

MERCED COUNTY

FARM NEWS

WE FARM. YOU EAT.

MCFB Hosts 8th Annual FARM2U Day

On October 10 the Merced County Farm Bureau hosted approximately 2500 students in addition to parents, teachers and other staff for the eighth annual FARM2U Day.

The purpose of FARM2U Day is to educate local students about the importance of agriculture and how agriculture impacts their daily lives. Students saw presentations on nutrition, livestock, plants, the environment, equipment and processing.

They had the opportunity to see live animals such as dairy cattle, beef cattle, alpacas, goats, horses, pigs, rabbits, and more from 76 presenters. Many of our presenters are community members, community organizations and local businesses that volunteer their time to help us put on this event.

Approximately 275 Merced County FFA members volunteered as presenters, herders (tour guides) and others spent the day helping

with various tasks. This event gives FFA participants the opportunity to gain public speaking practice, community service, and learn how to organize presentations for a specific audience.

All third-grade students that come to FARM2U Day receive free milk courtesy of California Dairies Inc and get to take home their very own cabbage plant donated by Bonnie Plants. These cabbages are part of Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program that

awards scholarships to selected students that successfully grow their cabbage plant.

FARM2U Day is a free event for participating schools and open to all Merced County third-grade classes. The event is sponsored by the Merced County Farm Bureau and generous sponsors. Thank you to everyone that participated in the 2019 FARM2U Day. We greatly appreciate your support.

White House Nears Infrastructure Permitting Changes

By Stephen Lee, *Reporter, Bloomberg Environment*

The White House has begun reviewing a plan to change the way it issues environmental permits for infrastructure projects.

If the proposal is finalized, it could speed up National Environmental Policy Act reviews for roads, bridges, ports, pipelines, power lines, Internet trunks, and water systems.

For now, however, the proposal from the White House Council on Environmental Quality is still at least several months from completion. CEQ sent its proposed changes to the Office of Management and Budget on Oct. 11.

Once OMB has reviewed the proposal, it can be published as a notice of proposed rulemaking and

put out for public comment.

The Trump administration and business groups say federal permitting is too cumbersome and expensive, and must be sped up to spur growth. The proposed update to the rules for implementing procedures under NEPA, if it becomes final, is almost certain to be challenged in court.

“President Trump is delivering

on his promise to streamline approvals and NEPA reform is another step in that direction,” a senior administration official told Bloomberg Environment in an email from a White House spokesman. “The Trump administration is pursuing

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County Farm Bureau executives advocate in D.C.

By Colleen Cecil and Dusty Ference, *California Farm Bureau Federation*

Multiple times a year, the California Farm Bureau Federation arranges for members to fly into Washington, D.C., to meet with elected officials and federal agency leadership. The most recent trip included 12 county Farm Bureau executive directors from all over California, joined by CFBF President Jamie Johansson and CFBF Federal Policy Manager Josh Rolph.

No Farm Bureau trip to D.C. would be complete without a stop

at the American Farm Bureau Federation. At AFBF, attendees spoke with President Zippy Duvall, Executive Vice President Dale Moore and Trade Specialist Dave Salmonsén. Learning from AFBF on real-time conversations happening on Capitol Hill covering trade, water and labor helped set the tone and direction for the work ahead.

Meetings at the Department of the Interior allowed for conversations covering the importance of the updated

biological opinions on delta water flows and their impacts on fish populations, with urging for the new opinion to be released promptly. Additionally, the need for surface water storage was a hot topic, along with encouraging the department to support efforts currently underway to repair the Friant-Kern Canal.

At the Department of Agriculture, we met with Undersecretary Greg Ibach,

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Address



President's Corner

Gino Pedretti III
President

with regards to water flows in the Delta. This includes water coming from our Merced River. A collation of ag

As fall weather starts to take over, I hope everyone had a good harvest. Depending on which crops you grow your harvest is almost over, or for cotton farmers on our west side, you are right smack in the middle of harvest. Hopefully yields have been good and it's nice to see mother nature cooperating with us. Last month I was sad to inform everyone our program specialist Emily Casner decided to move out of state. I am happy to inform our membership that after an extensive job search Merced County Farm Bureau (MCFB) has hired Denelle Flake to take over. Our board wants to welcome Denelle to the position and looks forward to seeing her skills as project specialist. If you are driving by the office feel free to stop on by to meet the newest member of our team.

Many good things do not come out of Sacramento these days, but one good thing did come last month as Governor Newsom vetoed SB1. I talked about SB1 in my last article and you'll remember that SB1 was the anti-Trump bill which would have destroyed any chance of having Voluntary Settlement Agreements

organizations worked together to educate the governor on how bad this bill would be for water in the Central Valley. I want to take some time now to talk about the benefits Farm Bureau members receive. With any non-profit, we are nothing without our membership. We are currently having a membership drive to conclude our year which ends on October 31. It's important for MCFB to meet it membership goals with California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF), because we are able to keep more of your membership dues at the local level. If we hit our year end goal, MCFB can earn a larger chunk of money from CFBF. Besides year end goals, CFBF also gives out monthly goals of obtaining the same membership level as the year before. Hitting these goals leads to more money kept locally.

One idea the board has started doing in the last 6 months is assigning a director to a member who is overdue on their membership. We understand sometimes your renewal form ends up at the bottom of the mail pile. The board hopes these calls, besides being a friendly



Director's Desk

Breanne Ramos
Executive Director

count the teachers and parents that, along with each of the classes, learn about the significance agriculture brings to the community. Thank you for your continued support in making our event one of the most popular we have in our calendar.

Weeks prior FARM2U, I was lucky enough to represent MCFB at our nation's capital. From September 23-25, several county managers from throughout the state traveled to advocate on behalf of our membership. It was surprising the opportunities that were given to us and the doors that were opened when we were there. It was a whirlwind of a trip, but one that I would go on again if given the chance. Please check out the great article by Colleen Cecil of Butte County Farm Bureau and Dusty Ference from Kings County Farm Bureau as they encompassed the trip effortlessly.

Early September also brought with it Emily Casner's last week with Farm Bureau. If you've already covered Gino's column or have looked ahead to page 3, you've probably come across a new name or face. Our board and staff is incredibly happy, and if I may add thankful, to announce that Denelle Flake has joined our team. There were a rough few weeks on our end when we struggled as a smaller staff to ensure that we covered as

We were in the final weeks of planning FARM2U Day when I wrote my last article and that's two weeks behind us as you read our October edition of Farm News. Educating the volume of kids that we do in one day is overwhelming and challenging but rewarding at the same time. I have always enjoyed calling it organized chaos. We cannot get through this day without our faithful volunteers who are willing to lead a building with only a stopwatch, two-way radio and whistle to our folks at check-in who effortlessly juggle 40 third grade classes at once. We'd also be remiss if we didn't consider our FFA students who handle everything from providing presentations, leading classes through the day or lugging sandwiches around to our presenters.

