



Valley Voice

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February 2017

2017 Almond Festival News



Calling all people to volunteer in your communities to help make the 2017 Almond Fest one of the best! All communities need help of some type.

Three shifts make it easiest on everyone. Shifts will be set by individual communities. In Esparto they are: 7:00 a.m -10:30 a.m.;10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and of course anyone is invited to stay all day..

If you would be willing to help out during the Almond Festival

- Call 796-2214 to help out in Rumsey;
- Call 796-3312 to help out in Guinda; and
- Call 787-3242 to help in Esparto.

Give us a call and ask what help is needed and pick what you'd like to do. This can be a lot of fun!!!!

Thanks to everyone for great community spirit!

See everyone on February 26 in one of these venues.

Submitted by Pat Harrison
Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce

Esparto Gets Solar Crosswalks

In January, Caltrans and Yolo County installed solar powered crosswalks at key intersections along Yolo Avenue in Esparto. Many years of planning, streetscape design and traffic calming initiatives by local residents made the crosswalks possible. Initially funded by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), the Esparto Streetscape Project identified the need for streetlights, crosswalks, and other safety enhancements on Yolo Avenue. This led to the first street print coloration across Yolo Avenue and lights in the commercial corridor of Esparto. The Streetscape Task Force, appointed by Yolo County, has worked on improving the pedestrian safety and accessibility in downtown Esparto for over a decade.

In 2014, New Season Community Development Corporation, a local nonprofit organization, became the community liaison for Yolo County and with continual input from Yolo County, Caltrans, the Esparto Citizen's Advisory Committee, Esparto Unified School District and the Esparto Community Service District, prioritized the use of the remaining funds. Funding for these crosswalks came from the Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee (IGLCBC), a state fund formed to award grants to local government jurisdictions to mitigate casino impacts.

In addition, Caltrans has begun doing preliminary design planning for an application similar to the previous "complete streets" project commissioned by the Yolo County Streetscape Task Force. Caltrans expects to begin construction for additional safety improvements to Yolo Avenue in 2018. The installation of the crosswalks were a priority safety enhancement identified by the community.

Submitted by Trini Campbell



Pictured above are Steve Johnson and Joe Tremaine of West Coast Electric from Santa Rosa, CA installing the Solar Crosswalks in Esparto.

VALLEY VOICE

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or drop off at the office at 17317 Fremont Street in Esparto.

The Valley Voice
P.O. Box 133
Esparto, CA 95627

For article inquires, call 787-4110, or send an e-mail message to Greta Taber, Editor, at valleyvoice2@hotmail.com. For billing inquiries or ad rates, call 787-4110. **All articles are due by the 20th of each month.** Ads must be paid in advance and accounts must be paid up to date by the **20th of each month.** We reserve the right to edit articles at our discretion, due to space limitations and other criteria. Articles published do not necessarily express the views of the Valley Voice editor. **The Valley Voice is published monthly by a partnership of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, RISE, Inc., and the Esparto Unified School District.**

Road Trip
BAR & GRILL

- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 -

Valentine's Day

SPECIAL DINNER MENU
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Festival

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For more information contact:

Jessica Uribe

530-794-6000

Jessica@riseinc.org

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1 de marzo del 2017

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Medio Día 7AM-1PM o 1PM-6PM (\$250/mes)

Para más información contacte a:

Jessica Uribe

530-794-6000

Jessica@riseinc.org

**Rumsey Celebrates 102 years of the Almond Festival!
Sunday, February 26 – Come to the Rumsey Town Hall for:**

- ***Wood-fired Pizza Oven** – The fire will be hot in the wood-fired pizza oven serving breakfast and savory pizzas using local ingredients! Come early for the breakfast pizza! 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
- ***Local Sausage Sandwiches!** – will be served all day – local salad, local beans, beer and desserts! 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- ***Local Art Show** –the historic Rumsey Hall will feature paintings, photos and sculptures from the valley’s award winning artists. 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- ***Children’s Area** – outside of the Rumsey Hall there will be an expanded Children’s Game Area will include mazes, tunnels and Giant Croquet. 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
- ***Silent Auction** - An amazing array of gift baskets, plants and “experiences” will be auctioned off in the hall. 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Bidding closes at 4:00 p.m.!!
- ***Homemade Baked Goods and Café Almond Lattes** for sale in the historic Rumsey Hall 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- ***Havrides** – enjoy a fun hayride around the old town of Rumsey and over the historic Rumsey bridge! 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
- ***Rumsey Town Hall Slideshow** – see how the old town hall was repaired and renovated by a group of dedicated valley-ites! 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- ***Viewing of the Historic Opera House Stage Curtains** - come up for a taste of history and see the original painted curtains from the Hall 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- ***Dance to Live Music** on the outdoor, covered dance floor - great foot stomping bluegrass music!! 12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
- ***Craft Vendor and Farmers Market booths** – some of the valley’s finest crafters and farmers will be on hand to sell their delicious and beautiful wares! The booths will feature lavender products, decorated gourds, Capay Valley olive oil and honey, almonds, walnuts, jams, jellies, quilts, embroidered items, plants, dried fruit and more! 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. The Rumsey Hall is available to rent for special events. We have a stage, tables & chairs, a sound system and kitchen. For more information visit www.RumseyTownHall.com.

Submitted by Elvira DiBrigit

**Don’t miss Guinda, the Festival’s Sweet Spot
At the Fire House and the Grange Hall**

Savor the culinary flavor!

- Oysters at the Fire House
- Tri-tip sandwiches/green salad at the Grange Hall
- Homemade sweets & savories at Western Yolo Grange Hall- Inside & out!
- Homemade Almond Ice Cream!
- Grammy Wyatt’s Almond Rocha
- Almond & walnut delicacies
- Olive oil tasting by local boutique growers!

