



# Bennett Valley VOICE

www.bennettvalleyhoa.org

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 2

BENNETT VALLEY HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION (BVHA)

MARCH, 2009

## **Unsafe Roads? Public Works Director Phil Demery Will Discuss Bennett Valley Roads Maintenance** *By Craig Harrison*

Phil Demery, Sonoma County's Director of Transportation and Public Works, has agreed to meet with interested residents of Bennett Valley to discuss road maintenance and repair issues. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday evening, March 19, at 7:00 pm in the BV Grange Hall and will be followed by a brief BVHA Board of Directors' meeting. Mr. Demery has been Sonoma County's Public Works Director since mid-2007 and previously held a similar position with Santa Barbara County. *(Please note that the focus of this meeting is not the road closure on Sonoma Mountain Road.)*

Late last year the Metropolitan Transportation Commission once again deemed Sonoma County roads to be the worst in the Bay Area (*Press Democrat*, December 31, 2008). One challenge for the department is that there are fewer government dollars available than in the past to maintain the 1,387 miles of county roads, 25 miles of which are within Bennett Valley. Mr. Demery and First District Supervisor Valerie Brown met with Bennett Valley residents in September 2007 to discuss road conditions and mentioned a report he would be preparing for the Board of Supervisors. In September 2008 the Public Works Department presented to the Board a report entitled "The Road Ahead" that outlined the problems facing Sonoma County regarding road maintenance. (\*See website below.) The Public Works Department is scheduled this spring to present options to the Board of Supervisors "for developing a prioritized portion of the County road network and to receive direction on alternative funding mechanisms for the remainder portions of the road network."

A bright spot is the announcement that the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will provide \$6 million in federal funds to Sonoma County to rehabilitate roads and bridges (*Press Democrat*, February 19). Another \$7.5 million has been allocated to the nine cities. Public Works has just sent out 2,000 invitations to local contractors about the work to be done in Sonoma County.

Residents of Bennett Valley were pleased that the Public Works Department chip sealed the entire 3.5 mile Grange Road and Crane Canyon Road in October 2008. Long-time residents have noted that neither Pressley Road nor the portion of Sonoma Mountain Road between Bennett Valley Road and Pressley Road have been chip sealed in over 25 years and perhaps have never had any systematic preventative maintenance. While these roads are not as heavily used as Bennett Valley Road and Grange/Crane Canyon Road, they are used by a lot of non-resident cars and trucks. "The Road Ahead" report indicates that many of our county roads, apparently including several that are used daily by Bennett Valley residents, may fail completely by 2017 if preventative maintenance is not improved.

\* [http://www.sonoma-county.org/tpw/pdf/presentation\\_20080916.pdf](http://www.sonoma-county.org/tpw/pdf/presentation_20080916.pdf).

## **Proposed Regulations for Septic Systems by the State of California** *By Larissa Goliti*

AB 885 was passed in 2000 requiring the State of California to develop minimum statewide regulations for septic systems throughout California. The California State Water Resources Control Board recently had a hearing in Sonoma County (February 9) on their proposed regulations. To quote the *Press Democrat* editorial on February 6, "***While something clearly needs to be done to address the hazards posed by thousands of leaking septic systems—particularly those near waterways...--this proposal is not the answer.***" One of the proposals was that every septic system and well be inspected every 5 years with the property owner paying \$650 for both. More than 1600 people attended the Sonoma Co. hearings. The public outcry was mostly that, "*One size does not fit all. We have different soil types, different parcel sizes, and different geology.*" Based on the input they've received from nine workshops held around the state, the State Water Resources Control Board is expected to propose less stringent regulations with more flexibility for each county to customize the minimum standards. When the changed proposed regulations are completed, more public hearings will be scheduled. Be vigilant and watch the paper for new hearings.

## Bennett Valley Emergency Planning

By Karen Sommer

Frank LaCombe has alerted me to a sale that Big 5 Sporting Goods is having on Cobra FRS radios (walkie-talkies). They have an 18 mile radius. With 2 per package, the sale price is \$44.99. Call first to make sure the store has them in stock. Frank said that Petaluma usually stocks them. Cobras are considered very good. At last check, Big 5 at Coddington Mall had only two packages of these Cobra radios in stock.