Big thanks goes to our sponsors who provide us with the funding to make this event happen and our presenters who gear up for a long day and truly see our vision for the long-term. At the end of the day, approximately 33 schools attended. Broken down that's 114 classes with over 2,500 students passing through our event. This doesn't

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Merced County Farm Bureau's Mission Statement

Merced County Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental, grassroots organization that advocates for the men and women who provide food, fiber, and nursery products for our community, state, and nation.

Merced County Farm Bureau exists for the purpose of improving the ability of individuals engaged in production agriculture to utilize California resources to produce food and fiber in the most profitable, efficient and responsible manner possible, guaranteeing our nation a domestic food supply.

Merced County Farm Bureau supports policies and legislation that promote and protect our Country's number one industry - agriculture for future generations and the security of our nation.



Editor's Note

Denelle Flake
Project Specialist

Greetings! My name is Denelle and I am the new Project Specialist at Merced County Farm Bureau. I am a recent Spring 2019 graduate of UC Davis, where I received a Managerial Economics, B.S. with a specialization in Agribusiness Economics. During my time at UC Davis I worked at the UC Davis Meat Lab and the California 4-H State Office. I was involved in Aggie Ambassadors, UC Davis FFA Field Day, and Sigma Alpha Sorority (a professional agriculture sorority). In my fourth year, I took the role as Chapter President of the

sorority. I currently live and was raised in La Grange, CA where my family farms almonds. I was involved in 4-H & FFA growing up and primarily raised beef cattle projects. The Central Valley is my home and I have a love for its deep agricultural roots. I am excited to be in a position that helps advocate the importance of preserving agriculture.

My tasks at MCFB will include being the Editor of Farm News, creating the weekly e-News letter, memberships, scholarships & awards program, and planning Farm2U Day. I will also be a Grower Relations Representative for the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition. I look forward to meeting and working with the community in and around Merced County Farm Bureau.

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Calendar of Events

October

26: Merced County 4-H Dinner (14)

November

5-7: UC Almond Short Course (5)

8: Agribusiness Committee of Merced County Farm City Banquet (6)

December

8-11: CFBF Annual Meeting (1)

PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

reminder about paying for your membership, will be a great way for our members to have dialogue with a board member. This allows both our director and member to talk about the issues they are facing and what we at MCFB can do to better service our membership. As an organization, I feel we can do a better job of reaching out to each and every one of our members!

Times are changing in the ag industry. It seems there are less and less farmers around than there used to be. For this reason, MCFB board has had to make some changes on how we operate. Our board is always trying to look towards the future and make sure MCFB can provide the same level of service as we do today. One of the biggest changes our board made a couple of years ago was upping our Ag membership to \$275. At that time, we went over the reasons why we felt this was necessary. Just as a recap the two major reasons for the dues increase was due to having less farmers in Merced County and the loss of \$40,000 in insurance rebates due to the partnership contract with State Fund not being

renewed.

There are many benefits to be a Farm Bureau member. Do you have the time to go to every meeting you feel is important to your operation? Probably not. Farm Bureau is there for you when you can't be. We are deeply committed to our mission, which is to improve the well-being and quality of life for California farmers and ranchers. We do this through advocacy, ongoing outreach, and economic services and products for those involved in agricultural production. Farm Bureau provides services at the local, state, and federal level. There are 3 levels of the Farm Bureau organization. You start with your local county farm bureau who feeds into the CFBF which works closely with our American Farm Bureau Federation.

Other benefits you receive as a member is the weekly CFBF Ag Alert. Ag Alert is CFBF newspaper keeping our membership informed on the issues we face. Farm Bureau has a partnership with Nationwide Insurance which gives you a discount on the different types of insurance Nationwide offers.

FB members receive a discount on your Farm Employers Labor Service (FELS) membership. FELS can help you with any employee or labor wage questions. I know from personal expertise FELS is very helpful when it comes to all the new labor laws. Farm Bureau members receive discounts on vehicle rentals, travel, propane and paint. For you Ford or Lincoln fans out there you can get \$500 back on a new Ford and \$750 back on a new Lincoln. Please check out CFBF website to learn more about the discounts I mentioned and many more.

As I always say there is strength in numbers. By being a Farm Bureau member, you are making the decision to join an organization whose mission is to help keep you in business. Our sole goal every day is to do our best to help sustain farming and ranching in our beautiful state. I would like to ask all our members to please pass the word around about the work we do. You would be surprised about how many people do not understand what Farm Bureau provides. If you are thinking about joining or are

past due on your dues, we would love to talk to you about the value we can bring to your organization. If you have any questions about your membership please call me or the office.

DIRECTOR FROM PAGE 2

many bases as we could, but thanks to some dedicated directors and patient members, we've been able to find the light at the end of the tunnel. If you hear a new voice on the other end of the phone or stop by the office in your downtime, please get to know Denelle as she's a great new addition to our team.

As you wrap your harvest and put away equipment, please reach out to office as your needs arise. We're currently working on a calendar for next year, monitoring water and immigration issues and prepping comment letter after comment letter. If any of the above strike your interest or something else comes up that we may be able to aid in, please reach out. Your voice and issues are important to us.

INFRASTRUCTURE FROM PAGE 1

commonsense, meaningful reforms to ensure America can build the infrastructure we need to provide for economic growth and job creation."

NEPA Targeted?

Environmentalists fear the proposal from the Council on Environmental Quality will dismantle the protections of the 1970 National Environmental Policy Act, the nation's first major environmental law.

Raul Garcia, legislative director at environmental group Earthjustice, said he worries the plan could eliminate public comment altogether and encourage wider use of a strategy in which agencies fragment a project into several smaller ones, thus avoiding the need to weigh cumulative

impacts.

Already the administration has been ignoring NEPA in cases such as the southern border wall, which has been mostly exempted from NEPA requirements, according to Garcia.

Marna McDermott, who served as CEQ's deputy general counsel under President Barack Obama, said she could see the sense in taking another look at the regulations, as they have only been substantively amended once since their issuance in 1978.

But given the signals the Trump administration has sent, along with its policies, "I do think it's fair to assume they will be taking steps to make NEPA less effective," McDermott said.

She also said she will be paying close attention to whether and how the proposal accounts for a string of court decisions finding that agencies must consider greenhouse gas emissions in their NEPA processes.

"The courts have pretty uniformly begun to say that should be part of a NEPA analysis," McDermott said.

The proposal falls under the ambit of an August 2017 executive order that sought to make environmental permitting more efficient for big infrastructure projects.

On June 26, CEQ published draft guidance that encouraged agencies to quantify an action's projected greenhouse gas emissions

when the amount is "substantial enough to warrant quantification, and when it is practicable" to do so.

NEPA requires federal agencies to take a "hard look" at the environmental impacts of their decisions, including construction of infrastructure.

Agencies comply by completing environmental impact statements or environmental assessments—a process that environmental groups say is necessary to try to mitigate harms from projects, but one that industry complains often slows down development.

NEPA is "where projects go to die," Bureau of Land Management acting Director William Perry Pendley said Oct. 11 at a conference in Fort Collins, Colo.



