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## Grange Lifetime Achievement Award

Western Yolo Grange is proud to announce that our very own Frank and Marian Nichols were honored at the Annual California State Grange Convention. They were presented the prestigious **Grange Lifetime Achievement Award** at the 140th annual meeting of the California State Grange that was held October 10—14 at the Little Lake Grange in Willits, California.

The award is given out once a year to the one Granger among the 10,000 California members that has contributed the most to the Grange over their lifetime. This year was the first time a couple was chosen to receive the award.

"The Lifetime Achievement Award is our highest honor, recognizing not only the accomplishments of members who have contributed so much to the Grange, but in doing so, to their fellow Grangers, and their communities," said California State Grange President Bob McFarland.

Frank has been a Grange member since since 1946 and Marian joined the Grange when they married in 1956. (57 years this December!) "These two Grangers have led a simple, but story-book life. Through their kindness, dedication, and wholesome, small town values they have set the example for the rest of us," McFarland continued, "They touch all of us."

Submitted by Trudie Martin



December 2012

Pictured above are Bob McFarland, California State Grange President, awarding Marian and Frank Nichols with the Grange Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual Grange convention.

## THIS JUST IN—CHRISTMAS!

Esparto High School's Music Art and Drama Club is proud to present: **This Just in—Christmas! Tales from the Christmas News Network**. With a breaking story and news flash, our wacky reporters bring you the latest and zaniest tales about everyone's favorite holiday—Christmas!

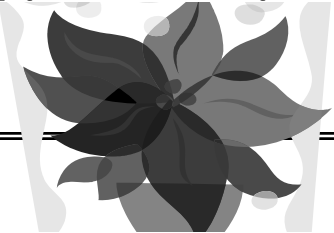
It comes to you live from Esparto High School Auditorium on **Thursday December 13, with encore performances on Friday December 14, and Saturday December 15. All shows begin at 6:30 p.m.**

This year's winter production is a vignette style compilation directed by Tracy Nash and co-written by Wayne Hall, and features one of the largest ensembles they've ever put on-stage. The event will also feature a display of artwork from EHS students. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and tickets—as always—are just \$5.00.

Get into the holiday spirit *and* support your local visual and performing artists. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Tracy Nash


**Wishing all of our readers a  
Happy Holiday Season!**



Esparto High School MAD Club presents—

# AND THIS JUST IN... CHRISTMAS!

Tales from the Christmas News Network



Dec. 13-15  
6:30 pm

\$5.  
at the door

Esparto High School Auditorium

**Look for more Holiday events, activities, and shopping opportunities throughout this paper.**

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**The Valley Voice Needs YOU!!**

The *Valley Voice* is a community newspaper. It is generously supported by local advertisers, public agencies, and the Tribal Council of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. It is published and designed for and by the Capay Valley Region. It is free to every residence. A "Committee of Local Citizens" helps to determine the paper's mission, publishing priorities, and best approaches to sustain the community's overall support and interest.

**The Valley Voice Citizen Committee is open to all volunteers. It meets only as needed – a commitment of only 15-20 hours per year! Please let us know if you would like to participate in these meetings – we would be pleased to notify you! Thank you for your interest!**

To advise the paper of your interest to serve, please call 787-3433 and leave your name, address & phone number OR email the *Valley Voice* at [valleyvoice2@hotmail.com](mailto:valleyvoice2@hotmail.com) OR mail your name, address and phone number to the *Valley Voice*, c/o P.O. Box 133, Esparto, CA 95627.

**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](mailto: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. The Valley Voice is published monthly by a community partnership between RISE, Inc., Esparto Unified School District, and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Articles published do not necessarily express the views of the Valley Voice editor or committee.

# CAPAY VALLEY VISION

Preserving a sense of place

**Pictured below are views of the Taste of Capay held at Capay Organic on October 21.**



Guests bid on silent auction and mingle before the event program.



Guests finished an amazing dinner provided by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and bid on live auction items with auctioneer Joe Gates.



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## From the Desk of the Principal

Esparto High School News

The next few weeks will be filled with end of the year activities for both students and parents. Please remind your child to complete all final projects, study for the end of the year finals/assessments, and set time aside to relax and enjoy these final weeks of the year.

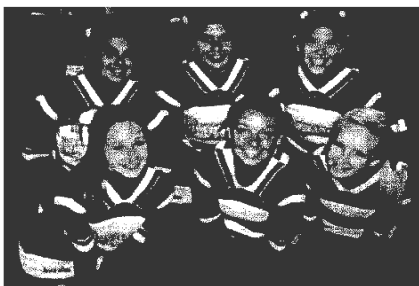
We invite all parents to attend our annual winter play. The play will be presented on Thursday, December 13; Friday, December 14, and Saturday, December 15. The starting time for all shows is 6:30 p.m. (See pg. 1 for more details.)

Basketball, Soccer and Wrestling are underway. Please check out the high school webpage under athletics for dates and times of all sporting events. Come out and support our high school athletes.

### Important Dates:

December 3:	National Honor Society Induction – 6:00 p.m. Auditorium
December 10:	Staff Development – Minimum Day
December 11:	School Board Meeting
December 13:	Tentatively Scheduled – Financial Aid Night ** More information to follow Christmas Play
December 14:	Christmas Play
December 15:	Christmas Play
December 20:	Finals
December 21:	Finals – Minimum Day
December 24:-January 4:	Winter Holidays

Submitted by Aida Buelna, Principal



### Esparto Cheer Squad Honored

Esparto High School 2012-13 Cheer Squad has had an exciting year so far. Six members of their Cheer Squad were chosen for the All-American Cheer Squad this summer at Cheer Camp. The girls chosen were JV Squad members: Karissa Trujillo and Jennifer Conn-Ossenfort; and Varsity Squad members: Brenna Harmon, Kendra Zentner, Cassandra Ray Clark and Marlee Wallace.

All girls were given the opportunity to participate in the Spirit of America March in the Macy's 86th Annual Thanksgiving Parade on November 22 in Manhattan.

Marlee Wallace represented Esparto High School in this parade. She marched in the 2½ mile parade cheering her heart out. Marlee left for New York on Friday November 16, and spent a week in NYC. She flew back home on Friday November 23. Her week was filled with daily rehearsals and fun-filled events such as a Broadway play; Radio City Music Hall's Christmas Spectacular; ice skating; shopping in Times Square; and exploring everything that is unique to New York. Marlee was under the supervision of the best cheer and dance staff in the industry.

A big congratulations to the girls who were chosen, as pictured above: Karissa Trujillo, Marlee Wallace, Brenna Harmon, Jennifer Conn-Ossenfort, Kendra Zentner and Cassandra Ray Clark. Hope you had a great trip to New York, Marlee.