### PLANNING DATES.

- **Saturday, April 25** –Information Fair on “**How To Prepare Your Home Against Wildfires**”, when you’re living in a high fire hazard environment, as most of us are. The fair will be held at the BV Grange Hall. We will have a presentation from and discussion with Bennett Valley Fire personnel on preparing and protecting property, family and animals against wildfire threats. It will include video and power point presentations. We will have handouts on creating a defensible space and preparing your home and family. We hope to have vendors and others to give demonstrations or information on Thermo Gel protection products, landscaping, large animal evacuation, etc. For further information, visit “Living With Fire In Sonoma County”, identified below.
- **May:** CERT classes are being planned on 4 Saturdays
- **June:** Two classes in June: 1.) a CPR class; and 2.) a Disaster Communications class for all residents. This class would be on FRS protocol (walkie-talkies), how to use them and set up a communications structure for a community, including ham radios.

### **“Living With Fire in Sonoma County”**

[www.firesafesonoma.org](http://www.firesafesonoma.org) Brief samples below:

- **Doors** Provide at least two ground level doors for easy and safe exit and at least two means of escape (i.e. doors or windows) in each room so that everyone has two ways out. Exterior doors should be “one hour rated” doors that will hold back fire for a minimum of one hour. Be sure to provide metal thresholds and install doors to be flush so burning embers cannot blow underneath them.
- **Garage doors** can also be vulnerable to failure by fire. Choose a steel clad model.
- **Open Eaves, Decks and Overhangs** can all act as heat traps and make the building more vulnerable to flying embers and intense heat from nearby fire...Box in under eave areas with “one-hour” rated material...Use skirting to enclose or box underside of deck with “one-hour” rated covering.
- **Vents** To prevent sparks from entering your home, cover exterior attic, roof and under floor vents with wire mesh no more than ¼ inch mesh or less. Attic vents not recommended.

## 2010 BV CALENDAR THEME- “THE MAGIC OF TREES”

By Sherry Parker

**"I think that I shall never see.  
A billboard lovely as a tree.  
In fact, unless the billboards fall,  
I'll never see a tree at all." Ogden Nash**

**Fortunately, we don't have to worry about advertising defacing our vistas here in Bennett Valley. In fact, we delight in the most stunning array of trees on the planet: mighty, gnarly oaks; proliferate bays; towering redwoods and firs; sculptural eucalyptus and madrones; colorful maples; and a plethora of other beautiful and intriguing trees. So, this coming year our calendar will celebrate the MAGIC OF TREES in our community.**

**The BV Calendar is our very own yearly album of life in our valley – a daily reminder of the treasure we all share. Importantly, proceeds from this calendar also represent BVHA's contribution to our volunteer firefighters, emergency safety programs, and the BV Grange with its many community activities.**

**Call to photographers of all ages (yes, to kids as well). Between now and the beginning of September, please capture the magic of the trees which make our valley so exceptional. Film and high-resolution digital will be juried-horizontal format is preferred, but verticals will be accepted (in pairs). The May *VOICE* will provide more detailed entry specifications and deadline.**

**You can still get a 2009 Birds and Blooms Calendar – now for only \$10**

**We do have a few more 2009 calendars left, now for only \$10. If you would like to purchase one (or more) of these beautiful and colorful calendars, please contact Sherry Parker @ 528-6176, or Marilee Jensen @ 576-0405.**

### **Bennett Valley Cell Phone Tower**

PRMD confirms that Verizon has been issued a building permit, so they will be in service before too much longer. Craig Harrison received a message from Peter Hilliard, a Verizon employee, saying that the BV cell phone tower was now under construction and should be in service by the end of March.

## Sonoma Mountain Road Repairs

Sarah Fredericks, construction inspector with Sonoma County Public Works, reports that they were able to get the first few loads of recycled shredded tires (Tire Derived Aggregate, or TDA) in before the recent rains brought everything to a grinding halt. The contractor needs to get in many more loads of the TDA, but they can't proceed to do any more work until the rain stops, which hopefully won't be too much longer.

The TDA needs to be kept clean before the road is built over, which is extra challenging in this type of weather. The area is now surrounded by chain link fence to help keep people and equipment out until there is some more dry weather. A concern mentioned by Sarah Fredericks is that if it takes too long to complete the job, because of wet weather, then the funding approved last year might no longer be available.

Helen Bates, a resident who lives immediately adjacent to where this road repair is being done, reports that a large bay tree, which was in her driveway, has just fallen over into the crater, where the TDA has been placed. She also reports that Sarah Fredericks, personally, and the Argonaut Construction Co. are being very attentive and doing a very good job in spite of the weather limitations.

