



Valley Voice

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Esparto High School Student Wins Student Voter Empowerment Design Contest

The League of Women Voters of Yolo County is proud to announce Sergio Santiago of Esparto High School as the winner of the Yolo County Student Voter Empowerment Design Contest.

Sergio and others were celebrated at the May 17 award ceremony held in Davis. Among the attendees were U.S. Representative Mike Thompson, Yolo County Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Elections Officer Jesse Salinas, Board of Supervisor Angel Barajas, and Laura Guevara, Executive Director of RISE, Inc.

Sergio's powerful poster is entitled "Your Vote, Your Choice, Your Voice." The words are called out by a young man with the American flag and words, such as security, responsibility and respect, in the background.

Sergio will start taking classes at Woodland Community College this fall. He plans to use the prize money he received from the contest to purchase a laptop to further his education.

The contest began as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of voter education, registration and voting among Yolo County youth. The goal was to collect high school students' impressions of youth voter registration and voting and to use those ideas to help spread the word to other young people via swag stickers and flyers.

With support from the Yolo County Elections Office and Board of Education as well as the Yolo County and Woodland Libraries, members of the League's Voter Services committee reached out to high schools and libraries throughout the county. Between February 13 and March 27, 23 students submitted 37 entries, which were required to be nonpartisan and were judged blindly. In addition to monetary awards, the winning art works and runner-up designs are now being made into stickers for distribution at various LWVYC events.

The League appreciates all the support it received for this contest, and looks forward to hosting another in the future.

Submitted by, Lorna Carriveau



Sergio Santiago &
League Voter Services Director Judy Higgerson

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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
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City, State, Zip: _____

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P.O. Box 133 Esparto, CA 95627 or bring it into our office (17340 Yolo Ave.)

Chamber Business Showcase & Expo Mixer



Rylan McAllister (second from left) receives the Fred Lantz Memorial
Scholarship from Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce board
members President Laura Gordon (left), Randy Jacobs and Stephen Gordon.



More than 35 local businesses, nonprofits, schools and service organizations
participated in the inaugural Business Showcase & Expo Mixer, connecting
with community members and showcasing resources available throughout
the Capay Valley.

TULI MEM AQUATICS SCHEDULE

July 22nd - August 8th

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00:00 AM							
9:00:00 AM							
10:00:00 AM							
11:00:00 AM							
12:00:00 PM							
1:00:00 PM							
2:00:00 PM							
3:00:00 PM							
4:00:00 PM							
5:00:00 PM							
6:00:00 PM							
7:00:00 PM							

August 9th - September 7th

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00:00 AM							
9:00:00 AM							
10:00:00 AM							
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6:00:00 PM							
7:00:00 PM							

Chamber Celebrates Successful Inaugural Business Expo

In the midst of revamping its name and expanding its services, the Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is celebrating the success of its inaugural Business Showcase & Expo Mixer, which brought together more than 35 local businesses, nonprofits, schools and service organizations to connect, collaborate and strengthen the community.

Hosted at the Esparto Community Center, the event welcomed residents from across the Capay Valley to explore local resources, meet business owners, learn about community organizations and discover the many services available right in their own backyard. The overwhelming response exceeded expectations, with many attendees already asking, "When is next year's Expo?"

"This event was exactly what we envisioned—a celebration of the people, businesses and organizations that make the Capay Valley such a special place," said Chamber President Laura Gordon. "The support from our community was incredible, and we're already looking forward to making next year's event even bigger and better."

Guests enjoyed a delicious selection of food catered by Lucy's Café and Farm Pantry, while Cork & Company kept everyone refreshed with a variety of drink specials throughout the evening.

One of the evening's most meaningful moments was the presentation of more than \$6,500 in local scholarships to outstanding Capay Valley students.

The Pat Harrison Memorial Scholarship, presented by the Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, awarded \$1,000 each to Hayley Aceves and Filemon Ramires. In a remarkable show of generosity, the scholarships were matched by Pat Harrison's daughters—Paula, Erin and Jennifer—doubling the impact of the awards and honoring Pat's lasting commitment to education and the community.

