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April 2024

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Alexis Prado ~ 2024 Almond Festival Queen

The 109th Almond Festival Queen Pageant took place on Saturday February 17th at 6:00pm at the Guinda Grange Hall. Three talented young women took the stage following a delicious tri-tip dinner put on by the Grange Association. The dinner featured a spring mix salad, vegetables, rolls, potatoes, and mouthwatering tri-tip. The dinner was finished off with a choice of delicious desserts made by the Esparto High School Culinary class.

Once dinner concluded, the three contestants took the stage to present their speeches on the topic: In today's world of social media celebrities use their fame to promote causes important to them. If being crowned Almond Queen made you an instant celebrity, which cause would you promote and why? All of the young ladies worked very hard on their speeches and had some great causes they would support. These included working conditions for Farm workers, holistic approaches to medicine for children and clean products for women. Following the speeches, the contestants then had to answer a follow-up question, current event question and a fun question. This year the three judges had a very difficult job as the competition was very close.

While the three judges tallied their scores, the Western Yolo Grange hosted a raffle with many amazing prizes. These prizes were all donated by local farms and businesses and truly showcased the amazing region we live in. The Almond Queen Pageant Association is the sponsor of the pageant and awards the winner a \$1,000 scholarship and awards the runner-up a \$250 scholarship. The Queen will also receive a \$100 scholarship and each of the remaining contestants will receive a \$50 scholarship provided by the Esparto Chamber of Commerce, the sponsor of the Almond Festival.

When all was said and done three honors were bestowed, Miss Congeniality, voted by the girls; First Runner Up and the Almond Festival Queen. Nyeema Figueroa was awarded Miss Congeniality, First Runner up was awarded to Victoria Hernandez and the 2024 Almond Festival Queen is Alexis Prado. Congratulations! The Queen and her court presided over the Almond Festival on Sunday February 26th.



Top Photo :
2024 Almond Queen Alexis Prado

Bottom Left Photo:
2024 Almond Queen Alexis Prado is congratulated by
2023 Almond Queen, Rubi Luna Avina

Bottom Right Photo:
First Runner Up: Victoria Hernandez, 2024 Almond
Queen: Alexis Prado, Miss Congeniality: Nyeema
Figueroa



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The Valley Voice
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For article inquires, email Tina Minges, Editor, at ValleyVoice@riseinc.org.

For billing inquiries or ad rates, call (530) 787-4110 ext 209.

All articles and *payments* are **due on or before the 15th of each month.**

*We reserve the right to edit articles at our discretion,
due to space limitations and other criteria.*

**The Valley Voice is published monthly in partnership with Yocha Dehe
Wintun Nation, RISE Inc., & Esparto Unified School District.**

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Let all your friends and relatives know that for just \$25 per year we will mail them each month's edition! This is the perfect way to keep up with all the Capay Valley news and events.

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**All are invited to Rumsey Improvement Association's
Monthly Potluck
at Rumsey Town Hall**

Monday, April 1st

Meet at 6:00, eat at 6:30

Please bring food to share.

Please bring your own plate, utensils,
ect.

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Hay una cena cada primer lunes del
mes

en el salon de Rumsey

Lunes, 1 de Abril a las 6:00

Trae algo de comer o beber para
compartir.



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Esparto Unified School District Superintendent Sends Reminder Ahead of Spring Break and State Testing

As we approach the much-anticipated spring break, I want to take a moment to remind all faculty, staff, and students of the Esparto Unified School District of the importance of both relaxation and preparation during this time.

Spring break is a well-deserved respite for everyone in our school community. It's an opportunity to recharge, spend time with loved ones, and engage in activities that bring joy and rejuvenation. I encourage each of you to take full advantage of this break, prioritize self-care, and return refreshed and ready to tackle the remainder of the academic year.

However, amidst the excitement of spring break, it's crucial to remember that we have important responsibilities awaiting us upon our return. State testing season is fast approaching, and both students and educators must be adequately prepared.

State assessments provide valuable insights into student progress and help inform instructional practices and resource allocation. They play a significant role in shaping the educational landscape of our district and ensuring that we are meeting the needs of all learners.

To maximize the effectiveness of our state testing efforts, I urge educators to utilize the remaining weeks leading up to spring break to review key concepts, administer practice assessments, and provide targeted support to students who may require additional assistance.

Additionally, I encourage students to approach testing with a positive mindset, knowing that their hard work and dedication will contribute to the overall success of our district. Remember, these assessments are an opportunity to showcase your knowledge and skills and to demonstrate the incredible growth you've achieved throughout the year.

As we embark on this brief hiatus from our daily routines, let us not lose sight of the goals we've set for ourselves and our students. Let's use this time wisely to relax, recharge, and refocus our efforts on ensuring every student has the opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the students of the Esparto Unified School District. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable spring break.

