

Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

APRIL 2013
VOLUME 37, ISSUE 4

INSIDE this issue

- 3 Ask Laura**
Light Brown Apple Moth
- 4 Water Nanny**
Nature Abhors A Vacuum
- 5 Recipe**
Chili Rellenos & Red Rice

11 Calendar



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER



FARM



BUREAU

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Between The Furrows is a monthly publication of the SCCFB. Members receive a subscription as part of their membership investment.

Mary Walter, Editor
Jess Brown, Managing Editor

141 Monte Vista Avenue
Watsonville, California 95076.
(831) 724-1356 or (831) 763-4450
Fax: (831) 724-5821
Email: sccfb@sbcglobal.net

Web: <http://www.sccfb.com>

National Agriculture Day Celebrated

Tom Rider Named the Al Smith Friend of Agriculture



2013 Al Smith Friend of Agriculture recipient Thomas A. Rider with wife, Laura Rider. See story on Page 8
Photo credit: Bill Ringe

Measure T - Not Well Thought Out

Written by: Chris Enright

Have you heard about Watsonville's ill-conceived "Measure T", slated for special election on June 4th? It's a poorly planned initiative that would amend "Measure U", thus increasing the urban growth limit line and mismanaging Santa Cruz County's valuable resources.

Background: Measure U took over three years of community-wide discussion and painstaking compromise to create a sensible growth roadmap. Now, while never developing the 500 acres of farmland agreed upon in Measure U, a small segment of the community wants to undo that collaborative effort and pave over 95 acres of prime farmland.

It should be noted that this precious farmland creates over \$4 million dollars of annual revenue and hundreds of local jobs. It is one of the most fertile in the Pajaro Valley, and once gone it can never be replaced.

Proponents of Measure T expect voters to believe that urban sprawl will solve Watsonville's economic woes. It's backers

have no plan, data, or vision for this property- only empty promises.

Facts: There is non-productive farmland within the city limits that could be developed. We should also focus on infill instead of urban sprawl. In fact, numerous parcels come to mind. This would revitalize and pump new life into Watsonville's historic downtown. Or, utilize the 500 acres already approved for annexation.

Measure T is akin to paving over a one-of-a-kind goldmine, only to put in another retail car lot or, ho-hum, shopping center.

The Farm Bureau has created a diverse coalition opposing Measure T, and we need your help to defeat this measure. Believe me, this measure will negatively affect just about all of us if it passes.

Please join us in saying no to empty promises and divisive politics. Help us support local businesses and preserve irreplaceable farmland.

Measure T is not well thought out.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SCCFB.COM



President's Message

CYNTHIA MATHIESEN, PRESIDENT

The bottom line is, each and every phone call, letter, visit, or email really does matter. It's your tax dollars the legislature is spending and you have every right to speak your mind.

Your Tax Dollars at Work

In honor of US Tax Day this month, I thought I would share some of the issues currently in the California state legislature that specify how your hard earned dollars are spent. Recently, I had the opportunity to visit some of our senate and assembly members and talk with them about the current topics most concerning to farmers.

AB 1 – This bill addresses the issue of nitrates in drinking water and funding solutions for any program developed to mitigate the problems. Specifically, to help economically disadvantaged rural communities by providing up to \$2 million to develop a plan to address their drinking water and wastewater issues. Even though the Farm Bureau supports AB 1, we will continue to participate in discussions about other sources of funding to assure solutions for those whose drinking water is affected by nitrates at levels above those considered safe for

human consumption.

Water Bond – There is currently no bill before either house and the legislators are waiting for some direction from Governor Brown. We need to achieve long-term solutions to our state's water challenges, upgrade our aging water system to meet today's conditions, and we must add new surface and groundwater storage while improving the overall infrastructure and protecting water rights. None of this will be easy.

