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ORANGEVALE'S HOLIDAY PROCESSION OF LIGHTS BRINGS MAGIC TO THE COMMUNITY



The holiday season in Orangevale was filled with light, joy, and community spirit as the highly anticipated Holiday Procession of Lights made its return on the clear evening of December 14. Led by the Orangevale Recreation & Park District on the light tractor, the parade was a dazzling spectacle of holiday cheer, with 47 lighted vehicles, trailers, and floats making their way through the streets.

At the heart of the procession was a beautiful lighted float created by Jason and Kathleen Massae, featuring Santa Claus with his elves and helpers. Sponsored by Kathleen Massae - Legacy Properties, this float was a crowd favorite and the per-

fect symbol of the season's magic.

The parade's 4 1/2-mile route stretched through Orangevale, delighting family members of all ages. From the youngest children jumping with excitement to seniors gazing out their windows in awe, the sight of the glowing procession sparked smiles and warmth across the community. The sight of the twinkling lights and festive floats was enough to ignite a sense of wonder in everyone who gathered to watch.

This year, the Orangevale Water District made sure that the magic could be shared with everyone—whether they were near or far. Hosting Orangevale Live, shared a live broadcast of the event, which allowed even those at the North Pole to witness the holiday spectacle.

The origins of the Holiday Procession of Lights date back to 2021, when the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation launched the event in the midst of the CO-

VID-19 restrictions. Designed as a way to bring some much-needed joy to the community during the difficult times of social distancing and isolation, the event has only grown in popularity and scale since then.

Lisa Montes, Board Director for the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation, shared her thoughts on the event's continuing impact: "It's holiday magic to see all the folks waving, children smiling, and joy... even if it is for a moment," she said. "This event has brought our community closer, and we're proud to continue it every year."

With each passing year, the Holiday Procession of Lights continues to spread cheer, lighting up the faces of those who come out to watch. As the community looks ahead to next year, the anticipation is already building for another unforgettable night of holiday magic and togetherness.

The Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation, alongside dedicated sponsors like Kathleen Massae - Legacy Properties, is already making plans for next year's event. It's clear that this cherished tradition is only going to shine brighter as the years go on.

Thank You Heidi Lettau, Matt Lettau, and Jayden Velasquez for the amazing photos

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ABOUT THE ORANGEVALE VIEW

The "Orangevale View" – the ultimate, award-winning community newspaper – serves Orangevale and surrounding areas, including Fair Oaks, Citrus Heights, and Folsom, CA. With a present estimated readership of more than 37,000, this FREE paper grows with every issue. It is delivered twice a month to at least 15,000 residents' homes and to more than 100 high traffic locations.

The views and opinions printed within are not necessarily those of Publisher Brad Tatum or the Orangevale View staff. Rather, the views and opinions expressed are those of each individual contributor.

SUBMISSION POLICIES:

Submissions from you, our readers, are always welcome, for this is YOUR newspaper. We await school, church, or sports team materials, anniversaries, births, special occasions, memorials, or other items of interest. Donations are encouraged and accepted for anniversaries, births, and other special milestones and announcements. Publication is at the discretion of the Orangevale View staff.

Requirements are simple:

(1) Acknowledge that either you are the author or you have permission to publish from the original author;

(2) Articles should not exceed 300 words. We like Community Calendar items of 45 words or less.

(3) Format: Microsoft Word format with photos at least 300 dpi JPEG or PDF.

Please use this format so we do not have to send your work back to you for corrections.

(4) The View does not verify the accuracy of your submissions, and in some cases, dates and information are subject to change. (5) Please email submissions, to YOUR newspaper. The email address is editor@ovview.com. It is you, our

contributors, readers and advertisers who make the Orangevale View a newspaper you want to read.

