



## Education honors handed out

(Updated Thursday, June 15, 2006, 8:04 AM)

The 2006 Yosemite Joint Union High School District teacher of the year and employee of the year were honored at the district's recent retirement awards dinner.

Brad Bessey, Yosemite High School agriculture teacher, was named teacher of the year by district staff members and Patty Chandler, administrative assistant to YHS Principal Steve Raupp, was named employee of the year.

Nominations for these honors come from district staff members and the final selections are made by a staff committee. Two finalists are named in addition to the honoree. Finalists for the teacher award were Deborah Brown and Steve Browning. Finalists for the employee award were Judy Larson and Danielle Vawter. In the nomination letter, Bessey was praised for the improvements he has made in the agriculture program during his time at YHS. Chandler was acknowledged as the person who keeps YHS running smoothly.

Last week, the staff and students of Yosemite High School selected teacher, employee and student of the year, honored at the school's end-of-the-year rally.

Kellie Solomon was named teacher of the year by a vote of the students; Richard Joseph was named staff of the year, also by a vote of students. Teachers selected Owen Martin, a senior, as student of the year. Solomon, who is a YHS graduate, teaches US history to juniors at the school. Joseph is a campus supervisor. Martin received a laptop computer from the Elks Lodge as student of the year.

### CURRENT WEATHER

For Oakhurst, CA



Mostly sunny  
81F  
Powered by  
AccuWeather.com

### COLUMNISTS

[Paul Henry Abram](#)  
[Ronna Adler](#)  
[Dr. Bill Atwood](#)  
[Dwight Barnes](#)  
[Daniel Blodgett MD](#)  
[Cathie Campbell](#)  
[G O Deglilio](#)  
[Tom Elias](#)  
[Jim Flanagan](#)  
[Grace Grady-Barnes](#)  
[Bryan Greeson](#)  
[Mike Hackworth](#)  
[Al Joyal](#)  
[Tony Krizan](#)  
[Ed Lyons](#)  
[Jenna Nielsen](#)  
[David Richards](#)  
[Earlene Ward](#)



Published every  
Wednesday!

### Eating Out?

See what our area restaurants have to offer.  
[Download Mountain Menus!](#)

Place an ad  
Get your business  
noticed on The Sierra  
Star online

**Your Community Newspaper**  
Proudly Serving Madera County Since 1957

### ADVERTISEMENTS



[Subscriber Services](#) | [Community](#) | [Contact](#)

The Sierra Star

49165 Crane Valley Rd [426] | PO Box 305 | Oakhurst, CA 93644-8621  
Phone (559) 683-4464 | Fax (559) 683-8102

Copyright © 2006 The Sierra Star