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## Young, beginning and small farmers invited to Sept. 22 event

By Amy D. Fienen

Kings County Farm Bureau is partnering with Golden State Farm Credit to hold an informational social that will provide the next generation of ag producers with helpful information about creating a successful business plan and financing their operation.

On Wednesday, Sept. 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., members have the opportunity to learn about Golden State Farm Credit's YBS (young, beginning and small) & Tomorrow's Farmer programs. The programs help thousands of farmers get established across the country each year, and KCFB

members are invited to learn how these programs can benefit them.

For purposes of the program, young farmers are those under age 36, beginning farmers have 10 years of experience or less, and small farmers have less than \$250,000 in annual sales.

The YBS & Tomorrow Farmer's programs support those entering agriculture in a variety of business models, including conventional, organic, sustainable, local food-related operations and direct-to-retail. YBS programs include training

*"Young Farmers" continued on page 11*



## Farmers should be prepared as APSA inspections resume

By Amy D. Fienen

Farmers who may not be in compliance with aboveground petroleum storage requirements should be aware that, after a long break in inspections, the Kings County Department of Public Health has resumed inspections and wants farmers to be prepared.

The Kings County Department of Public Health (DPH) has asked Kings County Farm Bureau to join them in an environmental health campaign informing our members about the provisions for farms under the Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA). The APSA program was created in the 1980s to help protect public health and the environment from potential contamination or adverse effects associated with unintentional releases from the aboveground storage of petroleum-based hazardous materials and wastes.

Because of COVID and a staffing shortage at the DPH, routine inspections have not been performed in some time, but

*"APSA Inspections" continued on page 10*





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

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Keith Grabow	Jared Silveira
Pete Hanse	Helen Sullivan
Monty Hoggard	Frank Zonneveld

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Jenny Holterman

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## Be sure to cast your vote in the recall election

By Dusty Ference, Executive Director



Dusty Ference

California is a few days away from having its second recall election of a governor since 1913. The first, of course, was held in 2003 when voters decided to replace Gray Davis with Arnold Schwarzenegger. A short 18 years later, the state has to consider recalling Governor Newsom.

Unlike most elections, voters must answer two questions in a recall election. First, "shall Gavin Newsom be recalled (removed) from the office of governor?" Next, which of the 46 qualified candidates listed would you like to replace him? If the majority of the voters say yes to a recall, the governor will be replaced by the candidate with the most votes. County election offices have 30 days to complete their official canvas, and on the 38th day, the winning candidate will be sworn in to serve the remainder of Newsom's term, which ends Jan. 2, 2023.

We live in trying times; many of us have lost hope in our democracy and believe the lie that our votes do not count. That has never been further from the truth. No matter how you vote, it is imperative to exercise your right. If you agree with the direction in which our state is headed, make it known. If you disagree, now is your chance to influence change. And, for those unhappy with the current situation who choose not to vote, keep your political opinions to yourself.

Many people close to me have shared that they believe this recall is one of the most important elections of their lives. I respectfully disagree. Each election is more important than the last. Get out and vote—your vote matters. 🗳️



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**Member to Member** *People, Products, Prosperity*

# Golden State Farm Credit By Amy D. Fienen

Golden State Farm Credit, a platinum-level Friend of Farm Bureau, is a member-owned cooperative that provides financing to the ag industry. Part of the Farm Credit system that has 71 financial institutions across the 50 states and Puerto Rico, Golden State Farm Credit serves the South Valley with offices in Hanford and Kingsburg.

As specialists in California agriculture, Golden State Farm Credit offers flexible financing options to help farmers meet their unique financial goals. They offer loans on real estate tailored to farmers and ranchers, equipment and vehicles, and country homes to promote rural development. Also available are operating lines of credit to help with day-to-day expenses, leasing programs for trailers, vehicles and equipment, and financing for young, beginning and small (YBS) farmers.

As a member cooperative, Golden State Farm Credit's members are stockholders who receive dividends back twice a year. Community Outreach Manager Kris Costa said that's just one of many ways their customers benefit. Because most of their employees live where they work and have direct ties to the community and agriculture, customer service is their focus.

"We're smaller than some of our competitors, so we're able to offer more personalized service," Costa said.

Golden State Farm Credit offices are very involved in the communities where they do business.

"We try to support anything that helps promote the next generation of ag leaders and anything that puts agriculture in a positive light," Costa said.

