



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Danielle Griffin | (559) 967-3604

Merced County Fair Board Officers Selected for 2022

Kim Rogina is succeeding Carol Sartori-Silva as the new President of the Fair Board

MERCED, CALIFORNIA, March 17, 2022 – The Merced County Fair is proud to announce the 2022 officer positions for the 35th District Agricultural Association Board of Directors, which was voted on at the December board meeting. Those positions are: Kim Rogina, President; Vicky Banaga, First Vice President; and Luis Lara, Second Vice President.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Kim in a new capacity as our Board President, especially as we make our return to an in-person event after two years of modified operations,” said Teresa Burrola, CEO of the Merced County Fair. “Kim is genuinely and passionately dedicated to our fair and our community – as evident in her past seven years on our Board. I know she will pour her time and attention in working alongside our team to bring back the Merced County Fair bigger and better than before for our community to enjoy.”

Board President, Kim Rogina of Merced was first appointed to the Merced County Fair Board in 2015. Kim is co-owner of her family farming business Rogina, Inc. established in 1985 with her husband Bob – both of whom come from a long line of farmers and ranchers. She is also a real estate agent with Keller Williams Property Team in Merced. Kim served as president and on the Board of Directors for the Merced County Association of Realtors. She is a member of California Women for Agriculture, the Merced County Farm Bureau, and a California Agricultural Leadership Program alumnus.

For Kim, agriculture is her family’s lifeblood. Growing up in Le Grand, Kim was heavily involved in 4-H and FFA and was the first girl president of Le Grand FFA. Her family has been showing livestock at the Merced County Fair for three generations, starting with her father, Jack Chapman and his brother Darrell, then on to Kim and her siblings and lastly, her children Dante, Jaclyn and Natalie as the third generation.

“My love and involvement in the Merced County Fair has been lifelong. I am honored to serve as president of the Board this year as we return to a full, in-person Merced County Fair,” said Rogina. “I commend our fair for pivoting to hold modified livestock shows and auctions to give our youth an opportunity to have this important experience. Having our full Merced County Fair this year will bring back our other fair traditions that have been greatly missed the last two years like our still competitive exhibits, music, entertainment and most importantly – the opportunity to bring friends and family together to celebrate our community and one another. I encourage the whole community to come out and enjoy all that this year’s Merced County Fair will offer!”

35th District Agricultural Association

900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way • Merced, CA 95341 • (209) 722-1506 • (209) 722-3773 Fax • www.MercedCountyFair.com



First Vice President, Vicky Banaga of Le Grand was first appointed to the Merced County Fair Board in 2015. Vicky has been chief business official at the Le Grand Union Elementary School District since 1977. She is a member of the Le Grand Beautification Committee.

Second Vice President, Luis Lara of Atwater was first appointed to the Merced County Fair Board in 2019. He has served as a sergeant for the California Highway Patrol since 2011. Prior to that, Lara held several different positions with the California Highway Patrol since joining it in 1998, including serving as an officer in the Merced Area and Redwood City CHP Area Office. He has also served as an instructor at Merced Community College since 2013. Lara is secretary treasurer for the Merced School Employees Federal Credit Union Board of Directors. He previously served on the Merced County Spring Fair Board from 2013 to 2018 and as a board member of the McSwain Union Elementary School District.

Highlights:

- **2022 Merced County Fair** | The 2022 Merced County Fair will be back and in-person, June 8-12. Entertainment announcements are expected in the next month. The community is encouraged to participate in the fair's Competitive Exhibits; more details can be [found here](#).
- **Stay In The Know** | Want to be the first to know about concerts, new featured food items, admission discounts and more? Then sign up for our email newsletter at (www.mercedcountyfair.com/contact-us) or connect with us on our social media handles.

RESOURCES:

Board Photos + 2022 Merced County Fair Theme Logo: <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/sLnSkukotn>

About The Merced County Fair:

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35th District Agricultural Association. The fair's mission statement outlines that it "*promises to meet the needs of our community by providing a fun, safe venue to celebrate our area's agricultural heritage, discover new technology and be entertained.*" This year marks the 131st year of operation for the Merced County Fair, after two years of modified operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Roughly 70,000 people from throughout Merced County and beyond to attend the five-day Merced County Fair each June. Members of the Board of Directors include: President, Kim Rogina; First Vice President, Vicky Banaga; Second Vice President, Luis Lara; Mark Erreca; Lori Rossi Gallo; Emily Haden; Mark N. Pazin; and Carol Sartori-Silva. Teresa Burrola heads up the daily operations in her role as CEO. The 2022 Merced County Fair will return to an in-person event June 8 – 12 with all the beloved fair traditions – livestock, concerts, grandstand entertainment, carnival rides, competitive exhibits and more. For more information about the Merced County Fair, please visit www.MercedCountyFair.com. Connect with the Fair on Facebook (@mercedfair), Twitter (@Merced_CA_Fair) and Instagram (@mercedcountyfair).

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