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# Centerville School Bell

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Nimshew Stage  
Chico, CA 95928

March 2025

## Butte Creek Canyon



Saturday April 12th, 11am

Bring a **potluck** brunch dish to share and a beverage for yourself.

### Bring the Whole Family!

- Meet the Easter Bunny
- Find Golden Eggs - Win Prizes
- Kids Easter Baskets & Goodies
- Spoon and Egg Race

**Mark your calendar** and meet your neighbors at the Centerville Schoolhouse.

### CALENDAR

**Sunday April 27th**

#### **49er Fair Planting Party**

Please bring any old pots, containers, or plant starts you have.

Hosted by Liz Gibbs  
10am at the Schoolhouse

**Saturday May 17th**

#### **Potluck**

Bring a potluck dish to share and beverages for yourself.

Hosts TBD.  
6:30pm at the Schoolhouse

**Sunday June 1st**

#### **The 49er Fair**

Music, Food, Crafts, Plant Sale, and Gold Panning!

9am - 3pm at the Schoolhouse

**The Colman Museum is Open  
Saturdays & Sundays 1-4 pm**

Centerville  
Recreation & Historical Association  
13548 Centerville Road



## CENTERVILLE 49ER FAIR

### We Would Love Fair Helpers

We have had wonderful fair helpers each year, and we would love to welcome any new helpers. If you've helped in the past with our gift sales, drink and ticket sales, or parking, or if you'd like to join one of our helper groups for the first time, please call Julia, (530) 521-8563.

### Vendors Welcome

Are you an artist or seller of a product? We'd love to have you join our Fair! It is a one day event, Sunday, June 1st, 9:00am to 3:00pm. If you'd like more information about reserving a spot, please call Nancy at (530) 521-7930.

### Gift Sale

If you have any new or very close to new items that you'd like to donate to our Fair gift sale, GREAT! Please drop them off in front of the museum gates on a weekend prior to the fair, or call (530) 521-7930 and we will pick things up from your home. THANK YOU in advance for any donations you might have. \*\*We will not be having a yard sale type of sale this year, but we would appreciate any new or almost new items for the gift sale.

### Get Ready for the Plant Sale

Spring is here...and it's time to get together and plant pots for the Forty Niner Fair plant sale. It's a fun time to join with your neighbors for a couple hours of creative fun making planters for the June sale. **Sunday April 27th at 10am** at the Schoolhouse Please bring any old pots, containers or plant starts you have...or just your smiling face. Hope to see you then!

## OUR CANYON'S PAST

*Pres. Longley, - Butte Record, Nov. 3rd 1877*

HELLTOWN, October 25th.

**EDITOR RECORD:—**Accept a few drops of ink from your humble correspondent at Helltown :

Ever since 1851 Butte Creek, from "Black Jack's" ranch, below Diamondville, up to the mouth of Inskip Ravine, has turned out large amounts of gold annually, which, however, has not enriched the toilers materially, but has added to the wealth of the county and State. Butte Creek, in times past, has always sold its gold dust in Oroville, from the fact that Chico never seemed to take any interest in the mines until the present banks were established there. In fact, until Charlie Faulkner went there, its people manifested the utmost apathy in regard to the mines on Butte Creek. But Charlie had bought so much dust from our locality that he paid some attention to the subject as soon as he got established in Chico. Since that time your people are beginning to open their eyes to the importance of the matter.

Diamondville was once a flourishing mining camp, with a number of stores, saloons, butcher and blacksmith shops, and a daily stage to Oroville; but now, like Irving's deserted mansion, it is going to wreck for want of inhabitants.

Passing up the creek, we come to the town of Centreville, that was never known to export anything but gold dust—in exchange for which an immense amount of good whisky has been tunneled up between these grotesque hills and then tunneled down the throats of the lovers of the elixir of life. Dr. Brotherton's store and Hooper's Hotel are the prominent objects of the place. "Doc." is an old pioneer, and is loved by all for his kind and accommodating disposition. Mr. Hooper is an urbane, agreeable landlord, and sets as good a table as any one this side of San Francisco.

Centreville has a wealth of good hill diggings lying around her on each side of the