A delegation of a dozen county Farm Bureau executive directors and California Farm Bureau Federation President Jamie Johansson, seen here posing outside the White House, advocated with members of Congress and administration officials on topics including water, immigration and trade. Photo/Josh Rolph

where we focused on new hemp regulations we are all awaiting. It was a great chance for all of us, from multiple parts of California, to share with Mr. Ibach and his team the unique challenges each is experiencing from incorporating hemp into our farming systems at the county level.

It was eye-opening to learn how many federal agencies were affected by the need for the new hemp rule. In addition to USDA, agencies that must weigh in on the rule include the Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Transportation and even the Post Office. Although there remain many things to accomplish before it is publishable, USDA officials said they hope their rule will be released in late fall or early winter.

With all the hemp talk, there was still time to discuss the Food Safety Modernization Act. Farm Bureau expressed concerns regarding FSMA inspections and implementation, explaining as its most significant concerns the inconsistencies from food-safety inspectors and the lack of hard and fast rules in the regulation.

The remainder of our meetings included a divide-and-conquer

approach from our group, so we could meet with as many members of Congress as possible. Among all of us, we met with at least 18 different members of Congress or their staff representatives.

Our entire group met with the staff of Sen. Dianne Feinstein to specifically discuss labor and the need for comprehensive immigration reform. The senator's agricultural labor liaison assured the group that immigration reform was a top priority for the senator, and was excited to hear from representatives of California agriculture about the importance of meaningful immigration reform.

The second day of the trip began with a breakfast featuring Reps. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., and Glenn "GT" Thompson, R-Pa., with special guest Rep. Doug LaMalfa, R-Richvale. Reps. Stefanik and Thompson each have large amounts of agriculture in their districts, with farmers who face similar challenges as our Farm Bureau members in California. It was a great meeting and an example of the importance of relationships in Washington.

Throughout the trip, county Farm Bureau executive directors took full advantage of the

opportunity to share the importance of California agriculture and how it supports our state and national economies. We reminded legislators and regulators of what it takes to produce the food we eat daily and encouraged them to make decisions with agriculture in mind.

It was a privilege to represent our Farm Bureau members while in Washington, and we would encourage all our members to participate in going to D.C. with Farm Bureau. It takes time and it takes planning, but it is worth

it. Telling our story provides our elected representatives with real examples of how their decisions impact our ability to farm and ranch.

Contact your County Farm Bureau office today if you are interested. We're eager to help you tell your story to the people who need to hear it.

Writers: Colleen Cecil is the Executive Director of Butte County Farm Bureau and Dusty Feremce is the Executive Director of Kings County Farm Bureau.

California: Almond Production Short Course, Visalia, Nov. 5-7

By Pamela Kan-Rice, *University of California*

UC Agriculture and Natural Resources will host the UC Almond Short Course Nov. 5-7, 2019, at the Visalia Convention Center.

UC faculty, UC Cooperative Extension specialists and farm advisors and USDA researchers will provide in-depth, comprehensive presentations of all phases of almond culture and production. An optional field tour will be offered on Nov. 8 in Parlier.

The program is based on the latest information and research and will cover the fundamental principles that form the basis for practical decisions. Each session will include Q&A, quality time with instructors and networking opportunities. The full agenda is viewable here.

This year's short course offers an in-depth field tour at the

Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center on Friday, Nov. 8. For an additional fee, participants can learn firsthand about topics ranging from orchard establishment and management to integrated pest management.

Registration is \$900, discounts are available until Oct. 21. On-site registration will be \$1,000.

Registration includes:

- Three full days of instruction with more than 35 presentations
- Binders containing presentations
- Three lunches and two receptions
- DPR (PCA) & CCA continuing education credits (pending approval)
- Option to add Field Tour for \$65

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California Almonds: Start 2020's Weed Management After 2019's harvest

By Drew Wolter, UC Davis Graduate Student

October 16, 2019 - While weeds are present in every orchard, there is variation in the species composition and the density of each population from orchard to orchard. Scouting for weeds is the basis for a good Integrated Weed Management (IWM) plan. Information gathered from weed scouting allows growers to evaluate the current year's control program

It also can lead to discoveries of weed stands before they spread throughout an orchard. With this information, a grower can adjust control practices for the next year. Specifically, growers and crop advisors will have better data for:

- Choosing appropriate herbicide for species and identify areas for possible spot treatments.
- Selecting the best cultivation method for weed stage.
- Where to alter cultural practices to target weed life cycles.

Post-harvest scouting offers an opportunity to evaluate the current year's orchard floor management plan, allowing you to see what weed species have escaped the year's management plan, where they are, and how severe the infestation may be. These are all valuable pieces of information, which help design a management program to meet the specific needs

of the orchard from year to year. Keys to Scouting

Most weed species are much more challenging to manage as they mature. Because of this, post-harvest scouting should start early and be repeated a couple of times throughout winter, in order to catch weeds when they are young. Herbicide applications targeting mature weeds are often minimally effective, resulting in a less successful program and increased management costs. Three keys for successful scouting:

1. Record weed infestations and use a map/GPS to show areas of escaped weeds. For a weed scouting template and additional information visit: ucanr.edu/PMG/C003/almond-fallweed.pdf
2. Accurately identifying weed species is crucial for effective management because herbicide recommendations, mechanical and cultural control strategies vary depending on the While some species can look similar, they may have drastically different management requirements.
3. Look out for different weeds in different management zones. A good place to start is by checking in the tree rows to evaluate the effectiveness of any previous herbicide

applications. Check the ground cover in the row middles for any perennial seedlings. Check orchard borders and at the ends of rows where new species may be

Herbicide resistance

With the growing number of herbicide resistant weeds in California orchards, control of escaped weeds can considerably reduce the cost of an annual orchard floor management program. For example, spot treating two acres of glyphosate resistant palmer amaranth

with a tank mix of Glufosinate and Gramoxone is much more affordable than trying to control it over the entire 50-acre block.

So far, 30 herbicide-resistant weed species have been confirmed in California. Scout now so you can spot treat, rather than having an orchard full of herbicide resistant weeds in the future.

For more information on herbicide-resistant weeds, species identification and control options, visit the UC Davis Weed Research and Information Center or the IPM site.



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Friday, November 8, 2019
Merced County Fairgrounds (Yosemite Hall)
No Host Bar and Raffle - 5:30 pm
Dinner, Dessert and Live Auction - 6:45 pm
\$400 Main Door Prize Auction
(Must be present to win)

This Year's Award Nominees are:

- Trees - Parreira Almond Processing
- Livestock - Don Arburua Cattle Co.
- AG Education - Sonia Falaschi
- Field/Row Crops - Gary Giampaoli
- AG Business - Minturn Huller Company Jeff Hamilton

Auctions **Live Band Music by Second Wind** **Raffles**



Proceeds support Ag Education, Events and Scholarships in Merced County

Genome-Edited Bull Passes on Hornless Trait to Calves

By Amy Quinton, *News and Media Relations, UC Davis*

For the past two years, researchers at the University of California, Davis, have been studying six offspring of a dairy bull, genome-edited to prevent it from growing horns. This technology has been proposed as an alternative to dehorning, a common management practice performed to protect other cattle and human handlers from injuries.

