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History of Local Tribal Mitigation Funds

“i. Within 60 days of the date of this Agreement, the County Board of Supervisors will establish a County Advisory Committee for Tribal Matters. The purpose of this Committee is to advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters that are the subject of this Agreement.”

(from the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Yolo and the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians Concerning Mitigation of Off-Reservation Impacts Resulting from the Tribe's Casino Expansion and Hotel Project (County-Tribe Agreement) 2002.)

The Advisory Committee on Tribal Matters began with the mission to address how to mitigate the impacts of the expansion project for individuals and community groups. It later included community enhancement projects. The funds came directly from the 2002 agreement between Yolo County and the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians. This MOU between the County and the Tribe was historic as it represented the first such agreement between a sovereign nation and a County. It also meant that remediation in the community was in the hands of the County, not the Tribe. To the community that meant representation.

As the Tribe began to pursue expansion in 2008, the MOU became subject to renegotiation. Negotiation is subject to the State Gaming Compact amendment specifying the process. The County and the Tribe had 55 days after the final certification of the Tribal Environmental Impact Report to negotiate a new MOU. If after that time an agreement was not reached, both sides had to submit their last best offer. If rejected, state arbitration was the next step. This is where the Tribe and the County find themselves at this point. In arbitration, only one offer is deemed acceptable. However, up until the arbitrator's ruling, the negotiation can continue between the County and the Tribe. Currently, the Tribe and the County must agree upon an arbitrator in the next 30 days and the arbitrator must rule within 45 days.

What happened in the Capay Valley? Locally, the ACTM committee has worked tirelessly to administer funds since 2002. While technically all of the funds were at the County's discretion, the County recognized the intent to mitigate the community impacted, the Capay Valley region, and put funds into the ACTM process accordingly. To date, Yolo County has received more than \$23 million dollars since 2003 to mitigate issues such as traffic, water resources, social services, public services like the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's office. This includes initial payments, yearly payments and grants from the ACTM fund. Over this same time, the local ACTM fund has been awarded \$4,898,933 for local projects, including social services, five Fire Districts, Esparto Unified School District, *Valley Voice*, Capay Valley Vision, Western Yolo Grange, Rumsey Improvement, Esparto Lions, and a total of 18 different local organizations. The local organizations who used those funds had to report carefully on their use. The use of the County's funds from these payments has not always been known., especially in relation to the areas identified in the MOU.

The local ACTM committee worked to create a realistic framework for these funds. They had attempted at one point to “endow” the funds so that it might grow in the community but were told by the County “use it or lose it.” They attempted to create 3-year proposals and contracts to build sustainability and were again rejected by Yolo County.

In this last December and early January, Yolo County took all funds from the local ACTM hands. The local ACTM funds will be used to pay for legal and environmental services regarding the expansion. The County's Board letter puts a ceiling at \$1,262,500 for their legal services!

(cont. on pg. 3)

This issue of the Valley Voice is being published through the generous contribution of an anonymous donor, a dedicated community member. Thank you.

MITIGATION FUNDS DISAPPEAR – LOCAL ALLOCATION OF \$1.1 MILLION TAKEN BY SUPERVISORS

*MITIGATION FUNDS GAVE THE VALLEY REGION A
SENSE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR ACTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED VISIONING,
A MULTITUDE OF DEFINED PROJECTS, & SERVED
THE NEEDS OF MANY!*

The debate has gone to and fro throughout our Region regarding the local Indian gaming business – its right to nestle into a rural agrarian community, the impact on local traffic, the benefits of new jobs for many and dollars into a variety of local economies, the fears about water usage, the positive expansion of local transportation resources. The discussions have been passionate; the points of view have been diverse; and, the effort to understand both, and all, sides of the complex issues has been sincere. There is an area that the community did join together, neighbor to neighbor, in consensus: the use of the awarded Tribal mitigation funds, to be allocated locally by the Board of Supervisors upon the advice of the Advisory Committee for Tribal Matters (ACTM). This was the Region's opportunity to create something good, something self-determined; to be cost-effective, innovative; to build a “silk purse” out of controversy.

This article cannot cover all the good that has been achieved, nor capture the hope that had multiple year ambitions. It cannot give enough thanks to so many of the community's best folks that sat in tiring meetings to build and shape a process to fund the well-articulated project and service needs of our communities. Nor can it capture the sense of loss that this funding opportunity has been taken away unilaterally by the County.

Individuals and families along the traffic corridor have obtained some mitigated assistance. Sound walls, window & door replacements, burms, gates and fences were completed for private citizens. A beautiful “Capay Valley Atlas” was produced and sold out almost immediately. A housing study was completed, along with several traffic studies, noise & light studies. Community planning ventures, reports, and action plans developed. A real swimming pool plan – completed finally. Advocacy, leadership, community capacity building, and collaboration support – hosted under Capay Valley Vision with its skilled dedication to “preserving a sense of place.”

General services to the community-at-large were enhanced. The *Valley Voice* stabilized while small papers in other communities failed. The library got new computers. The schools expanded counseling services for children, on campus. RISE bundled the Food Bank, Clothes Closet, counseling for adults/families, enrollment assistance, local employment services, and emergency assistance into one package, offering services every day, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The Esparto Medical Clinic surveyed the health needs of the community – and began a new era of expanding services, hours, and plans for new facilities.

(cont. on pg. 3)

February 2009

**Valley Voice
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Let all your friends and relatives know that for just \$25 per year we will mail them each month's edition! This is a perfect way to keep up to date with all the Capay Valley news and events.
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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 Advisory Committee on Tribal Matters (ACTM). 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**
OR mail your name, address and phone number to the Valley Voice, c/o P.O. Box 133, Esparto, CA 95627.

**The Valley Voice
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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. The Valley Voice is published monthly by a community partnership between RISE, Inc., Esparto Unified School District, and contributions from grants, Foundations, and local community service organizations. Articles published do not necessarily express the views of the Valley Voice editor or committee.

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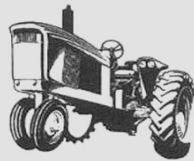
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Chamber of Commerce News

Scheduled for Sunday, March 15th, 2009, the 94th *Capay Valley Almond Festival* promises to be better than ever this year. Our perennial favorite event is both a celebration of community spirit and a tribute to the valley's rich agricultural heritage. New this year, the Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce has partnered with the California Almond Board and Duarte Nursery to create a unique teaching model about almonds.

Activities kick off at 7:00 a.m. with a pancake breakfast at Esparto High School, then kicks into high gear at 9:00 a.m. with culinary delights throughout the entire region. There is a car show, a crafters Market, live music, old engines, quilt sales, artisans, farmers' market, seven different locations with barbecued or fresh food and games for the children. It's great fun for all ages.

In addition to Esparto, we have a scrumptious culinary tour on State Route 16 that begins in Rumsey, travels to Guinda, meanders to Brooks, strolls to Capay and then to R.H. Phillips in Esparto. Each town will have culinary delicacies that will tempt even the most discerning palate. Begin this culinary tradition with your time honored favorites.