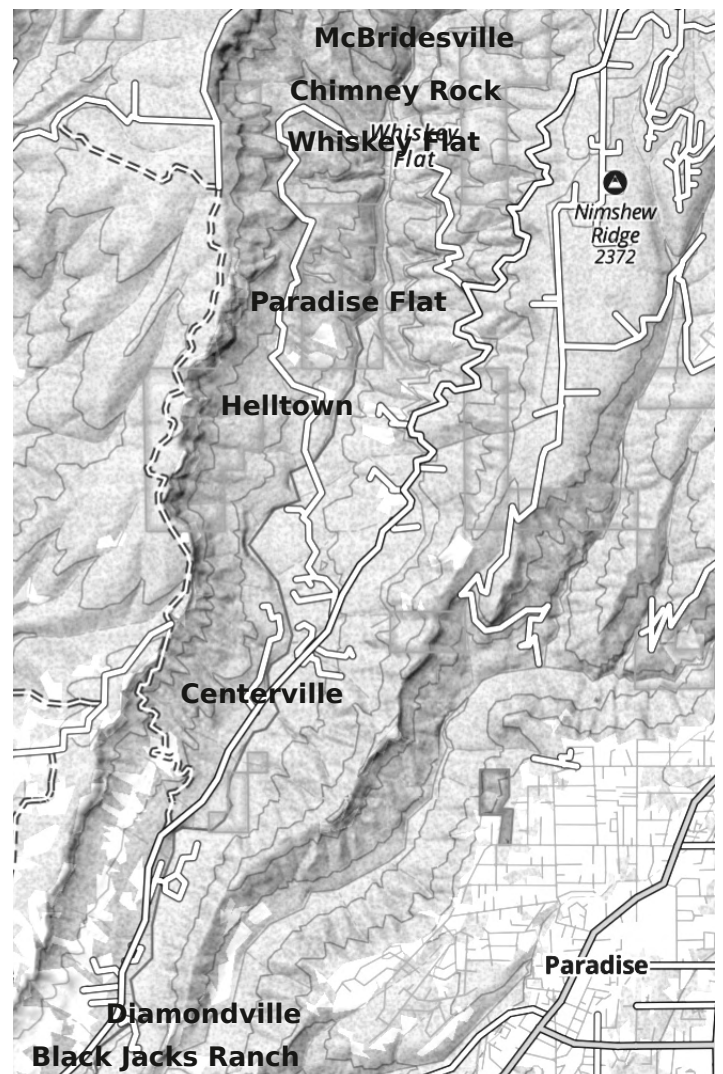


Creek, and when the water ditches, now projected and under way, begin to creep along her hills, she will open her gold tinted eyes and look as happy as a maiden with her first beau. From Centreville to Helltown a distance of two miles, follows a succession of comparatively unprospected hills on each side of the Creek, which will soon tremble with the hydrant farer that will be sent against them by the little giants that will tremble the hills like terrible Titans in conflict with "Jove." Then you can leave your sanctum and come up to hear the rumbling and the roaring, the clashing and the crashing that will awake the echoes along the lava heights, and startle the wild deer from his old familiar haunts. Helltown stands on a beautiful slope on the west side of the Creek, and is one the most lovely Summer resorts in the State, water cold as ice, and air as pure and balmy as Italy; Its people are quiet and law abiding citizens—in fact we have never had but two law suits here for the last quarter of a century and they were lugged in from the outside. You can throw down your most valuable treasures in open sight and go about your business with the assurance that they will be as safe as if they were looked up in the Bank of England.

Mr. Yokum has erected a large and commodious store house in the place and stands ready to cater to the wants of all who may call. With plenty of water to wash down its rich hills, Helltown will stand unrivaled in the State. Riester and Maltby have brought down water to Paradise Flat, one mile above Helltown, and I think when they get their claim properly opened will reap a rich reward. Fred Stryker, will in two or three weeks more have his ditch completed and be able to have a thousand inches of water on Whiskey Flat, that is known to be rich in the ore.

Pat's Castle or Chimney Rock, stands above Whisky Flat like a mighty giant looking down upon the ruin he has wrought. Coxtown or Phillip's Corner is the next

place above Chimney Rock, and has paid this summer from one to two pounds of gold every week. Next comes the Giant's causeway or the works of Captain William Welch, who holds on to his mining interests with a tenacity worthy of his early days in the Naval service of his country. Next comes McBridesville, established by McBride fifteen years ago. He is the lucky owner of a rich quartz ledge that has been cut in two at right angles by Butte Creek, and has been engaged for the last fifteen years in erecting a mill to crush his ore. I understand that he has nearly completed his works and will soon be crushing rock. I think the rock is extensive and good, for I can see gold interspersed through it with the naked eye. I might sketch the different interesting places up to the Forks, but it would take up too much of your space, so adieu. **MINER.**





# Butte Creek Canyon



Honey Run Covered Bridge ■ Colman Museum ■ Centerville Schoolhouse



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School Days	
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Friends of Butte Creek  
www.buttecreek.org

Working to save the last, best run of the spring run Chinook salmon in California.

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Broker Associate

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Each office is independently owned and operated

# ENTERPRISE-RECORD

Public Benefit Charity 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporations. All donations are tax deductible. CRHA 13548 Centerville Rd. Chico, CA  
**Museum Website:** CentervilleMuseum.com **Bridge Website:** hrcoveredbridge.org  
**Phone:** (530) 893-9667 **Facebook:** @Centerville Schoolhouse @HRCBA