



AGC 59 MARCH NEWSLETTER

What a whirlwind the month of March has been! While COVID-19 has made it's way throughout the world and has affected many, The Ag Center 59 is here and will continue to provide for our community. We are working tirelessly to ensure that there will be food on your family's table. We are here for you and we will provide. We hope that you and your families are all safe and healthy. We will get through this together.



FOIADA LAND LEVELING HISTORY WITH MATT FIOADA

Foiada Land Leveling prides themselves on being one of the oldest operating land leveling companies in California starting in 1945. Foiada Land Leveling offers GPS and laser land leveling, heavy grading and earth moving, dairy lagoons and irrigation reservoirs, GPS surveying and mapping, excavation, deep ripping, stubble discing and chiseling! Foiada Land Leveling is passionate about the work they do for clients.

What persuaded your grandfather to start a land leveling company?
My grandfather and his family had 55 acres and a dairy they owned as well as 140 acres of land they leased in Modesto, CA; all of which they lost during the Great Depression. When they lost the dairy and the land they were farming, the whole family relocated to Patterson, CA where they then purchased 20 acres to start a new dairy. My grandfather and his brothers used horses to pull all of their implements for their farming as well as doing custom work for neighboring farmers. As the times changed, so did the equipment, and my grandfather was one of the first farmers in Patterson to buy a Caterpillar tractor. This motivated him to begin doing custom farming while continuing to dairy farm with his family. Through his years of living in Patterson, my grandfather got to know the lay of the land very well. Patterson is located between the Del Puerto Hills and the San Joaquin River, so the lay of the land ranged from steep to relatively flat resulting in my grandfather seeing an opportunity in the earth moving business. The need for earth moving and land leveling was very high in the area and like the entrepreneur he was, he went for it head on. My grandfather actually lost his right arm in the old equipment and that didn't stop him from doing what he was passionate about! My grandfather was a dedicated, hard worker and he passed that trait on to both my father and I. My dad went to work full time for my grandfather as soon as he graduated high school in 1976 and I followed in his footsteps once I graduated high school in 2004. Though we have passed through generations in the business, two things remain true: we highly value our client relationships and our obsession for quality sets the standard for the industry.

What was the process of the business being passed down to your father and then you?
My dad started at a very young age working side by side with his father. Being a kid growing up in the country, I think many can relate, that as you get older the role you play in your families business becomes more important as the years go on. There was never a question of what my dad wanted to pursue as his career - the family business was his end game. Starting at a very young age, my dad was already running heavy equipment in the fields with his father. By the age of 27, my dad became the sole business owner in the tragic loss of my grandfather. While feeling lost without his father, my dad was determined to carry on the legacy of Foiada Land Leveling. My story is very similar to that of my dads. I was running heavy equipment with him at a very young age as well. Any time I could, I was with my dad. I would come home from school at 3 o'clock - call my dad to see where his job site was - and then beg my mom to drop me off with him! I felt like the luckiest kid in the world! I've known carrying on the family business was what I wanted to do my whole life. I had to earn my stripes before officially taking ownership in 2017.

What parts of California does Foiada Land Leveling LLC service?
We go as north as Sacramento and as south as Bakersfield, plus everything in between!

What is your favorite part about working in the agriculture industry?
The agriculture industry is ever changing! In the 40s, my grandfather had to use transits and stakes to level everything in a field. Today, we have lasers and GPS. I often ask my dad, "What would your dad think about how we level dirt today compared to how he did?" He wouldn't even believe this technology! The agriculture industry is super competitive and I thrive off of competition. It's constantly revolutionizing and there is always a different way of doing things.



