

Valley Voice

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We Came, We Showed—and We Succeeded

This year the Esparto FFA had a very successful Yolo County Fair. We participated in many activities and represented Esparto well. We had exhibits in both livestock and Agriculture Mechanics and received honors in both. All students were able to sell their projects and came away successful.

In the livestock area we had projects in dairy calves, sheep and swine. Kaitlyn Sloan took Reserve Champion Dairy Market Calf and 2nd in novice showmanship. Mariesa Cramer exhibited two sheep, a Hampshire and a Crossbred, both did well in class. Mariesa also placed third in advanced sheep showmanship. Mariesa was invited to Master Showmanship on Friday evening where she exhibited all the species of large animals and won thirds place. Mireya Padilla exhibited a Colored Cross Bred Market Lamb and placed third in her class. Monica Quiroz placed fourth in her class and also did well in showmanship. In Market Hogs Hannah Adan showed a Duroc and placed second in her class. Jaelyn Dutton exhibited a Hampshire and placed fourth in her class, Mikayla Shera also had a Hampshire and placed second in her class. Tyler Zentner showed a Yorkshire hog and placed first in his class. Ana Vasquez showed a Chester White and placed second in her class. Kendra Zentner had a Crossbred hog and placed second in her class. All of the exhibitors helped earn the “Clean Stall Award,” which Esparto has won for the past three years.

Esparto was also represented in the Agriculture Mechanics competition. Kendra Zentner exhibited the Most Outstanding Weld in the Arc Welding Contest. Victoria Jensen exhibited the Most Outstanding Rope Splice and the Most Outstanding Electrical Project.

Esparto dominated the Medium Woodworking project division. Morgan Findley’s planter box placed first. Tyler Zentner’s tile-topped table earning second. Samantha Dutton’s Adirondack chair placed third. Jacob Jensen’s Adirondack chair took fourth. In the Welding Division Danny Hackett placed second, Mario Alcaraz placed third, and Tyler Zentner placed fourth. In the Small Woodworking division Alexis Cook’s clay pot holder took second. In the Electrical Project division Victoria Jensen placed first and Matt Kienny placed second. In the Metal Working division Garrett Magnuson’s bird feeder/lantern hangers placed fifth. These students all worked hard this past year and represented Esparto well at the fair.

Esparto FFA had two students participate in the First Annual Ag Mechanics Project Auction. David Tague and Tyler Zentner both worked hard on their projects and their hard work paid off on Wednesday night when they auctioned them off after the opening night Fair Gala. The auction is designed to give Ag Mechanics students an avenue to earn money by selling their projects. We would like to thank all those who came out to participate in the auction. Tyler sold his tile topped table to Gayle McLevich and David sold his BBQ Smoker to Trico Welding.

Saturday rounded out the fair with the livestock auction. We would like to thank all of the buyers who came out and supported the auction. The Esparto FFA Boosters, Yocha Dehe Farm & Ranch, Manas Ranch Custom Meats, Rachel Theone, Pedroia & Sons Inc., Terry & Darlene Talbot, Capay Canyon Ranch, and Tim Sullivan Concrete all supported our students by purchasing one or more livestock projects. We, the advisors of the Esparto FFA, would like to thank all of the community, the parents and school administration for supporting our efforts to educate students in the field of Agriculture. These students’ Supervised Agriculture Experience Projects provide learning opportunities that reach far beyond the classroom and better prepare students for success.

Submitted by EHS FFA Advisors

Volume 14, Edition 9, September 2012



September 2012

Some of the Esparto High School FFA members who won in a variety of categories at the Yolo County Fair. Pictured from left to right are: Kendra Zentner, Kaitlyn Sloan, Tyler Zentner, Jaelyn Dutton, Ana Vasquez, Makayla Shera, Hannah Adan, Monica Quiroz, and Mireya Padilla.



Above is Alice Manas (right of Manas Ranch at the Yolo County Fair Gala on Aug. 15 with Kim and Brent Stephens.

Right are Katherine McCoy and Maria Sandoval sampling Grumpy Goats olive oil at the Gala.



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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 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. 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 ALMOND FESTIVAL UPDATE

On August 8, a community vote was taken by members of organizations and groups in the Capay Valley to determine the date for the future Almond Festival. Almost unanimously, **the last Sunday in February** was the chosen date. Capay Valley Vision Board members, Alice Manas of Esparto and Vicki Murphy of Rumsey, tallied the votes and Sue Heitman of Capay facilitated the discussion. During the vote count, participants were asked to comment on the following question and their responses are included.

The Capay Valley has seen many types of planning and task force groups for the Almond Festival over the years. What are some options for an overall planning group for the Capay Valley Almond Festival that you believe would lead to its success in the future. Responses:

- "I am an advocate for a community-wide Almond Festival Planning Committee (AFPC). This group would have jurisdiction over votes (such as the date, etc.) It would be made up of individuals who are dedicated to making the event successful. It would be wonderful if there were people on the AFPC from each community but only if they were dedicated to making meetings and really into cooperating together. I do not see another 501c3 organization. This would be a waste of time but I also don't see the Chamber of Commerce having exclusive right over running the festival."
- "A collaborative community organization with representation from EVERY interested party-a representative must attend at least 70% of the meetings. Key decisions impacting outreach, sponsorships, etc. should be run through this committee."
- "A planning committee made up of participants to coordinate, advertise and fund the Almond Festival. At the present, the Chamber is doing the advertising and since they also collect the money from sponsors, they should fund the advertising and staffing."
- "The general format that has been used the past few years works. What could be clearer is who the chair is and the structure of the group. Those who are interested in particular committees should put their efforts predominately in that area."
- "I believe the Chamber is doing a good job overseeing the event. A planning committee is fine. Working with the Chamber would be fine. I do not believe we need bylaws, etc. Keep it simple."
- "I would love to see a planning group in which many groups are involved, meaning they actually attend meetings that have decision-making authority."
- "The Capay Valley Almond Festival should be run by (2) representatives of each of the sites."
- "Robert's Rules of order! Set meeting times and place. Operational guidelines set/defined. Should be in control (as a whole) for all things regarding Almond Fest."
- "I am new to the planning for the Almond Festival and would to help in any way needed."
Submitted by Sue Heitman

ALMOND FESTIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Please bring your enthusiasm and great ideas to the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 5 at noon at the Road Trip Bar & Grill. Please RSVP at 530-787-3242 or espartonews@gmail.com. We would love your help planning the 98th annual event and help us plan for the 100th anniversary.

