



Lodi District Grape Growers Association *Update*

February - March 2020



Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship recipients including Alexis Altheide, Magen Caldwell, Madison Sweat, Brittany Mogler, & Elisabeth Watkins were recognized during the meeting.



Scholarship winner and Farm Girl Chef Elisabeth Watkins shares her experiences.

Scholarship Program Shines at LDGGA 67th Annual Dinner & Meeting

On February 20, 2020, Lodi District Grape Growers Association members, supporters, and community leaders filled Kirst Hall at Hutchins Street Square for the Association's 67th Annual Meeting and Dinner. The nearly three hundred and fifty guests enjoyed a variety of Lodi wines provided by local wineries and a fabulous dinner catered by Angelinas.

LDGGA President Matt Manna called to order the 67th Annual Business Meeting which included a financial report from Treasurer John Shinn and an update on Association activities and priorities for the coming year from Executive Director Amy Blagg.

Director elections were held. Directors Matt Focacci and John Shinn were re-elected for their second and third term respectively, while Garret Hansen, Tony Rose, and Nico Teresi were elected to their first terms on the LDGGA Board of Directors. Joel Burns of F&M Bank and Jeff Osterman of Allied Grape Growers were re-

elected to serve as Directors at Large.

Outgoing Directors Jason Eells and Mike Stokes were recognized for their many contributions and leadership during their nine years of service on the board.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear from dinner speaker Elisabeth Watkins, a current Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship recipient and agriculture science and journalism student at University of Nevada, Reno. Watkins was raised on a family farm and ranch in Linden and acquired cooking skills through her involvement in 4-H. She is a past winner of the Food Network's show *Chopped Junior*. Watkins shared her experiences as the "Farm Girl Chef," a platform that she uses to connect consumers with where their food comes from and how it is produced through appearances on local television and radio programs, speaking engagements, and through her blog.

Recipients of the 2019-2020 Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship and the inaugural Kris Gutierrez Memorial Schol-

arship (see page 5) were recognized for their accomplishments. While many of the students were unable to attend the Annual Meeting due to school schedules and travel distance, those in attendance received certificates of recognition from the Association and elected representatives.

Each year, guests at the LDGGA Annual Dinner and Meeting show their overwhelming support for the Association's scholarship programs and raise funds for future scholarships. This year, over \$30,000 was raised for the Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship Fund through the scholarship raffle and live auction. An additional \$8,000 was raised to support the newly formed Kris Gutierrez Memorial Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who donated items and purchased raffle tickets and live auction items.

See pages 4 & 5 for additional photos and coverage of the 67th Annual Dinner & Meeting

Notes from the Executive Director

Amy Blagg, LDGGA Executive Director



Thank you to our members, wineries, and guests who joined us for the 67th Annual Dinner. LDGGA is fortunate to have such a dedicated and supportive group of members. Along with the general association business and updates, this event has grown into a great opportunity to support future scholarships. As a past Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship recipient myself, I know the difference that scholarships make in the lives of college students. I am proud to be a part of the continued growth and offerings of LDGGA's scholarship program. That being said, please encourage students to apply for not only the Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship, but the Michael David Family Foundation and Gribaudo Family Agriculture Scholarships that are administered by LDGGA. All applications are

available on www.ldgga.org and are due April 1st. Additional details can be found on page 7 of this newsletter.

Since the retirement of Farm Advisor Paul Verdegaal, the Lodi District Grape Growers Association, the Lodi Winegrape Commission, and growers have been meeting with UC Cooperative Extension leaders and others to stress the need to fill the vacant San Joaquin County Viticulture Farm Advisor position. Currently, California Farm Bureau is leading a large group of stakeholders in requesting an additional \$20 million in the 2020-2021 State Budget for the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR). This funding would support both farm advisors and the 4-H program. LDGGA has joined the stakeholder group

and we are actively advocating for this additional funding. On behalf of LDGGA, I have recently met with Assemblymembers Cooper and Eggman to garner their support for this budget request.

We have heard from many of our members that the Department of Labor has been out inspecting growers in our area. On April 28th, we are holding a breakfast meeting with speaker Michael Saqui of the Saqui Law Group, A Division of Dowling Aaron who will prepare you for "What to Expect in an Inspection" and answer any questions you may have on regarding agency inspections (details below).

