

Winter weather procedures and preparedness tips from the CSD

Winter is almost officially here! As we get solidly into our snowy season, the Bear Valley Community Services District wants to ensure that all residents are informed and prepared.

The following information outlines how we will communicate road conditions, how we prioritize snowplow operations,

and what you can do to help keep our community safe and accessible during winter storms.

HOW WE WILL ALERT YOU

We will send alerts through Nixle, our website, the front gate marquee, and social media when either 4-wheel drive or chains are required, or when

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



December Bear Tracks cover photo by Joan Griffin



Wishing you warm hearts, Holidays! ** soft nickers, and a barn ** full of happy horses! **



PRIME TURNKEY BVS Equestrian Estate 3539 sq feet, 4 bedroom, 4 baths, 3 car garage, RV parking on 2.88 fenced and cross fenced acres. Barnmaster barn, pastures, roundpen, just minutes to the equestrian center. \$949k

SPECIAL INCENTIVE: Seller will credit the buyer \$25k towards closing costs or interest rate buydown!



Million Dollar Views of BVS! Build your dream ranch or custom home on this beautiful 5.24 acre lot. Only a few minutes from the BVS Market and community hub. Private driveway to a building pad with rock outcroppings. Oak trees, Horse/ hiking trail runs adjacent to this lot. Has a water meter already in (\$8k value). Seller will finance with \$20k down!



22280 Chukar Court - sold for \$490K (multiple offers)

 26100 Deertrail Drive - sold for \$290k (2-week escrow)

sold for \$900k









www.tehachapihorseproperties.com







Now taking listings for the New Year! Call me to discuss your home value!



Mesmerizing Views! Bask in sunsets & serenity from this inviting 3B/2B cabin on approx. 3.34 rolling acres, perched just above the valley floor with sweeping mountain & valley views. Floor-to-ceiling windows, T&G ceilings & a corner brick fireplace. Full of character & potential, the home is an open canvas for your personal style. Acreage offers possibilities for a private trail or secluded retreat. Offered at \$469,000!

Woodford Tehachapi



Inviting! 4B/2B approx. 1923sf. Popular split wing layout. The spacious kitchen features abundant cabinets, a large island, eat-in dining that opens to a cozy family room with a stone fireplace. Private master suite + nicely sized bedrooms. Convenient central laundry. Quality construction throughout. 2x6 framing, R-19 insulation, finished garage. Fenced backyard. RV parking. Nat gas. Great location minutes from town & highway access. \$499,000!

SOLD last month by Theresa...

24151 Woodbine \$325,000 20411 Pegasus \$500,000 \$27,000 Huron **Dennison**

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rep buyer/seller

rep buyer





Theresa <u>Mann</u>



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Bear Valley Buckaroos year-end round-up

The Bear Valley Buckaroos wrapped up another season full of horsemanship, camaraderie, and community spirit. From June through November, the arenas buzzed with five Playdays, five Team Sorting events, The Summer Showdown, a new kids day to learn cattle, a Cattle Clinic and regular cattle practices.

Our gratitude to the 2025 Board for an outstanding year of events and accomplishments: President Jeff Kermode, 1st VP George McMackin, 2nd VP Erika Underwood, Secretary Debi Geary and Treasurer Cheryl Akerly.

Events thrive thanks to dedicated volunteers, especially Randi Goldsworthy, Dawn Champion, Brian and Lori Wallace, Tim Vierra, Carol Miller, Kat Frey, Ray Memoli, Kathy Underwood, Sandy Travis and Summer Hash. A catered Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Sept. 27 celebrated more than 50 helpers from

across Bear Valley's equestrian clubs.

Playdays averaged around 30 riders per event, with nearly 150 participants over the season. Team Sorting brought a strong turnout, with up to 90 teams at a time! Riders also gathered Sundays and Wednesdays for cattle sorting practice. The Summer Showdown Mule and Ranch Horse Show, held July 31 - Aug. 3, filled every arena, campsite, and parking space. It's now recognized as California's largest American Mule Association sanctioned event. The season concluded with a Cattle Clinic on Nov. 9, taught by trainers Sami and George Hernandez of Bakersfield. The Buckaroos are closing 2025 with 79 active memberships, representing

661-831-7788

661-831-6299



End of season playday costume contest.

individual members.

Proceeds from last year's Showdown allowed the Buckaroos to contribute over \$10,000

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Photo courtesy of George Stufflebeam

Randi Goldsworthy on Uptown Mule All Around Champion for the Summer Showdown.

toward the new equestrian campground kitchen cover, which the club also helped oversee. With 501(c)(3) nonprofit status approved this spring, the Buckaroos look forward to continuing their support of the Bear Valley equestrian community.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all our sponsors, donors,

and local partners; there are so many to thank. Your generosity makes everything we do possible. We were so blessed by the community sponsor support, we didn't have enough space here to list everyone. Please head over to our Facebook page, Bear Valley Buckaroos, to see the list and stop in to see our local sponsors.



Aug. 10 sorting competition.

The Buckroos stay active without cattle during the Winter months. Practice days are on Wednesdays and Sundays, weather permitting. To Join the Buckaroos, you can find membership forms in the main barn, or contact our secretary, Debi Geary, at 949-291-0551.

End of Season Party and Buckle Awards are this month!

Members check your emails for the invite!