UC Davis scientists have just published their findings in the journal *Nature Biotechnology*. They report that none of the bull's offspring developed horns, as expected, and blood work and physical exams of the calves found they were all healthy. The researchers also sequenced the genomes of the calves and their parents and analyzed these genomic sequences, looking for any unexpected changes.

All data were shared with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Analysis by FDA scientists revealed a fragment of bacterial DNA, used to deliver the hornless trait to the bull, had integrated alongside one of the two hornless genetic variants, or alleles, that were generated by genome editing in the bull. UC Davis researchers further validated this finding.

"Our study found that two calves inherited the naturally occurring hornless allele and four calves additionally inherited a fragment of bacterial DNA, known as a plasmid," said corresponding author Alison Van Eenennaam, with the UC Davis Department of Animal Science.

Plasmid integration can be addressed by screening and selection, in this case, selecting the two offspring of the genome-edited hornless bull that inherited only the

naturally occurring allele.

"This type of screening is routinely done in plant breeding where genome editing frequently involves a step that includes a plasmid integration," said Van Eenennaam.

Van Eenennaam said the plasmid does not harm the animals, but the integration technically made the genome-edited bull a GMO, because it contained foreign DNA from another species, in this case a bacterial plasmid.

"We've demonstrated that healthy hornless calves with only the intended edit can be produced, and we provided data to help inform the process for evaluating genome-edited animals," said Van Eenennaam. "Our data indicates the need to screen for plasmid integration when they're used in the editing process."

Since the original work in 2013, initiated by the Minnesota-based company Recombinetics, new methods have been developed that no longer use donor template plasmid or other extraneous DNA sequence to bring about introgression of the hornless allele.

Scientists did not observe any other unintended genomic alterations in the calves, and all animals remained healthy during the study period. Neither the bull, nor the calves, entered the food supply as per FDA guidance for genome-edited livestock.

Why the need for hornless cows?

Many dairy breeds naturally grow horns. But on dairy farms, the horns are typically removed, or the calves "disbudded" at a young age. Animals that don't have horns are less likely to harm animals or dairy workers and have fewer aggressive behaviors. The dehorning process


is unpleasant and has implications for animal welfare. Van Eenennaam said genome-editing offers a pain-free genetic alternative to removing horns by introducing a naturally occurring genetic variant, or allele, that is present in some breeds of beef cattle such as Angus.

Other authors in the study include Amy Young, Tamer Mansour, Bret McNabb, and C. Titus Brown, with the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine; and Joseph Owen, and Josephine Trott, with the UC Davis Department of Animal Science. This work was supported by Biotechnology Risk Assessment Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture


to ALV, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation's Data-Driven Discovery Initiative, and the California Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of California, Davis.



A horned bull from a control group is flanked by two hornless offspring of a genome-edited bull. (Alison Van Eenennaam/UC Davis)



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# Say "Cheese" with Santa

## Try the AgXscape Room Challenge at Hilmar Cheese Company's Annual Holiday Open House on November 9 from 10 am to 3 pm

By Denise Skidmore, *Director of Education & Public Relations, Hilmar Cheese Company*

HILMAR, CA. Say "cheese" and take your family holiday photo with Santa at Hilmar Cheese Company's annual holiday open house.

At noon, Santa and Hilmar Cheese Company's very own spokesperson, "Daisy," will arrive and be available for family photos until 2 pm. There is no charge to visit with Santa and take your picture.

The open house features local vendors with free samples of delicious cheese and gourmet foods. These products are featured in Hilmar Cheese Company's signature holiday gift boxes and baskets. These baskets and boxes make wonderful gifts and can be ordered online, picked up in-store or shipped with in the United States.

For those 21 and older, there is complimentary wine tasting starting at 11 am and the Hilmar Community Band will fill room

with holiday music.

The BBQ will be ready at 11 am and features Hilmar Cheese Company's famous barrel-smoked tri-tip meal.

At 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm and 2 pm guests can join the fun for an ice cream making (and eating) activity. It is \$3 per person to make, and eat, your own homemade ice cream.

The AgXscape Room will hold a special challenge during the holiday open house. Each group that solves either the cows or calves will receive a free tub of fresh squeakers!

Have you tried an escape room? Hilmar Cheese Company's AgXscape is designed for six players of family and friends. Children ages 7 are able to help solves the clues and puzzles to help save the herd. Book your time online in advanced at [hilmarcheese.com/agxscape](http://hilmarcheese.com/agxscape).

com/agxscape.

Plan to visit Hilmar Cheese Company's Visitor Center on Saturday, November 9, 2019, to

enjoy holiday décor, delicious cheese and gourmet food samples, music and shopping.



*Hilmar Cheese Holiday Open House with Santa*



### Public Safety Power Shutoff Helping the Agriculture Industry Prepare

As an additional precautionary measure following the 2017 and 2018 wildfires, PG&E has enhanced and expanded our Community Wildfire Safety Program. Our goal is to further reduce wildfire risks and keep our customers and the communities we serve safe.

#### Turning Off Power For Safety

If gusty winds and dry conditions, combined with a heightened fire risk, threaten a portion of the electric system serving your community, it may be necessary for PG&E to turn off electricity in the interest of public safety. This is called a **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)**.

#### Steps You Can Take to Prepare for a Public Safety Power Shutoff



##### CREATE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN

- ✓ Update your contact information at [pge.com/mywildfirealerts](http://pge.com/mywildfirealerts) or by calling the Business Customer Service Line
- ✓ Practice procedures in your emergency plan
- ✓ Create and update your employee roster



##### CALL FOR AN ENERGY ASSESSMENT

- ✓ Business Customer Service Line: **1-800-468-4743**
- ✓ Agricultural Customer Service Line: **1-877-311-3276**



##### VIEW WEATHER WEBSITE

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- ✓ Keep backup generators and fuel in a safe and well-ventilated place
- ✓ Test your generator

Visit [pge.com/wildfiresafety](http://pge.com/wildfiresafety) for more information

#### PSPS Event Notifications

Weather can change quickly. When possible, we will provide customers with advance notice prior to turning off the power. We will also provide updates until power is restored.

##### TIMING OF NOTIFICATIONS (when possible)

- ~48 HOURS before power is turned off
- ~24 HOURS before power is turned off
- JUST BEFORE power is turned off
- DURING THE PUBLIC SAFETY OUTAGE
- ONCE POWER HAS BEEN RESTORED



##### HOW WE'LL NOTIFY CUSTOMERS

We will attempt to reach customers through automated calls, texts and emails using the contact information we have on file. We will also share updates through local news, radio, social media and [pge.com](http://pge.com).