STAFF:

Brad Tatum -

Publisher/Advertising

Lisa Montes -Editor

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTORS

Suzanne Febowitz

MaryAnne Povey

Community of Orangevale

ORANGEVALE VIEW PO BOX 2051

Orangevale, CA 95662

For Advertising Call
(916) 546-2976

editor@ovview.com

www.ovview.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2025

JAN 8 • Public Deadline

JAN 16 • PUBLICATION

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JAN 22 • Public Deadline

JAN 31 • PUBLICATION

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FEBRUARY 2025

FEB 5 • Public Deadline

FEB 14 • PUBLICATION

OUT TO PUBLIC



Christmas Lights at Dovewood Court The famous Dovewood Court Christmas lights return running nightly through December 28, from 5:30 pm to 10 pm. 5th

The Orangevale Farm and Garden Club will be having their next meeting on January 4th at 9:00 am at the Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave. The Guest speaker will share information on growing plants for tea and creating teas from your own garden.

Polar Bear Plunge Participants are invited to take a brisk dip in the Orangevale Community Pool to start 2025 Check-in begins at 12:00 pm, and the plunge will take place at 1:00 pm sharp—so be ready to take the leap into the chilly waters! To register in advance, head to www.OVparks.com or call 916-988-4373. Don't worry if you can't sign up ahead of time—registration will also be available at the pool on the day of the event.

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OV CONNECT

Connecting Readers with Their Community

SEEKING COUNCIL AND STRENGTH FINDING THE WOMAN'S CLUB

By Patsy McGavock Just-Serve.org

Last November was a time of searching. My father passed, the last of my parents and grandparents. I sought comfort and wisdom beyond my own 43 years and a consistent place of strength and community when loneliness closed in.

Active in church, school and community service, I realized I'd spread myself thin - serving everywhere but connecting less and less. Constant doing can be isolating. Considering myself, I remembered the Woman's Club, growing monthly, from the Orangevale Community Council meetings. That resonated with me. It felt right and I was decided.

My first woman's club meeting surprised me. Welcoming, competent looking women greeted me with an agenda, information and visitors tag. The room buzzed with activity. Ages varied from new mother to senior, though mostly vibrantly retired. The wealth of community and club events underway was overwhelming yet exciting. So many choices to fit my skills and interests while growing friendships with women older than I to learn from.

By living the volunteer spirit, woman's club members seek to enhance lives through hands-on, impactful service. Dedicated to the cultural, educational and social wellbeing in the community, they are locally driven, while also supporting projects with national or global effect.

In Orangevale this looks like collecting goods, cleaning streets, funding scholarships, supporting other community organiza-



Patsy McGavock

PART 1

tions and preserving history. They were the foundational force behind the Orangevale History Project. They raise funds through semi-annual community bunco and crafting together for craft fairs.

Members plant trees in memory of loved ones, send cards to ill members, and connect through weekly walks and monthly lunches. "We rise by lifting others," states their guiding principles. While membership has ebbed and flowed since formed in 1913, 91 women currently fill the roster, with yes, more joining nearly monthly. Meetings are open and held 11 a.m. first Thursdays at the Orangevale Grange September through May.

Equally well organized, The Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks feels cozier. Their clubhouse fits about 60 and is used as smaller groups gather for general meetings or common interests such as books, bridge, fiber arts, gardening and games. Focused strongly on women and children they support schools, scholarships, food banks, unhoused and neonatal needs. They fundraise through an annual fashion show and separate plant sale while maintaining ties to local organizations such as the Fair Oaks Historical Society. Not associated with the international General Federation of Women's Clubs, they keep their focus local. They

meet second Thursdays at noon at the clubhouse, 10625 Fair Oaks Blvd.

Nearly every part of our community is touched by woman's club members. "These are involved women," says Lisa Garcia. She grew up walking past the clubhouse on her way to school. Recently returned to Fair Oaks, she jumped at the chance to join The Woman's Thursday Club. "This is not just a social club. We are focused on giving," she says. Garcia stepped quickly stepped into a chair position, which seems remarkably common. Orangevale president, Judy Elston, moved from visitor, to chair person, to president within eight months. "Crazy, but true," Elston says. "The collective spirit and empowering nature of this club nurtured my confidence to lead." She says the club creates space where every member can grow, contribute and shine. "Our club stands as a beacon for the tangible difference we make through varied, collective endeavors," shares Elston.