Upcoming Events

LDGGA Breakfast Meeting: What to Expect in an Inspection Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Burgundy Hall, Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
8:30 am Registration, 9:00 am Meeting

Join us for an informative breakfast meeting on "What to Expect in an Inspection?" presented by Michael Saqui of The Saqui Law Group, a Division of Dowling Aaron Incorporated. The meeting will cover the following and more:

What agencies may show and what will they inspect?

- Labor Enforcement Task Force
- US Department of Labor; and
- ICE

What to do before an Inspection, Audit or Investigation;

What to do during and Inspection, Audit or Investigation

What is the grower's responsibility when an agency inspects a FLC crew performing work in their vineyard?

FREE for LDGGA members. RSVP to LDGGA at (209) 339-8246 or info@ldgga.org.

Lodi Winegrape Commission Mealybug & Virus Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2020
Cabral Ag Center, Stockton
8:45 am – 1:30 pm (lunch provided)

Speakers and topics include: Virus Vectors & BIFS Project, Kent Daane, PhD, UC; Leafroll Virus Spread, Chris Storm, Vino Farms; Mapping, Scouting, & Rogueing, Charlie Starr IV, PCA & Grower; Red Blotch Testing & Sudden Vine Collapse, Maher Al Rwahni, PhD, UC; Virus Sampling Calculator & Canine Detection of Viruses, Neil McRoberts, PhD, UC & William Schneider, PhD, F1K9

This meeting is part of an outreach grant funded by the American Vineyard Foundation and the CDFA PD/GWSS Board.

Credits: 3 hrs DPR CE (other) and CCA have been applied for. For more information contact Dr. Stephanie Bolton at stephanie@lodiwine.com. RSVP to the Lodi Winegrape Commission by phone (209) 367-4727 or by email to lwvc@lodiwine.com.

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The Costs of Spotted Lanternfly

By Michael Müller, Director of Government Relations, California Association of Winegrape Growers

In the next several weeks, California growers will receive a referendum in the mail that asks whether the Pierce's Disease Control Program should be continued. This is an election that occurs every five years.

Growers have overwhelmingly approved the program in the past because of the importance of protecting against the spread of Pierce's Disease. But also because of the other designated pests which include the following: European grapevine moth, Brown marmorated stink bug, all mealybug pests of wine grapes, Red blotch, Grapevine leafroll, and Fanleaf virus.

The Pierce's Disease/Glassy Winged Sharpshooter Board is also looking at the potential impacts of the Spotted Lanternfly and added the Spotted Lanternfly to the list of designated pests. As officials at the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) are bracing for the possibility of the Spotted Lanternfly arriving in California, experts are looking to Pennsylvania to determine the potential risk.

According to a recent study by Pennsylvania State University's College of Agricultural Sciences, if not contained, the Spotted Lanternfly could potentially cost Pennsylvania's economy at least \$324 million a year and the loss of about 2,800 jobs. Fruit growers, especially grape growers, nurseries (\$8 million in the quarantine zone and \$22.9 million statewide) and Christmas tree growers would take the brunt of those losses.

Under a worst-case scenario, in which damage reaches the maximum projected by crop-production and forestry experts, these losses could increase to \$554 million a year and almost 5,000 jobs. The annual agricultural losses would be an estimated \$29.6 million in the quarantine zone, \$20.4 million in the adjacent counties and \$99.1 million statewide in Pennsylvania.

Officials at CDFA believe it is only a matter of time before the Spotted Lanternfly reaches California. If it reaches the Golden State, it will likely be discovered as a hitchhiker pest in a transportation corridor such as along train tracks. A recent unofficial report has identified a living, adult Spotted Lanternfly near a hotel in Davis. All Californians are asked to immediately report a finding as there is much at risk. It will be critical at that time to immediately treat and irradiate the pest.

Cal OSHA Standards Board Approves Night Work Regulation

On February 20, 2020, the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed "Outdoor Agricultural Operations During Hours of Darkness" regulation that amends Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 3441 and 3449. The regulation now heads to the Office of Administrative Law for approval and will most likely take effect in summer 2020.

The new regulation includes requirements for work-area lighting, safety meetings at the beginning of each shift, and high-visibility garments will apply to all outdoor agricultural operations that take place between sunset and sunrise. To meet the illumination standards outlined in the standard, employers can provide and maintain hands-free portable personal lighting in addition to area lighting.

Information regarding the regulation can be found at: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/OSHSB/Outdoor-Agricultural-Operations-During-Hours-of-Darkness.html>.