The Chamber also proudly awarded the Fred Lantz Memorial Scholarship to Rylan McAllister. The Chamber's \$1,000 scholarship was matched through the generosity of A1 Pre Fab, NCGMA and the International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 16, further demonstrating the community's commitment to investing in the next generation.

In addition to networking opportunities, attendees participated in free digital marketing workshops presented by Olivia K Marketing. Offered throughout the evening, the workshops provided valuable tools and practical strategies to help local businesses and organizations strengthen their online presence.

The success of the inaugural Business Showcase & Expo Mixer would not have been possible without the dedication of the Chamber's Board of Directors, volunteers, sponsors, exhibitors and the many community members who attended.

The Chamber also extends its sincere appreciation to the many businesses and organizations that donated raffle prizes, helping make the evening even more memorable. Thanks to the generosity of Ace Hardware, Capay Valley Vineyards, BZ Bee Honey, Mana's Jams, Mystic Fox Naturals, Capay Hills Organic, Sprouts, San Francisco Giants, Road Trip Bar & Grill, El Toro, Little Dipper and many other generous donors, attendees had the opportunity to win an incredible assortment of prizes throughout the event.

The Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce looks forward to building on this momentum through additional events, educational opportunities and programs that support local businesses and foster economic growth throughout the region.

Businesses interested in becoming members of the Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce are encouraged to join this growing network of community leaders dedicated to promoting and strengthening the Capay Valley. More information is available at www.espartoregionalchamber.com.

Together, we're building a stronger, more connected Capay Valley—one business, one partnership and one community at a time.



Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce President Laura Gordon unveils the Chamber's new logo on the welcome sign for the inaugural Business Showcase & Expo Mixer.

IT TOOK A VALLEY . . .the Story of Tuli Mem Park

IT TOOK A VALLEY FOR Tuli Mem to happen.... About 25 years ago Capay Valley Residents were asked by survey what additional recreation facilities they would like to have in the valley and what they would make the most use of. Number one on the wish list was a swimming pool with over 75% of respondents ranking it their first choice. The recently formed WYORCA (Western Yolo Recreation Center Association) went about trying to make it happen. We began to raise funds and later created an Endowment to help offset operating costs for the pool.

As you might imagine there were many stops and starts along the way. Around the time it looked like it would be permanently out of reach, Trini Campbell, the then WYORCA President, found a grant program that had come about from one of California's propositions dedicated to providing more open space and recreation opportunities to state residents. The qualifying criteria were heavily weighted toward underserved and low-income communities. Yolo County was open to providing resources and being the applicant. WYORCA partnered with the County and the application went in.

We did not make the cut in the first round, but about six months later we were awarded one of the two highest grants that were given out. The other went to an impoverished neighborhood in South Central LA which speaks to just how needy we were.

After more than a decade the stars aligned. The school offered to lease the unused land that the park sits on, the County hired an architect and let the initial contracts and we appealed to Valley residents and businesses to contribute to the Endowment in order to have an ongoing, stable source of revenue to offset operating costs.

Like most multi-year projects, it went significantly over budget. The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, who had already made very significant contributions to the Endowment, once again very generously stepped up and provided funds to complete the project.

This extraordinary partnership between the County, Tribe, the Esparto Unified School District, and the generosity of many Valley residents resulted in a first-class facility that gives the Community access to both a full-sized lap pool and a wading pool for small children, the only publicly accessible playing fields and basketball court in the Valley, a walking trail and a picnic and gathering area. A playground will be coming.

This was an amazing undertaking for a relatively small community.

WYORCA has raised money every year in order to offer free swim days on Sundays, Wednesday evenings and Federal Holidays. Those times were chosen with family time in mind because many adults in the Valley work six days a week.



We are asking you to Join and Contribute to The Friends of Tuli Mem. Your contributions will provide:

- An affordable day of recreation otherwise not available to Valley families.
- Swim lessons for Valley Children, making the Community a safer place.
- 12 meaningful summer jobs to Valley teens, where they become certified in rescue, safety and first aid, a significant and meaningful entry to their resumes going forward.

And last, but certainly not least, it's SO HOT who wouldn't want to get in the pool!

We have had a very loyal and supportive cadre of donors for the last 20 years. As you can imagine given the time frame, we are losing some of them. We need the next generation of residents to make an investment in the Community.