## Brazen Cougars/ Mountain Lions; Whom Do You Call?

From *Press Democrat*, February 18 and March 6

On February 16, two aggressive juvenile mountain lions approached Nicole Lentz and her four-month old Labrador, Piper, behind her home, in the foothills northeast of Santa Rosa. Lentz kicked one of them repeatedly and swung her dog's leash in their direction before making her way to a friend's back yard. "My voice is really hoarse from screaming and yelling for help," Lentz said. "I feel like they were really hungry and they really wanted to eat my dog. I feel like they were hunting." Another neighbor, Stacey Szczekocki said, "I stepped out onto my front porch and there was an animal a foot away from my foot. I was holding my 1½ year old. I screamed and it ran. It was not aggressive at all. It was just hanging out." ...

"People want to know if sightings are up and what they can do to protect themselves and their pets," said Doris Duncan, Executive Director of **Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue**, "and they want to know who to call if they see a mountain lion." You can call their "hot line", at **526-Wild (526-9453)**, where volunteers answer messages every hour. If you're feeling more urgency, **you should call Sonoma County Animal Care & Control (565-7100) or the Sheriff's office at 565-2121.**

## Bennett Valley Clean-Up Roads Day

We're planning to have our "Spring Clean-Up Day" on Saturday, April 18, 8:30 am, at the BV Fire Station, with refreshments served. Please join us, along with other family members or friends, either at the BV Fire Station or at a time more convenient to you around the area where you live. If you call Sandy Sandine, at 579-2121, she'll be glad to deliver an orange bag to you for this purpose. You can then leave the orange bag at the BV Fire Station parking lot. **Additional Volunteers Are Always Needed.** You'll see a sign up on Bennett Valley Road, across from the golf course, as a reminder. If it rains, we'll reschedule. And don't forget to wear sturdy shoes, gloves, and something for sun protection when picking up litter. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Sandine at 579-0282.

## Testing Ticks for Lyme Disease

By Marilee Jensen

Recently, when I felt a sharp pain on my shoulder, I found I had a tiny tick embedded in my skin surrounded by a white circle with a red ring around it. I pulled the tick out and saved it in a closed container. Could it have Lyme disease? Only a very small percentage of ticks in Sonoma Co. have Lyme disease, but it was a concern. I found out I could take the tick to Sonoma County Health Department for testing for only \$29.00. Call 565-4715, to find out about the procedure, then you can take the tick to 3313 Chanate Road, where they do the testing on Thursdays. If the bacteria resulting in Lyme disease is detected, they call you the next day. If not, then they mail you the test results. It was a big relief for me to find out this tick didn't have Lyme's disease.

## Women Drivers Beware

By Marilee Jensen

In the last VOICE there was an article about two situations on Bennett Valley Road, near Enterprise Road, where a man tried to get women who were alone in their cars to pull over to the side of the road. He was successful in one situation; a woman was sexually assaulted by the man, but the second woman pulled her car away in time. There have now been five additional attempted attacks with a similar style, two in Rohnert Park and three on Calistoga and Porter Creek Roads. (*Press Democrat*, February 20) "Authorities issued a safety warning..., urging women, particularly those driving alone, to be cautious and not stop for anyone on the roadway. Stay in your car. Stay moving," said Sgt. Dave Thompson with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department. "Thompson said women drivers need to be particularly alert and call for help if they see anything suspicious or believe they are being followed or tailgated." They can call 911 or the Sheriff's dispatch at 565-2121. If they don't have a cell phone available, they should drive to a safe, visible location, such as the Bennett Valley Fire Station or a highly visible home, stay in their locked car and continuously honk the horn to attract help.

## **Bennett Valley Fire Protection District**

6161 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa  
Non-Emergency Business Phone: 578-7761

### **Board of Directors**

Mark Richardson, President; Joseph Mazeau, Vice-President; Marilee Jensen, Secretary; Arnie Tognozzi, and Don D'Avanzo, Directors.  
*Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday each month, 7:00 pm, at the BV Fire Station. Please confirm meeting date ahead of time.*

### **Bennett Valley Paid Firefighting Staff**

*Fire Chief:* Andy Pforsich, 823-1084  
*48-hour Personnel:* Lieutenants Kevin Burris, Matt Tognozzi, and Danny Connelly  
*Daytime Firefighters, 8:00am to 5:00 pm:*  
Engineers Patrick Tognozzi, Brian Drees and Ronnie Lakin