Crafters and artisans:

- Unique Jewelry
- Blacksmith wares
- Olive oil & goats milk soaps
- Quilts & more!
- Silent Auction of Art by local Artists!
- Music on stage throughout the day!
- Passport stop!
- Petting Farm- Bring the little ones. Let them get up close and personal with local farm animals. Touch wool while it is still on the sheep. Our local 4-H will staff this petting zoo.
- Vintage engines and tractors- See how they did it “back in the day”

Come enjoy the warm hospitality of a 100 year old building & tradition!

Submitted by Trudie Martin

**Esparto School District News
Diego Ochoa, Superintendent**



**State Board of Education Approves
New Accountability System**

The State Board of Education recently approved a new accountability system for all public schools in California. The new system will be called the **California School Dashboard** and is designed to provide parents with the ability to evaluate the eight state priority areas.

School districts expect the California School Dashboard to be unveiled in March 2017 on the cde.ca.gov website. State Board of Education President, Mike Krist, described the new system as just the beginning of a long process to improve schools. State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, lauded the new system as an example of the creative work of many members of the state’s educational community.

School principals will hold workshops for parents to visit the webpage and learn about the new system. Please contact your school principals with any questions.

Country Villa Seniors

On January 18 Becky Schwenger taught a CPR class to the Country Villa Seniors. Twelve participants learned updated information and they thank her so much for this opportunity.

Submitted by James Schulte





Esparto Elementary School News
Erika St. Andre, Principal

During the month of January, Esparto Elementary School students participated in a Spelling Bee. Round 1 consisted of classroom competitions.

Round 2 was a school-wide competition with between five and ten representatives from each grade level. These students participated in a traditional Spelling Bee by grade level in order to determine a grade level finalist as well as to practice the format for Round 3.

Round 3 was held on Friday, January 27 at 12:30 p.m. in the Esparto Elementary School cafeteria. The grade level finalists competing in Round 3 were:

- 2nd grade winner: Angel Guzman from Ms. Mezger's class!
- 3rd grade winner: Jeremy Green from Mrs. Pitner's class!
- 4th grade winner: David Martinez from Ms. Thompson's class!
- 5th grade winner: Sergio Venegas from Mrs. Thompson's class!

Esparto Elementary students have also had the opportunity to meet and interact with various animals from the Sacramento Zoo through a partnership between the Zoo and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. The Zoomobile brought animals to our school each Friday over the course of six weeks, and each classroom had their own time slot to spend meeting and interacting with animals and their handlers. We are very appreciative of this hands-on opportunity for our students!

First 5 Yolo will be bringing the First 5 Express, an information fair, to the Esparto Elementary School campus on Friday, February 10. All parents of children ages 0-5 are welcome to come and get free information and giveaways from First 5 Yolo. Our Kindergarten and first grade students will also see the First 5 Express with their classes that day.

**First 5 Express to Visit Esparto:
Talk, Read, Sing Activities for Children and Families**

First 5 Yolo is partnering with First 5 California to bring the First 5 Express to Esparto on February 10, 2017. The First 5 Express is a bilingual, touring children's activity center aimed at interactive activities focused on the importance of talking, reading, and singing with children to promote early brain development. The Express will set up at Esparto Elementary and invite preschool and school-aged children and families from the Valley to participate.

"The First 5 Express is a chance for us to connect with parents, caregivers, and children in The Valley," said Sue Heitman, First 5 Yolo Commissioner. "We want to ensure that parents and caregivers have the tools and local resources they need to raise healthy children who are ready to learn!"

Children will have the opportunity to explore hands-on activities, including story time sessions, a child-friendly library, an interactive karaoke booth, and nursery rhyme spin wheel. Free prizes that encourage healthy behaviors, such as toy musical instruments and activity books, will be available. For more information, contact First 5 Yolo at: (530) 669-2475.

by First Five Yolo



Esparto Middle School News
Sherrie Vann, Principal

On January 12 Esparto Middle School students presented their experiments to judges from the local community and the professionals in the field of science as part of the school **Science Fair**. It was an exciting day on campus as our students were able to demonstrate or explain their hypotheses to judges and receive immediate feedback on their work. Nearly all of the students at EMS participated in the **Science Fair** as individuals, partners, or teams of three.


At the end of the day, judging sheets were tallied and awards pinned to project boards. Parents, families, and the community were invited to the school to view all of the student projects at 6:00 p.m. Each grade level was awarded a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize in addition to several awards in special categories. The Special Categories included Science Technology Engineering and Math (**STEM**), Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (**STEAM**), and Creativity.


6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
1st Place: Lucas Treat	1st Place: Phineas Tucker	1st Place: Kayla Marfil
2nd Place: David Barbarick	2nd Place: Tabetha Carey & Karla Gutierrez	2nd Place: May Robinett & Aleanna Fletcher
3rd Place: Olivia Rust	3rd Place: Vanessa Anaya & Lizbeth Lopez	3rd Place: Emilio Trujillo
STEM: Aram Garcia	STEM: Matthew Simas	STEM: Trevor Dennis & Andrew Watkins
STEAM: Angel Alcantar & Alex Gonzales	STEM: Priscilla Perez & Emma Stevens	STEAM: Tyla Flores & Jessica Luna
Creativity: Evelyn Gutierrez & Gaby Carrillo	STEAM: Priscilla Perez & Emma Stevens	Creativity: Ximena Solano & Pedro Hernandez

We would like to thank all of the judges that took time out of their busy schedules to volunteer at EMS. The judges included Steven Crain, EHS Teacher; Luke Carroll, Pastor at Calvary Chapel in Dixon; Nancy Remington, Friends of the Library; Julie Karlonas, Professor at St. Mary's College; Laura Aurand, Monsanto; Jessica Cook, Monsanto; Dr. Terry Berke, Monsanto; Nancy Stone, Yolo Coroner's Office; Deputy Reid Thompson, Retired Yolo County Sheriff Deputy; and Erika Barajas, Former Almond Queen and Esparto Alumna.