Submitted by Esparto High School

## News from Esparto Unified School District

Submitted by Aida Buelna, Superintendent



As the year winds to a close we are completing our first full semester of the Benchmark Assessments that are tied to the California State Standards for which all students are held accountable. I'm positive you have heard the grumblings from your children about the benchmark assessments, as I've heard them in the hallways of the high school. But, let me assure you that these assessments are validating that our students are learning and retaining the State Standards.

This last summer teachers from the K-8 school and the High School worked to develop assessments that are tied to the State Standards and would be assessed every 4 to 8 weeks depending on the subject and readiness of the students. This month we conclude the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> assessment and have seen tremendous growth in students acquiring the State Standards in English, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Science. We feel confident that come spring when the State sends out the California State Standards tests, our students will perform at the highest levels, validating what we have always known: we have "bright" students!

The following is a brief article I wrote last year and want to have it reprinted as it lends itself as to why we did what we did this summer with benchmark assessments and with our own teachers writing these assessments.

### Effective Classroom Assessment

In previous articles I've shared with you the results of the California Standards Tests and how well our schools are doing. Over the last four years we have made growth on the Academic Performance Index (API) district-wide, and at the K-8 school. However, we have not yet met the California benchmark of 800 on the Academic Performance Index (API), thus our teachers and students continue to move to improve on this assessment. Assessment is not new to the field of education, we have used assessment to determine student placement in English Language Arts, Mathematics and different school programs. What is new, is that all schools and students are now being held to statewide standards and we are judged by how well we perform based on this once a year assessment.

In Esparto, we are moving to a more active role of assessing students, rather than waiting for the spring to find out how well students are performing on grade level standards. The shift in assessment has moved schools to make the shift on how to plan, instruct and evaluate their students. "Over the past few years, educational research has targeted the most effective ways to improve student achievement. One significant area of research is in effective classroom assessment practices." (Effective Classroom Assessment, 2009) When teachers utilize assessments to modify instruction based on how students meet or do not meet the standards being taught, this becomes a powerful tool for both the teachers and students. "Student achievement improves when assessment is seen as both an instructional tool during the learning process, as well as an accountability tool to determine if learning has occurred (Stiggins, 2003). Please be sure to ask teachers how well your son/daughter is performing on the benchmark assessments.

May your holidays be joyful and filled with family and friends!

Aida Buelna, Superintendent



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING! The Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving and hope you spend it with many loved ones creating cherished memories for years to come.**

**Once the turkey is down to the bones and you've slept off the meal, it's time to think about holiday shopping. This year how about looking even closer to home? We have so many wonderful things in our community this season that can take the stress out of holiday shopping:**

- Check out [Pacific Ace Hardware](#). Not only do they have the obvious tools and hardware, but you can deck your halls with wonderful household items and darling knick knacks, AND freshly cut Christmas trees are NOW available.
  - Give [Florals by Chris](#) a call and deck out your holiday table with flowers (she delivers) and order your poinsettias from the [FFA/Esparto High School Horticultural](#) class.
  - Holiday stress? [Candice Schaer B.Sc., MT, HHP](#), massage therapist and body worker will send that stress packing.
  - If your budget is tight try the newly opened [Junk, Funk and Finery Thrift Store](#).
  - Hair products and gift items can be found at the local hair experts; [Emilio's](#), [New Reflections](#), [Blossom's](#), and [Shear Innovation](#). Holiday party GLAM needed call [Mary Kay consultant Monique Garcia](#) for your skincare and glamour!
  - Local periodical subscriptions like [The Valley Voice](#) or [The Greater Capay Valley Historical Society](#) also make great gifts.
  - Fresh produce delivered to you or someone special on your list...how cool is that? [Full Belly Farm](#), [Capay Organic](#), [Riverdog Farms](#) and [Capay Valley Farm Shop](#) all offer CSA (community supported agriculture) boxes.
  - Having a party? call [Bella Bartending](#) to pour up your holiday spirits.
  - To help work off those extra dessert helping pounds, try [Zumba](#). Shake to a Latin beat that is way fun, too.
  - Everyone loves a good steak; [Manas Custom Meats](#) is at your service. Fill your table (and tummy) with the best meats around.
  - Check out the local craft fairs. Countryside Community Church on Dec. 1, and 4-H is sponsoring one on Dec. 15 at the middle school gym...another place to go for unique and local gifts.
  - Purchase your See's candy from the [Lion's Club](#).
  - [Cache Creek Casino](#) offers such a variety for those picky ones on your list....the golf course, shows, eating, and, of course, the spa (although you may want to save that one for yourself) you'll find the perfect gift.
  - Treat your family to gift certificates from any of our local restaurants.
  - Remember we have the absolutely best honey and olive oil around, and they make wonderful stocking stuffers.
  - Custom leatherworks from [Eary Leather](#) make great gifts.
  - For your four-legged family members check out [Milliron Feed Supply](#).
  - If you need wine for your special occasion, go straight to the local wineries [Capay Valley Vineyards](#), [Casey Flat Ranch](#), [Simas Family Winery](#), & [Seka Hills](#).
  - And, of course, we are known for being nuts. Almonds and walnuts are available at several farms.
  - Don't forget to book the in-laws and the outlaws and other holiday visitors into [Capay Valley Bed & Breakfast](#), [Cache Creek Inn](#), or the [Cache Creek Casino Resort Hotel](#).
  - If you just wouldn't dream of having the guests stay elsewhere and the guest room needs a touch up call [A & M painting](#).
  - You can even make a donation to one of our many local charitable organizations in the name of that special philanthropist on your list.
  - If you're feeling a little more flush this holiday season, think about checking out the local real estate offerings. Both Bella Vie (Linda Pillard) and Lawson (Pat Harrison) Real Estate offices have several listings in the valley.
  - After it's all over, and you need a place to store the tree, all the lights and the 8 foot inflatable Santa and all His reindeer then call [D & M Sheds](#). Dan can build you a custom shed to store it all...till next year!
- There are a lot of things going on locally! The point is, there are so many options right here in our own town that you might not even think of. Gift certificates! Gift certificates! Gift certificates! All of the above businesses above offer gift certificates (except maybe Pat and Linda) and there are many other local businesses that we can patronize! Let's make this a stress free, crowd free holiday season, and at the same time we support our local economy. Get Out There and Shop!! And tell 'em the chamber sent yah!!!

