

PORTERVILLE

NEWSLETTER

January 2019



AGRICARE, INC.
NAMED OUTSTANDING BUSINESS HONOREE



The City of Porterville is pleased to announce AgriCare, Inc. a subsidiary of AgriVision as an Outstanding Business Honoree.

For more than 28 years, AgriCare's focus has remained steady, striving to exceed customer expectations by providing professional farm management services with a focus on stewardship of the land.

AgriCare, Inc. was founded by Tom and Karen Avinelis in Lindsay in 1990. The business began as a farm management company servicing a few hundred acres in the central valley. AgriCare has grown to now service over 10,000 acres between California and Oregon. AgriCare specializes in full-service farm and agricultural asset management for a variety of permanent crops including: citrus, olives, blueberries, table grapes, hazelnuts, almonds and pistachios.

In January 2013, they purchased the building that serves as their corporate office. The move allowed for the growth in their team that provides services to their clients in farm operations, finance, accounting, agronomy, food safety, employee safety and regulatory compliance. The corporate office now services farms in California's San Joaquin Valley and Oregon's Willamette Valley and currently has 200 employees, 90 in California and 110 in Oregon. AgriCare attributes their success they have to the "incredible team of professional, knowledgeable and passionate employees."

AgriCare distinguishes themselves from other full service farm management companies with their business model which allows them to be flexible to meet the unique needs of each landowner, from the small family owned property to the institutional investment group with multiple assets. They are also unique in the mix of permanent crops that they manage citrus, blueberries, table grapes, hazelnuts, almonds and pistachios.

AgriCare's focus on stewardship has led to their desire to serve the community. They have long-standing educational scholarship program for their employees and their children, which has earned AgriCare the 2018 UpSkill Tulare County Award from the Tulare County Workforce Investment Board. They also support the emerging Agriculture Technology Pathway Program at Strathmore High School. In addition to their involvement and support of educational initiatives, they also support the Foodbank at the Iglesia Emmanuel in Porterville and host blood drives twice a year, support local schools and sports teams with sponsorships and are involved in the Porterville Chamber of Commerce. AgriCare also support Young Lives Tulare County, a ministry focused on helping teenage parents and their children. The employees of AgriCare and Homegrown Organic Farms are actively involved in the Cultivating Care Committee which includes projects like the Thanksgiving Meal Program. The goal was to provide 40 families with a Thanksgiving meal, but due to their generosity, gathered enough food for 67 families. They are also involved with the Angel Tree Organization, which help inmates in our local prison provide gifts to their children for Christmas.

The favorite part of the business for AgriCare is witnessing and being a part of the growth of their employees and their families. They enjoy being able to give back to their employees and take care of them to show their appreciation for their hard work and dedication to AgriCare and their growers.

As for the future of AgriCare, they plan to continue to focus on evolving as a business to meet the needs of their diverse client mix. They certainly see growth in the scope of their operation and in both added acreage in the region they currently service, while also expanding their geographical footprint as new opportunities arise.

CITY INFORMATION

CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR
Martha A. Flores

VICE MAYOR
Brian Ward

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Daniel Penalosa
A. Monte Reyes
Milt Stowe

CITY MANAGER
John Lollis

CITY TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

City Manager's Office
(559) 782-7466
Department of Finance
(559) 782-7566
Community Development
(559) 782-7460
Police Department
(559) 782-7426
Fire Department
(559) 782-7526
Parks & Leisure Services
(559) 782-7536
Public Works
(559) 782-7462
Administrative Services
(559) 782-7441



City Hall
City of Porterville
291 N. Main St.
Porterville, CA 93257

MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM

The Military Banner Program was started in 2016 for the Porterville area as a way to honor both current and past military personnel for their service to the nation and community. The banner acts as a public expression of gratitude that pays tribute to the courage, commitment, and heroism displayed by individuals who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Family members and loved ones may nominate a military hero to be honored with a banner that will show the individual's name and photo. The banners will be displayed on major streets throughout the City. Application period: January 2– March 1. They will be raised for Memorial Day and lowered after Veterans Day. The cost of the banner is \$105 and shall be the responsibility of the applicant. For more information call (559) 781-7521 or visit <http://ci.porterville.ca.us/depts/ParksandLeisure/MilitaryBannerProgram.cfm>



FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER PROGRAM

Would you like to know more about homeownership? The City of Porterville has a First Time Homebuyer Loan Program which can help with up to 35% of purchasing price. Please call Community Development at (559) 782-7460 to learn more.



HOUSING REHABILITATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES LOAN PROGRAM



Do you need help with HOME REPAIRS to make your house a healthy and safe place to live? The City of Porterville has a loan program designed to help lower income homeowners make affordable home improvements, repairs, ADA ramps, and connections to City utilities. Due to limited funding, this will be on a first come, first serve basis. Please call Community Development at (559) 782-7460 to see if you qualify.

WATER CONSERVATION/DROUGHT RESPONSE PHASE IV

Effective **December 1, 2018**, the City of Porterville has moved to Phase IV of the City's Water Conservation Plan, which permits watering once a week based on property address and prohibits watering between the hours of 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and also prohibits watering on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays. Should you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the Field Services Division at 782-7514.

Mandatory Odd/Even Watering Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	OK TO WATER ODD	OK TO WATER EVEN
Odd Address					Even Address	

BUSINESS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Are you wanting to expand your business, but need additional financing? The City of Porterville might be able to assist with a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Business Loan. The small business revolving loan fund can provide up to \$50,000 as a low interest loan to qualified businesses. Eligible businesses include ongoing and start-up private, for profit businesses that are classified as commercial, service, retail or industrial and must be located within the city of Porterville. For more information contact the Economic Development Division at (559) 782-7460.



2019 @ YOUR LIBRARY

MARCH

- Spring Mini Reading Program
- Dr. Seuss' Birthday
- Spring Break Events
- Easter Bunny pictures
- Teen Tech Week



APRIL

- National Library Week
- Dia De Los Ninos



Programs All Year Round

- Saturday Game Day First Saturday of the Month
- Building Club Last Saturday of the Month
- LibFlix Second Saturday of the Month

More Programs All Year Round

- Library Cinema Third Saturday of the Month
- B.Y.O. Game Day Every Sunday

For more information on these or any other programs contact the Porterville City Library at 784-0177