The Science Fair was made possible by the hard work of our science teachers, Mrs. Maggie Cabutage and Ms. Erin Simons! Additionally, the students could not have done such a great job without the support of their parents - Thank you!

Next up for science at EMS are several field trips including the 6th grade field trip to Pacific Environmental Education Center Camp in March. Fund raising efforts are underway with students selling chocolate bars, and in February our PTO is hosting a Krispy Kreme fundraiser!





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Esparto High School News
Jennifer Wiese, Principal

Esparto High School has completed first semester final exams and our second semester is in full swing. To honor the academic achievements of our students from first semester, we will hold an Academic Awards Assembly on February 9 in our auditorium. Invitations will be sent out and you can watch our electronic sign for more information.

On February 9 our students will participate in *Poetry Out Loud*, a competition which requires students to memorize and recite two poems of their choice. The winner of our school competition will move on to the Yolo County competition. For more information, please contact Mr. Crain or Mr. Noland.

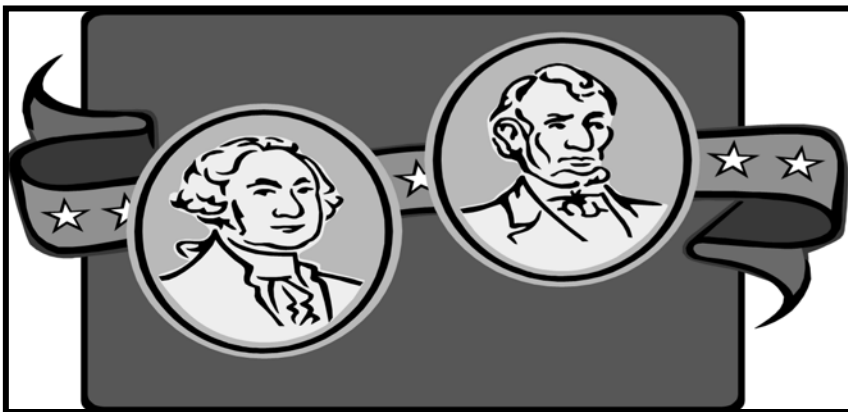
Our winter athletics will celebrate the graduating seniors on Soccer Senior Night - February 7- and Basketball Senior Night- February 17. We will also hold a Winter Sports Banquet on March 6 to honor all our student athletes and their amazing efforts.

This semester, students enrolled in the following classes have the opportunity to earn college credit for completing these courses in high school: Spartan Success, Introduction to Culinary Arts, Basic Food Preparation, Digital Arts and Media, and Plant Science. This is an important aspect of our Career and Technical Education Master Plan which provides for our CTE classes to be dual enrolled with local community colleges, students working with industry standard equipment and earning industry certifications, students working with our industry partners to earn on-the-job work experience in internships throughout the county and providing support for staff to attend national conferences to improve instruction in our courses.

Across the campus students and teachers are preparing for California Assessment of Student Proficiency and Progress Exams (CAASPP) in Mathematics and English Language Arts. Students have been taking smaller practice tests to experiment and practice with the computer interface. This is the first time our 11th grade students will take this exam formally and officially; the last time they took the assessment was as 8th graders in pilot study. This year also marks the first year that standardized Science testing will take place on the computer for our 10th grade students. If parents have any questions about these tests, please feel free to contact your child's teachers or Mrs. Wiese.

Graduation caps and gowns are on sale now! *"The Dawn"* yearbooks are on sale now! Links to purchase both of these are available on the school website. Act fast as prices will go up soon. See Lupe Trejo or Mr. Hall for more information.

I hope to see you at the Almond Festival, celebrating everything the Capay Valley has to offer!



Presidents' Day is on February 20



Madison Community High School News
Veronica Michael, Principal

January has been a busy month! The first semester ended on January 13. Please expect your child's report and transcript to arrive by mail. Superintendent Ochoa and I will be holding progress meetings for those students who have not made sufficient progress.

Madison Community High School will be undergoing a WASC accreditation visit April 24-26, 2017. Part of the process involves parent participation. I am in need of 3-4 parents to help with the process. Please call the school office if you are interested and can help the school. This accreditation is an important step in an ongoing six-year cycle of quality, whereby the school demonstrates the capacity, commitment, and competence to support high-quality student learning and ongoing school improvement. Our meetings will be at 6:00 p.m. at Madison Community High School on February 9, 2017, February 23, 2017, March 2, 2017, March 23, 2017, April 6, 2017, and April 20, 2017

Upcoming holidays:
February 13, 2017
February 20, 2017

***PTO's 1st Annual
FAMILY SOCK HOP***



February 10 at 6:00 p.m.
Esparto Elementary Cafeteria

Admission—PTO members free/Non members \$2.00
We will have a DJ, also food/drinks for sale

To volunteer contact Kristina Queen (530) - 554-0032

Come dressed in 50's era attire,
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**You are invited to join us at
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Esparto!**

**Sunday Service at 10am
Sunday School 3-10 year olds
Coffee Hour following the service**

17050 Omega Street

*Located next to Esparto
Elementary School*

**Find us on the web
www.calvarywoodland.org**

**Find us on Facebook
Calvary Baptist Church of Esparto**

**Pastor Kris' Office Hours: Wed-Fri 1-4pm
or by appointment: (530) 383-2106**



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countrysidechurch@outlook.com

Presbyterian Affiliation

www.facebook.com/CountrysideCommunityChurch

**Welcome to St. Martin De Porres
Catholic Mission Church**
25633 W. Grafton Street – Esparto, CA

**Holy Eucharist
Saturday 7:00 p.m. Spanish
Sunday 8:30 a.m. English**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 6:30 p.m.**

We welcome visitors to our community.

