

Amargosa Valley Newsletter

"All the news that's fit to print (maybe)"

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January 2011

Amargosa Valley Senior Center: HAPPY NEW YEARS TO ALL!!!

Breakfast for January is on Friday the 14th and we will be serving: Biscuits and gravy, Scrambled eggs, Hash browns, Bacon, Fresh orange, 2% milk and Coffee. Breakfast is served from 9am to 10:30am...

News from the Library

by Jean Adams

Congratulations to Leslie Scott, she has been promoted to Assistant Director. Leslie will be running the library under my direction until July 1, 2011. At that time I hope to retire (again) and she will take over as Director.

I would like to thank Pat Booth for her help and dedication during her time here. She was very instrumental in helping Osvaldo keep the library functioning daily. I could only be here part time due to my health, and she was very diligent making sure all the bills got paid.

The library was going to start collecting Campbell's "Labels for Education" but I discovered that Mrs. Moen's class at the High School is collecting them. If you don't know a HS student to give them to; drop them off at the library and we will see that they get there.

I wish you all a healthy and happy new year.

"Happy Sweet Sixteen"
to

Jessica Kadrmas
We love you,
Mom, Dad and the entire Family

One Man's Perspective

By Brent Mathewson

Road Dept. Dumps on AV, Again

Maybe I'm just getting crankier as I get older but I prefer to think otherwise. The latest thumb in our eye, put there by the Nye County Road Department over on Anvil Road since the recent rains, would make any normal critter of the human species want to pause for a moment, perhaps take a deep breath to keep the bodies natural cooling system from boiling over into a state of some kind of dysfunction or something.

I'm talking about the giant rocks lying alongside the road in eight (8) locations on the South side of Anvil, starting in front of The Anvil Ranch and continuing westward towards 373. The two spots closest to 373 are the least worst but none of them is pretty. "How big is a giant rock," do you ask?

Well, in my estimation rocks that are placed purposely on the shoulder of a road, inches from a paved surface, and large enough to cause grave bodily harm to a conventional vehicle should it run into them is a giant rock. Especially and specifically when many of them – I am not talking one or two of them, I'm talking hundreds of them – are as big as a large man's head. I'm talking rocks that are 7-8 inches and above in diameter. One of these rocks (that is no longer there) was as big as an entire engine in a small truck, or about the size of a short block for a 350 cubic inch Chevrolet. Evidently someone stole that one for their rock garden or a landscaping project or something, I don't know. If they did it would have had to be two someone's at least because it would have taken at least that many large strong men to pick it up and put it in a pick-up and haul it away.

In years past I used to travel occasionally in Mexico; a beautiful Country with a lot of very

beautiful people in it. (It was and probably still is advisable to stay as far away as possible from the federales who were not beautiful but that's another story.) In Mexico they use rocks the size of what I am referring to above as guardrails on their major highways and such as that. Mexico is a relatively poor country and they don't have a lot of money to waste building guardrails on their roads in places that it might be deemed appropriate in this country. What they do is, if a highway is going through a really dangerous area – one where there might be a steep drop-off for hundreds of feet on one side for instance – then in situations like that they will have their road crews gather up some rocks about 6-7 inches in diameter or larger and place these rocks about every 20 feet or so right at the side of the road in the area of danger. Then they paint the rocks with whitewash so they show up really good. It is not enough to deter a determined suicide attempt but other than that the system works remarkably well.

I can't help but wonder if it would be asking too much if we requested the responsible government agency that allowed the placing of all these rocks at side of the road over on Anvil, *the Nye County Road Department*, to paint them all with whitewash so the locals around here would have a fighting chance of avoiding them in case they were trying to get off the road in a hurry because of some emergency.

Somehow I think such a request would be denied. For the simple reason that to grant such a request would be a form of acceptance and agreement that the august entity of Nye County Government may have made an error of some sort and being found in error they now wished to make a correction of it.

I've been watching Nye County Government operate for over two decades now and I've never seen them come close to even contemplating such a thing as that yet.

