



FALL 2018

LEGACY

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Charlotte Mitchell

The seasons are changing, harvest is finished, and the year is approaching its end. As we put away our ice cream and hunker down with our hot chocolate, it is time for reflection and preparation. Time to reflect upon all that we have accomplished, and time to prepare for next years' accomplishments. Time to be thankful, and time to be giving.

Reflecting on this years' accomplishments, they have been nothing short of tremendous. In fact, with seven individual easements closed across four family farms, 2018 has been our most successful year for farmland conservation, ever. You'll learn more about those families and their farms on pages 4 and 5. Plus, we laid the groundwork for several more farms to be officially protected in 2019.

This year, those four farming families protected 500 acres. Did you know it currently takes about an acre of land to feed a person? Or that the average farmer feeds 155 people? Those families and their farms will feed at least another 500 people, forever. That's an accomplishment worth reflecting on, worth being proud of, and worth repeating.



With such a successful year behind us, preparing for next years' accomplishments is no easy task – but with your support, we are up for the challenge. We have 6 more family farms to protect in 2019, with your help. We hope you'll make a year-end gift and protect more farms, educate more children, and feed more families – forever.

“THIS YEAR, THOSE FOUR FARMING FAMILIES PROTECTED 500 ACRES... THOSE FAMILIES AND THEIR FARMS WILL FEED AT LEAST ANOTHER 500 PEOPLE, FOREVER.”



OUR MISSION

Help Farmers Protect the Best Farmland in the World

CURRENTLY SERVING

Sacramento, San Joaquin, Contra Costa, Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera counties



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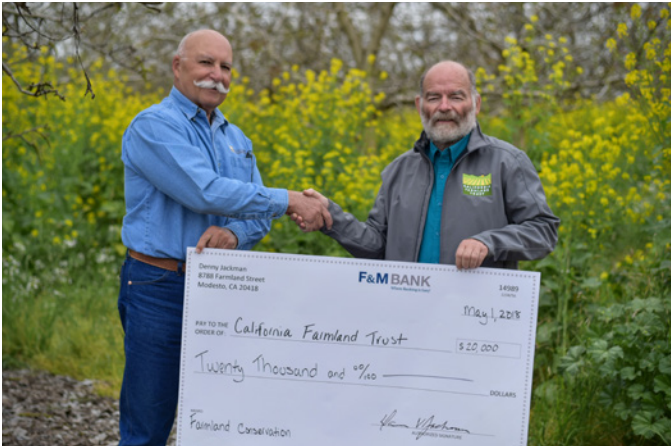
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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Denny Jackman



DENNY JACKMAN (RIGHT) PRESENTS A \$20,000 DONATION TO PRESIDENT RON FREITAS IN MEMORY OF HIS WIFE, PATRICIA JACKMAN.

What's in it for me? That is what a wise consumer asks. And since I am one of the few board members who has never been a farmer, but always a consumer, I want to know what happens with my donation? Does it really make a difference? You bet it does! And your investment keeps growing and growing. Pun intended. Because agricultural conservation easements are in perpetuity... We are setting up for tomorrow, today!

California farmers protecting the food land for consumers like me. Raley's stores working with CFT to educate our kids. Amazon Smile providing online purchasing support so my purchases contribute directly to CFT. These are some of the ways we can benefit as consumers. As a native of California, I am proud, and by doing my part, in some way responsible for protecting our local food source. My donation is in memory of my wife Patricia. And many more reasons to see what is in it for me...

