

MEMBER NEWSLETTER



FRESNO MADERA  
FARM CREDIT

AGRICULTURE IS OUR ONLY BUSINESS

*Connection*

OCTOBER 2023



WWW.FMFARMCREDIT.COM



Dear members:

We are pleased to share with you our third-quarter member newsletter. We are motivated to make sure these newsletters are worthwhile and focused on areas where you see value. We appreciate our partnership with you and want to provide insights into some of the risks you experience in your operation – so we've included some information we think you'll find useful.

### **Impact of high interest rates**

Over the past 19 months we've experienced a trend of rising interest rates that, while rooted as a response to the Fed's attempts to reduce cost inflation, we understand the direct implications those higher interest rates have on our agricultural community. We are aware of the challenges these higher rates create, particularly given the headwinds many of the area commodities are experiencing. At Fresno Madera Farm Credit, we understand the importance of committing ourselves to providing thoughtful financial solutions to your operation. In times like this, we're particularly aware of how valuable our patronage program is and the role it plays in reducing your overall cost to borrow.

### **Join us for the Fall Member BBQ**

We also want to make sure you know about our upcoming fall member appreciation BBQ which will be held at Holland Park West on Friday, November 10. We'll be hosting a few seminars before lunch covering cybersecurity as well as leasing. We continue to note an increased threat environment for financial fraud including cybersecurity risks – we plan to continue to provide seminars that increase awareness around best practices that can be applied to reduce your fraud and cyber risks in this elevated environment.

I hope you're able to make it out for the event – we appreciate the opportunity to express our gratitude for your partnership as well as connect with you over lunch. We hope to see you there.

### **Summary**

Our unwavering commitment to you is to be an experienced partner that understands agriculture because it's our only business. We take great pride in our mission to serve the agriculture in our region and in the ongoing trust you've placed in us to serve your evolving needs. No matter the challenges that may arise, we will remain focused on earning the continued opportunity to serve you.

Warmest Regards,

Keith Hesterberg  
President & Chief Executive Officer



## Second Quarter Financial Report

The long-term viability of FMFC is important, and we would like to share with you an update on the financial performance of the association for the second quarter of 2023.

Click the link below for a full copy of FMFC's 2023 second quarter report.

If you have any questions or would like further details regarding our financial report, please do not hesitate to reach out to your relationship manager.

Our third quarter financial highlights will be available on our website on November 10.

Click [here](#) to read the full report.





## Commercial Operating Loans

We offer comprehensive financial solutions for farmers, addressing diverse needs including crop, livestock, dairy, and agribusiness operations.

With flexible terms up to three years and adaptable variable rates, we provide secure financing.

Our revolving credit lines further enhance convenience, allowing for adaptable borrowing and repayment strategies.

**Click [here](#) to learn more.**



## Intermediate Term Loans

### Development Loans

Our development loans cover real estate enhancements such as plantings and irrigation. These loans have a variable rate during draw period with a fixed rate option available upon loan funding to help mitigate interest rate risk. Additionally, we offer interest-only periods during pre-productive stages, and terms extending up to 10 years.

### Equipment Loans

Acquiring essential machinery and equipment is crucial for business success. We offer support in obtaining the necessary assets with options for variable and fixed rates, including choices without prepayment penalties. The equipment being financed is secured through a first lien, with terms available up to 7 years.

**Click [here](#) to learn more.**



# MEMBER EVENTS

## Please Join us for the 2023 Fall Member Appreciation BBQ!

Our annual Fall Member Appreciation BBQ is taking place Friday, Nov. 10, at the beautiful Holland Park West!

### Join us and enjoy:

- a delicious BBQ lunch,
- informative seminars on cybersecurity and Farm Credit leasing,
- a chance to win 10 awesome drawing prizes,
- and, an opportunity to connect with fellow members and the FMFC staff!

Get ready for a day of great food, camaraderie, and fun!

Click [here](#) to RSVP.





# MEMBER SHRED DAY

Tuesday, November 14 | 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Fresno Madera Farm Credit | Fresno Office

4635 W. Spruce Ave. Fresno, CA 93722

Drop off any documents that need to be shredded  
and grab a cup of Brick House coffee on us!  
**All FMFC Members are welcome!**

## Securely Dispose of Documents at our Member Shred Day!

We are excited to announce our upcoming Member Shred Day event, where you can safely dispose of your personal documents for free! **Limit 3 boxes per member.**

Join us at the Fresno Madera Farm Credit - Fresno Office on November 14, from 8-11 a.m. for a secure and convenient shredding experience - plus, the local Brick House Coffee truck will be onsite serving up a variety of delicious beverages!

