

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.

A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917

## Protecting Agriculture in 2002

2002 was a year of fighting to protect agriculture. At the county level, the biggest issue facing the Farm Bureau was, and still is, the Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP). It is a three-pronged plan, including the General Plan, the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), and Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP). The RCIP, a county-wide plan that includes transportation and land use, starts with a new county General Plan (GP), then adds significant new transportation corridors which include tunneling into two bordering counties, and overlays everything with the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) of over 153,000 acres of private land which threatens the viability of agriculture in Riverside County. The Farm Bureau is opposed to the General



Plan as currently written, because it threatens the extinction of agriculture in this county through land use regulation and land devaluation.

Other issues the Farm Bureau faced included Davis Road closure in Moreno Valley, the La Quinta expansion plan, waste management, San Jacinto watershed/groundwater management, Coachella Valley air quality, and ground water use. In each of these, the Farm Bureau directors or representatives attended public meetings and endeavored to educate the public regarding the effect each would have on the rural and agricultural community, and to protect the interests of those parties involved.

To accomplish this work, the Farm Bureau needs a strong membership basis and support. Over the summer, two interns were sponsored through a CFBF grant to promote the Farm Bureau and increase membership. Their work was invaluable in preparing membership materials and helping to plan our first Annual Fund-raiser. The fund-raiser, held on July 18<sup>th</sup>, was to increase involvement and awareness in all that the Farm Bureau does for the agricultural community. Besides the fund-raiser, the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting gave members the opportunity to socialize and for the official change in leadership for the 2003 year.

Within the community, the Farm Bureau actively supports the young people in the 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA). Contributions are made to purchase livestock raised by the students, and to raise the selling prices of those animals, at the Indio Date Festival, the Colorado River Country Fair, and the Farmer's Fair and Expo at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds. Also, at the Farmer's Fair and Expo, the Farm Bureau provides a special dinner for those who purchased animals from the Junior Livestock Auction - this year we served over 650 dinners! To increase agriculture awareness at the Indio Date Festival and the Farmer's Fair and Expo, the Farm Bureau maintains a fair display with information about Riverside County agriculture, and food and fiber.

To find out more about any of the above issues or events, or to become involved, please contact the Riverside County Farm Bureau at 909.684.6732.

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## 2003 RCFB Board of Directors

Board Member	District	Commodity
Cindy Domenigoni, <i>President</i>	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Beef/Alfalfa
Andy Domenigoni, <i>2002 President</i>	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Beef/Alfalfa
Brad Scott, <i>Vice President</i>	Riverside Area	Dairy
Bruce Scott, <i>Vice President</i>	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Dairy



Lee Anderson, Jr.	Coachella Valley	Dates
Linden Anderson	Coachella Valley	Citrus
Don Bean	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Grain
Howard Cherniss	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Christmas Trees
Stephen J. Corona	Temecula/Murrieta	Vegetables
Ben Drake	Temecula/Murrieta	Wine/Table Grapes
Mark Draper	Coachella Valley	Alfalfa/ Turf Grass
Dan Hollingsworth	Temecula/Murrieta	Nursery
Richard C. Kelley	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Citrus
Larry Minor	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Agribusiness
Randy Record	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Vegetables
Richard Schmid	Hemet/San Jacinto Area	Bees
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# News in Brief...

## Much of state declared drought disaster

Half the counties in California have been declared agricultural disaster areas because of drought damage. US Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman declared disasters November 21st in 29 California counties, from Shasta in the north through Orange and Riverside in the south. Farmers in those and neighboring counties may apply for low-interest emergency loans. Farmers in 27 counties qualify for compensation for livestock losses.

## Groups seek additional drought aid

With drought plaguing much of the nation, farm groups had pressed Congress to provide additional relief

for farmers and ranchers. But the lame-duck session this month failed to produce a drought-relief package. Agricultural organizations say they will try again when the new Congress convenes in January. An American Farm Bureau spokesman says many farmers are "in desperate need," because drought has left them without crops to sell.

## Colorado River deadline looms

With a deadline only one month and one week away, Interior Secretary Gale Norton urged California water agencies to decide how to reduce the state's use of the Colorado River. Norton said yesterday the Interior Department will sharply reduce Colorado River water to California, unless an agreement is reached by

December 31st. The agreement hinges on a complicated water transfer from farm to urban agencies.

## Farmers seek trade reforms

California farm groups have pressed US negotiators, to seek reforms in the rules that govern world agricultural trade. A delegation from the California Farm Bureau urged trade negotiators to seek reform of the European Union's subsidy program. For example, California fruit and vegetable growers must compete with products from Europe that received \$10 billion dollars' worth of subsidies last year. American farmers receive no such help.

## Method appears to kill 'shooters'

A treatment applied to the soil in vineyards and citrus groves appears effective in fighting the glassy-winged sharpshooter. Researchers say sharpshooter populations have declined substantially in parts of Riverside and Kern counties, where the treatment has been used. The insecticide, known by the trade name Admire, kills sharpshooters that feed on treated plants. The sharpshooters carry a disease that kills grapevines.

## Wastewater permit rules expanded


Thousands of additional livestock ranches will be required to seek wastewater-discharge permits, under new federal rules announced yesterday. Under the rules, large cattle, poultry and hog ranches must develop and execute plans to deal with manure and wastewater. Farm organizations say they're analyzing the 400 pages of new rules, to assess how complicated it will be for farmers to comply.

