



SAVE RURAL ANGWIN QUARTERLY UPDATE

May, June, July 2013

This “Quarter” closed quietly and peacefully in rural Angwin with our attention focused towards the 100th annual meeting of the Napa County Farm Bureau (NCFB) held August 3, 2013, which culminated a full year of events and activities commemorating its centennial (1913-2013). Save Rural Angwin (SRA) wants to take this opportunity to express appreciation for and congratulations to the Napa County Farm Bureau and its members, partners and supporters.

The mission of the NAPA COUNTY FARM BUREAU is to ensure the proper political, social, and economic climate for the continuation of a strong, viable, and sustainable agricultural economy. This is done through advocacy and education in order to preserve and protect the agricultural land and other natural resources that provide a high quality of life for all rural and urban citizens of Napa County. The Farm Bureau has worked tirelessly to protect Napa Valley’s agriculture and family farms for 100 years and has been a strong advocate and voice in support of SRA’s mission. This year also marks the 45th anniversary of Napa County’s 1968 adoption of its landmark Agricultural Preserve, the first of its kind in America.

In spite of the many successes protecting agriculture and open space in Napa County, there is increasing concern. **California is losing 30,000 acres of farmland annually to development.** According to the California director for the American Farmland Trust, more than 600 million acres have been lost since 1990 and one-sixth of the total amount of development in California since the gold rush has occurred in the last two decades. In Angwin, the Pacific Union College (PUC) Board of Trustees voted on May 7, 2002, to monetize PUC assets they deemed “non-essential lands”. Until record of a sale of PUC land(s) is made public, the extent to which rural Angwin may be compromised by development remains speculation. When we know more details of possible threats to Angwin’s rural identity and to Napa County’s agricultural heritage, we will be better able to defend against these dangers.

Please continue to periodically check the Save Rural Angwin website at www.SaveRuralAngwin.org. New information is posted as it becomes available and reportable by SRA.