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November 2021

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Esparto High student to embark on German exchange program



July 31, 2021 - Esparto High School student Jose Trejo will be packing his bags and heading to Germany for most of the next year after being one of the Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholarship recipients.

Trejo, who is about to be a junior, was

selected as one of 250 high schoolers across the United States to earn the prestigious CBYX scholarship allowing him to spend 10 months studying and living in Germany with a host family.

The CBYX is a two-sided exchange program co-sponsored by the U.S Department of State and the German Bundestag or Parliament. Since 1983 this program has funded the opportunity for more than 27,000 students to expand their global perspectives, with American students living in Germany and German students living and going to school in the U.S.

As a CBYX scholarship recipient, Trejo will experience German life firsthand by living with a host family and attending a German high school. During the program, conditions permitting, students will also have the opportunity to meet with both U.S. Congressional Representatives and German Bundestag members.

“I like to see the way things work,” Trejo said. “I have always been a visual person, and I think going to Germany will help me visualize and see things from a different perspective. Politics have been something that has always interested me.”

As a sophomore, Trejo amassed a 4.43 weighted grade point average while taking AP Human Geography and AP Computer Science. Trejo is also highly involved in FFA and was the sophomore class president.

Outside of the classroom, Trejo is the Elder Recreation program coordinator and has also worked at the local food closet. Both programs are run through RISE Inc.

Trejo has had quite the journey to get to this point. He was actually the recipient of the CYBX scholarship over a year ago after he first heard about the program while reading over a flyer that his Spanish teacher hung up while he was still a freshman.

In December of 2019, he turned in his first application to get to this point. After a round of group and individual interviews in February, he got the good news in April 2020 that he had been selected. But, he was made aware that he may not be able to go due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

His fears ultimately came true when he received a call in July informing him that the program would be virtual for the 2020-21 school year.

“It was really disappointing,” Trejo said. “I was looking forward to going and experiencing that. I didn’t think I would apply again because I was disappointed. But then I decided to go for it again.”

While he applied for the next round, Trejo still participated in the virtual program. He mentions one of the highlights was participating in mock trial simulated versions of the U.S. and German congresses.

“It was really interesting to see how we were able to come together and share opinions on everything without clashing heads,” Trejo said. “We were able to make decisions.”

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www.riseinc.org. When you enter your e-mail address under the Get E-mail Updates, you will receive our e-newsletter with links to the Valley Voice so you can read it online.

Continued from page 1...

After applying for it the second time, Trejo mentions he was a lot less nervous during the process. He was also encouraged by dropping COVID-19 case rates. In the end, he was glad he did.

Trejo is set to depart to Germany on Aug. 23 and be there for 10 straight months before returning in June 2022.

"It's going to be great," Trejo said. "I think that the first couple of months will be a little hard, and I'll be homesick for sure. But I think it will go well, and it will be a great opportunity."

Traveling abroad is something Trejo has always thought about. He was lucky his interest in politics allowed him the opportunity to finally do it.

"Since I was younger, traveling abroad has always been something I have wanted to go do," Trejo said. "It has always interested me. I'm really looking forward to building a connection and meeting new people and getting to experience a culture that isn't very wildly represented in the United States. I can't wait to explore out there and view some historical locations as well."

Trejo, however, has not found out where exactly in Germany he will be staying, adding to his anxiousness.

He mentioned he could end up in the tiniest village or biggest city in the European country. But the fear of the unknown still has not made him second guess his decision. He even encouraged future students that may be on the fence to go for it and apply.

"Just apply for it, even if you are a little nervous," Trejo stated. "I was super nervous and I still am nervous about leaving but do it. Even if you have a little 'what if's' in your head,"

By Carlos Guerrero (cguerrero@dailydemocrat.com)



Road Trip
BAR & GRILL

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THURS. 11/25 & FRI. 11/26

Happy Thanksgiving

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Raffle to benefit FERL

Esparto FFA Members Make National Impact

It's wheels up for Joseph Echarte and Thomas Simas as these two young men travel across the country to represent the Esparto FFA chapter on the National level.

