

August 2017

UC Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra News

University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Serving Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado & Tuolumne counties

Your monthly news & event announcements

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August Greetings,

We hope you are staying cool. The county fairs have come and gone and 4-H summer camp in El Dorado County was a great success, fun was had by everyone... even the chaperones. And, summer camp in Tuolumne county is underway, sure to be a lot of fun and many camp memories made. We are quieter for now but getting ready for fall and everything that brings with it. We are sure to have a schedule full of educational workshops in the coming year so be sure to check our monthly e-newsletter and follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information. Until next time.

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We're hiring, apply now!

[Area Cooperative Extension Advisor for Nutrition, Family, and Consumer Sciences](#)

We are hiring an Area Cooperative Extension Advisor for Nutrition, Family, and Consumer Sciences to conduct a multi-county based extension, education and applied research NFCS program to meet clientele needs in Calaveras, Tuolumne, Amador and El Dorado counties. The Advisor leadership includes the UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program (a SNAP-Ed Program) and the Master Food Preserver program. This position will be housed in our San Andreas, Calaveras County, California office. [Apply by September 1st.](#)

[4-H Program Representative I](#)

This position will be a part of a team that provides leadership, guidance, and coordination for the Central Sierra 4-H Program and will assist with planning special events in collaboration with program leadership and community partners, and work to establish relationships with new partners. The program representative will work closely with the 4-H Community Educator Specialist II, this position will collaborate with UCCE and non-UCCE affiliated groups to strengthen and grow the 4-H Program. This position will serve Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. [Apply before Wednesday, August 9th .](#)

Happy 100th Anniversary to the El Dorado County Farm Bureau!

The University of California Cooperative Extension and the Farm Bureau have a long history. In fact, without the farm bureau we wouldn't have a county based cooperative extension system. Really!

Let's take a stroll down memory lane....

The earliest organizations of farmers began to develop in the late 1800s. Some groups organized under a variety of names and philosophies, including The Grange, The Farmer's Alliance, The Agricultural Wheel, The Ancient Order of Gleaners and the Equity.

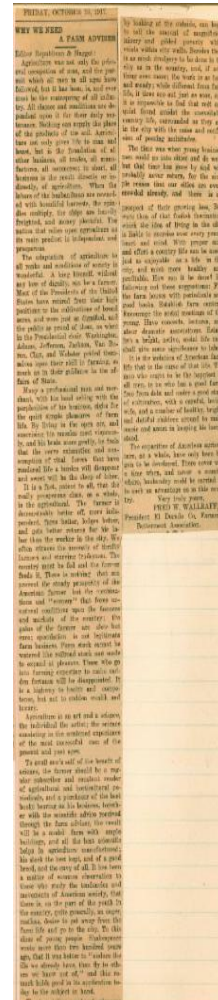
The origin of the Farm Bureau followed a different path and didn't occur until shortly after the turn of the century. Farm Bureau grew out of the Extension education movement occurring at land grant colleges across the nation.

The land grant colleges were established under the Morrill Act of 1862. The Hatch Act of 1887 established agricultural experiment stations. Each had provisions for "farmer's institutes" and other forms of off campus education for farmers.

The Extension concept, however, did not take root until the early 1900s, when the agricultural colleges developed Extension departments and staff. The devastating boll weevil gave an unexpected boost to the concept of traveling professors and field demonstration projects.

With a financial assist from the Department of Agriculture, Dr. Seaman Knapp took to the road to "teach by doing rather than telling." The field trials were developed to deal with the boll weevil. It had the effect for the first time of taking the classroom to the farm. Texas has the distinction of assigning the first "county agent."

[Continue reading...](#)



Caging kids! The next generation of wildlife biologists

As 10-year-old Dominic Vargas crouched on the ground, in a cage not much larger than himself, trying to forage for tasty treats (candy) on the woodland floor...CRASH! The cage door came falling down and he realized that he had inadvertently tripped a tiny fishing line in his efforts to reach that candy - he was now trapped. Dominic seemed to accept his fate with good humor, shrugging, smiling and getting to work on that candy. Wildlife biologist, Jessie Roughgarden, commented that Dominic will now be collared, tagged and measured before returning him to the wild ... or in this case his parents.



This seemingly terrifying experience is in fact all part of the new "Sustainable You - 4-H Summer Camp" held at the UC Hopland Research and Extension Center. Sustainable You is a five-day camp allowing students to experience science and nature while learning about ways in which to conserve the land, water, air and energy. [Read more...](#)

Project Learning Tree Facilitator's Training held at UC Blodgett Research Forest

A total of 23 participants attended all or part of the two day workshop at UC Blodgett Research Forest in Georgetown, CA. Participants included teachers from Novato, and with Black Oak Mine School District in Georgetown, interpreters at Chico Creek Nature Center, the US Forest Service at Lake Tahoe, and UC research facilities including the Sierra Foothills Research and Extension Center and Blodgett Forest. Ten new PLT facilitators were trained.



The first day was a PLT educators workshop focusing on fire ecology, which included a field trip with stops at a prescribed burn at Blodgett and in the King fire. Participants participated in PLT activities and practiced presenting PLT activities themselves. A preview of the new FireWorks curriculum for the Sierra Nevada was held in the evening. The next day focused on PLT facilitation and included a tour of prescribed fire research sites at Blodgett. [Continue reading...](#)

[Learn more about Project Learning Tree and future workshops.](#)

Train the Trainer Workshops: Tree Mortality - Replanting after the trees die.



