



LACFB

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Nebeker Ranch
- 1st Vice President**
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Kyle & Kyle Ranches
- 2nd Vice President**
 Jeff Siebert
- Secretary**
 Gloria Alesso
Alesso Family Trust
- Treasury**
 Julie Kyle
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- Past President**
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Munz Ranch

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- Jess Baker
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Calandri/Son Rise Farms L.P.
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- Gailen Kyle
Kyle & Kyle Ranches, Inc.
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Maritorena Farms
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Maritorena Farms
- Richard Miner
- Dave Rizzo
Grimmway Farms
- Steve Rodrigues
Bolthouse

LACFB Office Staff

- Victoria Gerginis
Interim Office Manager
- Thomas Cox
Administrative Assistant

Upcoming Event.....
Upcoming Event.....

Don't Forget to Save the Date!

L.A. County Fair
At Fairplex, Pomona
 September 4-October 3, 2010

Come visit the LACFB booth at the L.A. County Fair behind the Fairview Farms Building!

For more fair information including directions and activities please visit their website
<http://www.lacountyfair.com/2010/>



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FARM BUREAU MEMBER BENEFITS

Enjoy Farm Bureau member benefits that include:

Insurance discount programs, discounts on lodging, car rentals, participating theme parks, etc.

Check out: <http://cfbf.com/benefits/index.cfm> for details

Request a complimentary copy of California Country Magazine!

[\[https://www.cfbf.com/CalifCountryMag/orderCalifCountryMag.cfm\]](https://www.cfbf.com/CalifCountryMag/orderCalifCountryMag.cfm)

Produced by the California Farm Bureau Federation, California Country is the latest in the organization's long-running commitment to educating consumers, media and legislators about the importance and incomparable bounty of food, fiber and flowers grown in California.

Farm Bureau has produced regularly scheduled television programs since 1964 and more than 2,200 episodes of California Country have aired since its title changeover from *The Voice of Agriculture* in 1997.

California Country Magazine ~In its effort to reach consumers and educate them on the importance of agriculture, the California Farm Bureau is proud to produce *California Country*® magazine. The magazine is published six times a year and is one of the many benefits enjoyed by the Farm Bureau's sustaining members. Non-member subscriptions are available for just \$9.00 per year (a savings of 50% off the annual cover price!).

CALIFORNIA COUNTRY TELEVISION

Don't forget to watch California Country Television. For a broadcast schedule near you see:

<http://www.californiacountry.org/on-tv/broadcast-schedule.aspx>

We know Mother Nature doesn't wait.

That's why we get your employees back to work fast through our careful processing of claims. Plus, we offer eligible Farm Bureau members a 6% discount on premiums. It's all part of our commitment to California agriculture. Because Mother Nature doesn't stop, and neither will we.

Together, we'll help keep California working.
statefundca.com



State Compensation Insurance Fund is not a branch of the State of California.

Workers' Compensation for Horse Facilities:

With a FB membership you can receive a discount on your worker's compensation insurance through State Fund.

Contact a State Fund representative at <http://www.scif.com/> and ask for one of the FB programs: Group 005 CFBF, Stock Farms (includes raising and breeding of horses) or Group 511 CFBF Horse Breeders Group/ Horse Shows (i.e. insurance for stable employees).



Allied Insurance

a Nationwide® company
On Your Side®



John Valentine
Director, Sponsor
Relations Nationwide
Insurance

Contact John via email at:
Valenti4@nationwide.com



Nationwide
On Your Side

Nationwide Insurance

Nationwide Insurance Company of America offers a 7 1/2 percent discount on personal auto insurance to Farm Bureau members in California. To find an agent near you, visit www.nationwide.com or call 1-877-669-6877

Web site at www.nhpcalifornia.com.