"It takes dedication, teamwork, and generosity to pull off ten major events and one mega-event in five months," said the Buckaroos Board. "We couldn't have done it without all of you. Here's to an even stronger 2026. New riders always welcome!"

WINTER MAGIC

May your holidays sparkle with joy & your New Year be filled with happiness and success!



Discover the ultimate horse property This remarkable, turn-key equestrian estate sits on over 23 pristine, usable acres, backing directly to the community's acclaimed trail system, ideal for serious horse enthusiasts, this property features shelters with turnouts, a round pen, an impressive riding arena, and cross-fenced areas designed for optimal turnout and functionality. Quality-Built Home Designed for Comfort & Function: 2483 sq ft, 3 bed/2.5 bath, with additional bonus room. Open floor plan, back deck with stunning meadow and foothill views.



Dreaming of owning your own horse property at an affordable price? Look no further! This charming equestrian ranchette offers 2262 sq ft, 4 bedrooms and 3 boths, located on the valley floor with convenience to front gate, amenities, riding trails and EQ Center proximity. This ranch-style home with split-wing design boosts many recent upgrades. Equestrian Amenities include: Two 3-sdied shelters, large pipe runs, fenced turn out area and direct meadow access. 3 storage sheds provide plenty room for storage needs.



Mountain Paradise Found – Your Private Retreat Awaits! Experience the perfect blend of modern comfort and natural beauty in Bear Valley Springs, a private, gated mountain community. This turn-key 4-bedroom, 3-bath home offers an office, bonus room, and a new 2025 primary suite addition. Enjoy a chel's kitchen, updated systems, and stunning views from nearly every angle. Step outside to a covered patio overlooking fenced pastures with shelters, storage sheds, and RV parking—ideal for horse lovers or outdoor enthusiasts. Residents enjoy exclusive amenities including 50+ miles of trails, world-class equestrion facilities, lakes, golf, a recreation center, and a Country Club with pool and restaurant, dog park and walking paths, to name a few.

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THE OAK TREE COUNTRY CLUB

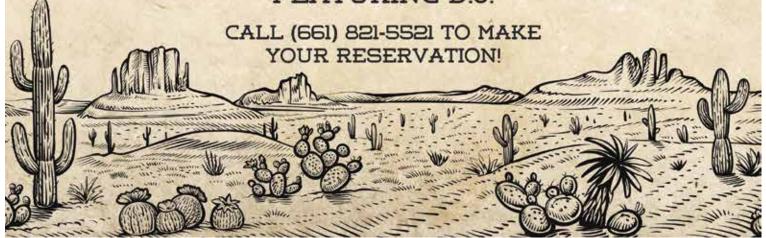
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NEW YEAR'S EVE NEW YEAR'S EVE

APPETIZER

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PAPPERDELLE PASTA WITH A WILD MUSHROOM RAGOUT & GRANA
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DESSERT

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Telescope buying basics

Submitted by

Bear Valley

Astronomy Club

Buying a first telescope for Christmas? Here's what's important in a telescope. First, binoculars are great first instruments - see *Bear Tracks* Feb. 2025. But if you're looking for a telescope, here are the primary things to consider:

- Aperture: A larger mirror/lens gives more detail and brightness.
- Mount: A stable mount will prevent a lot of frustration from a "wobbly" telescope. Dobsonian mounts are easiest and stablest, but manual equatorial mounts are also good.
- Ease of use: Simple manual 'scopes are easier for beginners,

and teach users about the sky. Some of the new electronic gadgets can be hard to figure out.

• Portability: Only get what you can carry easily

Avoid:

- Small, long focal length "department-store" telescopes (50-70mm) on shaky tripod mounts.
- High "Magnification" clarity comes from aperture and optical quality.
- Shaky tripod mounts with plastic mount head pieces

Hints:

• A great beginner telescope is a small Dobsonian. They range from 4-6" (100-152mm) aperture. You get the largest aperture and a stable mount that's easy to use and transport.



Six-inch and Tabletop Dobsonians.

(Ex: Celestron Moon Mission and Star Sense series; Skywatcher Heritage 130,150 and 6"; Explore Scientific 6" Dob and tabletop Dob; Spectrum Optics 6")

• Short-tube refractors 80mm or larger. Doublet (two lens) optics will have some chromatic aberration but can be

lessened with a cheap colored filter. (Ex: Orion AstroView 102 EQ (only at High Point Sci); Explore Sci FirstLight 102 Doublet on EXOS EQ)

• Small Maksutovs (Ex: Explore Scientific Mak-Cass series; Celestron NexStar 4SE). Good optics system but pricier for the aperture.









Avoid these Telescopes with Inadequate Mounts.

- Newtonians (Ex: Celestron AstroMaster; Orion Observer 134 (only at High Point Sci); Explore Scientific on Equatorial Mount)
- Eyepieces and finder scopes on cheap telescopes are usually not very good (Ex: plastic with "H" or "R" stamped on it). We recommend Plossl or higher

quality eyepieces that are 15-40mm. The BVS Astronomy Club stocks inexpensive but quality 25mm Plossls. Good finder scopes are extremely helpful to find your objects. Recommend Telrad & 50mm right angle finders. Red-dot finders are okay but not as good. 🏙

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A day in the life of a Lake Quality Advisory Committee (LQAC) intern

Submitted by **Logan Mountjoy LQAC Intern**

For the past four and a half years, my best friend Owen Fleming and I have been doing a combination of volunteering and paid work for Mountain View Consulting Group, under the supervision of Biologist Fred Hicks and the Bear Valley Springs Association's Lake Quality Advisory Committee. This work has required us to challenge ourselves when it comes to our work ethic, perseverance, and our dedication to the cause we seek to bring to reality. That purpose is to create a healthy aquatic environment for all the wildlife and residents of Bear Valley Springs



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to enjoy.