Can't make it? Love to join the group. Let us know.

Please note community organizations and businesses participating in the festival:

October 15: 2012 Deadline press release submissions

-not guaranteed your item will make the press release

November 15: 2012 Deadline schedule submissions and webpage

-photos subject to approval

Submitted by Monique Garcia, Executive Director of ERCC



Join us for
the final days of Summer!
SEPTEMBER CONCERTS
MINI CONCERT SERIES

WEDNESDAY : 9/5, 5-8 : THE TERRY SHEETS
WEDNESDAY : 9/12, 5-8 : THE MIKE WARD BAND
SATURDAY : 9/15, 5-8 : STEELE SHOT
WEDNESDAY : 9/19, 5-8 : THE BOTTOM DWELLERS
WEDNESDAY : 9/26, 5-8 : THE MIKE OSBORNE BAND

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ROADTRIPBG.COM



News from the Esparto Regional Chamber of Commerce.

ERCC Meetings: The Esparto Chamber meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the ERCC office at 16856 Yolo Ave. Esparto at 5:30 p.m.

ERCC Community Calendar: Please send your community events for the calendar; view & download at www.espartoregionalchamber.com.

Please mark your calendars: the next mixer will be hosted by Manas Old Fashion Style Meat Market Ranch on Wednesday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate their one year anniversary. We encourage all business owners to attend and see what chamber membership is all about. Please RSVP at espartonews@gmail.com or 787-3242. We ask that you bring an item that represents your business to donate as a raffle item.

MIXER

YOU ARE INVITED
Where: Manas Ranch Old-Style Custom Meat Market

Come celebrate their first anniversary!

Old-Style Custom
MANAS RANCH
Meat Market

When: Wed., Sept. 12th
Time: 6pm-8pm
RSVP: (530) 787-3242 or espartonews@gmail.com

Please Invite guests that might be interested in joining the chamber. Don't forget to bring your business cards for networking.
*Let us know if you are able to bring a door prize.

Please help us welcome new and returning members:

- Bronze Member: Cache Creek Casino Resort** 14455 CA 16, Brooks, CA 95606 (530)796-3118 www.cachecreek.com
- Armstrong & Associates** 239 W. Court Bldg A, Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 668-2777 www.armstrongprofessional.com
- Brooks United States Post Office** 14055 State Hwy 16, Brooks, CA 95606 (530) 796-3178
- Bald Mountain Communications** P.O. Box 509, Esparto, CA 95627 (530) 662-2061
- Capay Valley Bed & Breakfast** 15975 State Highway 16, Capay, CA 95607 (530) 796-3738 www.capayvalleybandb.com
- Capay Valley Vineyards** 13757 Highway 16, Brooks, CA 95606-9703 (530) 796-4110 www.capayvalleyvineyards.com
- Candice Schaer B.Sc., MT, HHP** 26659 Capay St., Esparto, CA 95627 (858) 232-1005 www.cshaer.com
- Esparto Community Services District** 26490 Woodland Ave., Esparto, CA 95627 (530) 78-4502 www.ecsd-ca.org
- Esparto Unified School District** 26675 Plainfield St., Esparto, CA 95627 (530) 787-3446 www.espartok12.org
- Farm Fresh To You** 23804 State Highway 16, Capay, CA 95607 (530) 796-4111 www.farmfresh toyou.com
- Road 79 Ventures** 19880 CR 79, Capay, CA 95607 (530) 219-1003 heitmans@gvni.com

The Chamber would also like to thank RISE Jr. staffer Monse Borges who volunteered this summer in our office. She was enthusiastic, willing to roll up her sleeves and a joy to have. Thank you for all your hard work! You are truly appreciated. Submitted by Monique Garcia, Executive Director of ERCC

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



The school bell rang and classes have gotten underway. As a district we will focus on ensuring that all students continue to receive an outstanding education in the district schools. Our teachers and staff are prepared to make this a reality.

As we review the California Standards Test results, we are very proud of the growth many of our students have made in meeting grade level standards. Please join me in applauding our students and staff for the hard work that was performed in the 2011-2012 school year. The results demonstrate that our students are learning the grade level standards. However, like in anything else, we know that we have areas of growth, and we shall be addressing these areas in the months to come.

I look forward to another productive year and our ability to work together to meet the challenges that we shall be facing in the upcoming school year.

Dates to Remember:

- September 3: Labor Day Holiday
- September 4: Esparto K-8 Back to School Night
- September 5: Esparto High School Back to School Night
- September 6: Madison High School Back to School Night
- September 11 and 25: School Board Meetings, Marsh Hall, Esparto High School
- September 10 and 24: Minimum Days



News from Esparto Community Services District

In 1968 the Esparto Community Service District (ECSD) drilled for a new well at the corner of Omega and Grafton Streets, naming it Well 4. Unfortunately, the well produced sand in quantities that made it unusable for drinking water.

With full approval and support of the ECSD Board, General Manager Mel Smith (GM) is using new technology to bring Well 4 into production. Well 4 has the capacity to produce several hundred gallons of water a minute for the community of Esparto. We anticipate the cost of retrofitting Well 4 will be kept well under the cost of drilling a test well. It will be a much needed addition to our water production capacity saving the district several hundred thousand dollars. You may have seen what seems to be excess water running into the ditches near the corner of Grafton & Omega Streets prior to September 1, but this is normal and required when flushing a well that was first drilled over 40 years ago.

Directors Colleen Fescenmeyer (Vice-Chair), Steven Knightly, Trish Roath, Anna Girk and Melissa Jordan (Chair) are very pleased to share some of this past year's major efforts of GM Mel Smith and your ECSD staff: Utility Operators, Jason Findley and Mike Hays and Office Assistant, Michelle Huitt.

- Repair of Well 5
- Rate payer friendly office hours of 8:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday
- Resumption of a 40 hour work week for district staff
- Cost saving measures that have keep our district on a sound financial base
- Proper sludge removal
- Use of current and trending technology that results in significant cost reductions
- Community outreach and education at the Capay Valley Almond Festival
- Creation of and updates to the ECSD website <http://www.ecsd-ca.org>
- We can't stress enough the outstanding efforts made by our staff to provide rate payers with good clean water.