#### DURING A PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF



- Follow your emergency preparedness plan
- Fill water storage tanks to supply your facility
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- Visit [pge.com/pspsentmaps](http://pge.com/pspsentmaps) to learn about impacted locations

24-HOUR POWER OUTAGE INFORMATION LINE: 1-800-743-5002

#### Frequently Asked Questions

- **How long will a PSPS event last?**  
Because weather can last several hours or days, for planning purposes, we suggest customers prepare for multiple-day outages. We expect to restore power within 24 to 48 hours from the time the weather has passed. The total outage duration will depend, however, on weather conditions and if any repairs are needed.
- **Will you reimburse customers for losses due to shutting off power?**  
We do not reimburse customers for losses, as power will be shut off for safety when gusty winds and dry conditions combine with a heightened fire risk. Customers will not be charged for electricity usage during the time power is off because no power is being consumed.
- **How can I learn more about the weather conditions forecasted in my area?**  
PG&E has recently launched [pge.com/weather](http://pge.com/weather), a dedicated webpage with weather forecasting information and a daily 7-day PSPS lookahead. The site shows when and where PG&E is forecasting the type of conditions that may lead to a PSPS event.

Learn more at [pge.com/psps](http://pge.com/psps)

Following the wildfires in 2017 and 2018, some of the changes included in this document are contemplated as additional precautionary measures intended to further reduce future wildfire risk. PG&E refers to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation. ©2019 Pacific Gas and Electric Company. All rights reserved. CCR-0819-1512. 09/10/2019



# Atwater High School FFA Students Promote “Farm2U”

By Eryka Lepper, *Atwater FFA*

Members of the Atwater High School FFA joined nearly a 100 presenters and 2500 third grade students from local schools throughout Merced County and participated in the Merced County Farm Bureau’s 8th annual “Farm2U” event on October 10th at the Merced County Fairgrounds. The purpose of the event was to build a connection between people and the importance of agriculture. “There is a trend of misconceptions pertaining agriculture and the agriculture industry, and we wanted to showcase with the younger generation the positive aspects and importance of agriculture,” said Atwater FFA Advisor Kim Mesa.

The 2500 third-grade children visited Merced County Fairgrounds received “hands-on” experience of various agriculture industry sectors. “This is a tremendous

event and activity for young kids to be exposed to one of our community’s primary industries,” said Atwater High School agriculture instructor Natalie Borba. “The opportunity to get kids excited and learn about agriculture and its importance to us all is very rewarding.” Various agriculture industry representatives from the county participated in the event. Local FFA students attended the event as presenters.

“Many kids never have the opportunity to see and be around farm animals and the goal is that this experience is a positive one and results in a greater appreciation of agriculture,” said Atwater FFA member Michael Bray. “Our high school is focusing on “community” and this event provided us high school students the opportunity to interact with a future generation of

students regarding the value and importance of agriculture.”

The Atwater High School FFA continues to get members involved in making a positive difference within the community through

opportunities like “Farm2U”. For more information on Atwater FFA, you can log onto AtwaterFFA.org website or follow them on Facebook, Instagram, and/or Twitter.



*Atwater FFA Presentation: Atwater High School agriculture and floriculture students Marissa Nuno, Noelia Barrios, Hayley Vargas, Perla Caballero give a presentation on the floral industry to students who attended the annual Farm2U event held at the Merced County Fairgrounds.*

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To buy tickets contact a local 4-H member or leader or  
Visit the UC 4-H Office at 2145 Wardrobe Avenue in Merced  
(209) 385-7418



# A Change in Plans

By Danette Toso, *Executive Director, Mariposa County Farm Bureau*



"You can't plan life because no matter how perfect your plan is, life has a way to rearrange it." ~~~  
Mina Deanna Quotes

Just as Mariposa County residents were beginning to feel like "fire season" was coming to an end, the Briceburg Fire flared with a vengeance. What began as a small brush fire quickly spread to an inferno, consuming over 5500 acres. As of October 19th the fire was 98% contained. Thank you to CalFire and all involved in keeping this fire to a minimum and saving lives, homes and land.

The Mariposa Farm Bureau's annual fundraiser dinner was scheduled for October 12th at the Mariposa Fairgrounds. While discussing plans for the seating arrangements at the hall the week of the dinner, we watched the plumes of smoke billowing up just north of town. As the wind kicked up, we hoped for the best and prepared for the worst. Just a few days before the dinner, I received the call that CalFire was setting up camp at the fairgrounds and we needed to reschedule for the following Saturday. Suddenly, I found myself scrambling, finagling and rearranging plans that were made over a year ago.

With newspaper advertisements, flyers, banners, Face Book, radio PSA's and word of mouth circulating, it's hard to switch gears and get the word out of a change in date. There was also

the small detail of 275 pounds of Ribeye Steaks ordered from Sanders Meats waiting to be cut. One should never underestimate our supporters, they came through once again and helped make our rescheduled dinner a splendid success! It's truly humbling to see the outpouring of support from members, soon to be members, and Ag enthusiasts make our dinner a priority in their lives. Elnora George was recognized as our Friend of Agriculture and her lifelong commitment to Ag was

obvious, as her family and friends attended to celebrate her.

We would like to thank our corporate sponsors, Nationwide Insurance, Stanislaus Farm Supply and Yosemite Farm Credit with whom we can rely on year after year. Thank you to Bill Hodson and his cooking and serving crews for another wonderful gourmet steak dinner. We received many wonderful live and silent auction items as always, and our dinner guests were very generous in their bidding. The dessert auction was a great success as well, and we sincerely appreciate the talented bakers and generous bidders. My family contributed to the Scholarship Fund as my dad and I had no idea that we were bidding against each other on a dessert.....I outbid him, and he got the sweets! I guess he deserved it, as the trunk he made for the live auction was sold and re-donated several times! Supervisor Merlin Jones was the high bidder on our VIP table again this year, and we sincerely appreciate his support as always.

We all do a lot of planning in our lives, but it's how we deal with the rearranging that matters. My plan is to encourage farmers, ranchers and conservators to invite friends, neighbors and family members to join the collective voice of the Farm Bureau. Together, we can make our organization stronger than ever, one member at a time.



*Elnora George - Friend of Agriculture 2020*

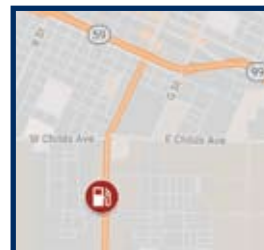
# The American Legion Post 567 Annual Sale

The American Legion Post 567, Mariposa will hold their Annual Sale Saturday October 26th at 5117 Bullion St. from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Sale items include lost and found items from Yosemite National Park and Amarmark, along with donations from the community. Items include electronics, bikes, jackets, boots, clothing, camping gear, jewelry, skis, poles, sunglasses, and household items. Please come shop and support our local Veterans.

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# Gustine FFA September Update

By Nick Alamo, *Gustine FFA*

Summer has come and passed. As Green Day once said, wake me up when September ends. Well guess what September is over and for the Gustine FFA, it was jam-packed with events and activities.

The first quarter has gone so fast. For the start of this month's chapter events, it all started at the first home football game of the year. The Gustine FFA program held a tailgate before the game by the gym, hosting games of cornhole and hotdogs for the members and whoever else wanted something to eat. Those who attended were met with Mr. Baffunno, the FFA's food science teacher, barbecuing hot dogs and sausages, and people tossing bags into corn hole boards and while members got temporary tattoos and spirit gear to get themselves excited for the game.

