

# 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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### President's Message

## Declaration of Independence



ARNETT YOUNG, PRESIDENT

As we celebrate our nation's 245 years of independence, let us remember why this declaration was made.

I recently reread our Declaration of Independence.

The 4th of July is upon us once again, a day when we celebrate the United States' Declaration of Independence with pomp and circumstance. There will be parades, BBQs, pancake breakfasts, music and fireworks.

**"Reading through these grievances, it was evident to me the influence this document had on our constitution. Even though our constitution has changed over time, the principles of the grievances outlined in its text remain."**

It takes a few minutes, a little deciphering of old English, but it is well worth the time. The line popularized by Abraham Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness", still resonates with me. What I had forgotten though, is that this document is primarily a

list of grievances, 27 to be exact, which the colonialists had against King George III, the King of England. Grievances such as taxation without representation,

Continued on Page 2

## Thank You

Thank you to the many contributors for financially supporting the Farm Bureau's effort to vaccinate farmworkers the past few months!

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Please consider making a donation to the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau so we can continue this important work. You may send a check to Farm Bureau, 141 Monte Vista Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076, or with a credit card go to the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau website, [www.sccfb.com](http://www.sccfb.com), and click on the general donation button.

Be sure to add a note it is for Farm Bureau vaccines.

# President's Message

## Continue from Page 1

a judicial system in which judges were beholden to the King, standing armies whose duties included controlling the colonists, and the dissolving of civil governments and local laws all contributed the colonialists' discontent. Reading through these grievances, it was evident to me the influence this document had on our constitution. Even though our constitution has changed over time, the principles of the grievances outlined in its text remain.

Yes, I know what you are thinking, if I paid more attention my sophomore year in US History class, I would have known this. In my defense, my first girlfriend sat behind me and I was always looking away from the chalkboard. If you have not revisited the Declaration of Independence since high school, or your study of it was not the most important item on your docket at the time (as was the case for me), I encourage you to take the opportunity on its anniversary to revisit it and reflect. As we enjoy the pomp and circumstance of July 4th, take a moment to remember how this one-page document, signed by 56 representatives of 13 colonies, outlining what not to do, planted the seed of our nation. And let's share the appropriate reverence of our beloved democracy.



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# ASK MARK

Mark Bolda, Farm Advisor,  
Strawberries & Caneberries UCCE

## Cooperative Extension Education & Events

**Q.** Now that the state of California is opening back up again as the pandemic recedes, could you fill us in on what the plans are for education and extension events for UC Cooperative Extension?

**A.** The question of how we go forward with our education and extension as the pandemic recedes is indeed one very much at the front of mind of extensionists and UC Cooperative Extension leadership. In-person extension events have been a staple of our work for more than 100 years and not a matter to be taken very lightly.

After a year of doing Zoom or other remote presentation technology virtual events, we extensionists have found that while these events have been necessary during the pandemic and convenient for those of our clientele geographically further away, they are still not a great substitute for the in-person, live event. The audience misses the personal presence of the speaker, nor do audience members get to hob-nob with colleagues, salespeople and researchers before, during and after the meeting, all of which are important ingredients of a successful extension meeting. Nor should we forget that Zoom presentations, in some cases even pre-recorded to make for

a more even flowing meeting, do not allow the presenter to see his or her audience, making it not an easy task to take cues from the audience on adjusting content or presentation style. Not to even be thinking about introducing humor!

The intent of UC Cooperative Extension is to keep doing the in-person meetings when conditions and regulations allow, and introduce into these physical meetings the advantages of the Zoom meetings for those of our audiences who are further away. Since we are not quite yet at the stage of being able to do in-person meetings, there has been little opportunity to really test what combination of in-person and remote technology works, but fortunately with some two hundred Advisors active across the state, we are sure to find the right formula in fairly short order once we get going again.

The above has been a short exposition of what the future holds for our in-person extension and how Zoom remote meeting technology may enhance it for those of our audience further away. For questions on this matter and others concerning agriculture in Santa Cruz County, please contact Mark Bolda at [mpbolda@ucanr.edu](mailto:mpbolda@ucanr.edu) or 831 763 8025.