Esparto FFA is proud to report that Senior Thomas Simas was selected this year to serve the California FFA association, as a National Convention Delegate. Forty-nine outstanding FFA members were selectively chosen from across California to represent our great state at this year's National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Delegates are tasked with participating in committee hearings to address pressing issues within the National FFA organization. According to National FFA "The National FFA Delegate Experience ensures that the National FFA Organization remains a grassroots organization that serves students at the local level." Five hundred students representing each state association will meet on the week of Oct. 27th- 30th, to share ideas and local perspectives which will help advance the FFA organization. When asked what he most looked forward to, Thomas replied, "I am very excited to go to the National Convention and interact with the top FFA leaders from across the country". We could not be more excited to have Thomas representing the Esparto FFA Chapter at this year's National FFA Convention.

Joseph Ehcarte is a former active Esparto High School FFA member and current alumni. Throughout his four years in agriculture Joseph served on many committees and held several leadership roles. He worked diligently in his mechanics, livestock and farming operations Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) to earn his Greenhand, Chapter and State FFA degrees. Joseph will be honored on stage in front of 80,000 FFA members and receive the American FFA Degree at the National FFA Convention. The American Degree is the highest degree bestowed upon an FFA member. To earn this degree students must be active in an agriculture class all four years of high school, maintain an active SAE project, invest over \$7,500 or have earned a minimum of \$1,200 in their SAE project, keep consistent records with over 2,250 hours invested in agriculture, participate in community service, and demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities. Joseph has far exceeded the qualifications of this degree. His commitment to agriculture continues into his college studies this year at Chico State as he pursues his degree in agriculture mechanical engineering.

Esparto FFA is proud to have members like Joseph and Thomas. We appreciate the commitment and dedication you have both invested into our local program, national organization and the agriculture community.

Submitted by Selina Padilla, Esparto FFA Chapter Reporter





Esparto Unified School District

Falls in the Air

Schools have been in session for a few months now and we have a lot going on - I hope the school year has gone smoothly for all of you thus far.

Students in our schools are busy learning and preparing for the end of the first semester. Fall sports (football, cheerleading, volleyball and cross country) are coming to an end while Winter sports (boys and girls basketball and wrestling) are beginning to ramp up.

November is National Native American Heritage Month. Starting November 1, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation will be sharing daily on their Facebook and Twitter many different cultural pieces of their heritage from culinary recipes, books, events, dress and ceremonial activities to name a few. Be sure to check their website and social media to learn more about Native Americans. <http://www.yochadehe.org/>

As we enter into the holiday season, there are so many fun and exciting activities, events, and traditions happening throughout our schools and community. It is also a time of year that can be stressful and challenging for some. Please be sure to pay attention to the emotions and moods of your children and friends. Check in with them, ask questions and ask us for help if needed. Our schools have amazing resources available to our students and families.

We know it's tempting to extend your vacation by a few days on either side of a holiday, but just a few days missed here and there, even if they're excused absences, can amount to too much lost learning time for your child. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Please try and make sure that your child is in school every day, right up until vacation starts. Let's Make Every School Day Count!

Finally, November is the perfect time to reflect and give thanks for all we have been able to receive and give to others. This has been a year of many challenges but also many successes. During this season let's challenge ourselves to find and share reasons we have to be "thankful."

Thank you for your continued support of Esparto Unified School District~ Happy Thanksgiving!

Knights of Columbus - West Yolo Council #10058

Will be having a Turkey Dinner Fundraiser.

When: **Saturday November 20, 2021**

Pick up orders from 3 - 5 pm at St. Martin Mission Hall 25633

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Price is **\$20.00** a dinner.

We will also deliver!

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ECAC UPDATE

The Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee (ECAC) met October 19 to take action on a couple agenda items. First, the committee recommended extending the development agreement for the Story subdivision (north of Esparanza Crossing apartments and south of Road 20X).

The current plan calls for 75 home lots and 16 units of affordable multifamily housing. The extension of the development agreement is needed to keep the project active in the planning process with the County and make changes to the agreement to reflect current conditions and needs in Esparto.

Second, the committee recommended approval of the Teichert Shifler Mining and Reclamation Project as it pertains to impacts in the Esparto area. This project and its impacts are mostly in the Wildwings / Monument Hills area closer to Woodland; however, two aspects of the project impact the Esparto area: 1) Closure of Esparto mining operations and transfer of its allocation of 1.2 million tons to the new mining proposed near Wildwings, and 2) Bar-skimming (leveling) in the creek channel between Road 87 and I-505.