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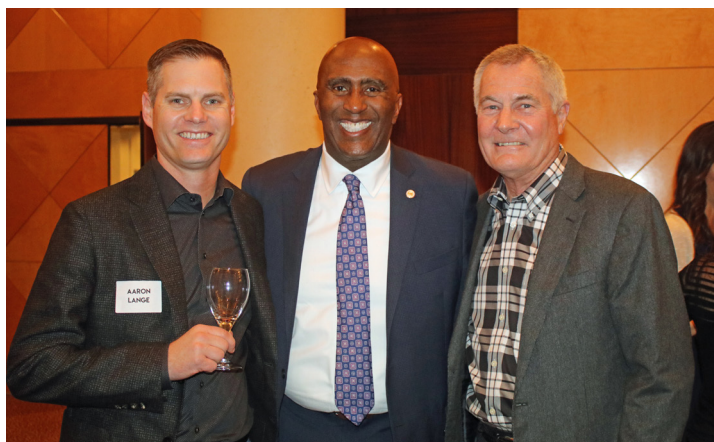
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Lodi District Grape Growers Association Annual Dinner Continued from page 1



Les Dunning enjoys a taste of Thomas Allen wine.



Aaron Lange, Assemblymember Jim Cooper, & Randy Lange.



Amy Blagg, Brie Hunt, & Natalie Collins during the social hour.



LDGGA President Matt Manna leads the 67th Annual Meeting.



F & M Bank representatives and guests enjoy the Annual Dinner.




Cheers from the Duarte Nursery table!

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67th Annual Dinner

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Prie Winery

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The Lucas Winery

Thomas Allen Vineyards & Winery

Weibel Family Winery

Inaugural Scholarships Awarded in Honor of Late LDGGA Director Kris Gutierrez



Madelyn Kolber, parent Susan Van Ness, recipient Stephanie Van Ness, parent Javier Ramirez, recipient Aaliyah Ramirez, Ben Kolber, Jennifer Gutierrez and Lori Smith.

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Wonderful Nurseries

The LDGGA Annual Dinner included the presentation of the Kris Gutierrez Memorial Scholarship awards. The Fund was established in September of 2019 in honor of the late Kris Gutierrez, a wonderful supporter of Lodi agriculture and viticulture, and a past president of the Lodi District Grape Grower Association.

Fittingly, the intention and direction of the Scholarship Fund is to support local agricultural youth and their pursuits into ag based education or training programs. Funds will be also used to support local FFA programs and the San Joaquin AgFest Junior Livestock Auction held annually in June.

During the Annual Dinner, Ben Kolber, Kris' long-time friend and business partner, announced the first scholarships awarded to local youth preparing to pursue a future in agriculture. The recipients each will receive a \$1,000.

Stephanie Van Ness, a senior at Lodi High School. Van Ness is currently serving as Lodi FFA's Chapter Vice President. She was a key member of the 2019 State FFA winning horse judging team and competed at the National Contest in Indianapolis. Her projects include raising and showing goats and a market steer at San Joaquin AgFest. After graduation she plans to major in animal science/pre-vet with the career goal of being a large animal vet.

Aaliyah Ramirez is a senior at Tokay High School. She has been a member of the Vet Science team and Poultry Co-op. She is the Tokay FFA Chapter Vice President, has attended National Convention, and competed in public speaking contests. Aaliyah plans to attend San Joaquin Delta College and transfer to Fresno State and major in Animal Science, with an emphasis on Vet Science.

Kris Gutierrez Memorial Scholarship Raffle & Auction Donor

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2019 Grape Crush Report: District 11, A Tale of Two Stories

By Erica Moyer, Turrentine Brokerage

The first story in the 2019 Crush report for Lodi, is the district average price versus the spot price. In a graphical view, district average prices over time, appears flat, with recent gradual declining. This is largely due to the fact that the majority of the grapes have been under long term contracts. But as grapes come out of contract, when sales are slowing and wine inventory is building up, prices for resigning grapes have been declining. This is basic supply and demand: as supply increases, there is downward pressure on price. Table 8 in the Crush Report, illustrates the differences in pricing.