Allied Insurance

Allied Insurance provides quality insurance products and On Your Side service to individuals, families, farms and businesses. Customers know the Allied name represents quality insurance and outstanding service at a fair price. **Personal Auto ~Farm Bureau members receive a 7 1/2 percent discount on Allied's personal auto insurance.**

Search the Allied Agent Locator (<http://www.cfbf.com/farmagents/>) for an agent near you or call (800) 282-1446.

AGRICULTURAL TIDBITS:

Robot suit designed for aging farmers [(McClatchy-Tribune News Service), August 24, 2010] TOKYO — Manual labor is becoming more and more difficult for Japan's aging farmers, prompting a Tokyo professor to devise a high-tech solution: mechanize the bodies of the farmers themselves. Prof. Shigeki Toyama of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology's Graduate School of Engineering is close to perfecting a robot suit that could considerably reduce the physical burden of farm work on elderly farmers. <http://aglinenews.com/news-5.html>

Egypt's grads sent to farm the desert [(BBC News), August 23, 2010] – Egypt has, for the last two decades, been encouraging university graduates to leave the city and grow food on dry, uncultivated land. When Hassan Abdul Rahman took his wife to see their new place in the country, she had this to say: "Hassan, I can only see the desert connected to the sky!" But Hassan had already decided to come and live here, out in the desert, 200km from Cairo. Hassan is trying to farm the desert. After many years, he's still learning some basic things, including how not to pour valuable water into the sand. "I've been flooding the whole field," he says, after listening to an instructor explain how to take into account the size of the plants and the precise area of cultivation. Some of these skills he then passes on to the few locals, whose families have lived here for centuries. Hassan still doesn't think of himself as a farmer. "Farmers have experience I just don't have," he says. But he's no amateur - no city boy turned weekend landowner. He's totally committed to making his farm in the desert work. His fairytale story may show how the world can meet at least two of the Millennium Development Goals - cutting hunger (by increasing farming output) and ensuring "decent and productive work for youth".

Commentary: Math lessons for locavores [New York Times, August 20, 2010] ...But the local food movement now threatens to devolve into another one of those self-indulgent — and self-defeating — do-gooder dogmas....Studies have shown that whether it's grown in California or Maine, or whether it's organic or conventional, about 5,000 calories of energy go into one pound of lettuce. Given how efficient trains and tractor-trailers are, shipping a head of lettuce across the country actually adds next to nothing to the total energy bill.... Agriculture, on the other hand, accounts for just 2 percent of our nation's energy usage; that energy is mainly devoted to running farm machinery and manufacturing fertilizer. In return for that quite modest energy investment, we have fed hundreds of millions of people, liberated tens of millions from backbreaking manual labor and spared hundreds of millions of acres for nature preserves, forests and parks that otherwise would have come under the plow. Don't forget the astonishing fact that the total land area of American farms remains almost unchanged from a century ago, at a little under a billion acres, even though those farms now feed three times as many Americans and export more than 10 times as much as they did in 1910.

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/20/opinion/20budiansky.html?_r=1&ref=opinion

Oh gnome! Geeks take to the garden[(TheNewsTribune.com), August 17, 2010] – Corporate culture has met agriculture at Intel, and the broccoli is amazing. Employees at the DuPont offices have turned a rocky lot next to the streamlined building into a geek Eden of raised beds, compost heaps and generosity. They are surprising food banks in Pierce and Thurston counties with deliveries of lettuce, spinach, peas, broccoli and bok choy in a season when many home gardeners are just getting their recently waterlogged soil going. These techies do not approach gardening the way mere mortals might. They've got next to no experience. They don't trust luck. They work as teams and research strategies. Apparently, they're on to something. In late June they harvested 70 pounds of radishes from a 5-by-6-foot section of a raised bed. Now the peas they planted with the radishes are ready to snap. Click here to read article <http://aglinenews.com/news-5.html>

Letter to the editor: Old-fashioned farming [New York Times, Aug 6, 2010] ... Why is it that so many people romanticize the "good old days" of agriculture, but they never wish for 17th-century technology in medicine, transportation or communications? <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/06/opinion/06farm.html?ref=opinion>