Please join the Friends at any level! Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated. All donations go directly to supporting the pool!

IT TOOK A VALLEY to make Tuli Mem a reality AND IT STILL DOES TODAY.
WE ASK THAT YOU BE PART OF IT!

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

GREAT BLUE HERON: \$1,500

RIVER OTTER: \$1,000

EGRET: \$300

POND TURTLE: \$100

MARSH WREN: \$75

CHORUS FROG: \$25

Costs have risen this year. Admission free Sundays will cost \$600 and Wednesdays are \$300. This represents mandatory safety staffing costs only.

Donors who contribute \$300 dollars and more will be acknowledged as day sponsors for one or multiple days.

WYORCA appreciates your past support and hope you are able to continue that support.

Donations should be mailed to: WYORCA, PO Box 453, Esparto, CA 95627

Submitted by S. Adams and G. Moris

Summer Camp 2026: A Summer of Learning, Adventure, and Community

From July 6 through July 21, the Esparto Scholars After School Program hosted our Summer Camp as an extension of summer school, providing students with a fun, safe, and engaging environment to continue learning, exploring, and building friendships throughout the summer.

Our daily program featured a variety of clubs, enrichment activities, arts and crafts, STEM projects, outdoor games, and team-building experiences designed to keep students engaged while encouraging creativity, leadership, and collaboration. One of the highlights of camp was our weekly rallies, which were planned and led by our 3rd-5th Grade Leadership Club. These student leaders organized fun games, challenges, and activities that brought campers together while building confidence, teamwork, and school spirit.

Students also enjoyed several community excursions throughout the summer. Campers visited our local library and park, where they explored community resources and participated in outdoor activities. They also looked forward to weekly visits to the Tuli Mem Aquatics Center, where they enjoyed free swim, stayed active, and cooled off during the warm summer days. These experiences encouraged physical activity, social connection, and helped students build a stronger connection to their community.

Our middle school students enjoyed a summer filled with creativity, teamwork, and fun. Throughout the program, they participated in a variety of hands-on activities, including tie-dyeing custom RISE shirts, creating colorful pipe cleaner flowers, decorating outdoor spaces with sidewalk chalk, and many more activities. They also enjoyed a few special trips to Double Dipper and Cork & Co., where they treated themselves to ice cream and refreshing drinks while spending time together during the hot summer days. Students also had opportunities to cool off with visits to the Tuli Mem Aquatics Center throughout the summer, with the extreme heat occasionally limiting how often we were able to safely walk to the pool. Together, these experiences encouraged creativity, strengthened friendships, and created lasting summer memories.

A special highlight of the summer was our partnership with Tuleyome, which organized three outdoor educational field trips for our 3rd-5th grade students. Campers visited Woodland Regional Park Preserve, Cache Creek Conservancy, and the Yolo Basin Foundation, where they explored local ecosystems, learned about wildlife and conservation, and experienced the natural beauty of Yolo County through hands-on environmental education.

Another memorable experience was our partnership with the Esparto Fire Department, who welcomed our students for an interactive presentation about what it means to be a firefighter. Students toured the fire station, learned important fire safety tips, explored the fire engines, and had the opportunity to ask questions about careers in public service. It was an engaging and educational experience that left a lasting impression on our campers.

Summer Camp 2026 was made possible through the support of our dedicated staff, families, and community partners. We are incredibly grateful to Tuleyome, the Esparto Fire Department, the Tuli Mem Aquatics Center, and everyone who helped create meaningful opportunities for our students.

As another successful summer comes to a close, we are proud of the memories made, the friendships built, and the new experiences our students enjoyed. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting year of learning, enrichment, and adventure in the Esparto Scholars After School Program.





