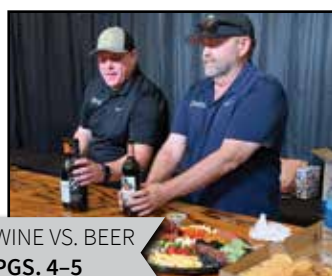




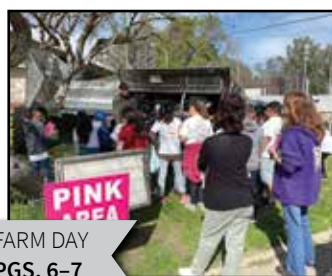
INSIDE



MEMBER TO MEMBER PG. 3



WINE VS. BEER PGS. 4-5



FARM DAY PGS. 6-7

KCFB's new YF&R Committee holds first meeting

By Dusty Ference

Kings County Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers (YF&R) Committee held its first meeting since 2017 on March 8. The meeting brought together 17 young agriculture professionals excited to become part of Kings County Farm Bureau as YF&R committee members. Participants heard from past YF&R committee chair turned KCFB Director Jon Garcia, the current committee co-chairs from the Fresno/Madera YF&R committee, and a founding member of that chapter.

Every YF&R committee takes on different roles in their county. Whether helping with board events or programs or creating opportunities to represent a county Farm Bureau, YF&R committees are essential. Just as crucial to the activities a committee takes on each year is the leadership recruitment and development that comes with service. As committee members grow in their respective roles, they often consider serving on the board of directors of their county Farm Bureau.

We are excited to see what the future generation of KCFB accomplishes in the next few years and are thankful for their willingness to serve on this fabulous committee. If you or someone you know would like to get involved, contact the KCFB office. The next committee meeting will take place in mid- to late April. 🙌



KCFB's newly formed YF&R committee held their first meeting at Round Table Pizza last month. Photo by Tiffany Flores

Remember to vote in the June 7 primary election

By Amy D. Fienen

The statewide district primary election is coming up on June 7, and Kings County Farm Bureau wants to remind our members of the importance of casting your ballot. Because our elected officials play such a big role in the policy decisions that affect local farmers, it's crucial that members of the ag community make their voices heard.

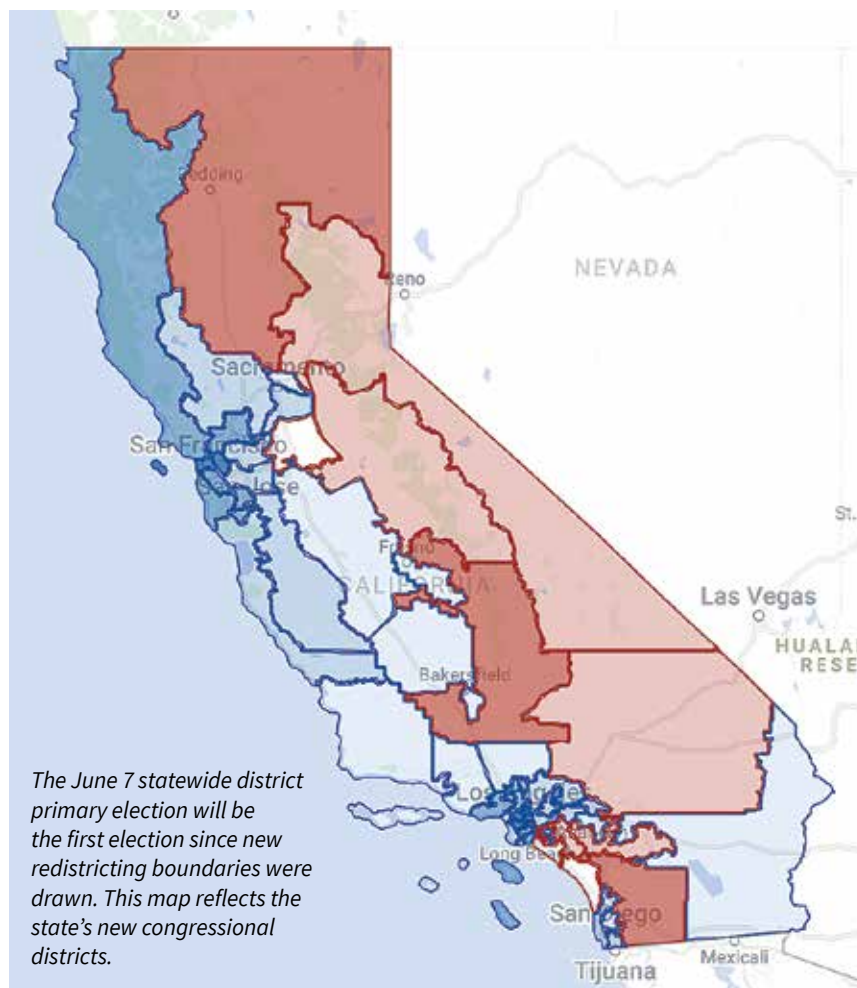
Locally, voters will be deciding who to send to the House of Representatives in districts 20 and 21, the 33rd California State Assembly District, and the 16th California State Senate District. Kings County supervisors are up for election in districts 1, 3 and 4, and the Kings County district attorney race will be decided as well.

This is the first election since new redistricting boundaries were drawn, as happens every 10 years.

