



Ventura County
California Women for Agriculture
PO Box 4494, Ventura, CA 93007

August 2019

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OFFICER & DIRECTOR UPDATES

County Fair Director - Rulla Hernandez July 31- Aug 11 is the 2019 Ventura County Fair!

Be sure to visit our CWA booth, directly in front of the entrance to the Ag Building. A key part of VCCWA's mission is Ag Education - and this is our best education event for reaching folks of all ages. Ed Williams, VC Ag Commissioner, will present our CWA Student Scholarship winners with their awards on **Saturday, August 10 at noon** in the Ag Building. Please try to be there to support these students who have a passion for Ag and will shape the future of agriculture. Other happening in the Ag Building that you won't want to miss:



Aug 1: 3:00 Corn Shuckin' Contest, 2:00 "Fruit Tree Care in Drought", 5:00-7:00 People's Choice Bounty of the County Beer & Pub Fare

Aug 2: 11:00-2:00 Produce tasting, 1:30-3:30 CWA's Garden in a Glove activity

Aug 3: 12:00-4:00 Fire Safety Awareness & Education, 12:00-12:30 Harvest of the Month Salad tasting

Aug 5: Beneficial Insect Day

Aug 6: Citrus Day – 11:00-1:00
CWA's Lemonade Tasting

Aug 7: 11:00-12:00 Blender Bike, 2:00 Uncle Leo's Storytelling Contest

Aug 8: 4:00 Melon Carving Contest

5:00-7:00 People's Choice Bounty of the County Wine and Restaurant Fare

Aug 9: Avocado Day

Aug 10: Cattleman's Day - 12:00 Cowboy Poetry

Aug 11: Berry Day - 12:30 Cornhole Tournament

For more information, please contact Rulla at vccwafair@gmail.com. Fair is FUN! See you there!

Ag in the Classroom Conference Scholarship for Teachers

This is an awesome conference for any Ag educator, to be held in Sonoma October 17-19. Visit our [scholarship page](http://www.cwaventura.com) at cwaventura.com for the application. The deadline for applications is August 15. Find out all the conference details [here](#). If you know of any educator, whether it is the manager of the school garden, 4-H or FFA leader, or any teacher interested in passing on information about ag to students, please let them know about this great opportunity.

Membership Director - Maggie Kimball

Currently, our chapter has 82 members, including the generous support of 27 donor members. If you haven't already renewed or joined, please do so here:

<http://www.cwaventura.com/membership.html>

A special welcome to our newest members:

Steve Gama, Jenne Rose Lee, Debbie Cavaletto, Martha Flounoy, Lee Cole, Cathy Swanson, Noelle Burkey, Amy Fukutomi, Lisa Emmert, Susan Jones-Ng, Jessica Mayhew and Laura Miller.

Internal VP - Jill Ireland

Thank you to Steve Gama for the extremely interesting talk on the history of farm labor law and risk management at our July meeting.

Some great things are planned...

- *No meeting in August* - See you at the Fair
 - *September 19* - "Farewell to Summer" social hosted by Cecelia Ortiz at her family beach front home, 6-9 pm. Come and get to know your other CWA friends. This will be a fun evening with games, food, drink and time to relax and socialize. We are asking folks to bring either a salad or desert. We will be providing grilled kabobs as a main course. More details to follow.
 - *October 15* - Chapter meeting, speaker - Farm Worker Resource Team.
 - *October 17* - Tour of the Reagan Ranch Center, Santa Barbara, 2 pm. This will be a fascinating tour! Thank you, Shelley Zadick, for arranging this for us. A limited number may participate, so if you are interested, please rsvp to vccwaInternalVP@gmail.com. More details to follow.

State CWA

Make plans now to be a part of the September 7-8, 2019 **Statewide Meeting in Madera**. This event is State CWA's biggest fundraiser each year and includes amazing food and beverages, a silent auction, a country store, live auction, music and more! So join us! And yes, VCCWA has funds budgeted to reimburse your expenses to participate in this weekend meeting. If you have any questions or have ever wondered about getting more connected with our CWA sisters at the state level, click [here](#) to send me an email. You will be overwhelmed with the camaraderie, the passion for ag and the great flow of ideas. I encourage you to try and attend. The registration form is now available [here](#).



Did you know...

Farmers are growing more food than ever while using less water. Since 1980, farm production has increased 38% while water use has decreased by 14%. Support ag water use in California! Remember, it takes water to grow food.