The committee also discussed details of the Story subdivision map and a potential new development being considered on land north of the Esparto CSD office and south of Road 20X.

On October 26 there will be a special joint meeting between the ECAC and the Madison CAC to provide input in preparation for an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) for the Gibson Solar Project (west of Madison).

The ECAC meets on the third Tuesday evening of each month, as needed. (Meetings are currently held via Zoom.) To receive notices of upcoming meetings, including agendas and minutes, you can subscribe via the Yolo County website (<https://www.yolocounty.org/government/advanced-components/subscribe>)

The Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to act as advisors to the Planning Commission concerning land use matters. The opinions expressed by this committee are not necessarily those shared by the Planning, Resources, and Public Works Department.

Submitted by G. Moris, ECAC Secretary



Esparto Elementary News
Sherri Vann, Principal

How Can Parents Prepare for Parent-Teacher Conferences?

November marks the end of the first trimester of school and it has been a busy start! At the 6 week mark of school teachers prepared progress reports to give parents a status update on their child's learning. Progress Reports were sent home around October 1st. Parents can always monitor progress as often as they would like through the Aeries Parent Portal. You can access the portal by downloading the app or the link on our school webpage. I recommend checking in on Aeries weekly. A good reminder to check on your child's progress is when you receive the weekly emailed update from Aeries.

Meeting with families to discuss your child's progress is an important part of parent engagement and the relationship between school and home. Our school has set aside November 15th-18th to schedule conferences. Be on the lookout for an email in Parent Square from your child's teacher to select a meeting date and time. We want to meet with the families for each and every student. It is very important that you are on time to your appointment and that you keep your appointment. Teachers are working very hard to meet with each family and with 25-32 students being timely is crucial.

Parents should talk with their child before the conference. Children should understand why the conference is taking place. Our November Parent Conferences are routine meetings held for all parents. Children should be assured that parents are seeking ways to help and learn about what their children are doing in school. Parents can also learn if their child has any specific concerns about schoolwork or relationships with classmates.

Conferences are a time to become more familiar with your child's homework assignments if you have questions. It is best to know how your child has been performing by asking yourself questions such as: Is the work getting done? Does your child seem to understand the assignments? Does the work seem too easy or too difficult? Parents can discuss their observations with the teacher.

Parents can prepare a list of questions they want to ask their child's teacher. Is my child meeting expectations for learning and behavior? How has my child performed on daily class assignments, on tests, on homework assignments? How does my child compare to others in basic skills? Does my child follow school rules or does my child exhibit any behavior problems? If my child is struggling in any area, what has been tried to improve performance? Does my child pay attention in class? What else can be done at home or at school? What are my child's strengths? Are there any concerns about my child's health, or adjustment? Are there materials or resources that you would recommend? How does my child get along with other students?

During the conference parents should listen carefully. It is perfectly acceptable to take notes. This is particularly helpful if one parent or other involved relative cannot attend. It can also help you remember details so that you can ask questions later.

Parents should offer their perspective. Many times teachers will ask you about your child's activities at home and your views of your child's strengths and areas where help might be needed. Even if the teacher does not ask, speak up and provide your observations and any concerns. The Esparto Elementary Staff is committed to your child's education and well-being. We look forward to working with our students' families throughout the year and into the future. See you at conferences!

Important Dates:

11/10 Minimum Day (12:20pm)
11/11 Veterans Day - No School
11/15-11/18 Minimum Days (12:20pm) Parent Teacher Conferences
11/19 Minimum Day (12:20pm)
11/22-11/26 Thanksgiving Break

ORGANICS DO'S AND DON'TS

DO:

- Separate your **organic waste** from other trash by putting **food scraps & yard trimmings** in the GREEN LID cart.
- **Separate your organic waste** from other trash. Every little bit counts, saving landfill space & producing usable soil for the community.
- Line indoor collection bins with **compostable bags**. This will defend against pests and make transferring to the **green lid cart** easy.