Submitted by Monique Garcia

**The Esparto Regional Chamber wishes you a very happy holiday season and we hope you spend it with many loved ones creating cherished memories for many years to come. The chamber is very thankful for all of its members and your support of local commerce. See the entire list of valued chamber members below:**

A & M Painting \* A. Teichert & Sons Inc. \* Aida Buelna EUSD Superintendent \* Al Obermueller \* Allied Computer Repairs \* Armstrong & Associates \* Armstrong Custom Mowing \* Bald Mountain Communications \* Bella Bartending Service \* Bella Vie Real Estate \* Bella Vie Real Estate/Ken & Linda Pillard \* Blue Wing Gallery \* Brooks United States Post Office \* Cache Creek Foods LLC \* Cache Creek Inn \* Cache Creek Casino \* California Agriculture Group \* Calvary Baptist Church of Esparto \* Candice Schaer B.Sc., MT, HHP \* Capay Canyon Ranch \* Capay Junction Saloon \* Capay Valley Bed & Breakfast \* Capay Valley Farm Shop \* Capay Valley Vineyards \* Capay Valley Vision \* Castle Principles, LLC \* Chamberlain Farms \* Cirkadia Inc. \* Community Medical Center Esparto Family Practice \* Country Villa Mobile Estates LLC \* Countryside Community Church \* D Warren Insurance Agency \* Dan Mossinger Construction & DM Sheds \* Duane Chamberlain \* Durst Organic Growers Inc. \* Eary Leather Works \* Echarte Family \* Edward Jones Investments \* Emerald Homes LT. LLC \* Esparto Community Service District \* Esparto High School Athletic Booster Club \* Farm Fresh To You \* First Northern Bank Mortgage Department~Lynette Hjerpe \* Florals By Chris (Delivery only) \* FreeHeart Farm & Event Center \* Friends of the Esparto Regional Library \* Full Belly Farm Inc. \* Granite Construction \* High Voltage Farm \* Historic Oakdale Ranch \* Holland Ranch \* Home Benefit Plus \* InterWest Insurance Services Inc. \* Jim Hilliard State Farm Insurance \* John Deterding Co \* Lawson Real Estate~Pat Harrison \* Lions Club of Esparto \* Ludy's Main St BBQ \* Manas Ranch \* Manas Ranch Old Style Custom Meat Market \* Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant-Monique Garcia \* New Season CDC \* Pacific Ace Hardware Esparto \* Patrick Scribner CPA \* Photography by Sylvia \* Promptly Automation Co. \* Real Goods Solar \* Reputable Insurance Services Inc. \* RISE, Inc. \* Road 79 Ventures \* Road Trip Bar & Grill \* Rotary Club of Capay Valley, Brooks \* Rumsey Improvement Association \* Scribner Ranch \* Syar Industries \* Taber Ranch Event Center \* The Greater Capay Valley Historical Society \* The New Reflection \* United Way California Capital Region \* Valley Yellow Pages \* Viking Propane \* Waste Management \* Western Yolo Grange \* Westside Spreading LLC \* Winter Creek Ranch \* Winters Broadband LLC \* Yolo County Housing \* Yolo County Office of Education \* Yolo County Visitors Bureau \* Yolo Federal Credit Union





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**Countryside Community Church  
presents:**

*Movie at the Church*  
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beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Bring your family and friends for a  
fun-filled night  
of hot dogs, popcorn and great treats!

See you then!!!  
787-3586

[www.espartocountrysidechurch.org](http://www.espartocountrysidechurch.org)

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Submitted by Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson



**Activities at On Fire Fellowship**

Leaves, weather and hearts all have been changing this fall season. On Halloween night On Fire Fellowship held a Trunk or Treat, giving away candy to any treaters who came our way. Even with the rain, there were a few die-hard treaters who came. We also had a trunk decorating contest in which Cathy Scoggins took the gold. Over-all the turnout was great and we plan on doing it again next year.

In other news, our ladies group, G.O.L.D. (Godly obedient loving daughters), hosted a seminar on November 2 and 3. The ladies who attended had a remarkable experience with the Lord; hearts were mended and lives were changed. We were so blessed and plan on having another one in January; a special thanks goes to our speakers Elaine Shelton and Donna Shera.

Also this month, a group of us took a trip down to the Cleansing Stream Ministry retreat in Fremont for a day filled with the Spirit of the Lord. It was amazing to hear the testimonies of our members on how that day moved them.

We are excited with anticipation to see what the next year has in store for our fellowship, and the communities of Esparto and the Capay Valley.

Submitted by Mary Rose-Dove

**Christmas at Countryside Community Church!**

Christmas Craft Faire: Saturday, December 1  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Come join us for the first Sunday of Advent  
December 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Special church services will be held  
each Sunday in December as we build up to  
Christmas Eve on  
Monday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.  
For our Candle Light Service

Countryside Community Church is located  
at the corner of  
Fremont & Grafton  
See you then!!!

Sunday School for kids is provided  
787-3586

[www.espartocountrysidechurch.org](http://www.espartocountrysidechurch.org)

Friend us on Facebook

Submitted by Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson



**Christmas  
at  
Calvary**



**Christmas Worship  
December 16 at 10:30 AM**

**Christmas Candlelight Service  
December 23 at 5 PM**  
Calvary Baptist Church meets at  
Alice Marsh Hall  
for more information Call 867-0668

**Kwanzaa**

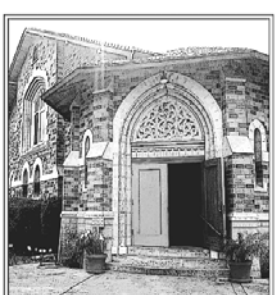
**Kwanzaa** is a week-long celebration held in the United States and Canada, but also celebrated in the African Diaspora. The celebration honors African heritage in African Canadian and African-American culture, and is observed from December 26 to January 1 of each year, culminating in a feast and gift-giving. It is ideologically comprised of seven core principles (*Nguzo Saba*): Unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Its intent is to convey in a cultural message what is best to be human and to be African. It has come to be a meaningful holiday for African Americans. The holiday reflects the dignity of the human person socially culturally.

It was created by Maulana Karenga, and was first celebrated in 1966–67. Dr. Karenga is Professor and Chair of Africana Studies at California State University, Long Beach.

**Hanukkah**

**Hanukkah**, also known as the **Festival of Lights**, is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt of the 2nd century BC. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar.

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a unique candelabrum, the nine-branched Menorah or Hanukiah, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. The typical Menorah consists of eight branches with an additional raised branch. The extra light is called a shamash and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest.



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Sunday School provided for  
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Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson, Pastor  
(Presbyterian Affiliation)



**Rotary Club Shows Appreciation to Area Farmers**

The Rotary Club of Capay Valley loves farming in the Capay Valley! They are showing love and gratitude to farming by erecting signs, starting in Madison, and ending in Rumsey, thanking six different aspects of farming and ranching in the Capay Valley. The one to Farmers has been erected near Capay, so watch as you drive up the Valley, for the first of six gratitude signs to our great Capay Valley Farmers and Ranchers.

Submitted by Bonnie Stormont of the Rotary Club

**30th Annual Crab Feed by Esparto Lions**

The Esparto Lions 30th annual Crab Feed is scheduled for Friday, January 18 at the Madison Town Hall. The host bar is open at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. All-you-can eat crab, along with French bread and Aida's special salad. No filler pasta will be served, as always, so you can enjoy all the fresh crab you can eat.

Tickets are \$ 40.00 and are available in Esparto at Milliron's Feed Store; in Guinda at the Corner Store; and in Woodland at Rainbow Auto Glass. You can also contact Marlene Schulte at 530-787-4441.