The FFA didn't stop there with the fun, on the tenth, the chapter officers took part in the Merced Mariposa SOLC. The officers were greeted by the sectional officers to the conference and were split up to play games of teamwork and communication while underlying the importance of the chapter.

Later in the month, on the 18th, the Gustine FFA chapter had its second chapter meeting of the year. At the meeting, members were served ice cream from the officers. The turn out was a major improvement from the last meeting with tons of new faces present that night.

On the 24th, Aubrie Hazan, the chapter's vice president attended National Delegate training in Galt where she was informed on the process of the election and the

importance of her role. We wish her luck and represent the chapter well.

Lastly, on the 28th four of our chapter officers, including, Megan Azevedo, Stacy Oliveira, Patrick Broderick, and Nick Alamo, visited Gregori High for the annual Chapter Officer Leadership Conference. The entire day was

filled to the brim with activities and sessions for the officers to meet new people and explore opportunities they can bring back to their chapters.

We hope October is just as fun and we hope to see all of our FFA members at the next meeting, held October 23, at 6:30 pm.



*Gustine FFA Officer Team From Left to Right: Amanda Oliveira, Nicholas Alamo, Aubrie Hazan, Patrick Broderick, Madison Woods, Stacy Oliveira*



*Gustine FFA Ice cream social*



*Gustine FFA at COLC*



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# Working for you, Meet CFBF: Hear from Josh Rolph

By Anna Genasci, *Farm News Editor, Stanislaus County Farm Bureau*



*Josh is the Director of Federal Policy and has been with CFBF for almost 11 years. Currently, Josh is devoting a lot of time supporting his team as they work on labor reform.*

Each year a percentage of your Farm Bureau membership dues go to California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF). But, do you actually know how that money is, as they say, “working for you?” In this new series, we will get the chance

to hear from several CFBF staff, from multiple divisions, about how they spend their days spreading the grassroots message of California producers.

First up, Josh Rolph. Josh is the Director of Federal Policy and has been with CFBF for almost 11 years. Josh’s department is staffed with three employees in Sacramento and one consultant who resides in Washington D.C. This team spends their time tackling a list of key issues that impact California Agriculture. “Water always seems to land near the top of the list,” said Josh. “Water can be hard,” mentioned Josh, “when we are in a drought it is easier to get their (representatives) attention, but in reality, water is something we should never let them forget about.”

Water isn’t the only hot topic right now, trade and labor issues have a lot happening currently, not to mention the other topics Josh and his team work on; food safety, forestry, crop protection products, estate tax, Farm Bill and more.

Currently, Josh is devoting a lot of time supporting his team as they work on labor reform. “Right now there is a bill that has been in the making for the last seven months,” said Josh. The bill will be introduced in the House next

week and the Speaker has given it floor time the last week of October. There is excitement around this bill because CFBF feels like it is a good fit for California agriculture. According to Josh, “this is the first comprehensive agriculture labor bill that addresses our needs, things like; a plan for current undocumented workers, future labor needs and a guest worker program.”

For those of you following the labor issue, you might recall the Goodlatte bill that failed last year. CFBF openly opposed the Goodlatte bill because it didn’t offer solutions to California’s labor needs. This was an area where CFBF opposed a bill that was being supported by American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). Josh mentioned that the latest news is AFBF will most like stay neutral on the current bill.

When Josh joined the CFBF team several years ago, he brought with him six years of experience from Washington D.C. Josh worked as the Associate Director for the Office of Congressional Relations for USDA. Prior to that he served as the Legislative Director and Legislative Correspondent for the U.S. House of Representatives. “I put a clock on it, I didn’t really want to spend more than three to five years in D.C.” said Josh. “I grew up

in Pennsylvania, I was tired of snow and humidity, living in California was always something I wanted,” smiled Josh.

Josh now lives in Sacramento with his wife Kristina and their four children; 12 year-old twins Michael and Sam, 9 year-old daughter Anna, and 6 year-old son Nate.

What does Josh love about his job, “When I can make a positive dent in the universe. When CFBF has made an impact in D.C., when a bill passes in our favor or I see an article about a CFBF win.”

Josh also mention how CFBF is changing up a few things to improve communications with its members. “I am excited about our membership and communications teams. They are looking at new ideas to better communication with counties and their members,” said Josh. Currently Josh uses Farm Team as an avenue to communicate key issues with members, especially when there is a need for action, like sending a letter to representatives about current legislation.

Josh wanted to leave this final message for Farm Bureau Members, “Thank you. We think about you everyday as we represent Farm Bureau. We need your voice, we are here to help you amplify your message.”



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PONY EXPRESSO  
966-5053

### REAL ESTATE

CATHEY'S VALLEY REAL ESTATE  
742-2121

### SERVICES

CHASES FOOTHILL PETROLEUM  
966-3314  
EDWARDS LIEN & TOSO AG  
APPRAISERS  
634-9484  
PALMER TRACTOR  
374-3470  
RANCH FENCE, INC.  
966-5914  
VALLEY PACIFIC PETROLEUM  
948-9412  
YOSEMITE GLASS & WINDOW INC.  
966-3292

### WINERIES

MOUNT BULLION VINEYARD  
377-8450  
RAUCH RANCH VINEYARD & WINERY  
742-7162

**To be included in this  
directory,  
join the  
Mariposa County  
Farm Bureau  
at 742-5875.**

# Merced County Business Member Directory

SUPPORT FARM BUREAU BUSINESS MEMBERS

## **AUTOMOTIVE DEALERS**

SANTOS FORD  
826-4921

## **REPAIRS & SERVICES**

AC KING  
722-3552  
ATWATER TIRE  
358-6475  
ATWATER RADIATOR & MUFFLER INC  
358-2638  
CAR PLUS  
722-3552  
FREITAS AUTO WRECKERS  
722-7086  
PRO LUBE CENTER  
383-9000  
SCHOETTLER TIRE  
723-1823  
SKY BLUE MOBILE GLASS LLC  
726-4500

## **CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS**

ALLISON SIERRA, INC.  
966-4082  
CLEDENIN BROTHERS INC.  
383-9367  
DIAS CONSTRUCTION, INC.  
634-9601  
M-MIG CONSTRUCTION  
631-6017

## **LANDSCAPE**

BERGMAN LANDSCAPE  
669-9138

## **FARM EQUIPMENT**

BELKORP AG LLC  
722-8031  
GARTON TRACTOR INC.  
862-3760  
HOLT AG SOLUTIONS  
723-2021  
J M EQUIPMENT CO INC .  
386-1797  
KIRBY MANUFACTURING  
723-0778  
LAIRD MFG LLC  
722-4145  
N&S TRACTOR  
383-5888

## **REAL ESTATE**

FLANAGAN REALTY  
723-4337 (MERCED)  
559-665-1313 (CHOWCHILLA)  
SARAH BELL, PROPERTY TEAM  
769-4698  
TONI MARQUES, CENTRY 21 M&M ASSO-  
CIATES  
489-0650  
DICK TEMPLETON, COLDWELL BANKER  
761-4441  
RON SCANLON, COLDWELL BANKER  
676-1666  
RUCKER REAL ESTATE  
722-6532  
VALLEY REAL ESTATE SALES, INC  
854-1000

