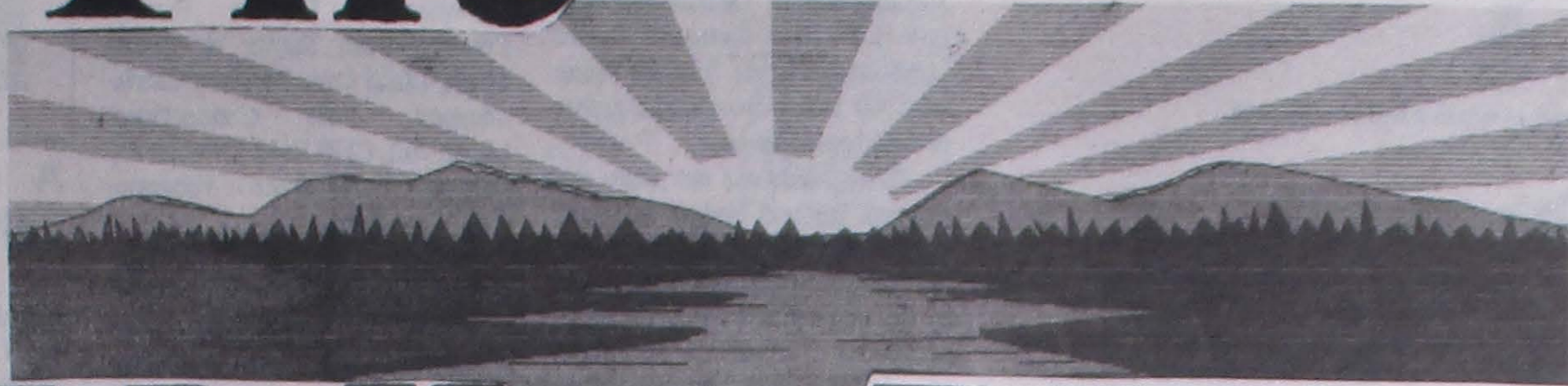


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Presented By:

Western Yolo Collaborative for Healthy Children & Families

*SERVING
MADISON, ESPARTO
AND THE
CAPAY VALLEY*

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The Healthy Start way
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National Youth Sports Program

Sponsored By: Healthy Start



It's Your



Paper

It's Your Community

It's Your Voice



A Smile is worth a Million \$\$\$\$\$\$

Dental Health

California's Epidemic

The December 1998 Healthy Start survey of our community (Madison, Esparto, and Capay Valley) showed that:

• Sixty-four percent of the Latino parents indicated that the most important health service needed was dental care. It ranked number one as the top concern. While the Caucasian /Other ranked dental services at seventh as their concerns.

• With the Students that responded to the same questions, on a similar survey the Latino's ranked dental services at sixth, the Caucasian/Other ranked dental care at 26%.

In response to these needs Healthy Start leased the existing dental building located on Fremont Street in Esparto to meet those needs.

The Office will be open two days a week, beginning September 1, 1999. One day a Dentist will be available and one day a Hygienist will be available. Services that will be offered are

full facility services that will consist of restorative surgery, preventative diagnoses and gum treatments. CommuniCare Health Centers will run the dental program for eligible clients. Our hopes are that sometime in the future we will have a full time dentist to serve our whole community. The CommuniCare Health centers have also agreed to provide dental health education in our schools.

Stop just a moment, think about the third world countries and see a child smiling at you. Teeth broken black with decay. You think that it only happens in those far away places? Well the facts are that in California the dental health of our children is in serious need of attention. In 1993 -94 a report from the Dental Health Foundation called "The Oral Health of California's Children: A Neglected Epidemic" showed that in California...

♦ 31.2 % of all pre-school children and 73% of all children 6 - 8 years old had experienced tooth decay.

Continued on page 8



Dental building already existing on Fremont Street in Esparto

Team Work Really Pays Off

By: Debbie Kaake

The State of California funds the SB 620 Healthy Start Support Services of Children Act Grant. Esparto School District K-8 was one of the fortunate grant applications to be funded, along with 80 other operational grants in California this year.

These funds are not from the districts general budget and can not be used for anything except the categories that were approved by the state in the proposal. It is additional funds \$400,000 awarded to our community to provide support and services to all our families, so children can come to school ready to learn. Because we know there is a direct link between how well children do in school, to how they will do throughout their life. I believe Parents are the first and best teachers! (Sometimes they just need a little help)

The Esparto/ Capay Valley Healthy Start Grant was written by a collaborative group called the "Planning Partners" which grew out of the Western Yolo Collaborative. Its members are from local to county agencies, including Esparto Chamber of Commerce President Pat Harrison, PTSA President Barbara Kitchen, Executive Director of RISE Cathie Wicks, Esparto Child Development Center Lupe Salas & Socorro Robles, Western Yolo Collaborative Iris Carrion, Countryside Church Kathy McIntosh-Smith, plus community members: Larry Rolston, Pat Gnos, Mae Darling, Pixie Madigan, Helen Voss, Louana Harden, Debbie Kaake, Lynn Albrecht also Yolo Co. Health Dept., School Board Member John Schneider, Elementary Principal Greta Tabor, Teachers: Elaine Barnes, Larry Mayer, Marie Degand and Sue Kennerly, EUSD Speech/Language Specialist Kunzang (Nancy Motian), Psychologist Mercedes Ibanez,

Nurse Georgia Horst, Superintendent Jerry Elemore.