Laurie White, an Orangevale member since September, introduced herself frankly, "I see the growing needs in our community. I couldn't sit by and not do something about it."

"We advocate because there is a need; we volunteer because we are needed," summarizes the General Federation of Women's Clubs website.

Like Elston, I've been nurtured by the Woman's club - by their wisdom, passion, enlivening feeling of generating ideas for good and most of all by the special joy of serving, together.

If this article has stirred a resonant feeling of rightness in you, joining or supporting the woman's club may be the community connection for you.

Get Connected at: www.orangevalewomensclub.org or www.fairoakshistory.org/wtcf/



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6207 Trajan Dr	3	2	1419	\$470,000
5637 Claiborne Way	4-5	2	2232	\$475,000
9508 Tonkin Dr	3	2	1169	\$479,000
6741 Main Ave	3	2	1269	\$490,000
6445 Innsbrook Way	3	2	1659	\$519,500
6608 Cavalry Ct	3	2	1440	\$583,000
8441 N Star Way	3	2	1296	\$586,000
8698 Char Ave	4	2	1551	\$590,000
6336 Beech Ave	3	2	1444	\$643,000
6509 Gilston Ct	4	3	2450	\$648,000
6441 Breezewood Ct	5	3	2300	\$720,000
8516 Oak Ave	4	3	2194	\$825,000
8841 Nickens Ct	4-5	4	3160	\$940,000
8291 Country Lake Dr	3-4	3	2764	\$1,100,000

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THE PROSPER TOMIC FAMILY CHILDREN INTERVIEWED IN 1978

BY GRANDDAUGHTER MARGA-
RET TOMIC MCALLISTER

Part 1

Prosper Tomic came to America from the Dalmatian coast, landing at Ellis Island 1902 like so many other young men. He traveled thousands of miles across more land than he had seen-new, untamed and to Northern California. Behind a life perched at the edge of the sea.

He left behind a life perched at the edge of the sea. He discovered there a vast heartland, filled with rich earthy promises. It must have been seductive to the son of sailor—land and color of emeralds, mink and blond hair and so he became a tiller of orchards and dreams. Why he left his family at age 19, I do not know.

Whatever the reason, he came he and carved his initials, with hoe and tractors, into this rich earthen tablet, lie so many other immigrant sons determined to create a new ending to the common man's play. And so, he and his wife Eleanor and their children, relatives, friends and neighbors invented life anew in a little place called Orangevale.

It was 1925. The kitchen seemed big back then. Ans it was always warm, winter or summer. , whether you were happy about it or not. It's not easy to remember the minute details of how it looked but the smells linger, especially of fresh bread.

It would be early in the morning and the sound of Mama taking down the huge pan from the cupboard was like an alarm clock. Frances and Eleanor scrambled into the kitchen for the chance to knead small chunks of dough Mama gave them. It was knead, pat, roll and nibble process. Occasionally there was a pick it back up off the floor and try it again. The five hungry boys were not

likely to complain.

The children, Nick the oldest, was a lean, dark-haired, industrious 13-year-old. Daddy looked to him to set the example for the younger ones, and he accepted the challenge early on. Frances, the oldest daughter, was a beautiful and sensitive girl, determined in all she did, especially her music. Jack was steadfast and went about his studies and chores quietly and consistently, often with the younger ones in tow. Eleanor was somewhat of a Tomboy. She preferred playing outside with the boys, but willingly learned the things that a young woman was supposed to know. Quentin had an Initiative interest in the flying and crawling creatures outdoors often turning over rocks in Mama's flower bed to check on the bug population underneath. Freddie and Tommy were the little brothers. Freddie was rather quiet, good-natured kid who preferred anonymity, as many of the family pictures show you, his backside. Tommy was a blond round-cheeked toddler with an intent expression that could break into a beautiful twinkly blue-eyed smile. The house was not big, but it was big enough. All the brothers slept in the big attic room. The two sisters shared a room downstairs at the front of the house. Mama and Daddy's were in the back looking out toward the barn and packing house. Daddy probably thought it best to keep an eye out, just in case. There was a small entryway at the front door where visitors could take off their coats and hats. A formality really, since most everybody Mama or Daddy would want to take off their coats and stay awhile came around to the back door.