There will be a raffle at the end of the dinner for numerous prizes donated by businesses in Yolo County. Capay Valley & Madison Leo Clubs sponsored by Esparto Lions will be serving as raffle runners and servers for the evening.

This is the largest fund raiser for the Esparto Lions. Funds are used for eye glasses for adults & children who cannot afford them, along with scholarships, Boys' State, Camp for the Blind and many other local and international service activities. The Esparto Lions Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at the VFW hall in Esparto. For information call 530-787-4441.

Submitted by Jim Schulte

**RISE, Inc. December/January Intersession Program**

December 26, 27 & 28, 2012 and January 2, 3 & 4, 2013, RISE, Inc. will offer an intersession program for kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Intersession activities include arts & crafts, staff led outdoor play, special projects, and more! Kids help to make their own healthy breakfast, lunch and snacks, which are included. Pre-registration for intersession is required.

**Dates:** December 26, 27 & 28, 2012 and January 2, 3 & 4, 2013

**Hours:** 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Esparto K-8, North Campus

**Cost:** \$15 per day per child (If you are currently enrolled in the After School Program the cost is \$10 per day per child)

Registration forms can be picked up at the RISE Community Center (17317 Fremont Street, Esparto) or at the After School Program at Esparto K-8 North Campus. Space is limited. If you have questions please contact Chelsea Becker (530) 908-1052 or Chelsea@riseincservices.org. Please check the Valley Voice for information on future intersession programs.

**RISE Teen Program:** Intersession activities will also be offered for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at the RISE Community Center. Sign-up is *FREE* and program dates are the same as above (hours to be announced). Look forward to special fieldtrips, holiday crafts/gift making, community service projects, and more! A detailed schedule will be available at the RISE Community Center in early December. Space is limited. If you have questions please contact Rachel Bingham (530)787-4110 or Rachel@riseincservices.org.

Submitted by the RISE Staff

***Holiday Mingle and Jingle***

***Saturday, December 1, 11:00 a.m.  
Annual Anniversary Celebration and  
New Business Highlight***

***Sponsored by Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce***



***Shop and stroll through the downtown  
while enjoying goodies  
and holiday spirit.***

***Event starts at 11:00 a.m. at the  
Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce***

Submitted by Gretchen Adan



**Manas Ranch**

**Fred and Alice Manas, Owners**  
25838 County Road 21A  
Esparto California 95627  
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**ESPARTO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
HOLIDAY EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DINNER**

We would like to invite the community to help us celebrate the Holiday Season and show our appreciation to the great staff at the ECSD.

We are planning a Potluck Dinner to be held at the VFW Hall on Orleans Street on December 19 at 6:00 p.m. and everyone is invited.

Please come by the office to sign-up to bring your most famous yummy dish!

Hope to see you there to help us, the ECSD Board of Directors, express our appreciation to the dedicated and friendly staff at ECSD.

If you have any questions please contact ECSD manager Mel Smith @ 530 787-4502 or Anna Girk at 530 848-7061.



*Happy Holidays from ECSD Board of Directors*

**Tidbits from Guinda**

Western Yolo Grange & the Capay Valley Fire Department in conjunction with the Yolo Historical Society hosted a presentation of Restore/Restory. Jessica Maria Ross created this project with support from UC Davis, Art of Regional Change. The *Restore/Restory* project brings together scholars, students, artists, and residents to produce a people's history website and site-based audio tour of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve in rural Yolo County, California. In doing so, the project brings California's history to life in new and innovative ways and sparks conversations critical to helping communities create a more sustainable and inclusive relationship between people and place. It is really a mini pictorial & story-based history of California. Visit the Cache Creek Nature Preserve or simply go to the website: [restorerestory.org](http://restorerestory.org) (use the computers at our library if you don't have one of your own!)

The Children's Halloween Party was a success. Fun & treats were had by all! Many thanks to Heather Grimes & Cindy Kringen & the other volunteers for all the work they did to make it happen!

After the Grange Community Yard sale, we donated used home building materials & tools to two very worthwhile programs. We encourage others to also support them. They are: 1) Habitat for Humanity on 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Sacramento (916-440-1215); and 2) The ROP program for Northern California Construction & Training at Bryte Elementary School at 637 Todhunter Avenue, West Sacramento (916-375-7660). They really appreciate any donations to help with materials for their students.

Submitted by Trudie Martin



**Independent Living Centers Ensure Veterans are Served**

California's 29 Independent Living Centers (ILCs) serve as disability experts to veterans and their families while working hard to ensure they never hear "that's not our service." ILCs provide a full range of independent living services to veterans, including assistance with housing and housing modifications; peer support; benefits counseling; assistance with independent living; and outreach within the community to connect with veterans while creating awareness around the issues they face and accessible services.

California is home to nearly 2 million veterans. Today, numerous veterans return home with a functional limitation after serving in the armed forces and are faced with navigating through uncharted waters to find services. This becomes particularly difficult when they don't know about the resources available to them, which is where ILCs can play a significant role.

Veterans from recent conflicts are facing homelessness much more rapidly than any previous theatre of war, burning through their benefits very quickly and finding themselves on the streets sooner. With the help of ILC, they experience a supportive environment where they get assistance in getting much needed services, such as talking to a benefits expert to mitigate loss of benefits or gain access to durable medical equipment until the benefit is authorized. In essence, we point them in the right direction and help them along the way.

The Disability Services and Legal Center (DSLCL), which focuses on assisting veterans in several ways. They are seeing many veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries who, on the surface seem fine, but sometimes are challenged to just get through a day. According to DSLCL Executive Director Adam Brown, "Veterans often don't see themselves as needing services and, if they do, believe the only services available to them are through the Veterans Administration. We show them what's available and work with them to create an independent living plan that helps them articulate their goals and how to achieve them through multiple resources."

As with other ILCs throughout California, both ILRC and DSLCL want veterans to know that the ILCs have staff who understand what veterans have been through and that they are not alone. As a community-based service, they are one of the most cost-effective and welcoming options for veterans and people with functional limitations.

From Brown's perspective, "We want people to understand that having a disability doesn't put you into one big classification of people who can't do anything. It means having issues that can make things more difficult, but we are here to help veterans transition through those difficult issues. These resources help veterans see the world of possibilities and opportunities for rehabilitation, treatment, employment and many more services and resources of which they might not be aware.

Submitted by Liz Pazdral, Executive Director, 916-445-0142  
State Independent Living Council (SILC)



**Esparto Writers Group**

The Esparto Writers Group will not meet in December, due to the Christmas holidays  
Contact: Sandy Pelletier 530 796-3555 for questions.

**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](mailto:valleyvoice2@hotmail.com).



**YOUR LIBRARY.....December 2012**

This has been a busy month for the Friends of the Library. The Harvest Dinner was held on November 4 in Alice Marsh Hall. We owe thanks to the Church that normally uses the facility for moving to the High School Auditorium so we could hold the event in the usual place.