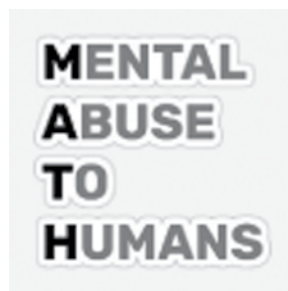
*"Agriculture, the Original Green"*

# THE WATER NANNY

## Reckoning

This year presents many challenges to growers and shippers. Radical swings in crop demand, an accelerating drought, the pandemic, and a, potentially, booming economy all can play havoc with carefully prepared plans. Everyone's biggest problem is labor, whether it be in the field, processing or the office; there is a shortage of warm bodies applying for many openings. The biggest gap is for tasks requiring some math skills, let alone computer and science.

Local high schools fare poorly in math proficiency: Pajaro Valley High School - 13%, Watsonville High School - 17%, Aptos - 39%, North Monterey County High - 11%, while Santa Cruz High - 63% and Carmel High - 67%. The State average is 30%. Overall state ranking of our schools (CAASPP 2018) tells an even darker tale, Pajaro Valley High is ranked in the lowest 20 percentile (80% are better), Watsonville High School is in the 30%, North County 30%. Aptos 70%, Santa Cruz 80% and Carmel is in the top 10%. While it is easy to say Pajaro Valley schools are lower because they have a higher percentage of "fragile" students, the district has always had a higher percentage of students from poor families and should have figured out how to raise their post-graduation lack of skills by now.



Kurt Vonnegut wrote a short story, *Harrison Bergeron*, in 1961 prophesizing a future of final equality. In 2081, after the 211<sup>th</sup> and 212<sup>th</sup> amendments to the Constitution dictated equality, no one was allowed to be smarter, better looking or stronger than anyone else. To reach this minimal

goal everyone had to wear handicaps, so the stronger would be no better than the weakest, the best singer could not carry a tune, etc. The race to the bottom had ended and we were all equal.

Earlier this year there was discussion of a new *Pathway to Equitable Math Instruction*. While there may have been some good ideas, in general this seemed to mirror Vonnegut's story. As the Pathway elucidates: *"Dismantling racism in math instruction ... White supremacy culture shows up in math*

*classrooms when preconceived expectations are steeped in the dominant culture...when teachers reduce math teaching to things that are more easily measurable, like literal math."* ... *"By continuing to privilege data analysis and probability over other kinds of spatial patterning, even if that data analysis concerns itself with issues such as climate change, we run the risk of limiting new ways of doing mathematics and our relationships to the practice."* One of the outcomes, beyond the rejection of literal math, would be elimination of accelerated math learning, advanced placement or student tracking, further reducing the math proficiency of all of our students. Regrettably, employers will still have preconceived expectations of skills for job applicants, which would not be filled by local talent. Fortunately, the California Instructional Quality Commission rejected the Math Equity proposal.



Martin Luther King, in a 1967 speech at Stanford, outlined the level of racial inequality as two Americas. He advocated working to lift up the second tier citizens of all colors to make up for past disadvantages by focusing on, not just better education, job and housing opportunities, but pathways so everyone could reach these goals. It would be better for our schools, in the bottom 1/3 of the state in educational quality, to focus on achieved skills prior to graduation, not avoiding the hard work of teaching by rationalizing the fragility of the students. Let's not make the solution for our inability to teach arithmetic the inability to teach math either. Failure to successfully teach math to all our students prevents them from gainful employment, whether in agriculture or at Target, as we become a more digital society.

Our view of math has changed over the millennia. *"Mathematics is like checkers in being suitable for the young, not too difficult, amusing, and without peril to the state."* (Plato 400BC) *"Mathematics is the language with which God wrote the universe"*. (Galileo 1600) *"Somehow it's okay for people to chuckle about not being good at math. Yet, if I said 'I never learned to read,' they'd say I was an illiterate dolt"*. (Neil deGrasse Tyson)



# FAVORITE RECIPES

## Creamy Lemon Pasta

This recipe was submitted by Four Winds Growers of Watsonville. It's an Andrew Zimmern recipe and it sounds delicious! Thank you Aaron Dillon for sharing this recipe with us!

### INGREDIENTS:

4 quarts water	1 cup heavy cream
2 tablespoon plus 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt	1-pound dried fettuccine
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil	2 tablespoon fresh Meyer lemon juice
1 tablespoon Meyer lemon zest	3 ounces grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese (about 3/4 cup)
1 teaspoon honey	1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, for garnish
3 medium shallots, minced (about 1/2 cup)	1/3 cup Meyer lemon supremes, for garnish

### DIRECTIONS:

Bring 4 quarts water to a rapid boil in a large pot, and season with 2 tablespoons kosher salt.