Sincerely,

Christina Goennier Ed.D.
Superintendent
Esparto Unified School District



Esparto Middle School Words Take Wing

By: Ms. Mary Kay Fallbeck
6th Grade English and Social Science Teacher

Esparto Middle School 6th grade students recently finished reading an incredible novel in English class. *Inside Out & Back Again*, written by Thanhha Lai, is a Newberry Honor Book and winner of the National Book Award. The novel was inspired by the author's childhood story as a refugee fleeing VietNam during the fall of Saigon and escaping to Alabama.

The story is unique in that it is written in verse. This provided a wonderful opportunity to review figurative language. Students identified examples of figurative language in the story. Then they created Google slides that included student generated visual representations of idioms, similes, hyperboles, onomatopoeia and other types of figurative language. A written explanation of what the author used the literary device to describe, and how it personally impacted their understanding of the story was also included.

The reading of the novel was also utilized to introduce the concept of themes in literature. Some of the themes in Lai's novel included change, resiliency, loss, hope and bullying. Students worked with a partner to identify one theme that stood out to them, created a theme statement, and then found 4 quotes in the book that supported their theme. The final product was a poster. Students then used the poster as a graphic organizer to write individual paragraphs on the theme they chose.

In addition to the incredible hands-on work the students produced, they were also invited to the Robert Mondavi Performing Arts Center to see a presentation by the author. Lai was the guest author for *Words Take Wing: Honoring Diversity in Children's Literature*. The opportunity was due to the California Art Council Arts Exposure grant that was applied for and received by the Mondavi Center, UC Davis. The Mondavi Center administers the grant and works with Esparto Middle and Elementary Schools on the shows they will attend.

As a culminating activity, Sacramento Area Youth Speaks (SAYS) presented a workshop to the 6th graders at Esparto Middle School. SAYS elevates the voices of students as the authors of their own lives and agents of change. Presenters Denisha Bland and Kai Uchio helped students generate poems that illustrated where they come from and who their life stories are for. Ask your student to share their story!

The reading of this novel provided such rich learning experiences! It was exciting to observe students reading an actual paperbound book, and enriching themselves by exploring literary devices, themes, and culture. It was impressive to see students take the words from the novel and create their own expression of a theme.

Much thanks to the Mondavi Center for its continued support of enriching the lives of Esparto's students!

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**Esparto Regional Chamber
Business Spotlight:
Laura Cadena Gordon**

A Local Business Owner, Mary Kay Sales
Director, and Former Almond Queen

In the town of Esparto, there is a remarkable woman who has left a lasting impression on the local business community and beyond. Meet Laura Cadena Gordon, a dedicated business owner, passionate Mary Kay representative, former Almond Queen, and a true advocate for organic farming.

Laura's journey in the business world began at a young age, growing up on her family's organic farm in Esparto. Working alongside her parents, Ramon and Lucy, Laura developed a deep appreciation for agriculture and sustainable farming practices. This upbringing instilled in her a strong work ethic and a commitment to preserving the environment through organic farming.

As a local business owner, Laura has made a significant impact in the community with her entrepreneurial ventures. Her dedication to organic farming led her to continue the family farm with her son Stephen Gordon, where they continue to produce high-quality, organic products that have become a staple in the Davis Farmers market.

In addition to her work in organic farming, Laura is also a successful Mary Kay Director, showcasing her talent in sales and customer service. Her passion for beauty and skincare products, combined with her genuine care for her clients, has earned her a loyal customer base and recognition as a top-performing representative. Laura's ability to connect with people and provide personalized solutions has set her apart in the competitive world of direct sales.

Laura's involvement in the community goes beyond her business endeavors. As a former Almond Queen, she has embraced her role as a symbol of local tradition and agricultural heritage. Her participation in community events has brought joy and pride to the residents of Esparto, highlighting her commitment to celebrating the town's rich history.

Furthermore, Laura's leadership extends to her role as the Vice President of the Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce (ERCoC). In this position, she plays a pivotal role in shaping the local business landscape, fostering connections between businesses, and organizing events that bring the community together. Her dedication to promoting local businesses and making the annual Capay Almond Festival a success has been instrumental in enhancing the town's economic growth and cultural vibrancy.

Laura Cadena Gordon is a shining example of a local businesswoman who has made a significant impact on the Esparto community. Her dedication to organic farming, success in the direct sales industry, and active involvement in community organizations make her a true role model for aspiring entrepreneurs.

Rustic Ramble

Capay Valley Farm & Garden Tour



Save the Date!
April 28, 2024
10am to 4pm
Rain or Shine

Enjoy Lunch, Gardens, Farms, Animals, Music and Vendors

Tickets and details available March 20, 2024

<https://westernyologrange.org/>

A fundraiser for the Western Yolo Grange Community Hall in Guinda

Take a delightful Rustic Ramble through the beautiful Capay Valley on the April 28, 2024 Capay Valley Farm and Garden Tour. The valley is home to a wonderful variety of farms and gardens. You will visit many of the valley's unique offerings including a ranch that specializes in Equine Facilitated Learning, private gardens planted with drought tolerant California natives, a 10 acre floral production field, and farms producing organic fruits and vegetables. There will be animals to visit, olive oil and wine to taste, plants and local crafts for sale, and lots of spring flowers to enjoy.