The Orangevale History Project will meet on the second Wednesday of January 8, 2025, instead of the first Wednesday at a new venue, Jane Wise Room at the Orangevale Library with doors opening at 6 pm

Article Submitted by Kay Barnes

YOUR CHRISTMAS STORY

BY Dawn LaPolla

Twas the Night before Christmas, and all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, except for a mouse.

Who scurried across the darkness to see

All the gifts that Santa had placed under the tree.

As the lights and the tinsel glittered bright over head
And the children lay snug as a bug in each bed

The toys began to wake, inside of each present

Excited to be a part of this year's Christmas event

For this was a magical night, don't you see

When toys come alive, in the light of the tree.

The Toys could wake up, Oh, but for only one night,

And if seen by the children, it was surely not right.

The magic of Christmas would last just 12 hours

All toys would then lose all their magical powers.

And so, they appeared one toy after another

To introduce themselves, each one to the other.

I'm Sam the spaceman, I can go far in space

In fact, that is how I got to this here place

I can fly to the moon, I can reach past a star

It's nothing, it's easy for me, it not far.

I'm the best can't you see cuz I'm full of excitements

It says so on my box, and in my advertisements.

I'm Billy the ball, and I think you all know

I'm the best toy around, I belong to dear Joe.

I can bounce up real high, through the hoop – SWOOSH! – and down

I'm the best of toys on this block or this town

Pick me up, take me out, to the court if you will

So, I can give you a really big thrill.

Stanley's my name, I'm a speedy fast train,

On my wheels I go fast, it's the name of the game.

I can take you to places inside of your head

I get lost if you leave me there, under your bed

But alas - I am stuck, if there are no tracks

'Cuz, I need them to travel, those are the facts

Set them up and around the tree I can go

Toot my horn like I'm saying a happy, "Hello".

My name is Drew and I'm happy I'm here

But what I can do may not be very clear

I'm your canvas, your paintbrush, all in one package

For that reason, my dear, is my one true advantage

You can draw on my screen anything you can dream of.

A castle, a treehouse, or any old theme

Erase it, redraw it, create anything you wish

From a puppy with spots, to a group of clown fish.

And if you, perhaps, don't like what you trace

You can start again from scratch, and quickly erase.

Just then Mouse heard a small voice from behind the tall tree,

He squinted a little so that he could see.

Oh, heavens, I'm Teddy, I'm none of those things.

I can't bounce real high, I don't even have wings.

I'm squishy and soft, I like napping a lot

If you set me right down, I won't move from this spot

I wish I was special in some sort of way

So when Sally opens me up on Christmas day

She'll be happy she did and not put me away.

Mouse had been listening so very intently

He nudged Willy Worm who had fallen asleep accidentally

He looked at the Toys, some with wheels, some without

And he spoke very softly so as not to shout.

Teddy, you're special, I wish you could see

In the light of the Christmas lights under this tree

You give love and affection, you

are such a dear

I hope I am making myself very clear

You give the best gift of all, why someone to hug

For children need someone to love and feel snug

Dear Sally will hold you so close to her heart

No one will be able to keep you two apart.

You're all very special, some way or another

You're perfect for Sally, or her little kid brother.

It matters not what you don't have - but what you do

You don't know what that is? Well, I'll give you a clue

Each Toy is a gift of the heart and the soul

To make every child happy is the ultimate goal.

The Toys now understood, they had nothing to fear

Not one was the best, all were special and dear

Each toy filled a need or a want, it was true

To fill children with happiness A child just like you.

SMALL BAG

On a small bag is an image of a cat.

For those who might ask why or what about that:

that bag is a purse which sounds like purrs.

Maybe that cat and bag can also be named Purrse...

If you question, think deeper, listen, or search,

perhaps you may learn how or why something works...

-Z.F. Thrimej

December Readings

Readings of four more poems (written in DV View) were recorded; they can now be listened to.

The four (Ugly Sweater, Christmas Tree, Ho Ho Ho, Gingerbread House) share the form that's audio.