Agency members: Yolo Co. Health Dept. Cheryl Boney, CommuniCare Health Centers Patty Clark, Staci Anderson & Gabriella Villa, UC Davis Martha Stiles, Migrant Education Sandra Enriquez, Esparto Family Practice Ruth Sadler & Linda Winn, Child Care Services Carrie Shepard, Yolo Connections Leona Jull, CHP Reid Thompson, Foster Grandparent Program Carla Crawford.

The dedication and participation of each one of the members is outstanding, we would not have been able to complete the 25 page proposal without all of their insight and expertise. These partners meet monthly and in sub-committees when needed, they helped design the surveys, decided what information to collect, analyzed the data from the Healthy Start community survey taken in Dec. 1998.

They determined what the highest ranked needs were for students and families, then decided what supports and services we could accomplish and how we could do it. Many of our partners offered commitments in the form of (MOU's) memorandums of understandings, which state the services and assistance they will provide our community and schools. Some wrote letters of support to show their commitment. It really took the whole collaborative working together as a team to develop the 3 year work plan.

There are a lot of plans in progress now as mentioned in the Building Success article and some are future plans to be completed down the road. I'd like to say "Thank - you" to everyone listed here for their time and energy, and if I forgot anyone I apologize. For more information or further details about the grant feel free to contact Debbie Kaake, Healthy Start Coordinator at (530) 787-3519.



A Note from the Editor:

I would like to introduce myself, my family and I have been a part of this community now for fourteen years. I feel that as a dedicated community advocate, I will be able to help meet the needs of communication in this community through the Valley Voice Newspaper. I have been a member of the Western Yolo Collaborative for Healthy Children & Families from the beginning of the initiative. My aim is to have The Valley Voice become one of the most important sources of information in this community.

The Western Yolo Collaborative for Healthy Children & Families hopes to draw support from the community, as we begin a new era in this effort. We are asking that the community members and collaborative partners please be patient while we are completing the transfer of offices. We appreciate your kindness in this matter. Remember that we are committed to serving you and to connecting this community. Keeping this program as your guide to your local resources and community activities. Again thank you for your patience. If you or your organization would like to place an article or advertise an upcoming event in the Madison, Esparto, or Capay Valley community.

Write to: The Valley Voice
C/O Iris Carrion
P.O.Box 368
Esparto, Ca. 95627
Office: 787-3516, Fax: 787-3947

Sponsored by a grant from the Sierra Health Foundation
(Articles are due no later than the third Monday of each month.)



Community Calendar

Back to School
August 25th



Bookmobile

Every Wednesday till August 25th
Stopping at these locations: Madison School parking lot from 9:00- 10:00, Brooks Mini Market from 10:30 - 11:15, Guinda fire Dept. from 12:15 - 1:45, Madison Migrant Center from 2:30 - 4:15

Capay Valley Fire Dept.

Rummage Sale: September 3rd, 4th, & 5th from 9:00 - 6:00 daily
Donations greatly appreciated. Contact Debbie Bloom @ 796-3357

Esparto Citizens Advisory Committee

Monthly meetings set for the third Tuesday of the month next meeting is on August 17th at 7:00p

FERL

Meeting is set for the 3rd of August

Guinda Pre-School

First day back is August 30th 9:30 - 11:30 am. And will be meeting every Tuesday. For more information call Julie Rose @ 796-3437

Leo Club

Is having a rafting and BBQ on the 12th of August for the new and renewed students of Esparto High.

Low Income Food distribution

Will be done in Guinda on the 26th of August and then September 30th from 12:30 - 1:30

M&M Club

Will be meeting soon. They don't have meetings during the summer but will be meeting again on the 2nd Monday of every month Contact Linda Perez @ 796-3920

Neighborhood Toddlers

Meet every Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00 - 11:00 Contact Renee Harmon @ 795-3757

Nimble Needles

Quilting Seccion on October 10th at the Grange Hall. Contact Jeanne Han @ 796-3148 days or 796-4151 evenings or weekends

Rumsey Improvement Association

October - June: First Monday of the month. Contact Bob Becker @ 796-3047

School Board Advisory Meetings

August 10th & 24th, September 14th & 28th
All meetings are in Room 16 at the high school at 6:30 p.m.

Western Yolo Collaborative for Healthy Children & Families

Office Hours 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Friday.
Homes of "The Valley Voice" articles are due before the third Monday of each month.
Healthy Families Insurance; upon appointment only
Western Yolo Grange
September 22nd 6:30p.m.
General Meeting to follow.