DON'T:

- Don't put organic waste into the trash or recycling bins. When placed in the trash, organic waste **fills up the landfill** unnecessarily. When placed in the recycling bin, it **contaminates** batches of good recyclables.
- Don't leave any **inorganic packaging** like food labels, plastic wrap, or rubber bands in your organic waste.



Food Scraps



Yard Trimmings



Food Soiled Paper



Look for compostable bags like these at your local supermarket!

Esparto Chamber Business Spotlight: El Toro Meat Market & Taqueria



In 2005, a small water store was started by Miguel and Lilia Molina in Esparto. Not long after, the idea of opening a Mexican meat market was born. Miguel and Lilia had no idea how to run a grocery store, but they had the dream and knew that with hard work, they could do it. My dad and I remodeled the meat market in the summer of 2006 and we opened in November of 2006. You can still walk in and see the blue tape I used to cover one of the air vents when we painted back in 2006. I'm not kidding, it really has been there since 2006.

People would always ask if my dad showed me how to cut meat, the reality was that I showed my dad how to cut meat. I didn't know how to cut meat and there wasn't anyone to show me, so I went over to the library and checked out a book on meat cutting. I watched some Youtube videos on how to cut meat as well. Now, Youtube in 2006 was not what it is today. There weren't many videos on how to cut meat then. There were only about two videos which ultimately led me to have more questions than answers. So, I would go to other meat markets and walk their meat counters to see how I was supposed to cut and make it look. I still remember being in high school and while on lunch going to the store to cut meat to fill the meat case, then having to run back to school before lunch was over.

We quickly became known for our chicken fajitas, guacamole, homemade salsa, and of course fresh meat. Our chicken fajitas are still, by far, our most popular meat entrée and the item that has not changed in nearly 15 years. Our guacamole is still made using fresh avocados, as well as all the salsas, made with only fresh ingredients.

Along with my three siblings Jacqueline, Briana, and Naomi, we have been able to grow the business to now include a taqueria. Not everything has come easy. Throughout the years, we have disagreed on many things as a family. Even the most uninteresting things can make the dinner conversation just a little more interesting. So just know, that anything we put out to sell, very likely involved a huge argument as to where the label should go, what size container, which container, what label we should put on it or what the label should say. If you can imagine it, we argued over it. We are one big dysfunctional family, and proud of it.

This November 17th 2021, the business that was started with just a dream, will celebrate 15 years in the community. From the entire Molina family we want to thank the community for supporting us the last 15 years. We hope to continue to serve the community for many more years. - Miguel Molina Jr



Submitted by: Laura Gordon

League of Women Voters (LWV)

The League of Women Voters (LWV) provides balanced, non-partisan voter education on many topics, such as redistricting. On September 30th the Woodland LWV hosted a community presentation with Redistricting Advisory Commissioners from the City of Woodland and Yolo County. The Commissioners spoke of their responsibility and the criteria used to ensure that district lines are drawn providing fair representation to all residents. The Commissions are seeking citizen input.

On the State League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) website lwvc.org you will find a plethora of voter and civic engagement information. You can sign up for timely action alerts to be instructed on which legislators to call to support or oppose a particular bill. The LWV of Alameda developed a game, VERIFYIT!, to teach news literacy and defeat cognitive biases that make us vulnerable to false information. LWVC provides access to the game at lwvc.org

Our democracy depends on civic engagement of well-informed citizens. Knowing our rights and responsibilities and the roles of government empowers us to demand good governance from our elected representatives.

Please join us! Email Catherine Portman with questions
cportman@gmail.com

Individual membership is \$65 and household membership is \$95. Send your check to LWV Woodland, PO Box 2463, Woodland, CA 95776

The next election is June 7, 2022. Fair and balanced non-partisan voter education is at CAVotes.org

Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce Invites you to join the

Fall FESTIVAL
In Downtown Esparto
Games, Food, Prizes

Nov 20th
Pending weather

Please contact
info@espartochamber.com
for questions.

~Chili Cook-off
~Kids Activities
*Support Local
Businesses

10am-3pm



The little league board is very grateful for our community support at the firework sales and to our yearly sponsors that we will be offering a reduced registration for the 2022 season.