On page 8 we have included updated voting district maps so Kings County residents can verify which district they reside in, as well as a list of candidates running for local offices.

Please remember that every vote counts, and be sure to cast your ballot on or before June 7. 🙌

(See page 8 for more election information)



The June 7 statewide district primary election will be the first election since new redistricting boundaries were drawn. This map reflects the state's new congressional districts.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1831
West Sacramento, CA
95691



Purpose

Protect, preserve and enhance agriculture in Kings County

Vision

Ensure that every farmer has the right to farm and protect their heritage

Values

Our Members | Proactive Representative
Reliable | Trusted Resource

Officers

President: Kevin Robertson
Vice President: Shane Bickner
Secretary/Treasurer: Garrett Gilcrease

Directors

John Ellis	Brian Medeiros
Todd Fukuda	Michael Miya
Jon Garcia	Brian Potter
Dino Giacomazzi	Brandon Sargent
Keith Grabow	Jared Silveira
Pete Hanse	Helen Sullivan
Monty Hoggard	Frank Zonneveld
Jared Little	

Executive Director

Dusty Ference
dusty.ference@kcfb.org

Farm Life Editorial

Amy Fienen
afienen@kcfb.org

Farm Life Advertising

Paula Vinzant
pvinzant@kcfb.org
(559) 901-4278

Farm Life Designer

Beth Greene

KCFB District Representative

Brian Medeiros

Contact

870 Greenfield Ave., Hanford, CA 93230
Phone: (559) 584-3557
www.kcfb.org



Kings County Farm Bureau



@KingsFarmBureau



@KingsFarmBureau

Kings County Farm Bureau's "FarmLife" does not accept responsibility for statements by advertisers or for products advertised in "FarmLife," nor does Farm Bureau accept responsibility for statements or expressions of opinion other than content showing authorship by an officer, director, or employee of Farm Bureau or its affiliates.

© Kings County Farm Bureau, 2022

Big questions with no easy answers

By Dusty Ference, Executive Director



Dusty Ference

Last month, President Biden warned Americans of the possibility of another food shortage similar to what we experienced during the COVID-19 shutdowns of 2020 and 2021. At the same time, Californians learned that little, and in many cases, no surface water is available for deliveries to farms and ranches across the state. Both statements are challenging to understand from my perspective.

We are all aware of the record inflation facing consumers, and agriculture producers know how slow sales of products have been for the past couple years and how low our prices are. So why the warning of a possible shortage? I do not pretend to know the answer, and unfortunately, it only begs more questions in my mind. The biggest question is, do Americans see the domestic food supply as a crucial part of the security of our nation? If not, why?

We all know that growers in the United States produce the safest, highest quality food globally. But we don't understand why those growers aren't appreciated for that food.

As an industry, we are constantly told to do more with less, and as an industry, we do. But where does that end? When do the hard-working men and women of agriculture decide enough is enough? Again, I am asking unanswerable questions. I can tell you that our industry is tough and full of fighters, and KCFB will keep fighting for you as long as you let us. 🌱



Haz-mat Transport Training

presented by KCFB & Nationwide



- **Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at the KCFB office: 870 Greenfield Ave. Hanford**
- **English: 10-11:30 a.m., Spanish: 1-2:30 p.m.**
- **Limited seating is available for this in-person training. Call the KCFB office at (559) 584-3557 or email kcfb@kcfb.org to register.**
- **Free for members / \$50 for non-members**

Member to Member *People, Products, Prosperity*

Four Seasons Ag Services By Amy D. Fienen

Four Seasons Ag Services is our newest silver-level Friend of Farm Bureau. With roots in Valley agriculture and a number of years invested in building relationships in the industry, owner and president Frank Scalia works hard to make his clients' jobs easier.



The Scalia family: Frank, Christi, 7-year-old Milania, 2-year-old Cristiano, and 6-year-old Giuliana. Contributed photo

"We're a fully integrated trucking and ag services company," Scalia said. "We've tried to develop a one-stop shop for all growers."

Scalia grew up in the South Valley, where his family farmed almonds and wine grapes. In 2005, he started as a sales rep with Mariani Nut Company buying walnuts and almonds. During his time there, he observed a growing need for reliable transport services, so in 2011, Four Seasons began as a bulk agricultural hauling company, primarily servicing nut growers.

"I knew a lot of growers who couldn't rely on their trucking company during peak harvest time, so we came in to fill that void and proved to be efficient," Scalia said. "We planned for growth and were ready to expand our services when it happened."

In 2015, Four Seasons became a pest and fertilizer retailer—a division of the company that has steadily grown over the years. As Scalia saw an increased need for farmers to have the convenience of working with one company for all their farming services, he continued to expand his offerings. In addition to bulk agricultural hauling and pest control and fertilizing, Four Seasons also offers farm management, custom farming, custom spraying, crop marketing, almond and walnut buyer representation, and dairy commodity brokering.

"We've always done custom harvesting on our own ranches, so as I saw growers needing those services, we were able to offer them," Scalia said. "Our goal was to make it as easy and pain-free as possible to provide all the services our growers need."

Scalia contributes Four Seasons' growth and success to the relationships that have been built on the company's customer service and reliability.

"I think customer service is our biggest strength as a company," he said. "We built a lot of relationships early on, and those relationships turned into friendships and our business grew."