## **FARM SERVICES GENERAL**

A-BAR AG ENTERPRISES  
826-2636  
BRIGHTS NURSERY  
389-4511  
CADDYSHACK RODENT SERVICE LLC  
(559) 363-3315  
CAL AG SAFTEY  
351-0321  
CAL CORN GROWERS INC  
(559) 665-5775  
CAL PRO FARM LABOR  
635-5909  
CHIPPONERI ELECTRIC  
634-4616  
CHOZEN FEW RANCHES  
585-8633  
DAIRY LOGIC  
777-7747  
DUTCH DOOR DAIRY  
648-2166  
FARM MANAGEMENT INC.  
667-1011  
GUERRERO FARM LABOR  
492-0408  
HORIZON FARMS, INC.  
383-5225  
J & F FERTILIZER  
854-6325  
LA FOLLETTE ENTERPRISES, INC.  
632-1385  
MACHADO FEED COMPANY  
658-5943  
MARCIEL & CO  
777-0911  
MID VALLEY AG SERVICE  
394-7981  
MODERN DAIRY  
722-7452  
MODESTO DAIRY SUPPLY  
669-6200  
PIERRE PERRET FARMING  
769-0057  
POLLINATION CONNECTION  
877-970-BEES (2337)  
SILVA & SONS CUSTOM SPREADING  
667-2566  
SILVA'S HAY SOURCE  
777-7440

## **FOOD PROCESSING**

A V THOMAS PRODUCE  
394-7514  
DOLE PACKAGED FROZEN FOODS  
358-5643  
MINTURN HULLER COOP INC.  
(559) 665-1185  
PARREIRA ALMOND PROCESSING CO.  
826-1262  
SENSIENT NATURAL INGREDIENTS  
800-558-9892  
YOSEMITE FARMS  
383-3411

## **LIVESTOCK SERVICES**

NEWMAN STOCKYARDS  
862-4500  
NICHOLAS CALF RANCH  
725-8253

## **HARVESTING & HAULING**

BERTUCCIO HAY  
761-6247  
CASTILLO BROTHERS TRUCKING  
392-3817  
DIAMOND J FARMS  
564-0870  
MINTURN HULLER CO-OP  
(559) 665-1185  
NORTHERN MERCED HULLING  
667-2308  
WALLACE & SON  
382-0131

## **IRRIGATION, WELLS, & SEPTIC**

ALLISON SIERRA, INC.  
966-4082  
AGRI VALLEY IRRIGATION  
384-8494  
DICKEY'S PUMP SERVICE  
394-3112  
FRASIER IRRIGATION COMPANY  
387-4202  
PRECISION AQUA  
756-2025  
QUALITY WELL DRILLERS  
357-0675  
RAIN FOR RENT/WESTSIDE PUMP  
(559) 693-4135  
ROBAL INC.  
826-4540  
SAN LUIS PUMP COMPANY  
383-0464  
SHANNON PUMP COMPANY  
723-3904

## **INSECT & WEED CONTROL**

AGRECOM  
678-1429  
ENVIRONMENTAL SPRAYING SERVICE  
667-1038  
MALM AG PEST MANAGEMENT  
392-6905  
MERCED CO MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DIST  
722-1527  
STAR CREEK LAND STEWARDS  
704-1790

## **FARM SUPPLIES**

AG FLAG  
357-3424  
CAL FARM SERVICE  
358-1554  
KELLOGGS SUPPLY  
722-1501  
LIVINGSTON TRUE VALUE HARDWARE &  
FARM SUPPLIES  
MODESTO DAIRY SUPPLY  
669-6200  
STANISLAUS FARM SUPPLY  
723-0704

## **FUEL SERVICES**

W H BRESHEARS INC  
522-7291  
WESTERN STATES PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION  
661-321-0884  
VALLEY PACIFIC PETROLEUM  
948-9412  
VAN DE POL PETROLEUM  
667-0236



# Farm Emergency Plan

*The following information is provided by Nationwide, the #1 farm and ranch insurer in the U.S.\**



## Plan for the unpredictable

As farmers and ranchers know all too well: Mother Nature is unpredictable. But being prepared with an emergency action plan is a great investment in helping preserve what you've worked so hard to build.

Here are some tips for what to include in your farm or ranch emergency plan:

- Include a map of your farm or ranch with all buildings and contents. Document emergency

who will be responsible for what emergency task, and how they'll report fire and other emergencies. Identify procedures to be followed by the people who remain to handle critical operations before they evacuate.

- Document procedures to account for all people and employees after an emergency evacuation. Have contingency plans for where you'll house

escape routes and procedures for each building on your property.

- Specify

livestock if barns or dairy parlors are damaged or destroyed.

- Pre-plan salvage operations and include a method of debris disposal. Be aware of what materials the landfill nearest your farm or ranch will accept and establish alternatives if needed.

Follow any specific procedures for disposal of chemicals or other hazardous materials to meet EPA requirements.

- Develop and maintain a list of all people connected with your farm or ranch who should be contacted in an emergency. Be sure to include names and all pertinent contact information. This can include owners, family members, employees, employee family members, suppliers and anyone else

who is on your farm or ranch on a regular basis.

- Develop and maintain a list of emergency contacts. Include local law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical responders, gas and electric providers, hospitals and insurance companies. Keep copies of your emergency contact list in your home, your office, your glove compartment, with all family members, any key employees and in additional buildings. The key is to always have them close at hand.

- Establish an inventory system. Know exactly what's on your farm or ranch at all times.

- Designate a location for offsite storage of important documents and records.

## Merced County Business Member Directory

SUPPORT FARM BUREAU BUSINESS MEMBERS

### INSURANCE

BARLOCKER INSURANCE  
383-0220  
FLUETSCH & BUSBY INSURANCE  
722-1541  
DIANE NORTON INSURANCE  
357-3626  
RICO, PFITZER, PIRES AND ASSOCIATES  
854-2000  
WALTER MORTENSEN INSURANCE  
353-2700  
WESTERN VALLEY INSURANCE  
826-5667  
WINTON IRELAND INSURANCE  
394-7925

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

ALICE B. CONTRERAS CPA  
722-6778  
AMERICAN AG CREDIT  
384-1050/826-0320  
CENTRAL VALLEY COMMUNITY BANK  
725-2820  
FARMERS & MERCHANT BANK  
626-4100  
GRIMBLEBY COLEMAN CPAS  
527-4220  
TRANS COUNTY TITLE COMPANY  
383-4660  
YOSEMITE FARM CREDIT  
383-1116

### GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

BLUE DIAMOND GROWERS  
559-474-2996  
CALIFORNIA SWEET POTATO GROWERS  
394-7935  
CALIFORNIA WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE  
723-5878  
CENTRAL CA IRRIGATION DIST.  
826-1421  
CORTEZ GROWERS ASSOCIATION  
632-3118  
DOS PALOS COOP GIN  
387-4151  
FARMERS RICE COOPERATIVE  
(916) 923-5100  
GUSTINE DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
854-6782  
HILLTOP RANCH INC  
874-1875  
LIVINGSTON FARMERS ASSOC  
394-7941  
MERCED BOOSTERS  
761-0815  
MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
722-5761  
TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
883-8205  
MERCED COLLEGE AG DIVISION  
384-6250