Look for the map with all the activities throughout the day in the March edition of the Valley Voice.

Festival in the park is sponsored by:

- Yocha De He Fund
- B-Z Bee Pollination Inc.
- Capay Valley Bed & Breakfast
- Capay Valley Vineyards
- Durst Organic Growers Inc.
- Festival Partners:**
- The California Almond Board
- Duarte Nursery

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce is looking for one new board member. If you are interested in being on the chamber board please contact the chamber 530-787-3242 to receive our by laws and board responsibilities and we will place you on the election roster as well. All those who have been a member for at least one year in good standing will be accepted.

Submitted by Elizabeth Campbell, Executive Director



(Cont. from pg. 1, column 1)

These were not future funds, but funds the County had already received from the Tribe and put forward by the ACTM for grants in 2008.

Many community organizations have commented on the County spending the Tribe's funds to pay for legal fees to fight for more of the Tribe's funds. The last best offer by both sides, according to the State compact, is submitted "without modification" to the arbitrator leaving it unsure where additional legal fees or environmental studies would be used by the County. Both sides' last best offer have already been submitted.

Community groups pursued this new MOU process with two goals in mind. One was to have local representation and/or our elected official on the negotiation team. That did not happen. Secondly, fifteen (15) community groups met together and created a "pocket" memo that explained hopes for the future mitigation, articulating solutions for traffic, water, social services, schools, etc. This document was put in the hands of both sides. In the end, dollars became a major issue for the County, and perceived fairness the issue for the Tribe.

While purporting to look out for local interests, the County is willing to let key social services, family supports and the *Valley Voice* die in the process. The community has come together to deal with the impacts of a large casino in its midst, because everyone deals with it daily, and the Tribe are neighbors and members of this community. The County doesn't seem to recognize these interests no matter how many times they are told, or supported when they do get it right. This is the history of the mitigation process. In this most recent action by the Board of Supervisors, both the community and the Tribe have been denied their neighborly good intentions, and concrete potential for local funded mitigations. As former ACTM chair, Jim Durst, stated last week "It is a slap in the face of the democratic process". The community agrees.

Sources:

1. Intergovernmental Agreement between the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians and Yolo County
2. ACTM Funding Allocations, 2003-2007, presented to the ACTM by Yolo County
3. Pocket memo available at the Capay Valley Vision and Esparto District Chamber Office
4. Amendment to the State Gaming Compact between the State of California and the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians

(Cont. from pg. 1, column 2)

CAFF introduced nutrition education in our schools – a "farm-to-school" concept. The Esparto Farmers' Market began. The New Seasons Community Development Corporation – a new local non-profit – not only incorporated but bought a building downtown and designed a complete remodel as a first step to citizen-driven downtown revitalization. The Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce got its first paid staff, its first real office.

Tangible, visible projects were also completed, from Madison to downtown Rumsey. The Madison Fire Dept. spearheaded improvements to the Madison Town Hall; the joint efforts by the Lion's Club and the Esparto Unified School District enhanced the Madison Park. In downtown Esparto, the auditorium was refurbished to distinction – a sought-after objective for over 35 years! The Esparto Town Hall corner, beautifully landscaped with a fully functioning community-use building, is now a source of pride. Athletic fields improved everywhere, along with the School District's improved parking lots and other amenities. Solar powered lighting went up in the town of Capay. The Grange volunteers changed the building in Guinda – new kitchen improvements, new lighting, & other improvements. And in Rumsey, thanks to the Rumsey Improvement Association, accelerated improvements were implemented to a building history holds dear. Bus passenger sheds (thanks, Lions!), solar traffic warnings, and wheel-chair lift transporters enhanced resources region-wide.

These are only examples – not even a complete summary. The blow dealt the community when the community's share of these mitigation funds were re-routed was huge – so much had been accomplished with so little. So many have worked to make good out of a decreasing "fair share." So many have spent enormous hours to utilize these funds with local pride, distinction and productivity. As stated by District 5 Supervisor Duane Chamberlain to his fellow Supervisors, "You have the legal right to do it {take the funds}, but that doesn't make it the ethical thing to do!"

Eleventh Edition, Volume 2, February 2009

**Marshall McKay Re-Elected As Tribal Chairman
Of The Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians
Anthony Roberts Also Re-Elected; Three New Members Join
the Tribal Council**

The Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians recently re-elected Marshall McKay as Tribal Chairman of the Rumsey Tribal Council, a position he has held since 2006. Chairman McKay ran unopposed.

"It is an honor to continue to serve as Tribal Chairman," said Chairman McKay. "I believe our greatest accomplishment to date has been getting Tribal Members more actively involved in the business of the Tribe. I look forward to continuing the revitalization of our Tribe as we move forward with our Farm and Ranch operations and expansion of Cache Creek Casino Resort into a world-class destination."

During his first term, Chairman McKay reasserted the Tribe's control of its own resources. Committees of Tribal Members tackled issues like land management, education, and charitable giving and over the past three years, the Tribal Council acted on more than 500 resolutions. The Tribe reacquired ancestral homelands, placed thousands of acres in trust to preserve the Capay Valley, established the Yocha-De-He Farm and Ranch Operations, completed the golf course, and authorized the expansion of Cache Creek Casino into a world-class resort.

"It has been tremendously rewarding for me to see our young people step forward as we announce three new members to the Tribal Council," said Chairman McKay. "Their input into decisions will long impact our government and our families." Also re-elected as the Tribal Council's Treasurer was Anthony Roberts. He has been on the Council since 2000 and is actively involved in the Rumsey community, serving on the Cultural Renewal Committee, the Health and Wellness Committee, the Yocha-De-He Wintun Academy Board of Trustees, and the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Commission. He is also Chair of the Yocha-De-He Community Fund and a Commissioner for the Tribal Gaming Agency.

The three new members to the Tribal Council are Leland Kinter, serving as Secretary, James Kinter and Mia Zamago. Leland Kinter is Chair of the Tribal Gaming Agency and serves on the Yocha-De-He Wintun Academy Board of Trustees; the Yocha-De-He Community Fund; the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Commission; the Property, Farm and Ranch Committee; and the Cultural Renewal Committee, and leads the Patwin language revitalization program. James Kinter is currently Chair of the Property, Farm and Ranch Committee; and serves on the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Commission and the Health and Wellness Committee. Mia Zamago is an enthusiastic new Member of the Tribal Government.

Chairman McKay oversees the day-to-day operations of the Rumsey Tribal Government and is Chair of the Board of Directors of Cache Creek Casino Resort. He also serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Yocha-De-He Wintun Academy; the Cultural Renewal Committee; the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Commission; and serves on the Health and Wellness Committee; Property, Farm and Ranch Committee; and the Yocha-De-He Community Fund Committee. Chairman McKay previously served as Tribal Treasurer and Tribal Secretary.

The Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians owns and operates Cache Creek Casino Resort in Brooks, California. The Tribe operates a diverse farming operation in the Capay Valley, Yocha-De-He Farm and Ranch; the Yocha-De-He Wintun Academy; and the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Department. The Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians is a recognized sovereign nation and is led by an elected Tribal Council. The Tribe is an active part of the Capay Valley community, and is a generous contributor to local, state, national, and international causes.

Submitted by Nicole Leddy of Porter Novelli

Ash Wednesday Service at Countryside Church

There will be a special Ash Wednesday service at Countryside Community Church on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00 p.m. Come for a time of reflection as we prepare for the build up to the celebration of Easter which will be Sunday, April 12th. Our Easter service will be at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School provided for kids. We are located at the corner of Fremont & Grafton and we look forward to seeing you then.!

Submitted by Pamela Anderson (Pastor)

**News from Esparto Unified School District
Submitted by Aida Buelna, Superintendent**

NEW PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

We are excited to offer a State Preschool Program at Esparto Elementary School in Room 3. We invite all parents who wish to have their 4 or 3 year olds experience preschool to come by the elementary school office to register their children. Maggie Veloz is ready to assist parents wishing to enroll their children. Listed below are the required forms to determine eligibility:

Required forms to determine eligibility:

The following is required for the application process:

- Birth certificate
- Immunization Record
- Income Verification: One month's copy of the most current pay stubs.
- Dentist's and Doctor's Report
- Proof of tuberculosis clearance for required parent volunteer hours.
- A receipt of phone bill, property tax, or utility service payment (example, PG & E) for address verification

Admission Priorities:

Preschool services in the Esparto Unified School District are available to income eligible families who reside in the EUSD attendance area. Priority for enrollment of eligible students is based on the following:

- **Child Protective Services;** EUSD State Preschool requires the first priority for enrollment be children in Child Protective Services. A written referral from a legally qualified professional is required.
- **Family Income:** Eligible students from families with the lowest adjusted monthly income are admitted first.
- **Age:** Four-year-old students have priority over three-year-olds. Children must be 3 years by December 2, 2008.

YCEL: The EUSD Preschool program is required to contact applicants in order of priority from the centralized eligibility list as vacancies occur.

If you have any questions about the preschool program please feel free to call me or Maggie Veloz at the Elementary School for more details. We look forward to providing this service to our community.

Minimum Days

February 2nd and 23rd are Monday Minimum Days.

School Holiday

Schools will be closed Monday February 9th & 16th

ATTENTION ALL SUPERSTARS!

It is time for the second annual **PTA SPRING TALENT SHOW!** All Esparto area elementary and middle school aged students are encouraged to audition by singing, dancing, tumbling, performing a skit, or something else! You are limited only by your imagination! Adults may play a part in the act, but kids should have the starring role! Singing must be done with a karaoke CD or with live accompaniment. Auditions will be held at Esparto Elementary School, Room 25, on March 11, 12, and 13, from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. You can sign up for an appointment outside room 25 or email kking@espartk12.org for an appointment. The top ten acts will be selected. The Talent Show will be held on May 7 in the Esparto High School Auditorium. Parents or others wishing to help or with questions can contact Kari King at Esparto Elementary School, 787-3417 X530.

Submitted by Kari King

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Martes, miércoles, jueves y viernes: 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

CITAS DISPONIBLES EL MISMO DÍA

Esparto Elementary Cub Corner
Veronica Michael, Principal

EES has been busy with lots of events taking place. This month we opened our state preschool. EES Preschool welcomes Kimberley Wright, the lead preschool teacher. Room 3 has been transformed from a Kindergarten into a preschool room. Thanks to Nancy Withem and Kim Spalding for volunteering to move classrooms to accommodate the preschool. We are excited about this wonderful new addition to our school.

Other happenings at our school this month included the National Geographic Geography Bee. Congratulations to Mason Simas, our champion. Mason will next take the written test in order to qualify for the national bee. Congratulations also goes to Roberto Cuevas our second place winner.

Our school was treated to a musical assembly with folk singer, John Carter. Mr. Carter got the crowd to sing along to tunes like, "The Cat Came Back". Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Williams for organizing the fund raiser that helped bring this assembly to EES.

In the spirit of celebrating academic excellence, EES hosted an Academic Excellence Dinner to honor those students who scored Advanced in the spring 2008 California Standards Tests of the STAR test. Students were invited if they scored Advanced in Mathematics and/or English Language Arts.

On January 28th, the students at EES walked over to the High School auditorium to watch a performance of Sacramento's B Street Theater. Our school is pleased to be able to expose our children to the arts, especially in our very own beautiful theater!

We are over the half way mark of the school year and things are very busy. Please keep your children motivated to do their very best. STAR testing is just around the corner. Testing will begin for 2nd -5th graders on April 1, 2009.

If you are enrolled in Raley's Scrip Program, please utilize this service. Present your "Quality of Life" card to the cashier when you pay for your groceries. This program has the potential to earn cash funds for our school.

Thanks for your continued support and Happy Valentine's Day!

News from Esparto Middle School
Robert Verdugo, Principal

The first semester ended January 9, 2009. On Monday January 12th our students transitioned very smoothly to our new block schedule. To accommodate this schedule we have changed our release time from 3:00 p.m. to 2:06 p.m. With the block schedule in place we are able to provide a better learning environment for all of our students. We have put in place Accelerated Reader for all our students, created class sizes that allow for better intervention and allowed more students a chance to participate in elective classes. Students will also have access to teachers after school for assistance. Bus riders will have transportation home on the 3 o'clock bus.

Esparto Middle School will be participating in several large-scale fundraisers this spring and is looking to our parents and community members for support. The first fundraiser will be a Valentine's Day Concert with our very own bus driver, Tony Needes, AKA Tony "B" Driver. Enjoy an evening of musical entertainment in the beautifully restored Esparto High School Auditorium on Saturday, February 14. Tony Needes has performed in venues around the world. He will be performing a variety of music from the 50's to the 80's. The concert is scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., leaving plenty of time for a nice dinner after the concert. Tickets are \$15 or \$25 for two tickets. Kids under 18 are \$6. Tickets are available at the Esparto Middle School Office. Please call us at 787-4151 for more information.

On March 14 EMS will co-sponsor the Slow Food Yolo Event along with Durst Organic Growers, Inc. This event will include Three Orchard Tours and a Vineyard Tour. The tours will be followed by a Slow Food Lunch featuring a whole roasted Capay Valley pig, Spanish style almond soup, grilled asparagus, and an almond dessert sampler at R.H. Phillips Winery in the Dunnigan Hills. For ticket information please visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/50822>

On March 15 EMS will be at the Esparto Fire House selling hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, and hot dogs during the Almond Festival. Please stop by and support the middle school.