Those efforts include supporting local 4-H and FFA members at county fairs, sponsoring ag-based community events, partnering with county Farm Bureaus, and providing college scholarships to future agriculturalists and internship opportunities to those interested in pursuing careers in ag finance or ag lending. They partner with food banks across the state, including Central California Food Bank and Kings Community Action Organization.

When 23 project animals that were to be shown at the Plumas Sierra County Fair in Northern California were lost to the Dixie Fire last month, Costa got on the phone and started making calls. With the support of Golden State Farm Credit and other organizations willing to donate to the cause, \$18,000 was earmarked to



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help the kids who lost their animals.

"Agriculture steps up in the bad times and good times," Costa said. "I know that what we're doing is supporting the community we live in."

Golden State Credit has long been a supporter of Kings County Farm Bureau, a partnership that Costa said is essential in moving the industry forward.

"Farm Bureau makes agriculture sustainable for the next generation, and we believe in supporting that mission to support our farmers and ag community," she said. "We know that whatever county we're in, the county Farm Bureau is fighting the fight."

Golden State Farm Credit's South Valley offices are located in Hanford, (559) 584-5401 and Kingsburg, (559) 897-5814. They can also be reached at their toll-free number, (800) 834-8698, or visit their website, goldenstatefarmcredit.com.

*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. If your company would like to become a Friend of Farm Bureau, please call the KCFB office at (559) 584-3557.*

## KINGS COUNTY FARM BUREAU

### Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021 at 5 p.m.  
via web conference  
RSVPs required to attend  
RSVP to [kcfb@kcfb.org](mailto:kcfb@kcfb.org)

#### Publication of Nominating Committee Report

As provided in Article VI, Section 2 of the corporation's bylaws, the Nominating Committee of the corporation's Board of Directors reports that it has nominated these persons to serve on the corporation's Board of Directors:

- Garrett Gilcrease *District 1*
- Vacant *District 1*
- Keith Grabow *District 3*
- Frank Zonneveld *District 3*
- John Ellis *At Large*
- Jon Garcia *At Large*
- Dino Giacomazzi *At Large*
- Monty Hoggard *At Large*
- Jared Little *At Large*
- Brandon Sargent *At Large*

No corporate officer received any nomination by voting-member petition by Oct. 1, 2020, the date on which nominations closed as provided in Article V, Section 4, of the corporation's bylaws.

#### Declaration of Election of Those Nominated and Qualified

As provided in Article V, Section 6 of the corporation's bylaws, because the number of persons nominated is not more than the number to be elected to the corporation's Board of Directors, the corporation's president has declared that those persons named above, all of whom were nominated and are qualified to serve, have been elected without further action.

Brian Medeiros,  
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Shane Bickner,  
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## Ag Commissioner's Compliance Report



Jimmy Hook,  
Agricultural  
Commissioner/  
Sealer

## The role the CACASA plays in local agriculture

Contributed by Lynda Schrupf, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner-Sealer



The California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA) is an organization made up of all 58 counties in California for the purpose of discussing issues of state-wide importance in the areas of agriculture, natural resources, domestic and international trade, food safety, equity in the market place, and public health. CACASA helps to ensure that state and federal regulations are interpreted and enforced the same across all counties.

During California's period of rapid expansion at the end of the 19th century, settlers not only brought their families, but also trees and vines, some carrying exotic insects and plant pathogens. These new pests caused so many problems for California farmers that the legislature, in order to protect California's blossoming agricultural industry, granted each county the authority to appoint a horticultural commissioner, the predecessors of today's agricultural commissioners.

Jimmy Hook is the agricultural commissioner/sealer for Kings County, and he serves on the CACASA board of directors as president elect, as well as a member of weed and vertebrate, vertebrate pest control research advisory committees, and the wildlife services subcommittee. He has special assignments on the California Rural Crime Task Force, Emergency Animal Disposal Working Group.

CACASA plays a key role in lobbying for state and federal legislation, influencing regulations as they are being developed in key areas such as pesticides, food safety, natural resource management, plant protection, funding distribution and more, all of which have a significant impact on Kings County. Through CACASA, the Kings County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer can have issues that are important and even unique to Kings County addressed by state and federal agencies at a very high level.