One experience, which has molded us into the workers we are today, was in October of 2024. We netted and transferred fish from the Seventh Hole Pond on the Golf Course. We then spent an entire day moving/consolidating fish with

seine nets and then throwing cast nets to harvest the consolidated fish as part of the ongoing process to remove the bullhead catfish from Jacks Hole and relocate the desirable fish into Cub Lake.

Though it was a long day, it was worth it, as we gained



meaningful experience which not only helped us become better volunteers, and later interns for the LQAC, but it also helped us advance our academic careers. We applied the perseverance it took to get through the day of work to our studies, and our family noticed us spending more time doing homework, and better test scores coming back home.

Another experience that helped us advance in all aspects of our lives where hard work and dedication are required, were the many times we've had to pull catfish nets on Four Island Lake. These workdays would always happen to be in the coldest parts of winter, and even though these days were hard, we stuck them out to the end, and we were rewarded for doing so. Not specifically in cash, but in things you can't put a price on, like the experience and the knowledge that doing a hard day's work is always rewarding and the best thing for



tion presenting itself to you.

If you would like to see this work in action, please follow the link below or go to *Bear*

Tracks online through the BVSA website at BVSA.org and copy the link into your internet browser.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jesA0Misd4yAW_LD-g5OIUr1DjOGhAMpK/view?usp=sharing



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BVSA RECOGNIZED CLUBS

BVSA Recognized Clubs enjoy the benefits conveyed to them as per the BVSA Rules, Article 18.

- **ASTRONOMY CLUB** Enjoy the night skies and learn about Astronomy with an enthusiastic group. Monthly meetings Monthly meeting 1st Wednesday, 6:30pm, Oak Tree Country Club. Contact: Pres. Claude Plymate, info@bvsac.org
- **BUCKAROOS** Promotes safe, fun western cowboy activities for kids and adults alike. All levels of riders welcome. President Jeff Kermode @ (661) 343-7503, 1st VP George McMackin @ (661) 400-1333, 2nd VP Erika Underwood @ (805) 705-1123, Treasurer Cheryl Akerly @ (661) 609-6113 & Secretary Debi Kermode @ (949) 291-0551
- **BV AQUATICS CLUB** is a group organized to advance the principles of aquatic health and fitness for BVSA as specified by the club by-laws. The club promotes responsible off-season use for recreation and fitness designated for lap swimmers and water aerobics. Contact the club via email byaquatics2023@gmail.com.
- **BVS VINTAGE DANCE AND TEA GROUP** Historical English Country Dancing. All welcome! Join Facebook page or Group Me app, BVS Vintage Dance and Tea Society or call Martha (818) 442-7888.
- **BVS POKER CLUB** Provide good fellowship, comradery, and sharing of mutual friends. Contact Bill Snow at 562-922-2661 for more information.
- BVS SOCIAL BRIDGE CLUB Social interaction and play. Call Ann Peyton @ 661-821-0926
- **BVS VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION** Contact: Ray Michalski, Commander, 661-902-1506 or Jed Hannan, Membership, 818-414-2430, jerseyjed@aol.com.
- **BVS WILDLIFE COALITION** Educates and advocates for living in harmony with wildlife through fun activities, presentations, and special events. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 6 PM in the OTC reception room. Email: BVSWildlifeCoalition@gmail.com
- **BVS WOMEN'S CLUB** Provides an opportunity for good fellowship among the women of BVS. Contact President Chris Hobbs, hobbs939@yahoo.com.
- **CARRIAGE DRIVING** Meetings are the 3rd Thursday each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Equestrian Center Lounge. We promote safe driving, drive-and-ride outings and good horsemanship. Contact Debbie Mayer @ 802-343-5483
- **CRAFTY LADIES** Meet at the Equestrian Center Lounge every Tuesday, 1-3 p.m. Bring your own project and get acquainted! Contact Robin Goodwin (831) 212-5643.
- **CULTURAL ARTS ASSOCIATION (CAA)** CAA provides performing arts programs to enhance our way of life. Contact President: Leana Mitchell, 805-758-8902.
- **DRESSAGE** Dressage, working equitation, cavaletti, other equine activities. We meet on the second Saturday evening of each month. Meeting and more info on our website: https://bvsdc.org/. Please contact Kathe Rich katherich@gmail.com.
- **FOUR SEASONS 4-H** 2nd Monday of every month at 6:00pm Contact: Sarah Mountjoy, sarah.mtjoy05@qmail.com.
- **GARDEN CLUB** The Garden Club is a resource for all Bear Valley residents who would like to make the most of their garden. Bring your questions, lessons learned and gardening enthusiasm to our meetings, which take place every third Friday (February-October) @ Equestrian Center lounge. Dues are \$10.00. Contact Tammy Reich bysgardenclub@gmail.com.
- **GREENHORNS** Provides an environment for horse and rider to learn cattle-handling skills that are used in working cattle operations throughout the west. Contact President Denise Togami @ 805-231-8676, or Don McLaughlin @ 208-781-8746.
- **HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION** Promotes fellowship, equestrian activities and facilities. Supports acquisition and preservation of riding trails. Contact President Kris Pimentel @ 805-441-6814 (text please) or byshorsemensassociation@gmail.com.
- OAK TREE BRIDGE CLUB Experience and enjoy the benefits the Bridge has to

offer! Bob Nixon 661-823-9483.