Additionally, Scalia said Four Seasons offers a high quality of work at compet-

itive rates, reliable equipment, and the ability to handle large-scale projects due to the availability of trucks. Investing in the newest and best equipment and having reliable dispatchers is one of the ways the company saves customers both time and money, Scalia said.

The relationships on which Four Seasons was built are largely about loyalty. Scalia said all his employees are trained to know how valuable their customers are, and to treat them accordingly.

"We have a team dedicated to working seven days a week, around the clock if needed," he said.

Four Seasons is based in Visalia, where Scalia lives with his wife, Christi, and their three young children. Like her husband, Christi comes from a farming background, and uses that experience to handle the businesses' daily operational duties.

Scalia said his commitment to Farm Bureau stems from a desire to return the favor to an industry that has supported and helped build his business.

"I want to give back to the people who have given Four Seasons the opportunity to thrive in this area," he said.

For more information on the products and services provided by Four Seasons Ag Services, please call (559) 651-2711.

The "Member to Member" feature is our way of promoting the members that help make our work possible through their financial support. Please consider doing business with companies who show their commitment to the local ag industry through their support of Farm Bureau. 🙌

Firestone
IN-FIELD SERVICE
WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST

We are specially trained and fully equipped to meet your on-farm, in-field tire service and replacement needs
 Call us for on-farm deliveries and on-the-spot tire repair

BILLINGSLEY TIRE INC
 6 WEST D STREET
 LEMOORE CA 93245
 (559) 924-3481
 www.billingsleytireinc.com

CARVER
PUMP SERVICE
 Serving The Central Valley

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
 CELEBRATING OVER 40 YEARS
 24-Hour Service
 Lic #547257

(855)622-7837 TOLL FREE
DOMESTIC & IRRIGATION PUMPS • SALES • REPAIRS

VISA SINCE 1976 MasterCard
 www.carver-pump.com

Thank you for supporting the **wine vs. beer** Showdown



Photos by Paula Vinzant



Lic. Class A & C57
#826935

Kaweah Pump, Inc.

General Engineering Contractor

SERVING:
AGRICULTURE • DAIRY • MUNICIPALITIES
INDUSTRIAL • DOMESTIC

559.747.0755

Visit: Kaweahpumpinc.com
Email: info@kaweahpump.com

DEVELOPMENT & REHABILITATION SERVICES

- Well Video Surveys
- Well Development & Yield Testing
- Up to 1000HP Development Pumps
- Well Swaging • Swabbing • Brushing
- Acid Wash & Other Chemical Treatments
- Fishing Services • Well Abandonment

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

- Agricultural Concrete Pads
- Custom Pump Facilities

MACHINE SHOP SERVICES

- Full Service Centrifugal Pump Machine Shop
- Custom Short Couple Lift Pump Fabrication
- Discharge Fabrication • Mid-Stretch Fabrication
- In-Field Welding, Pipe Repair & Fabrication

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

- Complete Pump Electrical Services
- Power Company Management
- Variable Frequency Drives
- Power Relocation to New Well • Electrical Panels
- Transformer Pads • New Services • Upgrades

Serving the entire
San Joaquin Valley and
San Luis Obispo County

PUMP SERVICES

- In-House Pump Designs
- Deep Well Vertical Turbines - All Makes & Models
- Deep Well Submersible Turbines - All Makes & Models
- Custom Built Lift Pumps
- Booster Pumps • Fertilizer Injection Pumps • Domestic Pumps



Why Wait?

- Top operators are already adding solar. Why aren't you?
- Solar can save Agribusiness owners 70-75% on their power bill.
- In most cases, Ag solutions currently have a 3-5 year payback.
- Solar provides between a 20-35% return on investment.
- Ag solutions generate between \$40,000-\$50,000 annually per acre.

Make Life Better! Save More. Enjoy More.
If you're considering solar, go with the leader—Renewable Solar. We're the local leader with fully staffed teams (no outsourcing), bringing skill, scale and best-in-class solutions to maximize your Return-On-Investment. Call today.

559-410-8640 • www.RSI.SOLAR

RENEWABLE SOLAR
Exceptional People. Exceptional Performance.™

Thank you to everyone who came out to our 2022 Wine vs. Beer Showdown on March 31. Your support of this popular annual fundraiser helps raise money to fund Farm Bureau programs and events like Farm Day. We're especially grateful to the vendors, sponsors and silent auction donors, without whom this evening wouldn't have been possible.



**FOOD/
NON-ALCOHOL
VENDORS**

AS Danielson's
Raven's Deli
Chef Gray, LLC
L.T. Sue Co.
Giacomazzi Brothers
Nut Company
Off the Vine
Keanu's Hawaiian BBQ
Zentino's Grill Catering
Service

BEER VENDORS

Bird Street Brewing
Hop Forged Brewing
Company
Riley's Brewing
Long Shot Brewery
Sequoia Brewing
Company
Firestone Walker
OK3 Brewery

WINE VENDORS

Farm Credit West
Golden State Farm
Credit
Iron Oaks Winery
One Hope Wine
Ramos Torres Winery
Stefanelli Distributing
Company
Cacciatore Fine Wines
& Olive Oil Corp
Ferguson Family
Winery

SPONSORS

J.C. Lansdowne
Golden State Farm
Credit

**SILENT AUCTION
DONORS**

Setton Pistachios
Bayer Chemicals
Rain for Rent
J & L Irrigation
BASF
Helen Sullivan
King Pump and Well
Trinkle Ag Flying
Syngenta
Pacific Ag Insurance

**Ag
Commissioner's
Compliance
Report**



Jimmy Hook,
Agricultural
Commissioner/Sealer

The Ag Commissioner's role in seed labeling

Contributed by Lynda Schrupf, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner-Sealer

Spring is here and it's planting time for many agricultural field and vegetable crops. The Kings County Agricultural Commissioner and his staff play an important role in ensuring that the agricultural and vegetable seed sold in Kings County is properly labeled so that the identity and the quality of the seed can be determined. Flower and ornamental seeds are not regulated under this California requirement. Counties enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to monitor seed operations offering agricultural and vegetable seed for sale in their county.