We also thank the volunteers for cooking turkeys, for serving and Elita Bettencourt for the clever table decorations and helping with serving and set up. It is wonderful to have a such a creative volunteer.

Larry Stark and Jon Durst have become masters at carving 12 turkeys. Frank Nichols' green beans are certainly proof that our residents eat green vegetables. Mark Nichols and Betty Koeppen are our pie gurus. It was great to see folks we so seldom get to visit.

The dinner brought in over \$2000 and we had about 150 guests. Not as many as other times, but there seemed to be numerous events that weekend. Stores were not as eager to donate as in the past due to the economy, we feel sure. But as always we had delicious fresh greens from Full Belly Farms, and turkeys from Food for Less [Nugget]. Wally Remington designed our tickets and flyers, and Jon Durst printed them all.

And last, but not least, the personable young volunteers from the Girls Scouts and from the Leos brought smiles and immeasurable help. Many people commented on the good service and most of all on the pleasant manners of all the girls. They said the girls chatted with them and offered help to get refills.

Renee Harmon seems to magically compile and collect wonderful gifts for the Raffles she does. Many thanks to Renee and Pixie for devoting so much time and caring to this event.

There were five crafters displaying all sorts of neat items for purchase. Our thanks to them for giving up time on their Sunday. Also to Clarence Von Hook for his music. He is such a friend to the library.

**Future news.....**

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND MEMORIALS**

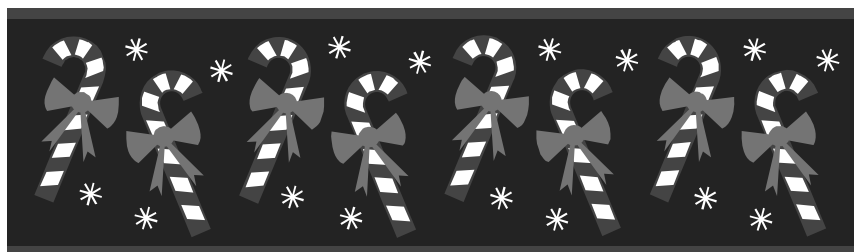
will be held at the on library on Saturday, December 1, at 1:00 p.m. in the main reading room of the library. If you wish to include and hang a remembrance on the tree, the forms are at the library. Ornament is \$25.00 and a light is \$10.00.

This is a special way to remember loved ones and many of the volunteers who help make this library a reality. The Friends are coordinating the event with the Esparto Chamber of Commerce and this event will be the culmination of their tour to all local businesses. This is a nice way to thank and remember all our friends who helped in establishing our special library.

**FERL ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE ON JANUARY 29 AT 7:00 P.M.**

at the library. Please plan to come. This is an important meeting as six [6] board members will be elected. Numerous projects are under discussion for the future and ideas are always encouraged. Please set aside time for this important meeting.

**MEMBERSHIPS** are necessary for the future of the library. The Friends pay for extra hours **beyond those the County supports, thus making the library available to students and adults for additional hours. Please do pay dues or make a donation. Joining does not mean you have to have to volunteer, although you are welcome to do so.** Submitted by Helen Voss, President



**Happy Holidays from the Esparto Regional Library!**

- Need a book to read? Check out the Book Nook shelves for a large variety of books for sale benefitting the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library.
- Would you like ideas for a good book or movie? [www.yolocountylibrary.org](http://www.yolocountylibrary.org) will help you out. Click on Library Catalog and see recent arrivals. The "good reads and more" and the "wondering what to read next?" links will bring you to new arrivals, featured titles, and more.
- The library will be closed December 23, 2012 through January 1, 2013. Please help the library by keeping your items with you. Items will not be due during this period so you don't need to worry about over dues. All book drops will be closed and the meeting rooms will be unavailable.

**Special Programs at the Esparto Regional Library in December**

- Join us for **Brave**, the family friendly Disney/Pixar film at the next After School Movie Event: December 13 at 3:00 p.m. in the Wintun Room. The after school movie events are generously sponsored by the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library.
- Do you like to draw, paint, write, or take photos? Then we have the right program for you! We are happy to introduce the new Art Program here at the Esparto Library. This program is open to all tweens and teens who are interested in cultivating their creative minds. The Art Program will be offered twice a month on Fridays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Wintun Room. Come by and check it out or call the library for dates and details: 530-787-3426

**Recurring Programs at the Esparto Regional Library:**

- Bilingual pre-school Story Time: every Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Wintun Room, featuring stories, finger-plays, and songs.
- The English Conversation Class meets on Tuesday, 1:15-2:15 p.m., in the Wintun Room. All English learners are welcome. Practice your English in a group setting. Call for further information. 530-787-3426. Conversación en Ingles en la biblioteca de Esparto. Fechas y horas: Martes 1:15 – 2:15p.m. La Biblioteca de Esparto esta en 17065 Yolo Ave. en Esparto. 530-787-3426. Un programa gratis de la Biblioteca del Condado de Yolo.

Submitted by Malinda Baker  
Branch Supervisor  
Esparto Regional Library Branch  
Yolo County Library

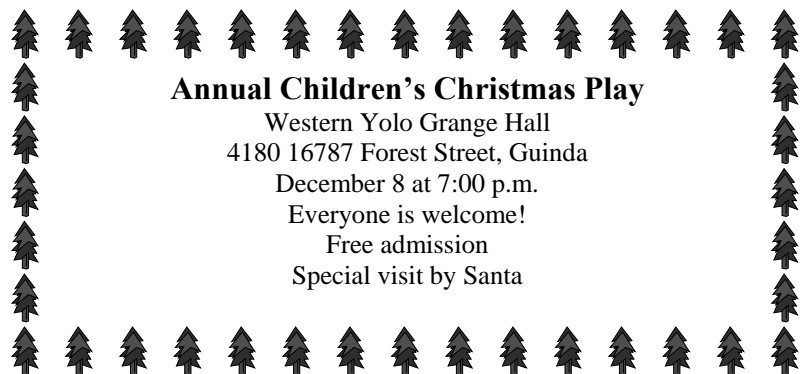


## Holiday Events, Activities, Craft Fairs, Music, Gatherings, Performances, and Shopping



### Chamber Holiday Party

The Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce and Cache Creek Casino Resort present the Annual Holiday Party and Almond Festival Benefit. It will be held in the elegant Napa/Solano Room at CCCR. All proceeds go to support the 98th Capay Valley Almond Festival. The benefit will support the region's oldest festival. All are invited to deck the halls and celebrate the holidays. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served as you enjoy great company, holiday music, and a silent auction. Tickets are just \$20 in advance and limited in number! Please contact Monique Garcia at the Chamber office by calling (530) 787-3242 or email at [espartonews@gmail.com](mailto:espartonews@gmail.com) to purchase your tickets today. Tickets will be \$25 at the door, if available. Purchase your tickets today! Submitted by Monique Garcia



### Annual Children's Christmas Play

Western Yolo Grange Hall  
4180 16787 Forest Street, Guinda  
December 8 at 7:00 p.m.  
Everyone is welcome!  
Free admission  
Special visit by Santa

### Countryside Community Church Annual Christmas Faire

Countryside Community Church is humming with excitement in anticipation of its Christmas Faire. The day is Saturday, December 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and the location is at the church on the corner of Grafton and Fremont in Esparto. There will be many handcrafted items, homemade baked goods, activities for children, holiday music, a visit from Santa, and a raffle with many prizes and a beautiful handmade quilt as the Grand Prize.