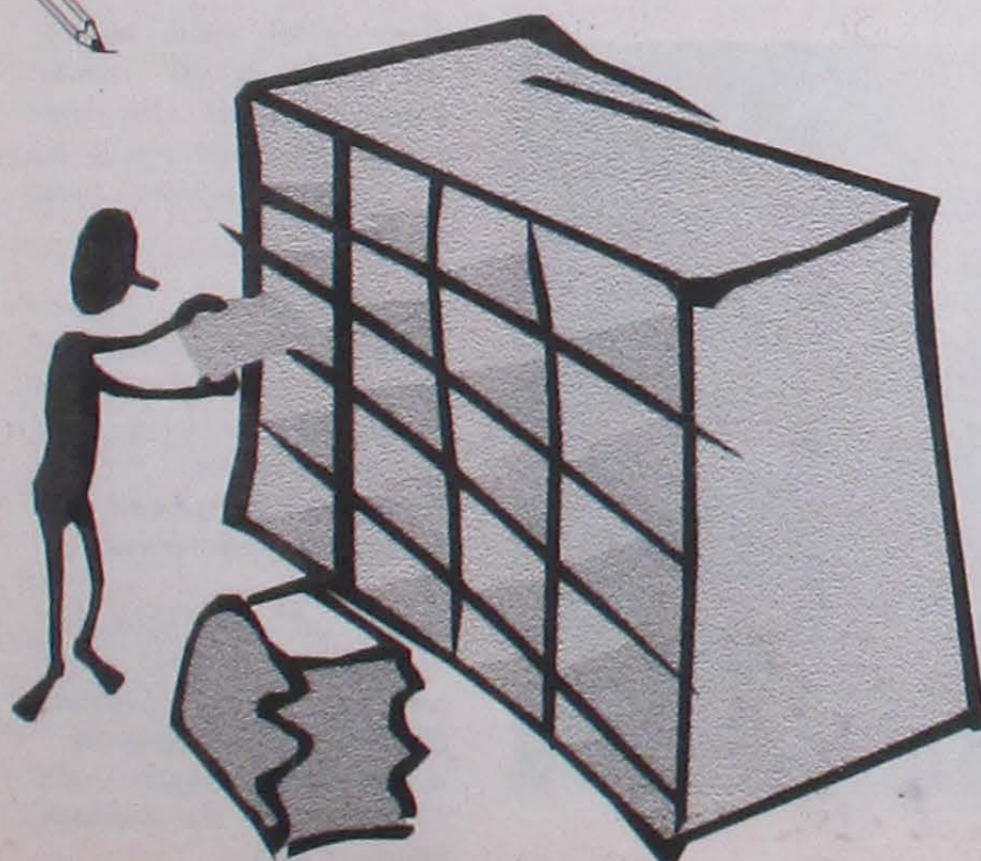
Women of Courage

Women's Support Group & Bible Study
Located at the Esparto Baptist Church 26534 Madison Ave.
7:00p.m. Every Tuesday. Contact Iris Carrion @ 787-3937

To place your local event or organization on the calendar.

Write Iris Carrion C/O "The Valley Voice" PO Box 368 Esparto Ca. 95627

Office: 530-787-3937
Fax: 530-787-3937



NYSP KICK-OFF

A SUCCESS WITH KIDS!

By: Iris Carrion

This summer's reintroduction to the NYSP program was a great success. The children of Esparto have expressed great enthusiasm. Thanks to all of you, who helped to publicizing, it's program for such a great turn out. There were 16 students that enjoyed the program.

The "NYSP" is the National Youth Sports Program. It's an alternative to the regular summer school activities. NYSP is a sport and educational Day Camp based around the mentoring of UCD students and staff. The NYSP program was established in 1968 as part of a national effort to touch and inspire the youth in America. Since the beginning they have had the element of exciting educational materials. Enrollment was free and open to kids 10 - 16 years of age.

The kids received NYSP T-shirts and a free meal daily, transportation was provided as well as medical examinations and accident insurance coverage.

Some of the activities included were swimming and a variety of other sports, which may have included basketball, football, tennis, track and field, softball, volleyball, dance/aerobics, badminton, gymnastics and wrestling. Top-quality sports equipment was provided through the program to ensure safety for the kids. The educational components of the program taught science and math with an emphasis on alcohol and drug awareness.

Kacey Kaake along with others said they really enjoyed the program because of the "Swimming and meeting new people from other schools..". There was much laughter and joy while they were loading on the bus even at 7:00am on a summer's day, while most of Esparto's children were still sleeping. This was a community partnership with the NYSP program, UC Davis and participating community volunteers.



Youth that attended this year's NYSP program were:

Chelsea & Allyson Cardoza, Angelica, Rodolfo & Eddie Salas, Brianna Neuschafer, Maggie Liran, Adrian Montes, Erin & Anyon Harrington, Jesus Veloz, Jack McHamara, Veronica Hernandez, Kacey Kaake, Cecily Fuentes, Tony Ricci, And counselor Pamela Rodriguez.

Youth Jobs

Summer Youth Program
By: Cathie Wicks

The Federal Jobs Program sponsored by the Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA) has once again funded jobs for Esparto and Capay Valley youth who qualify. Over twenty local youth are working through the program, which is sponsored here in Esparto by RISE, Inc. Youth must work in public agencies and meet other Federal mandates to qualify; once working, they actively contribute to the workplace just like any other temporary employee!