It is understood that the rocks were placed in the locations they are in because of large puddles of water that had gathered at the side of the road in those locations due to recent rainfall. However, we always have large puddles of water at the sides of our roads after heavy rains and no one found it necessary to create crap like this because of it in the past.

Rocks of this size do have a proper place to be utilized in road construction as I understand it. That place is deep in the sub-base of the road, surrounded by smaller rocks, gravel, and type-2 so that proper compaction of the road surface can be achieved prior to paving.

Why is Nye County Government run in a manner as if it were above the law? If a private citizen, or private business other than one of Nye County's 'chosen few' were responsible for deliberately creating the mess over on Anvil Road they would be facing heavy fines in court and responsibility for any damages incurred for such negligent activity.

There is some good news for the Amargosa citizen to be aware of. After a couple of bumps to get it started the 'events calendar' at www.avnv.biz is up and running now. If you have anything going on, yard sales, weddings, funerals, etc., that you want the community to be aware of for whatever reason this free community service is there waiting for you to take advantage of.

Also, you will find that when you go to the above web page it will automatically open at the 'public comments' section of the web-site. If you have something to say that for any reason you believe it would be helpful for the community to be aware of just 'log on' and say it. You will find that the site is very user friendly to work with; you will be required (except in rare cases of legitimate concern of your own safety or well being) to sign your name to what ever you submit. This free service to the Amargosa community represents rights and privileges that are absolutely central to what this Country of ours is supposed to be all about. Hard work by good people made it possible for you to use it. And they wish *you* to take advantage of it.

That is, This Man's Opinion

At the Senior Center

Ugly Christmas party: January 19th 2011
RAFFLE: VIZIO 22" LCD LED HDTV.
(RAZOR THIN DESIGN.) TICKETS FOR
SALE \$10.00 PER TICKET. (DRAWING
WILL BE ON GROUND HOGS DAY
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 2ND @

5:00PM @ THE SENIOR CENTER.
(NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.)

From This Corner of the World

It DOES snow in Amargosa Valley! Most of you probably have friends or family back East, like I do, who send you pictures or notes bemoaning the fact that they have three feet of snow, and it's 30 below. They don't seem to appreciate my responses that it is 55 or 65 or 75, and I'm wearing shorts in the garden! Now, we can send our pictures, too.

And your future garden loves it. If you are lucky (which, amazingly, I am), your garden is ready for January planting. With the help of a hard-working local teen, we had just spread the composted manure and tilled the beds before the great rains and snow. All of that good stuff is now busily incorporating itself, ready for the seeds and plants that will soon be coming.

If you haven't started yet, now is almost the time. You'll probably want to let it dry a little more, but get your beds ready. After the 15th, you can plant the seeds for: cabbage, peas, lettuce, beets, turnips, broccoli, garlic, onions, brussel sprouts, spinach, potatoes, and anything else that says "as soon as you can work the soil," as well as, rhubarb and asparagus plants.

Start watering lightly (once or twice a week) until it warms up. Then you can increase as needed.

Next month, you may add carrots, cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, cucumbers, and rutabagas. Don't worry! The seeds will sit there and germinate when the soil reaches the perfect temperature for each.

Happy gardening. And Happy New Year.

BINGO..... At the Senior Center, the second Wednesday of each month, so mark your calendars and for January 12th 2011 and come and join in the fun. \$.50 / double card/game. 50/50 split. 5:30 pm. Daubers for sale.

If you are in need of a ride to the senior center to join us for dinner please contact one of the following people:
AJ Griffin @ 372-5614 or Jean Adams @ 372-1314 or Purdy Stengel @ 372-5138 and they would be happy to help you out.

Arts and Crafts every Wednesday from 1pm to 4pm.

AMARGOSA HAM RADIO CLUB

We are still looking for friends to become Ham radio technicians. You are more than welcome to joins us. This is far better and more fun than talking on a CB radio. Your CB radio has its place in the car as well as your H.F. radio. You never know when you might be called upon to give aid and/or assistance in an emergency. **WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS YOUR HAM RADIO OPERATORS ARE THERE.** There are no longer Morse code test requirements and we will help you with studying for the Technician tests. If sitting in front of the TV or counting weeds is getting to you, this could be what you're looking for. Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Amargosa Community Center on Farm Road. Please come and join us at our next meeting night..