First Day of School
Thursday,
August 20th, 2026



August
Crossword

Across

4. Refreshing summer drink
6. Boat powered by wind
10. Activity in the great outdoors
12. Frozen fruit treat on a stick
14. Camping shelter
15. Prolonged period of hot weather
17. Observing the night sky
19. Red skin from too much sun
20. Insect that glows at night
21. Activity with a rod and reel
24. Place to swim that's not a beach
25. Going to different places
28. Small summer fruit

Down

1. Sandy spot by the ocean
2. Time away from school or work
3. Activity in a pool or lake
5. Sleeping in a tent outdoors
6. Protection from UV rays
7. Eighth month of the year
8. Sport played in the summer
9. Outdoor meal on a blanket
11. Sculpture made at the beach
13. Cold treat on a hot day
16. Casual summer footwear
18. Unwind during the summer break
19. Headwear for sun protection
22. Temperature in the summer sun
23. Diving underwater with gear
26. Bright celestial body in the sky
27. Outdoor cooking on a grill

Word Bank

August	Pool
Baseball	Popsicle
BBQ	Relax
Beach	Sailboat
Blueberries	Sandcastle
Camping	Scuba
Firefly	Stargazing
Fishing	Sun
Flip-Flops	Sunburn
Heat Wave	Sunhat
Hiking	Sunscreen
Hot	Swim
Ice Cream	Tent
Lemonade	Travel
Picnic	Vacation



August
Solution



Recognizing Capay Valley

The League wishes to recognize the many organizations that make Capay Valley a special place in Yolo County. RISE, Inc., Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, VFW Post 7143, Esparto Library, and many, many more. We appreciate opportunities to work with everyone in Yolo County to promote voter registration and education. We hope you will check us out at <https://lwvyolo.org>.

Democracy Works!

The League is seeking nominees – an individual and/or organization – for its annual, nonpartisan Democracy Works award whose actions support our citizens and democratic processes. Their work may include encouraging equal representation, promoting free and fair elections, expanding voter education and rights, advocating legislation that promotes democracy and our communities, or taking grassroots political action. Past award recipients include Jim Durst and Fritz Durst of Durst Organic Farms in Esparto.

Nominations should be submitted by September 1. To submit a nomination online or by mail, go directly to bit.ly/demworksyolo where you can also find a list of past award recipients. To request a nomination form separately, email info@lwvyolo.org. An in-person event honoring the recipient(s) is being planned for this fall.

House District Candidate Forum

On Thursday, October 8, the top-two primary vote winners for U.S. Representative for District 4 – Eric Jones and Mike Thompson – will participate in a 90-minute discussion of district opportunities and challenges. The Candidate Forum sponsored by the League, which is nonpartisan and open to the public, will be held at the Woodland Community and Senior Center from 6:30 to 8:00pm (doors open at 6:00pm).

The forum will use the League's standard candidate forum format and include an opportunity for written audience questions.

Submitted By, Lorna Carriveau



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695
www.YoloCounty.gov

Michael Webb
County Administrative Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2026

Contact: Will Arnold
Email: PIO@YoloCounty.gov
Phone: (530) 341-9865

Esparto Residents Invited to Help Provide Input for Potential Traffic Safety Improvements Along Highway 16

(Esparto, CA) – Yolo County will host a community walking audit Saturday, Aug. 22, to gather public input on potential traffic safety improvements near the intersection of Yolo and Woodland avenues along State Route 16.

The intersection has been identified as an area of concern due to crashes involving people walking. Esparto residents and other community members are invited to join transportation professionals and local officials to observe current conditions and discuss possible measures to enhance safety.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. in the community room at Mercy Housing's Esperanza Crossing, 16797 County Road 87 in Esparto. Participants will receive a brief overview and complete a short survey before taking part in a guided walk. The event will wrap up with a discussion about what was observed and potential ideas to support safety improvements.

Representatives from the Yolo County Department of Public Works, Yolo Transportation District, California Department of Transportation, California Highway Patrol, Esparto Fire Protection District, Esparto Unified School District and Yolo County Board of Supervisors are expected to participate.

No registration is required. Surveys and event information will be available in English and Spanish. Free parking is available at Esperanza Crossing and on nearby streets.

The walking audit is part of the Yolo County Traffic Safety Program. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For questions or accommodation requests, contact Duncan McMartin at Duncan.McMartin@yolocounty.gov.

Welcome to a New School Year: What is a Community School?

As another school year begins in Esparto Unified School District, you may hear the term Community School and wonder what it means. Simply put, a Community School is a neighborhood school that works together with families, local organizations, businesses, and community members to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed, both in the classroom and beyond.