Locally grown spa treatments [The Associated Press August 5, 2010] LOS ANGELES – Visitors have long come to the hilly Southern California hamlet of Ojai to get stuffed with the Pixie tangerines grown as a specialty in the area's citrus groves. Now they're coming to get scrubbed with them too. The Ojai Valley Inn and other spas across the country are cashing in on the craze for locally grown fruits and herbs by integrating them into skin treatments and massage therapies. Customers say they like knowing they're supporting small, local farms and appreciate the freshness of the items used. <http://aglinenews.com/news-1.html>

Feds and farmers create bird habitats [AP via Yahoo! News, July 30, 2010] MAMOU, La. – Water gurgling from a well is flooding Craig Gautreaux's rice and crawfish fields, turning the farm into a wetland for migratory birds whose usual Gulf of Mexico wintering grounds are threatened by the oil spill. Across eight states, farmers such as Gautreaux are inundating fallow fields to provide an alternative for some of the tens of millions of ducks, geese and shorebirds that are beginning to make their way south on a flyway that stretches as far north as Alaska and Iceland. "Hopefully, we can help," said Gautreaux, who has dedicated 762 acres about 90 miles inland from the Gulf to the project under a three-year, \$132,441 contract that likely will cover his costs but provide little if any profit. "I want to keep the birds around." Biologists fear the birds will arrive at Gulf barrier islands, shorelines and marshes only to find their nesting sites fouled and their food supply depleted. Government officials hope to have 150,000 acres of manmade wetlands ready by Aug. 15, although they do not know how many birds will use it.

Scientists eye growing plants on the moon [space.com, July 30, 2010] – Future manned missions to the moon or Mars could use plants as bio-harvesters to extract valuable elements from the alien soils, researchers say. Now they hope to launch new experiments to follow up on tests done with plants and lunar regolith during NASA's Apollo program that landed men on the moon. Lunar regolith is a loose mixture of dust, soil, broken rock and other related materials that lie on top of solid bedrock. The Apollo-era research showed that returned lunar samples of the regolith did not have toxins or contain alien life-form contaminants that could threaten plants, animals or humans on Earth. Yet limited use of the precious lunar regolith meant that scientists could not study how well plants fared when grown in regolith. "In spite of the fact that we absolutely admire the innovative science done in the Apollo era, the question of whether a plant could grow if you plop a seed in lunar regolith hasn't been answered," said Robert Ferl, a geneticist at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Visit a working farm or ranch to bring classroom learning to life! [CFAITC E-newsletter: Cream of the Crop - July 2010] The UC Small Farm Program hosts a searchable, online directory of California agricultural tourism (agritourism) operations, for use by visitors looking for a farm or ranch to visit. California's farmers and ranchers invite you to visit, learn, taste and enjoy. www.calagtour.org

Opinion: Group's goal is for an egg-less America [Sacramento Bee, July 26, 2010] Everyone with a head on his shoulders believes in the humane treatment of animals. But egg farmers and American consumers will soon face a choice between what's actually humane and what some animal rights radicals claim is humane. It may seem like a hair-splitting exercise, but the wrong choice will send American egg farmers the way of the telegraph operator....What's really at stake here is that word: "humane." HSUS seems to want a monopoly on it, even though other animal welfare-oriented groups – and plenty of scientists – disagree with its agenda. And that agenda is where the rubber meets the road: HSUS is run by vegans who don't believe anyone should eat eggs, regardless of how or where they were produced. Most recently, HSUS has opposed attempts by California lawmakers to specifically define the standards mandated by Proposition 2. The very vague language that California voters approved in 2008 gives HSUS's enormous legal team enough wiggle room to hassle farmers who don't see things HSUS's way. <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/07/24/2911463/groups-goal-is-for-an-egg-less.html>

