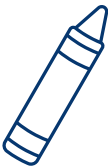




Stanislaus County FARM NEWS PAPER



**Board
Endorsement
Policy
Overview**
Page 8



Kids Corner
Page 11



**Library Program
Review**
Page 14



**2026 Photo
Contest
Details**
Page 19

**BOARD MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT**

*Thank You to Our
Board Members!*

Meet Kelly Fogarty-Tilma, our
past president.

Read all about her on **Page 2**



Winner of the Fair Photo Booth Contest!
Rebecca Sanders and Family

Published Fridays by the
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau

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Meet The Board

Kelly Fogarty-Tilma

For Kelly Fogarty Tilma, agriculture has always been more than a career, it's a family legacy built on resilience, hard work, and the hope of passing something meaningful on to the next generation.

As a fifth-generation rancher from Oakdale, Kelly and her family operate a beef cattle cow-calf operation, continuing a tradition that has been part of their family's story for generations. Today, while raising her two young children, she hopes they will one day become the sixth generation to carry that legacy forward.

When asked to describe California agriculture in a single word, Kelly doesn't hesitate.

"Resilient."

It's a word she believes perfectly captures the spirit of farmers and ranchers, not only here in Stanislaus County, but across California. Every year brings new challenges, many of which are entirely outside a producer's control. Yet, time and again, agricultural families adapt, persevere, and continue producing the food, fiber, and fuel that sustain communities across the state.

One reality Kelly wishes more people understood is just how uncertain life in agriculture can be.

"Most of us in this industry receive one paycheck a year,"* she explains. "Not every two weeks. Not every month. One paycheck, with maybe a few sprinkled in throughout the year."

Unlike many professions, that paycheck

isn't determined solely by how hard someone works. Instead, it's influenced by countless factors outside a producer's control, weather, input costs, market conditions, regulations, and even events happening



around the world.

"Things you have absolutely no control over often determine whether that paycheck is enough to sustain your family for the entire year."

It's that uncertainty, she says, that makes organizations like Farm Bureau so essential.

"Without Farm Bureau, there is no agriculture in California,"* Kelly says. "Farm Bureau is our voice where it matters most,

in Sacramento and beyond. They help shape the policies that directly affect our operations, our families, and our ability to continue farming and ranching."

While Farm Bureau advocates on behalf of all producers, Kelly believes membership is about more than simply receiving the benefits of that work.

"Farm Bureau will represent agriculture whether you're a member or not," she says. "But farmers and ranchers aren't people who like to ride on someone else's coat-tails. If this organization is working for you, then step up, invest in it, and work alongside the people who are already giving their

time and energy to protect our industry." That spirit of shared responsibility is one of the reasons Kelly has remained actively involved in Farm Bureau throughout her career. Having grown up watching her parents dedicate their time to the organization, she now hopes her own children will witness that same commitment.

"I want them to see that being involved matters," she says. "Just like I watched my parents serve our industry, I hope they'll grow up seeing me do the same and understand why it's important to give back."

When asked to choose her favorite California agricultural commodity, Kelly smiles.

"Beef. One hundred percent."

For Kelly, beef isn't simply what her family raises, it's a reflection of generations of dedication, stewardship, and perseverance.

As Immediate Past President of the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau, Kelly continues to advocate for the future of California agriculture with the same resilience she sees every day in the producers she represents. It's a commitment rooted in family, strengthened by community, and driven by the belief that the next generation deserves every opportunity to continue agriculture's proud legacy.

Stanislaus County YF&R *upcoming meetings*

August



Bingo Night!

**August 19th
6 PM**

September

**Yosemite
Farm Credit
Finance 101**

**September 16th
6 PM**

October



**Candidates
Night**

**October 14th
6 PM**

November



**Holiday
Party**

**November 18th
6 PM**



YF&R **Bingo Night**

Join us for a fun evening of bingo and great company!

19 August 2026 6 P.M.

Twin Rivers Saloon, Modesto CA

Games | Prizes | Social





SPRAY SAFE 2026

Save the Date!