- **OAK TREE MEN'S GOLF** For Information Call President, Tony Velarde at (818) 974-1009 The Oak Tree Men's Golf Club holds their meetings on the Thursday before a tournament or the second Thursday of the month, if no tournament that month, at 7:30 am in the Mulligan Room
- **OAK TREE WOMEN'S GOLF** Open play Monday at 10:00; 9-hole playday Wednesday at 10:00; 18-hole playday Friday at 9:30. Those interested in playing or joining, contact the Pro Shop at 821-5144 or Joy Webber at 661-300-1536 or email: joyw2121@icloud.com.
- **PICKLE BALL** Promote Pickle Ball Play. Contact Sherry at 661-428-4102.
- **PONY CLUB** The Bear Valley Springs Pony Club works with young riders, both English and Western, to develop their horsemanship and horse management skills. Contact Jena D'Cruz (661) 817-2173 or Jennifer Bankston (661) 204-1274.
- **RC MODELERS** Anyone interested in RC Model Aviation or Cars are welcome to join us at the field and track (Jack's Hole). We meet regularly on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Contact Mitch McDiffett 661-378-5596.
- **SPORTSMAN'S CLUB** The club coordinates a wide variety of social, sports and RV activities. Contact Will Handley at 661-414-6489.
- **SWING DANCE CLUB** Learn to swing dance Fridays in OTTC Banquet Room. R New dancers from 7:00 PM to 7:30, and intermediate dancers from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. Contact Brian at SwingDanceClub.BVS@gmail.com or 818-961-4622. Facebook BVS Swing Dance Club.
- TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB Contact Tailwaggers President, Pam Miller, 661-203-5725
- TENNIS CLUB Contact Julian Leon at weedyleon@gmail.com.

BVS SPECIAL INTERESTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- **ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings are held at Bear Valley Community Church, Rm. B, Monday, 5:30pm (Literature) Tuesday, 5:30pm (Men's Stag), Tuesday 4:00 PM, (Women's group), Thursday, 5:30pm (Participation). For More Information, please call: 661-202-8553.
- **BVS LAKE QUALITY GROUP** Provides information on the quality of the Lakes in Bear Valley Springs. Please contact us at bylqac@gmail.com
- **CERT** Training BVS residents to be prepared and ready to serve in the event of a local disaster situation. Contact David Shaw at tehachapicert@gmail.com, 661-609-8365, https://www.facebook.com/tehachapiCERT/
- **CO-ED SOFTBALL** Come on out for a non-competitive pickup game of softball. It's perfect for anyone who can't run, throw, or catch but wants to get a little exercise and a lot of laughs. Ages 50+ Tues. and Thurs. 3:00 pm. All Ages Sundays at 3:00 pm. Contact Lisa Burt @ 821-0850 or the_burt_family@yahoo.com
- **CUB SCOUT TROOP 135** Grades 1st through 5th grade. Contact Cub Master Jon Read 909-268-3297.
- **EMERGENCY AMATEUR RADIO TEAM** This team is made up of licensed amateur radio operators in BVS who donate their services in times of an emergency. Weekly net check-in Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. 146.700Mhz(-) PL123.0. Contact Dan Mason @ (661) 203-8398
- **GRIZZLIES SWIM TEAM** We swim year-round. Recreational and competitive. Contact: bvsqrizzlies@gmail.com.
- **VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE (VIPS)** Contact 661-271-0413 for brochure and information.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

roads are closed.

If you haven't signed up for Nixle, you can do so here: www. bvcsd.com/nixle.

We will also be updating our hotline, 661-771-3908, as conditions change.

SNOWPLOW ACTIVATION AND PRIORITIES

Our snow removal teams will

be on standby whenever snow is in the forecast and will be deployed as conditions warrant. While all roads are important, our priority will be to clear the main arteries. These are broken down into two levels, with Level 1 roads taking higher priority:

Level 1:

- Bear Valley Road
- Lower Valley Road

- Cumberland Road
- Lower San Juan Drive
- Jacaranda Drive
- Paramount Drive
- Deertrail Drive
- Skyline Drive

Level 2

- Oakflat Drive
- Saddleback Drive
- Rolling Oak Drive
- Greenwater Drive





- Starland Drive
- Upper Pinedale Drive
- Stirrup Way

Please be aware that it may take some time for our plows to reach higher elevations and smaller side roads, so plan accordingly when snow is forecast. We may also need to close the gate periodically to clear Bear Valley Road.

KEEP ROADS FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS

If snow is in the forecast, move your vehicles and other obstructions off the roads. Our plow crews cannot properly remove snow when the roads and shoulders are obstructed, and we want to avoid the possibility of accidentally damaging personal property.