La Nina could revive California drought [Fresno Bee, July 26, 2010] Don't let the running rivers and rising reservoirs fool you. The break in California's three-year drought might not last. The global weather phenomenon La Niña has begun cooling down the Pacific Ocean, which means drier times may be ahead for major parts of California. The effects of La Niña aren't felt until the rainy season in California. But in May and June, a harbinger appeared as ocean temperatures dropped as suddenly as anyone could remember. Based on past patterns and statistics, scientists see a clear shift toward drier weather for Southern California and possibly the Sierra Nevada in Central California. <http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/07/23/2017223/la-nina-could-revive-california.html#storylink=misearch>

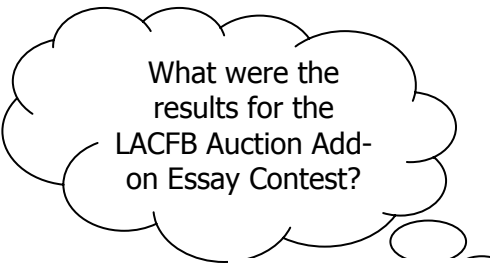
USDA expects boost in Calif. almond crop [Fresno Bee, July 9, 2010] California almond growers are expected to produce another bumper crop this year, despite wet weather, high winds and a disruption in pollination. A government forecast released Thursday estimates that California will produce 1.65 billion pounds of almonds, an increase of 17% from last year. As the nation's leading almond grower, California is poised to churn out a billion-plus-pound crop for the fifth year in a row. <http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/07/09/2000538/usda-expects-boost-in-calif-almond.html#storylink=misearch>

Farmers plow through paperwork, not fields [Turlock Journal, July 6, 2010] Buying produce or nuts at the grocery store or local farmers' market is a typical day-to-day activity for most consumers. What most shoppers don't know is that farmers jump through regulated hoops just to put that food on the shelves. A farmer's job doesn't only consist of planting trees; watering them and watching them grow. There are dozens of regulations that dictate each move a farmer makes in the process of producing the food that everyone consumes. Most of the regulations add time and money to farmers' expenses, giving them little return on their investment. "Most regulations are made with good intent," said Vito Chiesa, manager of Chiesa Ranch Corporation in Hughson and Stanislaus County supervisor. "We want clean water and we want clean air. We don't want to do anything to detriment our future. We are environmentalists." <http://www.turlockjournal.com/news/article/4703/>

Ranchers and environmentalists go to bat for El Dorado grasslands [Sacramento Bee, June 22, 2010] Ed Borba's hat, mustache, oversized belt buckle and boots suggest a rancher. The bumper sticker on his truck completes the picture. It reads, "Eat Beef: The West Wasn't Won on Salad."...Borba and others in El Dorado County are fighting to preserve the ranching way of life and its contribution to the local economy. The struggle is against development pressures, and they've found allies among the environmentalists who have often been the enemies of ranchers....The immediate issue is something known as the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, and a natural resources map that the Board of Supervisors will consider today. The management plan is a necessary consequence of the county's general plan adopted six years ago, in 2004. <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/06/22/2839088/ranchers-and-environmentalists.html>

Dying on the vine: Tomato prices [Wall Street Journal, June 17, 2010] Jeff Dolan's tomatoes in San Joaquin Valley are ripening and ready to pick this week. But that puts him in a pickle. In California, harvest time is arriving just as tomato growers in other parts of the U.S. are reeling from a sudden supply glut that is pushing the price for fresh tomatoes sharply lower. Florida farmers who fetched more than \$30 a few months ago for a 25-pound box of round, fresh field-grown tomatoes, also known as slicer tomatoes, are now getting \$5 or less. The abundant crop is rooted in last winter's cold weather in Florida, which delayed the development of tomato plants. The overdue harvest hit the market in May just as DiMare Co., where Mr. Dolan oversees California field operations, was picking tomatoes near Palm Springs. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703513604575311142116083572.html?KEYWORDS=tomato+prices>

Future of farming-BEEF Daily [June 1, 2010]-Wyatt Hanson has lived on his family farm all his life. And, like many young farmers, he once entertained the idea of someday taking over the family business. However, with it becoming harder and harder for farmers to earn a living, Hanson said he has since changed his mind about having a future as a farmer, and has started looking to international business instead. Click here to learn more about the farmers' plight: <http://beefmagazine.com/sectors/cow-calf/0601-future-of-farming/>



What were the results for the LACFB Auction Add-on Essay Contest?