For those who may be curious to know how they sound:

<https://zthrimej.wordpress.com> has links to where they're found



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It is the time of year where we are running out of time! Do you need a quick, yummy cookie to make for a cookie exchange or just a snack? This is the recipe! I received this recipe years ago and I forgot how easy it is to make a batch. You flatten the balls with the bottom of the cup. You can roll the cookies in some sprinkles before you flatten to make them festive, but they are delicious without any sprinkles! No rolling out, so it is easy to make for all ages! If you would like to share a favorite holiday recipe or kitchen tip, please send a copy to Suzanne

Feblowitz at the Orangevale View (editor@ovview.com). Be sure to include your phone number or email with your recipe in case we need to contact you. If you wish to remain anonymous, just let us know and we will omit your name.

DROP SUGAR COOKIES

- Cream together:
 1 cup shortening
 1 cube butter or margarine
 1 cup sugar
 1 cup powdered sugar
 2 eggs
 2 tsp vanilla

- Sift:
 4 cups flour
 1 tsp cream of tartar
 1 tsp baking soda

Add the sifted ingredients to the creamed ingredients and mix together. Roll into balls. Flatten with the end of a drinking glass that is dipped in sugar (to prevent sticking).

Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes until lightly browned around the edges

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dear Orangevale,

As we approach the end of another year, we want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared together at the Orangevale View. This holiday season, we are filled with gratitude, warmth, and a renewed sense of purpose as we look ahead to the opportunities that lie in the New Year.



LISA MONTES -EDITOR

First and foremost, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you—our dedicated readers, generous advertisers, and supportive community members. Your involvement and support have been the cornerstone of our success. Whether you've picked up our paper, advertised your business with us, or contributed in countless other ways, you have helped make the Orangevale View not only a place for news but a true reflection of the spirit of our town.

tiful landscapes and growing businesses but also in the hearts of the people who call it home.

We are deeply thankful for the trust you've placed in us, and we are committed to continuing to serve as a source of information, inspiration, and connection in the year ahead. The stories we tell, the events we share, and the businesses we highlight are all made possible because of the generosity and spirit of people like you.

The holiday season is a time of reflection, gratitude, and celebration. It's a time when we come together to appreciate the kindness, compassion, and connections that make our community so special. This year has shown us that the heart of Orangevale lies not only in its beau-

As we celebrate this season of goodwill, we encourage you all to take a moment to appreciate the magic of the holidays—the time spent with family and friends, the joy of giving, and the beauty of kindness shared between neighbors. May this festive season bring you peace, joy, and the warmth of community.

Looking forward to the New Year, we are excited about the opportunities it holds for Orangevale. With your continued support, we hope to embark on even bigger and more meaningful projects that will help make our town an even better place to live, work, and play. Together, we can create a future that honors the best of our past while embracing the promise of new beginnings.

Thank you again for your kindness, your support, and your unwavering commitment to our community. We wish you a joyous holiday season filled with happiness, health, and prosperity. Here's to a brighter, more vibrant Orangevale in 2025 and beyond!

With deepest gratitude and warmest wishes,
 Happy Holidays
 Lisa Montes & Brad Tatum

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Scan the QR code to see our Winter/Spring Activity Guide soon!

BE ON THE LOOK FOR OUR NEW ACTIVITY GUIDE! COMING OUT SOON!!!

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Folsom Concert Association Brings the Gift of Music to Our Community

At Almond Heights Senior Living in Orangevale, live music echoed through the halls as 30 seniors clapped, swayed, and sang along to beloved classics. Smiles lit up the room, showcasing music's power to spark memories and bring joy.

This is one of many ways the Folsom Concert Association (FCA) enriches lives through music. For over 30 years, FCA has hosted 135 affordable concerts, brought live music performances to seniors, provided college scholarships to high school seniors, and refurbished donated instruments for students and schools in need.

Recognizing that many se-



niors can no longer attend concerts, FCA began bringing music to them. Student and professional musicians now perform at senior living, memory care, and independent living facilities, including those with limited entertainment budgets.