County agricultural commissioners and county sealers of weights and measures provide regulatory services through numerous programs that are coordinated with the United States Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA), California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR), a division of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA). Each county agricultural commissioner and county sealer of weights and measures is licensed by CDFA and appointed by the respective county's board of supervisors.

For more information about the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, visit [cacasa.org](http://cacasa.org).

If you have questions about commodities or would like more information, please feel free to contact the Kings County Department of Agriculture, [agstaff@co.kings.ca.us](mailto:agstaff@co.kings.ca.us) or (559) 852-2830. 📞

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# Salute to Ag Banquet will honor the industry on Sept. 10

The Greater Kings County Chamber of Commerce has announced Steve Walker and the Kings County Deputy Sheriff's Association and Rural Crimes Task Force as the honorees at the 26th Annual Jack Stone-Kings County Salute to Agriculture Banquet. The banquet will be held on Friday, Sept. 10 at the Lemoore Rec Center.

Steve Walker will be honored as the Agriculturalist of the Year. A lifelong Hanford resident, Walker has been farming his family's ranch since the age of 17. When he's not growing walnuts and almonds, he is busy supporting the community. Walker served on the Kings County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for more than 20 years, and continues to support Farm Bureau's efforts. He is a staunch supporter of ag education and chairs the scholarship committee that awards scholarships to Kings County seniors planning to pursue a career in agriculture. Additionally, he contributes to our annual Wine vs. Beer Showdown. He also supports the Kings County Sheriff's Department and Valley Children's Hospital through his involvement in Kings Guild.

The Ag Supporter of the Year will be presented to the Kings County Deputy Sheriff's Association (KCDSA) and the Kings County Sheriff's Department Rural Crimes Task Force (RCTF). The KCDSA represents deputy sheriffs by providing representation and collective bargaining regarding wages, benefits and working conditions. KCDSA members are active in the local community and committed to supporting a number of charitable causes. They work with legislators at the state and local levels and help educate the public about laws and legislation.

The RCTF's primary focus is investigating crimes committed against the ag community. Task Force Supervisor Rod Shulman contributes monthly reports to "Farm Life" informing our members about crime trends in the area and the work the unit is doing to keep the ag community safe. Their free owner-applied number (OAN) program, which is

available to KCFB members, helps identify and recover stolen property. KCFB also worked closely with the RCTF to establish the SmartWater program, another tool available to members to help reduce theft.

The Salute to Ag Banquet will include a hosted social hour with hors d'oeuvres beginning at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 and the awards ceremony at 8. Inquiries and reservations may be made by calling the Greater Kings County Chamber office at (559) 216-0505 ext. 1001. Tickets are \$85 per person and will not be available at the door. 🍷



Agriculturalist of the Year Steve Walker



The Ag Supporter of the Year, the Kings County Sheriff's Department Rural Crimes Task Force. Pictured left to right: Deputy Colten Verhoeven, Deputy Carlos Santos, Sergeant Rod Shulman, and Deputy Kody Holt.