We are looking for parents who would like to volunteer to be part of the Esparto Middle School Booster Club. We need parent participation to help make our fundraisers work. Call Mr. Verdugo at 787-4151 if you are interested.

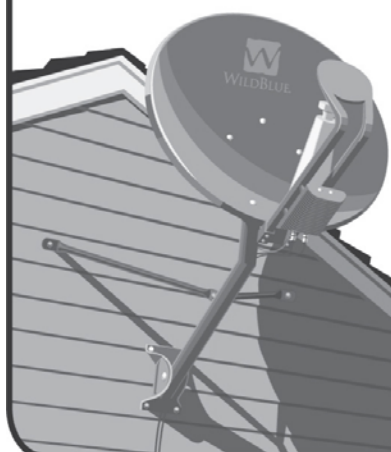
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Children and Families Commission

Smile Savers – Keep Your Child’s Teeth Healthy!

Answers to Common Childhood Dental Care Questions!

It may be easy to dismiss dental care for young children as unnecessary... after all, we’re only talking about baby teeth. But these teeth are important to a child’s development because they help children chew food and speak clearly. Starting good dental health habits when children are young will protect their smiles now – and in the future. In recognition of February as National Children’s Dental Health Month, First 5 Yolo provides answers to frequently asked questions about how to care for your child’s teeth. Additional tips can be found at <http://www.first5yolo.org/pdfs/tips/HealthyTeeth.pdf>.

What is baby bottle tooth decay?

Also known as early childhood caries, baby bottle tooth decay is caused when children are allowed to go to bed with a bottle of milk, formula or juice. When this happens, sugar from the liquid stays in contact with the baby’s teeth for several hours breaking down the enamel and discoloring teeth. Severe cases can lead to cavities and the removal of teeth. To prevent baby bottle tooth decay, parents should never allow infants to fall asleep with a bottle and should encourage children to begin drinking from a cup as they near their first birthday.

When should children start brushing their teeth?

Brushing teeth is one of the easiest ways to prevent cavities. That’s why parents should begin brushing their children’s teeth regularly as soon as the first tooth comes in, which is usually around 6 to 12 months. Although children can be taught how to brush when they are toddlers, parents should continue brushing a child’s teeth until he or she is 6 years old.

When should children first visit a dentist?

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends parents schedule a visit to the dentist when their child’s first tooth comes in. After that first visit, children should have a dental checkup at least once a year.

What is fluoride, and is supplemental fluoride safe for children?

Fluoride is one of the best ways to help prevent tooth decay, as the naturally occurring mineral helps strengthen the tooth’s enamel. If the water supply in your area does not contain a proper amount of fluoride or your child only drinks bottled water, your pediatrician may prescribe fluoride supplements.

By practicing good dental habits with children at home, visiting the dentist regularly and following a balanced diet, parents can help keep their children smiling with confidence.

Compliments of First 5 Yolo
530-669-2475

11th Annual Ecumenical Service at Countryside Community Church

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Countryside Community Church hosted the 11th annual Ecumenical Service for all of the churches in the area. The churches that participated were Countryside, Guinda Methodist Church, Capay Valley Christian Fellowship and St. Martin’s Catholic Church. It was a day of celebration, music and strengthening of friendships. Roosevelt Tarlesson, pastor of the United Methodist Church, gave a resounding prayer about about caring “for the least of these”. Doug Greb, pastor of the Capay Valley Christian Fellowship opened the worship service. Father Chuck from St. Martin’s Catholic Church preached a sermon about becoming a better man, and that our faith calls us all to become better people. Dr. Pamela Anderson from Countryside Church emceed the event and led an entertaining children’s sermon with the kids & adults all laughing together. The Tarlesson Family sang incredible, powerful songs that left the congregation grinning from ear to ear. To close out the service, the trio of Clarence, Frank and Trudie closed with “I’ll Fly Away”. Of course... plenty of sweets and coffee were consumed afterwards. Brilliant service...one that is enjoyed and anticipated every year. Be sure to join us next Thanksgiving! Blessings to you all until that time! Submitted by Pamela Anderson (see picture at right)

Bill to propel \$12 billion prison construction project sent to Governor with budget package

While the Governor and the legislature propose massive cuts to education, delays or cancellation of 2,000 public works projects including voter approved projects to retrofit schools—among the budget bills sent to the Governor was a bill to fix problems with AB900, the largest prison construction plan in history. “The Governor and our legislature were supposed to be *reducing* California’s budget deficit. Instead, the legislature passed ABX1-10 -- clean up language necessary to implement 2007’s massive prison construction plan,” says Debbie Reyes of the **California Prison Moratorium Project**, members of the statewide coalition, Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB).

AB900 was passed in the early hours of the morning on April 26, 2007 without voter approval and with no public hearings. “As we cancel or delay voter approved projects to retrofit schools, the legislature is moving forward with \$12 billion worth of new prisons and jail beds -- without voter approval and without money to build or operate those new beds,” says Geri Silva of CURB member **(Families to Amend California’s Three Strikes)**. Using lease revenue bonds, AB900 would add up to 53,000 new prison and jail beds and at least \$1.6 billion per year in operating costs to California’s \$10 billion prison budget. The cost to taxpayers for construction and debt service on the high yield bonds is projected to reach \$12 billion. Though the bill suggests that there will be rehabilitation programs created in conjunction with the new prison beds, AB900 does not include money for staff, general operating expenses, let alone new programs. Mary Sutton of **Critical Resistance Los Angeles**, members of CURB, said “We must reduce our reliance on prisons by refusing to pass clean up language for AB900 and canceling the project altogether.” Initial AB900 projects have faced organized opposition from communities across the state.

The residents of the rural town of Madison in Yolo County filed a lawsuit stating the County supervisors violated state and local laws when they voted for the 15 acre construction project ignoring the environmental impacts. “The proposed Madison site is in a FEMA-designated high-risk flood zone and an agricultural preserve. It also has a complete lack of water, sewer, electrical and gas infrastructure,” says Robyn Rominger of **Save Rural Yolo County**.

To address New York’s budget crisis, the Governor is proposing closing four prisons. And, the federal court currently hearing the case on prison overcrowding is poised to order a reduction in the number of people in prison in California.

Expanding prison capacity will also impact any attempts to reduce the number of people in prison. “We appreciate that the legislature did pass some changes to parole and corrections policies that should reduce the number of people in California’s prisons, but cancelling new prison construction needs to be among those changes,” says Carol Strickman of CURB member **Legal Services for Prisoners with Children**. “History teaches us if you build more beds, you fill those beds.”

By Rose Braz and Mary Sutton of CURB



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Capay Valley Vision Welcomes New Board Members

Capay Valley Vision welcomes three new Board members for 2009. These new members, Thaddeus Barsotti, James Kinter and Rudy Lucero, come with a wide-range of experience and a long-history in the Capay Valley.