At Esparto Unified, our mission remains clear: helping every student achieve academic success. Community Schools are one way we strengthen that mission by connecting learning with the supports students and families need to thrive.

Imagine a wheel. At the center are our students. Surrounding them are teachers, families, school staff, community organizations, businesses, volunteers, and local agencies. When everyone works together toward the same goal, students benefit.

Our work is guided by six key practices:

- Rigorous, community-connected learning that prepares students for college, career, and life.
- Integrated systems of support that help students overcome barriers to learning.
- Expanded learning opportunities before school, after school, during intersession, and throughout the summer.
- Family engagement that recognizes parents and caregivers as partners in education.
- Collaborative leadership that values the voices of students, families, educators, and community members.
- A culture of belonging, safety, and care where every student feels welcomed and connected.

This year, families will see many examples of Community Schools in action. Some are already familiar, including after-school programs, expanded learning opportunities, family engagement events, food distributions, wellness supports, and partnerships with organizations throughout Yolo County. Other opportunities include the PIQE Family Math Program, before-school care, student leadership opportunities, and collaborations that connect classroom learning with real-world experiences.

Community Schools are not a separate program; it is an approach to education. It build on the great work already happening in our schools by bringing people together around a common purpose: helping every student learn, grow, and succeed.

Throughout this school year, this monthly column will highlight the people, partnerships, and programs that make Community Schools come alive in Esparto. You'll meet students making a difference, learn about resources available to families, discover opportunities to get involved, and see how our community is working together to support student success.

Because when schools and communities work together, everyone benefits.

Upcoming Opportunities

- PIQE Family Math Program begins this fall at Esparto Elementary School. The eight-week program is offered in English and Spanish and helps families build strategies to support their children's academic success. Childcare and refreshments are provided.
- Before-school care and Expanded Learning (ASES/ELOP) programs continue to provide safe, engaging opportunities for students before and after the school day.

Have a question about Community Schools or know of a community partnership we should feature? We'd love to hear from you by emailing svann@eusdk12.org. Together, we are building a stronger Esparto—one student, one family, and one partnership at a time.

-Sherrie Vann



Esparto Unified Welcomes Students Back on August 20, 2026

As summer comes to a close, excitement is building across the Esparto Unified School District as we prepare to welcome students back for the first day of school on **Thursday, August 20**. This year, the district will begin classes a little later than usual, allowing our families to enjoy the Yolo County Fair and giving students participating in fair events the opportunity to fully experience this important community tradition. Our elementary, middle, and high schools are looking forward to another year of learning, growth, and opportunity. We are grateful for the continued support of our families and community and can't wait to welcome our students back to campus.

Below are a few upcoming events and exciting additions to our schools.



Esparto Elementary- Dr. Lopez

Welcome back, Esparto Elementary students and families! We hope you had a fun, relaxing summer and are ready for a great school year. We are excited to welcome everyone back to campus on Thursday, August 20, and look forward to seeing our hallways filled with smiling faces once again.

If you have a child entering Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten, we invite you to our TK & Kindergarten Meet and Greet on Wednesday, August 19, from 4:30–5:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to meet their teacher, visit their classroom, and help make the first day of school feel more comfortable and exciting.

We also invite all families to attend Back-to-School Night on Thursday, August 27, from 5:30–7:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, learn about the school year, and hear how we can work together to support your child's success.

We look forward to a great year ahead and can't wait to **welcome everyone back on August 20!**

In Community,
Dr. Lopez



Esparto Middle School - Principal Kullar

Welcome back to a new school year at Esparto Middle School! I hope each of you has had a restful, enjoyable summer filled with time to relax and make lasting memories. We are excited to welcome our students back to campus and begin another year together. We are especially excited to welcome our incoming 6th grade students and their families at 6th Grade Orientation on Tuesday, August 18, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet staff, tour the campus, and prepare for the transition to middle school. We also invite all families to join us for Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 26, where you'll have the opportunity to meet teachers, learn about classroom expectations, and partner with us for a successful school year.

As we kick off the year, we're also looking forward to the start of our Fall sports season, with volleyball and cross-country getting underway. We encourage our students to get involved, build new friendships, and show their Wildcat spirit both in the classroom and through extracurricular activities. Here's to a fantastic 2026–2027 school year! We look forward to seeing all of our students and families soon and working together to make this our best year yet.