Sign up online at

tshq.bluesombrero.com/espartollca

November 2021 – January 2022

La mesa directiva de little league está muy agradecido por el apoyo de la comunidad con la venta de fuegos artificiales y con los patrocinadores anuales, por esta razón vamos a ofrecer registración reducida para la temporada del año 2022.

Regístrese por internet

tshq.bluesombrero.com/espartollca

Come Join



Burger Thursday Hours:

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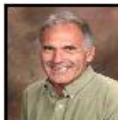


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Potluck meal, singing, conversation, prayer and laughter.

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Store Hours

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Sunday: 8:00 AM-7:00 PM

Kitchen hours may differ from store hours.

Countryside Community Church

In partnership with



The countryside Community Church
has changed its Food Closet Hours.



Hours of operation (Horas de operacion):
Tuesday (Martes) 2p-5p
Friday (Viernes) 2p-5p

EXTENDED HOURS

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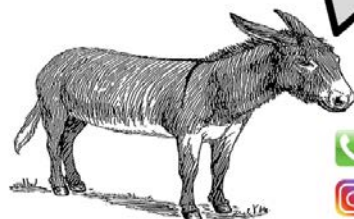
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Friends of the Esparto Regional Library (FERL) Bunko

(Ferl) Friends of the Esparto Regional Library invite you to participate at our fundraiser this year.

VFW Hall, Esparto **November 13th 2021 1-3 pm**

Corner of Orleans St. and Woodland Ave.

16812 Orleans St. Esparto, Ca.

(\$ 15.00 advance and \$17.00 at the door) will include 5 raffle tickets.

Can buy additional raffle tickets at the door \$1.00 ea.
Advanced Tickets available at Hog Canyon .

40 seats available :

Includes: Refreshments will be served and raffle will be feature of the afternoon event. Many great prizes this year.

Information: Jim Schulte (jschulte_611@hotmail.com)

Game: Most Bunko's, most wins, & losses = special Prize

Children's Shopping Day scheduled for Dec. 12th place TBA
Please support our Script at Nugget and Food For Less.

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)

Save the Date for Esparto's 4th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Friday, December 3



The Annual Christmas Tree lighting, now in its 4th year, has become a wonderful Esparto tradition! It began in 2018 with a small group of community members, and has since brought together many individuals, churches, non-profits, civic organizations, school groups and businesses from the community. This truly grass-roots community event is by Esparto for Esparto! Neither

rain nor a pandemic has deterred us from a wonderful, festive celebration of the season. This year we will meet again at the Boy Scout Cabin, and plan to have some indoor activities as local health guidelines permit.

Here's the schedule of events

6:00 p.m. - Doors open at the Boy Scout Cabin. Activities are yet to be determined, but there will be cookies and cocoa, and an opportunity to enter the Candy Cane Lane house decorating competition.

6:15 p.m. - Gather with your neighbors around the tree for Christmas caroling

6:30 p.m. - LIGHTS ON!

Be sure to visit local businesses on Yolo Avenue before or after the event for dinner, ice cream, shopping, or just hanging out with your neighbors.



CALVARY
BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, 11:00 A.M.
26479 GRAFTON STREET

f /calvaryesparto - www.calvaryesparto.org
Pastor Kris Nordstrom - 530-383-2106

Area Food Distributions

RISE, Inc. manages several food distributions each month in Esparto. Madison Community Committee sponsors a Food Closet in Madison 2x a month. A Food Closet is also held in the Guinda Grange Hall 2 x a month (2nd and 4th Mondays). Below is a summary of these opportunities. They are also announced in other places in this paper. (Call RISE office 787-4110 for more information)

Food Bank Give - Away on the 4th Monday of each month at the RISE office from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 noon. Free produce distribution on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the RISE office from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

The Food Closet is open at the Countryside Community Church on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., and on Fridays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Madison Food Closet is open on the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. to Madison residents.

Guinda Food Distribution every 2nd & 4th Monday's from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Free produce, meat, dairy, groceries and dry goods. Held at the Guinda Grange Hall.
Countryside Community Church Food Distribution on Sundays at 10:00.