AB 909 – This bill is sponsored by the Farm Bureau and is designed to provide law enforcement with additional tools to combat metal theft through rural crime programs. Metal theft,

Continued on Page 9



Residential & Commercial
New Construction
Home Remodels & Additions
Electrical, Concrete, Plumbing
831-722-2030
30 Monument Ave, Freedom CA
Insured & Bonded
CA Contractor #801200

MARINI AND GOLD INSURANCE AGENCY

MARTY GOLD, LUTCF
LICENSE 0438827

WATSONVILLE OFFICE
141 Monte Vista Drive
Watsonville, CA 95076
831-724-7593
831-724-5821 Fax

SALINAS OFFICE
1093 South Main St. #210
Salinas, CA 93901
831-754-2722
831-424-4761 Fax



**Allied
Insurance**

Email: mariniandgold@jps.net

Scurich Insurance Services

License #0436405

Servicing the Agricultural Community Since 1924



320 East Lake Avenue
Watsonville, CA 95076
Phone: (831) 722-3541
www.scurichinsurance.com



**Allied
Insurance**
a Nationwide® company
On Your Side®

SSS
SINCE 1924

**2012/2013
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OFFICERS**

CYNTHIA MATHIESEN
PRESIDENT,
STATE DELEGATE, BERRIES

DAVID VAN LENNEP
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,
STATE DELEGATE, TIMBER

TOM BROZ
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT,
ALTERNATE STATE DELEGATE
ORGANIC VEGETABLES

CHRIS ENRIGHT
PAST PRESIDENT,
ALTERNATE STATE DELEGATE, ORCHIDS

DIRECTORS
MATTHEW BISSELL Timber
STEVE BONTADELLI Brussels Sprouts
DAVID CAVANAUGH Nursery
GORDON CLAASSEN
Livestock Manager, Cal Poly
JOHN E. EISKAMP Berries
FRANK ESTRADA Cattle
NITA GIZDICH Apples
KEVIN HEALY Berries
JOHN PISTURINO Cattle
DICK PEIXOTO Organic Vegetables
SILVIA PREVEDELLI Apples
JJ SCURICH Berries
CARMELO SICAIROS Berries
ADRIANA SILVA Organic Vegetables
ARNETT YOUNG Vegetables

EX-OFFICIO
MARY LOU NICOLETTI
Ag Commissioner
ELIZABETH GIANNINI
CFBF Field Representative
BILL RINGE Agri-Culture
LAURA TOURTE
UCCE Farm Advisor
JAN GARROD
CFBF Director, District 10

STAFF
JESS BROWN
Executive Director
MATTHEW GIANELLI
Assistant to the Executive Director
CAROL LEGRANDE
Bookkeeper, Special Events, Membership
Records, Newsletter Advertising Rep.
PRISCILLA RODRIGUEZ
Admin/Program Assistant

MARY WALTER
Newsletter Editor

ASK LAURA

Steve Tjosvold, Environmental Horticulture Farm Advisor, UCCE

Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM)

Field Data Available for Use by Monterey Bay Area Growers

We are monitoring LBAM populations and plant host range on the perimeters of 8 production sites in Santa Cruz County and north Monterey County. We launched a web page that contains current data that should be immediately useful to growers. For 2011 and 2012, this data shows a relatively synchronized peak moth emergence in early November in all monitored areas. We predict that mostly large larvae and pupae will be found now in crops and their large shelters will be relatively easy for scouts to find. Adults from the brood produced during the November flight will be emerging now that the weather is warming. For the 16 month period that data has been collected, the greatest numbers of larvae have been found on Coyote

Bush (*Baccharis pilularis*), French broom (*Genista monspessulana*), Dovefoot geranium (*Geranium molle*), Buckhorn plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*). There are 26 different host species that have been identified so far. The website currently contains population data and other information that growers could reasonably predict the presence of adult emergence, egg laying, and subsequent life stages in the field. It can be accessed through the UCCE Santa Cruz homepage: <http://cesantacruz.ucanr.edu/>.

For questions, please contact Steve Tjosvold at 831-763-8013 or satjosvold@ucanr.edu. This research was funded by a Specialty Crop Block Grant (CDFA/USDA).