Don't miss this old-fashioned country holiday celebration. Come for an all round good time and get into the cheerful spirit that the winter season brings. Bring your gift-giving list and find just the right presents for your friends, relatives, and neighbors.

If you are a Crafter, there are still booths available for rent. For more information about booth rental or questions about the day's events and activities, please call the Church office at 530-787-3586 or see the church's website at [Espartocountrysidechurch.org](http://Espartocountrysidechurch.org) or visit our Facebook page!

Submitted by Nancy Pennebaker

### Children's Christmas Shopping Day

The 2012 Friends of the Regional Library Children's Christmas Shopping Day will be on Saturday, December 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Esparto Elementary School, located at Omega and Plainfield Streets. The Children's Shopping Day provides children under 12 an opportunity to buy gifts for family members. All gifts are priced under a dollar and are wrapped for free by volunteers.

Donations of gift items will be accepted at the Esparto Regional Library through December 7. Volunteers are welcome to help with this very popular and rewarding event. For more information, visit FERL's website at [ferl.org](http://ferl.org), or call Stephanie Pokswinski at 787-4151 ext. 414 or Becky Schwenger at 787-4078.

Submitted by Stephanie Pokswinski

### Capay Valley Chorus Christmas schedule:

- December 7 at 7:00 p.m., Country Villa Estates, Esparto
- Dec. 10 at 7:00 p.m., Rumsey Improvement Club
- December 16, 3:00 p.m., Courtyard, 1850 E. 8th St., Davis  
**Friends of Paul Turnbull invited**
- December 20 at 3:00 p.m., Cottonwood
- December 21, Performance 6:00 p.m., Californian

If a friend or family member is in one of these facilities, join us in celebrating with them.

Submitted by Trudie Martin

**Esparto/Capay Valley 4-H Presents**

**Christmas Craft and Vendor Event**

December 15th

Esparto Middle School • 26058 County Road 21A

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Come have your photos taken with Santa,  
Courtesy of the Esparto Fire Department

Crafts, Vendors, Childrens Activities...

Gift wrapping by Esparto Capay 4-H -  
Bring your items to wrap while you shop...



For more info  
and to reserve your table,  
Contact Heather Echarte  
530-787-4332 or  
[nandhecharte@att.net](mailto:nandhecharte@att.net)





You are invited to the

**Grange Exchange  
Holiday Mall**

**CRAFT & VENDOR  
BOUTIQUE**

Tuesday, December 4th  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

16787 Forrest Ave. Guinda, CA 95637


**Cache Creek  
Lavender Farm**  
Rumsey

**Holiday  
Shopping**

*Fine Handmade  
Lavender Products*

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**530 796-2239**  
[www.cachecreeklavender.com](http://www.cachecreeklavender.com)

**Room for Rent in Esparto**  
Share kitchen, furnished, TV, Washer  
Dryer, utilities included. Non Smokers  
Small bedroom.....\$325.00 Per Month  
Medium Bedroom.....\$375.00 Per Month  
530-787-3272



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**Certified Organic**  
Veggies • Flowers • Fruit

**Farm Stand Open  
Fridays 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Road 43, just past Guinda  
For more info: 796-2214**

**Community Medical Centers**  
**Esparto**  
17050 Grafton Street  
Esparto CA 05627  
(530) 787-3454

**Medical Services for the Entire Family**  
General Medicine-Family Planning-Prenatal Care  
Well Baby Care and Immunizations  
Employment Physicals -DMV Physicals and Sports Physicals  
Health Counseling and Education, CHDP Provider

**Servicios Médicos para toda la Familia**  
Medicina General-Planificación de Familia-Cuidados Prenatales  
Cuidados del Bebe y Vacunas  
Exámenes físicos: de Empleo, Licencia de Manejar y Deportes  
Consejería y Educación de Salud  
Proveedores de exámenes de CHDP-Servicios de WIC

**Clinic Hours—Horario De La Clinica**  
Monday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Lunes: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Martes, miércoles, jueves y viernes: 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

**SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE  
CITAS DISPONIBLES EL MISMO DÍA**

## *Merry Christmas from all of us at ACE Hardware in Esparto.*

- ◆ Our Christmas trees have arrived! Come get yours today. There are four different types of trees to choose from.
- ◆ We have lights, pre-lit wreaths, garland and unique ornaments to decorate your home and tree.
- ◆ Be sure to check out the very unusual “Antler” tree in the front of the store.
- ◆ Dewalt Power Tools and Accessories are on sale, along with Craftsmen and Stanley tools.
- ◆ Yankee Candles make a great gift—this month the tumblers are on sale 2 for \$20. Many wonderful scents to choose from.
- ◆ Need batteries to keep those toys and gadgets running? We have them on sale all month.
- ◆ Did you know we repair and replace screens? Drop them off and we will have them back to you in no time.
- ◆ An Ace Gift Card is perfect for that hard to shop for person on your list.
- ◆ Get your last minute gifts at Ace!!

‘Tis the season to be merry and gather together. Stop by for a cup of coffee and visit with a familiar face. There is always at least one.

We are open from 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday,  
and from 9:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

We will be closing early on Christmas Eve and are closed on Christmas Day.



**Pacific ACE Hardware Esposito: (530) 787-3800**  
**Vacaville: (707) 448-2978    Winters: (530) 795-3368**



**“Spotlight on Safety“**  
Chief Gary Fredericksen  
Yocha Dehe Fire Department

**Be On The Safe Side This Season:  
Top 10 Tips for Safer Holidays**

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it seems that there is never enough time to get everything done. It is important to make sure that safety does not get left off the list. During the holiday season, fires cause more than \$18 million in property damage and holiday decorating injuries send more than 13,000 to the emergency room. Help keep your family safe this season with these quick, simple steps:

**Water, water, water your tree**

Dry trees pose a fire risk – make a fresh cut on the base before putting your tree into a sturdy stand, and water frequently.

**Check your lights, check them twice**

Inspect all of your electric lights and decorations for damage or wear. Cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires and loose connections may pose a fire or shock hazard.

**Plan your fire escape**

Use the holidays as a good time to practice a fire escape plan with your loved ones. Identify at least two exits from every room in the house.

**Sleep safe: Install carbon monoxide alarms**

Be sure that at least one carbon monoxide alarm is installed on each floor of your home, and always close to sleeping areas.