A total of 120 Master Gardeners attended two Tree Mortality workshops on June 6th in Pollock Pines and June 14th in Sonora. The workshops focused on providing background and information on tree mortality, bark beetles, forest succession, reforestation, landscape planting, tree maintenance, climate change and land owner assistance programs. Speakers presented information, answered questions and led a field trip to see tree mortality and identify insect damage in the field. 99% of participants agreed that they had a better idea how to address questions from the public about replanting and tree mortality as a result of the workshop which 92% rated as excellent or very good.

Engaging Volunteers in Professional Development

Everyone knows that 4-H helps youth develop a practice of lifelong learning and that 4-H volunteers are role models for this important life skill. We wondered how 4-H volunteers prepare for their roles, and where and how they find information to continue their own learning.

The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, Developing Volunteer Capacities Workgroup (DVC WG) embarked on a project to conduct a needs assessment that asked volunteers to report on their history and needs of professional development using ONLINE platforms, and asked where volunteers receive pertinent information. Our team sent out survey invitations through 4-H online to all the currently registered volunteers and over 30% responded.

Volunteers let us know that training they received from 4-H is what helped them prepare to be a volunteer (41%). In addition, volunteers said their employment experience and experience as a youth 4-Her helped prepare them for their current volunteer role. This is interesting because one of the things it tells us is that while 4-H volunteers come from many backgrounds, they use their experiences to engage youth. [Continue reading...](#)

Nutrition Education at Jenny Lind Elementary School, Calaveras County

Nutrition Educator Katy Hammack's success story: Kindergarten through 6th grade Jenny Lind Elementary students had some great fun in the garden discovering a feast that they helped harvest; corn, cucumber, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers and eggplant. They discussed all of the different ways they could use the vegetables and the students even got to take some of what they harvested home. Katy told the students that she would make something delicious to bring back to share with them. She made a marinated salad with cucumber, cherry tomatoes, cauliflower and carrots. All of the children were so excited to see what she brought and try it. During this time, a parent of one of the students was so pleased to share with Katy that her son, a picky eater, had come home with a corn cob and four cherry tomatoes and was adamant that he was making soup that night. His mom chuckled and told her that they went to the store to add a few items to make the soup. It was so wonderful to see the positive changes.

[Learn more about UCCE Central Sierra Nutrition, Family and Consumer Science.](#)

Recovering from Wildfire: A Guide for California's Forest Landowners - What should I do Now?

UC ANR Publication 8386 - Updated July 2017

We want to share this updated UCANR 8000 series publication on recovering from wildfire for forest landowners that just came out. It is an update of a publication our Forestry Advisor, Susie Kocher wrote in 1999. There has been a lot of development in science in wildfire and landscape recovery since that time. She was able to partner with a Graduate Student in Extension from UC Berkeley to make this happen.

[UCCE 4-H Youth Development](#)

Enrollment begins for 2017-18

[Join Now](#)

Open to all Central Sierra 4-H

8-12: [Shooting Sports Workshop: Rifle - for 4-H Adult Volunteers](#)

8-12: [Shooting Sports Workshop: Shotgun - for 4-H Adult Volunteers](#)

[Amador](#)



[Check the calendar for dates of interest.](#)

[Calaveras](#)

[Check their events calendar for dates of interest.](#)

[El Dorado](#)

[Check their events calendar for dates of interest.](#)

[Tuolumne](#)

[Check their events calendar for dates of interest.](#)



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**Master
Food
Preserver**

Classes & Events Offered by UCCE Master Food Preservers

[Amador/Calaveras](#)

8-12: [Salsas & Chutneys](#) - Jackson

8-16: [Pressure Canning Basics](#)- San Andreas

[El Dorado](#)

8-9: [Stone Fruits: From Garden to Table](#)- Master Food Preserver & Master Gardener Combo Class

8-19: [Variety is the Spice of Life: Peppers & Spices](#)

Classes & Workshops Offered by UCCE Master Gardeners

[Monthly Gardening Tips](#)

[Amador](#)

8-5: [Planning for Fall & Winter Gardens](#)

8-19: [Water-wise Gardening in the Foothills](#)

8-26: [Tomato Tasting at Sutter Creek Farmers Market](#)

[Calaveras](#)

8-10: [Visit Master Gardeners at the CalaverasGROWN Certified Farmers Market](#)

8-26: [Open Garden Day: Soil Discussion](#)

[El Dorado](#)

8-9: [Stone Fruits: From Garden to Table](#) - Master Food Preserver/Master Gardener Combo Class

8-12: [Saturdays with Barry](#)

8-12: [Fall & Winter Vegetables](#)

[Lake Tahoe](#)

Check on their [Classes Workshops & Events webpage](#).

[Tuolumne](#)

Check their [Classes & Events webpage](#) for dates of interest.



UC IPM and more...



[Woody Weed Invaders: Integrated Pest Management for Home Gardeners and Landscape Professionals](#) - UC IPM Website

[Seasonal IPM](#)

[Recent Updates at IPM](#)

[UCIPM Weather Models & Degree Days webpage](#)

How to Clean and Sharpen Pruning Tools - video above

Thank you for your continued interest in the UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra's news, workshops, and events.

Sincerely,

Scott Oneto
University of California
Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra

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