Sunshine Director - Bev Bigger

Does someone need a note of congratulations, concern or thanks? Let Bev know - vccwasunshine@gmail.com

Bev is also the president of the Ventura County Cattlemen's Association. The VCCA, along with CoLAB VC will be hosting a BBQ & dance, featuring the fabulous band *Caught Red Handed* on September 21 at the historical Rancho Matilija Barn. All proceeds will benefit a very important cause. More details to follow.



Land Use - Louise Lampara

Hey, Supervisor's! What's the rush?

General Plan goes before the Board on TUESDAY, 8/6 at 1:00 PM

The LAST CHANCE to provide input on the language that will shape the future of Ventura County for generations to come!

CoLAB has joined with the Farm Bureau, Ventura County Cattlemen's Association, Ventura County Agricultural Association, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, Ventura Chamber of Commerce, Ventura County Contractors Association, and 10 other organizations to request an extension of time for the General Plan public review process.

The Planning Commission recommended 119 significant changes to the draft General Plan. These changes were released for public review on JULY 25 - giving everyone less than 10 calendar days before the Board of Supervisors will vote on the FINAL LANGUAGE.

Worse still, the Board has scheduled the General Plan discussion and vote for 1:00 p.m. on the 6th - giving themselves 4 business hours to finalize and vote.

Even if they were to refuse to allow public testimony and ignore the thousands of pages of comments from subject matter experts in agriculture, water resources and the economy - they would have less than 2 minutes to deliberate and vote on each of the 119 Planning Commission recommendations.

CoLAB calls "foul!" on this apparent attempt to derail the Public Review Process and we are pushing back - to read the letter submitted to the Board of Supervisors by CoLAB and other Associations, please click [here](#).

Two ways you can help with the General Plan:

1) If you believe:

- the Board is moving too fast and there has not been enough time for Ag, business, and

property owners to review the Planning Commission recommendations

AND

- the Board needs to devote more than 4 business hours to hearing public testimony and voting on the General Plan -

Then we need your voice! **EMAIL the Board of Supervisors and urge them to devote MORE TIME to public review and deliberation on the General Plan.**

Click [HERE](#) to download a sample letter that you can sign and email to: clerkoftheboard@ventura.org to distribute to the Supervisors.

2) We need **SPEAKERS** to support agriculture, business, labor and property rights!

The General Plan impacts our members' futures and rights as much as the Wildlife Corridors issue! To ensure a strong future for Ventura County, the General Plan -

- Must include language that supports existing agriculture
- Must include policies that support a business-friendly regulatory process
- Must clearly balance natural resource protection with cost to landowners in policies and programs (such as increased setbacks from wetlands and prohibiting development on ridgelines or hilltops) that may make it prohibitively expensive or difficult for a landowner to build on their property

If the Board ignores our request for more time, we will be ready on August 6th. The Board will most likely restrict public comment to 90 seconds or less per person...not enough time for CoLAB staff to bring up all our members' issues.

We need our members to **BE AT THE AUGUST 6 HEARING** and tell the Supervisors to protect agriculture, the economy, and to limit restrictions on private property.

To read all 119 recommendations from the June 2019 Planning Commission work sessions, please click [here](#).

Dates to Remember

- 7-31 / 8-11 - County Fair
- August - NO Chapter Meeting
- 9-7,8 - SWM - Madera
- 9-19 - Farewell to Summer Social, Ventura
- 9-21 - VCCA BBQ & Barn Dance
- 10-15 - Chapter Meeting, Ventura
- 10-17 - Reagan Ranch Center Tour
- 11-2,3 - SWM - Merced

Visit Our Website: CWAVENTURA.COM

to stay updated of any changes, guest speaker announcements and events.

Recipe of the Month:

Avocado Ice Cream by Index Fresh



3 medium ripe avocados
1/2 cup honey
1 Tbsp vanilla extract
2 Tbsp coconut oil, soft
Toasted coconut shreds (optional)
Place all ingredients in food processor and blend until smooth. Pour the mixture into an airtight container. Freeze for at least 4 hours. Garnish with coconut shreds. Makes 1 pint.

Renew or Join CWA Today!!

With your membership you will be included in all announcements of events, tours, speakers, meetings, socials, etc. [Click here to renew or join online through Paypal.](#)

Please submit payment for \$42 if using Paypal, to cover transaction fees.



And last, but not least, thank you to all [our amazing sponsors](#) who make all this possible...

2019 DONORS - Thank you!!!

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<http://www.cwventura.com/donors.html>



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Other areas of interest are very welcome. Please contact vccwapresident@gmail.com.