Our next board meeting is September 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office. We hope you will consider joining us as we work to provide Esparto with high quality, reliable water and sewer service at a reasonable cost to our community. If you have questions or concerns please contact Mel Smith at 530 787-4502 or email: ecsd@ecsd-ca.org

Submitted by ECSD Board

Yolo County Animal Shelter Reform is in the Spotlight

Yolo County has just released a study of our animal shelter which will discuss other possible shelter models that could provide better service in our county. Our shelter's track record is poor: for years, about half the cats and dogs there have been killed. Yet more than 50 "open admission" shelters across the U.S. are able to consistently save more than 90% of their animals.

Yolo County's Board of Supervisors and City Councils will hold public meetings to discuss the report and what to do about our underperforming shelter. Yolo Coalition for Shelter Reform and Fix Yolo invite you to make a huge difference for the animals by sending a brief email or making a quick call to your leaders. **We especially need rural residents to weigh in. We can reform our shelter!** It's easy to help!

Please visit us at: www.facebook.com/groups/342644755816399/

Our Supervisor, Duane Chamberlain, can be reached at:
625 Court Street, Room 204
Woodland, CA 95695

(530) 666-8627 Fax: (530) 666-8193

duane.chamberlain@yolocounty.org

Submitted by: Julie Sontag of Yolo Coalition for Shelter Reform



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Call (916) 808 SPAY (7729)

Sacramento Area Animal Coalition

The Yolo County Fair Gala of 2012 Featured Products of the Capay Valley and Yolo County

The opening night Gala, now in its 6th year, turned out to be one HOT August night with our local community participating as attendees, vendors, and volunteers. Attendees gathered in the old Ag building located on the Yolo County Fairgrounds to partake of Yolo County's bounty. Attendees were served samplings of wine, nuts, oils, produce, jams, meats, sausage, balsamic vinegars, honey, sorbet, and restaurant fare. With the enthusiasm and reputation of the event growing each year, new vendors from all over Yolo County joined in, and we experienced nearly double an increase in attendance. In anticipation of the increase, the venue area tripled in size, and included the outdoor surrounding area around the ag building and its own private entrance from the parking lot near the main gate.

New this year the FFA Ag Mechanics student's projects were displayed for viewing and auctioned off immediately following the gala. Local participating students were David Tague and Tyler Zentner. Capay Valley participants played a huge part of the event including: Cache Creek Casino Resort, Capay Organic/Farm Fresh to You, Capay Valley Grown, Capay Valley Vineyards, Durst Organic Growers, Enfuso Smoked Olive Oil, Enfuso Bakery, Full Belly Farm, Grumpy Goats Farm, Manas Ranch, Manas Ranch Old Style Custom Meat Market, Simas Family Vineyards, The Greater Capay Valley Historical Society, and Seka Hills-Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation Farm & Ranch. Musicians playing at the event included our very own Clarence Van Hook and friends, Ericka Davis of the Kiss N' Tell Band, Tim Pulley and Four Barrels, Kally Phelps and Philip Lovejoy of Yolo County. Many thanks to Photography By Sylvia-Sylvia Koelsch, for providing in kind photography services (displayed in the Valley Voice). Thank you ALL for your continued support!

The Gala was THE EVENT to attend at the fair thanks to the hard work of many volunteers including: Bonnie Stormont, her grandson Niko, Miguel Perez, Kim Rix, Gabe Galvan, Al Obermuller, the Garcia family (Sabas, Monique, Jordan, Jocilynne & Jolyssa), the Esparto Leo's Club, and a special thanks to RISE Inc. for the services provided by RISE Youth employees: Robert Fierro, Kimberly McCoy; WIA Participants: Oscar Navarro, Carina Melendrez and Alexis Brandt; and RISE Jr. Staff: Tito Valenzuela. Former WIA Participants who Volunteered at the Gala: Alan Servin and Gerry Servin. These were led by their RISE supervisor, Kera Mercoux. In addition, thank you to the Yolo County Fair Board and its employees. Without these organizations and volunteers this event would not have been possible.

Submitted by Monique Garcia Gala Coordinator

ECOFARM ECOLOGICAL FARMING ASSOCIATION'S

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- CHILDREN'S HANDS-ON FUN
- FARM TOURS
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SUNDAY OCTOBER 7, 2012

A variety of seminars, hands on activities, and farm tours in the Capay Valley Region.

- Full Belly Farm Tour
- Bike Tour
- Chickens & Eggs
- Kids' Camp
- Sausage Making
- And More!

Pre-registration required. Fees and times vary for each activity. See website for details.

Don't forget to stay for breakfast and the Full Belly Farm clean up party.



Manas Ranch

Fred and Alice Manas, Owners

25838 County Road 21A

Esparto California 95627

(530) 787-3228

Fax: 787-1878

fjmanas@sbcglobal.net

"THE BEST PEACHES IN THE WEST"



Pictured left is Enid Williams, long time Esparto Unified School District teacher, at the Capay Organic booth at the Gala at the County Fair.



Pictured right is UCD Student Mika Sakaue with Mary Stephens DeWall, while recording the history of the Stephens family on the property that now makes up the Preserve.

Restore/Restory Project

A People's History of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve

The UC Davis Art of Regional Change program has teamed up with the Cache Creek Conservancy to produce a "people's history" of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve. The project, called *Restore/Restory*, has brought UC Davis students, scholars and artists together with Yolo County residents over the course of one year to share stories, views, traditions, and relationships to Cache Creek and the region we call home.

The result is a rich, story-based website filled with community interviews, photo collages, maps, and timelines as well as a site-based audio tour of the Nature Preserve. The audio tour features diverse voices at different places on the grounds and can be taken on the project website or using audio devices provided at the Nature Preserve. The website and audio tour will appeal to anyone interested in Yolo County's cultural and environmental heritage.

The public is invited to the website and audio tour debut and community celebration on October 20 from noon - 6:00 p.m. at the Cache Creek Nature Preserve. The event will include on-site audio tours, story circles, nature & culture walks, live music, speakers, and more! Save the date and stay tuned for the next edition of Valley Voice for more details on the event.

For more information on the project visit

<http://artofregionalchange.ucdavis.edu/>

Submitted by Jesikah Maria Ross, Director
UC Davis Art of Regional Change Program

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*Welcome to St. Martin De Porres
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Holy Eucharist
Saturday 7:00 P.M. Spanish
Sunday 8:30 A.M. English

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 6:30 P.M.

We welcome visitors to our community. If you are Catholic, but have not been to church lately, come by and see what your Church is like today.