Eat Well Yolo Distribution

When: 1st and 3rd Thursday
Where: RISE, Inc. office
17313 Fremont St.,
Esparto
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
**1 PER HOUSEHOLD /
BRING YOUR OWN BAG**
*Any Family in Esparto or
Capay Valley are Welcome!*
Submitted by RISE Staff

Eat Well Yolo Distribution

Cuando: 1^{er} y 3^{er} Jueves del mes
Donde: La Oficina de RISE
17313 Fremont Street
Esparto
Hora: 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
**1 POR FAMILIA
TRAIGA BOLSA**
*Familias en Esparto y
Capay Valley son Bienvenidas*
Submitted by RISE Staff

Food Distribution in Guinda

2nd & 4th Monday's from 10:00 am - 11:00 am. Free produce, meat, dairy, groceries and dry goods. Held at the Guinda Grange Hall.

Quality Supply



NEW LOCATION!!

**1250 Fortna Ave.
Woodland, CA 95776**

TRUCK & AUTO, TRAILER, AG, INDUSTRIAL-

PARTS & SUPPLIES

530-662-3207

"If we don't have it, we'll get it!"



**The Valley Voice email address:
valleyvoice@riseinc.org**

Send your articles, and contributions to this address.
If there are any changes to programs, meetings, ads, etc.
Please let us know.



**Esparto Regional Library
November Programs**

**Storytime (in front of the library)
Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.**

**Storytime at Lucy's Café (back patio)
Last Wednesdays of the Month at 10:30 a.m.**

**Bilingual Storytime
Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.**

*Special Halloween storytime on October 30th. Costumes are encouraged!

**Dia de los Muertos
Tuesday, November 2 at 5 p.m.**

Join the library for a fun evening to honor the ancestors with music, skull decorating, face painting, and antojitos (light snacks and refreshments). We welcome the public to place offerings of flowers, photographs, bread, and other symbolic offerings for loved ones who have passed away on our community altar.

Native American Heritage Month

All Yolo County Library branches will celebrate with displays and giveaway bags highlighting the history and culture of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and recommended reading.

Expanded Hours - effective November 1

The library will be open 6 days a week, with longer hours Wed-Fri, but reduced hours on Saturday.

Monday..... 2-7pm
Tuesday..... 12-7pm
Wednesday-Friday..... 10am-5pm
Saturday..... 10am-2pm
Sunday..... Closed

Did You Know?

The Yolo County Archives (<https://yolocountylibrary.org/locations/archives/>) (YCA) and Yolo County Historical Collection (<https://yolocountylibrary.org/research/yolo-county-historical-collection/>) (YCHC) can now be searched online through a new database. The key-word searchable database provides a catalog of all collections and storage space for both born-digital materials and digital reproductions of photographs and collection items.

A Thought for Thanksgiving

By Clarence Underwood

Sometimes life seems hard to bear.
Close your eyes and in your mind
travel somewhere. Make sure it is a
happy place, a place where there is
no rat race. Time to pardon the errors
you've made and to leave the hot sun
and find some shade. Remember you
are beautiful my friend. Time to let that
flower bloom and feel the true joy within!



Capay Valley Flora, Fauna and Farm series from Capay Valley Regeneration

Ant vs. Ant

This drought year we are seeing much less of our usual insects in the garden- less native bees, less wasps, less butterflies (and sadly no Monarchs at all). But one group seems to be flourishing- ants! In the summer they attacked our eggplants and peppers in the garden, and us as well when we stand too close to their nest (see photo). We recently had visitors that have expertise in ant identification, and now we know that what we are seeing, at least around the nest, is warfare among ants. Scott Miller, of the Smithsonian Natural History Museum, told us that what we have are two different species of ants, the Southern fire ant, and the Argentine ant (but NOT the Argentine fire ant, which is even worse news).

Scott told us, "The southern fire ant is aggressive, but Argentine ant is even more aggressive, so what we saw in your vineyard was small black ants (Argentine) running around the opening of their nest which was covered with dead red ants (some decapitated, etc.). Both species have been around the area for awhile, so presumably this is just ongoing competition within the vineyard. But when you look closely, you see the carnage of serious warfare!"

