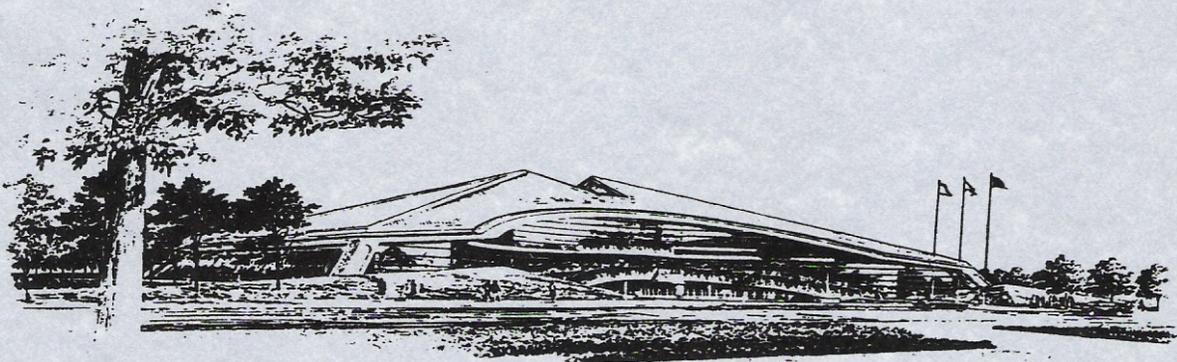


City of
FRESNO
PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS, American agriculture celebrated its first National Agriculture Day in 1973 and the 2009 National Agriculture Day program celebrates America's diversity of people, cultures, commodities, and landscapes involved in agriculture. The diversity of crops, jobs and career opportunities, and economic activity generated by the value-added products produced on the nation's farms provide the necessities of everyday life... food, fiber, and clothing; and

WHEREAS, more than 22 million people are employed in farm or farm-related jobs, including production agriculture, farm inputs, processing and marketing, and wholesale and retail sales. American agriculture is #1 in exports, meeting the increasing needs of consumers throughout the world by producing larger quantities of higher quality food and fiber; and

WHEREAS, U.S. consumers spend roughly 10 percent of their income on food compared with 22 percent in the United Kingdom, 26 percent in Japan, 28 percent in South Africa, and 51 percent in India; and

WHEREAS, the men and women who practice environmental stewardship and produce and harvest America's agricultural products are world renowned for growing healthy, wholesome, high quality, and efficiently produced food, fiber, and value-added products which sustain our citizens and those worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Fresno County and City are located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, which is one of five Mediterranean growing regions of the world, known for its fertile soils, long growing seasons, and water supply and efficient irrigation practices. Fresno farmers and farm workers are critically important to the economy of the City and County of Fresno, the San Joaquin Valley, the State of California, the United States, and the world, generating value-added food and fiber products, thousands of jobs and providing food security to residents of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno produced more than \$5.3 billion in agricultural production in 2007 and is the number one food and fiber producing county in the State and Nation. Every dollar produced on a Fresno farm or ranch results in the economic extension benefit of \$3.50 to the total economy of the country. The County of Fresno's top ten commodities for 2007 were grapes, almonds, milk, poultry, tomatoes, cattle and calves, cotton, peaches, oranges, and garlic. The production of one Fresno farmer provides food for 144 people; and

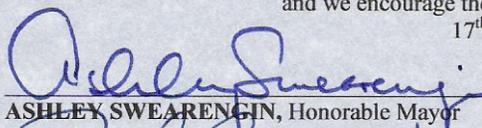
WHEREAS, a special activity is planned for Friday, March 20, 2009 when more than 2,100 third graders from throughout Fresno County will converge at the Fresno Fairgrounds for the 2009 Farm and Nutrition Day to learn more about how their nutritious food is produced in Fresno County; and

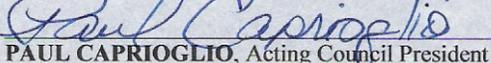
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that we, the Mayor and Council members of the City of Fresno, do hereby proclaim March 16-23, 2009 to be:

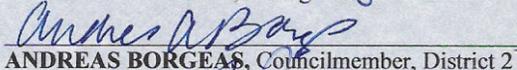
"National Agriculture Week"

in the City of Fresno,

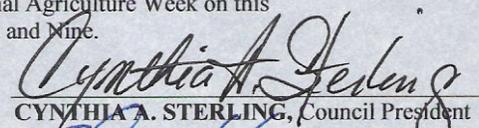
and we encourage the community to join us in honoring National Agriculture Week on this
17th day of March of the Year Two Thousand and Nine.


ASHLEY SWEARENGEN, Honorable Mayor

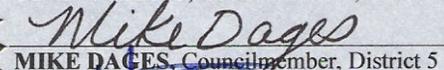

PAUL CAPRIOGLIO, Acting Council President

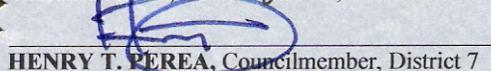

ANDREAS BORGEAS, Councilmember, District 2


LEE BRAND, Councilmember, District 6


CYNTHIA A. STERLING, Council President


BEONG XIONG, Councilmember, District 1


MIKE DAGES, Councilmember, District 5


HENRY T. PEREA, Councilmember, District 7