Lauren Bellone wins Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship



Lauren Bellone (L) with Ceil Cirillo

Lauren Bellone was chosen as the 2013 Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship winner. Lauren was born in Watsonville and is currently attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo where she is working toward a degree in Animal Science. Lauren has received the "Living Learning Higher Honor" three times in her nearly two years at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She is on the Cal Poly Equestrian Team and Cal Poly

Calving Enterprise. She has also participated in Aromas 4-H, the 4-H Emerald Star Project. Lauren is preparing for a career as an Agricultural Educator.

The \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually and the recipient of the Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship also receives a \$2,000 American AgCredit Scholarship.

Photo credit: Bill Ringe

THE WATER NANNY

"Agriculture, the Original Green"

Nature Abhors a Vacuum

History is rife with examples of societies, countries and groups muddling through. We seem to be stuck with a group of highly experienced muddlers in Washington. Unfortunately, it usually ends poorly. Lack of leadership is not a substitution for leadership. The lack of any substance is a vacuum, and as we all remember from our high school physics, nature abhors a vacuum. It is not a natural condition.

Prior to Abraham Lincoln, James Buchanan was President. An interesting fellow, he thought the highlight of his administration was a new brick barn for the White House carriage horses. While he worried about the welfare of foals, Congress dithered about the future of slavery. As we know, it ended poorly with the Civil War. Europe was no better in the 30's as Neville Chamberlin could never figure out what to do with Germany and Hitler as the continent slid into World War II. Lack of leadership seldom turns out well, someone or something fills the vacuum. Hopefully our current national quagmire does not foretell future adverse changes, we can only hope.



The Farm Bureau keeps the fire of populism burning with an open forum to rewrite policies at each annual meeting. Every delegate gets a say, punctuation is discussed at length only to have the change voted down later. Eventually a set of "popular" policies is adopted to guide our farm leaders for the next year.

I know of no business that is run by a vote of the masses. There is good reason, the future is hard to plan for and most people do not want to precipitate change.

This populist philosophy permeated grower discussions prior to the new Ag Order. The first Ag Waiver expired in 2009, with its replacement only adopted in 2012. Early discussions between growers and the RWQCB staff deteriorated due to an unstated agenda from staff. Unfortunately, the poor strategy by our regulators was countered by an equally unreasoned response. In 2009 it was agreed by various Central Coast Ag associations that no counter proposal would be made by Ag unless there was unanimous consensus. Any single farmer could

veto even the wisest proposal. This was an interesting concept for a group of diverse farmers who never even agree with their neighbors, much less growers 100 miles away. As a result no realistic counter proposals were made by the collective Ag associations, less it be objectionable to anyone. This was a leadership vacuum.



Fortunately vacuums implode. Your local Ag associations, including Farm Bureaus from Santa Cruz, Monterey and Santa Clara and Salinas Grower Shipper and Western Growers have been diligent since March when the new Ag Order was adopted. They have presented growers with a two prong approach to taking some of the edge off the Ag Order. 1st is a proposal presented to the Regional Water Board this March to create a system to conduct Cooperative Groundwater Monitoring in lieu of individual well monitoring. While this is a work in progress, it has a sound scientific basis and makes more sense than random well reports. 2nd is On-Farm-Solutions, a combination fertilizer management and scientific study which could allow participating growers to qualify for reduced record keeping. These important ideas would not be possible if unanimity was required, so I imagine that a farmer somewhere is grumbling. However, this now shows a reinvigoration of Ag's active participation in the process, that's leadership. *"A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus"* Martin Luther King, Jr.

2013 WOMAN OF THE YEAR CANDIDATE

Jennifer Tavelia Willoughby

831.750.0702

www.mwoy.org/pages/sj/mont13/jtaveliawill

Helping patients with blood cancer live better, longer lives.



"Agriculture, the Original Green"

FAVORITE RECIPES

Chile Rellenos with Mexican Red Rice

From Priscilla Rodriguez

INGREDIENTS FOR CHILE RELLENOS:

- 4 pasilla chiles
- 1 pound queso oxaca or any cheese you like such as Monterey Jack Cheese
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup oil
- 1 Tablespoon all-purpose flour
- Toothpicks

Directions for Chile Rellenos:

Heat grill to medium.