“It’s spirit-lifting,” said Bimpe Ekundare, Director of Wellness Programming at Almond Heights. “This is something our residents look forward to regularly.” Resident Richard added, “I come out every time the musicians are here, and I always dance at least a couple of times!”

Lifelong musician Duane “DP” Maracin leads the effort. DP developed a deep passion for music as a child through his family’s singing and dad’s guitar playing. After losing his wife, he began performing at open mic nights, which led to forming a band. He joined the FCA thanks to a recom-

mendation from the prior outreach coordinator and has since expanded the program to bring joy to countless seniors. His journey embodies music’s ability to connect generations.

“Performing for seniors is very fulfilling,” said DP. “It also gives me an opportunity to maintain my skills on the guitar and keep my voice.”

The FCA aims to raise \$10,000 to support seniors and students through its programs! Plus, tickets to our upcoming concerts make the perfect local holiday gift! Visit FolsomConcertAssociation.org to learn more.

Article Credit: Folsom Concert Association



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Celebrating the OV Tree Lighting with Record Attendance!

By MaryAnne Povey



true magic of the holidays and the joy in life's simplest moments.

The evening reached its grand finale with the lighting of the community Christmas tree. Excitement buzzed through the crowd as everyone joined in for the countdown. With our friends from Easystumps tree service, giving Santa a lift, then waving his magical candy cane, the tree burst to life in a brilliant display of twinkling lights, filling the night with festive glow and holiday cheer.

This cherished community tradition wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of local organizations. Huge thanks go out to the Orangevale Women's Club, Orangevale Grange, Orange Vale Water Company, Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank, the Orangevale History Project, Casa Roble Interact Club, the Orangevale Chamber of Commerce,

Orangevale Live, and Easystumps. Their dedication and generosity made this event unforgettable.

The 19th Annual Orangevale Christmas Tree Lighting, hosted by OV Parks, was nothing short of magical! Under a beautiful December moon, families gathered to kick off the holiday season with an evening filled with joy, music, and plenty of festive fun—showcasing everything that makes Orangevale such a special community.

Buddy the Elf was there, cracking jokes and keeping the energy high as he introduced incredible performances from local choirs. Their heartfelt carols filled the air, spreading the sounds of the season to everyone in attendance. And just when you thought Buddy was done, he grabbed the mic to serenade the crowd himself, adding his own hilarious and charming touch to the night.

Of course, the star of the show was Santa Claus himself. With his big smile and kind heart, Santa made every child feel special, asking how he could make their Christmas even better. One little girl's simple yet powerful wish—for a smile—was a reminder of the



Here's to the spirit of togetherness that made this night so special! Wishing everyone a holiday season full of love, laughter, and memories with family and friends. Merry Christmas everyone!

Photos by JaydenVelasquez



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GOD MADE A WAY ... IN A MANGER

By Jathan Good

Humans are broken. Children don't need to be taught how to misbehave. We have a natural pull toward selfishness, which ultimately leads to self-destruction. You've seen it a million times. And let's not kid around, you've experienced it yourself, at least to some degree. We're broken, and broken things can't fix themselves. Broken people can't fix themselves. Not on our own anyway. But that's the beauty of Christmas!! Where there was no way, God made a way!

We were hopeless, with no way of escape from the consequences of our actions. But, as the Bible says, though we were dead in our sins God made us alive in Christ! (Colossians 2:13-15) Even while we were still sinning, actively rebelling against God,

He loved us so much that He sent His one and only son to come rescue us from ourselves. (Romans 5:8, John 3:16)

Where there was no way, God made a way...a way in a manger. He sent His son on a rescue mission. But not like any rescue mission you could have imagined. This one started in a stinky stable on the outskirts of a little town called Bethlehem, with two peasants, some shepherds, and an ancient prophecy fulfilled.

It's an incredible story! Better than any other holiday movie you might watch this Christmas! Come hear this amazing true story, straight from the scriptures, on Christmas Eve at Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane, at 3:30 or 5:00 pm for a traditional candle lighting service. Your heart will be moved.

WARM SCARVES FOR OUR SENIORS

Since 1913, the Orangevale Woman's Club (OVWC), 90 members strong, has been giving back to our local community.