Fr. Michael Hebda – Pastor
530-795-2230
michaeljhebda@aol.com



**Join us for worship at
Calvary Baptist Church of Esparto!**

September 9, 10:30 A.M. Two Year Anniversary

Combined Service with Calvary of Woodland

High School Auditorium

September 23- New sermon series on 1 John begins

**Small group weekday studies in 1 John
begin in September*

Phone number: 530-867-0668
A ministry of Calvary Baptist Church of Woodland
Find us on Facebook – Calvary Baptist Church of Esparto

**Tickets Still Available for
Yolo Land Trust's
"A Day in the Country"
on September 9**

Tickets are still available for the Yolo Land Trust's signature event- **A Day in the Country**-to be held this year on **September 9, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** at Terrain Ruisseau along Putah Creek. Before Sept. 1 tickets are \$85.00, and \$95.00 after that date. "A Day in the Country" features delicious tastings from top chefs throughout northern California created from seasonal fruits, vegetables and animals grown in Yolo County. **Yolo County restaurants** serving this year include Buckhorn Catering, Cache Creek, Fat Face, Kitchen 428 & Mojo's Lounge, Konditorei Austrian Pastry Café, Monticello, Nugget Market Kitchen, Osteria Fasulo, and Tucos Wine Market & Café. Tastings will also be provided by Henry's Bull Frog Bees, Del Rio Botanical, Full Belly Farm, Mariani Nut Co. and other farms and ranches in the area.

Submitted by Michelle Clark,
Executive Director of Yolo Land Trust

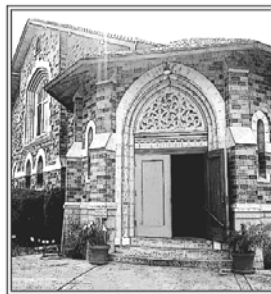
On Fire
FELLOWSHIP

26543 Madison St.
Right here in Esparto
530-787-4841



*They shall mount up with
wings like eagles...*
— Isaiah 40:31

Sunday Service	11:00 AM
Wednesday Bible Study	6:30 PM
Friday Youth Night	6:30 PM



Sunday Service at 10am
Sunday School provided for
3-10 year olds
Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson, Pastor
(Presbyterian Affiliation)

Called by Christ to Care
Countryside Community Church

*We are a "come-as-you-are"
church that loves fellowship and is
"Called by Christ to Care."*

**Coffee Hour after every Sunday service—
Come join us!**

*For more exciting information about our programs
for youth and adults go to*

**www.espartocountrysidechurch.org
or Friend us on Facebook**

*Located at the corner of Fremont & Grafton,
Esparto, California
(530) 787-3586*

Countryside Community Church Renovation

Countryside Church has recently done a major renovation of its church sanctuary! The walls have been repaired and painted and there is new carpet.

We know that Countryside is important to our community. Maybe your parents were married there, a loved one's service was there, or you were baptized there. However Countryside holds a special place in your heart, we want to give you the opportunity to donate to the renovation of this historic church. Exciting things are happening at Countryside. Donations can be sent to Countryside Community Church at P.O. Box 156, Esparto, 95627. and we want to invite you to be part of this new phase in the life of the church.

We will have a "Grand Opening" service on October 28, but if you would like to come and check things out in the sanctuary beforehand, by all means, we'd love to see you!

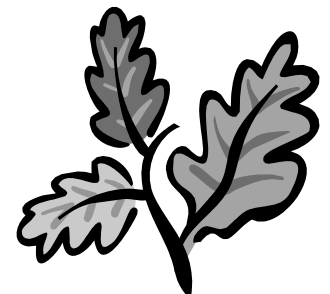
Submitted by Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson, Pastor



Movie in the Park

Countryside Community
Church presents
Movie in the Park
Saturday, September 8
at dusk

Bring your blankets and kids
and come for a great time!



Welcome Back to School at the Esparto Regional Library!

As the children, tweens, and teens head back to school, give them an extra tool by getting them a library card. The Yolo County Libraries have a multitude of materials to help them with their school work and recreational reading. With a Yolo County library card students can access our electronic databases and homework help from your home computer. For patrons under 18, a parent or legal guardian must sign the application, and is responsible for any fines, fees or lost items. The Esparto Regional Library is open four nights a week, Monday through Thursday, until 8:00 p.m., to make it easy for parents to come in and obtain a card for their child.

Special Programs at the Esparto Regional Library in September:

- **After School Teen Movie Event:** Join us for a PG-13 rated movie set in the not too distant future. A dystopian adventure will be shown on September 11 at 3:30 p.m. in the Wintun Room. This program is generously sponsored by the *Friends of the Esparto Regional Library*.
- **Splendid Spiders:** What does a spider eat for breakfast? How are insects and spiders different? Can a spider live underwater? All these questions and more await your exploration! There will be many hands-on activities and opportunities for all ages to explore the often hidden world of spiders. Learn about what makes these eight-legged creatures so unique and so important. Eat the way a spider does, make a spider saver, and spin your own web! Discover the amazing web of words in books like *Charlotte's Web*, *Miss Spider's Tea Party*, *The Amazing Spiderman*, *The Very Busy Spider* and many more! This program is presented by the Explorit Science Center and is appropriate for school-age children. Join us on Thursday, September 20, from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Successful Summer Reading Programs at the Esparto Regional Library

Thanks to the entire community for making the Summer Reading Program a success. 142 children (ages 0-12), 29 teens, and 23 adults participated in the program. The special programs were attended by a total of 294 library patrons. A special thank you is extended to the *Friends of the Esparto Regional Library*, *Jane Stallings*, *Good Humus Farm*, *Capital Farm* and *Full Belly Farm* for their generous support of the Summer Reading Program.

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 welcome. Practice your English in a group setting. Call for further information. Call (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

Rooms for Rent:

- Small bedroom \$325.00 per month.
- Medium Bedroom \$375.00 per month. Both share bathroom.
- Large Bedroom \$425.00, private bathroom. In Esparto.
- Furnished, TV, Washer Dryer, Utilities paid.....

Call 787-3272

Your library.....here we are at the close of summer and schools are starting! You are buying school supplies, preparing for sport teams and practice, music lessons and cheer leading. All these cost. The use of the library is FREE, its computers, periodicals, videos, books on tape...all for your use.

Do your children have a library card? FREE

Do you have a library card? FREE

On Saturday September 15 there will be an opportunity to become a member of the Friends of the Library [FERL] at the **PARTY IN THE PARK** with the **FRIENDS** from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. A membership table, balloons, root beer floats and information on getting library cards for each of your family members will be available.

