

Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

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

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2021 Scholarship Applications Available

Agri-Culture, Inc. is now accepting applications for its 2021 scholarships. The four scholarships offered through the organization are for students entering or currently attending college and majoring in agriculture, animal science or culinary arts. The four scholarships are:



JIMMIE COX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$4,000 award for a student entering or currently attending college and majoring in agriculture. This award includes \$2,000 from American AgCredit.

JEANNIE WITMER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$1,500 award for a student active (past or present) in California High School Rodeo Association District 4 or California 4-H Horse Program, entering or currently attending college and majoring in agriculture and/or animal sciences.



J.J. CROSETTI, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$1,000 award for a student entering or currently attending college and majoring in agriculture.

LAURA BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$2,000 award for a student entering or currently attending college and majoring in agriculture or a related field, or majoring in culinary arts.



The eligibility for the scholarships is listed on the application. The **DEADLINE** for submitting applications is: **Friday, January 29, 2021**. Here is a link to the application: <http://www.agri-culture.us/wp-content/uploads/Application-Agri-Culture-Scholarships-Combined-2021.pdf>

To request an application, please contact the Financial Aid office at your school or the Agri-Culture office, 141 Monte Vista Ave., Watsonville, CA 95076, (831) 722-6622 or (831) 818-1193. Email: agri-culture@sbcglobal.net. Applications are available on the Website: www.agri-culture.us.

YOUR
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COUNTS!

Please consider donating to the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau! Presently our COVID-19 Task Force is working with the County Health Department on a plan for distributing the vaccine to the agriculture work force. We are also working with the County Sheriff on ongoing rural crime issues and with the County Animal Shelter on a county ordinance that's workable for those involved in agriculture. This is just a few of the current issues your Farm Bureau is involved with.

Our website makes it easy to donate to the organization. Please visit the website: www.sccfb.com. There is an option for a "General Donation". You may also mail a check payable to the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau to 141 Monte Vista Ave., Watsonville, CA 95076

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SCCFB.COM

President's Message

ARNETT YOUNG, PRESIDENT



In Thomas Jefferson's First Inaugural Address, to unify our nation, he said "But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle."

Transfer of Power

Two hundred thirty-one years ago, George Washington was quoted as saying, "The establishment of our new Government seemed to be the last great experiment for promoting human happiness." This "experiment", our Democracy, has lasted for nearly 245 years. We have celebrated and mourned together. Through wars, national health crises, economic booms and depressions, we have continued as one nation. One important aspect of our experiment, if not a defining characteristic of our democracy, is a transfer of power. Since Washington's quote, our highest political office has changed leaders 44 times and on January 20th, our 45th.

end; yet the transfer of power still happened. There are multiple examples of contested elections. The election of 1800 being the first, in which Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr were tied, but through congressional mediation, Thomas Jefferson became our 3rd President. A more recent example would be the George W. Bush and Al Gore election of 2000. Many of us still remember the 'hanging chads' arguments. These arguments were brought to the courts and a decision was made. Again, an orderly transfer of power was completed, and our nation remains.

The United States has a population of over 328.2 million people. We do not all agree on

Continued on Page 3

Please note, I did not say a "peaceful" transfer of power in the above paragraph. Yes, many were peaceful, but some were tense, and others were contested to the very



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President's Message - Continued from Page 2

the same things. There are many different religions, ethnicities, languages, beliefs, needs and desires, just to name a few. Our outlook on the future of where we want this experiment to go also differs. Many of us affiliate with political parties that we can identify. Through our nation's history there have been many political parties: Federalists, Independent-Republican, Whig, Free-Soil, Liberty to name a few. Some of these are earlier versions of our modern political parties. However, despite all our individual differences, we collectively want what is best for our nation. In Thomas

Jefferson's First Inaugural Address, to unify our nation, he said "But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all republican. We are all federalists."

This January 20th, please take a moment and reflect on what will be happening for the 45th time in our nation's history. The transfer of power at our highest political office will happen, our nation will continue, our shared values and principles will remain.

**I'm a Farm Bureau Member
because...**



"Farm Bureau works to protect the family farms and ranches, find solutions to problems facing agriculture, and creates educational resources regarding legislative updates."