Identity theft and fraud are growing concerns, and protecting your sensitive information is more important than ever. That's why we're offering this exclusive opportunity to help you safeguard your personal data. Bring in your old bank statements, credit card bills, tax documents, and any other confidential paperwork you no longer need, and we'll ensure they are securely shredded.

Don't miss this chance to declutter your home and keep your information safe. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact us at (559) 277-7000.



## Central California Food Bank Feeding Families Fund Drive

Fresno Madera Farm Credit and CoBank recently made a \$30,000 donation to Central California Food Bank's Feeding Families Fund Drive. The donation will provide over 180,000 meals to rural residents of Central California, many of whom have limited access to full-service grocery stores and have been severely impacted by the rising cost of food.

Click [here](#) to read more about the donation.



## 2023 Madera District Fair

Fresno Madera Farm Credit is a proud sponsor of the Madera District Fair livestock auction.

We take great pride in sponsoring the belt buckle awards for the top 4-H and FFA members. Our team attended the livestock show in September to help present the buckles to each of the winners!

Congratulations again to all the hard-working ag youth at the Madera District Fair!

## 2023 Caruthers Fair

Fresno Madera Farm Credit is a proud supporter of the Caruthers Fair Livestock Auction.

With unwavering commitment, members of our team visit the fair each September to participate in bidding for locally raised animals.

It's just one way we invest in the future of agriculture and help foster the growth of the ag community!





## **FMFC Staff Week of Service at The Big Fresno Fair**

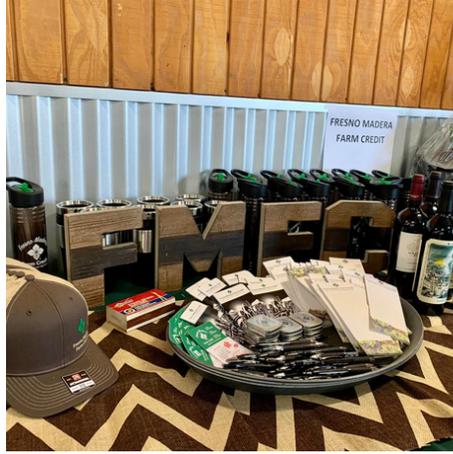
We concluded our 2023 breakfast service at The Big Fresno Fair with almost 2,000 meals served! Our team was happy to serve the hardworking ag youth ahead of their fair activities.

It was great to see the bright smiles on the faces of our FFA and 4-H youth — the future of Central Valley agriculture.

In addition to serving breakfast, members of our staff also volunteered to support the events surrounding The Big Fresno Fair livestock auctions and the champions of excellence interview competition.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Caruthers Harvest Social

Join us at the Caruthers Harvest Social on Saturday, November 11, at the Caruthers Fairgrounds where our team will be serving up delicious barbecue and local wines.

The 21-and-older event also includes a classic car show, silent auction, and live entertainment!

Save the date and watch for more information to be released in the coming weeks on the Caruthers Chamber of Commerce [Facebook page](#).

## **Fresno State AgOne West Side Alumni and Friends Luncheon**

The 6th annual West Side Alumni and Friends Luncheon will be held Thursday, November 9.

Enjoy a BBQ lunch while visiting with fellow Fresno State alumni, friends, faculty and staff of the Jordan College. Event proceeds benefit students and programs in the Jordan College!

The luncheon will be held at Fresno Equipment Company in Five Points.

**Click [here](#) for more information on the event.**

## **Fresno Tree & Vine Expo and Grape, Nut & Tree Fruit Expo**

November is full of fun! Don't miss the 2023 Grape, Nut & Tree Fruit Expo and the 2023 Tree & Vine Expo both held at the Fresno Fairgrounds.

Since 1996, these events have brought together growers and producers from all over the Central Valley.

- The Tree & Vine Expo will be held November 7, 2023.
- The Grape, Nut & tree Fruit Expo will be held November 10, 2023.

**Click [here](#) for more information.**

## **California Almond Conference**

Save the date for the 2023 Almond Conference, December 5-7, at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center in Sacramento.

Discover the latest industry trends, sustainable practices, and valuable networking opportunities that will enhance your role in almond cultivation.

Don't miss this chance to be part of shaping the future of the almond industry.