A delicious box lunch of locally sourced ingredients will be available for purchase in advance. The tour includes many locations where you can stop and enjoy your meal.

All proceeds go to the preservation of the historic Western Yolo Grange Community Hall located in Guinda. Built in 1909 the Community Hall continues to serve the people of the Capay Valley and beyond.

Tickets and information available March 20th at <https://westernyologrange.org/>



Need Help?

**St. Vincent de Paul
is available to help those in need.**

For more information call (530) 312-8967

CAREER DREAMS FLY HIGH AT CTE NIGHT

By Katherine Bennett-Greer

CTE Night 4/17 5:30 - 7:00 PM at Esparto Elementary

What we choose to do as a career is one of the most important decisions we make. So, it's no surprise that students benefit from learning about careers in elementary school. In the month of April, students will explore careers in their classrooms, and at Career and Technical Education (CTE) Night on 4/17 from 5:30 - 7:00 PM at Esparto Elementary. Free pizza and prizes for those who attend. Over 15 businesses and public agencies will be there to help students learn and imagine their future jobs. Careers in healthcare, firefighting, law enforcement, business, trucking, culinary, art, and internet careers are some of the jobs that will be represented at the event. We hope to see you there!

87th Annual Lions Club Student Speaker Contest

This year represents the 87th annual Lions Club Student Speaker Contest. The topic is "For a Better World, What Would You Change?" On the local level, the following Esparto High School Junior students participated: Leo Tafolla, Leslie Galvan, Areli Frausto, and Angel Torres. Moving forward from the Local Level Contest and the recent Zone Level Contest is Areli Frausto, who will now compete at the Regional Level on April 7. Congratulations to all student speakers for your work this year in the contest. Esparto Lions thanks English teachers Mrs. Geach & Mrs. Rowland for supporting students in this process.

For the contest, the Foundation will provide all of the prizes above the Region Level, as it has done now for many years. The contest starts at the Local level and then moves to Zone, Regional, District, Area, and then the Final Contest which will be in Sacramento this year.

Each of the 15 District winners will receive a scholarship for \$4,500. The four Area winners will each receive an additional \$6,500. scholarship. The Final MD-4 winner will receive a scholarship for the amount of \$10,000. The final student speaker of the contest will have accumulated \$22,000. in scholarships from the Lions Club Student Speaker Foundation.

In 1937, Fred Smith became the first District Governor of District 4-C. One of his Deputy District Governors, Frank Colston, suggested a student speaker contest for high school students in the District. The idea was approved as something that would give all the Clubs in the District something in common. The foundation funds for the student speaker contest come entirely from voluntary donations and income from the accumulated assets.

Contest Purpose:

- to provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking
- to encourage self-expression and independent thinking
- to present to the public through the Student Speakers Contest the problems surrounding the maintenance of this country as a free nation

EES CTE EXPLORATION NIGHT

CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE!

What will you be when you grow up?



DATE

Wednesday
April 17th



TIME

5:30-7:00PM



Esparto Elementary
School

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FREE ADMISSION
INTERACTIVE LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES

What is CTE?

Career Technical Education focuses on integrating core academics with hands-on technical and occupational knowledge. CTE programs are designed to prepare students for postsecondary education and careers.

Why is CTE Important for Your Child?

Students who participate in CTE are more likely to attend/finish college, have higher GPAs, and are more prepared for college and careers than their peers.

Learn more about Career Tech Education at cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/gi

EES CTE NOCHE DE EXPLORACIÓN

ELIJE TU AVENTURA

¿Qué serás cuando seas grande?



FECHA

Miércoles
17 de Abril



HORA

5:30-7:00PM



Escuela Primaria
Esparto

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¿Qué es CTE?

La educación técnica profesional (Career Technical Education) se enfoca en integrar lo académico básico con conocimientos prácticos técnicos y ocupacionales. Los programas CTE están diseñados para preparar a los estudiantes para la educación postsecundaria y las carreras.

¿Por qué es importante CTE para su hijo?

Los estudiantes que participan en CTE tienen más probabilidades de asistir o terminar la universidad, tienen GPA más altos y están más preparados para la universidad y las carreras que sus compañeros.

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ORGANIC GROWERS



Madison Community Food Closet Distribution

The Madison Community Committee Food Closet new distribution dates are the second and fourth Monday of each month from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

(Submitted by Rachel de la Cruz)

New Season and Esparto: Beautification Lasts

Art and history were brought to Esparto by Maria Mcvarish and Eduardo Pineda with the help of New Season Community Development Corporation. What is the story?