Click below to see our Junior Livestock Auction Add-On Contest Winners and to read an excerpt from their essays! <http://www.lacfb.org/jlcwinners.html>

AGRICULTURAL EVENTS, GRANTS, AND FREEBIES:

Free Garden Give Away – <http://www.lacfb.org/> (Click for more info on this FREE agricultural contest) The Los Angeles County Farm Bureau is looking for agricultural enthusiasts who would like to win a free “Earthbox”. (courtesy of <http://earthbox.com>) This year the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau is interested in finding out why you think Agriculture is important in L.A. County. This contest is open to all L.A. County residents interested in gardening!

Visit our website at www.lacfb.org for additional details on how to apply as well as for more information regarding our non-profit organization. **Please have the e-mail entry form completely filled out and submitted by October 3, 2010.**

Please note that you can “friend” L.A. Farm Bureau on Facebook to receive additional updates.

2010 CFBF Photo Contest, Deadline: September 30, 2010; The contest is open to any amateur photographer (one who receives no income from photography) who is a member of a county Farm Bureau in California.

Not a member? **Sign up today!** **Grand Prize winner will receive \$500!!** For a complete lists of rules and for more information visit the website at: <http://www.cfbf.com/programs/photo/>

Agricultural Colleges

Cal Poly Pomona
3801 West Temple Ave
Pomona, CA 91768
(909) 869-2189

Convention Center

Calamigos Ranch
327 S. Latigo Canyon
Malibu, CA 90265
(800) 821-2097
(818) 879-8130 Fax
<http://www.calamigos.com/>

Farms/Ranches

Alesso Farms
P.O. Box 398
Rosamond, CA 93560
(661) 256-0933

Bench Ranch
Michael Bench
7200 West Ave H
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 949-9999

Forrest Godde
P.O. Box 1152
Lancaster, Ca 93584
(661) 940-3190

Wells & Pumps

Rottman Drilling
46471 N. Division St.
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 942-6125
rdrilling@msn.com

Engineering

Barry Munz
129 West Pondera St
Lancaster, Ca 93534
(661) 948-0805

Financial

Gary Rardon and Associates
514 Commerce Ave, Suite A
Palmdale, Ca 93551
(661) 272-5672
grardon@rardon.org

Dodge Dealers

H.W. Hunter, Inc
1130 Auto Mall Drive
Lancaster, Ca 93534
(661) 948-8411

**Grocery
Supplies/Stores**

Antelope Valley Produce
206 West Nugent
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 942-5939

Costco #762
1141 W Ave L
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 802-4470

Other Organizations

50th District Agricultural
Association
2511 West Avenue H
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 948-6060

Antelope Valley Air Quality
Management District
43301 Division Street, #206
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 723-8070

Various Businesses

Inn of Lancaster
Lancaster, Ca 93534
(661) 945-8771

January Creations Inc
1475 Chastain Pkwy W
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
(310)230-1100

Ray Martin
P.O. Box 114
Valyermo, CA 93563
(661) 435-9950

Valley Sod Farms
16405 Chase Street
North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 892-7258

Hemme Hay & Feed
43719 N Sierra Hwy
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 942-8880

Quinn Company
P.O. Box 226789
Los Angeles, CA 90022-6789
(559) 896-4040
kvivian@quinncompany.com

LACFB Business Directory

Contact our office at 661-274-9709 if
you are interested in advertising in
our business directory