The Jobs Program has offered summer jobs for years - actually since the late 1960's. The money has come every year through several funding streams - MDTA, CETA, and now JTPA. Yolo County applies for funds through the community Partnership Agency, which has offices in Woodland, West Sacramento, and Davis. Esparto and Winters serve community youth through the RISE office, which is more accessible. It ensures that local youth, parents, and employers can work with a local entity for

services. It also provides a connected link between the career and job readiness class RISE teaches at the High school and real work.

This year, youth employees are working at the two child care centers (Madison and Esparto), at the Esparto School District (in maintenance help and office work), assisting with the National Youth Sports Program, the Esparto Summer School as teachers' aids, and working on the UC Davis campus. Some workers are blended with hired youth from Winters, and work in the Fire departments, at Solano Park, and at the City of Winters. Training plans, individual career development plans, and workshops are held as part of the program; these activities are directed on developing work ethics and clear skills training objectives for each individual youth. RISE processes the government paperwork, relieving employers of those responsibilities so they can use their time to work directly with the youth workers.

This program works because of the combined efforts of community- minded employers and supervisors, motivated youth workers, and strong staff support. Youth earn summer income while

learning lifelong employment skills and employers get help for often tedious summer tasks. Over \$27,000 will be earned by Esparto students this summer through RISE's Summer Youth Employment Program.

RISE usually teaches a second semester Career and Job Readiness Class at the High School. It will be back next year, as funding was restored and new scheduling plans will once again accommodate its implementation. Tell your students to watch for this opportunity!



Some of the youth working with RISE in the Summer Youth Program for our community. Thank you to all for your support and encouragement.

Top: Carlos Vega - Esparto School District Maintenance and Grounds Keeper is digging the waterlines and cement formations for the kindergarten playground area landscaping improvements.

Bottom Left: (left to right are) Mike Ryan, Veronica Silva, and Caty Herrera - Madison Childcare Center Employees, Participating with the children from the Madison Migrant Camp.

THE NEW VALLEY VOICE

The Western Yolo Collaborative For
Healthy Children & Families
Presents
The Local Bi-Monthly Newspaper

Are you interested in your community?
Do you have topics that you would like to hear about?
Are you having any events or meetings
you would like to inform others about?

Write: The Valley Voice
c/o Iris Carrion
PO Box 368, Esparto, Ca. 95627
Phone: (530) 787-3516
Fax: (530) 787-3947

*It's your paper,
It's your community
It's your Voice...*

*Families Together
.....Communities Connected*

Articles and information received before the third Monday of the month may be used in following editions of the "Valley Voice". A community communications newspaper. We have established a goal of printing this paper every other month beginning August 1, 1999. Thank-you all for your participation... Iris Carrion: Editor of Valley Voice



Almost Library Like

Esparto Library up-date...

By: Iris Carrion

It won't be long before we'll be able to enjoy the new Library building. It's exciting to see new growth in Esparto. Makes one feel good that life appears to have begun again in such a small town. The new building is refreshing, young and old alike are anticipating the opening of the Library.

The new Library should be open in Mid- December. As long as we're waiting on the new library to open we still have use of the high school building. The Library is having a summer reading program for kids. Thursday August 5th at 2:00pm. A professional storyteller: Gay Ducy will be presenting the stories to the children. All children are invited as well as their parents.

The Library (at the high school) will be closed shortly before the opening of the new library. Nadine DeSmet, Librarian, has put in a request for advertisement for volunteers to help in the move from the high school to the new building. So please give Nadine a call at the Library and let her know if you can help.

Also to note there will be no changes for the Library cards your existing card will still be valid. The hours will still be the same. The books available will be the same books that we have now. New books will be added on a regular base.

Esparto Community Church...

Day on the Green
By Iris Carrion

Esparto Baptist Church would like to invite you to come share a morning in the park with them. Learning about the gospel of the Lord and joining in song and craft time fun. The time to be there is 9:30 am - 11:30 am on August 4th. Where: at the Esparto Park.

Times for their Services and study groups are:

Monday @ 7pm - Experiencing God

Tuesday @ 7pm - Women's Bible Study Group

Wednesday @ 7pm - Bible Study (Business Meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month.)

Every Third Thursday of month is Women's Fellowship nights

Every Fourth Thursday of the month is Men's fellowship nights.

The last Sunday of every month is potluck day's after church.



Country-side Community Church

Happening Events

By: Pastor Katherine McIntosh-Smith

Vacation Bible School - Thanks to all the children, parents, teens, and adult helpers and teachers who made it such a big success! Our theme this year was Bible treasure hunt - the bible is the map and Jesus is the treasure! We studied the Gospel of John and had lots of fun. Thank You All!

Sunday School for Children and bible study for adults begin Sunday September 12. We have new and exciting teachers and programs for the children. The adults will be studying "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancy, as well as the gospels and even some movie clips. Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:15, followed by worship at 10:30.

Come join us!

Everyone Welcome
For more information: 787-3586

Neighborhood Toddlers

Expanding?

By: Iris carrion

The Neighborhood Toddlers are looking to expand their group. Hoping to encourage more participation from the local parents. The Neighborhood Toddlers meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 - 11:00. Their inter active group gives the children a place to learn and to grow into more independent children. Prepares them for entering Kindergarten and opens their abilities for more positive growth.