Friday, November 20, 2026

FREE training & CE Hours



EMPLOYEE TRACK:

English & Spanish

- 2 Pesticide CE Hours
- Sexual Harassment &
- Heat Illness Prevention
- Pesticide Handler
- Tractor Safety
- **Including: Indoor Heat Prevention**



GROWER TRACK:

4 Pesticide CE Hours

- Laws & Regulation updates
- Pesticide Label Updates
- Industry Updates
- **& MORE!**

Spray Safe Worker Track: Four Required Trainings in One Morning At No Cost!

Caitie Diemel - SCFB Executive Director

Employers can bring their employees to complete four required annual trainings in one convenient morning by registering them for the Spray Safe Worker Track on Friday, November 20.

The Worker Track includes certificates of completion for:

- Heat Illness Prevention
- Sexual Harassment Prevention
- Pesticide Handler Training
- Tractor & Implement Safety

All certificates are valid for one year, helping employers efficiently meet annual training requirements. Courses are offered in both English and Spanish, and employees who hold their own applicator permit can also

earn 2 hours of DPR Continuing Education (CE) credit.

Registration begins at 7:00 a.m., with training sessions running from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Attendees will also enjoy coffee and donuts, lunch, a trade show, and raffle prizes—all at absolutely no cost.

In addition to the Worker Track, growers and licensed applicators are encouraged to attend Spray Safe to earn 4 hours of DPR Continuing Education (CE) credit while learning about the latest safety practices, regulations, and industry updates.

Whether you're sending your employees, attending yourself, or both, Spray Safe is an excellent opportunity to meet annual

training requirements, earn CE credits, and invest in a safer workplace. We look forward to seeing you on November 20 at Modesto Junior College ACE Pavilion!

Have any questions?



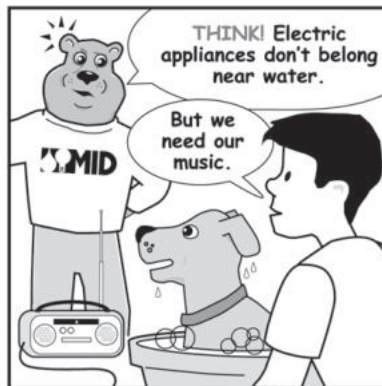
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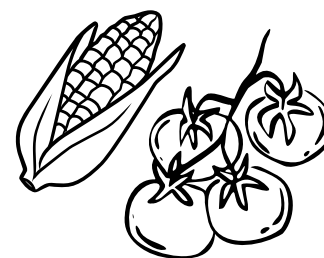
Registration opens in September!



Recipe Card

Peach & Tomato Bruschetta

The perfect appetizer for a summer BBQ! Enjoy a few of Stanislaus County's best summer commodities in this tasty bruschetta recipe.



Save me for later!

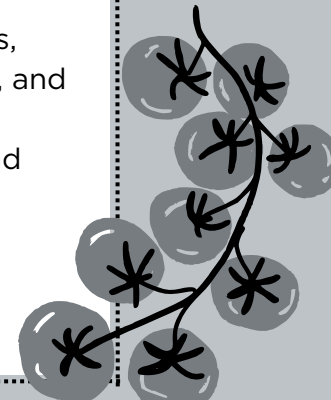
Ingredients

- 2 large tomatoes chopped
- 3 medium peaches, diced
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 to 3 tablespoons chopped basil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 French baguette, cut into 1/2-inch thick slices
- Olive oil, for brushing bread
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled

Directions

- Preheat oven to 450 degrees
- Brush the tops of the bread slices with olive oil and lightly toast - 5 min
- In a medium bowl, combine the tomatoes, peaches, 1 tablespoon olive oil, basil, salt, and pepper. Let sit while you toast the bread.
- Rub garlic over toasted bread then spread tomato topping over it

*Tastes even better with whipped feta and a drizzle of hot honey on top!