Esparto High School - Principal Tamayo

At Esparto High School, we are excited to welcome students back for another outstanding year. As I begin my second year as principal, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue serving our students, staff, families, and community. There is plenty to be excited about this year, including the opening of our brand-new Culinary Arts, Digital Media, and Welding facilities, which will provide outstanding opportunities for hands-on learning and career preparation.

We invite families to attend our Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 3, to meet teachers, learn about our programs, and see the exciting things happening on campus. Our athletic program is also growing with several new coaches joining our staff and the addition of Girls Flag Football, our newest fall sport. We encourage the entire community to come out and support our student-athletes by filling the bleachers. Our first home girls flag football game is Monday, August 24, at 4:30 p.m. against Futures High School, followed by our first home varsity football game on Friday, August 28, at 6:00 p.m. against Upper Lake. It is a great time to be a Spartan, and we look forward to another successful school year together.
atamayo@eusdk12.org

Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee – June Meeting Recap

The Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee held its regular meeting on June 16, 2026 at the Esparto Regional Library.

Public Comment

Concern was raised about unkempt yards near the local fire house, with residents citing potential fire hazards. The committee discussed existing code enforcement channels available to address the issue, including the ability to report overgrown vegetation through the Yolo County website, which can result in fines for property owners.

E-Bike Safety and the “Pedal Forward” Voucher Program

The majority of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by a Yolo County representative on the county’s new “Pedal Forward” e-bike voucher program. The program aims to reduce car dependency and encourage residents to adopt bicycle transportation.

The program offers a \$750 voucher to eligible Yolo County residents. Households may apply for one voucher, and recipients must commit to owning and operating an e-bike for at least one year. Vouchers are awarded by lottery upon application, and selected recipients are required to complete a safety training course before redeeming their voucher.

The application window runs from June 12 through July 27.

Safety training will be delivered through contracted local bike shops, with staff trained by the Yolo County Air District in collaboration with Health and Human Services. Free helmets will also be made available through the program.

A key motivation behind the program is addressing the widespread use of illegal electric mopeds — primarily among youth — which pose risks comparable to motorcycles. A recent study found that 90% of electric micro-mobility vehicles currently in use in the region are non-compliant with state law. The program seeks to transition young riders from illegal e-motos to legal Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes.

Committee members and members of the public engaged in lively discussion on a range of related topics, including the importance of ongoing parental involvement in safety education, the potential use of school registration systems to regulate e-bikes, enforcement challenges, and how to make safety programs accessible and appealing to youth. Back-to-School Night, the Almond Festival, and Tuli Mem Park — in connection with the National Night Out event — were all mentioned as potential venues or opportunities for community outreach and helmet distribution, with August 10th noted as a target date for a distribution event.

The county confirmed that outreach will also include a social media campaign, and that safety training resources are available through providers beyond participating bike shops. For questions about the program or to apply, residents are encouraged to visit the Yolo County website.



FULL BELLY FARM, GUINDA, CA

Celebrate the richness of agricultural life and sustainable living at the 35th Annual Hoes Down Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 3.

The fundraising festival features a magical children’s area, farm tours and workshops, local farm products, live music, and an abundance of delicious, organic food.

Local benefiting organizations include:

Esparto School District, Cache Creek Conservancy, Yolo Land Trust, CALCAN, RISE Inc., Capay Valley Health Center, Capay Valley Fire Department, Capay Valley Grown, Capay Valley Agrarian Trust, Manzanita Learning Center, Western Yolo Grange, Rumsey Improvement Association and more!

Tickets on sale at:

www.eco-farm.org/hoes-down



Capay Valley Flora, Fauna and Farms

By Pamela Bateman

Mulberry: A Tree for Agroforestry and Polyculture

The Mulberry tree successfully grows in the Capay Valley and is well suited to Agroforestry and Polyculture. Unlike monoculture, these farming practices include trees, shrubs and ground covers along with annual and perennial plants to encourage biological diversity on the farm. By diversifying and increasing the species of plants growing on the farm the farmer can produce food, fodder and fuel thus helping to insure against catastrophic events.