If a snowplow operator determines that they cannot safely access or plow the road due to an abandoned or parked vehi-



cle, that road will not be plowed until the vehicle is moved.

Any vehicles left on the road during times when snow removal is required are subject to an administrative citation and/or towing.

BE PREPARED

Make sure you have a plan ready for snow days. If you are driving in the snow and get stuck, or reach a point where you can't proceed further:

- If you can do so safely, turn around and go back the way you came.
- Move as far to the side of the road as safely possible.
- Turn on your emergency lights.
- Wait until snow removal equipment clears a path.
- If your destination is nearby and it is safe to do so, you may leave your vehicle and return later.
- If you do need to leave your vehicle, contact the Public Works Department so we can alert our snow removal teams and law enforcement to avoid towing and/or citations being issued: During regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday): 661-821-4428, ext. 3902, or after hours, 661-805-9255.
- Do not contact Bear Valley Police unless there is an emergency.
- If your engine is running and snow is piling up, check your tailpipe occasionally to make sure it is clear.

This is also a good opportunity to make sure you have emergency supplies in your vehicle. Recommended items include:

- Warm clothes
- Blankets
- Food and water
- Ice Scraper, small shovel, snow brush
 - Flashlight
 - First-aid kit
 - Phone charger
 - Jumper Cables
 - Tire chains
 - Flares and/or road triangles
 - A bag of sand or cat litter

Please note: Private snowplows are not permitted on CSD-maintained roads. Additionally, the Public Works Roads Department does not have a berm removal program. When plows are active, residents should expect a snow berm in front of their driveway. One foot of snow on a 10-footwide road will lead to up to five feet of additional snow in front of your driveway, so plan accordingly.

Thank you all for your support and cooperation, and for making this winter a safe one!







THE OAK TREE COUNTRY CLUB



WEDNESDAYS OssoBucco42

Served with creamy polenta; baby carrots & Giardiniera pidkle.

THURSDAYS Duck Breast 34

Served with cranberry gastrique, wildinfcopflaf, & green beans.

FRIDAYS Scallops 38

Served with a celery root puree, baby spinach, apples, & Pancetta crumbles.

SATURDAYS Chilean Seabass 38

Mustard glazed and served with a butternut squash purce, roasted brussel sprouts, & Pancetta.

PrimeRib34/

Slow Roasted 10 or 12-ounce prime ribs erved with horsentish aufus, and 2 sites of your choice.

BIGIETIANNIAN SIPECIAL

Choedif with will must be comes, pesto sauce, & house-made Ricotta cheese. Served with garille bread.

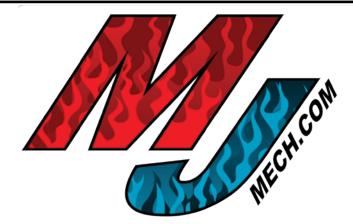
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DECEMBER

2025

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30	Pot Roast Vegetable Soup	2 Chicken Enchiladas Chicken Tortilla Soup	3 Meat Lasagna Tuscan Soup	Prime Rib French Onion Soup	5 Fish & Chips Clam Chowder	6 Chicken Marsala Broccoli Cheddar Soup
7 Meaticaf Chicken Noodle Soup	8 Shepherd's Pie Loaded Potato Soup	9 Beef Flautas Chicken Pozole	10 Spaghetti & Meatballs Tomato Bisque	Prime Rib Beef Stew	12 Fish & Chips Clam Chowder	13 Schnitzel Roasted Red Peppe Soup
14 Chicken Piocata Italian Wedding Soup	Pork Chops Corn Chowder	16 Ground Beef Tacos Albondigas Soup	17 Chicken Parmesan Minestrone	18 Prime Rib	19 Fish & Chips Clam Chowder	20 Salisbury Steak White Chicken Chili
21 Sweet Chile Glazed Salmon Beef Stew	22 Shrimp Fried Rice Creamy Coconut Soup	23 Pot Roast Chicken Pot Pie Soup	24 Country Fried Steak Beef & Bean Chili	25 Merry Christmasi	26 Fish & Chips Clam Chowder	27 Shrimp Scampi Chicken & Wild Rice
28 Chicken Marsala Italian Wedding Scup	29 Cajun Chicken Pasta Split Pea Scup	30 Chicken Pot Pie White Bean Soup	31 Spaghetti & Meatballs Tomato Bisque	1	2	3



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December Food and Beverage specials

Submitted by

Josh Cardwell

Food and Beverage Director

As December settles over beautiful Bear Valley Springs, the crisp mountain air reminds us that the holiday season is here — a time for warmth, gathering, and celebration. Whether it's the gentle glow of the fireplace, the laughter of friends and family, or the first snow dusting the valley, there's no better place to come together than right here in our community. The Oak Tree Country Club, the Oak Branch Saloon, and the Mulligan Room are ready to welcome you this season with delicious meals, festive gatherings, and the heartfelt spirit that makes Bear Valley Springs so special.

Oak Tree Country Club Dinner Specials

- Wednesdays: Osso Bucco with creamy polenta, and baby carrots
- Thursdays: Pan-seared duck breast with cranberry gastrique, wild rice pilaf, and green beans
- Fridays: Pan-seared scallops with celery root purée, baby spinach and apples, topped with

pancetta crumble

- Saturdays: Pan-seared Chilean seabass with mustard glaze, butternut squash purée, and roasted Brussels sprouts with pancetta
- Sundays: Prime Rib your choice of 10 oz or 12 oz cut, served with creamy horseradish and au jus, and your choice of two dinner sides

Join us for dinner this holiday season.