PROTECTING THE FARMS THAT FEED YOUR FAMILY



NEW FARMLAND CONSERVED IN 2018

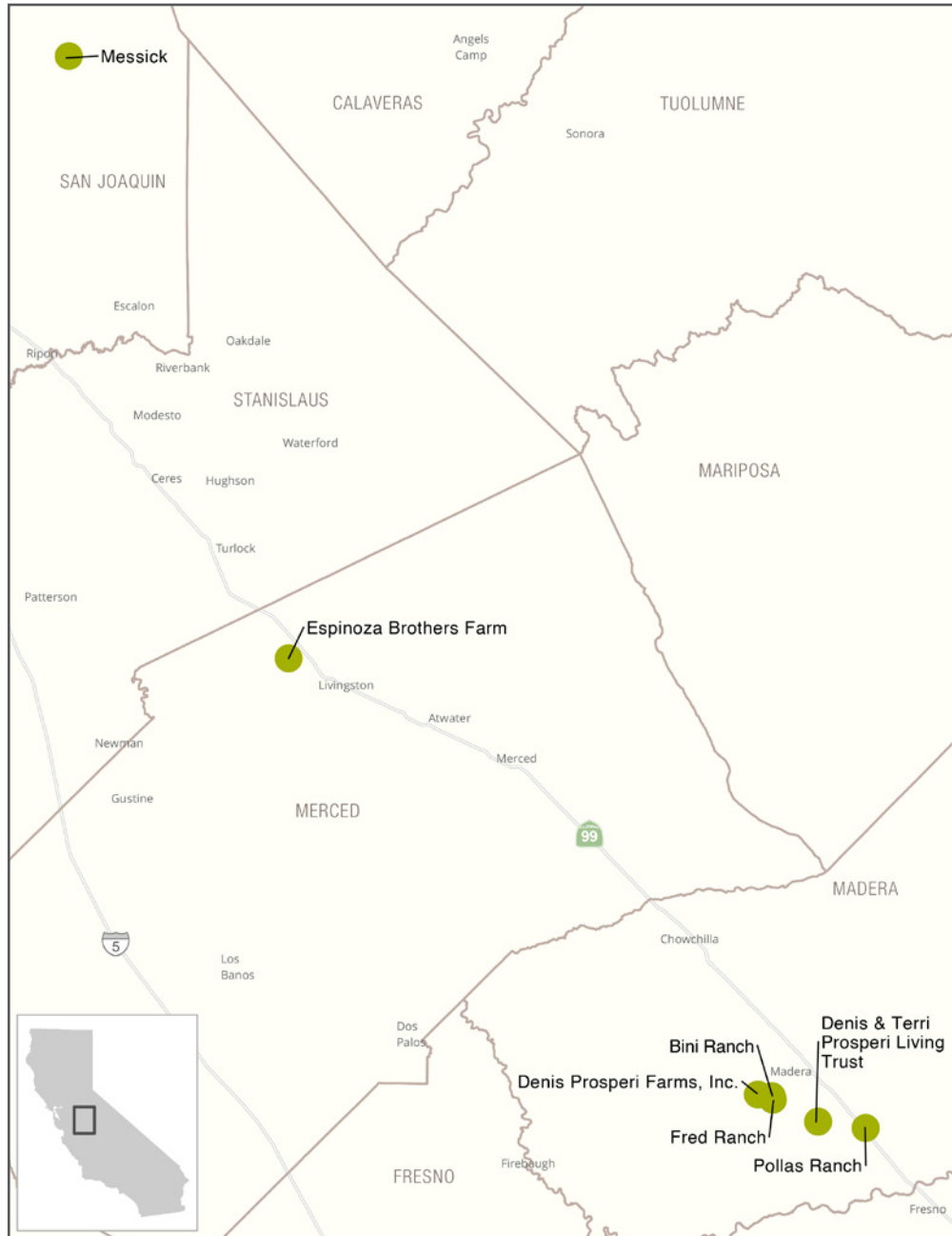
Total Acres: 496

Four new family farms are now standing at the beginning of forever. Covering 496 acres, these farms added more than numbers to our community. These acres and their farmers will, beyond our next generations' memories, provide food, jobs, and open space for water recharge, wildlife, and cleaner air.

None of these farms can be protected without you, our supporters. We leverage grants with your gifts to protect these farms that feed

our families. Take pride in knowing that these farms will feed your family, forever, because of you.

All of our agricultural conservation easements permanently prohibit development of the property, even if it is sold. Removing the development rights from the land allows it to continue in farming without the threat to convert to other uses.



MESSICK FARM: 84 ACRES



County: San Joaquin
Funding: Farmer Donated

Our friend, Mr. James Messick, has donated a conservation easement so that his farm remains in productive agriculture forever. Mr. Messick's 84 acres near Linden, full of walnut and cherry orchards and dotted with oaks along the river, have been in his family since just after the Civil War.

A portion of the property runs along the Calaveras River with streams supporting native plants. The property is mostly orchards, but also includes grasslands and native wetland plants. Mr. Messick has planted over 300 Valley Oaks, a showcase of harmony between farming and the stewardship of natural resources.

ESPINOZA BROTHERS FARM: 79 ACRES



County: Merced
Funding: Department of Conservation, ALMP

A family-owned 79-acre peach orchard has been permanently conserved for agriculture in a partnership between the landowners, CFT, and state agencies.

This family farm is just south of Delhi and within one mile of the proposed high-speed rail alignment. It is also near three other conserved properties creating a productive area of forever farmland in this region. The farm is conveniently situated near a Highway 99 interchange and has easy access to markets and farm supply/equipment dealers supporting local needs and industry.

PROSPERI FARMS: 172 ACRES



County: Madera
Funding: Department of Conservation, ALMP

Denis Prosperi and his family worked to conserve their 2 properties of 172 acres of prime farmland, ensuring they will not succumb to the houses and shopping malls of nearby Madera.

Denis' grandfather came here from Italy in 1905. His humble beginnings launched his three sons into farming, including Denis' father, Victor Prosperi, who grew their farmland after WWII. Today, Denis, his cousins, and his son, Kyle, all still farm this land.

Their property is comprised primarily of wine grape vineyards of many varieties, some of which are sold to nearby Quady Winery.

BINI, POLLAS, AND FRED RANCHES: 161 ACRES



County: Madera
Funding: Department of Conservation, ALMP

Farmer Dennis Meisner placed a conservation easement over his family's three properties this year. The easements will forever protect 161 acres of California's best farmland.

