

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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## A "Virtual" Taste of Yolo

(Woodland, CA) – Today, Yolo County's agricultural marketing initiative, under the auspices of Agricultural Commissioner Rick Landon, launched a new Web site chocked full of information about Yolo County food, wine and farms, entitled "A Taste of Yolo" (www.atasteofyolo.com).

"This site is not only a valuable link to information on Yolo County-grown products, it's also a resource for addressing issues of food safety and security," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mariko Yamada.

"This site is designed to be used by anyone interested in Yolo County's food, wines and farms," said Agricultural Commissioner Rick Landon. "From the consumer, to the caterer, to the media, there's something for everyone."

Within the Web site, one will find a complete list of Yolo County wineries, and a selected list of restaurants that promote seasonal menus and local foods. In the Farms section, users can access information about farmer's markets throughout the county, CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture), organic walnuts, dried fruits, olive oils, alfalfa and more. All farmers in Yolo County have been invited to be listed on the new site, free of charge.

A Taste of Yolo (<u>www.atasteofyolo.com</u>) also contains a month-by-month listing of what is in season, a seasonal menu and a seasonal recipe. The September recipe is Sweet Corn Chowder with Roasted Red Pepper. It is anticipated that this section will be of particular interest to consumers, restaurateurs, caterers, event planners, and anyone interested in finding and using the in-season produce and products of Yolo County.

The Current Feature section is scheduled to change every other month, showcasing a local "star" in Yolo County food, wine or farming. September features Rachel Levine, Executive Chef of Nugget Markets, and former executive chef of R.H. Phillips Winery.

If one wants to know what is happening in the world of Yolo County food and wine, go no further than the What's New section for a listing of events including: the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Hoes Down Festival at Full Belly Farm in Capay Valley on October 6; the Pre-harvest Tour & Feast at the Historic Wolfskill Ranch in Winters on October 21; and the fundraising dinner, A Taste of Capay, on October 21. To ensure site visitors can easily seek out further information about the county, links are also provided to related organizations including, Yolo County, the Yolo County Visitors Bureau, CAFF (California Association of Family Farmers) and Capay Valley Vision.

Besides constructing the new site, the agricultural marketing initiative recently co-hosted a farm-to-chef event with UC Davis Dining Services. More than 30 farms were represented and attendees included chefs, purchasing agents and other interested parties from all over the county and Sacramento. Following the mini farmer's market and reception, 200 people sat down to enjoy a three-course meal of local food prepared under the direction of Andy Burtis, Executive Chef of Sodexho, and accompanied by wine donated by Bogle Vineyards in Clarksburg. Darrell Corti of Corti Brothers, Rick Landon and organic farmer Jim Durst each spoke during the meal.

For more information on Yolo County food, wine and farms visit: www.atasteofyolo.com.