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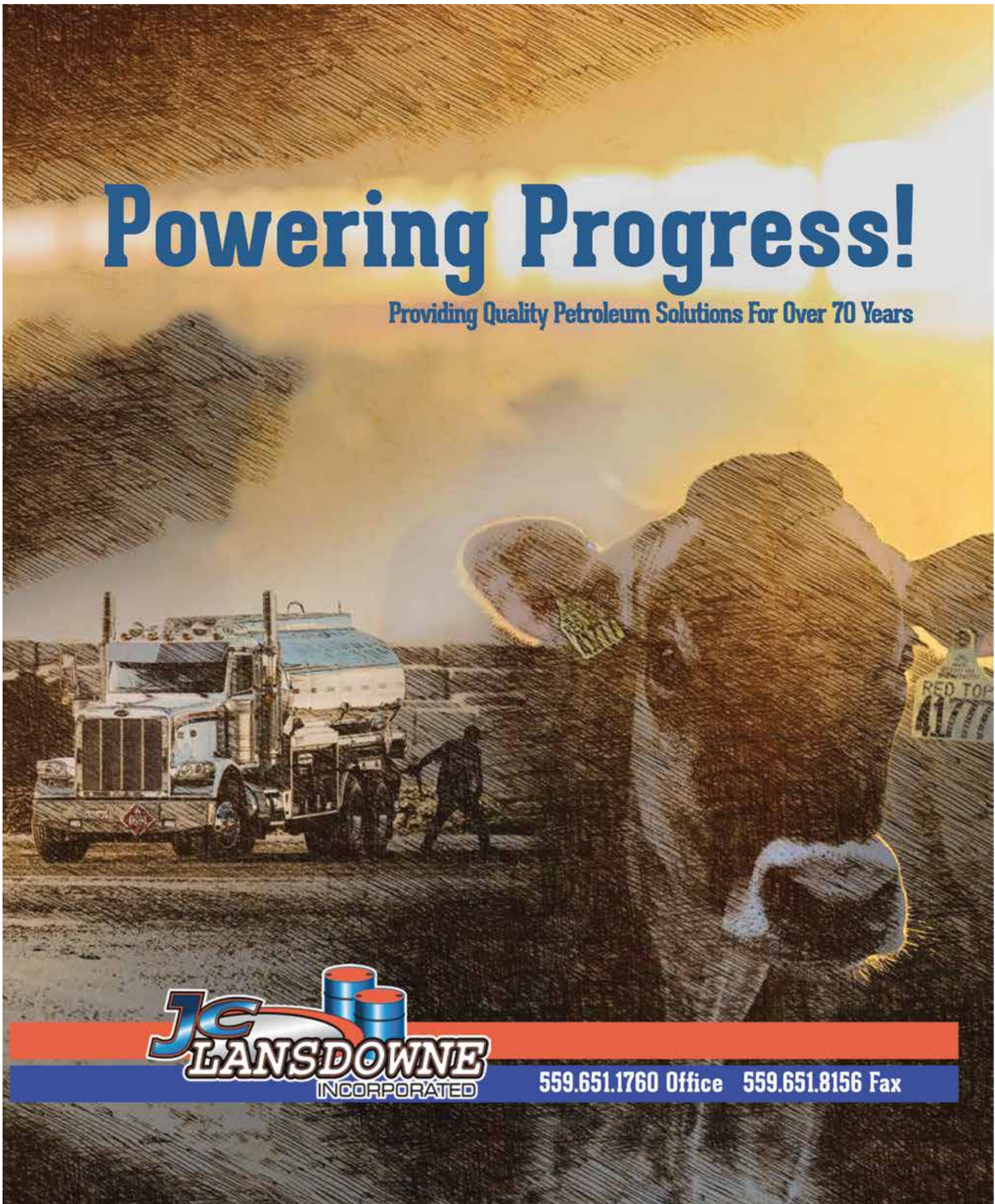
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# Kings County Rural Crime Report

## Unit investigating thefts of ATVs and UTVs

Contributed by Task Force Supervisor Rod Shulman



The Kings County Rural Crime Unit is busy once again with several investigations, recovery of property, and marijuana eradications. In August, our unit investigated the thefts of two Kubota RTV 900s and a Honda quad. A Kubota stolen from Cloverdale Dairy was parked near the maternity pen. One of their workers saw the suspect vehicle and a partial view of a female suspect. The Kubota was recovered about two miles away from the dairy by another worker that followed the direction of the tracks. Our unit was able to locate the suspect vehicle in Corcoran and interviewed the suspects, but we couldn't make an arrest because the worker was not able to identify the suspect.

We also investigated the theft of a Kubota from Van Dyk Cattle. We placed a Be On the Look Out (BOL) and it was located several days later in Fresno County. Newton Farms also had a Honda quad stolen, and that case is still under investigation.

Members of our unit conducted an investigation into hay stolen from Peter Loogman. We were able to identify the suspect that took eight blocks of alfalfa and sold them to subjects in Kings and Fresno counties. All of the hay was recovered and returned to the owner. The suspect in this investigation worked for Loogman. He was arrested and is facing several charges, including theft and embezzlement.

We assisted our patrol division with the investigation into the theft of a tractor and hay rake taken from the area of Westlake Farms. RS Martinez Hay reported their equipment stolen from the area while parked there in late August. Our department located the stolen equipment in Kettleman City the same day.

Additionally, we received a call from the San Bernardino County Rural Crime Unit notifying us that they located a water truck stolen from Willow Grove Farms. When we weren't locating stolen property and making arrests, we were eradicating illegal marijuana grows and issuing citations for illegal activity. We also spent four

days in the South Lake Tahoe area on the Caldor Fire. We assisted El Dorado County with evacuations and security patrols in several towns in the area.