Poor quality seeds can cost farmers and home gardeners alike considerable amounts of time, money and resources by way of reduced yields, poor crop quality and contamination by weeds or other unwanted species. By enforcing California Seed Law regarding marketing and labeling, the Department is able to ensure that consumers receive the desired product, and that there is supportive legal action for those who are wronged. When agricultural or vegetable seed fails to perform as represented on the label or as advertised as to kind, variety, purity and germination, the parties must participate in a mandatory dispute resolution process administered by CDFA. CDFA has a complaint process where consumers may file a complaint, and if either party is not satisfied with the findings, CDFA will provide mediation free of charge. If mediation fails, the parties are free to pursue other legal remedies.

As provided by section 52323 of the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC), a Memorandum of Understanding establishes an annual cooperative agreement for enforcement of the California Seed Law between the Agricultural Commissioner and the CDFA. Per section 52325, the Agricultural Commissioner agrees to maintain a compliance level on all seed in the county so that the statewide compliance is not less than 85 percent.

Stop-sale orders may be issued on seed containers labeled incorrectly or incomplete at inspection time. Improperly labeled seed could result in great economic harm to the California seed export industry, as well as individual growers and consumers.



For 2022, Kings County has three registered seed labelers and two registered seed sellers. In 2021, the Kings County Department of Agriculture inspected 90 unique lots of seed, 67 lots coming in from outside of California and five seed labeling or seller premises.

For more information or should you have any questions, please contact the Kings County Department of Agriculture, agstaff@co.kings.ca.us or (559) 852-2830. 🐾



IN PICTURES: FARM DAY 2022

Photos by Tiffany Flores

On March 17, Kings County Farm Bureau presented the 16th annual Farm Day, a unique, hands-on opportunity to teach the next generation of consumers about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives. The event brought 1,185 third graders and 58 teachers from 19 schools to the Kings Fairgrounds, where they learned valuable lessons thanks to the help of 41 various presenters and a great group of volunteers. This was our first Farm Day after a two-year hiatus, and it was great to be able to present this unique field trip again.




502 W. Grangeville Blvd.
Hanford, California 93230
Telephone (559) 585-7330
Facsimile (559) 585-7335
www.diaslaw.com

DIAS LAW FIRM, INC.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Michael A. Dias • Jonette M. Montgomery
Sarah M. Hacker • Steven E. Alfieris
Ella Floresca • David M. Lange
Paula C. Clark
Attorneys at Law

Jimmy J. Rodriguez • Alicia D. Wrest
Of Counsel




Providing accounting and payroll services to save your business time and money.

559.924.1225
bresslercompany.com

OUTSOURCE YOUR ACCOUNTING TO SAVE TIME AND MONEY.

#FINANCIALFUTURE



THANK YOU

FARM DAY 2022



INDUSTRY PRESENTERS

4-H Dog Care Project
 Blair Air Services
 Children's Storybook Garden
 CSET
 (Tulare County Youth Corp. Recycling)
 Danell Brothers Custom Chopping
 Garton Tractor
 J.G. Boswell Company
 J.R. Simplot Company
 Jim Gregory
 Junior Fair Board
 Karing for Kreatures
 Kings & Tulare County Master Gardeners
 Kings County Ag Dept. /
 Ag Commissioner-Sealer
 Kings County Animal Control
 Kings County Dairy Princess
 Kings County Sheriff Rural Crimes Task Force

Lawrence Tractor Company
 Leprino Foods
 Lohse Apiaries /
 Lawrence Hope
 National Weather Service
 Nor Cal Dowers
 Olam Food Ingredients
 Pacific Gas & Electric
 Philip Mello Chipping
 Reedley College of Ag &
 Natural Resources
 Renewable Solar
 Rosa Brothers Milk Company
 Sequoia and Kings Canyon
 National Park
 West Hills College
 Westlands Water District
 Zonneveld Hay

LIVE ANIMAL PRESENTERS

Agnes Kepenyas	Jean Currie
Anna Dooley	Jessica Dooley
Baylee Dutra & Isabella Mello	Jessica Sozinho
Bella Cavillo	Juliette Champi
Cara Raven & Erlyne	Kaitlyn Sherwood
Pimentel	Kole Brazil
Colt Mello	Luke Mello
EmmaLei & Xavier	Madison Thomas
Eva Dooley	Shane Dooley
Hailey Rebolo	Shelby Currie

T-SHIRT SPONSORS

All Valley Printing
 Recurrent Energy

1-877-TRACTOR
www.gartontractor.com

Brett Garcia
 Sales

4780 S. "K" Street
 P.O. Box 87 • Tulare, CA 93275
 (559) 686-0054 • Fax (559) 686-3718
Mobile (559) 331-3239
bgarcia@gartontractor.com

PACIFIC AG
 INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
 License # 0C84245

Allow us to utilize our background, knowledge, and expertise to go to work for you...

