



## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 2, 2009

### **FCFB announces Bill Allison and Irene Clements as Distinguished Service Award recipients**

*Presentation to be made at Spring Event on April 16*

C.W. "Bill" Allison and Irene Clements, two long-time employees of Fresno County Farm Bureau, were selected as co-recipients of the organization's Distinguished Service Award, which will be presented at the annual Spring Event on April 16 at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds. Now both retired, Allison and Clements have a combined 54 years of service to FCFB that spanned from the late-1960s to the early 2000s.

Allison served as FCFB manager for 18 years, retiring in 1997, and Clements worked for FCFB in several positions for 36 years, retiring as assistant manager in 2002. During their tenure with FCFB, both Allison and Clements worked tirelessly to grow the organization in many areas, including public relations, member communications, agricultural education and issue management. The well-known management team at FCFB was passionate about Fresno County agriculture and its people, a passion that shone through in the myriad activities of the organization during their tenure.

Prior to coming to FCFB, Allison was a farm broadcaster for KMJ-580 AM and then-KMJ-TV Channel 24, producing a morning farm news block on radio and noon-time farm news report on Channel 24. While at KMJ, Allison was honored as the Agricultural Newsperson of the Year by the CA Farm Bureau Federation.

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While at FCFB, Clements was noted for her organizational abilities in planning the Annual Banquet, the annual Media Appreciation Night and the Young Farmers & Ranchers Program. For her work for the YF&R Program, she was recognized by the CA Farm Bureau Federation in 1986-87 with a Statewide Award. Clements and Allison also expanded FCFB's agricultural education program, developing the annual Summer Ag Institute for teachers, a one-week workshop about agricultural curriculum, hands-on projects, guest speakers, on-farm visits, and field trips to farms, ranches and food processing facilities

The presentation of the award will be at 7 p.m. during the Spring Event, which will be held at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds, Table Mountain Rancheria Park, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The event includes a barbecue dinner by Hanford barbecue connoisseur Cal Clement, and a live band, Chris Curtice & Wildhorses, will perform.

The cost of the event is \$25 per person if purchased before April 10, \$35 per person after that date; for youth (ages 6-12 years old), the cost is \$15 per person. Children under five years old are free. For tickets, use the order form below, call the FCFB office at (559) 237-0263, or email at: [info@fcb.org](mailto:info@fcb.org).

Fresno County is the nation's number one agricultural county, producing more than 400 commercial crops annually, totaling more than \$5.3 billion in gross production value in 2007. Fresno County Farm Bureau membership exceeds 4,800 members, part of a network of over five-million Farm Bureau members nationwide.

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