Grill and char the chiles on both sides. Once blackened put in a plastic bag for 10 minutes to sweat out any moisture. Remove from the bag, slit them down the middle and remove the seeds. Stuff the peppers with the queso oxaca and use toothpicks to hold them together.

Separate the egg yolks from the whites. Add the egg whites to a large bowl. Reserve the egg yolks. Beat the egg whites with an electric beater until the whites fluff up. Add in the flour and the egg yolks and mix until completely incorporated.

Add the oil to a frying pan over medium heat. Dip the stuffed peppers into the batter and fry until golden brown on both sides. Remove from the oil to a serving platter.

RED-RICE INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup rice
- 1 Tablespoons oil
- 1 garlic clove crushed
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 2 cups water
- 2 teaspoons Knorr chicken bouillon
- Garnished fresh parsley

Directions for Red Rice:

Place rice in a fine mesh strainer and rinse under cold running water until water runs clear- about 1 1/2 minutes. Shake rice vigorously to remove excess water. This step removes the starch from the rice so it will not stick. IF YOU OMIT THIS STEP YOUR RICE WILL NOT BE DRY AND FLUFFY.

Add oil to frying pan over medium heat. Add garlic and onion, cook until soft and transparent. Stir in rice and fry stirring until rice is light golden and translucent, about 6-8 minutes. Be careful that the oil doesn't get too hot too fast or the oil will splatter.

Add the can of tomato sauce and fry for about one minute. Add 2 cups of water. Bring to a boil and add chicken bouillon. Cover the rice and simmer for about 20-25 minutes or until tender.

Garnish with parsley.

Serve with beans and salad if desired. Disfruta!

Know the Cook: If you have ever been into the Farm Bureau office in Watsonville, you have met our staff member **Priscilla Rodriguez**. Priscilla was added to the staff about 2 years ago and has been a welcome addition. The best part for us now is that she is also a good cook and therefore it is only appropriate that she share one of her recipes with us. We'll work on more of her recipes later. Priscilla's recipe for Chile Rellenos and Mexican Red Rice is one to try out with family and friends. Thank you Priscilla...we know this is going to be great!

Tomatoes vs. Wellington



Tomatoes Extraordinaire, Inc. (Tomatoes, Inc.), a produce grower, sued Wellington, Inc. a corporation, a produce seller and William Berkley, its controlling officer in the San Diego County Superior Court for failing to pay for produce supplied by Tomatoes, Inc. to Wellington. The Superior Court found Wellington liable to pay as a corporation and Berkley personally liable to pay as an individual controlling officer for Wellington. Wellington's obligation to pay Tomatoes, Inc. was based on the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA).

Wellington went out of business but Berkley appealed his personal liability claiming that Wellington was not a produce "dealer" under PACA and therefore Berkley should not have been found personally liable to pay Wellington's obligations. The California Fourth District Court of Appeal agreed with Berkley and reversed the trial court in a decision filed March 8, 2013. *Tomatoes Extraordinaire, Inc. v. William J. Berkley* (March 8, 2013) (D059971)

The decision required the State Court of Appeal to engage in "statutory interpretation" of PACA. The State Court of Appeal found that PACA applies to retail produce buyers who qualify under PACA as "dealers". The Court found that Berkley's interpretation of the PACA statutory definition of "dealer" was correct. To be subject to personal liability as a controlling officer of a PACA retail dealer, a retailer must meet two tests: (1) the produce dealer must have purchased in "wholesale or jobbing quantities", meaning at least one ton of produce a day and (2) the produce buyer must have purchased more than \$230,000 worth of produce in any calendar year. Tomatoes, Inc. argued that a retail produce dealer qualifies as a PACA dealer if it meets the \$230,000 requirement, and that the one-ton requirement does not apply to retailers.