Maria had a lifelong love for the Capay Valley reflective of visits to the Almond Festival as a child. That translated years later into purchasing the historic Train Station with design and rehabilitation in mind. Her work as an award-winning landscape designer brought a unique art in history project to Esparto. Maria was teaching at both the Berkeley College of Environmental Design and the California College of the Arts. She created a project for her students to help beautify and reiterate our history. The project directed the students to interview local residents about the importance and history of the Capay Valley and translate that into an art installation in the train station. The designs were unique and brought out many residents to enter the train station for the first time in their lives and imagine its future.

Enter Eduardo Pineada was Professor at the California College of the Arts and a worldwide respected muralist. Building on the idea of history and art, his students researched both throughout the Capay valley with the help of New Season. The art board murals are meaningful and beautiful as they now sit on the Train Station property. This is seen by the thousands who travel through our Valley. The work has been preserved over many years, since 2015, because of Eduardo's knowledge of how to make outdoor art work stand up to the elements. With the help, of Durst Organic Farms and locals Larry Heitman and Jim Rix, the murals were put into permanent place on the property. Take a walk there and read the history legend and descriptions of this work. It's another example of art and history for Esparto and the entire Capay Valley.

Locals, Durst Organic Farms and Ji Durst, Larry Heitman and Jim Rix putting up permanent murals at the Train Station.

Part 2, Local Artists Continue the Mural Tradition



Students from the California College of the Arts, Depicting Farming

Locals, Durst Organic Farms and Jim Durst, Larry Heitman and Jim Rix putting up permanent murals at the Train Station



Chess Club at RISE Inc.

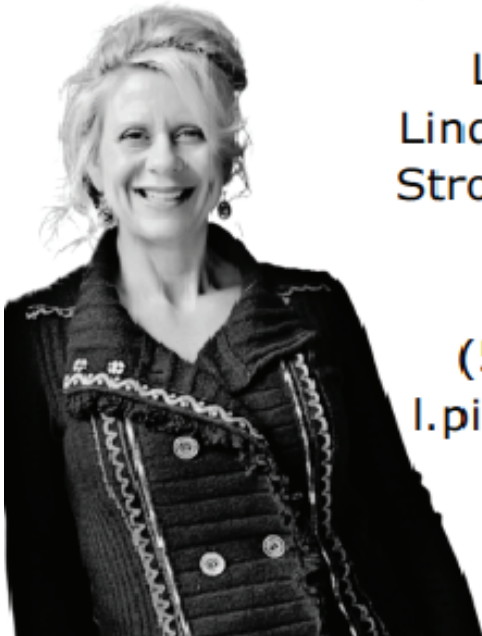
Esparto Residents! RISE Inc. has a Chess Club which meets every Friday at RISE in the MultiPurpose Room at 9:00 a.m.

This is a FREE club and open to anyone who enjoys a good game of chess or who would like to learn the game, Bring your chess board and join the fun. I talked with one of our club members and he said he has "met his match" in his opponent!

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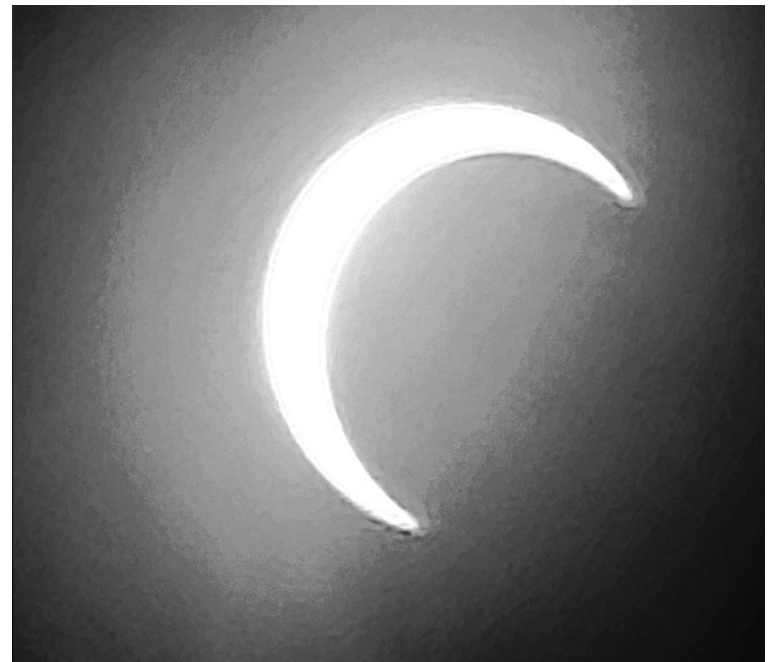
The Breeze