The Fruitless Mulberry is commonly planted in the urban California landscape and makes a fast growing shade tree. On farmland the Fruiting Mulberry tree, *Morus* sp., is adaptable, resilient and contributes to the ecological health of the land. In addition to the delicious fruit it produces the tree grows rapidly with deep taproots that help prevent soil erosion. When the tree is coppiced the wood can be used for fuel, basketry, poles for stakes and tree props. When planted along the perimeter of annual crops the trees provide a windbreak, screening and shade. This deciduous tree with its natural leaf and twig drop cycles nutrients back into the soil increasing fertility through the process of establishing an association with soil mycorrhizae. The dense foliage captures airborne particulate matter and absorbs carbon dioxide which helps produce cleaner air. The flowers and fruit attract birds and pollinators such as bees and various insects and the entire tree attracts wildlife including fox, deer, squirrels and rodents thus lessening the pressure of wildlife damage to other crops. Additionally, Mulberry trees are extremely nutritious for farm animals. Cattle, goats, pigs, and rabbits enjoy eating the fresh or dried leaves (when dried the leaves contain 18-25% protein). Similar to alfalfa, 70-90% of the leaves are digestible making it an efficient fodder.

Mulberries are native to warm temperate and subtropical regions of Africa, Asia, North and South America. Mulberry varieties produce fruits or drupelets that can be black, white, lavender or red. Some are the size of blackberries but some drupelets can reach five inches in length such as the Pakistani mulberries. This delicious fruit, high in vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, can be eaten fresh, made into jam, syrup or compote and it is used in baking. When dehydrated the fruit can be used in tea, added to trail mix or a topping for yogurt. The leaves are also edible and nutritious and are used to wrap other food in the same way many cultures use grape leaves. Tea can made from fresh or dried leaves and contains vitamin B, C, D and flavonoids.

Mulberry trees fruit at a young age, require little to no fertilizer and are essentially pest free. They fill many desirable roles when chosen for use in Agroforestry and Polyculture.



Seasonal Recipes

Using ingredients sourced from the Capay Valley
From the kitchen of Pamela Bateman

Roasted Eggplant Salad with Tahini Dressing

In a small bowl add the Tahini and 3 tablespoons water and begin whisking. Slowly whisk in the other ingredients adding a little more water if the dressing is too thick. On a platter arrange the roasted eggplant with the garbanzo beans and cherry tomatoes.

Drizzle dressing over the eggplant. Chill and serve cold.

Ingredients:

1 large Eggplant roasted
2 cups Garbanzo Beans cooked
2 cups cherry tomatoes halved
Oregano flowers for garnish (optional)

Tahini dressing:

1/4 cup Tahini
3-5 tablespoons water
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
1/2 lemon juiced
2 tablespoons honey
1 clove garlic minced
1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
Salt and Pepper to taste










Presents



POLICE - COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Tuesday Aug 4th

5 - 8 PM

Come enjoy an evening of activities, swimming, free food and resources for the community.

Tuli Mem Park and Aquatics Center
17257 Yolo Ave, Esparto, CA 95627

Free swim Sponsored by the Members of Capay Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce



SENIOR CITIZENS WALKING TIPS

As we age, safe walking helps us stay active, independent, and connected. Learn simple tips for walking with confidence, using mobility aids, and reducing fall risks.

Key topics to note:

- Tips for Safe Walking
- Tips for using Walking Aids
- No Cost Safety Items
- Question Time

Brought to you by the Yolo County Traffic Safety Program

Dates and locations:

West Sacramento
Wednesday, August 5, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
1075 West Capitol Ave, West Sacramento

Winters
Thursday, August 6, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
111 Main St, Winters

Davis
Friday, August 7, 11:00 - 12:00 PM
646 A St, Davis

Woodland
Wednesday, August 12, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
2001 East St, Woodland

Esparto
Thursday, August 13, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
17340 Yolo Ave, Esparto

Join us at a location near you! **These presentations are FREE and open to the community.** To reserve a lunch, please call 530-662-7035 or email welcome@mowoyo.org at least 24 hours in advance.



CAPAY VALLEY FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Guinda Grange Hall

Monday, August 10th and 24th
starts @ 9:30am

(16787 Forest Ave, Guinda, CA)

**Madison Community Committee
Food Closet**

Monday, August 10th and 24th
starts @ 4:00pm

(28963 Main St, Madison, CA)

Esparto - RISE, Inc.

