few short months ago she was bedridden, now with "anti viral" drugs she is a norman, energetic 12 yr. old facing a fairly normal long life. Their home was a "mud and wattle" style that was falling down around their heads, the thatch roof was missing in many places and patched here and there with sheets of plastic. We built the same type house mixing, stacking and flinging mud with our bare hands, this house also now has a roof of aluminum. We also added an aluminum roof for another "orphan" Simon, who is living with his HIV free brothers. Neither house had electricity or water and was in a slum area and on a steep hillside. Water had to be carried on heads down a steep hill and up another for all their needs.

We think and hope that we not only provided better housing for these families but also brought warmth and good will to them. It's very much a people to people experience and there washer/dryer, your heat, your AC, take a moment to feel how lucky we all are to be living in such comparable luxury, I know I do.

**Town newsletter email address:  
newsletter@amargosavalley.com**

**Please send copy also to:  
town@amargosavalley.com**

### **Amargosa Senior Thrift Store**

The Senior Center will be opening their thrift store beginning July 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be open every Wednesday from 1PM to 5PM.

Donations will be accepted starting June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be accepting gently-used items only, no televisions or heavy furniture. To drop off donations, please call: Linda at 775-764-0150, Pat at 372-5401, or Ellie at 372-5244.

Please Note: all monies collected from your contributions will go towards our local Seniors. Also, there are crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, canes and bedside potties for anyone in need. Call the Senior Center at 372-5413 for additional information.

### **ARE YOU A CAREGIVER?**

Do you need a break? Would you like to have some private time while your loved one is with a caring, responsible and mature volunteer? RSVP Respite Care Program can help you to take a break, to get your hair done, have lunch with friends, take a walk in the park, spend quiet time at the library or go for a drive. Our volunteers are trained to be a companion for your loved one, we may play cards, Scrabble, have a conversation, watch TV or listen to stories, for about four hours at a time on a weekly basis. Call Jan Lindsay at 775-751-5282 for more information and to get your Respite for the Caregiver Program started. **Please call, we're here to help.**

### **Amargosa Amateur Radio Club**

By Glen Schoeck

Field Day is an annual amateur radio exercise, widely sponsored by International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) regions and member organizations, encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. In the United States, it is typically the largest single

emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 30,000 operators participating each year. Since the first Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather. To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component, and many clubs also engage in concurrent leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.). Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity.

This was the Club's third Field Day and we managed all but four states, and two Canadian provinces for a total of 236 contacts. We all enjoyed camaraderie, good food, and some good stories. There is now another 2 meter repeater in the valley. 146.910 – 123.0 pl, is a Nevada Amateur Radio Repeater Inc. (NARRI) repeater and connected to the western reflector via the internet. This is worldwide depending on where the stations are connected from.

We would like to let everyone know that some of our hams also monitor CB channel 19, and FRS channel 1 with no discrepancy channels. Interested in becoming a Ham? The club has all license class manuals to loan so if you want to become a Technician, General, Or Extra we can help, contact Gene at 372- 1282. Also sometime in August we will setup a HF station so that kids in the Library reading program might have a chance to speak with a country they have been reading about. Need more information contact Archie Selbach at 75-513-5780.

**Next meeting will be at 6:30 pm at the Amargosa Community Center August 9, 2011.**

**Next Testing Session will be held at 12:00 noon at Amargosa Community Center September 17, 2011**

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)

# Farm Loan Program

## Informational Meeting

*Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 P.M.*

At the Community Center

821 E. Amargosa Farm Rd.  
Amargosa Valley, Nevada

- ❖ FSA offers farm operating and real estate loans at low interest rates and is designed to assist family farmers.
- ❖ Are you a beginning farmer or rancher? Would you like to expand your farming operation? Is your lender reluctant or unwilling to extend additional credit?

*FSA may be able to help you!*

Please join us in Amargosa Valley and learn about the opportunities available.

For more information, or if you are interested but unable to attend the meeting, please contact the Fallon FSA Office at (775) 423-5124 ext. 104, or email:

Carly at [Carly.Brown@nv.usda.gov](mailto:Carly.Brown@nv.usda.gov) or Dan at [Daniel.Ferraro@nv.usda.gov](mailto:Daniel.Ferraro@nv.usda.gov)