C. J. Miller

Which country consumes the most chocolate per capita?

Hint: Favarger chocolates are from here.

See Answer on page 9

THE WATER NANNY

Wild Things

"The incurable optimism of the farmer who throws his seed on the ground every spring, betting it and his time against the elements, seemed inextricably to blend with the creed of her pioneer forefathers that "it is better farther on"-- only instead of farther on in space, it was farther on in time, over the horizon of the years ahead instead of the far horizon of the west." (Laura Ingalls Wilder i.e. *Little House on the Prairie*)



We no longer need worry about Grizzly Bears chasing us over Chittenden Pass, we have financial and regulatory beasts that still prevent our farms from reaching the horizon ahead. Fortunately some have become tamer than first predicted.

Ag Order 2021: Nothing has been adopted but there is a stipulated April, 2021, deadline. Fear is still to be elicited by the prospect for a phased reduction of nitrate fertilizer use to a mere 50 pounds per acre of crop. The good news here seems to be a staged rollout with the Pajaro Valley close to last. The surface water proposals have become so complex that RWQCB staff will have a hard time equitably implementing this, again over a period of years, which may result in a significant simplification by the State Water Board on appeal, which is all but certain.

Mandatory Riparian Vegetation was one of several parts of the long forthcoming new Ag Order. This has died of its own morbid obesity. If your farm is unfortunate enough to have a creek or stream running adjacent, the proposal was to mandate a 50' to more than 200' managed vegetative buffer, which you would have to water and encourage, along with all the vermin housed in same. At the end of last year the RWQCB Board removed it from the prospective Ag Order. *Saints be Praised.*

Water Augmentation Charges: Our own PVWMA has been busy with College Lake, another storage tank and extension of the coastal distribution system pipelines, which collectively add more water for our aquifer, moving us closer to the State mandated sustainability objectives. As with all capital projects, this will cost a small fortune, about \$95 million over five years. Even without revealing this giant sum, the coffee shop rumors have envisioned the end of farming in the Pajaro Valley - actually not true. There will be no rate increase for the

2020-21 year and possible annual increases in the augmentation charge of 7% per year on top of the current well rate of \$246/ac-ft. outside the delivered water zone. Yes, 7% is high but not the end of the world. This is still a work in progress, so stay tuned.

Water Conservation Assistance: in recognition that the most cost effective, the cheapest, way to balance our water budget is on farm conservation, the PVWMA Board at their yearend meeting adopted a new conservation outreach program with RCD and the Ag Extension. This includes extensive on farm handholding, but you must sign up on your own. It also includes increased cost sharing for conservation practices. Truly a good start for the New Year.

There are local farmers who never seem to want to learn how to improve (a hint, call the RCD), and to save money. Such is the way of life. *"He was a very inferior farmer when he first begun ... and he is now fast rising from affluence to poverty."* (Mark Twain)



Small Office for Rent in Watsonville

Small office for rent in Watsonville. Ideal for sole proprietor. The office is part of a larger shared office building, complete with two bathrooms and a shared conference room and copy room. The private office is approximately 80 sq. ft, with a window and private locking door. The building has its own parking lot with ample parking. An independent insurance agent and his assistant have used the office for over 25 years, but have retired.

\$695 per month, includes NNN. For more information, please call (831) 724-1356.



FAVORITE RECIPES

Chicken Adobo

This recipe is courtesy of Annaliese Keller of Monterey Bay Certified Farmers Market's Edible Paradise. This tangy braised chicken is a Filipino favorite. It's traditionally served with rice and a sweet fruit salad. Many more recipes can be found at <https://edibleparadise.com>.

INGREDIENTS:

8 whole chicken legs (about 4 pounds), cut into drumstick and thigh sections
1 1/2 cups cider vinegar
3/4 cup soy sauce
1 cup water
10 garlic cloves, chopped finely
2 bay leaves
1/2 tablespoon whole black peppercorns, crushed lightly
4 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 tablespoon water
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
Cooked rice as an accompaniment



METHOD:

In a large pot, combine chicken, vinegar, water, garlic, bay leaves, peppercorns and brown sugar. Bring the mixture to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer, covered, for 35 minutes.