**If you are Catholic, but have not been to
church lately, come by and see what
your Church is like today.**

**Fr. Cormac Lacre – Pastor
(530)795-2230**

stanthonystmartin@stanthonystmartin.org

**SunRISE, Child Development
Center OPENS March 1**

RISE, Inc. has been working along with Capay Valley Vision to build a Preschool Childcare Center in Esparto. After working many years on this project, the center has come to life and will officially open its doors on March 1, 2017.

Three licensed preschool portables were purchased and hauled into the empty lot on the corner of Omega St. and Grafton St. where the preschool is located.

Nancy Pennebaker, Executive Director of Capay Valley Vision, Tico Zandejas, Executive Director of RISE, Inc, along with Jessica Uribe, SunRISE Director, First 5 Yolo, Yocha Dehe Community Fund, Esparto School District and many other volunteers from the community and grant providers have worked together to make this happen for the community.

Submitted by Jessica Uribe, Director
(More information about the PreSchool in the March edition of the Valley Voice.)



On Fire
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**Extended Hours for RISE in
February**

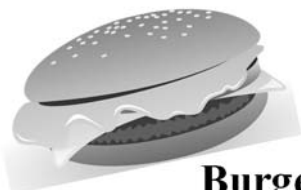
RISE is extending its hours to better serve the community. This coming month the Esparto Office will be open Saturday, February 11 from 8 a.m - 5 p.m. It will also be open on Monday, February 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Make an appointment now to meet with our Resource and Referral Specialist. Call (530) 787- 3417. Submitted by the RISE Staff

Come Join



BBQ Burgers on Thursdays!

Time: 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Includes:
Burger, chips & a drink for \$5.50

26797 St. Hwy 16, Esparto, CA 95627 (530) 787-1740

Patrick Scribner



Certified Public Accountant

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2017 Almond Queen



Guadalupe Anaya (left)

Guadalupe Anaya lives in Winters with her parents Olgario and Maria and sisters Joshelyn, Vanessa, and Sephanie.

An active senior at Esparto High School, Guadalupe is an accomplished leader in both her school and community. Guadalupe is an active member of the FFA, Science Club, Spanish Club, and Associated Student Body. She currently serves as the treasurer of the FFA, Spanish Club president, Science Club vice president, and ASB vice president. Guadalupe has been awarded the Spartan Honors Award for maintaining a 4.0 GPA for four consecutive semesters. Last summer, Guadalupe served as the Girl's State Representative from Esparto High School. In the future, Guadalupe hopes to attend a four-year university to become an occupational therapist to assist children with special needs. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family and friends. Guadalupe is participating in the Almond Queen pageant because she would like to make her family proud. Thank you to Guadalupe's sponsor: The Guinda Corner Store.



Fernanda Diaz (above)

Fernanda Diaz, a resident of Woodland and senior at Esparto High School, is the daughter of Esthela Chavez and Antonio Diaz and sister to Catherine and Evelyn.

Fernanda is an active participant in her community and school. She is a proud member of the FFA, Spanish Club, Science Club, Leo's Club, and Associated Student Body. In the past, Fernanda has served as the Class of 2017 Secretary and Spanish Club Secretary. Additionally, Fernanda has helped in our community as a preschool teacher's assistant, garden leader for RISE, Inc., and has helped at the Almond Festival Breakfast and Football Snack Bar.

In the future, Fernanda hopes to attend a four-year university to study kinesiology. In her spare time, she enjoys being around her sisters, staying active, and playing sports.

Fernanda is participating in the Almond Queen pageant because she has attended the pageant in the past and wanted to experience it first hand. Thank you to Fernanda's sponsor: Daniel Alvarez.



Katheryn England (left)

Katheryn England, daughter of Don and Wendy and sister to Walter and Briana, makes her home in Esparto. A senior at Esparto High School, Katheryn is an accomplished leader and athlete. Katheryn currently serves as the Associated Student Body President, Secretary of the FFA Chapter, and is a member of the Science Club, Leo's Club, National Honor Society, and Volleyball team. In the past, Katheryn has been a member of the MAD Club and served as an aide at Esparto Elementary School. Additionally, Katheryn is very involved in her church, where she is a member of the Young Women's Organization.

In the future, Katheryn hopes to attend a four-year university. She also hopes to serve in a LDS mission for her church. In her spare time, Katheryn loves to read fictional novels, practice yoga, and write poetry.

Katheryn is participating in the Almond Queen pageant because she wants to take part in a time honored community tradition. Thank you to Katheryn's sponsor: Morgan's of California



Pageant, February 18



The time has come to celebrate a handful of incredibly talented young women in the Esparto and Capay Valley communities. This year five brave and strong young ladies will compete for the title of 2017 Almond Queen.

The pageant will be held on Saturday, February 18 at the Western Yolo Grange Hall in Guinda at 7:00 p.m. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at Esparto Ace Hardware, New Reflections Salon in Esparto, and the Guinda Corner Store. They are \$25/ adult and \$15/ children. The menu for the dinner features produce from local farms and will be prepared by members of the Grange. The Rumsey Improvement Association sponsors the pageant.