# MENU FOR AMARGOSA SENIOR CENTER 775-372-5413

MONTH OF: **Aug-11**

| SUNDAY | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|--------|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| CLOSED | 1-Aug<br>Hot turkey sandwich<br>Mixed Veg<br>Mashed potatoes<br>Gravy<br>Salad Bar<br>Cookies  | 2-Aug<br><u>Light Buenos's burritos</u><br><u>FF sour cream, Salsa</u><br><u>Seasoned zucchini</u><br><u>Garden salad</u><br><u>SF Jell-O</u>                          | 3-Aug<br>Stuffed pepper 61<br>Spinach spaghetti<br>Mixed greens<br>LFLS Italian drsg.<br>Garlic bread<br>Nectarine                        | 4-Aug<br>Shake and bake chicken<br>Mashed potatoes<br>Gravy<br>Peas<br>Salad Bar<br>Tapioca pudding                                     | 5-Aug<br>Seasoned Cod<br>Rice Pilaf<br>Broccoli<br>Soup /salad Bar<br>Brownies   | CLOSED  |
| CLOSED | 8-Aug<br>Sloppy Joes<br>Potato wedges<br>Baby carrots<br>Cole slaw<br>Fruit  | 9-Aug<br><u>Zesty skillet pork chops</u><br><u>Mashed sweet potato</u><br><u>and parsnips</u><br><u>Cauliflower</u><br><u>Mocha cappuccino</u><br><u>ice cream pie</u> | 10-Aug<br>Turkey Pot Pie<br>Soup<br>Salad Bar<br>Strawberry<br>Shortcake  | 11-Aug<br>Chicken broccoli rice<br>Beet Salad<br>Apricot bran muffin<br>LS Margarine<br>Honeydew/Cantaloupe<br>fruit cup 38             | 12-Aug<br><b>Breakfast</b><br>9am to 10:30<br>Ham<br>Scrambled egg<br>Pancakes w/ Syrup<br>Fruit cup<br>Coffee, Tea, O.J                                     | <br>CLOSED |
| CLOSED | 15-Aug<br><u>Oven fried chicken</u><br><u>Peas &amp; carrots</u><br><u>Mediterranean soup</u><br><u>with mozzarella cheese</u><br><u>Colorful salad</u><br><u>Bread pudding snacks</u> | 16-Aug<br>Sweet & sour vegetables<br>Egg rolls<br>Fried rice<br>Salad bar<br>Egg Drop Soup<br>Almond Cookies   | 17-Aug<br>Meat loaf<br>Broccoli with cheese<br>Mashed potatoes<br>Gravy<br>Salad bar<br>Mixed fruit<br>Birthday cake                      | 18-Aug<br>Baked stuffed<br>pork chops<br>Steamed spinach<br>Baked beans<br>Oat bran rolls<br>Apple butter<br>Pineapple chunks 81        | 19-Aug<br>Baked cod Cajun style<br>Broccoli stuffed potato<br>Garden salad<br>Caesar Italian drsg.<br>Cracked wheat bread<br>LS Margarine<br>Fresh orange 10 | CLOSED  |
| CLOSED | 22-Aug<br>Spinach lasagna<br>Steamed cauliflower<br>Honey dressing 128<br>Garlic bread<br>Cherry Apricot granola<br>cup, Orange banana<br>juice  | 23-Aug<br>Chicken teriyaki<br>Baby carrots<br>Fried rice<br>Salad bar<br>Soup<br>Pudding   | 24-Aug<br>Green chili pork stew<br>Cheddar cheese<br>Warm tortillas<br>Salad bar<br>Soup<br>Ice Cream                                     | 25-Aug<br>Baked liver & onions<br>Mexicorn<br>Tomatoes vinaigrette<br>Mashed potatoes<br>WW Bread<br>Apple butter 101<br>Sliced peaches | 26-Aug<br>Baked cod Cajun style<br>Potato Rounds<br>Cheeseburger Soup<br>Salad Bar<br>Fruit cup  | CLOSED  |
| CLOSED | 29-Aug<br>BBQ Chicken<br>Sour cream potato salad<br>Green Beans<br>7 Grain bread<br>Cookies  | 30-Aug<br>Swiss Steak 69<br>Egg noodles<br>Mixed vegetables<br>Orange spinach salad<br>Italian bread<br>Apricot simply fruit<br>Fresh apple                            | 31-Aug<br><u>Turkey enchiladas</u><br><u>seasoned zucchini</u><br><u>FF Sour cream</u><br><u>Salad bar</u><br><u>Soup</u><br><u>Fruit</u> | 2% MILK SERVED<br>MENU SUBJECT TO<br>CHANGE   | MEALS SERVED FROM<br>4:00 TO 5:00 P.M.   | CLOSED  |
|        |  |  |   |   |  |   |



**Valley Electric Association, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## **Join the Co-op Connections® Program**

We have an exciting new opportunity for your business. We would like to invite you to join us in a new member benefits initiative, the Co-op Connections program. This program gives you the opportunity to offer our cooperative members valuable discounts. In exchange for your participation, we promote your business and discount offers to our members at no cost to you. The program is designed to benefit your business and our members.

Valley Electric Association, in conjunction with other Touchstone Energy® cooperatives around the country, has developed the Co-op Connections program to deliver more value to members and assist participating businesses in increasing customer visits.

This year we will closely monitor the program's success and give you the opportunity annually to opt in or out of the program. This program gives your business exposure to over 17,000 members and millions more served by our fellow Touchstone Energy cooperatives.

