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Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

Press Release

"All Santa Cruz County Growers & Farm Employees"
selected as
2020 "Farmer of the Year"
at Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau 103rd Annual "Virtual" Meeting

The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau named **"All Santa Cruz County Growers and Farm Employees"** as the **2020 Farmer of the Year**. In making this announcement, Arnett Young, President, Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau stated, "Local agriculture has been an important essential business during this pandemic to ensure that food production was not interrupted, so as people spent more time at home, they could be assured of a safe and adequate food supply." President Young continued, "We commend everyone involved in local agriculture for the outstanding service they provided the community, our state, country and worldwide." This award is presented annually to the farmer(s) who have contributed beyond their normal farming duties to help the community. The decision was made during the Farm Bureau's **103rd Annual "Virtual" Meeting**. The board of directors felt it was appropriate to honor all local growers and farm employees because of their resilience and adaptability in the face of the pandemic. President Young further stated, "It seems appropriate that we make this announcement during the week of Thanksgiving when families are enjoying the bounty made possible by growers and farm employees."

During the 103rd Annual Meeting, the board of directors acknowledged the great work done this year by Farm Bureau's COVID-19 Task Force, which interacted with the County Health Department on a regular basis.

Other activities of the Annual Meeting included the election of officers and board members for the upcoming 2020/2021 fiscal year. Those elected were:

Officers:

President/State Delegate – Arnett Young
1st Vice President/State Delegate – Dennis Webb
2nd Vice President/Alternate Delegate – Peter Navarro
Past President/Alternate Delegate – Brendan Miele

Directors:

For 1st term, three-year director:
Greg Estrada, Cattle

For 2nd term, three-year director:
Nishan Moutafian, Berries
Mike Jani, Timber

For 3rd term, three-year director:
John Pisturino, Cattle
Geri Prevedelli-Lathrop, Apples

PREVIOUS FARMERS OF THE YEAR

1979	J.J. CROSETTI, JR.
1980	ROBERT "BOB" HARRIS
1981	EDWARD SILVA
1982	FRANK SIRI
1983	BRUCE RIDER
1984	ERNEST J. BONTADELLI
1985	CLINT MILLER
1986	HARRY H. FUKUTOME
1987	NITA GIZDICH
1988	FRANK "Lud" MCCRARY
1989	MILES RIETER
1990	GEORGE H. COWLES
1991	KEE KITAYAMA
1992	AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES: REPRESENTED BY - GUADALUPE OLIVAREZ, LUCILLE COXON, DAVID LOPEZ AND JOSE CAMPOS
1993	PATRICIA "PAT" WILEY
1994	FRANK ESTRADA
1995	LARRY B. GALPER
1996	HENRY HARNEY
1997	ARNE THIRUP
1998	MARVIN GLAUM
1999	MIKE JANI
2000	PAST FARM BUREAU PRESIDENTS 1917-1999
2001	ELIO RODONI
2002	HULDA MCLEAN
2003	KIRK SCHMIDT
2004	TOM AM RHEIN
2005	GROWERS WHO DONATE TO AG AGAINST HUNGER
2006	JIM RIDER
2007	HENRY WASHBURN, Posthumously
2008	RICHARD "DICK" PEIXOTO
2009	DIANE PORTER COOLEY
2010	BARGETTO FAMILY
2011	STANLEY E. IVERSEN
2012	JOHN PISTURINO
2013	KENNETH J. KIMES
2014	JOHN E. EISKAMP
2015	MARGUERITE REMDE & CHRIS BANTHIEN
2016	SILVIA PREVEDELLI
2017	GEORGEANN COWLES EISKAMP
2018	STEVE BONTADELLI
2019	EDWARD ORTEGA