-- News items credited to California Farm Bureau Federation.

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# RCIP January Meetings

## Planning Commission Public Hearings

January 8th 9am/1:30pm  
January 22nd 9am/1:30pm

Please see  
[www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/  
planning/pc2003.html](http://www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/planning/pc2003.html) for  
schedule and agendas.

## Board of Supervisors

Tuesday, January 7th  
Tuesday, January 14th  
Monday, January 20th  
Tuesday, January 21st  
Tuesday, January 28th

Meetings are held at 9am in the  
County Administrative Center, in  
the Board Chambers on the First  
Floor.

## CETAP Meetings

January 7th 9am  
@ Registrar of Voters  
January 14th 9am  
@ Registrar of Voters

## CETAP Public Hearings

January 9th 6pm  
@ Perris Fairgrounds  
Harrison Hall  
January 16th 6pm  
@ New Valley-wide  
Winchester Park  
Gymnasium  
January 21st 6pm  
@ Eagle Glen Golf Club  
Ballroom in Corona

For public hearing information,  
call RCTC at 909.787.7141 or  
the RCIP hotline 877.735.7247.

For information on all RCIP  
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[www.rcip.org/calender](http://www.rcip.org/calender)

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# Scholarship Programs

## California Farm Bureau Scholarship Foundation

The California Farm Bureau Scholarship Foundation was organized to give aid to students with a desire to pursue a career in the agricultural industry. The scholarships are awarded annually based upon academic achievement, career goals, extra-curricular activities, determination, leadership skills, and a commitment to study agriculture.

In addition to the regular scholarship recipients, four special awards are given: the Frederick J. Heringer Honorary Award, the Howard P. Wackman II Memorial Scholarship, the John H. Wiechman Memorial Scholarship and the Carolyn S. Richardson Memorial Scholarship. Any individuals fitting the criteria for these awards will be selected by the Foundation board. No additional application information is needed.

### Requirements

Applications are accepted each year between January 1 and March 1 and must be accompanied by the following applicable items:

- High School transcript(s)
- Junior College transcript(s)
- College transcript(s)
- Three (3) **current** letters of recommendation.

### Who is eligible?

Any student entering or attending a four-year accredited college or university in California and pursuing a career in the agricultural industry. Students entering or attending a junior college are not eligible. Students must be a resident of the State of California.

### Scholarship Amount

Each year, the Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors determine the award amounts depending on the funds available. In recent years, the range has been \$1,250 to \$2,000, for 30 or more recipients each year.

### Deadline

Application packets must be postmarked on or before March 1. *We will not process documents after this date.*

### Where can I get an application?

For more information or an application, visit [www.cfbf.com/programs/scholar](http://www.cfbf.com/programs/scholar) Or contact either CFBF Darlene Licciardo at 916.561.5520 or the Riverside County Farm Bureau office at 909.684.6732

## FFA Scholarship Program

Each year the National FFA Organization awards more than \$2 million in scholarships to members. There are many types of scholarships to fit the many types of FFA members.

Scholarships are given for a wide variety of experiences, career goals and higher education plans. Different awards may be used at colleges, universities and postsecondary agricultural programs.

The scholarships are sponsored by numerous agricultural businesses through the National FFA Foundation, and new scholarships are added each year.

Scholarships are awarded based on grades, community service, FFA involvement, leadership skills, and your SAE.

### Eligibility

Each scholarship has specific criteria, but the following apply to all scholarships:

- US Citizenship
- Current FFA member
- High School Senior or currently enrolled in college.
- Full time student (min 12 credits)

### Deadline

Application packets must be postmarked on or before February 15th. *We will not process documents after this date.* Recipients will be notified starting May 1, 2003.

### For information or an application...

More information, guidebooks and application packets available online at [www.ffa.org/programs/schapp](http://www.ffa.org/programs/schapp) or email [scholarships@ffa.org](mailto:scholarships@ffa.org) with your complete name and address.

## Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship

### For information or an application...

Available online at both [www.farmsource.com](http://www.farmsource.com) [www.agfoundation.org](http://www.agfoundation.org) Or contact the Riverside County Farm Bureau office at 909.684.6732

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**Attention all Farm Bureau Members - We need your Help!**

Over the past nine years, the Farm Bureau has funneled well over \$37,000 into the Junior Livestock Auction and a large portion of that comes from members like you.

Your money that is donated to the Auction Support Fun will go toward the purchasing of animals at the Riverside County Fair, National Date Festival and Colorado River Country Fair. The animals are entered into the festival and fair by the members of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H students.

With all of the choices children have today, FFA and 4-H are two activities worth supporting. Both organizations teach young people important life skills, including time management, financial responsibility, and the importance of caring for others.

FFA and 4-H students that profit from these auction sales use the funds to start their next animal project and to start saving for college.

\*Donations are not tax deductible as charitable contributions but may be deductible as ordinary business expenses. Consult your tax preparer for information.

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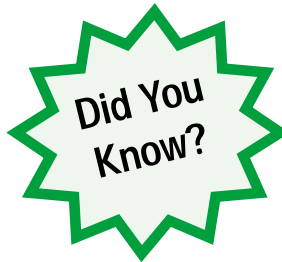


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