They teach the Phonics curriculum and have had great success with their program. Having their preschool activities available to the parents has opened new areas of growth with the parents as well. The parents share techniques in teaching, rearing, and discuss the health of their children, passing

on information to the other parents that concern the growth of their children. Sharing is vital part of the group to help ensure a productive program for the parents as well as the child.

The Neighborhood Toddlers Group has been a successful parent co-op for the last seven years. And have proudly had eleven graduates with two graduating in 1999. They are located at the Countryside Community Church on Fremont and Grafton in the upstairs portion of the Sunday school building.

In looking into expanding the Neighborhood Toddlers will be doing a needs assessments survey to find out the actual needs of the Madison, Esparto, and Capay Valley for child care. The survey will be compiled for more information to help in expanding the group. This is set to begin soon; so be looking for our survey.

For more information on the Neighborhood Toddlers contact Renee Harmon 787-3757

What does it take to have healthy, warm relationships?

Believe in one another, Praise one another in success; Show support in every effort!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 😊

Make a Difference...Join the BE SMART and Foster Grandparents program. Volunteers are needed to work with children on an individual basis at the Healthy Start After School Club, located in a portable classroom on the Elementary School site. Volunteer tutors and mentors will receive free training in personal tutoring techniques to help students develop reading, spelling and writing skills, while learning about each others' interests and creating a bond that motivates students to be all that they can be. The volunteers will receive free finger printing and a background check will be done. High School students wanting to increase their community service and parents that have any spare time to spend with the kids are welcome. The Foster Grandparents program is for seniors with a lot of time who can work 20 hours a week. They receive a stipend - \$2.55/ hour (does not affect any benefits you are receiving) and mileage reimbursement. All are welcome! Whatever time you can give to the after school program is an investment in the future of a child and in the future of our community. For more information and an application, please call the Esparto/Capay Valley Healthy Start office at (530) 787-3519.



Coming in September

A Family Fun, Health & Safety Fair

Everyone is Welcome!

Date: September 19, 1999

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: Esparto Park

Sponsored By:

Esparto/Capay Valley Healthy Start

School Bond...

Up-Date

By Richard Corey

As the first day of school approaches, several construction projects are underway in the Esparto Unified School District. Here is a short overview of how our tax dollars are working to complete the projects: at the new Middle school a servery (cafeteria), Modernization projects at the Elementary school and the bridge connecting the Elementary and Middle school sites.

The most obvious is the construction of the Middle school, which is currently estimated at 85% complete. The contractor has completed the building, leaving only the utility tie-ins and cosmetic landscaping. The servery at the Middle school is scheduled to be delivered and installed on July 27th and fully operational by September 1st. Contracts were signed and the construction Phase 1 is to be completed prior to the start of school. Phase 2 construction will commence immediately following Phase 1. Construction at the Elementary

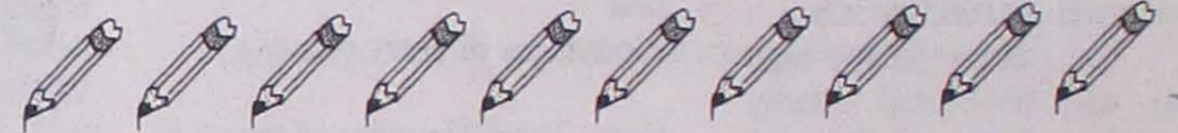
school will continue through out the year, scheduled around school learning hours and vacation. The High school campus is also going to get a painting face life. Contracts were signed on July 26th, with construction beginning on the 29th. This, the first of many construction Phases at the High school, will completely repaint the exterior of the campus prior to the start of school. The bridge connecting the Elementary school and the Middle school has gone out to bid and is expected to be awarded soon. As you can see we are making incredible strides toward completing all of the projects. Please be patient with the construction process and rest assured that all those involved are putting forth the maximum amount of effort to make all of these projects successful.



Construction 85% complete at Middle school site.



The Valley Voice is looking for the next Madison, Esparto, or Capay Valley person to put the "spotlight" on. So if you have someone that you would like to see in the news send in his/her name and a short essay as to why you think he/she would be the best person to be under the "spotlight"



My Son and I

He gave me purpose,
He gave me dreams,
He gave me love to ex-streams.
He lives with angels and loved ones
gone on . . .
With happiness he still goes on.

Joy and laughter are with him,
No more sorrows to bother him
God gave to him a life of love
Now he shines from heaven above.

Running, Playing, Flying high!
In the clouds of the skies . . .
But alas I must just sigh,
And say a very tearful goodbye.
I'll love forever, my son and I!

To meet him, Arms open wide!
The tears of pain we set aside . . .
When we will abide side by side,
In the wonders of the big blue sky

Forever My Son and I!