Meanwhile, heat oil and lemon zest in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the remaining 3/4 teaspoon salt, honey, and shallots, and cook until shallots are softened and oil is hot, about 5 minutes. Whisk in cream. Let simmer 2 minutes.

Cook pasta in the boiling water until al dente. Reserve 1/2 cup cooking liquid; drain. Add lemon juice to noodles; toss well to combine. The pasta will absorb the juice.

Stir cheese and 1/4 cup reserved cooking liquid into skillet with cream sauce. Add pasta, and toss to coat well. Add remaining 1/4 cup reserved cooking liquid if necessary. Divide among 4 bowls, and garnish with pepper and Meyer lemon supremes.

### What the Heck Is a Meyer Lemon Supreme?

Supremes are sections of a citrus fruit with all the pith and peel cut away—AKA the best part. With just a few slices, it is a cinch to get that full citrus flavor without any of the bitterness. Once sliced, you can use supremes in salads, seafood dishes like ceviche, or as a finishing touch any time you want a pure citrus flavor without the bitterness.

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## Interesting Trivia

Here are 30 (well, you're only getting 6 this month; more will follow later) awesome facts about California, the sunniest state in the U.S.

California became the 31st state to join The United States of America on September 9, 1850.

The name California comes from a mythical island paradise written about in an early 16th-century Spanish novel.

The state animal of California is the Grizzly Bear, which is also featured on the Californian flag. However, the grizzly bear population in California has since gone extinct – the last sighting of a grizzly was in 1924.

There are many nicknames for California – The Golden State, The Land of Milk and Honey, The El Dorado State, and The Grape State.

California is the third-largest state, following Alaska and Texas. It is 1,040 miles long, and 560 miles wide. It is about the same square miles as France, Spain, and Sweden.

If California was its own country, it would have the 6th largest economy in the world.



## "Agriculture, the Original Green"

### SAVE THE DATE! Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

**July 16, 2021**

28th Annual Golf Tournament  
Seascape Golf Club

**August 31, 2021**

104th Annual Meeting - Location TBD

**September 15 - 19, 2021**

Santa Cruz County Fair  
Apple Pie Baking Contest - **Sept. 15th**  
Opening Day Barbeque - **Sept. 15th**

### Agri-Culture

**August 13, 2021**

13th Annual Testicle Festival  
Estrada Deer Camp

**October 23, 2021**

24th Annual Progressive Dinner

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

"I am a Farm Bureau member because I am farmer and I feel it's very important to support organizations that support us. As a farmer and business owner, there is always a lot going on so I really appreciate the bureau's efforts toward advocacy, education and community building on our behalf."

Aaron Dillon, Four Winds Growers



### 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.

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### 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.cfbf.com](http://www.cfbf.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: [scfbf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scfbf@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: (831) 724-1356

Fax: (831) 724-5821

## Beat the Heat!



Summer is here and with it comes the anticipation of hot days that may catch us off guard. In the last few years, we have experienced more warm days during the summer months than our traditional cool and foggy days. Having daytime temperatures exceed 90 °F were events that occurred less than a handful of times per year in the past, and usually in late fall. Last year in mid-August we had three consecutive days where the temperature exceeded 90 °F in Watsonville, and again over Labor Day weekend another two days in a row exceeding 95 °F. Similar hot weather spells have become more common in June and July. Given the changes in our summer weather patterns, it is important to ensure that supervisors and employees working outdoors have received Heat Illness Prevention training as required by CalOSHA (Title 8, Subchapter 7, Group 2, Article 10, Section 3395). According to CalOSHA, heat illness prevention may be integrated into your current written Injury and Illness Program. Key requirements that employers must have in place to protect employees from heat illness include:

- **Training** – Employers must train supervisors and employees prior to any work that is reasonably anticipated to result in exposure that may result in heat illness. Training must include the importance of frequent water consumption, the employer's responsibility to provide shade and water, signs and symptoms of heat illness, the importance of reporting signs of heat illness and procedures for responding to signs or symptoms of possible heat illness.
- **Provision of Water** – Employees must have access to potable drinking water, that is cool in temperature, and free of charge. The water must be in as close proximity as practicable to the site where employees are working.
- **Access to Shade** – If the outdoor temperatures exceed 80 °F, shade must be available to employees at one or two locations at the worksite that is open to the air or provides ventilation or cooling. The shade area must be big enough to accommodate all employees on site

and provide enough space so employees can sit fully in the shade.