They will be joining our existing Board members and officers for 2009. The officers are Wyatt Cline, President; Lynn Rolston, Vice President; Aida Buelna, Secretary and Giacomo (Jack) Moris, Treasurer. In addition to the officers, Board members include Tom Lopez, Paul Muller, David Scheuring, Ron Voss, Cathie Wicks and Betsy Marchand, as an advisor to the Tribe.

A little about our new Board members:

Thaddeus Barsotti was born in the Capay Valley. His parents started the first organic farm in the valley of which he is a principal today. While attending Esparto High School, Thaddeus was the ASB President and the FFA President. Thaddeus received the prestigious Buck Scholarship, which he used to attend Cal Poly, and where he graduated with a degree in Ag Engineering. Returning to the Valley, he helped found Farm Fresh to You and the store in the Ferry Building in San Francisco. Currently, Thaddeus and his wife, Moyra, bought and are restoring a house in Esparto while he continues to be in charge of production for the farm. Going up the Valley, look for their *Capay Organic* sign.

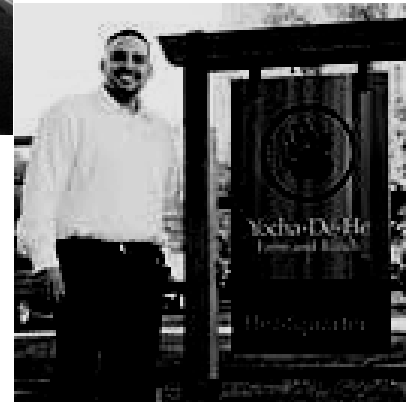
James Kinter is also a product of our Esparto School District. James recently was elected to the Tribal Council of the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians. Prior to that, he has served and continues to serve as the Chair of the Yocha De He Farm and Ranch committee, supervising all of the farm and ranch properties of the Tribe. Yocha De He Farm and Ranch are proud members of Capay Valley Grown. James is also a board member of the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Department and has served in that capacity for many years. James is the owner of Executive One, Inc. in Woodland, a screen printing and embroidery shop. His softball team, where he plays and sponsors, Team Wintun, went to the National Finals last year! Welcome James!

Rudy Lucero is also a long-time Valley resident. He and his wife, Allison, are very involved in the Esparto Unified School District, where Allison is the President of the School Board. Their daughters, Roxanne and Avalon, attend Esparto High School, and play a lot of volleyball! Rudy graduated from University of California, Davis and then became active in the Coast Guard. He is currently the District Manager for Pacific Coast Producers (which is a tomato operation), and has served the community in many capacities. He is on the County Advisory Committee to FSA; an associate director to the Resource Conservation District and past Board member; and is a current member of the local Advisory Committee on Tribal Matters. Rudy and his ten-gallon hat are very welcomed to Capay Valley Vision.

Submitted by Sue Heitman, CVV Director



**New Capay Valley Vision
Board Members:**
Above: Thaddeus Barsotti, left,
and Rudy Lucero, right.
Right: James Kinter



**News from Esparto High School
Troy Johnston, Principal**

Spartan of the Month Award:

Esparto High School, in cooperation with State Farm Insurance, in Woodland, and as part of its "Road to Success" student recognition program, is proud to announce winners of Esparto High School's Spartan of the Month Award for the months of November and December, 2008. These students have demonstrated academic excellence, a positive attitude inside and outside of the classroom and have been a proven leader in community service.

They have been awarded Spartan of the Month ID Cards, a Spartan of the Month Award Certificate, a Spartan of the Month Parent Letter, and a parent's only Spartan of the Month commemorative key chain. They will also be eligible to become Esparto High School's Spartan of the Year. This prestigious award will be presented to one male and one female student who most exemplifies Esparto High School's core values of world class academics, positive attitudes toward school and community service. The Spartan of the Year Awards Ceremony will take place in May 2009.

Spartan of the Month for November 2008:

- Kim McCoy – 12th grade

Spartan of the Month for December 2008:

- Samantha Brooks – 10th grade
- Abraham Mendoza – 9th grade

Esparto High School wishes to thank State Farm Insurance of Woodland for their support of this program. If you would like to donate to this program, please contact Troy E. Johnston – Principal of Esparto High School to make arrangements for your tax deductible donation at or at tjohnston@espartok12.org or call 787-3405.

Athlete of the Month Award:

Esparto High School, in cooperation with the West Sacramento US Marines Recruiting Office, and as part of its "Road to Success" student recognition program, is proud to announce winners of Esparto High School's Student Athlete of the Month Award for the months of November and December, 2008. These students have demonstrated academic excellence, a positive attitude inside and outside of their chosen sport and have been a proven leader in community service.

They have been awarded Student Athlete of the Month ID Cards, a Student Athlete of the Month Award Certificate, a Student Athlete of the Month Parent Letter and a parent's only Student Athlete of the Month commemorative key chain. They will also be eligible to become Esparto High School's Student Athlete of the Year. This prestigious award will be presented to one male and one female student athlete who most exemplifies Esparto High School's core values of world class academics, positive attitudes toward school and community service. The Student Athlete of the Year Awards Ceremony will take place in May 2009.

Student Athletes of the Month for November 2008 are:

- Avalon Lucero – 10th Grade
- Brandon Kuehn – 10th Grade

Student Athletes of the Month for December 2008 are:

- Dennis Darling – 10th Grade
- Lizeth Valenzuela – 11th Grade

Esparto High School wishes to thank the West Sacramento US Marines Recruiting Office for their support of this program. If you would like to donate to this program, please contact Troy E. Johnston – Principal of Esparto High School to make arrangements for you tax deductible donation at 530-787-3405 or at tjohnston@espartok12.org.



Yolo Using Court to Target Teen Truants

About 20 teenagers filed into a Woodland courtroom last week and, one by one, stood before Yolo Superior Court Referee, David Reed, to answer charges of truancy. It was the third time the county's new truancy court has met since September. That was when Yolo officials launched their effort to see if a judicial officer, armed with the ability to impose fines and revoke driving privileges, could get through to chronic truants.

On Thursday, Reed asked one high school senior with numerous unexcused absences how he wanted to plead. Guilty, the young man said. Reed imposed a \$380 fine, plus a \$55 court fee. As an alternative to the fine, students can serve up to 32 hours of community service with a charity or nonprofit group, such as the Red Cross or SPCA. Reed then asked the boy whether he had a driver's license. "I'm going to get it tomorrow," the teen said, smiling. "No, you're not," Reed said. "If you choose not to go to school, I choose not to let you drive," he told the boy, who looked stunned. Reed banned him from getting a driver's license for a year.

When the boy pleaded with him, Reed said he might eventually reconsider if the teen showed major improvements in grades and attendance at future court dates. Truancy courts exist in a number of counties in California and in other states. In the Sacramento region, the Yolo court is being watched by neighboring counties to see how it fares, officials there said. Though it is still a work in progress, they say the court already seems to be having an impact. "I've heard that word is getting around in the schools that if you go to truancy court, you will lose your license," Reed said. School officials in Yolo County cities say they've seen a marked decrease in truancy this year and attribute it partly to the court.