**Click [here](#) for more information.**

# Upcoming Groundwater Sustainability Agency Meetings

**Scheduled GSA meeting dates are subject to change.  
Visit district or GSA website to confirm.**

- 11/3 - San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSA - 9 a.m. - 541 H Street, Los Banos
- 11/3 - Southwest Kings GSA - 1 p.m. - 944 Whitley Ave. Suite E, Corcoran
- 11/8 - Central Kings GSA - 1:30 p.m. - 2255 Chandler St., Selma
- 11/8 - Chowchilla Water District GSA - 1:30 p.m. - 327 S. Chowchilla Blvd, Chowchilla
- 11/8 - Madera Water District GSA - 9 a.m. - 1663 N. Schnoor St., Suite 105, Madera
- 11/13 - Root Creek Water District GSA - 11 a.m. - 370 Lodge Road South, Madera
- 11/13 - Central Delta-Mendota Region Multi-Agency GSA - 8 a.m. - 842 6th St., Los Banos
- 11/14 - James Irrigation District GSA - 10 a.m. - 8749 Ninth St., San Joaquin
- 11/14 - Madera County GSAs - 10:30 a.m. - 200 W. Fourth St., Madera
- 11/15 - Farmers Water District GSA - 9 a.m. - 4460 W. Shaw Ave., #219, Fresno
- 11/16 - Kings River East GSA - 1 p.m. - 405 E. El Monte Ave., Dinuba
- 11/20 - Gravelly Ford Water District - 9:30 a.m. - 14944 Firebaugh Blvd., Madera
- 11/21 - Madera Irrigation District - 1 p.m. - 12152 Road 28 1/4, Madera
- 11/21 - Westlands Water District GSA - 1 p.m. - 3130 N. Fresno St., Fresno



## **FARMS Advanced Career Day at Fresno Madera Farm Credit was a Big Hit**

FMFC hosted ag youth from the Center for Land-Based Learning's FARMS Leadership program. Their visit included a tour of our Fresno office, an ag banking quiz, and presentations from all of our departments on the variety of positions available at FMFC!

**Click [here](#) to read more about their tour of FMFC and the impact of the Center for Land-Based Learning.**



## **How To Prevent Accidents and Injuries on the Farm**

Every year, the toll of serious injuries and fatalities among agricultural workers is a stark reminder of the risks they face. In 2019, a heart-wrenching 410 farmers and farm workers lost their lives due to work-related injuries. Even more concerning, around 100 agricultural workers experience work-related injuries daily, resulting in lost work time.

**Click [here](#) to read more about how to prevent accidents and injuries on the farm.**

## Almond Growers Seek Demand Improvements

Almond growers are questioning the Almond Board's focus on environmental goals, arguing that they don't increase global demand for U.S. almonds. These growers have outlined three requests: prioritize global demand, establish fair pricing based on demand, and align organizational changes accordingly. The Almond Board is responding with initiatives like advertising and consumer education to boost almond demand.

Click [here](#) to read more about the Board's efforts.



## The Importance of Security Awareness Training

Security awareness training plays a crucial role in shielding organizations from cyberattacks that can lead to system breaches and data exposure. The primary emphasis is on preventing these incidents, which have the potential to tarnish brand reputation and incur significant financial losses.

Click [here](#) to learn more about how security awareness training can safeguard your business.



## Fraud Wise Podcasts Available on our Website!

On the go? Check out CoBank's Fraud Wise podcast for dozens of hours of content designed to help you keep your business safe from cybercriminals.

Click [here](#) to visit the FMFC website for a full catalog of episodes you can listen to anytime or use to conduct training with your own staff.



## **Thursday, November 23**

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Day

## **Friday, November 24**

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving (Day after)

## **Monday, December 25**

Offices Closed for Christmas

# Let us know how we're doing!

Click [here](#) below to share your thoughts on this member newsletter. The quick, three-question survey will help inform and guide future newsletters.

## Congratulations to our 2023 Photo Contest Winners!



We're delighted to let you know that our 2024 Photo Calendar is on the way! Keep an eye on your mailbox for your copy. You can also pick up a copy at any of our three locations.

A sincere congratulations to all the winners of our 2023 photo contest – your exceptional contributions have truly made this calendar something special. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who submitted their captivating photos.

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE LATEST INDUSTRY NEWS, FMFC MEMBER EVENTS, PHILANTHROPY HIGHLIGHTS, CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, AND MORE!**



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