This year's pool of qualified candidates includes athletes, scholars, leaders, and community-oriented seniors, all students at Esparto High School. Join the entire Capay Valley in honoring these remarkable young women and celebrating this important community tradition.

Submitted by Hallie Muller Ochoa, Pageant Coordinator



Lizette Torres (left)

Lizette Torres, a talented senior at Esparto High School, resides in Esparto with her parents Gilardo and Maria and siblings Ramona, Victor, Vanesa, and Angel.

Lizette is an active student, involved in the FFA, Leo's Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, MAD Club, and National Honor Society. She currently serves as the Leo's Club president and FFA Chapter President. In the past, she has served as the Junior Class President and has received the Celso Robles Award in FFA and Outstanding Stagehand in the MAD club.

Outside of school, Lizette has assisted with the Children's Shopping Day, St. Martin de Porres Festival, and the Lion's Club Crab Feed.

In the future, Lizette hopes to attend a four-year university. In her spare time, Lizette enjoys reading, watching movies, and spending time with her friends and family.

Lizette is participating in the Almond Queen pageant because she knows how important the Almond Queen tradition is for our community. Thank you to Lizette's sponsor: El Toro Foods.



Ruby Virgen (left)

Ruby Virgen makes her home in Madison with her parents Edith and Ruben and siblings Melanie, Ruben, and Edith.

An involved senior at Esparto High School, Ruby is active in arts, athletics, and leadership activities. Ruby is a member of the FFA, Spanish Club, National Honor Society, Science Club, Associated Student Body, Newspaper Club, and soccer team. Ruby has served as the FFA Vice President, Class president, and has held the lead role in two theatrical productions at the Esparto High School auditorium. In 2016, she was awarded Most Valuable Performer by the MAD club.

In the future, Ruby would like to become an art therapist. In her spare time, Ruby enjoys making art and spending time with her family.

Ruby is participating in the Almond Queen pageant because she wants to make her family proud while improving her public speaking skills. Thank you to Ruby's sponsor: Manas Ranch.





**ESPARTO FAMILY PRACTICE
ESPARTO, CA (530) 787-3454**



Dr. Andy Zhu



Erica Ramirez, PA



Susan Torres, LCSW

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TUESDAY—MARTES: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY—MIERCOLES: 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

COUNSELING ONLY-CONSEJERO SOLAMENTE:

THURSDAY: 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

We are committed to providing everyday healthcare that is accessible to all people both adult and children. At Esparto Family Practice, our staff looks forward to partnering with you, and establishing a relationship that will benefit you now and in the years to come. Our providers seek to educate you and your family about health and guide you through illness.

Nos comprometemos a proporcionar atención médica continua que es accesible a la comunidad tanto de adultos como de niños. En la Clínica de Esparto Family Practice, nuestro personal espera colaborar con usted y establecer una relación que le beneficien ahora y en los próximos años. Nuestros proveedores buscan educar usted y su familia acerca de la salud y le guiará a través de la enfermedad.



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February Programs at the Esparto Regional Library

All are welcome to attend the following special programs to be held during the month of February at Yolo County's Esparto Regional Library, located at 17065 Yolo Avenue in Esparto:

- **February 1 - 14: Blind Date with a Book.** The Esparto Regional Library is sponsoring a "Book Blind Date." It's a no commitment, no drama relationship where your "dream date" could be a thriller, a historical fantasy, a mystery or a sci-fi epic. Participants will be entered into a free drawing for a special gift.
- **February 7: Afternoon Movie, 3:00 p.m.** Children and families are invited to view a family friendly (rated G or PG) movie. For movie title call: (530) 787-3426.
- **February 9: Valentine's Day Crafts, 3:00 p.m.** Share the love and have fun making Valentine's Day cards, bookmarks and more.
- **February 9: Master Gardeners of Yolo County, 6:30 p.m.** Get a head start on spring with a free presentation on "Planning Your Garden for the Year." This event is in collaboration with the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library.
- **February 14: Puppet Show, 3:30 p.m.** Join us for a fun and family friendly puppet show presented by local students of the 678 Art Street program.
- **February 21: Fenix Drum and Dance, 3:30 p.m.** Celebrate drumming and dance tracing the history of African-Americans from Africa to the New World. This is a wonderful experience suitable for the whole family.
- **February 23: Children's Art Class with Julie, 3:30 p.m..** Enjoy a hands-on class featuring wood sculpture. No reservations required and all ages are welcome.

The following ongoing programs continue in February:

- **English Conversation Group, Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m.** Converse and improve your English in a fun and relaxed setting with the aid of a group facilitator. Drop-in visitors are always welcome.
- **Hora de Cuentos/Bilingual Spanish Story Time (Ages 0-5), Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.** Children (ages 0-5) and their parents or caregivers are invited to join us for stories, songs, movement, rhymes and finger-plays. All bi-lingual story times are provided through a grant from First 5 Yolo.

NOTICES: The Yolo County Library's branches will be closed on **February 20** in observance of Presidents' Day.

All Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library, are free to attend and no registration is required. For more information about events at the Esparto Regional Library, contact library staff at (530) 787-3426 or visit the Yolo County Library at www.yolocountylibrary.org (see calendar for Esparto Regional Library-specific events). Connect with Yolo County Library Facebook at www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org.



News from FERL

At the Annual Meeting held on Tuesday January 10, 2017, the 2017 FERL (*Friends of the Esparto Regional Library*) Board of Directors was elected by the FERL members in attendance.