If you see any suspicious activity or vehicles, please call our dispatch or one of us for assistance. The OAN program is still a service we provide to all farmers and ranchers. If you need equipment stamped, please call me or one of our detectives for an appointment. The Kings County Farm Bureau also has SmartWater CSI available for purchase. Contact Dusty at the Farm Bureau for further information. Please also call us to report illegal marijuana grows. We can be contacted at the cell phone numbers below any time for assistance. Thank you for your support! 🙌

**Task Force Supervisor  
Rod Shulman:**  
559-469-4004

**Detective Carlos Santos:**  
559-904-6893

**Detective Kody Holt:**  
559-362-8928

**Detective  
Colten Verhoeven:**  
559-469-6146



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# Directory of Farm Bureau Supporting Business Members

These businesses and organizations support the agricultural industry and the Kings County Farm Bureau. Please support them and tell them you are a Farm Bureau member. Call us at 584-3557. Friends of Farm Bureau sponsors are noted in **bold** listings. By joining FB as a business member, your business is added to this directory.

## ACCOUNTING

<b>Bressler &amp; Company Certified Public Accountants</b>	<b>559-924-1225</b>
<b>M. Green and Company LLP</b>	<b>559-584-2751</b>

## ASSOCIATIONS

California Women for Agriculture	559-737-8899
Kings River Conservation District	559-237-5567

## AUTO DEALERS & REPAIR

<b>Billingsley Tire</b>	<b>559-924-3481</b>
Jones Collision Center	559-924-2169
Maaco Collision & Auto Painting	559-924-3000
Richard's Chevrolet-Buick	559-992-3158

## BANKING/FINANCIAL

Bank of the Sierra	559-585-6700
Bank of the West	559-802-4066
Central Valley Community Bank	559-323-3493
Citizens Business Bank	866-578-0658
<b>Farm Credit West</b>	<b>559-584-2681</b>
<b>Golden State Farm Credit</b>	<b>559-584-5401</b>

## BROKERS & COMMODITIES

Baker Commodities Inc.	559-582-0271
Buttonwillow Warehouse Co.	559-992-5120
Calcot Ltd.	661-327-5961
Overland Stockyards	559-582-0404
Penny Newman Grain Company	559-448-8800
<b>Tulare Lake Compost</b>	<b>559-840-4368</b>

## CHEMICALS & APPLICATORS

Blair Air Services Inc./	
Blair Ground Services	559-924-1276
Crop Production Services	559-584-5583
Diversified Crop Services	559-582-5644
Gar Bennett LLC	559-638-6311
<b>Innovative Ag Services LLC</b>	<b>559-731-4924</b>
Lakeland Dusters	559-992-5716
SNF Agriculture	559-309-4301
TriCal Inc.	559-673-5237
<b>Valley Ag Spraying</b>	<b>559-772-5515</b>
<b>Verdegaal Brothers Inc.</b>	<b>559-582-9205</b>

## CUSTOM SERVICES

All Valley Printing/	
Treefrog Print Shop	559-584-5444
<b>Danell Brothers Inc.</b>	<b>559-582-1251</b>
Dias & Fragoso Inc.	559-584-8036
Garcia & Sons Hay Harvesting	559-707-4420
Hanford Roofing Company	559-582-5607
McCann & Sons Hay Service	559-925-9110
Netto Ag Inc.	559-585-2097
Stoney's Sand & Gravel	559-924-9229
South Valley Harvesting	559-308-0871
Swinger Pruning Services	559-816-7711
Warmerdam Orchard Services	559-924-4662

## DAIRIES/DAIRY SUPPLIERS

<b>Kings Dairy Supply Inc.</b>	<b>559-582-9459</b>
<b>Summerhill Dairy</b>	<b>559-468-6554</b>
Vet Pharmaceutical Inc.	559-582-6800

## ENTERTAINMENT

<b>Tachi Palace Casino Resort</b>	<b>559-924-7751</b>
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## EQUIPMENT DEALERS & REPAIR

<b>Garton Tractor</b>	<b>559-331-3239</b>
<b>Hanford Equipment</b>	<b>559-582-0443</b>
Lawrence Tractor Co.	559-582-9002
Linder Equipment Co.	559-685-5000
<b>Quality Machinery Center</b>	<b>559-707-1638</b>
Quinn Company	559-992-2193