Remove chicken pieces from the cooking liquid with tongs to a rimmed baking sheet, skin side up.

Turn the heat up and boil the liquid for 10 minutes. Combine the cornstarch and water and whisk into sauce and cook until sauce thickens slightly. Keep hot.

Preheat broiler to high. Lightly drizzle oil over chicken. Broil 5-7 minutes, or until skin appears golden brown.

Transfer the chicken to a rimmed platter, pour the sauce over the chicken and serve the chicken with rice.

Serves 4 - 8

Interesting Trivia

Star Trek's Scotty stormed the beach at Normandy during World War II. Canadian actor James Doohan, best known for playing Montgomery "Scotty" Scott on the original Star Trek series, served in World War II with the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division. As a commissioned lieutenant, he led his troop up a mine-strewn Juno Beach as part of the Allied Forces' D-Day invasion. Later in the day, he was wounded by friendly fire that caused the amputation of the middle finger on his right hand. You might not have noticed it because, during his time on Star Trek, directors did the best they could to avoid showing the injury on screen.

A COVID 19 TASK FORCE REPORT

By Thomas Am Rhein
Chairman, COVID 19 Task Force



Thomas Am Rhein

The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau has been very involved in assuring that our local agricultural industry is as well situated as possible to deal with the COVID pandemic. Early on the Farm Bureau reached out to Supervisor Zach Friend, our County Ag Commissioner Juan Hidalgo and

County Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel to establish collaborative relationship between County government and the industry in order to deal with COVID.

A strategy-oriented task force was created, which includes Ag Commissioner Juan Hidalgo, County Health Department Representative Socorro Gutierrez, and from the Farm Bureau, myself, Nishan Moutafian, Tom Broz and Jess Brown. We also welcomed our recently added newest Farm Bureau member, Adriana Silva.

This task force has been a vital link in helping the County develop practical and effective measures to mitigate COVID in the farm environment, and to provide services to our employees when the virus does affect them. One thing we learned this year is that virus transmission in field operations is relatively rare. The measures farms have in place, such as health checks, masks, hand washing and distancing, clearly prevented the spread of the disease when it was brought to the farm from outside the farm. By protecting our workers, we are also protecting the community.

In October, we realized that as the season wound down, our employees would no longer be outside most of the day in an environment where there were health controls in place. In anticipation of elevated positive cases in the Pajaro Valley and the challenges presented by the prevalence of high density, multi-generational housing in the Pajaro Valley, we began to pivot our thinking to the coming vaccine.

The focus of our energy at the task force now is leveraging the resources of the farm community to assure timely vaccination of our employees. There are a lot of unanswered policy and operational questions regarding the distribution of vaccine in the community. State directives are changing even as this is being written. You can be assured that we will do everything we can to make sure your employees can access vaccinations through a program that is straightforward and timely. At the same time, we will work to limit potential new regulatory burdens that do not add to program effectiveness and community safety.

As we look toward the vaccination process, we want to commend our Ag Commissioner Juan Hidalgo, our County Health Officer Gail Newel and our County Supervisor Zach Friend for helping us set up the task force and for their continued collaborative approach to the COVID challenge. We are uniquely fortunate to have this relationship with our local government.



Why don't Twitter users make good soldiers?

Because they're always too quick to retweet.

California Industrial Hemp and Cannabis Updates



As 2021 gets underway, new changes and opportunities will impact the industrial hemp and cannabis programs. The industrial hemp program is expected to see new regulatory changes that will align the State's Program with USDA's Domestic Hemp Production

Program interim rule, which is in effect until November 1, 2021 when it will be finalized or amended. States interested in having their own industrial hemp programs are required to submit a State Plan that conforms to the current interim rule. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) submitted its proposed Industrial Hemp State Plan to USDA for review in September 2020. The plan is being reviewed by USDA, and once approved will effectuate several amendments made to Division 24 (industrial hemp) of the Food and Agricultural Code by Senate Bill 153 in 2019. The approval of the State Plan will also result in regulatory changes to the California Code of Regulations regarding industrial hemp planting, sampling, laboratory testing, harvest, and destruction. For more information on industrial hemp and to review the proposed State Plan visit: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/industrialhemp/>