The 2017 FERL Board of Directors includes: Randy Byrne, Catherine Portman, Nina Andres, Julia Berrelleza, BJ Threats, Cindy Kringen, Denny Boydston, and Jim Schulte.

The next FERL board meeting will be on Wednesday February 22 at 5:00 p.m. at the Esparto Regional Library Wintun Meeting Room and is open to the public. The new and old Board of Directors would like to thank the donors who gave so generously to the annual "Light Up Your Library" memorial/honor tree during December and to thank the FERL members for renewing or becoming new members in 2017.

FERL membership sign ups can happen any time of the year. Membership envelopes are available at the library front desk.

Member contributions support new library media purchases and the programs offered at the library. Each month, the library offers a movie; a children's art class taught by Julie Karlonas; a children's program focused on the arts and sciences; and story time free to the public.

FERL would also like to thank the volunteer library gardeners, Betty and Don Koeppen, Nadine DeSmet, Laurie Hayes, Jim Schulte, and Denny Boydston, who meet every Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. to rake leaves, prune, mulch, replant the annual plants and beautify the library garden. Gardening volunteers are always welcome.

Literacy tutors are needed at the library. To become a reading tutor please talk to Malinda Baker, the Esparto Librarian, at the library front desk. For more information about FERL, please contact FERL Board Member Nina Andres at liveoakfarm@gvni.com.

Submitted by Trini Campbell, FERL Board President

Books In Bloom

The Friends of the Esparto Regional Library "**Books In Bloom**" **Book Sale** will be Sunday, February 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during the Almond Festival at the Esparto Library meeting room and in the library parking lot.

Donate gently worn books/dvds/books on tape to the library by Friday February 24. Volunteers are needed for the book sale during the last weekend in February: book moving on Friday, book sorting on Saturday and assistance with the book sale on Sunday. Please sign up for a volunteer shift at the library front desk. Bookmarks, good for one free children's book of their choice at the FERL book sale, will be given to children throughout the day in the Esparto Community Park.

All proceeds from the book sale support programs and services at the Esparto Regional Library. Contact Nina Andres for more information at liveoakfarm@gvni.com. Submitted by Nina Andres of FERL

RED, WHITE, & CHOCOLATE!

A Valentine's Day themed Bunco Party in Esparto!

In honor of Valentine's Day, the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library are having a Red, White, & Chocolate Bunco Party on Sunday February 12, at 1:00 p.m. in the Wintun Room at the library. Tickets are \$10 in advance or at the door. There will be raffle prizes and refreshments will be served.

Only 48 tickets will be sold. Call Betty (530) 787-3814 for reservations.

The Bunco Party is sponsored by the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library and proceeds will benefit library book purchases and programs for adults and children.

Submitted by Nina Andres of FERL

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Phone: 787-3800**



**“Your Talent Show” on New Year’s Eve
In the Rumsey Hall**



Pictured left: Camilla Barry opens the Talent Show on New Year’s Eve
Right: John Collins, world record holder, with one of his paper airplanes.

The newly-named “Your Talent Show” on New Year’s eve in Rumsey had a line-up of fabulous local performers, plus some visiting talent. The event was a full house at Rumsey Hall.

The emcee, Camilla Barry, Rumsey House proprietor, led off with a spoof on “Willkommen”, welcoming guests to Rumsey Hall. Acts ranged from a folk orchestra to unicycling, slide presentations about astronomy and birch basket making, Tai Chi positions, banjo, guitar and violin solos, humorous personal narratives and a hilarious drag act. The finale was an exuberant performance by John Collins, the Guinness world record holder for long distance paper airplane flight. Each guest then received a paper airplane and aimed them simultaneously toward a giant target.

Put this event on your calendar for next year. For more information, email Camilla@rumseyhouse.com. Submitted by Camilla Barry (Editor’s note: **Willkommen** is a song from the 1966 musical Cabaret. It is performed by The Emcee. The music was written by John Kander; the lyrics by Fred Ebb.) Submitted by Camilla Barry

Capay Cemetery District Taking Bids

Capay Cemetery District is now accepting Bids for the 2017-2018 Landscaping/Maintenance/ Burial Services Contract. Bid packets are available by calling Barbara Smith at (530) 207-7732 starting February 1, 2017. Completed bids need to be mailed to the District at PO Box 451, Esparto 96627, no later than March 1, 2017. Winning bid will be announced at the regular scheduled meeting of the District on Wednesday, April 12, 2017.

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VALLEY SENIORS PROGRAM AT RISE

Schedule for February 2017

Sponsored by the Yocha Dehe Community Fund

If you are a senior citizen interested in having fun, learning and socializing, please join us at the RISE Office, 17317 Fremont Street in Esparto.

JOIN US ON TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, FROM 9:00 a.m.-NOON for Guest Speakers, Movies, Arts & Crafts, Games, Day Trips, Health and Exercise Classes. We also serve Lunch.

- February 2:** Valentine Arts and Crafts/Artes y Manualidades de San Valentín
- February 7:** Morning Stretch & Games/Clase de Ejercicio y Juegos
- February 9:** Field Trip to Brenden Theatre & Lunch/Paseo al Cine en Vacaville y Almuerzo
- February 14:** Flower Arranging for Valentine's Day with our Master Gardener/Arreglos Florales Para el Día de San Valentín
- February 16:** CTAP Program~ Specialized Communication Devices/ Programa de CTAP~ Dispositivos de Comunicación Especializados
- February 21:** Speaker Pam Smith-Insurance Information & Fitness Fun & Games/Orador invitado Pam Smith~ Información del Segur y Ejercicio Divertido y Juegos
- February 23:** Potluck, Birthdays & Games/Intercambio de Comida, Celebración de Cumpleaños y Juegos
- February 28:** Laura Martinez-Health Educator & Morning Stretch & Games/ Laura Martinez~ Educador de Salud y Ejercicio Divertido y Juegos

FOR QUESTIONS & UPDATES, PLEASE CALL RISE Inc. at (530) 787-4110

SI TIENE PREGUNTAS O ACTUALIZACIONES POR FAVOR LLAME A RISE (530) 787-4110
Submitted by the RISE Staff

Area Food Distributions

RISE, Inc. manages several food distributions each month. Madison Community Committee sponsors a Food Closet in Madison. Below is a summary of these opportunities. They are also announced in other places in this paper.