What does it mean to join the Friends? Membership is very reasonable.... Your membership supports many activities available to all ages: programs of current interest for adults, movies, craft projects for Christmas and other holidays as well as the giant book sale during Almond Festival.

The Friends sponsor summer programs for your children and pay for 14 extra hours a week to keep the library open. Fall events like the Harvest Dinner and the Children's Christmas Shopping Day are several of the community events sponsored by the Friends. Please come by and renew your membership or become a new member of the library.

The Harvest Dinner on Sunday November 4 from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. will give an opportunity to select goodies from our local craft persons and a Renee Harmon special raffle. Tickets are available at the door or from the library, at \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children under 6 years. Bring your neighbors and family. Call Helen [787-3510] to reserve a space for your crafts and also to cook a turkey or make stuffing or volunteer to serve at the dinner.

Submitted by Helen Voss, President of F.E.R.L

Madison Community Committee

A committee was formed in Madison in 2009, the Madison Community Committee, which is now becoming in 2012 a nonprofit organization.. The main goal of this committee is to maintain the park in Madison, to make improvements to it by looking for and applying for available grants, and to address issues that may arise concerning the community of Madison.

Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month in the Madison Service District Office, 28963 Main Street at 8:30 a.m. in the morning. *All are welcome to attend.*

Carla Phillips is the current Chairman; Leo Refsland, Vice Chairman; Sherrie Barnett, Secretary; Bonnie Stormont, Treasurer; and Nacho Lua, Sergeant at Arms.

Submitted by Bonnie Stormont



Party in the Park!
Supporting Friends of the Esparto Regional Library

- ROOT BEER FLOATS • \$1.
- FREE BALLOONS! • KIDS BOOK SALE!
- RAFFLE TICKETS • \$1.

**Cache Canyon River Trip for Two
or Gift Card to major retail store!**

**Saturday, September 15, 2012
12 Noon to 3 P.M.**
Esparto Community Park - 17001 Yolo Avenue

Contra Dance at the Guinda Grange Hall

Please save the date for a Contra Dance in Guinda on Saturday October 20, sponsored by the Western Yolo Grange. The dance will be in the historic Guinda Grange Hall, well known for its wonderful wooden dance floor. Caller Erik Hoffman will be accompanied by musicians, including Dan Engle on fiddle. Proceeds from the dance will support much needed restoration of the Hall.

What is Contra Dancing? Contra Dancing is a form of American folk dance popular in the 1800s, in which the dancers form a set of two parallel lines which run the length of the hall. It is similar to square dancing, but not limited to 4 partners in a set. Each dance is taught by the caller before it is danced, and is prompted as needed during the dance. Beginners are welcome and you don't need to come with a partner as dancers are encouraged to dance with many different partners throughout the evening.

The dances have a relaxed, family-like atmosphere and are FUN! Dress is informal, and comfortable shoes are recommended. The live music consists of traditional jigs, reels, and hornpipes from the Scots-Irish tradition, with fiddle often as the lead instrument. Admission is charged to pay for the caller, musicians, and to help fund hall restoration.

Location: Guinda Grange Hall, 16787 Forest Ave, Guinda 95637
Date: Saturday October 20, 2012
Time: Lesson 6:30 p.m., Dance 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Cost: \$10 Adult, \$25 Family, \$5 High school student, Children 13 and under accompanying family members are free
Refreshments will be available (donations appreciated)
Questions? Contact us at www.westernyologrange.org

Submitted by Nina Andres



Pictured above are participants in the Contra Dances in January of this year.



Pictured right is Oralia Rodriguez of RISE, congratulating a child who had just received a new backpack for school.



Bikers for Backpacks

A big thank you goes out to all the contributors who came together to make the 1st Annual Bikers for Backpacks event a huge success. What started out as an idea from a patched member of Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A) wanting to give back to the community by helping out a few kids needing backpacks for the new school year ended with over 65 backpacks full of school supplies being given to students in RISE Inc. programs and local B.A.C.A kids.

With the support of B.A.C.A. members, Road Trip Bar & Grill, Umpqua Bank, Main Street Antiques, Deep Ink, Irongate Motorcycle Apparel, and various others, the recipients of the backpacks are going to be able to start school with all the school materials they need to be a step ahead.

B.A.C.A's mission is to empower kids to feel safe, and in projects like Bikers for Backpacks, we give the kids a start in school and know that they will remember that people stepped up when they needed it. B.A.C.A hopes that with those values in place at a young age that these kids will later give back to their community.

We are already planning for next year's Bikers for Backpacks event and hope to increase our goal of over 100 backpacks. This year's event was a wonderful experience for not only the kids receiving the backpacks, but for B.A.C.A members to see this idea come to life.

Thank you again to everyone who made this possible and a special thank you to Paula and Chris at the Road Trip who let us utilize their patio to distribute the backpacks.

Submitted by the Feather River B.A.C.A



Pictured above are the Bikers Against Child Abuse who participated in the backpack give away to children in the community, and in the RISE programs prior to the beginning of the school year.



Pictured above are two happy buddies who received packbacks to take to school.

**Esparto High School News
From the Desk of the Principal, Aida Buelna**

New to Esparto High School this year will be a Superintendent/Principal. The School Board in the spring eliminated the high school principal position due to a drop in high school enrollment and a loss of state revenue. This upcoming school year I shall be overseeing the high school along with my duties as Superintendent. To assist with this job, we have hired a vice principal, Mr. Diego Ochoa. Contrary to rumors floating in the community:

WE ARE NOT CLOSING THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Several years back the State changed how it allocated funds to schools for student attendance. The State of California changed to reflect a loss of revenue to the school districts whenever a student was not in attendance. What this means is that if a student does not attend school, regardless of the reason, illness, medical appointments, etc., the district does not collect revenue. The Education Code requires that we specify the reason for an absence, excused or unexcused for reasons of Truancy; however, the excused absences no longer provide revenue to the School Districts.

We ask that you ensure that your students attend school on a daily basis as their absence does affect their performance in the classroom. When students are not present they cannot participate in the class discussions or ask questions if there is something they did not understand. Saturday Academy will be offered at least once a month for students who have been absent and need extra assistance.

The student handbook is very specific about the Dress Code. We ask that all parents and students review this area of the handbook and adhere to the code. A health and safety issue is footwear. Students are asked to refrain from wearing "flip flops" or backless shoes during the school day, as these may cause a safety issue.

Your support in this area is greatly appreciated and would support the entire staff at the high school, in that we would be able to focus on what is of utmost importance, your student's education!