*Supplemented and supported by many trained firefighting volunteers. Three separate shifts of volunteers are paid to sleep overnight at the Fire Station, three at a time, for improved coverage. Volunteers are also paid and interns used, as the third firefighter on duty during the day.*

## **Winter Spare the Air Program**

(Copied from <http://www.sparetheair.org>)

The **2008-09 Winter Spare the Air** season ended February 28. The ban on wood burning during **Winter Spare the Air Alerts** has been lifted but will resume on November 1. Residents who do burn in a fireplace or outdoor fire pit must still burn cleanly using dry, seasoned firewood and not burn garbage, leaves or other material that would cause excessive smoke. Residents who exceed the excess visible smoke provision in the [wood-burning rule](#) could still be subject to an Air Quality District citation or penalty. Follow these links for more information on the Air Quality District's [wood-burning regulation](#), and instructions on [how to comply](#). Residents and businesses can still call **1-877-4NO-BURN (1-877-466-2876)** to report wood smoke concerns in their area.

Residents who signed up for Phone Alerts will remain on the roster to receive calls when the next **Winter Spare the Air** season starts up again in November. Residents who signed up for e-mail Air Alerts will also receive e-mails when **Spare the Air** days are forecast during the **2009 Summer Spare the Air** season.

The **Spare the Air Program** was established by the [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) to educate people about air pollution, and to encourage them to change their behavior to prevent it.

During the summer months ground-level ozone is the pollutant of concern. Ozone is formed when pollutants combine on hot summer days, and it accumulates when there is little wind. In order to protect public health, the Air Quality District issues Spare the Air advisories on days when air quality is forecast to be unhealthy due to high ozone levels. People who are especially sensitive to pollution are advised to limit their time outdoors, particularly in the afternoon hours. These advisories are posted on the web site shown above, recorded on our 1 (800) HELP AIR forecast phone line, announced in local newspapers, and broadcast on local TV and radio stations.

On Spare the Air Days, we ask Bay Area residents to reduce pollution by making clean air choices every day. These simple actions include driving less, taking public transportation, trip-linking, walking, biking, choosing non-gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment, and avoiding polluting household products...

## **Bennett Valley Firefighter Activities**

### **January/February, 2009**

By Lieutenant Kevin Burris

Medical Aids- 13;	Structure Fires-3;
Vehicle Accident- 2;	Alarm Soundings-2;
Smoke Investigations- 3;	Other-1;
Total calls-24	

Bennett Valley Fire Protection District now has nine Explorers, five of whom are new as of January 1. We are sending four Explorers to the yearly Academy, which will be in Ross Valley (Marin County) this year. One of them will be attending his first Academy, two of them are returning for their second Academy and one will be attending for his third time. Trevor Galeazzi, Russel West and I will be returning as instructors in this intense seven days of firefighting training, during Easter vacation.

As spring rain showers are finally upon us, I would like to remind the homeowners of Bennett Valley that it is never too soon to start your vegetation management. The State of California is requiring homeowners to maintain a defensible space of 100 feet from each side of the structure, thus allowing fire suppression personnel the necessary room to make a stand and protect your home. If you have questions about how to make your property fire safe, Cal Fire has a very informative website ([www.ca.fire.gov](http://www.ca.fire.gov)) with all the proper steps and guidelines to get you ready for the wildfire season. Another valuable website with this type of information can be found at [www.firesafesonoma.org](http://www.firesafesonoma.org), as described on Page Two, along with the Information Fair being planned at the BV Grange Hall on April 25, "**How to Prepare Your Home Against Wildfires.**"

**Bennett Valley Homeowner's Association (BVHA) Board Of Directors**

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**BVHA VOICE Editor – Marilee Jensen**, 576-0405,

[marileejensen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marileejensen@sbcglobal.net).

**A Message From Your Membership Coordinators,**

**Larissa Goliti and Jeannie LaCombe**

Thank you all for your response to the annual membership drive and your generous contributions. It is never too late to become a member of Bennett Valley Homeowner's Association. Annual dues are \$15 plus any additional contribution you want to make, payable to BVHA. If you want your extra contributions (over \$15) to be used for any specific purpose, please indicate on the check, under "memo". Send your check to: BVHA, PO Box 2666, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. Questions? Call 578-3453.