The Mulligan Room December Specials

At The Mulligan Room, we're bringing you a mix of beloved classics and exciting new additions this month! Enjoy timeless favorites such as Prime Rib Thursdays and Fish and Chips Fridays, along with fresh new specials including Chicken Pot Pie, Sweet Chili Glazed Salmon, Shrimp Fried Rice, and Pork Schnitzel, just to name a few.

We invite you to explore these new creations and let us know which ones become your new favorites!

Celebrate Your Special Events with Us

December is a month full of joy, reflection, and celebration

— the perfect time to plan your special event at the Oak Tree Country Club. Our banquet venue provides a beautiful setting for holiday gatherings, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, and corporate celebrations. With customized menus, attentive service, and sweeping views of the valley, we're here to help you create an unforgettable experience for your family and friends.

To discuss event dates and menu options, please call 661-821-5521. Let us bring your vi-

sion to life this holiday season.

As the days grow colder and the nights longer, we're reminded how truly special our Bear Valley Springs community is — warm, generous, and full of heart. From all of us at the Oak Tree Country Club, the Oak Branch Saloon, and the Mulligan Room, thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

We wish all our residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season filled with warmth and joy.







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BVS Golf winter updates

Submitted by
Yeager Jarrett
Assistant Golf Pro

The changing colors and mornings welcomed crisp one of the most successful aerification cycles we have experienced in recent memory. Thanks to careful planning and an early-season window of ideal weather, the process moved quickly and smoothly, allowing us to reopen playing surfaces ahead of schedule. The greens are healing beautifully, rolling true, and setting us up for excellent conditions heading into the winter golf season. A huge thank you goes out to our IGM crew for their dedication and precision, and to all our golfers for their patience during this important course-care stretch.

We would also like to recognize and congratulate everyone who teed it up during October's

Tehachapi Cancer Foundation Tournament and our Veterans Tournament. Among the highlights, Linda Cross claimed the title of Ladies Senior Club Champion with a stellar performance. In the 1st Flight Low Net, V. Amparan, M. Owens, L. Creton, and R. Martin led the way, while J. Clark, R. Foster, B. Welch, and C. Skinner topped the 2nd Flight Low Net. Strong showings continued in the 3rd Flight Low Net, where R. Strong, T. Morris, K. Kranenburg, and T. Anderson posted impressive rounds. We also celebrate our Low Gross winners, M. Versteeg, B. Leonard, H. Herbst, and W. Hagner, for their exceptional play. These events showcased tremendous camaraderie, competition, and heartfelt support for meaningful causes and those who have served.

Looking ahead to the holidays, the Golf Shop is excited



to welcome members with a refreshed collection of winter offerings — perfect for thoughtful gifting or enhancing your time on the course. We encourage you to stop by, say hello, and enjoy some time with us as the season shifts. Whether you are gearing up for cooler

rounds or simply enjoying the company of fellow golfers, we are here to help make the experience special. Until we see you next, we wish you warmth, joy, and many great swings in the months ahead.

As always, Hit Em' Straight!









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BVS Horsemen's Association gift wrapping fundraiser Dec. 14 and 21

Submitted by

Suzi Vlietstra

BVS Horsemen's Association

Love buying presents but dread having to wrap them? BVS Horsemen's Holiday Helpers to the rescue! This December, let our club members make your holidays less stressful and more beautiful by wrapping your gifts for you with boxes, tissue, heavyweight paper, and handmade bows, while raising funds for 2026 BVSHA activities.

Simply bring your gifts to the Equestrian Center clubhouse on Sunday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Sunday, Dec. 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and we'll do the rest with our selection of fun-to-elegant papers, ribbons, and tags. Suggested donation is \$2-6 per

package, depending on size, and yes, we can even use your own paper if you wish (so it looks like Santa did the work!)

For more information, call or text Suzi Vlietstra at 951-316-0063.

BVS Horsemen's Association Round-Up

The year is drawing to a close, but the BVS Horsemen's Association is already at work on a full slate of exciting equestrian events for 2026.

Monthly trail rides, informative speaker meetings, and lots of fun special events are in the works, including obstacle playdays, educational clinics, the return of our thoroughly amusing drill team practices after a winter break, and our almost-famous Day of the Horse (June 27 and 28) for horsemen and the



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horse-curious of Bear Valley.

Membership in BVSHA is encouraged so you'll receive all club announcements and discounts as you support BVS equestrian activities. You need not own a horse to join; everyone is welcome, first year is free, and renewals are only \$25. Learn more at byshorsemensassociation.com (new site coming Jan. 1) and please follow us on

Facebook at Bear Valley Springs Horsemen's Association.





Highlights from the Carriage Club

The Carriage Club is not just for carriage drivers. We are a club for anyone interested in horses with our focus on carriage driving and gaited horses. We provided Ride and Drives, playdays and incredible clinics, as well as our famous monthly potluck meetings. One of our main goals is to give back to the Bear Valley Springs community.