Celebrate

A new paragraph that I will be adding to the Valley Voice news article for the high school will be **Celebrate**. In this paragraph I will focus on areas that highlight the positive things that our youth are involved in, the success of the students academically and acknowledge students that are making a difference.

This month I want to celebrate the entire class of 2014. The California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) results have come into the district and this group of students did an outstanding job. In the Math portion of the CAHSEE 98% of the 2014 student body passed; in the English Language Arts portion of the CAHSEE 88% of the 2014 student body passed. Please help me in congratulating the students for the pass rate on the first attempt at the CAHSEE. They have successfully completed one area on their way to a high school diploma.

Important Dates:

September 3:	Labor Day Holiday
September 5:	Back to School Night
September 10 and 24:	Minimum Days
September 21:	Football Biggs @ Esparto



The Esparto Writers Group

We are a small interesting group of individuals who love to write. We can write on anything that interests us or we can use the monthly prompt for help. We meet at the Esparto Library from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please contact me, Sandy Pelletier, at sandrapelletier@me.com or call (530) 796-3555, if you would like to join us.

Submitted by Sandra Pelletier

MAGNUM'S BENEFIT DINNER

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 22, 2012

FreeHeart Farm

24203 County Road 22, Esparto

5 pm - Drinks & Live Auction Preview

6 pm - Dinner - Tri Tip, Ribs, Chicken,

Hot Links, and all the fixins!

- No Host Bar by Esparto Fire Dept.
- Onsite Demos by Mags!
- Door Prize
- Hoodies & T-shirts on Sale
- Live & Silent Auction



\$25 per person • **\$225** per table of 10

Tax Deductible donation to Magnum's non-profit, Tax ID #94-2476143

Purchase Tickets at the **Esparto Fire Department & Milliron Outdoor Services**

Feed Store, or ask your local firefighter

Make checks payable to: Yolo County Arson K-9

MEET MAGNUM...



Magnum, a 92-pound yellow Labrador, is Yolo County's only accelerant detection K-9, and just one of three in Northern California. His expertise is provided free of charge to all Yolo County fire and law enforcement departments, including Arbuckle and Robbins. Magnum is called out by Yolo County firefighters to help determine what started suspicious fires. Magnum is also trained to track people. **The Yolo County Arson K-9 program is nonprofit.** Everything from leashes to food is 100% donated. The donations range from monetary contributions to services.



To learn more about Magnum and his interesting history that brought him to Yolo County, or to learn more about the non-profit, visit www.FireK9.net.

AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HOUSING INCREASINGLY OUT OF REACH FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

People living with disabilities face a significant problem - the lack of affordable, accessible housing. Approximately 54 million Americans have at least one disability, constituting the largest minority group in the nation. And people with disabilities often spend a disproportionate share of their income to secure housing that is both safe and suitably accessible. Federal guidelines define housing as "affordable" if total costs, including rent/mortgage, utilities, insurance and taxes, don't exceed 30 percent of a renter's or homeowner's household income. Individuals currently eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in California receive \$854.40 per month, while couples receive \$1,444.20. Under the 30 percent housing affordability guidelines, an individual living solely on SSI should pay no more than \$256.32 per month for housing and a couple no more than \$433.26. With this in mind, affordable housing is nearly impossible for people with disabilities to find and thousands and thousands of names are on waiting lists throughout the state.

Affordability is just one problem. Accessibility also is a challenge. Several California communities are trying to address the lack of accessibility by, among other things, adopting the state's Universal Design Model Ordinance. The intent of the ordinance is to increase opportunities for persons with temporary, developing or permanent disabilities to "age in place."

Trying to decipher the maze of information and resources can be overwhelming, and that's where independent living centers (ILCs) come into play. ILCs provide a number of services to people living with disabilities, including educating them about housing options as well as assisting them in negotiating rents and with landlords.

According to experts in the industry, education is the key to making a difference. Individuals need to be made aware of programs and agencies that are working with lenders, housing authorities and service providers in creating innovative housing options, such as "smart-home" technology, within their locale. Experts also believe it's imperative for people with disabilities to talk to elected leaders about their real-life experiences and the need for policies that improve affordability and accessibility.

"We are committed to supporting people living with disabilities in getting their voices heard," said Elsa Quezada, Chair of the California State Independent Living Council. "By providing people with timely and pertinent information, training and education, we can arm them with the tools they need to live independently and not take "no" for an answer."

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



Dave and Becky Schwenger, new Esparto Lions members, were installed August 16, 2012.

Esparto FFA Drive-Thru Barbeque

The Drive-Thru Barbeque is back! On September 27, the Esparto FFA chapter will be holding their annual Drive-Thru BBQ.

Every year Esparto FFA barbeques and sells tri-tips to raise money for their chapter. They will be selling whole tri-tips and family meal plans which consist of a tri-tip, salad, and bread rolls. Tickets will be on sale at the Esparto High School's office, at football games, and by the Esparto FFA members. Dinners can be picked up at the Esparto Ag Department from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Your support would be greatly appreciated by the Esparto FFA chapter! We hope to see you there!

Submitted by Esparto FFA



Labor Day Holiday September 3

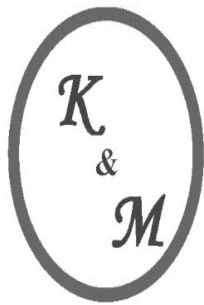


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Wide variety of fresh-cut flowers
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OUR GOAL IS YOUR SMILE

A Benefit Night of Music, Wine Tasting and Fun under the Stars!



Carol Bach-y-Rita and Jazz Bliss Brazil with Chico Pinheiro and Mauricio Zottarelli will present a concert at FreeHeart Farm Events on Saturday, September 1 at 7:00 p.m. FreeHeart Farm is located at 24203 County Road 22 in Esparto. This event is being held to benefit the community projects of the Capay Valley Rotary Club.

Tickets are \$25.00 for adults and \$10.00 for a child. For reservations in advance contact Stacy Milliron at stacymilliron@yahoo.com. Tickets can be purchased at www.freeheartfarm.com. Checks can be sent to the above address. For cash call (530) 330-0092. All tickets must be purchased in advance.

Picnics are welcome (lawn chairs and blankets ok). There will be a no-host bar with beer and wine. (No outside alcohol is allowed.) Wine tasting will be by Seka Hills Winery and more.....local foods, Brazilian tapas, and crafts will be available for sale.

Make your reservations today.

All proceeds will go to the Capay Valley Rotary Club for Community Projects.