**Brief Summary of BVHA Meeting**

January 15, 2009

- The last VOICE stated that there would be 16 redwood trees around the BV cell phone tower. That was in error. Blake Hillegas, from Sonoma Co. PRMD, states there will be eight 24" box-sized redwood trees planted around the new cell tower.
- Karen Sommer asked the Board to look at the BVEP article in the VOICE, There will be a CERT class in the spring. The BV Fire District is interested in helping with instruction on wildfire protection and fire safety class. The Sonoma Mountain Road Zen Center is interested in organizing themselves for emergency preparedness. Holland Heights and other areas in Bennett Valley are beginning to organize

neighbors as well. Grants are available for neighborhoods.

- The BV Fire Station was considering an expansion which could also be used for the BVEP emergency supplies and equipment, but the initial estimates were too expensive. Paul Hamilton, a BVHA Board director and an architect, has volunteered to do the drawings for the proposed expansion, at no charge. Richard Lukasko suggested that we use the VOICE to recruit other interested volunteers. The Board moved to form a sub-committee of three to four people to firm up possible commitments for possibly helping with this expansion project.
- As stated in the January VOICE, the 58 foot cell phone tower was approved on December 11 at the Board of Zoning Adjustments meeting. Verizon will now need a building permit, which is expected by the end of January. Larissa Goliti mentioned that they will need to add to this height for the addition of any other cell companies to the tower.
- Marilee Jensen said that the completion date for the Sonoma Mountain Road repair will depend on the weather. This project may cost the County over a million dollars, but they have received a grant to cover the costs for the Tire Derived Aggregate being used.
- Eric Burns reported that the new BVHA website is ready for uploads. The minutes of the BVHA meetings should be on there soon.
- In addition to Phil Demery's presentation in March, BVHA is pursuing a speaker on wildlife in Bennett Valley for a future meeting.

**Board of Directors' Tentative Agenda**

**March 19, BV Grange Hall, 7:00 pm**

7:00 pm – Discussion with Phil Demery, Sonoma County Public Works Department, on road repair and maintenance

8:15 pm – (Approximately) A brief business meeting as follows:

- Report from Bennett Valley Emergency Preparedness Committee
  - A. Update on IRS section 501 (c) (3) Application
  - B. Update on Storage Room Developments
- Status of Cell Phone Tower Construction
- Speaker for May, July, September?
- New Business as Determined by Board

# *Your Emergency Water Storage Supply*

How much do *you* need?

How much do you have stored right now?

A practical solution if you need to store more.

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The #1 emergency supply needed in your home is water. In a regional event like a serious earthquake, electrical power to operate our well pumps here in rural Bennett Valley could be interrupted for a 2-3 week period. Using the recommended guideline of 1 gallon water use per person per day, in a two-resident house this suggests storing 28 to 42 gallons. This does not include your pet or livestock needs. How does *your* current emergency water storage compare to the guideline?

Very, very few of us have this much emergency water stored or even know how to practically do this. But through our emergency preparedness teams and some valley residents we learned of a food-quality 55 gallon water storage barrel that with a special preserver will easily and safely store for 5 years.

Only 35 inches tall, 23 inches wide, 22 lbs. empty ... this barrel is easy to store in your garage or carport, shed, shop, or barn. The barrel can even be stored outside, if protected from regular, direct sunlight by using a tarp or other cover. If the water isn't used after 5 years, the barrel can be refilled and another 5-year preserver dose added.

Accessories available are: the water preserver, a siphon pump, special fitted wrench for the barrel's two caps, and tamper-evident cap seals.

Sixteen of these barrels have already been purchased in Bennett Valley, and we are now preparing to take a group order for more barrels. By consolidating our orders into one shipment, we are able to get significant cost savings. The first shipment was delivered to our fire station for easy individual pickup.

We are not the manufacturer's representative, nor do we have any financial interest in these barrels. We are BVHA neighbors who are just providing a community service by facilitating the administration and logistics of this order. Got questions? eMail us at: [mnp4449@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mnp4449@sbcglobal.net)

**Deadline for ordering your barrel(s) is Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**See pricing and order information on reverse --->**

# How To Order Your Emergency Water Storage Barrel(s)

**Prices:**

55 gal water barrel, FDA-approved resin: \$57.95

Water preserver: \$12.95

- One packet, to be used with one 55 gal barrel.
- Registered and licensed by federal and state EPA.
- Stabilized, pH-balanced sodium hypochlorite that kills bacteria, viruses, mold and fungi. Effective for 5 years.