CENTRAL IRRIGATION IS NOW IN TULARE, CA

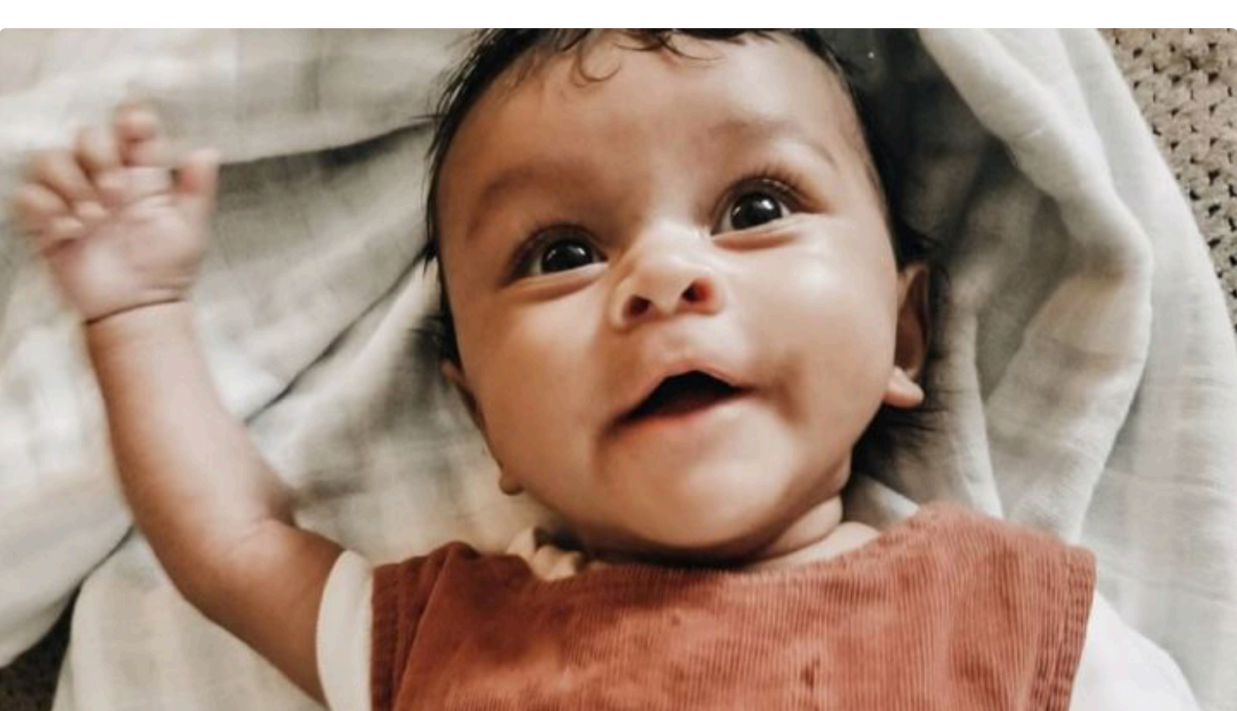
We are thrilled to announce that Central Irrigation is now OPEN in Tulare, CA. Stop by their new location at 4600 S K St, Tulare, CA 93274 and say hi!

For more information on all locations please visit <https://centralirrigation.com/>
Tulare Office hours:
Monday - Friday Saturday
6:30 am - 5pm 6:30 am - Noon

MEDIA COVERAGE

Central Irrigation firm opens Tulare Store Front ... [Read More](#)

Help Charlie Fight Leukemia



One of our affiliates employee's son, has been diagnosed with Leukemia at just three months old. We are asking for prayers for this sweet boy and his family. To read more about Charlie's story and how you can donate, please [click here](#).

AMERICAN PISTACHIO CONFERENCE

We attended The American Pistachio Conference March 2nd, 3rd and 4th in Monterey, CA! It was amazing to learn about how pistachios fuel pro athletes as well as hearing about all of the benefits from Dr. Oz!

YOSEMITE FARM CREDIT ANNUAL DINNER

We attended the Yosemite Farm Credit Annual Dinner on March 3rd in Turlock, CA! It was a great evening with a lot of familiar faces! We are excited to attend again next year! Thank you for having us, YFC!