Submitted by Larry Rolston



Patrick Scribner



Certified Public Accountant

507 First Street, Suite B (530) 666-2727
 Woodland, CA 95695 Fax: (530) 668-6822

email: pscpa@pacbell.net

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
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 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



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 Road 43, just past Guinda
 For more info: 796-2214

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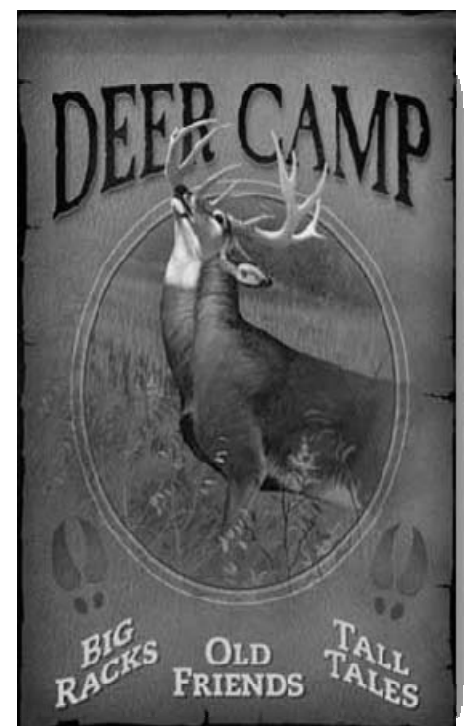
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- ⇒ It's hunting season! We're starting to stock ammunition. We have a wish list, so come by and write down what you're looking for in fishing, hunting and ammo.
- ⇒ Want a new lawn? We sell Ameri-Turf RTF (Rhizomatous Tall Fescue, a patented sod that uses less water and is disease resistant) and Kentucky Blue Grass. Ready to grow grass at a very competitive price. Easy to order with fast delivery.
- ⇒ Do you just need to fertilize your existing lawn? We have the fertilizer you need on sale all month.
- ⇒ Need a nut, bolt, that little "thing-a-ma-jig"? We have a vast selection of fasteners in the downstairs, aisle two. Browse around it's "FASCINATING"!
- ⇒ Thru September we have wild bird food on sale, Seed & Suet, and large bags of seed to make your feathered friends happy.

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



“Spotlight on Safety“

Chief Gary Fredericksen
Yocha Dehe Fire Department

As we enter the month of September, wildfires are a continuing danger with till hot weather and dry grass. It’s dry enough that fires can even start through the standard use of farm and ranch equipment. So careful preventative maintenance not only prolongs equipment life, but also reduces fire hazard.

Please follow these safety tips:


- Do yard maintenance with power equipment before 10 a.m., not during the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing.
- Never use lawn mowers on dry grass or brush.
- Remove any rocks in and around the area before operating equipment.
- Be sure your portable gas powered equipment has a spark arrester.
- Never refuel while equipment is still hot from use.
- Keep the equipment maintained and free of carbon and other buildup.

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, please stop by your local fire department, or give us a call at (530)796-2500. Have a safe Labor Day weekend and fall season.


Shear Intuitions Salon
 16872 Yolo Avenue, Esparto
Come in to get all your hair needs taken care of:
 Color Specialist
 Highlights/Lowlights
 Perms and Haircuts
 Shampoo sets and much more
 Call Vennette for an appointment
 530-723-2206


NEED HELP WITH MEDICARE??
Switching plans??? Turning 65???
 Call RISE @787-4110
 for more information...
WITH HICAPP...Confidential
FREE...OBJECTIVE...TRAINED VOLUNTEER


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.



play the best.


YOCHA DEHE
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VALLEY SENIORS PROGRAM AT RISE
Schedule for September 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:**

- September 4: 9:00: Coffee & Exercise
- 10:00: Stroll Through History Speaker
- 11:00: Lunch
- September 6: 9:00: Coffee/Legal Services of Northern California
- 11:00: Lunch
- September 11: 9:00: Coffee & Walking Group
- 10:00: Game Day
- 11:00: Lunch
- September 13: 9:00: Coffee & Movie Day
- 11:00: Chili Lunch
- September 18: Senior Trip All Day (Call to RSVP)
- September 20: 9:00: Coffee and a Walk
- 10:00: How to press leaves and frame
- 11:00: Lunch
- September 25: 9:00: Coffee
- 10:00: Speaker
- 11:00: Lunch
- September 27: 9:00: Coffee
- Senior Trivia
- Birthday Potluck

Call Beth @ RISE, 530-787-4110 FOR QUESTIONS & UPDATES.
 Submitted by the RISE Staff

September 9 is Grandparents' Day

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.**



DJ Higgins taking down his steer in the Chute Doggin' competition at the "Keep the Dream Alive" Junior Rodeo. See article next page.

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

RICK BRAMLETT
530-796-2196

CAPAY VALLEY BUILDERS

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING
 HANDYMAN SERVICES
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LOCAL - HONEST - AFFORDABLE

A HOT Weekend at Three Feathers' Farm and Ranch's Rodeo Arena on August 11

The 14th Annual "Keep the Dream Alive" Junior Rodeo Man of the hour, Mr. DJ Higgins of Arbuckle is pictured left taking down his steer in the Chute Doggin' competition for the Silver Buckle. When the final whistle blew and all the stock was back in the pens, DJ had accumulated more points than any other Cowboy or Cowgirl throughout the two day Junior Rodeo to take home the All Around Champion Saddle. A huge **Thank you** to the **Yocha Dehe Tribe** for letting us play here!!!

DJ also won the Steer Stopping and the Ribbon Roping with help from his partner Jessica Applegarth from Lincoln. Ribbon Roping was a new event for us this year. DJ had to rope the calf as it ran out of the calf chute and dismount before Jessica was able to run to the calf and remove a ribbon tied to the tail of the calf and then run back to the chute to stop the clock. DJ and Jessica bested the team of JT Myers and Rachel Bertram from Santa Rosa by 3.51 seconds to win the cash and prizes and the all important points towards the All Around Champion Cowboy or Cowgirl for the weekend. DJ was at the top of the leader board at the end of Saturday. but did not rest on his laurels for he knew that Sunday would bring all the tough Cowgirls in the traditionally "Cowgirl" events of Barrel Racing, Goat Tying and Pole Bending. Up first, was the goat tying which proved to be a little more frustrating than Calf Roping for DJ as he got waxed by the Cowgirls that were very skilled in dismounting a running horse to up end a goat and tie up 3 legs to stop the clock in 11 seconds which is exactly what Casey Ragsdale of Esparto did to win the cash and prizes. DJ got a reprieve in the Goat Roping where he secured 9 points by placing second to Will Ritchie of Woodland who caught his goat in less than a second. DJ came out amazingly strong in the Pole Bending. To show he was giving it his all, he stopped the clock with a 24.41 second run, a run that a lot of High School Cowgirls would be proud to have, just 82 one hundredths of a second out of the lead held by Becca Pachie of Middletown, for fourth place and 7 more points towards his goal. The Barrel Racing was DJ's last chance to secure any more points for victory and as luck would have it, he didn't need anymore because the Cowgirls came to run and run they did. Rachel Bertram from Santa Rosa won with a time of 17.79 in the big arena.