Bung wrench, to open and close barrel's two caps: \$11.95

Siphon hand-pump, to draw out water for use: \$13.95

Tamper-evident cap seals for barrel's 2 caps: \$ 0.96

Sub-total: \$97.76

Sales tax @ 8.75% \$ 8.55

Share of bulk shipping cost per barrel, estimated: \$30.00

- The cost of shipping depends on the number of barrels ordered. For the first order of 16 barrels, the shipping cost was \$27; if this shipment's actual cost is less than \$30 per barrel, you may donate your balance due to Bennett Valley Emergency Preparedness (BVEP) or have your balance sent to you.

**Total cost for one storage system: \$136.31**

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8.**

*Remove this section and send with your check made payable to 'BVHA.' Write in 'barrel order' on the check's memo line. Mail to: BVHA - P.O. Box 2666 - Santa Rosa CA 95405.*

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>My Cost</u>
Water storage barrel @ \$57.95	[    ]	[    ]
Water preserver @ \$12.95	[    ]	[    ] Need one for each barrel.
Barrel bung wrench @ \$11.95	[    ]	[    ]
Siphon hand-pump @ \$13.95	[    ]	[    ]
Cap seals, 2-pack @ \$0.96	[    ]	[    ] Need 2-pack for each barrel.
Sales tax @ 8.75%		[    ]
Estimated share of ship cost, \$30.00		[    ] \$30 for each barrel ordered.
[    ] Donate any balance to BV Emergency Preparedness.		
[    ] Send any balance to me.		

CHECK ENCLOSED: [    ] Make payable to 'BVHA', with notation 'barrel order.'

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ eAddress (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Bennett Valley Homeowner's Association**  
**P.O. Box 2666**  
**Santa Rosa, CA 95405**

**[bennettvalleyhoa.org](http://bennettvalleyhoa.org)**

**SPECIFIC AMENDED PURPOSES OF BVHA: "To educate, instruct, train and inform the local residents on disaster preparedness and emergency response as well as local environmental and land use issues; to promote and preserve the residential rural character and natural environment of Bennett Valley; to serve as an open forum for Bennett Valley community participation; and to provide a bridge for communication between government agencies and the Bennett Valley community."**

**Return Service Requested**

**April 18; BV Clean-up Day, 8:30 am  
and  
BV Grange Hall Spaghetti Feed, 5:00 pm**

**Bennett Valley Community Calendar**

***Remember to mark your calendars!***

- 1.) BENNETT VALLEY HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION (BVHA): Next meeting, **Thursday, March 19**, 7:00 pm, BV Grange Hall. See Page Seven for agenda.**
- 2.) BENNETT VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: The Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm, at the Bennett Valley Fire Station. Please call 823-1084 to verify meetings in advance as they can be changed at the last minute, such as when a quorum of the Board cannot attend.**
- 3.) LandPaths OUTING: Saturday, March 28, Taylor Mountain Stewardship. Moderate work & fun; refreshments provided; 9:00 am-2:30 pm. Call LandPaths Event Line: (707) 524-9318 or email: [outings@LandPaths.org](mailto:outings@LandPaths.org).**
- 4.) Saturday, April 18 – BV Clean-Up Day, 8:30 am. See Page Three; **BV Grange Hall, Spaghetti Feed**, 5:00 pm, Watch for signs.**
- 5.) How To Prepare Your Home Against Wildfires: Saturday, April 25, BV Grange Hall. Bennett Valley Fire personnel will make a presentation on preparing and protecting property, family, and animals against wildfire threats, with power point presentations, videos and handouts. Watch for signs with more details on time.**
- 6.) AMATEUR RADIO (Ham Radio) LICENSING IN JUST ONE DAY: (From website [smrs.us](http://smrs.us)) Saturday, May 16 or Saturday, August 8, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, Petaluma Senior Citizens Center. Register online or contact Dale at 762-9414.**
- 7.) SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS meets every Tuesday (except on weeks when there is a legal holiday), at varying times, at 575 Administration Drive, Santa Rosa. Valerie Brown is the Supervisor for our First District. You may call her or Lynn Morton-Weil, her Aide, at 565-2241, if you have any questions or concerns.**

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

- Call Sonoma County Road Maintenance, at 565-7280, to report potholes which need fixing, or trash which needs to be picked up along Bennett Valley roads.
- Call 576-1371 from a cell phone to report emergencies in Bennett Valley. Call 565-2121 from **any** phone, to talk to someone at the Sheriff's office 24 hrs. every day, with concerns that may or may not be an emergency.