By: Iris Nobles Carrion



Low Cost, High Quality Health, Dental & Vision Care Insurance

Your Kids May Be Eligible For Low Cost, High Quality Health, Dental & Vision Care Insurance Through The Healthy Families Program

This is GREAT news for families and parents who cannot afford health coverage for their children!!! A new program is coming that can provide assistance with health benefits. President Clinton proposed and Congress passed legislation to cover children under the age 19 who have no health insurance. The California Legislature did their part to enact the emphasis of the National push for health coverage by approving the Healthy Families Program. This Program helps parents without health insurance to purchase low cost insurance for their children. Here in the Esparto area, the Western Yolo Collaborative is

working hard to find a way to provide local accessibility to the program.

This Program could work for you! It is for families whose income levels exceed the limit for Medi-Cal, who do not have employer-provided medical benefits; but cannot afford to pay for private health insurance. Premium range from \$7 to \$27 per month with even more discounts for certain plans (depending on the number enrolled and family income).

Statewide training is starting to prepare staff to assist and enroll families. Western Yolo Collaborative, the new Healthy Start Program Planning Committee, and Yolo County Public Health are all committed to making sure our communities in rural Western Yolo County are not left out. Stay tuned for more information, as it becomes available.

Esparto FFA Calendar

July 24 Barbecue Fire Dept. 7:00 P.M.
National Convention Fund raiser

July 28 Sheep showmanship practice
Fairgrounds 7:00 P.M.

August 11 fair meeting all exhibitors
& parents 7:00 P.M. Barbecue

August 17 Livestock moved to fair by
10:00 P.M.

August 18 Fair mtg. Mandatory for Jr.
Exhibitors 8:00 A.M.
8:15 weigh-in - All Jr. Department
Market animals (Beef, Sheep, hogs, catfish)
Pictures 8:30 A.M. until Finished
Must be in uniform (top half)
5:00 P.M. Market hog show

August 19 5:00 P.M. Market lamb show

August 20 5:00 P.M. Market Beef show
6:00 P.M. Catfish show

August 21 9:00 A.M. FFA Round Robin
12:30 P.M. FFA Awards assembly
1:00 P.M. FFA Auction

August 25 School starts

September 1 FFA officers meeting
Chapter meeting 7:00 P.M.

September 13-24 Beef Jerky sales

October 2-3 COLC, Beyer Modesto

October 6 Chapter meeting 7:00 P.M.

October 7 Opening/Closing, Galt

October 13 CATA, FFA sectional mtg.
Woodland 4:30 P.M.

October 20-27 National FFA Convention



Back Row: Jolene Berg, Katie Burton, Kasie Barnes, Carol Heil, and Kim Moriss.
Front Row: Jeff Heil, Dan Plechacty and Freeman Barsotti

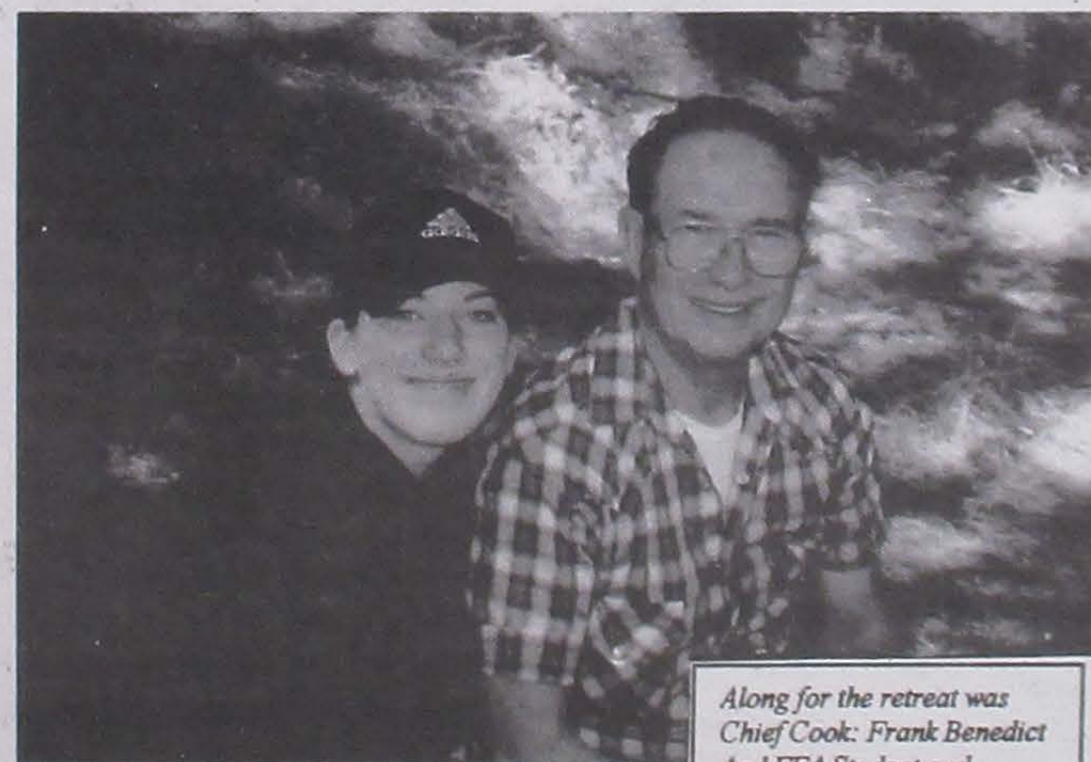
Esparto FFA Officers Retreat:

Written By: Jolene Berg- Chapter Reporter

The school year may have ended in early June, but the work just began for the Esparto FFA's 1999 - 2000 officers' team.