### SOLAR

COLDWELL SOLAR  
259-9260

### MISCELLANEOUS

AMARANTS PROPANE SERVICE  
358-2257  
BERLINER COHEN LLP  
385-0700  
CALIFORNIA FARMLAND TRUST  
916-544-2712  
EAC ENGINEERING INC  
664-1067  
HAT SOURCE  
357-3424  
MERCED COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
722-1506  
P. B. IYER M.D.  
854-1120  
QUEEN ANNE'S GARDEN NURSERY  
358-3875  
SANTA FE PET HOSPITAL  
383-5050  
UNWIRED BROADBAND  
(559) 336-4157

***TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS BUSINESS DIRECTORY, JOIN THE MERCED COUNTY FARM BUREAU. CALL DENELLE AT 723-3001.***

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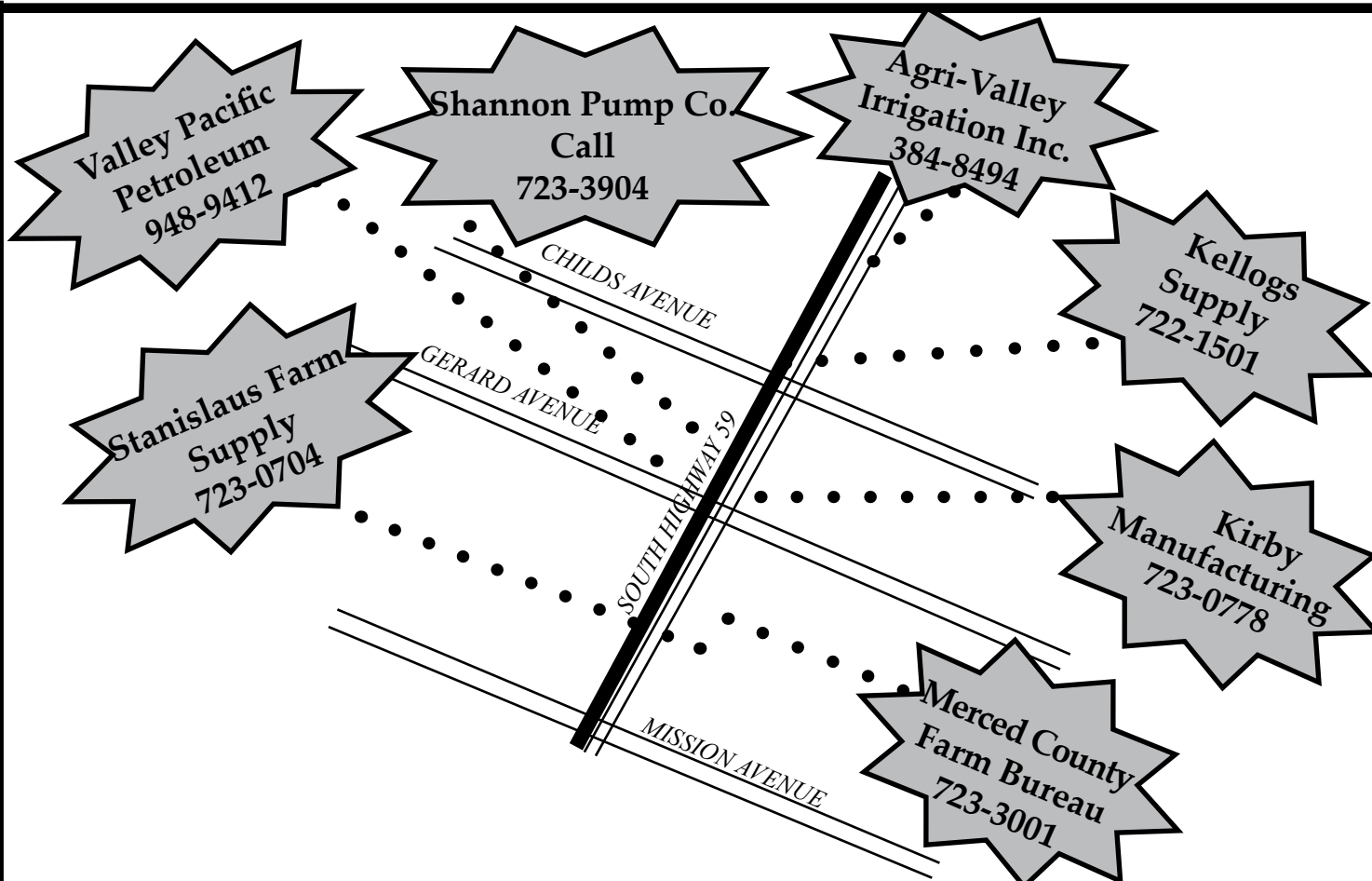
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**Merced Farm & Industrial  
Businesses on Highway 59**

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# MCFB FARM AND RANCH CONNECTION

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- Flat Tire Changes
- Car Wreck Towing
- Lockouts & Jumpstarts
- Residential Transportation

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- Cattle Ranches
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[jwatson@pearsonrealty.com](mailto:jwatson@pearsonrealty.com)

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SINCE 1938**

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|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Madera</b><br>739 E St.<br>552-7221 | <b>Merced</b><br>13079 Sunland Rd.<br>392-4294 | <b>Hughson</b><br>740 Merced St.<br>463-5726 | <b>Almond</b><br>2240 Almond Blvd.<br>326-4862 |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

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The Rooted in Agriculture Rewards Program asks teachers to incorporate at least one agriculturally based lesson into their curriculum between November 1, 2019 and January 24, 2020 and submit a completed application for a chance to win \$500 for school supplies.

**Applications due February 1, 2020**

Please see application for all details and requirements  
<https://www.mercedfarmbureau.org>

# NEW WELL REGULATIONS

## WHAT THEY MEAN TO YOU

**STARTING JAN 1, 2019, EAST SAN JOAQUIN WATER QUALITY COALITION MEMBERS MUST CONDUCT ANNUAL DOMESTIC WELL SAMPLING**

- 🔧 Samples must be collected using proper methods, chain of custody, and quality assurance protocols
- 🔬 Analysis of samples must be conducted by an ELAP certified lab
- 🔄 Monitoring data must be submitted electronically to the State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database by the testing laboratory
- ✉️ If the sample exceeds the drinking water standard for nitrates, the member must provide notice to users within 10 days
- 📄 Notice to users must be given using a copy of the Drinking Water Notification Template
- 📝 The template must be signed and submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and retained by the member certifying notice has been given to users

Your local Farm Bureau has partnered with Anteris Agronomics to provide our members with a discounted service to comply with these regulations.



Merced County Farm Bureau  
[mercedfarmbureau.org](http://mercedfarmbureau.org)



(559) 472-6415  
[anterisag.com](http://anterisag.com)