Commercial | Farm | Workers' Compensation | Tribal | Life & Health | Employee Benefits | Home | Auto & More

Hanford 559.584.3391 Corcoran 559.992.1245 Chowchilla 559.665.3434

June 7 Statewide District Primary Election Information *(continued from page 1)*

U.S. Representative, District 20

James Davis
Ben Dewell
James Macauley
Kevin McCarthy
Kara Rocha
Marissa Wood

U.S. Representative, District 22

David Valadao
Chris Mathys
Adam Medeiros
Rudy Salas

California State Assembly, District 33

Ruben Macareno
Devon Mathis
Jose Sigala

California State Senate, District 16

Melissa Hurtado
Bryan Osorio
Nicole Parra
David Shepard
Gregory Tatum

Kings County Supervisor, District 1

Martin Chavez
Edward Neal
Joe Neves

Kings County Supervisor, District 3

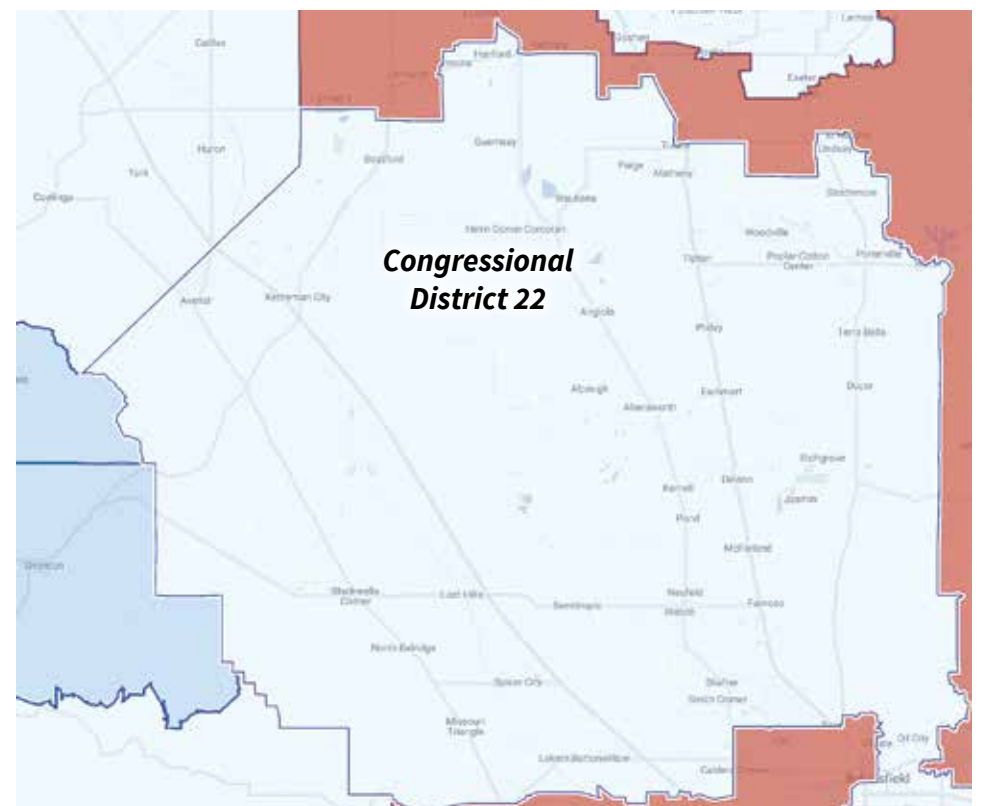
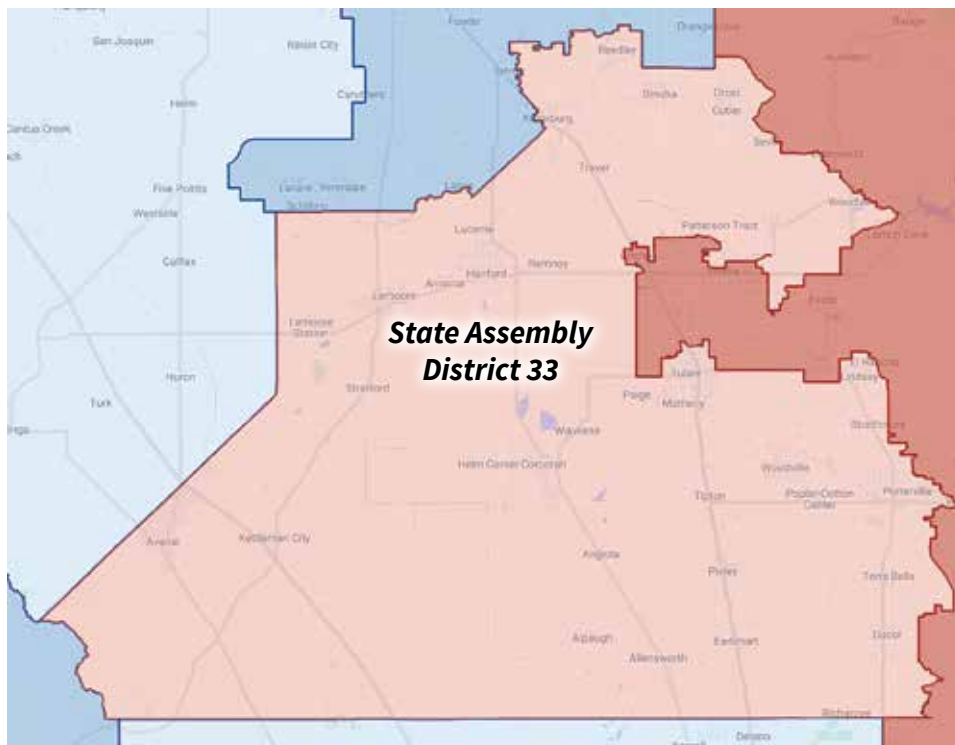
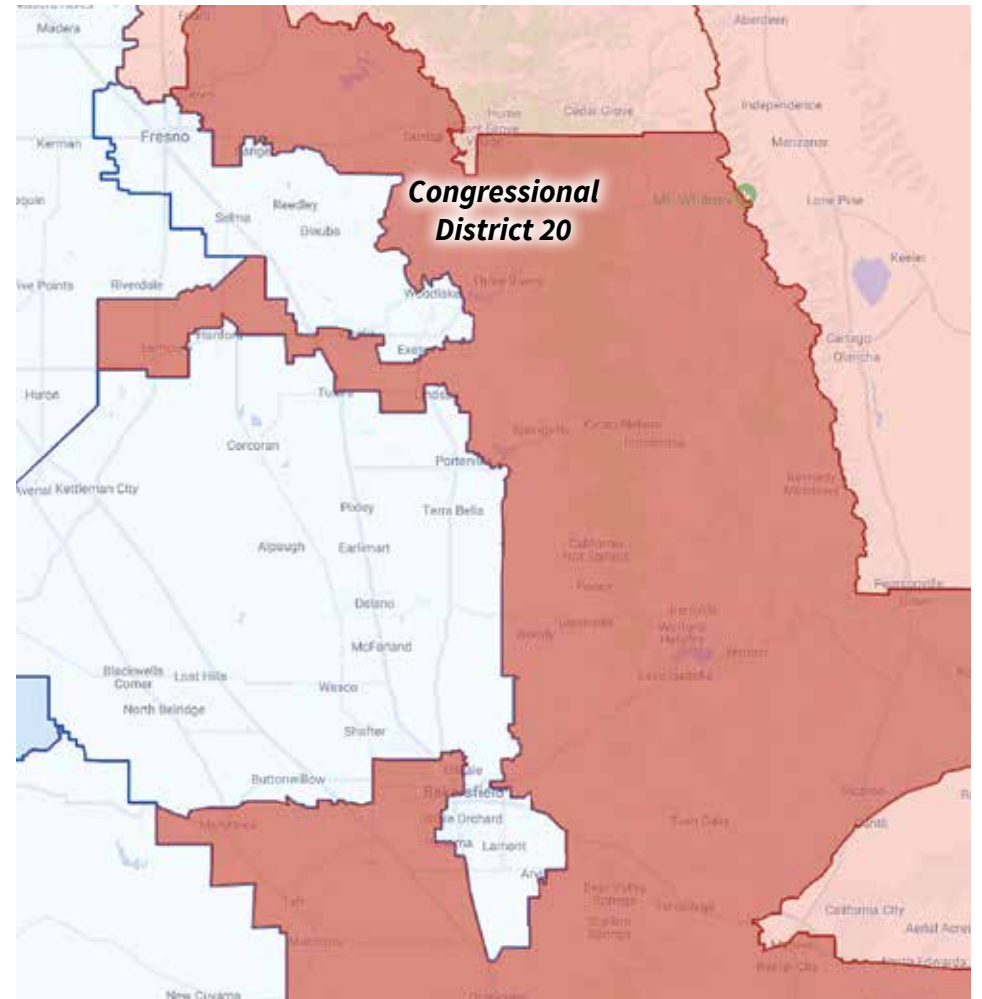
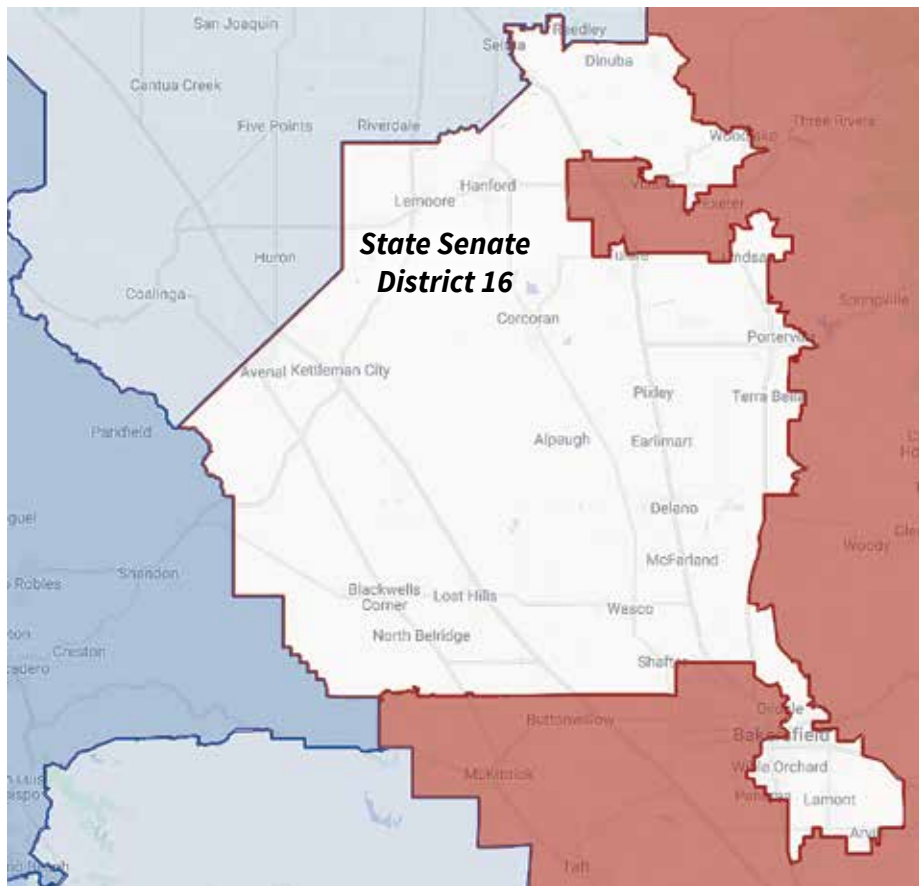
Doug Verboon