The State Court of Appeal reviewed statutes, regulations, the history of the statute back to 1930, and court decision in other states. The State Court of Appeal here found the plain language of the statute and accompanying

regulations indicates that a retailer qualifies as a PACA dealer only if it meets both the one ton requirement and the \$230,000 (or license) requirement. (Emphasis in original).

CHRIS NIELSEN
TRACTOR SALES
 SALES • RENTALS • APPRAISALS
831-331-0144
chrisnielsentractorsales.com • chris@chrisnielsentractorsales.com
- Just Keep It Simple -

**STABLE
STEADY
STRONG**

Nobody else in the industry has a track record like State Fund's. For nearly 100 years we've been the stable force that others look to for guidance, and we've never pulled out of the market when times get tough. Call your broker or 888-STATEFUND (888-782-8338) for discounted rates for Farm Bureau members.

statefundco.com

California Farm Bureau's endorsed provider since 1943.

**STATE
FUND**

State Fund Insurance Company is a member of the State Fund Insurance Group, a subsidiary of State Fund of California.

FROM THE AG COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Mary Lou Nicoletti, Agricultural Commissioner

A Blast from the Past



No, I was not looking at old high school photos... But I did come across an interesting file in the office last week titled "Old Crop Reports". I found a report detailing inspections of eggs, poultry, apiaries, lettuce, seed, and honey that were performed between 1941 and 1967. The report was hand written on graph paper. In addition to the numbers of inspections, rejections, and hours, the inspector had painstakingly used colored pencils to fill in a bar graph to show the volume of those figures. What a time consuming proposition that must have been, in the days before computers and instant access to data!!

I also found some old crop reports from 1941 – 1945. The reports in those days consisted of a single sheet of paper. Here are a few interesting tidbits from the 1943 crop report, prepared by Chas. V. Dick, then Agricultural Commissioner.

Data from Santa Cruz County 1943 Crop Report


- The Grand Total of Agricultural Production was \$18,794,000.
- Apples were the highest valued commodity, at \$4,018,000.
- Brussels Sprouts and Lettuce were valued at around \$1,000,000 each.
- Berries (Strawberries and Cane Berries) were valued at \$390,000.
- Nursery Stock production value was \$336,000.
- There were 540 acres of cherries, with a crop value of \$182,000.

The agricultural industry in our county has certainly changed and grown! According to the 2011 Crop Report, the total gross production value that year was over \$565,740,000, and there were more than seventeen crops that had a gross value of over one million dollars.

Food For Thought

" You do what you can for as long as you can, and when you finally can't, you do the next best thing. You back up but you don't give up."
---Chuck Yeager

Working Together for Your Financial Future



Rich Otto, AAMS®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor
111 East Lake Avenue
Waltham, CA 95076
925-1763-0170

Member SIPC
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

You Can Count on Health Net¹

Simple, affordable solutions that meet your needs and your budget

You can count on our health coverage to deliver straightforward costs without compromise of quality, simplicity or value.



Call your authorized Health Net agent, or contact our Member Services, and discover how we make health care work for you! 1-800-909-3447, option 2; www.healthnet.com



Health Net[®]



FARM BUREAU
CREATORS
www.cffai.com

¹California Farm Bureau Members' Health Insurance Plans are underwritten by Health Net Life Insurance Company. Health Net Life Insurance Company is a subsidiary of Health Net, Inc. Health Net is a registered service mark of Health Net, Inc. Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau logo are registered service marks of the American Farm Bureau Federation, used under license by Health Net Life Insurance Company. All rights reserved.

"Agriculture, the Original Green"

NATIONAL AG DAY

March 20, 2013

National Ag Day Poster & Poetry Contest Winners Announced



awarded a \$200 prize for her winning poster. Her poster will be featured as the centerpiece of the 2014 National Agriculture Day placemat. Siena is a 5th grade student at Linscott Charter School in Watsonville.