By Clarence G. Underwood

The breeze is blowing, the leaves fly here and there.
Pollen is released into the air. My nose is running,
Hay fever I have. Tears pour from my eyes, springtime
Is really here. The sun is shining, for a while the clouds
Have disappeared. Yes, we had lots of rain this year!
We have seen another warm winter, is it a record, I don't
Know, but we are in global warming, the earth may be dying
Slow! Look on the bright side, perhaps it will be a couple
Of hundred years before doomsday appears. At least
Mankind has a few more years. We worry about elections
And war overseas, the real problem is found in the breeze.
As the earth warms hot air will dry the land, man won't be
Able to grow crops and the soil will turn to sand! This
November as you go to the polls remember it's about
Survival so see where your candidate stands! Our freedoms
May be in jeopardy, but so is earth's life. Choose continued
Existence, choose life! A live dog is better than a dead lion
So consider your lot. Let's try to keep the breeze cool, we
Don't want it hot!

*We have a partial eclipse
on April 8, 2024. Are you
ready?*

Clarence Underwood





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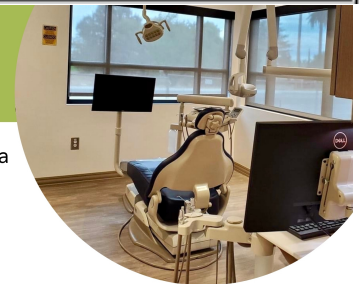
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Seasonal Recipes

Using ingredients sourced from farms in the Capay Valley

By Pamela Bateman



Farmers Potatoe Salad

The addition of greens and radish make this a wonderful, farm fresh salad

5 or 6 Yukon Gold Potatoes* - medium size boiled until tender and cut into bite size pieces

6 Eggs - hard boiled and chopped

1/2 cup Red Onion - chopped

1 cup Arugula* - chopped

1 Watermelon Radish* - grated

Salt to taste

Dressing

2 1/2 Tablespoons Mayonaise

2 1/2 Tablespoons Plain Yogurt

1 teaspoon Dijon Mustard

1 Lemon- grated rind and juice

In a large bowl mix the potatoes, eggs, red onion, arugula, and radish. Salt to taste. In a smaller bowl mix the dressing ingredients and then pour over the potato mixture.

Chill until ready to serve

Makes approximately 4 servings

*Notes

The Yukon Gold Potatoes can be substituted with any other potato.

The arugula can be substituted with chopped mustard greens or other greens of your choice.

The watermelon radish can be substituted with a daikon radish



Birds of a feather flock together and paint the sky!

Barbara Gemmill-Herren

Capay Valley Regeneration

Birds of a feather flock together and paint the sky!



In this cold and windy weather, you've probably seen large numbers of black birds rise up out of leafless orchards and swoop across the sky in a shape-shifting group. The overall effect – to me – looks like someone painting with black watercolor on the sky. Technically these are called “murmurations”. What are these birds, and how do they do that, staying together while changing the overall shape?

The birds are starlings, and they're not actually native birds- they were brought over from Europe at some point. But they are totally naturalized and thriving here. They are very social birds, always staying in flocks of various sizes. In winter, they gather at night, roosting close together in trees to maintain warmth and possibly share information, as they chatter away. Then in the mornings, they zoom out- swooping, diving and wheeling, but staying altogether in a big shifting “cloud”- to find food. But how do they manage to keep the group together?

An early hypothesis was that starlings had psychic powers to operate together as a flock. But it turns out, based on some clever “citizen science” research, that starlings need only observe three simple rules to build these clouds: nearby birds should move further apart, all birds should fly in the same direction and speed, and more distant birds should move closer. Research showed that starlings sought to match the direction and speed of only the nearest seven or so neighbors, rather than responding to the movements of all the nearby birds around them.

Starlings aren't psychic, they are just good at following rules!

Ref; Goodenough AE, Little N, Carpenter WS, Hart AG (2017) Birds of a feather flock together: Insights into starling murmuration behaviour revealed using citizen science. PLoS ONE 12(6): e0179277. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0179277>



ESPARTO HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

At Esparto High School we have so many amazing students, but this month we would like to celebrate our students who earned Honor Roll for Fall Semester. They have worked hard the whole course of the semester to maintain their grades, stay on top of their homework and, worked tirelessly to do their best. They understand their responsibility in

Honor Roll Students (3.0 to 3.49)

Mariana Balion, Natali Banuelos, Ximena Bermudez, Nazareth Burruel, Xavi Camargo, Citaly Camargo-Montes, Armando Campos, Diego Carabez, Mia Castaneda, Angelina Corona, An-Nissa Davis, Yasmin Diaz Martinez, Taylor Dovel, Marissa Garcia, Jennifer Garnica Lopez, Raquel Garza, Audrey Glines, Daniel Hernandez, Victoria Hernandez, Makayla Ibarra, Lianni Jimenez Martinez, Makenzi Karlstad, Marissa Kelly, Luca Lawrence, Alexander Luna, America Mares Tejeda, Isabella Martin, Rylan McAllister, Priscila Melendrez, Emmely Mendiola, Ramiro Mojica, Andrew Montoya, Robert Pedroia, Jesus Pelayo, Alberto Perez, Adan Polanco, Filemon Ramirez, Anna Rickey, Daniel Sanchez Zaragoza, Cohen Sihapanya, Hugo Trejo, Ykaterina Vial, Fabiola Villegas, Irvin Zamora.