## FARM SUPPLY

AgSeeds Unlimited	559-923-1800
Evangelho Seed Co.	559-924-9554
West Valley Supply	559-924-3442
<b>Needham Ag Services</b>	<b>559-977-7282</b>
<b>Duarte Nursery</b>	<b>209-531-0351</b>

## FARMS & RANCHES

Gary Robinson	559-779-5541
Grabow Farming	559-816-4590
<b>J.G. Boswell Co.</b>	<b>559-992-5011</b>
<b>Keenan Farms</b>	<b>559-945-1400</b>
Miya Farms	559-309-3300
<b>Stone Land Co.</b>	<b>559-945-2205</b>
<b>Sullivan Farming LLC</b>	<b>559-289-2452</b>
<b>Summerhill Dairy</b>	<b>559-804-8148</b>
Taylor Farms	559-584-3798

## FOOD SERVICES

Avila Acres Country Gourmet	559-584-5935
Eddie's Catering	559-707-8796
Kings River Produce	559-587-9387
Pizza Factory	559-992-3148
Superior Dairy	559-582-0481

## HEALTH CARE

<b>Adventist Health Care</b>	<b>559-582-9000</b>
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## INSURANCE SERVICES

<b>Bacome Insurance</b>	<b>559-584-3323</b>
Carl Nelson Insurance	559-584-4495
Der Manouel Insurance Group	559-447-4600
Golden State Crop & Insurance Services	559-587-9007
<b>Mackey &amp; Mackey Insurance Agency</b>	<b>559-583-9393</b>
Mitchell Insurance Services	559-713-1315
<b>Nationwide Insurance Services</b>	<b>877-669-6877</b>
<b>Pacific Ag Insurance Agency</b>	<b>559-584-3391</b>
<b>The Zenith</b>	<b>877-581-8237</b>
Western Ag Crop Insurance	661-695-1700

## IRRIGATION/PUMPS/WELLS

Carver Pump	855-622-7837
Grabow Well Drilling Inc.	559-362-5172
Kaweah Pump Inc.	559-747-0755
Kings County Water District	559-584-6412
<b>Laguna Irrigation District</b>	<b>559-923-4239</b>
Lakeside Irrigation Water District	559-584-3396
<b>Meras Water Solutions</b>	<b>559-474-7977</b>
Myers Brothers Well Drilling Inc.	559-582-9031
Myers Well Drilling	559-906-0930
<b>Rain for Rent/Westside Pump</b>	<b>559-693-4315</b>
Westlands Water District	559-905-6736

## LABOR

<b>Daniel C. Salas Custom Harvesting</b>	<b>559-924-2290</b>
Sunrise Farm Labor	559-945-2292

## MANUFACTURES

Dean Beck's Machine Shop	559-582-4144
Jim Harp's Stainless Steel Welding	559-582-6011
<b>Morgan &amp; Slates Manufacturing &amp; Supplies</b>	<b>559-582-4417</b>
R-N-R Welding	559-584-0213
Sawtelle & Rosprim Machine Co.	559-992-2117
Smith Welding Shop	559-584-8652

## PETROLEUM

Buford Oil Co. Inc.	559-582-9028
Dassel's Petroleum	559-582-8515
Gary V. Burrows Inc.	559-924-2064
<b>J.C. Lansdowne Inc.</b>	<b>559-651-1760</b>
Roe Oil Co.	559-584-5690
Valley Pacific Petroleum	559-732-8381

## PROCESSORS

County Line Gin Inc.	559-854-7489
<b>Keenan Farms</b>	<b>559-945-1400</b>
<b>Marquez Brothers International, Inc.</b>	<b>559-584-8000</b>
<b>Olam SVI</b>	<b>559-584-2711</b>
Warmerdam Packing LP	559-584-9211

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

<b>Dias Law Firm Inc.</b>	<b>559-585-7330</b>
<b>Griswold, LaSalle, Cobb, Dowd &amp; Gin LLP</b>	<b>559-584-6656</b>
<b>Kahn, Soares &amp; Conway LLP</b>	<b>559-584-3337</b>
Kings County EDC	559-585-3576
Zumwalt-Hansen & Associates Inc.	559-582-1056

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

<b>Pearson Realty</b>	<b>559-732-7300</b>
Sierra View Realty	559-410-5557

## SOLAR ENERGY

CalCom Solar	661-234-0978
REC Solar	717-515-4519
<b>Recurrent Energy</b>	<b>415-675-1500</b>
<b>Renewable Solar</b>	<b>559-816-5088</b>

## TRANSPORTATION

E & B Bulk Transportation	559-582-9135
Mesa Alta Transportation	559-250-1270
Mid Valley Disposal	559-237-9425

## UTILITIES

<b>Pacific Gas &amp; Electric</b>	<b>559-263-5308</b>
unWired Broadband	844-650-3278



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Tulare Lake Compost  
Valley Ag Spraying

“APSA Inspections” continued from page 1

the state is requiring that APSA inspections resume.