Scott sent lots of other information, for those more curious about our ants. Did you know for example, that 21 species of ants have been recorded in the Davis Arboretum over the thirty-year period of 1985 to 2015? Or that when the warrior-like Argentine ants invade an area, they have high water requirements and in this way manage to eliminate most species of native ants? This ant has been recorded as invasive along Cache Creek – near Capay - from 1986 and seems to be very victorious in our vineyard pretty far from the river now in 2021. We might take some solace in learning that there is a species of parasitic flies that attacks fire ants, and in turn also decapitates them. It's been found near Winters- but so far, we have not seen it at work decapitating the vicious (also decapitating) Argentine ant.

Scott also sent us a key to identifying common household ants, so should this interest any of you, write to me (bg11@mac.com) and I'll send you the pdf.



*Southern fire ant on the left, and Argentine ant on the right.
Actual size is about 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch.*



Fire Ant nest

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

- AA Meeting:** Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. 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 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- Spanish Al-Anon:** Spanish Al-Anon: Detrás de El Toro (26628 N. Grafton). Los Martes a las 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- Al-Anon:** Countryside Community Church on Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Calvary Baptist Church:** Meets Sunday's at 11:00am at 26479 Grafton Street.
- Capay Valley Christian Fellowship:** 11:00 a.m. adult Sunday school; 11:45 a.m. social; 12:10-1:10 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 p.m. at the Guinda Fire Station.
- Capay Valley Garden Club:** 4th Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., location varies, see Facebook page for more information.
- Capay Valley General Plan Advisory Committee:** Meets every 1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall in Guinda. Open to all.
- Capay Valley Science Club,** 4th Mondays, 6:00 p.m., 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:** Will be meeting **September 10, 2021 at 9 am** in Room 204 at the Woodland Administration Building, 625 Court St. Woodland.
- Countryside Community Church:** Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School.
- Esparto Ag Boosters:** Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Ag Department at the high school.
- Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee Planning Council:** Meets 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. 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 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Wednesday 2:00-6:00 p.m. and Thursday from 1:00-6:00 p.m.
- Esparto Food Distribution:** Produce on the 2nd Monday and canned and dried foods on 4th Monday at the RISE office from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 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 5:30pm, 6:00pm Dinner, For *Zoom link, please call (787-3892)*
- Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce:** Meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m, currently via Zoom. (For *Zoom Link, please call (787-3242)*)
- Esparto Unified School Board Meeting:** Meets on the 4th Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. 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.
- Farm Stop Farmers' Market:** Open Friday's (all summer long through October 1st) from 4 pm - 7 pm.
- Food Distribution at Countryside Community Church:** Tuesday: 12:00 p.m.-6:00p.m; Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Friday: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Friends of Esparto Regional Library Board of Directors' Meeting:** The 2nd Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. (except for July and November) at the Library
- Legal Services in Esparto:** Free services offered on the 1st Thursdays of every other month at the RISE office from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Call 787-4110
- Guinda Community Church:** Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.
- Guinda Food Distribution:** Produce distribution on the 2nd Monday and canned and dried goods on the 4th Monday from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Guinda Grange Hall.
- Homeschooling:** Carly Castruita Gordon at (916) 616-5419.
- Madison Advisory Committee:** 4th Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison Community Services District. No meetings in May, November or December.
- Madison Community Committee:** 3rd Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison Community Services District.
- Madison Fire Commissioners Meeting:** 1:00 p.m. 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 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. 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.
- New Life Christian Center in Madison:** Sunday Service at 11:00 a.m. with Jr. Church for ages 5-12. Home Bible Studies on Wednesday.
- On Fire Fellowship of Esparto:** Sunday service at 9:00 a.m. Bible Study:Wed. at 6:30 p.m. Youth Group: Fri.at 6:30 p.m.;Ladies:1st/3rd Tues.6:30p.m.
- RISE Collaborative Meeting:** Currently held Via ZOOM on every 3rd Friday of the month (please call the RISE office for more information).
- Rumsey Improvement Association:** Potluck dinner and meeting on the 1st Monday. 6:00 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. dinner; 7:10 p.m. meeting at the Rumsey Hall
- St. Martin's Catholic Mission Church:** English Mass: 8:30 a.m. on Sundays; Spanish Mass: 7:00 p.m. 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 6:00:social, and 6:30 p.m.potluck dinner and meeting at the Grange Hall at 16787 Forrest in Guinda.
- 4-H:** Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Community Center in Esparto.