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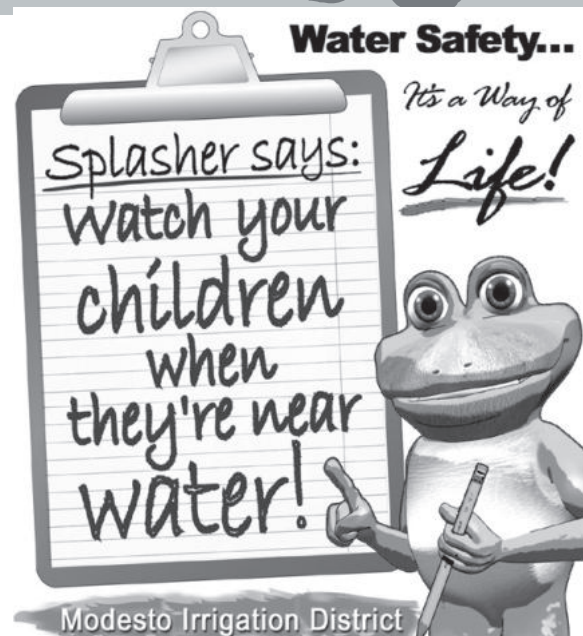
512 RIVER ROAD

Turlock (209) 632-2315

712 LANDER AVENUE

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It's a Way of Life!



Modesto Irrigation District

FREE ADS FOR FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

As another membership service, Farm Bureau members are offered FREE classified advertising in the Stanislaus Farm News. Ads must be 18 words or less and only one ad per month per membership (membership number required.) Ads may be MAILED to the Stanislaus Farm News, or BROUGHT to the SCFB office, 1201 L Street, Downtown Modesto. NO PHONE-IN OR FAX free ads will be accepted. Free ads are restricted to farm machinery or equipment or unprocessed farm products. Farm jobs wanted or offered will also be accepted. No real estate ads and no commercial items or services will be accepted. 209-522-7278

Classified Ad's \$4.40 per run.

COPY DEADLINE: MONDAY 12 NOON

RATES: Display rates on request. Terms are cash. Ads should be paid for at time of first insertion or immediately after receipt of bill if order is placed by telephone or mail. ERRORS: The Stanislaus Farm News will not be liable for more than one incorrect insertion. Errors must be called to the attention of the Classified Advertising Department not later than 4 p.m. on the Tuesday following publication of the ad. Claims for adjustment must be made within 15 days. We reserve the right to reject or revise any advertisement.

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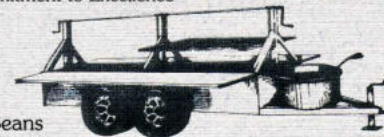
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Submit your question here!



Dear Abi

What is your favorite event you guys put on?

Dear Abi,
 You have been at Farm Bureau for a few years now and have a good understanding of the programs you guys tackle. What's your favorite Farm Bureau program and why?
 -A Curious Member

Dear Curious Member,

This is such a fun question to answer! I think we do a lot of wonderful programs here in our county but if I had to pick just one, it would be AgEdventure Day.

This is my favorite event for a few different reasons. I love being able to bring the wonderful farmers and agriculturalists in our county out to have them show off the things they do and the importance of agriculture. I don't think people in the agriculture community get nearly enough credit and I love seeing their passion for the work they do.

I also love seeing the excitement of all of the students and seeing the things they enjoy. I know that every one of them will go home with something new they learned and imagine them sharing that with their parents and friends.

Lastly, this is a HUGE event to coordinate and takes a lot of time and effort and it's so rewarding to see it all come together. We have a wonderful team here that works hard to pull this event off and I feel honored to be a part of it!

-Abi



RUMBLE

ORCHARD SERVICES

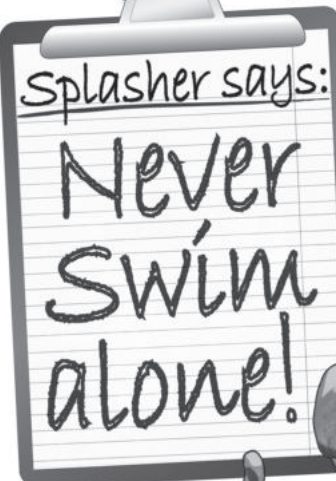
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Water Safety...