The "Little Britches" had their own rodeo produced by Laine Ronchetto and Andrea Rivera, where they rode sheep in the "Mutton Bustin"; tied Goats in the Goat Tying; navigated pigs through a "Pig Maze"; roped goats and steer heads in the "Dummy Roping", undressed goats in the "Goat Undressing Contest"; figure-eighted barrels in the "Barrel Racing"; and weaved poles in the "Pole Bending contest". Laine and Andrea hosted over 30 contestants on Saturday and over 55 on Sunday! Wow hats off to you women. They were outstanding.



Top left: Senior Champion Bobbi Jo Criner, Reserve Casey Ragsdale, and Mekenna Thomas in 3rd. Top right: Amanda Gallardo, Queen, left, Kylie Goetz, and right, Haley Hart.



Summer Saddle Series on August 12

This year we held our finals for our Summer Saddle Series on Sunday, August 12, during the Keep the Dream Alive Rodeo Weekend at the beautiful **Three Feathers Farm and Ranch** facilities. We awarded three All Around Champion Saddles to three very competitive youngsters this summer. Haley Hart edged Katherine Fio to take home her first Saddle in the Little Britches Division by a mere 14 points. Mackenzie Maas-Key finished third for the second year in a row as a Little Britches Saddle Series competitor but won her first buckle in the Keep the Dream Alive Goat Tying event. Matthew Justice, Amber McGuire, Parker Franceschi, Riata Chappell, Milla Mendoza, Emma Scruggs, and Garrett Burns rounded out the top ten in the Little Britches competition. We had an astounding 34 competitors in the Little Britches Division during this season's Summer Saddle Series! What a future!!!

In the Juniors division, Breezy Justice ended up with the saddle but faced tough competition from Ashley Cooper. In fact, the Summer Saddle Series is a 10 week event and Ashley was leading in week 7 and 8! Ashley won 2 buckles on Sunday in the Keep Dream Alive Goat Roping and Goat Tying events. Breezy showcased the Chute Dogging event when her steer buried her! Jessie Plechaty, born and raised in Guinda, finished third but collected money in the Goat Tying, Goat Roping, and Barrel Racing in the Keep the Dream Alive events on Sunday. Kylie Goetze, Shelby Cooper, Cody Doel, Taylor Adams, Abigail Gustofson, Sandra Sitizzi, and Joseph Gustofson completed the top ten finishers in the Juniors Division. There were 27 competitors total in this division.

The seniors division was a real horse race!!! Makenna Thomas led for the first 6 weeks. In week 7 Bobbi Jo Criner overtook Makenna but in week 8 Casey Ragsdale took the lead. Bobbi Jo regained the lead in week 9 and won by just 11 points to take her first saddle in this division. Casey got the Criner's Arena Buckle for second place. Makenna finished in third place, only 4 points behind Casey. It was exciting!! Amanda Gallardo, Haley Yost, Dasie Dunham, and Claudia Yates rounded out the Seniors Division finalists from a field of 14 participants.

It was the volunteers and donors for the Summer Saddle Series and Keep the Dream Alive Rodeo that make these events possible. Thank you for all of your effort and support. Special thanks to Yocha Dehe's Three Feathers Ranch for the donation of their beautiful rodeo arena setting and to Ralph and Fran Criner for donating their arena for the Summer Saddle Series for the past 14 years. It is all for the kids in the Little Britches Division during this season's Summer Saddle Series! What a future!!!

Capay Valley Girl Wins Criner's Arena Youth Association Royalties' Top Honors

Amanda Gallardo is a freshman at Esparto High School, and is the daughter of Alicia and Phillip Gallardo of Capay and the granddaughter of Joe Gallardo of Idaho, Cheryl Whitfield of Esparto, Ron and Bonnie Jones of Capay.

On July 28 Amanda and eleven other royalty hopefuls competed in seven different categories including Horsemanship, Modeling, a two minute speech on her Rodeo experiences, a personal interview with a panel of judges, a written test on Rodeo, and an impromptu question that asked her of her priorities outside of Rodeo. Amanda excelled in 5 of the 7 categories to secure her title as Criner's Arena Youth Rodeo Association Queen for 2012 - 2013.

Amanda was crowned following the Grand Entry and the posting of the colors by Breezy Justice at the Keep the Dream Alive Junior Rodeo on Saturday morning.

Also receiving the royal nod was Miss Kylie Goetz, 13, of Dixon, crowned our "Junior Miss Criner's Arena Youth Rodeo Association". Haley Hart hails from Dixon also and was Crowned "Little Miss Criner's Arena Youth Rodeo Association".

All articles and pictures on this page were submitted by Pam Criner.

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 & 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 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 or call 787-4110.

Calendar for September 2012

September 1: Capay Valley Rotary Club benefit at FreeHeart Farm at 7:00 p.m.

September 3: Labor Day Holiday

September 4: Esparto K-8 School Back to School Night

September 5: Almond Festival Planning Committee meeting at Road Trip at noon

September 5: Esparto High School Back to School Night

September 6: Madison High School Back to School Night

September 8: Movie in the Park at dusk

September 9: "Day in the Country" at Terrain Ruisseau 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

September 9: Grandparents' Day

September 10: Minimum Day for Esparto Schools

September 11: Teen movie event at the Library at 3:30 p.m.

September 11: School Board Meeting in Marsh Hall

September 12: ERCC Mixer at Manas Old Fashioned Meat Market
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

September 15: Party in the Park by FERL from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

September 20: Splendid Spiders program at the library 3:00 to 4:00

September 22: First Day of Autumn

September 24: Minimum Day for Esparto Schools

September 25: School Board Meeting in Marsh Hall

September 27: FFA Drive Thru BBQ at Ag Bldg. 3:00-6:00 p.m.