New opportunities will become available for cannabis cultivators in 2021. CDFA's CalCannabis Division will be launching the Cannabis Appellations Program and the OCal Program, which is the certification of cannabis comparable to the National Organic Program. Regulations for these programs underwent the rulemaking process last year and are expected to be finalized in early 2021. These programs will be regulated by CalCannabis and participation by cultivators in the programs is voluntary. The Cannabis Appellations Program will allow for appellations of origin that protect a designated geographical area where cannabis is produced and how it is produced. The OCal Program will provide cultivators interested in producing organic cannabis the ability to become organically certified. The regulations in this program closely mirror those of the National Organic Program (NOP), however, because organic certification occurs under the federal program and cannabis is illegal

federally, it cannot be certified organic under the NOP and the term "organic" cannot be used. Cultivators that become certified will be able to use the OCal label on their products, which is how certified organic cannabis will be identified in California. For more information on these new programs visit the CalCannabis website at: <http://calcannabis.cdfa.ca.gov/>

Lastly, all three cannabis licensing authorities (Bureau of Cannabis Control, CalCannabis, Manufactured Cannabis Safety Branch) continue to work towards consolidation into the Department of Cannabis Control by July of 2021. Although the consolidation of the three licensing authorities is a huge lift, it will help to improve the level of service to the cannabis industry in California by streamlining processes and minimizing redundancy for operations that need to obtain a license and be in compliance with the regulations of each of the three authorities.

Become A Farm Bureau Member

Join the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau



FARM



BUREAU

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau is a vital part of our community, providing an important voice for the Santa Cruz County and Pajaro Valley agriculture industry. We are continually involved in local land use and transportation issues as well as opportunities to provide educational support through scholarships and school programs. The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau helps ensure that the agriculture industry here remains viable, and continues to generate financial security for the entire community.

WHY JOIN THE FARM BUREAU?

Whether you represent a community involved in the production of food products, are home to one of the ports that ships California-grown products all over the world, or are one of the 38 million California consumers of the food, fiber or foliage we produce, you have a stake in the future of California farms and ranches.

With more than 400 different commodities produced in California, Farm Bureau is committed to helping consumers understand where their food comes from, the challenges associated with producing a safe, affordable food supply and ensuring consumer confidence in California-grown products.

When you join the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau, you automatically become eligible for California Farm Bureau member benefits.

Everyone is eligible to apply for Farm Bureau membership and receive the many benefits and services available.

By joining the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau you help support agriculture in Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley.

HOW TO JOIN

To join the Farm Bureau, complete the Agricultural Member Application or the Associate Member Application

Go to www.cdfb.com and click on the "JOIN" button. No need to log in on this page. Go to the bottom of the page and click on NEVER BEEN A MEMBER to set up a new account.

Questions? Contact the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau at 141 Monte Vista Avenue, Watsonville CA 95076

Email: scfcb@sbcbglobal.net

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Reprieves & Pardons



In 1788, Alexander Hamilton who was writing most of the Federalist Papers late at night, was trying to convince residents of the colonies, which had recently declared their independence, to adopt a new form of government. Questions arose about a possible executive position to lead a new nation if one could be formed. Should they have their own king?

Should they have one person as an executive or should they have a committee? What would be their title? How long would they serve? What would be their powers?

In Federalist Paper No. 74, written March 25, 1788, for the New York Packet Newspaper, Hamilton addressed one sentence in Article II, Section 2 of the new constitution. "The "president" shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment".

Hamilton pointed to the severity of such criminal codes of those items. He argued that the "benign prerogative

of pardoning should be as little as possible fettered or embarrassed." Hamilton said "it may be inferred that a single man would be most ready to attend to the force of those motives which might plead for a mitigation of the law, and least apt to yield to considerations which were calculated to shelter a fit object of its vengeance".