It's a Way of Life!




Modesto Irrigation District

Thank you to our President's Club Members!































POLICY IN PLAIN ENGLISH WITH TOM ORVIS

HOW DOES THE FARM BUREAU DECIDE WHO TO ENDORSE?

Our endorsements are earned, not expected.

We follow a careful process to ensure that our endorsements support agriculture and the interest of our members.

1.

CANDIDATES MUST ASK



The Farm Bureau only considers candidates who submit a **written request** for an endorsement

**Verbal requests aren't accepted*

2.

THE BOARD DECIDES IF WE GET INVOLVED OR NOT

Before consideration the board must determine:



- ✓ The race is important to ag
- ✓ FB involvement would be helpful
- ✓ Endorsement is in the best interest of the organization

THINGS TO NOTE ABOUT OUR ENDORSEMENTS



Board decisions are made after the filing deadline **closes**.



Membership is **not required** for an endorsement



One endorsements are announced, **only endorsed candidates** can advertise in Farm Bureau publications. If **no endorsement** is issued all candidates are eligible to advertise.

3.

CONSIDERING ENDORSEMENT REQUESTS

If more than one candidate for a particular race requests our endorsement, we go through a full process.



Each board member gets 1 vote



A candidate must receive majority vote



If majority not met on first ballot, additional ballots may be taken



If still no majority **no endorsement** will be made,

THE BOTTOM LINE



Our endorsements are selective and intentional. We focus on races that matter to agriculture and make endorsements for candidates that best fit our values.

Interested in supporting YF&R?

Purchase a Sweepstakes Ticket!



**Yosemite Farm
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gift certificate and
\$500 hotel gift
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Blackstone, Ooni
Pizza Oven



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Wherever agriculture goes, we'll be there, alongside you, as you lead the way.



Stanislaus County HI 4-H Club

Milk Bar

Stats from 2026 Fair



4,200

Youth Volunteer Hours



\$22,700

Money Raised
**Not finalized*

The Stanislaus County HI 4-H Club consists of 4-H members who are in high school. Our Milk Bar profits are used for scholarships, leadership conferences, and community service activities.



530

3 gallon jugs of ice cream used



83

Gallons of milk used

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*Cannot be combined with other promotional offers. The first maintenance visit will be billed in advance.

Kids Corner!

Commodity Detective

Can you solve all of the mysteries? A Stanislaus County Farmer left clues and needs your help figuring out which crop they are talking about.

Write your answer on the line for each section!

Mystery #1



I am: _____

- I bloom with pink and white flowers every spring
- I grow on trees
- You have to shake me off the tree to harvest me
- People love to eat me raw, roasted or turned into butter

Mystery #2



I am: _____

- I start as a little yellow flower
- I love hot summer days
- After harvest, I get turned into ketchup, salsa, pizza sauce and more!
- I'm actually a fruit!

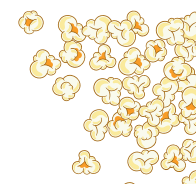
Mystery #3



I am: _____

- I grow inside a green hull
- Harvest for me starts in the fall
- Squirrels like to collect them to eat later
- People use them in cookies, pies or eat them raw or roasted.

Mystery #4



I am: _____

- I grow in tall straight rows
- Sometimes I am used to feed cattle and sometimes I feed people
- I love lots of sunshine
- Some varieties are used to make popcorn!

Bonus Question!

Circle all of the crops grown here in Stanislaus County!