High Honor Roll Students (3.5 to 3.99)

Stepahine Anaya, Jessica Ayala, Jaime Barcelo Gastelum, Riata Chappell, Jamilay Delaluz-Ledesema, Evelyn Diaz, Nyeema Figueroa, Nevaeh Gamboa, Nayelly Garibay Figueroa, Camila Gomez Bravo, Colt Johnson, Lillian Johnston, Aaron Lopez, Diego, Lisandra Martinez, Carolina Montes, Khalia Moore, Kelis Morgan, Nicole Navarro, Breanna Paris, Alexis Prado, Natalia Quiroz, Samantha Ramirez Montes, Emily Rodriguez, Jimena Sanchez, Faith Simpson, Janisha Gayle Sta Maria, Aaron Valenzuela, Arylene Villarreal

Spartan Honor Roll Students (4.0 and above)

Jonah Barnes, Betzabe Bermudez, Tobias Berns, Vittoria Ceci, Noah Cox, Yenci Delgado Melendrez, Emily Fierro, Irlanda Fierro, Areli Frausto, Eliel Frausto, Staphanie Junez, Diana Lucero, Noah Marin, Jeriann Moore, Andre Oliver, Gurshan Pooni, Leaandro Tafolla, Angel Torres, Dylan Vicente Lopez, Giselle Villegas



Esparto Unified School District Superintendent, Community Schools and RISE Inc. present at Conference

Esparto Unified School District Superintendent (Christy Goennier) and Community Schools administrators (Sherrie Vann & Juan Juarez), along with our RISE, Inc. Executive Director (Laura Guevara) illuminated the power of collaboration at this year's Small School Districts Association Conference in Sacramento.

This presentation highlighted the critical role of effective partnerships in unincorporated areas, proving that together, we can uplift our communities and transform education!

Yolo County CWPP Project Update

Last year, Yolo County RCD received funding to continue developing the RCD's Community Wildfire Resilience Program. The program encompasses initiatives including the Yolo County Fire Safe Council and the Yolo Prescribed Burn Association and is centered around community-driven, on-the-ground fuels management for wildfire resilience. The funding is through CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Program and the Early Action Funding granted to the County of Yolo through Senator Dodd's Office.

In early 2023, Yolo County RCD completed the Yolo County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), a planning document that was created in collaboration with CAL FIRE, community groups, local fire officials, and the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services. The CWPP contains a list of priority projects that are now underway! Funding from CAL FIRE and the County of Yolo supports project planning and implementation for the following projects:

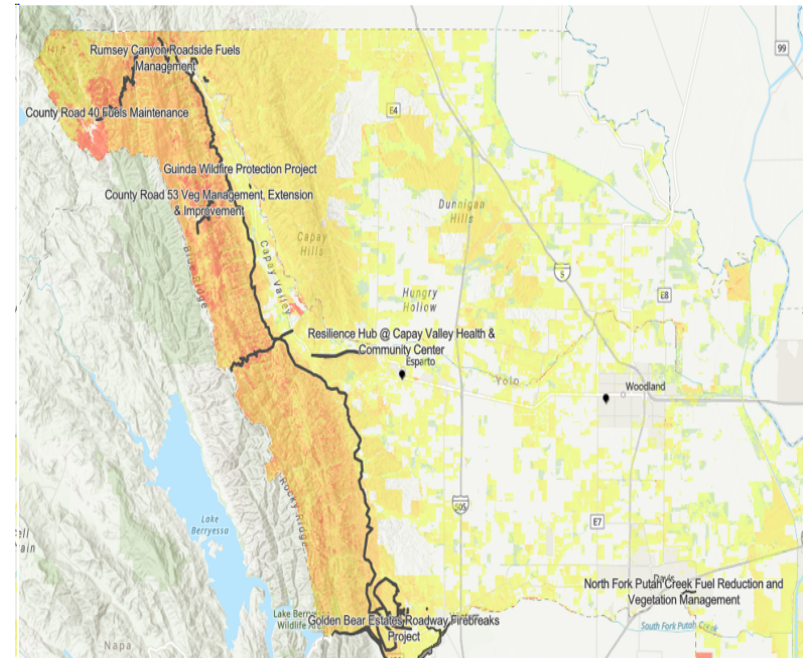
Capay Valley State Highway 16 Fuels Reduction: prescribed fire along the roadsides of Highway 16 outside of Esparto to reduce the likelihood of ignition from passing cars

Ingress/Egress Evacuation Planning in eastern Capay Valley: evacuation and access planning and possibly improving shallow-water crossings

Rumsey Ditch Vegetation Management: clearing along the Rumsey Ditch to improve ingress/egress on Rumsey Canyon Road

Rumsey Fire Buffer and Fire Wise Certification: fuels reduction work around the town of Rumsey, CA using a combination of prescribed grazing, prescribed burning, and vegetation management. This will protect the community and also help them to become a certified FireWise Community, a program that reduces wildfire risks at the local level.