Many seniors in our area are living on a limited income and tend to be regular clients of the OV-FO Food Bank. In the previous two months, the most recent request to our Club members was for 100 homemade scarves. And yes, these ladies came through with knitted, crocheted and fabric scarves! Coordinated by OVWC member Linda Bailey, these 100 scarves were delivered to Pastor Ken Burkey of Live 58 Church. This month of December, the church will add these to the Christmas bags they are donating to the OV-FO Food Bank for seniors in need.

Did you enjoy cookies and hot cocoa at the recent Christmas Tree Lighting at the Orangevale Community Center? Our Club continued its tradition of pro-



OVWC member Linda Bailey delivering needed scarves to Pastor Ken Burkey of Live 58 Church.

viding these to the community to help enjoy the evening more. This year we gave out 500-600 cookies, 300 cups of hot cocoa and 144 candy canes!

Our Club members enjoy creating crafts and volunteering their time for needed causes and

events to get the community together. To find out more about helping our community while having fun doing it, please visit our website at: www.orangevalewomensclub.org. May you stay warm this Holiday season.

--Mary Witcraft

CHRISTMAS EVE *Candlelight Service*

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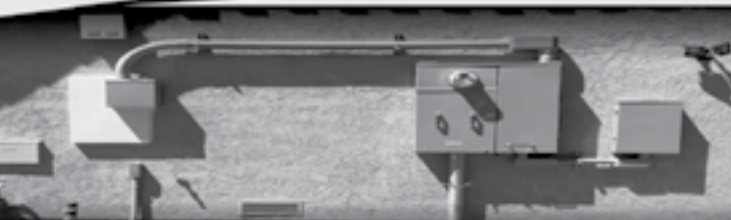
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CHRISTMAS EVE

LUMINARIES ON CLARISSA DR

The public is invited to enjoy the 4th annual Christmas Eve Luminaries on Orangevale's Clarissa Drive. Each year the Clarissa Drive neighborhood sets out lovely luminary candles and lights them at dusk. The luminaries will glow for about four hours.

Luminaries have grown and spread from a tradition in the Southwest to a celebra-

tion enjoyed by neighborhoods across the United States. While the practice initially was started to shed light during the Winter Solstice, modern-day celebrations often use luminaries as a symbol of hope and peace.

The Clarissa residents also invite all visitors to stop halfway down the street at our neighborhood corner firepit for friendly conversation, music and "good holiday vibes"

Submitted by Beverly Manville

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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CASA ROBLE STUDENT ATHLETES COMMIT TO COLLEGE TEAMS



years and has now signed to the University of Portland. First and third baseman Melanie Stephens, who played on Casa's varsity softball team for 2 years and has played the sport for 12 years total, committed to Folsom Lake College. Catcher and outfielder Zaria Gee committed to going to University of Nevada, Reno to play softball. She played softball for 10 years and has been on Casa's varsity team for 4 years. Emily Gomez played softball for 10 years, 4 of them spent on Casa's varsity team. Gomez signed to College of The Redwoods to continue her softball career. Lilly Leslie has signed to American River College for Softball to excel her softball career.

On Wednesday December 4, five seniors signed their letters of intent to colleges to pursue their academic and athletic careers. Elijah Huddle played football for Casa during all

four years of high school, playing on varsity all four. Huddle will attend CSU Sacramento to continue his football career. Soccer player Mia Alvarez Tostado joined Casa soccer her junior year, made varsity both

Written by Summer Frosh

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WOLVERINE AQUATICS CLUB (WAC) COLLECTS MORE THAN 2000 CANS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

By Lynnmarie Wang

The holiday season is often brimming with energy and preparation. In kitchens across the country, the aroma of seasonal flavors begins to fill the air,

as traditional food is created and wish lists are thoughtfully crafted. Behind this lively atmosphere, the season's true spirit shines through: it is a time for giving.