The 2013 Poster Contest winner **Siena Gallo**, pictured at left with parents Bob & Pamela Gallo and younger brother Mateo, attended the National Agriculture Day Spring Luncheon where she was

Kyle Galloway, pictured at right with his parents Ken and Kim Galloway, was named the winner of the 2013 Poetry Contest. Kyle is a 7th grade student at Monte Vista Christian School in Watsonville. Kyle was awarded a \$200 prize for his winning entry. Kyle's winning poem will also be featured on the 2014 National Agriculture Day placemat. Over 15,000 placemats are distributed to restaurants throughout Santa Cruz County to celebrate National Agriculture Week.



Tom Rider - A True Friend of Agriculture



Agricultural History Project at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds. Tom is the 5th generation in the Pajaro Valley and a Watsonville High School graduate. He has served on

The 2013 **Al Smith Friend of Agriculture** award was presented to **Thomas A. Rider** (pictured on the left), President of H.A. Rider & Sons. The award was presented at the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau and Agri-Culture's National Agriculture Day Spring Luncheon held at the Codiga Center & Museum located in the

many community boards and committees and continues to be very active with the agricultural community. This year's presenter was radio host Michael Olson from KSCO who was the 2012 award recipient.

This award is named after Al Smith who was the founder of Orchard Supply Hardware and donated 3,000 acres (Swanton Pacific Ranch) on our north coast to Cal Poly. The ranch has row crops, timber and even a one-third-scale railroad, which was Al's hobby. The award is on a piece of redwood with a train depicted on it. It is presented annually to an individual, business or organization not involved in production agriculture but has done much for the industry.

The "Dottie Tyler Fund for Agrarian Oral History" Established

Lynn Sanderson presented Agri-Culture with a check for \$25,000, as a gift to establish the "Dottie Tyler Fund for Agrarian Oral History". The gift is to establish financial support in her mother's memory, to record via film or similar medium, subjects of interest to the history of agriculture. Additionally, it will produce educational media about important subjects connected with Santa Cruz County and Pajaro Valley agriculture.



The check pictured above was presented to Agri-Culture by Lynn Sanderson (L).

Photo credits: Bill Ringe

President's Message - Continued from Page 2

copper wire in particular, has seen a dramatic increase in the recent past. This affects not only farmers and ranchers irrigation pumps but commercial business air conditioning units. Monetary losses range from \$1,500 - \$40,000 for the equipment alone. Loss of production from lack of irrigation can total thousands of dollars.

SB 749 – Co-sponsored by the Farm Bureau, this bill aims to extend the sunset of Section 2087 of the Fish and Game code of the California Endangered Species Act commonly known as *Accidental Take*. It also requires revenue generated by the department's agricultural leases to be used on the lands from which these revenues were generated and promotes the propagation of waterfowl habitat.

SB 25 – This bill will require employers who purchase a piece of land and their current employees to adhere to any union contract negotiated years ago by the previous owner. Employers will be stripped of due process rights and it will be nearly impossible to obtain a stay of an ALRB order imposing employment terms set by a mediator even if the employer can convince a court to review the order. Clearly, this bill is not in any farmer's or rancher's best interest.

SB 17, AB 23, and AB 124 – These bills are designed to repeal the fire protection fees in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) set by ABX1 29 adopted and signed into law in July 2011. It imposes a \$150 "fee" on owners of 825,000 habitable dwellings in the State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and intended to raise \$94 million to fund fire prevention

activities by the Department of Forestry and Fire protection. This fire prevention "fee" was clearly a tax targeting only rural homeowners. It was illegally passed by only a simple majority of the legislature and implementation has proven costly, resulting in a class action lawsuit last December. Wildland fire protection benefits all Californians by protecting the state's watersheds, reservoirs, and critical wildlife habitat.

AB 976 – This bill expands the authority of the California Coastal Commission to act as copy, prosecutor, judge, and jury for their alleged violations of land use policies. This bill would go against the basic division of the three branches of government. We need to protect the due process of law by requiring the independent judges to make the determination of whether or not a law has been violated.

Voter Thresholds – Several Senate and Assembly Constitutional Amendments have been introduced to lower the vote threshold for local taxes from 66.6% to 55%. This would allow local governments to impose, extend, or increase a special tax, including local transactions, per parcel taxes by a city, county, or a special district and use these taxes to fund local transportation projects, public libraries, and community and economic development projects. Local tax increases would only cause a greater hardship on agriculture and other small business.