Improvements made to BVS by Bear Valley Springs Car-

riage Driving Society during 2024 and 2025:

- Purchased and installed lights at Equestrian Center entrance
 - Rebuilt Eagle Scout bridge
- Purchased shade cover in driving arena
- Initiated procurement of new round pen by Clubhouse
- Initiated pass through by clubhouse to avoid parking lot
- Purchased and installed walk-through gate in Carriage



Hill fencing for easier access to restrooms

- Trail easements initiated by club or donated by members: Bertoni trail; Elk Meadow trail, Rockin JK Ranch Trail
- Obstacles on Carriage Hill: Water Crossing, Car Wash, KPP passthrough, Tire pedes-

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tals, 2 Barrel Pushes

2025 Events in Review

Clinics Included: Partnership and Leadership with Julie Renfro; Sioux Mansford Driving Multiples Demo; Masterson equine bodywork clinic; Pleasure class clinic, Obstacles and Cones clinic; Melissa









Windham Gaited Horse clinic; Jonathan Fields Horsemanship clinic.

We participated in:

• Day of the Horse with a booth to educate about the driving sport, along with carriage ride experience for at-Bear Tracks tendees, gaited horse demo and working with a foal demo.

- Meet the Clubs event at Whiting Center where we answered questions and handed out information.
- Christmas Parade with Horsemen's Association.

BVS Carriage Driving Society regular meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. The Dec. 20 meeting is from 4 to 7 p.m. and is our annual fundraising auction. All are welcome!





News from the BVS Veterans Association

Our Honor Guard is made up of BVS-VA members from all branches of the military. We recently celebrated our 6th year anniversary and have performed over 100 solemn Full Military Honors with respect and dignity for veterans being laid to rest. Most are at Bakersfield National Cemetery, but we have rendered Honors in Bear Valley Springs, the Tehachapi Cemetery and local churches.

We provide folding and presentation of the flag, bugle 'Taps', and a three round rifle volley. Our Captain, Martin Hernandez, keeps us sharp by holding frequent practices. At the beginning of every service, his words, "Remember gentlemen, every move is deliberate, with honor, respect and dignity," remind us how to conduct the ceremony.

Our unit visits the BNC monthly to remember our departed members with flowers.



Pancho and Maria Colon (Marines) and Frank Miller (Navy) did the honors this month.



John Pruden (Navy) founded our Unit in 2014. His father, John Byron Pruden (Cdr., Navy) served in WWll and Korea. We also install Bear Valley Veterans on the Columns of Honor at the request of surviving family members at our Memorial Day Ceremony.



We need your photos!

Bear Tracks is currently looking for cover photo submissions for future issues.

Photos must be shot at high resolution to be considered. Images should be saved as jpg, tiff or psd. Please do not crop, resize, sharpen or heavily retouch images before sending them.

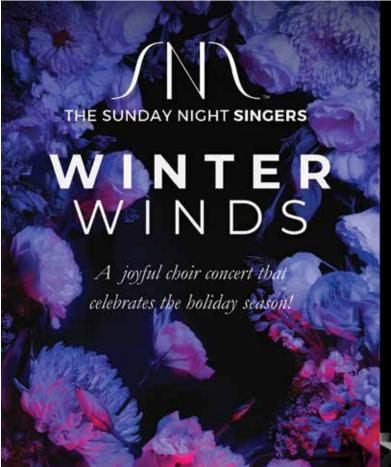
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Photos may be submitted to katatonyk@gmail.com



Honor guard: Front row, left to right, Martin Hernandez, Lee Tharp, Patrick Decant, Jim Rice, Lew Thornton, Bill Snow and Santiago Parrilla. Back row, Paul Bellinger, Josh Hernandez, Jed Hannan. Absent, Jim Atwood and Mike Harges.





Cultural Arts



Winter's beauty, brought to life in song.

Winter Winds is a festive concert filled with timeless holiday choral music, from classics to contemporary favorites.

Presented by SNS Choirs, the premier choral organization of the Antelope Valley with international recognition and collaborations with leading composers. This performance invites the community to experience the beauty and spirit of the season through rich, expressive choral music.



BVS Greenhorns year-end wrap-up

The Greenhorns closed out 2025 with record-breaking participation, new sponsors, and another year of growth in both horsemanship and community spirit. Founded to preserve authentic ranch-horse traditions, the Greenhorns once again proved that teamwork and mentorship are the heart of great riding.

This season featured three exceptional clinics led by Jody Gearhart, Craig Cowley, and Jessica Woodbridge, each focused on refining timing, feel, and communication between horse and rider. The 5th Annual Ranch Spooktacular Show marked a milestone with the largest attendance in club history, alongside two successful Ranch Riding Jackpots with prize money awarded; a first for the club.

Our last event of the year will be our Annual Games on Horseback with The Pony Club. Held on Dec. 6, weather



Photo courtesy of George Stufflebeam

Greenhorns roping demo for Day Of The Horse with Tim Vierra.

dependent, we welcome children, adults, family members and guests in the Cattle arena at

10 a.m. for Christmas themed fun! Prizes will be awarded! Special thanks to our judges : Chip Cardon, Craig Cowley, Jessica Woodbridge, and Jocelyn Mahoney for their exper-

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tise and professionalism.