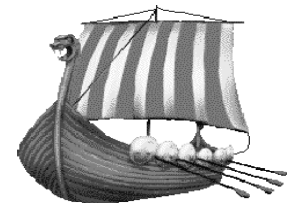
The legal process, they say, is just one component of a countywide anti-truancy effort that involves representatives from schools, the District Attorney's Office, police departments and social services agencies. Since last spring, they have been meeting as the Yolo County Truancy Abatement Committee.

(Esparto Schools are participating in this program and have implemented it locally.)

Written by Hudson Sangree hsangree@sacbee.com

Submitted by Richard Radcliffe, Principal, Madison High School

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Comparison of the Tribe's and the County's Positions on the Issues of the Proposed Agreement

(these represent some, not all, of the topics on the table to be arbitrated in the Yolo County and Rumsey Tribe Agreement regarding the new Casino expansion)

TOPIC: ANNUAL PAYMENTS TO COUNTY

(includes all payments required by law, plus additional funds that will give the County a total annual payment equivalent to the tax revenues the County would receive if the resort expansion was not on trust land)

(LBO means the "Last Best Offer" from each party prior to arbitration)

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

\$2,650,000 per year beginning at completion of resort expansion, or completion of 314 new hotel rooms, whichever comes first. Additional \$530,000 per year beginning at completion of remaining hotel rooms. Additional \$90,000 per year beginning at completion of casitas.

Total: \$3,270,000

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Payments begin as soon as the resort expansion is completed, or the Tribe completes 314 new hotel rooms, whichever comes first. Payments increase as more resort expansion elements are completed.

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Payments are immediately subject to "cost of living" adjustments based on the Consumer Prices Index for all Consumers in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area.

County's LBO

Total: \$3,270,000
County's LBO
Payments begin 9 months after resort expansion construction commences, whether the resort expansion is far enough along to begin to generate revenues or cause impacts.

County's LBO

Payments are subject to annual "cost of living" adjustments beginning in 2010, based on the Consumer Price Index that applies only to "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers" in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area.

TOPIC: FIRE PROTECTION

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

\$300,000 per year of the Tribe's annual payment is guaranteed to be provided to local fire service agencies; if the County fails to provide the full \$300,000 per year to local fire agencies, the Tribe makes up the shortfall by paying those agencies directly. The Tribe also pays up to an additional \$100,000 per year to local fire service agencies to cover any service needs related to the resort expansion.

County's LBO

No portion of the Tribe's annual payment is guaranteed to be provided to local fire service agencies. The Tribe is to pay \$100,000 per year to local fire service agencies.

TOPIC: TOTAL ANNUAL PAYMENTS

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

\$3,425,000 (at full build-out)

County's LBO

\$3,425,000 (beginning 9 months after construction of the resort expansion begins.

TOPIC: PAYMENT TO ESPARTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

\$645,000 (one time)

County's LBO

\$645,000 (one time)

TOPIC: TOTAL ONE-TIME PAYMENTS

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

\$895,000

County's LBO

\$895,000

TOPIC: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

The Tribe will participate in the financing of an affordable housing project of at least 50 units within Yolo County.

County's LBO

Similar to Tribe's position, but requires consultation with the Yolo County Housing Authority.

TOPIC: CHILD CARE

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

The Tribe, working together with the union representing casino employees, will analyze the need for and subsidize or support child care for resort employees.

County's LBO

The Tribe must consult with the County Department of Employment and Social Services with respect to resort child care issues.

TOPIC: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Any disputes under the new Tribe/County agreement for the resort expansion will be subject to the same arbitration provisions to which the Tribe and County have been committed since 2002.

County's LBO

No arbitration provision included.

TOPIC: WELL/GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

* Four golf course wells will continue to be monitored for water level. Other existing Tribal wells as well as neighboring wells, if the owner agrees to monitoring, will be monitored to ensure that project will not affect groundwater availability. All well owners in the project area eligible to participate in the monitoring program.

*Water quality monitoring will continue under the existing United States EPA program. (cont. on next column)

County's LBO

*Four golf course wells will continue to be monitored for water level. Requires drilling four new wells, as well as monitoring at various Tribal wells that would otherwise be decommissioned as part of completing the resort expansion. Not all neighboring well owners in the project area will be eligible for monitoring.

*Water quality monitoring administered by County staff. (cont. on next column)

TOPIC: WELL/GROUNDWATER MONITORING (cont.)

for the leach fields that will remain after the resort expansion is completed and at the golf course. Installation of new equipment at the Tribe's waste water treatment plant will improve water quality above current levels.

* Expert panel will evaluate any potential groundwater impacts of the resort expansion. A neutral decision maker will resolve any disputes regarding those impacts, not the County or the Tribe.

*The County administers the water program and has sole power to evaluate potential impacts. Decisions regarding groundwater are not made by independent experts, and there is no dispute resolution mechanism for groundwater disputes (other than lawsuits).

TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS TOPIC: BASIS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Tribe offers a variety of improvements to SR-16 and County road beyond those legally required to mitigate impacts of resort expansion.

County's LBO

County requires improvements "required to mitigate...impacts".

TOPIC: CALTRANS' SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SIP) FOR SR-16

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

If Caltrans implements the SIP, the Tribe will cooperate with Caltrans in implementing the SIP. If Caltrans does not implement the SIP, the Tribe will pay its fair share of improvements similar to those included in the SIP and which are approved by Caltrans (which has jurisdiction over SR-16). Improvements for which the Tribe would pay its fair share include the improvements to the following:

SR-16, from Taylor Bridge to CR-82
SR-16, from CR-82 to Capay
SR-16, from Esparto to CR-89
SR-16, from CR-89 to Interstate 505

County's LBO

If Caltrans does not begin the SIP by December 31, 2013, and the Tribe and the County fail to agree to what, if any, improvements to SR-16 are needed to mitigate impacts of the resort expansion, the Tribe must fully fund all improvements required by arbitration. Caltrans, the agency with jurisdiction over all state highways including SR-16, is apparently cut out of this process. Does not specifically address many of the roadway segments covered by the Tribe's offer; the only segment individually addressed in the County's offer is SR-16, from CR-89 to Interstate 505. The extension of the center lane in this segment to be installed as part of the SIP to allow turns to Tutt Street & the Housing Authority driveway.

TRANSIT

TOPIC: ADDITIONAL BUS SERVICE

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

The Tribe will pay for cost of 1-3 additional runs on Route 215 and, if necessary, will purchase another bus for use on that route.

County's LBO

The Tribe will evaluate the feasibility of expanding bus service.

TOPIC: PARK AND RIDE

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Tribe will acquire or lease land in or near Woodland and will construct a park-and-ride facility. Maintenance of facility would be funded from the Tribe's annual payments.

County's LBO

The Tribe provides funding necessary to acquire, construct, and maintain a park-and-ride facility for Route 215 riders in Woodland or another acceptable location.