Thursday, August 6th and 20th
starts @ 9:30am

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Monday, August 24th  
starts @ 10:30am

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Food Pantry

Every Friday, 2:00pm - 5:00pm

(17317 Fremont Street, Esparto CA)

RoadTrip
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- Carnitas

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16939 Yolo ave.
Esparto, Ca 95627
530-787-3532
eltorofood@gmail.com

Online ordering available at
eltoroesparto.com

Countryside
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Services

WORSHIP - 9:00 AM • SUNDAY'S TABLE - 10:00 AM
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:00-10:30 AM

Everyone Welcome!

Located at 26479 Grafton St, Esparto, CA 95627
(on the corner of Grafton and Fremont streets)

For more information call 530-787-4040 or visit espartocountrysidechurch.org

J&L Lawn Maintenance offers lawn maintenance, cleanup, bush trimming, sprinkler repairs, window screen repairs, window cleaning, hauling, & gutter cleaning. Don't be afraid to text or call for an estimate and any information on our services!

#1 Juan Solis: (530)-848-2824
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Call Candice Schaer: 858-232-1005
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Hot Days Are Here—Let's Beat the Heat Together!

Whether you're heading to the pool, relaxing in the shade, or
enjoying a cool drink, a few simple steps can help you stay
safe all summer long.

COOL OFF AT:

Bobbie Greenwood Community
Swim Center
708 Railroad Ave, Winters, CA

Tuli Mem Aquatics
Center & Park
17257 Yolo Ave, Esparto, CA



wintershealthcare

REMEMBER:

Drink water often
Take breaks from the sun
Find shade when you can
Check in on family, friends,
and neighbors



wintershealth.org

play the best.



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Green Fields
Real Estate of California

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.

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

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

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

Capay Cemetery District Board meeting: Held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm at the Esparto Community Hall, 17020 Yolo Avenue, Esparto, CA 95627.

Capay Valley Christian Fellowship: 11am adult Sunday school; 11:45am social; 12:10pm - 1:10pm worship/children's Sunday School at 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 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 August 17th at 9am, at the Esparto RISE office (17340 Yolo Avenue, Esparto).

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

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 Food Distributions: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 9:30 am - Until supplies last and 4th Monday of the month 10:30am - noon.

Esparto Lions Club Meeting: Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the Boy Scout Cabin Social hour at 5:30pm, 6pm Dinner, For Zoom link, please call 530-787-3892.

Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce: Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 6pm, at Capay Valley Health & Community Center (17340 Yolo Avenue, Esparto). Questions, call (530) 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 Pantry: Fridays at 2 pm - 5 pm. (17317 Fremont Street, Esparto)

Friends of Esparto Regional Library Board of Directors' Meeting: The 2nd Monday of the month at 5pm (except for July and November) at the Library.

Guinda Community Church: Sunday Service at 9 am.

Guinda Food Distribution: Yolo Food Bank 2nd and 4th Mondays, from 9:30 AM to 11 AM at the Grange Hall on Forest Ave. Drive through distribution, first come first served, line starts at 8:30 AM. Produce, canned food, dry goods, meat and dairy.

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 on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 4pm to 5pm at the Madison Community Services District Building.

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

New Life Christian Center in Madison: Sunday Service at 11:00am with Jr. Church for ages 5-12 years. Home Bible Studies on Wednesday.

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

RISE Collaborative Meeting: 4th Friday of each month at 9am. Meeting held in-person at the RISE, Inc Esparto Office. (17340 Yolo Avenue, Esparto)

RISE Valley Seniors: Meets Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am - 12pm at the RISE office. (17340 Yolo Avenue, Esparto)

Rumsey Improvement Assoc.: 1st Monday potlucks at Rumsey Hall October - June. Mingling at 6pm, food served at 6:30pm. Bring a dish to share & your own utensils.

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

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

Western Yolo Grange: Meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 PM, except for July and August. All are welcome, you do not need to be a member to attend.

4-H: Meets at 6pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Esparto Community Hall, 17020 Yolo Avenue, Esparto CA.