The whole legislative system is both fascinating and frustrating. As I visit our elected officials both in California and Washington, DC, I often wonder how anything ever gets done. Each senator or assembly member spends most of each day in meetings with constituents and special interest groups. Their aides do the research and take the phone calls from the public on various issues. Each call and concern is logged and tallied and plays a major role in directing our elected official in a vote. The bottom line is, each and every phone call, letter, visit, or email really does matter. It's your tax dollars the legislature is spending and you have every right to speak your mind.

AmeriGas
Residential Propane Company
Serving: ALABAMA, ARIZONA, ARKANSAS, CALIFORNIA, COLORADO, CONNECTICUT, DELAWARE, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, ILLINOIS, INDIANA, IOWA, KANSAS, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MAINE, MARYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS, MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, MISSISSIPPI, MISSOURI, MONTANA, NEBRASKA, NEVADA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, NORTH CAROLINA, NORTH DAKOTA, OHIO, OKLAHOMA, OREGON, PENNSYLVANIA, RHODE ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA, SOUTH DAKOTA, TENNESSEE, TEXAS, UTAH, VERMONT, VIRGINIA, WASHINGTON, WISCONSIN, WYOMING

GO GREEN with AmeriGas!

Farm Bureau Members Receive The Following Benefits:


- 24/7 No Run-Out Guarantee
- \$.05/Gallon* Discount on Propane
- Free Complete System Check
- Flexible Billing & Payment Options

Make The **SWITCH** to
Clean Burning, Efficient
AmeriGas PROPANE!

232 Mt. Herman Road • Scotts Valley, CA 95055
(831) 438-3400

Automatic Delivery • 24/7 Emergency • Flexible Payment Options
PS: AMAS www.amerigas.com

"Agriculture, the Original Green"



MID VALLEY SUPPLY

PAPER	CHEMICALS	JANITORIAL EQUIPMENT
Towels	Hand Soaps	Vacuums
Tissue	Deodorizers	Scrubbers
Plates	Disinfectants	Buffers
Cups	SPA & Pool Supply	Extractors
Bags		Gloves

Specializing in Green Products

"Eco Deliver"

320 Airport Blvd
Fresno, CA
(833) 724-6300 (800) 273-3223

Barbara & Company

A Family Affair

Owned & Operated by:
Marina Camarlinghi
Victor Sanchez

CATERING SERVICE
Over 20 Years Experience

831-426-6051
www.barbaraccompany.com

P.O. Box 4155 • Santa Cruz, CA 95063 • Fax: 831-476-8645

WEBBS FARM SUPPLIES

**Hi-Weed, Brush Mowers and...
ROTOTILLERS • COMPOST SHREDDERS**

- CHAIN SAWS
- LOG SPLITTERS
- BLOWERS
- GENERATORS
- POST HOLE DIGGERS
- TREE CLIMBING EQUIP.

Everything in Power Equipment
(408) 395-2227 • (831) 475-1020
5381 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA. 95073



SANTA BARBARA BANK & TRUST

Nancy Korach
Vice President & Branch Manager

655 Main Street • Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 761-6321 • (831) 724-2649 • nancy.korach@sbbt.com



CARDIFF PEST CONTROL
Locally Owned - Community Involved

2701 Soquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Michael Reid
OPR 8607
QAL 32132

(831) 475-4214
Since 1938 FAX (831) 475-1756



TORO PETROLEUM CORP.