TOPIC: SOURCE OF PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Uses the project description from the Tribal Environmental Impact Report. The environmental impacts of the described project have been fully evaluated as required by law.

County's LBO

Does not use the project description from the Tribal Environmental Impact Report.

TOPIC: USE OF ELDEN PROPERTY FOR MITIGATION

Tribe's LBO & TEIR

Proposes that the County and Tribe explore the possibility of using a nearby parcel of land owned by the Tribe to implement mitigation projects that would further reduce truck trips, address safety concerns, and provide for efficient reuses of waste water associated with the resort expansion. Environmental benefits of using this land could include:

*Eliminating up to 35,000 truck trips during the construction period;
*Reducing traffic and safety concerns on the portion of SR-16 near the resort;
*Increasing the use of recycled water from the resort, while conserving surface water and groundwater supplies; and
*Providing irrigation to and improving the agricultural character and use of land owned by the Tribe.

County's LBO

Does not mention environmental and agricultural benefits of using the Elden property for mitigation and improved agricultural use, and requires that the Elden property NOT be used for mitigation.

Help to File Your Taxes - FREE!!!

Why pay \$100, \$200, or even \$300 to have your taxes filed, when you can have them filed for FREE? That's right, RISE, Inc. has partnered with the IRS and the Yolo county Department of Employment & Social Services [DESS] to bring free tax help out to the Capay Valley community. RISE is offering free assistance in filing both federal and state income taxes and/or answering any tax related questions you may have. Through the months of February and March, everyone is welcome to come on in for this FREE service. A RISE employee has joined the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) and is certified to assist with filing your taxes. The VITA volunteer will accurately look over all your earned income and work with you to apply all qualified tax credits.

In order to manage all tax return assistance requests, RISE Inc. will be offering tax assistance by appointment only. So, if you are interested in utilizing this FREE service with a certified RISE staff - call RISE today at 787-4110. Assistance in Spanish is available! In addition, if you do not need help filing or do not meet the income requirements that allow us to file for you electronically (see next paragraph)-call in with minor questions and ask for Kera-she will answer your questions free, using the information she received during her certification process. In addition, RISE is offering free services to "paper file" for youth 18-24 regardless of their income-come in and set an appointment to "paper file" NOW!!

Special low-income credits are available - geared to low to moderate income earnings. If you earned under \$40,000 in 2008 with dependents or under \$15,000 in 2008 with no dependents you are eligible for this benefit.

In order to accurately and quickly prepare tax returns you will need the following items present during the appointment...

- Proof of Identification
- Social Security Card and/or Social Security Number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration and/or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for everyone on the tax return
- Birth Dates for everyone on the tax return
- Wage and earning statement(s) Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, from all employers
- Interest and Dividend statements from banks (Form 1099)
- Bank Routing Number and Account Numbers for Direct Deposit
- Total paid for day care provider and the day care provider's tax identifying number (the provider's Social Security Number or the provider's business Employer Identification Number)

To file taxes electronically on a married filing jointly tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms

Other tax return filing assistance sites in Yolo County are still being confirmed. This service for the Esparto-Capay Valley Region is partially funded through the sponsorship of the Yocha De He Community Fund of the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians. Thank you.

Submitted by the RISE Staff

DURST

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26100 County Road 16
Esparto, CA 95627
530-787-3390

NEWEST NEWS ON THE MITIGATION FUNDS ... ACTM MET MONDAY NIGHT!

The ACTM (Advisory Committee for Tribal Matters) met on Monday night, January 27 & discussed with great energy the recent action by the Board of Supervisors that moved funding away from the current mitigation effort. Five Committee members were present: Barry Burns, Robert Bramlett, Mike McDonald, Patricia Lenzi (appointed to serve by District 4) and Calvin Handy (appointed to serve from District 2). District 5 Supervisor Duane Chamberlain was also present. [SPECIAL NOTE: Long-time leader within the Committee, past Chairman, and an articulate supporter of local mitigation fund spending, Jim Durst, submitted his resignation.] All acting members expressed their disappointment in the Board's action: they cited the intent that the money be reserved to be spent on projects within the community; they noted that an initiated funding cycle was already in process; and, they questioned the appropriateness of the action taken. Barry Burns encouraged the Committee to be proactive, and offered a plan to at a minimum re-affirm the desperate need to not, in these economic times, disrupt human services within the community. He highlighted five (5) service programs that are pivotal for children & families, totaling \$207,400. The ACTM acted immediately & unanimously, voting to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors indicating their reaction to the "complete fund take" & providing a prioritized list of efforts that must be saved! The ACTM was advised by County staff that the next Board meeting will be February 24th. Thank you to Barry Burns for his constructive efforts, to Calvin Handy for speedily seconding the motion, & to all the other ACTM members for their intensely supportive comments during the meeting.

Esparto High School Senior Awarded Football Scholarship

Esparto High School is proud to announce that senior Sam Foster will sign a National Letter of Intent to join the University of Nevada, Reno (The Wolf Pack) as a Division I football player on Wednesday, February 3, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. on the quad at Esparto High School. Sam is the first student of Esparto High School to receive a full four-year athletic scholarship as a football player to a Division I school. Sam is an excellent student sporting over a 3.0 GPA. Sam is a role model within the school and is very proud to be a Spartan; Finally, Sam is a dedicated son who looks to his family for support and guidance. Jeff Lorenson, Esparto High School Athletic Director, says he is, "a great kid. Sam is one of those student/athletes you want to have around. He is a great teammate and makes any team better."

Submitted by Troy Johnston, High School Principal

Cache Creek Watershed Stakeholders Group (CCWSG) Update

The last meeting of the CCWSG was held Thursday, January 8, 2009 at the Grange Hall in Guinda. The main focus of the meeting was on the Will Baker Native Plant Garden in Nichols Park. Tanya Meyer, of the Yolo County Resources Conservation District, provided an update from the Yolo County Department of Parks, which is overseeing the work being done at Nichols Park and the Garden. They are experiencing their share of the state's budget woes, and so there are some restrictions on spending money from the state-funded grants that are paying for the work. Consequently, we decided we would do as much as we can while those issues are getting resolved. To that end, a native plant collection day was held on Monday, January 19, with Gordon Harrington leading the group, and a work date at the Garden is scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2009 from 1-4 p.m.. Native grass plugs will be planted along with other plants from collecting trips as well as purchases from a nursery. All are invited, bring a shovel! There will also be a workshop on irrigation planned in the near future. Sumner Stone gave a presentation to the Grange on January 15 to update them on the group's activities and the progress in the Garden, and to discuss some possible collaborations for education projects in the near future. There will be more on this in future columns.

The next meeting of the CCWSG will be 6-8 p.m. on March 12, 2009 at the Grange Hall. As usual, the meeting is a potluck, so please bring something to share.