The enclosed brochure describes the program in detail. We initially rolled out the program at our March District Meetings and at our Annual Meeting in April. All of our members received a card in the mail during the month of May.

Please review the brochure, call us with any comments or questions and return the participation form to me, so we can include your business in our marketing campaign. Contact us at 775-727-5312 or 1-800-742-3330 (within Nevada) or [staci@vea.coop](mailto:staci@vea.coop).

Sincerely,

*Staci Behnke*

Staci Behnke  
Community Relations Representative

*Touchstone Energy is a nationwide alliance of more than 600 not-for-profit electric cooperatives. Each is member-owned and dedicated to upholding the cooperative principles of innovation, integrity, accountability and commitment to community.*

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800 E Highway 372 • PO Box 237 • Pahrump, NV 89041-0237

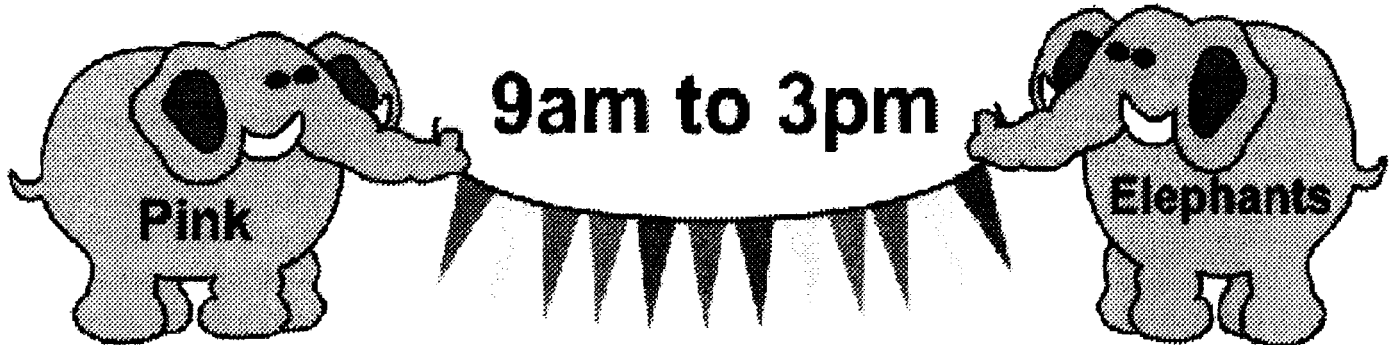
Phone: (775) 727-5312 or (800) 742-3330 (In Nevada) • Fax: (775) 727-6320 • [www.vea.coop](http://www.vea.coop)

**Community Garage Sale**  
**Sat**  
**13 August 2011**

sponsored by the Sr. Center

**At the Amargosa Valley  
Community Center**

**Coffee, Donuts, Hotdogs & Soda's  
will be served**



**Set-up 8am**

**Call Pam 775-372-1621 to reserve your \$10 Table**



### **Possible off Road Club**

I have seen a lot of jeeps and 4x4s here in the valley. I know some of you use them going off road. I would like to know if you are interested in getting together to do some off-roading in the Amargosa Valley area or Death Valley. If you are interested, please call me (Gene Butler) at 372-1282

You can contact the following AVTAB members by email:

Joe DeLee: [joe@amargosa.biz](mailto:joe@amargosa.biz)  
Vern Gilliland: [internvern@yahoo.com](mailto:internvern@yahoo.com)  
Gary Atkerson: [gaatkerson@aol.com](mailto:gaatkerson@aol.com)  
Joe Cohan: [av1joe@yahoo.com](mailto:av1joe@yahoo.com)

### **Community Calendar**

**Tuesdays: Summer Reading Program, 12pm, AVCC**  
**8/9: Chamber of Commerce 12:30pm, Longstreet**  
**8/9: Library Board 6pm, AV Library**  
**8/9: Amateur Radio Club 6-8pm, VFW**  
**8/13: Senior's Garage Sale 9-3 AVCC**  
**8/16: American Legion 5pm, VFW**  
**8/16: VFW Ladies Auxiliary 6pm, VFW**  
**8/16: VFW mtg. 7pm, VFW**  
**8/25: Town Advisory Board 7pm, AVCC**

### **Local Websites**

**Town Information, classified ads, minutes, and agendas**  
[www.avnv.biz](http://www.avnv.biz)

**Local pictures, tourist info, etc.**  
[www.avnv.us](http://www.avnv.us)

**Internet services and real estate**  
[www.avnv.net](http://www.avnv.net)

**Amargosa Valley Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.amargosachamber.org](http://www.amargosachamber.org)

**Nye County official site**  
[www.nyecounty.net](http://www.nyecounty.net)

Newsletter  
HCR 69 Box 401-W  
Amargosa Valley, NV 89020

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Amargosa Valley, NV

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LOCAL PATRON