



COUNTY OF YOLO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 19, 2017

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Library's 'LEST WE FORGET' Project Shares the Story of Yolo County Residents in World War I

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Library invites everyone to attend “LEST WE FORGET”, a four part series that reveals the story of World War I and Yolo County. The first part, titled “Now We Are At War,” focuses on how the different communities of Yolo County responded to America’s declaration of war on Germany on April 6, 1917 and how each resident, male and female, adult and child, were now expected to be fully engaged and supportive of the war.

The first part of the series has displayed in seven communities in Yolo County and will have its last presentation in Woodland on May 25, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Woodland Public Library, located at 300 First Street in Woodland. The program is free to attend and will showcase the response and aid in the war of the Woodland community.

“By honoring the veterans of the past, we let the veterans of today know that they too will not be forgotten,” said “LEST WE FORGET” Researcher Mel Russell. “Those who serve do not do so in vain and will always be remembered here in Yolo.”

World War I was fought from 1914 to 1918 and resulted in 8 million deaths, 21 million wounded and countless millions displaced. When America joined on April 6, 1917, President Wilson immediately announced that much of the war would be run at the local level and every county was to be individually responsible for selecting their quota of young men who would serve, raising their share of the money needed to pay for the war, and growing their portion of crops needed to feed the starving in Europe and the new National Army of over 3 million men. At that time, Yolo County was one of the richest counties in all the United States and at the forefront of the all-out national war effort.

This series is supported by the Yolo County Library, the Yolo County Archives and the Friends of the Yolo County Archives. The Yolo County Library encourages community memory and champions the local rich history of Yolo County. For more information about this series, contact Mel Russell at: yolocountyWW1@gmail.com. For more information on the Yolo County Library, visit www.yolocountylibrary.org or connect with the library on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org.

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