Another view, is the top graph of the Turrentine Spot Market Price vs District Average for Lodi Cabernet Sauvignon. The red line with the triangle for each year, is the spot market weighted average for that year, transactions by Turrentine Brokerage. The beige line is the crush report district average price. Notice the trend up on price, when demand was high and supply was tight. Then, as more supply comes on the market as demand softens, the spot market price begins to decline. What is not shown in the district average price, is the grape tonnage that went unsold, not just as "excess" tons, but grapes that never had an offer, \$000.00/t. Though not recorded, tons left on the vine, absent of an offer, has two effects: holding up the district average, because it is not recorded and putting downward pressure on price for the following year (2020).

The next story, is not tons crushed, but the tons that were not crushed. There were tons left on the vine throughout California, no region was immune. Paso Robles, Cabernet Sauvignon was left on the vine. Monterey County, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir was left on the vine. No was price ever offered. The impact of unsold

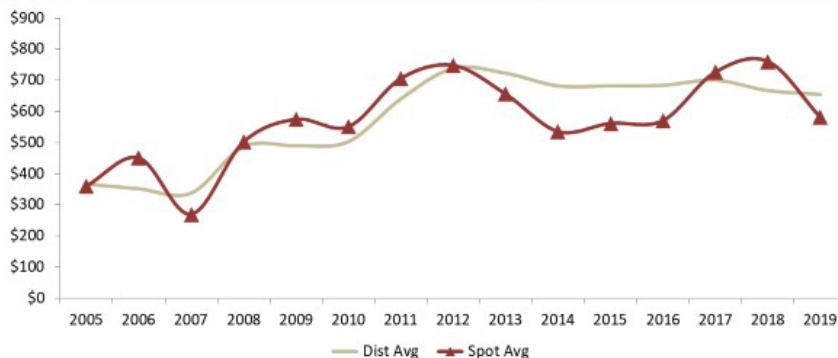
tons in Lodi, was most evident with Zinfandel, as shown in the tons crushed graph below. Zinfandel has been challenged for at least 3 years, as dark red blenders, like Petite Sirah, have come into full production, taking the place of Zinfandel in a blend. The abundance of Cabernet Sauvignon has also put pressure on Zinfandel percentages in a red blend. However, Cabernet Sauvignon had its share of challenges in 2019, as wineries became sellers and tons were left on the vine in Lodi. The result of tons left on the vine, combined with a lighter crop, brought down the total tons crushed, by

18%, after the record crop of 2018. Unfortunately, this will not change the overall demand for Cabernet Sauvignon.

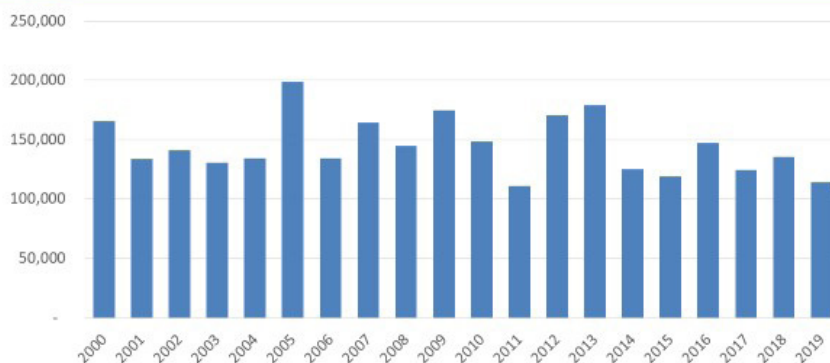
For the past two to three years, we have been experiencing an "excess" market, where supply is exceeding demand, as sales have slowed and bulk wine inventories have been backing up. We have been here before, as demonstrated in the Turrentine Wheel. The tale of two stories will likely have a sequel in 2020.

For more information on grape and wine market dynamics, contact Erica Moyer at erica@turrentinebrokerage.com.

Lodi Cabernet Sauvignon Spot Market vs. District Average Grape Price



Lodi Zinfandel Tons Crushed





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Scholarship Application Deadline is April 1 USCIS Issues New Form I-9

The deadline for the Lodi District Grape Growers Association's 2020-2021 scholarship program is quickly approaching. Eligible students have until April 1, 2020 to submit applications for the Association's Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship. The LDGGA Scholarship Committee also administers the Michael David Family Foundation Scholarship and the Ernest Gribaudo Family Agriculture Scholarship, which are due on April 1st as well.