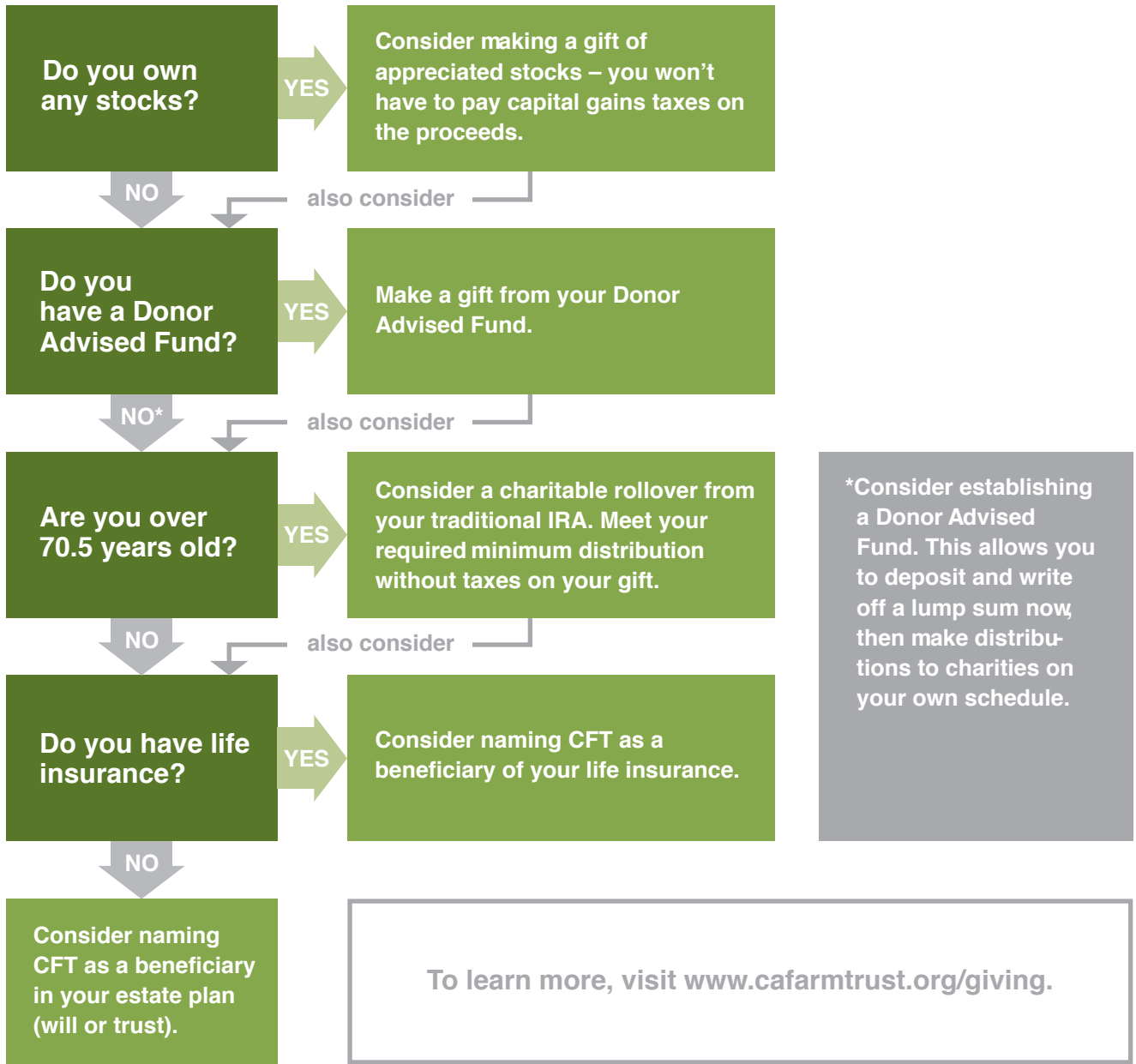
The Meisner properties grow Thompson Seedless Grapes and some Cabernet grapes which are sold to a nearby winery. Many of the vines are 50 years old and a treasure to the landowner and winery.

This land sits approximately six miles from the proposed High Speed Rail development along Highway 99.

GIVING SEASON IS HERE!

Your year-end gift protects farmland now, and forever. You can protect the farms that feed your family by mailing a gift using the envelope in this issue, donating online at our website, or visiting our Facebook page on Giving Tuesday (November 28). And if you're one of the millions of Americans who is no

longer itemizing your taxes, but would still like a tax benefit for your donation – don't fret! There are still several ways you can support farmland conservation and reduce your tax burden. Follow the flow chart below to figure out what method is best for you. To learn more, visit www.cafarmtrust.org/giving.



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Diane Norton Insurance



Diane Norton Insurance has been a sponsor of CFT since 2005. Diane is an expert in crop insurance with over 30 years of experience. She started her own business out of her home and has provided personal and professional service to northern San Joaquin Valley farmers. Recently, Diane joined Fluetsch and Busby Insurance, which is also a family-owned agency with a long history of providing farmers in the Valley with all their property and casualty needs. You can contact Diane at (209) 357-3626 for your crop insurance needs and enjoy the same great service that she has always provided to her growers.

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20,000 ACRES BY 2020

20K
15K
10K
5K



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CONSERVED**

92% of every dollar donated goes directly to farmland conservation.
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