- Free Produce distribution on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at the RISE Office from 10:30-11:00 a.m.
- Drought Food Boxes (DFAP) every other Wednesday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Call the RISE office to find out which Wednesday of the month, since it varies. (787-4110)
- Food Bank Give-Away on the 4th Monday of each month at the RISE office from 10:00-12:00 noon. Volunteers are urgently needed to help with this distribution.
- Food and Clothes Closet is open on Wednesdays from 9:00-noon, and on Fridays from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Call RISE office for more information: 787-4110.
- Madison Food Closet is open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. to Madison residents.



MEMORIAL FOR WILLIAM PETTY

William was born July 8, 1924 to Mae Harris Petty and Claudius Petty in Wilkboro, N.C. He moved with his family to Guinda, California in 1942. He was drafted into the United States Army in June 1943 and served in the Alaska Defense Command during WWII. Bill married his high school sweetheart, Marie Dobbins. They had two children, Mitchel El-Mahdy and Erica Barber, and Bill had another child, William Bernard Glenn.

After WWII, Bill and Marie decided to move to Woodland to find work and the prospects of a better life. However, they were met with discrimination, and good jobs and housing were hard to find for African Americans at the time. In 1952 Bill found work at McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento as an A/C Engine Mechanic Assistant. He worked hard to move up the ladder, always fighting against job discrimination in the workplace. In 1962 Bill was promoted to the position of Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist in the Maintenance Department that employed over 6,000 employees. Bill excelled in this position and was known by his peers to be always fair in his decisions and never abused the authority he was given.

In his local community, Bill fought discrimination where he saw it in Woodland. While searching for a home for his family, Bill came across a realtor that told him they did not have any homes in Woodland that could be sold to colored people. However being the man he was, this did not discourage him. He found a home that was owned by IG Zumwalt in Colusa, and Mr. Zumwalt not only sold him the house he wanted, but also financed it. Because Bill was a veteran this was all Mr. Zumwalt needed to prove he was an honorable man.

Later, Bill led a discrimination lawsuit against some of the Woodland residents for attempting to keep an African American family from moving into their neighborhoods. After this suit, the court ruled that Yolo County had to have an Affirmative Action Plan. Bill immediately joined this Affirmative Action Community. He even used his McClellan Action Plan to help tailor the one used for Yolo County's Plan.

Bill was incredibly active in his community's affairs, even teaching youth in his local community to stay awake about civil inequalities when they saw them. He always made sure his family understood their heritage.

He was the first African American to serve on the Yolo County Grand Jury. In his home, his wall is covered with certificates and awards from Federal, State, and Country Departments authenticating the work he had done.

Bill was a member and master of his Masonic Lodge for over sixty years. What he enjoyed most was when he and his fellow black masons "Monument Lodge 74" joined with P.M. Doug Young and "Woodland Lodge 81", both white lodges, to lay a cornerstone at the Yolo County Library on May 14, 1994. It was the first time that a California White Mason Lodge and a Black Masonic Lodge had ever participated in a public ceremony. This event brought the two California white and black masonic lodges together.

In his spare time Bill loved to hunt in Guinda with his nephew, Bill Hackett, spend time watching sports, and continuing to enrich the community that he held so near and dear to his heart. Bill passed away peacefully in his home in Woodland on December 10, 2016.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife Marie Petty, daughter Erica Barber, son William Bernard Glenn, nieces Stacey Hackett, and Dena Petty, brothers Charles Petty, Lawrence Petty, and sister Iris Hackett. He is survived by his sister Ruth Hackett, his son Mitchel El-Mahdy, his grandchildren Julio and Lili Barber, Pamela Glenn Gilmore, Angie Glenn, great-grandson Kristopher Glenn, his nephew Bill Hackett, and nieces Janea Hackett-Little, Roxanne Hackett-Muse, Kelly Hackett-Banks, and Claudia Petty.

Submitted by Trini Campbell



Pictured above is Cache Creek at the Rumsey Bridge at flood level during the rain the week of January 9. Picture sent by Trini Campbell.

A Lot of Rain!!

We're not quite done with January, but maybe the rain is done with us for a while. The sun is shining on the morning of the 23rd, and the total for the month stands at 14.81 inches, already the fourth wettest January on record. This has put the season's total up to 21.50", about an inch less than the full seasonal average.

The rainiest month ever was January 1995 at 17.33", January 1909 was 15.86" and January 1916 was an even 15". December 1955 at 14.96", February 1938 at 15.02", and February 1998 at 16.88" (the second wettest month on record) are the only three other months over the 14.81", so we are experiencing the seventh wettest month in 128 years of records here at Taber's Corner.

There have been 17 full seasons (October through September) with totals less than this January, and there are a few other seasons right around 15 inches. So if we are "blessed" with a little more precipitation by the end of January, this could easily end up being a single month with more rainfall than 25 entire seasons and the third wettest month ever.

Submitted by Harmon Taber

If there are any changes to the programs, meetings, etc. on Page 16 of this paper, please let us know by emailing: valleyvoice2@hotmail.com.