West Winters Highway 128 Fuels Reduction: mechanical vegetation control along State Highway 128 from Pleasants Valley Rd to Canyon Resort, approximately 4.5 miles - CURRENTLY UNDERWAY



Map of area projects

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



MAKE A PLAN



BUILD A KIT



BE INFORMED

Preparedness for Any Season

Yolo County experienced many days of storms and rain this past winter. The Yolo County Fire Safe Council stresses the importance of emergency preparedness in and out of fire season. Here are some preparedness tips for any season:

Store flashlights alongside extra batteries & charge portable chargers for electronics when storms are forecasted.

Save memories and important documents on a USB or on the Cloud. If evacuation is possible, fill your gas tank and park your car so it is ready to go in case of quick evacuation.

Make a go-bag for each person in the family (including pets) that includes extra water, clothes, important documents, prescriptions, and medicines.

Prepare emergency planning for pets - keep leashes, harnesses, and crates handy and make sure pets are indoors where you can find and access them.

Know multiple evacuation routes from your home.
Check on your neighbors to be sure they are safe.



RISE Inc., Mental Health Program Receiving Reward

The RISE, Inc. Mental Health Program will be honored with the prestigious Mental Health Luminary Award at the upcoming NAMI Celebrate Hope and Resilience event on May 9th at El Macero Country Club in Davis.

We are beyond humbled and honored to be recognized by such a respected organization as NAMI. This recognition is not just an award; it's a testament to the exceptional service, commitment, and impact our Mental Health team has tirelessly provided at various school sites in Winters and Esparto.

Congratulations to our Mental Health Team and everyone who has played a role in supporting this program. Your hard work, innovative spirit, and compassionate service have brought us to this moment of incredible honor.

Thank you for all that you do for RISE and our community!

Celebrate Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros at the Yolo County Library

(Woodland, CA) – Children and their families are invited to join the Yolo County Library in celebrating Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros. Many nations around the world observe Día de los Niños in springtime, honoring and celebrating children as the embodiment of every community's hopes and dreams. Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros underscores the significance of literacy for children from diverse backgrounds, while encouraging libraries and community organizations to inspire and empower new generations of achievers. The event also connects children and their families to diverse books, languages, and cultures.

Everyone is welcome to participate in this free, enjoyable, and educational celebration on the following dates:

- April 06 at 1:00 p.m.: Yolo Branch Library, 37740 Sacramento St, Yolo
- April 13 at 1:00 p.m.: Knights Landing Branch Library, 42351 Third Street, Knights Landing
- April 13 at 11:00 a.m.: South Davis Montgomery Library, 1441 Danbury Street, Davis
- April 17 at 2:00 p.m.: Esparto Regional Library, 17065 Yolo Avenue, Esparto
- April 17 at 2:15 p.m.: Clarksburg Branch Library, 52915 Netherlands Avenue, Clarksburg
- April 20 at 11:00 a.m.: Winters Community Library, 708 Railroad Avenue, Winters
- April 27 at 2:00 p.m.: Arthur F. Turner Community Library, 1212 Merkley Avenue, West Sacramento
- April 27 at 11:00 a.m.: Mary L. Stephens – Davis Branch Library, 315 E. 14th Street, Davis

Children in attendance at these events will receive a free book and are welcomed to participate in educational activities, watch a special performance at select locations, and listen to a storytime program. "Our Día celebration across the county will be fun and engaging, and the free books will help add to or create home libraries—an important part of encouraging literacy. We hope you will join us in the festivities," shared Yolo County Librarian and Chief Archivist Diana Lopez.

No reservations are necessary, and all events are free to attend, thanks to the generous support from Yolo County's Friends of the Library groups and the Yolo County Library Foundation. For more information about the Yolo County Library, please visit our website at www.YoloCountyLibrary.org. You can also connect with us on social media: find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/YoloCountyLibrary or on Instagram and TikTok at [@YoloCountyLibrary](https://www.instagram.com/YoloCountyLibrary)



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please contact the group you are interested in, to see if they are still meeting at this time.

AA Meeting: Tuesday at 7 pm in the basement of the Countryside Community Church in Esparto. 1 hour open.