Troy Hommerding, division manager of the county’s environmental health division, said that most area farms are subject to some sort of APSA requirement that will trigger an inspection, although some are conditionally exempt.

We’ve included some information to help our members determine whether APSA rules apply to their operation.

If your farm meets all the following criteria, it may be subject to APSA. APSA applies to a farm that:

- stores, contains, handles or treats petroleum oil or petroleum products for a period of time, including on a temporary basis.
- stores at least 1,320 gallons of petroleum in aboveground tanks or containers.
- stores at least 2,500 gallons of oil,

including petroleum, animal and vegetable oils and oil products, in aboveground tanks or containers.

A farm is conditionally exempt from the requirement to prepare a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan under the APSA program provided that the owner or operator of the farm:

- has no single petroleum storage tank with a capacity larger than 20,000 gallons;
- has an aggregate petroleum storage capacity not exceeding 100,000 gallons;
- conducts daily inspections of their aboveground petroleum storage tanks;
- allows Unified Program Agencies (UPA) inspectors to conduct periodic inspections; and
- installs secondary containment if requested to do so by the UPA.

A farm that does not meet the conditions of exemptions under APSA is required to:

- prepare and implement an SPCC Plan applying good engineering practices to prevent petroleum releases,
- conduct periodic inspections of each aboveground storage tank, and
- comply with current federal regulations.

A farm that is regulated under APSA, regardless of whether or not the facility is conditionally exempt, is required to file an annual tank facility statement (or a hazardous materials business plan) into the statewide information management system. Hommerding said that the county’s environmental health division inspections include checks that the required reports have been filed.

CAL FIRE-Office of the State Fire Marshal, the agency responsible for ensuring the implementation of the APSA program, has some helpful compliance resources on their website. For more on whether your operation is subject to APSA, visit [osfm.fire.ca.gov](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov) and type “APSA” in the search box. Additionally, you can call the Kings County Department of Public Health at (559) 584-1411 and direct your questions to any inspector in the environmental health division. 🌿

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“Young Farmers” continued from page 1

and seminars on topics like intergenerational transfer of family farms, risk management techniques, financial skills training, and establishing effective business plans.

Kris Costa, community outreach manager for Golden State Farm Credit, said the Sept. 22 social will allow attendees to speak directly with a loan officer who understands the unique financing needs that YBS farmers have. She said that whether it’s a recent college grad getting started in the family farming business or a young farmer looking to expand or diversify their farm, the YBS programs have broader underwriting criteria to develop the appropriate financing for each operation.

The Farm Credit system has increased their commitment to YBS producers in recent years. In 2020, new loans made by Farm Credit to young farmers increased by 37%, to beginning farmers by 57% and to small farmers by 63%.

“We’re looking for new ways to reach young people and support them with the YBS & Tomorrow’s Farmer’s programs as they get started in production agriculture,” Costa said.

To reserve your spot for the social at the KCFB office on Sept. 22, please email [info@gsfarmcredit.com](mailto:info@gsfarmcredit.com) or text (209) 678-3466. Please call the KCFB office with questions, (559) 584-3557. 📞

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We believe in supporting the next generation of farmers and ranchers. Our Young, Beginning, Small (YBS) and Tomorrow’s Farmer programs include broader underwriting criteria that are tailored to ensuring the next generation of farmers can secure the financing they need.

To learn more about our YBS & Tomorrow’s Farmer programs, join us for a social:

**Wednesday, September 22nd**  
**6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M**  
**Kings County Farm Bureau office**  
**870 Greenfield Ave, Hanford**  
**(social is open to all KCFB members)**

RSVP via email: [info@gsfarmcredit.com](mailto:info@gsfarmcredit.com)  
or call/text 209.678.3466



**Hanford: 559.584.5401**  
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