The **Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship** is available to students pursuing a career in agriculture, with an emphasis on viticulture, enology, agribusiness, agricultural engineering, agricultural mechanics, or agriculture education. Applicants must have attended and/or graduated from a high school in Crush District 11, or have a relationship with a farming operation in Crush District 11. Relationship can include work experience, parent or guardian employment, etc. Past applicants are welcome to reapply each year.

The **Michael David Family Foundation Scholarship** is available to high school seniors who will be graduating from a high school in Crush District 11 that have a relationship with a farming operation in Crush District 11 (such applicants

may major in any area of study). Relationship can include work experience, parent or guardian employment, etc. Or, High school seniors who will be graduating from a high school in Crush District 11 and will be majoring in agriculture related field. Past recipients are invited to reapply each year.

The **Ernest Gribaudo Family Agriculture Scholarship** will award scholarships to students who have attended and/or graduated from Lodi High School or Tokay High School and will be pursuing a career in agriculture or trades related to agriculture. This is the first year that LDGGA will administer the Ernest Gribaudo Family Agriculture Scholarship.

In 2019-2020, the Jim Kissler Memorial Scholarship Fund awarded \$37,000 to twenty deserving students. The Michael David Family Foundation awarded \$45,000 to twenty-nine recipients. The LDGGA scholarship program continues to grow due to support from LDGGA members and the agricultural community.

Scholarship applications are available to download at: <http://ldgga.org/education-scholarships/>. Contact LDGGA at (209) 339-8246 or info@ldgga.org with any questions regarding eligibility or the application process.

U.S. Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) has published the Form I-9 Federal Register notice announcing a new version of Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, that the Office of Management and Budget approved on Oct. 21, 2019. This new version contains minor changes to the form and its instructions. Employers should begin using this updated form as of Jan. 31, 2020.

The notice provides employers additional time to make necessary updates and adjust their business processes. Employers may continue using the prior version of the form (Rev. 07/17/2017 N) until April 30. After that date, they can only use the new form with the 10/21/2019 version date located in the lower left corner of the form. For more information, visit <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central>.



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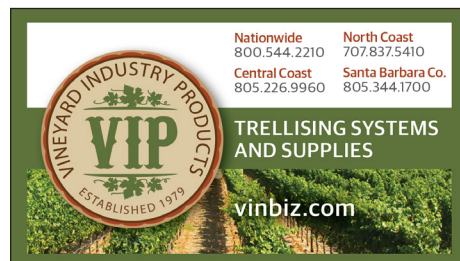
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What You Need to Know About CalSavers: California's Retirement Payroll Deduction Program for Employees.

By: Manuel Ignacio, The Saqui Law Group,
a Division of Dowling Aaron Incorporated

Beginning on June 30 of this year, most California employers who do not offer an employer-sponsored retirement savings plan will need to register with the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program. The new program, referred to as "CalSavers," is designed to help California employees set aside money for retirement. However, the program does not create any new costs for employers and employees can choose to opt out of the program if they wish.

Three-Year Rollout Period for Employer Registration The CalSavers program was created by the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Trust Act. The law requires all businesses with five or more employees (including seasonal and agricultural employers) to either offer an employer-sponsored retirement savings plan or register for CalSavers. The registration requirement for employers will be phased in over a three-year rollout period based on the number of employees. Employers with more than 100 eligible employees must register by June 30, 2020. Employers with more than 50 eligible employees must register by June 30, 2021. Employers with 5 or more eligible employees must register by June 30, 2022.

Employers Who Are Required to Register Employers with at least five California-based employees, at least one of whom is age eighteen, and who do not sponsor a tax-qualified retirement plan, must register for the program and establish or participate in a payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement.

Registration Process The registration process is fairly straightforward, involving the provision of basic employee

roster information to CalSavers. From there, CalSavers works directly with employees to make them aware of the Program and provide the employee opt-out form.

There is no waiting period to be eligible to participate. However, employee contributions to the Program do not begin until the first payroll following the 30-day notification period. Therefore, depending on the length of employment, some short term employees may not be able to make contributions. Employers need only facilitate the employees' contributions and are not required to administer the program or incur additional costs related to the program. The State is required to designate an open enrollment period at least once every two years.

Penalty for Non-Compliance Employers who do not provide an employer-sponsored retirement savings plan are required to register with CalSavers. The penalty for failing to register is \$250 per employee, if the employer remains non-compliant 90 days after receiving a notice of noncompliance. The penalty increases to \$500 per employee for if the employer remains non-compliant 180 days after receiving a notice of noncompliance.

