



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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Contact: John Fout  
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## **Yolo County Invites Residents to Attend Free Events to Honor Veterans, Learn About WWI History and the Origins of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**

**(Woodland, CA)** – The community is invited to celebrate and honor our veterans by visiting the exhibit, “Honoring the Dead of WWI: A Photographic Exhibition Commemorating the Centennial of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Yolo County Fallen,” on display from Monday, October 10 through Tuesday, November 29.

The following events are free:

- **Ceremony to Honor All Veterans**  
**Friday, October 7, from 5:45-6:05 pm**  
**Courthouse Plaza, 725 Court Street, Woodland**
  - The Friends of the Yolo County Archives will welcome attendees. Mel Russell will give a speech on Selecting the Unknown Soldier, after which all branches of the armed forces will be recognized.
  - American Legion Yolo Post 77 will perform the “Missing Man Ceremony” and “Taps.”
  
- **Exhibit Opening Reception**  
**Friday, October 7, from 5:30-8 pm**  
**Gallery 625, Erwin Meier Building, 625 Court Street, Woodland**
  - Hosted by the Friends of the Yolo County Archives.
  - Exhibit themes include:
    - How the United States dealt with servicemen who died during WWI and highlighting the experiences of five Yolo County servicemen to examine the impact on families waiting for the return of their loved ones.
    - Segregation experienced by African Americans in the Army.
    - The story of how America selected a soldier and returned him home to be buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
    - Selection of the WWII, Korean, and Vietnam Conflict’s Unknowns.
  - Julie Dachtler, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board, will play WWI tunes on the piano throughout the evening.

- **Tours of “Honoring the Dead of WWI: A Photographic Exhibition” & Self-Guided Stroll Through Woodland’s WWI History**  
**Saturday, October 8:**
  - **Exhibit Tours at 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, and 1 pm.**  
**Gallery 625, Erwin Meier Building, 625 Court Street**
    - Mel Russell will lead four guided tours of the exhibit, and reservations are not required.
    - Lemonade and cookies will be available.
  - **Self-Guided Stroll**  
**Courthouse Plaza, 725 Court Street, Woodland**
    - Participate in a self-guided walking tour and receive a free brochure with maps and pictures that include homes servicemen lived in before going off to WWI.
    - Lyons Real Estate is underwriting the brochure.
- **“Honoring the Dead of WWI: A Photographic Exhibition” opens Veteran’s Day**  
**Friday, November 11, from 10 am to 2 pm**  
**Gallery 625, Erwin Meier Building, 625 Court Street, Woodland**
  - Docents will be on hand to answer any questions

Contact Mel Russell at [yolocountyWW1@gmail.com](mailto:yolocountyWW1@gmail.com) with questions about any of these events.

All locations are accessible for persons with disabilities.

These events are facilitated by the Yolo County “Lest We Forget” project, the Yolo County Archives, the Yolo County Library, the Friends of the Yolo County Archives, and Yolo County Staff. Gallery 625 is courtesy of YoloArts.

For more information about Yolo County Library and Archives programs and resources, residents can visit their local library or the Library’s website, <https://yolocountylibrary.org>, or connect with Yolo County Library on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org](http://www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org) and Instagram at [@yolocountylibrary](https://www.instagram.com/yolocountylibrary).

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