Reminder: All articles, ads, and announcements and payments for this paper are due to the following email address by the 20th of each month for publication in the next month's Valley Voice.

Send to valleyvoice2@hotmail.com.

Payments for ads are due by the 20th of each month.

PAWS Pet Adoption and Wellness Services is a non-profit organization based out of Woodland and is dedicated to rescuing homeless and abandoned animals from shelters and owners who can no longer care for them. By working with committed volunteers, foster homes, local veterinarians, and trainers, they are able to rescue animals, provide them with loving temporary care, and find them well-matched, carefully-screened forever homes.

For more information about Mitzy, or any of PAWS adoptable animals, please go to pawspetadoption.org and contact the rescue coordinator through the "Contact Us" page. For direct contact to her foster mom, please e-mail lizzies_2@yahoo.com and she will get back to you!

Community Calendar for February 2107

- February 1-14: Blind Date with a Book at Esparto Library
- February 7: Soccer Senior Night at Esparto High School
- February 7: Afternoon movie at Esparto Library at 3:00 p.m.
- February 9: Valentine Crafts at Esparto Library at 3:00 p.m.
- February 9: "Planning your Garden" Esparto Library at 6:30 p.m.
- February 10: Yolo First 5 Express visits Esparto Elementary School
- February 10: PTO's Family Sock Hop Night at 6:00 p.m. at EES
- February 12: FERL Bunko Party at Esparto Library at 1:00 p.m.
- February 13: Lincoln's Birthday holiday for Esparto Schools
- February 14: Valentine's Day
- February 14: Puppet Show at Esparto Library at 3:30 p.m.
- February 17: Basketball Senior Night at Esparto High School
- February 18: Almond Queen Pageant at Guinda Grange Hall at 7:00
- February 20: President's Day Holiday
- February 21: Fenix Drum and Dance at Esparto Library at 3:30 p.m.
- February 22: FERL Board Meeting at Esparto Library at 5:00 p.m.
- February 23: Children's Art Class with Julie at Esparto Library at 3:30 p.m.
- February 26: Almond Festival (see related articles in the paper about events in the different venues)



Pet Adoption Corner



Athena and Ike, pictured above, are sweet little Lionhead mix bunnies born on Sept 9, 2016. They both have extremely fluffy fur on their face and body, and should be groomed weekly to avoid matted fur. They both love to be held and petted, and will come to the sound of food! It is preferred that they stay together, as two bunnies are better than one and they love to cuddle together!

They will be spayed once they are of age, so we will coordinate with the adoptive family for the appointment. They are both litter box trained, but bunnies will never fully poop in only their box. So expect a few drops of poop here and there. Having bunny experience is preferred, but not necessary as long as you do your research before adopting!

Please go to the "Contact Us" page at pawspetadoption.org to learn more about these fluffy babies! See PAWS information to the left.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AA: Countryside Community Church, located at 26479 Grafton St. on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Call 1-800-970-9040 for more information.

Spanish AA: Alcohólicos Anónimos: Detrás de El Toro. Los lunes, miércoles, y viernes a las 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Al-Anon: Countryside Community Church on Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church: meets at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday at 17050 Omega Street in Esparto. Tuesday, Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

Capay Valley Christian Fellowship: 11:00 a.m. adult Sunday school; 11:45 a.m. social; 12:10-1:10 a.m. worship and 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.

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

Countryside Community Church: Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School.

Dental Office in Esparto: is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every Tuesday. Call 787-4972 to make an appointment.

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 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 VFW hall 7:00 p.m.

Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce: meets every month on the 4th Thursday at the Chamber Office at 16858 Yolo Avenue. (787-3242)

Esparto Unified School Board Meeting: meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. at Alice Marsh Hall.

Food and Clothes Closet: open on Wednesdays 9:00-12:00 p.m. and Fridays 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Countryside Community Church. Contact RISE Inc. at 787-4110 for information.

Food Bank Food Give-Away: fourth Monday of every month from 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. at the RISE office.

Friends of Esparto Regional Library Board of Directors' Meeting: meets on the 2nd Thursday at 5:00 p.m. at the Library.

Home Schooling Cooperative: Call Elvira Paoletti at 796-4676.

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 for appointment.

Guinda Community Church: Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.

Madison Advisory Committee: 4th Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison Community Services District. No meetings in May, November or December.

Madison Community Committee: 3rd Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at the Madison Community Services District.

Madison Fire Commissioners Meeting: 7:00 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 Tuesdays of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Community Services District Building

Madison Service District Meeting: 2nd Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the District office at 28963 Main Street in Madison.

MEDI-CAL and Cal-Fresh Services: Call RISE at (530) 787-4110 for an appointment.

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 10:00 a.m. Bible Study: Wed. at 6:30 p.m. Youth Group: Fri. at 6:30 p.m.; Ladies: 1st/3rd Tues. at 6:30 p.m.

Play School Experience: held from 8-10:30 am on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Countryside Community Church.

RISE Collaborative Meeting: meets the 3rd Friday at 9:00 a.m. at the RISE office (except August and December).

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 W. Grafton St.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW): Western Yolo Post 7143, meets 2nd Monday 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 Ave. in Guinda.

WYORCA: meets on the 2nd Thursday from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the Esparto Library.

Yolo County WIC Services: located in the Esparto Library at 17065 Yolo Ave., the 1st Wed. 8:00-12:00; and 3rd Wed. of each month from 8:00-4:00p.m. Call (530) 666-8445

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

If you would like to include calendar events or change information, please e-mail the editor of the Valley Voice at valleyvoice2@hotmail.com or call 787-4110.