



Fresno County Farm Bureau

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Heat illness prevention training sessions set for June 23 at FCFB and 29 in Five Points

Two separate heat illness prevention training seminars are scheduled for later this month. On Tuesday, June 23, a free seminar sponsored by Cal/OSHA, the CA Department of Industrial Relations and several agricultural organizations, will be held at the Fresno County Farm Bureau office, 1274 W. Hedges Ave., Fresno. The session for farmers and ranchers will be held at 8 a.m.; followed by a Spanish session for farm labor contractors and supervisors at 10 a.m. and an English session at 1 p.m.

The seminars will focus on the four elements of heat illness programs: providing and encouraging water consumption; access to shade; full and complete training; and written procedures identifying the essentials, which include emergency procedures. To register for the June 23 seminars, call the FCFB office at (559) 237-0263 or via email at: info@fcfb.org.

On Monday, June 29, State Compensation Insurance Fund will host a free heat illness prevention seminar for employers and supervisors in Five Points. Both English and Spanish sessions will be held beginning at 9 a.m. at the U.C. West Side Research and Extension Center, 17353 W. Oakland Ave. near Five Points.

Cal/OSHA will be out in-force this summer checking for compliance with the heat illness prevention regulations. Employers and their supervisors must be diligent in staying in compliance with the regulations.

To register for the June 29 seminars, visit on-line at: www.scif.com and go to "seminars."

For detailed information about the heat stress regulations, visit Fresno County Farm Bureau's Web site at www.fcfb.org, or call the office at (559) 237-0263.

Follow-up Water Rally is set for July 1 in Downtown Fresno

Farm workers, farmers, business owners, elected officials and fellow Valley residents will call out for action to address the Valley's water crisis at a Rally for Water planned for Wednesday, July 1 at Fresno City Hall,

P St. between Fresno and Tulare streets in Downtown Fresno. The Rally will begin at noon, followed by a Sidewalk Solidarity March.

With added uncertainty from the recent biological opinion on salmon that threatens additional cutbacks in water for agriculture and continued Delta pumping restrictions because of the Delta Smelt, the California Latino Water Coalition is organizing the rally to urge action to prevent additional losses in surface water supplies for farms and rural communities.

For details about the Rally or to join the effort, contact: Angela Vega at (559) 488-3541; Shawn Coburn at (559) 696-7777; Ryan Ferguson at (559) 469-6804; or Mario Santoyo at (559) 799-0701.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009-10 FAACT Leadership Development Program
Fresno County Farm Bureau's Leadership Development Program is accepting applications to be part of the 2009-10 Class VII. The deadline to apply is Friday, August 14.

The Future Advocates for Agriculture Concerned about Tomorrow (FAACT) Leadership Development Program provides community leaders with a comprehensive eight-month program highlighting specific issue areas in agriculture. Both agricultural and non-agricultural, community-minded people are encouraged to apply.

Beginning on Oct. 12, class participants will meet once a month for a daylong seminar to discuss current issues in food and fiber production. The Class will meet one day a month (on Mondays) from October through June (excluding December). As part of the curriculum, FAACT offers a balanced, factual presentation of several issue areas specific to agriculture, such as air quality; land use planning and urban encroachment; water quality regulations and water supply development; agricultural labor issues; regulatory processes; and the economic viability of agriculture. The class sessions use a combination of lectures by noted experts and field trips.

Tuition for the program is \$350 per person. The deadline to submit an application is Aug. 14. Applications are available online at www.fcfb.org or by calling FCFB at (559) 237-0263; email: teresap@fcfb.org.

Signs help in effort to stop crime
By Johannah Sorensen
FCFB Intern

Agriculture related crimes have been a problem in many communities in the Central Valley. Accounts of metal, bin, chemical and equipment thefts have been reported to the Fresno County Sheriff's Department. The damage has hurt many farmers and has caused millions of dollars in property and equipment loss.

In February alone, 77 arrests were made. Although the sheriff's department is working its best to put an end to these offenses, the department needs your help.

In an effort to stop these agricultural-related crimes, the Valley Crime Stoppers have made available 4x4-foot signs promoting the reporting of any crimes that are seen. Rewards are available for up to \$1,000, and all tips made are anonymous. If you witness an agricultural crime, please call (559) 498-STOP. For more details, or if you would like to pick up a sign, contact FCFB at (559) 237-0263.

Viticultural Research Roadshow to be held June 18

The Second Annual Viticultural Research Roadshow and Educational Wine Tasting Event will be held on Thursday, June 18 at the Armenian Community Center in Downtown Fresno. Dr. Robert Wample, the retiring director of the Viticulture and Enology Research Center at California State University, Fresno, will be honored for his work in the industry.