Kings County Supervisor, District 4

Rusty Robinson
Alicia Ramirez

Kings County District Attorney

Keith Fagundes
Sarah Hacker
Greg Strickland



FRIENDS *of* FARM BUREAU

DIAMOND



Nationwide[®]
is on your side



Platinum



Gold

All Valley Printing
Adventist Health
Bacome Insurance Agency
Daniel C. Salas Custom Harvesting
Dias Law Firm Inc.
Gar Bennett LLC

J.C. Lansdowne Inc.
Leopoldo's Farm Service Inc.
M Green & Company LLP
Mackey & Mackey Insurance Agency

Stone Land Co.
Tachi Palace Casino Resort
The Wonderful Company
Verdegaal Brothers

Silver

Danell Custom Harvesting
Four Seasons Ag Services
Griswold, LaSalle, Cobb, Dowd & Gin LLP
J.G. Boswell Company Inc.
Kahn, Soares & Conway LLP
Meras Water Solutions

Morgan & Slates Manufacturing & Supplies
Olam Spices & Vegetable Ingredients
Pacific Ag Insurance
Quality Machinery Center
Rain for Rent
SmartWater CSI

Southern California Edison
Stifel Investment Services
Summerhill Dairy
S&W Seed Company
Trinkle Ag Flying
Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Bronze

Billingsley Tire Inc.
Bressler & Company Certified Public Accountants
CalWest Rain
Central Valley Energy Coalition

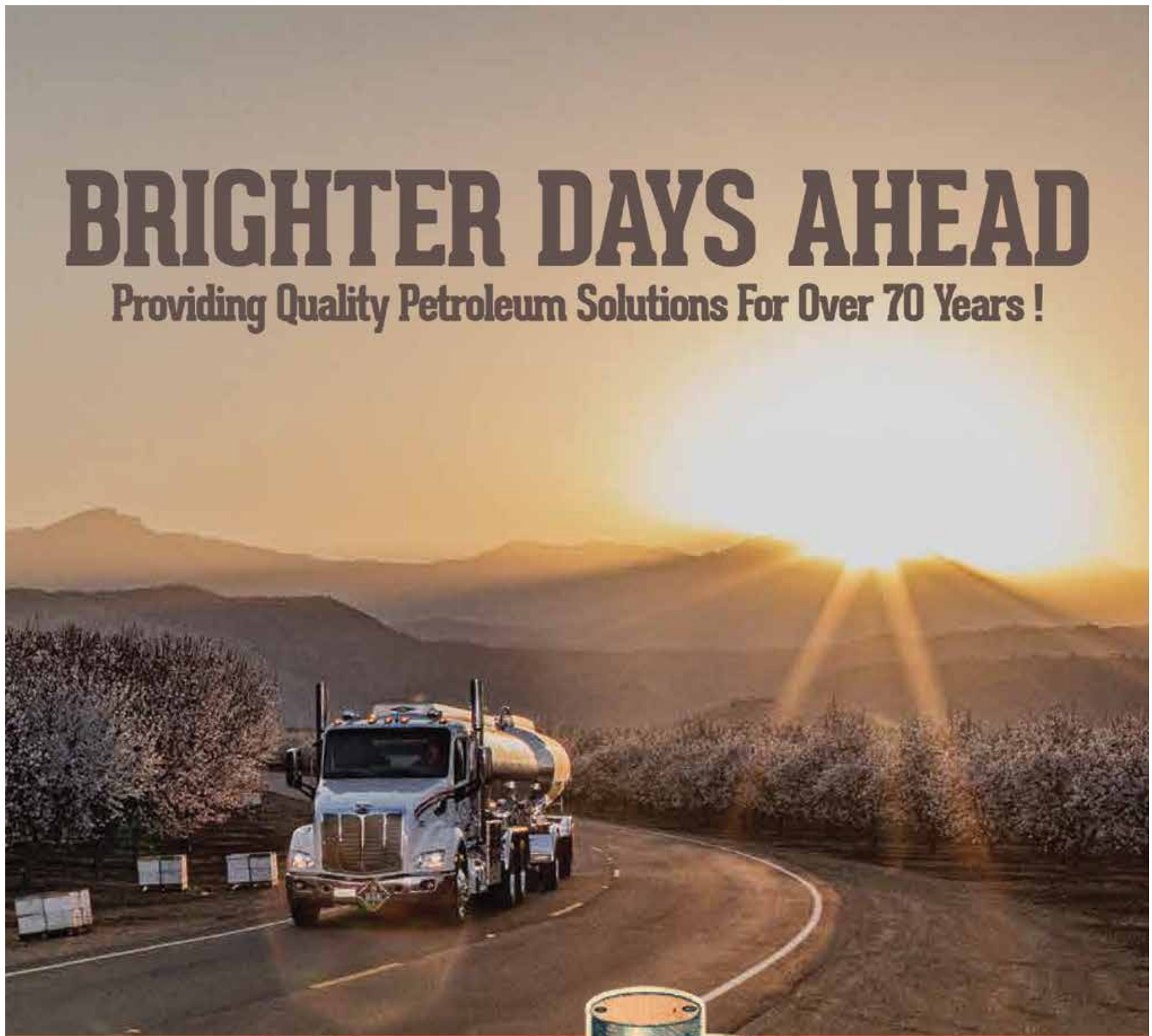
Garton Tractor
Granger Water Specialties
Hanford Equipment Co.
Innovative Ag Services LLC
JP Honey Farms