**Be flame aware**

Always blow out unattended candles and teach your children to stay away from lit candles or fireplaces.

**Give wrapping paper a second life**

Don't burn used wrapping paper as it may cause intense flash fires. Consider recycling or repurposing it instead.

**Check extension cords**

Do not connect more than three miniature light strings together. Be sure to check the rating on your extension cords and do not plug in more than the recommended wattage.

**Steer your tree clear**

Your tree should be positioned at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. It should also not block any doorways or exits.

**Decorate with a safe eye**

Cords should not be run under carpets or tacked-up with metal nails or staples. Small decorations can be choking hazards so keep them out of the reach of toddlers.

**Look for UL**

The UL mark on a product means samples of that product have been tested to the highest safety standards. Make sure to look for it to help keep your holidays safe.

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, please stop by your local fire department or give us a call at 530.796.2500.

**Position Open**

Capay Valley Fire Commissioners have a position open for a secretary. The secretary is involved with administrative functions for the Fire District, including maintaining various forms and reports for State and County agencies and taking meeting notes. The successful candidate will have basic computer competency, a knowledge of bookkeeping, and an ability to work with Commissioners, Volunteers and County personnel. Please send your resume and statement of interest to Capay Valley Fire Department, P.O. Box 6, Brooks, 95606 by December 7. Pay is \$500/month, and the schedule is part time with flexible hours (average 20/month) except for one evening meeting per month.

Submitted by Capay Valley Fire Commissioners

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**VALLEY SENIORS PROGRAM AT RISE**  
**Schedule for December 2012**  
**Sponsored by the Yocha Dehe Community Fund**

If you are 55 or over, Please join us at RISE; 17317 Fremont Street in Esparto, next to Esparto Market and the D. Warren Insurance Agency.

**Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon,**  
**For HEALTH, EXERCISE, CLASSES & INFORMATION:**

- December 4:** 9:00 Wrapping Christmas Boxes for Children's Shopping Day  
 10:30 Laura Chavez  
 11:00 Lunch
- December 6:** 9:00 Coffee & Legal Services & Senior Resources Wrapping Christmas boxes for Children's Shopping Day  
 11:00 Lunch
- December 11:** 9:00 Coffee, Tea and Water  
 10:00 Anel Moreno, Yolo County Health and Nutrition  
 11:00 Lunch
- December 13:** 9:00 Breakfast  
 Crafts and Games Come and Join the Fun All Day trip. Call to Reserve a spot.
- December 18:** 9:00 Coffee Tea and Water
- December 20:** 10:00 White Elephant Gift Exchange \$1.00 limit The Funnier the better....think garage sale items.  
 11:00 Potluck lunch
- December 25:** Valley Seniors Program Closed
- December 27:** 9:00 Coffee Tea and Water  
 9:30 Making Jewelry  
 11:00 New Years Lunch

Valley Seniors will be closed on New Year's Day, and will restart on January 8, 2013  
 Call Beth @ RISE, 530-787-4110 FOR QUESTIONS & UPDATES.  
 Submitted by the RISE Staff

**Food Bank of Yolo County Holiday Distribution**  
**Holiday Food Distribution Program 2012**

The Food Bank of Yolo County's (FBYC) goal is to distribute 3,000 meals in 2012, half in November and half in December. To achieve this, FBYC will distribute directly from its warehouse and partner with agencies in Esparto, Winters, and West Sacramento to make food available to the community.

The Holiday Food Distribution is open to anyone in Yolo County in need of food assistance this holiday season. Families and individuals can sign up with FBYC directly to receive one holiday meal at a location convenient to them. Please note that holiday meals are one per household and can only be distributed for one holiday meal (November or December).

**How it will work?**

Beginning **October 22**, Yolo County residents in need of holiday food assistance can contact FBYC directly to sign up for a holiday meal by calling **(530) 668-0648**. They will be asked to provide their name, address, and number in their family. Based on their geographic location, they will be assigned a distribution point and asked to pick up a voucher at that location.

**Vouchers**

FBYC will create a voucher for each participant. Vouchers will include date, distribution location, pick-up time (listed in 30-minute intervals), and voucher number. **All participants are required to pick up their voucher at the distribution location assigned to them the week prior to distribution.** \*Please note participants will be required to show ID when picking up their voucher and holiday meal.

**Voucher Distribution Days in December:**

December 17-21, 2012

Participants will return with their voucher on the day of the distribution. All pre-registered participants with vouchers are guaranteed a holiday meal on the day of the distribution.

**Holiday Meal Distribution**

Participants will be asked to arrive at their assigned time with their voucher to receive a meal. The December Holiday Meal distributions will take place on **December 22, 2012.**

For more details contact or to sign up for a holiday meal, contact: **(530) 668-0648, www.foodbankyc.org**

Submitted by the RISE Staff

**HICAPP: Appointments available at RISE,**  
**MEDICARE open enrollment coming soon...book now for**  
**objective, no-cost, not representing any insurance agency, by a**  
**certified trained HICAPP volunteer, at RISE Inc.**  
**Call 787-4110 to make an appointment now.**  
**First Come, First Served**

**ALL ABOUT SOLAR**

**(530) 668-0269**

**Ray Juhler & Jason Findley**

**Produce your own power to reduce**  
**or even eliminate your electricity bill.**  
**Call for a free site evaluation.**

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**530-796-2196**

**CAPAY VALLEY BUILDERS**

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING  
 HANDYMAN SERVICES  
 HOME REPAIR

LOCAL - HONEST - AFFORDABLE

**Yolo County Helps with Hazardous Waste During the Holidays**

The Yolo County Planning & Public Works, Division of Integrated Waste Management will continue to hold weekly collection of household hazardous waste at the Yolo County Central Landfill, located at 44090 County Road 28H in Woodland, every Friday and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through the winter holiday season, with the exception of Friday, November 23. The landfill, however, will be open for non-hazardous waste on November 23, but closed December 25 and January 1.

Beyond the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program, the landfill accepts hazardous waste from businesses in Yolo County, including items which are corrosive, reactive, toxic or ignitable. Businesses in the areas of construction, printing, equipment or vehicle maintenance, furniture refinishing and farms/ranches that create hazardous waste are encouraged to utilize this program. Business hazardous waste is accepted by appointment only and there is a fee for disposal. For more information about this program or to schedule an appointment, call (800) 207-8222.

Materials that will be accepted from the public and businesses include: batteries; fluorescent bulbs or tubes; used motor oil and filters; cleaning supplies; lighter fluid; antifreeze; aerosols; garden pesticides and herbicides; latex or oil based paints; solvents; poisons; electrical switches/relays; pilot light sensors; mercury thermostats, old medications and containerized syringes.

Yolo County also provides a reuse program which is open to the public during the same hours as the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. The reuse program makes household cleaning supplies, lawn, garden and automotive products, and household paint available to residents at no charge. Often, these products are dropped off at the household hazardous facility simply because they are no longer needed. Items provided through the reuse program have original labels and are nearly full.