FYI: for those who travel through Death Valley, there is a new Cell tower at Furnace Creek. It will handle all cell phone types it works from the south end of Highway 190 at the 3000ft marker to Salt Creek .See you at the next meet. Gene Butler

More at the Senior's Center

Ice for sale \$1.00 for a 8oz bag

Open pool: Friday night pool starts at 5:30pm you must be 18 or older to play.

Ladies pool: Is the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Childhood Vaccinations (Adults, too).

Going back 100 years or more, one will find that over 30% of the deaths were children 10 years of age and younger. In the 3rd World Countries this is still true today. In Africa alone there is, at present, a polio epidemic.

When one considers the potential side-effects of vaccines versus the potential side-effects of the diseases they protect us against, the benefits of the vaccines far outweigh the dangers of having the disease.

In 1991 there was a court case that went on up to our Supreme Court: Bruesewitz vs. Wyeth. The Bruesewitzs were suing the pharmaceutical company, Wyeth, claiming that Wyeth's vaccine had caused autism in their child; they lost. Autism is due to a genetic mis-step in creating neurological connections and has about a 1% incidence in children in its various forms. Not all of these children are retarded; some are geniuses in their own specialty, some have gone on to graduate from universities and earned PhD degrees. One form is: $6 + 6 = ?$ The autistic child may not know, but if told a telephone number once, she retains it forever. This autistic child is a walking telephone directory and did not finish high school. There is another child who was shown a detailed map (picture) of London for 15 seconds. He could then reproduce it, sketching it from memory, including broken window panes in select apartments in the city. Fascinating, but autism is NOT due to side effects of vaccines!

Now for the adults:

To be protected from tetanus, a booster is required every ten years. A teenager came in from gardening and scraped his soiled finger on the door, just enough to break the skin

under one fingernail. He came down with tetanus but, fortunately, recovered, as the mortality is 50%. Most M.D.s have the tetanus vaccine in their office. It is not an easy way to die.

Also, consider our porous borders that allow children (and adults) that have not been vaccinated, or who are harboring a contagious disease, to enter the U.S. Based on the numbers, this is not YET an epidemic; however, this year in Los Angeles over 1,600 cases of pertussis (whooping cough) have so far been reported ; last year (2009) it was 400, in 2008 there were 80 cases. This was reported by J. E. Fielding, M.D., director of public health and health officer. For those who travel to L.A. frequently, pertussis vaccine might be advisable. There is now an adult form of it to be used for individuals between 18 and 65 years of age.

My Gratitude

“Keep our Valley pristine and without excessive county influence.
Promote economic activity that will be harmonious within the community.
Ensure that growth of this community, when it does finally happen, will result in the best possible lifestyle for every resident of this valley.”

(Part of my campaign speech last November.)

You, the residents of this valley, have given me your trust for a third term on the Town Board and that is my greatest achievement.

Thank You, for a lifetime,

Joe DeLee

Repeat Boutique
(gently used clothing and accessories)

Located in the mobile home
behind the Catholic Church
1730 E. White Sands

Open Tuesdays at 9am
And for one hour after Saturday Mass

Donations accepted, but not required

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/13: Cemetery Committee 7pm AVCC
- 1/14: Senior's Breakfast 9am AVSC
- 1/18: VFW Ladies Aux. 6pm VFW
- 1/18: VFW (men) 7pm VFW
- 1/19: Ugly Christmas Party 5pm AVSC
- 1/22: Amargosa Middle School Basketball Games AVCC
- 1/26: Amargosa Middle School Basketball Games AVCC
- 1/27: Town Board 7pm AVCC

Newsletter submissions can be emailed
to newsletter@amargosavalley.com.
Please send a copy to
town@amargosavalley.com as well.

Newsletter
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