On July 8 - 10, Jeff Heil, Kim Moriss, Freeman Barsotti, Katie Burton, Kasie Barnes, Jolene Berg and Carol Heil departed on an officers retreat with their advisors Mr. Schulte and Mr. Perkins to Lake Solano Park.

The main purpose of the retreat was to plan out our year, but also start getting used to working with each other as a team and set goals for the coming year. Our itinerary included a fishing derby, several planning sessions, icebreaker, and a boating trip to Lake Berryessa. In the planning sessions we went through our yearly budget, updated our calendar and discussed our program of work for next year. Two key items were to have a community work day and rejuvenate our Elementary Farm Day. The most important session we had was to write out our own personal goals. For example: mine as chapter reporter was to establish a chapter newsletter, send in articles to the National FFA magazine and construct a chapter Web Site. Frank Benedict served as our chief cook.



Along for the retreat was
Chief Cook: Frank Benedict
And FFA Student and
Officer: Carol Heil.

Enjoying the new
relationships being built
through the efforts of FFA
Advisors Mr. Schulte (not
shown) and Mr. Perkins
(also not shown)



FFA to go to Convention . . .

Written by: Iris Carrion

Nine of Esparto's FFA students will be leaving October 20th - 27th for a 7-day trip to participate in this years National Convention. They'll be traveling the first three days to New York, Ellis Island, Time Square also taking in a Broadway theatrical show stopping by Boston. Then its onto Louisville Kentucky, Where they'll be participating in the Career fair, National Speakers and finals in Parliamentary Procedure competitions with more than 48,000 other FFA students. The FFA National Convention is held every year.

Jim and Marlene Schulte will be attending the event as the chaperons. The FFA students that will be attending this years convention are: Jolene and Cory Berg, Katie Burton, Ryan Jones, Dustin Vanliew, Julie Herbst, Kim Morris, Freeman Barsotti, and Vanessa Guerra. Thad Barsotti will be receiving the highest honor to the FFA this year. Although he will not be able to attend his brother is attending and will be accepting the degree for him. Thad is a third member of four brothers

to receive this award. This is a very rare incident to have happen since this is a "National" degree and is given to only .025% of it's members as a result of achievements accomplished in the FFA.

The first of the fund-raiser planned to help them achieve the funds for attending this trip, was Saturday July 24. This was a Tri-Tip dinner and included a silent auction. There were many of Esparto's community residents that attended the dinner in showing their support for the FFA students. Future fund-raisers are set to begin Friday July 23, and will consist of raffles, melon sales. These sales will take place at the Manas ranch and at various sites through out the valley.

These students are filled with anticipation and excitement at the chance to experience some of the landmarks in New York. The students pay \$1400 a piece for the trip. Fundraising helps to defray the cost. So let's get out there and help support these kids in reaching their goal. For more information

Yolo County Fair...

Written by Jim Schulte

Esparto FFA will have twenty-six members exhibiting livestock this year. In the Beef shows Nick Gonzales, David Garrison, Jeff Heil, and Jenny Dutton,

Showing Hogs are Casie Dutton Dustin Vanliew, Joey Kinser, Jolene Berg, Steve Holladn, Beto Hernandez, Ricki Scott, and Saul Mendosa.

Showing Sheep: Meghan Roath, Kasie Barnes, Dan Holland, Lindsey Medina, Carol Heil, Katie Burton, Jill Vanliew, Diane Garrison and Vanessa Degand

Showing Catfish: Jeff Lopez, Lindsey Thompson, Vanessa Guerra, Shasta Bair and Krista Shank.

This years fair is scheduled for August 18 - 22nd. Show times are all approximately at 6:00P.M. Wednesday (18th) Hogs, Thursday (19th) sheep, Friday (20th) beef and catfish. Livestock auction will be Saturday August 21st at 1:00p.m. If you would like to purchase a animal for your freezer or to offer support contact Dwight Barnes at 796-2264

FFA Advisors:
Jim Schulte -787-3405ex125
Mark Perkins - 787 3405ex 124

Building Success

One Step At A Time:

By: Iris Carrion

When you look around at the children of this community you see the children of your best friend and of the people that you grew up with. You look at your own children and want them to have the best and yet the fact is that most of our children are at a high risk of having problems. Mental, health and yes even dental problems can have a deep and lasting impact on our children.

Healthy Start is working hard to get these issues to the forefront of this community. In petitioning every effort that can be made for these children to feel good about themselves and except themselves as a vital part of this community is worth the effort of the Healthy Start program. Healthy Start is a grant that will help in providing the children of this community the opportunity to succeed and become the vital community member that he or she can be.

Healthy Start will receive \$400,000. Over the next three years that will be used to promote a dental program, after-school programs, parenting classes, child care center and counseling programs for the children in our neighborhoods. Although Healthy Start isn't and can't be the answer to every problem in this area it can be a starting point.