Submitted by John Capitano

Olive as a New Crop
Thursday, March 19, 2009 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
At the Heidrick Ag History Center
Sponsored by the
Heidrick Ag History Center and the
University of California Cooperative Extension

The program is intended for existing growers and producers, those interested in potential new olive orchard plantings, economics of olive and oil production, methods of maintaining an orchard and harvesting. Tasting and evaluation of several oils followed by visits to a super high-density orchard and a medium-density orchard and mill. Trade show will feature displays and resources.

Registration Fee:

\$ 65 by March 5, 2009 (\$ 90 thereafter)

Registration fee includes lunch, oil tastings, refreshments, museum tours (Walk-ins will be accepted the day of the event. Please bring a completed registration with your payment to the event.)

To register as a participant or a vendor go to <http://californiaoliveeducation.com>

Print registration form and fax or mail to: Heidrick Ag History Center

Ph: 530-666-9700 1962 Hays Lane

Fax: 530-666-9712 Woodland, Ca. 95776

Refund: Refunds will be granted [less a \$20 processing fee] if a written request is received 10 calendar days before the start of the course. A substitute may be sent in your place. *We reserve the right to cancel the event if the minimum number of participants is not met.*

(<http://californiaoliveeducation.com> for more information)

Submitted by Helen Voss, Event Organizer

Financial Education Classes Coming to Esparto!!!

Do you want to learn to better manage your money in these difficult economic times? Would you like to know how to pay down debt and make credit work for you? Are you interested in new ways to spend less and save more? Sacramento Mutual Housing Association, in partnership with RISE, Inc., will be hosting a series of Financial Education workshops in Esparto starting in February. These fun and interactive workshops are open to the public, and will give you new strategies and tools for getting control of your finances and planning for your future. The series of six sessions will be on Wednesday afternoons, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., starting on February 4. All sessions will be held at RISE, Inc., located at 17313 Fremont Street in Esparto. To sign up or for more information, contact Beth at 530-787-4110.

Submitted by Tara McCall

Science Club

Science Club is a group of people who are interested in science, and meet once a month, either in a member's home or in a community building. After a short visiting time, a meal is shared, followed by a presentation, and ending with a question and answer period. Nothing is solved, nothing is invented, but some very interesting questions about science are asked. The next meeting will be on Feb. 10th at the Rumsey Hall. Max Rink will speak on attending the Nobel Prize Award ceremonies, as a family member of one of the winners, who won for research on green fluorescent protein, or GFP, that has helped researchers watch the tiniest details of life within cells and living creatures. Social at 6:00. Potluck is at 6:30. Planning for the next meeting will be at 7:00, and the topic for the evening will begin at 7:10 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Melissa Jordan at 787-3652 or cell: 530-219-2816.

Submitted by Melissa Jordan



Happy Valentine's Day on
February 14

Thanks to all your help, the Youth Freedom Recyclers have raised over \$200!!!



Keep up the good work!!! And keep those bottles and cans coming our way!!!

Come join us every Tuesday after school to help the cause!

Questions?
 Ask Rachel or Corinne at RISE...call (530) 787-4110



Fresh, organic fruits & vegetables delivered to the Capay Valley Vision office in Esparto every Wednesday.

Farm Stand open every Friday from 2-6 p.m. At Full Belly Farm (Road 43) For more information, call (530) 796-2214.

Countryside Community Church

Bring your children to Sunday School and Worship with us at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

Located at Fremont and Grafton in Esparto / 787-3586

Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson, Pastor
 Presbyterian Affiliation

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AA meetings: *Countryside Community Church*, located at 26479 Grafton St. Entrance is on west side. Call 1-800-970-9040 for more information.
Guinda Community Church, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. in Spanish.

Ala-teen meetings: meets at Guinda Community Church 16671 Forest Ave. Call Lynn for details at 787-4566 or Pastor Noble at 668-0870.

Capay Valley Christian Fellowship: meets at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday at 7588 St. Route 16, Guinda.

Capay Valley Farmer's Market Board: meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at FreeHeart Farm at 7:00 p.m.

Capay Valley Fire Commission Meeting: meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 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 Regional Farmers' Market Fest: is held on the 2nd Saturday of the month, April to December, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in Esparto Park

Capay Valley Vision Board: meets on the first Monday of every month at the Library at 4:30 p.m.

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 9:00-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Countryside Community Church

English as a Second Language classes: held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Esparto Elementary School (Room 32)

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, Wednesday & Thursday from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. and on Tuesday & Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Esparto Lion's Club Meeting: meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday 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 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Library.

Food and Clothes Closet: open on Wednesdays & Fridays at Countryside Community Church. Contact RISE Inc. at 787-4110 for information.

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 Anna Brait at 796-3801.

Guinda Community Church: Children's Sunday School & Bell Choir practice at 8:45 a.m. Sundays; 7:00 p.m. Monday prayer meeting for all.

Madison Advisory Committee: meets the 1st Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Fire Department.

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

Western Yolo Grange: meets on the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall for a potluck dinner and meeting.

WYORCA: meets on the 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the Esparto Library.

R.I.S.E. Collaborative Meeting: meets the 3rd Friday at 9:00 a.m. at the Esparto Community Hall (except August).

WIC Services: located in the Esparto Family Practice office at 17050 South Grafton St. on the 4th Wednesday. (2:00-6:00 p.m.)

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.



Esparto High School Sports' Calendar for February (Basketball and Soccer)

Feb. 3:	Girls' Basketball	(Hamilton)
Feb. 3:	Boys' & Girls' Soccer	(Colusa)
Feb. 4:	Boys' Basketball	(Hamilton)
Feb. 10:	Girls' Basketball	(Williams)
Feb. 11:	Boys' Basketball	(Williams)
Feb. 12:	Girls' Basketball	(East Nicolaus)
Feb. 12:	Girls' & Boys' Soccer	(Durham)
Feb. 13:	Boys' Basketball	(East Nicolaus)
Feb. 17:	Girls' Basketball	(Los Molinos)
Feb. 18:	Boys' Basketball	(Los Molinos)
Feb. 24:	Girls' Basketball Playoffs	(TBA)
Feb. 25:	Boys' Basketball Playoffs	(TBA)
Feb. 26:	Girls' Basketball Playoffs	(TBA)
Feb. 27:	Boys' Basketball Playoffs	(TBA)

(Senior Night on February 12 and 13.)

Activity Calendar for February 2009 (as mentioned in this paper)

February 2:	Minimum Day for Esparto Schools
February 4:	Financial Education Courses begin at the RISE office at 1:00 p.m.
February 9:	Lincoln's Birthday observed (no school in Esparto)
February 10:	Science Club meets at Rumsey Hall at 6:00 p.m.
February 14:	Valentine's Day Valentine Day Concert in Esparto High School Auditorium by Tony Needes 6:00 p.m.
February 16:	President's Day observed (no school in Esparto)
February 18:	Esparto School Board meeting in Guinda Hall at 5:30 p.m.
February 23:	Minimum Day for Esparto Schools



February 16, 2009