- **Cool-down rest** – Employees must be allowed and encouraged to take a rest in the shade whenever they feel the need to do so to prevent overheating. Employees taking a cool-down rest must be monitored and asked if they are experiencing heat illness symptoms.
- **High-heat Procedures** – When the temperature is 95 °F or higher there must be effective communication at the worksite between employees and their supervisor. Employees must be observed for signs and symptoms of heat illness. Employers must ensure employees take a minimum ten minute cool-down rest every two hours. Emergency response procedures must be implemented in the event an employee is exhibiting signs or symptoms of heat illness including implementing first aid measures and contacting emergency medical services.

Regularly reviewing how to recognize the signs and symptoms of heat illness with employees and actions an employee can take to prevent heat illness throughout the season can help prevent serious injury. More information on heat illness prevention, including informational and training materials for employers, is available from the UC Davis Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety webpage at: <https://aghealth.ucdavis.edu/training/heat-illness>



**"America was built  
on courage, on  
imagination and  
an unbeatable  
determination to do  
the job at hand."  
-Harry S. Truman**

## United States Supreme Court Decides Important New Property Rights Case



Alan Smith

**O**n Friday, June 23, 2021, the United States Supreme Court decided a huge new property rights case in favor of the agricultural property owner. A fundamental aspect of private property is that the owner can choose whom to let onto the property and whom to exclude as a trespasser. The Supreme Court decided this case in the context of a longstanding California

agricultural labor regulation. *Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_ (2021) (Case No. 20-107),

The Legislature passed the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act in 1975 for unions to gain access to agriculture workers, which then were found to be seasonally migratory and difficult to contact. The Act allowed the unions prior notice to the Agricultural Labor Relations Board but without consent of the property owner, to enter agricultural properties up to three times a day, one hour at a time, up to 120 days during a year, for unionization.

In 2015, agricultural union organizers, relying on the 1975 Act, entered a Siskiyou County strawberry nursery in Dorris, and a central valley fruit packing operation to ask workers to join a collective bargaining organization. The nursery owner and packing operation sued for a declaratory judgment and an injunction preventing future visits by labor organizers. The property owner said the entry was a physical taking of property and an unreasonable seizure under the U.S. Constitution.

The U.S. District Court and the Ninth Circuit denied the property owners arguments that the Act authorizing union organizer visits is a taking of property or an unreasonable seizure. The Supreme Court agreed in 2020 to hear the appeal.

The issue before the United States Supreme Court was whether union organizer visits to the property owner's facilities is a "physical taking of property" and therefore automatically subject to an injunction or mandatory compensation under the 1982 case of *Loretto v. Teleprompter Manhattan CATV Corp.* or, instead be evaluated under the factors outlined in the 1978 case of *Penn Central Transportation Co. v. New York City*.

Many organizations across the country filed friend of the court briefs. The California Farm Bureau Federation, Western

Growers Association, California Fresh Fruit Association, Mountain States Legal Foundation, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and several states led by Oklahoma filed briefs supporting the property owner.

The AFL-CIO, SEIU, United Farm Workers of America, California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., several states led by Virginia, several United States senators and a group of local governments filed briefs supporting the State Agricultural Relations Board.

The United States filed a brief supporting the property owner on January 7, 2021, just 13 days before the end of the Trump administration. On February 12, 2021, the Biden administration changed the government's position and urged supporting the State Agricultural Relations Board.

In a 6-3 decision released on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Chief Justice Roberts said, "The access regulation amounts to simple appropriation of private property" and the "access regulation grants labor organizations a right to invade the growers' property. It therefore constitutes a per se physical taking" without compensation.

Chief Justice Roberts also recognized certain limitations to its general rule, such as conditions on the grant of a benefit such as a permit or license on allowing access for reasonable health and safety inspections and longstanding background restrictions on property rights such as prohibitions against nuisances.

Justice Breyer wrote the dissenting opinion, with Justices Sotomayor and Kagan. Justice Breyer said the access granted to union organizers was only temporary and should not be considered a taking, since the property owner was not "forever denied" use of the property, and thus the law was "not functionally equivalent to the classic taking in which government directly appropriates private property or ousts the owner from his domain". Justice Breyer was also concerned that the majority opinion could be used by landowners to block access from inspectors such as those "to verify proper preservation of wetlands or the habitat enjoyed by an endangered species, or for that matter, the safety of inspected meat".