A lot of people don't understand what Healthy Start can offer the community. So to touch on a few of the "Steps to the Future" for those who need more information about the program.

◆ These monies are not any part of the schools general funds. They are a grant that the Western Yolo Collaborative for Healthy Children and Families and the Esparto unified school district had applied for. The reason they applied for the Healthy Start grant was that when a survey to assess the needs of this community was done, it indicated from the community that there was a diversity of needs. Further information from the needs assessments survey indicated that Healthy Start programs could meet the needs. This was the direct result of the need assessments done in the Dec. 1998 survey. We would like to thank all of you that participated in filling out and returning the survey forms. Healthy Start had the largest survey return response in the history of the valley: 450 community/parents, 361 6-12 grade students, and 55 EUSD staff.

◆ The program is a support to the school. The Healthy Start program will help to fill in the gaps. Healthy Start is a "Step to the Future" that can help guide the way to needed resources.

We Need Your Help!!!

Esparto Citizen Advisory

By: Tammy Fullerton

The Esparto Citizen Advisory Committee, made up of community people within the Esparto General Plan area, appointed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, reviews and makes comments and recommendations to the Yolo County Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, regarding growth and development in the Esparto area. Recently the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors approved two new housing developments for the town of Esparto. This will bring approximately 130 new homes to our community, with the possibility of construction starting next spring. As the population grows and new homes are built, there is a need to provide recreational space for the community.

This is where we need the help of the community!

The Advisory Committee does not want to make recommendations to the county about where parks should be in our community and also about what type of recreational facilities/equipment should be in the parks, without input from the community at large. As the first step, the Esparto Citizen Advisory Committee will be sending out a short survey, in the near future, asking your opinion about where parks should be located and what type of recreational facilities you would like to see in our parks. Be watching for the survey, it will be coming to you soon. We need your opinions and ideas!

The next Esparto Citizen Advisory Committee meeting is Tuesday, August 17 at 7:00pm, in the Esparto Fire Dept. The public is always welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee, Ron Voss, can be reached at (530) 787-3510 if you have any questions.

New Principal at Esparto Middle School

By: John Schneider

Welcome Carole Hiltman! We were all very excited to learn that Carole Hiltman has accepted the position of principal at our brand new Esparto Middle School!

Mrs Hiltman comes to us with many years of experience as principal of Benicia Middle School in the Benicia Unified School District. She was also responsible for leading and implementing many new curriculum programs. Since her former school has grown quite large, she felt a loss of personal contact with the students and staff. She feels that by being in a smaller school she will be better able to meet the student's needs. In her words, "I believe my wide range of experience as a couch,

teacher, counselor, and administrator has prepared me as the single administrator at a small school".

Dental: Continued from page 2

- ◆ 55% of 6 - 8 years olds and 48% of 15 year - olds had active decay present.
- ◆ 44.3% of pre-schooler's had never seen a dentist. The figure for the Kindergarten through third grade was 21.3% and for high school, 12%.

Although these problems which are represented by these figures are looked at as minor or mere inconveniences they do represent our children's need for dental care. Meanwhile a report on the nationwide impact on children indicates:

- ◆ Dental health problems cause children to miss 52 million-school hours each year.
- ◆ Children can suffer eating, digestive, learning and speech problems caused by excessive tooth decay, pain and infection.
- ◆ Embarrassment and diminished self-esteem are less visible consequences of poor oral health but can have a powerful effect on children as they grow up.

The causes of "California's Epidemic" are a diversity of reasons. Sometimes parents don't know how to teach their children how to clean their teeth, they fail

Mrs. Hiltman enjoys working with students, and "Knowing every one of them". She is looking forward to working with the middle school staff to make a successful learning environment, welcoming three new teachers, and meeting parents and community members.

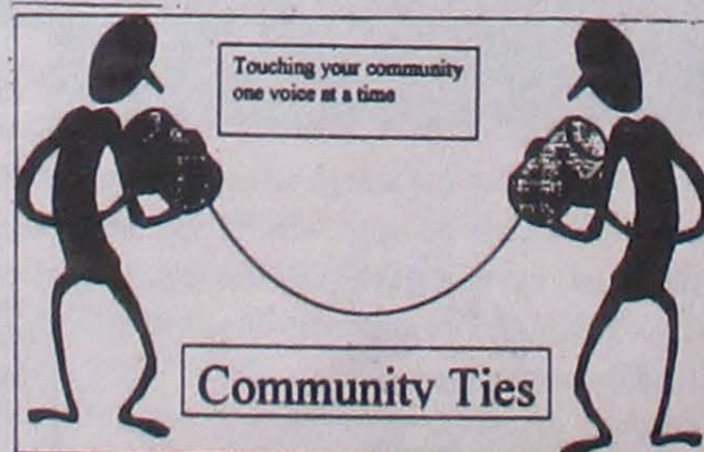
Mrs. Hiltman will begin work August 4, and will have a temporary office at the district office until the completion of the new Middle School.



Esparto Welcomes You!



*The New Site of
"The Human Resource Center"
From left to right: Iris Carrion- Western
Yolo Collaborative Coordinator and
Debbie Kaake- Healthy Start
Coordinator*



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