Employers Not Held Liable for Employees' Decision Under the new law, employers cannot be held liable for an employee's decision to participate in, or opt out of, the Program.

Effect on Seasonal and Agricultural Employees There is no exclusion or exemption for seasonal or agricultural workers or employees who work for multiple employers. Employees can enroll in the CalSavers program for each employer that they work for. They may choose to opt out of contributions through any employer or contribute through multiple employers

at the same time. This does not affect each employer's obligation to have a payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement in place for all eligible employees (if they do not provide an employer-sponsored retirement savings program as an alternative).

Legal Challenge to CalSavers

A lawsuit has been filed in federal court in California to challenge the CalSavers Program. The lawsuit is Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association et al v. CA Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program. The lawsuit challenges the law as being pre-empted by the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The court is currently considering a motion to dismiss the lawsuit, with no word on when it will decide. In the meantime, the Program will continue to roll out in 2020. Look for updates in future E-Blasts.

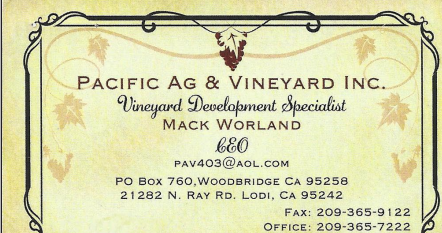
Counsel to Management: The Program has a Frequently Asked Questions page, available at www.calsavers.com. The Program does not directly create any new or additional costs for employers. However, employers who do not offer a sponsored retirement savings plan should be sure to register with the Program before the deadline in order to avoid potential penalties.

If you have any questions about whether your company is required to register, contact the employment law experts at The Saqui Law Group, a Division of Dowling Aaron Incorporated.



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Tokay FFA Hosts Grapevine Pruning Contest



An El Capitan FFA member prunes for judge Ed Van Diemen.



Area growers and industry representatives served as judges.

This January, Tokay High School FFA Chapter hosted their First Annual FFA Grapevine Pruning Contest. FFA members from all over California visited the Lodi area to learn about viticulture practices, winery operations, and to compete in a grapevine pruning contest.

The competition included spur (bilateral and quadlateral) and cane pruned categories, as well as a written exam on the principles of grapevine pruning. Students were scored on their ability to prune vines under a time limit, as well as demonstrate their skills while in front of a judge. The contest was made possible by numerous local sponsors and volunteer judges.

Nutria Eradication Bill Passes House with Unanimous Support

After pushing for months, Representative Josh Harder's (CA-10) bipartisan bill to fight the invasion of giant South American swamp rats passed the House of Representatives on February 26th with unanimous support. The bill would reauthorize an expired program that helped Maryland successfully run the invaders out of the Chesapeake Bay and allocate \$12 million to help affected states. Since the invasive rat first reappeared in California in 2017, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has removed over 800 animals from the Central Valley. Rep. Harder is joined on the bill by Republican Garrett Graves of Louisiana as well as fellow California Representatives Jim Costa, TJ Cox, John Garamendi, Barbara Lee, and Jimmy Panetta.

"Nutria threaten farmers, indigenous wildlife, and our water infrastructure – it's time to bring in the cavalry and drive them out of the Valley – that's just what my bill would do," said Rep. Harder. "This is a bipartisan concern and today's unanimous vote proves that Washington can, in fact, get something done."

Nutria were originally introduced to the United States as part of the fur trade in the late 1800s but were eradicated from California in the 1970s. The invasive rat made a sudden reappearance in 2017. Over 800 have been taken from the wild since then. Nutria can devour up to 25 percent of their body weight daily and one female can lead to 200 offspring per year. These invaders threaten water infrastructure, certain crops, and indigenous wildlife.

In June of 2019, Rep. Harder introduced his bill to reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003. Since its introduction, the bill has been amended to direct \$12 million to programs in nutria-impacted states, including California.

The programs supported by the bill encourage habitat protection, education, research, monitoring, and capacity building to provide for the long-term protection of wetlands from destruction caused by nutria. The bill will now be sent to the Senate.



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Jennifer Spaletta Named Lodi Agribusiness Person of the Year

Jennifer Spaletta of Spaletta Law and Spaletta Vineyards was named the 2020 Agribusiness Person of the Year by the Lodi District Chamber of Commerce. "I am very honored to be selected as the Agribusiness Person of the Year," said Spaletta, who was recognized during the Lodi Chamber's annual dinner in February.