Household hazardous waste events are sponsored by the Yolo County Department of Planning & Public Works, Division of Integrated Waste Management. For more information on proper disposal of household hazardous waste, call (530) 666-8856 or visit: [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org) (select Landfill link). Submitted by Beth Gabor, YC Manager of Public Affairs

**Calendar for December 2012**

December 1:	Craft Fair at Countryside Community Church 9:00-3:00 p.m.
December 1:	Chamber "Holiday Mingle and Jingle" in town, 11:00 a.m.
December 1:	FERL Tree Lighting at Library at 1:00 p.m.
December 4:	Guinda Exchange Holiday Mall at Grange Hall 6-8 p.m.
December 7:	Capay Valley Chorus sings at Country Villa at 7:00 p.m.
December 7:	Hanukkah begins at sundown
December 8:	Children's Shopping Day at Esparto Elem. 10:00-1:00 p.m.
December 8:	Children's Play at Guinda Grange Hall at 7:00 p.m.
December 10:	Minimum Day for all Esparto Schools
December 10:	Capay Valley Chorus sings at Rumsey Hall at 7:00 p.m.
December 11:	School Board Meeting at Alice Marsh Hall 5:30 p.m.
December 12:	Chamber Holiday Party at CCCR at 6:00 p.m.
December 13:	After School Movie at Library at 3:00 p.m.
December 13,14,15:	EHS Christmas Play at 6:30 p.m. in auditorium
December 15:	4-H Craft Fair at Esparto Elem. South Campus 1-2 p.m.
December 15:	Movie at Countryside Community Church at 5:00 p.m.
December 19:	Potluck Dinner at VFW by ECSD at 6:00 p.m.
December 21:	Minimum Day for Esparto Schools for Holidays
December 21:	Winter begins
December 22:	YCFB December Holiday Meal Distribution Day
December 23 & 24:	Christmas Church services
December 25:	Christmas Day
December 26:	Kwanzaa begins
Dec. 24-Jan. 4:	Winter Holidays for Esparto Schools
December 26-28:	RISE Intersession Program for K-8 School 7:30-5:30 p.m.
December 31:	New Year's Eve



**Pet Adoption Corner**

Have a pet that needs adopting? A litter of kittens? You are moving and need to find a new home for a cat or dog? Just lost a pet and want a new one? Send in the information and we will place it in this space.

All notices must be received by the 20th of each month for the next month's paper. Send to [valleyvoice2@hotmail.com](mailto:valleyvoice2@hotmail.com). Editor reserves the right to edit any notice. Send a picture if desired. Please give contact information. Adoptions are strictly between individuals.

Editor

**Is Health Insurance for your Child a Problem??**

In these difficult economic and health reform times, good health insurance coverage for your children may be a problem. There are three different publically-supported options now available, which seek to assist many levels of incomes and urgent situations. You may qualify for at least one of these:

- **MediCal**—For those families most in need. Job loss and/or changes in income power may now qualify you. Free review of your eligibility.
- **Healthy Families**—Federally and State Supported with low premiums. Serves the children of families who earn too much for MediCal help. Has low premiums. Once enrolled, your enrollment lasts for a year without further review. Find out today if you qualify.
- **Healthy Kids**—Supported by local funds and efforts. This health insurance option seeks to insure that all children have access to health care. Higher income families can successfully utilize this option. Thanks to the generosity of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, no qualifying local child will be put on a waiting list. Low monthly premiums.

**Check these options out! Free!**

If you are interested in further discussing any of these health insurance options, please call RISE Inc. at 787-4110 and ask for a screening appointment with Beth Conn-Ossenfort or Lupe Saucedo. Free. Confidential. RISE will also come to small groups or farm meetings to discuss these options with interested folks. Call today!

Submitted by the RISE Staff

**SPAY / NEUTER VOUCHER PROGRAM**

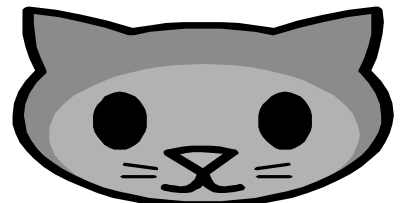
\$10 Cat \$15 Dog

Household Income less than \$35,000/yr.

Apply online: [www.sacanimal.org](http://www.sacanimal.org) or

Call (916) 808 SPAY (7729)

Sacramento Area Animal Coalition



### 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:** next to the Esparto Grab 'n Go Market at 16814 Fremont Street on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Al-Anon:** Countryside Community Church on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Calvary Baptist Church:** meets at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday at Alice Marsh Hall at the Esparto High School.
- Capay Valley Christian Fellowship:** meets at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday at the Grange Hall on Forest Ave. in Guinda.
- Capay Valley Fire Commission Meeting:** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Guinda Fire Station.
- 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 Vision Board:** meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the CVV/Chamber office from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- 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.
- Early Learning Center Program:** held from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Countryside Community Church
- ECV Joseph Zumwalt Chapter 169:** meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Rose's Island in Esparto. Must be a Clamper. 681-3412 for info.
- 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 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Esparto Family Practice:** open Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- 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 2nd Wednesday at the Chamber Office on Yolo Avenue unless it is a mixer. (787-3242)
- Esparto Unified School Board Meeting:** meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Alice Marsh Hall.
- Esparto Writers' Group:** meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Library at 6:00 p.m.
- FFA Parents:** meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Ag classroom at the high school.
- Food and Clothes Closet:** open on Wednesdays from 9:00-12:00 & Fridays from 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 each month from 11:00 to 12:00 p.m. at the RISE office.
- Friends of Esparto Regional Library Board of Directors' Meeting:** meets on the first Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Library.
- Home Schooling Cooperative:** Call Elvira Paoletti at 796-4676.
- Legal Services in Esparto:** free services offered on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the RISE office from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 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.
- MEDI-CAL and Food Stamps Services:** Wednesday 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the RISE Inc. office. Call 787-4110 for appointments.
- New Life Christian Center:** Sunday Service at 11:00 a.m. with Junior Church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays for ages 5-10. Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- On Fire Fellowship of Esparto:** Sunday service at 11:00 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.
- St. Martin's Church:** Spanish Mass: 7:00 p.m. on Saturday; English Mass: 8:30 a.m. on Sunday at St. Martin's Church on Grafton Street
- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW):** Western Yolo Post 7143, meets 2nd Monday each month, at Post Home, Orleans St. & 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.
- RISE Collaborative Meeting:** meets the 3rd Friday at 9:00 a.m. at the RISE building (except August).
- Yolo County WIC Services:** located in the Esparto Library at 17065 Yolo Ave. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 8:00-4:30 p.m. (Call (530) 666-8445)
- 4-H:** meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday 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](mailto:valleyvoice2@hotmail.com) or call 787-4110.*

**December Calendar of Events is on Page 15.**