Keenan Farms
Keller Motors
Kings Dairy Supply Inc.
Laguna Irrigation District
Pearson Realty Inc.

Schuil & Associates
Sullivan Farming LLC
Torrent Resources
Tulare Lake Compost
Valley Ag Spraying

BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD

Providing Quality Petroleum Solutions For Over 70 Years!



559.651.1760 Office 559.651.8156 Fax



Kings County Rural Crime Report

Suspect arrested, facing numerous felony charges in wire theft investigation

Contributed by Rural Crime Supervisor Rod Shulman

The Kings County Sheriff's Rural Crime Unit has been busy with investigations and following up with interviews and arrests to close out several cases. The bait equipment we have placed in several different locations in the county has been stolen twice this month. We were able to recover the stolen trailer and quad and identify a suspect. We located and interviewed the driver of the suspect vehicle. He gave us names of two other suspects involved. Our unit went to a location in Hanford and located one of the suspects; he was arrested with two other subjects for outstanding warrants. The driver of the suspect vehicle was also arrested.

We received a call from investigators for the Kern County Rural Crime Unit regarding Chris Williams. They got into a pursuit with him and took him into custody. Members of our unit went to Kern County Jail and interviewed Williams about the wire theft investigations in our county. Williams admitted to seven wire thefts in Kings County. He was responsible for the wire thefts that occurred at JG Boswell's property and Esajian Farms in the area of the Avenal Cutoff. Williams is being charged with 40+ felonies and also has charges in our county. We hope to see wire theft slow down with him in custody. With that said, we are looking for another wire theft suspect who was seen on Westlake Farms property. The suspect is a Hispanic male who was with a female, and was last seen driving a white Ford F-150 extra cab pickup. The license plate for the truck is 46173C1. If anyone sees this vehicle, please give myself or one of our detectives a call immediately.

Our unit is also looking to identify a crew that has been burglarizing the solar farms in the area of Highway 41 and Laurel, and Laurel and 25th avenues. There have been three burglaries at these locations where suspects cut locks off of sea-land containers and removed contents from inside. Most of the contents consisted of battery-operated tools, including Milwaukee power tools of all types, specifically rivet guns and impact drivers. We have little to no investigative leads in any of these cases. Please keep an eye out if you are in the areas of these solar farms and call us if you see anything out of the ordinary.

Please give any of our detectives a call should you see anything suspicious on our around your property. And please consider

utilizing the owner applied number (OAN) and SmartWater CSI. If either one of these identifiers were on some of the equipment we recover, it would make it much easier to identify the owners. If you need an OAN, give any of our detectives a call. If you want more information about SmartWater CSI, give Dusty a call at the Kings County Farm Bureau office. Thanks again for your continued support! 🙌

Task Force Supervisor

Rod Shulman

559-469-4004

Detective Kody Holt

559-362-8928

Detective

Colten Verhoeven

559-469-6146

Detective

Grace Thomas

559-530-1701



Soil Amendments:

Gypsum, Limestone, Dolomite, Sulfur and Compost

Solution Gypsum:

Machines and Silos

Road Dust Control:

Dust Off and Road Oil: SC800, SC250 and Dust Oil

Duarte Potted Trees and Vines:

Almonds, Pistachios, Grapevines and Kiwis

Tree Stakes, Pistachio Rods and Vineyard Posts

Edward Needham

559-977-7282

Ed@NeedhamAgServices.com



Irrigation Solutions

Find out more at
NeedhamAgServices.com





“

FARM CREDIT WEST
TREATS ME AS
*an individual...
not a
transaction.*

”

DAVID PAGE

Cattle Rancher
Colorado River Reservation, AZ
Farm Credit West Customer

Who you are matters to us.

That’s why most lending decisions are made at the branch level. We take the time to get to know your business so you can get back to what matters most to you—running your operation.

DINUBA
559.591.9378

HANFORD
559.584.2681

TULARE
559.684.1478

FarmCreditWest.com



Committed. Experienced. Trusted.