Spaletta is one of the area's leading experts on water law. Her effort and creativity has led to innovative solutions to complex water problems affecting not only her clients but the greater agricultural community. She has served on the Lodi District Grape Growers Association Board of Directors for fifteen years as a Director at Large and as a Director. She served as LDGGA Board President in 2013 and 2014.

Spaletta received her bachelor's of science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, her master's degree in agricultural and resource economics at University of California, Davis, followed by her doctoral degree in law. She has extensive experience litigating commercial contract disputes, water, environmental and constitutional law issues, as well as California Proposition 218 cases.

Spaletta serves as general and

special counsel to several public agencies, including reclamation and irrigation districts, water conservation districts, county water agencies, and local businesses, including farming operations, industrial manufacturing companies and food processing companies.

In 2015, she helped local farmers strike a deal with the State Water Resources Control Board to voluntarily reduce water consumption by 25% to avoid mandatory curtailments. Recently, Spaletta has worked on the DREAM project, a collaboration between EBMUD and the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District that allows for banking of groundwater during wet years.

"Jennifer has been a dedicated board member of the Lodi District Grape Growers Association since 2005," said Amy Blagg, last year's Agribusiness Person of the Year recipient. "She is always

willing to lend her expertise in agricultural water issues to educate the agricultural community and has the natural ability to explain these complex issues in an understandable way."

Spaletta also volunteers her time as a youth swim coach, is a supporter of Lodi youth athletics, was a past president of the Women's Center of San Joaquin, and is an advisory council member at UC Davis' Environmental Law Center. She lives in Lodi with her husband Jason and their four children Lia, Anna, Emmy, and John Paul.



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Meet Your New Lodi District Grape Growers Association Directors

Garret Hansen

Garret is a fourth generation farmer, his family has farmed a wide variety of crops in the Linden and Lodi area since 1904. Grapes now make up the largest portion of the farming operation.



After graduating from Linden High School, Garret attended Fresno State and received a BS in Plant Science with a minor in Agriculture Business. During college he continued to work part time on the family farm. After graduating, he returned full time to continue farming with his parents and eventually created a partnership, G&R Hansen Farms Inc. with his younger brother Ryan.

Modifying farm equipment to better suit a particular need on the farm has been an activity Garret has enjoyed since an early age. He likes the daily challenges that come along with farming. When not working on the farm, he enjoys spending time traveling with his wife Sara and two boys. As well as restoring his classic Bronco and Mustang.

Garret is looking forward to being a LDGGA Director. With the overwhelming regulations related to farming and general farming practices, growers are always looking for assistance and guidance. He hopes to be a valued part of this important association.

Tony Rose

Tony was born and raised in the rural communities of Lake County, California. Growing up, he spent countless hours in his parent's pear orchard and on his grandfather's cattle and alfalfa ranch, thus developing a love of the outdoors, a strong work ethic and the beginning knowledge of the farming industry. After graduating from high school in 1996, Tony worked on a variety of apple and pear orchards. In 2002, he began working in the wine grape industry.



Tony and his wife Julie were married in 2004 and started their family soon after. In 2014, when Tony, his wife and their three children decided to relocate to the Lodi area. Tony currently works for Jahan Vineyards in Acampo, California.

When he is not in the vineyards, he enjoys hunting, cooking, traveling and volunteering as a 4-H leader. However, he can most often be found wherever his children are. He is very involved in their day to day activities. He rarely misses a swim meet, basketball game or a soccer game.

Tony and his family love living and working in the Lodi area. The relationships and friendships that they have built since moving to the area are invaluable. Tony is honored and excited to be a part of LDGGA.

Nico Teresi

Nico was born and raised in the Lodi area and graduated from Lodi High School in 2010. He went on to get a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Business from California State University, Fresno before returning to the area to manage his family's operation Anthony Teresi Farms in Acampo.



In addition to managing the vineyard, Nico also does work in custom hay farming. He lives in Lodi with his wife Courtney, their one year old son, and two dogs. When Nico is not working he enjoys camping with his family and rooting for the San Francisco 49ers and the Oakland A's.

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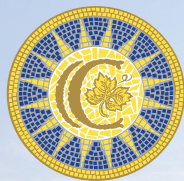
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