The event allows for researchers from U.C. Davis, U.C. Kearney, U.C. Cooperative Extension and Fresno State to interface with grape growers in the San Joaquin Valley and present their findings in several areas of the Viticulture arena, including mechanized canopy management and reduced deficit irrigation, evaluating winegrape varieties for the San Joaquin Valley, and best management practices for herbicides. Following the program will be an educational wine tasting and reception. For details, visit:

www.idrinkwine.net.

Highway 180 to be dedicated as Sen. Chuck Poochigian Highway on Friday

State Highway Route 180, between Clovis Ave. and General Grant Grove Park located within Kings Canyon National Park, will be dedicated as the Senator Chuck Poochigian Highway at a public ceremony on Friday, June 12 at 10 a.m., just east of Clovis Ave. on the new extension of State Route 180 east. Sen. Dave Cogdill and the CA Department of Transportation are organizing the ceremony.

Charles S. "Chuck" Poochigian, a member of a long-time Lone Star area farm family and Fresno County Farm Bureau member, served as a CA State Senator for the 14th District from 1998 until 2006. Prior to that, he served as Assemblyman for the 29th State Assembly District from 1994 until 1998. Poochigian and his wife Debbie, were co-recipients of FCFB's Distinguished Service Award in 2007. Today, Poochigian works in private legal practice at Dowling, Aaron and Keeler in Fresno.

Fresno Educator Gary Nelson receives national education recognition

Gary Nelson, an agriculture teacher at Pershing High School in the Central Unified School District, was recognized as California's nominee for the NEA Foundation's Awards for Teaching Excellence at the organization's Salute to Excellence in Education Gala held in Washington, D.C. this spring.

Nelson was honored as one of the nation's top 36 educators. As part of his nomination, Pershing High School has received a \$750 award. Known as the Academy Awards of public education, the annual awards gala celebrates the best in teaching and learning, attracting 900 of the nation's leaders in education, business and philanthropy, according to the NEA Foundation, a public charity created in 1969 to advance student achievement in America's public schools.

"Gary Nelson has been selected by his colleagues because he has attained the highest standards of the profession, as shown by his effective instruction, advocacy for public education, commitment to diversity, and engagement of parents and community," said Harriet Sanford, of the NEA Foundation. The award recognizes educators from across the nation for their instructional innovation, advocacy for the profession, community engagement, attention to diversity, and leadership skills, Sanford noted.

Did you know?

If you see more American flags waving on Sunday, there's a reason. Sunday, June 14 is Flag Day, a day that commemorates the adoption of the flag of the U.S. by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand Union flag

with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes – one for each state.

In 1916, Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that called for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916. However, Flag Day did not become official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day.

“Old Glory” represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country’s ideals since its early days. Many people in the U.S. honor this day by displaying the “Stars and Stripes” at homes and public buildings. Other popular ways of observing this holiday include: flag-raising ceremonies; Flag Day services; school quizzes and essay competitions about the American flag; musical salutes; street parades; and awards for special recognition.

Smile for the week

A jogger running down a country road is startled as a horse yells at him, "Hey-come over hear buddy." The jogger is stunned, but runs over to the fence where the horse is standing and asks, "Were you talking to me?" The horse replies, "Sure was, man I've got a problem. I won the Kentucky Derby a few years ago and this farmer bought me and now all I do is pull a plow and I'm sick of it. Why don't you run up to the house and offer him \$5,000 to buy me. I'll make you some money cause I can still run."

The jogger thought to himself, "Boy a talking horse." Dollar signs started appearing in his head. So he runs to the house and the old farmer is sitting on the porch. The jogger tells the farmer, "Hey man, I'll give you \$5,000 for that old broken down nag you've got in the field." The farmer replies, "Son, you can't believe anything that horse says. He's never even been to Kentucky."

Next Week’s Calendar

- June 16** CFBF Water meeting, Sacramento
- June 17** Kid’s Water Camp presentation, 8 a.m., Woodward Park;
Fresno Chamber Board of Directors, 3:15 p.m., Chamber office
- June 18** CMAC Board of Directors, 3:30 p.m., Fresno’s Dickey Park
- June 19** Fresno Chamber Eggs and Issues Breakfast with Assemblyman Danny Gilmore, 7:30 a.m., Pardini’s

This Week’s Calendar

- June 8** FCFB FAACT Class “Graduation”
 - June 9** Common Threads Committee meeting
 - June 10** Fresno Chamber Governmental Affairs Committee
 - June 11** Sheriff’s Metal Recyclers Task Force
 - June 12** Fresno Chamber Agriculture and Land Use Committee meeting, noon, Fresno Chamber office
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