Almonds

Raspberries

Alfalfa

Oranges

Watermelon

Beans

Cabbage

Corn

Oats

Apricots

Cotton

Rice

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Library Program with



Stanislaus County Farm Bureau
& Modesto Irrigation District



Library Program *at a glance!*

Nevaeh Russo - SCFB Summer Intern

The Stanislaus County Farm Bureau Library Program is a program whose main goal is to introduce children to agriculture by providing them with exciting learning experiences that involve agriculture within library branches located in Stanislaus County. This program involves a collaboration between the 13 branches of local libraries in Stanislaus County. As well as we partnered with the Modesto Irrigation District. The main aim of this program is to help children understand the significance of agriculture through interactive lessons and activities that will create an increased interest in the industry of agriculture.

At each library, we begin by reading *The Day the Farmers Quit*, this book helps students understand the importance of agriculture and the essential role farmers play in our everyday lives. Through the story, students learn that without farms and the people who grow our food, our communities would not be able to thrive and survive.

After the reading, students participate in a hands-on agricultural lesson where they explore the top 10 commodities produced right here in Stanislaus County. Students are able to learn the five F's of agriculture which is food, fiber, forestry, flowers and fuel. This gives students an idea on what agriculture is and helps them learn which category the top 10 commodities fall under. Students are able to learn where these commodities come from, how they are grown or raised, and the important role they play in our local economy and daily lives.

Following the reading, students take part in an hands-on agricultural lesson where they will get to learn about the top 10 commodities grown right here in Stanislaus County. Students learn about the Five Fs of Agriculture, which are Food, Fiber, Forestry, Flowers, and Fuel. This will give them an idea of how agriculture affects their everyday lives and the categories into which these top commodities fall. In addition, they will learn the sources of

these commodities, and the importance of these commodities in our economy and everyday lives.

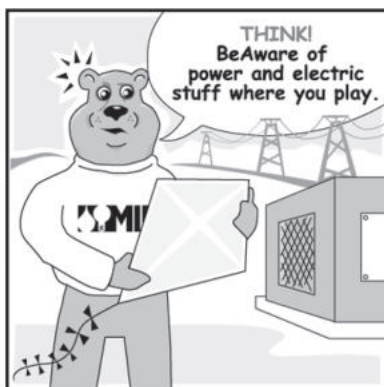
In addition, as part of the project, students will make a necklace from commodities that are most grown in Stanislaus County. This interactive lesson will give the students an opportunity to review their knowledge in a fun manner while developing their understanding of the agriculture industry.

This library program would not be possible without the incredible support of our community and volunteers. We are sincerely grateful to everyone who has donated supplies to help make this program a success. We also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers who generously give their time to assist at each library. Your dedication, and willingness to help ensure each program runs smoothly and helped create a meaningful experience for every child.

Overall, the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau Library Program has provided meaningful educational opportunities for youth across our county. Every student was better able to understand where their food comes from and recognize the crucial role agriculture plays in their daily lives.



THANK YOU
To our wonderful intern,
Nevaeh, for all of your hard
work with this program.





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SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2026
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Modesto Junior College West Campus
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At the Harvest Luncheon, we come together to support and celebrate the heart of our region, agriculture. Rooted in the rich farmlands of Stanislaus County and the greater Central Valley, this event honors our deep agricultural heritage while investing in its future. Through our scholarship program, we are proud to support Modesto Junior College (MJC) Agriculture students as they pursue higher education and prepare to lead the next generation. These scholarships provide vital opportunities for local students to grow, innovate, and carry forward the legacy of agriculture in our community.



FEATURED SPEAKER

Chairman of Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

Chairman Chiesa, a fourth-term Stanislaus County Supervisor representing District 2, is a lifelong Hughson resident, agricultural leader, and dedicated public servant. A respected advocate for agriculture, economic growth, and regional leadership, he brings decades of experience serving local, state, and regional organizations while continuing to work alongside his family in their farming operation.

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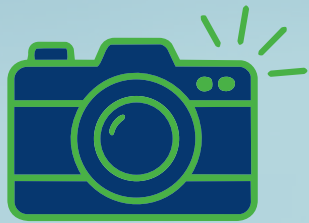
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