Spanish AA: Alcohólicos Anónimos: Detrás de El Toro. Los lunes, miércoles, y viernes a las 7 pm - 9 pm.

Spanish AI-Anon: Spanish AI-Anon: Detrás de El Toro (26628 N. Grafton). Los Martes a las 7 pm - 8:30 pm.

AI-Anon: Countryside Community Church on Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church Community Dinner: Every Tuesday at 4 pm located at 26479 Grafton Street, Free, Everyone Welcome.

Capay Valley Christian Fellowship: 11 am adult Sunday school; 11:45 am social; 12:10 pm - 1:10 pm worship/children's Sunday School at the Guinda Community Church.

Capay Valley Fire Commission Meeting: Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Guinda Fire Station.

Capay Valley Garden Club: 4th Wednesdays, 6 pm, location varies, see Facebook page for more information.

Capay Valley General Plan Advisory Committee: Meets every 1st Wednesday at 7 pm at the Grange Hall in Guinda. Open to all.

Capay Valley Science Club, 4th Mondays, 6 pm, location varies. See Capay Valley Science Club" Google Group for information.

Capay Valley Vision Board: Meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the Esparto Library at 6:30 p.m. (Meetings are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.)

Cottonwood Cemetery District: Next meeting will be April 13th at 9 am at the new Esparto RISE office (17340 Yolo Avenue).

Countryside Community Church: Sundays at 9 am Worship Service and Sunday School.

The Farm Stop: Our next event is Almond Festival, February 26th, 10-5, in Guinda, located in the lot across from The Corner Store.

Esparto Ag Boosters: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm in the Ag Department at the high school.

Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee Planning Council: Meets 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm at the Esparto Regional Library.

Esparto Community Services District: Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Esparto Family Practice: Open: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9 am - 5 pm, Wednesday 2 pm - 6 pm and Thursday from 1 pm - 6 pm

Esparto Food Distribution: Esparto Food Distribution 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 9:30 am - Supplies Last and 4th Monday of the month 10 am - noon.

Esparto High School Ag Boosters Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Ag Classroom at the high school.

Esparto Lions Club Meeting: Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the Boy Scout Cabin Social hour at 5:30 pm, 6 pm Dinner, For Zoom link, please call (787-3892)

Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce: Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm, currently via Zoom. (For Zoom Link, please call (787-3242))

Esparto Unified School Board Meeting: Meets on the 4th Wednesday at 6 pm in Room A - 7 at the High School.

Esparto Fire Commissioners Meeting: Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 pm at the Esparto Fire Station.

Food Distribution at Countryside Community Church: Fridays: 2 pm - 5 pm.

Friends of Esparto Regional Library Board of Directors' Meeting: The 2nd Wednesday at 4 pm (except for July and November) at the Library

Guinda Community Church: Sunday Service at 9 am

Guinda Food Distribution: Produce distribution on the 2nd Monday and canned and dried goods on the 4th Monday from 10 am - 11 am at the Guinda Grange Hall.

Homeschooling: Carly Castruita Gordon at (916) 616-5419.

Madison Advisory Committee: 4th Wednesday at 6 pm at the Madison Community Services District. No meetings in May, November or December.

Madison Community Committee: 3rd Thursday at 6 pm at the Madison Community Services District.

Madison Fire Commissioners Meeting: 1 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Madison Fire Department at 17880 Stephens Street.

Madison Food Closet: Open the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 4 pm to 5 pm at the Madison Community Services District Building

Madison Service District Meeting: 3rd Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the District office at 28963 Main Street in Madison.

On Fire Fellowship of Esparto: Sunday service at 9 am Bible Study: Wed. at 6:30 p.m. Youth Group: Friday at 6:30 pm; Ladies: 1st/3rd Tues. 6:30 pm.

RISE Collaborative Meeting: 4th Friday of each month at 9 am. Meeting held in-person at the RISE, Inc Esparto Office (17317 Fremont Street).

RISE Valley Seniors: Meet Tuesdays & Thursdays at the RISE office (17340 Yolo Avenue) 9 am - noon. Meet at Boy Scout Hall (17020 Yolo Ave) **First & Third** Thursday of each month

Rumsey Improvement Association: Monday night Ping Pong, Rumsey Hall at 6:30 pm (Every week except 2nd Monday in January), all ages and levels welcome.

Rumsey Improvement Association: Community Potluck on first Mondays at Rumsey Hall at 6:00 p.m.

St. Martin's Catholic Mission Church: English Mass: 8:30 am on Sundays; Spanish Mass: 7 pm on Saturdays at St. Martin's Catholic Mission, 25633 Grafton St.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW): Western Yolo Post 7143, meets 1st Wednesday each month, at Post Home, Orleans St. and Highway 16.

Western Yolo Grange: Meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 6 pm social, and 6:30 pm potluck dinner and meeting at the Grange Hall at 16787 Forrest in Guinda.

4-H: Meets at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Community Center in Esparto.