

***California Central Coast: Nipomo Mesa***

**Nipomo Toys for Tots Drive Letter to the Editor**

*(Issue to the Adobe Press and Santa Maria Times in early November, cannot exceed 250 words)*

As the holidays quickly approach, I would like to encourage the residents of Nipomo and surrounding communities to donate new unwrapped toys towards this year’s Central Coast Toys for Tots fundraising campaigns. Each year more and more families experience the financial troubles which result in the absence of gifts for youngsters under the Christmas tree, but through the generosity of community individuals holiday cheer can be spread to less fortunate children.

The Central Coast Toys for Tots drive extends from Paso Robles to Santa Barbara and throughout the region toy donation locations have been established. The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys and to distribute these toys as Christmas gifts to needy children. The meaning behind the program is to aid disadvantaged kids by helping them experience the joy of Christmas and to convey a message of hope to our children. Through toy donations, the program strives to motivate children to grow into responsible, productive and patriotic citizens. Last year, more than 30,000 children of the Central Coast received donated toys and we expect for the need to grow this year. To learn more about the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program or how to donate towards the Central Coast Toys for Tots programs please visit [www.toys4totscentralca.org](http://www.toys4totscentralca.org).

Deborah Mansfield

*Nipomo Toys for Tots Coordinator*

*Central Coast Deputy Director*