So how has that worked over the years? The first pardon was in 1795 when on Hamilton's recommendation, George Washington pardoned two men sentenced to death for their part in the Whiskey Rebellion

In 1858, James Buchanan pardoned Brigham Young for his alleged leadership during the Utah Wars of 1857 where members of a California bound wagon train were killed. In 1921, labor organizer and pacifist Eugene Debs was pardoned by Warren Harding for opposing US involvement in World War I and encouraging resistance to the draft.

In 1971, Richard Nixon pardoned Jimmy Hoffa. And in 1974, Richard Nixon was himself pardoned by Gerald Ford. In 2001 Jimmy Carter pardoned the sentence of Patty Hearst which he deemed too harsh.

Watch for more news on the 2021 National Agriculture Day

Poster & Poetry Contest

Poster Contest Grades K - 6

- **Theme: Grown in Santa Cruz County & the Pajaro Valley**
- **Contest theme to be included legibly on front of poster**
- **Crops shown on poster must be grown in the Pajaro Valley**

Poetry Contest Grades 7 - 12

- Theme: Grown in Santa Cruz County & the Pajaro Valley**
- Any style poetry may be used but cannot exceed 12 lines.**

Full contest rules are available at the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau, 141 Monte Vista Avenue, Watsonville or by calling (831) 724-1356, email - sccfb@sbcglobal.net. Also visit our website: www.sccfb.com.

Winners will receive \$250!

The contest deadline is Friday, March 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Additional Funding Available to Improve Irrigation Efficiency

At their December 2020 meeting, the Board of Directors for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) decided to continue funding implementation of the agricultural irrigation efficiency program through 2023. The Conservation Goal for the Pajaro Valley is to conserve 5,000 acre-feet of water per year, primarily through improved irrigation efficiency.

PV Water is partnering with the RCD of Santa Cruz County, UC Cooperative Extension, and others to provide technical and financial assistance to support growers in their efforts to increase irrigation efficiency by improving the operation of their irrigation system and optimizing their irrigation scheduling.

In addition to technical assistance with practices like irrigation monitoring and soil moisture monitoring, the program now offers much larger financial incentives to growers to trial more efficient practices as recommended by technical experts, and to scale up

implementation of those practices. The program can now cover up to 100% of the costs of implementing trials and demonstrations, and can cover up to 50% of the cost of scaling up implementation of more efficient practices. The financial assistance is limited to \$20,000 per ranch, and requires demonstrable water savings by the program technical experts.

Examples of practices and irrigation supplies that may be eligible for financial assistance include conversion to more efficient sprinklers, pressure regulating sprinklers, pressure regulators, conversion from sprinkler to drip, installation of irrigation monitoring equipment including flowmeters and data loggers, soil moisture sensors, and some soil health improvement practices.

To participate in this program or for more information, contact Erin McCarthy at the RCD of Santa Cruz County at emccarthy@rcdsantacruz.org or call Erin at 831-336-9282.



Answer: Switzerland - The average person in Switzerland eats almost 20 pounds of chocolate each year, according to Statista. By comparison, those in the United States indulge in an average 9.5 pounds of chocolate each year.

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practiced one kick 10,000 times."

Bruce Lee

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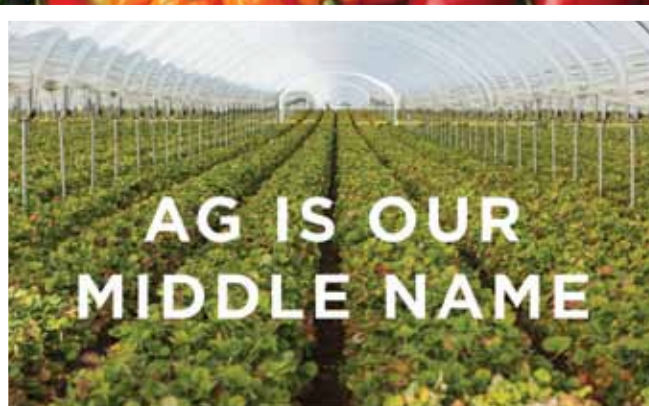
CALENDAR

MONDAY - JANUARY 18
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Office Closed

THURSDAY - JANUARY 28
Board Retreat

MONDAY - FEBRUARY 15
Presidents' Day Observed
Office Closed

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 25
Board of Directors' meeting



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