Amid this festive mood, local families in need will benefit greatly from the efforts of the Wolverine Aquatics Club, a bronze-level swimming club. Located in the heart of Rocklin,

CA, the Wolverines channeled their competitive spirit into a successful canned food drive, with an ultimate showdown between the boys and girls! Each was determined to outshine the other, but the girls emerged victorious, with the final tally being Boys: 883 and Girls: 1284. Some of the most popular things collected included comfort foods such as mac and cheese, cereal, and soup. "WAC Gives Back," the inaugural week-long fundraiser culminated with more than 2000 pounds of food collected at the 2024 WAC Cranberry Classic swim meet.

A raffle to win Arena swim gear, generously donated by Sierra Nevada Swimming, WAC's LSC, motivated area swimmers to donate as many cans and non-perishable food items as possible. The goal next year is for WAC to continue to give back and to encourage more swim clubs participating in the annual Cranberry Classic to donate.

LIBRARY NEWS & PROGRAMS

ORANGEVALE LIBRARY
8820 Greenback Ln L,
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HOOURS

Sunday Closed
Monday Closed
Tuesday 10AM-6PM
Wednesday 10AM-6PM
Thursday 10AM-6PM
Friday 10AM-6PM
Saturday 10AM-6PM

Heirloom Seeds Available at the Orangevale Library The Orangevale Library has heirloom seeds to start your own garden and our cool weather seeds are here! Grow a variety of herbs, ornamentals, and edible plants. Save money and reduce your carbon footprint by growing nutritious food at home. The seed library is completely free of charge and available to anyone. The seed library is available daily.

KIDS

Family Storytime Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Jane Wise Community Room Families with young children (0-5) are invited to join us for songs, rhymes, and stories designed to build early literacy skills. Older siblings are welcome to attend. After the storytime we will put out toys and activities for a stay and play session where children can play and

communicate with each other.

Family Art Lab Saturday, Dec 28, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room We bring the art supplies, you bring the creativity! Families, kids and teens are welcome to join us as the library puts out a variety of art supplies and let everyone make whatever art they want! Paints, modelling clay, markers, air brushing, and more are available for us to make pictures, sculptures, and mixed media projects!

Minecraft Gaming Thursday, Jan 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Enjoy this computer game filled with mining, crafting and exploring! Play with new friends on our own library server at the Orangevale Library! We will do two 45-minute shifts if there are more participant than PC laptops. This program is for students aged 6 - 17; registration is encouraged at www.saclibrary.org/events
Read to a Dog Friday, Jan 10, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Come read to some PAW-some pooches! School-age readers are invited to read to furry and friendly canine volunteers and their trainers. This is a great program for struggling and reluctant readers or for those who enjoy practice. The dogs are wonderful listeners. Woof!

Lego Robotics Saturday, Jan 18, 10:30

a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Family Art Lab** Led by a team of student instructors, kids ages 9 to 14 will work in groups to create and program a robot and learn STEAM skills with this fun, hands-on project.

TEENS

Teen Space Thursday, Jan 16, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Meet other teens, and hang out in a space dedicated to you.

ADULTS

Orangevale Adult Book Group - Hello Beautiful Saturday, Dec 21, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Join us in-person for a lively and engaging discussion and make new friends! This month we will be reading *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. Starting one month before the meeting you can pick up a copy of the book from the front desk of the Orangevale Library or check our library catalog for available copies of the books and ebooks.

Genealogy: Getting To Know You Saturday, Jan 4, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Do you need help researching your family history? Learn the basics, try new resources, and share discoveries with a group of Time Detectives. There's always something new to learn on a genealogy adventure! This program is for adults.

Genealogy: Book a Genealogist Saturday, Jan 4, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Need help with your family history? Not sure how to begin? Want to know where to look next? Root Cellar volunteers are ready to help you discover your roots! Free individual 30 minute help sessions are available at the Orangevale Library. Reserve your session online at www.saclibrary.org/events

Mixed Media Art Journaling Saturday, Jan 11, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Jane Wise Community Room Use your imagination and all kinds of mixed media to create a free-style art journal. Both inexperienced and lack of talent are welcome! The Friends of the Orangevale Library have graciously provided art journals and supplies to create a place for creativity to unfold. Please note, supplies are limited so feel free to bring your own too.

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