So, this is a huge new property rights case that will have repercussions for years to come and well beyond the agricultural and labor context.



## Could Your Irrigation System Be Working More Efficiently?

**T**he Pajaro Valley received a small fraction of normal rainfall this year. This irrigation season will stress the already over-drafted groundwater supply.

Through the Pajaro Valley Irrigation Efficiency Program, funded by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency since 2014, irrigation experts at UC Cooperative Extension and the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County have found that the performance of many irrigation systems on Pajaro Valley ranches can be improved by implementing some relatively simple practices.

Below is a summary of the irrigation practices that are recommended most frequently by our irrigation experts. They are listed in order of frequency that they are recommended (most frequent recommendations first).

Through the Pajaro Valley Irrigation Efficiency Program, irrigation experts provide **FREE** training to irrigators, in English or Spanish, to help them operate and maintain efficient performance of their irrigation system. Financial assistance is available to help implement recommendations that improve efficiency, and to set up irrigation trails.

To schedule a consultation on your ranch, or for more information, contact:

Erin McCarthy, [emccarthy@rcdsantacruz.org](mailto:emccarthy@rcdsantacruz.org) or  
831 336-9282

**Top recommendations resulting from evaluations of drip and sprinkler irrigation systems** (to receive this table in Spanish, contact Erin McCarthy, 831 336-9282)

Recommendation
Buy pressure gauges and install Schrader valves to monitor pressure at different locations on the irrigation system
Operate drip and sprinklers at optimal pressure (8 to 10 psi for drip, 45 to 55 for impact sprinklers)
For drip, install pressure regulator valves to maintain a consistent pressure in the irrigation block
Address plugging issues by improving flushing and fertigation management
Fix leaks causing runoff and ponding in the field
Install larger diameter lead hoses (spaghetti) for drip systems
Install larger diameter oval hose in drip systems to avoid pressure loss
Check and adjust pressure regulating valves to maintain an optimal pressure in drip systems.
Avoid choking valves or bleeding off water to decrease excessive pressure (instead adjust irrigated area and/or install pressure regulators)
Change row or tape orientation (to avoid excessive pressure loss or gain)
Increase diameter of layflat serving more distant blocks to avoid excessive pressure loss
Maintain and inspect filter for plugging
Avoid mixing different types/sizes of emitters/sprinkler heads
Address uneven drainage to avoid over-irrigation in lowest areas

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99 percent perspiration.

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*We have relied on Santa Cruz County Bank for all our banking needs for over a decade. We're on a first-name basis with bankers who understand the seasonality of our business and the recent impacts of the pandemic. Dependability is everything, and our bank has come through for us every time.*

”

– JJ Scurich, Creekside Farms



As a community bank, our objective is to help local businesses thrive, even as economic seasons change.

We're a community bank, staffed with local market experts and decision makers. So we can dig into your business and create a plan that works to your advantage. No waiting for approvals from "the folks at HQ."

If you'd like some fresh ideas on how to grow your business, call us or stop by. Our team is ready to serve you with resourceful, relationship-based expertise.



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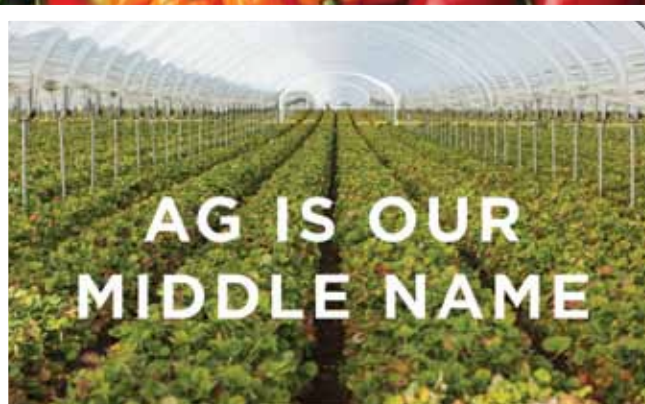
A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

## CALENDAR

**MONDAY - JULY 5**  
4th of July Observed  
Office Closed

**SIGN UP NOW!**  
**FRIDAY - JULY 16**  
28th Annual Golf Tournament  
Seascape Golf Course  
Registration - 11:30 am  
Shotgun Start - 1:00 pm

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SATURDAY - AUGUST 28**  
13th Annual Testicle Festival



We see things from the ground up, all of the small details that go into the big picture of farming. **Because agriculture is what we know, it's all we do.**



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