BRIAN HILL

308 W. MARKET STREET
SALINAS, CALIFORNIA 93801
BHILL@TOROPETROLEUM.COM

(831) 424-1691
(831) 424-0176 FAX
(831) 970-8437 CELL





SAMBRAIO
PACKAGING

800 Walker Street
P.O. Box 50090
Watsonville, CA 95077-5090
www.sambraio.com

Office 831.724.7581
Fax 831.722.7459

MONTEREY BAY CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET

Celebrating 35 years on the Central Coast
Your Local Certified Farmers Market

www.montereybayfarmers.org
www.edibleparadise.com

For more information (831) 728-5060





Agricultural News

Rich Casale, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Proper Grazing Management Can Improve Soil & Water Conditions

Water is often the limiting factor in pasture and range productivity. So in this year of reduced rainfall, livestock owners and managers should carefully consider the effectiveness of their grazing management plans and be on the lookout for overgrazing. Overgrazing can cause soil crusting and compaction resulting in increased runoff and a higher hazard of erosion. If rainfall is prevented from entering the soil because of crusting and compaction then grass can't grow and groundwater recharge is curtailed in these areas. Soil crusting and compaction further inhibits mineral and nutrient cycling in the soil. Over grazed grass lands are also a target for less desirable plants and pos-

sibly noxious weeds. If over grazing is occurring on your livestock operation then steps should be taken to remove livestock from over grazed areas until plants have a chance to recover. Proper grazing use, including livestock rotation, and practices such as cross fencing, strategic placement of livestock mineral blocks and watering troughs will help to deter over grazing and encourage desirable grass species on your grazed lands. It may also be necessary to reduce the size of the livestock herd in drier years. For more information on proper grazing use and practices to help protect water supplies and soil on area pasture and range lands, contact NRCS for assistance at 475-1967.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY - APRIL 12
Focus Agriculture, Session 2

THURSDAY - APRIL 18
Agricultural Policy Advisory
Commission meeting

THURSDAY - APRIL 25
Board of Directors' meeting

WEDNESDAY - MAY 1

- Executive Committee meeting
- Membership Committee meeting
- Legislative Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY - MAY 8
Young Farmers & Ranchers
meeting

FRIDAY - MAY 10
Focus Agriculture, Session 2

MONDAY - MAY 13
Public Relations & Information
Committee meeting

THURSDAY - MAY 16
Down to Earth Women Luncheon
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Rancho Corralitos

**FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE
CALL AGRI-CULTURE AT
(831) 722-6622.
RESERVATIONS ARE ALSO
AVAILABLE AT
WWW.AGRI-CULTURE.US**

We're Lending! How Can We Grow Your Business?



- Agricultural Financing • Farm Service Agency Loans • Equipment Financing
- Working Capital Lines of Credit • Solar & Energy Efficiency Loans



457.5000 • www.sccountybank.com



The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau (SCCFB) does not assume responsibility for statements by advertisers in Between The Furrows, nor for statements or expressions of opinion other than in editorials or in articles showing authorship by an officer of the SCCFB.

FOR ADVERTISING INFO AND RATES CALL: (831) 724-1356 OR (831) 688-0748



FARM



BUREAU

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

APRIL 2013
VOLUME 37, ISSUE 4

PRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mailed from
Zip Code 95076
Permit No.237

Change Service
Requested

141 Monte Vista Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication



Aldina Maciel

Real Estate Broker, CRB
GRI, CRS, SRES, ABR, CCPM
DRE #01121286

Office: (831) 722-7131, Ext. 202
Direct: (831) 840-1360
Fax: (831) 722-4601
AldinaM@aol.com
www.c-21classicproperties.com



713 East Lake Avenue
Watsonville, CA 95076

Century 21

Classic Properties



LYNNETTE SOUSA

Property Manager, CCRM® DRE#01791068

"Feel the Energy"


ALDINA Real Estate, Inc.
Property Management

713 East Lake Ave.
Watsonville, CA 95076
Office: (831) 763-7777

www.AldinaPropertyManagement.com




MAKE YOUR GROWING SEASON MORE FRUITFUL



Blueberries, strawberries, and blackberries... and more.

Whatever you're growing, we can help finance it with services and programs custom tailored to your needs.

Lending, leasing, appraising, insurance — American AgCredit does it all.



American AgCredit
POWER FOR AMERICANS

Salinas (831) 424-1756
924 East Blanco Road

Call 800.800.4865 today or visit www.agloan.com

A part of the Farm Credit System Equal Opportunity Lender