

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Share the Rewards of Reading

Volunteer as a Tutor at the Yolo County Library

(**Woodland, CA**) – The Yolo County Library, partnering with the Woodland Public Library Literacy Service, is launching its new Adult Literacy Service by sponsoring a joint tutor training workshop. The workshop will be held on Saturday, February 16, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Woodland Public Library located at 520 First Street in Woodland.

"We encourage Yolo County residents to share the rewards of reading by volunteering to help adult learners improve their reading skills," said Patty Wong, Yolo County Librarian. "You truly can make a real difference. No experience is necessary, the hours are flexible and we provide all the training and materials."

In 2005, National Center for Education Statistics published the National Assessment of Adult Literacy. Findings state:

- Nationally 93 million people struggle with their basic literacy skills.
- Thirty million of these are at the lowest literacy levels unable to read the TV Guide or an explanation of how they were selected for a jury pool according to the report.
- While one-third of this segment is not native English speakers, the remaining two-thirds are adults who speak English but never acquired basic reading and writing skills.
- Utilizing the national statistics, the need in California can be projected at 10.5 million adults who lack basic literacy skills and are in need adult basic literacy services.

In Yolo County Adult Literacy program tutors are matched with students on a one-to-one basis and tutoring space is available at each of the seven county libraries located in the communities of Davis, West Sacramento, Clarksburg, Winters, Esparto, Knights Landing and Yolo.

If you are interested in giving the gift of reading, would like to know more about the program, or would like to attend the tutor training on February 16, please call the Yolo County Library Literacy Service at (530) 666-8005 or e-mail mbolton@yolocounty.org.