From May through November, members enjoyed consistent access to cattle, keeping the program grounded in real ranch work. Deep appreciation goes to John App for providing the cattle, working on the cattle crew, and sponsoring our prize-awarded events.

A strong mentorship ethos defined 2025, as seasoned riders supported newcomers, strengthening both skill and camaraderie.

Heartfelt thanks to our 2025 Coordinators: Jody Gearhart, Crystal Gardner, Linda Wells, Denise Togami, Tim Vierra and to Jessica Cardon, who also coached Tuesday cattle sessions with steady encouragement.

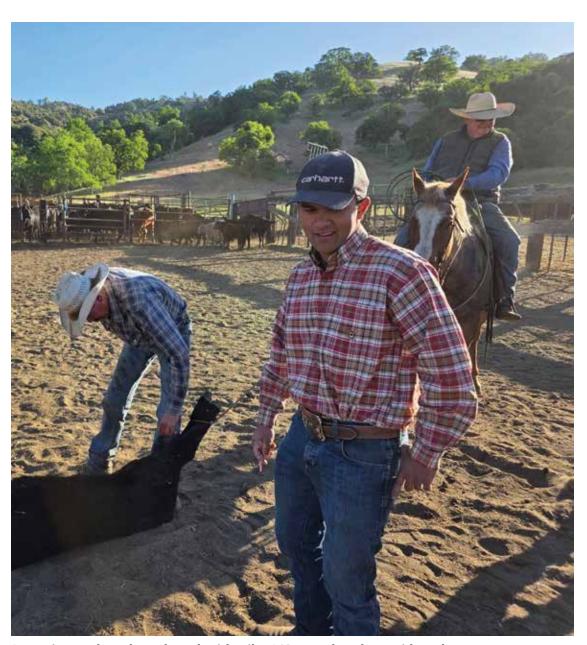
Our gratitude extends to the Board of Directors, Denise Togami, Carol Miller, Tammy Whitley, and Ryan D'Cruz; Our EAC reps, Deirdra Vierra and Miles D'Cruz; and to all volunteers who made every event possible, including Carol Miller, Summer Hash, Kristen Felix and family, Suzi Vilestra, Sharon Owen, the D'Cruz family, Jessica Cardon, Chip and Cathy Cardon, Josh Reed, Mark Macari, Tyrin Prince, Luis Benitez, Tim and Deirdra Vierra, Sandy Travis, Paisley Stidham, and Tammy Whitley. To anyone we missed - thank you!

Special thanks to photographer Jessie Lynn for beautifully capturing our year.

We also wish to recognize and thank founder Brad Lundberg for his continued support and for laying the foundation this club proudly builds upon today.

Sincere thanks to our 2025 sponsors: App Ranch, Barry Blagg Trailers, Valley Propane of Bakersfield, Hallowed Haircraft, The Vierras, Danny Harris, Glory Oaks Leather, The Wallace's, The Wall's, BVS Pony Club, BVS Buckaroos, Salty Vankirk, A-1 Heating & Air, and JJK Group. Your generosity keeps our programs thriving

Membership ended the year at 35, including eight youth riders. The 2026 calendar is al-



Doctoring cattle and ranch work with Miles D'Cruz and cattle provider John App.

ready taking shape, dedicated to education, community, and true horsemanship.

The Greenhorns stay active through the winter without cattle, Tuesday sessions at 3 p.m. and Saturday sessions at 10:30 a.m., weather permitting. Annual Games on Horseback will be held at 10 a.m. on Dec. 6 and Tim Vierra is scheduled to lead a roping practice with the sled on Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. More activities will be posted in The Podkeeper and on our Facebook page, Bear Valley Springs Greenhorns. Sign-ups are available via Podkeeper; membership forms are in the main barn or by contacting Denise Togami at 805-231-8676.



Ranch Spooktacular Prize Buckles designed by Linda Wells.

Members, please join us for the year-end meeting and holiday dinner at the OTCC on Dec. 13 at 5:30 p.m. to celebrate another successful year among good friends, good horses, and great cattle work. R.S.V.P to Denise Togami no later than Dec. 6.



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BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS ASSOCIATION

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Anita Bauer	Secretary
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Monthly open meetings of the Board are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the OTCC.

PERSONNEL AND BOARD DIRECTORS CONTACT INFORMATION

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BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control	868-7100
Association	821-5537
Association Fax	821-5406
Bear Valley CSD, bvcsd.com	821-4428
BVS Rangers	661-732-0100
CSD Fax	821-0180
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Equestrian Center	821-3960
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Golf Shop	821-5144
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Oak Tree Country Club	821-5521
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Road Conditions	800-427-7623
Weather Information	393-2340
Whiting Center	821-6641

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Michael Lewis	Director

The CSD Board of Directors meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 pm at the District Office. You are invited!

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Beverli Marshall	General Manager
Dain Hurst	Chief of Police
Will Parks	Water Supervisor
Daniel Haggard	Roads Supervisor
Jason Parks	
Larry Wiggins	General Services Supervisor

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE*

ODD MONTHS:

DPAC 4 p.m., Every other month on the second Tuesday
PUBLIC SAFETY3 p.m., Every other month on the third Thursday
FINANCE

EVEN MONTHS:

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Submissions: Articles and/or photos may be submitted to: Anita Bauer 821-5537 ext 231 or anitab@bvsa.org.

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